

# Online newsroom earns Pulitzer, Post trumps Times

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Internet secured itself a prevailing role in news media on Monday, reeling in one of journalism's most coveted prizes for the very first time.

ProPublica, an independent, non-profit online newsroom, was the first online organization to win a Pulitzer Prize, which was announced at Columbia's Journalism School on Monday afternoon at a ceremony for the 94th annual Pulitzer Prizes in Journalism, Letters, Drama, and Music.

There were 1,103 newspaper entries, up from a total of 1,028 entries last year.

Pulitzer Prize administrator Sig Gissler, who commenced the announcements and later elaborated on the winners, said that ProPublica's model represents a mode of journalism that will become increasingly influential, as fewer resources for investigative journalism remain available at the disposal of news outlets.

"This is something we're going to see more of in the years ahead because there's going to be more and more collaboration of news entities when it comes to enterprise journalism," he said, referring to the collaboration between ProPublica and the New York Times Magazine.

In addition to ProPublica's online win, an entirely online entry won in the category of cartooning for the first time. The award was given to Mark Fiore, for his self-syndicated animated cartoons that

appeared on the San Francisco Chronicle website.

But while the Internet did score a victory this year, up from zero awards last year, it still lags behind its more conventional counterpart—newsprint. The Washington Post racked up the most Pulitzers, amassing four for its work in Feature Writing, Commentary, Criticism, and International Reporting. It won double the number that the New York Times won in conjunction with ProPublica. Though winning multiple awards is considered an impressive feat in journalistic circles, some consider this a slight upset to the publication, which won five last year and had a record-setting seven in 2002 for its 9/11 coverage.

From a thematic standpoint, articles about natural disasters did not dominate the awards this year, as they tend to do, but rather dealt with more "down-to-earth matters," Gissler said.

Other news publications that won Pulitzers included the Seattle Times, the Philadelphia Daily News, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, the Dallas Morning News, the Des Moines Register, and the Denver Post.

Gissler said that, despite journalism's continuously shifting ways as new models are explored and older ones are revamped, traditional newspapers still remain a shining beacon for reporting.

"It's been a tough time for newspapers the last few years, but amid the gloomy talk, I think the winners and finalists are encouraging examples of the high quality of journalism across the nation," Gissler said.

And though journalistic modes change and adapt to the times, watchdog journalism—a form of investigative reporting intended to hold public officials and institutions accountable—continues to pervade reporting, Gissler said, as evidenced by the many winners this year who produced content in this category. Among those he cited were articles produced about the contamination of hamburgers, the hazardous use of cell phones while driving, and parents who accidentally killed their children by leaving them in their cars.

He added, "Watchdog journalism is still a vibrant force in the United States that would make Joseph Pulitzer proud."

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## A Selection of Winners

### Public Service

Bristol (Va.) Herald Courier

### Investigative Reporting

Barbara Laker and Wendy Ruderman of the Philadelphia Daily News and Sheri Fink of ProPublica, in collaboration with The New York Times Magazine

### National Reporting

Matt Richtel and members of The New York Times staff

### International Reporting

Anthony Shadid of The Washington Post

### Fiction

Tinklers by Paul Harding (Bellevue Literary Press)

### Drama

Next to Normal, music by Tom Kitt, book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey



ANTHONY YIM / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**EYES ON THE PRIZE** | Pulitzer Prize administrator Sig Gissler announced the journalism awards Monday afternoon at the Journalism School.



"A tangible weakness with student council nowadays is, it hasn't been transparent enough."

—Isaac Lara, ReNew CU



"We want to help every group on campus. We want to help student groups do what they do."

—Learned Foote, Stand Columbia



"Our job is to create a centralized hub of information on this campus."

—Eugenio Suarez, The Naked Party

PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**PARTY ANIMALS** | On Monday, three parties seeking executive board positions debated the identity of student councils on campus in Lerner.

# CCSC parties duel for seats, debate agendas

BY ELIZABETH SCOTT AND ALISA LU  
Columbia Daily Spectator

This year's Columbia College Student Council debates had the promise of being the most competitive in recent years, but some students bemoaned the fact that the night remained relatively calm.

Compared to the class council debates, the Executive Board sessions—with three competing parties compared to last year's uncontested race—drew the largest crowd. All 15 candidates from the three contending parties, the Naked Party, ReNew CU, and Stand Columbia fielded questions from the Columbia Political Union's General Manager Sajaa Ahmed, CC '10, who monitored the debates, as well as James Bogner, CC '10, chair of the Elections Board division of CCSC.

In an early question, Bogner posited that most students do not see the student council as an

organization that helps them and asked candidates how they would remedy this.

The Naked Party's presidential candidate Eugenio Suarez, CC '11, said he hopes to be an intermediary who delivers University information to the students who need it. "We know about things that the students don't, and our job is to create a centralized hub of information on this campus. ... We feel that we can address the information gap on this campus," Suarez said.

Karishma Habbu, CC '13, running for vice president of communications with Stand Columbia, responded that councils can tangibly help student groups. "I will say that one way council is kind of looked at is as taking a top-down approach." Instead, Habbu said, Stand Columbia hopes to "reach out to specific groups and see what they need from us. ... We can invite

arts societies, sports societies to voice their input in a formal council setting so we can act on that." Learned Foote, CC '11 and running for president with Stand Columbia, added, "We want to help every group on campus. We want to help student groups do what they do."

ReNew CU hopes to reach students by presenting a more open council. Presidential candidate Isaac Lara, CC '11, said, "A tangible weakness with student council nowadays is it hasn't been transparent enough. There's been a disconnect between students and student councils. ... We want to make sure every elected representative goes to student group meetings."

This year's competitive race has drawn out students who hadn't taken much interest in student council affairs in the past.

Raahi Sheth, CC '11, said, "I'm not really that big into the elections per se, but I thought it

would be interesting to see this debate. You don't really get a chance to see what goes on behind the scenes."

But he added that he "would have preferred it if it were a bit more contentious."

Felicia Bishop, CC '12, said she came out to see the debates because she feels that so far "the process has prevented us from getting to know who they are."

The senior class council race is also a competitive one, though for one party, candidate turnout was low. Only two of the five Party Bus Party (Bus) members were in attendance—the rest were abroad or had academic obligations.

The 2011 class council hopefuls debated what it means to be a senior and how to tailor events and programming to that vision.

Most of the talk revolved around programming, and the

SEE CCSC, page 2

# Powell announces bid for Congress against Rangel

BY SARAH DARVILLE  
Spectator Staff Writer

State Assembly member Adam Clayton Powell IV is looking for luck on 116th in Harlem.

At 116th Street and Lexington Avenue, the spot known as the "lucky corner" for some local politicians, Powell officially announced that he will be running for Congress on Monday morning.

During the informal conference, Powell emphasized the differences between himself and Charles Rangel, the congressman who has represented Northern Manhattan for 40 years and who will oppose him in the Democratic primary.

Powell, who currently represents much of East and Central Harlem in the New York State Assembly, repeatedly asserted that the "word in political circles" is that Rangel has no intention of serving another term in Congress.

"The fact is that the congressman, despite his long legacy and good service to the people of New York ... wants to get re-elected, then resign to appoint a successor. That would be the height of undemocratic process. That would be outrageous," Powell said.

Rangel, who originally unseated Powell IV's father, Adam

Clayton Powell, Jr., stepped down as chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means committee in early March amid allegations that he accepted gifts from corporate sponsors and didn't properly pay his income taxes.

That event sparked Powell's interest in running for the seat, he said. As for Rangel's ongoing ethics investigation, he said, "It's not a factor from my point of view, but obviously we're all interested in what happens."

Kevin Wardally, senior vice president for political and government affairs for Bill Lynch Associates, which is in charge of Rangel's campaign, offered his own interpretation after Powell's speech.

To the claim that Rangel doesn't plan to serve another term, Wardally said, "It's just not true. He intends to serve out his full term, and Adam just has bad information."

"To pretend that he doesn't sit on Ways and Means, is not a senior member of Ways and Means, has not been a senior legislator for years and understands the process and has brought more money to this district than anyone would have imagined, is all wishful thinking," he added.

Before serving in the State Assembly, Powell represented parts of the Upper West Side, East Harlem, and the Bronx in the City Council.

On Monday, Powell also directly addressed his own legal issues after being found guilty of driving while impaired two weeks ago.

"When the policeman saw my ID, he said to himself, 'I got a big fish,' and wouldn't let go. ... Unfortunately, when a cop

lies, anyone can be guilty," he said, encouraging the crowd to watch the video circulating online and decide whether he seemed impaired.

Powell answered some questions and greeted supporters in Spanish, reflecting the growing importance of Harlem's Hispanic population—a factor which he acknowledged could work in his favor.

SEE POWELL, page 2



SARAH DARVILLE FOR SPECTATOR

**PRIMARY COMPETITION** | On Monday, Adam Clayton Powell IV officially declared his bid for Congress against Rangel, on 116th and Lexington.

## INSIDE

### A&E, page 3

#### A new dawn for late night eatery JJ's Place

As of next fall, JJ's Place will no longer solely be the go-to spot for post-midnight curly fries and chicken fingers. Instead, it will be turned into an all-day dining hall—yet another addition to the new Columbia Dining Services set-up.



### Sports, page 6

#### Stealing bases proves key for Columbia baseball

This year the Lions have done more than just score runs and handcuff opponents from the mound. In a return to its championship form of two years ago, Columbia has taken to the base-paths in an aggressive effort to get more steals.

### Opinion, page 4

#### The silent majority

Daniel Amzallag believes that students should not sit on the sidelines of CCSC.

#### Barring peaceful protest

Nonviolent protesters have been met with force in Palestine.

### Today's Events

#### The Lonely Soldier

Professor Helen Benedict presents her book on the "private war" of women in Iraq.

C05, School of Social Work, 1 p.m.

#### Obama, King, Ralph Ellison, and the American Dream

UCLA professor Eric Sundquist delivers the Lionel Trilling Seminar.

Davis Auditorium, CEPSR, 6:15 p.m.

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### WEATHER

Today Tomorrow  
58 / 42 66 / 47



## Tenants fear ramifications of potential Section 8 cut

**BY HIEN TRUONG**  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

In West Harlem, news reports of the city's potential cuts to subsidized housing for low-income tenants has some residents praying they won't be affected.

The New York City Housing Authority, which oversees public housing, announced last week that in light of budget woes it may revoke Section 8 vouchers from more than 10,000 low-income tenants in the coming months. This news comes after the NYCHA revoked 2,600 unused vouchers in December.

Through the Section 8 program, low-income tenants have access to private housing—they typically pay 30 percent of their annual income and the vouchers compensate landlords for the remainder.

The NYCHA has said that it does not know when, and from whom, the vouchers will be revoked.

In Harlem, Section 8 residents and tenant advocates say that possible cuts of that scale could be devastating.

"I was upset, praying that it wouldn't be me," said Lakina Marshall, a Harlem resident who has been living in Section 8 housing for the last two years. "I have no idea what I would do [without Section 8]."

Nellie Bailey, director of the Harlem Tenants' Council, a grassroots advocacy group, said, "We already have a housing crisis. This will only exacerbate it."

She added, "It boggles the mind that people are expected to live on less than they have."

Bobby Attlebury, a resident at the General Grant Houses, an NYCHA complex in Harlem, said

he feared that lost subsidized housing could put strains on the local issue of homelessness.

"It would be a travesty. They're going to have to find the money somewhere, I hope. You have enough homelessness as it is," Attlebury said. "Shelters aren't a feasible option. They're not safe. ... How can you do that to children?"

Loretta Callender, a West Harlem resident who works for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and has friends and family in the Section 8 program, said she hopes cuts in spending at the federal level can help the city maintain the program at its current capacity.

"[Housing] is not a luxury, it's a necessity," she said.

For tenants uncertain of their futures, "it's like waiting for a pink slip," Callender added.

Sarah Martin, president of the Tenants Association of the Grant Houses, said the current crisis stems from larger systematic problems.

"At the end of the day, it [Section 8 program] doesn't work," Martin said, explaining, "The city is trying to clean up homelessness, but in getting rid of the vouchers, they're creating it."

Martin said she knew of many residents in public housing, even if they were not in dire need of it, who saw the Section 8 programs as a way to better their situation without understanding its instability. "It's risky and there is not much security attached to it."

Looking forward, Martin suggests that the NYCHA prioritizes Section 8 so that it goes to the most needy residents. It's time, she said, to "go back to the drawing boards."

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## Class council debates draw small crowds

**CCSC from front page**

two parties presented different visions. The After Party supports some pre-professional programming for seniors. Presidential candidate Sean Udell, CC '11, said, "The pre-professional events are great in that they, one, don't cost a lot of money, and two, get a lot of students out." The Party Bus Party (Bus), however, sees things differently. Presidential candidate Nuriel Moghavem, CC '11, said, "What expresses the prime philosophical division [between the parties] is that we don't need to stop having fun and make it pre-professional events only—we want to have fun as well, senior year."

Because the race for the 2012 class council, academic affairs representative position, and pre-professional representative position were uncontested, the Elections Board instead held a forum, moderated by the current CCSC president, Sue Yang, and attended by the candidates.

The University Senate race came in second for viewer turnout, behind the executive board races. Candidates Keianna Dixon, CC '11, Scott Maxfield, CC '11, and current 2012 class representative Kenny Durell, CC '12, squared off on the academic calendar and the scope of the student senator's role.

Maxfield expressed a desire to tackle "issues that aren't necessarily under the jurisdiction of USenate," such as allocating more funding for Bacchanal. Durell, though, disagreed, arguing that it is important to have an eye for the broader issues, instead of focusing on small problems. Dixon said she would

like to keep her work within the scope of the Senate: "I think it's important to clearly identify policies that are Senate issues—I think that your main focus as a senator is working with the plenary and make sure that your issues are specific to that."

Earlier in the night, with fewer than five students in the audience, the three candidates for the two student services representative positions, Ryan Cho, Richard Sun, and Ganiatu Afolabi, alternatively fielded questions, mainly from Bogner with a few from the audience.

During the session, Sun and Afolabi stressed the need for increased communication between students, the council, and the administration, while Cho stated that the representative should have a more behind-the-scenes, "nitty-gritty" role.

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## Powell announces bid for Rangel's seat in Congress

**POWELL from front page**

"The fact that I was born in Puerto Rico and speak Spanish fluently, I hope, will help me to communicate with that 50 percent of the district," he said.

Despite the focus on Rangel, Powell said he would be just as enthusiastic to run if the congressman dropped out of the race tomorrow, calling his own congressional aspirations "a natural progression."

"This is not about settling any score, this is not about the Greek tragedy that the media loves about revenge. It has nothing to do with that," he said.

Vince Morgan, a former Rangel staffer, has also announced that he is running for Rangel's seat, and Powell mentioned that Assembly member Daniel O'Donnell, who currently represents parts of the Upper

West Side and West Harlem, is interested as well.

Powell's announcement attracted groups of passersby and supporters, like Migdalia Marrero, a local resident, who said Powell has fought for her affordable housing complex.

"Right now we got homes because of him. He was with our people in the neighborhood, he was number one, through all the politicians," she said.

Still, Powell acknowledged that he has a long fight ahead of him. The first time Powell announced his candidacy at that spot was in 1989 when he ran for City Council, and he is hoping for a different result.

"That year, I didn't win, so hopefully this time I'll be a little more lucky," he said.

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### COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at [editor@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:editor@columbiaspectator.com).



## PRESENT THE FOLLOWING:

**Green Development in China: An Address on Climate Change**  
 by HU ANGANG  
*Director of the Center for China Studies, Tsinghua University*  
 followed by a question and answer session with the audience  
 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
 Altschul Auditorium, 417 International Affairs Building  
*Registration is required. Please visit [universityprograms.columbia.edu](http://universityprograms.columbia.edu) to register and for more information.*

**How Does Chinese Property Law Influence Chinese Society?**  
 a presentation by SHEN WEIXING  
*Associate Dean of the Law School, Tsinghua University*  
 2:30 p.m.  
 Faculty House Boardroom  
*Seating is limited. Please RSVP to [rsvp2@columbia.edu](mailto:rsvp2@columbia.edu) or call 212-851-7418.*

**China's Problems Telling Tibetan Stories**  
 a presentation given by LI XIGUANG  
*School of Journalism and Communication, Tsinghua University*  
 2:30 p.m.  
 Jerome Greene Annex  
*Seating is limited. Please RSVP to [rsvp2@columbia.edu](mailto:rsvp2@columbia.edu) or call 212-851-7418.*



# A new dawn for late night student favorite JJ's Place

BY PAULA GERGEN  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

JJ's Place as students know it will be gone come next semester. Currently a late night eatery, where both **FOOD & DRINK** Flex and Dining Dollars are accepted, JJ's Place will be transformed into another Columbia dining hall.

According to Victoria Dunn, director of Dining Services, the trend on most college campuses is to have an all-students-care-to-eat system that is open from 8 a.m. until midnight.

"Students wanted to be able to have both breakfast and a late night snack," Heather Tsionopoulos, Marketing and Communications manager, said. This is just what the new system of dining halls hopes to accomplish. "With Ferris Booth changing [to a dining hall], it just made sense to change JJ's too," Dunn said.

Yet, students should not expect the general menu of JJ's place to change. Old favorites like burgers and chicken fingers will still be available, but there will be some new additions, such as a breakfast grill and a smoothie bar. Just as JJ's currently operates, everything will be made fresh to order, but next semester, students won't have to wait in line for their food. Instead, a microphone system will be set up, allowing students to find a seat and pick up their food once their names are called. "It's a quality product made fresh to order," Dunn said.

JJ's Place aims to maintain a relaxed environment with the transition. Not only will the board games stay, but according to Dunn, more and newer board games will probably be purchased. The pool table will also remain, and the presence of wireless will make it easy for students to get some homework done or surf the Internet while dining.

But the current marketplace section will be drastically reduced, keeping only the top 30 to 50 items in stock around the cash register, since "grocery business is minimal with off-campus Flex," as Dunn said. CoreFoods, Columbia's non-profit organic foods cooperative that is run by students, will remain with minimal changes.

According to Stephanie Jurburg, CoreFoods' manager of operations, CoreFoods plans on keeping most of its products. But because the current space for CoreFoods will be converted to the entire marketplace, CoreFoods will have to share shelf space. To avoid any potential issues with the limited space, CoreFoods has "petitioned for storage space so that we can keep the same amount of products and simply re-shelve them more often," Jurburg said.

The Feel Good stand will remain unchanged and continue to sell grilled cheese sandwiches for charity out of JJ's Place.

Both Dining Services and students seem optimistic and excited about the changes to the Columbia dining system. As Dunn said, there are more than "400 students already signed up for meal plans."



EMMA PATTIZ FOR SPECTATOR

**JJ'S JUNCTION** | JJ's Place will cease to be a weeknight study-break hang-out spot when it reopens next fall as a regular dining hall. The made-over eatery will use meal swipes instead of Flex and Dining Dollars and will take on new, full-day hours from 8 a.m. to midnight.

## Counting down to break, students tally up calories

BY DEVIN BRISKI  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

When Weird Al parodied the song "Zoot Suit Riot" with his '90s classic "Grapefruit Diet," a generation of fourth-graders laughed. Now that the sun is out from hibernation and bikinis abound on College Walk, the same generation is learning that the song may be a parody, but that the advice is nonetheless golden.

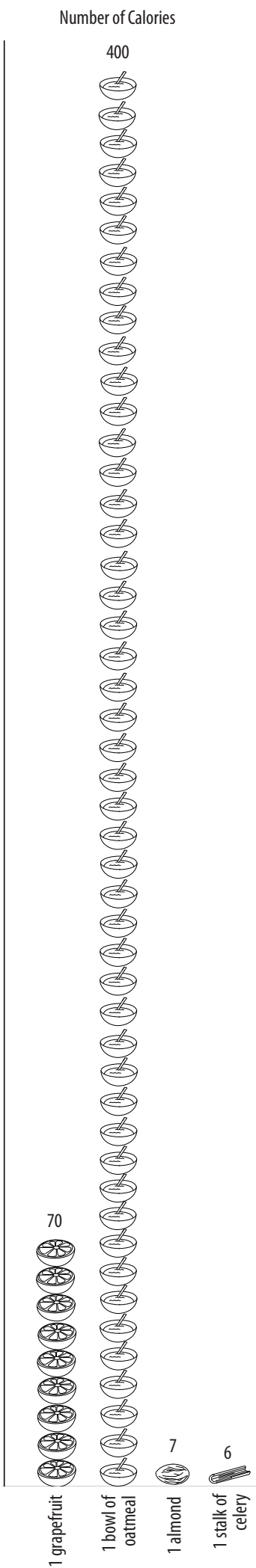
Indeed, grapefruits function as the ideal spring diet food for many reasons. At only 70 calories for a large juicy red grapefruit, they serve as an essentially negligible meal. Grapefruits are an appetite suppressant and low in sodium—meaning that the dieter won't feel hungry and will counteract dreaded water weight. Peeling a grapefruit is also a tactile, labor-intensive process that allows dieters to feel and invest in the food they're eating. Any food that requires mindful eating—read: not potato chips—helps with weight loss.

Urban legend holds that by eating celery, one burns more calories in the digestion process than are in a stalk of the vegetable. True or not, celery stalks, available pre-cut at Westside Market, are great to curb an oral fixation between meals. Or, fill them with peanut butter and put raisins on the top, for a combination of a nostalgia trip and a healthy snack.

While its cousin granola is a dieters' enemy in organic disguise, oatmeal serves as a weight loss food. Combined with skim milk in the morning, the complex carbohydrates free your late afternoons from hunger pangs.

Almonds are also a solid choice for staving off between-meal cravings. Carry them in a small plastic bag—though they are by no means low in calories, only a few will keep the blood sugar high.

The key to dieting isn't quality, but quantity. Excess is killer, and all of these foods can be eaten in excess, foiling dieting efforts. The real key is counting calories, being diligent and attentive to what you eat, and staying on track until the target weight is reached. And if you need motivation to refrain from that salty slice of Koronet, just remember: nothing tastes as good as feeling thin.



GRAPHIC BY CHESTER DOLS

BY LAURA TAYLOR  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

A new dance film blends grace and awkwardness to demonstrate the fragility of reality. "NY Export: Opus Jazz" emanates all of these qualities to create a universal portrayal of adolescence that resonates across generations. Ellen Bar, GS and New York City Ballet soloist, has collaborated with fellow NYCB dancer Sean Suozzi, to develop and produce a film version of choreographer and Academy award-winning director Jerome Robbins' 1958 work, "NY Export: Opus Jazz."

The project was conceived, created, produced, and performed by the same enterprising young artists who provide the focus for the film. Though the dancers are central to the success of the production, the real stars of this dance film are New York City, Robert

Prince's musical score, and Robbins' indefatigable, timeless choreography.

The film has a slinky, transcendental quality that echoes Robbins' style of movement. "NY Export: Opus Jazz" begins with stillness and reverent silence around a lone

Though the dancers are central to the success of the production, the real star is New York City.

woman standing in the waves by the seashore, and quietly builds a connection between the limits of New York City's borders and the innermost boroughs and nooks of the city. The opening montages

focus on the movement of several individuals throughout New York City, using various modes of transportation—cab, subway, walking, bus, and bicycle. Intention is nonexistent. No one speaks.

The film is dominated by sounds of the city and a conspicuous absence of dialogue. The result of this oddly blank, silent sequence demonstrates how people can come from all walks of life and find community in jazz music and dance. Out of nowhere, like some sort of dream, all the characters meet in a "West Side Story"-esque lot and begin to dance together.

There is a serious issue of temporal dissonance in this film—the lack of continuity of time ultimately distracts from the dancing. There is no talking until 20 minutes into the film, when all the dancers are together at a dinner, and the conversation is not discernible.

The focus is on two dancers

sitting back to back in two booths. The girl leaves first, the boy follows, then they meet at abandoned, overgrown railroad tracks as the sun is setting. The sensuous, deliberate, tension-filled pas de deux manages to be shy in its intimacy.

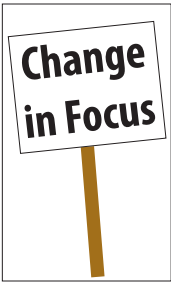
The technical skill and control of the dancers in this pas de deux is really remarkable, though their duet seems more like a celebration of the possibilities of connection and romantic interlude than like an actual connection between the two.

This moment ends as abruptly as the other moments in the film, as the male partner stops before the music has reached its resolution and leaves the female dancer kneeling in the dirt between the railroad tracks.

Bar considers the timelessness of dance from a new angle, combining sensuous imagery with a serious examination of movement.

## Documentary nurses malaria through awareness

BY DANIEL VALELLA  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*



Every year, malaria affects more than 200 million people worldwide. Filmmaker and humanitarian Bobby Bailey—whose new documentary, "When the Night Comes," brings to the screen the fear and devastation affecting the people of a small, malaria-ridden village in northern Uganda—called the pandemic "the deadliest plague that humanity has ever known." Most importantly, though, Bailey's film claims very convincingly that, if everyone did their parts, they could free the earth of malaria by the year 2015.

"When the Night Comes" exposes a shocking chasm between the "developed" and the "developing" worlds. Apparently, both are quite ignorant of the other's circumstances. Economically advanced nations view sub-Saharan Africa's malaria crisis as unfortunate but unfixable, while many Ugandans seem to think that malaria is still a major problem in the United

States. Bailey's film proves both sides false.

Bailey himself, along with his two friends Mike Hobert and Jodie Smith, are among a very small group of "Westerners" who truly understand what malaria is and how it affects the communities most susceptible to it. But most important of all, they realize the responsibility they have to educate the rest of us.

Traveling through Uganda for three years—accompanied always, of course, by their movie camera—Bailey, Hobert, and Smith met thousands of mothers, children, and health workers, all affected by the bug-borne plague. They learned that the Anopheles mosquito feeds almost exclusively at night—hence the film's title.

If all those vulnerable to the disease had a bed net to cover them while sleeping, the number of malaria infections would plummet. A campaign called Nothing But Nets has been working with Bailey and his crew for quite some time, and those who log on to their website, nothingbutnets.net, can volunteer to send a bed net to Africa—and potentially save a life.

The 65 minutes of "When the Night Comes" are tragic at certain moments, but



COURTESY OF THE BRAVE

**SCENES FROM REALITY** | "When the Night Comes" is a new documentary by humanitarian Bobby Bailey that analyzes the problem of malaria by focusing on a small Ugandan village overrun with the disease.

humorous and inspiring at others. It's obvious that everyone involved in the project has a genuine motivation to eradicate malaria from the planet. Bailey's film is perfect for the collegiate viewer, with a grassroots, youthful, and edgy style. The documentary has been shown twice at Columbia, and will be screened again at NYU's Institute of Film on April 19 at 6 p.m. The filmmakers—who are more than thrilled to share their work with all those committed to their cause—are even giving out free copies of the DVD to anyone interested, through their website.

"When the Night Comes" is particularly timely. Cities

all across the country are hosting "sleep-outs" on April 24—the eve of World Malaria Day—to show world leaders just how many tent-pitchers are committed to ending malaria deaths in Africa. The United Nations has proposed a feasible five-year plan to rid the earth of malaria, though its efforts may dwindle without sufficient support from the public.

If any film can inspire individuals to take action, it's this one. Even amid its moments of juvenility, "When the Night Comes" makes an impact on its viewers, all of whom will take away a yearning to make a difference in the lives of others.





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## The Palestinian Gandhis

BY DAYANA KHATIB, ALAA MILBES, YASMINA  
RAIANI, FATIMAH RIMAWI, MATT SWAGLER, RANDA  
WAHBE, AND MARYAM ZOHNYY

Only location and time separate Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks from Palestinian political prisoners Mohammad Othman, Jamal Juma', and Abdallah Abu Rahmah. The mainstream media consistently portrays Palestinian resistance to the Israeli occupation as violent, but this is a gross misrepresentation of reality. Nonviolent struggle has been the primary form of resistance since the earliest days of the Israeli occupation, and continues to be the way in which an overwhelming majority of Palestinians resist the occupation and confiscation of their land. Like other movements for freedom and self-determination, the nonviolent resistance has its share of leaders—though, due to the media's lack of coverage, you've probably never heard of Othman, Juma', and Abu Rahmah. These men are some of Palestine's Gandhis, and because of international silence about their nonviolent resistance, they have paid a heavy cost for their struggle. Last year, Othman was jailed without charge by the Israeli army, and was allegedly tortured repeatedly before being released without

conviction. Just a few months ago, Juma'—a coordinator of the Stop The Wall campaign, which seeks to halt the illegal apartheid wall being built through the West Bank—was also arrested without charge, while the Israeli army ransacked his organization's offices. During his imprisonment, he was also subjected to inhumane treatment and eventually released without charge. And recently, Abu Rahmah was arrested in his home in

## Under occupation, children's going to school and farmers' plowing their land are acts of everyday resistance.

the middle of the night, on the comical charge that he possessed weapons—those weapons being an art display of spent tear gas canisters shot at his village by the Israeli army.

These men are not unique in Palestine. The reality of living under occupation is that children's going to school and farmers' plowing their land are acts of everyday resistance. Palestinians are forced into this circumstance, due to the illegal occupation and colonization of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem by Israel for over 40 years, and the creation of a complex set of Israeli-only roads,

meant to service a large network of Jews-only illegal colonies which strategically occupy the region's prime agricultural and water resources. Those networks of colonies and roads, as well as the Apartheid Wall that snakes through the West Bank, ensure that Palestinians are left to live on the crumbs of a state—enclosed in ghettos—while Israeli colonists steal land, water, and resources that are rightfully Palestinian.

Nonviolent resistance has been a cornerstone of the Palestinian struggle against Israeli apartheid, but Israel has used aggression to crush the peaceful resistance methodically, and Palestinian conditions have only worsened. Perhaps, one reason is that the rest of the world has sat by silently as these peaceful protesters have been killed, jailed, or tortured. Today, Israel holds 6,831 Palestinians in its prisons—306 of whom are children. They are held in prison only for political reasons, as hundreds of Palestinians are held indefinitely without charge in administrative detention. In recent years, the Israeli army has also attacked international activists—it killed an American citizen protesting a home demolition, and almost fatally shot another for protesting against the Apartheid Wall.

Ignorance about the baseless arrests and torture of political activists only makes it easier for Israel to continue persecuting the Palestinian people. April 11 to 17 marks Palestinian Political Prisoner Week, in support of the nonviolent protesters currently being detained by Israel. Please join Students for Justice in Palestine on Tuesday,

April 13, for a talk on nonviolence, to recognize these Palestinian political prisoners and find out how you can help to support freedom for Palestinians.

*Dayana Khatib is a student in the School of General Studies, Alaa Milbes is a student in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Yasmina Raiani is a Columbia College sophomore, Fatimah Rimawi is a Barnard College sophomore, Matt Swagler is a student in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Randa Wahbe is a student in the Mailman School of Public Health, and Maryam Zohny is a student in the School of International and Public Affairs. These students write on behalf of the Students for Justice in Palestine.*



ILLUSTRATION BY ELIZABETH SIMINS

## Trapping an elusive spirit



AMANDA  
GUTTERMAN

### The Far-Side of the Familiar

something called Columbia College Days, a friend joined me in Butler Library, where I was reading “Crime and Punishment.” Ah, College Days! That explained the thumping “Electric Feel” remix from the morning, which had been the sound track for my walk from John Jay to Butler. Silently, without decamping from the library, I began my research.

College Days, since its inauguration in 2002, has encompassed events from Dean's Day to the King's Ball to Days on Campus for prospective students. The goal is to promote school spirit, which is notoriously lacking here at Columbia. Wikipedia reports, “In 2005, they forgot to hold College Days. No one noticed.” In 2010, they remembered—did anyone notice?

My peers and predecessors on Spectator have long considered the matter of Columbia's “school spirit.” Matt Velazquez wrote last year, “When the members of each new class walk through the gates for the first time, they are Columbians, not Lions,” while “at other colleges, students are branded Blue Devils, Bruins, Tar Heels, Huskies, etc. from the minute they are accepted.” He continues to suggest that school spirit would be improved if the mascot were changed from the lion to the cassowary, a bird indigenous to New Guinea.

Though unusually imaginative in his solution, Velazquez fits into the trend of school spirit reformers, who look to Columbia's infrastructure for a quick fix. If the mascot were different, more people would be inspired. If the football field were closer to campus, surely there would be more spectators. If the teams won more often, if there were more incentives, prizes, performances. Some will contend that Columbia has plenty of spirit. Others—and I have often counted myself as part of this camp—do not see the value of spirit.

Whether we believe in “more” or “less” school spirit, perhaps we should analyze its significance before seeking to solve the immediate problem. As it turns out, school spirit has found itself to be the subject of much deserved attention in the field of anthropology. Robert Wenkert and Hanan C. Selvin published a paper in a University of California's periodical, titled “School Spirit in the Context of a Liberal Education,” where they wrote, “school spirit” is an ambiguous term. It may refer to almost any kind of individual behavior or organized activity on a college campus.”

“The mere athlete is brutal and philistine, the mere intellectual unstable and spiritless. The right education must tune the strings of the body and mind to perfect spiritual harmony.” — Plato

They proceeded to collect data at Berkeley, to find out who possessed this elusive spirit and locate its origins, based on factors from attendance at sporting events to newspaper readership to school government voting. As it turned out, students living closer to campus demonstrated overwhelmingly higher school spirit by these standards. Married students and commuters showed hardly any.

The source of spirit, gleaned from the research of Wenkert and Selvin, or from any evening at a sports bar, is locality. Its relationship with school spirit is unsurprising for anyone who has pored over maps of Bororo villages or memorized kinship diagrams, or for a devoted fan of the Yankees, the Saints, or the Lakers. Outside of March Madness betting pools, the average person has no vested material interest in his or her team's victory—local spirit transcends self-interest or “reasonable” behavior. Furthermore, considering the national anthem or nationalism itself, locality accounts for our feelings of loyalty and allegiance.

Following the Berkeley researchers, let's use sporting events as a model. One explanation is that the organized sporting event has replaced the heroic battle in our social consciousness. Imagine New York and Boston

## Some will contend that Columbia has plenty of spirit. Others do not see it.

as Medieval warring factions, complete with their crests and symbols, colors and mascots. Even since the ancient Greek Olympics, games have served as war proxies where two sides fight to prove local superiority. Another idea is that communities unite at sporting events to fight local wars with an ideological, internal bent. The film “Remember the Titans” exemplifies this, as T.C. Williams High School unites Alexandria, Virginia, in supporting racial equality.

The question follows: what's wrong with our locality, that we lack this impulse to “defend” it, to unite in fighting for it?

Perhaps, finding the solution to Columbia's school spirit “problem” must begin with the study of how we Columbians interpret our locality in forming identity. Students have been known to rally ideologically over a war protest rather than a war proxy. Our “primal scream” is a tradition for reading week, not Homecoming. For sporting events as well as institutions like College Days, the question is not so much how to fix Columbia's infrastructure of school spirit, but how to find and harness the forces that unite Columbia students in a community-driven way.

*Amanda Gutterman is a Columbia College first-year with an intended major in anthropology or comparative literature and society. The Far-Side of the Familiar runs alternate Tuesdays.*



DANIEL  
AMZALLAG

### Outside the Gates

In the aftermath of the financial crisis, the latest fashion among political thinkers in the public eye is to dismiss human behavior as irrational and unpredictable, and therefore garner any study of politics impossible. “Rational choice theory,” which proposes that people make decisions by comparing costs and benefits, has gone out of vogue as the central paradigm of economics and political science. Instead, people panic over “The Government's” failure to anticipate economic peril and “The Market's” failure to sustain businesses and allocate credit, proclaiming that the past few years have shown the need for brand new models of political behavior, maybe even a complete restructuring of the government or the economy.

Behind the alarm about the novelty of today's problems lies a much more familiar story: The policy process has failed to produce rational, beneficial outcomes, and millions suffered as a result. This is nothing new. Government has been making bad policy ever since there was government, and these shortcomings must be expected from a collection of institutions composed of human beings. On the other hand, the truly alarming phenomenon of today is the American people's total reliance on institutions for all-encompassing solutions in their daily lives. While citizens must be able to rely on their government for a reasonable degree of effectiveness—and we should never rest from this kind of problem solving—we must also realize its limits and cease demands for perfection and total resolution.

There is a pervasive sense in public opinion that “The Government,” a vague and godlike entity, should be held responsible for the points of frustration in individuals' lives. This act of scapegoating is often reflexive and without real grounding, as in the rise of populist “Tea Party” movements across the country. The loosely associated group has yet to sublimate the political anger of its constituents into coherent, logical plans—vying instead to unseat incumbents and shouting demand that are nebulous at best. This kind of rabble-rousing can be seen around our campus as well, albeit from more of a leftist perspective. The lesson: Activism that will be useful must be grounded in an understanding of the political system. Radical idealism may be productive in abstract discourse and in describing ultimate goals—for which universities are an ideal forum—but without a foundation in strategy and realistic expectations, it will be ineffective in implementing concrete change in people's lives.

Likewise, an over-reliance on institutions is dangerous because it makes individual action seem unnecessary or imprudent. Legislation and elections of the past five years reflect a continual effort to define a fight over a particular issue as the political battle to end all political battles.

In passing a health care bill, for example, Democrats portrayed the legislation as the ultimate solution to all health care-related problems, and the end to all health care-related disputes. Politicians frequently use this device to endow themselves and their projects with enormous importance, in the process disempowering private citizens.

On campus, the candidates for the Columbia College Student Council attempt a similar deception. Executive Board candidates use clichéd, Obamaesque rhetoric of battling a monolithic “bureaucracy” to deliver fresh solutions and social justice to the average student. Their platforms attempt to tap into student anger over tangible issues—the academic calendar, the difficulty of reserving space, or the “War on Fun”—without proposing realistic solutions for dealing with them. To be sure, the candidates offer alternatives to the status quo in the form of nice-sounding proposals, but, in terms of describing a strategy of how projects will be implemented and won politically, the parties are silent.

The candidates invite students to place complete confidence in them, asking us to rely on them for all the answers and all potential for improvement. They seek to create the illusion that casting a ballot will be far more effective in fostering a Columbia utopia than any action from an unelected student could ever be. In some ways they are correct. With some of the greatest access and visibility to the administration and an electoral mandate from the student body, CCSC leaders are often in the best positions to achieve reform. But the rhetoric of the campaign is toxic to campus attitudes. It not only invites complacency by means of total dependence on one's leaders, but, in discouraging individual action, it also restricts campus leadership to a narrow segment of the student body.

## Over-reliance on institutions is dangerous because it makes individual action seem unnecessary or imprudent.

The problems of this dynamic between political discourse and responding attitudes is symptomatic of a much larger problem in America. A previously reasonable reliance on institutions to serve their allotted purposes has been transformed into dependence on “The Government” for solving daily frustrations and resolving all political disputes. To begin solving many of the problems that affect our daily lives, it is necessary to stop viewing our government as a force able to remedy anything we ask it to, and to begin placing more confidence in ourselves as individual agents of change.

*Daniel Amzallag is a Columbia College junior majoring in political science and English. Outside the Gates runs alternate Tuesdays.*

### THE ANGRY PEN

BARACK, PLEASE,  
I HEED OIL!  
I CAN'T BE WITHOUT IT!

DON'T WORRY,  
WE'LL GET SOME  
FROM THE  
ATLANTIC.



HUMAN LIVES, ECOLOGY - THE PRICE OF ADDICTION

IGOR SIMIC

We know you have an opinion.  
Just submit it.

Submit to Opinion  
[opinion@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:opinion@columbiaspectator.com)









The Lions look to break out of their slump in today's double-header against Fairleigh Dickinson. For a full preview, check [columbiaspectator.com](http://columbiaspectator.com).

ONLINE



# SPORTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010 • PAGE 6



Dario Pizzano, the Athlete of the Week, had a monster weekend, highlighted by a 6-for-6, 6 RBI outing against Harvard. Check tomorrow's paper for more.

TOMORROW

## If price is right, Lions could lure big name



TOM DI BENEDETTO

### The Mouth That Roared

I've got to admit, I'm pretty excited.

It's not that I hated Joe Jones. I liked him enough to defend him time and time again on the airwaves of WKCR, even when it was often against the majority opinion. I just didn't think he was a great basketball coach, nor did I ever really believe he could take this program to the top of the league. In the end, I don't think he thought he could either, which is probably one of the reasons why he took the Boston College job.

The associate head coach position at Boston College will also be better suited to Jones' strengths, recruiting, and defense. He truly is an outstanding defensive coach, and this fits perfectly with his new boss, Steve Donahue, an offensive mastermind who plans to institute a free-flowing, high-scoring offense in Chestnut Hill. On top of shaping the new Boston College defense, Jones will also get the opportunity to recruit at the highest levels of prep basketball again, something he enjoyed as an assistant at Villanova.

But I think that another major factor in this move is money. That's what these moves are always about, and that's not a negative reflection on Joe Jones or any other coach. It's just how the business of Division I basketball works.

My roommate asked me this weekend if I thought the Boston College associate head coach position was a "better" job than being the head coach at Columbia. It seems we just found out. See, the "better" jobs in D-I basketball are very easy to decipher because they are attached to higher salaries, and although we don't know for sure, I'm somewhere between relatively and quite confident that the associate head coaching position at Boston College is a significant raise from the head coach spot here.

Think about it. Would Jones give up control over his own program, abandon a young team of his own recruits, and move his family for a job of equal or lesser pay? I don't think so. Jones will likely enjoy a major raise, a better-equipped program, tournament basketball, and national media attention (as part of an exciting up-and-coming team). He took a better job, and I am happy for him.

The thing is, it shouldn't be a better job. The only thing that is holding back the Columbia men's basketball coaching position is the salary attached to it, which, as I mentioned earlier, is the only thing that really factors in rating coaching jobs. I know this may seem like a bold claim, but it absolutely holds true, almost without fail.

How else would you explain Oliver Purnell's recent move from Atlantic Coast Conference power Clemson to Big East bottom-feeder extraordinaire, DePaul? Purnell's career has followed a very typical path; he started as the coach at Radford before leaving for a bigger stage at Old Dominion. After just three years and a tournament berth, Purnell left ODU for Dayton and eventually took the Clemson job in 2003. In each move, Purnell followed a standard formula: win and get a larger contract at a bigger school in a superior conference.

Then he took the DePaul job, and the head-scratching began. Why leave a team that you just took to the Big Dance for the notorious doormat of the mighty Big East? A monster contract, that's why. And it was all DePaul needed to offer to make their head coaching position a monster job. (If you're still not convinced that this is how it works, see Herb Sendek's 2006 switch from North Carolina State to Arizona State, Trent Johnson's 2008 move from Stanford to Louisiana State University, or Paul Hewitt's recent near-switch from Georgia Tech to St. John's.)

Now, I'm not suggesting that Columbia try to lure Billy Donovan out of Gainesville with an obscene, endowment-jeopardizing offer. I'm just saying now's the perfect time for this program to make a splash.

Cornell just proved that with the right coach and the right group, an Ivy League team can compete at the highest stages of college basketball. Any potential coach who may have doubted the ceiling in the Ancient Eight just got the chance to watch it being pushed all the way into the Sweet 16.

New York City basketball is also a hot topic again these days. Cornell's tourney run highlighted the lack of college basketball talent in the metropolitan area this year, and St. John's and Fordham have both already replaced their coaches this offseason. The post at Columbia has become the next coaching vacancy in NYC, and any prospective coach who considered the other two openings will have to take the Lions into strong consideration.

Perhaps this will include Dennis Wolff, the former Boston University coach who took the Terriers to two National College Athletic Association tournaments and was the American East Coach of the Year three times. The New York City native was fired in March and, at the right price, could be tempted by the challenge at Columbia.

Another available former Boston area coach with New York ties is Al Skinner, the man Steve Donahue recently replaced at Boston College. To be honest, Skinner is way above the Ivy League, but perhaps the Mount Vernon native would be interested in coming home to see out his career. Again, only if the price was right.

Then there's the Kareem route, which could involve Kareem himself, or, more feasibly, someone like Mark Jackson. The former Knick and Brooklyn native has repeatedly stated his interest in the St. John's position, but has not been seriously considered due to his lack of head coaching experience. He could get that experience at Columbia, but once again the Lions would have to out-compensate ESPN, which, in case you weren't aware, pays its broadcasters in solid gold.

If Columbia could land any of these potential coaches, interest in the program would hit an all-time high, and it would be upgrading from Joe Jones. All Columbia needs to do is put together a legitimate offer, something not entirely unprecedented in the league. Three years ago, Harvard brought in former Seton Hall and Michigan head coach Tommy Amaker, and he has already built the Crimson into the favorite to win the Ivy League next season.

Columbia's basketball program could be gearing up for a similar rise. It just won't come cheap.

Tom Di Benedetto is a Columbia College junior majoring in history.  
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JASPER CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

COMING HOME | Freshman Nick Crucet and his teammates have shown a willingness to attempt stolen bases at all times, even of home plate.

## Light Blue shows speed on base-paths

### Aggressive baserunners extending singles and walks into runs

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The Lions' baseball team is now eight games into the Ivy League season and off to its best start in three years. The young team has certainly shifted its roster, but Columbia has improved more than its hitting and pitching. Every true baseball fan knows that a winning team is one that can do more than just hit and pitch. For the Lions, base-stealing has become a crucial component of the club's arsenal and one that cannot be ignored when talking about the team's success.

In 2008, the Light Blue won the Ivy title with an overall record of 22-30 and a conference record of 15-5. The team hit a combined average of just .283 with a lofty 6.35 earned run average, numbers not usually indicative of a championship ball club. The following season, Columbia dropped to third place in the Gehrig Division with an 11-32 record (7-13 Ivy). However, the Lions posted only a slightly worse batting average (.275) and ERA (6.78). With 16 games remaining in 2010, the Light Blue is currently hitting .319 with a 5.85 ERA and stands at first place in the Gehrig Division with a 6-2

conference record (14-13 overall). Trying to pinpoint these fluctuating numbers and division rankings over the past three years is no easy task. However, it is apparent that when Columbia has been more aggressive on the base-paths, the team has plated more runs and has won more games. According to the Baseball Almanac, base-stealing is neither beneficial or detrimental to a team scoring runs if the team successfully steals approximately 67 percent of its attempted stolen bases. Therefore, any stolen-base success rate above 67 percent improves a team's overall run total on the season.

In its championship season, despite hitting just .284 with a .356 on-base percentage, Columbia went 95-119 (80 percent) in stolen bases. While these numbers are ostensibly average, the Lions took advantage of base hits and walks by sending runners in key situations. Then, freshman Nick Cox led the squad in stolen bases, stealing 28 in 32 attempts. Also a freshman at the time, Jason Banos flashed some speed on the base-paths with 10 for 12 successfully stolen bases. At the end of 2008, Columbia lost two of its other base-stealing leaders, Noah Cooper and Henry Perkins, to graduation. The end result of

the Lions' aggressiveness on the base-paths was 284 runs crossing home plate and an Ivy League Championship trophy.

Last season, coach Boretto was forced to scale back on the frequency of sending baserunners. Cox only attempted 21 stolen bases and Banos was sidelined for the entire season due to an injury. Between losing Banos, Cooper, and Perkins, the Lions lacked the speed to snag extra bases and stole 49 bases in 67 attempts (73 percent). The decrease in stolen bases was certainly a contributing factor to the Lions only scoring 219 runs on the season and failing to make the playoffs.

The Light Blue has been unable to duplicate the team's 2008 stolen-base total, but nevertheless has taken the same approach on the base-paths as it has the past few seasons. Columbia has currently stolen 38 bases in 50 attempts (76 percent) and is on pace to surpass last year's numbers by the end of the regular season. Freshman Nick Crucet leads the Lions with 12 stolen bases in 13 attempts, while sophomore Jon Eisen ranks second on the team with seven steals in eight attempts.

The impact of steals on the Lions' success can be seen at various points throughout the season. For example, Cox stole

home in Jackie Robinson-fashion to break a 1-1 tie in Columbia's 5-2 victory against Dartmouth. Crucet in particular has efficiently managed to capitalize on simple base-hits. In Columbia's 8-6 defeat of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Crucet led off the third inning with a single up the middle. Crucet stole second as Eisen struck out, and then advanced to third on a botched catch by UNLV's right-fielder, Cash Thomas. Banos proceeded to groundout to second-base and Crucet came home on the play. Crucet's third-strike steal earned the Lions a much-needed run in a difficult contest. Such instances of stretching out singles and advancing runners into scoring position have been widely overlooked as a key for the first-place Lions.

As long as the Lions can maintain a stolen-base percentage of over 67 percent, they should continue to pick up stolen bases whenever possible. Columbia has already scored 209 times in 2010, just 10 fewer than last season with 16 games remaining. As long as the Light Blue continues to draw walks—which it has done 130 times this year—and swing for contact instead of power, the club can realistically clinch first place in the Gehrig Division and advance to the playoffs.

## Justified stealing

After suffering a sharp dropoff last season, Columbia has nearly matched its 2009 output in steals and runs with 16 games remaining.

