

Common App may use plagiarism website

BY CONSTANCE BOOZER
Spectator Staff Writer

Starting in the 2012-2013 cycle, admissions officers might not be the only ones reading applications to Columbia.

The Common Application, which Columbia now uses, is considering a service being marketed by Turnitin.com to check for plagiarism on college application essays.

Rob Killion, executive director for the Common Application, said that the Common App's board of directors is still researching the possibility and will not reach a decision for at least another year.

"My Board of Directors has made no decision to implement this program since they are still researching the issues involved," Killion wrote in an email. "Were they to implement such a feature, it would not be for the next admission cycle starting this summer."

Killion added that it has not been determined whether the Turnitin product would become a mandatory element for schools using the Common App.

That has implications for Columbia, which had been the last Ivy League school to exclusively use its own application but switched to the Common App this past admissions cycle.

A University spokesperson said he could not comment for the admissions department.

Jeff Lorton, product and business development manager for Turnitin for Admissions, said that Turnitin started hearing about the need for this type of product in 2003.

"An anesthesiology program contacted us because they had three personal statements that were exactly the same," he said.

In a survey of application essays from around the country, Turnitin found that 36 percent of essays had significant matching text, meaning that more than 10 percent of their text matched other text that was not their own. Penn State University's MBA program, which currently uses Turnitin, found that 29 of its 368 applicants had significant matching text in their admissions essays, which Lorton called a "plagiarism perfect storm."

"During that same time, Brigham and Women's Hospital, the teaching hospital for Harvard, contacted us. In their outside research, they found

SEE PLAGIARISM, page 2

PROTEST WALK



CHRISTINA PHAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CHECKPOINT | Members of Students for Justice in Palestine staged a mock checkpoint on College Walk yesterday. During the demonstration, students posing as Israeli soldiers stopped students posing as Palestinians with cardboard guns.

Med School to use Jeopardy's Watson for symptom tracking

BY HENRY WILLSON
Spectator Staff Writer

Watson, the "Jeopardy"-winning computer system, was named for IBM founder Thomas Watson, not for Sherlock Holmes' famed right-hand man.

Yet Dr. Watson might be proud of his 21st-century namesake, as researchers at Columbia University Medical Center are working to adapt his technology into a tool to assist physicians and diagnose patients.

The researchers are working with IBM to create a virtual assistant that could help doctors to diagnose and potentially treat patients, which medical students and residents at CUMC will begin testing in as little as three to six months.

Watson processes questions in natural language by analyzing the contexts in which the key words in a question most frequently appear. According to Dr. Herbert Chase, a professor of biomedical informatics who is working on adapting Watson, this same process can apply to medical diagnosis with the aid of a database of medical terms.

You can give the system "four seemingly unrelated symptoms, and Watson can figure out that those four appear with the highest frequency in a paragraph

that has the word Lyme disease," Chase said.

Chase envisions a role for Watson in alleviating pressure on physicians, who are often strapped for time in managing the many uncertainties of each patient's condition.

"The idea that Watson ... can actually go find those pieces of information that are going to have a major impact on your patient's life—it's the holy grail."

— Dr. Herbert Chase,
professor of biomedical
informatics.

"If we simply give the doctors answers, their practice will improve," Chase said.

Watson may also be able to assist in determining the best

treatments for individual patients as well. Treatment decisions are particularly challenging for physicians, with enormously complex factors influencing what procedures or drugs are best for each patient.

Chase even hopes the Watson technology will be able to extract useful data about side effects from the vast world of patient-submitted information on blogs and discussion boards.

"A physician does not have the capacity to crunch all that data," he said.

Medical school curricula could also feel the effects if the Watson technology becomes widespread, allowing a paring down of the tens of thousands of terms students must memorize. Chase described it as encouraging future physicians to "spend a little less time memorizing and a little more time analyzing."

Noémie Elhadad, an assistant professor and specialist in natural language processing, said Watson's power is the product of a new approach to computational linguistics that's become prevalent in the past two decades, in which computers use statistical analysis to learn for themselves.

But some challenges remain in applying Watson to a clinical context.

"The clinical domain is

completely different from a game," said Elhadad, citing the obviously greater expectations of certainty and accuracy.

"You want the physician to trust the system, so you don't want a black box," she said, noting that the computational methods for determining a likely diagnosis and explaining that choice can often be different.

Chase also expressed concern about preventing Watson from getting in the way of the doctor-patient relationship.

"It's a very personal, private activity, and so it's not clear in my own mind how this is going to work," he said, referring to the consultation between doctor and patient.

Both Chase and Elhadad emphasized that Watson would serve as a resource to help process the enormous complexity of modern medicine, while leaving decisions in the hands of physicians and patients. With Watson, "You have now a pool of experts, and one of them happens to be a machine. ... It's not like machine against humanity," said Elhadad.

"The idea that Watson ... can actually go find those pieces of information that are going to have a major impact on your patient's life—it's the holy grail," Chase said.

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Awards dinner honors CC alumni

Ghanaian banker is first African recipient

BY LEAH GREENBAUM
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

At the John Jay Awards dinner on Wednesday night, honoree Kenneth Ofori-Atta, CC '84, said Contemporary Civilization helped him fall in love with his wife.

Ofori-Atta, the first African ever to receive the award, said he spoke over the phone to his wife Angela nearly every day for six months before they met in person.

"One falls in love with somebody's mind and there's no going back. That's what Contemporary Civilization will do for you," the chairman of Databank Financial Services Ltd., joked.

Other award recipients also sang high praises for the Core Curriculum at the fundraising dinner for the John Jay National Scholarship Program, an award program that honors high-achieving first-years.

Ofori-Atta, Andrew F. Barth, CC '83, a Columbia wrestler and an investment banker, Alexander Navab, CC '87, also an investment banker, Michael Oren, CC '77, the US ambassador to Israel, and Elizabeth Rubin, CC '87, a journalist, were honored by the College for "distinguished professional achievement."

"These are five spectacular winners. What phenomenal representatives they are of Columbia College," William Campbell, the chair of the board of trustees, told Spectator after the event.

Michele Moody-Adams, the dean of Columbia College, said the dinner raised \$1.5 million for the scholarship program.

"All of us here are very proud of your accomplishments and look forward to the day you can stand up here as recipients of this award," Moody-Adams said of the John Jay scholars and other students who made the trek to Cipriani on 42nd Street.

Leeza Mangaldas, CC '11 and a John Jay Scholar, addressed

SEE DINNER, page 2

Parents fighting charter's future move-in

BY EMILY NEIL AND
CHELSEA LO
Columbia Daily Spectator

Three schools in one building is adding up to one ongoing fight in Harlem.

A month after the New York City Department of Education decided to bring a charter school into a building currently occupied by two traditional public schools, parents said they are still planning to do whatever it takes to fight back.

In February, the DOE's Panel for Educational Policy voted to allow Harlem Success Academy Charter School I, one of five charter schools operated by the Harlem Success Academy network, to eventually expand into the M088 building on West 114th Street, which is already home to Wadleigh Secondary School and Frederick Douglass Academy II.

The decision specifically allows Harlem Success I—which currently serves kindergarten through fifth grades—to add middle school grades, with their fifth through eighth grades being located in M088 by the 2013-2014 school year. But that move is something Wadleigh and Frederick Douglass administrators say their building can't handle without someone losing out.

"We may have to go to court," said Julius Tajiddin, a Frederick Douglass parent who chairs the school's leadership team. "This will be parent-led."

According to the DOE, Wadleigh and Frederick Douglass will still have room to expand within the five-story building if their enrollment increases. But Wadleigh principal Herma Hall said that's not the case.

"I've been opposed to it from day one," Hall said of Harlem Success' move to the building. "We are totally against having anyone else coming in."

Students in the building said they had heard that additional students from Harlem Success would bring overcrowding problems.

"It's not that we're worried—it's that we're mad," Jose Mendoza, a ninth-grade student at Wadleigh, said. "We heard that they're going to take away our art class so the other kids can go in and use that classroom. If you go in and look at the hallways, it's already crowded. Now imagine a third school."

"There's not going to be room," agreed Shyheim Gibbs, an eighth grader at Frederick

SEE SCHOOLS, page 2



ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CROWDED | The school building that currently houses the Wadleigh and Fredrick Douglass schools.

A&E, PAGE 3

New Levain Bakery to sate cookie monsters

The Upper West Side bakery opens a new location in Harlem, offering its sizable cookies in four delicious varieties.



OPINION, PAGE 4

World of warcraft

Esfandiyar Batmanghelidj ruminates on a future gone ballistic.

Misery machine

Don't measure yourself against your Facebook friends' updates.

SPORTS, PAGE 9

Sole Mates

Sophomores Ferraresi and Black were roomed together by chance. Now they are not only teammates and roommates—they are best friends.

EVENTS

CU Records Lounge Night

Female artists will play an acoustic session hosted by the University's student-run record label.

Liz's Place in Diana Center, 7-9 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



31°/25°

Tomorrow



44°/38°



AYELET PEARL FOR SPECTATOR

CHOCOHOLIC | Levain Bakery recently opened its second location in Harlem, where it serves its signature chocolate chip walnut cookies and other sweet treats.

Lunar Gala starts the new year with a nod back to tradition

BY EMILY BUTTNER
Columbia Daily Spectator

For Columbia’s Chinese Students Club, hosting a cultural event means finding a delicate balance between tradition and innovation.

CSC’s Lunar Gala is a 32-year-old tradition celebrating the Chinese Lunar New Year. This year’s gala will take place on Saturday, March 5 in two seatings, one at 6 p.m. and one at 9 p.m. in Low Library. The event provides Chinese students with an opportunity to honor their cultural heritage and to celebrate what it means to be a Chinese-American in 2011.

CSC Secretary Hedan Zeng, CC ’13, sees Lunar Gala as “our celebration of Chinese New Year in the context of Columbia University Chinese Students Club.” While Chinese New Year is widely celebrated in China according to certain traditions, CSC aims to commemorate the holiday in a different way, using Lunar Gala, as Zeng said, to “celebrate the fusion of Chinese culture with American culture.” To help achieve this, CSC invites other Chinese cultural groups on campus to perform at Lunar Gala every year. Spectators at Saturday’s event will see performances by the Columbia Chinese Yo-Yo, Columbia Wushu, and Columbia’s Radiance Chinese Dance Troupe, to name a few.

Lunar Gala also features a fashion show, which showcases the latest in Asian fashion design

and further celebrates the intersection of Chinese and American cultural styles. “I think fashion is a great example of the movement that China has made, especially in this domestic sphere of the United States,” CSC President Alana Tung, CC ’12, said.

This year CSC is making a special effort to incorporate traditional Chinese culture into the Lunar Gala festivities. The Gala will include a special guest performance by a professional New York opera group that specializes in Peking opera. This sort of tribute to tradition may be an innovation for the CSC. “We’ve never actually had, at least not in recent memory, a traditional Chinese act,” Lunar Gala Co-Head Mailing Wu, SEAS ’12, said. “This is the first time that we’ve gone back in time and gotten Peking opera, and they’re really nice.”

Lunar Gala’s biggest change in 2011, though, will be its new location. For the first time, the group will host the gala not in Roone Arledge Auditorium (as is traditional) but in the more intimate setting of Low Library. Lunar Gala Co-Head Andrew Liang, CC ’13, said Roone Arledge is “a good venue, but at the same time, we figured it was time for a change.” Liang is excited about new possibilities for lighting and layout in Low Rotunda.

The Chinese Students Club is looking forward to Saturday as a celebration of culture, tradition, and originality. “Not to spoil any surprises,” Liang said, “but ... I think it’s gonna be great.”



FILE PHOTO

LUNAR LOVE | The 32nd annual Lunar Gala—taking place this Saturday, March 5—will involve dance, opera, and a fashion show.

‘Embers’ promises to burn up dance stage

BY GARNET HENDERSON
Spectator Staff Writer

Memory dances center stage in the Lerner Black Box as part of the MaMa Project installation.

This year’s production, “Embers: A Dance Work,” will be performed on March 3, 4, and 5 at 8 p.m. and revolves around the theme of memory in everyday life. The 2011 MaMa Project was choreographed and conceived by Caroline Walthall, BC ’11, with a cast of 23 dancers presented in 23 sections.

Founded in 2002, the MaMa Project is an independent program sponsored by Orchesis. The largest student-run dance group on campus, Orchesis presents a showcase of student choreography each semester. The MaMa Project, on the other hand, provides performers, choreographers, and audiences with a very different experience.

“The MaMa Project is independent of Orchesis in that it has its own production team, budget, and cast,” Orchesis chair Katie Sun, BC ’12, said. “You must apply to the Orchesis board in order to choreograph the project ... Once a ‘MaMa’ is chosen, rehearsals generally start November of fall semester and continue in the spring semester until the date of the show.”

The Orchesis showcases present work by several different choreographers with distinct casts. But the MaMa Project allows one choreographer to work with a smaller cast of dancers to create a more cohesive, focused production.

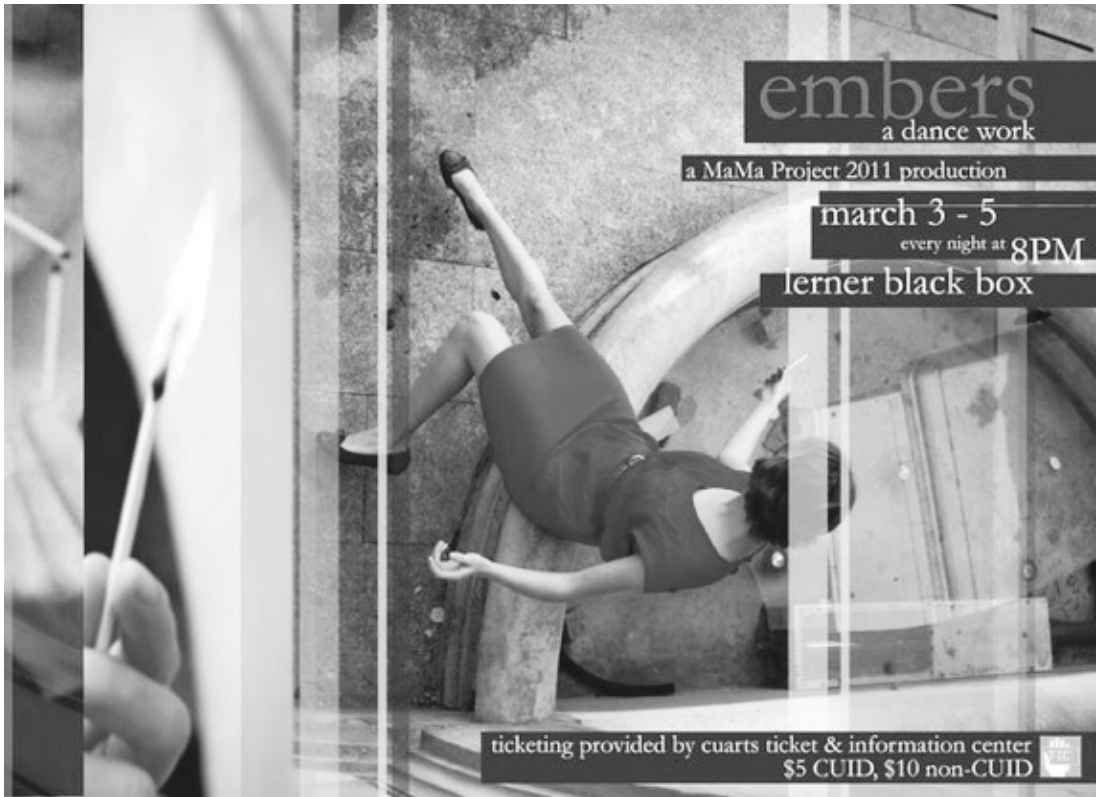
Dancer and assistant choreographer Marie Janicek, BC ’12, explained that the show “more closely resembles a traditional evening of concert dance, where all the pieces are related to a common theme or idea.” Sun

also pointed out that the Lerner Black Box venue “gives choreographers and dancers a chance to experience a smaller, more personal performance space.”

Janicek described “Embers” as a “multilayered dance theater production on the subject of memory, which looks at the ways in which intangible moments in the past find form and color our day to day life.”

While such a lengthy project requires extensive planning, it also allows more time for experimentation. Janicek said that the creation of “Embers” was “very process-based, and most pieces were constructed using very different techniques and methods.”

“Audience members can expect a wide variety of dance styles, sensations, and vibes at ‘Embers’ this weekend,” Janicek said. “It’s a complex show with lots of really innovative ideas being expressed.”



COURTESY OF ORCHESIS

“MAMA” MIA | The 2011 MaMa Project features the dance production “Embers: A Dance Work.”

Bistro Ten 18 brings New Orleans fare to Morningside

BY CYDNEY HEDGPETH
Columbia Daily Spectator

From the outside, Bistro Ten 18 could easily be perceived as another slightly overpriced Morningside Heights restaurant, but with its seasonal cuisine celebrations, Ten 18 might be the go-to place for an affordable Mardi Gras meal. For a dinner not normally found inside the Columbia bubble, students can head to the corner of 110th Street and Amsterdam between March 3 and March 8 (Fat Tuesday) for New Orleans fare.

Many restaurants alternate their menus weekly or monthly, but Bistro Ten 18 keeps up with the seasonal trends by basing their menu off American celebrations.

“We look to things that are seasonal and celebratory so that we can celebrate our culture,” co-manager Craig Skiptunis said. “If it’s something as fun and as different as Mardi Gras—and I don’t just mean the activities but culinarily speaking—we’ve got to do it.”

Because his restaurant is frequented by regulars, Skiptunis is constantly looking to surprise them with something new. Whether looking at the holiday calendar to bring Mardi Gras to New York or skimming over the farmer’s calendar to bring blood oranges to the Northeastern winter, Skiptunis is always attempting to mix up the Ten 18 menu.

“Being a neighborhood place, we have people that come in two

to three times a week, so folks are always looking for something interesting,” Skiptunis

Ten 18’s Mardi Gras Celebration will feature gumbo and sweet potato pie all week at French Quarter prices.

said. “People plan their schedule around these kinds of events.”

After an extended stay in

Levain satisfies sweet tooth

BY KATHERINE FREEDMAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Columbia students hardly have to leave Morningside Heights to eat one of Levain Bakery’s famous cookies. On Tuesday, Levain opened an outpost in Harlem (2167 Fredrick Douglass Blvd., at 117th Street)—in dangerously close proximity for those addicted to their baked goods.

The new Levain sells the same baked goods as their Upper West Side location, with the exception of sandwiches and breads. In the future, they might sell sugary treats unique to the Harlem location.

The cookies, priced at \$4 each, are about the diameter of a bagel and over an inch thick. They arrive fresh from the oven every 35 to 40 minutes, which means they are usually still warm when purchased. Four varieties accommodate all: chocolate chip walnut, dark chocolate chocolate chip, dark chocolate peanut butter chip, and oatmeal raisin. Each has its own merits, and one cannot help feeling like a mother deciding which of her children is best.

There’s a reason their signature cookie, the chocolate chip walnut, won against Bobby Flay’s version in Food Network’s “Throwdown.” The outside is a crisp golden brown, the inside is slightly gooey, and there are plenty of semisweet chocolate chips and walnuts in every bite. It teeters toward the side of undercooked, but in a good way, with all the ingredients oozing together.

There’s a reason their signature cookie won against Bobby Flay’s version.

The dark chocolate chocolate chip cookie is prepared with extra-dark French cocoa and high-quality, semisweet chocolate chips. This creation is for serious chocoholics only.

The chocolate peanut butter chip cookie is similar to the dark chocolate chocolate chip cookie, but instead of chocolate chips it has peanut butter chips. If a dark chocolate Reese’s peanut butter cup were reincarnated as a cookie, this would be it.

One might assume the oatmeal raisin cookie would be something of a runner-up among its chocolaty siblings—the one cookie that did not make it into the Ivy League of Cookies. But this cookie is just as good as the others. Rolled oats and plump raisins make this cookie the healthiest option of the four and no less sweet.

A mere 10-minute walk from campus, the new Levain will surely become a popular destination for students looking for fuel for midterms or a sweet break from studying. Even diet-conscious students have a good excuse to go—the walk back to school up the many Morningside Park stairs is sure to burn at least some of those calories.

SEE BISTRO TEN 18, page 6



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Butler or Bunker

In 1939, in the bowels of Pupin and Schermerhorn, the Manhattan Project was born. Intrepid physicists pushed the limits of theoretical science in order to master the universe at the atomic scale. Helping them in their quest were the young men of the Columbia football team, who were enlisted to ferry uranium around campus. The brains of scientists and the brawn of athletes coalesced into the world's first nuclear reactor. The enduring legacy of this project is a global nuclear arsenal of roughly 22,400 warheads, which could one day destroy civilization and make large swaths of the world uninhabitable for decades.

It seems then that what Columbia giveth, Columbia taketh away. The median mid-career income of a Columbia graduate is about \$100,000. This is a significant sum and a fine platform from which to build a life of upper-middle class bliss. And yet Alma Mater also gestated the threatening spawn of nuclear weapons, whose deployment in almost any context would make a cushy, salaried position rather unimportant. Students are therefore faced with a dilemma. Do they invest in their education and seek the future financial empowerment that a Columbia degree provides? Or do they invest instead in a personal nuclear bunker that will help guarantee their survival when the bombs do fly?

In 2000, regarded policy analyst and proliferation expert Jonathan Schell wrote a book titled "The Fate of the Earth," in which he explains the simple reality that so long as nuclear weapons exist, someone



ESFANDYAR BATMAN-GHELIDJ

C.U. in Hell

will one day detonate a warhead triggering a ballistic exchange that stands out among extinction scenarios. It's not a light read. In describing why we can't ignore the possibility of extinction, he wrote, "The mere risk of extinction has a significance that is categorically different from, and immeasurably greater than, that of any other risk, and as we make our decisions we have to take that significance into account. Every risk has been contained within the frame of life; extinction would shatter that frame." Eleven years later, depopulation has failed to move forward a great deal. The warheads lay dormant waiting for their time to shine and burn and blast and irradiate and devastate.

Consider that the possibility of extinction is a very bad thing. If we multiply the small probability of extinction against the magnitude of its undesirability, we find that the scenario has a large negative expected value. On the other hand, if we multiply the relatively high probability of getting a well-paying job with a Columbia degree by its desirability, we find a relatively high positive expected value. However, compare the magnitude of the negative expected cost of dying in a nuclear Armageddon to the rather quotidian positive expected value of working in a cushy job, and suddenly avoiding the nuclear disaster seems like the greater imperative. As Schell succinctly explains, "A fraction of infinity is still infinity."

So what are the options? A Columbia education costs somewhere in the vicinity of \$200,000. That sum is, incidentally, enough to buy an entry-level decommissioned missile silo. For just \$200,000, you can get 20 acres in the middle of nowhere, Cold War-era defense complex included. Perfect for starting a family and enduring a nuclear winter, these little complexes

ROTC: Undecided

BY AKI TERASAKI

Good evening. My name is Aki Terasaki, and I am a student of Columbia College class of 2012. I am speaking tonight in the rare position of what I feel is the least-heard voice at these town halls: I am speaking as an undecided.

Many of my classmates and professors have generated in these forums with very visible and defined opinions regarding the return of Reserve Officers' Training Corps to Columbia's campus. They have presented their reasons to the University Senate Task Force, and while I respect their opinions, I have heard their voices numerous times.

What I want to address here is what concerns me most—that is, the lack of education and communication efforts on behalf of the University that I feel has diminished the quality of discussion and has tainted the results of the poll. Voters have cast their ballots with little knowledge of the issues at hand, cheapening the value of the vote and reducing the potential for future dialogue. Without an understanding of the different arguments and the prospective outcomes, students have either voted uninformed on one of the most important and controversial questions the University has encountered in recent history, or they have not voted at all.

One could argue that as members of this community, we each have a personal responsibility to do due diligence regarding ROTC. I would agree. But I also know the reality of the situation, which is that I barely have time to do my assigned work, let alone take the time on my own to delve into the nuances of this complex discussion.

In order to combat this lack of understanding and lack of emphasis on educating members of the entire voting population, I urge a twofold actionable approach.

First, I call upon my classmates and fellow voters to honestly take the time to research the fundamental issues governing this debate. Bringing ROTC back is a complex subject that, believe it or not, will in fact affect all of us, and we would be remiss if we did not seek to thoroughly understand the various viewpoints and arguments presented. This does not mean that you must arrive at a pro- or anti-ROTC stance, but it

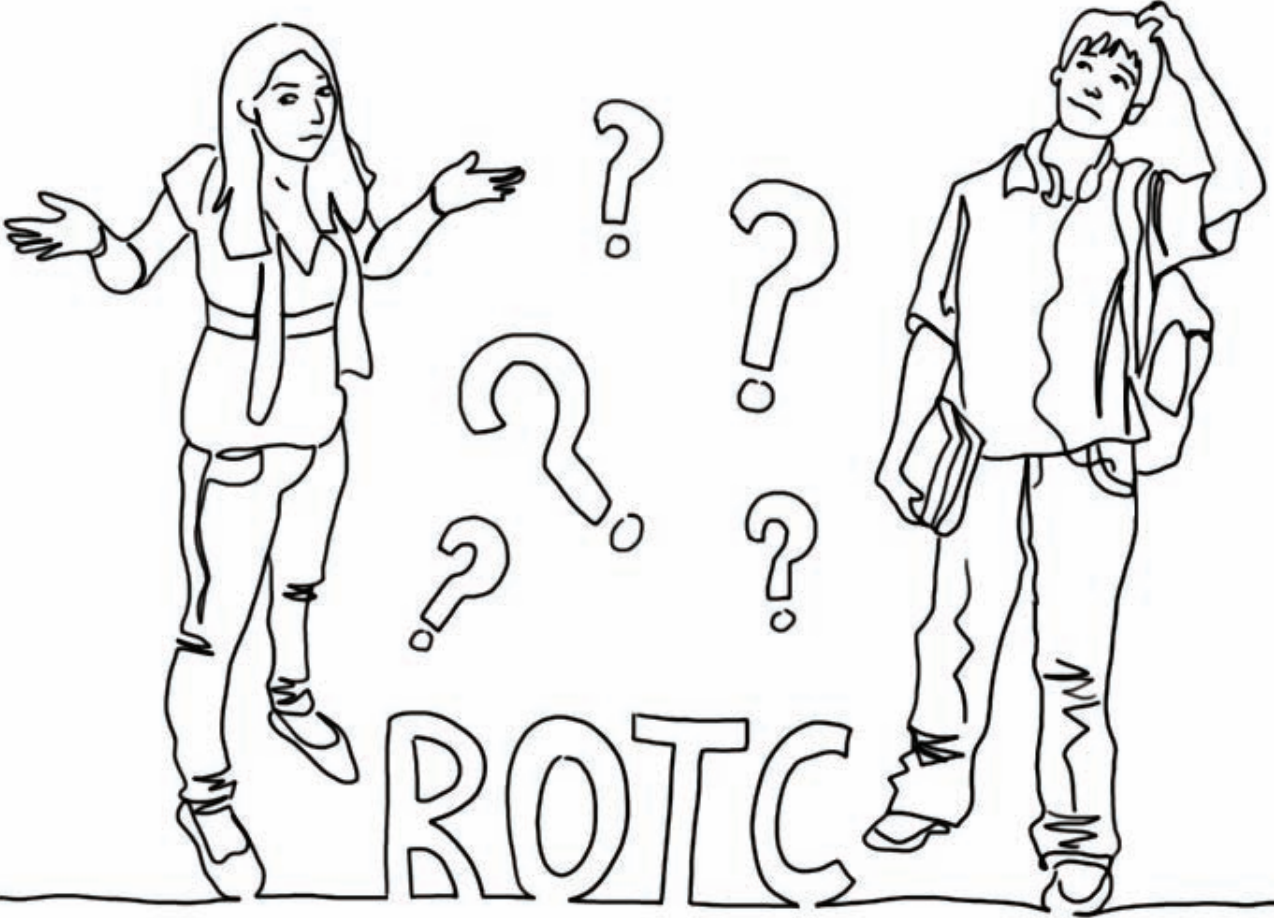
does mean that your opinion will have been one informed by critical thinking and inquisitive questioning.

Second, I call upon the task force to include in its report to the University Senate a clear and direct plan for educating the students and faculty beyond the resource guide that it have made available on its website. There have been a number of queries generated at the town halls that would benefit from answers, and while publishing facts and reports are helpful to an extent, I think that it is the task force's responsibility to ensure that the students voting in its polls are knowledgeable about the issues and can say with confidence that their opinions truly reflect a deep level of understanding. Perhaps a more valuable means of education would be a forum whereby students who would not usually involve themselves in the debate can feel like stakeholders in this process.

Students have either voted uninformed, or they have not voted at all.

I realize that since the vote has already been closed, some of my points are moot. However, I still hold that the education of the entire University is crucial to continuing the dialogue among all parties on campus—not just those who feel most strongly about their views. This is undoubtedly one of the most important questions we will address in our time here, and thus I implore everyone to stop for a moment and learn more about this discussion. Read articles in our publications, read the Senate website, and talk to your fellow classmates. This is an issue that concerns all of us, and everyone should have an equal opportunity to be a part of the conversation.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in economics. He is the president of Columbia College class of 2012 and the Columbia Japan Society.



might even be the next housing bubble. In fact, in the Adirondack Mountains, two "entrepreneurial cousins" have just converted a 1960s Atlas-F missile silo into a "luxury home with ... a contemporary finished interior," featuring amenities such as "a marble tiled master bathroom with Jacuzzi." If the \$2.3 million price tag sounds a bit steep, know that "creative financing [is] possible with significant down payment" (bubble much?). So forget finding six friends to apply to the LLC—pool your money and buy a secure future in the lap of American bunker decadence.

But if real estate speculation sounds unappealing, there is a third option. A small but dedicated band of nuclear arms experts actually advocate proliferation. The deterrence theory of nuclear proliferation suggests that the fear of retaliation, often phrased as mutually assured destruction, will prevent the use of nuclear weapons, and in fact serve as a deterrent to even conventional armed conflicts between nuclear powers. It therefore stands that a surefire way to prevent yourself from being targeted in a nuclear attack is to buy your own nuclear weapon. The National Rifle Association has used this logic successfully for years. How do you stop an armed robber? Threaten him with a gun! How do you stop a rogue dictator with a nuclear weapon? Threaten him with a nuclear weapon! It costs \$70,000 to dismantle a nuclear warhead. Just let Putin know you'd like to buy two warheads for a sweet \$200,000. Cheaper than a bunker, more valuable than an education: Ladies and gentlemen, let the arms race begin.

Esfandiyar Batmanghelidj is a Columbia College first-year. He is a member of the rugby team. C.U. in Hell runs alternate Thursdays.

Facebook and me

"Misery Has More Company Than People Think," reads the title of a social psychology article now famous in the media, picked up most notably by Slate and used to reinforce a fundamental thesis of our generation: Facebook—and, by extension, technology—is making us sadder. According to Libby Copeland, being constantly subjected to others' success in the form of status updates and glamorous photo albums causes severe pangs of social anxiety. Seeing only what our peers choose to present on Facebook makes us insecure, as we are provided with an inescapable and constant source of comparison to others.

If real, this collective nightmare of virtual self-deprecation can be particularly daunting in a community like Columbia, where we spend a large part of our four years here asking ourselves how to live up to our light blue brand and our hyper-talented peers. But that's a mindset that we shouldn't blame on social media. Facebook is a mere reflection of how its users view themselves in real life. As Spectator columnist Aarti Iyer noted in her piece last week ("Facebook faux pas," Feb. 22), Facebook is full of choices. Like any other medium of expression, it is simply making us more aware of our own individual values and thus giving us an opportunity to rethink them every now and then.

To be fair, Copeland's article hits the nail on the head in many respects—online, we are what we post. More or less knowingly, we construct personae and alter our existence in a very deliberate way. And social psychology is confirming that because we see too little of what others struggle with, we tend to overestimate their happiness relative to our own. But this "grass is greener" syndrome varies widely from person to person. Just like some have no interest in small-town gossip, not everyone necessarily pays attention to Facebook in the narrow way Copeland suggests. Some are on Facebook simply to keep in touch. Many don't even log in more than once a week. Others use it as a way to tune into the existence of friends and family who may be far away. There are as many ways to describe Facebook's function as there are users. And it is entirely possible both to feel good about the most recent xkcd comic a friend has "shared" and, as these past weeks have shown, to have healthy, rich debates about issues like ROTC.

Yes, for people prone to searching for reasons for dissatisfaction with life, these are easier than ever to find online. But Facebook is not causing that tendency—it's simply etching that particular force on our social space. Ultimately, it is up to individuals to decide how they engage with the online version of a reality they can change. Even without Facebook, a space for comparison would still exist on the Internet in many other forms. And so would the social frustrations. One thing that Facebook does besides reflecting them is allowing us to face these frustrations on a regular basis.

This is the great irony of Facebook—while it connects and constrains our identities in some ways, it also represents the peak of the Western culture of self-awareness. By giving us an audience and removing us from reality, it changes us as individuals more than it changes our relationships with others. Social media researcher Danah Boyd argues that real intimacy is not something we will find online. That only exists in the real world and relies on a mutual exchange rather than on just projecting one's identity on someone. Observing people on Facebook does not mean we know them. But it may mean that we know ourselves better through them.

The core, constant novelty of Facebook is its ability to make those who socially function within it more aware and critical of themselves than ever. Feeling sad because we do not have it as together as others is one manifestation of that. Finding inspiration in others' successes can be another. By having so much control over how we present ourselves, we often update the signposts that guide us through who we are. As Wired columnist Clive Thompson puts it, social media creates "a culture of people who know much more about themselves." Whether that makes us sad or not will always depend on the lives we choose to live outside of Facebook.

So next time a friend's post about finding her dream job gets you down, don't sulk. Brush over the insecurities and do more than courteously "liking" her status: Buy her a drink at 1020 to celebrate. You may reminisce together about the time you first got carded as freshmen. You may tipsily admit to one another that with or without a job, neither of you has a clue what you are doing in life. And you may just become better friends.

Angela Radulescu is a Columbia College senior majoring in neuroscience and behavior. She is a former Spectator photo editor. The Rookie Brain runs alternate Thursdays.

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

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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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Opinion submissions may not be less than 600 words and may not exceed 800 words; letters may not exceed 300 words and may not be signed by more than four persons. All submissions and letters may be edited for length and content.

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The Columbia Daily Spectator is published Monday through Friday during the academic year except during examination and vacation periods.

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Spectator is published by the Spectator Publishing Company, Inc.
Aditya Mukerjee, President

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Orates
7 Hourly wage, e.g.
15 Refuses to
16 Astronomy measurements
17 Engrave
18 Sea cows
19 Brief
20 Megan's "Will & Grace" role
21 Label for some Glenn Frey hits
22 Physician with a law
23 Acting teacher
25 "It ____ far, far better thing ____": Dickens
26 Wages
27 Get
28 Noodles, say
30 The Simpsons, e.g.
32 Wedding dance
34 Fabled mattress lump
35 Mai de ____
36 One of six in this puzzle
42 Some tech sch. grads
43 Top ten item
44 Sign
45 Pricey
48 Pole symbol
50 Wall St. exec's degree
51 Collar
52 "Aladdin" monkey
54 Frat letter
55 Food scrap
56 Geneva-based workers' gp.
57 Babe and Baby
59 Gjon goose egg
61 Orchard grower
63 An lamb's second half gets it
65 Noteworthy
66 Mount McKinley's home
67 Relax
68 Word with health or illness

DOWN

1 ____fi
2 Temple of the gods
3 Being filmed
4 Platoon, for one
5 Anybody's guess
6 Chateau ____
7 The Tide
8 Hank who voices many 30-Across
9 Coscort reciprocals
10 Arises
11 Groove
12 At the original speed, in music
13 Jail, in slang
14 Tests that are hard to guess on
20 Deejay Casey
22 Dept. of Labor agency
24 Spanish appetizers
29 Speed: Pref.
31 Meeting time qualifier
33 One-time Time critic: James
35 Sacred choral piece

37 Comeback
38 Solemn acts
39 Bold
40 Big 12 school soon to be in the Big Ten
41 No-seem, say
45 Hard-to-see shooter
46 "Thy Neighbor's Wife" author
47 WWII torpedo launchers

48 Some learners
49 It's beneath the crust
53 Siam neighbor
58 Actress Lamarr named for Irish islands
62 Like some mil. officers
63 Yosemite ____
64 ESPN reporter
65 Pacifantonio

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

T	A	H	O	E	N	O	F	E	E	S	W	E
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xwordeditor@aol.com 03/03/11



By Don Gagliardo
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03/03/11



KATE SCARBOROUGH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BEST BUDS | The bond of two teammates represents the general unity of the Columbia baseball team.

Two players’ connection underscores team unity

BASEBALL from page 8

move in at 7:30 in the morning, and so I know this guy means business. With the comb-over, he had everything ready, and I was really intimidated because I thought he was going to be the smartest kid ever.”

Their bond seems almost too good to be true, and hard to believe at times. Can two people actually be that close and never have issues? Sophomore classmates Lauren Monzon and Maggie Campbell, who essentially form a fantastic four with Ferraresi and Black, shed light on the baseball duo’s connection.

“There is no doubt in my mind that—unless the two of them get married—they will be each other’s best man,” Campbell said. “I have never met two people that have spent every waking—and sleeping—hour right next to each other who don’t fight. They literally do not fight about anything. It is unbelievable. From the moment they moved in together on Carman 13, it was clear the two of them would be best friends for a very long time.”

“It’s been really interesting for me to have witnessed two people grow and develop in the way they have,” Monzon said. “I’ve literally watched two people go from strangers to practically brothers. It’s refreshing, though, to know that type of friendship exists. I honestly don’t know how they existed in the world without each other before college.”

With the amount of time they spend together, people rarely see Ferraresi and Black apart on campus.

“When people see me on campus without Alex, they think something’s wrong,” Ferraresi said. “The first question they’ll ask isn’t, ‘Hey, how are you doing?’ It’s, ‘Where’s Alex?’”

The bond goes beyond just spending time with each other. They also always have each other’s back.

“When I was sick, he brought me tea,” Black said. “Sometimes I think he’s more worried about my life than I am.”

However, over the summer, the duo played baseball in different regions of the country and didn’t see each other.

“It was tough—we Skyped three times a week,” Black joked.

Ferraresi admitted that, with one exception, he doesn’t think he has ever shared a bond like this one.

“To be honest, maybe with my mother when I was an infant,” he said.

“The interesting thing about it, I feel, is that when we’re with people in a large group, we split up,” Ferraresi added. “When we’re at practice or hanging out with friends, I feel like we’re on opposite sides of the room at all times. I mean, we already know everything about each other. I don’t have to ask him about his day—I know what his day was.”

Jon Eisen, a junior on the baseball team, lives in the same brownstone as Ferraresi and Black and feels that their presence adds something special to the team.

“Whatever they’re doing, they’re always having a good time,” Eisen said. “They’re really laid-back, and if you’re ever feeling in a bad mood, all you need to do is go up to their room. Both of them always have such good attitudes—about baseball, about the fraternity, and they get along with each other so well because they don’t take anything too seriously. A lot of people around here take things too seriously, and it’s always good to be around people who enjoy having a good time all the time.”

“Our practices are really hard, and they can get really tough sometimes,” Eisen added. “And when you enjoy hanging out with everybody on the team so much, it makes even the most difficult conditioning at 7 a.m. more fun, because you have guys you can

make jokes with at all times. And Bleezy [Black] and Freeze [Ferraresi] are the perfect example of that. I think that’s really important to have guys like that around to stay motivated through the grind.”

How do people feel on the rare occasion when the two of them are not together?

“It’s kind of awkward when you’re just hanging around one of them—it’s like you’re with half a person,” Eisen said.

Monzon, however, said the situation does have its benefits.

“Sometimes it’s actually more useful to communicate with each of them individually,” she said. “Usually, if I have something serious to talk with them about, I have to pull them apart, ‘cause if not, they’ll never stop cracking jokes, we’ll never stop laughing, and I’ll never get through to them.”

Their bond is arguably one-of-a-kind, but the man responsible for the team on the diamond, head coach Brett Boretti, believes that strong bonds are a feature of the team as a whole.

“I think our team, not just Nick and Al, is really tight,” Boretti said. “The team chemistry, I feel, is good, and it’s due to all of the guys hanging out, living together. ... We have quite a few that are in the same house, that live right off of 115th—sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and I think that bonding off the field helps us on the field quite a bit. I think the chemistry’s good, and I think that we really try to stress that no one is bigger than the team, and the guys buy into that—they know they’re part of something.”

The Lions begin their season Friday at the Bright House Invitational in Florida, where they will take on Stetson, Central Michigan, and Illinois. The bonds will be there to bring the team together, and it will be no surprise if success follows for Columbia baseball.



CYDNEY HEDGPETH FOR SPECTATOR

FESTIVE FLAVOR | Bistro Ten 18 celebrates Mardi Gras with a special menu from March 3 to March 8.

South Louisiana flavor at 110th and Amsterdam

BISTRO TEN 18 from page 6

for two people to have a good, economical meal. And you can knock back a Sazerac if you have room.” Sazerac is a signature New Orleans cocktail made with whiskey or cognac and absinthe or another anise-flavored spirit.

Although Bistro Ten 18 tends

to use locally grown meats and produce, they are having red snappers shipped up especially for the Mardi Gras celebration. “We want people to be able to try stuff that isn’t offered in the area,” Skiptunis said.

Bistro Ten 18 may not be able to import the Bourbon Street craziness from down South, but at least it promises

to offer more authentic Mardi Gras fare than whatever John Jay will serve up in the name of the holiday tonight. From jambalaya to red snapper, non-Louisianans can don their Mardi Gras beads, indulge in New Orleans’ essentials, and imagine the parade floats passing down Amsterdam by Bistro Ten 18’s window.



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Friday, March 4


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Miller Theatre, Morningside campus

Miller Theatre presents the International Contemporary Ensemble with composer Mario Davidovsky. Tickets \$25. For more info, call (212) 854-7799 or visit www.millertheatre.com/events.

 **Men's Basketball vs. Yale**
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Levien Gym, Dodge Physical Fitness Center, Morningside campus


For more info, call (212) 854-2535 or email ptm2102@columbia.edu.

Saturday, March 5


 **Men's Basketball vs. Brown**
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Levien Gym, Dodge Physical Fitness Center, Morningside campus

For more info, call (212) 854-2535 or email ptm2102@columbia.edu.

Monday, March 7

 **Café Arts: Developing Filmmakers in America and East Africa**
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
PicNic Café, 2665 Broadway at 102nd Street

Speaker: Dan Kleinman, associate professor, School of the Arts, Columbia University. \$10 per person. Seating is limited. For more info, call (877) 854-2586 or visit www.cafes.columbia.edu.

 **Lunchtime Concert Series: Music by Charles Ives**
12:30 p.m.
Philosophy Hall, Morningside campus

Miller Theatre's popular concert series features the Voxare String Quartet, performing selected works by Charles Ives. For more info, call (212) 854-7799 or visit www.millertheatre.com/events.

Tuesday, March 8

 **Lunchtime Concert Series: Music by Virgil Thomson**
12:30 p.m.
Philosophy Hall, Morningside campus

Miller Theatre's popular concert series features the Voxare String Quartet, performing selected works by Virgil Thomson. For more info, call (212) 854-7799 or visit www.millertheatre.com/events.

Edward Said Memorial Lecture: Notes From the Egyptian Revolution
8:30 p.m.
417 International Affairs, Morningside campus

Speaker: Author, Abdel Soueif. For more info, call (212) 854-8443 or visit www.heymancenter.org/events.php.


Harmonic Earthquakes and Sonic Notes From the Underground Improvisation and Tremors of Transatlantic Discontent
8:00 p.m.
622 Dodge, Morningside campus

Speaker: Sarita McCoy Gregory, assistant professor of political science, Vassar College. For more info, call (212) 851-1633 or visit www.jazz.columbia.edu/events.

Lecture: The Labor of Care: Rethinking Gender, Work, and Rights in the American Welfare State
6:30 p.m.
James Room, Barnard Hall, Barnard campus


Speaker: Jennifer Klein, professor of history, Yale University. For more info, call (212) 854-2037 or visit www.barnard.edu/events.

Wednesday, March 9

 **Lunchtime Concert Series: Music by Virgil Thomson**
12:30 p.m.
Philosophy Hall, Morningside campus


Miller Theatre's popular concert series features the Voxare String Quartet, performing selected works by Virgil Thomson. For more info, call (212) 854-7799 or visit www.millertheatre.com/events.

Thursday, March 10

 **The Secret History of a Booker Prize Winner: Peter Carey's *True History of the Kelly Gang***
6:00 p.m.
523 Butler Library, Morningside campus

Speaker: Paul Eggert, University of California Los Angeles. For more info, call (212) 854-7309 or visit <https://alumni-friends.library.columbia.edu/news.html>.

Friday, March 11

 **Lecture and Stargazing: Ice Cube: Extreme Cold and Extreme Astronomy at the South Pole**
7:00 p.m.
Pupin Hall, Morningside campus

Speaker: David Fierroz, astrophysics B.A. candidate, Columbia University. Weather permitting, telescope viewing starts at 7:30 p.m. on the roof of Pupin Hall. For more info, call (212) 854-7393 or email outreach-admin@columbia.edu.

Sunday, March 13

Lacrosse vs. Cornell
1:00 p.m.
Baker Athletics Complex, 218th Street and Broadway

For more info, call (212) 854-2535 or email kcl2102@columbia.edu.

Lecture: Ancient Trees Reveal Environmental Histories
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monell Building, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Lamont campus

Speaker: Neil Pederson, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, the Earth Institute, Columbia University. Registration recommended. For more info, call (845) 365-8998 or email events@ideo.columbia.edu.

Monday, March 14

Café Science: Tree Rings and Climate
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
PicNic Café, 2665 Broadway at 102nd Street

Speaker: Brendan Buckley, Lamont Associate Research Professor, Columbia University. \$10 per person. Seating is limited. For more info, call (877) 854-2586 or visit www.cafes.columbia.edu.

Monday, March 21

Café Humanities: Human Rights in History
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
PicNic Café, 2665 Broadway at 102nd Street

Speaker: Sam Moyn, professor of history, Columbia University. \$10 per person. Seating is limited. For more info, call (877) 854-2586 or visit www.cafes.columbia.edu.

Monday, March 21-Friday, July 1

Exhibition: This Is: Tennessee Williams & Friends
Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Morningside campus

For more info, call (212) 854-7309 or visit <https://alumni-friends.library.columbia.edu/news.html>.

Tuesday, March 22

Illustration, Ornament, and Printing Processes in Joseph Boillot's *Nouveaux Pourtraits et Figures des Termes pour user en l'Architecture*
6:00 p.m.
523 Butler Library, Morningside campus

Speaker: Erin Schreiner, Avery Architecture & Fine Arts Library, Columbia University. For more info, call (212) 854-7309 or visit <https://alumni-friends.library.columbia.edu/news.html>.

Wednesday, March 23

Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America
Noon
Lehman Center, 406 International Affairs, Morningside campus

Speaker: Benjamin L. Carp, associate professor of history, Tufts University. For more info, call (212) 854-2927 or email lehmancenter@columbia.edu.

Wednesday, March 23

Franz Boas Lecture
4:10 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
963 Schermerhorn Ext., Morningside campus

Speaker: Filip De Boeck, Institute for Anthropological Research in Africa. For more info, email mp20@columbia.edu.

A Dialogue of Two Cities, New York City and Shanghai: Sustainable Development in the Age of Globalization
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Faculty House, Morningside campus

Speakers: James Wen and Yide Qiao, Shanghai Development Research Foundation; David Burney, New York City Department of Design and Construction; Xuejin Zuo and Qiuyu Tu, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences; Carter Strickland, New York City Department of Protection; Leslie Wright, The Trust for Public Land; Donald Hanna, Fortress Investment Group; and Jeffrey D. Sachs, Richard Plunz and Wing Thyee Woo, Columbia's Earth Institute. Registration required. For more info, call (212) 854-6709 or visit www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/articles/view/1877.

 **Book Launch: *Winds of Change: The Environmental Movement and the Global Development of the Wind Energy Industry***
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
1501 International Affairs, Morningside campus

Speakers: Ion Bogdan Vasi, Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs; Albert Bressand, Columbia's Center for Energy, Marine Transportation and Public Policy; Debra Minkoff, professor of sociology, Columbia University and Barnard College; Scott Barrett, Columbia's Lenfest Center for Sustainable Energy. For more info, call (212) 854-6709 or visit www.sipa.columbia.edu.

Thursday, March 24

Recursive Improvisations: The Art of Eric Metcalfe
7:30 p.m.
301 Philosophy, Morningside campus

Speakers: Naomi Beckwith, associate curator, Studio Museum in Harlem; and Jason Moran, New England Conservatory. For more info, call (212) 851-1633 or visit www.jazz.columbia.edu/events.

Creative Writing Lecture Series
7:00 p.m.
413 Dodge, Morningside campus

Speaker: Carole Maso, author, *Defiance*. For more info, call (212) 854-2875 or visit www.arts.columbia.edu.

Saturday, March 26

Lacrosse vs. Dartmouth
1:00 p.m.
Baker Athletics Complex, 218th Street and Broadway

For more info, call (212) 854-2535 or email kcl2102@columbia.edu.

Wednesday, Jan. 19-Saturday, March 26

Exhibition: Project Europa: Imagining the (Im)Possible
862 Schermerhorn, Miriam & Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, Morningside campus

For more info, call (212) 854-7288 or visit www.columbia.edu/cu/wallach.

Sunday, March 27


Lecture: Hudson River: A Swimmable Future?
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monell Building, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Lamont campus

Speakers: Andrew Juhl, Gregory O'Mullan and John Lipscomb, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, the Earth Institute, Columbia University. For more info, call (845) 365-8998 or email events@ideo.columbia.edu.

Getting to Columbia

The Morningside Heights campus is located at 116th Street and Broadway. By subway: No. 1 train to 116th Street station. By bus: M4, M11, M60 or M104.

Monday, March 28

 **Café Social Science: Sustainability in Dangerous Places**
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
PicNic Café, 2665 Broadway at 102nd Street

Speaker: Marc Levy, deputy director, Center for International Earth Science Information Network, Columbia University. For more info, call (212) 854-2306 or visit www.cafes.columbia.edu.

Lecture: Art in Italy, 1560-1570: Decorum, Order and Reform
1:10 p.m.
The Italian Academy, 1161 Amsterdam Ave.

Speaker: Michael Cole, professor of art history, Columbia University. For more info, call (212) 854-2306 or visit www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/events_calendar.html.

Monument Eternal: Alice Coltrane
8:00 p.m.
622 Dodge, Morningside campus

Speakers: Franya Berkman, assistant professor of music, Lewis and Clark College. For more info, call (212) 851-1633 or visit www.jazz.columbia.edu/events.

Monday, March 28-Tuesday, March 29

Symposium: What Does Imperialism Mean in an Age of Global Finance?
8:00 p.m.
501 Schermerhorn, Morningside campus

Speakers: David Harvey, City University of New York; Sitaram Yechury, Communist Party of India; Duncan Foley and Leo Model, New School for Social Research; Prabhat Patnaik, Jayati Ghosh and C.P. Chandrasekhar, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. For more info, call (212) 854-8443 or visit www.heymancenter.org/events.php.

Tuesday, March 29

Music at St. Paul's
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Chapel, Morningside campus

Timothy Smith, University organist will perform. For more info, call (212) 854-0480 or email ck2543@columbia.edu.

Wednesday, March 30

 **India During and After the Global Financial Crisis**
Noon
301 Uris, Morningside campus

Speakers: Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University; Prabhat Patnaik, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Y.V. Reddy, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India; and Kaushik Basu, Cornell University. For more info, call (212) 854-8443 or visit www.heymancenter.org/events.php.


Lecture: The Shadow of Light: Leonardo's Mind by Candlelight
6:00 p.m.
The Italian Academy, 1161 Amsterdam Ave.

Speaker: Paolo Galluzzi, director, Museum of the History of Science, Florence. For more info, call (212) 854-2306 or visit www.italianacademy.columbia.edu/events_calendar.html.

Lecture: The F-Word: A Celebration
7:00 p.m.
Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard campus

Speaker: Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Anna Quindlen. \$20 per person. For more info, call (212) 854-1264 or visit www.athensleadershiplab.com.

Thursday, March 31

 **Nonfiction Dialogues**
7:00 p.m.
413 Dodge, Morningside campus

Speaker: Daniel Mendelsohn, author, *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million*. For more info, call (212) 854-2875 or visit www.arts.columbia.edu.

Sites of Cinema

7:30 p.m.
Faculty House, Morningside campus

Speaker: Kaira Cabañas, lecturer and director, M.A. in Modern Art: Critical and Curatorial Studies, Columbia University. For more info, call (212) 854-2875 or visit www.arts.columbia.edu.

BASEBALL 2011

DATE	OPPONENT
Bright House Stetson Invitational (DeLand, FL)	
March 4	Stetson
March 5	Central Michigan
March 6	Illinois
March 11	South Alabama
March 12	South Alabama
March 13	South Alabama
March 14	South Alabama
March 15	Florida Gulf Coast
March 16	Florida Gulf Coast
March 17	Rollins
March 18	Central Florida
March 19	Central Florida
March 20	Central Florida
March 26	Holy Cross (Game 1)
March 26	Holy Cross (Game 2)
March 27	Holy Cross (Game 1)
March 27	Holy Cross (Game 2)
March 30	Monmouth
April 2	Dartmouth (Game 1)*
April 2	Dartmouth (Game 2)*
April 3	Harvard (Game 1)*
April 3	Harvard (Game 2)*
April 6	Rutgers
April 9	Brown (Game 1)*
April 9	Brown (Game 2)*
April 10	Yale (Game 1)*
April 10	Yale (Game 2)*
April 12	St. John's
April 16	Cornell (Game 1)*
April 16	Cornell (Game 2)*
April 17	Cornell (Game 1)*
April 17	Cornell (Game 2)*
April 20	Manhattan (Game 1)
April 20	Manhattan (Game 2)
April 23	Princeton (Game 1)*
April 23	Princeton (Game 2)*
April 24	Princeton (Game 1)*
April 24	Princeton (Game 2)*
April 27	Fordham (Game 1)
April 27	Fordham (Game 2)
April 29	Penn (Game 1)*
April 29	Penn (Game 2)*
April 30	Penn (Game 1)*
April 30	Penn (Game 2)*
May 7-8	Ivy League Championship
Bold = Home Game * = Conference Game	

Team needs to move on, focus on this season

MYLES from page 9

to separate what happened in the past and what is happening now. Yes, experience counts, but I think Coach Boretti has exactly the right attitude in recognizing that for the team—last year should stay in the past.

“I don’t worry about being in the Ivy League Championship,” he said. “You can’t do that, you focus day to day. Last year was last year—I think we had a good season and I think we put ourselves in as best a position as possible.”

I’m not going to profess that I know that much about coaching, but I do know that it’s always good to stress the present, the day to day. Especially in a sport like baseball, where you play so many games, you just can’t dwell on the past—let alone past seasons.

So although we as fans can think ahead to championship possibilities, Coach Boretti is right in making sure his players stay focused.

“The season is here and now it’s go time, get ready to play and try to compete and try to be better than the other team and try to get better every day, and if we do those things,” Boretti said. “That whole playoff and championship thing will take care of itself.”

Myles Simmons is a Columbia College freshman.

Softball boasts veteran team for '11 season

BY JEREMIAH SHARF
Spectator Staff Writer

Coming off a 15-32 performance last season, Columbia’s softball team looks to improve as it begins its season this weekend.

With 10 women returning from last year’s roster, the Lions will come into the season with plenty of experience under their belts.

The Light Blue will welcome seven new freshmen in a class filled with talent. Pitcher Prophet Gaspard begins her career as a Lion after leading her high school team to two straight Louisiana Class 5A State Championships. Gaspard—who compiled a 47-6 record during those two high school seasons, going 25-4 with a 0.98 ERA as a senior—looks to make an immediate impact on the mound this season.

Two other freshmen to watch are utility player Amy Niedzwecki and outfielder Emily Caruthers. As a senior at California High School in San Ramon, Calif., Niedzwecki hit .361 and stole 23 bases, and Caruthers hit an astronomical .494 in her junior year at Pleasant Grove High School in Elk Grove, Calif.

Meanwhile, dual pitcher and first-baseman Maggie Johnson hopes to build off of her stellar performance last season, when she batted .336—12th in the league—and was a second team all-Ivy selection. The senior also posted a .538 slugging percentage, putting her in second place in school history.

The Lions’ schedule includes two trips to Florida. One of those trips will take place this weekend when the team participates in the Under Armour Invitational hosted by the University of South Florida. The team will also be in Florida the following week to compete in the Rebel Spring Games.

Ivy League play will begin on Friday, April 1, when Columbia takes on Dartmouth at the Baker Athletics Complex.



KATE SCARBROUGH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DOUBLE HEADER | Teammates Ferraresi and Black share a room, team, frat, class schedule, and unbreakable bond.

Bond extends far beyond chalklines

BY MRINAL MOHANKA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia baseball team is a perennial contender for the Ivy League crown. It’s got what is arguably the league’s best starting rotation, some of the best hitters, infielders, and outfielders in the league, and an impressive bullpen as well. That said, there’s something else they have that teams all over the world strive for: extremely strong bonds among team members.

Take, for example, outfielder Nick Ferraresi from Florida and pitcher and occasional third baseman Alex Black from Texas. Ferraresi started 43 games and led the team in doubles as a rookie. His 16 doubles are the fourth most in a single season in program history. Black made six starts in the field and six appearances out of the bullpen. The bond they share is extraordinary and a testament to the overall team chemistry within the Lions’ baseball camp.

By chance, Ferraresi and Black were assigned to live together in Carman Hall as freshmen. Since then, very little has kept them apart. Now sophomores, they are roommates, teammates, and best friends. They share a room, a practice schedule, and an eating schedule. They also figured out how to share a class schedule. In four semesters at Columbia, they have only had one class apart from each other: University Writing (Columbia registration assigned them to different sections, and they could not change that). Fate even ensured that they took Lit Hum together.

“I think it all just clicked when I signed up for the same classes he did,” Black said. “We came in thinking we’d be econ majors, so our advisers told us to take the same classes that first semester.”

“It’s a good thing we get along,” Ferraresi added. “Things would have been really bad otherwise!”

So how did it all begin for the duo?

“We were going to be roommates, so we emailed each other before we got to Columbia,” Ferraresi said. “It was really weird, because we were really formal. We actually went back last year and read our email conversations, and it was pretty funny because we weren’t really ourselves. When I met him here, I was kind of interested to see how things would be because I had never met anyone from Texas or been there. And Alex seemed like a pretty outgoing guy, and very easy to get along with.”

Things were slightly different for the Texan.

“Coming in, I thought, I’m rooming with a kid from Florida—he’s going to be such a ‘brah,’” Black said. “First time I meet him, the dude has this comb-over and he’s looking really proper. He gets to our room on that first day you can

SEE BASEBALL page 7



ALYSON GOUDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BRETT ON IT | Head coach Brett Boretti’s Lions are strong contenders for this year’s Ivy League title, which they missed by only one game last season.

Coaching duo uses collective experience to bolster team performance

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Staff Writer

Since Coach Brett Boretti’s 2005 arrival in Morningside Heights, the Columbia baseball team has discovered success that the program hadn’t seen in decades. Since Pete Maki, Lions pitching coach and recruiter, and a former pitcher of Boretti’s, joined forces with his former college coach in 2008, the Light Blue’s pitching staff has set records and become the Ivy league’s most unhittable bunch of flamethrowers.

In the 2010 season, the Lions could almost taste victory. The Light Blue soared to the Ivy League championships, carried by the domination of its pitching staff, but proceeded to lose to Dartmouth in the third game of the series. Under the guidance of Coach Boretti, the team’s mentality is that the past is the past, the future will come, but all focus is on the here and now.

“I think we’re past that,” Coach Boretti said of last season’s disappointing ending. “I think that may have motivated us in the offseason in preparation towards this season, but now this season is here and now it’s go time. It’s ready to play and to try to compete, try to be better than the other team, and try to get better every day. If we do those things, that whole playoff and championship thing will

take care of itself.”

Boretti’s gung-ho attitude never seems to fade, even momentarily, when he speaks about his team. Once an all-star catcher in the Cape Cod League, Boretti knows how it feels to be on both sides of the coach-player relationship, and has formed strong opinions about what role a coach should within the team. For him, everything lies in the players. “It’s not about how a coach does things—it’s about how your players decide more or less whether they are going to buy into what you’re trying to do as far as teaching,” Boretti said.

One thing that Boretti makes sure to emphasize is creating intensity to the point of difficulty in practice, so that games in comparison don’t seem as demanding. “The whole idea is to make them uncomfortable in practice so that games feel comfortable,” Boretti said. “If you can get to that point, then you should have less mental errors.”

The mental game is something else that Boretti consistently stresses. A baseball player can have physical talent, but if he lacks the same mental stamina, his worth as a player is lowered considerably. Boretti integrates a “mental station” into the team’s indoor practices and has each player keep a daily journal. Mistakes are inevitable, but it is crucial that a player knows how to confront the error and

work on it constructively. “There’s so much learning as you go along in baseball,” Boretti said. “It’s almost like professional development.”

Pitching coach Pete Maki knows especially well how important this balance of development is. A Franklin and Marshall alum, Maki pitched under the instruction of Boretti for four years, and during that time, dealt with all of a baseball pitcher’s typical ups and downs. Boretti notes that those experiences have helped Maki become the successful coach that he is today. “I think as far as his competitive fire, his dealing with adversity, because he dealt with some injuries there in his playing time, and having that type of player-coach relationship with him beforehand, I had a good feel for what type of things he would bring to the table,” Boretti said. “He’s a very good teacher and I like his style of communication, because he’s not rigid. He’s not an in-your-face guy and that’s crucial to being a good coach.”

Maki has much to be proud of regarding Columbia’s pitching program. Last season, the Light Blue pitchers set a school record for strikeouts in a season with 293, and had better than a 2.5:1 strikeout-to-walk ratio—one of the best in the country. Maki has a simple philosophy when it comes to pitching: Confidence breeds success. “It’s the whole chicken-and-the-egg thing,” Maki said. “Confidence comes

before success for winning teams and winning pitching staffs. Other than that, it’s just about throwing strikes,” he said.

Simplicity is a common theme in Maki’s tactics. Overcomplicating things leads to overthinking things, and that can be a pitcher’s downfall. The two main aspects that Maki stresses are secondary pitches and pre-pitch routines. He believes that simply put, a pitcher must be able to throw strikes and change speeds in order to dominate a hitter. Regarding pre-pitch routines, Maki once again recognizes the importance of the mental game in influencing and improving what is physically materialized. “Self-taught cues before each pitch and breathing routines,” Maki said. “We do a ton on our pre-pitch routine, because what you do in between pitches largely influences what you do during the pitch.”

When all is said and done, the relationship between Boretti and Maki is still going strong, and their respect and confidence in each other creates a positive atmosphere for the team. “Part of the reason I got into coaching is because I played for someone who really loved it, was a great motivator and a great leader,” said Maki. “I think we work well together. We have different personalities, we’re different people, and I think the hybrid there on the staff serves our team well.”

BASEBALL PREVIEW

THURSDAY, MARCH 3 • PAGE 9

Tough finish to fuel CU baseball this season

Yes, it's that time again. I don't know about you, but I can hear the "smack" of fastballs hitting catcher's mitts all the way from Arizona and Florida, where the Cactus and Grapefruit leagues are getting into full swing.



MYLES SIMMONS
A Second Opinion

Spring training in Major League Baseball is always a time of new beginnings, obviously, because it signals the start of a new season. At this point, every team has an equal shot at winning a title—giving hope to even the bottom feeders of the league. Sure, the Giants are the defending World Champs, but right now even the Royals have a shot to contend. All this will change in the next few months, of course, but we've got our own Columbia baseball team to root for—especially if you're like me and come from a city where baseball isn't be particularly fun to follow. It's not like Columbia baseball is going to be a basement dweller like those Royals either. If you didn't know, our baseball team was quite good last year, taking first place in the Lou Gehrig division before losing to Dartmouth in the Ivy League Championship series. That was obviously a crushing loss, but I think there's a silver lining. An old saying goes, "Sometimes, our rewards come in the form of temporary setbacks that lead, in turn, to greater victories." I think that is especially true in baseball.

In a sport like baseball, where you play so many games, you just can't dwell on the past.

If you want an example in the majors, look no further than the Boston Red Sox. Just a few seasons ago, the team suffered a crushing defeat before eventually going on to win the World Series. In 2003, after coming back from a 0-2 deficit in the five-game American League Divisional Series against Oakland, the Red Sox took the New York Yankees to seven games in the AL Championship. In fact, the Red Sox had a great chance to win the game and get back to the World Series for the first time since 1986, but in the 11th inning Yankees third baseman Aaron Boone sent a home run flying over the left field fence. Like I said: crushing. But the following season the Red Sox were back and better than ever. Its bunch of self-proclaimed "idiots" made the playoffs as the AL Wild Card team and made mincemeat out of the Anaheim Angels in the ALDS, sweeping them in three games. Then came the epic ALCS rematch, Yankees versus Red Sox. The Yankees won the first three games of the series, making it extremely improbable for the Sox to come back and win—no team in major league baseball hisotry had ever come back from three games down in a seven-game series. Yet those "idiots" did win that 2004 AL Championship, and then went on to sweep the St. Louis Cardinals in the World Series. I don't think it's any coincidence it worked out so well for the Red Sox at that time either. With the experience gained in 2003, it wasn't like the team was playing in a completely new situation. You can't exactly say that the Yankees were in unfamiliar territory, but they were definitely outmatched in the last four games of 2004.

So what does all this recent Major League Baseball playoff history have to do with Columbia? Well, a lot, if you ask me. I know there's a huge difference between the professional and college game—the bat they use probably being the biggest one—but when it comes down to it, baseball is still baseball and experience counts. "There are a lot of returning guys who know what it takes to get to that championship game," senior outfielder Jason Banos said. "The experience of losing a game of that meaning definitely hit us hard. It gives us a little extra push coming into the season." But there's a point where you have

Pizzano focuses on personal and team growth as sophomore

RYAN YOUNG
Spectator Staff Writer

Some players make sparks in their first year with a new team. Outfielder Dario Pizzano was more of a blazing inferno—his offense helped him make an immediate impact with the Lions last year, leading to a season in which he was named Ivy League Co-Rookie of the Year. Pizzano's 12 home runs last year set a Columbia single-season rookie record as he helped lead his team into the championship series against Dartmouth. He grew more and more comfortable as the season progressed. "I was definitely surprised by how well I did, but I was expecting myself to rise to the occasion," said Pizzano. "I got hot and I started to feel more comfortable playing against Division I college pitchers. I just started feeling better at playing every day and feeling more confident at the plate." Pizzano posted a league-leading .741 slugging percentage, batted .374, and was named first team All-Ivy League for his rookie campaign. He credits his teammates for helping him and his fellow freshmen feel comfortable in their first year on the team. "We're a close team—we have really good chemistry and the seniors last year really helped last year's freshmen. We played a lot—we really had to step up and get used to that competition really quickly—and the older guys helped us out and we had a lot of fun," he said. Pizzano's success as a rookie continued into the first game of the championship series against the Big Green, when his first-inning three-run home run led Columbia to a game-one victory. He would bat .692 with six RBIs

and five runs scored during the series. However, the Lions dropped the next two games to end their season on a disappointing note. With last year's experience and adversity behind him, the sophomore thinks the Lions can be better than ever in 2011. "I feel like just being there in my rookie season and our whole team being there, we know what we have to do this year. We were right there and we got a taste of it," Pizzano said. "We didn't get our ring and our championship last year, so we know what it takes to get there, but we're going to have to work a little bit extra to overcome whoever we face." In addition to anchoring the middle of the lineup, Pizzano hopes to become a better all-around player this year as he looks to improve his defense. "I definitely want to work on my speed," he said. "I want to be more of a threat with my speed and work on my arm strength in the outfield too." Coach Brett Boretti agrees that these are attributes that his star outfielder can improve on. "He can improve on his arm strength. Actually, he does a very good job in the outfield for being a average runner," Boretti said. Boretti is thrilled with the big bat Pizzano provided last year. However, he knows Pizzano and his fellow sophomores will have to make several adjustments this season. "I think it's going to be a challenge for a lot of our hitters that were first-year players last year, because pitchers and teams make adjustments—so I think that he [Pizzano] will get pitched a little bit differently," said Boretti. Pizzano, though, has succeeded at conquering new challenges throughout



FILE PHOTO

STEPPING UP | Dario Pizzano has proven his ability to provide the Light Blue with a powerful bat in the middle of the lineup.

his baseball career, dating all the way back to his little-league days. He was a member of the New England team that made the U.S. finals of the 2003 Little League World Series, which he regards as the best experience of his life. "It's really propelled me. I did well in that tournament and I knew we were playing the best players in the world, even at 11 and 12 years old," Pizzano said. "I hit and played really well, so I felt like if I could do that well in that

tournament, I could keep excelling and get to each point I needed to get to, to keep going for the next level." Just as Pizzano will always savor his experiences at Williamsport, he is enjoying the opportunities Columbia brings with its academics, Division I baseball program, and prime location. "I think Columbia was just the absolutely perfect fit for me," he said. "I feel like I made the best decision of my life coming here."

Junior hurler key in leading Columbia back to championship series

BY TREVOR COHEN
Spectator Staff Writer

For last year's Ivy League Pitcher of the Year, the margin for improvement may seem slim, but junior righty Pat Lowery's goal for the 2011 season is concrete and clear: win the league championship. "I don't really set too many personal

goals aside from just putting the team in the best position to win every time out," Lowery said. "I'd like to do whatever I can to help us get to the Ivy Championship again, and hopefully bring it home this year." Lowery certainly did everything within his capacity to achieve that goal in Columbia's 2010 campaign. The Ancient Eight's top hurler



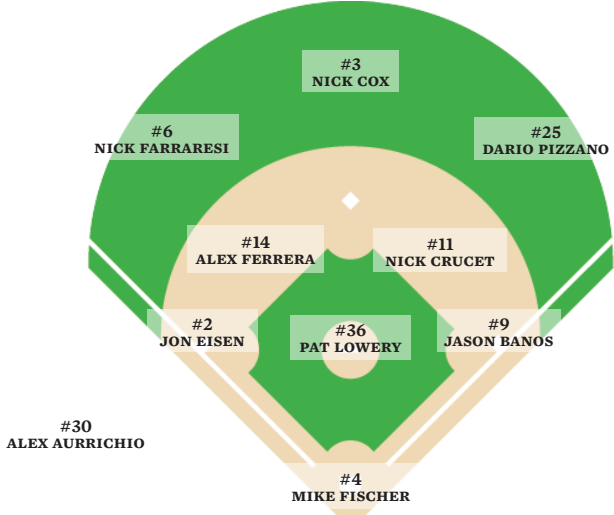
FILE PHOTO

DOWN PAT | Lowery proved to be untouchable for Ivy batters last season.

displayed both consistency across his ten starts and an extra gear in those moments that make or break a season. After winning the Gehrig Division and earning the right to face Dartmouth—the reigning league champ—in the best-of-three championship series last May, the Lions sent Lowery out to the mound nine times in game one, picking up the win on an impressive complete-game, two-run performance from their star pitcher. For the Light Blue, last season certainly had a disappointing conclusion after showing such promise. An almost identical cast returns in hopes of proving 2010 merely a dress rehearsal for this year's championship run. Each of the team's four starting pitchers is back to reclaim the title they relinquished after their last win in 2008. Lowery became the first Columbia player since 1983 to be named Ivy Pitcher of the Year last season after holding opponents to a league-best .224 clip. He also emerged as a solid workhorse at the top of the pitching staff, leading the league with four complete games and 65 innings pitched. "Pat had a very good season last year," head coach Brett Boretti said. "But I think he realizes it's last year and this is a whole new year. Baseball is a little different than other sports because of adjustments to be made on each side of it. When you're facing Pat Lowery as the other team, a lot of guys and teams have seen him one time or two times now—but I think Pat is getting in the mindset that he's trying to work hard and has worked hard to do even more this year." Indeed, rather than being rendered complacent by his stellar performance last spring, Lowery has put in the time and energy over the summer and fall seasons to improve and, hopefully, develop faster than the opposition can adjust to him. "At this point, when you're playing in college, a lot of what you have to work on is mental, and that's really been a big

part of my preparation lately," Lowery said. "This summer, I got to work a little bit on more pitching-specific stuff. I've been working on my slider a lot and I just feel like I've improved overall from last season." Coming into Columbia, according to Boretti, as a "big, raw right-handed pitcher," Lowery has since developed his off-speed pitches, boasting a slider, change-up, and forkball in his repertoire. One major loss that Lowery is sure to feel is that of four-year starting catcher Dean Forthun, a leader behind the plate and in the dugout as a Columbia co-captain and first team All-Ivy League honoree in 2010. "Dean was huge, there's no denying that," Lowery said, "but I'm definitely confident in the group of guys we got this year. They've been working their tails off." Candidates for the job are junior Mark Heil, who has been a solid back-up for Forthun the last two years, and two promising rookies, Mike Fischer and Enmanuel Cabreja. Fischer will be named the starter in the team's first game. Past defensive skill of a backstop, Lowery pointed to the importance of developing a rapport between pitcher and catcher, and is confident that he can establish a new, strong relationship with whichever candidate Boretti puts behind the plate. "I feel like there's definitely a way to create a positive relationship with whatever catcher is back there," Lowery said. "He's kind of in control—he's gotta keep me focused and he's putting down the signals—but I throw what I wanna throw, so it's kind of a back-and-forth relationship. Regardless of who's back there, it's important to get along well." With a new target, an expanded pitch repertoire, and the familiar drive for victory, Lowery joins his fellow Lions under the Florida sun on Friday, taking on the difficult task of improving on a season that left little to be desired.

2011 ROSTER



STARTING LINEUP (STATS FROM 2010 SEASON)

#	NAME	OBP	SLUG	OPS	POSITION
11	Cruet, Nick	0.366	0.373	0.739	Second Base
2	Eisen, Jon	0.441	0.473	0.914	Third Base
9	Banos, Jason	0.425	0.468	0.893	First Base
30	Aurricchio, Alexander	0.400	0.658	1.058	Designated Hitter
6	Ferraresi, Nick	0.337	0.485	0.822	Outfield (Left)
25	Pizzano, Dario	0.426	0.741	1.167	Outfield (Right)
14	Ferrera, Alex	0.366	0.524	0.890	Shortstop
4	Fischer, Mike	N/A	N/A	N/A	Catcher
3	Cox, Nick	0.368	0.460	0.828	Outfield (Center)

GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA AND ANN CHOU

SEE MYLES, page 8

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