



ZARA CASTANY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LET IT BURN | The USenate passed a proposal that would prohibit smoking within 20 feet of all campus buildings on Friday.

USenate passes partial smoking ban resolution

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

After intense debate, the University Senate passed a resolution to prohibit smoking within 20 feet of all campus buildings on the Morningside campus on Friday despite the fact that most senators wanted to pass a full ban instead.

The passed resolution was a revised version of the original resolution that called for a 50-foot smoking ban, which was presented at the November meeting of the senate.

Alex Frouman, a Columbia College student senator, said that the executive committee and the external relations committee altered the resolution after reviewing the layout of the campus.

If a 50-foot ban was put in place, then it would be a de facto ban on East Campus, which

does not include any space that is not within 50 feet of the buildings, he said. Further, because of these large differences in certain areas of campus, senators were concerned that the policy would be harder to enforce.

This policy will correspond to New York State law, which calls for a smoking prohibition within 20 feet of college residence halls. The few buildings on campus that already have 50-foot policies in place will change their policies to correspond to the 20-foot rule, he said.

Before the resolution was voted on, there were several failed attempts to add an amendment that would change the resolution's policy to a full ban on campus.

School of Engineering and Applied Science senator Soulaymane Kachani and Business School senator Mark Cohen both put forth

amendments for a full ban on campus.

"We should consider a far more draconian proposal ... which in fact says there are no smoking on campus," Cohen said during the meeting. Cohen argued that a 20-foot policy is inappropriate and a full ban should be discussed, especially since the Columbia University Medical Center already has a full ban and Barnard College is currently discussing one.

Cohen also argued that the Morningside Heights ban should include both the closed-off Morningside campus—bounded by 114th and 120th streets as well as Broadway and Amsterdam—and the other campus buildings at Morningside outside of this space.

However, Esteban Reichberg, a student senator from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation,

spoke out against a full ban.

Reichberg is a severe asthmatic, has lost three of his grandparents to smoking, and is one of the few nonsmokers in a largely smoking family. But he said that he did not feel comfortable with the ban.

"I do not feel comfortable telling people what to do, what to put in their bodies," he said.

One of the smoking ban's largest opponents in the senate, Business School Senator Michael Addler, was absent on Friday.

Despite his absence, Addler proposed one amendment, via a message to Business School Student Senator Tao Tan, to have a minor word change on the resolution. He asked that the section that called for the policy to be reviewed "in two years" be changed to "within two years."

SEE BAN, page 2

SIPA warns students to avoid WikiLeaks

Email from Career Services sparks free speech debate

BY CONSTANCE BOOZER
Columbia Daily Spectator

The School of International and Public Affairs warned students on Friday to avoid tweets, Facebook comments, or other posts about the recently released WikiLeaks documents.

In an email sent out to SIPA students, the Office of Career Services said that an alumnus from the U.S. State Department recommended against posting links to or making comments on social media sites about WikiLeaks, a controversial website that releases government information. The site has received attention most recently due to a leak of a quarter-million confidential American diplomatic cables.

The email from SIPA—forwarded to Spectator and also posted on a blog called The Arabist last Thursday—said that the WikiLeaks documents are still considered classified and that posts about them could hurt students' chances of getting jobs in the federal government.

Representatives from SIPA and the OCS did not respond to requests for comment this weekend.

Although the email stated that the advice came from an alumnus, State Department spokesman Philip Crowley told The Huffington Post that he has no knowledge of this advice being given to individuals outside the State Department.

On campus, this recent incident—which has received media attention from multiple major news outlets—has sparked debate about the ethics of studying international politics.

"Note to the U.S. government: We know this is bad for you. Don't make it worse by criminalizing everyone who studies

international politics," Gary Sick, senior research scholar at SIPA's Middle East Institute and an adjunct professor of international and public affairs, said in an email.

"The culprit is the government security system that utterly collapsed and permitted this unprecedented breach. The answer is to fix that system, not to criminalize those who merely receive the information in their inboxes," Sick said.

Rohini Haar, a student at the Mailman School of Public Health, said that the incident is disturbing. In one class on human rights abuses, she said, "We examined the disparities between the Iraqi body counts released on WikiLeaks and the Iraq war logs." But she added, "Due to the recent email, many students in the class are worried whether this project might hurt them in the future."

Despite concerns over free speech, some students said that the Office of Career Services should not be vilified for giving this advice.

"They were simply doing their job—imparting advice on how to strengthen our candidacy for a State Department or other governmental job," Stephen Lee, SIPA '12, said. "If you read the email, they say they are simply passing along information. OCS is not telling us how to think."

He added, "I do not think this is an example of suppressing speech. They merely recommend us to keep our Facebook profiles clean."

Jamal Greene, associate professor of law, said that Columbia is within its rights. "It is not constitutionally problematic for a private university to make students aware of the negative consequences of their speech

SEE SIPA, page 2

POTUS Project, moving slowly, prepares to up efforts

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Almost two months into the POTUS Project, Columbia College Senior Class President Sean Udell said that the project has been progressing slowly, and that he hopes that organizers can use the winter break to ramp up efforts.

So far, POTUS, the Columbia College Student Council's effort to get President Barack Obama, CC '83, to speak at Commencement in May, has held a few events to give students a chance to write personal letters to the president that beseech him to come to campus.

Udell said that these events have been moderately successful, but the group is hoping to increase their efforts. Members have gathered about 100 letters so far, he said, and their goal is to reach about 1000.

They would also like various student groups around campus to contribute to the project, he said. So far, the group has received one submission from the Columbia University Wind Ensemble, who recorded a CD for the president, as well as a few letters from other campus groups. Ideally, Udell said they would like to send in 50 projects from student organizations.

"The project is definitely moving slower than I had anticipated," Udell said.

But Rachel Mark, CC '11 and one of the media directors for

the project, was a little more optimistic.

"I think that given what we've done so far, it's going well," Mark said.

Organizers said the effort's primary problems have been its over-extended students, lack of communication, and little involvement from the other class councils.

"We really want to put student groups' work on display, and for individual voices to come out."

—Sean Udell, CCSC senior class president

School of Engineering and Applied Science Senior Class President Amanda Tan said that SEAS hasn't been involved very much so far due to scheduling conflicts with the meetings, but that the Engineering Student Council is in full support of the project and plans to have its first letter-writing session during its Winter Holiday Study Break this Friday.

"We will definitely be getting more involved in the project," Tan said.

SEE POTUS, page 2

Harlem residents respond to Charles Rangel's censure

BY DAPHNE CHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

The House of Representatives has voted to formally censure embattled Rep. Charles Rangel on 11 ethics violations—but back in his Harlem district, residents say they have mixed feelings about the decision.

Rangel's censure, given by Nancy Pelosi on the floor of the House, lasted only 45 seconds, but some say it will significantly color his long political career, which has included time chairing the powerful Ways and Means Committee as well as representing Harlem for over 40 years.

And to some constituents who remain loyal, Rangel's public punishment—for violations that range from failures to report income to unauthorized fundraising—was simply too harsh.

"With the total collapse of the financial system, with people losing their pensions, their retirements, their homes, in finding the individuals responsible for that, how did they come up with Charlie Rangel?" Harlem resident Sayeed Saladeen said. "With the robbing, the theft of the people, why is it that all we come up with is Charlie Rangel?"

Censure is a public reprimand of in front of Congress and the most serious punishment short of expulsion. Censured representatives are not removed from office, but are forced to give up any committee

chair positions. Rangel's censure is the first of a House member in 27 years, and amid rising political tensions, some questioned its severity.

"He didn't take money and put it in his pocket—it was to help other people," Harlem resident Shakur Afrikanus said, referring to one charge that questioned Rangel's fundraising for a City College of New York center that would be named after him. "This is a brutal attack from the mass media against black leaders."

Others, though, said they have lost trust in their representative.

"He just went overboard, thinking that he's Charlie Rangel," said Leova Tompkins, who has lived in Harlem since she was 3. Now almost 65, she has no sympathy for Rangel.

"He hasn't done something for the blacks in a long time," she said. "Maybe he didn't steal millions and millions, but he should have known better."

But despite battling ethics charges for over two years, the 80-year-old Congressman was re-elected last month with more than 80 percent of the vote.

"If you look at his whole body of service, there's a lot more positives than negatives," said Andrew Siwo, a Harlem resident who received his MPA from the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs. "He was very defiant and wouldn't go down the way they wanted him to go down."

Resident Gregory Barnwell agreed, and accused the vote—which was 333 to 79 for



DAPHNE CHEN FOR SPECTATOR

CENSURED | Rep. Charles Rangel, above at a September rally for Andrew Cuomo in Harlem, was censured last week.

the censure, with only two Republicans voting against—of being highly partisan.

"I don't think he was corrupt," Barnwell said. "But unfortunately, the Republicans are starting to gain power in Congress."

Before the formal vote to censure, Rangel spoke to the House to take "full credit" for what he has stated was sloppy accounting, but not corruption.

"I brought it on myself," Rangel said, according to news reports. "But I still believe that this body has to be guided by fairness."

Melvin Christian, housing chair of Community Board 10 in Harlem, said that it was time to move past this case altogether.

"I'm going to leave it alone at this point," he said. "Whatever happened has happened, and we need to move on."

news@columbiaspectator.com

OPINION, PAGE 4

Beyond a diploma

Derek Turner discusses the true worth of a Columbia education.

Miseducation

Education should be unbiased.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Lions score last-minute win over Stony Brook

Columbia avenged last year's loss to the Seawolves on Saturday, beating them 73-72 in a nail-biting game with two seconds left to play. The win gives the Lions an overall record of 4-4.

EVENTS

Brown Bag Lecture

Learn about the emergence of women's competitive sports in Japan. 918 SIPA, 12 p.m.

Innovating for Development

Listen to a leadership forum on sustainable development. 1501 SIPA, 6:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



36°/28°

Tomorrow



37°/26°

USenate passes partial smoking ban resolution

BAN from front page

This change was extremely minor compared to the amendment he tried to get through in November, which called for smoking shelters to be installed on campus if a ban was passed. By a show of hands, 31 senators favored the 20-foot resolution, and 13 opposed with two abstaining. Many senators emphasized the fact that a full ban could be discussed after the 20-foot resolution was passed. Ron Mazor, a student senator from the Columbia Law School, said after the meeting that he was shocked at how quickly the 20-foot resolution was passed.

The 20-foot policy was hardly discussed at all except when discussing a possible full-ban amendment. After the resolution vote, many senators trickled out of the room, and a straw vote was held to determine the senate’s sentiments regarding a full smoking ban in both continuous and noncontinuous spaces at the Morningside campus. Twenty-seven senators proved to be in favor with 10 opposed and two abstentions. After the meeting, Mazor also expressed surprise at how quickly the senate’s discussion turned from a 20-foot ban to a full one and thus discarded the

recommendations given to the senate by the Tobacco Work Group—the body that spent two years gathering opinions from students and faculty and studying local laws, policies at peer institutions, and current literature on tobacco and its long-term effects. Mazor also believed the conversation disregarded the opinion of the Columbia College Student Council, which unanimously decided to support the 20-foot ban but not a full one. He added that the people might bunch together at the gates, thus inconveniencing the nonsmokers who go through the campus entrances. *news@columbiaspectator.com*

CCSC hopes to increase POTUS Project efforts after break

POTUS from front page

Despite the low number of letters, Udell believes students are generally supportive of the initiative. “We’re just having a difficulty of communicating the real power their voice can have in all this,” he said, adding that, if more letters do not come in, they might consider starting a petition instead. After winter break, organizers said they would like to step up the pace for the project and increase awareness. Mark said that she believes a lot of students don’t understand what the project is about, and that the group plans to combat that after break through more events. Specifically, Udell and Mark both said they plan to reach out to more student groups to try to increase their participation in the project.

She commented that most students here already work so hard and volunteer, and “we just kind of want to highlight that activity in our project.” Mark also said that the group is trying to emphasize that their movement is apolitical. They want Obama to come here because of his alumni status and his achievements, not because of his political party. Udell added that the project also has to combat the fact that there are several reasons why Obama might not want to come speak at Columbia, including the fact that it is an Ivy League institution that he has publicly called “cold” towards its students. Therefore, Udell said students need to work to get the president here. Columbia students often feel a “sense of entitlement” in regards to hosting famous speakers, he said, adding that such entitlement is misguided. “If students are interested in having notable speakers, they have to invite them and work to get them,” Udell said, adding that there are many other colleges at which Obama could speak in May. *news@columbiaspectator.com*

SIPA warns against WikiLeaks

SIPA from front page

acts. Columbia is not bound by the First Amendment since it is not a state actor,” he said in an email. Greene, though, said that the email does leave some unanswered questions for the State Department if it did actually pass along the message—raising the possibility that “the State Department might be violating the First Amendment by threatening prospective employees not to exercise their free speech rights.” Vincent Blasi, law professor of civil liberties, said that he would not have forwarded the message along if he ran the career services office. “In a political system that embraces the freedom of speech, the federal government ought not to take into account in making hiring decisions whether a job applicant passed on or responded to once-classified information that has already been published,” he said in an email. *Sammy Roth contributed reporting. news@columbiaspectator.com*



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DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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12/04
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12/09
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LL200 Diana Center

12/10
SILENCE
8 PM
Glicker-Milstein Black Box Theatre,
LL200 Diana Center

12/11
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120th Street

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WRESTLING

Columbia competes in Las Vegas, two wrestlers place seventh

Columbia's wrestling team traveled to Las Vegas this past weekend to compete in the prestigious Cliff Keen Las Vegas Collegiate Wrestling Invitational, a tournament that attracted 36 schools from around the country.

While the Lions were completely out after the first day last year, senior Eren Civan and junior co-captain Kevin Lester managed to survive through the second day of the tournament, both placing seventh overall. Heavyweight Lester managed to win his first two matches of the day and advance into the championship bracket, returning later that night to wrestle Central Michigan's Jarod Trice, the top-ranked seed in the tournament and

fifth-ranked nationally. Trice and Lester had met once before at University Nationals this past April, a freestyle tournament where they battled in the finals for first and second. Lester fell to Trice in April, and he unfortunately fell this time as well in a close 6-3 decision. Lester then dropped down into the consolation bracket and defeated Levi Cooper of Arizona State before being defeated by Wisconsin's Eric Bugenhagen. However, the junior bounced back to win his final match of the tournament against No. 18 David Morgan of Cal State Bakersfield, 3-2 and claimed seventh place with the result.

With seven being the lucky number of the day in Sin City,

Civan wrestled his way to a seventh-place victory as well. The 165-pound Civan kicked off the tournament with a victory over Boise State's Kurt Schwartz, then dropped his next match to Dan Yates of Michigan. Civan went on to dominate a Harvard wrestler and then one from Utah Valley, concluding his first day of the tournament. He went on to narrowly defeat Illinois' Conrad Polz, but then lost to Joe Booth of Drexel in overtime. Civan ultimately earned seventh in the tournament after a medical forfeit from Yates.

The Lions return to the mat in January 2011 with a dual against Army in West Point, N.Y.

—Meredith Mead

Insider tips for the Ivy League fantasy basketball championship

LOPEZ from page 6

is a player that flies in under the radar going into the season but explodes on the scene as a solid fantasy selection. Owners love sleepers because when chosen correctly, sleepers can put a team over the top (and can make the owner look like a genius). My Columbia sleeper pick for the year is freshman guard Dyami Starks. Playing just under 17 minutes per game, Starks is averaging 8.8 points per game on impressive shooting from both the three-point line and free throw line—his percentages are .514 and .467,

respectively. He's still young, but from what I've seen, he has the potential to be a potent scorer. Unfortunately, he doesn't give you much else, as his rebounding and defensive statistics aren't good.

Columbia is just one team in the Ivies, and there are plenty of others players in the league that have high fantasy value, but I'm not going to give away all my secrets just yet. After all, I have a fantasy championship to win.

Bart Lopez is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-mathematics. sports@columbiaspectator.com

MEN'S SWIMMING

Lions third in first day of competition

This past weekend, the men's swimming and diving team had a strong showing in the Big Al Invitational in Princeton, N.J.

After the first day of competition, the Lions were in third place with 185 points, trailing only Princeton and the University of Florida. Senior Adam Powell won both the preliminary and final heats of the 50 free. The 400 medley relay team consisting of Powell and juniors Jonny Bailey, John-Howard Sidman, and Bruno Esquen finished in second place. Columbia came third in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a team of Powell, freshmen Daniel Tan and Kai Schultz, and sophomore John Wright, finishing only one second behind the top team. Sophomore diver Jason Collazo was fifth in the 2m competition and also qualified for the final of the men's 1m dive.

Day two of the competition again left the Light Blue in third place overall with a total of 390 points. The 200 medley relay team finished in second. Esquen qualified for the 100 fly championship finals after coming fourth place overall. In the 100 back, Bailey qualified for the championship finals with Powell, who was the top qualifier. Freshman Erik Mai finished eighth overall in the 100 breast, qualifying for the championship finals.

The Lions return to action on Sunday, Jan. 16 in a home meet against Bucknell at Uris Pool. The meet will kick off at 1 p.m.

—Rebeka Cohan



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WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Swimming beats Wagner College 158-112, diving places eighth at Princeton

The Columbia women's swimming and diving team had a successful weekend, with the swim team topping Wagner College 158-112 and diving representing the Light Blue at the Big Al Invitational from Friday to Sunday.

At Uris Pool on Saturday, the Lions kicked off the meet with a win in the 200 medley relay, with the team of Alena Kluge, Amanda Stewart, Caroline Lukins, and Mariele Dunn taking first with a combined effort of 1:50.15.

The Light Blue continued to surge ahead of the Seahawks, taking the top three spots in the 500 free, 200 individual medley, 100 fly, and 200 free. Coming in first in the 500 free was freshman Aileen Smith, followed by teammates Molly Dengler and Abby Reilly. In the 200 IM, it was sophomore star Katie Meili who took first, followed by Kluge and Grace Senko. Lukins won the 100 fly in 57.44, with Kristina Parsons and Dunn placing second and third, respectively. In the 200 free sweep Smith took first, Caitlin Rogers placed second, and Paige Endsley finished

third.

One of the closest races of the meet was the 50 free, in which sophomore Bunge Okeyo and senior Ashley MacLean went 1-2 with less than a second's difference between their times of 25.06 and 25.31. The 50 back was another close contest among the Lions, with Rogers winning the event in 28:03, just ahead of Lacey Harris-Coble, who finished in 28:18.

At Princeton, the women's diving team finished eighth overall, with freshman Liana Diamond earning points for the Lions in the 1m, 3m, and platform diving events. In the 3m diving, Diamond placed 16th overall, while in the 1m event, she took 17th. In the platform diving competition, Diamond took sixth, good for 13 points.

With their win over Wagner, the Lions' record improves to 1-2 for dual meets this season and 0-2 in the league. They will have their next chance to take on an Ivy team this weekend when they travel to Penn for their meet on Friday, Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. in Philadelphia.

—Julia Garrison

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Columbia’s Christmas gift

Whether our finals-wracked minds will allow us to recog- nize it or not, our four-week winter break stands only a couple of weeks away. The bliss of unrestricted re- laxation is ours for the taking come the end of this semester’s intellectual decathlon. We become free to pursue whatever pleasures we have post- poned for the past four months, some having to do more with flat screens and duvets than others.

Besides catching up, many of us will partake in some sort of tradition in which we receive and unwrap sub-arboreal gifts with the family. I think it important to remind us of a gift we seldom remember. It is one which we are still in the midst of receiving and for which we ought to be thankful. I refer to the gift of education, particularly the Core-centered education we receive at this fine institution that we call home.

Undoubtedly, it is humbling to know that a college education represents a blessing. It is a gift indeed that the vast majority of our world, sadly, will never experience. We can do more than be humbled, however. As any gift giver knows, the satisfaction of giving is often derived from seeing that the gift is being put to good use. To see a gift discarded or underutilized is a Christmas tragedy.

In the same way, the gift of Columbia’s pedagogi- cal tradition lies not in the manner of its reception, but rather the method of its implementation. We can see our training here as the acquisition of all-trumping cocktail party references to Montaigne, Foucault, or Cicero, and we can wield it with all the power that it entails. Because



**DEREK
TURNER**

Opening Remarks

even though it may come across as unnecessarily lofty to speak of the Core Curriculum’s relevance and effec- tiveness, it really does give us powerful tools to apply to our lives.

One would be hard-pressed to find a student at Columbia who, upon boarding the plane back home, considers every loose string or open question in his or her life concluded with the completion of exams and es- says. I suspect instead that for many of us, winter break frequently represents time to tackle the questions that do not fit snugly into our history, biology, or anthropol- ogy syllabi. I’ve often found myself asking, “What are my true motivations? What sort of person do I want to be? Is there a purpose to all the work we do beyond our GPAs’ heft?”

“What are my true motivations?

What sort of person do I want to be?

Is there a purpose to all the work we do beyond our GPAs’ heft?”

The answers to such questions, should we choose to pursue them, are not beyond our reach. We are not at the mercy of the minds that we encounter around the fireplaces and barstools of home. Instead, by way of Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities, we have been introduced to some of the greatest thinkers

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Law school wrong road for public interest work

To the Editor:

In the Nov. 29 op-ed “Changing life trajectories, ending educational inequality,” Linda Baffo encourages members of the class of 2011 who want to make a difference to consider Teach for America. As a third-year student at Columbia Law School, I write to urge those students to reconsider another career path traditionally chosen by students who want to make a difference: law school.

Though many students enter law school intending to pursue a career in public interest, few actually do so. Though some studies have found as many as 70 percent of students enter law school intending to practice public interest law, a 2005 National Association for Law Placement study found that only 4.8 percent actually do so post-graduation.

Sadly, Columbia Law School is no exception. Despite the efforts and support of dedicated individual members of the faculty and staff, a lack of transparency and insti- tutional support has led many of us students to feel that public interest is simply not supported here. As of last week, a high level of turnover at Social Justice Initiatives (the law school entity responsible for public interest ad- vising) means that there is now only one staff member remaining who worked in the office when current second- year students began their studies just over a year ago. To add insult to injury, we learned of this through an email that also essentially asked us to help find a replacement—implying that the law school has no plan or structure in place to replace SJI staff. Actions like this cannot help but make me wonder if public interest work is truly respected at the law school.

I am hopeful that the administration, students, and fac- ulty together will be able to resolve many of these issues and create an atmosphere at the law school where public interest students feel supported. But I urge the class of 2011 to think long and hard about whether law school is indeed the best path to making a difference and whether the law school is able to lead them there.

Lisa Knox
Columbia Law School ’11
Dec. 5, 2010

STAFF EDITORIAL

Misery is manifold

Columbia, now is the winter of our discontent.

As if by the will of some unholy being, we witness today the confluence of all things irksome, irritating, and infuriating.

This was the first week of December. The air is crisp in daytime, but at night, it chills to the bone. Wind whips across the bridge over Amsterdam Avenue, a tiny tempest above the streets of Morningside.

We are cold, and we are tired. We are all Atlases, struggling under the crushing weight of our impending examinations.

And lo! There are rules and regula- tions galore stifling our every attempt at recreation.

We cannot smoke near buildings but must brave the frigid weather on College Walk or Low Steps to inhale our nicotine sticks.

Oh, woe is the Columbian who hopes to bask in the reflective glory of this holi- day season!

We cannot light menorahs in our dorm rooms, so we are forced to spin our dreidels in the darkness or under the harsh blue glare of the fluorescent tubes above.

We cannot have Christmas trees, so we are forced to celebrate the Yuletide with paper snowflakes and bits of tinsel.

These are all grievances, and surely do we have more.

We are under attack from the harsh diktats of this imperious university. But we are also under attack from our own government. We cannot tweet about WikiLeaks, says the U.S. Department of State, lest we wish to compromise our pro- fessional futures once and forever.

We find enemies at home and many abroad. The nation of Qatar has stolen the glittering prize of the World Cup, a personal attack on our favorite teacher, Sunil Gulati.

We have not slept in weeks and may not sleep in more. A multitude of social op- portunities—concerts, parties, galas, and more—arise, but we have not the time to attend them.

Our library is teeming with the miser- able hordes, who sit for hours and days reading from their infernal textbooks.

Across the mighty Hudson still re- side our mortal enemies, the vile sweat- er-wearers of the once College of New Jersey, now known as Princeton. Every moment we spend here, our skins must crawl to know they are but a long stone’s throw away.

These are dark days, Columbia. What darker days we have not known.

And yet, these are also days of illumi- nation. We may slave away by lamplight, illuminating passages in textbooks, but outside true illumination abounds.

The trees on College Walk shimmer, a glowing forest beside the acropolis.

Electric reindeer prance upon the aw- ning of West Side Market.

And in Bryant Park, there is free ice skating for all.

This is the winter of our discontent. But even in this winter, there is a ray of hope. The warmth of this hope is just enough to melt the ice that’s grown in our hearts.

For we remember we are glad to be at Columbia.

And that we don’t go to Princeton.

this world has seen. Many have grappled with the same questions that face us now, and they had the foresight to write their own answers down. These answers are not foreign to us. However, they may need to be explored as actual arguments, not meaningless platitudes.

Socrates, for example, thought the “examined life” was the only one worth living. But do we think so? We have read that Burke considered the requirement of a good ruler to make a country “lovely to make it lovable.” Does that statement give us pause? Our freshman year exposed us to the tragedy-stricken Job and his steadfast faith in a God wiser than he. Do we consider the possibility of a God to trust in the first place? Yet another, Kant, posited that our motivations, not our actions, define who we are. When was the last time we considered the foundational motiva- tions of our lives? If you did, did you wonder, as Nietzsche would argue, whether your motivations were simply the constructions of the artificial society around us?

What we read and discuss in our classes is not sim- ply of use in the echoing halls of Hamilton and Butler. Because ideas have consequences, I urge you to realize that we spend four years developing a blueprint for per- sonal, interpersonal, and organizational development. These expansive implications do not always appear to be the most important ones, though. Too frequently, we treat this priceless education as a means to a diploma. We have infinitely more to gain than a GPA and a degree—we have the opportunity to develop character.

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security measures, some groups do protest (true, it is a nuisance), but the unquestionable fact is that many ter- rorist plots have been thwarted by the use of more strin- gent security guidelines. If the “Right to Education Week” events included any information acknowledging these comparable scenarios, it would have at least attempted to provide true education.

Taking an exceptional issue and exploiting it to serve as the status quo is not education.

As students in pursuit of a higher education, why should we stand for anything less than an unbiased, fac- tual report of the issues? Across from the demonstration, Columbia and Barnard provided informational handouts about checkpoints. Although a completely objective pre- sentation of facts is difficult to achieve regarding such an emotionally charged issue, they strove to provide accurate, reliable content. Handouts included facts such as, “Since implementation of checkpoints, terrorist activities in both Arab and Jewish neighborhoods have decreased” while acknowledging the controversy surrounding checkpoints with the note, “Checkpoints add difficulty and restrictions to everyday travel.” This model should be the standard for any event that deems itself “educational.”

I am concerned that the attempt by those organizing the “Right to Education Week” to provide education in a biased fashion undermines the validity of their arguments and certainly confuses the public, which may be unaware of the issues. We at Columbia should strive to have an open discussion replete with facts and objectivity, consistent with the academic standards of an Ivy League institu- tion. This open discussion should not include theatrics or a sensationalized approach to an already politically charged issue.

As people who seek a higher education, I call Columbians to fight against this phenomenon. We all de- serve much better than this.

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JODY’S DRAWINGS!



“Alright, you go first.”

JODY ZELLMAN

Picks for an Ivy basketball fantasy league

It's just about my favorite time of year, and I'm not referring to Christmas. I am of course talking about Ivy League basketball and my Ivy League fantasy basketball league. This isn't some run-of-the mill fantasy league. The winner gets enough beer to last him or her the semester, which is why I've already started thinking about which players I'm going to draft. Since Spectator won't be publishing when the Lions play their first Ivy game against Cornell on Jan. 15, I'll provide some insider fantasy information on the Columbia men's basketball players in this column.

As any fantasy owner will tell you, the first picks in the draft are reserved for the superstars of the league (the Kobes and the LeBrons). These players put up impressive statistics across the board, which is why they get the honor of hearing their names called first. The player most likely to represent Columbia in the first round is junior guard Noruwa Agho. Agho excels at all ranges, as he can score both by attacking the basket and by stepping out and knocking down jumpers. Agho is leading the team in points per game, 16.3, and assists, 35. Combine that with five rebounds per game and you've got yourself some solid fantasy production.

With a guard like Agho going in the first round, the second round would be a great opportunity to draft a big man who gets a lot of rebounds. Columbia's two possible second-round selections are senior forwards Asenso Ampim and Brian Grimes. As expected of big men, both Grimes and Ampim excel in the painted area. Grimes gives you decent scoring—6.3 points per game—and great rebounding with a team-high 7.3 boards per game. Ampim has the edge in points, 8.1 per game, while giving up in rebounds at 6.1 rebounds per game.

Two rounds in and you've got the beginnings of a good fantasy team. Nowadays, every good team has a good point guard, so that'll be the position to fill in round three. Taking the place of Patrick Foley, sophomore Brian Barbour is Columbia's starting point guard and a respectable third-round draft pick. Barbour, despite being a sophomore, gives you exactly what you would expect from a veteran point guard. Each night, he contributes 10.3 points and just under four assists while doing it all with impressive efficiency. Barbour is making over 40 percent of his shots from the field and nearly all his freebies at the line with a team-leading .912 free throw percentage. In leagues where shooting percentages matter, those last two statistics are especially important.

With your point guard safely secured, round four is where you can get creative and begin to address specific needs that your team may have. I'm going to go with a guy that can hit from beyond the arc, namely freshman guard Steve Frankoski. Frankoski is the Lions' three-point specialist, leading the team in three-point percentage at .431, and second leading scorer at 11 points per game. An added bonus, Frankoski leads the team in steals with 10. The season is still young, and there is always some risk in taking a freshman, but Frankoski has handled the transition to the college level quite well. He's coming off his best game of the season, leading Columbia to a win over Stony Brook, scoring 21 points on seven three-pointers. It will be interesting to see how he progresses by the time the Lions face their first Ivy rival in the Big Red.

The middle rounds often become a free-for-all since most owners don't plan out who they are going to select after the first four rounds. Depending on your team's makeup, you could draft a variety of players, from defensive specialists who force a lot of turnovers to more big men to pad rebounding. However, the late rounds, like the early rounds, are the perfect time to select a very specific type of player, namely the sleeper. What is the sleeper? A sleeper pick



BART LOPEZ

The Tailgating Tales

Lions pull out win over Seawolves in final seconds



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IN PASSING | Junior guard Noruwa Agho's passing helped Columbia to secure its 73-72 victory, in which he had a career-high eight assists.

LUCAS SHAW
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Last year, Stony Brook rallied from 12 points down to edge Columbia for its second consecutive victory over its in-state rivals. This year, the Lions (4-4) returned the favor, erasing an 18-point first-half deficit en route to a nail-biting 73-72 victory on Saturday at Levien Gymnasium. While the backcourt duo of Brian Barbour and Noruwa Agho struggled from the floor, freshman guard Steve Frankoski nailed seven three-pointers to key two comebacks, and a trio of big men delivered crucial performances off the bench.

"For us to start off the way we did and keep it together, to go from 18 down to 7 up is just a testament to these guys," head coach Kyle Smith said. "They believed in each other and that was great. Now Coach has to learn that lesson and keep his poise a little bit."

Smith was referring to a few moments during the game, including one in which he ran across the court to get the ear of a referee only to be brought back to the bench by Agho.

He had plenty of reasons to be upset early on in a game that saw the Lions fall behind right away. Stony Brook came out firing on all cylinders, knocking down their first four shots from the field and adding a pair of free throws for an early 12-3 lead.

On the opposite end of the floor, Brian Grimes was the only Lion active from the start. He used an array of post moves and timely offensive rebounds to score Columbia's first seven points and close the deficit to five.

That was the closest it would be for some time, as the Sea Wolves used a 19-6 run to take a commanding 31-13 advantage at the 9:18 mark.

"We weren't playing good defense, and to make matters worse, on offense, we were stagnant and didn't have much," Agho said.

Agho saw fit to change that, knocking down an NBA-length three-pointer to initiate the Light Blue onslaught. Though Stony Brook guard Bryan Dougher responded with his first bucket of the game, the Lions knocked down five more triples during a 19-2 run that tied the score at 37.

For a moment, it looked as if the Lions might even enter the locker room with a lead when Agho set up John Daniels. However, his shot was blocked, and Dougher made a fadeaway before the clock expired for a two-point halftime advantage for Stony Brook.

Asenso Ampim's play under the rim was also critical for the comeback. Though Ampim's minutes have fluctuated wildly this season, he grabbed five first-half rebounds, four of which came on the offensive end of the floor.

"He didn't get much of a chance

STONY BROOK
COLUMBIA

72
73

against American, but he was one of the first guys in the gym on Monday, and it's good to see that attitude and that behavior rewarded," Smith said.

After a first half of big runs, the second half was a seesaw affair. Each team took turns holding the lead, and neither seemed to want it for very long.

The Sea Wolves continued to knock down shots while the Light Blue's front-court reserves kept the game close. Ampim, Daniels, and Mark Cisco all made major contributions, combining for 32 points and 18 rebounds in the game.

"We were struggling to make shots to start off with, and as the game continued, it was really important that we stayed after the offensive boards to keep possessions alive," Daniels said.

"For us to start off the way we did and keep it together, to go from 18 down to seven up is just a testament to these guys."

— Kyle Smith,
men's basketball coach

Those rebounds eventually led to Frankoski's second outburst. Trailing 65-61 with less than seven minutes to play, Frankoski hit three triples over the next three minutes, and he was the only player to score in that span. All of his threes were assisted on a night when Columbia tallied 14 assists on 26 shots, led by Agho with eight.

"Noruwa, one of his best strengths, he's a great passer," Smith said. "He's been labeled as a great scorer, which he is, but he'll do whatever he has to do to help us win. People are sitting on him, and he's smart enough to use Steve as a weapon."

After Cisco added a pair of free throws, the Lions held a seven-point lead, their largest of the game. However, in keeping with the nature of the second half, Stony Brook would rally to tie the game with 0:23 seconds to play.

The last of those points came when Daniels made an ill-advised outlet pass, but he would soon get a chance to redeem himself. Daniels grabbed an offensive rebound with two seconds left and was fouled going back up, sending him to the line for two. He only made one, but that was all the Lions needed.

Women's basketball falls to Monmouth in seventh straight loss

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

COLUMBIA
MONMOUTH

64
67

The Columbia women's basketball team fell to 0-7 on Sunday with a 67-64 loss at Monmouth. While both teams scored 27 second-half points, Monmouth held a three-point halftime lead that proved costly for the Lions.

"We're obviously very, very disappointed with the outcome," head coach Paul Nixon said. "We certainly played well enough to win."

The three-point loss is the closest that Columbia has come to a victory this season. Nixon called his team's performance a "significant improvement" from the way that the Lions played against Wagner on Thursday night. That game ended for Columbia in a 69-50 defeat.

The Light Blue started Sunday's contest with a 7-0 run, scoring on three consecutive possessions after beginning the matchup with a miss and a turnover, but the game then became a back-and-forth affair. The Lions went almost three minutes without another field goal, during which time the Hawks scored four points.

With 12:09 left in the first half, Monmouth (5-2) tied the game at 9-9. Neither team gained much of an edge over the next few minutes, though the Hawks led 16-13 with 8:44 remaining. Freshman guard Brianna Orlich answered with five points for Columbia, giving the Lions an 18-16 advantage with 7:50 left. Monmouth, however, soon took a 21-18 lead.

With 2:36 until halftime, the Hawks held a 35-26 advantage, but the Lions did not fold. Columbia closed the half with an 11-5 run to trail 40-37 at the break. Not only

did the Lions outscore the Hawks in that final stretch, they also ended the half with a strong final possession. After freshman forward Courtney Bradford missed a jumper with five seconds left, senior guard Kathleen Barry grabbed the rebound and scored.

"It was a situation where there was what I would almost describe as a rugby scrum going on underneath the basket," Nixon said. "Courtney missed the first shot, and Kathleen just basically outjumped everybody and wound up with the ball and was able to lay it in."

Monmouth responded with a 6-0 run to start the second half, giving the Hawks a 46-37 lead, but Columbia did not stop fighting.

"We didn't go into panic mode," Nixon said. "We really buckled down at that point and came back."

The Lions answered with nine points, tying the score at 46-46 with 15:29 remaining. Missed shots and turnovers prevented the Light Blue from extending its run, but Monmouth built only a five-point lead.

Columbia went on another run, this time scoring eight points to gain a 54-51 advantage, but then missed six straight field goals, allowing the Hawks to take a 59-54 lead with 5:30 remaining. With 3:46 left, a three-point play by sophomore guard Alysha Womack gave Monmouth a 64-57 advantage.

Columbia kept the game close, however. Barry hit a trey that got the Lions within four points of the Hawks, and Bradford hit a layup on Columbia's next possession. With



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LOSING STREAK | Senior guard Kathleen Barry kept the score close in the Lions' 67-64 defeat to Monmouth on Sunday, scoring a game-high 18 points.

1:19 remaining, a jumper from senior center Lauren Dwyer cut the Hawks' lead to 66-64.

But Columbia did not score again. With the Lions down 67-64, freshman guard Taylor Ward missed a three-pointer at the buzzer that would have sent the game to overtime.

"We had a lot of opportunities in the game to not necessarily have it come down to the last possession, the last shot," Nixon said. "But we didn't capitalize on quite enough of those opportunities."

Barry scored a game-high 18 points for Columbia, shooting 8-for-12 from the field. She connected on two of three shots from long range. Bradford scored a career-high 13 points, hitting six of eight field goals and one of four free throws.

Four players scored in double figures for Monmouth. Womack led the Hawks with 15 points but missed 14 of 20 fieldw goals.

The Lions will have another chance at a victory when they host Fairfield this Thursday.