

Councils to survey students on space usage

BY MARGARET MATTES
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Members of the University Senate's Student Affairs Committee met with representatives from five student governments on Friday, marking the first formal meeting of the Morningside Student Space Initiative.

The new initiative is geared toward surveying student space needs on campus, and determining how student space issues might be addressed when the University starts expanding to Manhattanville.

"The goal is to generate a comprehensive report of needs of space for students," said Engineering Student Council President Nate Levick, SEAS '12, who was at the meeting. "We want to identify needs and make recommendations together as to what space is needed, so that the needs can be communicated to administrators in the future."

SAC will work with ESC, Columbia College Student Council, Engineering Graduate Student Council, Graduate Student Advisory Council, and General Studies Student Council. The councils will create and administer space surveys to send to their respective student bodies by the end of April.

"We will work within the council to ... define how CC students feel space would be best allocated."

—Aki Terasaki, CC '12

CCSC President

After the surveys are completed, SAC will compile the data and write a public report to present to senior administrators.

Several schools are slated to begin moving to Manhattanville by the end of the decade—including the Business School, the School of the Arts, and the School of International and Public Affairs—and administrators will have to decide what happens to the space that these schools vacate.

"Our goal is not necessarily a prioritization of spaces, but rather an attempt to find out what kinds of spaces are important to students and how these needs fit with both current and future allocations," CCSC president Aki Terasaki, CC '12, said in an email. Terasaki was also at the meeting on Friday.

The surveys will include questions about the need for specific types of spaces, such as dance performance spaces, group study areas, and cafés. GSAC Budget and Finance Chair Ahmet-Hamdi Cavusoglu, who also attended the Friday meeting, said that because GSAC conducted a quality-of-life survey in the spring of 2009, some of its work is already complete.

"We already have a list of grievances, so GSAC is considering having a more quantitative aspect by offering more specific questions," he said.

SEE SPACE, page 2



ZARA CASTANY / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SPACED OUT | Student leaders are starting an initiative to examine student space needs on the Morningside Heights campus.

Locals want school to move recess one block north

BY CASEY TOLAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Students at a local elementary school will be forced to move their daily recess one block north, if some nearby residents get their way.

The stretch of 107th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam avenues is closed for two hours every weekday to allow kindergarten students at the Ascension School, a private Catholic school on 108th Street, to play outside. School officials put up barricades at each end of the block, which

is just behind the school, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

But at the Community Board 7 transportation committee meeting Tuesday night, locals debated the school's recess procedures, with some saying that blocking 107th Street every day is a nuisance. Cliff Thorn, who lives across the street from the church school, said that he works from home, and that the recess noise is a problem for him.

"I'm not anti-kids, anti-church, anti-school," he said. "This is a constant issue."

But a vocal majority of

residents at the meeting defended the students' outdoor playtime.

"We need to stand behind our community, which is the church and the school," said 107th Street Block Association Vice President Evelyn Lanoix, who attended Ascension for eight years. "I'm sorry about a little bit of noise, but I don't see any problem."

The committee voted in favor of the school trying to hold recess on 108th Street instead, a decision that will need approval from the full Community Board, the city's

Department of Transportation, and the local police precinct before it takes effect.

"This block has really taken their share of this, and the school is on 108th Street, so I don't see why this is a problem," transportation committee co-chair Andrew Albert said. "We have to hear people's concerns. They've been out here month after month after month."

Ascension Principal Chris McMahon said that the school would voluntarily go along

SEE RECESS, page 2

Groups start green job training program

BY GINA LEE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A green construction partnership might be bringing a wave of new jobs to Harlem.

Community Board 9 is working with the Horticultural Society of New York and STRIVE, an agency that provides job training for chronically unemployed groups, to give Harlem residents free green construction training and opportunities for jobs in the field. CB9 will serve as a link between Harlem residents and the two groups, helping them tailor their training programs to residents' needs.

After years of trying to launch a green construction program, CB9 member Savona Bailey-McClain successfully reached out to the Horticultural

Society last summer, sparking the new partnership. STRIVE, which is based in East Harlem, joined soon after.

"There's value that a community is proactive and aggressive ... with the green movement."

—Savona Bailey-McClain
CB 9 member

Larry Jackson, the director of programs at STRIVE, said that while there are "some

logistical things that we have to look at," the partnership is promising.

"The meetings have been good, the resources are there, the commitments are there," Jackson said.

To meet the requirements of the grant that funds its part of the program, STRIVE can only train people who are currently receiving food stamps. In addition to being on food stamps, participants are required to pass basic reading and math tests and must be able to lift 50 pounds.

Bailey-McClain said that the program will help people "on the lower end of the economic food chain" who need to learn basic office skills.

"This is great, because now

SEE GREEN, page 2



DOUGLAS KESSEL / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GREEN ROOM | CB9 member Savona Bailey-McClain (back left) meets with organizers of the green construction partnership on Friday. Bailey-McClain got the partnership started last summer.

OPINION, PAGE 4

I do, or I'll do it later

Emily Tamkin discusses our generation's tendency to marry later or not at all.

Across the street

Let's re-evaluate the Columbia-Barnard relationship and its merits.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

CU looks for mental strength in second half

After a disappointing loss to the Bulldogs, the latest in a string of second-half collapses for Columbia, the Lions hope to protect their late-game leads in the last seven games of the season.

EVENTS

Discussion with charity: water

GlobeMed and charity: water discuss the ongoing cholera epidemic in Haiti.
568 Lerner, 7 p.m.

The Prophet: the man, the myth, the legend

Shaykh Abdallah Adhami lectures on Muhammad for Islam Awareness Week.
602 Hamilton, 7:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



48°/34°

Tomorrow



50°/41°

Locals will be trained for green construction jobs

GREEN from front page

we can really help people where they are, [and] educationally as well as vocationally boost up their skills,” she said.

The organizations are now conducting the first phase of the training program. STRIVE, which started its three-month portion of the program with an orientation last Friday, is focusing on work in energy auditing and efficiency, hazardous waste removal, confined entry space training, and disaster preparedness. Participants will also be trained to meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards.

Bailey-McClain believes there is great potential for green construction jobs in West Harlem, because many old buildings need to be renovated to meet new legal standards. The training will help residents get jobs with contractors and landscape architects, Bailey-McClain said.

“We’re offering people a

variety of trainings so they can fit different types of needs,” she said. “We are able to give ourselves the flexibility that we need to fit the people in our community.”

The idea behind the program is continuous training, Bailey-McClain added.

“We’re trying to introduce to people a lot of green training, so they have options to get different types of work and they have real career options,” she said.

CB9 will also partner with various organizations to offer job opportunities specifically for local residents involved in the training program.

“When people were talking about green before, people could not visualize what that could mean,” Bailey-McClain said. “It’s starting to spread and people are understanding it and seeing it.”

For now, STRIVE is running its traditional job-training programs as part of the partnership. One difference, though, is that many of the participants

have been referred to STRIVE by CB9.

“There’s value that a community is proactive and aggressive and being consistent with the green movement,” Jackson said.

He also noted that STRIVE and the Horticultural Society are working together to develop a program that is customized for CB9.

The Horticultural Society will most likely take over the program in the summer. According to Dwaine Lee, the society’s director of special projects, the outline for its training emphasizes preparation for green infrastructure jobs, such as managing storm water with rain barrels and rain gardens.

“Employing people from those communities to do the work and giving them the opportunity ... this is the emerging paradigm, this is the world that needs to emerge, and [that] we want to support,” Lee said.

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HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ALMOST 40 YEARS | Jacob Andreas is Columbia’s first Churchill Scholarship winner since 1963.

Profs see ‘bright future’ for scholarship winner

SCHOLAR from front page

since his first year at Columbia, is held in high esteem by several faculty members. Habash taught him in a graduate-level class.

“I would compare him to some of our best graduate students,” Habash said. “He was one of two or three people in the class who got an A-plus.”

Andreas also took a 6000-level class with computer science professor Michael Collins.

“He’s a phenomenal student,” Collins said.

Andreas does not plan to take many classes at Cambridge. For the most part, he will work on a single research project.

“Being able to focus on a research project for a whole year without distractions is really exciting,” he said.

Universities are invited to nominate up to two candidates for the Churchill Scholarship each year, and Andreas hopes that other Columbia students

will apply for it in the future. He said that the lack of Churchill Scholarship recipients at Columbia is probably a result of students’ not knowing that it exists.

“There are a lot of really impressive scientists on this campus.”

—Jacob Andreas, SEAS ’12

“Until recently, the fellowship office didn’t have their act together. Most places, there’s this pretty serious on-campus competition,” he said. “Nobody else even applied.”

Still, he said, there are many Columbia students who he thinks would have a shot at winning.

“There are a lot of really

impressive scientists on this campus,” he said.

Faculty members, too, hope that Andreas’ scholarship will motivate other Columbia undergraduates to apply.

“It’s a model for what other people can do,” computer science professor Kathleen McKeown said. “It lets people know what’s possible.”

Andreas plans to pursue his Ph.D. after earning his master’s degree, and he eventually wants to teach at a university. But in the meantime, he is excited for next year.

“Cambridge is kind of a magical place,” he said. “So much happened there. It was at Cambridge that computer science as a discipline came to exist.”

Habash said that Andreas has a bright future ahead of him.

“I’m hoping to hear a lot more about him in the future,” Habash said. “I think he’ll make us proud.”

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DOUGLAS KESSEL / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GREEN ROOM | Savona Bailey-McClain meets with leaders of the green construction partnership.

Some residents say outdoor recess a constant nuisance

RECESS from front page

with moving recess to 108th Street, adding that there are “a lot of advantages” to 108th Street and that he hopes the switch works.

“We’re very committed to finding a solution for this,” McMahon said. “The advantage for 108th is that it keeps us closer to our classrooms, with teachers looking out the windows.”

In addition to concerns about noise, there were complaints from other residents about the nuisance of having the street blocked for two hours every day.

“Giving them a chance to play in the sunlight is part of a holistic experience.”

—Chris McMahon,
Ascension School principal

Tony Velello, a resident of the block who uses the city-wide disability pickup service Access-a-Ride, said that the blocked street makes it difficult for him to get picked up. The blockage has also “severely impacted” local business, he said.

“We feel that this ought to just stop and not look for some kind of compromise,” Velello said. “We’ve reached the breaking point. We don’t want this on our block at all, period.”

CB7 member Oscar Rios, who has lived in the neighborhood for 54 years, said that while he understood the concerns, the “children to me are more important than traffic.”

“I’ve never seen any problem” with the 107th Street arrangement, Rios said. “People are standing on the corner, waiting ... to remove the barricade.”

The meeting became rowdy at times, with a vocal group of attendees expressing strong support for the school. At a few points, the meeting devolved into personal attacks, with one resident calling Velello “sick.”

“This man is always complaining about something in the neighborhood—something’s always annoying to him,” Rios said.

Some residents suggested that the kids play in the school gym. But McMahon responded that this wouldn’t be good enough.

“Getting them outside and giving them a chance to play in the sunlight is a part of a holistic experience,” McMahon said. “That said, the sunlight shines equally on 107th and 108th.”

Lanoix said she didn’t understand why the committee voted for the 108th Street plan, calling the 107th Street block “the safest block” for the students.

“I’d rather be inconvenienced for two hours” than take the second-best option, she said. “I can deal with it.”

“The children are very pleasant on the street,” she added. “There are too many studies showing the importance of children playing.”

Thorn said that a trial run on 108th Street would be “a step in the right direction.”

“Why is it up to us to put up with [noise from] the church and the school?” Thorn asked. In other communities, he added, “the front doors of church are on one street, the play street is another street.”

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HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SCHOOL SUPPORT | At a CB7 transportation committee meeting Tuesday night, local residents debated whether the Ascension School should be forced to move its outdoor recess one block north.

Councils will work with USenators on space report

SPACE from front page

In an interview last week, University Senator Eduardo Santana, CC ’13, stressed the importance of the councils’ reaching out to the student body, a point echoed by Terasaki.

“We believe this initiative is an important step towards the achievement of a shared vision.”

—Adeel Ahamed, Business ’12
SAC co-chair

“The entire body of CCSC will be instrumental in distributing the survey and working on turning the results into a useful document that can be utilized, along with the information from the other schools,” Terasaki said. “When the results come in, we will work within the council to interpret them and define how CC students feel space would be best allocated for them.”

In a statement released after Friday’s meeting, SAC co-chair Adeel Ahamed, Business ’12, said that the Morningside Student Space Initiative is a valuable project.

“We believe this initiative is an important step towards the achievement of a shared vision of improving the overall student experience at Columbia,” he said.

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FILE PHOTO

IMPERFECT | Harvard dropped its undefeated Ivy status with an unexpected loss to Princeton.

Potential shake-up in standings after Harvard loss

ATL from back page

PRINCETON

The Tigers (13-10, 4-3 Ivy) had two excellent performances at home, beating hapless Dartmouth 59-47 and shocking Harvard 70-62. Despite missing their first 12 shots against the Big Green, the Tigers pulled within two by halftime. In the second half, Princeton outscored Dartmouth 36-22 en route to an easy win.

Senior guard Douglas Davis led the Tigers with 20 points while the leading scorer this season, junior forward Ian Hummer, was held to a four-point performance. Hummer recovered nicely from his low output on Friday to lead the Tigers with 20 points, six rebounds, and five assists in their major upset against Harvard. The game was evenly matched until the last six minutes when Princeton went on a 6-1 run to take a five-point lead. Harvard was then forced to foul the Tigers, and Princeton clinched the game by making 12 of 15 foul shots.

HARVARD

Harvard (21-3, 7-1 Ivy) won at Penn 56-50 this weekend before suffering its first Ivy loss this season at the hands of Princeton, 70-62. After a tightly contested 30 minutes, the Crimson went on a 7-0 run to take a 41-32 lead against Penn. The Quakers cut the lead to three with 17.4 seconds left before freshman guard Corbin Miller made one of two foul shots to clinch the game for Harvard. Miller led the team with 17 points while senior forward Keith Wright had 13 rebounds. The Crimson started off well at Princeton on Saturday, leading 27-22 at halftime, but couldn't stop the Tigers from tying the game at 44 midway through the second half. Princeton shot 50 percent from the field and its offensive supremacy showed in the last four minutes when its pulled away, winning by eight points.

PENN

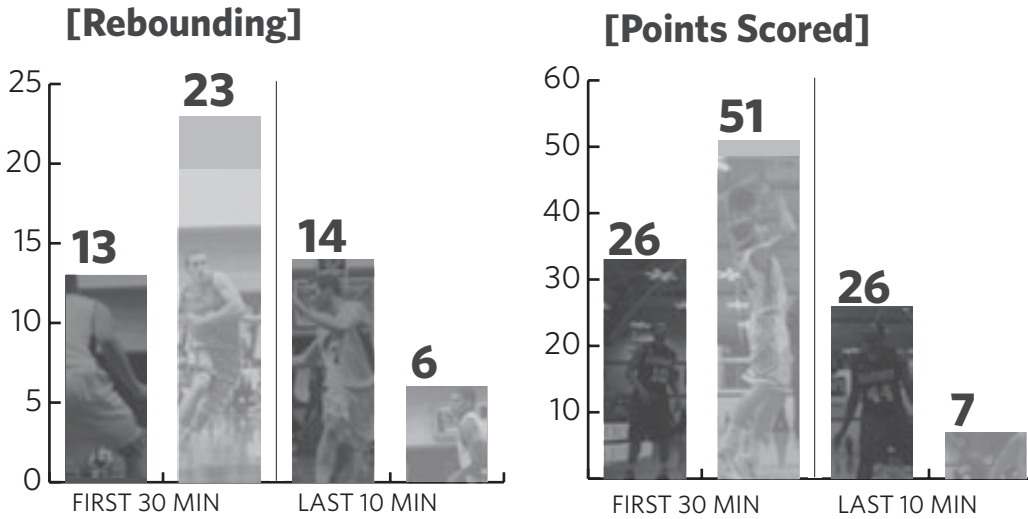
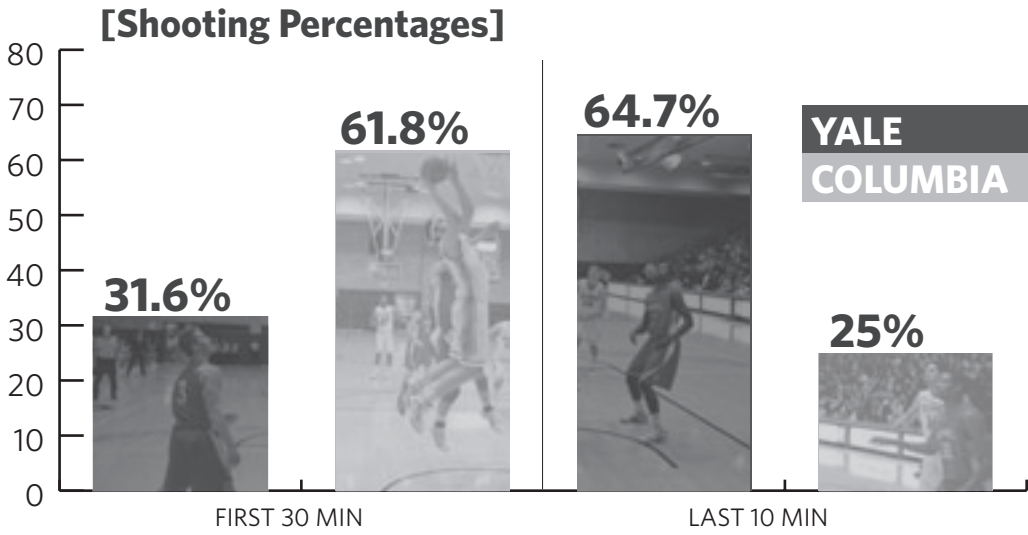
The Quakers (14-11, 5-2 Ivy) split their back-to-back home

games this weekend, losing to Harvard 56-50 before beating Dartmouth 58-55. The Quakers struggled offensively against the Crimson as senior guard Zack Rosen shot 6-for-21 and senior guard Tyler Bernardini was held to two points. Nevertheless, the Quakers managed to stick with Harvard until the last seven minutes, before their opponent pulled away for good. Penn managed to cut the Crimson's lead to three in the last minute of the game, but came no closer.

The Quakers recovered against Dartmouth as Rosen made a deep three with 3.4 seconds left to give his team the win. While Rosen struggled in the game and made just 5 of 13 shots, he saved Penn from giving up what initially seemed to be a comfortable win for Dartmouth. Up by six points with less than four minutes left, the Quakers turned the ball over and received a technical foul that let the Big Green back into the game before Rosen shut the door.

COLUMBIA VS. YALE

Despite a strong start, Columbia's performance deteriorated during the last 10 minutes of the game.



GRAPHIC BY CELINE GORDON



MICHAEL DISCENZA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OOPS | An errant pass by Alex Rosenberg in the final minute allowed Yale to take the lead.

After latest collapse, CU looks to end season strong

IN FOCUS from back page

of how even the best of teams suffer from late-game woes.

But for the Lions, falling apart under pressure late in the game seems to be a recurring issue.

“We can practice against press all we want, but it's hard to simulate game situations,” Smith said.

In those last 10 minutes on Saturday, Yale switched to a full-court press and suddenly the Lions were cold on the offensive end. At the same time, the Lion defense faltered in the face of Yale's growing momentum, in large part due to senior guard/forward Reggie Willhite's 24 points and seven steals.

While it was certainly the most heartbreaking loss for the Light Blue so far, Saturday was by no means the first time Columbia saw its success fall apart in the final minutes of a game.

Against Penn and Princeton in the opening weekend of league play, the Lions gave up second-half leads and were unable to stage successful comebacks. Two weeks later in Ithaca, the Light Blue fought back from a 14-point deficit to tie the Big Red twice, but failed

to take the lead each time.

According to Smith, the Lions' downfall in the second half was a result of both mistakes by the Light Blue and an increased push by the Bulldogs.

“I think it cuts both ways,” Smith said. “They gave a great effort. I was more disappointed with our defense—just blown coverages. I understand getting scored on, but we didn't sort out defensive transition.”

“We’ve got to do things better and ensure it doesn’t happen again.”

— Kyle Smith, head coach

Moving past these problems will require the Lions to redefine their game mentality, a point Smith has stressed throughout the season.

“I think that's part of getting over the hump, changing the culture—that we deserve to win and it's OK for Columbia to be good,” the second-year head coach said.

Even with the second-half

debacle, the Light Blue still had a chance to beat the Bulldogs with three seconds left when senior forward Blaise Staab stepped up to the charity line for two free throws, needing just one to tie and two to take the lead.

Even if Staab had not missed both free throws, the Lions would still have had to face the fact that they let their double-digit lead disappear.

“Two foul shots—sometimes those go, sometimes they don't,” junior guard Brian Barbour said. “We should have never let it get to that situation in the first place.”

The pain of Saturday's loss was made all the worse with the knowledge that the Lions were fully capable of beating the Bulldogs, who sit in second place in the conference with only two losses. But for Smith and players, that pain acts as motivation never to let a game end in a similar fashion again.

“We've got to do things better and ensure it doesn't happen again,” Smith said. “That pain—you should feel it.”

The Lions' next shot at breaking their habit of second-half collapses will be this weekend when they travel to Princeton and Penn to begin the final seven games of the season.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK SAMMY ROBERTS



FILE PHOTO

SABRE STANDOUT | In the 2012 Ivy League Round-Robin Championships, senior co-captain Sammy Roberts, a first-team All-Ivy athlete, beat Princeton's top fencer to help the Light Blue earn its fourth straight runner-up position in the Ivy League. Roberts holds a 15-3 record for the season.



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A tale of two colleges

BY HANNAH PAGE

I am a strong, beautiful ... Columbia woman. I am proof that the notion of Barnard as a backup school is at least somewhat well-founded. To high school senior me, the existence of Barnard was the promise of the potential to be a part of the exalted institution that was Columbia University—even if my early admission application to Columbia College were to be cruelly rejected.

It wasn't. I was CC '15 by December of 2010, and by the time I stepped onto my campus on the east side of Broadway as a newly minted first-year, Barnard had fully transformed in my mind into the chief roadblock to my desire to date a hot Columbia boy. I had earned my Ivy League education, damn it, and Barnard students thought they could poach men off of my campus?

Maybe it's because I now have a SEAS boy of my very own, but at this point in my first year I understand that the Barnard-Columbia relationship is a bit more complicated than the issue of boy-poaching.

Maybe it's because I now have a SEAS boy of my very own, but at this point in my first year I understand that the Barnard-Columbia relationship is a bit more complicated than the issue of boy-poaching. First off, Barnard is far from the separate entity I envisioned as a first semester CC student. Barnard women make up a significant portion of most of the clubs in which I participate. Despite the stereotypes, I can't tell Barnard women apart from Columbia women. Recently I found myself grabbing dinner in John Jay with a young woman I was introduced to at a party, and amid conversation about Model UN and preferred dining halls, I realized she attended Barnard.

STAFF EDITORIAL

New committee, new power structure

In a Spectrum interview last Thursday ("Your daily dose of Deantini," Feb. 11), Columbia College Interim Dean James Valentini hinted at the creation of an Educational Policy and Planning Committee as recommended by the Task Force on Undergraduate Education in its April 2009 report. According to the report, the EPPC would be formed with "the belief that undergraduate liberal arts education is a central mission of the Arts and Sciences at Columbia." The report justifies its recommendation by stating that the University has "historically lacked a well-established institutional structure" to plan for undergraduate education, graduate instruction, and faculty development "in relation to one another."

Almost two years after the report was published, it is encouraging to see that the University is finally looking to implement the TFUE's recommendations and concretely address what seems to be a valid concern. Recent events such as the resignation of former dean Michelle Moody-Adams and professor Andrew Delbanco's lecture regarding the status of Columbia College appear to validate the task force's concerns.

Both events indicate that the University needs to improve the manner in which it handles administrative processes. When handled well, administrative woes should not distract from the University's primary educational and research mission. This year at least, we have focused on the administration too much. Thus we welcome the decision on the part of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences as recognition of major concerns that have repeatedly distracted the University from its primary mission.

We acknowledge that there has been no official word on how the committee will function or what its powers will amount to. However, the proposed structure of the committee gives reason for pause. If the report's recommendations are fully carried out, the committee would include the vice president of FAS, dean of CC, dean of the School of General Studies, dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, chair of the Committee on the Core, chair of the Committee on Global Core, and chair of the Committee on Instruction for SEAS. Finally, the vice president of FAS will appoint a faculty chair and three additional members of the faculty.

We take issue with having the vice president of FAS appoint all four faculty members of the committee. Vice President Dirks unquestionably has the right to sit on the committee himself, and we recognize that he has a level of faculty perspective as a professor of anthropology. However, we believe that his expansive role as an administrator, and the multiple interests he must balance, present a conflict when making decisions that should, ideally, most benefit the curriculum. His influence should therefore be balanced by, rather than be superior to, his fellow faculty members. If the committee is to have significant influence over the faculty members, it is only just that they directly select their representatives, rather than surrendering that authority to the vice president of FAS.

We are also uneasy about the lack of student involvement, but we acknowledge that it is difficult to comment without knowing more about the extent of the committee's powers. We are glad to see, however, that Dean Valentini has indicated support for including students.

There is positive potential for the EPPC to be a solution to a wide variety of problems that have put the administration at odds with the students and the faculty. However, the proposed appointment structure is an unnecessary and counterproductive centralization of authority in the office of the vice president of FAS.

In the past semester, faculty members have raised their voices and have shown us more than ever before that they want more control over the leadership and direction of the University. We ought to give them a direct stake when there are new power structures being put in place.

The only effect this had on our conversation was that I finally learned what the Nine Ways of Knowing entailed.

Barnard women may have the Nine Ways of Knowing in place of the Core, but despite their inability to undergo the intellectually transforming experience of sitting through a semester of Frontiers lectures, they take many of the same classes as CC, SEAS, and GS students. This, along with the fact that many Barnard women tend to claim that they go to Columbia University on Facebook (technically true, perhaps, but in my opinion misleading), seems to suggest that Barnard is an institution inexorably connected with, but also striving to be, Columbia.

The idea that Barnard functions only as a backup school for female wannabe-Columbians can be easily disproven by the existence of the Barnard early decision application. Many women want to go to Barnard—perhaps because they are attracted to the school and the first-rate education it provides.

I discussed this very fact with another member of the equestrian club, who applied and was accepted early decision to Barnard. I can understand her motives, because she felt about Barnard precisely the way I did about Columbia when I applied.

The thing is, Barnard is a separate entity from Columbia and a superb college in its own right, ranked number 33 this year among liberal arts colleges by U.S. News. In fact, once upon a time Barnard women were the only kind of women around Columbia University, which turned coed in 1983.

Still, has Barnard been obsolete for the past 29 years? Obviously not. Barnard is valuable because of what it was and what it still is—a place for women to get an Ivy League-quality education when they weren't always welcomed at other institutions.

They do make for some added competition in the already confusing dating scene that is college, but Barnard was on the west side of Broadway long before women were even accepted at Columbia. I'd say Barnard as an institution deserves to be here—in Morningside Heights, with its students walking between Broadway and Amsterdam—as much as Columbia.

The author is a Columbia College first-year. She is a writer for The Fed.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editors:

I wonder if Alex Collazo's column ("Sex more, sex harder," Feb. 14)—and all of the sexual hooplah surrounding Valentine's Day—misses the point of the day. Valentine's is not about sexual statistics. Breaking down the amount of sex we have into numbers and percentages actually seems somewhat anti-Valentine's Day. Otherwise, we would be buying alcohol and condoms rather than chocolate and roses. Valentine's Day is about the simple intersection between romance and sex. In fact, it's the only day in the calendar that we hear a basic truth about our sex lives: Sex is better in a relationship.

Every person that I've spoken to about this agrees. Sex is better when you know each other intimately already, know each others' likes and dislikes. You don't have to fumble around figuring it out. No mistakes. No awkwardness. There's no worry about whether he'll like this or she'll be into that. Cuddling beforehand releases the hormones that make sex mind-blowing. For the lazy, there's the ability to have sex in the middle of the day. For the beleaguered and Butler-bound, there's the possibility of actually getting work done afterward. And then, not to be underestimated, is the fact that having sex with someone you respect always makes you feel better in the morning.

I wonder why Columbia's perceived sexual dysfunction is about the amount we have sex. It seems to be that the quality of sex matters more than the quantity. The quality of sex will only improve if we have more opportunity to meet each other in a way that is social without being so academic as to preclude the possibility of a sexual relationship.

Columbia notoriously lacks a community feeling after NSOP week. We're all stuck in dorms where we can't have ragers. The University has shut down some of the fraternities where we can and destroys traditions like "Forties on Forty" that could form the social lubricant of our stressful four years here.

The "War on Fun" has the indirect effect of hurting the quality, not just the quantity, of our sexual liaisons. On the other hand, I'm studying abroad this year, so the quality of my sex life is fine, thank you very much.

Jesse Eiseman, CC '13

Say 'be mine' in your own good time

By the time this appears in print, we will have all lived through another Valentine's Day. My thoughts on this holiday change from year to year. Some years, I contemplate how I became so cynical at such a young age. Some years, I reflect on how any given holiday is only as important as the observer makes it. Some years, I throw aside all pessimism and dress in pink and red (disclaimer: I do not think this has actually ever happened). This year, however, I thought of how often these past few months I've bothered my friends to get married shortly after graduation—and why I was wrong to do so.

I often joke to those friends of mine who are in relationships (and some of those who aren't) that I want them to get married sooner rather than later. I want to go to their weddings while I'm still young enough to enjoy their weddings, I tell them.

In one sense, I really am joking. Obviously, I want my friends to get married whenever they want to get married. But I am also not joking, and not only because I want to go to cocktail hours, or simply because I've watched too many hours of TLC's "Say Yes to the Dress," but also because I grew up with a certain idea of people getting married in their early to mid-20s, settling into their professional and personal lives, and building a future together.

The truth, of course, is that the future is looking less and less like what I imagined it to look like in the past. The Pew Report, released just this December, noted that people in the 1990s were getting married for the first time in their mid-20s. Today, they're waiting until their late 20s, many not tying the knot until after they've tied up their 30th birthdays. Our generation grew up in households led by people who met in college and married relatively soon thereafter. Why, then, are we so unwilling to follow suit?

Maybe we aren't. Maybe we are just doing so on a different schedule. My parents, for example, met in college, went straight to law school, and got married immediately thereafter. If they met in college today (a scenario that ignores the ever-evolving collegiate dating scene), who's to say that they would have both gone to law school directly thereafter? The average age of a law student at many top schools today is around 25—the year my mother graduated and got married. If my parents met in college today, they might choose to live in Brooklyn for a few years, change career paths, head off to graduate school, and only then, if they'd stayed together, decide to make that together forever and ever, amen. Maybe they, too, would



EMILY TAMKIN

Back To The Future

have waited for a ceremony that is essentially a celebration of two lives coming together.

Perhaps the reason that our generation is getting married later is that it is taking longer for those lives to be established. Or that learning how to live means something different for our generation than it did for that of our parents. That the world turns and people change and societies evolve, and we do our best to meet all of the above. Perhaps people are getting married later because, due to a whole host of issues that are at least as complicated as any 20-something's relationship, it is taking longer for them—for us—to figure out who we are and what we want to be and how we want to live as individuals, much less as couples. And perhaps that's just the way we're living now.

Some people, for cultural, religious, or personal reasons, still get married quite young. And that's just fine. Some people choose not to get married at all, ever. And that's fine (although those in this category should note that this column does not speak on behalf of your grandmother).

I often joke to those of my friends who are in relationships (and some of those who aren't) that I want them to get married sooner rather than later.

But some people do believe in marriage as an institution, and for those who are indeed able to get married (that this clause needs to be included in this column is another discussion for another time), but who want to wait until they've lived, which means something distinct and different for our generation—that's fine, too.

If you got engaged to be married this Valentine's Day, or will be doing so soon, or shortly after graduation—congratulations! You have my unsolicited blessing.

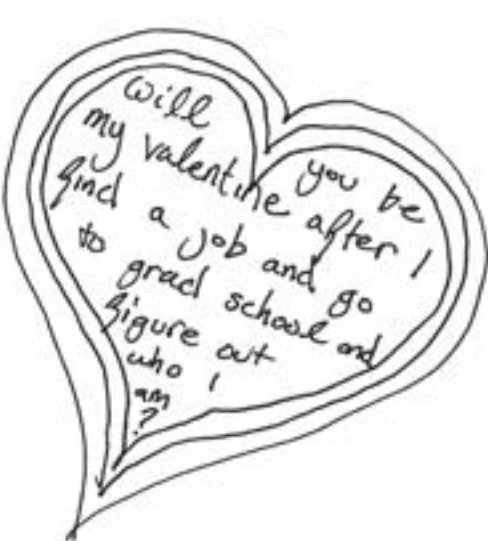
And those of you who didn't, and who won't be? You have my (still unsolicited) blessing, too.

Emily Tamkin is a Columbia College senior majoring in Russian literature and culture. She is the general manager of the Columbia Political Union, vice chair of the Senior Fund, literary criticism editor of The Birch, and a former Spectator editorial page editor. Back to the Future runs alternate Wednesdays.

Last Generation



This Generation



EMILY LAZERWITZ

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com. Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.

Top programs must be held to same standard

When the Columbia men's basketball team opened its season against the UConn Huskies on Nov. 11, nobody in their right mind characterized the game as a preview of a possible NCAA tournament matchup. UConn is a perennial March Madness contender (and defending champion this year), and Columbia was picked to finish second-to-last in the Ivy preseason poll. However, it seems that even our Lions have a better shot than the Huskies at making the 2013 NCAA tournament—not because of a their on-court heroics so much as their diligence in the classroom.

After adopting more stringent academic standards in October, the NCAA declared the Huskies ineligible for the next year's tournament due to consistently poor academic ratings. UConn offered to suffer alternative consequences instead of facing a tourney ban, but the NCAA has stood by its decision.

When we hear about NCAA compliance violations, we often think to ourselves, "Why do these rules even matter?" While this sentiment may be valid for illicit jersey sales and even overaggressive recruiting, the core rules regarding academic standards are fundamental to the legitimacy of college athletics. NCAA regulations are meant to mitigate the tension between college sports programs and the academic institutions that sponsor them, delineating what it means to be a college program.

We often think to ourselves, "Why do these rules even matter?"

Obviously, teams don't win national championships by keeping their GPAs high, but the UConn ruling serves as a reminder that college teams cannot eschew academics, no matter how successful they are on the court. Of course, it's not realistic to compare UConn with Columbia or even Harvard (ranked in the top 25 this year), since Ivy schools purposely compromise their athletic programs in favor of high academic standards. However, there are blue-chip basketball programs that do enforce more stringent academic standards. Duke and Kansas are prime examples.

In the past 20 or so years, Duke has won four national championships, UConn has won three, and Kansas has won one. Last year, Duke received an academic rating of 990 for the 2009-2010 cycle, compared to UConn's 893. Kansas—and Columbia, for that matter—received 1000, the maximum score. Despite this disparity in terms of academics, all those three big programs consistently fare very well on the court, and all are feeder teams for the NBA—evidence that being required to work hard in the classroom does not adversely affect an athlete's performance at the college or pro level. Keep in mind, though, that these scores measure basic academic compliance by athletes, not academic excellence.

Interestingly, Kemba Walker, the star of UConn's championship team last year and now a member of the Charlotte Bobcats, graduated in just three years. Even at UConn, and even for its star player, success on the court does not prohibit success in the classroom. Jeremy Lin is an example of a student who succeeded both academically and athletically in college and has gone on to excel in the NBA (at least thus far). Clearly, earning a 3.1 GPA at Harvard doesn't get in the way of scoring 38 points for the New York Knicks and attracting the ire of an opposing Kobe Bryant.

Moreover, many hold up a college education as an athlete's reward for bringing revenue to his or her school without any other form of compensation. With its current ruling, the NCAA is looking out for the rest of the UConn team and those like them who will never be paid to play basketball and who, at the very least, should earn a degree and a marketable skill set before leaving school. UConn has no excuse for failing to follow the leads of Duke, Kansas, Harvard, and Columbia if it wants to participate in college athletics.

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BENJAMIN SPENER

The Top Spin



MICHAEL DISCENZA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR NAUGHT | Meiko Lyles' 17 points on Saturday weren't enough to prevent yet another late-game collapse by the Lions.

Crimson's first Ivy loss opens doors for Yale, Penn in close title race

BY JOSH SHENKAR
Spectator Staff Writer

As the Ivy League season reached its halfway point last weekend, the league's pecking order remained in a state of flux. Harvard shockingly lost its first conference game to Princeton, leaving the door open for Yale, Penn, and possibly even Princeton to make a late-season run. Dartmouth, Cornell, Brown, and Columbia may not be title contenders, but each continued to prove that it can compete with the best teams in the conference.



YALE

The Bulldogs (16-6, 6-2 Ivy) maintained their status as the second-ranked team in the Ivy League, winning one of their two close games on the road. Yale lost the first of its back-to-back matchups, 85-84 in overtime against Cornell, after squandering a 14-point first-half lead. Junior Austin Morgan led the Bulldogs with 22 points while senior guard Reggie Willhite added eight assists. Yale then rebounded and overcame a 21-point second-half deficit to defeat Columbia 59-58. The Bulldogs' feisty press managed to force several Lion turnovers, and three key three-pointers helped them get back in the game. Willhite led Yale with 24 points and scored the winning basket on a layup with less than a minute left.

CORNELL

Although Cornell (10-12, 5-3 Ivy) has had an up-and-down Ivy League season thus far, it managed to win both of its home games last weekend. The Big Red first beat Yale 85-84 in overtime on Friday, as junior guard Jonathan Gray had a career high of 29 points. Cornell was down 14 points after the first half and still managed to edge the Bulldogs in overtime, in part due to two three-pointers from Gray. In its second game of the weekend, the Big Red dominated Brown in the second half en route to a 72-63 win. Gray had another outstanding performance with 16 points and nine rebounds, helping Cornell shoot 47 percent from the field and sink 12 three-pointers.

BROWN

The Bears' (7-18, 1-7 Ivy) woes continued this weekend as they lost on the road to Columbia 86-60 and Cornell

72-63. The Bears were without star sophomore guard Sean McGonagill, and struggled to defend Columbia's streaky three-point shooters. The Bears allowed the Lions to make 11 first-half threes, and never recovered from a 23-point halftime deficit. In the Bears' Saturday game against Cornell, junior guard Matt Sullivan scored 17 first-half points to keep Brown in contention at halftime. Brown was not able to contain the Big Red after the break, though, as Cornell went on a 15-1

run with five three-pointers. Though Brown shrank the lead to six with under three minutes to play, the Cornell pulled away once more for the win.

DARTMOUTH

Dartmouth (8-20, 0-8 Ivy) will continue to look for its first Ivy League win, after losing road games at Princeton and Penn. The Big Green fell to Princeton 59-47 on Friday, competing well in the first half before faltering in the second. Dartmouth



COURTESY OF THE DAILY PRINCETONIAN, KATHERINE ELGIN

RIVALRY RENEWED | Sophomore guard T.J. Bray had the second-most points in the game against Harvard with 12, helping to lead the Tigers to victory.

For CU, late-game misery continues

BY STEVEN LAU
Spectator Staff Writer

It was a spectacle in Leven Gymnasium on Saturday night.

The 2,442 fans filling the stands witnessed the Lions' most stunning second-half collapse of the season, as the Columbia men's basketball team let a 21-point second-half lead slip away to ultimately fall, 59-58, to Yale. It was yet another instance of Lion late-game errors' costing the team a win.

"It's been a bit of an Achilles' heel, but I still think it's better than being down 20 and making the rally," head coach Kyle Smith said. "But it hurts more this way."

Columbia displayed its dominance for the first 30 minutes of the game, taking advantage of its scoring opportunities and controlling the tempo. The Lions headed into halftime with a seven-point lead, and a second-half surge pushed the margin to 20 with 9:56 remaining.

That was when things began to go downhill.

For the first 30 minutes, the Light Blue shot 61.8 percent from the field—more than double Yale's 31.6 percent shooting—and outrebounded the Bulldogs 23-13.

But in the final 10, it was a complete role reversal as Yale went on a 26-7 run. The visitors shot 64.7 percent compared to the Lions' meager 25 percent, and outrebounded the Light Blue 14-6.

Smith cited Duke's 85-84 upset of North Carolina last week—in which the Blue Devils came back from a 10-point deficit with less than three minutes remaining—as an example

SEE IN FOCUS, page 3

SEE ATL, page 3

(RK) IVY	TEAM
1 (1) 7-1	HARVARD CRIMSON After losing its first Ivy game of the season, the Crimson suddenly looks vulnerable.
2 (2) 6-2	YALE BULLDOGS The Bulldogs lost in overtime to Cornell before coming back to stun Columbia and remain in second place.
3 (3) 5-2	PENN QUAKERS While the Quakers lost to Harvard at home, their win against Dartmouth has kept them in the Ivy title hunt.
4 (4) 5-3	CORNELL BIG RED The Big Red beat Yale and Brown in impressive home wins this weekend to stay in the top half of the Ivy League table.
5 (5) 4-3	PRINCETON TIGERS The Tigers have been disappointing this season, but their upset win over Harvard could lead to a late-season surge.
6 (6) 3-5	COLUMBIA LIONS After a comfortable win against Brown, the Lions lost a huge lead in their game against Yale, as well as a chance to be .500 in league play.
7 (7) 1-7	BROWN BEARS The Bears were dominated in road losses at Cornell and Columbia and have looked over-matched this season.
8 (8) 0-8	DARTMOUTH BIG GREEN After losing on a last-second three-pointer to Penn, the Big Green is still looking for its first Ivy win halfway through the season.