The 2010-11 school year at Columbia University has officially drawn to a close, and this week our campus is literally transformed into a grand arena for multiple graduation ceremonies and the University-wide Commencement ceremony on Wednesday. At this event, all Columbia University graduates from every college, including Law, Medical, Business, Engineering, Barnard and Columbia College undergraduate just to name a few, will have their degrees conferred by University President Lee C. Bollinger. It will be quite a sight! In the women's basketball program, it will be bittersweet as we say both congratulations and farewell to two young women who have transformed our program during their four years wearing the Columbia Blue. Prior to their arrival, no Columbia women's basketball team had ever finished higher than 5th in the Ivy League. Kathleen Barry and Lauren Dwyer never finished lower than 4th in any of their four seasons. Kathleen and Lauren have both been honored for their numerous accomplishments both this season and throughout their careers, but what our program will miss most is the good people both of these young women have matured into. They have represented everything that is positive about our program, our institution and the sport of women's basketball both on and off the court. For the coaching staff, our next mission will be to seek out young women who will live up to and carry on their legacy as future Lions. We will hold our annual summer camps at the end of June, and then we will spend the month of July traveling throughout the country to cover many NCAA certified events. It will be a busy and exciting summer as always, and you can look forward to more updates when the 2011-12 school year starts in the fall.

ROAR LION ROAR!!!
The event, which honors all Columbia student-athletes, also featured the presentation of the Athletics Alumni Awards to Don Jackson '73CC (football and baseball) and Helen Doyle Yeager '85BC (women's basketball), and the watch award presentations for the Columbia senior student-athletes earning the highest cumulative grade-point averages and at least two varsity letters. Kathleen Barry (women's basketball) earned the Marion R. Philips Watch. (Link to Story)

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On Campus

Women's Basketball's Kathleen Barry Receives NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship

INDIANAPOLIS -- Columbia women's basketball senior Kathleen Barry was one of 58 senior winter student-athletes across all three NCAA divisions to be awarded the prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, it was announced on Tuesday. Barry is the second Lion in as many years to win the scholarship, as fencer Jeff Spear ’10CC received the same honor last year.

Harvard swimmer Katherine Mills was the only other Ivy League student-athlete to receive the scholarship. The Ivy League has totaled 206 athletes who have earned NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships through the winter season of the 2010-11 academic year. The NCAA awards up to 174 postgraduate scholarships annually, 87 for men and 87 for women. The one-time grants of $7,500 each are awarded for fall sports, winter sports and spring sports. Each sports season (fall, winter and spring), there are 29 scholarships available for men and 29 scholarships available for women.

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Lion's Bite

Women's Basketball Team Holds Clinic for UAI of Math and Science for Young Women

NEW YORK - The Columbia women's basketball team hosted the UAI of Math and Science for Girls and Girls, Inc., for a youth clinic on April 28. The Lions took time out of their preparations for finals in order to run the middle school students through various basketball drills at Levien Gymnasium. The Urban Assembly Institute of Math and Science for Young Women is designed to encourage and foster the achievement of young women in math, science, and technology. The UAI implements college-preparatory curriculum that uses interdisciplinary, inquiry-based models of learning that actively engage all students in both their advanced work in math, science, and technology as well as their other classes. Young women in the program have mentors, internships, and access to college level classes at partnership universities.

Camp Zone

Women’s Basketball Announces Camp Dates for 2011

Columbia head women’s basketball coach Paul Nixon has announced dates for the 2011 Paul Nixon Basketball Camp. The women’s basketball elite camp is slated for June 24-26, 2011, and is open to girls ages 14-18. The girls’ basketball skills camp, which is scheduled for June 27-30, is open to girls ages 7-18.

For more information on both camps, please contact assistant coach Shanna Cook at 212-854-8861 or at ssc2153@columbia.edu.
Alumni Paw Prints

Valerie Purdie Vaughns
CC’93

Since graduating from Columbia College in 1993, Valerie has made a name for herself in the world of social psychology. She received her Ph. D from Stanford and has delved into the research of the psychology of diversity. Valerie used the leadership skills honed under involvement in the Lions basketball program to become the Director of the “I Have a Dream” Foundation in the Southfield Village Public Housing Project in Stamford, Ct. She has also worked as an Assistant Professor at Yale, and currently serves as an Assistant Professor back at Columbia’s Psychology department.

Valerie was a member of the Columbia University Basketball Team from 1989-1993. She was named to the Academic All-Ivy team her senior year.

ROAR, LIONS, ROAR!

Support Columbia Women’s Basketball

Every gift you make helps our program grow and supports critical needs like equipment and uniforms, recruiting, alumnae and networking events, and training and travel, and also supplements our operating budget—your generosity helps us achieve our ultimate goal of becoming Ivy League champions. THANKS!

~ Katie Day ’03 CC –’99,’00,’01,’02

You can give online by clicking here

No gift is too small. Every dollar counts!
We truly appreciate your generosity. Thank you.