

Jacques Barzun, shaped Core Curriculum, dies at 104



FILE PHOTOS

TRUE COLUMBIAN | Jacques Barzun, who held two degrees and served as a professor provost, in (clockwise from left) 1961, 1975, and 1973.

Development corp. assures of progress

BY JILLIAN KUMAGAI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

For an organization charged with distributing millions of dollars, the West Harlem Local Development Corporation has not had the most public of presences. But at a public meeting Thursday, the group reassured 250 Harlemites that it is more than functional, collaborating with Columbia and local organizations and ready to fulfill its charter.

The WHLDC received criticism last year for not releasing information about its board or where it distributed funds, as well as for its lack of a website or an office. Then, it hired an executive director in April, made a fanfare in June of giving \$750,000 to fund summer jobs for kids, and now is developing a series of business focus groups for locals.

“It may have taken a little bit longer,” WHLDC president Donald Notice said, “but we wanted to make sure we had a sound program before the money went out the door.”

Columbia administrators and local leaders of West Harlem signed a \$76 million community benefits agreement in May 2009 as a concession for construction in Manhattanville. The agreement authorized an intermediary, the WHLDC, to disburse the funds through community programs for housing, employment, and education.

So far, the group has received \$6.55 million from Columbia, which is held in the Fund for the City of New York, a third-party fiscal sponsor. About \$1.8 million has been spent on projects such as providing local young people with summer internships, and \$700,000 has been spent on “personnel services.”

In addition, the WHLDC assisted in opening the Teachers College Community School last month, an objective that is specifically outlined in the CBA. In December, it will accept grant applications from local nonprofits.

WHLDC executive director

SEE WHLDC, page 3

NROTC rollout successful, students say

BY MARGARET MATTES
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Every Wednesday, General Studies student Jose Delgado puts on his khaki naval uniform and heads to the State University of New York Maritime College in the Bronx to participate in a Navy “Leadership Lab.” He is joined by about 140 other NROTC students from across the city.

When he returns to Columbia’s campus in the

afternoon, his tan suit and decorated jacket don’t quite fit in.

“On days when I wear my uniform, people look at you,” Delgado said. “But that happens everywhere.”

Delgado, who has been an active-duty sailor in the United States Navy for 11 years, is participating in Columbia’s first Naval Reserve Officers’ Training Corps program since 1969. Following decades of debate, deliberation, and, finally, planning, the training program for military officers

is back on campus.

The first two NROTC students, including Delgado, arrived at Columbia this summer. There are now four students—three in the School of General Studies and one in Columbia College—enrolled in the program, which is run through a consortium at SUNY Maritime.

And even if the sight of the uniform is unfamiliar, NROTC students say they feel welcome at Columbia.

“It’s pretty obvious that people care that we’re here and are going out of their way to help us,” Patrick Poorbaugh, GS, said. “They have done everything to make it easier for us.”

‘PERFECT FOR SOMEBODY LIKE ME’

Columbia once had a thriving NROTC program, but it was dissolved in 1969, following student protests over the Vietnam War. At the time, about 100 NROTC students were enrolled at Columbia.

But nearly two years ago—after Congress repealed the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, which prevented gay men and women from serving openly—the University Senate began debating whether it was time for ROTC to return. The senate voiced its approval of ROTC in a 51-17 vote, and shortly

SEE NROTC, page 2

Local cop arrested, planned to cook women

BY GINA LEE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A local cop’s cannibalistic plans have been brought to an end by the FBI, which intercepted online exchanges in which he discussed kidnapping, cooking, and eating women.

Gilberto Valle, an officer in New York Police Department’s 26th Precinct—which covers much of Morningside Heights and West Harlem—was arraigned in Manhattan federal court on Thursday on charges that he conspired to kidnap more than 100 women. He is also accused of illegally accessing the National Crime Information Center’s online database to get information

about his intended victims, the New York Daily News reported.

Valle, 28—who has been one of New York’s Finest for six years—talked about his plans to abduct and eat women in various online chats and emails for at least the last 10 months. The FBI began intercepting these online conversations in September after receiving a tip from his estranged wife.

According to the criminal complaint, posted by the Daily News, Valle had obtained computer files listing more than 100 women by name, photo, and sometimes other details. He told a co-conspirator in July that his oven was “big enough to fit one of these girls if I folded their legs.”

In February, Valle wrote about

kidnapping and selling a woman to a co-conspirator, who would then rape and kill her, for \$5,000.

“But I will really get off on knocking her out, tying up her hands and bare feet and gagging her. Then she will be stuffed into a large piece of luggage and wheeled out to my van,” Valle wrote.

In the same conversation, he talked about wanting to become a “professional kidnapper.”

The FBI arrested Valle, the father of a young child, in his Queens apartment on Wednesday. He is currently being held without bail.

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Barzun, CC ’27, Ph.D ’32, served as prof, provost in 50-year career

BY CASEY TOLAN
AND GINA LEE
Spectator Senior Staff Writers

Jacques Barzun, CC ’27, Ph.D. ’32, a major 20th-century intellectual and former Columbia professor and provost who left an unparalleled mark on the University, died Thursday night at age 104.

Barzun, who had a major influence on the development of the Core Curriculum, died in San Antonio, where he lived, the New York Times reported.

Born in France in 1907 in a suburb of Paris, Barzun was sent to preparatory school in the United States at age 13 in the aftermath of World War I. He entered Columbia College at the age of 15.

As an undergraduate, Barzun was Spectator’s drama critic; editor of Varsity, the literary magazine; and president of the Philolexian Society. He was also his class valedictorian. He wrote lyrics for the 1928 Varsity Show, “Zuleika, or the Sultan Insulted.”

He taught his first class at Columbia, Contemporary Civilization, the summer after graduating from the college. He later served as a history professor and was well known for his humanities courses, teaching for almost 50 years.

In the 1930s, Barzun taught the first Colloquium on Important Books class, the precursor to Literature Humanities, with Lionel Trilling, and developed the Core Curriculum’s humanities focus.

Barzun served as dean of graduate faculties in the 1950s and then provost from 1958 to 1967. A European romanticist, Barzun obtained the rank of University Professor, the highest rank in the University, in 1967.

Barzun was an outspoken critic of American universities and

objected to the politicization of the academy. He strongly condemned both student protesters and faculty during the 1968 student riots.

After retiring from the University in 1975, he remained an advocate for Columbia and the Core Curriculum throughout his life.

A devoted Dodgers fan who knew the team when it still played at Ebbets Field, Barzun once remarked, “Whoever wants to know the heart and soul of America had better learn baseball.” That quote is now inscribed on the walls of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

He was awarded the Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush, and was made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor, France’s highest award. He became a U.S. citizen at age 33.

In recent years, Barzun lived in San Antonio. He had three children, 10 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. He is survived by his third wife, Marguerite Davenport.

In October 2007, a month before his 100th birthday, Barzun was presented with the Great Teacher Award from the Society of Columbia Graduates. At the event, Professor Emeritus of History Henry Graff called Barzun “the Babe Ruth of humanistic study and teaching.”

Barzun remained interested in Columbia until the end. In 2011, he wrote an opinion piece for the Wall Street Journal criticizing Columbia’s exclusion of ROTC and relating it to Pericles’ funeral oratory in Thucydides’ “History of the Peloponnesian War.”

“Do Columbia’s administrators and trustees believe that the students in the college should live by the values they are required to learn?” he wrote.

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Restaurant workers sue, allege low wages, stolen tips

BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG
Columbia Daily Spectator

Silvano Caballero’s first job in the United States was as a delivery worker for Indus Valley, a popular local Indian restaurant. For five years, he biked around the Upper West Side eight hours a day, six days a week, bringing food to apartments, businesses, and dormitories.

He was paid \$120 a week, or roughly \$2.35 an hour.

“It’s a hard job,” Caballero said on Monday through a translator. “You’re working out in the streets all the time. Sometimes you get sent on a delivery with only one delivery, and you may or may not get a good tip.”

Then, one day last year, Caballero showed up five minutes late to work and found that he no longer had a job.

“I showed up a few minutes late and Bobby told me, ‘You’re late—go home,’” he said.

Caballero and 11 other former delivery workers and dishwashers are suing Indus Valley, which is located on Broadway and 100th Street, for a host of labor rights violations. They have accused the restaurant of failing to pay them minimum wage and overtime, keeping some of their tips, and verbally and physically mistreating them.

‘Sweatshops’
Down
the Street

This is the second in a two-part series examining labor conditions in Upper West Side businesses and community efforts to solve the problem.

“It does take some bravery and courage to sue your boss,” Caballero said. “But that courage came to me when they paid me \$20 a day [and] hit me.”

The lawsuit was filed with the New York Southern District Court in August 2011, although a trial date has not yet been set. While the defendants tried to get the case thrown out, it is “still moving full speed ahead,” according to a statement from the former employees’ law firm.

The popularity of the restaurant among Columbia students has also spurred some of them to take action, handing out leaflets to passersby in front of the restaurant.

“This will not be tolerated,” said Evan Burger, CC ’13 and a leader of Student-Worker Solidarity. “Everybody in the neighborhood has to know about this. It’s a huge deal.”

A manager at Indus Valley, who gave his name as Bobby, said that he wasn’t aware of any lawsuit. The man who Caballero said fired him—Harjeet “Bobby” Singh, a manager at the restaurant—is mentioned as a defendant in the original complaint.

The owners—brothers Lakhvir “Billa” and Phunam Singh, of no relation to Harjeet Singh—were not available for comment this week.

Eleutario Calixto, another former delivery worker involved with the lawsuit, said that the employees are suing “to stop the mistreatment and abuse not

SEE SWEATSHOPS, page 2

OPINION, PAGE 4

The politics of science

Martin Chalfie speaks about being a politically engaged Nobel winner.

Leveling the field

ADD/ADHD drugs aren’t equal to “cheating” your way through college.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Football searches for first Ivy win

After failing to hold a fourth-quarter lead in two consecutive Ancient Eight matches, the Light Blue will host Yale this weekend.

EVENTS

Engineering Consortium Career Fair

Employment opportunities for students pursuing engineering and related fields.
Roone Arledge Auditorium, 10 a.m.

Three Stories of Galicia

A film screening and panel discussion on the personal effects of World War II.
707 International Affairs Building, 6 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



66°/57°

Tomorrow



64°/54°

Jesse Jackson, Nation publisher talk race, faith

BY THEA RAYMOND-SIDEL
Columbia Daily Spectator

Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and Katrina vanden Heuvel, publisher of The Nation, criticized the way faith, race, and social justice have been covered in American political discourse and the media Thursday night.

The presidential campaigns and the media have avoided the topic of religion, vanden Heuvel said. She cited Rick Santorum's remarks last October that John F. Kennedy's 1960 speech on the separation of church and state "made him want to throw up" as evidence of faith encroaching onto politics.

Jackson disagreed, saying that Christianity teaches a moral duty to fight for social justice. The problem was not with the religion, he said, but with the politicians themselves.

"It is not the character of the religion that is in question but the people who are peddling it," he said.

At the event, sponsored by the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, the two speakers were also critical of the discussion of race and politics, even in the age of President Barack Obama, CC '83, and more than 20 years after Jackson himself ran as the Democratic presidential nominee, they said.

"It's important to remember the doors you knocked down

in order for others to serve this country," vanden Heuvel said of Jackson.

When MaryAlice Parks, Journalism '12, asked the speakers if having the first African-American president made racism a nearly taboo subject, Jackson simply said, "Yeah," drawing laughter from the crowd.

Later, Parks criticized the media's dismissal of racism as a persistent issue in America.

"I do think it's a problem with the media as well as the politicians, the media is almost just as scared to take on race and racism as a full-frontal issue," Parks said.

"The right wing wants to repeal the civilizing advances of the 20th century."

—Katrina vanden Heuvel, publisher of The Nation

Both speakers cited debates over contraception and voter suppression as a regression to arguments that have already been waged and won, forcing progressives to play defense in politics, they said.

"The right wing wants to repeal the civilizing advances of the 20th century," vanden Heuvel said.

Jackson agreed, adding that the presidential debates did not address the right social issues. He said he was disappointed that none of the three presidential debates addressed voter suppression through voter ID laws or the growing number of families in poverty.

The two speakers agreed that in the fight for social justice, politics itself is not enough.

"We understand that the election of Barack Obama is viable but not sufficient," vanden Heuvel said. "We need to be at his back on Nov. 6, and then in the streets on Nov. 7."

Peaches Davis, who attended the debate, said she wished that the speakers had spent more time talking about ways to bridge youth apathy, mentioning the lack of civic education in public schools.

"I wish we could actually discuss how to start this engagement," she said. "I think we have to start younger."

Jackson, who touched on the legacy of social activism at Columbia, called on the students in the audience to fight for causes and not just vote.

"You are in the 1 percent—seize this moment and take it back to the bottom," he said.

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TIANYUE SUN FOR SPECTATOR

UNFAIR | Silvano Caballero is a plaintiff in a lawsuit against the owners of Indus Valley restaurant.

Lawsuit: Indus Valley paid low wages, stole tips

SWEATSHOPS from front page

only for ourselves, but for other immigrant workers."

"They should treat everyone with at least some respect," he said.

According to court documents filed by the plaintiffs, Indus Valley has paid delivery workers between \$125 and \$150 a week for between 42 and 48 hours of work, which translates to wages between \$2.35 and \$2.57 an hour. Dishwashers were paid \$350 a week for 72 hours of work, or \$4.86 per hour.

New York State's minimum wage is \$7.25 per hour, and state law requires overtime pay for over 40 hours per week. Caballero and Calixto both said they didn't know at the time that they were being paid below minimum wage.

The workers also say that restaurant management took 15 percent of tips from orders made through online services like GrubHub and Seamless, as well as entire tips on large orders made by credit card. Customers would say that they left a tip, and when delivery workers got back to the restaurant, owners would say they didn't. Calixto said that once, when a group of Columbia students made a \$900 food order, the owners kept the

entire tip.

And on at least two occasions, Caballero said, managers hit him.

"I was coming in by the door of the kitchen, a plate fell, and after the plate fell, Billa came and slapped me on both sides of the face," he said.

Another time, Caballero said, an assistant manager, Naresh Malhotra, "got mad when I didn't work as fast as he wanted me to, and that's when he slapped me."

Workers also say that they were verbally abused.

"They would yell at you to work faster, and tell you if you don't work faster, they'll send you home," Calixto said. Managers would refer to workers as "dogs" and "malaka," a Greek expletive, Caballero said.

"When that happens, we felt sad, because we're there to work—we can't leave," Caballero said. "And if we leave the job, how is our family in Mexico going to eat?"

This isn't the first time that the restaurant's owners have run into labor issues. Phunam Singh was a defendant in a 2008 case in which another restaurant was accused of paying below minimum wage, not paying for overtime, and withholding tips. The case was later settled out of

court.

Indus Valley has also been the subject of a New York Department of Labor investigation since 2008. Lawrence Breen, a department investigator, declined to comment on the case.

According to Caballero, Lakhvir Singh told workers to "leave, go out through the basement" when state investigators visited in 2010.

"I did, I did what he told me to do," he said, "I knew it was someone from a state agency, because my coworker told me when the department came, they would tell us to leave through the basement."

Illegal labor practices are not uncommon in the restaurant industry, which experiences a high employee turnover. Local activists from the Justice Will Be Served! campaign have been trying to convince Upper West Side and Morningside Heights businesses to sign a pledge not to practice sweatshop labor, sometimes passing out fliers at Columbia.

Calixto said he just wants due compensation and respect.

"They think that because you're not from here, you're nothing," he said. "And because you're not from here, you don't have rights."

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OLACHI OLERU FOR SPECTATOR

BIG ISSUES | Katrina vanden Heuvel (left) and Jesse Jackson (right) debate race, faith, and politics.

NROTC students feel welcome, committee evaluates class credit

NROTC from front page

thereafter, the University and the Navy reached an agreement on a NROTC program.

The program's inaugural students say that it's going smoothly so far, even though they have to commute to the Bronx for classes and physical training. Poorbaugh, an active-duty Marine who commutes to SUNY Maritime three times per week, said that Columbia professors have been flexible about his schedule.

For Delgado, returning to school after 11 years in the Navy was the toughest part of the transition.

"I'm starting to get a hang of it now, but at first, the workload was tough," he said. "But, the Navy—the military in general—does prepare you to take on a challenge."

Columbia's NROTC program serves two types of students—traditional undergraduates, who commit to serving in the Navy or Marines after they graduate, but also active-duty soldiers like Delgado and Poorbaugh. These service members can attend the School of General Studies through the Seaman to Admiral-21 program or the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program, both of which give them the chance to attend school full-time and then return to the military after graduation as commissioned officers.

"The balance has been great—a lot easier than I thought it was," said Poorbaugh, who is in his seventh year of active-duty service. While he attended community college in the past, he said that he enjoys studying at a liberal arts university.

"It feels great, obviously. It's a change of pace, but I love it," he said.

The admissions process for NROTC consists of two application reviews, one by the Navy or Marines and one by Columbia. Delgado said that Columbia—and GS specifically—was flexible throughout the process,

allowing him to apply early and then defer for a semester.

The School of General Studies, Delgado said, has been a particularly good fit for him. "I didn't originally think of Columbia," he said. "Of course I always held it in high esteem, but I didn't think it was an option until I found this GS school, which is perfect for somebody like me."

‘VERY, VERY ACCOMMODATING’

The ease of Delgado and Poorbaugh's transitions to Columbia is partly a result of extensive planning and preparation by the University. Last November, Provost John Coatsworth established a committee to advise his office on the implementation of the NROTC program, and it has been working for the last year to put all the pieces together.

The committee members—six professors and two students—have been working with Vice Provost for Academic Administration Stephen Rittenberg, who is overseeing NROTC's implementation at Columbia, and Amber Griffiths, Columbia's manager of Military & Veteran Affairs. For the most part, that has meant examining other universities with similar programs and dealing with questions of academic credit.

The Committee on Instruction for Columbia College and GS is also reviewing some NROTC courses, and can submit suggestions to SUNY Maritime for ways in which those courses might be adjusted to meet Columbia requirements.

"We're doing our best to maximize the number of classes that could be given credit at Columbia, but we're being realistic that it's not going to be all of them," said Captain Matthew Loughlin, the commanding officer of the NROTC program at SUNY Maritime.

Mandatory classes cover naval ship systems, leadership and management, leadership and ethics, and navigation, Loughlin said.

Meanwhile, NROTC officials are setting up shop on campus. According to mechanical engineering Professor Jeffrey Kysar, the chair of the advisory committee, the biggest challenge so far was finding an office for NROTC officials—a problem that was solved when Columbia transformed a space on the first floor of Lerner Hall that had previously housed vending machines and computers into an office.

"We want to have as much presence here as we can," Loughlin said. Military personnel from SUNY Maritime hold office hours at Columbia four days per week, answering questions students might have about the program, and Loughlin said that he hopes to be on campus personally at least once a week.

"It's pretty obvious that people care that we're here and are going out of their way to help us."

—Patrick Poorbough, GS, student in the NROTC program

"We understand that our presence here is going to be disproportionate to the number of students we have here for a while, because it's so important for us to be here—to interact in a natural manner with the entire community here at Columbia," he said.

Major Javier Garcia, a Marine officer instructor at SUNY Maritime, noted that the office space Columbia has reserved for NROTC is unique—most other affiliate schools, such as Fordham, do not have designated space on campus.

"The administration has been

very, very accommodating to everyone's request," Garcia said.

The advisory committee includes both proponents and vocal opponents of the NROTC program. History professor Elizabeth Blackmar agreed to serve on the committee even though she voted against ROTC in the University Senate last year.

"I still oppose ROTC on campus, but I was asked to serve on the committee and did so, because I think faculty with differing perspectives should participate in the oversight of any programs that intersect with the university's educational mission," Blackmar, who is on leave, said in an email.

The committee is scheduled to meet three times this semester, but after that, it's unclear whether or not it will continue to exist. Rittenberg said he would like to see oversight of ROTC be given to the faculty as a whole, just like any other educational program.

"Perhaps most important in my mind is to come up with a structure that will provide ROTC with a place at the University, organizationally speaking," Rittenberg said. "I'd like to see the advisory committee work its way out of existence to be replaced by some other structure for the oversight and supervision of the program."

But however Columbia chooses to oversee it, NROTC is well on its way toward becoming a fixture on campus. Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Wynn, the executive officer responsible for NROTC at SUNY Maritime, emphasized how quickly the program has developed.

"When you look at how far we've come and the history behind it, to now have an office, regular office hours, students in the program—while we haven't gone from zero to 100 miles an hour overnight, I think we've basically gone beyond what anyone had expected initially in the very first semester," he said.

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Beleaguered restaurant, now without liquor license, may close

BY LUKE BARNES
Spectator Staff Writer

Local Mexican restaurant Papasito suffered a major blow in its ongoing feud with community members this month when the State Liquor Authority decided not to renew its liquor license for 2013.

The bar and grill, located on Broadway between 104th and 105th streets, has been the subject of seemingly constant complaints over the past year, ranging from concerns over the rowdy behavior of its evening customers to violations for serving underage drinkers. It has been temporarily closed several times since it opened in September 2011, and it will likely have to stop selling alcohol at the end of the year.

Community Board 7 voted last year to recommend that the liquor authority not renew Papasito's license. But according to CB7 chair Mark Diller, it's not clear whether the company that holds the restaurant's liquor license is actually operating the business.

A company called Tokyo Pop LLC holds the liquor license, even though a different company, Papasito Midtown Corporation, operates the restaurant, Diller said, raising questions about whether Papasito should even be allowed to serve liquor right now.

"It's really important the person who receives the license is the person who should operate the business," Diller said. "We're

supposed to know who receives liquor licenses. It carries certain responsibilities towards community."

Diller acknowledged that the lack of a liquor license might force Papasito to close.

"It's not good for the community to have vacant, boarded-up store fronts, but we want responsible operators ... who embrace the transparency required instead of chafing at it," he said. "They know these rules—these are not things they're confused about."

Leonel Baizan, the manager at Papasito, declined to comment about what entity holds the restaurant's liquor license. He said only that the restaurant has worked hard over the last year to become more community-friendly.

"We have not had the lounge, we took away the loud music, we changed the image of the restaurant," he said.

"Local neighbors have congratulated us—this now is who we really are," he added.

Despite Baizan's assurances, some residents are still apprehensive about the restaurant.

"It's a family-oriented neighborhood, so if there are fights, then they shouldn't have their license," Upper West Side resident Morgan Theves said. "People only go there to drink, that's the bottom line—which is fine, but if they can't control them," they shouldn't be serving alcohol, he said.

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COURTLAND THOMAS FOR SPECTATOR

THE END IS NEAR | Mexican restaurant Papasito has lost its liquor license, which could mean its closure at the end of the year.

Harlem salon sells pink strands for breast cancer

BY YING CHANG
Columbia Daily Spectator

At a West Harlem salon, pink hair has never been more meaningful.

Stylists at Salon 804, located on Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard between 123rd and 124th streets, have been adding pink strands to their clients' hair this month in exchange for donations to fight breast cancer. A friend with breast cancer inspired the salon's owner, Rochelle Mosley, to spread awareness and raise funds in honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"I have a good friend who's actually going through the battle right now," Mosley said. "I have a lot of clients that are survivors, and I just wanted to be a part of the force."

Mosley came across the idea

of dying hair pink for breast cancer awareness while browsing the Internet. She said she thought it was a better match for her business than the more traditional pink ribbons.

"It's interesting and different," stylist LaSeena Richardson said. "My clients are excited to get their pink strand."

More than 60 people have requested pink strands this month, raising more than \$1,200 for breast cancer, Mosley said.

"It was really bigger than I anticipated—even people who are not color-wearing, not weave-wearing people, even older people," Mosley said. "One time, every person sitting in their chairs got pink hair. At least 20 people in one day got a pink strand."

The salon used some of the money to fund its team in the American Cancer Society's

annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk Oct. 21. The rest has been set aside for a close friend of Mosley's—a friend Mosley said is "really in need for the treatment."

The campaign has done more than raise money. In a place as social as a hair salon, employees and clients have a heightened awareness about breast cancer just by talking with one another.

"When you're in a setting like this, women start talking. You start talking about your boyfriend, about breast cancer," Mosley said. "Everybody gets involved."

And once people started talking about breast cancer, Mosley said, it becomes clear how many people it has touched.

"Everybody who has gotten in my chair knew somebody who had it. Every third person was either a survivor or going through it," she said. "And just by seeing the post in the window, many people have said, 'Oh, I need to get my mammogram!'"

Shelline Norman, a regular client at Salon 804 for the past 10 years, said pink hair is "absolutely" an effective way to spread awareness of breast cancer.

"It was just different. It was personal," Norman said. The pink hair "could even be looked upon as a fashion statement."

The salon's efforts have already made a difference. Richardson said that one client's aunt recently got a mammogram and was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The salon campaign made the client "more aware, which in turn made her aunt go get it," Richardson said. "She was diagnosed in the early stages."

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AYELET PEARL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PRETTY IN PINK | At Salon 804 in West Harlem, customers can purchase pink strands to support breast cancer.

Lions to take on Bulldogs on Saturday

MEN'S SOCCER from back page

"I think the guys have handled it as well as you can expect for where we are," head coach Kevin Anderson said. "They've come to training, they've worked hard. They're a group that is preparing for another Ivy league game."

Najem said the team went through its normal routine of practicing its attack, its defense, and reviewing tactical details. "The week prior to a game, we're just focusing on ourselves, understanding who our opponent is—mainly trying to touch up on what we do best, and bring what we do best to the game on Saturday," he said.

But, according to Anderson,

the usual routine still isn't quite the same.

"However, I think everyone's 'business-as-usual' is different," he said of the routine this week. "And certainly, there's a different vibe that's going on in camp right now. Guys understand the significance of where we are in the season."

Even though this exact group of players did not go through last year's experience, Anderson said he does not expect his team to stop playing hard.

"The only thing that we have now as a group right now is this year's experience," he said. "I think it comes down to character and pride. And these guys, every single one of them, has put in a lot of hours, and a lot of time, and a lot of effort into this."

Last year, Columbia hosted Yale and won, 1-0. Current junior forward Henning Sauerbier and senior midfielder/forward and co-captain Nick Scott assisted on the first-half goal from striker Will Stamatis.

"A couple of results go either way, and it turns out we have some opportunity," Najem said. "If it's not this year, we're still playing for ourselves—we're playing for our team, for our coach, for our institution—so I think we still have the right mentality, and we're still going to move forward and push for victories."

The team will get its chance to start moving up the standings again at 4:30 p.m. in New Haven, Conn.

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Cross country heads to Heps with title hopes

BY MELISSA CHEUNG
Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia men's and women's cross country teams will compete in the Ivy League Heptagonal Cross Country Championships this Saturday, two weeks after their impressive performances at the competitive Wisconsin Invitational. All but one Ivy school competed in Wisconsin, and each had positive results to take away from it. For the Light Blue, Heps will be a test of perseverance and mettle.

"The greatest thing that we can carry from Wisconsin into Heps is confidence," senior Mike Murphy said. "We proved that we are a great team, and we can compete with anyone."

Murphy took 22nd in Wisconsin and led the way to the Lions' fifth-place finish on the men's side. He was the second-highest Ivy finisher, only behind Harvard junior Maksim Korolev,

who took 18th place. While there is strong competition for the men all throughout the Ancient Eight, the most dangerous challenger to the Ivy crown comes from No. 23 Princeton.

Despite falling 12 places in the national rankings after the meet, the Tigers finished 14th in Wisconsin and have plenty of reason to be fired up this weekend. Princeton will be going for its third consecutive Ivy title on its home turf. The Tigers were last defeated in 2009, when they fell to the Light Blue. Columbia nearly beat Princeton last year, but was edged out by one point. With a chip on its shoulder, the newly No. 10 ranked Light Blue is expected to threaten the Tigers for the crown.

"Our expectation is to win Heps," senior Leighton Spencer said. Spencer also ran with Murphy in Wisconsin.

The women will have their work cut out for them, with

difficult competition coming from No. 7 Cornell and No. 22 Yale. The Big Red and the Bulldogs finished in fifth and 13th places, respectively, in Wisconsin.

The Lions have recently fallen out of the national rankings and have had trouble producing dominant results in the absence of All-American sophomore Waverly Neer, who has not raced since the Toledo Inter-Regional Bubble Buster on Sept. 21. The women will need to race better than they have at recent meets in order to compete with Cornell, the defending champion, for the Ivy title.

"Heps is always an emotional meet," Murphy said. "It's a race where individual accomplishments take a back seat to team success."

With the team mentality in mind, Columbia will look to win titles on both sides at Princeton's West Windsor Fields on Saturday.

sports@columbiaspectator.com



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FRONT OF THE PACK | Senior Mallory Anderson, who took the individual title at the 2012 Metropolitan Championships earlier this season, will lead the women's team at Heps this weekend.

WHLDC promises M'ville benefits on the way

WHLDC from front page

Kofi Boateng described the past few months' progress as the start of a new understanding between the WHLDC and the University.

"They've been supportive, collaborative, and forthcoming," Boateng said. "It's a healthy relationship. We're changing the tenor of the relationship from a conflicting one to a cooperating one."

Columbia has also begun fulfilling its CBA promise of \$20 million "in-kind contributions," which include access to University services and facilities. Ted Gershon, associate vice president of community based initiatives, said at the meeting that the WHLDC has requested assistance in producing a business plan to look at industries in Harlem where economic investment in most needed.

"We'll hold stakeholder meetings where you'll sit with us and have a conversation," Gershon said. "This will be a more intimate operation. We'll talk to you about what kind of priorities we need to embrace."

Despite administrators' reassurances, many in attendance at the three-hour meeting remained

pessimistic about Columbia's commitment to providing jobs.

Aissatou Bey Grecia, a senior manager at one of Manhattanville's primary contractors, McKissack and McKissack, said that while the projects employs many minority- and women-owned firms, "the challenge is with the local."

Manhattanville construction requires workers to be unionized, which makes it difficult for local residents without a high school diploma or GED to find employment. Many audience members called for the WHLDC to lead construction training programs.

K. Samuels, Pharmaceutical Sciences '73 and president of the Friends of Macomb's Bridge Branch Library, received applause when she told Grecia that she wasn't "telling the truth when you say jobs, jobs, jobs." Samuels said that she sent two men, one African-American and one Caucasian, to Riverbank State Park last month for a jobs fair, but that only the Caucasian received callbacks for construction work at Manhattanville.

"Our people are trying to go to work and Columbia is saying there are jobs, but I don't know where

they are," she said.

Samuels criticized the WHLDC's board of directors for comprising mostly Community Board 9 members and representatives of elected officials and not including enough people outside of local government.

For others, the meeting was an encouraging sign of progress. Many asked Boateng about specific topics mentioned in the CBA, ranging from the provision of scholarships to maintenance of West Harlem Piers Park.

Julius Tajiddin, who said he has been following the progress of the CBA for seven years, told Boateng that he was "pretty proud to see people come out like this," despite being opposed to the expansion in its early days.

"I'm optimistic because of the turnout of these people even if they weren't here in the early fights," Tajiddin said. "And now that it's getting ready to launch, and all these people are here, it's very gratifying. If people are educated and know how the CBA came about, they'll know they have an investment in this."

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WOMEN'S GOLF

Columbia returns to action at Lady Paladin Invitational

The Columbia women's golf team returns to action on Friday after nearly a month off since its eighth-place finish at the Nittany Lion Invitational hosted and won by Penn State. Columbia ended the tournament 49 strokes over par, two better than Yale, while Harvard finished in a distant second, 16 strokes out of first. The player to watch in the upcoming Lady Paladin Invitational in Greenville, S.C. for Columbia will be last year's Ivy League Player of the Year, junior Michelle Piyapattrra. In her last day at Penn State, Piyapattrra set the Columbia low-round record, as well as course record, shooting a 65.

—Phil Godzin

Redmon seeks another shutout vs. Yale

WOMEN'S SOCCER from back page

Redmon, who will try for her seventh shutout of the year this weekend. After suffering an injury in the middle of last weekend's loss to Dartmouth, McCarthy said that Redmon will be ready to start this Saturday against Yale. Senior starting midfielder

Liz Crowe, who also went down in last week's matchup, is still recovering from her injury and will not play against Yale.

While Redmon and the defense are ready to take on Yale, the Lions will need to get their offense in gear in order to defeat the Bulldogs this weekend. The Lions have struggled to convert strong offensive drives

into goals in the attacking third, a problem that McCarthy said has been a central focus in this week's practices. "It's definitely a part of our approach to create the conditions for scoring, and we'll be looking to improve upon that on Saturday," he said.

The match starts this Saturday at 2 p.m. at Yale.

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Science and Politics

BY MARTIN CHALFIE

Four years ago, the Nobel Committee changed my life. In the moments after I learned that I had received the prize, I realized that the first thing I wanted to do as a new laureate (after the shock and surprise had subsided) was to add my name to a political endorsement for then-candidate Obama that had been announced by several science Nobel laureates a few weeks earlier. I was happy to say that I had done so at my news conference later that day. My fellow American winners that year soon joined as well.

This year I helped initiate a similar endorsement. When our endorsement letter was reported on the New York Times website, the commentary was positive, by and large. One interesting consequence, however, was that an associate editor at the Spectator asked me to write an article about “a Columbia professor and Nobel Laureate’s role and obligation to guide the larger community on issues as important as a presidential election.” I am somewhat surprised by this request. I do feel that the University’s faculty, researchers, administrators, staff, and students as citizens should feel free and be encouraged to express our opinions, but I am not sure that I want to take on the role of guide.

To derail sciencers is to derail a large part of our economic machine.

In general, I don’t feel that I have been particularly active politically. I have always had strongly-held opinions, but other than discussing them with friends, I rarely acted on them. (Although, like many in my generation, I marched against the Vietnam War and counseled people on how to deal with the military draft.) I suppose I would be disparaged as being a liberal (not in the sense that the Right uses the term today, but as the Left used it when I went to school: Someone who talks, but does little else).

My life as a scientist has changed the way I view political participation. I feel that scientists (although not only scientists) should speak out and inform others of the issues that they know of and feel strongly about. Although science and scientists are generally well-respected, recent years have seen an unfortunate rise in anti-scientific statements (see Shawn Lawrence Otto’s “America’s Science Problem” in the November 2012’s Scientific American). Too many legislators and politicians continue to push for creationism and intelligent design, deny that human activity contributes to global warming, and insist that vaccines cause autism and cell phones cause brain tumors. Rep. Todd Akin’s (R-MO) completely nonsensical remarks about “legitimate rape” are well-known, but as disturbing—although not as well-known—is Rep. Paul Broun’s (R-GA) statement that he has “come to understand that all that stuff that I was taught about evolution, embryology, the big bang theory, all that is lies straight from the pit of hell.”

If their beliefs had no consequences, I would be saddened and mystified that Reps. Akin and Broun had these misguided views (and I wouldn’t vote for them). I am afraid, however, that their opinions do have consequences because both men are in positions of power, positions where they can do real damage to scientific and technological research in this country. Both men sit on the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. The most important reason for scientists to speak out is that they must ensure that people in power are not allowed to let ideology and personal agendas inflict their opinions and beliefs on others and affect the country. Biologists viewing legislative attempts to dictate how evolution should be taught have been awakened to the importance of speaking out in defense of science, but anti-science attitudes threaten much more than education. Half the growth in the US economy since World War II has come through advances in science and engineering. To derail science is to derail a large part of our economic engine.

The answer to these anti-science attitudes is political participation by scientists from beginning students to full professors (for more on this topic, see Thomas D. Pollard “The obligation for biologists to commit to political advocacy” in Volume 151 of Cell Magazine). Since getting the Nobel, I have had many more opportunities to speak to general audiences, including a congressional science caucus. I have become a member of several public policy committees connected with the professional organizations to which I belong, and I helped initiate the Nobel laureates’ letter supporting President Obama. When I speak to nonscientists, I always stress the importance of continued support for science—particularly basic research—and for science education. The Nobel didn’t make me an activist: It enabled me to be an activist. I wish I had started earlier.

The author is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Biological Sciences. He won the 2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

After Office Hours

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won’t find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

Performance enhancing drugs?

Anyone who has paid attention to the news the last few weeks has probably heard the phrase “performance-enhancing drugs” enough times to make a person sick. Lance Armstrong was stripped of his seven Tour de France titles after a U.S. Anti-Doping Agency report found the cyclist had been involved in an “elaborate doping program.” And in a seemingly unrelated story, a New York Times article called attention to the fact that low-income kids are being prescribed Attention Deficit Disorder/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder medications even when they don’t have these disorders in order to “boost academic performance.” These two news stories call attention to the epidemic of drug use as a means to enhance performance, to be the best, or perhaps even to be “better” than one is meant to be.

While taking drugs like Adderall and Ritalin isn’t necessarily the same as, say, injecting testosterone, the abuse of ADD/ADHD medications is widespread. It’s become so much of a problem that filling a prescription for one of these drugs can mean having to try several different pharmacies in order to find one that hasn’t run out. I know this, because I take Adderall for my diagnosed ADD. More and more, I run into problems when getting my medication. But perhaps the biggest side effect of Adderall abuse has been the stigma that seems to be associated with taking the drug, whether actually prescribed it or not, especially as a college student.

I’m sure I don’t need to point out that people abuse these medications on college campuses, especially at a high-pressure university like Columbia. I have, on more than one occasion, been offered significant amounts of money for my medication by students looking to “cram” or “stay up all night studying.” Sure, Adderall may often be used as a drug for all-nighters, but for those of us who rely on the medication, we know it as the only way we can manage to focus in class or to write a paper without being distracted by ... ooh something shiny! ADD/ADHD medications are given to and taken by people who don’t need them, but does that mean nobody really needs them? Are these medications merely



JESSICA LOVELACE-CHANDLER

Owls and Lions and Bears! Oh My!

performance-enhancing drugs that give takers an unfair advantage? I had a “frenemy” say to me once that her grades were somehow more deserved than the grades of someone who took Adderall because she had “truly earned them.” (Never mind that she drank enough coffee to kill a horse—she apparently didn’t consider caffeine to be a performance-enhancing drug.) In her mind, Adderall wasn’t treating my learning disorder and bringing me up to the same starting level as everyone else, but it was giving me superhero abilities.

I won’t deny that my academic performance has been enhanced since I started taking Adderall. Before I was diagnosed, I failed three classes at my previous university and eventually dropped out, in part because I couldn’t concentrate enough to complete any of my assignments. After I started taking medication, I matriculated at a community college where I earned As, rediscovered my academic self-confidence, and eventually worked my way to Columbia, where I’m doing just fine grade-wise. Completing assignments is by no means easy now, but with medication, the tasks have become manageable. I don’t think this means I’m cheating, and I can’t believe some people do.

In her mind, Adderall wasn’t treating my learning disorder ... it was giving me superhero abilities.

ADD/ADHD will remain controversial diagnoses because there is no simple test that proves a person has them. In many cases, it seems doctors are too quick to jump to the ADD/ADHD conclusion or to prescribe medications either way. Beyond that, people take these medications when they’re not supposed to, further increasing the problems for those of us who actually need the medications. And yes, some of us do need them. We’re not “doping.” We’re just treating. We don’t deserve to be stripped of any titles, awards, or grades. What we deserve is respect—enough to be seen as equals regardless of our diagnosis, and enough for those who don’t need our medications not to take them. After all, you wouldn’t steal a wheelchair and go on a joyride if you could walk, would you?

Jessica Lovelace-Chandler is a School of General Studies junior majoring in creative writing. Owls and Lions and Bears! Oh My! runs alternate Fridays.

Maintaining wellness

BY JULIA KENNEDY

When I reflect on what wellness means to me, I think of home-cooked meals, going to the gym, and watching my favorite comedy shows, such as “The Office.” In my three years at Barnard, I have witnessed a shift in the conversation surrounding personal well-being. What was once a topic that wasn’t as openly discussed has now become acknowledged by many Barnard and Columbia students. Most students at the University at large are becoming more aware that as New York City citizens, we all want to do better in every aspect of our lives—we want to have better grades, better internships, and better social events. While this drive to keep moving forward without stopping is what makes us amazing individuals, it also manifests into stress. This overwhelming stress takes its toll on our personal well-being and on our campus culture.

We all have to remember to take a step back and breathe from time to time.

Within the last year, Barnard has experienced drastic changes to the resources it once provided for students. It was recently announced that the number of free counseling sessions for students at the Furman Counseling Center was reduced from 10 to eight for the entire year. This change follows on the heels of other administrative decisions, such as the fact that the P.E. requirement will be reduced from two semesters to one and that the pool will be closing at the end of this academic year. These changes do affect the aggregate of wellness resources on campus, especially the loss of women-only hours for swimming. I do hope, however, that we as students can all recognize that we need to continue seeking out other opportunities on campus, from Well-Woman to the many other resources.

Students are gradually realizing that self-care is no longer something that can be ignored in their daily lives.

The creation of the Student Wellness Project (of which I am a member) has helped shape this wellness discussion, connecting the values of other campus organizations and departments already in existence. Campus groups such as Columbia Art of Living club, Nightline (which thankfully reopened this month), Active Minds, Stressbusters, and others have consistently provided outlets for students to learn more about their well-being. They can also now serve as resources for students who feel frustrated and ignored in the face of these recent cutbacks. One of the strongest messages that I see coming out of these groups, and SWP in particular, is that we all have to remember to take a step back and breathe from time to time so that we don’t lose ourselves amid all forms of campus stress. These groups have consistently provided ways for students to remind themselves of what they need to do to stay well and will continue to do so as long as stress is a daily fixture in our lives.

Students need to be willing to take ownership of their own well-being, and we can do this by being supportive and listening to one another when we need help. We must determine for ourselves whether reading or writing or walking is the best way for us to stay well. We, as students, have to be willing to be self-aware and honest, both with ourselves and with each other, if we want to overcome the stress that comes with the culture of competition with each other and with our own selves.

This conversation about wellness, however, cannot remain among students. We need to communicate with administrators and use the existing support system to make sure that we find a way to move forward in the face of cutbacks and find new alternatives. Those of us on SGA can serve as mediators for change, but ultimately each individual student must figure out what she would need from Barnard to stay well. While we are losing considerable resources at our college, between the reduction of free Furman sessions and the loss of the pool, we have to determine what we appreciate and value in our lives that will keep us strong, independent, and healthy.

The author is a Barnard College senior majoring in French language and literature. She is the vice president of Barnard’s Student Government Association and a member of the Student Wellness Project.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Rethinking FroSci

Last weekend, student representatives from the Educational Planning and Policy Committee, the Committee on Instruction, and the Committee on the Core held a town hall to discuss Frontiers of Science. In light of the renewed interest in discussing one of the most contentious components of the Core, we want to offer some of our thoughts on how the science component of the Core may be improved.

To begin, we should examine its purpose. Frontiers currently exists as a series of lectures and recitations focusing on a wide variety of scientific disciplines, with greater emphasis on breadth and abstraction than on deep inquiry into any particular field. At the same time, it seems that Frontiers aims to provide exposure to topical subjects within the sciences and a basic toolset for scientific literacy. Students may come from a range of scientific backgrounds, but after Frontiers, each student should know how to use such basic concepts as stoichiometry and significant figures.

This dual mission—literacy and exposure—seems to work for other Core classes. Students without significant background in literature or philosophy can still muster strong arguments in Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization and succeed, gaining a deeper understanding of the literary canon and Western philosophical tracts while covering a range of time periods, genres, and ideas.

But Frontiers may fail because it is modeled after a small humanities seminar. Frontiers tries to combine exposure and

literacy in one class, in a way that’s possible for literary and philosophical studies—but the combination has not worked. Frontiers is not successful.

There’s a simple explanation for this. Learning in the sciences fundamentally differs from learning in the humanities. Scientific knowledge requires a grasp of certain fundamental concepts before there can be any “meaningful discussion” (the kind we experience in Lit Hum and CC, and the kind Frontiers aims to create in its recitations and assessments). Simply put, while one can understand the Iliad’s plot without being a classics major, one cannot hope to understand fully and meaningfully engage with Professor Brian Greene’s lecture on quantum mechanics if one is not fully versed in quantum mechanics.

As students, we’re left with two options: exposure to the breadth of scientific subjects, or depth of understanding of fewer topics. Administrators must decide the appropriate vision for the Columbia College science requirement, so that it can be implemented effectively. Reconsidering the kind of education Frontiers ought to provide is a broad and daunting question, but an essential one to ask at a time when the administration is seemingly open to revising the curriculum.

If Frontiers is intended to provide exposure to a range of scientific ideas, it’s falling short. Judging from the amount of complaints we have informally heard about Frontiers, it appears to us that a good portion of students—if not the majority—feels that the Frontiers recitation sections and class assessments stray from lecture material and lapse into weekly worksheets that do little to engage students. Refocusing the curriculum so that it focuses on lecture topics (as opposed

to the disparities we currently see between lecture, recitation, and assessment) will go a long way toward addressing student frustration and making the course more appealing, and would provide adequate, in-depth exposure to a variety of scientific subjects.

On the other hand, if the goal of Frontiers is scientific literacy, we should consider eliminating Frontiers altogether, and narrow the breadth of the science requirement so that it requires students to take courses in the lab sciences. Frontiers attempts to provide students with some familiarity with the scientific method and process, but it falls well short of achieving the conceptual familiarity that an introductory course in chemistry, biology, or physics does. Even with a two-course science requirement meant to supplement Frontiers, the many available course options—including courses specifically designed for non-science majors—easily allow students to circumvent any sort of thorough engagement with the sciences. Instead of taking Frontiers, students should be required to work deeply within a “core” science: biology, chemistry, physics, or even computer science.

If we decide that the purpose of the science requirement is to achieve scientific literacy, then we choose real engagement with the core sciences and eliminate Frontiers. If we find value in a course that seeks to expose students to a range of scientific topics, then we keep Frontiers, but have recitations and assessments focus on lecture material, not on basic science skills. Either way, the Frontiers of Science curriculum, and the science requirement as a whole, needs serious evaluation, and its purpose in the Core must be articulated before these changes can be made.

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com. Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.

The vision for 114th

Support Q

BY ADAM WILSON

On the Columbia and Barnard campuses, it is an unfortunate reality that some LGBT students feel anxious, uncomfortable, or unsafe when placed in general Columbia housing. These feelings of discomfort or anxiety may be caused by bad experiences with previous roommates, microaggressions (which are intentional or unintentional subtle slights or insults that are received from peers on a daily basis), or the forced use of communal, gendered bathrooms, among other possibilities. Many LGBT students who face these issues in residential housing tend to opt into single rooms to help minimize negative contact with their peers. Q House operates as a communal housing alternative for these students, as every resident of the house agrees upon entry to maintain our residential environment as an explicitly safe space for all LGBT students and their allies. Membership of Q House have also included straight allies who either wanted to learn more about the LGBT community

or overcome their own prejudices regarding LGBT persons.

Over the past few years, Q House has become a focal point for LGBT and Allied student leadership on campus. Our current roster of students includes executive board members of six of the seven LGBT undergraduate student groups on campus (CQA, EAAH, Proud Colors, GendeRevolution, Q, and Queer Awareness Month), as well as members of Rooted, Radical College Undergraduates Not Tolerating Sexism, the Asian-American Alliance, the Philolexian Society, the OMA Advisory Board, Men's Peer Education, Students Promoting Empowerment and Knowledge, the SGB Executive Board, and the Columbia Mentoring Initiative, among others. Due to this conflux of student leadership, Q House has facilitated unprecedented levels of communication and cooperation between these groups, resulting in both cosponsored and complimentary events, as well as a more cohesive community of LGBT student groups on campus. Considering the incredible engagement of our residents in the greater Columbia-Barnard community, it is not surprising that Q House offers our excessively limited space as meeting space for

the executive boards of many LGBT student groups, as well as programming space for all student groups to put on LGBT-focused events.

But, most importantly, Q House creates a family and a home for LGBT students on campus, some of whom don't have one to return to off campus. For some students, leaving campus for the holidays requires a return to the closet. In many cases, we are forced to lie to our parents or relatives about who we are, who we date, or what we do on campus, and these efforts are exhausting. Q House provides a support structure that helps students cope, both upon returning to campus and throughout the school year.

Sadly, our ability to accomplish our goals and our mission is severely limited by our current living space. Right now, Q House is located in a small suite on the second floor of Ruggles. Consequently, we are only able to house eight students per year, and our programming space is limited to a very small communal kitchen. As access to Columbia dorms is limited, our location also makes it disproportionately difficult for Barnard and General Studies students to attend events hosted in our space.

Moving into a brownstone would solve many, if

not all, of these difficulties. The increased membership cap would allow for us to provide a safe residential space for more students on campus, while the increased number of single occupancy rooms would enable us to provide a safe space to individuals whose particular needs necessitate a single occupancy room. Increased programming space would allow us to increase the size, scope, and variety of our own events, as well as to provide programming space for other student groups on campus. The brownstone would facilitate easier access for all students on campus and would additionally allow closeted students to attend events anonymously. In short, obtaining a brownstone would greatly increase our ability to serve and support Columbia's LGBT community.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in philosophy and political science. He is the house coordinator for Q House, the inter-campus outreach coordinator for Everyone Allied Against Homophobia, the Columbia co-chair for Queer Awareness Month, and a representative on the SGB executive board. This op-ed was written on behalf of Q House.

A room of our own

BY ABIGAIL STRUHL AND KYLA CHEUNG

Writers, no doubt, have a reputation for solitude. H.L. Mencken said, "The loneliest people in the world we writers are." He's not far from the truth. It would be difficult to call Columbia's literary scene a community, fractured as it is along genre, school, and department lines. Being a writer (or any kind of artist) and finding a community of like-minded people are not easy here—particularly for students who don't have an official place in one of the arts departments.

Since our inception in 2009, we have sought to rectify that. We have always been inclusive. Chemists and engineers live beside English and creative writing majors. Poets, prose writers, and lyricists trade notes and pilfer books from each other's libraries. We edit and give feedback on each other's work at our weekly workshops. We cook for each other. We eat with each other. We are even fortunate enough sometimes to be joined by successful authors—the likes of Nobel laureate Orhan Pamuk, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Mark Strand, and bestselling novelist Paul Auster.

But we do more than this. Writers House has always reached out to and brought together the broader Columbia community. We have the record to prove it, too. We've organized open readings and panel discussions with renowned authors, a lecture series with beloved Columbia professors, programming collaborations with literary magazines and fellow Special Interest Communities, and monthly open writing workshops, where we welcome any artistic creation on which people want feedback. We even helped organize and host the initial meeting of the Inter-Publications Alliance, which pulled together the disparate publications that animate our campus. We have always provided a nurturing and receptive environment for creativity, literary and otherwise. We strive to protect a constructive space for expression and to keep it open to all students, and we take this responsibility very seriously.

Yet throughout our history, we've struggled against space constraints. The first year, we spent on the second floor of Wien, conducting workshops on the floor and talking Beowulf and Junot Díaz around the trash chute in the middle of the hall. Mark Strand bumped his head on the ceiling of a Wien single; the quiche we served to Paul Auster may or may not have been too raw in the middle. (Thank you, ovens of Wien.) Open events were stiflingly overcrowded.

In 2010 we moved to our current home in Harmony. At the first ever IPA meeting in our space, guests were lined up against the walls, sitting on our trash bin, and overflowing into the hallway, where they strained to hear the speakers in the lounge. This cramping has persisted at open workshops and other events—in the past, we've even had to borrow chairs and a table from other floors just to be able to sit together in the common room.

If we had the space we needed, we would better facilitate interaction between authors and the rest of the community, in a place that would be non-academic and relaxed, intellectually inspiring and non-judgmental. We would be able to partner more effectively with other literary and artistic on-campus groups to host dinners, panels, and more relaxed get-togethers.

You may not be a writer, but that doesn't mean opportunities to grow, meet new people, and express yourself might not be interesting to you. Whether it's the chance to hear your favorite author speak, to pick up something new to read at a book swap, or to enjoy a literary magazine launch, Writers House could enrich both your creative mindset and your sense of community at Columbia. As you think about what you'd like for 114th Street, think about this: We have a track record of providing events and resources that attract Columbians with diverse interests and backgrounds. We would create a space that is community-focused and inclusive. We would put together events that might interest you—or, if not you, perhaps your best friend, who dabbles in slam poetry even as she pursues her engineering or biology or anthropology degree. We would provide a nexus where people could meet, collaborate, and innovate—and an art-focused alternative to the existing options for extracurricular enjoyment on 114th Street.

We are honored to be considered for a brownstone alongside such strong contenders and we wish the other groups the best of luck. We are confident that given this opportunity to establish our presence in a brownstone, our efforts would serve to enrich the lives of those who call words their work and Columbia their home.

Abigail Struhl is a Columbia College junior majoring in English literature. She is the coordinator of Writers House. Kyla Cheung is a Columbia College senior majoring in computer science and is entering her third year living in the Writers House. This op-ed was written on behalf of Writers House.



We didn't just join a fraternity—we joined FIJI

BY SHIVAM PAPPU AND JASON YANG

Phi Gamma Delta—otherwise known as FIJI—has not had a home for over a decade, but has overcome this disadvantage, and today the Omega Chapter is an inclusive, diverse group of 40 brothers that traces its history at Columbia back to 1866. The brownstone selection committee provides a rare opportunity for our brotherhood to obtain a house on 114th street. Our chapter has succeeded despite being underdogs, and with the resources and presence a brownstone provides, we could achieve even greater initiatives.

FIJI is not just another insular fraternity, nor is it a small special interest community with narrow purposes and limited membership. We recruit any man with a passion for excellence, regardless of his pursuits and where he comes from. We're committed to engaging the Columbia community, whether through social events on the weekend, open career nights hosted by our alumni, or by co-sponsoring philanthropy with campus organizations. Finally, we're a fraternity that's aware of negative stereotypes of Greek life and we try to overcome these misconceptions through our commitment to risk management, scholarship, and service.

There is no typical FIJI brother—we recruit from a variety of ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds, and interests. We're not linked to a particular sport, and our brothers study everything from East Asian studies and film to financial engineering. Over the past few years, we've had athletes in football, cycling, rowing, volleyball, and squash. Campus leaders regularly emerge from within our ranks, including board members on the Activities Board at Columbia and the Columbia Economics Society. Furthermore, we look beyond Columbia College and SEAS to recruit brothers with unique life experiences from the School of General Studies, such as professional dancer Kambi Gathesha and naval veteran Adam Wowk. To ensure that the opportunities of Phi Gamma Delta are open to everyone, our alumni association provides a merit scholarship that 90 percent of brothers qualify for, and subsidizes more than 50 percent of dues. The involvement and leadership of these brothers, many of whom would never have thought to join a traditional college fraternity, enrich our group and make it a place where men from all walks of life can feel at home.

Our programming reflects the values of our brotherhood. Last spring, we held a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity and used the donations to subsidize the travel costs for Columbia students building shelters in Portland. Last month, we held a Career Night in which some of our dedicated alumni shared their stories and networked with members of the Columbia community. This month, we affirmed our

commitment to risk management by holding a CPR training workshop that certified 60 percent of the chapter. It was organized by Dan McConnell, one of our four brothers in CU-EMS who contributes over 800 EMT hours a year. What makes these humble efforts most notable is the fact that all of these accomplishments were fulfilled without a common gathering space for our close to 40 members.

While FIJI makes outstanding impacts on our community, we cannot help but imagine our potential if fitted with a brownstone. We intend to increase the size and frequency of all our initiatives on campus, in addition to holding new events like a musical performance fundraiser and a risk management workshop between peers in the Greek community. To expand our CPR initiative we already mandate that every pledge receive certification, but we also hope to host classes open to the Columbia community. Finally, we plan to establish an organized tutoring program with the Bankstreet School for Children, whose students we already volunteer with at soup kitchens. With the availability of this large permanent space, the costs and organization of events would be far easier to manage, and our already impressive brotherhood would be able to realize its full potential.

There is no typical FIJI brother—we recruit from a variety of ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds, and interests.

Our greatest source of support is our alumni Board of Chapter Advisors. These busy men include a Rhodes scholar, veterans' affair lobbyist, and senior corporate managers, but they regularly find time to contribute their money and effort for the benefit of not just our chapter, but Columbia as a whole. They will be there to ensure our continued excellence and guide us through the transition if Columbia grants us a home.

We have a saying that the values and bonds of FIJI are "not just for college days alone," and we truly believe in dedicating ourselves to this community. A lot of our dreams were crushed in 2008 when we last tried to obtain a house from Columbia. But despite having to overcome campus obstacles, FIJI has become an influential, diverse, and caring organization. We hope our efforts succeed this time, and if they do, we won't let you down. We didn't just join a fraternity: We joined FIJI—an organization that believes we are only as strong as the University we give back to.

Shivam Pappu is a School of Engineering and Applied Science junior majoring in financial engineering. He is a pledge educator for Phi Gamma Delta. Jason Yang is a Columbia College sophomore and the service chair for Phi Gamma Delta. This op-ed was written on behalf of Phi Gamma Delta.

What can Alpha Chi Omega do for you?

BY ALEXANDRA SALERNO

Let's shoot straight here: I probably do not know you, but I'm sure your life is greatly enriched by your membership in the Finger Painting Society (or whatever campus organization of your choosing). And while I really think it's great how you guys donate your masterpieces to homeless shelters and bake cookies together every Sunday to bond and do whatever else you do, at the end of the day the trials and triumphs of your organization mean next to nothing in my life. So why on earth should I expect you to feel any differently about Alpha Chi Omega? Why should nonmembers care whether we are granted a brownstone or not?

Laid out in simple terms, the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega's Theta Psi chapter love the University and want to serve it to the best of our abilities. The drive and (wo)manpower are certainly there—we have grown in leaps and bounds over the past few years, both in membership and enterprise—but the facilities available to us have not. We have ideas for programming that we think the Columbia community at large would enjoy and benefit from, but we lack the space to carry them out.

Take, for instance, our week of events earlier this month to promote our national philanthropy, domestic violence awareness. We believe strongly in the importance of opening conversation about the topic to remove any surrounding social stigma, supporting victims, and equipping all people with the tools to prevent domestic violence from affecting them personally. We carefully planned out activities open to the community to accomplish each of these three prongs, including a panel discussion cosponsored by a variety of student groups, an art exhibit and sale showing paintings by high school students affected by domestic violence, a movie screening, a self-defense class, and a performance showcase.

As evidenced by the inclusion of anti-rape programming as a linchpin of the New Student Orientation Program, an onslaught of campus-wide recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the willingness of other student groups (including Kappa Delta Rho, CU Ballroom , and Raw Elementz, to name a few) to lend a helping hand to our events, it seemed Columbia tended to agree with our viewpoint on the importance of raising awareness. We had the message and the community seemed ready to listen.

However, a small, secluded room in the back recesses of Lerner is really not the best venue for hosting events of this magnitude. Many students would much rather just give up than continue their search for the Broadway Room. A few of these events—especially the art gallery—were simply not suited to a Lerner space, and the effectiveness of the programming suffered. Ultimately, our events were fairly successful, but the lack of appropriate venues undoubtedly deflated their potentials. This is a shame. Given a brownstone, we could have provided the community with more coherent, better-organized, and more fulfilling events.

We want to bring you self-defense classes. We want to involve you in eye-opening panel discussions and open conversation in a safe space. We want to teach you Zumba while raising money for charity. We want to hear you sing at open mic nights. We want your help in assembling gift packages for children living in the Sanctuary for Families, a Harlem-based shelter for battered women. We want to bring in speakers specializing in personal wellness, job-hunting, resume writing, and other issues pertinent to you. And we want to do it all more frequently, bigger, and better than current conditions allow. Essentially, whoever you are and whatever your interests, we would love to invite you over to our brownstone.

Alpha Chi Omega is truly honored to be considered by the Brownstone Review Committee alongside 12 other organizations. We know that each applicant serves an important role within the Columbia community and deserves only the utmost support from the university in its endeavors. However, we urge the average student to be a little bit selfish. What would you get out of Organization X receiving a brownstone?

The answer for us is clear. The sisters of Alpha Chi Omega are motivated, capable, and eager to share what matters to us with the Columbia community in a variety of capacities. We take our commitment to involving the University seriously and know that we can do it better given a more appropriate venue. The magnitude of Alpha Chi Omega's ambition has come to vastly exceed that of its current space allotment, and it is our ardent hope that you give us the chance to show you what we can do.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in statistics and concentrating in business management. She is vice president of recruitment for Alpha Chi Omega. This op-ed was written on behalf of Alpha Chi Omega.

1026/1

Other Ivy Games

Princeton at Cornell

Following last weekend's upset of Harvard, the undefeated Tigers are now the team to beat in the Ivy League. But Jeff Mathews and the Cornell offense have the firepower to make this game interesting and get themselves back into the race for an Ancient Eight title.

Brown at Penn

Following an upset at the hands of Yale, Penn is now tied for second in the Ivies with both Harvard and Dartmouth. At 1-2, the Bears are not out of the race either, especially considering that they have already played Harvard, Cornell, and Princeton.

Harvard at Dartmouth

This matchup of second-place teams could have major ramifications in the wide-open Ivy title race. However, Harvard remains the favorite despite last weekend's shocking loss to Princeton.

FRIDAY
FIRST DOWN

COLUMBIA

13.2

23.7

POINTS

FOR

AGAINST

YALE

17.5

30.0

Yards Allowed

COLUMBIA

364.2

YALE

420.3

Yards Gained

COLUMBIA

303.5

YALE

385.3

Muneeb Alam
(22-13)

I hope these picks are right on the Muneeb. And go Lions.

Columbia

Harvard

Princeton

Brown

NYFG

Detroit

Peter Andrews
(17-18)

Gosh, they'll beat the Bulldogs!

Columbia

Harvard

Cornell

Penn

Cowboys

Seahawks

David Fine
(10-25)

GIANTS ALL THE WAY MOTHER-FUCKERS KILL THE COW-GIRLS!

Columbia

Harvard

Princeton

Brown

GIANTS

Seahawks

Alex Jones
(13-22)

Down to single digits before basketball season.

Yale

Harvard

Princeton

Penn

Giants

Lions

Katie Quan
(9-26)

Lions! Lions, Lions Lions!

Columbia

Big Green

Big Red

Oatmeal

Giants

Lions

Sam Tydings
(20-15)

That's what the Tigers get for beating the beloved Yanks.

Columbia

Harvard

Princeton

Brown

Giants

Lions

Columbia faces Yale, Brown once again

Light Blue looking to avoid late collapse

BY ERIC WONG
Spectator Staff Writer

Coming off a tight 3-2 win against Cornell, the volleyball team (9-8, 4-4 Ivy) faces a tough weekend with matches against Yale, which remains undefeated in the Ivy League, and Brown, which Columbia beat 3-2 earlier in the season. While looking back to Columbia and Yale's matchup earlier this season does nothing to suggest that the Lions have a shot of pulling out the win, history suggests that Columbia can try to snap Yale's streak this weekend. "We went up there last year and had a chance to win," head coach Jon Wilson said. "It was a very close match, so hopefully some of that history will repeat itself."

Two keys to help the Light Blue find success this weekend are sustained service pressure and establishing the middle hitter as a threat. Service pressure in particular puts the opposition's offense out of system and allows for the Lions' defense to take over and find more opportunities to score points. Against Cornell, the Lions won the first two games behind strong serves, but they let their foot off the gas, allowing the Big Red to come back. "Against everyone left, we have to do a better job of sustaining service pressure," Wilson said. "The difference between service pressure and not having it, it's a very subtle thing."

A larger area of concern is the offensive presence in the

MICHAEL DISCENZA / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BRAU BEATING | Senior middle blocker Heather Braunagel is an intimidating presence for the Lions.

FOOTBALL from back page

momentum thanks to its impressive win over Penn. Stopping the run will be huge for the Lions. Yale's average of 183.2 rushing yards per game is the second-highest in the Ivies, behind only Harvard. "They live with that running game, there's no doubt about it," Columbia head coach Pete Mangurian said. The Bulldogs boast a pair of talented running backs offensively in Mordecai Cargill and Tyler Varga. Varga has 515 rushing yards on the year, while Cargill has 323. Both average around five yards per carry. Quarterback Eric Williams, who may or may not play on Saturday due to an injury he sustained last weekend against the Quakers, has also contributed a good deal on the ground, posting 169 rushing yards thus far. Even wide receiver Derek Russell, who has 14 carries and 70 rushing yards, has seen some action on the ground. Largely on the strength of their ground attack, the

Bulldogs boast the third-highest third-down conversion rate in the conference, as well as the third-highest scoring offense in the Ancient Eight. But defensively Yale has had its share of problems. The Elis rank next to last in total defense, and last in scoring defense. A lot of these defensive struggles have come on the ground, as the Bulldogs have given up an average of 180.3 rushing yards per game. If the Lions' ground attack can get off its feet this weekend, it would provide a significant boost to the rest of the offense, especially in the wake of last Saturday's performance. Columbia struggled to establish the run, and the offense was never able to get into a groove like it did against Penn the previous weekend. "I don't care what anybody says, you've got to keep running the ball," Mangurian said, discussing his team's performance against Dartmouth. "You cannot become one-dimensional. And we kept running it, and it wasn't pretty, but the pass

protection—until the two-minute drive—got better because they've got to play the run." A good game from junior running back Marcorus Garrett could be crippling to the porous Yale run defense in and of itself. And if things start clicking on the ground, it will make things easier for senior quarterback Sean Brackett, who struggled last weekend after posting his strongest performance of the year against Penn. For the last two weeks, though, it has not been offensive execution that has ultimately doomed the Lions, but rather last-minute defensive collapses. Regardless of what happens, the Lions will need to be at the top of their game from start to finish and leave nothing on the table. "We just need to finish the game and play like the team we want to be for all four quarters," freshman corner Travis Reim said. "Don't play good for one half, and then be a completely different team for the second half and just give up the game. We need to finish."

sports@columbiaspectator.com

Lions to face Rutgers, Yale over weekend

FIELD HOCKEY from back page

eight goals and three assists on the season, leads the Scarlet Knights' offensive lineup. But Rutgers is far from a one-woman team, as seven players have scored at least four goals this season. To have a chance at coming away with a win, the Lions will have to play well in the first half on Sunday, as the Scarlet Knights have dominated the first 35 minutes of games all season. Rutgers has outscored opponents 20 to 13 in the first half and outshot them 130 to 89. Columbia will travel to play Yale on Saturday at 12 p.m. and Rutgers on Sunday at 1 p.m. sports@columbiaspectator.com

Light Blue heads to Princeton for annual 3-mile regatta

BY LAURA ALLEN
Spectator Staff Writer

The women's and men's rowing teams race in the Princeton Chase this Sunday at 10 a.m. The annual three-mile regatta is hosted on Lake Carnegie, with competitions in lightweight women, open women, lightweight men, and heavyweight men, as well as a small boats event. The Columbia women will look to make a strong showing, capitalizing off on last week's success at the Head of the Charles Regatta, in which they stopped just short of finishing in the top 10 out of 40 teams, recording an 11th place finish. Last year, the varsity B Yale on Saturday at 12 p.m. and Rutgers on Sunday at 1 p.m. sports@columbiaspectator.com

A four finished with a time of 17:37.14 in ninth place. The men's heavyweight team looks to continue its historic success, as it has come in fifth place out of 38 for the past two years. The varsity A eight raced a time of 13:21:50 in last year's regatta, rowing 12 seconds longer than first-place Princeton and docking nine seconds off its time from the previous year. Varsity A four snagged eighth out of 40 crews. The men's lightweight squad also has solid ground on which to build for this year. The Lions' A boat finished seventh out of 27 in varsity lightweight eights last year. The lightweight fours performed well too, with boat A finishing 11th and boat B finishing 19th. sports@columbiaspectator.com

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 • PAGE 8



COLUMBIA (1-5, 0-3 Ivy) vs YALE (2-4, 1-2 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 12:30 P.M., BAKER FIELD

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM • WWDJ 970 AM
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM
@CUSPECSPORTS



Columbia looking to end Ivy struggles

BY CAROLINE BOWMAN
Spectator Staff Writer

After starting its conference season at 2-0, the women's soccer team (6-8, 2-3 Ivy) struggled in recent matchups against the league's top teams and currently sits in fifth place. Columbia head coach Kevin McCarthy says he plans to use the experience of the team's last few conference games to turn things around, starting this Saturday when they face Yale (7-7, 1-4 Ivy).

"We have played the top three teams in the league in the last three weeks and had some moments of real quality soccer, but still have fallen short. Clearly, we are not satisfied with that," McCarthy said earlier this week. "Our expectations are to raise our performance level and to learn from the experience we have gained in the last three games. And we believe that if we can do that, the results will take care of themselves."

While Yale sits in seventh place with only one win so far in the Ancient Eight, it has proven that it can be competitive with some of the major forces in the league. The Bulldogs took both fourth-place Harvard and first-place Princeton into overtime in late September with tenacious defensive displays. On offense, the Bulldogs have struggled to generate attacks in conference matchups thus far, having only scored three goals in their five Ivy League games. Despite the scoring drought, Yale still boasts a few offensive weapons in their lineup. Senior midfielder Kirsten Forster leads the Bulldogs' offense with six goals on the year.

To be competitive against the Bulldogs, the Light Blue will need to rely on sophomore goalkeeper Grace

SEE WOMEN'S SOCCER, page 3



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNING FREE | Junior running back Marcorus Garrett and the Lions will need to establish the running game on Saturday against a weak Yale run defense.

CU hosts Yale in search of elusive first Ivy victory

BY ELI SCHULTZ
Spectator Staff Writer

A year ago, the Lions failed to snap a seven-game skid when they fell to Yale, 16-13, in a game that was dubbed the Snow Bowl. The football team's losing streak stands at five games this time around, and the Yale team it will face is

not quite the squad that tied for second in the Ivies last season.

Just last week, Yale was a front-runner for the dubious title of worst team in the Ivy League. After winning its opener against Georgetown, the Bulldogs (2-4, 1-2 Ivy) lost four straight games. They were 0-2 in conference play, having suffered a pair of blowouts

at the hands of Cornell and Dartmouth, and were preparing to face a perennially competitive Penn team that was 2-0 in the Ancient Eight.

But Yale managed to pull off the upset and goes in to Saturday's game in a three-way tie for fifth in the conference. Meanwhile, the Lions suffered their second-straight heartbreaker

after once again surrendering a fourth-quarter lead, remaining winless in Ivy play.

While neither team is a heavy favorite, Columbia (1-5, 0-3 Ivy) will need to be at the top of its game in order to prevent Yale from building on its

SEE FOOTBALL, page 7



KIERA WOOD FOR SPECTATOR

GOING DEUTSCH | Junior midfielder Henning Sauerbier is tied for third on the team with three points this season. Sauerbier has one assist and one goal.

Columbia in difficult position within Ivies going into Yale game

BY MUNEEB ALAM
Spectator Staff Writer

Unable to take advantage of last weekend's chance to jump into the top half of the Ivy standings, the men's soccer team (3-7-3, 1-2-1 Ivy) will battle Yale (4-7-3, 1-2-1 Ivy) for sole possession of fifth place on Saturday afternoon. With the season entering its third-to-last week, the situation is all-too-familiar to the Lions.

This time last year, the Light Blue was also looking up at four teams with better Ivy records, only to see two of them falter. Columbia then went on to go 2-0-1 to finish out the season, putting it one point out of first place in the Ancient Eight.

"We saw it last year. We played well defensively and all of a sudden it clicked

for us. We started scoring goals, and we looked good as a team, and we're kind of hoping for the same thing now," junior midfielder and co-captain David Najem said. "We just have to figure out, collectively, how we're going to go about doing that. We're just looking for a couple of results to go our way."

Yale was doing some similar searching until last weekend. Like the Light Blue last year, the Bulldogs also went five games without scoring, but snapped that streak in a 2-1 win over Penn. They fell behind in the 65th minute on a penalty kick, but forward/midfielder Scott Armbrust scored just four minutes later to even the score. With under three minutes to play, junior forward/midfielder Peter Jacobson netted the winner.

SEE MEN'S SOCCER, page 3

Lions to face Rutgers, Yale in second-to-last weekend of season

BY JOSH SHENKAR
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia's field hockey team (8-6, 3-2 Ivy) will try to rebound from a two-game losing streak in a pair of road games this weekend. The Lions will take on Ivy foe Yale on Saturday before traveling to New Jersey to take on Rutgers on Sunday.

Yale (4-10, 1-4 Ivy) has struggled to build off what was a promising start to its season. The Bulldogs are currently in a three-way tie for last place in the Ivy League with Brown and Harvard. The Bulldogs are coming off a 6-1 loss to Albany, in which they were outshot 35 to three. Junior goalie Emily Cain made 15 saves against the Great Danes and has recorded over 100 this season. Junior midfielder Erica Borgo, who has four goals on the season, and senior midfielder Mary Beth Barham, who has three, currently lead the Yale offense.

Columbia head coach Marybeth Freeman said that her team will examine the errors it made against Dartmouth last weekend—the Lions lost, 5-2—to prepare for its match against the Bulldogs.

"The things that we did not do well in this game are going to be our focus in the upcoming week," Freeman said. "Like we've been doing all year, we'll do our preparation in what we know against Yale. We will understand what they do on both sides of the ball but again it comes down to us, and it comes down to us showing up, and us willing to do the work to get the results we want."

Rutgers (8-9) has had a fairly inconsistent season so far. The team won three consecutive games in early October before dropping its last three matches. Junior Lisa Patrone, who has

SEE FIELD HOCKEY, page 7



PETER BOHNHOF FOR SPECTATOR

DESANDIS DUO | Senior back Bridget DeSandis and sister Katie are tied for the team lead with nine assists apiece, and have scored a combined seven goals.

THE SLATE



WOMEN'S SOCCER
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Saturday, 2 p.m.



VOLLEYBALL
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Friday, 7 p.m.

at Brown
Providence, R.I.
Saturday, 5 p.m.



WOMEN'S GOLF
Lady Paladin Invitational
Greenville, S.C.
Friday, TBA



WOMEN'S ROWING
at Princeton Chase
Princeton, N.J.
Sunday, 10 a.m.



LIGHTWEIGHT ROWING
Princeton Chase
Princeton, N.J.
Sunday, 10 a.m.



HEAVYWEIGHT ROWING
Princeton Chase
Princeton, N.J.
Sunday, 10 a.m.



MEN'S SOCCER
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Saturday, 4:30 p.m.



FOOTBALL
vs. Yale
Baker Field
Saturday, 12:30 p.m.



FIELD HOCKEY
at Yale
New Haven, Conn.
Saturday, 12 p.m.

at Rutgers
Piscataway, N.J.
Sunday, 1 p.m.

Weekend

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012 • PAGE B1

'Sleep No More' Something wicked this way comes

BY OLIVIA AYLMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In three West Chelsea warehouses, the welcoming cast of 1930s-era hotel employees at the McKittrick beckon guests to step inside from the cold for an evening drink at the bar. Then, they promptly hand guests a mask, beseech them to remain silent, and let them off the elevator—alone—in a dark corridor.

Sound like a typical night out at a glitzy Broadway musical? Not quite. The brainchild of Punchdrunk, a site-specific Britain-based production company, the dark and provocative “Sleep No More” (directed by Felix Barrett and Maxine Doyle, and presented by Emursive) has proven a welcome addition to the New York theater scene since its opening in March 2011. Even the New York Times’ chief theater critic, Ben Brantley called the show “a voyeur’s delight” in his rave review of the endless twists and turns encountered from start to end.

With all the hype, it’s no surprise that “Sleep No More” passed its deadline and has (once again) extended its run through Feb. 5, 2013. The production faces an overwhelming demand for ticket reservations, which typically sell out weeks, if not months, in advance.

Unlike the current oeuvre of Broadway offerings, the show’s twisted interpretation of Shakespeare’s Scottish tragedy

“Macbeth” stands out not only for its cast of dynamic performers, but for the way it immerses audience members directly into the action: As producer Jonathan Hochwald explained, the production “can only be experienced live.” Guests literally chase the cast up and down staircases with their vision obscured behind masks, rummage through letters strewn about meticulously-detailed rooms, and stand witness to wordless scenes of sex and violence, all perfectly choreographed to an eerie score fit for a morgue. In the same vein as Choose Your Own Adventure books, “Sleep No More” gives guests the freedom to run rampant and make their own discoveries, while secretly providing structure that lands them back in the lounge where their evening began two hours later.

“It is epic in scale, layered in detail and meaning, and blurs the lines between theater, dance, art installation, and nightlife,” Hochwald said. “It represents the type of endeavor that open-minded and creative New Yorkers love—the very reason why so many choose to live in this city and why adventurous students opt to study here.”

The “Sleep No More” team are constantly reinventing their work. It’s not unheard of for attendees to return for

multiple visits to the McKittrick for some of the special performances. This weekend, “Sleep No More” is presenting a six-night costume fête leading up to Halloween—Carnival des Corbeaux—which guests take part in immediately following the performance.

“Unlike traditional artworks, which are frozen upon completion, or theater presentations, which are meant to be permanently locked, ‘Sleep No More’ is a living, breathing organism that continues to grow and evolve every day,” Hochwald said. “It is continually changing, both physically and emotionally, revealing new performances and settings, and adding new layers of character and meaning.”

If you decide to head downtown for these seasonal festivities, don’t expect a contrived haunted house experience. In true, immersive theater fashion, sensual surprises will hide around every corner, no doubt causing you to ask ‘What just happened?’ as you board the subway home. If Barnard sophomore Krista Lewis’ firsthand account below does not deter the adventurous detective in you, then step in from the chilly October air and spend a Halloween weekend evening at the McKittrick—if you dare.

One night in the madhouse

BY KRISTA LEWIS
Columbia Daily Spectator

I didn’t know what to expect. I had heard so many ghost stories—they were almost seared into my memory—but I couldn’t wait to form my own and to obtain the actual thrill and rush that attending “Sleep No More” gives you. It was so much more. It premiered in early March 2011, and has been extended multiple times (its original end date was May 14, 2011 and it is still going on), so I had ample time to hear every story I could.

I entered the building, gave my name to the desk and received the playing card: an ace of diamonds that would allow me to enter with the first group of attendees. I instantly separated from my friends, a strategy we had decided upon on the train ride there. The elevator was having technical difficulties, so we were lead through a back entrance with our white masks on—our group resembled observant ghosts, which we soon would be in human form. I raced ahead of the others and ended up alone on a floor with no actors. It felt like a haunted house. I found myself in a room with baby dolls dangling from the ceiling. I still don’t know what happens on this floor. I never made it back.

Eventually more people trickled in, and I found myself observing a well-choreographed fight. I followed the bald woman who appeared to have run into a room with strobe lights and some form of orgy going on. I was shocked and doing everything I could to not get in the way while trying not to make a weird face, only remembering at the end that no one could see my reaction under my white, billed mask. I followed the same woman into an apothecary-like room with dried herbs hanging from the ceiling. We were alone and eventually locked eyes as she washed the blood off of her hands. She stood up. My heart was beating like never before. She walked up to me, stared into my eyes, and eventually grabbed my head so that we touched foreheads. She then silently walked away.

Punchdrunk, the theater company that produces “Sleep No More,” focuses on immersive experiences, and that’s exactly what this is. But a distinction needs to be made between this and a haunted house (especially this time of year). These are actors and professionals who know how to tell the story of Macbeth without words. They are acrobats. The way this is performed, closely and dramatically and quickly, makes you feel what the actors are feeling and provides a constant adrenaline rush.

I watched Macbeth kill his father and wash away the blood with his mother while nude in a bathtub, and the detective who figures out who done it. I then sprinted after every character I saw running away (be warned, they are all in amazing shape and run as fast as they can up and down too many flights of stairs). No one speaks—all of the action and plot is told through movement and costume change and whatever else the amazing actors give you while you try to find the best angle to see it all. I still feel like I missed so much of the play. It runs three times throughout the night, so you have a chance to see what you missed before, but there is still no way to see everything. Sharing the details on the walk home, I was told of the experiences that my friends had, and they were so different. There were scenes that I didn’t know existed, and personal experiences with actors while locked in a room together.

This is more than just a play and more than a haunted house. It’s an experience that you can’t get anywhere else—that of being an anonymous observer in silent action. It’s well worth the \$80 ticket and, frankly, I’m surprised they don’t try to charge more. After all, you get a workout thrown in for free. Keep in mind that tickets still sell out a few weeks in advance and you only have until Feb. 5 (at least for this run) to catch “Sleep No More.” But there’s always a chance that demand will bring it back.

WHERE AND WHEN

Friday, Oct. 26: Le Charmeur de Serpent
- wear feathered, furred, or scaled costumes
Saturday, Oct. 27: La Contorsionniste
- dress in “glamorous and provocative attire”
Sunday, Oct. 28: La Femme à Barbe
- dress as a member of the opposite sex
Monday, Oct. 29: La Clairvoyante
- dress as sorcerers, witches, fortune-tellers, “and other bohemian creatures of the night”
Tuesday, Oct. 30: Les Sœurs Siamoises
- stay side-by-side with your identical twin
Wednesday, Oct. 31: Le Sorcier
- wear the carnival costume of your choice

The band and the brand

Sometimes it's difficult to tell whether an artist places more importance on their art or their "brand." This thought was at the center of my mind when the Daily News recently reported that Lady Gaga—who has been in the midst of a weight gain "scandal"—is planning to release a line of bottled-water-like beverages. Putting aside the obvious question of what will be in this "not-quite-water," the story made me think seriously about the overall state of branding in music. Musicians have used their likenesses and personalities to sell unrelated products for as long as I can remember, and many times these extensions take on a life of their own. If I have to see one more female songstress shame her adolescent fan base into buying a lifetime supply of Proactiv, I might punch a wall. What effect do these efforts have on the continued readability and authenticity of their music? Can art and branding remain successful and separate?

Before an artist can even consider building a brand, they must connect musically to listeners. This process can differ depending on genre, but whether it's bringing tired dancers back for one more run or giving angst-filled teenagers something to weep to, this connection has to occur before the artist can even think of capitalizing on his or her own image. This is why we listen to music, and this is why we develop such loyalty to our favorite artists and the image they create of themselves. Many of us reach a point where our association with a given artist is so positive that we will buy anything that contains their name. I'm not ashamed to admit that I once considered buying a set of bamboo spoons at a Jackson Browne concert.

If I have to see one more female songstress shame her adolescent fan base into buying a lifetime supply of Proactiv, I might punch a wall. What effect do these efforts have on the continued readability and authenticity of their music?

The danger when musicians attempt to capitalize on their image is that the music and branding can switch places. What was once an artist's reason for being becomes merely an instrument for selling more sneakers, or champagne, or headphones. There's nothing wrong with being a consumer products mogul, but it's hard to build that successfully while continuing to progress as an artist. This also holds true for musicians that attempt to become movie or TV stars while simultaneously pursuing their music careers. Maybe it's just me, but I feel like every actor or actress I've ever seen on the Disney Channel has come out with an awful yet successful album whose only purpose is publicizing his or her TV show.

One way in which I think this can work is when the side project strives to capture not only the artist's personality but also the music itself. Someone who I feel has done a remarkable job with this is the musician/performance artist/actor Tom Waits. His songs often feature dark, disturbed, or downright strange characters, and his acting career has mirrored this with roles in "Down By Law," "The Book of Eli," and most recently "Seven Psychopaths." The characters he portrays in films are remarkably similar to those that inhabit his songs, and his remarkable management team constantly puts to use a coherent website, email, and YouTube strategy that adds depth and breadth to Tom's singular artistic vision. This summer (as a loyal email subscriber), my inbox received multiple disturbing stills of Tom with cryptic captions as a means of promoting his trippy video for "Hell Broke Luce." Granted, it's easier for someone like Tom Waits to accomplish this, because as an experimental musician his brand is permitted to be more flexible. But the principle should be the same for all musicians.

There's nothing wrong with being a consumer products mogul, but it's hard to build that successfully while continuing to progress as an artist.

I truly believe that art and branding cannot be both separate and successful. If they separate, then one will become dominant over the other—and if they are both successful, then there must be a connection. Musicians create music, first and foremost, and that music presumably comes from somewhere deep inside of them. If they are to be truly successful in their other endeavors, whether they are for financial gain or pure enjoyment, then they must come from that same place.

David Ecker is a sophomore in Columbia College. Slightly Off Key runs alternate Fridays.



DAVID ECKER
Slightly Off Key

Best of

Halloween Parties

Miss the days of trick-or-treating in your favorite Superman costume? Looking for an outlet to show off your costume now that you can't go door-to-door collecting candy? Spectator has you covered with some of NYC's best Halloween events, from sacrificial dance parties to organ-accompanied ghoulish processions.

—BY JENNY PAYNE



ILLUSTRATION BY IONE WANG

Halloween Extravaganza and Procession of Ghouls

If you're too busy on Wednesday night to go out into the city for Halloween festivities, this Friday night offers a more local event that promises to be just as haunting. Beginning with a screening of a silent movie, and followed by a ghouls' procession accompanied by St. John's organist, the extravaganza offers attendees more low-key but equally spooky festivities thanks to the dim, shadowy atmosphere of the church. Both 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. performances are offered, and tickets can be purchased in advance online.

Greenwich Village Halloween Parade

The Greenwich Village Halloween Parade has become one of New York's most famous events, now attracting over one million participants since its first year in 1973. Participants of all ages are welcome to march along—as long as costumes are worn—or just observe the massive number of displays, giant puppets, and costumes worn by quirky fellow New Yorkers. This year's parade theme is "Tick! Tock!" and it advertises itself as entering "a time out of time, in which a lifetime might be lived between two ticks of the clock." Line-up for those marching in the event begins at 6:30 p.m. on Sixth Avenue between Spring and Canal Streets, and the parade begins at 7 p.m.

Webster Hall's "Webster Hell"

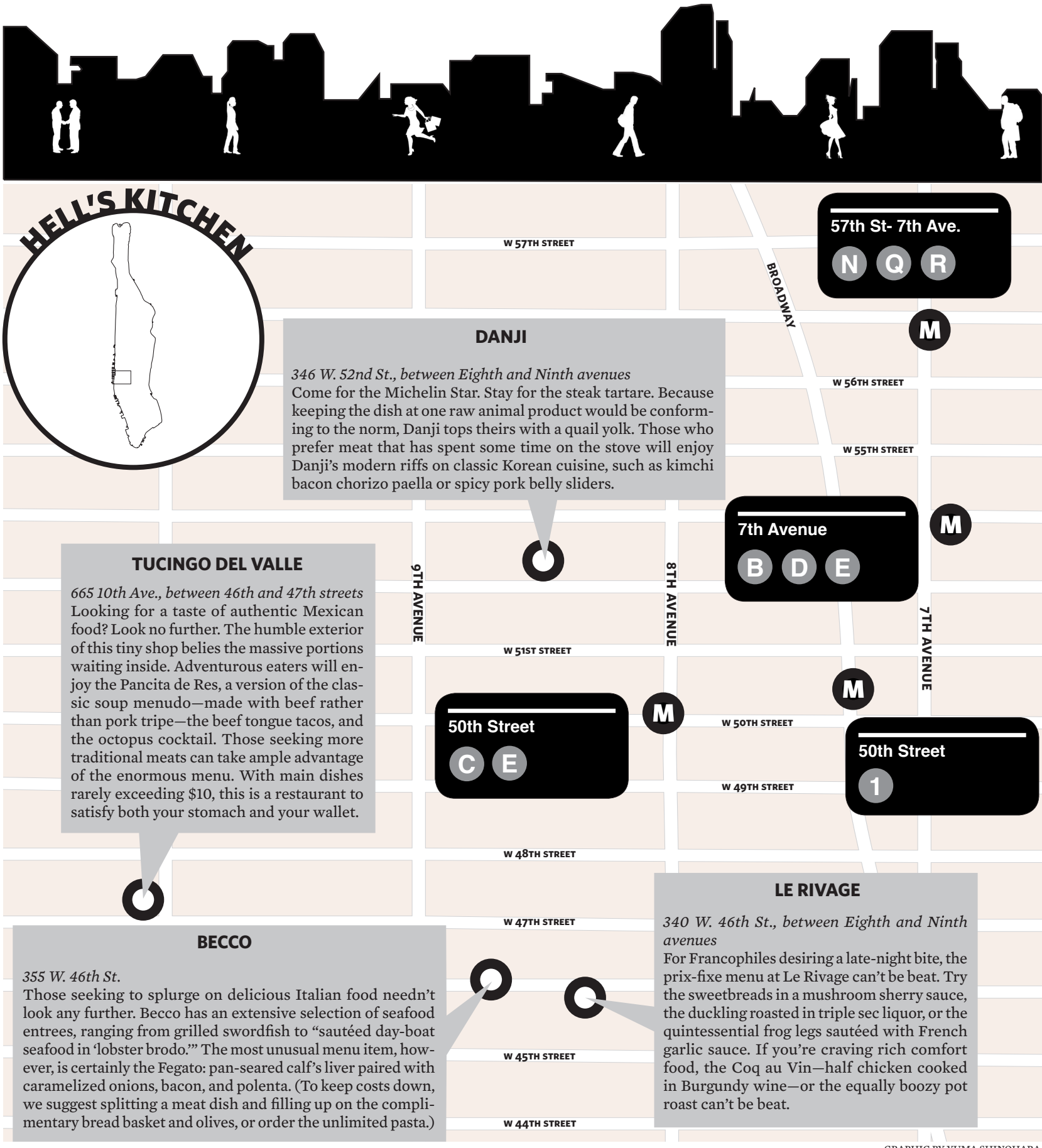
On Halloween evening, beloved concert venue and nightclub Webster Hall will convert itself into "Webster Hell" to offer New Yorkers a fright-themed evening of dancing and debauchery. Attendees have four dance floors at their disposal as well as special events such as a "virgin sacrifice," where a crowd member is picked to be "sacrificed" above the crowd 40 feet in the air. If you've got a particularly creepy or creative costume, this is the place for you to be: Webster Hall's infamous costume contest draws thousands of participants hoping to take home the \$5,000 prize money. The event begins at 8 p.m. at Webster Hall on E. 11th St. and is open to everyone 19 and over.

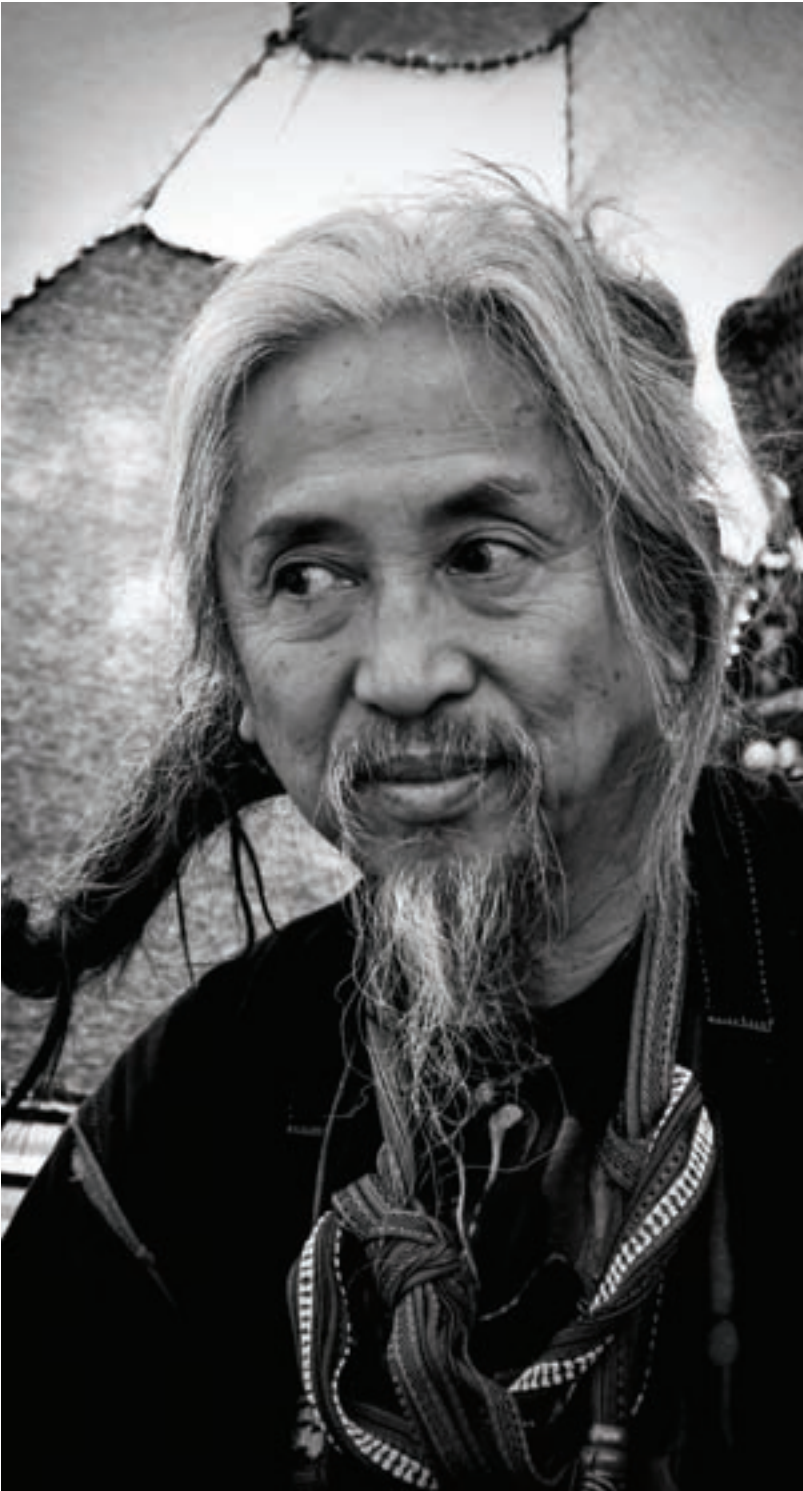
The Village Halloween Costume Ball

Do you like your Halloween celebrations to have a bit of dramatic flair? If so, Theater for the New City's Village Halloween Costume Ball has you covered, with not only hundreds of people decked out in costumes, but also theatrical performances all evening long. The event also offers outdoor entertainment from stilt dancers to fire eaters, and a torch-lit performance of Medieval ritual show "The Red and Black Masque." At midnight, a costume contest with categories like "Most Bo-Toxic" and "Most Organic" will give twelve lucky winners yearlong passes to Theater for the New City. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., but outdoor activities will begin at 4:30 p.m. at 155 First Ave. Admission is \$20 and costume or formal wear is required.

Neighborhood Watch

BY NATALIE FELSEN





FILIPINO FIXTURE | Kidlat Tahimik’s movies show Filipino tradition butting against encroaching foreign culture and capital.

Kidlat Tahimik: ‘silent lightning’ strikes Anthology

BY CARROLL GELDERMAN
Spectator Staff Writer

Since 1977, filmmaker Eric de Guia has built a name for himself as the godfather of Filipino cinema. But the name he’s built isn’t his own—it’s Kidlat Tahimik, which is a Tagalog translation of “silent lightning.” It’s a name befitting a man who makes striking films in an understated manner.

This weekend, several of Tahimik’s innovative films will be screened at Anthology Film Archives as part of a film retrospective, starting tonight and running through Tuesday, Oct. 30. Despite his prestige, some of these films will be gracing the American screen for the first time. Standouts in the collection include “Perfumed Nightmare” (1977) and “Turumba” (1981)—films that won Tahimik awards at the Berlin Film Festival and the Mannheim Film Festival, respectively.

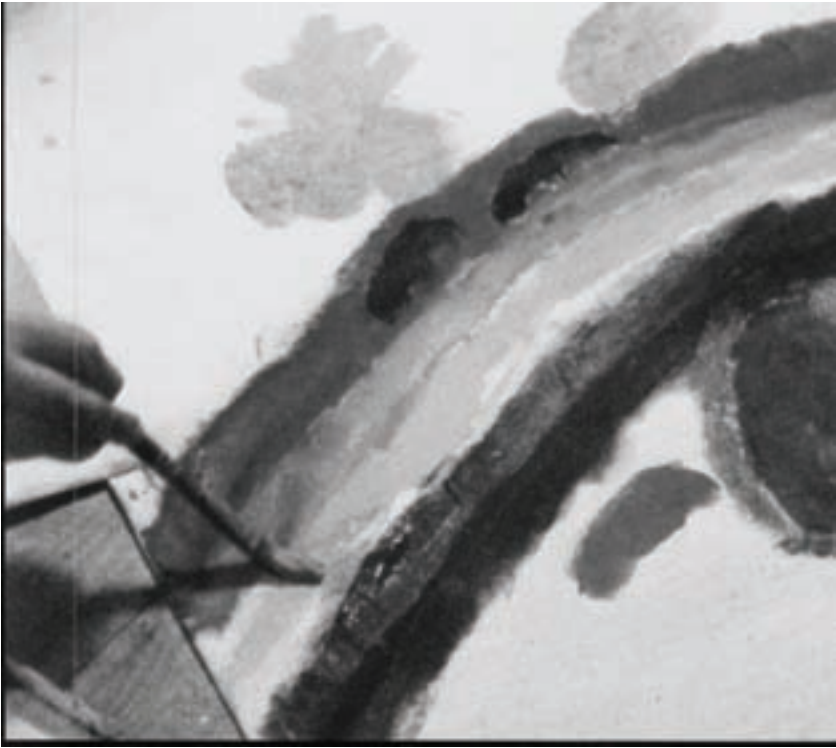
Tahimik was born in 1942, at a time when the Philippines were occupied by several American military bases established during World War II. Tahimik grew up surrounded by external forces that interfered with an existing culture. The experience shaped his filmmaking—much of Tahimik’s material deals with foreign capitalism damaging and destroying the traditions of the Filipino people. These themes come out most notably in “Perfumed

Nightmare” and “Turumba.”
“Perfumed Nightmare” is set in the small village of Balian, which is connected to civilization by a bridge only three meters wide. Consequently, the members of the community lead a fairly isolated life. Tahimik, also an actor, plays a jeepney driver who is curious about the world outside of Balian. With the help of a wealthy foreign soldier, Tahimik travels to Paris where he experiences the modern world.

Tahimik tackles heavy subject matter, but his very natural depiction of the sights and sounds ... gives his film vibrancy.

At first, he is simply perplexed by technology, but he is eventually disheartened by its encroaching nature. Ultimately, “Perfumed Nightmare” is the story of a young man attempting to understand the nature of progress—its advantages, its disadvantages, and the extent to which he himself is willing to bend to it.

Similarly, “Turumba” deals with the issue of progress and its effects on tradition and custom.



COURTESY OF KIDLAT TAHIMIK

26 Milestones

On a day of firsts, life milestones, if you will—first shit in a Porta-Potty, first chicken enchiladas with mole sauce, first brush against a woman I could marry—the first mile was the most beautiful. It was Hartford, in October. The dawn was so clear that our breaths condensed into thin fog. Our footfalls were silent under the pressing quiet of empty roads. The marathon was off.

I left New Haven with my brother at 5:20 a.m., before the sun rose. I fell asleep on the floor after eating two plates of pasta. In the morning I ate two English muffins with jam, stretched, tried and failed to shit, ran through the freezing dark to a parking garage, and drove to Hartford drinking a bottled cappuccino all the way.

It is sublime to drink a bottled cappuccino at 5:53 a.m. driving on the I-91 N to a marathon. The conjunction of really banal stuff like breakfast with extreme phenomena is terrifying and beautiful. When tremendous pain and pleasure interrupt our habituated, desensitized existences, there is a sense of detachment from the familiar. I like to explore places where the world becomes strange.

Which is how I ended up taking a shit in a Porta-Potty, an experience I found quite relaxing, up to and including the floral scented hand sanitizer dispensable only via a contorted backbend around the toilet hole. It’s a nice break from the general anxiety. Everyone is thinking—and I know this from moments of shared recognition, catching a grimace or nervous wink or twitch or excessive blink in the pale sunlight to match my own—everyone is thinking about the unimaginable pain to come.

I have finished four marathons, and this last one was the least painful. But at mile 15, I was passing the birthplace of Jonathan Edwards, and I wondered why I chose a hobby committed to self-castigation. It is a truth universally acknowledged by high school history students that Jonathan Edwards preached “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” on July 8, 1741. I was in the hands of Nicki Minaj, who was playing on an impromptu DJ rig. Not a bad pair of hands for a sinner, even if my legs hurt and a peevish trickle of Gatorade coursed from my eyebrow to cheek.

When I crossed the finish line, I felt fine, if a bit ginger, and wanted a carton of chocolate milk. Having trained smart and hard for Hartford, I was able to cruise and enjoy the fall foliage, an occasional chocolate GU—which begins to taste, at mile 22, like lava cake. It’s those little unfrosted cupcakes with the molten center that you can purchase at Houlihan’s or California Pizza Kitchen and always come with a perfectly spherical scoop of vanilla-flavored ice cream—and the good honest folk of Connecticut. In my exceptionally lucid post-race state, I was very disappointed to discover no chocolate milk whatsoever. The most delicious thing I have ever tasted was a very cold carton of chocolate milk after a marathon in Fargo. I have been running down the experience ever since.

For lunch after the race, we drove to a diner called Mo’s Midtown. A French kid named Virgil ordered medium eggs, toast, home fries, and a cheeseburger. Virgil has lived in the United States for one and a half years but has a flawless American accent. I laughed when the waitress looked confused at his confusion when she asked him how he wanted his eggs. “Medium,” he said, like Tom Cruise. I had a western omelet and lots of coffee. It tasted damn good.

I’ll have to leave the woman for another time, because I’m sure I’ve run out of room. It was all a peculiar experience, one I think I’d be happy to repeat again.

Jason Bell is a Columbia College senior majoring in English. In Defense of Delicious runs alternate Fridays.



COURTESY OF RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

THE ELEGANT SIDE OF SPECTACULAR | Eighty-five years after the Rockettes’ debut, Radio City Music Hall’s deco decor is as stunning as ever

Exploring Radio City’s legacy with Rockettes

BY JENNY SINGER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Radio City Music Hall—a tourist trap ranked somewhere between the Statue of Liberty and Times Square—attracts the fanny-packed masses while real New Yorkers sip bone-dry cappuccinos served by androgynous baristas in the East Village. Real New Yorkers, keep your winter coats and your expertly-flagged taxis because Radio City is one of the most amazing sights this West Coast transfer has seen in the city so far. This year, in honor of the 85th anniversary of the Radio City Rockettes, the Hall hosted Rockette-themed tours that gave viewers access to the dancers’ dressing rooms, rehearsal halls, and costume archives.

“Please join me as we step back in time to 1932,” said Joyce, a veteran tour guide, as our group entered the grand foyer. Designed to resemble a luxury cruise ship, the interior design and decoration of Radio City are on the elegant side of spectacular. The hall is done entirely in an art deco style, melding the excessive spirit of the ’20s with the more austere America in 1932 when the hall was built. The hall is oval-shaped with 60 feet of wall space stretching from floor to ceiling, every inch covered in mirrors, gold plating, red velvet, and murals. Asymmetrical chandeliers hang from the ceiling and the floor is covered in cubist designs.

Leading us into the theater, Joyce chuckled at the audible gasps coming from both the rain poncho-and-suit-clad members of the group. She explained that Roxy Rothafel and Donald Deskey, who conceived of and designed the project under John D. Rockefeller, Jr., aimed “to inspire theatergoers with a sense of awe.” The great stage is 144 feet across and features a proscenium arch designed to look like a sun falling over the ocean. The lighting is set before and after every performance to make the dull gold curtain and tangerine-colored chairs glow a majestic sunset gold. Radio City originally functioned in early 20th century entertainment style, in which films were shown between live spectacular musical and dance numbers. The theater eventually evolved to its present day use as a home to the high-kicking

precision dance troupe, the Radio City Rockettes, a stage for celebrated musicians (Paul Simon, Frank Sinatra, and Aretha Franklin have all performed there), and a venue for events such as the Grammy Awards.

Backstage in the theater, all the decadence is gone, replaced by utilitarian brick façades and metal scaffolding. The stage itself is comprised of three rectangular elevator platforms that can rise 13 feet above the stage and a turntable that goes through all three platforms. The elevators are so effective that during World War II, the U.S. Army sealed off the entire theater and studied the platforms, using the designs for these elevators on naval ships. The elevators are strong enough to hold the weight of six elephants, as they once did during one of the theater’s spectaculars.

Upstairs, tour members had the experience exclusive to the Stage Door Tour, which ran from Oct. 22 through the 24, of meeting a Radio City Rockette. Stephanie Madden, who showed us around the Rockette dressing room wearing a vanilla-colored ensemble and a matching sequined headpiece, is the closest thing I have ever seen to a real life Barbie. She revealed that all Rockettes must be between 5-foot-6 and 5-foot-10 and well versed in ballet, tap, and jazz dance. For the 200-plus eye-high kicks in each of the six shows a week that most Rockettes dance in, Stephanie said the dancers do hundreds of sit-ups a day. Saying a sorrowful goodbye to Dance Princess Barbie, the group followed Joyce to the cavernous Rockette rehearsal hall, peeked into a costume shop with a higher sequin-per-capita-count than the last three seasons of Dancing with the Stars, and finished in the Roxy Suite, the sumptuous penthouse apartment at the top of the theater where the likes of Lucille Ball and Judy Garland used to hang out.

Much more tasteful than tacky, Radio City is arresting, fascinating, and a beacon for world-class performers. Tours run daily from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., though they no longer feature dressing room tours or a visit to the Roxy Suite. Learn about the city’s history, revel in the exquisite design, and attempt those eye-high kicks. Don’t worry, I won’t let any of the real New Yorkers know.

Flipside Guide



HANNAH CHOI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON WATCH | The CU Players present a fresh take on CC alum Tony Kushner's play with special attention paid to method and set design.

‘A Bright Room Called Day’

Bringing in a new twist, CU Players present compelling discourse on viewer

BY ZOË MILLER
Columbia Daily Spectator

A table from Ikea, some wooden doorframes, and a video projector were all it took to transform the Glicker-Milstein Theatre into the Berlin of Tony Kushner's, CC '78, imagination—a shadowy Berlin fraught with disillusionment and conflicts of political and personal identity.

In addition to Paul Nungesser's successfully simplistic set design, Corinna Munn's direction helped make the world of Kushner's play, "A Bright Room Called Day," come to life in the Columbia University Players' production, which runs until Oct. 27. Kushner, an American playwright, is better known for his Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes," which was then adapted as an opera, miniseries, and screenplay. Both "Bright Room" and "Angels in America" are characterized by their complexity. In the CU Player's rendition, scenes alternate between the storyline of Zillah (Mollie Krent), a Long Island native in her twenties who moves to Germany for fear that Reagan is becoming too much like Hitler, and actress Agnes Egging (Laura Fisher) and her group of liberal-minded friends living in Berlin in the '30s. The play presents striking commentary on the political climate and the cultural environment of the period.

To create cohesiveness between the two story arcs, Munn, along with other members of the production team, had the idea to incorporate a "cameraman," a figure onstage throughout the entire performance to film the characters, as if making a documentary. "The camera was an idea we had from the start," Munn said. "It's kind of voyeuristic, a kind of surveillance." The camera device worked well, amplifying the drama of the production as a whole. Kushner's characters make references to filmmaking throughout the play, complicating the idea of the viewer and causing the audience to question for whom the play was being performed. Sporadically, the cameraman would zoom in on characters' faces as they were speaking. At times, the characters, such as Agnes' lover, the Trotskyite Husz (Gerard Ramm), grabbed the camera themselves, and disconcertingly pointed it at the audience as they delivering impassioned monologues.

With the addition of the cameraman, the CU Players breathe new life into an iconic piece of theater.



WHERE IT'S AT
Place: 137 Rivington St.
Cost: \$8-\$12



JANE MA FOR SPECTATOR

PAD THAI DONE RIGHT | Pok Pok Phat Thai blows away bland, Americanized Thai restaurants with rich flavor and hole-in-the-wall charm.

Pok Pok Phat Thai

Expect an authentic taste of Asia on this Lower East Side street food joint

BY BREA SALIM
Columbia Daily Spectator

It's a well-known fact that all Asian cuisine in the U.S. has been butchered in one way or another. I'm not saying that the result always comes out inedible—hey, General Tso's proves that point—but for a Southeast Asian native like me, I'd like to get the real thing once in a while.

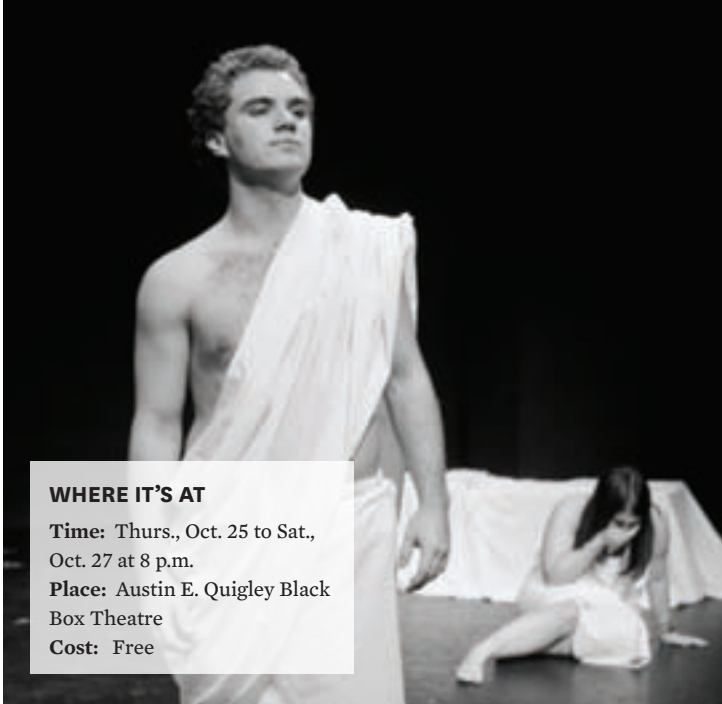
If you're ever on the Lower East Side, Pok Pok Phat Thai is a good choice. The restaurant offers pretty authentic hawker-style cuisine, without the boiling heat or filth that is usually part of the package. The restaurant's clean and minimalist interior blends perfectly with the retro Thai advertisements and the Thai pop music playing in the speakers.

I ordered the Phat Thai Muu Sap, which is basically Pad Thai with pork, and the Cha Manao, Thai iced tea with fresh lime juice. Don't order the drink—it was much more sour than I expected. I would recommend sticking to the regular sweet Thai iced tea, Cha Yen.

The Phat Thai Muu Sap, however, did not disappoint. Unlike

some bland, Americanized Pad Thais I've had, this was very tasty. It's a cheap kind of deliciousness, one that mirrors the Halal cart on 53rd Street—it might not be the classiest experience, but amazing nonetheless. The pork was almost nonexistent, but unless you're an avid meat lover, you won't notice it. The combination of the crunchy cashew nuts, the thin and slightly crispy rice noodles, and the fried egg and tofu is really what makes the dish. Upon later research, I found out that the noodles are cooked in rendered pork fat, which I believe does make all the difference. What can you say? Deliciously fatty is always the way to go. All the meals are cooked and served instantly on a paper plate and a piece of green leaf, which makes them that much easier to devour while they're still hot and fresh.

I have to admit, after the initial excitement wore down, my Phat Thai Muu Sap tasted a little bit too salty—but can you expect less from street-vendor cuisine like this? And I'm not the only one raving: According to one of the workers, the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal are only a few of the food critics that have recently paid Pok Pok Phat Thai a visit. Despite the trek, I assure you this hawker-style culinary experience will be worth your while.



WHERE IT'S AT
Time: Thurs., Oct. 25 to Sat., Oct. 27 at 8 p.m.
Place: Austin E. Quigley Black Box Theatre
Cost: Free



JENNY PAYNE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BACK STABBED | Young playwrights rework famed Shakespeare scenes in a series of shorts presented by King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe.

‘Shakeshorts-Shortshakes’

The Bard gets a modern makeover in witty, fun 15-minute short scenes

BY RACHEL DUNPHY
Columbia Daily Spectator

King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe's current production, "ShakeShorts-ShortShakes," premiered on Thursday night with enormous success. A series of short scenes from Shakespeare, liberally reinterpreted, "ShakeShorts" is a diverse yet cohesive and unique event.

The project began last spring when the company decided to try a new direction by reinterpreting the idea of one-acts. The group thought, according to one of the directors, Alex Dabertin, "We would take scenes from Shakespeare and twist them to our will." The deal was that any student could submit a script, but it had to reimagine a classic scene from Shakespeare that involved deception, and it had to be 15 minutes long.

The result was a series of five pieces in which each writer took the prompt in an entirely different direction. The audience is first taken to Ancient Rome, but is then whisked away to a high intensity reality cooking show, and eventually ends up in the dungeon of a dominatrix.

In spite of the multifarious interpretations, or perhaps because

of them, "ShakeShorts" is an elegant and brilliantly acted commentary on the nature of deception in any setting. The freedom directors were given was effectively used to enhance and exaggerate Shakespeare's work. While many of the scenes were incredibly and unexpectedly humorous, they succeeded in making light of the work without belittling it.

The intensities of the power struggle in "Henry VIII" are appropriated to a Columbia University Fun Run, with actors plotting madly as they vie for the coveted \$25 Mel's gift card, but the work's depth is still maintained. The scene is an original work by Jim Pagels, a former Spectator sports editor, and is tremendously funny, but the integrity of the original play is still there. The comedy in these scenes enhances and enlivens Shakespearean themes while proving them to be timeless.

With scenes like these, "ShakeShorts" triumphs at giving the magic of the playwright new voice. It reminds its audience that the beauty and pain and poetry of these works are found not just in centuries-old texts, but in the everyday occurrences of all of our lives. "It sounded crazy at first," said "Hamlet" director Sonalee Rau, "but I think it went great."

events

FOOD & DRINK

Lower East Side Pickle Day

—Orchard Street,
between Delancey and East Houston streets
Sunday, Oct. 28, from 12-5 p.m.

The 11th annual Lower East Side Pickle Day will hit the streets, featuring over 30 food and fashion vendors, Astro-turf, face painting, and other activities.

THEATER

‘Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?’

—Booth Theatre, 222 W. 45th St.,
between Broadway and Eighth Avenue

Pam MacKinnon's revival takes the stage 50 years after the play premiered on Broadway. Hinging on the volatile marriage of George and Martha, Albee's tour de force explores illusion and its devastating consequences.

ART

‘Egon Schiele’s Women’

—Galerie St. Etienne, 24 W. 57th St.
between Fifth and Sixth avenues

A new exhibition showcases Austrian artist Egon Schiele's provocative and psychologically-charged representations of the female form.

MUSIC

The xx + Chairlift

—Paradise Theater
2413 Grand Concourse (at 187th St.), Bronx
Friday, Oct. 26 – Sunday, Oct. 28

Electronica/indie favorites The xx will play from their sophomore album, "Coexist," released in September. Brooklyn-based Chairlift will open the show.