

12-5-1994

Columbia Chronicle (12/05/1994)

Columbia College Chicago

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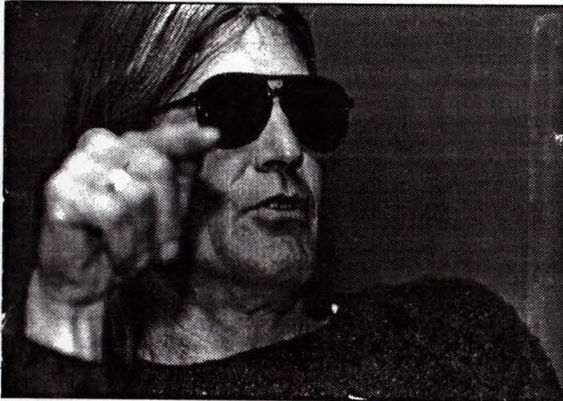
THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Chronicle

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 10

DECEMBER 5, 1994

Native Americans Speak Out AHORA! Unites Latinos



Chris Sweda / Chronicle

Ward Churchill spoke at the Ferguson Theater on issues of the contemporary native american held on Nov. 14.

By Andrew Holland
Correspondent

Jennifer Azure did not know what to expect from the two men on stage at the Ferguson Theater, located at 600 S. Michigan Ave. Like Azure, the men sitting and smoking cigarettes on stage were Native Americans.

Ward Churchill and Robert Robideau, advocates of the American Indian Movement (AIM), came to Columbia College on Monday, November 14, to inform the student body that their people are in a struggle for survival.

Azure and others heard their voices: "Native people of America are in the situation they're in because of [an] unparalleled genocide," said Churchill, a member of the Creek and Cherokee Metis tribes. "The expropriation of [the] land base is the reason for this genocide." According to Churchill, Native Americans own 50 million acres of land, making them the largest landholding population of the U.S.

The land reservations they own are among the richest in minerals, despite deposits of uranium, copper and tin, Churchill said his people are the most impoverished in the U.S. They have the right to live on the land, however, any natural and mineral resources found in the lands are leased, regulated and subsidized by the U.S. and state governments.

"Indians should be the wealthiest group on the continent. But they are just as poor [today as yesterday] and worse off. They live on the land where carcinogenic uranium was mined and they get cancer," Churchill said.

As an associate professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Churchill compared life on the reservation to that in a Third World country. "You find conditions [simi-

lar] to those of Guatemala in South Dakota . . . in the middle of America's belly," he said.

The Sioux Reservation at Pine Ridge covers nearly two million acres of the South Dakota plains.

"It's nice to hear that there is still a Native American culture. The feeling of actually having that ancestry fades away when you don't hear a lot about it."

Churchill described their living conditions as intolerable. He said that the reservation, with 16,000 residents, has an unemployment rate of 86 percent and their poverty level is 63 percent. The Indians of Pine Ridge have a 45-year life expectancy and the highest rate of infant mortality and teenage suicide.

Robideau, a grass-roots activist from the Anishinabe tribe, has been involved with AIM for more than 20 years. He was inspired to join after Leonard Peltier, his cousin, was imprisoned for killing two FBI agents during a shoot out at Pine Ridge on June 26, 1975. The case sparked national attention because AIM advocates have since claimed Peltier was only defending his land and that the justice system was using him as a scapegoat.

In 1986, Spain awarded Peltier the International Human Rights Prize for defending the historical and cultural rights of the Anishinabe people. He is currently serving the 18th year of two consecutive life sentences at the

Leavenworth Federal Penitentiary in Kansas. To date, Robideau has served 17 years in various U.S. prisons for crimes connected with the AIM.

"All we knew is that we were starving and other people hated us," Robideau said. "We didn't know how to intellectualize that. If we did not create a movement, we would perish as a people. So we did our thing."

"I feel AIM has accomplished a lot by not only waking up America, but by also waking up our own people."

Robideau's goal, when he joined the AIM was to get his people to re-embrace their culture before they went underground.

Michelle Cheng, a part-time English instructor at Columbia, arranged for the visiting activists to create awareness of Native American culture and to promote the release of Leonard Peltier.

"I think they did an excellent job of presenting what Native Americans want in terms of recognizing treaties and upholding their own laws regarding native Americans," Cheng said.

Jennifer Azure said her two year old son will know of his Indian ancestry and that his people have struggled for centuries. "It's nice to hear that their is still a Native American culture. The feeling of actually having that ancestry fades away when you don't hear a lot about it," she said. After listening to the testimony of Churchill and Robideau, Cheng, a Native American herself, was glad she attended the discussion.

By Jesse Lipman
Correspondent

This year the Columbia College community spawned the AHORA!, NOVI, Club, a new and active student organization.

AHORA! was developed and created by Columbia Latino students who want to strengthen the diversity of Hispanic voices of the college. The club was founded last summer, when its current members discussed why such an organization was needed and what its purpose is. The group's faculty advisor is Carlos Flores. Since then, the idea evolved into a multipurpose student organization with a varied agenda, focusing on Puerto Rican issues, Latino unity and promotion of Columbia's artists.

AHORA!'s activities include accessible discussion of Puerto Rican issues. Earlier this semester they organized a discussion of the Puerto Rican community and its history. Recently, on Tuesday, November 29, they trained attention to the issues of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) among the Puerto Rican community.

AHORA! sponsored a presentation by Educator Carlos Ortiz, who explained to an audience of 30 people how the HIV and AIDS epidemics have struck the country's Puerto Rican community especially hard. Additionally, he spoke about the virus and its transmission, particularly facts that people tend to misunderstand.

Ricardo Sanchez, vice-president of AHORA!, explained, "There is a need for education. Puerto Ricans are the minority group with the highest [index of] HIV virus [infection]. A lot of people still don't understand how [the virus] is hitting heterosexuals."

AHORA! also focuses on organizing arts exhibition showcases, thereby promoting student artists. With these events, scheduled to begin next semester, the club will give artists public exposure, which will

"Our main focus is to promote the artist and take the education to the community and to show the kids the positive aspect of what a college education can bring."

help them find professional opportunities and jobs. Sanchez stressed the importance of using the showcases to network, adding that it is AHORA!'s goal to "promote artists so that when they graduate, they have [established] contacts."

AHORA! challenges artists to go further beyond personal profit and to use its members' educations to benefit their communities, be they Puerto Rican, Mexican, Guatemalan or otherwise. They call attention to the importance of a solid link of intellectual and artistic understanding between current and future college students. Sanchez states, "Our main focus is to promote the artist and take the education to the community and to show the kids the positive aspect of what a college education can bring."

AHORA! meets on Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 304 of 623 S. Wabash.



Chris Sweda / Chronicle

Columbia Student Rosario Aybar volunteers her time Wednesday Nov 23 at the Pacific Garden Mission to help feed the homeless a hearty Thanksgiving dinner.

Career

by Kathleen Giblin

Acting Director of the Freshman Seminar

Every college student faces two critical transition periods: entering college as a freshman and leaving college as a graduating senior. Along the way, many students fail to take full advantage of the richness that surrounds them. There are tremendous advantages for those who successfully bridge those periods with active life planning and successful participation in their education.

It's the same old story: You get out of something what you put into it. If you actively seek out ways to connect with your peers, your chosen industry, your instructors and the community, you will reap an endless number of potential benefits.

Columbia's strength does not lie in its buildings' structures or expensive campus. There is no ivory tower on Michigan, Wabash, 11th Street, LaSalle or Sheridan Road. Columbia is made of creative people, concepts, trends and ideas. It is up to you to open your eyes to the endless opportunities and to make connections.

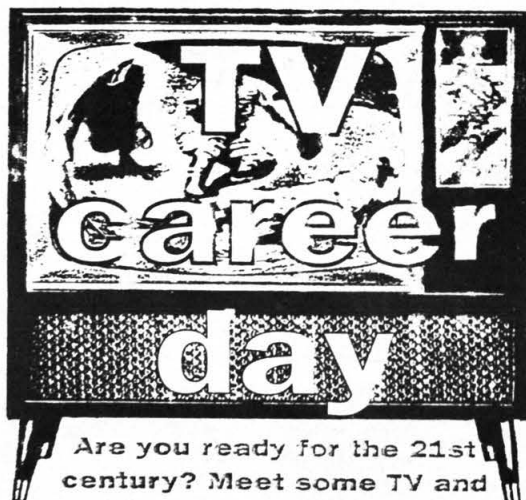
In the Freshman Seminar course, freshmen are encouraged and instructed early on to make connections. The opportunities to discover themselves, the college, Chicago and other artists are endless during the course of the semester. The class is academically challenging throughout, and the students take time to seek out all parts of Columbia. They are learning early on the key to successful transitions.

Even if you are unable to enroll in the Freshman Seminar, there are many opportunities to connect with the larger life of the college: join students organizations, attend events, talk to faculty and staff, maintain contact with fellow students, and participate in building the image and reputation of the college.

The life after college reality is that people will ask you where you went to school. Thus, it's in your best interest that the outside world have a good impression of your college. Reputations are based on recognition. How easily can you describe what Columbia has to offer, or what have you done to expand the reputation of the college?

Encourage you to open yourself to the lifeblood of Columbia and become connected.

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the TV Department ext. 410

*Columbia College Alumni

All Residents Pay For Damage

By Diane J. Bell
Correspondent

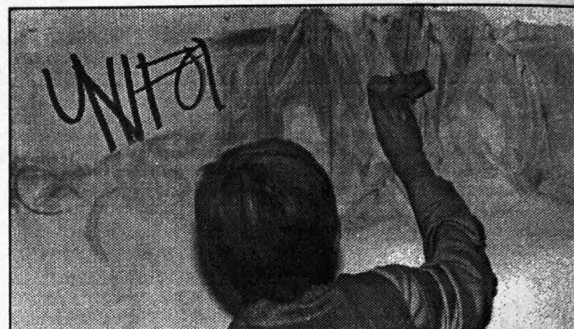
Indifference to vandalism hits all dormitory residents in the pocket-book.

This year the 355 occupants of the Columbia College Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, will learn the price of living responsibly because of the vandalism committed during the fall semester.

Halloween weekend damage was so severe that floor meetings were held to discuss the damages, assess charges and responsibility. The third floor, in particular, was the target of much of the vandalism. Shaving cream was sprayed onto hallway walls, raw eggs were thrown against a room door, and toilet tissue was scattered throughout the hallways. Every lightbulb in the hallway, except for the ones at the elevators, was stolen enveloping the entire hall in darkness.

Other forms of vandalism have also occurred. For example, the gameroom's two pool tables because of were continually abused until they were recently removed. Paper was stuck into their pockets and the green-baize covering was torn. The carpeting of the elevators was unravelled and profane words are constantly written and engraved on the elevator doors. Stickers and chewing gum are sometimes used to cover the floor button numbers. During the Devil's Night Bash, on October 30, pumpkins were dropped in the stairwells, ashtrays were stolen from the hallways, and a sign reading "In case of fire, use stairs" was missing from the fifth floor. Cigarette burns and ashes scar and stain the carpeting and walls of many of the center's eight floors. Although pets are strictly prohibited, a cat was reported strolling down a hallway.

Students are charged a refund-



Custodian Worker Lewis wipes off graffiti on the walls of Columbia campus.

able \$300 dollar security deposit to discourage vandals. Not only does that deposit cover damage to the dormitory rooms and furniture, but it also pays for all vandalism.

The dormitory resident handbook clearly states: "If the individual responsible for the common area damage is not identified within twenty-one (21) days, then ALL STUDENT RESIDENTS are equally charged the cost of repairs and/or replacement." Though many of the residents may not be guilty of the damage done, they will be charged.

Since no resident admits seeing the damage recently done, everyone is held responsible. The Resident Center's Assistant Director Krissie Harris said, "When we can't pinpoint the person doing the damage we have no other choice but to charge the smallest group that uses the area. For instance, everyone in the entire building gets billed for damage done to the elevators. But as for damage done to a certain hallway, only the residents of that floor get charged."

Angela Thornton, a dormitory resident, believes billing everyone for vandalism is unfair. "I think that

it should be taken into consideration that not everyone is doing the vandalism," she said. Even with security guards on duty 24 hours a day, the vandalism continues. SDI Security guard, Yvonne Minniefield said, "Sometimes I see strange people entering the building who could possibly be doing the damage, but I always stop them from getting past me before they do."

Perhaps there is no solution to vandalism aside from collective fining. Asaan Brooks, a second year resident notes, "This happened last year. It reminds me of high school when a teacher would ask who made the rude comment. If no one admitted [to it] everyone got punished. I'll voice my opinion, but I don't think anything will ever be done about [the vandalism problem]."

Last year \$60, as a minimum, were deducted from each resident's security deposit. To date, no such fixed dollar amount to be subtracted for the fall, 1994, semester -- has been set. So far, the damage reported has been less than last year's; perhaps the damage to student pockets will also be less.

CCCA Helps Students With Debt

By John Harris
News Editor

Laura Bruni is a professional shopper. She's already over \$9,000 in credit card debt, but that doesn't seem to slow her down. With the holiday season approaching, she knows that she's going to push it even higher.

Entering the 900 North Michigan shops, Bruni eyes each of the stores while riding up the escalator.

Arriving at Bloomingdale's, Bruni visits each corner of the store, making sure she has everything she wants. Once satisfied with what she has, she dumps the items on the glass counter. "Will that be all," the clerk asks, "For now," Bruni replies, pulling her Visa out of her purse. She knows that move all too well. The card itself looks rough, with faded numbers and long scratches earned as battle scars from countless swipes through the verification machine.

Upon leaving, Bruni squeezes to get her bags through the revolving doors. Standing outside, she inhales a breath of cool night air. Looking up and down the street, she realizes she's hit all of the stores she wanted to and decides it's time to go home. Walking down the street, Bruni admits that her credit card debt is a problem, but she sees no way out. "I'm so deep [in debt], that it's like it doesn't exist. [It] seems like Monopoly money, you know?" she confesses.

However, Bruni is not the only one with this problem. According to Grant June, a representative of Credit Counseling Centers of America (CCCA), the holidays are the most troublesome months of the year. "I would say that the holiday and post holiday seasons are the most difficult times for students, as well as others, as far as debt goes. It never really hits home until the bills arrive in the mail."

The campus bulletin boards are covered with enticing offers from a dozen or so credit card companies offering their services to assist those in need of money. Students apply and often receive more than one credit card, giving them access to more cash. This, June says, is where most problems occur. "People use one credit card until it gets to be maxed out and then they go on to the next. Before they know it, they are thousands of dollars in debt."

One way to avoid getting in debt is to get a part time job or simply paying in cash. Senior Bill Loftus, says that he pays cash for holiday gifts. "I try not to use a credit card, but it seems that I always end up there. I try to pay cash for as many things as possible."

Other students found that the way to avoid getting into debt is to avoid credit cards. Freshman Lucy Cordon supplements her income by working a part-time job while attending school. However, she does find it hard coming with the necessary cash to buy gifts.

Credit cards, however, do serve legitimate purposes for many people. Most cardholders find them to be great assistance for buying everyday things. Freshman Todd Easler sees why students need credit cards. "It's hard to pay for all of the things you need," he said. "When you have to pay for things like rent and groceries, it's hard to afford the holidays. If you've got a part-time job and go to school, it's impossible to pay cash for it all."

If you are one who cannot afford cash and use credit cards, CCCA is an organization which it is worth looking into. They are a service organization that works as a liaison between you and your creditors in an attempt to resolve and dissolve debts with credit card companies. "What we do is work with the person and devise a budget," says June. "We try and work out a payment plan between the person and the lender to reach a compromise. Most of the lenders, such as credit card companies, are willing to freeze interest or lower minimum payments to allow them to get paid back. Not all of the companies are the same, but we will help you lower your debt."

You can contact Credit Counseling Centers of America by either writing or calling them. Their telephone number is (800) 761-0061 and their address is P.O. Box 784, Grand Island, New York, 14072.

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Columbia Recognizes Teachers



Paulatte Wheatfield
By Brendan O'Brien
Correspondent

"Knowledge is strength" and "Good teachers never stop learning" are quotes decorating a wall of the office of Dr. Pan Papacosta, a physics professor of Columbia's science and mathematics department. While a small transistor radio plays classical music from atop a bookshelf, he points over his shoulder and says, "A good teacher is one who continues to learn not only what he knows but how he teaches."

Papacosta and Paulatte Whitfield, the latter is from the marketing communication department, are recipients of the first Columbia College Teacher of the Year Award.

Whitfield speaks of her experiences in the advertising business and what drove her to become a teacher. "I started teaching part-time, not thinking I would ever enjoy it this much," she said. "I got so involved with teaching, that I figured I might as well do this full-time. I figured that the advertising industry would not miss one person less selling deodorant or insurance."

Upon earning a graduate degree in advertising from the Medill School of Journalism, at Northwestern University, she spent the last 15 years working in that profession. She has brought her insights, as a corporate employee, as a copywriter and as a self-employed businesswoman, into the classrooms of Columbia College.

Papacosta, on the other hand, has always been in the academic arena. His education started at the University of London, where he earned a Ph.D. in experimental physics. He came to the United States by way of the University of Florida, where he spent a year doing research and developing courses for the university. Finally, Papacosta ended up at Columbia College where he has taught for the past seven years.

In June, during graduation, both Papacosta and Whitfield were honored with awards in the full-time faculty category. The awards were given by the IPC, made up of faculty members, students and administrative representatives, who

picked two teachers from the many recommendations submitted by students, alumni and faculty members.

"The award made me very happy because it showed that the school is recognizing teachers during our most sacred ceremony: graduation," Papacosta said. "It speaks highly of the value the school places on teaching."

Whitfield added, "The recognition is always nice. We are just representatives of the faculty of Colum-

Teachers to page 8



Pan Popotosta

Photos by Tina Wagner

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by Katja Heinemann

A LION'S HUG

A father and son embrace during the Brach's Parade.

The Office of Student Life and Development would like to thank the Columbia College Community for their generosity and support of our Thanksgiving dinner for the Homeless.

The event was a resounding success. Faculty, staff and students joined together to provide, prepare and serve dinner for nearly 500 homeless individuals at the Pacific Mission. In addition to the Columbia College Community, food was donated by the following local businesses:



- *Chicago Carry-out
- *GeorGina's
- *Warehouse Liquors
- *Whole Foods



Thanks again for your assistance in this worthwhile endeavor.

THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Chronicle

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CHICAGO'S NEW ROCK ALTERNATIVE

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Christopher Columbus Rehabilitated

It was celebrated by a plethora of Chicago Institutions, including the Chicago Cultural Center, the Hull House, the Chicago Historical Society, the Museum of Science and Industry, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Athenaeum, the Chicago Tribune, and, although it is at the heart of a crisis in civil rights, the DuSable Museum, and the Harold Washington Library.

Furthermore, although Columbia College has perhaps a more intimate connection with the event than all of these other institutions, combined, Columbia does not celebrate it. It has no plans to do so. In fact, it is the first thing you hear about when you hear Columbia's name.

Can you guess what it is?

The event is Columbus Day.

Columbia College, Roosevelt University, Malcolm X College, the University of Chicago, and others do not celebrate or commemorate Columbus Day in any way.

"He has become a forgotten hero," said Roosevelt's Tom Karow.

But the situation is a bit more extreme when even Columbia won't say the explorer's name.

Columbia College was founded in 1890 as the Columbia School of Oratory. It was founded by Miss Mary Blood and Mrs. Ida Riley in anticipation of the 1893 World's Fair, which was to be called The Columbian Exposition, in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the explorer's discovery of the New World.

While the buildings after which the Art Institute and the Museum of Science and Industry are modeled were built at the Exposition, only Columbia of all of these institutions was named after it.

The 100th anniversary of the Fair coincided with the 100th anniversary of Columbia College in 1993; this was also the 500th anniversary of Columbus' arrival on, or near, this continent, and the date was marked by parade boycotts, protests, and a general controversy over who the man was, and whether he should be remembered as a hero, or reviled as an ethnocentric, genocidal villain.

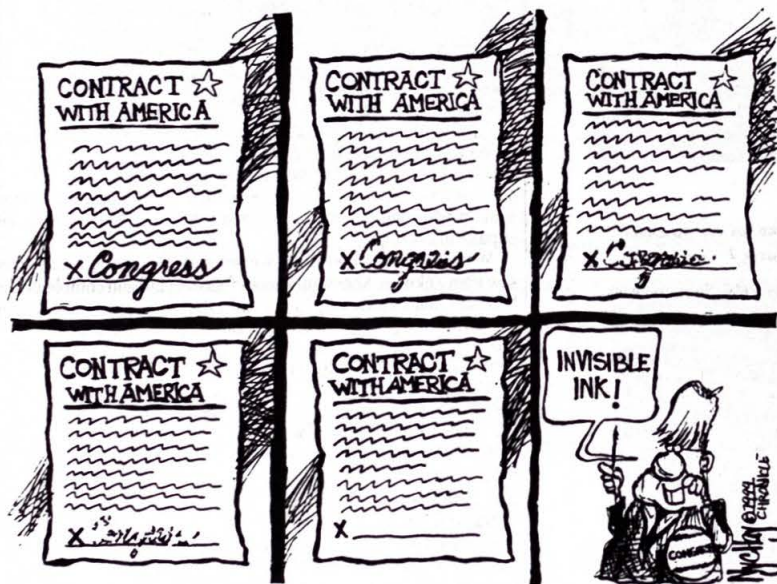
Numerous events were celebrated around the Chicago area at the institutions mentioned above; parades,--every year--and generally a gala celebration of the city's coming-of-age in the world.

But, Columbia did not celebrate Columbus Day that year -- or this year, or at any other time. Carol Bryant, a spokesperson for the college, said, "It is not considered a major holiday."

Columbia student Michelle Donovan, said, "Columbus did not really discover America, after all, there was somebody else living there at the time."

Lou Rago, the parade marshal for the city's annual celebration, said that Chicago has been having Columbus Day parades since 1952, and there has never been a disturbance or a protest. "They just get bigger every year," he said. "Those who sponsor this event think of it as a celebration of American life, and nothing more. After all, we are a nation of immigrants. We think of the parade as a celebration of the founding of America."

John O.



To the editor,

December will bring an onslaught of nativities -- everything from live, full scale theatrical presentations, to glowing lawn ornaments -- all re-enacting the birth of a baby named Jesus. This baby is said to be the Christ-child, the only son of God. He is said to be a child who grew sinless into the man that would bear the sins of this world -- a man said to be the answer to the question everyone is asking. "What's it all about?"

No doubt that in this season, amongst the hypocrisy, commercialization, messages of charity and compassion, freezing cold and snow, cars that won't start, people going hungry, church services, people dying, Santa Claus, sleigh bells, Christmas carols, and the return to dysfunctional families; no doubt, people will be asking that question -- "What's it all about?"

The Columbia College Theater/Music department had an excellent opportunity to present an exploration

of the question, yet they did not. *Jesus Christ Superstar*, written by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, is a mainstream, secular, "rock opera" interpretation of Jesus' last week on earth. Webber introduced us to secular human beings asking, "Who are you, Jesus? What is this all about?" Although, it may contradict the Bible, and is deceitful in some ways, its greatest value is that it sincerely questions who this man was who had changed the world and had radically altered countless lives.

Unfortunately, the Columbia production replicates none of Webber's sincerity. Their answer to "Who are you, Jesus," was to present him as a joke. The potential for finding meaning was trashed. The musical was a simple mockery to guarantee laughter and standing ovations. The entire production was a parody -- a drunken orgy with Jesus being passed around the stage like a joint, begging attention from his followers and sexual attention from Mary Magdalene. Sex, drugs, and rock and roll is not shocking anymore, by any standard. It seems expected now, especially in an amateur college production. How sad.

It would seem daring for a col-

Day Without Communication Proposed

By Michel Schwartz
Editor in Chief

When I heard that the *Chicago Sun-Times* went on strike (even though they went back to work shortly thereafter) and I read that both of San Francisco's major daily newspapers went on strike, an idea dawned on me and I would like to know what you, the readers, think about it.

Every year, on Dec. 1, artists affected by AIDS are honored across the nation for a Day Without Art. Here, at Columbia, red ribbons are passed out on that day and all of the artwork displayed on campus is either covered or taken down.

Since Columbia is a communications school as much as it is an art school, I propose to implement a college-wide Day Without Communication. This has not been done before, to my knowledge, and the more participation we inspire, the more attention this event will attract for Columbia.

For starters, we can clear all of the bulletin boards, store all of the newspapers laying in the lobbies of our buildings (I know you can live without *New City* for just one day,) and turn off the electronic newsletter. We can even try to go as far as closing the library and the book-

store for a day.

The purpose of this event is to show the importance of communication in our daily lives. In the development of the super information highway, as the year 2000 quickly approaches, we add venues of communication almost every day. Just as art is important as a form of expression and as a part of culture in general, communication is a necessity for our society.

For example, that San Francisco strike I mentioned earlier, "news junkies" as they were called in the *Chicago Tribune*, have resorted to the only medium left in their area to get daily news: their modems. They cannot wait until the newspapers settle their negotiations to find out their news.

Think about this: Had you not watched the news and, or read the newspaper over the past few weeks, would you have considered yourself an educated voter when you walked into the booth this past Nov. 8?

I don't have a date in mind yet for this Day Without Communication, but my purpose for writing this is to get suggestions. Anyone who is interested in helping me implement this idea or anyone who has feedback for me, please call (312) 663-1600, ext. 343.

Alcoholics Anonymous Defended

To the Editor,

This is in response to the crazed emission of half-truths and hyperbolic top-spin from John Beiderman in regards to Alcoholics Anonymous, and the 12-Step method of recovery.

A.A. is not an "evangelical religious movement" (check the definition of evangelical).

A key part of the 12-Step method is the belief in "a power greater than yourself" or a "Higher Power." For most, this is "a loving and caring God as you understand God." We don't tell anyone what their Higher Power should be, and A.A. is NOT allied with any religion, denomination or sect. The 12-Step Method works just as well for Muslims, Buddhists, Christians, Pagans, Jews, etc.

Beiderman is correct in that A.A. is not for everybody--it should also be said that not every antibiotic will cure an infection, but this is certainly no reason to condemn any one of them. The point is, lives are at stake here, and hopefully, ONE of the methods WILL work, and which one does is unimportant. We don't drag people into our meetings, and we don't force them to stay.

What began in 1935 as a method of recovery for alcoholics has spawned an umbrella of other fellowships based on the 12-Steps of A.A. The 12-Step method of recovery is the most widely used today and has one of the best success rates. Treatment centers use it as part of their rehab programs, and often recommend 12-Step meetings to their patients upon discharge.

As you read this rebuttal, there are countless people in 12-Step meetings in hospitals, church basements, and college campuses all around the world. I am one of them. Where all else failed, Narcotics Anonymous has kept me Clean & Sober for the past 6.5 years. Today, I am a useful, productive member of society, and no longer a burden to others.

Despite Beiderman's many wild and unsubstantiated charges, the truth remains that through the 12-Step fellowships, millions of people have recovered from the bondage of addiction. Such results cannot be dismissed, nor can they be discredited through Beiderman's hyperbolic gas-baggery.

Signed,

Clean & Sober at Columbia

Scott M. Zientara

Call for Entries

1995 Chicago Asian American Film Festival



For more information call:
Asian American Institute / Phone No. 312-553-6170
2005 LaSalle St. / 4th Floor / Chicago, IL 60604

Purpose:

to encourage the production of films and videos dealing with Asian American experiences and issues, and to promote such works. Directors highlighting the lives of Asian Americans in the Midwest are particularly encouraged to participate. The 1995 Chicago Asian American Film Festival will include a film and video contest.

Entry Awards:

1st Prize: \$1,000
2nd Prize: \$ 500
3rd Prize: \$ 250

Selected outstanding works will receive an honorable mention and will be shown as part of the 1995 Chicago Asian American Film Festival. Entry awards will be made to the directors.

Deadline:

All entries must be received by January 31, 1995

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THE OP-ED PAGE OF THE CHRONICLE DO NOT REFLECT THOSE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE, THE JOURNALISM DEPARTMENT OR THE CHRONICLE.

Advice For Sulking Gen X-ers

By John Biederman
Correspondent

I don't want to be included in Generation X anymore. Courts have allowed children to divorce from their birth families, so although my birthday fits, I want out.

Following the Baby Boomers, we are the victims of an earlier trend reversal. Children are no longer surpassing their parent's living standards, nor are they leaving home younger. We are fighting unemployment and dreaming of fabled benefits. Many get degrees and are still asking, "would you like fries with that?" as student loan creditors beat on our doors.

I know it is not easy X-ers, but smile for once! Wear some bright clothes, let your hair grow out in its natural color, write a poem about something other than suicide, wear some shoes that don't induce vomiting, talk about something that is good in life!

Even as I try to sever my ties, the realities that formed us affect me too. I am broke, don't feel that I actually have a "life," and call myself an "artiste" (writer). Although, unlike many who proclaim that, I spend a lot of time on my art. Call me a practicing X-er, but I am fighting it. I don't have the answers, but I have some ideas as to what we are doing wrong.

Do we think that a surly attitude and terrifying fashion will bring more decent jobs? That AIDS will go away and we will get to stop

coating our most sensitive areas with rubber for sex? No, we just make life more difficult for ourselves.

The clothes have definitely got to go. Generation-X has become the narrowest stereotype ever, the equivalent of an all-black school-uniform. Maybe the clothing began as a rebellion, but now we are a bunch of multi-pierced clones. Want to really look like a rebel? Wear a suit or dress to class. Rebellion in fashion is dead. It never meant half as much as actions anyway.

I regrettably find myself consciously avoiding the X stigma. Individuality requires a freedom from trends: doing what is not "in" because you please, while not avoiding the things you like if they are in (theoretically not rebellious). Attempting to buck conformity for its own sake renders one its slave as well.

As social beings, it is impossible to remain free of other's opinions. From the cradle on, other people have played a part in the formation of our world views. But should I feel compelled to throw out my black shirts when I open my dresser to avoid becoming a "Nightmare X Artist?" Should I avoid writing that is vaguely self-indulgent?

Out with the truth. I can handle the attitude, I can handle the whining, and I, in fact, enjoy the depressed poetry. I hate the clothes! Look at the word grunge. "Grunge," says Webster, means:

[perhaps a blend of grimy, dingy, and grunt, childish euphemism for "defecate"] dirty, messy, disreputable, etc...; unpleasant. [Slang].

Could not have said it better.

"That's the beauty of it," people who dress like hell tell me. "After all of the years of sexy fashion, it is the ultimate rebellion." Good idea, but too late. Ever heard of the hippies? They did the same thing, with more choices than black. X can't get rebellion or originality right.

And what is with the combat boots? I feel silly reminding you, but combat boots are for...well, combat. When you are shooting your fellow man, trudging through, then is no time to worry about how you look. Plus, a glance downward might induce the enemy into vomiting.

Combat boots have paved the way for the invention of every manner of ugly footwear. Stop, please! I understand that sexy shoes are not comfortable; but, comfort has never meant much in fashion. So, women have it worse; take that argument to Mother Nature. Nobody asked me, when I was born, what I wanted as turn-ohs. And, if women liked things as admittedly silly, believe me, I would be wearing six-inch heels all of the time.

I am done complaining about it, so take this as my divorce complaint against Generation X. I do not expect any alimony, just throw on a smile and some heels.

BIG & small of it

By John Bigness
Correspondent

They are lined up around the block to get my autograph. It seems people just can't seem to get enough of your lovable, huggable, kissable correspondent, John "Hollywood" Bigness.

In case you missed it, I was on TV last week. That's right, me, Mister Thespian. Tucked between *Scarlett* and *Late Night With David Letterman*, there was your buddy in his most challenging role yet.

Critics are raving. "DeNiro, step aside; Bigness is the next rising star. Simply provocative," says Gene Siskel.

"Awe-inspiring," says Roger Ebert. "Bigness seamlessly creates a mood that can only be described as gripping."

Okay, okay, I made up those quotes.

But these are real: "What the heck were you doing? You looked lost or something," says my sister.

"Ha! You're a dork! I couldn't stop laughing," exclaims my brother-in-law.

"Did you write down the lottery numbers? I'm going to sleep," says my wife.

Lottery numbers. Hey, babe, I'm your meal ticket. It won't be long now before every talent agent in this town starts calling.

I guess I should explain myself. I'm doing an internship with investigative reporter Pam Zekman over at WBBM-TV. November was sweeps month, so she did this series on home-repair rip-offs. Maybe some of you saw it. It was actually very good, and I'm not saying that just to suck up to Pam. Okay, I am trying to suck up to Pam, but I honestly and truly liked the series.

I didn't realize this before going into the internship, but as an intern, one of my chief responsibilities is putting my life in danger. From now on, I will make sure to ask, during internship interviews, about whether I will be donating blood. It is one of those nice things to know.

Pam asked me to go with her on a confrontation with one of these home-repair weasels. My job was to watch the cameraman's back in case said weasel or one of his crew decided to crack the cameraman over the head with a pickaxe.

Fortunately, that didn't happen. It is a good thing, too. It would have been a bad time for Pam and the cameraman to find that I am a pacifist. I might have shouted a warning or asked the guy to kindly put down the weapon and give peace a chance. But jump in front of some psycho with a pickaxe? I don't think so. This is, after all, an unpaid internship.

What did happen was, the weasel started running away when he saw Pam Zekman. She is only about four-feet tall and completely harmless, so I don't know why he was afraid. Anyway, the cameraman ran in front of the guy to get a better shot, and there I was, in the background, slowly trotting along toward Pam Zekman with her microphone shoved up this guy's left nostril.

Then things got tense. See, I stopped trotting and started walking. I kept my hands in my pockets for effect, sort of like Brando in *On the Waterfront*. Mind you, it was not as easy as it looked. I have been working on this walk for quite some time. I have tried it with one hand in my pocket, both hands in my back pockets, arms swinging freely at my side, arms folded, hands on top of my head, arms flailing like a goof, the works.

My big scene lasted only a few seconds, but I like to think that I made an impact on quite a few aspiring actors. With very little theater training, I was able to pull it off. There I was, just your typical college student, appearing on TV before millions of people. Buck up, you drama majors. Your shot may yet come.

I promise that this will not go to my head. I will still remember all of the little people after I have become rich and famous. I will probably — no guarantees here — grant interviews to the *Columbia Chronicle*. I may even stop by the school after graduation, provided I am paid for my time.

To all my friends and acquaintances here at Columbia, fear not. You can say you knew me when I was a mere columnist for the school paper. Don't, however, try calling me to get free tickets for my future performances.

Adieu, adieu.

BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS ALSO, IN THIS EPISODE: THE VAGINAL BALMAIN (RUBBED FOR HER PLEASURE)

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STEP 3. MATCH YOUR COMPLETE EQUATION WITH APPROPRIATE DISEASES FROM LIST C

TRY MIXING & MATCHING!

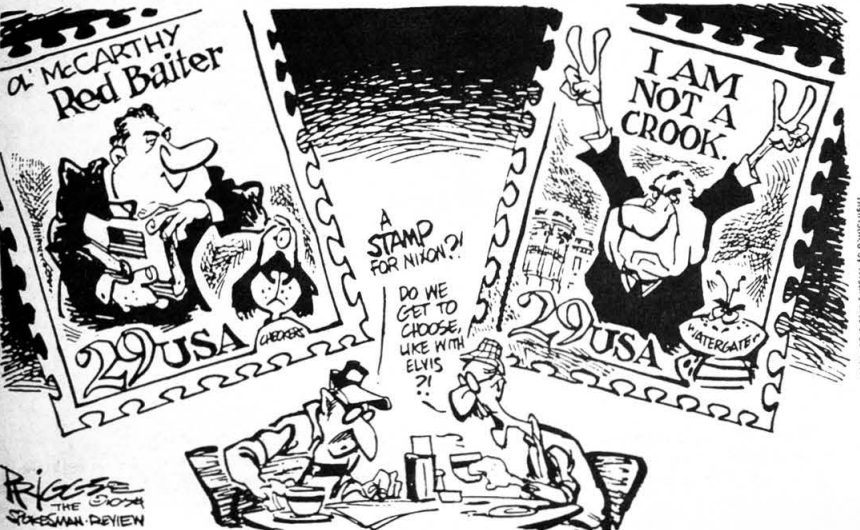
LIST A: PENIS, VAGINA, ANUS, MOUTH, EAR

LIST B: BURNING, FROTHY DISCHARGE, GREENISH DISCHARGE, ITCHING, FOUL-ODOR, MUSTY-ODOR, BURNING, IRRITATION, CHANCRES/SORES, WHITISH DISCHARGE

LIST C: CHLAMYDIA, HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV), BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS, GENITAL WARTS (HPV), SYPHILIS/HERPES, CANDIDIASIS, CHILMAYDIN

MORE: GONORRHEA, TRICHOMONIASIS, GONORRHEA, PUBIC LICE, EAR INFLAMMATION, VAGINITIS, HERPES, HPV

THIS CARTOON AND ITS CONTENTS HAVE BEEN RECYCLED TO SAVE THE EARTH. THERE ARE NO MORALS, BECAUSE THERE IS NO SEX LIKE THE SEX YOU HAVE BY YOURSELF.



Feminism Debate

To the editor,

In defense of the statements I made to the *Chronicle* and to Ms. Probst, I write this article.

I was simply arguing, in the previous article, the subject of mothers and their priorities and how & why feminists respect neither. Ms. Probst implied that I left the issue of fathers out of this debate intentionally. I assure you, that I have no intentions of doing so now. I brought the issue up because it was my privilege, as well as my obligation as a woman. In behalf of all women who value motherhood, I give support and encouragement to women who need it most -- homemakers.

The feminists are the ones who support programs that "encourage" fathers to flee from their responsibilities. They say, in effect, that fathers (men), are not needed or wanted.

Ms. Probst, I support fathers who are financially, not maternally, responsible for their children. Maternal responsibility is the mother's, and hers alone -- not the father's, and certainly not the taxpayer's. Men, simply, do not want to be mother-substitutes, and the percentage of those who claim that they do, is very small.

Many of today's young women reject feminism. They know that feminists are not only anti-father, but also anti-mother!

Marisha L. Bowie

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Save the Last Dance a Hit

By **Tamela Archer**
Correspondent

Save the Last Dance for Me is the title and theme song of the play sponsored by Chicago's African-American Student Union and performed at Columbia's Ferguson Theater on Nov. 17-19.

The union "seized the opportunity to sponsor the play" to raise funds for student and community youth mentoring programs, according to president Charles Edwards.

Eugene Varnado, an actor and poet, wrote the play, and his son Khalifah, a Columbia film student, directed it. The younger Varnado's down-to-earth dialogue gives the story a realistic edge.

"The whole thing is based on years and years of experience," he said, commenting on his father's creative process. "There is always a struggle involved in any relationship. The themes are slices of life."

Save the Last Dance for Me is the provocative story of Dina Angela Speights (Ziamiah Al-Haqq), a black woman who has lost touch with her identity and is married to a white man, and Perry Dupree (Richard Ollie), her black lover who wants desperately to restore her faith in herself as well as in him.

Tensions mount as Perry tries to persuade Dina to leave her husband. She doesn't really love her husband, but he provides security

and stability.

As the performance concludes, Perry and Dina, having come to a greater understanding of each other and themselves, slow dance to the theme song.

Dina, the younger Varnado explains, is a complex character: though she says she will never leave her husband and the comfort he provides, she is drawn to a man who is the opposite of everything her husband is.

Though the play deals with a racial theme, it touches on a variety of questions about relationships in general, such as why extramarital affairs happen.

For veteran actors Ollie and Al-Haqq, it was from their own lives that they drew the emotions to portray the struggles and frustrations expressed through their characters.

"Black women have given me so much agony and ecstasy," Ollie said. "I had only to draw from those experiences to get across what Perry felt for Dina."

Al-Haqq said, "Dina is like what I have seen in so many females. She is a split between living in the black world and having to interact with the white business world."

Save the Last Dance for Me opened at Prince Mustafa's Cultural Palace in April, 1994, and has been performed at a number of theaters throughout Chicago.

Proceeds from the three Columbia performances will help fund the African-American Stu-

dent Union, a non-profit, nonpartisan organization. The union, Chicago's largest non-Greek-affiliated student organization, boasts more than 1,300 members at more than 35 Chicago-area universities, colleges, proprietary institutions, and high schools.

"I enjoyed the play a lot," said Sarah Parker, a union supporter. "It was thought-provoking and entertaining. This was a benefit that benefited everybody -- including the audience."

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The Mighty Mighty Bosstones.

Bosstones Show Who's Boss

By **Katrice Hardaway**
Correspondent

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones have adopted the attitude of being the "stewiest band in the world" for the release of their fourth album, *Questions And Answers*. For those of you who don't have it...GET IT QUICK!

If you haven't had the pleasure of seeing this ska band perform live, you are missing a good thing. At first, you might think they look like the Beastie Boys and their lead singer favors Henry Rollins. Fear not, young mortals -- this group is definitely in a class by itself.

Their energy-packed performance -- which included saxophones, trombones, a mosh pit, body surfers and the whole bowl of wax -- blew this reviewer away.

The most impressive thing about the Bosstones is their interaction with the audience. They took requests, and played every one. They even bothered to come back onstage after the concert --

to the crowd's screams of "Mighty Mighty Bosstones! Mighty Mighty Bosstones!" -- to play a request they had forgotten.

The band was too exhausted, however, for a real encore. Most fans probably went home satisfied that they'd gotten their money's worth.

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones is one band with a hectic schedule and certainly started this year off with a bang. On New Year's Eve they opened for Aerosmith. They've played six sold-out shows at Cambridge's Middle East Club and toured with Fishbone and Stone Temple Pilots.

In addition to this suicidal schedule, they somehow found time to appear on the KISS tribute album *Kiss My A***, performing Detroit Rock City. They also run a record label, Big Rig Records, and the fanzine named 737.

The Bosstones, with their high-octane, emotion-filled stage show, and great album, are going to be huge. CHECK THEM OUT!



Randi and Andy (Rachel Silverman, left and Patrick Thornton, center) present Christmas presents to Andy's mom, Emily (Roslyn Alexander, right) in a scene from *Greetings*.

Thoughtful Christmas Greetings

By **Connie Fillippelli**
Correspondent

Greetings, the off-Broadway play, is a delightful comedy about a Christmas miracle.

Phil and Emily Gorski (Bernie Landis and Roslyn Alexander) are the Archie and Edith Bunker-like characters waiting for their son Andy's annual Christmas visit.

Andy's nerves are shot at the thought of his very Catholic parents meeting Randi, his Jewish atheist girlfriend.

Mickey, Andy's mentally retarded brother, has never spoken a

word. Emily tries unsuccessfully to convince Phil that she heard him speak.

Sparks fly when Andy brings his girlfriend home and she proclaims her atheism. At the height of a heated discussion on atheism, Mickey speaks. However, it's what he says and the way he says it (with a slight British-Transylvanian accent) that startles everyone. In a hilarious moment, Randi asks, "Where did he get the accent?"

The acting is excellent: Jeffery Hughes is outstanding, weaving between the child-like innocence of Mickey and "Louis", the alter-ego

who possesses his body. Patrick Thornton worked well as the overstressed Andy who tries to make sense of the miracle.

The play, using New Age philosophies, delves into very interesting discussions about the existence of God.

This is the perfect holiday season play: It is entertaining and gives its audience something to think about.

Greetings runs through Dec. 23 at the Victory Garden Theatre, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave. For tickets call (312) 871-3000.



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Dates To Remember

Monday, December 5

Hanukkah celebration. Open to all students. Music and food provided. In the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

WHY ARE THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FAILING? Public meeting of the International Socialist Organization. In room 317 of the Wabash Building, 6 p.m.

Writer's Winter Harvest. A reading by Introduction to Fiction, Fiction I and Fiction II students. Refreshments available. A donation of \$1.00 or one non-perishable food item at the door is suggested. Proceeds go to a local shelter. In the Faculty Lounge on the 3rd floor of the Torco Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 8

TV Career Day. Panelists will include Fox 32 Coordinator Lisa Lombardi and Harpo Productions Editor Parker Williams. In the Residence Life Center, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sign up in the Career Planning and Placement Office, room 300 of the Wabash Building, or call exts. 344 or 410 for information.

Mordine & Company Dance Theatre performance. Part of a three-evening series, *Dance, Art and Myth*. At the Dance Center of Columbia College, 4730 N. Sheridan Rd., 8 p.m. \$14.

Friday, December 9

Dance and Myth - The World of Jean Erdman. Part of a three-evening series, *Dance, Art and Myth*. A performance by choreographer and modern dance artist Jean Erdman. The evening will include a slide presentation by Roger Dell, of Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Arts. At the Dance Center of Columbia College, 8 p.m. \$10.

Saturday, December 10

Mordine & Company Dance Theatre performance. See Dec. 8. \$16.

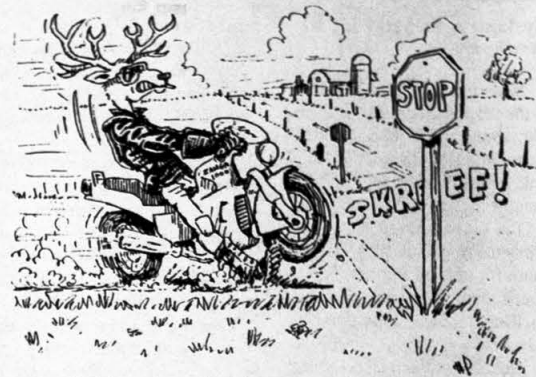
Continuining Events

Graduation application and audit for 1995 graduates. Deadline is Dec. 31, 1994. Apply at the Records Office in room 601 of the 600 S. Michigan Building.

Compiled by Sergio Barreto
Managing Editor

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Teachers from page 3

bia. When, every year, hard work is recognized regardless of who wins, [that] makes the job enjoyable.

Both are valuable to their respective departments because they bring great insight to the classroom. Instead of just teaching from the book, both say real-life experiences are what make for a great teacher.

While Whitfield and Papacosta enjoy teaching Columbia students, both agree that there is much more

to be accomplished in the future. Papacosta's plans include writing a book dealing with the miracles of nature. "I would like to present a new perspective on science," he said. "Sure, I would explain the science behind nature, but I want to go beyond that and try to highlight the wonder of it."

Whitfield's plans include getting more involved in how we learn and teach through the computer. "I would like to get into the technical side of learning," she says. "I want to work more on the creative side of distance learning. It is an up and

coming field. While classroom learning is one mode, the advent of the information super highway means teaching is going to be a lot more technical."

Columbia College is blessed to have both Papacosta and Whitfield as faculty. If the college continues to represent itself with teachers such as these, there is no reason not to look upon the future positively.

FACE VALUE

Where do you find good bargains for Xmas gifts?

Photos by Chris Sweda



Linda Casey
Journalism
Senior

I just charge everything and ask for money to pay the charge bill for xmas.



Thomas McCarthy
Fiction Writing
Senior

Thrift or theft.



Frida Petterson
Dance
Freshman

Since I'm not spending Christmas with my family, it's easy to say it costs too much money to send gifts home. That's a bargain.



Pete Zamar
Theater
Freshman

Go to the malls early to beat the afternoon rush and take your time in order to find the sales and things you want.



L. A. Hayes
Theater
Freshman

Being that I'm a real bargain hunter, I go to flea markets and novelty stores, or I make gifts.



Ricardo Carmona
Theater
Freshman

Since I don't have a job or any money, I am just going to give people hugs and kisses.