

Journalist MacArthur is CC Class Day speaker

BY YASMIN GAGNE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

John R. MacArthur, CC '78, an award-winning journalist and author, will deliver the keynote address at the Columbia College Class Day ceremony.

The annual event, which honors graduating seniors, will take place May 15 on South Lawn.

MacArthur has served as president and publisher of Harper's Magazine, the oldest continuously published monthly magazine in America since 1983. Under his leadership, the magazine has received 18 National Magazine Awards, the industry's highest honor.

Before joining Harper's Magazine, MacArthur, who received his B.A. in history from CC, was an assistant foreign editor at United Press International and a reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times, the Bergen Record, the Washington Star, and the Wall Street Journal.

MacArthur has also written three books on politics and Middle Eastern affairs and serves on the board of directors of the Death Penalty Information Center, the Roderick MacArthur Justice Center, and the Spectator Publishing Company, which publishes Spectator.

Sarah Chai, CC '12 and class of 2012 president, said, "The senior class council is thrilled that John R. MacArthur has agreed to speak. We think that he's somebody

SEE MACARTHUR, page 3



YAN CONG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SWIPE ACCESS | Many residents at 3333 Broadway are concerned that photo IDs will be required to swipe in starting next week.

At local schools, parents react to release of teacher evaluations

BY AVANTIKA KUMAR
Spectator Staff Writer

The release of teacher rankings for 18,000 teachers across the city last week raised many concerns among educators and parents, including those at local schools.

After a court ruling that mandated the release of individual teachers' performance data, the city Department of Education released the rankings on Friday—including those for many Morningside Heights schools, including P.S. 125, P.S. 180, P.S. 165, and Mott Hall II.

The teachers' union, the United Federation of Teachers, strongly opposes their release and has launched a \$100,000 advertising campaign called "This Is No Way to Rate a Teacher," and many parents and educators agree that the public rankings—which influence tenure and salary decisions—are misleading.

Jean Stemm, Parent Association treasurer at P.S. 165, on 109th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue, expressed concern that the rankings' questionable effectiveness made them appear not worth "putting all your eggs in

one basket." She said she questioned the accuracy of the individual reports.

One teacher at P.S. 165, Tony Toral, is ranked in the 94th percentile among fourth grade English teachers, better than any of the others. Toral's ranking among fifth grade English teachers was in the eighth percentile—worse than any of his colleagues.

Columbia economist Jonah Rockoff said that the data could provide a skewed picture to parents, given that principals, teachers, and other staff had more behind-the-scenes knowledge and context with which to approach

the data. Parents "are at a severe disadvantage relative to teachers and principals," he said.

Jacob Mey, a geochemistry researcher at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and parent of a sixth-grader at Mott Hall II, said that making the data public places undue pressure on teachers, holding them completely responsible for student performance—even though, in reality, numerous factors such as parent involvement and environment contribute to or detract from a student's success.

SEE TEACHERS, page 3

Security changes hit local building

W. Harlem tenants have privacy concerns

BY JILLIAN KUMAGAI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A large West Harlem housing complex has some major new safety measures coming its way, centered around an electronic sign-in system with photo IDs, but some tenants are concerned that the plans could jeopardize their privacy.

All residents at 3333 Broadway, on Broadway at 135th Street, will be required to use picture identification cards to swipe into the building, a practice that the building management says will make the building more secure.

In addition to the ID cards, security guards will contact residents by their phone numbers—not by an outdated intercom system—to check in visitors, guests will have to notify security guards of the length of their stay, and electronic records will track when residents swipe into the building.

"3333 Broadway is one of the largest apartment communities in the country and we take the security of our residents very seriously," Urban American spokesperson Brian Moriarty

SEE 3333, page 2

For transfer students, transition isn't easy

Housing processes, orientation can still be improved, students say

BY GREGORY BARBER
Columbia Daily Spectator

They've been described as a "lost generation," trapped in limbo between Columbia's first-years and sophomores. And though they say they are well equipped to integrate themselves into their new academic settings, many students who transfer to Columbia College are hurt as often as they are helped by the University's housing and orientation programs.

Virat Gupta, CC '12, attributes his smooth academic transition to tailored academic advising during the New Student Orientation Program and the summer before enrollment, but believes the University could do a better job integrating transfers in other areas.

"The issues are related to social integration," he said.

Gupta, who transferred after a year at the University of Michigan, felt that Columbia's commitment to social integration wavered early in the process, starting with NSOP.

"There just aren't a lot of specific, targeted approaches to address the needs of transfer students," Gupta said. "You want to feel as if someone is anticipating your issues and needs."

He suggested that

further separation of new transfers from international and five-year program students could refocus efforts to welcome them.

Lara Andersson, CC '14, who transferred from Stanford University, also sensed ambivalence toward transfers as a distinct group of incoming Columbia students.

"Columbia had mainly administrative sort of events and a few meet and greets," Andersson said. "It felt very impersonal."

Jordan Gary, CC '14, downplayed the role of NSOP in easing transfers into the community. "I didn't miss it," said Gary, who transferred from Wesleyan University but did not participate in the program because of Hurricane Irene. "I didn't want to be shepherded around. That's what I was trying to escape by coming to Columbia."

Many transfer students identified housing as another problem area. Gupta, who was placed in a blind double in Schapiro Hall after he transferred, said housing puts transfers in rooms meant for freshmen who are still on the meal plan.

For many transfer students in the current senior class, however, the brownstone at 548 W. 113th St. had

SEE TRANSFERS, page 2

Stringer recognizes African-American trailblazers

BY KELLY LANE
Spectator Staff Writer

On the last day of Black History Month, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer honored three civil rights activists, comparing their work for equality to that of Frederick Douglass.

"If we want to lift up underserved communities, we have to give people the opportunities to move forward," Stringer told the crowd gathered at Chocolat Restaurant Lounge, on Frederick Douglass Boulevard at 120th Street, on Wednesday night.

Stringer celebrated the achievements of three African-American New Yorkers who have contributed significantly

toward improving the quality of life in the city, particularly for racial minorities, at his seventh annual Trailblazers event.

As the executive director of the civil rights group National Action Network, Tamika Mallory created the Decency Initiative, a movement to eliminate the use of the words "nigga," "bitch," and "ho" from popular music.

Stringer also acknowledged that she had worked hard to bring social equality to Manhattan. "It is wonderful to be recognized," she said.

Sheila Rule, another honoree, started the Think Outside the Cell Foundation, an organization that helps reintegrate formerly incarcerated people into society.

"By turning the spotlight on me, you turn the spotlight on their humanity," she said.

Norman Seabrook, the president of New York City Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, the largest municipal jail union in the country, took Black History Month as an opportunity to remind his audience of both how far minorities have progressed and how much farther they have to go.

"I stand on the shoulders of those who have made it that much easier," he said. "We have to continue to make strides so that others who come behind us can be successful."

Even so, Seabrook also touched upon the dire situation in which many disadvantaged

New Yorkers still find themselves.

"Their bail is set at \$50,000 and they don't even have money to get on the subway," he said. "We turn up the radio so we don't have to hear the gunshots. We have to do something about this. We can no longer just sit around the table and say 'Yeah, yeah, yeah.' It's a tsunami, and it's coming, and it's going to hit every one of us."

Stringer said that there is a long way to go towards full equality.

"Quite frankly, we're not where we should be, not when the American dream is a pipe dream," he said. "Too many people are being left out of the

SEE STRINGER, page 2



ZARA CASTANY / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EQUALITY | Tamika Mallory, left, executive director of National Action Network, and Scott Stringer, Manhattan borough president.

A&E, PAGE 6

Undergraduates debut film journal

Columbia College first-years David Beal and Max Nelson launch a student-run film journal online that could expand into print and include an event series in the future.



OPINION, PAGE 4

Winning together

Samuel E. Roth argues that mental health should be a shared goal.

Suit up, Columbia

Noel Duan questions the double standard of going-out attire.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Heading to Ivies

The men's swimming and diving team caps off its season with the Ivy League Championships in Princeton, N.J., this weekend.

EVENTS

'The Egg-Layers'

Lauren Feldman's play riffs on the Greek myth of Leda and the swan. *Glicker Milstein Theater, 8 p.m.*

WEATHER

Today



46°/36°

Tomorrow



48°/45°

Local tenants say photo IDs, new visitor policy will hurt building

3333 from front page

said. “Since we acquired the property five years ago we’ve made significant improvements to safety and security throughout the property.”

But George Peters, a lawyer for the tenants’ association, called the situation “unsavory” and said that the group plans to fight the plan.

“It’s more than likely we’re going to get a temporary restraining order to halt this practice until a court has time to look at this and come up with a fair compromise,” he said.

“It’s against the law to lock someone out of their building, especially if they pay rent,” Alicia Barksdale, president of 3333 Broadway Tenants’ Association, said.

The 1,200-unit housing complex comprises five buildings just north of Columbia’s construction site in Manhattanville.

Currently, it has no security system to monitor who enters and exits the building. Barksdale said that security guards stationed at the lobby’s front desk only sign in people who approach the desk when they walk in.

The IDs will list the resident’s name, the building’s address, and what tower they live in. 3333’s Tower A will be the first to implement the system on March 8, with Tower B following on March 19, and the rest of the building to follow in late March and April.

Bea Dewing, a resident of

Tower A, is not planning to get an ID card until her questions about the plan are answered.

“An access card might be a good idea, but I’m opposed to this kind of system,” Dewing said. “Management hasn’t really thought this through or discussed it with tenants. I think they’re flying blind, and it’s not in the best interest. I would hope they’d be willing to come to a meeting and ask what our concerns are.”

Angela Reid, a 3333 resident of more than 30 years, said that a lack of communication with the building’s owners is contributing to the problem.

“It’s been safer previously,” she said. “The only unsafe thing is we can’t talk to management about what we need.”

Anthony Zosherafatain, another resident, said, “If anything, it’ll increase crime rather than solve it.”

“I’m definitely opposed to it because I think it’s an invasion of privacy,” he said. “I think it’s going to be a failure, because people will inevitably lose their IDs, especially kids, and if someone gets robbed, it’s easy access to our apartment.”

Zosherafatain, a recent college graduate, said that he was concerned that his two roommates, who are not listed on his lease, would not be able to get ID cards.

According to Moriarty, tenants who are not on the lease but registered to live in the building, such as roommates and family members, will receive access keys.



YAN CONG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PRIVACY | Alicia Barksdale, tenants’ association president, is concerned about security changes.

Still, Zosherafatain said, “there’s going to be mayhem.”

“It’s where you live, not your workplace,” Dewing said. “I want to come and go freely and

feel secure.”

“I understand what management is looking to do,” Peters, the tenants’ association’s lawyer, said. “However, there has to be a

less intrusive way of protecting the tenants’ safety. Their measures are a bit much.”

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Stringer honors black activists

STRINGER from front page

fundamental discussions.”

Stanley Gleaton, who lives in central Harlem, noted that the issues discussed at the event are a problem for Stringer’s entire jurisdiction.

“The issues don’t just affect Harlem,” Gleaton said. “This seems to be a city-wide phenomenon.”

“By turning the spotlight on me, you turn the spotlight on their humanity.”

—Sheila Rule, *Think Outside the Cell* president

Sophia James, an East Side resident at the event, agreed that Black History Month was a time for simultaneous reflection and progress.

“It’s just about remembering what was done over 50 years ago and bringing it to a new generation so they know the value of an education and the value of giving back,” she said.

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Transfer students look to integrate with class, but University doesn’t always help

TRANSFERS from front page

offered a common home. The building, next to the restaurant Symposium, consists of nine doubles and was set aside from the housing lottery specifically for transfers.

“We all had friends there,” Daniel Brown, CC ’12 and a transfer from Ithaca College, said. “People were constantly going in and out.” But since the building’s inclusion in the lottery beginning in 2010, transfer student housing has become increasingly decentralized.

Executive Director of Housing and Accommodation Services Joyce Jackson said there is currently “no real mechanism” to set aside housing for transfer students.

“We try to hold little clusters of space for transfer students, but it’s dependent on cancellations,” Jackson said. The old system, she said, was not ideal because the brownstone was isolated and lacked a resident adviser.

Older students like Brown emphasized the importance of positive experiences with NSOP and housing. “The transfer community starts out very strong, and we’ve stayed strong,” said Brown, who continues to share a suite with fellow transfers. “You come in and meet other transfer students and it’s a really nurturing environment,” he said.

But Columbia’s newest transfers have not found such a tight-knit community.

“At the beginning, there was this feeling of solidarity, but we drifted apart,” said Laura Fisher, CC ’14, who transferred from Vassar College and lives in the LLC. Though she found the housing process stress-free, living in Hartley, a residence hall occupied predominantly by first-years and some returning sophomores, she doesn’t feel like she has been able to become close with any other transfers in the class of 2014.

“If you want to become fully immersed in the community, you have to join activities fast.”

—Daniel Brown, CC ’12, transfer from Ithaca College

“I haven’t really befriended any transfer students,” Gary said. “It doesn’t seem to be a community.”

Still, the general sense among transfer students is that they come well-equipped to deal with Columbia’s unique social challenges.

Fisher initially found the transition from Vassar’s close-knit student body disconcerting, but now appreciates Columbia

students’ independence.

“People here are driven, doing their own thing, and going out in the city. You end up kind of loving it, embracing it.” That, she thinks, is a special quality of transfer students—“they know what they’re getting into.”

Gupta said this preparation is a reason transfer students are likely to succeed despite the challenges, pointing to their leadership in the University Senate and Greek life. Gupta is the vice president of communications for the Columbia College Student Council.

Brown, who is president of the Activities Board at Columbia, reasoned that extracurricular success arises from a desire to blend in.

“If you want to become fully immersed in the community, you have to join activities fast. You have to find people who have common interests,” Brown said.

Andersson shared that sentiment. “I think that may be a way to compensate for feeling behind in everything else,” she said. “Transfers spread themselves thin.”

For Gupta, a potential solution would be for the University to stay involved with transfers later into the school year. He said that “there could have been greater efforts taken in the months and the weeks after NSOP,” particularly to bring transfers closer to members of their own class.

But Brown cautioned against increasing the administration’s role in the process.

“To be the kind of person who self-selects to be a transfer student is a pretty strong sign,” he said. “They’re less complacent and willing to make things how they want them to be. They don’t really need a lot of formal structures

because they were already willing to throw themselves out of a comfortable situation.”

With the challenges that transferring poses, Brown says the most helpful strategy is to find other people who are having

similar experiences.


“The process makes you very proactive,” Brown said. “As a transfer student, that’s like gold, to meet someone who’s been through the same process.”

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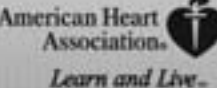
FILE PHOTO

IN TRANSIT | Daniel Brown, CC ’12 and a transfer student, presiding over the Activities Board at Columbia last semester, of which he is the president.



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Conversation not confrontation

BY ERIC J. SHORR

Some days, it feels like the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has as much a history at Columbia as it does in the Middle East. For the last three years at least, this campus has seen demonstrations about that conflict, in action and reaction, in various forms, and most notably during “Israeli Apartheid Week.” “Apartheid Week” is presented by the Columbia Students for Justice in Palestine as an opportunity for truth and justice. But its overall campaign to liken Israel to an apartheid state is anything but that. Instead, skewing historical reality, it misrepresents one of the most vibrant democracies in the Middle East and frames it solely through the lens of the conflict. The use of visceral images such as the wall and mock checkpoints heightens tension and create conditions on this campus that make it difficult for many students to obtain a greater understanding of the complex issues and engage in meaningful, informed dialogue.

A system of racial segregation enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994, apartheid imposed racial segregation that dominated all aspects of life. Blacks did not have the right to vote, participate in government, marry a white person, or even be admitted to a white hospital. Apartheid rested on the proposition that blacks and other people of color were fundamentally inferior to the white race. But Israel’s previous offers to the Palestinian authorities,

Together we win

“I want to experience better mental health than my peers as an adult. My sexual choices now are making a difference.” The poster I spied in Kent and Hamilton shows a young woman smiling as someone else puts his hands on her head—whether this is a mental health technique or a sexual one, I couldn’t say. The glossy broadsheet, an advertisement for the Love and Fidelity Network, explains that the more sex you have in college, the less stable your marriage will be. The poster further claims that married adults are on average less depressed and less anxious than the unmarried. “Translation,” it summarizes, “the sexual choices you make now may make the difference in your mental health later.”

The reasoning of this poster offends on a number of levels, but what intrigued me most was its main hook—“I want to experience better mental health than my peers as an adult.” As it turns out, the poster is part of a larger campaign designed to vaunt all the diverse rewards of a sexless college career. “I want to experience 20% higher relationship satisfaction and 15% better sexual quality in my future marriage than my peers,” another poster declares. “I want to be 34% less likely than my peers to experience separation or divorce.”

Do I? Do we? Naturally, I want to be free from mental illness, not divorced, and satisfied in my relationships with others. But more sane, more satisfied, and less divorced than my apparently miserable peers? What kind of peers would those be?

Last week, the Supreme Court agreed to hear a case that might ultimately end public universities’ freedom to use race as a factor in college admissions. Abigail Fisher, a white woman, is suing the University of Texas for allegedly rejecting her in favor of less-qualified minority applicants. The court is more conservative now than it was in 2003, when it narrowly endorsed affirmative action as constitutional, so experts speculate that the court might reverse its earlier approval.

What seems to be at stake are two visions of what college is for, and what it should be like. If the purpose of college is to make each individual as good as he or she can be, as someone like Fisher might argue, what matters is that the best colleges take the best students, who can make the greatest use of their top-notch resources.

But what if the purpose of a college is to make its community as good as it can be? What if the expectation was that we would learn less from books than we do from one another? What if the product of a university is not the leaders of the future, but a conversation that takes place in the present? Then it seems only natural that such a community should embrace as many voices, as wide a range of experience, and as many different kinds of people as possible.

Merit can’t be adequately judged by things like test scores and high school GPAs, which may be influenced by socioeconomic disparities or societal prejudices. But for the sake of argument, let’s assume that the students who were accepted instead of Abigail Fisher were genuinely less qualified. Let’s recognize that, had the Columbia admissions officers seen fit, they could have filled our classes entirely with academically perfect specimens.

They didn’t. We are here in spite of our imperfections. We are diverse, opinionated, experienced, and flawed. We are drawn down to earth by our failings, forced to lean on one another for study help and moral support and hope.

That’s how college makes us the best people we can be—people who value the opinions with which we disagree, who know something beyond the confines of our own limited experience. Who know how to depend on one another.

The Love and Fidelity Network campaign, which the group’s website says appeared last month at “19 colleges and universities (including five Ivy Leagues),” pegs us all wrong. Its organizers imagine that we are a self-interested, competitive, future-focused student body, full of individuals who care mostly about being the best that they individually can be. After all, it’s hard to imagine how one makes it to this campus if one is not all of these things.

And yet somehow we’re not those things. I went to a bitterly competitive high school fueled by too much money and not enough compassion. It seems to me that here, we all hope for the best for each other, not the worst. And in a thousand different ways, we make it happen together.

So no, I don’t want to experience better mental health than my peers as an adult. I want my peers to join me in enjoying the boons of good mental health, of physical and intellectual vitality, of satisfaction and accomplishment. And if we are touched by depression, or stress, or divorce, or sadness or crisis or disaster, let us bear the burdens together, not just as peers, but as friends.

Love and Fidelity Network, that goes for all of us. Even those of us as selfish as you.

Samuel E. Roth is a Columbia College senior majoring in history and political science. He is a former Spectator editor in chief. We Are Not Alone runs alternate Thursdays.



SAMUEL E. ROTH
We Are Not Alone

which would have led to a two-state solution, highlight its recognition of Palestinian self-determination. In doing so, Israeli policies have made it clear that the Palestinians are a people, deserving of a country of their own. Let us be clear: Israel is not an apartheid state.

The wall on Low Plaza is meant to resemble the security barrier constructed in Israel. Ignored by the C-SJP, it was built fundamentally to protect Israeli civilians from further violent acts of terror that were committed during the Second Intifada, a period that saw the loss of thousands of lives. The security fence has resulted in a dramatic reduction of terrorist attacks. Ramadan Abdallah Shalah, a leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist organization, admitted in 2006 and again in 2008 that the security barrier was an obstacle for the group to carry out more suicide bombing attacks in Israel.

Unfortunately, the security fence often causes hardship for Palestinians in the West Bank. We recognize that the wall is a blight on the land and impedes the ease of travel in certain locations. Yet it must also be recognized that Israel has worked to take such conditions into account. Indeed, as noted on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in 2004, the Supreme Court of Israel “called on the Government of Israel to take Palestinian humanitarian concerns further into account in the construction of the barrier, even if doing so resulted in greater security risk to Israeli citizens.” This is not apartheid. This is democracy.

Finally, apartheid created a system of government and society that stratified groups based on ethnicity or based on simply being different. Israeli non-Jews, whether Christian or Muslim, man or woman, gay or straight, young or old, Arab or Ethiopian, can all vote in

Time to suit up

“I don’t understand what I’m doing wrong,” my friend lamented to me before winter break as she curled my hair. “I go to parties, I dress seductively, and I do my hair and make-up—and I still don’t find any guys. So now, I don’t even bother trying.”

I turned my head to look at her flawless skin and I-just-threw-this-on-and-I-still-look-better-than-you ensemble. I had trouble believing guys weren’t flocking to her room.

Earlier in 2011, I had witnessed a heated debate over the merits and demerits of dressing up to go to neighborhood bars and frat parties. This particular discussion took place at an all-staff meeting for “Hoot,” the fashion magazine of Columbia and Barnard, and I had to cut the conversation short because it wasn’t about fashion trends—it was about how we, Columbia students, make assumptions about one another based on how we dress.

“Why would you dress up to go to 1020? You see the same people in class,” one staff member said.

“Um. Why wouldn’t you dress up to go out?” another staff member snapped back.

It is common to spot female students in short dresses and high heels walking around Broadway on a Thursday night. Protected by vodka blankets, they bravely saunter around the neighborhood in search of the perfect balance between sobering up in regret and taking enough photos to post on Facebook.

That does not concern me at all. As someone who once walked into Butler in high-heeled knee-high boots and a fur coat on a Saturday morning, I find nothing wrong with overdressing for an occasion. We should wear whatever makes us happy and makes us feel attractive.

My real concern is why Columbia guys aren’t expected to put in the same effort every night. Sure, they may change out of their sweatpants and put on a collared shirt and a pair of jeans to impress the cute girl sitting at the bar, but if we’re going to be fair about dress code, why aren’t guys wearing dress shoes and ties to complement the fact that our legs are probably freezing? In other words, why shouldn’t guys feel the need to dress to the nines in order to impress? For brevity, I’ll let go of the fact that they also don’t have to risk pneumonia.

I have a confession to make: Even though I spend hours every week reading fashion magazines and blogs, my most common outfit during the school year is a pair of black Lululemon leggings, a baggy sweater, and silver loafers that I bought on sale for \$20 at Aerosoles. Yes, I am a perpetrator of that so-called fashion crime known as wearing-leggings-as-pants. I once wore a T-shirt and shorts to Mel’s. I am That Girl you may want to stand



NOEL DUAN
You Write Like a Girl

elections and serve in government. Israeli Arabs in particular have done so in every parliament since the state of Israel was created. No career is outside their reach, no level of education is blocked from their path, and no freedom or right is withheld because of gender, color, or religion. This is not tokenism. This is democracy.

The debacle that has become College Walk during “Israel Apartheid Week” makes it difficult to present these and other components of Israeli history and Israeli-Palestinian relations. We are saddened that the campus has become a place to see who can shout louder, a test of who can create a more volatile and charged image. LionPAC has therefore teamed with its fellow Hillel Israel groups and other campus pro-Israel students to stress conversation, not confrontation.

Using the term “apartheid” to demonize Israel is factually unfounded and will not bring reprieve and hope to the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. It will not inform students about the complexities of life in the region. All it can do is twist images, blur narratives, and create an atmosphere of academic and intellectual dishonesty. In the very spirit of the campaign we are helping to drive, we ask all students who take interest in our respective issues to take an objective look once again. Just as we display the two flags of Israel and Palestine side by side, we reaffirm our commitment to dialogue and discussion with the goal of promoting a two-state solution to the conflict, with each side living in peace, security, and mutual recognition.

The author is a junior in the joint General Studies and Jewish Theological Seminary program. He is the president of LionPAC. This op-ed is written on behalf of the LionPAC executive board.

next to—in order to look more attractive—or stay away from, for fear of association. Neither decision offends me. We can still chat without awkwardness in class tomorrow.

When girls queue up for frat house parties, dressed as if they’re going to the club Le Baron instead of 114th and Broadway, they’re expected to look impressive. And by spending an extra 30 minutes with that hair curler or procuring the perfect red lipstick, girls are led to have certain expectations about the attention they receive with the way they look at parties. Dressing up is no longer about how you feel—it’s about how many heads you turn in one night. And maybe also how many glares from envious girls you incite in one night.

“Guys are more or less getting away with not having to be impressive anymore because they are getting attention regardless,” remarked a well-dressed male friend of mine. “When many men become less attractive because they are deadbeats, the demand suddenly shifts to the stars on campus, the good-looking, or the rich ones who don’t need to try to be attractive in other ways, like getting good grades or wearing a good outfit.”

Why aren’t guys wearing dress shoes and ties to complement the fact that our legs are probably freezing?

I recall some guy friends joking around freshman year about how good it is to be a guy at Columbia—there are female students at all four of the undergraduate colleges, not to mention female students at other schools in the city, eager for a Columbia “catch.”

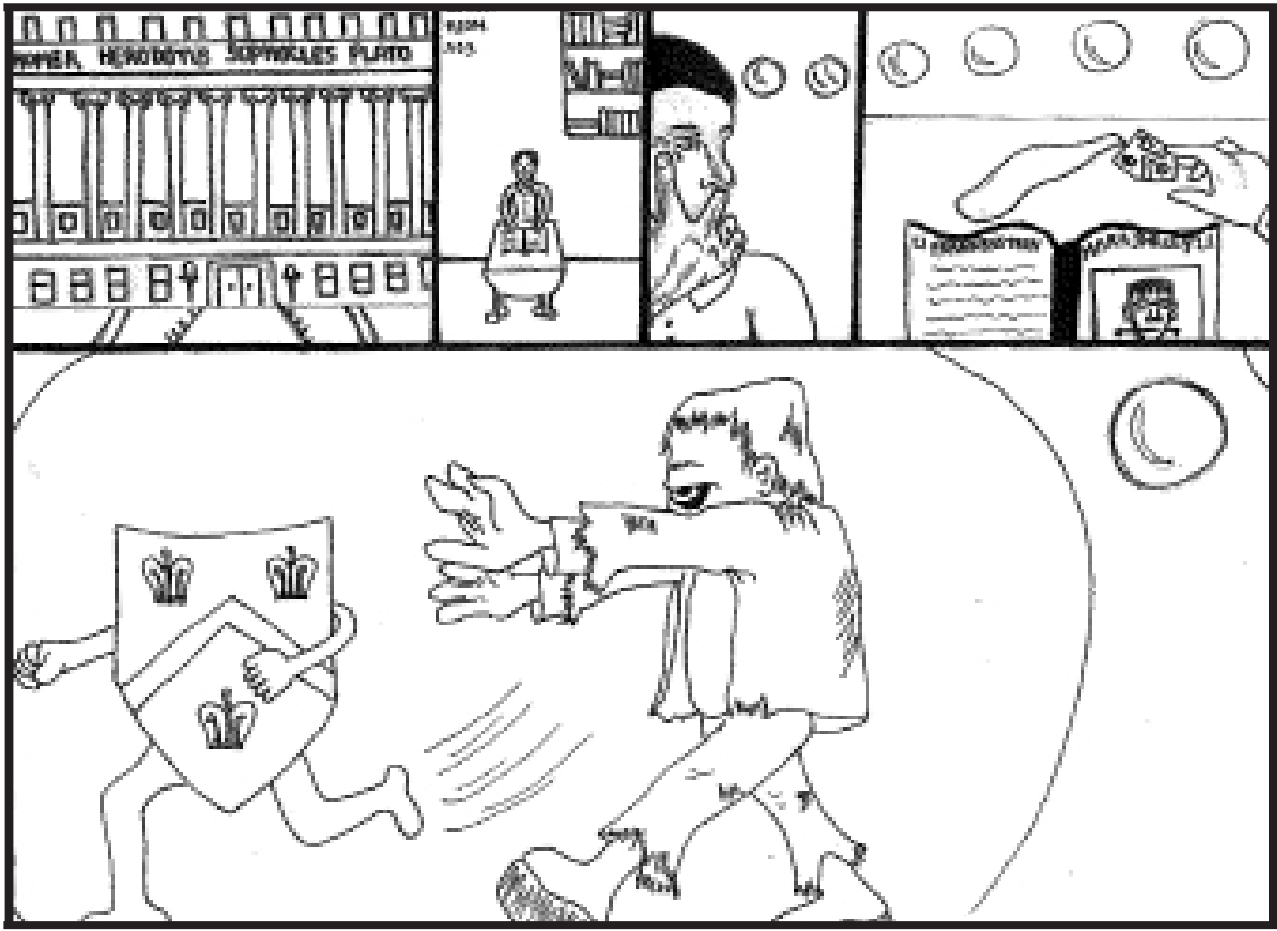
Typically, in the animal world, it is the males who have the flashiest colors to attract a mate (think peacocks). At Columbia, it is the females who wear the flashy Hervé Léger-inspired (or dare I say, knock-off?) bandage dresses and the bright lips. I wonder what the dynamic of a party would be like if girls wore jeans and T-shirts and guys wore three-piece suits. Would guys openly lament the frustration of spending the time to look good without getting any numbers?

My heels are sitting in the back of my closet and I haven’t touched them so far this year. I used to look to them for a confidence boost, but I think I’m already more sharply dressed than most of the guys on campus.

Boys, in the words of Barney Stinson, suit up. You may find your night to be more legen—wait for it—dary than you had expected.

Noel Duan is a Columbia College junior majoring in anthropology and concentrating in art history. She is currently studying abroad in Paris and is the co-founder of Hoot magazine. You Write Like a Girl runs alternate Thursdays.

BUSTING OUT OF BUTLER



ILANA SCHULDER

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere.

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8	2	9	6	3	4	5	7	1
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7	3	5	9	1	8	2	4	6
6	9	7	4	2	1	3	5	8
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2	4	8	5	9	3	1	6	7

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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Huge org.
6 Capital of India
11 Source of some Genesis attire?
14 ___ flu
15 Aromatic compound
16 Wash, neighbor
17 "Competitive business concern
19 Farm butter?
20 Big wheel's wheels
21 Crunchy candy components
22 "Done with one's stint, maybe
28 Woody
29 Fancy cases
30 Circumnavigating, perhaps
31 Deep chasm
32 Bit of horseplay
35 "Arctic racer
38 "Lewis Carroll, for one
40 Whatever
41 Isolated
43 Ken of "thirtysomething"
44 Leonardo's love
45 Notable 2007 communications release
47 "Make fit
50 Raised
51 Sign of regret
52 Striking scarf
53 Informal chat, and based on the starts of the starred answers, this puzzle's title
60 Part of a yr.
61 Licorice-flavored seed
62 Horror film locale: Aztec
63 Part of a match
64 Storage areas
65 Emotional substance

DOWN

1 Pickle
2 "Psych" airer
3 Fallen orbiter
4 Layered Turkish pastries
5 Five Nations tribe
6 Patch, as a lawn
7 Show to a test, slingly

8 Class-conscious org.
9 Muskell end
10 Poetic preposition
11 Discussion venue
12 Really mad
13 Masterpieces
18 "Untouchable" feds
21 Signs of resistance
22 Chinese green tea
23 Ode's counterpart
24 Only mo. that can begin and end on the same day
25 Like universal blood donors
26 Bail-and-switch, e.g.
27 Word on a boondocks towel?
29 Tony winner
31 Decorate
32 Double-time dance
33 Nitrogen compound
34 Heredity unit
36 Dorm room accessory
37 Morlock prey

39 "Piece of cake" divider
44 First or financial follower
45 Barbados, e.g.
46 Stopped gradually, with "out"
47 Kept in touch
48 Core
49 Havens
50 Patio parties, briefly

53 Word of annoyance
54 Game with Reverse cards
55 "Her name was Magill, and she called herself ___": Beatles lyric
56 It's illegal to drop it
57 Sitter's handful
58 Düsseldorf direction
59 High degree

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ADAS	IFNOT	DRIB
SURE	DROVE	RILE
SMEET	AURAL	AND
MARSH	MALLOW	GUN
AKC	COP	ONICE
POOCH	RAZZ	NED
UPDO	SEAMIER	
FENDER	BENDERS	
JOGGING	LETS	
LGA	WOOD	BYFAR
ARNIE	THE	TRUINS
BOGGLE	LESTHE	MIND
ROLL	APOE	MNEST
AVEO	TERRA	CRUE
TYRO	SWAMP	HYPE

wordeditor@aol.com 63/61/12

By Jack McInturff
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03/01/12

M.F.A. grad’s ‘Girlchild’ proves complex, poetic

BY ALLEN JOHNSON
Columbia Daily Spectator

With her first novel, “Girlchild,” Columbia M.F.A. graduate Tupelo Hassman proves herself to be a welcome new voice in literary fiction. Told through a series of vignettes that slowly builds an impression of the Calle, the rundown Reno strip where heroine Rory Dawn lives in a trailer with her mother and grandmother, “Girlchild” succeeds in creating an atmosphere of abject desperation. Rory Dawn is an abnormally bright girl living in the slums and endowed with a strong voice and a moral compass: “I can hear all I want about sex, drugs, and rock ‘n’ roll on the playground, but only the Girl Scouts know the step-by-steps for limbering up a new book without injuring the binding,” Hassman writes. While the setup appears to be that of a conventional underdog narrative, through the exacting and almost disinterestedly critical first-person account, Hassman creates a situation in which the reader is hard-pressed to anticipate any sort of escape from the squalid living conditions.

The novel flips between scenes, spirals through narratives, provides partial histories, and fills them in later, if at all.

While the content of the work passively be- moans the entrapping whirlpools of poverty, Hassman keeps the reader’s interest through her circular format. Time seems to move laterally. The novel flips between scenes, spirals through narra- tives, provides partial histories, and fills them in later, if at all. You can’t get out of this time, and you can’t escape the Calle. Full of clever word choice and turns of phrase, Hassman can turn a sentence on its head in a way that brings the whole vignette full-circle. Take, for instance, the section titled “jaywalk”: “Mama makes false starts across the Calle’s single strip of busy pavement, the one that separates the Truck Stop from Hobee’s. She waits for the delivery trucks and lost tourists to roar past, and when her turn comes she pauses for balance and to check di- rection. And on some nights that direction doesn’t point toward home but right back inside, where the neon flows warmer and the only balance that’s worth a good goddamn is the one on her bar tab.” The logic of the vignettes is self-affirming. Hassman creates these insular word-trinkets to work both as singular entities and as steps in a farther-reaching trajectory, a hope for a better future that is never quite in sight. “Girlchild” is not a light work. It deals with un- pleasant themes in a rather blatant way, but by man- aging to present both a poetic and realistic view of Rory Dawn’s youth, Hassman creates an unsettling atmosphere that sticks with the reader.

arts@columbiaspectator.com



CHRISTOPHER NAVARRO FOR SPECTATOR

EXPOSED | David Beal and Max Nelson, both CC ’15, are co-editors of the newly published quarterly film journal “Double Exposure.”

Students debut quarterly film journal on Tumblr

BY CHARLOTTE MURTISHAW
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

It’s common knowledge that the majority of NSOP friendships lead to one week of con- veniently having someone to eat breakfast with and four years of awkward waves on College Walk. But when David Beal, CC ’15, noticed the Cheshire-like orange cat on fellow first-year Max Nelson’s T-shirt, a motif from the 70’s Japanese horror film “House,” a different kind of friend- ship was born. “I saw him wearing that shirt,” said Beal as he gestured to Nelson. “And I said, hey, I know that movie. And we started a film journal.” Thanks to their first-semester recruitment push—“pretty simple boring things, like sending emails to department heads,” Beal said—the co- editors in chief were able to publish the first issue of their quarterly journal, “Double Exposure,” at the beginning of the semester on Tumblr. Entirely student-produced, the periodical boasts reviews, features, and interviews with filmmakers. “There wasn’t really an outlet for the scholarly

yet accessible discussion of film that was student- based,” Nelson said. “And it came together so beau- tifully—I mean there was that chance encounter which sparked the whole thing, we got an ... amaz- ing staff which came together totally serendipiti- ously but is just a fantastic group of people, won- derful writers. It’s really become a film-viewing community.” As film aficionados, the two naturally gravitated toward each other. “We wanted to establish an- other kind of outlet for the discussion of movies that wasn’t really related to or wasn’t tied to the film department, or to the existing film festivals, or film production society,” Beal said. The publication aspect of “Double Exposure” features articles about both professional produc- tions and on-campus happenings. Nelson said he would like to be more involved with student film- makers, but at the same time, he said, “We’re really working on establishing ourselves as a journal who can get in touch with high-profile directors.” In their first issue, they featured Canadian filmmaker Guy Maddin, known for his film and TV shorts, and D.J. Caruso, the director of “Disturbia.”

Nelson and Beal also said that one of their main goals is to bridge the gap between viewers of commercial film and more obscure niche cinema, an effort Nelson termed “evangelical.” “One thing that’s important to us is to continue to highlight filmmakers who we feel may be very well-known and established inside of film circles, but who the average film fan doesn’t follow,” Nelson said. “Some of these filmmakers are very accessible and speak about things that people can relate to.” Beal and Nelson hope to run the journal in print once they get officially recognized by the Activities Board at Columbia and are eligible for funding. Some other long-term goals are holding film screenings and discussions. Beal echoed Nelson, reiterating the community aspect that “Double Exposure” is trying to cultivate on campus. “We’re all friends. And we want to be friends with everybody that loves movies, and loves to hate movies, and loves to love them. And if you’re none of the above, we’d like to convert you,” Beal said.

arts@columbiaspectator.com

Barnard alumnae reflect on past traditions, college years with ‘D for Devotion’

BY JADE KEDRICK
Columbia Daily Spectator

Two Barnard alumnae took a personal message public with an art exhibit on display in the Diana Center: D is for Devotion, a homage to Barnard and some young alumnae’s experiences there. Co- curated by Alicia Mountain, BC ’10, and Emma Quaytman, BC ’11, the exhibit features pieces from alumnae Debbie Grossman, BC ’99, Lizzy De Vita, BC ’08, Anuva Kalawar, BC ’10 and three other artists, including a School of the Arts and School of Continuing Education alumnus. “We kept turning to our experiences at the college, though those recollections spoke little to questions of the future.” —Alicia Mountain, BC ’10 and co-curator

Mountain and Quatyman developed the proj- ect in response to the solitude they felt after graduating from Barnard. They said that they were “out on their own” for the first time, and began to ask themselves where they were going in their lives. “We kept turning to our experiences at the college, though those recollections spoke little to questions of the future,” Mountain said in an email. For Mountain, “The exhibition explores the notion of an authentic self and the ways in which we search for it.” The obscure name of the exhibit comes from a hundred-year-old book the curators found in the Barnard archives called the “Mysteries Book,” which was once handed down from class to class. Around 30 years ago, first-year Barnard students went through a sort of hazing by their sophomore peers. Once the first-years survived the initiation rituals, they would inherit the “Mysteries Book.” The title, “D for Devotion,” comes from a lyric of a rhyming poem in the book that expresses the witticism and camaraderie of the previous Barnard classes. The show exhibits a few pieces from each artist. Located in the Louise McCagg Gallery



HANNAH MONTOYA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DEVOTED TO BARNARD | “D for Devotion” in the Louise McCagg Gallery integrates the glass wall and its copper lines into the exhibit’s layout.

in the Diana Center, the space has a large glass wall which could be difficult for housing an art exhibit. The curators said in a statement that they wanted to work with the wall because of the important role they felt the Diana Center plays in Barnard student life, calling it “an archi- tectural manifestation of the shifting identity of the institution.” They used the copper lines in the wall and the building’s sight-lines to position the photo- graphs featured in the exhibit. They also posi- tioned a piece that involves a lamp in one of the darker corners to contrast the sun. The goal of

the exhibit, they said, is to retain a modern feel while embodying the history and heritage behind the “Mysteries Book.” One of the first pieces that viewers see upon entering the exhibit is a seemingly simple hand- written letter on blue paper. Quaytman explained that the artist, Grossman, had created this piece as a note from her deceased mother to herself. The first line, in fact, reads along the lines of “I’m sorry that I died.” The artist took tons of papers and letters that her mother had written her in the past and cut out the separate words and let- ters to compose the letter, still in her mother’s

handwriting. By making the focus of the exhibit extremely personal, the curators picked all of the pieces in the show before they had completely solidified the theme. “We had both done curating shows that were theme-based. It narrows the type of work that you can put in the show,” Quaytman said. Both said that they hoped the exhibit will serve not only as a tribute to the college, but as a testament to Barnard’s alumnae and their continued connection to the school.

arts@columbiaspectator.com

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

KATIE MEILI



COURTESY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS / GENE BOYARS

GOLDEN STROKES | Junior Katie Meili was named Most Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet after winning the 200-yard breaststroke with a record-breaking time of 2:20.40 at the Ivy League Championships on Saturday. Meili helped lead the team to a very successful 8-1 overall and 6-1 Ivy record this year.

Depth of talent lends high hopes to Lions

SWIMMING from back page

who is fifth in the 100-yard back with a time of 50.20. Koll has the potential to make a large impact, given his past achievements and his improving times this year.

The Light Blue has the most depth in the 50-yard freestyle, with three swimmers in the top ten. Freshman Stanley Wong has a time of 20.61 seconds for

fourth-fastest, freshman Daniel Gosek has a time of 20.75 seconds for seventh, and freshman Alex Ngan rounds out the group with a time of 20.83 seconds for tenth.

The last time the men’s swimming and diving team won the championships was back in 1989. Even with the loss of standouts Adam Powell and Hyun Lee from the class of 2011, the team believes its depth gives

it a good chance of a strong finish. The meet begins with a preliminary round at 11 a.m. on Thursday and six finals that night: the 200-yard freestyle relay, the 500-yard freestyle, the 200-yard individual medley, the 50 yard-freestyle, the one-meter dive, and the 400-yard medley relay. At that time, the winner of the dual-meet season in the Ivy League, Princeton, will also be crowned.

Rejuvenated Columbia baseball goes back to basics

BASEBALL from back page

job of establishing himself. We’re looking for him to come out and lead by example.”

Another key to victory for the Lions this weekend will be sticking to fundamentals.

“We’re facing a team that likes to run. They play a lot of small ball,” Boretti said. “So

we’ve got to do a good job of taking care of the baseball—making the routine plays and not giving any extra outs to a team like this.”

Last year, The Citadel stole 93 bases on 114 attempts in 56 games. By comparison, Columbia stole 56 out of 73 in just 44 contests. Either way, both teams will be looking to

run early, and often. Offensively, Lions batters will need to be patient in order to put themselves in position to get good hits.

“I’m hoping we have a bunch of guys that come through and have good at bats,” Boretti said. “As long as we make pitchers work to get good pitches to swing at, good things will happen.”



FILE PHOTO

SWING AWAY | Columbia will hit the road for its season opener. Coach Boretti is pushing a return to simplicity for a team that’s coming off of a disappointing underperformance in 2011.



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EVENT MANAGEMENT
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Super fan still cheering, 67 years after graduation

With Harvard coming to town needing a win to stay alive and rumors of Jeremy Lin possibly attending Friday's game swirling, it would be understandable if you didn't notice the man sitting at the very far end of the Lions bench. But if you do manage to get into the sold-out game tomorrow night, take a moment to see if you can spot him. His name is Jerry Sherwin, CC '55, and he hasn't missed a Columbia men's basketball game—home or away—in over 20 years.

While I bump into Jerry at least once a week and have talked to him many, many times, I finally got a chance this past Monday to sit down and hear what it's like to be Columbia basketball's biggest fan.

Sherwin has been involved in many different aspects of the University since his graduation. He is currently a University Senator and a former president of the Columbia College Alumni Association. But he is most involved with the athletics program. In addition to attending every men's basketball game, Sherwin also sits in on most basketball practices and attends most of the home football games. Every Spectator writer who has covered the men's basketball team has met him—during the week, it's not unlikely that you'll find him just outside the basketball office on the third floor of Dodge.

While his attendance streak began in the early 90s, he has been intensely following the team since his time at Columbia. As an undergraduate, Sherwin was one of several managers for the team. After his graduation, he continued to attend home games and would travel to some of the away games with a group of alumni. It wasn't until several years after his graduation that Sherwin got serious about traveling to all of the games. He went to most of the games in the 60s, almost all of them in 70s, and started traveling with the team in the 80s. Now, he's a regular fixture on their bus.

His name's Jerry Sherwin, CC '55, and he hasn't missed a Columbia basketball game—home or away—in over 20 years.

When asked about the most memorable game he's seen, Sherwin hesitated a moment before answering, "The playoff game against Princeton back in 1968." Sherwin described the atmosphere surrounding the team's win as "surreal" because of all the unrest on campus. The Lions won the playoff against the Tigers to make it to the NCAA tournament, where they got knocked off in the second round by Davidson.

Another game that stood out for Sherwin was a 1976 matchup at Rutgers. Led by arguably the best point guard Columbia has ever seen, Alton Byrd—who leads all Lions with a career 526 assists—the Light Blue easily defeated a strong Rutgers team, 85-75.

"This was a very good Rutgers team and we wiped them out," Sherwin recalled. "We came back to campus and people were actually greeting the bus and cheering us. The next time that happened, with all that, was when we broke the famous football losing streak." He was referring, of course, to the infamous 44-game winless streak sustained by the football team from '83 to '88.

(Can you imagine that happening now? If the Light Blue had somehow upset UConn to open the season, would they have been greeted by screaming fans when they got back to campus? I would hope so, but probably not.)



MICHELE CLEARY

I Can See Cleary Now



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GOING ALL-IN | Swimmers hope to post personal bests and place well at the Ivy League Championships in Princeton, N.J., after going through a relaxed practice regime for the last two weeks in preparation for the meet.

Light Blue heads down south to open season in warm weather

BY MYLES SIMMONS
Spectator Staff Writer

Though uncharacteristically favorable weather has allowed the baseball team to practice outside much more than usual this winter, the Lions are starting the season in Charleston, S.C. for their annual preview of real baseball weather.

But the schedule-makers know best, and the baseball team is instead down in Charleston, S.C., to face off against The Citadel for its first four games of the season—the first on Thursday, a doubleheader on Saturday, and the last on Sunday afternoon.

Last year, Columbia began the season in the Bright House Invitational at Stetson University in DeLand, Fla., and won two out of the three games it played there. The Lions are set to improve upon last season's results,

according to head coach Brett Boretti. "I think we're excited," Boretti said. "We've had a good preseason and we're ready to get underway."

One factor that will impact the Lions down south will be the change in field conditions.

"Going from playing on the turf to playing on grass—we've got to do a good job of getting used to it quickly," Boretti said.

Named Ivy League Pitcher of the Year as a sophomore and coming off of another strong season last year, senior Pat Lowery will get the start on opening day. Lowery owns a career ERA of 4.02 along with 101 strikeouts in his three years on the team.

"Pat competes very well. He's been our number one for the past couple of years," Boretti said. "He's done a good

SEE BASEBALL, page 7



FILE PHOTO

TOP OF THE MOUND | The baseball team will return 2010 Ivy League Pitcher of the Year Pat Lowery to the mound for the season opener on Thursday.

Lions riding current of success into Ivies

BY ERIC WONG
Spectator Staff Writer

After compiling a regular-season record of 7-4 (4-3 Ivy), the men's swimming and diving team is heading to the 2012 Ivy League Championships in Princeton, N.J. The team will bring 17 athletes to compete over a three-day span, from March 1 to 3.

Many of the freshman swimmers, who have been leading the team all season and compiling wins, have times that place them in the top 10 in the Ivy League this season. Setting the pace is freshman David Jakl, who is seventh in the Ivy League for both the 100-yard and 200-yard fly, with times of 49.65 seconds and 1:49.19, respectively. Jakl is also ninth in the league for the 200-yard back with a time of 1:51.04.

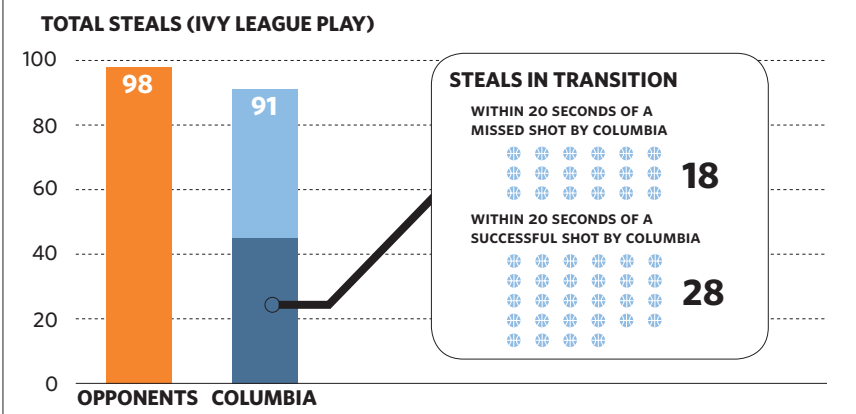
Each year, the team is split into two groups: one that competes in the ECAC Championships—where the men's team finished in fourth out of 20 teams last weekend—and one that goes to the Ivy League Championships. The strong performance of the 14 swimmers at the ECAC has further excited the other 17 about the opportunity to put their own talents on display, according to head coach Jim Bolster.

"The guys that are swimming at Ivies are going to say, 'Wow, look at those guys. I trained with them. Look at how they shaved. My turn is coming this weekend—I can't wait,'" head coach Jim Bolster said.

Other swimmers with top-10 times include freshman Jeremie DeZwirek, who is sixth for the 200-yard back with a time of 1:49.19; first-year swimmer Dominik Koll, who is in the top eight of the 200-yard free with a time of 1:39.66; and freshman Omar Arafa,

SEE SWIMMING, page 7

COLUMBIA'S STEALING PERFORMANCE



GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

Poor shooting for Columbia carries over to defensive side

BY HAHN CHANG
Spectator Staff Writer

As the Columbia women's basketball team wraps up its 2011-2012 season, a central theme has emerged: Offense is its best defense.

While the Lions have been outgunned by their opponents by an average of 13.7 points per game this season, their issues controlling opposing teams' shooting is matched by the difficulty of mastering their own. "I think the key is that it always goes hand in hand. If you are not shooting a high percentage or not getting more offensive rebounds, or committing more turnovers, that puts your defense in a more stressful position," head coach Paul Nixon said.

The Light Blue is currently tied for seventh place in the Ivy League in field goal percentage, hitting only 34.4 percent of its attempts. This has put pressure on the team's defense to make stops in transition.

In an interview after the Light Blue's loss against Penn on Feb. 18, Nixon said, "When you miss that many shots, your team is playing transition defense over half the time. Any coach would tell you that it is easier to play set defense, and any coach would say that they would rather play [against] a transition defense than a five-man defense."

During Ivy League play this season, Columbia has only snagged 18 steals within 20 seconds of a Light Blue missed shot. However, within 20 seconds of converting a field goal—when all

five players are able to get set defensively—Columbia has managed 28 steals.

"If we can't make our shots, it puts a lot of pressure on our defense. The vast majority of our steals are after we score and they have to go up against all five of us," Nixon said after the Penn game.

Part of Columbia's success in its set defense has been its natural athleticism and success playing in high-tempo situations.

"It gets down to making layups and making good decisions," sophomore forward Courtney Bradford said. "We are a quick team."

"It all goes back into us putting the ball in the basket. That is the name of the game."

—Paul Nixon,
head basketball coach

Despite that quickness, the Lions have found themselves disadvantaged defensively when they need to hustle back to the other side of the court after a Light Blue missed field goal.

"It all goes back into us putting the ball in the basket. That is the name of the game," Nixon said.

Another stark contrast for the Light Blue has been the difference in its transition play between victories and defeats. In Columbia's three victories this season, the Lions have been

SEE WOMEN'S IN FOCUS, page 3

SEE CLEARY, page 3