



YAN CONG / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DISPLACEMENT | Sarah Martin, president of Grant Houses, second from right, speaks at a forum opposing the Manhattanville expansion.

BC class of '16 admit rate lowest ever at 21 percent

BY JESSICA STALLONE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Barnard sent acceptance letters to just 21 percent of its applicants on Monday, the lowest admit rate in the college's history and the lowest among U.S. women's colleges.

Dean of Admissions Jennifer Fondiller said she sees the rising applicant numbers and decreasing admissions rates as signs of

a "strong upward trajectory" for the college, which she attributed to efforts to make the college more visible and more accessible to prospective students.

"There are pockets of the country out there, and even in the New York area, who haven't heard of us," Fondiller said. "When they think of schools in New York City, they think of Columbia or NYU."

"There are more and more

strong students now realizing that Barnard could be a fit for them," she said.

Last year, Barnard's admit rate was 24.9 percent. Because of a higher-than-expected yield, the class of 2015 rounded out at 610 students. With this year's 3.9 percent admit rate decrease, the Office of Admissions expects the class of 2016 to return to the usual size of 580 to 590 students.

While many colleges,

including Columbia College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science, have eliminated the suspense of waiting for the mailman with electronic acceptances, Barnard still notifies its applicants by mail. The 1,141 admitted students should receive the envelopes Tuesday or Wednesday.

The lower admit rate is also a

SEE ADMISSIONS, page 6

Eminent domain—the power to take private property for public use, with the exchange of compensation—has been a long-fought battle for the Empire State Development Corporation, a New York state agency that acted on behalf of the University to seize property. But activists continue to question whether the Manhattanville campus will serve "public use"—especially in light of the problems with distributing the money allotted to Harlem in the

"This expansion drives a wall between Columbia and the community."

—Tom Kappner, CC '69,
member of Coalition to
Preserve Community

Community Benefits Agreement.

Fullilove, a social psychiatrist and author of "Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America and What We Can Do About It," said that displacement caused by eminent domain nationwide causes people to go through "a catastrophic experience."

"Becoming involved in Manhattanville is one of the most important things we can do. The point is that it's going

SEE M'VILLE, page 2

In wake of death, panel debates M'ville

Locals, students urge greater cooperation on school's behalf

BY JILLIAN KUMAGAI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Spurred by the death of a construction worker on the site of Columbia's Manhattanville campus last week, community activists and students discussed the consequences of the expansion for both Harlem residents and students at a forum on campus on Monday.

Layan Fuleihan, CC '12, opened the forum—which featured a conversation with local leaders, students and Mindy Fullilove, a professor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons—by identifying Manhattanville as "not a big issue for the student body."

"From my experience, the reasons for this are structural consequences," Fuleihan said. "There's the fact that as Columbia students, we have reluctance to criticize Columbia, like we have entered into a contract with it. But Columbia is not a business, it's an institution, and just because we are involved with it does not mean we have to be silent."

The forum attracted about 40 people, many of them students who have recently become involved in the effort to halt Columbia's expansion into Manhattanville. Since last Thursday, a group of activists have occupied the sidewalk in front of the Tuck-It-Away storage building on 125th Street in protest of the University's impending demolition of five properties that were acquired by the use of eminent domain.

April showers bring business for 96th Street flower shop

BY OLIVIA AYLMEYER
Spectator Staff Writer

For many Columbia students, the dawn of spring means Frisbees, exams, and afternoons on Low Steps.

But at Plant Shed New York Flowers, spring means New York's demanding wedding season, which runs from April to June. The Huffington Post recently recognized the flourishing Upper West Side flower shop as among the five best in the city, and happy couples have been flocking to it for 30 years.

Accounting for 45 to 50 percent of its yearly business, spring marks the busiest and most profitable season for the shop, on 96th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue. The space has been rented out for wedding ceremonies and used in films, including the Christmas tree scene in "When Harry Met Sally." And as soon as the spring-time favorites—peonies, hydrangeas, lilies, and lilacs—arrive, a green roof will transform into a

"flower palace," as Jay Casiano, director of operations at Plant Shed for the past 16 years, put it.

"You can go to Home Depot, you can go to Lowe's, and you're gonna get a lesser price, but you're not going to get the service and the community feel that you get here," he said.

With small businesses in focus—following a Community Board 7 vote to restrict the size of storefronts along the three main arteries on the Upper West Side—Plant Shed's business model has the close-knit community feel that many locals say define their neighborhood businesses. Casiano encourages employees to survey the latest inventory each morning, in order to know exactly what they are selling their customers on any given day.

"Over here you're on the phone with a person that knows what he's selling you," Casiano said. "He's not reading from a card—there's nothing hidden.

SEE FLOWERS, page 6



LUKE HENDERSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FULL BLOOM | Owner Jay Casiano of Plant Shed, a flower shop the Huffington Post recently named one of the top five in the city.

Advisory body on fin. aid, admissions to be formed

BY MARGARET MATTES
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A new financial aid and admissions advisory committee will be established by next fall, Columbia College Interim Dean James Valentini told Spectator on Friday.

While the details of the committee's objectives and membership have not yet been decided, Valentini said that he, Provost John Coatsworth and University President Lee Bollinger were discussing the role and formation of the committee.

"It will not be a committee just for the dean of the college," Valentini said. "There's an ongoing discussion ... of how such a committee should be constituted and to whom it should offer advice, and that discussion is not complete," Valentini said.

CC and the School of Engineering and Applied Science share admissions and

financial aid offices, but the School of General Studies offices are separate, Valentini pointed out.

Coatsworth and Bollinger were unavailable for comment on Monday. In a February interview, Bollinger expressed support for such a committee but limited his comment to the potential role of faculty.

"I believe the faculty should be involved at the very least as advisers ... on all issues having to do with academic decisions and I therefore am strongly in favor, and have been, of Faculty of Arts and Sciences being responsible for the overall curriculum," Bollinger said. "I also believe the faculty should be informed about and should be able to advise on policies having to do with admissions."

Barry Weinberg, CC '12, who has been discussing the idea of

SEE ADVISORY, page 6

All but two races for ESC, SEAS USenate seat uncontested

BY JORDAN FREISLEBEN
Spectator Staff Writer

School of Engineering and Applied Science students will have a lot of no-brainers next week: Most of the candidates for the Engineering Student Council executive board, class councils, and special representatives are running unopposed.

The candidates were announced yesterday, and nine of the 11 categories are uncontested, including the executive board and councils for the classes of 2013 and 2014. Three students are running for the seat in the University Senate for a SEAS undergraduate.

Campaigning began Monday and voting is open from April 2 through April 5. The candidates will hold a forum from 3 to 5 p.m. on April 1.

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Project Blue is the only party

running for executive board, headed by University Senator Tim Qin, SEAS '13, as president.

"I think we were all kind of surprised, because we thought it would be more contested," Qin said. "But we're definitely excited with the ideas we have for next year."

The party's slogan is "Make Columbia Engineering bluer." "We want more school spirit—more interschool collaboration with CC, GS, Barnard, and the graduate schools—and most importantly, communication with students," Qin said.

"You can't have good policies without input from the student body," he added.

Rounding out Project Blue's ticket are Bora Kim, SEAS '13, as vice president of policy; Caroline Taylor, SEAS '14, as vice president of communications; Siddhant Bhatt, SEAS '14,

SEE ESC, page 2

A&E, PAGE 3

Artists Reaching Out branch out

Artists Reaching Out, a student run arts education program, have expanded to include PS 125, a local school that lost its arts program.



OPINION, PAGE 4

So close, yet so far

Po Linn Chia urges students who cannot attend Days on Campus to at least dream about it.

Exclusivity no more

Kathryn Brill discourages Columbia's practice of intellectual favoritism.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lions focus on strong defensive skills

The Lions baseball club is aiming to keep itself in the competition through its defense and pitching.

EVENTS

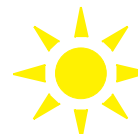
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Tomorrow



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NEWS BRIEFS

CU sues for violation of biotech research patents

Columbia’s trustees have filed a lawsuit against Illumina Inc., a Delaware-based biotechnology company, for violating DNA sequencing patents registered to University researchers. Eight different scientists, including eminent chemical engineering professor Jingyue Ju, were named as inventors on the patents, which helped to develop “next-generation sequencing,” according to the censure that was filed. Several of the patents were referred to in the lawsuit as “the Ju Patents.” Ju did not return a request for comment on Monday.

The censure claims that “Illumina has manufactured, used, offered for sale, sold and/or imported into the United States” instruments or services that use the technologies claimed by the Ju Patents.

In a statement, a University spokesperson confirmed that the school had filed a lawsuit, backing the research of the faculty that led to the advancements in DNA sequencing, but declined to comment further.

“Columbia is proud of the

outstanding research efforts of its faculty and will defend its patented technology,” the statement said.

The patents relate to technology that sequences DNA at rapid speeds, an important tool for companies like Illumina, which sequence individuals’ genomes in their entirety.

In 2008, 10 years after the company was founded, Illumina became the first company to sequence the entire genome of an anonymous African man, offering new insights for researchers.

—Jeremy Budd

Full board will vote on ‘George Carlin Way’ in April

Morningside Heights residents may be walking all over George Carlin in the near future.

The movement to name the 500-block of West 121st Street after Carlin saw the first sign of traction in six months, getting the go-ahead to be voted on by the full community board, according to an email from “Daily Show” comedian Kevin Bartini early Tuesday morning.

Bartini said that Carolyn Thompson, chair of Community Board 9’s uniformed services committee, told him in a private meeting

that there was enough support on the committee for the motion to pass, “effectively moving it out of committee and opening it up to a vote” on the full board.

Bartini began a petition in September to name the childhood block of the legendary comedian in his honor, garnering over 9,000 signatures. But Rev. Raymond Rafferty of Corpus Christi Church, which is on the block, led a vocal campaign against the movement.

“Mr. Carlin made his early reputation by mocking religion and the clergy



TENSION | Joshua Peguero, a student at the Journalism School, speaks at Monday’s forum.

Locals, students talk M’ville occupation

M’VILLE from front page

on everywhere, and by becoming involved we start to gain the skills for how we are going to stop this,” she said.

Danny Alonso, CC ’12, said that he has felt a greater sense of community at the occupation than he has since arriving at Columbia, where he says his status as the son of Mexican immigrants has made it difficult for him to fit in.

“This is about genuine

community with character that’s getting eroded. I hear stories, I learn names, and I see them as part of my family,” he said. “That to me is the real beginnings of people starting to build a resistance.”

The Coalition to Preserve Community, a primary opposition group of the expansion, stages periodic protests, but the sit-down forum reignited discussions between students and local leaders.

Speakers called on attendees

to foster stronger bonds between Manhattanville and the Morningside campus, which most agreed are socially divided.

“This expansion drives a wall between Columbia and the community, and as a student I benefited from living in a real community, not a sterile institutional environment,” said Tom Kappner, CC ’66, a local resident and a longtime member of CPC.

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Most ESC candidates running unopposed

ESC from front page

as vice president of finance; and Sheila Misheni, SEAS ’14, as vice president of student life.

“I would like a lot of participation from the non-ESC members from the general SEAS community,” Kim said. “People do want to work on policy changes, but it’s hard to make the changes when you don’t know exactly how things work currently.”

Kim said she plans to make a handbook documenting “how everything works on campus,” from alcohol policies to student government.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Three students are running for the University Senate seat vacated by Qin: Logan Donovan, SEAS ’13 and current vice president of policy; Adam Hadar, SEAS ’15; and Akshay Shah, SEAS ’14 and class of 2014 president.

“I feel like I’ve done a lot of policy and got a lot of things done for council,” Donovan said. “Senator felt like a logical move to accomplish most things for SEAS.”

Shah said the biggest challenge for him as a University

senator would be communicating the purpose and necessity of the University Senate.

At the same time, he said, “There needs to be a two-way communication. People need to tell me their issues so I can raise them in the senate.”

CLASS COUNCILS

The class council races for the classes of 2013 and 2014 are both uncontested. Mary Byers, SEAS ’13, is leading the SEASian party to be reelected as class of 2013 president, and Daniel O’Leary, SEAS ’14 and class representative, is running for president of the FuTASTIC 14.

Two parties, CE Change and Kung Fu Pandas, are running for election to the class of 2015 council.

CE Change includes Tanay Doctor, SEAS ’15, for president; Andre Paiva, SEAS ’15, as vice president; and Aditya Naganath, SEAS ’15, as class representative.

The Kung Fu Pandas, the current class of 2015 council, is once again being led by Joshua Boggs, SEAS ’15, as president.

“We’re very influenced by what we’ve done and witnessed and learned from the past year,” Boggs said.

Boggs said one of the biggest focuses for the party is promoting student group collaboration.

“We have a ton of money to give out on student council. Our biggest ability to effect change is in financing—it’s one of our most overlooked aspects of our council,” Boggs said.

Boggs said he would also like to improve engineers’ student wellness in “all facets of student life,” from dining and facilities to pushing for the ability to take elective courses pass/D/fail.

Running again with Boggs are Shensi Ding, SEAS ’15, for vice president; Manali Yavatkar, SEAS ’15, for class representative; and Edward Zahrebelski, SEAS ’15, for class representative.

Six other races—for the special representatives for academic affairs, student services, and professional development and alumni affairs, as well as the three liaisons to the other undergraduate councils—are also uncontested. All six candidates are first-years.

For a complete list of candidates, visit columbiaspectator.com/news.

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Prof. looks at psych. of genetics in book

BY OLIVIA LU
Spectator Staff Writer

Dispelling the common misconception that science is all about hard facts, Robert Klitzman, a professor of clinical psychiatry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, takes a look at the ethical ambiguities arising from a doctor's seemingly black-and-white diagnoses in his most recent book "Am I My Genes? Confronting Fate and Family Secrets in the Age of Genetic Testing."

He interviewed 64 patients who were at risk for Huntington's disease, breast and ovarian cancers, and the rare enzyme disorder Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency—all of which have genetic markers—and examined patients' methods of grappling with their diseases.

Inspired by his research on kuru, a brain disease, in Papua New Guinea under the Nobel prize-winning Dr. Daniel Carleton Gajdusek, Klitzman wrote the book to shed light on the tensions between genetic and personal explanations of disease. In the South Fore tribe in Papua New Guinea, people considered kuru the result of sorcery, which can be undone by magical countermeasures. Klitzman also looked to the media's almost-magical explanations of genetics, with terms like the "obesity gene" and the "God gene." Hence he arrived at the titular question, "Am I my genes?"

Patients often identify a dysfunctional relationship or a stressful job as the trigger of disease. But Klitzman, who is also a professor at the Mailman School of Public Health, notes that even advanced genetic testing cannot provide definitive answers of whether or not a person will get a certain disease—which is often difficult for doctors to convey in an understandable way.

"The challenge is, we, in medicine, are taught to be very directive," Klitzman said. "To say you have to take your medication to help your high blood pressure ... We're not used to saying, you know, this test is going to tell you maybe. Like breast cancer, if you have the mutation, there's about a 50 percent chance you'll get the disease, but only 5 to 10 percent of breast cancer is the familial genetic kind, which means that you could have the mutation and never get the disease, or you could not have the mutation and get the disease. So that's very confusing information."

How patients interpret, disclose, and act upon that kind of information is also an issue. In an extreme example, one of Klitzman's patients secretly tore away all the pages in her medical file that mentioned she was at risk for Huntington's disease for fear of discrimination from insurance companies.

Klitzman calls the fear of genetic discrimination a symptom of flaws in the current legal system.

"I think we need a policy to protect other kinds of insurance against discrimination, that is life insurance, disability insurance, long-term care insurance," he said. "Ultimately, it would be great if we had universal healthcare in this country so that your genetic status wouldn't affect whether or not you can get health insurance or how much it costs you."

He also points out that the scarcity of genetic counselors, in part due to the lack of insurance coverage, exacerbates the current problem of "genetic illiteracy."

"I think genetics shows that somehow there's a myth of scientific certitude, whereas in reality there's a lot of uncertainties when it comes to human beings that we need to gear ourselves to address."

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAM MICKEL

ART 101 | The volunteers in Artists Reaching Out work at local schools that have lost their art programs—and in the process try to foster students' creativity.

Group expands PS 125 course to bring back arts ed.

BY ELIZABETH SUN
Columbia Daily Spectator

In one PS 125 classroom, kindergarteners are making puppets with paper bags as bodies and cut-out pieces of brown, yellow, and red construction paper as ears and tongues. In another room, special education students are drawing the faces of women in their lives with crayons and gluing on googly eyes.

Although the school, located at 123rd Street and Amsterdam, lost its arts program just a year ago, on Friday afternoons it is revived by the members of Artists Reaching Out, a volunteer arts organization that is part of an effort to provide arts education for schools with limited resources.

Last Friday, ARO initiated its first series of after-school classes at PS 125.

With an increased focus on standardized tests due to legislature like "No Child Left Behind," public schools facing budget cuts tend to part with their arts programs first. This is what happened with PS 125.

"That's the atmosphere right now, and the thing is that people don't think to the test," Emily Handsman, BC '12 and a coordinator of ARO, said. "You should be encouraged to think creatively and really be allowed to express yourself," she continued. This is precisely the goal of ARO—to foster creativity as a form self-expression in

students who would otherwise not have this opportunity.

After a year of major administrative changes, PS 125 is now run by Principal Reginald Higgins, who understands the importance of an arts education, according to ARO coordinators. At the start of this school year, Higgins asked ARO to come during school hours. "He believes in its value to students as all of us do," Sam Mickel, CC '14 and a coordinator of ARO, said.

Volunteers teach many different forms of art—visual art, music, drama, creative writing, and dance. These Columbia and Barnard students typically structure their classes around a theme, such as winter. Students in each grade level are then asked to respond to the theme in different ways. One class will write winter haikus. Another class will learn a snowfall dance.

But ARO coordinators say that they're trying to make it more relevant to their students lives and education. With last month being Black History Month, ARO volunteers centered the activities on famous African-Americans, such as painter and football player Ernie Barnes and writer Langston Hughes. With March being Women's History Month, the focus will be on famous and important women in the children's lives.

There are now more than 50 volunteers who consistently attend what are now three programs: the in-school and after-school program at PS 125 and the after-school program at

Future Leaders Institute, a charter school located on 122nd Street and Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard.

"It's really exciting to be able to bring art," Miriam Rosen, CC '15 and a coordinator of ARO, said. She added that the ARO team includes "students at Columbia who are really interested in the arts and from diverse backgrounds—music, drama, vocal. We all come together, and then we go to the school, and you meet really cool people in the program, and the students are great at PS 125 and FLI. It's the highlight of their day. It makes it really rewarding."

Coordinators said that they hope ARO can continue to expand in the model of other youth programs in Community Impact, citing groups like Peace by P.E.A.C.E. and America Reads.

"We're not looking for people who are the most talented artists ever. We are looking for people who are really enthusiastic about children, about art, about teaching art to children, about having fun and being positive," Handsman said.

ARO also looks for long-term volunteers who can develop strong bonds with the students they work with.

"Especially for returning sophomores, juniors, and seniors, the students get so excited to see the volunteers again, just because they love them and they have a great time," Rosen said.

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HANNAH CHOI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHARING WISDOM | The panelists at An Evening With Women of Excellence in the Arts discussed their career struggles, from providing their own guidance to surmounting gender divides.

Women in entertainment share their stories

BY STEFAN COUNTRYMAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Six major voices from the entertainment industry came to Riverside Church, on Tuesday night for the third annual Women of Excellence in the Arts panel discussion, touching on issues of gender equality and career obstacles.

Panelists included Tony Award winners Lillias White and Melba Moore, as well as Mona Scott-Young, the CEO of Monami Entertainment. They shared stories from their careers and how gender and race have influenced their growth.

Lack of female mentorship was a common experience. "Trailblazing is lonely work, and a lot of the time you're by yourself," Winsome Sinclair, a casting director whose work includes "Malcolm X" and "Precious," said. She appreciated the examples set by predecessors, adding, "I stand on the shoulders of women who came before me."

They also shared moments of difficulty. Malikha Mallette, radio hostess for Power 105.1, described being fired from a previous radio job.

"I was on unemployment, which is extremely humbling, particularly when people know you from the radio station. They're like, 'Ain't you Malikha Mallette from the radio station?' 'Yes, I am. Can I have my check, please?'"

The event centered on women's issues, but the discussion covered problems of equality more generally. One of the strongest audience responses came when Jacquie Lee—associate producer of an upcoming production of "A Streetcar Named Desire"—described

a new broadcast network called Soul of the South. She praised the work of Spanish-language networks Univision and Telemundo for catering to a marginalized subculture and expressed the hope that Soul of the South would follow their example.

"Now we have a broadcast network called Soul of the South that is going to ... reshape the image of the African-American," Lee said. "We're gonna have broadcast news in which our anchor-people are gonna be African-Americans. We're gonna have our own version of The View called Gumbo Ya Ya."

Not everyone was fully satisfied with the panel's message, though. Composer Dionne McClain-Freeney appreciated the spirit of empowerment, but she wished that the panelists had put forth a less constrained model of gender.

"I think I was a little disappointed to hear the common belief that you have to look like, or behave like, what women are supposed to look like or behave like ... When I made the comment that I am a woman, but I am not a lady, I am not particularly feminine, and I don't want to be judged because of that," McClain-Freeney said. "We have to talk about excellent women who are a broad spectrum of things, who are a broad definition of things."

Still, playwright Darrel Holnes said that he felt the panelists' message was not exclusive to any group.

"I think anyone who's the underdog can relate and understand and learn from their experiences, whether you're a gender minority or a sexual minority or a religious minority—it's all about really having a sense of self," he said.

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Couple explores intersection of machines and nature using industrial materials

BY JULIEN HAWTHORNE
Columbia Daily Spectator

With an eye toward the trials of environmental disasters, Chicago artists and married couple David Jones and Marilyn Propp are putting on a multimedia art exhibit at the LeRoy Neiman Gallery at Columbia School of the Arts.

The exhibit's 14 pieces range from oil on wood panels to gum transfer on paper, and use machine parts as source material that they have re-contextualized into their own forms.

"Together our work sets up an ongoing dialogue and tension regarding our culture's dependent but often uncomfortable relationship with industry," said Propp. "In particular, it explores those which impact the environment, and its conflict with sustainability and the world's ecosystems."

Propp works with oil paint and ready-made objects, including wood, excess engine parts, and cloth. "I begin by cutting out irregularly shaped wood panels, and then use automatic writing, making gestural calligraphic marks that reflect the movement of my arm and body as I move across the surface of the panels."

Her work depicts both the clash and the co-existence of the industrial world and the natural world. Her wood panels often focus on underwater scenes and intermingle ocean imagery and machinery. "My work addresses the effects of ongoing disasters caused by carelessness or

greed," said Propp, citing the Gulf oil spill and the Fukushima nuclear plant disaster in Japan.

Jones uses automobile imagery and enlarges them using Xerox transfer and paper plate lithography. He said that his work evolved out of his fascination with the presence and cult around cars in American culture. "My early experiences with building engines, taking and documenting road trips, photographing junkyards and now drawing on paper, bring the images and memories full circle," Jones said.

Jones addresses the effects of human consumption—specifically the interaction between humans and machines. "In reality through excess consumption we are filling our places with broken machines, with dysfunctional cogs and wheels," Jones said. "I see the drawings and prints as a metaphor for our own relationship with things, filling up space, entangling our lives and in time breaking down and decaying."

Propp and Jones draw upon their environment to make art that is simultaneously social and highly personal, and have been touring universities in cities like Notre Dame, Indiana as a two-person show for the past five years. "We draw from similar sources, and often find ourselves using the same imagery, but this is not intentional, and probably occurs because we have been a couple for over 35 years," Propp said.

The exhibit will be on display in the LeRoy Neiman Gallery until March 23.

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HANNAH CHOI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OVERCONSUMPTION | Using engine parts, cloth, and oil paint, husband and wife David Jones and Marilyn Propp have created works that explore industrialization and its impact on nature.



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Days off campus

Spring has sprung. The lawns are green. Red flags are down. Soon, Dining Services will metamorphose into something more closely resembling Columbia Catering. Sunlight pours itself over the eaves of Butler and drips lazily down the rotunda on Low. Days on Campus are coming.

April 15-16 and April 22-23 (mark your calendars) will see the admitted class of 2016 flood into Morningside Heights to tour the campus and sit, bright-eyed, at the back of Core classes. This is the other side of the looking glass, a world beyond application forms and SAT scores. This is everything that prospective students have been waiting for. We all were there once: the burst of triumph upon reception of notice of admission that echoes anew the first time we step on campus as Columbians, real Columbians.

Part of the logic of Days on Campus is that Columbia—real Columbia—can't be impressed by paper alone. Members of the (blank) RC supergroup (constituent of the Undergraduate/Multicultural/Global Recruitment Committees) are told regularly by both administrators and prospective students how important their involvement with hosting is. Before new admits ever step on campus, they are sent postcards, given interviews, invited onto Facebook groups, and exposed to media of every kind.



PO LINN CHIA

Ever the Twain

Soul-searching in the college search

BY ROSE SCHUTZBERG

With the arrival of spring, high school seniors around the country wait impatiently for admissions decisions from colleges. A year ago, I, too, waited nervously for the fateful day to arrive. When I applied to Barnard College, I did not realize the potential implications. Of the 10 schools I applied to, I rarely envisioned myself attending Barnard. For most Barnard-ians I know, Barnard was their top choice. This wasn't the case for me. In fact, it was quite the opposite: Barnard was hardly on my radar.

Fall of senior year, I applied early decision to Columbia College. To my dismay, I was deferred. The waiting ensued, spring came around, and to my dismay once again, I was not offered admission. As most people know, rejection is difficult to deal with because it feels so personal. However, being rejected from CC didn't crush me partially because the day I was rejected from Columbia College was also the day I was accepted to Barnard. That day, I began questioning the nature of the college application process. Why was I accepted to Barnard and rejected from CC? It took some time for me to realize that many factors determined my collegiate fate, but one in particular came to mind—the application questions.

I returned to the supplemental application questions that Barnard required me to answer. Three of them stick in my mind. One: “How were you first made aware of Barnard College? What intrigues you about Barnard’s approach to the liberal arts and sciences?” Two: “Pick one woman in history or fiction to converse with for an hour and explain your choice. What would you talk about?” Three: “Alumna and writer Anna Quindlen says that she ‘majored in unafraid’ at Barnard. What does that mean to you?” These questions vary in scope, but more importantly, they require self-reflection. I remember these questions took me significantly more time to answer than most other supplemental questions—I labored over them for weeks.

As a current Barnard student, I appreciate the questions Barnard’s application asked.

After I was accepted to Barnard, I realized that the self-analytical nature of these questions encouraged me to share more about myself than I had in most of my other applications, including my application to CC. CC’s supplemental question broadly asked what appealed to me about Columbia and why. Penn’s supplemental question simply asked me to envision myself as a Penn student. Johns Hopkins’ supplemental question asked me to choose a major I would consider pursuing and explain my interest in the chosen discipline. Barnard’s supplemental questions went deeper.

The questions Barnard asked of me transcend the traditional: “Why do you want to be at X college? What makes you a strong candidate for X University?” As a result, they produced creative and thoughtful responses that actually reflect the applicant’s personality—strengths, weaknesses, habits of mind. Barnard isn’t the only institution that extracts unique responses from its applicants. The University of Chicago, to which I also applied, allowed students to choose from an array of eccentric supplemental essay prompts. I chose “Find X,” for which I wrote an essay detailing the cultural battlefield in my household. Better questions create better responses, and by “better questions,” I mean questions that integrate the mission of the college and allow applicants to respond in insightful ways.

As a current Barnard student, I appreciate the questions Barnard’s application asked. Barnard offers students the opportunity to explore many disciplines, and for someone like myself who has multiple passions—dance, biology, and a newfound love for anthropology—I couldn’t have found a more suitable academic environment. I was accepted to Barnard because I was qualified, yes, but more importantly because I was compatible with the rigorous education Barnard College and Columbia University have to offer. Barnard’s unique educational philosophy strives to empower young women by teaching them about the world through the lenses of multiple disciplines. To be successful at Barnard College and Columbia University, compatibility with this very mission is necessary, and many such students can be found through the multifaceted nature of Barnard’s supplemental application questions and the responses they elicit.

I have come to conclude that the stimulating nature of a liberal arts education makes the most sense for me, despite its many challenges. Barnard has welcomed me to a world of disciplines previously unfamiliar to my naïve mind. I have grown dramatically since my arrival on campus in ways that words cannot do justice—and to think it all came down to those three questions.

The author is a Barnard College first-year.

But publicity materials aren’t real: They aren’t the feeling of walking into a dorm that you know will become your home. They don’t substitute for sitting in a lawn-facing Hamilton classroom, for tracing your eyes over the names on the Butler’s facade. They aren’t the tunnels underneath Lewisohn. They will never tell you what the food in John Jay actually tastes like when you sit in that blessed dining hall, pressed in on all sides by the wonderful solidity of your future.

You don’t know what your professors will look like or who your classmates will be, but they are there, and they will be wonderful.

I never got my day on campus. I’m assuming that a good number of international students never did either, mostly because we often live prohibitively far away. It strikes me sometimes as a little sad. But to you, the international admit out there reading this because you can’t be here with us:

You may never have visited Columbia, and no number of pamphlets can make up the experience. This is what you do: You turn to your imagination and let it lead you. You think of the next four years, and you dream of John Jay—they aren’t nightmares. You let

your mind wander down the halls of Schermerhorn. You never once get lost. You don’t know what your professors will look like or who your classmates will be, but they are there, and they will be wonderful. Nowhere else but inside of you will the halls of Pupin be as lovely or as deep.

When the Empire State Building first went up, the activist Helen Keller was asked—somewhat perversely, her being a deaf-mute—what she saw. She wrote:

“What did I ‘see and hear’ from the Empire Tower? As I stood there ‘twixt earth and sky, I saw a romantic structure wrought by human brains and hands ... Let cynics and supersensitive souls say what they will ... Beneath the surface are poetry, mysticism and inspiration that the Empire Building somehow symbolizes.”

I’m a cynical, supersensitive junior, twixt an ocean of coursework and harsh housing gods, but recalling my days off campus reminds me that I am here because I wanted to be here. I am still here because I love being here. I got here because I wondered—shamelessly and poetically—about the world beyond my reach, and I came here because something inside of me said that Columbia would bring that world closer to me.

So, even if you, whoever you may be, are not here, or wherever you want to be yet:
Count the days. Watch the calendar. Wait. And dream.

Po Linn Chia is a Columbia College junior majoring in East Asian studies. She is chief of staff for CMUNNY and a member of the Global Recruitment Committee. Ever the Twain runs alternate Tuesdays.

Don’t judge by the book

“Knowledge is power,” the saying goes, and most people take this to mean that knowledge gives you the ability to complete tasks and achieve goals that aren’t otherwise possible. That’s the whole purpose of a college education, after all. But there’s an unintended consequence of having set up a community based around learning. At Columbia, knowledge can be power in another sense: It gives you a coolness factor, a standing in the social hierarchy. What you know comes to define who you are and, to a certain extent, whether or not people want to hang out with you.

As with all ideas that are deeply embedded in a social structure, it’s hard to recognize if you don’t look closely enough because it seems pretty normal. So let me give you an example. Picture this: An English major—let’s call her Jane—is at a party, chatting away with some other English majors who are in a class with her. The conversation gets onto the topic of the homework that’s due this week: reading the first 100 pages of “Lolita.” “What did you think of it?” she asks the others. A tall, languid guy in corduroys says, “Well, some of it’s pretty gross, but I’ve always enjoyed his literary style—it really reminds me of Proust in ‘A La Recherche du Temps Perdu.’” The others in the group nod and make noises of agreement. Jane is frozen. Not only has she never read “A La Recherche du Temps Perdu,” but she isn’t totally sure who Proust is. She can’t admit it, though—these people seem to like her, and she doesn’t want them to think that she’s lame. She also can’t fake it because at this point, Corduroys Guy is reminiscing about his favorite parts in Proust, and everyone else seems to know what he’s talking about. In desperation, she mutters, “Um, I’ll be right back,” and runs out of the room.



KATHRYN BRILL

We Should Talk

This might seem like a slight overexaggeration—no body really chooses their friends based on whether or not they know who Proust is. But both within a major and in Columbia at large, there’s an unspoken idea that the more you know, the cooler you are, especially if what you know is obscure and/or a hip issue of the moment. (I’m looking at you, human rights). This idea doesn’t always manifest itself in flat-out rejection or the type of social stigmatizing that always seems to occur in Lifetime movies about high school. Its effect is a little more pernicious. It influences the way we make snap judgments about people when we first meet them. While it’s true that we can get past these judgments, they’re difficult to stop in the moment, and they can make a conversation peter out or prevent a friendship from starting. This is what feeds situations like Jane’s. No one wants to seem like they’re out of the loop, like they aren’t as passionately invested in their studies as everyone else, or like they don’t belong here.

Logically speaking, it makes sense that Columbians would have assumptions like these—when your entire life is based around learning, it bleeds over into what you do when you’re not in the classroom or the library. But just because it’s logical doesn’t mean it’s not irrelevant, and occasionally ridiculous. We operate on the assumption that we’re adults who can override first impressions and make friendships based on things that have nothing to do with people’s knowledge. We don’t always notice the ways that we inadvertently judge people. It wasn’t that long ago that we were elementary schoolers judging people based on their possession of Pokémon cards, and the idea of judging others due to their relative coolness still pervades us. We’re better than this, and we owe it to ourselves to run our social lives like adults. With the time that we have left in the semester, let’s make an effort to get past our first impressions and initial reactions and get to know people for who they really are—which usually has nothing to do with whether or not they’ve read Proust.

Kathryn Brill is a Barnard College junior majoring in English. She is a member of the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We Should Talk runs alternate Tuesdays.



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

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

ACROSS

1 ___ Torné and Principe
4 Cap on spending, say
9 Norwegian Sea arm
14 Fooled vase
15 Habitué
16 Friend of Fido
17 Agt.'s cut
18 Grouchy Muppet
19 The other side
20 The smile on an email happy face
23 Director Reiner
24 Jazz singer Anita
25 Vatican City is one
27 Split end in a uniform
32 Air-conditioned
33 Tut's cousin?
34 Andrea ___; ill-fated vessel
36 68 or 98 automaker
37 Barrier-breaking noise
40 "Pygmalion" playwright
43 Reeves of "Speed"
44 Palindromic Altar
47 Bridge holding such as ace-queen
50 Surprises
52 More decrepit
54 Wuss
55 Topsy's playmate in "Uncle Tom's Cabin"
56 Exalted group leader, facetiously
61 ___ cotla
63 Household cleanser
64 Alternate identity letters
65 Encouraging cry, such as the one formed by the ends of 20-, 37-, and 56-Across
66 Trumpet sound
67 ___ canto: singing style
68 Leno and Letterman, e.g.

DOWN

1 Provide for, as a dependent
2 Teen haunts
3 According to plan
4 Ponce de ___
5 R&D site
6 A whole lot
7 "Diss ___": Latin hymn
8 Short and sweet
9 Mural on wet plaster
10 Comedian Lovitz
11 From one end to the other
12 Took out
13 Ditches where creeks once were
21 A patch may cover one
22 Co. designation
26 Rise up dramatically
28 Courtroom oath
29 Otto ___ Bismarck
30 The Phantom of the Opera
31 Puts through a food press

35 Blind as ___
37 Ilabo Flut's sultanate?
38 "I'm ___ roll"
39 Wilder's "___ Town"
40 Final race leg
41 Bum's rush
42 Supergiant in Scorpius
44 Woodcutter who stole from thieves
45 New versions of old films
46 Paving material
48 Perfection, e.g.
49 Suffix with profit
51 Pair
53 Jewish holy man
57 ___ contenders: court plea
58 Shootout shout
59 Lawyer's aide
60 Flaw pullers
62 Inactive mil. status

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

T	A	C	O		H	A	I	L		C	A	B	I	N
A	S	A	P		O	R	C	A		U	P	O	N	E
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By Gary Steinbock (1907-2012)
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03/27/12

Customer care comes first at Plant Shed

FLOWERS from front page

If I tell you that you're going to get a beautiful Amaryllis plant with willow and moss and this and that, that's what you're going to get."

Casiano greets his customers at the front of the shop, and tries to know each and every one by face. Whether it's a complimentary "plant sitting" or the 10 percent refund applied to each purchase in the form of store credit, Plant Shed makes every effort to keep its customers in mind and prices reasonable.

"We don't go by the mold of 'Can I introduce you to our specialist?'" Casiano said. "We speak to our customers and get a feel for them."

Plant Shed—which occupies 10,000 square feet spread over three floors—is moving towards sustainable business practices, recently placing a large order for biodegradable and 100-percent composted cow manure pots.

"We want to keep on renewing our resources, so we try our best to keep that in mind. When we buy things, we make sure they are recyclable material.

We're gonna change our bags now—they will all be recycled. We still use our plastic, but it's recyclable plastic," Casiano said.

He stopped to point out two shelves weighed down with bags of both regular and organic seed; the latter was close to empty. Casiano said he never would have guessed 10 years ago that the organic bag would be the empty one.

Born and raised in New York, Casiano's interest in the floral industry began at an early age. His parents owned four flower shops when he was a kid in the Bronx. After retiring, they gave him money to go to school. Instead, he decided to open up his own business at 17.

"A big mistake, but a huge learning plus. It failed after three years, because I wasn't ready," Casiano said. "But I came here to work, and I started from bottom, and we've been together ever since."

Brothers Othon and Peter Mourkakos opened Plant Shed 30 years ago in the same spot it stands in now, after immigrating to the U.S. from Greece. Once Casiano joined their

team, he helped them to "take it to the next level." Today, the current owner Eric Mourkakos marks the third generation of Mourkakos men keeping Plant Shed alive. As Casiano joked, "we're two Greeks and an amigo."

Based on their continuing growth and recent media spotlight, Plant Shed holds significant potential to remain a beloved neighborhood shop, especially since the Mourkakos family purchased the building about 12 years ago.

"As long as we have the building, we're here to stay," Casiano said. "You leave, you always come back. Everybody's always shopping around with the economy the way that it is, but you wonder, 'Where am I saving money?' And we welcome everyone with open arms."

"Think about it. When you get a package from FedEx, you sign for it, you put it there. When you receive flowers, you elicit a smile," Casiano said. "We deliver smiles, and that's what it's all about."

olivia.aylmer
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LUKE HENDERSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FLOWER POWER | An orchid display at Plant Shed, the flower shop on 96th Street.

BC recruitment draws more applications

ADMISSIONS from front page

sign of increased programming directed at high school juniors. Students can come to Barnard for an open house in either the fall or the spring, where they participate in workshops ranging from how to craft a résumé to how to write a college essay.

Fondiller also thinks that in addition to Barnard visiting high schools directly, the college's "stellar students" are going back to their high schools and talking about Barnard more often. The number of applicants

for the class of 2016 was 17.8 percent higher than the number of applicants two years ago.

Applicants also demonstrated more interest in the female-focused leadership projects that President Debora Spar has promoted, like the Athena Scholars Program, Fondiller said.

"It makes sense that the rate has decreased, especially as society keeps putting more and more emphasis on having a college education," Liora Hostyk, BC '14, said.

Hostyk said that she thinks that the number of applicants

will continue to increase, especially due to the increased publicity for the college generated by recent events featuring Oprah Winfrey and Gloria Steinem, as well as President Barack Obama's upcoming commencement address in May.

Rishu Chen, BC '13, agreed, noting that "more and more people realize there is another option" in a single-sex school.

"I think going to a women's college nowadays is a precious experience," she said.

jessica.stallone
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Financial aid committee in the works

ADVISORY from front page

such a committee with administrators over the past few months, said that he was not aware that the decision had been made.

Despite the support Weinberg said he received from administrators, he was told that the University would wait to establish such a committee until after a permanent Columbia College dean was announced.

The 1978 bylaws of Columbia college spell out the responsibilities of a Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid,

which consisted of faculty, administrators, and students, but which has not met since the early 2000s.

The responsibilities of that committee included overseeing all procedures of admissions and financial aid within the college and recommending any changes to the processes.

"It's obvious that it [the advisory committee] should be restarted, given that students and financial aid are those most affected by these policies," Weinberg said. "This committee would make important decisions based on the values of

the University that would affect faculty and students."

It is unclear how similar this new committee will be to the original one, and Valentini would not confirm whether students would be involved.

He declined to explain the relationship between the new committee and the old one, saying that he was unfamiliar with the rules that governed the previous body, but he said he believed that it would be formed by the fall.

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COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

2012 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE THE CHURCH OF NOTRE DAME



Palm Sunday, April 1st

Saturday Vigil (March 31st): 5:30 P.M.

Sunday: 8:30 A.M.; 11:30 A.M. (Principal Mass); 5:30 P.M.

St. Paul's Chapel: 5:00 P.M.

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, April 2nd-4th

8:00 A.M.; 12:05 P.M.; 5:30 P.M.

St. Paul's Chapel: 12:20 P.M.

Reconciliation Monday, April 2nd

Confessions available in the church from 3:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Confessions will be available in English, Spanish, French & German

The Easter Triduum

Please note that during the Easter Triduum and on Easter Sunday, all services will be held at The Church of Notre Dame

Holy Thursday, April 5th

10:00 A.M. Tenebrae
(Office of Readings & Morning Prayer)

7:30 P.M. Mass of the Lord's Supper --
followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
until midnight

Good Friday, April 6th

10:00 A.M. Tenebrae
(Office of Readings & Morning Prayer)

3:00 P.M. Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death
of Our Lord Jesus Christ

7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 7th

10:00 A.M. Tenebrae
(Office of Readings & Morning Prayer)

8:00 P.M. Solemn Easter Vigil
(Reception will follow)

Easter Sunday, April 8th

8:30 A.M. & 11:30 A.M.

There will be no 5:30 P.M. Mass on Easter Sunday

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Remembering what the game is really about

JONES from back page

our favorite teams or players. So while it may seem like the financial aspect of the sports industry has ruined it a bit, I'm glad to see that the true spirit of sports remains. It's really just a few people who are spoiling it for the masses.

The people involved in this bounty system are like those kids on the playground that get too wrapped up in the competition and tackle people during flag football, causing skinned knees or bloody noses. They're that kid. The one that punches the wall during a friendly game of Pictionary or gets super competitive during a classroom round of test-review Jeopardy. They've lost sight of why they're doing what they're doing and where the real joy of the game lies.

So, kudos to the commissioner of the NFL. The people involved in this bounty system need a minute to take a step back and reflect, just like the playground-tackler needs a timeout. Don't lose sight of what the game is really about.

Victoria Jones is a Barnard College senior majoring in French. sports@columbiaspecator.com

Baseball playing final warm-ups before start of Ivy season

ATL from back page

high with the conference's best record so far. After losing last Wednesday to Virginia Tech, the Big Red rebounded with three straight wins at Longwood, with the fourth game of the series being canceled due to rain. The Big Red hits the road again with a doubleheader at the University of Albany before starting the Ivy season at home against Harvard this weekend.

DARTMOUTH Dartmouth (2-10) didn't have any luck on the road last week, losing 9-8 at Cal Poly before dropping three straight at UC Irvine. The Big Green will hope to turn things around tomorrow in its first home match against Amherst before taking on Princeton this Saturday.

HARVARD The Crimson (1-16) continued an 11-game losing streak last week, losing all four of its games against Army. Harvard will have one last chance to pad its win column tomorrow against Holy Cross before starting the season on the road against the Big Red this Saturday.

PENN The Quakers (7-9) had a strong week, winning three of four against local opponents.

Penn beat Villanova on the road last Wednesday 6-3 before making a stop at Lafayette, shutting them out 2-0 last Friday. They then opened their home schedule last Saturday against Lafayette, dropping the first game but taking the second. Penn plays Villanova this afternoon at 3 p.m. before opening conference play against Brown this Saturday.

PRINCETON The Tigers (6-9) played UNC last Tuesday, losing 15-5 on the road in seven innings. Princeton followed up that loss with a 6-3 loss at UNC Greensboro on Wednesday before heading back up north to play Navy at Annapolis, Md. After winning 10-1 on Friday, the Tigers went 1-1 on Sunday after Saturday's games were canceled. Princeton now has a break before beginning conference play at home this Saturday against Dartmouth.

YALE Yale (6-13-1) went 2-3 last week. After losing its first game to Connecticut last Wednesday, the Bulldogs went 1-1 in a doubleheader at home against Hartford on Friday before splitting the series the next day at Hartford. The Bulldogs play Quinnipiac tomorrow before coming to New York to open up Ivy League play against the Lions this Saturday.



HENRY WILLSON/SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON THE LINE | First baseman Eric Williams keeps his toe on the bag as he makes the play.

Focusing on defense is key to Lions' game

IN FOCUS from back page

double plays were terrific, and helped to minimize damage. The Lions turned four of them in the doubleheader and now lead the league with 19 of them on the season. First baseman Alex Black made a couple of nice stops in addition to solid defense on the left side of the infield. There was some indecision with freshman Jordan Serena at second base, but all the plays were made, including a great play where Serena cut down a runner at the plate.

Sophomore catcher Mike Fischer also had a large role in that play, as he had to block the plate and tag out the Stony Brook runner. For several different reasons, Fischer's excellent defense probably has had the biggest impact on the Light Blue. He also had to block the plate in the other game of Friday's doubleheader, when senior right fielder Nick Ferraresi was able to throw a strike to the plate that prevented the go-ahead run from scoring.

"The outfielders are making perfect throws, so the play is easy for me if they do what they need to do," Fischer said. Blocking the plate can be an integral part of the game because it can directly take runs off the board.

"Mainly, just got to hold your ground," Fischer said of blocking the plate. "It's kind of tough when you see them coming out of your peripheral, and you know you're probably going to get a hit a little bit. But coach always tells us, 'Block the plate, put your foot right in the baseline and make sure they can't get there. And catch the ball and drop a knee.'"

"The outfielders are making perfect throws, so the play is easy for me if they do what they need to do."

—Mike Fischer, catcher

Fischer also blocked several balls and threw out three base-stealers in the first game of that doubleheader.

"There's a lot of things that go into each play," he said. "Harry [Slutsky] threw a great pitch to give me a chance to throw out the guys at second." It is no secret that coach

Boretti starts Fischer for his great defense and the excellent arm he possesses from behind the plate. However, Columbia lost the second game of Friday's doubleheader after the winning run reached base on a wild pitch. Even though Fischer did not have much of a chance of blocking the ball, this proves that with the occasional erratic outings you will see from Ivy pitchers, blocking the ball is also crucial.

The outfield has also been solid for the Lions. Pizzano is tracking down balls better in left field than he did last year before undergoing surgery. Senior center fielder Billy Rumpke is covering a lot of ground in center field, as is Ferraresi in right field, in addition to his three outfield assists this season.

With the pitching-intensive Ivy season coming up this weekend, defense will be more important than ever for these "pitching-and-defense" Lions.

"Defensively, we did a really good job making some good plays this weekend," Boretti said. "And that's really something that we need to continue to build on."

Columbia will throw on the gloves one final time before Ivy season, when it faces Army at Robertson Field on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

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NFL bounty hunters, one hit at a time

Though we're in the thick of March Madness right now, I'm sure none of my readers would be surprised to hear that, whenever possible, I still have my eyes focused on football. So unless you're like me, you're probably still mourning the death of your bracket instead of reading the news on the most recent scandal in the NFL: bounty hunting.

Surprisingly, this is exactly what it sounds like: players getting cash rewards for injuring the competition. The better the player, bigger the injury, or steeper the competition, the higher the reward.

The good news, though, is that the NFL has made it clear that this behavior is not permitted, and breaking the rules won't be tolerated. Just this Wednesday, the NFL commissioner handed out several decisions, including suspending the New Orleans Saints' head coach for one year, banning a former defensive coordinator indefinitely, and taking away the team's second-round picks in the 2012 and 2013 drafts.

While I have to praise the NFL for taking a firm stance, I still find the whole situation appalling.

Football is, by nature, a violent sport. There's no denying that. But, there's a difference between trying to sack Brett Favre to win a game and trying to take him out of said game in exchange for 10K. The first is healthy competitive spirit—the second is a mafia system for jocks.

Who sleeps at night knowing they've just rewarded someone for inflicting physical damage on someone else?

In trying to formulate an opinion on this more substantial than, 'Seriously, guys?' I thought about a lot of different aspects of sports and injuries and bounties. Yet somehow I still ended up with: seriously guys? At what point do you feel OK waking up in the morning with the goal of injuring another human being on purpose? This isn't making a clean tackle that accidentally twists someone's ankle around. There's clear intentionality here. And who sleeps at night knowing they've just rewarded someone for inflicting physical damage on someone else?

But then I remember that, in a way, we've done this to ourselves. Sports are supposed to be games. Playing tag in the backyard and kickball during recess? They're games.

Football? Game. Baseball? Game. Soccer? Game. All played on the playground as well as on the international stage. But on the international stage, we give players million-dollar contracts and treat them like royalty. Suddenly, the world of sports no longer feels like just a game.

That's when things start to go downhill. People start worrying more about money than happiness—people institute bounty systems to take out athletes. You know, nothing big.

However, despite all the money riding on the NFL, much of that competitive spirit obviously persists. For the most part, the players still play for the love of the game and the fans—myself included—still get totally wrapped up in it, finding part of our personal identity in



VICTORIA JONES

Batting a Thousand



HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OUT AT HOME | Catcher Mike Fischer follows Coach Brett's advice and holds his ground at home plate as he tags Stony Brook's Travis Jankowski out.

Strong defense keeps Lions in challenging games

BY RYAN YOUNG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Head coach Brett Boretti calls his team a "pitching and defense" squad, and while the pitching has been erratic at times, the defense has been solid enough to keep the Lions in games against stiff competition. Last weekend,



Columbia's defense put forth an impressive performance in all four contests against Holy Cross and Stony Brook, accumulating only one error.

Defense has been the most consistent element of the Lions' game so far this season. The Lions are ranked second in the league in fielding percentage, which, even as a pretty unreliable statistic, appears to be a pretty accurate indicator of what Columbia has attained

defensively so far. In fact, the Light Blue's opponents, most of whom are considered to be superior teams, have committed more errors than the Lions this year, 23 to 21.

Part of the reason that Columbia's opponents have made so many miscues is that the Lions force the errors with their speed and aggressiveness on the bases. Given that Columbia came into the weekend with only one home run,

the team has tried to make up for a lack of extra-base pop by hustling down the line, stealing bases, and aggressively trying to take extra bases.

This mentality was on display in Friday's doubleheader against Stony Brook. Even though the aggressiveness didn't pay off in game one, where junior left fielder Dario Pizzano was thrown out at the plate, hustling down the line and putting runners in motion

caused the Seawolves to make several mistakes on the infield. There were a couple of occasions when Stony Brook was simply too late in making its throws to either first or second base. The Lions even caused Stony Brook to commit a balk with the bases loaded.

Meanwhile, the Lions' defense sparkled. The footwork and throws on Columbia's

SEE IN FOCUS, page 7

Baseball teams get ready to compete in league play

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

With the Ivy League baseball season just around the corner, Cornell remains the only team with a winning record. Brown earned its first win, and Harvard continued its losing streak this week.



dominating 22-4 victory at home against Maine last Thursday. Despite the convincing win, Brown was unable to carry the momentum into the weekend as the team traveled on the road to face Pacific, losing the first three games of the series. After finishing up their series against Pacific Monday night, the Bears will wrap up their West Coast trip with games at Santa Clara and San Jose State before beginning their Ivy schedule this weekend.

BROWN

The Bears (1-10) won their first game of the season this past week, coming away with a

CORNELL

Cornell (12-4) continues to fly

SEE ATL, page 7



PRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF DAILY PRINCETONIAN

STEPPING UP | Last season, Alec Keller helped the Tigers beat Dartmouth in the second game of the Ivy League Championship.

SEE JONES, page 7

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