

# COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

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## Blood drive organizers seek to increase number of donors

By Alison Vance

Columbia's paltry participation in the past few biannual blood drives has spurred the organizers of this week's drive to encourage more members of the community to give blood.

Last October, the Columbia community donated only 200 pints of blood, although this figure increased in the spring of 1991, according to Michelle Hyla, an account representative for the New York Blood Center.

The goal of the year's blood drive is to reach 2,000 pints after the final drive in spring of 1992.

"We're trying to get it back to where it was," Hyla said.

University President Michael Sovern sent a letter out to the administration and faculty urging their participation in the fall blood drive.

Co-chaired by Reverend Scott Matheney and Rabbi Charles Sheer in Earl Hall, the organizers of the blood drive hope to receive a total of 500 pints in donations this semester.

The drive will take place in John Jay Hall today from 4 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., and in the Hepburn Room in Uris Hall on Wednesday



from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“The most important thing to remember is that you can just walk in,” said Matheney.

The University will provide incentive for participation in the blood drive--the Blue Key Society will give free T-shirts to all participants and Deputy Vice President of Campus Life Gerald Lowrey offered to give a pizza party to the residence hall and fraternity or sorority which donates the most blood.

All graduate schools and various FBH groups have lent their support to the publicity and promotion of the program.

Matheney said he hopes many people will contribute to the program this week and will not be put off by misconceptions about donating blood.

“You cannot get AIDS by giving blood,” he said.

Barnard will hold its own blood drive this week in McIntosh Student Center tomorrow and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Barnard Student Government Association (SGA) and the Office of Disabilities are sponsoring the Barnard College Blood Drive.

“We usually get a good response at Barnard,” said SGA Officer of the Board Leilynne Lau, BC '93.