



## Strategies, funds leave Northwest vacancies

BY SAMMY ROTH  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

The University is working to fill seven empty labs in the Northwest Corner Building, and some faculty members say a lack of funds is hindering these efforts.

The interdisciplinary science building on Broadway and 120th Street has space for 18 professors but only 11 will make the move when it opens later this month.

Columbia does not have enough money to hire the new faculty that were supposed to fill these empty labs, according to biology professor Ron Prywes, who, until earlier this year, was chair of the Campus Planning and Physical Development Committee.

But according to Executive Vice President for Arts and Sciences Nicholas Dirks, Columbia would not fill the empty spots in the building right away even if it had the necessary funds.

“We wanted to keep some labs open because it’s something you can use as a recruiting device when important ... opportunities arise,” he said.

Prywes though said it’s uncertain how and when the hirings will actually take place, adding that between salary and the cost of setting up the operations of an entire lab, every science hire costs between \$1 million and \$2 million.

“It wasn’t clear how we were gonna get up to close to 18,” Prywes said.

Two chemistry professors, Luis Campos and Wei Min, were in fact hired earlier this year with the understanding that they would work in the new building, and Dirks said at least three more hires will likely be made sometime this year.

“My experience here ... is that if there’s a real opportunity, then the money shows up.”

—Stuart Firestein,  
*biology department chair*

“Sometimes communication may be part of the problem, because people don’t necessarily know all of the things that are happening with respect to the building,” Dirks said. “But there’s a lot happening.”

Biology department chair Stuart Firestein cited the 2008 economic downturn as one of the reasons why hiring for the building has been slow, noting that the crisis hit just when the University would have started to make those hires.

Dirks agreed that the economic crisis played a role, especially because Columbia is trying to use the building to recruit renowned scientists, who often have big price tags.

“We don’t hire people who don’t have other offers,” Dirks said. “That’s the nature of going after the very best scientists.”

Firestein said that finding

SEE NW CORNER, page 2



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TRADITION | Natalie Lopez-Barnard, BC ’11 and ROTC cadet, raises the flag—the first time the University has allowed it in 42 years.

## Baker Field plan moves forward in city review process

BY SARAH DARVILLE  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The University’s plans for changes at Baker Field are one step closer to reality. And as the project works its way through the city’s approval process, a group of Inwood residents are pushing to have their voices heard.

The plans for the proposed five-story Campbell Sports Center are now before the Department of City Planning for consideration in the coming months.

The University’s plan recently passed through Community Board 12, which had a month to review it and make public comments. But disagreement within the board last month led to a tie vote, leaving CB12 without a resolution.

Still, neighborhood activists say this isn’t the end of the road.

“We were as a rule frustrated that no recommendation evolved,” said David Brodherson,

a member of the Inwood Mobilization Committee—a group formed in response to Columbia’s construction plans for Baker. “I believe the University has a broad-based obligation to the neighborhood in which they’re operating.”

Now, the committee is currently drafting its own recommendations to submit to City Planning.

“They range from questions about lighting to issues of security along Broadway to bus parking,” Brodherson said, adding that the group is not anti-Columbia, they just want to ensure that the process benefits the neighborhood.

At stake in City Planning is whether Columbia will be allowed to bypass a city waterfront zoning law. The Baker Athletics Complex is located on the north shore of Manhattan, and current law states that to do any construction on a waterfront property, the owner must devote 15 percent of

that land for public access.

But Columbia has said there is just not enough space be-

“I believe the University has a broad-based obligation to the neighborhood in which they’re operating.”

—David Brodherson,  
*Inwood Mobilization Committee*

cause too much of the site was built before that law was passed.

Instead, they’ve proposed providing only a tenth of that, or about 1.5 percent of the land, for new park space.

Susan Russell, chief of staff for City Council member Robert Jackson, said that their office is working with the Inwood Mobilization Committee to ensure that City Planning hears from local residents even without comments from CB12.

“We’re working with them to understand their points of view. We’ll listen to them. We’ll be educated by them,” she said.

Brodherson said he’s not sure when the recommendations will be ready, and the clock is ticking. “Missing a deadline in this kind of thing can be a very serious disaster in this city,” he said.

Still, there’s a lot of uncertainty around the project timeline, with officials at the University offering few details.

SEE BAKER, page 2

## General Studies veterans celebrate on CU parade float

BY ARVIN AHMADI  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

A blue and gold float carrying a group of Columbia student veterans rolled down Fifth Avenue Thursday afternoon—marking the second year the School of General Studies sponsored a float in the New York City Veterans Day Parade.

Roughly 30 students—with signs reading “MILVETS ON BOARD” and “Thank you for serving”—marched in the 91st parade, bringing GS back to its roots.

GS, which enrolls nontraditional students, was founded largely as a result of the post-World War II G.I. Bill. Now, over 150 veterans are enrolled at GS, with roughly 300 veterans enrolled in the University at large.

“With the large number of veterans and with our historical connections, it made sense for GS to participate in the way that we have, which is really to honor the veteran students we have enrolled here through our sponsorship of the float in the parade,” GS Dean of Enrollment Management Curtis Rogers said.

Starting at 28th Street and continuing up Fifth Avenue to 56th Street, spectators applauded and waved American flags



ARVIN AHMADI FOR SPECTATOR

ON BOARD | General Studies veterans participated in the parade for the second time on a Columbia float.

from the sidewalks.

“There were a lot of people on the streets cheering, thanking us for our service,” Ester Nyaggah, GS, said. “It felt good to be appreciated—you know, not having somebody say, ‘I can’t believe you supported this war.’ It was an incredible experience.”

With Columbia’s participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a provision of the post-9/11 G.I. Bill implemented last fall, the number of veterans on campus rose sharply. In the 2008-2009 school year, only about 60 veterans were enrolled at GS, Rogers said.

“The School of General Studies was a school established partly

for veterans. It’s very nice to see that legacy being revived,” Rory Minnis, GS, said.

Participants said that the increasing number of veterans on campus has created a sense of community in Morningside Heights.

SEE GS VETS, page 2

## ROTC members raise flag, break ban

Columbia reinstates tradition after over 40 years

BY LEAH GREENBAUM  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Breaking from a 42-year ban on military activities on campus, students raised the American flag over Low Plaza Thursday morning in a traditional ceremony in honor of Veterans Day.

Six members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Fordham University—from Barnard, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, Columbia College, and the School of General Studies—will continue to perform flag-raising ceremonies every Monday at dawn, after Columbia’s University Senate gave them the green light last month.

Daniel Izzo, a first-year MBA student and army captain, said that the flag-raising ceremony came about because of the increasingly important place veterans and military service members have on campus.

“I think that Columbia veterans are taking a more active role, partially because of strength in numbers. ... It’s just a build-up of momentum that’s really bringing veterans to the forefront at Columbia now,” Izzo said.

Amber Griffiths, TC and veterans benefit coordinator for the Office of Student Services, said that this year there are over 300 veterans in Columbia’s undergraduate and graduate schools, an increase tied to the revised G.I. Bill that covers tuition for many of those returning from service.

“It’s an important part of who

SEE ROTC, page 2

## CC alums join sophomores for Bridge Dinner

BY KARLA JIMENEZ  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

For Alex Jasiulek, CC ’13, dining with three generations of Columbia College students Thursday night was about more than just networking.

“I might be in the same position in a few years—I need to step it up,” Jasiulek said of meeting alumni at this year’s first Bridge Dinner for the Classes of 1963, 1988, and 2013. “I think it’s more of a personal responsibility level as opposed to thinking, ‘OK, now you’re going to get me a job in your industry.’”

Fourteen undergraduates, three 1988 alumni, and three 1963 alumni dined together at the Columbia Alumni Center as part of a program aimed at connecting classes 25 and 50 years apart. All three classes will attend future reunions together, and this was the first opportunity for the class of 2013 to connect with these fellow classes.

“I was interested in coming to the dinner to see what the

SEE BRIDGE, page 2

### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Dirty politics, decaying democracy

Ethan Perets argues for keeping corrupt politicians out of politics.



### SPORTS, PAGE 6

#### Football readies for Empire State Bowl

Columbia football will face off against rival Cornell for its final home contest of the year and the first-ever Empire State Bowl. Saturday’s game is also Senior Day up at Baker.

### EVENTS

#### What happens when black holes collide

Hear about the origins of black holes, followed by stargazing on the roof.  
*Pupin Hall, 7 p.m.*

#### Manhattanville open house

Learn about the academic mixed-use campus Columbia is planning for Manhattanville.

555 Lerner, 10 a.m.

### WEATHER

#### Today



60°/39°

#### Tomorrow



62°/43°



SYDNEY SMALL FOR SPECTATOR

**VACANCY** | The Northwest Corner building, which will open its doors later this month, has not filled all the available offices.

Northwest Corner faculty vacancies raise questions

**NW CORNER from front page**

funds for new faculty is often a complicated process. “There are all these different pots of money around that could be devoted to this or that, or moved here or moved there.”

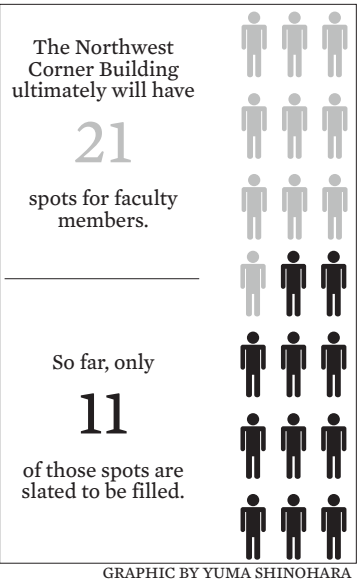
Physics department chair Bill Zajc agreed that low funding has slowed the hiring process. “Each faculty hire requires money up front in order to bring them to Columbia,” Zajc said. “If there had been a science initiative that provided funding for it, then one could have contemplated massive hiring into the new building, but that isn’t the way it worked out.”

In the past, Firestein said, the financial logistics have come together when exceptional candidates showed interest in Columbia.

“My experience here ... is that if there’s a real opportunity, then the money shows up,” he said.

Executive Vice President for Research David Hirsh added that, from an academic standpoint, waiting to fill these empty spaces is beneficial because it allows the science departments to watch their professors interact with each other before making new hires.

Dirks and Hirsh did not offer



a time frame for filling the empty labs, but Prywes said it could take years.

“I see them filling up the space, but I don’t know whether that’ll be in two years or 10 years,” he said.

But Firestein said he is not concerned about how long it will take and is confident that it will eventually be filled.

“It would be great if there was some unlimited pot of money that would allow us to go out and ... hire two dozen more people and outfit all the labs,” he said. “But the reality is that there isn’t.”

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Columbia College alumni join sophomores for Bridge Dinner

**BRIDGE from front page**

alumni had to say about their experiences at Columbia because we’re only in our third semester.” Serena Dasani, CC ’13, said, adding that it was helpful to learn from older generations of Columbia alumni.

Though Karishma Habbu, CC ’13, said she came primarily for the free dinner, ultimately she appreciated the alums’ stories. “I thought they had really valuable things to say, were an incredibly lively group, and I really enjoyed my time here,” she said.

Administrators launched more student-alumni events in response to a lack of alumni attendance at reunions and minimal interaction between the Office of Alumni Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs, said Kathryn Wittner, senior associate dean of student affairs.

“We, the staff, hadn’t really done our job in helping the students understand the rich variety of alumni that are here and what they could add to an

undergraduate’s education,” Wittner said.

For the alumni in attendance, the dinner was a chance to look back and explore the ways in which Columbia and the neighborhood have changed.

“We all share the Columbia experience, and it’s fun to compare not only the differences between experience, but also it’s fun to be able to plant a little of our cumulative wisdom on what the outside world is going to be like,” Paul Neshamkin, CC ’63, said.

“I also think how the neighborhood has changed for the better,” Jonathan Roskes, CC ’88, said. “I loved it then in the ’80s, but it’s improved, and it’s definitely better now.”

Patrick Killackey, CC ’88, said that despite improvements in the student experience, returning to campus makes him nostalgic for his college days—even his low-quality dorm. “It’s a dump. And I can say that I miss that.”

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Baker Field development moves forward in city review process

**BAKER from front page**

Columbia Facilities had no comment about the current status of the city’s approval process, and Athletic Director M. Dianne Murphy repeatedly declined to comment on a potential timeline for the project’s completion. City Planning did not respond to requests for comment.

The website for the Campbell Sports Center project says that the goal is to have the center completed by 2012, with construction expected to start this past summer. That hasn’t happened yet and can’t until the University has those approvals in hand from City Planning and the City Council.

“The delay in breaking ground is not a result of fundraising—when approvals are in place, we will break ground for the Campbell Sports Center,” Deputy Director of Development for Athletics Corey Aronstam said in an email.

In an October interview, University President Lee Bollinger said that the additions to Baker Field are a definitive priority.

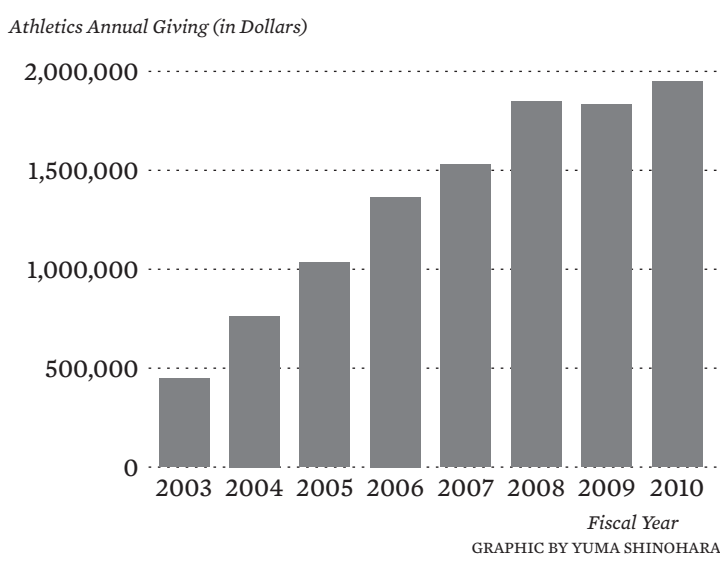
“We just have to get the money, and we have to get the approvals. It should be completed in the next couple years,” he said.

The Baker project, including the Campbell Sports Center and the waterfront development, will cost \$50 million, officials say, and \$30 million has already been raised.

The Campbell Sports Center is what Aronstam called the lynchpin of the \$100 million athletics fundraising campaign the University started in October 2007, which includes other initiatives like endowing coaches positions and facilities updates like renovated locker rooms.

Numbers provided by the athletics department show that annual fundraising has almost doubled from fiscal year 2005 to fiscal year 2010, from \$1 million to \$1.9 million.

But those numbers have been fairly consistent since fiscal year 2008, when annual giving jumped to \$1.8 million, and 2010



saw only a six percent increase over the previous year.

“It continues to be our expectation that we will fully fund the Campbell Sports Center through gifts to the project,” Aronstam said.

The Campbell Sports Center has also benefited from two recent \$1 million alumni donations, on top of a \$10 million donation from the chair of the University’s board of trustees William Campbell in 2007.

Senior Executive Vice President Robert Kasdin said in October that athletics fundraising is going extremely well.

“But we’ll always take donations,” he said.

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University replaces canceled Great Children’s Read event

**BY AGLAIA CAVASOLA**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

A children’s literacy fair that drew nearly 10,000 people last year to Columbia’s campus has been canceled and replaced by a smaller event without corporate sponsorship.

The new event, “Let’s Read,” will take place this Sunday in Low Library—after Target and the New York Times withdrew sponsorship for the popular “Great Children’s Read,” which used to happen in the fall on South Lawn.

This year’s program, run by the Office of Government and Community Affairs, is aimed at slightly older readers and their families, organizers said.

A spokesperson for Target said that children’s literacy remains an important priority but that the company routinely shifts its sponsorship to different events to renew its image.

“Great Children’s Read” was known for attracting big-name acts such as Julie Andrews, They Might Be Giants, and Yo Gabba Gabba. Last year, celebrities like actress and singer Bernadette Peters, Olympic figure skating gold medalist Sarah Hughes, and actor Jerry Stiller read stories to a large crowd on campus.

Though “Let’s Read” has not received the same attention this year, senior project coordinator Lamar Lovelace said he tried to find a diverse range of authors—two participants write Spanish-language books and several live in the neighborhood. Lamar said he hopes this will draw a larger cross-section of the community to the event.

“It doesn’t always occur to people that this University is open and except for graduation day when the gates are closed, they are always welcome here,” said Marcia Lynn Sells, associate vice president of program

development and initiatives.

Sells said she got the idea for the event during a visit to the Columbia University Bookstore six months ago. She spoke to the new manager, who expressed interest in promoting the bookstore—located in the basement of Lerner Hall and used mostly by students for textbook purchases—to the outside community.

The bookstore will provide staff and funds for activities like face-painting and arts and crafts.

“It’s a chance for them to advertise they have a children’s book section,” said Maxine Griffith, executive vice president of government and community affairs, adding that it’s

“It doesn’t always occur to people that this University is open.”

—Marcia Lynn Sells, associate vice president of program development and initiatives

an opportunity to let the neighborhood know that the store doesn’t just sell textbooks.

Lovelace said he hopes to bring in participants through local nonprofits, including Columbia’s Double Discovery Center and Community Impact.

“Kids are still gonna have fun, and it is a free activity lasting the whole day,” Griffith said.

Leah Greenbaum contributed reporting.  
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ARVIN AHMADI FOR SPECTATOR

**MARCH ON** | Military service members marched in the Veterans Day Parade Thursday afternoon on Fifth Avenue.

General Studies veterans march in parade on Columbia float

**GS VETS from front page**

“I feel that we are a very special group,” said Marco Reiningner, GS, president of the U.S. Military Veterans of Columbia University. “We all served, we have served in the past, and we are dedicated to public service. But now we are at an elite university where we are provided with the tools and the education to become leaders in the future.”

Despite Columbia’s ban on the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps—with the military’s “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy at the heart of the campus debate—some student veterans said they don’t feel an anti-military sentiment.

“I don’t need to see the ROTC program come back in order to prove to me that the Columbia community welcomes veterans and is proud to have veterans,” Minnis said. “The treatment and the respect that I’ve gotten on campus is enough to prove that to me.”

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ROTC members raise flag in ceremony reinstated after 42 years

**ROTC from front page**

they are, so why wouldn’t they want to share that with the rest of the students?” Griffiths said, adding that veterans want more visibility on campus.

Staff Sergeant and University Senator Jose Robledo, GS, said that he and others have been lobbying the University Senate, University President Lee Bollinger, and Public Safety for permission to reinstate these ceremonies since May.

Natalie Lopez-Barnard, BC ’11 and an ROTC cadet who participated in the flag-raising ceremony in uniform, said it’s sometimes difficult to toe the line between her life as a student and her life as a cadet.

“It can be hard to relate to my friends sometimes when they’re whining about how they have to wake up at seven one day, and I’m like ‘I have to be up at 4 a.m. Big deal!’” she said, adding that she is still proud to be a part of military culture on campus.

Participants and onlookers

said they could not speculate about whether or not a formal ROTC program will return to campus anytime soon.

“It’s just a buildup of momentum that’s really bringing veterans to the forefront at Columbia now.”

—Daniel Izzo, first-year MBA student and army captain

Robledo said further military activity, like the return of ROTC, is uncertain.

“There’s way too many moving pieces, and I’m just a small

cog in the wheel,” he said, adding that ROTC’s return would take years of coordination between the Department of Defense and the University to secure funding and develop curriculum.

Between World War I and World War II, ROTC was a required activity for all students at Columbia, and John Jay Hall was committed to ROTC activity, John McClelland, GS, said.

But in the 1960s, many universities, including Columbia, banned ROTC from their campuses to protest the Vietnam War, a ban that has been reaffirmed in recent years in response to the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, which prohibits openly gay service men and women from serving.

Bollinger has said that DADT violates the University’s non-discrimination policy, and he will not be comfortable with the program’s return until it is repealed.

McClelland, the president of the Hamilton Society, a group of students who are exploring the option of ROTC’s return, said he has gay friends who have served



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**STARS AND STRIPES** | ROTC members raised the flag on campus Thursday morning.

and supports the repeal of DADT. “We do have a burgeoning community of veterans on campus, and that’s really done a lot to smooth over the rhetoric behind the ROTC debate.”

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# Opportunistic CB Fenton leads Big Red defense

**FENTON from page 6**

open arms. “The relationships I built on my first visit are a large reason why I am here today,” he said. “In fact, a senior at the time, Matt Grant, became like a brother to me, and we still talk just about every week.”

Fenton also reflected on the experience of being an Ivy League athlete. “Being an Ivy League athlete is really unique, and I have nothing but respect for everyone that has ever done it,” he said. “I am sure every Ivy League athlete can attest to this,

but for me I appreciate the people I have interacted with both on the team and on campus over the past four years. I have had some great teammates and some guys that I have really looked up to and enjoyed playing with, so when I look back at the past four seasons, I am going to remember them.”

Although the Big Red may not be posting the Ivy League’s best record leading up to the Empire State Bowl this Saturday, no one can overlook a team led in part by Fenton, who will be playing hard in the final games of his senior season with a team hungry for victory.

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

### Women’s swimming, diving travels to New Haven for season opening meet

The women’s swimming and diving team will head to New Haven, Conn., today to compete in its first meet of the season against Yale. The Lions ended last season with a 6-3 record (4-3 Ivy) and finished sixth in the Ivy League Championships to conclude the season. Yale’s final record for regular-season competition was 8-3 (5-2 Ivy), and it placed third at the Ivy Championships. When the two teams met last fall, the Bulldogs defeated the Lions 199-101.

However, the Lions will be returning many strong swimmers this year, including sophomores Katie Meili

#### COLUMBIA AT YALE

New Haven, Conn., Fri., 6 p.m.

and Caroline Lukins, juniors Isabelle Vandenbroucke, Caitlin Rogers, and Paige Endsley, and seniors Abby Reilly and Mariele Dunn, all of whom contributed valuable points in the Ivy Championships last season.

“We are very excited to start the competition season,” head coach Diana Caskey said. “The team has great energy, and the training has been very high quality and has already produced some impressive

racing in the practice setting.”

The Lions have added many new members to the team for the 2010 season, including 12 freshman swimmers and a new assistant coach, Michael Sabala.

“The freshman class has brought intensity and enthusiasm to Uris Pool,” Caskey said. “They are a talented and hard-working group, and it will be great to see what they can do in a meet setting.”

“This meet will represent a new era in the Columbia-Yale rivalry,” Caskey said, as Cristina Teuscher, CC ’00, recently took the head coaching position for the Bulldogs.“So the meet will be interesting, exciting, and

collegial. We all want to swim fast and win, but Cristina has a keen interest in making the best opportunities for all the athletes competing to swim fast. I think the Kiphuth Memorial Exhibition Pool will be a bit more welcoming to the Columbia women than in the past.”

Caskey and her team look forward to this first competition of the season. “We are going to prepare to swim fast and go after it,” Caskey said. “As far as group goals for the season, we want to have all lifetime bests at championships and finish top three at Ivies.”

The 2010-2011 season kicks off at Yale at 6 p.m.

—Julia Garrison

## CROSS COUNTRY

### Cross Country readies for NCAA Northeast Regionals in Connecticut

The Columbia men’s and women’s cross country teams will take to the track this Saturday for what may be their second-to-last meet this season. The teams are competing in the NCAA Northeast Regionals at Hammonasset State Park in Madison, Conn.

The top two teams from each region qualify for the NCAA Championships next Monday in Terre Haute, Ind. There will also be 13 at-large bids given out based on previous competition results.

Individual results are important as well. The top four individuals in each region who are not part of a qualifying team will also advance to the NCAA Championships.

The Hammonasset State Park course is known for being particularly flat, in contrast to the hilly terrain the Columbia teams have encountered in Van Cortlandt Park and some of their other races this year.

The women’s team is coming off a strong performance at the Ivy League Championships two weeks ago.. Sophomore Caroline McDonough and senior Jacqueline Drouin came in

#### NORTHEAST REGIONALS

Madison, Conn., Sat., all day

second and third, respectively, behind Princeton All-American junior Alex Banfich.

The Lions won’t be seeing Banfich this weekend, as Princeton and Penn are the only two Ivy League teams competing in the Mid-Atlantic Regionals. However, some of the nation’s top teams will be in attendance, including No. 9 Syracuse.

The men are looking at a much more difficult path. No Columbia male has qualified for the NCAA Championships since Steve Sundell made it back-to-back years in 2002 and 2003, and no male team has ever qualified.

The women have had much more success, qualifying in four straight years from 2002 to 2005. They have also had an individual compete every year this decade, except for last season. They will try to get back on track this weekend.

—Jim Pagels

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

### Light Blue prepares to kick off season with meets versus Penn, Yale

The Columbia men’s swimming and diving team jumps into action this weekend. The team’s dual meet season begins at home against Penn on Friday and is quickly followed by a trip to New Haven to compete against Yale on Saturday.

Head coach Jim Bolster believes that both contests will be close. “I wouldn’t be surprised if either or both of the meets went down to the last relay this weekend,” he said.

Success lies in the Lions’ ability not just to focus on their first meet against Penn on Friday but also to consider simultaneously their first away meet of the year.

“If we can get ourselves ready for the weekend—not just the home opener on Friday, where you’ll anticipate that there will be a lot of adrenaline and excitement (everybody’s making their debut, especially with the freshman class)—but you want to be able to have something in reserve for the next day,” Bolster said.

Bolster expects to see points from returning swimmers like

#### COLUMBIA VS. PENN

Uris Pool, Fri., 5 p.m.

#### COLUMBIA AT YALE

New Haven, Conn., Sat., 1:30 p.m.

senior Adam Powell, a two-time lead champion in the 50- and 100-yard free. Powell, who was an NCAA qualifier last season, serves as team tri-captain this year with fellow seniors Nathan Mormann and Josh Brown.

Freshman contribution will be key, too. “Our goal is to win both, and I think we’re capable of that, but a lot will depend on the freshmen,” Bolster said.

Nonetheless, he has confidence in the class of 2014. “We do have, I think, a cadre of guys that could have a big impact on our dual meet success and championship success. I think they’ll have a big impact on the league.”

Friday’s meet is at Uris Pool at 5 p.m. Saturday’s contest begins at 1:30 p.m.

—Rebeka Cohan

## WRESTLING

### Light Blue set to open season at Binghamton for Bearcat Open

The Columbia wrestling team opens its season this weekend at the Bearcat Open in Binghamton, N.Y. It will be the first of four tournaments over the next month leading up to Columbia’s dual meet season in early January.

Last year, the Lions finished their season with a record of 8-10-1 (2-3 Ivy) and sent sophomore Eren Civan to the NCAA tournament in Omaha, Neb. Civan, now a junior, finished 26-12 last year and earned all-Ivy honors. He is ranked 16th nationally in preseason polls in the 165-pound weight class.

Other Lions looking to make an impact this season include heavyweight junior Kevin Lester, who was also named all-Ivy last season and placed fifth at the EIWA Championships in March, and 125-pound junior Kyle Gilchrist, who finished the season with an impressive record of 24-12.

Columbia also boasts a strong returning class of sophomores who will be looking to

#### BEARCAT OPEN

Binghamton, N.Y., Sun., all day

make their mark this season. Jake O’Hara, Steve Santos, and Stephen West, all members of the class of 2013, were starters last season and finished with solid results. Other sophomores looking to break into the starting lineup this year are 2010 FILA Junior National Champion Tyler Sheridan and 184-pounder Nick Mills, who is back from an injury that derailed his season last year.

A strong freshman class of eight wrestlers will help to solve last season’s depth problems. In addition to the freshmen, the team welcomes new assistant coach Hudson Taylor. Taylor, a 2010 graduate of the University of Maryland and a three-time All-American, brings added experience to the staff.

The Bearcat Open is a full-day event taking place on Sunday.

—Meredith Mead

# MEN’S BASKETBALL HOME OPENER!!!

## NEW COACH KYLE SMITH’S FIRST HOME GAME



# MONDAY!

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# Columbia forgets her religious foundation

BY STEPHEN WU

“In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen” will remain forever impressed in the minds of countless Columbians. This is, of course, the motto of this great institution, and was once its guiding pedagogical belief. It serves today as a reminder of the ancient pedigree of Columbia, which the modern university has struggled to retain while embracing a progressive, secular agenda that is necessarily in opposition to our foundational principles. Toward that end, Columbia has institutionally abandoned the religion—and consequently the idea of universal truth—upon which she was founded, leaving her deracinated and groping for new meaning.

Columbia has not divested herself wholly of religion, but surely she has lost the moral clarity of her founders. The Core Curriculum still mandates familiarity with the Torah, the Gospels, and the works of Aquinas and Augustine. Here, the school must be commended, for at other institutions, undergraduates can avoid opening books that have been the groundwork for billions of spiritual lives.

The problem lies, however, in Columbia’s reluctance to present some dominant version of truth consonant with her founding principles. The Literature Humanities course, for example, articulates that students should “not expect” to be taught “what these texts are about.” How silly, the Core office intones, for students to want to learn about the central themes and issues presented, and moreover to have some sort of evaluative framework by which to judge and favor one value system over the other. Here, the University falls into the alluring trap of relativism, for fixed ideas of the good and the right are incompatible with the fuzzy, pluralistic, and all-inclusive ethos of the day.

This paradox is intellectually untenable. The Quran and the Bible should be studied comparatively, but both cannot be right. Both are necessary for perspective, and diversity of thought is required in order to see the flaws—and the genius—of our own tradition, but one value set must eventually be preferred to the other. In the Columbia tradition, there are not-so-subtle hints as to which side our founders and our history would come down on. The essence of morality is to have an exclusive claim to understanding: one that respects other viewpoints, but at the end of the day, one that will vigorously defend and promote itself as the last, best way forward.

The campus is steeped in religious tradition, which makes our present secularization deeply ironic—comic, even, if it weren’t so seriously alarming. The president of Columbia University, at no less occasion than Commencement, speaks glowingly of Columbia’s “tradition” and “heritage,” but ignores the original understanding of the school’s charge to impart values based on Anglicanism. It ought to be noted that Mr. Bollinger, who makes not one reference to or acknowledgment of the transcendent, speaks in the magnificent shadow of Low Library, where, etched in stone, we declare our mission to be dedicated to “the Advancement of the Public Good and the Glory of Almighty God.”

## The campus is steeped in religious tradition, which makes our present secularization deeply ironic.

I confess that I myself have no particular pious religiosity. But I am appreciative of history and tradition, and religion is the cornerstone of our inheritance.

Columbia must make a choice in order to be intellectually honest: whether to embrace the faith of her fathers, or to cast it aside. If indeed the school needs theology and God in order to attain truth, as our motto proclaims, then the University has a mission, and indeed a duty, to promote certain values. We are, of course, uncomfortable with speaking in these didactic absolutes in this age of accommodation, for fear of provoking offense.

In the end, we have this decision to make about the direction of our future. With tempered hope, Columbia has all the pieces in place to resurrect her oldest values. Indeed, we may be like the prodigal son: “Mortui, et reviximus; perieramus, et inventus samus.”

We may be dead, and now live; we may be lost, but now are found.

*The author is a sophomore in Columbia College. He is an editor for the Helvidius Group.*

STAFF EDITORIAL

# Provost Claude Steele

Provost Claude Steele came to Columbia with a stellar reputation in the world of academia. Steele, previously the Lucie Stern Professor in the Social Sciences at Stanford University, is a leading scholar in social psychology and a pioneer in the study of stereotype threat.

Although there is no doubt that Steele has the credentials to be the chief academic officer at Columbia, he also faces enormous institutional challenges. At this university, provosts traditionally have come from the ranks of the faculty. Since the days of John Mitchell Mason, who became Columbia’s first provost in 1811, virtually every man to hold the position has been a Columbia professor. Unlike his predecessors, then, Steele brought to the position little knowledge of the academic life here.

It was essential that Steele, not previously steeped in a sea of Light Blue, familiarize himself with this huge and Byzantine university upon arrival.

In his first year here, Steele did an impressive job bringing himself up to speed. He attended every faculty meeting for all 16 schools under his supervision. He has invested large amounts of time into meeting and speaking with professors, getting to know the University’s many deans, and developing a feel for the vagaries of Columbia.

And, in his short time here, he has already made some changes. Provost Steele has implemented a standing committee for tenure evaluation. The standing committee replaces an ad hoc system that consumed countless hours of professors’ time but inevitably yielded the same result—approval of candidates for tenure. The standing committee will streamline the process through which professors are evaluated for tenure. It will also

# Put ethics back into politics

It has now been over a week since the congressional midterm elections, and though emotions surely ran high in the months leading up to the races—around campus as well as around the nation—it seems that passions are now slowly receding. Previously outspoken Democrats are attempting to cope with their inability to maintain control over the House, while once equally loud Republicans now ponder their latest victories in both chambers. And though we as Columbia students are still recovering from midterms of our own, it is important that we be aware of the significance that at least one recent election holds for our community and the democratic system as a whole.

The race for New York’s 15th Congressional District—a district spanning Upper Manhattan, and which includes Columbia and the Morningside community—resulted in the re-election of Charles Rangel to the House of Representatives. Rangel has served for 20 terms as a representative, but his most recent election follows on the heels of numerous ethics allegations, including infractions of tax law and inappropriate use of political office. In July 2010, months after resigning from his position as chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Rangel was formally charged with having committed 13 offenses. His trial is to be held on Nov. 15, less than a week from today.

## How could an assumed criminal be elected to Congress?

It unnerves me that such a dishonest character could, once again, rise to political office through a democratic process, especially with such ease. More alarming is the fact that, though Rangel has not been proven guilty, even his constituency seems to treat him as though he will soon be convicted. In a recent article in Spectator (“Charles Rangel celebrates re-election weeks before ethics trial,” Nov. 3), one self-described “long-time Rangel supporter” labeled the congressman as a “crook,” while another voter noted that “the charges against Rangel were not important”



ETHAN PERETS

## Living On a Piece of Paper

to him. How could an assumed criminal be elected to Congress? This is just a symptom of a greater problem with our democracy.

One noteworthy issue with the modern process is that holding a political office is not just a career—it is also a job. Most of the allegations levied against Rangel stem not only from ethics concerns, but also from the representative’s unwillingness to pay proper income taxes. It is likely that if Rangel’s position in Congress were not also his principal source of income, he might have had very little incentive to conceal additional, smaller sources of wealth.

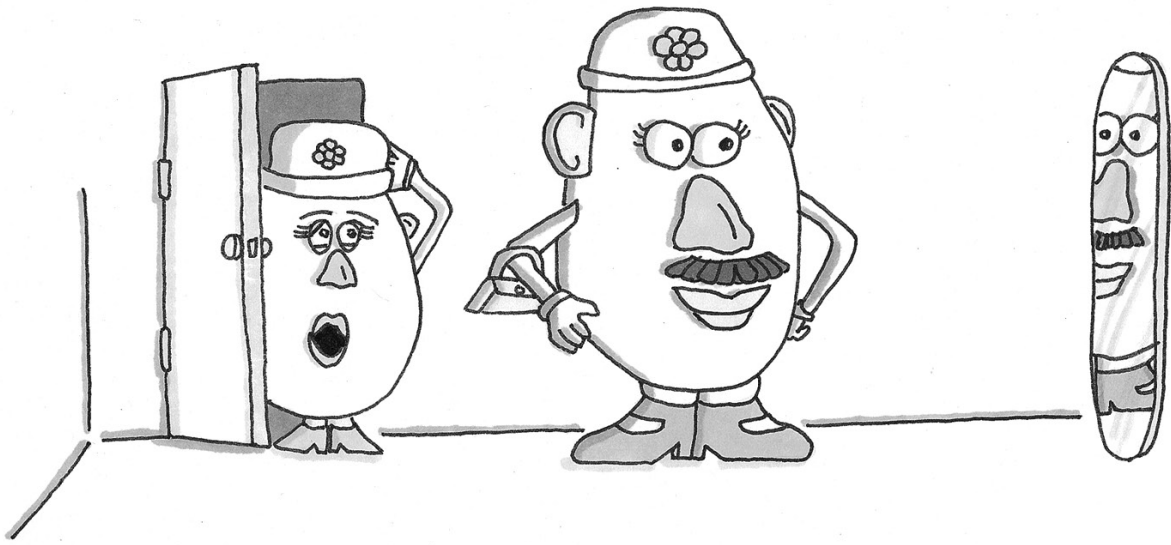
The political economist and social scientist Max Weber addresses this point in “Politics as a Vocation,” writing, “The politician must be economically independent of the income politics can bring him. This means, quite simply, that the politician must be wealthy.” If the politician cannot financially support himself, there is little hope that he can avoid corruption, or conduct politics in an honorable fashion.

Another difficulty with the democratic system of representation, and one revealed by the re-election of Charles Rangel, is the potential for what has been labeled as the “tyranny of the majority.” Many writers have recognized this point to be one of the most dangerous pitfalls within the democratic system (including Columbia alumni John Jay and Alexander Hamilton, who discuss the notion extensively in “The Federalist Papers”). In Rangel’s case, by securing nearly 80 percent of the vote—due in part to voters who chose either to disregard the allegations against him or to elect a man they actually acknowledged to be corrupt—it seems as though the electorate standing for honesty, ethical responsibility, and principled action was successfully silenced. If something appears strange in this situation, we must then raise the question: What is responsible for this outcome? I believe the answer to this question lies within the tenets of present-day democracy.

In the end, if the ideal picture of democracy painted for us in the classroom does not agree with our experiences, we first ask why and then ask how we can change it. In response to the latter question, we should use the knowledge we gain from a Columbia education to further understanding of political systems among the wider population. We should show others that democracy has decayed, and no longer stands as the brightest beacon of freedom. If we are to preserve both democracy and our values, we should strive to restore the process according to characters of those before us. In order to accomplish any of this, however, we cannot allow corrupt politicians—such as Rangel—to be our guides.

*Ethan A. Perets is a Columbia College first-year hoping to major in biochemistry and philosophy. Living on a Piece of Paper runs alternate Fridays.*

## JODY’S DRAWINGS!



“What the... are those my stilettos?!”

JODY ZELLMAN

strengthen our commitment to academic excellence by standardizing the tenure process across schools. Steele has also modified the structure of employees’ fringe benefits. Time will tell how this actually plays out.

For rapidly familiarizing himself with Columbia and for what he has done so far, we commend Provost Steele.

But while Steele evinces a strong understanding of Columbia as an institution, his vision for the University remains unclear.

The provost’s job is, by nature, a bit amorphous. The extent of his responsibilities and the scope of his purview are fluid. They depend, in large part, on the vision of the president. Before Steele, a respected academic with no serious administrative ambitions, held the position of provost. Before Brinkley, the position was held by Jonathan Cole, who was tremendously powerful. Many say he ran the show here.

Steele is not and will not be another Jonathan Cole. That is not President Bollinger’s vision for the provost. Since he arrived in 2002, Bollinger has relied heavily on Senior Executive Vice President Robert Kasdin, who followed him from Michigan and who exercises more influence on the University’s operations than any other administrator. There is no indication that this will change so long as Bollinger remains president.

The structural limitations on Steele’s power make it even more important that he lay out a clear set of goals and that he strive to carve out a space for himself at this university. He needs to define the role of the provost and to give the position a real vision.

We do not question his capabilities. Rather, we are concerned that, as provost, he will play more the role of good soldier than defender of Columbia’s academic life. As an outsider, Steele does not naturally have an independent base of power at Columbia. And he does not seem to seek one. He has gotten to know the faculty, but he has done so on his own terms, choosing his points of contact. There is no formal mechanism by which the faculty can bring concerns to Provost Steele. From where, then, does Steele derive his influence?

Steele was selected by President Bollinger from the shortlist presented to him by the search committee. In

that sense, he is Bollinger’s man. But more importantly, and more troublingly, Steele seems—philosophically and politically—also Bollinger’s man.

In an interview, Steele said that he was most drawn to Columbia by the University’s commitment to growth. He wants to develop a formidable global presence for Columbia, expand the University’s physical and academic presence in Manhattanville, and further burnish Columbia’s reputation. In a word—a word Steele used over and over—he seeks “eminence.”

This is, of course, a certain kind of vision. But it is not a new vision. It is President Bollinger’s vision.

We recognize the advantages of having a unified administration with a single vision. Past turf wars were not healthy for the University, and surely if everyone is on the same page, it’s easier to get things done. With the University moving forward with Manhattanville and opening more Global Centers, it may be tempting to privilege maximum efficiency at the expense of diversity of opinion.

Columbia, though, is not a corporation. It is a University, an academic institution. At its heart are its students and its scholars. And the provost must be the guardian of academics. A shimmering new campus, branches in Amman and Beijing or Paris and Mumbai—these are opportunities for Columbia. They certainly will bring eminence, which will bring greater resources and more opportunities—for students and professors alike. But eminence is not something to seek for its own sake.

Provost Steele cannot simply follow President Bollinger’s vision of eminence. He needs his own vision for ensuring Columbia maintains a truly vibrant academic life. In all this talk of the Global University and expansion, there’s a real chance that students—particularly undergraduates—will be forgotten. That as we go global, as we raise towers, the teaching mission of the University—its commitment to pedagogy—will fall by the wayside.

Our provost should not be just another executive. He must be the guarantor of our academic way of life.

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13 Wood preservative  
14 Plays the class clown  
16 Opening with a thud?  
17 Showy  
18 Overseas fem. title  
19 Staple in a Hollywood first-aid kit?  
21 Clever  
25 Source of Ulee's gold  
26 Compulsion to set up camp?  
29 She played Emma in "The Avengers"  
32 Mideast language  
33 Support group?  
34 Hoss and Little Joe's off-color jokes?  
40 Lake near Niagara Falls  
41 Atlanta campus  
42 Jets coach Ryan  
43 Civil unrest in Brazil?  
48 Fizzled out  
49 Gulf of Finland city  
50 Restrained a legendary soul singer?  
55 Word with a head slap  
57 Six-Day War country  
58 Classy accommodations at the Spider  
62 Insurer of Tina Turner's legs  
63 One transferring property rights, in law  
64 Plenty  
65 As terrific as they say  
DOWN  
8 Riga resident  
9 Old lab heaters  
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11 Eponymous skater  
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35 It may be found in a deposit  
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37 Onetime Jeep mfr.  
38 Architect Mies van der ...  
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64							65					

  
By Dan Naddor  
(c)2010 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 11/12/10

# A press-box view of our seniors

LEVENFELD from back page

One of the ironclad laws of Columbia's press box prohibits cheering. It's a professional environment, they say, and the media should be impartial. This has never been an easy rule to follow, but as the season progresses it grows more and more difficult. It has become harder and harder to separate my professionalism from my inner sports fan. Why? Probably because it's fun covering a college football team. OK, maybe the Lions aren't everyone's idea of an exciting team to write about, but you learn a lot in just 10 weeks of football. You learn about offensive schemes and bad penalties and impossible fourth-down decisions and ball security and play-calling. You research and study 10 different opponents, but you spend 10 times as many hours researching and studying the home team. You memorize their uniform numbers and understand their game plan and watch the veterans interact with the rookies. But all of this happens from what a good friend of mine recently called "the ivory tower"—the press box. If he thinks that's the extent of the job description, he's dead wrong. For me, one of the most rewarding aspects of writing football has been the personal

## Covering football for Spectator this season has been an adventure.

interaction with the coach and players. Every Thursday, my co-writer and I meet with Coach Wilson, and after every game we interview the coach along with some key players. The post-game press conferences are the best part of this job. Win or lose, the interviewees are always composed, articulate, and thoughtful. They are generally well spoken. They choose their words carefully and tell us what went right or wrong out on the field. But that doesn't mean they are not emotionally invested in the game's outcome. You can see the fire in their eyes after the clock winds to zero. You can see their pride shine through after a victory, and you can see the way their every fiber is devastated by a loss. Don't ever say this program's struggles stem from a lack of desire, because I promise you these people want to win. I'll miss those press conferences. Covering football for Spectator this season has been an adventure from the start. It's so college. I'll probably never do anything like it again. Tomorrow will be the last time I ride the elevator up to the press box in Lawrence A. Wien Stadium. After that, it will be time to move on. Now, imagine that feeling but magnify it by a lot. What about the senior athletes down on Robert K. Kraft Field? Most of them have been playing competitive football their whole lives, but a great majority of them aren't going on to play professionally. Tomorrow is their last home game, and next week is their last Ivy game. It's the end of the road for them, too. So even though the championship drought will extend to 50 years, even though a winning record is unattainable, even though most of your friends will be sleeping in, it's worth heading up to Baker tomorrow. It's your last chance to see Cohen, Cole, Constant, Gross, Gutierrez, Hamilton, Havas, Holloway, Ivery, Kennedy, Kipp, Kourouma, Lenz, Mehrer, Moretto, Murphy, Myers, Otis, Pope, Quirk, Robinson, Skalak, Smith, Stephens, Stotler, and Williams suit up in light blue and take the field at home. Pay attention to the way they roam the sidelines. Watch their reactions to big plays. Try to see them up close. It's going to be a hard day for them, and they could use all of our support.

*Jacob Levenfeld is a List College senior majoring in history and Talmud.*  
*sports@columbiaspectator.com*



ANGELA RADULESCU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**MOVING FORWARD** | Coming off their first win over Harvard since 2003, senior forward Bayo Adafin and the men's soccer team will try for a second consecutive Ivy victory on Saturday.

## Men's soccer aims for second straight Ivy win

SOCCER from back page

words of praise for the trio of Adafin, Peppe Carotenuto, and Hayden Johns. "When we spoke two years ago with that group, the objective was for them to leave something better behind compared to when they found it," he said. "All three of them have been phenomenal—they've been great leaders, great role models, great friends, great teammates, and they've been three guys that can certainly be looked up to. They've rightfully earned the respect they get from the coaching staff, the administration, and the team." "We spoke today in a staff meeting with the seniors, and we acknowledged that this isn't a week to celebrate—it's a week to work. They need to lead by example, stay focused, and put their best foot forward to show where they are in their careers. I'm really happy with the

approach they've taken, and they understand they need to train hard this week and come out to play their game on Saturday." The Big Red (4-8-4, 0-5-1 Ivy) has yet to win an Ivy League encounter this season, and its only goal in conference play came in a 1-1 tie at Harvard after overtime. Chase Aaronson got the goal and is the points leader for Cornell. Aaronson and Franck Onambele have both scored thrice this season, but Aaronson has more assists. The Big Red has been a better side outside the conference and has recorded wins against Hartwick, Canisius, Saint Joseph's, and Colgate. Senior co-captain Carotenuto raised the stakes ahead of the clash with the Big Red but suggested that it isn't all about the emotions just yet. "In a single word, it's bitter-sweet," Carotenuto said. "I always looked forward to my senior season, but it's come and gone by

so fast that it hasn't really sunk in yet. People have been saying that we've finished our last team lift, our last Wednesday practice, and such, but for me we're still in the moment—and focused on Saturday. When the game's done, I'm sure we'll look back on our careers here, and hopefully it hasn't gone by too fast and we can cherish the memories. "Our target at the start of the season was to have something to play for in our final game," he continued. "We didn't want a situation where the season was dead and buried before we hosted Cornell, and while we're not in contention for the championship, we need the win to finish at .500. It hasn't been done since 2003, and when you put that into perspective it's quite a feat—and helping the program make these strides in our senior season is something we're very proud of." Kickoff against the Big Red is Saturday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m.

## Men's basketball to showcase new lineup

MEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

against Murray. Ampim's athleticism and Daniels' grit should prove helpful in winning the battle in the paint. "They are very long and athletic," Smith said in an interview this week. "We're going to have to do a good job of keeping them off the boards—they're a really good rebounding team." "We just really need to limit their second-chance points," Daniels added. Both Ampim and Grimes have been battling injuries, leaving the possibility that Daniels will find himself in the starting lineup alongside Cisco. But no matter who starts, Smith feels comfortable with the team's depth up front. "Our inside people, I think top to bottom, are pretty good," he said. "I think we have the size where other Ivy League teams may not, and I think we'll be able to compete that way. Mark Cisco has been very good, and John Daniels—I think he's always going to be a very consistent performer as far as he understands what he can do, which is important as a coach." Discussing Grimes and Ampim, Smith noted that both have shown their potential after lengthy layoffs. "There's rust there, but, you know, you obviously see the talent. It's only been three weeks, and they've been out for a long time, so I

expect them to just keep coming on and getting better and better." In the backcourt, expect to see last season's leading scorer, junior Noruwa Agho, line up next to sophomore Brian Barbour. As a sophomore, Agho exploded onto the scene for the Lions, averaging 16.3 points per game and leading the nation in three-point field goal percentage for a large part of the season. He will be the Explorers' main focus defensively, and how successful he is in dealing with the extra attention will go a long way toward determining Columbia's fate on Friday night. "He's going to be important for us," Smith said. "I don't think that's any secret." Alongside Agho, Barbour is a savvy playmaker who will look to create more opportunities for his backcourt partner as he takes over the Lions' offensive reins after the graduation of senior guards Patrick Foley and Kevin Bulger. Barbour figures to play a major role for the Lions this season. "I know he is a good guy and is doing things right, just early on in practice as a point guard," Smith said. "We have a lot of guards, but we don't have a lot of point guards, so I think he'll be important to us." Newcomer Steve Frankoski, a highly touted long-range shooter, may find himself in the starting lineup as well. A McDonald's All-American nominee as a high school player, Frankoski was named the New Jersey Prep Class

VOLLEYBALL

## Light Blue set for historic season finale

Just two seasons ago, when Columbia failed to notch a single win in Ivy play, nobody could have imagined the team would be in the position it's in this weekend. Now, women's volleyball will conclude one of its greatest seasons in program history when it faces off against Yale and Brown at home for the final doubleheader of the year. With a weekend sweep, Columbia (15-8, 7-5 Ivy) could set a program record for total wins and Ivy wins in a season. A win and a loss would tie both records but give Columbia its best winning percentage in school

COLUMBIA VS. YALE

Levien Gymnasium, Fri., 7 p.m.

COLUMBIA VS. BROWN

Levien Gymnasium, Sat., 5 p.m.

history and a guaranteed fourth-place finish. First up for Columbia is Yale (16-7, 10-2 Ivy), which has the best record in the conference. When the Lions faced the Bulldogs last month, they got crushed. In that game, the Lions dropped the first two sets 25-17 and 25-12. Although they staged a mini-rally with a 27-25 third-set win, Yale

still ended any hopes for a Columbia comeback with a 25-23 victory in the fourth set. On Saturday, Columbia will compete against Brown (8-16, 2-10 Ivy) for the final match of the season. Earlier this year, the Lions defeated the Bears in a tight 3-2 match with a 17-15 fifth-set victory. Last weekend, Columbia swept Princeton in a season series for the first time in program history and nearly defeated Penn, the reigning Ivy League champion. Both matches this weekend will take place in the Levien Gymnasium. —Michael Zhong

# CU football looking for first victory since Oct. 9

FOOTBALL from back page

have produced points against us, but I think the defense has been playing pretty good." Columbia's offense will have its own improvements to make on the gridiron tomorrow. The Lions started out the season strong, scoring 42 points in two straight games, but recently the scores have been lower and less consistent. Last week against Harvard, the Light Blue only managed seven points. The week before that in a 31-28 loss to Yale, the Lions rebounded with 21 points in the last 20 minutes but were out of stride for the first two-thirds of the game. Tomorrow's showdown carries a lot of significance for the Light Blue. With a win, the team will still be in the running for a .500 record, while a loss would ensure another losing season. It is also Senior Day, honoring the players who will graduate this May. A victory tomorrow would mean the senior class could walk off Robert K. Kraft Field for the last time after a game with a win at its back. "It's going to be a special day," Gross said. "It's bittersweet and tough to see this last one at Baker, but we're going to try and finish it the right way and win this game." Fellow senior captain Mike Stephens—who has sat out most of the season with a broken arm—mirrored the sentiment. "A month of losing is tough, so a win would be big," he said. "Especially to send our seniors out like that, that being their last

memory at home. That would be a good thing." Keeping hope alive for a possible 5-5 record is also something fresh on the minds of all the Light Blue athletes. "It really would mean a lot," Gross said. "I think both in terms of what we've wanted to accomplish in our time here but, more importantly, to what we wanted to accomplish for this program on a bigger scale. A lot of us came here with the attitude of turning the program around, a program that had a recent history of losing and losing a lot. When we came here, part of the appeal was to be a part of something that really changed an attitude, an atmosphere, and made a new history. And so to finish out with a non-losing season ... we knew that we expected more than just a 5-5 record, but to win these two games would be huge both for our time here and for the program." Despite all that rides on the season and the passion that the players feel heading into the game, it certainly won't be a breeze. The Big Red and the Light Blue are tied for sixth in the Ivy League with matching conference records of 1-4, and neither team can count on steamrolling the other. "They definitely want and need a win just as much as us," senior captain and tight end Andrew Kennedy said, "so I definitely expect them to come out really high for the game and excited and whatnot, so we've got to be able to match their intensity and beat it in order to come away with the win."

## Fenton a dangerous threat in Cornell secondary

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

This Saturday, as quarterback Sean Brackett leads the Light Blue into battle against Cornell in the Empire State Bowl, Columbia's final home game, he will have to pay special attention to a threat in Cornell's secondary posed by cornerback Emani Fenton. Fenton, a senior cornerback from Ashburn, Va., leads the Big Red with five interceptions so far this season. He also has 25 total tackles on the season (20 unassisted, five assisted) and has been an important element of stability on a Big Red defense plagued by injuries throughout 2010. "Because of the injury situation, we haven't gone into a week with the same lineup," Cornell head coach Kent Austin said during an interview on Thursday. "Emani is one of the few guys we have on defense that has played the whole year. He's been a real consistent figure for us on the defensive side of the ball." Part of Fenton's success as a cornerback is his love of the position. "In my opinion, cornerback is the most fun position to play on the field," Fenton said. "I enjoy the challenge of being out on an 'island,' so to speak, and having to make a play every time you get a chance." Fenton has a unique playing style and is almost surgical in his approach to the game. "Emani's more of a technician. ... He plays on technique and experience," Austin said. Fenton also combines a natural quickness to get to the ball and bring in interceptions. "He's quick, he's got quick feet, he's got great feet," the coach said. Fenton's coaches attribute his

success to both his intangibles and his hard work in practice. "He performed day in and day out at fall camp," Austin said. Fenton has started for the Big Red since his freshman year, during which he started in three games and made appearances in all 10, an impressive total for a rookie. "His game experience helped him quite a bit to perform well this year," Austin said. "Players can't really learn to play this game at a high level without playing in real games." Another element of his on-field success is his continued improvement. Although Fenton didn't come up with any interceptions as a junior, he registered 36 tackles and scored his first touchdown off a blocked kick. Fenton has expanded his role within the defense over the years. "I have really improved on my understanding of the game and my role within the defense, and I have improved as a leader," he said. Fenton attributes his improvement and growth as a player, especially during this past season, to Cornell's new coaching staff. "We got a whole new coaching staff this year, and our secondary coach Brian Young has been relentless in his efforts to make sure I am making the most of every snap," Fenton said. "I believe he deserves a lot of credit for my play this year." Fenton looks back proudly at his time at Cornell. "For me it was more than just football—it was the feeling of being a part of the family," he said. He even remembers his first visit to Cornell four years ago and how he was welcomed into the program with

SEE FENTON, page 3

## Women's basketball hosts LIU for season opener

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

Browne led the team with 119 assists last season, while Yee received Ivy Defensive Player of the Year honors each of the last two years. Despite these key departures, Nixon is confident that his team will challenge the Blackbirds. "Honestly, I expect a really exciting, competitive game," he said. Nixon cited the competitive nature of Columbia's last two games against Long Island. Last season, the Lions earned a 64-62

win over the Blackbirds. The year before, Long Island escaped with a 58-55 victory. Still, Nixon acknowledged that his players will need time to adjust to playing together. "You're probably going to see some growing pains early," he said. "Anytime you're working first-years into your rotation and into the mix of the team, it's going to take a little time, I think, for some of that chemistry to develop." Columbia's first test comes at Levien Gymnasium on Friday. Tip-off is set for 1 p.m.

PIXBOX  
week # 9

Cornell at Columbia (-18.5)  
Princeton at Yale (-22.5)  
Brown at Dartmouth (-2.5)  
Harvard at Penn (-6.5)  
South Carolina at Florida (-6.5)  
Cowboys at Giants (-15.5)  
Patriots at Steelers (-5.5)  
Columbia at La Salle (-10.5)



Victoria Jones  
(35-29)

My faves  
Bulldogs  
Sheep  
Gate 8  
SC  
Texas  
Tom Brady's hair  
Other Light Blue

It's such a nice view from up here. There's maybe a 50-50 chance I'll keep it for next week too...?

Ah, the moment I have been waiting for. (Read the supplement!)

Seniors  
Princeton  
Brown  
Penn  
SC  
Cowboys  
Steelers  
Columbia



Michele Cleary  
(34-30)



Jim Pagels  
(33-31)

Columbia...  
Princeton  
Brown  
Penn  
SC  
9-7!  
New England  
La Salle

After Sunday's game, Dallas fans should have flipped over Cowboys Stadium and lit it on fire.

How's the weather down there, Lev?

Columbia  
Yale  
Dmouth  
Vard?  
Florida  
NYG  
Pats  
Columbia



Michael Shapiro  
(33-31)



Lucas Shaw  
(32-32)

Lions  
Tigers  
Big Green  
Crimson  
Gators  
Giants  
Steelers  
Light Blue

8-0.

For the last time ever, read the basketball supplement!

Columbia  
Yale  
Brown  
Harvard  
Florida  
Cowgirls  
New England  
Columbia



Kunal Gupta  
(31-33)



Bart Lopez  
(30-34)

Light Blue  
Yale  
Dartmouth  
Hahvahd  
South Carolina  
Dallas  
Patriots  
Columbia

If only I had switched to my new Pix-box strategy earlier in the season, then I might actually be winning.

Wait ... now I'm losing?

Light Blue  
Yale  
Brown  
Harvard  
SC  
Dallas  
Steelers  
La Salle



Lauren Seaman  
(30-34)



Jacob Levenfeld  
(28-36)

Let's Go  
Yale  
Dartmouth  
Hahvahd  
South Carolina  
Giants  
New England  
Wahoo!

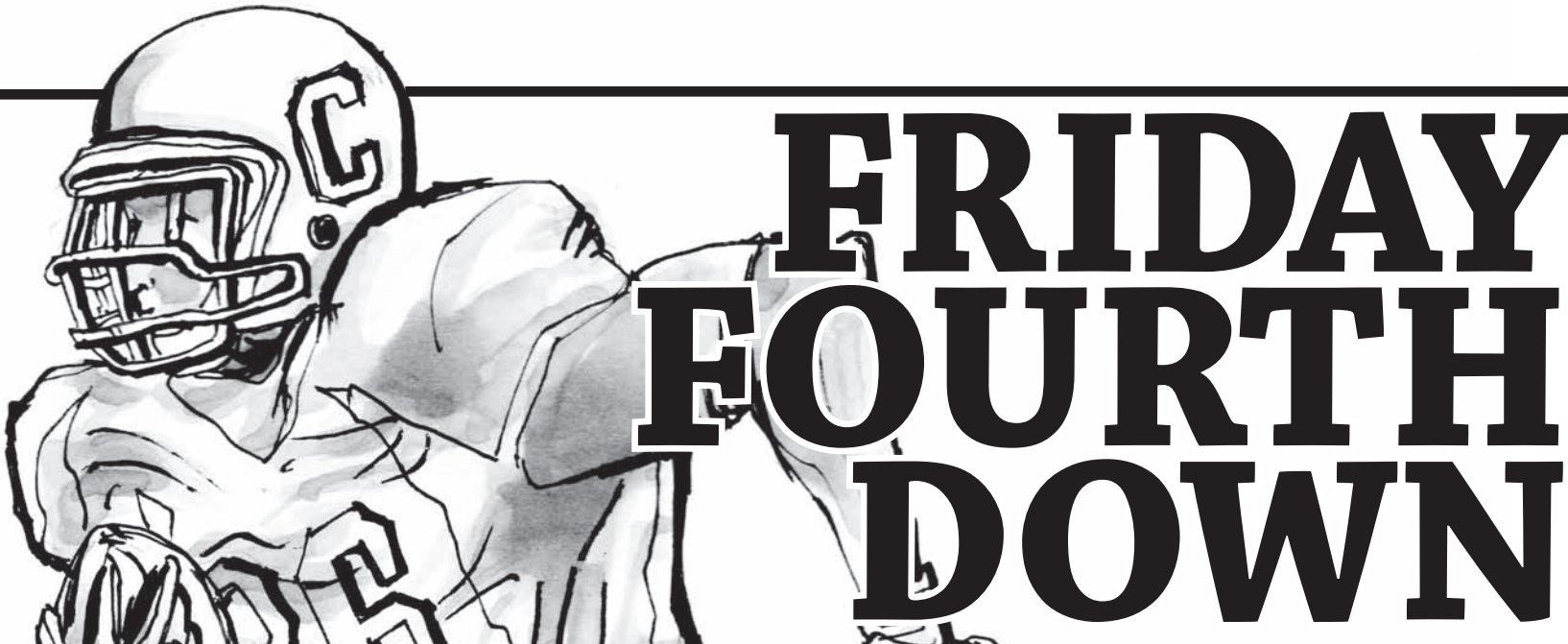
My closest advisers counsel against it, but I think I'm going to concede.

Anyone can be in first place, but it takes true grace and strength of character to be the caboose.

Columbia  
Yale  
Dartmouth  
Harvard  
South Carolina  
Dallas  
Patriots  
Columbia



Zach Glubiak  
(22-42)



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Offensive progress

In its last couple matchups, the Light Blue has struggled to get points on the board for the majority of the game. Playing catch-up is not easy, so if the Lions can take the lead early in the game and continue racking up the points, they will have an opportunity to put their opponent away early.

2

Confusing the newbies

As Alex Gross noted in an interview, Cornell has a lot of young players on the offensive side of the ball, including a freshman quarterback. The Light Blue defense will aim to keep Cornell's offense from feeling too comfortable on the field in order to trip it up and minimize its progress.

3

Kicking well

Columbia freshman Luke Eddy had been a pillar of consistency before last weekend's game against Harvard. If Eddy can get back on track and continue nailing PATs and field goals like he has been doing all season, fourth-down decisions will be easier for the coaching staff.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS FOR

COLUMBIA	23.2
CORNELL	12.5

POINTS AGAINST

COLUMBIA	21.6
CORNELL	27.9

YARDS GAINED

COLUMBIA	366.1
CORNELL	254.5

YARDS ALLOWED

COLUMBIA	361.2
CORNELL	446.1

KEY MATCHUPS

Craig Hamilton

Drew Alston

Cornell may not have a lot of standout players on its roster, but senior punter Drew Alston is having an all-Ivy-caliber season. Alston is averaging 37.6 yards per punt and has pinned the opponent inside its own 20-yard line 22 times. In what could be a battle of field position, Hamilton, with his returns, will be responsible for neutralizing Alston's strong leg.



Josh Martin

Jeff Mathews

Freshman quarterback Jeff Mathews has played well this season when he hasn't been running for his life. Last week-end against Dartmouth, Mathews was sacked a staggering 10 times. Josh Martin leads the Lions in sacks with four, and he'll certainly be looking to pad his total against Mathews and Cornell's patchwork offensive line on Saturday.



STARTING LINEUPS

COLUMBIA											
OFFENSE											
DEFENSE											

CORNELL											
OFFENSE											
DEFENSE											

PENN VS. HARVARD

First place takes on second in a vital top-of-the-table clash this weekend. In the penultimate game of the season, reigning champion and league leader Penn (4-0) will be hosting its closest challenger, Harvard (3-1), in what is thus far the most important game of the season for both sides. With a win, the Quakers can guarantee themselves at least a share of their second consecutive Ivy League title, and their eighth under head coach Al Bagnoli. However, a road win for the Crimson could set up a three-way tie for the top spot heading into the final weekend if Yale gets the better of last-place Princeton. If Penn triumphs and Yale loses, the Quakers will be crowned outright champions with a game to spare.

Last season, Penn won at Harvard 17-7 amid torrential rain. Bagnoli has a strong 7-2 record at home against the Crimson, but Harvard has won two of the last three in Philadelphia. However, stopping the Quaker juggernaut this season will be no easy task—the Red and Blue boast the longest conference winning streak in the nation, and their 13-game run is third in all of Division I football.

YALE VS. PRINCETON

The third horse in this season's title race, Yale (4-1) will be the favorite in a home clash against the Tigers (0-5). This is the most-played fixture in the Ivy League, with this weekend marking the 133rd meeting between the two teams.

The Elis are level with Harvard for second place and a game behind the Quakers, and will be in search of an important win to remain in the hunt for a share of this year's title. The noon kickoff will represent the last home game for 24 Yale seniors, who will be motivated by a chance to win the league.

In last season's matchup, the Tigers won 24-17. A pair of touchdowns by the Elis in regulation pulled the Bulldogs to within four points with 11:42 to play after they had been on the wrong end of an 18-point deficit, but a field goal by the Tigers after Yale's comeback sealed the win.

A loss to Yale at Princeton Stadium in 2005 cost the Tigers the title, and they will be out for revenge this time around. Princeton is still looking for its first Ivy League win of the season, and triumphing at Yale would be the highlight of the season for a team that has found little to celebrate in 2010.

DARTMOUTH VS. BROWN

The Big Green (2-3) hosts the Bears (3-2) this weekend in a bid to achieve an overall winning record. Dartmouth has not done so in 13 years, and the team will be looking to snap that streak this time around.

It will take a strong performance from the home side, though, as Brown has won nine of the teams' last 12 meetings, including the last three.

In last year's clash in Providence, the Bears earned a hard-fought 14-7 victory over the Big Green in overtime.

Dartmouth's Nick Schwieger leads the league in scoring (points per game and touchdowns) and rushing yards, and will need to be at his best if Dartmouth is to get the result it wants.

However, the Bears' defense will provide formidable opposition for Dartmouth's running back, as they are third in the league in total and scoring defense and fourth in rushing defense. Brown will also benefit from the presence of senior quarterback Joe Springer, who returned to the lineup last week against Yale after injuring himself earlier this year. In his first game back, he threw for 269 yards, including a 16-yard touchdown pass, against the Bulldogs.

# GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12 • PAGE 8



## COLUMBIA (3-5, 1-4 Ivy) vs. CORNELL (2-6, 1-4 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 12:30 P.M., ROBERT K. KRAFT FIELD

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



### Senior Day, live from the press box

It's hard to say no to a job offer in this economy, but I tried.

I was abroad last spring and loving every minute of it. I wasn't sports editor anymore—I wasn't covering baseball or wrestling or going to meetings or making budgets or writing a thousand emails every week. The Columbia-New York-college triangle of stress was missing but not missed. And then they told me I had to cover football when I got back.

I hope it hasn't been too obvious to Spectator's readers, but football isn't really my sport. I'm much more familiar with baseball, hockey, or, like, skiing. But our longtime beat writers just graduated, and no one else really jumped at the opportunity. I didn't ask for it. I didn't want it. I tried to say no. But it still sort of just fell to me.

I threaten to quit at least once every five days. Probably seven to nine times the week we put out our football supplement. I still kind of pretend not to like it, just to annoy the current sports editor. And, yeah, clearing my Saturday schedule for pretty much the entire semester has been kind of a pain. But with just two games to go, there's already a void. I'm starting to miss it.



JACOB LEVENFELD

#### Eye on the Ball

SEE LEVENFELD, page 6



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**TAKING AIM** | Alex Gross and the Columbia defense will look to slow down freshman quarterback Jeff Mathews in the Empire State Bowl on Saturday.

## Seniors aim to end losing skid in final home game

BY VICTORIA JONES

*Spectator Staff Writer*

Over the course of the last four seasons, there have been 21 home games on the football schedule. Of those, this year's class of seniors has only one left to play.

Tomorrow, Columbia's football team will host Cornell (2-6, 1-4 Ivy) in the first official Empire State Bowl and the last home game of the 2010 campaign. The Lions are hoping that this matchup can bring a close to their four-game losing streak.

Standing in the way of Columbia victory, however, is freshman quarterback Jeff Mathews and the rest of the Big Red.

"He is a good player," Columbia head coach Norries Wilson said. "He puts the ball on the money; he stands in there and takes hits. He's gonna make you work to defend him."

Senior captain Alex Gross, a linebacker who currently leads the Ancient Eight in tackles with 96, is also aware of the challenges Cornell's offense poses on Friday. The Big Red's young

signal-caller and running backs are particularly talented.

"As we get later into the season, they've developed and progressed and gotten a lot better," Gross said. "So what we're going to have to try to do is mix things up and keep them on their heels a little bit and get after them and not let them get comfortable. With young guys it's a big advantage to keep them on their heels and confused."

The Big Red's offense has not been the strongest in the league this season,

putting up an average of just 12.5 points per game, but Columbia's defense will still need to stand strong to try to keep Cornell off the board.

The Light Blue has allowed at least 20 points per game in the last five contests, including a season-high 31 to Yale.

"The defense has played well in more than a few spots," Wilson said. "I think there's just been a few spots where they haven't, and unfortunately those spots

SEE FOOTBALL, page 6



FILE PHOTO

**AIMING HIGH** | Junior guard Melissa Shafer will be counted on to make a big contribution this season in her role as a full-time starter for the first time.

## New-look women's basketball takes on LIU at Levien Gym

BY SARAH SOMMER

*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

With five freshmen, two new assistant coaches, and three new starters, the Columbia women's basketball team has changed in several ways since its record-setting 2009-2010 campaign. On Friday, the Lions will face their first test with their revamped squad.

Columbia plays its first game of the season when it hosts Long Island on Friday. Sophomore guard Taylor Ball, junior guard Melissa Shafer, and sophomore forward Tyler Simpson will feature in the Lions' starting lineup alongside senior guard Kathleen Barry and senior center Lauren Dwyer.

This year is the first in which Shafer will be a full-time starter, though she played in all of Columbia's games over the past two years. Last season, she averaged 17.1 minutes per contest.

While Barry and Dwyer are returning starters for Columbia, Ball and Simpson saw limited action off the bench last year. Barry averaged 10.8 points per game in 2009-2010, while Dwyer averaged 10. Both were on the

COLUMBIA VS. LONG ISLAND

Levien Gymnasium, Fri., 1 p.m.

floor more than 26 minutes per game.

Head coach Paul Nixon said that at least some freshmen will also play Friday. One to watch is Brianna Orlich, a guard who resembles Barry's style of play.

In the NEC Preseason Coaches Poll, Long Island was picked to finish first in its conference. In addition, junior forward Ashley Palmer earned Preseason All-NEC Team honors. Palmer is one of four returning starters for Long Island.

Columbia was picked to finish fifth in the Ivy League this year in the conference's preseason media poll. The Lions finished third last season but no longer have starters Danielle Browne, Sara Yee, and Judie Lomax on their roster.

Statistically, Lomax—the 2009-2010 Ivy Player of the Year and an All-American honorable mention—is Columbia's greatest loss, but Browne and Yee are also difficult to replace.

SEE W. BASKETBALL, page 6



FILE PHOTO

**PLAYMAKER** | Sophomore Brian Barbour will take over at the starting point guard spot this season in place of Patrick Foley, who graduated last spring.

## Kyle Smith era underway with road contest against La Salle

BY ZACH GLUBIAK

*Spectator Staff Writer*

It's been five and a half months since Kyle Smith was named the Lions' new basketball coach, and this weekend the Light Blue faithful will get their first look at his squad on the hardwood.

Columbia will travel to La Salle on Friday to face the Explorers in Tom Gola Arena. The trip to Philadelphia will be a homecoming of sorts for Lions power forward Brian Grimes, who grew up in the area and attended La Salle as a freshman before transferring to Columbia.

"I live about five minutes from La Salle, so it'll be good to go back. A lot of family will be there, and I know a lot of the guys there—you know, big brothers from my time there," Grimes said. At the same time, he added, "I'm just reading it as another game."

Expect Grimes to start alongside center Mark Cisco in the frontcourt for the Light Blue. Cisco will have his hands full against the Explorers' top threat, sophomore big man Aaric Murray. As a freshman, Murray earned Philadelphia Big 5 Rookie of the Year honors, and he

COLUMBIA AT LA SALLE

Philadelphia, Pa., Fri., 7 p.m.

enters this season as a preseason selection to the all-Atlantic 10 third team. Last year he scored 12.2 points per game while grabbing 6.6 boards and recording 2.3 blocks, and scouts have noted his potential to be a truly dominant presence in the paint. The 6-foot-10 center was rated by ESPN's Chad Ford as the fourth-best NCAA prospect in a non-Bowl Championship Series league and the 33rd overall prospect in the class.

Columbia's ability to contain Murray on offense and get to the basket around him on the other end will figure heavily in deciding the game's outcome. Cisco will not be alone under the bucket, though, as the Light Blue boasts a particularly deep frontcourt. Aside from Grimes, Smith can look to forwards John Daniels and Asenso Ampim to put in solid minutes for the Lions, and seven-footers Max Craig and Zack Crimmins will aim to use their size

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 6

## Men's soccer goes for second straight victory

BY MRINAL MOHANKA

*Spectator Staff Writer*

The Columbia men's soccer team will be looking to build on an impressive three-match conference unbeaten streak when it hosts Cornell in the season finale on Saturday.

COLUMBIA VS. CORNELL

Columbia Soccer Stadium, Sat., 7 p.m.

The Light Blue (6-8-2, 2-3-1 Ivy) achieved a huge result last weekend, triumphing 1-0 at Harvard thanks to freshman David Najem's 33rd-minute goal after an assist by sophomore striker Will Stamatis. Najem's goal earned him a pair of honors on Monday. The freshman was named the Ivy League Men's Soccer Rookie of the Week for the second time this season, and he also made the TopDrawerSoccer.com National Men's Team of the Week. Najem and fellow Light Blue freshman Henning Sauerbier have five of this season's 10 Ivy League Rookie of the Week awards between them.

Prior to beating Harvard, the Lions suffered a nonconference defeat to Adelphi and were held to a goalless draw at Yale. A win against the Big Red would give the Lions their best season record since 2003, and head coach Kevin Anderson acknowledges the buoyant mood in the camp.

"It's the last game of the season, and we're playing at home—so there's certainly some excitement in our camp, thanks to the result at Harvard," he said. "We've created the challenge for ourselves. It's an opportunity to put on two consecutive strong performances, and that's something we're capable of doing. If we can do that successfully, the performance will take care of the result."

"Training has been very good," he continued. "Spirits are high, and we need to come out on Saturday and follow our game plan. We need to be accountable as individuals and as a team, and how we do that should show where we are as a group."

The contest against Cornell marks the final time the senior Lions will don light blue. Coach Anderson reserved

SEE SOCCER, page 6



NICCI YIN

ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Alum finds sweet success with DessertTruck

BY HARRY FLAGER  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

“Can I get extra bacon sauce?” a backpack-laden New York University student asked. She had just approached the DessertTruck to order a helping of the chocolate bread pudding and was clearly not ashamed of her adoration for the bacon anglaise that is poured on top. Sweet, salty, and slightly smoky, “it’s like crack,” she said.

The DessertTruck, headed by Jerome Chang, CC ’99, recently reopened using a borrowed mobile food vending permit, after being forced to close last year when its previous permit expired. Unfortunately, the current permit’s owner is in the process of building himself a new truck, so students interested in the true DessertTruck experience—bacon anglaise and all—should head down to its usual parking spot on Astor Place before Chang is forced to shut down his truck once again.

For me, that true DessertTruck experience was about to mean a little more: About a month ago, on a breezy Friday night, Chang agreed to let me shadow him for the evening to see what really goes into running a food truck.

The story of the DessertTruck’s creation goes like this: After attending Columbia, Chang received a J.D. from the University of Illinois and returned to New York City to practice law for a year. In 2003, he enrolled in a pastry course at the French Culinary Institute. After working at several restaurants in New York City, including Le Cirque, he became tired of elaborate, 15-component desserts. One night, Chang’s

roommate and future business partner Chris Chen, CC ’06, was hungry. Chen made toast. Chang caramelized some bananas. Chen spread Nutella on said toast. Chang sprinkled sea salt on said Nutella. The bananas were placed on top—and the inspiration for the DessertTruck was born. Its creed: bring unpretentious, restaurant-style desserts to the masses for \$5 apiece.

In 2007, Chang and Chen bought a truck online, transforming it into a customized dessert-dispensing machine. The city’s favorite dessert quickly became Chang’s chocolate bread pudding. It won a Throwdown challenge against Bobby Flay and to this day still brings in about 25 percent of the truck’s sales.

After the permit shutdown last year, Chang continued to cater special events and opened DessertTruck Works, a storefront on 6 Clinton St., in January of this year. Even with the store still running and the recently reopened truck, Chang says business has dropped by about 50 percent. This is most noticeable with a glance at the truck’s second onboard refrigerator, which is currently empty—it used to hold back-up desserts when sales were higher. On my night aboard the truck, when the line got to be about 15 people deep, I remarked that business was booming. “This is nothing,” Chang said. “It used to wrap around the corner.”

At 5:30 p.m. on the night of my shadowing, I met Chang at DessertTruck Works. He had just arrived from the commissary in Brooklyn where the truck is parked.

All of the desserts for the truck are made at the Clinton Street store, and between the two of us it only took a few trips to fill the truck with confections for the night.

We loaded trays of desserts onto the truck, and Chang stressed the importance of making sure the truck was fully stocked. Unlike at the store, where backup supplies are plentiful, when supplies run out on a truck, they run out—that night we exhausted the truck’s stash of paper serving cups, bottled water, and Nutella-filled brioche doughnuts.

Once everything was in place, Chang drove the truck over to its usual spot on Third Avenue between Astor Place and Ninth

Street. The first order of business was to call the store and have them tweet and promote on Facebook the truck’s location.

It was 6:45 p.m. when we set up shop, and not many people were interested in dessert that early, but by 8 o’clock customers were lining up and ready for a little sugar.

Working on the DessertTruck, an employee’s role is largely that of assembler rather than cook. Bread pudding, molten chocolate cake, and baked apples are kept warm in a convection oven set to 175 degrees. Chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate are heated in a microwave to order. A torch is used to caramelize the sugar on crème brûlées right before serving.

The job is about consistency and speed: Customers approach. Take their order. On a piece of paper, write down the order (B for bread pudding—add a “v” to indicate vanilla sauce, or a “b” for bacon—C is for crème brûlée, D for doughnuts, and so on). Assemble order. Take money. Make change (pray that the cash box hasn’t run out of singles). Repeat.

And while it can be back-breaking—the microwave is at calf level, and crouching down a hundred times a night isn’t entirely pleasant—Chang stays lighthearted about the endeavor. When a man ordered the doughnuts, Chang said, “There’s a few left. But I fucked ‘em up. Too long in the microwave—too soft. I’m just gonna put ‘em here [in front of customer] and pretend they aren’t there. No charge. Enjoy.” Or when a girl ordered the baked apples and Chang realized he had run out of paper cups, he served the dessert in a plastic to-go lid. Classy? No. Delicious? Yes.

Finally, at 11 p.m., we turned off the lights, closed the window, and Chang headed back to Clinton Street to drop off the few remaining desserts. He would then drive the truck back to the commissary, parking around 12:15 a.m.

Before we parted ways I couldn’t help but think about how much fun Chang was to be around—how incredibly hard he worked, yet how funny and down-to-earth he was while hawking hot chocolate. I mentioned that as a CC alum, he really should swing by 116th and Broadway sometime. “Okay,” he said, smiling. “We’ll see you soon.”



ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Best of

New Broadway shows

Like every Broadway season, the 2010 winter selection may seem hard to navigate. Seeing shows is quite easy, thanks to student rush tickets and a more informal dress code, but what shows are worth students’ precious time and savings? From historical debate to holiday cheer, students will find a mix of movie-inspired and original shows that are sure to engage audiences in new ways. —BY LIANA GERGELY



COURTESY OF SPIDERMANONBROADWAY.MARVEL.COM

WEB SLINGER | Bono (second from left) penned music for “Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark.”

‘Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark’

“Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark” may boast one of the most exciting scores to hit the musical theater scene in decades, with tracks by musicians Bono and The Edge. The show, which begins previews on Nov. 28 and opens officially on Jan. 11 at the Foxwoods Theatre (213 West 42nd St., between Seventh

and Eighth avenues), features two outstanding young actors, Jennifer Damiano and Reeve Carney, as Mary Jane Watson and Peter Parker. The musical, based on the Marvel Comics superhero, brings a childhood favorite character to life in an entirely new way.

‘The Scottsboro Boys’

“The Scottsboro Boys,” which opened on Halloween, is an invigorating musical theater depiction of a famous trial in the 1930s American South. The show simultaneously lampoons and powerfully explores racial stereotypes of African Americans in the early 20th century. World-renowned duo John

Kander and Fred Ebb wrote the score, which is reminiscent of traditional musical theater melodies. Despite the more conventional aspects of the musical, which plays at the Lyceum Theatre(149 West 45th St., between Sixth and Seventh avenues), it does not lack a contemporary edge.

‘Elf’

One of the best ways to ring in the holiday season in the city is a jaunt to a festive Broadway show. Theater fans might want to add tickets to “Elf,” playing at the Al Hirschfeld Theater(302 West 45th St., between Eighth and Ninth avenues) to their Christmas lists. This musical adaptation of the 2003 movie featuring Will Ferrell is the hysterical and endearing

story of a young orphan named Buddy who mistakenly crawls into Santa’s bag of gifts and grows up in the North Pole. He later realizes that although he has been raised as an elf, he wishes to rediscover his roots. He then voyages to New York City to find his birth father, with whom he shares his love of candy, candy canes, candy corn, and syrup.



COURTESY OF LINCOLN CENTER THEATER

CRAZY IN LOVE | “Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown” explores love and loss.

‘Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown’

Many of Columbia’sstressed-out students can identify with one of Broadway’s newest shows, “Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown.” Two of the lead actors, Patti LuPone and Brian Stokes Mitchell, explore what it means to have a mental breakdown at the Belasco Theatre (111 West 44th St., between Sixth and Seventh

avenues). The musical, which is based on the 1988 film directed by Pedro Almodóvar, tells the tale of a group of women in 20th-century Madrid, whose confusing relationships with men lead to 48 hours of passion, headaches, and heartache. This show is striking in its honest portrayal of relationships, and the Latin-tinged score adds flair.



COURTESY OF LILY OEI

‘WONDROUS’ WORK | Renowned author Junot Díaz’s outlook on his life and career has been dramatically shaped by his childhood as a Dominican immigrant growing up in New Jersey.

Junot Díaz discusses minority identity past and present in light of recent campus visit

BY EMMA STEIN  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Junot Díaz says that he is “still waiting” for that point in which he believes himself to be a successful writer, but most others would claim that he’s already there. Although Díaz is only 41, he has already won a Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for his best known work, “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao.” On the tail of his recent lecture at a Columbia Free Clinic benefit, where Díaz discussed the immigrant experience in relation to the current health care system, the author spoke with Spectator about how his work and views on contemporary minority issues have been informed by his past. For Díaz, writing “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao” was important to him “because the people I came out of—the communities which made me possible—didn’t have any presence in the literatures I was exposed to, and I believed there could be no American literature worth its name

if that absence remained.” Díaz was motivated to write partly because “Dominicans needed to be honored by tough, beautiful books.” The novel portrays a Dominican American’s coming of age in New Jersey—a story that largely echoes the life story of Díaz himself. Like the protagonist Wao, Díaz immigrated to New Jersey from the Dominican Republic when he was six years old, and found his new home alienating at times. New Jersey was “very anti-immigrant and anti-Latino in those days—at least where I lived,” Díaz said.

“Those certainly were not the most tolerant of days, and so it was something of a struggle. Didn’t help that my family was very poor for most of my time.” Also like Wao, Díaz poured himself into literature as a child, partly due to what he felt he had lost in the move. “I lost so much in immigration—my grandparents who raised me, my language, the entire world of Santo Domingo,” he said. “I guess I was looking for a friend to make up for what had vanished, and books became that friend.” This marked the beginning of Díaz’s love for reading, which sparked an interest in writing. Díaz, like Wao, attended Rutgers University in New Jersey, and it was there that he realized he would become a writer. Before that, Díaz never really expected to grow up a writer. “I figured I was going to end up a lawyer. Don’t ask me why. A fate I’m very glad I avoided,” he said. However, once at Rutgers, he became inspired by professors who recognized his talent. “I had professors at Rutgers University, T.E. Holt and Laurie Shek,

who first recognized in me something worthwhile, and that meant the world to me.” Díaz contends that the struggles of being a writer did not end after his education, nor even after his first publication. Unlike many writers, who claim the process is easy, Díaz readily admits to the difficulty he had in writing “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao.” “I never wish to repeat that process again,” Díaz said. “I basically got up every day for 11 years and tried to hammer the words into place. Plenty of times, I despaired and floundered.” At certain points, Díaz even contemplated abandoning the project. “The research was always a pleasure and so were the interviews. The actual writing was a horror,” he said. However, he still plans to stick to writing, though he is considering trying his hand in the movie industry. “As for the future, I hope to write a film script one day. We’ll see.” Indeed, fans of “The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao” and Díaz’s other works can only hope.



COURTESY OF MICHAEL LIONSTAR

**WELL-READ** | Robin Desser, an editor at a major New York publishing house, has made her lifelong passion for reading into a fulfilling career.

## Peeking behind the cover of a book editor’s fruitful career

**BY LEERON HOORY**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

In 1985, Robin Desser, with the advice of her mother, left her job in the advertising industry to do what she’s always loved to do—read. Desser is now the vice president and senior editor at Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., a major publishing house in New York City. Over the 22 years she has held this position, Desser has edited bestselling novels such as “Memoirs of a Geisha” by Arthur Golden, GSAS ’80, and “The House on Mango Street” by Sandra Cisneros, among others.

“It’s sort of classic that it’s the same exact gestation period, nine months from the time you put the book into production until it’s finished,” Desser said of the editing and production process. During these nine months, Desser coordinates with separate departments at the publishing house, from the art department that makes the book jacket to the sales department. The entire process culminates in the final product that readers hold in their hands.

Desser describes the process of recognizing a novel’s potential for greatness as unscientific. “The editor has to fall in love with the book,” Desser said. “I react emotionally. That’s the only way I know how to do it.”

An editor, she said, sits in a hot seat and must sometimes make tricky judgment calls about a book’s likelihood of success. “I don’t know any other way [to decide] other than just to be honest about it and not to try to predict something that you can’t predict,” she said.

Luckily, Desser’s instincts have been spot-on with regard to certain books. For example, “Memoirs of a Geisha,” published in 1997, became a huge bestseller and hit the Hollywood screen in 2005 with the release of a movie of the same name. Golden captures the love and turmoil experienced by geishas during the World War II era. “I was completely taken away by the very first page,” Desser said. She had heard about the book for two years from the agent, and when the book finally came to her, she took it home overnight and read it right away.

“I fell in love with the voice,” Desser recalled. “She [the protagonist] was not this cardboard geisha. She was this young girl who had these strange blue eyes, who had to overcome her own destiny, her own upbringing, to become a great geisha.”

Desser also explained another advantage of her job, her ability to work with writers on an intensely personal level. “It’s a very sensitive and very private relationship, in that you work just the two of you together with nobody looking over your shoulder,” Desser views her job as an opportunity to make books as true as possible to what their writers envision, and she tries to avoid imposing her own ideas on her clients. Ultimately, she said, “It’s the writer’s job to take responsibility for the book.”

“I think it’s funny to interview an editor,” Desser commented. “I think the editor should stay behind the curtain.” The curtains have been drawn back, however, and for the next trip to the bookstore, students may want to keep in mind that every novel has a story behind the story.

## Finding the jet-set feeling without the plane

Last semester, I studied abroad in Paris. I also had the opportunity to visit Brussels, Berlin, Amsterdam, Florence, Milan, Nice, Barcelona, Madrid, Riga, Kiev, and Tel Aviv—all within six months. What would have cost me thousands of dollars, had I made individual trips to each of these places from the United States, ended up costing me under a thousand (thank you Ryanair, easyJet, and Eurorail).

While New York offers us plenty of diverse cultural options—from Ethiopian food to Japanese art—we often forget that there are plenty of neighborhoods in the area that can transport those who don’t necessarily have the opportunity to study abroad to an entirely different part of the world. With a MetroCard and a little bit of spending cash, students can hit Russia, India, and Greece in less time than it takes to write a five-page paper.

Hop on the 1 and then the Q to the **Brighton Beach** stop, and you’ve entered **Moscow** in just under an hour and a half—well, maybe not Moscow, but definitely a conglomerate of several former Soviet cities.

One of the more unusual cultural experiences of Brighton Beach is the Royal Palace Bath (614 Sheepshead Bay Road), one of the biggest banyas (Russian sauna) in the country. This banya comes fully equipped with over six different steam rooms, cold pools, ample veniki, or birch tree brooms used for whipping fellow banya members.

There’s a restaurant and bar there, but the best choice on a budget for sampling Brighton Beach cuisine is a trip to the Little Odessa area for a selection of hundreds of casual restaurants serving authentic Russian cuisine, like borscht and vareniki.

**With a MetroCard and a little bit of spending cash, students can hit Russia, India, and Greece in less time than it takes to write a paper.**

No trip to Brighton Beach is complete without a visit to the famous St. Petersburg BookStore (230 Brighton Beach Ave. at First Street). This Russian megastore sells thousands of Russian novels, movies, and children’s books to eager Russians and Russophiles. This is where all of the Russians from the tri-state area go. And I’m almost positive no one in there speaks English.

An hour-long trip up to **Jackson Heights**, Queens on the N train will bring students to a completely different area of the world. Known to many as “**Little India**,” Jackson Heights is home to hundreds of Indian establishments, from supermarkets to restaurants to sari shops. Patel Brothers is a gigantic Indian supermarket where students are bound to find any Indian spice, as well as foods that one can only get in India. For Indian clothing, India Sari Palace has an enormous selection. They also have very high-quality fabrics.

Rajbhog Sweets is one of the best places to go for authentic Indian desserts. At a dollar a piece, the gulab jamun, a fried dough ball soaked in rosewater syrup, is one of the best things on the menu. Rajbhog also has a version of the gulab jamun stuffed with cream. If dessert isn’t enough, a trip to the canteen in the basement of the Hindu Temple of Flushing has delicious and inexpensive South Indian food.

Queens gives students the possibility to visit yet another country—**Greece**. Although **Astoria** is not as “Greek” as it used to be, it is still one of the only places in the area that caters to the tri-state Greek community. The St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church is one of the oldest in the area, and it still plays a prominent role in Astoria’s cultural life. Stamatis (2909 23rd Ave. at 29th Street) and Agnanti (19-06 Ditmars Blvd. between 19th and 21st streets) restaurants serve the best authentic Greek tavern food in the neighborhood. Surprisingly, most of the food at both places is under \$20, with the exception of the whole grilled fish, which is priced per pound, and Agnanti’s lamb chop at \$22. If you’re hungry for authentic Greek cuisine, a 20-minute ride on the M60 won’t be a waste of time or money.

But Astoria’s Greek food isn’t the only thing that attracts Greeks and Greek Americans from all over—it’s also the thriving nightlife. Caprice, possibly the most-visited bar in Astoria due to a late closing time (6 a.m.), caters to a young Greek crowd. The music playing is a mixture of house, electro, and popular Greek hits. And just like in Athens, almost everyone is Greek. Admittedly, it’s not exactly the same cultural experience as studying abroad, but it’ll get you pretty darn close, given the restrictions.

*Hannah Yudkin is a Barnard College senior majoring in art history and political science. Restricted runs alternate Fridays.*



COURTESY OF IFC FILMS

**DEAN’S LIST** | “Tiny Furniture,” which opens Friday at IFC Center, tells the story of Aura (left), an Oberlin College graduate who feels utterly lost upon returning home to New York City.

## ‘Tiny Furniture:’ Postgrad woes on screen

**FURNITURE** from page B4

SXSW, Dunham’s gotten the green light to write and direct an adaptation of the teen novel “Dash and Lily’s Book of Dares,” and is working on a TV pilot for HBO with Judd Apatow. Poised on the brink of serious fame, Dunham offers us soon-to-be grads the following advice: “It’s easy to think that the decisions you make in your first few months out

of college are somehow going to impact the rest of your life, but things are just so ever-changing... The best bit of advice I got was from my mom: ‘You’re going to make mistakes, you’re going to fuck around, you’re going to do great things, you’re going to do less great things, and it’s all going to amount to the same sort of deal, which is that it’s going to be fine.’ Even if that’s only a lie perpetrated by mothers, it’s wonderful to hear.” True story.

## Claire Denis film series: Director’s work shines

**DENIS** from page B4

right. In addition to the two iconic films by Wim Wenders that she worked on, “Wings of Desire” (Wednesday, Nov. 17) and “Paris, Texas” (Thursday, Nov. 18), don’t miss Jim Jarmusch’s “Down by Law” (Nov. 12-13). That Jarmusch, CC ’75, is a clear influence on Denis was even suggested at the start of the post-screening Q&A when film critic and moderator Kent Jones reminded Denis that she had once said to him, “I don’t want to be a filmmaker, I just want to be a person who makes films.” That reluctance to view filmmaking as a profession, in the careerist sense of the word, is something Denis quite likely may have picked up working for like-minded Jarmusch.

**Even as she deals with solemn subject matters, Denis uncovers beauty everywhere.**

On filmmaking, Denis told the raptured audience in Dodge, “It is a place of being not exactly sure of oneself. ... You don’t start making films as you would start studying medicine or law. There is something uncertain and sometimes hidden ... that reveals itself in the process of making a film.” This inherent mystery and ambiguity to the artistic endeavor is something that clearly fascinates and invigorates Denis. Her willingness to go with the flow, as it were, and let the films dictate their own shape and meaning is manifested in her work and has consequently earned her much critical acclaim. “The Intruder” (Monday, Nov. 15), the strange but exhilarating story of a man who leaves his seclusion in the French Alps on an international hunt for his illegitimate son, was voted the 13th-best film of the 2000s in a Film Comment poll.

Though occasionally her directorial hand may be accused of being too light, as some said of her previous film “35 Shots of Rum” (Sunday, Nov. 14), the gracefulness of her style is often awe-inspiring. Even as she deals with solemn subject matters, such as imprisonment and jealousy in “Beau Travail” (Saturday, Nov. 13) and the hardships immigrants face in “I Can’t Sleep” (Friday, Nov. 12), Denis uncovers beauty seemingly wherever she points her camera. With films as diverse as the socially perceptive, one-night stand picture “Friday Night” (Thursday, Nov. 18) and the idiosyncratic vampire flick “Trouble Every Day” (Saturday, Nov. 13), the retrospective at IFC promises to provide as transcendent a study break as one could hope for.

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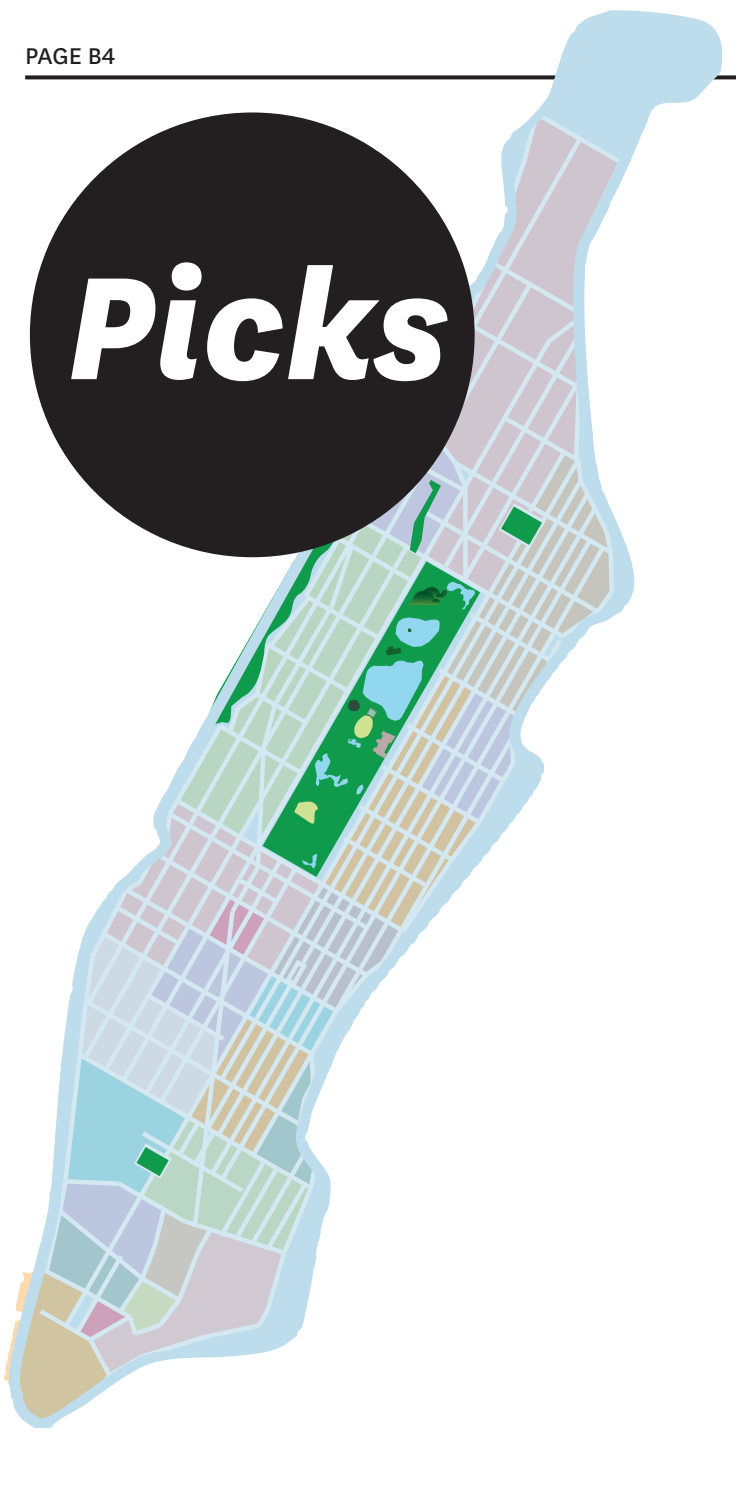
## PIZZA DAYS

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**WHERE IT'S AT**  
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**Place:** IFC Center, 323 Avenue of the Americas (at West Third Street)  
**Cost:** \$13 per screening

COURTESY OF IFC FILMS

**‘WHITE’ NOISE** | Isabelle Huppert (above) stars in “White Material,” the latest film by French filmmaker Claire Denis.

## Claire Denis film series

Director’s work shines at IFC Center

**BY JOSEPH POMP**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Earlier this week, a packed house in Dodge Hall was transported not only to the gorgeous but lethal landscapes of modern-day Cameroon, but also into the mysterious cinema of one of the preeminent contemporary filmmakers in France, as Claire Denis visited Columbia to screen and discuss her latest film, “White Material.”

The film is a dreamscape centered around a French expatriate, Marie, played by Isabelle Huppert, who runs a coffee plantation in Cameroon. It depicts Marie’s fight for survival as her town becomes engulfed in the ongoing civil war. Featuring stunning cinematography, rich performances by Huppert et al., and a characteristically cool score by Denis’ longtime collaborators the Tindersticks, the film is a worthy entry into Denis’ varied but consistently intriguing body of work.

Those interested in diving deeper into Denis’ oeuvre are in for a treat this week, as the IFC Center in Greenwich Village has programmed, in anticipation of the U.S. theatrical release of “White Material” on Nov. 19, the most extensive retrospective of her films yet to grace New York. Running through Thursday, the series, includes all of Denis’ narrative features as well as a few documentaries, including “Jacques Rivette: The Nightwatchman” (Sunday, Nov. 14), about the legendary French New Wave director, and “Vers Mathilde” (Monday, Nov. 15), a portrait of one of France’s leading choreographers.

In addition to Denis’ own films, the retrospective includes three films, all among the best the 1980s have to offer, that she assistant-directed before becoming a director in her own

SEE DENIS, page B3



COURTESY OF FILMDESK

**‘MAN’ UP** | “Every Man for Himself” contains two nearly unrelated plots, one of which follows fictional filmmaker Paul Godard (left).

## ‘Every Man for Himself’

Godard film’s appeal is in the details

**BY KINNO NOROJONO**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Like a broken record, the line “What is that music?” is uttered continuously by different characters all throughout Jean-Luc Godard’s 1980 film “Every Man for Himself.” Though this question is never answered, it is perhaps the most fitting one to ask—at first glance, the film is a lot like a song that sounds familiar, but that can’t quite be placed.

Consisting of an eclectic mélange of actions and occurrences, the movie—which opens Friday at Film Forum and runs through Nov. 25—lacks a single compelling plot. The audience comes along on the whirlwind journey of a desperately witless filmmaker, aptly named Paul Godard, and watches as his relationships fail. At the same time, the movie tells the almost entirely unrelated story of a prostitute and her sadomasochistic world. In his usual nonchalant manner, Godard provides only a tenuous connection between the two characters—the prostitute is interested in renting the apartment of Paul’s ex-girlfriend. Had the characters’ separate plots not been so intriguing, it would be

hard for viewers to engage in the movie’s narrative.

The best way for audiences to appreciate this film is to take a cue from Godard’s frame-by-frame slow motion technique, and focus on the separate elements that make up the movie rather than the overarching plot alone. For example, many details of the movie reflect Godard’s existentialist struggle and his insecurities as a filmmaker. Just as Paul yearns for inspiration in his dull job, Godard wishes to break the association commonly made between him and the French New Wave, and thus uses unconventional narrative structure and cinematography.

“Every Man for Himself” is the first movie Godard released after a period of absence, and it is clear that with this film he tried to re-enter the cinematic world with much-anticipated gusto. A thrilling narrative would have distracted the audience from what Godard really wanted to emphasize—his rebirth. This concept is hinted at throughout the film, such as with the character of Paul’s ex-girlfriend, who begins a new life after a destructive relationship with Paul. Similarly, the prostitute attempts to escape her old self by renting a new apartment.

Though the idea of rebirth might sound idyllic, viewers beware—the prostitute is still a prostitute and Paul’s ex-girlfriend might not find true happiness wherever she is. In Godard’s world, every man is for himself, no one is inherently good or evil, and people are just, well, people. This film is best for students who don’t mind seeing a challenge to traditional ideals of movie endings. Chances are, though, by the end of the movie, audience members still won’t know what just hit them.



COURTESY OF IFC FILMS

**MOVE ON UP** | “Tiny Furniture” follows college graduate Aura (right), who struggles to find her way after moving back home.

## ‘Tiny Furniture’

Postgrad woes resonate on screen

**BY BECKY DAVIS**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

With all the doomsaying that’s going around about the job market today, there’s a massive freak-out lurking in the minds of almost all soon-to-be college grads. But Aura, the protagonist of Lena Dunham’s new film “Tiny Furniture,” in theaters Friday, shows all college students how it’s done. Armed with a degree in film theory, Aura returns home from Oberlin College to her photographer mother’s Tribeca loft and proceeds to have no idea what to do with herself.

Cue the pantless lolling about the apartment, the dead-end, menial job, and the meaningless flings with self-absorbed morons. The story is familiar, but Dunham, a master at making charming fodder out of relatively unlikable characters, tells it with refreshing wit and sincerity. Though it is only her second feature and was shot on a shoestring budget of \$50,000, the movie won her the Best Narrative Feature Film award this year at South by Southwest.

The story, though fictional, is a strikingly personal one for Dunham, who is 23 years old and graduated from Oberlin herself

just two years ago. The film, which she wrote, directed, and starred in, is based on her own post-college experiences, features her real-life mother and sister, and was shot in the actual apartment they continue to share together. “Aura is a lot of parts of myself enhanced and made into a more complete human being,” Dunham said. “There was a way that making this movie was what brought me out of the emotional state that her character embodies. That’s been really interesting—how making the film has actually been the catalyst for me not feeling as much like Aura as I once did.”

Dunham admitted that filling so many creative roles on a film so close to home that it literally takes place in her home did have its difficult moments. “It’s logistically challenging to direct yourself. There are moments when you’re like, ‘I only have one head!’ but you sort of just figure out a rhythm and go for it... There were definitely surreal moments [during filming] where I was like, ‘Is this my house? Is this a set?’ I would wake up in the night feeling like there was a man standing over me with a boom pole. It definitely got surreal.”

For Dunham, though, the film was no vanity project. When asked why she didn’t include her dad in the shoot, she said, “I was really interested in exploring a female dynamic. So many movies are defined by the absence or presence of a male character.” Instead, Dunham attempted to portray a woman without defining her life against various male figures.

It’s an exploration that has certainly paid off. Since the win at

SEE FURNITURE, page B3

### events

#### WILDCARD

## Return of Rococo Party

—Teneleven, 171 Ave. C (between 10th and 11th streets), Saturday, Nov. 13, 8 p.m., \$10 or \$5 for attendees in costume.

Baroque (and Halloween) is back with this weekend’s underground party Return of Rococo. Students can pull out their biggest wigs and tightest corsets and dance the night away with wire-walkers and burlesque babes.

#### STYLE

## One of a Kind NY

—7 West 34th St. Plaza (at Fifth Avenue), Friday-Sunday, Nov. 12-14, various times, \$12.

Columbians can get ahead in their holiday shopping by heading down to this sale, which features imaginative creations by 200 artists. Speak with the artists behind the crafts and find out the stories behind the unique pieces for sale, which range from fashion to furniture to photography. Although there is a general admission fee, a hand-made gift for a loved one is definitely a worthwhile reason to check this event out.

#### MUSIC

## Heineken Inspire Encore

—Location revealed on morning of show, Saturday, Nov. 13, 3 p.m., free.

Want to get a text from Nas? Students who sign up from Heineken Inspire Encore will receive the secret location for a concert featuring Nas, Cee Lo, Diplo, and other performers on the day of the show. Then, they can show up to dance their hearts out to beats by these hip-hop and electronica all-stars.

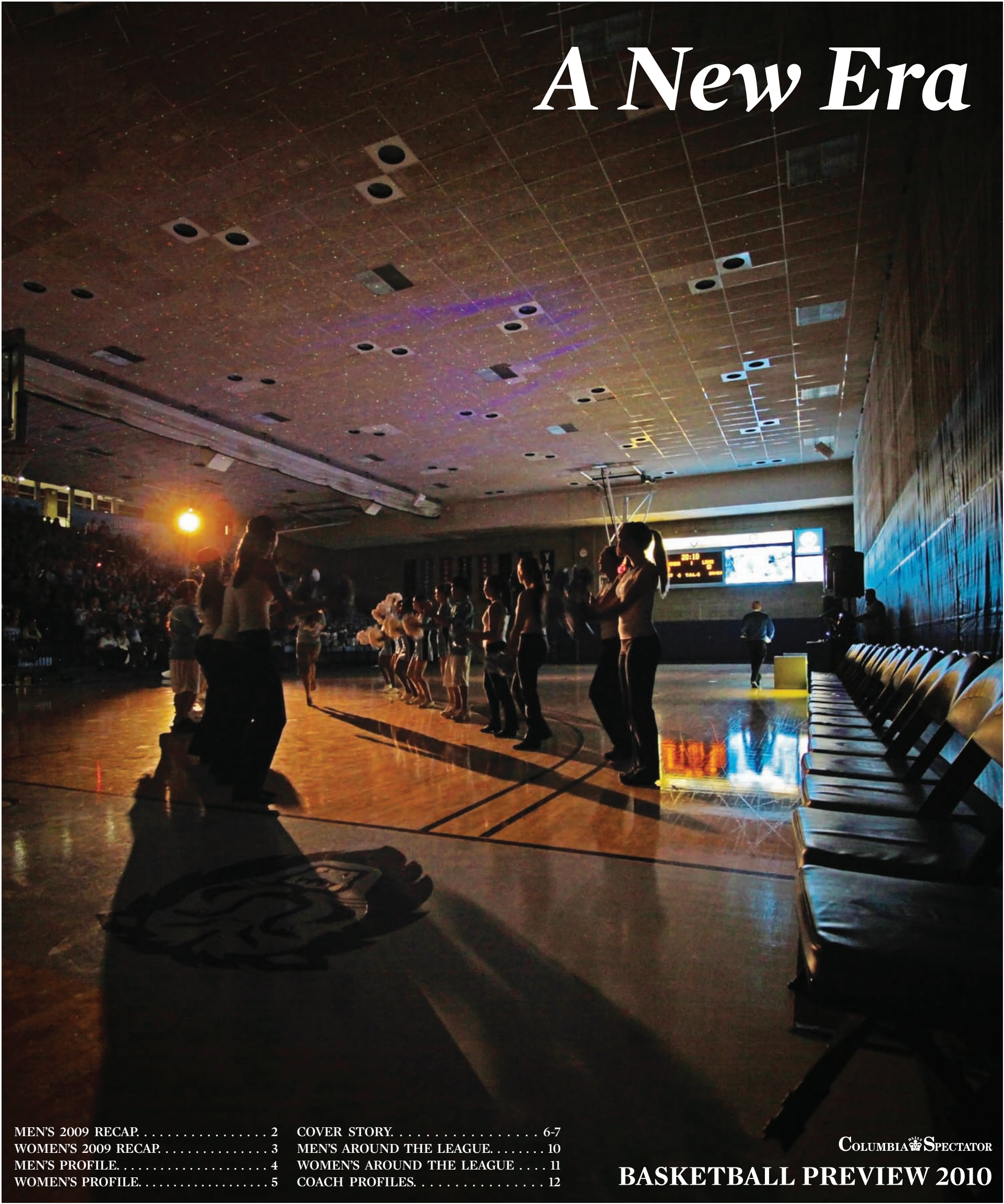
#### ART

## Canstruction

—World Financial Center, 220 Vesey St. (at West Street), now through Monday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. daily, free.

Donating cans of food has never looked this good. This week at the WFC Winter Garden, view enormous structures made entirely of food cans in the 18th annual Canstruction design competition. In preparation for Thanksgiving, top architects and engineers have designed everything from mushrooms to footballs, using a total of 200,000 cans.

# A New Era



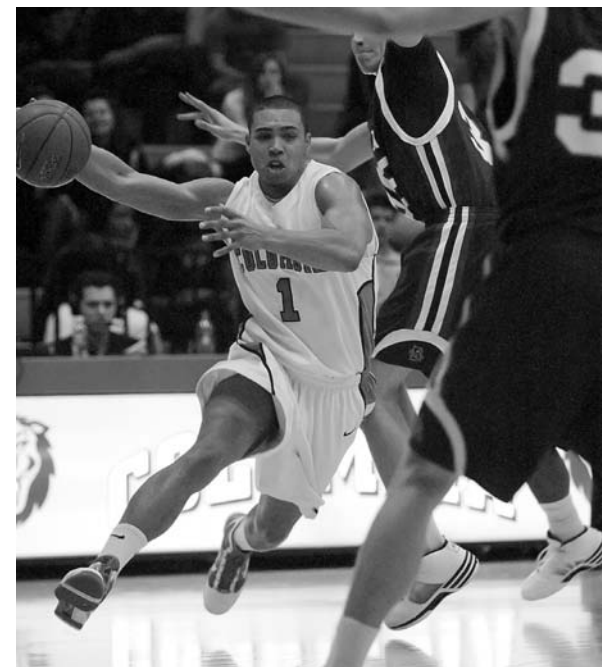
MEN'S 2009 RECAP. . . . .	2	COVER STORY. . . . .	6-7
WOMEN'S 2009 RECAP. . . . .	3	MEN'S AROUND THE LEAGUE. . . . .	10
MEN'S PROFILE. . . . .	4	WOMEN'S AROUND THE LEAGUE . . . .	11
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COLUMBIA  SPECTATOR

**BASKETBALL PREVIEW 2010**



*By the time the Ivy League opener rolled around in mid-January, they had hit a rut, and injuries were beginning to take a toll.*



FILE PHOTO

**DRIVING HOME** | Noruwa Agho led the Light Blue in scoring last season with 16.3 points per game.



## Lions struggle in Jones' final season at helm

BY JACOB LEVENFELD  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The Columbia men's basketball team took a step backward last season, ending the year with a 5-9 Ivy League record after going .500 for three straight seasons. The drama didn't end after the final buzzer, though. Seven-year head coach Joe Jones announced in early April that he would be leaving the team to serve as an associate head coach at Boston College under former Cornell head coach Steve Donahue.

Jones' decision to leave Columbia came on the heels of a season that included a five-game losing streak, a series of debilitating injuries to key contributors, and a fifth-place finish in the conference.

The Lions kicked off the season by bouncing back from an opening loss at DePaul with consecutive home victories against Longwood and Bucknell. In that first week, sophomore guard Noruwa Agho emerged as Columbia's offensive leader, going 11-12 from three-point land in the team's two wins.

Nonconference play continued with losses to Syracuse and Sacred Heart, a close win over Lehigh, a three-point loss to Stony Brook, and road victories against Wagner and Bryant. A 63-51 loss to Quinnipiac in Hamden, Conn., carried the Lions into winter break.

At Christmas, the Lions were .500 and healthy. But by the time the league opener rolled around in mid-January, they had hit a rut, and injuries were beginning to take a toll. Columbia lost three of four nonconference matchups over winter break, setting up an 0-3 start to league play. All three losses were of the blowout variety, and the first two came against Cornell, which went on to win the league and shock the country by reaching the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Championships.

Meanwhile, injuries were starting to add up and mess with Columbia's game plan. First, senior guard Patrick Foley and junior forward Brian Grimes went down for short spans. Then Foley re-injured himself against Harvard and was relegated to the sidelines until the final two games of the season.

Columbia briefly recovered from the loss of its point guard, capturing home victories against Dartmouth and Brown, but a 1-4 skid in league play dropped the Lions to 3-7 in the Ivies. This rough patch included a 15-point loss to Yale at home, a 66-62 win at Penn, and road losses to Princeton, Dartmouth, and Harvard.

The Lions reached a high point in their next game, a home contest against Penn. Grimes drained a fadeaway jumper with 2.7 seconds left on the clock, sealing a 56-55 win and the Light Blue's first season sweep over the Quakers since 1968.

Columbia then rounded out the season with losses to Princeton and Yale and a home victory against Brown. Jones left just over a month after the Lions' season-ending league win.

Agho was the biggest story on the floor for the Lions, leading the team in minutes, field goals, three-pointers, free throws, steals, and scoring. He shot 42.5 percent from the field in the 2009-2010 season, including 58-130 from downtown. Niko Scott, another guard, also put up strong offensive numbers in his final season, shooting 44 percent and averaging 9.3 points per game.

Even with the loss of Foley, Scott, and Kevin Bulger to graduation, Columbia retains much of its core from last year heading into tomorrow's opener. Agho has already established himself as one of the league's elite players, and some of the younger Lions will be given opportunities to make a serious impact. Can they take advantage?

# Lomax leads Lions to best finish in program history in 2009-2010

BY MRINAL MOHANKA  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The women's basketball team had an impressive 2009-2010 campaign, earning the program's first winning records in overall and conference play. The Lions finished the season 18-10 overall and 9-5 in the Ivies, earning third place in the conference standings—the highest finish in the program's history.

The Lions began the season strongly, winning three of their opening four games: They triumphed over Sacred Heart in the season opener before beating Long Island and Manhattan. Their lone defeat was a narrow 61-58 loss after overtime against Oakland.

This bright start was halted at the University of Nevada's Nugget Classic, where Columbia lost to home team Nevada and to Iowa. The Light Blue bounced back after that setback, taking eight of its next 10 games in December and January. This run included two wins against conference foe Cornell. St. John's and North Carolina State were the only teams to get the better of the Lions during that period.

Columbia's offense was dominating games, scoring 70 or more points in three of its first four games in that stretch. In the team's 73-49 demolition of Wagner, then-junior forward Judie Lomax amassed a career-high 30 points. The Lions showed grit and determination to defeat Robert Morris in the final game of 2009, in which then-junior center Lauren Dwyer just beat the buzzer with a three-pointer to give Columbia a 64-63 win.

The Lions began 2010 well, beating American by a 10-point margin on Jan. 2, but they could not defeat North Carolina State in Raleigh soon after. They came close to downing their Atlantic Coast Conference foe but ended up on the wrong end of a 60-58 score. Lomax and then-junior guard Kathleen Barry had impressive performances in the near-upset.

After all was said and done, the Light Blue had achieved a program record of nine Division I nonconference wins.

The team continued to perform impressively in Ivy League play. A 68-44 win over Cornell in Ithaca and a 68-47 success against the Big Red at home (in which Lomax totaled 30 points and then-sophomore guard Melissa Shafer added 12 off the bench) were followed by a disappointing 73-55 defeat to Harvard.

The Lions rebounded by notching wins on the road against Dartmouth and Brown, but their progress was halted when they fell to Yale and Princeton the following weekend.

The campaign saw the Light Blue complete sweeps of the Big Green, the Bears, and the Quakers, but the team was unable to find a single win against the Tigers or the Crimson. The Lions almost edged out Harvard in their second encounter, but fell to a narrow 69-67 defeat.

The Quakers' visit to Columbia saw four Lions score in the double figures in a 71-58 triumph, and the match in Philadelphia saw the Lions come home with an even more impressive 80-61 win. The 80 points racked up by the offense that night marked the most points the Lions scored in any game last season.

Lomax excelled in a 72-59 win over Dartmouth in Hanover, scoring 26 points and managing 16 rebounds, and Columbia completed the sweep in Levien Gymnasium with a 66-59 overtime win.

Columbia closed its campaign in fine fashion, defeating Yale and Brown at home to achieve the Lions' first weekend sweep of the season.

The 64-47 win over the Bulldogs secured the Lions their best Ivy record in program history, as well as their first conference finish with a win percentage over .500.

In the season finale, the Lions beat Brown 54-41 to earn a third-place finish in the Ivy League.

Soon after the season ended, Lomax—an All-American honorable mention and the 2009-2010 Ivy League Player of the Year—signed a training contract with the WNBA's Connecticut Sun, forfeiting her final semester of NCAA eligibility and giving the Lions the tough task of replacing her.



FILE PHOTO

**LOMAX LEADS** | Behind the play of Judie Lomax, left, the Ivy League Player of the Year and All-American honorable mention, the Lions notched their first winning record in both nonconference and Ivy play and had their highest finish in program history. Lauren Dwyer, above, and Danielle Brown, below, helped the team go 9-5 in the Ivy League, finishing in third place.



## CLASS OF 2014



**Danny  
Feldmann**

Feldmann averaged 17 points, seven rebounds, and two blocks per game at Helias High School in Missouri. The incoming SEAS student was a two-time all-state selection in high school and a McDonald's All-American nominee.



**Steve  
Frankoski**

Frankoski, a deadly three-point shooter, will join fellow Peddie School alum Noruwa Agho in the backcourt this year. He averaged 18.3 points per game in high school and was a McDonald's All-American nominee.



**Van  
Green**

At Central Park Christian School, Green averaged 24.5 points, eight assists, and seven rebounds per game. Green is an athletic guard who has already made a splash, winning the Basketball Mania slam dunk contest a week ago.



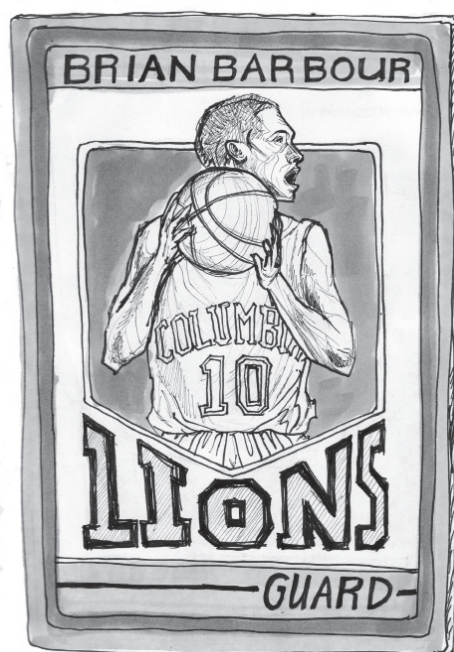
**Meiko  
Lyles**

Lyles scored 22 points per game as a senior at the University School of Nashville. He was a two-time finalist for Tennessee's Mr. Basketball award in his division and was on the Division II all-state team. Lyles will contribute to the Lions' backcourt.



**Dyami  
Starks**

Columbia will expect a lot from Starks, who was a Mr. Basketball finalist for Minnesota. The guard scored a school-record 55 points in one game during his senior year. His AAU team won the Minnesota state championship.



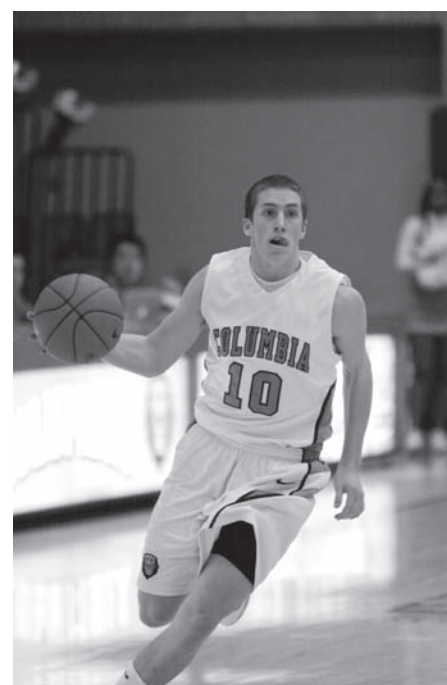
CINDY PAN

## Barbour ready to take reins of offense

BY ZACH GLUBIAK  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

There are many questions surrounding this year's men's basketball team, but one has already been answered: The Lions have found a point guard.

Sophomore Brian Barbour has emerged as the ball handler who will get his teammates open looks at the basket. A savvy player who has quickly earned the respect of his teammates and coaches alike, he enters the season prepared to make a big jump from his freshman year, when he played a limited role in what was an



FILE PHOTO



FILE PHOTO

**TAKING CHARGE** | Columbia's offense will run through sophomore Brian Barbour.

experienced backcourt.

"He's young, he played about 10 minutes a game last year—that's a big jump," head coach Kyle Smith said. "Going from playing a role to being a starter is a big jump. Part of what our program is based on is trying to reinforce making good decisions."

It should come as no surprise that Smith has been impressed by Barbour's play, since the new head coach recruited Barbour as a high school player when he was the associate head coach at St. Mary's. Now that the two have joined forces, Barbour is ready to embrace the role of starting point guard, including the many responsibilities that position entails.

"I've been working hard all summer with the coaches and the new guys," Barbour said. "I'm trying to be more of a leader this year and a little more vocal, and help out the new guys as well. As a point guard, you kind of have to know everyone's job and responsibility, so you have to know spots one through five—just learning everything so you can let everyone know where to be."

After a decorated career at Monte Vista High School in Alamo, Calif., Barbour appeared in 21 games as a freshman. As the season wore on and he started to get more comfortable, he came into his own. He finished the year with a 1.75:1 assists-to-turnover ratio, an important

barometer for point guards that indicates decision-making ability. All the same, it will be a big leap this year for a player who scored no more than six points in any game last season.

His teammates think he will be up to the challenge.

"He looks like an upperclassman out there most, if not all, of the time," senior power forward Brian Grimes said. "He definitely calls the shots out there and makes sure we're all set up and running our plays. He's the anchor."

"A lot is going to rest on his shoulders, but he's willing to accept it," junior Noruwa Agho added. "He knows what to do and he doesn't get frazzled, and I think he's only going to get better as the games go on."

Agho is not alone in predicting a bright future for Barbour and for the team, which will rely heavily on the point guard's play.

"He's a really hard worker—every day, he's in the gym, regardless of whether we have practice or not. He's getting shots up, playing hard, lifting weights every day, never misses anything," sophomore center Mark Cisco said. "Especially being in his grade, I feel happy having him as a teammate, because I feel like he's progressing like the rest of us, and we're all just going to get better and better, and hopefully it's just going to end up in a winning season—winning seasons, plural."

# Shafer set to make her mark in starting five

BY SARAH SOMMER  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Last season, Melissa Shafer led the Ivy League in three-point shooting percentage and was the Columbia women's basketball team's fourth-highest scorer. The best part? She did it all as a reserve.

If Shafer managed to have that much success as a bench player, the chances of her making valuable contributions as a starter are high. This year, the junior guard will have the opportunity to prove that logic.

With the Lions having lost three of last season's starters, Shafer has moved into the first string. While she made three starts last season, she served only as a replacement for injured players. This year will be the first in which Shafer is a regular member of the starting lineup. As a shooting guard, she will take the spot previously held by Danielle Browne.

Shafer averaged 14.6 minutes per game as a freshman and 17.1 minutes as a sophomore. This season, her playing time could increase significantly, and she seems to be ready for her new role.

"She's gone from being a really solid contributor her freshman year to a key component in our success last year," head coach Paul Nixon said. "I mean, there were several games where she just really helped to decide the game with her outside shooting."

Nixon cited Columbia's 64-63 win at Robert Morris last year as one such contest. Shafer scored 14 points—11 of them in the second half—to help the Lions overcome an eight-point halftime deficit.

Against Dartmouth on Feb. 19, Shafer contributed a career-high 15 points. She hit five of 10 field goals, three of which were treys. The Lions beat the Big Green by seven points in overtime.

Shafer hit four three-pointers in the team's win over Robert Morris, and another four in its 68-47 triumph over Cornell. In Columbia's 80-61 win at Penn, she hit all three of her three-point attempts.

In all, she scored in the double digits in 11 matchups last season. Nine of those games were Ivy contests.

Scoring is nothing new for Shafer, who totaled 1,616 points in her high school career. But her steadiness as a three-point shooter



FILE PHOTO

**RISE UP** | Melissa Shafer brings consistent scoring to Columbia's starting lineup.

has improved over the years.

"I was definitely working on it throughout high school," she said. "But I think I've gotten a lot more consistent as I've gotten more shots up in my life."

**"Everyone talks about her shooting. ... She's definitely a complete player."**

—Kathleen Barry, senior forward

As a freshman at Columbia, Shafer hit 26 of 81 treys for a three-point shooting percentage of .321. Last year, she made 51 of 115 three-pointers to achieve a league-high percentage of .443.

Only Brittney Carfora, who led the nation with a three-point shooting percentage of .519 in the 2006-2007 season, has had a higher such percentage for the Lions.

"That's an area that we knew, when we recruited her, that that was something that she could do," Nixon said of Shafer's outside shooting.

Shafer's field-goal percentage, which includes two-point and three-point shots, climbed from .344 in her first season to .410 in her second. But she has also developed her skills on the other side of the ball.

"I think the thing that I've been most pleased with is her improvement on defense," Nixon said. "She really takes pride in it now."

Senior co-captain Kathleen Barry also praised Shafer's varied abilities.

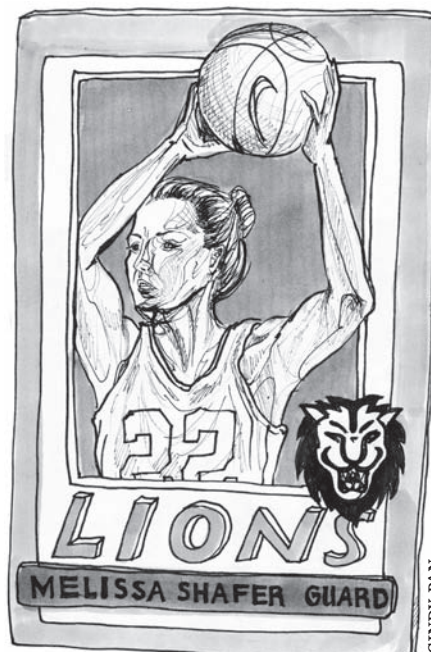
"Everyone talks about Melissa's shooting, which,

of course, is awesome," Barry said. "But she's also just, ever since her freshman year, been working on every part of her game. She's a great defender; she's great getting to the basket when she needs to. So even though her shooting's definitely what everyone knows her for, she's definitely a complete player."

In addition to working on her own defense, Shafer is preparing for the defenses that she will face this year. She recognizes that Columbia's opponents are not likely to overlook such a dangerous scorer.

"That's definitely why I'm working on the pull-ups," Shafer said. "I expect a lot more taking away the immediate shot, so [I'll need to make] secondary, off-the-dribble pull-ups."

Shafer brings consistency and experience to a starting lineup that, at least in the Lions' season opener, will include two largely untested sophomores. With her steady shooting and improved defense, she is primed to make the most of her minutes.



## CLASS OF 2014



**Courtney Bradford**

Bradford, from Chattahoochee High School in Georgia, will give the Lions size in the post—something they did not have last year. Bradford and Santucci will serve as backups for starting center Lauren Dwyer.



**Blaine Frohlich**

Frohlich, a forward from Dobyns-Bennett High School in Tennessee, was a three-time All-Big 9 Conference first-team selection. She is an athletic forward with an active style of play who will give the Lions more depth upfront.



**Brianna Orlich**

Orlich, from Clovis West High School, is expected to have a large impact for Columbia. She was a McDonald's All-American nominee who was recruited by teams in the WAC and Big 12. Nixon describes her game as extremely well rounded.



**Nicole Santucci**

At 6-foot-4, Santucci is the tallest Columbia player since 2005. Santucci, fellow freshman Bradford, and senior Dwyer are expected to provide the Lions with more size in the post than they have had in recent years.



**Taylor Ward**

Ward, from Oregon City High School, will have a major role in this year's guard rotation. The McDonald's All-American nominee will primarily play point guard, although she will see some time at the two spot as well.



## Smith hopes new system will result in more wins

BY MICHELE CLEARY  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

It's a new era for Columbia men's basketball—the Kyle Smith era, to be more precise. Former head coach Joe Jones left at the end of last season to take the associate head coaching job at Boston College, and now it's Smith's turn to see if he can lead the middling Lions to the top of the pack.

### THE KYLE SMITH ERA

After Jones took the BC job in April, the athletic department conducted a month-long search for his replacement and eventually landed on an assistant from a small college in California. That small college was St. Mary's, and that assistant was Kyle Smith.

Smith spent nine years with the Gaels and helped to build the program from the ground up. The season before he arrived

at St. Mary's, the team had won only two games. Last year, it won 28 and made it all the way to the Sweet 16, defeating teams like Villanova and Richmond.

At Columbia, Smith's challenge is a little different. In his seven seasons at the helm, Jones brought the Light Blue from the very bottom of the conference to the middle of it. But after achieving a 7-7 Ivy record in his fourth season, Jones' success stalled, and he was never able to lead the team to a winning conference record. It is now up to Smith to build on his predecessor's progress and push the Lions into the top tier of the Ancient Eight.

### A NEW LOOK

Smith has brought a new style of play to Morningside Heights. The 2010 edition of the Light Blue will operate in a much more up-tempo style, similar to the way St. Mary's and Ivy rival Cornell played last year, with four players out on the perimeter and one inside.

"The team has been very receptive," Smith said. "I'm not sure we have the right personnel, so we'll have to tweak

some things. It's four out, one in, so you need to have four guys with the skill set of being able to dribble, pass, and shoot. Getting four guys out there that can make a three—I don't think this team was necessarily recruited or developed to be that way. That's where we'll have to tweak it."

Though Smith won't be able to implement his offensive scheme right away, that doesn't mean the Lions won't be putting up more than the 60.2 points per game that they averaged a year ago. During practices, Smith has focused much more on moving the ball and playing as a unit rather than developing individual skills through drills.

"Overall, it's been great," sophomore forward John Daniels said. "It's a completely different system, atmosphere, from last year, but everything this year has been nothing but positive reinforcement and conducive to building team chemistry."

Daniels is not the only player to note the changes in practice since last year.

SEE MEN'S LEAD, page 8

# Establishing an Identity

## Lions will showcase something different in 2010

BY MICHAEL ZHONG  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Last season, the team made history. This year, the team is a mystery.

### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Flash back to March 6: Columbia versus Brown in Levien Gymnasium on Senior Night.

It's Columbia basketball's moment of triumph. The team is ready to conclude its best season in Columbia history—its first winning season ever—and finish in an unprecedented third place.

In front of 722 loud fans, the senior backcourt tandem of Sara Yee and Danielle Browne, as well as reserve center Caitlin Stachon, receive standing ovations to set off the beginning of the festivities.

Led by the seniors, the Lions open with a vintage run that they made their trademark last year. Stachon starts off the contest with a steal and a layup, Browne repeatedly slashes her way to the rim, and Yee hounds

Brown's backcourt into numerous turnovers. Columbia jumps ahead 25-11.

From there, Columbia junior Judie Lomax takes over. By the end of the game, Lomax has a Columbia-record 27 rebounds, as well as 20 points, to cap off the season with a 54-41 win.

Yes, Lomax has 27 rebounds.

And yet, somehow—somehow—despite perhaps Lomax's grandest performance yet in a Columbia uniform, the seniors are the show that night.

Judie Lomax—Ivy League Player of the Year, scoring champion, two-time NCAA rebounding champion—is overshadowed. After all, she'll be back for her senior season, right?

Well, not quite.

Six weeks later, Lomax signs a WNBA contract with the Connecticut Sun.

Now what?

### THE REMAINING PIECES

Judie Lomax was a force of nature. The all-Ivy forward led the league in points, rebounds, steals, and minutes. She was the staple of Columbia's offense for the past



two years and led Columbia's vaunted full-court press.

Her departure undoubtedly influenced the Ivy media in its annual preseason poll, which predicted a fifth-place finish for the Light Blue.

Still, despite the impact Lomax had on the women's basketball program, it would be unfair to pin the projected drop solely on her departure. Browne, who ended her Columbia career in the all-time top 10 in points, assists, and steals, is gone. Yee, the two-time Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year, will no longer be around to hound the opposing point guard end to end for 30-plus minutes every game.

It's going to be a very different team. Head coach Paul Nixon acknowledged as much, saying, "Both Danielle and Sara averaged over 30 minutes a game for most of their careers. They were pretty much staples at their position."

Still, although a large drop from last year's record certainly could happen, that doesn't mean it certainly will happen.

SEE WOMEN'S LEAD, page 9

"Early on, you're going to see a lot more players at those positions than you would have in the last few years."

—Paul Nixon, women's basketball head coach

—Noruwa Agho, junior guard

## STARTING LINEUP



NORUWA AGHO



BRIAN BARBOUR



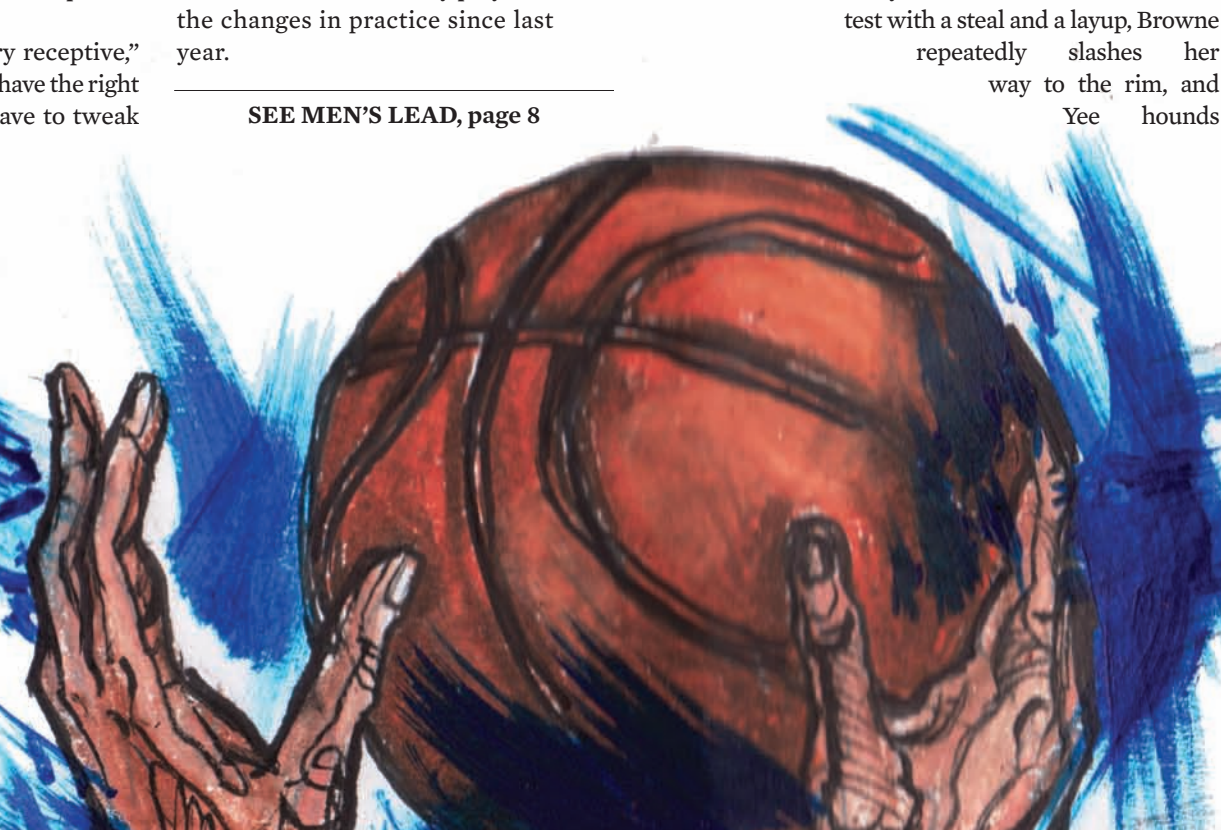
MARK CISCO



BRIAN GRIMES



JOHN DANIELS



## STARTING LINEUP



KATHLEEN BARRY



LAUREN DWYER



TAYLOR BALL



TYLER SIMPSON



MELISSA SHAFER

# New coach to rely on up-tempo offense to lead Lions to new heights

MEN'S LEAD from page 6

"The things we do, the plays we run—all that stuff is just completely different," sophomore center Mark Cisco said. "Especially for us bigs ... we're posting up a lot more, getting more looks. We're playing more as a team in practice, passing the ball more—it's just better."

STILL THE STAR

While a lot has changed during the off-season, one thing has remained the same: Noruwa Agho is still the star of the team. Last season, he led the Light Blue with 16.3 points per game and shot 44.6 percent from beyond the arc. He was also a constant on the floor, leading the team with 34.5 minutes per game.

"There's really only one player that's had a specific role and accomplished things, and that's Noruwa," Smith said. "He's going to be important to us—I don't think that's any secret."

The junior guard was named to the all-Ivy second team after last season, but preseason predictions have him on the first team this year.

"He's got a huge heart—he wants to be great," Smith said. "He doesn't want to be good. He wants to be great."

Despite all of his individual achievements, Agho still puts the team first.

"I'm definitely driving to be as good as I can be, but I do know that if I can take care of the little things and do what the team needs first, it just makes it that much easier for me to reach all the accolades I want to reach," he said.

2010-2011 MEN'S IVY SCHEDULE

Jan. 15	vs. Cornell	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Cornell	2 p.m.
Jan. 28	vs. Harvard	7 p.m.
Jan. 29	vs. Dartmouth	7 p.m.
Feb. 4	vs. Brown	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	vs. Yale	7 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Princeton	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	at Penn	7 p.m.
Feb. 18	at Dartmouth	7 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Harvard	6 p.m.
Feb. 25	vs. Penn	7 p.m.
Feb. 26	vs. Princeton	7 p.m.
Mar. 4	at Yale	7 p.m.
Mar. 5	at Brown	7 p.m.



FILE PHOTO

**NUMBER ONE** | Junior guard Noruwa Agho will lead the Light Blue offense again this year.

Still, his own success is paramount if the Lions want to have a strong season.

"I'm not going to have a good year if we don't have a good year, and we're not going to have a good year if I don't have a good year, if my attitude isn't right," Agho said.

If he can build on last year's success, the Light Blue should be in decent shape for 2010-2011.

THE SUPPORTING CAST

While Agho will be the best player on the floor, he won't be the only one responsible for the team's successes and failures.

"One guy that has started to emerge—I know he's a good leader and he's doing things right—is Brian Barbour," Smith said.

Barbour is a sophomore who will be starting at point guard this season after averaging only about 10 minutes per game a year ago.

Two other important sophomore contributors are Cisco and Daniels, who will play in the frontcourt.

Smith will also look to some freshmen to help the team, either immediately or down the road. Steve Frankoski, a shooting guard, will likely start in the season opener or, at the very least, see significant minutes.

"They're probably going to get a good



FILE PHOTO

**THROW IT DOWN** | If senior forward Asenso Ampim can stay healthy this season, he could be crucial to Columbia's success in the Ivy League.

amount of playing time, and they're really helping us, even in practice, just going hard every day," Cisco said of the freshmen.

Despite graduating Kevin Bulger, Patrick Foley, and Niko Scott, the Lions still have senior leadership in the form of Grimes and forward Asenso Ampim.

"I think I've always had a bit of a leadership role," Grimes said. "Guys have always looked to me, just as an older guy who has played a lot of basketball in his career."

Both he and Ampim have been around the program for a while, despite missing several games with injuries. Currently, they are both healthy, and if they can stay that way, the Lions will be much better off.

"I think that'll determine how good we can be for the Ivy League, is if their [Grimes' and Ampim's] health, their stamina, and their basketball legs can come back," Smith said. "That'll help us a lot."

WIDE-OPEN LEAGUE

For the first time in four years, there is no Cornell in the Ivy League—no one team that is certain to dominate the rest of the Ancient Eight. While either Harvard or Princeton is likely to finish on top, it wouldn't be impossible for Penn to overtake them. The middle of the league

will be even more hotly contested, with Dartmouth being the only team with no chance of finishing higher than seventh. So where does Columbia fit in?

The Lions were picked to finish seventh in the league, but it is possible for them to exceed those expectations. An Ivy title is essentially out of the question—Harvard and Princeton are just too good.

"You can't be hung up on the results as much as the process," Smith said, acknowledging that the program has to grow a bit more before it can compete for the league title. "It took Steve Donahue six or seven years to really put his imprint on that program."

Even so, Columbia could surprise some people.

"This is a big year for us to make our mark—everyone is back healthy and everything is new," Agho said. "So everyone has that buzz and that excitement, and also that focus and concentration to take things to the next level, because we believe that we have a team that can win. This is not a rebuilding stage. If you don't want to go through the rebuilding stage, you got to be ready to go as soon as the ball is thrown up."

We'll find out if the Lions are ready at 7 p.m. on Friday.

# After departure of star Lomax, Nixon must reshape roster

NIXON from back page

six conference games, but responded to the setback with its record-setting 2009-2010 campaign.

“I think the biggest thing that’s changed in my tenure here is just, we’ve got a lot of different players,” Nixon said. “I think the work ethic is the same. I think our teams have always played hard ... and I think our style of play has been pretty consistent in my time here. We just now have more players in terms of our depth at each position, and we’ve had a lot of different faces.”

Those players have benefited from Nixon’s coaching.

“I think he’s really been just a good person to have at the helm and really helpful for everyone in all aspects of their lives,” senior center Lauren Dwyer said. “So that’s really nice, to have someone who really cares about you. And then, in terms of basketball, he just has that drive and passion that we all kind of feed off of. He wants to win, so we want to win for him and for our team.”

Senior forward Kathleen Barry echoed Dwyer’s sentiments.

“What I like about him is that he’s tough when he needs to be,” she said. “But at the same time, he definitely cares about every single one of us as individuals.”

Dwyer and Barry came to Columbia as part of Nixon’s second recruiting class. This season is the second in which every player was recruited by Nixon and his staff.

While depth is an asset for any team, Nixon recognizes that coaching such a large group of his own recruits is not simple.

“Obviously, you see potential in every player that you recruit, and you want all your players to reach their potential,” he said. “But the reality of basketball is, you can only play five at a time. And with a roster of, right now, 17, you’re talking about a good three-plus strings worth of players.”

He added, “I think it’s a little bit more challenging for me, as well as the staff, to really help some of those players that we did recruit understand that we still see the potential in you.”

Nixon also faces the challenge of reshaping his team. The Lions lost three starters from last year’s history-making group, including Ivy League Player of the Year and All-American honorable mention Judie Lomax. But Nixon is optimistic about his team’s chances this season.

“I think we’re going to have a very good year,” he said.

# New team makeup will provide Lions additional possibilities

WOMEN’S LEAD from page 7

Columbia does return most of last year’s record-setting squad. In particular, senior co-captains Kathleen Barry and Lauren Dwyer were key contributors.

In her first year as a starter, Barry thrived at the small forward position. Although a mid-season knee injury hampered her performance in the remaining games, she still finished 11th in the league in scoring, 14th in rebounding, fifth in steals, and fifth in three-point shooting percentage. The do-everything forward will be counted on heavily this year.

Center Dwyer will be Columbia’s main post presence. Last season, Dwyer averaged 1.7 blocks per game, and recorded a career-high seven blocks against Dartmouth to clinch the Lions’ first-ever winning season. She averaged 10 points per game and can score from anywhere.

## WHAT’S NEW?

The Lions will begin the season with three new starters. Sophomore Taylor Ball and junior Melissa Shafer will fill up the backcourt, and sophomore Tyler Simpson will assume the forward position.

Shafer is the most familiar of the three. Last year, she was the first player off Columbia’s bench and averaged 7.7 points in 17 minutes per game. The sharpshooter made a league-leading 41 percent of her three-point attempts last season and had the second-best three-point shooting percentage in Columbia history.

Ball and Simpson saw limited action off the bench as freshmen. Now, although they are the starters, Nixon expects those

two positions—which were mainly reserved for Yee and Lomax last season—to be filled by a committee of players.

“Early on, you’re going to see a lot more players at those positions than you would have in the last few years,” he said.

Nixon anticipates that most of this year’s freshman class, which he called one of the strongest the women’s basketball program has had in years, will help to fill out this rotation. In particular, he is excited about the prospects of freshman guard Brianna Orlich, a McDonald’s All-American nominee from Fresno, Calif.

“She can impact the game on a number of different fronts,” Nixon said. “Even from a perimeter spot, she’s not just a shooter or just a driver.”

He also expects immediate contributions from freshman Taylor Ward, who he believes will have an active role as a point guard and, occasionally, at the two spot.

At the post positions, freshmen Courtney Bradford, Nicole Santucci, and Blaine Frohlich will all see playing time. One option Nixon mentioned was fielding both Dwyer and one of the freshman centers on the court at the same time, which would give the Lions a big-sized lineup.

For all of Lomax’s abilities, Nixon acknowledged that she was an undersized forward and that the option of fielding such a big lineup was not available in past years. Because Columbia had a player like Lomax, the offense was more spread out in order to sidestep the double teams that opponents threw at her. With Lomax gone and with forwards that possess more size, Nixon expects the Lions to revert back to a more standard offense.

“This year’s team, I think you’re going to see a more traditional offense. Our post players are not particularly undersized,” Nixon said. “Our first-year posts are Division I-sized players.”

In addition, although Browne finished 10th in Columbia history in scoring, she made only 51 threes in her career. This year’s backcourt, especially with Shafer sliding to the two spot, will have the shooting range that Browne—despite her other talents—lacked. In particular, Nixon said that starting point guard Ball, in addition to her stellar defensive abilities, added a consistent three-point shot to her repertoire over the summer.

With the seniors graduating and Lomax’s departure, there are many looming question marks. One certainty, though, is that this year will be very different.

Let’s get this season started.

## 2010-2011 WOMEN’S IVY SCHEDULE

Jan. 15	vs. Cornell	7 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Cornell	4:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	at Harvard	7 p.m.
Jan 29	at Dartmouth	7 p.m.
Feb. 4	at Brown	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	at Yale	6 p.m.
Feb. 11	vs. Princeton	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	vs. Penn	7 p.m.
Feb. 18	vs. Dartmouth	7 p.m.
Feb. 19	vs. Harvard	7 p.m.
Feb. 25	at Penn	7 p.m.
Feb. 26	at Princeton	6 p.m.
Mar. 4	vs. Yale	7 p.m.
Mar. 5	vs. Brown	7 p.m.

# After 18 years as assistant, Smith finally gets head coaching gig

SMITH from back page

time here with this staff so we could continue to develop and have a chance to win a championship with these guys.”

“I think he’s going to help our program a lot, just the way that he coaches and the way that he acts around us,” sophomore center Mark Cisco added.

At St. Mary’s, Smith made a name for himself by helping head coach Randy Bennett turn around a program that had gone a woeful 2-27 the year before they arrived. Last season, the duo guided the team to a 28-6 record and an impressive Sweet 16 run in the NCAA Championships, including upset wins over No. 2 seed Villanova and No. 7 seed Richmond. This Cinderella run capped a three-year stretch in which St. Mary’s won 81 games.

Smith’s success at St. Mary’s did not

come easily, though. After graduating from Hamilton in 1992, Smith spent eight years at San Diego, slowly working up the ranks of the Toreros’ coaching staff. Much like St. Mary’s, the San Diego program enjoyed unprecedented success during Smith’s tenure, winning the most games in school history from 1999 to 2001.

Despite the defensive prowess of that Toreros squad, Smith is known for the fast-paced “four out, one in” style of play that his teams at St. Mary’s showcased. While many expect Smith to cultivate a similarly high-scoring offense at Columbia, this year’s squad is full of players that Jones recruited to fit into a much slower-paced, half-court system. Smith acknowledged that, because of this, he may need to ease into the high-octane scheme with which he enjoyed so much success at St. Mary’s.

While some argue that the academic

standards and lack of scholarships in the Ivy League limit the conference’s success, the recent past proves that these obstacles can be overcome. Before leaving for Boston College, Donahue led the Big Red to three consecutive Ivy League titles and a Sweet 16 appearance last season—the first for an Ancient Eight squad since Penn reached the Final Four in 1979.

For now, though, Smith is focused on what’s going on inside Leaven Gymnasium.

“I’m trying to really just focus on what we’re doing,” Smith said. “It’s hard not to compare when you’re out there recruiting, but I think that’ll eat you up a little bit. They play a great brand of basketball, and actually watching them reminded me of the way we played at St. Mary’s last year. But you can get consumed studying [other programs], but we have got to know what we’re doing.”

BROWN

The Bears, who were 11-20 overall last year and 5-9 in the Ivy League, are entering the third season of head coach Jesse Agel’s tenure. Senior all-Ivy captain Peter Sullivan, who has 1,034 career points, is expected to lead a team featuring only four seniors and nine underclassmen—one of the youngest in the NCAA. Senior guards Garrett Leffelman and Adrian Williams bring experience to Brown’s backcourt, as well as the ability to stretch opposing defenses with their shooting. Last year, Leffelman went 54 percent from the field and 46 percent from beyond the arc. Agel’s young squad will have the benefit of a relatively friendly schedule—a trip to Washington, D.C., to play American on Jan. 3 is its only game outside the Northeast. The class of 2014 brings four fresh faces to the team.

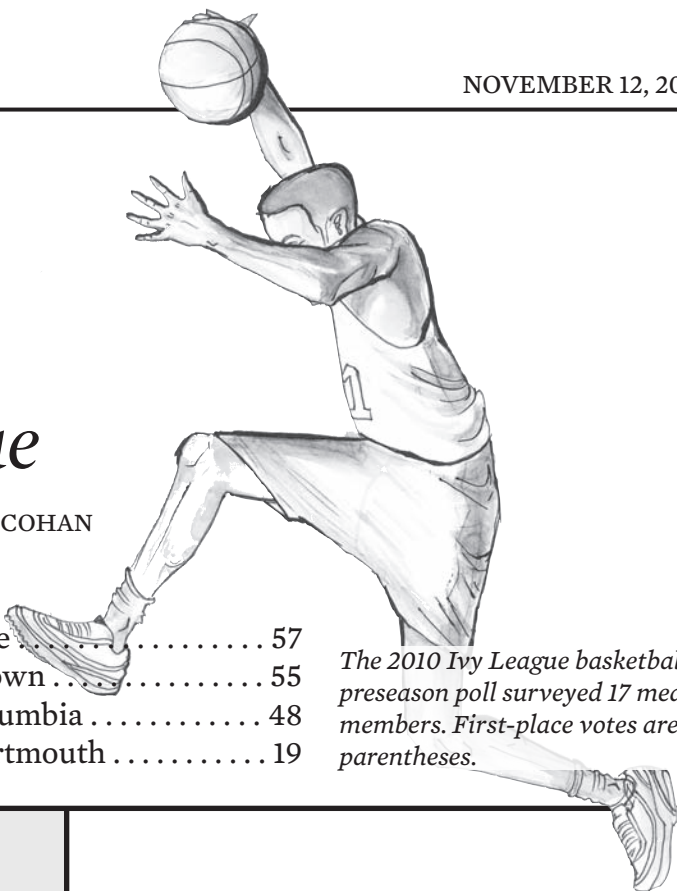
MEN’S  
Around the league

—BY REBEKA COHAN

MEDIA POLL:

1. Princeton.....	128 (12)	5. Yale.....	57
2. Harvard.....	120 (4)	6. Brown.....	55
3. Cornell.....	96 (1)	7. Columbia.....	48
4. Penn.....	89	8. Dartmouth.....	19

The 2010 Ivy League basketball preseason poll surveyed 17 media members. First-place votes are in parentheses.



CORNELL

The Big Red’s 2010-2011 team will be quite different from its 2009-2010 squad, which won the Ivy League for the third straight year. With the graduation of all-time leading scorer Ryan Wittman, two-time Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year Jeff Foote, and six other seniors, this year’s team bears little resemblance to last year’s, which upset Temple and Wisconsin to reach the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Championships before losing to national powerhouse Kentucky. All-Ivy junior guard Chris Wroblewski is the only returning starter. New head coach Bill Courtney should expect leadership from senior center Mark Coury—a transfer from Kentucky—and senior forwards Adam Wire and Aaron Osgood. Courtney replaces former head coach Steve Donahue, who left Ithaca for the head coaching job at Boston College.

DARTMOUTH

Paul Cormier takes over as the Big Green’s head coach after Terry Dunn resigned in the wake of Dartmouth’s 5-23 season last year. Cormier, who previously coached at Dartmouth from 1984 to 1991, holds an 87-95 overall record. Senior guard Ronnie Dixon and senior center Clive Weeden, who are co-captains this season, lead a team with eight returning players. Dixon was last year’s leading scorer, averaging 9.3 points per game. Sophomore guard R.J. Griffin looks promising and is extremely accurate beyond the three-point line. Dartmouth will also depend heavily on its incoming class, with six freshmen on the roster. With a 5-23 record (1-13 Ivy), the Big Green, which was picked to finish last in this year’s Ivy preseason media poll, will need as much contribution from its freshmen class as it can get in order to stay competitive in games.

HARVARD

Despite the graduation of sensational four-time all-Ivy player Jeremy Lin, who now plays for the NBA’s Golden State Warriors, and a secondary recruiting violation, Harvard is still expected to bring a strong team to the court this year. The Crimson returns eight players, including junior guard Oliver McNally and junior forward Keith Wright, who will be co-captains. Sophomore forward and Ivy League Rookie of the Year Kyle Casey and incoming freshman Ugo Okam are expected to contribute on both ends this year. Head coach Tommy Amaker led his squad to a 21-8 overall record last year—the most successful season in program history. The Crimson faces a difficult schedule this season, including nonconference away matches against Boston College and Michigan, but will look to utilize its core of talented young players to turn in another banner year in Cambridge.

PENN

Jerome Allen, entering his first full year as head coach, leads a Quaker team that boasts three returning all-Ivy players: junior guard Zack Rosen, a unanimous first-team choice last season; senior forward Jack Eggleston, a second-team honoree; and senior guard Tyler Bernardini, who was an honorable mention selection in 2008-2009 before missing last year due to a leg injury. Despite finishing with a 6-22 overall record and a 5-9 Ivy record last year, Penn was picked to finish fourth in this year’s preseason poll based on its strong finish under Allen, who took over mid-season after a horrendous 1-14 start. The Quakers might start the season slowly again as they have a difficult nonconference schedule this season, including nationally televised games against Villanova and Kentucky.

PRINCETON

With Cornell’s seniors graduating, this year’s title has been more widespread than in recent seasons. This year, the preseason media poll predicts that a strong Princeton team will top the Ivy League. Even with the graduation of point guard Marcus Schroeder, the Tigers return their top five scorers from last season, in which they had a 22-9 overall and 11-3 league record. Head coach Sydney Johnson expects to see leadership from senior guards Dan Mavraides and Bobby Foley, as well as from senior forward Kareem Maddox. The Tigers were one of very few teams to challenge last year’s Sweet 16 Cornell squad, and Johnson believes his players’ experience will lead to an Ivy championship this year. Princeton also faces a difficult nonconference schedule, including a home opener against Rutgers and a trip to Raleigh, N.C., where they will face Duke.

YALE

With the graduation of second team all-Ivy guard Alex Zampier, who averaged 17.4 points per game last year, the Bulldogs will look to sophomore guards Austin Morgan and Sam Martin to fill the scoring void. In his 12th season in charge, head coach James Jones is looking for leadership from senior forward Michael Sands and junior forward Greg Mangano. Last year, Sands was one of only two players to start all 31 games, earning all-Ivy honorable mention spot in the process, and Mangano led the Ivy League in blocks. Junior Rhett Anderson figures to contribute on the inside for Jones’ squad as well. The Bulldogs had a 12-19 overall record last season, but this year, Jones hopes that his talented backcourt—led by senior point guard Porter Braswell—will propel Yale to a successful season. Morgan, the Elis’ top freshman last season, looks to replace some of Zampier’s production last year.



The 2010 Ivy League basketball preseason poll surveyed 17 media members. First-place votes are in parentheses.

1. Princeton . . . . .	135 (16)	5. Columbia . . . . .	73
2. Harvard . . . . .	115 (1)	6. Brown . . . . .	50
3. Dartmouth . . . . .	96	7. Cornell . . . . .	39
4. Yale . . . . .	84	8. Penn . . . . .	19

# WOMEN’S

## Around the league

—BY CHRISTOPHER BROWN

MEDIA POLL:

BROWN

Following a 2-23-1 debacle in the 2008-2009 season, Brown showed significant improvement last season, ending with an 8-20 record and a sixth-place finish.

Still, the Bears have a less experienced team than the other seven Ivy League schools, as they begin the 2010-2011 season with no seniors on the roster. Junior guard Hannah Passafiume earned an all-Ivy honorable mention by averaging 9.3 points per game. She will need more help from her teammates to bolster an offense that averaged 53 points per game last season.

Look for sophomore Lindsay Nickel, who thrived as a freshman guard last year, to continue her development and provide a dominant backcourt presence for the Bears. With Nickel at the helm, the Bears will have a young and dangerous team.

CORNELL

The Big Red struggled last year, finishing seventh in the Ivy League with a 7-20 overall record and going just 2-12 against other Ancient Eight teams.

Cornell has a young lineup, with just two juniors and one senior on the roster. Its biggest loss is Lauren Benson, who graduated as the school’s all-time assists leader. Benson was the leader of the Big Red offense, and her departure will leave a big hole at the point guard position.

In addition, the Big Red must find a way to make up for the graduation of Allie Fedorowicz (12.2 ppg) and Virginia McMunigal (8.8 ppg). With such a loss of production, sophomore forward Clare Fitzpatrick (8.7 ppg, 5.1 rpg) and her Big Red teammates will be hard-pressed to vault themselves past last season’s seventh-place finish.

DARTMOUTH

Besides Columbia’s Judie Lomax, the only other Ivy League player who averaged a double-double last season is Dartmouth senior forward Brittney Smith (12.1 ppg, 10.1 ppg), who won the Ivy League Player of the Year award two seasons ago. However, Smith was the only player with a double-digit scoring average on a team that averaged just 51 points per game for a fifth-place finish last season. With a year of experience under her belt, sophomore guard Faziah Steen (9.4 ppg) can help the Big Green by increasing her offensive production.

The Big Green has struggled to regain the form it showed in its title run two years ago, finishing the 2009-2010 season with a 12-16 (6-8 Ivy) record. Dartmouth’s defense is formidable, but it will need to find offensive options other than Smith in order to gain the offensive firepower required to be competitive in games.

HARVARD

The Crimson finished second in the Ancient Eight last season with an 11-3 conference record, boasting a high-powered offense that averaged nearly 69 points per game. Seniors Emma Markley and Christine Matera, junior Brogan Berry, and sophomore Victoria Lippert combined for an average of 49 points per game. If the Crimson can’t capture the Ivy League title, its next task should be to seek revenge for the pair of blowout losses it suffered at the hands of defending league champion Princeton last season. Markley provides a dominant defensive post presence, and Berry, who won the Ivy League Rookie of the Year award two seasons ago, is a dynamic guard with an outstanding shooting touch. Harvard figures to be a challenge for any Ivy team.

PENN

The 2010-2011 season looks to be another difficult year for Penn, which suffered through a miserable 2009-2010 campaign that saw just two wins (against St. Francis and Dartmouth) in 29 games. Caitlin Slover, who brought a strong offensive game last season, will return, but the Quakers lost all-Ivy honorable mention Sarah Bucar to graduation.

With Bucar’s departure, Penn’s offense will need to find new threats. The team scored an average of only 46 points per game, but allowed its opponents nearly 61 per game. Five incoming freshmen—Alyssa Baron, Kristen Kody, Lauren Kraemer, Meghan McCullough, and Courtney Wilson—and second-year head coach Mike McLaughlin will be tasked with bringing Quaker basketball back to respectability.

PRINCETON

Last year, Princeton had a season for the ages, going undefeated in conference play and setting an Ivy record with 26 wins and only three losses. At one point, Princeton had won 21 straight games by 10 points or more. This year, the preseason media poll picked the Tigers to repeat as Ivy League champions. The team returns all five starters, including 2009-2010 Ivy League Rookie of the Year Niveen Rasheed, who led her team in scoring (15.4 points per game) and rebounding (8.8 rebounds per game) last season. Junior guard Lauren Edwards, senior guard Addie Micir, and junior center Devona Allgood all averaged double figures in scoring last season, and Allgood and Edwards were among the conference leaders in rebounding. Princeton’s defense was also impressive, as its opponents averaged just 52 points per game on 34 percent shooting.

YALE

The Bulldogs retain their top two scorers from last season: sophomore guard Megan Vasquez (11.5 ppg), who was a unanimous Ivy all-rookie selection, and senior guard Yoyo Greenfield (9.6 ppg). Junior forward Michelle Cashen (6.9 rpg) and senior forward Mady Go-brecht (6.1 rpg) will have more chances to clean the glass after the departure of Melissa Colborne (4.5 rpg). Better shooting from beyond the three-point line (just 27.5 percent last season) will be key in helping the Bulldogs move up the conference ladder from a fourth-place finish last season. The team will rely on its dynamic backcourt of Vasquez and Greenfield to generate its offense. Yale finished with a 13-15 (8-6 Ivy) record last season and was picked in the Ivy preseason media poll to finish fourth this year.

## Players buying into Smith's philosophy in first year at helm

BY ZACH GLUBIAK  
Spectator Staff Writer

After 18 years of playing second fiddle to other head coaches, Kyle Smith finally has a Division I basketball team to call his own.

Following a nine-year stint as the associate head coach at St. Mary's, Smith took the reins of Columbia's program last spring following the departure of former head coach Joe Jones. Jones left Morningside Heights after a seven-year tenure to become the top assistant under former Cornell coach Steve Donahue at Boston College.

Jones developed a close relationship with many of his players during his time as the Lions' head man, leaving Smith with the tough task of replacing a highly popular coach.

"I just really didn't know what to expect," junior Noruwa Agho said. "I was a big Coach Jones guy, obviously, and I was very sad to see him leave."

Nevertheless, Agho, the Lions' leading scorer, has bought into Smith's coaching philosophy in a big way.

"I am really excited, and not just content and sort of stand-offish," Agho said. "I was very impressed by how Coach Smith carried out [the transition]. ... Everyone is buying into what he's brought to the table—really good teacher, positive attitude, all the things you look for in a leader. I think we can definitely run with his philosophy, and I think we are going to be really successful."

And it's not just Agho who is on board.

"We have all adjusted really well to coach Smith's being here," senior forward Brian Grimes said. "Everybody's buying into the program, and I think it's great for the team and for the program and for the University. I honestly just wish I had more time with this staff. The seniors, like me and Asenso [Ampim], Max Craig, Zack Crimmins—we all just wish we had more

SEE SMITH, page 9



FILE PHOTO

**NEW KID ON THE BLOCK** | Kyle Smith was named head coach this past spring.



## The more things change... ...the more they stay the same



FILE PHOTO

**IN CHARGE** | Head coach Paul Nixon has led the Lions for six years.



## Nixon steadying force for Light Blue as roster faces turnover

BY SARAH SOMMER  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Last season, the Columbia women's basketball team finished 18-10 overall and 9-5 in Ivy League play. The Lions set program records for overall and Ivy wins in a season and earned a program-best third-place finish in the conference.

Columbia has come a long way over the past few years, and head coach Paul Nixon has been a major reason for its success. With an up-tempo offense and full-court defense, Nixon has brought energy and aggressiveness to the program. The 2010-2011 season will be his sixth with the Lions.

"I was a little wide-eyed, bushy-tailed, naïve young coach in their first head coaching position ... just really excited about the opportunity not only to be a

head coach, but to be the head coach at Columbia University," Nixon said. "I really saw the potential in this program. ... I knew it was going to be a lot of work, but I also knew that the rewards could certainly be great."

The rewards did not come immediately. In Nixon's first season at Columbia, the Lions went 6-21 overall and 2-12 in the league. They fared slightly better the next year, winning eight out of 28 contests. Four of those victories came against league opponents.

Columbia continued to build on its successes in the 2007-2008 season. The Lions achieved a 7-7 Ivy record, which was an unprecedented accomplishment for the program at the time.

The following year, the team won just

SEE NIXON, page 9