

'BioBlitz' hits Central Park

Wondering what hundreds of people were doing in Central Park Monday and yesterday crawling around in the shrubs? About 400 students from Macaulay Honors College and more than 100 scientists were part of the Central Park Conservancy's 24-hour "BioBlitz," or species count.

The Conservancy noticed several years ago that chipmunks seemed to have vanished, and it has worked to make the habitat less attractive to Norway rats, which compete with chipmunks for resources. They are also hoping to help Big Brown and Eastern Red bats that live in the park.

"They love mosquitoes, so they're friends of ours," said Central Park Conservancy spokeswoman Dena Libner.

(SHEILA ANNE FEEHEY)

Bloomberg sticks with Quinn

After the City Council last week overrode his vetoes of two controversial police-related bills, Mayor Michael Bloomberg branded the action "election-year politics at its worst and political pandering at its most deadly."

That's some pretty grim talk, suggesting as it does that anyone who took part in passing the legislation threatens the people's safety.

Council Speaker Christine Quinn leads the house that enacted the measures. She counts one of the bills, creating an NYPD inspector general, among her accomplishments. For the record, she voted against the other, which expands the right to sue over racial profiling — but suggested that if elected mayor she won't try to squelch it in court.

And yet Bloomberg, despite raising vivid alarms



DAN JANISON

over her Council's doings, doesn't seem to have ditched his long-running political alliance with Quinn as she struggles to win the Democratic nomination.

The mayor's forgiveness — or disconnect — became clearer Monday when Deputy Mayor Howard Wolfson cautiously praised Quinn in a TV interview.

"The mayor has said, and I believe, that she has been a very effective speaker," said Wolfson, who then echoed one of Quinn's talking points of the week, that her rival Bill de Blasio, the public advocate, once "flip-flopped" on term limits.

Wolfson sounded as if Bloomberg — rather than



A deputy of Mayor Michael Bloomberg called Christine "a very effective speaker" in a recent TV interview.

Quinn and five other Democrats — was running against de Blasio. The deputy claimed de Blasio wants to undo "the best 12 years of the city's history" and push the city into higher crime and bad finances.

De Blasio spokesman Dan Levitan replied yesterday: "Bill de Blasio is running to make a clean break from



Lhota

the Bloomberg and they [Quinn and Bloomberg] : fighting for ti status quo."

Also in recent days, Wolfson at a Bloomberg toward Joe L the Republican prin though Lhota has he differences with Bloomberg.

For one thing, in l interview with NYL,



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