



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TIME TO GO | The fundraising for demolishing and replacing Lehman, which could cost up to \$160 million, makes the plans uncertain.

CU students safe after Boston Marathon explosions

BY TRACEY WANG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Several Columbia students who were participating in the Boston Marathon have been confirmed safe after two explosions devastated Copley Square on Monday.

Three were killed and more than 100 injured in the explosions, which went off near the finish line of the marathon. Details surrounding the explosions, which various media outlets reported were being treated as an act of terrorism by the White House, were unclear Monday night.

Elizabeth Kuenstner, CC '13

and the treasurer of the CU Road Runners, finished the race just 10 minutes prior to the first bomb explosion. She said she was about 100 feet past the finish line when she heard the bomb go off.

"I heard the explosion and I immediately turned around and saw the smoke," she said. "I was lucky. I'm fine."

Kuenstner said that she was fortunate to be able to locate her father, who had been waiting for her at the finish line. After they were reunited, they were directed by volunteers to make their way through the Boston Commons.

"We had no idea what was

going on, but the volunteers were all very calm and helpful."

As she walked through the park, Kuenstner, a Boston native who lives about five miles from the site of the explosions, said that she saw people checking their phones. "You could almost see the news travel," she said.

Kuenstner plans to return to campus Tuesday.

Deaton Jones, CC '13, also ran in the race and is safe. Sam Kohn, CC '13, was registered for the marathon but did not run and is safe.

Yipeng Huang, SEAS '11 and now a SEAS master's student, watched the race and is also safe.

Huang, a former Spectator design editor and staff director, was on a train heading downtown when the explosions happened. The conductor came on the intercom and announced that all public transit had been halted.

When Huang got out of the subway station, he said everyone was frantic about the news.

"It was just a huge scene of chaos," he said.

A spokesperson for Columbia Athletics said that she was not aware of any Columbia athletes participating in the race.

tracey.wang
@columbiaspectator.com

Task force to explore merging CCSC, ESC

BY TRACEY WANG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A task force of Columbia College and School of Engineering and Applied Science students will spend the next eight months debating whether to merge the two schools' undergraduate student councils.

Columbia College Student Council passed a near-unanimous resolution on Sunday night to form the task force, and the Engineering Student Council is expected to approve the same resolution Tuesday night. While they address academic concerns distinct to their schools, CCSC and ESC have, over the years, increasingly addressed the same quality of life issues for the two student bodies, who live in the same dorms and run in the same social circles.

If both student councils approve the task force's proposal—which is due by January 2014—then all CC and SEAS undergraduates will vote on it as a referendum.

Proponents of the resolution said that a joint body would streamline council processes and create more efficiency, since both councils already work together to plan various campus events.

CCSC President-elect Daphne Chen, CC '14, said that the merger makes a lot of sense, but she and CCSC President Karishma Habbu, CC '13, emphasized that

SEE CCSC, page 2

2 alums win Pulitzer Prizes for drama, poetry

BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Two Columbia alumni received Pulitzer Prizes in Drama and Poetry, the Columbia Journalism School announced at a ceremony Monday afternoon for the first time in the recently renamed Pulitzer Hall.

Sharon Olds, GSAS '72, won the poetry prize for her book "Stag's Leap," a collection of poems about her divorce after 32 years of marriage. Ayad Akhtar, who holds a master's from the graduate film program, won the prize for drama for his play, "Disgraced," about a successful lawyer ashamed of his Pakistani Muslim roots.

"I'm shocked. I'm honored," Olds said in an interview shortly after the announcement. "I don't know what to say. It seems a little more real now than it did 10 minutes ago."

In a statement, the Pulitzer Prize Board said "Stag's Leap" contained "unflinching poems" that "examine love, sorrow, and the limits of self-knowledge," and called Akhtar's play "moving." Akhtar did not respond to requests for comment Monday.

The Pulitzer Prizes are awarded annually by the Journalism School to recognize achievement in journalism and the arts. The 2,500 entries this year were reviewed by a group of jurors from the media industry, who select three finalists for each prize.

An 18-member prize board, which includes University President Lee Bollinger, outgoing Journalism School Dean Nicholas Lemann, incoming dean Steve Coll, and various media representatives, then selects the winners from the finalists.

All 21 prizes were awarded this year, after internal disagreements last year resulted in the fiction prize not being awarded. Adam Johnson's "The Orphan Master's Son," about an orphan's life in North Korea, took this year's prize for fiction. A wide range of news outlets received journalism prizes, including four for the New York Times. The first prize for an independent, non-profit organization went to InsideClimate News, an online environmental news site based in Brooklyn, for investigating flaws in oil pipeline regulations.

"It's clear that newspapers are facing a difficult time," Sig Gissler, the administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes, said at an announcement ceremony Monday. "But it's still a very potent force in American journalism and it would make Joseph Pulitzer ... quite proud."

"It's quite notable that the watchdog function [of the media] is underscored again and again in these winning entries and finalists," he said.

For Olds, the shock and honor of winning the Pulitzer Prize for poetry overshadows the bureaucracy of the process, which in recent years has seen leaks of the winners.

"I write a lot of poems and I just choose a small number and put them into that book," she said. "When we're writing, we're not really thinking about these things."

Her advice for aspiring poets and writers?

"Take your vitamins. Exercise. Dance," she said. "Take good care of yourself. Talk to yourself in a sweet voice. That's what I tell myself every day."

christian.zhang
@columbiaspectator.com

Barnard plans to demolish Lehman

\$150 million plan for 11-story tower dependent on fundraising

BY EMMA GOSS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Barnard wants to demolish Lehman Hall and build a new 11-story library in its place, President Debora Spar announced Monday evening—but the approximately \$150 million price tag poses some major financial hurdles.

Spar broke the news at the Barnard Student Government Association meeting and said that because of the high cost, she is not sure if the plan is even feasible. The planning process for how to build the library has not yet begun, she said.

"We are not going to move ahead with planning until we know we have the money in the bank," Spar said. "Once we clear that hurdle, then we will begin the planning process."

Currently, Lehman, which houses Wollman Library and a number of faculty and department offices, stands at four stories tall. Spar wants to construct an 11-story library, the same height as neighboring Altschul Hall.

"The most expensive parts of any building project are demolition and foundation work. After that, building the additional floors is not that much," Spar said. The \$150-160 million figure includes the costs of inflation, contingencies, moving offices, and swing space.

"We are trying to be as conservative as possible, which means using the biggest number that makes sense," Spar said.

Spectator reported last February that an architectural firm was hired to assess Wollman Library's functionality for student learning needs and propose

a small, medium, and large construction plan for the library.

"It turns out that the most cost-effective plan, by any way you measure it, is the large option," Spar said. "In financial terms, it only makes sense to do something big." The other options would buy Barnard only 20 to 30 years before another expensive renovation would be needed.

The "small" option, which included renovating the library internally without knocking it down, was rejected because there would be bigger renovation costs down the road, Spar said.

Lehman Hall does not comply with federal fire codes, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and several other regulations, and doing a renovation to address those specific issues would give Barnard 10 to 20 additional years before another big renovation would be needed.

The "medium" model—adding additional floors to the building without tearing it down—turned out to be the least cost-effective proposal.

Spar said that the project will add classroom, conference, and faculty office space—square footage that Barnard currently lacks.

While Barnard has the legal air space to construct a building as high as 44 stories, Spar said the administration would not consider a building taller than 11 stories.

"If you built a building taller than 11 stories you'd really start to destroy the fabric of the neighborhood," she said.

Despite the size of the building, there are no ambitions to

SEE LEHMAN, page 2



DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MUSIC TO THEIR EARS | Mama Foundation founder Vy Higginsen, far left, hopes that the WHLDC's grant will help the group expand its choral efforts and recruiting in Community District 9.

WHDC helps out Harlem choristers

BY CHRIS MEYER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

To the casual observer, the nondescript brownstone on 126th Street between Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard and Lenox Avenue blends right into the background. But every Friday evening, the headquarters of the Mama Foundation for the Arts emanates choral music so loud you can hear it from a block away.

After receiving a \$40,000 grant from the West Harlem Local Development Corporation, the foundation—which teaches gospel music to local teenagers between the ages of 13 and 19—hopes



to expand its recruiting efforts into Community District 9. The grant was one of 83 given to neighborhood organizations in the WHLDC's recent grant cycle, during which it doled out \$2 million of Columbia's money.

Since its founding in the early 1980s, the Mama Foundation has emerged as a training ground for dozens of accomplished gospel singers and choirs.

"We wanted to make sure that the music never died, and that young people would be the ambassadors of music," said Vy Higginsen, founder and director of the Mama Foundation. "They would save this genre of music, and they would pass it on to their families and their children and their children's children."

Choirs representing the foundation have performed locally as well as nationally—for the Congressional Black Caucus

in Washington D.C., at a TED conference in Long Beach, Calif., and on stage with pop singer Madonna.

In fact, performing live is so common it has become part of the foundation's curriculum. According to Higginsen, singers join as young as 13, and as long as they demonstrate in try-outs that they can "carry a tune," they can begin to move through the ranks in the hope of eventually joining a performance choir. Talent scouts go into churches and public schools in order to, in Higginsen's words, "go straight for the musical kids" and get them excited about the program.

After seeing ads in a gospel newspaper and at her school, Devaire Elmes, 18, joined the program as soon as she was old enough. She said it provided an

SEE MAMA, page 2

A&E, BACK PAGE

First Columbia Music Festival rocks campus

Check out our photos of Macklemore, Flosstradamus, Archie Pelago, and Hoodie Allen, some of this year's performers at the Columbia Music Festival.



OPINION, PAGE 4

Wellness, revisited

There are still strides to be made in student wellness, Wilfred Chan writes.

Reclaim MoHi

Reconsidering Columbia's policies on sexual assault.

SPORTS, PAGE 3

Men's tennis continues to improve

The men's tennis team boasts a youthful roster, but the players are ready for challenges ahead.

SPECTRUM, ONLINE

Registration

Still looking for a Global Core class? Claire Ding looks to CULPA for the best options for non-humanities majors.



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Lehman renovation plan still in early stages

LEHMAN from front page

grow the student body or faculty, she said.

Student leaders at the meeting said they supported the plan.

“I definitely think that 11 floors makes total sense,” SGA Representative for Community Development Winn Periyasamy, BC ’13, said. “We definitely need more spaces to study, more classrooms, and more space in the library for just books and resources. We have an amazing library and library staff, but more space is not a bad thing.”

“I’m really confident that the administration is going to be able to follow through with it,” Periyasamy, a Spectorator photographer, added.

“I definitely think if we are going to be competing with other colleges on the same level, we need to upgrade,” Class of 2014 President Aliza Hassine, BC ’14, said. Lehman “is not conducive for group studying or anything that the 21st century students require



DESISLAVA PETKOVA FOR SPECTATOR

DEMOLITIONS | Barnard President Debora Spar announced the plan at an SGA meeting Monday.

of a library.”

“A lot of it looks to what students of this generation really need,” Hassine, who participated in a student focus group with the building’s architecture firm last year, added.

Spar emphasized that these plans are all hypothetical

because they are contingent on raising significant funds.

“If we can’t raise the money to do the full-on project, we’ll probably clean it up, make it a little bit better, and continue with the Capital Campaign,” Spar said. “We would like to do something big. We have to

figure out what that is.”

“It’s such a hypothetical at this point, only because the money has to come,” Hassine said. “When it does get more concrete, I know there’s going to be a lot of student outreach.”

emma.goss
@columbiaspectator.com

Choir looks for ‘musical kids’ in MoHi, W. Harlem

MAMA from front page

escape from the pressures of day-to-day life.

“It doesn’t just becomes a routine, it becomes part of who you are,” she said. “Some people will burst into tears while singing, and after that, you will see a release of energy, and a brightness in their face.”

Higginsen, the daughter of a minister who grew up listening to gospel music in church and on the radio, said the foundation aimed to “balance a musical landscape” dominated by hip-hop, rap, and R&B music, and to reclaim the contributions gospel has made to American music.

“We look at why this particular music has the power to communicate, why it has the power to heal and transform and change your state of mind,” she said. “We want to save this kind of music and make sure it’s never forgotten.”

While the program recruits

in Upper Manhattan, leaders plan to expand their efforts into Community District 9, which includes Morningside Heights, Manhattanville, Hamilton Heights, and part of Washington Heights. Higginsen said the area is attractive for the foundation because of the number of public schools, universities, and large apartment complexes within its borders, making it likely the foundation will find “musical kids” there.

Brianna Young, 18, said that emotions before a show often run high, and even the best of friends can get upset with each other right before they go up to start singing—a testament to how seriously Mama Foundation singers take their work.

“If you every come to one of our shows, just take one piece of advice,” Young said. “Do. Not. Come. Backstage.”

chris.meyer
@columbiaspectator.com

NEWS BRIEF

FroSci study suggests much-maligned class is effective

A survey conducted by Frontiers of Science administrators suggests that the course was effective in teaching its content.

The course, which was added to the Core Curriculum in 2005 and has drawn criticism from students both for alienating humanities-oriented students and for patronizing students with strong science backgrounds, is under review.

During orientation week, the Frontiers of Science Executive Committee gave 966 first-years a survey that tested basic analytical concepts, including statistics, probability, and graph comprehension.

On average, students scored 28 percent on the exam in August. When the committee gave the test again as part of the final exam for the 519 first-years who had taken the course in the fall, the average score increased to 76 percent.

Students who did not take Frontiers during the fall semester scored a 31 percent on their second try.

The executive committee, which includes Nicholas Christie-Blick, environmental science professor and the chair of Frontiers, and Emlyn Hughes, a physics professor who drew criticism for stripping and playing footage of Osama Bin Laden during a Frontiers lecture in February, noted in an email that these gains “were independent of intended major.”

“This type of research always has its limitations,” the executive committee wrote in an email sent to first-years. “However, the results with and without FoS are so different that the conclusion is inescapable. The scientific habits and knowledge that FoS imparts are new to, and effectively learned by, first year students after one semester of intense study.”

According to the executive committee, Frontiers aims to “teach students how to think scientifically and to expose them to exciting areas of scientific research in four different science disciplines.”

The survey will be conducted again with the students who are currently enrolled in the course.

The committee said it “looks forward to equally stunning results from this spring’s FoS students.”

—Samantha Cooney

CCSC/ESC merger would leave out GSSC

CCSC from front page

the resolution is not a mandate for merging the councils. The task force, they said, will explore the possibility of a merger and see if it is achievable.

“We work in the same exact buildings, and we live in the same buildings,” Chen said. “It is a huge venture, and there are many things that are going to change ... We want to know, how do we make it the most efficient council for CC and SEAS? Is it even possible?”

ESC President-elect Siddhant Bhatt, SEAS ’14, said that while the merger would be exciting, there are still a lot of questions the task force needs to consider before it can happen.

He said that because the undergraduate population at Columbia College is much larger than that at SEAS, the task force would have to make sure engineering student groups have their

interests represented on the joint council.

Habbu said that the merger would require a lot of discussion.

“This is a yearlong, intense conversation,” she said. “There are a lot of questions to figure out, but the spirit of the idea is to make things easier from a student perspective.”

Chen and Bhatt will serve on the task force, along with Bob Sun, CC ’14 and CCSC vice president-elect for policy, and Tanya Shah, SEAS ’14 and ESC vice president-elect for policy. The four other members—two from each school—will be selected through an application process.

Sarita Patankar, CC ’14 and class of 2014 representative, cast the sole vote against the 27 representatives who voted for the resolution. During the meeting, she questioned why the General Studies Student Council was left out of the task force. She said that GS students already feel

divided from campus culture, and it would be detrimental to leave them out of the conversation.

Habbu said the merger makes sense for just CCSC and ESC because the two schools have “more synergies.”

“We do some of the more same activities,” she said. Besides having separate deans of student affairs and financial aid, Habbu noted, “the GS council functions in a very different way as well.”

“At this point, for us to put this kind of merger on them would be more of a burden,” she added.

Nevertheless, she said she would talk to GSSC President Jennifer Wisdom, GS, about the task force and see if GSSC would be interested.

“In an ideal world, we’d have one council,” Habbu said. “But we have to take it one step at a time.”

tracey.wang
@columbiaspectator.com

Pisticci joins Green Restaurant Association

PISTICCI from back page

thought, well, I’m general manager, I better go down and show up,” Knowles said. “He was so impressive that I met him afterwards and I said, ‘We need to join you.’”

Since then, Pisticci has replaced its kitchen appliances with more energy-efficient machines, changed its silverware, and started a full-scale recycling and composting program.

The restaurant has also taken less traditional steps towards sustainability. The handmade cabinets and tables look like rustic products of an earlier era—not surprising, since Michael

Forte made them himself from salvaged wood. A few potted plants line the spacious, south-facing window, lending a homey ambiance and, according to the GRA’s assessment, improving air quality.

After years of on-paper carbon neutrality, Pisticci took the additional step of joining the GRA, because the association provides accountability and a way to quantify and evaluate the restaurant’s changes.

The Green Restaurant Association researchers “are so great,” Knowles said. “You have to show them where you get everything. It all has to be passed. Which is why it’s kind

of like having a good Zagat review ... Much the same as certification—it’s nothing to say you’re green, unless you back it up. Certification gives you legitimacy.”

The retrofits for meeting the GRA’s standards were costly, but Knowles says they were worth it.

“The customers know that they’re walking into a conscious restaurant, that’s actually part of the revolution that’s going on in the world right now,” she said. “We just cannot deny that we’re connected on every level anymore, and we can’t pretend that we don’t harm things.”

abigail.golden
@columbiaspectator.com



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Media needs to find balance in stories

Last Monday night, the Ann Arbor girl in me died a little inside (and may or may not have cried) as Louisville beat Michigan to become the men's basketball NCAA National Champion. But a week later, what strikes me most about the game—a week after I've allowed my pain to subside (I care a lot about basketball)—was what the media focused on. And suddenly, I understood a little more clearly why Ivy sports are so overlooked.

Leading up to the championship game, it was all about Louisville's Kevin Ware. In the Elite Eight, Ware suffered a horrific leg break, a compound fracture. I still can't bring myself to watch the video of the injury. And suddenly, the Cardinals had something to play for (besides a title).

But it isn't as though Michigan was lacking such motivation. The Wolverines' story of having something to play for, though, was more about history. It had been 20 years since the Fab Five, one of the best recruiting classes in the history of basketball, led Michigan to its last national championship game (before last week's). It had been 20 years since Chris Webber called for a timeout that didn't exist. It had been 10 years since the scandal of Webber accepting booster money—which sacrificed his status as an amateur, NCAA-eligible athlete—had come to light. Subsequently, Webber's ties to Michigan broke, and they removed the 1992 and 1993 Final Four banners from the Crisler Center. Now, 20 years later, the current group of Wolverines had the opportunity to give their school a storybook ending.

Last week, Webber, in addition to the rest of the Fab Five, was in the stands. But the only media that truly seemed to care were Michigan-based. Most national headlines focused on Ware. The sob story had won out over historical significance.

Don't get me wrong: What happened to Ware was terrible. And I'm not trying to argue what's more significant one way or another. But, like with Michigan, I think it's important to note that so much of the Ivy League's significance lies in its history, even if the conference didn't form officially until 1954. The first African-American All-American for basketball, George Gregory, went to Columbia. Lou Gehrig and Sandy Koufax both played baseball for Columbia. (Legend has it that Gehrig once broke the windows of the J-School after hitting a home run.) There are many other examples from the rest of the Ivies.

Nowadays, in order to be competitive in headliner sports like basketball and football, schools need to be able to offer athletic scholarships. Therefore, much of the Ancient Eight's greatness lies in the past. But that doesn't make the league any less fascinating. Although, perhaps, my status as an American history major helps pique my interest.

That's not to say the focus on Ware doesn't make sense. Media is all about the present, and the 24-hour news cycle requires constant change and movement. We can only look forward. But one of my favorite aspects of sports journalism, especially on the collegiate level, is the ability to look backward. I mean, that's why Florida Gulf Coast was such a sensation, wasn't it? The school didn't hold its first class until 1997.

What it comes down to is the story of the individual versus the story of historical significance. Both can be inspiring, interesting, and incredibly valuable to the field of sports journalism. But clearly, according to current media, the individual wins out. The sob story wins out. There's always something like this before any national championship game.

The Ivy League rarely wins with the sob story. The status of attending an elite institution casts a shadow of elitism on the school, regardless of how truthful it is. So when it comes to the media, it's only when Harvard is the underdog and shocks the world by beating New Mexico that it gets attention—but even then, it's all about the Cinderella story.

What I hope for is a better balance. Both types of stories have their place. One shouldn't have to triumph over the other. There's plenty of space in the headlines.

Rebeka Cohan is a Barnard College junior majoring in history. She is the staff development director and a former sports editor for Spectator. And One runs biweekly. sports@columbiaspectator.com



REBEKA COHAN

And One



ALICE BREIDENBACH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WINNING WINSTON | Winston Lin, Columbia's top singles competitor, and his teammates have thrived by embracing a culture of teamwork and dedication.

Youthful men's tennis shows value of camaraderie

BY ALEXANDER BERNSTEIN
Spectator Staff Writer

In a sport that so often concentrates on the abilities of the individual, the men's tennis team has really demonstrated the power of teamwork this season.

Although the program has been one of the most successful for Columbia over the past few seasons, with a 16-4 (6-1 Ivy) record and an Ivy title in 2010, something about this year is special.

A 10-5 regular season record (overall 13-7 thus far), with big wins coming against No. 41 Cornell in the Ivy opener and Princeton in the ECAC Team Championships semifinals, shows that their approach is clearly working.

"We have had more talented teams," head coach Bid Goswami said. "But this team's effort isn't second to anybody."

Although they may not be a team of individual superstars like the 2010 Ivy championship team led by Jonathan Wong, Haig Schneiderman, and Mihai Nichifor, what these Lions may lack in talent they make up for with hard work, dedication, and teamwork—and that is what makes them so special.



Nathaniel Gery, one of the few seniors on the roster, attributes the current state of the team to "a culture change."

As the only starter to have played on the 2010 Ivy winning squad, Gery notes, "The team used to be more of a team of talented individuals. That's definitely something that has changed."

Gery said that the current team is no longer built on individual prowess but on camaraderie. "They push each other and make the team better," he said.

Goswami agreed. "If one tries to shy away from hard work, the others pick him up," he said, calling this team "one of the hardest working teams in my 31 years here."

What is particularly impressive about the players' commitment to their craft is that they're also among the youngest to don the Columbia light blue in recent history, with the core group of players made up primarily of underclassmen. The usual starters include four sophomores, one freshman, and only one senior.

How is such a young group of guys able to stay so concentrated and devoted to their tennis? Gery once again pointed to closeness, saying that the underclassmen "are a very tight group of friends off the court. They spend

a lot of time together, they live together, they hang out together. A lot of maturity has come from their overall friendship and them working together."

Winston Lin, who has enjoyed a brilliant season, going 22-12 overall while playing in the No. 1 singles spot, agreed that the team's success stems from its tightness.

Moving from the second to the first singles position is usually the toughest transition to make on a tennis team. Having spent the majority of his freshman year in the No. 2 spot, Lin has transitioned smoothly into the No. 1 singles position and credited his teammates' encouragement.

"We're really close, we spend the whole day together," Lin said. "We can look to each other, we know each other's thinking. It's good to have that kind of support."

Lin also attributed his biggest accomplishment of the season, a sensational come-from-behind 3-6, 6-0, 6-4 win over the No. 3 player in the nation, Princeton's Matija Pecotic, to the support of his teammates.

"That was definitely something special," Lin said. "I was down 4-0, and I think 4-1, and that's when the team score was three all. I think that pressure

really gave me the extra boost."

Perhaps this closeness can also account for some of the team's resilience—an impressive attribute for such a young group.

"The best thing about this team is that they have been very consistent in my mind, even after a tough loss or a great win, as if nothing has happened," Goswami said.

The team's record supports such a conclusion, with two comfortable wins after a tough 0-4 loss at Cornell on Feb. 17 and three straight wins following a tight 3-4 decision against Texas Tech on March 15.

Although two losses at Harvard (3-4) and Dartmouth (2-4) last weekend have likely taken the team out of the running for the Ivy crown, for such a young team, the future is as bright as ever.

"I love to come to practice because I see the improvement every day," an animated Goswami said. "I see forehand cross court a little sharper every day, and it excites me."

Goswami has good reason to be positive about the team's prospects. "Each person has done the work to improve," he said. "The world is their oyster junior and senior year."

sports@columbiaspectator.com

Light Blue softball faces Marist in home doubleheader on Tuesday

BY IKE CLEMENTE KITMAN
Spectator Staff Writer

After splitting last weekend's series against Cornell, the Columbia softball squad will face Marist twice at home on Tuesday.

COLUMBIA VS. MARIST

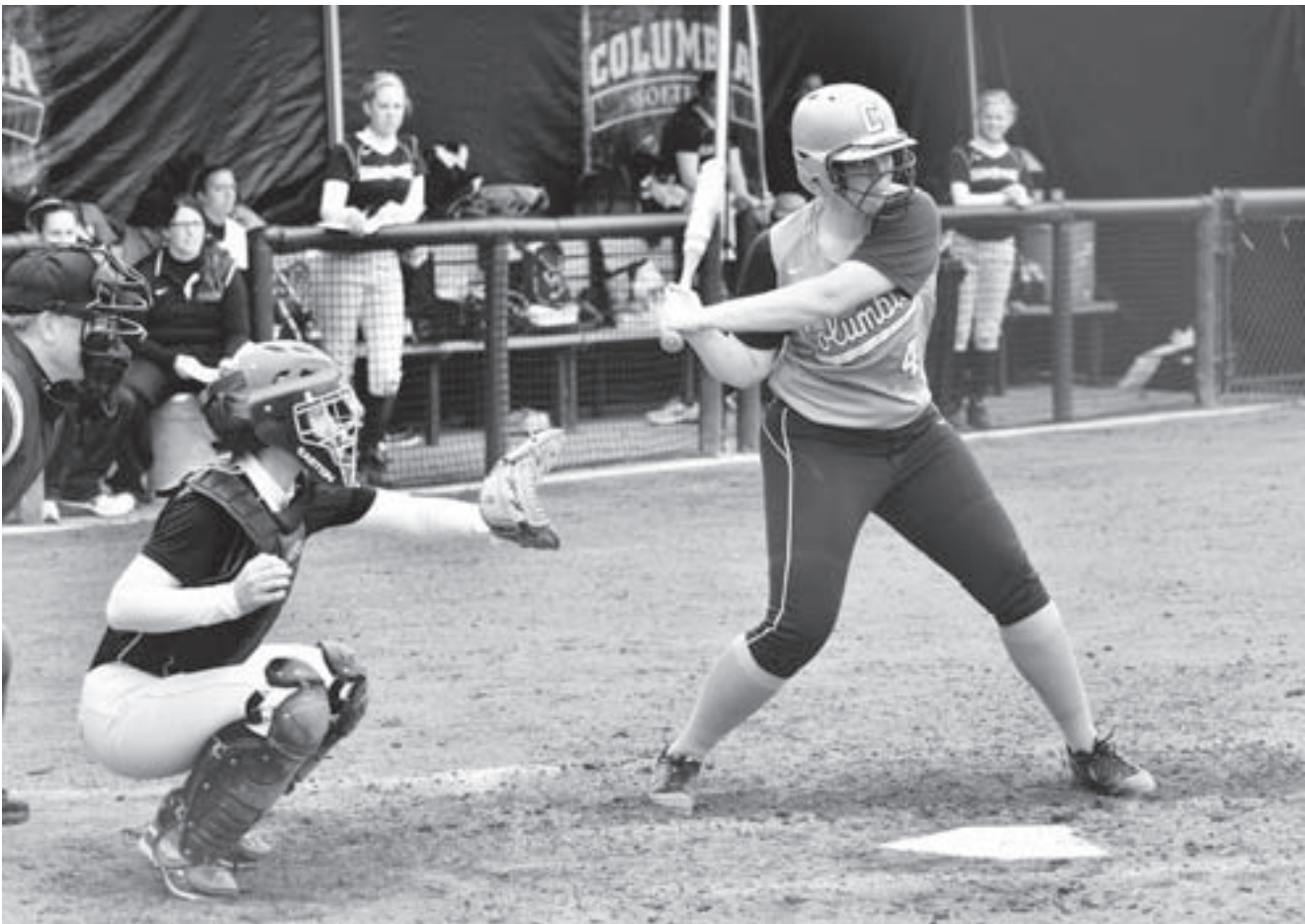
Columbia Softball Stadium, 3 and 5 p.m.



Over the weekend, the Lions (18-18, 6-6 Ivy) played back-to-back doubleheaders against the Big Red, dropping both of Saturday's games before coming back to win both of Sunday's. On Saturday, the Lions were plagued by their inability to bring runners home. In Saturday's second game, which Cornell won 6-0, the Big Red tallied only three more hits than the Light Blue. But while the Big Red turned nine hits into six runs, the Lions couldn't capitalize on any of their six hits.

Though only 15-17 on the season, Marist hasn't had any trouble converting base runners into runs over the past few weeks. On Sunday, the Red Foxes scored seven runs with only 10 hits on their way to a 7-5 victory over Niagara. Likewise, in last Wednesday's 8-0 trouncing of Lafayette, they turned only nine hits into eight runs.

Still, on Tuesday, the Lions will look to replicate some aspects of last Sunday's games. Junior Emily Caruthers and sophomore Liz Caggiano stood out for the Light Blue. After the Big Red scored two runs in the top of the first inning, Caruthers led the Lions to a 3-2 comeback victory with a first-inning single



DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CLUTCH CAGGIANO | The Lions, led by sophomore Liz Caggiano, will face Marist twice at home on Tuesday.

that eventually led to a run and an RBI double in the third inning. Caruthers has performed consistently all season, leading the Light Blue with her .358 batting average over 36 games.

Caggiano proved equally important in Sunday's second game, tallying three RBIs with a double to left field in the

bottom of the third.

Alyssa Zahka, Nicole Cheek, and Danielle Koltz have starred offensively this season for Marist. Cheek leads the Red Foxes with 29 RBIs and a .663 slugging percentage. Zahka, who has tallied 28 RBIs, leads the team with 39 hits through 32 games. Koltz and Cheek lead

the Red Foxes with 25 runs scored a piece.

Like the Lions, the Red Foxes won two of their four games in back-to-back doubleheaders over the weekend.

The Lions will face Marist at 3 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday to close their homestand.

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I challenge you: Just say hi

BY ADWOA BANFUL

Even four years in, one of the things at Columbia that continues to surprise me is the difference between “classmate” and “friend.” In Ghana, where I am from, we are very friendly people. I went to a school where my classmates were my friends simply because of our shared bond in the classroom, and not even because our experience was great. I could make friends everywhere, with everyone I met.

Here at Columbia, things are different: The people you meet in class are just your classmates. “Classmates” are almost entirely different from “friends,” and the two ideas don’t necessarily lie in a continuum. Sometimes, it almost seems like you dare not try and befriend class-mates, lest you risk a bruised ego and public humiliation.

How many times have you said hello to someone in public, or waved to someone you know on College Walk, and although the person clearly recognizes you, he quickly reaches for his phone or just walks on as though he didn’t see you? It doesn’t matter how rich your in-class interaction is, the second your bags zip up and you walk out of the building, it is often as if that bond never existed. The classroom and the campus are entirely separate worlds. I call it the “friend-classmate divide.”

Reclaim Morningside Heights

BY LEAH REISS

On Thursday, Take Back the Night will hold its annual rally, march, and speakout, dedicated to reclaiming Morningside Heights as a safe space free of sexual violence for the whole community. Since 1988, Columbia students have marched together to symbolize dedication to ending sexual violence.

This year, we examine the University’s response to sexual assaults. The National Institute of Justice estimates that 2-3 percent of college students are either raped or experience attempted rape each academic year. If we apply those national averages to Columbia University’s nearly 30,000 students, 600-900 students a year could be affected by sexual assault. Many of us personally know or have read at least one account of a student who experienced sexual assault attempting (and often failing) to find justice within an academic institution. Angie Epifano, a former member of Amherst’s class of 2014, had just such an experience. In her story, “An Account of Sexual Assault at Amherst College,” Epifano describes the road blocks she encountered after reporting her rape, which included administrators refusing to allow her to change dorms, prohibiting her from certain academic programs, and encouraging her not to pursue action against her rapist.

Columbia and many other universities have worked to improve administrative responses to—and policies regarding—reports of sexual assault. In 2011, the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education prompted colleges to evaluate their policies pertaining to sex-related offenses. Universities were urged to ensure that they adequately satisfy their responsibilities in such cases, specifically with regards to Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments to the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Title IX states that “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” In response to the legislation, in August of 2011, Columbia introduced its updated policy for gender-based misconduct.

Mandatory reporting ignores the importance of consent; the lack of education surrounding mandatory reporting is unjustifiable.

In theory, Columbia’s policies should protect the rights of all parties involved in an incident. However, one aspect of the policy is problematic: mandatory reporting. This provision requires “any University official (e.g., Student Affairs staff, Advising and Residential Programs staff, Officers of Administration, Full-time and Adjunct Faculty, Teaching Assistants, etc.) informed of an allegation of gender-based misconduct involving students ... to file a report with Student Services for Gender-Based and Sexual Misconduct. Certain University officers who are serving in a privileged professional capacity (i.e., counselors, clergy, medical providers, and rape crisis counselors) are not bound by this expectation, except as required by law.” This rule mandates reporting everything from a student confiding in a trusted professor to a staff member or RA overhearing a conversation between students. In our opinion, required reporting creates a potentially hostile environment for a survivor of sexual harassment or assault, because it limits the availability of confidential allies and discourages survivors from opening up about their experiences for fear that action may be taken without their consent. This policy effectively takes away one of the only elements of control survivors have: the decision to come forward about their experiences with gender-based misconduct. Their decisions are extremely private and should never be forced by a third party.

Mandatory reporting ignores the importance of consent, and the lack of education surrounding mandatory reporting is unjustifiable. Take Back the Night and Sexual Violence Response will march Thursday night to reclaim streets and create a safe haven for consent. Furthermore, as members of the Columbia community, we hope to raise awareness about the University’s gender-based misconduct policies, so that survivors are best able to use the policy for their protection.

We ask that faculty, staff, and administrators refrain from attending the speakout portion of the night and that all possible mandatory reporters be aware of their responsibilities when attending the event. We encourage everyone to join us as we reclaim Morningside Heights as a safe space for survivors of assault on Thursday.

The author is a Barnard College sophomore.

This limitation of interactions to the classroom itself says something about the nature of the communication and relationship culture at Columbia. We build walls between ourselves and others, and people are afraid to reach out for fear of rejection. The question is: Why? In Ghana, the expectation that one will meet a cordial response with a smile makes it less intimidating to start a conversation. At Columbia, we don’t necessarily have this atmosphere. Our complaints about the lack of a community on campus suggest that we would like a less cold atmosphere than we have now. Yet the atmosphere has been the same since I arrived here.

One need not be extroverted to be nice to another, or to enjoy someone else’s niceness.

Why has it existed as it is for so long? Is it because we are worried that “being nice” is trying too hard? That we don’t need more friends? That we don’t wish for transient or shallow friendships? That we’re not extroverted? Isn’t this being fake? Is it a fear of rejection? Why is it that even I catch myself acting in this way sometimes, when I clearly hate it enough to write about it?

These questions get ahead of themselves. To smile at someone and say, “Hello, how are you doing?” is not

Wellness, revisited

In the fall of 2011, fellow students and I started a group called the Student Wellness Project with the goal of creating a campus culture of wellbeing. Since then, I’ve had a lot of great conversations about this topic. But—as evidenced by the March 31 Spectator editorial, “Trying to talk away stress”—concerns remain about how Columbia has been approaching the problem.

I’ve noticed three main questions. First, how do we define whether or not a student is “well”? Second, who is responsible for improving student wellbeing: the student or the school? Third, as students who care about wellness, can we create campus change?

The point is, wellness is a philosophy that puts the responsibility and power for well-being into your hands.

To address the first question, wellness is different than health. Health, in a medical sense, can be measured. It refers to an absence of injury, disease, or disability. Wellness, on the other hand, is a mindset. It’s about having personal awareness of the things that make a healthy life possible, and then empowering oneself to pursue self-care. It is holistic, patient, and ongoing. In this sense, wellness is not an end but rather a mentality.

Experts suggest that there are multiple dimensions of wellness: physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, intellectual, social, financial, and so on. Wellness, then, is about developing an understanding of how to fulfill and balance these categories in response to life’s varying challenges.

For example, I’ve learned that I feel my best when I ride my bike often. I feel my best when I am surrounded by supportive friends. I feel my best when I journal and meditate. And so on. The point is, wellness is a philosophy that puts the responsibility and power for wellbeing into your hands.

But here’s the challenge: None of us exist in isolation, and wellness is not a solitary experience. Though we make our own choices, our lives are also determined by the people around us, and strongly shaped by the structures that we inhabit. And that brings me to the second point—that wellness cannot just be an individual responsibility, but also must be



WILFRED CHAN
Chan-neling Discourse

to become best friends. It is a bit unrealistic to want a rich, deep friendship from every interaction we have. Therefore, realizing that forming bonds with every person we have interactions with isn’t entirely feasible, we abandon all hope of a nice, cordial, warm friendship or acquaintanceship. One need not be extroverted to be nice to another person or to enjoy someone else’s niceness. One should not remain reticent for fear of rejection. This culture has bred an inertia and, consequently, we are left with an undesirable situation. If we created and maintained the warm atmosphere so many of us crave, we wouldn’t have this fear. Don’t get me wrong, I’m not promoting constantly forging deep friendships. All I’m saying is let’s make a sincere effort to be nicer to everyone.

I have heard so many people decry this practice every single semester I’ve spent at Columbia. We all seem to hate it, and yet we all still do it. To this day I wonder what is in it for us as a school community. From my Ghanaian lens, I cannot see a single good thing this practice brings, nor can I see why the status quo should remain. Our University culture is something that we create and that we are responsible for. We complain about it all the time, but it’s not enough to recognize the problem. We can’t blame the administration or anyone else. This one is on us. I challenge you: Walk around campus with a smile on your face. Say hi when you recognize someone. And respond when someone says hi to you.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in philosophy.

one in which the school plays a part.

Take Health Services. If Counseling and Psychological Services is understaffed, and students can’t get help, then that would be a structural wellness problem. Or if there aren’t counselors who understand the needs of certain identity groups (from personal experience, there are no counselors at CPS who have the ability to help me with my Asian-American-specific neuroses), that’s a structural wellness problem.

Or consider academics. If we have, say, credit requirements that encourage undue mental stress at the expense of other aspects of healthy living, then that could be a structural wellness problem. If we have an unresponsive advising system that fails to check in on students and assess their holistic wellbeing, that’s another structural wellness problem. And if we have a student culture that celebrates stress as a badge of honor, you guessed it—that’s a significant structural wellness problem.

Here’s the good news, and the answer to the third question: These systems can be changed. And that’s a big part of what the Student Wellness Project is trying to do.

Last month, Student Wellness Project members successfully pushed for a new statement to appear on Barnard syllabi, encouraging students to prioritize their personal health along with academics. While the statement is focused on students’ individual wellness, the fact that it reflects a schoolwide initiative means that it is a step toward systemic change.

Last week, our policy chair, Steven Castellano, who also serves on the Columbia College Student Council, introduced a proposal that would create a first-semester pass/D/fail policy for CC first-years, giving new students a chance to adjust and explore. The resolution passed overwhelmingly, and was endorsed by the Spectator Editorial Board last Friday. Surveys show that a majority of students back the proposal, which now awaits approval by the Committee on Instruction.

This week, we’re hosting our second annual Random Acts of Kindness Week, with the hope that we can help find ways for students to care for each other and have fun. Last year, more than 1,000 students participated, and this year we’re hoping for even more.

Even so, I want to re-emphasize a point I’ve made many times in the past: Students should not bear all the responsibility for change. As the Editorial Board writes, “Wellness is a two-way street.” The relationship between individual wellness and structural wellness means we all have a part to play in creating change—from students all the way to those at the highest levels of the administration.

We have a lot of work left to do. But wellness is a patient process. I am hopeful.

Wilfred Chan is a senior majoring in political science. He is the founder of the Student Wellness Project. Chan-neling Discourse runs alternate Tuesdays.



ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY LEE

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Soccer officials
5 "You ___ dead!"
10 Location
14 Berry in healthy smoothies
15 "No way!"
16 Jazz classic
17 "Take ___ Train"
18 Lost color in one's cheeks
19 Greasy spoon grub
20 Hit hard
21 Like blue hair
22 "Faust" dramatist
24 Fred's dancing sister
26 Bartender's twist
28 Beer to drink on Cinco de Mayo
30 Four quarters
31 Tax agency
32 Archaic "once"
33 Talk show pioneer Jack
36 Presidential bldg. with
38 Stack of unsolicited manuscripts
41 Bush secretary of labor Elaine
43 Madeline of "Blazing Saddles"
44 Emails the wrong person, say
48 U.S./Canada's ___ Canals
49 Sunrise direction, in K&N
51 Buyer's "beware"
53 Tribal carving
57 Go
58 City on the Rio Grande
59 Feed the kitty
61 "Cool" monetary unit
62 Even-handed
63 It may be filled with a garden hose
66 Helsinki resident
67 Actress Burstyn
68 Hip-swinging dance
69 Vexes
70 Extremely poor
71 Ruin Bond's martini

DOWN

1 Daily grind
2 Besides Chile, the only South American country that doesn't border Brazil
3 ___ market
4 Break a Commandment
5 "Toy Story" boy
6 Fend off
7 Dance around
8 Somme salt
9 Where Nike headquarters is
10 Considerable, as discounts
11 Tense critical appraisal
12 Ties to a post, as a horse
13 Art gallery props
18 Delightful spot
23 "Paper Moon" Oscar winner
24 Tatum
25 Many, informally
27 Change from vampire to bat, say
29 Kwik-E-Mart owner on "The Simpsons"
34 Extend an invitation for

35 "I knew it!"
37 Thom in one's side
39 Appears strikingly on the horizon
40 Co. letterhead abbr.
41 Welcome summer forecast
42 Noticeable lipstick color
45 Come down hard on
46 Filled pasta
47 Top-notch
48 Golden Slam winner
50 Said
52 Away from the wind
54 Takes home
55 Punch bowl spoon
56 Over and done
60 Hard to see
64 French landmass
65 Acidly nos.

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J	U	D		L	A	R	A		P	D	F	S
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By C.C. Burrill
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Behind Netflix’s ‘House of Cards,’ a Columbia alum

BY OLIVIA WONG
Spectator Staff Writer

There’s nothing unstable about the “House of Cards” adaptation that Columbia alumnus Beau Willimon, CC ’99 and SoA ’03, has built.

The show, an adaptation of a British min-series, premiered its 13-episode first season on Netflix in February and stars Kevin Spacey as Francis Underwood, a shrewd congressman.

“House of Cards” is directed by Oscar-nominated David Fincher (“The Social Network”), who, along with Willimon, serves as an executive producer.

Willimon spoke about his time at the University and how he came to create the revolutionary show in a Q&A hosted by the film department on Friday.

“I always wanted to write for television and film, but I just never thought it would happen,” Willimon said.

He fell into playwriting his senior year of college to test his artistic drive.

“I wrote a play so that I could fail,” he said. “I wanted to force myself to be in a position in which I needed to employ discipline.”

Willimon loves a challenge, which explains his desire to write in three different mediums: theater, film, and television.

Though he calls theater his first love, Willimon’s writing career quickly expanded into film when his play, “Farragut North,” was optioned by Warner Brothers and adapted into “The Ides of March,” starring Ryan Gosling and George Clooney.

This came as a surprise to Willimon, considering the play was originally rejected by 40 theaters. Willimon joked that when he heard the news, his response was a nonchalant, “No, thanks.”

Besides starring two of the most beloved actors of our time, the film was also nominated for an Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay—and put Willimon on the map in Hollywood.

Willimon then approached Fincher about developing “House of Cards.” Since it is Netflix’s first original program, Willimon and Fincher were given a generous amount of creative freedom, which made signing on with the company an easy decision for the duo, Willimon said.

Now in production for its second season, “House of Cards” is based on a television show that aired on the BBC in 1990. Willimon considers his take a reinvention of the original, though he admits that true originality in writing is hard to come by.

“Writers are professional thieves,” he said. “That’s all we really do ... steal things and rearrange things, whether we’re stealing from our own lives or from other people’s work.”

For Willimon, a writer’s goal is simple.

“You want something that engages the audience, that has truth in it, that means something to you, and ... allows you to explore a world that will constantly challenge and surprise you,” he said. “That’s what telling a great story is about.”

arts@columbiaspectator.com

Columbia Music Festival: Big names, fun times



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: LILY LIU-KRASON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, KIMBERLY FLORES / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, ALICE BREIDENBACH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, KIMBERLY FLORES

COLUMBIA’S COACHELLA | From rapper Hoodie Allen (top left), to Macklemore (top right), to LeIf (bottom right), to DJ duo Flosstradamus, last week’s Columbia Music Festival featured eclectic acts across campus, with each event sponsored by a different student group.

Paint the town: EC resident creates skyline graffiti on wall

BY EMMA FINDER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

From Tyler Sheridan’s room in East Campus, you can see the entire Manhattan skyline and the Statue of Liberty—just not out the window. This view is on the Columbia College senior’s wall.

Sheridan got bored over winter break and took his hobby of doodling to his dorm room wall. The graffiti has grown from just Sheridan’s project to an immensely popular mecca for Columbians to leave their mark. There are now 102 signatures from friends and visitors.

Each mark is unique to its creator—some are drawings, some are nicknames, and others are inside jokes between friends. Sheridan identified some of the signatures of those of his teammates on the wrestling team, including Steve Santos, CC ’13, who took third in his weight class at this year’s national championships.

Inevitably, though, visitors have been unable to resist the temptation to add some off-color humor to the wall.

“I’ve had to censor some things,” Sheridan said, indicating an expletive he covered when his suitemate’s younger sister visited.

One trend is clear—every signature shows its own personality.

“Some people make up nicknames,” Sheridan said, laughing. The collection boasts personal marks—from goofy nicknames to athletes’ jersey numbers.

Sheridan’s initial plan, though, was not for the wall to become the massive collection of signatures that it has. It started when his friends slowly began adding their names around the central image, which depicts the nearly symmetrical word “DOMESQUAD” and the Manhattan skyline at sunset.

“It’s the name that myself and some of my closest friends call each other,” Sheridan said. “It’s basically a slang term for a person who wrestles.”

With move-out and graduation little more than a month away, Sheridan is still waiting to see what will happen when Columbia’s housing

office sees the graffiti on his wall. Though he’s somewhat resigned to being forced to paint over the wall, he hopes the legacy will remain beneath the layers of paint, he said.

Sheridan also hopes the wall will gain enough fame that he will be allowed to leave the art up, he said. Over the course of the few weeks it took him to complete the graffiti, he photographed each stage of the process, documenting its evolution from drawing to crowd-sourced art for posterity.

If nothing else, the wall is Sheridan’s own built-in record of the friends he has made at Columbia, whether it rests beneath a new coat of paint or becomes a fixture of EC.

emma.finder@columbiaspectator.com

ONLINE



Visit www.columbiaspectator.com for Morningsiders’ set.

MoHi eatery Pisticci growing with clean conscience

BY ABIGAIL GOLDEN
Spectator Staff Writer

More people can now enjoy local restaurant Pisticci’s environmentally conscious Italian fare since its new expansion opened Monday after six months of renovations.

The expansion, which doubles the space of the well-known joint, will help further its mission of running a green establishment, owners said.

The new room will seat 40 more customers and feature stone, wood, and gold leaf décor.

General manager Pamela Knowles said the new expansion would align with the establishment’s environmental goals.

“Obviously it needs to be in harmony with all the green work that we’re doing—it’s just an extension of what we’re doing,” she said.

Since it opened in 2002, the eatery on La Salle Street, between Broadway and Claremont avenues, has been carbon-neutral, offsetting its carbon dioxide emissions by investing in companies that plant trees and investing in wind energy.

Co-owners Michael and Vivian Forte weren’t quite sure what kind of business they wanted to open, but they were interested in sustainability from the start.

When the opportunity came to use carbon offsets, “they just jumped on it,” according to Knowles.

The couple has a track record in the field—in the Fortes’ home of Perth, Australia, Michael manages the Perth City Farm, an urban farm with a café and farmers market. Among other projects, Michael has been running a program to grow oyster mushrooms on coffee grounds from the café.

Five years ago, the restaurant joined the Green Restaurant Association, which aims to help food service businesses around the country become more eco-friendly. Knowles, who was once a jazz singer and actress, discovered the organization at a talk by the group’s founder during an organic wine tasting.

“Knowing nothing about wine—I don’t drink—I



STEVEN LAU FOR SPECTATOR

PANORAMA | The graffiti on Tyler Sheridan’s wall depicts the word “DOMESQUAD” against the Manhattan skyline, as well as 102 signatures.

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