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Columbia College Chicago

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The Columbia Chronicle

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 14

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MARCH 5, 1990

Election hype at the Hokin Center

Politicians urge students: Get involved

By Paul Freitag

The Columbia College Political Club hosted a forum for seven Chicago politicians Thursday in the Hokin Center. The two-hour event gave local politicians a chance to deliver their messages directly to a small group of interested students.

Guest speakers included, Alderman Danny K. Davis, Babette Peyton, Jesse Miller, Percy Giles, Ron Taylor, T.A. Valdez, and Charles A. Wilson.

Four of the politicians were republicans and three were democrats, but they agreed on two basic issues, the importance of education, and that people should get involved in politics.

Republican Ron Taylor, a candidate for Congress from the 2nd district, was the first to speak. Taylor gave a brief history of the role of African Americans in the founding of the Republican party, and noted that "the only black senators ever, were Republicans."

Taylor, who is vying for Rep. Gus Savage's congressional seat, told students that school is "one of the greatest experiences that a young adult can have. It is a stepping stone to leadership. Thank you for going to school."

Taylor concluded his remarks by saying that his rival, Savage, needed his help. "And I'm going

to help him...to collect his pension."

T.A. Valdez, Republican candidate for the Water Reclamation District Board, echoed Taylors' emphasis on education. "Stay on the course you are on now," Valdez told students. "Pursue an education, and ten years from now we'll be reading about you."

Republican Charles A. Wil-



"The purpose of government is to manage the conflicts that exist in society. It's to keep people from killing each other..."

Danny Davis

son, candidate for Cook County Board of Tax Appeals, told students to "wake up." "During your time, you're going to be living in a country that's going to be owned by foreign interests, while most Americans are going to be high as hell on drugs. Each of you has a role. One of you will have to take Jesse's place. One of you will have to take Percy Giles'

place. One of you will have to take Danny Davis' place. You can't sleep. You have to wake up and smell the bacon."

Wilson also told students to get an education, and to get involved in politics. "Each one of you should have a voter-registration card in your pocket. They hung black people because they did not want them to vote. You have to wake up."

Babette Peyton, candidate for Congress from the 1st congressional district, was the final Republican speaker. Peyton is a former Columbia student, and teacher. She was the first black female to teach in the Theater Department at Columbia. Peyton told students that, as the future leaders of this country, they need to get involved in their own community. She stressed the importance of opening up small businesses to create jobs and improve local economies. Peyton told Columbia students to be "doers." "In being a doer, you're going to make mistakes, but mistakes foster experience. I love you, Columbia," she said.

The first Democrat to speak was Alderman Danny K. Davis, candidate for Cook County Treasurer. Davis told students that there are two kinds of people, "those who shape and mold, and those who are shaped and molded. You have to decide which type you are." Davis explained that the biggest problem people have about politics is that

they don't understand it.

"There is a difference between politics and government," Davis said. "The purpose of government is to manage the conflicts that exist in society. It's to keep people from killing each other, and from taking things from each other."

"The purpose of politics is to try and influence the management



"If poor people get involved in someone's campaign, they have a much better chance of becoming middle class."

Percy Giles

of government to the advantage of whoever it is that is doing the influencing." Davis concluded by saying, "If you put nothing in, you get nothing out. You reap what you sow."

Percy Giles, alderman of the 37th ward, was the only politician to speak who is not currently running for office. Giles, the first black alderman from his ward, is

supporting Davis' campaign, and is serving as a committeeman for Davis. He stressed the importance of knowing who you are voting for.

"Each and every one of you will pay taxes. The people elected to these offices will determine how your tax dollars will be spent. I suggest you pay attention to who is running for office," Giles said.

He added that it is primarily the middle class who get involved in voting and politics.

"Poor people don't get involved. If poor people get involved in someone's campaign, they have a much better chance of becoming middle class," Giles said.

He also stressed the importance of reading.

"You should make a habit of reading more than just what's assigned to you. Reading is the most important thing a student can do."

The final speaker was Jesse Miller, candidate for a seat on the Water Reclamation District Board.

"I was Black before it was popular," Miller said. "My effort was for us to have a better place in society. I look for you to take care of business at Columbia. This is not a party."

Miller said he wants all students to challenge themselves at school.

"Don't just glide through," Miller said.

SOC funds depleting

By David Bloom
Staff Reporter

The Student Organization Council, Columbia's collection of special interest clubs, may find itself in a budget crunch before the end of the semester with \$15,649 left for 21 organizations.

The money in the SOC budget is approximately 92-94 percent from tuition, and the rest is from various government grants. SOC members comprise less than ten percent of Columbia's student population.

The group approves proposals based on a two-thirds vote by all organization members present at the meeting.

Most organization representatives have regularly attended the meetings this semester, unlike early in the year when interest was very low.

This is largely due to a mandatory attendance policy established when groups were only being represented at meetings when they were requesting money.

"Groups now know they have to be present at the meeting to receive money," explained SOC President Ryan Daniels, and "I

am proud of what we have now and (SOC) is growing."

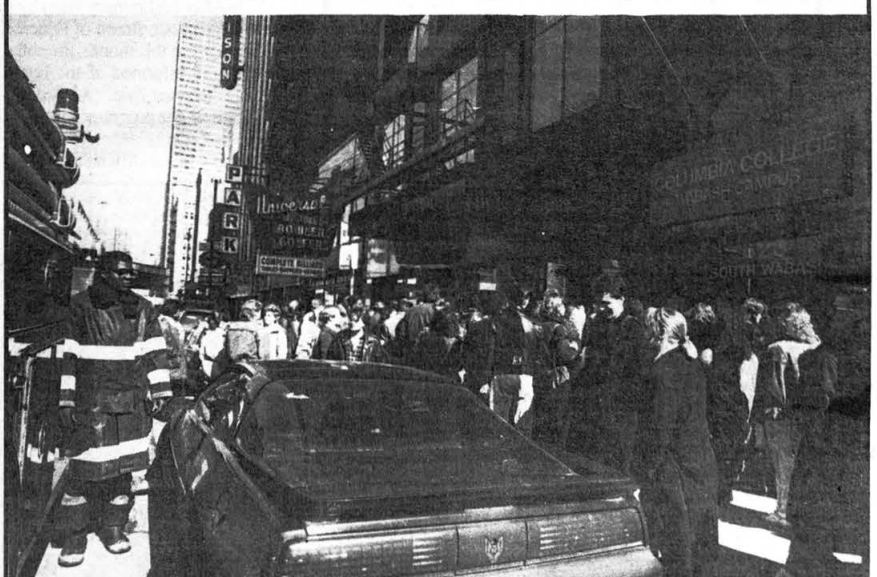
SOC has approved \$14,351 for 53 proposals since the Fall. It has provided money for such things as various guest speakers, Celebration Karamu, Black History Month, professional convention tickets, food for organization meetings, performers, recycling projects, career days and organizational publicity.

"I feel real good about how the money has been spent so far with one or two exceptions," said Irene Conley, Assistant Dean of Student Life and the administrative advisor to SOC.

But as the SOC funds diminish this year, several questions arise about the method of allocating funds and the fairness to each organization. SOC now faces the issue that all money allocating bodies must face; spending limits vs. limitless spending.

SOC has no set rules for club limits on spending, aside from a \$150 food budget given to clubs initially, and there is a possibility that \$30,000 a year is not enough to finance the existing organizations and any additional groups that are formed. Cont. on page 3

Fire drill follies



Omar Castillo for The Chronicle

Tuesday morning's fire drill in the Wabash building was, according to many students, an exercise in futility. Many students failed to get out of the building, others said they never heard the alarm, and some were told to remain in their classrooms during the evacuation. Some

students were also allowed back into the building before the procedure was complete. The drill was indicative of the problems school administrators are having as they try to comply with city fire codes, and raises questions as to what would happen if there were a real fire.

Alumni Association makes graduates see green

By Jacqui Podzius
Staff Reporter

Graduation day is not the last time that students will hear from Columbia College. Rather, it is just the beginning of their relationship with the school as alumni.

Through the Office of Alumni Relations, located in the Torco Building at 624 S. Michigan, the college keeps in contact with former students, solicits their monetary support, and offers former students and graduating seniors a chance to get career advice and job leads from other alumni.

The Alumni Association, which was established in 1979, keeps records on all graduates and students who attended Columbia for at least two years since the early 1900s.

It has 12,000 members, according to Patti Terkovich, director of alumni relations, about 7,000 of whom are considered active. She said the other 5,000, primarily dating from around the turn of the century, are either un-

able to be located or are considered deceased.

A primary role of alumni is monetary support, Terkovich said, but the college also looks to them for contacts and job leads for students, as lecture panelists for classes and as volunteers to coordinate various events.

Terkovich said that this system of networking has kept many Columbia graduates in touch with each other, and that some have been "very blessed" by job leads and contacts.

Alumni are also primary contributors to the annual fund, Terkovich said, which is used for equipment, scholarships and faculty development.

Contributions to this fund are made during a phone-a-thon, which has taken place every year for the past five years. During the phone-a-thon, students call alumni and ask them to pledge money for the fund.

Terkovich said it is also an opportunity for the Office of Alum-

ni Relations to update its files on former students, and for alumni to give feedback to the college and the Alumni Association.

The most recent phone-a-thon, which took place in early February, solicited pledges of \$7,060, Terkovich said, and she expects the amount to increase when the final pledges come in.

In the past year, she said, the Alumni Association has undergone a major overhaul and ratified its own mission statement, which says it functions "to establish and execute means by which the college can communicate with alumni."

The Alumni Association is currently planning a three-day reunion of students from 1960-1972, which is scheduled to take place in early June.

In the future, Terkovich and the six-member alumni board hope to establish a health insurance plan for alumni who freelance and a travel program, which would help alumni continue their education.



Patti Terkovich

Alumni support is not 100 percent, primarily because "there are lots of other causes that capture people's attention, like the environment and social service," Terkovich said. "We'd like to think their alma mater is near and dear to their hearts, but we need to educate alumni more about our need for their support."

The number of supportive alumni has increased every year, Terkovich said, and she expects the number to keep increasing.

"Recent alumni want to be involved," she said, "because the students have changed. There is more socializing in clubs and other programs. Students today have more memories of school."

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School to offer teacher ed

By Sherri Kirk
Staff Reporter

A new program, offering Columbia College students the opportunity to earn a master of arts degree in teaching, is being reviewed by the Illinois State Board of Education this month.

According to Sharon Russell, coordinator of the Educational Studies Program at Columbia, in August of 1988 Columbia submitted a letter of intent requesting certification by the state of Illinois. The areas in which certification is being requested include Elementary Education (K-9), Secondary Education/Language Arts, Secondary Physical Science and Art (K-12).

After preliminary visits by the Illinois State Board of Education take place this month, the college will be informed of the board's official visit date. According to Russell, the program's authorization date is dependent on the timing of the official visit.

Vice-President for Academic Affairs Lya Rosenblum is hoping that the program can be implemented by Spring, 1991.

Undergraduates will have the opportunity to apply for early admission during their junior year, Russell said. After being accepted, students will enroll in beginning education courses, and eventually work their way into the master's program.

Because the Illinois State Board of Education's certification requirements call for a greater concentration in general education courses than does Columbia, the general education requirements for education majors will be 75 hours for elementary education and 51 hours for secondary education.

Programs will reside in their specified departments, Russell said. Science Department Chair-

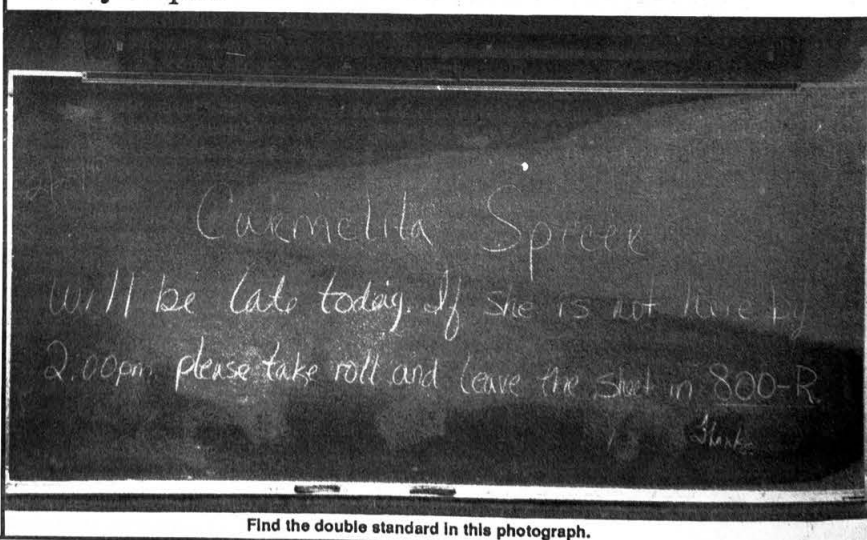
person Zafra Lerman will direct the science programs, English Department Chairperson Philip Klukoff will direct the English programs and Interdisciplinary Arts Education Chairperson Suzanne Cohan will direct the art programs.

Along with the general education and professional education

core requirements that this program calls for, specialization in an area will be required. For elementary education majors, 18 hours of concentration in a specialized area will be mandatory. Secondary education majors will be asked to complete 32 hours of specialization courses.

"The college will encourage and actively recruit candidates who have done their undergraduate work elsewhere, and professionals who are searching for a career change," Russell added.

Today's quiz



Find the double standard in this photograph.

Every year thousands of babies die of choking, suffocating or other breathing emergencies. Don't let yours be one of them.



American Red Cross

Faculty member's opera to debut

By Arlene Furlong
Staff Reporter

Five years ago, Columbia College faculty member Doug Lofstrom had a "tiny little idea" for an opera. This week, Free Street Theater will present Lofstrom's opera, *Two Soldiers*, at the University of Illinois Chicago Theater.

"I got bit by the music theater bug while writing my first show for Free Street Theater in 1984," said Lofstrom, who teaches in Columbia's music department. "I knew I was going to write an opera, but I didn't know what it was going to be about."

His inspiration had an unusual origin. During a train ride from Chicago to Seattle, Lofstrom absorbed himself in Russian literature and World War II documentaries. Upon his arrival in Seattle, friends took him to a Buddhist service. During the chanting, Lofstrom created a vision of two soldiers, facing off. He slept very little that night, but woke "totally inspired." The synopsis for *Two Soldiers* was written that morning.

"I really believe that the theme of connection among people came to me out of that group chanting at the Buddhist service," said Lofstrom. "Then I chose the

darkest moment of the 20th Century and tried to put a little light there."

The opera is set in the 1940s, when the nations of the world are so caught in the toils of war that they no longer know how to break free. Soldiers must perform their duties in a war of attrition. Two soldiers, one Russian and one German, confront the reality that brotherhood can survive. Two soldiers must resolve this dilemma, the Russian and his interrogator.

The opera explores the themes of destiny and choice, of survival and enlightenment. *Two Soldiers* finds clarity beneath the chaos, brothers and sisters among enemies.

Lofstrom believes the clash between factions of people at that time shaped our age more than we realize, but that in all of our unwanted wars, we are capable of finding that common bonds can prevail. Therefore, the relevance of *Two Soldiers* exists in all of our lives.

"I hope the opera is wonderful, I hope people love it, and I hope it goes further," said Lofstrom. This persevering attitude enabled Lofstrom to follow his idea through to completion. Although he attributes luck as a factor in finding collaborating librettist Al

Day, Lofstrom said writing music for an opera can be very laborious work. "Musical calisthenics," he termed it. "But since I've been through it, I feel that I can write anything. I feel that I can go with my first impulse, be much more spontaneous," he said.

Lofstrom has composed music for film, dance, theater and concert works. On March 19 and 20 his music will be performed at the Getz Theater and later broadcasted on WFMT. He has been music director of Free Street Theater since 1982 and an associate artistic director since 1989. Lofstrom produced music for many Free Street productions, including the award-winning *PROJECT!* He is a full-time faculty member at Columbia College and also teaches private students.

Lofstrom said there is an important lesson he has learned that should be passed on. "When you act on your dreams, things happen. When people see you moving, doors open."

Showtimes for *Two Soldiers* are Thursday, March 8 and Saturday, March 10, at UIC Theater, 1040 W. Harrison. Tickets are \$12.00, \$6.00 for students and seniors, and are available from the UIC box office, 996-2939.

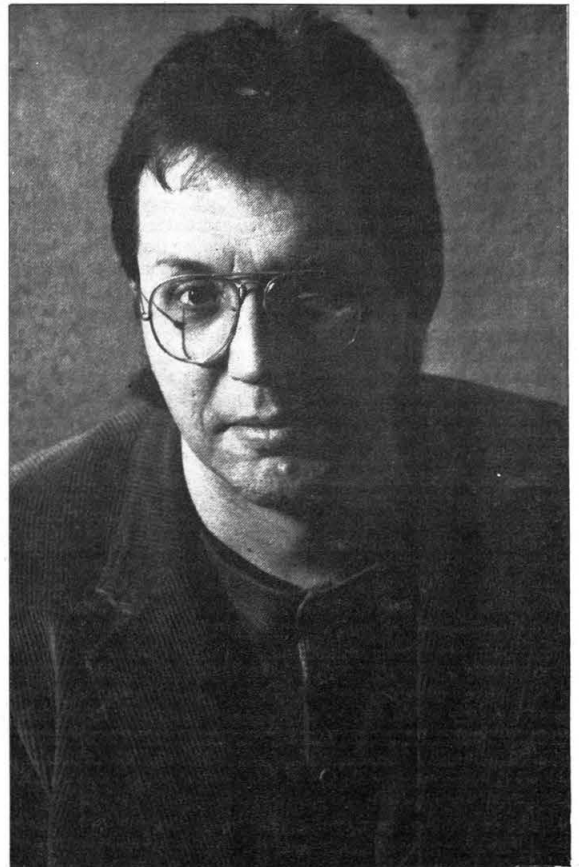


Photo by Ruben DeAndrea

Doug Lofstrom

SOC from page 1

"Basically I don't want to put limits on spending," Daniels said. "The clubs with more members have larger events and more participation. Smaller groups don't need as much, but I don't rule out any justified money to smaller groups."

Daniels is also the president of the 80-member African-American Alliance, which is Columbia's largest organization and has received the most money from SOC.

The Hispanic Alliance, which two of the four members of the SOC Executive Board are involved in, has received the second largest amount of SOC money.

The question of more money for SOC account is currently under consideration. "Definitely, we'll need more money next year," Daniels said.

SOC has a four-member executive board and the elections for next year will be held this semester.

The only qualifications to become a candidate is to be a designated SOC member. The organization holds bi-monthly meetings, which are open to all students, in Room 202 of the Wabash building.

Daniels has promised a "major event," funded with SOC money to be held for the entire student body sometime in late spring. It is "a treat from the students to the students," said Daniels.

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high blood cholesterol can
clog up your arteries. Then
think about heart attack.
Enough to ruin your appetite?


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Know thy fear

Homophobia is an intense fear of gays and lesbians, which sometimes erupts in violent attacks—gay bashing. This condition will be discussed at open forum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday. *The Columbia Chronicle* believes students of all sexual persuasions should attend.

"Infophobia," is the fear of learning anything that will dispel fear. A subtler phobia, infophobia can undermine attempts at dispelling myth and misunderstanding. As such, it presents a real threat to the forum. Unfortunately, the people who are victimized by this condition are those who need the information most.

We have no doubt that the gay community and its friends will be present when the forum gets underway in the faculty lounge. They are already well informed about the problems they face. But the people who are afflicted by the irrational fear of gays will most likely not attend.

We hope that's not the case.

Gay bashing and homophobia are major concerns of the gay community, and they are willing to address those concerns at a public forum. We encourage Columbia students to take the time to hear what they have to say. The forum offers an opportunity for students to confront some of their innermost beliefs—beliefs that may be based on misinformation.



Perspective:

It's time to overthrow the Czar

By Lance Cummings
Executive Editor

Let's begin the week with an easy question. What military or political figure gave voice to the following words?

"The war is by no means over, but it is clearly winnable. And the momentum, I think, is shifting our way. Indeed, while there's still too much bad news, there are scattered but very clear signs that we are beginning to win."

Such a sanguine assessment probably pertained to the Vietnam conflict, right? It must be attributable to General William Westmoreland, or maybe Robert McNamara, right?

Wrong. This little excursion down bad-memory lane is courtesy of America's sheriff of contraband, William J. Bennett. It was part of Bennett's testimony, Feb. 2, before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Presumably, Bennett forgot to add the bit about the light at the end of the tunnel.

It's only logical, however, that Bennett would attempt to maintain the fantasy that enforcement is turning the tide of the drug war. It's his job, after all. If he tells Congress the truth—that a policy based on interdiction is futile—he would abruptly be looking for work in the private sector.

There's an idea.

But Bennett, who's hard-line drug rhetoric often makes him appear to be nothing more than some kind of amusing concession to the political right, had even more to tell the committee. He went on to voice his doubts about the value of education in combating the drug problem. Bennett would only admit that education might be a "helpful auxiliary" in fighting the problem. He stated that he believes punishment to be more effective than education as a deterrent.

Suddenly, William Bennett isn't funny anymore.

At best, Bennett's position on drug education programs is uninformed. At worst, it's mean-spirited. At any level, it's medieval. It flies in the face of both reason and experience.

One wonders how Bennett would explain the ever-decreasing number of cigarette smokers in America. Is this phenomenon the result of prohibition and en-

forcement? Of course not. It's the result of education, pure and simple.

Fortunately, President Bush seems to disagree with Bennett on this subject. Less than a week before Bennett's testimony, the president called for increased spending on drug education programs. Perhaps the administration's left hand should find out what its right hand is doing.

If Bennett's views prevail, the emphasis for eliminating the drug problem will be on enforcement—busting every drug dealer and user in America—at the expense of drug education. There goes Bush's kinder and gentler nation. But then, that was just campaign rhetoric, wasn't it?

And speaking of rhetoric—should we really believe Bennett when he says he places little value on education as a deterrent to drug use? Bennett was, after all, Secretary of Education in the Reagan administration. Could it be that Bennett is merely a stalking horse designed to pacify ultra-conservatives? Maybe this is all a kind of good-cop/bad-cop charade. Bennett pretends to be the bad guy, but makes conservatives happy and Bush sound statesmanlike.

There's another twist to consider in all of this, as well. Bennett might actually be vocalizing Bush's genuine inner beliefs. Otherwise, why does Bush continue to tolerate Bennett in his administration? Bennett disagrees with the president, or so we believe, on a basic aspect of policy. Disagreement on policy is countenanced, even encouraged, in any enlightened administration. Going public with a disagreement, though, usually gets the offending subordinate the boot.

Following William Bennett's drug philosophy to its logical conclusion would require the incarceration of millions upon millions of Americans. It's obvious that Bennett hasn't thought this thing through.

It's also obvious that Bennett doesn't have any new ideas. He's sticking with prohibition, the idea that has never worked, anywhere.

America desperately needs to try some new ideas in the battle against drugs and the problems they cause. The old ideas aren't cutting it. The best idea to begin with would be to give William Bennett the sack.



The Columbia Chronicle

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The Chronicle reserves space for reader commentary. Letters should be as concise as possible. Letters must be typed and delivered to *The Chronicle* at least five days prior to publication.

Frankly Speaking: Glenn Graham

By Mitchell Hurst
Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Glen Graham is coordinator of American History at Columbia College. He has been teaching at Columbia College for eleven years and considers a Fulbright Scholarship to Africa in 1986 one of his primary personal achievements. In the following paragraphs, Graham discusses issues surrounding African American History Month, which concluded last week.

What is the importance of African American History Month?

I believe it is important; I think it is necessary because it focuses attention on the history of what is now the largest minority group in the United States and the group that either is the bone of contention or the target of discrimination more than any other group.

I think it is important that since this movement is so large and such a part of the public consciousness, its history should be dealt with in a serious manner. African American History Month is perhaps the only opportunity that some people will have to deal with the whole aspect of African American history.

I also refer to it somewhat derisively as "dial a negro month" because it is during that month that black artist, black scholars, black whatever are given prominence. So you see them on news programs, and special programs are devoted to them. There are some African Americans whose importance to the kind of general culture of the United States is so important that there will be opportunity for [the public] to see things about them, someone like James Baldwin, for

example. But someone who doesn't have quite the [name-recognition] probably wouldn't get on unless it was African American History month.

Is African American history something that is generally ignored in American history textbooks?

The newer textbooks are attempting to integrate African Americans fully into the history of the United States, so that, for example, you don't have a separate section called "Colonial Negroes." When you have a textbook that segments or separates, I think that sends a message to the students that somehow this isn't quite as important as this other stuff that is going on. [New] textbooks are attempting to do a better job of integrating the experience, not only of African Americans but of Native Americans, Chicanos and Asian Immigrants into the main lines of development. It's a process that has just begun and isn't anywhere near completion.

Is the highlighting of African American History Month an opportunity for whites to learn about African American history, or is it primarily a celebration by African Americans of their heritage?

African American History Month comes from Negro History Week, which was developed by the person who is usually purported to be the father of African American History in the 20th Century, Carter G. Woodson. Carter G. Woodson in 1916 founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and the purpose of that association was two-fold. One was to

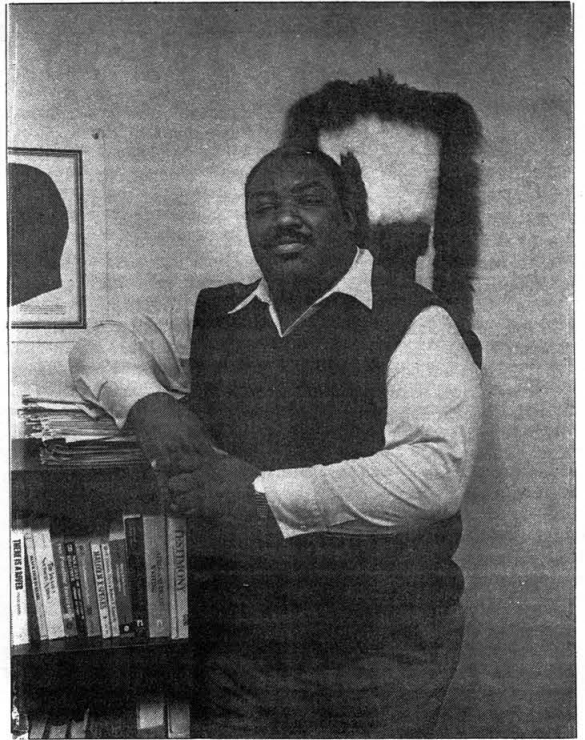
publicize the accomplishments of blacks in American society to the general society. [The second reason], and this is more important than [the first], was to make African Americans themselves conscious of their own history and the fact that they could be proud of it. It was an attempt to boost the self-esteem at the same time it was an attempt to found an institution which would have as its mission the scholarly investigation of African Americans and their contributions to America and the world.

African American History Month continues to have two purposes. One is to remind people who are black of their contributions to American society and to increase their self-esteem because of those contributions. The second is to suggest that America can only prosper inasmuch as all of its people prosper. Therefore to move forward together one has to have a clear vision of what happened in the past, of what divided and separated people.

Is the goal to get to a point where we don't need African American History Month?

No, I don't think you ever get to that. I think what you get is, instead of people running around saying, "How are we going to celebrate it?" they will have very clear ideas about how to celebrate it because they will understand what the history is and will be able to do things in a way that does not smack of shoddiness.

What happens is [some institutions] say, "Oh, it's African American History Month, what are we going to do?" Sometimes I get these panicky calls, [such as] "Is there something we can do for African American History Month." It snuck up on them and



Glen Graham

they didn't realize it was coming and they want to DO something. Part of it is, "Let's do something to shut them up, and then we don't have to worry about it."

Fifty years down the road, when they're celebrating African American History Month, how will they view the role rap music has played in African American History?

I am not a fan of rap music. I listen to very little of it. I couldn't even hazard to guess as to what [position rap will have] in culture. If you want to talk about folk culture, and then you want to put rap in that rubric of folk culture, I still don't have a clue as to what they're going to say about it.

When people discuss folk culture, they may discuss rap music as a contribution from the urban folk.

As music it does not thrill me. The positive rappers, of course, I have some affection for. Anyone who can get twenty thousand people to come see them and pay twenty dollars to do it, should be doing something positive.

How people will look at it fifty years from now, I do not know. It depends upon the staying power of this particular genre. Will it be around five years from now is a question I would ask, or like disco, will it evolve into something that we now call dance music, that's still around.

Face Value:

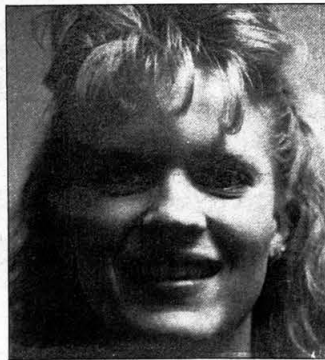
Does your social life suffer because Columbia is a commuter school?

By Stacy Hosch



DenMark Litwinchuk
Junior
Advertising Art

I have no problems now. People are friendly. However, before I had a car, going anywhere with anyone was a big problem.



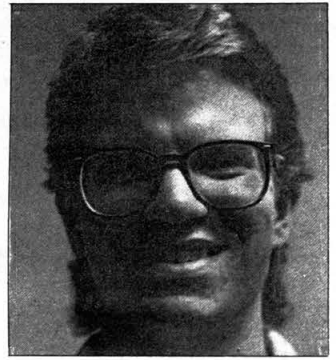
Ann Fredericksen
Sophomore
Journalism

Yes and no. The students are open and friendly, but except for the Hokin, there aren't many places for people to hang out.



Irene Dubinsky
Freshman
Advertising

In a way, it makes it harder to make friends. People here don't spend their weekends together or other free time. It is too difficult to make long-lasting friendships at Columbia. School is school and the social life is at home.



Keith Lipke
Freshman
Broadcast Journalism

At the beginning it did, because I would get home from school late and have to wake up early. But now I've met a lot of friends and I have a social life here. Still, at times I find it hard to get together with my friends.

Crowd stirred by Giovanni

By Karen Zarker

In an atmosphere of mutual respect between artist and students, award winning writer Nikki Giovanni gave a combined reading and lecture to a standing-room-only crowd at the Hokin Center Thursday, Feb. 22. The event was sponsored by the Hokin Center Student Advisory Board.

Giovanni's poetry and speech covered issues such as racism, sexism, homelessness and education. Emphasizing the importance of a college education, she told students that a good deal of their education was to be found outside the walls of Columbia, as well as beyond the border of Chicago.

"From a fellow artist to fellow artists," said Giovanni, "Think about the possibilities of life. Think of human beings' responsibilities toward human beings," Giovanni said.

"It's embarrassing to be an American in 1990 and know that people are sleeping in the streets. You're responsible because you're here."

Giovanni's anti-capitalism lecture urged students to reject the trappings of credit cards and flashy products, and instead travel to see and learn of the needs of the economically and socially oppressed in our society.

Giovanni takes her share of social responsibility beyond the lec-

ture circuit. Her activities include involvement in organizations such as the National Council of Negro Women; the National Black Heroines for PUSH; and the Winnie Mandela Children's Fund Committee.

Contemporary Authors Magazine wrote that Giovanni's work was "...part of the literary movement that sought to raise black consciousness through poetry and prose." Her nationalistic viewpoint, derived from her days of political activism and the experience of being a black woman in a sexist and racist society, has led her to become the social critic that she is today.

"We who are women fear you who are men," said Giovanni, "And our society reinforces this negative behavior."

In her book, *Sacred Cows...And Other Edibles*, Giovanni explained that her anger about social injustices fuels her writing.

"Rage is to writers what water is to fish. A laid-back writer is like an orgasmic prostitute—an anomaly—something doesn't quite fit. I have been considered a writer who writes from rage, and it confuses me. What else do writers write from?"

Giovanni's "rage" is well articulated. But her critical view does not detract from the warmth she projects. After Giovanni read her poem, *I Am She*, she paused

for a moment and bowed her head. An almost bashful smile crept across her face, and the figure clad in a long denim skirt and layers of sweaters told her audience that someday that poem would be famous.

For more than twenty years, Giovanni has written numerous books of poetry, poetry for children, and essays, including discussions with James Baldwin and Margaret Walker. Some of her poetry is set to music on albums such as the best-seller, *Truth Is On Its Way*.

Giovanni is currently teaching literature and creative writing at Virginia Tech University. The lesson she brought to Columbia was an effective blend of politics and poetry.

Giovanni exited the Hokin Center to a standing ovation. At the reception that followed in the faculty lounge, she blended comfortably with students as she casually discussed anything from movies to sports. When asked what she is currently writing, Giovanni said she is "resting on her laurels" right now. Meanwhile, readings such as this provide her with a platform to express the issues within her art.

The artist and her work are inseparable. Giovanni wrote in *Sacred Cows*, "Art is a connection. I like being a link. I hope it will hold."

Do The Right Thing



Omar Castillo for The Chronicle

Last Tuesday's production, "Do the Right Thing," capped Columbia College's celebration of African American History month.

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Career Corner and Calendar

Welcome to Spring 1990! For some students, it is "just another semester". But for those beings called "seniors" it is probably the most important semester of their careers.

Seniors have much on their minds. For many, it is a time to see just how many credit hours they can possibly cram into their graduating semester and still survive it. For others, it is a matter of needing only six or nine credit hours to graduate, but carrying twelve just for the "hell of it" (and the financial aid!). The rest fall somewhere in between; balancing part-time jobs, independent projects and/or internships.

What most have in common is a condition called "Senioritis." Senioritis is caused by all of the above. The two major symptoms are PANIC ("What happens to me after June?") and APATHY ("I don't want to go to class; I can't stand writing another paper, and I don't wanna be here any more!")

Although the only known remedy is graduation (which is not available until June), there are some steps one can take to alleviate the discomforts caused by senioritis.

The best medicine for both apathy and panic is proactivity. Working with your placement

coordinator to explore career opportunities and strategies can accomplish two objectives. It will help snap you out of apathy by introducing new stimuli (activities, information, etc.) and focus your efforts. Panic is also reduced because starting the job search process now means you won't have to face it all at once — or alone!

Another antidote is involvement/sharing. Believe it or not, your fellow seniors are going through the same thing. Even though you feel cramped for time, running in and out of school and work, take time to talk to the student next to you.

Talking with each other not only confirms you are not alone (it's an epidemic!), it can help you discover alternative job search strategies that you hadn't before considered. (This eliminates the need for each one of you to re-invent the wheel, so to speak.)

How do you begin? Make a commitment to attend at least one event or presentation each month that is pertinent to your major. If joining an organization at this point seems overwhelming, just decide to attend one meeting — it will get you one step closer to realizing your goals.

Below, is a calendar of upcoming events — START NOW!

Career Calendar

3/5 10:30 a.m., Rm. W817
Diann Burns, Reporter WLS-TV, Front Page Interview

3/6 Noon, 5th Floor, Faculty Lounge, Wabash Building
AAF meeting; new members welcome (PIZZA!)

3/7 Noon, Rm. W202
George Brigandi, guest speaker for AMA.
Noon, Fiction Writing Offices, suite W301. Conversations with Author John Wideman.
7:00 p.m., Ferguson Theater, Reading: John Wideman.

3/7 1:00 p.m., Rm. W314
3/8 5:30 p.m., Rm. W314
WORKSHOP: Applying to Graduate/Law School

3/10 2:00 p.m., 800 South Wells Street, Chicago Museum of Broadcast Communications presents: "An Afternoon with John Drury." Donation: \$2. Call 312/987-1500 for details.

Academic Advising.

The Buck Stops Here.



Dear Academic Advisor:
I just heard that I do not have to declare a major in order to graduate. What will my degree read?

Dear Student:
This is an important question! And there are several responses to it. First, all Columbia students who fulfill the degree requirements graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree; that is a baccalaureate degree in Liberal Arts.

The B. A. degree requirements are: completion of 124 semester hours of course work; completion of the 48 hour General Studies requirement, including a Writing Intensive course; and attainment of at least a final, cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.00.

Students who wish to declare a major should follow and fulfill the curriculum requirements in their chosen area. Each department has prepared a handout describing and delineating the sequence of classes for the given concentration in the major area of study.

Students have the option of being "undeclared majors," whereby they piece together a curriculum that best reflects their interests, talents, and/or a specific career path.

Whichever track one chooses, it is critical to meet with an Academic Advisor, Department Chairs, and faculty members. Students should read all pertinent materials (The College catalog, The Student Handbook, Departmental brochures and curricular handouts).

Dear Academic Advisor:
This may sound crazy, but I think I might be pregnant. I'm scared and I don't know what to do.

Dear Student:
Please stop in Academic Advising! You have much to consider and decide. First, you need to know if you are pregnant. We have many health care facilities we can refer you to in order to find out for certain. Chief among the agencies is Planned Parenthood, located in the Loop.

Once the test results are conclusive, you'll have to make some important decisions (medical, economic, emotional, moral, social). There are understanding, sensitive people who are able to help you and to support you in whatever your decision will be.

The week in music

By Laura Ramirez
Arts Editor

Monday, March 5

Internationally renowned performance artist Laurie Anderson returns to Chicago for a rare concert appearance. Her March 11th show is already sold out, so hurry and purchase your tickets, which are available at Ticketmaster.

Pat McCurdy will go solo tonight at Lounge AX, 2438 N. Lincoln Ave. Only \$2 cover, showtime 9 p.m., 21 & over only. Tonight, Dreamerz, 1516 N. Milwaukee, presents Hollow Hayday. Showtime 8 p.m. \$4 cover, 21 & over.

Tuesday, March 6

"Chicago's friendliest blue's lounge," Rosa's, presents Valerie Wellington tonight. Showtime 9 p.m., 21 & over only, \$4 cover.

Also tonight, Betsy and The Boneshakers perform at Lounge Ax, no cover charge, showtime 10 p.m.

In the mood for reggae? Check out the Wild Hare, 3530 N. Clark. Performing tonight are Dan Davis and the Upper International Hi-Life Band. For showtime and cover charge call 327-0800.

Wednesday, March 7

Tonight, The Blind Venetians, featuring Columbia College students Matt Suhar and Jym Madla, rock the Cabaret Metro, 3730 N. Clark. The Metro's weekly "Rock Against Depression" will also feature House Of Fire and, from Detroit, The Colors. Showtime 10 p.m., 21 & over, \$4 cover, ladies no cover.

Headlining at Lounge Ax tonight are The Ordinaries and Maestro Subgum and The Whole. Showtime 10 p.m., 21 & over, \$5 cover.

Performing tonight at the Avalon, 959 W. Belmont, Greg Howe and Howe II. Also, Skin And Bones and Defcon. Showtime 10 p.m., \$5 cover, 21 & over.

For those under 21, Medusa's, 3257 N. Sheffield, presents its weekly college night. Dancing from 10 p.m. - 2 a.m., 17 & over, \$3 w/ college ID.

Thursday, March 8

The Avalon is three years old, and tonight, they celebrate with a wild anniversary bash. Dog Gone recording artists, The Dangtrippers and Seven Simons will headline the event. Also performing tonight are Maybe/Definitely and Down Town Scotty Brown. Showtime 10 p.m., 21 & over only, \$5 cover. Geffen recording artist Peter Case will perform at Lounge Ax tonight with special guest Dag Juhlin. Showtime 10 p.m., 21 & over, \$8 cover. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.

Dreamerz presents Cache, Chicago's best Latin beat tonight. Showtime 10 p.m., 21 & over, \$4 cover.

Friday, March 9

Tonight at Cabaret Metro, from Los Angeles, Atlantic recording artist Hericane Alice with West B Toyz. All ages show, showtime 7:30 p.m., \$10 cover. Also tonight, after 10 p.m., The Metro presents Dramarama and Map of the World. Showtime 11:30 p.m., 21 & over only, \$6 cover.

Also tonight, from New York, The Toasters play an all ages show at Medusa's. Showtime 10 p.m., call 935-3635 for the cover price.

Trip Shakespeare, Beat The Clock and Ed's Redeeming Qualities perform tonight at Lounge Ax. Showtime 8 p.m., \$8 cover, 21 & over.

The Blind Venetians will perform at Weeds, "The Most Amazing Bar" on the corner of Weed and Clybourn. For more information, call 943-7815.

Saturday, March 10

The New Regal Theatre, 79th and Stony Island, presents DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince. Also, the diabolical Biz Markie and Technotronic. Showtime 7:30 p.m., tickets available at Ticketmaster.

Material Issue, another band featuring Columbia College students, performs tonight at the Avalon. Also performing are Pat Trick, Luck Of Eden Hall and Pagan Ritual. Showtime 10 p.m., \$5 cover.

Chicago Productions and Jumpboy Productions present Warren Rigg and Chicago's very own In Effect. The show happens at the Riviera, Broadway and Lawrence. Don't miss In Effect who put on a great show. Showtime 8 p.m., \$10 cover.

Sunday, March 11

Tony Bitoy Productions presents, from New York, TKA at the Riviera. Showtime 10 p.m., 17 & over to party, 21 & over to drink, \$12 cover.

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Campus News

It looks like the ruby red slippers are working so far; Columbia's phone system crossover is on schedule, according to Coradian Tone's Branch Manager Norm Weber.

Cable was laid Feb. 24 and 25 connecting the 623 S. Wabash, 600 and 624 S. Michigan buildings. Wiring within the buildings is near completion and is scheduled to be finished by Saturday, March 10, according to Weber.

The new phone system is called PBX (Private Branch Exchange), which is intended to connect the three buildings like a small private office.

That's it on the phone front for now. Stay tuned for next week's exciting adventure, *The Telephone System that ate Columbia College*.

The air we breathe and the water we drink is, at best, slightly polluted. Basically, the environment is a mess, in more ways than one. Yet, many of us sit in our Lazy-Boy recliners drinking our favorite beverage, veg'n out watching MTV.

Well, here's your chance to get off your duff and make a difference. Students For A Better World is having a meeting Wed., March 7, at 5 p.m. in room 202 of the Wabash building to plan for Earth Day 1990.

If you care about what you eat, drink and breathe; be there.

The Fiction Writing Department is sponsoring a reading by John Wideman March 7, at 7 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Wideman's novels include: *The Lynchers*, *Hiding Place*, *Sent for You Yesterday*, *Reuben*, *Brothers and Keepers*, and *Fever*.

The reading, which will be followed by a question and answer period with Wideman, is open to the public.

Bobby Brown, M.C. Hammer and Paula Abdul can all move, but they ain't nothin' compared to Bebe Miller and Company.

The smooth steps of Bebe and Co. can be seen Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 8, 9 and 10 at 4730 N. Sheridan Rd.

Tickets cost \$12 for general admission and \$8 for students; all shows start at 8 p.m.

The show is part of the Dance Center's "PRESENT VISIONS/PAST VOICE" tribute to the African-American tradition in modern dance.

For more information, call 312-271-7928.

Finally, we are all sad to see Don Carter go, but you'll be happy to know that Rebecca Courington will serve as the active Computer Department Chairperson until the position is permanently filled.

Venetian Nights



Columbia students who appreciate a good dose of unadulterated, aggressive rock 'n' roll can get it twice this week from the Blind Venetians. Columbia students Matt Suhar (front) and Jym Madia (upper left), along with

fellow Venetians will be appearing Wednesday at Cabaret Metro and Friday at Weeds. The band has a blistering collection of songs that prove melody and forcefulness can coexist with wondrous results.

This week

Monday, March 5

Eyewitness News reporter Diann Burns will speak in Room 817, Wabash building. All students welcome.

An art exhibit featuring Carol Holiday McQueen and Thomas William Taylor will open at the Art Gallery, 72 E. 11th street. For more information call 663-5554

Tuesday, March 6

The American Advertising Federation will meet at 12:30 p.m. in the 5th floor faculty lounge. Elections will be planned and pizza will be served. New members welcome.

Wednesday, March 7

The Fiction Writing Department will present award-winning author John Wideman. Reading will begin at 7 p.m. in the Ferguson Theatre, Michigan building. Open to the public.

Columbia College will hold a forum titled "Gay Bashing and Homophobia" at 5 p.m. in the 5th floor faculty lounge, Wabash building. All are invited.

Jazz Vocalist, Maggie Brown, will perform at 12:30 p.m. in the Hokin Student Center, free show.

Students For A Better World will meet at 5 p.m., Room 202, Wabash building. Topic to be discussed will be Earth Day '90.

Thursday, March 8

The Columbia College Dance Center, 4730 N. Sheridan Rd. will present Bebe Miller and Company. Showtime 8 p.m., \$12 general admission, \$8 Columbia students and seniors. Show will be repeated Friday and Saturday, same time.

Free movie, "Werewolf In London," Hokin Student Center, 4 p.m.

The Science, Technology and Communications program presents Dr. Arthur M. Kohrman, of the University of Chicago Medical Center. Dr. Kohrman will discuss the procedure, the risks and the benefits of live donor liver transplants. He will also address a larger question: What are the ethical limits of human experimentation? Discussion will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the faculty lounge, Room 509, Wabash building. Open to all.

Friday, March 9

Last day to drop classes, deadline 2 p.m.

Year One Discovery Program will hold a workshop titled "Interpersonal Communication. 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Location TBA, all students welcome.

Saturday, March 10

Admissions office college-wide open house, 9:30 - 3:30 p.m., Ferguson Theatre, Michigan building.

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