



ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LOCAVORES | Gelseigh Karl-Cannon, CC '11, serves lunch with other members of 4Local, one of the groups working on the café plans.

Groups to present plan for sustainable, student-run café

BY CAITLIN BROWN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Three sustainable dining student groups are cooking up plans for what could become Columbia's first student-run, co-op café.

Representatives from 4local, CoreFoods, and FeelGood CU are working on a formal proposal for a student-run “eatery and grocery” in Lerner Hall, which they plan to present to administrators in the next few weeks.

The café would unite the operations of the three student groups, selling 4local's boxed meals, CoreFoods' organic groceries, and FeelGood CU's gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, among other products.

“We are close right now to completing what we feel are the necessary materials to present them with a strong case for what we've been doing,” said Josh Arky, CC '13 and a member of 4local.

Arky said that discussions

with administrators thus far have been limited and informal, but group members plan to set up an official meeting with administrators soon.

“We've approached particular administrators about it,” Arky said, “but I can't definitively say who the decision maker is.”

They have yet to formally discuss the project with Victoria Dunn, director of Dining Services, who said she couldn't comment because she had not yet heard about the project.

But Scott Wright, vice president of Student and Administrative Services, said in an email that he had heard of the groups' interest in collaborating on the project and was aware of their outreach to Dunn.

The groups have also been circulating a petition online for students to express support for the co-op, which has been gaining signatures in the last week. Over 650 people, mostly

SEE FOOD, page 3

Douglass Houses residents say maintenance neglected

BY JACKIE CARRERO
Spectator Staff Writer

The sign welcoming visitors to the Frederick Douglass Houses says “A Wonderful Community,” but for resident Lillie Jamison, there's nothing “wonderful” about her housing situation.

Jamison, a young mother of one with another baby on the way, said that her apartment is not only in poor physical condition but also hazardous to her and her children's health.

“I'm pregnant and living with asbestos,” she said. “Not only that, but we have old tiling and haven't had a paint job in years.”

Jamison's complaints are not new. At a Community Board 7 housing meeting in September, residents spoke of maintenance problems, such as broken refrigerators and unusable plumbing fixtures, that have been left unaddressed by the New York City Housing Authority, which handles maintenance at

the 17-building complex centered around 100th Street and Columbus Avenue.

Residents said they would submit “tickets,” the forms used to request repairs, only to have them ignored or to hear that it would take years for their problems to be addressed.

In response, CB7's housing committee held a joint meeting Jan. 10 with NYCHA representatives and tenants association presidents from several of the public housing complexes located on the Upper West Side, including Douglass.

“It was the housing committee and tenants association presidents firing questions at NYCHA,” CB7 housing committee chair Victor Gonzalez said. “Once they answered us to our satisfaction, people in the audience asked questions.”

Gonzalez said one of the main issues that emerged was the shortcomings of the Centralized

SEE DOUGLASS, page 2



AVERY VAUGHAN FOR SPECTATOR

TRASH TROUBLE | Frederick Douglass Houses residents say their elevator and plumbing problems have not been addressed.

University moves to evict Floridita for not paying rent

BY ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Columbia may be kicking the Cuban restaurant Floridita and its owner Ramon Diaz out of their new space—but this time, it's for not paying the rent.

On Sunday, notices appeared on the windows of the Manhattanville restaurant's new building at the corner of 125th Street and 12th Avenue, claiming that Floridita has defaulted on its rent payments.

According to the notices, Diaz must pay the debt of \$10,553 or he will be forced to “surrender up possession of said premises to the Landlord,” followed by eviction proceedings that could have begun as early as yesterday.

“As in any standard retail lease agreement, tenants must fulfill their lease obligations. This includes paying rent in full and on time, which Mr. Diaz has failed to do. He was therefore provided with a notice of default,” said La-Verna Fountain, Columbia's associate vice president for construction business services and communications.

Diaz said that he has “not technically, not yet, and not legally” been paying rent for at least the last two months, saying that the space is not fully occupied or functional and citing asbestos issues. But Diaz dismissed the notices as “absolute nonsense,” saying that he has been making “payments” for the past nine months and paid a deposit on the property upfront when he took over the lease last May.

Diaz declined to explain his payments further, saying he did not know enough about their legal implications.

Floridita, a Cuban restaurant that was previously located in the site plan for Columbia's expansion, closed in April 2010. Diaz signed the lease on the new



TERESA SHEN FOR SPECTATOR

DINER DEFAULTS | Notices at Cuban restaurant Floridita at 125th Street and 12th Avenue say its owner hasn't paid rent and that its landlord, the University, may begin eviction proceedings soon.

property last May and has spent the months since negotiating with the University and preparing to renovate the space, located next to Dinosaur Bar-B-Que.

Floridita's lawyer, Jay Friedrich, filed additional paperwork on Thursday to address the notices and anticipates that a hearing will take place soon, according to Diaz.

Diaz also claimed that the University did not tell him that the notices would be served and that he first heard about the notices from a friend who saw them when walking in the area.

“They didn't even put the sign on my door. It was on the main glass doors in the building ... they really tried to sneak it in,” he said.

But the University has denied Diaz's claim that he has been treated unfairly.

“The University has had a track record of working productively with a variety of locally-owned retailers and restaurants to

Dean's ROTC speech upsets queer groups

Moody-Adams says she tried to spark debate with questions

BY SAMMY ROTH
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Queer groups will meet with Columbia College Dean Michele Moody-Adams after taking issue with her remarks at an ROTC town hall on Tuesday night.

Many interpreted Moody-Adams' opening speech as advocating for the reestablishment of a Reserve Officers' Training Corps program on campus, though she has maintained that she was only trying to stimulate continued debate on the issue.

The town hall was the second in a series of three, sponsored by the University Senate Task Force on Military Engagement, to discuss the University's relationship with the military and whether ROTC should be invited back to campus after an absence of more than 40 years.

Everyone Allied Against Homophobia sent a letter to Moody-Adams on Wednesday expressing its concerns with her remarks. The letter was also signed by some board members of the Columbia Queer Alliance, according to CQA president Sean Udell, who is also the Columbia College Class of 2011 president.

“I assumed, as most of my peers did, that she [Moody-Adams] would open the forum with a call for civility, stressing how a dialogue really embodies our University's principles and how they're excited we were able to debate these things so civilly,” Avi Edelman, CC '11 and president of EAAH, said. “The

way she framed the issue was very clearly meant to encourage one way of thinking.”

Moody-Adams wrote in a letter to the editor published in today's Spectator that her remarks have been misconstrued, saying emphatically that she did not endorse a return of ROTC at the town hall.

“My remarks posed difficult and intentionally provocative questions,” Moody-Adams said, “but I believe that Columbians are capable of recognizing the difference between provocative questions and declarative sentences.”

At one point in her speech Tuesday night, Moody-Adams said, “But what if part of the solution is to create a pool of highly-skilled military leaders who are trained in non-military institutions—institutions that teach them about the complexity of human experience, and so through the reading of great works of literature, philosophy, science, social thought, and art?”

“That is, what if an elite liberal arts education proved especially likely to create leaders who understand what it takes to turn others into citizen soldiers? What if having an official ROTC presence at a school like Columbia might be a valuable and reliable means of ensuring the creation of citizen soldiers?”

When asked for comment on the response to her speech,

SEE MOODY-ADAMS, page 2

OPINION, PAGE 4

Date right

Dino Grandoni argues that real romance happens away from the computer.

Load up, lose out

Students should take fewer classes.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lions seek winning weekend at home

Coming off an up-and-down weekend, men's basketball will try to show some consistency when it takes on Dartmouth and Harvard on Friday and Saturday at Levien Gym.

EVENTS

Columbia vs. Dartmouth

Be there when men's basketball takes down the Big Green
Levien Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

The Fantasy Ball

Join LGBTQA students from across the Ivy League for a dance party in drag.
Lerner Party Space, 11 p.m.-2 a.m.

WEATHER

Today



60°/ 36°

Tomorrow



44°/ 27°

Dean to meet with queer groups to address concerns on ROTC

MOODY-ADAMS
from front page

a University spokesperson referred to Moody-Adams' letter to the editor.

Moody-Adams responded to the EAAH letter by inviting groups opposed to ROTC to meet with her. Udell said the meeting will take place soon.

The University Senate formed the task force in December after Congress repealed the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which had prevented gays from serving openly in the military. Many members of LGBT advocacy groups continue to oppose ROTC's return to Columbia because the military still forbids transgender individuals from serving.

Ron Mazor, CC '09, Law '12, and co-chair of the nine-member task force, has previously expressed the task force's desire to encourage debate and neutrally record student opinion. He said that while Moody-Adams' statements "were absolutely couched in a way ... that left room for open discussions of the issues," opinionated opening remarks would not stifle open debate.

"I think that even if an opening speaker expresses an opinion, per se, I don't think that that in and of itself destroys the ability for an event to be an open and neutral showcase of opinions," he said.

Numerous speakers at the town hall referenced Moody-Adams' remarks, most of them saying that she should not have expressed an opinion.

Udell said that he and Edelman approached the dean during a break in the event and told her that they took issue with her opening remarks. Udell said he was "surprised and frustrated that she reacted by saying, 'You're putting words in my mouth—I didn't say that.'"

"Her remarks seemed to clearly indicate that she's already taken a side in this issue," Udell said. "She, I think, made that very clear in the way she

was phrasing the essential questions that she thought we should be asking."

He added he is grateful for the opportunity to meet with Moody-Adams but said that meeting will take place under an "awkward cloud" after having Moody-Adams "put blame on [him] for being disingenuous and being unfairly confrontational." Udell said he worked closely with the dean on the gender-neutral housing pilot program that was approved in November and had never "seen that sort of reaction from her."

"It was certainly surprising, because she knows who I am," Udell said. "She knows that I'm not an unfair activist."

William Prasifka, CC '12, who attended the town hall in support of ROTC's return, said that he did not have a problem with Moody-Adams expressing her opinions. However, he said that she should not have "tried to make it out that she was objective" by phrasing points as "rhetorical questions."

"You'd have to be sort of foolish to think she was not personally in favor of the return of ROTC," Prasifka said.

Udell also agreed that Moody-Adams was "making statements and trying to veil them with question marks, which I don't think she did successfully."

Edelman declined to comment on Moody-Adams' response to the letter that EAAH sent her, but said he looks forward to meeting with the dean.

"As with any controversial issue on campus, there's been a lot of meaningful and productive conversation, but also moments when civility has fallen by the wayside, when respect has been overlooked. And we've seen those moments, both positive and negative, by our peers and also up to the highest levels," Edelman said. "But we're eager to move past that to meet with our dean and share what our stake in this issue is."

sammy.roth
@columbiaspectator.com



AVERY VAUGHAN FOR SPECTATOR

NO GARBAGE ALLOWED | At Douglass Houses, residents say that the Housing Authority ignores their maintenance requests.

Douglass Houses residents say needed repairs ignored by NYCHA

DOUGLASS from front page

Call Center, where residents are instructed to call whenever they have a maintenance request.

"One of the complaints was timely repairs," Gonzalez said. "People were calling in clogged shower heads for example. But when the plumber would come in, they would break the wall for the shower head, resulting in a whole new problem."

Gonzalez said that initiatives to solve the issue are in the works, including working with City Council member Gale Brewer to find ways to expedite responses to "child work orders"—problems that stem from an attempt to fix an original problem—by allowing residents to link their complaints, instead of having to call them in as separate issues.

But although it has been over a month since that meeting,

Jamison said that she hasn't heard anything more about fixing the problems.

"I didn't even know about this meeting or else I would've went," she said of the January meeting. "When I last called the CCC, I was told I have a ticket for 2012. When I called again about replacing the poles in the shower, I never got a response at all."

NYCHA public relations assistant Brent Grier said the agency is trying its best to address maintenance problems in the 2,604 buildings it serves, but that low funding makes it difficult.

"The Authority respects and understands our residents' frustration over the current backlog of repair and maintenance work," Grier wrote in an email statement. "While the needs are great in most of NYCHA's developments, the reality is that buildings that are 40 to 70 years

old are aging structures that require a great deal of repair, for which the Authority receives inadequate funding."

Grier added that NYCHA is developing a five-year plan to address the buildings' preservation.

"It will serve as a vital road map for addressing our current maintenance and repair backlog, as well as other challenges in the future," he wrote in the email.

Resident Vivian Brown, who is currently staying with a friend in Douglass, said those promises jar with her daily reality of continually neglected maintenance.

"They don't do your repairs," she said. "The walls need to be covered and plastered, but they [building management] don't respond to your calls. It's also the elevators—they need to be cleaned and fixed more."

"But I can't complain, because I'm not the one on the

lease," Brown added.

Douglass resident Shirley Poindexter, however, said she's never had to complain.

"The building seems to be kept pretty well," she said. "The cleaning lady who maintains the building does a very good job in my opinion."

Resources are available for residents to deal with ongoing maintenance issues, said Jane Wisdom, president of Douglass Tenants Association, but residents aren't making full use of them.

"People need to call me, because I make sure things get done," Wisdom said. "We all have to work together, because if I don't know about the issues, then I can't do my job. If management doesn't respond or do what they have to do, then I go to the politicians."

jackie.carrero
@columbiaspectator.com

COLUMBIA MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY!

FEBRUARY 19, 2011



COLUMBIA MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. HARVARD

@ 7PM

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LEVIEN GYMNASIUM

FIRST 200 STUDENTS GET A FREE
COLUMBIA WOOL HAT!!!

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ADMISSION WITH COLUMBIA/BARNARD ID

- TICKETS ARE ONLY \$10!

VISIT GOCOLUMBIALIONS.COM/TICKETS





FRESH FOOD | Gelseigh Karl-Cannon, CC '11, and Zak Accuardi, SEAS '11, serve lunch with other 4Local members in Lerner Hall. 4Local hopes to start a sustainable café with two other food groups.

Three foodie groups set goal to open Lerner café

FOOD from front page

Columbia students, have now signed the petition.

FeelGood member Lucy Sun, CC '11 and a Spectator columnist, said that the groups created the petition so they could show the administration that students will support their endeavor before they formally present their plans.

“Something that really helps in making our case is to have student support,” she said.

As for the café itself, Arky and Sun confirmed that their ideal location would be the second floor of what is currently Ferris Booth, where the space would be open during meal-times for dining and serve as a lounge available for meetings during other hours.

“Lerner already gets so much traffic,” Arky said, adding

that Tasti D-Lite, an outside vendor, occupied the space several years ago.

But since they are hoping to use space occupied by Columbia Dining, the groups recognize the imperative of cooperating with the administration. Arky underscored the recent strides Columbia has made toward sustainable dining, such as the use of local fruits in dining halls.

“We’re not trying to make some sort of rebellion against the Columbia dining system,” Arky said. “In fact, we hope to be working with them in order to make this a reality.”

In an email, Wright wrote that his “hypothetical” advice for students interested in such a project “would be to first secure expert advice in compiling a realistic, comprehensive business plan; second, identify and

secure the rights to a realistic location for the café.”

Sun said group members were aware of potential bureaucratic concerns, and that they are prepared for the logistical negotiations. She was optimistic, though, citing the “bureaucratic miracle” that is FeelGood CU’s existence.

“It took a long time, but we eventually worked through all the logistical issues,” she said, adding that each of the three groups is now independently profitable.

As representatives finalize the proposal and arrange to meet with administrators, the groups will continue to operate individually. They hope to have made concrete headway toward the café by the end of the semester.

“We’d like to be a one-stop, delicious, organic food café,” Sun said.

news@columbiaspectator.com

Prof. Segal remembered for defense of Judaism

BY SAMMY ROTH
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Former Barnard professor Alan Segal, who retired in December after 30 years of teaching in Barnard’s religion department, died of complications from leukemia on Sunday. He was 65.

Segal was primarily a Jewish studies professor and scholar, teaching courses at Barnard such as Introduction to the Hebrew Bible and Judaism in the Time of Jesus. He was also known for his work on different views of the afterlife and the relationship between Judaism and early Christianity.

Religion professor Celia M. Deutsch, who had taught with Segal since 1985, said Segal was devoted both to his students and to his studies.

“He was an avid reader. I used to make jokes about how much he read,” Deutsch said. “He had an almost encyclopedic knowledge of the field.”

Tzvee Zahavy, a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary who knew Segal for about 30 years, noted that Segal’s book on the biblical apostle, “Paul the Convert: The Apostolate and Apostasy of Saul the Pharisee,” was highly acclaimed. Zahavy said that some Christian scholars called it “the best book on Paul ever written.”

Segal was also a prominent figure in a 2007 controversy over the work of Barnard professor Nadia Abu El Haj. During her tenure review process, Abu El Haj came under fire for a book in which she

argued that no Jewish state existed in ancient Israel. Segal made a presentation to students where he discussed evidence that he said proved Abu El Haj emphatically wrong and argued in a Spectator column that she should not be granted tenure. Ultimately, her tenure was approved.

“He was proud and vocal in his defense of all things associated with Jews and Judaism and the state of Israel,” Zahavy said. Zahavy also described Segal as the most consistent person he had ever met.

“He was consistent and methodical, careful in his scholarship, and every page that he wrote, every chapter that he published, was a work of great thought and insight, sometimes profound insight,” he said.

Zahavy said that Segal was just as dependable with his friendships.

“He cultivated them and considered them as carefully as he did anything else in his intellectual or scholarly life, and if you were a friend or a colleague of his, you could count on his care with which he would deal with you ... and the respect that he would give you,” Zahavy said. “He was a person who didn’t seek respect, but he gave respect to all of his friends, his students, his colleagues.”

Alan Cooper, provost of the Jewish Theological Seminary, said he and Segal had been friends since they met in the early 1970s. “Alan and I were friends and colleagues for almost 40 years, from the time we sat together



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

SEGAL | Professor Alan Segal taught in Barnard’s religion department for 30 years.

in the seminar of the late Prof. Judah Goldin at Yale (Fall 1971). Alan was brilliant, cultured, witty, warm and generous, a man of principle and a true and loyal friend,” he wrote in an email.

Deutsch echoed those sentiments, saying that Segal’s death has left a vacuum in the department.

“He was really revered as a colleague by many, many people, and really loved as a colleague for his cordiality, and his warmth, and his great, great learning,” Deutsch said.

Zahavy said that even though Segal had been ill for a while, “it really did not slow him down,” adding that he had just completed a book which will probably be published soon, possibly by Columbia University Press.

sammy.rott@columbiaspectator.com

Columbia tries to bounce back on the road

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL from front page

40 seconds of play to pull the Big Green within three points, before freshman guard Taylor Ward shut the door with three made free throws. Furthermore, Columbia comes into Hanover on Dartmouth’s own Pink Zone Night, which is sure to give the

home team some extra drive.

“We feel confident, but at the same time, we can’t take anyone lightly,” Barry said about Friday’s game. “They’re gonna be wanting a win. Just because we beat them here doesn’t mean anything about this trip. I know they’re not thinking about it, so we just have to come in focused and ready to play.”

As for the team’s spirits coming into the weekend, Barry is confident that the Lions can put last week’s struggles behind them and come out with a winning mentality.

“I don’t think it had a major impact on morale,” Barry said. “We still know we’re a good basketball team and we’re going away this weekend looking to get two wins.”

Despite lower than expected seed, men’s tennis looks to find success at ECAC this weekend

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

For all of the success that the No. 48 and two-time defending Ivy champion men’s tennis team has had in the recent past, there is one tournament with its conference foes where success has eluded it.

The Eastern Conference Athletic Championships, hosted by Harvard this year, has proven to be a tough

tournament for the Lions, with Harvard winning the previous two. In 2010, Columbia was seeded No. 1 overall but lost to Harvard 5-2 in the finals, and in 2009, the Lions lost a heart-breaker to No. 49 Harvard 4-3 in Cambridge, in a match where the Lions held multiple championships points. However, in both seasons, Columbia would go on to beat Harvard in their matchup during Ivy play on the way to Ivy titles.

The tournament features all of the Ivy League schools except Penn, along with Binghamton, St. John’s and Boston College.

This season, Cornell enters as the top overall seed in the ECAC’s, despite being ranked nearly 30 spots below Columbia at No. 73 in the nation and actually falling nine spots in the rankings from No. 64 the week before. Princeton was given the No. 2 seed, and

Binghamton is No. 3. Harvard and Brown are No. 4 and 5 respectively, and Dartmouth is No. 7. Columbia is seeded No. 8, the lowest of any of the Ivy schools, despite winning the conference last year.

As the No. 8 seed, Columbia will face No. 9 Boston College in the first match of the tournament. Columbia beat Boston College in its first match this spring, 5-2. Columbia won the doubles point in that match

and got straight set wins at No. 1, 2, 3, and 4 singles, including strong performances from Haig Schneiderman and John Yetimogluat No. 1 and 2 respectively. The Lions lost two singles matches at No. 5 and 6 singles. Freshman Tizian Bucher lost an early lead and lost his match at No. 5 singles in three sets, and junior Rajeev Deb-Sen won his first set 6-4 but lost the next two 6-1, 6-2 after the outcome of the match

had already been decided.

The winner of the Columbia-Boston College match will play Cornell on Saturday. The winner of that match will then face the winner of Harvard and Brown, with the loser facing the loser of Harvard and Brown.

The Lions’ first match will be on Friday at 9 a.m. All of the matches will be played on the Murr Center courts in Cambridge, Mass.

Even athletes at an Ivy League school are deserving of attention

MOHANKA from back page

Morningside Heights?

Think of it as a question of receiving recognition. In Columbia’s case, I was curious as to how many standout athletes are recognized by members of the student body. I drew up a list of five who I thought should be identified based on what I know about them and their achievements, and I conducted a survey that I believe constitutes a fairly random sample (thank you to all those who helped me). They are people with varying interests and ages, and rather than worrying about the specificity and the validity of my sample, I recommend simply analyzing the results. (Trust me, I did better than alright in STAT1211.)

The marker for “knowing” an athlete was being able to tell me what sport he or she plays. I took into account variation in degree of confidence and awarded fractions in certain cases. I understand that some people may “know” an athlete because they take Art Hum together. Others may have lived on the same floor or something like that. Others may have seen them at a restaurant between 111th and 112th on Broadway which, among other things, has a really good basil chicken penne (the only reason people go there, I’m sure). That doesn’t matter. If, from that, people can tell me what sport the person

in my survey plays—that’s fine, and it’s nothing I can control.

And now for the results: Noruwa Agho, the men’s basketball starting guard who recently tallied his 1000th career point, was recognized by 65 percent of the people I surveyed. Sean Brackett, our star(ting) quarterback who some even identified as a track and field runner, was recognized by only 38.75 percent. Peppe Carotenuto, a senior who represented the Light Blue men’s soccer team, was known by 40 percent of those I surveyed, while Lauren Dwyer, a senior on the women’s basketball team, was recognized by 42.5 percent. And finally, Nzingha Prescod, a freshman fencer, was recognized by a mere 15 percent.

Let’s think about that for a second. The men’s basketball star who leads the Ivy League in points and points-per-game (overall, not conference play) got 65 percent, reasonable but not great by any means. Arguably the Ivy League’s best QB got just 38.75 percent. Someone who’s just going to join up with Sporting Kansas City, a Major League Soccer outfit, for its training camp next week, recorded 40 percent. A women’s basketball player who is eighth all-time on the Columbia scoring charts got 42.5 percent. And last year’s top fencing recruit in the nation, who is among the best foilists in the country and an almost

certain future Olympian, was recognized only by 15 percent.

Clearly, the two basketball representatives lead the way—suggesting what sport you play has something to do with this. So it’s not just about doing things right, it’s also about doing them in the right arena. And yes, to many people, maybe basketball is more fun to watch than most other sports.

(On an aside, all of them have been in the Spectator at some point—if not several—this week. Agho and Dwyer actually also have their own little boxes in the Spec’s Sports Monday section, since they both broke the 1000-point barrier in their careers as Columbia Lions.)

Personally, the results are one thing: embarrassing. The general attitude at our institution needs some change, in my opinion.

Yes, I get it. Some people just don’t care about sports. Some people believe that microbiology is much more interesting. However, sports at the collegiate level give you something that an hour in Mudd, Pupin, SIPA, or Butler can’t.

Besides fostering a community atmosphere and giving you opportunities to bond at events, they give you chances to show Columbia pride. The achievements of all these athletes are certainly things we should all take pride in. Some of the people here would go gaga if a fellow Columbian was awarded

“the most hard-working kid in the Ivies”, or “the cleverest” ... This is no different.

You wear that Columbia hoodie when you go to class. You’re proud of where you are, and you should be. Why not take that pride into Levin today or tomorrow or both and watch Agho move up the all-time list when the Lions take on Dartmouth and Harvard this weekend?

In a student body characterized by its high academic and intellectual achievers, it’s too easy to forget we also have champions of the body. Prospective Olympians at Ivy schools have to compete with future intellectuals, actors, Pulitzer Prize winners, and Nobel laureates for the recognition of their peers. Sports may never be a lone priority at an Ivy League school—we just have to accept that. But, nonetheless, we should all try to show our athletes a little love—they deserve it.

P.S. In case you read my rant just to learn who Cam Newton is, he is arguably the biggest name among college athletes in America. He was the starting QB for the Auburn Tigers, won the 2010 Heisman Trophy, and declared himself for the 2011 NFL draft, forgoing his senior year of college ball.

Mrinal Mohanka is a Columbia College junior majoring in economics.
sports@columbiaspectator.com

Lions face tough test with Crimson coming to town

MEN’S BASKETBALL from back page

for rebounding in the last outing and shut down Dartmouth’s David Rufful. Tonight, a healthy Asenso Ampim should get the assignment, but the real question is what happens when Ampim has to rest and Dartmouth has five perimeter players on the floor.

“With those guys [John and Asenso] together, we could switch things and it’d be like we had five perimeter defenders,” Smith said. “Now, we’ll always have Mark Cisco or Max Craig in the game. It’ll be more challenging, harder to defend them for sure.”

On Saturday night, the Lions face a different and more daunting challenge—containing the Harvard frontcourt. Keith Wright and Kyle Casey have been nothing short of spectacular this season, and no pair of teammates has been more efficient. Wright and Casey rank second and third respectively in field goal percentage.

In addition to efficiency, the Crimson duo has been especially productive in Ivy play. Outside of Yale’s Greg Mangano, Wright has been the most consistent big man in the conference, and it was Casey that killed the Lions last time, scoring 17 points and adding 13 boards.

Still, Smith hopes to counter by feeding his own big men, particularly Mark Cisco.

“We do have good post players,” Smith said. “I have to keep reminding myself and our team. We have to play inside and get it to those guys, even against the bigger teams. We can’t make it easy on them and try not to go in there.”

One reason Smith is intent on feeding the sophomore center is that he shoots at a high percentage despite a paucity of looks.

“We can’t make it easy on them and try not to go there [inside].”

*—Kyle Smith
head basketball coach*

That stands in stark contrast to Ampim, who has attempted the most shots on the team over the past two weeks. While Smith would like to see fewer long jumpers, he seems to have an unspoken deal with Ampim—so long as he continues to play as aggressively on both sides of the ball, he is permitted a few ill-advised attempts.

To avoid the Jekyll and Hyde of last weekend, consistency—good and bad—may have to come first.



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2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9555
Editorial Fax (212) 854-9611
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Log off from online love

I have a friend named Leslie*, CC '12. In that crazy summer of 2010, while interning in New York, she followed the lead of many other single and love-starved college coeds these days: She joined OkCupid—the Google of online dating, at least for young and hip New Yorkers—at the suggestion of a friend who had met a boyfriend of two years on the site. Her friend had found love on the Internet, so why couldn't she too? And hell, school was out, so there wasn't much else to do.

Her first date was with computer programmer from Jersey City. He seemed relatively good looking, as far as profile pictures went, and he admitted that he was a bit socially awkward, which Leslie initially found endearing and cute.

The problem was, his social ineptitude went a bit too far. “He was for real, super, super awkward and made me feel really uncomfortable,” Leslie said. “I have a really high tolerance and somewhat of a preference for awkwardness, but this guy was the real deal.” Their first date was also their last. Apparently, she should have taken him at his word when it came to being awkward.

St. Valentine's Day reminded me of this story, as did all of the television and Internet advertisements for online dating sites that inundate us around this holiday. I don't know how my TV and computer know I'm single, but they may be on to something: Online dating is becoming surprising common among Columbia students.

I mean, I am genuinely surprised. College students shouldn't need to rely on the Internet to find partners. Any university provides a built-in community of peers from which a sweetheart can be found. As students at the same university, we each invariably must have something in common: We both share a friend of a friend. Or we're both from Jersey. Or perhaps we both love Milano. At the very least, we could talk about the Core (but it should never come down to that). It's those unfortunate souls adrift in the Real World that may need to rely on a computer server to find a beau.

At the very least, I've never had the compulsion to join OkCupid or any of its ilk. I just go to 1020 instead. But other college students still take to the tubes to find true love, and I want to try and figure out why.

Certainly the stigma of online dating has diminished. At least it has for women—in fact, an unscientific survey of my social circle revealed that 100 percent of online daters at Columbia are female. As fellow columnist Lucy Sun pointed out a few weeks ago, “Online dating used to be for total losers, but now, even hot girls are doing it.” But one male friend of mine, when asked if he'd go on an Internet-facilitated date, said he would rather never have sex again if that's what it came down to. I think if it came down to that, he'd give in. He's only a man. But men like the hunt. Men don't like to ask for directions. And men don't need an algorithm to help them find a mate.

Perhaps the generalization about the craziest, sexiest dating days of our lives does not extend to Columbia. As another one of my friends recently put it to me, “There's no dating culture at Columbia. It's a desert out there.” That's not an uncommon complaint at this school. Instead, Columbia may have more of a hook-up culture, as a recent Eye article pointed out—people do everything up to and including coitus without calling it a “relationship.” The online-dating type, admittedly, isn't looking for casual hook-ups on OkCupid. (That's what Craigslist is for, right?)

But still, I don't buy it: I've dated here, I have friends who've dated here, and I see people dating all of the time. If people are having sex here—and if you believe what you read on CollegeACB, people are having sex—a not insubstantial subset of that group is also dating.

My friend, Leslie, is still single, but she deactivated her account soon after and hasn't online dated since. That computer programmer was her only Internet-facilitated date. Once school started back up, she became too busy to bother with online dating.

Call me old-fashioned, but college romances should start at dorm parties and bars, with all participants properly inebriated, not in sober sterility of online chat rooms. Maybe after we graduate and lose this convenient community we can venture online for romance. But until then, meet me at 1020. I go there often.

* Name has been changed.

Dino Grandoni is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-political science. He is a former Spectator head copy editor. The Lowest Common Dino-minator runs alternate Fridays.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Casual Friday:
Gimme Core

Inspired by the Core Scholars Program, a competition which awards prizes for original work on the core, we decided to craft our own submission.

A truth acknowledged universally
Within the core of university
Is that a single man (or dame) would ford
A violent ocean for a cash award.
But though the wealth of nations often pays,
Along with fillers for our résumés,
The truths we've learned in our curriculum
Will aide in life and in periculum.

Wise were the questions to us Plato gave;
We can't but wonder if we're in a cave.
From Grecian mythic kings we know we're blessed
That never a time did we have incest.
Predestination we may comprehend,
(More likely our brains are still on the mend.)
Mick Buonarroti, Dante, and Wagner
Help us to see the genius of Boll'nger.

Years down the road, when chatting o'er cocktails
And trying to impress polite females,
We'll thank the day we chose to go to class,
Instead of ditching, sitting on ... the grass*.

**Note: Sitting on grass will be permitted no more than three days per year.*



DINO
GRANDONI
The
Lowest
Common
Dino-
minator

Fewer is more

BY DAVID HELFAND

Last fall, I managed to evoke a rather passionate (negative) response in this column with my suggestion that Columbia undergraduates forget about majors. Since I regard evoking passion as one of the most important roles of a university professor, I thought I might follow up that success with another related recommendation: minimize the number of courses you take.

I don't actually expect this suggestion to find a more receptive audience. But “Editorial Opinion” shouldn't strive unduly for popularity. So here's my latest, modest proposal: Take four courses per term, and add a fifth just often enough to graduate.

Last Fall I offered my fantasy reform plan for redressing the silo-ed mentality that departments and majors support—create a division of “none-of-the-above” to compete with the traditional humanities, social sciences, and sciences divisions. Here I suggest another fantasy plan: classes will meet three times a week for ninety minutes each session, and students will take a maximum of four per term.

I can just hear the howls of protest:

“You expect me to go to class five or six days a week instead of three or four?” Yes, actually. I imagine a truly engaging undergraduate education to be a more or less full time job.

“You expect me to sit through 90 minutes of a boring lecture?” Here the answer is different: No, I don't. This class schedule, however, might allow faculty to get away from the stultifying and well-established dysfunctionality of the lecture format and actually engage students in learning.

This proposal would, of course, also solve the problem of too few, overcrowded classrooms. It would solve the problem of large classes and of students being bumped from classes. It would solve the problem of distracted students with no time to do assignments or reflect on what they are learning, no time to integrate new knowledge into their lifelong intellectual toolkit. It would also no doubt cut down on rampant academic dishonesty. And it would allow joy back into the process of learning.

So, clearly, it will not be adopted. It is inconsistent with the ethos of the modern corporate university. It's

After
Office
Hours

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won't find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

not efficient. It's not consonant with utility-maximizing consumers (formerly known as students). It is not consistent with the faculty reward structure which requires minimizing teaching “loads” and maximizing research “opportunities” away from the classroom (the notion of “teaching opportunities” is, apparently, an oxymoron). What a crazy idea.

Several years ago, I visited a fourth-grade classroom in the city and gave a talk on astronomy. The students were transfixed, and as soon as I had finished, they bombarded me with questions. Thirty minutes later, they were still at it; the last ones had to be physically removed by their shirt collars from the auditorium.

I imagine a truly engaging undergrad-
uate education to be a more or less
full time job.

I took the bus back to Columbia in time for my 4 p.m. first-year seminar. We were to discuss a fascinating article on the “technicolor brain,” an extremely clever experiment in which the neural pathways of vision had been illuminated in unprecedented detail by genetic manipulation of neuron expression in a rabbit. I walked into the seminar, took one look at the overworked, decidedly detached, and single-mindedly goal-oriented class who had no questions, and asked “Why aren't you more like fourth graders?”

Unfortunately, my students dutifully responded to this question. I will not recount the depressing litany of reasons here except for the final one: “Professor Helfand, you don't understand; I'm paying for a degree, not for an education.”

And since you are paying a lot, it makes perfect economic sense, as the ultimate rational consumers, to take as many courses as possible. It's just too bad that this doesn't add up to an education.

The author is the chair of the Department of Astronomy.



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Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis
ACROSS
1 Timeworn observation
6 "Pronto!"
10 Party person
14 Paganini's birthplace
15 One of an historic seagoing trio
16 Not deceived by
17 Los ____ city near San Jose
18 Presidential putdown?
20 1926 channel swimmer
22 Bernardo's girl in "West Side Story"
23 Presidential advisers?
26 Trademark cousins
27 Trains on supports
28 "Discreet Music" composer
29 Movie beekeeper
30 People person?
32 Presidential ATM sign?
39 "Contact" author
40 "Uh-uh"
41 Ex-Saudi ruler ____ Saud
44 Managed
45 Onetime California gubernatorial candidate
Huffington
48 Presidential university?
51 Biblical words before and after "for"
52 Title subject of a G.B. Shaw play
53 Presidential belt-tightening?
56 Blitz attachment
59 Prefix with "Language" in a 1993 comedy best-seller
60 Gaston's god
61 Perform penance
62 Scraps
63 U. of Maryland athlete
64 Streisand title role
DOWN
1 Turkish honorific
2 Wilmington's st.
3 Lover of armies?
4 Acts of kindness
5 Enter cautiously
6 Americans in Paris, e.g.
7 Femme fatale
8 Book collector's suffix
9 Put down in writing?
10 Mubarak of Egypt
11 Surfing without a board, maybe
12 New York's ____ Island
13 T in a sandwich
19 Typewriter feature
21 Queue after Q
23 Opposite of bueno
24 Psychic couple?
25 "That's ____ ask"
26 Siza ____ fabric softener
30 Hoodwink
31 Ruling family name in 19th-century Europe
33 Connecticut coastal town near Stamford
34 "Yikes!"
35 Qualm
36 Like some workers in an open shop
37 HMO employees
38 Thumbs-up vote
41 Response to a doubting Thomas
42 More scrawny
43 Prohibitive door sign
45 Misbehaves
46 British rule in India
47 Post-fall reassurance
49 Interpol headquarters
50 Glyceride, e.g.
54 Setting on the Mississippi: Abbr.
55 A lost driver may hang one, briefly
57 M.D.'s specialty
58 Styling stuff
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By Dan Naddor
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CU looks to prove it can find success on the road

BY **TREVOR COHEN**
Spectator Staff Writer

The women’s basketball team was riding high coming into last weekend after securing its first sweep of the season in front of a packed home gym at Pink Zone Night. “This is a lot more like it,” head coach Paul Nixon said following the victory over Yale. Just a week later though, after two poor offensive performances led to big losses at Princeton and Penn, the mood has changed for the Lions as they go on the road for rematch-es against Dartmouth and Harvard.

“Not pretty basketball,” Nixon said, summing up the disappointing weekend.

Since the beginning of Ivy play, despite consistent defense, most of the Lions’ offensive success has come at Levien, while production on the road has stagnated. Before this weekend, their only league road game was a three-point loss to Cornell, in which Columbia managed only 50 points on 34 percent shooting—their 3-point percentage, so crucial to their success this season, was an uncharacteristic 24 percent. This compared to the 61 points on 56 percent 3-point shooting they put up against the Big Red in their home victory a week earlier.

Last weekend was even worse, as the Light Blue, now an even 4-4 in the Ivy League, held both of its opponents to 60 points or fewer but couldn’t manage more than 40 in either game. They shot a collective 20 percent from beyond the arc, including a lowly 1-for-17 performance against Princeton.

“You really get used to a background and you get used to an environment, and it helps when it’s also the same gym you always practice in,” Nixon said of the difference in output. “You can get pretty comfortable shooting the basketball, and then you go in a strange environment with different depth perception ... it definitely affected us.”

“On the road, of course we don’t have a comfort with the gym—we don’t have as many of our fans,” senior guard Kathleen Barry agreed. “We have to bring that energy ourselves instead of relying on the crowd and being at home to get that energy.”

Columbia now takes its road struggles to two teams in very different situations. Dartmouth, which Columbia beat at Levien on Jan. 29, dwells at the bottom of the standings at 1-6, its only win coming at home against Penn. Harvard, which beat the Lions by a point on the 28th, has lost two straight but still holds on to third place in the Ancient Eight standings at 5-2 and will be looking to meet or even surpass its second place projected finish in the preseason poll.

After winning its first five conference games, the Crimson has had some road struggles of its own. It gave up 82 points in its loss at Yale, a team the Lions held to 57, and lost by a point to Brown, which has struggled this year but has come on strong of late, winning its last three.



MIKE DISCENZA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BARRY GOOD | Senior guard Kathleen Barry may lead the league in rebounds, but her hope is that the Lions can rebound themselves from a difficult weekend.

After just narrowly missing a victory against Harvard last time out, Nixon said that his team will only be making minor adjustments to its game plan.

“In preparation for the game, I think we’ll look at some of the things we did that worked and try and replicate those,” Nixon said. “Obviously everything we did did not work or we would have won ... but I don’t see us making wholesale changes ... We still try to come in and focus on what we do.”

The Harvard game will certainly be a challenge for the Lions, but Nixon’s team has its eyes set on a repeat performance against Dartmouth.

“Right now, our total focus is on beating Dartmouth again,” Nixon said. “We’re really gonna approach this week focusing on getting our second win against

them, and then on Saturday morning, we’ll wake up and start looking again at what happened with Harvard.”

Dartmouth, swept on the road last weekend by Brown and Yale, is by most accounts better than its poor record suggests. It is still missing starters Brittney Smith—a former Ivy Player of the Year—and Nicola Zimmer—a talented freshman guard—but has seen sophomore Faziah Steen step up her game with double figure scoring in her last five games, including back-to-back 28-point performances against Columbia and Penn. Steen almost single-handedly led Dartmouth’s comeback attempt against the Lions, scoring nine points in the last

SEE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL,
page 3

Junior forward Keith Wright key to Harvard’s winning ways

BY **ROBERT WREN GORDON**
Spectator Staff Writer

With six games remaining in the season, and four of those games at home, the Lions still have a shot in the Ivy League. However, in order to rise in the league’s standings, the Lions are going to have to get past key players, such as Harvard’s Keith Wright.

Wright, a junior forward hailing from Suffolk, Va., is by far Harvard’s leading scorer, with a whopping 344 points on the season, averaging a team-leading 15.6 points per game.

Wright is also Harvard’s leading field goal shooter with 229 shots on the season, 41 more than any other player on the Crimson offense. Of those 229 shots, Wright has netted 136, 54 more than any other Harvard player. He averages an impressive 59.4 percent in the shooting department and is by far the most accurate shooter on the team.

In Harvard’s four games this month, the Crimson has scored a combined 307 points with Wright accounting for 26 percent of Harvard’s total offensive output this season.

However, Wright is not only an offensive monster. He has also proven himself to be a defensive ace, leading the Crimson with 187 total rebounds, 81 more than sophomore Kyle Casey, whose 106 rebounds place him second, behind Wright.

Wright has a total of 75 offensive rebounds on the season, making up over 40 percent of Harvard’s offensive rebounds thus far. Wright also has 112 rebounds on defense this season; of Harvard’s 493 defensive rebounds, Wright has snagged over a fifth, at 22 percent. Wright leads the team in rebounds per game with 8.5, nearly three more than Casey, who again ranks second on the team.

In order to beat the Crimson this Saturday at Levien, the Light Blue is

going to have to make it past Wright, who is a truly legitimate playmaker.

Wright has played in all of Harvard’s 22 games this season, playing 705 minutes of ball. However, Wright’s extraordinary production and talent come as no surprise.

As a sophomore last year, Wright played in 24 games, starting in 18. During the 2009-10 campaign, Wright came in second in the Ivy League in field goal percentage with 56.1 percent on the season. Wright displayed enormous talent throughout the entire season, including amazing performances in several key conference games.

In his best game of the season, Wright scored 22 points in 25 minutes while adding six rebounds during a game against Dartmouth back on Jan. 9, 2010. During that 25-minute time span, Wright averaged 0.88 points per minute while pulling in a rebound every four minutes and six seconds.

As a freshman, Wright also excelled, battling through a bout of mono to appear in 24 games while making 17 starts on his way to becoming a two-time Ivy League Rookie of the Week.

If the Lions are to get past the Crimson this Saturday, they will have to contain Wright. Holding him to under 20 points is important, as in three of Harvard’s four losses this season, Wright scored under 20 points. The Lions will also need star players Noruwa Agho and Brian Barbour to match Wright on the offensive side of the ball.

Entering the season, Harvard was the odds-on favorite to win the Ivy League. After a tough loss to Princeton two weeks ago, though, Wright will have to lead the Crimson to a near-perfect finish.

Although Wright is a star athlete in every sense of the word, he’s far from unstoppable as the Tigers showed back on Feb. 4.

WRESTLING

Wrestling competes in final duals of season

This weekend, the Columbia wrestling team will travel north to compete in its last two duals of the season against Harvard and Brown. Last weekend, the Lions beat Princeton 32-8 but lost to No. 19 Penn 19-13. Tonight, the Lions will face the Crimson at 7 p.m. in Cambridge. Harvard is 12-3 and is ranked No. 39 in the nation, with its 157-pounder Walter Peppelman—who is ranked No. 6 in the country—leading the pack. He will be a formidable opponent for Columbia’s Jake O’Hara, who is 2-1 in Ivy League action this season. Harvard dropped two matches last weekend against Hofstra (39-8) and against Brown (24-17). After Friday night’s match, the Lions will travel to Providence on Saturday to

compete against Brown. The Bears, who are 1-8 this season, had their sole victory of their season against Harvard. Heavyweight Kevin Lester has led the Lions so far this season with 21 wins, is ranked No. 20 nationally in Amateur Wrestling News, and is No. 4 in the EIWA. 184-pounder Nick Mills, 157-pounder Jake O’Hara, and 165-pounder Eren Civan are all 2-1 in Ivy League duals and will be looking to improve their records in the last two matches of the regular season. Looking ahead, the Light Blue will travel to the EIWA Championships on March 5 in Lewisburg, Pa., for the post season. The action this weekend kicks off at 7 p.m. in Cambridge.

—Meredith Mead

SQUASH

Nationals final test for women’s squash

When Columbia ventures down to Princeton this weekend for the Women’s Nationals, the team will have a more optimistic outlook than when the team visited earlier in the season.

Back in November, Columbia had yet to play a match as an official varsity team. It was not clear where the Lions stood relative to other top programs, though women’s squash head coach Kelsey Engman confidently predicted back in November that the team would improve from its No. 25 ranking. However, when the team made its first journey to Princeton, there was a cloud of uncertainty hovering over the team.

Now, after a 12-3 regular season, the No. 14 ranked Columbia squad will have a chance to cap off a spectacular inaugural season.

Last year at Nationals,

Columbia competed in the Epps Cup (D Division) and ended up winning the round-robin as the top seed in that bracket. This year, Columbia will play in the Kurtz Cup (B Division) which will include the No. 9 through No. 16 seeds.

No. 9 Brown is the only other Ivy that will be in Columbia’s bracket. Other schools competing in the Kurtz Cup round-robin include No. 10 Middlebury, which defeated Columbia 7-2; No. 11 Williams; No. 12 Bates, which defeated Columbia 7-2; No. 13 Amherst; No. 15 Mount Holyoke, which Columbia beat 6-3; and No. 16 George Washington, which fell to the Lions 6-3.

The round-robin will be single elimination format and will last from Feb. 18 to Feb. 20.

—Michael Zhong

TRACK AND FIELD

CU track set for final meet before Ivy Heps

In what will be the final tune-up before Ivy League Heptagonals, Columbia’s indoor track and field team will travel to Princeton, N.J., to take part in the Princeton Invitational.

With several Lions vying for times that will qualify them for the NCAA Championships in March, this event—the first of three more events before the championships—is especially important.

Princeton—which won the Heps in both men’s and women’s indoor track last season—will provide the team with an idea of the level of competition it will be facing at the big show next weekend.

There are several Light Blue athletes to keep an eye out for this weekend.

First, there are juniors Kyra Caldwell and Sharay Hale, who both recently set all-time Ivy records. Caldwell, who currently stands in the top 10 of four separate Ivy events, is one of the runners who lies on the cusp of an NCAA qualifying time in the 60m hurdles. Sitting tied for 16th place

in the nation, Caldwell will probably need to improve her time if she wishes to make the trip to the championships. Hale sits in first place in the Ivies in four separate events, joining Caldwell in Columbia’s 4x400m relay team that has been dominant all season. Currently fifth in the nation in the 400m dash, Hale looks poised to make another trip to the championships.

Sophomore Queen Okeke—who is on several Ivy top 10 lists and ranks first in triple jump—is another athlete to watch.

On the men’s side, Princeton has been especially dominant this season, and the meet will certainly be one of the Lions’ biggest tests. Light Blue senior Jeff Moriarty has put forth an impressive campaign thus far, as he hopes to qualify for the NCAAs in either the mile or 800m.











The men also stand in first place in the 4x800m (nearly 12 seconds ahead of the next competitor) and 4000m distance medley.

—Jeremiah Sharf



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HEPS PREP | Several CU athletes have plenty on the line at the Princeton Invitationals this weekend, their final tune-up before Ivy Heptagonals.

THE SLATE	
	MEN’S BASKETBALL <i>vs. Dartmouth</i> <i>Levien Gymnasium</i> <i>Friday, 7 p.m.</i>
	WOMEN’S BASKETBALL <i>at Dartmouth</i> <i>Hanover, N.H.</i> <i>Friday, 7 p.m.</i>
	MEN’S BASKETBALL <i>vs. Harvard</i> <i>Levien Gymnasium</i> <i>Saturday, 7 p.m.</i>
	WOMEN’S BASKETBALL <i>at Harvard</i> <i>Cambridge, Mass.</i> <i>Saturday, 6 p.m.</i>
	WOMEN’S TENNIS <i>ECAC Team Tournament</i> <i>Princeton, New Jersey</i> <i>Friday, 18 – Sunday, 20</i>
	MEN’S TENNIS <i>ECAC Team Championships</i> <i>Cambridge, Mass.</i> <i>Friday, 18 – Sunday, 20</i>
	WRESTLING <i>at Harvard</i> <i>Cambridge, Mass.</i> <i>Friday, 7 p.m.</i>
	WRESTLING <i>at Brown</i> <i>Providence, R.I.</i> <i>Saturday, 2 p.m.</i>
	WOMEN’S SQUASH <i>Women’s Nationals</i> <i>Princeton, N.J.</i> <i>Friday, 18– Sunday, 20</i>
	TRACK AND FIELD <i>Princeton Invitational</i> <i>Princeton, N.K.</i> <i>Saturday, 11 a.m.</i>

PIXBOX

week
3

- 1: Harvard at Columbia (+5.5)
- 2: Princeton at Yale (+4.5)
- 3: Dartmouth at Cornell (-3.5)
- 4: Penn at Brown (+1.5)
- 5: Penn at Yale (-1.5)
- 6: Princeton at Brown (+6.5)
- 7: Connecticut at Louisville (-1.5)
- 8: NBA All-Star Game: East or West



Zach Glubiak (18-14)

Roar Lion
P'ton
Big Red
Quakers
'Dogs
9-0
UConn
East

Do they even give out a defensive MVP at the NBA all-star game?

Isn't there a law which prevents Zach from being above .500 in Pixbox?

Columbia
Princeton
Cornell
Brown
Penn
Princeton
UConn
West

Kunal Gupta (17-15)



Jacob Levenfeld (17-15)

Blue
Princeton
Cornell
Penn
Quakers
Princeton
UConn
East

I am skiing right now and unavailable to take your message. Sorry.

Can K Love manage a double-double in the all-star game?

Roar-ee
Princeton?
Big Red
Quake Show
Bulldogs
Le Tigre
Pitino
West

Lucas Shaw (16-16)



Myles Simmons (15-17)

Columbia
Princeton
Cornell
Penn
Yale
Princeton
Louisville
West

West wins all-star game 150-145. Offense wins all-star games.

How many all-star point guards does Monta Ellis have to bust up before people respect him?

Mufasa
Tigers
Quakers
Big Red
Gators
Celtics
Cheeseheads
King James



Bart Lopez (14-18)



Mrinal Mohanka (14-18)

Columbia
Yale
Cornell
Penn
Yale
Princeton
UConn
East

It's all about making a comeback.

Hey kids, don't pick on sports that use projectiles.

Uh Oh
Yale
Big Red
Brown
Yale
Brown
Louisville
D-Rose 4 MVP



Michael Shapiro (14-18)



Michele Cleary (13-19)

Lions
Princeton
Cornell
Quaker
Oats
Eating Clubs
UConn?
East...

My M.E. duties have distracted me from pixbox. I hereby resign and name Mikey as my successor.

I'm taking \$400k under the table from Vegas bettors to tank this pixbox.

Columbia
Yale
Cornell
Penn
Yale
Princeton
Louisville
West Side



Jim Pagels (10-22)

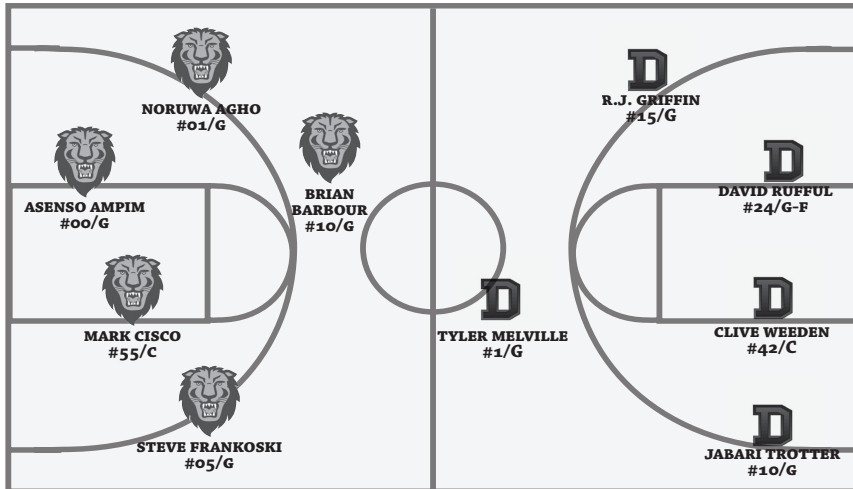
FRIDAY FAST BREAK

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 1:



AT



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Defense

Columbia is second to last in the Ivy League in scoring defense, allowing 71.6 points per game. Dartmouth is a low-scoring team, averaging only 57.6 points per game, but a weak defensive performance by Columbia could hurt its chances for a win against the 1-7 Big Green.

2

Control the glass

Columbia, which out-rebounds its opponents by almost five per game, has been strong on the boards all season, particularly on the offensive end, while Dartmouth has struggled. Look for the Lions big men to have a big night against a Dartmouth team that cannot match up with Columbia's size on the block.

3

One game at a time

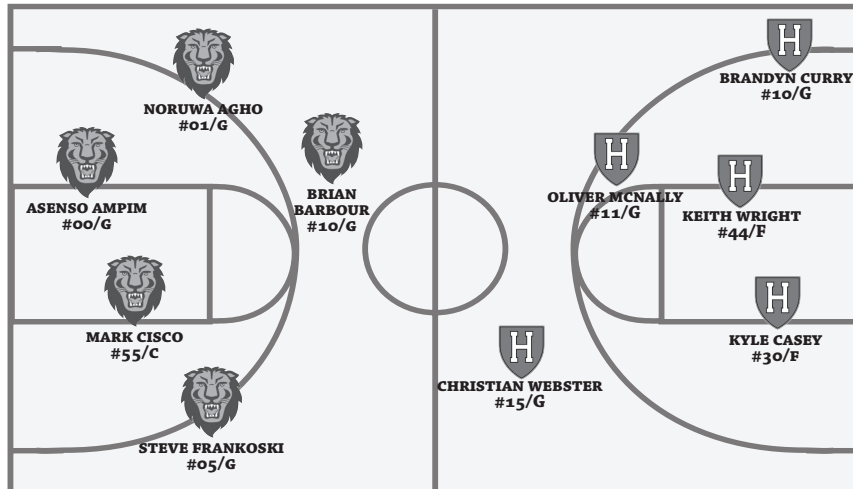
While every win in the Ivy League is a good win, a win over Harvard would be a great one. However, the Lions will need to focus on the Big Green before getting ready for Saturday's big matchup against the Crimson. Anything less than 100 percent focus against Dartmouth could spell doom for Columbia's slim title hopes.

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 2:



AT



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Full 60 minutes

The Lions played close with the Crimson in Cambridge a few weeks ago ... for a half. Columbia showed good fight and hustle, going down only one at intermission. However, Harvard pulled away in the second half. The Lions have learned and will need to play a full forty minutes on Saturday.

2

Control the paint

Harvard has many strengths, but its two best players are its forwards, Keith Wright and Kyle Casey. The Lions big men were beaten badly against Princeton, and if the Lions want to have a chance to stay in this game late, they will need to slow down the Harvard tandem and prevent them from controlling the game.

3

Feed off the crowd

The last time these two teams played, Harvard had the home-crowd advantage. The Lions played close for 20 minutes but were overwhelmed down the stretch. This time, Columbia gets to hear the crowd chanting their names, and should be able to feed off the Leven crowd's energy as the game wears on.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS PER GAME

COLUMBIA	72.1
HARVARD	72.4

REBOUNDS PER GAME

COLUMBIA	36.7
HARVARD	33.6

POINTS ALLOWED

COLUMBIA	71.6
HARVARD	64.9

FIELD GOAL PCT.

COLUMBIA	.465
HARVARD	.439

KEY MATCHUPS

Asenso Ampim



Keith Wright

Wright may well be the best player in the Ivy League. At the very least, he's the best player for the second-place Crimson. Wright, if left unguarded, will tear up the Lions down low. Ampim is the most athletic forward that coach Kyle Smith can throw onto the court and could be the key to slowing down Wright.



Mark Cisco

Kyle Casey

Casey, the other forward on the frontcourt for Harvard, has helped lead the Crimson this season. Casey is the second-leading rebounder for the Crimson and, along with Wright, is the main reason that the team is in title contention. Cisco has been a solid player all year, but it will take his best effort to slow down the Crimson forward down low.



GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18 • PAGE 8



**COLUMBIA (13-9, 4-4 Ivy)
vs Dartmouth (5-17, 1-7 Ivy)**

FRIDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYMNASIUM

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
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**COLUMBIA (13-9, 4-4 Ivy)
vs HARVARD (18-4, 7-1 Ivy)**

SATURDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYMNASIUM

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



CU athletes merit more recognition

David Beckham, Tiger Woods, Alex Rodriguez, and Rafael Nadal are all names you're bound to recognize. Whether it's because of something they've achieved in their respective sports, a huge Nike advert, or being in the media for wrong reasons, it doesn't matter. The fact is this: You know the name. Now, I introduce Cam Newton.

At least someone out there is saying, "Who is he?" Unfortunately, that's not something I'm going to answer till much later. I'm going to deal with a larger issue at hand that popular stars like Newton help me address: What does it take for college athletes to become a household name? I'm not saying they need to become brands with people at their institutions walking around with their names on their shirts. I'm going to keep it much simpler—which athletes are known names in



**MRINAL
MOHANKA**

Word on the Street

SEE MOHANKA, page 3



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NEEDING NORUWA | Agho must pick up where he left off last weekend when he scored 37 points.

Lions face important weekend at home

BY LUCAS SHAW
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Coaches always preach the one-game-at-a-time mantra, but this weekend, it will be difficult for the Lions to avoid looking ahead. Tonight, Columbia hosts Dartmouth, a team it defeated by 21 in Hanover, and on Saturday, the Light Blue gets a chance at redemption with 7-1 Harvard coming to town.

The Lions are coming off a pair of games that made it hard to predict future performance—a 30-point loss to Princeton on Friday and a double-digit win over Penn on Saturday. With that split, they are 4-4 and sit at fourth in league play. With two wins this weekend, they would be positioned for a winning record, but coach Kyle Smith has his sights set just a bit higher: postseason play.

"We still can have a great finish in league," Smith said. He then noted the team was technically not eliminated in the race for the Ivy crown before adding, "We can play postseason if we finish really strong like what Harvard and Princeton did last year, playing the CBI [College Basketball Invitational] or CPT [CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament]. Boy, that'd be a shot in the arm."

For the Lions to get there, it

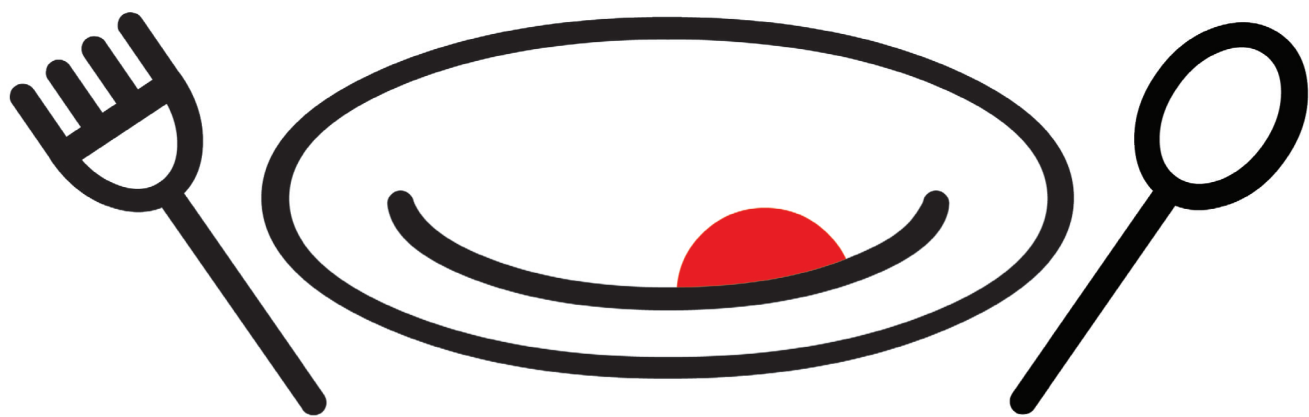
starts with Dartmouth tonight, and though the Big Green is just 1-7 in Ivy play, it has scared its fair share of opponents. Dartmouth led at Harvard by double-digits only to lose and also played both Brown and Yale close to the end. There is also Columbia's history to consider. Just three years ago, the 7-4 Lions looked set for their best Ivy finish in nearly two decades, but a 16-point home loss to the Big Green precipitated a three-game slide to end the season.

One surefire way of getting the weekend off to a good start is assertive play from Noruwa Agho. Though Agho is still fifth in the Ivy League in scoring, he went through a phase of passivity that his coach hopes ended this past weekend. Agho scored 16 points on Friday and added 21 on Saturday.

"I've stopped yelling 'shoot' because he'll just pump fake and drive," Smith said. "I'm like, 'Just shoot. You're allowed to shoot, so shoot more.' I'd like him to shoot off the catch more. I'd like him to be hunting that."

On the other side of the ball, the Big Green will force the Lions to play small ball—only this time, Smith's squad will be without sophomore forward John Daniels. Daniels set a career-high

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL,
page 3



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Weekend

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2011 • PAGE B1



ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

An average Joe takes a walk on the high-style side

BY FINN VIGELAND
Spectator Staff Writer

Full disclosure: I am not a fashionista. My knowledge of the exclusive fashion world is based heavily on “The Devil Wears Prada” and the occasional glance through Vanity Fair’s Oscar issue. At New York Fashion Week last Saturday, Feb. 12, I turned down an interview with Betsey Johnson—I didn’t know who she was and would have sounded like a fool trying to invent questions—and the publicist who offered it to me looked offended.

So, yes, I felt out of place roaming around the tents set up at Lincoln Center—but that doesn’t mean I didn’t have a hell of a good time. I attended three shows this fashion week: Diego Binetti, an up-and-coming Italian dressmaker, Charlotte Ronson, a young but fairly well-established English designer, and Imitation by Tara Subkoff, an American designer known for her shock factor.

There is something so overly ridiculous about these shows that it, in a way, makes Fashion Week lovable. Let’s be real: most of the clothes I saw being modeled will never end up in the closet of anyone I know—or of anyone with some common sense as to how to dress in public, for that matter. But there is a reason Old Navy doesn’t do runway shows. You couldn’t pay me to sit in an auditorium to watch a bunch of people parade down an aisle wearing jeans and monotone polo shirts. Unless the people included Gisele Bündchen and Ryan Reynolds, of course.

At the same time, Fashion Week is just plain mystifying. The first model who walked out at the Imitation show I saw on Sunday, Feb. 13 was wearing a bathing suit that covered her stomach and her crotch—but nothing else. At the other extreme, the last model wore a black-as-night, full-body covering that could have passed for a burqa. Huh?

This whole weekend, I knew I stuck out. As I walked towards my seat at one show, an assistant reached out to prevent me from entering the ticketed area, obviously thinking I belonged in standing room. “What company are you—oh, I’m so sorry, keep going,” she said, correcting herself as I flashed my press pass.

Fashion Week truly distinguishes fashion from other forms of art. You can go to the movies and not know who in your row is a cinephile and who is just there for the popcorn. You can attend a concert without being able to tell if the guy next to you could discern Bach from Beethoven, or Bieber from Britney. But the audience for fashion is a little more parsable.

And yet, at every show, all fashion styles seem to be welcome. Sure, you may be looking at a very select taste in clothing on the models themselves, but the people who flock to these shows are a cast of characters from a movie with a very

diverse wardrobe department. I kept running into a dead ringer for Melissa Leo’s character from “The Fighter”—same 90s costume, same blonde mom hair, and a lot more makeup. I nearly tripped over someone wearing one of “those” dresses that you think will never have a life after the runway. And then there were the folks wearing flannel shirts, skinny jeans, and sideways Yankees hats. After donning a J.Crew button-down underneath a Brooks Brothers sweater the first day, I went more casual for day two and opted for a gray Uniqlo T-shirt underneath a Gap sports jacket, realizing that the outfit would not be out of place.

The eclectic fashion of the audience anticipates the shows’ own eccentricity. As if trapped in some sickening alternate-universe zoo, Binetti’s models were on display at the center of a black cube aptly titled “The Box.” Onlookers circled the models like lions circle their prey, but they stood strong, relentless, stoic.

The styling was also puzzling. Every model’s hair was covered with what was essentially a black do-rag, and many wore eyeglasses or purses that were just downright ugly. One bag—I think it was a bag, but really, who knows?—was made out of metal and shaped like a goat horn.

At Imitation, I felt like I was on the set of a Lady Gaga music video—every stereotypically hyper-tall and hyper-skinny woman had platinum blonde hair. They walked with determination in their steps and ferocity in their eyes. But bared breasts and burqas aside, the collection was an odd mixture of nightgowns and evening dresses, styled on many models underneath overcoats that they would seductively take off halfway through their walks.

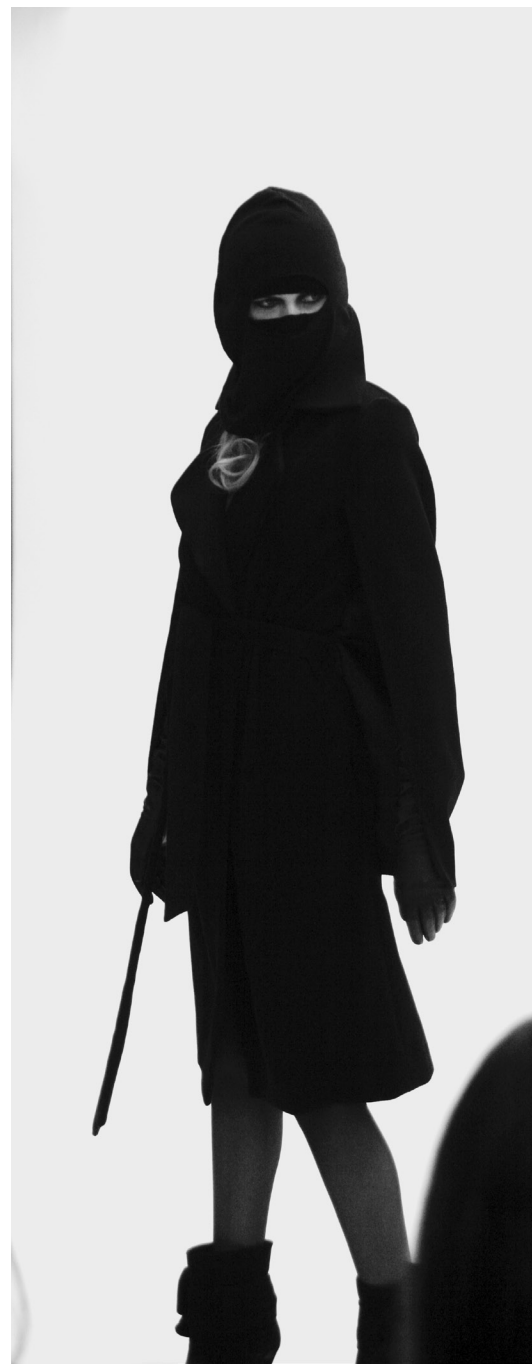
Charlotte Ronson blew me away, though. There’s something really powerful about being in a tent filled with 1200 people—half of whom are shoved into standing room at the back, while a stream of camera flashes barrages you from all sides and techno-indie-pop blends blast at full volume (by DJ Sam Ronson, Charlotte’s twin sister and Lindsay Lohan’s ex).

And to borrow a term I overheard my neighbor use to describe the collection, it was actually “closet-friendly.” Ronson has a touch for finding a blend between wearability and runway dazzle. The designer’s 30 or so outfits showcased a military style influence, an earth-tone palette, and a sweater that—if I could cough up the money—would be a great birthday gift for my mother. There was a grunge feel, too, with holey stockings, long leather boots, and one standout model with pink hair.

As the models strode down the runway—unerringly looking directly ahead, faces unflinching, knowing the huge weight on their shoulders to make the show a success—I felt a tremendous sense of respect for them. It takes an actress of sorts to pull it off.



FINN VIGELAND FOR SPECTATOR



Best of

Vegetarian Restaurants

With meat-heavy prix-fixe menus dominating Restaurant Week, vegetarian foodies may feel a bit left outw. Luckily, New York is home to tons of eateries that cater exclusively to vegetarian and vegan diners, offering creative approaches to meat-free cuisine sure to satisfy herbivores and carnivores alike. —BY KAVITHA SURANA



MEGAN BAKER FOR SPECTATOR

Peacefood

An affordable option near campus, Peacefood Cafe (460 Amsterdam Ave., at West 82nd Street) offers inspired vegan sandwiches—like avocado tempeh sandwiches with crunchy pickled radishes (\$9) or pan-seared panini with French horn mushrooms and artichokes (\$11)—that will keep students coming back again and again. The fluffy quinoa salads (\$9) and chickpea fries (\$7) are worth a try, but for deprived vegans, the real draw are Peacefood’s delectable sweets. Creamy cheesecakes, rich brownies, and delicate macaroons—all sans eggs and milk—are so delicious that even non-vegans think they are the real things.



SERENA PIOL FOR SPECTATOR

Dirt Candy

For those who get queasy when thinking of meat substitutes like seitan and tofu, Dirt Candy (430 E. 9th St., between First Avenue and Avenue A) comes to the rescue. The spot is dedicated to cooking substantial dishes just using vegetables. One of the few Michelin-rated vegetarian restaurants, this miniscule eatery is truly a cut above the rest. Though the menu constantly changes, jalapeño hush puppies with sweet maple butter (\$6) are a reliable standard. The portobello mousse (\$13) is surprisingly successful, combining a delicate texture with a memorable flavor. The stone-ground grits with huitlacoche, pickled shiitake mushrooms, and poached egg (\$18) is also unique and quite tasty. For dessert, unusual plates like salty sweet popcorn pudding (\$11) or red pepper velvet cake (\$12) shouldn’t be missed. One question remains: what exactly is dirt candy? Vegetables, of course—products of dirt and sun that always pack a flavorful punch.



JOSE GIRALT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Vegetarian Dim Sum House

Authentic foreign vegetarian restaurants are hard to find. Luckily, Vegetarian Dim Sum House (24 Pell St., between Bayard and Worth streets) is the perfect dive for a realistic Chinese small-plate experience, without the stress of explaining dietary restrictions to a waiter who speaks a different language. Located in the heart of Chinatown, the House is complete with fast-paced unintelligible servers and exotic-sounding dishes, like mock shark fin dumpling (\$3.95), crispy taro treasure boxes (\$2.95), and vegetarian roast pork buns (\$2.95). Plates arrive brimming with mouth-watering, steamy, greasy, and completely unrecognizable Chinese food. And in true Chinatown fashion, it is cheap. Students can share a filling assortment of dishes for as little as \$7 per person.



SERENA PIOL FOR SPECTATOR

Candle 79

Finding a restaurant worthy of a celebratory occasion can be problematic for vegetarians, especially when most top-restaurant lists recommend steak houses or places with meat-centric menus. Candle 79 (154 E. 79th St., between Lexington and Third avenues) imparts a sense of importance with its refined décor and well-thought-out menu. The establishment’s truly global menu incorporates everything from Cajun cornmeal-crusted oyster mushrooms (\$15) to Mexican-style zucchini enchiladas (\$22). Moreover, Candle 79 provides plenty of Asian and Mediterranean favorites like coconut pad thai (\$15) and nori rolls (\$14). For an extra treat, pair dinner with a “Reforestation” cocktail (\$14)—with every one of these acai-jasmine beverages ordered, the restaurant promises to plant a tree in the diner’s honor.

Met Opera sings to college crowd with new programs announced at press conference

BY GEETIKA RUDRA
Columbia Daily Spectator

The first things that come to mind when one thinks of “opera” may be Viking hats, Italian falsettos, and stuffy retirees.

The thought of attending an opera, whether it is the ubiquitous Carmen or the highbrow Das Rheingold, can be intimidating for students. The Metropolitan Opera hopes to change this. At their annual press conference, held on Feb. 16, music director and maestro James Levine and general manager Peter Gelb outlined new initiatives for the 2011-2012 season geared toward making the opera more inviting and affordable for students.

For the past five years, ever since Peter Gelb became the general manager of the Met Opera, the house has begun a distinct departure from what can be considered the stereotypical opera. Gone is the emphasis on classical, Italian opera. Instead, Gelb has chosen to expand the Met’s repertoire with pieces that may not fit what one traditionally thinks of as opera. An increased emphasis has been placed on compositions that have been written in the past 25 years that cater to more modern audiences.

Other operas debuting next season that are expected to appeal to younger audiences are Mozart’s “Don Giovanni” and a modern interpretation of Massenet’s “Manon.”

“The Enchanted Island,” a retelling of Shakespeare’s “The Tempest” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” that will make its world debut during the 2011-2012 season, is an opera set to move the opera house toward the contemporary. Although he described the new opera as a “pastiche of Baroque music and Shakespearean comedy,” Gelb considers

it to be one of the more contemporary operas in their repertoire. There are no “thees and thous, only yous and yours,” says director Phelim McDermott, echoing Levine and Gelb’s hope that the play, which is entirely in English, will attract new and younger audiences. The opera uses an original score composed by Antonio Vivaldi combined with modern text written by Chitty Chitty Bang Bang’s Jeremy Sams, creating a juxtaposition that can be appreciated by any Music Hum student.

Other operas debuting next season that are expected to appeal to younger audiences are Mozart’s “Don Giovanni”—a comedic play about the taming of a young and spoiled nobleman—and a modern interpretation of Massenet’s “Manon”—the story of a young woman’s journey to find romance. Complementing the new will be time-tested hallmarks of the Met’s repertory, such as “Iphigénie en Tauride.” Based on the play by Euripedes, the opera should be an interesting performance for those who were intrigued by the House of Atreus in Lit Hum.

Along with more student-friendly productions, the Met Opera is trying to make performances more accessible. The house launched an initiative called MetOperaStudents, which aims to make shows more affordable for those on a tight budget. Students who enroll in this program can enjoy weekday performances for \$27.50 and weekend performances for \$37.50. Tickets can also come with access to dress rehearsals and discounts to the Met Shop. While these prices may seem steep, Columbians can enjoy even further discounted tickets courtesy of CUArts.

In addition, students can take part in the Student Ambassador Program. The program is designed to reach out to undergraduates, graduates, and Ph.D. candidates. Students are invited to serve as “think-tanks” to help develop promotional strategies to attract younger audiences for the Met.

While Gelb boasts that “the average age of the audience member has decreased from 65 to 57,” the success of the Met Opera’s initiatives has yet to be assessed. Nevertheless, the Met Opera is a cultural resource for Columbia students. “It could be expensive, but it’s really cool to see themes of the Core expressed in art,” said Sara Chase, CC ’14, whose Lit Hum class has gone to see “Carmen” and “Iphigénie en Tauride.” It’s not there yet, but the Met Opera might just be on its way in to become “really cool.”



COURTESY OF NICK HEAVICAN/METROPOLITAN OPERA

ALLEGRO | The Met Opera picks up the pace with new initiatives announced at the opera’s annual press conference—the first ever to admit college press representatives—that are geared toward students.

‘I Am Number Four’ alienates with predictable script

BY MEAGAN SERVIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Based upon the eponymous young adult novel by Pittacus Lore—a pseudonym for Jobie Hughes, SoA '09, and the infamous James Frey—"I Am Number Four" follows the footsteps of its predecessors "Jumper" and "Twilight" as a romantic action-adventure feature.

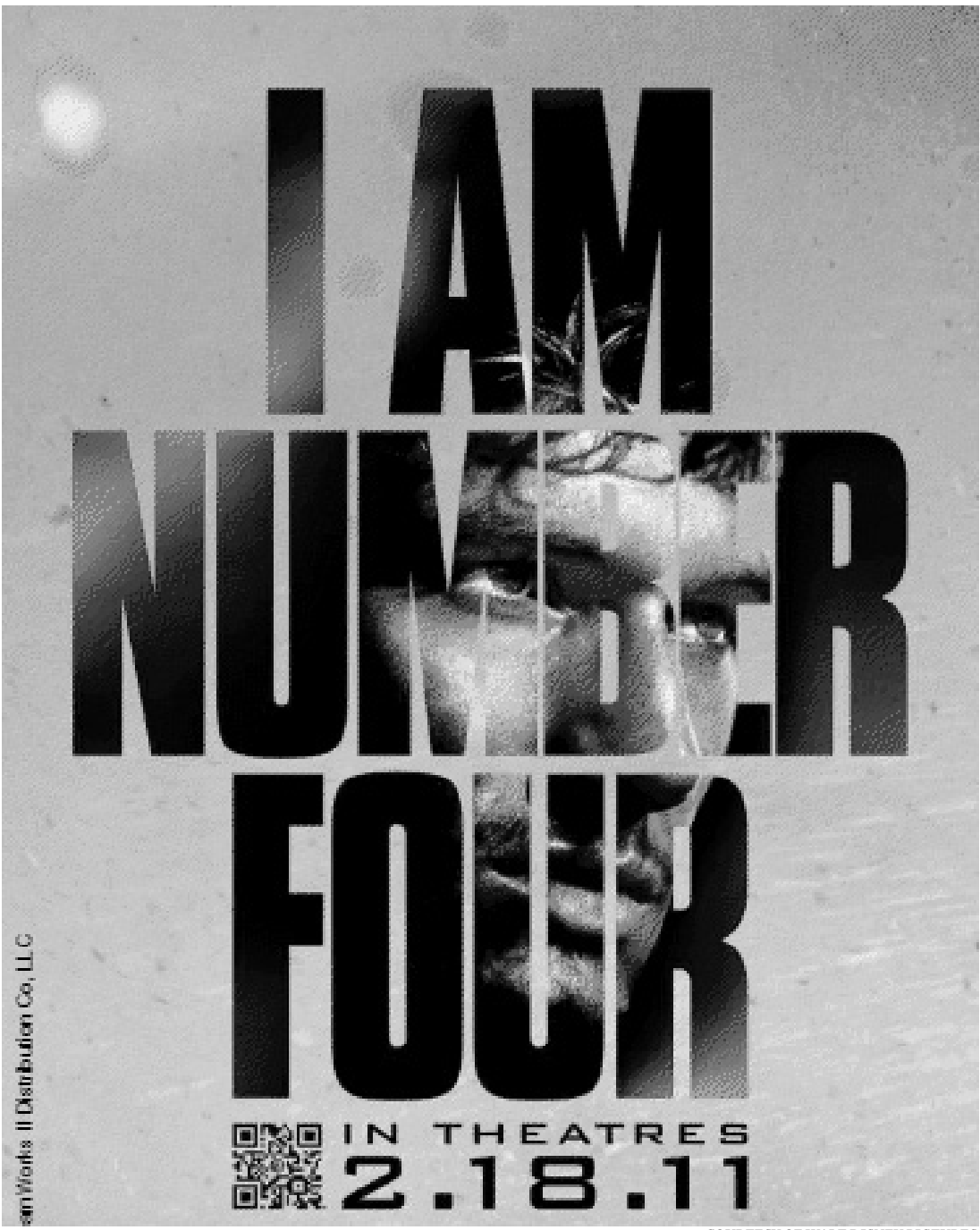
The film, which opens nationwide today, Feb. 18, doesn't offer anything new to the genre but delivers audience expectations of vibrant fight sequences and explosions.

Number Four (Alex Pettyfer) is an alien from the planet Lorien and is one of the few bestowed with special powers to defeat the evil Mogadorians who have devastated Lorien. After moving to Paradise, Ohio with his guardian Henri (Timothy Olyphant), Number Four falls in love with Sarah (Dianna Agron of "Glee"). However, he must learn to control his developing powers while staving off the Mogadorians who are trying to kill him.

The leads, Pettyfer and Agron, also suffer from a lack of chemistry, which sinks the dialogue-ridden first half of the film. Neither really has that "it factor" needed.

Although the action scenes of "I Am Number Four" are exciting and well-executed, the rest of the film flops. For example, the opening action sequence is thrilling and sets the audience up for what seems to be a great action film. However, it is immediately followed by Number Four doing a back-flip on a jet ski on his way to a high school party. Young boys would appreciate the elaborate stunt, but everyone over the age of 10 may find it cheesy.

Another major issue is that the dialogue is truly mediocre—there are too many scenes that are laugh-out-loud funny but aren't supposed to be humorous at all. The script is riddled with high school clichés of small-town American life. There's



SUCKER PUNCH | The film "I Am Number Four," based on the book of the same name, opens Feb. 18.

the high school bully that is also the football team's quarterback. He used to date the beautiful Sarah, but they broke up because he tried to hold her back from developing her photography talent. He picks on the nerdy Sam who then becomes friends with Number Four. The aspects of the story that are meant to be relatable come across as unoriginal and predictable.

The leads, Pettyfer and Agron, also suffer from a lack of chemistry, which sinks the dialogue-ridden first half of the film. Neither really has that "it

factor" needed to carry a major tent pole franchise.

However, Teresa Palmer as Number Six was clearly an audience favorite. She is sassy and clearly has both the best lines and the best action sequences in the film.

The film speeds up in its second half, with well-executed action scenes filled with unexpected twists missing from the first part of the movie. "I Am Number Four" serves its purpose as an entertaining popcorn flick—delivering on high-octane action sequences but not on much else.

Working out relationships with workaholics

2:30 a.m. and a gorgeous girl whose orbit I'd just fallen into asked me, "What do you think you're doing after this?"

"Sleeping, although I'd really like to hang out again later," I said.

She gave me her phone number with enthusiasm, threw a pair of very honest eyes across the table at me, and said, "The sad thing is, after this, I think I'll be studying."

Her workaholism both excited and worried me. On one hand, I have always loved workaholics, with all their passion and momentum. On the other hand, dating workaholics can be difficult, if not impossible.

In Manhattan, and especially at Columbia, it can sometimes seem like everyone is a workaholic. It isn't all bad—at its best, Columbia can feel like nerd camp without any rules. Intellectual chemistry can tumble into the sheets, and some workaholics will display an intense commitment to sexual excellence and willingness to learn the art of pleasuring their partners. And the mind fucks can be unforgettable.

One semester, I dated a charismatic workaholic who had a sexy, unbounded sense of academic and professional adventure. Brian* was a fast talker who didn't know exactly what he was doing in life, so he went in multiple directions at once. He was a pre-law, pre-med, humanities major who interned, researched, and read for pleasure. He had interesting stories to tell about his life, and the sheer joy he had for all his work colored my own.

Our fling ended over coffee at Hungarian. That day, I was deeply upset and shaken by life happenings, but Brian filled my uncharacteristic silences with his own chatter, oblivious. There was a glaze in his eyes from hours in Butler and a slight shake to his caffeinated body. Was he self-absorbed or just too tired? Both, I decided.

There are more extreme examples. My friend Yunus broke up with his boyfriend who he said "worked too much." I asked him what that meant.



LUCY SUN
**Column
Queer-
bot**

Especially at Columbia, it can sometimes seem like everyone is a workaholic. It isn't all bad—at its best, Columbia can feel like nerd camp without any rules. Intellectual chemistry can tumble into the sheets.

"He forgot my birthday," Yunus said. "And there was a week where I went to Europe, and I kinda thought we'd hang out when I came back, and he decided to book up his entire week's schedule with work."

The scheduler, iCal, or Google Calendar, is often the dominatrix of a workaholic's life. How well a workaholic manages a romantic relationship often depends on whether or not the dominatrix acknowledges the romance accurately. A relationship that has one or more workaholics in tow cannot expect to neatly fall into the gaps of a highly scheduled life—the relationship must be scheduled in with the rest of it.

My boyfriend, for example, works a 70-hour week, yet manages to make me feel like a fabulous queen whenever we are together. "I've blocked this time out for you," he explained to me. "With this time, I'm not doing anything else but you. Pun intended, dear."

Some couples set up a shared Google calendar to manage dates and shared time. However, dating couples probably shouldn't share their entire personal Google calendars with each other—lovers can easily lose autonomy over their own schedules this way, precluding conversations about how much time lovers actually want and can spend with each other.

If these talks don't take place, workaholics turn down their lovers routinely. Worse, they might spend time that they don't really have with their lovers—utterly exhausted, sometimes even working, or otherwise unavailable. Their lovers can take it hard, even if they are workaholics themselves. Reflecting on her ex-bot, Olivia said, "I wanted to see him every day, and he acted like he was allergic to that. I felt I wasn't good or strong enough for him, like I was too needy."

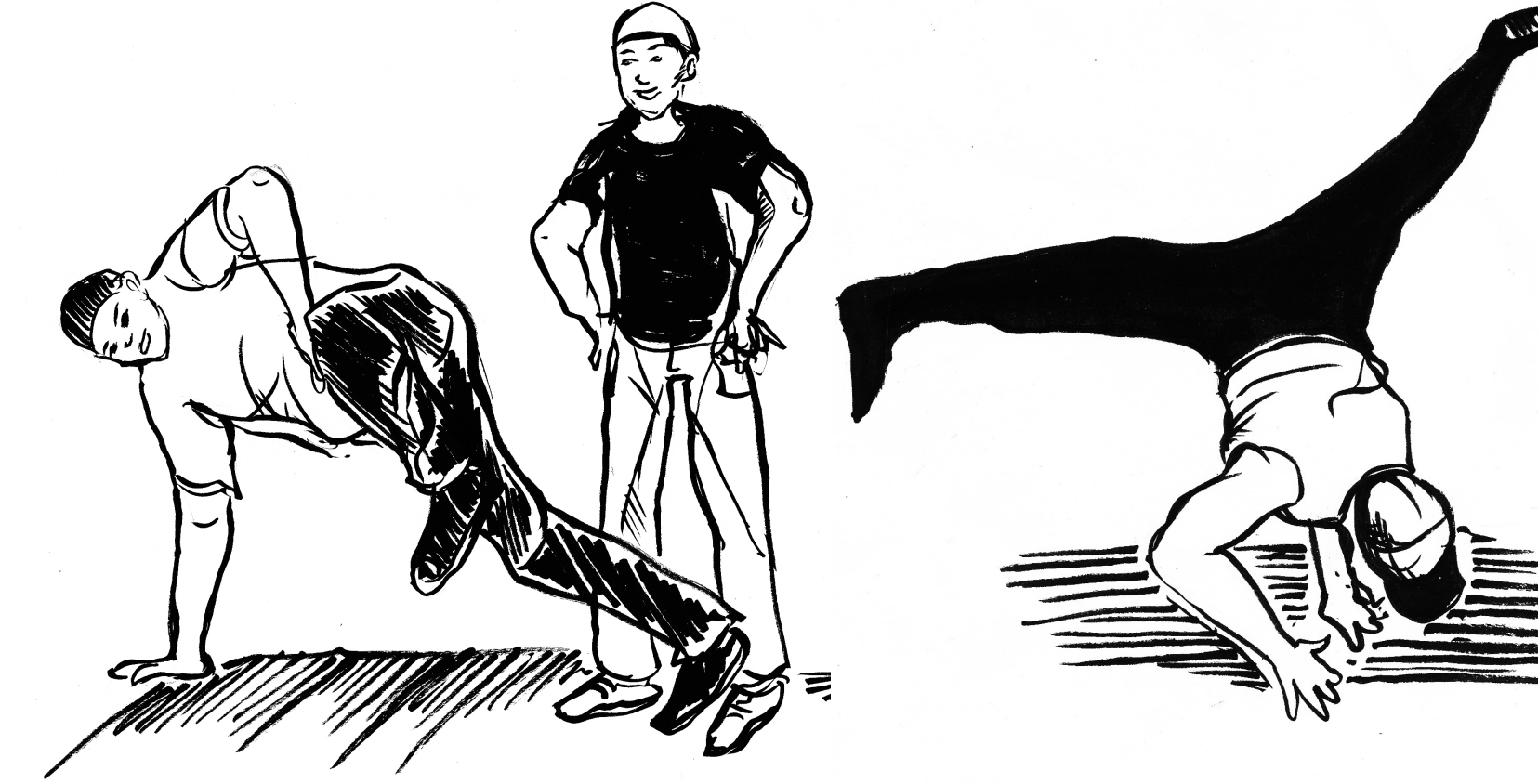
Each couple needs to talk about what's important in terms of time spent together. My boyfriend and I don't see each other unless we can truly cast aside all worries and block out time for each other. This means that we don't see each other every day.

"Coffee with Boyfriend @ Joe's" is listed on my Google calendar as a half-hour, mid-weekly event. When it's over, it's time for us to go to our respective meetings. As he pulls on a scarf, my boyfriend looks me in the eyes and says, "I miss you, darling."

"And I miss the heck out of you," I say.

* All names are changed.

Lucy Sun is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics. Queerbot runs alternate Fridays.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

Downtown trend infuses soul into the weekend dance party scene

BY KAVITHA SURANA
Spectator Staff Writer

Weekend festivities at Mel's or Campo are old hat, pretentious downtown clubs are crowded and off-putting, and the Brooklyn warehouse party scheme has lost its edginess. What's an adventurous Columbia student to do?

The new game in town is something called the soul party. These parties inspired by soul music—from crooning Aretha Franklin to spiced-up Afro-Caribbean and R&B beats and culture—can be spiritual experiences. At the least, they offer the chance to dance one's heart out.

The most recent party series to explode on the scene is DJ Mr. Jonathan Toubin's "Soul Clap," featured in Time Out's "Five Best Indie Parties." Held monthly at Glasslands Gallery in Williamsburg (289 Kent St., South 1st and 2nd streets), this party is unlike any other. "I hit everything—from the era where R&B and rock and roll became soul to the period in the late 1960s," when it became funk, Toubin said. A competitive dance contest occurs mid-celebration, after which everyone, as Toubin puts it, "chugs sweaty till 4 a.m."

The music is authentic and obscure. "I literally didn't recognize a single song they played," Sheri Pan, CC '11 and former Spectator Opinion editor, said. "It was very bare-bones without using any modern sound equipment or mixing. It was so authentic I don't think people would even recognize

it for it what it really was since we don't really listen to that music any more."

Soul music draws a varied New York City crowd. "Most of the folks are in their early 20s, of some sort of open-minded bohemian background, and love to dance," Mr. Toubin said. "But other than that you can't really peg your average Soul Clap party-goer."

The next Soul Clap extravaganza will take place this Saturday, Feb. 19, but students can catch Toubin most Friday nights at Lower East Side bar Home Sweet Home (131 Chrystie St., between Broome and Grand streets), spinning similar tunes at his "Shakin' All Over Under Sideways Down" party.

Some students might find the unadulterated oldies a bit hard to dance to, though. "People were dancing ... how my parents would dance," Pan said. "Libation Thursdays," which take place alternate Thursdays at Sullivan Room (218 Sullivan St., between Bleecker and 3rd streets) better suit her tastes.

Dubbed "global soul," the music at Libation provides a tantalizing mixture of R&B, house, Afro-Caribbean beats, and of course, soul. This combination seems to better represent the spirit of the soul genre than Toubin's mix, as made evident by the energetic attendees tearing up the dance floor.

"They didn't mess around," Lia Bersin, SEAS '11, said. Upon entering, she was entranced by

the spiritual incense, flashing lights, and smoke machine. "Everyone seemed to be in their independent element ... there were no insecurities or judgments of the way people behaved or danced," she said.

Libation partygoers truly come in all shapes, ages, and sizes. Personal styles range from tribal ethnic to skater punk, while turbans, dreadlocks, and fanny packs dominate the scene. Half the fun is spectating—people are not afraid to do whatever they want. Amateur break-dancers throw down around the room, while others practice yoga in the corner. "I would definitely go back to the Libation Party," said Bersin. "It was such a unique experience that would be difficult to find anywhere else."

Budding soul aficionados can also check out The Groove (125 MacDougal St, between West Third and Bleecker Streets), a touristy West Village joint that features a live band covering Marvin Gaye, Jackson 5, Prince, and modern hip-hop favorites.

Serious soul lovers should consider grabbing tickets for The Underground Network Reunion's Soul Party, which will be Mar. 18 at the Park Central Hotel Ballroom (870 Seventh Ave., between 56th and 57th streets).

Soul music might not give everyone good vibrations, but the scene is growing in New York and worth checking out for those who want a fresh spin on old favorites.

Flipside Guide

Buglisi Dance Theatre

Valentine’s spirit carries on at Joyce

BY GARNET HENDERSON
Spectator Staff Writer

Singles wince and couples rejoice—Valentine’s Day lives on the rest of this week at the Joyce Theater (175 Eighth Ave., at 19th Street). Channeling the spirit of the holiday of love, the Buglisi Dance Theatre premiered a new work titled “Letters of Love on Ripped Paper” on Tuesday, Feb. 15 that will play through Feb. 20.

Along with this new piece, the Buglisi Dance Theatre company also dances Jacquelyn Buglisi’s 2001 work “Requiem” at each performance. Tickets start at \$10 for every show at the student-friendly Joyce Theatre—a unique Chelsea theater established by dancers for dance programs.

“Requiem,” a dance set to Fauré’s choral piece of the same name, opens the night. The piece features five women, each clad in an elegant dress with full, layered skirts. The dancers manipulate these skirts as they move, using them to create expansive and dramatic visual effects.

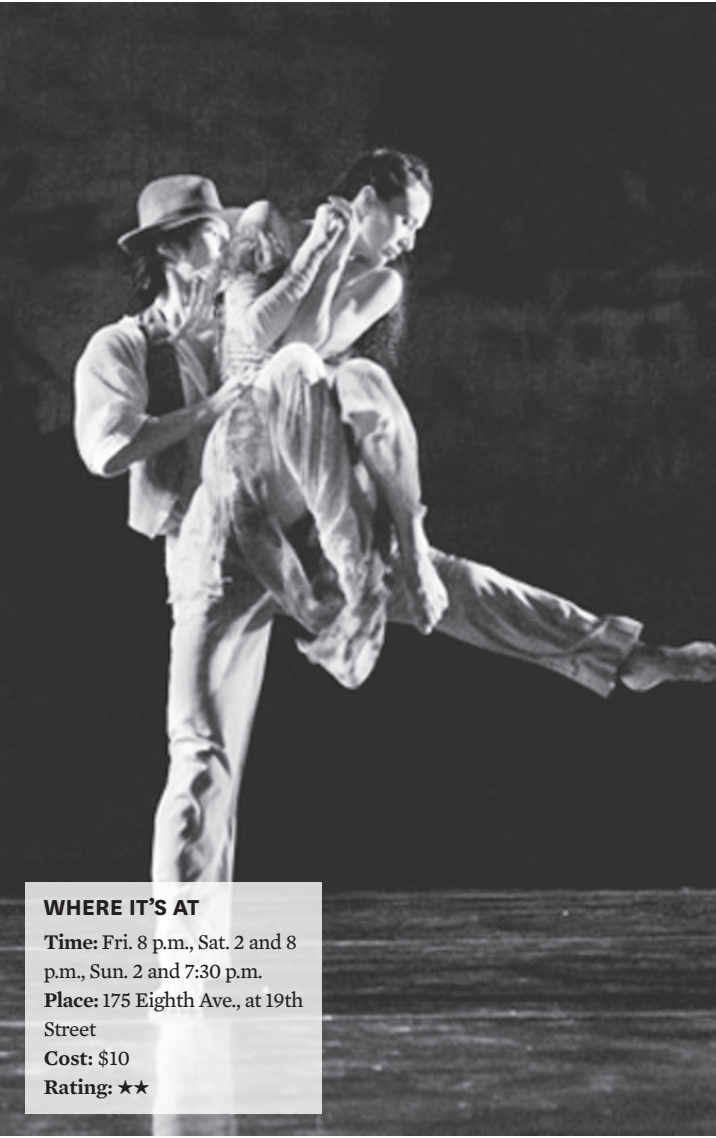
“Requiem” was inspired by Italian Baroque painter Artemisia Gentileschi, who used her talents to win the favor of kings and overcome societal oppression. Buglisi had intended the work to be a reflection of the adversities still facing women today. But, following the Sept. 11 attacks, the piece evolved into more of a meditation on loss and mourning. The dancers in “Requiem” truly embody this sentiment, filling even the most subtle movements with strong emotion.

The second piece, “Letters of Love on Ripped Paper,” was inspired by the love letters of some of history’s most famous couples. The company also found material in letters they came across while working with refugees in a residency at the Munson Williams Proctor Art Institute.

Throughout the piece, recordings and live actors recite the words of famous lovers such as Victor Hugo, Napoleon Bonaparte, and George Bernard Shaw, as well as the words of these refugees. The work also features an original score and a live pianist. While the dance movements are overly literal and mimetic at times, a highlight of the piece is its fluid and sensual partnering. The interactions between dancers portray the profound emotions and familiar ups and downs of love and even include the occasional comedic touch.

This love-themed evening is a convenient solution for Valentine’s Day procrastinators. Even for the unlucky in love, the Buglisi Dance Theatre’s performances provide an inexpensive way to spin into the weekend.

Flipside Guide Theater reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.



COURTESY OF AUDREY ROSS PUBLICITY

SHALL WE DANCE? | The Buglisi Dance Theatre’s sensual new piece “Letters of Love on Ripped Paper” continues until Feb. 20.

events

FILM

Pacino’s ’70s Film Series

—*Film Forum, 209 W. Houston St. (between Sixth and Seventh avenues), through Thursday, Feb. 24, \$12.50*

Film Forum showcases some of the best films of the 1970s featuring recent Golden Globe winner Al Pacino. The series includes a “Godfather” marathon and other classics like “Dog Day Afternoon,” highlighting the intensity and craft of Pacino’s early works.

ART

Brooklyn Tipi Art Exhibit

—*Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy (at Washington Avenue), through May15*

More than just a tent, the tipi was also an artistic symbol in Native American Plains culture. “Tipi: Heritage of the Great Plains” highlights four tipis, as well as a myriad of antique and contemporary cultural artifacts of the Northern, Central, and Southern Plains tribes.

MUSIC

DJ Martin Solveig at Lavo

—*Lavo, 39 E. 58th St. (between Madison and Park avenues), Friday, Feb. 18, free*

French-born DJ Martin Solveig will bring his world-renowned, electro-pop tunes to Midtown for a show at Italian restaurant and trendy nightclub Lavo. DJ Solveig will then go on to play with Columbia favorite Chromeo at the Ultra Music Festival in Miami in March.

FOOD

Texas State Fair

—*The Bell House, 149 7th St. (between Second and Third avenues), Sunday, Feb. 20, free*

The Lone Star-themed event, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., includes a draft beer festival, queso cook-off, and line-dancing. Texan students missing home and non-Texan students craving some country fun and flair are sure to enjoy the Everything’s Bigger in Texas belt buckle contest.



MARIA CASTEX / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GRAFF-EAT-I | Jesus Nuñez’s recently opened Spanish tapas restaurant, Graffit, takes its name from the words “graffiti” and “eat.”

Graffit

New UWS restaurant shows poor taste in both restaurant and menu design

BY JASON BELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Tuesday, Feb. 15, chef Jehangir Mehta—former “The Next Iron Chef” contestant and owner of Graffiti, an East Village restaurant—announced a lawsuit against chef Jesus Nuñez for copyright infringement. Nuñez’s new restaurant on the Upper West Side—Graffit—not only sounds like Graffiti, but also serves a similar roster of tapas. Mehta’s claim that Graffit poaches his customers seems preposterous, though, considering that Graffit serves such obnoxious, poorly crafted food.

At Graffit, Nuñez claims to offer modern tapas. The name derives from a combination of “graffiti” and “eat”—get it? Don’t worry, no one else does, either. According to the menu, “graffit” is both a noun meaning “fusion of unconventional art and food” with a “mixture of textures, flavors, colors, and volumes,” and a verb meaning “to eat, enjoy, taste and discover” and “to socialize around a table of food.” For diners, this collection of public relations nonsense translates into bizarre, nearly inedible food.

To make matters worse, the restaurant space sets out to confuse. In one area, diners order from a tapas menu, in another from the tapas and dinner menus, and in yet another, from only the dinner menu. Disturbing graffiti of a bullfight adorning the walls serves diners a stomach-churning performance of violence. And the meal hasn’t even begun.

In the dining room, a strange amuse-bouche starts the ordeal—a glass of sangria, which is jellied with bits of fruit and a red wine foam. Nuñez adores making gels, most of which turn out gummy and flavorless. Another amuse-bouche of lackluster tomato stuffed with goat cheese flashes a warning sign to worldly diners: “seek satisfying food elsewhere.”

An appetizer of savory carrot “cake,” Mahon cheese, and asparagus

ends up tasting like Gerber baby food. This is a cliché bandied about in food writing to describe any vile purée. But here, Nuñez apparently intends for his “cake” to squish and gurgle with liquefied carrot bliss. The thick layer of gummy, greasy, melted cheese on top makes this dish surprisingly filling—far too much for any infant to actually consume.

Nuñez cooks a piece of venison competently, albeit far beyond the requested medium-rare. A grayish and grainy cut, this venison requires willpower to finish. Served atop a chewy wheat risotto, the portion size is, at least, mercifully small.

For dessert, avoid “a study of Spanish moscatel.” A monolithic expanse of wine jelly comes dotted with different fruit and herb purées. While one half of the plate supposedly mimics the wine’s nose and the other half its body, every bite fills the diners’ heads with brash alcohol and muted sweetness.

The tapas options fare even worse than the more formal food. “Pimientos del piquillo rellenos de bacalao,” which are peppers stuffed with salt cod, arrive on a plate smeared with orange and black sauce. It looks like a toddler’s Halloween composition and tastes almost as horrifying: mushy and vaguely fishy. Critiques of Nuñez’s grandmother’s meatballs, “albondigas de la abuela,” threaten to cross the line from objective to merely mean. Suffice to say that Lean Cuisine seems like an apt description.

A sense of arrogance pervades Nuñez’s cuisine—an attitude of invincibility that estranges the diner from his dinner. For students looking to experience tapas in New York, less excruciating alternatives abound.

Flipside Guide Art reviews are evaluated for: concept, originality, execution, curation, student relatability to the artwork, exhibition price, and accessibility.

‘Looking at Music 3.0’

MoMA’s new audio-visual exhibit traces journey of contemporary musicians

BY ELISSE ROCHE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Whether it is a response to mainstream culture, third-wave feminism, or cross-genre collaborations, the new exhibit “Looking at Music 3.0” at the Museum of Modern Art (11 W. 53rd St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues) has a say.

Running from Feb. 16 to June 6, this contemporary, audio-visual exhibit inside the Yoshiko and Akio Morita Media Gallery on the museum’s second floor explores the dualistic nature of music and art in New York during the ’80s and ’90s. Featuring a wide array of artists from the Beastie Boys to Jay-Z, the exhibit presents the interplay and collaboration of creative forms during a time of technological innovation.

“Looking at Music 3.0” follows the trajectory of music and its modus operandi, presenting the evolution from music records to audio cassettes, from boomboxes to CDs. Along the neon pink, green, and yellow walls, one can observe an impressive array of collages, prints, and photos of artists of the era. Within the media gallery space, various interactive audio stations allow museum-goers to explore music genres within this contemporary time frame, while providing them with a brief history of the songs and artists involved. In tandem with these audio stations, the exhibit has video stations where visitors can watch some of the first music videos played on MTV.

The underlying ambiance of the exhibit—completed by the approximately 10-foot screen featuring music videos of haunting ballads, riveting dance beats, and innovative rap—conveys a sense of time travel, investigating a familiar era in a revolutionary way. Across the music genres of rock, alternative, rap, and hip-hop, there exists a common

theme of change and rebellion, especially with the emergence of third-wave feminism movement in the ’90s.

Artists like Riot Grrrl and Joanie 4 Jackie are highlighted due to their incorporation of sexuality and queer theory into their music. Sonic Youth, associated with the No-Wave art and music scene in the early ’80s, and Jay-Z are also featured, due to their involvement in cross-genre work and merged music sub-cultures.

Moreover, by incorporating socio-cultural and socio-political elements of the time, the exhibit illustrates the development of music in a dramatic way. Unlike in traditional exhibits, there is no determined chronology or path to take in order to explore the musical development. This may appear somewhat disorganized, but the exhibit offers select sub-themes that pertain to artists engaged in social and political events through cross-genre collaboration, feminism, and music videos.

Exceptional in its presentation of material, the exhibit is at times overwhelming and unintelligible, as crowds stream through the exhibit and amplify the intensity of the high-volume music and video screen.

An intimate and personal experience, this audio-visual exhibit that magnifies the great musicians of the ’80s and ’90s should not be missed.

Flipside Guide Music reviews are evaluated for: performance, quality of production, crowd atmosphere, accessibility, ticket price, and student friendliness.

WHERE IT’S AT

Time: Mon.-Wed., 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., until 8 p.m. on Fri.
Place: 11 W. 53rd St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues
Cost: Free with CUID
Rating: ★★