

# Admins respond to SWS protests

BY CECILIA REYES  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Columbia has responded for the first time to students protesting its treatment of Faculty House workers, with Vice President of Student Services Scott Wright writing that administrators are “disappointed by the absence of engaged serious negotiations by Local 100 a full year after the collective bargaining agreement expired.”

The Student-Worker Solidarity group received the letter last week, five days after Local 100 union workers authorized economic action, up to and including a strike, if an agreement is not reached by the end of the month, when their contract will officially expire.

SWS members have been attempting to meet with administrators since early December, and have written letters to Wright; Jeffrey Scott, executive vice president for student & administrative services; and most recently, University President Lee Bollinger, whose letter they personally delivered. They have argued that a 22 percent gratuity is withheld from workers, that they receive little to no wage increases compared to those of other unions on campus, and that laid-off workers are not given adequate unemployment benefits during summer and winter breaks.

“It is a disgrace to students,

SEE SWS, page 2



QIUYUN TAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GETTING GRAPHIC | Amanda Cox, a professional-in-residence at the J-School, is a New York Times graphics editor.

## Cox brings Web graphic expertise to J-School

Amanda Cox fell in love with journalism as a third-grader, reading copies of the Wall Street Journal that her father brought home. Today, she is a graphics editor for the New York Times, expanding the frontiers of data journalism on the Web.

BY EMMA GOSS

In February, Cox was named this year’s Hearst Professional-in-Residence at the Journalism School, a position that brings her into classrooms as a resource and mentor for students.

“It’s a fun time in the data journalism community,” Cox said. “It’s good to spread that to a wider audience and be

connected to the work that Columbia is doing.”

Cox will officially begin her semesterlong position on April 11, when she will deliver the Hearst New Media Lecture to kick off Alumni Weekend at the journalism school. The lecture will focus on how Cox sees the current state of the industry.

She said that she believes there is a lot of room for traditional reporting in data journalism.

“A lot of data journalism work to date has not been grounded in a ton of great reporting,” Cox said. “Graphics that come out, even the ones that are good and smart, sometimes are just a repurposing of government data that’s already on the Internet.”

Mark Hansen, a professor at the journalism school and the director of Columbia and Stanford’s Brown Institute for Media Innovation, said it’s “quite a gift” to have Cox in the building.

A longtime admirer of Cox’s work, Hansen said he’s used her Netflix rental data graphic in his classes time

SEE COX, page 2

# Barnard raises Dean’s List cutoff

At 3.6, required GPA average now matches CU policy

BY SAMANTHA COONEY  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Barnard’s Dean’s List will become a bit more exclusive starting this fall.

Registrar Constance Brown announced Friday that the distinction will now be awarded on a semester basis to students who earn a grade point average of 3.6 or higher. Previously, students had to earn a 3.4 for the entire academic year to earn the distinction.

Brown said that the new policy, which now matches that of Columbia College, “will for the first time enable January transfers, February graduates, and students who go on study leave for one semester to be on Dean’s List.”

In November 2010, Barnard’s Committee on Honors proposed changing the requirements for Dean’s List, but no changes were made until now. Administrators were unavailable to comment this weekend on why the changes didn’t go into place until now.

Students had varying opinions on the new requirements.

SEE DEAN’S LIST, page 2

## Dominican Sunday uses volunteer base to serve locals

BY AVANTIKA KUMAR  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Dominican Sunday has come a long way since it was first established almost two decades ago.

“We started without anything,” Altagracia Hiraldo, co-founder of the Manhattan Valley community organization, recalled. Instead of employing permanent staff, the group had to rely on community members for support.

Thanks to that volunteer base, the group has become a cornerstone of the local Dominican community, providing important educational and cultural services, including English, computer literacy, and citizenship classes, and holding cultural events such as Dominican Heritage Month, which it celebrated two weeks ago.

But as the organization still has fundraising problems, even as it works to expand its programming beyond the neighborhood’s sizable population of Dominican residents and serve the entire community.

“We hope that our nationality can work together—at least, you know, can do something for the community together,” Hiraldo said.

Dominican Sunday operates out of a tiny, poster-lined office on 107th Street between Amsterdam and Columbus avenues, but its services have a wide impact.

Hiraldo said the organization, which was established through the Ascension Church in 1995, has counteracted negative stereotypes about the Dominican population by showing the neighborhood “who we are, our

history, our culture.”

She added that she saw a special need for Dominican Sunday’s services in Manhattan Valley, the neighborhood between 96th and 110th streets, where she said there was a lot of drug use, causing some locals to think negatively of the Dominican population.

Co-founder Belkys Ravelo-Paulino said that when it was established, Dominican Sunday filled the need for a Dominican community group. She added that while other ethnic groups connected in other New York City neighborhoods, the Dominican community lacked a similar center in the area.

According to Ravelo-Paulino, the organization helped 1,900 people gain citizenship and voting rights during its first three years of operation. It also refers clients to lawyers, provides financial aid services, and hosts an annual job fair.

Currently, the organization receives funding from discretionary City Council money, volunteer fundraisers, and food sales. The group is also partnered with Columbia, which provides space for classes, pays some Dominican Sunday teachers, and has helped the group gain 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

However, Hiraldo said, the group still lacks a stable funding source, and needs a designated volunteer to write letters to potential donors and assist in securing funds.

According to Hiraldo, 12 volunteers helped with the recent Dominican Heritage Month celebration two weeks ago, where over 100 people enjoyed music,

SEE DOMINICAN, page 2

## Light Blue drops final contests of season

BY ELI SCHULTZ  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The men’s basketball team closed a disappointing season with a disappointing finish this weekend, suffering a pair of road losses to Harvard and Dartmouth to end the 2012-13 campaign.



The two contests followed eerily similar scripts. Columbia (12-16, 4-10 Ivy) held a six-point halftime lead against both the Crimson (19-9, 11-3 Ivy) and the Big Green (9-19, 5-9 Ivy), but on both nights quickly allowed the other team to get back in it just after the intermission. Each night, the rest of the second half was tightly contested, but the Lions ultimately let the games slip away in the final minutes.

“It’s definitely disappointing, ending with a loss here [at Dartmouth] and a tough one at Harvard,” senior point guard Brian Barbour said. “We just never found a way.”

The weekend got off to an inauspicious start when freshman guard Maodo Lo hurt his ankle during pregame warm-ups. Lo did not play at all against Harvard, and only played five minutes against Dartmouth.

Despite the setback, things went well for the Light Blue early on Friday night, as Columbia opened the game on a 9-2 run and never trailed in the first half. After a three by Crimson guard

SEE MEN’S BASKETBALL, page 3



CHRISTIAN ZHANG FOR SPECTATOR

THEY KILLED THE GRILL | Protesters outside Saigon Grill celebrated its closing on Friday.

## Saigon Grill closes after protests

BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Around 50 former employees, activists, and local residents gathered in front of Saigon Grill at 90th Street and Amsterdam Avenue Friday morning to celebrate its closing. The beleaguered restaurant shut down over the weekend after two years of picketing over alleged wage and working hour abuses.

The crowd also called for the restaurant’s owners to pay a \$1 million settlement that a court awarded to workers last month, and for the landlord to rent only to reputable businesspeople who would adhere to labor laws.

“This victory sends a clear message to all other bosses in this community and across the city that when workers and

the community come together, sweatshops will not be tolerated,” Sophie DeBenedetto, an organizer for the Justice Will Be Served campaign, said.

“This doesn’t happen here on the West Side anymore.”

—Linda Rosenthal,  
State Assembly Member

It is unclear whether the restaurant’s sudden closure was related to the continued protests, which started in November 2010. State Assembly member Linda Rosenthal said

that the owners’ refusal to pay rent could have been a factor.

“They have refused to treat the workers fairly, they have disobeyed the state and federal, local laws that protect workers ... that work with dignity,” she said. “And this is not something we’re going to tolerate. This doesn’t happen here on the West Side anymore.”

Several other restaurants on the Upper West Side have been accused of unfair labor practices in recent months. Student-Worker Solidarity protested in front of Indus Valley restaurant, at 100th Street and Broadway, and at Domino’s Pizza, at 107th Street and Amsterdam, last December.

“We all hoped that this restaurant would do the right thing, would pay the

SEE SAIGON, page 2

### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Nutella for change

The Nutella Affair wanted for discourse, Daniel Stone writes.

#### The wrong mindset

The meritocracy is not the goal of college, Steele Sternberg writes.



### SPORTS, PAGE 3

#### Women’s basketball wins on Senior Night

After dropping its first contest of the weekend against Harvard, Columbia came back to win against the Big Green.

### EVENTS

#### Media Networking Night

Network with employers and alumni in the media industry.  
Low Memorial Library, Rotunda, 7 p.m.

#### Columbia Chamber Players at Miller Theater

Columbia Chamber Players performs works by CU composers and songwriters.  
Miller Theater, 8 p.m.

### WEATHER

#### Today



52°/45°

#### Tomorrow



52°/39°



Lions split Sunday doubleheader with Rider

BY PHIL GODZIN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

In a developing trend, the the softball team (2-5) yet again had its games finish with a one-run margin.

Sunday's split double-header for the Light Blue marked the sixth time in seven games that just one run separated the winner from the loser. Unable to capture the magic just yet, the Lions have won just two of those six close contests.



One such win came in the game one against Rider, when a three-run home run by Macy Shrum broke open a 4-4 game in the fifth inning. The round-tripper was the first of the freshman's career and the first of the year for Columbia. The Lions gave up an unearned run in each of the next two innings with six total errors in the game, but kept the lead intact for the win. Freshman Emily Kenyon helped secure the win by working out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam, giving up only an unearned run in three innings of work.

In the second game of the

doubleheader, the two teams traded early runs, but the Lions couldn't get the big hit after being down 3-1. They loaded the bases in the fifth with one out but only got one run on a sacrifice fly. In the seventh, down by one run, the Lions had a runner on third with one out, but a pop-up and a strikeout ended the game.

Offensive star of the weekend was sophomore Kayla Shimoda, who went a perfect 5-5 with two RBIs in the two games.

Up next for the Lions is a five-day spring training trip to Florida, beginning March 15, that will have the Lions play 10 games.

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In letter, Wright says union not engaged, serious

SWS from front page

workers, and faculty that such a rich university actively exploits members of its own community," the SWS letter to Bollinger read. "We demand that the university rectify this situation now."

But in a letter responding to the letter to Bollinger, Wright countered that the University's contract proposal includes "continued health insurance paid in full for all of the employees, part-time and full-time;" and that the 22 percent service charge is explicitly outlined in the contract as a means to "defray the overhead costs of running Faculty House" and is not gratuity.

Wright also noted that New York State law exempts certain workers from unemployment benefits, including Faculty House workers. He ends by stating that negotiations have been barred to the public for at least 10 years because outside observers make "reaching an agreement much harder."

SWS emailed a response to Wright's letter, arguing that their

letter was not addressed to him but to Bollinger, that Columbia has turned down four negotiating dates in the last week, and that the union has a legal right to choose its bargaining unit, which, in this case, includes students.

The group also claimed that vouchers given to customers use the terms "tip" and "service charge" interchangeably, leading clients to believe the service charge goes to workers. The group also wrote that a \$65 per week stipend does not constitute a living wage as it was calculated using the minimum wage of 1983, \$3.35 per hour.

The current offer from the University includes a \$200 lump sum salary increase for the first year, a 1 percent salary increase the second, and no salary increases for the third year, SWS wrote. From 2001 to 2004, salaries for Local 100 increased by 2 percent each year. In contrast, Local 2110, which represents technical, office and professional workers, saw a 17 percent increase over five years starting in 2007.

Faculty House workers have demanded that the 22 percent

gratuity for use of the Faculty House be given to them, and that the University practice proper employment classification. Some employees say they have worked 80 hours per week as part-time employees.

The SWS has organized teach-ins and rallies to prod the administration into action. The most recent one was held on Friday, and saw the attendance of 200 students as well as American history professor Eric Foner.

"A great number of faculty are equally outraged at the way the workers of Faculty House have been treated," Foner said to a group of students huddled on Low steps. "I have been at Columbia for 30 years, and have seen many struggles like this."

"Unfortunately, it's in the DNA of the administration that they always seem to take the wrong position when it comes to labor issues," Foner added, to cheers and drumming.

The contract for Faculty House workers expires on March 31.

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Graphics an 'open-ended form of storytelling'

COX from front page

and again.

"Increasingly, what Amanda's work has shown us is that you can have really informative graphics that are graceful and powerful and maybe even playful," Hansen said.

The idea of playfulness is important to Cox, who said that her goal is to get students to experiment with data journalism.

"Journalism is a fun space because the advice is just to do awesome things," she said. "You don't have to wait for permission to do awesome things."

Cox said that while some graphics are made for print and then posted on the Web, the best graphics "feel like they belong on the Internet because they respond to you in a certain way, because they incorporate multimedia gracefully," she said. "The mixture of text and image can feel different on the Web."

Hansen said that Cox will be a great resource for students in his computing class, and will be able to provide "detailed technical analysis that can lead to really beautiful forms of storytelling."

"She publishes not just static graphics, but also interactive systems that let you dig into a data set," he said. "It's like publishing thousands and thousands of stories. As users navigate through the graphic, they can scroll into a topic that they're interested in. It's a more open-ended form of storytelling."

Even as Cox prepares for her new role, however, her predecessor has voiced dissatisfaction about the position. Rebecca MacKinnon, last spring's Hearst Professional-In-Residence, said that she felt her concerns about journalism—that online business practices are detrimental to free expression and that the Internet is evolving badly for the future of journalism—were

not shared by the University.

"It wasn't clear to me that the school is really concerned about the things I'm worried about," MacKinnon said. "Perhaps the current person might be a better fit."

Cox said that it's critical to teach students about data journalism because the field is in a state of constant growth, adding that many of her graphics at the New York Times from four or five years ago already feel obsolete.

"It's not that I don't love print," Cox said. "I love print. I think it often leads us to smarter graphics. There's a resolution and a natural fit accompanying text, and even dealing with more complicated things. When you look at it in print, you're more attuned to sit and study."

"But there's also a lot of opportunity for things that can only happen on the Web," she added.

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Questions remain over \$1 million settlement

SAIGON from front page

workers," said Marc Landis, a City Council candidate and Democratic district leader. "It's unfortunate that it came out this way."

The Justice Will Be Served campaign is also involved with campaigns targeted at V&T Pizzeria, on 110th Street and Amsterdam, and Land Thai, on 82nd Street and Amsterdam.

Sarah Ahn, an activist from Justice Will Be Served, said the group fears that Saigon's owners will declare bankruptcy and refuse to pay the wages owed to workers. According to a statement the group released Friday, the lawyer representing the workers is pursuing the owners of the restaurant.

In an open letter sent to Adam Katz, landlord and master lessor of the building, activists called for him to "ensure that any business that will occupy the vacant space ... does not operate in violation of state and federal labor laws."

Vincent Cao, a former waiter at the restaurant who was fired in 2010, said the rally sent a message to local businesses about unfair labor conditions.

"When workers are working in a sweatshop environment, they are afraid to speak

out, they're afraid to file a lawsuit," he said in Chinese. "So sweatshop conditions are truly intolerable. We need to encourage workers to come out and fight for their rights ... so that in the future everybody will have better working conditions."

"Sweatshop conditions will not be tolerated here ... so a lot of owners are scared."

—Vincent Cao, former Saigon Grill waiter

"We want a new owner to come in here who's responsible and who's going to follow the law," Ahn said. "We want jobs in the Upper West Side, but we want them to be decent jobs."

Saigon Grill has a history of labor issues. In 2008, the Southern District Court of New York awarded delivery workers from the restaurant \$4.6 million dollars because

the restaurant's then-owners violated wage and overtime laws. These owners were also arrested on counts of falsifying documents.

When the new owners, Bei Lin and Qiao Lin, took over in 2010, workers were quickly disappointed when they fired three older workers.

Cao said that when four younger workers, himself included, told the owners that the act constituted age discrimination, they too were fired. It was then that they decided to join the protests.

"The picket line was not just for this restaurant," he said. "It's to show that sweatshop conditions will not be tolerated here ... so a lot of owners are scared."

Li Hua, a supporter at the rally, said that laws need to change to protect workers in the case of bankruptcy.

"Starting from this picket line, we need to push for the laws to change so that the owners are forced to pay their workers ... and can't just declare bankruptcy," Li said. "We hope the law can change. Not just for one person, for one restaurant, but for everyone to protect their working rights."

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Business School student, "Georgia Peach," dies

BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Business School student DeShaun Maria Harris died Friday afternoon, Business School Dean Glenn Hubbard said in an email Friday evening. She was 27.

Harris, who hailed from Prichard, Ala. and called herself a "Traditional Georgia Peach with Big Apple Ambition" on her Twitter profile, was an active member of the Business School community and an aspiring media entrepreneur. Jessica O'Neal, a close friend of Harris, described her as someone who was "full of life" and loved "bringing people together."

After graduating from the University of Georgia with a

degree in journalism management in 2008, Harris moved to New York and worked for Lionsgate Entertainment, Meredith Corporation, NYC TV, and Radio New York. She was planning to start a media company that "improved the image of minorities in the media and provided positive media content to underserved audiences," Hubbard's email said.

While at Columbia, Harris was a leader in the Black Business Student Association and the Media Management Association Conference, and a member of the Follies and Management Leadership of Tomorrow.

On her Twitter profile, she described herself as an "occasional freelance journalist" and "determined to become a

media maven."

Her passion for media was apparent during her time at the University of Georgia, where she was the secretary for the National Association of Black Journalists, a reporter for the Red and Black newspaper, and an editor of InfUSion magazine and Georgia Magazine. The 2008 yearbook named Harris as an "outstanding senior leader."

But as a packed St. Paul's Chapel on Sunday morning suggested, what allowed Harris to impact so many was the way she cared for others, summed up in the motto that she shared with O'Neal.

"Not I, not me," O'Neal recalled. "But us, but we."

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HARRISON LIEW FOR SPECTATOR

PUT ON YOUR SUNDAY CLOTHES | Dominican Sunday has been a local cornerstone since it opened almost 20 years ago. The group offers English, computer literacy, and citizenship classes.

Manhattan Valley group still has funding issues

DOMINICAN from front page

folk dance performances, and traditional Dominican food.

At the Dominican Heritage Month event, local politicians, including City Council members Gale Brewer and Robert Jackson, State Assembly member Gabriela Rosa, and City Council candidate Mark Levine, voiced support for the organization.

"You can't give up," Brewer said, adding that Hiraldo's leadership has taught her lessons.

Jackson, who presented awards to several Dominican Sunday volunteers, urged attendees to maintain "your history as a people, your culture as a people."

Students divided on higher Dean's List cutoff

DEAN'S LIST from front page

Mary Glenn, BC '13, said she thought some students found their extracurriculars to be more important than their GPAs. Still, she wondered how many students were involved in the decision, noting that the abrupt announcement would come as a surprise to those affected.

"Personally, it doesn't affect me," she said. "For people who are between the range and all of the sudden they're out, they may be a little hurt."


"I think it will be beneficial for people who take a semester off or study abroad," Ashiana Jivraj, BC '15, said.

Jivraj added that she was glad the new requirements would allow these students to be recognized for their academic achievements each semester.

Giselle Appel, BC '15, added that she thought a 3.5 may have been a more balanced cutoff to motivate students while maintaining academic priorities.

"I think it could motivate students, but I also think it could put a lot more pressure on students," Appel said. "I get where the administration is coming from—I like holding the students to higher standards, but people stress out here enough."

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# Admiring or adoring?

After a brief love-hate relation-  
ship, I decided that I was done  
with Columbia Admirers. It's not that  
there isn't a certain fascinating pathos  
in trawling through the hundreds of  
frantic posts and gaining glimpses  
into all-too-personal emotions. It's  
not that there isn't a thrill in hoping  
to see one's own name tagged. It's not  
even that I'm a callous cynic, wearied  
of the ways of the world and unable to  
appreciate the triumphs and disasters  
of college romance. But "admiring"  
seems an unworthy expression of the profundity of hu-  
man affections. Love gets left out.

The tragicomedy of "admiring" among Columbians  
seems to reflect a shared sense that love is almost un-  
heard of in our particular corner of the concrete jungle.  
Within my circle of acquaintances, romantic relation-  
ships are intriguing anomalies. Single friends envy the  
paired-off among us, but feel a sense of wistfulness, as  
if such things are almost impossible in our context. The  
couples I know have to sacrifice sleep, studies, and some-  
times even sanity to maintain their romance. Short-term  
relationships or physical gratification—which seem to be  
the main focus of the "admiring" subculture—are much  
easier and lower-maintenance. I don't like this state of af-  
fairs, and one of my small acts of protest was to unfriend  
Columbia Admirers.

Love—in all its forms, familial, companionable, roman-  
tic, divine—is so deeply intertwined with every aspect of  
our existence that it is notable that so few works in the  
Contemporary Civilization syllabus address it. Certainly



LUKE  
FOSTER  
Foster  
the Core

# Meritable college pursuits

BY STEELE STERNBERG

It is not an exaggeration to say that a good portion of our  
community is intolerant of student-athletes. I shamefully  
admit that I indulged in my fair share of anti-athlete rheto-  
ric and witnessed many others voice similarly intolerant  
speech and did nothing about it. In looking for a solution to  
this intolerance, however, our discussions frequently stop  
short of examining the issue at the core of the debate over  
college athletics.

Intolerance towards athletes stems from the beliefs that  
(1) meritocratic admissions policies are the best way to de-  
cide who gets into college and who does not, and (2) demon-  
strated athletic talent is valued more highly than it ought to  
be. There is not much to be done about the second of these  
two beliefs. People value or ignore athletics as much as they  
please. The first belief is more troublesome. Meritocratic  
admissions policies sound great until one realizes that they  
almost always fail. The SAT, perhaps the single greatest  
exemplar of the ascendant meritocracy, is only considered  
reliable because it sometimes predicts the grades one will  
receive in the first semester of college. That's it! Realizing  
that meritocracy is not a reliable way to separate the best  
from the rest undermines the whole idea of saying person  
A "deserves" to be here and person B does not.

If meritocratic admissions are not reliable, does that  
mean we have to accept everyone here as filling some vital  
niche in our community regardless of their academic or  
athletic prowess? Maybe so, but that is a much larger prob-  
lem. The issue at hand here is that the belief in meritocracy  
has profoundly shaped our opinion of higher education to  
the point where people like Alex Harstrick who is quoted  
in this week's Eye lead story, "The Dodge Divide," can ac-  
tually say "The goal of college is to get a degree" and be  
taken seriously.

# A college degree begins to matter far more than the experiences one has at a college.

Because we think the meritocracy works, we are con-  
tent to let it sort all of American society into social classes  
very early on in our lives. This is why it is easier to get a  
job as a Columbia grad than as an Arizona State University  
grad—the Columbian, because she got into Columbia, has  
presumably already passed the magic bar needed to demon-  
strate a capacity for excellence, whereas the ASU student  
has not. Because our collective faith in the meritocracy  
bestows the degree with so much power, it carries a lot of  
weight in terms of financial and vocational opportunities.  
This, in turn, means that a college degree begins to matter  
far more than the experiences one has at a college and how  
that institution shapes one's mind and morals. We assume  
the piece of paper is the end goal—the final and only ticket  
to a successful life.

If the degree is what matters, then it comes as no surprise  
that people become intolerant of others whom they see as  
unworthy of that same credential. If the degree is all that  
matters then we are right back in Hobbes' state of nature,  
doing everything in our power to fight for survival (or, in  
this version, acceptance into an Ivy League institution) at  
the expense of others.

I believe that that college is about more than a degree.  
Many will say that my position is a position of privilege and  
that one can only make such assertions if one' economic  
future is already reasonably secure. I find this argument  
unacceptable because it forces us to admit that those who  
come from the less-privileged backgrounds must simply  
settle for an unexamined life. College should be a process  
of discovery for everyone, regardless of what college we  
are talking about or how hard a student must work to pay  
tuition.

Part of the problem of our intolerant community lies in  
our inability to see the value of different kinds of merit. But  
all too often that is the end of the discussion, when it ought  
to be the jumping-off point into a much larger and more im-  
portant investigation of our core belief that the meritocracy  
is an end in itself. Such an assumption is not only wrong, but  
it has a profoundly sinister way of locking us into needless  
competition with each other and generating true animosity  
among members of our community. These drawbacks detract  
from our ability to enjoy our time on campus and prevent us  
from opening ourselves to the kinds of experiences college  
is meant to provide in the first place.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in  
philosophy. He is a member of Spector's editorial board.

in the modern period, philosophers seem to be more  
concerned with developing grand theories and overarch-  
ing systems than with musing on the beloved's subtleties  
of glance, tone, and syntax that shed light on the ancient  
question of love's mutuality. It's hard to imagine Marx or  
Hobbes lovestruck. Perhaps that's one reason for the cold  
impersonality of Marx's oppressive schemes of proletar-  
ian dictatorship and Hobbes' Leviathan.

The literary panoply that is Lit Hum is of more help  
than CC's philosophical canon is here. Literature mediates  
human experience, and human experience cannot avoid  
encountering love or at least mourning its absence. Ovid's  
"Metamorphoses" explores the vast range of bizarre behavior  
that love can produce. Both Aeneas and Augustine wrestle  
with the imperative to submit earthly loves to higher ends—  
Aeneas to the bidding of impersonal fate, Augustine to the  
knowledge of God. Goethe's Faust, the great scholar, decides  
that his love for his work is less important than his lust for  
pleasure. Jane Austen, of course, created a masterpiece—a  
meditation on love's role in exacerbating and overcoming  
human foibles—that is still seen as the archetype of romantic  
comedy.

# Columbia lacks a vision of love as a life-giving, wellness-bringing, joy-sustaining adoration.

Dante's "Divine Comedy" begins with somber, sulfur-  
stretched "Inferno", but it ends with the ringing hopeful  
notes of the Paradiso. Dante, both author and main char-  
acter, has finally arrived on the edge of heaven, where he

is welcomed by his childhood love, Beatrice. She is angelic,  
saintly, virtuous, regal. His passion for her is not possessive.  
For her, he sacrifices short-term pleasures to learn virtue.  
Dante does not merely love Beatrice, he adores her. For him  
this is no mere clichéd hyperbole—his love for her is really  
a divine thing, because it teaches him gratitude. Ultimately,  
she brings him to love the source of all good gifts and all  
love, God.

The contrast between Dante's adoration of Beatrice and  
the drab ephemerality of the Facebook art of "admiring"  
classmates is stark indeed. To judge from a formerly satu-  
rated news feed, Columbia lacks a Dantean vision of love  
as a life-giving, wellness-bringing, joy-sustaining adoration.  
Perhaps it's not at all fair to compare some of the greatest po-  
etry in human history with status updates by under-slept and  
super-stressed college students. But I think there is some-  
thing tragic in diminishing love to the fueling of temporary,  
individual concerns, ignoring the comprehensive impact of  
love on the human person and the human community.

But Dante lived a long time ago, and he believed in many  
apparently silly things—such as Purgatory's existence as a  
huge island-mountain, the only landmass in the Western  
Hemisphere. Can we glean any wisdom from his view of  
love? Surely. A few contemporary voices retain this ennobling  
ideal of love as sanctifying, something worth striving for. The  
band He is We composes wistful ballads with lyrics of longing  
for a "pure love," a "forever that we both can share." Maybe  
instead of "admiring" we should really consider what could  
make a beloved worth adoring. I suggest dispensing with  
dubious anonymousness and writing a love sonnet to express  
a more sincere affection.

Luke Foster is a Columbia College sophomore. He is vice  
president of Delta GDP, head of content for the Veritas Forum,  
and a member of Columbia Faith and Action. Foster the Core  
runs alternate Mondays.

them lies. Finally, several days after "Nutella-gate" made  
big news, the administrators released actual figures.

The university press release attempted to make light  
of the way the story had been handled by the media. But  
what they were doing was denying responsibility. The  
statement fails to provide answers to the question of  
how this misunderstanding occurred—in a conversation  
between Columbia College Student Council represen-  
tative Peter Bailinson and head of dining Vicki Dunn.

The worst scandal in the whole affair is the failure  
of the campus community, especially the Spectorator, to  
discuss these problems honestly. This stands in contrast  
to a tradition of fraught interactions between students  
and dining often recorded in these pages. In the early  
thirties, Spectorator investigated the dining halls and al-  
leged that dining was run contrary to students' interests,  
for profit. The editor-in-chief at the time, Reed Harris,  
was expelled for rabble rousing. In 1958, following in-  
creases in the dining costs, Spectorator asked to see the  
dining budget and, when rebuffed, published an editor-  
ial criticizing the administration. The next year, they  
secured access, and found that the University was mak-  
ing more than the 2 percent profit normally allowed.

1961-62 was a particularly important year for dining  
debate. At the start of the year, a mandatory meal plan  
for freshman was proposed. Spectorator's editorial board  
rejected it on the grounds that students would not use  
all the meals and the dining halls could not hold all the  
freshmen at once and thus fail to facilitate community.  
The newspaper ultimately deemed it a profit making  
scheme. The next year began with price reductions and  
the year after that with a statement from the head of  
dining, James MacDonald, which read, "We want the  
student to have what he wants." Yearly dining profits  
were published. Later that year, the student council  
published a comprehensive report demanding primarily  
that food quality take precedence over profit, provoking  
thorough administrative response.

Student investigation and student media have the  
potential to hold Dining and administrators account-  
able. The response to the Nutella affair has been lazy,  
even cowardly. Here's an opportunity to take part in  
a tradition of students campaigning for better dining.  
The fact that a representative tried to do that and has  
received no support from the administration should be  
getting more attention.

What matters most to me is that the institution the  
dining halls might have been is lost. When University  
President Seth Low described his ambitions for the  
Morningside campus at the turn of the century, he out-  
lined the belief—shared with students at the time—that  
a dining hall where the whole school could meet would  
foster a collegiate community that was previously ab-  
sent. I also share this belief. That is why I find the af-  
fair distressing.

The author is a Columbia College first year and an associate  
design editor at Spectorator.

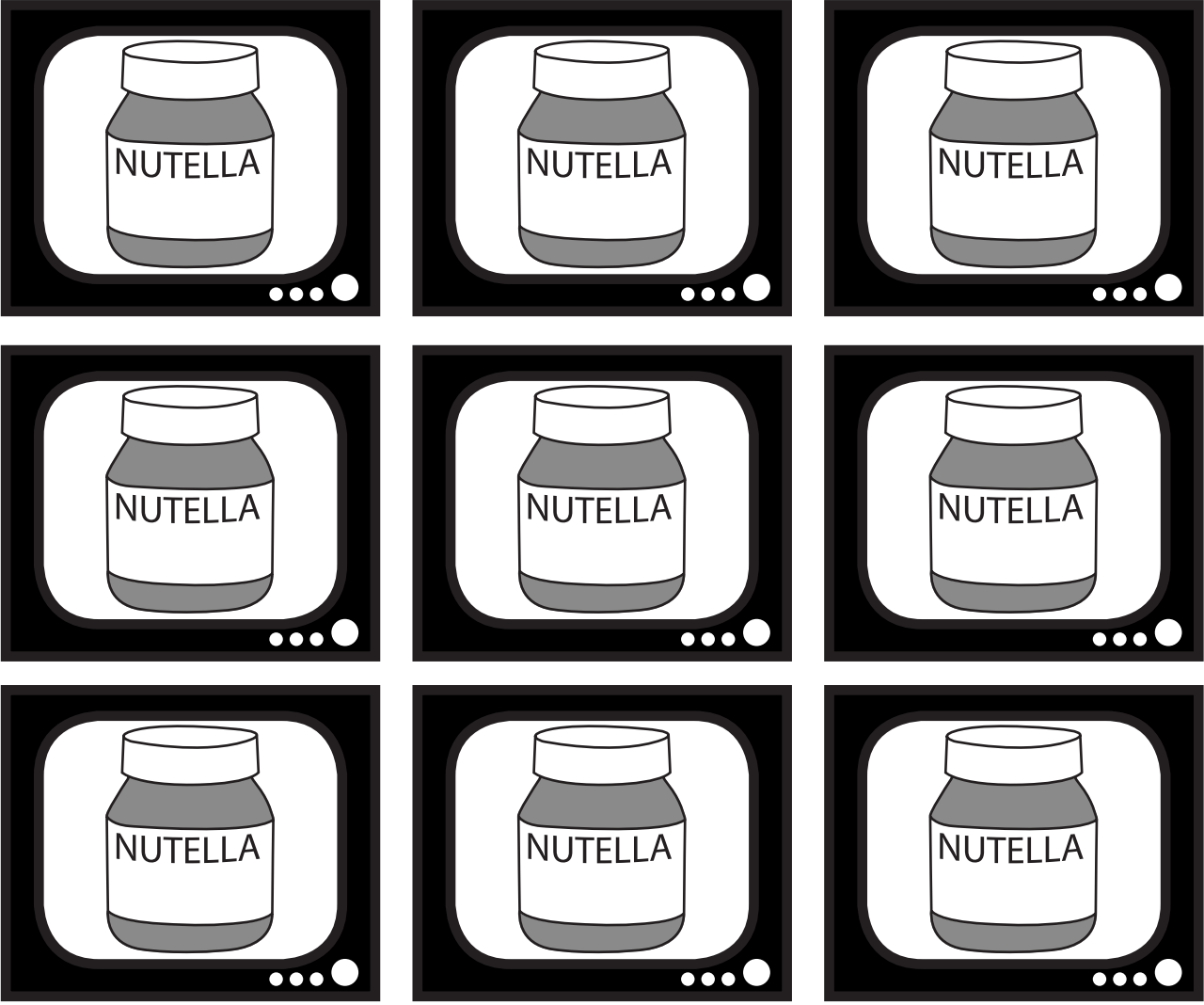


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| 7 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 2 |

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

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## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Money under a mattress, e.g.  
6 Poses a question  
10 Hired rides  
14 Singer Lena  
15 Apt name for a windstorm?  
16 Hollywood celeb  
17 Cyclone center  
20 Spotted  
21 Pitcher's mistake  
22 Feral no more  
23 Adds highlights at the salon?  
25 Sources of storage chest wood  
26 Roy Orbison hit featured in a Gere/Roberts film  
31 By surface area, second-largest Great Lake  
32 Rent-a-car choice  
33 Apply daintily  
36 Ladder rung  
37 Tai  
39 Gospel singer  
40 Needing no Rx  
41 Late-night Jay  
42 Coffee, in slang  
43 Exercise's motto  
47 Shipping container  
49 Inaugural pledge  
50 Sarandon of "Thelma & Louise"  
51 Channel for business types  
53 Magna \_\_\_\_\_ laude  
56 Debtors' documents suggested by the sequence of the first words of 17-, 26- and 43-Across  
60 50-and-over org.  
61 1,000 meters, briefly  
62 Hindu guru  
63 Loach of legend  
64 "By Jove!"  
65 Extremely pale

**DOWN**

1 Her, subjectively  
2 Hot Wheels and hula hoops  
3 Region  
4 Flower that usually blooms in winter  
5 Playboy founder, for short  
6 Thunderstruck  
7 Follow in a library?  
8 Spook's captain  
9 Photog's camera choice  
10 Large, noisy insect  
11 Starters of the first race?  
12 Silly mistake  
13 Winter coasters  
18 Help illegally  
19 List components  
24 Japanese money  
25 Spiral shape  
26 Too-too  
27 Sci-fi's Jabba the \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Fore-runners  
29 Search engine name  
30 Appalachian state: Abbr.  
34 Berry in modern diet supplements  
35 Oscar category word  
37 Chow \_\_\_\_\_  
38 Picnic pest

39 Reliable money-makers  
41 Tea of "Tower Heist"  
42 Scribble (down)  
44 Postal purchases  
45 Drink named for a Scottish hero  
46 Like some nighties  
47 Channel for political types  
48 Psychic glow

51 Forensics team members: Abbr.  
52 The Big Easy acronym  
54 The Beehive State  
55 Kid's enthusiastic "I do!"  
57 Compete in a slalom  
58 Clandestine govt. org.  
59 Admission in a confessional

### ANSWER TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

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By Jeff Chen  
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03/11/13



# Lions to take on Harvard to finish season

## WOMEN’S BASKETBALL from page 3

glad that we were all on the same page with reference to that, and just did what was necessary,” Simpson said.

Columbia head coach Paul Nixon noted that despite the deficits the team faced in the first half, the Lions never once gave up.

“I don’t know what a bystander might say, but I don’t think someone that watched our team play tonight would think that we have the record that we have,” he said. “And that’s a credit to the seniors and their leadership, and they have never quit on each other or themselves or me, and therefore the rest of the team is following suit.”

The tenacity the Lions demonstrated to overcome the deficit—and give their seniors a last home win—was a highlight in an otherwise difficult season.

“I am so proud of us,” Simpson said. “Especially because we have had such a rough season, it is so great to go out on a good note and know that we literally left it all on the court. I am really proud of the seniors and the team for achieving that goal.”

But the Lions are not out of the woods yet. They will travel to Harvard on Tuesday to face the Crimson in the final game of the season. The contest was originally scheduled for early February before the game was canceled due to winter storm Nemo.

And on Friday night, the Crimson’s post players dominated the Light Blue. Harvard’s Temi Fagbenle and Victoria Lippert combined for 29 of the Crimson’s 61 points on the night.

If the Lions hope to improve upon Friday’s 17-point deficit this time around, Nixon said that they are going to have to do a better job of limiting second-chance opportunities from the Crimson.

“I think the biggest factor was the number of offensive rebounds that we allowed them. If you look at the rebound situation, they had 20 offensive rebounds and got 22 points off of those offensive rebounds,” he said.

The action starts at Harvard on Tuesday night at 7 p.m.

caroline.bowman  
@columbiaspectator.com

# CU to send 11 fencers to NCAAs after Regionals

BY SPENCER GYORY  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Twenty members of the Columbia fencing team traveled to St. John’s University on Sunday to compete at the NCAA Northeast Regionals in hopes of qualifying for the NCAA Championships. After a grueling day of bouts at Carnesecca Arena and Taffner Field House, 11 Columbians came away with tickets to nationals in San Antonio. In all, 13 Lions earned top-10 finishes, out of whom six medaled and three claimed gold.

In women’s foil, the Lions were without their two top fencers, junior Nzingha Prescod and freshman Margaret Lu, both of whom were competing at a Senior World Cup competition in Tauberbischofsheim, Germany, this weekend. Prescod finished in fifth and Lu finished in the top 64 at the tournament, which provides them both with good points in their attempts to qualify for the U.S. foil squad going to World Championships later this year in Budapest, Hungary. But because of their absence at Regionals, neither will have the opportunity to fence at NCAAs.

Even so, the women’s foil squad showed its depth by qualifying two fencers for NCAAs—freshman Jackie Dubrovich, who finished in first place, and senior D’Meca Homer, who placed 10th.

In women’s sabre, senior twin sisters Loweye and Esane Diedro finished in first and eighth place, respectively. Freshmen Sarah Gruman and Sarah Yee placed 21st and 23rd, respectively.

The Lions will be represented by two women’s epeeists in San Antonio, but not the two that head coach Michael Aufrichtig expected going into Sunday. Sophomores Diana Tsinis and Natalie Gegan finished in third and 10th place, respectively, and earned themselves tickets to NCAAs.

Meanwhile, senior Lydia Kopecky, who had finished in the top 10 at NCAAs each of the past two seasons, finished in 22nd place and failed to earn a bid, while sophomore Emma Petersen finished in 26th place.

“Lydia unfortunately had a very bad first round, didn’t move up to the next round, and finished 22nd,” Aufrichtig said. “Diana and Natalie qualified over Lydia, which is sad for Lydia, being a senior. She’s the

type of person that could go in to NCAA Championships and win it.”

A trio of freshmen—Brian Ro, Justin Wan, and Jake Hoyle—placed the Lions in men’s epee, finishing in first, second, and ninth place, respectively. Ro and Wan’s performances earned them a trip to NCAAs. Junior Alen Hadzic, who finished in second place at last year’s nationals, failed to earn a bid this year after receiving a black card in the third round for arguing with a referee, thus eliminating himself from the competition.

“Different referees have different tolerance levels,” Aufrichtig said. “It was very strange that he got black carded on that. He didn’t go and hit him or shake him. He just gave his opinion.”

For the second straight year, sophomore sabrists Will Spear and Michael Josephs will represent the Light Blue at NCAAs after finishing in third and fifth, respectively, at Regionals. Although freshman Geoffrey Loss’ ninth-place finish was high enough to qualify, NCAA rules prevent the Lions from sending more than two fencers for each weapon.

In men’s foil, freshman Adam Mathieu finished in ninth, freshman Harry Bergman in 13th, and junior Alex Pensler in 20th place. Matheiu’s finish earned him a spot at NCAAs, while Bergman’s finish gives him an outside shot at making the trip, depending on the NCAA Fencing Committee’s decision on at-large bids early this week.

Because the team champion at NCAA Championships is determined by combining the total number of individual bout victories won by a team’s men’s and women’s fencers, it is critical to come to the competition with as many fencers as possible. Each school can send up to 12 fencers.

“Most people fence 23 five-touch bouts in a single day,” Aufrichtig said. “At the entire NCAA Championships you fence 23 bouts in two days, so this is extremely brutal competition. This is where all the extra training, footwork, and boutng helps.”

Thanks to the Lions’ 11 qualifiers, they have given themselves a great opportunity for a high finish at nationals. At last year’s NCAAs, the Lions finished in eighth overall place with eight fencers, three men and five women.

The NCAA Championships will take place in San Antonio, Texas, March 21-24.

sports@columbiaspectator.com

# MONDAY MORNING POINT GUARD

## week #6 GAME 1 GAME BALL

The first game ball goes to Harvard’s Siyani Chambers. The freshman had a game-high 16 points, hitting 5-6 field goals along with 6-7 free throws. He added three assists and two steals to help lead the charge for the eventual Ivy Champions.



## week #6 GAME 2 GAME BALL

The second game ball goes to another freshman—the Big Green’s Alex Mitola. The guard put up 21 points in his 34 minutes of play, going 6-8 from the floor—including 4-6 from behind the arc. He also had three rebounds, an assist, and a steal in the game that solidified the Lions’ spot in the Ivy basement.

## TURNING POINT

Though much of the game was in the Lions’ control, when Harvard’s Steve Moundou-Missi got a steal off of Grant Mullins and turned it into a dunk with 32 seconds left, it took the wind out of the Lions’ sails. The score put the Crimson up 52-49, and Harvard held on for the win.

## TOP PERFORMER ALEX ROSENBERG

The sophomore led the Lions with 14 points and also had four rebounds against the Crimson in 30 minutes of work—including hitting 50 percent of his shots from behind the arc.

## TURNING POINT

Fouling out with just under three minutes left surely wasn’t the way Mark Cisco expected to end his Columbia career, but that’s exactly what happened. With the Big Green up 53-52, Cisco committed his fifth foul, which got him taken out of the game and gave Dartmouth the momentum.

## TOP PERFORMER BRIAN BARBOUR

Barbour ended a storied Light Blue career by leading Columbia in points against Darmouth with 17. The senior went 8-8 from the charity stripe, and also had two assists and two steals in the contest.

## IVY STANDINGS

|           | W  | L  | PCT   |
|-----------|----|----|-------|
| Harvard   | 11 | 3  | 0.786 |
| Princeton | 9  | 4  | 0.692 |
| Yale      | 8  | 6  | .571  |
| Brown     | 7  | 7  | .500  |
| Penn      | 6  | 7  | .462  |
| Cornell   | 5  | 9  | .357  |
| Dartmouth | 5  | 9  | .357  |
| Columbia  | 4  | 10 | .286  |

## IVY SCOREBOARD

|           |    |
|-----------|----|
| Princeton | 66 |
| Yale      | 71 |
| Penn      | 66 |
| Brown     | 64 |
| Cornell   | 62 |
| Dartmouth | 76 |
| Cornell   | 56 |
| Harvard   | 65 |
| Princeton | 67 |
| Brown     | 80 |
| Penn      | 65 |
| Yale      | 79 |

## FINAL PIXBOX STANDINGS

|   |                     |       |
|---|---------------------|-------|
| 1 | Sam Tydings         | 27-15 |
| 2 | Peter Andrews       | 23-19 |
| 3 | Rebeka Cohan        | 23-19 |
| 4 | Eric Wong           | 22-20 |
| 5 | Alexander Bernstein | 21-21 |
| 6 | Minnia Feng         | 21-21 |
| 7 | Melissa Cheung      | 19-23 |
| 8 | Muneeb Alam         | 18-24 |
| 9 | Tyler Benedict      | 18-24 |

## IVY SCHEDULE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <br>GAME ONE<br>AT CORNELL<br>W 67-58      | <br>GAME TWO<br>VS. CORNELL<br>L 66-63       |
| <br>GAME THREE<br>AT PENN<br>L 62-58       | <br>GAME FOUR<br>AT PRINCETON<br>L 72-66     |
| <br>GAME FIVE<br>VS. DARTMOUTH<br>L 60-57  | <br>GAME SIX<br>VS. HARVARD<br>W 78-63       |
| <br>GAME SEVEN<br>AT BROWN<br>L 58-55      | <br>GAME EIGHT<br>AT YALE<br>L 75-56         |
| <br>GAME NINE<br>VS. PRINCETON<br>L 65-40  | <br>GAME TEN<br>VS. PENN<br>W 58-41          |
| <br>GAME ELEVEN<br>VS. YALE<br>W 59-46     | <br>GAME TWELVE<br>VS. BROWN<br>L 61-58      |
| <br>GAME THIRTEEN<br>AT HARVARD<br>L 56-51 | <br>GAME FOURTEEN<br>AT DARTMOUTH<br>L 57-52 |

## SPORTS BRIEFLY

### LACROSSE

Light Blue lacrosse (1-3, 0-2 Ivy) fell 14-7 in its home Ivy opener to a powerhouse Cornell squad (4-0, 2-0 Ivy), extending the Big Red’s dominance over Columbia to 17-0 all-time.

The Lions slipped into a 3-0 hole early in the match, with a masterful offensive performance by Cornell’s Lindsay Toppe, who finished with four goals, and nine huge defensive saves from goalkeeper Courtney Gallagher ensuring that the Light Blue were never able to fight their way back into the game.

Columbia junior Paige Cuscovitch notched two goals in the second half to narrow the gap to 7-5, but Cornell’s elite offense, which saw eight different players score, prevented the Lions from closing the margin further.

Now on a three-game skid since winning their season opener, the Lions prepare for another home matchup at Robert K. Kraft field this Wednesday versus Villanova at 7 p.m.

—Robert Mitchell

### WOMEN’S TENNIS

The women’s tennis squad, led by senior Nicole Bartnik, earned its fourth consecutive victory this weekend, handily defeating Fordham 6-1 at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center. After their latest victory, the No. 51 Lions hold a 6-3 record, having methodically felled Maryland, Akron, Stony Brook, and Fordham in the past several weeks.

On Friday, the Lions and the Rams played only the top two doubles contests, both of which the Light Blue secured. In first doubles, Bartnik and sophomore Crystal Leung topped their Fordham opponents by a score of 8-3, while in second doubles, juniors Bianca Sanon and Ioana Alecsiu played impressively to achieve an 8-4 victory. The Lions also fared well in singles play, as the top three singles players for the day—Bartnik, senior Katrina Kovacevic, and Alecsiu—earned victories in their matches. The Light Blue dropped the fourth singles contest, but won the fifth and sixth matches by default.

On March 18, the Lions will take the court to face the University of Texas, Arlington on the road in Texas.

—Ike Kitman

### WRESTLING

Light Blue wrestling brought home the hardware from the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Championships in Piscataway, N.J. this weekend. Columbia came away not only with an overall eighth-place finish, but also with four NCAA automatic-qualifying bids and five total place winners.

The star of the tournament was senior Steve Santos, who wrestled his way to the 149-pound title with a 7-2 victory over Army’s David Young. This historic victory makes Santos the first individual EIWA Champion for Columbia since 2009, and the 19th ever in program history.

Meanwhile, a strong supporting cast—junior Matt Bystol, 133 pounds; junior Josh Houldsworth, 165 pounds; and senior Jake O’Hara, 157 pounds—finished second, second, and fourth in their respective weight classes, receiving NCAA bids along with Santos. Junior Penn Gottfried rounded out the top-10 finishes for Columbia with an eighth-place showing in the 125-pound class.

The Lions’ combined 75 points brought them up to eighth place, but the individual performances more accurately represented Columbia’s accomplishments. It was a historic weekend for the Light Blue, as the team hasn’t sent four wrestlers to NCAAs since 2007. Overall, Columbia exceeded expectations, topping higher-ranked opponents.

The tournament also recognized Columbia off the mat with the Team Sportsmanship Award, granted by the EIWA mat officials.

The NCAA Championships will take place in Des Moines from March 21-23.

—Theresa Babendreier



CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
MAR. & APR.

MARCH

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S     |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 01 02 |
| 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09    |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16    |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23    |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30    |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |       |

APRIL

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S     |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
|    |    | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 06 |
| 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13    |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20    |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27    |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |       |

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENTS ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

MORE INFORMATION ONLINE  
[WWW.BARNARD.EDU](http://WWW.BARNARD.EDU)

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3009 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10027  
PHONE 212.854.2037

03/11  
FRANCIS POULENC'S GLORIA  
8 PM  
Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center,  
Broadway at West 66th Street

03/13  
A CONVERSATION WITH  
CHRISTINE QUINN  
6:30 PM  
Event Oval, The Diana Center

03/16  
THATCamp FEMINISMS EAST  
10 AM–5 PM  
Registration in Barnard Hall

03/26  
AFRICA IN BRAZIL  
6 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/27  
DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP &  
THE PUBLIC GOOD  
6:30 PM  
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

MARY GORDON, RICHARD PANEK  
& MAGGIE POUNCEY  
7 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/28  
ON HUMAN BONDAGE IN ANCIENT  
EGYPT  
12 PM  
BCRW, 101 Barnard Hall

03/29–03/30  
SENIOR CREATIVE  
THESIS DANCE CONCERT  
7 PM  
Minor Latham Playhouse, 118 Milbank Hall

04/01  
DANCING THE RITE OF  
SPRING AT 100  
Five Dancers on Four Rites  
7 PM  
Julius Held Lecture Hall, 304 Barnard Hall

04/08  
THE FUTURE OF ONLINE  
FEMINISM  
7 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

BARNARD



FILE PHOTO

**BEASTLY BLACK** | Senior Alex Black had a fine weekend, driving in three runs in the three games in addition to pitching two shutout innings in Columbia's victory on Saturday.

CU defeats defending national champion

BY MYLES SIMMONS  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Though the baseball team (1-6) couldn't pull off the series victory, going 1-2, the Lions notched a significant mark in program history on Saturday when they defeated defending national champion University of Arizona (13-5), 8-4.

Before the series, Columbia baseball had never faced a defending champ, let alone beaten the best in the country.

The Light Blue notched the win with a five-run seventh inning that put the team up by the final score. Down 4-3, junior catcher Mike Fischer got the rally started with a triple to left center, and sophomore center fielder Jordan Serena drove him home with a sacrifice fly to left to tie the game.

But then Columbia broke the game open. Senior second baseman Nick Crucet got hit by a pitch to follow Serena, but showed his speed by stealing second. Seniors Eric Williams, Nick Ferraresi, and Alex Black followed with three

consecutive singles to give the Lions a two-run advantage. After freshman Logan Boyher grounded out, sophomore David Vandercook plated the final two with a single to right.

"It was a great team effort," head coach Brett Boretti said in a statement. "The guys kept grinding it out and playing one inning at a time."

Senior righty Tim Giel pitched five innings in his second start of the season, giving up four runs—all in the bottom of the fifth. Junior Joey Donino went scoreless tossing the next two innings and got the victory—his first of the season. Black pitched the last two, striking out three.

Though they couldn't pull out any more victories, the Lions played the Wildcats tightly in the series' other two games. Arizona needed a walk-off effort in order to beat Columbia on Friday, and scored two late runs to pick up the win on Sunday afternoon.

In the first game of the weekend, Fischer drove home Boyher with an RBI triple to open the game's scoring in the fifth. The Lions scored two more in the

seventh to make the score 3-0 behind junior lefty David Speer's six innings of shutout ball.

But Arizona came back, plating three in the bottom of the eighth off of freshman pitchers Adam Cline and Thomas Crispi. Though Crispi came back out for the bottom of the ninth, he gave up a leadoff triple and walked the next batter. Sophomore David Spinoso came in to relieve him, but gave up the walk-off single.

Sunday, the Lions and Wildcats both came out swinging, as both teams scored three runs in the first inning. Though Columbia plated another run in the top of the third, junior lefty Joey Gandolfo lasted just two-plus innings, giving up four runs on six hits. Cline came in to relieve in the bottom of the third, giving up another unearned run. The Lions came back to knot the score at five, but Crispi gave up two in the seventh to put the Wildcats up for good 7-5.

The Lions are back in action next weekend, when they head south to take on University of Central Florida and University of Miami.

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Alum helped start La Tienda Medellín

TIENDA from back page

"Art people in Colombia are in some ways way more radical than they are in America," Bettridge said. "The people who are counterculture are really counterculture, and they were pretty skeptical of us."

But the group soon became a fixture in the neighborhood, the five young Americans who always traveled together becoming a self-described "boy band" in the area. The gallery soon developed a public following, particularly among college students in the area, who learned of it through Facebook posts, concerts sponsored by the gallery, and parties following its shows.

La Tienda Medellín held its first show late last summer, with seven additional shows in a six-month period before the group closed the gallery on Jan. 26 and returned to the United States. The gallery's content came from specially invited artists or else from public pitches, with the gallery accepting work from anyone who submitted a piece. The exhibit "Lo Que Sea" featured artwork produced exclusively from standard printing paper and word processors.

"Letter, legal, double-letter, half-letter ... we had an open call for submissions," Bettridge said. "It was open to anyone who had access to a scanner or a computer, who could email us something."

In a continual effort not only to make visual art a public resource but also to democratize the means of distribution, the group made about a thousand

photo copies of each piece of art, mounting a stack of papers to the wall that visitors of the gallery could take home.

Even after the show, La Tienda continued its objective of distributing art to the public through whatever means available.

"In Medellín, there are a lot of street vendors," Bettridge said, "The carts are really cool because they have this speaker with a car battery mounted to them, so one guy walks around pushing the cart, and another guy talks into a mic over the loudspeaker about how much his fruit is, how good his fruit is."

La Tienda commandeered one of these carts for an afternoon, loading it up with extra copies of the artwork from "Lo Que Sea," and headed over to the commercial district, distributing the pieces to everyone who passed by. A stream of commentary about the gallery and the show accompanied the mobile art gallery.

While the gallery sought to bring art back to the public after decades of civil and political unrest, Bettridge saw a much broader movement underlying the gallery's presence.

"When I see contemporary art today, I see a really big missed opportunity, because it is such a ... globalized medium, which has the ability to communicate with so many people," Bettridge said.

At the moment, he noted, contemporary art's audience is limited to those who have the money to purchase pieces or else to the "hyper-intelligent,



COURTESY OF LA TIENDA MEDELLÍN

**ARTE** | Four CU grads helped create the Colombian gallery.

hyper-educated" curators who decide what should hang in a gallery.

By contrast, La Tienda Medellín attempted to make contemporary art relatable and accessible to the public by stripping the art form of its pretenses and allowing the public an intimate relationship with the art, both in the democratic means of production and submission and in its bare-bones presentation.

Since La Tienda Medellín closed its doors in January, Bettridge has been hard at work. He is currently working on digitizing photos from the gallery's various exhibits to create an online catalogue of the art featured there, with the hopes of working with the members of La Tienda Medellín again.

"The plan is to work together, to go back to Colombia, get a grant up here, and have shows of Colombian artists up here," Bettridge said.

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Experimental show waxes abstract

EYE PIECE from back page

collective.

If doctors are actors in "Eye Piece," they are also artists. Eckert likens the academic approach of the ophthalmologists to that of art historians as they study ocular diagrams. And artists, too, are actors. Rothman and his model are played by two actors who exchange roles periodically. This intertwining of the identities of the artist and the object of artistry hints at the performativity at the heart of artistic production, and Mineo and Forcade manage these switches with aplomb.

Ha also plays a preacher who relates the story of Job.

Job attains grace, the preacher claims, only when he renounces reason. While blindness creates a feeling of ignorance akin to false belief, Eckert suggests, true ignorance consists of the rejection of belief, as it is only through faith—whether in God or in art—that one can transcend blindness.

Their frequent shifts in identity allow Eckert's actors to demonstrate their abilities to portray different characters. Several of them give particularly nuanced performances, including Ha and Ben Russell, CC '13, who plays Tiresias. Brittany Beljak, BC '16, also gives a memorable performance as Ruth, a lab

technician who delivers a climactic speech on the efficacy of science and the necessity of collaboration.

"Eye Piece" is a highly abstract play in which the focus is not on any one story—indeed, the play has little in the way of linear plot—but on the language and the ideas. Eckert's skillful direction bolsters the force of the script and provides ample opportunity for actors to distinguish themselves, both as individuals and as an ensemble.

The play's title suggests that it offers a way to help viewers see. This may be a difficult task, but "Eye Piece" ultimately does prove enlightening.

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Columbia students, alums started gallery in Colombia

BY SARAH ROTH  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In Colombia, a piece of blank paper can speak volumes, and simple galleries can encourage grass-roots artistic movements. For the five curators of La Tienda Medellín, a trip to South America and a passion for contemporary art turned college students into gallery owners.

The concept of La Tienda Medellín was born last winter, when four Columbia students and one Yale student visited a friend in Medellín, Colombia, a city with a long history of government corruption and drug trafficking.

“After we got back, we sort of came up with this idea of starting a gallery, a sort of public exhibition space,” Thomas Bettridge, CC ’12, said.

“The idea was that we were trying to present art in a way that makes it accessible to the expanded public.”

—Thomas Bettridge, CC ’12

With Alfredo Andonie, CC ’13, Nick Murphy, Yale ’12, Rian Rooney, CC ’12, and Alejandro Uribe, SEAS ’13, Bettridge decided to open a pop-up gallery in Medellín on July 26, featuring only the work of local artists. The gallery is meant to be a place for the artistic community to exchange works and ideas not only with each other, but with the larger community.

The group spent the summer in Medellín “sussing everything out,” doing research, and deciding where to set up shop—quite literally, Bettridge said. La Tienda Medellín translates to “The Medellín Shop.”

“A store is a place that people go on a pretty regular basis, so the idea was that we were trying to present art in a way that makes it accessible to the expanded public,” Bettridge said. “It was all done in a very DIY way. We didn’t have plaques on the walls with people’s names. Things were dirty. We didn’t want it to be a slick, commercial place.”

La Tienda Medellín initially received mixed responses from the artistic community in Medellín.

SEE TIENDA, page 7



XIAOYIN CHEN FOR SPECTATOR

ROAR | Solomon Hoffman, CC ’14 and founder of LyricLion, conducts the ensemble in preparation for its performance in Miller Theatre tonight.

LyricLion to perform in Miller for one night

BY DANA JONES  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Columbia Classical Performers is exploring uncharted territory with its new ensemble, LyricLion.

This innovative project was made possible by the Miller Theatre Fund, which allows a student group to perform in Miller Theatre for one night and covers the majority of its costs. Founded and conducted by Solomon Hoffman, CC ’14, LyricLion offers a blend of classical instrumental music and new works by singer-songwriters here on campus. It will make its debut performance tonight at 8 p.m. in a two-part CCP concert.

“We’re trying out a lot of new genres, sometimes brand new pieces, sometimes classical pieces in a different form,” Caroline Sonett, CC ’14 and president of CCP, said.

LyricLion’s classical musicians collaborate with singer-songwriters to create a unique performance. The ensemble, which formed last semester, features

two violins, two cellos, a flute, a bassoon, and a French horn.

“The exciting thing about that is that it’s not an instrumentation that’s really been written before,” Hoffman said. “What we’re doing is not only creating works, but creating a new instrumentation and seeing how that works as an ensemble, which I think is something we figure out more at every rehearsal.”

Singer-songwriters sent Hoffman their pieces, and he arranged them to be accompanied by classical instruments.

“It’s really exciting because a lot of the pop songs are originally accompanied by just guitar or piano, and having the texture of strings and winds behind the songs gives it a totally different play,” he said.

The singer-songwriters participating in the project include Sarah Dooley, BC ’11, Emily Drinker, BC ’12, Olivia Harris, CC ’14, Bunge Okeyo, BC ’13, and Dominique Star, CC ’13. The ensemble will also premier works by Hoffman, Tareq Abuissa, CC ’14, Nick

Parker, CC ’14, Alex Porter, CC ’14, Chris Ruenes, CC ’13, David Su, CC ’14, Trey Toy, CC ’14, and Ben Weiner, CC ’11.

LyricLion gives singer-songwriters the opportunity to experience their work in new ways and break genre boundaries.




“As a singer-songwriter, you get really used to playing by yourself and suddenly there’s this very James Bond ‘Goldfinger’ moment where you’re backed by a whole team, who are interpreting your music from a very different angle,” Harris said. “It’s like watching a seed you’ve planted years ago finally bloom.”


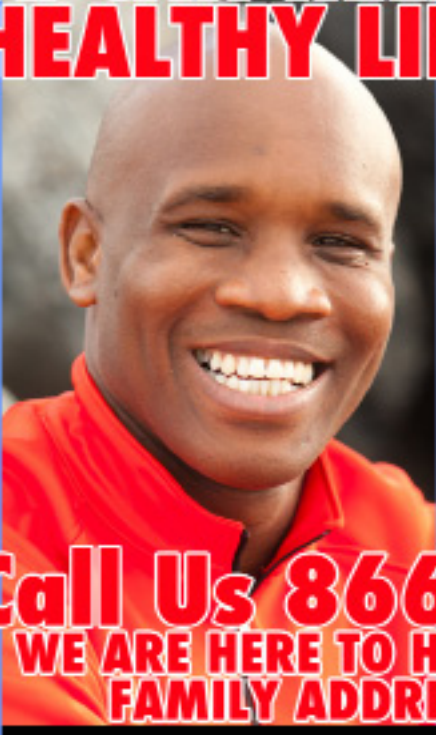
Hoffman especially looks forward to playing in Miller.

“This is a really special night for us, to be able to play in this professional venue, so we’re really looking for the community to come out and support us in this concert,” he said.

No tickets are required.

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COURTESY OF STEPHEN YANG / BARNARD COLLEGE

SPECTACLE | Rinde Eckert wrote and directed “Eye Piece,” which incorporates dark comedy with a meditation on blindness, ignorance, fear, and death. The play ran at Barnard last weekend.

‘Eye Piece’ esoteric, but enlightening

BY DAVID FROMKIN  
Spectator Staff Writer

As the audience filters into the dim Minor Latham Playhouse in Milbank Hall, an accordionist sits onstage, smiling as he manipulates his instrument. Dark lenses obscure his eyes. The chords he plays do not quite seem to form a melody.

The Blind Musician, played by Barnard lecturer Rinde Eckert, soon shuffles off to the side of the stage, where he remains for much of the performance. There, he continues to provide instrumentation complementing the play, primarily percussion, using an eclectic mix of devices. As he plays, he seems lost in his own world, fascinated by his instruments.

“Eye Piece,” a student production that was performed this weekend and written and directed by Eckert, opens with music, and music is a major driver of the play. The use of sound as a significant sensory medium is fitting for a play about blindness and the absence of sight. Eckert’s instrumentation supplements School of Continuing Education student Elizabeth Rhodes’ haunting, subtle sound design. While perhaps not properly a musical, “Eye Piece” incorporates songs that heighten the emotional register of the work, sometimes comically.

Dark comedy finds its way regularly into the play, which confronts the rather depressing prospect of a painter losing his sight. As one character remarks, “You can’t be a painter if you can’t see. Maybe an artist, but not a painter.”

The painter in question, Jacob Rothman (Lindsay Forcade, BC’14, and Alessio Mineo, CC ’14), learns he has retinitis pigmentosa, a form of macular degeneration, which will lead to blindness within a year. As his vision deteriorates, he sinks deeper into depression. Gradual dimming of

lights emphasizes this progression. Disorienting staging also serves to remove viewers’ ability to make sense of what they observe.

With the onset of blindness come the twin threats of Ignorance and Fear, Rothman discovers, personified as characters who menace the anxious artist. As these forces increasingly exert their power over him, Rothman begins to contemplate the release of Death. Blindness, Eckert suggests, threatens to destroy one’s ability to function.

Rothman’s story is told alongside others’ stories. The play centers on an ophthalmology seminar led by Dr. Stroud, played strongly and evenly by Jin Ha, CC ’13. The students, for whom Rothman provides a case study, must address their inability to heal all patients. Stroud impresses on them the importance of providing emotional support to their patients. When a student voices her concern that she lacks the ability to be sympathetic, Stroud asks whether she can learn lines, suggesting that she should learn to act the part.

“Eye Piece” breaks down the barriers between actor and character, perhaps suggesting that all aspects of life require performativity, particularly when confronting the loss of sensory ability. The play employs a Brechtian aesthetic, if not an obviously Brechtian ethic. Actors assume their characters’ identities explicitly onstage, and they make their identity transitions obvious, donning and removing articles of clothing as they perform. Yet Eckert’s characters also strongly individuate themselves, in both the force of their words and the force of their personalities, through the work of the ensemble cast. Their forceful performances succeed in selling the stakes of the production, and their coordination allows Eckert to construct his impressive tension between the individual and the

SEE EYE PIECE, page 7