

INSIDE



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Digital get down all the way uptown

The coolest computer system you've never heard of is sitting in Prentiss Hall. Since the 1950s, the Columbia Computer Music Center has been pumping electronic music.

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Glee brings joy to musical theater fans

FOX's new sitcom brings Broadway stars to the small screen. The show balances comedy with serious singing talent, attracting theater fans to the show.

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NSOP 'til you drop

Christopher Morris-Lent takes a trip down memory lane while recounting the first days of a Columbia student and providing his (always unique) insight on the journey.



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Columbia rowers represent the U.S.

Light Blue men's rowers Evan Cassidy, Sebastian Kirwan, Bob Duff, and Mike Nucci traveled to Europe to compete in the Under 23 World Championships.

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Women's basketball welcomes new staff

Assistant coaches Shanna Cook and Katy Steding and Director of Operations Darrice Griffin join head coach Paul Nixon this season to lead the Light Blue.

ONLINE

ColumbiaSpectator.com

News around the clock

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

CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

Will Brown for *Spectator*

About five opponents of Columbia's Manhattanville expansion met outside Floridita Tapas Bar & Restaurant Wednesday evening to protest scheduled work by Con Edison on a main gas line outside the popular Cuban restaurant and bakery on Broadway between 125th and 129th streets. City Council member Inez Dickens and candidate Landon Dais—who is challenging Dickens in the Sept. 15 Democratic primaries—were expected to attend the rally and debate one another. But Columbia postponed the relocation of the gas line—scheduled to begin Wednesday at 9 p.m.—because, Community Board 9 Chair Pat Jones said, the necessary permits had not been obtained. A University spokesperson could not be reached late Wednesday evening to confirm this. See Friday's edition of the *Spectator* for the full story, and an analysis of the status of University construction in Manhattanville.

Moody-Adams will work for a '21st century' CC

BY ALEXA DAVIS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Shortly after moving in from Ithaca, philosophy professor and new Columbia College Dean Michele Moody-Adams sat down with Spectator's Alexa Davis for an exclusive interview on her transition to Columbia from Cornell, love of spicy food, and her thought on being the first African American and woman to hold her post.

Spec: What have you been up to since July, when you officially moved in?

MMA: Lots of things. I've been touring residence halls and getting a sense of the first-year student residential experience, learning more about upperclass students and how they make their way on campus. I've toured a lot of other student spaces in Lerner and some of the fraternities and sorority houses. So I've seen a great deal and met a lot of people and I've walked a lot! You wouldn't think with a campus this compact, but I've done a lot of walking.

But the transition has been good. It's not something that will end even when the beginning of the academic year starts because you can't come new to a really complicated research university and think you know what you need to know for some time. And I'm aware of that. People joke about the phrase "the learning curve is

steep." The learning curve is steep, but I've been at a lot of similar institutions, large, and I've been at some not so similar institutions that are small so I know higher education really well but I don't know Columbia really well. I've talked to students, talked with staff, and some faculty. It's going well but I have a lot more to learn.

Spec: What has been the most challenging part of the transition to Columbia from Cornell?

MMA: I'm a city person. I grew up in Chicago. I used to take the bus to school in high school. For piano lessons I'd be on the subway and the elevator train going back and forth. And I lived in cities for much of my time other than my time in Ithaca. I spent a lot of my life in the Boston area, so it comes very naturally to me, and I like New York. For a while I actually felt a little disloyal when I realized, maybe it was late last week, that I like New York a whole lot.

You know I'm a born and bred native Chicagoan and it's very much a part of me, but I like New York. There have been challenges, when you drive much of the time in your daily life and then you come to New York and you put your car in the garage for much of the week, that's a very different experience. I walk more here, probably take more public



Courtesy of Columbia

MICHELLE MOODY-ADAMS

transportation in the weekends than I ever would've dreamt of doing in Ithaca. In many ways, I don't know enough to know just how many differences there will be in the sort of culture of the places, but in a lot of ways there aren't many differences at all: smart students; smart, talented faculty; very experienced and accomplished administrators. That's going to be almost a seamless transition. The culture of the place, what people expect

SEE MOODY-ADAMS, page 2

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Under new direction, Miller gets hip

BY CHRISTINE JORDAN
Spectator Staff Writer

If the last time you went to Miller Theatre was for a Frontiers of Science lecture, don't tell Melissa Smey.

The new director of Miller Theatre—Columbia's preeminent venue for the performing arts—isn't oblivious to undergraduates' general underutilization of the institution. But that doesn't mean she's complacent about it. "I'm excited about the opportunity to build stronger connections within the university," she said in an interview, and "with what's happening on the campus."

Smey's vision for Miller integrates undergraduates into its programming by bringing hip performers to campus,



Courtesy of Brannon Chase

MELISSA SMEY
DIRECTOR OF MILLER THEATRE

continuing to showcase student musicians, and by hosting events that are widely accessible to the uninitiated. After eight years as general manager of Miller, Smey is still itching to develop new program ideas and to create unexpected juxtapositions in her new capacity as director.

According to students, Smey may have her work cut out for her. Many feel that in the past few years, Miller has not targeted undergraduates in publicizing their events, leaving students like Joy Lee, CC '12, ignorant of its programming. "If I looked at what Miller Theatre was offering, I could probably find something that I would like to attend, but right now, I just have no idea what's going on," said Lee. New student Antonio Pineda, SEAS '13, felt a similar disconnect from the venue. "This is actually the first time I've ever heard of the place," he said.

But Smey and other Miller employees plan to strengthen the venue's ties to Columbia this year, beginning with a renewed partnership with the School of the Arts. In the undergraduate world, Smey hopes to expand an affiliation that may not be as tenuous as some students think.

At a Bach concert last October, Smey noted that between 130 and 140 of the 688 audience members

SEE MILLER, page 9

New real estate director moves in

BY SAM LEVIN
Spectator Staff Writer

Vishaan Chakrabarti is moving in to head Columbia's real estate development program, the University announced on Wednesday.

Joining the array of new faces at Columbia this year, Chakrabarti is a triple-threat architect, city planner, and developer who will become the first ever full-time director of the real estate program at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. This hiring is a step toward a major, comprehensive expansion of the real estate program.

In his new role, Chakrabarti will be responsible for overseeing the program's new three-semester curriculum and hopes to enhance career service offerings, integrate his department more deeply into the school's fabric, raise capital for new program facilities, and hire the program's second full-time faculty spot—the Paul Milstein Professor of Urban Development. Chakrabarti's post is the real estate development program's first endowed professorship, funded entirely by 1990 alumnus Marc Holliday.

In an interview, Chakrabarti said he seeks to create a platform for meaningful and productive local, national, and international discussion on the most pressing issues of modern real estate.

"Locally, we need more pro-growth and pro-change. Anti-growth sentiment has gotten pretty extreme, and we need a voice for smart growth in the city," he said. Chakrabarti also noted the merits of expansion for institutions of higher education—a stance relevant to debate over the Manhattanville campus.

Chakrabarti added that he aims to train future international developers to do work in regions that he thinks are currently victimized by unchecked and unhealthy development. "It is really the number one issue we face as a planet," he said.

According to Dean Mark Wigley, "The simplest way to say it is that he is really a visionary—someone who grasps all dimensions of the future of our city." He said that "The city is shaped by so many different forces that don't talk to each other," but that the appointment of Chakrabarti is the "most crucial step" in expanding the program so that key figures can come together and use the school as a venue for progress.

Chakrabarti is leaving behind his post as executive vice president of design and planning at Related Companies—a developing, managing, and financing company—to take on his new job in Morningside Heights.

He served as director of New York City's Department of City Planning for three years starting in 2002, during which time he played a role in the redevelopment



Courtesy of Columbia

VISHAAN CHAKRABARTI

of Manhattan's Far West Side and Hudson Yards, as well as the recent High Line railway makeover into a public park. He is also currently working on redeveloping Penn Station in Midtown—a project he will not give up while settling into his new role uptown.

Professor Michael Buckley—who previously directed the real estate program—said, "We are moving forward in a whole new direction. I built this program up for 11 years, and I am glad he is going to be building on top of that platform." Buckley said he would continue to teach in a limited capacity in the department after stepping down as director.

"This is very big and ambitious," Chakrabarti said of the future. "And I'm very excited about it."

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Athena Center.

- Carol Katzman, previously Hunter College's deputy chief information officer, will serve as the newly-created position of vice president for information technology.

- Angela Haddad, previously sociology department chair at Central Michigan University, will become assistant provost.

- Jessica Nuñez, previously director of the College Activities Office, will fill the new post of Assistant Dean for Student Development and Diversity—a position in the newly-created Office of Diversity Initiatives.

Spar also announced the promotion of several staff members, including the appointment of Joanne Kwong as Vice President of Communications. Spar is still looking to hire a program director for the new office of Diversity Initiatives. In addition to a search committee, a team of students from Barnard was recruited to interview a number of candidates.

Turnover is often expected when new presidents head up educational institutions. Many longtime deans are sticking around, though Spar's changes came abruptly and will inevitably consume college resources at a time when Barnard is choking for funds.

The school's endowment plummeted from \$200 million to \$163 million in that past year, creating a financial outlook already complicated after Barnard underestimated its financial aid budget by \$1.5 million and made up the difference by trimming across vice presidents' budgets.

Spar affirmed that space has freed up in the budget. "We've been finding other ways to cut costs in other areas and we've had a number of retirements... we've done some rearranging which has opened up a little room in the budget."

Spar touted the changes as an effort to consolidate resources and increase the administration's

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EVENTS — SEPTEMBER 10

SEAS Dean picnic

Join new SEAS Dean Feniosky Peña-Mora for a welcome picnic, featuring free sandwiches, salad, and drinks.

Pupin Plaza, 4-6 p.m.

Elektra Auditions

If there's drama in your semester, let it be on a stage. CU Players is hosting auditions for an upcoming production of Sophocles' Elektra, in a new translation by Anne Carson.

Hamilton Hall, 8-11 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I do not enjoy being in a role like this and being cut off from students. ... There's no substitute for interaction, and it's something I thrive on."

—CC Dean Michele Moody-Adams

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CORRECTIONS

The Sept. 9 *Spectator* article "Property dispute stirs up residents" incorrectly reported that Jewish Home Lifecare would not be able to apply to rezone for another four or five years, when in fact the facility expects to close the deal in two years. *Spectator* regrets the error.

In first interview, CC dean gives her take on new job and new city

MOODY-ADAMS from front page

about interactions between the various units of the school, that's going to look different, but I couldn't have learned that in the time I've been here. But I'm working on it.

Spec: Your husband and daughter moved with you to New York. How has the transition been for them?

MMA: It's been good. My daughter and I are thrilled that my husband is here at Columbia as a professor of English and comp lit. And he's a specialist in British Victorian literature, every dimension of it. He teaches other things as well, but he's delighted to be here. And in fact he has for years had several connections with the people he'll now have as colleagues in the English department. We've been welcomed very fully into Columbia. My daughter is going to be starting school in the fall at Brearley. She's used to being driven places, she's ready for the independence but it will be a study in getting yourself to places on time with public transportation. We're working out a few routes, so that's a fun thing.

Spec: Besides academics, what are you passionate about? What are your hobbies? I know you consider yourself a "foodie."

MMA: I love any food that's well prepared and delicious. I love good food, I love "international" and ethnic food, particularly if it's spicy.

I'm also getting back into photography as a hobby. I just for Mother's Day was given a pretty nice little SLR digital [camera]. When I was growing up my father had photography as a major hobby and he had even built a dark room in our basement. I was never very good at developing so digital is good for me.

I'm not especially knowledgeable as I'd like to be about with technological things but I'm kind of a low-level techie kind of person so I like gadgets and I do a lot of stuff with photography. I'm the family photographer, even for our holiday picture! We do the self-timer with the tripod. We're a wacky group.

I'm also a big fan of architecture. I would even say if I hadn't done this I would've wanted to be talented in architecture. I love city architecture, I love learning about it, I love seeing it. Even though I think I know New York sort of well, at least Manhattan, at some point I want to take a tour where I can be given a sense of locations and get to the other boroughs.

I used to be more of an exercise person than I've become as I've gotten old. I used to actually be, when I first got married about 25 years ago, I used to do weight lifting. I would go two times a day to the gym! This was to keep me sane while I was trying to finish up some writing.

Spec: What are you particularly passionate about in the realm of higher education?

MMA: College is such an important moment for people who are able to go, and I hope that everyone who wants to go can go. That's very much one of my commitments, is the idea of the accessibility of higher education for people who are ready to take advantage of it. I think it's a really important way of preparing people to be productive citizens and to really lead good lives. Not everybody has to go to college to do that, but many people will profit by doing that, and that's one of the reasons I wanted to be in higher education generally.

Spec: What are some of the main things you're looking to accomplish

in the coming year?

MMA: I have a lot to learn, so I'm not going to claim to be the person who's going to come in and make suddenly everything different. There's a whole lot of good about CC—there's an awful lot that does not need to be changed, but only enhanced and strengthened.

The Core is one of them. I don't have any doubt that a 21st-century education that produces students who are going to take their place as productive and creative citizens of the world, I don't have any doubt that the Columbia College Core Curriculum is an essential part of that.

One of the reasons I wanted the job was to be able to be part of helping preserve the Core and where it might need to be tweaked, rethought. The Core for me is a crucial part of a 21st-century education. We produce productive, creative, innovative students in every discipline. I have a commitment to making the Core even stronger. That's very important.

Another commitment is to ensure that students, as part of their 21st-century education, understand and appreciate the value of science. Frontiers of Science is part of that, but I want to make sure that science-interested students who are either thinking about Columbia or are already here feel that we've fully addressed the needs they have both in the classroom and laboratory but also out of classroom experiences that help them grow intellectually. That's very crucial to me. I think that science literacy, and its not just a phrase for me, not everyone can be a scientist for all kinds of reasons. But you can't really be a good citizen in the 21st century unless you understand the role that science can have in reshaping our lives. Students, even if they're not science majors, need to be aware of that.

Advising, and the rethinking that we are undertaking about how to strengthen advising for Columbia College students, this is really important to me. And some of this will affect my interactions outside the college as well, because I have this role as the vice president for undergraduate education, so I'm not thinking only about the college, I'm thinking about SEAS, General Studies, and occasionally some issues that affect Barnard students as well.

I'm also very interested in renewing the commitment to making sure that faculty knows how much we value their engagement in the undergraduate experience and doing anything I can to make that more rewarding for faculty. Faculty have a lot going on and we demand a lot of them. One of the most rewarding things, even outside of teaching, that you can do is play a central role in shaping the well-being of students and that's something I'd like to be part of discussions with faculty and how they can be even more involved than they are and to help them see that it's rewarding.

I also want to make sure that we're doing everything we can to keep a strong financial aid program so that college remains accessible and affordable—so that Columbia remains accessible and affordable—for students who get in and are qualified and want to come here. We don't want to price good students out of the market for Columbia.

Spec: What are you most excited about for the new school year?

MMA: Meeting students. I really want to just meet all kinds of students from every class from lots of different places. I'd like to know what's on their minds, both in formal and informal settings. I would like to have maybe every two weeks some kind of open office hours

where students can come see me so they don't feel like things build up. I'm going to be going to meet with student councils, and I'm going to start going regularly to the senate meetings, which are once a month.

But just getting the chance to meet students. There's just so much excitement and energy. I need to have time to meet students. I do not enjoy being in a role like this and being cut off from students. And the danger is you forget why you're doing it, no matter how interested and caring you are, you can forget. There's no substitute for interaction, and it's something I thrive on.

Spec: You're the first woman and first African American to serve as dean of Columbia college. How do you feel about that?

MMA: One thing everybody will learn about me over time is that I have identities as a woman and an African American of which I'm very proud, but they aren't all that I am. They never have been and I hope they never will be. I've come to this job thinking I am the dean, but I also come to this job knowing that I am the first dean to have these characteristics, the thing that everybody needs to know is that from my understanding of why I was chosen, I wasn't chosen because I was black and female, but that wasn't a bad fact about me given the 21st century.

I've come with a lot of experience and expertise in an array of areas and personal interests that do make me some one who can speak very effectively for issues that are connected to those two constituencies, but I will speak to other issues too. Mainly I feel that Columbia has welcomed me with open arms as somebody who wants to be a good dean.

Spar creates new positions, shuffles Barnard admins

BARNARD from front page

efficiency. "It allows us to do what we've done more efficiently, more effectively, and more widely," Spar said in an interview. "We're just trying to make sure that we have people lined up so we can get things done. [For example], we're having 30 students coming in with the Visiting International Students Program—that's going to mean reallocating resources so that we have enough staff to take care of these students [and] we're going to need more services."

Some students have expressed concern that new hires in new positions will strain the resources of an institution whose endowment has already taken a hit from the economic crisis.

"It just makes you wonder, if some students are getting less financial aid, how is it that we can afford many new staff members?" asked a Barnard sophomore who asked not to be named because of her financial aid situation. Last year, Barnard underestimated the financial aid budget by \$1.5 million, and recovered the funding by trimming the budgets of vice presidents across the school.

Some students criticized the changes for coming too suddenly, but several Student Government Association members have been aware that change was on the way. "SGA has been somewhat in the know about some of the changes," Sharmin Ahmed, SGA Vice President of Finance and BC '10, said. "Throughout the year they will be great for the community—people expect a lot of things to run efficiently."

While adding the position of chief of staff seems like a move characteristic of bigger businesses, Spar said Taylor would provide organization and

structure to her office. By promoting Taylor to positions within the President's Office, for example, Spar said that she will have someone "to help me follow up on a lot of the initiatives that I want to get under way" and "elevate community outreach."

"I need some more power in my office to help me coordinate things," Spar said. "A lot of the work that she is doing is coordinating between student groups and faculty...that's a position that after spending a year here I felt I needed."

"Vivian Taylor is an extremely popular administrator already on campus," Katie Palillo, BC '10 and SGA president said. "She knows what students are about and she will be able to attend our events and it will be great to have another administrator who is really involved and interested."

This quick shuffling aims to compensate for programs in need of attention, such as information technology, which has hardly changed over the past few years.

"The VP for Information Technology is really the [only] position that was created that didn't exist in any form before," Spar said. "A lot of this was moving people into new jobs. ... The diversity position is actually the new form of the Office of Multicultural Affairs."

Rebecca Martin, BC '12, said she is pleased to see longtime administrators working in broader roles. "I appreciate that Barnard seems to be 'promoting from within' because this shows loyalty to its staff and is more effective since these individuals are very familiar with how our school works and what needs to be improved the most," she said.

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Staff Editorial

A fairer activities fair

Today is Activities Day at Columbia, when campus clubs come together around College Walk to recruit first-years to their ranks. Unfortunately, the fair this afternoon, from noon to 4 p.m., is inconvenient because it conflicts with many students' classes. Extending the hours of future fairs would make them more accessible to everyone. The timing of today's event means many students must chose between attending class and joining a club. During the first week of school, when the fair is generally held, students have a heavier courseload as they "shop" for classes and are likely to have fewer open times when they can attend. Few of us will be willing to sacrifice our academic commitments for extracurricular ones, especially during such an important week. But at the same time, holding this year's fair on a Thursday is more convenient for those students who work on Fridays (last year's was on Friday), as well as for students in the School of General Studies, the majority of whom live off campus and may choose not to return to Columbia after the school week.

Today's fair also allows those going to Friday's Club Recharge, a training workshop for club leaders, to participate. But while the schedule today may benefit some students, it conflicts with class for a significant part of the undergraduate population. Students could also benefit from greater promotion of the fair in advance. As of now, many students may even be unaware that a fair will be held today. And by starting it earlier in the morning and ending it later in the evening, Columbia would give clubs the chance to reach out to a greater number of students. They would have the freedom to decide whether they would like to station members at their tables for longer periods of time, beyond the noon-to-4 window. This way, students would know that all clubs are available for at least four hours in the afternoon, but could also rest assured that some clubs would have tables for longer. Students still have much to gain from today's Activities Day, and should attend. But modifying the fair's schedule, and promoting it more widely, will help make next year's fair even more rewarding.

Summer screenings in the city

BY EMILY HOFFMAN

A year and a half ago I joined the NYCMovieScreenings group on Facebook. I didn't know much about the company, and my only expectation was that I might get to see a few new releases for free and save \$13.00 here and there. In addition to joining the Facebook group, I also signed up for the NYCMovieScreenings.com mailing list to get the most up-to-date information about screenings. I attended a few screenings, but my ability to take advantage of what the company had to offer was hindered by my class schedule and workload. Summer finally rolled around, and I resolved to stay in New York City and take to work on fulfilling my language requirement over the summer, but my days did not seem like they would be filled with much to do besides one class on weekday evenings. I sent my resume to a few places, none of which ever responded to my inquiry about possible summer employment, so when I checked the NYCMovieScreenings newsletter and read about a call for interns, I jumped at the opportunity to branch out. For all intents and purposes, this would be my first job, and because the job title "intern" was so vague, I began to make my own assumptions about what this job might entail. I was under the impression that I would probably be sitting in front of a desk doing administrative work. This made for an even bigger surprise when I received an e-mail informing me about my first "challenge." Before I even knew if I had the job, I was supposed to hand out postcards for a new



ILLUSTRATION BY DARYL SEITCHIK

prospective interns about their qualifications, Mark preferred a more hands-on approach to learning his interns' strengths and weaknesses. The hiring process was based almost entirely on one's ability to communicate well with Mark and to complete the twenty or so challenges which would later become the main focus of one's job. The challenges ranged from street team promotions, to running advanced screenings, to helping out with parties, to promote upcoming movies at the nightclub Taj II. A month or so after beginning work, I was told that I had great communications and organizational skills and I was asked if I would like to be promoted to be Mark's assistant. I accepted the offer, and while the position is still unpaid, I get to enjoy many of the perks of working for the company. Since I began working for NYCMovieScreenings I have attended four red carpet premieres including the premiere of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. I have worked at least twenty advanced screenings of movies, and I have given away countless fliers, posters, and stickers to New Yorkers and tourists. While I've never been a particularly shy person, I have been given a unique opportunity to develop greater skills when communicating with strangers. Passing out fliers on the streets of New York often results in rejection from strangers who won't take what I'm giving, but I have learned that rejection is not such a bad thing. It is now very easy to move on to the next step and do my best to make sure the following person does want to take my material. I'm not entirely sure what I intend to do when I graduate, or even what my major is for that matter, but the skills I have learned working at NYCMovieScreenings will be valuable no matter where I go.

The author is a Barnard College sophomore. She is a writer for The Fed. "Summer screenings in the city" is an installment of Summer Dispatches, an opinion feature series that seeks to showcase the diverse summer experiences of members of the Columbia community.

Happy camper

BY NOEMI SCHOR

By the middle of June I had already started wearing my Hannah Montana watch. It was still a little worn out from last summer and matched perfectly with the rest of my I-don't-care-what-I-look-like camp wardrobe. But most importantly, I was sure that this would be the clincher to convince the nine six-year-olds I was about to meet that I was the coolest counselor at camp. Sitting at lunch just two hours into *kayitz alpayim v'eisha* (summer 2009), the first of these pint-sized girls noticed the rhinestone-encrusted face of my watch and the ubiquitous blonde "rock star" adorning it. "You like Hannah Montana?!" her high-pitched voice combined with a look of incredulity. "Duh!" I replied, in my well-rehearsed squealy-girl imitation. "Don't you?" "Yeah," she admitted. "But you're...old!" I couldn't argue there: she was right. At 19, I was a full three years older than one of my co-counselors, a rising junior who hadn't even begun to think about SAT preparation yet, let alone her potential college major and career path. Why was I, a college sophomore, spending my summer inhaling pizza at 10:45 in the morning when I have no idea what I want to be when I "grow up"? Doesn't a college student's definition of summertime read "three months of withering away behind a desk to



forge networking connections and resume-building experiences in exchange for little-to-no pay"? For most students, a hopefully eye-opening internship is the easy choice. The summer decision's always been an easy one for me too, and it's always camp. Camp Ramah in Nyack, New York is one of ten summer programs in North America affiliated with the Ramah branch of the Jewish Conservative movement. It's a unique concept of "camp" as most youngsters, tweens, and teenagers know it. Day by day, Ramah creates an ideal balance between learning and playing by instilling both Jewish and secular values in entertaining and recreational activities. A typical day includes *t'filah* (prayers) and swimming; *shiur* (class with esteemed Jewish educators) and art; *brachot* (blessings) and sports. In many cases, the two-month Ramah experience has been shown to affect campers more strongly than a year-round Jewish education, and the considerable amount of former campers on staff is a testament to that statistic. But I wasn't a lifelong Ramahnick. So, why do I load my car with a duffle and a suitcase every June to spend two months in a bunk bursting with mold and mildew and mess? For me, it's all about the people, campers and staff alike. Even among the specialness of the Ramah organization, Ramah Nyack is unique. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. it is a day camp for kids aged 4-13, but from 4 p.m. to 9 a.m. it becomes a sleep away camp for staff. During the day, we get the opportunity to infuse our campers with the enthusiasm, energy, and teaching that make our camp singular among typical American summer programs. After 4 p.m., the same level of activity is available to the older set. The counselors become the campers and participate in both structured activities (staff climbs

at the ropes course, heated games of basketball, trips to Broadway shows) and copious amounts of time to relax and get to know each other in a comfortable, welcoming setting. The community that spontaneously forms among the staff contributes to the magic of camp as much as the calculated pre-summer scheduling does. Every year I contemplate getting a "real job" for the summer—one that doesn't allow me to wear eight-year-old stained t-shirts or play kickball in the rain. But after every summer I am reminded that being a counselor is as real as it gets. We spend seven hours a day looking after children who come to camp each morning with smiles from ear to ear and expectations just as large. Our job isn't simply to remind them to put on sunscreen after they swim or to console them when they don't get their favorite ice pop flavor. We engage them—spelling out "Feel Better" so they can write cards to their sick bunkmates, listening to their six-year-old fascinations with God and the world around them, being an unconditionally patient friend and role model. As CampRamah.org puts it, "Ramah impacts over 9,000 campers and staff every summer." For three years I have been lucky enough to be on both sides of those vital impressions, affecting the lives of my campers and friends and benefiting from my contact with both as well. So while it was sometimes hard to tell friends of my parents that I was spending my first collegiate summer as a camp counselor, like Hannah Montana says, "It's all about the climb."

The author is a Barnard College sophomore. "Happy camper" is an installment of Summer Dispatches, an opinion feature series that seeks to showcase the diverse summer experiences of members of the Columbia community.

Spectator Opinion accepts submissions from diverse areas of interest. Submissions should be between 700 and 900 words and express an opinion that does not perpetuate stereotypes or unfairly label groups or individuals. All writers meet with an associate editor to edit their submission before publication. Submissions may be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com.

For more information, come to our meeting Sundays at 2:30 p.m. in the Spectator office on the corner of 112th Street and Broadway.

COLUMBIA & ITS DISCONTENTS



COMIC BY JULIA ALEKSEYEVA



CHRIS MORRIS-LENT
POLITICS, SEX, AND RELIGION

Life is full of stupid conversations, and, if you are a first-year, you have spent the last week having them. "Where are you from?" "Are you in SEAS?" "What are you going to study?" "English—I love English." "What did you get on the SAT?" "What are you going to get on the MCAT?" "Did your OL also recommend Principles of Economics?" "Did you like *The Iliad*?" "What are you going to do with your life?" This is best imagined as a monologue, since these questions have no answers. Talking to someone is not always synonymous with communicating with him. I spent months struggling to find common ground that didn't exist. Well, it did exist, but it was shaky, volatile, marginal, and ultimately forgotten. And yet those first weeks of college are, for all of us, an enduring memory. Here are some snapshots that will linger long after you've ditched your first crew and resolve never to set foot in Pike again: The Arrival. Autumn in New York is lovely, but it's not autumn yet—there are fall clouds and summer humidity. You might be jet-lagged, like I was, but worry not—there's a sleepless night ahead of you. And then a convocation speech courtesy of some smug, self-satis-

What's your major?

Did you know Morningside Heights was purgatory, but Harlem was a wonderland of jazz, soul food, and "authentic pleasures"? Probably not, but your tour guide does—and every Starbucks or apartment erected after 1970 will elicit her worst epithets. But there is always a West African bazaar if you want to believe you're in a Spike Lee movie, and as for soul food, you can find it on your own. It is expensive, but the company is gratis. Tomorrow you can walk across the Brooklyn Bridge and overpay for pizza. But at a school that costs 55 large a year, today's "authenticity" is truly priceless. While researching this article I was dismayed to find that the "BlaZe" was discontinued. I give the NSOP crew credit for altering the particulars but maintaining the spirit. Next year, the same kind of altruistic nincompoops will be cooped up in Columbia housing for months, planning the next event. It will be "different"—the forced fun event will have a different name, the class-wide Core lecture will give a different professor fifteen minutes of mediocrity, and a different young alumnus will slither back home to deliver an oily speech. Changes at Columbia are always on the surface; have you exchanged your Lacoste for Armani yet? Take solace in this, though. You will soon learn that the University is a corporation, a Big Corporation. And yet it loses tons of money putting on NSOP. This means it must be well-intentioned. Find a professor or two and a group of friends with the same intentions (be wary of the self-sacrificial) and you will do just fine. But it might take a while.

Chris Morris-Lent is a Columbia College senior majoring in English. Politics, Sex, and Religion runs alternate Thursdays. opinion@columbiaspectator.com

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Syrian president
6 1/2 fl. oz.
10 Copacetic
14 Absolut
15 Caramel-filled candy
16 Fail to include
17 Hawk's hook
18 Reason to cram
19 Kentucky Derby entrant
20 Start of an investor's quip
23 Firefighting aid
24 Turndowns
25 Pleasing breeze
29 Asian inland sea
31 Butcher's units: Abbr.
34 Garlic she
35 Appointment
37 Words on a desk box
39 Quip, part 2
41 Quip, part 3
43 Dentist's request
44 Pool table boundary
46 Sensible
47 One way to get directions
48 "Serpico" author Peter
50 Good-sized chamber ensembles
52 45 or 78: Abbr.
53 Elmer Fudd, for one
55 End of the quip
63 Western team that beat the Crimson Tide in the 2009 Sugar Bowl
64 Source of a suit
65 "Chestnuts roasting ..." co-writer
66 Fill fully
67 20th century basso
68 Cyberletters
69 It's partner, in logic
70 Quantum
71 Weasel-like mammal

2 Attempt
3 With no help
4 Any of three baseball brothers
5 Lifeboat, perhaps
6 Old waste allowances
7 Premium opera house spot
8 Blind part
9 College in Claremont, California
10 Athletic types
11 Mine, in Metz
12 Ceramics baker
13 Place whom
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21 Golden
Mongol invaders
22 Baby's ailment
25 Striped equine
26 Perry of fashion
27 Big board
28 Coop mors
30 Get a new mortgage on, briefly
31 Certain NCO, singly
32 Pop
33 Eyelid malady
36 Gillette Mach3 predecessor

38 Food-minus-pig measure
40 Neat and trim
42 Standoffish
45 Oregon city near the mouth of the Columbia
49 Dutch brew
51 Bills with Franklin on them
52 Up from bed
54 Leading the league

55 Narc's arrest
56 Westernmost D-Day beachhead
57 Chapeau's perch
58 Move like sludge
59 Linda: San Bernardino suburb
60 Far from flashy
61 Jannings of old movies
62 Take out, editorially

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By Bruce Yorkin
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MUSIC

At the CMC, computers don't just work—they also play

BY RAHEL AIMA
Columbia Daily Spectator

At 3 a.m. some nights in Butler, it can feel like your computer is talking to you. But what if it began to analyze your speech and turn it into a live video-light show? Helped you build robotic autoharps, glitchy cut-and-paste video manipulations, and music made from genetic algorithms? Or even kinetic sculptures that respond to the wind and crazy weird electronic music of all kinds?

Tucked away on the third floor of Prentis Hall on 125th Street, Columbia's Computer Music Center situates itself exactly at this intersection of musical expression and technology.

Despite its unfortunately low profile on campus, the CMC is the oldest research center of its kind in the Western Hemisphere. Established in the 1950s as the Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center, it has since broken its orange-and-black ties even as it retains its position at the forefront of multimedia and computer music research.

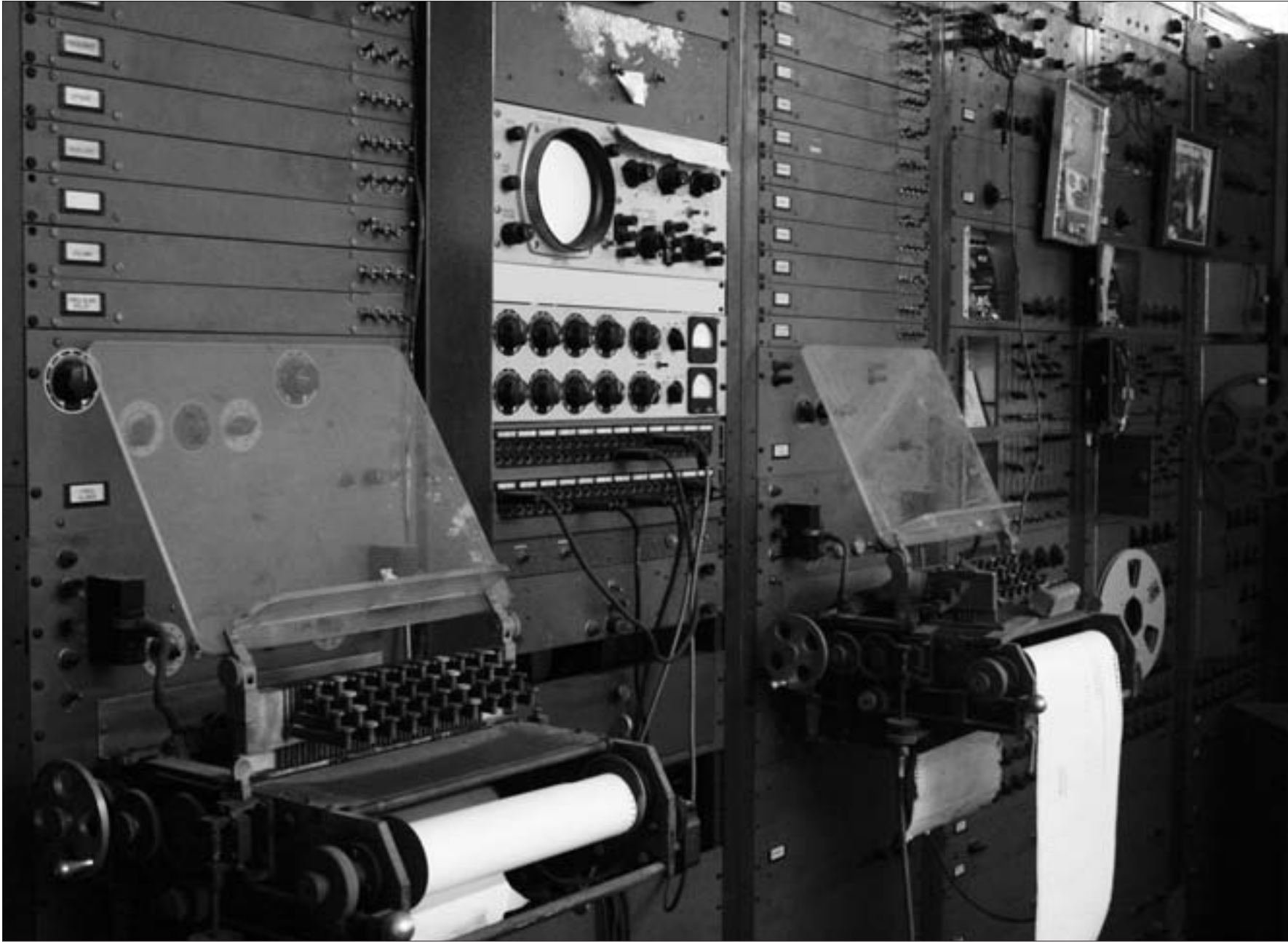
And, although computers and music may not be the most obvious of bed-fellows, CMC Director Brad Garton said, "My view is that using computers to make music is the same as using a piano."

Fittingly, most of the Rockefeller grant that helped to establish CMC went towards the world's first programmable synthesizer, the then-revolutionary room-sized RCA synthesiser. The RCA can still be found at the center, displayed along with an array of restored, and mostly functional synths, amps, and mixers from an older age.

While electronic music has rapidly developed from its magnetic-tape-splicing beginnings, the center has not missed a beat in evolving right along with it. Today, students and staff alike spin their own experimental music software, some of it even open source, and release it free online.

Sleek computers now wrestle for space with audiovisual installations and sculptures, not to mention the unique Manta controller and invented instruments built by grad student Jeff Snyder. Snyder's work runs the gamut from experimental to "electro-country" music to remixes for the likes of Public Enemy.

Another grad student, Daniel Iglesia, channels aural chaos and video manipulations to create real-time generative pieces designed to subsume the role of the DJ or VJ. There are also literary allusions,



Adrienne Hezghia for Spectator

OK COMPUTER | Though it is the oldest research center of its kind in the Western Hemisphere, Columbia's Computer Music Center remains relatively unknown by many students. The Center houses the RCA—the world's first programmable synthesizer—among other now-historic electronic instruments. Courses are open to all students.

from an ode to Jules Verne to the work "Hamletized," which slowly transmogrifies Richard Burton's famous reading into a quiet stuttering shuffle.

Interdisciplinary and even city-wide collaborations are quite the norm for the center. Particularly notable is the MusicEngineeringArtProject, or MEAP, a collaboration with the electrical engineering department, and the monthly dorkbot meetings in Soho, where, according to their website, people do "strange things with electricity."

As the CMC does not currently have its own degree-granting program, its

students are drawn primarily from the music, computer science, and electrical engineering departments.

Given the makeup and often gendered culture of these departments, the space can be quite male-dominated. This is, however, somewhat balanced out in the courses, many of which are co-run with the visual arts department, and tend to attract a more diverse array of students.

The courses are extremely project-oriented, equipping students with the technological know-how to realize their weirdest electro-musical dreams

and show the end products on campus and around the city.

This is not to say that there's much hand-holding, however. "If you're interested in doing something different or unusual with electronics or computers, or making your computer interact with you to make sound art, or whatever crazy idea you have that involves computers and sound, you can get the skills you need to pull it off by taking the CMC classes and putting in your own self-motivated effort," Snyder said.

Current offerings range from basic electroacoustics to sound art and multimedia

sculpture, though there are also occasional one-off experimental courses.

The MIDI and Recorded Sound classes come especially recommended by Snyder, although the latter can have waiting list of up to three years. And while the musical and technological aspects may seem daunting, Director of Research Douglas Repetto is quick to point out, "We are super accessible. For our intro classes you need no prior experience at all, in either music or tech [or] software. We've had lots of complete beginners take our classes and bloom into crazed electro-artists."



Courtesy of FOX

SINGING SITCOM | *Glee* stars a cast of Broadway veterans with serious acting and singing chops, attracting both musical theater buffs and TV fans to the new FOX comedy.

THEATER

Glee brings Broadway to prime time

BY MADDY KLOSS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Concluding with a rousing performance of the classic late night bar hit "Don't Stop Believing"—by a motley group of high school outcasts, *Glee* combines the awkwardness of growing up with the sophistication of professional theater. The moment is a testament to the triumph of the underdog.

The scene runs parallel to the series as a whole—just as the previously uncoordinated teenage group finds relative glory through their unexpected performance, *Glee* itself may achieve success despite its unusual placement in the musical theater genre.

Glee, which launched its first season on FOX last night, tells the tale of a young high school teacher attempting to bring his school's mediocre glee club back up to the level of excellence it attained when he was a student himself. The show's humorous subject matter is mainly a vehicle for musical numbers that elevate the show above the average sitcom in terms of difficulty of execution.

Because of the obvious challenge of incorporating musical numbers into a weekly

program, it may not come as a surprise that musical theater and television have not been widely recognized as an effective pairing. It appears as though *Glee* may accomplish something its predecessors—such as the cut-short *Viva Laughlin* and *Cop Rock*—failed to do. With musical numbers that are fully and realistically integrated into the show (in the form of glee club performances), *Glee* refrains from randomly bursting into song.

Another thing that *Glee* has on its side is its devoted and rapidly burgeoning fan base, known as "Gleeks". The Gleeks have likely picked up on the authentic musical theater talent of the show's stars: Matthew Morrison, who plays the teacher, and Lea Michele, who plays the glee club's star singer.

Both actors have worked primarily on Broadway—Morrison in *South Pacific*, *Hairspray*, and *The Light in the Piazza*, and Michele most notably in *Spring Awakening*. Having Broadway talent grants *Glee* an edge among theater lovers who are eager to watch their professional-level musical performances from the comfort of home.

In addition to Morrison and Michele, another Broadway boost comes from the

guest stars who are slotted to appear over the course of the season, including Victor Garber and Kristin Chenoweth. Both are well-known in theater actors, but they have also crossed over to the television crowd (Garber in *Eli Stone* and *Alias*, among other shows, and Chenoweth in *Pushing Daisies*).

As it stands, *Glee* is charting new territory with its reliance on actors who, for the most part, are known for their excellent musical ability rather than their mainstream popularity.

"It's good that they [*Glee*] are pulling relatively unknown talent, because there are so many talented people out there... Why would you bother recycling old television actors?" added Colleen Shaffer, CC '12. The refusal to cast big-name Hollywood actors who can sing decently, in favor of genuine Broadway talent, may just be *Glee*'s unexpected ticket to success.

While *Glee* is still in the earliest stages of its season, there are already high hopes for this unconventional series. At the very least, the "Gleeks" out there will likely stick to one basic tenet: "Don't Stop Believing."

FOOD & DRINK

Julie, Julia, and students find fulfillment in food

BY KAT BALKOSKI
Spectator Staff Writer

Avoiding a cafeteria-food-and-ramen diet becomes an important struggle for many Columbians. Disappointed by John Jay and eager to expand both their social and culinary horizons, some turn to cooking.

There are a variety of cooking-oriented groups and events on campus, from small informal dinner parties to the Culinary Society's block parties. That's not to say that the average student is likely to pull out Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* on a regular basis. However, with the success of *Julie & Julia*, Nora Ephron's new film, Child's classic may find its way onto many new shelves.

Julie & Julia follows the lives of Julia Child (played by the incomparable Meryl Streep), the first chef to make French cooking accessible to an American audience, and Julie Powell (Amy Adams), a professionally unsatisfied woman who spent a year cooking Child's recipes and blogging about the experience. The movie tracks Child's path to becoming a hugely influential author and TV personality, and Powell's success with her blog. Both women recreated themselves on a personal and professional level through what was once only a hobby. In short, the film is both life-affirming and butterworthipping. Cooking, for both Julia Child and Julie Powell, is a marriage of meticulous discipline and self-indulgence. It requires mastery and dedication, but the results can be life-changing. Cooking becomes a metaphor for self-realization.

Julia Child addressed her book to "the servantless American cook who can be unconcerned on occasion with budgets, waistlines, time schedules" or "anything else which might interfere with the enjoyment of producing something wonderful to eat." Under Child's direction, food preparation becomes an activity that is rewarding and enjoyable, and free from practical concerns.



Courtesy of Sony Pictures

HOME COOKED | Many students say that cooking fosters a sense of community.

Most cooking enthusiasts at Columbia take an understandably different approach to cooking. They want to cook food that is tasty, but also easy to prepare and relatively healthy. Highly caloric and time-consuming boeuf bourguignon—one of Child's signature dishes—is not a campus favorite.

But some Columbians are creating their own communities to learn the joys of home cooking. Students join dinner circles, in which a group of seven or eight people cook for each other on alternating days, meaning everyone gets to enjoy regular home-cooked meals without the hassle of cooking every night. "After months of very institutional, mass-produced meals at John Jay with the occasional pricey restaurant supplement, it was nice having a reliable, affordable source of home-cooked meals," said Brandon Storm, CC '12, who joined a vegetarian dinner circle last semester.

Bhakti Club's vegetarian cooking classes can be instructional for cooking newbies and experienced chefs alike. The classes also seek to provide a delicious meal and a strong sense of community. Weekly potlucks at the appropriately named Potluck House allow students to sample fellow Columbians' culinary efforts and mingle with fellow foodies. According to participants, these cooking initiatives—like those of Julie and Julia—seek to provide fulfillment as well as a delicious escape from the daily grind. Bon appétit, Columbia!



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Melissa Smey gives Miller Theatre a hip makeover

MILLER from front page

were Columbia undergraduates—with some thanks to an assignment required of Music Humanities students. On average, Smey said, students from Columbia and other universities typically comprise about 20 to 25 percent of the audience.

But how, exactly, can that figure grow, especially to a point where Miller can develop a visible presence in campus culture? According to Smey, the theater must create and actively continue programs that build audiences—audiences that include even those who, at the moment, barely know what Miller Theatre is.

With her experience and own eclectic tastes, Smey hopes to create programming with particular appeal to younger audiences. “Radiohead is like my favorite band ever ... and I’m going to listen to them alongside Righetti and ... Pierre Boulez,” she said. “It seemed reasonable to me that other people would be flexible as well in their listening.”

Smey hopes this flexibility and innovation is apparent already in Miller’s 2009 season. This week’s Wordless Music Meets Miller Festival, for example, will feature indie artists like Do Make Say Think and Dan Bejar of Destroyer alongside classical musicians.

“The Wordless Music Festival is my first chance to have a try at a new programming ideas,” she said, adding that it is one of the items in the season that is entirely her own initiative.

Smey’s relationship with the Wordless Music Series, which brings together indie rock and contemporary classical musicians, began years ago. Just last spring, Miller hosted two events in conjunction with Wordless Music—the performances of the experimental electronic duo The Books and German electronic artist Wolfgang Voigt.

“People were even scalping tickets on Craigslist,” Smey said of the two events. “It would be awesome if at all of our concerts that kind of energy was present.” Smey hopes undergraduates will again be excited for the arrival of indie and electronic groups, and that Wordless Meets

Miller will serve as a “first introduction to Miller as a great asset to the campus.”

But in addition to creating new programs that appeal to students in new ways, Smey plans to continue to cultivate Miller as an asset to student performers and alumni in the performing arts. The venue has been a longtime home for the groups of the Columbia Performers Partnership, which includes organizations like the Columbia Classical Performers and gives them the opportunity to hold high-profile concerts at Miller. For Eric Silberger, CC ’11, president of the Columbia Classical Performers, a third year violinist in the Barnard-Columbia-Juliard joint degree program, and the BCJ Series Organizer for Miller Theatre, having performances on campus is an incentive to get his peers involved in his art.

“The acoustics of the hall require exaggeration of musical ideas in order to communicate, and if successful, the space, although large, can become rather intimate,” Silberger said. “Especially after the concert, it is very common to find the performers and audience chatting together.”

Miller will also host its third year of free lunchtime concerts this season, which will include the work of cellist Alisa Weilerstein, CC ’04. Smey cites that the concerts are so highly attended because they remove common barriers to attendance like ticket price and time of day for students and city-dwellers alike.

New York City, in fact, has forced Miller to create a niche of its own to avoid competition with giants like Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for musicians, audiences, and funders. “What that means is that these are programs that you can’t hear anywhere else,” Smey said of Miller.

Aware of her ability to guide the performing arts at Columbia, Smey said that she’s grateful to be “part of the team that’s now considering where the arts are going collectively.” But as to where, exactly, that is, she could only speak for Miller: “It’ll be great,” she joked. “It’s going to take over the world!”

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Who would star in Ivy League fantasy football?

JOHNSON from back page

year the best RB in the league is Princeton's Jordan Culbreath, and there really is no competition. With 1,206 yards last season, Culbreath was the only player in the Ivy League to rush for over 1,000. That is more than twice as many yards as this season's second-leading returning rusher, Penn's Mike DiMaggio. For fantasy purposes, Culbreath is the only running back worth mentioning in this column. He's the Adrian Peterson of the league while the rest of the group are a bunch of Cedric Bensons.

I am excited for this year's Ivy League season. A friend of mine recently asked me who I thought was going to win the league and I honestly couldn't present a convincing case for any team. The league is wide open, and things should be interesting. Like fantasy football, it's hard to predict what's going to happen once everyone steps out onto the field.

Jelani Johnson is a Columbia College senior majoring in history.
sports@columbiaspectator.com

Golf begins season at weekend tourney

GOLF from back page

one of only 64 golfers to advance to the match-play segment of the 2009 U.S. Junior Amateur Championship.

Joining Yiu is Stephen Larouere, who led his Detroit Catholic Central team to three Catholic League titles in four years. Larouere was ranked 16th in the state of Michigan and is a two-time Future Collegians World Tour Academic All-American.

Rounding out the recruiting class is Ford Fischer, who was a three-time captain for Prestonwood Christian Academy in Plano, Texas. Fischer, a four-time Texas Association of

Private and Parochial Schools 5A All-State golfer, led his team to both district and regional titles in his senior year.

In addition to winning their second straight league title last season, the men's team was one of only two Ivy teams to be named Golf Coaches Association of America All-Academic Teams. The men will open their competitive season at the Michigan State Spartan Classic on Sep. 19.

The women will be down one familiar face when they open up on Saturday, as Sara Ovadia was lost to graduation in the spring. Ovadia, who has been making a name for herself on the professional tour

this summer, recently finished second at the Wigwam Red Golf Course event on the Cactus Tour, a professional tour based out of Arizona. In her final round at Columbia, Ovadia shot a team-best 74 on the final day of the 2009 Ivy League Championships.

But even with her departure, the women should be bolstered by the improvement of last season's stars, including sophomores Robin Lee and Lynda Kwon, along with junior Jennifer Adyorough and senior Stevy Loy.

Both the men and the women will compete in four tournaments this fall, with the men also participating in the Alumni Tournament scheduled for Friday.

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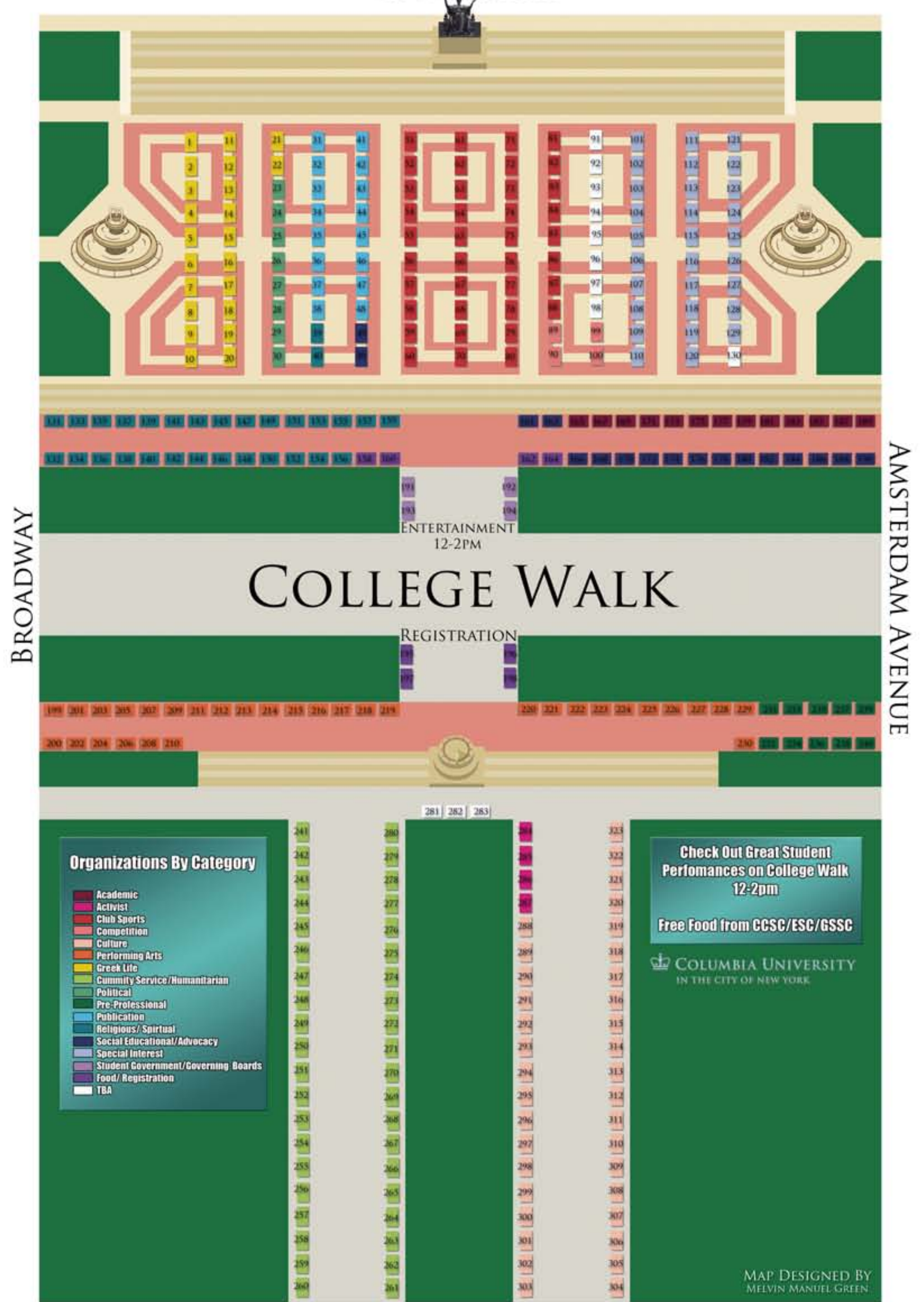
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The volleyball team will continue non-conference play this weekend as host of the Columbia Invitational.

TOMORROW



SPORTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2009 • PAGE 14



The men's tennis team, last spring's Ivy League champs, begins its fall season on Friday in Virginia.

TOMORROW

Four from Light Blue row for the red, white, and blue

BY JACOB LEVENFELD
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Four Columbia rowers crossed an ocean this summer.

The experience of competing in the Czech Republic under the American flag at the World Rowing Under 23 Championships will provide lasting memories for Evan Cassidy, Sebastian Kirwan, Bob Duff, and Mike Nucci. The four Lions may not have posted top results at the event, but they are each proud to have represented their country and their school at the prestigious international competition.

"It was an added bonus to go over there and do that," Cassidy said. A senior with two seasons of varsity heavyweight rowing under his belt, Cassidy did not follow a traditional path to the World Championships.

Instead of qualifying via the normal route at the selection camp in Oklahoma, he spent the summer training in Ithaca, N.Y. with some friends from Cornell in a boat with a coxswain and four rowers. At the Under 23 trials in Murphy, N.J., Cassidy's crew lined up against a team that had come from the Oklahoma selection camp.

"We had a great race and we beat them by a decent margin," he said. Knowing they were bound for Europe, the team went back to Ithaca for further training.

Kirwan's entry into the championships was even more spontaneous. "My teammate, Nate Kelly, rows for Trinity College," he said in an e-mail. "He and I rowed together in high school and during the summers...Our decision to try out was really last-minute."

On July 18, the four Lions set out for Europe. Immediately upon their arrival,

they were taken to meet the other members of Team USA at the racecourse, which is located in Račice, roughly 40 minutes outside of Prague.

"We really hit the ground running," Cassidy said. "We got there and started training right away." Over the preparation period, the rowers trained consistently two to three times per day.

Duff and Nucci, a pair of senior lightweights, rowed together with two other athletes and ultimately placed second in the B final. Kirwan, a junior heavyweight who raced in double sculls, finished second in the C final, their last race. Cassidy's crew had more success, placing fifth in the A final just over eight seconds behind the winning squad from New Zealand.

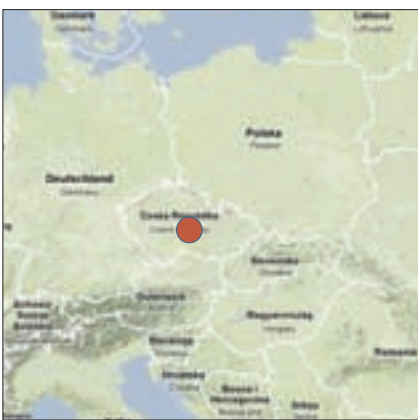
"We were hoping to medal, and we didn't have the greatest race," Cassidy said. "Still,

it was definitely a pretty good result for a crew like that because we had only been together four weeks."

Some of the competing crews were made up of top rowers from around the world. Many of the 21- and 22-year-olds also represent their countries in the Senior World Championships.

United States Rowing was supportive of its rowers, but the athletes still had to contribute a lot of money towards their travel and accommodations. Cassidy stands by his decision to go, however. "It's great," he said. "Once you earn the right to go there, it doesn't really matter."

Kirwan, too, remembers the trip fondly as a "fantastic experience and opportunity." He concluded by writing: "I knew the crews in the 2x event would be extremely fast, but we went out there and performed."



RACING IN RACICE | Traveling overseas to the Czech Republic this summer, Evan Cassidy, Sebastian Kirwan, Bob Duff and Mike Nucci made the United States proud at the Under 23 World Championships.

Just a fantasy: How to build a top Ivy squad



JELANI JOHNSON
DON'T KNOCK THE HUSTLE

It's here. It is actually here. Football season has arrived. I love baseball, golf, and tennis as much as the next man, but let's be real, summer is without a doubt the most boring season for sports fans. It was fun while it lasted, but I've had enough of watching "web gems" and seeing people "touch 'em all."

The NFL starts tonight and college football had an exciting first weekend. However, perhaps my newfound favorite aspect of football season is fantasy football. A couple of years ago I wrote a column summarizing my first ever fantasy football draft. I've been going strong ever since and now consider myself a veteran. As the Ivy League season approaches, I find myself thinking about which Ivy football players would be the biggest fantasy stars this season. Consider this column an exploration of that question and an early preview of some of the players I expect to dominate this year on the gridiron.

In real-life football, everyone on the team is important. I've often heard it said that "football games are won in the trenches." If I were a coach I'd probably rather have the best left tackle or a dominant defensive end than a top-class receiver. The people doing the dirty work are the ones who win championships. In fantasy football it's the total opposite. It's all about the players who play the sexy positions: quarterbacks, running backs, and wide receivers. For the sake of brevity I'll focus on these three positions.

Quarterback is a big question mark for most teams in the Ivy League. So if I had to draft a quarterback for my fantasy squad the one I'd want would be Penn's Keiffer Garton. As a sophomore last season, Garton came on strong in the second half of the year. In just four games as the team's quarterback, Garton finished second on the squad in both passing yards and rushing yards. He also won Ivy League Offensive Player of the Week honors twice. This year, he is unquestionably Penn's starting QB and should put up big numbers across the board. Another quarterback to watch—should he win the starting position—is Columbia senior Millicent Olawale. If you watched him play last season, you know that he is more adept at running the ball than passing. In fact, he had 68 rush attempts last season and only 81 pass attempts. That's a crazy ratio for a quarterback. The thing to remember is that he was actually successful running the pigskin. He led the team in rushing yards, yards per carry, and rushing touchdowns. Hopefully, this year Olawale will add the passing skills needed to lead a well-balanced offense.

Should the Lions be successful with their passing attack, then receiver Austin Knowlin will undoubtedly be the recipient of those passes. Knowlin is a dynamic player and I would love to have him as my fantasy receiver. Although his receiving yards dropped from 988 in 2007 to only 365 last year, he still managed to accumulate 1,072 all-purpose yards. I anticipate a huge bounce-back year from #83.

Oddly enough, the receivers I expect to have the biggest years are a couple of teammates at Brown. Both Bobby Sewall and Buddy Farnham should repeat last season's success. Last year, Sewall replaced Knowlin as the most explosive player in the league—although hopefully that shift is only temporary. He finished with 69 receptions, 948 yards, and eight TDs. He also rushed for 140 yards and six touchdowns. Lining up opposite Sewall is Farnham who finished with 63 receptions, 816 yards, and nine touchdowns with three of those rushing. Although his name suggests that he should be playing basketball for Hickory High School, Farnham went to work last season on the football field. In terms of fantasy football Sewall and Farnham are the equivalent of Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin. Behind Knowlin, Sewall, and Farnham, I'd say that Harvard's Matt Luft is probably the fourth-best receiving threat in the league.

Across the league the running back position is weaker than usual. Gone are the days of Clifton Dawson and Mike McLeod. This



File photo

FRESH FACES | Veteran Judie Lomax and the Lions will step onto the court this season under the guidance of new staff members Shanna Cook, Katy Steding and Darrice Griffin.



Courtesy of University Athletics
DARRICE GRIFFIN



Courtesy of University Athletics
KATY STEDING



Courtesy of University Athletics
SHANNA COOK

CU golf kicks season off with weekend tourney

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia men's and women's golf teams will open their fall seasons this weekend with tournament play. The men won their second consecutive Ivy League Championship last spring, while the women finished their spring season in in fourth place after winning the title in 2008. The men's team will host their annual alumni tournament at the Tuxedo Club in Tuxedo Park, N.Y. while the

women open by taking part in the Lady Bison Classic.

Men's golf will feature three new faces this year as head coach Rich Mueller prepares the team to go after its third straight Ivy title. Michael Yiu, a highly-touted freshman from California, is expected to make an immediate impact for the squad. He comes to campus with a number of awards under his belt and was named an American Junior Golf Association HP Scholastic Junior All-American in both 2007 and 2008. This summer, Yiu was



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Tampa Bay Rays call up Fernando Perez, CC '05

In their last-ditch effort to gain ground in the American League Wild Card race, the Tampa Bay Rays have activated outfielder Fernando Perez, CC '05, to help add speed on the basepaths and range in the field.

Perez's recent activation marks his second stint with his big-league club. In 2008, he was called up as part of the Rays' September roster expansion and saw action deep into October. Most notably, he pinch-ran in a key situation in the AL Championship Series and scored the game-winning run against the Red Sox in game two. Perez figured to

make the Rays' roster out of spring training this season before he was forced to undergo wrist surgery in March. He has been with the club ever since and his recent addition to the roster is classified as an activation from the disabled list rather than a September call-up.

In six games this year, Perez is hitting .180 with two runs scored and five strikeouts. The Rays currently sit 17.5 games back in the AL East and 8.5 games out in the wild-card race. They are mired in a seven-game losing streak.

—Jacob Levenfeld

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