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## Columbia Chronicle (04/06/1992)

Columbia College Chicago

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# THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 20

THE EYES AND EARS OF COLUMBIA

APRIL 6, 1992

## Questioning standards

By Jade L. Williams  
Staff Editor

The disenchantment over open admissions and academic standards can still be heard in the hallways of Columbia College as the City Colleges of Chicago move ahead with plans to expand their current assessment testing policy this fall.

The City Colleges, joining many community colleges across the nation, decided in February that college-wide testing was needed to help students benefit from college courses.

"If people come in unprepared, we're not doing them any favor by letting them take course that they are not ready for—it will result in failure," said Sylvia Bush, director of the Center for Testing and Assessment for City Colleges, said.

The measure, proposed by the City Colleges Board of Trustees and Board Chairman Ronald Gidwitz, has come under fire by faculty, students

and local black officials, who are accusing the colleges of trying to push minorities out through testing and by eliminating classes with low enrollment and high school equivalency courses.

But Bush said the colleges will remain open to all, and only classes with very low en-

**"Testing alters the mission of Columbia by setting up two schools: people with skills and people without skills."**

Glen Graham

rollment will be canceled for efficiency reasons.

At Columbia, students continue to blame the college's open admission policy for frustrations incurred in classrooms with peers who they say

lack basic skills.

Journalism student Leslie Cummings spoke of a former writing class in which students exchanged papers with each other for editing and feedback.

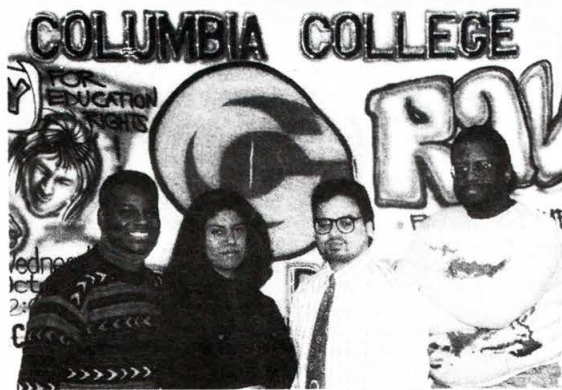
"The paper I edited was filled with run-on sentences," she said. "There's no way the girl I exchanged with could have given me feedback with her writing skills."

These comments can be heard often from Columbia students in English, fiction writing and math classes, but many are reluctant to go on the record, and some try to rationalize their argument for pre-testing.

Television major Cornell Lambert said Columbia should have a form of assessment testing to correct the broad diversity of skills he has encountered in some classes.

"All students are not on the same wave length," Lambert said. "It's been my position that Columbia should have testing

**See STANDARDS**  
Page 7



Lisa Adds Staff Photographer

S.O.C. board members, (from left to right) Ryan Daniels, Carmella Snook, Ivan Rivera, and Thurston Coleman.

## Latin Alliance, one of SOC's top players

By Andrew Rohan  
Staff writer

Last Month the Latino Alliance got actor/director Edward James Olmos to appear for free at the Hokin Center.

In February, the group sponsored a forum with state Sen. Miguel del Valle (D-Chicago) and Alderman Jesus Garcia (22nd).

The alliance is certainly one of the most active student groups on campus, but it is only one of the 23 Student Organizations Council members contributing to student life.

Other groups range from the radical (Students for a Better World) to the obscure (the Yearbook Organization) to the technical (the Science and Math Club).

Latino Alliance president, Carmen Figueroa, who also sits on the board, said the group prides itself to being the most active and cost efficient organization. Figueroa snagged Olmos through a friend who is active in the Latino Center, which puts on the Chicago Latino Film Festival. "Most of our speakers are not motivated by money," Figueroa said.

As a result the Alliance saves more of the school's dollars.

"Combining the fall and spring semesters, thus far our budget has not exceeded \$3,000."

When students organizations hold an event or group project, they submit a proposal to SOC. The council's representatives then vote on the proposal. If passed, the proposal is submitted to Dean of Students Hermann Conaway for final approval.

The SOC's annual budget is \$45,000, according to President Ryan Eugene Daniels; the money comes from the Dean of Students' budget.

The SOC encourages new groups to join and get active.

"New organizations are welcome so long as they represent a student constituency and have a worthy mission or goal," Daniels said. In addition, the group must get the signatures of 10 student members.

The Latin Alliance is also looking for new members. "Recruitment is done primarily by word of mouth," Figueroa said. "Friends bring in friends."

The Alliance meets at noon every Wednesday in room 202 of the Wabash building. Members need not be Hispanic to join; of the 70 members, there are 30 non-Latins, including one Filipino and two African Americans.

The Alliance and Students for a Better World, with about 70 members each, are the two largest groups. This spring the Alliance will host a Salsa concert and a Cinco de Mayo (the fifth of May) celebration commemorating the Mexican Revolution.

The SOC itself sponsors several events, including bands, lectures, and student films. Last spring it sponsored a boat excursion that was open to

**See ALLIANCE**  
Page 2

## P.R. dept makes news

By Cris Henry  
Staff Writer

Carol Bryant has a working budget of just under \$65,000 per year. She has a staff of only four people. She has undertaken a task of immense proportions at Columbia, and she is not only succeeding in its completion, she is thriving.

Bryant is the director of Columbia's college relations and development department. It is her job to make sure that Columbia holds a prominent place in the media spotlight.

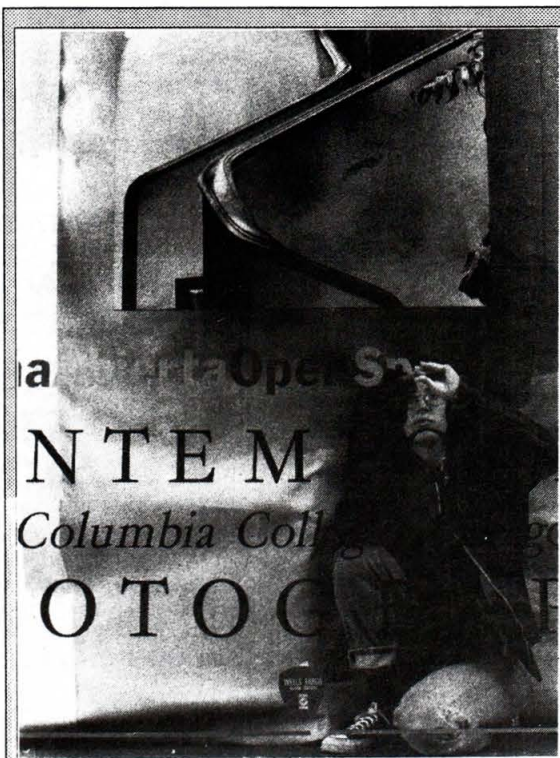
"I've been here for 15 months, and I really enjoy it. Before I was here I worked for Porter/Novelli, a public relations agency, for 15 years. Columbia was a client of the agency's, and I worked on the account. When this position opened up, Columbia asked me to join the staff, and it sounded like a neat organization to work for, so here I am."

Bryant has also worked for Channel 11 and a professional equity theater in New York, doing public relations.

Recently Columbia has been popping up in both the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Chicago Sun-Times*. This is the work of Bryant and her staff.

"Our approach to p.r. varies completely depending on the subject at hand. We use pitch letters, public service announcements, and media alerts, but sometimes it is as simple as making a phone call. It's our goal not just to be pro-active by sending the information, but to create opportunities."

Bryant's office and the English department collaborated earlier this year to create a poetry contest for community college students. This contest, open only to community college students



**Picture perfect.** Lisa Adds Staff Photographer  
Judy Cohn carefully peels a "p" off the window of the Museum of Contemporary Photography to prepare for a new exhibit.

**See RELATIONS**  
Page 6

### News

**New law smokes smokers out, but**  
"Campus one big ashtray," some say. Page 2.

### Features

**Meet the person behind the counter.**  
Pat Thompson of Dell Express on pages 4, 5.

### Opinion

**Gambling stacks deck against city**  
All bets off, Crescenzo says on page 7.



## Jenny Dervin

"What does he do, this man you seek?"

"He kills women."

"No...that is incidental."

Killing women is incidental? You bet, if we're talking about "Silence of the Lambs," one of the greatest movies of all time.

Many lessons can be learned from this movie, including the moral that seemingly major events are really incidental. Take, for instance, Carol Mosely Braun's stunning victory in the Democratic Senatorial primary.

"What did she do, this woman you voted for?"

"She won the primary."

"No...that is incidental."

It's a trick question, really. Her importance lies in what she didn't do—namely, spend a load of money, smear her candidates personally, lash out as the "angry" candidate, and use her race as campaign fodder. It is obvious to her supporters that she is an African-American female, running for an almost exclusive Caucasian-male club. She threw the race card away.

Gus Savage didn't. And he lost. Big time.

"What does he do, this man you didn't vote for?"

"He hates non-black Christians."

"No...that is incidental."

Gus Savage blamed his defeat on the Jewish and white-dominated press. In large, this means absolutely nothing. We know he did not raise money to spread misinformation about the press. He raised money to win, and used fear in the process. He warned his constituents they would lose their voice in Congress if they voted for Mel Reynolds. I guess the voters figured they couldn't lose something they didn't have in the first place.

Because of the re-districting, many white suburbs are now part of the 2nd Congressional District, striking fear into the hearts of many who might have been represented by Savage. So these white, Jewish, Catholic, and other demographic groups pulled Democratic ballots to vote Reynolds in. Sure, it was a protest vote, but Reynolds has a chance to show them he's capable of representing everyone. As winner by default, you couldn't pick a better Rep than Reynolds.

In his "concession" speech, Savage was not endearing, resigned or comfortable handing over his office to Reynolds. In stark contrast, Alan Dixon left a lifetime of politics and a history of undefeated contests (*he had never, NEVER, lost an election*) with grace, humor, wit and total support for Mosely Braun. I thought I'd never have a nice thing to say about Dixon. I was wrong.

"What does he do, this man you didn't vote for?"

"He ain't doing nothin' now."

Some areas of politics can be taken for granted. Candidates bitch about the lists of signatures they need to get on the ballot, but they don't question the wisdom of this requirement. Paul Tsongas didn't make the Utah primary because of a lack of names, and he didn't make a huge fuss.

Others bitch about the Democratic Machine in Chicago. It doesn't matter that the legendary Machine of the first Mayor Daley is no longer viable. But it's part of our heritage, so we take it for granted.

But one thing is certain. Illinois voters *hate* declaring a party for the primary elections.

As an election judge this time around, I had to answer many questions from irate first-time voters:

"What do you mean, I have to declare a party?"

"I want to vote a split ticket—Can you give me two ballots?"

"What planet are you from?"

Most states offer Republican, Democratic and Uncommitted/Independent ballots for their primaries. You can vote a split ticket on the Independent ballots. Illinois is still in the first Ice Age. We can't seem to thaw.

### ALLIANCE

From page 1

all students.

In May the SOC will hold its Spring Fest and will collaborate with the Hokin Center to promote various acts by Columbia students, Daniels said.

The SOC considered vying for Club MTV's traveling show, but proper facilities could not be found. Another spring boat ride was also dropped due to soaring costs, Daniels said.

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## Smoking ban gets mixed results

By Tricia Robinson  
Staff Writer

Smoking is no longer in vogue.

In the 1990s, nearly everyone acknowledges that smoking is one of the leading causes of air pollution, lung cancer and heart disease. Researchers have found that people who don't smoke can contract lung disease by inhaling stale smoke from people who do, and they have urged the federal government to establish more programs that will combat smoking in public facilities.

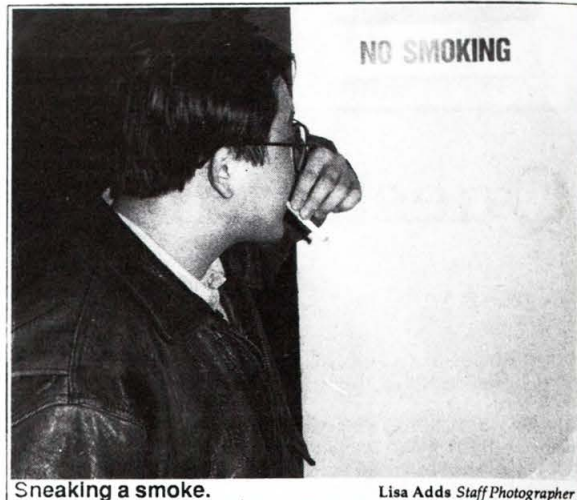
Many public institutions have already taken up the call. Columbia College and Roosevelt and DePaul universities have instituted non-smoking policies in compliance with clean air laws passed by the state of Illinois and the Chicago City Council.

Chicago's ordinance strictly prohibits smoking in all public buildings except in designated areas.

At Columbia, smoking is permitted in designated sections of the Hokin Student Center, the Follet Lounge, and the Theater/Music Lounge on the 11th Street campus.

Columbia's non-smoking areas are not clearly marked, according to one student who would not give his name. "I see no signs that are posted regarding designated smoking areas on campus, so I consider the campus one big ashtray."

But Martha Linehan, director of Administrative Offices, said Columbia's designated smoking areas are clearly marked.



Sneaking a smoke.

Lisa Adds Staff Photographer

Smoking is prohibited in the Torco building, but no-smoking signs have not yet been installed, she said.

Virgil Clark, a broadcast journalism major and a non-smoker, said, "I personally do not have a problem with students smoking on campus." He opposes any school policy that prohibits smoking.

Anna Gurro, a junior, said she wants to be more respectful

to non-smokers. "If they want to limit smoking to certain areas, I'll abide by it," she said.

Jeff Boddeker, a sophomore and ex-smoker said the non-smoking policy has been very effective at Columbia. "Students are allowed to smoke during breaks but only in designated areas," he said. At Roosevelt University smoking has been banned completely.

"Residents are permitted to smoke outside of the building," said Mike Geras, a school spokesman.

DePaul's non-smoking policy is similar to Columbia's.

"Students are allowed to smoke only in designated areas," said Tom Gibbons, a school spokesman. Officials at all three campuses said they are in compliance with the city's ordinance.

"Universities that violate the ordinance are granted a 10-day grace period to post temporary no-smoking signs, until they receive official no-smoking signs," said Susan Jacobs, a city spokeswoman.

City inspectors would respond to complaints by meeting with school officials to try and resolve any problems, the spokeswoman said.

## THE HOTTEST TOPICS IN THE 90s

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# Kids excel at prep school

By Vivian P. Panou  
Staff Writer

In less than two hours, a 21-year-old adult learned the functions of the human brain, the names and functions of the body's bones, the names of the five living presidents, and a concise definition of what makes a third world country.

All of these facts were taught to me by a group of 8 to 12 year olds.

Burnham Park Prep School at 531 S. Wabash Ave. is the school responsible for these youngsters' eloquence. Burnham Park has been in business for five years and is one of two schools within walking distance of Columbia. The Loop Lab School, at 421 S. Wabash, is a block further north.

Though some students at Columbia have children, it

wasn't until last semester that Columbia began keeping track of statistics concerning students with children, said Dennis Peacock, Dean of Institutional Research. "We haven't analyzed that student child information yet. It's in raw data form," Peacock said.

Mrs. Bertha Brown Richardson, executive director of Burnham Park, said that she has two children affiliated with Columbia.

"Enrollment of Columbia students is low because we did not do a marketing strategy for Columbia," Richardson said. "However, we hope to offer tuition discounts if 10 or more children affiliated with Columbia join our school."

Elmira Mayes, Director of Loop Lab School, estimates she now has "about five children" whose parents are affiliated with Columbia. "Mostly

mothers drop their children off," she said.

Both schools stress academics. Burnham Park classes offer science, reading, arithmetic, dance, theater, and English as a second language.

"Single mothers who want to better themselves" by going back to school bring their kids here, according to Richardson.

"I have children between the ages of three and ten who are brought by their mothers," she said.

Both schools are open from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. and offer before and after school programs. Classes at Loop Lab begin at 8:45 a.m. and end at 3:35 p.m. while classes at Burnham Park are from 9 a.m.

Among the students at Burnham were Tiffanie Greer, 10, in fifth grade. As she spoke, her big brown eyes lit up. "I wake up at 4:30 a.m. and I'm in class by 8:30 a.m. so my mom could be at work on time. Once I get here I read my books, study, or sometimes even talk to my friends," Tiffanie said. "I have to get up so early because in the morning my mom has to fix my hair, and we make my lunch together and take care of things," she added.

Most of these children are from single parent homes.

Although Etienne Swaien, 8, in third grade, lives with his mother, his grandparents also live with them. "My mom drops me off in the morning before she goes to work," he said.

Jesse Huff, 10, in fifth grade, is the student mayor. "I'm the mayor because I know my history very well. I know dates that can take us all the way back to the Mayflower," Huff said.

"I'm very, very proud of him," said Mrs. Greene, the director of Burnham Prep the school. "Our kids here are ahead of the kids in the public schools."

Chris Davis, 12, in sixth grade, is the student president of the school. "I gave him that title because he's the oldest of the kids," said Greene.

"I don't want to ever leave from here, I learn many things, and have fun too. I used to go to a public school but didn't like it because they don't teach you anything, they just gave us the homework. If you did something wrong, they didn't talk to you, they just suspend you," Chris said.

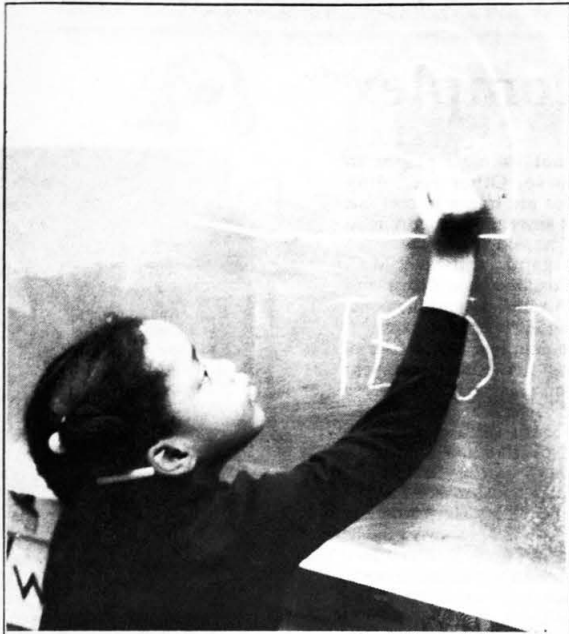
"When I graduate from here, I'm going to go to a private high school not a public one," he added. Chris' mother is a student at Northwestern University.

"Most of these children's parents have good jobs, and have already gone to school," said Greene.

The children stated their parents occupations with pride. They ranged from computer people, to firefighters, to University professors, mail men, bankers, and almost any other prestigious position you can think of.

Burnham Park has 35 stu-

See SCHOOL  
Page 6



Lisa Adds Staff Photographer

Artist in the making.  
A pre-schooler draws a picture at Burnham Park School just steps away.

## FINANCIAL AID WEEK

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## Interns work with pros at music complex



**Theresa Volpe**  
Features Editor

A pair of mannequin legs lay in front of a white and black, tiger skin couch. Placed strategically, three television sets perch a top a column of cider blocks, all playing the movie "Terminator 2." An old carnival merry-go-round horse, with a baby doll head glued to its saddle is suspended from the ceiling. Two red and silver barber chairs are surrounded by several rubber indoor plants. A hispanic man with a pony tail sits and spins one barber chair around. The

walls are covered with graffiti. This isn't a funhouse at a carnival or a satanic cult hangout. It's the reception area at the Chicago Music Complex, Chicago's only full service recording, rehearsal, and showcase facility.

What makes C.M.C. unique is that it is a studio where musicians can concentrate without having to worry about lugging their equipment from a rehearsal studio to a recording studio.

And best of all, C.M.C. hires Columbia students as interns.

"I've worked with local bands like Naked Raygun," said Daniel Bradshaw, a junior at Columbia and an intern at C.M.C.

Located in the southside, 2411 South Prairie Ave, C.M.C.

was a run-down old warehouse until five long-time musicians came together in 1990 and decided to transform the space into a recording studio.

"When you're in a band you have to go so many different places to record or rehearse before going on tour. It can become very costly," said Don Weigand, C.M.C.'s assistant manager.

The idea was to start a place that had everything: recording studios, rehearsal rooms, and storage areas, that musicians could afford," he said.

"The idea worked. There are about 300 bands that rehearse and record here. The number keeps getting bigger every day. The bands come from all over the country, not just Chicago. The national acts are starting to break in here also," Weigand said.

Some of the national acts that have either rehearsed or recorded at C.M.C. include: Pattie LaBelle, Billy Branch, Nine Inch Nails, Bobby Vinton, Killing Joke. But Chicago bands, many alternative, have made it to the top at C.M.C. as well: Material Issue, Naked Raygun, Rights of the Accused, Slammmin' Watusis, and the Charming Beggars.

According to Weigand, C.M.C. has made an important impact on Chicago. "What's happening in Chicago now is that a lot of bands are dying for rehearsal space because there

are not enough places to rehearse. Other recording studios are trying to rent out space since the economy is so bad," he said.

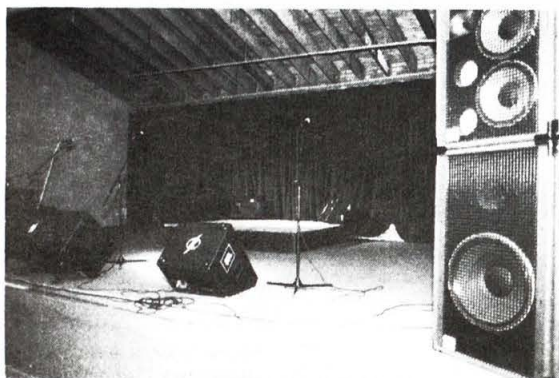
Weigand knows C.M.C. studios inside and out and began a tour downstairs in the Chicago Rehearsal studios.

The area has four rehearsal rooms, two band equipment storage areas and a showcase room. A showcase room is used for record release parties, a place to record music videos, or for dance parties or formals. Ministry's just-released video "Jesus Built My Hot Rod," was shot in C.M.C.'s showcase. The room is dimly lit and has a night club atmosphere about it. A maroon, velvet backdrop hangs behind the 25 foot by 33 foot stage area, lights pointing towards the stage dangle from the wooden beam, and a sound mixer takes up most of the back of the room.

The downstairs area still has a warehouse feel about it, with cement floors and large open areas. One area is large enough to park four or five semi trucks. Actually, it's a playroom for the bands and their friends to hang out complete with video games and a pool table.

C.M.C. Recorders, located above the rehearsal studios, is like walking into a luxurious condo on Lake Shore Drive.

**See C.M.C.**  
**Page 6**



Microphone showcase room

Nick Oza Staff Photographer



Nick Oza Staff Photographer



Midi suite 8 track studio

## "Mambo Kings," painfully routine

### MOVIE REVIEW



**By Jim Hemphill**  
Staff Writer

Arne Glimcher's "The Mambo Kings" is an exceptionally well-crafted film on almost every possible level, with meticulously created production design, cinematography and costuming. Yet the film is ultimately a disappointment, because first-time director Glimcher seems to have no idea of how to tie all of these elements together.

If nothing else, "The Mambo Kings" is conclusive proof that a movie needs a strong guiding hand; film may be a collaborative medium, but it still belongs primarily to the director.

"The Mambo Kings" tells the story of Cesar and Nestor Castillo (played by Armand Assante and Antonio Banderas, respectively), a pair of Cuban brothers who immigrate to the U.S. in order to pursue a musical career. The film follows, in a painfully routine fashion, their rise and tragic fall.

This story of young

musicians losing their innocence as they gain success, has been around for as long as the cinema itself, and "The Mambo Kings" adds virtually nothing new.

It would be easier to forgive the film's lack of originality if Glimcher displayed even a shred of cinematic technique, but none is to be found. The musical sequences, which should be the high point of the movie, are shot in tight close-ups which create an atmosphere of claustrophobia just when the film should feel loose and free.

Also, Glimcher unwisely chooses to establish a visual expression of the music only through cutting. Due to his inability to create rhythm through composition and camera movement, the musical sequences feel ragged and choppy instead of smooth and lyrical. Glimcher doesn't help matters by shooting the dancing sequences from the waist up so that you can't see the dancers' feet.

The performances in the film are curiously empty, with all of the actors going through the mannerisms but failing to evoke the feeling that they are anything but empty shells. This lack of emotional texture is particularly disappointing coming from Assante, who is

one of our finest working actors (check out his brilliant performance in Sidney Lumet's "Q&A"). The worst part of the actors' mannered performances is that they never seem to connect with each other; each character in the film seems to be a self-contained unit.

In fact, this is what ultimately dooms "The Mambo Kings." On many levels the film is superb: the cinematog-

raphy is by the gifted Michael Ballhaus ("GoodFellas"), Stuart Wurtzel's production design is gorgeous, and the music is among the best featured on screen in quite some time. Yet Glimcher never pulls all of these elements together successfully. As a result the film only serves as a superficial entertainment that is good-looking and fun to listen to, but ultimately empty.

### JUST A THOUGHT

#### Student Quotes That Became Famous After Being In The Chronicle

**By Charles Edwards**  
Staff Writer

"For the ladies only: After drinking Gatorade which Michael would you choose to marry? (Jordan, Jackson, Tyson, Cain, Douglas, Keaton, J. Fox or George M...)"

**Rachel Wright**  
Acting

"BURSAR = Being Understood Rightfully and Solely After Registration"

**Jacqueline Hamilton**  
Photography

"The job of a security guard is to 'serve and protect.' Shouldn't Columbia's security only get paid half of their salary since they only do half of their job?"

**The Mystery Man**  
Liberal Education

## Someone you s

### Pat Thompson

**Tariq M. Ali**  
Staff Writer

She takes your order and gets your drink, a person who works the cash register at Deli Express. But if you've ever dropped over to eat lunch, you've been greeted by Patricia "Pat" Thompson.

Thompson has been working at Deli Express ups and downs, she said, it's not a bad job.

Thompson does not go to school, but at 22, she attended a business college for three months. Money and part time work wasn't enough. So about going back to school, but I don't know.

Now she works an 11-hour day from Monday to Friday, she said, "I wouldn't work here if I didn't make money."

Thompson was born in Chicago, and now lives in the city but with some Asian blood from a great grandfather.

Many Columbia students go to Deli Express to get their "face," not by "name." Most of the time, when she gets busy around lunch time, she says, "When the people in back make mistakes, customers











## SCHOOL

From page 3

dents now, ages 3 through 13 however they can have as many as 75. "We wish we had a larger building so we could expand our services. When we become a tax exempt school, maybe someone will give us a better building. We're hoping corporations will help us," Greene said.

Tuition at Burnham Park is

\$75.00 per week, and "enrollment is down, we're suffering, but the PTA is strong and the survival of the fittest is what we're trying to achieve," Greene said.

Greene has apparently worked very hard for the survival of this school. When asked what keeps her holding on, she responded, "We're grooming them for life. We were destined to help these children, we don't want to see these children perish."

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Columbia students voice your opinions. Bring your signed opinion pieces or letters to the attention of the editor at the Chronicle office, room 802-Wabash, by 5:00p.m. Tuesdays for possible inclusion in the following week's publication.

## C.M.C.

From page 4

There is a kitchen for touring bands to have parties, a shower, a maintenance shop, a lounge and two recording studios.

"We have rooms where people can crash if bands are here recording late," Weigand said.

The 8-track studio, called the midi suite, features several synthesizers, a few drum machines, mixing boards, video monitors, and a room that looks like a closet for tracking vocals. Weigand said that many of the Columbia interns use this room to learn the equipment or work on some of their own music.

"I have learned more at

C.M.C. than sitting in the classrooms," said Jeff Evans, a junior who interns at C.M.C.

The interns keep rehearsal rooms clean, help with live sound work, video shoots, setting up equipment and renting out rehearsal rooms for private parties.

The 16-track studio is much larger than the 8-track. The vocal tracking room alone can fit four or five of the 8-track studios in it. Bands, especially blues bands, set up their entire band in the tracking studio. Blues bands like it, said Weigand, because it gives them a more live sound.

The 16-track studio is where the bigger national acts work. The mixing board in this studio has so many switches that it might look intimidating and

confusing to a novice. As part of the expansion, this studio will become a 24-track and another recording studio will be built downstairs.

While it took an investment of \$500,000 to build the complex an additional \$500,000 for recording equipment, the economic future of C.M.C. appears hopeful. Since the opening in 1990, C.M.C. has made all its money back and is now turning a profit, Weigand said.

C.M.C. achieved such prosperity without even advertising or marketing. As the studio expands, there are plans for commercials and other advertisements.

Also Contributing: Patricia Hyatt

## RELATIONS

From page 1

with 30 or more credit hours, offered a first prize of free tuition at Columbia for a year.

"Community colleges are a good source of transfer students, and contests like this may be a good recruiting tool. It gets our name out there. People are talking about this," said Bryant. "This is what we do in PR—we create events and then publicize them."

The poems from the contest will be published in the *Columbia Poetry Review*, and if some are really outstanding, Bryant plans to seek local and national media coverage of the event. The public relations department agrees that although the contest was somewhat difficult to arrange, it was worth it. Bryant credits Corinne Johnston of the public relations department and Chuck Freilich of the English department for

being the major forces behind the poetry contest.

"If the poetry contest is a success, perhaps we'll do it again. I would like to see it expanded to other types of contests, maybe in film or journalism. Of course, that would be up to the different departments. We are really a service department for the school," Bryant said.

While still at the public relations agency that handled Columbia's account, Bryant also arranged for Columbia College to be the subject for a cover story for the *Chicago Tribune Sunday Magazine* (February 17, 1991). The feature explained Columbia's mission and its place in the academic world. While Bryant cannot say if the article has effected Columbia's enrollment, the department has distributed more than 20,000 reprints of the story, and the admissions office has ordered 3,000 more.

Bryant's staff is small but extremely efficient. Mary

Spagnolo covers the art events and edits the college relations department's newsletter, "re: Columbia College Chicago."

Corinne Johnston, a recent graduate, contributes to the newsletter and helped create the poetry contest.

Norman Alexandroff recently wrote a backgrounder on his father, Mike Alexandroff, for a possible profile for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, one of academia's most prestigious publications.

Bryant says her goal for this year is more national coverage for Columbia and its events. The *Chronicle of Higher Education* recently did a story on the Espana exhibit in the Museum of Contemporary Photography here at Columbia.

"In some ways the job is getting harder. We keep discovering new parts of the school. We are frantically, obsessively looking for ways to publicize Columbia," she said.

# LETTERS

To The Editor

Steve's Replacement

The wrong message?

I've got this great idea for a column! I'll express my views in a weekly opinion piece, sure to stir up controversy. You know the stuff: AIDS is a plague from God sent to kill the fags and lesbians; women were created to cook in the kitchen and in the bedroom; and guess which race is the chosen one? (No, not the human race you damn PC'er). This column should bring in lots of letters—though mostly protest—proving the *Chronicle* is "doing something right."

I figure you can release that second-rate Crescenzo. True, he spends most of his columns attacking fanatics who try to confront racism, sexism and homophobia, but then he hides behind icons, paying lip service to the concepts of human rights with his John Wayne-blinders in. Well Steve, John Wayne was an American, he wasn't no queer lover, and he certainly knew how to deal with women! Sensationalism in the press is an age-old tradition. Let's really stir things up!

Clark Kent  
Music

Why graffiti?

What's with the new wave of graffiti that's being scribbled on the walls of the back elevator in the Wabash building every week? Is this gang-related or your repressed outcry against an unjust society? Is this your proof, as a college student that you have learned to write?

Please graffiti writer, if you can read this, respond with a letter to the *Chronicle* so we can understand why you graffiti. Inquiring minds want to know!

Rich Michal  
Grad student, journalism

Kirk Doffing  
Journalism

## CHRONICLE

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

## STANDARDS

From page 7

for students who need basic classes."

Cummings, who applauds Columbia for its open admission policy, said she also would favor testing to place students in writing classes at their level.

But television major Barb Tomko doesn't think assessment or admission testing is the route for Columbia.

"Open admissions gives everyone a chance to make of it what they can. If they don't, it's their loss," she said.

In her class experiences, Tomko said, instructors usually have students write something during the first or second week to get a sample of their abilities.

"I have heard instructors tell students to go to the writing center for help after writing their first papers, but I have never been in a class that failed to progress because of slower students."

Tomko, a writer who describes herself as one of Columbia's "advanced" students, said she has taken time out to help fellow students in her classes who needed help.

Liberal education teacher Glen Graham is adamantly opposed to any kind of testing. "Testing alters the mission of Columbia College by setting up two schools: people with skills and people without skills."

"Testing would destroy the multi-cultural environment which inspires students who wish to master professions that would not be available if they did not attend Columbia College," Graham said.

In 1987, Columbia instituted the program Writing Across the Curriculum to encourage instructors to motivate students to write more, and make the best use of tutorial services.

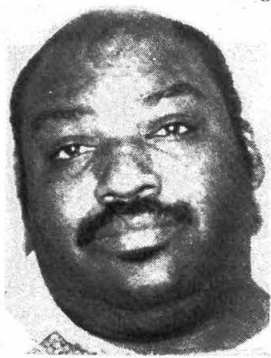
"In no way should Columbia College teachers lower their standards, but they should find a way to better their standard-

by assisting students," said Graham, who helps coordinate the program.

Part-time faculty member Angelo Papanangelopoulos admits that students in his basic math class are having difficulties for different reasons.

"Students take these classes because they want to learn. Then we have those who take the classes and already know the material," Papanangelopoulos said. "I can't advance the class for a few. If the class is for a lower level, I will go with that group of students."

Papanangelopoulos said some students are also having



Glen Graham

problems because "they don't study enough."

"I try to stress to my students that math teaches you how to live—how to go to the bank—how to pay taxes. No one is stupid in my class," he added.

Executive Vice President Bert Gall said that open admission "puts an enormous burden on each and every teacher trying to teach because of the diversity of students. Our faculty have some of the toughest teaching jobs in America."

"Part of what you want in an artistic environment is to build on people's strengths and to assist them with their weaknesses," he said. "We have creative teachers who create new structures to help our students do that."

Gall said students have an independent responsibility to take advantage of the college's tutorial services if they need help.

"There are some students who were poorly educated and have pulled themselves up to a college level through the services offered at Columbia," Graham said.

Garnett Kilberg, director of the Writing Center, said the center will improve writing and grades "as long as students use it regularly."

The writing center is currently staffed by 175 tutors—undergrads, graduates and a few instructors. Last semester about 300 students took advantage of the tutorial services for credit, and another 100 or more used the facilities on a regular basis, Kilberg said.

Kilberg, who opposes assessment testing, said teachers should get writing samples to determine students' abilities.

Columbia currently offers developmental English, combined with a one hour tutoring session per week, for students who need additional help with their writing and reading skills.

The college hopes to have more tutorial services and support structures to assist students in the near future, Gall said. "But an effective job of counseling at registration would give an advisor a better idea of where the student needs to go," he added.

Admissions testing will not solve students' complaints, Gall said. "If Columbia were to adopt academic testing for admission, this would be a very different place."

"Open admission is the cornerstone of the institution. It's the philosophical fundamental on which the college was started. I'm against any form of assessment testing that will minimize the diversity within the institutional structure."

"By having open admissions at Columbia, we are saying, 'we will not hold your skills against you,'" Graham said.

STEVE

## Crescenzo's Club

I was standing in an off-track betting parlor the other day, courting a fistful of money I had just won on a 9-1 longshot, when my whole world came crumbling down around me. I overheard two guys talking about some goofy plan of Mayor Daley's to bring casino gambling to Chicago. I couldn't believe my ears.

I immediately ran out of the betting facility and bought four Quick Pick Lotto tickets, three daily games, seven instant lottery tickets, 10 Little Lottos, and a daily paper so I could read about this preposterous notion of bringing legalized casino gambling to Chicago.

After calling my bookie to bet my track winnings on the Bulls, I sat down to read all about it. There it was, right there in black and white. Some unsavory characters, (who are no doubt merely the front men for guys with first names like "Fingers," "Lucky" and "Slick Willie") want to bring Las Vegas-style gambling to Chicago. They want to build a whole, sick gambling empire, right in the heart of our pure-as-the-driven-snow city!

The really horrible part is that our awful heathen mayor, Richie Daley, is supporting this foray into sin! He is even claiming to have thought of the idea. Well I'll be damned if I'm going to let that pervert turn my city into a modern day Sodom or Gomorra!

Oh sure, he has his reasons. He says the project (note how he cloaks his sinfulness with legitimate words like project) will generate thousands of jobs, billions of dollars in tax revenue, and bring even more billions of dollars into the city via the hotel, convention, and hospitality industries. He says that besides giving the local economy a shot in the arm (a thinly veiled advertisement for drugs, no doubt, coming from him), the tax dollars could be used to help out our cash-starved education system. I say, what good will it do our school kids to be educated if they have to grow up in a den of iniquity! Are billions of dollars a fair price tag to put on our souls? I think not.

Other people who are against the idea say that it will bring a criminal element into the city. They are absolutely right!! Gambling will merely serve as the key to opening up the floodgates, and undesirables will pour into our fair city.

Of course you know the main thing that gambling will bring to Chicago, don't you? ORGANIZED CRIME! Living in Chicago, you may not know what that is, but rest assured, it's not very pretty. The very thought of organized crime in Chicago scares the devil out of me. Chicago has never tolerated organized crime, and it never will, right??? Maybe Las Vegas and New York put up with mobsters, but Chicago—never!

And you know what follows closely on the heels of organized crime, don't you? Prostitution! (It's legal in Las Vegas, thanks to the Mafia.) And prostitution usually means sex! If we let gambling come to Chicago, before very long we'll have people fornicating in the streets, and kids will be going hungry because whatever money Dad didn't lose gambling, he blew on a hooker getting something his wife won't give him anymore.

Sure, at first, there will be only high-class call girl rings, set up to cater to the high rollers. But eventually, those girls will get old and ugly, and then they'll be out on the street, polluting our fair city with their old, disease-ridden bodies. Before you know it, you won't be able to walk down Broadway Avenue without bumping into hookers offering to sell for 15 or 20 bucks that certain thing that wives seem to quit doing after a couple of years of marriage.

And once prostitution has its stranglehold on this city, you know what's next, don't you? PORNOGRAPHY! Before you can say smut, every corner store will be selling dirty magazines, we'll have peep-show places, dirty movie theaters, strip joints, and before you know it, some pervert will take a picture of himself whizzing into his boyfriend's mouth, blow it up, hang it on a wall and call it art! We've got to nip this in the bud right now, before it can even get started.

Maybe the worst thing about gambling and organized crime is the other thing it will bring: Unorganized crime. DRUGS! That's right, it may seem hard to imagine it now, but we might actually get real live drug dealers in OUR city! And once the drugs come in, it's only a matter of time until the kids get their hands on them. Next thing you know, they'll start forming gangs. And pretty soon, the gangs will be fighting each other over drug turfs, and innocent bystanders will inevitably get hurt. And what would happen, God forbid, if those gangs actually got their hands on GUNS! It's a well-known fact that those organized crime types have no conscience, and would probably sell guns to the street gangs.

I could go on, but it's obvious that the negatives far outweigh the positives as far as gambling goes. Forget about the crucial jobs, and forget about the even more crucial tax and revenue dollars. Forget about the fact that the whole thing would be privately financed, and forget about the fact that a lot of careful planning would go into this, so that the city could make the most out of this opportunity. (Hopefully we wouldn't turn out to be another Atlantic City fiasco). Our city is too clean and fine a place to contaminate it with a vice like gambling, regardless of how much good it can do, right?????????

And every time you start thinking that it might not be such a bad idea to bring gambling here to Chicago, (I mean gambling other than the race tracks and the off-track betting parlors and the lotto and the riverboat gambling and the thousands of book-makers who operate tax-free) you just try and imagine what it would be like to live in the city I've described above, a city where gambling and crime are allowed to run rampant.

Guess what? You're already there, and it can't get much worse.

The Career Planning & Placement Office, along with the Columbia College academic community invite you to

# Challenge the Future

Arts & Communication  
Career Fair for minority students

Saturday, April 11th

9am-2pm

623 S. Wabash building

- Hear from successful alumni
- Network with company representatives
- Learn about the professional associations for your field

Please RSVP, Placement Office X280  
Arrive early!

One . in a series of specialized arts & communication career events designed to serve the entire student body, all students/alumni welcome.





# Pencil it in...

## Monday

- 6 It's FAW (That's financial aid week, if you haven't seen the signs posted throughout the buildings) and it's time you prepared yourself financially. A little work now could pay off \$\$\$\$ later. Financial aid workshops start today and run through April 10. Each workshop meets in the Wabash building, 623 S. Wabash, Rm. 409. Today's workshop is at 1 p.m. (For other dates & times: See ad on page 3.)

## Tuesday

- 7 Feminism, as we discovered in the *Chronicle's* special Women's Issue a couple of weeks ago, is a hard subject to pin down. A panel of experts, however, will take another shot at "Defining Feminism," a discussion that takes place at 1 p.m. today at the Hokin.

## Wednesday

- 8 Local rock photog Brad Miller's stunning snaps will grace the walls of Lounge Ax, 2438 N. Lincoln, beginning today. After all the chips and dips are scarfed up at the opening/reception tonight, there'll be music by Phantom Helmsmen.

## Thursday

- 9 In the mood for a prehistoric epic? Of course you are, so check out *Quest for Fire*, the tale of a tribe that loses its fire after being attacked by apes. This 1981 film stars Rae Dawn Chong, and is better than it sounds. At the Hokin today at 4 p.m.



Suburban musical comedy queen Hollis Resnik comes downtown to take on darker material as she plays Edith Piaf, the French singer who went from the streets to stardom and back in a career that spanned five decades. Resnik's dead-on impersonation of Piaf and her wonderful voice rise above the soap opera plot. "Piaf," At Interplay, 1935 S. Halsted, 243-6240.

## Friday

- 10 Tonight at the Cabaret Metro, 3730 N. Clark, Bash N'Pop, featuring Tommy Stinson of the Replacements, Blind Venetians, and the Groove Diggers jam the night away, showtime is 10:30 p.m., doors open at 9:30 p.m. If you are 21 or older get your \$10 tickets in advance or at the door.

## Saturday

- 11 Intimate Theatre (5211 N. Clark St.) is new on the scene, but its first two shows, a Strindberg double bill and Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, got them plenty of notice. Now they're back with a rarely performed version of Strindberg's *Intoxication*, or *Crime and Crime*. The Swedish playwright's original script has been relocated from turn-of-the-century Paris to the 1950s. Tix are a reasonable \$7.00 for students, call early for reservations: 271-6510. The show will run Thurs. through May 17.

## Sunday

- 12 Center Theater, 1346 W. Devon, marks the 25th anniversary of Tennessee Williams' play *Kingdom of Earth* with performances opening April 6 and closing May 3. *Kingdom* is described as a brisk, ornery comedy about a conflict between two brothers. But it is also revealing and often intense exploration of sensuality, brutality and compassion as a means to human survival. For ticket information, (students do get discounts) and show times call 508-5422.

## Ongoing

The hand-colored, abstract photography of Robert Buchar will be on exhibit at the *Quadrant Cafe Gallery*, 406 N. Clark St., from April 10 to May 7., with a reception Friday from 5 to 8 p.m.

Compiled by: Alina G. Romanowski and Art Golab

## Face Value:

# What made you decide to attend Columbia College?

Carline Cajuste for *The Chronicle*

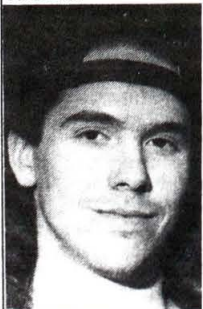


Freda Richmond  
Television  
Freshman

I heard about Columbia College from my High School counselor and I decided to come here after I met with some of the representatives. The big advantage that Columbia offered over other colleges was the experience each teacher had in its field.

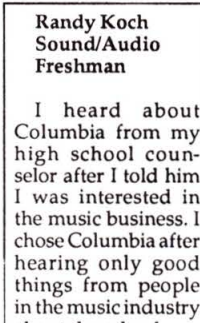
Alain Roy  
Sound  
Sophomore

A friend told me about the school while he pondered about attending. I was sick of my old school, and looked into the sound program and found it to be a great program. The opportunities for internships really sold me.



Ayonna Collins  
Broadcast Journalism  
Freshman

I heard about Columbia from my friends who had previously attended this school. They said it would give me the educational training necessary to really make it in the business.



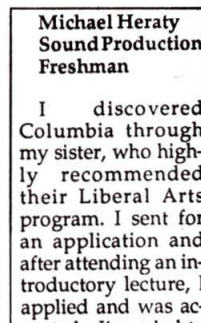
Randy Koch  
Sound/Audio  
Freshman

I heard about Columbia from my high school counselor after I told him I was interested in the music business. I chose Columbia after hearing only good things from people in the music industry about the school.



Ayonna Collins  
Broadcast Journalism  
Freshman

I heard about Columbia from my friends who had previously attended this school. They said it would give me the educational training necessary to really make it in the business.



Michael Heraty  
Sound Production  
Freshman

I discovered Columbia through my sister, who highly recommended their Liberal Arts program. I sent for an application and after attending an introductory lecture, I applied and was accepted. I'm glad to be here.

