

Fall 1988

## Columbia College Alumni Association

Columbia College Chicago

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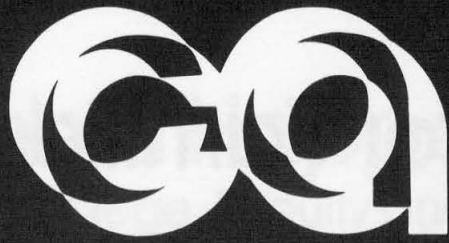
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columbia college alumni association

Volume 8, Number 2 Fall 1988

600 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605-1996

## Second City Makes First-Rate Evening

More than 200 alums gathered this spring to laugh the evening away at Chicago's very own Second City theater.

Alums met in the lobby of the popular comedy club for pre-show *hor d'oeuvres* and conversation. "It's great that so many alumni turned out," said Columbia College Alumni Association President Julie Ellis.

Besides a lively revue, "Jean-Paul Sartre and Ringo," by the Second City company, alumni also enjoyed two raffles. Prizes ranged from Chicago sports memorabilia and theater tickets to brunch for two at Ditka's and the grand prize, a seven-day cruise for two on Carnival Cruise Lines. "This is a first for the Alumni Association," said Program Planning Chairman Ron Jenkins. "We're delighted that it's been such a tremendous success because that means we'll do something like this again."

Our warmest thanks to everyone who contributed to the evening's festivities:

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CCAA President Julie Ellis (r.) and Program Planning Chairman Ron Jenkins look over the program in anticipation while Eric Futran (far r.) gets into a little Second City mischief.

## Alumni Survey Yields Helpful Stats

This winter the Alumni Office, in conjunction with the College, mailed alumni of the last 20 years a survey on their Columbia experience. As explained in the letters which accompanied the form, the survey is part of the preparation for a scheduled ten-year accreditation review by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The self-study represents an attempt to examine every academic and administrative function in order to measure how well the college is accomplishing its mission.

Evaluation materials were developed by American College Testing (ACT)/Evaluation Survey Service with one section developed by the college to evaluate issues specific to Columbia. The standardized sections of the survey were then evaluated and compared by ACT with a normative summary based on 39,000 alumni records from 90 colleges who also participated in the standardized section of the survey over a three-year period from January 1983 to December 1986.

College self-study coordinator and Director of the Graduate Division Dennis Peacock feels positive about the results. "So far they have confirmed our fundamental hopes," he explains. "Alumni seem to have a strong fondness for Columbia. They do not feel a sense of commitment, but this pattern seems fairly typical of urban commuter colleges according to what we have learned from neighboring institutions. When you consider the pervasive and extreme diversity of our student body and faculty—our environment—it's a good sign that roughly 68 percent of the responding alumni feel that our diversity makes Columbia College 'a more

interesting place," he says.

While survey results are still under analysis, some other trends have been identified. Approximately 70 percent of those alumni responding said that they attribute their appreciation for the arts to Columbia College. More than 75 percent said that the type of programming available was the primary reason for attending Columbia, a figure which compares favorably to the national sample in which 22 percent chose their college primarily on that basis. Roughly 80 percent of those responding feel that Columbia truly fosters individuality (79%); offers professional facilities and practical experience (86%); and provides exposure to faculty professionals who "bring the real world into the classroom" (83%).

"We're grateful that so many Columbia alumni took the time and effort to complete and return the surveys. The return rate was both surprising and helpful," says Director of Alumni Relations Patti Terkovich. ■

Homecoming  
1988

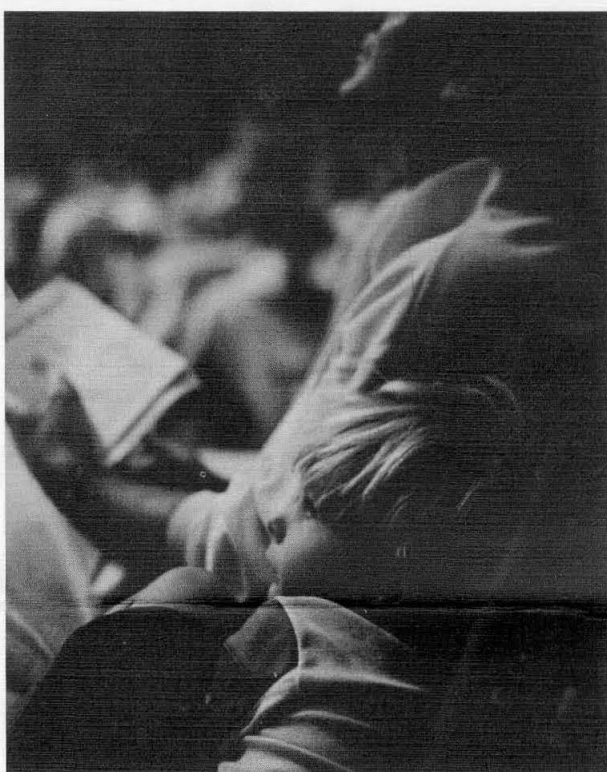
Don't miss all of the exciting details on page 3.

# Galaxy of Music: Noteworthy for Families

"Music influences a child's character," says Galaxy of Music Executive Director Vicki Vorreiter. "We hope to integrate music into the home—to invite families to experience music together."

Galaxy of Music is a new concert series for the children of Chicagoland sponsored by The Contemporary American Music Program at Columbia College under the direction of William Russo. Designed to introduce classical music to young people, ages five to 13, and their parents, the program includes music from many cultures, countries and time periods.

Nearly 300 attended the June 4, 1988, opening of this program held in Columbia's Getz Theater. Guests were treated to music performed by the Chicago Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Dieter Kober. Selections included "Concerto in C Major for 2 Trumpets" by Antonio Vivaldi; "Concerto for Percussion" by Darius Milhaud; "Ragtime Dance" by Scott Joplin; and "The Stars and Stripes Forever" by John



Photos by Steve Arazmus

Thirteen-year-old violin soloist Jennifer Turner receives an affectionate tribute from maestro Dieter Kober and members of the Chicago Chamber Orchestra following her performance of Mozart's "Concerto #3 in G Major, K. 216."

Philip Sousa. The orchestra was joined by WLS-TV's Harry Porterfield who narrated Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf," and also by 13-year-old violin soloist Jennifer Turner for Mozart's "Concerto #3 in G Major, K. 216."

The afternoon program was punctuated by educational interaction between the musicians and the children. Before the "Concerto for Percussion," Maestro Kober explained the various voices in the percussion section from whip, gong and triangle to timpani, and before "Peter and the Wolf," he introduced children to the wolf (two french horns assisted by trombone),

Peter (violins), the bird (oboe), the duck (clarinet), and the hunters (kettle drums).

As the program is also designed to inspire and encourage, Kober also gave simple rhythm lessons to show children how fun and easy learning rhythms can be. "He had everyone clapping and stamping their feet," says Vorreiter. Two children were also invited to conduct the Sousa march as a rousing finale.

"In future programs, we hope to include music from Japan, Africa, Spain—we want to cover the globe—and from the looks of things, we have many families who will be joining us for the journey," adds Vorreiter. ■

## Columbia Offers New Film/Video M.F.A.

A new four-year Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degree program will be instituted at Columbia College this fall. The new 60-hour degree program replaces the previous 36-hour M.A. program and shifts the emphasis from academic criticism to studio production. "Columbia is among only a handful of Midwestern institutions awarding the M.F.A. in a visual medium," says Columbia Vice President and Academic Dean Lya Dym Rosenblum.

Approved by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (the accrediting body for this region), the program will concentrate on both the technical and conceptual aspects of the film and video mediums. Its goal is to prepare students for careers in film and video production, college teaching, theatrical and non-theatrical fiction film, documentary film and video, animation and independent filmmaking.

"The M.F.A. represents an opportunity to focus more intensely on the development of the directing process, especially as it pertains to the making of documentary films," says Tony Loeb, Chairman of Columbia's Film/Video Department. It will enable us to involve every M.F.A. student in a comprehensive film experience before they are required to do their thesis work."

Loeb says the department and the college are very proud of this benchmark. "In the world of production, when the issue is studio work, the making of art, the

M.F.A. is understood to be the highest recognition of achievement. The approval from North Central signals to the educational community that Columbia College has reached a place of sufficient eminence—that we are now in a position to grant the highest terminal degree in this field."

The M.F.A. program in film/video is open to everyone who holds an undergraduate degree. Students currently enrolled in the M.A. program will have the option of completing that degree, or converting to the new M.F.A. program and completing the additional work. "Student applicants are also not required to have previous film/video experience," says Loeb. The whole point is to bring people from other fields into this world. The truth of the matter is that most often filmmakers are made from people with English degrees, the humanities, or those who have a strong sense of history. Also, there are many kinds of filmmaking. Everything isn't focused toward the coast where features are made. Some people are interested in political film. Some are interested in anthropology. So we're looking to draw from a broad cross section of backgrounds."

Columbia's film/video department features one of the most sophisticated filmmaking facilities in the country, including a 3,300 square-foot lighting stage, nine screening facilities, a professional sound studio and 13 editing suites. Students in the program will

also benefit from interaction with faculty members who are all professionals in their respective specialties. At the end of their studies, each student will produce a thesis—a short film or videotape of professional sophistication in dramatic or documentary form. "The more comprehensive program means that now thesis work will improve, which in turn means that students' professional opportunities will too," says Loeb. "The M.F.A. also affords the opportunity to teach that the M.A. never provided."

Loeb looks at this milestone as yet another testimony to the excellence and creativity of the college and its students. "This is a department that is in some regards unprecedented. Given Columbia's size and financial limitations, it's virtually unprecedented for a program like ours to have won three Academy Awards in the last eight years. It was just announced that our Jim Richardson won an Academy Award in animation for 'Cat & Rat.' This means that over the last eight years the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has recognized Columbia students in three separate categories—documentary, dramatic film, and now, animation."\*

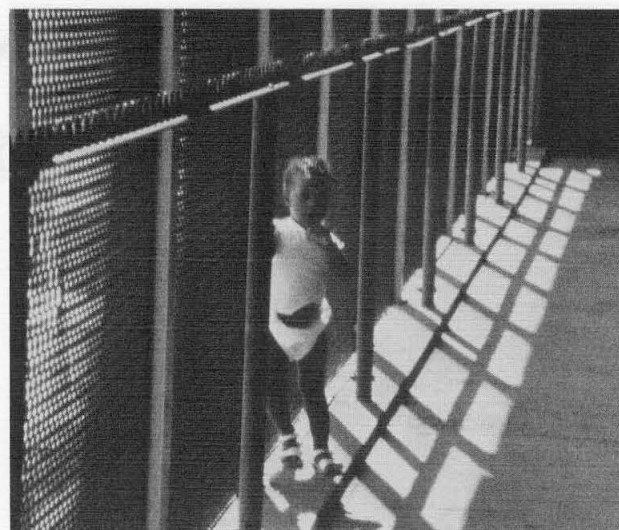
\*The other two alumni Academy Award winners are Lisa Gottlieb, 1980, for "Murder in a Mist" (dramatic); and Loretta Smith, 1983, for "Where Did You Get That Woman?" (documentary). ■

# Columbia Happenings

## News of the College, Faculty and Administration

**Jim Martin**, Columbia College film documentarian and Chairman of the Urban Culture and Documentary Program, is the co-recipient with the Metropolitan Planning Council of a \$25,000 grant from American National Bank and Trust Company. The grant will be used to produce a documentary on public housing in Chicago and the United States. The 60-minute film, "Fired Up: Public Housing is My Home," will be released this summer and presents a critical look at the state of public housing across the nation—the problems of tenants, their culture and history, and their efforts to educate themselves about tenant management in order to take charge of their communities...the **Columbia Chronicle** has a new home on the eighth floor of the Wabash Avenue building. The new facility replaces the old basement office at 600 S. Michigan

and answers the need for more space . . . **Dennis Lavery** has been appointed Vice President for College Relations and Development. He comes to Columbia from California State University at Hayward where he was Director of University Relations and Development since 1983. . . **Graham Lewis** is the 1988 recipient of the **Eileen Lannan Poetry Prize**, an annual poetry competition award inaugurated this spring by the English Department. The prize is awarded for the best poem or group of poems by a Columbia College student. The contest is sponsored by the Academy of American Poets, and endowed by John R. Lannan in honor of his daughter. Winners receive a cash prize and publication of the work in *New Voices*, an anthology published every five years by the Academy. Prominent American poets such as



From the documentary film,  
"Fired Up: Public Housing Is My Home"

Sylvia Plath and Tess Gallagher have won their first important recognition with an Academy College Poetry Prize . . . **The National Project on Computer and College Writing** has selected Columbia College as a test and development site for a national project on computer and college writing. Columbia and 13 other colleges and universities, including MIT, Ohio State, and the University of California, will assess the broad effect of computers in college-level composition classes, as well exchange information, technologies, and curricula. At the completion of the three-year project, the selected schools will present their distinctive programs and findings at a nation-wide conference to be held in New York City. These schools will then become regional resource centers for computer-based composition theory and practice. The program is funded by a grant from the Fund for Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) . . . **Barbara Sykes-Dietze**, TV Department instructor, is the creator of KALYIAN, a video art tape which recently received its eighth award, an Honorable Mention at the 30th American Film and Video Festival held in May. The American Film and Video Festival is the major showcase of new educational, documentary, informational and dramatic programs available for the nontheatrical film and video market. This festival is an international competition. ■

## Black Music Repertory Ensemble Premieres

If you've ever heard an organ played with major chords silent, then you can imagine the wanting texture of American music without the Black voice. March 25, 1988, brought that voice out as never before in the exciting world premiere of the Black Music Repertory Ensemble.

This Vale of Tears," T.J. Anderson's "Variations on a Theme by M.B. Tolson," or Will Marion Cook's "Three Negro Songs," the ensemble was joined by celebrated vocalists tenor William Brown, soprano Bernadine Oliphant, and bass-baritone Donnie Ray Albert.

The ensemble is the first of its kind, devoted primar-



Photo by Steve Arazmus

The brainchild of Columbia College Center for Black Music Research Director Samuel A. Floyd, the ensemble was created to spotlight and promote appreciation for the Black musical heritage through the performance and recording of small-ensemble literature written by black composers between ca. 1800 and the present.

Following a reception to honor the event, more than 350 guests filled Columbia's Oscar and Emma Getz Theater for the Friday evening fête which featured such musical endpoints as 19th-century dances and a 20th-century gospel-tinged song cycle.

Orchestrator Hale Smith and conductor-composer T.J. Anderson drew strong performances from a select group of gifted chamber musicians in works ranging from Frank Johnson's "Princeton Grand March" and "Voice Quadrilles" to A.J.R. Conner's "Five-step Waltz" and James Scott's "Frog Legs Rag."

For other pieces such as David Baker's "Through

ily to performing printed music that has been unearthed, newly discovered, or newly composed. Much of the older music has never been heard by contemporary audiences, and much of the new music wouldn't get significant exposure without its existence. Ensemble repertoire includes a wide variety of chamber music, including classical and popular songs as well as instrumental combinations of as many as fifteen parts.

The program for the evening states the formal purpose of the ensemble:

The ensemble program is designed to present rarely heard black music, stimulate new research, increase performance opportunities for musicians and for the music of living Afro-American composers, and increase the diversity of music literature available to Americans.

As Donnie Ray Albert began singing "Exhortation" that purpose brought the audience to its feet. ■

Homecoming  
1988

Come home, Columbia College alumni! Saturday, October 22, is Homecoming 1988. We hope you'll join us for an event-filled day of social, educational and professional activities.

Part of Career Services' "1988-89 Year of the Alumni," this day has been specially designed for you—Columbia Alumni—to help you update or re-shape your careers. Join old friends, meet new ones, or just enjoy campus. If you've not seen Columbia lately, you're in for lots of surprises! Show undergrads that there is life after college and that their Columbia affiliations will pay off throughout their lives.

"Our office is committed to helping Columbia students further their careers—not just while they're here, but throughout their lives," says Director of Career Services Kate McGovern. "We really believe that the alumni are Columbia's hidden asset, and we want to show them, in a tangible way, how much we appreciate them. We look forward to an exciting day."

Working together, Alumni Relations and Career Services have put together some great workshops that you won't want to miss. Topics include:

- Updating Your Resume
- When to Divorce Your Company
- Stress Management
- The Art of Negotiating

You'll also enjoy a film festival, open houses in all departments, an alumni photography/art exhibit, and a performance by David Parsons and Company at the Columbia College Dance Center.

There will be a registration fee for the day with an additional fee for tickets to the dance performance. Look for further details and registration materials in the mail. ■

## Faculty Profile

Eric Lund and Nicholas Shuman  
Master's Program in Journalism

"It's more than just government. It's more than just politics...We're training reporters who will understand government and the governmental and political process—all of which are integral to an informed electorate," explains Eric Lund, Director of Columbia's Graduate Program in Public Affairs Journalism.

Recently graduating its third class, this master's degree program taps two major Chicago traditions—politics and journalism. When the late Daryle Feldmeir, former editor of the *Chicago Daily News* and Chair of Columbia's Journalism Department from 1982-87, came to the college, one of the programs he envisioned was a graduate program in journalism.

"There are any number of undergraduate programs in journalism, not only in Chicago but in this area and in the state, but there are very few graduate programs," says Assistant Director Nicholas Shuman. "More importantly, we look upon Chicago as the best laboratory for aspiring journalists of any city in the country—the way the vertical game is played here, the way city government is managed, the way state government operates. If you learn how to be a journalist in this kind of environment, you can handle it anywhere in the country."

In the spring of 1983, Feldmeir asked his former colleague Lund for advice. "We had worked together at the *Daily News*," recalls Lund whose career with that paper included a broad range of experience from urban affairs reporter to assistant managing editor. "Daryle asked me to serve as consultant in the development of the program. We conducted a survey of undergraduate as well as graduate programs offered by other schools nationwide. We wanted to identify schools, particularly those in the Midwest, that could provide students for a Columbia graduate program." That fall, Lund joined the faculty to work on the program.

"Daryle also sent out a questionnaire to 25 editors he knew—top editors at the *New York Times* and other papers across the country, and he invited them to comment on the proposed graduate program we had put together based on our research. The response was very favorable, and we incorporated many of their suggestions into the program. For example, they were very enthusiastic about our plans to include a management course. Their comments showed that editors want reporters who understand something about management because many of the best reporters ultimately become managers. We took their suggestion and developed a management course. This year we broadened the course from newspaper management to news organization management to accommodate broadcast students."

In February, 1984, after Rupert Murdoch bought the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the third person making up Columbia's public affairs triumvirate arrived on campus. Resigning his post as editorial writer specializing in foreign affairs, Nicholas Shuman came to Columbia as a full-time undergraduate faculty member with the expectation that as he was needed by the developing graduate program, he would play a greater role. "It's an ideal situation for me," says Shuman. "Eric and I worked well together as editors at the *Chicago Daily News*, in addition to which we are and have been personal friends for more than 30 years."

All this teamwork paid off, and by October, 1984, the program had been approved for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the following fall saw the first class of ten enrolled. "We've had a good response," says Lund. "We're getting really top-notch students from all over the country."

Applicants to the program must fulfill the general requirements for admission to Columbia's Graduate Division and should also have an undergraduate degree or major in print or broadcast journalism or a related field. Students may also be admitted on the basis of professional ex-

perience. Once they arrive, however, they are in for many once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

The three-semester program is highly structured to provide students with broad experience in the specialized techniques of reporting public affairs at the local, state and national levels. The aim is to prepare aspiring, as well as experienced, journalists for responsible positions with leading print and broadcast news organizations. "Some of our students have left full-time reporting jobs to attend the program," adds Lund. "I think this group is drawn by the range of opportunities and the excellence of instruction. They want to give their careers a special direction."

Required core courses lay a sound foundation in practical political science, and reporting courses stress first-hand reportorial experience. The curriculum runs fall through summer and capitalizes on timely opportunities that correspond with the legislative calendar. Electives offer options for individual specialization, and various internships with government agencies and in the offices of legislators offer an insider's perspective on how the process works as well as career opportunities.

"On the local level, for instance, we deal with the City Council. We deal with the County Board, the School Board, the Chicago Housing Authority, the Chicago Park District—institutions that generate major stories in the city of Chicago," says Lund. "But there are a number of private organizations that are active in this area which come under the broad umbrella of public affairs. Citizen involvement groups are very important because they impact on government and vice versa."

In the fall, students take "Reporting Public Affairs (RPA): Local," a seminar in "Local Government and Politics," and "Courts and the Law." "RPA: Local" is a course in which students go out and cover the news along with the professionals," says Lund. "Last fall, for instance, the students were covering the city when Mayor Washington died. The aftermath, including the marathon City Council meeting that resulted in the election of Eugene Sawyer...they were very much involved in that whole series of events. The courts course always proves exciting as well. Our students have covered Greylord trials, the Walter Jacobson libel trial, the Herrera drug ring trial. We introduce them to the courts system at all levels, from South State Street courts to the federal courts, and they cover real news issues."

During the spring semester, students take "RPA: State" in which they cover state agencies and state

legislative matters in Chicago. They also participate in a three-hour seminar on state and national government that serves as a preliminary to the Springfield and Washington segments of the program. The end of the spring semester marks the trip to Springfield. "I take the group to Springfield for four weeks," says Lund. "We go down at the end of April and the first three weeks of May when the legislature is really in full swing. We're there Monday night to Thursday afternoon and spend three full days covering the legislature."

*"It's more than just government. It's more than just politics. ... We're training reporters who will understand government and the political process—all of which are integral to an informed electorate."*

The summer semester focuses on national activity and includes the public affairs reporting class, this time with a focus on federal issues and agencies in Chicago. Students also spend a month in Washington, D.C. "When I take them to Washington, our stress is on Congress," says Shuman. "We follow legislation—observing and reporting on the passage of legislation through Congress. This year we were there the whole month of June when Congress was in a high state of activity because they were trying to get things wrapped up in time to recess for the beginning of the political conventions in the middle of July. It was an exciting time."

"The stress is always on Congress, but we do other things as well. We go to Health and Human Services for briefings on items of high interest such as AIDS and welfare reform. This year, thanks to the help of White House correspondent Ellen Warren, who I know from my *Daily News* days, we were able to attend White House briefings. These briefings are exclusive and very few people get into them, even full-time correspondents.

(continued on page 5)

Nick Shuman (l.) and Eric Lund coach a budding reporter in the graduate newsroom, a gift of the Field Foundation of Illinois.

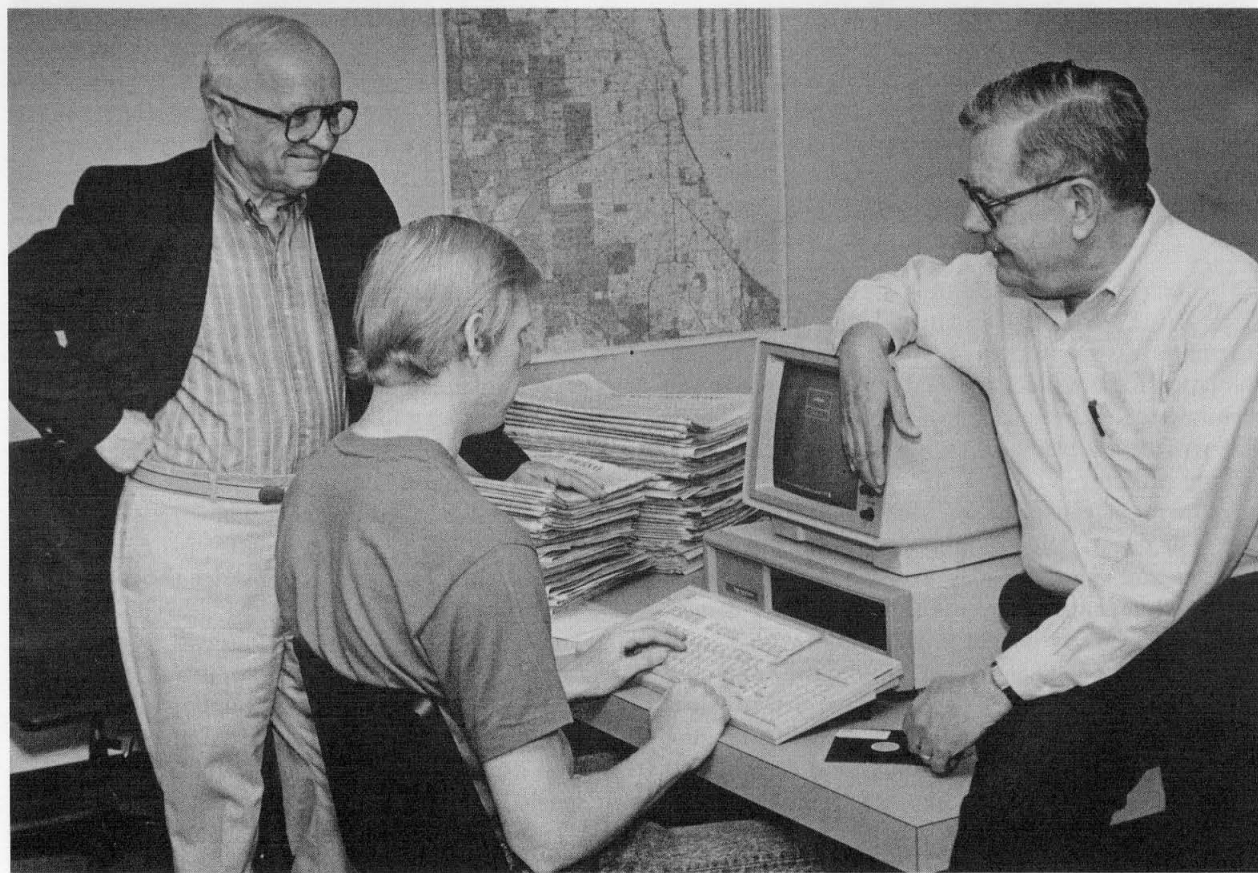


Photo by Steve Arazmus

## Alumni Profiles

## Newsmaker Making News

"We just got back from the Academy Awards, and I'm leaving tomorrow for the Soviet Union to discuss summit coverage with Soviet Minister of Defense, Mr. Yazov," says Joseph Peyronnin referring to a schedule CBS couldn't even dream up for an episode of "Falcon Crest." A 1970 Columbia College communications grad, Peyronnin is now Vice President and Bureau Chief for CBS News.

The number-one representative of CBS News in our nation's capital, Peyronnin runs a news bureau of 200 people including producers, reporters, technicians and correspondents such as Lesley Stahl, Bruce Morton, and Bob Schieffer. "I generally oversee all news coverage originating from Washington, D.C., which includes all presidential coverage. We also provide support for coverage of events outside Washington that impact the nation such as events in Nicaragua and the Persian Gulf," he explains.

*"The realization that millions of viewers rely on my decisions makes me demand more of myself."*

Peyronnin says he thrives on the pace of his non-stop position. "I'm definitely a 'type A,' and it's exciting to be part of a major news organization, part of a team of highly creative and talented people, with the awesome responsibility of making sure our viewers see, hear, and comprehend the major news issues of the day. The realization that millions of viewers rely on my decisions makes me demand more of myself."

Married to CBS Evening News Senior Producer Susan Zirinsky, Peyronnin's home life is hardly less busy and interesting. Although the couple owns a home in D.C. (between the Vice President's and the Russian Embassy), they're rarely there because duty calls. "When I was covering the Falklands war from Buenos Aires, she covered it from London," he laughs.

But business isn't all current crisis. "Susan was the

role model for Holly Hunter in the film 'Broadcast News,'" Peyronnin recalls. "I wrote various news pieces for the script and rewrote sections for continuity. I also coached Bill Hurt on how to anchor a news broadcast. We especially enjoyed the Academy Awards this year because we'd been so involved in the film."

A native of Chicago, Peyronnin was born in Henrotin Hospital in 1947. His family moved from Chicago to Roselle and later to Deerfield where he graduated from high school, Class of '65. After attending two years of business school at Louisiana State, Peyronnin was drawn back to Chicago and to Columbia College because of his continuing interest in communications.

"I'd been working in radio for years and was always drawn to it. Columbia had what I needed. Business school just wasn't right, and my grades weren't that good, so I needed a fresh start. I knew that I had the interest, talent, and drive all along."

Peyronnin says Columbia College ignited a spark in him that fostered his inherent interest in the field. "I have warm feelings about Columbia—Al Parker [radio chair], Mike Alexandroff [president], and Thaine Lyman [late broadcast communications chair]. I deeply respect Mike for what he does at Columbia. He feels it is so important to give people a chance, people who otherwise might not have one, to give them opportunities. And Thaine, Thaine was a dear friend, and someone I admired greatly. He pointed me in the direction I'm in now."

Columbia Radio Chairman Al Parker remembers having Peyronnin in class. "Joe was memorable because he had a great deal more maturity than most young people his age. He had a sense of direction that was unusual. He knew what he wanted—broadcast journalism. He just needed time to decide what area—talent, management or production—he would pursue. It became obvious early that he had talent in all areas and would be successful in whatever he chose. We've maintained a warm relationship over the years. That's one of the advantages of teaching at Columbia. Students become friends and then fellow professionals."

Working in radio while attending classes at Columbia, Peyronnin's shift to professional life in the media



Joe Peyronnin and wife Susan Zirinsky chat with President Reagan.

was less transition than evolution. In 1970, he joined WBBM-TV in Chicago as Production Assistant. Talent will out, and he later became producer of the weekend news and the public affairs series, "Newsmakers" from 1971-73; producer for WBBM's weekday evening newscasts from 1973-75; and assistant assignment manager from 1975-76.

In 1976, Peyronnin received a local Emmy award as producer for WBBM's coverage of a Chicago train disaster. That year was also important for Peyronnin as it marked his promotion to Associate Producer for "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather" in Chicago. Still thriving on double duty, however, Peyronnin went back to graduate school at Roosevelt University during these years. "I wanted an MBA, and Roosevelt had classes that started at 8:00 p.m.," he explains.

By 1979, Peyronnin headed for Washington where his career took its characteristic course—up and fast! He moved from post to post on the "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather" broadcast in Washington, and then in February 1986, was promoted to Deputy Bureau Chief responsible for editorial operations. He moved into his present position as Bureau Chief in July 1987. "To be a part of all this... I'm having a great time," he says. ■

## Lund/Shuman from page 4

In Washington, students stay at George Washington University, and they use the University of Missouri School of Journalism newsroom in the National Press Building. Because of this prime location, Columbia students are working alongside professionals from most of the major publications in the country as well as international correspondents. "We have the opportunity to talk to some of the top correspondents in Washington—Ellen Warren, James McCartney, William Eaton—to learn how they cover it," says Shuman. "We're also situated right across the hall from the Soviet agency TASS, and we go in there to see how they Russians do things." (Shuman is fluent in Russian.)

At the end of their coursework, students are required to prepare a thesis—a major magazine article or a series of newspaper articles of publishable quality drawing on what they have learned during their graduate experience. "We encourage students to select a topic that will necessitate use of public records, interviews, and extensive research," says Lund. Past topics have ranged from the state lottery, capital punishment and wheelchair accessibility to the status of Cambodian refugees in Chicago.

Throughout the year, Lund and Shuman wear several hats—teacher, administrator, recruiter—but both credit the continuity and professionalism of the program to teamwork. "There really are no sharp divisions in responsibility," says Shuman. "We divide teaching down state and federal lines because of our professional expertise—Eric takes state matters and I take federal—but in areas like newspaper management, we've both been managers, so both of us teach that course." On the road, they are equally unflagging. "In Washington I'm tour leader, for one thing," says Shuman. "I also act as their city editor. I make assignments, and then I correct copy. In the interim, I advise them on

the best ways to write copy." Lund does the same in Springfield.

Presently the team is wearing a new hat—or rather, passing it. "For the first three years housing and transportation for Washington and Springfield were covered in large part by a generous one-time grant from the Pritzker Foundation, and we are actively looking for new funding for this important part of our program," says Lund.

Besides the time and talents of Lund and Shuman, students have the benefit of other prominent Columbia faculty. Guest lecturers are also drawn from government, law, and the media.

Besides faculty, students also have the best in equipment. "The newsroom used by students all the way through the program is a gift from the Field Foundation of Illinois. Their \$68,000 grant enabled Columbia to build and equip the room with personal computers," says Lund. "That facility has been as integral to the program as our teachers."

Lund and Shuman agree that the program has more than fulfilled their expectations. "Because we have professionals teaching the fields they've been working in for years (and Eric and I are only two examples of this), I think we're not only competitive with other programs, but in many ways we're better," says Shuman. But both Shuman and Lund are quick to give the graduate students the credit, and without qualification, both insist that the students are the best part of the whole adventure. "These students are highly motivated," says Shuman. "They're not here to waste time. They're here to come out with a degree that they can use. For me, the most gratifying part is watching their maturation as journalists during the year—to see them develop and really end up as highly qualified reporters who are prepared to work for the top dailies in the country." ■

## Campus Gets \$2.1 Million Face-lift

Columbia College is spending \$2.1 million this summer to improve facilities in three major departments and the library. Highlights include:

- **New 3-D and fine art facilities** three-and-a-half times larger to include an expanded metal shop, a new 3-D modeling classroom, and the resurrection of the ceramics facility.
- **A new computer facility** for computer literacy and computer graphics classes to include classrooms, a 40-terminal lab, and an office suite.
- **An expanded, improved library** will greet students this fall. This is the fourth major library improvement since 1980 and will centralize all non-print materials including slides, film, and videotapes together with equipped viewing rooms. While the library collection now includes 60,000 volumes and a substantial collection of non-print audiovisual materials, we anticipate expanding the collection over the next five years to include a total of 100,000 volumes. This summer's construction is another step toward accommodating that planned growth.
- **A new snack center** will open in the basement student lounge of the Michigan Avenue building. The service will provide light fare similar to that served in the Myron Hokin Student Center. ■

## Alumni Profiles

# Heinemann Wins National Book Award

"Suddenly you're at the top of your profession and that's very satisfying," says Larry Heinemann, 1971 Columbia writing grad and the 1987 winner of America's most prestigious prize for literature, the National Book Award.

Heinemann received the 1987 award for fiction and won the \$10,000 prize for his second novel, *Paco's Story*. Where his first novel, *Close Quarters* focuses on the psychological death of a Vietnam combat soldier, *Paco's Story* presents the compelling story of the readjustment to civilian life for a wounded Vietnam veteran. "I knew this book was vastly superior," Heinemann says referring to the award-winner. "It was just better writing, technically superior. Often the first novel takes so much physical and emotional energy that you get 'second-book-letdown,' but I knew this one was better."

Heinemann served as a U.S. Army draftee from 1966 to 1968. During his tour of duty in Vietnam, he drove an armored personnel carrier. From 1968 to 1971, he attended Columbia where he majored in writing and graduated with honors. He then taught under John Schultz in the Fiction Writing Department from 1971 to 1986. "I think my student days were very important," he says. "I learned how to tell a story." After leaving the college and his teaching responsibilities, Heinemann devoted more of his time to writing and produced the now famous volume.

"Several months after winning the National Book Award, I was also granted a Geuggenheim Fellowship," he explains. "The fellowship itself is substantial and provides the wherewithal to concentrate on one project. Mine will be a funny novel about Chicago called, *Cooler By the Lake*. It will have everything Chicago—baseball, politics, jerks, bus driving. My wife

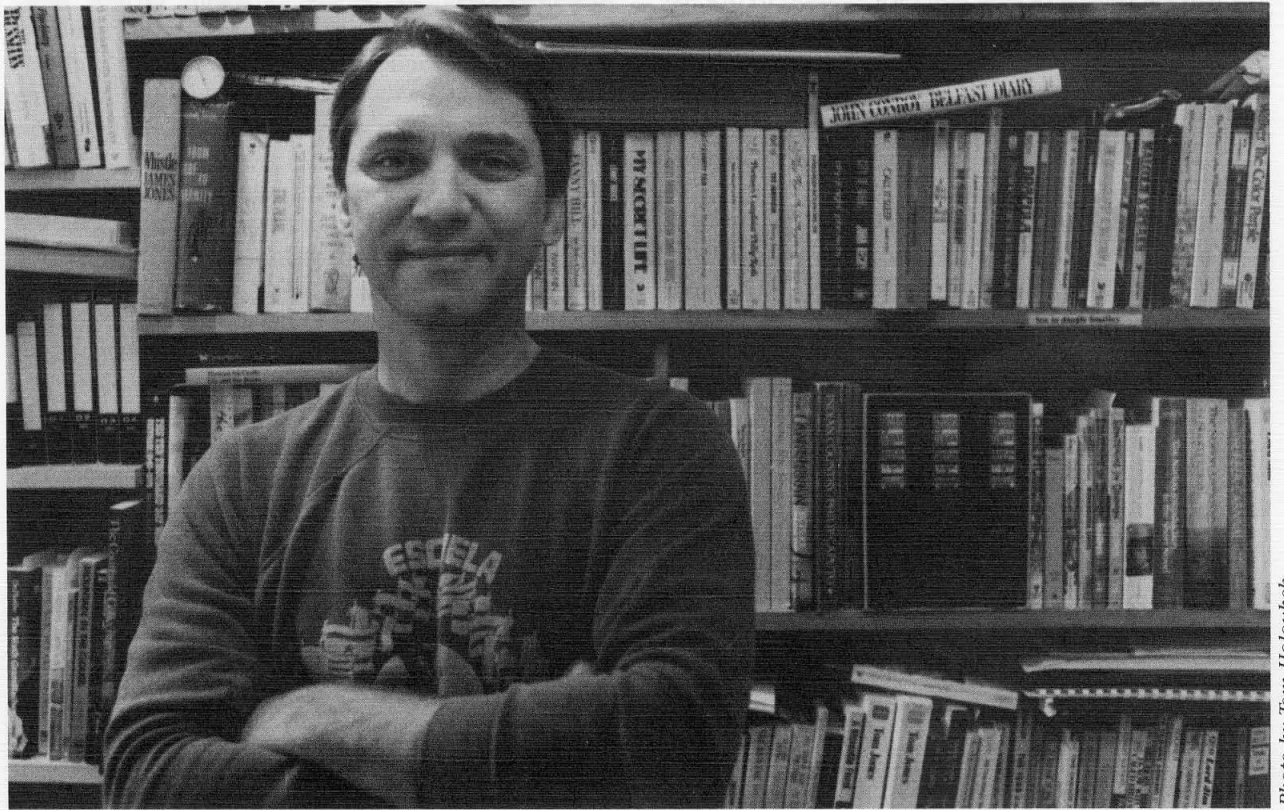


Photo by Tom Holoubek

Larry Heinemann's second Vietnam novel, *Paco's Story*, took America's top literary prize and won a Geuggenheim Fellowship.

Edie says I can't really fulfill myself as an author until I write a book that's purposely funny. I've written two depressing books, and now I want to write one that's just a good time. This is it!"

This spring, Heinemann and his wife travelled to China by invitation of the Chinese Writers' Union for

a writers conference in Shanghai along with Harrison Salisbury of the *New York Times* and other prominent American writers. He is now working on a nonfiction book on posttraumatic stress disorder, and his Chicago story. Both *Paco's Story* and *Close Quarters* are published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux. ■

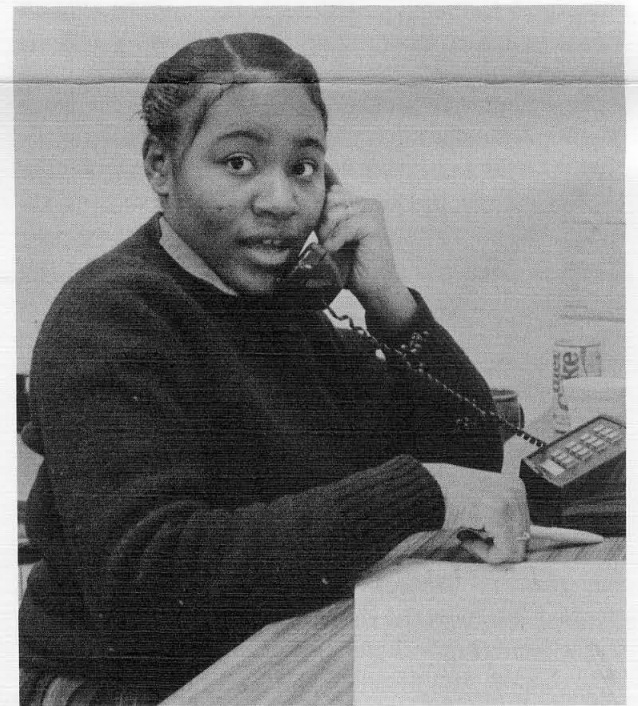
## Phone-A-Thon Quadruples Last Year's Total

Well done, Alumni! The 1988 CCAA Phone-A-Thon raised more than \$8,000 this year. Working three hours each night for eight nights (Jan. 25-28, Feb. 1-4), 20 enthusiastic volunteers kept those lines buzzing.

"We received 450 pledges with a dollar amount nearly five times the 1987 figure," says Director of Alumni Relations Patti Terkovich. "While collected pledges are also up over last year, there are still some pledges that haven't come in, but we're still hopeful. We're grateful to everyone who participa-

ted for their support and generosity. It's such an easy way for alumni to help perpetuate Columbia's special opportunities."

If you missed our call, or we missed you, it's never too late to participate. Call the Alumni Office at (312) 663-1600, ext. 417, or make a check payable to the "Columbia College Annual Fund," and mail to: Columbia College Alumni Association  
600 South Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60605-1996



## President's Column

Just take a look at this issue of the newsletter! There is so much activity and excitement both on campus and within the Columbia College Alumni Association. From Second City last spring to Homecoming this fall, CCAA has more to offer you than ever before.

I'd also like to thank you for your part in this year's very successful CCAA Phone-A-Thon which quadrupled last year's total and for your part in the endowment campaign which resulted in a total endowment to the college of \$1 million.

Please keep in touch by sending us the "What's News With You?" coupon printed in every issue of the newsletter, and I hope that we will see you this fall for another eventful year at Columbia College.

Sincerely,

*Julie Ellis*

Julie Ellis '75  
President  
Columbia College Alumni Association

## What's News With You?

Your former classmates and teachers are interested in knowing what is happening in your life and career, so drop us a line today! Black and white photos suitable for reproduction are welcome. Use the coupon below for change of address, too.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree/Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Position/Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
News (personal, promotions, community activities, elected office, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
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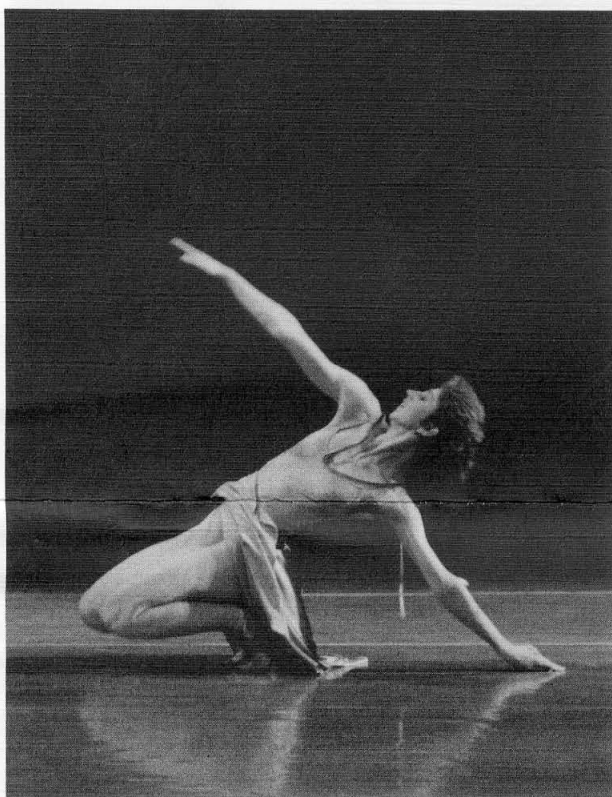
Mail to: Columbia College Alumni News, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605-1996

# Class Notes

## 1970s

**Ben Polus**, F '79, is AV Manager for the International Film Bureau . . . **David L. Lowry**, Ph '78, is presently employed by the Xerox Corporation. He is also a consultant in electronic publishing . . .

**Barry Sigale**, Comm '70, is owner of Sigale Public Relations, an expanded public relations firm which handles national industrial, franchise, and consumer accounts at the national, regional, and local levels . . . **Michael Krueger**, F '76, directed films "Mind Killer" and "Night Vision." Michael's independent film production company was formed in April 1986 and led to subsidiary, Flash Features, which produces films for the home-video market and TV syndication. In December 1986, Flash Features signed with Prism Entertainment, one of the nation's largest independent video distributors, to film six pictures for domestic and foreign markets . . . **Mark Friedman**, R/TV '76, is a mobile DJ for "A Solid Gold Sound." He is also producing and directing a series for Public Access Television, "18 Music Place," and has been named Access User of the Month for two consecutive months . . .

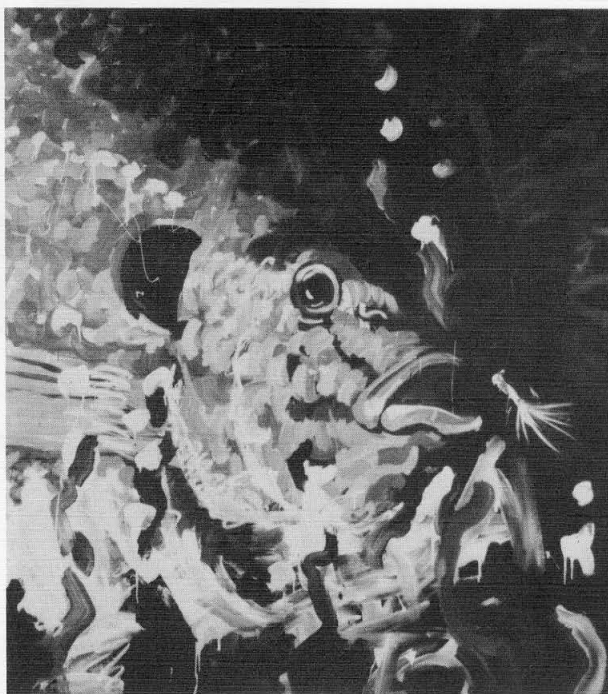


Doris Ressler in "Rhythm 'N' Life" Photo by Stephen Petegorsky

**R. W. Munchkin**, Th '77, has just finished writing and directing his first film, "Dance or Die," which was shot in Las Vegas for City Lights . . . **Ruth Klassen Andrews**, F '78, is the Executive Director for the Center for Community Justice in Elkhart, Ind., and recently taught "Theatre for Young People" at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind. . . . **Hank Grover**, F '79, was chief videographer for a TV pilot, "Orient Expressions," produced by independent Karen Uchima and featuring prominent Asian-Americans. The pilot will be marketed to cable television. He is also a correspondent for *The (Wheaton) Daily Journal* . . . **Margaret Reynolds**, F '77, is a member of The Zephyr Dance Ensemble which made its Chicago debut in April at the Chicago Public Library Cultural Center . . . **James Engelhardt**, Th faculty '74-'77, currently teaches the Screen Writer's Workshop at First Stage, a professional script development organization in Hollywood . . . **Dan J. Lloyd**, TV/R '75, has been named Director of Alumni Affairs for Northeastern Illinois University . . . **Charles Robert Carner**, F '78, author of "Blind Fury," announces that production has begun. Produced by Dan Grodnik and Tim Matheson and directed by Phillip Noyce, the film will be coming soon from TriStar. ■

## 1980s

**Susan Jablonski**, AD '84, is Regional Sales Manager for *Target Marketing Magazine* . . . **Calvin P. Townsell**, Gen Ed '87, is a Certified Tax Service Representative and loves his job with the IRS. He has also had three stories published recently by *National Alliance* newspaper . . . **Robin**



"Fuzzy Grub" by Rick Lange, acrylic/oil stick, 1987

**Fanckboner**, TV '85, is Assistant Videotape Editor for Film & Tape Works. She's also getting married in September . . . **Janice Pakel**, Comm/Bus '84, owns her own business, a currency exchange. Recently she also worked on music videos in Connecticut with Lonnie Brooks and Joe Ely . . . **Janet Millette**, J '84, is the new Public Relations Assistant for Saint Xavier College. Formerly she was assistant Director of Public Affairs for the Art Institute of Chicago . . . **Rick Lange**, Art '85, had work featured this spring "At the Tracks," a new restaurant/gallery in the West Loop . . . **Kevin Miller**, F '82, recently had his story, "The Dream Season," accepted for publication in the next issue of *Muse's Mill*. This story is his second published work . . . **Jim Veltman**, AEMM '83, is owner of Sky Trade, Inc., an aviation brokerage firm. He married Columbia alumna **Rachel Goldsmith**, MGMT '85, and the couple has one child, Natalie . . . **Ruth L. Dritz**, PR '87, is Public Information Assistant for the Evanston Recreation Department . . . **Dave Monk**, TV/Creative Wr '86, is full-time Production Manager for commercial lighting company, Product Productions. He is also free-lancing as a videographer/editor, and this May married Columbia alumna **Kathy Wollenhaupt**, TV '85, Camera Operator/Editor for Encyclopaedia Britannica, USA . . . **Doris Ressler**, Dance, '82, gave an MFA thesis concert, "Rhythm 'N' Life," at Smith College, Mass. Doris presented SCARS, a solo about women who are violated and a group work focused on creation myths. She has now completed her MFA. . . **LaRonn Smith**, AEMM '83, combined her secretarial skills with her business know-how and creativity to start her own company, ITW (Insta-Type Word Processing). ITW is a computerized typing service located in the Chicago area. Her major clients include Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Peaches Records and Tapes . . . **Yolanda Y. Malcolm**, TV '86, is Special Events Coordinator for Congressman Charles Hayes in the 1st Congressional District. In that capacity she is responsible for education and health, town meetings and community forums, and youth programs . . . **Susanne Haraburd Anich**, F/Ph '85, is an attorney and law clerk to Magistrate Joan Humphrey Lefkow of the federal court of Chicago . . . **Philip A. Solomson**, AEMM '84, is the Coordinator of the Fontana, Calif., Performing Arts Center. The center presents big band/jazz/folk music and does educational outreach. He is also currently sitting on the advisory board for the Caffey College museum/gallery in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. . . . **Dan Kantiok**, Broad Comm '84, is Chief Instructor for the Nigerian Army School of Signals. He is also a member of the Nigerian Hockey Association, and recently climbed Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa . . . **Robert Cundari**, TV '83, has been promoted from the art department to video production and editing by Frame One, a business communications firm . . . **Timothy P. Kissane**, Broad Comm '82, is glad he missed Chicago's winter this year, especially since he has been promoted to Production Manager for the Miami office of Video Monitoring Services . . . **Rade Winston**, TV '86, is doing audio visuals for Sound & Stagecraft . . . **Cheryl A. (Logan) Brown**, J '85, got married last

summer and has moved to California where she is Marketing Assistant for First Trust Bank . . . **Marylene Whitehead**, IAE '85, recently gave a reading from her dramatic narrative, *Born Rich*, and selected poems from *Love Suite* at Powell's Bookstore North. She is the recipient of the 1987 Hoyt Fuller Award in playwriting for *Forbidden Place* and has been listed by *Today's Chicago Woman* as one of 100 women who are shaping Chicago's future . . . **Lydia Tomkiw**, W/E '82, IAE '86, writes text and performs vocals for Algebra Suicide, a band which recently released a collection of songs, "The Secret Like Crazy," on RRR/DOM labels. Her work has been published in the United States and abroad, and her palindrome "Six of Ox Is" was chosen by John Ashbury to be included in *The Best American Poetry* to be published this fall by Scribners. She has served on the editorial board for several award-winning small press publications and has had four poetry collections published to date, with a fifth forthcoming from Wide Skirt Press in England . . . **John Lochen**, MGMT '87, is an account executive for College Satellite Network, an organization that distributes programs via satellite to college radio stations. Last year, as president of Columbia's AEMMP record company, he was instrumental in negotiating a recording contract with Omni Records, an international label, for ATM, an urban dance trio that was the student-run record company's project for the year . . . **Ann Knuth**, Ph '84, is a three-year employee of the *Chicago Tribune* and recently received a \$100-award for being the first salesperson in the Telemarketing Department to sell a full-page ad in the Sunday Magazine . . . **Steven Toepp**, Ph '84, has opened Midwest Photographics, a commercial photography studio in Mishawka, Ind., which specializes in location and architectural photography . . . **Sarahann Funke**, Ph '86, is now an Administrative Assistant in the Creative Department for Pivot Point International, Inc. . . . **Mark-Christopher Mitera**, Wr/Eng '87, is relocating in New York and has accepted an editorial position with Doubleday. He will be involved in the acquisition of book club rights for the Literary Guild and Doubleday book clubs and invites other New York



Philip Solomson manages the new Performing Arts Center, Fontana, Calif.

Columbia College alums to contact him . . . **Barry Butler**, R '87, has been promoted to Account Executive for Shadow Traffic Network, Inc., where he was Traffic Manager, Reporter, Editor, and Director of Station Relations . . . **Jim Richardson**, F '86, is the first-prize winner in the student film competition sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for his animated film, "CAT & RAT." This prestigious prize is the latest of several national and international awards conferred upon this outstanding student work . . . **Thomas M. Kruc**, TV/J '85, is presently Production Manager for Continental Cablevision, the number three cable company in the nation. He has received both Chicago Emmy and ACE (national cable industry award) nominations for programs he has produced and says that the Columbia interns he employs are invaluable to his work . . . ■





# Congratulations

## Columbia College Chicago CLASS OF 1988

On Wednesday, June 1, 1988, members of the Columbia College Alumni Association gathered to honor those '88 Columbia scholars about to toss the tassel. More than 350 graduating students met in the Myron Hokin Student Center for a buffet and a congratulatory presentation by CCAA President Julie Ellis.

Surrounded by the exciting final projects of the graduating interdisciplinary arts students, guests tried on just-picked-up caps and gowns and told "war stories." Art major Rosemary Moses said she's thrilled to be graduating *at last*. "I started college

in 1965, but I got interrupted by life—marriage, twins, and three other children. Now I'm finally getting my degree, and it feels great!"

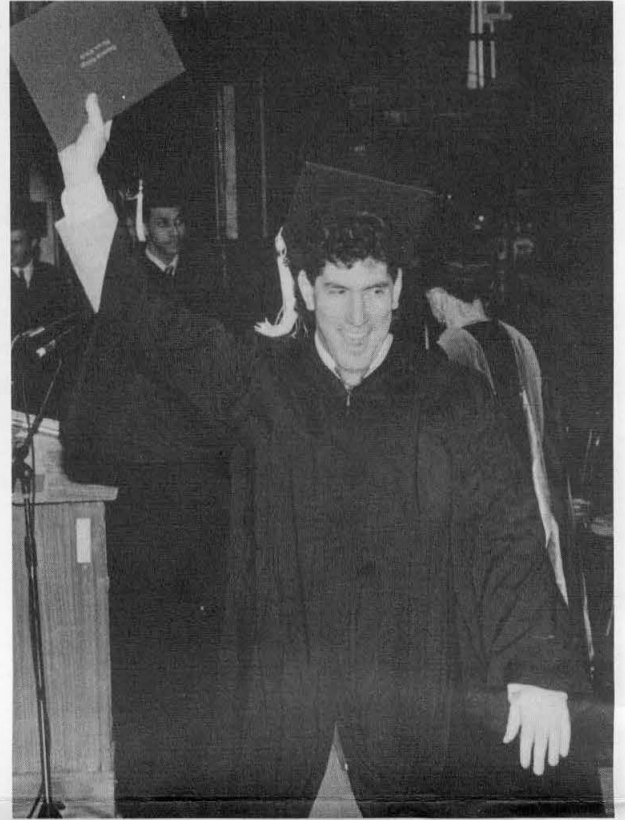
Photography major Larry James said that after graduation, he wants to save some money and return to Florence, Italy, where he has been studying photography at Art Centers International. "I think the college should initiate a foreign studies program," he said. "I've added so much to my coursework over there, and it's hard to study abroad on your own."

Another photography major, Jennifer Wolfe, said

Friday evening, June 3, 1988, marked Columbia College Chicago's 98th Commencement. President Mirron Alexandroff conferred 762 Bachelor of Arts degrees and 61 Master of Arts degrees upon this class of scholars—a record number for the second time in two years.

This year's *Valedictory* was given by marketing/communications major Michael John Reuscher. The College also awarded five honorary doctorates to newspaper columnist Mike Royko, trumpeter John Birks (Dizzy) Gillespie, sociologist William Julius Wilson, Lyric Opera of Chicago General Director Ardis Krainik, and Northeastern University President Kenneth G. Ryder.

Congratulations and best wishes to Valedictorian Reuscher, our honored guests, and to all new graduates from the Columbia College Alumni Association! ■



she's been working at her degree for six years and will head for a Grecian vacation this summer. "We've come a long way at Columbia since I started here—even this place [the new Myron Hokin Student Center]—it's great. The school seems to be changing and upgrading constantly."

Alumni mingled with reception guests to the piano music of faculty member Lewis Hall. "We want to extend a personal invitation to join the Alumni Association to each new Columbia College graduate," said Ellis. ■

Photos by Steve Arazmus

