

“INCOMING!”



HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MIDNIGHT FIGHT | Students drop homework and studying for a midnight snowball fight to celebrate first snowfall of the year.

Juilliard program faces growing pains

Admins work to improve practice space and class scheduling issues

BY KELLY ECHAVARRIA
Columbia Daily Spectator

After struggling with a lack of practice spaces, available instruments, and class scheduling conflicts, students in the Barnard-Columbia-Juilliard Exchange have sought help from administrators this semester.

Since the summer, Vice President of Campus Services Scott Wright has been working with students in the joint program with the music conservatory on the Upper West Side to look for instrument storage space near practice rooms and identify a small solo and group practice areas.

When more than 10 people raise concerns about a problem, Wright said, it becomes clear that it is systematic. “I think the fact that the program grew sort of pressed the need to make new concrete changes if we could,”

he added.

Another issue that students brought to administrators last year was the difficulty of scheduling classes at both Columbia around classes at Juilliard.

“Last year when I was a freshman, we registered for class at the regular time, and it was very hard for us to do lessons outside of Friday and Saturday,” Jinxuan Zhang, CC ’15 and a pianist in the program, said.

“The students are in a very difficult situation. They’re trying to navigate the scheduling demands of two different institutions that are 50 blocks apart with offerings of things that are totally not congruent,” Robert Ferraiuolo, the academic adviser for students in the exchange, said. “We managed to give them some earlier registration appointments to give them some

SEE JUILLIARD, page 2

Workshop improves training for admins

BY EMMA CHENG
Columbia Daily Spectator

The Office of the Provost hosted a training workshop for administrators last week, offering sessions in leadership skills and giving them the chance to interact with administrators they otherwise would not.

“All of them are terrific academics who can lead their departments intellectually, but they may not have a great deal of administrative knowledge,” Justin Pearlman, the Provost’s chief of staff, said. “We want to make sure they don’t feel like they’re forced to learn on the job.”

That was one of the criticisms that faculty had leveraged against former School

of Engineering and Applied Sciences dean Feniosky Peña-Mora during his tenure and that eventually led to his resignation in July. Provost John Coatsworth said at the dean search town hall in October that the workshop, the first event organized by the recently established Academic Leadership Institute, would be one way to prevent the next SEAS dean from facing the same structural challenges.

“We want to make sure we can do everything we can to ease the transition,” he said at the town hall.

In an email, Coatsworth said that, in the past, deans have been provided with insufficient training and often left on their own to learn the best administrative strategies.

The opportunity is long overdue, said Holger Klein, chair of the department of art history and archaeology.

“When I got the invitation, I thought, ‘Well, it’s about time that such a program is offered in an academic context,’” Klein said. He added that he has come across many similar opportunities in the art world, but not in other areas of academia.

The workshop was split into five sessions, covering topics like management and faculty diversity.

Raimondo Betti, chair of the civil engineering and engineering mechanics department, said that the mentoring advice was helpful for him, but called the

SEE ADMINS, page 4

After Sandy, Columbians spring to action

CC senior, longtime EMT, evacuates NYU hospital

BY HALLIE NELL SWANSON
Columbia Daily Spectator

While many Columbians were holed up in their rooms during the worst of Hurricane Sandy last Monday night, Rafael Castellanos, CC ’13, was saving lives.

A volunteer at the Central Park Medical Unit, a privately funded, volunteer-staffed ambulance company, Castellanos spent his night evacuating patients from hospitals whose power generators had failed.

At 10:30 p.m. Monday, Castellanos got the call directing his unit to New York University Langone Medical Center. As he drove down, Castellanos said the extent to which Columbia had escaped the storm unscathed became clear.

“Somewhere around 40th Street, you’re driving down regular New York City, and then it looks like you’re going off a cliff,” he said. The wind shook the ambulance as it drove over debris in the street. “It was pitch black. There were no people in the street. It’s just eerie.”

At NYU, Castellanos found a chaotic scene, with a line of 50 ambulances stretching out front. “You had to find a patient,

get them on a stretcher and then check them out,” he said. Patients, especially older ones, were often distressed and unaware of what was going on. Flashlights were the only source of light in the darkness, and patients had to be carried downstairs.

“For the sake of imagination, say you have to carry a 350-pound woman who’s very sick and discharging bodily fluids and very unhappy, and you have to carry her down 15 flights of stairs,” he said. “Some of us had to do that.”

Castellanos’s favorite patient of the night was a woman who came into the ambulance appearing perfectly well.

“I was wondering why she was in our ambulance. Before I closed the door, I stuck my head in, and there was this little baby the size of my hand,” he said. “Adorable, big, beautiful eyes.” The baby went with CPMU to a neonatal unit. “I think that was the most rewarding patient that we transported,” he said.

Castellanos, whose father is the CPMU’s president, has wanted to be an emergency medical technician since he was a kid growing up in Manhattan.

SEE CASTELLANOS, page 4

Facebook coordinates efforts like supplies drive

BY SOPHIE GAMEZ
Columbia Daily Spectator

A nearly 2,000-member-strong Facebook group has mobilized Columbia students to organize and raise awareness about relief efforts to help the many New Yorkers hurt by Hurricane Sandy.

Over the last week, the group, Caped Columbians, was updated with hundreds of posts on new events and opportunities that students planned to attend to assist those the megastorm affected.

“We have a Facebook group and a Google document. We aren’t leaders, we’re organizers,” Richard Leong, CC ’14 and one of the group’s organizers, said. “Once we set up the structure, a place to post opportunities, it gave people an ability to channel their restlessness.”

The idea to centralize relief efforts into a Facebook group became clear to Leong and co-organizer Darpan Patel, CC ’14, when they saw their newsfeeds

SEE FACEBOOK, page 3

Wright aide Ortega to seek Harlem Council seat

BY CHRIS MEYER
Columbia Daily Spectator

As Corey Ortega looked out over the city from State Assembly member Keith Wright’s high-rise office in the middle of Harlem, he recalled his first foray into city politics, which began roughly four years ago just a few feet away from where he was seated.

Ortega went in for his interview with Wright and began work the Monday after, embarking on a career he said he has grown to love because it has allowed him to deliver meaningful help to citizens throughout the city. Now, he is just awaiting official support from the executive committee of the West Harlem Progressive Democratic Club before launching his own campaign for political office.

Within the next few weeks, Ortega plans to declare his candidacy for the City Council’s 9th District seat, which is being vacated by term-limited Council member Robert Jackson next year.

He recalled telling Wright in his job interview, “I’m going to be honest with you, I don’t

SEE ORTEGA, page 2

FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL



HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FORWARD | The crowd at President Barack Obama’s victory party Tuesday was unrelenting in its energy.

At Obama HQ, getting a look at volunteers, media in action

BY FINN VIGELAND

Many people believe in the myth of journalistic objectivity—that is, a writer can have no public opinions of his own because it would result in a tainted news story. But that doesn’t mean journalists don’t have opinions.

That was certainly reaffirmed as I ran around Obama HQ in Chicago on Tuesday night, feverishly watching the election results pour in. Within the media pen and the

article I wrote, I made no indication of my political views. But I took the opportunity as an outsider, per se, at an event where I could have been an insider, to observe the fervor of supporters of Barack Obama, CC ’83 and the first graduate of Alma Mater to ascend to the presidency.

The room was a resounding four walls of noise. As a friend of mine put it, the crowd in McCormick Place had nobody to scream at as the results poured in, but scream they did. As each new state

SEE CHICAGO, page 3

A&E, PAGE 5

A new exhibit for New Poetry

The literary group, which meets in Potluck House, is hosting a show with Postcrypt this Friday.



OPINION, PAGE 6

Public usefulness

James Yoon looks at the things a Columbia grad isn’t prepared for.

Privileged status

Abril Dozal re-examines the idea of privilege in academic discussion.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Gaughn leads revival of Columbia volleyball

Columbia senior Megan Gaughn has been the Lions leader for the last four years. She recently set a career milestone of 1,000 digs and a 1,000 kills.

EVENTS

Free Screening of ‘The Dark Knight Rises’

Ferris Reel and the 2014 class councils host a free screening of summer superhero movie “The Dark Knight Rises”.

Lerner Cinema, 11 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



36°/43°

Tomorrow



37°/50°



LUKE HENDERSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OPEN SEAT | Corey Ortega says his business background will help him if elected to City Council.

Council bid draws on Obama’s tax plan

ORTEGA from front page

know shit about politics. I just want you to know what you’re getting before you hire me.”

In the years that followed his sudden entrance into politics, Ortega has worked as a liaison to a number of city agencies, including the New York Police Department. These experiences, he said, would help him solve problems in a number of areas, including affordable housing and small business growth.

Ortega cited his past work in tenant advocacy as one of the strengths that will help him in his campaign. The housing problem, he said, could be improved by stimulating local businesses.

In describing his campaign goals, he repeatedly referred to the economic plan proposed by President Barack Obama, CC ’83. The plan would offer tax cuts to small businesses, help spur economic growth by allowing them to hire more workers, and increase demand for goods throughout the economy.

In Obama’s re-election campaign, the president emphasized the need for everyone in America to have an equal chance at economic success, which Ortega echoed with a promise to improve the structure and planning of local businesses.

“Ask a salon owner in this neighborhood, ‘How did you start up the salon? Did you write up a business plan? Did you have some projections?’” Ortega said. “A lot of the time they’ll say, ‘Hell no!’”

Ortega said he would help businesses grow from the bottom up, giving residents more money with which to stimulate the local economy. He invoked Obama’s economic rhetoric when he described the process as “from the bottom up and the middle out.”

Another focus of his will be to unite the district’s African-American and Hispanic populations, which he said was divided after the embattled Congressional race this year between State Senator Adriano Espaillat, a Dominican American, and Rep. Charles Rangel, an African American. Ortega, whose parents were working-class immigrants from the Dominican Republic, said his work in the Assembly member’s office would help him unite the two communities again.

“Whether it’s brown or dark, the issues are the same, and we’re going to address those issues together,” Ortega, who would be the first Dominican American on City Council if elected, said. “I plan to use the relationships I’ve built to present a united front.”

Ortega has now become a familiar face at community board meetings and other local events, but before entering politics at Wright’s office, Ortega already had his hands full. A graduate of the College of Business at St. John’s University, he helped run a family-owned day care center and also devoted his time to P.A.’L.A.N.T.E. Harlem, a local

tenants’ rights organization.

“I had just gotten out of college, I was making very good money, I got to work with my mother, and we ordered out together every day after work,” Ortega said. “It was a dream job.”

Recalling the more specific details of his interview with Wright, Ortega laughed. He said that he had bought into the negative image of politicians as “scumbags” before working for the assemblyman and was skeptical about Wright’s supposed passion for helping constituents.

“He said that he really liked his job, that he really liked helping people,” Ortega said. “And I was just thinking, ‘Who are you talking to? It’s just us. There are no cameras here.’”

Ortega made the decision to take the job in Wright’s office, he said, when he realized politics would be an opportunity to network and effect positive change in his neighborhood.

After four years of working with Wright, Ortega has lost his prior cynicism regarding politics, arguing that elected officials are responsible for accepting political failures and successes and also for providing help to the evicted, sick, and impoverished of the community.

Ortega said he sees the City Council seat as an extension of his work in local politics.

“I’m a firm believer that you shouldn’t take a job you won’t enjoy,” Ortega said. “And so far I’ve enjoyed every day.”

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Space an issue as Juilliard exchange grows

JUILLIARD from front page

options for course registration.”

The increasing size of the program has made the space issues more pressing. Sam Karlinski, CC ’15 and a harpist in the program, estimated that there were three to four students per year in the program for the last few years, but there are 29 students across all four classes enrolled this year, according to Ferraiuolo.

“Now that there were so many more of us, we started realizing that there were things that we wanted that Columbia probably didn’t even realize we wanted,” Karlinski said.

According to student musicians, practice rooms on campus are often crowded. Pianists

in particular have had difficulty finding available pianos on campus.

“If you want a good piano, of course it’s hard,” Qi Xu, CC ’16 and a pianist in the program, said.

Xu said the best pianos at Columbia are those in the John Jay and Wallach lounges, but “it’s not so easy to use the pianos” because the lounges serve other purposes as well.

Students who have their own instruments also have issues finding space to practice. Some prefer to practice their instruments in their rooms, but thin walls in some dorms mean that students often disturb their neighbors.

“Wien has the thinnest walls ever, so that’s actually become a

bit of a problem with my neighbors,” Karlinski said.

Although students in the exchange asked for priority in the housing lottery last year, Wright said that that was not possible.

“It became apparent that if we could solve the issue of practice, then housing became much less contentious,” Wright said.

Still, some students are still frustrated with the lack of viable housing.

“Many of us in the program need some things that Columbia has not been really enthusiastic to give us,” Karlinski said. “We all make it work and it’s great, but in some ways I think they could make it a little easier.”

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DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MAKING MUSIC | Qi Xu, CC ’16 and a Juilliard Exchange student, said pianists in particular have trouble finding practice space. Administrators are working with students to remedy the situation.

NEWS BRIEF

Internal cooling to replace window A/C units in Pupin

As plans for a new theory center in Pupin Physics Laboratories gain traction, administrators are looking to retrofit some of the building’s outdated infrastructure.

Facilities personnel have also begun to study Pupin’s wall structure and identify locations where new chilled water risers could be installed, according to Executive Vice President of Facilities Joe Ienuso.

The risers would allow the entire building, not just the first six floors, to have central air conditioning by using chilled water to cool the air.

“At some point, we’d like

to see Pupin have central cooling, as opposed to window units,” Ienuso said. “That would be the ultimate objective.”

Ienuso said that his office would work with professors and researchers to minimize interference, but acknowledged that the potential renovations could eventually involve substantial internal construction and temporary relocation of some workspaces.

The installation of the water risers and reconfiguration of Pupin’s infrastructure, home to the physics and astronomy departments, was pushed back from this

summer.

The technical renovations are “something that we really need in order to bring Pupin into the 21st century,” Physics Department Chair William Zajc said, and will provide the foundation for the construction for a new theoretical physics center.

The development of the center “will make a really dramatic impact on how we conduct our research in theoretical physics,” Zajc said. He added that timing and completion of the different projects depends largely on securing funding, which is part of an ongoing effort.

—Camille Baptista

USenate hopes email access increases dialogue

BY ALANNA BROWDY
Columbia Daily Spectator

University Senators are pushing to implement a resolution that will allow them to email their constituents senate-related news. While senators from Columbia College and School of Engineering and Applied Science received their listservs last week, most are still waiting, according to Eduardo Santana, CC ’13 and Student Affairs Committee co-chair.

The 108 senators—who represent Columbia students, faculty, administrators, and staff—passed the resolution in April because they say they have few means of directly interacting with the people they represent.

“If you think about someone like me, we have a huge constituency, and we don’t speak to them unless they contact us,” said assistant professor of medicine Jeanine D’Armiento, a member of the Senate’s Structure and Operations Committee, the original sponsor of the resolution. “Now we can have a formalized method of sending out, every so often, emails to let them know what’s going on.”

Santana said that representatives from Columbia University Information Technology had told him that it was harder to compile listservs for the other senators’ constituents than it was to compile one for CC and SEAS students.

“It’s important for us to be able to communicate directly with the people who voted for

us,” Santana said. “Prior to this resolution, we didn’t have any means of doing so.”

Senators have often assumed information had been sent out to constituents when it had not been, D’Armiento said, and the new technology will eliminate this problem. “I think on our end, I’m really hoping we will get more information on what people who are non-senators think are the issues,” she said.

Senators said they hoped the resolution would lead to more interaction between elected officials and those who elected them—whether on the student or faculty level.


School of the Arts student and Senator Andrew Payne said he was “hopeful that it will increase everyone’s participation in the governance of our community.”

“We’re looking for a kind of dialogue with our constituents,” Santana said. “There’s the transparency, the exchange of information, and the accountability. We want to be held accountable for people we’re representing, the people who voted for us.”

While students said they were unaware of their senators’ newfound ability to email them, they said they thought it was a reasonable measure for the senate to take.

“The impression I’m getting is that it’s just a way to open up a dialogue, which doesn’t seem problematic unless it gets abused,” Prashant Mukhopadhyay, SEAS ’15, said.

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Politics aside, experiencing a slice of presidential history from the McCormick media pen

CHICAGO from front page

turned blue, some 3,000 strangers embraced their fellow volunteers—the people Obama called “the best campaign team and volunteers in the history of politics, the best, the best ever”—no matter if it was no-surprises-there New York or battleground Ohio.

A middle-aged woman I spoke to said she felt like she knew everyone in the room, even though she knew no one, before skipping off into the crowd, waving an American flag.

The campaign staffers were stoic for most of the night, keeping watch over reserved sections and dutifully promising to pass on concerns to their supervisors, but when MSNBC called it for Obama, a group of three turned to each other, first with a look of bewilderment, then shock, then ecstasy.

“We did it? We did it! We won!” they screamed, crying and hugging each other.

The media holding area was quite a spectacle. The networks, the cable news outlets, the big

daily newspapers, and some head-scratchers (MTV News) had prominent places on the big risers with a prime shot of the podium. Obama surrogates like Illinois Senator Dick Durbin and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel roamed through the back of the conference center, doing the rounds in front of the cameras.

Nearly a dozen rows of long tables occupied the space below and to the left of the risers, and from there reported the rest of the media—nearly 500 organizations representing just about

every region of the world, outlets big and small, from other college papers to the enormous White House press corps.

I chatted with a friendly Illinois-based Associated Press reporter who sat next to me. We both had to catch ourselves a few times after inadvertently saying “That’s great” when the other mentioned the latest state or senate race that had been called.

When Obama finally appeared shortly after 12:30, journalists stood on tables, nearly breaking two of them, to get a

better view. Many of us stopped taking notes. Obama has an uncanny ability to make his crowd quiet when he wants them focused and loud when he wants them jubilant.

One of the most remarkable moments of the night was the very end of his victory speech. Obama launched into his simple but powerful “America is the land of opportunity” rhetoric: “It doesn’t matter whether you’re black or white or Hispanic or Asian or Native American, or young or old, or rich or poor,

able, disabled, gay or straight, you can make it here in America if you’re willing to try.”

The crowd cheered even louder with each pulse. Its uproar might have been enough to give other speakers pause, to wait for the applause to recede, but Obama carried on, racing to reach the end of one of his best speeches. Regardless of one’s politics, it was an electrifying burst of energy, and a moment I’ll not easily forget.

finn.vigeland
@columbiaspectator.com



STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER | President Barack Obama, CC ’83, celebrated his re-election Tuesday night at McCormick Place in Chicago. About 3,000 supporters—including Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin (bottom right) and Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel (left)—packed the room, their energy building off of Obama’s oratorical cadence. For a reporter, it was a chance to be an outsider.



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Sandy aid groups bring students together

FACEBOOK from front page

crowding with friends’ postings about Sandy, they said.

“We had all posted stuff about Sandy on Facebook, and we said that we should start a group that would generate awareness, and then we just made it,” Patel said.

Friends invited more friends, and the group had skyrocketed to 1,945 students at press time. But unlike many mass Facebook groups, many different students have been posting opportunities.

“I am really surprised at how many people joined, and I am really happy,” Leong said. “People have made this group their own. It’s so cool to watch.”

One student-led effort was a supplies drive organized by Marilyn He, CC ’14 and Spectator’s director of digital outreach, and Ben Ramalanjaona, CC ’13 and president of Beta Theta Pi.

Ramalanjaona and other Beta brothers collected donations at their fraternity house and in East Campus. With the help of CU-EMS volunteer Dan McConnell, CC ’14, Ramalanjaona and He were able to use an extra ambulance to distribute the goods to the shelter established in West Harlem’s I.S. 88, the Bowery Mission in Chinatown, and Rockaway Beach.

“The kitchen manager that we talked to after we unloaded everything was saying that in addition to the people that they normally feed at the Bowery Mission, he’s been getting hundreds of extra people a day. The food and the water that we dropped off was really necessary,” He said. “A lot of people don’t really have food and water back where they live—or power—so they can at least get some water and canned food. His mission is getting slammed with people who need food and water.”

Their drive to Bowery Mission last Thursday showed the extent of the damage farther downtown in Manhattan. “We saw a bright McDonald’s sign, and then it was just dark,” Ramalanjaona said. “There were police cars every couple of blocks. Everyone was just staring at us when we got there.”

Ramalanjaona and He estimated that in the course of four days, they collected about 200 gallons of water, over 1,000 canned goods, and dozens of books, games, clothes, and other entertainment items.

“You want a big donation to make it worth it,” Ramalanjaona said.

Although Ramalanjaona and He suspended donations when fall break hit, students are still attending volunteer opportunities with other Morningside Heights residents, and Caped Columbians is still active.

The outpouring of support has been “incredibly humbling. We forget sometimes how awesome the Columbia community is,” Patel said. “It’s this—not just their passions and their specific interests, but how much people are willing to care—which is a side of our community which we rarely see in a physical sense.”

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SoA theater collaboration puts modern twist on Joan of Arc

BY ZOË MILLER
Columbia Daily Spectator

The story of Joan of Arc has certainly withstood the test of time—six centuries, to be specific—but what relevance does the story of the valiant, defiant young woman who heard saints’ voices, and ultimately became a saint herself, have in today’s world? That is the very question that renowned vocal coach and School of the Arts theater arts professor Kristin Linklater, Philadelphia-based director and dramaturg Rebecca Wright, and the ’13 SoA theater MFA candidates hope to answer through their collaboration, “Joan of Arc: Voices in the Fire.”

The piece, directed by Linklater and Wright, reinvigorates Joan’s story, seamlessly weaving together movement and dance, excerpts from plays by Shakespeare, Friedrich Schiller, George Bernard Shaw, and original material about contemporary politics and religion.

“Joan: Voices in the Fire” will be performed from Nov. 8 to 10 and from Nov. 12 to 17 at the Riverside Theatre. Admission is free with a student ID. Linklater and Wright sat down with Spectator to answer a few questions about their upcoming performances.

In what ways did you draw inspiration from past Joan plays?

Kristin Linklater: “We’ve chosen excerpts and we’ve used them as structural through-lines as interpreted by these playwrights [Shakespeare, Schiller, Shaw, Anderson, Anouilh, Brecht]. They’re extracted pieces that served a purpose.”

Rebecca Wright: “The piece functions as a collage of sorts, to create our own portrait of Joan.”

What was the primary catalyst that led to the conception of a Joan for the 21st century?

KL: “We always try to find interesting material for thesis pieces, which are an important part of the graduate students’ journey. At the same time, it’s difficult to find a play to give good roles to 17 actors. When it came to the decision to direct, I looked in my imagination. Joan served many purposes. I wanted to examine her story from the point of view of the 21st century. There are plenty of acting opportunities. There are 10 Joans, many priests, who serve as trial lawyers, and from [Jean] Anouilh’s play, there’s Joan’s father and the hangman. The actor playing the hangman was inspired to write a monologue of his own. How do you make a piece of theatre? Becky was invaluable. It’s her field of expertise.”

RW: “I kind of came on board after it was conceived to have 10 Joans and an ensemble. What’s exciting is that we really do draw and have drawn from a lot of the performers. The whole piece has come from and is driven by the ensemble.”

What were the biggest challenges you encountered in making this production come alive on the stage?

RW: “There was a hurricane right before we came into tech.”

KL: “It was an act of God and Mother Nature. What we’ve found exciting to work on is that it’s very physically demanding. Actors had to do physical exercises because there are stepping dances and ritualistic features.”

RW: “I hesitate also to call it challenging. One different, thrilling thing is that the actors have to change between storytelling modes quickly. Also, we began on the first day without a script.

The starting point was more nebulous and personal. It was more rigorous thinking about the piece in a different way.”

KL: “It’s 100 percent an ensemble piece.”

Could you describe the process of collaborating with the SoA students?

KL: “I’ve been teaching this group for the past two years. I’m the voice and Shakespeare teacher. It’s the first time I’ve taken a group through to the thesis. Becky came from outside.”

RW: “It’s a great way to work. I met them [the students] on the first day.”

Is “Joan” the most research-intensive project you have been involved in with SoA students?

RW: “It’s a very intensive actor training program, based in classical training.”

KL: “The kind of work students do in actors’ training always involves a great deal of research. An actor does as much reading as a Ph.D. student to understand a particular text. They [the students] were very well equipped for historical and theological research.”

RW: “The work that I do is very research-heavy. It was great to come in and have the students keen to do it [research] as part of the process.”

What motivated you to look at Joan’s story from a modern perspective?

KL: “That was the purpose from the beginning: ‘What would Joan of Arc do with the major issues today?’ Could she do it? Could any saint do it? Who are our saints? Has social media taken over the voices from God? I think that our audiences are going to be stimulated, entertained, and engaged by the kinds of arguments and examples we put on stage in pursuing that question.”

RW: “It’s safe to say we didn’t find answers so much as a connection with the fact that Joan of Arc is really compelling.”

KL: Leave those [answers] for the audience to decide. I think this show will appeal 100 percent to the student populations of Barnard and Columbia. It’s huge fun, intellectually challenging, and thoroughly engaging. You will not be bored for one minute. There is dancing, jokes, deeply serious discussion—something for everybody.”



HANNAH CHOI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STRANGE METHODS | New Poetry members gather at their regular meeting in Potluck House.

New Poetry experiments with technique, media in new exhibit

BY BREA SALIM
Columbia Daily Spectator

Do you scribble lines on your lunch napkin? Or better yet, write poetry that people wouldn’t even consider poetry to start with?

On Wednesday nights in Potluck House, Columbia’s literary group New Poetry offers an open space for aspiring poets of all levels—and this Friday, they will be holding a show with Postcrypt Art Gallery that fuses New Poetry’s nontraditional take on writing with artistic media.

“Nearly everybody writes, but so little will actually admit it. We want to get rid of the idea that in order to share your work, you have to be good or published,” New Poetry board member Natalie Robehmed, CC ’13, said. “Come talk to us. Without New Poetry, I wouldn’t have started reading or showing. It’s a very supportive community and what we’re trying to create.”

The exhibit will integrate performance and mixed media artwork.

Vivian Liu, BC ’16 and Postcrypt assistant curator, said in a statement, “Our aim is to blur the line between what defines an image and what defines a text. Therefore, Image/Text is an exhibit of perception ... How can poets manipulate word meaning and syntax to provide the same expressive quality that visual art does?”

In projects like this and in their mission as a group, New Poetry members said that they try to push the boundaries of what poetry can be—in New Poetry’s latest issue, the works include a poem that was done as a dialogue with Siri, a screenplay and sketches. “We try to screw around with the notions of traditional poetry and how it is only read within the classroom. We want to make

poetry accessible to everyone,” New Poetry’s editor Becca Liu, CC ’14, said.

Writing tends to be a solitary activity if one does not have the bravery to share it with the world., but according to New Poetry board member Reina Imagawa, CC ’15, New Poetry’s weekly meetings are a safe space to take that first step. “I always get really good feedback, that’s not like submitting a poem to a magazine to see whether it fails,” Imagawa said. “It’s really easy to just write poems in your room, but it is important to have a platform to share your work. After coming to New Poetry, I find that it’s really not worth writing alone.”

Liu said that in one of their recent meetings, New Poetry used the “exquisite corpse” technique to create poetry. Each person writes one word on a notecard and later, the notecards are compiled together and arranged differently to create different poems. One of these notecard-poetry sessions actually ended up on their newest issue, titled “Karma and Justice.”

New Poetry also reaches out to the Columbia student body by holding events, such as workshops and dinners, like their event this Friday,

“They [these events] really take our mission statement to life—taking poetry out of the classroom—as a lot of people interact with the workshop instructor, interact with the professor not in a classroom or office-hours setting,” Robehmed said.

If you are interested in New Poetry, you can check them out during their weekly meetings. “It is definitely the highlight of my week,” Liu said. “I love getting to hang out with people who love poetry, with whom I could talk freely about poetry with. It almost functions as a cerebral study break.” The group meets every Wednesday night in Special Interest housing at 606 W. 114th St.

arts@columbiaspectator.com



STEFAN COUNTRYMAN FOR SPECTATOR

SHUTTERED | Barbeque restaurant Rack & Soul, famous for its beef ribs, recently closed.

BBQ restaurant Rack & Soul closes doors

BY STEFAN COUNTRYMAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Barbecue joint Rack & Soul, located at 109th Street and Broadway, closed for good this past weekend. It’s not yet clear why—the restaurant received positive press in the past and was beloved by local residents. Owner Michael Eberstadt could not be reached for comment, but he did leave a note on the front door: “Rack and Soul is now closed. I want to thank all of our loyal customers from the past 6 years. All the best. Michael Eberstadt.”

The closing came as a surprise to locals. Morningside Heights resident Davy Dragland, who lives just down the street from Rack & Soul, missed one of its offerings in particular.

“They had beef ribs, so we’re kind of sad that they’re gone. There’s not so many places like Blue Smoke in the city that have beef ribs,” he said.

Rack & Soul received generally positive reviews from customers and press and the first-place spot in a citywide blind tasting by Serious Eats in 2011. It handily beat another local spot—Dinosaur Bar-B-Que—with its superior baby back ribs. Though not as popular as Dinosaur, it had a local following.

Local resident Trevor Reid siad, “It was at the barbecue festival, and it was always pretty good. I sort of enjoyed going, and it was a fun place to hang out, had a fun vibe, and I’m bummed they closed.”

A suspect public health record might have hurt the business. Rack & Soul maintained an A, but its

reputation isn’t as spotless as its grades would suggest.

“[It] had sort of a C rating going on for a long time, so I stopped eating there about a year ago,” Reid said. Though it never received a C, Reid’s suspicion isn’t unfounded—Rack & Soul had what the Department of Health terms “critical” violations, including living roaches and filth flies, in ungraded inspections as recently as 2010. Reid believes that these bad inspections contributed to the restaurant’s closing.

“I don’t think they ever recovered from it, because ... I want to say they failed food inspection and then shut down for a week, and then it was never as busy as it was. That was probably ... a year and a half ago,” Reid said.

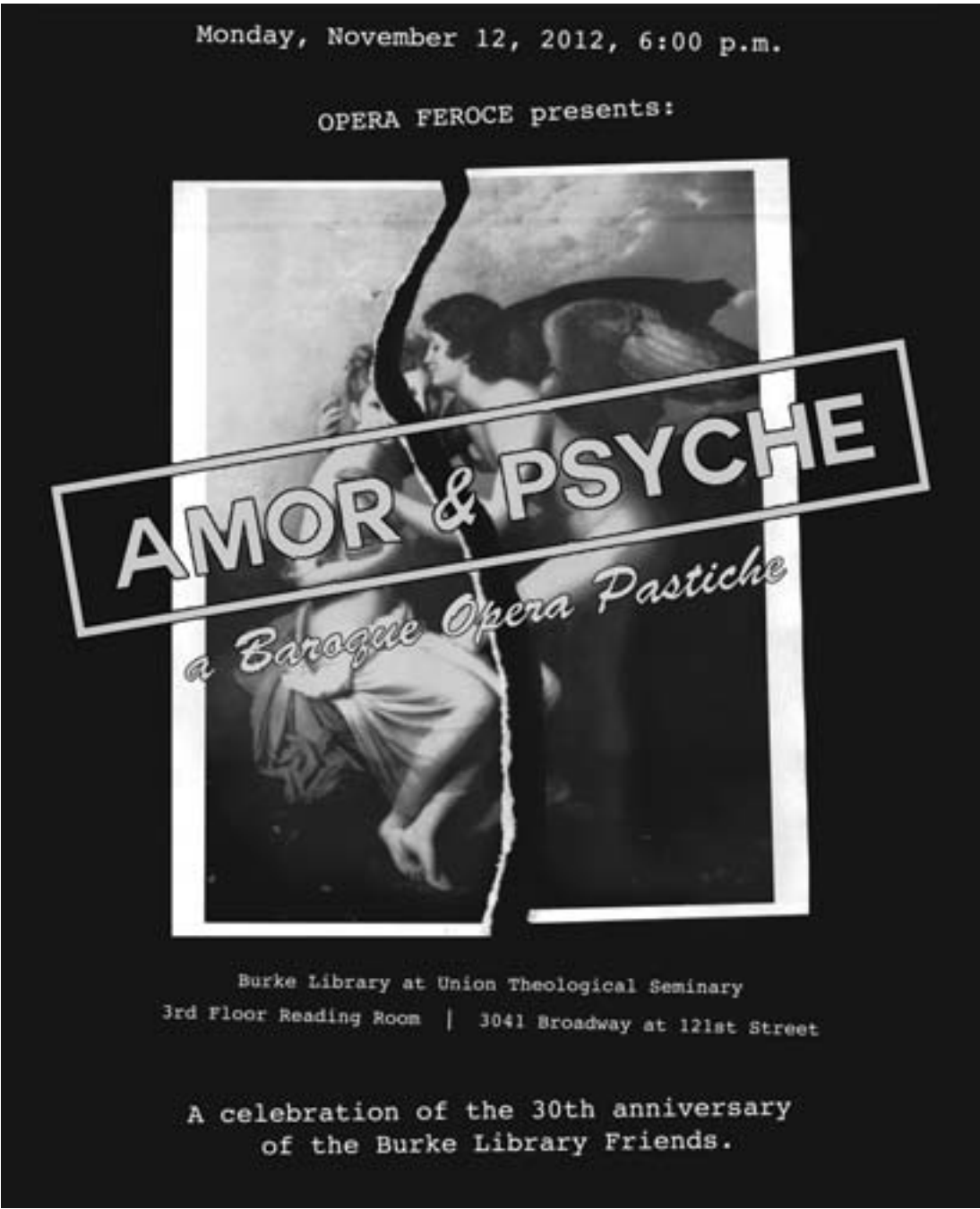
Christopher Gonzalez, who has lived near the restaurant for 15 years, thinks the closing might just be a matter of location.

“A lot of my friends, we consider this whole corner cursed. Most stores that open up here tend to close within five or six months. They don’t really make a lot of business. I don’t really know why—maybe because it’s a dead corner. But no one really does business here,” Gonzalez said.

Like the others, he missed it. “Rack & Soul was a good place. It was family-oriented. A lot of people liked it,” Gonzalez said.

He also said he expressed empathy for the former employees in light of the current job climate. “I just hope the people who work there get a chance to find better jobs,” he said.

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Meaningful service

Relief is ongoing in the immediate aftermath of the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy, and the Columbia community is participating in the efforts. In the past week or so, students have helped clean the streets of the city and served food at shelters in areas not as lucky as Morningside Heights. Administrators and staff have made an effort to link volunteers with the services that need them. We have opened our doors to our peers and friends in need of a hot shower and a phone charge, and much of the mobilization has been organic, with friends and colleagues calling and texting and emailing to let each other know where their aid is needed.

I will admit here parenthetically that I was on a plane to another country last Thursday, and felt guilty for having to turn down some of those calls. So it's all imperfect, of course, and we could always be doing more to help, but there has certainly been no shortage of goodwill, of genuine concern for our community and our city. If we could help, we did. Those of us who were able to did so without a second thought. It was simply the right thing to do.

One could argue that as long as people are being helped, the motivation behind the service does not really matter.

I don't think that we care any less for our neighbors in this city normally. It's just the nature of these disasters to disrupt our normal, busy lives and remind us of the fragility of our communities. It's also the nature of these disasters to quickly fade in our memories as life goes on and things return to "normal." After the initial outpouring of support, aid often dwindles quickly even as the need continues to exist. We saw this after Hurricane Katrina and after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti as reconstruction proved a more difficult, drawn-out process than initially expected. Whether we forget about the local inequities and inadequacies revealed by the hurricane or stay deeply involved in working towards solutions is our choice.

I do not think it would be too far off the mark to say that Columbia students are generally socially conscious, politically aware, and eager to make some kind



BOB SUN

Terms of Engagement

of (positive) impact on their world. A good place to start would be next door. Affordable housing, access to health care, and the state of our public spaces are just a few of the perennial issues thrown in sharp relief by the damage we have seen around the University. Undoubtedly, student activism in community outreach is not novel, but this is an opportunity for us to reflect on how active we really are in our community. Too much of the good we purport to do is superficial or done for the wrong reasons and ultimately less significant than we would like. Having Columbia Community Outreach as our one organized service event every year is definitely better than having nothing, yet one wonders if one event a year provides a real connection between students, the University, and the community. Other times, service is viewed cynically, as just that much more padding on the résumé—a means to an end rather than an end in and of itself.

One could argue that as long as people are being helped, the motivation behind the service does not really matter. As a coordinator for Student Health Outreach, I hear this rationalization often. Our volunteers are invariably premed students. The problem with having mixed motives is captured by the high attrition rate of many service groups, including my own. A student may join my group, drawn by a small time commitment and a good pitch that can be regurgitated on medical school applications, only to flake after a week or two. The sites we work in (mainly soup kitchens) are smelly, the clients can be abrasive or difficult, and other commitments compete for a volunteer's attention. It is easy for our hypothetical premed to rationalize not showing up. After all, how many people can he really help anyway? He might only talk to 10 people a week at a shift.

The only way to avoid such superficial aid is to make a genuine attempt to be engaged in the community. The conversations with those 10 people must not be seen as a weekly chore but rather as an enriching and rewarding experience for both parties. Something as basic as really listening, without condescension, to an impoverished person's tale of her trials and tribulations in navigating the Medicaid system can make a huge difference in that person's day, precisely because it happens so infrequently. Meaningful involvement, whether in volunteering, community politics, environmental advocacy, or any of the myriad ways we try to reach out to our community, means not losing sight of the people we want to help. It means listening to the community. And it is something Columbia should strive for, not because it would be a boost to a résumé or provide good PR. It is simply the right thing to do.

Bob Sun is a Columbia College junior majoring in history and biology. He is a member of the Committee on Instruction. Terms of Engagement runs alternate Thursdays.



LAURA DIEZ DE BALDEON

The right of the underprivileged

BY ABRIL DOZAL

Last week's column by Ryan Cho ("What is privilege?" Oct. 31), brought up the sensitive topic of privilege, how we should define it, and how we should react to it. However, like many other discussions of privilege, it failed to analyze the implications and limitations surrounding the issue.

First, it is necessary to expand on the definition that the column attempts to establish but falls short of doing. It does aptly point out that the idea of privilege often brings images of "the white male who hails from a suburban New England household and has attended one of a handful of boarding prep schools," and that privilege goes beyond that. However, it forgets to elaborate that we need to recognize that being "underprivileged" can mean a variety of things and is not just constrained to race and socioeconomic class. Anything that could put a person at a disadvantage in a particular situation makes that person underprivileged, and many people could fall under this category, so the dichotomy with the labels "privileged" and "underprivileged" is one with which we need to be careful.

The column is right to say that we should be careful when we judge our peers, because we don't know what experiences they've had with privilege, or the lack thereof. Nonetheless, it fails to recognize that we also need to be careful with the experiences we've had and how we use them to relate to others. Because we grow up with underprivileged people, it does not mean we understand the complexities of their identities or problems. My having a brother in no way implies that I necessarily understand what it means to be subjected to the societal constraints of machismo. Having undocumented family members and friends gives me little insight into the fear and frustration that is felt when racist politicians speak about immigration reform. So, Cho's belief that his time at a public school with many lower-income, inner city students gives him an "added context" into their academic experiences is skewed. However, it does inadvertently bring up an interesting paradox that being underprivileged can give one an advantage in the classroom.

Having an underprivileged experience gives many the advantage of bringing diverse first-hand perspectives to classroom conversations. As a student from an underserved community, I am privy to not needing to check my privilege when I speak of access to education, immigration, and similar topics. But most importantly, I have the advantage of knowing that I do need to check my privilege when I speak of things I haven't experienced first-hand. Having been on the receiving end of others' insensitivity or lack of awareness has made me acutely cognizant of the damages caused when people don't consider the implications of their ignorant comments. Being aware of our ignorance in no way means that we can't give our opinions, but it certainly means that we must also present the disclaimers and limitations of our views. So, those speaking from privilege must approach the topic with care, and understand when they are asked to check their privilege, even if it is said in a "condescending tone."

Thus, I wholeheartedly disagree with Cho's argument that we need to be cognizant of the "specific situations" of the more fortunate before we angrily point out that they are speaking from a point of privilege. In fact, I believe that the underprivileged in a conversation have the right to check someone's privilege when they have been offended. Thinking that we understand what underprivileged individuals go through undermines the gravity of the suffering their disadvantage has indirectly brought them, so we shouldn't be surprised when we are told to check our privilege in a tone drenched "with the utmost anger." It should be the responsibility of the privileged to be sensitive, to learn proactively from their mistakes, and to move on with the conversation in a way that considers their lack of awareness.

Cho's column reminds us that we are all here to learn from each other and that the Core is meant to cultivate an exchange of ideas. As such, it is our individual responsibility to take advantage of what Columbia has to offer, particularly its diverse student body. So, if the most passionate of our peers tell us to "check our privilege," we should consider it a favor because they just made our education worth it.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in Latin American and Iberian cultures and human rights. She is the co-president of Chicano Caucus and a Heights-to-Heights Mentoring coordinator.

B.A. at Columbia: useless at a hurricane shelter



JAMES YOON

Yooniversity

Columbia notified faculty and students last Tuesday that classes would resume the next day. They explained by email, "Our students will only benefit by beginning to reengage in the purposeful work that brings our University community—and our City—together each day." Given that Columbia was one of New York's few academic institutions unharmed by the storm, the administration was correct to continue operations.

It must be acknowledged, however, that the work of academics in our institution does not necessarily bring our University and city together every day, as noted in the email. Very little of my coursework at Columbia College directly contributes to life in New York City. In one global health course usually offered in the spring, a visiting professor predicted that global warming would intensify heat waves in cities all over the world, including ours. He made the case that more health professionals should develop an interest in environmental issues, citing the connection between global warming and increased chronic respiratory disease. Other than this suggestion, the lecturer did not offer any tangible solutions.

Thus far, Columbia College has been a leading institution in terms of teaching undergraduates pure, theoretical knowledge in the sciences and unveiling the full complexity of our interpersonal interactions in the humanities. In short, our school is a stronghold for the basic academic disciplines. However, there are major gaps in the production of applied knowledge and the translation of knowledge into action. In the context of the hurricane, for example, there are few, if any, classes that educate students in the field of emergency management. I doubt that my college education makes me inherently more qualified to allocate resources in a hurricane shelter than a pragmatic person without a college degree.

I believe that there may already be answers to the most intimidating challenges of our lifetime, including the decline of the European welfare state, health reform, and our strained relationship with the natural environment. Unfortunately, I rarely find satisfying ones in my undergraduate coursework. At the end of sophomore year, I declared a major in environmental science in order to better understand the processes that drive the Earth's physical environment. I believed that gauging the impact that human activity has on these processes could help people make responsible, sustainable decisions in the future.

Our school is a stronghold for the basic academic disciplines.

There's no doubt that I received a strong education in geology, geophysics, and climate science. Columbia's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences is indeed ranked top in the nation. However, while I believe I have a better understanding of the Earth and its inner workings, I am not sure if all this knowledge will actually help me make good decisions in the future. I know a whole lot about calculating the rate at which the sea level in Greenland would rise once its ice caps melt. But none of my classes taught me what this information means for Danish policy makers who are making long-term decisions about the use of the affected land.

Columbia's biology department is similarly well respected in the big leagues, but I am not sure if my premedical education will actually help me be a great physician. In my biochemistry class, for example, the professor spoke at great lengths on how inhibiting an enzyme in the mitochondria speeds up fat metabolism in mice. He implied the solution to the nation's obesity epidemic rested on his research. But he failed to acknowledge that we already have the answers. The cure for obesity can be as simple as changing people's diets and their built environment so that they would be encouraged to be physically active. Based solely on my biochemistry lecture, I would tell a future patient about an exceedingly expensive treatment that fundamentally manipulates his fat metabolism. I would, however, be able to say nothing about proper physical activity and nutrition.

It is not only the duty of the engineering and professional schools to apply knowledge into action that directly impacts our surrounding communities. As a not-for-profit institution, Columbia receives significant support and many privileges from our city, beginning with not having to pay certain taxes and receiving considerable government funding for research. The institution as a whole has an obligation to produce knowledge that benefits society. This responsibility means that research faculty cannot measure their own success in terms of the number of academic publications they hold. Instead, the true measure of their success is how willing and how able they are to communicate what they know to people with varying academic backgrounds.

Columbia also carries an obligation to its students to help them combine passion and practicality. In other words, CC students should have the academic freedom to choose secondary majors in engineering, public policy, and applied sciences without having to transfer to a different school. Just because a body of knowledge is not esoteric and has popular appeal does not make it less worthy of academic inquiry. In fact, investing in knowledge that has practical, real-world applications is the most significant way that Columbia can respond to our city during desperate, pressing times.

James Yoon is a Columbia College senior majoring in environmental science. Yooniversity runs alternate Thursdays.

Correction

A headline in the print edition of the Nov. 7 issue misquoted Victoria Stevens, an Obama volunteer from the Bronx. She called voter turnout from the Bronx "the greatest I've ever seen it," not "the greatest thing I've ever seen." Spectator regrets the error.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS	5 Red wine choice	40 Data storage medium	51 Joint sometimes replaced
1 Act the troubadour	6 Warmup act	43 Summer beverage	52 Eyelid affliction
6 Qp. that includes Venezuela	7 Epidemial opening	44 "No argument born me!"	53 Grad
10 Show disapproval	8 It can be bruised	45 Spring... cycle: tidal phenomenon	54 Sharp cry
14 Despicable character	9 Fuse into a single entity	46 Watch the boob tube, say	55 Distinctive periods
15 ... stick	10 Gabfest activity	49 First party wear	57 Hide-hair connection
16 Drive train component	11 Entrance requirement, often	50 Has a bug, or bugs hit	58 "To All the Girls Loved Before": 1984 #1 country hit
17 Fly	12 Plumbing bends		
20 End of eternity?	13 Bank (on)		
21 Script snippet	14 Rustic valley		
22 Like some excuses	25 Fly		
23 Seafood order	31 Lo-cal		
24 Rural valley	32 Longtime Mississippi senator		
25 Fly	33 Two-minute warning giver		
31 Lo-cal	35 From scratch		
32 Longtime Mississippi senator	36 Opted for		
33 Two-minute warning giver	38 Twofold		
35 From scratch	39 Uncle Sam poster word		
36 Opted for	40 Give it up, so to speak		
38 Twofold	41 Church alcove		
39 Uncle Sam poster word	42 Fly		
40 Give it up, so to speak	47 Stuff		
41 Church alcove	48 Barrel-bottom stuff		
42 Fly	49 Go up against		
47 Stuff	52 Smelting waste		
48 Barrel-bottom stuff	53 Sailor's assest		
49 Go up against	56 Fly		
52 Smelting waste	59 Show whose cast holds the record for the most charted songs on the Billboard Hot 100		
53 Sailor's assest	60 Protein-rich bean		
56 Fly	61 Soft palate projection		
59 Show whose cast holds the record for the most charted songs on the Billboard Hot 100	62 Between ports		
60 Protein-rich bean	63 It usually loses in war		
61 Soft palate projection	64 Holiday hires		
62 Between ports			
63 It usually loses in war			
64 Holiday hires			

DOWN

1 Brake

2 Country singer Keith

3 Bit of subterfuge

4 Manipulate

By Robert Fisher
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11/06/12

Sport psychologists aid Lions athletes

QUAN from back page

progresses? As the weeks go by, the improvements in my game are not because I'm running faster. Most of the progress comes from accumulating "court sense," gaining more accuracy in my shots, and remembering what it feels like to play under pressure. For most athletes, finding themselves mentally at home again in the middle of competition can help them gain the confidence necessary to secure strong wins and defy odds.

If college sports have taught me anything, it is the importance of "mental fitness." Even though physical fitness tends to soak up all of the attention, I believe that mental toughness is more crucial to the success of an athlete. On several occasions, even when I was in peak shape, a weak mental game unraveled my chances of winning a comfortable match. The mind has the ability to cripple the body more heavily than a little soreness or a nagging injury. Lacking a stable mental

game can spell disaster on any given day. On the other hand, complete confidence can make an athlete feel invincible. With movements coming almost effortlessly, the game generates an impenetrable flow, and success feels inevitable.

However, mental toughness does not just encompass keeping your confidence during a single game. It means taking wins and losses throughout the season, learning from your defeats and successes, and working through pain, soreness, and injuries. Because the squash season includes the winter break, it seems extra long, stretching over the course of almost five months. Being mentally tough also involves the day-in and day-out commitment to the sport and not allowing yourself to "burn out" before the end of the season.

After learning how much of a difference a strong mental game can have on my success, I am glad that the Athletic Department has added a sports psychologist to its ranks. Dr. Brent Walker, the

associate athletics director for championship performance, has years of experience providing mental training services for athletes at all levels. He has already taken initiative to help varsity athletes by hosting several workshops on confidence and visualization, and will continue to meet with teams and individuals.

Much of what Dr. Walker has to offer will help improve our individual and team performances, both in competition and in our day-to-day lives. The insights he shares with us may even benefit us when we move beyond college and adopt lifelong careers. I believe that that's the power of strong mental fitness. But for now, I'm looking forward to making the improvements in my mental game to start and end my last season right.

Katie Quan is a Columbia College senior majoring in financial economics. She is a member of the women's varsity squash team. In the Zone runs biweekly.

sports@columbiaspectator.com

Mathews' passing abilities threaten CU

MATHEWS from back page

game plan," he said. "We had a good game plan going into the Princeton game, and we have a good game plan coming into this game. We really just need to limit our mistakes offensively, and I think we'll be in good shape."

If the Light Blue want to put a halt on Mathews' production,

it is going to need to apply constant pressure throughout the entire game. Many of the games in which the Big Red's offense was bogged down by turnovers were the result of pressure defense by its opponents, and its offensive line can be viewed as a weak point. Cornell's front five have allowed the second-most sacks in the league with 13.

When the Big Red takes to the field Saturday against the Lions, look for Mathews to try to go over the top to either Tasker, who has 66 catches this season, or Gellatly, who has 53. The Big Red can run up the score quickly if the Lions can't disrupt the timing between Mathews and his receivers.

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FILE PHOTO

OVER THE TOP | Cornell junior quarterback Jeff Mathews has had another impressive season for the Big Red this season, with 16 passing touchdowns and 2611 passing yards in 2012.

Light Blue athletes compete in Flushing

BY STEVEN LAU
Spectator Staff Writer

As the men's tennis fall season comes to a close this weekend, four sophomore Lions are gearing up to compete in the biggest collegiate indoor tennis tournament in the nation.

Beginning Thursday, Columbia will host the National Indoor Intercollegiate Championships for the third consecutive year at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, N.Y.

Organized by the United States Tennis Association and the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, the 2012 NIIC will bring together a total of 124 men's and women's players from 45 schools.

On the men's side, the country's top 32 singles players and top 20 doubles teams will compete for the national title.

In singles, the Light Blue will be represented by sophomore star Winston Lin, who enters the tournament as a wild card.

In the first round of play, Lin will face the tournament's No. 6 seed, senior Jarmere Jenkins of the University of Virginia.

Jenkins, who was ranked as high as No. 3 in the nation in singles last season, will also be one of Columbia's first opponents in doubles.

With freshman teammate Mac Styslinger, Jenkins will take on the Light Blue doubles duo of Ashok Narayana and Max Schnur on Thursday in the round of 16. Narayana and Schnur—who gained automatic entry to the tournament when they won the USTA/ITA Northeast Regional Championship doubles title last month—will have a bye in the first round of play before taking on Jenkins and Styslinger, the No. 3-seeded doubles team.

While Narayana and Schnur will be faced with nationally ranked opponents, both players said last month that their success at the All-American tournament and at regionals

has provided a mental edge.

"Having tangible results makes you feel like you can beat any team in the nation," Schnur said. "You go in with a different attitude, and it really makes you tougher on the court."

Columbia also has a second doubles team, composed of Lin and classmate Bert Vancura, competing in the tournament as a wild card.

In the first round on Thursday morning, Lin and Vancura will have to play junior Hernus Pieters and freshman Ben Wagland of the University of Georgia.

Earlier this fall at the ITA All-American Tournament, it was Pieters and Wagland—ranked No. 35 in the nation—who defeated Narayana and Schnur in a three-set consolation finals match.

All four Light Blue sophomores will see action on the court Thursday, and the tournament play will continue through Sunday.

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Women's tennis heads to Indoor Nationals

BY CARMEN REN
Columbia Daily Spectator

This weekend, the country's best collegiate tennis players are flocking to the USTA Billie Jean National King Tennis Center, home of the U.S. Open, for the final tournament of the pre-season—the USTA/ITA Indoor Nationals. Columbia, host for the third year in a row, will be sending senior Nicole Bartnik and juniors Bianca Sanon and Tiana Takenaga as tournament wildcards.

The tournament consists of 32 singles draws and 20 doubles teams from 27 colleges and universities across the U.S. Players are chosen from preseason

rankings and the regional and the All-American tournaments. Unlike the men's competition, the women's competition is less diverse in college representation, due to multiple schools sending more than one player.

The Lions will see some familiar faces in the competition. Penn's Sol Eskenazi and Sonya Latycheva, who defeated Sanon and Takenaga in the Northeast Regional finals in late October, will be present, as will USC's Zoe Scandalis, who defeated Bartnik in her second-round match at the All-American Championships. Also competing will be Princeton's Amanda Muliawan, who defeated Light Blue freshman

Kanika Vaidya during the finals of the Northeast Regional Championships.

Though last year's National Indoor singles champions have graduated, the competition for the title remains tough. Florida's Lauren Embree, the 2012 All-American Championships singles winner, UCLA's Robin Anderson, winner of the Southwest Region singles title, and North Carolina's Gina Suarez-Malaguti are all undefeated this season.

In doubles, USC's Kaitlyn Christian and Sabrina Santamaria will be defending their title from last year.

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MIKE DISCENZA / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

READY, SET, SPIKE! | Columbia senior Megan Gaughn has led the Lions' transformation into becoming one of the more competitive teams in the Ivy League.

Gaughn leads Light Blue transformation

GAUGHN from back page

have no idea—it was her first Ivy League win of her career here."

Those moments helped offset the reality that Gaughn had joined a struggling program that had gone 0-14 in the Ivy League in 2008, and had won only a total of five Ivy matches over the previous three seasons. According to Gaughn, there was even a point when associate head coach Brie Katz had to ask a girl from the P.E. volleyball class to join the varsity team, just to be eligible to play games.

The impact of Gaughn and her recruiting class on the program was felt immediately, as the Lions jumped up to sixth in the conference with three wins.

But the Light Blue had almost missed out on Gaughn. It was only after her initial plans to play for Harvard had fallen through that then-second-year head coach Jon Wilson capitalized on the chance to pick up a talented player.

"I have no idea how he got me to come here," Gaughn said. "Obviously I came to college with the intention of winning. I'm not down to lose every set. He talked about how he was going to turn the program around and got us to buy into it."

As a member of his first recruiting class, Wilson said, Gaughn was instrumental to the development of Columbia's volleyball program.

"She has been a cornerstone type of player," he said. "She's the kind of player that's talented and who works and who overachieves. And that's a nice combination to have. And she's a nice person on top of that."

Beyond improving the team on the court, Wilson also credited Gaughn, along with her teammates, for convincing other talented volleyball recruits from around the nation to buy into his vision for the Light Blue volleyball program.

"They believed so strongly that Columbia was going to be competitive and it was a great place to invest your four years if you were a volleyball player," Wilson said.

Gaughn took a leadership role on the team at the start of her tenure at Columbia. Freshman year, she set the example mostly through her play, and over the years she's developed into a more vocal leader, according to Wilson.

"She's so smart about what she does," senior Heather Braunagel said. "She knows how hard to hit, when to swing, when to just toss it in there. She knows how to change people's attitudes. There's always this emotion she plays with that drives everything. She celebrates with so much joy."

Even with all the emotion and energy that Gaughn brings to the court, Braunagel says that Gaughn never lets it get the best of her.

"She goes with the flow," Braunagel said. "Whatever things come her way, she deals with them and moves on to the next thing. I think it totally applies to how she plays volleyball, in that it's a game to 25 points, and not one point. When we win a point, she's not celebrating winning the game, she's celebrating winning the point and moving on."

Though Gaughn and the other seniors, Braunagel and

Kelsey Musselman, will depart Columbia without the Ivy League championship rings that they hoped for, Gaughn says she recognizes the impact that her class will have on Lions volleyball for years to come.

"With the three years of putting in so much commitment and sacrifices, it's not hard to wear your heart on your sleeve," Gaughn said. "I feel like it's safe to say that the underclassmen know how much the senior class cares and how much we put into it."

From a program that sat at the bottom of the Ancient Eight standings, Gaughn, the seniors, and Wilson have transformed the Light Blue volleyball program into serious championship contenders every year. The current senior class is now vying to finish in third place for the third consecutive season.

"Every year keeps building on what we had in the beginning," Braunagel said. "Yeah, we're out of championship contention now. We're the stepping stone. The girls below us—I know they'll have the rings, but it'll be our championship too."

Regardless of how this season ends, Gaughn notes the changes that have improved the Lions volleyball program as a whole.

"The commitment level to volleyball has gotten so much better," Gaughn said. "The culture is so different. Columbia means something different than three years ago, when it used to be an easy win, and now the thought process is so much different."

sports@columbiaspectator.com



MIKE DISCENZA / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SENIOR SENSATION | Dartmouth senior forward Libby Hamlin helped lead the Big Green to a second place Ivy League finish.

Princeton goes undefeated, claims Ivy League title

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Last weekend cemented the difference between the top three teams and the field in Ancient Eight women's soccer. Princeton and Dartmouth both ended their regular seasons on a roll. Although Penn came up short in its effort to earn a share of first, the Quakers did finish third.

BROWN

The Bears fell behind early and were unable to claw back in their last game of the season. Brown outshot Yale 11-8 but came out on the wrong end of a 1-0 scoreline on Sunday. This contest counted as a nonleague match, and the two teams also faced each other on Thursday for a designated Ivy game. Thursday's conference game was a double-overtime 2-2 draw that saw sophomore forward Chloe Cross and freshman forward/midfielder Kiersten Berg score for the Bears.

CORNELL

The Big Red was blanked

by Dartmouth 3-0 on Saturday in its last game of the season. Despite conceding three goals, junior keeper Tori Christ did a solid job in net and recorded 11 saves. The loss sealed Cornell's fate of a winless season as it finished in the basement of the Ivy standings.

DARTMOUTH

The Big Green notched its seventh consecutive victory in its last game of the regular season, as it beat Cornell 3-0. Junior midfielder Chrissy Lozier was the first of the Big Green to score, followed by sophomore forward Tasha Wilkins and junior midfielder Marina Moschitto in the 66th and 84th minutes, respectively. The Big Green finished the season in second place with 13 total wins, the most the program has had since 2000.

HARVARD

Harvard's Senior Day saw the Crimson come out on top in a 1-0 contest against Columbia. Freshman midfielder Brooke Dickens emerged

as the hero of the day, as she found the back of the net five seconds before the final whistle. Harvard outshot the Lions 18-10 for the game and possessed the ball for most of the second half. The win awarded the Crimson fourth place in the Ancient Eight.

PENN

Penn's dreams of an Ivy League title were shattered on Saturday as it lost 4-2 to Princeton. The Quakers fell behind in the first half and were shut out for more than two-thirds of the game. Both of Penn's goals came from sophomore forward Clara Midgley, but they were too little too late. With the loss, the Quakers dropped to third place in the Ivy League.

PRINCETON

The Tigers sealed the deal on their undefeated 2012 Ivy season on Saturday, claiming the league title in the process. Princeton beat Penn 4-2 thanks to a hat trick from sophomore midfielder/forward Lauren

Lazo and a final goal from senior midfielder Caitlin Blosser. With the win, the Tigers were awarded a bid to the NCAA tournament and will play West Virginia on Saturday in the first round.

YALE

It was senior forward Mary Kubiuk's final game as a Bulldog on Sunday, and she ended her career with a bang, scoring the only goal in Yale's 1-0 win against Brown. The two Eli keepers, sophomore Elise Wilcox and freshman Rachel Ames, were both solid in net and tallied seven saves combined. The two teams faced each other on Thursday as well, in a game that ended in a 2-2 tie after two overtimes. The Bulldogs fell behind early in this contest, but senior midfielder Kristen Forster evened the score midway through the second half and sophomore forward Melissa Gavin gave them the lead before the score was evened again with less than five minutes remaining in regulation.

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Harvard, Penn continue dominance of Ivy League

BY RACHEL TURNER
Spectator Staff Writer

In the penultimate week of the season, Yale continued to struggle due to multiple injuries at quarterback. Penn topped Princeton in the only close game of the week, while Harvard and Brown stunned with impressive shutouts, and Dartmouth convincingly beat Cornell.

BROWN

At home against Yale, the Bears (5-3, 2-3 Ivy) shut out the Bulldogs 20-0 for the first time since 1949. Brown's defense, ranked second in the nation, held Yale to a measly 22 passing yards. This monstrous defensive effort was led by senior cornerback AJ Cruz, who intercepted two passes, bringing his career total to 12.

CORNELL

Cornell (4-4, 2-3 Ivy) hosted the Big Green on Saturday, but never came close in this 44-28 loss. Junior quarterback Jeff Mathews' three touchdowns and 315 yards made him Cornell's career passing leader with 7,746 career yards. However, Dartmouth's three touchdowns in the game's first 20 minutes put Cornell in a hole they couldn't come back from.

DARTMOUTH

Dartmouth (5-3, 3-2 Ivy) was led to a 44-28 away victory by freshman quarterback Dalyn Williams in his first start. Dartmouth took advantage of three first-quarter interceptions, converting all three into scores. Junior running back Dominick Pierre pounded Cornell's rush defense with 154 yards, while Williams added 96 rushing yards, including a rushing touchdown to go with his two passing scores.

HARVARD

Harvard (7-1, 5-1 Ivy), ranked 21st nationally, was the biggest winner this week, embarrassing Columbia in a 69-0 shutout. Harvard was forced to punt on

its first possession, but then took off in a balanced offensive effort with nine different players contributing touchdowns. Senior quarterback Colton Chapple shone with four touchdowns—three passing, one rushing—for the second time this season.

PENN

Penn (4-4, 4-1 Ivy) took on the Tigers, with sophomore running back Eric Fiore helping the Quakers take a first-half lead of 14-13 with his 53-yard kickoff return. Down 21-14 in the fourth quarter, the Quakers made their third fourth-quarter comeback this season with a pick six and a 58-yard touchdown drive. Princeton had a chance to come back in the last seconds of the game at third-and-goal, but Penn senior linebacker Steve Lias forced a fumble to win the game 28-21.

PRINCETON

Princeton (4-4, 3-2 Ivy) took on the Quakers in a disappointing 28-21 loss. The Tigers fell behind 14-13 in the first half when their extra point was blocked by Penn, but sophomore quarterback Connor Michelsen connected with junior wide receiver Roman Wilson for a touchdown, and the two-point conversion tied the score at 21. The Tigers' demise was thanks to their three late turnovers, which allowed the Quakers' comeback.

YALE

Yale (2-6, 1-4 Ivy) stumbled to a 20-0 defeat, unable to overcome injuries at quarterback. All three quarterbacks were dealing with injuries, and while freshman Eric Williams attempted to play through pain, Yale had to play most of the game in a Wildcat formation under sophomore half-back Tyler Varga. Varga brought the Bulldogs within striking distance early, but they missed on a field goal attempt, and did not come close for the rest of the game.

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ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FRESHMAN PHENOM | Penn freshman defensive back Trent Dennington has been a potent defensive threat this season.

As Ivy League season nears completion, Cornell leads the conference title race

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

As the Ivy League season approaches its final week-end of action, Cornell's victory catapulted it over Brown

into the conference's top spot. Dartmouth, Brown, and Princeton maintained their positions in the top half of the Ivy table while Harvard, Yale, and Penn continued to struggle.

BROWN

Despite pulling ahead early and outshooting their opponents 36-15, the Bears (12-1-3, 4-0-2 Ivy) settled for a 1-1 tie with Yale last Saturday night. Sophomore forward Ben Maurey put Brown

on the board on a play started by senior defender Dylan Remick's corner less than three minutes in. But the Bears could not maintain their lead, as Yale junior forward/midfielder Peter Jacobson equalized in the 20th minute. The Bears continued to apply offensive pressure as they attempted 36 shots, with 12 of those going on goal, but they were foiled by Yale goalkeeper Bobby Thalman. The second-place Bears will finish out the regular season as they face third-place Dartmouth on Friday.

CORNELL

The Big Red (14-1, 5-1 Ivy) found itself on top of the standings after coming from behind to beat Dartmouth 2-1 in a double-overtime thriller. The Yale-Brown tie helped Cornell reclaim sole possession of the top spot from the Bears. Junior midfielder/forward and Ivy Player of the Week Stephen Reisert scored the Big Red's first goal of the night and later assisted on senior forward Tyler Regan's game-winner in overtime. Cornell will look to take home its first Ivy title since 1995 as it prepares for its last Ivy game of the season against Columbia.

DARTMOUTH

After getting on the board first, the Big Green (8-7, 4-2 Ivy) fell 1-2 to Cornell on Saturday and now sits in third place in

the division. Dartmouth's lone goal came from sophomore midfielder Colin Heffron in the 29th minute, but the lead did not last long, as Cornell equalized two minutes later. Junior goalkeeper Noah Cohen had seven saves in the contest. Dartmouth will close out Ivy play when it faces Brown on Friday.

HARVARD

On Tuesday, the Crimson (3-10-3, 0-5-1 Ivy) blanked Holy Cross 2-0 in its last home game of the season. Harvard's two goals came within five minutes of each other, the first scored by senior forward Brian Rogers and the second by senior defender Richard Smith. Harvard fell to Columbia 1-0 three days earlier, in a game that saw just nine shots on goal for both teams combined. The Crimson fell behind with eight minutes left in the first half, and although it finished with both more shots and corner kicks than the Lions, it was unable to finish. Harvard will try to carry this week's momentum into its next contest against Penn.

PENN

Penn (2-13, 0-6 Ivy) still could not find its elusive first Ivy win this past weekend. The Quakers were defeated 3-0 by Princeton in a game that saw Penn get outshot 12-8. The Quakers matched the Tigers for most of the first half, but conceded their first goal

in the 34th minute and continued to falter in the second half. Penn will try for its first and only Ivy win when it takes on Harvard this Saturday.

PRINCETON

The Tigers (7-6-2, 3-1-2 Ivy) had their largest margin of victory in over a year on Saturday, as they shut out Penn 3-0. Princeton went up 1-0 midway through the first half on a goal by freshman forward Thomas Sanner. Princeton's two remaining goals came from sophomore midfielder/defender Myles McGinley and senior defender Mark Linnville. The Tigers were eliminated from title contention due to Cornell's win over Dartmouth. Princeton will then travel to New Haven to finish out Ivy play on Saturday against Yale.

YALE

This weekend saw the Bulldogs (4-7-5, 1-2-3 Ivy) match Brown in a 1-1, double-overtime draw. Yale gave up a goal early in the match, but evened the game at one just before halftime on a rebound goal from Jacobson. Senior goalkeeper Bobby Thalman was solid in net following Brown's initial goal, tallying 11 saves in 110 minutes. Yale is now undefeated in its last three games and will try to make it four when it hosts Princeton for its last game of the season.

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HALEY SCHOECK FOR SPECTATOR

GREEN ON TOP | Dartmouth forward Alberto Gorini has his team in the top half of the Ivy Standings.

Mental fitness key to athletes' performance

With the fall sports season slowly coming to an end, many winter sports are set to begin their first week-end of competition. As a senior getting ready for my final season of college squash, I'm looking forward to the upcoming matches and adding a strong finish to my career.

Most of the time, preparing for a new season involves a lot of physical training. Over the summer, athletes across all sports are logging in extra hours at the gym, on the track, in the pool, or on the field to get stronger, faster, and better. It's during these precious summer months away from competition that we can focus on tweaking the little details to improve our games. These are the sessions in which we build the skills to avenge past losses and secure future wins.

After we return to school, regular practice sessions reinforce the new techniques we pick up over the summer, and biweekly strengthening and conditioning sessions in the varsity weight room keep us physically fit. The attention never seems to move too far away from the physical preparations necessary for us to succeed in competition. Packing all of this physical training during preseason makes sense. Once the season starts, there is not much more I can do to become stronger. With weekends of up to three or four matches and strenuous practice sessions, sufficient recovery and staying "fresh" outweigh the merits of loading on extra conditioning sessions. As the saying goes, "What's done is done."

But if I am not necessarily getting "stronger" in the physical sense, how do I get better as the season



KATIE QUAN
In the Zone



PETER BONHOF FOR SPECTATOR

GOING, GOING, GAUGHN! | Columbia senior Megan Gaughn has cemented her status as one of CU's best-ever players.

Gaughn is key to Light Blue's success

BY ERIC WONG
Spectator Staff Writer

When senior captain Megan Gaughn goes up to hit, her eyes follow the volleyball, tracking the trajectory of the set. But at a certain point, she takes her eyes off the ball completely. In that moment, Gaughn glances at the other side of the court, looking for holes in the block and the defense, and then brings her eyes back to the

ball right before she crushes it, hitting the ball right where the defense isn't covering.

This all happens in two seconds. Gaughn's uncanny ability to seemingly slow time as she hits the ball has allowed her to reach a significant milestone. She's now the first player in program history to record over 1,000 digs and 1,000 kills in her career. But while the two-time first team All-Ivy honoree led her team

to back-to-back third-place finishes in her sophomore and junior years, Gaughn said she came to Columbia during a rough time for the volleyball program.

Gaughn recalls how ecstatic the Lions were when they pulled out a win early in her first Ivy season.

"One of the seniors gave me the biggest hug ever," Gaughn said. "You

SEE GAUGHN, page 8

Mathews leads prolific Big Red offensive attack

BY KYLE PERROTTI
Spectator Staff Writer

Last year, Cornell's Jeff Mathews made Ivy League history by becoming the first sophomore to win offensive player of the year. After that stellar performance, the star quarterback had some big expectations surrounding him.

"Coming into this year I didn't feel pressure," Mathews said. "It is all about improving and getting better week in and week out in the off-season. I have a long way to go in development, but just as long as I'm improving week in and week out I'll be in good shape."

This philosophy has proven successful for Mathews' 2012 assault on opposing defenses. He leads the Ancient Eight in passing yards per game with 373, but to Mathews, much of the credit goes to his wide receivers.

"We have a lot of good players," he said. "Luke Tasker has been the best receiver in the league by far and makes unbelievable plays just about every week, and Grant Gellatly is also playing big."

In spite of Mathews' humility, he's been playing at a high level. During the Big Red's contest against Princeton, he led his team to victory, tallying 525 yards through the air and four touchdowns.

According to the junior, the Princeton victory has been the highlight of the year.

"It was a great victory for us, being at home and them being the number one team at that time," Mathews said. "It was a big win for our program."

Mathews firmly believes that his team is fully capable of a repeat performance against the Lions, just as long as the team's strategy is soundly implemented.

"We just have to execute our

SEE MATHEWS, page 8

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SUMMER INTERN INFORMATION SESSION & PANEL
Monday, November 12th, 5:00pm, Faculty House - Presidential Rooms 2 & 3

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Wednesday, January 23rd
Application open to undergraduate juniors. Please see LionSHARE for application instructions.

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