



SARAH DARVILLE FOR SPECTATOR

EMERGENCY MEETING | Rev. Al Sharpton called a meeting at Sylvia's to discuss the fate of Governor David Paterson, who is now facing charges.

Teachers College plans model public school for Harlem

BY RAY KATZ
Spectator Staff Writer

Teachers College is in the process of developing what they hope will be a New York City primary school paradigm. And though the masterminds behind the project have a clear vision for a 2011 opening, the search for a home in northern Manhattan has yet to secure school space.

TC is working with the New York City Department of Education to develop the curriculum and structure of its new public school, Teachers College Community School. It will be "a regular DOE

school governed by DOE policies," said Joe Levine, executive director of external affairs at TC. This means that it will be allocated funding according to the standard DOE formula and will be subject to the same standards and accountability as other New York City public schools. Among other things, TC will assist the school in developing its curriculum, provide professional development for its teachers, advise its principal on staffing and allocation of resources, and build and share new knowledge with the school through educational research.

This school is coming to

fruition at a time of heated debate among education advocates regarding charter schools, which are public schools that are run by private boards, but funded in part by the DOE. Opponents argue that charters take resources and space away from public schools, while proponents say the charters—with specific missions—provide opportunities for innovation.

"We're looking to adopt features of charters that have been successful, based on research," Levine said, adding that the school, though not a charter itself, may explore charter models for the organization, staff selecting processes, and

the lengths of the school day and year.

The school, which is scheduled to open in September 2011, will be located in the area of Community Board 9, which includes TC and the neighborhoods of Hamilton Heights, Manhattanville, Morningside Heights, and West Harlem. It will serve kindergarten through eighth grade, with approximately 500 students. It is unclear whether the school will be zoned or if admission will run through a lottery system, but there will be no academic entrance exams.

SEE TEACHERS COLLEGE, page 2

In Harlem, mixed feelings on Paterson

Rev. Al Sharpton, politicians convene, offer tentative support

BY SARAH DARVILLE
Spectator Staff Writer

Harlem isn't giving up on Governor David Paterson—at least not yet.

That was the message of passive support Rev. Al Sharpton and a group of mostly black politicians sent after convening at Sylvia's soul food restaurant in Harlem late Thursday evening.

The meeting was held to decide whether or not to call for Paterson's resignation amid growing questions about ethics violations, including claims that he wrongly interfered in a domestic violence case involving a close aide.

But Sharpton emerged from the meeting, which was closed to press, emphatic about supporting Paterson's desire to finish his term as the investigations begin.

"We're going to continue to push for what's important in state government and we're not going to interfere with due process," he said.

Calling the event a "spirited discussion," Sharpton said that there was some dissent in the room but that the group overwhelmingly agreed to continue their support.

"David Paterson has not yet given his side of the story. What I'm hearing from residents of Harlem ... they're saying they support him and want him to finish the job," Assembly member Keith Wright, who represents parts of West and Central Harlem, said before the meeting.

Paterson is a Harlem native who served as the

neighborhood's state senator for 20 years before becoming the state's lieutenant governor in 2006 and governor in 2008, after Eliot Spitzer resigned amid controversy.

At least 50 members of the media waited three hours for a post-meeting press conference outside, which never took place.

Several Harlem residents who gathered around Sylvia's to watch the spectacle said that the neighborhood is not ready to give up on Paterson.

After the results of the investigation come out, "If he has to go, he has to go," local resident Gwen Gaddy said. Until then, "You got a whole lot of Democrats around here, I'm sure they'll support him."

The most recent ethics charges against Paterson involve allegations that he accepted free tickets to the first game of the World Series and

lied under oath about intending to pay for them.

But some local supporters seemed convinced that all the charges are baseless.

"He should have been invited to the first game of the Word Series—he's the fucking governor ... It's foolish," said Julius Tajiddin, a former member of Harlem's Community Board 10.

Kathleen Knight, a Barnard political science professor, said in an interview Thursday morning that the meeting also had to do with people positioning themselves for political careers.

She added, "The real question is whether it is a harm to have

"Our concern is that our community is being dealt with."

—Rev. Al Sharpton

SEE PATERSON, page 2

Columbia ahead in Ivy gender-neutral housing

BY AMBER TUNNELL AND
MADINA TOURE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Though Columbia administrators recently delayed a policy for gender-neutral housing, the University is still far ahead of some of its Ivy League peers.

Two weeks ago, the administration announced that it would not be adopting a student-written proposal that would allow for gender-blind doubles—a surprise to many of the authors who had expected it to pass.

Columbia College Dean of Students Kevin Shollenberger said that the University is considering a pilot program for 2011-2012.

Columbia already has gender-neutral suites and floors, which many institutions consider to be gender-neutral housing.

Administrators and students at Columbia have said that this option would be primarily for LGBT students who would feel more comfortable living with someone of the opposite sex. Despite negative media coverage, the proposal is not

meant for couples, they maintain.

Meanwhile, across the Ivy League, college campuses have many different conceptions of what actually constitutes gender-neutral housing. And across the nation, schools have adopted a wide spectrum of policies over the last several years—from strict restrictions to new pilot programs to fully integrated mixed-gender housing.

LEADING UNIVERSITIES

Columbia is lagging behind the University of Pennsylvania, Brown University, and Stanford University, all of which already allow for some form of gender-blind doubles. All three universities also discourage couples from using the program.

UPenn began its gender-neutral housing program in the 2005-2006 academic year. Students can live with a member of the opposite sex in a room or suite in any building.

"Participants must self-identify and make the request with the willing person who is to be the roommate," Ron Ozio, director of media relations, said in an email.

He said that in December 2009, there were 122 students—out of an undergraduate student population of roughly

SEE GENDER-NEUTRAL, page 2



Mayor Bloomberg, Barnard launch mentoring program

BY AARON KIERSH
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Mayor Michael Bloomberg's latest initiative is a bit like speed dating, but these eight-minute chats are not for hopeful singles looking for mates.

On Thursday morning at Barnard's Diana Event Oval, Bloomberg, along with Barnard President Debora Spar, announced the launch of Mentor it Forward—a new initiative designed to connect female students with female mentors—to a crowd of around 200.

Bloomberg explained that the program, overseen by the city's Commission on Women's Issues in partnership with Barnard, will provide young women of all ages with access to career and life advice. The mayor chose the Thursday launch date in commemoration of Women's History Month, and selected Barnard as the announcement venue because he said the College played a key role in helping his office structure the program.

Speaking of the role of females in the workforce, Bloomberg said, "They say you can't do everything, but every day you prove that you can."

During his brief remarks, Bloomberg explained that the "speed mentoring" component of his initiative—which consists of



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PROGRAM LAUNCH | Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke at Barnard on Thursday morning for the launch, in partnership with Barnard, of a new mentoring program for students and women in the workforce.

eight-minute, one-on-one sessions between mentor and mentee—will allow more working women to participate. He mentioned that some women are dissuaded from mentoring because of hectic professional and personal schedules.

The program will hold sessions where female students will have the opportunity to network individually with industry

leaders for a few minutes each.

"The rapid-fire format of the program allows students to get career advice from people they otherwise wouldn't have access to," Bloomberg said. "There is no question strong women leaders benefited from someone giving them a hand."

Bloomberg has spearheaded similar initiatives in recent years.

In 2009, his office inaugurated the "NYC Women's Resource Network," a website focused on promoting greater financial literacy among women.

The mayor was joined on stage Thursday morning by Spar, CBS 2 news anchor and reporter Cindy Hsu, and Commission

SEE BLOOMBERG, page 2

INSIDE

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The Diana Center as dynamic design

Diana Center architects Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi are still working with the Barnard administration to define the new student center as one that has its ears wide open to undergraduate needs and feedback.



Sports, back page

Hoops hits the road to close out the season

The men's basketball team heads to Yale and Brown this weekend to play the last two games of its schedule. The matchups mark the end of a revolutionary four years for seniors Kevin Bulger, Patrick Foley, and Niko Scott.

Opinion, page 4

Pity pornography

Aarti Iyer explains the reel truth behind movies' entertainment value.

A major realization

Stop Russian to conclusions about literature majors!

Today's Events

Speak-Out on Haiti

Read-in on the earthquake—in English, French, or Kreyol. Buell Hall, Maison Française 6 p.m.

Not-for-Profit Career Fair

Dress business formal for the annual public service career fair. Lerner Hall, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

EMAIL
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9555

WEATHER

Today  Tomorrow

40/29 47/31

Mayor Bloomberg, Barnard launches Mentor it Forward program for women



LEADING WOMEN| Mayor Michael Bloomberg spoke at Barnard on Thursday morning to announce the launch of a women’s mentoring program, founded in partnership with Barnard.

BLOOMBERG from front page

on Women’s Issues chair Anne Sutherland Fuchs.

“When people have mentors, they do better in their careers,” Spar said. “We should go for as wide a range as possible. We want to find mentors of all careers, of all ages, and decide what will work for you.” She added, “I have had mentors of all different flavors in my life.”

The audience was predominantly female, and several attendees said they were interested in being mentors and assisting with the effort.

Andrea March, co-founder of the Women’s Leadership Exchange, a national networking platform for professional women, said in an interview, “The mayor’s initiative is wonderful. Even if the sessions are only eight minutes long, it is certainly enough time for a real conversation, and these women are certainly bright enough to take advantage of the time.”

Some Barnard administrators said they are also interested in Mentor it Forward because they attribute their own personal accomplishments to the influence of past mentors.

“We’ve all had mentors, and we’ve all benefited,” said Human Resources Director Lori McFarland.

Budget Director Mary Schlitzer added, “In a short amount of time, you can make a big difference.”

aaron.kiersh
@columbiaspectator.com

Teachers College plans new model for public school

TEACHERS COLLEGE from front page

“For our vision of the school to come to life, we recognize how important it is to build community ties to make this not our school, but your school,” Nancy Streim, associate vice president for school and community partnerships at TC, said at a forum at I.S. 195 on 133rd Street, Thursday evening. Streim, who previously helped to establish a successful university-assisted public school in Philadelphia, spoke to the crowd about TC’s vision for the school.

When Streim joined TC in 2007, TC President Susan Fuhrman gave her the “mandate of engaging more closely with Harlem schools,” according to Emily Zemke, the associate director of school partnerships at TC.

Streim told the audience, “The way we design this school will respond to what you identify as the highest-priority needs, as well as identify assets in the community to be built upon.”

In terms of extra funding, it will also work to identify external partners who can help bring additional resources into the school, monetary or otherwise, Streim said.

The uncertainty of location was a major topic at the forum. As of yet, the DOE has not granted a specific site to the school, but has settled on colocation with an existing school as the most likely option.

“Given the current economic climate, the DOE has asked and we’ve agreed that we will launch the school in an existing DOE facility,” Levine said.

At the meeting, organizers split up attendees into sections to discuss what they’d like to see the new school offer.

Nerina Rustomji, a local parent, emphasized the importance of giving students a sense of self-direction. “I want my son to be really excited about the process of being in school,” Rustomji said. Other parents expressed the desire to be active participants in their children’s education, as well as the importance of high standards, strong early education programs, and strong literacy programs.

“I’m really interested in learning more, and it’s right in the neighborhood,” said Amy Kauffman, the mother of a three-year-old.

For some neighborhood residents, this is a sign of hope for local education.

“There’s a lot wrong with our city schools,” said Sarah Martin, president of the Residents Association of the General Grant Houses, a public housing unit in Harlem.

“We need a model. We need a structure to show that public schools can be successful,” she said.

Still, some expressed concern over the lack of a facility and the potential for a shared building.

Tessa Morales, a local parent, said, “I’m worried about space.”

ray.katz
@columbiaspectator.com

“We need a structure to show that public schools can be successful.”

—Sarah Martin, tenants association president

Columbia ahead of some Ivies in gender-neutral housing

GENDER-NEUTRAL from front page

10,400 students—in gender-neutral housing.

“It is a totally voluntary program which has been completely non-controversial,” he said. “Only a tiny fraction of the undergrads have opted to participate.”

Heidy Medina, UPenn ’11, who lived in gender-neutral housing her sophomore year, described the policy as “pretty liberal.”

“You just apply together,” she said. “The only requirement they have is you have to sign a contract.”

She added, “It wasn’t that big of a deal to me, it was just living with a regular friend.”

Brown has allowed gender-neutral double rooms for students who are 18-years or older, after their first two semesters. The pilot program took place 2008-2009 school year for the doubles. They already had gender-neutral suites.

While discouraging couples from using the option, Brown does not ask for students’ reasons for requesting gender-neutral housing. “We do not question the student’s motives for wanting to live in a gender-neutral housing option,” the website said.

Samuel Yambrovich, Brown ’12, participated in the pilot program when he lived in a double with a close female friend. He said that during the pilot program there were about 4-5 gender-neutral doubles. He said now almost all upperclassmen dorms can participate in the program.

“People were very intrigued by us, but we quickly became just another roommate pair,” he added.

Gender-blind rooms, he said, were the “inevitable next step” after having gender-neutral suites and floors.

The next development in the movement for Brown, he said, would be allowing freshmen to participate in the program.

“It’s fun to try something that people haven’t done before,” he added. “You don’t have a ton of points of reference.”

SPECIAL INTERESTS

Several universities have adopted partial gender-neutral housing policies, which allow for students of any sex to room in suites, floors, or apartments together.

Dartmouth University adopted a policy in 2007, which includes two housing options—gender-neutral apartments and suites chosen during the room selection process, and a gender-neutral program floor.

“One is kind of gender-neutral apartments and suites, and they’re individual single rooms in an apart-

TESTING THE WATER

Like the option Columbia is seriously considering, pilots have been popular at several colleges.

Princeton University announced in October 2009 a gender-neutral housing pilot program for the 2010-2011 school year in their apartment-style residence, Spelman halls.

“Our goal is to provide a variety of housing as well as dining options for our students so that everyone may feel that they have an array of excellent lifestyle choices,” Vice President for Campus Life Janet Dickerson told the Daily Princetonian.

Unlike almost all of its Ivy League peers, Harvard does not have a

“Not having a form of gender-neutral housing is discrimination against the LGBTQ community.”

—Jon Wu, Yale student body president

ment or suite that students can self-select into during the regular room selection process,” Murray MacDonald, associate director of housing at Dartmouth, said.

The gender-neutral program floor, he said, is a special interest community that, “focuses on gender identity and expression, and students can apply to live on that floor.”

MacDonald said that the non-discrimination policy was changed, “to include gender identity and gender expression,” another factor that helped kick off the initiative.

He said students have been satisfied with the policy. “The gender-neutral floor has been popular.”

He added, though there were a few emails from alumni who were concerned, “that male and female students would be living together,” but he said they were merely concerns over the policy’s intentions.

gender-neutral housing policy, but is willing to allow for certain exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

“Harvard College recognizes that there are circumstances in which it would be appropriate to consider requests for mixed-gender rooming groups, although the College ordinarily requires single-gender living arrangements,” its website states.

Exceptions are only permitted in suites where bedroom locks have been installed, and no opposite-gender roommates are allowed.

THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Yale University has been the last of the Ivy Leagues to assume a gender-neutral housing policy. On Feb. 21—a few days after Columbia administrators delayed the proposal—Yale announced a gender-neutral suite option for seniors starting next school year. The policy has been considered since 2008. Leah

Itagaki, Yale ’11, said in an email, “There was a lot of disappointment last year when, after nearly being implemented, it was stalled at the last minute.”

For its first year, the policy will be under evaluation. In January 2011, a committee of masters and deans will report their findings to the University.

This policy would institute a similar option to Columbia’s current standing.

Yale’s website said, “Students in intimate relationships are strongly discouraged from entering into a shared suite arrangement.”

According to Jon Wu, Yale student body president, the administration had not adopted a gender-neutral policy before now because their unique residential college system posed challenges.

He also said that the student body has been antsy to get the policy passed, because the students work on a different timeframe than administrators—echoing similar concerns to the Columbia proponents.

Wu said that, though the council suggested a policy for sophomore, junior, and seniors suites, the administration decided to only implement it for seniors. The council, he said, will work to expand it to sophomores and juniors next year.

But, “I don’t imagine that the option will be used too widely,” he said, adding that the policy was never about popularity. “As it currently stands, not having a form of gender-neutral housing is discrimination against the LGBTQ community.”

Michael Fraade, Yale ’13, said, “I think people for the most part think that Yale is taking what is generally seen as a progressive step forward.”

He added, “I think that people who opt into it will probably have given it a lot of thought before they do it.”

news@columbiaspectator.com

Rev. Sharpton hosts emergency meeting on Paterson, offers passive support

PATERSON from front page

him serve out his term. If more of these allegations turn out, they may simply be put in a position where he may have to go.”

A number of politicians have said that such investigations are irrelevant to the ability to govern, invoking the example of former President Bill Clinton, who held office during his impeachment.

Sharpton said that he had spoken with the New York State Senate Majority Leader John Sampson, who said that Paterson was still an effective leader.

“Our concern is that our community is being dealt with

We have a \$9 billion budget deficit,” Sharpton said.

Knight said that concerns about policy do play a role in these decisions. “I do think there will be a fairly strong push to keep him at all costs, just because of the unpredictability of having a new governor.”

Outside of Sylvia’s, Sharpton acknowledged that support is waning for the governor, adding that they do want to make sure the investigations do not become “distractions to government.”

State Assembly member Hakeem Jeffries, who represents parts of Brooklyn, noted that while the attendees may have reached a tentative stance

on Paterson, the rest of the political world has not.

“It’s important for leaders across the city and state to come to a consensus view ... The overwhelming majority of my colleagues in the assembly have not called for his resignation,” he said.

A reporter asked former New York City Mayor David Dinkins, walking into the restaurant for the meeting, what his advice would be to the embattled governor.

He responded, expressing the sentiment of the night, “Hang tough.”

sarah.darville
@columbiaspectator.com



MEDIA SPECTACLE| Reporters stop former Mayor David Dinkins, left, and Assembly member Keith Wright, right.

Women’s tennis travels to face nonconference foes

BY LAUREN SEAMAN
Spectator Staff Writer

Finished with facing local rivals for a while, the Columbia women’s tennis team will travel to face out-of-state opponents George Washington and Maryland this weekend.

After notching a win against local foe Long Island last weekend, the Lions have the confidence needed to secure future victories.

Last weekend, the Lions proved that they can come out on top despite unexpected setbacks. With senior Carling Donovan’s absence due to injury, head coach Ilene Weintraub was forced to make some last-minute adjustments to the lineup. Unanticipated changes like this can sometimes hurt a team, but with a positive attitude, change can be good.

“Changing things up is actually kind of fun, I think. It’s really interesting to me, and it can be a fun, strategic challenge for a coach,” Weintraub said. “I like to figure out where my players will be most successful.”

These strategic shifts have worked for the Lions. Taking Donovan’s spot in No. 4 singles, Katarina Kovacevic made an explosive start to her athletic career as a Lion. Kovacevic played impressively, exceeding the expectations of both Weintraub and Assistant Coach Sarah Schiffman.

“I think the first set was tough for Katarina because it was the first time she’s ever played and she was really nervous,” Schiffman said. “She plays her best game when she’s not focused on her nerves, so during the second set she settled down a bit and was able to play better tennis. Kat hits the ball harder than anyone on our team. As she gets more experienced, she will know how to use her strengths.”

“Kat’s potential is enormous,” Weintraub added. “Last weekend she surpassed my expectations. She has a big game, and she can play at the top if she works at it. I feel extremely fortunate that Kat chose to come to Barnard so she could play for us.”

Kovacevic wasn’t the only freshman to make a big scene on the court last weekend. In fact, the singles courts were dominated by underclassmen—four out of six singles players being first-years.

“It was great to have so many young players out there. For a coach, it’s great when you have a freshman class who has stepped up” Weintraub said. “They also have very positive role models in their captains, who have been tremendous leaders. They’re a big reason the freshmen have been able to progress so quickly.”

Now well into the season, the freshmen have made many specific improvements in their game.

“I think they’ve become more athletic on the court. They’ve improved their footwork and their consistency. They’re learning a lot about what kind of players they will become in the future.”

“It’s like on the show American Idol,” Weintraub said, offering a fun analogy. “Simon Cowell is always telling the singers they need to know what kind of artists they are before they can be great. It’s the same in tennis. To be great in this sport, you need to know what kind of player you are.”

“Carling, for example, has a strong forehand and serve; Chelsea is a grinder and outlasts her opponents; Nikki hits sharp angles from the baseline,” Weintraub continued. “That’s one thing you can learn playing college tennis. You find out what works for you and use it to win. Each player has a different and individual style that helps them on the court.”

The Light Blue women will showcase these styles this weekend. First up is George Washington (4-3), a team Columbia hasn’t seen in coach Weintraub’s entire career. The Lions won’t go into the match blind-sighted, though. Having been trained at Penn by GWs current head coach Dawn Buth, coach Schiffman provided some valuable insight into the upcoming match.

“Dawn is a great coach. She was a pro top 100 in the world. If anything, her team will run down every

COLUMBIA AT GEORGE WASHINGTON
College Park, Md., Friday, 11 a.m.

COLUMBIA AT MARYLAND
College Park, Md., Saturday, 11 a.m.

ball. They’re going to be a gritty team,” Schiffman said.

On Saturday the Lions will face Maryland, whose 2-5 record can be attributed to its tough schedule so far. The Terps have dropped matches to Long Beach State, Boston College and No. 25 Virginia, 7-0. The Terps are led by senior Lisa Miller, who currently leads the team in overall singles wins (14) and doubles victories (13).

“This will be an interesting match. We’ve been spanked around on the court by Maryland in the past, so I’m excited to see a more competitive match this time around,” Weintraub said.

“I think the more matches we play against good opponents, the better and better we’ll get,” Weintraub explained. “We’re going to head into the match ready for a fight.”

The Lions are on the road for both non-conference matches this weekend. Columbia faces George Washington today at 11 a.m., before taking on Maryland tomorrow at 11 a.m.



JOSE GIRALT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
CHANGE OF SCENERY | The Light Blue women travel to College Park, MD to face George Washinton and Maryland.

Columbia baseball opens 2010 season in Las Vegas

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia baseball team will travel to Las Vegas for its season opening games against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Rebels. The four-game series will not be easy for the Lions, as the Rebels have already played the first ten games of their season. Nevertheless, the Light Blue is ready and anxious to kick off its 2010 campaign with the hope of picking up some difficult non-conference wins.

UNLV enters this weekend’s contests with a 7-3 record. The Rebels dropped their first two games against Sacramento State a few weeks ago 10-8 and 19-5 before winning the series finale 18-4, avoiding getting swept and starting a seven-game win streak. UNLV took its one-game series with Southern Utah to extra innings and edged out the Thunderbirds 5-4 after freshman catcher Nolan Clark knocked in the winning run with a single in the 11th.

The Rebels maintained momentum entering their series with the Temple University Owls. After a 22-6 blowout in the series opener, UNLV, with the help of some clutch, late-inning offense, narrowly picked up victories in the next three games by scores of 10-8, 10-9, and 12-10. In game two, the Rebels found themselves with a comfortable 7-4 lead entering ninth inning. However, UNLV relievers Brian Gilbertson and Matt Hutchison surrendered a combined five runs to the Owls in the top of the ninth, knotting the game at seven runs apiece. With their backs against the wall, the Rebels tacked on three runs to a two-RBI double off the bat of Robbie



FILE PHOTO
ROAD TRIP | Columbia’s baseball team breaks out it’s bats this weekend in Las Vegas for a four-game series against Nevada.

De La Cruz and a walk-off single by Duncan Satherlie.

UNLV’s most recent matchup was a pair of road games against the University of Arizona Wildcats. The Wildcats couldn’t match the offensive onslaught of the Rebels in game one, losing the contest 12-10. However, in game two Arizona managed to pull off a 5-4 win in a 13-inning marathon, thus severing the Rebels’ seven-game winning streak.

“They [UNLV] have 10 games under their belt, which is nothing different than in other years,” said Lions head coach Brett Boretti. “We are going out with an attitude of expecting to be successful and expecting to win, there is no other way to approach it.”

The Rebels have been swinging hot bats, and have outscored opponents 106-96 so far this

season. In particular, junior catcher Drew Beuerlein and freshman outfielder Brandon Bayardi have been particularly dangerous in 2010. Both have started all 10 games and have accumulated a .405 batting average with 17 hits and 11 runs scored in 42 at bats. Beuerlein has 10 RBI on the season and Bayardi has knocked in 15 runs and clubbed one home run.

The Lions are allowed to travel with just 22 players on this West Coast road trip. According to outfielder and team co-captain Jason Banos, deciding which players to bring along was no easy task for the coaching staff.

“It’s always so tough, especially this year,” Banos explained. “So many guys looked great in spring practice, and it basically came down to coach having to make a tough decision.”

COLUMBIA VS. UNLV
Las Vegas, Nev., Friday, 10 p.m.

Banos himself will be counted on to step up in what could be an arduous opening series. After a having had a breakout rookie year and sitting out last year due to an injury, Banos is back and has been selected as a team co-captain, alongside catcher Dean Forthun.

While there is no word as to who exactly will be on the active roster for this weekend’s games, the Lions have an ample selection of new freshmen and returning players from which to select. The pitching rotation remains nearly intact after last season with the exception of former team co-captain Joe Scarlata. Pat Lowery, Dan Bracey, Geoff Whitaker, and Roger Aquino will most likely be toeing the rubber for the Light Blue. The pitching staff, which struggled for the latter half of the 2009 campaign, will have to be at its best against UNLV in order to give the offense a chance to take a lead.

“I think the biggest goal for this weekend is getting the pitchers out there facing UNLV, and definitely playing some good defense behind them,” said Banos. “I think defense is going to be a real strong point for us. If we can get out, make very few errors, and get the bats going a little bit, we will be able to at least win a couple games.”

The four-game series will commence tonight at 10pm in Las Vegas, Nev. Games two and three will be played as a doubleheader tomorrow starting at 5pm and 9pm respectively. The series finale will take place on Sunday with the first pitch being tossed at 4 p.m.

Fans connect to athletes via web

LEWIS from back page

thumbs-up.

3. Athletes themselves engaging with fans on Twitter. The obvious example of this is Mister Ochocinco himself, @ogochocinco, who boasts an impressive 773,509 Twitter followers as of press time. There is absolutely nothing professional about this Twitter feed. There is random usage of capitalization. There are incomplete sentences. Chad does not even make an effort to be politically correct or self-censored in the kinds of things that he posts. Yet, we eat it up—fans love it because it’s authentic, real, and not manufactured, sanitized PR lingo like so much of the material that professional and collegiate teams put out. If someone else ran his Twitter, would we ever have learned that Ochocinco is an Alvin Ailey Dance fan?

Transparency is scary. It means that if somebody is going to call you on your shit, the entire world gets to see it. Long gone are the days of the private and personal “angry letter.” But I see it as progressive—athletic departments can’t hide behind desks in their offices, and pro teams can’t hide behind managers and owners, making the experience more valuable for the fans. And at the end of the day, isn’t that really what sports are all about?

Lisa Lewis is a Barnard College senior majoring in economics. sportseditors@columbiaspectator.com

Tennis travels to Ithaca

MEN’S TENNIS from back page

8-3 by George Washington’s top duo.

Another advantage for Cornell is the fact that the match will be played in Ithaca.

“Last time it was on neutral grounds,” Goswami said of the ECACs. “This time it’s on their court. They normally draw a big, rowdy crowd on Saturday afternoons, also.”

The last time the Lions played in Ithaca, they narrowly escaped with a 4-3 win.

“The last time, we were down match point to them before Mark [Clemente] hit a big ace,” Goswami said.

Typically, the Lions play their first Ivy match after their spring break training trip, but a change in Cornell’s spring break is forcing the match to be played almost three weeks earlier than usual, and almost a full month before the next Ivy match.

“I don’t think it should matter,” Goswami said of the earlier date. “At least we know that we are playing indoors. If we played later, we could have been playing outdoors. And I think we have played enough matches—we played Indiana, Arkansas, and both of those are top-50 teams. Then we played the ECACs, too. I think we’re prepared.”

Goswami pointed to one major change from the first time the two teams met earlier this season.

“I knew doubles was a problem after the match,” he said, “and so we’ve worked really hard on it.”

The Lions will begin Ivy play on Saturday at 12 p.m. in Ithaca, N.Y.

Softball season swings into action with weekend games

BY CHRISTOPHER BROWN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia Softball team opens the 2010 season this weekend at the University of Virginia Cavalier Classic. In addition to the Lions, Virginia and Delaware State will also be competing in the tournament.

The Cavaliers’ season began Feb. 14, and they have compiled a 4-7 record so far, with wins over UNC Wilmington, Michigan, and pair against George Washington. Senior Nicole Koren leads the team with four home runs and eight RBI in 30 at-bats, while outfielder Sarah Tacke has two home runs and five RBI in 24 at-bats.

However, Virginia’s pitching staff has experienced some trouble early on, an area that the Lions can potentially take advantage of. The team has combined for an ERA of 7.85, with 38 walks in just in 65 1/3 innings. Melanie Mitchell leads the team with a 3-6 record and a 6.91 ERA in 41 2/3 innings. Although she is averaging just over a strikeout per inning, she has also allowed 50 hits, 22 walks, and 32 earned runs. Koren has a 4.58 ERA, allowing 19

hits in 17 2/3 innings this year.

Delaware State has been victorious in all four games they have played this year. They walked away as winners of the NCCU Lady Eagle Classic by defeating North Carolina Central, Western Carolina, South Carolina State, and Barton last weekend.

Several Hornets hitters have started the season strong. Junior outfielder Andrea Waters went 5-17 with a home run and seven RBI, while outfielder Casey Beighly hit 7-17, scoring six runs and driving seven more. Infielder Tawny Reeger led her team with a .563 average and 12 total bases in her four starts, while outfielder Breanne Parr was close behind with a .538 average in her first 16 at-bats.

The Hornets also received solid pitching performances. Right-hander Amber Coburn notched her first two wins, compiling eight strikeouts in 14 1/3 innings of work. Sophomore Casey Beighly earned a win against South Carolina State, allowing a walk, an earned run, and striking out two hitters in one inning of work.

Columbia will face Delaware State at 11 am and then Virginia at

4pm on Saturday, Mar. 6th. They will repeat with Delaware State at 10 am and then take on Virginia at 4pm on Sunday Mar. 7th.

COLUMBIA AT UVA CAVALIER CLASSIC
Charlottesville, VA., All Weekend



FILE PHOTO
BATTER UP | This weekend marks the start of the season for the softball team with tournament competition against Virginia and Delaware.

Lions to face Bulldogs, Bears in final two games

MEN’S BASKETBALL from back page

philosophy to try to trap him or deny him,” Jones pointed out. “We have to play Columbia brand defense.”

The next night, Brown and its own star, 6-foot—8 forward Matt Mullery, will welcome Columbia to Providence for the Bears’ Senior Night. That should mean a particularly fired-up Mullery, which is not an enticing prospect for Jones.

“He’s going to be extra hyped and ready to go. He’s a handful and they run their whole offense through him, and he’s a good player.”

The problem with guarding Mullery, Jones explained, is that he is surrounded by dangerous shooters that can knock down open shots should the Lions leave them alone. That means the Light Blue will need to be extra careful in choosing when to double down on the big man inside.

“When we can guard him with one-and-a-half guys, two guys, we want to do that. When we do

that, and they kick it out we have to be able to rotate because they have guys who can drain shots,” Jones said.

Despite the talent that both Brown and Yale will bring to the court this weekend, the most important factor in determining Columbia’s success may be in its own locker room. In both contests earlier this season, the Lions started out slow. Against the Bears, the Lions pulled off a 15-point, come-from-behind win only to dig themselves into a hole against the Bulldogs that they could not fight their way out of.

Jones is optimistic that this weekend will be different. “I think right now we’re playing with a lot of energy, and I’ve really talked with our seniors about playing with some energy about ourselves.”

And so, despite all of the struggles the Light Blue has faced this year, if Columbia can find its rhythm from the start, it can look back with pride on a season that has been anything but predictable.



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ADDRESS & EMAIL
Columbia Spectator
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9555
Editorial Fax (212) 854-9611
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

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I'm majoring in X. Don't ask why.

BY EMILY TAMKIN

In the spring of my senior year of high school, I gave my father the silent treatment for two days. He deserved it—he had refused to discuss what I should major in. He argued that the point of Columbia was to stumble upon something worth studying. Finally, he relented, apologized, and confirmed my decision to major in political science.

On Monday, I finally and officially declared my major—Russian literature and culture.

I could go through the happy accidents that led me to the Slavic department. Indeed, I've often done so in response to the most frequent reaction to my major: why? (Followed closely by, "Oh ... Are you Russian?" The answer is no. No I am not.) Why? What am I going to do with that?

Sometimes I do detail the classes that have made me believe that this is the right choice. Sometimes I shrug and say that I really like Chekhov. Sometimes I say that my life's ambition is to live in a cardboard box.

If this piece were dedicated to defending my major, I could go on about how I cried on the last day of my Eastern European history class, the last day of my Chekhov class, and the first day of my 20th century Russian literature class (the beauty!). Perhaps I'd mention that I've never felt so impressed with my own lack of understanding as I have over the course of this semester, reading and discussing Soviet-era literature. Or that I never leave my Russian language class without having laughed, or how touched and impressed I was that my Russian teacher took the time to notice and address the fact that I seem busier this semester. I'd probably conclude with the idea that I feel not only more cognizant of my own ignorance, but also of the depth of humanity, and of an individual's capacity for compassion.

But this piece is not about the Slavic department. I could talk or write for hours about why I'm studying Russian literature.



ILLUSTRATION BY JOANNA WANG

But the more pressing concern is the general "why?" Why do we—why should we—declare the majors that we do?

I am often criticized for the lack of utility of my major. This point is both entirely true and completely unfair.

On the one hand, with a few particularly viable career options excepted (professor, international woman of mystery, cardboard box resident extraordinaire), there is a very real chance that I will not "use" everything I've learned after I graduate. I'm hardly alone in this, though. Really, what are any of us going to do with anything that we study? Many of the "practical" political science majors who have questioned my choice and intentions may find themselves hard-pressed to recall the steps by which human nature degenerates into corrupt society according to Rousseau's "Second Discourse" five years from now. On this count, however, I'll admit that my interrogators are right.

On the other hand, I could not possibly pick a more useful major. The source of the identified utility is this: I love what I study. And I'd like to believe that whatever we

love, whatever we're passionate about, we're good at. Genuine interest is a powerful tool, be it in developing a breadth of knowledge or honing the analytical skills that will serve Columbia students wherever we go.

This is not meant to laude minority majors. On the terms of my own argument, studying a quirky major for the sake of quirk is as nonsensical as studying something because it's what one is "supposed" to study. People who love political science should study political science. People who love math (more power to you) should study math. We should do what we're good at. And, ultimately, I think that if we're lucky enough to find something we love doing for a little while, we should do it.

Thus, as much as it pains me to admit it, my dad was right. But I'm still not going to apologize about the silent treatment.

The author is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in Russian literature and culture. She is the Spectator Editorial Page Editor.

Misery loves cinematic company



AARTI IYER

Pop Culture Culture

The 82nd Annual Academy Awards are this Sunday, and one of the forerunners for Best Picture is "Precious." The Oprah-endorsed movie, based on the novel "Push" by Sapphire, tells the story of a black teenager from Harlem in the late 1980s who experiences a litany of personal struggles: she is sexually, emotionally, and physically abused by her parents from an early age. She is illiterate and overweight. She is pregnant with her second child, the result of incest. Oh, and she's HIV positive.

The above plot summary reads like a report on the failings of the American government, law enforcement, and our education system—but no, it's entertainment.

In German, the word is *schadenfreude*: taking pleasure in the misfortune of others. It's what makes reality television and tabloids so fun. How dysfunctional *are* the Kardashians? What incendiary thing is John Mayer going to say next? Still, the stakes in these perverse pleasures are relatively low—maybe Khloe gets too drunk at a party and makes a fool of herself, but no one is seriously hurt.

What happens when the pleasure is derived not from simple misfortune but from pure misery?

Enter "misery porn," a genre of books and films gaining mainstream traction. Unlike "torture porn"—films like "Saw" that emphasize physical pain—misery literature and films exploit our sense of empathy with emotional pain. Rather than elaborate death traps, we get child abuse and neglect, poverty, and mental suffering.

Last year's Best Picture winner, "Slumdog Millionaire," is one of the most successful examples of this phenomenon. The movie follows the misadventures of Jamal, a "slumdog" orphan. In scene after scene, like a deluge, Jamal and those he loves are subject to violence, predatory adults, and destitution. His mother is killed during sectarian riots, he just barely escapes an orphanage that blinds children with acid for higher profits, and his childhood love is raised to become a prostitute.

We bought the movie tickets, sat safely in our seats with popcorn and Coke, and watched this story unfold. And when it was

over, the overhead lights turned back on and we filed out onto Broadway. Their misery is our pleasure, and our pleasure comes with no obligations.

After all, "Slumdog Millionaire" made over \$141 million at the box office and won eight Academy Awards, starred Anil Kapoor, one of India's biggest movie stars, and featured music by A. R. Rahman, one of India's biggest composers—and yet, the film's popularity hasn't helped the inhabitants of India's slums. The child actors are in jeopardy of losing their trust funds and monthly stipends because of their failure to attend school regularly, the easy promise of money incapable of effecting any real or lasting change. No politician, celebrity—no one at all, really—has stepped forward to give importance to the cause. India has emerged as a formidable economic power in the last decade, with increases in GDP of about 8% every year—but poverty has unfortunately not seen an equivalent decline, and has decreased by only 0.8% every year. And so the situation remains the same.

The problem is in the disconnect between the spectator in the movie theater and the citizen outside of it. The more we see graphic depictions of misery, poverty, and child abuse as entertainment rather than representative of real social issues, the less we are able to actively fight them.

With critical acclaim and the support of some of the most influential people in Hollywood—and maybe even a few Academy Awards—"Precious" has the power to be a film that opens discussion and inspires activism in America. The movie has already given victims of child abuse the courage to speak out—both Tyler Perry and Mo'Nique, who plays Precious' mother in the film, publicly addressed the abuse in their pasts. With any luck, awareness of and action against the inequalities and inadequacies of our education system and child protective services will follow suit.

The movie's tagline claims that "We are all Precious." Well, that's not entirely true. You're probably not illiterate and hopefully never had to endure the severe abuse the title character did. But by thinking of movies not only as works of fiction but also as mirrors of reality, we can begin exiting the theater not only entertained, but also enlightened.

Aarti Iyer is a Columbia College junior majoring in creative writing. She is the editor-in-chief of The Fed. Culture Culture runs alternate Fridays.

Read all about it! (But how?)

BY RICHARD WALD

I read the news today, oh boy!
The Beatles had it right, but mostly in the news about the news. Everything is going to hell in a hand basket. With the latest round of cuts, ABC News, CBS News and NBC News have shed hundreds of jobs over the past two years and have about half the audiences they had in 1980.

The "Los Angeles Times," cut close to half its newsroom. "The Washington Post" is closing most of its bureaus. "The New York Times" has been doing buyouts and layoffs for more than a year. The Tribune company is in bankruptcy. Newsprint plants are closing. "Time" and "Newsweek" are so thin they look like newspaper inserts. Advertisers are fleeing print and broadcast. The Internet is the place of choice for anyone under 25. Niche cable sites eat up all the available viewing time. And I haven't even mentioned video games.

Have we reached the end of the known world, fallen over that last horizon where be not just dragons but Total Extinction?

First, let me give you a one-minute history of Communication In The Western World (CITWW). We leave out China because, while they invented everything first, they are not keen on communication.

Writing seems to have appeared first in Sumer, on clay tablets, about 3,300 years Before the Common Era. Most people stayed illiterate and bards and praise singers were the main communicators. Roughly 2,300 years later, Homer, or someone just like him in Ionia, pulled together the stories of Troy and Odysseus and enriched oral traditions, also encouraging Greeks to write down the verses on papyrus, a technical advance which the Egyptians invented to the detriment of stone carving.

Wood block printing developed in the Middle Ages, but the scribes of Paris had a pretty strong union until Gutenberg developed movable type, designed the printing press and in 1452 published the Bible, the first book ever printed in volume. Goodbye scribes, hello Enlightenment.

Four hundred years later, in the middle of the 1800s, you get the inventions of the typewriter, the rotary press, the Linotype and the first full-page newspaper ad (in "The New York Ledger"). The mass circulation press is born.

Fifty years later, Marconi invents the wireless and by 1920, the first licensed radio station is on the air. Twenty-eight years later, the first widely disseminated commercial television is broadcast. Twenty-one years after that, ARPANET begins development of the Internet. Twenty years pass, computers become ubiquitous, and the World Wide Web is set up. Five years later, America and the world go nuts in the Great Digital

Bubble that litters the landscape with fiber optic hookups.

Attentive Reader will now have noticed two things: One, technology comes first with one thought in its head (radio for ships at sea, or an Internet for scholarly discourse) and then others figure out how to use it differently. Two, everything comes faster nowadays (2,300 years from the first writing to Homer, 400 years from Gutenberg to the rotary press, 100 years from Marconi to the Internet bubble).

But there is another truth. Nothing disappears. In venues around New York, you can still hear someone recite poetry in the old, oral tradition. Some things are still printed on flat-bed presses, one page at a time. Radio is still ubiquitous—television didn't kill it. Each kind of communication seems dominant and then moves to a smaller part of the spectrum.

So what happens now?
Well, it wasn't genius but World War II that made all the members of the news community respectable—they brought you the stories of the boys at war. They, like their readers, were joined in a great patriotic effort. And it wasn't business acumen but a rising economy that poured money into news coffers so they could send people around the world and print great investigative stories that cost a fortune but satisfied prize committees.

In short, the men and women who bring you the news in this country and in similar

countries in the West, are a part of the culture. They are certainly people of great individual value, but it took roads and rails and a change from home-made to factory-made goods to ensure the success of the mass-circulation dailies. They moved from total partisanship to objectivity when they became semi-monopolies and tried to appeal to all the people in a community, not just the like-minded. It also took the growth of wealth after World War II to allow people to buy expensive television sets.

And as our culture changes, so too will the news organizations that live within it. Nobody planned to have display advertising from Bloomingdales running alongside the news from Afghanistan. Nobody planned to set TV commercials at a minute, then at 30 seconds and now at 15 seconds each. ARPANET did not plan Wikipedia or The Huffington Post. These things grew from the efforts of smart people working over time to accomplish commercial and societal ends that were satisfying to them and to others.

Newspapers will continue and so will the news in the traditional forms. But a new technology is here. The old forms will occupy a smaller part of the spectrum. You, Attentive Reader, will determine where the new technology goes. You shape the culture. If you pay for quality, you will get it—just in a different form. Hello Enlightenment.

The author is the Fred Friendly Professor of Media and Society at the Graduate School of Journalism.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Casual Friday: Hating on Housing's website

The Editorial Board takes its position as the voice of Spectator very seriously. However, in keeping with the Spectator-wide effort to put the "college" back in college newspaper, the board members, who do not take themselves quite so seriously, will submit to the consideration of the University population a different sort of editorial each Friday.

StarRez Housing Application Portal, you are officially on notice. You are quite possibly the worst website we've ever seen.

To begin with, there's your name. It's ridiculous. Either you're trying to brand yourself as a new and exciting televised talent search program, or you're going for some strange Death Star association. Which might actually be applicable, given the degree to which you make undergraduates feel powerless to strike back.

You toy with us, StarRez Housing Application Portal. You log us in, then you tell us we must log off and log in again to view the application tab. And then you don't let us view the application tab. You don't let us in at all. And as for your group registration process—let's just say it's a veritable practice in verifying verification. Sometimes you're not even a real Portal. You're a test Portal. You tell us this at the top of your screen on the second day of housing registration. Don't lie. You've had months leading up to this to test yourself. Clearly, you're just testing us.

You pretend you care, StarRez. You want to know about our personalities. Given the general irrelevance of this for the people registering, we can only assume that you want to understand who we are. You bestow unto us the opportunity for screen names. Again, since there is absolutely

no reason to use these, it must be because you want to know what we'd like to be called when we meet. Because you're so welcoming at first, StarRez.

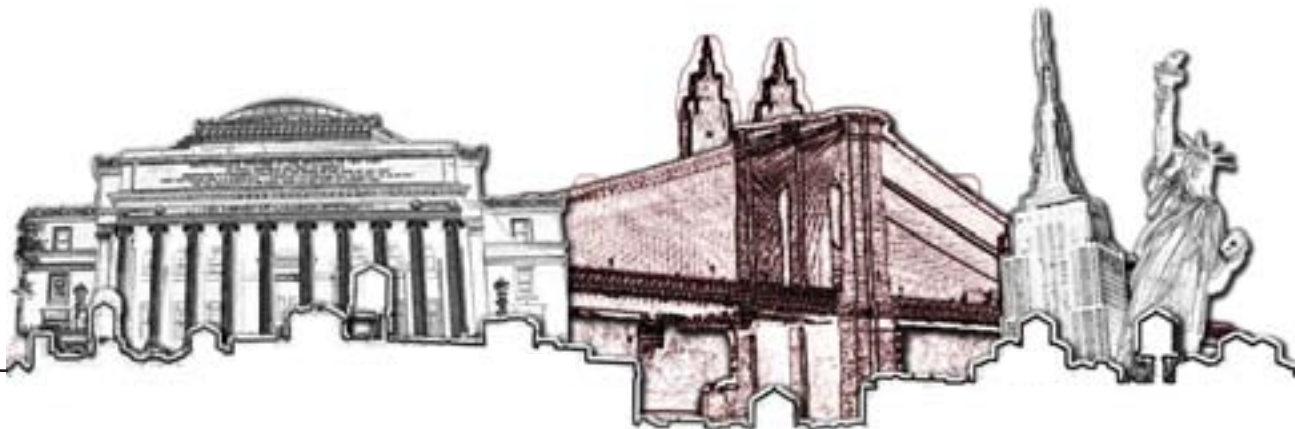
And then. You tell us that the selection process for the rooms we've been living in all year is incomplete. Is it us, StarRez? Are we the incomplete ones? You give our friends six hours to withdraw from our carefully constructed groups. Do you want us dependent and at your mercy? You don't let us go back and change our minds after pressing "continue," even though, technically, we have until Wednesday.

You must hate us. But that's all right, StarRez Housing Application Portal. Because until you make some fundamental changes—until you join the ranks of other passable 21st-century websites—believe us: We will continue to hate you more.

JODY'S DRAWINGS!



JODY ZELLMAN



Designing and defining Diana

BY CHRISTINE JORDAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Of all the animals in the urban jungle, Barnard's newest building is a chameleon.

Housing a cross-section of the college's community, academic, and artistic endeavors, the many-faceted center is static in neither purpose nor in design, thanks to a continuing conversation based on student feedback.

Renowned architects Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi, who began the project in 2003, sat down to discuss their vision of the Diana Center as a callback to Barnard's beginnings and a guiding force into its desired future.

"Barnard is a contemporary institution and we wanted to reflect that in this building," Manfredi said. "The challenge was how to do that but still understand that we're in a beautiful and very unique context." Facing both the Classical facade of Columbia and the idiosyncratic mix of

buildings at Barnard, "unique" doesn't even begin to scratch the surface.

A WORK IN PROGRESS

Gliding in and around the Diana's seven levels, Weiss and Manfredi navigated each turn—and each architectural decision—with the expected amount of grace and ease. But, every now and then, they came to a screeching halt, pointing to a stray sticker on a glass window or a doorknob installed upside down, and sighed, "Punch list."

As Weiss explained, the punch list is "a formal book that comes at the very end of the project" that lists everything from paint that needs to be fixed to mechanical problems with the building.

Though the duo is still working to present the best Diana to Barnard's students, the task is largely dependent upon student thoughts and opinions.

SEE DIANA, page 7



BUILDING BARNARD | Although the Diana Center has been open since February, its architects and the Barnard administration are still processing the feedback of students as the building continues to take shape.

PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fusion dance team reaches out to students

BY MELISSA VON MAYRHAUSER
Spectator Staff Writer

Fusing ballet pirouettes, hip-hop pumping, and South Asian dance choreography,

DANCE CU Taal is seeking to fashion itself into a dynamic presence in Columbia's dance scene.

CU Taal will host their ninth annual South Asian dance

event, Naach Nation, this Saturday, Mar. 6th at 7:30pm in the Boone Auditorium. Six other college dance teams will join them for a dance showcase to raise money for CatarAct International's public health initiatives and awareness about South Asian dance. Combining choreographic styles derived from diverse cultural moments, Taal is an

active yet little-known group on campus.

Taal is especially concerned about attendance at Naach Nation, which has witnessed low numbers of students in years past in contrast to comparable campus events. "I think that people sometimes might not find it as pump," Srilekha Jayanthi, treasurer of Taal, said. "The club hopes to build a greater audience base by competing more often."

The club is an entertainment fixture on campus, performing for South Asian events, college days, NSOP, Global Health, relay for life, and multicultural and philanthropic events. "We do a lot of small performances on campus," said Jayanthi, "We have like a dance performances almost every day in April."

Taal's combination of traditional Asian dance with modern American dance forms contributes to the club's imprecise identity. "We take classical styles of dance from different regions of India," Taal member Maya Mukhopadhyaya, CC '10, said. "And then we try to incorporate that with ballet and modern and hip hop sometimes—very western contemporary styles."

By employing varied dance forms, the club may have limited their audience's ability to connect to them. "I've never heard of them," Jorda Kovash, CC '13, said. "There should be more of a connection between students and dance clubs like Taal."

Taal dancers plan to use their varied dance styles to produce "elation," their club's theme for the 2010 event. Emphasizing their wish to be a positive presence on campus, Jayanthi said of elation, "We wanted to find a way to find those moments in each style, and put them together to make us all feel that way, and to make the audience feel that way, hopefully."

The club maintains this positive attitude by connecting to other dance organizations on campus in order to engender solidarity. As Jayanthi said, "Columbia has a very strong dance culture, and all the teams are very supportive of each other."



COURTESY OF MAYA MUKHOPADHAYA

LINE DANCERS | CU Taal performers rehearse for Naach Nation, their annual dance showcase that features South Asian dance.

Armory Show offers glimpse of today's art

BY ASHTON COOPER
Spectator Staff Writer

There is perhaps no better place to learn the business of art than the Armory Show. This weekend, 280 galleries

ARTS from 31 countries assemble on Piers 92 and 94 to put out the best for collectors from all over the world. The show provides an exhaustive survey of art on a truly grand scale.

The show is one of the most important, if not the most important, of the New York art year. "These events bring together not only thousands of people but hundreds of galleries. But they really are opportunities to think about art, in particular contemporary art, in the largest context possible," said Glenn Lowry, director of the Museum of Modern Art.

International collectors bring blank checks and big bank accounts. When looking to buy—or, in a student's case, just admire—there are two options. One can either visit Pier 92 to see modern art, or Pier 94 for contemporary art. Both spaces are immense and spectacular. Each gallery is assigned a booth where visitors can view row after row of stunning art from the most respected international institutions.

The fair is an amazing opportunity for students to experience the international art world in full force. Plus, students pay only \$10 to get in, instead of the general admission price of \$30.

Katelijne De Backer, executive director of the Armory Show, suggested a plan for students visiting the show. "I would first go to Pier 94 to see all the new art, because Pier 94 still focuses on new art by living artists. There you will see artworks that come fresh out of the artist's studio," she said.

Pierogi, a Brooklyn-based gallery, has several playful and original pieces on display. The most striking is "To Dust" by Jonathan Schipper. The piece features two Greco-Romanesque stone statues hanging upside



COURTESY OF PIEROGI, BROOKLYN

ART ARMY | Jonathan Schipper's "To Dust" is on display in the Armory Show, which will display contemporary art this weekend.

down on chains, being ground together by an electric motor. A white platform below catches the debris and serves to emphasize the way in which the two stones wear each other away. The piece's gradual self-destruction forces viewers to question the shelf life of a work of art.

This year the fair has started a new section called Armory Focus, devoting a section of the exhibit to a particular city. The first city of focus is Berlin. Charlotte von Carmer, from Galerie Barbara Weiss in Berlin, explained that the Berlin art scene differs from New York's in that "more artists are based in Berlin. Berlin is a bit still young and in the development and fresh."

The Galerie Barbara Weiss booth features the work of Monika Baer. Von Carmer said, "These are all works from 2009. She's focusing on spider webs ... You see the fabric of the canvas, you see the paint, you see the nail, you see the frame." Indeed,

Baer's work cuts into the actual canvas to let the viewer see through the actual work. Von Carmer mentioned that Baer "has a really good humor." This is evident in the cigarette Baer leaves lying on top of one of the paintings and a key on another. There is an innovative playfulness in her pieces.

"I think this booth of Monika Baer's is unbelievably fabulous. She's a great painter in a German tradition of painting and she's pushing the bounds of it, she's pushing it forward and I find that really interesting," said art collector John Morace.

For collectors and students alike, the Armory Show is a New York art world staple not to be missed. Executive Director De Backer put it best: "The art is here for five days, and it might disappear in a collection forever or for hundreds of years, so it's really a good way to see what's going on in the minds of artists of the moment."

WEEKEND PICKS

The Editors' Best Bets For The Weekend Ahead

THEATER
“**Neighbors.**” *The Public Theater, 425 Lafayette St. (between Broadway and Fourth Avenue). \$10 before March 7, \$20 March 9–14.*
The surprise off-Broadway hit is a joint effort between the LABY-rinth Theater Company and The Public Theater as a part of their Emerging Writers Program, which allows audiences to see the newest work from some of the most promising up-and-coming playwrights on the cheap. This month, playwright Branden Jacobs-Jenkins explores the idea of a post-racial America by having a black family of actors in blackface.

FOOD
Souperama. *43 East 7th St. (between Second and Third avenues), Saturday, March 6, 1–5 p.m., \$20.*
Finish the soup season right at this cooking competition. Although \$20 seems pricey for some broth, the money benefits the Fresh Air Fund and Harbor Hope.

FILM
“**And the winner is... New York!**” at **Film Society of Lincoln Center.** *70 Lincoln Center Plaza (Broadway between 64th and 65th streets). Friday–Sunday, March 5–7, \$7 with CUID.*
This weekend, students can start to get into the Oscar spirit. On the eve of Oscar night, Lincoln Center is screening ten Oscar-winning films with close ties to New York. Such classics as “Annie Hall,” “Raging Bull,” “West Side Story,” and “The Godfather” will be featured, among others.

STYLE
Be a “SuperModelquin.” *Times Square Military Island at Seventh Avenue and 42nd Street Friday, March 5, 12–5 p.m., free.*
Get those 15 minutes, or rather 15 seconds, of fame with an Old Navy “Supermodelquin” (YouTube the commercials) version of yourself projected on a Times Square billboard. Old Navy will have a booth set up to snap the shots and digitize the photos. Celebrities never quite look like themselves on billboards, so why should you?

DANCE
koosil-ja/danceKUMIKO: Blocks of Continuality/Body, Image and Algorithim. *219 W 19th St. (between Seventh and Eighth avenues). Friday–Saturday, March 5–6, 7:30 p.m. \$15.*
Dance Theater Workshop offers this program as an exploration of the body as it relates to 3-D technology. Choreographer Koo-sil-ja uses the 20th century French philosopher Gilles Deleuze’s work as inspiration.

ART
Whitney Biennial. *The Whitney Museum, 945 Madison Ave. at 75th Street. February 25–May 30, \$12 with CUID.*
The 75th anniversary of the Whitney’s annual show opens this weekend. The exhibit promises to be a look at what’s important in contemporary art and there are many free tours and performances to go along with the show.

MUSIC
Anamanaguchi. *Market Hotel, 1142 Myrtle Ave. (between Jefferson and Troutman streets), Brooklyn. Friday, March 5, 8 p.m., \$8.*
New York City band Anamanaguchi makes energetic dance punk—using a Gameboy and a hacked 1980s Nintendo Entertainment System. Unlike many other chiptune bands (yes, this is a movement), these guys add in guitar, bass, and drums to make their sound more accessible. Zeitgeisty?

BOOKS
“**Wallace Stevens, New York, and Modernism**” Conference. *1 Washington Pl. at Broadway. Friday–Saturday, March 5–6, 10:30 a.m., free.*
Make weekend mornings worth your while and join eminent poets from Mark Strand to Elizabeth Willis in exploring the relationship between the poet and New York City in a series of readings and talks.

WILDCARD
DocuDays New York 2010. *The Paley Center for Media, 25 West 52 St. (between Avenue of the Americas and Fifth Avenue), Saturday–Sunday, March 6–7, \$8 with CUID.*
Most people have never seen the foreign films, shorts, and documentaries that are nominated at the Academy Awards. This weekend, the documentaries will be screened in association with the International Documentary Association. Film nerds on a budget: here’s your chance to see all the nominees conveniently and cheaply.

SEARCH FOR THE BEST OSCAR PARTIES

Students party on at city Oscar celebrations

BY ISAIAH EVERIN
Spectator Staff Writer

For students who love movies, talking about the Oscars the day after usually pales in comparison to celebrating with friends the night they happen.

The Academy Awards are a yearly ritual that can be enjoyed by anyone—whether you believe the Academy gets it right or think most of the wins are unjustified. Many students will at least look up who took home the prize, so why not talk (or complain) about it over food and drinks at one of the many happening Oscar parties in the city?

First on the list is the ninth annual Murray Hill Oscar Party at Joe’s Pub. Titular drag king host (Hill) will roast the top films, interspersed with impromptu parody skits and performances by a slew of other comedians. The night will also feature competitions and prizes. The event fee is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Next up is Comix’s party, which is loaded with trivia and prediction ballot raffles. The event, hosted by Kambri Crews and Danny Leary, will feature discounted food and drinks such as “The Lovely Boneless Chicken Tenders” and “The Hurt Liquor”. Comix’s Oscar party is free and only requires an RSVP in advance—perfect for frugal students.

Have a dollar or two to spare—or \$150? If you do case, check out New York City’s official Oscar party at Lincoln Center. The Oscars will be shown on the big screen in Alice Tully Hall, and attendees will be treated to free champagne and music from the Juilliard Jazz Ensemble. While the tickets are costly, all proceeds go to charity.

To try out a newcomer to the Oscar party scene, visit Clover Club’s first annual celebration. Reservations must be made in advance, and a red carpet will be laid down for guests’ arrival. Though the hors d’œuvres will be fancy—like caviar blini and truffle popcorn with parmesan—the event is free, and dressy attire is encouraged.

Lastly, restaurateur Donatella Arpaia will throw a more formal Oscar party at her upscale eatery Mia Dona. The \$25 fee includes two cocktails as well as a tasting menu. The event will also feature themed dishes, including a “blue Avatar” cocktail and popcorn with “edible Oscar-gold dust.”

Whether students are interested in events comic or classy, costly or cheap, New York City’s variety of Oscar party options make for a welcome break from mid-term mania.



COURTESY OF AMPAS
PARTY ANIMALS | NYC is hosting Oscar parties this weekend.

Vintage deals hide at thrift shops

THRIFT from page 8

availability of several different sizes. The jeans are generally priced between \$7.99 and \$10, and on select days customers can get most clothing half-price—that’s \$5 or less for a pair of jeans. The store has a number of jackets and coats, but the latter are mostly overly long, bulky, and altogether unattractive.

The Salvation Army is so big that it would be difficult not to find at least one great item there. It seems that inventory moves in and out of the store quickly, so an unsuccessful visit one day does not mean another day’s attempt won’t succeed.

Altogether, both Outcasts and the Salvation Army make for some fun thrifting, and have the cozy neighborhood feel of stores frequented by locals.

Going Greek on the Upper West Side

BY NATASSIA MILLER
Spectator Staff Writer

Bacchanalia is defined as a drunken revelry, where promiscuity and dangerous inebriation reign. Sounds like a frat party, doesn’t it?

Perhaps that’s not exactly what Michael Psilakis had in mind, but the roar of laughter and clinks of wine glasses that echo throughout appropriately suit his restaurant—Kefi, which is Greek for the spirit of bacchanalia.

After the monumental success of Kefi’s predecessor, Anthos, Psilakis and his partner Donatella Arpaia, decided to open a more affordable counterpart. Greasy gyros are nowhere to be found, nor is every item served with a side of feta cheese—stereotypes are thrown out of the window. Instead, slightly charred grilled octopus sits atop garbanzo beans mixed with tomatoes, garlic, and onions, and lightly breaded, crispy calamari comes with a side of refreshing Greek yogurt and olive oil.

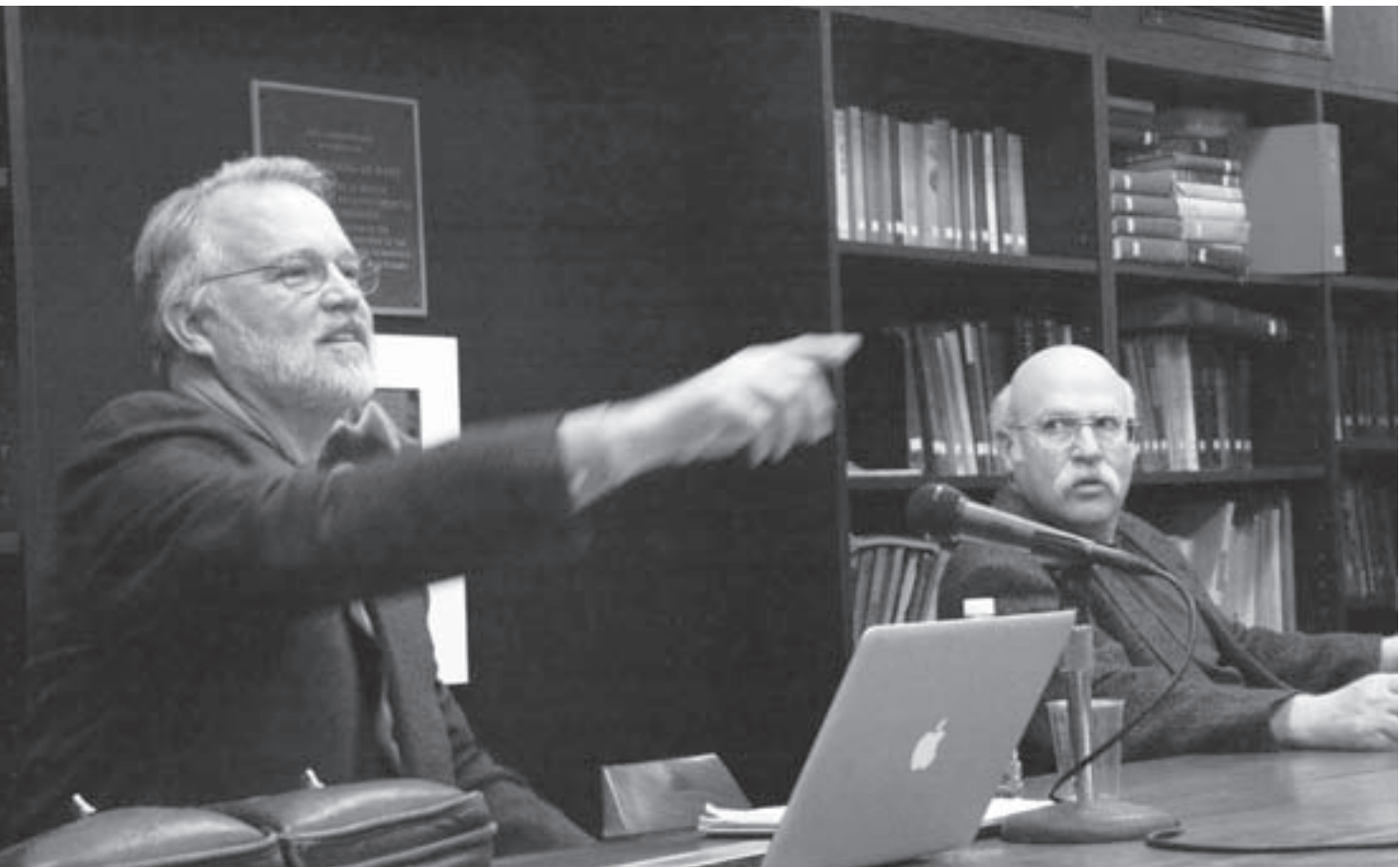
The wine list, touting an impressively varied and solely Greek selection, is highly conducive to a debauched evening spent amidst brightly lit rooms decorated with an amalgam of pots and pans hanging from the ceilings. And if the older crowd of established businessmen and thirtysomethings proves anything, it’s that Psilakis has been able to maintain a high caliber despite the low prices.

Once voted best in the city by New York Magazine, the meatballs may not live up to expectations. Still, they are quite tender and deliciously blended with roasted garlic. Though pasta may not be directly associated with Greece, there is an intriguing menu section dedicated entirely to it.

From flat pasta with pulled braised rabbit to plump sheep’s milk dumplings accompanied by tomato, pine nuts, and spicy lamb sausage, the options might just stop one from ordering the seafood dishes for which Greece is known. That is, if it weren’t for the grilled branzino—Mediterranean sea bass—lightly paired with potatoes drizzled with olive oil and tomatoes. Braised lamb shank with orzo and pork medallions seasoned with spicy peppers will impress red meat lovers.

No matter how much the table orders, space must me left for dessert. The galaktoboureko—a thick, spongy sweet made with phyllo dough—is drenched in warm honey and thoroughly addicting. A magnificent walnut cake dotted with hefty chunks of walnut and an infusion of clove, cinnamon and sugar simply cannot be refused. Wash it all down with a bottle of ouzo—a chillingly sweet Greek liquor. It’s all in the spirit of bacchanalia, after all.

Natassia Miller’s biweekly series Ethnic Eats on the Red Line reviews global dining options off the various stops of Columbia’s nearby 1 train.



ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
LIFE OF THE MIND | Steven Sabin discussed the history of the Ivory Tower and what students can do to save it in a lecture at the Heyman Center for the Humanities on Thursday. Sabin is the Franklin L. Ford Professor of the History of Science at Harvard.

Lecture exposes the cracks in the Ivory Tower

BY DAVID SPENCER SECONI
Columbia Daily Spectator

Many students at Columbia have been warned to beware the dreaded Ivory Tower, a place of self-delusion where frantic minds dislocate themselves from the realities of surrounding society in the pursuit of ever higher academic achievement. However, the use of this often-pejorative phrase had significantly different connotations throughout its history.

Examining the phrase’s historical evolution on Thursday night at the Heyman Center for the Humanities was Harvard University’s Franklin L. Ford Professor of the History of Science, Steven Shapin. Originally signifying a separated space for spiritual self-reflection, the 19th century transformed the term into an attack used by artistic and literary critics against aloof artists who ignored their various responsibilities to their artwork, audiences, and selves.

The next evolutionary step, Shapin argued, was the exposure of these artistic debates to the fiercely charged political world of the 1930s. In Fascist Italy, artists were recruited by the state to advance a political message and rally the masses. In response, Western politicians and scholars rallied against artists who refused to produce similar art glorifying opposing liberal ideals, demanding that they remove themselves from their Ivory Towers.

At the end of World War II, Shapin noted, the new location of the Ivory Tower became the university. Historically a symbol of relative isolation, the lines separating the university from political society had steadily dissolved with the advent of the modern research university and the endless demands for new information from military and industrial forces.

Shapin claimed that the newest critic of the Ivory Tower is the force of the market. Today’s dissenters against the Ivory Tower claim that its inhabitants teach seemingly pointless subjects. Contemporaneous research inapplicable to present societal needs, or those who seek “knowledge for knowledge’s sake,” are, Shapin believes, being forced out of today’s universities by the unceasing demands of Adam Smith’s invisible hand.

Concluding the night’s lecture, Shapin expressed grave fears over the ability of today’s universities to respond to this increasingly one-sided debate against market forces. Professors, Shapin said, need to find new arguments against the notion that all knowledge must be quantitatively measurable, and seekers of the higher pursuit, such as the lovers of knights and castles, need to adapt quickly for the sake of their fields: “We are not defending ourselves well, and we need to learn to do this quickly or we won’t have any medievales left.”

Down the rabbit hole to a darker ‘Wonderland’ with director Tim Burton

BY CRYSTAL OLIVA
Columbia Daily Spectator

Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland” is not the Disney cartoon of your childhood. The colorful pastels are traded in for the bright, yet somehow still dark colors of Burton’s palette. But don’t despair—despite the changes and the a voice, there are still some winks and nods to the old favorite.

Opening May 5, Burton’s interpretation is an interesting mix of Lewis Carroll’s beloved books “Alice in Wonderland” and “Through the Looking Glass,” borrowing characters from both and sometimes blending two or more fantastical elements. Burton’s Alice is close to turning 20 years old, the age that officially ends childhood and she, naturally, resists the idea.

On the precipice of adulthood, Alice comes to discover who she is and what she wants. This is a common theme for Disney—audiences have seen it many times and yet, perhaps because Alice is of the same age, it speaks particularly well to the college demographic. It’s not uncommon for students to find themselves on the verge of graduation and wishing something would just happen.

Wonderland (in Burton’s version called “Underland”) has its own big problem—the Red Queen played by the wonderful Helena Bonham Carter. She rules Wonderland with that large head of hers and all the vulnerability of a child. Her performance strikes at a universal truth: all bullies just want to be loved.

Burton favorite Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter was, of course, unforgettable. He has finally shed his “Pirates of the Caribbean” accent, to the relief



COURTESY OF DISNEY ENTERPRISES, INC.

QUEEN OF HEARTS | Helena Bonham Carter plays the Red Queen in Tim Burton’s “Alice in Wonderland.” The film draws inspiration from Lewis Carroll’s eponymous book, as well as “Through The Looking Glass,” another Carroll classic. The all-star cast includes Johnny Depp as the Mad Hatter and Anne Hathaway as the White Queen.

of audiences worldwide. Depp adds more depth to the Hatter than previously seen in the cartoon, more emotion and range than just being crazy.

Mia Wasikowska, who stars as Alice, was a good choice on Burton’s part. She has a subtle style and said

much not only with her dialogue, but with her eyes, which for the majority of the film had a far-away yet focused look to them.

Amidst all these intriguing performances, Anne Hathaway was less-than-stellar as the White Queen. Her

silly mannerisms were those of a poor imitation of Glinda from the “Wizard of Oz.”

These drawbacks are ultimately minor in comparison to the beautiful art direction of the film. The highly stylized Wonderland is so familiar yet so

delightfully unfamiliar in the off-key manner that we’ve come to love in Tim Burton films.

“Alice in Wonderland,” while it won’t knock the socks off, will speak to Burton aficionados and the general public alike—especially in IMAX 3D.



DESIGN CHOICES, STUDENT VOICES | Diana Center architects Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi discussed how the student center has been and still is being shaped by student participation in a dialogue about the use and the specifics of its design.

Designing and defining Barnard’s Diana Center

DIANA from page 5

“Even though it’s open, the building isn’t done because we’re getting a lot of feedback,” Weiss said. “One of the things, for example, was that we put an area rug on the second floor and that was popular so we’re going to put more on higher floors.” Barnard’s Vice President of Administration and Capital Planning Lisa Gamsu said that there are mechanisms in place for student feedback beyond SGA and the College Activities Office. “We’ve also been watching behaviors,” Gamsu said. “I even just go into the building and talk to students while I’m picking up garbage and doing other things.”

For the lounges, the intention was to let students decide how spaces are used. “We only bought like 75 percent of what we thought we would need to see what was successful and what was not,” Gamsu said.

The conversation over the building has surely not just begun, though—the Diana’s black box theater, for one, was born out of meetings in Barnard Hall with the architects to comment on the building’s original plans.

“There was a huge demand for a black box here—there is a great talent pool and a great lack of facilities to support that,” Weiss said of the new performing space, which opens up an approximately 100-person venue as lobbied for by groups like CUPAL.

This vision for the Diana as a diorama for the arts evolved out of such concerns. “At one point it was just going to be a library and an event space,” Weiss said.

Manfredi added, “That’s what Barnard thought they needed.”

TRUE COLORS

The Diana’s etched glass exterior eschews definite descriptors. On a wintery day, it is a sheen copper. Bathed in sunlight, it is a vibrant terra cotta.

“We thought that the building should have this changing, slightly magical quality to it,” Manfredi said of the building’s soft matte face, which, in alternation with clear glass panels, seems to mimic the color and texture of brick.

“We had been intrigued with something that’s very contemporary and forward looking—which is glass,” Weiss said, describing how they tried to “think about it in a way that didn’t try to deny its presence.” They did not want to create a completely transparent building, but were instead interested in exploring the surface qualities of glass through the color treatment.

But this ever-shifting orange isn’t the only color on display at the Diana—the student center is also helping turn Barnard green.

The Diana is on track to become LEED-Silver, in accordance with the LEED Green Building Rating System, a set of standards for environmentally-friendly design. It accomplishes this with its environmentally sound roof and energy-efficient heating and cooling systems.

Gamsu said that this focus on sustainability has been a priority every step of the way—not just for environmental concerns, but for educational purposes. The green roof will be home to not just a lawn for lounging, but also a program to test different types of plant materials and how they hold up. “It’s really an outdoor classroom in a way,” Manfredi said.

“All the issues of the sustainable research that the school is interested in doing are literally on display,” Weiss said. “There’s no clear division between research and recreation.”

BACK TO THE FUTURE

Before Lehman Lawn was introduced to construction tape and bulldozers, it was cozy with the old occupant of the Diana’s site—the McIntosh Center. The student center was notable for its Brutalist inspiration and the solid concrete wall it placed between Barnard and Broadway.

As Weiss explained, the building reflected the sentiment “that the city was one very different zone from a school and that a college needed to have maybe a fortress-like protection—a boundary between what the city was and what was inside the campus.”

In contrast, the Diana seeks to use “architecture to develop a series of links between groups and departments that are typically bifurcated” and between the college and the city, Manfredi said.

The idea, then, was to carve a window-lined diagonal atrium through the building to unite the core of the building with the upper levels, and turn the Diana’s potential identity crisis into a device for interdepartmental conversation—a return, of sorts, to the days when Milbank Hall housed all of Barnard’s programs.

And looking on to the Diana as the night grew dark and the building began to buzz with undergraduate energy, Weiss described the purpose of prioritizing connections and openness in the structure: “An academic education is all about off-hand encounters.”

Women’s History Month spurs artistic dialogue about femininity



NNEKA MCGUIRE

The Fun, the Fantastical, and the Freakish

but I’m not so certain this fact is at the forefront of students’ minds considering all these other concerns. To celebrate Women’s History Month before you are somewhere in Bermuda or Belize, reveling in the joys of legal drinking, take a peek at two fun events in the city that highlight female artists: the “In Passing” exhibit at the New York Public Library and the performance of singer Hilary Kole at Birdland Jazz Club.

Walking into the elegant and capacious New York Public Library, I was struck by an altogether foreign feeling for a Columbia student—a sense of calm. Being in a library saps that suffocating, paralytic anxiety associated with seeing the sunrise in Butler was like being a kid again, far removed from the perils of higher education. I eagerly walked up the grand staircase to the third floor where the cleverly titled “In Passing: Evelyn Hofer, Helen Levitt, Lilo Raymond” exhibit is located in one small, relatively narrow hallway. The photographs lining the walls can be viewed in passing while walking through the hallway en route to another part of the library. Metaphorically, the photographs represent the persisting artistic legacy of the three female photographers who produced them, all of whom were born in the early 19th century and passed away last year.

Largely known for her black and white portraiture, Evelyn Hofer captured the essence of the individuals she photographed. One Hofer photograph in the exhibit, “Italian family, Bergamo,” (1977) is particularly memorable because it has a heaviness, a tangible melancholy. The mother in the photograph is smiling, but the young children have a somberness that seems well beyond their years. As mentioned in a 2009 New York Times article announcing Hofer’s Exhibition, Hofer once said that she searched for an, “inside value, some interior respect,” in the individuals she photographed. Attesting to Ms. Hofer’s diligence in locating and encapsulating the interiority of her subjects, art critic Hilton Kramer said of Ms. Hofer’s work: “she has extraordinary patience, too, in capturing from every subject the exact image she intends to wrest from it.”

Helen Levitt’s photographs—deemed “street photography”—are grittier and perhaps more provocative than Hofer’s work. In a 1940 series entitled “A Way of Seeing,” Levitt photographed poor neighborhoods such as Spanish Harlem and the Lower

East Side. Many of these photographs include children brimming with the zest, buoyancy, and ingenuousness of childhood against a stark backdrop of unmistakable impoverishment. In some photographs, childlike jauntiness and graceful naiveté seem to overtake the less than ideal setting, but in others the sober scenery seeps into the children’s very beings.

Lilo Raymond’s photography, unlike Hofer’s and Levitt’s, features objects instead of individuals. Raymond’s body of work is composed mostly of black and white still-lives and interiors. Masterfully, Rayond uses varying proportions of light and shadow to give her photographs an almost kinetic quality and create rich texture. In one photograph, titled “Tree, France,” (1970) the skillful manipulation of light and shadow makes the tree seem multidimensional, as textured and palpable as papier-mâché.

While Hofer, Levitt, and Raymond created art using shutters and lenses, another distinguished female artist—vocalist Hilary Kole—uses only the rhythms of her mellifluous voice as a means of creation. The youngest singer to ever perform at the legendary Rainbow Room, Kole began her professional career with a bang and has been maintaining that momentum ever since. Although I appreciate jazz, I am certainly not an aficionado. Nevertheless, I found Kole’s music to be lilting and distinctive. A jazz vocalist who accompanied me said that Kole’s technique was exceptional but the sound of her voice was not unique.

Despite our slightly differing opinions, we both enjoyed our visit to Birdland. Even if you are unfamiliar with Hilary Kole, I’d suggest visiting Birdland simply for its ambience and historical significance. Made famous by eponymous jazz great Charlie “Bird” Parker when it opened in 1949, Birdland featured famous jazz greats like Count Basie and John Coltrane and famous actors and musicians such as Frank Sinatra, Marilyn Monroe, and Ava Gardner were regularly in attendance. The setting is intimate, but the space is large enough that one doesn’t feel claustrophobic. Although the crowd was—and likely always is—decidedly older than college-age, the atmosphere is fairly youthful and definitely inviting. I highly recommend Birdland to Columbian jazz connoisseurs and even their jazz-illiterate friends, if for no other reason than the fact that the music is a nice departure from the classical pieces we’re inundated with in Music Hum. One caveat, however—the pricey music charge and the drinks and dining minimum can be rough on a student budget, so save Birdland for special occasions.

“In Passing,” NYPL (Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street). Hilary Kole, performing at Birdland (315 West 44th St.) Sunday, March 7 at 6 p.m., April 4, 11, 18 at 6 p.m.

Nneka McGuire is a Columbia College junior majoring in creative writing. The Fun, the Fantastical, and the Freakish runs alternate Fridays.



BURIED TREASURES | Bargain-savvy Columbians can find cheap used clothing, as well as books, CDs, and furniture, at secondhand stores in Hell’s Kitchen. EVELYN WARNER FOR SPECTATOR

Hell’s Kitchen thrift shops hide vintage deals for intrepid shoppers

BY MARIA CASTEX
Columbia Daily Spectator

Allergy sufferers beware—bargain hunting in Hell’s Kitchen isn’t for students with sensitive noses. Incense and dust mites **STYLE** saturate the air at Outcasts Resurrectible Goods on Tenth Avenue between 46th and 47th streets. The store is eclectic and crowded—it isn’t uncommon to find a pair of old black patent tap shoes resting on a coffee table, or a hardcover copy of “Angels & Demons”

placed unapologetically next to a leather-bound “House of the Seven Gables.” Outcasts doesn’t boast a lot of square footage, but the unbelievably packed shelves and racks make up for its small size. The store offers an abundant and diverse selection of used books, tapes, and CDs for reasonable prices. Antique lamps and other pieces of furniture are sprinkled throughout the store, along with little piles of trinkets. Although there are some clothing items for sale, the store’s selection is sparse and unimpressive. Prices are generally low

and there are some high quality coats and dresses, but brand names are rare. The clothing also lacks variety in terms of style and size due to the store’s limited space. Outcasts is dusty and chaotic, like any good thrift shop, and there is plenty of sorting and searching to be done. Despite its shortcomings, it is a neighborhood store that offers a lot of potentially great finds. For the less seasoned thrifter, a great Salvation Army awaits just a few blocks away, on 46th Street between Tenth and Eleventh avenues. Up a few flights of stairs,

the store is roomy and filled with long racks of gently-worn clothing. The racks are organized by the type of garment, making the process of sifting through pieces exponentially easier. For men, the store offers a large variety of dress shirts, all in fairly good condition considering the low prices. The flannel shirts leave much to be desired, but most of the jeans and pants are in great condition. Unlike Outcasts, the large quantity of items helps assure

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SWEET TOOTH | Hell’s Kitchen’s Burgers & Cupcakes serves comfort food in an unassuming atmosphere. Cupcake flavors range from the classic to the decadent. COURTESY OF BURGERS & CUPCAKES

Burgers & Cupcakes serves up grease, sugar, and satisfaction

BY MADDY KLOSS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Burgers & Cupcakes doesn’t beat around the bush. The name sums up exactly what the place serves—burgers and cupcakes, and great ones at that. **FOOD & DRINK** From the straightforward name to the no-nonsense ambiance, Burgers & Cupcakes—hidden on an unassuming block at 36th Street and Ninth Avenue—thrives on its utter lack of pretension. The overwhelmingly beige interior features a swarm of simple wood chairs clustered around little round tables. Even though the restaurant rarely seems busy, it is difficult to eat with a party larger than four—the maximum number able to fit around one of the tiny tables without rearranging the entire seating area. Fortunately, the food more than compensates for the awkward dining area. Hamburgers, while not huge, taste juicy and freshly cooked. Each comes served in its own cozy wicker basket, nestled next to a pile of thick, immaculate tomato slices, and mixed greens—a modern take on the typical burger presentation. At \$6.50 apiece, the burgers are pricier than those at Upper West Side favorite Shake Shack, but Burgers & Cupcakes offers a variety of specialty burgers that competitors do not. The chicken breast burgers, either lemon-grilled or crispy, almost make plain old beef seem passé. The delicately-breaded, golden “crispy chicken breast burger” is a standout, with a coating that is flavorful, but not overpowering.

A neat, homey presentation somehow makes fried chicken appear elegant—blame it on the bed of mesclun greens. As if the burgers are not reason enough to trek down to Hell’s Kitchen, the cupcakes (\$2.50-\$3.50) feel even more satisfying. There are at least ten varieties available on any given day, displayed tantalizingly in a clear case between the kitchen and the seating area. Although Burgers & Cupcakes offers classic flavors like chocolate, vanilla, and red velvet, mint chocolate chip is an unexpected treat for adventurous eaters. Despite suspiciously green pastel frosting, the minty cupcakes stay far away from toothpaste territory, instead remaining both fluffy and oddly refreshing. The berry vanilla cupcake tastes delicious too, proving that blueberries aren’t just for muffins anymore. A downy vanilla batter disguises a surprising layer of berries resting at the bottom of the cupcake’s wrapper. Finally, for chocolate lovers, skip right to the ganache varieties—particularly the marble cupcake with peanut butter and chocolate frosting. Even the most ardent Jif haters will appreciate the smooth, rich swirl of peanut butter and dark chocolate ganache. The marble chocolate and vanilla cupcake underneath is tasty, but subtle enough to let the frosting play a starring role. At less than \$10 for an entree and dessert, Burgers & Cupcakes serves up fresh food that caters to students’ appetites for both grease and sugar—the restaurant may not be the most diet-friendly, but at least it doesn’t hurt the wallet.

Upright Citizens Brigade promises dirty jokes and raucous laughs

BY STEVEN STRAUSS
Spectator Staff Writer

THEATER When walking into a dark underground warehouse, the last sound one expects to hear is riotous laughter. Yet Upright Citizens Brigade, the epicenter for New York City’s more progressive sketch comedy, improvisation, and stand-up, offers just such a surreal experience. UCB—located on 26th Street between 8th and 9th avenues—has seen the rise of some of today’s hottest comedians since its inception in 1997, including funnyordie.com creator Adam McKay and a long line of Saturday Night Live alums. In fact UCB may even be considered a breeding ground for the late-night landmarks. Along with its counterpart in Los Angeles, UCB has been home to a slew of truly original comedians, though their history is not without blemishes. In the late 90s, UCB’s show on Comedy Central attracted a limited viewership. Though a cult following has renewed the show’s popularity, UCB’s comedy never really took hold of the entire country. America’s unwillingness to accept UCB’s particular brand of humor has turned the headquarters downtown into an exclusive club of sorts, only for those with a mind open enough to appreciate wackiness. And wacky it is. Sketch comedy troupes test out much of their new material at UCB before deciding which are the best ones to film and share with the rest of the country online. The result is that many of these sketches prove to be a tad too off-the-wall, which in a way makes an evening at UCB that much more exciting. When those lights go down, the audience has no

idea what they’re about to witness. UCB can almost be seen as the Chatroulette of comedy. Sketch comedy shares the stage equally with improvisational showcases. The most popular of these is Asssscat 3000, which stars Amy Poehler and a number of different surprise guests every Sunday night, most of which work for such television favorites as Conan O’Brien, Jon Stewart, and Stephen Colbert. UCB is notorious for ridiculously long lines since they don’t offer advance tickets. Comedy aficionados should expect to wait for hours for a chance to gain admittance for the rather low price of \$5-\$10. Monday nights are more laid-back and stress-free when UCB is home to the stand-up show Whiplash, which features a rotating cast of both unknown and hugely popular stand-up acts. This difference in popularity however is in no way indicative of the comedic quality of the evening. First-rate comedians such as David Cross have been known to take the stage on the rare, random occasion. Warning: UCB is not for the faint of heart. At a performance of Whiplash I attended last year, the host of the evening told what was possibly the most sexually explicit account of Adam and Eve ever uttered on the face of this planet. Though I came close to ripping my spleen open by the end of the night, another a more devout member of our party was brought to tears by the staple XXX humor of Upright Citizens Brigade.



SKETCHY | Upright Citizens Brigade puts on zany improvisational and sketch comedy shows that feature everyone from obscure troupes to big name SNL regulars. JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

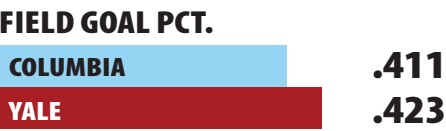
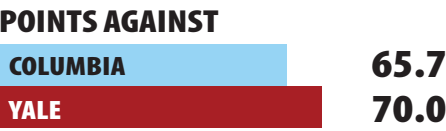
Neighborhood Watch

This Week in Hell's Kitchen

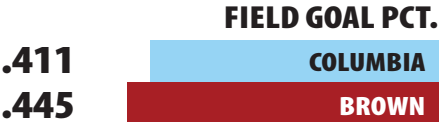
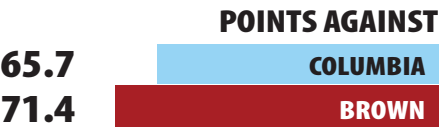
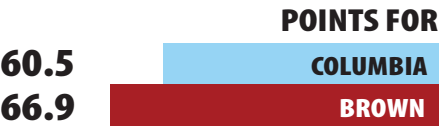


FRIDAY FAST BREAK

BY THE NUMBERS



BY THE NUMBERS



FILE PHOTO

RAW TALENT | Senior Matt Mullery has improved year after year to become the main man on Brown’s basketball team. The forward faces tough competition when the Lions come to town this weekend.

Lions must try to stifle Renaissance man Mullery in Saturday’s game

BY BART LOPEZ
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The man does it all. Brown’s senior Matt Mullery is the basketball equivalent of the Renaissance man. The 6-foot-8 forward leads his team in nearly every statistical category, from points to blocked shots. It’s safe to say that Mullery is the backbone of the Bears.

Mullery attended St. John Vianney High School in New Jersey, where he lettered in basketball for four years. As a senior, Mullery put up some impressive stats, including 22.3 points, 8.9 rebounds, and 3.8 assists per game. His solid play in his final year earned him the Monmouth County Player of the Year award. However, that accomplishment pales in comparison to his standing as St. John Vianney High School’s all-time leading scorer with 1,522 career points.

As a freshman at Brown, Mullery quickly made his impact on the team, playing in 27 games, including nine starts his first year. As a sophomore, Mullery’s defensive game improved dramatically, as he led the Ivy League in blocked shots with 1.48 per game. However, it wasn’t until his third year that his game was taken to the next level. As a junior, Mullery

averaged 16.1 points and 6.5 rebounds per game, while leading the team in total blocked shots with 59.

After drawing the attention of the rest of the Ivy League as a junior, Mullery has had to adapt to increased defensive pressure by involving his teammates. While his points-per-game average fell to 15.2 as a senior, Mullery has dished out many more assists, leading the team with 80. However, the increase in assists has been coupled with an increase in turnovers—he leads the team with 80. This poor assist-to-turnover ratio appears to be his biggest weakness, one that the Lions can exploit to their advantage. Defensively, though, Mullery is just as dominant as ever. He leads the team with 44 blocks, and is second in steals with 20.

The last time Columbia faced Brown was Feb. 5 in Levien Gym. The Lions fell behind early but were dominant in the second half, resulting in an 11 point victory over the Bears. In that contest, Mullery finished with 17 points and eight rebounds. Though he shot fairly well in the game—50 percent from the field—the Lions were able to limit his playmaking ability as Mullery finished with just one assist.

This Saturday, the Light Blue will hit the road to face Mullery and the Bears in their last game of the season. If Columbia wants to finish with a win, it will have to slow down Mullery and prevent him from filling up the stat sheet.



Alex Zampier



Kevin Bulger

KEY MATCHUP

Once again, Columbia will rely on defensive specialist, senior guard Kevin Bulger to stop the opponent’s best scorer. This time, Bulger will have to slow down Yale’s senior guard Alex Zampier, who is currently averaging 17.2 points per game. Last time, Bulger held Zampier to 4-for-13 from the floor.

COURTESY OF YALE ATHLETICS AND COLUMBIA ATHLETICS



65

Feb. 5
AT
Levien Gym



54

KEY MATCHUP

Saturday will be the final game for Brown’s senior forward Matt Mullery. Mullery will definitely be looking to put up an impressive performance, but Columbia junior center Max Craig—and the rest of the Light Blue frontcourt—must contain him in order for the Lions to win.



Matt Mullery



Max Craig

COURTESY OF BROWN ATHLETICS AND COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Short stature can’t stop Yale guard Yoyo Greenfield on the court

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

She may be small in stature, but Yoyo Greenfield was a big part of the Yale women’s basketball team’s 81-74 victory over Columbia this season.

The 5-foot-5 guard scored a career-high 20 points in that matchup, 12 of which came from 3-pointers. Overall, she shot 8-of-15 from the field.

“If Yoyo gets an open look, she’s certainly got the ability to bury it,” Yale head coach Chris Gobrecht said. “She was just able to get some good looks in that game.”

Perhaps what is most amazing about Greenfield’s performance is that she scored

well above her season average of 10.2 points per game without a single trip to the free-throw line. It is there that Greenfield often crushes Yale’s opponents.

Greenfield is hitting a career—best 81.7 percent of her foul shots this season, making her one of the Ivy League’s top free—throw shooters. Only Harvard’s Brogan Berry and Dartmouth’s Margaret Smith are more efficient at the charity stripe.

As a freshman, Greenfield sank 78.6 percent of her free throws. Last year, as a sophomore, she made 79.1 percent of them. With her soft touch at the foul line, Greenfield has led Yale to the second—highest free—throw shooting percentage in the league this year. The Bulldogs make 69.7 percent of their foul shots.

While Greenfield does not regularly score 20 points in a single game, she has become a

reliable component of Yale’s offense. After reaching double figures in seven of the Bulldogs’ 14 nonconference games this season, Greenfield has been an even steadier shooter during Ivy play. She has scored in double figures in nine of Yale’s 12 league matchups.

Being primarily a shooting guard this year has allowed Greenfield to become a greater offensive threat. Last season, Greenfield was Yale’s starting point guard. With freshman standout Megan Vasquez now assuming that responsibility, Greenfield is able to concentrate on scoring.

“I find myself focusing on getting out in transition and looking for my 3-point shot more,” Greenfield said.

Possessing both quickness and the ability to score makes Greenfield a veritable weapon on the fast break. Against Columbia, those attributes

have allowed her to be successful.

“We lost her way too often, especially in transition,” Columbia head coach Paul Nixon said. “Give her credit, because she knocked down the open shots when she had them.”

But Greenfield is more than just a scorer. Her speed makes her an essential part of Yale’s efforts on both ends of the floor.

“She’s one of their more aggressive on-ball defenders,” Nixon said. “Throughout her career, she’s a player that they have liked to use to extend their defense into the full court.”

While she may never be the tallest player on the floor, Greenfield cannot be overlooked.

“When somebody works that hard and is that tough of a person, then you can’t underestimate them just because of their size,” Bulldog coach Gobrecht said. “You know they’re going to have an impact on the game.”



Final weekend of Ancient Eight competition lies ahead for women’s basketball

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL from back page

that she’s guarding typically does not have a great offensive night.”

Barry’s defense could be especially helpful in tonight’s game because of her presence on the perimeter. In the two teams’ last meeting, Yale was 10 for 15 from 3-point range. Yale’s two guards, freshman Megan Vasquez and junior Yoyo Greenfield, had 19 and 20 points, respectively. With Barry likely to be assigned to one of those guards, Columbia’s defense may be strong enough to prevail this time.

Barry’s return will also help the Light Blue on the boards. She is the team’s second leading rebounder, and averages 5.4 boards per game. In the Yale game, Columbia was outrebounded 38-34 against Yale, and Judie Lomax, the nation’s

leading rebounder, was held to just eight rebounds. This time, Barry’s contributions in that area may be enough to win the rebounding battle.

Still, even without Barry in the February loss, Columbia almost completed the comeback.

“We made some in-game adjustments after we were down by 18 that allowed us to get back in the ballgame,” Nixon said. “We’ll be looking to do a lot more of those things than what we did the first 35 minutes of the game.”

The rematch looks optimistic and, with a third place finish potentially on the line, the game should be very closely contested.

The next day, Columbia will complete its best season ever when it faces off against Brown on Senior Day and on SEAS Night. A win against Yale or against Brown would also give Columbia’s

senior class of Danielle Browne, Caitlin Stachon, and Sara Yee the title of winningest class in school history.

“Certainly this senior class has meant a great deal to the program,” Coach Nixon said. “They’ve been through a lot of highs and lows with the program. And certainly I think they’re leaving on a high note. ... They came into a team that the year before they got here was 6-21 overall, 2-12 Ivy, and they’re leaving as one of the better teams in the league.”

The game will also be Columbia’s first ever SEAS Night, and will be senior SEAS student Sara Yee’s final game.









“We had talked for some time the last couple of years about adding a SEAS night ... to do it on Sara’s senior night is the most logical thing. I think she’s a tremendous representative

of [SEAS],” Coach Nixon said. “... I hope that the SEAS community will come out and support her in her final home game, because she deserves that.”

The two teams’ last meeting was a close match in which the Lions escaped with the win by a score of 65-60. Turnovers were the name of the game, with Columbia committing 30 and Brown not doing much better with 28. A bright spot from this game came from Columbia’s Lomax, who scored 23 points and grabbed 18 rebounds in an otherwise-sloppy game.

If Lomax can post another monster performance, and Columbia can cut down on its turnovers, the Light Blue will have a good chance of ending its superb season on a positive note.

Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. tonight against Yale and 7 p.m. tomorrow, March 6, against Brown.

WEEK 7								
	Tom Di Benedetto (29-19)	Jelani Johnson (28-20)	Kunal Gupta (25-23)	Lisa Lewis (25-23)	Bart Lopez (24-24)	Holly MacDonald (22-26)	Matt Velazquez (22-26)	Jacob Shapiro (18-30)
Columbia at Yale (-7.5)	Snoil	Columbia	Columbia	SENIORS	Columbia	Columbia	Lions	Columbia
Cornell at Brown (+8.5)	Big Red	Cornell	Cornell	Briwb	Cornell	Cornell	Bears	Cornell
Harvard at Princeton (-3.5)	Tigers	Harvard	Harvard	Vard	Harvard	Harvard	Tigers	Harvard
Dartmouth at Penn (-2.5)	Penn	Penn	Penn	Penn	Penn	Penn	Quakers	Penn
Syracuse at Louisville (+5.5)	‘Cuse	Syracuse	Louisville	Orangemen!	Louisville	‘Cuse	Cardinals	Cuse
Texas at Baylor (-3.5)	Texas	Baylor	Baylor	TEXAS FIGHT	Baylor	TEXAS	Longhorns	Tejas
Hawks at Heat (-5.5)	ATL	Hawks	Heat	Nobody cares	Heat	Heat	Heat	ATL
Lakers at Magic (+2.5)	Orlando	Lakers	Lakers	Magic	Lakers	Lakers	Magic	LA
THE BEST PART	Mets Spring Training ‘10: You gotta try to believe...	“I’m Goin In...”	16-0 FTW	So long, and thanks for all the fish!	Thank God I finally have a co-sports editor that can handle her Jose...	The slow demise of Texas basketball this season has been painful... luckily I have spring football.	The last pixbox of my career is the perfect time to do the Mascot Challenge	“I loved watching this kid play when I was growing up.” - Ozzie on Andruw Jones











To commemorate the final week of the basketball season, and thus the end of Pixbox (tear), Spec Sports is opening up Pixbox to eight esteemed guest pickers for only one week. Each of our eight columnists' guest pickers' selections will count toward his/her season total. The Spring 2010 Pixbox champion will be announced on Monday with a victory column to follow in Wednesday's paper. Godspeed, Pixbox. We bid you a fond farewell...

...At least until Ivy League football season begins in September.

LAST YEAR'S WINNER:

MATT VELAZQUEZ



WEEK 7									
	James Prince CU futbol player	Kevin Bulger CU bball player	Ben Cotton Editor in Chief	My Cousin Vinny	Michele Cleary Sports Editor	Justin Turnofsky Former sports writer	Andrea Varney Matt's Girlfriend	Seth Samuels Jacob's friend	
	Columbia at Yale (-7.5)	Lions	LIONS	Columbia	Yale	Columbia	Pat Foley's	Lions	Columbia
	Cornell at Brown (+8.5)	Cornell	CORNELL	Cornell	Brown	Cornell	Jeff Foote	Bears	Colonel
	Harvard at Princeton (-3.5)	Princeton	Princeton	Harvard	Harvard	Harvard	Crimson	Tigers	Tigers
	Dartmouth at Penn (-2.5)	Penn	Penn	Penn	Penn	Penn	Palestra or Bust	Quakers	Penn
	Syracuse at Louisville (+5.5)	Louisville	CUSE	Louisville	Syracuse	Louisville	Orangemen	Cardinals	Louisville
	Texas at Baylor (-3.5)	Texas	Baylor	Baylor	Texas, hands down	Baylor	Anyone but Texas	Longhorns	Texas
	Hawks at Heat (-5.5)	Hawks	Hawks	Heat	Heat	Heat	Hawks	Heat	Heat
Lakers at Magic (+2.5)	Magic	Magic	Lakers	Kobe is God	Magic	Lakeshow	Magic	Kobe	
THE BEST PART	In yo face!	"And Ima go HARD!"	If we don't win, I'm just going to change the results.	Lisa, stop picking Wake Forest to win in the tournament. Big 12 basketball rules!	Here's looking at you Levenfeld, cheers.	An overdue ode to my friends Jack and Daniels and the chance to make up for Jon Kamran's ineptitude.	Spring break. Winter coats.	No sugar?!?!?	

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010 • PAGE 12

**COLUMBIA (10-16, 4-8 Ivy) at
YALE (11-18, 5-7 Ivy)
FRIDAY, 7 P.M., NEW HAVEN, CONN.**



RADIO:
WKCR 89.9 FM
WVOD 970 AM
WWW.
GOCOLUMBIANS.COM



**COLUMBIA (10-16, 4-8 Ivy) at
BROWN (11-18, 5-7 Ivy)
SATURDAY, 7 P.M., PROVIDENCE, R.I.**



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TO THE HOOP | Seniors Niko Scott, Kevin Bulger and Patrick Foley will don their light blue jerseys for the last time this weekend when the men's basketball team travels north to take on Yale and Brown.

Basketball to close out season Seniors set to bid farewell after weekend matchups

BY ZACH GLUBIAK
Spectator Staff Writer

After winning a total of 25 Ivy League games in their four-year careers, it's all about numbers 26 and 27 for the class of 2010 and the rest of the Columbia basketball team.

To win, the Lions will need contributions from a whole range of players. But this weekend, the focus will once again be on the seniors, and for good reason. As the celebrated trio of Patrick Foley, Kevin Bulger, and Niko Scott prepares to travel to Yale and then to Brown this weekend to close out the 2009-2010 season, a lot hangs in the balance.

Columbia, (10-16, 4-8), has gone through its fair share of ups and downs this year, suffering injuries to key players—including Foley, who is unlikely to play this weekend after partially separating his shooting shoulder in the third game of the conference schedule. Faced with a brutal opening lineup to their Ancient Eight slate, the Light Blue dropped three straight lopsided decisions to start 0-3 in Ivy play. To add to Foley's injury, crucial big men Brian Grimes and Asenso Ampim have spent significant time on the sideline in shirt and tie thanks to banged-up knees, backs, and calves.

Through it all, with two wins this weekend, Columbia will finish fourth in the Ivy League. That would be the fourth year in a row that the Light Blue have finished fourth or better in conference, a feat that hasn't been done since the class of 1979 bid adieu to Morningside Heights. With the

two victories, the senior class would match the class of 1994 for most career Ivy wins and eclipse their two preceding classes of 2008 and 2009 for total wins—each of those years compiled 53 W's while Bulger, Scott, and Foley will have 54 if they top both Yale and Brown this weekend.

"It's been a long time since the program has finished in the top half of the league four years in a row," explained head coach Joe Jones. "I know it's not what we wanted, but it's a real positive thing for the program."

To do so the Lions will need to put together two complete performances. On Friday in New Haven they will have a chance to avenge an embarrassing home loss from Feb. 6, when the Bulldogs came to town and handed the Lions a 79-65 decision. In that game, head coach Joe Jones' squad was outrebounded by 19. Both coach and players were livid afterwards, saying they were outworked on their home floor.

"We got physically dominated in this game the first time around, and I think our guys are well aware of that," commented Jones. "They're ready to go."

Over a month later, that game still resonates with the Light Blue. And while the Lions have certainly not gone undefeated since, their play after that loss to Yale demonstrates the pride the Lions take in their identity as a hard-working team. The very next Friday, Columbia seriously scared a Princeton squad that had yet to lose in conference play, and the next night they pulled out a gutsy 66-62 win at Penn's famous

venue, the Palestra.

But when the Lions step onto the Bulldogs' renowned court, the historic Payne Whitney Gymnasium, rebounding will again be the focus. After being dominated on the glass 46-27, in their last game, Columbia will have to avoid giving their opponents second-chance points. Yale is simply too talented to get two or three opportunities to score in a single possession.

"It's just one of those things, where, at this time in the year, you just hope that you can go in and rebound the ball better," Jones said. "You can do drills, but I just think that's something that we've got to be focused on—that and when the ball goes up be ready to compete and rebound the ball better."

Mike Sands could spell trouble for the Light Blue if the Bulldogs are not kept off the glass. Sands, Yale's primary post player, is coming off consecutive double-doubles and is developing into a major threat down low.

Another concern for Jones' squad will once again be Yale's senior star, Alex Zampier. The dynamic guard is averaging over 17 points per game—he added 18 against the Lions in February despite being forced into 4-for-13 shooting by Bulger, Columbia's go-to defender.

Don't expect the Lions to change their defensive strategy, though. "In the past we've just played good team defense, and we've been good. It's not my

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 3

Social media has a place in the sports world



LISA
LEWIS
**That's
What
She Said**

Social media is an ever-evolving enigma—everyone now knows that there are tons of opportunities within the online space to make money, gain publicity, and tell the world

about oneself, but few people can figure out how to maximize that payoff.

Athletes and sports programs are constantly experimenting with the usefulness of social media. Many pro athletes have their own Twitter streams or Facebook fan pages, but only a few have figured out how to capture the ever-elusive money-maker of social media: fan engagement.

Once the fans become invested in you, you've created an audience. You've got a captive audience that wants to know what you're doing that's cool and different. It reflects a trans-national trend in freedom of information—the economy is becoming more transparent.

However, people are scared to engage fully with their audiences on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, because word of mouth is completely organic—if your fans love you or if they hate you, they make it public information. This instant feedback mechanism is an opportunity for any brand to grow and become more responsive to the market, but it's also threatening, which is why professional sports leagues have adopted policies limiting what athletes say to the public.

But be not afraid! For those meek-but-intrigued social media newbies, here are some creative ways in which the Internet is changing the way fans keep up on their favorite sports.

1. Sports reporters on Twitter. My favorites—ESPN's online columnist Bill Simmons, who is @sportsGuy33, and Jay Christensen, the Wiz of Odds, who is at @JayChristensen—cover two opposite ends of the Twitter spectrum.

Bill has cultivated an online celebrity persona, interacting frequently with his fans on Twitter and using his feed to pimp his ESPN.com articles on occasion. Simmons is a huge asset to ESPN's online readership because he drives traffic to the site but also serves as an approachable face to the big, national brand name. Jay, on the other hand, uses his Twitter feed much like a micro-news aggregator, writing his Reporters' Notebooks features, which summarize relevant collegiate athletics news around the nation, and linking to them from his blog. It's thanks to Jay that I first heard about the rumors of Colorado leaving the Big 12. People like Jay and Bill are keeping the sports media world moving at the speedy pace that social media is taking, and their work helps to make journalism more timely and more relevant.

2. Interactive Facebook fan pages. The fan page for the NBA, at www.facebook.com/nba, harnesses the viral capabilities of its nearly two million fans by engaging them in asking for feedback every single day. Posting at least two updates per weekday, and more on the weekend, the NBA is constantly adding links to epic slam dunks on YouTube or running polls asking fans about specific players. The coolest thing about this use of a fan page is that it unites fans from every team, offering up content about all the games each week so that there are opportunities for fans from Denver to play nicely with fans from Detroit and for all fans to weigh in on the best defender in NBA history. In addition, the NBA gets that the best way to have happy fans is to make it worth their while—the Facebook page features giveaways of Xbox consoles as well as opportunities to download cool wallpapers to your iPhone or your Blackberry. I don't even watch NBA games and I wanted to be a fan—the NBA cares about its community, and takes care to deliver quality, useful content to sports fans. No wonder it gets almost two million

SEE LEWIS, page 3

Hometown crowd to see off seniors

BY MICHAEL ZHONG
Spectator Staff Writer

The women's basketball team will hit the floor for its final doubleheader this season when it takes on Yale (12-14, 7-5 Ivy) and Brown (7-19, 4-8 Ivy) this weekend.

Columbia's Friday game against Yale might be the Lions' most important game of the season. The two teams are tied for third in the Ivy League and a win for either school would give its team the edge.

The last time the two teams played, Yale stormed ahead early, leading by as many as 18 in the second half. From there, Columbia locked down defensively and trimmed the lead down to one with just under two minutes remaining. However, the furious second-half comeback wasn't enough, and the Bulldogs eventually prevailed 81-74.



**Sara Yee
Guard**

POINTS PER GAME: 6.0
ASSISTS PER GAME: 3.2
REBOUNDS PER GAME: 2.3



**Danielle Browne
Guard**

POINTS PER GAME: 6.1
ASSISTS PER GAME: 4.5
REBOUNDS PER GAME: 3.1



**Caitlin Stachon
Center**

POINTS PER GAME: 1.6
ASSISTS PER GAME: 0.6
REBOUNDS PER GAME: 1.6

ANGELA RADULESCU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FINAL MINUTES | For three women on Columbia's basketball team, this weekend's pair of games against Ivy foes Yale and Brown will be bittersweet as Sara Yee, Danielle Browne and Caitlin Stachon will graduate this May.

Those 81 points were the most the usually tenacious Light Blue defense had allowed on an Ivy opponent since 2007. One reason for the defense's poor performance can be attributed to guard-forward

Kathleen Barry's injury, which kept her out of the game.

"She's definitely one of our two best defenders," head coach Paul Nixon said. "The player

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, page 10

Men's tennis opens Ivy play against rival Cornell

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer



ALYSON GOULDEN FOR SPECTATOR

ONE MORE TIME | Rajeev Deb-Sen will look to repeat his impressive win against Cornell.

well, but we didn't play that well. We absolutely refused to lose."

In their earlier matchup this season, the Lions lost the doubles point to Cornell, losing close matches, 8-5, at No. 1 and No. 2 doubles. The lone bright spots in doubles were sophomore Rajeev Deb-Sen and junior Kevin Kung, who defeated their opponents at No. 3 doubles, 8-4.

The Lions saw better results in singles that afternoon. Led by top singles player Jon Wong, the Lions got wins at Nos. 1, 2 and 3 singles. Wong, at No. 1 singles, won in three tight sets despite battling a back injury at the time. Mihai Nichifor and Haig Schneiderman won easily at No. 2 and No. 3 singles. Freshman Cyril Bucher had a tough day, however, as he was beaten thoroughly by Jonathan Fife, the Ivy League Rookie of the Year two years ago, in straight sets.

COLUMBIA VS. CORNELL
Ithaca, N.Y., Saturday, Noon

The match was decided at No. 5 and No. 6 singles, where Deb-Sen and junior Sho Matsumoto won key matches in three sets to give the Lions the win. Both Lions players lost the first set, but bounced back to win the next two sets.

"Since then we have been working really hard in doubles," Goswami said. "I think we are playing much better doubles, but ultimately the proof is in the pudding."

The Lions won the doubles point in their most recent outing against George Washington on Sunday, but the top doubles team of Nichifor and Wong was defeated

SEE MEN'S TENNIS, page 3