



PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SERVICES | Shelton Thompson worships in a group aimed specifically at people living on the streets.

Traditional ‘40s on 40’ cut due to expense

BY ELIZABETH SCOTT
Spectator Staff Writer

The traditional “40s on 40” event is canceled, but some seniors remained ambivalent about the news.

On Friday, the 2010 class presidents from the four undergraduate student councils announced the end of the “40s on 40” tradition—where seniors from all four schools drink on Low Steps to celebrate the 40 days left before graduation—citing budget restraints and negative feedback about the event from past students. While one group said they would keep the tradition alive in an underground version of the event, other graduating seniors said they were not bothered by the cancellation.

According to Columbia College Student Council class of 2010 President Cliff Massey, members of the four councils sat down at the beginning of last summer to “have a discussion about the year ahead and what we wanted to see and do, invariably the ‘40s on 40’ came up.”

Massey said that after drawing up a list of pros and cons of the event, the cons greatly outweighed the number of benefits. He noted that alumni who held

SEE 40s ON 40, page 2

Keeping the faith in an outdoor church

BY LEAH GREENBAUM
Spectator Staff Writer

On Easter Sunday, Bill Cooper, 54, returned to his favorite worship group in Marcus Garvey Park in Central Harlem, and prayed that he wouldn’t end up on the streets again.

The worship group run by Ecclesia Ministries of New York meets every Sunday in public parks in hopes of drawing a congregation of people living on the streets or in transitional housing.

“Often times we think of a church as a building with four walls and a steeple... but a church is really just people of God who gather,” Father Earl Kooperkamp of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Manhattanville said.

And most congregants don’t seem to mind outdoor services.

“What’s more beautiful than the outdoors? This is God’s green earth,” Cooper said, gesturing to the budding leaves

overhead and a hillside blossoming with yellow flowers.

Clyde Kuemmerle, the executive director of Ecclesia Ministries, said “the church” has met outside in the park through snowstorms and horizontal rain, with as few as three attendees and as many as sixty-five over the last year.

He added that there has been a lot of fluctuations in the number of people who show up to services, mostly dependent on the weather.

During the services the worshippers named former congregants who had been incarcerated, hospitalized or housed in other parts of the city in the last year, and passed on God’s blessing.

But overall finding a roof to sleep under hasn’t been easy this year.

According to the New York Times, the number of people living on Manhattan streets and subway stations has soared 47% since March 2009.

Cooper said he’s been behind on his rent, and doesn’t want to

return to a shelter. Going to services, he said, makes him feel closer to God and eases his stresses.

“It would be better if Sunday was every day. It’s always sad leaving church, because then I gotta deal with the trials and tribulations of Monday to Saturday,” he said.

Kuemmerle said these Ecclesia services, launched in New York three years ago, and in Marcus Garvey Park a year ago, are necessary because many homeless people can go to churches for social services, but feel uncomfortable joining churches for worship services.

“They just don’t feel welcomed in those communities,” he said, adding that bringing services to the homeless people is an essential component to the success of the program.

At each service, Kuemmerle said congregants take a first meal—communion—and a second meal of sandwiches prepared by the hosting church.

Kooperkamp leads services on alternating Sundays, along with clergymen from other local churches.

At the service on Sunday, regulars showed up on time and stood in a circle reciting the Serenity Prayer and the 23rd Psalm.

Paul Caruso, who is not homeless, was also in attendance. He said he goes to the service to stand in solidarity with the other congregants, and to support his wife, who works in social services. “This



PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WORSHIP | Congregants take communion at a service for the homeless.

SEE HOMELESS, page 2

Bacchanal concert lineup announced

Ghostface Killah, of Montreal, and Wiz Khalifa will come to campus

BY MOLLY SPEACHT
Columbia Daily Spectator

Early Monday morning, Bacchanal Special Events announced its official lineup for Columbia’s annual spring concert. On April 24, acclaimed rapper Ghostface Killah, glam rockers of Montreal, and up-and-coming hip-hop artist Wiz Khalifa will team up on Low Plaza for campus’s ultimate battle of the bands.

Despite its usual budget limitations, Bacchanal expanded its bill from last year’s two-act lineup of Vampire Weekend and Talib Kweli with these three artists. Also new this year is the concert’s 6 p.m. start time as opposed to the usual afternoon performance.

Each year, the bands playing the show are a closely guarded secret. In its silence leading up to the event, Bacchanal prioritized listening to campus tastes in choosing the performers to headline the big event.

“Last year I think we hit a good note doing something that was a little indie with some mainstream hip-hop,” concert co-chair Dan Weinstein, CC ’12, said. “We tried to go in a similar direction this year

by trying to appeal to a large audience. It’s also the kind of music people get pumped up to go see.”

For co-chair Mia Johnson, BC ’12, the decision was based on not just the artists’ music but also how well the artists puts on a show. “A big factor for choosing of Montreal is that they’re great live. They put on a really big spectacle,” Johnson said.

Although both Weinstein and Johnson are confident about Bacchanal’s final lineup, they share concerns about how students will react to the artists.

“Since Ghostface Killah did come a couple of years ago, I initially felt weird that maybe students would think that we were repeating something we did before,” Weinstein said. “But I think enough time has passed and people are still into him in the same way.”

Johnson mentioned the lineups of other Ivy League spring concerts with big names—notably Brown with Snoop Dogg—as source of potential backlash against this year’s concert. She added, however, that Brown is

SEE BACCHANAL, page 3



COURTESY OF PATRICK HEAGNEY

BATTLE OF THE BANDS | Rock group of Montreal is one of three musical guests booked for Bacchanal’s April 24 concert in Low Plaza.

Councils push for revised calendar

BY EMILY KWONG
Spectator Staff Writer

Far from sealing the fate of the academic calendar, Friday’s University Senate plenary meeting made it apparent that negotiations are only just beginning among students, faculty, and administrators.

In a coalition between student councils presidents and student senators, the presence of Columbia College Student Council President Sue Yang, CC ’10, and Engineering Student Council President Whitney Green, SEAS ’10, on the Senate floor presented the latest in a string of maneuvers to reopen conversation on the academic calendar—especially as the

debate becomes increasingly divided down student and faculty lines. University President Lee Bollinger, University Provost Claude Steele, and Columbia College Dean Michele Moody-Adams were among the 59 Senators in attendance.

With support from student senator Alex Frouman, CC ’10, and president-elect of the Senate’s Student Affairs Caucus (SAC) Tao Tan, MBA ’11 and CC ’07, Yang and Green presented their solution to conclude the fall semester before its scheduled Dec. 23 end date by starting a week early. Their limited early start plan would shift Columbia’s calendar back no earlier than Aug. 29 every four years in a 10-year time frame, or three years in a seven-year time frame.

“Never before in recent memory has there been such strong student support of something like this,” said Tan, mentioning the joint collaboration among all four undergraduate councils in drafting the proposal and its unanimous endorsement by SAC.

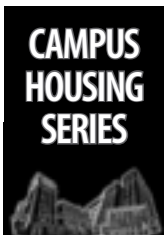
“A recent vote of Arts and Sciences department chairs shows unanimous support from all the Arts and Sciences departments for not ending on the 23rd,” he added.

Education Committee co-chair, and astronomy professor James Applegate, who has been spearheading the revision of the calendar since January, also addressed the Senate, acknowledging that the process hadn’t been

SEE CALENDAR, page 2

BC housing introduces new policies

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM
Spectator Senior Staff Writer



Nicole Jabanoski, BC ’13, just discovered one of Barnard’s newest housing features—and might go into the room selection process with a leg up because of it.

“I found out some things about the dorms that I didn’t really know, things you wouldn’t know just from checking out the main Res Life website,” she said.

Jabanoski gleaned this information from Room Reviews, a recently launched website which

allows Barnard students to post and read dorm reviews.

“The new Room Reviews section on the housing website is kind of a CULPA for rooms,” Matthew Kingston, associate director of Resident Life and Housing at Barnard said, referring to the professor-rating website, which has garnered increasing popularity in recent years. “We’ve gotten lots of reviews from students—they’re posting pictures and YouTube videos of their rooms.”

The website joins a slew of other changes in this year’s Barnard housing selection process. Beginning on April 9, when rising seniors line up to make the first picks, all students will be selecting their rooms in Lewis Parlor in Brooks Hall, as

opposed to in the James Room, where housing selection was conducted last year.

Mixed-class year groups will be treated differently than they have been in years past. Last year students registered individually, and received a lottery number independent of their potential suitemates. Groups formed after lottery numbers were assigned, and each group’s lottery number was the highest number of anyone in the group. While this procedure for same-class year groups will remain the same, Barnard housing administrators sought to correct a problem last year that went unaddressed last year—mixed-year class groups.

SEE BC HOUSING, page 2

INSIDE

A&E, page 3

MFA exhibit is an artistic feast for the eyes

Over the weekend, Schermerhorn Hall’s Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery opened a show displaying artwork of first-year MFA students. The exhibit overflows with pieces from oil paintings of roadkill to spinning pumpkin sculptures.



Sports, page 6

Men’s tennis slams home huge victory over Harvard

The two leading contenders for the Ivy title faced off this weekend in a pivotal early season matchup. The Lions proved ready for the test, emerging with a convincing 5-2 win over the Crimson. Columbia defeated Dartmouth the next day.

Opinion, page 4

Outsourcing the War on Terror

Is the fighting for the protection of Main Street or the prosperity of Wall Street?

A personal war of words

Amin Ghadimi learns a lesson on bi-cultural journalism.

Today’s Events

Swing Dance Lesson

Hop to it with the Society of Women Engineers.

Lerner Party Space, 8 p.m.

Barnard Lottery Numbers

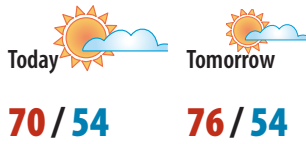
BC housing lottery numbers and senior appointment times are distributed.

Everywhere, 6 p.m.

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WEATHER



Students ambivalent about ‘40s’ end

40s ON 40 from front page

and participated in the tradition were contacted and gave overwhelmingly negative feedback. “We were really unhappy with the way the event turned out for the past two years,” Massey said.

A large factor in the decision was cost. The administrators estimated a total cost of \$20,000, most of which, Massey said, would be spent on putting up fences that are used to section off the area for drinking. Administrators would only give the event the green light with a number of stipulations, including wrist-bands and the fence construction, which along with labor fees comprised the bulk of the costs.

Heather Lee, Engineering Student Council class of 2010 president, expressed similar reservations. “Especially from the SEAS point of view, we really don’t have that kind of money. Only 30 percent of their class [2009] showed up last year—a

lot of money that we don’t have would be spent on a limited number of students,” Lee said.

Other logistical problems arose during last year’s event according to Student Government Association 2010 president Chelsea Zimmerman.

“It seemed like there were a lot more negative comments from students than positive—for instance, there was quite a line to get into the senior playpen last year, they conducted bag searches, and there was one drink per hour. A lot of students complained that they were caged in with the fence set up,” Zimmerman said.

Sharona Kahn, BC ’10, said she thinks the senior class’s money should be spent elsewhere. “Drinking in a fenced off area of the steps ... it sounds like money could be better spent,” said Kahn.

Massey said a large part of the money that would have been spent on the “40s on 40” event was allotted instead to improve events such as the Winter Gala

and provide better beverage selections at Lerner Pub.

An email sent out this weekend from the group Senior Underground alleged that an unofficial “40s on 40” event will be held in lieu of the official one.

Some seniors said that they wanted the event to remain unofficial. “I think it’s one of those things where when it was an unauthorized, organic event, it was much better than the sanitized version of it,” Lindsay Griffith, BC ’10, said.

“I don’t think the school should run it. It would be quieter and less fun,” Drew Abeyta CC ’10, agreed.

According to Massey, the student councils are uninvolved with plans for an unofficial “40s on 40.”

Massey and Lee say that some of the money that would be spent on the event will be put instead toward an outdoor barbecue, which is scheduled for late April or early May.

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Worship group draws in homeless

HOMELESS from front page

is about being spiritually fed. The point of it being outdoors is that you are embracing your own humanity and the humanity of those around you,” he said.

Latecomers and newcomers looked on before joining the service, and one woman riding her bike along the pathway stopped to lead the congregation in the hymn “Glory Hallelujah.”

“Folks who have been disinvested in this society really need a spiritual sense of belonging, and that’s what we try to give them,” Kuemmerle said.

But Kooperkamp said designing a service for the homeless is no different than designing worship services for the housed.

“Let’s ask God to help us give up those things that are killing us, that are bringing us closer to death,” Kooperkamp said throughout the service, a message that may hit close to home for many homeless people who struggle with mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction.

But Kooperkamp said he tells all of his congregations the same message.

“Everyone struggles with the same sort of problems,” he said.

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New policies for BC room selection

BC HOUSING from front page

This year, groups made up of students of varying years will use the best lottery number of the group, but will use that number on the selection day of the lowest class year group members.

“Last year there was this complicated chart with different colors and groups where you had to average all these numbers,” Kingston said. “We’ve streamlined it to make it much simpler to figure out when you’d select.

The class year of Columbia students who are pulled into a group affects whether a group would be considered a same-class year or mixed-class year group.

While this change is intended to simplify the process, many students said that they are still wary about living with younger students, whose later room selection times may preclude their chances of getting their choice housing.

“We are planning to be in a suite next year,” Talia Wolfson, BC ’12, said. “We were hoping to bring in underclassmen, but we decided not to because we weren’t willing to risk our spot in the lottery.”

The way in which students are allowed to group themselves together will also change. Students wishing to live together with a group of friends but not in

a suite, may select into a block of dorms on the same floor of Hewitt, Elliott, and Sulzberger Tower, which are corridor style buildings. The maximum group size for a block of dorms is four students, a downsizing from six students in previous years.

“I guess I understand it—if individuals are trying to find a room on a hallway, but they’re all taken up by a large block of students, it complicates things,” Daniela Cannizzaro, BC ’11, said, who was planning to live in a group of five people in Sulzberger, but now has to make alternative plans because of the change.

Others, meanwhile, said that the change in the block option—which typically allows students to choose rooms next to one another—is inconsequential. For Rebecca Douglas, BC ’10, the reduction in the number of students making up a block is unimportant.

“I don’t see why living next to each other is such a big deal, but I can understand why people like it,” Douglas said, who lived next to several friends in Elliott her sophomore year, and said that it was not essential to a positive housing experience.

Madina Toure, Carly Silver, and Elizabeth Scott contributed reporting.

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USenate hears council calendar pitch

CALENDAR from front page

all it could be. Applegate said he welcomed the student voices, but when speaking on behalf of faculty interests—particularly those of assistant professors—described an early start as “an obstacle in their road” to young parents on tenure track.

“Starting after Labor Day is a substantial benefit to their group,” Applegate said. He added, “This is particularly the case in the career paths of women. It is simply true ... that anything we do to make the family life at this stage beneficial for all, will benefit the career advancement of our female colleagues, and anything that we do that makes it more difficult will systematically destroy it.”

Applegate commented that an earlier start weighed against preparing for tenure nomination, “the issues involved in flying home on December 24th do not register on the same scale.” In light of divergent interests between students and faculty, he contended maintaining the calendar was the best solution.

Yang said that the concerns of the faculty—expressed in a statement by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences that rejected the early start, and suggested the alternative of holding classes on the Monday before Election Day and exams on the weekend—had

been taken into consideration and suggested applying the early start to one out of seven or two out of ten years as a compromise.

Green also urged for a resolution to the calendar that would meet the needs of all stakeholders rather than the needs of some. “We’d like to move away from thinking about this as a student versus faculty proposal, but instead really move towards thinking about this as something that is beneficial to the Columbia community as a whole,” she said.

After the meeting, student representatives were pleased with the inclusion of the student voice, but had mixed opinions on how seriously it was received by the senators in attendance.

“At least now, we’re a part of the discourse and the negotiation, instead of walled off,” Green said.

“I think the next step is making sure people really understand the alternatives,” said Frouman. “This was step one. This was to put the discussion on the table.” Frouman and company plan to research University opinion and logistical constraints further, including how Cornell University deals with its early start. This fall, Cornell will begin classes on Aug. 25.

Student senator Rajat Roy, SEAS ’10, felt that the faculty “in general were not swayed” and didn’t fully understand why preserving the fall break and alleviating the compression

at the end of the semester were important to his constituents. “The value system is a little different. We didn’t have a lot of time to show the holes in the faculty argument, which was a little disappointing. But this is an important first step in beginning the conversation,” he said.

When asked about the weight of student interests in the conversation, Tan said, “Obviously they’re not being weighed equally. Yesterday was the opening sales pitch to begin examining why they’re not weighed equally with faculty interests and to add more weight to the student side.”

Moving forward, Sharyn O’Halloran, professor of international and public affairs and chair of the Executive Committee, did not consider the conversation divided among faculty-student lines, and stressed the central matter at hand was to end before Dec. 23. “Its not the start date, it’s the end date that’s the student issue that we need to be focused on,” she said.

In the meantime, the academic calendar debate will continue in the Education Committee “for further thought and resolution,” Bollinger said in his closing address. It is uncertain whether a proposal to resolve the calendar will be voted on at the final plenary meeting of the year.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

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
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04/08

THURSDAY
**THE U.S. IMMIGRATION DEBATE
A Historical and Global Perspective
6 PM**
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

**CLIMATE WISE WOMEN
A Conversation on Global Women's
Response to Climate Change
6 PM**
Diana Center Event Space

04/13

TUESDAY
**ACTIVISTS WHO YEARN FOR ART
THAT TRANSFORMS
12 PM**
BCRW, 101 Barnard Hall

**WRITERS AT BARNARD
Sandra Beasley & Joy Harjo
7 PM**
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/14

WEDNESDAY
**MOVING TOWARDS UTOPIA
What Kind of City Lies Ahead?
6:30 PM**
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

04/15

THURSDAY
**18TH ANNUAL STUDENT
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
4:00 PM**
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

**WRITERS AT BARNARD
Barnett, Dark, Hermann & Keene
7 PM**
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/17

SATURDAY
**SPRING CONCERT
Bach's St. John Passion
8 PM**
Union Theological Seminary, Broadway at 120th

04/22

THURSDAY
**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
SENIOR POSTER SESSION
4:30 PM**
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

**SAINT JOAN OF THE STOCKYARDS
8 PM**
Minor Latham Playhouse, 118 Milbank Hall

BARNARD
THE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN
IN NEW YORK CITY



RACHEL VALINSKY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CONCERT MASTERS | Above, students responsible for coordinating this year's Bacchanal spring concert take a break to pose for a photo.

Bacchanal spring concert lineup announced

BACCHANAL from front page

“charging \$50 and our concert is free.”

And, naturally, keeping the concert free limits concert chairs’ choices.

To book these bands, the concert chairs contacted an agent who helped them determine all of the prices for the possible headliners. Once the club decided how much money it was going to spend on the big act as opposed to the rest of Bacchanal Weekend, the concert chairs, in collaboration with the club, created a list of artists the club could afford. After that stage, the concert chairs worked primarily with the club presidents Jody Zellman, GS, and Alex Kirk, CC ’11, to create a financially sensible and Columbia-friendly lineup that was largely under wraps.

“It’s not even about price matchup sometimes,” Weinstein said of booking the bands. “The negotiation process is fun because you start to hear weird tidbits about the artist’s life, like, ‘Oh they can’t make that day because they’re having a baby.’ One of the acts was asking for \$45,000, which is manageable, but then asked for a \$10,000 to \$15,000 light show.”

“And that’s our entire budget,” Johnson added.

But, in other ways, the club has to cater to the wishes of the campus’s celebrity visitors for the day of the concert. “Last year, Vampire Weekend asked for Taqueria [y Fonda la Mexicana],” Johnson said.

Hosting big-name artists and holding a later performance inevitably brings up security questions, especially since the concert has had problems before. “We announced the bands later because if we released the names earlier we would have to pay a lot more for security,” Johnson said. “When Kanye West came, we had to have people standing at the gates checking Columbia IDs.”

For this year’s nighttime concert, CUIDs will be required for attendance again. The nighttime concert will also lend a new face to the concert in more ways than one—Johnson and Weinstein enthusiastically noted that audience members will receive glow sticks.

Zellman expressed his own excitement for the concert as a venue in which Columbia students can escape from everyday ruts.

“The Bacchanal concert is a chance for us to unwind and pretend that Butler is not the center of campus social life. I expect this concert will leave a crater in Low Plaza,” Zellman said. “Hopefully this will be filled in by graduation.”

Art exhibit more strange than standard

BY MARGARET BOYKIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

At the first-year MFA exhibition’s opening reception on Saturday, the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery filled with many things typical to a gallery party—an open bar, a smattering of hipsters, and many talented artists.

However, the art featured in the show—which runs through April 17—is anything but typical. Sculptures made out of mud, indoor quarries, a spinning pumpkin, and a woman in full 18th-century dress rolling out wallpaper are all part of the work that the 27 students present, filling the walls of the gallery with a vibrant display of talent.

The Master of Fine Arts students offer a diverse body of work. In one room, the viewer can encounter School of the Arts student Emily Henretta’s, “Remainder Space,” a collection of recycled printing paper forming what seems to be either an altar or a miniature city. Viewers can then turn around to come face to face with School of the Arts student Brie Ruais’s “27 Pots as Years,” a stack of potted plants that appear to teeter precariously on their base, climbing up to the ceiling.

The show somehow manages to cram the gallery with an eclectic array of pieces without straying into carnival-like crowdedness. Swimming in a sea of impressive work, gallery visitors don’t feel like they are in the Times Square of contemporary art, but are instead pleasantly overwhelmed, their eyes fighting to take it all in at once.

School of the Arts student Nick Paparone’s comical “Four Seasons”—this is where the spinning pumpkin comes in—could be considered a metaphor for the enjoyable insanity of the MFA show. His sculpture features a collection of tchotchkes that call to mind each season—a snowman, a tree in bloom, a sunbathing girl. Paparone feels that the manipulation of traditional themes is “a right of passage for every artist, like making out with somebody for the first time, or egging a house,” and so he turns the four seasons into an expression of “consumption and taste.” He does so with gusto—the snowman is taken apart



NOMI ELLENSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OFF THE WALL | First-year MFA students are currently showing their work at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery in Schermerhorn Hall. Above, a gallery visitor views one of the students’ pieces.

and incorrectly reassembled, and the items are vomit-covered. It is a sculpture some students could look at for hours without becoming uninterested and without a slight smile ever fading from their faces.

The word “fresh” is often overused when describing new talent, but the MFA students’ works have a crisp, refreshing vibe. These artists are not jaded, and this attitude filters through in their creative expressions. As a result, their work is fun to experience. When asked how the show was going, School of

Search for tasty local pizza is as easy as 1-2-3

BY SAM KOELLE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Located east of Morningside Park—just a 10-minute walk from Morningside Heights, but seemingly a million miles away from campus—lies a small gem in the guise of Pizzeria 123.

The pizzeria boasts a wide range of offerings, from burgers to hoagies, from salads to sandwiches. All are moderately priced, and the pizzas are especially reasonable, with a basic 16-inch pie running for \$11.

The toppings available are a pleasant change from the normal pizzeria fare. Well-cooked eggplant stands out as particularly excellent. Bacon, rather than being served as bits, comes in crispy

strips. The pepperoni is thin and not particularly spicy—with a flavor not unlike that of salami—while the sausage pieces are remarkably thick slices of seemingly whole sausage rather than the ground-up norm.

With a crisp yet flaky outside, and a waffle-like doughy center, the crust at Pizzeria 123 is the star of the show. It handles copious amounts of grease, and even after 20 minutes, it never gets soggy, though it is certainly damp. The crust also has a very pleasant starchy flavor, but at times this could overpower the other components of the pie.

The cheese is the weakest part of the pizza—neither the cheese-sauce nor cheese-topping interfaces are particularly strong. The cheese itself has a nice texture,

but is not flavorful on its own. However, this isn’t unpleasant, as it calls attention to the fine texture and taste of the crust. The sauce cooperates with the cheese in this general trend toward blandness, which can only be alleviated by the excellent toppings.

The establishment itself is friendly, and the service is quite fast. On one particular day, there was a constant flow of people moving between the street and the restaurant, which was operating on the fine line between active and too busy. On a sunny day, the lively street scene on Frederick Douglass Boulevard is a wonderful detour from Morningside Heights.

Harlem is unfairly pigeonholed as a culinary vacuum by the denizens of Columbia, but Pizzeria 123 is certainly worth the walk.



EVELYN WARNER FOR SPECTATOR

FIDDLING AROUND | Columbia Musical Theatre Society actors perform a scene from “Fiddler on the Roof.”

CMTS’ ‘Fiddler’ embraces tradition

BY DANIEL FLICKER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Tradition, tradition! As the ideological backbone of the musical “Fiddler on the Roof,” and the title of its infectious opening number, the word “tradition” has—ironically or otherwise—come to represent what every production of the show seems to need. This beloved musical leaves little room for artistic experimentation—long-time fans want to see precisely the “Fiddler” that they know and love, and newcomers generally want nothing more than to see what all the fuss is about.

It was pleasantly unsurprising, then, that the Columbia Musical Theatre Society’s production of “Fiddler,” performed in Roone Arledge Auditorium over the weekend, didn’t stray from the formula. Directed by Rebecca Victor, CC ’12, the story of a Jewish village in tumultuous Tsarist Russia featured all of the iconic “Fiddler” trimmings, from the exasperated banter between the main character and

his wife to the wildly arm-flailing dances of the villagers, to the scrappy vests and shawls of the period costumes.

Aside from a rather timid beginning, the show delivered all its vital components with remarkable warmth and spirit. Particularly memorable was the dream sequence near the end of Act I, in which the manic choreography, well-rehearsed orchestra, and enormous ensemble came together to create a scene of joyous chaos. It was a whirlwind of unrestrained glee—the sort of Yiddish mayhem scarcely found outside of a Mel Brooks movie.

Yet ultimately, the most compelling aspects of the production were its quieter moments, most of which hinged on the development of the middle-aged protagonist, Tevye. A bastion of tradition in the midst of a changing world, Tevye’s personal experiences give the show its emotional foundation, and, as portrayed by Eric Lawrence, GS/JTS ’13, his tragicomic struggle to protect his family and faith takes on devastating humanity. Hotheaded but

loving, world-weary but hopeful, Lawrence imbued Tevye with all the dimensionality he could muster and encapsulated the very essence of the show in his character. It was a generous and moving performance, and one that made the cavernous space of the auditorium seem almost intimate.

For all of its strengths, this rendition of “Fiddler on the Roof” gets no points for outright creativity. Though it certainly did justice to the “Fiddler” legacy, it had nothing exceptionally new or exciting to add—the only aspect of the show that might have been called challenging was its nearly three-hour running time, which took a clear toll on the younger members of the audience.

But to deviate from tradition was not the point of this production, as was made clear when the cast received a standing ovation with the final bow. The myriad “Fiddler” devotees in the audience approved. CMTS produced a genuinely heartfelt rendition of the musical, clearly fashioned with love by people who love the show.

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What are we still doing in Afghanistan?

BY YOAV GUTTMAN

An article in the most recent issue of Newsweek magazine—"The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight" by T. Christian Miller, Mark Hosenball, and Ron Moreau—discusses the failures of the United States to successfully train a functioning Afghan police force. Spending \$6 billion, the U.S. has constantly shifted the responsibility of training police forces from the U.S. Army to the contractor DynCorp International and then to European paramilitary police units known as gendarmerie forces.

The failure to establish a reliable Afghan police threatens the U.S.'s goals in Afghanistan. Yet, though we find that there is a vast cultural difference between the rural Afghans who enlist in police training and the trainers who come from Western nations, the failure of the police force reaches beyond training and who did it. Rather, it is symptomatic of the basic failure of the war in Afghanistan due to its lack of a clear mission.

When the U.S. entered the war nearly a decade ago, our mission seemed clear. The Taliban was supporting al-Qaida, which had perpetrated the attacks on Sept. 11. Our mission was to overthrow the Taliban, install a regime friendly to the U.S., and most importantly, find and kill Osama bin Laden. Yet, in the years since the war started, only one of the goals has been accomplished, and it certainly not completely so. We successfully overthrew the Taliban government, but its supporters have not disappeared. Instead, they have become the anti-imperial Afghan freedom fighters. Because of this, they enjoy support in Afghanistan that suggests they had never been in power and that they represented the path towards true freedom. Have Afghans forgotten Taliban rule with its medieval practices? This remains unclear, but we know that overthrowing the central government did not defeat the Taliban.

Last year's Afghan elections were perhaps the most heartbreaking to Americans, as we saw that a country that we had poured so much into was, at the highest levels, corrupt. Both presidential candidates claimed victory, and, fearing tribal backlash, President Hamid Karzai's challenger, Abdullah Abdullah withdrew prior to a second round of elections. Karzai was victorious, but democracy failed. Perhaps this was a sign we should pack up and leave.

And most obviously, we have neither caught bin Laden nor stymied terrorism globally. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have only encouraged Muslim extremism. Iran's resistance to the West has further strengthened extremist resolve and sentiment. Guantanamo Bay forces America to admit that it will substitute its high moral ground for anti-terror information, furthering embarrassment and resentment of Muslims globally. Private contractors such

as Blackwater (now called Xe Services) have put America's mission into serious jeopardy by acting as an independent paramilitary organization with no jurisdiction or accountability.

This outsourcing of military work is perhaps the most serious issue America faces. Rather than defining our mission and goals, we divert funds from our military to hire contractors to do the work. But the contractors are not accountable to the American government the same way the Army is. This leads to morally questionable tactics that are never answered for. Furthermore, in the eyes of the Afghans (or Iraqis), these troops are seen as Americans and forces of American imperialism. Thus, their actions represent the American government. This ultimately undermines the "winning of hearts and minds" mentality, as again, our moral high ground is challenged.

In the Newsweek article, we find the same problems. For a war story, there was

The failure of the police force is symptomatic of the basic failure of the war in Afghanistan due to its lack of a clear mission.

very little mention of soldiers, strategy, or battle. Rather, the most common words were "DynCorp," "contract," and "outbid." The war is not a war. It is a company that is making killing into a profitable business. As long as this occurs, we will be stuck in Afghanistan, sacrificing some of our nation's best sons and daughters in the U.S. military for the profit of private companies.

Finally, what is perhaps most distressing is that the anti-war movement has been virtually silent since Obama announced he was sending 40,000 more troops to Afghanistan. Just a few years ago, Columbia Coalition Against the War came together to protest Bush's war in Iraq. Rallies and marches were held across American universities and in our nation's capital demanding that troop levels be reduced and that America begin the process of leaving Iraq. Did the anti-war camp disband because we elected someone we like as our president instead of Darth Vader and Emperor Palpatine? As primarily liberal college students, we have the duty to challenge our government, regardless of whether the commander-in-chief is Bush or Obama. It is time to stop being so complacent and accepting of our noble mission in Afghanistan. We must realize we are fighting a war against poor people far away, and we are not winning. It is time to for Columbians to make noise and urge our government to bring our troops home.

The author is a student in the School of General Studies and the Jewish Theological Seminary. His newest project, the Straw Hat Band, combines his political activism with his musicianship.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Space invaders

During winter and spring breaks, students have their minds on many things, one of which is likely not whether their temporarily unoccupied dorm rooms are being inspected. They are most certainly not thinking about room inspections if they are not given ample and specific notification of when they occur. Over winter break, Barnard students' uninhabited rooms are checked by Residential Life and Housing staff for fire hazards with no warning other than a passage in the student handbook. If illicit items are found, they are confiscated. If nothing is taken, a student has no way of knowing that anyone was in her room. And over this past spring break, every Hartley and Wallach room was entered to assess the condition of desks and desk chairs. While this was systematic and not a room search, students were given little to no notice of the inspections—many students had left for vacation by the time the notification fliers were put up. Residential advisors and housing staff have an obligation to keep student rooms safe. However, they are also obligated to keep students informed in the process.

Students understand that their rooms belong to Columbia, and that they use them over the course of the academic year under a contractual agreement to abide by certain regulations. They also understand that they must work with the University to keep their rooms and suites free of fire hazards. They know that their rooms can be raided. They know that if they are under 21, they should not have alcohol or alcohol-related paraphernalia

in their rooms, and that if they do, it is liable to be seized.

There is a vast difference, however, between regular Barnard room inspections—which are preceded by emails to students and followed by notes informing students if something was confiscated—and the aforementioned searches conducted over winter break, in which only students who cannot or do not pay to stay in their rooms have their belongings searched. Similarly, if items needed to be taken out of Hartley and Wallach desks and desk chairs, there is no reason why an email couldn't have been sent out to residents of these dorms before students left for spring break so they knew that someone would be in their rooms during their absence.

Yes, it is Housing's right to enter students' rooms, and yes, it is their duty to protect our safety. The fact that there is a line in a handbook that says this is a possibility, however, does not mean that students have been properly notified. Searches should be conducted while students are in school and after they have been informed of the date and purpose of the inspection. If the point of these inspections is to be sneaky, then keeping to the status quo would be fine. However, if Housing's aim is to ensure that students feel not only that they are safe, but that they are in control of their safety, unannounced (or essentially unannounced) inspections are as much of an infraction as is unwittingly keeping a fire hazard in one's dorm room.

Spectator Opinion accepts submissions from diverse areas of interest. Submissions should be between 700 and 900 words and express an opinion that does not perpetuate stereotypes or unfairly label groups or individuals. All writers meet with an associate editor to edit their submission before publication. Submissions may be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com.

For more information, come to our meeting Sundays at 2:30 p.m. in the Spectator office on the corner of 112th Street and Broadway.

If I could teach them English



AMIN GHADIMI

The Way That Can Be Told

I'm not sure that's word for word what she said. I do remember, though, running out of Kleenex, getting strange glances from the people sitting around me, and wondering whether staying in my seat in tears was less disruptive than getting up and walking out. I chose the former option, perhaps to the disappointment of the gentleman sitting in front of me.

The speaker was Roxana Saberi, and it was around 9 p.m. last Friday, April 2. Saberi, an Iranian-American journalist who had been arrested in Iran in April of 2009, spoke about human rights and the plight of the Bahá'ís in Iran at an event co-sponsored by Columbia's Center for the Study of Human Rights. She recounted one day of her experience in Evin Prison. She had been feeling particularly depressed that day, and a prison guard took her to see two Bahá'í women detained in Evin named Mahvash and Fariba—she referred to them by their first names. Saberi described her first interaction with Mahvash and Fariba. She told the audience that she noticed they had more belongings with them than some of the other prisoners, an indication that they had been there longer than others had. I felt uncomfortable. She recalled a picture that one of them had of her family that she had framed in an old tissue box. I felt a bit misty-eyed. She said that the women were so excited to see her and wanted her to teach them English. I lost all control.

I couldn't help but think of all the times I'd taught English for chump change, how I always grumbled about how I hated to do it. I remembered all the times I'd sat around and, in jest, dissected and analyzed and laughed about why Iranians speak English the way they do. I thought about how now there is nothing in the world I would want more than to speak Persian like my father speaks it and about how I have the freedom to study Persian. With her one sentence, that one simple anecdote, Roxana Saberi turned all of that on its head.

This semester, I decided that I had to come to terms with myself and with my world—that I had to get past my embarrassment about my thick foreigner's accent and actually speak Persian with someone other than my grandmother and that I had to move beyond just first-grade handwriting and spelling skills. I signed up for Persian. I was scared. It was the closest to Iran I'd ever gotten, and I didn't know if I'd like it.

I'm getting used to it. Moved by the knowledge, kindness, and open-heartedness of my professor, I'm coming around, I think.

And as I struggle to master the language of Mahvash and Fariba, it breaks my heart to learn that what they want is to learn the language I call my own. The only difference between them and me is that my grandparents got out of Iran. The only thing separating Evin and Columbia, dividing oppression and freedom, keeping me from being in their shoes, is something I didn't control. It hurts. And in that moment last Friday, it all came flooding out from somewhere deep inside me.

As you read this, somewhere on campus, I'm still debating in my mind whether I should have printed this column. Writing it wasn't a question. Writing is catharsis. It purges the inchoate yuckiness in your brain and spills it onto a page. Friday evening was a period of extended emotional purgation. But publishing is a different question. I've already written about my faith and my heritage several times before in this newspaper, and ultimately, who really cares what I think or how I feel? We all have our sob stories—and some are more literally "sob stories" than others.

I couldn't help but think of all the times I'd taught English for chump change, how I always grumbled about how I hated to do it.

But as Roxana Saberi's—and Columbia's own Kian Tajbakhsh's—well-documented stories show, and as event speaker and journalist Rudi Bakhtiar eloquently explained, the only way we can help those under oppression is to give them the sustained attention they deserve. I'm not a journalist, and I'm not an activist. I'm just an average kid in your Contemporary Civilization class who's wondering what to write about for his essay due Wednesday. So this is the best I can do. And I can only hope it's good enough.

Saberi mentioned that Mahvash and Fariba read Hafez's poetry in prison. So I close with a few lines of Hafez we studied in my Persian class last Wednesday: "Though the stages are dangerous and the goal not in sight, there is no road to which there is not an end. Grieve not."

Amin Ghadimi is a Columbia College sophomore. He is the former Spectator editorial page editor. He is also a senior editor of the Columbia East Asian Review and the secretary of Columbia's Bahá'í Club. The Way That Can Be Told runs alternate Mondays.

JODY'S DRAWINGS!



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Touching moment in Final Four



JELANI JOHNSON
Can't Knock the Hustle

On Saturday night, I was watching a rather mediocre Final Four game, when I saw a series of events that I won't soon forget. During the second half of the West Virginia/Duke game, West Virginia senior guard Dasean Butler rose up for a contested layup, and when he landed, not only his ACL, but also his NBA prospects were ripped apart. I can't explain what it was, but for some reason the image of the inconsolable Butler being cradled by his coach Bob Huggins resonated with me in an unexpected way. I've never met the guy in my life, but watching him writhe in pain actually prompted me to say a brief prayer for his future. The uncertainty faced by many college athletes is an often-overlooked aspect of the student-athlete experience. A lost scholarship or a horrible injury can drastically change the lives of people who are consumed by the sports they play.

Our natural inclination is to not feel any sympathy for these high-profile NCAA athletes. But after four years of college, I now sympathize with student-athletes more than ever. Consider Butler's case. For four years, his entire life has been basketball practices, games, interviews, workouts, film sessions, summer regimens, etc. The fact that he was injured in his final college game and that his future job prospects were severely compromised is devastating. I can understand his tears. Imagine if you were an economics major, you meticulously monitored the stock market, killed your internship for three straight summers, and generally let finance consume your life, only to find out that you that you weren't going to get hired after graduation.

NCAA sports are truly a business. It really irks me when I hear people say that college athletes should be forced to stay in school. Those statements are made under the false pretense that academics are the central focus of collegiate athletics. Coaches don't recruit kids because they have the potential to be exceptional philosophy majors—they recruit players based on their athletic talent. If academics were the reason we praise student-athletes, then members of the debate team and Quiz Bowl would be walking around campus with groupies. No, make no mistake about it, most student-athletes are recruited with the express purpose of playing ball, and anything else they give you is gravy. Butler is still going to get his Bachelor's degree from West Virginia, but I guarantee you he would instantly trade that degree for guaranteed lottery status in the NBA draft.

The most lasting image from Butler's injury was created by Huggins. Watching Huggy Bear cradle the head of his fallen star elicited laughs from my friends, but it was actually a very tender moment. The fact that Huggins is known as a tough man and a hard-ass coach only amplified the emotional impact of his embrace. I was born and raised in Cincinnati, so I've been watching Bob Huggins coach for years. In fact, I used to spend summers playing ball in the Bob Huggins Basketball Camp. He's the last guy I would expect to see showing deep physical love in front of millions of viewers. There was nothing fake or contrived about the love shown between player and coach on Saturday night. I guess that more than anything, that moment humanized Butler as more than an athlete. In his moment of pain, he was just another college senior like myself, and I could relate to him on a more intimate level. While student-athletes hustle on the court, off the court, they participate in the same everyday struggle that consumes the rest of us. I can't knock that.

Jelani Johnson is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. sportseditors@columbiaspectator.com

Tennis dominates early season showdown
Columbia extends win streak to 10 with victories over Dartmouth and No. 64 Harvard

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The men's tennis team sits alone at the top of the Ivy League standings with an unblemished conference record of 3-0, after dominating Harvard and Dartmouth this weekend. Columbia, ranked No. 54 in the nation, has a record of 13-3 on the season, with all three of its losses coming against ranked teams this spring. The Lions beat the Crimson 5-2 in front of a raucous and partisan crowd, and downed the Big Green

6-1, to maintain their undefeated Ivy record.

"So far it's been pretty good," head coach Bid Goswami said "I knew we had to play a really good match against Harvard, they were ready for us. We had real good intensity in the doubles at one and two. Three has been playing really well in practice, but [assistant coach] Patric [Westoo] told me they were a little unsure of themselves. [Alexei] Chijoff-Evans [of Harvard] was first team all-Ivy in doubles last season, and [Joshua] Tchan is probably their

best player behind Chijoff-Evans if you ask me."

On Friday, in front of a loud group of students, parents, and alumni, the Lions played some of their best doubles of the season to win the doubles point, which would prove crucial in the outcome of the match, as it swung the momentum clearly onto Columbia's side.

Senior co-captains Jon Wong and Mihai Nichifor, got an early break in their match at No. 1 doubles, and had match points at 7-5 on their opponents serve, but

	HARVARD	2	
	COLUMBIA	5	

failed to close out the match there. At No. 2 doubles, sophomore Haig Schneiderman and freshman Nate Gery went down an early break in their match, but broke back to even it up, and then broke late to give the Lions their first win 9-7. The No. 3 doubles duo of Rajeev Deb-Sen and Kevin Kung, found themselves down quickly to Harvard's team. But down 7-2, the duo rallied to make it 7-4, before

	DARTMOUTH	1	
	COLUMBIA	6	

falling 8-4. All eyes turned to the top duo, where Nichifor served out the match with big first serves, and a crisp volley ended the match giving Columbia a 1-0 lead.

"I think winning the doubles really helped us," Goswami said. "Nate and Haig played really well, I wish they could do this every time. They could be a great team by next

SEE MEN'S TENNIS, page 8

Superb pitching leads Lions to victories in conference openers

BY VICTORIA JONES
Spectator Staff Writer

The baseball team's recent winning streak may have come to an end yesterday afternoon against Brown, but that wasn't before the Lions took the first three games—their first against conference foes nonetheless—of the weekend, to extend the streak to eight straight games.

The Light Blue finally saw solid improvement from the mound, which it backed up with the consistent batting it has seen so far this season, to take three out of the four weekend matchups.

The competition started Saturday afternoon, with the Ivy season opener against Yale (11-10-1, 0-4 Ivy). The weather was beautiful and there were a surprising amount of Bulldog supporters in the stands, but the Lions sent the Elis back to New Haven disappointed, with Columbia winning both games of the day's doubleheader.

The Lions came out swinging, setting the tone that the Bulldogs were going to have to do their best to try and keep up.

After the first four Elis to approach the plate failed to put any runs on the board, the Light Blue took its turn in fine fashion. Jon Eisen led off the inning with a single, and then advanced to second on a groundout by Dean Forthun. Making his return to baseball after being out with an injury, junior Nick Cox stepped to the plate batting third, and cranked a homer out to center



SHIVINA HARJANI / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TAKING THE MOUNT | Pitcher Dan Bracey made sure Columbia's poor pitching in nonconference play would not carry over against Brown.

	YALE	3	
	COLUMBIA	5	

	YALE	4	
	COLUMBIA	5	

	BROWN	0	
	COLUMBIA	7	

	BROWN	6	
	COLUMBIA	5	

field to put the Lions up 2-0.

In the second, Alex Ferrera increased the Lions' lead with a solo bomb to right field, to push the score to 3-0.

Yale struck back in the top of the third, taking starting pitcher Pat Lowery for two runs off of a

double down the left field line. Lowery was able to get out of the inning without any more damage, to keep the Lions ahead 3-2.

The score would remain the same until the top of the seventh, when the Bulldogs scored again off another RBI double to the

wall in left field, this time tying the score at three all.

Unable to score in the bottom of the seventh, the Light Blue saw the game head into extra innings. Reliever Geoff Whitaker, who came in in the top of the seventh, was able to strike out the first two

Bulldogs before the third flied out to left field, to prevent the Elis from taking the lead.

Though Forthun wasn't able to get on base, Cox stepped up to the plate for the Lions and

SEE BASEBALL, page 7

CU swept in matches against No. 52 Harvard, No. 47 Dartmouth

BY LAUREN SEAMAN
Spectator Staff Writer

This weekend, the women's tennis team traveled to Cambridge and Hanover to face two ranked Ivy opponents, No. 52 Harvard and No. 47 Dartmouth, respectively. The two rivals proved to be too much to handle, as both the Crimson and the Big Green swept the Light Blue 7-0. This weekend's losses upset Columbia's previously winning record, and the Lions now stand 9-10 in the regular season and 0-3 in Ivy competition.

The match against Harvard was a closer match than the 7-0 score indicated. Starting strong, the Lions fought hard for the doubles

point, but came up just short. Clinching the only doubles win for Columbia, Chelsea Davis and Eliza Matache teamed up for the first time ever, to defeat Caroline Davis and Samantha Gridley 8-7 (4) at No. 3. Coming close to victory, the freshman duo of Nicole Bartnik and Katarina Kovacevic put up tough completion at No. 1, but ultimately lost 8-5. At No. 2, co-captains Natasha Makarova and Carling Donovan fell to their opponents 8-4.

The singles matches were just as close. Though the Light Blue women lost all six singles matches, two of the matches went to third set tie-breaks. One of the closest matches was at No. 1 where Bartnik, who

	COLUMBIA	0	
	HARVARD	7	

	COLUMBIA	0	
	DARTMOUTH	7	

is currently ranked No. 112, fell to the No. 56 Holly Cao. In the duel against Cao, Bartnik dominated the first set but fell in the second before dropping the super tie-break, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 10-6. Eliza Matache came close to a win at No. 5, after she rallied back from a 6-3 loss in the first set to win 6-4 in the second, but she

SEE WOMEN'S TENNIS, page 7



JOSE GIRALT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CLOSE | The freshmen duo of Bartnik and Kovacevic lost at No. 1 doubles.

Softball takes one of four in first weekend of Ivy play



JENNY HSU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BUNT | The Lions were swept by Yale, and split its games against Brown.

BY CHRISTOPHER BROWN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia softball team (6-17, 1-3 Ivy) managed to win one of its four games during the first weekend of Ivy League play.

After a scoreless first inning, Yale took an early lead in the first game, leading 1-0 after a sacrifice fly from infielder Holly Gutterud in the second inning. The Bulldogs scored two runs in the fourth inning, one in the fifth, and two more in the sixth to lead 6-0. The Lions' offense struggled to score off of right-hander Kayla Kuretic, who scattered five hits through seven innings for a complete-game shut-out. Maggie Johnson allowed five runs in five innings of work, while Jessica Rakonza threw two scoreless innings in relief.

Yale took a 2-0 lead in the first inning of game two, but Columbia rallied back with a five-run third inning. Senior Aimee Kemp led off with a walk and moved to second base on Anne Marie Skyli's sacrifice bunt. Alison Lam's infield single advanced Kemp to third, and after Jennifer Bergeron's sacrifice bunt to advance Lam to second, Dani Pineda took a pitch on her left shoulder to load the bases with two outs. Kayla Lecher's single to

	YALE	6	
	COLUMBIA	0	

	YALE	8	
	COLUMBIA	7	

	BROWN	3	
	COLUMBIA	0	

	BROWN	5	
	COLUMBIA	10	

left field brought Kemp and Lam home to tie the game 2-2.

Johnson lined the first pitch she saw to center field to score Pineda, and Lecher was called safe on a throwing error by the center fielder, scoring the fourth Columbia run. Christie Taylor walked to set up Stephanie Yagi's double to right, that scored Johnson.

Kemp grounded out to third to end the inning with Columbia leading 5-2.

The Light Blue offense tacked on two more runs in the fourth inning, with Bergeron reaching base safely on a fielding error by Yale

SEE SOFTBALL, page 7

Heavyweight rowing beats MIT to take Alumni Cup

BY NINA LUKINA
Spectator Staff Writer

All three of Columbia's crew teams raced on Saturday, with the men's heavyweight team seeing the most success, as it took the Alumni Cup to continue its winning streak.

Following their sweep in the Collins Cup last weekend, the heavyweight men won the Alumni Cup against MIT on their home course in Orchard Beach, N.Y. The Light Blue finished with a time of 6:30.6, comfortably beating the Engineers' time of 6:52.2.

The Lions will face steeper competition next Saturday against Ivy League opponents Princeton and Penn, in the Childs Cup.

The lightweight men already saw their first league competition last Saturday, when they faced No. 1 Princeton and Georgetown in

SEE ROWING, page 7

Baseball wins three games in Ivy openers

BASEBALL from page 6

delivered yet again, this time with a single to center field. The Light Blue would only need one more batter in the form of Alexander Aurrichio, to put the game in the bag. With a 1-2 count, Aurrichio nailed a shot out to center field for a walk-off two-run home run, that cleared the bench to welcome the two batters back from their trip around the bases.

After a brief recess, Yale and Columbia took the field again for their second game of the day.

The first half-inning went off without a hitch, as starter Tim Giel struck out two of three batters to bring the Light Blue to the plate.

In their half, the Lions loaded the bases with the top of the order. Though Aurrichio struck out with a full docket, Nick Ferraresi came up to the plate next, and brought in the first run of the game with a groundout to third.

The Lions put another run on the board in the second with a bunt off the bat of Eisen before stranding two men on base at the end of the inning.

Yale came back in the third with a three-run home run to take the lead 3-2, but Columbia tied the score up at three with another RBI from Cox in the bottom of the fourth.

Both schools each put up another run in the fifth before the Lions scored the go-ahead run in the seventh. The Bulldog pitcher walked Ferrera and Forthun to start the inning and it came back to haunt the Elis as a pop fly to center field from Alex Godshall let Ferrera complete a tour of the bases in what would turn out to be the winning fifth run.

Columbia's pitchers in both games showed improvement from earlier this season, limiting the Bulldogs to a total of seven runs in 17 innings with a combined 19 strikeouts. The bullpen held up its end of the deal as well, as neither Whitaker nor Derek Squires allowed any runs in their combined four innings.

At the plate, the Lions continued their solid performance. Eisen and Cox both went 4-for-8 in the twin-bill, while Aurrichio

brought his home run total up to six so far this year.

After the game regarding Cox, head coach Brett Boretti said, "Having Nick Cox back and he hits a home run at his first at-bat, I won't say I was surprised, but I like that. Having him back in the lineup gives us more options from the right side."

Boretti also noted that the high number of bunts in the day's games was not happenstance. "The guys did a really good job of bunting today, which we've been working on a lot, so it's nice to see that work pay off."

Finally, when asked about how Saturday's victories would affect Sunday's matchups, Boretti said, "I'm happy that we won both games, but tomorrow's a new day, and with baseball you've got to play so many games in such a short time, you've got to have a short memory."

Columbia took the field again on Sunday, and ended up splitting a pair of games with Brown (4-15, 2-2 Ivy) to end the week-end with a record of 3-1.

Dan Bracey led the Lions to victory in the first game with seven innings of shutout pitching. Bracey posted six strikeouts in the win, and currently holds the lowest ERA among the starting rotation, with 4.26.

The first game got off to a slow start, remaining scoreless through the first three and a half innings. It wasn't until designated hitter Aurrichio smacked one out of the park in the bottom of the fourth that the Lions were able to go ahead 1-0. Aurrichio now leads the Ancient Eight with seven home runs this season.

Columbia really made its mark in the bottom of the fifth, adding four additional runs to the total. The inning opened with Ferrera singling to left field and Forthun dropping a bunt—a popular play among the Lions this weekend—to get on base. Godshall sacrifice bunted next to advance Ferrera and Forthun to second and third, and Eisen loaded the bases after being hit by a pitch.

The Lions put up two runs with the next two batters after Jason Banos drew a walk, and Cox beat out a double play

that had already nabbed Banos. Brown's starter, Kevin Carlow, beamed Aurrichio before tossing one to Ferraresi that was promptly knocked out to left field for a two RBI single to bring the score to 5-0.

The Light Blue's final two runs came in the bottom of the sixth, with a double from Banos that scored Eisen and Forthun.

With the 7-0 win, Columbia matched its total number of victories from last year, 11, just over halfway into the current season.

The second game in the twin-bill once again went scoreless for four innings, but this time it was Brown that took the go-ahead.

In the top of the fifth, the Bears posted four runs off of two hits. After pitching the first four innings with just one hit, Columbia starter Stefan Olson was taken out of the game two outs into the fifth, as he was relieved by Whitaker.

The Lions tried to get things started in the bottom half of the inning but only managed to post one run off the bat of Cox, who hit a sacrifice fly out to right field.

The Light Blue rallied again in the seventh inning and managed to score four runs to take over the lead 5-4. With a new pitcher on the mound for Brown, Banos and Cox ripped singles to get on base. Banos took third on a wild pitch, which allowed him to complete the circuit off a groundout by Aurrichio. Ferraresi then doubled to score Cox. The Bears swapped pitchers again, but Pizzano and Ferrera both smacked doubles to bring in another RBI apiece.

The lead didn't last long. In the top of the eighth, two more Bears made it across home plate for the final lead-change of the game.

The Lions came close when Pizzano pounded out a triple in the ninth, but Brown's reliever Andrew Babowski struck out Ferrera for the final out of the game.

The Light Blue is now 11-12 on the season, with a 3-1 record in the Ancient Eight. Before picking up Ivy competition again next weekend, the Lions with host Rutgers on Wednesday, for a quick one-game nonconference matchup.

Softball rebounds to split series against Brown

SOFTBALL from page 6

second basemen Jennifer Ong to start another two-out rally. Pineda and Lecher singled to load the bases, and Johnson brought home Bergeron and Lecher with a single to take a 7-2 lead.

But after retiring the side in order to breeze through the fourth and fifth innings, Maureen O'Kane ran into trouble in the sixth, allowing a three-run homer by Yale's Christy Nelson, to cut the Lions' lead to two runs with no outs in the inning. Johnson came in for relief, but Yale scored three more runs to take an 8-7 lead. Columbia tried to complete a third two-out rally for a comeback win after Yagi and Kemp singled, but Skyli's groundout ended the game.



ELAINE BURCHMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CRUISING | The heavyweights have placed first in every event this year.

Women's rowing places ahead of Rutgers in races

ROWING from page 6

New Jersey. The Tigers came in on top in every race, with the Hoyas and Lions competing for second.

The varsity eight boat came in quite close behind Georgetown, finishing with a time of 5:51.7 behind Georgetown's 5:50.7, while Princeton led with a time of 5:46.9. The second varsity eight race was more spaced out. Princeton finished about nine seconds in front of Columbia, which beat Georgetown by about 10 seconds. The Light Blue freshman eight came in far behind its foes, finishing 10 seconds behind Georgetown and 12 after Princeton.

Next, the lightweight crew will host Navy in Orchard Beach.

The women's team was also defeated by the daunting Princeton team in New Jersey this weekend, but defeated Rutgers in all of its four races.

Princeton came in first with a pretty wide margin in all the races, especially the varsity eight match, which it won with a time of 6:17.0, while Columbia placed second with a time of 6:42.8, and Rutgers in third at 6:54.4.

The women's team will next compete in the George Washington Invitational on the Potomac River on Friday and Saturday.

Women's tennis falls below .500

WOMEN'S TENNIS from page 6

fell in her tie-break 6-4.

At No. 2 and No. 3, Makarova and Davis's first sets were close, but they both lost 7-6. In their second sets, their opponents both won 6-2 to claim the victory.

Competitive play continued in Saturday's match against Dartmouth. But, as in the Harvard match, Columbia could not take the doubles point despite the new doubles partner pairings. At No. 1, the new pair of Davis and Bartnik teamed up to take on the No. 75 Molly Scott and Mary Beth Winingham, but they fell 8-3 in the tough match. Another duo working together for the first time, Kovacevic and Matache, played at No. 2 but fell 8-1. Though they put up a good fight, the No. 3 doubles team of Makarova and Natalia Christenson was also topped by its Dartmouth opponents, losing in a close match 8-7(5).

Columbia proved its strong play at both ends of the singles bracket. At both ends of the lineup, the Lions gave the Big Green tough contests. Junior Makarova played at the top spot and nearly made a comeback in her first set, falling 7-5 before losing the second set 6-3. Playing singles for the first time all season, Christenson rallied back after a 6-2 first set loss by topping her opponent 6-4 in the second set, but she could not take the super tie-break, losing 10-7 in a tough match.

The rest of the Light Blue fell in straight sets to the Big Green. Davis lost 6-1, 6-1 at No. 2; Kovacevic fell 6-3, 6-3 at No. 3; and freshman Diana Shapoval dropped her match 6-3, 6-4 at No. 5. Meanwhile, Matache also struggled, losing her sets 6-1, 6-2.

More Ivy competition is coming the Lions' way. On Friday, April 9, Columbia faces Brown at 2 p.m., and on April 10, the Lions take on Yale in a match slated to begin at noon. Both matches will take place at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center.

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CU tennis remains undefeated in Ivy play

MEN’S TENNIS from page 6

year, they both serve big and volley well, and play good doubles. It was a tight match, and they won the regional doubles the Harvard team, they came in as No. 1 doubles team in region. Doubles made us relax when we went into singles, it definitely helped us.”

“I thought we played really good doubles,” Goswami said. “And then Mihai and Nate and Haig, they finished them off so fast, and then Cyril [Bucher] winning the first set also helped us, because then it became a little easier for us.”

Nichifor set the tone for Columbia at No. 2 singles. Nichifor dominated Aba Omodele-Lucien, 6-3, 6-2, using his powerful forehand to move the Harvard junior all around the court. At No. 3 singles, Schneiderman was down 3-4 in the first set, but won nine straight games to take the match, 6-4, 6-0, and give Columbia a 3-0 lead. Jon Wong was locked in a battle at No. 1 singles against junior Chijoff-Evans. Wong used a tremendous forehand to win the first set, 6-4, but lost the second set 6-2, as his forehand began to miss its mark. At No. 4 singles, Bucher lost a tight first set 7-5, but quickly won his second set 6-0 to even the match at a set apiece. Deb-Sen battled injury on the afternoon, and was defeated in straight sets by Christo Schultz at No. 5 singles. Gery, at No. 6, grinded out a first set win, and was up 6-2, 5-2, and was serving for the win. Gery lost the first three points to go down 0-40, but rallied back to win the game and the match, giving the Lions a 4-0 lead, as his teammates stormed the court.

With the outcome already decided, Wong and Bucher each played a super tie-break. Wong had the first match points in the super tie-break, but Chijoff-Evans fended them off. Wong held off Chijoff-Evans match points as well, and eventually converted his own match point with a splendid winner. Bucher lost his match in a super tie-break, falling 10-4.

“I think overall we played really well,” Goswami said. “This is pretty much the same team that beat us at ECACs when we really



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GRAND SLAM | Senior Jon Wong celebrates Columbia’s huge win over rival Harvard, avenging the Lions’ loss to the Crimson earlier this year. wanted to beat them.”

On Saturday, the Lions took on the Big Green, looking to move to 3-0 in Ivy play. The Lions won the doubles point, getting wins from Nos. 1 and 3 doubles. Deb-Sen missed the match because of an injury from the day before, so junior Sho Matsumoto took his place in the doubles lineup alongside Kung. Matsumoto’s big serving and strong overall play, helped the duo take a close, 8-6 win.

“Rajeev was a little hurt so I didn’t want to take a chance,” Goswami said. “I thought Kevin played great in the five spot.”

Nichifor was once again the first player off the court, taking apart his opponent 6-0, 6-3 under a flurry of forehand winners. Schneiderman followed him next, winning easily 6-0, 6-1. Wong battled Dan Freeman, the senior who knocked him out of the Regional Championships in the fall, but lost his first set 6-4, as Wong’s powerful forehand missed the mark early. Gery, at No. 6, played

a solid first set, closing it out 6-4 with an ace. Bucher struggled at No. 4 singles, losing the first set 6-2, and down 3-0 in the second. Bucher rallied in the second set, but eventually fell to Chris Ho 6-2, 6-3. Wong found the range early in the second set and raced out to a double-break lead, eventually winning 6-3. Kung, playing at No. 5 singles for the injured Deb-Sen, played a first set that took almost one and a half hours, and lasted longer than Nichifor’s match, eventually winning 6-4 after trading breaks repeatedly. With the Lions up 3-1, Gery closed out the win with a close second set, winning 6-4, 6-4. Wong played spectacular tennis in the third set, hitting aces and winners from all over the court, winning 6-3. Kung won his second set in a similar fashion, winning 7-5 after getting a late break.

The Lions will next be in action on Friday and Saturday, when they take on Brown and Yale on the road.

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