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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 Chicago

Fall 2001

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Brownlee Honored with Scholarship, Event Series

By Kela Ellis

"I have lived the life of a fairy tale," said Les Brownlee, veteran journalism professor and former newsman.

With countless awards, several historical acknowledgments as well as a new Columbia scholarship established in his name along with a 2002 Chicago journalism workshop and lecture series, Brownlee has the credentials to support that statement.

Before he became a professor at Columbia in 1978, Brownlee worked in four areas of journalism: newspapers, magazines, radio and television.

In the beginning of his more than 60-year news career, Brownlee was a feature writer

for the Wisconsin Press Bureau in Madison where he attended the university with his friend Thomas Ward, former journalist and son of the late Arch Ward, sports editor for the *Chicago Tribune* and founder of the baseball All-Star Game, Chicago College All-Star Football Game and the All America Football Conference. Ward has funded a \$1,000 Les Brownlee Scholarship for the best essay on journalism ethics written by a Columbia student during the 2001-02 academic year.

Within that same week of that donation from Ward, Brownlee learned another friend

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Echo rakes in national awards

Columbia College's undergraduate magazine swept the 2001 student magazine contest sponsored by the largest association of journalism educators.

The 2000-2001 issue of *Echo*, produced annually by students in the Journalism Department's Magazine

Program, won first place for design, second place for general excellence and honorable mention for editorial. The international contest attracted a record 227 entries. It was sponsored by the Magazine Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Barry Rice, director of Columbia's Magazine Program, attended AEJMC's August convention in Washington, D.C., to accept the awards on behalf of *Echo's* student staff.

"I am most proud of the fact that *Echo* placed in each category it entered," said Rice, who served as co-advisor, with Artist-in-Residence Clare La Plante, for the issue that won. "It's rewarding to know that our students are producing a magazine that excels in all areas."

Anna Schesinger, art director of *Architectural Record*, judged the design category of the contest. Out of 13 entries, she ranked *Echo* No. 1. She remarked on the judging form: "Innovative use of photography, excel-

lent use of type to express content, excellent use of page dimensions, 'modern' looking bits throughout."

Judges for the general excellence category of the contest were Greg Daugherty, editor-in-chief of *New Choices Magazine*, and Matthew Schwartz, reporter for *Advertising Age's Newspaper of the Marketing Revolution*. They awarded *Echo* second place out of 17 entries. Their comments included: "Very good-looking magazine; great use of color, even 'sexy.' Quality paper, good choice of photographs/illustrations. Good overall [editorial] mix."

Marianne Mattera, editor of *Medical Economics* magazine, praised *Echo's* "enterprising story ideas" and awarded it an honorable mention out of 13 entries in the editorial category.

The latest awards come in the wake of other *Echo* honors. Last spring, the Society of Professional Journalists named *Echo* "best all-around magazine published once a year" in its regional student competition.



Barry Rice, current director of Columbia's Magazine Program, accepts three awards from previous director Scott Fosdick, co-coordinator for AEJMC's 2001 Student Magazine Contest and now a magazine professor at the University of Missouri since 1999.

Brownlee

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is underwriting the Les Brownlee Journalism Series, a group of workshops for journalism students and teachers as well as practitioners. The series will be administered by the Headline Club, the Chicago chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Simply known to Brownlee as "Art", Arthur C. Nielsen Jr., son and former president of his late father's world renowned TV ratings enterprise, has recently offered to underwrite what is conceived of as a world-class series of events offered through the Headline Club that Brownlee once headed.

"This made me feel honored," Brownlee said about the generous donations given in his name.

Besides having friends with deep pockets to help implement ideas, Brownlee credits his own tenacity. "If you are real determined about something you can make it happen," said Brownlee.

That determination is what made Brownlee the first African-American president of the Chicago Headline Club, the first African-American to be hired at a downtown newspaper, and the first African-American field reporter at WLS-TV.

Other milestones include induction into the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame in 1993, the same year he

received a Pioneer Award from the Chicago Association of Black Journalists. After serving as a World War II artillery major in the Italian campaign, he came home and worked at *Ebony* magazine and the *Chicago Defender* before breaking the color barrier at the *Chicago Daily News*. He later became a feature writer at the *Chicago's American-Chicago Today* and worked for the Informer Group of Newspapers in Houston.

His foray into broadcasting included jobs as a talk show host at WLS-TV and Radio, WGN-TV, WIND Radio, WFLD-TV; WHA-AM Radio; WSNS and WBEZ.

While at WLS-TV, he worked as a newsman, education and urban affairs editor, as well as director of community affairs.

Jim Sulski, former student and full-time colleague of Brownlee's, remembers seeing him on WLS as an urban affairs editor. "Les was the first one I saw expose subjective journalism," Sulski said. "He opened up the whole idea of urban affairs." Former student and columnist for the *Chicago Tribune* John Kass agrees. "Any politician that is mad at me can blame Les," Kass said half jokingly.

Kass credits his career to Brownlee and said, "I would not be doing this if it wasn't for him." Because Brownlee challenged his views and was extremely patient, Kass said it gave him the

confidence to become a journalist.

"Les really knows how to motivate his students," said Laura Pliego, senior broadcast journalism student.

An autographed photo of NBC5 news reporter and Columbia broadcast journalism alumna Anita Padilla is taped to his office door with the words, "Thanks for believing in me," it is an example of the faith that Brownlee has given to his new and former students. He previously taught journalism at Texas Southern University in Houston and at Northwestern University's Summer Institute.

After teaching journalism at Columbia for more than 20 years, Brownlee said this college is one of the few that has an open admissions policy which is why he decided to stick with teaching full-time. "No matter who you are or where you came from, you are able to come here and learn," Brownlee said. "That's what I love about it."

Brownlee is planning on sabbatical spring semester 2002 to complete his autobiography. With the early stages on his life already written, Brownlee will work on telling the story of his career and his accomplishments.

With more than a half century of service as a journalist and an activist in community and urban affairs, Brownlee has been a writer, reporter, editor, host, leader and a inspiration to those who he affects personally and professionally.

Inside Journalism

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COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

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New Course Offerings

Grammar for Journalists, a new one-credit course designed to help students improve grammar, punctuation and spelling skills, will be offered for the first time in the Spring. It is designed to supplement Introduction to Writing & Reporting and Copy Editing.

New graduate electives, Magazine Journalism I and II, are being offered this year for the first time to allow master's students the opportunity to explore the world of magazine publishing in much the same way they try their hands at Broadcast Journalism in a sequence of two intensive courses. Magazine Journalism I includes a survey of the industry combined with practice in writing articles of varying lengths for different audiences and serving as peer editors.

The second course is a practicum linked to the College Magazine Workshop where graduate students will help produce Echo magazine.

Open House



Among the 4,000 prospective undergraduate students and their parents who visited campus on November, more than 200 came to the Journalism Department to inquire about our programs. While most guests were from the metropolitan Chicago area, several came from Louisville, Ky and one potential student came all the way from Ireland. Another open house is set for March.

ENROLLMENT UP

Both undergraduate and graduate enrollments in Columbia's Journalism Department are up over last year, reflecting a national trend.

"The number of students enrolled in journalism and mass communication programs was the largest it has ever been," according to the 2000 Annual Survey of Journalism and Mass Communication Enrollments, published in the Autumn 2001 issue of *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*. A total of 178,970 students were enrolled in 462 programs across the country.

"Journalism and mass communication programs appear to be entering another period of rapid enrollment growth, swept up by overall increases in enrollments at U.S. universities. The education offered by ...[the programs] continues to be attractive to students, probably because it contains a combination of training in specific skills and education about broader themes and issues central to modern society."



ASK BILL

How do you know what to use as the lead of your story?

That's the No. 1 question I get as the journalism department's tutor.

Would-be newshands who have discovered the joys of spell-check and have somehow mastered the mating habits of nouns and verbs are often at a loss to make those big decisions we call news judgments. Mix a little mathematics with those well-known news ingredients of Proximity, Prominence, Conflict, Timeliness, Oddity, Audience and Impact and you will find the answer.

Measure each element of your story against those ingredients, using a scale of, say, one to 10. For instance: you are asked to do a roundup of weekend traffic accidents for a newspaper in Fayetteville, N.C. Three of those accidents involved fatalities. A prominent Fayetteville woman who owned a stable for Tennessee Walking Horses was killed when her car ran off the road and hit a tree Sunday morning. No one else was involved.

A Fort Bragg soldier was arrested and charged with hit and run after striking and killing a pedestrian just outside Fayetteville Saturday night.

A man from Raleigh was killed when his car, traveling at a high rate of speed, hit a utility pole near Fayetteville Saturday night.

What's the lead? Use the ingredients & the 1-to-10 scale.

	Fayetteville Woman	Raleigh Man	Fort Bragg Soldier
Proximity	(all accidents near Fayetteville)		
Prominence	9	3	7
Conflict	1	2	10
Timeliness	5	4	4
Oddity	1	1	8
Audience	10	3	8
Impact	4	2	10
Totals	30	15	47

The story of the Ft. Bragg soldier charged with a hit-and-run fatality is the lead.

While this looks pretty basic, it helps students make judgments on news values. It works just as well on rating source material for a single-element or any other type of story.

Bill Ferguson is a 40-year veteran United Press International writer and editor who served in Atlanta, Washington and Chicago bureaus before coming to teach at Columbia. Despite breaking his ankle this semester, he never missed a day of teaching or tutoring.

Undergrad designers help high schoolers craft publication

By Clare La Plante
Artist-in-Residence

This past summer, if you had peered into the Journalism Department's 13th floor Mac lab on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from July 24 through August 9, you'd have seen a multi-generational teaching experiment in action. Let's call it Britney Spears meets Radiohead.

Seven High School Institute journalism students in the Writing for Teen Magazines class—ages 14 to 17—were paired with seven magazine majors from Columbia. The college students, part of Omar Castillo's Desktop Publishing class, were mentoring the high school students in the intricacies of Quark XPress.



It all started a year ago in last year's Writing for Teen Magazines class. The students ended up creating their own magazine called,

aptly enough, the 13th Floor. This beautiful little tome, however, was grueling to produce in the five-week class. The final class period lasted nearly eight hours as we tried to get the stories laid out and printed in color. Since the magazine grew into being organically (originally the students were just each going to write an article), we didn't count on needing desktop resources



Beginning of the *End*: high school students discuss ideas with La Plante (r).

and a tutorial. The magazine was produced, however, with the help of Omar, and all was well.

But, boy did we learn a lesson. So when it was time to plan the summer classes for 2001, Omar came up with a brilliant suggestion: Why don't we formally combine the students in his class and in mine for part of the summer term? We could, in effect, create a mentoring system. It would give his students a way to mentor—and cement their own skills, and the high school students a way to get practice on Quark XPress.

Fate was with us. Omar had seven students enrolled in his summer Desktop Publishing class, the same number I had enrolled in the Writing for Teen Magazines class. We matched them up by lottery—by last name, alphabetical order. The mix worked. How could it not? Students are hungry to learn—whether through being taught or teaching others.

And what a great mix of students! Teddy, a junior interested in hip



Teamwork: Columbia journalism students in Desktop Publishing tutor high schoolers in the fine art of magazine layout

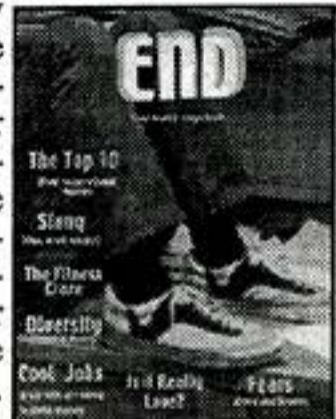
hop, was matched with Lisa, a New Trier junior who loved shopping—her story, in fact was on how the health club culture affects teens' fashion sense and lifestyles. Their layouts were awesome.

Yari, a would-be revolutionary film director from Waukegan, was hooked up with Columbia student Ophelia, who calmly and expertly helped her hone her excellent eye for color and composition.

In fact, they produced one of the winning covers for the high schoolers' magazine (we held a competition for the cover design among the student pairs). The one they created used Benicio del Toro's feet; the other winning cover used trees. Go figure. We also had a quick lesson in journalism marketing. Since the contest ended in a tie, we used it as an opportunity for creative negotiation. We had an "East Coast" cover and a "West Coast" cover.

The last day of class, the high schoolers had Omar all to themselves, as the college students had finished their class the week before.

Together, with the help of pizza, they used their new skills and finished the final layout. We printed the new magazine (called "End") in color. Take a look for yourself. As the magazine tag line says: "Your search stops here." We couldn't agree more.



TV News Anchoring & Reporting for Teens Debuts

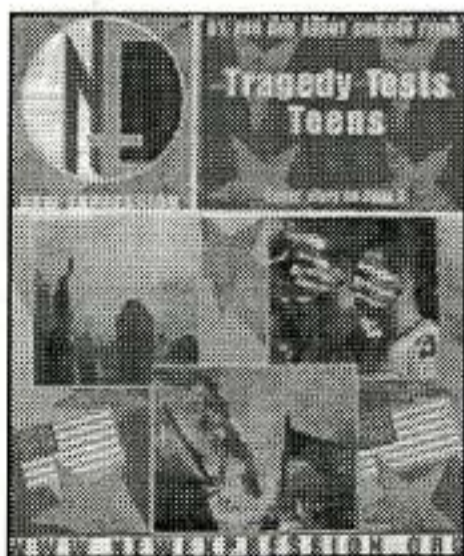
By Kelley Daniels

This summer 11 students in Columbia's Summer High School Institute succeeded in taking home a resume tape of broadcast journalism work. No small feat in five weeks.

The students, from both small mid-western towns and metropolitan Chicago who want to work in broadcast news, eagerly signed up for a new course entitled, "Television News: Anchoring and Reporting."

Chris West, a Television department staff member, showed the students how to operate the cameras and editors while

Another Teen Voice



New Expression, a monthly newspaper, written by, for and about teenagers, covers everything from the impact of welfare reform to prom styles. The non-profit Youth Communication, launched the publication in 1976 and the paper currently boasts 50,000 circulation. Columbia provides space and utilities, right next door to the *Chronicle*.



(L-R front row) LaToya Jordan; Kristina Herrndobler, Katie Glosa, (rear) Instructor Chris West; Jerry Cusson; Anthony Iannacco; Dan Hanger; Instructor Kelley Daniels

I taught them how to write, report and anchor for television.

Two of the 11 students who participated in the summer course are now attending Columbia as freshmen, exercising the option to apply one hour of college credit earned by successfully completing the course.

"I was shocked by how much freedom was given to the students, like being able to take the cameras downtown," reflected Dan Hanger, now a broadcast journalism major at Columbia.

Hanger says the appeal for him was the opportunity to work in front of the camera and a few other perks.

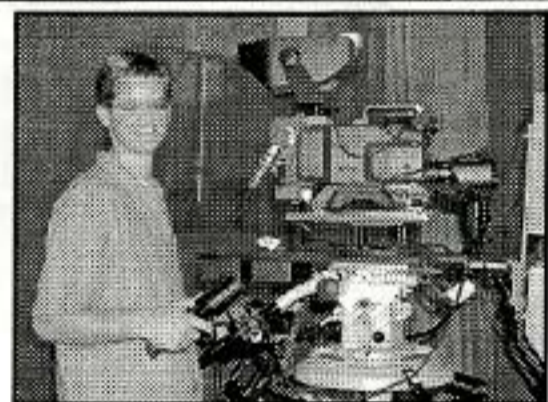
"It was neat to sit in Diann Burns' chair," he said, smiling, and referring to the news set, recently donated to Columbia by WLS Television, Chicago's ABC affiliate where she anchors.

Hanger emphasized that it was the summer experience in the broadcast news class that enticed him to select Columbia.

The students listened attentively to summer guest lecturer and CLTV anchor Evelyn Holmes, who came to share her sense of the realities of working in television news. Holmes, a gutsy reporter, recently promoted to anchor, eagerly and effectively communicated her message, "Your job is first. You have to come back with a story."

Holmes, who also teaches at Columbia, entertained the class with a videotape of spontaneous interviews with CLTV co-workers, voicing the rewards as well as the frustrations, of working in broadcast news.

To better meet student needs, two broadcasting courses will be offered next summer, one for beginners and one for more advanced students.



Evelyn Holmes, CLTV News Anchor

Wright Wins CABJ McClain Scholarship

Demetrial Wright, a broadcast journalism senior, received the 2002 Lenita McClain Scholarship, named for the late *Chicago Tribune* writer, at the Chicago Association of Black Journalists' 25th Silver Anniversary Media Awards & Scholarship Presentation. Wright is president of Columbia's student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists and previously interned at NBC5 and worked in audience relations for the "Jenny Jones Show."

In her scholarship-winning essay,

Wright wrote:

"One of the most rewarding careers is to be able to impact the lives of others. Journalists have the privilege to document the stories that shape our world. Each of these stories includes a face, nationality, gender, race, origin and a community that will influence how we perceive this story...It is comforting to turn on the television and see the beautiful shades of brown, yellow, and mahogany that mirror the diverse society that we have become. It is not enough to be that face on television, that voice on the

radio, that person that snaps the picture, that person who writes an article, or a member of the management team.

Black journalists have a responsibility to: be a voice for the community, change the negative images that are portrayed of black people, document our history for our children, challenge social changes that affect our communities, mentor underprivileged children, support organizations that are about the advancement of our people and the community, and to help create opportunities for our youth."

Journalism Department Scholarship Opportunities

John Fischetti Scholarships, named for the Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist, are awarded for demonstrated academic excellence and active participation in journalism. (See special insert.)

MacDougall Scholarship Award for outstanding editorial contribution to the school newspaper, established by attorney Priscilla MacDougall, wife of journalism faculty member Les Brownlee, to honor her late father, Dr. Curtis MacDougall, a journalist, long-time professor at Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism and author of a leading journalism text, "Interpretative Reporting."

Irv Kupcinet Scholarship Fund, named for *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist by Columbia trustee Howard Mendelsohn, will soon be available to journalism as well as radio and television majors.

Also see www.colum.edu/scholarships for information on other opportunities available to freshmen, transfer and continuing undergraduates. For master's scholarships, see page 9 of this newsletter.

Thompson, Rohan, Simeonova & Murray: Other Recent Scholarship Recipients

BEA: Brianna Thompson, a Broadcast Journalism major, was awarded a national Harold E. Fellows Scholarship from the Broadcast Education Association.

CBA: Stacy Rohan, a Broadcast Journalism major and Neda Simeonova, a News Reporting & Writing major each received a \$1,000 Herman Kogan Media Award

Tribune Awards \$15,000 Grant

The Chicago Tribune Foundation, which has generously supported the Journalism Department over the years, has renewed its commitment to our diversity by awarding a grant totaling \$15,000 to be used for stipends to pay minority students participating in unpaid print and online internships.

Recent 2000-2001 recipients and their print internships were Louis Johnson (*Chicago Crusader*), Ophelia Murray (Northwestern University Hospital), Joyce Armour (*Chicago Reporter*), LaSonja Hill (*Chicago Reporter*) Sara Ornelas (*Consumer's Digest*), Esra Khalil (*In These Times*), Kimiyo Naka (*Chicago Reporter*) and Fabian Nicholas (*Velocity Magazine*).

Scholarship from the Chicago Bar Association.

Gates: Ophelia Murray, a Reporting on Health, Science & Environment major, was designated a national Gates Millennium Scholar, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to provide outstanding African-American, American Indian/Alaska Natives, Asian Pacific Island American and Hispanic American students with an opportunity to complete their undergraduate studies.

Internships Are Rewarding Out-of-Classroom Experiences

By Howard Schlossberg
Print Internship Coordinator

How'd you like to take this image away from an internship?

"We drove up to the sight of the little boy's murder. Everyone in the van was silent. I was in the back of the van, watching as we came closer. I wanted to ask questions but I thought it would be better if I just observed. I was with (the reporter) at the press conference and I knew that there was a lot of controversy (about the death.) The police said that they had found the man who had done it, but (the reporter) wasn't convinced. I could tell by the type of questions he asked the police at the station and I knew he wasn't just going to leave without more answers."

You don't get that in a classroom. That was how one of our interns last year described part of her experi-

ence. She went on to say that "...working for (the TV station)...has proven to be an amazing experience for my career in broadcast journalism. Everyone at the station was extremely helpful in giving me useful tips and personal experience."

All the excerpts in this article are from student evaluations. No, I didn't use just the positive ones (although I did slant it in that direction, OK?)

Names and employers are withheld here, to protect the innocent and guilty, as well as the department.

In final reports, students are required to evaluate the internships for their value in: productivity; expectations; journalistic skill enhancement; employer feedback; networking; portfolio building; and relevance of Columbia coursework to the experience.

Here's what some of last year's interns had to say:

Magazine Editorial Intern: "This was a very productive experience. I feel like I contributed a lot to the magazine and enjoyed the work. I also realized the importance of fact-checking, which I grew to enjoy and respect. I felt fortunate to witness all of the work that goes into putting out a publication and the work involved in even the smallest articles...I learned a lot from the editing process and (from my boss), who is a tough editor and will spend hours trying to come up with the correct word.

"Copy Editing proved to be an extremely valuable class. It gave me the background and the confidence to catch errors. Being familiar with the AP Stylebook gave me an idea of what words were problems...I was surprised how confident I felt when I was editing...My attention to detail was reinforced during this internship."

Newspaper Reporting Intern: "The main reason I wanted to intern was because (the company) offered me the opportunity to write for them and work on my own stories for publication. The various things they had me working on were very valuable. But I really wanted to write because that is my passion. My editor asked me to come up with some story ideas...and run them by her.

"I must say what I learned in the courses I have taken at Columbia really helped me during ... this internship. The Copy Editing class I took...really helped me when it came to proofreading the pages and checking for mistakes. Other courses that helped me in the reporting aspect of things would be Intro. To Writing and Reporting and Reporting for Print and Broadcast. These classes helped prepare me to go out in the field and get interviews and research the information I needed for my stories. It is hard to go up to people and interview them, but these classes helped prepare me for that.

"Overall, I feel this internship was just what I needed to get my feet wet in the field of journalism."

Radio Intern: "I have been working for (news anchor) for more than four months and I have gained more knowledge from her instructions than a textbook could ever teach me. Seeing her broadcast stories is incredible. It shows me how to better deliver a news story and also gives me motivation that I can do it too.

"The...veteran journalist was more than an instructor. She was my friend...But the friendship would only exist after the 'class' period. She was a stern instructor whenever school was in.

As a result of this internship:

- I am able to take full responsibility for my actions;
- I am able to accept criticism from any boss without feeling insulted or developing an attitude;
- I am not afraid of questioning anything I don't understand;
- I enjoy taking risks even if I don't achieve my goals;
- (And) I can now deal with rejection without it ravishing my pride."

Internships

continued from page 7

OK, you want negative? Here's negative, sort of:

Magazine Intern: "On several occasions (my boss) took credit for my work, right in front of me, and I didn't have the confidence to say anything..."

"...Working with (this) magazine helped me decide which direction I would like to take my career. I realized I enjoy the editing process more than the writing process. I also realized that I am not interested in working for a (consumer) magazine. While they have quality articles, I would probably enjoy a trade magazine more."

Magazine Design Intern: "I feel like I've made the biggest step towards my career...I feel like I have more to learn (as) I look at the amount of preparation the art directors needed and how much attention to detail that they had."

"All of my classes at Columbia prepared me for this internship. I think this is what made me stand out from (the company's) other interns and ultimately lead them to make me a job offer."

And from an employer:

TV News Director: "Students need to come in a little more prepared about how to interview, what an interview is and specifically how to elicit sound bites from a subject."

Students also told us, in their papers and at Internship Express Network functions that we, the faculty, need to find ways to help them with their self-confidence, fact-checking and research (not just online either, but book and library research and how to dig out appropriate public relations contracts).

To which I say: We're working on it, all of it.

Special thanks to Broadcast Journalism Director and Broadcast Internship Coordinator Lillian Williams for sharing some of her students' papers and evaluations with me for publication here, and to Lillian and Journalism Career Adviser Paula Brien at Columbia's Career Center for Arts & Media, for their unwavering dedication to supporting journalism internships.

Science and Media Make a Great Couple

By Jonathan Woldman

Commentary

Journalism is a discipline that not only requires good general reporting and writing, but certain specialized expertises as well. As the world diversifies, the journalist must prepare to grow with it. Historically, journalism could never advance until it addressed economics and government. With the advent of the information age, this ground rule must now make room to include coverage of the sciences.

Our department has been offering courses in scientific reporting as a measure to overcome the disregard that science has traditionally encountered. Artist in Residence Jeff Lyon, a Pulitzer Prize-winning *Chicago Tribune* journalist, has been recognized as being at the forefront of teaching scientific literacy.

Along with Peter Gerner, also a *Chicago Tribune* Pulitzer Prize recipient, Lyon now oversees and continues to develop the 15-year-old program entitled: Reporting on Health, Science and the Environment.

The central courses of the curriculum are Science and Medicine in the Media, Covering Science and Medicine I, and Covering Science and Medicine II. Students also are encouraged to take courses in science and mathematics.

Lyon places much emphasis on how the events beyond the classroom should play a role in the presentation of his material. "All I have to do is point to the stories and issues that

are coming out. Their interest value speaks for itself," explains Lyon, when addressing the need to sustain students' interests.

While pure science courses teach applications and chronicle history through trial and error, Lyon pays special attention to recent scientific issues that have the most potential to elicit intrigue and controversy. For example, students who are taking his courses will most likely address arguments that surround therapeutic cloning. On the other hand, Lyon may talk about how the freezing of light could bring forth the fruition of optical storage devices.

"Pete Gerner's class enrollment has expanded 400 percent in the past five years,

and my Science in the Media class has gained enrollment dramatically, too. I think it reflects increased awareness of the amazing inroads science is making, and how much of the daily news diet is taken up by scientific and medical developments," maintains Lyon.

The increased awareness of the Information Age has provoked some of the growing interest in the curriculum. However, the expertise of Lyon and Gerner as well as the manner in which they present, is probably the strongest reason for the program's appeal.

"We were pioneers. I believe Columbia's program was the first undergraduate program of its kind in the U.S. I think we are continuing to be the industry leader," boasts Lyon.

Master's Program at Peak Enrollment of Decade

By Len Strazewski
Acting Graduate Program Director

Don't try to swipe a spare chair from the Graduate Newsroom at 1306 Torco. Seats are "sold out" for many graduate journalism classes this semester and only a handful of new spots are likely to be available for Spring.

Fueled by an increasingly competitive journalism job market and Columbia College Chicago's rising reputation for graduate education, graduate program applications jumped this year, yielding one of the largest classes in the past 10

years.

The graduate journalism program has more than 20 students engaged in various stages of completing a Master of Arts in Journalism degree, including 10 new students who enrolled this semester.

According to statistics compiled by the Columbia College Chicago Graduate School, the journalism graduate program received more than 300 inquiries about admission for Fall or later semesters from prospective students around the world.

Twenty-seven prospective students applied for Fall 2001 admis-

sion as full or part-time students and 17 students were accepted by a graduate faculty admissions committee.

Though most applicants apply to multiple graduate programs, only three applicants granted admission at Columbia chose another graduate program. Four students deferred enrollment until Spring semester or later.

The 10 new students comprise a diverse group and include four Caucasian, two African-Americans, one Hispanic, one Asian and two international students.

Graduate Journalism Larsen Scholarship Winners

Ten students in the Master of Arts in Journalism, a public affairs reporting program, were awarded Larsen Scholarships from the Larsen Fund, a private philanthropic organization that supports education in law and justice and urban affairs. The 2001-02 recipients include five continuing students and five new students:

Continuing Students:

Stephanie Brown, who has a B.S. in Business and Marketing from Hampton University, Hampton, Va., and has hosted and produced cable TV shows in Park Forest, is interested in Broadcast Journalism, particularly on-camera reporting and anchoring.

Tina Daniel is completing her graduate requirements and has a job lined up in Greek broadcasting here in Chicago. She earned a B.A. in Journalism and Modern Greek from Ohio State University.

Gregory Lopes, with a B.A.

in English and History from the University of Nebraska, has interned at the ACLU and worked as a *Chicago Tribune* sales rep before returning to school.

Victoria Peyton, a part-time student, works full-time as a social worker at a dialysis center. She has a B.S.W. and M.S.W. from Aurora University and a B.A. in Journalism from Columbia. She said she has an "insatiable longing" to know why people do what they do.

Brandy Wimberly, who has a B.A. in film from Bowling Green State University, has worked as a television production coordinator for Engel Productions in Chicago. She also has been a volunteer producer at CAN-TV Cable Access and wanted to produce broadcast stories that "have the drama and truth of human interest."

New Student Recipients:

Letrice Dickerson has a B.A. from Prairie View A&M University in Prairie

View, Tex. She has taken speech and broadcast classes at Chicago State, Illinois State and the University of Houston before coming to Columbia. She is community service-oriented and interested in teaching TV production and journalism to high school students.

Liam Fennell has a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Auckland in his native New Zealand. He wants to cover international news for a major TV network.

Beshanda Spencer is a May 2001 graduate of Northern Illinois University with a B.A. in Broadcast Journalism. She has interned at WTVO-TV, an ABC affiliate in Rockford, Ill., and wants to improve her news reporting skills.

Elizabeth Pensgard graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston in 1997 with a B.A. in English literature and then took a crack at law school at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Her legal education

"was a mistake from the first day," she says, so she begins her journalism education in Spring Semester.

Sadaf Siddiqui was editor-in-chief of the University of Illinois at Chicago's school newspaper and graduated with a B.A. in English from the writing program there in May 2000. She has interned at NBC5 and wants to be an investigative reporter in print or broadcast journalism.

Other scholarship winners include:

Follett Fellows: **Letrice Dickerson** and **Angela Timmons**, a transfer student from Illinois State University who completed her B.A. in Journalism here at Columbia and moved directly into the graduate program based on the reputation of its public affairs reporting curriculum, she said. She has worked in editorial production at Carus Publishing.

Graduate Opportunity Award: **Stephanie Brown**.

POLAND, GERMANY & TURKEY



Consulate representatives (from l-r) Mariusz Brymora, Alexander Petri and Ya Vuvzaktas spoke in "Topics in Journalism: The International Story" seminar.

TURKEY

*Mustafa Duman
Gizem Dinckan*

UNITED KINGDOM



Penny Edgar

MEXICO

*Jose Chairez
Laura Eckhorn
Juan Zarate*

BELIZE

Isani Cayetano

JAMAICA

Fabian Nicholas

POLAND



Aleksandra Skalska

ARMENIA



Veronica Khachatryan

PALESTINE

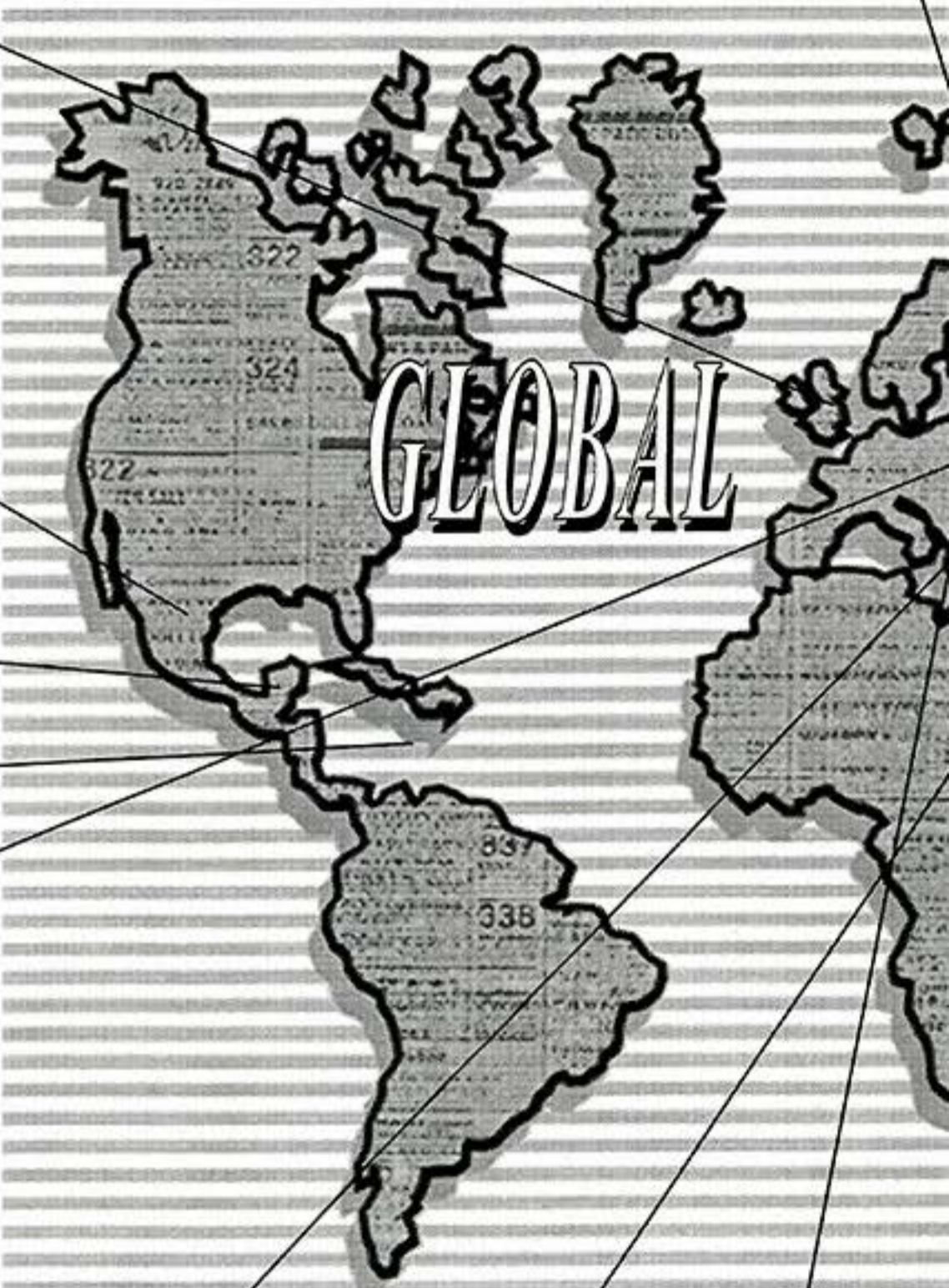
Suzan Ghanayem

LATVIA

Polina Goldshtein

WORLD VIEW

Columbia's Journalism Department attracts students (listed here by country) and visitors from all over the world.



INDIA*Arpan Roy*

Asian College of Journalism Professor/ Art & Culture Critic *Sadanand Menon* visited Columbia this fall as part of the Chandralekha dance presentations and showed his school's location in Chennai, (formerly Madras) India to Acting Chair Norma Green. Remarkably similar in course offerings to Columbia's journalism curriculum, the new Indian school graduated its first class this summer and requires all students to take a "Covering Deprivation" course, the only one of its kind in the world's most populous democracy.

RUSSIA*Kristina Lebedeva**Nana Koike***JAPAN***Junko Hamaguchi***CHINA**

Chinese Broadcast Journalism Executives Zhigiang Wang, news director of Changchun Television and Zhongbao Han, division chief of Changchun Radio and TV Broadcasting Bureau, serving 3 million people in the province's capital, sat in on Steve Lattimore's "Writing & Reporting TV News" course this fall. Accompanied by Sara Wang, an English lecturer from Jilin Province Normal University, they were participating in a government training program at the University of Illinois at Chicago and specifically asked to visit the Columbia Journalism department.

HONG KONG*Wing Fai Yim***PHILIPPINES***Ronald Ramos***NEW ZEALAND***Liam Fennell***BOSNIA-HERTZOGOVINA***Dzenita Lukacevic***YUGOSLAVIA***Goran Milosavljevic***PAKISTAN***Mohammad Javed***BULGARIA***Ana Hristova**Neda Simeonova***CONNECTION**

New Faculty

By Lisa Radke with Norma Green

Since fall 2000, the Journalism Department has welcomed 14 new faculty members including a full-time teacher, an Artist-in-Residence and 12 part-time instructors.

Full-Time Faculty



Kelley Daniels, a full-time faculty member, got her feet wet her first full year here by teaching "History of Journalism," "Broadcast News Writing" and "Television News Practicum" (which produces "Newsbeat"), as well as the Summer High School Institute's "TV News: Reporting & Anchoring." This semester she added "Introduction to Mass Media" to her repertoire. She came to Columbia from Eastern Illinois University, where she was news director of WEIU-TV. There she supervised student production of daily half-hour live newscast on the PBS affiliate and also taught news writing courses. Prior to that, she was a freelance news writer and producer at WCBS-TV, CNN-FN, WNYW-TV (Fox) and New York Television (Time Warner, Inc.). Kelley also worked on television news documentaries as an associate producer of Globalvision's "Globalization and Human Rights" and a producer for California News Forum's "Violence in Our Backyard." While in California, she worked as a news writer for KTTV-TV (Fox), as a weekday news producer for KADY-TV (WB affiliate) and writer/associate producer for the Lifetime Television Network's "Lifestyle Magazine."



Lisa Jevens, Artist-in-Residence, teaches "Magazine Design" and the "College Magazine Workshop," which produces *Echo*, the student magazine now set to be published twice a year. She had taught part-time at Columbia since 1997. Her recent freelance work has included editing for Tribune Media Services and editorial consulting and user-testing for the WGN-TV web site, as well as writing and reporting for *Crain's Chicago Business*. Previously, she was content editor at Microsoft Chicago's *Sidewalk.com*, an online entertainment web site. Before that she was editor at Performance Media, a custom publishing division of the *Chicago Sun-Times*; a copy editor at Lerner Newspapers; an associate editor of *TravelAge* magazine and associate editor and photo editor for the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

Part-Time Faculty



Marla Donato, "As a full-time Metro reporter at the *Chicago Tribune*, I have tried to develop exercises straight from the newsroom," explains the instructor in "Reporting of Public Affairs/Local," a graduate level reporting class. Having been an editor, reporter and photographer at the *Chicago Tribune* for 18 years, she knows her way around, and enjoys giving her graduate students some real-life know-how from a professional. She previously worked at United Press International Chicago Bureau. Marla also was a producer, writer, editor and on-camera talent for Earth Network, a television news and independent video documentary producer. A member of the Society of Environmental Journalists and Native American Journalists Association, she has freelanced for various newspapers and magazines. So far, teaching at Columbia has been a learning experience, she says. "It's also been a nice change of pace to be around people who are still enthusiastic and idealistic."



Lorraine Forte, who teaches the graduate "Courts and the Law" course, covered the Cook County courts as one of her beats while a staff reporter at the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Before that she was managing editor of *Catalyst* magazine and staff writer at the *Daily Southtown*. Last year, she was an Artist-in-Residence and taught additional courses in Advanced Reporting and the graduate sequence Reporting Public Affairs/Local and State, as well as State and National Government Seminar.



Dodie Hofstetter, who teaches "Reporting for Print and Broadcast" and "Opinion Writing" is on the Editorial Board of The *Chicago Tribune* and edits "Voice of The People." She has worked at the newspaper in several editorial roles since 1981, including copy editor, news editor, picture editor, graphics editor and art director for various sections and editions. Before that she worked at the *Beloit Daily News*. She previously taught copy editing at Northwestern University.



Steve Lattimore, along with teaching "Writing and Reporting TV News," Steve is also a general assignment reporter for CBS Channel 2. But before he landed his job in Chicago, Steve did on-air reporting for TV news stations in Wisconsin, Virginia, Missouri, Ohio and Mississippi. He has also taught at Bowling Green State University. He was

nominated for an Emmy Award in 1994 and is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists. But with credentials like that, where did he get all those journalism skills? Right here at Columbia. Steve was in the Class of 1988.



Paul McGrath who teaches two sections of "Introduction to Writing & Reporting" is a freelance journalist and staff photographer for the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*. Previously he was a senior editor and political columnist for *Chicago* magazine and a reporter and writer at the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Chicago Tribune*. He got his start at the *City News Bureau*.



James A. Montalbano, who teaches "Copy Editing" as well as "Reporting for Print and Broadcast," has worked for the *Chicago Sun-Times* as deputy copy chief and copy editor. Before that he worked at the *Daily Herald* and *Life Newspapers*. Most recently he was text editor for the year-long CITY 2000 photo documentary project. He also was editor-in-chief of his student newspaper, *Chicago Illini*.



Ira Pilchen teaches "Information Search Strategies" and is editor of the American Bar Association's *Student Lawyer* magazine. Previously, he was on the staff of the American Judicature Society, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the nation's courts. He was associate editor of the society's journal and director of communications, which involved regular contact with members of the news media. As a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he was a reporter and editor at *The Daily Illini*.



Leda Santodomingo, who teaches "Writing for the Spanish News Media," was a nominee for Columbia's Part-Time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award 2001. Currently the reporter/anchor for Telemundo's Noticiero 44, she introduced the course a year ago and hopes to expand Spanish-language journalism curricular offerings here. Leda previously worked as a TV producer and anchor in Miami, Venezuela and Los Angeles and also has radio experience as a producer/announcer and talk radio host in Venezuela, Chicago and Los Angeles. She received an Illinois Broadcasting Association Silver Dome Award in 2000 for "Outstanding Achievement in Broadcasting, Best Special Program, WSNS-TV."



Jay Stewart, who teaches "Media Ethics and Law," is staff attorney for the Better Government Association, a citizen watchdog group. While completing his law degree at DePaul University College of Law, he worked at the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board and the City of Chicago Department of Law, Labor Division. Previous to that, he worked three years in Washington, D.C. as a member of the United States Department of Commerce's Congressional Affairs Office.



David Syrek, is a "Magazine Design" instructor who hopes "to enlighten the students to the other side of storytelling and show how two can work together to create more expressive work." As an award-winning art director for the *Sunday Chicago Tribune Magazine*, he tries to incorporate his experience in graphic and magazine design into his class.



Margaretta Swigert-Gacheru, first and foremost, loves Columbia's diversity, which is part of the reason she chose to teach here. "Having lived overseas for two decades, I want to help expand students' flow and vision, to include global issues and appreciation of various cultures, religions, values and traditions." In addition to teaching "Introduction to Mass Media" here, she also teaches creative writing classes at Truman College, and writes for Kenyan newspapers, particularly the Nairobi-based *Daily Nation*. While in Africa, she won journalism awards, including Kenya Press Club Writer of the Year and National Theatre Awards's Fine Arts Writer. She holds three master's degrees and previously taught English at the University of Nairobi.



Karen Titus, who teaches "Advanced Magazine Article Writing," is former managing editor of *North Shore Magazine*. Currently she is special assignments editor for the College of American Pathologists magazine, *CAP Today*. She also has been a freelance writer and editor for Reuters, *Chicago Tribune*, *Women's Sport + Fitness* magazine, *Chicago Home & Garden*, *Sample Publications* and *Cahners Publishing*. She previously was associate editor of *The DO*, a national monthly magazine of the American Osteopathic Association.

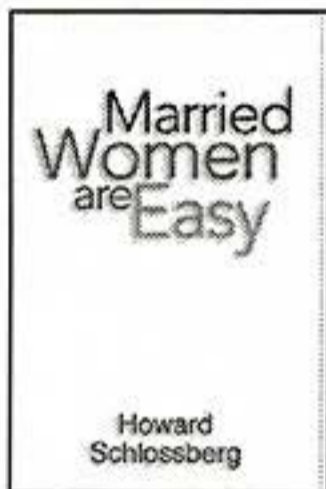
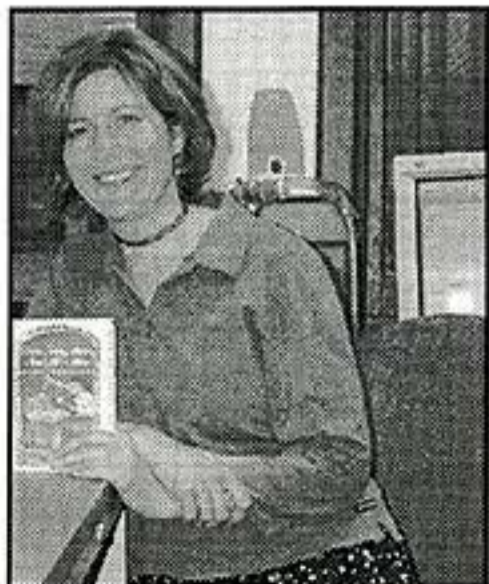
Faculty & Staff Notes

Six faculty members, the biggest delegation ever in department history, helped swell the registration to a record 2,230 at the annual Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication conference in sweltering Washington, D.C., this August. Department attendees included **Norma Green**, **Carolyn Hulse**, **Barbara Iverson**, **Barry Rice**, **Len Strazewski** and **Lillian Williams**. Besides the Columbia presence as participants in hundreds of sessions over five days, Rice was appointed Chair of the Teaching Standards Committee of the Magazine Division and Green presented reflections on her Fulbright experience at an invited panel organized by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars.

Former Broadcast Journalism Director **Steve Corman**, who moved back to San Diego in 1998, reports: "I did a series of educational tapes this fall at Palomar College in San Marcos. They've asked me to do another round starting in March and have also hired me to teach a course on 'The History of Television,' starting next fall. In addition, I'm doing my sixth two-hour long documentary telecourse program at KPBS-TV in conjunction with the California Peace officers standards and Training Agency in Sacramento. This one is called 'Kids in Peril: Missing Children Cases.'" The previous five programs he did won Telly and Communicator Awards.

Broadcast Journalism Coordinator **Rose Economou** is president of newly-founded With Heart Productions, a Chicago independent documentary film production company, with

Saints & Sinners



Faculty Authors, Authors! Artist-in-Residence **Clare La Plante** shows off her second book in collaboration with sister Alice La Plante, entitled "Dear Saint Anne, Send Me a Man" due out from Rizzoli International Press in January while **Howard Schlossberg**, who previously authored "Sports Marketing" (Blackwell, 1996), has penned "Married Women are Easy," due out in spring from XLibris.



Green (center) recounts her Fulbright teaching experience in Denmark in a panel with AEJMC President Joe Foote (right), a Fulbrighter in Bangladesh and Germany, who is Dean of the College of Mass Communications & Media Arts at Southern Illinois University, as Susan Sharp (left), Fulbright Scholar Program's Higher Education Liaison Officer of the Council for International Exchange at Scholars, looks on.

works in progress including "The Journey of Luis Buñuel: Land Without Bread Revisited," "Melia's War: The Story of Russia's First Nuclear Weapons Plant" and "AIDS: The South African Struggle." She attended the Narrative Journalism Conference at Harvard University in December and participated in the *DoubleTake* magazine Summer Documentary Institute at Duke University in Durham, N.C. For the past two years, she has served on the board of directors of *In These Times*, working on developing a television version of the national newsmagazine.



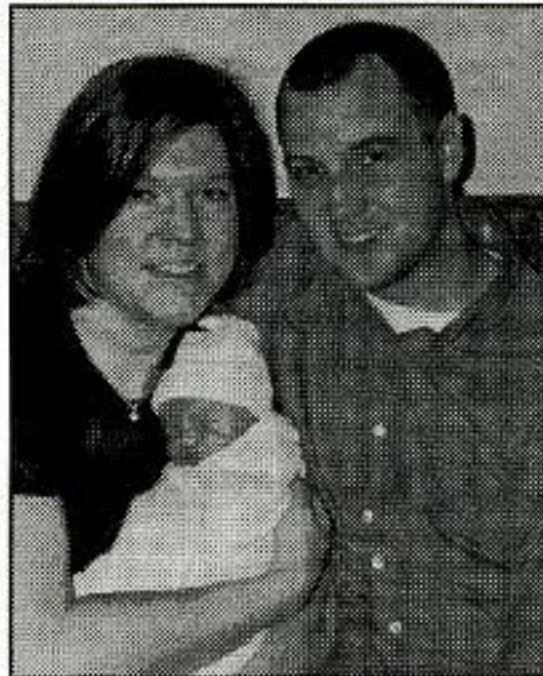
Long time department part-time faculty member **William Gaines**, a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter at the *Chicago Tribune*, was named the first Knight Chair in Investigative and Enterprise Journalism at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign this fall. While teaching here, he also wrote a textbook, "Investigative Reporting for Print and Broadcast."

Carolyn Hulse, News Reporting and Writing Program Director, will join the board of directors of We the People Media which produces *Residents' Journal*, a publication for and by Chicago public housing residents. A related organization, The Urban Youth International Journalism Program, has used Columbia department facilities on evenings and Saturdays to produce stories for the *Journal* which part-time journalism instructor **Ethan Michaeli** publishes. Earlier this year, Hulse was a judge for the 2001 Herman Kogan Media Awards for Excellence in Legal Reporting, sponsored by the Chicago Bar Association. She currently serves as a testing monitor for the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.

Department Supervisor & Administrative Assistant **Lena Renteria** has been recognized for 15 years service at Columbia.



Laurie Ann Bender, academic advisor to some 600 journalism majors, returned from maternity leave during spring early registration bearing photos of daughter Elianna Margaret, born August 10.



Columbia Chronicle & Echo Business Manager **Chris Richert** and his wife, **Kara**, brought Ethan John Richert, born Sept. 12, for a j-department visit.



Threepeat: From left: **Howard Schlossberg** & **Lena Renteria**, both born on Nov. 10, and **Omar Castillo**, born Nov. 9, show off a wee cake for their triple celebration.



Former Interim Chair **Carolyn Hulse** celebrates her birthday at first faculty meeting of academic year.

Birthdays: New & Old-er

Chronicle Advisor **Jim Sulski**, in his role as second vp of the Illinois College Press Association, is coordinating the 20th annual ICPA Awards competition with 66 categories, including web sites, judged by professional journalists from all over the state. Winners will be announced at the annual meeting in February.

Broadcast Journalism Director **Lillian Williams** and part-time faculty member **Billy Montgomery** are co-advising the Columbia College Association of Black Journalists this year. She helped the students produce newsletters and create a web site last year. Williams also continues to serve as an officer of the Chicago chapter of the Association of Women Journalists, this year as



Creative Non-Fiction Week Events



Norma Green and **Len Strazewski** (left) were among seven sharing their personal writings in the Faculty Reading during biennial festivities co-sponsored by the English, Fiction and Journalism Departments. Magazine Program Director **Barry Rice** and Artist-in-Residence **Clare La Plante** (l to r) moderated a panel entitled, "Twenty Questions: The Art of the Interview" with *Chicago Sun-*

Times pop music critic **Jim DeRogatis**, *Esquire* writer and celebrity biographer **Bill Zehme**, *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist/editorial board member and Columbia journalism alumna **Mary Mitchell**, *Chicago* magazine editor **Jan Parr**, music/hip hop culture critic and current part-time instructor **Rosalind Cummings-Yeates** and the *Chicago Reader's* **Grant Pick**.

Professor "Vacations" in Broadcast Newsroom

By Lillian Williams
Broadcast Journalism Director

The fancy two-color brochure advertised a new training program for broadcast journalism teachers. The program offered 15 educators a chance to update themselves on "current practices, new technologies and other issues" while working in television newsrooms. That's an unusual opportunity, I thought, since most similar offers target graduate students, not professors. I completed an application—including an essay on how I would benefit from the newsroom experience—and I was accepted.

Officially, the program is called the "Excellence In Journalism Education Project." It's funded by the Knight Foundation and run by the Radio-Television News Directors Foundation (RTNDF). I participated in the first class during the summer of 2000.

The program allowed journalism educators across the country to return to broadcast newsrooms to update skills and bring back to their classrooms a renewed energy and commitment to journalism education.

I was assigned for four weeks to WRAL-TV in Raleigh, N.C., where I worked in the newsroom as well as in the online section of the CBS affiliate. As part of the fellowship, I also participated in a round of seminars with broadcast industry leaders in Washington, D.C., and later participated in the Radio-Television News Directors Association convention in Minneapolis.

The experience confirmed, among other things, that Columbia College Chicago offers some unique advantages. Because of our strategic location in downtown Chicago, Columbia offers unrivaled broadcast internships. And, we should not take for granted the gold mine of opportunities Columbia offers in training and interaction with working professionals in Chicago. We have many reasons to be proud.

The following themes represent key trends repeated during seminars, workshops and newsroom conferences:

Producers. The chant for producers can be heard over and over in newsrooms across this country, usually



Lillian Williams (third from left) in the online section of WRAL-TV in Raleigh, N. C., where she worked as part of a summer fellowship.

from broadcast news directors trying desperately to fill producing positions. Many students desire to work as reporters in front of the camera. But news directors insist the industry needs more journalists to fill the essential behind-the-scenes, producing jobs.

During my stint at the Raleigh station, I saw many young faces in key producer slots. They were the leaders. They pitched story ideas during morning meetings, worked with reporters to develop story angles, and wrote news scripts. Often these young producers—recent college graduates in some cases—have sole responsibility for morning shows with little oversight from supervisors.

This means, among other things, that college programs must put a renewed emphasis on ethics and decision-making in the newsroom. I brought back an excellent RTNDF training videotape on these issues that we use in our Writing and Reporting TV News course.

Online. At WRAL-TV where I was assigned, the web site was getting one million page views per day. The web site supervisor was a news veteran, but most others in that online section were recent graduates or still enrolled in college. Notably, these journalists said a key skill they value in their online work is copyediting. That's an affirmation for every journalism professor who ever tried to encourage enthusiasm for the standard copyediting course.

But in addition to TV web sites, the program introduced us to experts in radio Internet sites. The radio experts said the Internet is playing a key role in

the growth of that medium. Radio web sites offer an opportunity to target niche markets, such as workers tied to their computers during the day and searching for interesting web sites. One Washington, D.C. radio station, for example, targets federal employees by offering reports on its web site geared toward the interests of government workers. To work in new media, experts say students should learn basic HTML coding skills and be prepared to write in a concise, get-to-the-point style.

Diversity. The concept of diversity in news was a major theme throughout our conferences and workshops. We held particularly poignant discussions about teaching racial, cultural and ethnic diversity in news reporting. We agreed that it's a key issue for any journalist of the 21st century. At Columbia College we have an advantage because our student population is diverse, and therefore we have an existing laboratory in which to promote these ideas. I believe, for example, that students should reach out to people unlike themselves during classes, lunch-time conversations, and campus activities. The college environment offers rich opportunities to learn about our diverse populations.

Following my fellowship, I put together a panel discussion at Columbia College, led by Av Westin, former vice-president of ABC News, to discuss diversity in news coverage. The standing-room only event, held at the Conaway Multicultural Center, drew not only students but also members of the greater Chicago community. Also on the diversity panel were NBC5 reporter Renee Ferguson, *Chicago Tribune* reporter Teresa Puente; *Chicago Reader* contributor Ted Shen, and Jeff Lyon, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for the *Chicago Tribune* who also teaches at Columbia.

Finally, while at the Raleigh station, I produced a videotape about some of the qualities that distinguish good broadcast reporters. I show the tape during classes and guest lectures.

I wish you the best this year. And, remember, as I often say during my lectures at Columbia College, "We're training news leaders and you have the potential to be a leader!"

Lessons learned as a Fulbright gæsteprofessor in Denmark

By Norma Fay Green, Ph.D.
Acting Chairperson

Last fall I lived in Odense, Denmark, while teaching in the new journalism department of Syddansk Universitet on the island of Fyn. As a media historian I couldn't have asked for a better temporary residence in the northern European nation.

My city housed the first printing press in all of Scandinavia. The region's first books were printed there beginning in 1482. Denmark had its first newspaper by 1634. One of the earliest periodicals was printed in 12-syllable Alexandrian verse. (And you thought it was hard to come up with a 30-word-or-less lead in straight prose!)

Today, museums devoted to printing culture and photography, stand in the heart of the former gated city, named for the Norse god Odin and dating back at least a millennium.



It is near modern radio and TV stations and within bicycling distance of ancient

runes—Viking versions of “newspaper rocks”—boulders inscribed with remembrances of events.

The sprawling campus of Syddansk, which means Southern Denmark, lies on the outskirts of town between furrowed fields and a horse farm. Across Niels Bohr Alle, a highway bordering campus and named for the atomic scientist, is the country's largest shopping mall, as well as a Bosnian refugee camp, nestled in nearby woods. The university, with some 10,000 students today, broke ground on former farmland in the 1960s and con-

tinues to add buildings. I routinely got lost, even with a map. The post-modern entrance to the journalism department is demarcated by a 19th century iron printing press, like the one near campus here at the SW corner of Harrison & Federal. The department halls are enlivened with colorful historic posters advertising various Danish newspapers, some no longer published.

As in the U.S., Denmark's newspaper readership has declined since World War II. Today its 5.3 million residents have eight national newspapers to choose from, including three tabloids (two are sensationalistic.) *Berlingske Tidende*, the oldest continuous paper dating from 1749, was sold to a Norwegian media conglomerate last fall. In addition, there are regional newspapers, known as district weeklies, which only cover local news and are distributed free to every area household. Also, Denmark has a robust magazine market with five entertainment-oriented weeklies, combining elements found in the U.S. (*People*, *National Inquirer* and *TV Guide*). Family or women's magazines round out the weekly category. Specialist monthly magazines, including one devoted to journalism, also abound.

I accompanied some of the Danish j-students on a field trip to the largest circulation national newspaper, *Morgenavisen Jyllands Posten*. There was a lively discussion with a pair of third-year undergraduates who were working there as part of their mandatory year-long media internships. During one surreal hour of the tour, the visiting students participated in a simulated news judgment exercise created by the newspaper while

I watched live CNN coverage of the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole in the Middle East.

I sought out nightly TV news to try to stay informed about what was going on locally, nationally and internationally. In the season of our U.S. presidential election, there was much news on the political campaigns. As it was delivered in spoken Danish, I needed visual cues to help me get the gist of various stories as I struggled to learn three more vowels (æ, ø, å) and less-phonetic pronunciations than English. One of my Danish colleagues quipped that his native language was at best, “a disease of the throat.”



Scandinavian Simulations—The oral news tradition of a town crier was recreated in the nightwatchman's tour of Odense for tourists (top) while contemporary Danish journalism students participated in a timed exercise of news reporting judgments at a special educational exhibit while touring the country's leading daily newspaper.



Sweater Weather—Danish TV meteorologists foretell the fall weather in wool. DR1's Henrik Voldborg (left), who looks like he could be related to WGN's Tom Skilling, developed quite a following of Danish viewers who also knit him most of the sweaters he wore each night. His counterparts at other stations were similarly outfitted.

Even though it rained faithfully almost every day I was overseas, I became addicted to the various nightly TV weather reports. One station even featured a witty signature sound cue—the amplified plink of a raindrop. I particularly tuned in to see one senior forecaster, who looked like he could be an uncle of WGN-TV's Tom Skilling. The guy dressed like he was ready to go cross-country skiing at the drop of a centigrade. His impressive collection of hand-knit sweaters from devoted viewers foretold the weather in wool. Some of his patterns clashed with the weather maps behind him and probably challenged the Chroma-Key, especially his midnight blue starry night pullover. But his coded cautions consoled me. I knew, for instance, his sweater emblazoned with the Storebelt Bridge was a public service warning. When he wore it, strong winds were present and might prevent smaller, lightweight vehicles from crossing Europe's longest suspension bridge connecting his island to mine.

Danish television began as an

extension of Danmarks Radio (DR) in 1951 and got its first regular news programs in 1965. It was a state monopoly until 1988 when TV2 was launched as a partial advertising-funded alternative channel. Since then, viewer choices have expanded to eight national stations, along with satellite feeds from all over the world. Danish monopolies were not confined to the media but also included the institution that trained its news practitioners.

Until 1998 Denmark had only one journalism school, in Aarhus. The unicameral Parliament decided to expand opportunities and funded two new journalism programs. The one at Syddansk is most like Columbia, with a combination practical and theoretical curriculum; Roskilde's program is strictly theoretical and Aarhus is hands-on only training. While Danish higher education is free and students get a monthly stipend when accepted into programs, only about 40 percent go to college, based on gymnasium (high school) test scores. The journalism application process

is in sharp contrast to our open admissions undergraduate program.

First, students must write a personal essay about why they want to be in that particular journalism program and include a resume showing media experience. Out of some 500 applications, 200 are initially selected. Next, those 200 must successfully complete a written exam that requires rewriting a news bulletin in English and Danish and in various news styles. There is also a multiple-choice section on knowledge of contemporary society and current events as well as parts on interpreting a photograph and writing a journalistic summary after listening to a lecture. Third, based on the test results, 120 are selected to come in for oral interviews with the faculty. They are questioned to see "if they have a journalistic temperament and are not timid but open minded, enthusiastic and really committed." Finally, of those 120, the faculty selects 75 each year.

Before classes begin, those 75 are subjected to an off-campus "work-

ing weekend" orientation program held in a small town elsewhere in Denmark. Last year, the faculty played various characters in a fictitious news event about the German army invading the town. The department chair told me he played the town drunk whom students had to interview as the only eyewitness to several details of the story. He said he really hammed it up and was drooling and everything. While he said he could tell the new students really didn't want to have anything to do with him (his character, that is), they performed well in getting information nonetheless. They filed their stories on deadline and got to meet their faculty and classmates, just before the semester began the next week.

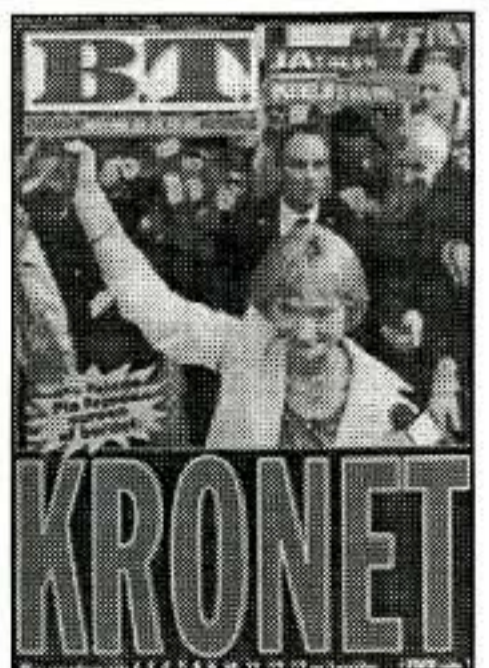
As the department's first U.S. Fulbright exchange professor, I was assigned to lecture on civic/public journalism, a type of reporting that attempts to broaden the scope of the news agenda to include information that citizens want and can use to make informed decisions. Unlike here, most Danes exercise their voting rights regularly with 90% election turnout not unusual. I was told that various Danish media have experimented with public or civic journalism projects but found them too costly and time consuming.

Nevertheless, I was

thrilled to be able to observe the first national forum drawn from a deliberate cross-section of Danes brought to my campus to discuss an upcoming referendum about the European Union. The televised forum involved citizens, from all over Denmark and its 500 islands, speaking with each other as well as national and European Union representatives about whether to adopt the Euro as common EU currency or continue their own monetary system. In the end, the Euro referendum was defeated.

Later in the semester, on the eve of what was to be a U.S. Embassy celebration of the election of the next American president, I witnessed a national mourning when the Danish Queen Mother Ingrid died. All the interrelated royalty of the world showed up for the state funeral, paying homage to Europe's oldest continuous monarchy which dates to the 10th century. Plus, that event mercifully took attention off the strange, protracted U.S. election that I had difficulty explaining.

As often happens, I became less of a teacher abroad and more of a student of life. Taking a page from the diary of Odense's most famous native son, writer Hans Christian Andersen, "To travel is to live!"



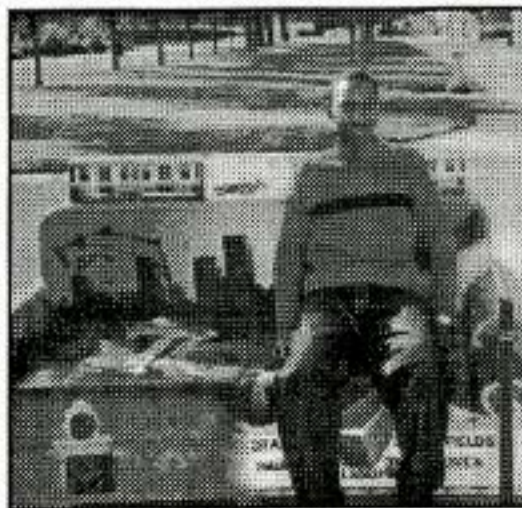
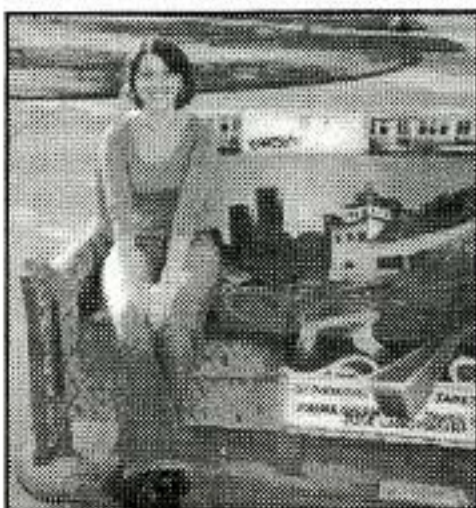
Public Affairs on Danish Front Pages—U.S. Presidential Elections, the death of the Danish Queen Mother and the defeat of a national referendum to adopt the Euro topped the headlines.



JOURNALISM DEPARTMENT TAKES TO THE STREETS

Sofa So Good

Suite Home Chicago, an international exhibition of street furniture, was the backdrop for the Journalism Department faculty, staff and student work-aides who posed with works done by Gallery 37 Apprentice Artists on south Michigan Avenue, across from campus. Some 400 painted Fiberglas sofas, chairs, ottomans and TV consoles were displayed through October 2001 on public parkways and plazas as part of an ongoing artistic dialogue between the city of Chicago and its citizens. This urban furniture follows on the hooves of the popular 1999 Cows on Parade public art exhibition.



THE JOHN FISCHETTI SCHOLARSHIP



John Fischetti

The Columbia College Journalism Department is proud to award John Fischetti Scholarships to 26 outstanding students for the 2001-2002 academic year. These students have demonstrated academic excellence and active participation in the field of journalism. The Fischetti Scholarship was named for the late John Fischetti (1916-1980), a Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist who pioneered many of the features that are today's industry standard.

His newspaper career, which began at the New York Herald Tribune, later brought him to the Chicago Daily News and the Chicago Sun-Times. After his death, Fischetti's friends and admirers created the John Fischetti Endowment at Columbia College to pay tribute to this much admired man and his extraordinary talent. Over two decades, the endowment has given financial assistance to more than 300 of the college's most promising journalism students. We extend our congratulations to this year's Fischetti Scholarship winners.



Ryan Adair, a junior in broadcast journalism, is executive editor for the college newspaper, the *Columbia Chronicle* and formerly served as its copy editor, news editor and managing editor. He also is currently interning at NBC5 in the investigative reporting division and was a summer intern at WGAN newsradio in his hometown of Portland, Maine. He would like to become a reporter or producer for television news.



Lisa Balde, a sophomore in news reporting & writing, is a reporter for Columbia's Writing Center newsletter, *Between the Margins* and previously wrote for the Journalism Freshman newsletter, *Fresh Ink*. Before that, she was editor-in-chief of her high school newspaper. Lisa plans to become a newspaper feature writer. She said she loves to write and wants "to record events, places and people that so often get overlooked."



Jennifer Catlin, a junior in the magazine and photojournalism programs, is currently doing interviews, taking photos and writing music reviews and biographies for a website dedicated to

Blues (bluesu.com). Jennifer hopes to become a prolific photojournalist and editor. She wants to work for publications like *National Geographic* and *Rolling Stone*. Later in her career, she would like to edit her own magazine.



Michael Comstock, a junior in the magazine program, wrote for, designed and edited the Hubbard High School *Cavalier* newspaper. Michael would like to become an editor or writer for an entertainment magazine. He hopes to write reviews of movies, television or video games.



Graham Couch, a senior in broadcast journalism, has written for a variety of publications including the *Chicago Tribune*, *Columbia Chronicle*, *Chicago Defender*, *Independent Voice*, *State Journal-Register* and *Daily Herald*. He is currently interning for Pam Zekman at CBS2 Chicago. Graham wants to be a sportswriter for *The New York Times*, cover college sports for a mid-sized newspaper, buy his own newspaper, be an academic advisor for a community college athletic program and coach high school tennis, football and basketball.

Fischetti



Megan L. Diaz, a senior in broadcast journalism, is currently the host for Columbia's television program, CC.TV. She is also co-owner of a production company called Penny Productions. Megan has interned for WFLD-TV's "Fox News in the Morning" on the assignment desk and was a news correspondent.



Niena Drake, a senior in broadcast journalism, has worked for WFLD/FOX since 1977 and is currently working to help create their newsletter. She previously was an associate producer for consumer reporter Danielle Serino. She's also an intern in public relations and editorial departments at *Chicago* magazine. Niena plans to work full-time at WFLD. She hopes to continue her education in management or public relations.



Shonta Durham, a junior in the magazine program, is currently an editorial intern at H.H. Backer Associates Inc. She would like to work at two Columbia publications, *Echo* and the *Chronicle*. Shonta wants to attend law school and work as a political correspondent.



Kela Ellis, a senior in news reporting and writing, is currently writing for the *Chronicle* and the journalism department newsletter, *Inside Journalism*. She is a veteran work-aide in the Journalism Department. She has interned for broadcast stations ABC7 Chicago and WGCI AM/FM radio. Kela wants to work at a news company as a reporter in television and/or print journalism.



Pablo Gutierrez, a senior in news reporting and writing, is currently a staff writer for the *Chronicle* and an intern at WSNS-TV 44 in Chicago. He was a contributor to the student-produced *Independent Voice*. He received a 1999 Outstanding Journalism Award at the Model Illinois Government Simulation in Springfield.

Pablo wants to become an investigative reporter for broadcast or print journalism and later write novels.



Jamie Jorgenson, a sophomore in the magazine program, was a copy editor for the *Chronicle*. She wants to do freelance writing for a magazine and also public relations. Jamie would like to work for the international environmental organization, Greenpeace.



Christina Kadlec, a junior in broadcast journalism, has written sports articles for the Downers Grove High School newspaper, *The Blueprint*. In her first two years at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Ill., she wrote news, art, entertainment and feature articles for the campus paper, *The Courier*. Christina plans to be a television news reporter and news anchor. However, her real dream is to narrate and produce documentary and educational programs, similar to those by Bill Kurtis on A&E, Discovery Channel and the Learning Channel.



Jordan Liliendorf, a junior in broadcast journalism with a concentration in radio, is interning at WBEZ radio this semester. She also worked as an urban music manager at WRMC-FM in Middlebury, Vt. Jordan's ambition is to become a foreign correspondent and do foreign affairs reporting for National Public Radio.



Ja'nai Luis, a sophomore in the magazine program, has written for the *Roosevelt Rough Riders* newspaper at Theodore Roosevelt High School in Chicago. She also helped with the layout and production of the newspaper. Ja'nai wants to write about "issues that matter, such as sexuality . . . and relationships" for magazines like *Playboy* and *Penthouse*. She also wants to do publication design.

Fischetti



Dora Muhammad, a senior in the magazine program, is a staff writer at *Final Call* and has worked on *Echo* as a freelance writer and photographer. She also interned at *American Lawyer* magazine. Dora's career goal is to publish a women's literary magazine that inspires advocacy for women's rights. She also wants to produce documentaries that preserve the voices not heard in every culture and segment of society.



Pirada Namvong, a senior in broadcast journalism, is currently interning at WGN Channel 9. She interned for NBC last spring and was a work-aide for the journalism department. Pirada wants to become a television news reporter and work in one of the top three TV markets.



Ashleigh Pacetti, a sophomore in the magazine program, is currently an intern for *In These Times* and an advertising assistant for the *Columbia Chronicle*. She worked as a layout designer for the journalism department freshmen newsletter, *Fresh Ink*. Ashleigh also worked as an ad designer and pre-press clerk for the *Kenosha News*. She was also business manager and editor for the Tremper High School yearbook. Ashleigh wants to be an art director at a surfing magazine in California.



Lisa Radke, a sophomore in magazine journalism, is currently a work-aide in the journalism department and writer for *Inside Journalism*. She co-created and wrote for the journalism department freshmen newsletter, *Fresh Ink*. Lisa plans to do internships in the spring and summer semesters. She also wants to work for a music magazine, doing profiles on up-and-coming bands.



Katherine Raz, a senior in magazine reporting, is an online music critic for *chicagogigs.com*. She is also co-editor for *Zine Guide* and *Tail Spins* magazine and editor-in-chief of the zine, *Retail Whore*. She is also copyflow manager for the 2002 issue of *Echo* magazine. Katherine wants to continue her education at the University of Illinois in its Masters in Library and Information Science program. She also plans to start a project of introducing "alternative and underground literature to libraries."



Stephanie Sarto, a freshman in the broadcast journalism program, was a staff writer for her high school newspaper, yearbook and literary magazine. She later became an editor of the yearbook. She was also a staff writer for *Fresh Ink*, and is now the editor of the journalism freshmen newsletter. Stephanie interned as a reporter for Lake County Television this summer. Her plan is to become an anchor in television news.



Aleksandra Skalska, a senior in broadcast journalism, has done TV internships in Poland as a United States correspondent. She has also worked on a political campaign in Poland, and served as secretary general for the International Student Organization at Columbia. Aleksandra plans to work for a public relations company and develop her foreign language skills to incorporate them into her profession. She also would like to do freelance fashion journalism.



Martha Valerio, a senior in broadcast journalism, has interned at NBC5 in the planning department and is currently interning with investigative reporter Renee Ferguson. She has also interned at ABC7 with political reporter Andy Shaw and feature reporter Harry Porterfield. Martha hopes to become a general assignment reporter and eventually anchor here in Chicago.

Fischetti



Dawn Waters, a junior in magazine journalism, has worked for the student newspaper at Wartburg College. She also has worked on a zine called *Not the Talon*. Dawn wants to be an editor a consumer magazine as well as a freelance writer. Her ultimate goal is to be a staffer at *National Geographic*. She would also like to join the Peace Corps and write about her experiences for a national magazine.



Cassie Weicher, a junior in news reporting and writing, is the Arts & Entertainment editor for the *Columbia Chronicle* where she was previously a staff writer and assistant editor. She was also a freelance writer for her high school newspaper. Cassie wants to write for a major science or entertainment magazine or a newspaper. "Either way, it doesn't matter," she said. "As long as I am writing."

Profiles written by journalism students Kela Ellis and Lisa Radke.



Jessica Wheeler, a junior in broadcast journalism, has been a producer at "600 South," Columbia's TV news magazine program, as well as an anchor of the show during her freshman year. She is interested in anchoring, reporting and producing. "I love to report the news, but at the same time would like to look into producing because I enjoy a leadership role. However, if I had to pick one, anchoring would be my biggest passion," she said. Jessica prefers longer-format news shows and in-depth stories. She hopes to anchor and produce a show like "60 Minutes" or "20/20."



Sara Wood, a senior in the magazine program, is photo editor of *Echo* and is currently interning at *Weep* magazine. She previously held internships at *New City*, XPlore Inc. and American Student Dental Association. Eventually, Sara would like to get involved with the alternative press. "For now, I would like to live in Vegas as a bartender, meet and get involved with Wayne Newton, and use the material for a book in the future!"



An untitled, undated ink drawing by John Fischetti