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Columbia College Chicago

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PEOPLE
meet
Frank Kush
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FEATURES

THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Chronicle

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 12

JANUARY 9, 1995

Columbia Gets "Real"

By Michel Schwartz
Editor in Chief

Judd Winick, a member of the newest cast of MTV's hottest TV show, *The Real World*, will speak at Columbia's Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, on the topic "Roommates: Learning to live with Diversity."

The event will take place on Tuesday, February 21, at 7 p.m. in the Center's first floor lounge and is open to all Columbia students.

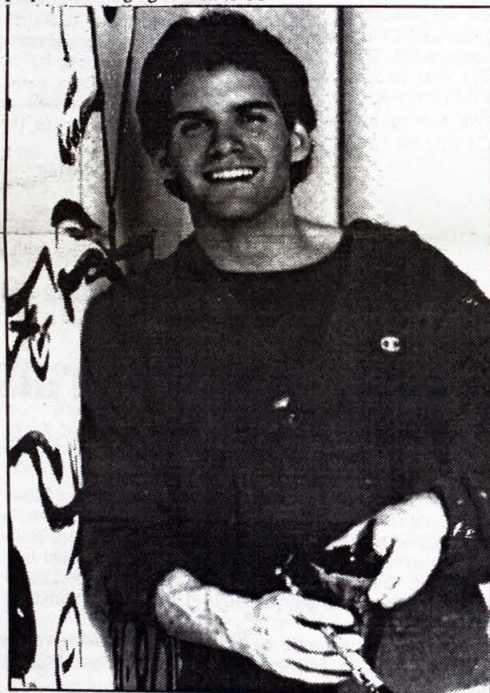
According to the Director of Resident Life Jeff Stevenson, the purpose of bringing Winick to Co-

lumbia is to "offer a proactive way for students to deal with human conflicts."

"The thing about human conflict is that individuals think about how [cultures and lifestyles] are different from him/her and affect him/her," Stevenson said.

Columbia College prides itself on its ability to teach students how to live with diversity. The multiculturalism present in the residence center is only a reflection of Columbia's diverse community.

Watch upcoming *Chronicle* issues for more details.



Judd Winick of MTV's *Real World*'s will lecture at Columbia on the topic of Diversity.

Here She Comes, Miss America

By Tracey Robinson
Chronicle Faculty Advisor

America's royal darling who won the hearts of the nation during the 1994 Miss America contest will speak Thursday to the Columbia College Community about "Anything is Possible."

Heather Whitestone, a 21-year-old junior at Jacksonville (Alabama) State University, is the first deaf Miss America. Whitestone will deliver her motivational message at 11 a.m., Jan. 12 at the Harold Washington Library Auditorium, 400 S. State Street.

"We felt that her coming to Columbia to speak on anything is possible would be important, inspirational and in line with our purpose and mission," said Phil Klukoff, chairman of the English Department.

The event, sponsored by the English Department's Sign Language Interpreter Training Program, is free and open to the public. Many Chicago area high school and college students, many of whom are deaf, have been invited.

Klukoff said, "We really want to provide as comprehensive service as we can to the Chicago Deaf community."

Columbia is the only Chicago-area college Whitestone will visit on her nationwide speaking tour. Miss America pageant officials accepted Columbia's invitation because of its extensive program to train future interpreters for jobs and to serve the Deaf community, said Lynn Pena, program director.

Opened in 1993, the Interpreter Training Program is the only four-year undergraduate program for interpreters in Illinois. Seventy stu-



Associate dean of students John Moore (far left) and Columbia students (l to r) Michel Schwartz, Gretchen Jacobsen, Latrice Bailey, Reynonda McFarland, Chester Gregory II and Vivian Moreno with Illinois Governor James Edgar at the Student Leadership Dinner on Dec. 2, in Chicago Hilton Towers.

Student Leaders Attend Prayer Breakfast

By Michel Schwartz
Editor in Chief

The Chicago Student Leadership Dinner and the 31st Annual Greater Chicago Leadership Prayer Breakfast, held Dec. 1 and 2 at the Chicago Hilton and Towers, were rare opportunities for college students and administrators to break bread with Illinois Governor James Edgar, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and other celebrities. Among them was former Chicago Bears Linebacker Mike Singletary.

Edgar received standing ovations as he approached the podium and as he concluded his remarks. He reminisced about his college experiences as a fraternity member who was active in the church. Edgar attributed his recovery from a recent open-heart surgery to the numerous

prayers that were said for him.

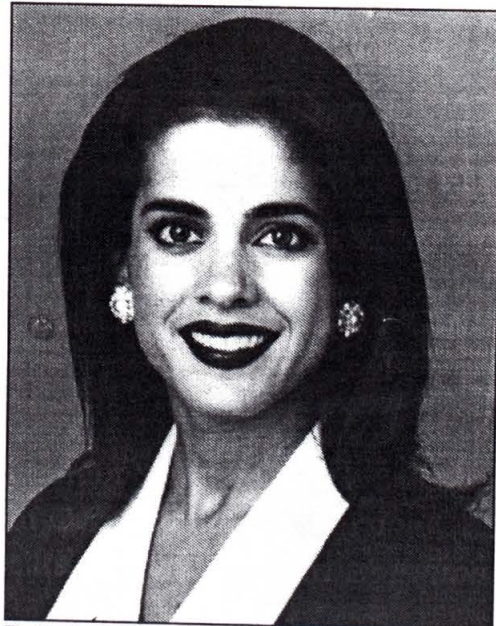
After the dinner, in an exclusive impromptu interview, Edgar told the *Chronicle* that student leaders should "get involved in what's going on and make a difference on- and off-campus." When asked how he feels about school prayer, Edgar stated, "I think prayer is a personal thing."

Dean of Students John Moore and Assistant Dean of Supporting Services Gigi Posejpal escorted eight student leaders to these events. The Leadership Prayer Breakfast is a local version of the National Prayer Breakfast on Faith and Values held

annually in Washington, D.C.

These events are designed to challenge college leaders to explore the principles of commitment to God, compassion to serve, character to inspire and courage to lead. The sponsoring committee of these events invited representatives from 14 area colleges.

The Columbia students that attended the event were: Latrice Bailey, Gretchen Jacobsen, Ching Man Lo, Chester Gregory II, Michel Schwartz, Reynonda McFarland and Jennifer Campuzano.



The Sign Language Interpreting Program will present Miss America Heather Whitestone, whose speech "Anything is Possible" will be given on Thursday, January 12, at 11 a.m. at the Harold Washington Library Auditorium.

Dates To Remember

Wednesday, January 11

Chicago Art: The Next Generation. Discussion and slide presentations with graduate student artists Elise Ferguson from the University of Illinois at Chicago and Marc Fischer from the University of Chicago. In room 1017 of the Wabash Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 12

Anything Is Possible. Speech by Miss America 1995, Heather Whitestone. At the auditorium of the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St. 11:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m.

Columbia College Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dramatic readings by Lee V. Cloud, coordinator for education at the Center for Black Music Research, and Cheryl Morton Langston, radio faculty member; vocal performances by Jean Lightfoot, dean of students, Love Enlightenment Choir, and singer/actress Tressa Thomas. Reception to follow at the Hokin Annex. In the Hokin Hall, 623 S. Wabash Ave., 12:00 p.m.

Music Career Fair. Representatives from record labels, professional associations, booking agents and venues will be present. Theater/Music Building, 72 E. 11th St., 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Friday, January 13

Debonaire Fashion Show. In the Hokin Annex. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show starts at 7:00.

Gay, Lesbian and Bi-sexual Alliance Winter Dance. In the Underground Cafe, 600 S. Michigan Ave. 9:00 p.m.-12:00 p.m. \$3.00.

Continuing Events

Creativity Speaks Contest. Awards: \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place, \$100 for third place. Undergraduate students only. Papers on the topic of "Can Creativity be Taught?" must be submitted on or before Jan. 25. Call 663-1600, ext. 335, for more info.

Compiled by Sergio Barreto
Managing Editor

Center teaches paper appreciation

By Linda Cabrera
Correspondent

A long strand of hair lying in a dresser drawer at Columbia College's Center for Book and Paper Arts is titled "His Last Visit." There, the arrangement lives as art, as does an hourglass filled with hyphenated words cut from construction paper titled "Amnesia."

Both creations are typical of the center's new show, "Rare Objects of Desire," which runs through Jan. 14. The exhibition is among others to show during the coming year. The center specializes in transferring paper and bookbinding into art. To keep dwindling art form alive, the Interdisciplinary Arts Department, along with the merging of Artists Book Works and Paper Press, gave the center its unique specialty.

"This type of art has been going

Student Entrepreneurs Tell Their Stories

By Marco Buscaglia
College Press Service

There are some people who attend college to major in business, then there are others who go there and start one.

Many of today's students are combining their capitalistic spirit with their own bright ideas and have started businesses while still in college. A few of these new entrepreneurs tell how they took the leap from studying marketing theories and the principles of supply and demand to applying them.

Roland Garcia wants to be the "Salsa King" of Texas, and judging from the way his Autentica Salsa is flying off the shelves of supermarkets, he may be well on his way to royalty.

"I would think about having my own business sometimes when I was younger, but I never really gave

on for a long time," said Marilyn Sward, the director and cofounder of the Paper Press. "Students create this type of art as a means of personal expression. It is a growing field for artists."

In classes and weekend workshops, students "learn to appreciate paper in a different way," says Linda Eisenberg, a faculty member and other cofounder of Paper Press. Students not only learn how to make kinds of paper, but also how to decorate it as a novelty. "You'll never look at paper the same way again," she said. Research opportunities are also available in paper arts through the center.

In the past, the book arts have not been as accessible as the paper arts. "There have been a few classes here and there for the book arts, but there almost have been no offerings at the graduate level. The center is

Upcoming six session offerings scheduled to run from Feb. 6 to May 22 include bookbinding, exotic fibers and paper making, letterpress and contemporary adaptation. Five short session workshops are set to run between Feb. 20 and June 18 including Polaroid transfer techniques, hand paper making and visual diaries. Weekend workshops running from Jan. 21 and running through April 1 include "Paper Hearts and Flowers," "Introduction to Leather," "Quicker Box," "Tall People/Small People," and "Sumingashi Book/Chitsu."

On April 1, the first 15 people signing up for classes will be offered a three hour papermaking class for free. Classes are available for credit and noncredit. Other classes through the center include "Computers and Paper," and "Sculptural Paper."

that much serious thought until I went to college," says the 21-year-old Garcia, who is a student at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. "I decided to do something so I could start applying the things I was learning and so that I could have something to look forward to when I graduated."

For Garcia, the chance to start a new business came from the realization that the homemade salsa he'd been eating all his life was the best he'd ever tasted. "The recipe is from my grandmother, who passed it on to my mom," says Garcia. "We were sitting around New Year's Eve one year, and we said that the salsa was so good, it should be sold in stores."

That was all the inspiration Garcia needed. With the help of his mother, he created a batch of salsa that could be made on a large scale. He then worked out a deal with a local food packer and shipped a

sample off to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for approval. While he waited, Garcia took every opportunity to test-market his product.

"I had a lot of help from my friends and family in going door-to-door to test the product," says Garcia. "We'd take opinions and adjusted the product all the time."

Once the St. Mary's senior knew the product was right, he hit the streets. "I took it to a bunch of stores and started really pushing it," he says. "The reaction was good. People couldn't believe someone so young was responsible for the salsa."

As if developing and promoting a new product is not enough, Garcia continues to take 18 hours a semester at St. Mary's and is scheduled to graduate this December with a

See Student page 3

Chronicle

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Columbia's Jazz Man Performs

By Reggie Exson
Correspondent

Many Chicago jazz, swing, and boogie-woogie cohorts came to the Chicago Jazz Showcase to enjoy the melodic, joyous and mellow sounds of Columbia's own William Russo and his Chicago Jazz Ensemble. Russo is one of Big Band Jazz's great conductors, composers, arrangers, and trombonists and a show was held in his honor at the Chicago Jazz Showcase on December 12 and 13. It featured the hot sounds of trumpeter Orbert Davis who, along with vocalists Kurt Elling and Bobbie Wilsyn delighted the audience with their exhilarating ragtime sound.

Russo and his 19-piece piano and brass orchestra excited the mixed standing-room-only crowd that included fans of all ages. He delighted them with memories of Count Basie's tunes such as *All Right, Okay, You Win and Everyday*.

The Ensemble then reached back into Russo's own collection of songs he composed and arranged. Featured was Russo's *Omeros Suite*; this new composition is expected to be released in the Spring of '95. The group also introduced more of the Count's tunes, such as *Corner Pocket*, and Jelly Roll Morton's *King Porter Stomp*, Duke Ellington's resonant *Suite Thursday* and selections from the *Far East Suite*. They then tore the house down with Stan Kenton's *Her Tears Flowed Like Wine*, *Peanut Vendor*, *Artistry in Percussion*, *Improvisation* and *My Lady*. Russo, a distinguished man in his early sixties, with very neatly groomed gray-white hair and beard, conducted his orchestra with discipline that illustrates his mastery as a conductor. He sent the jam-packed crowd's emotions racing as they bobbed their heads and gently patted their feet to this satisfying performance. Russo's career spans more than 50 years, when he got his start as a trombonist with Stan Kenton's orchestra. He then stepped forward to direct jazz music in London and Chicago. While recording with jazz greats such as Dizzy Gillespie and Cannonball Aderly, he earned his prestigious reputation as a musical vanguardist.

Mr. Russo was presented with the 1990 Lifetime Achievement Award by The National Association of Recording Arts and Science. He has held the elite position of Director of Columbia College's Contemporary American Music Program since 1965. In February, Russo will take his Chicago Jazz Ensemble to perform at the Mardi Gras Celebration in New Orleans.

There are three other reasons why both shows attracted as many people as it did: Trumpeter Orbert Davis, who is a full-time faculty member at Columbia College; Singer Bobbie Wilsyn, a Columbia College artist in residence; and the distinguished vocals of Kurt Elling.

At 26, Elling has done more in the past 5 years, as he develops his style and sends out his strong musical message.

The exuberant audience played a great part in making this mellow jazz excursion vibrantly rich with excitement.

Career

By Jan Grekoff
Director, Career Planning and Placement

From time to time we hear from students and alumni who tell us just how the career planning process has worked for them.

We'll be running some of these in the *Chronicle* as "Tales of the Job Hunt."

Monday, November 29, 1994

Dear Bob [Robert Blinn, Advisor],

I would just like to thank you for meeting with me and for your very helpful advice about my film career. I am planning to go out to L.A. in the early spring, and you have given me some important things that I must decide before I move on. A specific path towards my goal of filmmaking seems quite important, and I should research and figure out what I need to go beyond my goals. Also, the resume/cover letter booklet is also exactly what I need, for my first attempt at a resume was unacceptable. I'm supposed to send out my resume to Harry Grossman, Vice President and head of Studio Operations at Disney about two months before I plan to move out there, so I'm going to need a solid resume. I will stop by your office with a final draft to get your suggestions.

I also spoke to Erica Arvold this morning about the *Sam Hill* pilot. Except for two commitment blocks to my (non-singing) performance in the Lyric Opera, I am supposed to work on the shoot starting this afternoon through Monday. It should go well, and I thank you for the tip. I'll keep you posted on anything further.

Very truly yours,
Matthew
Chicago, IL

Student from page 2

double major in international business and marketing. "I get by on a little sleep," says Garcia, who's taking nine hours this summer and doing an internship with a local marble and granite company. "At night, I do my schoolwork and things that need to be done in the office."

Now that the company is up and running, Garcia is spending his time training family members so that he can devote more time to his school work and plans for after graduation. "I want to get Autentica to the point where I can run it on the side," Garcia says. "I want to go out and get a marketing job in the area of international business so I can continue to learn more things."

When fraternity brothers Arley Pressley and Olan Mack were students at Syracuse University in New

York, they had partying down to a science. During their junior and senior years at the school, the pair threw huge bashes anywhere they could rent space, from large cafeterias to downtown hotels. Their talent to entertain was known throughout campus.

It was only natural then, that the two would try to apply their knowledge into real-world economics. "We wanted to get a place to call our own," says Pressley. "We enjoyed what we were doing and wanted to continue to provide a place where people of color could get together, along with everyone else, to have a good time."

Pressley and Mack teamed up with two others to open Ozone, a bar and dance club, in March. "We scraped, scratched and clawed to come up with the money," says Mack, adding that the foursome used as assortment of savings, credit cards and loans to open up the club. "We didn't want to do something that was a good idea but

closed up in a week because of money problems. All along, we maintained that we'd be here for good."

Running Ozone is a second job for the four young entrepreneurs. Mack and Pressley work at the Syracuse Community Health Center. "We don't really spend too much time to make it work."

Apparently, that time has paid off. According to Mack, Ozone's business has been excellent. "The crowds have been coming in," he says. "We've been paying our bills, and the word's getting out."

The young entertainment executives, all from New York City, are totally committed to their endeavor. "We've acquired a sweet taste for success here in Syracuse," says Pressley. "We're staying to see this thing through and maybe branch out to some other areas of the entertainment field, like booking concerts and shows."

Although Pressley is determined to make Ozone a night life fixture in Syracuse, he admits the New York winters are getting tough on him. "But it's not so bad," he says. "No matter how cold it is out there, it's always warm in here."

Two Gettysburg College students, M. Rennee Kary and Eric Holland, are producing and selling "Cowmooflage" smocks, headgear, scarves, and other apparel used to hide and protect participants in the game of paintball. The student entrepreneurs have marketed the products throughout the United States, and as far away as England, Scotland and Germany. (Paintball is a popular pursuit game played with circular gelatin balls of water-soluble bright paint that are propelled by air guns.)

The students founded Alternative Apparel last March with an investment of \$4,000. The students estimate that they have made back at least half of their initial investment in only six months.

"We're now putting in about 25 to 30 hours a week into the company and getting an average of 15 smock orders each week," says Holland, a senior psychology major from Central Point, Tenn.

"Cowmooflage" is made of camouflaged cloth with pictures of cows and horses. They also market paintball clothing featuring cheetahs (Cheetahflage) and dinosaurs. The two do most of their work in Musselman Hall, a college dormitory.

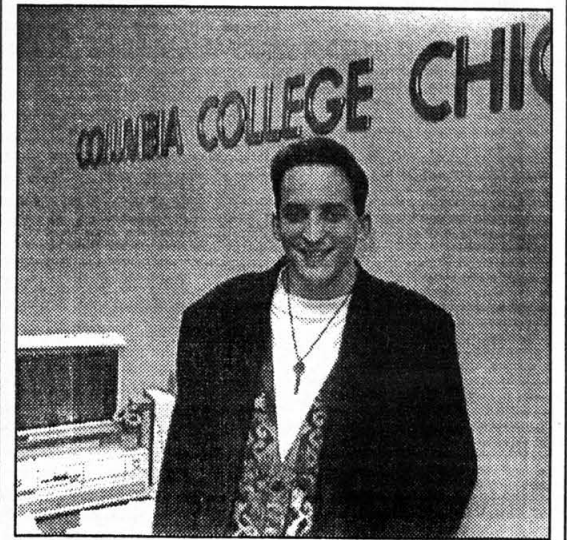
Although Keith Kortmeier was sure of the fact that he wanted to run a business, he was still undecided on what kind. After a lot of thought, much of it during class, Kortmeier had a plan. He would open a coffee house near campus and call it Jittery Joe's, the name of a diner he once saw in a movie.

Kortmeier pitched the idea to his brother Karl, a senior at the University of Georgia, and soon the two became partners. Then the brothers from Marietta, Ga., set out to find the right location, furniture and appliances and the money to pay for it all.

"We were there every day, painting, putting up walls and shelves," Keith says. "People would be walking by all day and would stop and ask us what we were doing. We built up a friendship with a lot of them. Pretty soon there was this verbal buzz going around about the place. People were like 'Cool, there's going to be this funky little coffee shop here.'"

Both Keith and Karl have put school on hold so they can devote more time to Jittery Joe's, which opened in April with a packed house.

People you should know



Frank Kush

By John Harris
News Editor

Who He is: Frank Kush is a 21 year old senior from Chicago. He is the valedictorian of the 1995 graduating class, carrying a 4.0 G.P.A. through all four years of study. He was selected from Columbia as recipient of the 1994 Student Laureate of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois. The award recognizes the top one percent of all college students in Illinois.

Major: Marketing Communications

Student activities: He is currently interning at the college relations department at Columbia. He is also president of the Student Gift Committee, and has volunteered to speak at college open houses.

Academic advice: "If you have a dream, and be strong, you can achieve it. You must make an effort to communicate with the teachers, and never give up. You can't stop believing in yourself."

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

Administration Handles Break Poorly

By Michel Schwartz
Editor in Chief

On December 2, a letter was sent to the students who live in the residence center stating that they had until Dec. 8 to get their name on a list so they would be permitted to stay in the center between Dec. 20 and January 2.

On Dec. 22, a representative of the academic computing department informed a student who needed to use a computer that all of the computer labs would continue to be closed throughout the winter break.

On Dec. 23, the usual greeting that is heard when you dial 663-1600, the school's phone number, was replaced by a message that stated that the school will be closed down between Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

On Dec. 29, the residence center's fire alarm went off at approximately 9 a.m. and, although the sound was pacified, the visual alarm continued for at least five hours. Periodically, the sound went off as well, but announcements to disregard were not made throughout most of the incident. The alarm company was called right after the alarm went off, but if a real fire would have occurred, lives could have been endangered.

When the *Chronicle* editors began this semester, we took on a responsibility. Our team's job is to put out an issue every week we are scheduled to put out an issue. And, even with editors quitting and going through personal crises, with computers that are going through major face lifts and frequent crashes, we have produced a newspaper every time we were scheduled to do so.

I know that November and December encompass a hard time frame for everyone. Many people are burned out and everyone is busy because of the holidays. And, even with good weather, a lot of people have the blues. However, when you take on a job, when you declare a mission, you need to do everything possible to do what you said you were going to do. There are enough people in Washington D.C.; in Springfield, Illinois; and in Chicago's City Hall who blatantly don't follow this simple rule. This is why it angers and scares me when Columbia's administration falls prey to this trap.

In any bureaucratic system, inefficiencies will happen; that's a given. On the other hand, there is a line where you need to stop, look at your system, remove all the band-aids and improve your system and revamp. Our school's "government" our mentors, the ones we are supposed to look to for guidance, are beginning to cross over that line.

All four of the incidents cited at the beginning of this article could have been better handled:

The residence center could have sent a notice that the dorms would be closed during vacations with the admission packets they sent before the semester started. Granted, they did say limited access would be available, but they could have included the Dec. 8 deadline as well as specific instructions to assure residents that the keys to their homes would work during the vacation if they needed them to.

The academic computing department could have sent a notice to all students who have a blue dot on their student identification cards listing the circumstances that would have warranted the closing of the labs.

The school could have noted in the registration booklet the hours each building is open and what days the buildings will not be open. They could have followed up on this by sending a reminder to students before Thanksgiving that no facilities will be open between Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

The administrators who are responsible for the residence center should have had a better handle on how to operate their emergency system and how well it was working (especially since the fire department fines the school about \$1500 every time the alarm goes off). They should have utilized the intercom system to keep residents posted on how to tell the difference between a malfunction and a real emergency.

I once asked Dr. John B. Duff, Columbia's executive president, why Columbia has such a unique holiday schedule. He said it was devised to provide students with downtime to get ready for the end of the semester. However, students who assumed they could take that time to utilize the school's facilities, such as the school's library or computer labs, were out of luck.

Dear Columbia administration: WE NEED TO BECOME PRO-ACTIVE SO WE CAN STOP BEING REACTIVE. Sincerely, the Columbia Chronicle.

Happy New Year, Columbia.



Holiday Not Recognized

Dear Mr. Duff,

It is quite unbelievable that the school is open today, *New Year's Day* official holiday. Today is officially a *Public Holiday*, no government offices open, no mail, holiday train and bus schedules. The *New Year's Day* Rosebowl Parade and all the *New Year's Day* Football games are held today, the official *New Year's Day* Holiday. None of which I get to enjoy because you, sir, decided to open the school, make all of us work and make all the students come in as well. How Scrooge of you. (Do we get paid time and a half for working a public holiday? I would call the U.S. Dept. of Labor to inquire if you are legally liable to pay time and a half and to file a complaint if so, but they are closed today, because it is a legal holiday. I wonder if you came in today, or are you home enjoying your holiday?)

I could have taken a vacation

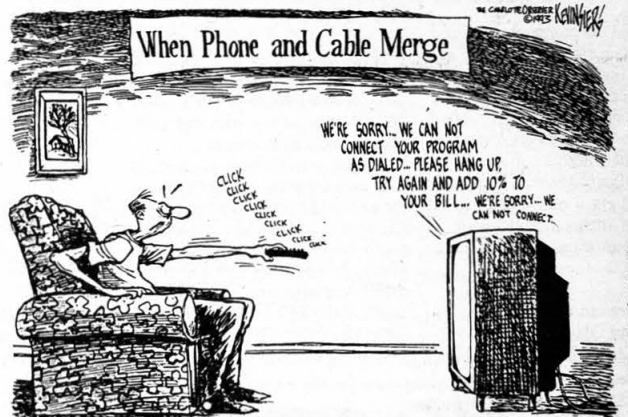
day, you might say, or called in sick, but why should I waste my vacation day and I'm not in the habit of calling in sick when I'm not.

You may also say how ungrateful after one week off, but honestly it was probably cheaper to pay us all to be off since no classes are held during the holiday than to remain open and pay heat and electricity for the week. I do thank you for the week off but I do not appreciate working on a public holiday.

Please find out if you would be liable to pay time and a half for all employees working today and have that amount in our next paycheck if so. I will be calling tomorrow Dept. of Labor to inquire and if you are liable and if it is not in our next check I will advise others so we can file a formal claim.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and happy New Year to you.

Unsigned



To the editor,

I am writing to let you know that your December 12, 1994 article titled "Students Rescued From Elevator" contained inaccurate information. The article stated, "The high school students are participants of Upward Bound, a college preparatory course at Columbia." This is not true. The students are not participants in Upward Bound.

Furthermore, the Columbia College Upward Bound program is not a "course." It is a federally funded "TRIO" program designed to help students from low-income families develop the skills and motivation necessary for success at the post-secondary level. The program, staffed by 3 full-timers and 10 part-timers, provides its participants with tutoring, a Saturday enrichment program, a six-week summer program, counseling, advising, cultural enrichment and a variety of other services and activities. The Columbia College Upward Bound program serves 50 high school students from Foreman,

Holy Trinity and Von Steuben high schools. The Upward Bound offices are located in Wabash 305. Anyone who would like to know more about the program is welcome to stop by or call us at 663-1600, ext. 161.

The opportunities that Columbia College offers young people through its various outreach efforts are invaluable and the Upward Bound program staff and students would like to thank the Columbia College community for its support. Thank you and I'm happy that the students from Jones High School are OK.

Sincerely,
Craig Kirsch, Director
Columbia College Upward Bound

Dear Mr. Kirsch,
Thank you for pointing out our error. The *Chronicle* sincerely regrets the inaccuracy.

Michel Schwartz
Editor in Chief

Drawing the Line on Harassment

By John Henry Beiderman
Correspondent

I recently received a copy of Columbia's sexual harassment policy and procedures. A friend was visiting at the time and when he saw the first page, he exclaimed, "What did you do?" I told him it must be a regulation mailing -- I hadn't done anything vaguely bordering on harassment.

After reading it, I changed my mind. *Everybody's done something vaguely bordering harassment.*

On page 36, where the numbering begins, sexual harassment is defined as: "sexual contact of any nature which is not freely and mutually agreeable to both parties."

What is "sexual conduct?" I've been turned on by activities ranging from kissing to using chopsticks. So, can I file a complaint if someone I'm unattracted to sits next to me and uses chopsticks?

What if you're one of those "dates" where you are unsure if it's friendship or more, you kiss your "date" and it's not "agreeable" to them? Nobody's ever said to me, "Why don't you make a move, big boy?" At some point you have to rely on hunches.

On page 36, it is stated: "Prohibited acts ... can take a variety of forms... from ... subtle pressure for sexual activity ..." I'm no legal expert, but "subtle" is one word I'd never use when describing sexual harassment. "Why don't you stop by sometime?" is arguably "subtle pressure."

Also from page 36, and probably the most frightening of all, is the statement: "At times the offender may be unaware that his or her conduct is offensive or harassing to others." Can't I even look at an attractive woman anymore?

Two more excerpts on page 36 define prohibited conduct as: "1) Persistent or repeated unwelcome flirting, requests for dates ... 2) Sexually suggestive jokes ..."

Flirting? I won't even comment on that. A joke? Repeated requests for dates? Forever gone is the romantic dream of slowly winning a lover. "Hard to get" is now "Forget about it." I guess a few of my friends hit the road to marriage via "sexual harassment." And without telepathy, who can accurately judge what is "unwelcome?"

No more "sexually suggestive" jokes. From now on, it's "...then the farmer says, 'I'll let you play chess with my daughter if ...'" Is there going to be anything left at the turn of the century?

Society is engaged in many blatant injustices throughout history and as we grow wiser, we "correct" them by throwing injustice in the other direction, like there is a "justice scoreboard" and people have inherited the pains and/or sins of the past. We stomp on largely undefined problems whenever a hint appears. When in doubt, punish. I'm all for punishing the Bob Packwoods out there, but I would like to do it without brandishing "flirting" as "harassment."

Here is the underlying problem decaying society: Our population grows while people grow less able to deal with one another. Do you know anybody who claims to understand the opposite sex? Is learning that you may commit harassment unwittingly by "flirting" going to help?

I especially grieve for the "putzes," a growing group which, I must admit, I belong to in many ways. Many times have I explained situations that might have turned romantic to hear "What were you waiting for? A neon sign?" Well, I'm not that bad, but maybe that's around the corner. Why not create "dating courts," so we can all file "motions to kiss" and have our attorneys make it all official?

Before I end this column, people have started to respond, in writing and otherwise, to my columns so I'd like to say two things: Number one, some of my columns are intensely serious; some are quite whimsical. If you can't tell the difference, get professional help. Number two, I feel no obligation to respond to criticism unless that criticism alerts me to some mistake I've made. In other words, I stand by everything I've written unless you read otherwise.

I do encourage responses. Hey, we have a serious problem with sexual harassment and a whole school of brilliant people who must have some thoughts on the matter. In the mean time, I'll be looking into modern neutering procedures.

Les Brownlee: One Student's Hero

When I first decided to write to the *Chronicle* about Les Brownlee, my mind started to spin because the first thought that popped into my head was "Les Brownlee: news director, television newsman, talk show host, instructor, etc." Where do I start? As I was in Brownlee's class pondering that thought, he came in and said "Everyone, please stand-up!" All the students in his news reporting class, including me, knew just what to do: we stood up, stretched and one by one shouted, at Brownlee's request, "I'm great!" At that very moment, a light bulb lit up inside my head: Of course! I am going to tell people how great Les is! (He likes to be called Les, you see.)

By now you are probably wondering what a news reporting class has to do with stretching. Let me explain: This is a ritual that we have at the beginning of every class. Every so often we even get a small lecture on good eating habits. The stretching is so that we can relax just before we get started with class to help us learn and retain what we

are learning that day. The "I'm great" part is because Les really believes in us and he really thinks that we are great and he wants us to know it and to believe it as well. Does this sound like a motherly attitude? Well it is. This is what makes Les a great human being. Besides making sure that we learn our lessons in being good journalists, I'm sorry, great journalists, Les has a motherly side that comes out and lets us know that everything is going to be okay, as long as we continue to be good students, of course.

When I asked a WSNS-TV engineer if he knew who Les was, he responded: "Everyone knows who Les Brownlee is!" This engineer almost seemed offended that I asked him that question because, according to him, everyone in Illinois and its neighboring states has, at one time or another, read, heard or seen something done by Les Brownlee. As I remembered this, I thought, "Yes, this is probably true. But, do people know what a wonderful instructor he is? And, do people know that besides having been a poet, ad-

vertising manager, editor and lecturer, he is also compassionate, caring and can be funny." Students who may not have thought they had a chance competing in the world of communications went on and did quite well. Not only do they make a living, but they have won awards and have held top positions. These former students come back and thank Les because he, in one way or another, made sure that the "I'm great" that he makes us recite in class sticks until we actually believe that we are great and we can reach any goal that we set for ourselves. Les likes the fact that Columbia has open enrollment because he thinks that gives students who otherwise would not have the chance, the opportunity to get an education and to get ahead in life. To use Les's own words, "Every time I open the newspaper and see a byline of a former student, I feel pretty good about that."

Alfega Alcaraz
Journalism

BIG & small of it

By Jon Bigness
Columnist

The top five or so New Year's resolutions were reported on the 10 o'clock news last week. At number one was some crap about parents buying toys that are safe for their children. Not that safety isn't important, but c'mon. We all know that dieting is the number one New Year's resolution.

It didn't make the top of my list, however, even though I could stand to lose a couple pounds. Okay, maybe more than a couple. The fact is that I don't even make a list of resolutions. Why bother? I have never kept a New Year's resolution in my life. And I don't know anybody else who has either.

Think of it. If dieting is the number one New Year's resolution and there are millions of people out there who can't keep their resolutions, what you have is millions of people who are overweight, or who at least think they are overweight.

This is a legitimate problem. Try sitting in the last row of a C.T.A. bus lately? In most buses, there are five seats in the back, but only four can sit comfortably. You know what happens when that one empty seat in the back of the bus is open? It has been my experience that the biggest, fattest person in the entire city of Chicago will try to squeeze his or her way into that seat.

You see them coming down the aisle. You and the three other people are all thinking the same thing: Please don't sit here. Please don't sit here. Oh, shoot (or something like that).

Now don't misunderstand. See the byline? That's my name, but it could also be a description. I'm a big guy. So don't any of you wide-bodied readers go firing off letters to the editor saying that I'm making fun of fat people because I'm not.

Obesity is not just a problem because there aren't enough roomy seats on buses, airplanes or movie theaters. It's a health problem.

There are many reasons for obesity. Some experts say it's genetic and that there's nothing a fat person can do to change the way they look. Fitness gurus say it is caused by inactivity. Others say it is because of poor eating habits. It may be a combination of all those things.

But it's also a personal problem. And what us fleshy folks don't need is the federal government trying to make an issue out of our personal weight problems.

Hillary Rodham Clinton and former Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop, are leading a task force to shape up America. They want to encourage healthy diets and exercise. It's not a bad message. Just a bad messenger.

I can't help but think that fat people will become the next target of the political correctness movement. Under co-President Clinton, you might see fat people lined up outside in the cold with the smokers. Only, the fat people won't be smoking; they'll be scarfing Twinkies and Doritos.

It almost makes me wish that Hillary's health care plan had passed. She's be too busy in secret meetings to worry about citizen's snacking habits. But if she is concerned, she should start her campaign in the most obvious place - the White House. What about her husband's McDonald's fetish? Have you looked in the mirror recently, Hill? You may want to give Suzanne Sommers a jingle. A small Ethiopian village could live for months off the Clinton's collective fat.

The extremely obese have enough problems without Clinton and Koop telling them to get in shape. These people get tips on how to lose weight from "concerned" family, friends and strangers all the time. And the White House has enough problems of its own without worrying whether Mr. and Mrs. Mainstreet are having chocolate-chip pancakes or half a grapefruit for breakfast.

At least there's hope. In two years, Hillary will be back in Arkansas and the new Republican in the Oval Office won't give a rat's ass what we eat. After all, Newt Gingrich is kind of chubby too.

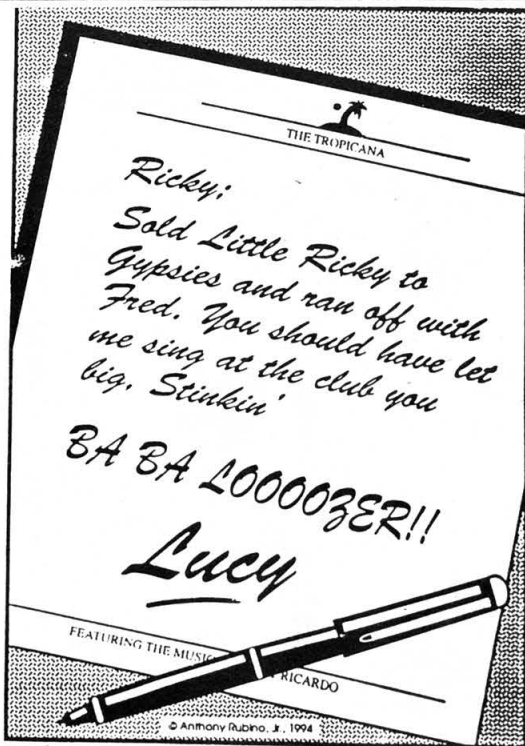
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They Might Be Giants: Interviewed

By Hudson Dunlap
Correspondent

John Linell and John Flansburgh have been putting out albums for approximately 10 years. Their latest effort, titled *John Henry*, has been selling very well, and their group, They Might Be Giants, sold out two consecutive shows at the Vic last November.

If you have ever confused the two Johns, don't worry, you're not the only one. Flansburgh is the guitarist. Linell plays accordion, organ, and occasionally, horns.

In this exclusive interview, Linell talks about They Might Be Giants' most recent album, *John Henry*, and tour. Thanks to Electric Pete, without whom the interview wouldn't have happened.

Q: John Henry is a new experiment for They Might Be Giants, because this is the first time you and John Flansburgh have recorded with a full band. What was this transition like for you?

A: Well, we decided in the middle of the Apollo 18 tour to get a band. John and I had been a duo for nine years before that. And it was the type of thing that wasn't really thought out. We just thought "Maybe we'll add a few musicians to the live show." And by the time we got to the thing of adding percussion, we thought, "Why don't we just get rid of the [backing] tape and get a band?"

It was something people had been nagging us about for the whole previous nine years of our existence. We had always been real offended about it. By the time we got around to doing it people had stopped. You know, up until then people kept saying, "When are you guys going to get a band?" and then when we finally got one people were like, "Why did you get a band?"

And even then we didn't think we were going to go make an album with a band. What we were doing was for the sake of the tour. It worked out so well. I think we discovered that not only could we do a lot of new material, but we could also adapt all the old material so well with the band that it only seemed appropriate to actually make a whole of They Might Be Giants "with band."

Q: How does the crowd react to the band?

A: Well, nobody's complained... yet. I think people really set up to, like, see a rock band. We've kind of bought into the traditional rock

stage routines. It's very obvious stuff, but it works really well. We are allowed to improvise and that's something we couldn't do as a duo. We don't know what could happen after this, but it could be something really different.

Q: You performed the song A.K.A. Driver on Late Night With Conan O' Brian in October. Why didn't you print the song's lyric on the album?

A: The thing about it is, we can say Nyquil all we want on the record and we can perform the song on TV. According to our lawyer, we are not allowed to use Nyquil in the title of the song, or have it printed in the lyrics.

I don't understand this. I don't know what the problem would be, potentially. It seems we would be

pitching Nyquil to people who buy our records. That's what we were advised to do. Our song does not condone using of Nyquil and getting behind the wheel of a car.

Q: What's the tour been like, coming through Chicago?

A: We're kind of on the second leg of this tour with this band. We just did six weeks in Europe, and that was really fun. We've got Frank Black touring with us this time, and that's cool. We actually opened for him in France, because he's really big there. I think maybe we convinced some people we were interesting, you know. This U.S. part has been fun so far. Our last show was in Toronto.

By Marisha Bowle
Correspondent

Even the harsh weather did not stop dance students and Jean Erdman's loyal fans from attending *Dance, Art and Myth*, a three-night presentation that took place at Columbia's Dance Center, 4730 N. Sheridan Rd., December 8, 9 and 10. Corporate foundations, government and individual sponsors contributed to the event. WBEZ Radio was the official sponsor for the Dance Center's 1994-95 season.

Pictures all around were displayed across the four walls with artist Peter Grahame's paintings during the first night of the three-night series. Grahame has had many of his forms of mixed media

masks and other wall sculptures to appear in small gallery and theater productions in Chicago and Silver City, New Mexico.

People quickly crowded into the large auditorium, anxiously awaiting the entrance of dancer/choreographer Jean Erdman. She was introduced by Shirley Mordine, of whom the theater is named in honor of. Mordine, who founded Modine and Company in 1968, and is a graduate of Mills College, received the 1994 Ruth Page Dance Achievement Award for choreography and artistic vision.

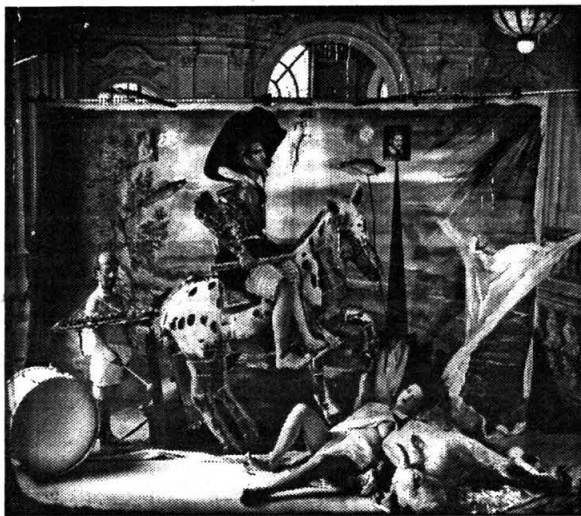
Erdman gave a brief synopsis of her film screening excerpts. The film ran for one hour. After questioning and screen reviewing, Roger Dell lectured. Dell, who is the director of education for the Museum of Contemporary Art, has had extensive experience and training in art education. He also has given a dozen or more lectures at art museums and various Universities.

Most people came to get a closer look at what Jean Erdman, a distinguished and highly accomplished dancer/choreographer, has done in the last 56 years. "I felt it was interesting to see what she did as a young person," said Dr. Margaret Shanahan, a graduate of Columbia College. "She still carries that stamina and love for the dance."

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Erdman got her start in 1938 while a student at Sarah Lawrence College. Her early dance influences were classical hula and tap. She also had training in ballet. She joined the Martha Grahame Dance Company where she later distinguished herself as a soloist. She then began studying under Isadora Duncan. As a contemporary in her field of Modern Dance, Erdman has worked with such credited artists as John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Lou Harrison and Carlus Dyer.

She spent six years filming *Dance and Myth: the World of Jean Erdman*. The film was taped on VHS and was supervised by a five-person crew. It took several summers to complete the film on 35 mm tape. Columbia Television major Gail Gaines, said of the film that knowledge and an analysis of the technical aspects to the film screening was interesting. "The video spacing between shots were done well."

Exhibit Opens at Museum



"I hate the aesthetics of the world. I create this aesthetics of the world. I create this enclosure that becomes the world," said Joel - Peter Nitkin, one of the exhibitors at the Museum of Contemporary Photography until Jan. 14.

By Jim Clifton
Correspondent

"We cannot read the pictures," says Nicholas, an eminent photographer, of the set of family portraits he took over a span of 20 years, and are now on display in Columbia's Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave. The collection is part of the museum's current exhibit *Targeting Images, Objects + Ideas*, which will be on

display through January 14.

Amazingly, these exhibiting artists are as arresting with language as they are with their images they captured. The works, taken from the museum's permanent collection, are accompanied by the photographer's personal comments and quotes that convey the expressions of their creators.

In a trio of self portraits documenting his own drug addiction, Larry Clark states, "I was born in

Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1945. When I was 16, I started shooting amphetamine. Once the needle goes in, it never comes out." Roy De Carava calls his figures partially hidden in the shadows *What they are, and don't give a damn*.

Of his vexing urban juxtapositions, Lee Friedlander says, "A photograph that makes an impact is one that looks back at me, instead of me looking at it."

With his tilted horizons, Gary Winogrand simply states, "I photograph to find out what the world looks like photographed."

There's never a specific story behind my pictures," says Eileen Cowin of her pulp images, "you just imagine the possibilities."

In describing his series of figures jumping in mid-air, the late Aaron Siskind philosophically says, "These abstractions...have not left the world of appearances; for to do so is to break the camera's strongest point: its authenticity."

In addition to *Images, Objects + Ideas*, the museum is presenting *The Indomitable Spirit* and *In A Dream* two portfolios from Photographers + Friends United Against AIDS on the second floor. The museum is free and open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from noon to 5 p.m.

FACE VALUE

What is your New Year's Resolution?

By Chris Sweda / Staff Photographer



Eliza Vega
Interior Design
Freshman

To try to live healthier and to start a good future for my baby.



Connie Ortiz
Interior Design
Freshman

To stop smoking.



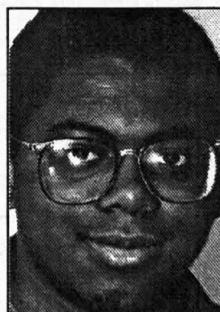
Kelly Mizera
Graphic Design
Junior

I don't make "New Years" Resolutions any more, because I don't follow them. I believe if I make a "Resolution" it doesn't necessarily have to be on N.Y. EVE any day of the year will do.



Aaron Jones
Film Management
Sophomore

I need to learn to use my time better in both work and studying because I'm lazy and broke.



Whitney C. Barber
Animation
Sophomore

To not be as nice as I was last year, and still stay in good moral standing.



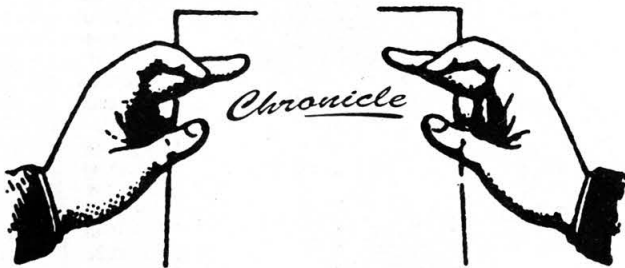
Roberto Vazquez
Graphic Arts
Freshman

To bodybuild so I can pick up girls and be strong.

Chronicle

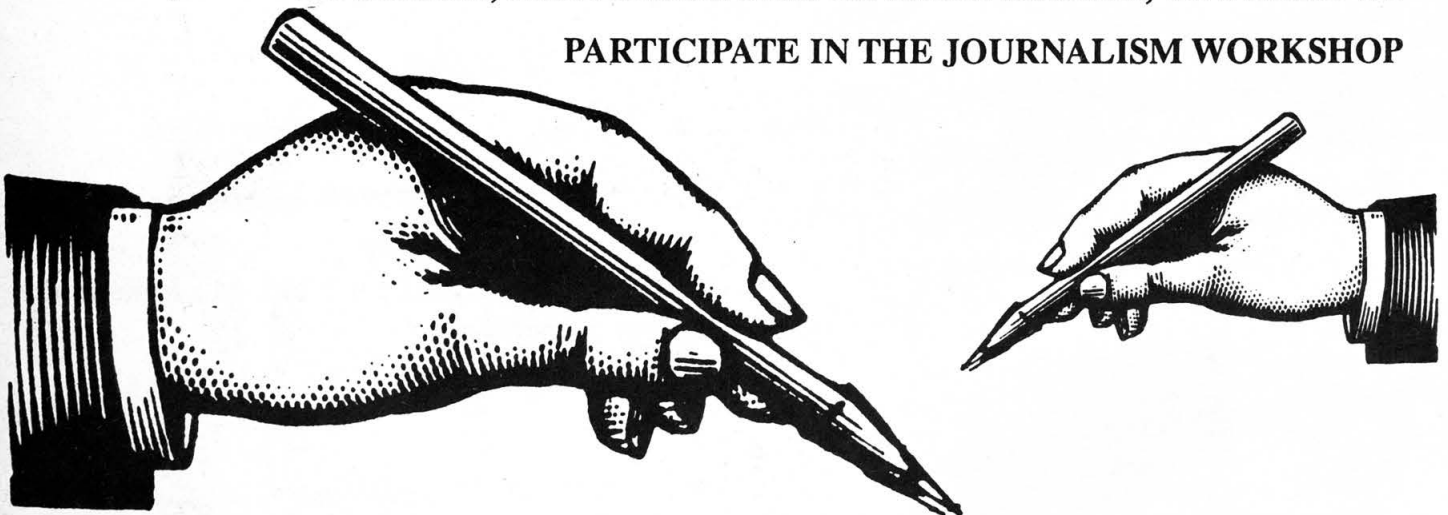
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"We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish as fools..."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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12:00 p.m.

Hokin Hall

dramatic readings

Reflections of the Struggle

Dr. Lee V. Cloud

Coordinator for Education at the Center for Black Music Research

"And Still I Rise"

Cheryl Morton Langston

Radio Faculty Member

vocal performances

Dr. Jean Harvey Lightfoot Dean of Students

Gospel Expressions **Love Enlightenment Choir** Columbia College Student Organization

Songs of Inspiration **Tressa Thomas** Singer/Actress "The Five Heartbeats" and
"Townsend Television"

reception to follow Hokin Annex

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