SPECTATOR TOWN HALL—Join us for dinner and dialogue, in a forum to meet the editors and provide feedback. Monday, April 20 at 7 p.m. in Earl Hall.

COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR

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Bacchanal concert was an overheated success

Glorious weather and spectacular performances by Vampire Weekend and Talib Kweli drew an influx of Columbia students to Low Plaza on Saturday afternoon.

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Going Green with Pete Seeger

The Teachers College Rockin' Earth Day Festival featured a performance by folk musician Pete Seeger, as well as an array of environmentally friendly organizations.

Opinion, page 4

Faith in Facebook

Columnist Eric Hirsch discusses how Facebook profiles force us to deal with religion and its role in our identities.

Sports, page 3

Lacrosse triumphs over conference foe

On Saturday, the Lions defeated Harvard in a close matchup, 11-10. The victory marks the first for Columbia against a conference opponent in the team's last 28 attempts.

Sports, page 3

Baseball loses final two close matchups

After taking the second game against Cornell on Saturday, the Light Blue battled and kept the final two ballgames close on Sunday, falling 3-2, 9-7.

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Just like you, the news never sleeps. Check out our Web site 24/7 for campus and city news that matters to you.

TALIB KWASSA KWASSA

Diana Wong / Senior Staff Photographer

SEEING STARS | Saturday's Bacchanal spring concert featured performances by indie band Vampire Weekend as well as hip-hop musician Talib Kweli. For a full story on the event, see back page.

GSSC elections get underway

Candidates take advantage of extended campaign period

BY LIZA WEINGARTEN
Spectator Staff Writer

As students at the School of General Studies head to the polls Monday to elect their next council, financial aid, housing, and debt remain key issues for two candidates vying for the presidency.

With an extra week of campaigning under their belts, General Studies Student Council presidential candidates Alfred Davis and Katherine Edwards now look forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts.

Originally, elections were scheduled for early April to mark the culmination of a traditional one-week campaign period, but they were delayed an additional week because they conflicted with Passover and Easter.

With additional time to campaign, the two presidential candidates took a multifaceted approach to promoting the issues they champion as central concerns to their respective campaigns, such as financial aid and housing for GS students. Both Edwards and Davis boast fliers and a Facebook group—with 52 and 68 members by Sunday evening, respectively—and have not been afraid to think outside the box.

"I have a t-shirt I've been wearing around campus ... that says, 'Vote Katherine for President,'"

SEE GSSC, page 7

Students shy from counseling services

BY AVIVA SHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

"My problems are too petty for counseling."

This first-year's response in an informal, anonymous survey of Columbia students echoed a familiar refrain that both Counseling and Psychological Services (CPS) at Columbia and Furman Counseling Center at Barnard are working hard to dispel.

Mind Matters
A month-long series on mental health

Perhaps one of the most tenacious obstacles in counseling services' outreach efforts is the campus-wide perception that there are only certain problems for which it is worthwhile to seek help.

"Most people think that mental health is the same as mental illness, and only the really serious/suicidal issues count," one CC senior wrote on her survey.

Ashley Ellenson, SEAS '11, has always been surprised by this mentality. A regular therapy patient in high school, she never hesitated to ask for counseling, regardless of the severity of her problems.

"Whenever I'm depressed or feeling sad and I can't really understand what's gnawing at me, then I'll go," she said. "Last year I was a first-year and it was hard to adjust ... it was taking a toll on me, being in such a different environment."

Ellenson first sought help at CPS last spring. But after only three sessions, she was referred off-campus due to the high congestion of students.

Her experience was a result of the inevitable prioritization of higher-risk students and a trend in general attitudes towards mental health. Mary Commerford, director of Furman, has sensed a shift in therapy away from developmental issues such as Ellenson's toward a more clinical approach to serious disorders.

"Traditionally, they were always considered places where you worked with students who had developmental issues—identity and career and asking those kind of questions," she said of the counseling offices. "In the six years I've been here, it's still shifting, and that's the nationwide trend. Because there's more demand for some severe diagnosis, the focus has pulled more toward

SEE MIND MATTERS, page 7

Men's tennis claims Ancient Eight title

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Bogdan Borta threw his racket in the air in celebration after his Princeton opponent hit a backhand into the net—Borta's win clinched the 2009 Ivy League championship for the No. 56 Columbia men's tennis team on Sunday.

The team members quickly stormed the court after his win, celebrating their second Ivy title in three seasons and shouting chants of "Lions!" heard throughout the Princeton campus. Borta's victory was soon followed by wins from Jon Wong and Ekin Sezgen, both of whom finished within minutes of each other to seal a 7-0 win for Columbia. As the Ivy League champions, the Light Blue will be the conference's sole representative in the NCAA Tennis Championships, which begin on May 8.

"I was very proud of the guys," said head coach Bid Goswami, who has now won seven Ivy League titles in his 27 years at the helm, "I thought we were very good the whole year. I was thinking back to the beginning of the year when I looked at the roster and thought we had a pretty good nucleus of guys. Then when we did well in the Regionals, I thought—if we keep this up, we could be good. When we beat Old Dominion, that was a good win and then ECACs

Courtesy of Amin Nadim Khalaf

CHAMPS | Mihai Nichifor and Bogda Borta dominated in No. 1 doubles against Princeton.

SEE MEN'S TENNIS, page 9

WEDDING PARTY

Brian Chan / Spectator Staff Photographer

HANGAMA | The event run by the Organization of Pakistani Students featured a mock traditional wedding on Low Plaza.

Horowitz chides CU's 'radical professors'

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM
Spectator Staff Writer

The conflation of academia with politics became a hot-button issue this Friday in a discussion led by conservative writer and activist David Horowitz, CC '59.

In an appearance organized by the Columbia University College Republicans, Horowitz discussed his new book, *One Party Classroom*, and a chapter in it about Columbia called "Uptown Madrassa." Public Safety officers guarded the doors of the Roone Arledge Cinema as Horowitz addressed a crowd of about 30 students. He talked about "the disturbing intrusion of political influences on its [Columbia's] academic culture," which he attributed to "radical professors" bringing their agendas into the classroom.

"I can't tell you how many students have told me about the most outrageous abuses in the classroom, but they won't say anything because they're afraid they'll be punished by their liberal professors," Horowitz said, discussing what he described as Columbia's "disdain for intellectual diversity."

Horowitz particularly focused on Teachers College, saying that while it is regarded as the premier graduate school of education in the country, it is an institution where there is no distinction between teaching and politics. He said that the Teachers College mantra of "teaching for 'social justice' is just a mask for political agendas."

Horowitz also discussed this phenomenon at the undergraduate level, specifically citing issues he

SEE HOROWITZ, page 2

Angela Radulescu / Senior Staff Photographer

LAUNDRY DAY | On Friday evening, a quiet night of laundry in the LLC went up in flames. A dryer in the Hartley Hall laundry room caught fire, and was quickly extinguished by FDNY firefighters.

Laundry room fire breaks out in Hartley Hall

After a fire broke from two driers in the Hartley Hall laundry room, three fire trucks were dispatched to Van Am Quad on Friday evening at 11:24 p.m.

The fire set off the automatic alarm system and led to the complete evacuation of the John Jay, Hartley, and Wallach dormitories.

The chief firefighter on site, Kerry Stephen, said the fire was "probably due to a build of lint" in the driers, and that it ignited in two adjacent driers but was fairly easy to extinguish.

He said at 12:08 a.m. that the fire was "extinguished," and that students would be allowed to re-enter their rooms at that time. Stephen confirmed that the building's sprinkler system helped contain the fire.

Dan Federman, SEAS '11, had seen smoke while bringing his clothes to the John Jay laundry room.

"The entire tunnel system was full of smoke. I couldn't see into Wallach from the John Jay laundry room," Federman said.

Federman said the Wallach and Hartley alarms were the first to sound, followed shortly by the John Jay alarm system.

He said he contacted the Hospitality Desk immediately after he saw the smoke, but said he did not think he was the first to notify them.

Firefighter Hugo Muriel said that the fire was "easy to contain," and that it did not spread beyond the driers. Muriel added that the fire department would not normally dispatch such a large unit for a relatively small fire, but due to the "nature of the building" as a school dormitory, a fairly large team was sent.

"All I know is that some of these driers tend to be out of shape," Federman said.

—*Sam Levin*

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EVENTS — APRIL 20

Spectator Town Hall
Come to meet the editors, voice your opinions, and provide feedback. Free food will be offered in exchange for your insight.

Earl Hall Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Holocaust Remembrance Day
Join the Columbia/Barnard Hillel to commemorate the Holocaust over a conversation with former Jewish partisan Frank Blaichman.

Rennert Hall, Hillel Bldg., 7:30 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Garbage! Intellectual garbage is what is being shoved down your throats here."

—David Horowitz, CC '59

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Political Union elects new board

BY ALIX PIANIN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

For the newly elected Columbia Political Union (CPU) Executive Board, keeping up campus momentum in a non-election year may be one of the biggest challenges.

Sajaa Ahmed, CC '10, Emily Chen, CC '10, and Emily Shea, CC '12, were elected general manager, director of operations, and treasurer, respectively, Friday evening. The almost entirely new board is now looking to get more involved in Columbia campus politics and to establish closer relationships with both political and non-political groups.

Ahmed, who is the current editor of the *Columbia Political Review (CPR)*, said that one challenge for next year would be to keep up the campus momentum from the 2008 presidential elections.

As she makes the jump from editor of the *CPR* to CPU president, Ahmed will have to further bridge the gap between the publication and the group, which puts her in a different position than past presidents elected from within the organization.

"A lot of times, people don't even know that CPU publishes," Ahmed said, though as editor she has strived to emphasize the connection. *CPR* is now clearly labeled a union publication.

Her experience at the review may also help the CPU in "trying to get people to think about politics within the lens of Columbia," which, she said, was one of her goals for the coming year. The CPU board, she said, would also push to create a greater sense of what being a member of the union means—as a non-partisan group that is composed of many students who are also active in more partisan campus groups, Ahmed said she thought that non-executive board members felt less of a connection to the union.

"I think that the reason we did have a lot of interest in particular is because it was an election year, and was such a historic election," she said. The goal, she added, is to generate similar campus excitement with a fresh board and out-of-the-box thinking.

Alix Pianin can be reached at alix.pianin@columbiaspectator.com

Horowitz alleges anti-Jewish bias

HOROWITZ from front page

has found in the women's studies department here and at other institutions across the country. Within this department, Horowitz said, the idea of the subordination of women has been considered a premise—not a question—which precludes the opportunity for discussion and the consideration of more conservative viewpoints.

"I have no objection to a radical feminist, provided they are teaching students how to think, not teaching them what to think," Horowitz said. "That means when you present the theory, you inform students it's a theory, an opinion, and you present them with the opposing idea."

He went on to talk about specific professors at Columbia who have entered the media limelight for their political statements, alluding to anthropology professor Nicholas DeGenova who was known for expressing his wish for "a million Mogadishus" on the U.S. military in March 2003.

"Garbage! Intellectual garbage is what is being shoved down your throats here," Horowitz said, adding, "You guys pay $40,000 ... you should be enraged."

But beyond the curriculum, according to Horowitz, Columbia's atmosphere at large is also one of intolerance.

"I can't talk about Columbia without mentioning that it is a center of Jew hatred," Horowitz said. He cited Columbia's speaking invitation to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whom he described as spearheading "a global movement to complete the job Hitler didn't finish, to create a second Holocaust in the Middle East."

At the same time, he acknowledged that Columbia as a whole remains a superlative institution with leading professors in their respective fields.

"90 percent of the professors here are good professors," Horowitz said. "They are scholars and they bring into the classroom material in order to analyze it and dissect it."

Students who attended gave the event mixed reviews.

"I think he's right when he says that 90 percent of professors here are great, and teach their students how to think, not what to think, and there are just a few that are a problem," said College Republicans executive director Lauren Salz, BC '11, who is a *Spectator* columnist.

"He correctly pointed out that students who don't get exposed to divergent ideas are the ones that are being most hurt by the lack of academic diversity on University faculty," she added.

But others took issue with his speech, particularly his discussion of racism and religion.

"What connection does he have with Israel?" Roxanne Moadel-Attie, BC '12, said. "I don't think he has any more than I would, since he's lived in this country for, like, clearly, generations."

news@columbiaspectator.com

COLUMBIA
SUMMER TERM 2009

Look Who's Teaching This Summer!

ASTRONOMY
PROFESSOR JAMES APPLEGATE,
Earth, Moon, and Planets

ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
PROFESSOR RACHEL ADAMS,
Disability in American Literature & Culture

PROFESSOR LAWRENCE BESSERMAN,
The Bible and English Literature

CHEMISTRY
PROFESSOR JAMES VALENTINI,
General Chemistry II

HISTORY
PROFESSOR RICHARD BILLOWS,
The Decline & Fall of the Roman Republic

PROFESSOR CASEY BLAKE,
US Intellectual History, 1865-Present

PROFESSOR SAMUEL ROBERTS,
Social History of Substance Abuse in the United States

PROFESSOR NESLIHAN SENOCAK,
Crime and Punishment in the Middle Ages and Renaissance

PROFESSOR HERBERT SLOAN,
The Era of Independence in the Americas: US, Haiti, & Mexico

PROFESSOR LISA TIERSTEN,
Consumer Culture in Modern Europe

MIDDLE EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES
PROFESSOR HAMID DABASHI,
Cinema and Society in the Arab World

PHILOSOPHY
PROFESSOR JOHN COLLINS,
Skepticism

PROFESSOR CHRISTIA MERCER,
Methods and Problems

POLITICAL SCIENCE
PROFESSOR RICHARD PIOUS
The American Presidency

STATISTICS
PROFESSOR DANIEL RABINOWITZ
Linear Regression Models

- **Columbia / Barnard registration: April 6-10**
- **First six-week session: May 26-July 3**
- **Second six-week session: July 6-August 14**

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COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR

The *Spectator* wants your feedback!

TOWN HALL

Join us for dinner and dialogue: an opportunity to meet the faces behind *Spec* and offer ideas for our coverage and our newly-redesigned Web site.

Monday, April 20 @ 7 p.m.
Earl Hall Auditorium
Moderated by Stuart Karle, formerly of the *Wall Street Journal*

www.columbiaspectator.com

Baseball falls to Cornell in three games of back-to-back doubleheaders

BY JACOB SHAPIRO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Columbia's chances of defending its Ivy League title took a dramatic turn for the worse this weekend. In a crucial series, Cornell steamed into New York City, taking three of four games from the Lions.

On Saturday, Columbia took a 4-2 lead into the third inning, but Cornell's offense roughed up Lions starter Joe Scarlata (3-5) for three runs in the inning. Scarlata—who was named Ivy Pitcher of the Week last week for a stellar performance—had massive control problems and coughed up six runs in six innings. Scarlata beaned four batters, including one in the head, and threw a wild pitch as well.

Cornell starter Jadd Schmeltzer (2-1) had a solid outing for the Big Red, scattering seven hits over 5 2/3 innings. Although Columbia threatened to tie the game or take the lead on several occasions, the big right-hander effectively utilized his curveball to induce soft groundouts. Lions hitters were unable to connect on Schmeltzer's rare fastball offerings, fouling off pitches in all directions.

Columbia's best opportunity came in the fourth inning, when shortstop Alex Ferrera hit a fly ball down the right field line that was dropped, allowing him to reach second base. But Billy Rumpke failed to lay down a successful bunt—bunting the ball foul with two strikes—and Jon Eisen struck out behind him, allowing Schmeltzer to escape the inning. Cornell added three runs on a monster home run off reliever Harrison Slutsky in the final inning to win the game 8-4.

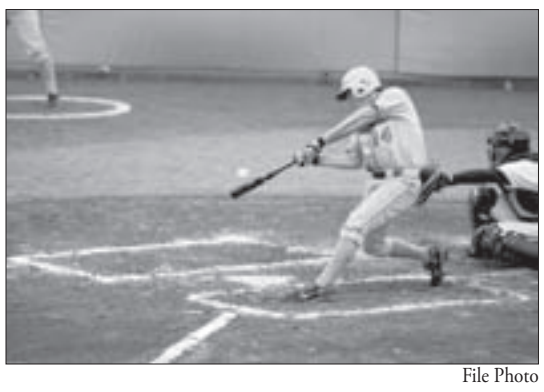
CORNELL	8
COLUMBIA	4
CORNELL	2
COLUMBIA	4
CORNELL	3
COLUMBIA	2
CORNELL	9
COLUMBIA	7

Game two featured two solid pitching performances by Lions pitchers that earned the team a victory. Freshman starter Pat Lowery was solid in six innings of work, striking out six Big Red batters while allowing only one earned run. Sophomore Geoff Whitaker earned his first win of the season with three outstanding innings of relief where he preserved Columbia's narrow lead.

Columbia scored two runs in the third inning and tacked on another two in the eighth inning. Ferrera and outfielder Bobby O'Brien each hit doubles and Ferrera stole home for the fourth and final Columbia run in a 4-2 victory.

On Sunday, Columbia lost two close ballgames, the first of which went into extra innings. After Cornell scored a run in consecutive innings off Dan Bracey, Columbia tied the game with a two-run homer by sophomore Nick Cox.

The game remained tied until Bracey allowed the game-winning run on a pair of singles. Catcher Dean Forthun led off Columbia's half of the inning with a single, but three consecutive teammates struck out swinging as the Lions



File Photo

DOWN THE LINE | Alex Ferrera hit a double and Jon Eisen, stole home to give the Lions the 4-2 victory.

SEE BASEBALL, page 9

Haley Vecchiarelli / Senior Staff Photographer

FOR THE WIN | With 39.9 sconds left on the clock and the score tied at 10, Gabrielle Geronimos delivered under pressure. The sophomore managed to get one past the Harvard goalie for Columbia's first conference win in four years. Geronimos and Holly Glynn led the Lions' scoring with four goals each.

CU captures first Ivy win in four years

BY JONATHAN TAYLER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

It almost didn't happen.

It had been close to four years—1,455 days, to be precise—since the last Columbia lacrosse victory over an Ivy League foe. In the time since that win, the Lions had dropped 27 straight conference matches. And though Columbia's opponent in the team's second-to-last league game of the season, Harvard, has been equally inept in Ivy play this year, Saturday afternoon's game in Cambridge still came down to the last minute.

HARVARD	10
COLUMBIA	11

But for the first time in what can best be described as a long time, the Light Blue was finally able to add a mark to the win column.

With just 39.9 seconds left in regulation and the game tied at 10, Gabrielle Geronimos—a sophomore at Greenwich High School in Connecticut when Columbia last won an Ivy game—bounced a shot past Harvard goalkeeper Katherine Martino to give the Lions the 11-10 win. The goal saved the Lions from a second-half collapse against the Crimson, which had scored three goals in the last 10 minutes of the half to tie the game.

As well documented as Columbia's struggles on the field have been, Harvard has also seen its fair share of hardship in recent years. Once a women's lacrosse powerhouse, the Crimson has not put together a .500-or-better season in league play since 1996, when the team went 3-3. Since that season, Harvard has gone 22-61 in league play.

Saturday's game was not a clash of the titans. The Crimson came into the game at 1-4 in Ivy play with an average margin of defeat against conference foes of eight goals. Columbia, meanwhile, made its final road trip of the year at 0-5, most recently doubled up by Yale, 12-6, on April 8. And despite a 19-goal outburst against nonconference Bryant in its most recent game, the Light Blue struggled out of the gate against Harvard. After the Crimson's Katie Doherty opened scoring 3 1/2 minutes into the contest, Harvard added two goals in the next three minutes to overshadow a Rachael Ryan score and take the lead at 3-1.

Starting slow has been a problem for the Lions all season. Only once in the team's five Ivy games prior to Saturday's match had Columbia held a halftime lead, and even

SEE LACROSSE page 9

Softball drops three of four games to Big Red

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia softball team was only able to come away with one victory this weekend, losing to Cornell in three of four games and dropping to 3-13 in the Ivy League and 13-29 overall.

The Big Red (34-10, 13-3 Ivy) took the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, 6-0. Cornell's Elizabeth Dalrymple completely shut down the Light Blue offense, allowing only two hits and no walks, while striking out 15. Anne Marie Skylis and Karen Tulig were the only Lions to get hits.

CORNELL	6
COLUMBIA	0
CORNELL	2
COLUMBIA	8
CORNELL	8
COLUMBIA	0
CORNELL	14
COLUMBIA	2

Freshman pitcher Jessica Rakonza earned the loss after giving up six runs on 12 hits in seven innings. However, it could have been much worse, as Rakonza was able to get herself out of a few tough innings, stranding 10 Cornell players in the process. In the top of the fifth, Rakonza got Jessy Berkey to fly into a double play with the bases loaded and no outs.

Cornell first baseman Ashley Garvey led the Big Red offense with three hits and two RBI.

In the second game on Saturday, Columbia was able to pull off an upset, taking the game 8-2. An explosive offense combined with excellent pitching performances by Erica Clauss and Maggie Johnson gave the Lions the win.

The Light Blue offense was led by Dani Pineda, who went 2-for-3 with three RBI. Jackie Ecker also had two hits and scored two runs. Chantee Dempsey contributed with a three-run home run in the bottom of the fourth to give the Lions the lead.

Clauss got the win by giving up one run (unearned) on five hits and a walk in five innings of work. Johnson pitched two innings of relief, allowing one run on three hits and two walks.

Despite being out-hit by Cornell, 8-6, the Lions were able to score more runs by capitalizing on opportunities with runners on base. While finishing an inning is normally difficult for the Light Blue, the team only left four runners on, compared to the Big Red's 10.

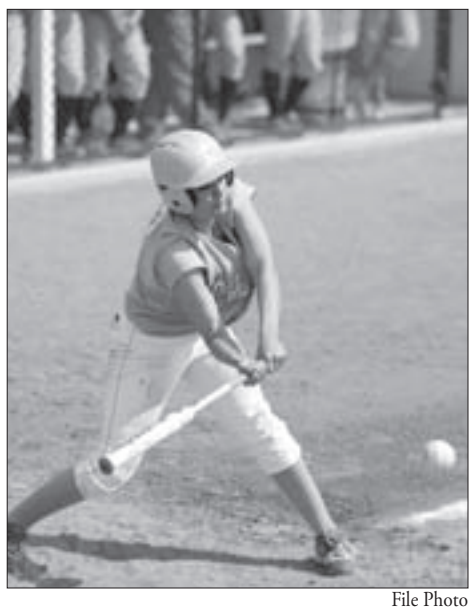
Sunday's doubleheader resulted in two losses for Columbia, as Cornell outscored the Lions, 22-2.

In the first game, Columbia lost 8-0 after five innings of play. The Lions were once again held to two hits, which came off the bats of Pineda and Johnson. While Johnson was able to get a hit, her performance on the mound was less than stellar. In five innings of work, Johnson gave up eight runs (six earned) on seven hits and one walk.

Garvey once again led the Big Red offense, hitting a three-run homer in the first inning to give Cornell an early 3-0 lead.

The second game was also shortened, this time to six innings, as a six-run sixth gave the Big Red a 14-2 victory.

Clauss got the start for Columbia and was pummeled by the Big Red's offense. In five innings, Clauss gave up 13 runs (10 earned) on 13 hits and five walks. Rakonza was brought in to pitch the last inning,



File Photo

TEAM LEADER | Dani Pineda led the Lions in their win over Cornell, going 2-for-3 with three RBI.

SEE SOFTBALL, page 9

Columbia rowing glides to victory over Ivy rivals

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Staff Writer

It was a successful weekend for Columbia rowing. Not only did the heavyweight team continue its impressive run by taking its fifth consecutive cup, but also the lightweight squad won its first cup since the 2006 spring season.

The heavyweights (10-0) remain undefeated this spring after winning the Blackwell Cup for the second year in a row. The sixth-ranked Lions finished the varsity-eight race in 5:54.0, 2.8 seconds ahead of No. 14 Yale, which came in at 5:56.8. Penn came in a distant third, with a time of 6:07.8. This was a much more comfortable victory for the Light Blue than last year's Blackwell Cup success, during which the Lions edged the Bulldogs by just 1.2 seconds to take the cup for the first time in 67 years.

Madeleine Desmond (coxswain), Evan Cassidy, Brian Dunn, Timm Baur, Tom Eichler, Matt Celano, Sebastian Kirwan, Richard Joyce, and Henry Cooper made up the victorious varsity-eight boat.

The Lions' second varsity boat finished behind Yale but ahead of Penn in a time of 6:13.8. Columbia was bested by both Yale and Penn in the freshman-eight race, coming in third with a time of 6:17.6.

The heavyweights will return to action next weekend when they take on Boston University and Syracuse for the Doc Lusins Trophy.

Before winning their first cup in almost three years at the Subin Cup on Sunday, the lightweights (3-9) faced-off against No. 6 Cornell and No. 11 MIT at the Geiger Cup on Saturday. The 10th-ranked Lions finished in second with a time of 6:24.8, over eight seconds behind the Big Red (6:16.2) and nearly two seconds ahead of the Engineers (6:26.7).

Columbia also finished in second place in both the second varsity (6:34.0) and freshman (6:30.8) races.

The Light Blue traveled from Cambridge to Hanover to take on No. 7 Dartmouth in the Subin Cup. Not only did the lightweight squad pull off the upset to win its first cup since 2006, but it also swept all three races in the regatta.

In the varsity-eight race, Crizzy Dawis (coxswain), Nick LaCava, Jake Cushnie, Bob Duff, Lars Boman, Mike Nucci, Mike Long, Chris Williams, and Greg Pupo outpaced Dartmouth by over four seconds, finishing the 2,000-meter race in 5:39.10.

The Lions also won the second-varsity and freshman races, topping the Big Green in times of 5:48.9 and 5:37.25, respectively.

The lightweights will have a few weeks off from racing to prepare for the Eastern Sprints on May 10.

W. tennis ends season with loss to Princeton

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The women's tennis team finished their 2009 tennis season winless in the Ivy League for the second straight year, after falling 7-0 to both Penn and No. 46 Princeton. The weekend matches were the final matches for seniors Linnae Goswami, Nina Suda, and Marlena Hall.

The Lions had their best chance for an Ivy win against Penn, who came into the match as the only other winless team in conference play this spring. In fact, the Quakers hadn't won a match since beating George Washington 7-0 on Feb. 20, but they proved their resilience against Columbia, starting with the doubles point.

The Quakers won the point easily, sweeping all three matches to take a 1-0 lead in the match. At No. 1 doubles, sophomore Natasha Makarova and Suda were defeated 8-4 in the closest contest out of the three matches. The No. 2 doubles team of freshmen Eliza Matache and Nicole Stanziola was routed 8-1, and junior Carling Donovan and sophomore Natalia Christenson were beaten soundly, 8-2.

Penn's strong play continued in the singles, led by top player junior Ekaterina Kosminskaya. Kosminskaya was first-team all-Ivy in singles last season, and performed as such when, in a tremendous display, she beat Makarova 6-1, 6-3. The win was Kosminskaya's first Ivy win of the season. At No. 2 singles, Stanziola put up the best fight out of any of the Lions, losing in straight sets 6-4, 6-4. Matache lost in straight sets, 6-3, 6-1 at No. 3 singles and the battle was downhill from there. No. 4 and 5 singles both lost 6-1, 6-2 as Donovan and Suda were both defeated, and Christenson lost 6-2, 6-0 at No. 6 singles.

The story was similar on Sunday, as the Lions closed out their 2009 season at home at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center. The Tigers clinched their first Ivy championship in nine seasons with the 7-0 defeat of the Lions.

Goswami played with Nina Suda at No. 1 doubles. Last season, they beat Princeton's No. 1 team 8-6. This season, however, it did not play out the same, as the duo lost 8-1. The other doubles teams of Matache and Hall, and Donovan and Christenson both lost 8-2.

The singles play was a struggle again for Columbia against No. 46 Princeton. At No. 1 singles, Makarova was dominated 6-0, 6-1 by No. 124 ranked freshman Lauren McHale. Nicole Stanziola at No. 2 was once again the most competitive of the Lions, losing 6-3, 6-3. Beyond that, the Lions struggled once again. Marlena Hall lost 6-1, 6-0 at No. 3 and Matache lost 6-1, 6-2 at No. 4. Carling Donovan lost 6-3, 6-0, and Nina Suda lost 6-0, 6-0 at No. 6.

The loss drops the Lions record to 4-15, with 0-7 in the Ivy League.

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Staff Editorial

Transparency: good for us, good for them

On Friday, Funding at Columbia University opened the application process for councils and boards to receive money in the next academic year. One of these boards is Community Impact, a nonprofit umbrella organization that aims to serve the disadvantaged in Morningside Heights and the surrounding neighborhoods. CI should publicize the funding it allocates to individual groups to increase transparency.

Community Impact funds a wide range of activities and organizations at Columbia, including Let's Get Ready, Project Health, and the Student Health Outreach Project for Children. Although the board releases its overall budget at the end of every year, it does not disclose the specific allocations that each of its groups receives. CI is the third-largest recipient of University funding, with nearly $80,000 allocated to it last year. The groups within it work with hundreds of outside organizations to reach out to thousands of underprivileged people, but little is said about just how much money CI gives to each of these groups. In addition, many of its individual organizations receive national funding for projects, making budgeting even more complicated and necessary for review.

CI should release the specific budgetary information for each of its groups. Many of the people who volunteer for the board are Columbia students whose own student-life fees are used to fund organizations within it. They, along with the rest of the Columbia community, have the right to know where their money is going. Given the current financial crisis, it is especially crucial that organizations make public how they are using the money given to them. Additionally, since CI has existed for nearly 30 years, newer organizations can look to established groups within the board as a model for efficient financial practices. With public budgets, the groups CI encompasses can work together to increase their own and each others' efficiency.

Releasing budgetary information within Community Impact both makes the board more transparent and encourages groups to learn from one another. By publishing how it distributes its funds, CI can help organizations reach out not only to the communities they serve but also to each other.

Amanda Parsons recused herself from the writing of this editorial.

POLITICS ON STILTS

SHAINA RUBIN

Acting against unwarranted wiretapping

BY SOPHIA ROGERS

Those of us who disagreed with the actions of the Bush administration hoped for change from the Obama administration. But the new administration has upheld one of the most infuriating offenses of its predecessor: unwarranted wiretapping. Yes, the National Security Agency is still wiretapping—even inadvertently monitoring people who are not suspects.

In the Jewel and Al-Haramain cases, victims of unwarranted wiretapping sued the United States for violation of their constitutional right to privacy, and the Obama Department of Justice defended the federal government with the same state secrets privilege the Bush Department of Justice used to prevent judicial review. But the DOJ has no reason to block evidence concerning wiretapping from judicial review. The whole reason we have secret courts is so that the judiciary branch can assess the actions of the executive branch without the danger of releasing state secrets. There is a vital distinction to be made between the government's retention of the right to withhold information about wiretapping, and its failure to put wiretapping practices on public record. Ultimately, the government has the right to withhold information if it would jeopardize national security. But nobody knows what the term "state secrets" means. So it is very hard to draw the line between information the government can withhold and what should be released. Therefore, we have to depend on the secret courts to draw this line for us.

By blocking judicial review of cases that would disclose evidence about wiretapping, the Obama administration obstructs the courts' constitutional duty to (a) uncover evidence about the wiretapping program, and (b) hold the executive branch accountable for outrageous, illegal practices. If we had problems with the Bush administration's use of illegal wiretapping, we should object to President Obama's as well. As citizens with the right to free speech, we each have the duty to vocalize our complaints.

How can we as students make our voices heard? Many of us have figured out ways to get involved individually in these issues, whether by blogging, volunteering for a campaign, or going to a rally. What we have yet to do is figure out a way for our generation to come together and demand something of the government we helped elect.

A new group on Columbia's campus, the Progressive Caucus of the Columbia University College Democrats, has an idea to address this problem. Members of the Progressive Caucus maintain a blog that monitors and assesses the actions of national legislators. The group is holding an event on Low Steps at lunchtime this week during which students can call the offices of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Students will ask that legislators make statements opposing the citing of the state secrets privilege by the DOJ, and call on them to draft legislation to limit the use of said privilege.

Group founder Jonathan Backer, CC '10, explained the idea behind it. As a result of his campaign, President Obama was elected partly due to a great deal of youth enthusiasm and support. But for this enthusiasm and support to continue, Backer reasons, policies must reflect the expectations of the youth in this country. Therefore, young people need a way to hold legislators accountable, and so Backer and the Progressive Caucus have created a way to enable this. The group's blog, ProgressiveStandard.com, not only reviews legislators in its posts, but also keeps a tally of points on a scoreboard. During election seasons, the group will call for youth to support legislators with more points and deny support to those with fewer.

The Progressive Caucus takes the wiretapping issue seriously. A post on their blog outlines their position: having a wiretapping program that invades the privacy of United States citizens undermines the rule of law, and at the same time, the program suffers from an inability to seek recourse in our court system. As Backer says, "We want to convey that message to our elected officials, but more than convey it, we want to hold them accountable for it."

The author is a Barnard College first-year. She is a member of the progressive caucus of the Columbia University Democrats.

As I See It

ON THE STAIRS

JOEY SHEMUEL

The photographer is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in human rights. He is a Spectator *photo training editor.*

Facebook and religion's latent centrality

ERIC HIRSCH

THE GOD BEAT

I am not sure if you remember this, but for a short while, Facebook, everyone's favorite social networking site, had a tool called Facebook Pulse. With it, you could find all sorts of interesting statistics about how people who used the site would construct their profiles and identify themselves. One interesting fact the Pulse function revealed was that, of all Facebook users at the time, the book most listed in the "Favorite Books" section of the profile form was the Bible. Of course, this was far from the most-listed favorite book at Columbia, but the Pulse data for this school did reveal that most students had at least filled out the "Religious Views" section of the form. So, although we are not a university community in which a majority of students are willing to admit that they read the Bible for pleasure, the way Facebook frames one's presentation of identity forces us, even if briefly, to think about our relationship to religion.

It has been a consistent theme of this column that the university community here is not one that seems, on the surface, to be very religious. The Facebook data I was exposed to in some ways corroborates the idea that Columbia is a place where liberal, enlightened, secular intellectualism overwhelmingly reigns within the community's main public value system. It would not surprise me to learn that many Columbia students do in fact read the Bible, but are too ashamed to admit it in light of this prevailing social code. And even those who do not fill in the blank straightforwardly or at all must make an active decision about how religion fits into their lives as they construct a Facebook profile.

The construction of a profile has become perhaps the second most important method of an individual's presentation of him or herself to the public, after live personal interaction. Facebook, as we all know, enables its user to create a profile by filling out a form. Even though a user can theoretically post any information and choose to disregard the categories Facebook has outlined, the profile is constructed in a way that articulates a particular view about what is involved in identity classification. Aside from the photographs a user can post and the open "Favorite Quotations" and "About Me" boxes, the user must conform to a core set of characteristics that is meant to put everybody on the same level and make each person's identity easily digestible to others. The profile implies that the best, most understandable way of presenting oneself to one's public social network according to the rapid pace of internet-mediated information is by a test of multiple choice and fill-in-the-blanks. This would involve choosing one of several words that supplies the most accurate description of oneself: birth date, hometown, politics, sexual orientation, favorite things, and, of course, religion.

A huge percentage of Facebook users on this campus do choose to fill out the "Religious Views" section of the Facebook profile form. Some answer truthfully (i.e. "Catholicism"), and some others like to throw in some emotion ("Proudly Muslim," "Big Jew," "Agnostic and open to suggestions"). Those who do not honestly answer sometimes supply a witty one-liner ("All Dogs Go To Heaven"), obscure literary reference ("Met Him Pike Hoses"), or another object of worship ("Obama," "Sunil Gulati"). Others choose not to fill in the form, a choice that still requires one to think, if only for a second, about how religion functions in one's identity scheme.

Whether we like it or not, by including religion as one of the possible categories of identification, Facebook perpetuates religion's importance as a quick, digestible identifying category. And Facebook is both a ubiquitous organizer of campus social life and itself an important piece of campus culture, even if many of us might think that its set of categories ignores the nuances of self-presentation. So, because of Facebook's functional and structural importance, religion remains a central aspect of both public life and the way in which members of this university community think about themselves and the presentation of the self to others.

The "Facebook argument" for the latent centrality of religion within our community that I have presented here reminds us that the very gesture of brushing religion aside always involves some engagement with religion, however brief. Facebook and other Internet media might ask us to engage in and judge at the pace of knee-jerk reactivity. This would mean that here, people who admit to reading the Bible on their profiles are too often marginalized and pushed away from the mainstream. But as a community devoted to diversity and intellectual depth, we can surely do better.

Eric Hirsch is a Columbia College senior majoring in anthropology and English. He is an undergraduate fellow with the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life. The God Beat *runs alternate Mondays. Opinion@columbiaspectator.com*

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

With finals fast approaching, health can be a Columbia student's most difficult subject. This Monday, *Spectator* Opinion checks up on the student body. Marissa Mazek discusses the dangers of eating disorders on campus, Devin Briski urges us to hit the gym, and Claudia Sosa Lazo evaluates sleep deprivation among college students.

Why we should pay attention to eating disorders

BY MARISSA MAZEK

Ten percent of college women suffer from a diagnosable eating disorder such as anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, or binge-eating disorder, while other recent statistics show that over 90 percent of women on college campuses engage in dieting behavior. There are no statistics for New York City alone, but some health professionals regard Manhattan (and its suburbs, where many Columbia students come from) to be an incubator for eating disorders. As self-motivated Ivy Leaguers living in the fastest-paced city in the world, Columbia students innately possess many of the characteristics found in sufferers of eating disorders: We're self-sacrificing, competitive perfectionists, hard workers, and people-pleasers who set unnaturally high standards for ourselves. Adding these factors together yields a strikingly high number of eating disorders and disordered eating at Columbia.

So what? Why are eating disorders one of the most important health issues at Columbia? Why should we care? Because eating disorders affect the entire community, even if you don't have one and don't know anyone who does. Just look at the side effects, and you'll see why that girl running on the track in Dodge for hours isn't healthy, why she's doing more damage to her body than good, and why that person you hear vomiting in the dorm bathroom may be one of the 20 percent of untreated individuals who dies as a direct result of her disease.

People in the throes of an eating disorder may not "look like" they have one, but she (or he) is suffering from it in many ways. Having a food problem—and eating disorders are not just about the food—takes away your life. When you're sick, you can't focus on your classes, and you get depressed, have trouble sleeping, can't participate in meaningful relationships, and certainly can't be yourself. At a university with a significant population suffering like this (statistics are unknown, but some believe that Ivy League schools have higher proportions of eating disorders than most colleges), it's no wonder that some days it seems as though nobody takes the time to care for him or herself.

Still not convinced? Well, over your lifetime, at least 50,000 people will die as a direct result of an eating disorder. It may or may not be the girl in your lit class, but it may be someone who, given the opportunity to recover, could have done something—invented a new technology or implemented a new social program—that could have directly impacted you. Because so many people, especially at Columbia, are immersed in their eating disorders, we may never know—unless we act.

ILLUSTRATION BY DARYL SEITCHIK

Eating disorders are complex diseases. The factors that lead to an individual's development of one can include genetics, family dynamics, personality, the existence of other problems like anxiety or depression, engagement in an activity in which body size is important, self-esteem, academic pressure... The list goes on. You may wonder how we overworked, over-stressed Columbia students can possibly help eliminate eating disorders when they are such multifaceted diseases.

Here's how: As an academic institution, we need the counseling centers, Health Services, and other health-oriented organizations like Barnard's Well-Woman to have more information available to students. They should establish regular programs in which students can discuss and learn about food-related problems and how to help their friends or themselves. The administration should implement procedures so that professors can discuss their concerns regarding the mental health of their students. RAs should talk about eating disorders and other mental health issues with their residents at the beginning of every year. Dining Services should discourage body disparagement in the dining halls and campus cafés by emphasizing the taste of the food and not its caloric or nutritional value. (Hewitt has posters about the health benefits of various foods which are both admirable and problematic at the same time.) The physical education departments, as well as the staff in the gyms, should de-emphasize body size by placing the scales in less prominent places, or by occasionally covering the mirrors by the machines so people don't have to look in the mirror every time they work out. Just as little things add up to create eating disorders, so, too, can little things help us eliminate them.

There is a lot that we can do as individuals. Most importantly, we have to be able to discuss eating disorders without fear. We need to be able to talk to that friend who looks like he or she is struggling and to voice our concerns regarding our own relationships with food and our bodies. We all need to realize that our unhealthy habits, be they under-eating, over-eating, not getting enough sleep, or self-medicating with alcohol, are only hurting us. Furthermore, they're setting a bad precedent all over campus. It's easy to get swept into being unhealthy when everyone around you is hurting themselves. We need to value qualities about ourselves that cannot be measured, such as our love of reading or painting, instead of how much we weigh. We need to stop valuing narrow standards of beauty and realize that, inside and out, we are all beautiful. We are all enough, just as we are.

The author is a Barnard College junior majoring in English. She is president of Students for Ending Eating Disorders.

The importance of being healthy

BY DEVIN BRISKI

Columbians are not exactly known for their athletic abilities. Many of us came here because we were tired of being ridiculed for running 12-minute miles and wanted to find more of our uncoordinated and bookish kind. And while our minds seem to get a perpetual philosophical workout in Lit Hum and Contemporary Civilization, it seems like our bodies remain underactive between the immense number of pages of reading, hours in class, and the short distance between classes and dorm buildings (we complain that Harmony Hall is too far from campus, when at many colleges all the buildings are even more spread out); not to mention that for most of the year it's far too cold to go for a jog outside, and the indoor track at Dodge isn't exactly an appealing atmosphere. All in all, getting into an enjoyable workout groove at Columbia is a hard task that many students understandably find difficult to attain. This isn't UC Santa Barbara, where it's possible to play beach volleyball all year round.

But despite this difficulty, it is important to recognize that regular exercise is one of the most underrated healthful activities that students can engage in to improve their overall wellbeing. A few weeks ago *The Eye* ran a feature article on the prevalence of depression at Columbia. While depression is an extremely important issue that should be taken seriously, a study conducted at Duke University has shown that regular exercise is almost as effective as the drug Sertraline in treating depression. I am not trying to dismiss the severity of clinical depression and the importance of chemical treatment in most instances, but a focus on leading a more active lifestyle may help alleviate the stress that comes from studying at a pressure-cooker Ivy League university, which certainly can be a major contributor to depression.

In the short term, exercise can increase your general mood on any given day, allow you to relax, help you sleep better, and help you lose weight. In the long term, many studies have found that exercise increases longevity and can prevent heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and stroke. And the best part is that it doesn't take that much exercise to get these benefits—only thirty minutes of brisk walking per day will help you to immediately feel the effects of a better tuned body. That may sound like a lot, but think critically for a second: How many minutes do you spend on Facebook per day? At Columbia, many students moralize about the negative health consequences of drinking and smoking, but how many of these students get enough physical activity in their lives? We have a lot to say here about living a "correct" lifestyle, but sometimes it's about getting out and actually doing it (and ironically this op-ed proves I am just as much at fault for this).

Columbia is not the best environment for the happy jogger or yogi, though. Although we do have course offerings for physical education, as an experienced yogini, I can say that the instructors here do not know what they are doing. An instructor told the class during tree asana to press our foot against our knee, not our thigh or calf. This is the exact opposite of yoga doctrine, and an incredibly dangerous way to practice this position. All the same, let's not resign ourselves to getting soft in Butler and complaining about the rain. We have all of New York City to explore and need to use our bodies as the vehicles they were meant to be.

It's still sometimes too chilly to bask in the sunshine, but it's definitely not too cold to go for a jog. Take advantage of this in between April weather as an excuse to go biking along the river. Find a free yoga class on the Internet and go with a friend (all Lululemon Athletica stores offer one free yoga class per week, taught by featured instructors from local studios, so you can avoid the clueless teachers at Dodge). And when it does get sunny out, asana on your own in a park: embrace the true meaning of "sun salutation!" Arrange a game of capture the flag in Central Park. Plan a day trip up to Westchester to go hiking and have a picnic. Or even wake up thirty minutes earlier and go for a brisk walk around campus before class.

It may seem like the looming deluge of end-of-semester papers and finals would make this a bad time to explore your workout options, but I would argue the opposite: Now is the time to get your blood flowing so that you can manage the end-of-the-year stress effectively. What we eat, how much sleep we get, and how much daily activity we engage in affects each of our academic performances so much more than we realize. And while it may not always be possible to get the recommended eight hours of sleep with the amount of reading assigned to us, it's definitely possible to schedule small amounts of daily exercise that will keep our blood flowing, our hearts pumping, and surprisingly enough, our brains thinking. So carpe diem, and happy moving!

The author is a Columbia College first-year. She is the food editor for Spectator *Arts and Entertainment.*

Wish I were sleeping instead of writing this

BY CLAUDIA SOSA LAZO

It is 7:00 a.m. on a Sunday. I have just woken up to write this (it's due at 10:00 tonight). And that's not all: I am a tutor downtown and have to prepare a lesson on conjunctions, read about 500 pages of literature (the wonders of taking Lit Hum along with a Comp Lit course, in which all the books combined could easily take out a small child were they used as weapons), write a University Writing paper (for tomorrow, yes), work on my Econ reading and a French translation, and hold a second tutoring session this afternoon in Tribeca. True, I am an incredible procrastinator. Yesterday, I spent the day "reading" in Riverside, dancing on Low steps, and taking a walk in Central Park. True: I should use my time "wisely." True: I am in college and lack of sleep is a rite of passage. True: Tonight, my hopes of sleep are zero. Nada, zilch. But, would I rather have spent such a glorious Saturday locked up in Butler and have a more reasonable work load today? Not really.

It follows then, that the lack of sleep that will torment me is completely of my own doing. Students who decide to deprive themselves of a basic human necessity in order to do better in school do so entirely at their own discretion. Or do they? Could a case be made that criticizes the administration for the student's lack of sleep? Could we tell them that the workload is too much?

Yes, those last two questions were meant to be funny. The hard reality is that, even though we run around like a hoard of crazy, sleep-deprived zombies, we signed up for it when we decided to come here.

Show me an Ivy League student who isn't the least bit masochistic and I will call him or her a slacker. Or, to be less harsh, someone who discovered that he or she really doesn't want to be here after all and should transfer elsewhere. Not that there is absolutely anything wrong with this. In fact, I highly admire the ability to accept that you just don't want to work harder and would rather take it easy on yourself. All of us here lack that ability to varying degrees. For some, it is perhaps because we are really interested in what we are learning and want to learn it from the best to the best of our abilities. For others, it is dreams of power, zeroes on a paycheck, or fear of our parents that keeps us in Butler on a Saturday night. The bottom line is that all of us who came here took on a challenge, knowing that it would be impossible to succeed academically without sacrificing bits of physical, psychological, or social well-being.

To tell Columbia students that they suffer from lack of sleep is like telling a deaf person he cannot hear. We know. Everyone knows. The fact that we deify those rare individuals who get by without coffee is a testament to our complete awareness of what doing well at an Ivy League requires. For better or worse. Most of us are too sleep-deprived to care, or to even stop and listen to those who tell us that it's been medically proven that we will be smarter if we sleep.

The question, then, is what each of us is willing to give up in order to gain what we seek from our education. Personally, I can easily sacrifice a night or two of sleep every now and then. I will occasionally sacrifice a night of going out. I will undergo the stress, the occasional desperation, the borderline insanity, the possible gray hairs, and—this one kills me—the estranged communication with the outside world. But you cannot take my sunny days away from me.

Congratulations to you, over at the University of Hawaii, surfing in between classes while I freeze on my walk back from Butler at four in the morning in the middle of January. But, as hard as it is for me to say this with the workload I face today, I could never be you. And, as far as I can tell, I am using my time "wisely"—while I was recklessly irresponsible yesterday, I am willing to face the consequences (a sleepless night) tonight.

The author is a Columbia College first-year.

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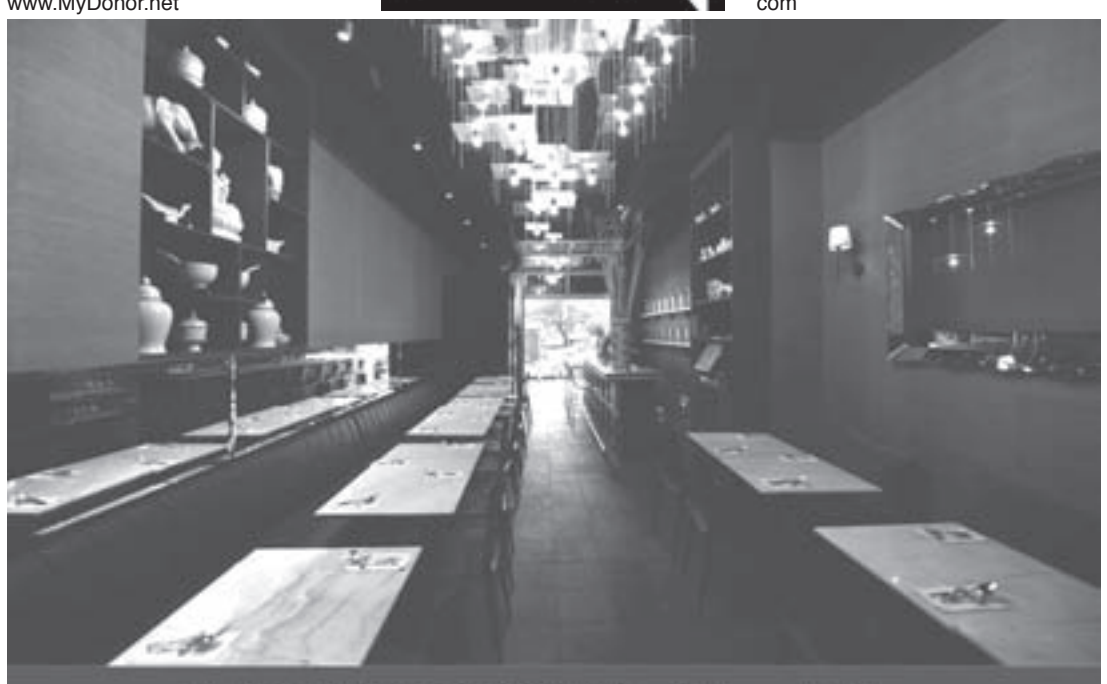

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Good-sized piece of meat
5 Play-of-color gem
9 To the left, at sea
14 Volcanic output
15 White House staffer
16 Medium for FDR's fireside chats
17 Sign of things to come
18 Start of many a corny joke
20 O'Hara's estate
21 Flavorful
22 Canadian tribe
23 Neighbor of Swe.
25 Scat singer Fitzgerald
27 Start of a trucker's communication
34 Crude in a gusher
35 Sea World performer
36 Heredity units
38 "Metamorphoses" poet
40 Like milk on the floor
43 Outside, as a chance
44 Knot again
46 Classic grape soda
48 "Fourscore and seven years ___"
49 Start of a sound man's mike check
53 Cancún cash
54 Pampering place
55 Manuscript encl.
58 Remove by percolation
61 Kept from swelling
65 Start of a newsboy's cry
67 City near Sacramento
68 Jewelry fastener
69 High-performance Camaro
70 Finished
71 Church belief
72 Bulletin board sticker
73 Monthly expense

DOWN
1 Opening for a coin
2 Tibet's Dalai ___
3 State with conviction
4 Fruit high in potassium
5 Acorn producers
6 ___ colada
7 Big fusses
8 Hannibal the Cannibal
9 Genesis craft
10 Breakfast stack
11 Olfactory reception
12 Pilaf grain
13 Casino gratuity
19 NASCAR's Petty or Busch
24 Gives a thumbs-up
26 Fall behind
27 One lacking manners
28 Fastener for Rosie
29 Upper crust
30 Music genre in the 'hood
31 Jewelry in the 'hood
32 China's Zhou ___
33 King's tenure
37 Unhealthful skyline obscurer
39 Scatter
41 Give permission
42 2007 William P. Young Christian-themed best-seller
45 Summer in France
47 AOL, for one
50 Cruise ship stop
51 "You can't get out this way" sign
52 One whose job is fitting?
55 Religious offshoot
56 Wheel shaft
57 Ollie's sidekick
59 Gillette razor
60 Gator's cousin
62 Sheltered inlet
63 Garden site in Genesis
64 Malicious gossip
66 Suitable

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

B	A	R	B	A	R	O		G	A	D	D	A	F	I
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R	A	N	I	N	T	O		I	N	G	R	A	T	E
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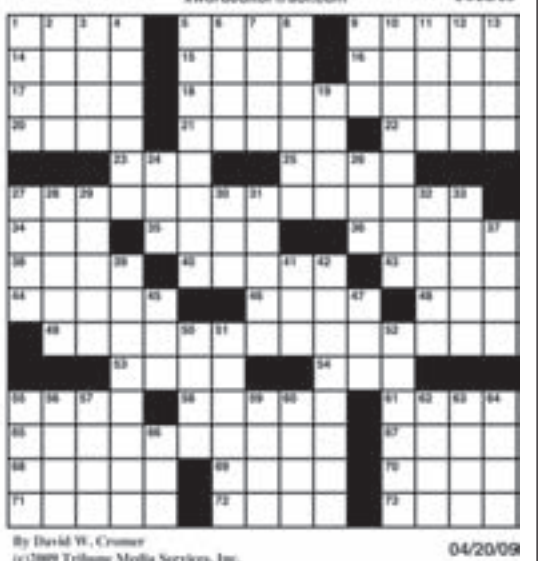

By David W. Cromer
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Campaigns focus on financial aid, housing

GSSC from front page

said Edwards, who is currently the GSSC vice president of policy.

But underlying the light-hearted competition is each candidate's goal of addressing long-standing issues unique to students in General Studies.

GS students notoriously experience the shortcomings of University housing. As many are burdened with paying the entirety of tuition without financial help from family—aid calculations at GS are different from those at undergraduate schools because they are independents—simply affording to stay in school can be a struggle.

Edwards acknowledged that there is only so much a student can do in a term as president, but nevertheless she has some ideas of where to start.

"Although the many complexities of GS housing are long-term issues, one thing that can and must begin next year is earlier notification of housing acceptance," Edwards said in her campaign statement.

In his, Davis said he hopes to gather statistics about who takes advantage of University housing to aid in a conversation he hopes to have with the administration.

Both candidates also cite financial aid as an issue tantamount to GS students' concerns about housing. In the past six years, the amount of debt accumulated by GS students while at Columbia has increased by over 100 percent.

Davis criticized the University's approaches of comparing GS to Columbia College, deeming them "inadequate" in his campaign speech.

"The ... model that the College operates under and GS subscribes to as well is meant to support lower-income individuals because they can get need-based aid," Davis wrote. "Right now, however, so few GS students receive adequate aid that it does not seem to be a fair approach."

Edwards suggested that "the administration should assist students in finding competitive loan rates and outside scholarships."

Davis said in an interview that he wanted to push for further integration between GS students and other Columbia undergraduates, which he said called for more GS students participating in undergraduate groups and initiatives.

Davis would be a newcomer to GSSC, but said that his three years participating in other undergraduate groups—he is the chair of the New Group Recognition Committee of the Activities Board at Columbia and is involved in the Greek community—gave him the opportunity to understand Columbia from all sides. Right now, he said, GS students are not necessarily attuned to the goings on at the University because many work and live off-campus—much in the way that other undergraduates are out of touch with the School of General Studies. Davis said that bridging the gap as well as "putting a face to GS" was crucial. With increased recognition of the problems on both sides, students may have more productive dialogues about GS-related problems and difficulties.

Michael Rain, vice president of policy, said in an e-mail that the elections had been running "pretty smoothly" with an even-handed election commission and a low number of candidate complaints filed, but did say that the commission was facing some problems handling write-in candidates. As GSSC by-laws do not require write-in candidates to declare with the commission, those candidates often have not been briefed on official elections rules, nor have they been cleared by the Dean of Studies office to be declared in good standing at the school.

Rain added that he had identified these problems along with GSSC president Brody Berg and the council policy committee, and planned to present them to the GSSC with some by-law changes to ensure more efficient elections in the future.

GSSC voting closes Tuesday.

news@columbiaspectator.com

Counceling faces spectrum of issues

MIND MATTERS from front page

that, and away a bit from time to talk about identity development and career searching."

Still, CPS and Furman are making an effort to address both ends of the spectrum. Richard Eichler, director of CPS, encourages students who believe their problems are not serious enough to make an appointment anyway.

"Even if the anxiety is perfectly normative, we're very glad to be of service to people who have understandable worries," Eichler said. "It doesn't have to be outside normal distribution."

At CPS, the addition new staff may help give students like Ellenson the attention they need. This semester, they implemented a psychiatric residency rotation in partnership with Health Services. This program gives students access to licensed physicians who are completing advanced psychiatric training.

"It's wonderful for the students here in several different ways," Eichler said. "The staff is invested, there's a kind of excitement and learning when you have new people who come in to ask questions we may forget to ask after being here for a while."

Across the street at Furman, a new program offers "mini-courses" to teach students psychological coping skills that may help them readdress developmental issues and feel more comfortable with counseling services.

"Everybody here is used to taking classes—maybe people would be comfortable with signing up for a three-session course on improving their coping skills rather than feeling they have to come for therapy," Commerford said. "We're going to try to diversify what we're known for—not just therapy, but life skills."

The program hopes make services more accessible, and staff will continue trying to reach as many students as possible—a daunting task in a university of about 25,000 students.

Yet for some students, outreach alone may not be enough to dispel the stigma of therapy.

"People who are nervous about therapy need to feel safe and comfortable," one CC junior wrote on his survey. "Basically, you have to make them forget they're in therapy."

"When I have [felt a need for help], I felt more comfortable with close friends," wrote Daniel Aprahamian, SEAS '11, on his survey.

Others said that a more proactive approach is needed to truly make a difference.

"It's not enough to just put up flyers. I feel bombarded with signs advertising counseling but that doesn't make me suddenly want to go," wrote Danielle Hoo, BC '10.

Aileen Farren, BC '11 agreed, suggesting, "CPS could advertise on a more personal level (one on one recommendations to go or have people discuss their experiences to show others it's okay)."

Ellenson added that CPS should cultivate an easygoing image to students worried that their problems do not merit attention. Some may be intimidated by the formality of the office, which Ellenson described as cold and sterile.

"I've never personally felt a stigma against going to therapy," she said, and yet, "I felt a little more uncomfortable going up there [to CPS's office on the 8th floor of Lerner] for some reason ... I was so aware of the fact that I was going to therapy and that's not normally something I particularly think about."

CPS's residential offices currently serve as outposts to the main office in Lerner and could grow into a more important role in the future. Two more drop-in offices in residential buildings have opened since 2006, making a total of five on campus.

"You know, we started with one office, so to think that there are five and that they're resource-intensive is remarkable," said Eichler.

Eichler said these offices have reached more students in different schools, such as the law school and General Studies. They also have the potential to reach a different kind of patient who wants an alternative environment.

"Satellite offices are friendlier ... that helps because I think you want to feel like you're in a home environment, you want to feel like you're comfortable in order to be able to open up," Ellenson said. "It would be cool if you could go to a session at one of those offices instead of just drop in."

In the meantime, counseling services are on the alert for new strategies to attract students and overcome stigma. They encourage students to give feedback about their experiences and suggest new ideas for improvement.

"Anyone can make a complaint, and students do from time to time," Eichler said. "Occasionally they have something nice to say as well. We would like it if students would come to myself and my associate directors."

Ellenson's suggestion to CPS is clear: Always make students feel at home. She explained, "The best thing CPS could do is to be a friend, not a therapist."

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MONDAY
BOYS & GIRLS IN POST-CONFLICT SOCIETIES
6:30 PM
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/14
TUESDAY
AARON HAMBURGER, ELIZA MINOT & DARCEY STEINKE
7:00 PM
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/15
WEDNESDAY
MUYBRIDGE'S GUATEMALAN LAUNDRESSES
Gender, Labor and Aesthetics on a Coffee Plantation
Noon
BCRW, 101 Barnard Hall

04/16
THURSDAY
LISTENING TO AFRICAN VOICES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN SLAVE TRADE
7:00 PM
802 International Affairs Building
420 West 118th Street

04/21
TUESDAY
17TH ANNUAL STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
4:00 PM
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/22
WEDNESDAY
EMIGRATION, EXPATRIATION & IMMIGRATION
7:00 PM
405 Milbank Hall

04/23
THURSDAY
SENIOR SEMINAR POSTER SESSION IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
4:30 PM
James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

04/23–04/25
THURSDAY–SATURDAY
THE BARNARD PROJECT AT DTW
Thursday & Friday 7:30 PM
Saturday 2:00 & 7:30 PM
Dance Theater Workshop, 219 West 19th Street

BARNARD
THE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE FOR WOMEN IN NEW YORK CITY

Diana Wong / Senior Staff Photographer

HANDS IN THE AIR | Talib Kweli, one half of Saturday's Bacchanal spring concert lineup, engaged the crowd of students Saturday afternoon by incorporating references to Columbia into his raps and inviting audience members on stage.

Bacchanal concert heats up Low steps

BACCHANAL from back page

Last year's Bacchanal spring concert was indoors and featured indie bands The National and Grizzly Bear. Due to limited seating and the fact that the concert took place on a weekday evening, the event lacked the turnout that this year's boasted. Barnard Student Government Association Sophomore Class President Reni Calister, BC '11, did not even attend last year's concert: "It was on a bad day ... I had something else to do that was kind of required, so I knew about it, but I didn't go."

This year, however, Calister was impressed by the concert. "It's a beautiful day, it's outside, and Vampire Weekend and Talib Kweli... It's optimal," she said.

Though the concert was intended for Columbia students, audience members from New York University and elsewhere could not resist the lineup and the prospect of a day outside on Columbia's campus. "It's a lovely day and Vampire Weekend are great," said Dalton High School student Lily Wen, who was invited by a friend who is a student at Barnard. Low Plaza was full of people who appeared to have randomly, but happily, joined the crowd.

Bacchanal co-president Jeremy Reich, CC '09, attributed the large turnout in part to the choice of artists. "We tried to have a diversity of artists," Reich said of the very different styles of Vampire Weekend and Kweli. "We think that that attracts a wide group because they're both sort of well-known in their fields. So we're happy about that."

For the members of Bacchanal, however, the concert is just the beginning of a week's worth of activities, and Reich hopes that the enthusiasm it garnered will carry over to the remaining events.

The group is already planning ahead for next year's concert, but remaining characteristically tight-lipped about its artists.

"We have ideas floating around, nothing I can say yet," Zellman said.

TV

Arrested Development producer tries his hand at cartoons

BY LILY CEDARBAUM
Spectator Staff Writer

Ever wondered what a teacher is like outside the classroom? In his new series *Sit Down, Shut Up*, which premiered Sunday night, executive producer Mitchell Hurwitz and his production team draw it out for us, cartoon characters and all.

The creator of the cult-favorite comedy *Arrested Development* is up to bat for team Fox again, but this time he's taken fans one step further into his crazy, caricatured world with this latest addition to the network's Sunday night Animation Domination lineup. The show, which is the first of four pilots of upcoming shows produced for Fox by Hurwitz, is a television remake from an Australian series of the same title.

Viewers follow Larry Littlejunk (Jason Bateman), a gym teacher at Knob Haven High School who is looking for more from his career and from life. Instead of rising above his surroundings, however, he sinks to the level of those around him, such as brash and dim-witted English teacher Ennis Hofftard (Will Arnett) and meek German teacher Willard Deutschebog (Henry Winkler).

Those of the cast who are not *Arrested Development* alumni include some *Saturday Night Live* cast members. Will Forte's voice perfectly suits the role of the spacey assistant principal Stuart Prozackian, while Kenan Thompson, as interim principal Sue Sezno, manages to play a woman even on a show where only his voice is used.

The roles are all well-cast, with the exception of creationist science teacher Miracle Grohe, who is voiced by stage-to-screen actress Kristin Chenoweth. Her tone is a bit too jarring for a character that is supposed to be feminine and whimsical.

Courtesy of Fox

'TOON IN | A new Fox sitcom examines the life of a lackluster gym teacher.

Still, whimsy is everywhere in this cartoon. In the pilot episode alone, Larry asks for flashback thought bubbles and the school librarian gets a touchdown at the school football game. What's more, all of the characters are animated, but their backdrops are real-world images.

Because of this interesting visual setup and its generally successful comedy, *Sit Down, Shut Up* appears to be a series with potential—even if the wit associated with *Arrested* is lost when the show becomes too classically cartoonish in some of its jokes.

However, Fox has given little publicity to the Hurwitz series, and with its quirky and not totally accessible style, *Sit Down, Shut Up* may just follow the fate of Hurwitz's earlier Fox brainchild.

Arrested Development fans frustrated with the series may be able to rest a little easier, though, thanks to the promising talks about *Arrested Development: The Movie*. Perhaps it will satisfy their cravings for more from the canceled show's comedy superstars.

WHERE IT'S AT

Time: Sundays at 8:30 p.m.
Channel: Fox

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Track and field sets two school records, eight qualify for NCAA Regionals

BY SABINE SCHULZ
Spectator Staff Writer

This weekend, the Columbia track and field team traveled to Princeton to compete in the Larry Ellis Invitational. The meet, which included competitors from Brown, Yale, and Penn marked a return to Ivy League competition for Columbia, as it swept multiple events and consistently finished before league opponents in other events.

Like she did at last weekend's Joe Hilton Invitational at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, freshman Sharay Hale finished first in the 400-meter dash in 53.54 seconds, two-tenths of a second ahead of Georgetown's Abigail Johnson. Hale improved her performance in the 200-meter dash this weekend, to take second—outpaced only by Shore Athletic Complex's Aliann Pompey. Her time in the 400-meter dash was one second below the NCAA qualifying mark, but her sprint in the 200-meter dash broke her record in the event.

Sophomore Jeff Moriarty continued his stellar outdoor season, finishing the 1,500-meter run in 3:47.77 for a fifth-place finish. The sophomore from Westwood, Mass. was only overtaken in the event by nonconference competitors, including Erik van Ingen of Binghamton who won the event less than two seconds ahead of Moriarty. However, Moriarty's time was still sufficient for an NCAA qualification. Senior Megan Lessard had similar results in the same event. Though she finished fourth, her time of 4:24.63 was still three seconds under the NCAA qualifying mark. Junior Serita Lachesis also finished fourth, this time in the 800-meter run, but was a fraction of a second too slow to achieve an NCAA qualification.

The contest for first place in the 800-meter run was between two Lions. Junior Mike Mark led the competition, though he was closely followed by Chris Hays, Dylan Isaacson, and Matt Stewart. Still, Mark finished the event in 1:51.60, six-tenths of a second ahead of Hays to clinch the title. Mark also took fifth in the 800-meter run. In the 3,000-meter steeplechase, Syracuse's Kyle Heath sped past freshman Kyle Merber. Heath finished the event in 8:51.39 for first, while Merber crossed the finish line ten seconds later for second place. Though Merber has not participated in the 3,000-meter steeplechase for Columbia before, his exceptional performance earned him a NCAA qualification.

In the field, the Lions had an equally strong showing, as senior Elisse Douglas conquered the triple jump with a final jump of 12.30 meters to take the title and an NCAA qualification, while setting a new school record. Fellow Lion Uzunma Udeh finished fourth with a jump of 11.97 meters. Douglas also ended the long jump with a jump of 5.37 meters, earning him seventh place. In the high jump, freshman Monique Roberts barely hit the NCAA qualifying mark of 1.75 meters, but took second overall in the event.

Freshman Kyra Caldwell took second in the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles. In the 400-meter hurdles, Caldwell was narrowly passed by London Finley of Georgetown. Finley took first in 59.64 seconds, less than two-tenths of a second ahead of Caldwell. Both Finley and Caldwell garnered NCAA qualifications for their performances in the 400-meter hurdles.

The Columbia track and field team will continue its outdoor season and conference competition next weekend at the Penn Relays. The meet will run from Thurs., April 23 to Sat., April 25.

Columbia secures second title in three years, moves on to NCAA tournament

MEN'S TENNIS from front page

was a tough match. But looking back, if I had to win either Ivies or ECAC, I would take Ivies because it is much more important. The guys wanted it really bad and I was glad we played well after that bad hiccup against Brown."

The weekend started off strongly for the Lions, as they defeated Penn, 5-2, at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center. The Lions started off strongly in the doubles, winning each of the matches with relative ease. Borta and Mihai Nichifor rolled over their opponents, 8-3, simply overpowering their Quaker foes with a barrage of aces and winners. Wong and Haig Schneiderman won at No. 2 doubles, 8-4, and Dan Urban and Rajeev Deb-Sen won at No. 3 doubles, 8-3.

The Quakers offered more resistance in the singles, but the Lions were unfazed. Columbia was once again led by the stellar play of junior transfer Nichifor at No. 3 singles, who thoroughly dominated Adam Schwartz, winning 6-1, 6-3. Nichifor landed aces and forehand winners early in the first set to win it easily, and then used his variety and deadly forehand to take the second. At No. 1 singles, Wong went up against Hicham Laleej. Laleej took advantage of his height, winning the first set 7-5, after Wong squandered break points in the set. Wong rallied to win the second, 7-5, breaking Laleej late in the set.

Borta, playing at No. 2 singles, won his first set, 7-5, against Jonathan Boym. The two nearly came to blows early in the second, and coaches and officials had to rush onto the court to prevent an altercation. Borta lost the second set, 6-2, to even the match at one set all.

Schneiderman at No. 5 singles, struggled early against Jason Lin, and was losing 5-2 in the first set. However, he rallied using a steady ground game to win five straight games to win the set 7-5, and then dominated in the second, winning 6-2.

Deb-Sen dropped his first set 6-2 at No. 6 singles, but went on to win 10 of the next 12 games, including a 6-0 second set against Justen Roth. Ekin Sezgen was struggling at No. 4 singles, dropping his first set, 7-5, and retiring down 2-1 in the second after the outcome of the match had been decided. Since the Lions had already won 4-0, Wong and Borta played super tiebreaks instead of third sets. Both were close—Borta won his, 10-8, while Wong lost his, 10-7, to give the Lions a 5-2 win over the Quakers.

Columbia entered Sunday's match knowing that a win would guarantee them sole possession of the Ivy title, and played like a team on a mission from the start. The doubles competition set the tone for the match, as Columbia broke Princeton in the first game of every doubles match. Although the Tigers would earn the breaks back, the momentum was on the Lions' side.

Princeton was without the services of their ace, senior and reigning Ivy Player of the Year Peter Capkovic, and the loss seemed to sap the team of some of its energy early on.

The Lions would go on to sweep the doubles matches for the second straight match. Borta and Nichifor won 8-4 at No. 1 doubles. The duo faced break points when serving out the match, but held their nerve and succeeded. The No. 2 doubles team of Wong and Schneiderman was even early on, but got a late break to win its match, 8-6. No. 3 doubles finished second and won the point for Columbia, dominating their opponents 8-3.

Columbia absolutely dominated in the singles play, winning five out of the six first sets.

Wong, playing Alex Vuckovic had break points in two service games early on, but Vuckovic held on to force a tiebreak for the first set. In the tiebreak, Wong displayed his shot-making ability, racing out to a 6-0 lead. Wong won the tiebreak 7-2.

Borta steamrolled George Carpeni in the first set, 6-2, using his varied arsenal of forehands, serves, and topspin lobs to keep his opponent off balance.

Nichifor was dominant as usual, winning when his opponent retired down 6-0, 2-1. Nichifor's serve and forehand combo was enormous all season, and led him to an undefeated record in Ivy play at No. 3 singles. Nichifor is the third Lion to go undefeated, as Borta went 7-0 last season, primarily at No. 3, and Wong went undefeated as a freshman.

Schneiderman struggled to adjust to the outdoor conditions in the first set, dropping it 6-2. But he would rebound quickly to take the second 6-0.

Sezgen, battling an injury all weekend, crushed his Princeton opponent, 6-2, in the first set and was up a break at 4-3 in the second. The match soon became testy however, as Charlie Brosens broke back and was yelling after every point. Sezgen found himself down 4-5, 0-30, and was two points away from a third set, but rallied to hold for 5-5, and then break Brosens to go up 6-5.

Deb-Sen was the second Lion off the court, winning in two identical sets, 6-2, 6-2. After going down 2-0 in the first, Deb-Sen won 12 of the next 14 games as his opponent crumbled.

The Lions had three matches with players nearing match point to seal an Ivy title. Sezgen was serving up 6-5, Borta up 6-5, and Wong up 5-3. Borta would be the first to finish, holding his serve at love after his opponent netted a backhand. Borta's celebration drew a point penalty from the referee, but was useless since Wong and Sezgen finished less than two minutes later. Schneiderman, the last Lion on court, rallied for a 5-2 lead in the third, and closed out his match with an ace, to punctuate a 7-0 sweep for Columbia.

Courtesy of Amin Nadim Khalaf

VICTORY! | The Columbia men's tennis team finished this season with a 16-5 overall record (6-1 Ivy) and ranked 56th. This is the teams second title in three years and Coach Bid Goswami's seventh of his career.

"I felt like the Princeton match was a little anticlimactic," said Goswami. "It seemed like that because it was a 7-0 match. There were not that many pressure points, and all season we have played the pressure points well. We won so many 4-3 matches this season, including our 4-3 win at Harvard."

"Sometimes to win the Ivies you have to be a little bit lucky," said a reflective Goswami. "Even with the little injuries, we came out ahead. I felt like we had the depth. I am glad third doubles played well, they played really well these last two matches. We worked hard with that team, and I was happy they played well."

The Lions will represent the Ivy League in the NCAA tournament for the second time in three years. In 2007, they played No. 2 seed Ohio State, the eventual finalist, and lost 4-0. This time, however, Goswami believes the team can be successful pending their draw.

"It depends on the draw," said Goswami. "Last time we were ranked in the 70s, we had to play No. 2 Ohio State, and they matched up well against us. This year our ranking will be better [currently ranked No. 56] and hopefully we will get a better matchup in regionals. If we get to play a team like Old Dominion or Texas Christian in the 30s or 40s, at least we have a chance. If we have the right team we can do well. We are capable of beating anyone."

When asked if this was one of the better teams he had coached in his nearly three decades at Columbia, the head coach gave a glowing review.

"The 1987 team was really an unbelievable team—we should have been top five or ten in the country," said Goswami. "Then in 2000 we had a really good team. This year the depth of the Ivy League has been so good, home court was a big factor. This is one of the top three or four teams I have ever coached."

The Lions will begin play in the NCAA tournament on May 8, when regional play is set to begin.

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Ad Council

EPA

Light Blue defeat an Ivy foe for first time since 2005

LACROSSE from page 3

that modest advantage didn't stick for the Light Blue. But down 3-1, the Lions managed to battle back, with a goal by Geronimos and two straight goals by Holly Glynn sandwiching a goal by Harvard's Tyler Petropulos. The teams went into the lockers tied at four.

The back-and-forth battle continued after the break. After Brittany Shannon's first and only goal of the game gave Columbia the 5-4 lead, Doherty notched two straight scores to push the Crimson back on top by a single goal. But Glynn was equal to the task. The senior attacker from Waltham, Mass. pulled off another back-to-back goal spree, with both marks unassisted, to put the Lions up 7-6 and propel her into first place on the team for goals this season with 35.

Another pair of Columbia goals, this time from Ryan and Geronimos, gave Columbia a three-goal cushion with 20 minutes to play. But after that opening 10-minute stretch of the second half that saw eight goals combined, both offenses quieted down, and the Lions and Crimson traded scores to keep the Columbia advantage at three with 12:27 to play.

But that lull proved to be the quiet before the storm for Harvard. The Crimson rattled off three straight goals over a 10-minute span, including Jess Halpern's game-tying score with just 1:10 remaining, to put any talk of an Ivy win on hold for the Light Blue. The stage seemed to be set for yet another late-game fold by the Lions, who had blown their best chance at an Ivy win against Brown on April 4 by surrendering 11 goals in the second period.

But thanks to Geronimos' third goal of the game, the Light Blue survived, giving head coach Kerri Whitaker just her second conference win in her time at Columbia. The win was also the first for the senior class, including goalkeeper Emma Mintz, who made seven saves in the victory. The win also snapped a six-game losing streak for the Lions and put them above .500 on the year at 7-6.

Glynn led the way with four goals. Doherty, Petropulos, and Halpern provided the only offense for Harvard, combining for all 10 Crimson points.

Columbia will take another break from conference play with a trip to Philadelphia to play La Salle on April 22. The Lions will play their last conference match of the year on April 26 against Dartmouth at home.

Columbia's defending Ivy champions in trouble

BASEBALL from page 3

dropped the pitcher's duel 2-3.

Game two of Sunday's doubleheader was a slugfest, and every Columbia batter notched at least one hit in the game. After loading the bases in the first inning, Columbia scored one run on a walk and another on a hit batsman, but was unable to truly capitalize on the situation. Cornell took advantage of two Columbia errors in the second inning and evened the score at two before going ahead by two runs in the third inning on a homer by first baseman Mickey Brodsky.

Mike Roberts came through for Columbia in the fifth inning with a two-out RBI single that tied the game at six runs apiece. Alex Aurrichio then tripled to lead off the sixth inning, and later scored on a Billy Rumpke single to regain the lead.

But Columbia starter Roger Aquino put runners on first and third—committing an error himself—to lead off the seventh inning and was immediately lifted in favor of freshman Brian Valero. Another Columbia error allowed the game-tying run to score, but the big blast came off the bat of shortstop Scott Hardinger, who hit a three-run bomb to break the game open for Cornell.

The determined Lions fought back in the eighth inning and a Ferrera homer brought the team within one run heading into the ninth inning. But Cornell scored its ninth run in the final inning, and after Forthun walked to lead off Columbia's half, closer David Rochefort earned his sixth save of the season. Rochefort retired Roberts, O'Brien, and Ron Williams—all of whom are home run threats—to end the series.

With the 1-3 performance this weekend, Columbia drops to third place in the weaker Gehrig Division behind Princeton and Cornell. The Lions will face the worst team in the Ivy League next weekend in Penn, but would need Princeton and Cornell to have disastrous weekends in order to squeak by them to enter the championship series.

The Lions will take on Manhattan at home on Wednesday before concluding the 2009 season against Penn this weekend.

Lions finish 1-3 against Cornell, drop to third in Gehrig division

SOFTBALL from page 3

giving up one run on three hits.

Cornell shortstop Alyson Intihar and right fielder Berkey led their team, combining for six hits, six runs, and seven RBI. Two of Berkey's three hits were home runs.

Only three Lions managed to get hits off Cornell's Ali Tomlinson. Tomlinson went the full six innings, giving up only one earned run on four hits and a walk, while striking out nine.

Pineda led the Light Blue offense with a solo homer and an RBI double. Ecker and Kayla Lechler each added a hit of their own.

Columbia will play two doubleheaders this week against Iona and Rider, before facing its final Ivy opponent of the season, Penn, this weekend.

Diana Wong / Senior Staff Photographer

GETTING LOW ON LOW | Saturday's Bacchanal spring concert brought scores of Columbia and Barnard students, as well as visitors, to Low Plaza to rock with indie band Vampire Weekend and hip-hop star Talib Kweli. The outdoor weekend concert was a welcome change from last year's indoor, sparsely attended event.

MUSIC

A free, fervent fusion of indie rock and rap

BY REBECCA PATTIZ
Spectator Staff Writer

What does it take to get Columbia kids to gather en masse on campus? As Saturday's Bacchanal spring concert proved, warm weather and two famous musicians performing for free will do the trick.

Columbians clad in T-shirts and shorts flooded Low Plaza for a chance to see CU alums' rock band Vampire Weekend and rapper Talib Kweli take the stage for a much-needed afternoon of relaxation. Students with paper bag-encased bottles of dubious content sang along to songs they knew (because everyone likes to brag that the now-famous Vampire Weekend went to their college) and danced to Kweli's insatiable beats, as a decidedly illicit scent wafted through the air.

The first to perform, Vampire Weekend made a point of referencing old Columbia memories, such as the time Ghostface Killah played in the rain at the spring concert. Though the band has played at Columbia a few times since its members graduated, performing on such familiar territory is still a unique experience. "It's definitely a special thing," said keyboardist Rostam Batmanglij, CC '06, of performing at Columbia.

Talib Kweli followed Vampire Weekend, and got the presumably overheated crowd moving. Though some knew all the lyrics to Kweli's songs, many others did not—and got down anyway. Inviting "b-boys and b-girls" to the stage, Kweli's performance was interactive, causing an audience of stressed-out students to get surprisingly rowdy.

Perhaps the biggest shock was Kweli's offhand announcement that his brother, Jamal Greene, is a professor at Columbia Law School. When he asked if anybody listened to hip-hop music, the hands that waved in the air and the emphatic screams of assent that ensued proved that as an entertainer, he had done his job.

The Bacchanal committee, it was clear, had also done theirs.

"The whole campus is here, people are everywhere. It's better than I ever expected," said Alex Kirk, CC '11, the future co-president of Bacchanal along with Jody Zellman, GS '11, who draws weekly cartoons for the *Spectator*.

SEE BACCHANAL, page 8

DANCE

Orisha unites dancers under one beat

BY RUOXI CHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

"Now we're just doing it like this," the choreographer says with a demonstrative gesture. "But later we'll do it like this."

The dancers lined up in front of him have slightly stunned expressions on their faces. They are in Barnard's Streng Studio, and two hours of exertion have already filled the room with heat.

Orisha, Columbia's only Pan-African dance troupe, has just turned a year old. A reinvention of Dole, Columbia's traditional West African dance group, Orisha began with a one-time performance for the 2008 Perspectives on Diversity Showcase. Malena Amusa, Journalism '08, Celina Caban, BC '08, and Arusha DePeiza Saldenha, BC '09, fused their various dance backgrounds to produce this performance, and it attracted other dancers.

"After performing at the Columbia Dance-Off and placing second," Saldenha said, "we realized how important Orisha would be for us and the Columbia community."

The first version of the dance seems perfectly fine, until it is completely swallowed by the absolute dynamism and energy of the second. The room isn't large, and everything is a little wilted from the heat, but the air is electrified. Instead of music, just the steady drum counts of the choreographer's voice can be heard, which crackles and echoes as he moves.

Over the last few decades, similar African dance groups have popped up all over New York City. Beginning with the Katherine Dunham and Pearl Primus revival of African cultural consciousness in the '40s and '50s, huge programs like DanceAfrica emerged, producing not only dance companies but communities.

Harambee, the professional troupe to which both Amusa and the guest choreographer belong, hosts parties and teaches African culture in addition to performing at elementary schools. While there are only about ten premier companies, there are close to a hundred in total, with the number growing steadily every year.

The vogue reached Morningside Heights in the form of the immensely popular African I and II classes offered at Columbia, but it is Orisha that, in the spirit of its founding moment, has actively reached out to the Columbia community. Though Orisha has only been an officially recognized group since last fall, its members have already participated in dozens of performances, from Tamasha last year to Sabor and RAWcus this year.

Even more unusually, Orisha is not limited to Columbia undergraduates. Amusa, a Columbia School of Journalism graduate and a member of a professional company, continued to dance with Orisha until she went on a trip overseas. Caban dances while working full-time in New York City. In fact, Orisha was originally intended to be a dance company unaffiliated with the undergraduate school, and has made appearances at numerous events, including a two-week run of an off-Broadway show and a corporate retreat.

"People love African dance," secretary Chimdi Nwosu, CC '09, explained. "Ballet and modern are so deliberate, whereas African dance forms are so personal." For Nwosu, who wrote her dance thesis on Dunham and Primus, the founders of African dance in America, this is also a personal journey that involves her own identity as a member of the African Diaspora.

Other members of the group, such as Akornefa Akyea, CC '12, started dancing this year. Ekaterina Alexandrova, CC '09, manages to balance a heavy science course load, recent trips to Bangladesh, and the demands of the group, which often has four or five performances scheduled in a single week. Jill Gottlieb, CC '12, stumbled over the group after signing up for African I because there was no hip-hop class available.

Despite this wide variety of backgrounds and styles—which include Soca, Samba, and even belly dancing—Saldenha described Orisha's core philosophy as "dancing to the same beat." There is no one style modeled after the reality of the Diaspora, but "dance," she said, "is one way to see the commonalities between cultures."

Courtesy of Orisha

COMMON CULTURE | Members of Orisha, Columbia's Pan-African dance troupe, hail from a range of academic and performance backgrounds.

WHERE IT'S AT

Time: May 4 at 9:30 p.m.
Place: Roone Arledge Auditorium
Cost: $5 with CUID, $7 without

MUSIC

Folk legend Seeger highlights community-wide green festival

BY JENNIE ROSE HALPERIN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

At the Rockin' Earth Day Fest organized by the Teachers College Go Green Committee on Saturday, legendary folk musician and activist Pete Seeger added one more item to his impressive resume: "I wish I went to Columbia. Then I could have studied anthropology—all my life I've been an amateur anthropologist."

Organizers claimed they were expecting up to 800 people for the event. And indeed, many were turned away from the chance to see Seeger perform in front of an intimate crowd of 150 in the Teachers College courtyard. Though overzealous security guards and agitated crowds put a slight damper on the excitement, Seeger took it in stride, stepping quietly onto the stage in the knit hat he wore at Barack Obama's inauguration, and carrying his famous decorated banjo.

As audience members sat wide-eyed and open-mouthed, he implored the crowd to harmonize on the Woody Guthrie classic "This Land is Your Land," his now warbly voice providing the lyrics.

The performance was part of a larger Earth Day fair, which featured organizations such as the East River Crew, Greenmarket, and the YWCA. The vendors included Honest Tea and Jamba Juice. The East River Crew seemed bent on finding more Columbia students to join their mission, claiming, "We are so close to Columbia!" On the other side of the courtyard were the vendors, some of whom seemed disinterested and confused. The woman at Honest Tea said, "I don't even know what this event is about."

The festival's lead organizers, TC students Jaymie Stein and Natalie Hadad, said the event should make people "celebrate the Earth but also think about their impact." Stein, an art education major, wants people to understand that "everyone's an artist," and included several projects made with recycled goods as part of the festival, such as "Funky New Clothes" made from scraps of donated clothes. At the end of Seeger's performance, Stein presented him with a wood-block print to recognize his contribution.

Seeger, who founded the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater organization to clean up the Hudson River, reflected on his experience with environmentalism, invoking economist John Kenneth Galbraith. "Private affluence, public squalor," Seeger said, explaining the river's condition in the '60s. He also spoke critically of public officials who use money as an excuse to destroy gardens and public space.

Utilizing his skill as a storyteller, Seeger included a new song in his performance, "Take It From Dr. King," which was written in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Its pacifist lyrics, which invoke the Civil Rights movement, tread on old Seeger turf, but bring him back to his roots—children's music. He also played a charming rendition of "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain" for a young fan shortly before leaving the stage.

"I am more optimistic than I have ever been in my life," Seeger said with a smile. And on that sunny afternoon, basking in the eternal wisdom of a living saint, so were we.

Andra Mihali / Staff Photographer

GOING GREEN | The Rockin' Earth Day Fest was designed to raise environmental awareness.