

CORE OF THE CORE | Mark Lilla, a tenured professor of humanities and religion, teaches a section of Literature Humanities.

Endowment sees 23.6 percent returns, beats other Ivies

BY ARVIN AHMADI
Spectator Staff Writer

The University's Investment Management Company generated a 23.6 percent return on its endowment portfolio for the 2011 fiscal year, Columbia reported on Thursday.

Columbia's endowment has been performing above market value for the last several years, but this year Columbia's gains lept past its peers in the Ivy League, including larger endowments like Harvard's, Yale's, and Princeton's.

"Columbia should take great pride in its outstanding investment performance over a long period of time," said senior

executive vice president Robert Kasdin, who sits on the board of the Investment Management Company. "For every measurable period since the Investment Management Company was established in 2002, Columbia has produced excellent returns."

The University's endowment, valued at \$78 billion as of June 30, 2011, represents a collection of money and financial assets that have been donated to the University for investment by the Columbia Investment Management Company, a subsidiary of the University.

University President Lee Bollinger attributed the impressive gains to the University's record of "prudent investment

management."

"The dedicated professionals and board of our Investment Management Company have helped ensure that we maintain Columbia's forward momentum in both academic initiatives and long-term development," Bollinger said in a statement.

Last month Harvard announced a 21.4 percent gain for fiscal year 2011, bringing its endowment's value up to \$32 billion. Princeton's \$17.1 billion endowment returned 22 percent for this fiscal year. Likewise, Yale gained 22 percent, bringing its endowment to \$19.4 billion.

Since taking a dip in 2009 with a 16.1 percent negative return, Columbia's endowment

has exhibited steady growth. Last year, the University's investment portfolio showed an annualized return of 17.3 percent, hitting \$6.5 billion.

While the fiscal year 2011 returns reflect normal market growth, Columbia's long-term gains are more impressive. The school's five-, seven-, and 10-year gains have all exceeded market portfolio indexes. Over the past decade, for example, the University has experienced returns of 9.9 percent, compared with the annualized S&P total returns of 2.7 percent for the same 10-year period.

"Our ability to achieve

SEE ENDOWMENT, page 2

Struggles to find Core teachers continue

Declining percentages of tenured professors mean more adjuncts

BY SAMMY ROTH
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

More than a third of Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilizations classes were taught by graduate students last year, and more than 15 percent were taught by adjunct professors, while a quarter of Lit Hum and CC sections were taught by tenured or tenure-track professors.

The Core has been the centerpiece of undergraduate education at Columbia for more than 90 years, but for administrators and department chairs, finding people to teach it is a constant struggle. The number of tenured and tenure-track professors teaching in the Core has been steadily declining, creating a need for more adjunct professors, postdoctoral students, and graduate students, and it's sometimes difficult just to find a teacher for every Core section.

"We worry about Core teaching every year. It hasn't changed," Executive Vice President for Arts and Sciences Nicholas Dirks said. "Some years we do better than other years. But I mean, it's been a regular worry."

Philosophy professor Michele Moody-Adams raised concerns about the health of the Core Curriculum when she resigned as dean of Columbia College this summer. In her resignation letter to alumni, Moody-Adams cited impending structural changes to the University that would "ultimately compromise the College's academic quality and financial health."

But administrators say

there is no reason for students to worry about either the College or the Core. And Dirks told Spectator that the Core Curriculum was not discussed in McKinsey & Company's recent report on the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, a report some have speculated prompted Moody-Adams to resign.

Philosophy professor Christia Mercer, the chair of Literature Humanities, said that there are ways to strengthen the Core, but that its problems aren't new.

"I am not concerned any more than I was six months ago," she said.

‘ANY INCREASE WOULD BE WELCOME’

Some departments, like history and English, contribute disproportionately to the teaching of the Core, but other departments keep their distance. Dirks said that he works with departments to set quotas for Core teaching, but those quotas aren't always met. Departments are also tasked with staffing their own undergraduate courses and graduate level courses, and sometimes there aren't enough professors to go around.

Of the nine tenured or tenure-track professors in the Slavic languages and literatures department, seven regularly teach in the Core Curriculum. But when it comes to staffing the Core Curriculum, the Slavic department is more the exception than the rule.

Department Chair Alan Timberlake said that his professors really enjoy the content

SEE CORE, page 3



DOUGLAS KESSEL FOR SPECTATOR

NEW FOUNDATIONS | The University says the construction on the new building near Baker Field is about one-third done.

Construction continues on Campbell Sports Center

BY FINN VIGELAND
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Fans cheering for the Lions at homecoming on Saturday will see the very beginnings of Columbia's newest athletics complex, while Inwood residents stand by for more construction roadblocks and traffic delays.

Construction began last spring on the Campbell Sports Center, a 48,000-square-foot building that will house strength-training facilities, coaches' offices, and a student-athlete study center.

The bulk of the construction work has been the installation of foundations in the southeast corner of Baker Field at 218th Street and Broadway, according to Joe Ienuso, executive vice president for facilities. The corner was previously an entrance to the athletic complex, but is now fenced off.

Now in its fifth month of an

approximately 15-month-long process, the Campbell Sports Center is expected to open next year just in time for the vast majority of the year's athletic contests and practices, Ienuso said.

On Tuesday, construction work extended into 218th Street between Park Terrace East and Broadway and will likely block the westbound lanes for up to five months. As a result, the eastbound parking lane and the eastbound driving lanes have been split to accommodate two-way traffic.

Inwood residents said they are already irked by the reconfigured street, which has eliminated parking on that block.

Resident Susan Tobiason walks by the construction site daily on her way to work at the Allen Pavilion in New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

SEE BAKER, page 2

BY JESSICA STALLONE
Spectator Staff Writer

Barnard students are continuing to fight for their right to part-time.

On Thursday afternoon, a small group of protesters gathered in front of Lehman Library to voice their opposition to an unexpected policy change that will no longer allow students taking fewer than 12 credits to pay part-time tuition. Administrators have said that only 20 to 50 students take advantage of part-time tuition to start jobs or get internships during their senior year, but students have said the option is an important part of the school's culture and a significant financial factor for many.

Chanting "strong, beautiful, broke" and "stand up to Barnard," protesters recruited new students to sign a petition against the policy, which had 627 signatures as of Thursday evening. They also handed out pamphlets outlining their three demands: rescinding the full-time policy for all students from classes before 2015, transparent policymaking that takes into account student input, and honesty with regards to the reasoning behind the policy.

In an initial email sent to students, Barnard Dean Avis Hinkson said the new policy will allow the college to use its resources at the "optimal level."

"Barnard has always been a four-year college with a strong commitment to community and, as such, we believe that it is in the academic interest of all of our students to spread required credits over the total number of enrolled semesters," she said in the email.

Naomi Roochnik, now officially BC '12 due to the policy change, said she was offended by the rationale the administration provided.

"This is deceit, and the whole idea of 'community building' and 'enrichment,' it's a smokescreen," she said. "It's transparent and anybody who actually believes that email shouldn't be going to Barnard."

Rachel Bronstein, BC '13, said the new policy "really has lowered morale on campus."

"We feel distrustful of the administration. We don't like to feel like a checkbook," she said. "I hope this shows that this affects the entire campus, not just 20-50 students per semester. We're

all disheartened by the choices Barnard has made."

The pamphlets distributed at the protest described the nine percent increase in annual tuition since the 2009-2010 academic school year as an additional financial burden on students.

Barnard's Dean of Studies Karen Blank also came to the protest to listen to what the protesters had to say about the new policy, especially those who said they were forced to reevaluate their academic programs.

Reaching its peak at about 20 people, the protest didn't attract crowds, but turned into more of an information session for students, professors, and administrators held by the small but vocal

movement of students who vehemently oppose the change.

Barnard's history department chair, Professor Herbert Sloan, said he was disappointed that the policy affects students already enrolled at Barnard from the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes.

"I signed the petition. I think this is unfortunate on so many different grounds ... and I'm really sorry to see that people are being forced to make what I would consider to be unfortunate educational decisions on the basis of this change," he said.

Emma Goss contributed reporting.

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ZARA CASTANY / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

‘STRONG, BEAUTIFUL, BROKE’ | A few Barnard students, including Lindsay Wolgel, BC '14, center, protested on Thursday to oppose the elimination of part-time tuition for part-time students.

OPINION, PAGE 4

#OccupyHamiltonHall

Students are beginning to feel the protest fervor of 1968.

Voices ignored

The Barnard administration needs to start listening to their students.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lions take on Quakers for homecoming

Columbia will face a tough test tomorrow when they host the defending Ivy League champions. The Lions will try to pull off the homecoming upset for their first win.

EVENTS

Injured Cities and Urban Afterlives

A conference that aims to explore the effects of catastrophe on cities and their inhabitants.

Miller Theatre and Wood Avery Auditorium, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Inventing Global Health: Conflicts and Concepts

This seminar will explore historical and institutional aspects of global health.

Faculty House, the President's Room, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



71° / 55°

Tomorrow



64° / 52°

Volleyball takes to the road this weekend

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON
Spectator Staff Writer

This week the Lions (10-5, 4-1 Ivy) hit the road again as they travel to New England, facing Dartmouth later today and Harvard tomorrow evening.

Dartmouth (10-6, 2-3 Ivy) is currently coming off a huge road win against Brown last weekend, during which the Big Green swept the Bears in three sets. The match against Columbia will be its first match at home in nearly a month, its last being a 3-0 sweep over Delaware State in the final match of the Dartmouth Invitational.

The Lions, who are currently in second place in the Ivy League standings, need a win over Dartmouth and Harvard, both of whom are neck-in-neck in fourth place, to keep pace in the conference and potentially take sole possession of second place in the Ivy League. Currently the Lions share second place with Princeton, but

COLUMBIA AT DARTMOUTH
Hanover, N.H., Friday, 7 p.m.

COLUMBIA AT HARVARD
Cambridge, Mass., Saturday, 5 p.m.

they could move ahead should the Tigers lose to either Yale or Brown this weekend.

“Both teams are always dangerous,” head coach Jon Wilson said. “The good news is we play them one at a time. We are focused on Dartmouth and getting prepared for a hostile crowd and strong home court energy. We will need to bring an aggressive serve and a high level of focus to be successful against Dartmouth. Winning on the road always requires something extra. We are counting on several individuals stepping up to be difference makers in this match.”

Dartmouth, who finished nonconference play with an impressive 8-3 record, has struggled

against its Ivy opponents, going 2-3 in the conference. The three losses have included defeats at the hands of other Ivy title contenders Princeton and Yale, as well as Penn.

Harvard (9-6, 2-3 Ivy) has been just as unsuccessful in Ancient Eight play. However, the Crimson has played four straight road games—this weekend will be its first time back in Cambridge since their Sept. 24 loss to Dartmouth. As Wilson said, the Light Blue will have to be prepared for the home crowd in order to come away with a win in Cambridge.

Despite the potential challenges that lie ahead, there seems to be no reason to doubt this volleyball squad.

“Every aspect of the program is improving,” Wilson said. “The players are committed to being their best and becoming more competitive all the time. So practices are better, confidence is up, and the expectation to find a way to win is strong.”



PHOEBE LYTLE / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MAIL DELAY | Students with mail too big for their mailboxes must wait at the package center, which received over 30,000 packages this September and has been plagued by software issues.

Wright, councils promise package center changes

BY KANDACE FULLER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Administrators and student councils are collaborating to help cure the package center blues.

Students hoping to pick up boxes from home or textbooks ordered online were greeted with long lines and system malfunctions this September, but changes are on their way—including new equipment and possibly a new contract for the center’s operation.

According to ESC vice president of policy Logan Donovan, SEAS ’13, a new server has been ordered to boost the speed of the computers, which have been lagging due to the increase in packages and data that must be stored. The package sign-out software will soon be installed on a third computer, and a fourth computer will be added to help the checkout line move faster.

The package center was also suffering under an unprecedented load at the beginning of this year. The package center received almost twice the number of packages this August as it did in August 2010—from 4,762 to 9,464—and the center received 30,812 packages this September.

The increased delays this school year were caused by issues

integrating the software of the company which operates the package center, RECO, with the CUIT system, according to Scott Wright, vice president of student and administrative services.

He said that this September was chaotic, but they are working to ensure that next year runs more smoothly.

“The reason the package center staff seemed to just be standing there talking to each other was because they were waiting for the computer to reboot so they could go back to selecting the packages,” Wright said. “That has been corrected, so there shouldn’t be long lines at the package center now.”

Administrators and student councils are now focusing more on the efficiency of package pickup in Lerner Hall.

Donovan said that many students have raised concerns about the amount of time it takes to retrieve packages, both in getting the notifications that their packages are on campus and the wait time at the package center.

“At an odd hour you can run in and get something, but generally you have to wait a long time. And it’s not fair to kids that have really busy schedules,” Donovan said. “If everybody could get their package in five minutes ... even if

we went from 20 minutes, which is completely unreasonable, to five minutes, that’s still making things easier for people.”

Bobtom Flynn, CC ’15, was one of many students frustrated with picking up packages.

“I feel like the package center is set up so that students have the most inefficient time getting their packages. It’s literally ridiculous,” Flynn said.

If the problems with the package center persist, a new third party contractor may take over for RECO after Columbia’s contract with RECO expires in June. Though the concerns of the students are being taken into consideration, Wright said they were not the reason Columbia is opening up the contract bidding process.

“We’re not putting the contract out to bid because of the problems, we’re putting the contract up for bid because it’s due to lapse,” Wright said.

With the package rush over for the semester, at least some improvements are already visible, Michael Chan, SEAS ’12, said.

“I think they’re much better now than at the beginning of the school year. But I mean, whether we like it or not, it’s the only package center we get.” Chan said.

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TC community school teaching its first ABCs

BY EMILY NEIL
Spectator Staff Writer

Teachers College’s Community School has officially opened with 50 kindergarten students, and plans for a permanent space are now finalized.

The school is currently sharing space at P.S. 133 Fred R. Moore School, located at 130th Street and 5th Ave. Construction plans for the school’s permanent site are now complete, and officials say they hope to begin classes next fall at 168 Morningside Ave., located between 126th and 127th streets.

The move to the new location is significant because the school came out of the University’s Community Benefits Agreement, created in the wake of the University’s Manhattanville expansion plans, in which the University promised to provide the neighborhood with a public school covering pre-K through eighth grade. But the school’s current, temporary location is in East Harlem, not West Harlem or Morningside Heights, which are represented by Community Board 9.

Teachers College Community School officials said that 40 percent of the current students are residents of Community Board 9’s area, and that number is expected to rise after the move to

Morningside Avenue next fall.

Renovations at 168 Morningside will transform what was previously St. Joseph’s School into a 17-classroom building with the ability to accommodate about 300 students.

The construction process is “taking a functional, solid, historic building... and making it functional for a 21st century education,” said Nancy Streim, associate vice president for school and community partnerships at Teachers College, who spoke at the CB9 youth, education and libraries committee meeting this Wednesday.

What is still unclear is the number of grades that the school will serve. The current Department of Education application is only for kindergarten through fifth grade, and the school’s principal, Jeanene Worrell-Breeden, said that they will know by the spring whether the city will allow for the addition of pre-K and sixth through eighth grades.

“Right now, it’s going good. We have to go through the process, though,” Worrell-Breeden said.

Community board members say that they have been working to advertise the school to local residents, emphasizing its connections with Teachers College.

School staff members said that the first kindergarten class is already benefiting from the

smaller school environment and the programs designed and run by Teachers College staff and students. Those programs, centered on nutrition, physical education, art, acting, and technology, have been incorporated into the curriculum and are run after school by TC faculty, graduate assistants, and students.

“Teachers College has stepped in and we are really proud of what we have to offer,” said Streim, adding that the emphasis has been on providing a “new program to address the emotional and social needs of the children.”

Worrell-Breeden said that the involvement of Teachers College has enabled the school to provide programming which wouldn’t have been possible through regular Department of Education funding due to the small size of the student body.

And the school is small: at the moment, the teaching staff consists of two regular classroom teachers and one special education teacher, with administrators, a secretary, a parent coordinator, and a paraprofessional making up the rest of the staff.

“We’re up and running; we have a fabulous staff,” Worrell-Breeden said. “We’re working together to make the kind of school we want.”

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Campbell Sports Center construction causes local traffic troubles

BAKER from front page

“There’s no space and there’s no signs. You don’t know where to walk,” she said. She added that the curbs, seven or eight inches off the street level, are dangerous.

Tobiason said that the narrowed street has made driving more complicated as well. “I was driving home last night and I had to drive all over the neighborhood to get into 218th,” she said. “There’s only one lane each way, and you’re not sure if you’re going the right way.”

The elimination of parking

spaces on 218th Street has also posed a difficulty for Park Terrace Deli, a market directly opposite the construction.

Amar Haimed, who works in the deli, said it’s harder for trucks to make their deliveries and for shoppers to park. With the parking lane eliminated, Haimed said he has seen some motorists drive up onto the sidewalk.

“It’s very dangerous,” Haimed said. “This street is just too narrow for big trucks.”

University officials say they have worked to minimize

as many of the disruptions as they can.

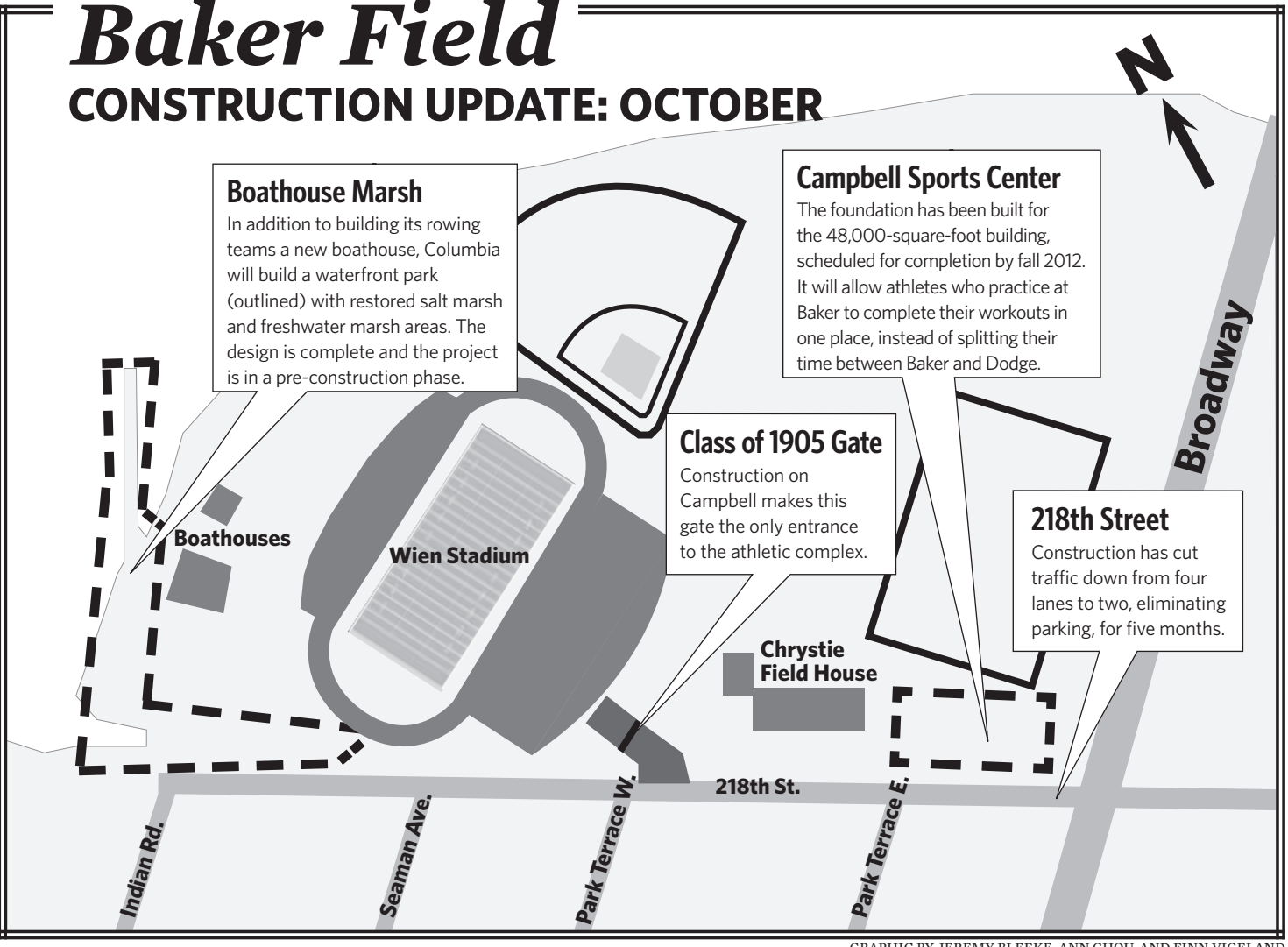
“Although contractors carefully stage construction activities to minimize disruption to the surrounding community, the nature of construction work is such that some disruptions will occur,” Ienuso said in a statement. “Protection measures such as construction fencing, sidewalk sheds, and changes in traffic patterns are required by city regulations and help ensure the safety of the public.”

Columbia has tried to court the community’s favor by

keeping the track and the Dick Savitt Tennis Center open longer. On Sept. 24, Baker Field hosted the University’s first Northern Manhattan Appreciation Day, admitting Washington Heights and Inwood residents into the football game for free.

The designs for Boathouse Marsh, the waterfront park space being built at 218 Street and Indian Road, have also been completed but the project is in a pre-construction phase, Ienuso said.

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GRAPHIC BY JEREMY BLEEKE, ANN CHOU, AND FINN VIGELAND

Endowment sees relatively high returns; now valued at \$7.8B

ENDOWMENT from front page

academic excellence in the highest tier with several peer institutions that have far larger endowments than our own has been greatly aided on our relative financial stability during these turbulent years,” Bollinger said.

In comparison, Harvard has experienced a similar 10-year return, having gained 9.4 percent on its endowment. Harvard’s endowment took a nosedive in 2009, dropping from \$36.9 billion to \$26 billion, but rose to \$27.6 billion in 2010 and \$32 billion as of June 30.

However, the president and CEO of the Harvard Management Company has said

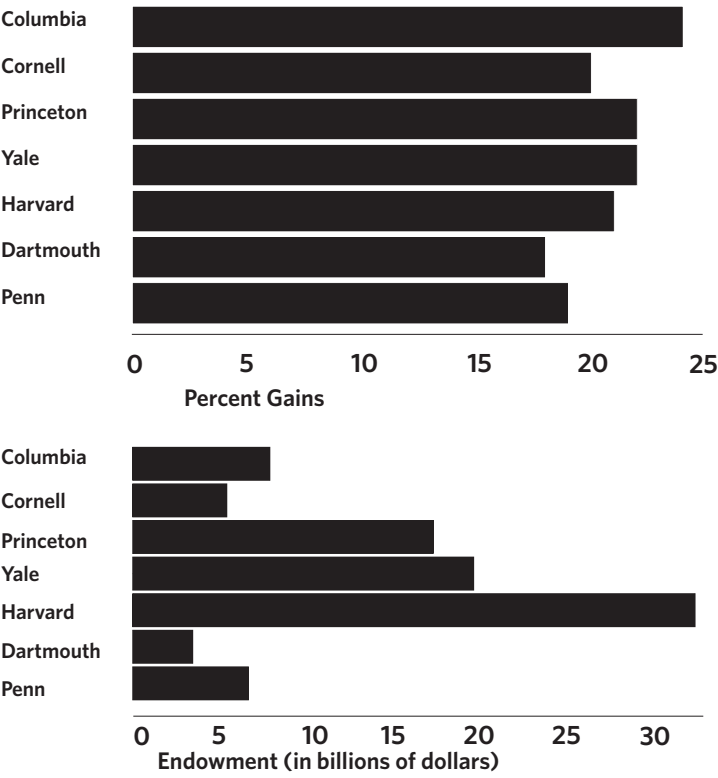
that shaky political and economic conditions that have arisen since the close of the 2011 fiscal year—including debt ceiling uncertainty, the S&P downgrade of U.S. securities, and the fate of Europe—threaten the future success of their endowment.

Kasdin said he believes that despite these economic uncertainties, Columbia’s endowment will remain successful.

“Columbia’s investment team has steered us through periods of market strength and periods of great difficulty,” he said. “They’ve done an extraordinary job and we have full confidence that, over time, they will continue to serve the University well.”

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IVY ENDOWMENT CHANGES*



*Brown has not released its 2011 endowment figures yet.

GRAPHIC BY SINJHN SMITH

New coaches don't guarantee success

SIMMONS from back page

rest of their games so that they'll "go in a different direction" at head coach.

Secondly, I happen to have a huge disdain for firing one coach and hiring another without seriously considering the ramifications. Maybe it's because I'm from Cleveland and I've lived my entire life without seeing a championship, but a lot of times it seems like all my favorite professional sports teams do is change coaches without ever really improving.

This may not directly apply to the situation given the difference in talent levels, but I'm going to take my beloved Cleveland Browns for an example. Since the team came back to the NFL in 1999, there have been five full-time head coaches, and exactly two winning seasons. Why? Part of it surely has to do with a fan base that is so starved for a championship that impatience with losing forces a regime change every time the record dips below six wins in a season.

It could be argued that Columbia tends to do the exact same thing. Let's face it, we have an incredibly long history of losing football teams. I mean, the last time the Lions had a winning season was way back in 1996, when current ESPN analyst Marcellus Wiley was one of the captains. The last time we had

two winning seasons in a row? All the way from 1961-1962—yes, when John F. Kennedy was President of the United States.

But to get away from that little history lesson and back into the present, when you look at college football programs around the country, I think there are really two dominating factors for determining a winning football program. The first is reputation and the second has to be the head coach. Sticking with my Ohio theme, this time I'll take The Ohio State University as an example. Its football team has had fantastic head coaches for the last 60 years, notably among them Woody Hays and the recently forced-to-resign Jim Tressel. Now, so far this season without the nine-time Michigan-game winner, OSU has looked like a shell of itself, and the pitiful interim coach Luke Fickell has had to deal with fans with their torches and pitchforks every week because he so obviously can't put a winning formula on the field. And while he may have broken the rules, after looking at his replacement no one can ever say Tressel was a bad coach.

To me, there is no greater indication as to just how important a strong head coach is. Think about it, in college there is significant roster turnover each and every year. The stability and

continuity a solid head coach can bring to a football program is absolutely invaluable. I'm sure no one in Columbus thought that not having Tressel around would be such a hindrance to winning football games.

So I'm not trying to indict Wilson by saying this, but even if he is replaced, who's to say that the next head coach will be any better?

Look, there is no use sugar coating it—Wilson should definitely be on the hot seat if the Lions don't turn things around and fast. But even if Wilson isn't back as head coach next year, it's not going to solve all of our problems. In fact, it'll probably solve very few of them.

We're still going to be in the bottom echelon of the Ivy League. We're still going to lose more games than we win. And what's going to set us back even further, is that our senior quarterback will have to learn an entirely new offense.

And that brings me back to where I started—based on all of that, I have no choice but to want the Lions to shape up and start winning, starting with the homecoming game tomorrow afternoon.

I'd rather not have to write about any other result.

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Prof's say incentives to teach Core not enough

CORE from front page

of the Core. But that's not the only reason they teach it, he said.

"It seems like a natural place to participate in the University, to have a place in the University life," he said.

Of the 22 tenured or tenure-track professors in the anthropology department, for instance, only one is teaching a Core class this semester, save for courses that count towards the Global Core requirement.

"We've made deals with departments at different times, and we've sought to get the departments to ante up to the agreements stipulated," Dirks said. "But it doesn't always work, and then we have to hire adjuncts or others to teach in the Core."

Dirks, an anthropology professor, said that in the 1993-94 academic year, 17 percent of Lit Hum and CC sections were taught by tenured professors, compared to 15 percent last year.

But in the long term, tenured and tenure-track professors are teaching in the Core less frequently. East Asian Studies professor and former provost William Theodore de Bary, CC '41, MA '48, PhD '53, who has taught at Columbia since 1949, said that the proportion of Core sections taught by tenured and tenure-track professors used to be "much larger."

"Any increase would be welcome," de Bary said.

Dirks added that in the 1991-92 academic year, there were 195 Lit Hum and CC sections, compared to 242 last year, which has made it even more difficult to keep the Core staffed by regular faculty members.

"The faculty is stretched really pretty thin, and we have to treat the Core as a priority, but that nevertheless has to be thought of in relationship to all the other things the departments have to mount," he said.

Lit Hum and CC in particular have been impacted by those trends, particularly in light of increases in the Columbia College student body without a corresponding increase in the size of the departments that tend to staff these classes.

Columbia College Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis said that there is a "downward trajectory of percentages" when it comes to tenured and tenure-track professors teaching these classes.

"I'm optimistic that now that it's on people's agendas, we can focus some of our work in this area," Yatrakis said.

PERSUASION AND CAJOLING

But hiring more faculty members to teach the Core might not be enough. Even if departments had enough professors to teach the Core and all their specialized classes, administrators and department chairs would still have to convince individual professors to teach. And for some professors, the Core just isn't a priority.

"Even chairs have a great deal of difficulty telling their faculty what to teach," Dirks said. "They have to persuade them, they have to cajole them."

Many professors would prefer to teach their specialties, and young tenure-track professors especially are driven by the need to do research and publish.

"If you haven't published, you have a hard time getting a job at all," de Bary said. "And you're not going to get published unless you have something special to offer the publisher."

Senior professors, too, are pulled in many directions.

"A senior professor has a lot of different obligations, and it's hard to juggle those," Mercer said.

Meanwhile, teaching in the Core takes a lot of work—especially Lit Hum and CC, which meet almost four hours per week, involve heavy reading loads and require professors to grade essays without the help of teaching assistants. And in general, teaching in the Core forces faculty members to teach outside their specialties, something which, as Director of the Center for the Core Curriculum Roosevelt Montas, CC '95, M.A. '96, Ph.D '04, put it, "no professor does willingly."

"The incentives of the profession pull against teaching in the Core," Montas said.

ADJUNCTS AND POSTDOCS

Lit Hum and CC classes that aren't taught by professors, associate professors or assistant professors—all of whom are tenured or tenure-track—are taught by a combination of grad students, postdocs, adjunct professors, a few retired professors like de Bary and several one-year departmental appointees known as lecturers.

History professor Matthew Jones, the chair of Contemporary Civilization, said that "we want as few adjunct professors teaching in the Core as we can." But he added that some postdocs, who are often hired as adjuncts at Columbia on their way to tenure-track jobs elsewhere, are "exactly the sort of professors that you as students want."

"We've sought to get the departments to ante up to the agreements stipulated. But it doesn't always work, and then we have to hire adjuncts or others to teach in the Core."

—Nicholas Dirks, Executive Vice President of Arts and Sciences

Similarly, many University Writing classes are taught by adjunct professors and part-time hires, according to English professor Nicole Wallack, the director of the Undergraduate Writing Center. Music professor Elaine Sisman, the chair of Music Humanities, said that some full professors continue to teach Music Hum, but that many sections are taught by postdocs.

"It both cushions them between graduate school and the job market and keeps excellent teachers in the Core," Sisman said.

Biology professor Darcy Kelley, a co-chair of Frontiers of Science, said that the bulk of the weekly seminars in Frontiers, too, are taught by postdoc research fellows. Most of these fellows teach two seminars per semester—which, Kelley noted, Columbia College defines as a full teaching load—while still doing research to ensure that they can get jobs after their fellowships end.

Additionally, a few years ago Dirks started the Core Assistant Professorships program, an initiative to hire postdocs who already taught Core classes while graduate students at Columbia. Dirks said that CAPs are currently funded out of the Arts and Sciences budget, although A&S is working to raise funds to support them. University Trustees Jonathan Lavine, CC '88, and Gerry Lenfest, Law '58, each recently pledged \$2.5 million to match gifts that endow CAPs.

'BURSTING AT THE SEAMS'

Finding more tenured and tenure-track faculty to teach in the Core is one thing, but just finding someone to cover each section is a challenge on its own.

There are some systematic staffing problems in the Core—every year, teachers drop out of classes at the last minute or decide to go on leave, and the number of students from the School of Engineering and Applied Science and the School of General Studies enrolled in Core classes changes from year to year.

In the last few years, though, there have been fewer grad students applying to teach in the Core, too.

"We are expecting and have been getting big drops in graduate students," Montas said.

There are a few reasons for this drop-off. For one, GSAS deliberately decreased its class size by 10 percent three years ago, a change that Montas said is just starting to hit the Core.

Another complication is that three years ago, the grad school decided to more strictly enforce

its policy that students cannot receive funding past their seventh year of study, GSAS Dean Carlos Alonso said. Grad students had frequently applied for a two-year Core preceptor position in their seventh year, and GSAS had previously made an exception and funded eighth-year students teaching in the Core.

Alonso attributed the decrease in grad students applying to teach in the Core to "the onerous nature of the commitment to teach in the Core," but added that he has lobbied Columbia College to accept Core preceptors for just one year.

Yatrakis, though, said GSAS students were never actually required to make a two-year commitment to the Core—rather, the Core was committed to keeping the graduate students it hired for two years if they wanted to teach a second year. She said she hopes that once this confusion is cleared up more grad students will teach in the Core during their seventh years only.

"Those who teach in the seventh year and complete their dissertation, now have an incentive to also apply to be a Core Assistant Professor," Yatrakis said.

But when it comes to staffing, sometimes the ends still don't meet.

In University Writing this semester, a perfect storm of professors dropping out at the last minute and an increased number of SEAS students, combined with a pre-planned "tight" enrollment of classes, left UWriting without enough instructors, Wallack said.

Since all Columbia College first-years must take UWriting one semester and Frontiers of Science during the other, Frontiers is overenrolled this semester. Kelley described the course as "bursting at the seams somewhat."

"You need more faculty to teach it," she said. "And the teachers are the most expensive part of the Core."

'THEY REALLY BELIEVED IN THEIR MISSION'

Paying for teachers is expensive generally, but paying for Core teachers is even more so, as Columbia provides several financial incentives for faculty who teach in the Core.

Currently, the Chamberlain Fellowship provides tenure-track junior faculty with one semester off at full pay if they teach six semesters of the Core. And senior faculty are rewarded with a summer stipend of \$7,000 after teaching four sections of the Core, although they can only get this stipend once every four years.

Mercer said that to make the Core "as great as it can be," incentives need to be increased. She suggested that the first time a professor teaches in the Core, there should be a \$5,000-\$6,000 bonus, followed by \$2,000-\$3,000 rewards for each additional Core section taught.

"We need to put our money where our mouth is," she said.

It's unclear if and when incentives will increase, but Yatrakis and Dirks said they are working to raise money to expand those programs. Dirks noted that he is fundraising for the Chamberlain endowment fund, and Yatrakis said she would like to raise the summer stipend for senior faculty to \$10,000.

But Columbia College Interim Dean James Valentini said that he has been talking to professors about how they decide what classes to teach, and he hasn't yet decided if increasing monetary incentives will do the trick.

"It's a general consideration of a structure which involves rewards, inducements, incentives, whatever, to satisfy all of the objectives," Valentini said. "Of which the Core is one, but not the only one we have."

De Bary said that while greater monetary incentives would certainly help convince more senior faculty members to teach in the Core, the biggest roadblock is not financial.

"The principle strength of the Core in the past was the sense of collegiality among those who were teaching it. They really believed in their mission. That's more important than anything else," de Bary said. "Trouble is that that mission does not count very heavily in appointment and tenure promotion."

sammy.roth@columbiaspectator.com

Field hockey takes on Penn, VCU

BY STEVEN LAU
Spectator Staff Writer

It may be good fortune that the Columbia field hockey team will be playing its two games at home this weekend.

The Lions will take on the Penn Quakers (2-9) on Friday at 6 p.m. before facing Virginia Commonwealth (4-10) on Sunday at 1 p.m., and both opponents are 0-5 on the road this season.

Last year, the Quakers ended the Light Blue's four-game winning streak with a 3-2 victory. Head coach Marybeth Freeman said one of the factors that gave the Lions trouble was Penn's field, which is not designed for field hockey.

COLUMBIA VS. PENN

Baker Field, Friday, 6 p.m.

But this season, Columbia will be playing on its home turf against a Penn team that is on a three-game losing streak, the most recent loss coming against Lehigh on Wednesday.

Among the Ancient Eight, the Quakers have the fewest goals scored and the second-most goals conceded; but statistics aside, Freeman knows the Light Blue cannot rely on a poor performance by the opponent.

"I anticipate nothing, I assume nothing," she said. "We can only control our attitude and performance. The

Ivy games are critical, and on any given day anything could happen."

Since the Lions' 3-0 loss to Syracuse last Saturday, the team has concentrated on improving ball speed and quick passing. The fundamentals are what Freeman believes will lead to wins against both Penn and VCU, whose team is coming off a 3-0 shutout over Pacific.

With only three weeks left in the season, Freeman expects the Light Blue to win all seven of its remaining matches.

"It's a very high, but realistic, expectation," she said. "I do know that we have the caliber, player-for-player, to really finish out these seven games in the highest fashion."

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A time for change

When a few of my friends and I heard about Occupy Wall Street last month, we thought of the exciting prospect of citizens exerting their right to be civilly disobedient. Supporters of this group have the desire to see the greed and fraud on Wall Street come to an end because we are in our current economic mess as a result of dishonesty by bankers and firms. Opponents of the movement, on the other hand, claim it lacks direction—House Majority Leader Eric Cantor succinctly described the groups of protesters as “mobs.” Attitudes like this show the inherent disconnect and lack of understanding political leaders have as to how much the American people are hurting.

Protesters of Occupy Wall Street are demonstrating “civil disobedience” because millions of Americans are in poverty and are struggling to survive. Last month, the Census Bureau released numbers showing that one in six people, or 46.2 million Americans, are living in poverty—an increase of more than 2 million from the previous year. Although it can be said that the current unemployment rate of over nine percent is a contributing factor to this increase in poverty, it does not take away from the fact that over the last 30 years the median income for Americans has increased only by 11 percent, compared to the 42 percent increase in income for the richest five percent. Adding to this jarring figure is the fact that the bottom 60 percent of American families saw their incomes fall, while the incomes of those who made more than \$100,000 saw their incomes rise. In a nation which prides itself as being the most prosperous in the world, these numbers are a complete disgrace. Although politicians might be discussing these issues behind closed doors, these figures need to be discussed publicly—and often.

Moreover, struggling Americans feel the government is working against their interests. This past August, our nation was on the brink of economic collapse, as Republicans and Democrats bickered on spending cuts to be made. These brilliant leaders came up with proposals to slash funding for education, environmental protection, and social programs, without raising any revenue on those who could afford them. Republicans claimed they could not raise taxes on the wealthy and on businesses owners because higher taxes would de-incentivize businesses from employing more people and hinder economic growth. While this is a plausible argument, there is no guarantee businesses will in fact hire as we have been in economic crises for four years now.

Looking at the budget passed this past August, it appears that innocent Americans will be punished for the dishonesty and chicanery of firms and big banks. Why else would the spending cuts target numerous social programs? As educated students and consumers, we should remember the bad accounting of housing giants such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac who allowed people with meager incomes to buy luxurious homes. We should remember how firms such as Citibank, American International Group, Lehman Brothers, and others let delusions of profits take them to the unregulated realm of “shadow banks,” where they gambled away the fortunes of millions of Americans. Protestors on Wall Street, along with numerous Columbia students, are not quite sure why the CEO’s of these companies are not currently fighting for their lives in court. Are we to assume that morality and the “golden rule” will keep these businesses and banks in check? The answer is a resounding no.

As I worked in Congress this past summer, there is no doubt in my mind that politicians are well aware of needed steps to fix our economy. Republicans know they need tax revenues, but will not pass legislation raising taxes because they benefited from the landmark 2009 Supreme Court case of Citizens United. This case practically got rid of the limits on corporate contributions to political campaigns. Since Republicans fundamentally believe in lower taxes, while Democrats believe in higher taxes for the wealthy, there is no doubt this will unfavorably favor Republicans running for election. Republicans also feel obligated to cut spending, even though we are in a recession, because the Tea Party sympathizers who voted them into power have threatened not to reelect them if they do not. Democrats know that social entitlement programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security need reforming, but are hesitant to do so out of fear their bases will not reelect them as well. My experience has taught me that the motto of politicians in Washington is “Get re-elected... everyone can solve their own problems.” How can these politicians be blamed in not relating to the struggles of Americans when, out of 535 legislators, 245 of them are millionaires!

Although I am not an economist, I know that if both parties do not make changes to taxes, loopholes, and the role of government spending, Occupy Wall Street will turn into the widespread mobs Congressman Cantor feared.

Jelani Harvey is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. He is currently the Residential Adviser on John Jay 13, a facility supervisor at the Dodge Fitness Center, an Admissions Office tour guide, a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and a member of the Multicultural Recruitment Committee The Niceties of Speculation runs alternate Fridays.



JELANI
HARVEY

The Niceties of Speculation

Barnard’s 99 percent

BY NAOMI ROOCHNIK

It started with a meal plan. Last year, Barnard College enforced a mandatory meal plan, regardless of a student’s commuter status or dietary restrictions. Winter break housing went from being free to one hundred dollars to two hundred dollars. Then, a compulsory registration fee was added for parents during Family Weekend. And just last week, Barnard’s dean Avis Hinkson sent out an email to students informing us that, starting fall 2012, part-time students will be required to pay full tuition. In the past three years, Barnard has nickel-and-dimed us to no end—it has milked us dry, and this is the last straw.

We already pay an arm and a leg to attend Barnard. Factoring in the other needless expenses (like the meal plan) at this school, it became clear that I could not afford another full semester of Barnard after this May. So, I planned to be a part-time student my second semester and take the first semester off to work. But with that one breezy email, my entire future changed. No longer will I be graduating in 2013. I have to pile on courses this year so I can graduate this May. What about financial aid, you might ask? Financial aid, unfortunately, is unobtainable. My parents hail from working/middle class backgrounds: Dad’s a teacher, Mom’s a computer programmer. What does that make me? Disqualified from receiving aid. This full-tuition policy squeezes us, the students in the middle, from both sides, until we can simply no longer afford this school.

Why a protest? Why, some students have asked me, did you turn straight to that instead of trying to work with the SGA and the administration? True, the idea of a protest arose in the heat of the moment (the same day we received the email from Dean Hinkson) and it was hastily organized. But what might we expect from the administration? What good did the town hall do last year, during the meal plan uproar? Many of us attended the open SGA meeting on Monday, and the results were as expected: Dean Hinkson reiterated Barnard’s new policy and tried to put it in a positive light. Just as with the meal plan, the voices of the students counted for nothing.

The nature of the policy and email was the main motivation behind this protest. A life-altering email arrived after registration had ended and program filing had closed. Many students had to scramble to make changes to their schedules in order to graduate early, but could not even get into the required classes for their majors as it was too late. I was lucky—my concentration only requires me to take one semester of senior seminar, but other students did not fare as well and had to change their majors.

I realize that Barnard is experiencing financial difficulties. Barnard is not as well endowed as Harvard, Yale, or Princeton, all of which receive generous gifts from their wealthy alumni, many of whom occupy some of the highest paying jobs in the country. Sadly, Barnard has not received that kind of infusion of capital for a number of reasons. Although Barnard graduates are highly competent and go into great careers—medicine, law, and business, to name a few—they do not become presidents of banks. A vast chasm separates “doing well” and becoming a multimillionaire. Society does not like to give the best, most lucrative positions to women. We would prefer not

Reviving the spirit of ’68

BY JANINE BALEKDJIAN

A vigil for Troy Davis. SlutWalk. Occupy Wall Street. These are just a few of the grassroots activist campaigns that Columbia students have participated in and in some cases organized in just over a month. Columbia students have been passionate and active in a way I haven’t seen in my two years on this campus.

The ’60s protest song “For What It’s Worth” has been overused in the media in the past few weeks—two New York Times columnists used the Buffalo Springfield song to describe the movement at Occupy Wall Street. But at the risk of beating a dead horse, there really is “something happening here” that Columbia and our national discourse has not seen in a very long time. Students are informed, they’re concerned, and they’re taking their outrage to the streets.

What about? The protests and campaigns that students have been involved in so far give a broad answer to that—everything from women’s rights to racial justice to ending the death penalty to, of course, injustices in our economic system. Activism, far from being laughed at, is taken seriously by political and formerly nonpolitical students alike. The Columbia-organized Troy Davis vigil had a turnout of over 250. The vigil, SlutWalk, and the new activist groups sprouting all over campus have all had favorable coverage in both the news and editorial pages of Spectator. The Columbia Democrats have boasted record attendance of over 60 at every meeting this year, and my lit-major suitemate, who has somehow resisted my attempt to drag her to Dems, has been down to Occupy Wall Street twice.

Happily, the increase in activism and activist groups has also led to increased collaboration between groups. Previous tensions between left-of-center groups on campus have all but disappeared. Clubs like the Democrats, the Black Students Organization, and the Lucha have collaborated and co-sponsored events, recognizing that while we do have significant policy differences, focusing on these differences instead of our shared goals makes no sense. We’ve also seen a crop of new feminist groups, including Columbia Women’s Organization, Radical C.U.N.T.S., and the magazine Feminist Mystique, which, rather than becoming territorial, have made concerted efforts

to believe that, and insist we live in a post-sexist world, but the facts reveal a different picture.

So, Barnard is suffering. Nevertheless, there could be other ways of saving a few dollars at Barnard. God forbid they think of reducing salaries of the people at the top, like that of President Spar. That’s simply unthinkable, isn’t it?

According to Dean Hinkson at the SGA meeting, the email was sent for the purposes of “community building” and “enriching the Barnard experience.” This seems questionable. It would show greater integrity if an email were sent explaining the financial crunch. This lack of transparency does not redound to the good name of Barnard. Barnard has taken an action that burdens the lives of its students and families.

Yesterday, there was a protest. A protest against this unjust policy, a protest in which we demanded that the administration grandfather the policy and enact it only upon the incoming freshmen—at least they will know what they are getting themselves into. The end of the protest should not be the end of us raising our voices in dissatisfaction and continuing our fight. I urge all of my peers to keep sending emails, to keep setting up meetings with Dean Hinkson. Even for those of us who are not affected by this policy, let us not continue in the culture of apathy that has prevailed at this school. Your friends, fellow students, and dare I say sisters will suffer greatly from this policy. Even if it is only twenty to fifty of us (as Dean Hinkson claims), let’s show her that Barnard is a community—a community that stands by all its students who are being cheated, regardless of whether it’s two students or two hundred.

The author is a junior at Barnard College majoring in English with a concentration in creative writing.



ZHOUNAN XIE

to reach out and work on each others’ projects. The passion for getting out and doing something has even crossed party lines—on the Facebook event page for the Democrats’ first Activist Council meeting, the CU GOP commented, “All political activism is good for democracy. Keep up the good work!”

A recent Columbia graduate and current law school student commented, by way of explanation of such attitudes, that “Now there are actual issues.” But the idea that the upswing in activism represents an upswing in issues doesn’t make sense; concepts like feminism have been around for decades, and, if anything, the outrage over the structure of our economic and political systems spurring Occupy Wall Street would have been easier to predict after the crash in 2008 or the Citizens United decision in 2010.

Students are informed, they’re concerned, and they’re taking their outrage to the streets.

Why Columbia students are getting serious about getting active now may be something of a mystery, but perhaps it is simply a long-overdue return to our core principles. Contemporary Civilizations emerged out of World War I to fulfill the need for students to understand the intellectual basis behind current events and the political climate. Columbia is still considered the most activist of the Ivies, thanks in large part to the 1968 protests and student takeover of campus. ’68 also left us a legacy more concrete than reputation in institutions like Election Day break, instituted not so that students could go home and vote (absentee voting existed back then, too), but so that students could campaign and personally affect the political process in a more direct way. In the recent past, evoking Columbia’s history would get an eye roll, but now students realize that the stakes are too high to be too cool for activism. What we’ve seen this year is a return to the spirit of ’68—the reason I, and many others, chose Columbia.

The author is a junior in Columbia College majoring in Slavic studies with a concentration in sociology. She is the president of the Columbia Democrats and is the co-editor-in-chief of Feminist Mystique.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Nobility and civility

Columbia transforms into a different campus when midterms roll around. Students abandon fashionable garb for sweatpants, forgo showering for Febreze, and forget the manners our mothers have taught us. At the risk of sounding like grouchy old men: There are certain standards for courteous behavior that we should not ditch as easily as we shrug off our oversized sweatshirts.

Behavior in class is of crucial importance, mainly because we spend the majority of our day sitting in lectures and discussion sections. But equally important is how we get to class. Fighting our way past a Hamilton elevator line of 10 or 15 people deep tends to rob us of our dignity. We’ve said this before, but apparently, it bears repeating: Unless you’re going to the sixth or seventh floors, just take the stairs. We are all out of shape, but unless you’re

disabled, it won’t hurt to get your blood pumping a little.

Speaking of being out of shape and generally unhealthy, please do not bring a three-course meal to class. Watching you slice your roast chicken with a plastic knife and fork is certainly amusing, but also off-putting and distracting.

If you do bring said roast chicken to class, don’t leave it under your seat when you depart. Neither your TAs, your professors, nor the facilities employees are paid to be your mother. And also, you really shouldn’t treat your mother like that either.

If you are sitting in an Intro to Philosophy course chewing gum and come to the conclusion that, five minutes after having been introduced to it, you know how to disprove some theory of Thomas Aquinas or Descartes, do us all a favor and keep it to yourself. We doubt the greatest thinkers in Western history would have attained their lofty posts if their ideas could be summarily disproven by someone whose Facebook “favorite quotations” consist

entirely of snippets from the Jersey Shore.

But transgressions of courtesy happen outside of the classroom as well. We often leave lecture ravenous, with only a few minutes to grab a meal before our next classes. So please decide what you want before you reach the counter. It’s discourteous to both the staff and those behind you to have an argument with yourself over whether you want mozzarella on that sandwich. And while we’re on it, we don’t care where you come from, who you think you are, or who your parents are: You have no right to be rude to the people who are serving you.

If at the end of the day, you leave campus, do not put your backpack or purse on the subway seat next to you. Your bag doesn’t need a seat. Put it on the ground and let someone sit next to you and stop being such a rude misanthropic jerk.

Perhaps midterms are making us a bit edgy too. But please, fellow Columbia students, do not forget that you were not raised in a lion’s den.

Men’s soccer seeks to keep Princeton winless in Ivies

BY MRINAL MOHANKA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia men’s soccer team (4-6-1, 1-1 Ivy) will take to the road this weekend for its first away game in 2011 conference play. The Light Blue will make the short trip down the I-95 to take on reigning Ivy League champion Princeton (3-7-1, 0-2 Ivy).

“When you’re a lion and you go into the tigers’ lair—the defending Ivy champs—there is no chance you are not prepared,” Columbia head coach Kevin Anderson said. “Going in naively would be a big mistake, and their record is no indication of their quality. But going in with a game plan and everyone available for selection gives us everything we need.”

The Lions’ squad has been hit by injuries and suspensions in recent weeks, and a return to full-strength can only bode well. Last weekend, the Light Blue fell 3-2 in heartbreaking circumstances to Penn at Columbia Soccer Stadium. The Lions took a 2-0 lead early in the clash thanks to goals from sophomore midfielder Henning Sauerbier and senior defender Ronnie Shaban, but Penn responded with two goals before halftime to level the contest. (Shaban is a sports columnist for Spectator.)

The Quakers dealt the home side the killer blow with a mere 44 seconds left on the clock to seal the win. Prior to the match against Penn, the Lions downed Brown 2-1 in overtime thanks to goals from Sauerbier and junior forward Will Stamatis. Stamatis leads the Lions’ offense with four goals this season.



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STAM-AT-IT | Forward Will Stamatis will hope to add to his four goals when CU takes on Princeton.

The Tigers, who went a perfect 7-0 in Ivy League play last season, have failed to pick up where they left off. They are winless in Ivy play in 2011, having fallen 4-1 at Dartmouth and 3-2 at Brown in overtime. Princeton’s three wins this season have come against Villanova, Seton Hall, and Lafayette. Senior forward Antoine Hoppenot, who scored in the opener against the Lions last year, leads the Tigers’ attack with four goals and five assists this campaign. He is ably supported by junior forward Matt Sanner, who has found the back of the net on five occasions in 2011.

The Light Blue defense will need to return to its watertight form from earlier in the

COLUMBIA AT PRINCETON
Princeton, N.J., Saturday, 7 p.m.

campaign if it is to deal with the threat posed by Princeton’s front line.

“A lot of the work we’ve been doing at the back is to continue to organize,” senior left-back Jesse Vella said. “Some of the goals conceded were unlucky, some of them were a lack of organization which we continue to work on even today.”

Vella, who has started every game this term for the Lions, also highlighted the specifics about what the defense needs to focus on.

“The most important thing is to work to get on the right side of our man and to work to

get in a formation that keeps the defense close and not vulnerable to Princeton’s attack,” he said.

In the corresponding fixture between the sides last season, the Lions battled hard to take a 2-1 lead thanks to goals from now-sophomore David Najem and now-senior Francois Anderson after Hoppenot initially put the hosts in front, but the Tigers scored twice in the final 15 minutes to win 3-2.

The man at the helm hopes to achieve a different result this time around.

“Our plan is to walk out of Princeton, N.J., with the Tigers being 0-3 in Ivy League play,” Anderson said.

Kick off against the Tigers is scheduled for 7 p.m. tomorrow.

Similar to Brackett, quarterback Ragone key to Penn’s offensive success

BY HAHN CHANG
Spectator Staff Writer

Just three seconds remained. Billy Ragone, Penn’s quarterback, went back to pass. Penn trailed Dartmouth 20-15 and Penn needed to make a play in order to keep their Ivy League unbeaten streak alive. Ragone connected with wide receiver Ryan Calvert on a three yard touchdown play to put Penn up, and with a successful PAT Penn won the game, 22-20.

“It showed a lot about our offense and the team as a whole,” Ragone said. “That we will fight until the clock hits zero.”

With the victory two Saturdays ago against Dartmouth, Penn has strung together 16 straight Ivy League wins. Last year they outscored their opponents 290-145 which helped them earn their second Ivy League championship in the last two years. They are not expecting this year to be any different.

“I think that my class especially wants to continue the Ivy League winning streak as we haven’t lost an Ivy League contest,” Ragone said. “We want to keep the streak alive.”

Ragone has been a key part of Penn’s success. As Penn’s second leading rusher in the 2011 season with 49.2 yards per game, Ragone is a dual threat that keeps defenses on their feet. Even with some early-season struggles, throwing four interceptions in the first two games, Ragone found his rhythm in order to lead Penn to victory against Dartmouth and Fordham.

“Billy’s a good player,” Columbia head coach Norries Wilson said. “He threw a couple high balls at the beginning of the season, but he’s coming on pretty good. He’s a real good player.”

Ragone has attributed their success offensively this season to running back Brandon Colavita and the entire offense, as they have been able to score points for the Quakers.

“Brandon and wide receivers

HEAD TO HEAD		
Both dual threats as passers and runners, Columbia starting quarterback Sean Brackett and Penn starting quarterback Billy Ragone have put up similar numbers four games into the 2011 campaign.		
	SEAN BRACKETT	BILLY RAGONE
ALL PURPOSE YARDS	954	907
PASSING YARDS	774	710
RUNNING YARDS	180	197
ALL PURPOSE TOUCHDOWNS	7	3
PASS COMPLETION RATE	50.0%	57.3%


GRAPHIC BY LAURA YE

Ryan Calvert and Ryan Mitchell help us have good balance and move the ball efficiently down the field,” Ragone said. “Our whole offense believes as a unit that we can make plays. And it helps us

throw early to keep defenses on their heels.”

With games like Dartmouth and Fordham where Penn has had to come from behind to secure a victory, the tenacity of the offense

SPORTS BRIEFLY




MEN’S GOLF

Men's golf travels to Rhode Island to compete in The Classic at Shelter Harbor, its last tournament of the fall golf season. The tournament, hosted by the University of Rhode Island, will see Columbia facing Ivy League opponents Brown, Cornell, Dartmouth, Penn, Princeton and Yale as well as other schools from the Northeast. The Lions won the inaugural 36-hole tournament last year with a total team score of 588. The par for the course is 71.

The Lions are coming off an eighth place finish at the MacDonald Cup, hosted and won by Yale. Senior Brendan Doyle led the Light Blue, finishing fourth overall.

The two-day tournament will begin on Oct. 15 and conclude Oct. 16.


—Andrea Levy



CROSS COUNTRY

Today, the men’s and women’s cross country teams travel west to race against a bevy of other collegiate athletes at the Wisconsin Adidas Invitational. Hosted by the University of Wisconsin Badgers in Madison, the meet features roughly 40 teams against whom the Columbia runners will square off, including the top-seeded squads in the country. Runners toe up at the starting line starting at 1 p.m. Though the Lions are potentially just one of the pack, the competition sets them up for their next meet, the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships on Oct. 29.

—Charlotte Murtishaw



ROWING

The men's lightweight rowing team is scheduled to compete this Saturday in the Head of the Passaic Regatta in New Jersey. The Lions participated in the regatta for the first time last year and did very well, grabbing first, second, third and fifth place in the six-boat field in men's open eights. There are nine newcomers on the lightweight roster this year, and this weekend's regatta will be a valuable learning experience for the promising class of 2015. The race will also serve as a tune up for next weekend's Head of the Charles regatta, in which men's heavyweight, men's lightweight, and women's rowing will all be competing.

—Eli Schultz

Women’s soccer travels to take on struggling Princeton

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Staff Writer

The middle of the Ivy season has arrived, and the battered and bruised Lions appear to be on the mend. Non-conference play has been hard-fought and disappointing, but the Lions do still have a winning record in the Ivy League. This weekend’s Ivy showdowns may determine who’s still in the race for the title, who falls short, and where the Lions stand.

The Columbia women’s soccer team (4-8, 2-1 Ivy) will take on Princeton (3-8-1, 0-3 Ivy) Saturday afternoon in what may be its most important match yet. The Lions are currently in a four-way tie for second place in the conference with Brown, Penn, and Yale, and it’s time to see who will separate themselves from the pack to emerge as a top contender.

“We’re cognizant that it’s all about the mentality right now,” head coach Kevin McCarthy said. “The mentality is one of urgency and having the mind-set of playing to win and playing boldly.”

“I can’t say we have our full roster back, but we do have some players that have been out who are getting better, and it has been good to see them back in training this week,” he added. “It’s been a spirited environment and it’s preparing us well.”

Columbia is looking to rebound from its three-game

COLUMBIA AT PRINCETON
Princeton, N.J., Saturday, 4 p.m.

losing streak. In its last contest, the Light Blue was shut out 1-0 by Monmouth. The game’s only action came with 20 minutes remaining in the second half, when Monmouth scored. Columbia’s effort and determination so far have not been enough, and earning a victory will require a successful finish.

“A lot of it is in our chance of creation and in our ball movement,” McCarthy said of what it will take for the team to put itself ahead. “Continuing to fortify that aspect of our game, but also having the mentality of when you’re in the box, not hoping or just trying to score, but expecting to, and being willing to pay the price. Whether you’re sliding in or getting a head on the ball, it’s doing whatever it takes to make sure you’re there first.”

Columbia will face a Princeton team that has also struggled often this season. In their last conference matchup, the Tigers fell to Brown 2-1, despite significantly outshooting the Bears 20-9. Princeton was on the board first, as junior forward Jen Hoy, who leads the team in goals with three and shots with 36, scored in just the fifth minute of the game. Brown evened the score at one in the 13th minute, and then went



DAVID BRANN FOR SPECTATOR

ATTACKING THREAT | Senior forward Marissa Schultz and the Light Blue offense will be looking to end the team’s recent poor run.

ahead 2-1 on a penalty kick eight minutes later.

In its most recent contest, Princeton defeated Lehigh 1-0, a team that beat the Lions 1-0 in overtime on Oct. 3.

The first half saw both teams locked in a scoreless tie. However, the Tigers went ahead early in the second half. In the 52nd minute, first-year defender Gabrielle Ragazzo put the ball in the net. It was Ragazzo’s first goal of her career, which makes her the seventh Tiger to do so in 2011. Junior goalkeeper Kristin Watson recorded the shutout for Princeton, as she tallied four saves for the day.

“They’re one of our biggest

rivals, so many players are excited about the game but also determination comes in,” senior forward and midfielder Liz Wicks said of the Tigers. “I think that now there’s the importance of the situation, where if we don’t pull out a win, our season is kind of over. We’re looking at it as it’s now or never. If we look at it with the right attitude, we can really beat this team like we did last year, we beat them 2-0. We believe we can do it and they also might come out complacent, so given that, I would think there’s no reason why we can’t bring the game our way.”

The game is scheduled to start at 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 15th.

CU offense faces tough task against defending champs

FOOTBALL from back page

league. Others have shown flashes of brilliance, but to this point have lacked the ability to do so on a consistent basis.

The offense has been improving on a more consistent basis with each additional week of experience.

Junior quarterback Sean Brackett—a dual-threat just like Ragone—has slowly upped his rush attack as the season progresses, and has also been able to reduce his mistakes. Last week’s loss was the first game of the season in which Brackett has not been intercepted. Brackett’s five interceptions through four games this season is just one short of his total from a season ago.

Coach Wilson believes that the Penn defense will try to hit Brackett early, with hopes of forcing more turnovers. Getting the running backs going early will be a key to keeping the pressure off of Brackett.

“We’ve got to find a way to get the ball run inside so they just can’t shut down the perimeter game and stop running the ball all together,” Wilson said. “We’ve got to be able to take some shots at them with the passing game as people have against them.”

One key matchup of note will

third consecutive championship to Philadelphia.

“The ultimate goal is to win the Ivy League,” the quarterback said.

Ragone looks to ensure that Penn football stays strong and that both he and the team grow.

“I would like to continue to play football after Penn, but it’s about working to get better week by week, year by year,” Ragone said.

Even with 16 consecutive Ivy League wins behind them, Penn is taking nothing for granted against Columbia this Saturday.

“We know they’ll be fired up,” Bagnoli said. “It’s their homecoming, it’s on national TV and it’s a great atmosphere to play in. They always get a great crowd. They are really hungry. Our kids will be greatly challenged. We’ll have to go in there with great energy, great emotion. We’ll have to play well. They are a pretty good football team. It’s a little misleading with their win-loss record.”

“Every game is a must win,” Ragone said.

be between the head coaches. Penn’s head coach Al Bagnoli is currently in his 20th season as the head coach of the Quakers. He is the winningest active coach in the NCAA’s FCS, and the winningest coach in Ivy League history. Bagnoli’s eight Ivy League Championships are also the most in league history.

On the other side of the field stands Wilson. Wilson’s unproven resume before coming to Columbia left some scratching their heads and, now more than ever, people continue scratching. Wilson has coached a number of talented players, but has not been able to get them together to even sniff the top of the league standings.

The Quakers appear to have the advantage on the coaching front, but the Lions should have the crowd on their side at this weekend’s homecoming contest. Wilson spoke of this game’s importance, but also of the importance of their first victory.

“On some level to them it’s important, but I think on a higher level it’s important to them that they want to win a football game,” Wilson said.

The Lions hope to win their first game this Saturday, Oct 15. Kickoff will be at 3:30 p.m. and the game will be televised on Versus.

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 • PAGE 8



COLUMBIA (0-4, 0-1 Ivy) vs. PENN (2-2, 1-0 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 3:30 P.M., BAKER FIELD

TV: VERSUS • RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM • SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



Coaching change not magic fix

The last time my ugly mug was featured here, I sort of backhandedly called for Norries Wilson to lose his position as the 18th head coach of the Columbia football team. Now while I don't necessarily want to recant that—especially since the Lions have since lost two more football games, and the rest of the season isn't exactly looking so bright—I think it would be a bit careless for me to not make a few things clear on what I think of changing coaches.

First off, as much as I may rip them both here and on Spectrum, I sincerely want everyone on the football team, from the players to the coaches to those in the athletic department, to succeed. I'm not just saying that to suck up to anyone, or to maybe make someone happy that I might have ticked off—that doesn't matter much to me.

What does matter to me is whether or not I can see a team I root for, a team for which I have an emotional investment, win games. This doesn't make me any kind of authority on college sports, but I was an athlete in high school and I know how hard it is to put one win together—let alone string a bunch in a row. That said, I also feel like I can really appreciate it when that winning streak happens. The point is, I am absolutely not hoping that the Lions lose the



MYLES SIMMONS
A SECOND OPINION

SEE SIMMONS, page 3

CU looks to end Penn Ivy win streak at homecoming

BY JEREMIAH SHARF
Spectator Staff Writer

Homecoming weekend has arrived and Columbia (0-4, 0-1 Ivy) is still searching for its first win of the season. This Saturday's opponent will be the 2010 Ivy League Champion Penn Quakers (2-2, 1-0 Ivy).

Both of these teams got off to slow starts at the beginning of the season, but the Quakers—who lost to Villanova and Lafayette—have since picked things up and are back in the form that allowed them to go 9-1 (7-0 Ivy) only a season ago.

The Lions have had a sluggish start to their season, which may be due in part to a hangover from a 38-16 loss at Brown at the end of last season. Columbia lost 34-25 last weekend against Sacred Heart.

Penn is probably the last Ivy opponent a struggling Columbia team would want to see as they look for their first victory in six contests.

Nonetheless, the Quakers are coming to Baker for Homecoming this year, hoping to dash any hopes the Light Blue have for the rest of the season.

Despite early struggles, the Lions have slowly picked up steam, but are still looking for that ever-elusive first victory.

Columbia has had issues on both sides of the ball, but the defense—which has given up an average of 30.8 points per contest—has been the more consistent offender. The Columbia defense ranks last in the league, while the offense—which is putting up just over 20 points per contest—is ranked sixth in the Ancient Eight.

Simple observation can show that this defense is struggling with the most basic defensive task—the tackle.

Head coach Norries Wilson has been stressing it to his team all season, and will continue to stress the basics until the



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHUN THE RUN | It is crucial for linebacker Josh Martin and company to tame Penn's rushing attack and control the clock.

team starts making the plays on a consistent basis.

"We've got the same tackling drills in, and we keep trying to coach guys on the correct technique to tackle," Wilson said. "Running and wrapping up and running through, not trying to shoulder a guy down."

Tackling will be especially difficult against a Quaker team that moves the ball up and down the field extremely well. Keeping them out of the red zone will be another key, as the Quakers were able to convert for five rushing touchdowns inside the opponent's 20 in last week's

contest against Fordham.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to keep them out of the red zone," Wilson said. "But no one has kept them out of the red zone because they do a good job running the football and they've got some pretty good tight ends and wide outs helping the quarterback."

Rush defense has been an issue for the Lions, who are giving up an average of 158 yards per game. Things won't get any easier this weekend, as Penn's 177.5 rushing yards per game ranks second in the league. Penn accomplishes this with a plethora of capable runners, most notably

junior quarterback Billy Ragone.

"Those kids, once they get a head of steam you better do a good job tackling them, they're not just straight ahead runners," Wilson said of the Penn rushing attack. "So guys got to gear it up and get in there and get in a slugfest with them."

The defense hasn't all been bad, as sophomore linebacker Zach Olinger's 36 tackles are third best in the league this season. Junior linebacker Josh Martin has gotten to the quarterback four times this season, the second highest total in the

SEE FOOTBALL, page 3



Join us for Morgan Stanley Volunteer Day!

In the spirit of Morgan Stanley's culture of giving back and in honor of Hunger Action Month, join us to sort food at the New Jersey Soup Kitchen. Come pitch in for a fun and worthwhile team-building experience while assisting local communities fight against hunger.

To register or learn more, visit
www.seeuthere.com/MorganStanleyVolunteerDay2011

SIGN UP TODAY!

We will conduct volunteer days on

October 25
(Register by October 18)
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

November 3
(Register by October 27)
12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Food and transportation to and from the food bank will be included.

Weekend

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2011 • PAGE B1

During NY Comic Con, geeks shall inherit the Earth



MARICELA GONZALEZ FOR SPECTATOR / ILLUSTRATIONS BY RUNTAO YANG

BY MARICELA GONZALEZ
Spectator Staff Writer

Holy geeks, Batman! New York—or Gotham as it’s known in the comic-lovers universe—has been invaded by fans of New York Comic Con. NYCC is a three-day comic, book, manga, anime, film, and television convention celebrating all things considered nerdy. The Con, as it’s known colloquially, runs from Thursday, Oct. 13 through Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Jacob Javits Convention Center (655 West 34th St., between Eleventh and Twelfth avenues).

As the second-largest pop culture and comics convention in the country, NYCC is still shrouded under the reputation of the largest comic con, the San Diego Comic Con International. Established in 2006, NYCC expands every year—especially since the recent inclusion of the New York Anime Festival. But SDCC, founded in 1970, remains the mecca of geekdom—at least for now.

With over 130,000 attendees in 2010, SDCC has reached such a level of popularity to make it a must-see entertainment industry event, among the likes of the South by Southwest festival in Austin and Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in southern California. To compete, the New York con has attempted to include higher profile celebrities and panels to entice not just hardcore comic readers but also casual film and television fans.

Suzanne Walker, BC ’12, President of the Columbia University

Science Fiction Society described the different attendees.

“I think there are a lot of people that go because a lot of up-and-coming people are there to show off their stuff or promote it,” Walker said. “People go just to see what’s out there and what new things are there.”

Besides industry insiders, many of the patrons NYCC hopes to attract are those wishing for a glimpse of their favorite celebrity.

“And I think with NYCC, especially these past couple of years, there’s been a rise in celebrity stuff,” Walker said. “You get really famous and well-known science fiction things, and people want to come and see the people that actually make these things that they love.”

This may be Walker’s first comic con but CUSFS has been going to the convention as a group for several years. This year, CUSFS will journey to Jacob Javits to experience the magic and mayhem of Saturday’s jam-packed schedule.

Saturday, Oct. 15, features the most high-profile event of the con—“The Avengers” panel. “MARVEL STUDIOS: Marvel’s The Avengers” features stars from the upcoming summer blockbuster including Chris Evans (“Captain America: The First Avenger”), Tom Hiddleston (“Thor”), and Cobie Smulders (“How I Met Your Mother”). The stars will present never-before-seen footage from the highly-anticipated superhero movie. The film brings Iron Man (Robert Downey, Jr.), Captain America (Evans), Thor (Chris Hemsworth), and the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) together for the first time to protect the world from global domination by Thor’s twisted brother Loki (Hiddleston). The first official

trailer debuted on Tuesday, Oct. 11, bringing buzz of the Joss Whedon-directed epic to a fever pitch.

While Walker is excited about this big-name event, she is also looking forward to the smaller but no less special panels that highlight her favorite passions.

Walker said, “There’s going to be a panel called ‘Girls Kick Butt,’ and Tamora Pierce is going to be on it. She’s a really well-known young adult fantasy author, and she’s amazing, so I’m really excited to see her.” The “Girls Kick Butt” panel will discuss strong female protagonists in young adult fantasy and sci-fi novels.

While the members of CUSFS band together in their love of science fiction and fantasy, they all have specific interests in the various fandoms represented at Comic Con.

Like Walker, Julian Fraga, CC ’13, secretary of CUSFS, will be attending NYCC for the first time. Looking forward to the “overall experience” that the con offers, he hopes to check out a panel on “Mass Effect 3,” an action RPG video game scheduled for a March 2012 release.

Unfortunately for Julia Pilowsky, CC ’12, vice president of CUSFS, this year’s con doesn’t highlight her main geek passion—the seminal sci-fi British television series “Doctor Who.” She said it’s “probably not the best year of Con for me, but I go anyway because I love the sheer nerdery of it all.”

Pilowsky, who attended last year’s con as well, will still be

SEE COMIC CON, page B3

BLACK DYNAMITE

Cult classic comedy “Black Dynamite,” is set to continue in a new animated series debuting on Adult Swim next year. The series follows Black Dynamite and his crew as they clean up the streets and battle against kung-fu treachery. The sneak preview and Q&A features Black Dynamite himself, Michael Jai White, as well as the producers of the new show.

WINTER IS HERE: EPIC FANTASY TAKES THE THRONE

In this spotlight session, epic fantasy authors, such as Brandon Sanderson, Phillipa Ballantine and Rae Carson, discuss the long-lasting appeal of swords, dragons, and medieval drama that encompass epic fantasy. This appeal can be seen in the growing popularity of George R.R. Martin’s “A Song of Ice and Fire” series, from which the hit HBO show “Game of Thrones” is based.

NEW-GEN WITH MARK HAMILL

The great and powerful Mark Hamill, Luke Skywalker of the original “Star Wars” trilogy and voice actor of The Joker in “Batman: The Animated Series” will be present at this sci-fi panel. He stars in an upcoming film adaptation of the sci-fi comic book series “New-Gen.” It’s Luke Skywalker—enough said.

AMC’S ‘THE WALKING DEAD’

If there’s any place where zombies stalk the night, it’s at Comic Con. AMC’s “The Walking Dead” returns for a second season on Sunday, Oct. 16, but NYCC attendees can get a never-before-seen preview of the series at the show’s panel. The panel brings “The Walking Dead” comic creator Robert Kirkman and the show’s cast together to discuss all things “Dead.”

Best of

Men's Shops

With seersucker shorts tucked away and tans quickly fading, Columbia men can embrace the new season with clothing and products suited for the drop in temperature. Steering clear of overwhelming department stores, students can turn to smaller, friendlier stores suited for men and their needs. —*BY JULIAN MANCIAS*

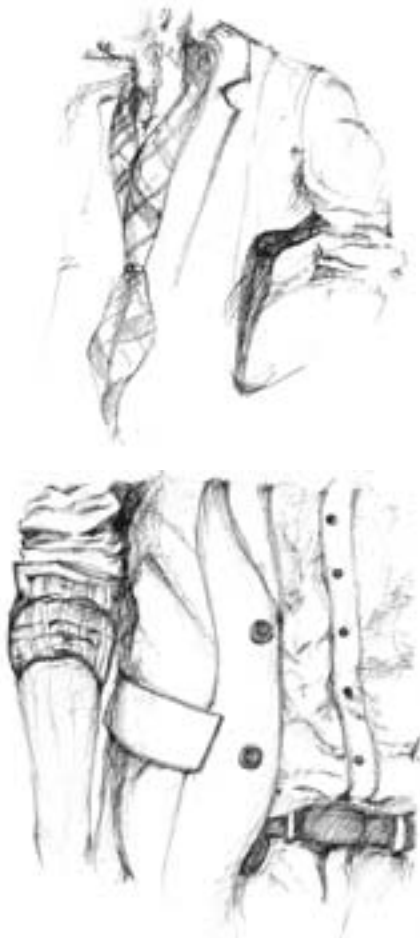


Steven Alan

There are mornings when a man wants to pull on something other than his favorite jeans and tee. Steven Alan (465 Amsterdam Ave., at 82nd Street) gives him options that quickly transform a uniform outfit into a more polished look. Jeans can be replaced with comfortable, tailored pants (\$59 to \$210) that pair just as well with a tee, sweater, or button down. The versatility of Alan’s pants makes them just as appropriate for a Friday internship, Saturday date night, or early Monday class. The true treasures, though, are Steven Alan’s classic button downs (\$89 to \$238). They are classics reinterpreted, and they fit like old favorites. Available in options from striped to plaid, flannel to chambray, there is one to satisfy every customer’s needs. This outpost carries a few other brands in addition to Steven Alan that work just as well at upgrading a man’s wardrobe—Common Projects shoes, Vans classics, and Rag & Bone clothing.

MALIN+GOETZ

Grooming should be as easy as one, two, three. This sterile, clean-smelling apothecary makes it easy for men to streamline their regimens to a few simple products. Paired together, the Grapefruit Face Cleanser (\$30) and the Vitamin E Face Moisturizer (\$45) result in a clearer, revitalized face. Eucalyptus Shower Gel (\$18) provides a quick burst of energy during a morning shower and leaves behind a subtle yet invigorating scent of evergreen. Whether parted, pushed up, or combed back, hair instantly looks polished and smooth with a dollop of the easy-to-use Sage Styling Cream (\$20). A quick visit to MALIN+GOETZ (455 Amsterdam Ave., at 82nd Street) provides men with products that are sure to please.



Saturdays Surf NYC

The minimalist store Saturdays Surf NYC (31 Crosby St., between Grand and Broome streets) caters to fulfilling the basic needs that are essential to a man’s wardrobe—ultra soft cotton jersey tees (\$40) and henleys (\$65), slim-fitting plaid button downs (\$118), and sturdy parkas (\$300). Students are sure to live in Saturdays Surf’s Everyday Crewneck Sweater (\$125) all season long. The wool beanies (\$40) available in navy, brown, and charcoal and Miansai bracelets (\$55 to \$355) available in sturdy rope, brass, and sterling silver are perfect accessories. The handsome selection of Duluth Pack bags (\$115 to \$198) look just as great now as they will for years to come. When a customer picks up a cup of in-store-brewed coffee and enjoys a seat in the serene yard out back, he might just forget that he’s in Manhattan at all.

New York Running Company

Sugar-filled lattes, second servings of pumpkin pie, and a hectic semester can easily mount to a few extra pounds and loads of stress. The best way to keep both at bay is by hitting the pavement. Running will burn off extra calories and help clear the mind. New York Running Company (10 Columbus Circle, at 59th Street) is an endorphin-packed shop that is motivation enough to stay in shape. Staff members can analyze a customer’s gait using the in-store treadmill equipped with a video camera. In less than a minute, the experts know which shoes are best suited for the customer. With a selection of athletic wear that includes Nike, Puma, The North Face, and Adidas, there is gear and apparel for the expert and beginner alike.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY GRACE CHO



COURTESY OF STEPHEN POFF

SONIC YOUTH | The JACK Quartet, above, is but one of the young performing groups that writes original new music that is showcased in the festival.

Music festival strives to spread ‘SONiC’ waves of new music in NYC

BY EMILY OSTERTAG
Spectator Staff Writer

Any contemporary music enthusiast knows that New York has in recent years become a vibrant center for the creation and performance of new music. From Oct. 14 to 22, New York hosts the SONiC (Sounds of a New Century) Festival, which highlights the variety and diversity of the contemporary music genre with a showcase of the music of some of the best composing talents of today aged 40 and under.

The opening concert on Friday, Oct. 14, will take place at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall (881 Seventh Ave., at 57th Street). The nine remaining concerts will be held at various venues known for their commitment to presenting new works, including Miller Theatre. The festival will conclude with a free concert for New York at the

World Financial Centre in Tribeca.

Derek Bermel, co-curator of the festival along with Stephen Gosling, said that the goal of the festival is to “present a snapshot of the music by this younger generation” ten years into the twenty-first century. The festival has been in the works for over a year. “We want to introduce people to the diversity of influence on composers,” said Bermel. “You have folks following classical and modern trends, but also folks who are using electronic, jazz, folk, video—all different approaches.” One of Bermel’s goals is to show people that “music like this is happening all over the city.”

Bermel noted the role of Columbia in this festival, which features music from several composers who are CU alums, including Richard Carrick, Steve Lehman, and Kate Soper. Carrick is the founder of the ensemble Either/Or, a

group that focuses on performing music based on the avant-garde and experimental movements. Carrick received his B.A. at Columbia and is now co-teaching the graduate composition seminar. He will lead Either/Or in a performance at Miller Theatre on Monday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m., which showcases his piece, “à cause du soleil.” The show also features free jazz grooves of Flow Trio as well as works by Raphaël Cendo, Hans Thomalla, Erin Gee, and Keeril Makan. The performance also serves the premiere of a composition by Radiohead’s Jonny Greenwood.

“We’re really excited about the composers we’re presenting,” Bermel said. “These are all composers we’ve worked with before and we feel that we’re presenting their music in a very positive way.”

SEE SONIC, page B3

Rare and diverse films take over the MoMA’s viewing rooms

MOMA from page B4

and Death of Colonel Blimp.” Spanning from Oct. 14 to Nov. 19, the film festival covers a wide range of genres and eras, including films as classic as George Méliès’ 1902 “A Trip to the Moon,” in a color-tinted restoration (Nov. 11).

One highlight of the festival is the 1969 cult classic “The Honeymoon Killers” screening Sat. Oct. 15, at 5 p.m. and Mon. Oct. 17, at 4:30 p.m. Based on a true story of seduction and murder, the film tells the harrowing tale of an obsessed woman willing to do and risk anything—including murder—to keep her con artist boyfriend happy. “The Honeymoon Killers” is especially interesting for its subversion of 1960s preconceptions of women. The two main characters, Ray and Martha, start travelling around posing as brother and sister so that Ray can marry lonely women for their money. The odd situation starts to spiral out of control when Martha becomes jealous and unhinged viewing Ray’s new wives as competition. Shirley Stoler as Martha is downright terrifying as an intense woman with nothing to lose except Ray’s love. Tony Lo Bianco plays the stereotypical suave Spaniard, used to writing love letters to lonely old ladies, seducing them for their money. Eerily, he seems to be swayed by Martha’s power, but tries to manipulate her as well. Their turbulent Bonnie-and-Clyde relationship is something that makes the viewer want to look away, but its dark themes are engrossing enough for the viewer not to anticipate what happens next.

Along with the dark comedy “The Honeymoon Killers,” the festival also presents the bleakly comedic segment “It’s a Good Life” from “Twilight Zone: The Movie.” Directed by Joe Dante, who will introduce the film during the screening, the episode follows Helen, a young woman, who discovers an odd boy, Anthony, with strange powers. Drama ensues when she is invited to dinner with his even stranger family. The segment is almost cartoonish in the way that Anthony’s family emits a childlike mystique, riling up feelings of uncertainty and unease in the viewer. “It’s a Good Life” screens on Sunday, Oct. 16, at 1 p.m. before Roger Corman’s 1962 “The Intruder” starring a pre-Star Trek William Shatner.

“To Save and Project” demonstrates that film preservation is not just for the conservation of cinematic history but also for the preservation of what the films were meant to do—entertain and enthrall audiences then, now, and for times to come.

Stieglitz exhibit provides snapshots from a critical time in US art

BY JULIEN HAWTHORNE
Columbia Daily Spectator

The tension between old and new is a long-standing theme of American culture—one that is consistently presented in new contexts ranging from politics to art. From Oct. 13 to Jan. 2, The Metropolitan Museum of Art (1000 Fifth Ave., at 82nd Street) exhibits “Stieglitz and his Artists: From Matisse to O’Keefe.” The exhibition presents some 200 pieces of the artwork collected by American photographer, art collector, and pioneer of the new, Alfred Stieglitz. The works range from the European cubism of Pablo Picasso to the American flower paintings of Georgia O’Keefe. Stieglitz showed much of the exhibition’s avant-garde artwork in his gallery “291” from 1905 to 1917 and introduced the United States to artists like Matisse and Picasso. The Met exhibition provides a fascinating chronology of the introduction of modernism in the states. It also archives a critical period in the history of American art, during which American artists emerged from a stale, genteel tradition to create a new and vibrant artistic culture of their own.

The exhibition opens with photography by Stieglitz himself and his fellow photographers, collectively called the “photo-secessionists.” The group pushed photography into the mainstream as a new legitimate artistic medium. The pictures depict a rapidly changing and industrializing New York City— juxtaposing gorgeous images of old Manhattan against the dark and insidious silhouettes of the skyscrapers and businessmen of new Manhattan.

The Met exhibit archives a critical period in the history of American art, during which artists emerged from a stale, genteel tradition.

The photography also reflects the unsettling nature of the incorporation of a European society into an American one still characterized largely by its Puritan origins. Stieglitz created and presented provocative and abstract artwork.

Subsequent rooms of the exhibition are filled with the overtly sexual sketches and paintings of Lautrec and Rodin. Lautrec characterized prostitutes in Parisian society, while Rodin’s sketches audaciously depict nude women caressing their breasts and genitals. These paintings transition into Picasso’s cubism and Matisse’s fauvism. These two types are now considered the foundations of modern art, but were then dismissed as radical outliers of artistic culture in America. The exhibition truly distinguishes itself in the paintings of emerging American artists such as John Marin and eventually O’Keefe. The abstraction of Marin’s work and the vaginal images in that of O’Keefe not only mark an emergence of America as a major player on the international art scene, but as a nation beginning to free itself from the constraints of Christianity and classical American mythology. The Stieglitz collection is a strong and evocative reflection of art that had a profound influence on American culture, moving its art from the stale and confined to freer forms that do greater justice to the United States’ progressive philosophy.

Students can eat what they watch at NYC Food Film Festival

BY CARMEN REN
Columbia Daily Spectator

“Watch it, eat it.” The slogan for the fifth annual NYC Food Film Festival seems as straightforward as the concept: audiences watch food films and then eat the food seen on screen. To pull it off, however, is much more complicated. Many have tried and failed. “We’re just stupid enough to keep going,” said George Motz, one of the co-creators of the NYC Food Film Festival. Consisting of six events at Tribeca Cinemas (54 Varick St., between Laight and Varick streets), the festival starts Thursday, Oct. 13 with “A Cheers to Burgers and Beers” and concludes on Sunday, Oct. 16 with “Farm to Film to Table.” Other showings include “Edible Adventure #3: Mistura + More,” “The Tribeca Taco Takedown,” “The Food Porn Party,” and “Di Fara Pizza Lunch.” Ticket prices start at \$45 and go up to \$105 depending on the event. Eight films in celebration of food will be screened, while an expert panel of judges—consisting of Cat Greenleaf, Laurence Kretchmer, Katherine Oliver, and Rachel Wharton—will select winners in a separate foodie film competition. Awards will be given in seven categories: Best Feature, Best Short, Best Super-Short, Best Film Made in New York, Food Filmmaker of the year, the Audience Choice Award, and new for 2011, Best Food Porn.

Motz said the festival is “like imagining a food magazine coming to life. You look at a food magazine and think, ‘Wow, I want to eat that,’ and what we do is take those two extra steps, find the film, make the food, and serve it. We figured it out.” Some of the dishes that will be served require chefs, ingredients, and recipes that Motz and his crew do not have immediate access to. So part of the challenge in preparing for the screenings is going out and finding all that is needed—even if it’s halfway around the world. “We keep trying to top ourselves,” Motz said. “Edible Adventures #3: Mistura + More,” one of this year’s larger events, based on the original Mistura in Lima, Peru, which is considered one of the largest food festivals in the world. “An absolute party, a tremendous celebration of food and the chefs that make it,” Motz said of the event.

With the help of the Peruvian tourist board, Motz and his team will bring Peruvian chefs to New York. Another greatly anticipated event is “The Food Porn Party.” For those who don’t know, food porn consists of shots of tempting food paired with sexy music and close-ups that turn viewers on, making them ravenously crave the food shown. The concept for the festival as a whole came to Motz when his friend and co-creator of the festival, Harry Hawk asked Motz to show his documentary, “Hamburger America,” at his restaurant while Hawk served viewers some of the hamburgers from the film. “People went crazy,” Motz said.

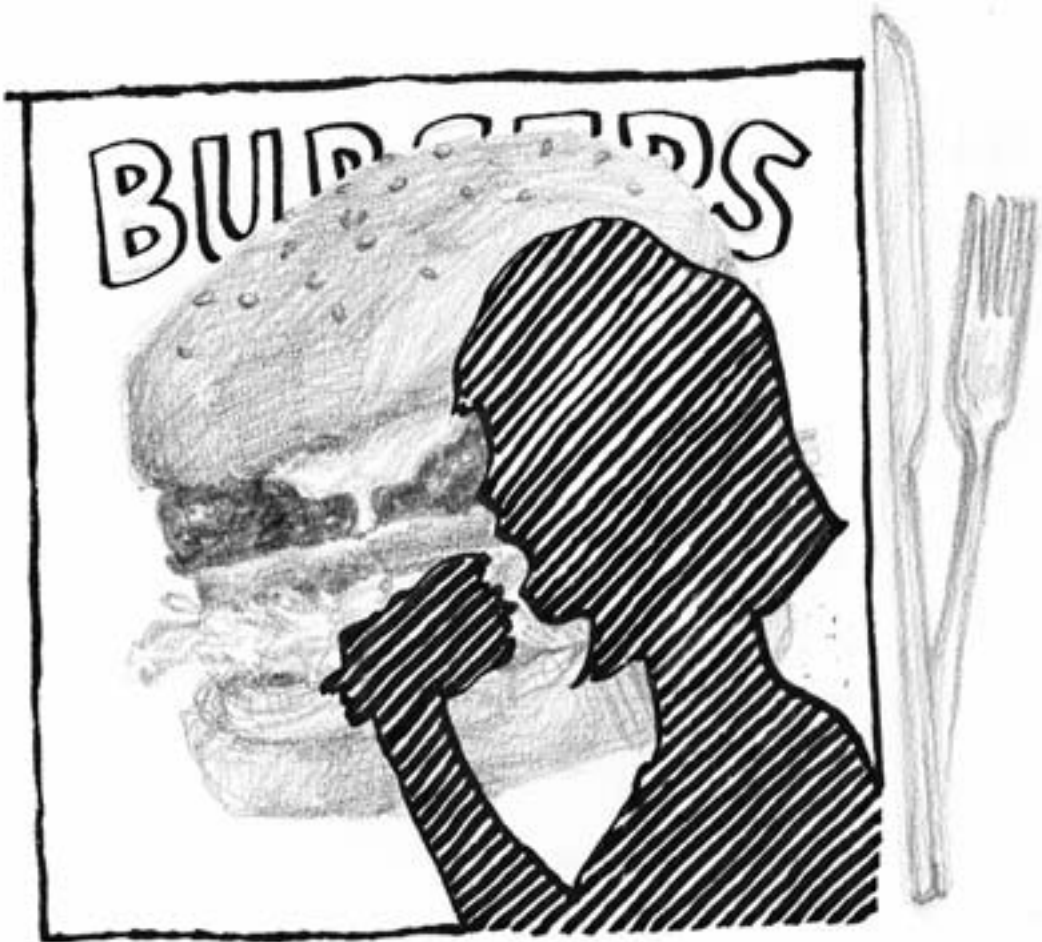


ILLUSTRATION BY JIIN CHOI

They knew they had stumbled across a great idea. For the first two years, the festival ran metaphorically “out of their garage.” In their third year they expanded, and last year the festival had over 10,000 attendees. Motz summed up the appeal of the festival to college students in eight words: “lots of food and a lot of beer.” “It’s also good education,” Motz said. “One of the best ways to learn about food is to watch a movie about it and eat it.” The showings will include all sorts of people involved in the dual aspect of film and food—chefs, producers, and critics. Motz believes the festival could even be spun into a college course—one filled with both culinary and film wisdom.

Young contemporary composers let their music speak across NYC

SONIC from page B2

Composer Hannah Lash will also premiere a piece at Miller during a day-long “marathon concert” called Extended Play, which runs on Sunday, Oct. 16, from 12 p.m. until midnight. “The SONiC Festival itself is like a huge marathon,” Lash said. “For any composer, it’s great to have a piece premiered in any context, but to be nestled within a lot of other pieces can potentially be very a exciting placement.” Her piece, “Filigree in Textile,” will be performed by the renowned JACK Quartet along with harpist

Yolanda Kondonassis. “I hope that some people come to the festival who don’t normally hear this kind of music, and that they come away wanting to hear more,” said Bermel, when asked about his hopes for what this festival will achieve. “People always want to see what’s the newest movie, the hottest new Broadway show—but then you go to the symphony and you only expect to see something from the 1800s. Why is that? Why are we always looking backwards?” Tickets and a full listing of concerts and programming can be found online.



COURTESY OF STEPHEN POFF

LETTING IT ALL PLAY OUT | Music ensemble Either/Or, which was founded by Richard Carriick, performs avant-garde and experimental pieces.

Students can embrace their inner nerd at comic con

COMIC CON from page B1

able to pay homage to her favorite sci-fi obsession—by dressing up. Pilowsky said, “In fact, these shoes are shoes I bought for my costume last year. I dressed up as Amy Pond from ‘Doctor Who.’” This year, she is one step further and dressing up as Doctor Who, the Eleventh Doctor Who to be specific. Comic cons are often known for the elaborate—often obsessively so—outfits some attendees wear to portray their favorite fictional characters. “Cosplay,” short for costume play, involves no mere Halloween costumes. Originating from a Japanese tradition of live-action role playing anime and manga characters, cosplay has its own subculture within the con world that includes contests, masquerade balls, and costume-making workshops. Other noteworthy special events include the wand dueling lessons taught by New York’s premiere Harry Potter fan group, HP-NYC. For Harry Potter fans, this year’s NYCC is but a prelude to the Quidditch World Cup V on Nov. 12 and 13 at Randall’s Island. The International Quidditch Association will host demonstrations and open matches on Saturday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Oct. 16. But perhaps the most unique event of the con is “New York Comic Con Speed Dating.” Organized by Lightning Fast Speed Dating, the sophomore year of geek love-matching at NYCC will be featured on a new reality TV series on pop culture fans looking for love. New York Comic Con brings fans and industry professionals together to foster connections—even love connections—centered around their pop culture passions. While it serves as an increasingly higher profile promotional vehicle for the entertainment industry, NYCC serves most significantly as a haven where people aren’t afraid to let their geek flags fly.

To do the deed or not to do the deed, that is the question

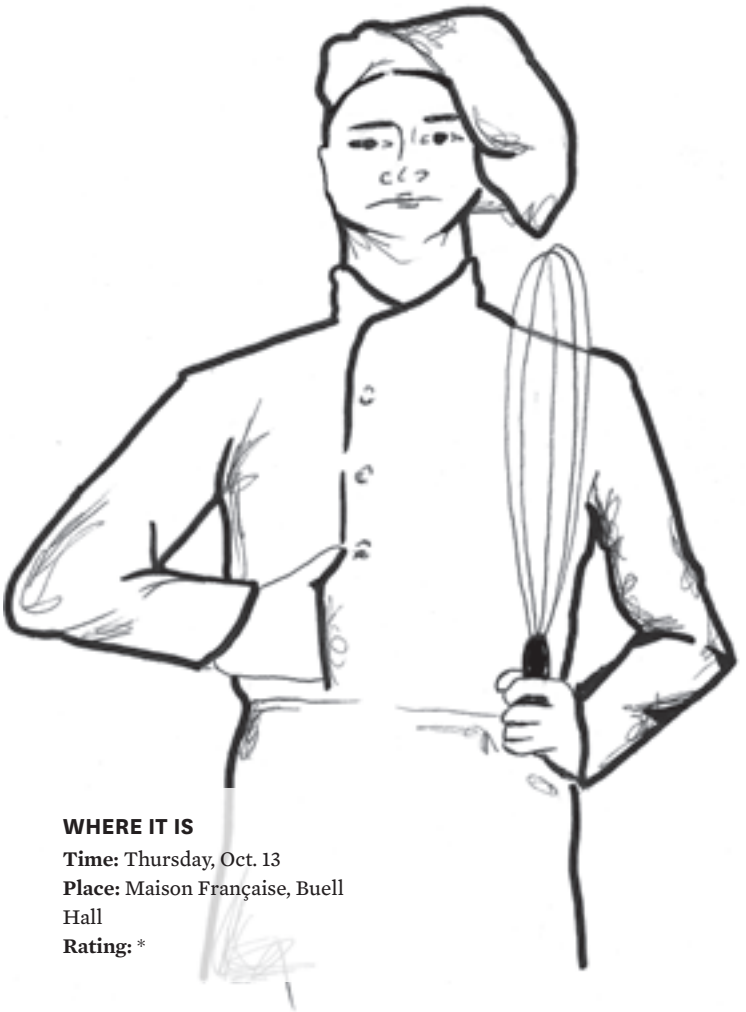


ELLE ROCHE
Rallying the Knicker-boxers

I’m sure we’re all familiar with the hierarchical evolution of college relationships, heterosexual and homosexual alike: random hookup (including, but not limited to, the one-night stand), consistent hookup, exclusive hookup, and finally, the oh-so-elusive relationship. Now, among these levels there are some outliers and exceptions—like friends with benefits—but we’re just going to focus on the relationship track for the sake of the theme and/or moral of the story—when to do it. The timing of when to do the deed (also known as do the dirty, bump uglies, jump in the sack, meet the one-eyed serpent, etc.) depends on what you really want out of the whole thing with the lucky guy. But let’s say you want a relationship. Let’s evaluate some big no-nos first. Do not for the life of you think that if you sleep with him on the first night, you’re going to live in Never Never Land. You gave him the goods, and he’ll just keep on coming back for more. This assumption is utterly false. I have literally heard of only one time in college where a chick slept with a guy and he took her out to brunch the next morning, and they started up a beautiful relationship. They were pretty good friends before all the romancing, so I think that had something to do with it. All outliers aside here, you will not keep his interest or seal the deal with some random by sleeping with him. In the words of Fall Out Boy, you’ll just be “another notch in the bedpost,” and maybe, if you’re lucky, “a line in a song.” Cool story bro. Do not try to negotiate a relationship via sex. Now, one of my friends, we’ll call her Lisa, decided that she wanted a relationship and didn’t know exactly how to do it. She wanted to beat all the pre-levels of random hookup, consistent hookup, and exclusive hookup, so she thought it’d be easier to cut the bullshit and pull a “bait and switch.” A bait and switch is a total bitch move. It’s when someone, like Lisa, plays coy and such at first and hooks up with a dude a couple times PG-13 style (interpret how you will). Then next time, in the heat of the moment, asks him, “Hey, do you want to have sex?” Uh, is that even a question? When does a guy say no? Strike one for him. After the deed is done, the chick pulls out the good old switch just when the dude is thinking, “Hey, I’ve got this in the bag ... I bet I can keep this whole casual sex thing going for awhile. Sweet...” BAM. He’s hit with a switch à la Lisa. “So, just so you know. I only have sex with people that I’m exclusive with, so consider that a free trial.” Honey, you’re not a piece of software (if anything you should step it up to hardware) so don’t try to play it like one. Free trial my ass. If anything, that pisses him off because he’s not an idiot. That’s a low blow, plain and simple. Do not consider that you might as well go with it, as in him, for the long run and try out for an “exclusive” hookup just because of the “semen investment.” The semen investment is quite a simple concept actually. Just because you may or may not have ingested his semen does not mean you are biologically tied to the dude. It merely means that you have most likely just gone for it, and now figure, “Well, I’ve got the semen investment going, and it’s not like I can go back on that or take it back, so I’ll just roll with it.” Not cool. Fair male or maiden, only try to climb the relationship hierarchy if he is worthy, not because you’ve taken a bit of him home with you. Now that we cleared that up, let me recommend what you should do when climbing the relationship hierarchy. Don’t give a shit. Really, that’s the secret. You, male or female, are an independent person first and foremost, so act like one. A temporary hookup is disposable. A consistent hookup is disposable. Don’t forget that. Don’t put any additional stress on the situation just because you think that a relationship is the next logical step, because sometimes it just isn’t. Don’t let your emotions enter the arena quite yet. I know this may appear to be difficult, but really think about it—as they say in the fair Spanish language, “un clavo saca otro clavo.” Metaphorically, that is to say, one man replaces another man. Try mixing up your routine by seeing someone else. By keeping your options open, you won’t be as invested in a hookup and won’t be inclined to pull what someone would call a “crazy bitch” move (remember the bait and switch). If you’ve got a couple or a few people out there willing to give you some lovin’, you will be better off. True story. Wait for the man to come to you. Allow yourself to be the one who makes the final call. And when it comes to when to “do the sex” (thank you, “Jersey Shore” for your enlightening lexicon), do it when you want it. But don’t do it as a means to get something else—i.e. a relationship. The act in itself is pretty damn fun, so you don’t need to make it the means to an end. Trust me, it’s much easier that way. And who knows, that consistent-but-not-exclusive hookup that involves consistent sex might turn into that elusive relationship in the future. The key is to ride the wave, don’t stress it, and keep your options open. Oh, and make sure to let that man in on your little secret: “You’re not the only one out there who wants a piece of this.” Remember that.

Elle Roche is a Columbia College sophomore who intends to major in English. Rallying the Knickerboxers runs alternate Fridays.

Flipside Guide



WHERE IT IS
Time: Thursday, Oct. 13
Place: Maison Française, Buell Hall
Rating: *

ILLUSTRATION BY MARIA CASTEX

‘Meringue Diplomacy’

Before ‘Top Chef,’ or even TV, there was Antonin Carême

BY ALEXANDRA SALERNO
Columbia Daily Spectator

To call the film that showed at the Maison Française on Thursday, Oct. 13, an “experimental documentary,” as director Terri Hanlon artfully put it, is a gross understatement. Oftentimes, the viewer has absolutely no idea what kind of film “Meringue Diplomacy” is, but one thing is for certain: This is no Ken Burns HBO special.

“Meringue Diplomacy” documents the life of Antonin Carême, one of the first world-renowned celebrity chefs, from his childhood in Paris to his death in 1833. Through his innovations in haute cuisine, Carême aided the French diplomat Charles Maurice Talleyrand in mapping a course for post-Napoleonic France. His cuisine single-handedly convinced many important figures to come to France, changing the course of French history.

The tale is presented in a series of highly disjointed vignettes. Some rely on narration, some on direct accounts. Many rely, at least to some degree, on interpretive dance, including one centered on the operatic stylings of the French chef himself. Each vignette leaves the viewer feeling approximately three seconds away from epileptic convulsions.

Hanlon typically works in the performing arts field, and it shows. With its heavy-handed image distortion, “Meringue Diplomacy” visually plays out like an hour-long dubstep music video reenacted by a middle-aged man in a chef’s hat. While amusing for the first vignette or two, this technique sometimes becomes awkward and disturbing. The viewer finds him or herself praying for it to be over.

Other times, however, the approach works well, especially in the food preparation sequences set in Carême’s kitchen. There is something mesmerizing about watching dough be kneaded under normal conditions. To add in fading, splicing, and slow motion makes the process downright hypnotic, if slightly unsettling, to watch.

Hanlon sets the viewer further off-kilter by moving back and forth between realism and surrealism.

In order to follow “Meringue Diplomacy” at all, the viewer must entirely suspend disbelief—a difficult task when one actress breaks out of character, declaring that she is not, in fact, Lady Morgan, ‘for Lady Morgan is dead.’ She merely portrays her for the duration of the film. This confusing artistic choice may be refreshing for some viewers but only serves to further distance others from an already challenging plot line.

All in all, perhaps Hanlon best describes her own work. Present at the Thursday night showing, she said, “I’m not presenting a typical documentary this evening. Think of it more as a painting or an illustrated audio book ... a digital crepe.”

For those who enjoy challenging, downright hallucinogenic films, “Meringue Diplomacy” might be worth a watch. For everyone else—especially those prone to migraines and seizures—a more traditional documentary might make for a better choice.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: originality, storyline, quality of acting, spectacle, ticket price, accessibility, and student interest.



COURTESY OF SHELDAN COLLINS FOR THE WHITNEY MUSEUM

SURREALITY | Federico Castellón’s “The Dark Figure” (pictured above) was painted in 1938 and displays a clearly surrealist sensibility. It is just one of the many works featured in the Whitney Museum’s new exhibition entitled “Real/Surreal.”

‘Real/Surreal’

Whitney Museum exhibit looks beyond the usual borders of surrealism

BY JOE BUCCIERO
Columbia Daily Spectator

Contemporary audiences may not take the surrealist aesthetic seriously—it is, after all, best known to the average young person via Pink Floyd album covers and Salvador Dalí posters hung in dorm rooms. But when surrealism emerged as a defining movement in the decades leading up to World War II, it caused a great shift in the art world. “Real/Surreal,” the new exhibit at the Whitney Museum of American Art (945 Madison Ave., at 75th Street), surveys surrealist work from the early to mid-20th century pulled from the museum’s permanent collection. The show runs through Feb. 12, 2012.

Surrealist artists used realist techniques to depict subjects that are anything but real. By subverting the observable world while still being grounded in the time-honored realist aesthetic, the movement commented on the art of the past while pushing the form into the future. Method and inner expression ruled over depiction and technique.

The works of many noted surrealists—Tanguy, Cadmus, Tooker, and others—adorn the walls of the exhibit. But curator Carter Foster’s inclusion of works and artists not typically lumped in with early-century surrealism are what stand out: a small collage by Joseph Cornell, “Early Sunday Morning” by realist Edward Hopper. These pieces help contextualize the movement and prove its influence.

The inclusion of atypical surrealist works, like the two aforementioned along with several modern photographs and gelatin prints, shows that the surrealist aesthetic is much more difficult to define than most would think. The movement is not simply about melting clocks. Some pieces display unconventional juxtapositions, such as a pueblo on a city street. Some, especially Tanguy, use realist techniques to make something pointedly abstract. For some pieces, the intention seems to be to depict the chaos and disjunction of mind and spirit, while others have outward-focused intentions. For example, Henry Billings’ pieces portray the twisted ideologies surrounding labor and foreign policy in mid-20th century America.

The permeability between reality and the imagination—and how the real is, in fact, often surreal on its own—is the thread that connects the exhibition. Some would say that the works are not as visually interesting as those of subsequent movements—there’s an insular, color-inside-the-lines quality to them that disappeared from modern art soon after the surrealists died out. But surrealism’s place in art is not to be understated. “Real/Surreal” isn’t quite a radical viewing experience, but it sheds necessary light on a necessary movement.

Flipside Guide Art reviews are evaluated for: concept, originality, execution, curation, student relatability to the artwork, exhibition price, and accessibility.



WHERE IT IS
Time: Various times, through Saturday, Nov. 19
Place: 11 West 53rd St. (between Fifth and Sixth avenues)
Cost: Free with CUID



COURTESY OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART FILM STILL'S ARCHIVE

RARE GLIMPSE | “The Honeymoon Killers” (left) , “Les Quai des Brumes” (top right) or “Port of Shadows,” with Jean Gabin and Michele Morgan and “It’s a Good Life” (bottom right) will be shown as part of the MoMA’s ninth annual festival.

‘Modern Museum of Arts to Save and Project’

Film festival revives lost works and audience appreciation for them

BY ELIZA ROSEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Starting next week cinephiles and preservation enthusiasts alike will be lining up to take part in “To Save and Project: The Ninth MoMA International Festival of Film Preservation” at the Museum of Modern Art (11 W. 53rd St., between Fifth and Sixth avenues). The festival’s main message of advocating film preservation is an important one, considering that only 50 percent of feature films produced before 1952 have been saved, and only 25 percent since

1930. Using the combined forces of over 35 archives, studios, and distributors, the festival serves as a great place to view some classics as well as witness some New York, and even U.S., premieres.

The festival has an amazing lineup of over 35 films, drawing an international crowd representing 14 countries. Besides the films, the festival brings together the likes of director Martin Scorsese and editor Thelma Schoonmaker as guest presenters for a Nov. 7 showing of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger’s 1943 “Life

SEE MOMA, page B2

events

MUSIC

hMag Music Festival
—Pier A Park, 100 Sinatra Dr., at 1st Street, Sunday, Oct. 16, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m., free

Save the date for Hoboken Lifestyle Magazine’s second annual Musicfest. The free all-day extravaganza will feature headliners The Walkmen and School of Seven Bells, as well as local vendors and giveaways.

WILDCARD

The Occupation Party
—Times Square, 42nd Street and Broadway, Saturday, Oct. 15, 5 p.m., free

After weeks of occupying Wall Street, the grass roots protest movement will take on Times Square with a street carnival of musical performances, followed by a protest party downtown. White suits, face-paint, glitter, and balloons are encouraged.

STYLE

Brooklyn Vintage Crawl
—various locations throughout Williamsburg and Greenpoint, Sunday, Oct. 16, noon to 6 p.m., free

Download the event’s map and score fabulous threads for fall throughout the borough’s finest secondhand stores and booze distributors. The self-guided shop- and barhop will have an after-party at Union Pool (484 Union Ave., at Meeker Avenue, Brooklyn).

BOOKS

Henry Rollins
—McNally Jackson Books, 52 Prince St., between Lafayette and Mulberry streets, Friday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m., free

Musician, actor, writer, DJ, and activist Henry Rollins speaks with Sonic Youth’s Thurston Moore about his latest book “The Occupants.” The book compiles Rollins’ photographs from Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, and other nations he finds to be politically controversial.