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Columbia Chronicle (05/06/1991)

Columbia College Chicago

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The Columbia Chronicle

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 19

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MAY 6, 1991

Thieves 'checking out' Columbia's library

By Jerry E. Pott
Staff Writer

Patrons of the Columbia College Library are checking books out at a record rate—unfortunately, quite a few of them don't bother to stop at the front desk before they leave.

"People come here prepared to steal something," said Ron Rayman, head of public service for Columbia's library.

Library officials say theft and mutilation of books and periodicals by patrons is nothing new.

What is new, though, is the boldness and ingenuity of modern book crooks.

The days of people impulsively tearing pages and removing covers from books are gone, replaced by document surgeons with magnetic detectors, X-ACTO knives and even getaway cars.

"They will take a blade and make a cut so clean you can hardly tell anything is missing," Rayman said.

Other culprits have adopted a "catch me if you can" attitude, said Mary Schellhorn, Columbia's library director.

One recent incident involved a student who was upset at not being able to check out a book that was on reserve.

Accord to Schellhorn, the student grabbed the book off the counter, forced his way through the gate and ran down to a car waiting by the front door of the Michigan building.

Other offenders have simply tossed books out of an open library window. Those books were then either caught by a waiting accomplice, or picked up later by the person who threw them.

A Lost Cost

Rayman was unable to place a dollar amount on the losses, saying "There's no budget line for those kind of costs. It's all absorbed into the book budget."

According to Bert Gall, Columbia's Executive Vice-President, the "premiums paid to find out of print books can range from \$40 to \$140 on the average. But, our costs aren't different than anybody else."

Mary Spreitzer, supervisor of the bindery at Loyola's Cudahy Library, told the *Chronicle* repairs can run anywhere from \$4

a volume to replace a page to \$10 for a complete re-binding.

As for replacement costs, Spreitzer admitted, "We're not able to take the time to keep numbers. We're more interested in getting books back on the shelf."

The *Chronicle* contacted several other local libraries and found that none of them kept separate records on the costs for missing or stolen books.

Pablo Diaz, a book preservation specialist for the University of Chicago, didn't have any cost figures, but said the school employed two full-time people in book repair alone.

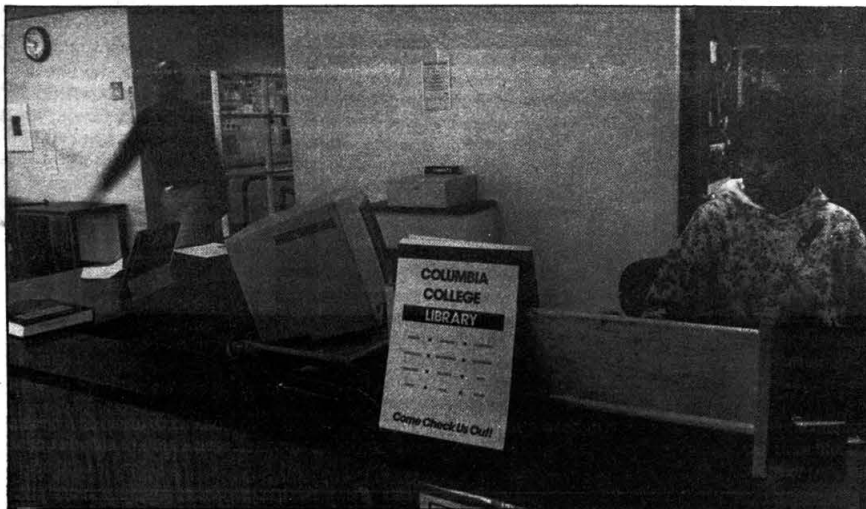
Diaz also said most of their problems were with the Divinity School library.

David Easterbrook, of the University of Illinois-Chicago, told the *Chronicle*, "We don't keep detailed records of those kind of costs."

Even the Chicago Public Library was not able to provide specific records on their costs for book replacement.

According to Mark Knoblauch, director of technical services for the CPL, it's difficult to keep exact figures on theft be-

See Thieves, page 2



Library workers attempt to control theft with limited success.

Omar Castillo for *The Chronicle*

Insurance at a premium

By Nancy Thart
Staff writer

It's Monday morning. You step off the curb at Harrison and Wabash and get hit by a car that's rounding the corner at 70 miles per hour. You wake up in the hospital with a broken leg. You thought it was tough to pay tuition, now how are you going to pay for all these hospital bills?

"Insurance is so important because of the day and age we live in," said Gigi Posejpal, assistant dean of student services at Columbia College. "With health care being so expensive, often the first thing you're asked in the emergency room is, 'Do you have insurance?'"

Last year, Columbia began a health insurance plan for stu-

dents. The plan covers outpatient treatment, doctor's visits, surgery, hospital stays, emergency room treatment, X-rays and medications.

Since its inception, more than 200 students have joined the plan.

That may not seem like a lot in a school with over 6,000 students, but students may not need to be insured through the school, Posejpal said.

Full-time students under the age of 23 are often covered under their parents' policies. Others may have their own insurance. And because today's college student is older, many have jobs that offer them insurance.

The Columbia policy is underwritten by Guaranteed Trust Life Insurance Company through Associated Insurance Programs International, Inc., in Wheeling,

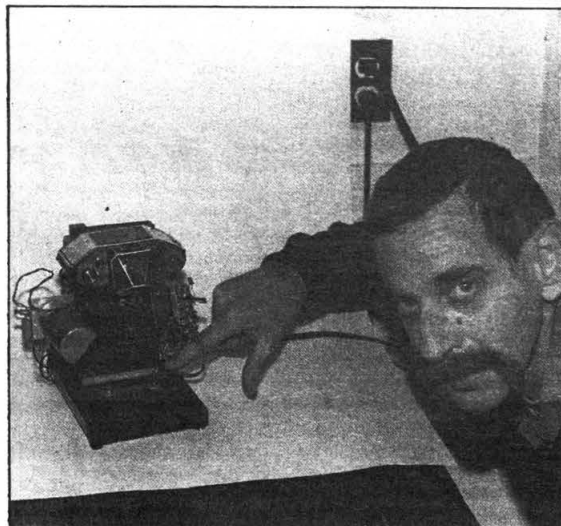
Illinois.

The policy is available to students under 35 and can cover dependents up to the age of 19. Students 35 and over may purchase health insurance from Guaranteed Trust at a 35 percent higher cost.

Costs vary with the type of coverage. The annual cost for an individual student policy is \$431. Other policies cover a student's spouse and children. Policies can be purchased annually, semi-annually, or quarterly.

Columbia acts as a mediator between students and Guaranteed Trust. The school introduces the program to students and answers questions, but the college doesn't receive any payment.

"People often think the school gets a cut; we don't," Posejpal said. "It's a service we offer to the



Laura J. Novak for *The Chronicle*

Jno (sic) Cook with his Cockroach camera.

Say cheese — and fry

By Elizabeth Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Big shoes and roach motels are not the only devices that can trap scurrying cockroaches.

A 35 millimeter camera, designed and constructed by Columbia College photography instructor Jno (sic) Cook, captures the fast-moving pests on film.

Pinhole Journal, a quarterly photography magazine, approached Cook with the idea of photographing cockroaches. "I tried taking pictures of cockroaches, but they don't sit still for a minute," Cook said. So he developed some special equipment.

The "cockroach camera" is a 1950's Exa camera that has two pieces of tin foil which hover above each other right underneath a pinhole. If a cockroach or any small insect steps on the tin foil, the two pieces of foil make electrical contact which sets off the flash and shutter. The camera takes one picture and shuts down.

Cook replaced the lens on the camera with a pinhole, a flat piece of metal with a tiny hole, that can only capture images one half inch across, which is about the size of a cockroach.

"I put cockroaches in a paper bag, placed a straw at the opening

of the bag and held the straw where the camera would trigger and cockroaches would pour out," Cook said. "You can also entice the cockroaches onto the stage with food."

None of Cook's cockroach subjects has been killed yet, though the camera operates on 110 volts and that charge is conducted by the aluminum foil.

Cook even builds cameras out of things other people might consider junk. His "camera box pinhole" camera was made out of the cardboard box that a store bought camera came in. It produces pictures with a hazy look as if out of a dream sequence.

Another of Cook's cameras is the "120 Panoramic" camera which was originally a Pentax camera without a lens. Cook put a door peephole in its place and made the body out of a cookie tin. The camera produces 360-degree panoramic photos.

"In building or modifying my equipment, I have not used any knowledge that could not be found in high school texts on geometry and physics," Cook said.

Don't look for Cook's "cockroach camera" in stores yet. To Cook's knowledge, his is the only one in existence.

students; we're looking out for their benefit."

The basic coverage pays 80 percent of hospitalization expenses up to \$7,500. Those expenses can include room charges of up to \$280 per day, intensive care costs of up to \$400 per day, doctor visits, x-rays, laboratory tests, medications, anesthetics, consultant fees, and ambulance costs.

This year the basic policy has been expanded to include prescriptions with a \$10 deductible and out-patient doctor visits up to \$30. Posejpal is currently looking into increasing the amount of hospitalization coverage next year from \$7,500 to \$10,000.

Claims are filed directly with Guaranteed Trust. "If all claim forms are filled out correctly and doctor's receipts are submitted,

the turn-around time for payment can be as quick as a week," said Terry Harkins, vice-president of marketing for Associated Insured Programs International, Inc.

If students have problems filing a claim or questions about coverage, they should call Posejpal at Columbia or Harkins at When problems or questions occur over how to filing a claim or what benefits are covered, students can contact Posejpal at Columbia or Harkins at Associated, 708-537-5664. Specific questions about billing or filing a claim, should be directed to Guaranteed Trust.

"If students have a problem, I try to intercede and help them out," Posejpal said. Most of those problems are misunderstandings about what exactly is covered by the policy, she said.

Thieves from page 1

cause, "It's hard to tell what's been stolen or just misplaced."

Knoblauch said the CPL repairs about 1,500 books a month, but that "most of the damage is not malicious."

The CPL has one advantage over academic libraries in that they don't deal with many rare books or collections.

"The things we use are, in fact, replaceable," Knoblauch said.

But, it's not just the rare and expensive books that are being targeted at Columbia.

According to Schellhorn, people—mostly students—will take whatever they need for a particular class or assignment.

Security Blanket

"They've already got a sophisticated security system," Gall said. "But you can't put everything behind glass."

"You'd have to have a guard posted by every table to eliminate all the problems," Schellhorn said. "But we're not totally defenseless. The gate by the main entrance has an effect—we do catch people."

Some of the more hapless offenders have been detected trying to leave with a single page from a book or periodical containing the sensitized magnetic strip.

Others have been caught with books wrapped in aluminum foil—an attempt to confuse the main entrance detector.

Several Columbia students, who wish to remain anonymous, told the *Chronicle* they were able to avoid the detectors altogether by sliding books along the floor, or holding them above the top of the detector grid at the main entrance.

Library officials are aware of those incidents, and say they have already taken steps to prevent similar thefts.

In order to combat the increasing inventiveness employed by thieves, library staffers have also increased their foot patrols,

covering all floors two to three times an hour.

"Don't come to the library anymore looking to steal," Rayman said. "We're going to catch you."

As patrons become aware of the patrols, Schellhorn hopes the uncertainty of "not knowing whether the person next to them is a staff member or library assistant" will be a deterrent to any patrons thinking of stealing.

Another problem associated with missing books, according to Rayman, is the difficulty in keeping the computer system updated.

"Normally, if a periodical or book is not on the shelf we don't automatically assume it's stolen," Rayman said. "It may just be mis-filed, being used by someone in the library or waiting to be shelved."

Only when something turns up missing three or four times over a two-month period is a notice added to the computer file that it may have been "snagged."

And the computer system only contains data about books, not magazines or newspapers. People unable to locate periodicals have nothing to fall back on.

What upsets Schellhorn more than the actual stealing is the attitude of the people they do catch.

"Some of them don't realize they can't just take something," Schellhorn said. "Their attitude is they feel they're entitled to the material because they pay a fee."

"It's very frustrating," Rayman added. "It takes time to tag and shelve every book."

Prose and Cons

"We're lucky in some ways, though," Schellhorn said. "Our main entrance is on the second floor, and most of our books are on the third floor."

Even though a second floor entrance eliminates a lot of non-student traffic, Rayman also suspects the library has been victimized by professional thieves.

"People walk away from a

table, or leave a door open for a few minutes and something is missing," Rayman said. "We've had purses stolen, offices broken into, and desks rifled."

Part of the solution to these problems, according to library staff, is that people need to be more aware of what is going on around them.

As part of the campaign to increase awareness posters have been placed throughout the library encouraging people to *Please Remember! Do Not Leave Your Valuables Unattended.*

"We're trying to encourage them to keep an eye on all materials," Schellhorn said. "This is their library, too. The better care they take of it the more everybody benefits."

The staff has also been discussing several other preventive measures designed to reduce theft and mutilation.

Some of those ideas include having bags searched at the main exit, installing a video monitoring system and introducing a closed-stack system.

The closed-stack system, already popular with many public libraries across the country, eliminates people's freedom to browse by only allowing access to small areas at a time through specific checkpoints.

Whether any of those measures will be approved by the library board remains to be seen. According to Rayman the college "supports the library well."

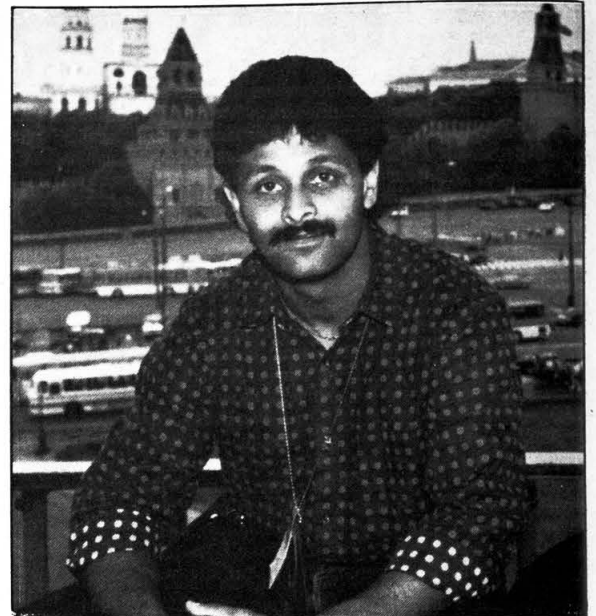
"We're increasing the staffing levels, and the staff is very vigilant," Gall said. "But it's not going to be fail-safe."

Rayman also said Columbia's per-student expenditure for the library was relatively low, but that was due to "phenomenal growth over the last four years."

Both Schellhorn and Rayman said they lament the fact that such drastic measures have to be taken to end theft and mutilation problems.

"When that stuff happens it diminishes the image of the school," Rayman said. "It's very anti-intellectual and selfish."

"It's too bad that a few renegades ruin it for others—it's wrong," Schellhorn added.



CNN cameraman, Tyrone Edwards.

Grad gets Gulf glory

By Leslie Roller
Staff Writer

Pat Sajak may be Columbia College's most widely recognized alumnus, but Tyrone Edwards is rising fast.

Edwards, a 1982 graduate, just returned from the Persian Gulf where he served as CNN's top cameraman.

Although he has worked in 85 countries, Edwards said his experience in Iraq will always stand out.

Edwards was captured at an Iraqi checkpoint near Basra and held as a prisoner of war.

Although Edwards was held for less than a week, he and about 25 other journalists were moved around frequently, which Edwards said made them uneasy.

"There were times when we really thought that was going to be it, that they were going to just blow us away," he said.

"You try to develop a relationship with the people who are holding you," Edwards said. "All it takes is one person proving

a point and that's it, you're gone."

Edwards and the other journalists were released when President Bush announced the cease-fire. Upon his release, Edwards was assigned to a story on the oil fires in Kuwait.

"I stood at one point and all I could see for 180 degrees around me was fire," Edwards said. "It was the most awesome, gruesome sight in the world. It looked like hell."

Edwards said that although working in the Gulf was one of the most dangerous experiences he's had as a cameraman, he thrives on his work, regardless of the conditions. He attributes his positive attitude, largely, to Columbia and the teachers here.

"Because all of my teachers worked in the business, their information was current," Edwards said.

Edwards was a television major, but took classes in photography, film and radio. He knew he wanted to work as a cameraman
See Edwards, page 10

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Columbia reaches out to local teens

College 'adopts' Manley High School

By Karen Sobus
Staff Writer

Some people adopt children, but Columbia is adopting a high school.

Students at Chicago's Manley High School will get a sneak preview of college life through the city's "Adopt a School" program, according to Phil Klukoff, Columbia's coordinator of the program, and chairman of the English department.

Getting students in college will benefit both Manley and Columbia, said Katherine Flanagan, principal at Manley. Students will not only learn about college life in general, but also about what Columbia, in particular, has to offer. Fred Gardaphe, an English teacher at Columbia, will get to know the Manley students when he teaches a four-week course in African-American literature at Manley this month.

In the fall, Gardaphe will be at Manley to teach "Introduction to Creative Art," in which he will try to draw a connection between what kids see in the streets and what they learn in school.

"It shows our responsibility to the community from which our students come," Klukoff said. "Columbia is putting its money where its mouth is."

Contact with college teachers will help ease high school juniors and seniors into the world of college, and will target prospective

Columbia students at the same time.

Students will expand their horizons by sharpening their skills in preparation for college Flanagan said.

"It will introduce us to new ideas about what we can do to prepare students for college and the working world," Flanagan said.

Gardaphe taught high school for five years, and is the president of the board at Prologue High School in Chicago. "I believe there are a lot of lazy, uncommitted teachers out there, and we should do something about it," he said.

Gardaphe said that bad teaching isn't always the teacher's fault; large classes make it difficult for teachers to reach all of their students.

Teaching at Manley will not interfere with teaching at Columbia, Gardaphe said, but will make it possible for Columbia to educate more students in the community about college, Gardaphe said.

"Teaching at Manley will enable me to help students make that bridge between high school and college. A lot of students imagine (college) is unreachable," Gardaphe said.

To accommodate his teaching at Manley, Gardaphe, who usually teaches four courses at Columbia, will lighten his load to three classes next fall.

Gardaphe said his fourth course will be taught by another

English teacher, and that teaching at Manley will not interfere with his time spent helping Columbia's students, because he will have as many office hours as he does now.

Les Brownlee, who teaches journalism at Columbia, will also teach a four-week course at Manley this month. Brownlee will lecture students on newswriting, feature writing, freedom of the press and newspaper layout.

According to Brownlee, teaching students at Manley will increase the number of journalism students, and improve the quality of high school journalism. "It will also help Columbia recruit students," he said. Brownlee will serve as a faculty advisor to the high school's newspaper this fall. He also plans to implement a mentor program between Manley students and Columbia journalism majors.

Columbia students will be able to participate in the "Adopt a School" program this fall by tutoring students at Manley or Bethany Elementary School for academic credit. Most Manley students attended Bethany Elementary, Klukoff said.

Students interested in tutoring at either of the two schools can sign up for Columbia's "Tutoring English" class, taught by Klukoff and English teacher Rose Blouin.

Columbia has an obligation to enrich the lives of those who live in its community, Klukoff said, and adopting a school is a good way to start.



Advice columnist, Jeffrey Zaslow.

Laura J. Novak for The Chronicle

Take my advice... please

Theresa Volpe
Staff Writer

When Jeffery Zaslow spoke to a Columbia journalism class April 29, it seemed more like stand up comedy than a lecture.

Zaslow, whose advice column "All That Zazz" replaced Ann Landers' in the *Chicago Sun-Times* in 1987, kept Nick Shuman's Front Page Lecture Series class entertained with a string of one-liners. Although a few of his wisecracks drew groans from the class, he did get his share of laughs. He even did mother-in-law jokes. One student even asked Zaslow if he'd ever considered being a comedian. "I

just do a lot of speeches," Zaslow said, "and the jokes get me through them."

He began his lecture, appropriately, by reading from a letter he answered in his column: "My husband's condom broke and I became pregnant. I wrote to Ramses, the maker of the condom, and they sent me a letter apologizing for my inconvenience." Her question for Zazz was, "How could I raise a child on the \$1.75 refund they gave me?"

Zazz didn't reveal how he handled that one, but day in and day out this is his job. This is Zaslow's job, to give advice to the broken-hearted, the confused, the

See Advice, page 10

Now you can afford to dream in color.

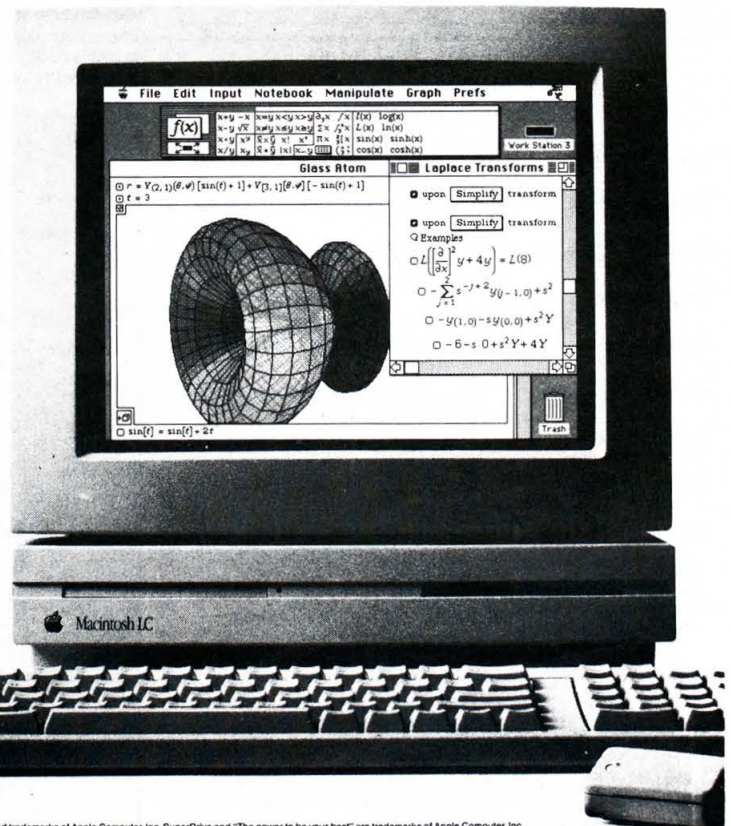
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Will Jesse Helms be our next president?

When the next president of Columbia College is selected, you can bet there will be a lot of wailing, moaning, and gnashing of teeth. Individuals, student organizations, faculty members and just about everyone else in the Columbia family will quickly complain about how they didn't have any input into the decision-making process. Frankly, it will all be a lot of hogwash.

Last Tuesday, Alton J. Harris, chairman of the college's board of trustees, arranged for representatives of the executive search firm engaged to assist the board in selecting Mirron Alexandroff's successor to meet with students in an open forum. Three students showed up, and all of them left before the meeting began. It was a disgraceful display of student apathy.

Unbelievably, Harris and the administration are going to give students another chance to express themselves. Presumably, it will be your last chance.

If you don't care who runs this institution—and the next person selected for that honor will probably guide the school into the 21st century—don't show up for Thursday's forum. Your message will be received *loud and clear* by the powers that govern this college. You don't care. But no bitching and moaning after the selection process is completed. Remember, you don't care.



To All Students:

**There will be an open forum
in the Ferguson Theater,
Thursday, May 9, between the
hours of 10 and 11:00 a.m.,
to discuss the selection of
Columbia's next president.
All students are encouraged
to make their views and
expectations known.**

The Columbia Chronicle 600 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60605

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The Columbia Chronicle is the official student-run newspaper of Columbia College. It is published weekly during the school year, and distributed on Monday. Views expressed in this newspaper are not necessarily those of the advisor or the college.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Curdled chunks of colorful vomit could not depict the way I felt upon discovering a letter in the Hokin Center criticizing the *Chronicle*. I would have tossed lunch on the offending letter-mongers personally, only they didn't leave a name. They only identified themselves as The Rhythm Section. (Ooooh! Cool name, kids. Were you the Jets or the Sharks in high school?)

Call the April Fool's issue lame, stupid, or even childish if you like, but don't go throwing the charges of sexism, racism, or any other "isms" where they don't exist. If you think the *Chronicle* was lax in its journalistic integrity, don't waste your breath criticizing them. Write your own damn paper!

If you're just into censorship, then go for the more famous names such as Michelangelo, Mapplethorpe or Cindy Sherman. Now you're talking about some serious sexism, phallic symbols and generally obscene material.

But then, maybe you're just against obscene humor and for obscene art?

Either way, I think the problem you're having is medical rather than moral. If this is the case, please take the following advice:

- 1) Stick your hand 2-3 feet up your rectum
- 2) Remove stick, baseball bat or other form of blockage
- 3) Exhale deeply

There now, don't you feel better?

I do, just knowing you are reading this.

By the way, I did think the April Fool's issue was kind of stupid, until a couple of students confessed to me that they originally thought that the school was buying the Sears Tower.

Finally, I spent a great amount of time trying to come up with some kind of pseudonym as cool

as yours. I think I finally have one.

The Trombone Section

(A group of students committed to defending stupid jokes and freedom of the press everywhere.)

Editor's note:

We've all had our little fun now; and the Chronicle has published anonymous letters both attacking and defending its April Fool's issue. No more.

From now on, the Chronicle is reverting to its long-standing policy of rejecting anonymous letters out-of-hand. Students or others wishing to express opinions about any subject in the Chronicle are always welcome to submit letters. But those lacking the courage to back up their opinions with verifiable names and phone numbers should save themselves the effort of writing; such letters will never see the light of day.

To the Editor:

Regarding my guest column, "Speech Codes Double Edged" (April 22), I'm afraid necessary editing may have left readers with an impression I was offering a blanket condemnation of all liberals. In the original text, I applauded such liberal groups as the ACLU for sticking to their ideals, no matter what.

Throughout history, groups and individuals to the left of American political thought have heroically fought for civil liberties. It has been said, however, that the day after the revolution, every liberal will become a conservative.

Nowhere has this been more painfully proven than at the American college and university. Administrators spew out plenty of excuses for these new codes, but the fact of the matter is that they've fallen victim to the same temptation as every other little despot and two-bit dictator that has ever craved order.

Power corrupts, and intellectual power corrupts the intellect.

Don Gennaro De Grazia

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Road to fame is paved with laughs

By Jerry E. Pott
Staff Writer

There's a saying that goes something like "Opportunity knocks but once, and you had better be ready to open the door."

Columbia theater student Suzy Nakamura, though, was fortunate enough to get a second knock.

The first door was blocked 15 years ago by a protective father, according to Nakamura. But when the second knock came earlier this year there was no one to stand in her way.

That second chance arrived at Nakamura's door in the form of an audition for Chicago's Second City comedy troupe, internationally recognized as one of the leading producers of improvisational comedy and comedic performers.

Knock Knock

During her last semester at Columbia Nakamura had taken Norm Holley's Comedy Workshop. Holley also teaches at Second City.

Nakamura had also performed in several comedy reviews for producer Greg Nishimura.

When Second City held auditions earlier this year Nishimura urged Nakamura to contact Holley and try to get a slot.

Nakamura wasn't sure if Holley would even remember her, but he did and provided the name of a contact at the comedy club.

Though that contact turned out to be a dead end, Nakamura was able to secure an audition time for the following week.

"It went just fine," Nakamura said. "They took in six people at a time, and everyone had good improv experience."

Experience in improvisational comedy is essential to a Second City audition. For those who have

never attended one, an improv audition is unlike any other musical or performance tryout.

There is no material to memorize or rehearse. The casting director simply picks two or three people out of a line, chooses a subject and says "Go." The rest is up to the performers.

Nakamura left her audition thinking she had done a good job, but not expecting it to go any further than that.

"They called me back—unbelievable," Nakamura said. The callbacks took place the next week, and at the end, the directors gave everyone a chance to display any special talents they had.

Nakamura told them she could "do a face like a monkey," which she did, and left.

A few days later she got a call from Joyce Sloan, Second City's top producer. "We'd like you to work for us," Sloan told her.

"I was excited and happy, but I wasn't sure exactly what I'd auditioned for," Nakamura said. "Joyce kind of chuckled, and told me I was in one of the national touring companies—I was floored."

The Once and Future Star

So, the 22-year-old Nakamura picked up where the 7-year-old Nakamura left off.

In 1976 her best friend Linney Landovsky had gotten into the Academy of Performing Arts, a small school on West Adams, as a ballet dancer. So Nakamura decided to audition as well, as a classical pianist.

She was accepted into the school on a piano scholarship, but her father said, "Forget it." Father Hiroshi had the final word in his children's education.

"At the time I was disappointed," Nakamura said. "But, I don't regret not going to the

academy, and I don't blame anyone."

Both parents had moved to Chicago's North Side following their divorce, living close enough to each other so the children could visit without any problems.

Nakamura's father worked as an English teacher in the Chicago Public School system, and had specific ideas on how his children would be educated.

Nakamura went to Lane Technical High School instead of the academy.

"Lane was a great time," Nakamura said. "I think it's good for a girl to know auto shop and electrical mechanics."

The performing bug didn't go away, however, and in 1984 Nakamura auditioned for the school production of *Mame* and got into the singing chorus.

Then, in 1985, she won a speaking role in *Cinderella*, but had to drop out of the show to work at a pizza restaurant.

Just before graduating from Lane Tech, Nakamura moved out on her own because of problems getting along with her mother.

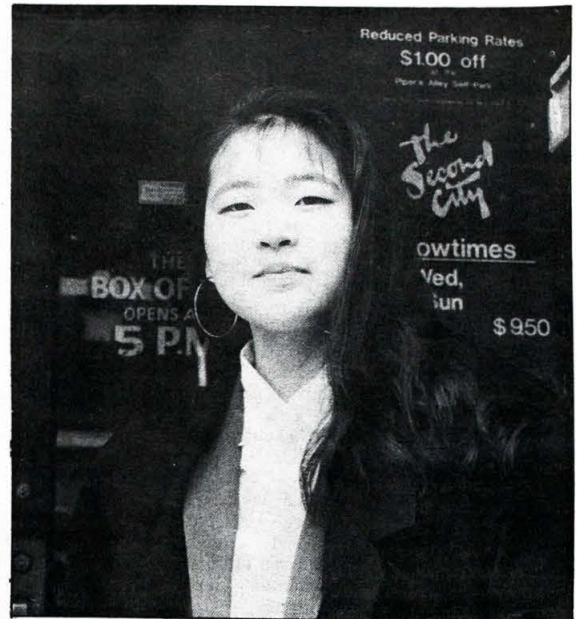
"I was 17-years-old, thinking I was the best thing in the world because I had my own apartment," Nakamura said.

About the same time Connie Munoz, a friend she had known since grade school, told her about a new theater group in Chicago.

Mina-Sama No was in fact the premiere Asian-American theater company in the Midwest.

The company consisted of a core group of Asian actors who had banded together to fight the stereotypes of traditional Asian casting, and open opportunities for Asian actors in theater, film, and television.

In addition to rehearsing and performing for the stage, the group held weekly improv workshops in the lobby of the Or-



Second City's Suzy Nakamura.

Laura J. Novak for The Chronicle

ganic Theater—for lack of any other space.

"We were a group of people with common interests, as well as all being Asian," Nakamura said. "So my initial training was actually just fucking around in the Organic greenhouse."

Nakamura's work with Mina-Sama No paid off with a leading role in an original play titled *Autumn Spring*, by Keith Uchima.

That show ran for a month and a half in the Dramatists Workshop, next to the Organic.

Her improv skills earned her an invitation from Nishimura, who conducted the workshops and had Second City experience, to perform in his comedy reviews.

Before one show, Nishimura told his cast that talent agent Lily Ho would be in the audience.

Ho runs a large agency, representing the majority of successful Asian actors in Chicago.

It was just the break

Nakamura thought she needed.

"I was really nervous and excited," Nakamura said. "But then after the show, Lily didn't talk to me or show any interest in my work—I was crushed."

A few weeks later, Ho attended another review and remembered Nakamura from the first show.

"She explained that she hadn't purposely ignored me after the first show," Nakamura said. "She just hadn't had time to talk."

Following the second show, though, Ho was impressed enough to sign her for the agency.

Nakamura continued to perform for Nishimura and Mina-Sama No, doing shows for the Off-Off-Loop Theater Festival, the Asian Fest at Navy Pier, and performing short stories and folktales for local Buddhist churches.

She started taking classes at

See Laughs, page 11

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6:30 - 7:00 — Audio-visual presentation: 'Macedonia: 4,000 years of Greek history and civilization' Dr. Stefanos Gialamas

7:00 - 7:30 — Performance of traditional and modern greek dances by Orpheus, a Greek Maceonian Troupe

7:30 - on — GREEK FOOD
GREEK DANCE
GREEK FUN

For this special section, an annual *Chronicle* feature, photojournalism students documented the soul of Chicago, 24 hours in the life of our intricate city. The students, are members of three classes taught by Sun Times photographer John H. White and Chicago Tribune photographer Charles Osgood. A sampling of their work fills these pages.



Good Morning Chicago

George Pfoertner



Midway Airport

Ricky Garza

Wednesday, May 1, 1991



Sears Tower, world's tallest building

George Pfoertner



Taylor street

Laurie Essig



Buckingham Fountain springs to life for the 64th time

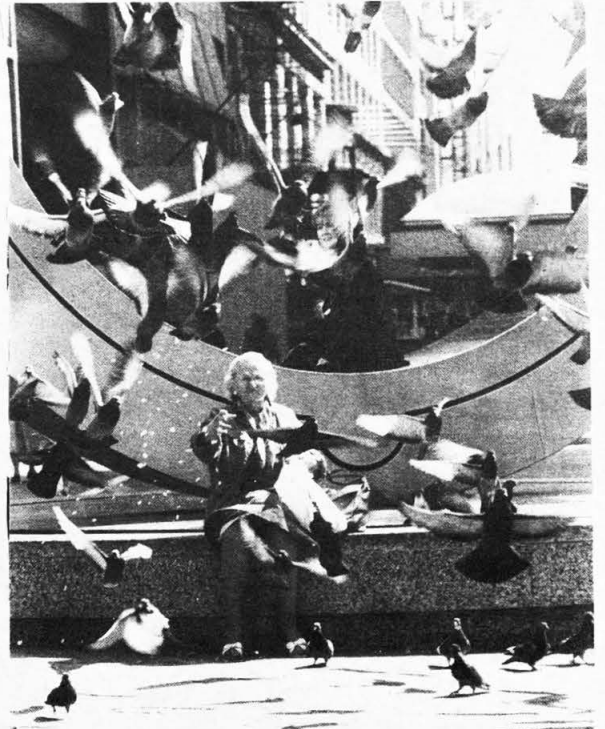
John H. White

Photos edited by Omar Castillo



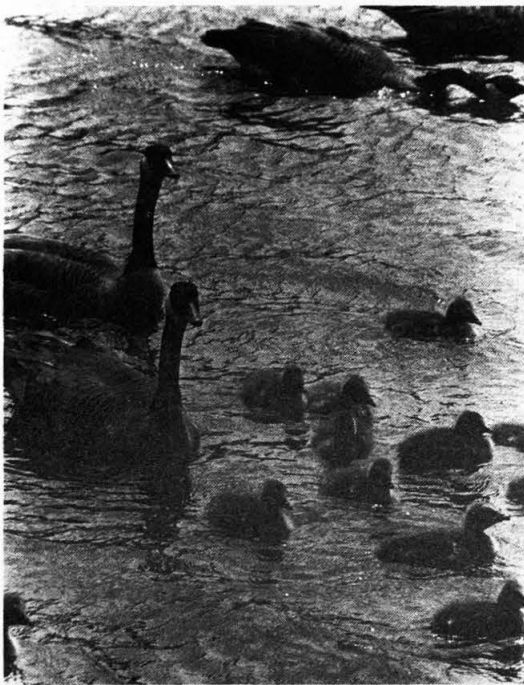
Destination unknown

Jill S. Dolan



For the birds

Omar Castillo



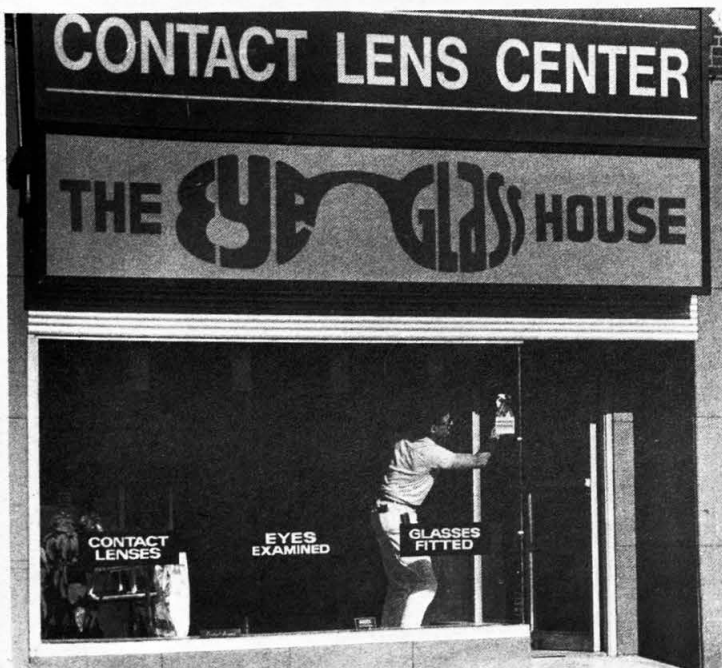
Family outing.

Kevin K. Ortega



Mother and son share a bus ride

Christine Steenstrup



Keeping an eye open for dirt

Ronda L. Erwin



Playing hooky by the lake

Joel Zytko



Just along for the ride

Nicole R. Lyle



Street musicians at Wells and Adams

Walter S. Mitchell III



Chicago Cubs 12 - Houston Astros 8

Greg Armour



Young entrepreneur

Carline Cajuste



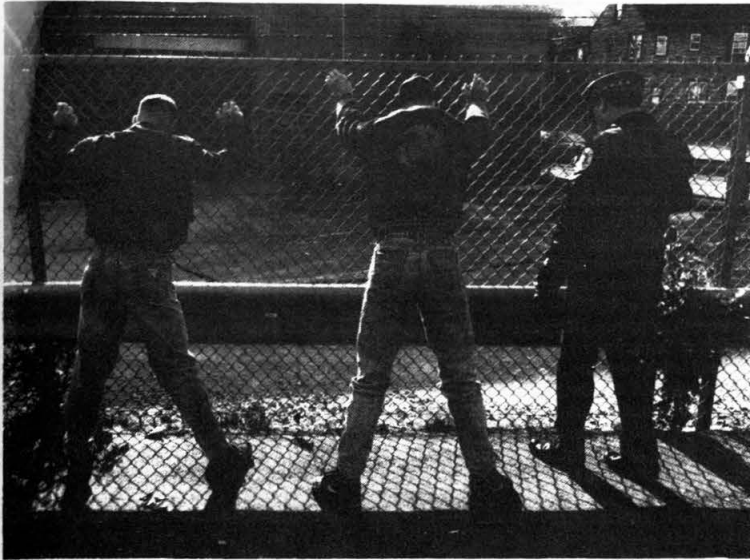
Lunch at Printers Row

Laura J. Novak



Catch of the day

Michelle Maloy



Busted

Chris Anderson



Maxwell Street

Laurie Essig



Out of service Boeing 737

Abdullah A. Muhaimin



Shedd Aquarium / Ocenarium

Michelle Maloy



Old Comiskey park

Elizabeth Webb



Swingtime

Karen M. Geisler



City of lights

Cathy Lynch

Advice from page 3

unfortunate and the obsessed.

In 1987, Zaslow was working as a reporter, writing feature articles for the *Wall Street Journal*. He was assigned to cover a contest being held by the *Sun-Times* as part of a nationwide search to find an advice columnist to replace Ann Landers, who joined the *Chicago Tribune*.

Looking for a new angle to the story, he entered the contest as a joke. But the joke turned into the real thing. Out of more than 12,000 contestants, Zaslow tied with Diane Crowley for first place. "I never thought I would get the job," Zazz said. "I thought I was too young and too male."

In his contest entry, Zazz promised to issue a life-time guarantee with his advice and to provide a 'regular Joe's advisory board' made up of 26 "salt-of-the-earth" people whose names all began with the letters "j" and "o."

Zazz said that because he is a man, men expect him to take their side and women think he has all the answers to what makes men tick.

Both Zaslow and Crowley consult "experts" on occasion. One reader wrote Zazz that he was bored with his marriage after only a few months. Zazz contacted a couple who had recently celebrated their 81st wedding anniversary to get their suggestions. He called park service workers at Mt. Rushmore for advice when a woman wrote to ask if her husband's face could be carved

into the side of the mountain.

Zazz mails his reply to his readers directly, as soon as he writes it because his responses are not published until seven or eight weeks later.

Zaslow said that when he left the *Wall Street Journal* to become an advice columnist, many of his fellow reporters lost respect for him. "I'm not respected by other journalists because they see me as a frivolous guy. I loved the *Journal* but I'm not sorry I left."

Zaslow, who received two Pulitzer prize nominations as a reporter at the *Journal*, said he probably wouldn't have left had he not become so caught up in the excitement and challenge of the *Sun-Times* contest. "I liked the challenge of writing a column so I took the job."

Preparing "All That Zazz," which is syndicated in 45 papers nationwide, involves more than just sitting behind a desk, answering letters all day. Zazz makes house-calls, visiting readers' homes to talk over their problems. This is what separates him from the pack.

"I still want to be a reporter. I would get bored if I didn't do something different," he said. "I have a window to peoples souls that I didn't get as a regular reporter. I don't think people would tell a reporter some of the things they tell me."

For all the single people who write in about troubles with dating, Zazz throws a singles party each year. People meet, mingle; some have eventually married. This year's party will be held in August at Navy Pier.

He writes three advice

columns and one regular column (such as Mike Royko and Richard Roeper write) each week. Zazz works out of his home in Detroit where he lives with his wife and one-year old daughter. He commutes to his office in Chicago one day a week.

Not all of his letters are light-hearted or amusing. Many reveal tragic circumstances. Once, while paying a house-call, Zazz visited the group home of seven men who all had AIDS. "I tried to write a sensitive column but people wrote in saying, 'Those people deserved what they got.' I learned that there is a lot of hatred out there," he said in disgust.

The advice column generates its fair share of hate mail for Zaslow. "I had a woman who wrote and said she hated me, my column and my advice, and my photo was even more unappealing," he said. "My editors wanted to write back and say, 'We know, but that's what he looks like!'"

Zazz receives between 100 and 200 letters a week. But when he makes an occasional plea for reader responses, there can be a rush of more than 6,000 letters. He has one and a half assistants. The half includes his assistant's mother who pitches in now and then, sifting and separating the letters by subject matter. Roughly half of the letters are responses to previous columns. The *Sun-Times* also has a phone line where people can call in and leave their questions for either Zazz or Diane.

Zazz explained to the class how he became involved with

newspapers—his father owned one. "He bought one at the corner for 25 cents," Zazz joked. After a few moments, a girl in the lecture class actually believed his father owned a newspaper business and questioned him. Needless to say, everyone laughed at her and offered some advice, "It was a Joke!"

The columnist gave aspiring journalists some pointers on how to get a job. He spoke proudly of a scam he pulled after graduating from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. "I sent formal letters to 140 newspapers telling them I would be in their area for a visit and would like to stop by for an interview. Ten papers said since I was going to be in the area anyway, I should stop and say hi." Zazz bought a three-week flight pass, visited the papers and received four job offers. "Think creatively and be assertive," he advised.

"Tell Me All About It," Zaslow's first book, was published in 1990. It is an account of how he won his position at the *Sun-Times* and his first three years as a columnist. The book is filled with some of Zazz's best responses to his readers' letters and his first in-person meeting with Eppie Lederer. Paramount Pictures has already bought the movie rights and signed Michael J. Fox to produce and star in the production.

Where does Zazz go from here? While he doesn't want to stay in the advice business as long as his predecessor, for now he's content.

Edwards from page 2

and he studied various aspects of the television news business to prepare himself.

Edwards credits his job at CNN to the late television chairperson, Thaine Lyman.

"CNN was a shot in the dark," Edwards said. "The pay was a lot less, it was away from everyone I knew, and they have a very structured program."

Edwards rejected his first offer from CNN because he felt he would be able to do more field camera work at the two jobs he already had in Rockford and Chicago. Lyman changed his mind by showing him the bigger picture, Edwards said.

Five months after Edwards took the job, he was out in the field, and was able to move up in the organization very quickly. He credits his success to preparation and hard work.

"CNN really liked my work a lot. They liked that I would go places and I wasn't picky about it," Edwards said. "But all I was doing was loving my work."

Today, he's a CNN videographer and covers a wide variety of news stories ranging from political campaigns in the United States to international events.

Edwards has worked eight years for CNN, but he said he doesn't know what his future will bring. He chooses instead to live from day to day. "I believe that things happen when you least expect them," he said. "I'm just waiting for something to happen."

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Miles Davis in concert: Better than ever

By Chris Courington
Chronicle correspondent

I think, in the end, we go back to the place where we all began. It's just that our perspective is changed, and those changes, whether great or small, are what goes into creation and the artistic process.

My perspective was first changed when I surveyed the stage set-up before Miles Davis' April 22 performance at Orchestra Hall.

No guitar, no percussion. I was naive enough to think that he might pull out some of the old tunes as he had when I saw him in 1989. But that would go against his excruciatingly improvisational nature.

So what did we have here? A relatively naked set-up. There would be no Hendrixian guitar solos, no Marilyn Mazur doing rain dances while playing the drums. Instead, the guitar player known simply as Foley, played something called "lead bass," backed up by a dynamite keyboard player named Deron Johnson.

Drummer Ricky Wellman and bassist Richard Patterson are the best on their respective instruments I have ever heard, period. And reed man Kenny Garrett was, as always, phenomenal.

The show opened with a pop tune, "Perfect Way" from the 1986 album, "Tutu." As they rushed through the chord changes, Davis exhibited a control over his band that he hadn't shown in the five previous times I'd seen him. It was a sign, of

course, with trademarked Davis arrogance, that he was again to display the kind of leadership he had in the '50s, '60s and '70s, but with completely different parameters.

But in the face of age, band changes, considerable critical discontent and music that people just don't understand, the questions remained. Was Miles really changing? Could his music pack the same tension, innovation and emotional potency as, say, "Miles Smiles"? Could he still play?

The answer is one big orchestral YES. And like never before. Apparently, Davis was trying to convey a message—that he has once again re-invented his music.

He has seamlessly mixed very dissimilar strains of both popular and more traditional music. He combined textures from the '50s with stark, modern, synthesised statements.

This distortion of time, both musical and historical, suggested an almost Dadaist approach—that anything can communicate, anything can be art.

Miles played seven songs that night. That's right, just seven. The most arresting and riveting was "Amandla." When the piano intro began (played, unfortunately, on an electric), the crowd suddenly hushed. The sound was completely antithetical to the preceding two hours of music.

The lights dimmed and there was Miles, who had already played more that night than in any of his last three Chicago shows. He blew for five minutes—long, introspective and beautiful.

Unfortunately, about a fourth of the crowd had filtered out during the tune and missed the mostly improvised, non-stop set, featuring frequent tempo changes and enough mood swings to satisfy any manic-depressive.

It was here, during this hour-plus of music, that Miles most clearly put it all together, knowing simply that those who wanted to hear would stay. Miles was arranging on the fly, exposing naked form, twisting the relationship between structure and improvisation into a shape previously unseen.

During another piece, "Human Nature," Miles played his muted horn, all in that flatted sixth, that note that just bellows out its not "belonging," its awkwardness, and sense of humor.

Davis walked to center-stage and he repeatedly fed Kenny this single note. Slow rhythmic figure. Pause. Slow rhythmic figure, same note. Pause.

Kenny closed his eyes, jerked his head back and started blowing these soft ethereal figures, as if pushing the breath through his horn would blow closed the eyes of the crowd that bore down on the two of them, having this intimate "conversation."

Kenny proceeded to wrench the shit out of the tune, drawing ever-tightening musical ellipses with his horn until the essence of the song—dissonant, erratic, poetic—simply floated to the top of the hall and evaporated. All this from one note.

The show was called "An evening with Miles Davis." But it could just as easily be called, "A History Lesson by Miles Davis."

Laughs

from page 5

Columbia in 1987.

"I could only go every other semester because I had to work and earn the money myself," Nakamura said.

Previous to taking Holley's workshop in 1989 she had taken classes in movement, voice and scene study at Columbia.

Last August she went to a theater festival in Siberia, as a member of Mina-Sama No, for three weeks as part of a cultural exchange between theater companies in Chicago and Russia.

"It was easily the best experience I've ever had," Nakamura said. "It was amazing. I felt like I spent a lifetime there."

After returning to the U.S. Nakamura went to work for Dean Witter as an administrative assistant, where she stayed for six months until she was hired by Second City.

"I spent so much money on a business wardrobe," Nakamura said. "Now I only wear those suits in comedy sketches."

Second City and Beyond

In addition to being the first Asian-American woman to perform with the troupe, Nakamura is also one of the few to make it to the main stage without having to work her way up through the system.

"When I started rehearsals and met the other cast members they all knew each other, because they were all friends from Second City classes," Nakamura said. "They asked me what classes and levels I had taken, and I just told them I came in off the street."

Her status as a new member, and somewhat of an outsider earned her the nickname "Fresh

Meat."

Nakamura was scheduled to understudy for a few months before being placed in one of the three touring companies. A sudden change of plans, though, put her on stage in Palos Hills on March 22, 1991.

"I was very nervous before that performance. I wanted the rest of the cast to know they could trust me," Nakamura said.

Since that initial outing she has done more than 14 shows, from Iowa to North Carolina.

In addition to rehearsing two days a week for Second City, Nakamura is currently starring in a play for Mina-Sama No.

The drama, titled *The Letter*, was co-written by Nakamura and Munoz and is part of this year's Off-Off-Loop Theater Festival.

According to Nakamura, the piece is semi-autobiographical, based on her parents' experiences during World War II.

Her parents, both Japanese-Americans, were interned during the war. They are now waiting for the \$20,000 check and letter of apology from the U.S. government which Congress authorized a few years ago.

"The money is not as important to the Japanese as the letter," Nakamura said. "Some people donate the money to charity, but they frame the letters."

The play *The Letter* concerns two sisters waiting for their mother to return from the hospital. The government check arrives and the sisters begin fighting over it. Only after they take the time to look through their mother's photo album do they realize what she experienced during internment.

According to Nakamura, today's younger generation of Japanese-Americans can't see past the money. The check merely represents a new car or some other luxury item they can buy.

"There's this whole Japanese thing about the check," Nakamura explained. "Kids get together and ask 'Have you gotten the check yet?' and, 'What are you going to do with the check?' In the play I just wanted to say what really happened."

Performances for *The Letter* are on Saturdays, through May, at the Theater Building on Belmont.

As for the future, Nakamura would "like to make a movie. I'd like to affect someone's life with my acting."

Until then she said she'll continue working hard, taking care of her cat, Harley, and enjoying the perks of being associated with Second City.

"I would ultimately like to make my living acting," Nakamura said. "I don't know where all this will take me, but I want to try everything."

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Journalism department tutors are hoping to give more students a hand as the semester draws to a close.

The tutors—Michael Kiefer and Bonnie Booth—are available to help students address a variety of needs ranging from basic lead writing to organizing a feature piece.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the journalism department, in the 8th floor of the Wabash Building. Hours are Mondays, 1:30 to 4:30, and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL PROGRAM



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MUSIC: Highway Child, Coup de Grace, and Swinging Uncle Jimmy will perform at the Cabaret Metro, 3730 N. Clark, on Wed., May 8 at 10 p.m.

THEATER: Columbia student, Sandy Morris is currently starring in "Graces," a production by Chicago playwright, Jeff Helgeson. "Graces," is a psychological drama which explores the relationships and personal backgrounds of three women brought together by a college theater production. Through the events of an afternoon rehearsal, portraits of three very different individuals are developed. Conflicts are brought to a head and a common unity is eventually established. The identities of the actresses and the characters they represent are blurred. Graces will be presented at Stage Left Theater, 3244 N. Clark, through May 22. For reservations call (312) 883-8830.

DANCE: Mordine & Company Dance Theater will perform at the Dance Center, 4730 North Sheridan Road on May 9, 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. For ticket information call (312) 271-7928.

MEETINGS: Women In Communications, Inc. will present a career training seminar with Grace Mark, Chicago novelist and advertising executive. The seminar, entitled "First Job Survival Skills," will take place on Wed., May 8 at 3 p.m. in room 813-W. The Columbia Women's Forum will host "Feminine Dialogue," a discussion of rape, pornography, women's

Meetings, Music and Miscellanea

By Laura Ramirez, Calendar Editor



Columbia student Sandy Morris (left) performs in "Graces," at Stage Left Theater.

history, ecology and ecofeminism on Tues., May 7 at 12 p.m. in the Hokin Auditorium. The fiction writing department will host award-winning author Paule Marshall for a special reading of his works on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in The Ferguson Theater. Students are also encouraged to meet Marshall at 12:30 in room 313-W. The Writing Center

will offer two workshops this week. One will be a review of writing technique; the other will help students develop a writing style. Both workshops will be held Wed., May 8 at 2 p.m. and at 3 p.m. in room 707-W. For more information call ext. 698. The counseling services office will offer a workshop entitled, "Leavin' School Blues: How to deal with

the uncertainty of life and work as you approach graduation" on Tues., May 7 at 12:30 p.m. in room 317-W. The international student organization will present a "Ginza Festival" on Thurs., May 9 in The Hokin Annex and in the Hokin Student Center. The festival is scheduled for 6 p.m. and will feature a traditional tea ceremony, and workshops on Japanese flower arrangement, kite building, calligraphy and Japanese cooking. The organization will also present "Greek Night," on Friday at 5:30 p.m. in The Hokin Student Center. The event will feature Greek food, traditional Greek dancing and music, as well as a slide presentation on Greek culture. Both events are free and all students are welcome.

MISC: The English department is currently accepting entries for the annual Eileen Lannan Poetry Contest. The contest is open to all Columbia students. There is no limit on the number of poems a student may submit. All entries should be typed, one poem to a page, with the author's name clearly indicated. Entrants who wish to have their work returned should include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Poems may be submitted to Eileen Lannan Poetry Prize, c/o Paul Hoover, English department and must be received by May 15.

The Ebony Elite Fashion and Modeling Club will present, "Fashion," a fashion show featuring garments from area retailers and designers on Friday at 8 p.m. in the Windsor Room of the Congress Hotel. For ticket information call ext. 474.

Face Value:

What is your definition of an alcoholic?

By Jill S. Dolan
Staff Photographer



Peg Raye
Senior
Journalism

When you wake up on the bar floor and don't know how you got there.



Chad Evans
Freshman
Photography

Someone who has to drink and doesn't know when to stop. They do it all the time.



Michelle Lyson
Junior
Film

Anybody who finds a need to drink.



Therese Slusher
Senior
Film

Someone who lets alcohol control their life. It interferes with their work or personal relationships.

Most STDs still more common than AIDS

By Kathleen Troher
Science Writer

Experts fear the recent surge in AIDS awareness may be overshadowing other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). But syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia are alive and well, and the chance of becoming infected with one of them is much greater than the risk of acquiring AIDS.

"About one million cases of gonorrhea are reported every year in the United States. Compare that with the 166,000 reported AIDS cases in the last 10 years," said Collins Love, the public information/education coordinator for the Chicago Department of Health's STD Program. "And in terms of traditional or highly visible STDs, syphilis is this country's number one priority."

According to statistics compiled by the city of Chicago and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the number of reported syphilis cases in Chicago jumped from about 2,100 in 1989 to nearly 3,500 in 1990. This disease is particularly onerous because, if left untreated, it can result in death.

Syphilis is an infectious disease caused by a bacteria. Depending on the phase that the infection has reached, symptoms may include a small sore, called a chancre, where the germ entered the body, a rash, headache and hair loss.

After a long period of apparent remission, the disease returns, permanently damaging the nervous system, brain, heart and other organs.

Although syphilis can be diagnosed with a blood test and cured with antibiotics, many people show no symptoms and unwittingly pass it on to their partners.

"People have no idea how widespread STDs are," said Sara L. Manewith, a community health educator for the Chicago-area chapter of Planned Parenthood. "At least 50 percent of the people with STDs don't even know they have them."

Syphilis is not the only STD that can infect people and produce no symptoms. Gonorrhea often shows no signs, but can lead to sterility, arthritis, blindness, meningitis, heart and kidney damage.

When symptoms are present, they usually include a burning sensation during urination. As with syphilis, gonorrhea can be diagnosed through laboratory tests, and treated with antibiotics.

Another widespread STD with few symptoms is chlamydia. According to the CDC, an estimated four million Americans are infected with chlamydia each year. Health officials estimate that between 20 and 25 percent of all sexually active people have the disease, and that annually as

many as 250,000 women become sterile because of it.

Chlamydia, like syphilis and gonorrhea, is caused by a bacteria that is passed from one partner to another during sex. It can infect a woman's fallopian tubes, resulting in a condition known as pelvic inflammatory disease (PID). The infection can cause scar tissue to develop in the fallopian tubes, totally or partially blocking them.

Totally blocked tubes can lead to infertility. Partially blocked tubes often result in a life-threatening condition known as an ectopic pregnancy, in which the embryo grows outside the uterus. Ectopic pregnancies now account for nearly one out of every 50 pregnancies, and the number is increasing, primarily due to the spread of chlamydia.

"STDs are rampant, absolutely rampant, and nice, clean people get them all the time," Manewith said. "Because of this, it's important for anyone who's sexually active to get into the habit of asking for STD tests when they visit their doctor. The general rule is, when you get a new sexual partner you should have the tests, just in case."

Both Manewith and Love agreed that people should use condoms every time they have sex, and Manewith added that spermicides provide extra protection. But, according to Love, just knowing about STDs and how to prevent them is not enough.

"No matter what we tell (people) it still comes down to individual choice," Love said. "People need to know that we're in the middle of an epidemic, and they need to act responsibly."