

Al Gore talks sustainable capitalism, investment

BY SHANE FERRO AND
FINN VIGELAND
Columbia Daily Spectator

The Al Gore that spoke at Columbia on Tuesday was probably not the man most students expected to see.

“I am here as chairman of an investment firm with real world practical experience,” he said plugging his investment fund, Generation Investment Management LLP.

Columbia’s World Leaders Forum welcomed Gore to Low Library on Tuesday morning to discuss sustainable capitalism. Student registration for the event filled within minutes of going live last week. Gore spoke about the importance of sustainable investments, which consider what will be most beneficial in the long term.

“The alleged conflict between taking sustainability into account and getting higher returns is a myth,” Gore said.

He argued that the fast-paced financial world puts more emphasis on short-term gains than on long-term consequences of investments.

In addition to being marketed as a WLF speaker, former Vice President Gore was at Columbia headlining a two-day conference for investors on the topic of sovereign wealth funds and other long-term

SEE GORE, page 2



COURTESY OF AL GORE

SUSTAINABILITY | Former Vice President Al Gore spoke at Columbia Tuesday about sustainable capitalism.

World Leaders Forum



PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DOING BUSINESS | Henry Kravis, Business ’69, announced Tuesday morning at a Harlem press conference that he will donate \$100 million to Columbia’s Graduate School of Business in Manhattanville, which is the biggest donation in the school’s history.

Local schools earn federal money for new programs

BY MINGMING FENG
Columbia Daily Spectator

Millions of federal dollars are coming to public schools on the Upper West Side and in Harlem, and local parents and teachers are waiting to see how the funds will be divided.

Six public magnet schools in Manhattan’s Community School District 3—which includes the Upper West Side and Harlem—will be receiving \$3.76 million in federal grant money from the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) announced at the end of September.

The grant, which spans three years, will allow neighborhood

schools to develop specific programs aimed at reforming curriculums in communications, science, engineering, math, and language, according to Schumer’s office.

District 3 representatives who drafted the proposal requested about half a million dollars per school, said Mark Diller, the Youth, Education & Libraries chair for Community Board 7.

“Most of the schools up in this end do need resources,” said Monique Akonor, a parent at P.S. 145 on 105th Street. “There’s never enough funding,” she said, adding that there

SEE GRANTS, page 2

George Soros examines role of politics in recession response

BY KATIE BENTIVOGLIO
Columbia Daily Spectator

American and European leaders have made political decisions that worsened the economic crisis, philanthropist and economist George Soros told a packed audience in Low Library on Tuesday.

A recent addition to the World Leaders Forum, Soros spoke about the effects of politics

on post-2008 economic recovery.

Blaming the crash on excessive credit use and borrowing, he said that the solution lies in replacing private with public credit in order to restore confidence in the market.

But due to politics and public misconceptions, Soros said that American and European leaders have made decisions that only exacerbated the crisis.

“They had to do in the short term the exact opposite of what would be needed in the long

SEE SOROS, page 2



HENRY WILLSON FOR SPECTATOR

WHAT WENT WRONG? | Economist and philanthropist George Soros spoke about the aftermath of the recession.

World Leaders Forum

Students respond to homophobic harassment

BY EMMA STEIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

If you overhear a casual joke poking fun at homosexuality, Terry Martinez, Office of Multicultural Affairs dean, says you ought to say something about it.

Though students often consider Columbia an accepting campus, at a Tuesday night forum, sponsored by OMA, the Mailman School of Public Health, and Queer Awareness Month, students and faculty said there’s still work to be done to lighten the hardships of being young and queer.

Adrian Calderon, CC ’12 and co-chair of QuAM, said the Columbia Cares Forum was organized in response to the recent suicides of six young men across the country who had been repeatedly harassed about their sexual orientation.

“This was in general a response to the community’s level of concern for the suicides and other current events—more so

the environment that caused the suicides,” Calderon said.

Calderon said the forum was aimed at specifying which LGBT concerns are important at Columbia and determining how students can take responsibility.

“As a community, we have to come together. Everyone needs to understand that their role is to be civil and held accountable for behaviors that are not acceptable,” Martinez said, pointing to the danger of anonymous comments on campus blogs. Students have to identify themselves and have to speak up, she said.

“If you’re at a party and someone there makes a joke about fags, you need to stop that,” she said.

It’s important to realize that despite the notions that Columbia is a safe place for LGBT students, there are still those on campus who may not feel supported, said Julia Pilowsky, CC ’12 and a board member of Everyone Allied Against Homophobia.

Though she feels empowered on campus, Pilowsky said she fears for students who have not connected to support groups the way she has.

“The people who need help are the people in their rooms alone and it makes me incredibly sad because we can’t reach them,” she said.

Speakers also addressed the need to make resources more readily available on campus. Martinez said that she is working on training counselors and advisors for a program which she hopes would make it easier to identify those who might be considered at risk for suicidal tendencies.

For Pilowsky, a major concern is that many of the students who need the support of an LGBT community don’t come out to events like those planned for QuAM.

“I think that we need to examine ourselves as a community to see how to reach these people,” she said.

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SPORTS, PAGE 6

Gersting onto the scene

Sophomore running back Nick Gerst began his varsity career with a bang and is expected to be a key player on Columbia’s offense as the season continues.



EVENTS

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70° / 52°

OPINION, PAGE 4

Not just way out west

Vaidehi Joshi calls Columbia to think ahead and start talking seriously about sexual violence.

Trumping tragedy

Arizona’s extreme new immigration laws should make us re-examine national policies.

Sophomore running back steps to forefront

FOOTBALL from back page

against Princeton, averaging 7.3 yards on 17 carries. While the effective running game has helped to open up the passing game for quarterback Sean Brackett, the key to the team’s offensive success can be attributed to the offensive line.

“They’ve really done a great job,” Gerst said. “They’ve been opening up

some enormous holes for me, Leon, and Zack [Kourouma] to run through and for Sean to throw the ball, and we’ve had a great mix of run and pass.”

Gerst has enjoyed his personal success so far, but he understands that there is always something to improve on, whether it be stronger running or a better blocking game. He also lifts weights several times a week to enhance his game.

“I love to lift weights,” Gerst said. “I think lifting weights is probably one

of the biggest aspects to doing well in football, and it’s definitely one of my favorite things to do.”

As for the key for the team as a whole, Gerst says the Lions need to take it one game at a time.

“If we concentrate on each week as a one-game season, I think we’re going to do very well,” he said.

The Lions will look to win their third game in a row when they take on Lafayette at home this Saturday.

Second-half success crucial for men’s soccer early in season

SOCCER from back page

our record. The coach’s words in that game meant everyone came together to solve our problems. When we got back on the pitch, Najem played the perfect ball, and I was happy to tuck it away. “

Najem also helped himself to an early second-half goal against Seton Hall when the Lions were trailing 2-1 as he leveled matters in the 59th minute before the Lions clinched the 3-2 win through junior Mike Mazzullo. Another freshman, Henning Sauerbier, has also been part of Columbia’s early second-half blitzes as he helped himself to a goal against Delaware in the 52nd minute. The halftime team talk will—understandably—depend on the score-line and the coach’s perspective of the match.

“Halftime is crucial since it gives me a chance to speak to the team after I’ve been able to watch our opponents on the day,” coach Anderson said. “It’s a chance to tweak the tactics around to give ourselves the best opportunity to win the match, and it allows us to reaffirm our focus. We remind ourselves who we are and assess our strategy and we try to maximize the strengths of the individuals in the team.”

The trait may not be characteristic of the Lions away from home though, and in one instance a bright start to the second half was not enough to secure a win on the road. Even though

junior defender Ronnie Shaban scored from the penalty spot before most fans had taken their seats for the second period against Hartwick at the Mayor’s Cup, the Lions could only manage a 2-2 draw.

“The coach is always a calming influence at halftime, and that’s really important for us since the adrenaline is still flowing when we enter the dressing room,” Shaban said. “He does what he needs to and he’s able to change our tactics during the break more than he can while we’re out on the pitch. That coupled with the chance to refocus means we go out revitalized and refreshed for the second half.”

The Lions’ other fixture in the Mayor’s Cup was also an exception to their prowess in the early stages of the second half, as they triumphed 2-0 against Syracuse to clinch the trophy through goals from Sauerbier early in the first half and Bayo Adafin late in the second. It was the only game so far this season where Columbia managed to achieve victory without scoring early in the second period.

The Lions certainly are becoming a second-half team this season, with nine of their 13 goals coming after the break, which is in no small part thanks to what goes on behind the scenes at halftime. The Ivy season is underway, and it seems likely that the sport’s biggest mystery will have a large role to play in Light Blue success this year.

Bears, Quakers climb NSCAA national rankings

ATL from back page

Ivy League competition. After starting the season with losses in three of five games, the Tigers have rebounded with a three-game winning streak. On Saturday, Princeton dominated Dartmouth 3-0 with help from senior Josh Walburn, who scored two goals and had one assist, and a strong defensive effort in which the Tigers didn’t allow a shot until the 58th minute. As a result of his play, Walburn was named Ivy League Player of the Week. The Tigers’ next opponent is in-state rival Seton Hall.

Dartmouth had mixed performances against Massachusetts and Princeton. In a double overtime thriller last Wednesday, the Big Green tied the Minutemen 1-1. Despite outshooting its opponents 22-13, the Big Green

couldn’t get a ball by UMass goalie Chris Piekos, who totaled 12 saves in the game. Dartmouth hopes to improve upon its performance against Princeton when the team travels to face Vermont on Oct. 6.

Harvard dropped out of the NSCAA’s Top 25 last week as it fell to 3-3-3. Last Wednesday, Harvard lost to Providence 2-1 despite outshooting the Friars 18-8 in the game. To open up Ivy League play, the Crimson snapped its two-game losing streak by defeating Yale in an aggressive 1-0 game which included 15 total fouls. Sophomore Scott Prozeller scored the lone goal off a header in the 30th minute. Harvard travels to face Holy Cross this evening.

Yale (1-8-1) continued to struggle as it dropped a third consecutive game. The loss against the Crimson on Saturday marked the sixth one-goal loss of the season for the Bulldogs. Yale looks to

bounce back from the Harvard loss against Dartmouth on Oct. 9.

Cornell lost to Penn 1-0 in its first conference game of the season. This game was marked by physical play and even competition up until the game’s final moments. There were 31 fouls committed—21 by the Big Red—and four yellow cards handed out. Cornell will try to improve upon its 3-3-3 record when it travels to Harvard on Oct. 9.

With a 7-2-0 record, Penn is the second best team in the Ivy League thus far. The Quakers jumped to No. 23 in the NSCAA rankings after starting conference play with the win against Cornell. In the 89th minute, sophomore Travis Cantrell scored the only goal off of sophomore Alex Tuch’s cross into the box. Penn will look to continue its success against conference opponents in a home match against Columbia on Oct. 9.

So you want to know what real suffering is? Try being a Texas Rangers fan

PAGELS from back page

of propaganda. The walls and shelves are adorned with posters, balls, bats, and even a Julio Franco bobblehead. But one major thing is missing: an American League pennant.

Going on 11 long years of playoff drought, it didn’t look like I would add one this season. Right out of spring training there were cracks in the rotation and cracks in the catching position. Not to mention manager Ron Washington was on crack.

But things started clicking. We

started pitching well, we started winning games, and we were in serious contention—not for first pick overall in next year’s draft—but for first place in the American League West.

We battled through a bankruptcy case that almost prevented us from acquiring Cliff Lee, and late in the season we dealt with injuries to Lee, MVP candidate Josh Hamilton, and most of our infield. But after six long months of brutal Texas heat, the Rangers clinched the AL West last Saturday.

Sitting in my dorm here in New York, it pained me to not be able to watch the game. Instead, I had

my dad hold the phone up to the TV back home for over an hour so I could hear Rangers announcers Tom and Josh make the call as Cliff Pennington’s lazy fly ball fell into Cruz’s glove and sent us into October—something I had spent the bulk of my formative years only dreaming about.

I couldn’t help but get emotional listening to the sounds of all the guys I had spent so long worshiping spraying each other with champagne and celebrating our first division championship this century. Show me one long-suffering Red Sox or Cubs

fan that cries just when they make the playoffs. Hell, Yankees fans were pissed that they only won the wild card this year.


This afternoon, the Rangers open up postseason play in Tampa against the Rays. Am I surprised TBS didn’t schedule any of our games in prime time? No, I’d do the same if I were broadcasting a series between the most obscure franchise in MLB history vs. one of the worst-attended. Am I disappointed that I have class during the first two games? Yeah, but at least they don’t take attendance.

It’s going to be weird watching

playoff games where I actually have a team I’m rooting for—something I haven’t done since I was eight. But while it’ll be difficult to stretch four Rangers shirts/jerseys to wear every day during our playoff run, I think I can manage.

I’ll admit that I’m a bit disappointed we aren’t playing the Yanks in the first round so I could actually go to a few games, but I have this as consolation: there’s always the ALCS.

Jim Pagels is a Columbia College sophomore. sports@columbiaspectator.com

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Let’s talk about sexual violence

Mere weeks before she was set to receive her diploma from the University of Virginia, Yeardley Reynolds Love was found face down in her bed, dead, in a pool of her own blood.

She was brutally beaten to death by her ex-boyfriend, George Hughley, another UVA senior who has been charged with murder in the first degree and awaits his trial date in jail. The University of Virginia recently held a “Day of Dialogue” on its campus to promote conversations on campus violence. And with October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month, it is the perfect time for college campuses across the country to follow suit.

Since Love’s death this past May, the University of Virginia has taken major steps to increase campus awareness of domestic violence, by both fixing old policies and making new ones. Starting this semester, UVA students are required to report all of their arrests and convictions to the administration. This development stems from the fact that the university administration had no idea that George Hughley had a previous history of violence, when he had, in fact, been arrested for assaulting a female police officer. The implementation of the University of Virginia’s “Day of Dialogue” is another



VAIDEHI
JOSHI

Two Steps
Forward,
One Step
Back

positive change in the university’s policies, and is an attempt to encourage students to speak up if they notice or come to know of any signs of domestic violence or abuse among their friends and peers. Many of Love’s and Hughley’s friends knew of previous disagreements and altercations between Hughley and Love. Yet, no one reported them.

When we first arrive as first-years at Columbia, we are introduced to the resources on campus during NSOP. Our RAs show us the various facilities available to us on campus (the Furman Counseling Center and Counseling and Psychological Services) and our OLs encourage us to discuss the often-ignored issue of sexual assault on our campus through sexual consent workshops. Yet these are all preemptive resources that were responses to a campus need. But it’s important to keep in mind that someone had to fight for them. Someone’s suffering created enough buzz for campus change to slowly come about.

While our society—both within the Columbia gates and beyond them—has taken major steps towards addressing the sad realities of the world we live in, I can’t help but wonder why a “Day of Dialogue” only appears on an academic calendar after a “Day of Devastation.” Why is it that we wait for an incident to occur before we decide that it is time to address it? Is Columbia going to wait for its own Yeardley Love tragedy before it addresses the issue of domestic violence and abuse on its campus?

What happens in Arizona

BY PHILIP VERMA

Rarely do I find myself agreeing with conservatives, least of all on matters of immigration. But there is a point that conservatives have been making about Arizona’s now-infamous immigration law—SB 1070—that politicians and activists on both sides of the aisle need to address: that in terms of enforcement, SB 1070 puts into law what was already standard practice. This point is not far off the mark, but it does not mean that the law is right. Rather, it means that the existing practices are wrong and should be suspended. There is no doubt that SB 1070 is draconian, cruelly discriminatory, and in some ways the harshest anti-immigrant bill yet seen. But it is also part of a larger enforcement system that has led only to discrimination and terror against immi- grant communities nationwide.

SB 1070 was signed into law last April by Arizona Governor Jan Brewer, igniting debate around the county about immigrants’ rights, the Mexican border, and the American federalist system. Most of the criticism of the law was directed at its thinly-veiled directive to target Latinos for documentation verification and the use of local police as enforcers of immigration law. Arizona’s defenders argued that none of these practices were new and had in fact been used by non-federal enforcement agencies since at least the mid-1990s. And in some sense, they’re right—local enforcement agencies have used these tactics for years. “9500 Liberty,” a recent documentary, details the passage and the aftermath of a 2007 law similar to SB 1070 in Prince William County, Virginia.

Section 287(g) of the 1995 Immigration and Nationality Act permits the federal government to work with state and local law enforcement agencies to aid in immigration and customs enforcement efforts. Proponents of SB 1070 cite 287(g)

as precedent but overlook one critical difference: Under 287(g), a subordinate agency enters into a Memorandum of Agreement with ICE, which then trains and monitors local enforcement efforts. ICE has done an admittedly pitiful job in this regard, essentially leaving local agencies to their own devices, with a final result not unlike parts of SB 1070. As Todd Miller of NACLA rightly argued, “In Arizona, vigilante practices have become vigilante policies.”

Even if one accepts the tenuous legal connection between SB 1070 and 287(g), there are still the inherent problems of federalized immigration enforcement. Many local police leaders have spoken out against both laws, arguing that they require too much of their officers (espe-

Arizona’s defenders argued that none of these practices were new and had in fact been used by non-federal enforcement agencies since at least the mid-1990s. And in some sense, they’re right.

cially language ability), discourage immigrants from cooperating with police on issues of serious crime, and lead to racial profiling. The unintended effect of programs like 287(g), Secure Communities, and Operation Streamline is a dragnet in immigrant communities nationwide, detaining and deporting large numbers of law-abiding immigrants instead of focusing on the proportionally small number of immigrants actually involved in criminal activity. The current federalized immigration system is most certainly broken—it systematically isolates and severs immigrant families and communities while failing to solve the alleged problems caused by immigration: crime,

STAFF EDITORIAL

A tale of two governing boards

There are just under 300 student groups at Columbia. They range from cultural groups to performance troupes, political committees to publications. Of this total, there are quite a few whose missions seem to be, if not exact copies, then largely overlapping. This is something that should be closely examined. The money used to support multiple groups that are essentially working toward the same mission is our money. Furthermore, it is money that could be used to support new and distinct organizations in the future. That being said, we are not calling for the elimination of any of these student organizations. Rather, we believe that the problem is symptomatic of a larger inefficiency in student group governance.

The Student Governing Board and the Activities Board at Columbia are essentially identical in terms of structure—the fundamental distinction between them is the category of clubs that they are meant to govern. Merging the two governing boards would save money and resources,

help resolve the issue of club overlap, and eliminate some of the most senseless bureaucracy at Columbia. It would also standardize policies for areas such as first-year funding and new group recognition, which differ unnecessarily between the two boards. For all that we complain about red tape and administrative inefficiency (and we do complain quite a bit), this particular opaque and confusing process is one we students have made for ourselves.

Let’s say that a group of students wanted to set up a new organization that was both mildly cultural and political in nature. The students would first decide which of the two governing boards they needed to address. They could first go to ABC, which reports to Student Development and Activities, or SDA. SDA then reports to Terry Martinez, who is dean of community development and multicultural affairs. If ABC decided that, although the group is cultural, it is also political and should thus report to SGB, the group would then have to try its luck with SGB, which reports to the Office of Civic Action and Engagement, or OCAE, which used to be called the Office of Student Group Advising, or OSGA. It is worth noting that OCAE (formerly OSGA), like SDA, reports to Martinez, who in turn reports to Dean Kevin Shollenberger. If SGB decides that this group is better suited to being governed by SDA than OCAE, it will send it back to ABC, by which point the alphabet

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, one in every four women in the United States experiences some form of domestic abuse in her lifetime. Hitting even closer to home is the horrifying fact that women between the ages of 20-24 are at the highest at risk to fall victim to “nonfatal intimate partner violence.” This statistic

Why is it that we wait for an incident to occur before we decide that it is time to address it? Is Columbia going to wait for its own tragedy before it addresses the issue of domestic violence and abuse on its campus?

should be convincing enough to institute a nation-wide “Day of Dialogue” throughout college campuses.

Some institutions have already taken the steps in this direction. A few universities have adopted the Red Flag Campaign, plastering their buildings with posters and surrounding their

campuses with miniature red flags that each focus on a different characteristic of dating violence. These posters and flags encourage friends, roommates, professors, and campus staff to say something when they spot warning signals (“red flags”) in a student’s relationship. Not only does this project bring the issue of domestic violence to the forefront of campus discussion, but it also reaffirms the good in speaking up and speaking out. Perhaps if such a campaign had been implemented at UVA, Yeardley Love’s friends and fellow students would have been compelled to disclose the abusive nature of her relationship with Hughley. Perhaps then the administration could have intervened, and perhaps then she would still be alive today.

The University of Virginia had to endure a devastating tragedy before they decided to institute a program raising awareness about domestic violence. Columbians shouldn’t have to suffer before our campus takes the initiative and does the same.

If you or someone you know is suffering from domestic violence and needs help, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.

Vaidehi Joshi is a Barnard College senior majoring in English. She is the president of CU Chai Chat and a research assistant at the Barnard Center for Research on Women. Two Steps Forward, One Step Back runs alternate Wednesdays.



WENDAN LI

labor competition, and the draining of resources. The solution is not to codify as law these ineffectual, inhumane practices but rather to suspend Section 287(g) pending further review, as has been recommended by both the American Civil Liberties Union and the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Lucha is currently sponsoring Immigration Week events from October 4th to October 11th. The events include a simulated interactive border wall, a vigil, a ROOTed discussion, a conversation about “invisible immigrants” focusing on queer and trans individuals, a panel with notable immigrant activists discussing

the DREAM Act, phone-banking, and a screening of the documentary “9500 Liberty.” After the introduction of SB 1070, opponents of the law wore shirts reading “What Happens in Arizona Stays in Arizona.” I can’t help but think they’re too late. SB 1070 may be a state bill, but it brings to light a national crisis that deeply affects all immigrants and communities, including Columbia’s own.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in history and Hispanic studies. He is a member of Lucha and is the secretary of the Roosevelt Institute at Columbia.

of the current system. The options are to work through the logistics and merge the boards, or to shrug and continue replying for however many more years, “Well, it all goes back to the ’60s.”

But how could the two boards be merged? Barring the boards’ leadership deciding to cede power and become one, or the Office of Student Affairs becoming directly involved in student affairs without any support from the students, this change would need to come from the students. Given the extreme unlikelihood of all students mobilizing for an issue that does not seem to affect most of them on a day-to-day basis, that means there needs to be an intermediary party to gauge how students feel, bring concerns to the administration, and put pressure on the governing boards. For all that we complain about the powerlessness of students (which, again, is a fair amount), this is one area in which the student councils actually have a very real capability to do something productive and tangible for their constituents. This is an issue that concerns students and can be solved by students. We hope the councils will serve us. We are hungry for that, not for another bowl of alphabet soup.

Josefina Aguila recused herself from the writing of this editorial because she is a member of a group currently in the process of applying for recognition from SGB.

And Sox fans think they've had it rough?

My (yes, “my”) Texas Rangers are underrated.

They're underrated not because the national media doesn't acknowledge how many titles we've won or our consistent success through the years; the Rangers are underrated about how atrociously awful we've really been.

When most people think of the truly sucktacular teams in the majors, they usually call to mind the Pirates and the Royals. Let me give you the all-time playoff stats on these teams:

Pirates—16 appearances, 40 game wins, seven series wins, five World Series.

Royals—Seven appearances, 17 game wins, three series wins, one World Series.

Not too shabby for teams that are described as utter hell. Here's our stat line:

Rangers—three appearances, one game win, zero series wins, zero World Series.

That's right, 50 years as a franchise, and we have one playoff victory to show for it. One. That's a worse success rate than Scorsese at the Oscars.

After the Rays' miraculous run to the World Series two years ago, we're now the only team in the majors to have never won a postseason series. And it's not like we're a recent expansion team; we've been around since 1961!

This is why I hate Red Sox fans. All they do is whine and complain. “We didn't win a World Series for 86 years,” “We're cursed by the Bambino,” “PTI made us the third topic yesterday ... the THIRD,” “You mean we WEREN'T on the cover of S.I. this week?!” For a fan base that didn't even know baseball existed before 2004, they have quite a lot to say.

If the Sox and Cubs are the attention-hogging Olsen twins of the majors, then the Rangers are Dave Coulier.

Even worse is the whole “we're such a huge underdog to those free-spending Yankees” thing. Oh sorry, I didn't realize your \$162 million payroll (second in the league) was so paltry. Compare that to the Rangers' \$55 million—by far the lowest of any playoff team. If the Sox got the same bang for their buck that the Rangers did this past season, they would have won 263 games.

To all the “cursed” Red Sox and Cubs fans, at least your teams are covered on ESPN. You might not have too many championships, but there are dozens of Dan Shaughnessy books on the shelf at Barnes & Noble and equipment that adorns the walls of Cooperstown. I don't see any of Jose Canseco's syringes on display.

I'm all too used to watching Baseball Tonight without a single pitch of that night's Rangers game shown. As any reality TV star will tell you, the only thing worse than failure is obscurity. If the Sox and Cubs are the attention-hogging Olsen twins of the majors, then the Rangers are Dave Coulier.

We've been through a lot since those late 1990s playoff teams of Johnny Oates, Juan Gonzalez, and Ivan Rodriguez: the Oakland chair-throwing incident, the Kenny Rogers cameraman beat down and of course all the current Yankee infielders who once roamed the Ballpark in Arlington.

And through it all, my friends and I have been there. On summer afternoons, most guys would plan on going to a movie or playing Halo that night, but my friends and I would load up in someone's car and make the trek out to Arlington to snag upper deck tickets.

Even while at college far away from the ballpark, I could count on checking my phone and seeing six texts with the message “CRUZ MISSILE!!!!” anytime Nelson Cruz blasted one into the left field seats.

If the Rangers ever became a totalitarian dictatorship, my room would definitely be the office of the minister



JIM PAGELS

On the Couch



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FINALLY ON THE FIELD | After playing for the JV team last year, running back Nick Gerst opened his varsity career with success against Towson and Princeton.

Gerst hits ground running in first season on varsity

BY RYAN YOUNG
Columbia Daily Spectator

It's probably no coincidence that ever since running back Nick Gerst started to see significant playing time during the second game of the season against Towson, the Lions' offense has been on a roll. After spending last season on the junior varsity football team, the sophomore's contribution has already had quite an impact on this year's varsity squad.

Despite not playing much in the first game of the season, Gerst leads the team with 197 rushing yards and 227 all-purpose yards. His immediate success can be attributed to his experience playing football at Bergen Catholic High School in New Jersey.

“Bergen Catholic has a big-time football program and is pretty well known throughout the country,” Gerst said. “My experience there was pretty awesome, as I played in some televised games and games with big-time players.”

As a senior, Gerst tallied 1,100 rushing yards, 400 receiving yards, and 25 touchdowns, earning him all-state, all-county, and all-conference honors. But even though his high

school years helped him prepare to play in the Ivy League, he has noticed differences.

“There is a big jump in the speed of the game,” Gerst said. “Everyone that plays Ivy League football came because they're good football players. It's definitely a step up from high school, where you have all kinds of kids playing on the team.”

High school also set Gerst up for academic success, and he had his choice of multiple Ivy League schools. Ultimately, though, he was pretty set on coming to Columbia.

“I loved the [Columbia] coaches,” Gerst said. “When I visited here, I loved the whole atmosphere. I felt like the program was heading in the right direction, and it's close to my home also, so it just all worked out.”

After playing exceedingly well for the junior varsity team last year, Gerst earned a promotion, and he understood that he would have to face a learning curve this year in learning a whole new offense.

“We already have some really good players at running back, and I am just getting to know the system and learning the ropes,” he said.

He was unsure of what his playing time would be coming into the

“We've already had some really good players at running back, and I am just getting to know the system and learn the ropes.”

—Nick Gerst, sophomore running back

season, knowing that each running back would need some time. For the first game, Gerst barely left the sidelines. Though he was disappointed, he admitted that he was not surprised.

“I knew I was the third running back and I knew that everyone has to play,” Gerst said. “Come the second game, we got a solid rotation going and we've started winning some games.”

Gerst expects head coach Norries Wilson to continue to rotate running backs for the rest of the season.

“Leon Ivery is the starting running back. He's a senior and he's done really well,” Gerst said. “But we all rotate. We're all diverse—that's how the offense is doing well. I expect it to stay in this rotation, depending on how everyone does. The last two games, I was doing pretty well, so I got a little bit more time.”

Gerst is content with his role on the team, as long as he can contribute to Columbia victories. So far, he has certainly advanced the team's success, as he put the game away against Towson with a 13-yard touchdown run and helped Columbia control last week's game

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Brown takes lead in Ivy League soccer

BY SPENCER GYORY
Spectator Staff Writer

After a weekend of Ivy and non-conference play, Brown and Penn have separated themselves from the rest of the Ancient Eight teams in men's soccer. The records of the five next best teams—Princeton, Harvard, Dartmouth, Cornell and Columbia—remained around .500.

The Bears have yet to lose a game this season as they improved their record to 6-0-2. Brown, currently ranked No. 13 in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America national rankings, extended its winning streak on Saturday to four games as it defeated Columbia 3-0 in its first conference game of the year. The Bears got goals from senior Jon Okafor, junior T.J. Popolizio, and junior Austin Mandel. They looked strong offensively and defensively as they outshot the Lions 19-8 and didn't allow any of Columbia's chances to develop. In a game that is sure to garner some national attention, Brown will have its toughest test of the season thus far when it hosts No.17 St. John's on Oct. 5.

Princeton (4-3-1) played well this weekend in both nonconference and

Halftime talks inspirational for Light Blue

BY MRINAL MOHANKA
Spectator Staff Writer

Soccer's biggest mystery: The halftime talk.

While soccer is a game of two halves, what lies in between those two periods of frantic and passionate play is often underappreciated and sometimes even forgotten. Even the most miserable first-half performance of a soccer team is met with much respite when the referee blows his whistle for halftime. What goes on in the dressing room? It is often referred to as the sport's biggest (and maybe only) mystery and it has made managers and coaches appear to have supernatural abilities. The fans are never told, and they will never be told; they only witness the results. In the case of Kevin Anderson, the head coach of men's soccer at Columbia, there seems to be something truly special in his coaching powers.

Athletes sometimes forget what they are capable of and find themselves in times of trouble. In such situations, their coach's words of wisdom act to inspire. The Lions have recently shown a knack for beginning the second period firing on all cylinders, and the fact that they have scored in the first fifteen minutes of the second half in all their home wins this season is testament to the work done by Coach Anderson and his staff during the interval.

In the 1-0 win against the Long Island University Blackbirds, sophomore striker Will Stamatis scored the



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

AHEAD OF THE GAME | Will Stamatis leaps to drive a header past the rival goalie, helping the Lions pick up their game in a nailbiting second period.

game-winner in the second minute of the second half with a crisp finish after freshman David Najem put him clean through on goal.

“While the pre-game speech is the plan, halftime acts as a reality check,”

Stamatis said. “Against LIU at halftime we saw our season record at 2-4-1 and we knew the importance of winning the game, because we needed to improve

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