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Inside Journalism

Columbia College Chicago

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INSIDE JOURNALISM

A Newsletter Published by the Journalism Department of Columbia College

SHORTHAND

We have all done it -- those frantically-taken notes at your interview that look as if a mad chicken with a pen got loose on your page. You know that they made sense when you scribbled them down, but now they resemble the Dead Sea Scrolls.

What to do? There is no need to fear, it's the j-dept. to the rescue. This semester, for the first time, shorthand is being offered at Columbia. We all know it doesn't have the appeal of bungee jumping but it is important.

Take a tip from Art Golab, a Columbia graduate and now a writer for the *Sun-Times*, who says, "I just can't write fast enough. I always have to make people stop and repeat themselves." Doesn't that sound familiar? "I have been seriously considering going back to school and taking shorthand," he added.

Even if you can decipher your



Deborah Coney

notes, coming back to them later can make it that much harder. The more you write, the more you need little tricks to make life easier.

"I often just write down key words in an interview and hope that I can summarize what was said. I wish I did know shorthand, it would make my life a lot easier," says j-student Darcy Thomas.

Students may think that they will always have a tape recorder on hand and that they don't need to take detailed notes. However, recorders break, batteries die and people can suddenly get laryngitis when they're around.

"Accuracy and efficiency in note taking is what shorthand is all about," says Deborah Coney, the j-dept.'s new shorthand teacher. That is something that all writers need. When push comes to shove, most articles are as good as the information and quotes that the writer can get. It's up to the writer to have the best notes possible when writing a story and not leave it up to the mad chicken with the pen.

--Judith Ierulli

MYRLIE EVERS: THIRTY YEARS AFTER TRAGEDY

"Baby...strike while the iron is hot!" That is what Myrlie Evers' grandmother used to tell her as a small girl in Mississippi, and Myrlie remembers it well.

"If you wait too long people tend to forget and something overshadows it," Myrlie says.

Columbia has not forgotten Myrlie's strikes, struggles and accomplishments and is awarding her an honorary degree at the commencement ceremonies in June for her lifetime achievements.

It all began with the panel discussion, Reporting the African-American Story, March 3, with a student tribute to Medgar Evers, Myrlie's late husband.

Afterward, the students were "ashamed they didn't know about Medgar and Myrlie's story," says Rose Economou coordinator of broadcast journalism.

It was the students' idea for Myrlie to be honored.

It was an energetic four-day process in which director of the magazine program Don Gold made the suggestion; j-department chairman Nat Lehrman wrote a letter to President Duff; and Economou wrote to student dean Mark Kelly who presented the idea to the Board of Trustees. In the end, all reactions were positive, and Myrlie will be here to accept the award.

Myrlie is "grateful, honored and appreciative" of the honorary degree and the other awards given to her over the years. She has been the recipient of The NAACP Image Award, the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus Achievement Award and the State of California Woman of the



Job Search

By Paula Eubanks

You hear this instruction from each journalism professional visiting a Columbia classroom or career seminar: "If you want the competitive edge in your job search, you should start reading the journalism trade magazines now!"

OK. You've bought that line, and dragged yourself to the library early one Saturday morning. You're nestled at a reading-room table and have stacked in front of you the recent issues of nine media-related trade magazines: Editor & Publisher, Quill, Communicator, American Journalism Review, Columbia Journalism Review, Broadcasting & Cable, Publish, Folio, and Electronic Media.

Now what?

The following steps can help you extract information likely to be most useful to a job seeker:

1. Check the job ads. What skills, abilities and experiences do employers say they're looking for in the ads for entry-level employees? Whatever it is, you'll need ensure that your resume, cover letter, clips and/or resume tape reflect their specific interests.
2. Read the people-on-the-move column. What job titles are popular? Which organizations' staffs are in flux? What are the professional and educational backgrounds of people moving between employers or positions?
3. Note the lingo used throughout the magazine---Industry buzzwords carry a lot of information. What do "graphic packaging," "interactive communications," "team reporting,"

"newsroom diversity," "Mac-savvy," "one-man band," and "journalist-computer maven who is thoroughly familiar with Internet" mean for you and your career development?

4. Read the annual "salary survey" story commonly published by trade magazines. These statistical reports of who's earning how much, and where, are great tools to gauge how much you're worth on the job market.

5. Read all career-related stories. (Tip: Almost all stories are "career-related.")

6. Search display and classified ads, as well as columns and news briefs, for announcements of sources of career-related kudos or enrichment. These include scholarships, fellowships, award programs and other competitions, in addition to special seminars and conferences.

7. Tap into stories on various trends, issues and news of the field. This builds your sense of the environment in which you are searching for a job.

8. Cull the names of companies for whom you might want to work. You can spot them in any section of the magazine--in display or help-wanted ads, as sources in stories, in people-in-the-move columns.

9. Plan to read both the next issue of each magazine, as well as at least a few years' worth of past issues.

10. Keep your notes from your reading session organized, so they'll be easy to use in your job search.

(Paula is the j-department's career advisor. Seek her out in the Career Planning & Placement Office, Wabash Suite 300.)

Year Award - - among many.

She says she is grateful because "these institutions don't have to recognize you." It encourages her to continue to move forward in her "pursuit of justice and equality."

More than 30 years ago a 30-year-old Myrlie had to steer her life in a different direction after the assassination of her husband and father of her three children. Medgar Evers was field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It happened on June 12, 1963. Myrlie had allowed their three children to stay up late so they could see their father.

He returned home shortly after midnight and was shot once in the back in the driveway of their Mississippi home.

The children ran to the door where Medgar was lying in a puddle of blood.

"Please Daddy, please get up!" the children pleaded.

Thirty-seven-year-old Medgar died at the University of Mississippi hospital 50 minutes later.

The man accused of the murder, Byron de la Beckwith, a known racist and white separatist, stood trial twice in 1964, but both all-white juries were deadlocked.

On February 5, 1994, Beckwith was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison.

Myrlie passionately describes Beckwith's conviction as "glorious....overwhelmingly glorious," and says she gives thanks to God.

However, Myrlie says with his appeals there is a possibility Beckwith will walk in June.

She credits the *Clarion*, a newspaper in Jackson, Mississippi, with helping to keep the case alive, hesitates and adds how it was the same paper that "cried for our blood," the blood of blacks to spill in the streets because of their quest for equality.

She needed justice to be served so that she and her children could be free.

She "shudders" today at the thought of those who discouraged her "not to pursue the case," saying that she was "living in the past."

There were very few "visible and vocal supporters," during her battle.

With the encouragement of her children and husband of 18 years, retired longshoreman Walter Williams, she continues to persevere.

"Walter never once discouraged me," she says. It is hard to find a man who could live with "another man's ghost on a day to day basis. Not a day has passed that I have not thought about Medgar and pulled on his beliefs, strengths, love and wisdom."

After leaving Mississippi for California, one year after Medgar's assassination, Myrlie enrolled in Claremont College. In 1968, she received a bachelor's degree in sociology. Since then she has done additional studies for a certificate in management.

Myrlie unsuccessfully ran for Congress in 1970 and again for the Los Angeles city council in 1987.

In 1987, Tom Bradley, mayor of Los Angeles appointed Myrlie as a commissioner to the Los Angeles Board of Public Works.

Myrlie and her three children donated the house where Medgar was assassinated to Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi.

She is relentlessly working on that "time-consuming" project.

It will serve as an art and social change center. A definite name has not been chosen, but The Medgar Evers Cultural Center is a strong possibility.

In June, Columbia will be among the institutions honoring and encouraging Myrlie to continue to move forward in her "pursuit of justice and equality,"

and for that the eloquent and warmhearted Myrlie Evers is ever grateful.

Who Exactly Was Medgar Evers?

Medgar Evers fought for his country in World War II only to come home to a "horribly degrading society" that considered him a second-class citizen and denied him his freedom, Myrlie says.

As a returning veteran, in 1946 he dared to register to vote in Mississippi. When he went to cast his ballot he was turned away by a crowd of white men armed with pistols. In 1948 he enrolled at Alcorn A&M College in Lorman, Mississippi as a business administration major.

On Christmas Eve of 1951 he married Myrlie Beasley.

After graduating from Alcorn he worked as an insurance man for Magnolia Mutual Insurance, one of Mississippi's few black-owned companies.

In 1954 he was appointed as the NAACP's first field secretary in Jackson, Mississippi. That same year he became the first black to apply to the University of Mississippi -- and was denied admission.

For the next nine years he was at the forefront of the struggle for racial justice, and desegregation.

He organized sit-ins, boycotts, and voter registration drives.

This coupled with his family, was his life until June 12, 1963.

In September, Home Box Office will premier a documentary on Evers' life.

--Tanisha N. Douglas

NATALIE WHITE KNOWS

One in a million journalists get hired at major newspapers shortly after graduation and Natalie White, a 1992 Columbia journalism graduate is that one.

White has recently been hired

as the bureau chief assistant at the *New York Times*. She says that the job is wonderful, but cautions that this accomplishment came after lots of hard work.

"You just can't sit back and become depressed the Monday after graduation," says White. "There are jobs, which might not be what you expected to do at first, but you've got to be prepared to do a little of everything."

While a junior at Columbia, "Natski," as Chairman Nat Lehrman dubbed her, changed her major from News Reporting and Writing to Magazine Editing. She was active in journalism since the beginning of her growing career. White wrote for the *Chicago Arts and Communication Magazine* and had her own column titled "Nat Knows" in *The Chronicle*. She was also a two-year recipient of the John Fischetti Award, which is offered annually to outstanding journalism students.

Then came a series of internships for White: at WBBM-AM radio, as a public relations director at Black Expo (where she also did stringer work), and finally at *Essence*. She was called, justifiably, the "Internship Queen" and learned that internships are "always worth it."

Upon graduation, she worked at the *Chicago Reporter* and soon after, at Crain's Publications, which she refers to as her first professional writing job. Soon after, she obtained her present position with the *New York Times* through the Jour-



Natalie White

nalism Minority Job Fair, which took place a few months ago at Columbia.

"I really love my job at the NYT. It's so challenging and it takes a great deal of work and preparation. There's pressure, and there's no room for errors, but I love it!"

White cautions j-students to understand the essentials in journalism: responsibility and getting the facts right. She thinks highly of Columbia and believes that students should take advantage of its j-programs.

"Going to Columbia was the best experience of my life!" explains White. "It does more than you expect a college to do and I really wouldn't be at the *New York Times* without it."

--Diana Lopez

THE NEW CHRONICLE

At first glance, The Columbia College *Chronicle* looks like the ones you've seen before. But, if you think it's the same paper, look again. The *Chronicle*, which has been through many changes in the past few semesters, has a new staff, a new faculty advisor and a slightly different approach.

"We're trying to upgrade, with good stories and photos," says Tracey Robinson, a j-instructor and the *Chronicle's* new faculty advisor. "We'll be working on more on-campus investigations and more of what Columbia has to offer."

Robinson believes the first issue under her advisement is reflective of things to come. It came out February 28 and included three investigative stories on page one.

Michel Schwartz is the new executive editor and a magazine j-major. She is a sophomore in her second semester on the *Chronicle*, and very confident.



Tracey Robinson

"I believe I got this position because of all the hours and hard work I put in the semester before, and somebody noticed," says Schwartz.

If you take a closer look at the *Chronicle*, you will see that there are more changes than the names seen in the staff box. Schwartz believes one of the more positive adjustments is that the newspaper is run more by the students than in past. "Tracey lets us figure out

"We are trying to be more objective and more open to all majors. Utilize us. We represent the voice of the school."

our own mistakes," says Schwartz. "She still guides us and, as a professional journalist, she is a big help, but we sort of have an edge because we've been here longer and we are used to how things run."

Both Schwartz and Robinson point out that there are new features to look for in upcoming editions. Along with the faculty profiles, the *Chronicle* will profile students, have a new "then and now" column highlighting Columbia gradu-

ates, and feature a career corner to assist students with future goals.

"We are trying to be more objective and more open to all majors," says Schwartz, adding that about 75 percent of the free-lance writers are not j-majors.

"Utilize us," says Schwartz. "We represent the voice of the school."

The *Chronicle* continues to encourage all students to contribute ideas, stories, photos, cartoons, and letters to the editor.

"Everything is going very well," Robinson says with confidence. "We have a good staff that is very open to new ideas."

--Jody Campbell

A SPECIAL INTEREST IN MAGAZINES

"You can't be an editor unless you know how to write," says Elizabeth McCarthy the new Special Interest Magazines instructor. As the Director of Publications and Editor of *Eleven* magazine, the WTTW publication, she is able to cover many different programs, such as her favorite, "Upstairs, Downstairs."

After growing up in Columbus, Ohio, McCarthy graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with a drama degree. She wanted to incorporate her love for drama with writing and become a drama critic but ended up working at an insurance company calling agents to see if they were satisfied with the company's performance. There, she wrote articles for the employee magazine, and within two years she became the editor.

In 1980, Channel 11 - WTTW hired McCarthy to work on the station's insert for the national public broadcasting station



Elizabeth McCarthy

magazine, *The Dial*. After it folded in 1985, WTTW decided to have its own magazine, *Eleven*, and put her at the wheel. The circulation of 160,000 indicates she has the leadership qualities and experience to run a successful magazine.

Her focus on students' writing and editing abilities is reflected in her class structure of in-class writing assignments, research papers on Chicago magazines and publishing companies and discussions with local magazine professionals. By researching area companies such as Cahners Publishing and Johnson Publishing, students learn what jobs are available. She says Chicago has 625 special interest magazines of which magazine j-majors should be able to find an interesting one to work at.

In her spare time, when she has any, she reads. "Reading a lot gives me a superficial knowledge of a variety of subjects." Her favorite magazine is *The New Yorker* which "piles up because it's a weekly, and the articles are so long." She relaxes at home on the northwest side of Chicago with her husband and her Airedale terrier. McCarthy freelances for the *Tribune's* "Northwest Suburban Tempo" section, writing about issues such as corporate wellness and hypnotherapy, among others.

"Special Interest Magazines"

will guarantee students a multitude of information and will help them in the professional world.

--Shannon M. Sauter

Opinion

POLITICALLY CORRECT? NOT!

Political correctness is sweeping through the American language like wildfire, burning up almost every word that gets in its way. Political correctness, also known as intellectual language and multiculturalism, is taking every trait and turning it into a personal agenda. The First Amendment of our Constitution guarantees us the right to free speech. As a student and citizen, this gives me the right to say and write what I choose.

Political correctness has gone so far as to find alternative phrases for non-demeaning words. For example, I don't wear glasses, I am visually enhanced. I am not tall, I am vertically enhanced. As future journalists, we need to understand where to draw the line between being sensitive to others and the downright ridiculous.

I respect the "cultural sensitivity" issue which states that blacks should be referred to as African Americans, that Asian should be the proper term for Oriental, and that Hispanic only applies to those of Spanish descent. These are reasonable alternative terms. What I find ridiculous are the terms that were not considered offensive until the whole issue of political correctness came about. For example, the term "sweetie," which was once considered a term of affection, has become objectionable or even illegal in the eyes of some lawmakers in Texas. It seems that the employment of terms such as "honey" and "sweetie" and "darling" have been used as evidence in sexual harassment cases.

Now, I don't know how every-

one thinks in this country or even here at Columbia College, but I may find these words annoying maybe, but not offensive. Let me clarify that. If the comments are made in everyday conversation and are not condescending, I don't find them offensive. Usually, if someone insists upon telling me dirty jokes within the workplace and I ask them to stop, they do. People deserve the warning first. It is frightening to think that these words can automatically constitute harassment. There are far more important things in this country to worry about than being called "honey." When the Anita Hill/Clarence Thomas hearing first hit the media, it brought to light a very serious issue, but it also opened a can of worms. Now, if someone has a grudge at someone else at work, for example, she OR he can dissect the language and find something within it to charge harassment.

I'm getting fed up with people who so poorly understand what America is about that they think that they can use the law to clobber the free speech they don't like. This blazing trail of political correctness has to get under control before we all land in jail. Most people don't want to hurt or demean anyone, but the reality is that a society based upon free speech is a society in which people are bound to get offended.

--Patricia Frey

BOOK PUBLISHING IN CHICAGO

If you want to get your manuscript published, you don't have to send it to New York. There are many publishing companies here in Chicago.

Being an unestablished author makes it difficult to get published. Many times you are perplexed with the questions of where to go or how to start.

In most cases you need an agent to help get your work seen. But there are many smaller publishers in Chicago which are willing to look at manuscripts by new authors.

The first step to getting published is to determine your audience. Figure out what publishers specialize in what you have written, then call the publishers to find out what their guidelines are.

It is a good idea to copyright your work before sending it to any publisher to protect your work. You can obtain applications for copyright at any public library. The fee for literary works is \$20, and it takes approximately eight to ten weeks to process an application. Many publishing companies will not see your work unless it has a copyright.

Children's Press is one of the places you can send manuscripts to without having an agent. It requires that you send a copy of your manuscript, not the original. The manuscript should be typed and double-spaced. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope so it can return your manuscript, and mail the package to Children's Press, 5440 N. Cumberland Avenue, Chicago Il. 60656. Allow five to six weeks for a response.

Other information on publishers in Chicago can be found at libraries and bookstores. One source is "Writers Guide To Chicago Area Publishers." This book lists publishing companies in Chicago, the guidelines of each publishers, what they publish, and who to contact. Another is "1994 Writers Market, Where And How To Sell What You Write." This book contains all aspects of getting published and gives you ideas on which publishing companies are best for you.

As journalists we are taught to research and investigate the

facts in order to write a good story. Use journalistic skills to help find the best ways to get your potential best-seller published.

--Frances Palladino

LUND RETIRES

"I'll miss sitting here looking out at the lake and Buckingham fountain," says Eric Lund as he gazes out the window of his 13th floor office, while sounds of classical music from the radio fill the room.

"But there is one thing I won't miss, and that's grading," says Lund laughing.

According to Lund, it's the students he will miss the most. "I know it sounds like a cliché," he says, as he slowly lifts his hand to his chin. "But it's true."

Since becoming Director of the j-graduate program in 1984, Lund has developed and maintained individual relationships with his students. Like a proud father, he praises his pupils.

"We have had editors, reporters, producers come out of the graduate program, as well as Columbia College in general.

"I think our students have done extremely well," says Lund, eyeing a photograph of a few of his students, Gov. Jim Edgar, and himself, hanging on the wall of his office.

After earning a B.S. degree in journalism from Northwestern



Eric Lund

University, Lund went on to become a reporter and editor. From 1961-1966, he served as the Editor of the *Evanston Review*. He also worked as a first assistant city editor, and Assistant Managing Editor for the *Chicago Daily News*.

Teaching was something Lund had done prior to coming to Columbia, at Northwestern.

"I had him for a copy-editing class when I was at Medill," says Bob Manewith, who teaches copy-editing in the j-department.

Besides his impressive work and educational background, Lund has received various awards and honors. In 1971, he received the Marshall Field award for the outstanding editorial contribution to the *Chicago Daily News*. Lund's Swedish heritage, as well as his outstanding accomplishments, have earned him awards from his ancestral country. In 1977, he received the King of Sweden Bicentennial Medal, and in 1978, the Swedish Royal Order of the North Star, Knight First Class.

Nat Lehrman, j-department chairman, has nothing but praise for Lund and the job he has done for the graduate program.

"Eric brought dedication to the program. He works endlessly, not to mention the tremendous care he has for his students' futures. He tracks them right into their jobs and beyond. I'll regret losing this great source of newspaper wisdom," says Lehrman.

"He set the direction for me when I came into this program from University of Illinois," says Mike Sebastian, a student in the j-graduate program. "He gave me one-on-one attention. Sometimes he'll call me at home if he has any questions regarding my story. He kept in contact with me over the summer. Eric's been very helpful."

After retiring, Lund plans to

continue working on a book he's been writing. He would like to revisit Sweden with his wife, and travel to Ecuador, where his wife spent time as a child.

"Gosh, when I get the time I can't wait to do these things," says Lund. His colleagues and students think it's time well deserved.

--Deborah Flick

SCIENCE WRITING

What do you get when you cross a Zebra with an Apple? In the not so distant future, you could get a new consumer product or a new type of food, courtesy of scientific breakthroughs in genetic engineering.

There is an increasing need for journalists who can translate the complexities of scientific fields, like genetics, which is altering plants and animals by changing their genetic codes, into language that everyone can understand. The j-department's science writing and reporting program is creating science literate journalists who will help bridge the knowledge gap between the scientific community and the general public.

"We're becoming an extremely science-based society," states Jeff Lyon, j-department advisor for the science writing and reporting program. "More and more of daily life is being taken over by high technology. We need more than a nodding acquaintance with science."

Lyon feels that people need to be informed about what science is doing and how various research and technologies may affect everyone.

The program mixes the required print or broadcast journalism courses with 24 credits of science classes, like chemistry, genetics and geology, and two science writing courses.

The classes, in the science department, are made practical



Jeff Lyon

and easy to digest. Because Columbia is a liberal arts college, the courses are designed for non-science majors. The two science writing classes are taught by Peter Gorner, who is a Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer for the *Chicago Tribune*.

In Gorner's class, students learn how to write journalism pieces using information from journal studies. Class assignments are constructively critiqued by fellow classmates, to help improve writing clarity and each student does a story for the March Of Dimes newsletter that involves interviewing a scientist who is doing research for that organization.

"We're providing an opportunity for people who like science to really enjoy themselves as they work," says Lyon.

"Science is fun," comments Lyon. "Most people don't think so, but that's because it was probably presented poorly in school."

According to Lyon, the main point of the program is to improve the way science is presented to the public.

The program is six years old and has graduated about 50 students. There are 15 people currently in the program and it is open to print and broadcast jour-

nalism majors. Anyone interested in the program should contact Jeff Lyon in the journalism office.

--Glen D. Kato

JOURNALISTS: GET ON LINE!

Learn to ride the information highway as a journalist and you will avoid the potholes and traffic jams that block clear, fast communication between you, your source and your readers. If you haven't navigated the Internet, you will. If the thought of all that information scares you, it won't. Even if you are not a computer whiz, there is no need to fear. As technology progresses, computers and networks are becoming more user-friendly every day. You'll soon learn that your job as a news gatherer is about to become easier and believe it or not -- more fun. So, welcome to Cyberspace.

First, what exactly is Cyberspace? According to the international best-seller, "Navigating the Internet," the Cyberspace of the Internet is divided into oceans -- subnetworks, with channel-connections between networks, continents -- the big supercomputers, big islands -- the mainframes and minicomputers, and what the uncharitable might see as floating logs -- personal computers. Bobbing around between these landfalls are people, whose software takes them thousands of virtual miles from one port to another.

One of the subnetworks, or oceans, of the Internet is America Online and you probably have seen it in the *Chicago Tribune*. On January 31, the *Tribune* announced, "NewsExtra is here!" The *Tribune* explained that "NewsExtra" is a tag that means more information on the same topic is available through the

Chicago Online/America Online computer service. At the end of certain news stories, the tag -- a little T in a circle -- appears. The service is a good resource for journalists because there is extra information on topics such as transcripts of speeches and related wire stories.

On-line access cost \$9.95 per month, which includes five hours of use. After that, the cost is \$3.50 per hour. But other barriers to the access of this information exist besides the monthly fee. One needs a computer, a modem, America Online software (\$25) and some knowledge of how to put everything together.

If you don't possess these necessary items and you've been wondering about the Tribune Online Service -- here is a window into Cyberspace. Take a look at a whole new form of communication.

Real time chatting is fun. I clicked into the Chicago Online

Windy City Chat area and asked people what they thought of the service and most people said it was great except they had trouble connecting during the day. So, I clicked onto the free help area where there is live technical support. I told them I was looking for information as to why people were having problems connecting. The helpful strangers told me to use the keyword, "Letter." I typed in Letter and I found a letter written by Steve Case apologizing for the problem.

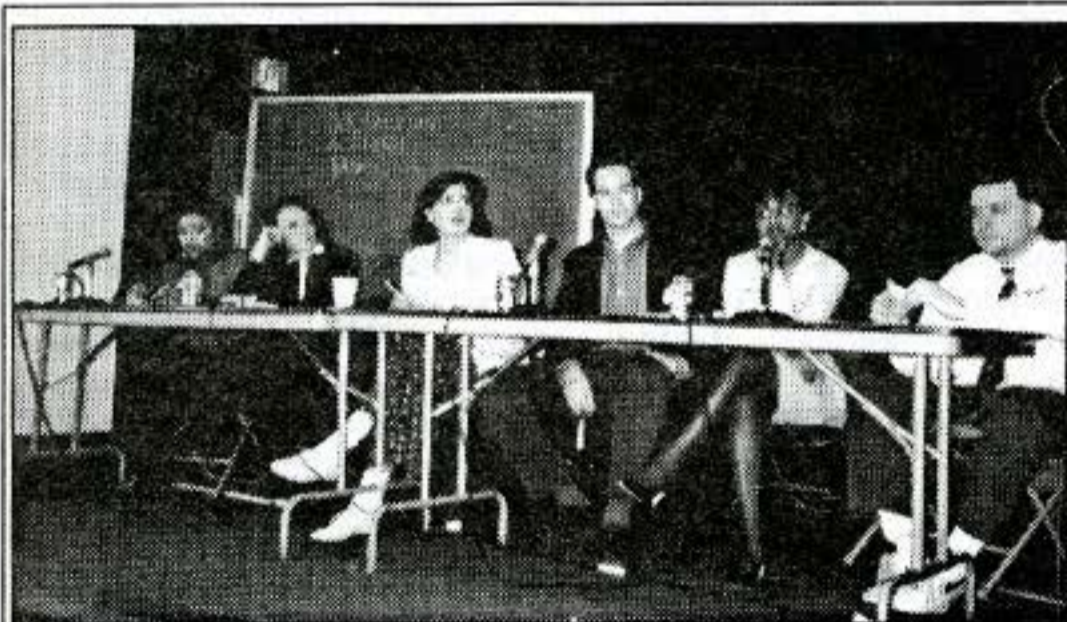
"The root of the problem is fairly simple," Case says. "Demand has been exceeding supply. If you keep trying you'll eventually get in -- but we realize this is a major inconvenience and we are very sorry about it."

Well, there you have it, an article researched almost entirely through the information highway. If you haven't been able to tour the America Online/Chicago Online community -- as



they call it -- I hope you feel a little more familiar with the concept from reading about my experiences. If you already subscribe -- I'll see you on-line! e-mail address: Ellie Dec@aol.com

--Felicia Morton



In April, a panel of Columbia journalism graduates met in the Hokin auditorium to discuss their employment experiences with students. The alumni, were Natalie White, now working for the New York Times; Theresa Volpe, employed at Richard D. Irwin Publishing; Katherine Ernst, of Chicagoland Television; Ray Cortopassi, a reporter for the City News Bureau; Nadine Clermont of NBC News; and Steve Crescenzo, an editor for Ragan Communications.

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