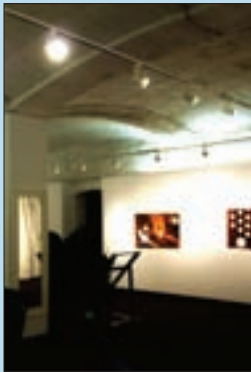


INSIDE



A&E, page 3

Postcrypt lucky to get new sponsor

After being kicked out of the basement of St. Paul's Chapel, Postcrypt found a new home in the Potluck House for their Obstacles show this weekend.

Opinion, page 4

Streep throat

Daniel D'Addario is simultaneously taking on mono and Meryl.



Sports, page 8

Stony Brook trumps Lions with late rally

The men's basketball team put up a valiant effort against the Seawolves, but a late run sealed a close 63-60 victory for Stony Brook.

EVENTS

Columbia University Orchestra Concert

Debussy, Ravel, and Stravinsky, oh my. Join the CU Orchestra for the first of its two-night concert series.

Roone Arledge Auditorium, Lerner Hall, 8 p.m.

CPU Climate Change Debate

The College Democrats and Republicans will be squaring off on climate change in their last debate of the semester.

313 Fayerweather, 8 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I'm a dog lover, I love dogs—my nickname is Dog."

—Resident Jorge Rodriguez on his support for local dog owners

ONLINE

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News around the clock

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125th Street, looking east.

Photo illustration by Jin Chen and Angela Radulescu

After rezoning, 125th Street reaches stand-still

BY ANDREA FOLDS
Columbia Daily Spectator

Not much to show

Ripe with fresh new chain stores amid several persistent historic structures, 125th Street is undergoing a major transition.

This fall, West and Central Harlem became breeding grounds for large commercial and housing developments that are now nearing completion. As the neighborhood landscape transforms, local politicians and the New York City government are working to regulate new development through the complex zoning process.

In May 2008, the New York City Council passed rezoning plans intended to transform 125th Street into a bustling business hub with taller buildings and more affordable housing. Now Community Board 9 and the New York City Planning Department are in the early stages of preparing a proposal for a massive rezoning of West Harlem, which CB9 chair Pat Jones has said could be one of the largest rezoning processes in the city's history.

A year and a half after 125th Street got its rezoning makeover, some local politicians lament that there is nothing to show for it.

Though the rezoning established new laws to spur economic development, Central Harlem's Community Board 10 Chair William Franc Perry said that the timing was unfortunate.

"Nothing has really changed. There has been no significant movement on it [development] since the economy turned sour," Perry said, adding, "The zoning laws were put in place ... but developers have no money to break ground."

Walter South, chair of the CB9 Landmarks Committee, agreed that there has not been significant movement since the rezoning, but added that it was never enough from the beginning. "125th Street should really be closed," he said of his hopes to see the busy street shut to vehicular traffic and open to bike lanes.

South added that there was too much resistance to housing

development in lieu of commercial buildings: "The more multi-use, the more interesting, and I think I would've liked to see more housing on 125th," he said. "They can build as tall as they want."

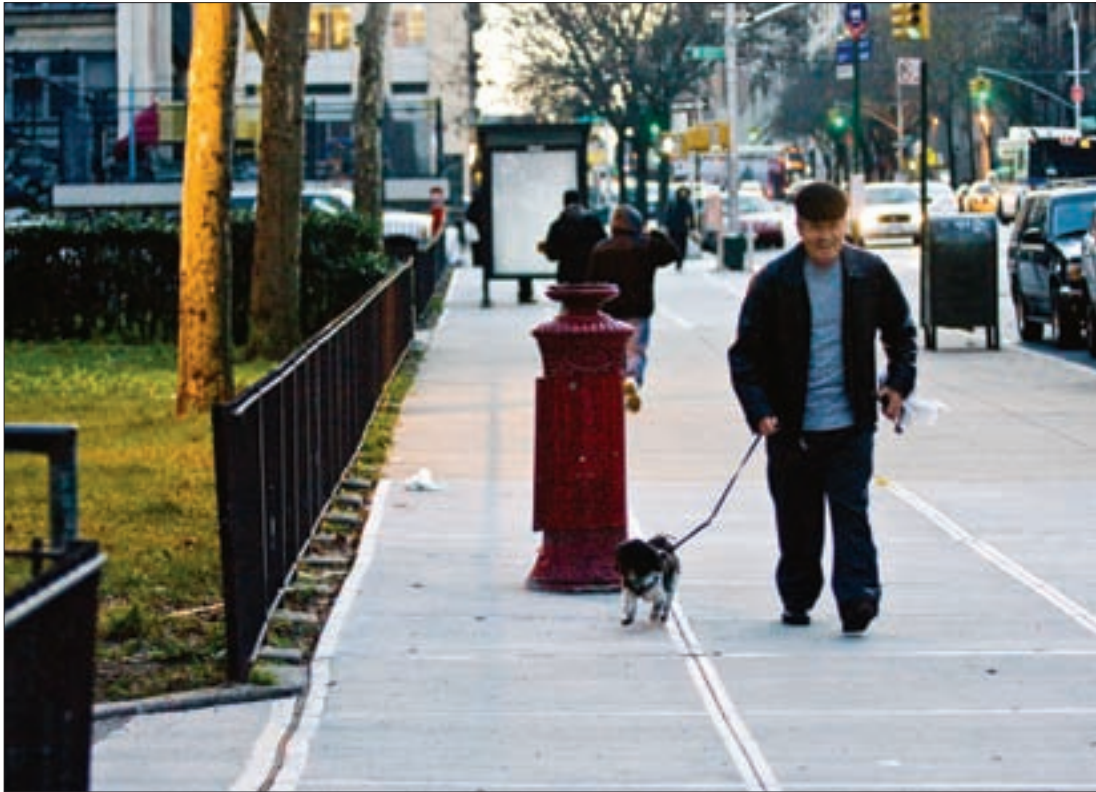
Susan Russell, chief of operations for City Councilmember Robert Jackson, who represents parts of Harlem, acknowledged that the rezoning was faltering where it had made sense in theory. "The argument was to create the opportunity for growth. Philosophically, there are some successes, but the problem is with the economy tanking."

A new opportunity

For those working to get the larger West Harlem rezoning on its feet, it is an opportunity to reshape the broader neighborhood beyond 125th Street.

"The West Harlem rezoning study aims to create contextual zoning districts that establish building heights

SEE REZONING, page 2



Bennett Hong / Staff photographer

DOGGONE | Good news for dog lovers: the New York City Housing Authority extended its registration deadline for heavy dogs. Public housing projects residents now have until January to register their pooches.

Dog days extended for NYCHA residents

BY NICHOLAS BLOOM
Columbia Daily Spectator

In New York City's public housing projects, man's best friend has a reason to celebrate—but not entirely.

The New York City Housing Authority announced Nov. 1 that it is extending the registration deadline for residents who currently own dogs weighing over 25 pounds to Jan. 25, 2010. Current residents had previously been required to register heavy dogs by May 1, but were concerned that they would be unable to meet the deadline, according to Heidi Morales of the NYCHA Department of Communications.

In light of a recent series of dog attacks, the New York City Housing Authority announced earlier this year that pit bulls, Rottweilers, Doberman Pinschers, and any dogs weighing over 25 pounds could not be newly purchased by residents of New York City public housing projects.

This rule further limited dog ownership in housing projects that had previously allowed dogs weighing 40 pounds or less to live there. Residents were allowed to keep current dogs weighing less than 40 pounds of any breed if they met the May 1 registration deadline.

But after being alerted by building managers that their dogs

violated the 40-pound weight limit, many tenants were unable to register their dogs by May. Responses to this problem were mixed: some gave up their pets, while others secretly kept them.

Debora Bresch, senior attorney for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)—which is one of several organizations that makes up the Mayor's Alliance for New York City Animals—said she hopes a resolution can be reached that would allow for registration past the current deadline.

"By saying that residents can't have dogs over 25 pounds, you are

SEE DOGS, page 6

After ruling, M'ville plans questioned

Future of expansion in doubt after eminent domain use ruled illegal

BY MAGGIE ASTOR
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Questions abound on the surprising court ruling that decided state seizure of private property for use as part of Columbia's Manhattanville campus expansion is illegal.

On Thursday, the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division halted the invocation of eminent domain, the process by which the state can take over private property for a "public good" in exchange for market-rate compensation. The Empire State Development Corporation, which authorized eminent domain for Manhattanville in December 2008, will appeal to the state's highest court, the Court of Appeals. The University is not a party in the case, and it remains to be seen what steps it will take in response and how the expansion will be impacted.

At a University Senate meeting Friday, University President Lee Bollinger said he was "optimistic" eminent domain would be re-authorized in the appeal, but declined to comment on what will happen

SEE EMINENT DOMAIN, page 6



File Photo

DOMAIN | The future of Manhattanville is unclear after eminent domain use was shot down Thursday.

CCSC disputes Post's gender-neutral housing story

BY ELIZABETH SCOTT
Spectator Staff Writer

While major media outlets have had a field day with Columbia's proposal for gender neutral housing, it's still in the first stages of administrative review, Columbia College Student Council members commented Sunday night.

Media outlets have latched onto the image of Columbia students who will "live in sin on their parents' dime," (or so said a New York Post article from Sunday), but council representatives say the intent behind possibly making rooms co-ed has been lost.

The objective of the proposal is to allow students the freedom

Newstream
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to live with those they feel most comfortable with, a fact which has been absent from recent media coverage, members say. Students would be given the option to live with same-sex roommates as sophomores, juniors, and seniors if the proposal is given the green-light by administrators.

Sarah Weiss, CC '10 and CCSC vice president of policy, claims that the recent article published in the New York Post missed the mark on its analysis of the gender-neutral

SEE HOUSING, page 2

IMPROV



Phoebe Lytle / Staff photographer

COMEDY | Alfred, a musical improv group, had students in stitches Sunday as they performed a medley of songs and skits.

WEATHER

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Politicians, residents provide input in planning process for 125th Street rezoning

REZONING from front page

and ensure that new development will match existing neighborhood character, an expressed priority of the community,” City Planning spokesperson Jovana Rizzo wrote in an e-mail.

Further, Rizzo said, City Planning is exploring ways to encourage more mixed-use development—buildings that could serve dual purposes—and increased economic activity. “The rezoning study is also looking to strengthen the West 145th Street corridor by allowing for development opportunities where appropriate and to expand opportunities for mixed-use in the manufacturing district, which is between West 126th and West 130th streets, bound by Amsterdam and Convent avenues,” she wrote.

The pending proposal will take many key aspects from CB9’s 197-a zoning plan, conceived in 2003 as an alternative to Columbia’s 197-c plan for its campus expansion. Though Columbia’s version passed, CB9 may soon be able to pull some key aspects from its original plan.

CB9 hopes to implement inclusionary housing, which would allow for higher-density development in exchange for more affordable housing units, and contextual development, which protects against uncharacteristic neighborhood development projects.

Lynette Velasco, special assistant to Councilmember Inez Dickens, said Dickens has been satisfied with the current plan’s progress and structure.

“There is a timetable, and so far the agreed-upon timetable has been kept and the points of agreement have been adhered to,” Velasco said.

Jane Arrendell, co-chair of CB9’s Land Use and Economic Development Committee, noted she was also committed to encouraging growth in the local economy as CB9 moves forward with the plan. “We’ve been focused on bringing in more businesses and keeping those businesses [currently in the area],” she said.

Development and preservation

As politicians move forward, a recurring source of tension is how to encourage

economic development through rezoning while still upholding the historic nature of the neighborhood.

“We want to make sure we maintain the character of the neighborhood, particularly in terms of architectural design,” CB9 Land Use and Zoning Committee co-chair Yvonne Stennett said, adding that there would not be a blanket look at the area, but more targeted and specific planning for certain sites.

But South noted, “The biggest problem is they [the parties involved in rezoning] don’t make any survey of historically significant buildings,” adding that zoning discussions have been missed opportunities to address issues of preservation.

Part of preserving through zoning is ensuring that affordable housing remains an integral part of the plan, and many proponents of the rezone have said this is a key issue.

“We don’t know what the future holds, and the Council member [Dickens] is gravely concerned about the state of the economy, the looming fiscal crisis, and how it may affect the state of the city,” Velasco

said. “This is why we’re focused on the continued rollout of the affordable housing component and jobs-creating component.”

Stennett said that using zoning as a tool to mandate affordable housing—often by collaborating with the city’s Department of Housing Preservation and Development—is important to her. She added of historic structures, “We want to protect them so development can’t come along and demolish them and totally change the character of the neighborhood.”

On the street

Stennett said it was important to get frequent local feedback beyond politicians. “A survey was sent out to the whole neighborhood and got over 200 responses,” she said. “We’re making sure it’s as open a process as possible.”

James McFadden, a resident of Harlem for over 10 years, said he was concerned that the shift in demographics that could come with these changes would be harmful to

residents who have called Harlem home for decades.

“The stores are catering to white people,” McFadden said. “Then you have the housing situation. Again, that’s catering to white people. They’re using our tax dollars to get these buildings put up.”

Mariela Garcia expressed mixed sentiments on the changes she has observed at 125th Street.

“There are many businesses entering—too many, in fact. There’s also too many people and too many police,” she said of the general influx of activity in the neighborhood. But, she added, “There is less crime, though. ... and more jobs because all these stores need people [to work in them].”

And Vincent Mallard, who works on 125th Street, said he welcomes the city’s increased attention on Harlem.

“Harlem’s got a new makeover, cleaning windows and sidewalks, brushing up the place a bit,” Mallard said. “They’re doing a good job. They even got liners for the trash cans now.”

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USenate addresses M’ville, confidentiality at meeting

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Staff Writer

University President and Fun Runner Lee Bollinger knows how to go through life at a fast pace, and he likes to keep Columbia running along with him.

In just over 30 minutes on Friday afternoon, the University Senate addressed eminent domain, gave an update on Senate committee confidentiality, and passed two resolutions at its last plenary meeting of the semester.

Provost Claude Steele attended, though Columbia College Dean Michele Moody-Adams was absent for the third time this semester.

Bollinger briefly discussed Thursday’s setback to the Manhattanville expansion, as the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division ruled that the use of eminent domain in the area was illegal.

“This is a stage in a process that will continue to unfold,” he said, adding that he is “calm” and “optimistic” about the situation.

“Columbia needs these properties in order to complete a campus in the form that was approved by the city in the rezoning process,” Bollinger added, while refusing to speculate on what will happen if Columbia doesn’t receive them.

Sharyn O’Halloran, the George Blumenthal Professor of International and Public Affairs and chair of the executive committee, moved on to an update on the state of the Worker Rights Consortium’s agreement with Russell Athletic, an

apparel manufacturing who specializes in university logo products sold in the United States.

Columbia joined the WRC, a labor rights-monitoring organization, about nine years ago. Executive director of business services and Lerner Hall operations Honey Sue Fishman, said the group had reached an agreement with Russell Athletic and the union representing the former workers of the Jerzees de Honduras factory, which also periodically manufactures University merchandise.

Fishman said that this was the first time universities came together to “make sure manufacturers meet our code of conduct when using our intellectual property.” She said that this was a “historic case,” which she hopes will set a precedent on workers’ rights for other companies.

Benjamin Brickner, chair of the elections commission, also named the newly elected and re-elected senators. There are seven new Faculty of Arts and Sciences senators for the natural sciences, three for the humanities, and one for social work. Five student senators were elected to represent Teachers College, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Monica Quaintance, CC ’10 and a senator on the structure and operations committee, gave updates on the new confidentiality guidelines for Senate committees. Right now, the structure and operations committee is

working on new guidelines for the confidentiality of the minutes of the Senate’s committee meetings. The main component of these new guidelines is a new 50-year confidentiality policy for these minutes, a reduction from the current policy of eternal confidentiality. Quaintance said committee members are “still soliciting feedback from committees,” and that she hopes for the guidelines to come to the full Senate for a vote in January.

Next on the agenda, Bollinger jokingly addressed the two “controversial resolutions.” After Letty Moss-Salentijn, co-chair of the education committee, briefly described them—one to establish a program for a master of science degree in bioethics for the School of Continuing Education and another to change the name of the Center for the Study of Human Rights to the Institute for the Study of Human Rights—both were passed in a matter of minutes.

“By becoming an institute, the center will be in a position to negotiate with individual departments,” which will make it easier for them to function, Moss-Salentijn said on the move from a “center” to an “institute.”

Philip Genty, a senator from the Columbia Law School, said that his school favors the resolution to change the name of the Center for the Study of Human Rights despite the fact that the Law School has its own Human Rights Institute.

“The more institutes, the better. That’s our policy,” Bollinger joked, before ending the meeting.

news@columbiaspectator.com

CCSC concerned bad press may affect housing proposal

HOUSING from front page

housing proposal. Weiss emphasizes the fact that the proposal is “about giving students the opportunity to live with whomever they feel comfortable. ... without gender binaries of being male and female.” The proposal is meant to accommodate LGBT students, transgender students, and students in general, a central tenet that’s been conspicuously absent from recent reports on the proposed policy.

Sunday’s New York Post article makes much ado of college-aged couples sharing a dorm room, but Weiss notes, “LGBT, trans-, and students in general—none of those were talked about—it only talked about couples. This is a discussion of students feeling comfortable about who they live with.”

CCSC President Sue Yang, CC ’10 also lamented the fact that the aim of the resolution, outlined in the proposal itself and provided to the Post, was largely ignored. “[The article] didn’t address that we’re doing it because we’re in an age where the traditional viewpoint that students want to room with students of the same gender used to be the norm. But is that the case now? A growing number would say ‘No.’

They’re comfortable with living with another sex.”

Gender-neutral housing, a policy extant at other Ivy League universities like Princeton and Dartmouth, was proposed by students and fielded by student council. The proposal currently is in the hands of upper-level administrators Deans Kevin Shollenberger, Michele Moody-Adams, and Feniosky Pena-Mora. Though it’s well supported by the student body, whether or not the proposal will come to fruition is to be determined by the administration in the weeks to come.

The council also said they considered the experience an opportunity to learn how to handle the media, citing the importance of proceeding carefully when discussing policy decisions with media outlets. The council fears that because the resolution hasn’t passed yet, current coverage like the New York Post article could be used against the resolution when administrators deliberate it.

Weiss claims the quote from her printed in the New York Post was taken out of context. CCSC member Alex Frouman, CC’12, alleges that the author poorly paraphrased what he said and printed it as a direct quote.

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EVENT PICKS

THE EDITORS’ BEST BETS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

BOOKS

“American Exceptionalism And The Question Of Style.” *Heyman Center, Common Room, 2nd Floor. Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., free with CUID.* Yes, it’s cold out, but it’s not too cold to trek over to East Campus for a lecture at the Heyman Center for Humanities. Ezra Tawil from the department of English and Comparative Literature will join faculty heavyweights Andrew Delbanco and Ross Posnock for a discussion of style in American literature.

FOOD & DRINK

Holiday Celebration Dinner. *John Jay Dining Hall. Wednesday, 5-8 p.m., \$14.* Celebrate the right way this semester: with an all-you-can-eat feast. Students may think this sounds too good to be true, before they remember Columbia’s very own cafeteria. This Wednesday, John Jay’s usual fare gets a seasonal makeover. The cafeteria will be featuring celebratory foods to represent the diversity of Columbia’s religious population. Happy holidays and bon appetit.

MUSIC

CU Orchestra Concert. *Roone Arledge Auditorium. Monday, 8 p.m., free. Tuesday, 8 p.m., free.* The CU Orchestra, founded over 100 years ago, is the oldest continually operating university orchestra in the country. Conducted by Maestro Jeffrey Milarsky, the CU Orchesta will perform Debussy’s “Prélude à l’après-midi d’une faune,” Ravel’s “Le Tombeau de Couperin,” and Stravinsky’s “Firebird Suite.”

BOOKS

An Evening With Mad Magazine’s Al Jaffee. *501 Schermerhorn. Wednesday, 8-10 p.m., free.* Al Jaffee is to comics as Picasso is to art: he can, as “Peanuts” creator Charles Schulz proclaimed, “cartoon anything.” Before hopping aboard Mad Magazine in 1955, Jaffee worked for Stan Lee at Marvel Comics as not only an artist, but also an editor and a writer. At this discussion, he will be waxing graphic on everything from “Tall Tales” (his recent book) to Jewish humor to the artwork he has produced during his 88 years of existence. Danny Fingerroth, who edited numerous Spider-Man volumes, will be moderating.

WILDCARD

Bacchanal Miracle Fruit Party. *Lerner Party Space. Thursday, 7 p.m., \$1.* Miracles do happen, at least on Columbia’s campus. Experience a revolution in taste buds with the Miracle Fruit, a berry that causes sour and bitter foods to taste sweet. Folk-rock music group Oak & Gorski will also be performing.

WILDCARD

Cafe Arts: Trey Ellis. *PicNic Cafe, 2665 Broadway. Monday, 6 p.m., free.* Award-winning novelist, Emmy-nominated screenwriter, acclaimed playwright, and current assistant professor at Columbia’s Graduate Film School Trey Ellis joins CU Arts for the evening in discussion of his work in the arts over a light meal.

WILDCARD

Arrow Lecture: Social Choice and Individual Values. *Altschul Auditorium, Room 417, International Affairs Building. Friday, 4 p.m., free.* Acclaimed economists and Nobel Prize winners will rub intellectual elbows this Friday when they discuss the intricacies of social choice and individual values. Sponsored by the Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University Press, the Heyman Center for the Humanities, and the Program for Economic Research, this event should provide some interesting afternoon food for thought for economics majors, pre-finals.

ART



Rachel Valinsky / Spectator staff photographer

WALL SPACE | Postcrypt Art Gallery finds a new home for Obstacles show in the Potluck House after being kicked out of the basement of St. Paul’s Chapel.

Postcrypt overcomes housing ‘Obstacles’

BY MICHELLE ONG
Columbia Daily Spectator

For the first time in almost 20 years, the Postcrypt Art Gallery is homeless after being kicked out of the basement of St. Paul’s Chapel. The reason behind the eviction was simple, even silly: Hammer-happy members had put too many holes in the walls while hanging up their artwork. Earlier this year, the University Chaplain confronted Postcrypt about the damages, resulting in a compromise in which Postcrypt paid for part of the cost of repainting the basement’s walls. After the discovery of more holes, however, Postcrypt was sent looking for alternative spaces to host events, at least until next semester, when it will be reinstated in its old home. Although this led to the cancellation of one show and the postponement of another, Postcrypt managed to organize one last event in collaboration with Potluck House and the Columbia University Undergraduate Film Festival this semester. The title of the show, “Obstacles,” seems to be a snarky reference to the obstacles they had to overcome in light of their experience with St. Paul’s. But the president

of Postcrypt, Ian Kwok, CC ’11, said, “We had conceptualized the show before the incident.” Kwok also said, “It was really nice to see how many groups reached out to us” during Postcrypt’s hunt for an exhibition space, and that Potluck House was eventually chosen because of its “different vibe.” While the description of the event on Facebook was somewhat lofty (“Life is full of barriers. ... Sometimes these obstacles can be physically circumvented and other times they exist on a more intangible level”), entrance to the first room immediately revealed that the night would be anything but pretentious. A thick cobweb of purple yarn intersected the room at bizarre angles, forcing visitors to crawl through awkwardly to reach a spread of food prepared by Potluck House residents. Once through, comfortable couches were arranged at ideal angles for watching the strange—and usually hilarious—contortions of others. This room also featured a large-scale drawing by Julia Alekseyeva, CC ’10 (who also draws a comic for Spectator) which depicts nude models, obscure quotes, and emblazoned in the middle, the line “I can’t do this on my own.” Alekseyeva said she had

meant to make the work “slightly disconcerting” in order to reflect the “anxieties and obstacles” attached to modern life. This same shade of gloominess ran through the other artwork featured on the walls of all three floors of Potluck House. It extended to the films screened by the Undergraduate Film Festival, which were shown on the second floor. Co-president Vicky Du, CC ’11, explained that the films had been carefully selected to complement the art exhibition, resulting in a series of very short, silent films with sharp aesthetics. On the top floor, Feel Good Inc. served Brie and apple grilled cheese sandwiches. Those weary from the three-story climb were treated to delicious food with a humanitarian aim—raising money and awareness for the Hunger Project. Postcrypt Art Gallery’s exile led to a fortuitous collaboration with other student groups, resulting in a dynamic and multifaceted exhibition. Potluck House’s communal spirit does add a new spin. Its friendly, relaxed space helped to achieve Kwok’s goal of reorganizing Postcrypt into a “more dynamic, active place of convergence.”

FILM

Columbia professor is academic by day, screenwriter by night

BY ISIAAH EVERIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

It is comforting to know that your professor is bringing his experience into the classroom, but it is even better when he is coming in right off the job. Loren-Paul Caplin is a writer who demonstrates that continuing to work while teaching can inform a professor’s coursework. His history as a writer also confirms that one form of writing can bleed into the next—he was a published poet while attending the University of California, Santa Barbara, for religious studies and drama, but his work transitioned into theater and screenwriting as he searched for more expressive narrative forms. In Los Angeles, he wrote musicals and screenplays, but, inspired by theater, foreign cinema, and the independent film scene, he moved to New York. He worked on the production of one of his plays at the Long Wharf Theater, and upon arriving, he felt that he was “coming home.” Though he knows students need to be savvy



with character and structure, he believes that strong themes can carry stories even further. “There’s something very special about telling stories,” Caplin said, “and I find that Columbia students are very thematically oriented.” Only recently was his screenwriting workshop moved from the creative writing to the film department. The goal of the class is to show students the demands of screenwriting and how they can lay out their innermost emotions and thoughts in a screenplay structure. “And then they can work a 100,000 drafts and get it right,” Caplin said. Caplin still works in film and is writing and directing movies that “hopefully in a hundred years will still work.” His recent written works include the independent short film “Brothers,” directed by Fernando Scarpa, and the self-directed film “The Lucky Ones” (2003). He is currently working on a project about the mythical story of Orpheus, set at a modern music festival, and is also writing his first prose book, using screenwriting techniques. Caplin has a powerful drive to keep working while he teaches. He shared his reasoning: “I find that to the degree that I’m in the trenches doing the



Courtesy of Loren-Paul Caplin

work, that I’m a better teacher. ... I get in the zone where I’m in the sweet spot, and I can help students learn how to solve their stories in teaching.”

MUSIC

Pre-finals concerts offer Columbians tunes for thought



ZACH DYER

UNDERAGE AND UNDERFUNDED

students are opening their doors and lowering their prices to pull more customers in while the bookworms are shut up in the libraries. And I know what you’re thinking—going to a concert during finals seems crazy. Maybe, but I’m sure you’d spend most of that time on Facebook or Hulu anyway, so you might as well stretch your legs and sing along as you procrastinate. So from here until Christmas—a free concert a day (which may nonetheless keep the 4.0 away): Monday 12/7—Teenage Prayers are playing at the Glasslands and with their classic rock-esque hit “Acetylene Summer.” You don’t have to feel guilty not studying for orgo, right? Tuesday 12/8—Down at Brooklyn Bowl is everyone’s favorite post-bagpipe rock group, Parts and Labor. And as a bonus, the bagpipes are sure to clear your mind of whatever you’re worried about, including that research paper due next morning. Wednesday 12/9—For all of you first-years fretting over your Lit Hum final, head to Brooklyn Bowl

to see Patrick Davy and the Ghosts, whose latest album is sure to help you fill that bluebook with references to Oedipus. From “Where it Began” when his parents dumped him, “This Feeling” he has for mommy, and how they all a “Should’ve Known,” Patrick Davy’s songs will help you out. Thursday 12/10—The week is over for most of us and a celebration is in order. Check out the Spanish Broads at Bruar Falls to jumpstart your weekend. Friday 12/11—Study it up at Silent Barn. Whether it be the Alphabet, with Old Books, or Knight School, these three bands are sure to fill your brain with, well, probably nothing all that useful. Saturday 12/12—No te preocupes—that Spanish final will be a breeze once you’ve spent a night with the Aficionados at Spike Hill. Sunday 12/13—While it’s not free, Le Poisson Rouge can help you out with your geography (in case you’re still in the 5th grade) with A Sunny Day in Glasgow and Casino Versus Japan. Monday 12/14—Maybe you should consider picking up a book by this point. Tuesday 12/15—Chill out, it’s the first of your two study days! Mike Wexler is playing at Zebulon, and if you’ve never heard of him, his raspy vocals and gentle guitar could wipe the worry from even a pre-med student’s mind. Wednesday 12/16—Totally worth the meager \$5 admission, Nick Zinner of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs is making an appearance at Webster Hall that is sure to counter the “no no nos” you’ll be shouting when you realize that “reading week” is over tomorrow. Thursday 12/17—In hopes that the final you took today isn’t weighted that heavily, The Weight is playing at Union Pool. Go, wallow in self-pity. Friday 12/18—So what you slept through two

finals today? Fine-tune your vocab for the two essays you’re turning in tomorrow down at Spike Hill with Goes Cube and Moser’s Gambit. Saturday 12/19—The professor already posted grades to your gen chem final? And you didn’t know the difference between chromatography and magnetic resonance? Comfort yourself in that no previous knowledge of Phantogram will keep you back from dancing all night at Brooklyn Bowl. Sunday 12/20—If you’ve taken my advice and gone out to concerts for the past 2 weeks then you may be thinking “Kill, Kill, Kill” when all those grades are posted, but for \$8 at Mercury Lounge, a band of the same name has already beat you to it. Monday 12/21—There are only two days left. Seriously, I think it’s time to study. Tuesday 12/22—Hopefully you’ve saved up a little money for the last two days because they’re too good to pass up. If you’ve decided to entrust your GPA to the hands of God, then you’ll feel right at home with Danielson playing The Stone for \$10. Wednesday 12/23—Forget packing, it’s all over. Tomorrow you’ll probably begin the awkward ritual of family holidays, so to get you in the spirit, head to the Highline Ballroom with that \$15 in dimes you found while doing 3 months worth of laundry to see Talib Kweli, familiar in his own right. And of course, don’t forget to leave time to come up with a good excuse for your parents as to why you are dropping out.

Zach Dyer is a Columbia College junior majoring in biochemistry and creative writing. Underage and Underfunded runs alternate Mondays. arts@columbiaspectator.com

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Staff Editorial

Under1Roof needs renovation

With the semester winding to a close, those in the class of 2013 should have adjusted to the bustle of Columbia and New York City life, while the early decision responses for the class of 2014 are about to be sent out. At this midpoint between the introductions of the classes of 2013 and 2014, it is worthwhile to look back at how first-years are welcomed to Columbia. One first-year program, Under1Roof, deserves some scrutiny. A New Student Orientation Program event launched in 2006, Under1Roof seeks to introduce first-years to the diversity of their peers and to motivate them to think about questions of identity at Columbia. First-years are randomly placed in small groups and required to attend one of several Under1Roof seminars held at different points during the NSOP week. Although the curriculum of each seminar is the same, the discussion-based nature of the program is meant to provoke group-specific conversations on questions of diversity at Columbia. Program coordinators prompt students to speak about various attributes that identify them, such as gender, ethnicity or race, religious affiliation, and sexual orientation, with the intention of exposing them to different perspectives on campus and encouraging them to think more deeply about how various groups mix and interact at Columbia. Under1Roof is just one of countless diversity programs offered by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, including Perspectives on Diversity, designed for prospective students, and identity-specific graduation ceremonies. Like the aims

of these events, the goals of Under1Roof are laudable. But many students also raise concerns about how Under1Roof is carried out. Requiring students to attend a seminar in which they are asked to list their religion, ethnicity, and sexual orientation can cause some to feel uncomfortable, even if they have the option of not offering that information. Many find that the task of breaking down the concept of identity into the sum of various identifying categories is limiting and does not allow a holistic approach to who a person is. And while the event seeks to create a sense of common Columbian culture on our diverse campus, emphasizing differences may lead to the impression that students at Columbia share less in common than they actually do—a concern not specific to Under1Roof, and something to consider throughout the year in all events. True, many students may find Under1Roof to be a valuable experience. In fact, according to statistics from the Office of Multicultural Affairs, 96 percent of respondents to an Under1Roof survey claimed that the event was useful and 90 percent would recommend it to others. But significant small talk in the elevators and hallways of first-year dormitories suggests that there may be a disjunction between the average student's perception of the program and the responses to the survey. It is for this reason that we hope the Office of Multicultural Affairs, under its new leadership as of last month, considers re-evaluating Under1Roof for the class of 2014, just as the newest Columbians have developed new collegiate identities over the course of the semester.

POLITICS ON STILTS



SHAINA RUBIN

The battle against HIV/AIDS

BY AMIRAH SEQUEIRA

Throughout the past week, the Columbia community came together to discuss and bring awareness to the issue of HIV/AIDS. Starting Dec. 1, people throughout the world took a moment to reflect on the fight against the pandemic, to celebrate our accomplishments and examine our mistakes, to bring awareness to our communities and recognize our current boundaries, and, most importantly, to commemorate the millions of lives that have been lost to this disease. But the battle against HIV/AIDS does not rage for just one day a year, nor for the one week that Columbia devotes to it. The battle against HIV/AIDS takes place every minute of every day for every person affected by it. From the moment people are first infected with HIV, their lives are changed completely. The disease will alter their futures, whether they learn of their infection in the coming days, months, years, or never. From my brief, informal survey of Columbia students, it seems to me that many of us feel very disconnected from the pandemic. While we are educated about the transmission and prevention of the disease, most of us don't have personal experience with it. Many students feel that the original challenges facing HIV patients in America have been largely reduced with the improvement of medical knowledge and the reduction of stigma and discrimination. However, these students also concede that they don't understand the everyday challenges faced by a person living with HIV/AIDS in our country, nor do they know how they would react to an HIV-positive person in their life. What is it like to live with HIV/AIDS in our society today? First, medical advancements in the past

13 years have significantly improved the lives of HIV-positive people who have access to care. In North America, this has meant a change from the translation of the diagnosis as a death sentence, to simply an illness with which one lives. However, living with the disease, even with the various support systems and advanced medical aid available in North America, is no simple matter. To begin with, there is the challenge of finding a suitable cocktail of medications, and being consistent in the medication regime. When talking with HIV-positive friends, I was taken aback to hear of the small concerns they experience every day due to the fear of accidentally transmitting the disease. A simple paper cut may incite incredible panic. In addition to the constant medical concerns, people living with HIV/AIDS are faced with ongoing social challenges due to continued fears of stigma and discrimination in society. Many HIV-positive persons in our society choose not to disclose their status for fear of negative consequences in their place of work and the disintegration of friendships and family relations. A person then faces challenges with practical matters such as health insurance, life insurance, and ability to travel. In discussions with HIV-positive friends, it quickly became clear to me that relationships are the aspect of life most directly affected by their positive status. One is consistently faced with challenging questions that are seemingly irreconcilable. The fear of rejection due to their HIV-positive status may consistently discourage dating and finding a partner. At what point does a person tell a possible partner that they are HIV positive? Does engaging in safe sex eliminate the responsibility to disclose their status to their partner? To what extent is it also the responsibility of one's partner to inquire about possible sexually transmitted infections? These questions and concerns dominate all considerations of romantic and sexual relations. While HIV/AIDS constitutes a terrifying physical illness, it is not simply the

physiological effects that change the lives of those it infects, but also the social issues and implications of an HIV-positive status. Stigma due to perceptions of lifestyle choices associated with the disease has worsened an already daunting fate. It is this fate of prejudice and discrimination which captures the essence of the fight against HIV/AIDS. This is not only a fight for public health. This is a fight for social justice. A little over a week ago, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS released its most recent data on the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The update shows that HIV infections have decreased by 17 percent worldwide over the past eight years. While this news is reason to be hopeful in the face of this disease, it must not be taken as a reason to slow our efforts of prevention. Instead, it must be recognized as a sign to continue the momentum with which prevention programs have been progressing worldwide. On this day, Dec. 7, 2009, around 5,500 people will die of AIDS throughout the world, with an estimated 7,400 new infections appearing. The same thing occurred yesterday and will occur tomorrow. On each of these days, a doctor in Lilongwe will treat people suffering from tuberculosis due to AIDS, a counselor in Bombay will run safe sex workshops, and a harm reduction worker in New York City will distribute clean needles to injection drug users. These activities, challenges, and concerns are part of everyday life for everyone infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. Even beyond the span of seven days, that is World Aids Week, let us reflect, let us understand, let us remember, and let us regain momentum for the continued fight ahead. It's a long road, but we do have every reason to be hopeful. The author is a Columbia College sophomore. "The battle against HIV/AIDS" is the first in a two-part series by the author on World Aids Week. The second installment will appear exclusively online tomorrow.

As I See It



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE
JASPER CLYATT

The photographer is a Columbia College first-year. He is a Spectator staff photographer.

Going off the Streep end



DANIEL D'ADDARIO
THE UNBEARABLE LOLNESS OF BEING

The diagnosis, after a Thanksgiving weekend spent sweating out a fever and testing my lymph nodes to see if they were still puffy, was mono. Mono! I used to think mono would be a very glamorous way to excuse oneself from obligations, a disease of boundless, desirably intriguing fatigue. I even used mono as an excuse to get out of seventh-grade algebra for one day, although I think the teacher was on to my ruse. It's nowhere near as exciting as I'd imagined when I was 12—but then, nothing is as exciting as I'd imagined then. Watching DVDs alone in my room, when not working on the homework I'm still required to do, is only fun for so long. The paradise that any culture aficionado hopes for—days spent in isolation, a Netflix account, and all the Internet at his disposal—grows shallow and dull by day two. I've had a bit too much time to read articles about the Oscars and everyone's two favorite memes thereto: "Meryl Streep is the queen of movies!" and "Precious is so good!" In my yellow-wallpaper fugue state, and surrounded by a universe of actually good movies that I finally have the time to watch, I find myself wondering if such ideas, promoted by the existence of an annual awards show that inherently pushes the middlebrow interests of the entertainment

industry to the fore, aren't in fact damaging to good art. Then I wonder if I am a snob. It's too close to the argument with my movie-going companion—in which I was told that I revel in cynicism, which, looking at the corpus of this semester's columns, isn't unfair—for me to take on "Precious." Suffice it to say that it's an American "Slumdog Millionaire," for all that implies. (And if you liked "Slumdog," good! Go see "Precious"—I know you'll just love it.) But no one has been willing to argue with me about Meryl Streep. They just shrug as though I'm a hopeless case, and move on to a new topic. If I mention that I also dislike Cate Blanchett, there's a flicker of combativeness in the eye of whomever I'm talking to, but it's still not worth it for them to engage a heretic. It's been an unusually piquant topic as Streep is, even for her, inescapable this season, and I've been unusually invalid. I've seen her face in pixels on the cover of every magazine and read every "best actress of all time" tribute launched as her latest impersonation, of Julia Child, gears up to take on the Oscars. I saw "Julie & Julia," but like any other Meryl Streep movie, it left me cold. I never connected emotionally with Streep's character—or never found her to be a character to begin with. The whole thing was utterly self-conscious, a collection of tics wrapped in a fruity (if accurate) accent. But what does it mean if everyone else enjoys something and I don't? I don't mean like a "Transformers" sequel, which makes truckloads of money but which people hold at the same arm's-length disdain as "Going Rogue." But I'm still holding a torch for Nicole Kidman to rise up as the greatest actress of our time, while dismissing this apparent magician of the screen. I know I have

the right to my own opinions, but 21 seems too young to be a curmudgeon. And have I ever tried! Devils have worn Prada, books have undergone adaptation, things have been... renditioned—still, nothing. There is, in this case, a strong mainstream, and facing off against it should feel great—like I'm some truly original thinker. But instead, I find myself wondering if I'm purposely trying to dislike Streep just because she's popular—if, instead of trying to give her a fair chance, I'm seeing her movies just to further prove a quixotic point. After all, I did like her in "A Prairie Home Companion," though I liked Lindsay Lohan more. Or am I just trying to provoke a reaction with that opinion, too? Streep will keep making movies, of course, my opinion be damned—if the woman can get nominated for an Oscar for her clowning in "Doubt," her hegemony knows no bounds. And I'll be known to my friends as the guy who hates Meryl Streep. When the trailers for her movies come onscreen (as the "It's Complicated" trailer did recently), they'll laugh. I guess I can't feel too bad about it—I'm being called to account for a strong opinion! It's how discourse works. Still, I wish I were spending my energies and the fire of my debating powers on something more meaningful than whether a praised actress is deserving of less praise. I could have written about something more deeply felt for this, my last column. But whatever—I have mono, after all.

Daniel D'Addario is a Columbia College senior majoring in American studies and English. He is the managing editor of the Columbia Political Review. The Unbearable LOLness of Being runs alternate Mondays. opinion@columbiaspectator.com

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3	8	6	1	4	7	9	5	2
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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Ringing phone on stage, e.g.
5 Place to unwind
10 Complacent
14 Medal recipient
15 Panama divider
16 Ice cream parlor order
17 Some lemony quaffs
18 Spring up
19 Took the subway
20 Prospecting swindle
23 USN rank
24 Utmost degree
25 Shadow
27 Suffix with farm or home
29 Fly in the ointment
32 North Pole toy maker
33 Thinner, as smoke
36 Temptation on a hook
37 Multilevel investment swindle
40 Strategem
41 Accomplished with a single try
42 Slip signed by a debtor
43 Quiche base
44 Inuit craft
48 Essence of roses
50 Sigma follower
52 King beater
53 Sleight-of-hand sidewalk swindle
58 Brit's elevator
59 Cube or sphere
60 Similar (to)
61 Load to bear
62 Reclassified planet
63 Goller
64 Like the stepisters in "Cinderella"
65 Red Sea republic
66 Ready to drive, as a golf ball

DOWN

1 Parts of a cycle
2 Stinging crawler
3 Ultimatum words
4 Big name in breakfast cereal
5 Barely adequate
6 Stereotypical pirate's cry
7 Part of ICU
8 Poet Ogden
9 Toward the sheltered side
10 Curtain material
11 Ray from a natural satellite
12 Be situated beneath
13 "My goodness"
21 Ganchi's land
22 Java holder
26 Shipboard direction
28 Bed way for plans to go
29 Go-with dishes
30 Loch of lore
31 St. Louis's Gateway ____
34 Reason for an air quality alert

35 Bullet-on-metal noise
36 Second in a series
37 Cooking up a coup
38 Like kids' enthusiasm
39 Folderol
40 Actress Zadora
43 Before, of yore
45 Derek Jeter, e.g.
46 Busy

47 Walked
49 Culturally pretentious
50 Hackneyed
51 Home builder's afterthought
54 Notice
55 Nat or Natalie
56 School reunion attendee
57 Hops over
58 Singer Rawls

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H	O	M	I	N	G	P	I	C	E	B	B		
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By Robert Fisher
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Ruling leaves future of Manhattanville expansion in doubt

EMINENT DOMAIN from front page

if it isn't. "This is a stage in a process that will continue to unfold," he said.

One aspect of the ruling remains especially unclear: the fate of the sprawling underground facility proposed as part of the expansion to allow for below-grade deliveries, basement space, and other uses. The bulk of this area, which extends below essentially the entire expansion zone and would reach seven stories underground, is currently owned by the city. The University's December 2008 General Project Plan for the expansion was approved by the city, which is willing to give the property to Columbia. But legally, the plan states that the University must obtain it through eminent domain.

According to the GPP, the "Underground Streets Area" would be acquired through eminent domain in three stages as needed "for the construction and development of the Below-Grade Facility."

If the ruling is upheld by the New York State Court of Appeals, this space could also become unobtainable, along with the properties owned by the plaintiffs in Thursday's two lawsuits—Tuck-It-Away Self-Storage owner Nick Sprayregen and gas station owners Gurnam Singh and Parminder Kaur.

University officials have maintained throughout the expansion planning process that the Manhattanville campus is an all-or-nothing affair, and that they cannot execute the development plan approved by the state in May without controlling all land in the expansion zone, including the privately owned properties. Columbia already controls over 90 percent of the 17-acre site, which spans from 125th to 133rd streets and Broadway to 12th Avenue.

Columbia Executive Vice President Robert Kasdin declined to comment when reached Sunday on whether the University could obtain the below-grade property without eminent domain. Asked if the expansion would proceed if eminent domain were blocked and all properties couldn't be obtained, Kasdin said, "I'm not going to speculate on what would happen after the next court decision."

In the early stages of planning for the expansion in 2004, University President Lee Bollinger said, "If we cannot really have the opportunity to develop the entire site, then we won't do it at all. It's really that important."

Thursday's ruling held that the ESDC's approval of eminent domain use in Manhattanville was illegal because the expansion of "a private elite education



File Photo

PROPERTY | The Manhattanville expansion hit a roadblock Thursday after the State Supreme Court Appellate Division ruled Columbia's use of eminent domain illegal. Now, all eyes are on the University as the future for Manhattanville looks more uncertain.

institution" does not constitute "public use" as required for the state to seize private property. In addition, the decision found that the ESDC's determination that the area was blighted—a condition of economic disrepair beyond potential for natural relief, also a requirement for eminent domain—was made "in bad faith."

The 3-2 decision, written by Justice James Catterson, was harshly worded, describing the ESDC's actions with terms like "sophistry" and "idiocy" and stating, "The process employed by ESDC predetermined the unconstitutional outcome, was bereft of facts which established that the neighborhood in question was blighted, and ultimately precluded the petitioners from presenting a full record before either the ESDC or, ultimately, this Court. In short, it is a skein worth unraveling."

"If the decision's upheld, they [Columbia] will not be able to use eminent domain on 9 percent of the land, or six of the 67 buildings that are there currently," said Norman Siegel, Sprayregen's attorney and former director of the New York Civil Liberties Union. He added, "There are two possibilities: one, that Columbia then builds on 91 percent of the land, or two, they finally sit down with the Sprayregens and Singhs in a good-faith effort and try to negotiate with them—and I don't know whether that's possible at this stage, because Nick has said to me over and over that it's not just about money, it's about individual rights."

In an interview in September, Kasdin said of Sprayregen and the Singhs, "We continue to hope to reach a mutually beneficial agreement."

University officials decline to discuss specifics of negotiations with business owners, though they maintain they are open to deals with the holdouts if the latter are willing to meet them halfway.

"That hasn't happened," Siegel claimed. "They never made an offer to him [Sprayregen]. At the meeting I attended, it wasn't much of a meeting."

The underground area—known colloquially as the "bathtub"—has been the source of much dispute apart from the issue of eminent domain. It would be built near an earthquake fault line and a flood plane, which critics say could pose environmental hazards, especially in light of the chemicals that would be used in campus laboratories proposed for that space. Sprayregen filed a separate lawsuit citing that concern in March 2008, but it was dismissed that September.

Following the ESDC's anticipated appeal to Thursday's ruling, either party would have the option of asking the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case, and Sprayregen and Siegel have vowed to do so.

news@columbiaspectator.com

Residents find large dogs problematic

DOGS from front page

basically saying that rescue dogs are not allowed in public housing, because most rescue dogs are over 25 pounds," said Bresch, whose group found that many residents had taken their dogs to animal shelters because they feared losing their apartment for having a prohibited or unregistered dog.

Still, pushing back the deadline has not been a total victory for dog-loving tenants. They must continue to comply with the 40-pound weight limit, so owners of unregistered 60-pound dogs must still give up their dogs.

Some residents are concerned about the implications of the extension, and question the safety of allowing larger dogs to live in residential buildings.

"I'm scared of those huge dogs that live in here," said Alexandra Roama, a resident of the NYCHA-controlled Frederick Douglass housing projects on West 104th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. "When I walk outside there are always pit bulls trying to get at me and bite me. I say if you really want to have a big dog, go find another residence. I am not in favor of any [dog deadline registration] extension."

Charlia Hout, a former resident of the Frederick Douglass houses, echoed these sentiments, citing her concern about her family's safety.

"Listen, I have kids, and one of the real dangers here is these dogs that are always lunging at them. I say, absolutely get them out of here," she said.

But other residents feel an extension is warranted, and that such a ban should not have been instituted in the first place. "When I moved into these projects 58 years ago, you couldn't even have a goldfish," said Jorge Rodriguez, who lives in a Frederick Douglass house. "Then they kept letting more and more animals in until you could have dogs, and that was great. But now that they let them in, they can't start putting restrictions on them."

"I'm a dog lover, I love dogs—my nickname is Dog," added Rodriguez. "I don't care what size they are, they're great animals. I am opposed to any kind of ban, period."

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2010 GMC Terrain

Lions glide past competition for second place in weekend-long Bucknell Open

BY VICTORIA JONES
Spectator Staff Writer

After three days of fierce competition, the Bucknell Open is finally over. Columbia's male swimmers return to the city with a second-place finish out of seven teams. Princeton topped the charts with 1,609 points overall but the Light Blue stayed strong with 1,125.5.

The Lions grabbed their first 36 points with an eighth-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay. The team consisting of Joe Jeffers, Mitch Phillips, Johnny Bailey, and Bruno Esquen touched the wall in 1:28.21, only four seconds behind Princeton's winning squad.

The Light Blue also had a strong showing in the 500 freestyle in which sophomore Alex Smith finished first for Columbia, nabbing a seventh-place finish in 4:45.96. Freshman Sean MacKenzie grabbed ninth, swimming 4:44.54 in the finals followed by freshman Joe Beutler in 11th in 4:45.81.

In one of his many point-scoring finishes, senior Darren Pagan took 11th in the 200 individual medley with a time of 1:54.94 in the finals.

Junior Adam Powell broke the pool record with his first-place finish in the 50-yard freestyle. Powell was the fastest in the preliminaries with a time of 19.81 seconds, which he improved to 19.76 in the finals as he blew out the competition by over a full second.

Another big point winner for the Light Blue was the 400 medley relay team which took second behind Princeton with the help of freshman Patrick Dougherty, senior Ross Ramone, Esquen, and Powell.

In the diving pool, junior David Levkoff represented the Lions with his fifth-place finish with 281.75 points in the finals of the 1m dive.

After a full day of competition, Columbia headed into day two in fifth place with 272 points.

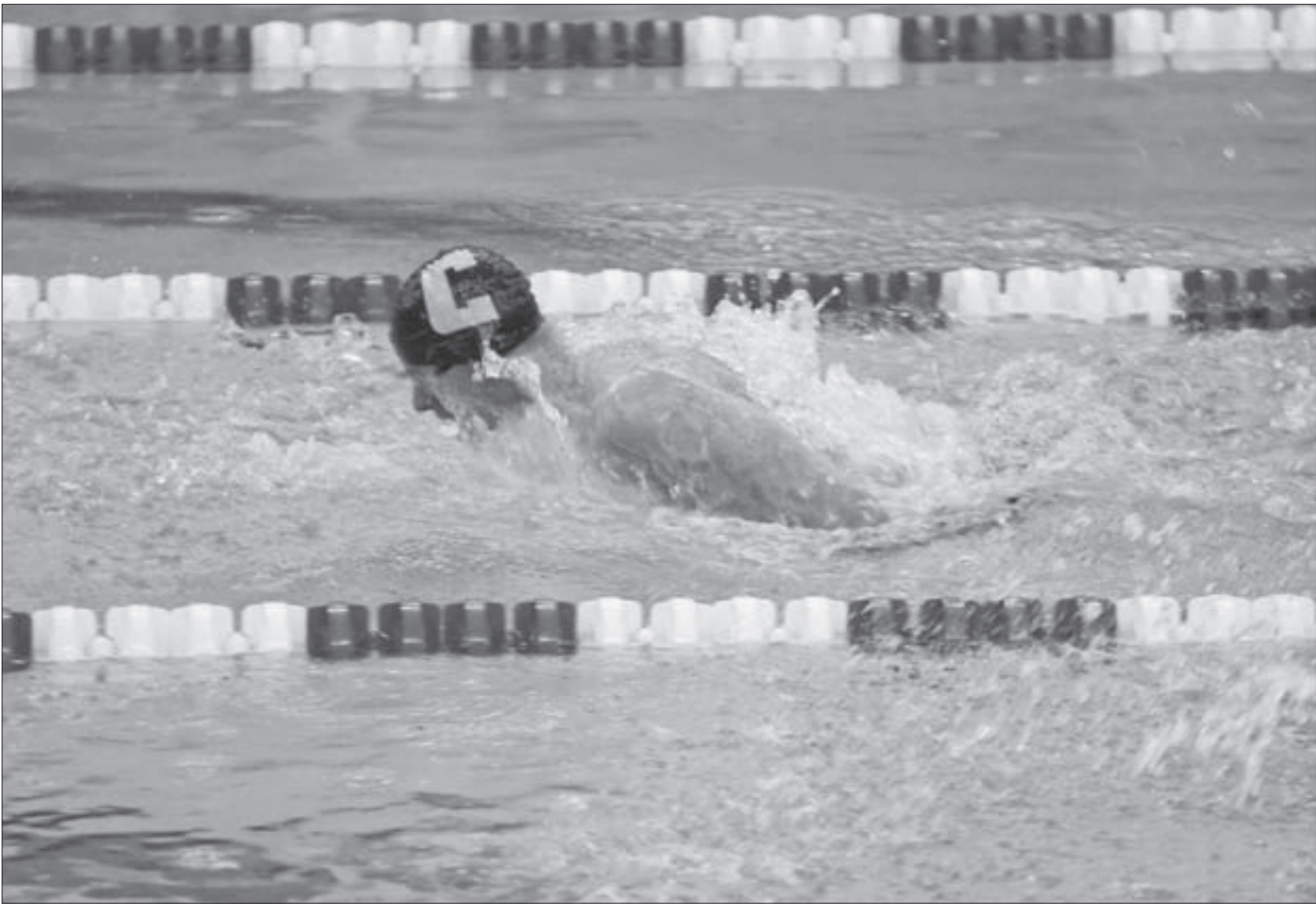
The second day saw more Light Blue success as the Lions moved into fourth starting with a 52-point contribution from the victorious 200 medley relay team. The group composed of Bailey, senior Eric Tang, Esquen, and Powell beat Princeton's top team out by six-tenths of a second for first place.

Esquen stepped up to take fourth in the 100 butterfly in 50.95 seconds. Teammate Pagan scored as well, finishing eighth in 51.60.

Powell then stepped up again, propelling himself to an individual first place for a second time, this time in the 100 backstroke. Bailey and Dougherty combined for another 47 points as they finished sixth and seventh respectively in the event.

With a sixth-place finish in the 800 freestyle relay and Jason Collazo's seventh-place finish in the 3-meter dive, the Lions headed into day three with 728.5 points, just half a point out of third.

The final day of competition saw a big momentum shift for the Light Blue. Columbia started the day with second- and sixth-place finishes in the 1,650 freestyle. MacKenzie dove in again, falling behind only one Princeton swimmer and finishing in 15:55.43. Smith grabbed sixth for the Lions in 16:30.21.



File photo

POWER POINTS | After ending the first day of competition in fifth place, the Light Blue consistently gathered points in all events, building momentum to take a second-place finish behind Princeton. Junior Adam Powell led the Lions, as the Bedford, N.Y. native set pool records in the 100 freestyle and backstroke.

Powell set his second pool record of the weekend, coasting to victory in the 100 freestyle with a time of 43.91, over a second and a half ahead of second place.

The Lions sent two swimmers to the A-final of the 200 breaststroke and capitalized on the points up for grabs. Tang took 26 for himself with a fourth-place, 2:08.54 finish. Senior Ross Ramone grabbed another 24 points as he finished close behind in sixth in 2:08.81.

Columbia had great representation in the finals of the 200 butterfly. Esquen finished fourth in 1:56.38 just ahead of senior Nick Barron in sixth in 1:56.62. The Lions took up half of the pool in the B-final as senior Robert Eyckmans, junior Josh Brown, sophomore Shane Tutass, and Smith took 10th, 11th, 15th, and 16th respectively. The men gathered an additional 125 points for the Light Blue in this event alone.

In the last event of the weekend, Columbia took second as the relay team of Pagan, Dougherty, Phillips, and Powell touched the wall in 3:05.38 in the 400 freestyle relay.

	FRIDAY CLOSE		SATURDAY CLOSE		SUNDAY CLOSE	
PLACE	TEAM	POINTS	TEAM	POINTS	TEAM	POINTS
1	PRINCETON	564	PRINCETON	1171	PRINCETON	1609
2	BUCKNELL	303	BROWN	754	COLUMBIA	1125.5
3	LA SALLE	276	BUCKNELL	729	BUCKNELL	1100
4	BROWN	273	COLUMBIA	728.5	BROWN	1025
5	COLUMBIA	272	LA SALLE	697.5	LA SALLE	1019.5
6	RIDER	171	RIDER	405	RIDER	608
7	SYRACUSE	45	SYRACUSE	47	SYRACUSE	86

When everyone had exited the pool, the final scoreboard reflected the team's immense effort as the Lions had leapt from fourth to

second with a grand total of 1,125.5 points, ahead of Bucknell, Brown, La Salle, Rider, and Syracuse.

Wrestling returns from Nevada after solid showing in elite tournament

BY JACOB LEVENFELD
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In its final tournament tune-up before dual action heats up in January, the Columbia wrestling team competed on Friday and Saturday at the 28th Annual Cliff Keen Las Vegas Collegiate Wrestling Invitational. With a total of 30.5 team points, the Lions placed 20th among 42 teams in the prestigious tournament, seven places higher than they finished a year ago.

"We had a pretty good weekend, all things considered," head coach Brendan Buckley said in an e-mail. "The level of competition was very high, and so the team had a great experience competing against the best guys in the country—the same guys that will be at the NCAA tournament. ... This was a great experience for us."

The Light Blue was led by junior Eren Civan and sophomore Kyle Gilchrist, who have both stepped up their level of competition this year. Civan, who was seeded sixth, advanced to the round of 12 in the 165-pound bracket before he was eliminated. His most exciting bout of the day came against Rider's Rob Morrison and ended with a 3-1 sudden victory. In the

end, Civan was eliminated by No. 6 Andy Rendos of Bucknell.

Gilchrist, competing in the 125-pound bracket, lost his first bout but then went on a four-match win streak before he was eliminated by Boise State's Alan Bartelli.

Sophomore Andrew Grabfelder, at 133 pounds, also finished with four wins on the day before he was eliminated in the round of 16. Civan, Gilchrist, and Grabfelder represent the Light Blue's strong core and will be expected to carry a heavy load in dual competition as the season continues. "All three of them have been competing very well lately," Buckley said.

Columbia's top freshmen did not place at the invitational, but they did gain a measure of experience after facing some of the nation's top collegiate wrestlers. Steve Santos (149 pounds), Jake O'Hara (141 pounds), and Stephen West (174 pounds) each had at least two wins in the tournament.

"We have a few freshmen that are on the verge of doing great things this year," Buckley said.

The Lions now have a long break before their dual season resumes on Jan. 3 at home against George Mason and Ohio State.




File photo

SWEEP | The Lions nearly swept the Seahawks, claiming first place in 10 of 11 races. While Wagner captured the gold in the 200-yard butterfly, Columbia took a close second-place finish.

Women's swimming sinks Wagner in first dual meet win of the season, 143-58

BY BART LOPEZ
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

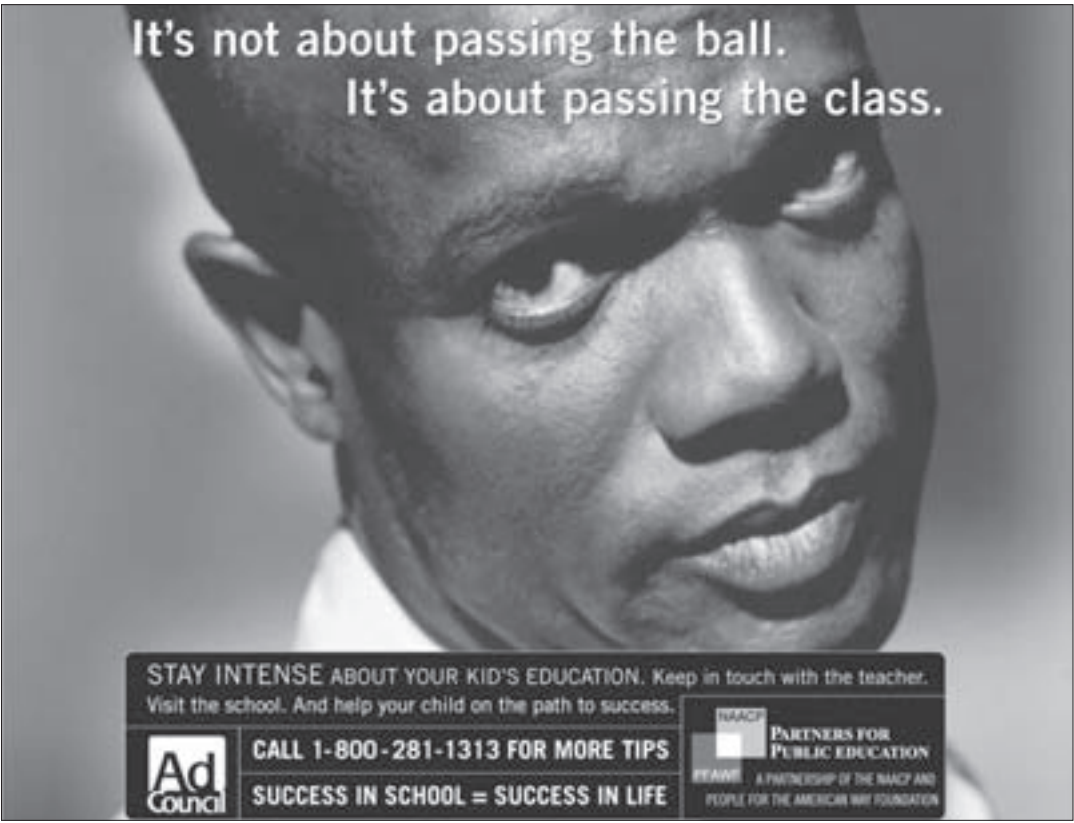
	WAGNER	58	
	COLUMBIA	143	

The Columbia women's swimming team impressed at home this past Saturday, defeating Wagner 143-58. The victory marked the Lions' first dual meet win of the year and provides valuable momentum that the squad needs going into next week's competition.

As the final point totals indicate, the meet was completely one-sided, with Columbia winning 10 of the 11 events. The Lions started the meet off on the right foot, taking the top two spots in the 200-yard medley relay. The relay team of freshman Lacey Harris-Coble, junior Mariele Dunn, senior Allison Hobbs, and freshman Bunge Okeyo finished first with a time of 1:50.90. Columbia would go on to sweep the next event, the 1,000-yard freestyle, as sophomore Paige Endsley, freshman Renee Brown, and sophomore Erin Kampschmidt took first, second, and third, respectively. After winning the third and fourth events, the Lions took the top three spots yet again in the 200-yard individual medley. However, the streak came to an end in the sixth event, when Wagner's Jessica Hart

edged out Columbia freshman Caroline Lukins for first place in the 200-yard butterfly. Hart also finished second in the 50-yard freestyle. The following event, the 100-yard freestyle, was another landslide victory for the Lions, as they swept once again. Columbia freshman Katie Meili, the first-place finisher, set a Wagner pool record in the event with a final time of 53.48. The Light Blue continued to post strong times for the remainder of the meet and cruised to victory.

While the impressive win merits celebration, there is still work to be done, as Columbia will swim on short rest against Ivy rival Penn. The last time these two teams met, the Lions edged out the Quakers on the road, 159-141. While Penn will surely be tough competition, Columbia is in a good position with a home pool advantage. The meet against Penn will be held on Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Uris Pool.



Williamsport 2009: the 12-year-old boys of summer



JACOB LEVENFELD
EYE ON THE BALL

Last summer was my first living at home since 1997. A five-day-per-week internship in the business world was a jarring adjustment from the previous 12 summers of overnight camp and youth trips, but the home-cooked food and relaxing weekends provided for a restful break. Until my little brother decided to be good at baseball. To provide some perspective, I'm the oldest of four boys of varying athletic ability. Number two, Robert, plays on his college football team, while the next one, Sammy, recently made his high school's varsity basketball squad. Jonny, the youngest, alternates between basketball, baseball, and tennis. And me? I just write for Spec.

Jonny was this summer's culprit. For the second year in a row, he was tapped for our town's Little League World Series team. The tournament itself begins each summer at the local level and concludes after about eight weeks with the U.S.'s and the world's top teams competing for the title in Williamsport, Pa. In 2008, Newton Central Little League was knocked out after just two games. A similar finish seemed inevitable this past July.

Instead, Central started to win. First a single game, then two, then four. With that last victory, Jonny and his friends completed their sweep in the district round and advanced over seven other teams to the sectionals—the Massachusetts Sweet 16.

But the road to Williamsport—which suddenly seemed a bit shorter—had a few potholes. In game three of the districts, an incompetent scorer failed to record a Central substitution and the opposing coach chose to wait until after his team had lost to complain to the umpire. With minimal discussion and absolutely no investigation into the incident, the district administrator consulted her rule-book and upheld the game's result but suspended Central's manager, my father, for two games.

I'm sure thousands of columnists and reporters have critiqued parental influence in youth sports. Clear-sighted people will agree that the children and the lessons they learn (teamwork, sportsmanship, etc.) come first. Parents and coaches should leave their egos behind.

The coach's decision to appeal the outcome of a 5-0 loss based on a technicality wasn't wise. If he suspected a minor scoring issue, it should have remained private. In the end, his own players found an undeserved consolation excuse after a tough loss, and the winning team lost its coach since some volunteer scorekeeper wasn't paying attention when a pinch-hitter came in.

These outcomes could have been foreseen a mile away, but no one seemed to pause to consider the human element. The suspension clause holds that the coach cannot even be in attendance anywhere on site for the two games in question. When Jonny, Central's No. 2 starting pitcher, took the mound for a rematch against the same team with a chance to advance to the sectionals, my dad couldn't even watch his own son play baseball.

When I asked Jonny, now 13, how it felt to take the field that night with a shorthanded coaching staff, he responded from a team perspective. "It was painful not to have our leader in two games," he wrote to me. "But the great thing about this team was that it could withstand grind and adversity. When we were down, no one ever threw dirt on us. We got back up and played our hearts out."

Under pressure and out for revenge, my little brother had the game of his life. He tossed a three-hit shutout and cracked three hits, including a key RBI single in the first.

"That game was the most fun in my Little League career," he wrote. "At the plate, the baseball looked like a volleyball ready to be clubbed. On the mound, the batter was little threat, and I felt as if I was merely playing catch with Naushon [the catcher]."

Central proceeded to breeze through the sectionals, and that's when my family's summer plans went awry. Jonny was signed up for overnight camp, but the team had been so surprisingly successful that he couldn't even go on time and stayed home instead for the state final four. Both my parents had to cancel vacation plans.

Central readied for battle in the Massachusetts state tournament with three other teams in a double-elimination format. Day after day, as the squad stayed alive and knocked out two teams in the process, Jonny's fan club—which had grown to include aunts and uncles, grandparents and family friends—made the 40-minute trek up to Beverly to pack the stands for the highest level of Little League ball most of us would ever see live. Brother Sammy came up from his camp in New York just to see Jonny pitch. Robert, who was a counselor at a nearby overnight camp, convinced his program director to let him borrow the camp van and bring six or seven of his campers to see the action.

Central made it all the way to the final round before losing, ending its run in second place out of 266 teams in the state tournament. It wasn't easy for the boys to taste Williamsport and never reach it, but really, wasn't playing the state finals enough pressure for a bunch of 12-year-olds?

Jonny still savors the thrill. For him, no feeling can equal that of taking the mound under the lights in front of a huge crowd with the game on the line. He best described the summer of 2009 when he wrote to me about his shutout in the district finals: "It was exhilarating to baffle the hitters repeatedly and to feel like I was on top of the world."

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Road struggles continue for Columbia Men's basketball still winless away from Levien after falling to Stony Brook

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Staff Writer

Coming into the game with momentum from a close victory over Lehigh at home, the Columbia men's basketball team had a chance to win its first away game of the season at Stony Brook on Saturday. Despite leading 34-31 at the half, the Lions (3-4) were once again doomed as their opponents went on a late-game run, as the Seawolves (6-2) closed out the game with a 25-10 spurt, earning a 63-60 victory.

The second half started out well for the Light Blue, as it outscored Stony Brook 16-7 in the first six minutes to take a 12-point lead. Senior guard Niko Scott sparked the run with a jumper and scored seven of his 12 points during that six-minute span.

Scott, who had struggled with his shooting in the early part of the season, went 4-for-6 from the field against the Seawolves.

"I get my shots a lot out of the motion of the offense," he said. "So as long as we're working together as a team, I feel like I can open up, and I can help this team with my shooting ability."

Stony Brook responded with a 16-4 run of its own, tying the game at 54 with back-to-back 3-pointers by sophomore forward Danny Carter. A jumper by sophomore guard Noruwa Agho put the Lions up 56-54 with 6:07 left to play—Columbia's last lead in the game.

The Light Blue did have chances to take the lead again, but it was unable to capitalize on these opportunities. Down 58-56, junior forwards Brian Grimes and Asenso Ampim both went to the line but were unable to convert any of their four free throws.

"If you're in enough games you know that sometimes they go in, sometimes they don't," Columbia head coach Joe Jones said. "We just didn't make them tonight. Hopefully in the next game—if we get into that situation—we make them."

A lay-up by senior guard Patrick Foley brought the Lions within two with 11 seconds to play, but after Stony Brook's sophomore guard Bryan Dougher missed his first free throw on a one-and-one, Columbia was unable to execute on its final possession of the game.

Though there were a couple of questionable calls during the Seawolves' comeback, Jones thought the loss was more the result of the Lions' struggle to close games out.

"I thought there was some tough calls down in that stretch," Jones said. "But that's what's going to happen on the road. We just didn't go in and make the plays down the stretch."

Foley, who finished the game with 11 points, four rebounds, three assists, and a block, also commented on the difficulty the Light Blue has been having late in the game.

"It's definitely something we got to work on," he said. "We just got to learn how to keep our defensive intensity up, stay executing, get good contributions from our second team, and just, kind of, maintain the intensity."

After turning the ball over only twice in the first half, Columbia had eight turnovers in the second half. Stony Brook was able to take advantage, scoring 10 points off Light Blue after intermission.

The Lions also struggled on the boards throughout the game, as the Seawolves out-rebounded them 41-35 and pulled down 14 offensive boards to Columbia's nine. Those 14 offensive rebounds gave Stony Brook 11 second-chance points, while Columbia only had six.



File photo

RIISING HIGH | Asenso Ampim and the Lions could not overcome a late Seawolves comeback on Saturday. Ampim and Brian Grimes went a combined 0-for-4 from the line in a key stretch.


One thing the Light Blue can take away from this game is the strong play of freshman forward John Daniels. Daniels finished the game with a team-high nine rebounds.

"He's so tenacious—he plays so hard," Jones said. "He's just a very, very good player, and he's just going to get better and better."

Agho also had a good game, tying Scott for a team-high 12 points while also posting three rebounds and an assist.

The Lions will have another chance to win their first road game when they face off against Wagner on Tuesday. Despite their difficulties on the road this year, particularly in the second half, Jones is certain his team will get better at closing games out.

"I have all the confidence in the world in my guys," Jones said. "I know next time we're in that situation, we'll make the right plays."

	COLUMBIA	60	
	STONY BROOK	63	

TEAM LEADERS		
		
NORUWA AGHO 24 points	NIKO SCOTT 5 assists	BRIAN GRIMES 13 rebounds
Courtesy of Columbia Athletics		

Red Storm smothers Light Blue in second-half surge

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia women's basketball team gave St. John's a scare on Friday afternoon, but the Red Storm left Levien Gymnasium with a 75-63 victory. The Lions (4-4) trailed by only three points at halftime, but they struggled toward the end of the second half.

"It'd be easy for me to sit here and talk about how proud I am of the team's effort, and how we came close, and how we played tough, and all of that, but we expected to win," Columbia head coach Paul Nixon said. "We weren't walking on the court thinking, 'I just hope we can stay within 20 [points] of this team.' That wasn't the goal. The goal was to win the game."

The first half consisted of back-and-forth play, with six ties and 11 lead changes. While St. John's (7-0) often stymied Columbia with its full-court pressure, the Lions kept the game close through their solid offensive rebounding and defense. Columbia grabbed eight offensive boards and scored six second-chance points while holding St. John's to two offensive rebounds and zero second-chance scores. In addition, senior guard Danielle Browne and junior forward Judie Lomax each took a charge for the Lions.

Sophomore guard Melissa Shafer sank a 3-pointer with four minutes left in the half to give Columbia a four-point lead, the largest advantage for either team to that point. The trey seemed to give the Lions momentum, but Columbia was unable to make another basket before the half came to a close. St. John's went on a 7-0 run to take a 33-30 lead at the intermission.

The Lions continued to put up a strong fight for most of the second half. With 12:49 left, the Red Storm took a 10-point lead—its first double-digit advantage of the night—on a 3-pointer by senior guard Kelly McManmon. But the Lions went on an 11-3 run to climb within two points of the Red Storm with 8:21 remaining. Then St.



Elaine Burchman / Staff photographer


BREAKING DOWN THE D | Danielle Browne and the Lions played tight defense and owned the offensive boards in the first half, but the Red Storm took over late en route to victory.

John's again pulled away from Columbia, outscoring the Lions by 10 points in the final six minutes to clinch the victory.

It was St. John's that capitalized on strong offensive rebounding in the second half, while the Light Blue struggled to keep possessions alive. The Lions grabbed only two offensive boards and had four second-chance points. Meanwhile, the Red Storm pulled down 12 offensive rebounds and scored 11 second-chance points.

"They [St. John's] had two offensive rebounds at half, and they end up with 14," Nixon said. "That right there's the difference in the game."

Lomax—the nation's leading rebounder a season ago—fouled out with four minutes to play, taking away Columbia's greatest threat on the boards. She finished with six rebounds, a far cry from her

	ST. JOHN'S	75	
	COLUMBIA	63	

average of 12.1 per game.

Four of the Lions' starters scored 13 points, but junior center Lauren Dwyer went just 1-for-7 from the field and finished with three points. Freshman guard Shenneika Smith scored a game-high 15 points for St. John's, while the Red Storm bench contributed 27 points.

"I'm not going to sit here and act like it wouldn't have been an upset, but we had an opportunity ... and we didn't get it done down the stretch," Nixon said. "That part is disappointing. But overall, there's a reason they're now 7-0."