North Spring Qualifier at Cornell University – April 3,4

With highs around 80 degrees and a steady breeze of 15 mph and building, it was the perfect day for sailing. Seven students made their way to beautiful Cayuga Lake at the crack of dawn Saturday, preparing to compete against teams such as Cornell, Colombia, Queens, and University of Rochester. The day started out 10-12 out of the West, but following the first set, steadily built to 20-25 with gusts reaching highs of 35. Scott Layton ’11, the A Fleet skipper, was consistently in the front of the fleet with numerous crews -- Adrian Mason ’10, Maggie McMullen ’13, Sara Winkelman ’12, and Suzanne Collier ’12 -- with the varying wind conditions. Mike Dinneen ’11 headed the B division with crew Cassie Lawson ’12 also finishing in the front of the fleet the majority of the races. After one of the longest days of sailing many of us had faced in years, 9AM to 630PM, we were in 3rd place only 13 points behind Columbia University and Cornell in the lead.

On Sunday, we made our way back to Ithaca to complete the final set of the round robin. Expecting light breeze out of the West, we were surprised to come to steady 10-12 mph out of the North. An hour and a half, and four races later, the regatta came to an end with Colgate holding its 3rd place position. The top three teams qualified for the America’s Trophy On April 17th and 18th back at Cornell against the best teams in MAISA.