



DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CLASS ACTION | University President Lee Bollinger discussed affirmative action at an African Students Association roundtable.

Columbia professor, 3 alums receive Pulitzer Prizes

BY NAOMI COHEN
Spectator Staff Writer

The late Columbia professor Manning Marable, Eli Sanders, CC '99, David Kocieniewski, Journalism '86, and Tracy K. Smith, SoA '97, were among those awarded Pulitzer Prizes on Monday.

The Associated Press team that uncovered the scope of the New York Police Department's surveillance of Muslim communities,

including college students and the Columbia Muslim Students Association's website, was one of two award winners for investigative reporting.

The winners were announced in the newly renamed Pulitzer Hall, formerly Journalism Hall, on Columbia's campus.

Sanders received the award in feature writing for "The Bravest Woman in Seattle," his narrative of a woman who was raped and whose partner was raped and

murdered. Sanders, the editor-in-chief of Spectator's 122nd managing board in 1998, now writes for The Stranger, an alternative Seattle weekly.

The announcement of Marable's award for "Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention" made waves in the Institute for Research in African-American Studies and the Center for Contemporary Black History, which Marable founded.

"In many ways, it was a

surprise," said the institute's director, Fredrick Harris, who worked closely with Marable. He said the institute exchanged enthusiastic emails regarding the news, which coincides with the planning for a memorial conference for Marable next week, at which leading African-American scholars will speak.

"Here we have an opportunity to reflect on Professor

SEE PULITZERS, page 3

SEAS likely to change comp sci requirement

BY JORDAN FREISLEBEN
Spectator Staff Writer

The School of Engineering and Applied Science is moving to require a different computer science class for its technical Core Curriculum, starting with the class of 2016.

Under the new system, a course focusing on algorithmic thinking and the programming language Python will replace the current required class, which focuses on Java, said Logan Donovan, SEAS '13 and Engineering Student Council vice president of policy, at the ESC meeting on Monday night.

Donovan, after meeting with computer science professor Adam Cannon, said that faculty in 11 out of the 16 SEAS majors have officially agreed to the change and that Cannon is awaiting word of the other five.

"I'm really in favor of this. This will be a good quantitative, problem-solving course and will give students more quantitative, applicable skills to higher-level courses," Donovan said.

Donovan said that she first heard about transitioning to a Python-based programming course last spring. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Georgia Institute of Technology have already established Python-based courses.

Tim Qin, SEAS '13, University senator and ESC

SEE ESC, page 2

SIPA draws closer to \$150 million fundraising goal

BY MARGARET MATTES
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In its first-ever capital campaign, the School of International and Public Affairs is well on its way to achieving its \$150 million fundraising goal by 2015.

SIPA's success is particularly important given its planned move to the Manhattanville campus. It is one of the first schools leaving the main Morningside Heights campus, but unlike the other Phase I schools, it has not yet made fundraising for its new building a priority.

Although the \$150 million goal includes no funds for the new space itself, Madelyn Storms, SIPA's director of development, said, "The hope is that we bring in donors who maybe haven't been tied to SIPA in the

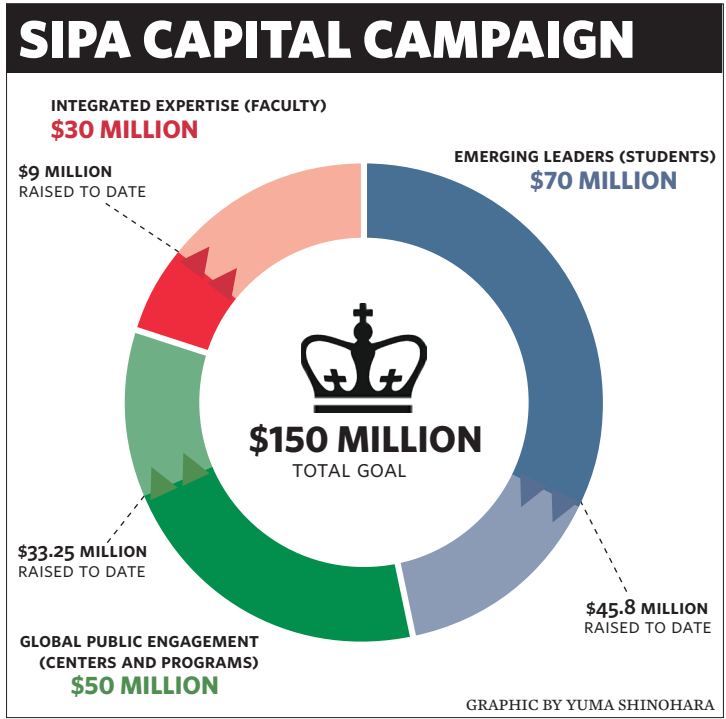
past for whatever reason, that they become excited about the programs that they are supporting now, and then we are able to transition them to raise funds for the new space."

Over \$90 million has been raised so far. The goal is to raise \$70 million for students—mostly for fellowships, internships, and workshops—\$50 million for centers and programs, and \$30 million for endowed professorships and faculty research grants.

The effort is part of the University-wide \$5 billion campaign.

According to SIPA Senior Associate Dean Troy Eggers, these broad categories "reflect our vision and priorities for the school" and were constructed through conversations with

SEE SIPA, page 3



FESTIVAL OF COLOR



SHRIYA MANIAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HOLI COW | Students flocked to Pupin Plaza for the Hindu Students Organization's Holi.

Kissinger reflects on U.S.-China relations

BY YASMIN GAGNE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Former Secretary of State and Nobel Peace Prize winner Henry Kissinger reflected on his long career in building the U.S. relationship with China and discussed China's future on Monday.

Widely credited with opening the country's relations with the People's Republic of China, Kissinger said that he made "over 50 trips over four decades and had personal and intimate interactions with leaders on each side" giving him a unique perspective on the country.

The goal of establishing diplomatic ties proved difficult to achieve, as China was in the middle of the Cultural Revolution under the dictator Mao Zedong.

Kissinger recalled early efforts to contact Chinese officials under the Nixon and Ford administrations. "We instructed our ambassador in Poland to walk up to any Chinese diplomat he saw in any social context and tell him he wanted to talk," he said. "He didn't think it was a good idea, so we had to bring him back to Washington and walk him into the Oval Office and the president told him to do it ... and he did it."

There were continued communication problems with Chinese leaders, he said.

"Chinese leaders wrote messages out in pencil, then a messenger brought them to Pakistan and then Pakistan brought it to Washington and then we typed our answers and sent them back so it took about

two weeks for a message to get through," he said.

Kissinger joined Business School Dean R. Glenn Hubbard for the discussion in Miller Theatre. He also received the George S. Eccles Prize for Excellence in Economic Writing for his book "On China." The prize is awarded annually to the author whose book on economics best bridges theory and practice.

Troy Chen, Business '12 and president of the Greater China Society, said in an email, "I was impressed by his political insight and foresight derived from a profound understanding of China on many dimensions: from ancient Chinese history to its contemporary economy and politics."

SEE KISSINGER, page 2

A&E, PAGE 6

I Love the Baccha90s

Music critic Maren Killackey explains why this year's Bacchanal acts—Waves, Curren\$y, and Big Gigantic—were a success.



OPINION, PAGE 4

Tangled in the web

Alex Collazo urges Columbians to learn how to make a website.

Trendy start-ups

Arvin Ahmadi defines the new corporate hipster.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lacrosse coach Chrest helps build foundation

Assistant lacrosse coach Katie Chrest has seen her fair share of success as a player, and now she hopes to help the Lions find success of their own.

EVENTS

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Listen to human rights professionals discuss their careers.

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Today



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Tomorrow



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NEWS BRIEF

Suspects sought in Morningside attempted rape, robbery

A woman was the victim of an attempted rape in Riverside Park on Friday, and a male Columbia student was assaulted and robbed on Claremont Avenue early Saturday morning.

The 24-year-old woman was jogging along a wooded path between 122nd and 125th streets, when, at around 6 p.m., the suspect approached her from behind, grabbed her by the neck, and began to choke her, a spokesperson for the New York Police Department said.

The suspect, described as a Hispanic male between 35 and 40 years old, about 5-foot-9 and 180 pounds, reportedly threw the victim to the ground and attempted to rape her, but was interrupted by witnesses.

The victim managed to fight off her assailant after being thrown to the ground and fled out of Riverside Park before a passing motorist came to her assistance, according to a Columbia Public Safety alert.

She was taken to a local hospital with minor injuries, the NYPD spokesperson said.

The assailant was said to be wearing a blue baseball cap and backpack, both with the Nike “swoosh” insignia.

Around 4:10 a.m. on Saturday, a student walking south on Claremont Avenue reported that he was knocked to the ground by a man who demanded his property. The man was described as dark-skinned, 6 feet tall, and wearing a Cincinnati baseball hat and dark clothing.

Responding to victim-blaming comments on Bwog, the organizers of Take Back the Night—the march to end sexual violence that will take place this Thursday—said in a statement, “Sexual violence happens in our classrooms, in our dorms, in our fraternities and sororities, and on College Walk. When we walk around this campus, we can expect to have classes with, be friends with, be roommates with, be



teammates with, be dating women, men, and people of all genders who have experienced sexual violence.”

Those with information about either assault may contact the 26th Precinct detective squad at 212-678-1351 or call Crime Stoppers at 800-577-TIPS (8477).

The public can also submit tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers website at nypd-crimestoppers.com.

—Luke Barnes

Python may replace Java as SEAS core class

ESC from front page

president-elect, said that he is also in favor of the change to the SEAS curriculum.

“Based on what I’ve heard last year and this year, it would seem that Python’s relevant

to today and developing new technology,” Qin said. Pointing out that Python is easier to learn than Java and more peer schools are using Python, he said, “It seems reasonable for us to push towards that.”

Aspects of the programming

language MATLAB covered in the current course would be incorporated more into the curriculum for Gateway, the required first-year engineering class.

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DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RACE’S PLACE | History professor Eric Foner and University President Lee Bollinger at the panel.

Bollinger, panel, discuss race, court decisions

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION from front page

“I think a lot of damage will be done because we’ve seen what will happen already,” said Shaw, who was a law professor at the University of Michigan when the Grutter and Gratz cases were first filed. Shaw was lead counsel for a coalition of Latino and African-American students in those cases.

“I think we would see some impact at private institutions,” he said, “but that will be tempered by the reality that many institutions will continue to do whatever they can to obtain diversity and it may just be ‘don’t ask, don’t tell.’”

Bollinger said that an understanding of the 14th Amendment, which was drafted to protect the civil liberties of recently freed slaves, is necessary for students to understand the stakes of the case.

“Everybody knows the 14th Amendment, at its core, is about race,” he said. “If you’re trying to achieve an integrated society, wasn’t Brown [v. Board of Education] really about integration, about overcoming integration of the past and steps in that direction should be consistent with that direction? You just need to have that sense of the 14th Amendment

in order to think clearly about the subject.”

Shaw questioned the outcomes of other court cases that dealt with affirmative action, including Regents of the University of California v. Bakke, which ruled that allocating quotas in university classes by race was unconstitutional.

“Most of the young people who come to a college campus arrive coming from all-white or all-black high schools.”

—University President
Lee Bollinger

“It was a loss because the court basically threw the immediate rationale for affirmative action under the bus,” he said.

Shaw said that there is still “massive inequality” in the country, particularly with African-Americans. “A lot of people say, ‘We’re in 2012, the country is much more diverse, it’s different from what it was’—that’s absolutely right. But we are not as

far from the impact of slavery as we think,” he said.

The event was the African Students Association’s final political roundtable of the year. ASA Political Chair Kambi Gathesha, GS ’13, said that when he proposed affirmative action as the meeting topic, “People looked at me like I was an alien.”

“The idea that an African students’ group would be dealing with an issue that is quintessentially African-American seemed out of course,” he said. But the potential for the Supreme Court to overturn the Grutter and Gratz decisions, Gathesha said, made club leaders realize that international students at U.S. colleges are affected by America’s racial history.

Gathesha served as the moderator for the discussion and said that he was thrilled that Bollinger attended the event, even though he wrote to him only four days earlier.

“I gave it a shot on Thursday and sent him a letter,” he said. “I didn’t think he would come initially because he is so busy.”

“It’s a wonderful thing to see your interest in this,” Bollinger said at the event. “You should make it your mission to work on projects like this—there’s obviously a lot of work to be done.”

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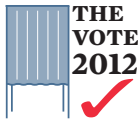
Vargas drops House bid in a day, backs Espailat

BY GINA LEE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In a matter of hours, northern Manhattan political activist Ruben Dario Vargas both started and ended his race for the 13th Congressional District, currently held by longtime incumbent Rep. Charles Rangel.

On Sunday night, Vargas announced that he had received 1,600 signatures petitioning for his name on the ballot—nearly twice the required amount—and that he would begin his campaign with an official event on Monday. Instead, he used the event to declare his support for Dominican-American State Senator Adriano Espaillat, Rangel’s biggest competition, and shredded the petition.

Vargas was the second candidate to drop out of the race and support Espaillat in as many weeks, following former Rangel aide Vincent Morgan’s withdrawal last Tuesday.



“With the stakes so high, I think it’s important for the community to unite behind a candidate who can ... help us make history, and that candidate is Senator Espaillat,” Vargas said in a statement. “While I’ve worked hard to get myself in a position to run, I’m ready to give all of my support to the candidate who can succeed in bringing fresh leadership to Congress this year.”

After the country’s district lines were redrawn this year, the percentage of Hispanic voting-age constituents in the district increased from 43.8 to 52.7, putting Rangel at risk of losing the district he has represented since 1971. Vargas, who is also Latino, would have potentially taken some of those Hispanic votes from Espaillat.

The endorsement continues a surge of momentum for Espaillat: according to Federal Election Commission reports filed on Sunday, the Rangel campaign raised about \$67,000 from Jan. 1 to March 31, while Espaillat raised a nearly

equivalent \$62,000 in the 12-day period from March 20 to 31. Although Rangel, as the incumbent, maintains an advantage in total campaign funds available, Espaillat’s successful fundraising may close that gap.

Rangel had been absent from campaigning from February until last week due to a back injury, which may have contributed to his slow fundraising.

The remaining candidates looking to unseat Rangel are former Bill Clinton advisor Clyde Williams and community activists Joyce Johnson and Craig Schley. Williams has raised \$118,000 since January, and Johnson and Schley have not yet reported any campaign funds.

Vargas had previously run for Rangel’s seat in 2000, as well as for Manhattan borough president and for New York City Council in years past, all unsuccessfully. He is a U.S. Air Force veteran and has worked for the New York Police Department.

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Kissinger discusses American, Chinese relations

KISSINGER from front page

“As a business school student, I was also inspired by his argument that business leaders from both countries would play a more important role in the next decade, in fostering common understanding and mutual prosperity between the two nations,” he said.

Speaking about the direction of foreign-policy relations with China, Kissinger said, “Whenever a new administration comes in they start the

process of discovery all over again. There have been eight administrations but policy has had great continuity on the American and Chinese side.”

Kissinger noted that China’s integration with an increasingly globalized economy could lead to political freedom. “As China becomes integrated into the global economy, it is probable there will be a gradual transition of the Chinese political system, though it is probable that it will develop special Chinese

characteristics.”

He stressed the need for cooperation in the next 10 years to prevent possible conflict, though he said that a Chinese domestic crisis is more likely than an international conflict.

“I think progress is being made in understanding the concept of leadership in China,” he said. “The Chinese have a hell of a time trying to understand the concept of leadership in the U.S.”

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DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

REPORTER’S NOTEBOOK | Pulitzer Prize Administrator Sig Gissler announces the awards.

AP’s MSA surveillance series wins Pulitzer

PULITZERS from front page

Marable’s scholarship as well as his activism. It highlights the important contributions that Manning Marable made ... to Columbia and to the world of scholarship,” Harris said.

The book, which was originally a finalist in the biography category but was awarded the history prize, “separates fact from fiction and casts Malcolm X into a human figure,” Harris said. “It talks about how Malcolm X reinvented himself, and his reinvention of self really reflects on how Black America in the 21st century has to in many ways reinvent himself to address some challenges when it comes to racial inequality.”

Marable died in April 2011 after a double lung transplant and complications from pneumonia. Posthumous Pulitzer awards are rare—the last was awarded in 1996 to the late Jonathan Larson for the musical “Rent.”

One of the two investigative journalism awards was given to

Matt Apuzzo, Adam Goldman, Eileen Sullivan, and Chris Hawley at the AP. The national attention resulting from their series inspired a vocal response from students on campus and fireside chats with University President Lee Bollinger and University Chaplain Jewelnel Davis.

“It’s important that they’re [the AP reporters] being recognized for their work,” said Abdul Rafay Hanif, CC ’14 and president of the MSA. “They showed a lot of initiative in reporting the issue and shedding light on the issue that’s not only important to Columbia, or to New York City, but to the entire United States.”

Kocieniewski, a writer for the New York Times, was awarded the prize in explanatory reporting for what the jury called his “lucid series that penetrated a legal thicket” in the tax loopholes often exploited by the affluent.

Smith, a creative writing professor at Princeton, was recognized for her collection of “bold,

skillful poems” called “Life on Mars,” which the jury said was capable of “taking readers into the universe and moving them to an authentic mix of joy and pain.”

“It was clear from the very start that Tracy K. Smith’s voice would be a beautiful force to be reckoned with in contemporary American poetry,” said School of the Arts Poetry Director Lucie Brock-Broido, who taught Smith at both Harvard and Columbia. “It is deeply gratifying for us in the School of the Arts to see the body of work that she’s gone on to create and even more gratifying to see that work receive the recognition she so truly deserves.”

Pulitzer Prize Administrator Sig Gissler said, “The watchdog still barks, the watchdog still bites,” referring to the strength of American journalism even “when resources are stretched and newsrooms are thin.”

A full list of winners can be found at columbiaspectator.com.

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With \$90M raised, SIPA expands donor base

SIPA from front page

faculty of the school and donors.

The campaign, established in 2005 under then-Dean Lisa Anderson, was expanded from its original target of \$75 million in 2010 after the school exceeded that amount.

SIPA Associate Dean for Alumni and Development Shalini Mimani said that the school is well-positioned to raise these additional funds in part because of strong leadership.

“John Coatsworth was a particularly effective fundraiser and he was therefore committed to a more aggressive fundraising campaign for SIPA,” Mimani, away on maternity leave, said in an email. Coatsworth, before being named permanent provost in February, had served as the dean of SIPA since 2007.

Both Eggers and Storms agreed that the school’s leadership in recent years has been particularly important.

“Dean Coatsworth is seen as a transformative dean—he was able to transform the school on a multitude of levels,” Eggers said. “He’s naturally gifted at fundraising ... I think it helps considerably that he really prides

himself on developing relationships with people.”

Interim SIPA Dean Robert Lieberman has also been key to the fundraising, engaging with the school’s Advisory Board, Eggers said.

“He is able, even in ways that John wasn’t, to talk about what global policy means and why there needs to be an amazing place to learn about global public policy,” Eggers said.

Roger Baumann, SIPA ’84, ’85 and a fellowship donor, said in an email, “Fellowships help SIPA to attract and educate the best students, who in turn go on to make a positive impact on the world in which we live. What better investment could there be?” Baumann serves as chair of SIPA’s Executive Committee of the Alumni Council and is a member of the school’s Advisory Board.

Of the \$400 million that John Kluge, CC ’37, pledged to Columbia in 2007—the largest gift to a single university exclusively for financial aid—\$30 million was dedicated to SIPA.

Both Storms and Mimani said that the Kluge name on the gift has encouraged other donors.

The administration and the

development office also work closely with alumni and the Campaign Advisory Council to approach potential donors.

“We are making it a priority to expand our donor base right now,” Storms said. “We have an incredible core of consistent donors, both alumni and non-SIPA-affiliated donors, but what we are very much working on, so that we are not continually going back to the same people, is really building our base of support.”

Storms said the results of this effort will be particularly important as the school begins thinking of donors to approach when fundraising for the move to Manhattanville begins after this campaign is completed. She added that the fundraising will likely have a goal of a few hundred million, although an exact number has not yet been set.

In a February interview, Lieberman said, “We’re focused on the building of the academic quality of the school, building of faculty, building a student body, and creating the environment in the school that is going to fill a building and fill it with something that is really great.”

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JENNY PAYNE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

JETSETTER | Anthony Da Costa is taking his new album “Secret Handshake” on the road, heading as far as Denmark for an international tour. Fans can find his music on iTunes and Bandcamp.

CC musician balances school and tour

DA COSTA from page 6

musically, and it always helps when you’re with your musical family,” Da Costa said. “One of the best things about folk music is that it’s an intimate style that you don’t get with a lot of genres or venues, which makes it a good

way to meet interesting people.”

After graduating from Columbia next year, he plans on performing and touring full-time. “It’ll mostly be my solo work, but it’s so much fun to be in other people’s bands and work with other people.”

Catch one of Da Costa’s

shows or buy “Secret Handshake” while he’s still on the rise—it’ll give you that satisfying hipster cred to say that you knew him before he was famous. His new album is available on iTunes, anthonydacosta.com, and Bandcamp.

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Money talks

BY AARON JOHNSON

Between planning for finals, summer storage, and potential internships, we put little thought into our financial aid renewal application deadlines for the CSS Profile and the FAFSA. Yet as the future class of 2016 is busy comparing financial aid offers from various peer institutions, we need to remind ourselves of one of the most important aspects of college planning: finances.

One of Columbia's biggest institutional draws is the sheer amount of diversity on campus. According to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions' class of 2014 statistics, 50 percent of students are on some form of financial aid, 57 percent are students of color, and 17 percent are Pell Grant recipients. Essentially, the issues concerning diversity in race, geographical location, and sexual orientation are engaged and unpacked by a variety of student groups and on-campus events, such as the Black Student Organization, Asian American Alliance, and Columbia Queer Alliance.

But the socioeconomic diversity of Columbia students is also central to our student body identity. How is this diversity recognized and considered? Aside from a brief discussion during the New Student Orientation Program in Under1Roof, what other forums exist for discussing the issue of finances?

The reality of the matter is, whether you attend Columbia on a full-ride scholarship or your parents pay your entire tuition, we're all dropped in the same fast-paced expensive Columbia/New York environment and expected to thrive. And how can we as students expect a supportive and welcoming Columbia community if we simply glaze over the issue of finances for a few hours at the beginning of the year? We need to engage our socioeconomic diversity and financial experiences in the same way we engage other diverse aspects of our student body identity.

The socioeconomic diversity of Columbia students is also central to our student body identity.

The financial divide between the full-ride scholarship student and the student whose parents pay the entire way is immense, yet there are few existing campus groups that aim to tackle these issues and how they intersect with different forms of identity. One example of these groups is the Common Cents Project, a group that aims to discuss financial literacy and Columbia's socioeconomic culture.

The project incorporates both students and administrators in direct conversation with each other for assistance. It is sponsored by the Office of Financial Aid and the Office of Multicultural Affairs and facilitated by the student group ROOTEd to create a group that is part discussion, part solution. This framework is a good one to follow. There needs to be a forum that engages administrators and also allows students to air grievances, raise questions, and propose solutions to school administrators that can potentially facilitate positive change within the University.

We need to have more conversations like these, both through structured student groups and in our daily lives. Finances are an invisible aspect of identity that we, as students in New York, are often made painfully aware of, and people from all socioeconomic backgrounds could benefit from more open dialogues about these issues. Especially as we welcome the class of 2016 and eagerly await the students' arrival in August, it is pertinent that frank, non-judgmental, welcoming conversations about finances begin early on. After all, more than half of students on campus receive some form of financial aid. It's about time we break the silence and establish a dialogue about socioeconomic diversity and its implications.

The author is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in urban studies. He is a co-founder of the Common Cents Project.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In response to your editorial ("Open course evaluations," April 16), the University should require that every course taught under its auspices be evaluated by the students enrolled. Online publication would serve two purposes: It would provide students with relevant information as they choose courses, and it would provide members of the faculty with a sense of who among them has an impact in the classroom, and who among them is "mailing it in." In the 1970s, students independently published a Columbia-Barnard course guide, so this would not be a new development, but one that goes back to a very fine tradition of the University.

To me, the only real issue involves the details, but they are important details indeed. I would suggest that courses taught for the first time be excluded, that each course have a multi-year table attached so students could see the overall pattern rather than just the most recent results; that if comments are included, the students be guaranteed anonymity, but also that some editorial judgment be exercised so that comments are published but not rants. I am confident that an online evaluation system could be quickly developed and that it would be a great service to all in the University.

*Richard M. Pious
Professor of political science
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Correction

An earlier version of this article omitted Barnard professors Janna Levin and Jodi Melnick. Spectator regrets the error.

Spectator is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error please inform us at info@columbiaspectator.com.

For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

Hip today, mainstream tomorrow

Unless you've been living under a rock, you know the latest buzz around Instagram. Last week, that app you used to share artsy Bacchanal photos was acquired by Facebook for \$1 billion. With acquisitions such as these, the general public is usually more surprised by the big numbers than those in the venture capital world are. In this case, everybody was a little thrown off guard. Just a few days earlier, Instagram had closed a \$50 million financing round that valued the company at \$500 million; somehow between that valuation and last Monday, the company's already massive valuation magically doubled.

To some, Instagram sold out. What used to be an independent, smartphone-exclusive program, conceived only two years earlier, has now been sucked into the giant Facebook vortex of mainstream social media.

The hipster is dead. Long live the hipster.

Business is an industry often stereotyped as stuffy, corporate, and boring. Entrepreneurs, however, are the hipsters of this world. At Columbia, hipster culture mandates that we scoff at investment bankers, consultants, and anyone else "selling their soul" to corporate America. Startups, however, are generally accepted by this crowd as an "alternative" business route.

The best definition for a hipster that I could find was on Urban Dictionary, which claims his kind are "a subculture of men and women typically in their 20's and 30's that value independent thinking, counter culture," and other edgy interests. Entrepreneurs stray from the mainstream business trajectory—rather than playing it safe and climbing the company ladder from analyst to associate to vice president and on, entrepreneurs take a heavy risk in starting from scratch. They give starving artists a run for their not-yet-existent money, begging venture capitalists for that first ounce of seed funding. The hipster's ambition to become the next accidental billionaire is just as unlikely as the street artist's Picasso dreams, but just that sliver of



ARVIN
AHMADI
Tech
Etiquette

Digital natives in the stone age

The call for all citizens to become computer literate is an old one. Politicians, career counselors, infomercial ringmasters: everyone everywhere wants everyone to be able to use a computer. The forces of the labor market have conspired to create a massive drive for digital literacy, and, in America at least, the steady drumbeat of progress has succeeded in forcing most behind a keyboard and onto the Internet. Only a few elderly holdouts remain, destined to succumb eventually to the nagging of their children, the scorn of their peers, or Death's gentle embrace. This is all well and good, but it may seem a little irrelevant to Columbia students. After all, everyone here is familiar with at least one operating system, web browser, and word processor. We are all in an age of the Internet. We all know computers better than our parents. So we are all computer savvy, right?



ALEX
COLLAZO
I'm Just
Saying

I recoiled in horror freshman year when I learned that one of my classmates did not know even the most basic keyboard shortcuts (ctrl/cmd+a, f, w, z, x, c, v).

The media and some in academia like to refer to the cohort currently enrolled in college as "digital natives." People our age, particularly those with the privileged backgrounds most Columbia students possess, are perhaps the first generation to grow up with and on the Internet. This fact is used to support the notion that youth have a special relationship with the digital world. Supposedly, we learned how to use computers so early that we can barely remember—nursing at the teat of Mother Internet and using our pliable young brains to become intimate with her in a way no one over the age of 30 could ever comprehend. I once subscribed to this narrative. Over the past few years, however, Columbia students have worked hard to disabuse me of any faith I once had in my generation's exceptional computer skills. Here, among some of the best and brightest, an incredible ignorance is festering; there is an ignorance that I have seen result in the wasting of vast amounts of money, the vilest abuse of innocent laptops, the wanton massacre of precious

chance and a passion for their ideas keeps them going.

The irony is that if it all miraculously works out, the entrepreneur risks losing her hipster edge. Take Hipster. Yes, there literally exists a startup named Hipster. What does it do? Well, if that were immediately clear, then they wouldn't be very cool, would they? No, it's pretty clear: "Easily share where you are and what you're doing with postcards of your photos." It's a mix of Foursquare, Instagram, and Twitter, with a touch of Pinterest. The one-year-old company was recently acquired by AOL for a rumored seven-figure sum. While Hipster's biggest claim to fame so far has been incentivizing its engineers with \$10,000 and a year's supply of PBR, it has already been acquired. Hipster's hipster days are dangerously numbered.

Instagram is in the same boat. The co-founder of Instagram left the his job at Google to start a company because it was the "cool" thing to do. He took a risk and soaked up the adrenaline rush. As the New York Times put it last Friday, Instagram may now follow Google's suit as a "safe place to be, but not terribly cool." It is a fluid example of the blurry line between a hipster startup and a mainstream company. The cross-over can occur unexpectedly and abruptly.

Determining a startup's hipster status is just as difficult as spotting a hipster on the street. It's an "I know it when I see it" taxonomy. Vimeo is hipster. YouTube is not. Tumblr is hipster. WordPress is definitely not. The King's Spear is hipster. Spec and Bwog, admittedly, are not. But Instagram and Hipster still have a shot at remaining cool. Just because they've been acquired doesn't mean they necessarily have to sell out.

If the founders of Instagram walked into a bar in Williamsburg, I have no doubt they would garner more hipster cred than Mark Zuckerberg or Biz Stone. In the near future, though, I don't know. Both Facebook and Twitter were valued at just \$1 billion a few years ago and didn't even exist a few years before that. In the face of growth and acquisition, an entrepreneur's hipster status is dangerously threatened.

Panic? No—like their Williamsburg counterparts, these business hipsters remain largely unfazed.

Arvin Ahmadi is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in computer science and political science. He is a Spectator online staff developer. Tech Etiquette runs alternate Tuesdays.

seconds, and countless atrocities against the most basic principles of good digital citizenship. We may be better at this than our parents are, but there's still a lot of work to be done.

If there's one thing every Columbian should know, it's how to make a website. It does not really matter what you intend to do, being able to make a website will help you do it. Want to start a business? You'll need a website. Want to be a self-employed artist of any type? Ditto. Want to market a product, a service, or yourself? A full online presence is (or will soon be) not optional. This skill should be taught in high schools and probably will be in a decade or two. But even today, the Columbia student, entrepreneurial and independent, should not be spending money to hire web designers. As someone who was and is involved in freelance web design, I can tell you two things with absolute certainty. One: In 2012, building even moderately complex websites from scratch is an incredibly simple process that can be self-taught and accomplished in less than a day. Two: Any web designer worth her salt will exploit your ignorance of point number one to amass an unhealthily high hourly wage. To use the Internet without knowing how to make a website is to read without knowing how to write. Yet a surprisingly high number of Columbians do not know and, worse, are not interested in learning.

The problem goes deeper. Watching a Columbia student use a computer can be a painful experience and makes one question whether simply growing up on a computer is sufficient to instruct a person in its use. I recoiled in horror freshman year when I learned that one of my classmates did not know even the most basic keyboard shortcuts (ctrl/cmd+a, f, w, z, x, c, v). I then found myself in a position that required me to regularly observe my fellow Columbians using computers and realized that this sort of ignorance was widespread. I have seen students clicking and dragging scroll bars when a perfectly good scroll wheel was but a centimeter from their right index finger. I have seen students browsing the Internet without antivirus software. I have seen students using AOL Mail or, worse, CubMail. And in one particularly awkward example, I had a fellow student's computer suggest unspeakable websites to me when I typed the letters "sl" in the address bar (private browsing, my friends—if the pants are off, you had best be using it!). These are the sorts of things a "digital native" could reasonably be expected to know but which some Columbians do not.

The sad fact is that today, almost two decades into the Eternal September, some Columbia students have failed to learn even basic computer skills. We must be more curious and more vigilant. Surpassing our parents is simply not enough. Sit, Columbia. Sit behind a keyboard and learn something new.

Alex Collazo is a Columbia College junior majoring in creative writing and economics-philosophy. He is the treasurer of CIRCA and a former Spectator head copy editor. I'm Just Saying runs alternate Tuesdays.



JASMINE MARIANO

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere.

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com. Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.

Anthony Da Costa kicks off international tour

BY JENNY PAYNE
Columbia Daily Spectator

While the majority of Columbia students were out in the sun dancing to Big Gigantic last Saturday afternoon, Anthony Da Costa, CC '13, was preparing for a very different kind of show: his own album release at Joe's Pub near Astor Place, the first of several stops on his summer tour.

Da Costa, an ancient studies major by day and folk musician by night, spent the night enchanting the intimate venue with songs from his just-released album "Secret Handshake." Though he has been performing for the public since age 13, the show represented a special achievement for Da Costa.

"Joe's Pub is sort of a dream venue. I've opened a show there and been part of tribute shows and reviews, but this was my first time headlining and probably my biggest show yet in the city," Da Costa said. "I was really happy that all my friends and everybody came out to support me. It was a really great night."

Da Costa commanded the stage with confidence, filling the room with melodies both up-tempo and low-key and grinning at the audience, occasionally regaling his listeners with a story or snippet of background on his songs. This honesty brought out some laughter from the audience, especially when Da Costa introduced a song titled "Learning to Say No."

"This is a song about being really terrible at being hard to get, which I am," said Da Costa with a shy smile. "They say 'Don't call her for three days, don't call her for three days.' It's just so stupid." He bantered and interacted so casually with the crowd that one would easily forget that performing isn't his full-time job.

Planning a summer tour while simultaneously managing a Columbia course load makes for a busy schedule. Yet, Da Costa remains involved on campus—on Sunday, he emceed and played at Sunday's Postcrypt Folk Festival the day after his Joe's Pub show.

The upcoming summer promises to only get busier for Da Costa, with his tour taking him all up and down both U.S. coasts and to Canada and Denmark. For much of the tour, he will be promoting his solo work "Secret Handshake," but Da Costa will also be performing with his trio—Elliott, Rose, Da Costa—and accompanying other folk artists.

"The best part about this is that I'll be surrounded by people who I really love and respect

SEE DA COSTA, page 3



JENNY PAYNE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CROWD-PLEASER | Anthony Da Costa jokes with the crowd during his performance at Joe's Pub, which marked the beginning of his tour.



LUKE HENDERSON AND PETER BOHNHOF FOR SPECTATOR

MAKING WAVVES | Students gathered on the Low Steps for this year's Bacchanal, where Wavves (top right) and Big Gigantic (bottom left) performed.

I love the Baccha90s: concert a surprising success

BY MAREN KILLACKEY
Columbia Daily Spectator

Alas! The day of Bacchanal has come and gone, leaving naught but hazy memories of intoxicated shenanigans and regrettable decisions. Because many of you may not recall what actually happened during this year's not-really-so-historic-but-still-pretty-cool event, here's a brief lo-down:

Student DJs Spicy Special kicked off the afternoon's festivities, spinning some banging, nostalgia-inducing '90s tracks, in conjunction with the day's alleged theme. Their enthusiasm infectious, Spicy Special got the crowd sufficiently pumped despite the (initially) lackluster turnout and faint air of disappointment regarding the lineup. Given that not everyone was super drunk at that point, the overall positive response to Spicy Special's set was definitely something to be commended.

Following Spicy Special was lo-fi, surf punk, weed rock act Wavves, composed of lead singer/guitarist Nathan Williams, bassist Stephen Pope, and drummer Jacob Cooper. For those familiar



with them, it was to be expected that Wavves would deliver a killer set. Thankfully, although there was a fair amount of moshing, crowd surfing, head banging (y'know, the usual Ivy League stuff) no one was actually harmed ... we don't think.

Though the lineup might have seemed fairly odd ... it appeared that by and large it was a good day at Columbia.

Next up was New Orleans rapper Curren\$, who, despite having dropped four albums in the past three years, seemed to be known by all of 12 frat guys and nine Louisiana residents in the crowd. Bacchanalians' antics didn't get quite as crazy as they did for Wavves, but the hip-hop interlude between noise pop and electro-jazz definitely generated a more chill vibe among spectators. Most of the rap connoisseurs by this point were highly inebriated (see what I did there?) and probably

weren't commenting on Curren\$'s unique flow, amazing collaborations with Stalley and Wale, or how underrated he is, but they were sure to notice the special guest appearance of none other than Harlem native and Kushed God, Smoke DZA.

Finally, those who weren't yet passed out or otherwise incapacitated were treated to the musical stylings of Dominic Lalli and Jeremy Salken, aka Big Gigantic. Big Gigantic's sound, as everyone undoubtedly gleaned from Wikipedia two weeks ago when the duo was announced as headliner, is a unique amalgamation of DJ-produced jazz, hip-hop, and electro. The apparent transcendence of genre was wildly welcomed by the remaining horde of Bacchanal attendees, many of whom, when abrasively interrogated afterward, admitted to having converted from former hater-ism and were actually pleasantly surprised by how much they enjoyed themselves.

Though the lineup might have seemed fairly odd, especially in comparison to last year's, it appeared that by and large it was a good day at Columbia. Whether you raged to Wavves, pre-4/20-ed to Curren\$, or just kind of obliviously jammed along to Big Gigantic, it was a fun time for all. Now for finals.

arts@columbiaspectator.com

Edgar Lee Masters's 'The Spoon River Anthology' gets a big cast, new spin

BY LESLEY THULIN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

All the world's fitting onto the stage for a School of the Arts thesis production of "The Spoon River Anthology" that includes over 100 actors. Conceived and directed by Jimmy Maize, SoA '12, the play is a new adaptation of Edgar Lee Masters's 1915 collection of poems about the residents of the fictional town Spoon River, Ill.

Maize's stage adaptation reconfigures a curated selection of the poems—"epitaphs" delivered by dead Spoon River citizens that explore themes including mortality and memory—into a three-act dramatic structure that includes approximately 120 of the poems in Masters' collection. The play is comprised of thematically-grouped monologues in story vignettes.

"The only way that I could accomplish the weight of the narrative was to cast 100 people," he said. Composed of graduate students in the School of the Arts and other actors in New York City, Maize did not take the traditional route and double-cast the show.

"There is a new person with every new character and every new story. You never hear the same voice twice," he said.

Although Masters's collection of poems has been adapted for the stage before with a stint on Broadway in '60s, Maize's adaptation is brand new.

"Certainly, I've never heard of a 100-person adaptation of it," he said. The production will also feature an original score by Eli Zoller, and original choreography by Jon Cooper and Marine Sialelli, SoA '12.

"What I did was I built the structure of the play so that Act I was really about the Spoon River, Illinois, 1915 nitty-gritty experience," Maize said. Part of this experience centers on working-class life. While Act II features a more modern aesthetic, Maize combined the forms in Act III in order to draw parallels between the different times. Zoller matched this vision with the score, which includes a mix of electronic music with violins and cellos in Act III.

Six actors helped Maize develop the piece and have been given the title of "co-creator," in addition to their roles as actors in the show, according to Kagen.

"The material is so rich," actor and co-creator Franny Silverman wrote in an email. "I love that this production gives a unique and individual voice to 100 of the named characters in Edgar Lee Masters's text, really highlighting the humanity by asking the question of what—or who—makes a town ... and how do they intersect to create a community of people with a collective history."

"The writing is beautiful," Maize said of Masters's book of poetry. "It's about universalities in human nature and life and death."

Although the book's 240 poems come from almost as many different Spoon River citizens, Maize knew there was a "beautiful story being told," whether or not it was part of a linear narrative.

"I read all 240 poems together, and I was able to understand what Masters was doing in this work, which was really to capture the fullness of life," he said. "You really get a breadth of human experience."

The production will also enjoy an extended run at



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARIDEE SLATER

THE ONE HUNDRED | Jimmy Maize takes a gamble and didn't double-cast in his performance of "The Spoon River Anthology," a theatrical take on the poetry of Edgar Lee Masters.

The Invisible Dog Art Center in Brooklyn. "It's sort of unconventional for a thesis to have an extension, but we figured with a hundred actors we were going to have a high demand," Maize said.

Performances are April 18-21 at 8 p.m. in Riverside Church, and April 24-28 at 8 p.m. at The Invisible Dog (51 Bergen Street, Brooklyn).

arts@columbiaspectator.com



MIKE DISCENZA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EFFECTIVE COACHING | Coach Chrest gives junior attacker Kacie Johnson encouragement during a game.

Lacrosse coach brings winning history to Morningside

CHREST from back page

programs in the country. She then took a job as an assistant at Loyola, and in her first year the Greyhounds won the Big East title. After getting engaged, she took a job with the Lions to be closer to her fiance.

“I just really loved my experience as a student athlete at Duke, and wanted to really help to create that same experience for other college players,” Chrest said. “I think I realized how much I learned, not just about the game, but about life through that experience.”

Although an attacker during her college career, Chrest has worked with both the offense and the defense in her time in New York. “I’ve spent some time with the attackers, really working on offensive strategy and just some of the basics on that end of a motion offense, and defensively, just really working on playing together, really trying to build a unit back there,” she said.

Chrest’s influence goes beyond tactics. For a team that has struggled to put up wins each of the last three years—only one Ivy win in 20 games, and 11 in

36 overall—her positivity is a welcome respite from the standings.

“The most effective coaches for me were realistic, so they were hard on me when they needed to be but they were also very positive,” Chrest said. “I think as a coach I really try to take a step aside and really see, ‘OK, what does this player really need,’ independent of what I feel about the situation.”

According to Johnson, Chrest has been successful in this effort. “She’s always so positive, and helps everyone in positive ways,” she said. “Everyone feeds off her energy.”

“I just really had such a fun time playing, and that is something that I feel like is so important, especially at the college level when you’re up at seven in the morning on a Monday,” Chrest said.

Her brief coaching career has not come without its difficulties, especially since Chrest only joined in the middle of the academic year. She says it has been a challenge to teach all that she wanted to teach in such a short time.

Head coach Liz Kittleman is only in her second year with Columbia herself, and inheriting a different coach’s

systems and players makes it difficult to quickly change a program’s fortunes.

“We’re building the foundation right now,” Chrest said. “And that takes a lot more emotional energy, I think, than just refining kids and just helping them stay good.”

Although the team may not currently have a standout player to fill Johnson’s shoes, Chrest looks forward to helping develop new young talent.

“Another thing that we’ve had to keep in mind is that in three years we’re going to have a very different experience, a very different team, and we are excited about that,” Chrest said. “We’re excited to build into that freshman class a lot of leadership. These guys will have a lot of experience when they’re juniors and seniors.”

Chrest also realizes that her influence can extend off the out-of-bounds lines, as she hopes the players will use her lessons to help them even after they graduate.

“That’s something that I’m very passionate about: taking a student athlete’s experience on the field beyond what they do as a player,” Chrest said.

High school soccer programs and players will be hurt by changes

KLUG from back page

Creating a culture of soccer in America—a project I wholeheartedly support—will require more than simply isolating the best players and helping them develop. It will take more success stories like that of our own team from this fall and will take more people paying attention to those stories and wanting to be part of something similar. Extreme specialization, though, is anathema to the educational ideals of both Columbia and America as a whole. Despite the terrible injustices the

NCAA perpetuates, the organization is right to note that most of its athletes “go pro in something other than sports.” More than that, our country and our school are places where even the most talented athletes can grow up in something other than sports. It would be a shame to abandon that worthwhile goal simply to move up a spot or two in the FIFA rankings.

Sam Klug is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. He is a Spectrum opinion blogger. sports@columbiaspectator.com



HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CARRY THROUGH | Senior outfielder Billy Rumpke had three hits in his five at-bats in the second game against Cornell this past weekend, but the team went 1-3.

Columbia pitchers help team stay in running for Lou Gehrig Division title

IN FOCUS from back page

on a couple of occasions. They put up 10 runs in a game at Harvard and 14 in a game versus Brown, and have hit well in nonconference games since Ivy play began. Columbia scored seven runs against Rutgers and nine against St. John’s.

But the Lions need to score when it counts in order to move up in the standings.

In the remaining games versus Princeton and Penn, the offense has an opportunity to prove itself and back

up the pitchers. The Quakers’ 5.51 staff ERA is the second-highest in the conference, and the Tigers’ 5.48 is only slightly better.

The pitchers have been performing well all season, but the lack of consistent offensive production continues to plague the Light Blue. The Lions are hopeful that they can leave their hard-luck losses in the past and turn things around as the stretch run begins.

“Our guys are resilient. They’re able to put things behind ’em and move on and continue to compete,” head coach Brett Boretti said.

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Academy system threatens high school soccer

I loved high school soccer. Absolutely loved it. I played central defense, so my moments of glory, such as they were, involved gritty tackles, clearing headers, and unglamorous step-ins, rather than magical strikes on goal. One of the moments I remember most fondly happened in the second half of a game, my senior year, in the pouring rain. An opposing striker, one of the best players on one of the league's perennial top teams, had gotten round my left back and was streaking in on goal. Frantically tracking back, I launched into a slide tackle when I was still at least 10 feet away, but the wet grass propelled me right into the spot where his touch had left the ball. Poised to score, he instead toppled over my outstretched leg, the ball sputtering out of play for a harmless throw-in.

Starting next year, that scene, and thousands like it, will become impossible. That striker, who later played for four years at Boston College, was at the time a member of FC Greater Boston Bolts, one of the 80 clubs designated by the U.S. Soccer Federation as a Development Academy club. Starting next year, Development Academy clubs will operate on a 10-month season and will force thousands of teenagers to choose between playing for their high school and playing for their club. Many of these talented kids, lured by the opportunity to work with top coaches, be seen by professional scouts, and possibly be selected for a youth national team pool, will surely choose club over school. Despite the undeniable benefit of more training and top-quality coaching for improving players' abilities, the downsides of this change will extend far beyond the quality of high school soccer.

Creating a culture of soccer in America—a project I wholeheartedly support—will require more than simply isolating the best players and helping them develop.

Twelve players on the Columbia men's soccer team this year—all underclassmen—played for academy clubs, often in conjunction with successful high school careers. A 10-month academy season might have boosted these players' abilities, and could lead to higher-quality recruits in the future. Yet high school camaraderie and competition played a big role in the development of the seniors who led the program to its most successful season in years this past fall. Clearly, that history and the pride that comes with representing one's school shaped these players' relationship with soccer at Columbia, to the Light Blue's benefit.

More broadly, this shift decouples academics and athletics to an unprecedented degree.

The growth of the Development Academies may actually improve college soccer in the short term. By developing far more highly talented players than could actually immediately play at the professional level, the academies could set up college programs to benefit from a windfall of players. The long-term outlook for college soccer, though, is grim. U.S. Soccer has a clear goal of replacing the college-to-pro model with a European model in which talented players are identified at a young age and develop their abilities within the confines of a single club system. As I've harped on in previous columns, there are numerous problems with the American approach, in which college sports essentially serve as the minor leagues. But I'm not sure the social isolation that the European system entails is right for a country where the culture of soccer is only just developing.

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SAM KLUG

First Touch



MIKE DISCENZA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BEST OF THE BEST | First-year assistant coach Katie Chrest (left) talks with head coach Liz Kittleman during a match against Brown earlier this year.

Coach Chrest helps lacrosse build its foundations

BY MUNEEB ALAM
Spectator Staff Writer

Junior attacker Kacie Johnson is on pace to shatter personal and Columbia records this season. After 37 goals and 59 points last season, the reigning Ivy Player of the Week already has 39 goals and 68 points this year, putting her on pace for 49 goals and 36 assists totaling 85 points, all of which would be Lions records.

Yet the most successful lacrosse player on the team is not on the field, but a woman standing on the sidelines. First-year assistant coach Katie Chrest

graduated from Duke in 2006 as the program's record holder in both career and single-season goals and points. In 2005, she won the Tewaaraton Award—given to the best female lacrosse player in the country—after scoring 70 goals and 96 points as the Blue Devils marched to a national title. She was a finalist for the award again in her senior year, topping 60 goals once again as Duke went back to the Final Four.

“She does stick tricks in practice that I could never do, ever,” Johnson said. “And she just really helps out the attack, and the defense, all over the field, and everyone looks up to her. Great person,

great coach.”

Chrest noticed that Duke's team culture had changed leading up to her historic year in 2005. She felt that the team's locker room became more tightly knit, and that is a culture she hopes to bring to Columbia.

“I think it was such a valuable experience at Duke to have seen one way of doing things, and then having that culture change, and having it be different,” Chrest said. “Being part of the change has really helped me understand how to bring about positive changes in team culture on teams.”

After graduating, the three-time

All-American continued playing on an international level. She trained with the national team for a few years and, in 2009, won the World Cup with Team USA. She then entered coaching, and continues to draw from those experiences.

“Just even to have exposure to different coaches than I had at Duke, that was really helpful for me in building a more complete coaching skill set,” Chrest said.

She was a volunteer assistant coach at Maryland, one of the top lacrosse

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Lions baseball needs offensive surge to match strong pitching

BY ELI SCHULTZ
Spectator Staff Writer

With eight games left to play in the Ivy League season, the Lions are facing a steep, uphill battle in their quest for a Lou Gehrig Division title.

The Light Blue dropped three of four this weekend at Cornell, and is now four games behind the division-leading Big Red and three games behind second-place Princeton. With the final games of the conference season quickly approaching, and the offense struggling to score runs in critical situations, Columbia desperately needs its pitching staff to continue performing at the high level that the Lions have come to expect from their arms.



“Our guys are resilient. They're able to put things behind 'em and move on and continue to compete.”

—Bret Boretti, head coach

Columbia's 14-19 season record and disappointing 6-6 mark in conference play are certainly not the fault of the pitchers. Columbia ranks second in the Ancient Eight with a team ERA of 4.51, behind Cornell's 3.38 and ahead of Harvard's 4.85. Senior righty Pat Lowery is third among Ivy starters with a 2.79 ERA. Four of Columbia's starters have ERAs under 4.50.

Columbia's pitching strength is apparent even when the team fails to pick up a win. In the Light Blue's six conference losses, the starting pitching has been strong without exception. A Lions starter has yet to surrender more than four earned runs in an Ivy loss. In fact, no Columbia pitcher has given up more than four earned runs in any Ivy start.

The Cornell series was no exception. The Big Red offense leads the league in virtually every offensive category, including runs scored, batting average, RBIs, total bases, and slugging percentage, and it is tied for first in homers with Princeton. Nonetheless, Lowery put up six scoreless innings, and junior righty Tim Giel gave up just



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PREVENTING RUNS | Senior right-handed pitcher Pat Lowery has the third-best ERA (2.79) among Ivy League starters.

three earned runs in eight innings of work in Saturday's games.

On Sunday, sophomore lefty David Speer had a somewhat rough start, giving up four earned runs and one unearned in three innings, and junior righty Stefan Olson gave up one run in six innings in his start. But though the Lions starters shined against Cornell's bats, the Big Red's arms eclipsed them by entirely shutting down Columbia's offense on Saturday, as the Lions scored only one run in two games. Two winnable games turned into losses, which happened again in game one on Sunday as a last-ditch Light Blue rally fell short.

Though the team lost, Columbia's starters proved themselves against the Ivy League's most dominant offense.

If what has happened thus far in conference play is any indication, the Lions can generally expect to be in a good position to win games. The starting pitchers have excelled at their role of keeping their team in the game, and they should continue to do so against Columbia's remaining opponents.

Both Princeton and Penn are in the middle of the pack offensively. The Tigers and Quakers rank fourth and fifth, respectively, in the Ancient Eight in team batting average, though the Princeton lineup has shown enough

power to be tied for the league lead in home runs.

Assuming the Lions continue to pitch well, the task of saving the season will fall to the Lions' offense, which ranks last in its division in batting average, runs scored, slugging percentage, and home runs. The Lions have hit only 10 home runs as a team, while Princeton has 22, and Penn has 16. In terms of batting average, Columbia's .263 clip is 15 points lower than Penn's .278 mark and 17 below Princeton's .280.

The Lions' bats have shown potency

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