

USenate reaches out before ROTC debate returns

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

With the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy seemingly on its way out, University Senate members are preparing for what the repeal would mean for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps on Columbia's campus.

If "don't ask, don't tell"—the controversial military policy that prohibits gay, lesbian, and bisexual service members from disclosing their sexual orientation—is thrown out, USenate members want to be sure students have had their say about ROTC's possible return to Columbia. While the USenate won't officially address the status of Columbia ROTC until the policy has been officially eliminated, members are preparing student outreach to take the campus temperature on the matter. The hope is that student input now will shape later decisions on campus policy.

"If you got rid of 'don't ask, don't tell' ... the vote [for ROTC] would be overwhelmingly 'yes.'"

—James Applegate, faculty senator

"We don't want to be caught off-guard. We don't want 'don't ask, don't tell' to be repealed and then be handed something that says, 'ROTC is coming back,'" said Andrew Springer, a student senator from the Columbia Journalism School. "We are crafting a strategy. We haven't fully fleshed it out yet, but we know we want to get student opinion on this, so we want to hold hearings. We are willing to do polls and surveys."

Tao Tan, CC '07, Business '11, and chair of the USenate's Student Affairs Committee, added that it's important that students get a say in the future of ROTC at Columbia.

"We don't want a faculty-dominated process," Tan said. "Our priority since day one is to ensure that the student voice is heard."

Springer said the Student Affairs Committee has asked all of its members to start approaching students in their constituencies and gathering their opinions on the ROTC question.

Even so, the USenate has decided not to reopen the issue officially while "don't ask, don't tell" remains in the picture, according to faculty senator and astronomy professor James Applegate.

Columbia College Student Council President Learned Foote, CC '11, said CCSC is not taking any steps regarding ROTC at the moment either, even though the council conducted a survey in the fall of 2008 that solicited students' opinions on the topic.

Foote called ROTC "a campus-wide issue" that falls under the domain of the USenate, not of the student councils, but added that CCSC would conduct polls or take other actions to gauge student opinion if the USenate asked it to do so.

A HISTORY WITH THE SENATE

In 1916, Columbia formed one of the first Navy ROTC

SEE ROTC, page 3



ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NO PARKING | Barnard EcoReps reclaimed public space on Friday at a parking spot on Broadway for the city's annual Park(ing) Day. Some groups transformed their spots into eco-friendly hangouts, while others recreated entire dorm rooms in the middle of the street.

Students take over parking spaces for annual green day

BY SAMANTHA JEAN-BAPTISTE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Feeling claustrophobic in University housing? On Friday, a group of students took their dorm room to the streets.

Students and other participants took over 50 parking spots in New York City—transforming them into functional "public spaces"—as part of the fourth annual Park(ing) Day NYC.

They brought the green message to Morningside Heights throughout the day, in some cases even transforming a parking spot into a fully stocked dorm room.

"Parking and cars take up too much space, especially

in Manhattan, where three-fourths of the people don't own a car," said Josef Szende, a Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation alumnus. "Parking spots move us away from each other."

The event, founded by San Francisco-based arts collective Rebar in 2005, was brought to New York City by the nonprofit Transportation Alternatives four years ago. Aiming to promote city residents' connections with and uses of urban public space, participants in this year's Park(ing) Day reclaimed spots in over 140 cities and 21 countries.

"It's a fun way to advocate for safer cities for cyclists,"

Claire Fram, BC '11, said from the "EcoRespite" stop in front of the Barnard gates. "It gives people the chance to enjoy the green space," she added of the flower- and vine-filled site.

Students added personal touches to the transformation of their parking spots in Morningside Heights, and a group from GSAPP recreated an entire dorm room on 113th Street and Broadway.

"A parking space isn't that much smaller than an apartment, so we wanted to make a dorm room," Szende said. "We thought we were going to be crammed in, but everything fit in nicely."

The group's spot included a bed, a table, chairs, a bulletin board,

and a TV—with room to spare.

Other groups participating in the takeover invited pedestrians into their spaces, offering places to sit, eat meals, and play games.

"One of the great things it does is attract other people who are interested in green projects. It's a way for our community to care about the environment, and it creates a collaboration that gets to happen in this space," Fram said of the Barnard EcoReps' "EcoRespite" space.

Some participants had different goals in mind. Resident advisers from Cathedral Gardens, a Barnard dorm, used

SEE PARKING DAY, page 2

Tackling the Fun Run on no sleep

BY BEN COTTON
Columbia Daily Spectator

Freshman year, I skipped President Bollinger's Fun Run. I waited to sign up until it was too late, and I was too young to realize that an event that took place at 8:30 a.m. would have a healthy contingent of no-shows. Sophomore year, I slept. Junior year, I signed up and then overslept after at most three hours of shut-eye, and started late. This year, I got there on time. But this year, I failed to sleep at all.

It turns out that the Fun Run always coincides with very late nights in the Spectator office, and

SEE FUN RUN, page 2



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF

BEATING BOLLINGER | Half-nude students race the President in his annual Fun Run.

Columbia invitation to Zenawi sparks outrage

Prof defends academic discussion

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Throughout the week, the World Leaders Forum will bring heads of state from around the world to address Columbia.

But as far as controversy goes, Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi tops the list.

World Leaders Forum

Zenawi—who has allegedly intimidated voters at polls, detained political opponents, and been labeled by the New York Times as an example of "autocratic repression"—is set to appear at Low Library on Wednesday to give a talk on "The Current Global Environment and its Impact in Africa."

Many people, on and off campus, have spoken out against his invitation.

"He's supposed to be a spokesman on African leadership, and I think that's absurd because he's not," said Haben Fecadu, a

"It was outrageous that Columbia didn't fact-check."

It was beyond insensitive."

—Heben Nigatu, CC '13

student in the law school and vice-chair of the African Law Students Association.

Fecadu, who is from the neighboring country of Eritrea, said it is not Zenawi's human rights violations that bothers her the most, but the recognition he receives from organizations like Columbia. "It's kind of offensive."

She added that even though Zenawi is known for rigging elections and murdering dissidents, "it tends to get overlooked by the U.S., the U.N., by the African Union. ... All of these international organizations don't really say anything when he violates these human rights standards."

When the prime minister appears on campus, "I would like him to address the human rights violations and whether he thinks they were justified," Fecadu said.

A recent graduate and past vice president of the African Students Association, Mena Odu, CC '10, shared similar frustrations.

"I hope PrezBo [University President Lee Bollinger] gives him the kind of welcome he did Ahmadinejad," Odu said in an email, referencing Bollinger's harsh introduction to the Iranian president's speech in 2007. "I'm not a fan of the president of Iran, but at least he's not pandering to Western governments while systematically terrorizing, disenfranchising, and stunting the development of his own citizens."

Despite the protest, Mamadou Diouf, director of the Institute for African Studies and a professor of African studies, said he still supports the Institute's and the

SEE ETHIOPIA, page 3

OPINION, PAGE 4

Pulling Rank

Neil FitzPatrick tries to imagine a world with no college rankings.



SPORTS, PAGE 7

Football opens season with a loss to Fordham

The Lions lost the Liberty Cup on Saturday, giving up their early lead and falling to Fordham in the second half of the game to lose 16-9.

EVENTS

Free Press

J-School prof Alexander Stille will host a panel discussion on government control. Lecture Hall, J-School, 6 p.m.

Power Half-Hour

Attend a 30-minute workshop on writing your résumés and cover letters. Conference Room, Center for Career Education, 12:30 p.m.

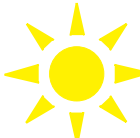
WEATHER

Today



75° / 52°

Tomorrow



73° / 61°



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STRETCHING | Students braved the early-morning starting time and signed up for University President Bollinger’s annual Fun Run. Sleepless editor in chief Ben Cotton joined the runners for the challenge.

Racing Bollinger, tackling Fun Run one last time

FUN RUN from front page

this year was no exception. It was dawn when I left on Friday morning—too late to get any reasonable amount of sleep—and despite having consumed all kinds of poor warm-up food (vending machines do not sell bananas), I was determined to race.

Some kids were arguing beforehand about PrezBo’s speed. One scoffed, saying he thought Bollinger ran about a 12-minute mile. He’s 64 years old. Is that really worthy of mockery?

But PrezBo seemed in on the joke—before the race, he said via megaphone that this event makes him feel old, even though it reminds him of the joys of youth.

Not for a second did I think this run would go well. Rest is a critical component of all things exercise. Beating PrezBo would be satisfaction enough, I

thought. Strategically, I started well back in the pack—I figured that passing people ahead of me would provide regular jolts of adrenaline. That it did. But I never passed PrezBo.

Or so I thought. I gave it everything I had, but he never came into sight. When I expressed frustration to Yipeng Huang, our amiable staff director and a runner far superior to myself, he insisted PrezBo had yet to finish. Turns out I had passed him in a pack near the beginning and failed to notice.

Oh. So I can thank him for pushing me, if nothing else. If I’d realized a monumental victory over the president was already in the offing, I might have fallen asleep on the course. Instead I beat him, but with satisfaction only arriving after the fact. A bit anticlimactic.

We did get to chat for a few

minutes afterward. He claimed that asking if he felt good was an unfair question. Again, he’s 64 and he finished a 5K—that seems to speak for itself. And he still usually runs six times a week, he said.

That was that. I got my free T-shirt on College Walk. There was no food or water down in the park by the finish line, so I headed to Ferris Booth Commons for a breakfast that finally came from somewhere other than a vending machine. I reflected on my storied Fun Run history—and how sleep always seemed to conspire against it.

It is a worthy Columbia memory, I determined. And there’s really nothing stopping me from showing up again and running as a bandit, sans bib. I won’t be responsible for Spectator production, so I could even sleep beforehand. In other words, see you next year.

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ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RECLAIMING | Columbia and Barnard students temporarily took over local parking spaces for the fourth annual Park(ing) Day, which transforms parking spots throughout the city into “public spaces.”

Students reclaim public space for annual Park(ing) Day across New York City

PARKING DAY from front page

Park(ing) Day for their first floor event of the year.

“We just decided to have our first event out here to meet residents from the hall. It makes us visible to students,” Bridgit Donnelly, BC ’11, said. “It was more about building community.”

Passersby had mixed reviews. “If all the cars weren’t parking here, the space would just be used for something else—not park space,” Louis Smith, CC ’13, said.

To Isabel Lopez, CC ’13, the takeover was just annoying.

“As someone who has driven and has had to look for parking spots, it is kind of inconsiderate taking over parking spots since

they are difficult to find here,” she said. “They could have set up next to a parking spot.”

Participants, though, said that the project makes an important statement.

“It’s always a memorable event,” Fram said. “People will remember that the EcoReps sat in the street today.”

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State Senator Perkins blames opposition for narrow charter focus in primary race

PERKINS from front page

remain silent about our concerns,” he said, referring to the throng of pro-charter senate challengers across the city who attempted to unseat incumbents. Many of these incumbents, including Perkins, have called for greater oversight of charter schools.

In the primary race, Lynn Nunes challenged Shirley Huntley of Queens, and Mark Pollard ran against Velmanette Montgomery in Brooklyn on similar pro-charter platforms. In both races, the incumbents won.

“It was a signal they were sending that you would rue the day you dared to speak up,” Perkins said. “They were telling me, ‘If you open your mouth, we will villainize you.’”

Perkins received push-back for hearings he held last April, in which he criticized what he called a lack of oversight of charter schools and their operators.

Since then, he has been much less inclined to speak out explicitly against charter schools. On Friday, he would only clarify his views by saying that he is in support of whatever system brings the best results.

He objected to the view that “the only place for success is within the charter school movement when that’s not the case,” citing P.S. 180 on 120th Street, which, he said, used to be a failing school. P.S. 180, a traditional public school, received an A on its latest New York City Department of Education progress report.

“It’s not a question of charter

or traditional. It’s a question of success,” he said, adding that success in either setting deserves to be replicated.

When asked about his specific plans, Perkins said there is still room for improvement.

He also cited a host of other issues on his agenda that he felt had received insufficient attention at the expense of the debate over education, among them rent reform and environmental issues.

“I feel, frankly, ever more vigilant about public schools, both traditional ones and charter ones,” Perkins said, adding that constituent outreach to his office concerning education has increased significantly. Still, he said, “I didn’t intend to get this involved.”

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPT. & OCT.

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01	02	
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENTS ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

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09/21

DOG DAYS

A Scientific Look at Man’s Best Friend

6 PM

Event Oval, The Diana Center

09/22

CRITICAL INTERSECTIONS

Economic and Reproductive Justice Conference

9 AM–4 PM

Registration in The Diana Center Lobby

09/23

BACK TO BRAZIL

Transnational Mobility and Education Among Japanese-Brazilian Migrants

6 PM

Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

09/27

ALWIN NIKOLAIS & HIS LEGACY

7 PM

Event Oval, The Diana Center

10/05

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

What Men Can Do to Advance Women’s Leadership

12:30 PM

Event Oval, The Diana Center

10/06

A, R + D

Architecture, Research, and the Design Process

12 PM

BCRW, 101 Barnard Hall

10/13

CHINA ONLINE

Politics, Activism, and the Internet

6:30 PM

The James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

10/14

MAKESHIFT RECLAMATION

6:30 PM

James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall

BARNARD

THE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE
FOR WOMEN
IN NEW YORK CITY

With expected repeal of ‘don’t ask, don’t tell,’ CU braces for ROTC debate

ROTC from front page

detachments in the nation, according to the University’s website. But the University broke ties with the program during the Vietnam War, and the movement to bring ROTC back to campus didn’t begin in earnest until 2003, Applegate said.

At that time, several students spearheaded a proposal for ROTC to be invited back to Columbia. The proposal was based on a poll CCSC conducted during its elections that year, which showed that 65 percent of CC students were in favor of reinstating ROTC.

During the 2004-2005 academic year, University President Lee Bollinger decided to hand the issue over to the University Senate and put together a task force consisting of faculty, students, and an alumni to explore it, Applegate said.

“At least 95 percent of the conversation was about ‘don’t ask, don’t tell,’” said Applegate, who was the faculty co-chair of the task force. “The sense of the conversation was ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ is a discriminatory law, and the response was, ‘Yes, we know that. Let’s talk about ROTC.’”

During the 2005 debate, Applegate said he noticed, “Nobody who was in favor of ROTC supported ‘don’t ask, don’t tell.’

In the end, the task force was split 5-5 on whether to return ROTC to campus immediately, Applegate said. When the task force’s resolution was sent to the Senate’s Executive Committee, the Executive Committee ignored the tie and decided to release a decisive resolution that called for a ROTC program to be established on campus “as soon as is practicable.”

In May 2005, the Senate voted 53-10 against the ROTC resolution, with five abstentions.

Applegate said he discovered that “this is an issue on which very thoughtful people can and will respectfully disagree.”

But Tan said he felt the process in 2005 was “faculty-dominated”—something he doesn’t want to see again if the issue is renewed.

“The 2005 task force was this massive entity that basically stage-managed a very complex process

ROTC at Columbia

1916
Columbia becomes involved with ROTC and forms the first Navy ROTC detachments in the nation.

1969
Columbia dissolves its ties with the program during the Vietnam War.

2003
Students write a proposal in favor of bringing ROTC back.

2004-2005
USenate creates task force to explore the issue.

MAY 2005
USenate rejects it 53-10, with five abstentions.

2008
Student undergraduate survey votes against ROTC, with 51 percent opposed and 49 percent in favor.

2010
As it looks like DADT is close to leaving, USenate begins to solicit student input.

where they listened less and talked more. We want to do exactly the reverse,” Tan said. This time around, he said, his goal is to see “the students get to take the lead.”

The issue came up again in 2008 through an undergraduate referendum, which ROTC lost by a very narrow margin. Fifty-one percent of students voted against it, while 49 percent were in favor.

One reason for the large number of students in favor of the program, Applegate said, was the higher percentage of military veterans on campus in 2008 thanks to the School of General Studies’ increased recruiting efforts.

Some questioned the validity of the survey, though, because glitches in its online format allowed students to vote multiple times and alumni with Columbia logins to vote as well.

“I don’t think there was the level of faculty acceptance of student leadership on this issue as there is now,” Tan said of the 2008 process.

REPEALING ‘DON’T ASK, DON’T TELL’

Applegate said that if “don’t ask, don’t tell” were repealed, the issue would go back to the University Senate, which would most likely pick up where it left off in May 2005 and reconsider the resolution calling for the establishment of an ROTC program on campus “as soon as is practicable.”

Tan added that the Student Affairs Committee would hold an open hearing to gather student input.

Many people believe that if “don’t ask, don’t tell” is removed from play, the vote will be in favor of ROTC.

“They [students] were basically split even, and it was dominated

by ‘don’t ask, don’t tell,’” Applegate said of the 2008 student vote. “My personal guess is that if you got rid of ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ and said, ‘Do you want ROTC back?’, the vote would be overwhelmingly ‘yes.’”

Foote agreed, saying, “The student body was very closely divided, and if ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ disappeared ... I think that would tilt the favor toward the program.”

If “don’t ask, don’t tell” were repealed, Applegate believes it would open the door to a new discussion about Columbia’s role in the military in general, not only in terms of ROTC.

“We as a community have not had a discussion about ROTC or about our relationship with the military in 40 years. ...What the discussion should have been [in 2005], which didn’t really happen, is: Is the fact that ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ is a discriminatory law and it violates the University’s nondiscrimination policy enough to preclude us from establishing a ROTC program?”

Foote echoed similar sentiments. “The law [“don’t ask, don’t tell”] should not factor into the decision to have ROTC on campus ... but I do think that [repealing the law] would make a very big difference on campus,” he said.

Still, that’s not to say that a reserve officer training program would come to Columbia, even if the University gave its seal of approval.

“We [the University] actually don’t offer them that much,” Applegate said, adding that he expected very few Columbia students to choose to participate in the program. In the past, ROTC students would train at Fordham or the Air Force unit at Manhattan College.

Regardless, he said, “I don’t think the fact that the military, even if we extend the invitation, might not come back means we should not have our discussion on campus about what relationship we want.”

Foote said that making the offer would be a way of moving away from the tensions of 1968, when large-scale campus protests painted the school as hostile to the military—tensions that arguably still linger.

A PERENNIAL ISSUE

ROTC is a perennial hot-button topic at Columbia, and USenate members say they see it as a returning debate this semester. “I think it is fair that this will be an issue again,” Springer said, but added that he doesn’t foresee any movement happening on “don’t ask, don’t tell”—or, by extension, ROTC—in the next year.

ROTC came up in discussions of the topics most likely to be on the USenate’s agenda this year, according to Applegate. He said the issue is unique because it is “an issue that has transcended generations of students.”

Still, the issue isn’t going anywhere: even two years ago, Applegate said, it was “clear that it [the ROTC debate] was going to be around for a while.”

“Like it or not, the military is a permanent and essential part of American society, and it is part of our collective responsibility as Americans to obtain that,” Applegate said. “We do not want to isolate ourselves in the ivory tower and shut the door on the rest of the world. We want to engage the world.”

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Columbia’s invitation to Zenawi sparks outrage

ETHIOPIA from front page

Committee on Global Thought’s decision to invite the controversial leader to campus.

“We are not inviting him on the basis of his leadership in Africa,” Diouf said. “He has been playing an important role in the global scene on behalf of Africa,” particularly in regards to climate change, he said.

“I think this is also an opportunity for Meles to talk about African issues and to showcase what he has been doing in Ethiopia,” he said.

Diouf emphasized that the invitation is “not about promoting Meles, or supporting Meles’ ac-

controversial enough, many believe Columbia made the situation worse by posting a brief laudatory biography last week about Zenawi and his “seasoned governmental leadership” on the World Leaders Forum page.

The biography was taken down the day after it was posted, and the University released a statement that said the “long-standing editorial policy” of WLF is to limit the biography pages to “basic factual information” about the speakers.

The information was put up by its staff from the Ethiopian government’s Mission and not properly cited as such, the University said.

The mistake was particularly upsetting to some students with personal ties to Ethiopia.

Heben Nigatu, CC ’13, who is Ethiopian and lived in the country until she was 5, said she was “really, really surprised” when she saw Columbia invited someone like him.

But when she saw the bio, she was horrified. At the time, she remembers thinking, “I can’t believe this is actually happening.”

“I called my mom. She was even more furious than I was,” Nigatu, who is also the publicity chair for the Black Students Organization, said. “It was outrageous that Columbia didn’t fact-check. It was beyond insensitive.”

In spite of this initial shock, Nigatu said she is still going to the event. “I’m still interested in what he has to say,” she said, adding that she hopes he talks about his regime and the elections. “But in general I’m still pretty outraged.”

Of his oppressive regime, she said she visited Ethiopia in 2008, and at that time, “you couldn’t go into a restaurant and talk about the president openly.”

Fecuda agreed that the mistake was particularly egregious. “You need to do your research before you put up something false like that. I’m just disappointed with Columbia in general.”

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On a world without rank

We Americans are suckers for a good ranking. Perhaps it's our passion for meritocracy and com- petition, for always arriving at the "best." Or perhaps we're just lazy and enjoy being told what to like.

Maybe the most visible—and controversial—of these lists at the moment is the annual col- lege ranking. Indeed, the past two months have seen Columbia score near the top in several categories. U.S. News and World Report, as we all know, has us at fourth on its list of "Best National Colleges," while Forbes ranks us 13th. According to the Quacquarelli Symonds World University Rankings, we are 11th on the planet. The people over at Academic Rankings of World Universities gave us eighth on their version of the same list.

In more specific areas, we fare similarly well. The Princeton Review puts us first in "Best College Town" and fifth in "Best Library." We are also number 12 in schools with "Most Musical Alumni," according to Spinner. And according to Reform Judaism Magazine, we're number 10 on the list of "The Top 60 Schools Jews Choose."

But regardless of how you feel about where we should have been ranked on any of those lists, our ob- session with them poses an interesting question: What purpose do these rankings serve in the world in which we live?

Now, that's a very big question. To narrow it down for the sake of this article, I'm going to refer only to the list published by USNWR. Why? Well, because it's the most popular and, I think, the most influential.



NEIL FITZPATRICK

Excuses and Half-Truths

An article on the organization's website titled "Why U.S. News Ranks Colleges and Universities" suggests that the rankings are there "to help you make one of the most important decisions of your life." It goes on to say that "to find the right college, you need a source of reliable and consistent data—information that lets you compare one college with another and find the differ- ences that matter to you." This is true. The rankings can help high school students determine their chances of getting into a school and find out what schools are aca- demically comparable.

Our obsession poses an interesting question: What purpose do these rankings serve in the world in which we live?

That said, there is no question that applicants give way too much credence to the rankings. How many people do you know who would have had a serious dilemma on their hands had they gotten into Harvard and Columbia, even if they had always wanted to go to school in New York (particularly back when Columbia was number six!)? It seems now as if choosing Harvard in that situation would be foolish, but your 12th-grade self knew there was some reason behind it.

Of course, if there were no rankings, society couldn't obsess over them, and students would be relieved of the stress of worrying about where their schools were ranked in relation to their friends' schools. Comparison might become slightly more

difficult, but that could be a good thing. The premium online edition of the USNWR rankings (\$19.99) already has an excellent comparison feature in which you can select a number of schools and examine side-by-side data on academics, cost, financial aid, student body, etc. If universities were simply listed on the site alpha- betically, or geographically, or by size (instead of by rank), and this compare feature were free, we might have a good solution to the problem posed by the lists.

It's worth mentioning, however, that the rankings aren't all bad. The rise in prestige and volume of ap- plicants that inevitably follow a rise in rank encour- ages school administrators to improve their institu- tions in key areas reflected in the methodology used by USNWR: graduation rate, per-student spending, faculty salaries, class size. The lists are actually a great incen- tive for colleges to keep getting better.

So what's the solution? Do we keep them or get rid of them? There seems to be a building anti-rankings sentiment in this country, but it also seems that rank- ings do serve an important purpose. Ideally, there would be some system that could hold colleges to high standards and incentivize constant improvement with- out using the flawed ranking system. Students could choose schools based on less arbitrary factors than where an institution fell on a list and perhaps even be happier. But I'm not exactly sure what such a sys- tem would look like. So until someone comes up with something better, I guess we're stuck with the rank- ings. Which is okay as long as we don't take them too seriously (and as long as Columbia keeps moving up).

Neil FitzPatrick is a Columbia College junior majoring in creative writing and East Asian languages and cultures. He is a former associate editorial page editor. Excuses and Half-Truths runs alternate Mondays.

It takes two to forgive

BY SARAH NGU

I don't celebrate Yom Kippur, which occurred this past weekend, but lately, I have been thinking about what forgiveness means. It's an issue that is stowed away in most people's closets—there's always a slight grievance or grudge that one isn't fully rid of, whether it's against a parent or an ex. Yet, it's also a word that's thrown around a lot, confusingly conflated with a lot of simi- lar words such as "condoning," "tolerance," or "letting go." I want to unpack the complicated dynamics behind true "forgiveness" to clear away possible misconcep- tions about it. Forgiveness is a two-way process that is central not just to our relationships, but also to our own self-development.

Generally, people forgive in two ways. Say a close friend lets out a huge secret that you had asked her to keep pri- vate. You either discount the wrong act ("It wasn't that big of a secret, so whatever") or you discount the inten- tionality of the wrongdoer ("She probably was drunk—she wasn't trying to be a bitch").

But if the secret really was a big deal and your friend was consciously trying to harm you, then you discount the relationship entirely ("I don't give a damn about her anyhow"), freeing you from any hate and hurt. It always hurts more when a friend rather than a stranger hurts you, so you'll just turn her into a stranger.

But say you don't want to lose the friendship—you value it more than what she did to you. If you want reconcilia- tion and a restoration of a relationship, then you must get to that laborious task of forgiveness.

When you offer forgiveness, you not only imply that she did something wrong (or there would be no need for forgiveness in the first place), but you also imply that you want the friendship to continue. The catch here is that forgiveness is a two-way process—it takes two to forgive. The offender must apologize and the other must accept it.

However, isn't it the noble and high route to forgive even though your friend won't apologize? Yes, but to of-

Forgiveness is a two-way process that is central not just to our relationships, but also to our own self-development.

fer forgiveness and to be forgiven are two different things. You can continually offer forgiveness to her out of love, as you should, but she will never be "forgiven" until she accepts your forgiveness.

For her to accept your forgiveness, then, she must ac- knowledge that she did indeed do something wrong and that she will never do it again. She must, in so many words,

say, "I regret what I did, and I'll never do it again. I put that secret-disclosing part of me away forever."

She is essentially offering up a new self, putting aside her old self that hurt you. For you to follow through on your offer of forgiveness means that you have to accept this new self of hers. You must, from now on, treat her as if she never let out your secret because that was her old self—her new self would never do that. You disassociate her present self from her past wrongdoing, and the rela- tionship begins anew.

In the interest of full disclosure, I should mention that this model of forgiveness that I've set up draws heavily from how Jesus Christ forgives humankind, so it isn't too original. Nevertheless, whether talking about God-human relationships or human-human relationships, the essence of forgiveness remains the same—to forgive is to forget. This really is a staggering task, and I don't believe it's entirely possible—well, humanly speaking—in certain situations. To choose to forgive is to take a risk and open yourself up to hurt, as that friend of yours might hurt you again. But you either choose to forgive or you live your life closed off, invulnerable, Ayn Rand-ian strong, and yet without love. As one of my favorite authors, C.S. Lewis, wrote in "The Four Loves," "If you want to make sure of keeping [your heart] intact, you must give your heart to no one. ... Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket ... it will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable."

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in political science. She is president of the Veritas Forum.

Letter to the editor

In support of Barnard's Liberty Partnerships Program

To the Editor:

As a Barnard alumna (BC '96) and a former tutor for the Liberty Partnerships Program (1992-1996), I write to you to inform you about my disappointment regard- ing Barnard's decision to no longer support the Barnard Liberty Partnerships Program. The Liberty program is a mainly state-funded program that provides free tutor- ing, college counseling, and SAT preparation to low-in- come junior high and high school students who are at risk of failing academically (most of whom are minor- ity students). All tutoring and mentoring is provided by Barnard and Columbia students. Recently, Vice President of Community Development Vivian Taylor announced to the parents and students of the Liberty Program (on the day the program was scheduled to start) that the col- lege was ending its support of the program, not for finan- cial reasons, but because of a change in vision. This local community program is no longer in sync with Barnard's new global vision. Although I am in complete support of Barnard's global initiatives, I do not believe that they should be at the expense of an already well-established local community program.

The Liberty Program did not just provide tutoring to students. To its tutees, it provided hope and inspiration for a brighter future. For many students, Liberty also pro- vided a much-needed shelter from the many hardships these children faced in their daily lives. To its tutors (all Barnard and Columbia students), it provided a sense of community, allowing us to become part of a group of indi- viduals dedicated to enriching the lives of disadvantaged children. Liberty allowed us to transition from students to educators and leaders. We served as role models to young men and women who, more often than not, were left craving trustworthy relationships. Liberty's success speaks in the number of students that successfully go on to college. As a result of their experiences in the Liberty Program, many of these graduates also go on to serve their own communities.

As a Barnard and Columbia alumna, I strongly believe that it is important to maintain a program that is in sync with the goal of the University of using education to bet- ter serve our communities.

*Alicia Hurtado
Barnard College '96
Sept. 20, 2010*

JODY'S DRAWINGS!



JODY ZELLMAN

Islamophobia in NYC

This week, Opinion is talking about Islamophobia, focusing on the debate over the Park51 project near ground zero. Professor Randall Balmer discusses the history of New York’s religious diversity and calls for the city to embrace religious tolerance again. Junaid Chaudhry talks about being a Muslim in America and reflects on his perception of the American Dream. Conor Skelding reminds readers to think about the location’s significance, while Maryam Aziz discusses the growing sense of alienation felt by Muslim Americans.

A hyphen between two words, an abyss between two worlds

BY JUNAID CHAUDHRY

Muslim-American. There was a time when the hyphen between those two words represented a dream accomplished—a dream held by my parents, and scores of immigrants like them, who left all they had known to venture to a strange land where values were upheld and where success seemed a few hours and some perspiration away. In the late 1970s, my parents settled into a ramshackle apartment on 113th Street and Amsterdam. It’s a place they still speak of with a gleam in their eyes and a knot in their throats because it represents

Location, location, location: concerning Park51

BY CONOR SKELDING

Regarding the Park51 mosque and community center, President Barack Obama was correct: “Muslims have the same right to practice their religion as everyone else in this country.” He was right the next day, too, when he said, “I was not commenting and I will not comment on the wisdom of putting a mosque there.”

Those two sentences summarize a national controversy that is shouted about on talk radio and endlessly debated by talking heads. As it has been publicized, it is not news, but merely the right and left trying to evoke reactions from one another and to proudly call, “Gotcha!” But stultifying partisanship aside, there is a rational way to approach Park51. We ourselves must see the issue through different lenses.

The first way is through the First Amendment. If Sharif el-Gamal, chairman and CEO of Soho Properties, and Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf complete the Park51 structure, they are absolutely within their rights. That should be respected, if not without protest, then without Quran-burning.

What we must ask is: Should they build it? Is it compassionate? Is it right? I say no.

Ask Sally Regenhard if it’s compassionate—her firefighter son died on Sept. 11. When interviewed by the New York Times, she said, “People are accused of being anti-Muslim. ... This is simply a matter of sensitivity.”

Ask C. Lee Hanson, who lost his son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter on Sept. 11. He said to the New York Times, “The pain never goes away. When I look over there and see a mosque, it’s going to hurt.” Other Sept. 11 families who have opposed the construction in offensive words are not taken seriously, but their pain is real.

What would be the reaction be, for instance,

We ourselves must see the Park51 issue through different lenses.

if an American businesswoman were to purchase land in Hiroshima and build an American cultural center? Or what if a businessman from Japan bought part of Oahu for a Japanese cultural center? There would be outrage, calls for sensitivity. I call for sensitivity now.

Rauf preached in a New York Times op-ed, “Members of all faiths must work together if we are ever going to succeed in fostering understanding and peace.” I believe there is no higher goal, but Rauf apparently defines “working together” as “ceding to me.”

Why that particular location, so close to ground zero? Donald Trump, in a letter published in New York Magazine, offered 125 percent of the purchasing price “not because I think the location is a spectacular one (because it is not), but because it will end a very serious, inflammatory, and highly divisive issue.” Trump made both a financially and compassionately compelling offer, and it was turned down flat. Why? If another location for the structure (the goal of which is “healing”) does not offend the bereaved, why cause pain by staying? Is that not what Rauf says he wants? To foster interfaith dialogue and common ground? The most conservative polls show more than half of New Yorkers opposing construction. Other polls show 61 percent of Americans against construction. This decision should be simple for a self-styled bridge builder. So is Rauf genuine?

In an article for the Ottawa Citizen, two board members of the Muslim Canadian Congress, Raheel Raza and Tarek Fatah, said no. The pair wrote, “The proposal has been made in bad faith and in Islamic parlance, such an act is referred to as ‘fitna,’ meaning ‘mischievous-making.’ ... The Koran commands Muslims to, ‘Be considerate when you debate with the People of the Book.’ ... [This] is not being considerate or sensitive, it is undoubtedly an act of fitna.”

Mr. Rauf, cease your fitna and your publicity-seeking. A mosque is not offensive. A mosque there is offensive. Either back up your act of openness to compromise and move Park51, or give it up and admit you do not care.

The author is a Columbia College first-year and a member of the Philolexian Society.

the sacred ground in which they laid their roots in this country. The first business my family elders acquired was a place called William H. Taft Pharmacy. They retained the name not because they were aware of President Taft’s solid record on free immigration, but because it reminded them of the information they had memorized to pass the citizenship test on what was undoubtedly the most momentous day of their young lives. While subjecting me to unsolicited bouts of nostalgia, my parents invariably speak of their esteemed former neighbor: Columbia University. To them, the University was not only an idyllic quad to utilize for leisurely late-night strolls, but also a monument to what they hoped to achieve in this country—education and success for their children. My parents may have acquired their version of the American Dream the day I was admitted to this esteemed institution, but I am still seeking mine.

I am a Muslim-American. The hyphen between those two words has never been enough for me. I remember watching the towers fall while in my eighth-grade social studies class and being paralyzed with grief because the iconic buildings were the view from

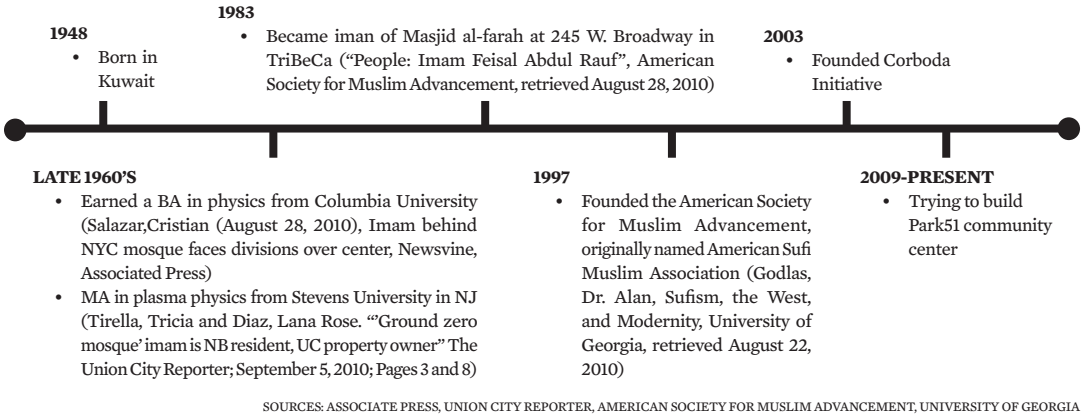
my childhood bedroom. My version of the American Dream includes the freedom to erect a mosque where it is legal to do so without fear of arson or belligerent men urinating on prayer rugs. I remember feeling an oh-so-American superiority every time I presented my blue passport in any airport in the world, Munich

My version of the American Dream includes not being asked where I am ‘really’ from.

or Multan. My version of the American Dream includes my holy book not being torn to shreds, doused in kerosene, or set aflame for the express purpose of hurting my sentiments.

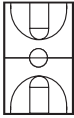
I remember canvassing on the streets of New York on behalf of immigrants, same-sex couples, puppies, and everything in between and embracing the thrill of engaging both supporters and opponents alike. My version of the American Dream includes the safety of taxi drivers who adhere to my particular brand of

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- a September 11th memorial and quiet contemplation space



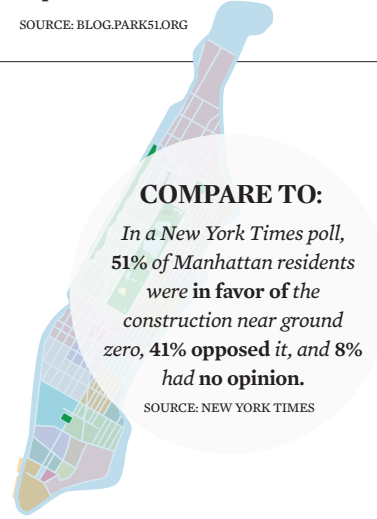
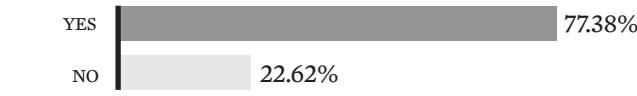
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SPECTRUM POLL RESULTS

Are you in favor of or against the building of the Park51 Community Center?



Do you believe that there has been a recent rise in Islamophobia in New York City?



Calling New Yorkers to our better selves

BY RANDALL BALMER

Feisal Abdul Rauf’s Cordoba Initiative and the construction of the Park51 Islamic community center in lower Manhattan have attracted more than their share of critics. Opposition from people such as Sarah Palin, Newt Gingrich, and the demagogues at Fox News was predictable, but what I find deeply disquieting is a recent poll showing that a majority of New Yorkers oppose the project. Such sentiment is not worthy of New Yorkers, and it violates this city’s long tradition of religious tolerance dating back to the early decades of the 17th century.

When Jonas Michaëlius, the first Dutch minister in New Netherland, convened the first religious gathering in New Amsterdam in 1628, he commented on the religious diversity already evident in the colony. “At the first administration of the Lord’s Supper which was observed, not without great joy and comfort to many,” he wrote to his superiors back in Amsterdam, “we had fully fifty communicants—Walloons and Dutch.”

In addition to the Native Americans already here, New Netherland, from its earliest days, was notable for its racial, ethnic, and religious diversity. Nearly a century after Giovanni da Verrazano, an Italian navigator in the service of France, discovered the inlet into New York Harbor and the island we call Manhattan, Henry Hudson, an Englishman under contract with the Dutch East India Company, nosed the Half Moon through the same Narrows and struggled north on the river that now bears his name. The first group of settlers to disembark in Manhattan was composed of Walloons, French-speaking Belgians, followed shortly by a modest influx of Netherlanders, Germans, and French. English Puritans bracketed the Dutch settlement on Long Island, while Swedes and Finns became the early denizens on the Delaware River to the south. Early reports filtering back to Amsterdam told of Huguenots, Mennonites, Brownists, Presbyterians, Quakers, Catholics, even “many atheists and various other servants of Baal.”

In 1654, the Sainte Catherine pulled into port, carrying 23 Sephardic Jews, refugees from Recife. Why did they choose New Amsterdam? The Netherlands was the most tolerant society in Europe in the 17th century, and that tradition of tolerance marked New

Netherland as well.

When Pieter Stuyvesant, director-general of the colony for the Dutch West India Company, sought to suppress Quakerism, the citizens of Flushing protested. The Flushing Remonstrance of 1657, one of the earliest calls for religious disestablishment in America, insisted on freedom of religious expression. Significantly, none of the 30 signatories to the Remonstrance were themselves Quakers.

Following the English conquest of the colony in 1664, Governor Benjamin Fletcher worried that New Yorkers were “a mixt People and of different Perswasions in Religion.” Fletcher pushed the Ministry Act through the Assembly in 1693, a measure that he believed would establish the Church of England in New York City and the surrounding counties. New Yorkers, however, would have none of it,

New Netherland, from its earliest days, was notable for its racial, ethnic, and religious diversity.

and they successfully frustrated its implementation in favor of religious freedom and diversity.

Throughout its history, New York has accommodated—and even, more often than not, welcomed—religious diversity. Yes, sometimes such accommodation came only after a struggle, as with the Great School Wars of the 1840s, when Roman Catholics protested the Protestant bias in public education. But we New Yorkers eventually rise to our better selves.

It’s no accident that when Lyndon Johnson signed the Hart-Cellar Act of 1965, which removed immigration quotas, he did so in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty. That legislation, more than any other factor, has literally reshaped the religious landscape of both New York City and the nation, as Hindu temples, Sikh gurdwars, Buddhist stupas, and yes, Muslim mosques now dot the countryside.

In many respects, New York has always been the “city on a hill” for religious diversity, demonstrating to the nation and the world the virtues of tolerance. With the proposed Islamic center in lower Manhattan, we now have the opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to those virtues again.

Randall Balmer, professor of American religious history at Barnard, has taught at Columbia since 1985. He is the author of more than a dozen books, including “A Perfect Babel of Confusion: Dutch Religion and English Culture in the Middle Colonies.”

faith. I remember observing an American flag fluttering in the wind on the grounds of the Consulate of the United States in Lahore, Pakistan, and feeling overcome with emotion because I missed home. My version of the American Dream includes not being asked where I am “really” from. My parents worked tirelessly to achieve their dream, and they instilled a drive within me to achieve mine.

I am not Muslim American. I am an American who happens to be a proud Muslim. The separation implied in that hyphen has allowed a growing fringe within this country to label me as the “other.” There may be a long history of different ethnic groups being subjected to similar scorn, but I refuse to accept that it is now my turn. Let me tell you who I really am: I am your classmate, I am your RA, I am your doctor, I am your professor, I am your soldier, I am your friend, I am your neighbor, I am your lover. My American Dream is for you to realize that I am you. I am an American.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in neuroscience and behavior. He is a resident adviser on the seventh floor of Schapiro Hall.

I, too, am America(n): On the ‘ground zero mosque’

BY MARYAM AZIZ

There are many moments in my life I never thought I would see. Out of all of these, I never thought I’d reach the day in my life when I no longer felt like an American. I am not foreign to the existence of this concept. My ancestors are African Americans. And without giving a redundant history lesson, for the past 400 years, one group I consider “my people” has been made to feel as if its members were un-American. Foreign. Alien. But now, instead of knowing, I am feeling.

Recently, a 43-year-old man was stabbed by a 21-year-old man. Correction: Recently, a New York City cab driver was stabbed by his passenger. Correction: Recently, Ahmed H. Sharif was stabbed by Michael Enright because he, Sharif, was Muslim. Appalled yet? Let’s throw in the fact that both are American men whose individualities are now tossed into the realm of insignificance due to the great divide caused by the “ground zero mosque.”

I understand that it is now the time for Muslims in America to bear the hate and scrutiny of an entire country. I’ve known that since my mother and I rushed

If you’re going to stab a man—if you’re going to make a Muslim the exception to the paper-thin amendments that have acted as America’s own commandments for 300 years—do it properly. Be an educated bigot.

out in fear to pick up my sister and nephew from a library in “East Bumble Jiblip,” South Jersey right after the Sept. 11 attacks. What I did not know was that ignorance is actually ignorant. If you’re going to stab a man—if you’re going to make a Muslim, any Muslim, the new exception to the paper-thin amendments that have acted as America’s own commandments for 300 years—do it properly. Be an educated bigot.

Let’s deconstruct this. One, it is neither a “mosque” nor a “masjid.” Both are common terms for an Islamic place of worship. If you are going to be against this place’s construction, call it what it is, which is essentially the Islamic version of a YMCA. Two, let’s also be clear about its location. This Islamic community center is not on ground zero. It is not across from ground zero. It is not by ground zero. It is several blocks away from ground zero.

People keep saying this is not a matter of freedom or basic rights. But it is! Without asking you to join my side, I ask you this, Columbia: What happens when you start telling people they cannot build in a certain place because they are the source of all that is wrong in your country? What happens when you start telling people they don’t deserve to build in your neighborhood because of the actions committed by someone who is of the “same” creed?

Here, with this downtown Manhattan center, people seek to condemn one billion people from across the world because of the actions of a few who claim to be a part of the group. Why are we offending non-Muslim families whose kin died in the Sept. 11 attacks? We had no part in them. Neither we nor our religion condone the terrorists’ actions.

In fact, many Muslims also died in the attacks. Certainly, there is no singular hatred for the West that unites us. I and the majority of Muslims I know were born here and yet are being treated as aliens.

All I’m saying is that I want to recognize the country I was born into. If you’re going to disagree, bring me a valid point fueled by good old home-grown fear in a country built by immigrants. Meanwhile, as you watch the news or partake in it, I will be downtown at 51 Park Place, helping to make sure I see it glimmer in the afternoon sun. Why? Because I’ve been there, and I believe in what its founders are doing.

Because I, too, sing America. Because I, too, am a proud and stubborn American citizen who will not, under any circumstances, be swayed.

The author is a Columbia College first-year. She is a representative of the Student Governing Board.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Persian Gulf emirate
6 Aptly named novelist
11 Check for drinks
14 Rocket scientist
15 Use for dinner, as dishes
16 Realm from 800-1806: Abbr.
17 Jazzy O'Day
18 On the ... broken
19 Approx. landing hr.
20 Daydreaming
23 More intimate
25 ... mutual: type of betting
26 Funny Costello
27 Abel's slayer
30 Tsar or emperor
32 It follows the overture
34 Pressed for time
36 Failing to grasp a key element
41 Conceived of
42 IRS agent
43 What ballerinas dance on
46 Slangy agreement
48 HVAC measure
49 Utah city near Provo
50 Uproar
52 Not expected back at work until tomorrow
58 Econ. yardstick
59 Nebraska city
60 Tee shot
63 Mauna ...
64 Lees competitor
65 Ocean ship
66 Bigger picture: Abbr.
67 Kosher dell offering
68 Sharp-eyed bird

DOWN

1 Trade name abbr.
2 Caterer's vessel
3 Controversial financial rescues

4 Cars
5 "Be right there!"
6 Get a better int. rate, probably
7 Make on the job
8 Working busily
9 "The lady ... protest too much": "Hamlet"
10 Automaker Ferrari
11 Store to "fall into," in old ads
12 Prefix with -scopic
13 "Scram!"
21 New employee
22 End result
23 Little neck, e.g.
24 Centers of activity
28 Actress Swenson
29 Smarmily dressed
30 Obstetrician's calculation
31 Psychic's asset, for short
33 "Surely I'm not the only one?"
35 South Korea's first president
37 Abar promise
38 "Drinks are on yours truly!"
39 MLB league
40 Letter-shaped fastener
43 Flip back and forth, as an on-off switch
44 Like some denim patches
45 Letter-writing friend
47 Circular gridiron gathering
51 "West Side Story" heroine
53 Music genre that experienced a '50s-'60s revival
54 Sign of the future
55 Sitarist Shankar
56 That's partner
57 Corned beef dish
61 Commercial prefix with -cro
62 Prior to

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	N	A	P	T	O	I	T	P	E	T	I	T	E			
K	A	T	A	R	I	N	A	U	N	I	S	E	X			
I	H	A	V	E	N	T	G	O	T	A	C	L	A	C	L	E
L	E	E	K	S	R	O	C	K	E	T						
S	E	L	L	S		G	E	N	T							
T	I	C		S	T	O	M	A		I	B	E	T			
O	S	O	L	E	M	I	O		S	E	M	I	T	E		
O	N	S	E	C	O	N	D		T	H	O	U	G	H	T	
G	E	T	S	T	O		C	R	O	S	S	B	A	R		
E	R	S	T		T	H	R	E	W		A	N	A			
				A	H	O	V									
U	S	E	D			F	I	E	N	D						
W	H	A	T		H	A	P	P	E	N	S	N	E	X	T	
T	O	L	U	O	L		B	A	C	T	E	R	I	A		
S	H	T	I	C	K		S	T	A	I	L					

xwordeditor@aol.com 09/20/10

Internet offers live stream of Lions losing

I knew I shouldn't have gone kayaking.

It was around noon on Saturday, when I coming back from a Living & Learning Center kayaking trip on the Hudson, that I realized there was no way I'd be able to make it to the football game starting in 30 minutes—a game I was assigned to write about in this space.

“My editors are going to kill me,” I thought. I envisioned a Tarantino-like execution when I walked into the office the next day with a column about last night's ping-pong victory or the



JIM PAGELS

On the Couch

I tried to see if the Light Blue was on TV, but I had a better chance of finding Venezuelan cock-fighting than Ivy League football.

incredible Ultimate Frisbee game I saw on my way to Butler.

With the subway shut down north of 96th Street, I sulked back to my suite, enjoying my last 24 hours on this earth. It struck me how crowded campus still seemed. At my previous school, the University of Texas, the entire campus looked like a scene from “I Am Legend” during games, with 100,000 students, alumni, and faculty making the weekly pilgrimage to the altar of Darrell K. Royal-Texas Stadium. Hell, even the custodians from my dorm were at the game.

I tried to see if the Light Blue was on TV, but I had a better chance of finding Venezuelan cock-fighting than Ivy League football. I knew ESPN.com would at least have the box score, so I scrolled past the top 25 scores until I (finally) saw “Fordham 3, Columbia 3. 6:13 2nd.” My options to check out the details were “GameCast,” “Box Score,” “Conversation,” and “Watch Game.”

Wait. “Watch Game”?

I immediately clicked on the link, which directed me to Columbia's athletic department website, which in

SEE PAGELS, page 9

Men's tennis falters at Princeton Invitational

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The defending Ivy League champion men's tennis team struggled at the Princeton Invitational this weekend, as it failed to find consistency in either singles or doubles. In its first fall tournament, the top half of the squad faltered, particularly in singles, suffering a number of close losses to players from across the Northeast. Only one singles player, senior Alex Lee in the “E” singles draw, reached the finals of his bracket.

Top singles player Haig Schneiderman, a junior, came into the tournament battling a back injury that he sustained over the summer. Schneiderman, who went undefeated when he played at No. 3 singles last year, fell to Jason Lee of Penn State in the first round, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2. Sophomore Cyril Bucher, who played at No. 4 singles last year, was also in the “A” singles draw, but he too fell in his first-round match. Bucher lost to Matija Pecotic, Princeton's No. 1 singles player, 6-3, 6-2. In the consolation draw, Schneiderman beat Matt Siow from Princeton but fell to Evan Bernstein from Cornell in the second round. Bucher won his first-round match in the consolation draw and advanced to the third round after receiving a walkover in the second round from Ivan Turudic from Penn.

Columbia entered three players in the “B” singles draw: Sophomore Nathaniel Gery, junior Rajeev Deb-Sen, freshman Tizian Bucher, and senior

SEE TENNIS, page 9



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EARLY LEAD | Sophomore quarterback Sean Brackett led Columbia to a 9-3 lead, but the Light Blue was unable to hold on to the lead, falling to Fordham 16-9.

Football begins fall season with loss to Fordham

BY VICTORIA JONES
Spectator Staff Writer

The Lions took to the gridiron in front of a loud, cheering crowd on Saturday as they attempted to defend last year's win at the Liberty Cup. Though the final score of 16-9 was not in favor of the Light Blue and there is plenty for the team to work on, there were many aspects of the game in which Columbia proved strong as it heads into the upcoming season.

The Lions struggled a bit in the first quarter on both sides of the ball. Senior captain Mike Stephens ran the ball for a 28-yard kickoff return to start the game, but a run by quarterback Sean Brackett that fell just inches short of a first down forced the Light Blue to punt after less than two minutes of possession.

Fordham capitalized on the quick change of possession, driving 72 yards down the field, 34 of which came from a rush by starting running back Xavier

FORDHAM	16
COLUMBIA	9

Martin. After Martin's run, Columbia's defense was able to limit the Rams to short rushes, and Fordham was forced to settle for a field goal. With a successful boot through the uprights, the Rams got on the board, making it 3-0.

It wasn't until Columbia's fourth possession of the quarter that the Lions were finally able to obtain a first down. Several incomplete passes and ineffective runs characterized the first quarter for the Light Blue.

The Lions' defense was able to keep Fordham out of the endzone on future drives until the offense could put some points on the board. Halfway through the second quarter, following a drive including a 39-yard pass from Brackett to wide receiver Nico Gutierrez, Light Blue sophomore Dean Perfetti kicked a 34-yard field goal to tie the score.

Columbia's defense continued to perform well, stifling Fordham quarterback Blake Wayne's passing game and holding Martin to just 66 rushing yards by the half.

Senior captain Alex Gross and junior Neil Schuster were at the front of the pack for the Lions on defense. The pair led the team with six tackles apiece after the first two quarters.

Though the Lions' offense wasn't able to rack up any more points by halftime, the squad found its rhythm and controlled the play on the field, keeping possession of the ball for more than 11 minutes in the second quarter and limiting Fordham's offense to less than four minutes on the field.

Columbia's first possession of the second half put the Lions up 9-3 when Brackett found Stephens in the endzone from 14 yards out. Fordham had started out the half in possession, but a fumble by Wayne at Columbia's 25-yard line put the Lions back in the driver's seat.

After a missed extra point—a problem the Lions also struggled with greatly last season—Fordham's offense was forced to respond to the Light Blue's first lead of the day. The Rams drove down the field with several passes and a series of rushes from running back Darryl Whiting, which put Patrick Murray in good position to make a 22-yard field goal.

On the kickoff return, Columbia kicker Craig Hamilton fumbled the ball, putting the pigskin back in Fordham's hands. The third quarter, which was characterized by fumbles, saw yet another one on Wayne's part. This time, the fumble was forced by Columbia defensive end Josh Smith and recovered by Seyi Adebayo.

The Rams tied up the game at nine all with less than 10 minutes to go in the fourth quarter. With Martin back on the field seeming practically immune to Columbia's defensive

SEE FOOTBALL, page 9



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

KICKOFF | Though the season is only one game old, it seems as if special teams will once again plague the Lions.

Special teams could hurt football again this season

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON
Columbia Daily Spectator

In its season opener, the Columbia football team dropped a tough game to Fordham, 16-9. Though the Light Blue's defense was solid and its offense played well at times, Saturday's game made it clear that the problem of special teams that plagued the Lions last season has not yet been solved.

Columbia's troubles began in the first quarter, when sophomore kicker Greg Guttas gave Fordham solid field position on back-to-back possessions, thanks to a 23-yard and a 27-yard punt.

“Greg didn't start punting the ball well,” head coach Norries Wilson said while discussing special teams. “We gave

them good field position. We had two shanked punts, and we can't have that—the punter's got to be a weapon for us.”

Guttas eventually settled in, averaging 36 yards for his seven punts, but he was not the only problem the special teams unit had.

Sophomore kicker Dean Perfetti managed to put Columbia on the scoreboard with a 34-yard field goal with 8:17 remaining in the second quarter. When the ball went through the uprights, it seemed as though special teams would not be as big of a problem as it had been last season, over the course of which the 2009 Lions made only two field goals, despite trying seven times. But in the third quarter, these problems resurfaced when sophomore quarterback

Sean Brackett found senior wide receiver Mike Stephens in the endzone and Perfetti's attempt to convert the PAT was blocked.

“No, after we have a low kick, no, I'm not settled on Perfetti,” Wilson said when asked how set the special teams squad was.

“We can't afford to mess up a PAT,” Wilson continued. “That's unacceptable.”

Last season, Perfetti converted seven of eight PATs.

The Lions struggled with their return game, as well, on Saturday. Two plays in particular hurt the Light Blue, both of which involved Fordham kicker Patrick

SEE SPECIAL TEAMS, page 9

Lions lose to St. Peter's after missing several chances

BY MRINAL MOHANKA
Spectator Staff Writer

Clear-cut chances were few and far between in Saturday's men's soccer game, but the Peacocks came out winners after converting two chances around the hour mark. Goals from Mauricio Jimenez and Harry Newman gave Saint Peter's a 2-0 win—the same result as in last year's matchup. The Lions looked threatening on multiple occasions and registered nine shots on target compared to the Peacocks' four, but they were unable to beat Carlos Suarez in the Peacocks' goal.

Tough tackles set the tone of the match early on, as both teams exchanged possession in the opening stages of the

ST. PETER'S	2
COLUMBIA	0

game. Columbia settled in first, as junior Francois Anderson set up senior fullback Hayden Johns for a cross on the overlap after making the most of a long pass from junior classmate Ronnie Shaban. Both fullbacks—Johns and junior Jesse Vella—put in fantastic shifts and provided the Lions with width on the attack and security in defense. Their overlapping runs were the highlight of the Lions' weekend.

The first chance of note came for the Lions in the 16th minute after a run down the left by senior Bayo Adafin. His cross found Anderson, who struck an effort goalwards only to see a Peacock defender head it off the line.

SEE MEN'S SOCCER, page 9



MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACK

week #1

PLAY OF THE GAME

KEY DRIVES

GAME BALL

Senior captain Alex Gross led Columbia's defensive unit on Saturday with 14 total tackles—10 solo. Gross and junior Neil Schuster, who also had a solid game, will have to continue their strong play if the Lions want to win.

BEST CALL

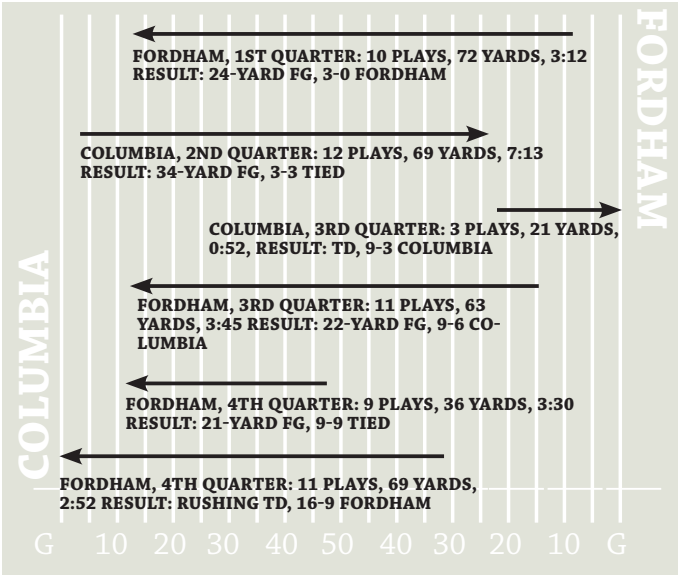
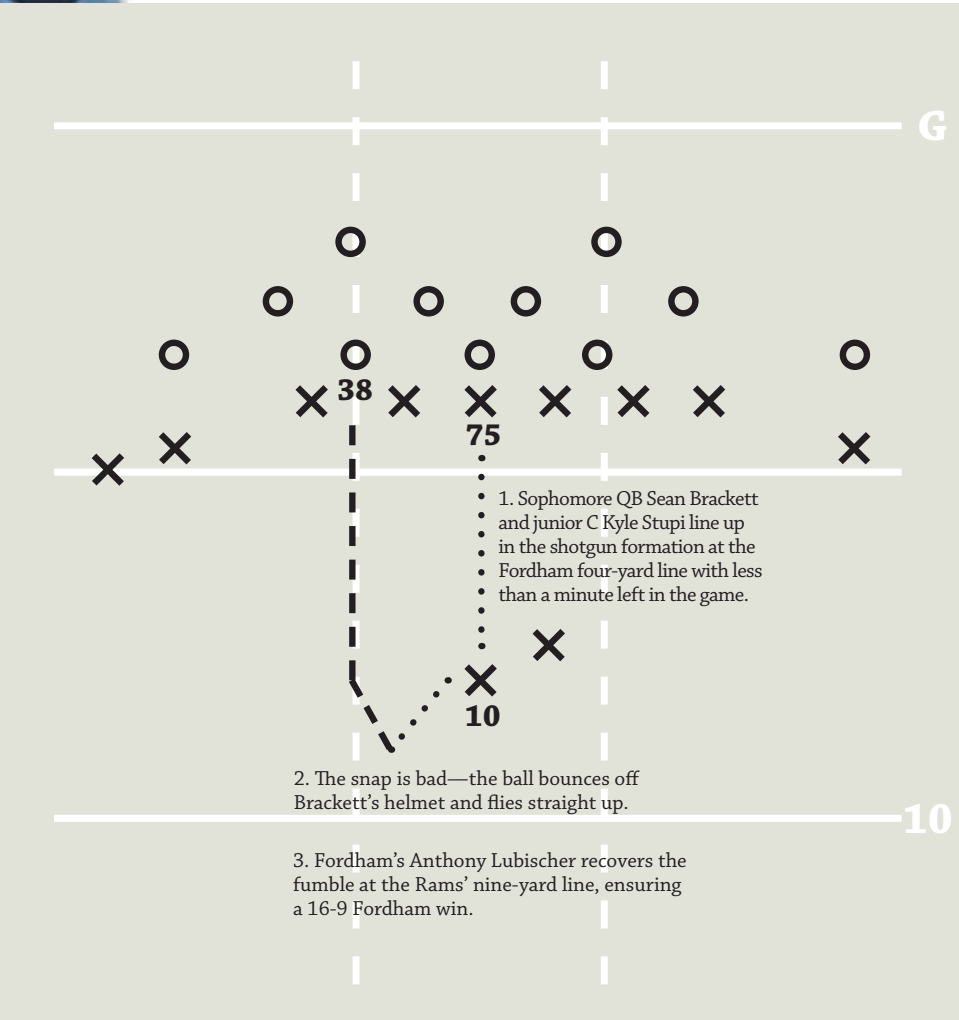
Though the Light Blue defense was able to stifle Fordham quarterback Blake Wayne's passing game after the first quarter, the Rams were able to turn to their rushing game thanks to star running back Xavier Martin, who rushed for 105 yards.

WORST CALL

Though quarterback Sean Brackett had been sacked twice in the game when positioned directly behind the center, lining up in the shotgun formation resulted in a fumble in the waning minutes of the game, squashing any chance of a comeback.

TURNING POINT

With 9:53 remaining in the fourth quarter, Fordham's kicker Patrick Murray tied the game at nine with a 21-yard field goal. Though the Lions had chances to reclaim the lead, they weren't able to, and the Rams went onto score the winning touchdown.



IVY LEAGUE FOOTBALL STANDINGS				
	OVERALL	IVY	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST
DARTMOUTH	1-0	0-0	43	20
YALE	1-0	0-0	40	35
HARVARD	1-0	0-0	34	6
BROWN	1-0	0-0	33	30
PENN	1-0	0-0	19	14
PRINCETON	0-1	0-0	22	35
COLUMBIA	0-1	0-0	9	16
CORNELL	0-1	0-0	7	41

RECORD

GAME ONE VS. FORDHAM 9/18 L 16-9	GAME TWO VS. TOWSON 9/25	GAME THREE VS. PRINCETON 10/2	GAME FOUR VS. LAFAYETTE 10/9	GAME FIVE @ PENN 10/16	GAME SIX VS. DARTMOUTH 10/23	GAME SEVEN @ YALE 10/30	GAME EIGHT @ HARVARD 11/6	GAME NINE VS. CORNELL 11/13	GAME TEN @ BROWN 11/20

PIXBBOX STANDINGS

1	Jacob "Eye on the Ball" Levenfeld	4-4
2	Michele "I Can See Cleary Now" Cleary	3-5
2	Victoria "Batting a Thousand" Jones	3-5
2	Bart "The Tailgating Tales" Lopez	3-5
2	Jim "On the Couch" Pagels	3-5
2	Lauren "Shiver Me Timbers" Seaman	3-5
2	Lucas "In the Refrigerator" Shaw	3-5
8	Kunal "Moving the Chains" Gupta	2-6
8	Zach "Boom Goes the Dynamite" Glubiak	2-6
8	Michael "Turn Up the Mike" Shapiro	2-6



HOFSTRA HIGH | Junior goalkeeper Lillian Klein notched a career-high 13 saves despite Columbia's loss on Saturday.

Women's soccer loses to Hofstra, bests St. John's

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Staff Writer

In its Friday loss to Hofstra, the Columbia women's soccer team narrowly missed on scoring opportunities and allowed a goal in double overtime. Against St. John's on Sunday, the Lions made sure not to miss and not to let one goal by the opposition determine their fate.

Columbia (5-2-0) rebounded from its 1-0 home loss to the Pride with a 2-1 win at St. John's.

"The players are learning that the bolder we come out, the better we play and the more efficient we are in our attacking play," head coach Kevin McCarthy said. "And we defend better when we're bold, also, so it's good to see."

Junior goalkeeper Lillian Klein, the reigning Ivy League Player of the Week and Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Division I Defensive Player of the Week, continued her impressive efforts over the weekend. She did not allow a goal against Hofstra (6-1-0) until the 106th minute, when sophomore defender Amy Turner's free kick from 20 yards out gave the Pride the sudden victory. Klein finished the night with a career-high 13 saves.

On Sunday, Klein allowed freshman midfielder Amy Marron to score for St. John's (3-4-1) in the 75th. She did not allow any other goals despite contending with 17 shots and five corner kicks by the Red Storm.

"Quite frankly, we are very comfortable letting teams take 10, 15 shots from 25, 30 yards, because we have Lillian," McCarthy said.

Klein almost allowed St. John's to score earlier in the second half when she came off her line but failed to grab the ball. Senior defender Lauren Cooke cleared it just before it rolled into the net.

"It was just a decision I made," Klein said. "I think it was the right one at the time. But, obviously, I had Lauren and [senior defender] Kelly [Hostetler] both covering me. It was a good defensive effort on all of our parts."

Columbia scored in the seventh minute against the Red Storm when Cooke found the back of the net for the first time this year. Hostetler, whose free kick led to the goal, notched her team-high fifth assist.

"It was awesome, especially because Kelly always plays amazing balls in," Cooke said of her goal. "It feels good to finally get it in the back of the net."

Cooke had taken two shots on goal

with mere seconds remaining in the first overtime against Hofstra, both of which had barely missed their target.

The Lions created several scoring chances throughout the first half at St. John's, but they were unable to add to their lead before halftime. Instead, Columbia scored as early as possible in the second half. Fewer than 15 seconds elapsed before junior forward Marissa Schultz tallied the Lions' second goal of the game.

"It was a great finish by Marissa Schultz and a great entry pass by [junior midfielder] Nora Dooley, after a crunch of a tackle by [freshman midfielder] Coleen Rizzo that set it up," McCarthy said.

Columbia's two goals on Sunday provided relief from its matchup with Hofstra, when the Lions had close scoring opportunities off of corner kicks at the end of regulation and of the first overtime but were unable to convert. But Hofstra, which is receiving votes in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America rankings, is not an easy opponent for any team.

"We knew this game might come down to a restart," McCarthy said. "Ours, miraculously, stayed out. Theirs, they hit a beautiful free kick, so credit to them."

Most of Ivy League fares well at first games of football season

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

This weekend marked the beginning of the Ivy football season with all eight members of the league beginning non-conference play. As a whole, the Ancient Eight fared rather well, as five squads earned a victory this weekend.



DARTMOUTH
After finishing next-to-last in 2009, the Big Green kicked off its season in a surprising fashion, defeating Bucknell 43-20. Dartmouth junior Nick Schwieger rushed for 216 yards and two touchdowns in the win.

YALE
The Bulldogs began their season with a win, too, beating Georgetown 40-35. Yale's junior quarterback Patrick Witt managed to run over the goal line on a quarterback sneak as time expired, leading his team to a comeback victory.

HARVARD
The Crimson, which is favored to win the Ivy title, opened its season with a victory as well, dominating Holy Cross 34-6. Harvard quarterback Andrew Hatch completed 20 of his 25 passes, throwing for 276 yards and three touchdowns.

BROWN
The Bears narrowly beat Stony Brook this weekend 33-30 in double overtime. Senior Zach Tronti gave Brown the victory when he scored a touchdown on a one-yard run in the second overtime period.

PENN
The reigning Ivy champs defeated Lafayette in a close contest Saturday night. Though the Leopards had a chance to win the game on the last play—they were at the Penn 48-yard line with four seconds remaining—the Quakers managed to hold on for a 19-14 win.

PRINCETON
The Tigers were one of three Ivy squads to open their season with a loss, as they fell to Patriot League foe Lehigh 35-22. Despite notching 528 offensive yards to the Mountain Hawks' 327, Princeton still could not outscore its opponent.

CORNELL
It looks like the Big Red is going to have another long season. After finishing in last place in 2009, Cornell opened this season with a 41-7 loss at the hands of Wagner. The Big Red's only touchdown came off a one-yard run by Marcus Hendren.

GOLF

Golf places seventh at Princeton Women's Invitational behind other Ivy League foes

The women's golf team finished in seventh place at the Princeton Women's Invitational, shooting a team combined score of 938 over two days and 54 holes. The team was led by freshman Michelle Piyapattrra, who shot a 221 and tied for third place overall.

In addition, junior Robin Lee finished in 26th place overall and second on the team, shooting a 232. Piyapattrra finished eight strokes behind Seo Hee Moon from Yale, who won the individual title and also led her squad to a first-place finish. Ivy League schools took the top three spots, as Princeton got second place and Penn took third place. The Ivy League also held the top three individual spots, as Princeton's Kelly

Shon took home second place to round out the top three.

The Columbia team entered Sunday in seventh place, finishing behind sixth-place Harvard by 18 strokes. Freshman Jane Dong shot a 241 to tie for 40th place, and junior Lynda Kwon shot a 244 and tied for 47th place. Sophomore Ashley Zambito rounded out the squad for the Lions, shooting a 253 over the two-day tournament and finished in 57th place.

The tournament was played at the Springdale Golf Club.

The Lions will next be in action on Oct. 2, when they play in the Nittany Lion Women's Invitational at Penn State.

—Kunal Gupta

Lions lose lead to Rams late in the game

FOOTBALL from page 7

maneuvers, Fordham charged downfield with the rushing game until Murray made his third field goal of the day.

The next time the Fordham offense had the ball in its hands, the Rams were able to reclaim the lead. At the end of an 11-play, 69-yard possession, Whiting rushed just one yard into the endzone, and the Rams punted off to the Lions with a 16-9 lead.

“We played really good defense on every drive but one. ... They put another drive together, and our guys looked like they were a little bit gassed and we didn’t get lined up,” head coach Norries Wilson said about that drive. “They got a ball down to the one-yard line, then they ended up punching it in on us.”

“We were playing well. Obviously throughout the course of the game we didn’t play well enough to win,” Gross said. “We just gotta get better and play 60 minutes of football, and obviously we know what we needed to do and we knew how to stop them, we just didn’t do it consistently.”

After Fordham’s touch-down, the Lions had less than five minutes to adjust the scoreboard, and with the momentum they carried through the possession, it looked good for the Light Blue. Brackett took the reins and, through a combination of rushes and passes to his receivers, got the Lions to within four yards of the endzone. But one last fumble turned the ball over to the Rams a final time, leaving the Light Blue down by seven.

“That was just a miscommunication me and the center [Kyle Stupi] and it’s my fault as quarterback,” Brackett said in response to the last offensive play. “It’s my fault, so I take responsibility for that.”

“We gotta finish games. Now we didn’t finish it the right way, we’re on the field on offense, we had an opportunity to win the football game and we didn’t take advantage of the opportunity,” said Coach Wilson.

Brackett and how he would do leading the team were big variables going into Saturday’s game.

“I think once Sean got settled down, he started making some good throws, started making some good decisions, and we’re starting to get some players involved,” Wilson said. “He knew that he could hold the ball and wait to get some people wide open.”

At the end of the day, the Lions also saw some surprises on offense. Stephens was taken off the field and did not return to the game. His status is still unknown. In his place, Gutierrez and junior Mark Muston stepped up and took most of the game’s catches. Muston caught five balls for 45 yards, and Gutierrez caught three for a total of 88.

All in all, the Lions had a decent season opener. There were, of course, faults from all three squads—offense, defense, and special teams—but there were many aspects of play that showed that the Light Blue had hope for success this season. “It’s unfortunate that we lost this game today,” Wilson said. “But I think the kids worked to get ready. We’re just, we’re still not at that stage where we can push the snowball over the cliff”

FIELD HOCKEY

Light Blue sees mixed results in Rhode Island over weekend

The Light Blue field hockey team (4-2, 1-0 Ivy) opened its Ivy slate with a win this Saturday, edging Brown 5-4. The Lions couldn’t build on that victory, though, as they fell to Providence 2-0 on Sunday.

Columbia fell behind early against the Bears (1-4, 0-1 Ivy) after Brown scored just over six minutes into the game. The Lions recovered quickly, taking the lead at 17:30 after a pair of unassisted goals by senior Julia Garrison and junior Desi Scherf.

From there, the two squads traded goals, with sophomore Gabby Kozlowski and junior Carson Christus both finding the back of the net for Columbia. Christus’ goal put the Light Blue up 4-3 with less than 23 minutes remaining in the game, but Brown was able to tie it up with a shot by freshman Torie Stearns.

COLUMBIA	5
PROVIDENCE	4
COLUMBIA	0
BROWN	2

Eight minutes away from overtime, Garrison was able to win the game for Columbia when she scored off her own rebound.

The Light Blue couldn’t notch two consecutive wins this weekend and fell to the Friars on Sunday. Though sophomore goalkeeper Christie O’Hara allowed only two goals, the Lions were shut out by Providence junior goalie Shannon DiStefano. Kozlowski, Christus, and Scherf tested DiStefano with a shot-on-goal each, but they were all unsuccessful.

The Lions return to action Friday when they host Ancient Eight foe Cornell.

—Michele Cleary

VOLLEYBALL

Columbia on seven-game winning streak after triumphant weekend

It was another triumphant weekend for the volleyball team, which swept the Columbia Invitational, winning all three of its matches against Fordham, Bucknell, and Fairleigh Dickinson. This brings the team’s winning streak up to seven games.

The Lions beat Fordham 3-2 on Friday, coming back from 2-0 down to take home the match. It was a close contest, with Columbia winning the last set 15-12.

The Light Blue had cleaner wins against Bucknell and Fairleigh Dickinson on Saturday, winning both matches 3-0. Against the Bison, Columbia took the first set 25-14 but had to fight harder for the second, which it won 25-21. The home team finished off the set with another close 25-23 win.

The first set against Fairleigh was close, ending with a score of 25-18, but the Knights didn’t provide as

COLUMBIA	3
FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON	0
COLUMBIA	3
BUCKNELL	0
COLUMBIA	3
FORDHAM	2

much of a challenge in the next two sets, falling 25-13 and then 25-14. Freshmen Savannah Fletcher and Katherine Keller distinguished themselves in the match, with Fletcher contributing four blocks to the win and Keller defending with 11 digs, while sophomore Megan Gaughn scored 10 kills, securing the tournament Most Valuable Player title for the second competition in a row.

Columbia will try to keep its streak going against Cornell in a home match at Levien Gymnasium on Saturday.

—Nina Lukina

Men’s tennis stumbles at season-opening tournament

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Kevin Kung were all entered and unseeded. Kung was the only one of the group to make it out of the first round, defeating Erik Blumenkranz from Yale 6-2, 6-2 before falling to Russell Bader from Penn State. Deb-Sen lost 6-2, 6-3 to George Tibil from Buffalo and Gery lost to another Bulldog, Joel Samaha, in a third-set tie-break after rallying to win the second set. Bucher, the younger brother of Cyril, lost to Taylor Cohen from Penn State 6-1, 6-1 in his first collegiate match. Bucher, Gery, and Deb-Sen all won their first-round consolation matches, and

Bucher beat Gery 6-2, 6-1 in the second round of the backdraw. Kung beat Alex Faust from Princeton in the backdraw for players who lost in the quarter-finals, 6-3, 6-1.

Sophomore John Yetimoglu was the Lions’ lone representative in the “C” singles draw, but he too suffered a close loss to the No. 2 seed, Marcelo Mazzeto from Buffalo. Yetimoglu lost in three tight sets, 6-4, 1-6, 7-5. Yetimoglu won his first round in the consolation draw, beating Jordan Abergel from Yale before defaulting in his next match.

Senior Sho Matsumoto, the top overall seed in the “D” singles draw, lost to Michael Lin

from Princeton in his first-round match. Freshman Ian Laster won his first collegiate match, beating Zhongming Chen from Cornell in straight sets before losing to Alex Kalanin from Buffalo in straight sets in the second round. Matsumoto won his first two matches of the consolation draw, and Laster beat Yohei Shoji from Princeton in the backdraw for quarterfinal losers. Lee made the finals of the “E” draw, beating Dustin Goldenberg from St. John’s 7-5 in the third set and taking on Matty Najfeld from St. John’s in the final.

The Lions fared better in doubles, as Kung and Gery made the semi-finals of the “A” doubles

draw before losing to the top-seeded team from Penn State 8-5. Schneiderman and Laster won their first-round match before falling 8-6 to a Princeton team.

The two Bucher brothers reached the quarterfinals of the “B” draw, along with Yetimoglu and Deb-Sen, although neither team made the semis. Yetimoglu also paired with Lee in the “C” doubles draw, but they lost to a team from Buffalo in the first round.

The squad will next be in action next weekend, when it plays in Queens at the National Tennis Center Men’s Collegiate Invitational.



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IMPRESSIVE INTERPLAY | Junior Francois Anderson displayed his offensive skills, but the Lions still struggled against the Peacocks.

Men’s soccer shows skilled interplay during Sunday match

MEN’S SOCCER from page 7

There were also several periods of quality interplay by the Lions, with freshman David Najem cooperating well with junior co-captain Mike Mazzullo in the center of midfield. Najem demonstrated exceptional maturity in his home debut and may prove to be a vital part of the engine room for the Lions this season. Another impressive partnership formed on the right wing, as Anderson and Johns combined to make a useful outlet for Columbia’s attack. There were several goal-mouth scrambles toward the end of the first half, but the Light Blue were goalless as the

referee blew for halftime.

The Peacocks found the net soon after intermission in the 54th minute, when Newman’s volley from outside the box ricocheted off the underside off the crossbar for Jimenez to tap over the goal line. The Lions retaliated almost instantly, as sophomore Nick Scott hit a through ball toward freshman Henning Sauerbier, but Suarez’s effort was equal. The Peacocks got their second goal of the game less than two minutes later, with Newman opening his goal-scoring account for Saint Peter’s by catching Lions keeper Alexander Aurricchio off his line with another exquisite volley from outside the box.

There was continued

pressure by the Lions toward the end of the game, with the introduction of freshman Steven Daws providing more creativity in midfield, but Saint Peter’s was content to keep the ball and see the game out for a 2-0 win.

Johns, who impressed at rightback, felt that the score line was harsh on the Lions.

“2-0 wasn’t accurate, but we paid for our lack of execution,” he said “They took their chances and we didn’t.”

Johns was used as a midfielder in the earlier stages of his Columbia career but has been moved to the right side of defense this season. It is a role he is relishing.

“I like the role. With our new

formation, it lets me attack and defend, which suits my style of play,” Johns said. “As a team, we’re getting close to where we want to be. We just need to work harder in training to make sure we’re better on Tuesday.”

Head coach Kevin Anderson was extremely disappointed after the game.

“We need to start taking our chances. We had plenty, but we just couldn’t make them count,” he said. “You can’t win a game without finishing, and we’ve got to work on doing that right.”

The Lions are back in action on Tuesday, Sept. 21, against Seton Hall at Columbia Soccer Stadium. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Internet offers live stream of Lions losing

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turn offered a (cleverly titled) service called SideLION Pass. With an \$8.95/one-day pass, a \$12.95/month-long pass, a \$34.95/four-month pass, or a \$84.95/year-long pass—shockingly listed as the site’s “Most Popular!” option—I could have live-streaming access to a long list of Columbia athletic events, including the day’s game.

I decided to splurge on the one-month option so I could guarantee I’d see the next three weeks of games, broken subway be damned.

My screen immediately lit up with a clear shot of the Lions marching down the field at Wien Stadium. While it was certainly no HD broadcast, the picture was clear enough, and it even came with score graphics and the overly enthusiastic voices of Jerry Recco and Sal Licata calling the game for the online crowd of eight watching at home.

My first thoughts:

1. Our offensive line was getting absolutely pummeled. The Rams recorded eight tackles for loss, including two sacks of sophomore quarterback Sean Brackett, who was constantly being hurried out of the pocket. Brackett, who isn’t much of a running threat, couldn’t seem to find anyone open and was forced to scramble across the line of scrimmage 12 times.

2. No receivers seem to have stepped up in the absence of former receiver Austin Knowlin, who graduated last May. Senior Nico Gutierrez led the way with 88 receiving yards, while junior Mark Muston led the team with five receptions, but nobody seemed to be able to get any distance from the suffocating Fordham secondary.

3. On the other side of the ball, new defensive coordinator Denauld Brown shut down the Rams’ aerial attack, which had accounted for over 200 yards in each of their previous two games. The revamped secondary especially showed up in the red zone, while Fordham scored only once on their four trips inside the 20.

All of this defense came to a crashing halt with five minutes left to play and the score tied at nine. Fordham stormed down the field, with sophomore quarterback Blake Wayne completing all four of his passes for 44 yards to set up an easy one-yard punch in to take the lead.

Our offense hadn’t done anything all game, so I didn’t want to get my hopes up with two minutes remaining, but I stayed on to listen with Jerry and Sal. That’s when it got interesting.

I woke my napping roommate by yelling when Brackett kept the game alive, connecting with Gutierrez for 39 yards on third and nine from our own 19. Brackett was having to scramble on every play, though. The offensive line looked more porous than the kayak I had been sitting in a few hours earlier.

The excitement continued to build when he hit sophomore Brian DeVeau for nine yards on fourth and one at the Fordham 33. Jerry and Sal sounded like they were about to rip each other’s clothes off.

After a 14-yard strike to Muston with just over a minute left to play, setting up a first and goal on the Rams’ four-yard line, the Lions appeared on their way to tying the game, setting off what surely would have been widespread rioting and celebration in Morningside Heights—or at least a mention at dinner among students.

What followed may have

been one of the biggest let-downs since Tony Kornheiser joined the announcing team of “Monday Night Football.” The play call was so unorganized and cluttered that it made Ferris Booth look neat. Brackett fumbled the shotgun snap (and will someone please explain to me why we’re running the shotgun on first and goal from the four?), allowing Fordham to recover the ball and run out the clock.

Time to hand back the Liberty Cup.

The Light Blue has now lost every home opener since 2007, but has doubled its win total every year since that 1-9 season. While I’m not expecting 8-2 this year, this is certainly not the start that a team so convinced it could finally take the next step is looking for.

In an interview last week, Brackett said, “That’s the biggest thing about this program, winning.” Sorry Sean, but that’s like Hugh Hefner saying, “That’s the biggest thing about my magazine, tastefulness.”

Because the Ancient Eight isn’t getting an automatic Bowl Championship Series bid any time soon, I realize these non-conference games don’t really matter in the grand scheme of things, but the Lions can’t expect to walk through these first two games until Princeton rolls through town in two weeks to open up Ivy League play.

The Lions—who seem to model not only their mascot and color scheme, but also their quality of play after the Detroit NFL team—appear destined for another disappointing season. At least I can watch it unfold from the comfort of my own laptop.

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Special teams squad struggles in opener

SPECIAL TEAMS from page 7

Murray punting inside Columbia’s 10-yard line. Stephens, acting as punt returner on both of those plays, decided to catch the ball instead of letting it drop.

“The young man [Stephens] was instructed, if the ball goes inside the 10, then to let the ball go inside the endzone,” Wilson said. “It was a miscue on his part—he should not have caught either one of them.”

In both plays, the better decision would have been to let the ball drop, as it would have most likely bounced into the endzone, resulting in a touchback. On the first play, which occurred near the end of the second quarter, Stephens caught the ball at the Columbia six-yard line, and returned it to the eight. On the second play, Stephens caught the ball on the Columbia seven, but got pushed back to the one. He was also injured and had to leave the game after that play. His status for the rest of the season is still unclear.

Had the ball been allowed to bounce into the endzone on either one of those plays, the Light Blue would have ended up with a much better field position.

“We definitely have to work on ... our punt return, and on making sure we’re smart enough not to go inside the 10 as we catch a punt,” Wilson said.

In order for the Lions to bounce back against Towson and to earn a winning record this season, they must shore up their special teams unit.

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Eighth Annual World Leaders Forum Schedule Update

JOSÉ LUIS RODRÍGUEZ ZAPATERO
Prime Minister of Spain

“The New Economic Order and the
Millennium Development Goals”

Tuesday, September 21, 2:00 p.m.
Rotunda, Low Memorial Library

Please note that the schedule is subject to change
and more events may be added.

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