



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PUNTED AWAY | A thrilling win over Brown in the final game of the season was not enough to save head coach Norries Wilson's job.

Parents say timeline for toxin removal too slow

BY JEREMY BUDD
Columbia Daily Spectator

Local parents are fighting to clean up their kids' schools as they grapple with the statistic that 800 public school buildings across New York City, including five in Morningside Heights and West Harlem, have lighting fixtures with traces of toxic chemicals.

City agencies have developed a plan that would remove all lighting with caulking that tests positive for toxic PCBs. But their 10-year timeline isn't sitting well with parents.

"In a K-8 school under this plan, my second-grader could risk exposure for nine years," Julie Golden, co-president of the PTA at P.S. 334 on 77th Street, said at a Community Board 7 meeting last week. "That's simply unacceptable."

"This type of program has never been done before."

—Ross Holden, executive VP of the NYC School Construction Authority

The Environmental Protection Agency has reported that prolonged exposure to PCBs—elements used in construction until outlawed in 1978—is known to cause acne, rashes, liver damage, and possibly cancer. To determine the risks of the PCB levels, the New York City School Construction Authority established a pilot program to test schools around the city. But because the program was the first of its kind, Holden said that it has been difficult to get started.

"This type of program has never been done before," Ross Holden, SCA executive vice president, said. "We have a certain amount of funding and the schedule has been established for that."

But parents at a meeting of CB7's Youth, Education, and

SEE PCB, page 2

Columbia divided on Occupy Wall Street

BY YASMIN GAGNE
Columbia Daily Spectator

While protesters rallied against Wall Street in Zuccotti Park on Nov. 2, Columbia student Austin Lo, SEAS '12, rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange just two blocks away.

Lo had just won the Traders Trophy at the NYSE, beating out 400 other students to earn the title, "Best Student Trader of the USA."

Many Columbia students have visibly supported the Occupy Wall Street movement for more than two months, with more than 100 students participating in a walkout on Thursday. But Columbia also sends about a quarter of its graduating class to work in financial services each year, according to the Center for Career Education, and some of those students, Lo included, don't support the protesters.

Lo, who will work at the investment bank Nomura next year, said he does not disagree with the principles behind the OWS campaign but with the demonstrations themselves.

"Since the early 20th century, the gap between poor and rich is widening. These people are just upset that they're left behind. It's going to take them time to catch up," Lo said. "It's a valid gripe, but sitting in a park is not the solution."

STUDENT OPINIONS DIVERGE

Lo is not the only Columbia student to hold these views. Daniel O'Leary, SEAS '14, vice president of the student organization Columbia Financial Investment Group, believes that students who support OWS are "guided by misinformation about what finance is and what it can do." He described going to India this summer to use finance to help small businesses.

"You need money to run

things, and the financial system is a means of getting money to get it to where it needs to go," O'Leary said.

When a rumor spread last month that police planned to clear out Zuccotti Park, 24 Columbia students spent the night there, including Michael Spitzer-Rubenstein, CC '12. He suggested that "the vast majority of Columbians are in support of reforming the financial community," even if not everyone is sure that OWS will bring about the changes they want.

"All of Columbia wants to see change," Spitzer-Rubenstein said. "Maybe 10 percent of Columbia, most of whom will be in the top 1 percent, want to see more power to the rich and basically don't care about the rest of America."

O'Leary knows students who disagree with him, including a close friend who is "really

SEE OWS, page 2

Diwali celebration lights up Boone Arledge

BY ANUSHKA LOBO
Columbia Daily Spectator

Bright lights and the smell of chai greeted students as they packed into Boone Arledge Auditorium on Saturday to celebrate Diwali, the Indian festival of lights.

Despite the limitations of the auditorium, organizers tried to recreate the type of celebration that students would be missing at home—by distributing boxes of sweets to each table to simulate the traditional offering of sweets to neighbors and by using electric candles to

mimic the traditional lighting of oil lamps.

"This is an event I come for every year," Pranith Ramamurthy, SEAS, who is originally from Bangalore, said. "You miss your family, so

SEE DIWALI, page 2



NIRAALI PINDARI FOR SPECTATOR

CELEBRATION | Students mingle and pray at the annual Diwali dinner on Saturday in Lerner.

Wilson sacked after six years at CU helm

Athletic dept. will immediately begin search for replacement

BY VICTORIA JONES
Senior Staff Writer

On Sunday morning, following the football team's 35-28 double-overtime victory over Brown on Saturday and the conclusion of a 1-9 season, the Columbia athletic department announced the dismissal of head coach Norries Wilson.

The win was the team's first of the 2011 campaign, and it snapped a 10-game losing streak dating back to last season, when the team dropped its season finale to the Bears 38-16.

Despite the high-energy game, the victory was not enough to compensate for the struggles the team faced throughout this season.

With a tie for seventh place in the Ivy League and a 1-9 (1-6 Ivy) record, this season was the worst of Wilson's career at Columbia with the exception of the 2007 season, in which the Lions also went 1-9 overall but 0-7 in the Ancient Eight.

Though Wilson has had better seasons, his success has been limited throughout his time at the helm. Over six seasons, Wilson has achieved a 17-43 overall record, 10-32 within the league.

Wilson first made a splash in the Ancient Eight when he was named the Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football. After spending four years as the offensive coordinator at the University of Connecticut, he became the first

African-American head coach in the Ivy League, while also being a head coach himself for the first time.

That first season with the Lions was Wilson's best with the Light Blue finishing 5-5 overall, but just 3-5 in the league. Wilson's best finish in league competition came in 2009, when the team finished 3-4 in the conference but just 4-6 on the season.

Though previous conversations with past and present players imply a respect and appreciation for all that Wilson has done for the football program at Columbia, his lack of success within the league is impossible to ignore.

"Making a decision of this nature is always difficult," Athletic Director M. Dianne Murphy said in the official press release about the decision.

"That said, in order to achieve the goals that we have set for the Columbia football program, we believe that it is necessary and appropriate to make a change in leadership at this time."

The player made available for comment by Murphy did not respond to interview requests by press time.

As the athletic department begins a national search to fill the head coaching position, the goal of developing a winning program should be a main concern. It has been 50 years since the Light Blue won the Ivy League and 15 years since the squad had a winning season.

Church opposes 121st St. co-naming for Carlin

BY BIANCA DENNIS
Columbia Daily Spectator

A petition to co-name one block of 121st Street after comedian George Carlin has been met with opposition from a church on the street.

Famous for declaring "religion is bullshit," Carlin grew up on the block and attended Corpus Christi Primary School before going on to a successful career in comedy—throughout which he mocked religion and his childhood church. In a statement, the Rev. Raymond Rafferty, Corpus Christi pastor, said that history makes the potential name change inappropriate.

"Mr. Carlin made his early reputation by mocking religion and the clergy of this parish, and his vulgarity does not make him a role model for anyone, especially the children attending our school," Rafferty said. "A street may be renamed in honor of someone who has contributed to the immediate community. I know of nothing Mr. Carlin did to contribute to the West 121 Street block that would support this petition."

But Kevin Bartini, the comedian on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" who started the petition, said he believes that Carlin is a role model for comedians as well as for students.

"He would take a kernel of an idea and look at the idea from all sides," Bartini said. "He had all of his bases covered."

Bartini said that Carlin's dedication to his career was admirable, and that the fact that he completed 14 HBO stand-up comedy one-hour specials is "out of this world."

"Jerry Seinfeld has one and

most people do one or two," Bartini said. But Carlin "just kept going, and there are guys who work to get that one hour and then keep that hour for 20 years. He was always working and always moving forward. That makes him an amazing role model."

"His vulgarity does not make him a role model for anyone."

—Father Raymond Rafferty, pastor at Corpus Christi church

It falls to Community Board 9, which represents West Harlem and Morningside Heights, to decide how to act on the petition, which has garnered over 5,000 signatures since it began in September.

"The board is basically weighing in on the people and those directly affected on the block," Eutha Prince, district manager of CB9, said. According to Prince, the City Council committee that oversees the co-naming of streets must review the recommendation and present it to CB9 before a vote can be held.

Even after meeting with representatives of Corpus Christi to discuss the church's opposition, Bartini said he was not swayed.

"We've heard their opposition and we don't particularly agree with the points of the opposition," Bartini said. "At the

SEE CARLIN, page 2

OPINION, PAGE 4

Things I'll never know

Emily Tamkin comes to terms with her unattainable desire to learn everything.

Preserving MoHi

Morningside Heights should be designated as a historic district.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Football gets first win in overtime thriller

The Light Blue triumphed over Brown on Saturday afternoon in an exciting contest that went into double overtime. This was CU's first overall and Ivy win this season.

EVENTS

Acapalooza

An annual showcase featuring Barnard and Columbia's various a cappella groups. Diana Center Event Oval, 8-10 p.m.

Film screening of 'Fambul Tok'

A documentary about forgiveness and peace in Sierra Leone, followed by a commentary from a former child soldier.

IAB 1219, 6-9 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



50°/41°

Tomorrow



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DOUGLAS KESSEL FOR SPECTATOR

GAME PLAN | Congressman Steve Israel addresses students at a CU Democrats-sponsored event.

Congressman Israel lays out plan for 2012

BY BIANCA DENNIS
Columbia Daily Spectator

U.S. House Rep. Steve Israel, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, told students on Friday that he has the “simplest job in Washington, D.C.”

“Not the easiest, but the simplest—to win back the majority for Democrats,” Israel said.

Israel spoke to about 50 students at an event hosted by the Columbia University Democrats, where he criticized the current Republican leadership and outlined his plan to get 25 more Democrats elected to Congress in 2012.

“We have 14 million Americans out of work. Yesterday we passed a bill that allows any American to conceal a weapon when crossing state lines. How will that create jobs?” Israel said.

Israel also criticized Republican policies that enable subsidizing of companies that

make huge profits, saying that such subsidies may have been good when they were originally created but didn’t need to be permanent.

“If we take away the \$40 billion in subsidies to oil companies, I swear to God the CEO of Exxon Mobil will not be applying for food stamps,” he said.

Israel addressed an audience member’s question about the Democratic Party’s failure to brand itself effectively by saying that he thinks it is hard to have a unified message when the party is so diverse. Still, he assured the audience that the campaign would soon unveil a message which would hopefully help the DCCC reach its goal of getting a Democratic majority in Congress.

He insisted that a Congress controlled by Democrats would be able to accomplish more than the currently Republican-controlled Congress has been able to do. When questioned about how the country could

rebuild the middle class, Israel told the audience that the key is to invest in public work projects.

“When the rich get richer and the poor get poorer, you no longer have an economic base,” Israel said. “Occupy Wall Street really does manifest a true, deep anxiety about the shrinking middle class.”

CU Dems members, including president Janine Balekdjian, CC ’13, said that hearing about the game plan for the 2012 elections was important to keep students engaged.

“He’s one of the leaders of our party,” Balekdjian said of Israel. “The more contact we have, the more energized our party is going to be.”

Debattama Sen, SEAS ’13, said she was there to stay informed.

“It’s great to have an idea of what’s coming and to plan for the next election cycle,” Sen said.

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PCBs in schools continue to worry local parents

PCB from front page

Libraries Committee on Nov. 16 expressed concern over how long it will take to remove the PCBs.

“There’s a lot of parents that would like to get some type of inspection in and aren’t sure if custodians are doing it,” PTA member and P.S. 199 parent Eric Shuffler said. P.S. 199, on 70th Street, is one of three city schools with PCB levels in excess of the acceptable federal amount.

“We’d like to take more control of our destiny and not have to work through this infrastructure,” Shuffler said.

John Gorman, a representative from the EPA, said that SCA workers are moving as fast as the budget allows them. The pilot program currently determines the order in which schools should have PCBs removed based on their initial test results—a tedious but necessary process, he said.

“EPA advocated a two-year plan first, but that’s not what the

city is advocating,” he said. “Our biggest concern is with young children and pregnant women, which is why we are dealing with schools first.”

And Gorman noted that it is difficult to remove all traces of PCBs in schools in a short time.

“PCB caulk is everywhere all over the country and it’s not something that can be taken care of overnight,” Gorman said. “We wanted a faster schedule and the city is doing what they can to speed up their schedule.”

Pam Factor-Litvak, an associate professor of clinical epidemiology at the Mailman School of Public Health who has researched how PCBs affect pregnancies, said that the current risk level is still significant.

“I think they should probably move faster than 10 years,” she said. “The city should be acting prudently to remove exposure.”

It is reasonable for parents to have concerns about their children, considering the uncertainty of the effects, Factor-Litvak said—but the environmental contaminants don’t directly

show how severely the chemicals are affecting children.

“The levels of exposure are not extraordinarily high, so I think that the level of concern should match the level of exposure,” she said. “They’re high, but not extraordinarily high.”

New York State Assembly member Linda Rosenthal, who represents the Upper West Side, was critical of the pilot program and said she hoped that parents would continue to ask for updates about the issue.

“While we don’t want to be alarmists, we don’t want to poo-poo that there’s nothing to be afraid of,” she said. “When parents hear that students could be trapped in a school building for 10 years being exposed to PCBs, parents are outraged.”

Golden, the P.S. 334 PTA president, agreed.

“I can be very patient when it’s months before someone is assigned to monitor \$200,000 renovations, but I can not be patient when my child is at risk possibly developing cancer.”

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Schools that have tested positive for toxic PCBs



P.S. 75
735 West End Ave.

P.S. 163
163 W. 97th St.

Eight hundred school buildings across New York City, including five in Morningside Heights and West Harlem, have lighting fixtures with traces of toxic chemicals. City agencies have developed a 10-year plan to remove all lighting with caulking that tests positive for toxic PCBs.

Groups unite for Diwali celebration

DIWALI from front page

this is an alternate. No one can fill that void, but meeting people and seeing them celebrate helps even out the part of you that’s missing your family.”

The Hindu Students Organization and Ahimsa, Columbia’s Jain students organization, co-hosted the event, which was also co-sponsored by the Sikh Student Association and open to all—including many who had never attended a Diwali celebration before.

“We really feel that our job ... is to educate the broader Columbia community from all parts of the spectrum as to what Diwali means in terms of its religious significance and also to give them a flavor of how it is celebrated in a cultural sense,” Rohit Iragavarapu, CC ’12 and a co-coordinator of HSO, said.

That double education was evident in the use of a projector to display the origins and traditions of Diwali, and in the setup of the small shrine to Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. People could also have their hands decorated with henna, make decorative designs called rangoli, play “finger billiards” or carrom, and try on Indian clothes and jewelry in a photo booth.

“You miss your family, so this is an alternate.”

—Pranith Ramamurthy, SEAS ’11

In order to highlight Diwali’s role as a celebration of new beginnings, attendees were invited to write down promises to themselves on leaf-shaped pieces of paper and affix them to a paper “Tree of Resolutions.” Diwali also encourages giving, so attendees were encouraged to make donations to Shots for Shots, a nonprofit dedicated to vaccinating children in India.

“This is one of the few times of the year when you actually really get that cross-cultural communication, so people who aren’t as familiar with the culture get a chance to engage, learn a little bit more, eat the food, talk to the people,” Alex Jasiulek, CC ’13, who attended the event, said.

After a presentation and a meal of traditional Indian favorites, the music turned to a mix of Bollywood music and Western hits.

“One thing that we are always thinking about is this is a college audience at the end of the day, and we need to be relatable,” Iragavarapu said. “We’ve kind of picked and chosen the elements of the celebration that we think are going to be most effective at doing two things. Number one is getting the message across, and number two is entertaining people.”

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Carlin’s church protests effort to rename 121st

CARLIN from front page

end of the day, the number of people who were for us greatly outweighed those who were in opposition. That’s not a scientific polling, but that’s what I saw standing out on the corner getting signatures.”

It is likely the co-naming will go forward, Prince said, but the opposition from Corpus Christi might mean that an alternate street will be co-named for Carlin.

“He may have made fun of religion—he certainly made fun of a lot of things. I don’t think anyone was spared, and that’s how it is with a lot of humor,” CB9 member Brad Taylor said. “That was obviously a brilliant comedian who grew up in our neighborhood and I would think we would want to honor him.”

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Future traders, current protesters at odds on OWS

OWS from front page

passionate” about OWS, and Lo said he understands where classmates are coming from, acknowledging “legitimate problems with the financial industry in the U.S.”

“There are risk patterns that need to be addressed, but a bunch of students regretting the fact that they blew 200 grand on a English major sitting in a park and complaining that the government doesn’t help them is pretty fucked up,” he said.

“I have friends who are genuinely liberal and believe that social inequality is a big problem, but I’d like to think that most of my friends are sensible and aren’t going to camp out in park,” he added.

‘A SERIOUS MOVEMENT’

The OWS debate has also extended to the faculty. Anthropology professor Paige West started a faculty petition in support of OWS, which has now gotten more than 400 signatures. She said that most of her colleagues approve of the debate that OWS has generated, even if they don’t necessarily agree with its politics.

“My sense is that most of my colleagues think that this [debate] is a good thing,” West said in an email.

But even some professors who support change in the financial sector have questioned OWS. Business School Professor Emeritus Michael Adler echoed the views of students who have trouble reconciling their support for the movement’s principles with the form of its protests.

“I am/was disgusted by the demonstrators’ disregard for hygiene ... and more generally deplore their attitude of entitlement,” Adler said in an email, adding that he supported the NYPD clearing the park.

Columbia’s connections to the financial institutions that students are now protesting are strong. Some professors, especially those in the Business School, have worked for those companies, and Barnard President Debora Spar currently sits on the board of Goldman Sachs. Spar cited a lack of government regulation as a main cause of the financial crisis, saying only some financial firms are to blame.

“Wall Street’s not monolithic. It has become a useful cover-all term. There are thousands of firms that are on Wall Street, some of which are involved in socially responsible investing, some of which are involved in distressed assets,” she said.

Spar called OWS “a serious movement” that raises valid concerns but added she is unsure of what lies ahead for Columbia and its relationship with OWS.

“It’s in its early stages—it’s certain to evolve over time,” Spar said of the movement. “How the pieces of puzzle ultimately fall out will depend on large part on how the movement evolves.”

“A bunch of students regretting the fact that they blew 200 grand on a English major sitting in a park and complaining that the government doesn’t help them is pretty fucked up.”

—Austin Lo, SEAS ’12

‘ONE PERCENT, OR 99 PERCENT?’

English professor Bruce Robbins, who, like West, has spent time at the protests, said that most students have reason to identify with the demonstrators.

“I know it sounds crude, but the idea that we are the 99 percent is right,” he said. “The majority of students, even if they feel privileged, are not in that 1 percent.”

Robbins drew parallels between OWS and the protests against the draft in the 1960s.

“The draft number got your attention. What many have said about the failure of students to mobilize against wars in Afghanistan and Iraq was that there was no self-interest, there was no draft,” Robbins said. “I wonder whether the problem of student debt could be an analogue to what draft was to my generation.”

But today, OWS has divided students. For Lo, the movement has even divided his family—his sister is “pretty steadfastly against financial industry in the U.S.A.,” he said. His friends, though, mostly agree with him.

“There’s definitely a bias,” he said. “Most of my friends are going to be working in the financial services industry, so most of them aren’t vocal.”

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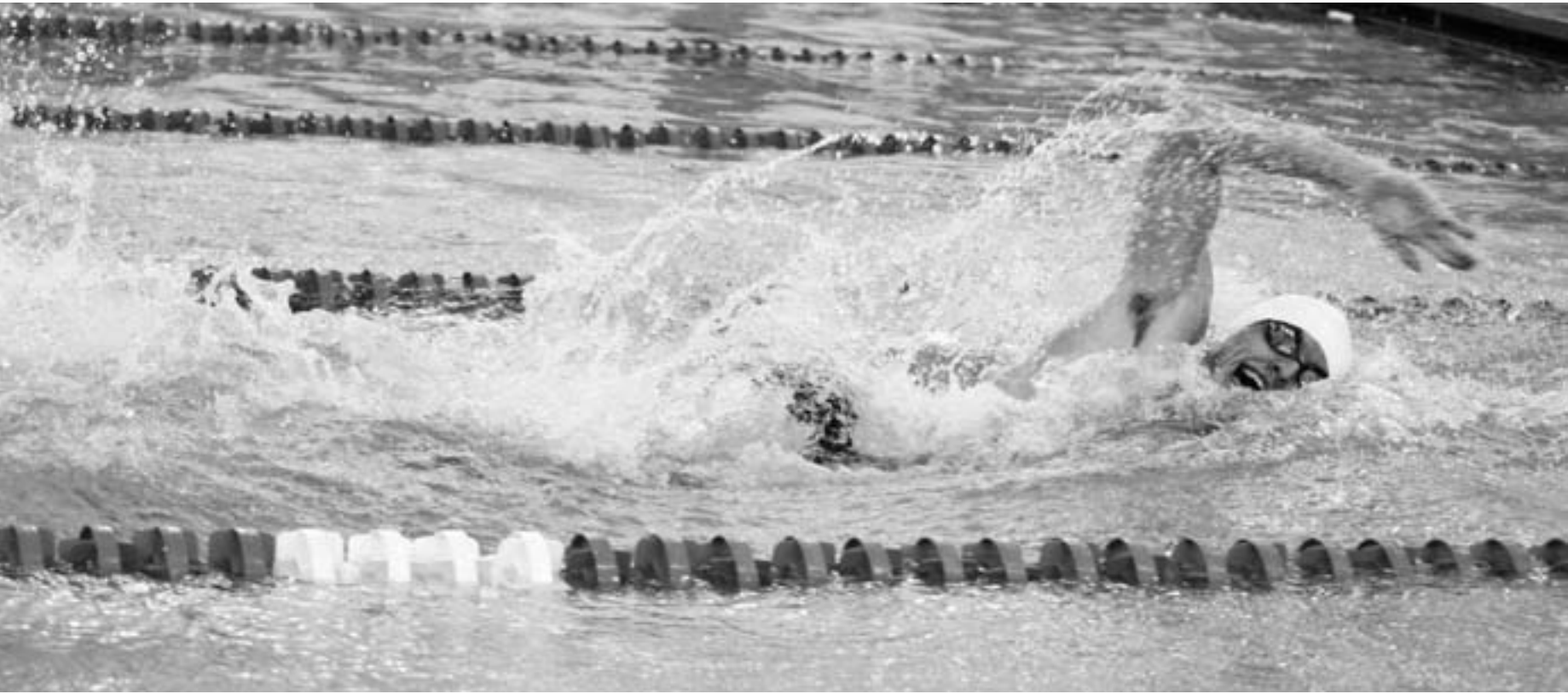
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THE WEEK IN SPORTS



Clockwise from upper left: Players embrace after Saturday's win over Brown. Senior Mike Stephens embraces one of the coaches after Columbia's impressive double-overtime victory, which averted the team's first winless season in 20 years. Senior Steve Egee looking to pass the ball on Saturday during Columbia's game against American. The swim team defeated Army this weekend and is preparing to make an appearance at the Ivy League Championships. Senior Blaise Staab with the ball during Saturday night's game against American. The Lions would go on to lose 66-58.



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EDITOR'S NOTE

A football story in the print version of Friday's edition of Spectator ("Brown's Cruz poses threat on both sides of ball") attributed a quote to "Norries Wilson, head football coach until Sunday at 3:30 p.m. EST." This remark, while not intentionally allowed to appear in the print edition, was an inexcusable failure of editorial oversight. (Although Coach Wilson was, in fact, relieved of his duties this Sunday, that information was not yet known to Spectator.) It is ultimately our responsibility to ensure that everything that appears in Spectator meets our standards for professionalism and objectivity, and we extend our apologies to Coach Wilson and the football program that Friday's edition did not meet these standards.

Sincerely,

Samuel E. Roth
Editor in Chief

Michele Cleary
Managing Editor

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For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

More than a 4.0

BY JOOHYUN LEE

I often sit at my desk and just gaze at my pile of homework, hoping that within the nine hours before I have to get to my first class, the reading will be done, the worksheets filled out, and the papers written. At this moment, panic engulfs me, and I wonder, "Will all this work I'm doing to get an education make me happier in the future?" Maybe I'll think about that when I'm less stressed and don't have too much work to do, which should be... Thanksgiving. Never mind, I have a Chinese test that following Monday—and things will only get harder from there until Dec. 22. I groan and trudge through another hectic night—but I know I'm not the only student at Columbia who is stressed.

"Stressed" might be an understatement. We've all had our mini—or not so mini—emotional meltdowns, when all we want to do is dig a hole and hide in it. A lot of the time, the impetus for wanting to go hide in a hole is our GPA. Our emotions are often directly linked to grades, because they often determine our self-worth. And when we put our self-worth in grades, we put our happiness at risk—we're allowing something unpredictable to determine our moods.

Four years at Columbia can easily be spent worrying and stressing about grades. We feel like complete idiots when we get sub-par grades, but when we get an A on a paper or nail an exam, we feel like we're on top of the world. This isn't high school any more—it's expected that we don't always get A's. Students are judged more harshly because of allegations that colleges are inflating grades. We were just as smart as we were in high school, if not smarter. We are here in college to be challenged, so the normal response for everyone is: "Classes are hard."

If you can't enjoy life now, what guarantees that you will enjoy life later?

Transcripts don't define your worth or ability. Anyone can get A's, but no one can be who you are. Think back to your Columbia application—a lot of other students had the same SAT, ACT, or TOEFL scores as you, or even higher. Scores may have played a part in your acceptance, but they weren't the sole factor. You differentiated yourself in some special way not involving numbers. You were a person. I'm sure Columbia didn't accept you so you could spend all your nights at Butler churning out essays and figuring out problem sets. You aren't here just to ace all your classes. You're here to grow through experiences beyond those in the classroom. Whether you're going down to Occupy Wall Street—even if you disagree with the protestors and just want to observe—or heading to Tom's at 3 a.m. for a milkshake and good conversation with friends, the lessons we learn from these experience are in no way less precious than the epiphanies we have in Butler.

How important are grades? In the scope of life, not very. I feel like we often put off happiness. We work hard during high school, thinking that as long as we get accepted to our dream college, everything will work out. But then we come to college and think, "I'll just be stressed for four more years, and then I'll have the dream career and live life to the fullest." But what about the promotion? The raise? And most of all, the free time? Having a career is even more stressful than being in college or high school. The weight of your responsibilities will only get heavier. If you can't enjoy life now, what guarantees that you will enjoy life later?

Value your mental sanity. Take some time off for yourself once in a while. Hang out with friends. Go to the park. Eat some good ice cream. Go play the piano in the Wallach lounge.

Enjoy what you do. Enjoy being at Columbia. Enjoy being a college student. Enjoy being you. Enjoy life. Stop and smell the roses. It's worth it.

The author is a Columbia College first-year.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Is thanks enough?

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we are bombarded with the phrase "giving thanks." We see food drives in dorms, signs posted in Lerner, and recommendations from friends and family. It may seem like a simple concept, but we should also keep in mind that giving thanks is not always enough. Though it is important to take time to appreciate all the good in our lives, it is just as important to remember that many are not so fortunate.

Donating a turkey or working at a soup kitchen are commendable ways of giving back, but community service should not be limited to one day a year. As a day on our calendar, Thanksgiving—and the theme of giving thanks—is

My final class act

I registered for classes for the last time in my college career last week. The actual selection of classes was, quite honestly, anticlimactic. It was easy and in no way dramatic. But that's probably because, for me, the process of registering for classes for the last time began long before senior year did.

I have always been struck by how much there is still to learn (a sentiment that many a Columbia student shares, I think). In one of my favorite dreams of all time, I spoke all languages fluently, which came in quite handy when my family ran into some Bulgarians. (That this was one of my favorite dreams of all time says something about me, but I'm trying not to think too much about what that is.)

This summer, however, I became somewhat overwhelmed by how much I would never know. After reading Haruki Murakami's "Norwegian Wood," I declared to my family members that one of the great tragedies of my educational life is that I will never know Japanese (they responded by turning the television volume up). I read a bunch of Hemingway this summer, too (in my defense, I was commuting from and to Long Island by train every day), and became filled with regret that I had not specialized in American studies. I became fixated not on the classes for which I was planning to register, but on those for which I never would. I thought not of the books I had read, but of those I was not planning to read. Not of the languages I had learned, but of those I would probably never learn.

This continued well into the current semester. One of my suitemates and I were looking over the classes that would be offered in the spring. I asked her if I



EMILY
TAMKIN

Back to
the future

should take a class on Hungarian literature, noting it would probably be the only time in my life that I would be able to do so. I melodramatically sighed and told her what I wrote here—that I just wanted to learn for the sake of learning forever.

Fortunately, she, unlike certain aforementioned individuals, did not turn the television volume up. Nobody can just learn for the sake of learning forever, she said. At some point, you have to start teaching. She did not mean that all are obligated to stand in front of a class at some point, but rather that one can only take from the general body of knowledge for so long before one is expected to contribute to it. That contribution could be made by going to grad school, or by becoming a doctor, or a copywriter, or a traveling salesman. Or anything at all in which one—in addition to always continuing to learn—gives society as a whole something new to learn.

"But I'm not ready to do that," I whined. Her response?

"You will be."

And she was right. I did not open SSOL for the final time filled with regret or resignation. I registered for classes I wanted and needed to take—classes that will hopefully put me in good stead for whatever it is I end up doing after this and that will contribute to my own personal knowledge and understanding, thereby rendering me more capable of contributing to others'.

I didn't even register for that Hungarian literature class.

It didn't fit into my final schedule. And anyway, I can always read Hungarian literature on a commuter train.

Emily Tamkin is a Columbia College senior majoring in Russian literature and culture. She is the general manager of the Columbia Political Union, vice chair of the Senior Fund, literary criticism editor of The Birch, and Spectator's former editorial page editor. Back to the Future runs alternate Mondays.



JUSTIN WALKER

Make Morningside a historic district

BY GRETCHEN BORGES

As several recent articles attest, a movement is afoot to declare Morningside Heights a historic district. It is not a new movement—the Morningside Heights Historic District Committee was formed in 1996—but it has recently regained momentum following a neighborhood meeting called by the Landmarks Preservation Commission over a year ago to discuss a proposed district. Although LPC has previously expressed interest in Morningside Heights by holding such meetings, the designation process has stalled each time. I believe that this time the district should be designated.

LPC has specific criteria for historic district designation: Areas must possess architectural and historical significance and a distinct "sense of place." Morningside Heights, with its unique developmental history and abundance of significant institutional architecture, clearly meets the criteria. Unlike other areas of the city that were developed sequentially, this area of Manhattan remained relatively bucolic. Most of the land was occupied by the Bloomingdale Insane Asylum and the Leake and Watts Orphan House until the late 19th century, when institutions including Columbia College, St. John the Divine, and St. Luke's Hospital saw the vacated sites as an opportunity for grand building schemes. The unrivaled collection of academic and ecclesiastical institutions, along with the area's elevated geography, led 19th-century boosters to refer to the area as an American Acropolis.

By 1915, the institutions were surrounded by a remarkable middle-class neighborhood. Modern intrusions into this arrangement are jarring notes in an otherwise harmonious neighborhood. Neighborhood preservationists would like to see the area recognized for its quality and sense of place, and protected from radical alterations and intrusions—aims that can be achieved by a historic district designation.

Who would benefit from such a declaration? I believe both town and gown would. The students get a pleasant place in which to live and study, the University presents a safe, attractive neighborhood to potential students and their parents, and apartment owners see a rise in the value of their property. With so many potential benefits and the area's patently eligible status, why has the designation effort dragged on for 15 years?

That all institutions want to retain the right to control their environments is understandable. And institutions dominate Morningside Heights—whether through their influence or just an assumed opposition, the process has stalled at least once before. In the late 1990s, MHHDC submitted an official request for evaluation to LPC, and a meeting with the neighborhood was held. Unfortunately, after a change in leadership at LPC, that application seemed to disappear.

Political support for the district is strong. New York State Assembly member Daniel O'Donnell, a founding member of the MHHDC, has been a strong advocate of the effort from the beginning. His office gathered letters of support from many local representatives, local constituents, and preservation organizations in the city and state.

Public support is also strong. Hundreds of people have signed petitions sent to LPC. Perhaps more telling of general interest, three of the most recent events sponsored by MHHDC (a screening of "The Vanishing City," a tour of the neighborhood led by local amateur historian Jim Mackin, and a talk by professor Andrew Dolkart) were all spectacularly well-attended.

Morningside Heights deserves to be recognized for its distinct sense of place and for the quality of its architecture. Thanks to strong local support and a reinvigorated MHHDC, the effort to persuade the city to make the designation is well underway. One can only hope that this time, the process will end in a designation.

The author is the founding member and current vice president of the Morningside Heights Historic District Committee. She has an M.A. '84 and an M. Phil. '86 from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and an M.S.S.W. '96 from Columbia School of Social Work.

Columbia partially due to merit, many other factors—including supportive communities at home—contributed to our current realities. Giving thanks not only is the right thing to do, but it also helps bridge the disconnect we feel between our college and home lives.

Columbia students don't have to look far for ways to help their communities at home and on campus. The example set by fellow students devoted to serving our country or our world, and the opportunities to give blood, or time, or money to a variety of worthy causes should inspire each Columbia student to think of needs far beyond his or her own. If this semester has reminded us of anything, though, it should be that service begins with the people around us. Our friends, families, and local communities need our gratitude and support—not just on Thanksgiving, but all year long.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Men's swimming and diving victorious, defeats Army 171-124

“Let’s go freshmen!”
“Let’s go sophomores!”
The shouts of the men’s swimming and diving team echoed through Uris Pool as the freshman team of Daniel Gosek, Stanley Wong, Alex Ngan, and Omar Arafa took on the sophomore team of Eric Traub, Philipp Gaissert, Kai Schultz, and Daniel Tan in the final race of the day, the 400-yard free relay.
The Lions defeated Army, 171-124 in a meet that provided plenty of opportunities for swimmers to step up and try secondary events in preparation for the Ivy League Championships.
“We mixed our lineup a little bit, but we had guys in every event that could win, and they did,” Columbia head coach Jim Bolster said. “We gave some of our second- and third-line guys to get wins, and they did. It was a meet of firsts.”
Sophomore Harry Stephenson had his first career victory in the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 9:33.68. Columbia ended up winning 12 of the 16 events,

with first- and second-place finishes in the 1000-yard free, the 100-yard back, and the 200-yard fly. Traub also had his first win in the 200 breast with a 2:08.42 finish. Since Columbia clinched the meet once the team accumulated 151 points, the last two events were considered exhibitions for Columbia. The team next heads to the Princeton Invitational on Dec. 2-4, giving the swimmers a preview of the format for the Ivy League Championships.
—Eric Wong

WOMEN'S SQUASH

Women's squash team annhilates University of Toronto with eight 3-0 victories in first home match of season

On Friday, Nov. 18, the women’s squash team faced the University of Toronto in its first home match of the season at StreetSquash on 115th Street between Lenox and 5th avenues. The team swept the competition and won the match with an overall score of 8-1. The last match was dropped as a default due to a lack of players. All the matches but one were won 3-0.
Sophomores Katie Quan and Monica Stone both dealt with their opponents handily, while senior captain Liz Chu, who played in the number one spot, won her match 3-1. Chu dropped only a single individual game against Toronto freshman Pooja Chugh.
The team also welcomed newcomers in this match. Three freshmen joined the team this year, and two of them played during this match. Freshman Alisha Maity played in the number two spot, and Dheeya Somaiya played at number three. Their classmate, Kate Calihan, was unable to play against Toronto.
“We’ve never played Toronto before and didn’t know what to expect,” head coach Kelsey Engman said. “This is the first one that really counts. I thought the girls played well.”
Looking ahead at the season and reflecting on the team in general, Engman noted that the strength of the team comes from the competitive nature within each player on the team. She also recognized that the team’s youth could be a possible weakness.
“We are a very young team with only one senior and one junior who is abroad first semester,” she said. “The rest of the team is made up of five sophomores and three first-years. Even though they may be less experienced than many of their opponents, our team is generally very mature and responsible, so I don’t foresee our youth holding us back this season.”
—Aigerim Saudabayeva

WRESTLING

Junior Santos and rest of Lions perform well, finishing fourth out of 12-team field at Body Bar System Invitational

This year’s Columbia wrestling team has hit the ground running. Just a week after nine Light Blue wrestlers placed in the Michigan State Open, the Light Blue took fourth place in a 12-team field at the Body Bar System Invitational this past Saturday. The Lions finished behind Virginia, Kent State, and host and first-place Cornell. Junior Steve Santos was the Light Blue’s top performer, taking second in the 149-pound weight class after pinning Binghamton junior Donnie Vinson, the nation’s No. 7 wrestler in the class, to reach the finals. Five other Lions finished in the top six. Senior Kevin Lester, who was the second-seed heavyweight entering the tournament, came back from a second-round loss to Virginia freshman Ethan Hayes to dominate the consolation bracket and take fifth place. Juniors Jake O’Hara and Stephen West took fifth in the 157- and 174-pound classes, respectively. Senior Kyle Gilchrist finished sixth in the 133-pound class, as did sophomore Matt Bystol in the

141-pound bracket. Although they could not crack the top six, several other wrestlers made some noise for the Light Blue. Freshman Ryan Ponte had an impressive pin in the 133-pound class, as did freshman Chad Ryan in the 149-pound field. While the Lions performed well in Ithaca this weekend, they will be looking to improve before the Ivy League season starts on Feb. 4 at Cornell. Columbia’s next competition will be the Nittany Lion Open on Dec. 4.
—Eli Schultz



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MISSED SHOT | Shooting was a factor in the Lions’ match against American as the Light Blue shot below 40 percent during the first half.

Columbia goes cold in closing minutes

MEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

four in the second half alone. Moreover, the Eagles’ shooting improved drastically to nearly 60 percent after shooting under 40 percent in the first half.
Columbia made only one field goal—a three-pointer by sophomore guard Meiko Lyles, who replaced injured All-Ivy senior guard Noruwa Agho in the starting lineup—in the final six minutes of the game. The dry spell resulted in a 52-48 lead turning into a 65-55 deficit with 25 seconds left.

“Down the stretch, I could have been a little better leader,” Barbour said.
“We didn’t get the ball where it needed to go,” Smith added.
Cisco’s final point, a free throw, came with five minutes left in the game and Columbia nursing a two-point lead.
Columbia head coach Kyle Smith thinks replicating these situations in practice will help the team handle similar situations of close games late second halves.
“We’ve got a lot of guys that haven’t been in those situations at all,” Smith said. “There’s really

nothing like game experience.”
The game featured 11 ties and 11 lead changes. The Lions’ date with Furman last Monday featured two tied scores and a single lead change, while the University of Connecticut led from the first basket in Columbia’s season opener.
“It’s a process, we’re getting there slowly,” Barbour said.
“Every team we play, we’re going to go as hard as we can, and we’re going to start getting wins,” Cisco added.
The Lions return to action Tuesday night on Long Island at Stony Brook.

WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Women's swimming excels during weekend performance at Terrier Invitational, wins four straight matches

The women’s swimming team enjoyed a dominant weekend at the first two days of the Boston University Terrier Invitational. Strong efforts in the finals of this weekend’s events propelled the team to the top spot, although another day of competition remains.
Thanks to a team effort, Columbia won all four relays raced so far—though some were closer than others. In the first race of the meet, one hundredth of a second separated the winning 200-yard freestyle relay team of freshman Salena Huang, junior Katie Meili, and

freshmen Mikaila Gaffey and Stella Zhao from their Yale counterparts.
In individual performances, the Lions were no less tenacious, landing many tops spots in both the A and B finals. Gaffey in particular found success, claiming the top spot in the B final of the 50-yard freestyle and taking second overall in the 100-yard breast with a time of 1:04.56. In the 50-yard freestyle, Zhao and Huang tied for fifth in the A final.
An impressive four Light Blue athletes competed and placed during the A final of

the 400-yard IM—sophomores Grace Senko and Corinna Bertelsen, freshman Emily LaVay, and sophomore Laney Kluge finished fifth through eighth, respectively.
Columbia continued its success in the 100-yard butterfly, crushing the challenging teams with Meili, junior Caroline Lukins, senior Caitlin Rogers, and freshman Lisa Zhang finishing second, third, fifth, and seventh respectively in the A final.
Currently, the squad maintains a 178-point lead over second-place Northeastern.
—Charlotte Murtishaw

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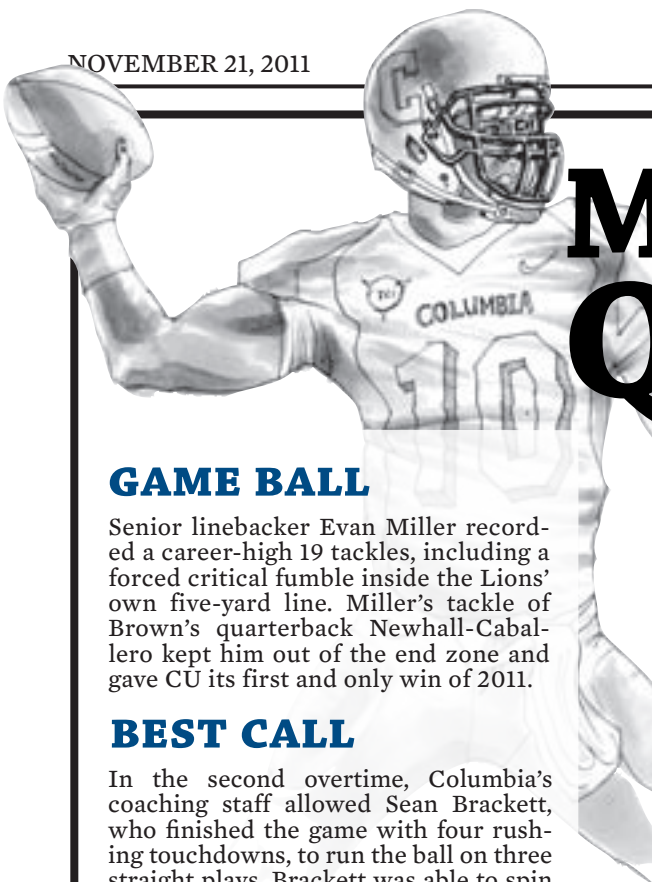
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MONDAY MORNING QUARTERBACK week #10

GAME BALL

Senior linebacker Evan Miller recorded a career-high 19 tackles, including a forced critical fumble inside the Lions’ own five-yard line. Miller’s tackle of Brown’s quarterback Newhall-Caballero kept him out of the end zone and gave CU its first and only win of 2011.

BEST CALL

In the second overtime, Columbia’s coaching staff allowed Sean Brackett, who finished the game with four rushing touchdowns, to run the ball on three straight plays. Brackett was able to spin out of trouble, break a couple of tackles, and race to the end zone to put the Lions up 35-28, a lead they would not relinquish.

WORST CALL

Early in the third quarter, head coach Norries Wilson called for Paul Delaney to fake a punt near midfield on fourth and short. The sophomore wasn’t able to get the first down and gave Brown the ball in Columbia territory. The call didn’t turn out to matter, because the defense kept Brown off the scoreboard on that drive and the rest of the half.

TURNING POINT

A fumble by Griffin Lowry gave the Bears the ball at Columbia’s two-yard line and should have cost the Lions the game. However, on third and goal, Miller stripped the ball away from Newhall-Caballero. Neil Schuster recovered the ball on the one. Keeping the Bears scoreless on the goal line kept the Lions within striking distance.

RECORD



GAME ONE
VS. FORDHAM
L 21-14



GAME TWO
VS. ALBANY
L 44-21



GAME THREE
@ PRINCETON
L 24-21



GAME FOUR
VS. SACRED
HEART
L 34-25



GAME FIVE
VS. PENN
L 27-20



GAME SIX
@ DARTMOUTH
L 37-0



GAME SEVEN
VS. YALE
L 16-13



GAME EIGHT
VS. HARVARD
L 35-21

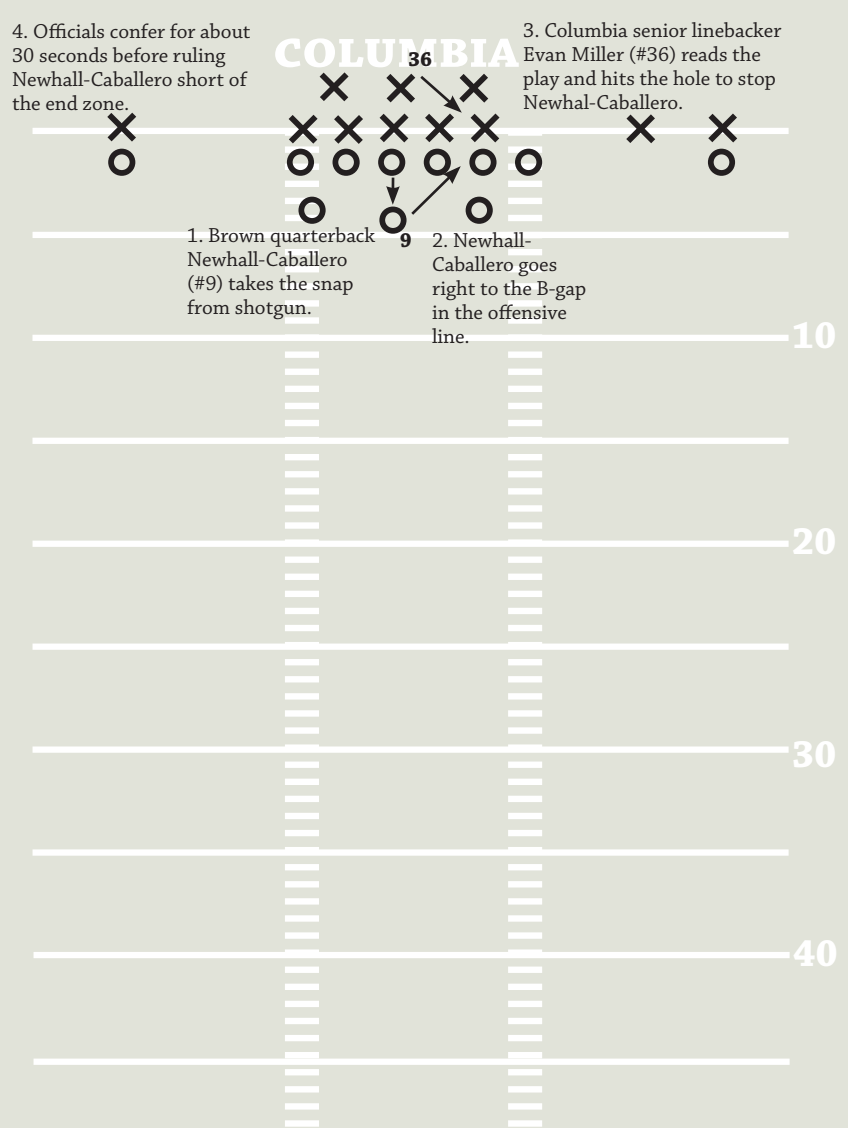


GAME NINE
@ CORNELL
L 62-41

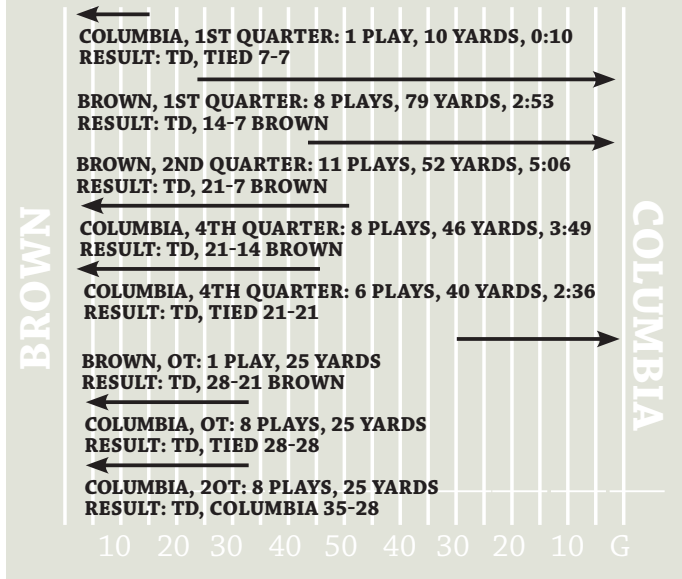


GAME TEN
VS. BROWN
W 35-28

PLAY OF THE GAME



KEY DRIVES



IVY LEAGUE FOOTBALL STANDINGS				
IVY	IVY	OVERALL	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST
HARVARD	7-0	9-1	374	171
BROWN	4-3	7-3	236	186
PENN	4-3	5-5	249	252
YALE	4-3	5-5	239	262
DARTMOUTH	4-3	5-5	220	219
CORNELL	3-4	5-5	313	287
PRINCETON	1-7	1-9	174	325
COLUMBIA	1-7	1-9	211	328

PIXBOX STANDINGS: WEEK 10

1	Jim "On the Couch" Pagels	53-35
2	Mrinal "Word on the Street" Mohanka	51-37
2	Jeremiah "Sharf Attack" Sharf	51-37
4	Victoria "Batting a Thousand" Jones	50-38
5	Myles "A Second Opinion" Simmons	49-39
6	Zach "Boom goes the Dynamite" Glubiak	48-40
7	Ronnie "Squeaky Bum Time" Shaban	47-41
8	Ryan "Roar Ryan Roar" Young	45-43
9	Benjamin "The Top Spin" Spener	42-46
10	Michael "Turn Up the Mike" Shapiro	41-47



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CELEBRATION | Columbia football players storm the field after Saturday’s victory over Brown. The win puts the team at 1-9 for the season, saving it from a notorious position in school history.

Lions come back to force overtime and win, 35-28, thanks to heroics from Brackett

FOOTBALL from back page

Murphy came up big for the Lions on the Bears’ next possession with a 12-yard sack on third down. The Lions drove 40 yards in six plays, including a critical 26-yard third down pass completion to senior wide receiver Mike Stephens to tie the game at 21. Brackett capped off the drive with a one-yard touchdown run with 5:06 remaining in the game.

Brown’s Alexander Noroce missed a field goal attempt inside of two minutes that gave the Lions a shot to win the game in regulation. Brackett

drove the Lions deep into Bear territory and found a wide-open Williams over the middle of the field for a first down. Eventually, Columbia sent out Eddy for the 40-yard field goal attempt to try and win the game with 13 seconds on the clock.

Brown’s special teams, which had come closer and closer to blocking Eddy’s extra point attempts, finally connected and blocked the kick. In the final play of regulation, Brown’s Hail Mary pass was intercepted by Morand to send the game to overtime.

In the additional period,

Brown was the first team on offense. On the first play, Newhall-Caballero scrambled in the pocket and found senior wide receiver Jimmy Saros all alone in the end zone.

Columbia knew it needed to get into the end zone to keep the game going.

On fourth and one from the 16, Brackett was stopped short, but his second effort gave him the first down. On the next play, Brackett found sophomore tight end Hamilton Garner in the end zone for the tying touchdown.

“In overtime it’s about will,” Brackett said. “You just have to

want it more. If you ask anyone on the team how they felt about the game, they didn’t want to be denied.”

In the second overtime, the Lions kept the football in the hands of Brackett, who finished the day with five total touchdowns, on three straight plays. Brackett capped off the drive by spinning out of trouble and beating the entire Brown defense down the sideline into the end zone.

On their possession, the Bears had a first and goal from the four-yard line. As it did the entire second half, the Columbia defense played

extremely stoutly, forcing a fourth and goal from the one. On the final play of the game, Columbia’s Miller was able to tackle Newhall-Caballero, but it was unclear whether the quarterback had broken the plane of the goal line.

Brown’s defense and Columbia’s offense huddled around the referees as they discussed the call. After what seemed like an eternity, the head referee emerged from the fray to declare that Brown had come up short.

After the call, the rest of the squad stormed the field in euphoria to celebrate the team’s

first overtime win since 1996—the last time the Light Blue had a winning season.

“We dug deep as a team,” Miller said. “We’ve been doing that all season. I’m happy we finally got a win.”

With the win, the Lions improved their senior day record under Wilson to 5-1, something the coach was very proud of.

“This is a good group of seniors,” Wilson said. “They put their heart and soul into it today. Monday they’ll still be disappointed about being 1-9, but they’ll have a good story about their senior season to talk to their kids about.”

Tumultuous week for Light Blue sports

It's been a crazy week.

I don't think anyone will disagree with me for saying that. First, the band gets banned from the football game. Then, the band gets unbanned from the football game. Next, our football team actually wins. Finally, head football coach Norries Wilson is fired.

I'm exhausted just reflecting back on all of it. Some of it was depressing. Some of it was amazing. All of it was exhausting to be around.

But amid all of the craziness, there's one more thing to remember: For any seniors involved with the football team, this is it. It's over.

So, while we're all focused on so many other things about this past week, I think it's important to remember, that for about 40 people, fall as we know it is over.

I say about 40 because there are more people invested in the football season than most people realize.

There are, of course, the 24 seniors on the football team. These are the guys whose lives are easily the ones most affected. There are also 13 seniors in the band, and then there's me. This analysis may seem selfish, and I suppose it is, but I'm affected, too, just like the band is, just like the players are.

For all of us seniors, things are about to change mighty quickly. The changes for the players are obvious: It's over. No more football.

For the members of the band, no more football games. The void is smaller than it is for the players—and it will be filled with basketball—but they've played their last football game after four years of attendance.

And for me, my time covering the team has come to a close. There are a couple loose ends to tie up this week—but after that, my Saturdays are suddenly going to be very free, and I'm going to have a much smaller presence on these pages.

For all of us, it's going to be weird. But, that's what I think made this Saturday's game so special, and it's why I don't want the result of that game to be lost among the news of Coach Wilson's firing and the commotion about the band.

Saturday's game was a game of heart. It was a fight for respect, both external and internal. It was a fight to be able to walk out of the stadium with your head held high.

When it comes down to it, how much did Saturday's game matter? Brown wasn't going to win the league anyway. The best the Bears could hope for was second, and they got that despite losing. The Lions were 0-9, and a place in the Ivy cellar was long reserved for them. There was really nothing to gain other than a little happiness.

But despite the lack of hope for salvaging the season, the Light Blue participated in what was truly a lion fight. The team rallied in the fourth quarter, and the players earned their right to a showdown in overtime—they worked for every yard and every stop they earned.

It was amazing to watch. Heart-attack-inducing, but amazing. To stop Brown before the goal line like they did four times in a row, that's something really special and quite impressive.

As someone who loves the team, it was so hard to sit in the press box, unable to scream or cheer or celebrate, but watching the team crowd the sideline and sing "Roar, Lion, Roar" made up for it more than anything, because they worked so hard for that win and deserved that moment of joy more than anything.

Yesterday's win, in my opinion, was a perfect showing of determination and willpower.

I think junior quarterback Sean Brackett phrased it best in the post-game press conference when he said, "I think in overtime, it's just will. You just have to want it more. I think if you ask anyone on the team how they felt about the game, they didn't want to be denied."

So on behalf of all the seniors who aren't on the field each Saturday but are always there, thank you. It's been a rough season and a crazy week with more craziness ahead, but ending with a game like that makes all the difference.



VICTORIA JONES

Batting a Thousand

Lions stun Brown in 2OT, avoiding winless infamy

BY SPENCER GYORY
Spectator Staff Writer



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ONE AND DONE | After mounting a furious fourth-quarter comeback, the Lions shocked Brown to salvage a win in 2011.

Men's basketball loses weekend game to American

BY MUNEEB ALAM
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia (0-3) fell 66-58 to American (2-2) on Saturday night. American senior forward Charles Hinkle scored 21 points and added seven rebounds, of which 16 points and five rebounds came in the second half. Junior guard Daniel Munoz added 14 points with five assists, and senior guard Troy Brewer had 13 points and three steals for the Eagles. Columbia junior guard Brian Barbour had a season-high 18 points, while junior center Mark Cisco had his first career double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds in the loss.

For the second straight game, the Lions stayed neck and neck with their opponents, leading for much of the game without ever being able to establish a large lead, but eventually fell behind for good late in the second half.

"We played a good 32, 32 solid minutes, then broke down a little for four, and then the final bit a little, too," Barbour said.

The first half was largely even, with

neither team able to establish a consistent offensive presence—thanks in part to aggressive defense. Of 31 total rebounds in the first half, 24 were taken by the defending team. That number was 45 of 56 including the second half. Despite the physical tone the teams set in front of their baskets in the opening period, they only committed six fouls between them, surrendering seven total foul shots.

"We always try to play through the post, and this week we made a special emphasis on passing it in."

—Mark Cisco,
junior center

"We always try to play through the post, and this week we made a special

emphasis on passing it in," Cisco said. "This week we worked a lot on post defense every single day and me keeping my hands up and not reaching in."

Columbia won the tip-off and took a 2-0 lead on a Barbour jump shot but fell behind by as many as eight before pulling out to a 24-20 lead with 1:23 left in the half. The Eagles recovered in the closing stages of the half, and the teams went to the locker rooms tied at 26. Columbia committed eight turnovers in the half, compared to just four by American.

Hinkle was limited to two points early on after scoring a career-high 27 his last outing, an Eagle win over Florida Atlantic. Sophomore center Tony Wroblicky, after registering seven blocks in that game, finished the first half with no points, a rebound, and two fouls.

The second half featured more back-and-forth play, with neither team able to take a lead larger than four points until late in the game. The foul totals, however, began to climb up. By the time Hinkle was fouled on a three-point attempt with 7:28 to go, Columbia had five fouls, American

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 6

CU men to compete in Nationals for first time

BY REBEKA COHAN
AND ROBERT WREN GORDON
Columbia Daily Spectator

There aren't many Lions teams competing on the national level, but the cross country teams will be competing with the nation's best today. The men's cross country team, along with women's cross country runner freshman Waverly Neer, will

represent the Lions at the NCAA National Championships at Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Ind.

The men are ranked 23rd nationally and received an at-large bid last weekend after placing five runners in the top 23 in the NCAA Northeast Regionals, even though the team finished third overall after Syracuse and Iona. This will be the first appearance at the NCAA Championships for the men's squad.



JOSÉ GIRALT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TITLE HUNT | After earning an at-large bid last week, the Lions will make the school's first appearance at the NCAA National Championships today.

In what was the final Columbia football game of the Norries Wilson era, the Light Blue avoided its first winless season since 1987 by defeating Brown (7-3, 4-3 Ivy) in a 35-28 double-overtime thriller.

A stagnant offensive performance—which had 18 total yards and one first down—meant the Lions were behind 21-7 going into halftime. Six defensive takeaways kept the Lions close throughout the game, and in the second half and overtime the offense did what it had to do to come out on top.

"We talked last night and today that we can't accept trying is doing," head coach Wilson said. "We can't accept mediocrity. You can't accept it for yourself, your teammates, and your coaches. Today, they didn't accept mediocrity."

COLUMBIA	35
BROWN	28

"This game was not an overtime game," Brown head coach Phil Estes said. "This game should have been over long before that. We handed every opportunity for them to get back into the game—penalties, turnovers, and just poor execution. Columbia persevered and did a great job of hanging in there. They deserved to win the game, period."

On Brown's first drive of the game, Columbia senior cornerback Neil Schuster undercut and intercepted Bears quarterback Kyle Newhall-Caballero's deep pass at Columbia's 11-yard line. However, Columbia gave back the momentum on just its second play from scrimmage when senior wide receiver Kurt Williams fumbled the football on the Lions' own 17-yard line. Brown linebacker Matt O'Donnell recovered it next to the sideline and returned it for the touchdown to put the Bears up 7-0. Williams' fumble was the first of eight fumbles by both teams.

Five minutes into the first quarter, Light Blue sophomore defensive back Marquel Carter stripped the ball away from Brown tight end Alex Harris. Columbia senior cornerback Ross Morand recovered the ball and ran back 26 yards to the Brown 10-yard line. It took the Light Blue just two plays to tie the game as junior quarterback Sean Brackett ran it in from two yards out.

For the rest of the first half, Brown's offense controlled the clock and the scoreboard while the Columbia offense stagnated. A nine-yard pass from Newhall-Caballero to wide receiver Matt Sudfeld capped off an eight-play, 79-yard drive 10 minutes into the first quarter. The trend continued two minutes into the second quarter when Newhall-Caballero found Sudfeld again in the end zone, putting the Bears up 21-7.

Brown nearly went up by three touchdowns late in the second quarter, but Columbia senior defensive back A.J. Maddox made a praiseworthy break on a Newhall-Caballero pass on Columbia's six-yard line, intercepting the ball and returning it 77 yards before being forced out of bounds by the Brown quarterback. The offense was unable to convert the opportunity into points after sophomore kicker Luke Eddy missed a 31-yard field goal attempt late in the second quarter.

Throughout the 2011 season, the Lions have allowed games to get away from them in the third quarter. However, on Saturday, the defense didn't allow that to happen.

A costly fumble on a handoff between Brackett and sophomore running back Griffin Lowry gave Brown the football on the Lions two-yard line. The defense held stout, and senior linebacker Evan Miller stripped the ball away from a scrambling Newhall-Caballero on third and goal. Miller's classmate Schuster emerged from the pile with the football.

"For this season, that wasn't Columbia football," Wilson said. "They went and played. It's not lost on me that they didn't in the nine prior weeks, but they got it done today."

Another fumble by Newhall-Caballero, forced by Columbia linebacker Ryan Murphy and recovered by defensive lineman Seyi Adebayo, gave Columbia a great chance to cut into the Bears' two-score lead. With 9:36 remaining in the fourth quarter, Brackett spun in for a two-yard touchdown.

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