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THE CHRONICLE

OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOL. XXIX, No 11

December 4, 1995

Artwork Stolen From Hokin Gallery

By Cristin Monti
Staff Writer

Two pieces of artwork, both decorated straightjackets, were stolen from a Hokin Gallery art exhibit on the evening of Nov. 29.

The exhibit, a total of six straightjackets bearing the images of once-institutionalized artists, had been installed by German artist Patricia Waller only three hours earlier.

A student, who wishes to remain unidentified, witnessed one of the two straightjackets being stolen.

The witness stated that as she was leaving the Hokin Annex, which closed at 5 p.m. that day for an after-hours event, she saw a group of five or six males standing around the gallery.

She overheard one of them say, "Man, that is a cool jacket. I'm going to take one of those." The witness turned and saw the suspect grab the straightjacket, which was hanging on a hanger, and put it into his bag. The suspect then asked his friend, "Why don't you take one?"

The witness left the scene to notify security and returned to find that the males had left and two straightjackets were missing.

"I don't think they ran or even left the building," she said. "They were so nonchalant about it, I think they probably just hung around and went about life."

According to Jose Gallegos, director of security, security guards Ron Dorsey and John Pochop were on duty at the time of the incident. Once notified, they searched all ten floors, the exits and around the outside of the Wabash building for the suspect and the artwork, but found neither, he said.

In the past, Hokin Center staff members



Photo by Laura Stoecker

Artist Patricia Waller hangs her work in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash. Waller created this piece to replace the works stolen from the gallery Nov. 29.

have shared responsibility with the security department in guarding the art displays, said Gallegos. "Since people have started to steal things, we have increased guard patrol in those areas," said Gallegos.

He also stated that Columbia employs undercover officers when necessary.

"I think the theft is an isolated incident," he said. "I don't see a pattern of this occurring, but if it does, we'll take the appropriate measures."

Patricia Waller is a visiting German artist who has been in the United States for one

year and will be returning to Germany toward the end of December. Waller created the pieces in the straightjacket exhibition during her visit to the U.S.

Waller said that she is more sad than angry about her stolen artwork.

"I would really appreciate it if they would think about what they are doing and just bring it back," she said.

An opening reception for Waller's exhibition was held on Dec. 1.

Having two pieces of the exhibition miss-

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Gall Gone, Duff Acts As Provost

By Bob Chiarito
News Editor

To most Columbia students, the beginning of December means "crunch time" as project completion and final exams loom closer. For Columbia Provost Bert Gall, Dec. 1 meant the start of his leave of absence.

Although the reasons why Gall is leaving and for how long remain a mystery, Columbia President John Duff will be assuming the provost's duties. The provost is Columbia's chief academic officer, whose responsibilities include approving curriculum changes and course offerings.

Duff, who said he served as provost at other institutions and knows the job, refused to discuss the reasons behind Gall's leave. Gall was unavailable for comment.

"I sent a memo out that explained the situation," Duff said. "I don't want to go beyond that. The announcement speaks for itself."

In the announcement, dated Nov. 16, Duff wrote that for more

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Weinstein Captures The Holiday Spirit

By Cristin Monti
Staff writer

Graphic design student Jared Weinstein caught the holiday spirit a little early this year. Long before anyone could choke on Thanksgiving leftovers, Weinstein had created Columbia's 1995 holiday greeting card.

This was the first time in the four year history of the card that a Columbia student was hired to create it.

"It was a great opportunity for me to get real world experience," said Weinstein, a senior. "In graphic design, if you have something printed in your portfolio, it carries a lot more weight than something you just printed out for a class assignment."

Weinstein has been making posters for events and programs in the Hokin Center for the last two years. College Relations Director Carol Bryant first noticed his work last year when posters advertising the Class Bash caught her eye. She was so impressed that she contacted the director of the Hokin Center, Carol Ann Brown, to find out who made them.

"She said Jared was really good and I decided then that if he was still around, I would ask him to do the holiday card this year," said Bryant.

Given the job, Weinstein was faced with the challenge of creating an ambiguous holiday greeting card. "It couldn't say Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah or Happy New Year," he said.

He chose "Joy and Peace for 1996" in gold and red.

"I used color and playful,



Graphic Design student Jared Weinstein designed Columbia's 1995 holiday greeting card. Inset, a reproduction of the card.

elegant typography to show the school as a place of free-flowing creativity," Weinstein said.

He presented four designs to Columbia President John Duff for a final decision. According to Weinstein, Duff asked him which one he preferred. Weinstein picked one and Duff said "Fine, we'll go with it."

Bryant said that the idea of a college holiday card originated three years ago. The College Relations Department wanted a card that not only the president could send out, but the departments, too, she said.

Once printed, the cards will be sent to college supporters and donors, friends of the departments, personal friends of

Duff and other private colleges in the state, said Bryant. "The Career Planning and Placement Department always asks for a few hundred and they send them out to employers of students," she said.

Hiring a student to make the card this year was an excellent idea, said Brown. "I think that it's a good barometer for showing the community at large the caliber and quality of the work of Columbia students," she said.

Weinstein stated that Columbia shows "the ultimate support" when it recruits students to do work for the school.

"Having pieces like the holiday card in our portfolios shows (employers) that, at Columbia,

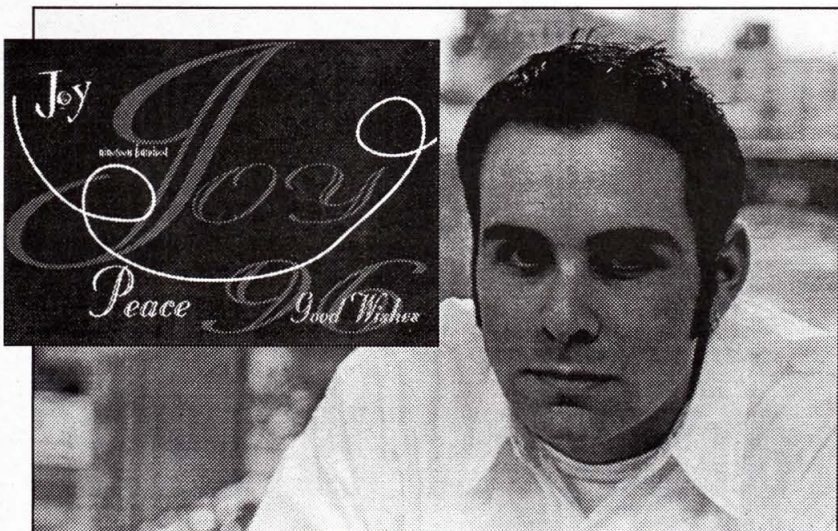
we're not just paying four grand a semester, learning a few skills and then getting shoved out onto the streets," he said.

In the future, Weinstein said that he would like to own his own graphic design firm. For now he aims "to be as much of an individual in graphic design" as he can.

Weinstein is already very successful and he's got an even brighter future, said Brown.

"He's developed an incredible portfolio in the time that he's been at Columbia, and it's very exciting for me to see someone develop a style and a technique," she said. "I know that when he leaves here, it's going to be wide open for him."

Photo by Natalie Battaglia



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THE CHRONICLE

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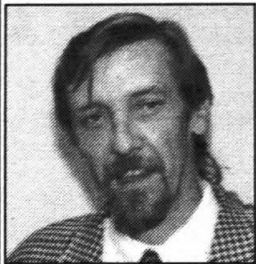
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Gall, from page 1



Columbia College Executive Vice President and Provost Bert Gall.

than 20 years Gall provided Columbia with valuable service without vacation or significant time away from his duties. Duff also wrote in the announcement, without stating a reason for Gall's absence, that "we are expecting that Bert will return soon and ... needs to take the time to refocus on family, friends and the things most important in life."

While Duff said he expects that Gall will be gone for three to six months, Gall's administrative assistant, Susan Babyk, said Gall told her he'd be gone for three months and compared his

leave with a sabbatical. "Faculty members take three month sabbaticals all the time and we run pretty smoothly," she said.

Columbia's general counsel Darryll Jones said Gall will continue to be paid, which, according to Columbia policy, doesn't fit into the sabbatical category.

To qualify for a sabbatical at Columbia, one must be a faculty member who has completed six consecutive years of service, provide a written request to their department chairperson, and be approved by the chairperson and academic dean, among other things.

Associate Academic Dean Steve Russell-Thomas said Gall does not qualify for a sabbatical because he is not a faculty member or a department chairperson. He also said that it is very unusual not to have more information about Gall's absence, and feels that leaves of absences are not common.

"I think a leave of absence is probably an exception in most people's career," he said. "The situation seems to be that those who know [the reason] aren't giving out information."

For now, all that is certain is that Gall is gone. Why he left, and when he will return remains to be seen.

Theft:

continued from page 1

ing meant Waller would not be able to display her work in the way she had intended, said CarolAnn Brown, director of the Hokin Center.

"This woman has worked for the last several months preparing for this exhibition," Brown said. "I find it appalling and extremely upsetting and embarrassing that people have such a lack of regard and respect for an artist and her work."

Yet, soon after the theft, Waller worked furiously to replace the missing works, and on Friday evening, the artist hung two new pieces in the Hokin Gallery.

Whether Chicago police become involved in this case is a decision left to the artist, said Gallegos. Waller stated that she doesn't want to know who stole the work and suggested that it be "anonymously returned."

Both Brown and Gallegos said that this is the first incident of stolen artwork at Columbia. Anyone with information regarding the artwork should contact Brown at ext. 5696 or Gallegos at ext. 5595.

"I find it appalling and embarrassing that people have such a lack of regard and respect for an artist and her work."

CarolAnn Brown

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Columbia Scores With Business Of Pro Sports

By Mema Ayi
Staff Writer

Anyone who is interested in the corporate aspects of professional sports, such as mixing football with finance, will want to take the Business of Professional Sports course offered in the spring by the Management Department.

This experimental course will primarily focus on sports promotion and sales, and dealing with teams and athletes.

It will basically be an introduction to the business of professional sports. The class will be used as a model, and if things go well,

the department would like to explore the possibility of offering a concentration in sports management.

"This is a starting point," said Marv Robinson, a marketing consultant and a former professional football player.

The purpose of the course is "to begin to teach the administrative aspects of professional sports," said Robinson. These aspects include administrative positions, such as vice presidents, marketers, ticket sales and public relations. These "key" decision-making positions are often unoccupied by minorities, although minorities make up about 90 percent of the players in the four major professional sports, said Robinson.

Students taking this course will get an idea of what it would take to make a change, he said. It may be difficult for blacks

and other minorities to acquire these jobs if they have no experience, Robinson said.

"The difficult part is getting in and knowing someone. If we begin to teach our own, then it gets hard to turn people down," he said.

Robinson said he was attracted to Columbia because many of the faculty of the Management Department are

"This is a starting point to begin to teach the administrative aspects of professional sports."

Marv Robinson

entrepreneurs like himself.

Students interested in taking the class do not necessarily need to know anything about sports.

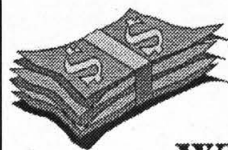
"This is all business. It's the business that makes profits," Robinson said.

With the contacts that Robinson's students will make, he believes they will be able to do anything in the business. "This is the greatest opportunity to network," he said.

For example, through this course, Robinson also intends to create an internship program. The internships will give students the opportunity to rub elbows with corporate heads.

Once students get into a job, they can springboard into something much more significant.

Robinson also will explore with students the possibilities of ownership. Among the discussions will be what ownership brings financially. Students will be presented with local examples, such as Chicago Bulls and White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf.



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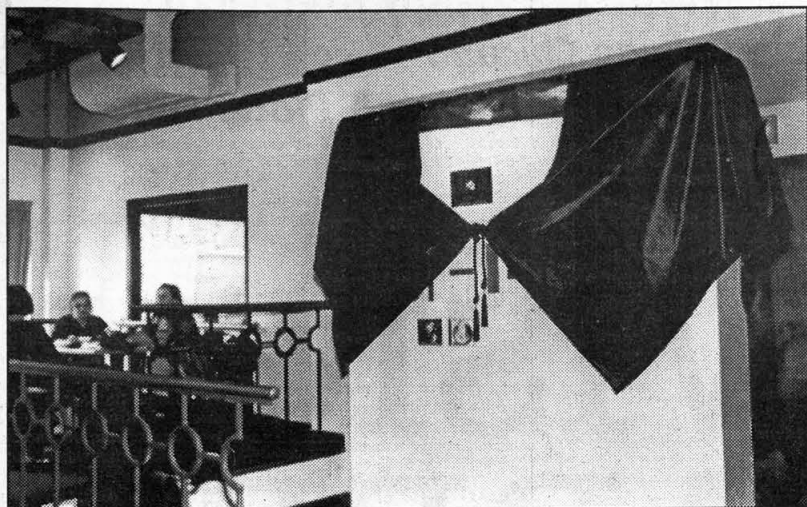
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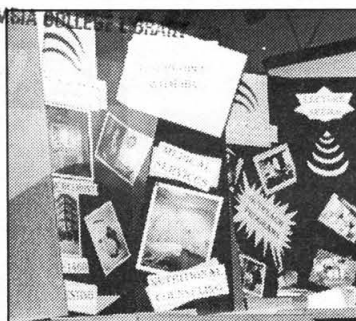


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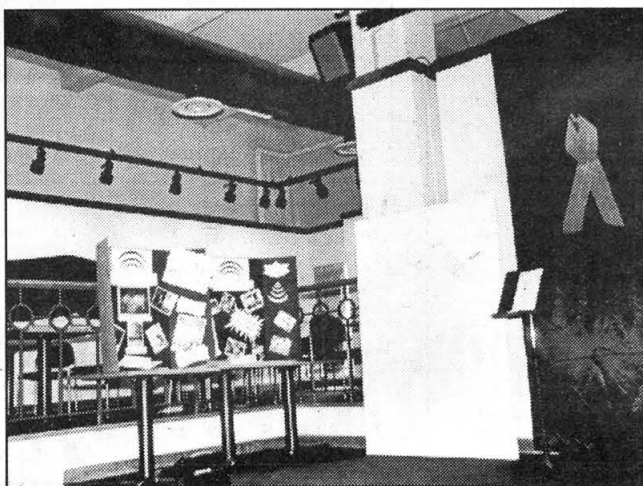
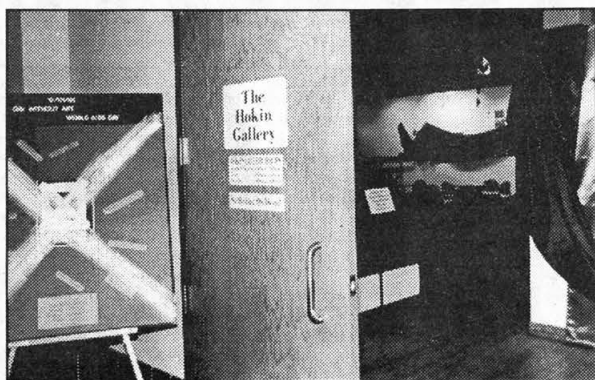




Columbia recognized National Aids Awareness Day on Dec. 1 with a "Day Without Art" in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash. On Nov. 30, students and faculty held a Aids Awareness Day vigil in the Wabash Building lobby.



Photos by Laura Stoecker



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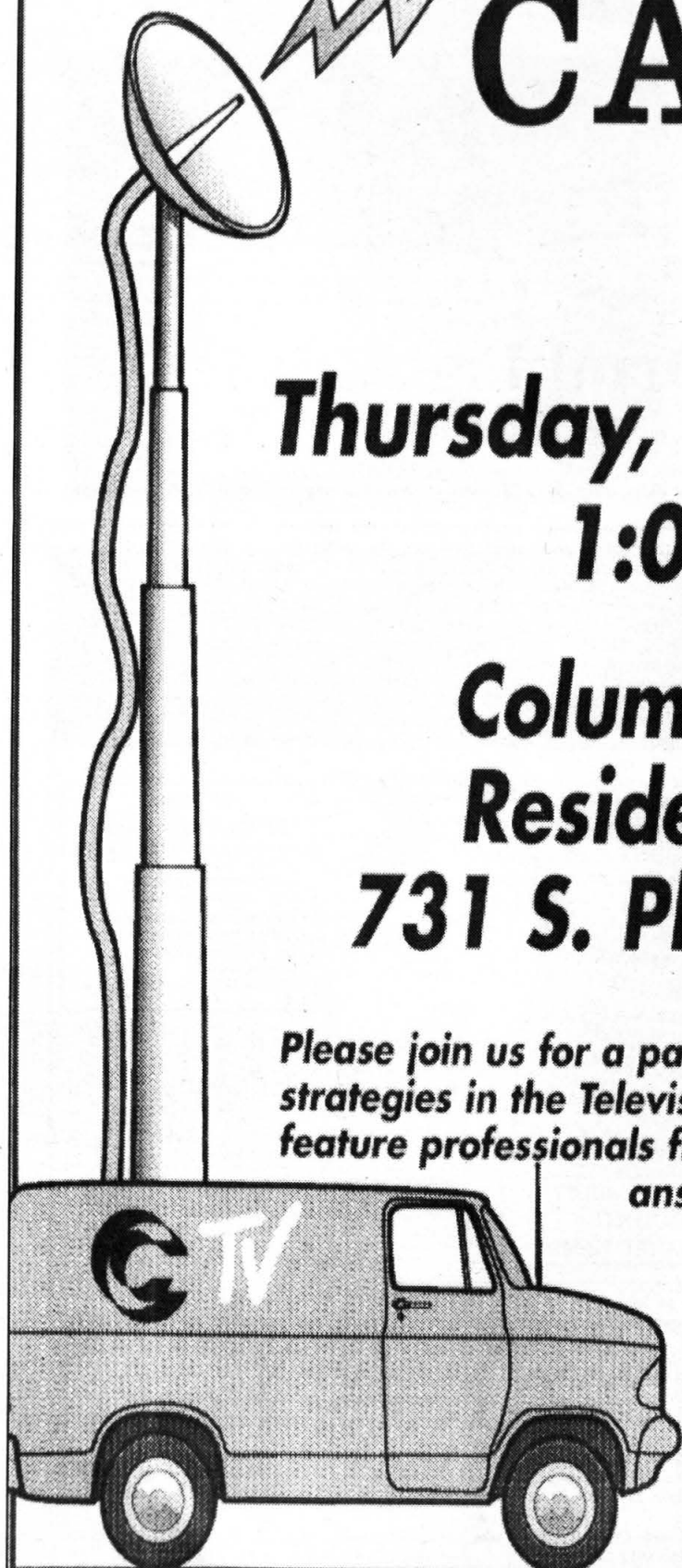
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Columbia Women Shun Media Stereotypes

By Aliage Taqi
Features Editor

Mashari Bain reclines in a mint green cushioned chair, in the corner of her dormitory apartment. The sun streaks across her cream-colored complexion, and she brushes her black locks behind her right shoulder.

The 20-year-old Columbia residence hall assistant stares at the wall on the opposite end of the room. "I don't consider myself any less than a queen. I guess it is because I take pride in my race and femininity," says Bain.

"There was a time when I had a completely negative view of myself," Bain adds, recalling when her self-esteem and self-image swayed toward the side of negativity. "When I was younger, I used to hang around negative people who constantly teased me about everything from my looks to the type of clothes I wore.

"I used to look in the mirror and say 'I'm ugly.' By my freshman year in high school, my self-esteem grew. I realized that I am a beautiful person inside and that is all that matters. I learned not to turn down compliments that people gave me, but to let them build up and strengthen my self-esteem," said Bain.

Because Columbia is a media college, female students such as Bain are more sensitive to the media portrayals of women. As a result, some of these students are more prone to a lack of self-esteem, as they are in tune with the media's perceptions of women.

Dr. Roseanna Mueller, a Liberal Education professor at Columbia, offers tactics that women can follow when media perceptions lower their self-image. "Women need to take stock in why their self-esteem is negative, and who can help raise it. This is a form of self-inventory that women should perform for themselves. Female students with low self-image and esteem should discover what gives you a sense of satisfaction," says Mueller.

Mueller is not alone in this advice to female students. Pattie Mackenzie, a Columbia English instructor with a masters of arts degree in Counseling Psychology from Northwestern, also talks about taking the proper steps to improve self-esteem.

"The students we attract at Columbia are different, due to vast life experience they gain before coming," she says. "Due to the battle with their self-esteem, female students need to seek people who will provide them with support. Support should be provided by someone who cares, not from someone who is in it for their own purposes.

"Women need other women as mentors to guide them in their careers and emotionally."

National experts agree that the media places too much emphasis on women meeting certain standards of beauty and behavior. In her book, "Body Love: Learning to Like Our Looks and Ourselves," author Rita Freedman, says the media plays a role in damaging women's outlook on themselves.

"The media holds up idealized images that virtually no one can approximate," says Freedman. "You can have a beautiful face and a gorgeous body, and still have a poor image. To break the body image barrier, we must bring self-image into focus. We concentrate on the person inside better by our standards, not society's."

Other students share Bain's feelings about society's effect on self-image and esteem. Broadcast student Yolanda Brown said, "Women have a terrible habit of falling in love with the idea of what a woman is suppose to be. That fairy tale outlook is negative. Basically, go on inner strength. I live up to my expectations."

Like Brown, Angelique Lewis, a Radio student, says women can reverse the influence of the media's perceptions.

"I suggest that female students upset by these media perceptions should seek help from another peer or maybe a higher authority," Lewis says. "Maybe women who find themselves having a low self-esteem and image need a group discussion with other women to find the solution. But first, start by loving yourself and who you are. Fix yourself up and do your nails. Self-pampering is a must. It's part of being a woman. You must love who you are inside and out."



Photo by Chris Sweda

Columbia Liberal Education professor Roseanna Mueller says women should discover what gives them satisfaction.

When Is Weekend Drinking A Problem ?

College Press Service

LEXINGTON, Ky.—Huddled in the corner of a small apartment, oblivious to the chaos around her is Katie, a University of Kentucky nursing student. Psychedelic lights surround her, adding a tripping effect to the room. Gyrating bodies crash against each other seemingly at lightning speed. The smell of beer and sweat intertwine with cigarette smoke and fog from a huffing smoke machine in the back of the room.

Every once in a while, people come over to Katie's Corner to make sure the petite brunette is breathing. She has already had eight beers. A friend offers Katie another swig of his mixed drink called a suicide.

She does this every weekend, he said before finding his date on the dance floor. "She just uses it as a way to relax."

Katie is not alone.

Almost half of the college students in the United States are binge drinkers, according to a 1995 Harvard School of Public Health survey of 17,592 college students from 140 colleges nationwide.

Nearly 4 percent of the students drink daily. One-fifth of the students were frequent binge drinkers, which means they binge drink more than three times a week, the study reported.

After 20 minutes in the corner, Katie opens her eyes and wonders how she can get more alcohol. Grinning slowly, she goes to greet the guy she thinks brought her to the party. A few stumbles later, Katie bumps into an old friend from high school who she hasn't seen in two years.

He asks her to dance, and they stroll silently toward the gyrating masses. After a few twists and turns, Katie, who will turn 21 next year, man-

ages to maneuver a plastic cup of Killian's Red from his hands and into her mouth.

A few more swallows, and her dancing becomes less rigid. The girl who originally sat in the corner because she doesn't dance very well becomes the grunge music ballerina. As the beat changes, her partner's body moves closer to Katie's. His hands slide from her waist to her butt. He tightly presses her body to his. She doesn't seem to mind. After the song ends, their dancing doesn't. Their dancing turns to kissing, slowly at first and gradually more intense.

At her request, he gets her another beer. In the amount of time he's gone, she finds another old friend. Like an instant replay, the scene happens again with the next guy. Except, when the song ends, they leave the party together.

Battle Of The Binge

Katie said she is far from the average alcoholic. She has a 3.78 grade-point average, a boyfriend and a stable family life.

But Katie is a binge drinker. She can even recite the definition of her affliction.

"The consumption of five or more drinks in a row on at least one or more occasions," she reads from one of her health textbooks. "That's pretty accurate. Five [drinks] get me a good buzz going. I can relax then."

According to the nationwide Core Alcohol and Drug survey of 56,000 college students, binge drinking contributes to a broad range of problems for college students including memory loss, trauma, date rape, vandalism and suicide.

The study says drinking is the No. 1 health concern on college campuses.

Dr. Tim Nolan, director of student mental health for the University Health Service, said student drinking is a complicated issue.

"Yes, 'one person may experiment with alcohol, and this is perfectly natural in a college environment, but this experimentation often can lead that person into negative things like hurting themselves and others or having unprotected sex," he said.

Alcohol also has been associated with missed classes and poor performance ratings on tests and projects. In the Core group's survey, college students who reported the lowest grade-point averages consumed an average of 11 alcoholic beverages a week, while those who reported mostly A's had less than three drinks per week.

Nolan said most surveys he has read on binge drinking show that bingers are not just hurting themselves.

"They show very clearly that non-bingers are affected, they are harassed, abused to some extent," he said.

Tradition Or Trouble?

Alcohol abuse is hardly a new concept.

College always has been identified as a place for exploration. It serves as a haven for experiments with students new-found freedom. Many of these experiments include alcohol.

"My parents drank and probably did a lot worse when they were college students," said Libby Morgan, a UK sophomore. "I don't get why experts in the health fields are still worried about the effects. I mean, really, who cares?"

Nolan said sometimes experimentation is taken too far.

"Alcohol and even binge drinking are very difficult

issues, because part of the way we learn is through experience," Nolan said. "Sometimes negative experiences with alcohol can lead to positive growth, but students need to know the difference between growth and self-destruction."

UK Dean of Students David Stockham said students need to know how to drink responsibly. He said he doesn't understand what drives a student to lose control.

"Incidents of binge drinking occur too frequently, it's the kind of drinking when someone sets out to get drunk and get drunk fast," Stockham said. "Usually, it ends up making them terribly sick."

UK Police Chief W.H. McComas said student alcohol abuse can lead to bigger prob-

lems.

He said that 90 percent of the incidents where officers deal with students involve alcohol.

"It is the drug of choice for students. It is the most abused substance in college," he said.

However, he said UK Police only give minor penalties.

If officers see a person consume a beverage, then they will arrest them, McComas said. However, if officers find someone drunk, then they normally will render assistance and then may issue a citation. But, McComas said, this usually isn't the case.

"If they are a jerk they will be arrested and given a citation," McComas said. "Officers take far more people home than they give citations."

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Letters to the Editor

Is the Greed of Humankind Planting the Bears in Gary?

So, already next season, we're looking at the Baltimore Browns and the Nashville Oilers. And in the wake of all this franchise mobilization, the local media has made a huge hype over the fact that the Chicago Bears may actually move to Gary, Indiana.

Now, don't get me wrong. I'd hate to see the Bears play anywhere but in Soldier Field. However, does the fact that four NFL teams have changed addresses within the last two years not alarm you? If you said "no" to this question, you either have a life or just flat out don't care.

Actually, you should care. What's going on in the sports world has a lot of bearing on how people are thinking here in the real world.

Take Art Modell, the owner of the Cleveland Browns, for instance. He just couldn't pass up an opportunity to move his team into a market which was just dying for football revenues. Baltimore has been without and NFL franchise since the storied Baltimore Colts were lured to Indianapolis (Indiana; coincidence?). Their recent bid for one of two expansion franchises was lost to Charlotte (Carolina Panthers) and Jacksonville, Florida (Jaguars). So, when Modell got a prestigious offer to move his Cleveland Browns to a city which was simply dying for live football, he ignored an already loyal fan following right where he was in Cleveland. Now, the people who are likely to be the last fans to see football at Cleveland Municipal Stadium aren't the only ones booing Modell. I sat down to watch a game between the Chicago Bulls and Cleveland Cavaliers basketball teams, only to hear the announcer explain that their fans in Gund Arena in Cleveland

were booing because the scoreboard had flashed an image of Art Modell. Even in Pittsburgh, home of the classic Steelers/Browns rivalry, the fans were protesting Modell. One can only hope Mike McCaskey, the owner of the Bears is paying attention and learning not to do anything too hastily.

If only this trend were confined to the NFL. This season, while Canada welcomes professional basketball franchises in Vancouver and Toronto, it can only watch as people in Quebec break away from Canada. Those people are the professional hockey team, the Quebec Nordiques, now transplanted in the American city of Denver as the Colorado Avalanche.

Why are all of these franchises moving? In general, their owners believe that they can get richer in the new cities than they can in the old ones. Moreover, if the officials of the city which the franchise is in refuses to answer to the beckon call of the franchise owner, why on Earth would they want to stay in that city, when there's a city which will pay hundreds of millions of dollars to provide a franchise with a stadium and fans who will greet it ever-so-warmly?

The one credit which the owners of these teams have is that they don't jump at the first city who makes them an offer. There are several criteria which any deals are weighed upon, including population (fan base), the television market (exposure), and surrounding attractions (no franchise will move to a city with nothing). Then there's also the factor of building a stadium which can accommodate large crowds, especially if such a stadium is loaded with skyboxes for all those people who would pay a fortune to be seen at a major sporting event but who are too frightened of harsh weather or of being seen surrounded by people

who actually had to work for the money to buy their tickets. These factors are usually the keys which determine not only if a city can honestly cater to the needs of its franchise, but if it will survive more than a couple of seasons there.

The danger comes from the fact that the people who play for these franchises — who draw the crowds in the first place — want a piece of the profit. Thus player A gets a piece of the profit, but then sees player B in a more prominent market getting a larger piece. Angered by the sight of someone else making more than he does, player A demands a piece which is as large as or larger than player B's. As a result, the gap between players and owners gets so wide that each turns to their respective union, consistently making a mockery out of labor negotiations, with the use of high priced attorneys and mediators. Then, as baseball fans were confronted with in 1994, we end up with stalemates which turn into strikes.

So, what can the fans do? Avoid buying tickets? Forget it, that would just encourage the owners to find another market to sell their team to. If we're going to fix things in sports, then we're going to have to look into a lot of places for solutions. We have to start by convincing the American public that sports is not about getting rich, but about giving athletes the chance to shine, or giving fans a reason to cheer.

But in a country where high profile politicians can raise such a heated debate that they can leave Federal employees jobless until one side of the debate gives in, it'll be easier to just drive past the toxic waste dump in Gary to see the Bears play and possibly catch not a Kevin Butler field goal, but a nice little glow in the dark.

Thomas Walsh

People you should know

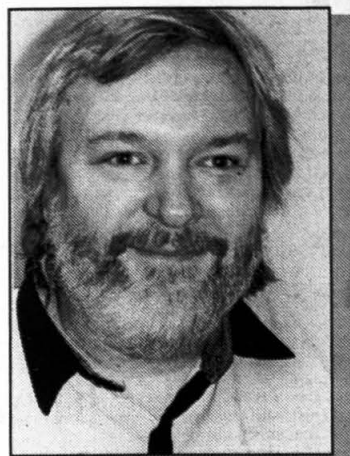


Photo by Natalie Battaglia

Bill Williams

By Carmen Segura
Staff Writer

Who is he?

Williams is a 1973 Columbia College alumnus with a bachelor's degree in Music. In 1985, he began as a part-time teacher at Columbia, and is now an artist-in-residence for the Theater/Music Department.

Before Columbia:

In the '70s, he teamed up with Bill Russo, Columbia College Director of the Contemporary American Music Program and composer-in-residence for the Music Department, and co-wrote an opera titled "Isabella's Fortune," which played off-Broadway.

In the mid '80s, the opportunity to collaborate with Russo arose again. They co-wrote two additional operas, "The Sacrifice," based on the Greek tragedy Iphigenia In Aulis and "The Golden Bird," a children's piece which was written in the early '90s and performed at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Hall.

Off Campus:

As chief theater critic for the Reader, he reviews plays, assigns critics and compiles the theater listings, a job he is proud of and takes very seriously. "Our listings are more comprehensive and accurate than the Chicago Tribune, Sun-Times and New City put together."

Biggest Achievement:

Williams won the Lisagor Award given by the local chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for outstanding arts criticism.

Philosophy:

"Know what you're writing about, and if you don't know about it, learn about it," he said. "Write to be true to yourself, not to get a good readership."

Viewpoint:

Williams does not see his criticisms as the be all and end all. "My job is to foster debate and discussion, not to pass the official judgment."

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YOUR LINK TO BETTER COMMUNICATION

How's Your Steak?

John Henry Biederman
Managing Editor



Sense And Sensitivity

While I normally pass-up the "Dear Abby" sections in newspapers, now and then I read one to make sure they're still as bird-brained as I remember. But I must say that checking in on a "Dear Abby" or Jeffrey Zaslow from time to time can not only provide a window into just how frightening our society is, it can also be quite uplifting—If you think you're screwed up, check out some of the yahoos that write to these columnists.

There's another reason to keep your eye on advice columns once in a while: Our society is falling victim to "Dear Abbytization."

I read one of the "Dear Abby" letters in the Nov. 27 Chicago Tribune. Someone wrote in wondering what to do after he had a cup in a coffee shop, discovered he didn't have enough money for a tip, and took \$.35 from the tip left by a previous customer in order to leave a tip himself. Not only was this hee-haw's letter printed, but Ms. Van Buren actually answered him as if he had a legitimate question.

I would've told the guy to get a hobby. Find a friend. Call 900 numbers, take-up stalking—anything. But I guess that's why I've been accused of being an insensitive lout—The '90s are the "Dear Abby" decade.

There's no such thing as a stupid question anymore. Yeah, I was told "the only stupid question is one that goes unasked" as I grew up, but these rules of caring are being abused. I think there are stupid questions, and these people should be alerted to the fact. If they're so lost they have to write a newspaper for advice, it's time they learned to interact with other people anyway. Plus, you can get the same quality of advice from a neighbor, or even your garbage man.

In the same way those columnists coddle to every concern like it's a legitimate problem, so does society. I happened to catch ABC's "20/20" over the Thanksgiving weekend, and they had a piece on compulsive shopping. Some therapist came on to tell us how it is a disease and these people need counseling and 12-step groups.

We're becoming *too sensitive*. These people need to be told they've screwed up, they're fools, and we're not falling for this "disorder" crap. They to start take responsibility for themselves. We're already pandering to "obsessive compulsives" of every type and we have support groups to guide people through every conceivable triviality. It's time to go back to the real problems, because this insanity only cheapens them.

I guess it's a sign of progress. We've civilized ourselves to the point that sensitivity is being abused. There are still many areas lacking appropriate public sympathy however, so it's time to start calling a bonehead a bonehead. You can help us all by drawing attention to stupidity in the name of "sensitivity."

Move over Abigail Van Buren, shut up Leo Buscaglia. The catch-phrase for the late-'90s should be "Have you ridiculed an idiot today?"



Three 'Hoots' For The EEOC

We knew it had to happen. Cries of "discrimination!" were bound to enter the realms of ridiculousness eventually.

You could almost here lady justice sing when the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote, when the case of Brown vs. Board of Education ordered Arkansas to teach white and black students in the same schools and when the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was born in 1964.

Today, you can almost hear her groan.

It may be that the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission is yet another government organization due for funding cuts, considering they have the extra time to bother the Hooters of America restaurants.

The commission has seen fit to "recommend" that the restaurants hire male servers, and demanded that Hooters distribute \$22 million to male "victims" of "sex discrimination." All of this stemming from a four year investigation into the 170-restaurant chain—undoubtedly funded by tax dollars as well.

While we at The Chronicle cannot claim

familiarity with the restaurant, Hooters is obviously a place for men who want to be served by physically attractive women dressed in skimpy clothing. The customers come to Hooters to see the waitstaff they currently employ (c'mon—the wings can't be that good), the waitresses choose to work at Hooters for their own reasons, the men turned-down as employees have plenty of other places to seek work and anybody who doesn't like the fact doesn't have to go (from what we hear, the cheeseburger is not crucial to one's pursuit of happiness).

The Atlanta-based Hooters contends that an exception in the Civil Rights Act allows gender-based hiring. But we don't believe perusal of the law books is in order. We believe someone should look past the greedy lawyers, ignore the legal documents, and return to the unfortunately under-used resource of common sense.

Adult actors don't belong next to Barney. Women have no place in The Chippendales. And men should not be serving up wings at Hooters.

The EEOC needs to find something better to do with its time.

Get Back To The Business At Hand

With all the plans floating around Congress, for everything from budget balancing to lobbyist regulations, why are Republicans tying unrelated events to their platforms?

It began in June of this year, when Bob Dole (R-Kan.), in an early chance to fuel his 1996 presidential campaign, chose to discuss Hollywood. Not specific provisions in the GOP Contract With America, not new ideas he might implement as president—but a land of make believe.

With Dole's help, former Reagan "Drug Czar" William Bennett took the assault on the arts further, successfully pushing Time-Warner Inc. to drop their gangsta rap artists and later attacking—with the fabulous failure endemic to Bennett's career—TV talk shows.

Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) has his own peculiarities concerning the entertainment industry. He saw the movie "Boys' Town" as a solution to orphanage problems and "Flashdance" as a metaphor for capitalism. More bizarre is his penchant for picking horrific events and attempting to blame them on the "corrupt, decadent liberal welfare state." He began this tirade during the trial of Susan Smith, but recently his easily ignored psycho-babble has taken a turn

that begs addressing.

Now Gingrich is tying the hideous Addison Murders, in which a live baby was cut from a victim's womb, to the liberal welfare system. We wonder why the millions of other people receiving welfare haven't embarked on killing sprees. And to conservative newspaper columnists now sharing hot air with the politicians, why hasn't everyone who's seen "Money Train" set fire to subway token-collection booths?

Conservatives need to be reminded that a lunatic can "go off" on any excuse, from innocuous Jodie Foster movies to "backward messages" in music. The rest of us need not suffer because of the occasional maniac.

The rest of us are suffering from budget deficits, unemployment and poverty. Despite the fact that a sizable number of Americans were initially enamored with the Contract With America, as public opinion has swayed in the opposite direction the contract's concrete ideas have suddenly taken a back seat to sensational accusations against "liberal welfare" and Hollywood.

Gentlemen, please confine your discussions to the proper place and theme: Washington. In case you haven't noticed, it's still very screwed-up.

Got An Opinion?

Have an opinion or otherwise? We warmly encourage letters & comments to the editors. Please, direct all editorial correspondence to:

Letters to the Editor
Room 802, 623 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605
All letters should include your name and phone number.
Or you can fax us at: 312-427-3920

Stuff From Staff

Yasmin Khan
Staff Writer



Do You Know Who I Am?

I remember the Nov. 14 newscast leading with the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Without thinking, I said to myself: "My God, the Palestinians have killed him." They didn't. He was killed by another Jew.

I remember first hearing about the bombing of the Oklahoma Federal building. The news anchor said an Islamic terrorist group was believed to have been responsible. It turned out to be home-grown American terrorism.

I remember reading about the Arizona train derailment, reportedly the work of another homegrown terrorist group. In a current events quiz this semester, a number of students wrote "Hamas" to the question: "Who caused the Arizona train derailment?" I asked a student who had written "Hamas" why he did, and he said, "They are responsible for all acts of terrorism in the world."

Stereotypes. Most are negative and, unfortunately, have a kernel of truth. But a stereotype should not impugn everybody in that group. Since I arrived in Chicago six months ago, I have been victim to classification with that kind of people. The kind who can barely string a sentence together in English. The kind one expects to see in a factory fitting electronic pieces together. The kind here on the whims of a rich parent who knows nothing about hard work.

When people learn I am a journalist, they always ask "Do you write in English?" Teachers have approached me and ask if they are speaking too fast. And when it finally dawns on them that I speak English fluently, they decide that I must be an American.

But I am not an American. I am from Singapore, a tiny country in Asia where English is the medium of instruction. I have spoken English all my life.

In Asia, we see ourselves first as Asians. Living in America has opened my eyes to stereotyping. I have been told that all blacks are criminals, Hispanics are lazy, whites are racists and Asians are here to steal deplete the country's wealth.

Strange, because the nicest people I know come from all these groups. Which brings to mind what a psychology instructor once told me: "Stereotypes come about when people have a bad experience with a person from a certain race. They then decide that all of them must be that way."

There is little I can do to change an entire nation's way of thinking, but I hope to make a difference to those around me. In the wake of the Million Man March, one of my closest friends lashed out at all Muslims, blaming them for all catastrophes and unrest in the world. "I will never have a Muslim friend," she declared confidently. "I can spot a Muslim a mile away."

I smiled and said, "I am a Muslim."

She stared and replied, "But you don't look Muslim!"

"Why? Because I am not carrying an M-16? You better run along," I said. "Or I might just blow you up."

She never moved. And we are still best friends.

GOODMAN



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REGAL AUDITORIUM ETA STEPPENWOLF

Tired Of Text Books? Try Adult Books At AVB

AROUND COLUMBIA

By Bill Jordan
Staff Writer

Although the sign on the opaque red door of 738 S. Wabash promises "books," those who come here looking for Thoreau or Dickens will be disappointed. In fact, there aren't many books to be found here at all.

What you will find at A.V.B., the Adult Video and Book Store, is a huge selection of videos, sex toys, magazines and nude dancers, as well as a handful of mostly male customers looking through the merchandise.

The hundreds of videos filling the first half of the store are bound to satisfy the preference of anybody desiring pornographic material. Whether you're interested in seeing men with women, women with women, men with men, or women with men dressed up like women, the sprawling selection won't let you down.

There is not an empty space on the shelf between the sometimes unprintable and sometimes humorous titles like "Sleaze Please," "No Holes Barred," "Genital Hospital" and "Freaks of Nature." Prices generally range between \$15 and \$25.

Just past the video area lies the source of the dance music that can be heard throughout the store. There, a "live stage" featuring a lineup of nude dancers can be viewed from "private booths." According to one regular customer known only as "Cortez," the dancers are "beautiful girls of all colors, shapes and sizes." To view these "peep

shows," customers must pay a \$2 entry fee plus \$1 per "coin," which he says buys about 90 seconds of peep show.

The walls in the back of the store are filled with sex toys and long racks of magazines. In order to go back there, a \$1 "browsing fee" is required. Patrons can look through magazines before deciding to buy, or select from dozens of sex toys the store has to offer. Some of the products include "The Dancin' Banana," which describes itself as a "Squirmy Fun Fruit That Rotates and Gyrate All Through the Night," for \$19.99, "Mr. Big Shot w/ Piston Action" for \$69.99, plus an assortment of blow up dolls priced around \$30.

The magazine rack probably contains the widest variety of subject matter. Titles like "Raunch-O-Rama," "Kink-O-Rama," and "Dungeon Review" are among some of the more tame. Here, a handful of men look sheepishly through the magazines and merchandise. The content here can be surprising, and the section is not recommended for those with a weak stomach.

Speaking of sheep, although it has been rumored that inflatable sheep can be purchased, one store employee who says the Chronicle "asks too many questions" states clearly and flatly that inflatable sheep are illegal and cannot be purchased in the state unless one "knows the right, right, right people."

Columbia students, many of whom didn't know that such a store existed a mere few blocks

from the college, have varying opinions about the type of material sold there. Twenty-two-year-old Marketing major Alex Infante doesn't agree with the claim that pornography can be blamed for violent sex acts. "I think it's that way with anything. If someone has an unstable mind they could watch 'NYPD Blue' and do something violent," he

WHAT: A. V. B. Adult Video and Book Store

WHEN: Open 7 days a week, 24 hours

WHERE: 738 S. Wabash

says. He does, however, believe that pornography degrades women and that measures should be taken to prevent those under 21, "who are still developing and could become confused," from viewing it.

Twenty-six-year-old junior Trish Casey says that she believes that the idea of labeling people that view and participate in such material as

bad is wrong. "People are sexual beings," she said. "Although people say it degrades women, those women are choosing to do that. You have to live by your own choices."

Customers range from those who regularly purchase and view the material to those who are just curious about it. One such couple, who wanted to be known only as "Joe and Dawn" was just passing by and say they entered "out of curiosity." They said they do sometimes use such material. According to Dawn, "There is nothing wrong with it, as long as it's with consenting adults." The couple left after being told that women were not allowed to view the peep show.

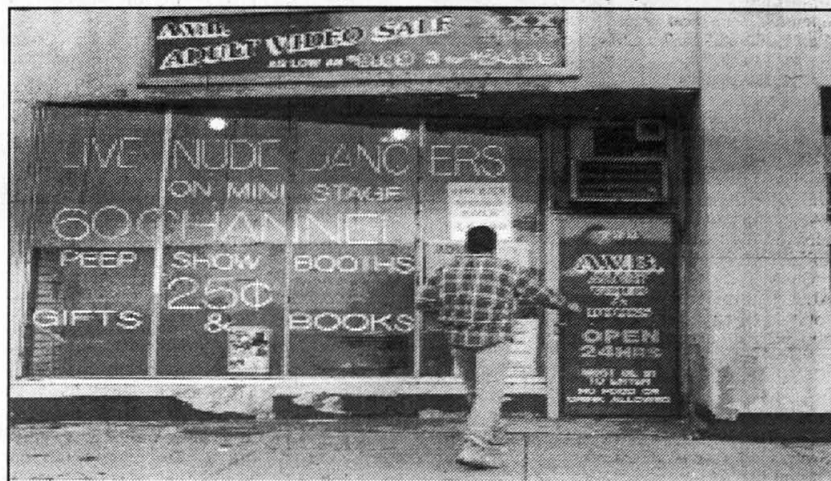


Photo by Natalie Battaglia

An unidentified man enters the A.V. B. Adult Video and Book Store, one block south of Columbia's Wabash building. If pornography's what you're looking for, A.V. B.'s the place to go.

Thank you Columbia College students, faculty and staff for your generous support and your spirit of giving. You made our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Pacific Garden Mission a success.



*Arlene E. Williams
Assistant Dean
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Don't Let Me Catch You Putting Old Spice and Fruitcakes Under The Tree

It's that time of year again, when we have to tough our way through those crowded department stores looking for holiday gifts. Deciding what to give someone for Christmas can be similar to opening Pandora's box.

Selecting a gift can be fun, that is if you understand the true meaning of the holiday season. But while choosing a gift for someone you know can be an easy process, selecting a gift for a co-workers may be a painstaking process.

Last year, I decided to start a list of the possible gifts that would be great presents to give during the holidays. To help others, I've compiled a "wish list" to help to make their shopping easier.

For example, certain edibles can be great stocking stuffers. Yes, foods.

Items such as the Rowena's Wonderful Almond Pound Cake are great gift ideas. This cake is dense, moist and buttery. Don't worry about this cake going bad from sitting in a stocking for too long. It will keep at room temperature up to four weeks, or in the freezer for one year.

For the cashew lover, consider buying the Chocolate Le Fraicais, which is creamy,

bittersweet ganache, soft caramel and whole roasted cashews in a box. This is perfect for after a big meal.

Don't forget that many people who cook love to use fancy vinegars. A good line to consider buying is Consorzio Vignettes from Napa Valley. These vinegars can double as sauces. The flavors available from Consorzio are mango, raspberry, tomato, passion fruit, mustard seed and roasted garlic. You'll be surprised at the wonderful flavor they add to your salads.

All of the items I have mentioned make great little stocking stuffers, but there are



Sandra Taylor
Fashion Writer

Boucheron, Halston and Lauren. The list can go on.

So, there is no excuse for men not buying a nice scent for their special lady. Just one small tip. When shopping for a fragrance, ask the sale clerk to explain to you the fragrance base and the notes.

Please don't wait until Dec. 13 to start shopping for

"Please don't wait until Dec. 13 to start shopping for gifts. If you wait until the 13th, you may miss out on a few good sales. Not to mention that you may miss out on that once-in-a-lifetime gift that you promised someone."

gifts. If you wait until the 13th, you may miss out on a few good sales. Not to mention that you may miss out on that once-in-a-

lifetime gift that you promised to give to someone. And you don't want that someone special to be mad at Y-O-U.

This may be difficult to do, but please ask a person what they would like at least three months ahead. Remember: Giving the perfect Christmas gift, or what is perceived as the perfect Christmas gift, is a matter of opinion. Have a happy holiday and a pleasant New Year.

alternatives.

Perfume is always a gift that women love to receive, but be extra careful when choosing scents for someone. Always ask the person what fragrance or fragrances they like. A few of the favorites: Chanel #5, Coco by Chanel and Estee Lauder's White Linen.

Other fragrances to consider (if you refuse to ask a person what they would like) are: Opium, Jill Sander,

toy drive
COLUMBIA CARES
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Drop of boxes will be located in lobby of each building
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Dates To Remember

Tuesday, December 5

"Event Comics" Editor and Publisher Presentation Laurie Bradach, creator of "ASH," will make an audio-video presentation, followed by a question and answer forum. In Wabash building, room 813 at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, December 6

Advertising/Design Forum Come hear what art directors/copywriter teams at Leo Burnett have to say about the advertising/design business. In the Wabash building, Hokin Theater from 12-1:30 p.m.

Author RoseEllen Brown Visits Columbia The highly acclaimed Brown will be reading from her works, with a reception following. Sponsored by the Fiction Writing Department. In the Ferguson theater, 600 S. Michigan, first floor at 7:30 p.m.

"A Bernstein Songbook" A concert retrospective of the work of Leonard Bernstein. Sponsored by the Theater/Music Center. In the New Studio Theater, 62 E. 11th St., at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2, but students are eligible for freebies. Event will also run on Dec. 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, and 17. Call 663-1600 ext. 6126 for more information.

Coming Next Week In The Chronicle:

Barry Sorkin Examines Columbia 2

and

John Biederman Takes A Peek At Columbia Students In The "Sex Profession"

Face Value

What is the most unusual thing you've ever eaten?



Gloria Peters
English/ASL
Junior

Chinese mustard—I didn't know it was hot before I dipped a shrimp in it. I was so overwhelmed, I didn't know what to do.



Eric Nielsen
Sound
Sophomore

Squid—It was gross.



Bridgett Scarborough
Journalism
Sophomore

Spaghetti sandwich or egg and hashed browns sandwich.



Tim (Corp) Moran
Computer Graphics
Junior

Grubs (four inch long white worms from Africa) in pig's blood.



Bohus Blahut
Part-time faculty
Academic Computing

Back in Scranton, I'd eat these all the time...a Twinkie weenie sandwich. Split a twinkie down the middle and squeeze a hot dog into the filling. Delish!



Celeste Vallejo
Liberal Arts

Salsa type topping with peeled tomato, onion, and pig's feet "pickled."

Show Gets To The 'Roots' Of Social Issues

By Bill Jordan
Staff Writer

Each week, cable television subscribers locally and across the nation get a chance to view "Glass Roots," a drama program written, directed, performed and filmed by students of Columbia's English, Theater, Music and Television Departments.

The program is carried by 12 different cable systems in the Chicago area, and nationally via the educational channel U-Net, which combined give it an estimated potential audience of between four and five million.

The show is a spin-off of a soap opera Columbia used to run called "Behind The Screen." According to writing instructor Barb Tomko, "Glass Roots," which is now in its third semester and has a new cast of characters, is different in that it is more episodic.

"Each episode has a beginning, middle, and end," she said. "Although characters and relationships may remain the same across semesters, each episode is complete in itself. This gives the writers more freedom in that they don't have to pick up where somebody else left off."

Tomko also said that the program, which is written in a class called the Professional Writing Workshop, deals with subjects closer to home for college students than its predecessor. "Behind The Screen" might have dealt with something such as a triangle love affair," she said. "In 'Glass Roots,' we're handling subjects such as teenagers coming out to their parents that they're gay, characters that are HIV positive and how they deal with it, and other social issues.

"We're trying to become more relevant in dealing with subjects students can identify with," she said.

Although the program, which Tomko calls "very interdisciplin-



Photo by Bob Mason

"Glass Roots," a taping of which is shown here, is a inter-departmental drama production of Columbia College which airs on 12 different cable systems in the Chicago area on a weekly basis.

ary," combines the talents of students in many different majors, much of the work is done by those in the Theater and Television Departments.

"It's one of those marriages that work," said Chuck Smith, a Theater/Music Department instructor and faculty advisor to the weekly series. "Students from various classes within the Television Department write and film it for specific classes, and actors from the Theater Department, who earn independent study credit, make up the class of approximately 25."

The music for the program is written and performed by students of the Music Department.

According to "Glass Roots" participant and Columbia student Philip Lee, one of the advantages the program enjoys is its unconventional approach to directing. "We use two different directors. The television director actually sets up the shots and deals with the technical end. The theater director goes through the actions and gets the actors up to speed on such things as emotional aspects. This is something you don't find in the real world," said Lee, who serves as Theater director.

Lee, a senior, said that putting each show together is a three-week process. "The first week we get the script. The next week we come in with the script memorized and

rehearse. Then the following week we actually tape."

"Glass Roots" is filmed each week in studio A on the 15th floor of the 600 S. Michigan building. Each episode is thirty minutes in length and is made up of eight segments, two of which are filmed every week. Over the course of the semester, a total of three episodes are produced.

"Glass Roots" airs weekly on cable television nationwide and can be seen in Chicago on Tuesday nights on Chicago Cable and Prime Cable. Broadcast times differ in each cable area, and people wishing to view the program should check with their local cable carrier for schedules.

CERTAIN CONFUSION

by Brian Gallapan



By Chris Sweda