

May 1994

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Columbia College Chicago

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NE

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**Why are the
cameras
only here
when
someone
dies?**

**My name is
Tron Wood.**

**I'm a basketball player,
I get straight A's and have
perfect school attendance**



**My name is
Diana Davis.**

**I am the editor of my
school's literary
magazine**

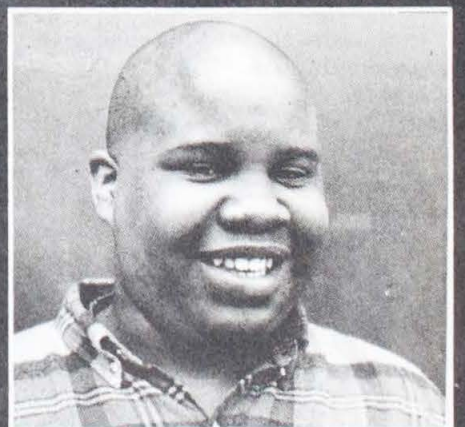


**My name is
Sherrice Dotson.**

**I ranked second in my
junior class and am
concert band president**



**My name is
Marquis Johnson.**
**I'm a city science fair
winner and am ranked
second in my
sophomore class**



**We are ambitious
We are hard working
And we all live in the
Robert Taylor Homes.**

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LETTER From the Editor

NE's May focus: reaching out to others

By Jessica Olson, Managing Editor/Production, Bogan

It's spring in Chicago.

OK, so the freezing temperature may not feel like green leaves should be on trees and flowers will be blooming, but it is, nonetheless, spring. The sun is actually out after 4 in the afternoon and the school year has been reduced to a matter of weeks. In this issue of *New Expression* we offer ideas on how to keep busy.



Jessica Olson

Our readers who want to make a difference to all of Chicago can read about City Year, a program that involves young people in community service while earning money for education. We give them a reason to get involved with our front page story, which features teens from the Robert Taylor Homes who are fed up with how their home is featured by the press, especially in recent weeks. By focusing on these teens, we not only prove that all CHA residents aren't crackheads and gang members; we prove that many of them can be role models.

On the lighter side, we review "Threesome" (p. 15), a funny but predictable movie that could have been named: "Reality Bites, the College Years," and give you a day in the life of a newspaper, "The Paper", starring Michael Keaton, Marisa Tomei, and Glenn Close, which we review on page 17.

Look for NE interviews with Gabrielle (p. 18), Cece Peniston (p. 18), and U-MYND (p. 15). We're also reviewing "Culture Clash," the Latino answer to "Saturday Night Live" and "In Living Color," (p. 14) and Comedy Sportz, an all-ages comedy show (p. 20) at the Improv (p. 14).

In our continuing prom coverage, we offer ways to cut back on the cost and look your best (p. 19) and a Pro and Con on whether prom is worth the trouble (p. 6). An editorial on page 6 addresses the issue of teens drinking on prom night. Readers are encouraged to call our new voice mail line at 220-NEWS and leave their opinion of drinking on prom.

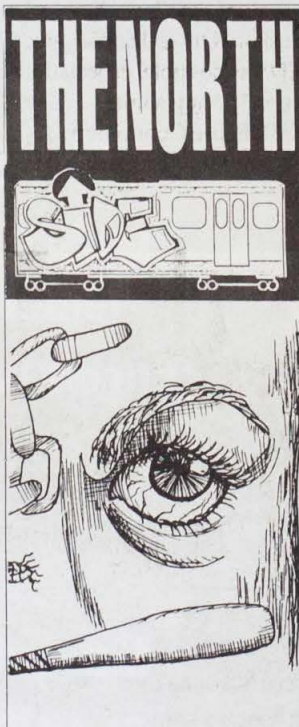
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Cover photos by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech



Help is just a phone call away

For questions on disease:

Chicago Dept. of Health/
Mental Health
(312) 744-8033
STD Hotline (Operation Venus)
1-800-227-8922

Information on AIDS

1-800-AID-AIDS

Child abuse and neglect:

1-800-25-ABUSE
Illinois Dept. of Children and Family
Services
(312) 814-4650
Child Abuse Prevention Network
(312) 3-PARENTS

For legal advice:

Legal Assistance Foundation/
Children's Rights Project:
(312) 341-1070

For substance abuse:

Alateen
(312) 471-0225
Alanon Center
for Information
(312) 890-1141
Alcoholics Anonymous
(312) 346-1475
Families Anonymous
(312) 777-4442
Cocaine Anonymous
(312) 202-8898

Special Youth Programs:

Neon Street Center for Youth
(312) 528-7767

Teen Living Programs:

(For homeless youth)
(312) 883-0025
Young Men's

Christian Association
(312) 280-3400

For financial aid:

Illinois Department
of Public Aid
(312) 793-4706

To help the environment:

Greenpeace
(312) 666-3305
Citizens For a Better
Environment
(312) 939-1530

Miscellaneous help:

Chicago Department
of Human Services
(312) 744-4045
Teen-to-Teen
Crisis Hotline
(312) 644-2211

Teen reaches peers through HIV/AIDS education

By Terence Clark
Staff Writer
Carver High School

Let's talk about what the world is afraid of. Let's talk about what the world is afraid to address as an issue that affects them. Let's talk about contracting HIV.

Teens come up to me, some looking scared, some cocky, most hesitant...they talk to me about how they can get, or not get infected with the AIDS virus.

I am involved in an AIDS education program at the South Side Health Center. I have done AIDS workshops in schools, churches, and communities. I show films, explain how to use condoms properly, and test the groups on HIV and AIDS knowledge.

To tell you the truth, I was very afraid of getting involved in this program because like many others, when the word AIDS was mentioned, I just didn't want to hear it.

But then one day, my favorite

To tell you the truth, I was very afraid of getting involved in this program because like many others, when the word AIDS was mentioned, I just didn't want to hear it.

teacher, Beverly Menefee, got a call from the South Side Health Center asking her to send 10 students to train for promoting AIDS awareness. Menefee asked 10 students to go. Nine accepted. I denied the invitation, but my friends encouraged me. I went one time and have been going ever since. Before I became an educator, I did not realize there was so much for me to learn about the

disease. I have now been involved in this program for two years.

Last spring, I was chosen by the South Side Health Center and the American Red Cross (Mid-America Chapter) to go to Washington, D.C. to participate in an AIDS convention of youth from many states. We spent three days planning strategies to promote AIDS awareness throughout the country. We talked about incorporating the AIDS message into movies that had story lines created to interest teens, like basketball.

I have earned awards for my hard work in promoting AIDS awareness. The South Side Health Center awarded me as HIV/AIDS Peer Educator of the Year. The American Red Cross awarded me two times as HIV/AIDS peer educator and HIV/AIDS instructor. I believe that everyone should try to learn as much about AIDS as possible, especially teenagers and young adults. The 1993 Center for Disease Control report showed that teens and young adults



Terence Clark

Through this program, I can touch a teen more than an adult can.

are the fastest rising group to come in contact with the AIDS virus. Remember, everyone is vulnerable.

If anyone would like information on this program or like to get involved, you may contact Vanessa Smith or Betty Smith at the South

Side Health Center at (312)445-5445.

Through this program, I can touch a teen more than an adult can. So many kids who have been in my workshop come to me and tell me, "You did a wonderful job." Knowing this makes me feel enriched.



Winning photos (above and left) by NE's Photo Editor, Nicole Davis, Kenwood

Carver senior to represent state at national business competition

If you have a brain, what should you do with it? Use it! On Feb. 25, Latesha Odneal, a senior at Carver Area High School, used her brain and faith at the state business competition downtown at Harold Washington College. Odneal took first place in computerized accounting.

On May 6-10, Odneal will be going to San Francisco to represent Illinois in a national competition. Odneal said, "I am very nervous, because this means a lot to me, but I will do my best and that's all that counts."

Terence Clark, Staff Writer, Carver Area High School



NE photo editor's work wins big honors

NE photo editor Nicole Davis, a senior at Kenwood Academy, is among 182 winners of the National Newspaper Association/Quill & Scroll 1994 International Writing, Photo Contest.

Nicole's winning entry, "Seen and Heard" (at right, Nov. 1993 NE) was among 10 winners in the photography/news feature category. More than 150 teen photojournalists entered this division, and nearly 3,000 entries were received for the entire contest.

Nicole's award makes her eligible for a \$500 Edward J. Nell Memorial scholarship in journalism. She intends to study photojournalism in college.

What's Up!

Oops, we goofed...

In our April issue, we misspelled Tribune food critic Phil Vettel's name. We apologize for the error.



Award winning photo by Nicole Davis, Photo Editor, Kenwood

Bathrooms need to clean up act

Everybody's heard about the Lane Tech bathrooms. But teens from around the city remind us that many school bathrooms need to be inspected:

"I'm surprised that the bathrooms are clean

while I'm there!"

Raymond Smith, St. Martin De Porres High School

"Smells like piss. It be the people that do it. They act like they can't control their bladders."

Jason Haymon, Luther South High School

"They aren't up to par. We need another one (bathroom)."

Robert Vincent, Corliss High School

"They're dirty, the stalls are dirty, the doors of the stalls are dirty. Urine is on the floor so you can see everyone's business."

Marcale McKinney, Hyde Park High School

"We don't have any doors on the stalls, no mirrors. Then the toilet paper is like cardboard."

Ronell Wright, Calumet High School

"We always have tissue and soap. Our bathroom is real clean."

Monica Ball, St. Martin De Porres

"They never have toilet paper, you can actually see the sanitary napkins laying on the floor because the trashcans are full."

Nicole Williams, Kenwood Academy

Adrienne P. Samuels, Staff Writer, Morgan Park



Don't see enough of you or your school?

Then tell us What's Up!

New Expression is looking for

correspondents from all the Chicago public high schools!!!

What's Up! is New Expression's link to you!

Community, courage, hope

What the media misses in the Robert Taylor Homes

By Ana Cabrera, City Editor/Features, Whitney Young

Located on the Southeast side of the city, the Robert Taylor Homes public housing development is known for high marks — in its crime rate, its residents' high school dropout rate, and its percentage of teen mothers.

It is not known for its strong sense of community, or its residents' courage to rise above the peer pressure to fail. Yet these elements also exist.

Kathy Kelley, a B-average DuSable High School student who smiled constantly during a recent interview, has a full roster of community and school activities. She is a writer for her school newspaper and literary magazine. She's a member of the school choir, and a member of the police explorer summer program, a program for young people interested in learning how to help others during emergencies.

Kathy's only "problem" is that she lives at Robert Taylor. The minute she mentions where she lives, people look at her differently and treat her differently. She says that when she tells people outside of her community where she lives, their usual response is: "Don't you think you

should go home early?"

Like Kathy, many teenaged Robert Taylor residents feel they are being discriminated against because of where they live, especially by the media.

"Why can't they do a positive story about the things that go on in our neighborhood?" asks Marquis Johnson, a sophomore at DuSable.

And there are many positive things going on in Robert Taylor because, if anything, it instills a strong sense of community among its inhabitants.

There are block parties. Talent shows. Bible study classes. Picnics, peer-tutoring programs, and so many other activities going on that residents say the media refuses to recognize. Why? Because, Kathy says, people want action and violence, which is why she thinks so much attention was given to the recent outbreak of shooting and so little media focus was spent on residents' active response.

"We had a peace rally which involved a lot of churches, leaders of the neighborhood and people from Operation PUSH to offer their support," Kathy says. But, she added, they received practically no



Kathy Kelley, a Robert Taylor resident.

Photo by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech

"It (Robert Taylor) is not known for its strong sense of community, or its residents' courage to rise above the peer pressure to fail. Yet these elements also exist."

media coverage except the mention of a couple of fist fights amongst some boys.

This kind of news coverage can be very discouraging to teens like Marquis, who's a straight-A student.

"I feel ashamed," he says.

But not all his peers are living up to their full potential, he says. "As black people we're already put down and then the negativity these people bring to our neighborhood just makes things worse."

And it's not just the negative news coverage that's discouraging. It's also disheartening to have to oppose peers and, in some cases, family members who do not support their decision to stay in school or avoid joining gangs.

DuSable's graduating class of 1994, about 40 percent of which reside in Robert Taylor, started off with about 500 students. They are now down to 262. "My friends who dropped out are now like, 'Come with us and come hang with us,'" says Derniece Goodwin, a senior. "These people try to stand in your way to keep you from doing what you want to do."

Or as Michael Bass, also a senior, says, "They just hate to see you achieve."

Michael and seven of his peers, sitting in a DuSable classroom well after the final bell of the day, say they will achieve. They have something in them that somehow

makes them stronger.

Kathy says she was born with the will to succeed. She wants to be an engineer. "I want to own my own computer corporation and I just want to have money," she says. She knows the only way to achieve her dreams is to go to college.

Michael attributes his strength to sports and to all of his after-school activities. "I'm just too busy" to get into trouble, he says.

Michael also expects to go to college, but he says a lot of people would be surprised to learn of his college plans. Such low expectations are based on where he goes to school as well as where he lives.

"DuSable has always had a bad reputation, and so bad news is always what they (the media) always expect. They just want to keep up the stereotype."

Diana Davis, a senior, is determined not to live up to negative stereotypes or become another statistic.

Instead, her plans are to become the first in her family to attend and graduate from college. "I'm gonna get there," she said, "no matter what."

Students from Robert Taylor speak out...

Peace marchers vow to restore strength to community

By Michael Bishop, Southside Bureau, DuSable

"Bring the black men back, bring the black women back, bring the black families back and we're not gonna let nobody turn us around."

These were the words spoken by a reverend at a recent rally at the Robert Taylor Homes organized by Operation Push. The rally, on 5201 and 5247 S. Federal St., addressed the violence in Chicago.

The Ministers Division was on hand and spoke to the young black teenagers about the gangs, telling them they shouldn't kill one another out in the street.

XX Washington, the building president of the Robert Taylor Homes, was at the rally, along with Gospel choirs from different churches in the area. A rap group called the Sluggers performed.

There were people who cared about each other and their community, as indicated by the words spoken by the reverend:

"We're not gonna let nothing bring black people down, and we're gonna make our community a strong and safe community."

"We're not gonna let nothing bring black people down, and we're gonna make our community a strong and safe community"

Will this madness ever end?

By Anitra Fondern, Southside Bureau, DuSable

For the past few weeks there has been violence everywhere, especially in the Robert Taylor Homes. In a three-day weekend, 300 reports of shooting was made. In one building, 4500 S. State, a 17-year-old male was shot in the throat and killed. I was not a witness to this shooting, but when the paramedics brought him out on the stretcher, I could see blood all around his face and clothes. This had so much of an effect on my emotions that it caused tears to roll down my face.

Living around it is not much of a problem, but when you actually see someone dead as a result of gang violence, it touches a nerve. The police and security officers do not understand half the — jobs. I can understand that different males belong to organizations, but why can't we form one organization?

For the past few weeks there has been violence everywhere, especially in the Robert Taylor Homes

There are some positive things that go on. Instead of putting that on the news or in the newspapers, the negative things are published.

Media needs to mention the good, as well as bad, about Robert Taylor Homes

By Keishon Boswell, Southside Bureau, DuSable

I'm tired of people saying that the Robert Taylor Homes are so bad. That's just a stereotype so that the media and others can make us poor blacks look bad.

Yes! It's true that some of the people who live there fight and kill at times. Yes! I know that's bad, but who has the right to judge us? There are a lot of killings going on that are gang-related that are not in the Robert Taylor Homes.

I know that the housing projects are dangerous, but what does anyone expect with the fact that thousands of

people live almost on top of each other.

When they built the project buildings, they knew what was going to happen. Now that it's happening, they want to tell the world that Robert Taylor is home to the worst and most dangerous people in the nation.

There are some positive things that go on. Instead of putting that on the news or in the newspapers, the negative things are published. There are night basketball games and picnics for everyone in the summertime.

Just remember, there is some good in everyone.

City Year creates a foundation for our future

By Bao Li, Staff Writer, Whitney Young

Did you ever think it would be possible to help the community, get an education, and earn money at the same time? Well, now you can. Whether you are rich, poor, a high school graduate, a college student, or a previous gang member, City Year provides the chance. The program, new to Chicago, is



geared to people 17-23.

Alan Khazei and Michael Brown started the non-profit City Year in 1987 in Boston, after their graduation from Harvard Law School.

City Year promotes community service. Corp members separate into teams of 10. For nine months, they hold after-school programs, violence-prevention workshops, help the homeless and AIDS patients.

They aim to serve as role models for children. They also beautify landscapes and buildings in run-down areas and help construct playgrounds.

City Year corp members say they benefit from the program as much as the program benefits from their input. "City Year has restored my faith in myself and my generation," said Terese Gibson, 18, corp member.

Members work from 8:30 to 5:30, Monday to Friday, earning about \$100 a week and obtaining a \$5,000 grant upon program completion. College bound members must use half of the money for furthering their education. Those not going to college receive \$2,000 in cash instead of the grant.

Corp members also must register to vote, obtain a library card, and open a savings account. They take courses in CPR, first aid, producing a resume and learning about tax preparation. Program participants that are high school dropouts must work for a GED.

City Year has been named as a model for President Clinton's nationwide service plan. The government will partially fund City Year, but it will remain at least 51% funded by private,

corporate, community, foundation, and individuals. Corporate sponsors like Timberland donate office spaces uniforms, boots, pants, sweatshirts, and shoes for corp members.

Although Chicago is its newest site, City Year is also in Providence, R.I., and Columbia, S.C. City Year planned to start a summer pilot program in Chicago with about 50 corp members. However, with the extraordinarily enthusiastic responses from both the public and private sectors here, City Year decided to launch into a nine-

Boston City Year teens work on a refurbishing project, (above, right, far left) only one of many types of community service jobs City Year corp

ing, DuSable, Dunbar, Sullivan, Juarez, Evanston Township, and Lake View. Your school might be the next one. Even if it is not, you can still apply by calling the office.

Explaining why she joined, 19-year-old Bernadett Vajda said, "I lived in 3 different countries before I came to America. I didn't speak English. My community reached out to my family and I just want to give something

back. Young people should be

given an opportunity to do hands on service within their community."

"It can lead you to something besides a year of experience," said staff member Katie Lott. "A corp member, Caryn Sutton, received a full scholarship for college and a job offer from Headstart where she was doing a service project."

If you want to be a part of City Year, call 464-9899 for application information.

"City Year has restored my faith in myself and my generation,"

Terese Gibson, 18, corp member.

month program with 80 participants. Corp members will be earning \$125 a week. City Year has already begun to receive applications and expects to receive 500 applications for the 80 spaces. Corp members have campaigned in schools around Chicago includ-

Editor's Note: If you'd like to take an active role in making a difference, read about this program offering opportunities

Look in June's

NE

for a story on another group for public service minded young people to join, Public Allies

If you liked the coverage you saw on the Robert Taylor Homes, just wait until September!

In September, we will start our Southside Bureau, which will operate out of DuSable High School. If you live on the South side or go to school on the south side, we want to hear from you! Let us know what's going on or if you'd like to be a member of the newest, most exciting teen-based venture in Chicago!

Pro & Con

A special moment that's not so special

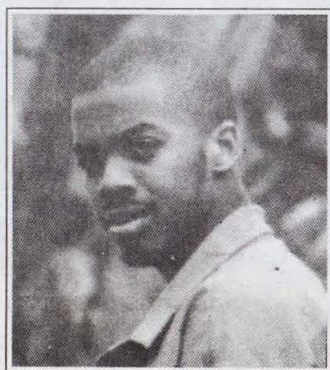
Drop a bomb on prom

By Isaac Jackson III, Staff Writer, Morgan Park High School

Prom represents the last formal dance with your friends. It is a fashion show where the best of the best shine like stars. Prom for most people will be the highlight of their high school years. There will be beautiful women in elegant dresses and handsome young men in custom fit tuxedos. But anybody with two eyes and a brain will see that prom has lost its original meaning and in turn has lost its value.

Prom has evolved into a higher level of prostitution. As idiotic as this may sound, most people think that if they pay for prom (or the majority of it), they should be repaid with sexual favors at the end of the night. With that in mind, why would you waste money when you could buy a new outfit, go to McDonald's, and spend four hours in Motel 6.

The average prom bill will total almost \$600. Seeing that college is right around the corner, the



Isaac Jackson III

...As idiotic as this may sound, most people think that if they pay for prom (or the majority of it), they should be repaid with sexual favors at the end of the night...

smart, wise-decision making person will skip prom. The money saved could alleviate the already heavy financial burden on your family. Six hundred dollars lasts longer than one night when you go to college.

Yes, prom is that special moment you wait four years for to find out someone has on

your dress or someone has spilled punch on your all white tuxedo. Prom is that special moment where you eat the most horrid food and listen to the school janitor attempt to D.J. Yes, prom is that special moment you wait four years for, only to be left broke and disappointed for the next four years. And once you realize that you'll see each other again at graduation, you will agree that prom is that special moment that is not so special.

**Chicago's teens
MEAN BUSINESS
Advertise in New Expression
call 641-6397**

Proms can create priceless memories

By Raven Hill, Staff Writer, Morgan Park High School

Years from now, looking back on your high school years, one of your most unforgettable moments will probably be the last time you were together with your classmates. For many people, that time will be senior prom.

If your high school years were in any way enjoyable, you will probably want to attend the prom. This is the last "big dance" with your friends. That night has the potential to be *the* memory to cap off your high school years. Though this is one of the costliest risks you'll ever take, the odds that you will have a reasonably good time are in your favor. Only you, after all, can create your happiness. And if anyone out there actually believes the "legend" that this one night has the power to influence a person to have sex, then I have some wonderful beachfront property in Alaska to sell you. Any girl who would have sex on prom night just because her date spent a lot of money on her is the same girl who would feel pressured ANY TIME a guy spent money on her — and where is it written in stone that the total financial burden should fall on the guy? Simply splitting costs or going a cheaper route would prevent many uncomfortable situations.

If cost is the major obstacle preventing you from going to prom, keep in mind that you don't have to buy a \$400 dress, rent the most expensive tux or car, and dine at the fanciest and priciest restaurant.



Raven Hill

...If anyone out there actually believes the "legend" that this one night has the power to influence a person to have sex, then I have some wonderful beachfront property in Alaska to sell you...

One evening isn't worth that much. People are much more likely to remember that your date spilled punch on that dress of yours than the cost of it.

Granted, thousands of people have led successful lives without ever having attended a prom. But if you have friends going, prom can be a night to remember and years from now, that memory could be worth a whole lot more than you realize.

Editor's note The truth about prom and liquor

By Jessica Olson, Managing Editor/Production, Bogan

A totaled car, twisted, pulled out of shape from a powerful impact. What happened to the driver is left up to the imagination. The message: Don't drink or drive during prom or this could be you. That message is repeated in posters throughout the school. Drinking and driving do not mix. Designate a driver. Stay sober.

At the same time, while the school administrators are hanging the posters, in some schools champagne glasses and beer mugs are passed out with the price of a senior prom ticket.

These are just some of the conflicting images teens face today in our own schools when it comes to drinking. It's sometimes hard to tell just what we're supposed to do. At Bogan, we're told, "Don't drink and drive." They tell us what could happen if we're caught, what could happen if we're in an accident. And they tell us that drunk driving accidents are among the leading causes of teen deaths. The car mentioned above was placed on our lawn last year.

And last year, "his" and "her" champagne glasses were passed out to seniors who brought prom tickets. This year, it's a champagne glass for her and a beer mug for him. To me, it's like the school is saying, "We don't want you to drink, but if you do, drink out of a nice glass with your school name and prom theme on it."

In the last issue of *New Expression* the food guide ran with an illustration that could be construed as a martini glass. A picture in the prom guide showed guys with a champagne bottle and glasses. The paper has received at least one phone call about this, concerned with the image we're sending, and some of our staff members have been approached at school concerning this issue. Students and LSC members alike have asked why we're encouraging teens to drink at prom.

But to be frank, when the final copy of the paper was approved, we didn't think we were encouraging anything. We're so used to seeing such illustrations that what those illustrations said or (may have said) never occurred to us.

The fact of the matter is, teens drink on prom night. Teens get drunk on prom night. Maybe all of them don't, but a good portion do. The picture in the prom guide illustrated a scene that will be played out thousands of times over during the prom season this year. And with some high schools providing the glasses for teens to drink out of, what's appropriate and what's not becomes uncertain.

We, at *New Expression*, do not encourage teens to drink and drive. We do not like seeing our own peers lost in drunk driving accidents.

So we want your opinion.

Did *New Expression* go too far? Did we step over that fine line between portraying the truth and encouraging dangerous behavior? Just where does that line lay? There's a new voice mail line set up for us at Leo Burnett, 220-NEWS, where you can call up and

leave your comments, ideas, and suggestions. Also be sure to leave your name, age and school at the end of your message. The results will be printed in the June issue.

**TRY OUR
VOICE
BOX**

Important facts about the Pill

By Ruqaiyah Morris, Staff Writer, Kenwood Academy

The Pill has been demystified through public awareness and education, but there are still lingering questions. A doctor, a counselor, and some students make up this Q&A.

How can you tell who to give the Pill to?

There are no specific ways to tell if a person can take the Pill or not. "What we usually do is that we try to give the patient the lowest possible dosage that we can while still preventing pregnancy. It's basically a roll of the dice," says Dr. Eric Beber of The University of Chicago Hospital.

Who cannot take the Pill?

Women who think they might be pregnant, have high blood pressure, liver or blood clotting problems, or any other circulatory problems. Be honest with your doctor. If you smoke, say so. If you have diabetes, mention it.

How does it work?

Both types of the Pill contain high levels of Progesterone. This has one of two effects. Some pills prevent ovulation, while others keep the egg from being planted in the uterus.

How many different types of

pills are there?

There are several hundred brands and combinations, but only two basic types -- the 21-day packs, and the 28-day packs.

How do you use them? I've heard that if you're on the Pill, you have to take it at exactly the same time every day.

Each day, take one pill. It is best to take it at the same time, but just make sure to take it within two hours of that time. If you take the Pill consistently until the pack is finished, chance of accidental pregnancy is less than .5 percent.

If you have not taken the Pill consistently, talk to your doctor about making up for it and back up birth control with other methods. If you can't remember when to take your pill or start a new pack, the 28-day

pack might be best -- these have 21 active pills and seven placebos or "fakes" to help you start your next pack on time.

What are some side effects?

Tracy Schultz of Planned Parenthood says, "Some of the negative side effects are weight gain, spotting, missed periods, tenderness, nausea,

and headaches. Some of the positive side effects are a lighter period, regular periods, less cramping, less acne, and lower risk of pelvic inflammatory disease."

How can I know if a missed period is a side effect of the Pill, or an actual pregnancy?

Remember that the Pill prevents ovulation. If no egg is released for fertilization, then the need to have a period is removed. But if you think you're pregnant, get tested.

What is the rate efficiency for preventing pregnancy?

The current rate is about 97-99 percent effectiveness. Missing pills lowers effectiveness rate, and the more missed, the less protection. Oddly enough, taking antibiotics also affects it.

If I decide to get off the Pill, how soon can I become pregnant? On the average, it takes over a year to completely get the Pill out of the system, but don't think that means you can't get pregnant within that year!

Pregnancy can occur as soon as one month after getting off the Pill.

Critical Mass

Sponsored by the
William C. Bannerman Foundation

Depo-Provera:

New contraceptive alternative

By Ruqaiyah Morris, Staff Writer, Kenwood Academy

Depo-Provera contraceptive injection is a new form of birth control given as a shot in the buttock or arm once every three months.

If you receive your injection promptly at the end of the third month, Depo-Provera will be over 99 percent effective. That makes it as strong as the Norplant patch with a rate of .3 percent for accidental pregnancy. The Pill ranks at .5 percent, a condom 2 percent and no method at all gives an 85 percent chance of getting pregnant. Do not try it if you:

- might be pregnant;
- have vaginal bleeding without a known reason;
- have had blood clots in your legs;
- have problems with your liver;
- or are allergic to any ingredients in Depo-Provera. That's why your doctor must give you a prescription.

Possible risks of Depo-Provera include:

- vaginal bleeding;
- a change in the menstrual flow or no bleeding at all.

Using a hormone-based contraceptive like Depo-Provera increases risk of forming blood clots or having strokes. George Lubeking of Mt. Sinai Hospital added that Depo-Provera "takes about one year for one to regain fertility. Withdrawal also produces effects similar to those of birth control pills like hot

flashes and missed periods."

Women who took Depo-Provera experienced a weight gain of about 3 pounds per year of use. They also had headaches, nervous-

Depo-Provera has been on the market for one year and is still considered experimental, so don't rule out the already existing contraceptive methods

ness, decreased sexual desire, leg cramps, nausea, vaginal discharge, backaches, depression, insomnia, acne, pelvic pain, and no hair growth or excessive hair loss.

Besides these complications, Depo-Provera does not stop the spread of AIDS or other STD's. It has been on the market for one year and is still considered experimental, so don't rule out already existing contraceptives. For more information on Depo-Provera, call Upjohn's info hotline, 1-800-861-8618.

Any more questions?

Ask your doctor or call
Planned Parenthood's Info Hotline,
(312) 427-2275

Services and rights for pregnant public school students

As promised, NE is sharing what services pregnant teens/teens with babies can expect to get from Chicago Public High Schools.

Six schools — Clemente; Orr; Harper; Robeson; Englewood and Gage Park have teen parent advocates. These are people who look out for your rights. If you go to one of these schools or are planning to, here's a list of who to talk to at each school:

CLEMENTE: Clarita Rivera, 534-4000

ENGLEWOOD: Juanita Black, 723-1710

GAGE PARK: Louie Moore, 535-9230

HARPER: Esther Haynes, 535-9420

ORR: Nellie Peterson, 534-6500

ROBESON: Ruby Fenton, 723-1700

You should also know that your rights to continue your education is covered under federal and state law. Federal law specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of

pregnancy, marital or parental status.

For more information about your rights, call The Illinois State Board of Education, Equal Education Opportunity Section, 312-814-3226, or the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, 312-886-4733.

Three high schools within the public school system -- Tesla, Art of Living, and Simpson -- cater to pregnant girls. What sorts of benefits do they offer? Well, Tesla, for instance, has three nurses on staff to

provide daily prenatal care; two in-house social agencies; and food geared to the nutritional needs of the pregnant woman.

Three schools — DuSable, Austin, and Orr — have school-based health clinics, which may offer prenatal advice, if not care.

One school — Orr Academy — has a daycare clinic, and Bowen has been making strides in attempting to set one up.

For information about services available to pregnant and parenting teens anywhere in the state, call the Parents Too Soon Hotline, 1-800-4-CALL-US.

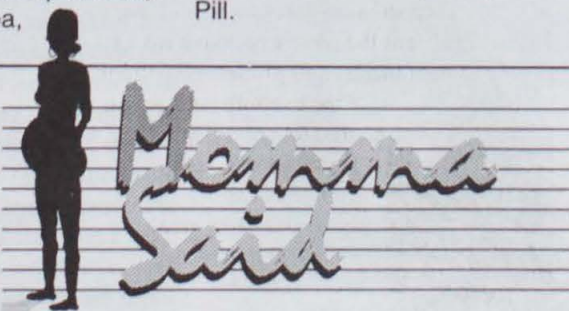
Congratulations, TESLA!

The Tesla alternative school for

pregnant girls at 6657 S. Kimbark has been awarded \$4,000 by the **Oppenheimer Foundation** for its proposal on victimization and violence prevention. One of the activities the school proposed was to have its students write essays on the role violence plays or has played in their lives. **Read NE next month to see what some of these girls had to say!**

If you are a pregnant teen or a teen with a child who would like to let all of Chicago know of your experiences, write to us at:

Youth Communication
70 E. Lake Suite 815
Chicago, IL 60601
Or call Liz Kaufman at 641-6397.



Scrapbook

I'm sorry, Alice is out

By Sharmin Ghaznavi
Staff Writer
Lincoln Park



Sharmin Ghaznavi

I called Alice a couple of weeks ago. She was out. She'd call me back. Her mother would be sure to tell her I called.

She never called back. I called her again the other day. She says she was home all that day. She never got any message. Her mother called for her. She had to go.

This sort of thing happened often when Alice and I were best friends.

She is white. I am Asian. We're no longer best friends. We've lost touch.

This comes as no surprise to me. The odds, or rather her parents, were against us. From the first time I can remember, her parents didn't like the idea of us being friends. No outright declarations or anything, after all, they weren't prejudiced. God forbid. Her parent's actions, looks and comments were enough, enough at least for me. I don't think Alice ever realized anything.

I didn't at first, either. The first time I came to realize her parents' prejudice I felt stupid for not realizing it earlier. Alice wasn't there at the time. Her mother used to

she sick? Her mother said she was testing to go into St. Ignatius. She went on to say she thought St. Ignatius was best for Alice, because there were more of her "kind of people" there (white). As blunt as that was, I didn't want to believe she was prejudiced. The comments that followed were enough to make me believe. She continued to say how after entering St. Ignatius, Alice would start making the right kinds of friends, (white). She would begin to learn about her culture, finally. She would learn to appreciate who she was (white).

Suddenly, a lot of weird events, such as the problem with the phone calls, made sense. The truth hurt. I am who I am. They faulted me for something I couldn't help.

I wanted to make our friendship last. I was a little girl. I didn't know what I was bargaining with. Since that incident, all attempts to destroy our friendship became clear and blunt. I no longer

called her. She would call me. Since Alice never did realize what happened, I had to say my parents

...Alice and I were best friends. She is white. I am Asian. We're no longer best friends. We've lost touch.

help out at the school a lot, so I saw her around. I'd gone up to her to ask why Alice was absent that day. Was

How racism destroyed a friendship

Her mother ... went on to say she thought St. Ignatius was best for Alice, because there were more of her "kind of people" there (white).

still against me, our friendship deteriorated. We tried but the obstacles, her parents, destroyed our friendship.

I've grown since then. I wish I had yelled the truth to Alice. Maybe our friendship would have lasted. Maybe.

Chicago's "Twilight Zone"

Where city, suburban attitudes clash

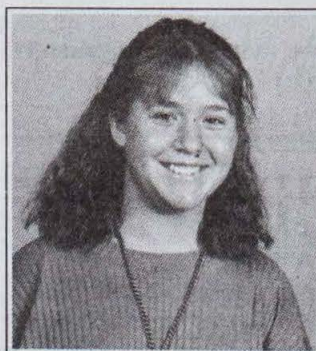
By Jessica Olson, Managing Editor/Production, Bogan

Most high school students in my neighborhood wouldn't have anything to do with me because I go to a public school and consider myself a city girl. And then, a Hispanic friend of mine from outside my neighborhood once asked me how to get to my house while avoiding the mob in white sheets.

You have just entered the Twilight Zone. You can leave behind everything you thought you knew. The laws of science, all those boring things you memorized in Physics and Chemistry, no longer apply. "I" before "E", except after "C"? Not here. Not even time runs smoothly or straight.

This is how I've always viewed the neighborhood I live in. Surrounded by the real world, and Pulaski, Cicero, 79th street and 87th street, I've lived in the Scottsdale neighborhood for nine long years. Calling it the Twilight Zone began as a joke between myself and a friend. I was too far out of the city to take the CTA and not close enough to the suburbs for Metra. The Twilight Zone. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized that the term could apply to more than just its physical location. It could also refer to the mixed-up attitudes of some of those who live there.

I live about a block away from the Southwest suburbs Oak Lawn,



Jessica Olson

Burbank, Hometown, and Chicago Ridge. Early on, I learned that in most circumstances people were either be grouped as a city person or a suburbanite. If you lived in the 'burbs, city kids were all gang bangers and drug dealers. If you lived in the city, those who lived in the 'burbs were snobbish and stuck up. To my friends, I resided in the suburbs, so I might as well have lived in another country. To those in my neighborhood, I went to a Chicago Public School. Enough said.

The only thing I've been able to do is try to separate myself from those who I live around, and watch the battle between city and suburbs from a safe distance. Most high school students in my neighborhood wouldn't have anything to do with me because I go to a public school and consider myself a city girl. And then, a Hispanic friend of mine from outside my neighborhood once asked me how to get to my house while avoiding the mob in white sheets.

As far as I'm concerned, there is no divide greater than that between city and suburbs. It makes the Grand Canyon look like a crack in the sidewalk.

Suburban schools are far nicer. You can actually walk down the street at night without taking your

life in your own hands, and it's actually clean. No beer bottles in the street there.

However, it's boring as hell. And yes, you're safe, but only if you're lilly white. I don't think everyone in my area has realized that lynchings were outlawed.

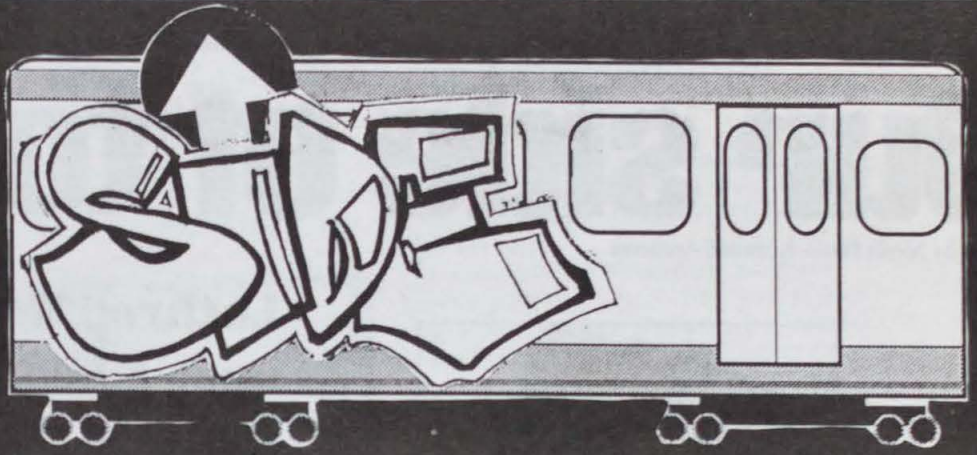
This attitude is why I have never called home home. The Twilight Zone is a combination of the worst attitudes of the suburbs and the city. I've never had the money or the

The Twilight Zone is a combination of the worst attitudes of the suburbs and the city.

mindset to "go suburban," but by location I don't qualify as city either. Welcome to the Twilight Zone.

THE NORTH

Boys & Girls Club: Lathrop Homes / Logan Square Bureau



New Expression opens North Side Bureau

Beginning with this issue, *New Expression* will devote a special section every month to news from the North Side. We have a team of reporters working out of our North Side office, or bureau. Our bureau is located at the Boys & Girls Club on Leavitt Street, near Clybourn Avenue. Most of our reporters come from the Lathrop Homes public housing project and the Logan Square Boys & Girls Club (see profiles on following page). If you live in the North Side and would like to join our staff, call Adolfo or Liz at (312) 641-NEWS.

We need your help! Call us if you know about something happening on the North Side we should write about.

In the fall, we'll officially open our South Side Bureau at DuSable High School. Both bureaus are made possible by a grant from the McArthur Foundation.

Schurz to ban 'gang' clothing

By Gabriel Burnette

Schurz High School is banning certain clothing next fall in an effort to curb gang activity, but students say the new dress code won't solve any problems.

In a letter mailed recently to parents and students, Schurz principal Sharon Rae Bender said the new code will "prohibit all team names, insignias and logos." That includes brand names that appear on outer garments, such as sweaters, coats, jackets and hats.

Dr. Bender did not say which specific brand names or logos will be banned. The principal said that any list would become quickly outdated since gangs

switch easily to other symbols that identify them.

"The school can't tell you what to wear, they don't buy your clothes," says Daryn Beryl, a sophomore.

Shelia Burnstein, a history teacher, says a dress code will prevent students from wearing gang colors and, as a result, "it will help the school stay as neutral as possible," she said. But a dress code won't prevent violence, she said.

"You can change the clothes, but not the person," Burnstein said.

Sharonda Donaldson, a junior, said, "I think that the dress code shouldn't apply to us because we go to a public school."

"The clothes that we wear now are not hurting anyone."



Clemente tries something different

Parents patrol school hallways, ushering students to classrooms
What's going on here?

By Nahir Vazquez, Clemente

Clemente High School hopes to improve its reputation with an ambitious program to unite students, teachers, parents and community members.

The plan was inspired by Chicago Alderman Billy Ocasio, who challenged the school to come up with ideas to

confront the difficulties facing Clemente students.

Clemente has a drop-out rate of 70%, and a total enrollment of 2,403 students. To curb the high number of students who never make it to the stage on graduation night, a new program was setup at the school on February 7.

The program consists of five-tiers, or levels, involving community members, parents, students and teachers.

Parents' role

The first-tier involves parent participation. "Research has shown that parent participation leads to effective schools," said Edward Negrón, asst. principal of the freshmen.

There are 51 parents in the program,

mostly mothers, who work as hallway monitors. Each parent also serves as a mentor to about 10 students. The parents work 20 hours a week, at five dollars an hour.

Juana Guzman is a mother who has been in the program for more than a month. "My child was cutting a lot of classes and I wanted to help her as well as other students," she said. She's confident her involvement is making a difference.

"Students respond better to parents than to metal detectors and police," says Jose Rodriguez, a member of the Local School Council.

Some students agree. "I think it's good for the parents to be on top of the students

because they cut class less," said Yohana Cortez, a junior.

"When we get to our lockers on the second floor after gym, there's always the same mother rushing us," says senior Lorena Salgado.

That's annoying, says Otoniel Hernandez, also a senior. "The advantages are that they (the parents) help out the security guards, they keep discipline in the school. The disadvantage is that they're annoying."

"But they're doing their job," he quickly adds.

Student involvement

The second-tier in the program involves focusing on the main causes of violence and solving them through creative solutions like role-playing and small group encounters, where students discuss alternative means of handling conflict.

The third-tier will provide part-time jobs for about 200 students, many of whom will work as teacher aids.

"It's great for students who need to make money and want to help in the

school," said Brian Adams, a freshman who works as a teacher aid.

The fourth-tier involves using teachers and parents to serve as mentors for the students. The fifth-tier is to transfer students to one of three out-of-school sites to protect them from gangs. The sites provide a more secure learning environment for students who are likely to be involved in gang trouble. At these locations, about 80 students attend regular classes taught by Clemente teachers, under the direction of Carlos Ortiz.

Esperanza Cruz, assistant principal of the sophomores, says it's too early to determine whether the program is successful. "The program is like a new born baby," she said.

"Students have established patterns of behavior since September," she added. "Once they establish that behavior it is difficult to change it. There will be changes, but they won't come over night."

Clemente Principal Lou Gheraldi said the program follows the philosophy set by the community, students, teachers and parents. "That philosophy is to live and help live," Gheraldi said.

Our side of town

Photos by Nicole Davis, Kenwood Academy



Growing up in the Hood

By Christina Arnold

(Dedicated to Dantrell Davis, who was killed last year by gun fire near Cabrini Green. He was 7 years old).

The violence is all I see
Next, I think they will try to kill me
I want an education, I don't want to die
Can't they hear my people's cry?
Wake up everybody! Don't you see?
Stop before you kill me!
I hate the violence! I hate the gangs!
Come on people, let's make a change.
We can stop it if we only tried.
If we stop it, there will be no more cries.
When Dantrell died I understood--
that's how it is when you live in the hood.



Mona Johnson

Lathrop Homes were once a beautiful place to live

By Lena Henderson

The community I used to live in is called Lathrop Homes. It was once a beautiful place to live. Now it has changed into the projects, and from the projects to the ghetto.

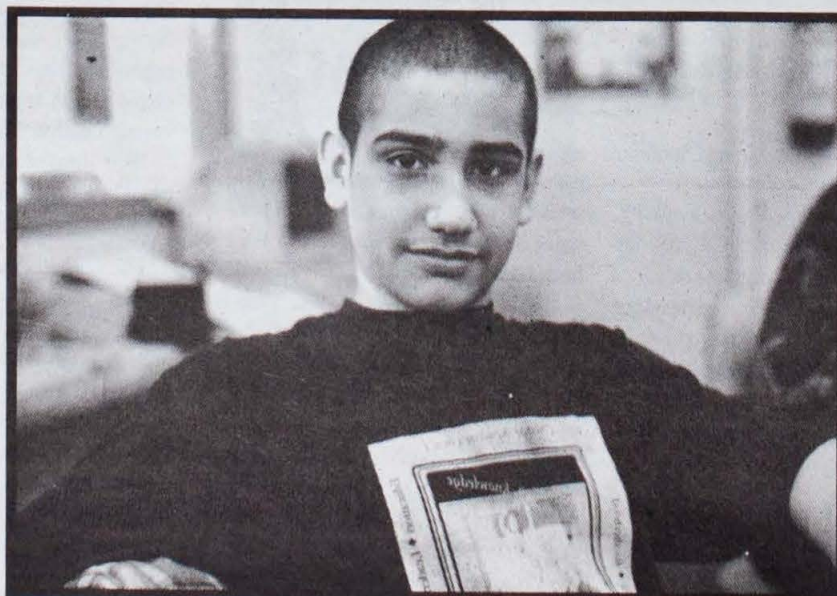
When I was little, there were no gangs or drugs. There were just a lot of senior citizens and little kids. Now gangs have pushed out the seniors. Up and down the street there is gang violence and drug dealing. Everyone nowadays is either selling or doing drugs, some might be doing both. I just try not to hang with the wrong crowd.

There was always something to do. My friends and I would hang around outside or go the Boys and Girls Club. The club was the best place to go. They have a lot of activities such as Smart Moves, Power Points, Computer Club, Jr. Leaders, etc. In the summer, there was summer camp, sports camp, or you could just go swimming at Hamlin Park. It was hardly ever boring. There was always something going on. There were carnivals, block parties and the club took us on a many field trips.

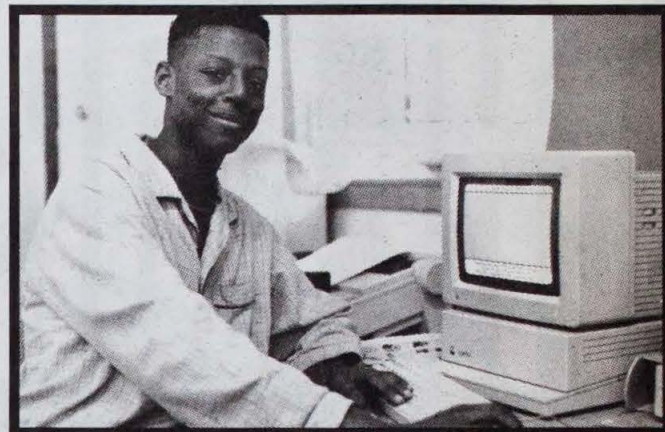
I lived at 2818 N. Leavitt. When I say people on the steps in my building doing drugs, I felt it was time to go. My mom felt the same way. She didn't think I should be exposed to such things.

Where I live now is not so bad. It's clean and there is not a lot of gang violence. Hardly any at all. It's pretty boring, though. But I guess you can't get something for nothing.

I'd rather be safe than have fun.



Benji Davilla



Reporter Gabriel Burnette, a junior at Schurz, works on his story on the new dress code at Schurz. He is wearing pajamas, one of the few outfits not banned by his school.

CABRINI GREEN IS NOT ALL BAD

By Antonio McIntosh

Cabrini Green is not all bad like people say it is.

The reason I say this is because I used to live there. The gangs and the violence is what makes it bad. But if you lived there you would see for yourself just how good it is. You get to know a little of everybody. At first, I didn't anybody in the Greens except my family. But as I went to school and stores nearby I was meeting good people.

A lot of kids get killed because of guns. Still, the police should warn people before they go knocking down their front door to search their house. If you did it to them, they would bitch about it. The police aren't innocent either. To me, the police aren't doing their job.

Do you attend *anyone* of these North Side schools?

Amundsen
Clemente
Foreman
Gordon Tech
Kelvyn Park
Lakeview
Lane
Lincoln Park
Madonna
Mather
Roosevelt
Schurz
Senn
Spaulding
Sullivan
Weber
Von Steuben

Are you involved in an interesting club on the North Side? We want to hear from you! Tell us what's going on in your neighborhood, better still, join our bureau! Call Adolfo or Liz at (312) 641-NEWS.

Look for more stories from our new bureau in future issues of New Expression (Or better yet, join us!)

THE NORTH SIDE



Chatisha Bridgeman

Have you ever heard of Lathrop Homes?

By Chatisha Bridgeman

Have you ever heard of Lathrop Homes?

Lathrop is good because it's fun. Anyway it goes, a place is only fun if you make it so. Most of the kids over here make it fun enough, including myself. There's also a lot of programs for kids.

In the summer, if you don't see a child running in the streets, they'll be in a program occupying themselves.

The bad things are just messing away our community—the guns, gangs and drugs.

I hope all the gang-bangers are put behind bars soon.

When I think of my neighborhood

By Ayanna "Nikki" Felton

When I think of my neighborhood in Logan Square, I think about an incident that happened on January 18. It was about 2 p.m. when I was walking down the street.



Ayanna "Nikki" Felton

I saw cops. Then an ambulance passed by. That's when I knew something was up. When I arrived to the scene, one of my friends from school walked up to me and said, "Keith got shot!"

Then I ran to get a closer look and I saw his mother, she was screaming. His little brother and sisters were standing around in shock. I walked them home. I didn't want to stay because his sister was my best friend. After that, I just went home convincing myself that I was okay. . .

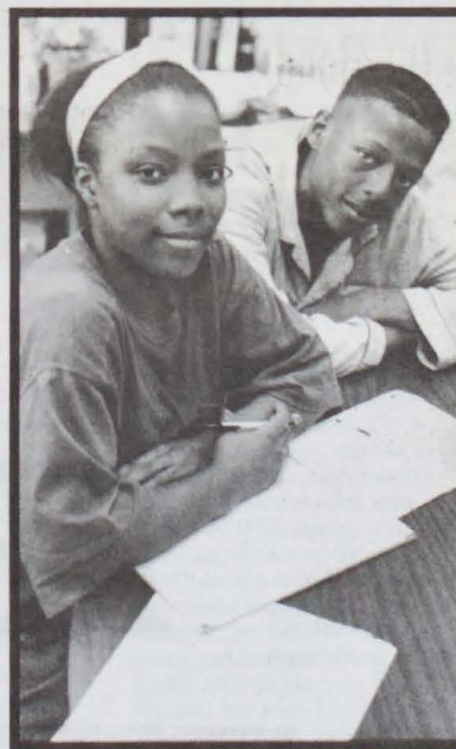
Four days later, we had his funeral on my birthday—January 22. I always think of this as being tragic and stupid.

Keith was shot dead during a dispute over a basketball.

The Good Days

By Lena Henderson

The days when you played in the park,
And you had to be home before dark.
The days when you used to make mud pies,
And got caught when you told lies.
The days when you live to go to school,
Because all you did was act like a fool.
The days you played double dutch in the street,
And the boys would come
and stop the rope with their feet.
On hot days, when the ice cream truck drove by,
When money looked like it came from the sky.
Those days when you made snowmen
And the boys would dump you and grin.
Those days when your mom said don't get dirty
But you managed to anyway.
Those were the good days
The days we miss.



Lena Henderson and Gabriel Burnette

All my life

By Gabriel Burnette

All my life I've lived in a violent community. Gangs have always a big part of my life.

I had an older step-brother who was in a gang. My step-brother was always telling me what kinds of things go on in gangs, and that I should get into one.

I am sure glad I didn't take his advice. I lost a number of good friends and a relative to gang violence.

The one that affected me the most was when my best friend was shot to death. I was 8 years old; he was 10. That is why I hate gang violence now.



James Gluck

Of the 17 public housing complexes managed by the Chicago Housing Authority, the Lathrop Homes is one of the first to be built in the city. Construction of the Lathrop Homes began in 1937 and was completed in 1938. Here are other facts about the community surrounding New Expression's Northside Bureau:

Lathrop Homes Statistics		
Population	Male	Female
Number of 10-14 year olds	97	108
Number of 15-19 year olds	86	87
Number of 20-24 year olds	35	127

Race of head of household

African-American	459
White	214
Hispanic	197
Asian	4
Native American	1
Other	21
Total	896



Total number of residents: 1,893
Number of buildings: 29
Number of units: 927

IF YOU CAN'T READ IT, YOU CAN'T MAKE IT.

A world without words can be a lonely, frightening place and it could be *your* world if you can't read. Without the ability to read and comprehend, you could feel trapped, isolated and without much hope.

Your local McDonald's Owners of Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana want to help you discover a world filled with opportunities and accomplishments through reading.

That's why our Literacy Program includes Ronald McDonald Read-Ins, Book Drives and Tutoring. We also sponsor programs like

the Black History Makers of Tomorrow Essay Contest, the Bud Billiken Back-to-School Parade and our annual Teen Leadership Conference.

We contribute to the United Negro College Fund and ACT-SO, an annual Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympic showcase of young black talent.

At McDonald's, we *know* you can make it when you know how to read.



McDonald's Educates

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REA

NE Thoughts

This month, NE Thoughts focuses on violence's effects in poetry and prose.

Real Life Nightmare

By Anthony Bell, Whitney Young

Chain, bat, knife...check. Rope, plastic, drinks...CHECK. A clap of thunder sounds and all of a sudden, I'm in a car with five others, the windshield wipers going full speed. The

aroma of heavy liquor fills the car. The hail and rain slap against the car windows, making it sound as if thousands and thousands of BB pellets are being dropped from the sky. The windows are so fogged that, along with the rain, I can barely see 50 feet outside the car's front

window. Everything is silent, except for the squeaking of the windshield wipers and the sound of a 40-ounce bottle of "brew" being turned upside down and the occasional "Argg," indicating how strong the liquor is as it passes down our throats. We turn the corner, a left, at Keeler Avenue. It is still raining. A backseat passenger points to a figure standing in front of an abandoned building. Without a word, we all know what we are about to do. Another clap of thunder sounds, and a flash of white light (lightning, I guess) appears before my eyes. The scene switches. We are inside the abandoned building.

We surround the figure, a male about 17 wearing a white and turquoise Starter

pullover jacket. We begin talking to him. I can't hear exactly what is being said, but I know it's not good because of the expression upon his face. As we talk, the figure begins to back up. He backs himself into a

The beating continues. Even after he stops moving, the beating continues. They wrap plastic around his body and hang him, by the neck, from a beam in the ceiling. He is dead. Everyone turns to walk away. I feel guilty.

I can never forgive my so-called "boys" for doing this, nor myself for that matter. My conscience has taken over. I turn to walk away. I hear my name. I turn around quickly and look at the corpse swinging back and forth from the ceiling. One eye catches my attention. It is the only visible body part — the only thing that isn't being covered by

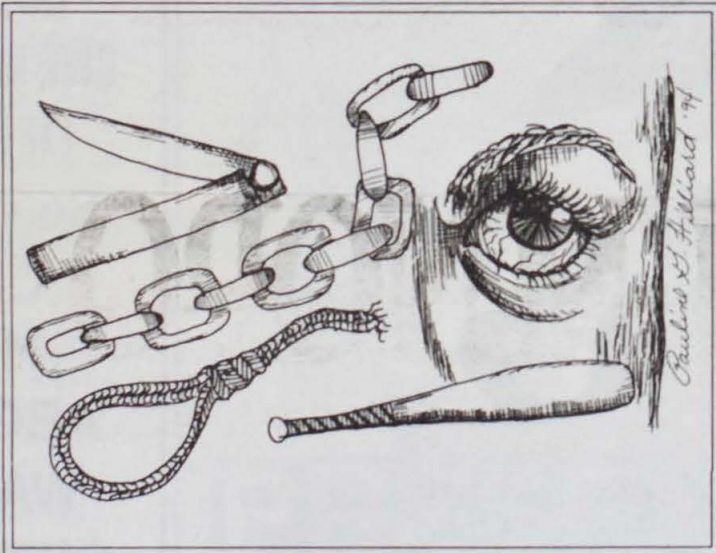


Illustration by Pauline Hilliard Kenwood Academy

wall. He is trapped so he starts to panic.

I can tell he will be willing to try anything to escape what he knows is coming. He tries to push his way through the human wall we form. He is stopped. Someone grabs him. A fist lands upon his face. Then another, and another. I just stand back and watch. I hadn't realized what I had become a parent of. Before, I knew I was all for it. But now the idea didn't seem so "cool" anymore. I stare on as the victim of this brutal attack falls to the ground, blood dripping from his face and stab wounds on his stomach. I look him in the eye, and, to my surprise, he calls my name. He knows me! I can't hear screams, just my name being called out as he stared back in my eyes, begging me to help him. I can't.

plastic. It is the same eye that I have stared into when I heard the cries of mercy. I hear my name again. I panic. I turn to run but I get nowhere. All I can hear is the echoing of my name as I run through the never-ending hall. Sweat drips down my face. My heart races. I feel something touch my shoulder and I jump up, breathing as if I have just won a marathon.

I am asleep. Dreaming. My mother has been calling my name, trying to wake me up for school.

I am relieved, yet sad and distraught at the same time, because as I sit on the edge of my bed, I realize the past isn't dead. It isn't even past. In my mind, it is a forever-playing episode of tragedy. There is no way to kill the past. Somehow, somewhere, it will always creep up on me.

Black Attack

Saw a report on the TV screen
a young brother was shot trying to pursue a dream
he was only seventeen years of age
and got shot in his back with a twelve gauge
He was a future basketball star
His potential was known and he was going very far
He wasn't in a gang or selling crack
just a seventeen-year-old guy, young gifted and black
being at the right place at the wrong time on the basketball court he was
seen dying
another victim of the drive-by thang another brother is dead,
another family in pain
Death to the black attack
Innocent brothers are dying every day
and that's a damn shame, if I must say
This drive-by thang has gotten out of hand
let's put an end to this, come on my brother man
to the crips and bloods, the folks and the people
let's put an end to this violence because as blacks we are equal
every day another funeral, every day more pain
let's bust a move to approve if we don't we will never change
it hurts my heart to see brothers die so young
and we got to blame ourselves we can't blame the gun
a gun can't fire without a finger to pull the trigger
and the klan just laugh and say, there goes another nigger
Death to the black attack
The self-destructive black attack
just last week a young sister was shot
on her way home from a friend's house around the block
Sixteen, her life had just begun
Sixteen, and now her life is gone
When that blue chevy cruised up the street,
SHOTS rang out, she was knocked off her feet
A BEAUTIFUL young sister innocent and black
Another victim of the self-destructive black attack
death to the black attack
The self-destructive black attack
I remember when I was coming up
yeah, we had violence, but it wasn't this f—ed up
I was able to play on the lot
Me and my friends didn't worry about being shot.
We played ball, hung out by the school
Wasn't worried about a blind m-f with a gun acting a fool
But nowadays we got to lock our kids up
Because the streets is just too f—ed up
Our streets have become a miniature Middle East
So now I'm pumping the lyrics to promote peace
I'm gonna get it started, come on, follow the lead
YEAH, we can do it, this I TRULY believe
We gotta get a grip on ourselves, we are out of hand
We gotta kill the black attack to preserve our BROTHER MAN
DEATH TO THE BLACK ATTACK
THE SELF-DESTRUCTIVE BLACK ATTACK!!!!

We're all affected by the violence around us. Think about how the violence you see and hear affects you, and write a poem or a short story, or draw a picture, and send it to:

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"Culture Clash" showcases Latino talent

By Nahir Vazquez, Staff Writer, Clemente High School

Shows like "Saturday Night Live" and "In Living Color" portray mainly Caucasians and African Americans. Well, now WFLD-Fox 32 offers "Culture Clash," which features Latinos. Like "Saturday Night Live" and "In Living Color," "Culture Clash" is composed of skits poking fun at stereotypes. The main difference between those shows and "Culture Clash" is that the skits on this show are about Latinos.

If this show is successful, it will

open more doors for Latino actors and programs on TV. On the other hand, if the show is cancelled because of low ratings, other American TV networks like NBC or CBS may not consider the idea of other Latino-based shows.

Every segment of "Culture Clash" has a word of the month. Famous actors explain some Spanish slang words through a funny example or scene. Edward James Olmos explained the word

"hijole" and Rita Moreno explained the word "bronca."

There was also a skit about a Latin-type superwoman. A Latino housewife went out flying to the rescue of citizens with her frying pan in hand as her weapon. The show makes fun of many stereotyped views that people have of Latinos. There are many funny scenes each week as well as guest stand-up comedians or singers. So check it out.

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Mixed up "Threesome" sounds better than it looks

By Jessica Olson
Managing Editor/Production
Bogan

Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the movie theater, beware. "Threesome," another stereotyping, predictable, 20-something movie has arisen out of the Hollywood swamps and is slithering into a theater near you.

The movie is narrated by Eddie (Josh Charles, "Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead"), who has just transferred to a new college and has decided to live in the campus co-ed dorm. His new roommate is Stuart (Stephen Baldwin, "Posse"), whose life revolves around the care of his own body, and scoring upon those of women. The two are polar opposites -- Eddie writes Stuart's English papers and Stuart teaches Eddie how to drink.

Enter into the dorm room Alex (Lara Flynn Boyle, "Wayne's World"). She's absolutely convinced that she's female. However, the computer files think otherwise, and until she proves that she is really a she, Alex has to stay in the male dorm room assigned to her.

At first, Alex is not happy about being assigned to the same dorm room as Eddie and Stuart, and she tries to separate herself from them as much as possible. However, she finds she has a lot in common with Eddie. And Stuart makes it his mission to "get closer" to Alex. Soon, the three are the closest of friends, inseparable. The friendship evolves into a love triangle for the '90s. Stuart wants Alex, Alex wants Eddie, and Eddie isn't exactly sure of what he wants, but he thinks it might be Stuart.

It doesn't take long to figure out the plot of this movie, because there's not much there. Sure, a comedy about three college students experimenting with all different kinds of sex can be funny and entertaining. However, it is also predictable and prone to stereotypes. It wasn't too surprising when the gay man who works in the dorm wears paisley shirts and speaks in a high, squeaky voice.

The movie should get credit for attempting to give a frank and unbiased look at college sex. It can also boast an excellent sound track, featuring U2, New Order, Duran Duran, Bryan Ferry, Tears for Fears, General Public, and others. The music made the movie, and kept me from falling asleep.

My advice, skip the movie and wait until it comes out in video. Take your money and buy the soundtrack instead.



Alex, Stuart, and Eddie form a love triangle in "Threesome"

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Chicago-grown U-MYND goes for the second round with album no. 2

By Marvin Patterson, Staff Writer

Hey ladies, you better stop, look and listen, because love balladeers U-MYND are back with their latest single "Prove My Love" from their second album on Luke records.

U-MYND consists of 21-year-olds William, Marcus, Terrell, Anthony and Jermaine, who are all from Chicago and who each take turns singing lead on their album.

Big Will of U-MYND said they're going back to the old school of music, "Going back to the way things used to be, like The Temptations...that real gut talent."

These Chicago homejams were discovered by Luke (who is a rapper and has his own record) label while on a promotional tour in Chicago.

"WGCI played our song while Luke was at the station and he liked our first single, which was "Stop!" "Look!" And Listen!" And he asked if he could meet us," said Will.



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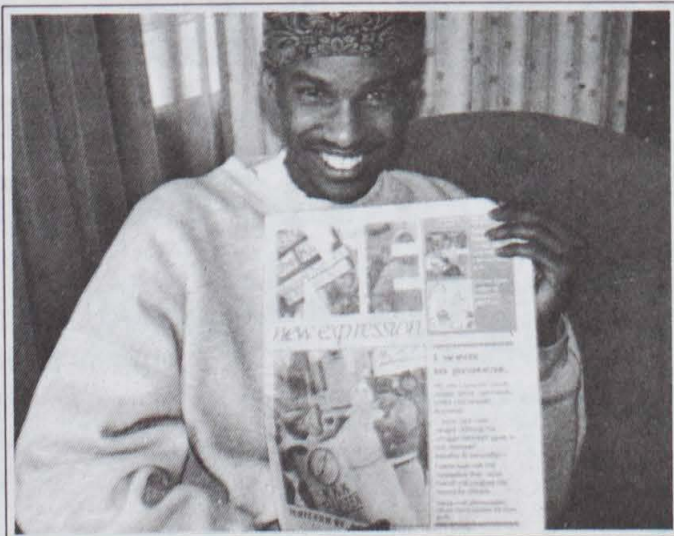


Photo by Nicole Davis, Kenwood.

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"Krash Man" CD takes lots of space to say little

By Raven Hill
Staff writer
Morgan Park High School

Since I'd never heard of rapper Krash Man before, I didn't know exactly what to expect from his debut CD, *Black Circle*. The first cut, "Got You Faded," had nothing memorable about it. However, the next single, "Something for the Players" had an interesting, '70s style-back-ground music, which gave me some hope that maybe the CD wasn't all bad. And it's not. You just have to really search for the good.



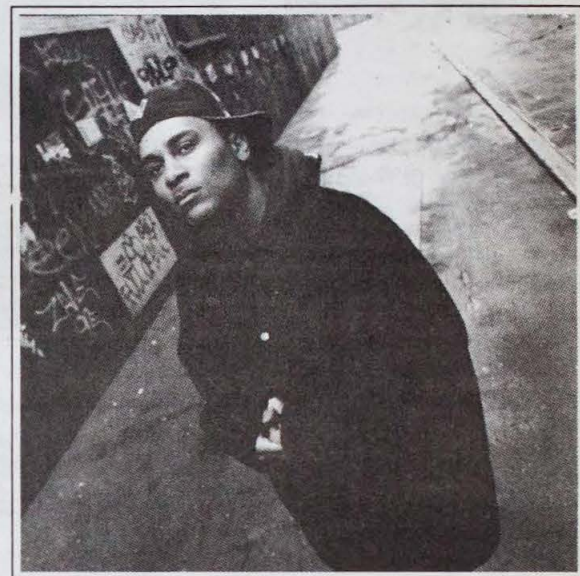
There is nothing distinctive about Krash Man's voice. It is very low and tends to get rather monotonous at times. Unlike Heavy D and Guru, if you heard Krashman's new single on the radio, you would not immediately realize it was him. And furthermore, you

wouldn't really care.

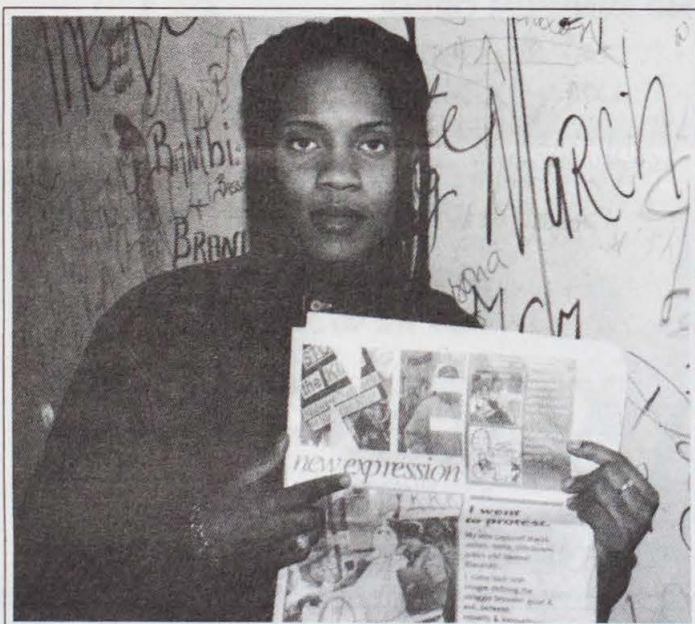
Lyrically, he's not saying much. His songs basically tell the same old stories of "The-boyz-in-the-hood/I-gots-to-get-with-this-'ho/how-many-MC's-

must-I-dis". A few words of advice for Krash Man: try something original.

Like I said earlier, this CD isn't all that. He shows some promise but I'd only recommend two cuts: "Something for the Players" and "Caught Up."



Krash Man



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Much stress for the press in "The Paper"

By Ana Cabrera
City Editor/Features
Whitney Young

Fast-paced and tightly packed, "The Paper" offers a roller coaster ride look at the stress-filled yet exciting world of newspaper journalism. The job never gives an inch and never lets you slow down. Running on deadline and always on adrenaline is what the job is all about, and "The Paper" does an excellent job of showing its viewers just how frenetic newspapering can be.

The movie gives a glimpse of a day in the life of typical news guy Henry Hackett (Michael Keaton). Trying to juggle his job as metro editor at the constantly-on-the-verge-of-bankruptcy, New York *Sun* and his new family responsibilities, Hackett finds himself trying to take on too many

things at the same time.

Marisa Tomei plays Hackett's wife Marty who's awaiting the birth of their first child.

Feeling depressed over having put her life on hold for the baby and wondering whether she will ever go back to her reporting career, Marty tries to live life vicariously through her husband, who's always too busy.

The rest of the movie's characters suffer from a variety of problems.

First, there's the chain-smoking senior editor Bernie, (Robert Duvall), who a long time before alienated his family and is now trying to gain them back, when he finds he has prostate cancer.

Next in the line of command is Alicia, (Glenn Close), the bitchy managing editor with an extravagant life and an expensive lover she can no longer

afford.

Constantly bickering with Hackett about how to run the newsroom and what to put in the paper, Alicia becomes his nemesis.

And then there's McDougal, (Randy Quaid), the self-proclaimed "expose" writer who has made it his mission to ridicule the parking commissioner.

Fearing the commissioner's vengeance McDougal has now taken to walking around with a gun and sleeping/hiding in Hackett's office. When asked when he got so paranoid

McDougal answers, "When they all started plotting against me."

All these characters will be faced, in the course of one day, with choices which will set the course for the rest of their lives. Hackett's trying to decide between his career and his family, between his job at the *Sun* and one at the more financially stable rival newspaper, and ultimately, between print-

ing the truth or letting it slide. Using a lot of suspense and drama, the movie realistically portrays the newspaper industry and is finely acted. It provides an entertaining view into the world of journalism by giving a feel for what it's really like to work on a newspaper staff.



Glenn Close plays Alicia Stark and Michael Keaton plays Henry Hackett in "The Paper."

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for details.**

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CECE Peniston's side:R&B

By Marvin Patterson, Staff Writer

Twenty-three-year-old Cece Peniston, who got popular doing pop/dance music, is in the mood to show people that she can be a little more R & B oriented. She does so with her second album, "Thought Ya Knew," on Perspective/A&M Records. Since releasing her gold debut album, "Finally...," and four hit singles, Peniston thought she'd give a new approach to her latest album.

As for her R & B slant, Peniston said, "My approach in recording the new album was to have a variety of material... I also wanted people to see my growth as a vocalist and as a writer."



Her description of this new album is R&B meets Dance. Peniston says she had more time in the studio to create this album than she had with her first, which was made in two months, and also had more time to pick out which songs to promote as singles.

Also, since her last album, she has taken voice lessons.

"Voice is like an instrument. Taking voice lessons helped with pacing myself and having better intoning and diction," she said.

Peniston's latest single, "I'm Not Over You," is touching in its message — a woman knows she can't be with her man but loves him still.

gabrielle

British singer America-bound

By Marvin Patterson, Staff Writer

Twenty-three-year-old British pop sensation Gabrielle didn't believe her dreams would come true as a recording artist because of competition in the music business. But her real dreams came true as a singer with her smash hit debut "Dreams," which entered the charts at number two.

On her songs, what you hear is Gabrielle, not a lot of studio wizardry.

A talent scout saw Gabrielle as heavy potential outside the club market and in turn persuaded the company to consider her as a recording artist. Six months later, "Dreams" sold over half a million albums. Gabrielle says everything she sings on "Find Your Way" is about everything she's experienced. "I can't write in the abstract," she says.



Gabrielle

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How to save money on prom and still look your absolute best....

By Keyosha Moore, Staff Writer

Ladies, I have been there! The running around, trying to make sure that everything is going just the way you've planned. I, unlike most of you, was very fortunate last year when prom rolled around. I decided three days before to go, and with the help of my family and friends I was able to pull off one of the best nights of my life. Here are some tips that I think may be of interest just in case everything doesn't go as planned.

1. Place a reservation for hair and nails a month before, so you can get a

better price and are guaranteed an appointment. Some places may jack up prices because they know that you are desperate. Try to use your regular beautician because he/she already knows you and your likes/dislikes.

2. When having a gown made, make

Some places may jack up prices because they know that you are desperate.

sure to make frequent surprise visits to the dressmaker just to make sure that the dress is coming out the way you want it. Don't wait until the last day because you may end up stuck at home with a defective dress! Some of you may be scraping to put together money after getting that dress and paying for your



tickets, so I suggest you do as I did...

3. Get "do-it-yourself" nails. Many of you already know how to sculpt your own nails. If not, ask a friend of a friend she may be able to pull it off. You can buy nail tips at several places, including Sally's Beauty Supply, for \$2.99 (tips), \$.99 (glue). Locations include 839 N. State, 2727 N. Clark, and at Walgreen's, for \$7.99 (Lee sculptured tips), \$9.99 (Lee gel formula nails). Locations are at 200 W. Adams, 6816 W. Grand, 5346 S. Ashland, and 5518 W. Chicago Ave.

4. Do your own hair! And try out some styles in advance, don't decide to wait until the day of prom to experiment with a new look. You may hate it, and then it's too late to fix it. Also, remember it might not be done adequately. I had my hair done the day of prom and by the time I got home it was a wreck, so with a swift and desperate phone call my cousin redid it and it actually looked a whole lot better, free of charge. So do your hair the day before prom, buy some wrapping lotion at local drugstores and wrap your hair before you go to bed the night before.

5. Buy an already-made dress! This lessens the chance that there will be something wrong with it and you should be able to have any alterations done at a very low cost.

For some of you these ideas may have already crossed your mind and maybe some of them will work to your benefit. Prom is one of the most exciting times in your lives. If you don't think so, just ask someone who's already been. Keep on schedule and the night will be yours!

P.S. Find out beforehand what your friends' dresses are like so you don't show up wearing the same dress !!

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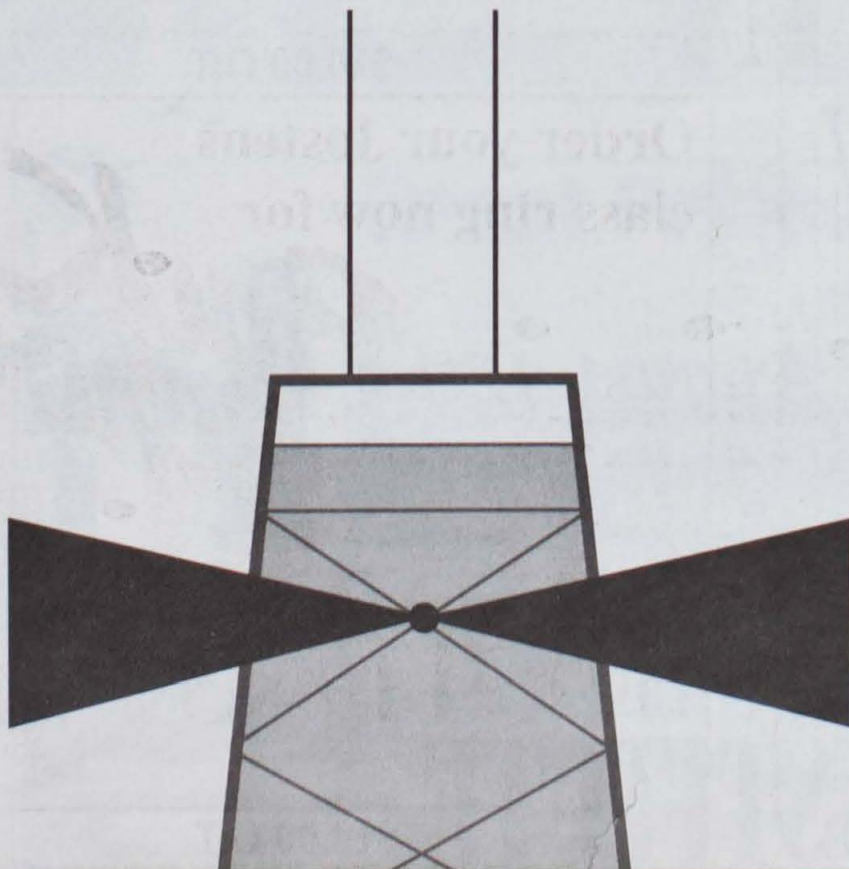
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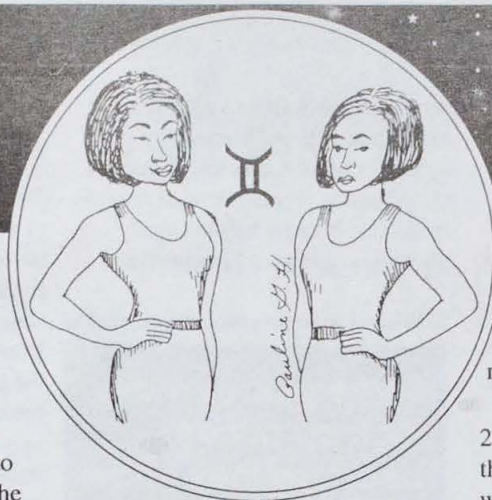


Illustration by Pauline Hilliard,
Kenwood Academy

Aries (March 21- April 19) Make inquiries into special programs. Your abilities will soar. Figures in authority will undoubtedly acknowledge your skills. The 7th, 8th, and 9th will be days filled with recognition from a Libran.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Intellectual pursuits will highlight the first 10 days of this month. Focus on challenge and diversity. This provides opportunity for you to become a "shining star" for a Virgo.

Gemini (May 21- June 20) The first two weeks will be filled with propositions and proposals. Be very objective with your mate. Allow this period to be a "get acquainted time," and "love the one you're with." Especially that Cancer!

Cancer (June 21- July 22) After the 21st your relationships will flourish. Your charming demeanor and

charisma will totally envelop all that you come into contact with. Enjoy the attention and indulge yourself with an Aquarian.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) The 17th through 19th will be your time to complete unfinished projects. The rewards will be fulfilling. You will definitely get the "job done." So allow your energies to remain focused. Another Leo will be interested.

Virgo (Aug. 23- Oct. 22)

Your articulation is high. The 20th will be your day to accept bouquets. Smell these flowers and let that fragrance become "unforgettable." A Gemini will notice you.

Scorpio (Oct. 23- Nov. 21) You have the desire to start over. A new approach should be in the making.

This is not a great time to implement. Keep on making changes to improve. But now is not the time. Let a Libran keep you balanced!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The 25th and 26th will remove that cloud around your head. It is now your time to confide in that tone you trust. Let the past go, and take one day at a time. You will feel a big weight off your chest. Enjoy yourself with a Libran.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might try to be creative. Stick to structure. This will prove positive

in results. Routine will be your key to success. Avoid dexterity and luck will highlight, especially with that Sagittarius you noticed!

Aquarius (Jan. 20- Feb. 19) The 2nd, 3rd, and 30th are your days for the taking. Express yourself. Read, write and attend seminars that will enhance your profession. Your mind is acute and everyone will notice. Remain humble, especially with that dotting Scorpio mate.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - March 20) The 4th, 5th, and 6th will allow your originality to surface. Communications of all sorts should be highlighted. Letters, small trips and visits should be on your personal agenda. You will be greeted graciously by all that you encounter. But a special impulsive Aries will express his/her delight!



Cevin Colby and Jay Pauer from
Comedy Sportz at the Improv

Stand-up humor a team effort at Comedy Sportz

By Ana Cabrera, City Editor, Features,
Whitney Young

I knew it was going to be a strange night when Elvis Presley came to sit next to me. My friend and I had been invited to attend the first showing of Comedy Sportz in Chicago, and I really didn't know what to expect, having never gone to a comedy club. I'm sure a lot of you haven't been to this kind of club, either, but let me tell you, it was worth going to.

We felt a little out of place in the 20-something beer-drinking crowd at the Improv, but after the show started our age didn't really make a difference. Beginning with the Bulls' theme song "Rock and Roll, Part II," the comedy teams were introduced. Then came the referee who informed the audience of the rules of the game. There are not many. Various audience responses determine how the teams score: If the audience gives a groaner for a bad joke the team loses points, for example.

This isn't your typical stand-up comedy routine. There is a lot of audience participation, which isn't usual, and all the routines done are purely improvisational. So if you do go make sure to yell out all your suggestions because getting yourself heard is most important.

My favorite part was when a team member is asked to leave the stage while the rest of team gathers suggestions from the audience. First we were asked to name an activity; potato peeling won. But you're not actually peeling a potato but Tanya Harding's head, and you're not using a peeler but a toothbrush. Then the team member is asked back and she has to guess what she is supposed to be doing. Points are added according to whether she gets it right.

So remember, go see Comedy Sportz. Performances are every Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. at the Improv, 504 N. Wells. Make sure to call for reservations at (312) 549-8080, tickets are only \$10. Make comedy club going the teen thing to do.

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Photo Journal



Teens make beautiful music together in Protege Philharmonic

By Muneerah Askia, Staff Writer
Hirsch Metro

The Protege Philharmonic, founded by Maestro Joseph Glymph, is composed of more than 80 Chicago teen musicians. The philharmonic is ranked among the top three in Illinois, the top 15 in the Midwest, and the top 50 in the United

States.

Upon receiving "The Challenge of a Lifetime," an invitation from the People's Republic of China, the Protege Philharmonic will tour Beijing, Tianjing and Shanghai in August.

The orchestra previously performed in a Far East tour of Taiwan and Japan while participating in the 5th International Youth Music

Festival in 1989.

The Protege Philharmonic recently moved to a new space in the

Chicago Music Mart at DePaul Center, 333 S. State St. If you're interested in joining the philharmonic or

just attending a performance, contact Joseph Glymph at 312-341-

Photos from left to right:

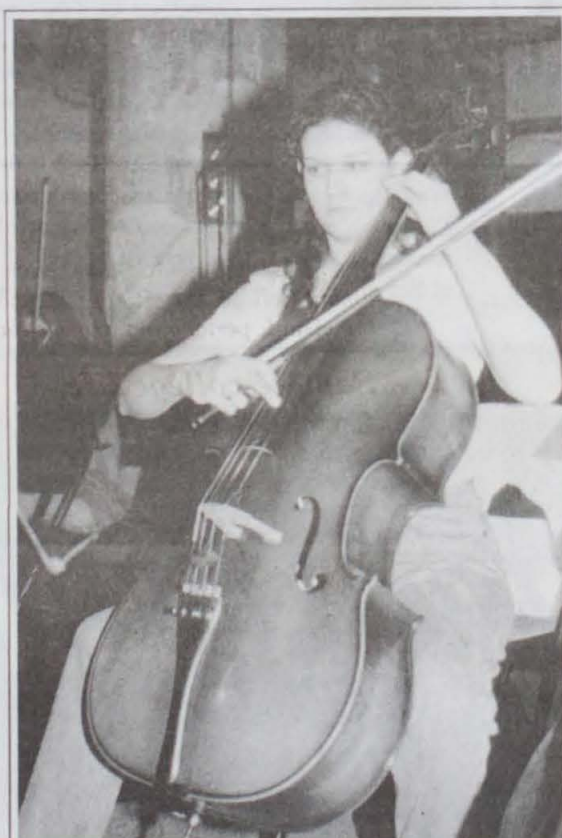
1. Brian Farber has been playing the tuba for the past two years with the philharmonic.

2. Kate Miller is an excellent cello player who attends St. Charles H.S. and has been in the orchestra for one year. Photos 1 and 2 by Ewa Sarnacka, Lane Tech

3. The Protege Philharmonic is composed of 80

Chicago teen musicians. The orchestra will tour China in August 94.

4. Jeremy Wegner, who is a first-year percussionist with Protege, is a senior at Highland Park High School. Photos 3 and 4 by Bernard Camacho, Urban Youth Program-EE



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Pro & Con

Are referees affecting city's talent?

Athletes need to shut up and play

By Earnest Weatherby, Sports Editor, Whitney Young

A friend and I were watching the Arkansas-Arizona game in the NCAA Tournament when a questionable goal-tending call was whistled against my friend's favorite team, Arizona. He thought the referee made a bad call, but I thought it was a good one. Was I right? Was the ref wrong? Who knows the real answer to that one?

What we do know is the ref made the call based on what he saw, which is all we can ask. Athletes should know that the way they see things may be different from what refs see. His call is final, so they might as well deal with it.

As a high school student, there have been many times when I've gone to school following an athletic event and heard team members grumbling, "We were cheated!" or "The ref was calling some crap!" Each time I wonder if it could really have been that bad. Then I think to myself, "Nah, there had to be some other explanation for it." Nine times out of 10 there is — a missed assignment, bad defense or just a total lack of effort. Athletes can let bad calls compound their mistakes by letting it frustrate them and get them out of their game.

Sure, referees, umpires, and other officials make mistakes they're paid to avoid. They don't, however, make you swing at bad pitches, miss open-field tackles, or take bad shots during a game. When refs are making bad calls, players need to compose themselves and concentrate on fundamentals. Otherwise, they'll end up playing out of control.

As far as the idea of favoritism toward outstanding players, that's ridiculous. Charles Barkley is a great player. Are referees overlooking everything he does on the court? No.

Why is he always one of the league leaders in technical fouls? There have been many times when because a player has decided to argue hopelessly about the officiating, they lose sight of what they want to accomplish. What's the use of complaining? Every thing that an athlete does on the court is not perfect.

No one said it would be easy to play above bad officiating. The championship teams realize that they must earn their victories. No one is going to give them anything.



Earnest Weatherby



Adrienne P. Samuels

Refs need to remember impartiality is their game

By Adrienne P. Samuels, Staff Writer, Morgan Park

Over the past four years, I have seen high school basketball deteriorate from an entertaining sport into a played-out soap opera. Four years ago, I went to games to see who would win, not to see who the ref decided to foul out. Back then, people said, "May the best man win." Today, people should say, "May the man who's in best with the ref win."

Players should not have to play up to the ref. It's hard enough to play the opposing team, let alone the official. What I mean is that refs give some teams a hard time. No matter what they do, they always get the foul called on them. This forces the team to play even harder, but not against the opposing team. They must play harder against the ref. Not only must the team remember their plays, they must remember to dodge their official. This is ridiculous! The official is there to help, not hinder. An athlete's only concern should be the game. They go to practice to learn how to play. They don't go to learn the best methods of "Sucking Up to Your Official."

Many games are lost because refs favor certain teams. Any opponent is bound to lose, because all too often, a team's established reputation causes the referee to overlook certain mistakes. How many times have charges, walking, and pushing not been called when Simeon, Carver, King, Mount Carmel, and St. Martin De Porres basketball teams played? There are too many to count.

It is possible these teams could be better than their opponents. However, how can anyone ever see if the opposing team is better if the referee calls every foul on them?

Morgan Park played St. Martin De Porres (home of the infamous Jerry Gee and Tyrone Triplett) and ended the game with more than 18 fouls. St. Martin ended with less than 10. Something is definitely wrong with this picture.

I am not the only one who feels the refs make bad calls on purpose. Whitney Young played Washington in the Girls City Semi-Finals Championships at the UIC Pavilion earlier this year. During this game, unfair possession was granted to Whitney Young. A popular cheer started among the crowd, "1-2-3, shoot the referee! 3-2-1, kill the other one!" Now really, would a crowd of 50 to 60 people be saying this if the referee wasn't wrong in his judgment? I think not.

Basketball used to consist of a ball, two teams, and one impartial official. Now the game is made of a ball and three teams. The ones in black and white are the refs.

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Taft's Lady Eagles still on the hunt

Young team readies for mature success

By Audrey Hudgins, Staff Writer, Taft High School

Taft's Girls' Track Team is on the way to becoming successful as Jennifer Burlinski, Melissa Guadalupe, Anita Hudson and Dorian Ratliff strive to become the best. First year Coach Towery said, "Although we're just starting out with these young women on the team, they've aided to our rise to the top." Coach Towery helps lead this 19-girl track team on and helps boost their self-esteem so they can get better and better as the school year rolls on. At Taft's latest meet with Lakeview where Jennifer Burlinski came in 1st

place in the 660-yard dash at Winnemac Stadium March 31.

The latest meet was against Mather at Winnemac Stadium on April 14th. Anita Hudson came in 1st place in the 100-yard dash, Melissa Guadalupe 1st in the 200-yard dash, and Jennifer Burlinski 1st in the 800-yard dash. Whew! Can they get any better than this??

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And They're Off...

The Public League South-Central Sectional Relays in Boys' Track took place on April 19th at Robeson High School. These are the winners in each event:

Relays

400 and 800 Meter-Dunbar
3200 Meter-Julian
1600 Meter-Bowen
High Hurdle Shuttle-Hirsch
Mile Medley-Robeson

Open Events

1600 Meter Run-Joseph Weaver, Kennedy
High Jump-Troy Brown, King
Discus, Shot Put-Trevor Scott, Morgan Park
Long Jump, Triple Jump-David Thompson, Dunbar

Overall

First-Dunbar
Second-Morgan Park

by Earnest Weatherby
Sports Editor, Whitney Young

Intramurals at Whitney Young

It finally happened. After years of patience, the students at Whitney Young High School have started an intramural athletic program in volleyball and basketball.

What appears to have the whole school in an uproar is the basketball program. The "league" features 16 teams with rosters chosen by student captains who organize their teams with players, coaches, and also team nicknames like Cash, Air Force One, the Woos and (my favorite) the Crawfish. Rules basically remain the same with few changes including a 15-minute running clock and no foul-outs.



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