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CB12 hears plans for new CUMC building

BY JILLIAN KUMAGAI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Construction on a new building for graduate students at the Columbia University Medical Center is slated to begin by the end of the year.

The $68 million facility will be located on Haven Avenue and 171st Street, two and a half blocks north of the heart of CUMC's main campus, and will be used primarily for classroom and training space. Columbia representatives shared the plans with local residents on Wednesday at a meeting of the Land Use Committee of Community Board 12, which serves Washington Heights and Inwood.

"We have not done a lot with education spaces in terms of improvement. A lot of the spaces are 20, 30, 40 years old," said Patrick Burke, assistant vice president for capital projects management at CUMC. "What we really wanted to do was create a state-of-the-art medical education building that will serve the very best and cutting-edge medical education that we can be doing."

"A tremendous amount of diligence and research" went into the development process, Burke said, during which planners traveled to top medical school campuses. As a result, space for medical simulation—a key component of medical training for many other programs, but not one currently in use at CUMC—will be a high priority.

Medical simulation involves human patients, often actors, that express maladies for students to assess. The entire basement of the new building, in addition to parts of the upper floors, will contain mock operating and exam rooms for students to experience real clinical situations.

In addition to space for medical simulation and training, the building will include a 270-person auditorium and offices for administration. Two outdoor courtyards will be renovated and open to the public as part of the project.

The building will occupy two vacant lots at 106 Haven Ave., which are owned by Columbia, and an adjacent space. The building in that space, a five-story brick building that is used for University-related housing, will be demolished. The tenants have already been relocated, said Sandra Harris, assistant vice president for government and community affairs at CUMC.

Burke said that the exact start date of construction—which will take 42 months to complete—is dependent upon fundraising. Currently, the main financial donor for the project is Roy Vagelos, Physicians and Surgeons '54, who donated $50 million to CUMC in 2010. His wife, Diana Vagelos, BC '55, was the principal donor for Barnard's Diana Center.

Diller Scofidio + Renfro, an architecture firm known for its geometric, modern style, will design the building, and the New York office of the international architecture firm Gensler, will serve as project architect.

Burke described the key architectural component as "a cascade," with sharp angles and a textured glass exterior.

Diller Scofidio + Renfro has taken on a number of high-profile projects, including the High Line and Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. It is also designing the

SEE CUMC, page 2

KEY
CCSC ESC SGA
Bolded positions were contested by two or more candidates or parties.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

NOTES
**Chen was a Spectator associate news editor this semester.*
***Shah is a co-founder of EventSalsa, which has an advertising partnership with Spectator.*

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GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

CC, SEAS, BC elections end, 212 to lead CCSC E-board

BY BEN GITTELSON, LUKE BARNES, JORDAN FREISLEBEN, AND EMMA GOSS
Spectator Staff Writers

Three of the four undergraduate student councils announced election results Thursday night, with student government veterans winning most of the top positions.

In the Columbia College Student Council executive board election, The 212 party, led by president-elect Karishma Habbu, CC '13, beat the Block Party by an overwhelming vote of 1,211 to 597. The Project Blue party, led by president-elect Tim Qin, SEAS '13, ran unopposed for Engineering Student Council executive board.

Jung Hee Hyun, BC '13, was elected president of Barnard's Student Government Association, beating out current SGA Vice President Rachel Ferrari, BC '13.

CCSC

Habbu was standing among the hundreds of students who turned out to watch actor Daniel Radcliffe film "Kill Your Darlings" on Low Plaza when she found out she was elected CCSC president. Winning the election was more exciting than seeing Radcliffe—but only "marginally" so, she added.

"We felt positive just because there were so many incredible people showing support for us," Habbu said, but added that she had no idea whether her party was going to win. "We were just as on edge as everyone else."

Block Party presidential candidate Alex Jasiulek, CC '13, said in a message on his Facebook page that he "fought for this harder than almost anything else in my life but I'm glad I did."

"I hope nobody takes the gap in votes as a sign of weakness of what we had to say. I still wholeheartedly believe we need to make CCSC a more open body and more engaged with student groups," he said. "If any of that message came through to the student body or to CCSC then I have no regrets."

About 40 percent of Columbia College students voted in the executive board election, compared to 45 percent last year. CCSC Elections Board Chair Norita Mengu, CC '13, attributed last year's higher turnout to the fact that three parties were running.

"I was a little bit disappointed with the numbers myself," Mengu said. "At the same time, you can't force students to be interested in elections."

The 212's Yanyi Luo, CC '13, who will be vice president of campus life, attributed her party's success to the time and energy it put into building its platform and campaigning.

SEE ELECTIONS, page 2

CB9 chair, econ prof talk race, homelessness at Habitat panel

BY AVANTIKA KUMAR
Spectator Staff Writer

Community Board 9 chair Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas and Columbia economics professor Brendan O'Flaherty discussed homelessness and racial inequality in New York City at an event organized by Columbia's Habitat for Humanity chapter Thursday night.

"High homelessness is not a natural phenomenon," O'Flaherty said during the discussion, which had a particular focus on Harlem. "It is not something that has to be. People should not be living outside, and there are good ways—not incredibly expensive ways—to keep people from living outside."

In a discussion moderated by Mae Fang, NYC Habitat for Humanity's community relations coordinator, Morgan-Thomas and O'Flaherty noted the increase in homelessness in the city, as well as flaws in city and federal programs intended to combat homelessness.

Habitat for Humanity coordinator Madeleine Jensen, CC '12, said that the discussion reflected the efforts of the group to expand its advocacy, specifically to racial inequality and the housing market. Held in Lerner Hall, the event marked a rare appearance by a community board chair on campus.

"I think it was a very educational event, in the sense that it allowed Columbia students to gain broader perspectives on the legislative issues and practical issues facing people looking for affordable housing," she said.

Morgan-Thomas said that there have been many barriers to providing affordable housing to Harlem residents, especially those going through substance abuse or mental illness. One of the biggest obstacles is rising housing costs, especially when

SEE HABITAT, page 2

HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

COMING HOME | Community Board 9 chair Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas led a discussion on homelessness on Thursday.

DISGUISED AS A MUGGLE

DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MAGICAL | Daniel Radcliffe of "Harry Potter" fame was filming "Kill Your Darlings," in which he plays Allen Ginsberg, on Low Plaza and in front of Havemeyer on Thursday.

NEWS BRIEF

Austin-based cinema chain to move into vacant Metro Theater

An Upper West Side landmark until it closed in 2005, the Metro Theater will put its screens back to use next year.

The five-screen theater, on Broadway between 99th and 100th streets, will serve food and beer to cinemagoers in their seats and adhere to a strict no-talking policy.

Set to open in 2013, it will be the first New York location for the Austin, Texas-based movie theater chain Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, which has 10 other locations nationwide.

"My often-stated top priority for the Alamo Drafthouse has been to open a venue in New York," Alamo founder and chief operating officer Tim League said in a statement. "When we discovered the availability of the historic Metro theater, we immediately knew we had found the perfect location for our new Manhattan home."

Besides the AMC Magic Johnson multiplex on Frederick Douglass Boulevard and 124th Street, the Metro Theater will become the closest movie screen to Columbia.

Al Bialek, president of Seavest Management Corporation and Metro Theater's general partner, said in January that he thought the space would most likely go to retail use. Before then, community efforts to turn the venue into an arts center had fallen through, as had discussions with clothing store Urban Outfitters.

The previous tenant of Metro Theater, 2626 Bway LLC, was formally evicted in January 2011.

—Gina Lee

Union approves new contract

Clerical workers strike averted by CU concessions

BY CASEY TOLAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Members of United Auto Workers Local 2110 overwhelmingly approved a new contract on Thursday, avoiding a strike after weeks of negotiations with Columbia administrators.

Columbia had previously proposed a new health plan that would have forced new employees to pay more for their health care than longtime employees, according to union leaders, so they fought for a new contract, which does not contain payroll deductions for health benefits.

Local 2110 is composed of Columbia clerical workers.

"I think it's an incredible achievement," Local 2110 President Maida Rosenstein said. "Very significantly, we were able to preserve our health care without making concessions, which was what the University wanted more than anything."

The new contract also preserves tuition benefits for union members and their children, which Rosenstein said the University had wanted to stop giving to new employees.

"They really expected us to say, 'As long as they're preserved for the older people, it's OK for less benefits for new employees—both for tuition benefits and health care,'" Rosenstein said. "We said, 'Absolutely no,' to both of those things. New employees are our concern as a union as well, and we're not going to go there."

University officials did not respond to requests for comment on Thursday.

The new contract stipulates that each member's wages will see a one-time increase of $1,200 in the contract's first year, with a combination of increased salaries and one-time bonuses over the next two years.

The University will also pay an annual $1,000 subsidy to offset tax liability for same-sex domestic partners, balancing higher federal taxes. Additionally, Columbia will increase funding for union members' child care and for the union's education fund, which helps pay tuition for union members going to school outside of Columbia.

Local 2110 and the University will also jointly award two $5,000 tuition scholarships per year to children of 2110 members who are accepted to an undergraduate program at Columbia. "One of our concerns is that our members are also struggling to send their kids to college," Rosenstein said.

The contract, which will last for three years, comes after union members threatened to strike—something Rosenstein said administrators wanted to avoid.

"They knew that our next step was to strike, and that would have happened this week," Rosenstein said. "They wanted, in the end, to avoid an ugly showdown."

A rally that attracted 600 or 700 union members and supporters also showed administrators that the union was serious, Rosenstein said.

SEE UNION, page 2

OPINION, PAGE 4

Accountability is key

Student action is essential in the wake of Juan Ruiz's death.

Uncharted terrain

Jeremy Liss urges us to venture outside our academic comfort zones.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Light Blue take on Crimson, Big Green

After winning three of its first four Ivy games last weekend, Columbia's baseball team looks to build off its recent success in away games against Harvard and Dartmouth.

EVENTS

'Gasland' Screening

Learn about the controversial gas-drilling technique hydraulic fracturing at this screening and discussion.

517 Hamilton, 4:30 p.m.

Grandpierre Memorial Lecture

The Chandler Society hosts MIT professor Rick Danheiser, to discuss new strategies for chemical synthesis.

209 Havemeyer, 4:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today	Tomorrow
59°/ 37°	60°/ 41°

Prof: housing market aggravates homelessness

HABITAT from front page

developers buy low-income housing units and raise their prices.

Often, the homeless "can't afford any mobility within their own community," with predatory landlords who make superficial changes that allow them to up their rents, Morgan-Thomas said.

She added that CB9 has also been active in changing the "not-in-my-backyard" mentality it has held—an attitude of not wanting to provide quality services to the homeless.

"Our community board had to begin to fight to help our residents," Morgan-Thomas said, noting that it has established legal clinic services to help residents facing eviction. "We are really trying to be ahead of the curve."

O'Flaherty, who has written extensively about homelessness, attributed recent increases in local homelessness in part to "serious changes in the housing market." One of the problems, he said, is that Harlem is one of the few places in the city that Hispanics and African-Americans can afford to live.

"If you want to do this the right way, you open up the rest of the metropolitan area" to minorities, O'Flaherty said during the discussion. He said after the talk that New York City is "one of the two or three most segregated metropolitan areas in the country."

Morgan-Thomas said that the city's attempts to provide affordable housing often fall short. In her native South, homelessness was curbed by a stronger community spirit.

"People within these communities took people in," she said. "People are not as readily ... as eager to get involved sometimes, because of what they see as consequences that can be averse."

Students who attended the panel said they found it informative. Annalisa C. Meier, CC '14, who was drawn to the issue of homelessness after growing up in downtown Washington, D.C., said it was encouraging to know that others felt homelessness could be eliminated.

If "everybody just put in a little bit of extra effort, it could actually eradicate the issue," she said.

avantika.kumar @columbiaspectator.com

Week of elections brings new council, senate reps

ELECTIONS from front page

"We tried our very best not to be self-promotional," Luo said. "We really wanted to create a campaign that moved the focus away from us and toward the issues we wanted to fix and the people who we celebrate around us, who make it worthwhile to fix those things."

Rounding out The 212 are Daphne Chen, CC '14, who will be vice president of finance; Will Hughes, CC '13, who will be vice president of policy; and Jared Odessky, CC '15, who will be vice president of communications.

The Elections Board made several rules changes this year, eliminating the campaigning moratorium during voting, switching from an instant-runoff voting system to a plurality voting system, and allowing parties to spend their $200 budgets at a wider range of vendors. Mengu said that as a result, only nine rules violations were reported this year, compared to about 15 last year.

Incumbents Ryan Mandelbaum, CC '13, and Conan Cassidy, CC '14, won the class of 2013 and 2014 council president races, and current class of 2015 representative Loxley Bennett was elected president of the 2015 class council. Matt Chupack, CC '15, was the only one of four independent representative candidates to win a spot on the class of 2015 council.

CC USENATE

Richard Sun, CC '13, and Matthew Chou, CC '14, were elected to two of the three Columbia College seats in the University Senate, receiving 659 and 568 votes, respectively. They beat out three other candidates.

Sun and Chou are currently staffers for the senate's Student Affairs Committee. Sun, the SAC's chief of staff, cited his role as a Community Adviser and a Resident Adviser as key to his electoral success.

"I think there were five robust campaigns, but I think in the end CC went for a candidate with experience," he said.

Chou also believed that his experience on the senate got him elected, although he also emphasized the importance of connecting with voters.

"I spent a lot of time out talking to student groups, going door to door seeing what the average Columbian felt, trying to get the feeling for what students wanted," he said. "I think that students really appreciated that."

Sun and Chou both said they want to make the senate more transparent and get students more involved in the policy-making process, but they cautioned that change could take time.

"There isn't going to be an instantaneous change," Sun said. "Improving the senate's going to be a slow process."

"The difficult part is going to be trying to come to agreement and working together for the good of not just the college, but the University," Chou said. "There's always the issue of trying to collaborate with people, because in the senate you have to deal with everybody—faculty, administrators, students."

Sun and Chou will replace graduating senators Kenny Durell, CC '12, and SAC co-chair Alex Frouman, CC '12. CC's third senator, Eduardo Santana, CC '13, has one more year left in his term.

ESC, SEAS USENATE

The class of 2015 council race, one of just two contested ESC races, was won by incumbent party Kung Fu Pandas, led by class of 2015 president Joshua Boggs, SEAS '15. Boggs defeated CE Change party challenger Tanay Doctor in a 94-47 vote. Class of 2015 vice president Shensi Ding and representative Manali Yavatkar were re-elected. Aditya Naganath will be the second sophomore representative.

Akshay Shah, SEAS '14, was elected to SEAS' lone University Senate seat, defeating ESC Vice President of Policy Logan Donovan, SEAS '13, and Adam Hadar, SEAS '15. Shah, who is currently the class of 2014 president, earned 50 percent of the vote, compared to 39 percent for Donovan and 11 percent for Hadar.

Shah is the co-founder of EventSalsa, which has an advertising partnership with Spectator. He will replace Qin in the senate.

"I want to hit the ground running, and I'm going to do that by starting to attend USenate-related meetings tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.," he said.

"I'm glad that my fellow students thought that I was competent for the competition, but I think Logan would have been a great USenator, and I wish there were two positions," he added.

Shah said that he has already been in touch with senators. "The first goal is to learn exactly how the senate works and get involved in the right committees to jump into all of the ideas I had in my platform," he said. "Collaboration between different student groups—I need to start figuring out with the committees to see how I want to implement that."

Thirty-three percent of SEAS undergraduates voted, in ESC's first year of open elections. Previously, ESC elected its executive board members internally.

SGA, BARNARD USENATE

Barnard students elected Kalliope Kyriakides, BC '14, as their representative in the University Senate.

Kyriakides, who will replace Sara Snedeker, BC '12, defeated four other candidates. She called it "a very gratifying experience" to learn the election results, saying she was "a little surprised" to discover she had won.

One of her biggest goals is improving the Barnard-Columbia relationship. "I would like to discuss some sort of way to have an online regulation with certain blogs that are affiliated with the University, because of their recent drama between some Barnard students and some Columbia students," Kyriakides said. "I want a more friendly forum between students."

Hyun, the president-elect, is returning after a year's hiatus from SGA. She was president of the class of 2013 in her freshman and sophomore years, before devoting time this year to being a Resident Assistant and serving on the Sustainability Initiative Consulting Board.

Hyun said that upon learning the election results, she thought, "this can't be real—I must be dreaming." She added, though, that she felt "mixed emotions," as she and Ferrari had a history of working together on SGA. In their freshman year, Hyun was class president and Ferrari was class vice president.

"It was so much a different race than any years that I ran before," Hyun said. "We were both so good."

"I am disappointed that I couldn't secure the support of the student body for the position," Ferrari said. "I think Jung Hee is going to do a fantastic job ... I genuinely care about Barnard students, and I can't help but be proud of my opponent. We were in a competition that each of us deserved."

Ferrari said that she plans on staying involved on Barnard SGA committees and applying for representative positions that are still vacant.

"At the end of the day, I am a student who is going to keep working for the students," she said. "I'm an advocate for the students at heart."

Hyun said that the first thing she wants to work on is increasing SGA's presence on campus, saying that this could be "the year where we can actually change what SGA means to Barnard students." She also hopes to change SGA's meeting structure to make SGA more efficient and effective.

Like Kyriakides, Hyun would like SGA to address the Barnard-Columbia relationship right away.

"Let's not sweep it under the rug anymore," she said. "I want to find a practical solution, and change the way it's been dealt with."

Turnout in the elections was 41.8 percent, marginally higher than last year's turnout of 41.5 percent.

news@columbiaspectator.com

Avoiding strike, union workers reach deal with Columbia

UNION from front page

"We really organized very intensely this time on a grassroots level between the three campuses, and it really made a difference in terms of the level of activism," Rosenstein said.

"People are pleased with the results. It was a great accomplishment for the negotiation team," Local 2110 Vice President Booker Washington said. "People are proud of what we accomplished."

In addition to the contract with Columbia, Local 2110 also approved a new contract with Teachers College on Thursday.

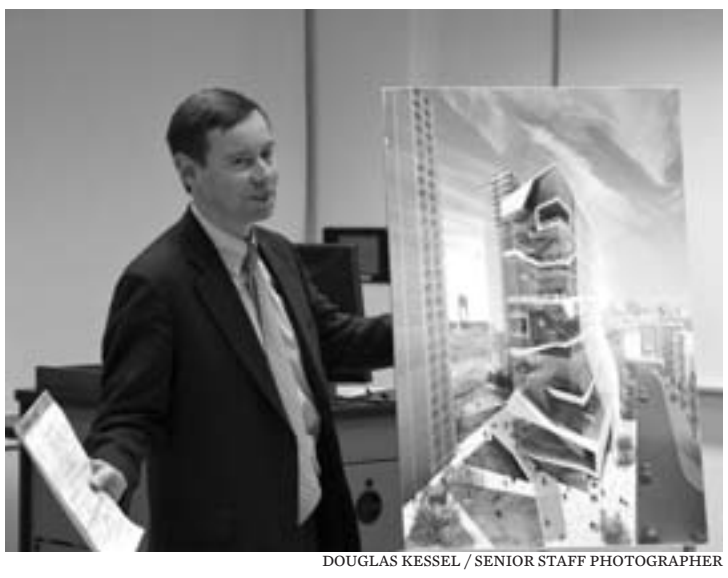
The union's contract with Barnard does not expire until June 30. "Hopefully they'll look at what happened at Columbia and Teachers College, and we'll be able to work through an agreement with them without a fight," Rosenstein said.

Rosenstein added that the new agreement could be a good model for other unions representing Columbia employees.

"I hope the fact we held off on benefit contributions will really help other unions, because that's what Columbia likes to do," Rosenstein said. "If they had got health benefit contributions from us, they would surely go to the next union and fight for it."

Margaret Mattes contributed reporting.

casey.tolan @columbiaspectator.com



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DESIGN | Patrick Burke, an administrator at the Medical Center, introduces plans for a new building to the community board.

CUMC reveals design for new education building to CB12

CUMC from front page

Business School's future home on Columbia's Manhattanville campus.

At the meeting, however, some local residents were concerned that the design would be out of place with the surrounding neighborhood.

"It isn't contextual with the rest of the neighborhood architecturally or physically," Wayne Benjamin, chair of the land use committee, said. "That could mean it's a masterpiece or it could have been the result of an internal dialogue. That's wonderful, but they didn't look at it left, right, across the street."

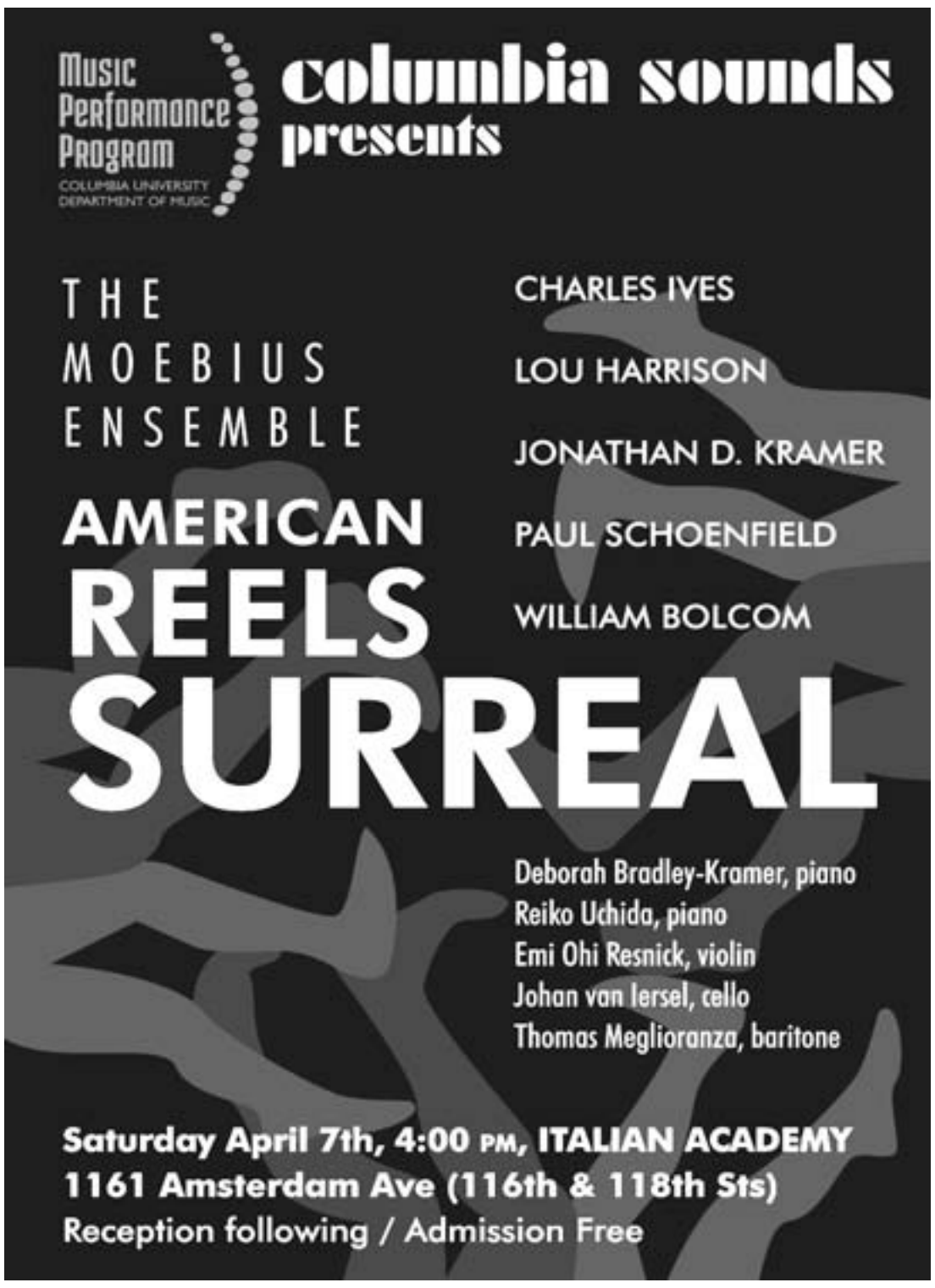
"It doesn't fit," Agueda Ramirez, who lives across the street from the site, said. "The design is great—I'm not knocking the architect. That building just doesn't fit on that street, and I know that street like the back of my hand."

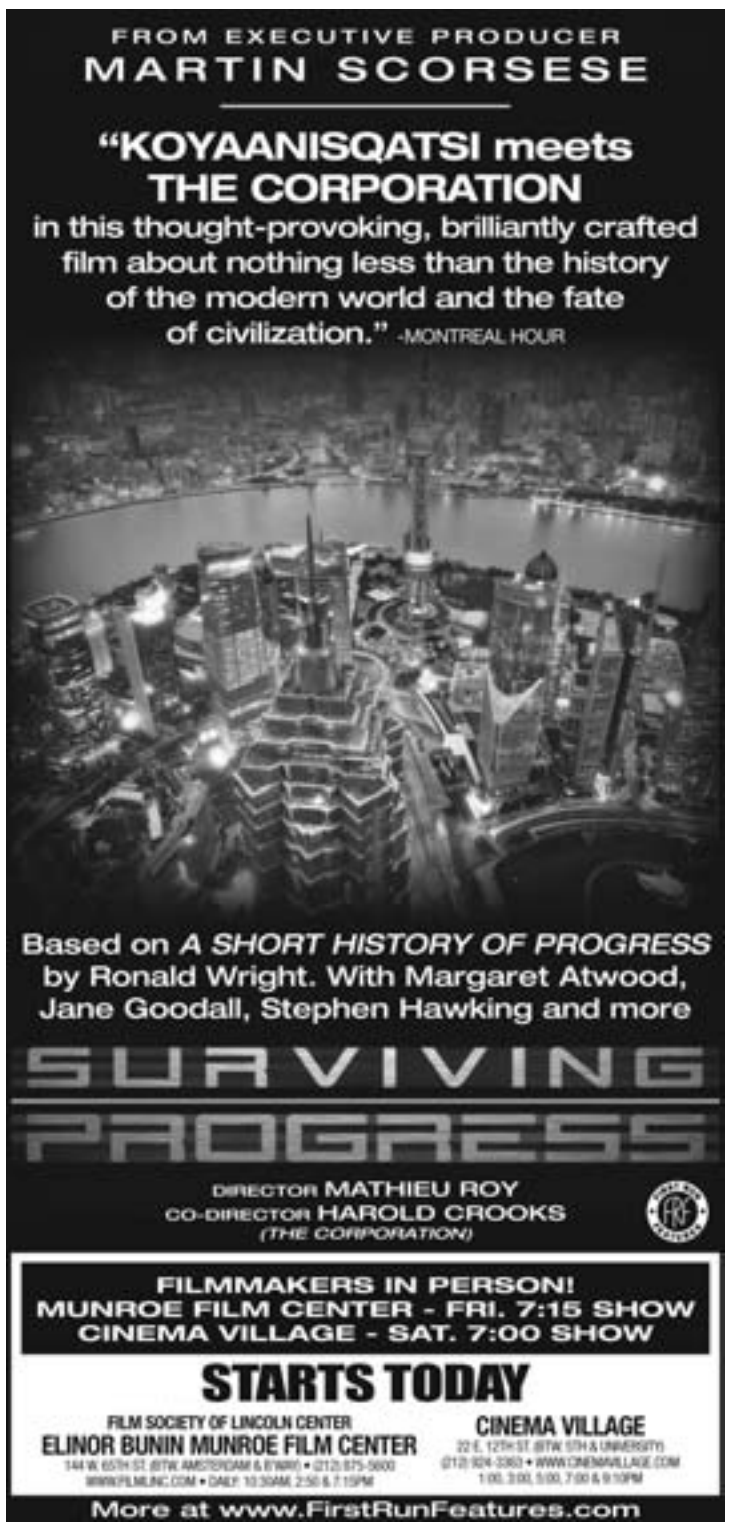
Diller Scofidio + Renfro was chosen in a competition judged by senior leadership at CUMC and Columbia Facilities, including Mark Wigley, dean of the Graduate School of Architecture; Philip Milstein, a Columbia trustee; and Vagelos.

Along with doubts about the design, some residents and board members expressed concern about maintaining their daily routines: Construction will make parts of a neighboring parking lot and the sidewalk inaccessible.

"We need to hear a lot more about how they plan to address those issues, because there are legitimate concerns there," Steve Simon, a member of the land use committee, said. "They're bringing a lot of people to a narrow street."

jillian.kumagai @columbiaspectator.com





CU gains little from athletic recruiting expenditures

PAGELS from back page

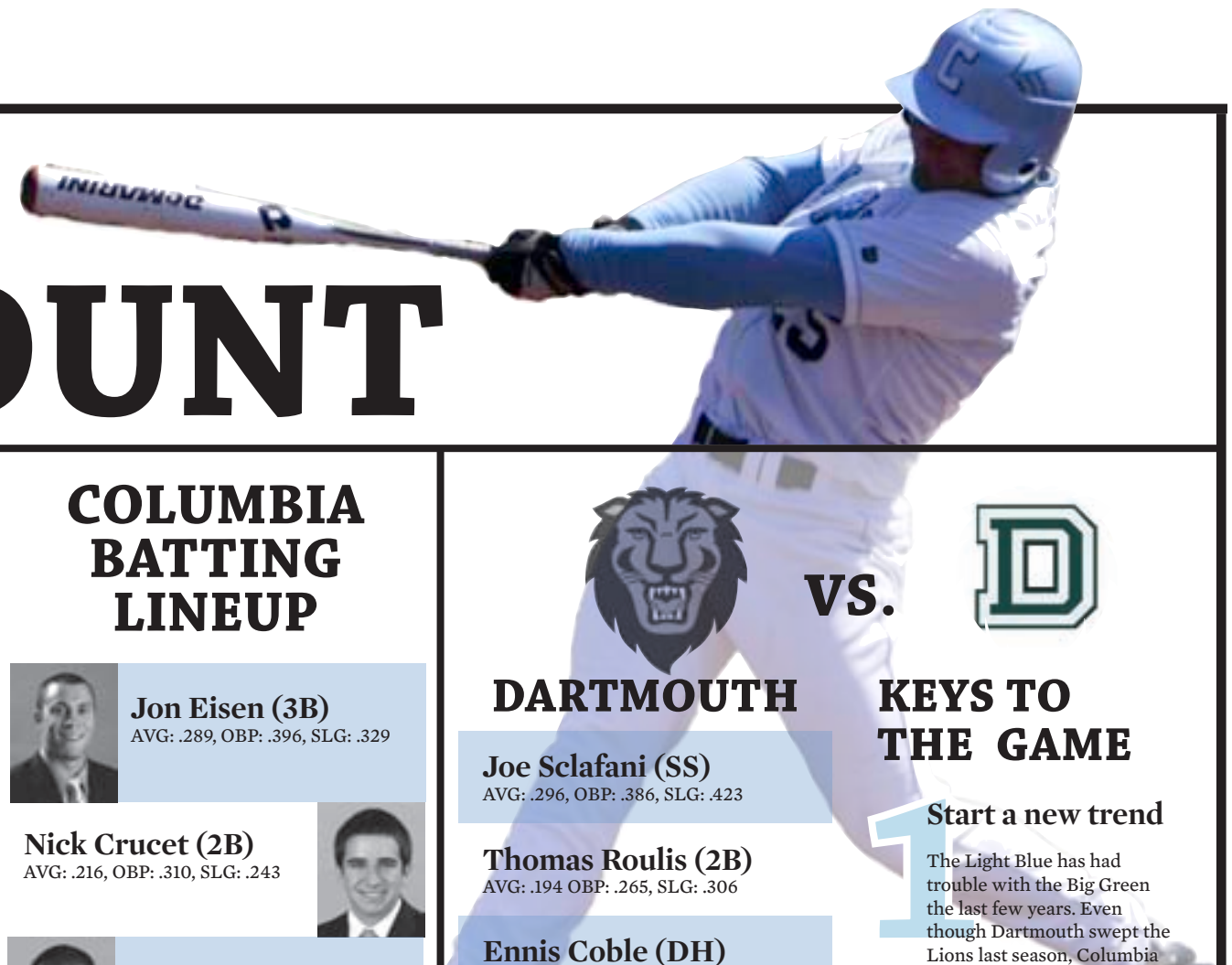
by the University, but it would also end the unfair stigma that often surrounds athletes as being "less intelligent" or "not true Ivy League students" simply because a small portion of their teammates probably wouldn't have been admitted under normal academic standards.

And even if the team's performance dropped a bit, it's not like Columbia's risking the loss of a national championship, lucrative Nike endorsements, or hundreds of millions of dollars in tickets and merchandising revenue. Right now, the purpose of our athletics squads is mostly so alums from the '60s can have bragging rights over the other lawyers in the firm. Reducing recruitment might set a precedent for the rest of the Ivy League that would do wonders for improving the sometimes-rocky relationship between athletes and other students on campus. Isn't that more important than finishing fourth instead of sixth in a softball tournament?

Jim Pagels is a Columbia College junior majoring in American studies and English. He is a former sports editor for Spectator.

sports@columbiaspectator.com

FRIDAY FULL COUNT



HARVARD VS.

HARVARD

Carlton Bailey (SS)
AVG: .324, OBP: .368, SLG: .423

Jeff Reynolds (2B)
AVG: .261, OBP: .320, SLG: 364

Marcus Way (DH)
AVG: .273, OBP: .400, SLG: .455

Steven Dill (1B)
AVG: .343, OBP: .403, SLG: .386

Jack Colton (LF)
AVG: .318 OBP: .370, SLG: .329

Zach Boden (RF)
AVG: .314, OBP: .357, SLG: .353

Jake McGuiggan (3B)
AVG: .196, OBP: .254, SLG: .275

Mike Martin (CF)
AVG: .250, OBP: .326, SLG: .321

Jon Smart (C)
AVG: .250, OBP: .300, SLG: .361

KEYS TO THE GAME

1 Keep the streak

Since 2008, the Light Blue has gone 8-0 against the Crimson. Adding two more wins this year would go a long way toward improving the Lions' chances at the Lou Gehrig division crown.

2 Remember the past

The last time the Lions played at Harvard, their offense exploded for 31 runs in two games. Columbia could use that kind of offensive production again this weekend.

3 Limit the mistakes

Unlike last week's opponents, Harvard hasn't given many runs away, with a 4.90 team ERA. Lions pitchers must limit walks and the defense must make plays to win these two games.

GAME 1

Brent Suter
Harvard
ERA: 2.97, K: 25, BB: 11

vs.

Pat Lowery
Columbia
ERA: 2.64, K: 22, BB: 9

GAME 2

Joey Novak
Harvard
ERA: 4.03, K: 10, BB: 13

vs.

Tim Giel
Columbia
ERA: 4.97, K: 15, BB: 10

COLUMBIA BATTING LINEUP

Jon Eisen (3B)
AVG: .289, OBP: .396, SLG: .329

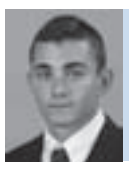
Nick Crucet (2B)
AVG: .216, OBP: .310, SLG: .243

Dario Pizzano (LF)
AVG: .373, OBP: .481, SLG: .542

Nick Ferraresi (RF)
AVG: .321, OBP: .413, SLG: .551

Alex Aurrichio (DH)
AVG: .270, OBP: .314, SLG: .381

Alex Black (1B)
AVG: .333, OBP: .391, SLG: .544



Billy Rumpke (CF)
AVG: .294, OBP: .361, SLG: .376

Aaron Silbar (SS)
AVG: .175, OBP: .254, SLG: .193

Mike Fischer (C)
AVG: .243, OBP: .349, SLG: .324

DARTMOUTH VS.

DARTMOUTH

Joe Sclafani (SS)
AVG: .296, OBP: .386, SLG: .423

Thomas Roulis (2B)
AVG: .194 OBP: .265, SLG: .306

Ennis Coble (DH)
AVG: .393, OBP: .486, SLG: .475

Dustin Selzer (1B)
AVG: .232, OBP: .317, SLG: .339

Jeff Keller (LF)
AVG: .417, OBP: .475, SLG: .611

Chris O'Dowd (C)
AVG: .203, OBP: .239, SLG: .266

David Turnbull (RF)
AVG: .265, OBP: .419, SLG: .347

Nick Lombardi (3B)
AVG: .211, OBP: .274, SLG: .263

Jake Carlson (CF)
AVG: .308, OBP: .368, SLG: .500

KEYS TO THE GAME

1 Start a new trend

The Light Blue has had trouble with the Big Green the last few years. Even though Dartmouth swept the Lions last season, Columbia should remember that last season doesn't matter—only the present counts.

2 Get hits, score runs

Dartmouth's pitching staff has not been very strong, with a 5.86 ERA and an opponent's batting average of .310. CU should be able to get hits and score runs off of these guys.

3 No doubles defense

As a team, the Big Green has hit 39 doubles in its 18 games. Dartmouth hasn't hit many home runs—just four on the year—but doubles can be just as dangerous as a few long balls.

GAME 3

Adam Frank
Dartmouth
ERA: 6.91, K: 16, BB: 4

vs.

David Speer
Columbia
ERA: 3.72, K: 22, BB: 10

GAME 4

Mitch Horacek
Dartmouth
ERA: 20.25, K: 5, BB: 6

vs.

Stefan Olson
Columbia
ERA: 4.85, K: 16, BB: 4

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SPORTS BRIEFLY

TRACK AND FIELD

After a short break from intensive competition, the Columbia men's and women's track and field teams will run in their first two meets of April this weekend. The squad will be split across the country as the Lions will compete in both the Stanford Invitational in Stanford, Calif., and the Sam Howell Invitational in Princeton, N.J. Several of Columbia's strongest distance athletes will be on the West Coast for one of the most competitive meets of the season, including senior Kyle Merber, junior Mike Murphy, junior Emily Lanois, and junior Caroline McDonough. On the East Coast, Columbia will face other Ancient Eight competitors, including Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale.

—Melissa Cheung

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Light Blue will face Ivy League rivals Dartmouth and Harvard on the road in back-to-back matches on Friday and Saturday. The Lions (10-3, 1-0 Ivy) are currently on a five-match win streak after defeating Cornell, 5-2, last Saturday at home in their first conference matchup of the season. The Crimson (7-4,), led by junior and No. 1 singles player Camille Jania, has won six out of its last seven matches and boasts a 25-1 all-time record against the Light Blue. Despite its current losing record, Dartmouth (6-8) may find its stride after notching a 7-0 victory over the 22-time America East Conference Champion Boston University on March 31. Wins this weekend over Dartmouth and Harvard would ensure the Lions a first-place ranking in the Ivy League by a two-match margin.

—Caroline Bowman

WOMEN'S ROWING

The Lions had a disappointing third-place finish last week at the Woodbury Cup in Boston, Mass., where they faced Dartmouth and Northeastern. On Saturday, the Light Blue hopes to earn redemption when it heads to Princeton for the Class of 1975 Cup. While in New Jersey, the team will face three Ivy competitors on Lake Carnegie: No. 11 Harvard, No. 6 Princeton, and No. 16 Cornell. Columbia will push off its varsity four teams at 9 a.m. Saturday morning, and the first varsity eight race will begin at 10:10 a.m.

—Alison Macke

SOFTBALL

Columbia (7-20, 1-3 Ivy) hopes to snap its five-game losing streak on Friday as it travels to Cambridge to face Harvard (15-9, 3-1 Ivy). Harvard is the reigning Ivy League champion and currently second in Ivy Standings behind Penn. Both Penn and Harvard are the only two teams in the Ancient Eight with winning records this season. The Crimson's dominance is thanks to freshman infielder Kasey Lange and senior infielder Ellen Macadam. Both Lange and Macadam have combined for 19 home runs and have batted over .400 this season. As a team, the Crimson is batting .319 and has a solid pitching rotation that has already thrown eight shutouts this season. On Saturday, the Lions will face Dartmouth (7-12, 0-4 Ivy) in Hanover, N.H. After a strong start, the Big Green has dropped its last seven games, in large part due to a struggling offense—Dartmouth has scored two or fewer runs in six of its seven losses. The Light Blue will face Harvard at 2 p.m. on Friday and Dartmouth at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday.

—Hahn Chang

LACROSSE

The Lions (1-8, 0-5 Ivy) will try to snap their seven-game losing skid Saturday afternoon against Connecticut (6-4). The Huskies' own losing streak is at three games, during which they have been outscored 55-24. Connecticut most recently suffered a 14-5 loss at Rutgers on Sunday afternoon, during which senior attacker Mary Lapham had a hat trick. Lapham has 33 goals in 10 games this season. Junior attacker Kacie Johnson leads Columbia with 26 goals in nine games and scored twice last Sunday when the Light Blue fell at Penn, 19-8. The match will start at 1 p.m. at Robert K. Kraft Field.

—Muneeb Alam

MEN'S ROWING

The Lions seek to build off their latest victories this Saturday in New Jersey. The lightweight team will race in Leonia against Navy, whose first boat beat Columbia by six seconds in Annapolis last year. Navy, despite having failed to capture a varsity win so far this spring, took three races last month against Princeton, which completely outpaced the Light Blue last week. The heavyweight boats will row for the historic Childs Cup against Penn and Princeton. The Tigers and Quakers tied at the top with 44 wins last year in the oldest competition of collegiate rowing. Columbia battled hard, falling to Princeton by three seconds. The heavyweight race will begin at 9 a.m. while lightweight begins at 10 a.m.

—Laura Allen

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Against postfeminism

BY ROSALIND MORRIS

After Office Hours

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won't find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

As Women's History Month closes beyond us, U.S. political discourse moves apparently unchanged. Aspirants to political office continue to vacillate manically between the assumption that the battle for equality is over and the belief that women should be restored to positions of servility and dependency. So, what can we learn from recent experience?

Often, exceptions prove the rule. This is true for "Women's History Month," as it is for "Black History Month." To mark a space on the calendar, during which special attention will be devoted to women's experiences, challenges, and achievements, makes visible the fact that these are too often neglected in discourses that do not have women and/or gender as themes. When people speak of mainstreaming feminist criticism, they refer to processes by which this exceptionalism will be overcome. They posit an ideal in which gender will be central to all discourse that makes more general claims about economy, history, society, and so forth. In this way, they imagine a time in which feminism will no longer be necessary, and consequently they make the end of feminism a goal. This anticipatory orientation looks to the future in the mode of future anteriority: "Feminism will have been necessary." But when the goal is confused with an already existent reality born of a legal fiction, something else happens. Then, the wished-for obsolescence of feminism becomes a politics of quiescence called "postfeminism."

The aspiration to equality is to me an unassailable goal, but it cannot be accomplished by fiat—either through acts of policy-making or legislative intervention (let alone through the exercise of force). It requires a transformation of consciousness. New laws are necessary, of course. Policies are important. But they do not change the social organization of the world in which the effects of certain ways of thinking are lived as violence, disenfranchisement, unequal access to resources, or exclusion from learning and material opportunities. Only education that promotes a critical reflection on the world as it is actually lived and conceived now, and as it has been lived and conceived in the past, can do this. And such education will not suffice on its own. At best, it may be compared to the preparation of ground for a future harvest. It is in this sense that cultivation may be sustained as a metaphor for the goal of the humanities.

These issues rose to the fore in my mind following President Obama's decision to speak at Barnard College's 2012 commencement, in response to which a number of Columbia students expressed outrage. Beyond the infantile sense of entitlement and the old-fashioned sexism of the statements made on Bwog, there was a more serious and worrying assertion. Many people claimed that Obama's desire to address women at a women's college was a form of discrimination and thus a regression to a time when women were not yet equal.

They imagine a time in which feminism will no longer be necessary.

Not everyone can claim the benefits of even the most progressive law in a litigious society, where access to the law is dependent on money. And Columbia women (at all levels) who are able to access the benefits of such laws should know that their experience is not universal. As late as 2009, Congress enacted the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and overturning the statute of limitations on suits claiming wages in cases of workplace discrimination. Previously, one could only claim a restitution of wages for the 180-day period prior to filing suit. Years of wages denied to people on discriminatory grounds remained inaccessible until the amendments of 2009. Remarkably, many people in Congress voted against this legislation which finally makes the ideal of equal pay for equal work enforceable. But, and equally important, neither this law nor any other can guarantee equality.

What is true of the U.S. is equally true of U.S. foreign policy and aid. The demand for legal reform and the assessment of progress in the idiom of enforcement too often underwrites interventionism. But between the Scylla of legal reform and the Charybdis of enforcement, there is the sea (or the field) in which transformation must be generated. The diminution of funding and institutional support for humanities education around the world is a strike against equality. But this does not mean that global humanities education (as advocated at Columbia) can be a simple exercise in export. The metaphor of cultivation quickly transforms into one of productivity, which should be avoided. Humanities education entails unlearning as much as learning, which is to say, it requires the cultivation of traditions of questioning (wherever and within whatever idioms they arise), and not merely the production of positive knowledge. This is what feminist pedagogy entails—not a mere cataloguing of women's experiences or a comparative assessment of women's statuses, nor even a restitution of women to historical narrative. And in this sense, though equality remains a goal, the need to move beyond the necessity of feminism will never have been.

The author is a professor of anthropology and the associate director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society. She is a former director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender.

Scientific theories debunked

JEREMY LISS

Liss is More

The deafening growl of engines, mixed with pulsating chants for the "Grave Digger," made one thing absolutely clear: I don't belong at monster truck rallies.

Over the years, I've come to similar realizations at a host of offbeat cultural gatherings. Rodeos, screamo/death metal concerts, and Columbia's sadomasochism club have all been crossed off my list. Usually, I walk away from these experiences with an interesting story and a souvenir. In the case of the rodeo, it was a taxidermy deer head. In the case of the S&M club, it was ... also a taxidermy deer head.

My explorations of the exotic have helped me stake out a comfort zone that is both "robust and well-defined," to borrow a phrase I heard at "The Vagina Monologues." So when I wax eloquent about New York delis and jazz clubs, consider my opinions informed. And when I complain about Chinese food, know that my descriptions of gastrointestinal distress are not exaggerated.

Yet, despite my adventures in the real world, my journeys in the academy remain notably bland. I've taken every poetry class under the sun, and a couple in the shade. Math and science classes, though, are nowhere to be found. Unless, of course, you count Frontiers of Science. But that's like classifying CNN as reality TV.

It's strange, because I'm sure I took physics and chemistry in high school. And, if I recall correctly, I actually enjoyed them. The precision of math and science always attracted me. And unlike literature, calculus has all the answers at the back of the book.

Somehow, that allure disappeared the minute I walked onto campus. In fact, love turned into fear. Don't ask me why, but the sciences became inextricably linked in my mind with the ghost stories that haunted me in my youth. Edgar Allan Poe dreamed up nearly every excruciating way to die, except organic chemistry.

I'm pretty sure I'm not alone. Many of my friends who study the humanities brag that they've never stepped foot in Pupin or Mudd. All the while, science majors complain that the Core Curriculum requires nine intensive semesters of liberal arts classes and only three semesters of introductory science courses. I used to tell myself that philosophy and art merited this predominance, but my harrowing search for a summer internship suggests otherwise. The closest I've come to a class with practical applications was a history course on 17th-century alchemy.

Flash forward to spring of my junior year, and I'm finally taking my first science class, Computer Science 1001. To my surprise, it's actually fun. I can now proudly explain how a computer works and even program some very basic games. If I remember the syllabus correctly, by the end of the month we'll be inventing Facebook.

It's a shame it took me so long to try something new, especially because I only have a year left of college. There isn't enough time to delve further into computer science, and I'll always have doubts about my course selection. What else did I miss out on? A Chinese class might have saved me several lengthy trips to the bathroom. A dance class could have helped me master the Macarena. And urban studies would have come in handy that time I took the wrong train and ended up in Brooklyn.

At Columbia, we pride ourselves on the Core, a curriculum that's supposed to generate well-rounded students. But, because of personal interests and major requirements, too often we exclude the unfamiliar and only pick courses within our specialties. When there are so many fields of study out there, do you really want to pigeonhole yourself? I, for one, am not a pigeon.

Jeremy Liss is a Columbia College junior majoring in English literature. He is creative editor for The Current. Liss is More *runs alternate Fridays.*

Holding Columbia accountable

BY COLIN KINNIBURGH

The past two weeks have witnessed a renewed engagement between students and labor-related struggles on and around campus. Whether supporting the clerical workers' struggle for a decent contract—which appears to be coming to a close, although negotiations continue at Teachers College and Barnard—or confronting the disjuncture between University rhetoric and reality in Manhattanville, students have been rebuilding connections both with workers on our campus and with members of the community left behind by Columbia's promises for Harlem. The International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America Local 2110's recent victory after months of frustrating negotiations with the University has reminded us that collaboration between students and workers has tremendous power to change our campus. We need to continue building these alliances in order to challenge the premises of the University's expansion.

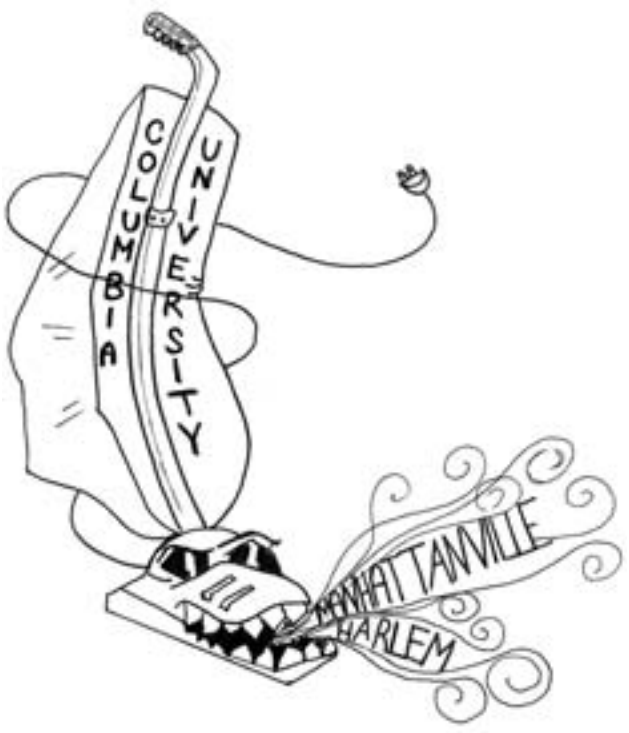
On the Manhattanville front, Columbia remains as stubborn as ever. Despite the death of a second worker on its property and renewed protest on and around campus—including the occupation of Tuck-it-Away Storage on 125th Street and last Monday's open forum about the expansion—the administration has felt no need to respond. Columbia has made no move to break with Breeze National, the construction company currently at work in Manhattanville. We cannot allow Columbia to excuse its poor labor practices by hiding behind the veil of subcontracted construction companies in Manhattanville, any more than we can allow them to rip off their workers on our present campus.

Juan Ruiz's death is a dark reminder of what can happen when the University conducts its expansion without any standards of accountability to the community it is invading. It is symptomatic of far broader problems—an unsavory mélange of hollow rhetoric, lack of transparency, and feigned blindness to the deeper implications of the project, compounded by an exaggerated effort to "protect the bottom line." Every aspect of the expansion program so far has reflected the same hypocrisy. Take the West Harlem Local Development Corporation, responsible for allocating a whopping one percent of the expansion budget to the Manhattanville community under the "Community Benefits Agreement," which has been plagued from the start by a lack of transparency and community participation. Or take the official projections for "local job creation." President Bollinger himself admitted in an interview broadcast on PBS in 2007 that only about 30 percent would be filled by West Harlem residents—scarcely more than the 1,500 jobs currently provided by businesses in the area Columbia plans to build on, according to research conducted by Community Board 9. The gain in local jobs, then, will be negligible, while the uprooting of people has already had tangible effects. Meanwhile, Columbia promises to provide jobs at diverse skill levels, with "dependable health, educational, and retirement benefits." But as the labor dispute between the University and its clerical workers has revealed, Columbia is anything but committed to providing dependable benefits. Even if it has finally been brought to reason, the University's insistence on "austerity" over the past two months of negotiation has made its real goals clear.

Moreover, this victory does not eliminate the wider threat to the West Harlem community and, consequently, to many of Columbia's clerical workers, posed by the Manhattanville gentrification program. As the University aggressively buys up land and buildings to fill in the gaps between the Morningside campus and the Medical Center at 168th Street, consolidating its current status as a real estate mogul in upper Manhattan, it is attracting an increasingly white, upper-class demographic to the neighborhood and pushing long-time, lower-income Harlem residents out of their apartments. Workers paid according to Columbia's ever-decreasing standards could soon be pushed out of the neighborhood if this trend continues. But these kinds of effects—not to mention the resulting loss of diversity in the area—do not fit into the cost-benefit analysis scheme that Columbia presents us with when it rationalizes kicking thousands of Harlem residents out of their homes.

Although it has feigned blindness to years of persistent protest from the community, Columbia cannot continue to ignore the students whose tuitions keep it running on a day-to-day basis, especially if we work closely with our neighbors. We must look past the administration's hollow rhetoric, setting its promises of "dependable jobs" for the future against the backdrop of its recent attempts to slash workers' benefits, and continue demanding accountability from Columbia for all the workers who make our education possible. The administration's handling of recent events has hardly set the precedent for a sustainable future in Manhattanville. It is our responsibility as students to ensure that this changes.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in comparative literature. He is involved with Stop Columbia University Displacement and the Columbia University General Assembly.



ILANA SCHULDER

STAFF EDITORIAL

Book of Jim

Remember those wonderfully sadistic punishments that Dante cooks up in the Inferno? Sinners are tortured with unimaginable agony: They are torn at by harpies, bitten by snakes, forced to walk perpetually on flaming sand, and subjected to worse psychological torture than Donald Rumsfeld could've come up with in his prime. Even Dante would've recoiled at the Columbia housing process, though. The anguish of the housing process is worse than every death in the "Saw" and "Final Destination" franchises combined, worse than the barbarian torture instruments featured in the basements of Madame Tussauds, and even worse than the continued existence of Frontiers of Science lectures. Plain and simple, the Columbia housing process is cruel and inhuman punishment, and all of its perverse enforcers should be brought before the International Criminal Court for violating the Geneva Conventions. We're going to walk you through a hypothetical, yet entirely plausible housing experience, built on the personal anecdotes of our friends and ourselves to demonstrate the agony of Columbia housing. We're sure you will empathize.

There was a man in the land of Morningside Heights, whose name was Jim; and that man was perfect and upright, and one who feared PrezBo, and eschewed evil. One day, PrezBo was conversing with the evil lords of housing, and said, Hast thou considered my servant Jim, that there is none like him on the Earth, a perfect and an upright man, one who feareth PrezBo, and escheweth evil? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Jim fear PrezBo for nought? And PrezBo said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power, only upon himself put not forth thine hand. And thus PrezBo decided to challenge his loyal servant, Jim, with a plague of challenges to test his devotion.

Jim, a rising senior, tried to converseth with his friends about a Hogan suite for next year, but PrezBo filled in their hearts a spell of hatred and loathing. Jim was alone, and was forced to join a group of rising sophomores, who desired him for his point value and not for his friendship. Thus they received their lottery number, and PrezBo assigned them the accursed 3,000. Jim's devotion to his President stayed true, though.

Jim discovered his suite selection time, but, alas, PrezBo foresaw this and assigned it for the same time as his microeconomics midterm. Jim assigned his first-year friends as proxies, but upon selection time, they chose into a Claremont suite, casting him from their group. Jim was reassigned a general selection time, but upon his selection, PrezBo cast unto him a sleeping pox. Jim was forced into a blind McBain shaft double on the second floor. And PrezBo smote Jim with an awkward ex-hook-up as a roommate, and Jim's grief was great.

But Jim's loyalty stayed true. Jim arrived on the first day of the fall semester, ready to start afresh. He opened the door, but was disconsolate at the sight. It was plagued with rats and boiled at an unnatural temperature. He tried to open the window, but it was sealed shut! He checked his email, only to find notice that he had been signed up for the most expensive meal plan! Jim cried out to PrezBo, saying, Alas, why dost thou torturest me so? And the Lord PrezBo thus answered his servant, in a whirlwind, How darest thou question me? Hast thou the experience of the Creator? From what authority dost thou question my actions? And Jim supplicated to PrezBo, purging himself of his obstinacy. And the good Lord PrezBo was content, and granted Jim a Watt one-bedroom apartment.

Housing is often blown out of proportion here. You are not Jim or Job or any great martyr of the human race. We receive prime housing in Manhattan. Yes, your rooms may be under 200 square feet, and we may not have complete control over our heat, and sometimes little furry friends keep us company, but life could be a lot worse. In the end, we have one message for all crying over lost friendships and the McBain shaft: (wo) man up. Life is great. You could be living in the woods at Cornell.

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News: (212) 854-9549
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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 TWA rival
6 Med. care providers
10 Frequent ESPN subject
14 Amtrak express
15 Four-star
16 Bee, for one
17 Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, e.g.?
20 Fitting
21 Hops heater
22 Tweaks, say
23 Aqua Velva alternative
24 German GM subsidiary
25 Original Roanoke settlement?
31 Football Hall of Fame locale
32 Title acquired at church, perhaps
33 Losing line
34 Reacted to a dealer's request
35 Used to be
36 "It Wasn't All Velvet" autobiographer
38 Caustic stuff
39 Goal
40 Blew up
41 Actress failing to live up to expectations?
45 Gives support to
46 Toon wisecracker
47 __ center
50 Get useful material from
51 Lyric poem
54 Bit of style in one's blood?
57 Venetian arch shape
58 City SSW of Moscow
59 Toss out
60 Goes after
61 Unlikely track winners
62 Hamburger helper's reward?

DOWN
1 Out-of-favor sunscreen ingredient
2 Lingerie size
3 Robin's digs
4 Ring icon
5 Graham, for one
6 __ II: 1961-'99 Moroccan king
7 Almost all
8 Mich. neighbor
9 Celestial creatures
10 Incendiary gel
11 "I Spy" co-star
12 "Joy is __ of love by which you can catch souls": Mother Teresa
13 Many "Suits" characters: Abbr.
18 Avoid restaurant crowds, perhaps
19 It may be half-baked
23 Prado pictures
24 Lock inserts
25 Sonya's uncle, in an 1899 Moscow premiere
26 Maker of some drivers
27 Muslim leaders
28 "Casablanca" actor
29 Strawberry, e.g.
30 Pigeon tail?
31 Range rover
35 English court attire
36 Singled out
37 Big-eyed birds
39 Words that replace details
40 Place to relax
42 Coquette's asset
43 Rare clock number
44 Govt. notes
47 Fiscal execs
48 Milan meat sauce
49 "So that's how it is"
50 Video CD file format
51 Big name in chemicals
52 House addition
53 Room addition
55 Gp. with many arms
56 "On the Waterfront" Oscar winner __ Marie Saint

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

L	A	T	I	N		F	R	E	E		E	L	M	S
A	L	I	V	E		R	A	G	U		S	O	A	P
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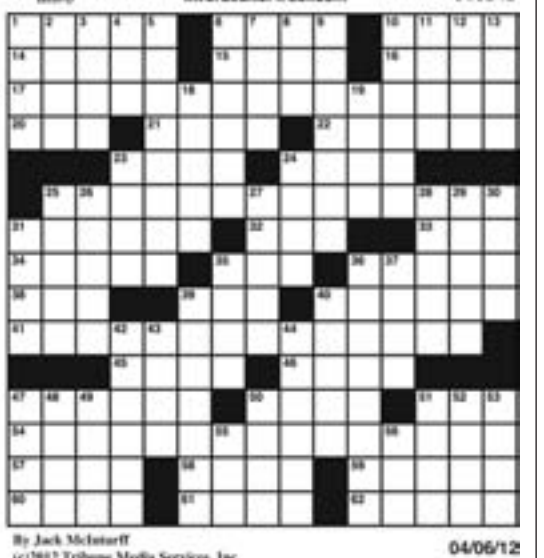
xwordeditor@aol.com 04/06/12



By Jack McInturff
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GAMEDAY

COLUMBIA (10-14, 3-1 Ivy)
vs HARVARD (4-19, 3-1 Ivy)
SATURDAY, 12 P.M., 2:30 P.M., CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM

COLUMBIA (10-14, 3-1 Ivy)
at DARTMOUTH (5-13, 1-3 Ivy)
SUNDAY, 12 P.M., 2:30 P.M., HANOVER, N.H.
RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
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Recruiting for Columbia sports wastes resources

JIM PAGELS
On the Couch

How many teen choir stars does Columbia recruit to participate in Nonsequitur? For how many high school comedians' grades does it turn a blind eye in the hopes that they'll one day participate in Fruit Paunch? And how many eager young reporters does the University spend a million dollars recruiting so that they'd fill out the ranks of Spectator and Bwog?

Sure, admissions looks at extracurricular activities and awards for all applying students—but they certainly don't fly out Varsity Show coaches to the Des Moines High School musical production of "Guys and Dolls" to see if the 16-year-old playing Nicely-Nicely Johnson nailed his Act II solo and determine whether or not to pursue him largely based on his vocal range.

According to the Equity in Athletics documents, Columbia's athletics department cost $19,787,452 to fund last year, $933,339 of which was spent on recruiting. Yet for that million dollars and the sometimes dubious lower admission standards granted to a handful of recruits in order to garner the best crop of athletic talent, the Light Blue athletics teams come nowhere near to reaching the level of student engagement and post-graduation success in their fields that other student organizations do.

Every other campus group seems to do just fine without the million-dollar recruiting budget, the $18 million budget for all other expenses, and the ability to recruit potential members who might not meet the University's academic standards via the ever-mysterious Academic Index. Instead, while nearly all of Columbia's athletics teams are almost entirely composed of recruited athletes, every other student group is essentially made up of 100 percent "walk-ons," and they mostly perform just fine. Who's to say the athletic programs couldn't do the same?

It makes complete sense for schools like USC, Texas, and Ohio State to spend millions of dollars on their recruiting efforts and to lower some standards to snag certain athletes. They recruit the cream of the crop, and they help build some of the most financially successful athletics programs in the country. Not only do the programs at these schools generate hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue (a portion of which is then used to fund academic programs), but they also engage the entire student body and prepare many of the athletes for future successful careers in pro sports.

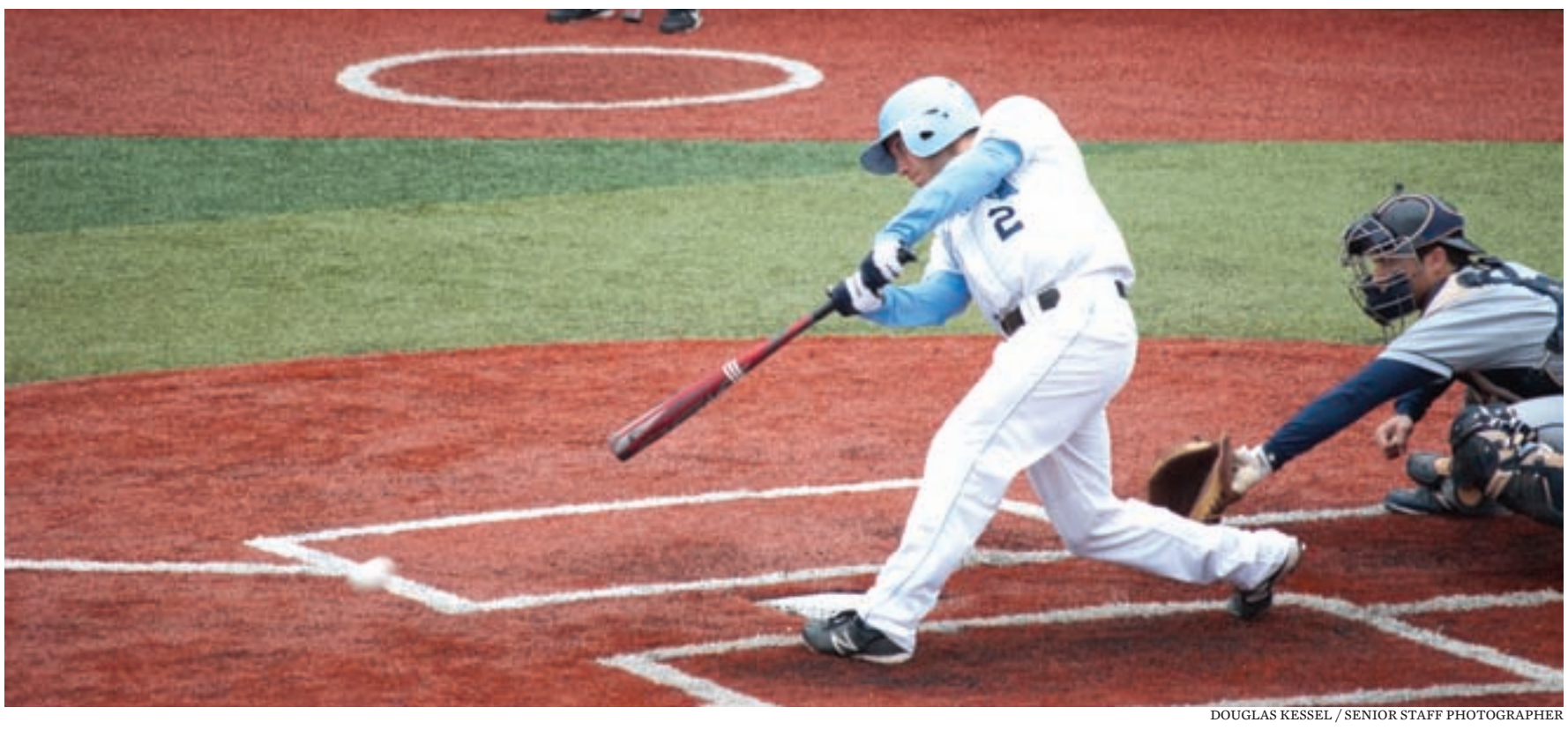
Unfortunately, Columbia's athletics programs come nowhere near that level of success in those areas. Attendance by non-parents and non-Columbia athletics employees at events outside of football and men's basketball games (which even then, aren't exactly concerned about selling out) is about as strong as that of Wednesday night classes before Thanksgiving. And as far as preparing students for future careers in their fields, take a look at the Wikipedia page for "List of Columbia University alumni" and compare the section for "sports" to those for "politics," "performing arts," "business," and "science and technology."

So why does athletics have this special admissions distinction while other student groups—that are indisputably more relevant to campus and have higher rates of success in their extracurricular fields—do not?

Look, this question is coming from a guy who watches 13 hours of NFL football every Sunday and single-handedly accounts for a double-digit percentage of ESPN.com's traffic. I love sports more than 99 percent of the students here, but not if large sums of money are spent on a below-average college program that also creates unfair stereotypes about the many deserving athletes who attend the University.

Not only would ending the recruitment of athletes in favor of mostly walk-on squads help stop wasteful spending

SEE PAGELS, page 3



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CRIMSON NIGHTMARE | CU senior infielder Jon Eisen had three hits in the Lions' series with Harvard last year, and will look to exploit Harvard on Saturday.

Lions travel to play Ivy foes Harvard, Dartmouth

BY MYLES SIMMONS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Coming off a six-game homestand in which they won five games, the red-hot Lions (10-14, 3-1 Ivy) are packing it up and heading out on the road for their second weekend of Ivy play.

Columbia will start off in Cambridge, Mass. to play two games versus Harvard (4-19, 1-3 Ivy) on Saturday afternoon. After that, the Light Blue will travel to Hanover, N.H. for a Sunday doubleheader against Dartmouth (5-13, 1-3, Ivy).

The Light Blue has had good success versus the Crimson in the last few years, going a clean 8-0 since 2008. Last time the Lions graced Harvard with their presence in 2010, they came away with a sweep, 7-3 and 24-1.

"That doesn't mean anything," Lions junior left fielder Dario Pizzano said of the team's recent success against the Crimson. "We like facing Harvard, and we like playing them there. But it's a new year, and we've got to go bring it to them."

Pizzano is poised to do just that. He brings an 11-game hitting streak into the weekend.

Lions head coach Brett Boretti has been pleased with Pizzano's approach all season long.

"He's doing a real good job of being selective at the plate and not forcing it," Boretti said. "He takes his walks when he's getting pitched carefully, and he's taking advantage when they come in the zone to him."

Senior infielder Jon Eisen has also been on a tear lately, and currently has a 13-game hitting streak. Eisen is the spark that lights the flame of the Lion offense, batting frequently in the lead-off position.

> "Dartmouth is another team that the record doesn't speak for what they've been able to do."
>
> *—Brett Boretti, baseball head coach*

"Jon's done a great job for us," Boretti said. "I think he's found his swing over the past week, week and a half. He's been more consistent, starting to drive the ball a little bit more. He's definitely a guy that when he gets on base, it makes things happen for us."

But when it comes to this weekend's opponents, Boretti specifically pointed to Harvard's senior starting pitcher Brent Suter as one to watch for. "Suter, one of the guys I think we're going to see, is one of the best in the league," Boretti said.

So far this season, Suter has put together a 1-3 record in seven appearances (and five starts), but has struck out 25, walked just 11 and has a 2.97 ERA in 30.1 innings.

But Boretti knows all of Harvard's team will be ready to go.

"It's their home Ivy opener, so they'll be hungry for it," Boretti said.

Dartmouth, on the other hand, has given the Lions some trouble in recent years. When the two teams faced off in the Ivy League Baseball Championship Series in 2010, Dartmouth came out on top. Including those three games, the Lions have lost four straight to the Big Green.

"Dartmouth is another team that the record doesn't speak for what they've been able to do," Boretti said. "They're always very fundamental. They've got two players who have played very well against us, Sclafani and O'Dowd, so I know they'll be ready for us as well."

Shortstop Joe Sclafani and catcher Chris O'Dowd may be Lion slayers, but so far the latter is having a down year. O'Dowd has hit just .203 in 16 games this season, with only two doubles, three RBIs, and 17 total bases.

Nevertheless, the Lions will need to put their best foot forward for both series, and will rely on their rotation to do that. Senior Pat Lowery and junior Tim Giel will pitch against the Crimson, and junior Stefan Olson and sophomore David Speer will pitch against the Big Green.

Boretti has been pleased with what he's seen out of the starters.

"They've all given us quality starts," he said. "Those four guys are doing a great job of limiting the free bases and attacking the strike zone."

Winners of their last seven of eight games, the Lions will try to stay hot this weekend and separate themselves from the rest of the pack in the Lou Gehrig Division. The Light Blue's quest for the division title continues Saturday at 12:30 p.m. in Cambridge.

RECORD WATCH

All-time individual leaders for home runs in Columbia baseball history.

RANK	PLAYER NAME (YEARS ACTIVE)	HOME RUNS
No. 1	Gene Larkin (1981-84)	25
No. 2	Matt Buckmiller (1999-02)	23
No. 2	**Alex Aurrichio (2009-12)**	**23**
No. 3	**Darlo Pizzanio (2010-12)**	**22**

GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

THE SLATE

BASEBALL
at Harvard
Cambridge, Mass.
Saturday, 12 p.m., 2:30 p.m.

BASEBALL
at Dartmouth
Hanover, N.H.
Sunday, 12 p.m., 2:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL
at Harvard
Cambridge, Mass.
Friday, 2 p.m., 4 p.m.

SOFTBALL
at Dartmouth
Hanover, N.H.
Saturday, 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS
vs. Dartmouth
Dick Savitt Tennis Center
Saturday, 2 p.m.

MEN'S TENNIS
vs. Harvard
Dick Savitt Tennis Center
Sunday, 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS
vs. Dartmouth
Hanover, N.H.
Friday, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS
vs. Harvard
Cambridge, Mass.
Saturday, 12 p.m.

LACROSSE
vs. Connecticut
Robert K. Kraft Field
Saturday, 1 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD
Sam Howell Invitational
Princeton, N.J.
April 6-7

TRACK AND FIELD
Stanford Invitational
Stanford, Calif.
Friday, all day

HEAVYWEIGHT ROWING
Childs Cup
Princeton, N.J.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

LIGHTWEIGHT ROWING
Navy
Leonia, N.J.
Saturday, 10 a.m.

WOMEN'S ROWING
Class of 1975 Cup
Princeton, N.J.
Saturday, 9 a.m.

At home, Light Blue looks for two league wins

BY STEVEN LAU
Spectator Staff Writer

Two nationally ranked opponents, No. 67 Dartmouth and No. 20 Harvard, will face the men's tennis team this weekend in the Lions' first home matches of conference play.

After a close 4-3 win over Cornell last Saturday, the No. 50 Light Blue (14-2, 1-0 Ivy) pushed its win streak to 10 games. But while Columbia has not lost since Feb. 18, neither has the Big Green (14-1).

Dartmouth—boasting a strong doubles lineup—heads into Saturday's match against the Lions after a 5-2 win against Boston College, which marked the Big Green's seventh straight victory.

Though Columbia has shown itself to be a formidable force in recent weeks, head coach Bid Goswami expects the match against Dartmouth to be close.

"If you look at all the schools and scores, I think they are all very even," Goswami said. "We lost to Dartmouth last year, so I think we want to come back and win that match, and that's what we're gearing towards."

While the 30-year head coach made it clear that the Lions are focused on the Big Green at the moment, the Crimson (16-1) will pose a significant challenge to the Light Blue on Sunday afternoon.

The Crimson—the only team to hand Dartmouth a loss this season—boasts the longest current winning streak among the Ancient Eight, having won its last 12 matches.

One of those matches was an upset over then-No. 16 University of California San Diego, a win that helped propel Harvard to its current ranking within the top 20 teams in the nation.

"For Harvard, being 20 in the country definitely shows they are the cream of the crop," Goswami said.

To stay perfect in conference play, the Light Blue will need strong performances from its players, especially No. 102 freshman Winston Lin, who will go up against Harvard's star freshman Denis Nguyen in the No. 2 singles spot.

Goswami is hopeful after the Lions' display of courage in last Saturday's Cornell match, when the Light Blue rallied back in doubles after losing the first match 8-0.

The head coach also stressed the high level of play against the Big Red by the Lions' No. 1 singles player, senior co-captain Haig Schneiderman.

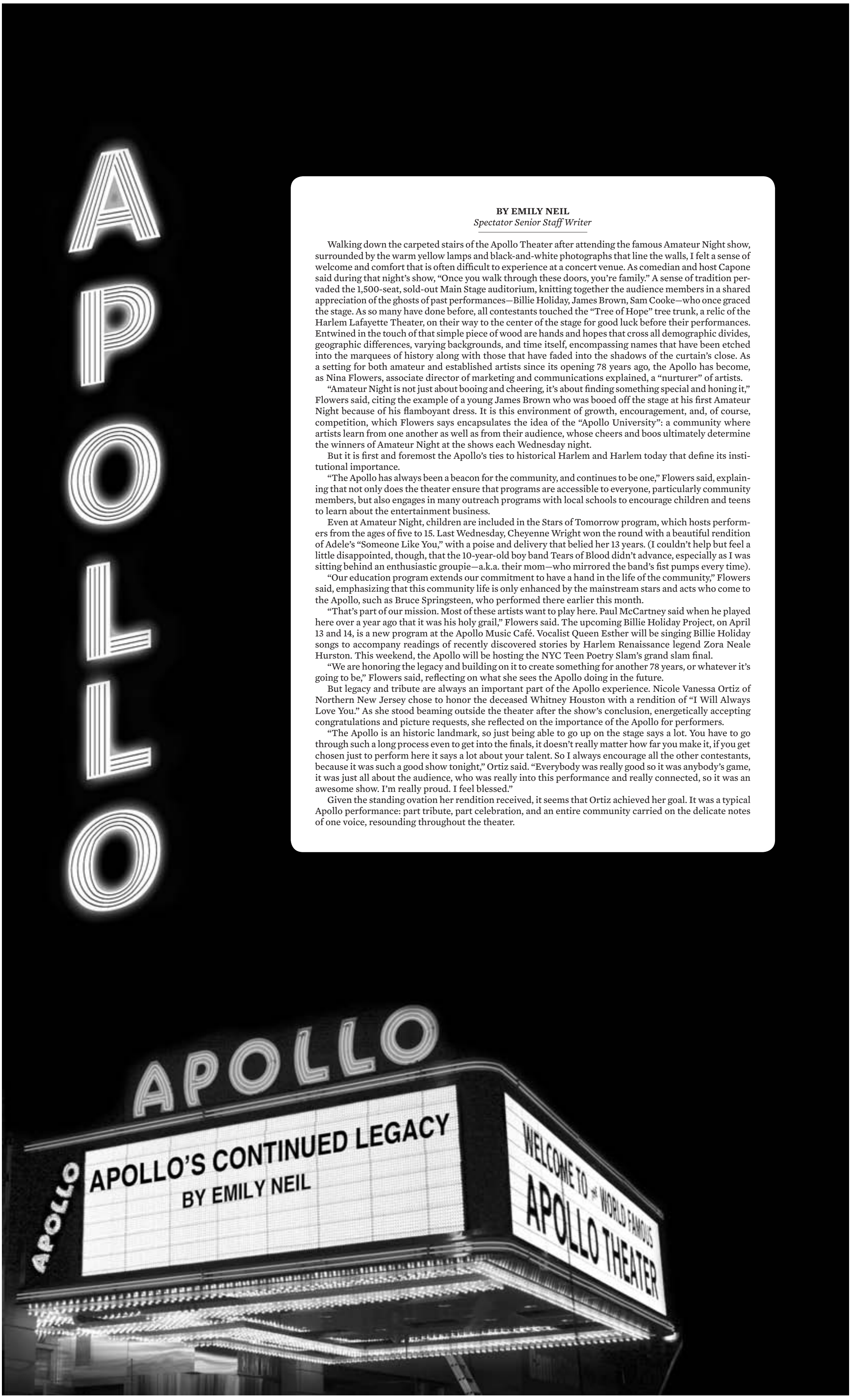
"I only saw Haig's last set, but he played the best I've seen him in four years," Goswami said. "I hope that gives him the confidence he needs going into this weekend."

Both Saturday's match against Dartmouth and Sunday's match against Harvard begin at 2 p.m. in the Dick Savitt Tennis Center.

Columbia Spectator

Weekend

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2012 • PAGE B1



APOLLO'S CONTINUED LEGACY

BY EMILY NEIL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Walking down the carpeted stairs of the Apollo Theater after attending the famous Amateur Night show, surrounded by the warm yellow lamps and black-and-white photographs that line the walls, I felt a sense of welcome and comfort that is often difficult to experience at a concert venue. As comedian and host Capone said during that night's show, "Once you walk through these doors, you're family." A sense of tradition pervaded the 1,500-seat, sold-out Main Stage auditorium, knitting together the audience members in a shared appreciation of the ghosts of past performances—Billie Holiday, James Brown, Sam Cooke—who once graced the stage. As so many have done before, all contestants touched the "Tree of Hope" tree trunk, a relic of the Harlem Lafayette Theater, on their way to the center of the stage for good luck before their performances. Entwined in the touch of that simple piece of wood are hands and hopes that cross all demographic divides, geographic differences, varying backgrounds, and time itself, encompassing names that have been etched into the marquees of history along with those that have faded into the shadows of the curtain's close. As a setting for both amateur and established artists since its opening 78 years ago, the Apollo has become, as Nina Flowers, associate director of marketing and communications explained, a "nurturer" of artists.

"Amateur Night is not just about booing and cheering, it's about finding something special and honing it," Flowers said, citing the example of a young James Brown who was booed off the stage at his first Amateur Night because of his flamboyant dress. It is this environment of growth, encouragement, and, of course, competition, which Flowers says encapsulates the idea of the "Apollo University": a community where artists learn from one another as well as from their audience, whose cheers and boos ultimately determine the winners of Amateur Night at the shows each Wednesday night.

But it is first and foremost the Apollo's ties to historical Harlem and Harlem today that define its institutional importance.

"The Apollo has always been a beacon for the community, and continues to be one," Flowers said, explaining that not only does the theater ensure that programs are accessible to everyone, particularly community members, but also engages in many outreach programs with local schools to encourage children and teens to learn about the entertainment business.

Even at Amateur Night, children are included in the Stars of Tomorrow program, which hosts performers from the ages of five to 15. Last Wednesday, Cheyenne Wright won the round with a beautiful rendition of Adele's "Someone Like You," with a poise and delivery that belied her 13 years. (I couldn't help but feel a little disappointed, though, that the 10-year-old boy band Tears of Blood didn't advance, especially as I was sitting behind an enthusiastic groupie—a.k.a. their mom—who mirrored the band's fist pumps every time).

"Our education program extends our commitment to have a hand in the life of the community," Flowers said, emphasizing that this community life is only enhanced by the mainstream stars and acts who come to the Apollo, such as Bruce Springsteen, who performed there earlier this month.

"That's part of our mission. Most of these artists want to play here. Paul McCartney said when he played here over a year ago that it was his holy grail," Flowers said. The upcoming Billie Holiday Project, on April 13 and 14, is a new program at the Apollo Music Café. Vocalist Queen Esther will be singing Billie Holiday songs to accompany readings of recently discovered stories by Harlem Renaissance legend Zora Neale Hurston. This weekend, the Apollo will be hosting the NYC Teen Poetry Slam's grand slam final.

"We are honoring the legacy and building on it to create something for another 78 years, or whatever it's going to be," Flowers said, reflecting on what she sees the Apollo doing in the future.

But legacy and tribute are always an important part of the Apollo experience. Nicole Vanessa Ortiz of Northern New Jersey chose to honor the deceased Whitney Houston with a rendition of "I Will Always Love You." As she stood beaming outside the theater after the show's conclusion, energetically accepting congratulations and picture requests, she reflected on the importance of the Apollo for performers.

"The Apollo is an historic landmark, so just being able to go up on the stage says a lot. You have to go through such a long process even to get into the finals, it doesn't really matter how far you make it, if you get chosen just to perform here it says a lot about your talent. So I always encourage all the other contestants, because it was such a good show tonight," Ortiz said. "Everybody was really good so it was anybody's game, it was just all about the audience, who was really into this performance and really connected, so it was an awesome show. I'm really proud. I feel blessed."

Given the standing ovation her rendition received, it seems that Ortiz achieved her goal. It was a typical Apollo performance: part tribute, part celebration, and an entire community carried on the delicate notes of one voice, resounding throughout the theater.

Best of New Albums

Last Friday's announcement of the 2012 Bacchanal acts set off a series of mixed reactions throughout campus. With so many acts out there—and especially in New York, arguably the greatest city in the world for music—Big Gigantic, Curren$y, and Wavves seemed random. For some alternatives, here are the best albums of 2012 so far. —*BY ANATOLE ASHRAF*

CHARLOTTE MURTISHAW

Breton, 'Other People's Problems'

Music trends in 2012 so far seem to signal that the genre-bending noticed in 2011 albums from artists like Childish Gambino, Jay-Z, Kanye West, and even Paul Simon will continue. Take "Other People's Problems," the debut album from the UK's Breton. An "art collective" of independent filmmakers who came together as a band only after performing live soundtracks to screenings of their movies, the group, named after "father of surrealism" Andre Breton, offers electronic soundscapes with a distinctly hip-hop bent. Some tracks like "The Well" could easily host a guest rapper, but Breton keeps the atmosphere tense and emotive, painting impressionistic landscapes with synthesizers and just the slightest hint of vocals. It's admirably fresh, and surprisingly fun.

Live in New York: May 3, The Bowery Ballroom; May 4, Music Hall of Williamsburg

Miike Snow, 'Happy To You'

With its first album in 2009, band Miike Snow–the brainchild of superstar Swedish duo Bloodshy & Avant and American singer Andrew Wyatt–emerged on the scene with a set of perfectly crafted indie pop that balanced the Swedes' slick electronic derring-do with Wyatt's vulnerable vocals, and made some tracks shine on the dance floor. This year's "Happy to You" has the guys taking things a bit further and deeper. The lush arrangements on songs like "Paddling Out" resonate on a more personal level, but dancing is still a strong possibility, as their sophomore effort is full of remixes tailored to clubs. Ear candy's an understatement. This is earphone magic.

Live in New York: Tuesday-Thursday, April 24 - 26, Terminal 5

'The Hunger Games: Songs from District 12 and Beyond'

"The Hunger Games," the film version of the extremely popular young adult novels by Suzanne Collins, proved everyone wrong by delivering a polished movie that manages to balance the novel's dystopian vision with a crowd-pleasing adventure. The soundtrack, however, is even more surprising. The list of artists alone is commendable. Aside from Taylor Swift, Maroon 5, and Miranda Lambert, most of the names are squarely in the "indie" category. Arcade Fire, Kid Cudi, the Decemberists, and Punch Brothers, among others, provide strong, ambient tracks that taken together not only complement the film's narrative, but also function surprisingly well as a stand-alone album.

Live in New York: Punch Brothers, April 14, The Town Hall
Kid Cudi, April 21, SUNY Geneseo

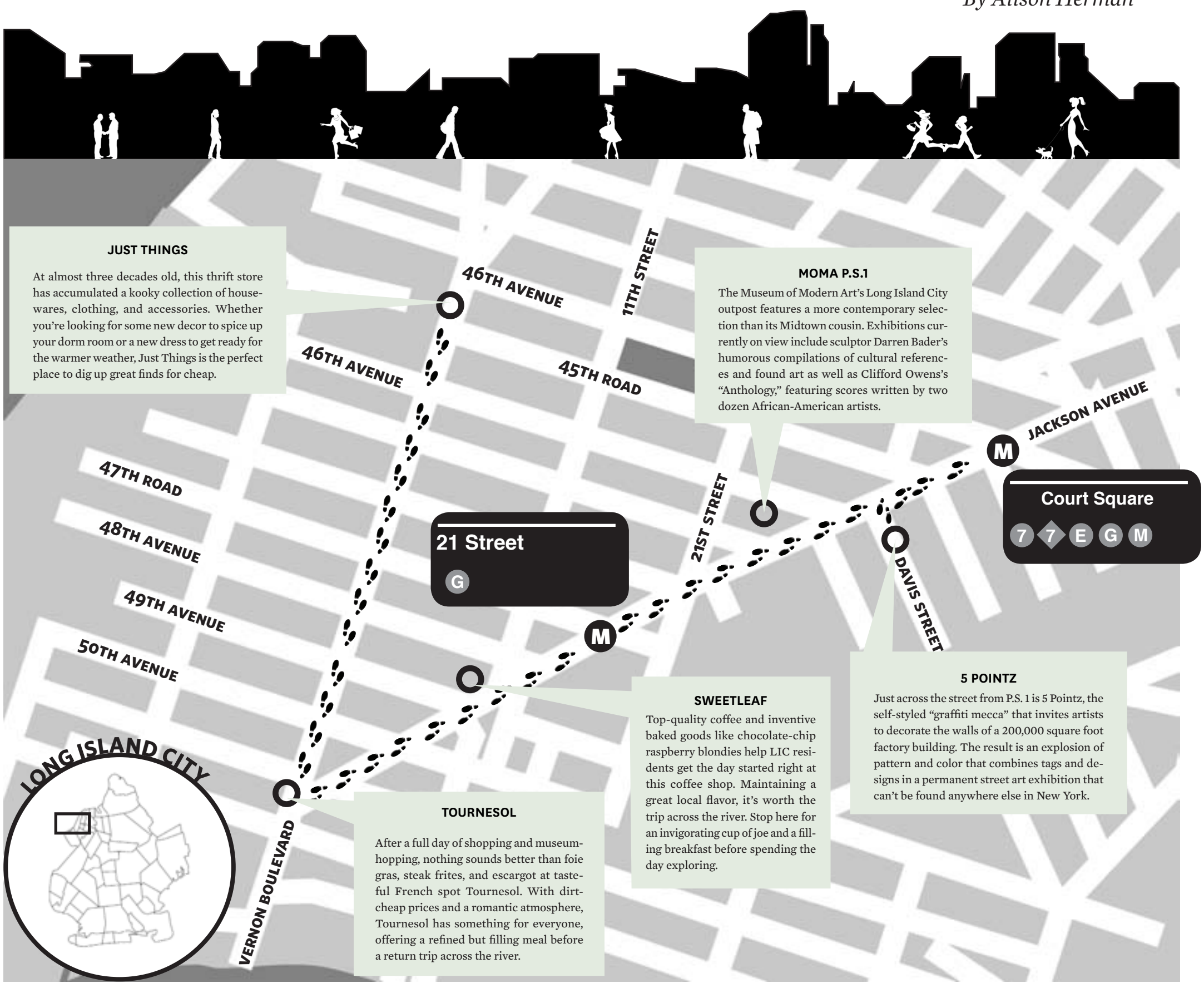
Bruce Springsteen, 'Wrecking Ball'

In a time when, and industry where, many classic artists are struggling to remain relevant, Bruce Springsteen continues to break the mold as he has been doing since the 2000s. A classic Springsteen cut, his 17th studio album is perhaps also 2012's sharpest and most poignant album. Released on March 5, it brings back the Boss's trademark energy, spirit, and humanity, showcased in some of the tightest traditional songwriting this decade has produced thus far. The single "We Take Care of Our Own" is a supremely catchy political statement in line with "Born in the U.S.A.," spreading a message of unity that is sorely needed in a bitterly divided political landscape.

Live in New York: Friday, April 6, Madison Square Garden

Neighborhood Watch

By Alison Herman



GRAPHIC BY SINJIHN SMITH

The shuffle that turned into the scramble

LEAH GREENBAUM

Slouching Towards Somewhere

If you're going to come up with a metaphor for life, the floor of 1020 isn't a bad one.

That's where he found me, throwing back a rum and Coke and laughing despite the inevitable demise of a relationship I was sick of.

It was January of my junior year and he was trying to nail down his post-grad plans—and, as my friends and I suspected, a few more girls. I have no idea what we talked about that night as I looked up into his dark, unfocused eyes, but two months later after a few accidental and then planned run-ins, we were "dating."

I use the word "dating" in the loosest sense, and only for the sake of common decency.

Through March and April, he—let's call him Mr. Old Fart Bones—would Gchat me in that infuriating, ambiguous, man way. "I have this econ exam tomorrow" is how he opened our first post-hookup Gchat. "Wow. My grandparents are crazy" was the second. I couldn't figure out his game. Were these non-sequitur Gchats supposed to be flirty, "I'm-interested-in-you-but-sorta-don't-want-to-show-it" or "I'm-making-nice-small-talk-just-to-be-polite" or "I'm-just-looking-to-facilitate-more-hooking-up-but-that's-all"? I was knee-deep in my work as Spec's news editor and didn't really think much of any of it.

My closest ladyfriend said it best: "It's a totally risk-free situation. No feelings, lots of [let's call it hand-holding], and then he's gone." Poof. Away to Wisconsin, where he'd been hired to work at a mid-size company.

Another friend asked me if this thing I had going with Mr. Old Fart Bones was a "senior shuffle" or a "senior scramble." I was not familiar with those terms.

"A shuffle is when you want to hook up with as many people as possible before you graduate," he explained. "The scramble is when you realize you've never been in a relationship before so you scramble to start something serious with someone."

I've been programmed to believe that men are emotional straight-shooters—if they're interested they'll say so (thanks, "He's Just Not That Into You"). If Mr. Old Fart Bones just wanted to stumble through pained Gchats, well, then that was all there was.

But despite my general cluelessness and relentless cynicism about dating, as we inched closer to May it seemed this shuffle was becoming a scramble. He asked to visit me (and my parents!) back home in California after commencement. He wanted me to meet his family. He wanted to go on vacation together. At that point I didn't know his middle name. I couldn't have guessed his favorite color. I didn't realize how much he'd loathe my parents' cat. He couldn't have suggested anything more shocking to me at that point.

Long story short, it's over a year later and we're still dating. We met in an alcohol haze at MoHi's classiest venue, dodging jabs from rogue pool sticks. Our first real date was at a Denny's. He now lives in Madison, Wis., a "city" I'd once labeled "a bumblefuck vacuum" but now love visiting (turns out the metropolis is more Williamsburg and less FarmVille than I thought).

Relationships that mean something can come in weird packages, especially at this strange moment in our lives. Senior spring, especially, is a time for goodbyes and massive doses of relationship angst and existential quandaries.

If I've learned anything at Columbia it's that love and happiness don't come from the fairy tale narratives we grew up on: The beginning of something good can be gritty and sticky like the beer-soaked floor of 1020. Or freshman year of college.

Now Mr. Old Fart Bones is Mr. Grown-up Pants and I'm a senior, almost over the hill, looking for some meaningful experience from the last four years to grasp. Is it a scramble of my own? Maybe one day I'll see it that way. But for now, I look back at the accidental run-ins at Joe when neither of us knew whether to hug or high five and that 11 p.m. Western omelet at Denny's with affection and enormous gratitude to the universe.

The floor of 1020 may not be Prince Charming's castle, but at least it serves beer.

Leah Greenbaum is a Columbia College senior majoring in English and human rights. Slouching Towards Somewhere *runs alternate Fridays.*

COURTESY OF MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

PHOTOGENIC PARIS | The Museum of Modern Art's most recent six-part exhibition features proto-Modernist Eugène Atget's prolific photographs of 19th century Paris.

Atget exhibit captures candid Parisian life

BY KELILA KAHAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Outside of Eugène Atget's humble one-room studio in Paris hung an equally unassuming handmade sign: "Documents pour artistes." In the 19th century, such a sign would be read by passersby without flinching, without any suspicions of irony or double meaning. It was understood at the time that Atget was a simple documentarian, recording visual particulars on the film of his camera. He saw his work as mere documents for stonemasons, architects, and painters to use as source material.

Today, Atget is recognized for being more than a documentarian. He has risen to the status of proto-Modernist icon, and this sign, "Documents pour artistes," hangs outside the Museum of Modern Art's six-part exhibition featuring his prolific photographs of old Paris. The exhibition's six parts are arranged thematically, with each part devoted to a different piece of the Parisian streets: abandoned parks, building facades, storefronts, and the rarer images of people.

"He took pictures motivated by something much more personal. Particularly in his later photographs, not only can you not have named what sort of client the photo could aid or what sort of purpose it could have, but the photos transcend the level of documenting and are works of art," Sarah Meister, curator of the exhibit, said.

Atget's photographs are, in many ways, more intimate than meets the eye. He frequently shot the city when he could be in its company alone, at 7 in the morning, where he captured even the smallest architectural details of door knockers and iron staircases. Atget took some 850 photographs of Paris, yet he did not take a single shot of the Eiffel Tower or the Arc de Triomphe. He once noted in a letter to the French minister of fine arts, "I can safely say that I possess all of Old Paris."

Atget's photographs of people are unusual in that they are not portraits. Rather than attempting to capture personality or mood, he focuses on frank photographs of a variety of workers: prostitutes, rag-pickers, mailmen, and street vendors. They stand in front of Atget's lens and stare blankly. Reminiscent of the vacant subjects of street style blogs, Atget's photos do not give their subjects much personality, focusing instead on what the subject wears and what the subject holds or carries. (Perhaps Atget can be seen as predecessor to bloggers Garance Doré or Scott Schuman.)

"He took pictures motivated by something much more personal."

—Sarah Meister, exhibit curator

Another section of the exhibition features Atget's images of storefronts. The storefront photographs capture prim and jauntily attired male and female mannequins that seem eager to break out of their glass. Such dreamlike elements, lending animacy to the inanimate, led surrealist artist Man Ray to take an interest in Atget. It was Ray who introduced Atget's photographs to photographer Berenice Abbott, who would become Atget's chief admirer. Abbott purchased the contents of Atget's small studio, including some 800 photographs, and sold them to the MoMA, where they are now on exhibition.

"Documents pour artistes" is on display at the MoMA until April 9.

Splurging for a good cause

CLAIRE STERN

Buyer's Remorse

Last March, when a 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami leveled Japan, fashion was the last thing on anyone's mind. The entire world mourned over the damage done and thousands of lives lost, and that grief quickly transformed into action as many Americans mobilized to assist the country. But among those who spearheaded relief efforts were members of the American fashion industry.

Fashion Girls for Japan, a two-day sample sale of designer clothing that contributes all proceeds to Japan's reconstruction and recovery efforts, was created by 3.1 Phillip Lim executive Kyoko Kageyama in the wake of the disaster. The first sale was held last April with the support of volunteers from the Japanese-American fashion community and donations from New York designers, successfully raising $275,000. This year's second anniversary sale took place this past weekend at the swanky Bowery Terrace in the Bowery Hotel and featured more than 60 New York-based designers, each of whom contributed one rolling rack of their clothing and accessories to the charity event. Unlike last year's sale, the 2012 selection included menswear and jewelry. All items were sold at 50 percent or more off the retail price.

All's well that ends well, I suppose, and from the looks of it, Japan can expect a hefty donation from this batch of fashion-loving New Yorkers.

When I arrived at the Bowery Hotel (the sale was not located at the main entrance, but on the discreet side entrance on East Third Street), a doorman stood beside a velvet rope and an "I Love NY" sign. Once I informed him that I was there for the sample sale, he lifted the rope and let me in. After I made my way upstairs, two girls by a registration desk asked me how I heard about the event. This all seemed way too under wraps for a fundraiser, I thought, but once I saw the clothes, I began to see why. Racks upon racks of all the top designers filled the room: Proenza Schouler, Thom Browne, Thakoon, Theory, Vena Cava, Yigal Azrouel, J Brand. For the New York fashion set, it spelled out pure chaos.

Sadly enough, the devastation in Japan did not seem to be at the forefront of the shoppers' minds as they rummaged through the clothing racks, juggling armfuls of couture. One yelled out feverishly, "Where's the Acne?!" Another answered, "It's in the back!" As girls wrestled for mirror space to try on clothes, a Japanese-American DJ spun hip jams by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, LCD Soundsystem, and Phoenix. I don't doubt that the upper echelons of society feel more at ease knowing they're contributing to a good cause, but I can't help but think that they're more excited that they're scooping up high-end designs for a fraction of their prices. One girl protested to her friend, "I've already spent $600, but I'm not leaving." All's well that ends well, I suppose, and from the looks of it, Japan can expect a hefty donation from this batch of fashion-loving New Yorkers.

What struck me most was a conversation I overheard between a couple as I exited the sale. "I wonder what that is, can we go in?" asked the husband. His wife responded, "It doesn't look like you can just go in there."

Yes, yes you can!

Claire Stern is a Barnard College senior majoring in English. Buyer's Remorse *runs alternate Fridays.*

Interpol collaboration with director David Lynch yields confusing, transfixing results

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER WELLS

ON THE RUN | In director David Lynch's "Wild at Heart," protagonists Sailor and Lula are on the run from their past in this disturbing, brutal film, encountering odd characters along the way.

BY RIVKA RAPPOPORT
Columbia Daily Spectator

The audience at the IFC was met with a strange combination of music and film on Thursday.

Interpol's drummer, Sam Fogarino, presented the former indie band's collaboration with former indie director David Lynch: a six-minute animated film short to accompany the band's new song "Lights." The theatrical premiere was followed by a screening of one of the filmmaker's most controversial movies, the 1990 Cannes Palme d'Or winner "Wild at Heart."

In the animated short , "I Touch a Red Button Man," a clownish doodled man presses and releases a red button during the entire song. The image quivers to the beat of the music as the red button morphs into a red ball and multiplies into many red balls, overcoming the screen at the song's climax. It is more than a little trippy. Ultimately, however, the short does not stray very far from the promise of its title. Projected on a theater screen, its kinetic energy infects the audience with an unresolved buzz, almost mocking the viewers' immobility in the theater's giant recliners.

Lynch was apparently unconcerned with perplexing the audience entirely. "Wild at Heart" traces a pair of energetic young lovers on their frenzied road trip from "Somewhere on the Border Between North and South Carolina" to California. Sailor, played by Nicolas Cage, has just been released from jail after serving several years for manslaughter. He and his girlfriend Lula are on the run from Marietta, her wicked witch of a mother. This is an allusion Lynch takes very seriously, directly invoking the "Wizard of Oz" antagonist in the film's first of many bewildering moments when Marietta coats her face with red lipstick, cackles, and rushes to the toilet to throw up before the camera reveals her to be wearing the telltale pointed black boots. "Wizard of Oz" references are littered throughout the film but never so effectively as when Lula, who has just discovered she is pregnant, is almost raped by an assassin named Bobby Peru and clicks her red heels together three times as Peru leaves, laughing and dismissing her molestation as a sick joke.

This is disconcertingly similar to Lynch's attitude as a director. He presents a ludicrously disturbing image and then punctuates it with a joke, such as when Sailor brutally pummels his attacker when jailed, and then immediately lights a cigarette and turns towards the camera, flush with Hollywood charm. The audience is constantly on edge, propped up in their seats with an uncomfortable tension, hovering between disgust and complete confusion.

Lynch is undeniably an accomplished filmmaker, granting symbolic meaning to the most bizarre and mundane situations, from throwing up to a lighting a match. Thematically, the film is about Lula and Sailor's attempt to escape the past. Meanwhile, they encounter the eccentric oddballs of America's underbelly that surface in deserted shacks and rundown motels, both lending the film its undeniable charm and rendering the plot only a tool with which to string these episodes together.

Interpol loves "Wild at Heart" and it is no wonder: If it were to be divided into a series of strange, humorous, and disturbing music videos, they would greatly affect watchers. Aggregated, the oddity leaves the viewer transfixed.

Flipside Guide

WHERE IT'S AT
Time: Tuesday through Sunday, 12 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Place: 705 9th Ave., between 48th and 49th streets
Cost: $8-$11

JENNY PAYNE FOR SPECTATOR

DELECTABLE DESSERT | Kyotofu, a modern-style Japanese dessert bar and bakery, sells a medley of traditional ethnic treats that can easily satisfy any craving.

Kyotofu

Hell's Kitchen Japanese bakery offers variety of unique treats

BY ELIZABETH SUN
Columbia Daily Spectator

As warmer days approach, minds will inevitably turn to the sweet realm of cold, refreshing desserts. Kyotofu, a modern-style Japanese dessert bar and bakery on 9th Avenue between 48th and 49th streets, can easily satisfy that craving. Even among the medley of ethnically diverse restaurants in Hell's Kitchen, Kyotofu stands out because of its city-wide recognition for its chocolate souffle cupcakes, which were voted New York's Best Cupcake by New York Magazine in 2007.

Though Kyotofu is better known for its bakery treats, which find homes among the shelves of gourmet shops like Dean & Deluca, its desserts should not be overlooked. For $10, you can enjoy the winter anmitsu, a traditional Japanese dessert that captures sweet and tangy flavors within a sleek glass serving cup. The dessert, which has been popular in Japan for decades, consists of red azuki beans topped with small cubes of agar jelly and is commonly complemented with seasonal fruits and ice cream. Kyotofu offers its anmitsu with homemade pear- and cranberry-flavored agar and then fills the cup with your choice of either kuromitsu—a sweet sugar syrup—ice cream, or pear-ginger sorbet. For finishing touches, Kyotofu decorates the sweet confection with a thin disc of burnt sugar caramel. The agar cubes seemed to overwhelm the dessert—well after I had scrubbed away the refreshing kuromitsu ice cream and azuki beans, an entire layer of pear agar remained. Besides that, the anmitsu had a satisfying blend of sweet flavors and textures. It is a cultural experience worth having.

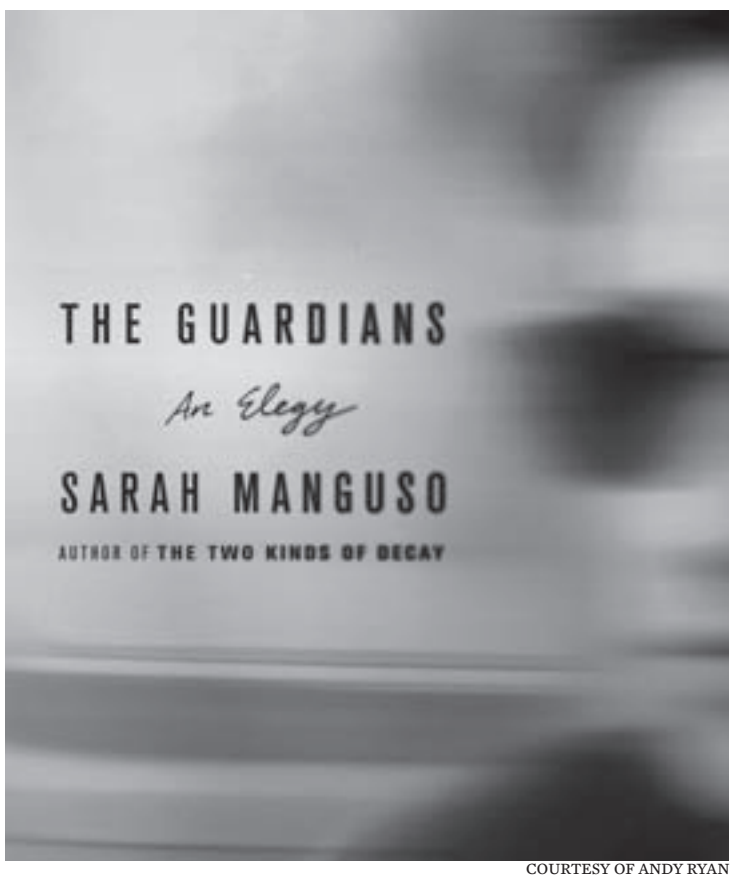
Other selections that are traditionally Japanese include a sweet soymilk okayu, a Japanese-style rice pudding, and kuro goma sweet tofu, a black sesame-infused panna cotta.

Kyotofu's interior layout is striking. The kitchen, vaguely similar to one you would see in a house, is enclosed with glass, so that you can see the chefs and bakers at work. The dining section of Kyotofu is small, holding only 30 people at a time. This room is modern and elegant, but can also be used as a casual hanging out space—one couple, with a computer and drink placed on their table, chatted with animated voices. Fourteen bar-like seats with street views line the front of the bakery section.

Kyotofu also has lunch and dinner menus, which boast plenty of appealing dishes. Tofu-based dishes abound, which is unsurprising for a restaurant named after this soybean product.

Food comes in small portions, but while your stomach may not be satisfied, your taste buds surely will.

WHERE IT'S AT
Place: Available on Amazon and at bookstores everywhere
Cost: $20



COURTESY OF ANDY RYAN

LOVE AND LOSS | Sarah Manguso's memoir "The Guardians: An Elegy" deals with the author's experience of coping with a friend's suicide, with the hope of mediating the psychological conflicts that come with a loved one's death.

'The Guardians: An Elegy'

Manguso's memoir examines grievers on the periphery of mental illness

BY ALLEN JOHNSON
Columbia Daily Spectator

Sarah Manguso's memoir "The Guardians: An Elegy" is less about her friend Harris, who committed suicide by jumping in front of a Metro-North train, than about her experience coping with his death and absence. Her novel perspective is not to confront the confused psychologies of the mentally ill directly, but rather to mediate the psychological conflicts of those who love them.

Manguso's prose is frank and sober, and from that sobriety comes an unshakable sincerity that carries the reader seamlessly through the text. Manguso, who herself has suffered from mental illness and uses antipsychotics, acknowledges that in choosing mental stability she had "traded poetry for a longer life," but that "she knew what she was doing." Both claims hold—Manguso is an adept and conscientious writer in control of her material, but there is nothing sentimental or overwrought in her prose, only plain descriptions that, in a sense, forbid visceral emotional responses.

Manguso strikes up the analogy between watching a loved one die and watching the Twin Towers fall, an event she and Harris experienced together from Kent Avenue in Brooklyn. She focuses on the fact that no pictures were taken from that exact location, "where we were standing," that in a way every tragedy is imminently personal because of the singular vantage point from which it is viewed. For Manguso, tragedy lies in the interplay between the tragic actor and his grieving audience.

Much of the work focuses on Manguso's life, her career editing a magazine and working on a failed novel in Rome. Certain passages are stunning in their glimpse into the psychology of loss: "I wrote my obituary soon after my college graduation. It seemed as necessary as knowing my social security number." What makes it so difficult to conceive of her friend Harris's death is, paradoxically, how close she came to suicide herself: "I also wrote the note that would be found with my corpse ... Now I save it to remember how far I have traveled from that place where no help comes." Preserving her own sanity while coping with her friend's death becomes a central challenge in the memoir.

"The Guardians" is metatextually concerned with the viability of its own project. The question arises of why one might try to make meaning out of death at all when it is much easier to label it away as "incomprehensible." At one crucial juncture in her meditation, Manguso observes that "finding Harris," both a literal moment in the narrative when Harris runs away from a psychiatric hospital, as well as a metaphorical stab at the reclamation of his lost essence, is, after all, "just a game," and that she could "throw away ... the puzzle left unsolved, and it wouldn't matter." Instead, she pushes onward to the most difficult question. The result is a work whose prose does not flaunt its own stylistic merits, but is rather, in its modesty and stillness, quietly persuasive.

In the wake of losses in our own campus community and the fight to bring mental health issues to the forefront with initiatives like Mental Health Week, Manguso's memoir seems resonant with Columbia at large. Ostracism and stigmatization are poor tools in confronting an issue that affects everyone, both those who suffer from mental illness and those who love them, despite their tragic stature as failed "guardians."

Manguso asks, if the grief involved is inescapable, what's the use in running? She sheds her fear of death and in doing so has scribed a fearless work. When she asks the question, "What is grief for?" Manguso offers a number of explanations, the most persuasive of which is this: "Real explanation: Love abides. There is no other solace."

WHERE IT'S AT
Time: Through Jan. 6
Place: American Museum of Natural History
Cost: $19 with CUID

JENNY PAYNE FOR SPECTATOR

OCEANIC ODDITY | The American Museum of Natural History's new special exhibit on bioluminescence, "Creatures of Light," takes visitors on a journey though vast and strange ecosystems.

'Creatures of Light'

New exhibit showcases glowing creatures from fireflies to jellyfish

BY ALIZA GOLDBERG
Columbia Daily Spectator

A giant mushroom pulsates with green light as soothing electronic music undulates through the space. This is not an acid trip—this is the first room of the American Museum of Natural History's new special exhibit on bioluminescence, "Creatures of Light," which opened last weekend and will run through January 2013. With music and color carefully chosen for a complete experience, the curators of the exhibit—the ecology, evolution, and environmental biology department's own John Sparks and David Harvey, aim to take visitors on a journey through our wonderful and vast, albeit strange, ecosystem.

Visitors travel from the forests of North America—with bioluminescent mushrooms and fireflies—to a cave in New Zealand, a bay in Puerto Rico, a coral wall on the Cayman Islands, and the depths of the abyssal zone. Each of these simulations begins with an open invitation: "Step into a sheltered bay in the Caribbean. Wade around ..." The promise of glittering, colored lights propels the visitor forward like the glowing chemicals these organisms use to lure prey.

Within scientific disciplines, students often have problems with visualizing the often-bizarre occurrences of nature and the importance behind their complexity. As a result, we focus on cramming for multiple choice exams and care more about numbers than the elegance of binding proteins or light absorption. "Creatures of Light" focuses on the poetry and aesthetics of bioluminescence, a biochemical phenomenon we have all probably witnessed but perhaps have not thought too much about.

The simulations in each exhibition section provide the hands-on benefits of a lab, and yet are far more exquisite. Instead of contorting your face into the lens of a microscope, you can examine scaled models of bioluminescent organisms, such as dinoflagellate and pyrodinium bahamense, blown up 11,000 times their size. Enormous purple crystal jellies dotted with fluorescent green—aequorea victoria—hang suspended above the viewers' heads. The models are perhaps the most extraordinary aspect of the exhibition. The magical aura creates a feeling of disbelief, which may be why there are also a few live organisms on view. The live flashlight fish, swimming in a dark tank with only flashes of almond-shaped green light, were enough to unsettle the adult visitor, and made a few young children cry. The fish emit light from bacteria in their throats, as part of a symbiotic relationship, and appear to have giant, glowing, flickering eyes.

The exhibition sections provide excellent explanations of bioluminescence, fluorescence, phosphorescence, quorum sensing, and other chemical reactions. For example, the exhibit's definition of fluorescent light begins by first explaining light waves and reflected light. Then, through analogies and not jargon, a simple rationale complete with diagrams is presented. They also explain the importance of some of these particles to cancer research as well as the threats to marine habitats. The "how" and "why" could be expanded upon and discussed further, but the "what" is clearly and succinctly articulated.

events

WILDCARD

The 2012 NYC Pillow Fight

—Washington Square Park, Saturday, April 7th, 3 p.m.

Join thousands of New Yorkers in Greenwich Village's largest park to celebrate this annual event. Bring a pillow, some friends, and a sense of humor—and maybe even a wacky costume or two—and get ready to let all your pre-finals stress out on a group of random strangers. Festivities commence at 3 p.m. and continue indefinitely.

EVENT

Easter Parade

—Fifth Avenue between 49th and 57th streets, Sunday, April 8th, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Watch the festivities after services at the stunning St. Patrick's Cathedral as New York's finest walk Fifth Avenue in their Sunday best. New York's most famous Easter celebration will take over most of Midtown for several hours of outlandish outfits and colorful processions beginning at 10 a.m.

MUSIC

Photek

—Cameo, 93 N. 6th Street (between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue), Saturday, April 7th, 12 a.m., $20

Drum and bass techno artist Photek will be performing tonight at the up-and-coming venue Cameo in Williamsburg. The performance is a rare chance to experience the energy of techno with the intimacy of a small performance space.

LIFESTYLE

Dekalb Market

—138 Willoughby Street, Saturday, April 7th and Sunday, April 8th

The first of a slew of outdoor markets across the city opening for spring, Dekalb Market will host over 60 vendors this weekend, including famed cupcake seller Robicelli's and online craft market Etsy. This week also includes an Easter egg hunt with a $50 gift certificate for the winner.