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## Columbia Chronicle (09/30/1996)

Columbia College Chicago

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## New dorm director, new outlook

New Residence Hall Director Daniel Betts wants to make more than mere cosmetic changes in his domain--he's calling for a whole new attitude

By Leon Tripplett  
Senior Writer

New Residence Hall Director Daniel Betts strode briskly into his new position with confidence, a rigorously trained staff of resident floor leaders and a commitment to ensure change, reshaping Columbia's dorms from a building of virtual strangers to a community of citizens.

There is one undeniable fact, though: Betts will be scrutinized, analyzed and challenged, much like most new administrators.

And he knows that. Although Columbia's dormitories, as they are traditionally called, lay secluded behind the college's main campuses on Plymouth Court, the problems filtering from the obscure building two years ago hardly went unnoticed.

From false fire alarms being pulled by giddy students to alcohol and drugs, problems were running rampant.

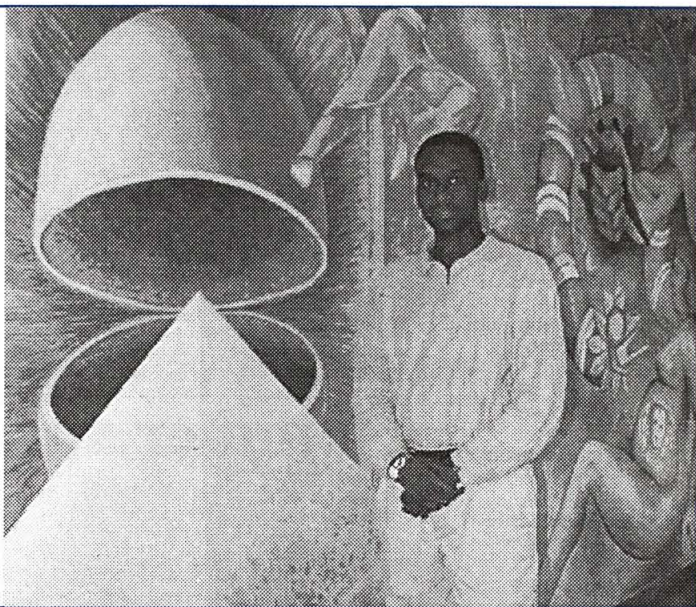
The rumblings of discord in the dorms reverberated throughout the college, calling for prompt action by administrators.

But that was the past, according to sources within Columbia's Student Life and Development, the office assigned to oversee the school's residence hall.

"You're always going to find problems at any institution, you just have to be prepared to deal with it and act accordingly," says Lynette Phillips, resident assistant at Roosevelt.

Daniel Betts, Columbia's new Residence Hall Director, stands in front of a dorm mural painted by students from Columbia and the University of Guadalajara.

Photo by Natalie Battaglia



When questions emerge about chaos in residence halls, snorting and high-slapping usually follow--no one wants to talk about it.

But that was the past, according to sources within Columbia's Student Life and Development, the office assigned to oversee the school's residence hall.

Already, some of the changes are evident. Students get acclimated to living with strangers by holding topic-ranging discussions, or "Ice Breakers," on street safety, date rape, and nutrition and health,

among others.

The biggest change is more obvious, though. No longer will residents refer to their floor leaders as Resident Assistants, as they are typically called at most colleges and universities, but Community Assistants, said Betts.

"We have definitely changed the focus by creating an environment where students can feel connected to a community based program," he added.

Community Assistant Symon Ogetho took the community idea literally, calling his sixth floor "Sixth Avenue."

"For residents to get along they must get to know each other personally and become neighbors, even if they're in different rooms," Ogetho told residents

See Dorm, next page

## Putting Columbia's new students to the test: *Is it fair or is something...fishy?*

By Robert Stevenson  
Senior Writer

In last week's issue, some of you may have noticed a letter from Academic Dean Caroline Latta and Provost Bert Gall about new testing for freshmen and new transfer students. The test will not change the current open admission policy of the school. It is, however, a first step in a college-wide effort to do a better job of assessing students skills and deficiencies so the school can meet the needs of students.

"It's a big undertaking," explained Latta. "In order to get valid data, we need to have about 2,000 people take this."

During the week of Oct. 14 through 19, reading and math skills tests will be given. The tests are designed to find out what areas of the curriculum need improvement.

"I think the big thing for students is it's not supposed to be some kind of awful experience," said Latta. "It's supposed to be an experience that will, in the long run, pay off for you, the student."

Besides getting the data to update the math and reading areas of your college education, these tests will help students receive better counseling, something students want, according to the Student Satisfaction Inventory issued last year.

"These examinations will give the college, especially those of us in general education departments, a profile of the incoming freshmen class of 1996-97's reading and mathematics skills," said Dr. Mark Withrow, Director of Composition for the English Department.

"It's an instrument to help placement of a student and is letting us know what the background is of the student," said John Meyer of the Science and Math Department.

Some students like the idea while others don't. "I think it's a good idea because it's going to let you know what level you're on and what class you need to go to," said freshman Agela Arnold.

"No [I don't like the idea] because then you have all the students competing against each other," said Gary Schultz. "I'm pretty lousy at math."

According to Dean Latta, these tests are designed to help those students in math and reading.

"Everybody has strengths and weaknesses, and it's going to identify your strengths and weaknesses," added Dean Latta.

But what is the goal of these tests? "We want to make sure that students

who come here excited about an area of the arts have the basic skills necessary to succeed in that area of the arts," said Dr. Withrow.

"Artistic talent alone isn't going to ensure a student with a degree from the college or a future in an area of the arts that's brought them here," continued Withrow. "So we want to make sure that we're serving not only students artistic ambitions, but to also make sure that students are leaving here with a sound, well-rounded, liberal arts education."

The test is expected to take about two and a half hours and will be proctored in classes like English Composition I.

If you are a first semester freshmen or a transfer student who is not in a class that will get tested, the test will also be offered at the Blackstone Hotel. A letter will be sent out soon to tell eligible students the dates and times for testing. If you have questions about these tests, you can call the Academic Dean's office at (312) 663-1600, Ext. 5493.

**"[I don't like the idea] because then you have all the students competing against each other."**

**--Gary Schultz**

**--Symon Ogetho, Community [dorm] Assistant**

**"For residents to get along, they must get to know each other personally and become neighbors, even if they're in different rooms."**



## THE CHRONICLE

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# Will the govt. pay your tuition?

John Olino, Columbia's Director of Financial Aid, addresses the most-asked questions about his department--the promised land, to many students

By Allison Martin  
Assistant News Editor

If you are not exactly sure where your next tuition payment will come from, do not fret: Approximately 4,000 Columbia students are in the same boat.

According to the Director of Financial Aid, John Olino, 51% of Columbia students receive some type of financial aid. To calm fears and some nervousness, Olino provided answers to some of the most frequently asked questions concerning financial aid.

Topping the list was "Will I get financial aid?" Some students jump the gun and begin questioning without knowing the actual process for application. Olino suggests preparing the Federal Application For Student Aid form and meeting with a financial aid advisor to answer any questions. "The most important function we give students is providing accurate and timely information," Olino said. Often the news may not be what the stu-

dent expects, he said, but the advisors exist to paint an honest, realistic picture. "Honesty sometimes frustrates students."

Once the availability of funds is determined, students need to know when they will receive them. According to Olino, the

partnership between advisor and student is then extended to include the Bursar's Office. The Financial Aid Office establishes the limits, but the Bursar's Office releases and distributes the funds.

To understand the process, Olino urges students to become familiar with the deadlines and beat them by 15-20 days. Once the Financial Aid office receives the information, it must still go

through several channels before finalization. Submitting the application right before the deadline is "setting yourself up for failure," he said.

When students are not eligible for financial aid, there are several options. The unpaid balance

must be considered critically, and the student should not necessarily rush to drop classes. The balance may sometimes have to be paid with a credit card or loan. For first-time borrowers, Federal and Columbia regulations exist to require a debt-

management advisement meeting to review budgeting, paying back loans and more.

In some cases, parents do not

contribute to a student's education even if they are financially able. At this point, Olino speaks with the parents on the advantages of aiding the student, but generally only one out of five are persuaded. A believer in Maslov's basic human needs theory, Olino said it hurts to see students distracted with money concerns when there are available funds. If students are too distracted by money issues, he added, the goal of higher education may be set aside.

Oddball questions do pop up from time to time. Some students ask, "Do I have to repay this loan?"

Overall, Olino stresses turning in financial aid forms in a timely matter. If a student needs to confirm information or answer remaining questions, he advises to immediately fill out the form and mail it. Olino acknowledges that although there may be hoops to jump through and paperwork to submit, it is important to keep focused on the ultimate need: the reward note.

**Oddball questions come up from time to time. Some students ask, "Do I have to repay this loan?"**

## Summer vacation: Some Columbia students did more before 10 a.m. than you did all summer

Anna Dzienisik  
Correspondent

Anyone visiting Columbia during the summer knows that it is a totally different place from the Columbia of the regular school year. One can have the impression that the school is too quiet and too empty. And it's no wonder: A majority of the students have "better things" to do than study when it's hot outside. Who wouldn't agree that, after the horrible months of winter, fun is better than studying?

It turns out, however, that some students visited Columbia in the summer not to study, but to have fun.

In July and August, kids between the ages of 9 to 14 explored visual media and performing arts during the Summer Arts Camp at Columbia College. They were on-campus five times a week, eight hours a day for two six-week sessions. The first session had 65 children and the second one 80.

The cost of the camp was \$640 per session. It provided all materials and equipment such as brushes, paints, paper, cameras and equipment required to make TV or radio shows.

Margaret Sullivan from Columbia's Marketing Department started the camp four years ago. The purpose of it was to introduce children to arts and let them taste, touch and play with them.

It was not hard for kids to get into the camp, said Kathleen Collins, a camp director's assistant. There were no portfolios or auditions required. The program of the camp was not intensive or competitive.

On the other hand, many children could not take part in it. Three weeks before the program started, more students applied than Columbia could admit.

The counselors at the camp were Columbia College students recruited from its departments and recommended by their teachers. The students were paid and were able to work in the fields connected with their majors, such as computer graphics, radio and sound, visual arts, film, stage works and television production. As a result, Collins said, the camp provided a learning process not only for kids, but also for its counselors.

Collins also said that the summer camp definitely advertised Columbia and served as a recruiting device for the school. Everything was done to give the kids a positive experience on Columbia's campus. In the long run, it could help them decide to enroll in the school in the future.

It took six months to prepare the camp. Collins said it was better organized than usual this year, and that they had a waiting list for the first time. "We did better promotion and put more ads into newspapers. The camp is growing, and we are more confident about what we are doing here," she said.

Altogether, 22 people worked for the camp. One of them was Amy Braswell, a visual-arts counselor. She worked here last year and decided to come back because of the great experience she gained. "I have a strong interest in teaching at a developmental level," she said. "Working here gave me an opportunity to figure out where I want to be without starting a graduate program or teaching program. Now, I do not have to waste a lot of money in order to find out the same things."

Lori Sheidemann, a senior majoring in photography, also worked a second year at the camp. As a visual arts instructor, she taught printmaking and black-and-white photography. "This was a wonderful job to have," she said. "I did something I liked. I have learned to have a lot of patience, to be flexible, and I had great training."

Sheidemann emphasized that this camp was very sophisticated. Columbia offered campers supplies and techniques adult artists use. "We treat kids like they're adults, and they like it," she said. "They feel more involved and serious about what they are doing."

Children really seemed to enjoy Columbia's vacation spot. Erica Russo, 10, and Cierra Sherwin, 9, admit they had great fun. They liked the friendly counselors and said they worked on interesting projects in photography and computers. "We were doing something here, not sitting," they said.

Mary Jo Milette of the College Relations Department, sent her daughter Lindsay to the camp to give her opportunity to explore the fields she could enjoy and maybe pursue in

the future. "I want to give her the possibility to feel and find out what she is interested in. It might develop her imagination and give her a taste of interesting things," she said.

In the book "Summer on Campus" by Shirley Levin, there are cataloged about 500 schools proposing summer programs for children and teenagers. Thus, the idea of organizing summer camps at universities and colleges is not a new or unique one. Nationwide, kids and youngsters can choose one discipline from more than hundred of others, according to Levin.

Some programs are huge. For example, Columbia's neighbor, National Louis University, has a special center that organizes summer sessions in numerous fields for gifted students. About 3,000 students took part in classes conducted by 140 teachers this summer.

What were the attributes of Columbia's camp? Milette said that teachers' energy and their age was a big plus for the camp. "They were young and really excited about what they were doing. They had excellent contact with kids because of their young age. Thus, even though working with children was tough, they could communicate very well."

Counselor Braswell prized the camp for its program and ambitious projects. "College students design the same things. The process of teaching here, however, is a little bit different. We explain everything in simpler way and break projects into a few more steps. The program never tells kids, 'You are too young to do something.' They get into the projects and fly with it."

She observed that school systems do not take the time to stress the importance of art. Thus, many kids are missing it. "Every child is talented in their own way. It's a matter of letting them have confidence in their talent. Columbia's program makes a great job of supporting them to experiment. That is the only way to find their own talent."

At the end of each session, there were shows of visual arts and media projects created at the camp. Parents were invited. Many were astonished, proud, and happy. "Something really good happened in Columbia this summer," Collins reported.

## Dorm, from page 1: New Residence Hall Director Daniel Betts has his hands full as he attempts to rectify problems with false fire alarms, drugs and a lack of community

during an ice breaker.

Second-floor resident Charles Johnson welcomes the hospitality shown to him in the first week of moving into the residence hall, oblivious to the fact that problems have existed in the past.

"They are really trying to

make you a part of what's going on, they make you feel real comfortable," Johnson said.

Johnson's C.A., Steve Lockett, also took to the new role. "I think this describes us better, it says who we are and what we're about," he said.

Hinging on more involve-

ment, Betts is certain change will encourage an atmosphere that will get students more involved.

In an effort to internally revalorize the somewhat dour appearance of the dorms, other changes are on the drawing board. Betts plans to increase

the number of video games in the arcade room, add more computers and get the dorms connected to the Internet.

While Betts admits that it may take time to achieve these lofty goals, he remains optimistic. "This is a brand new day," he said.



## College texts:

### Some tips to help you buy them--and keep money in your pocket too

By Colleen DeBaise  
College Press Service

University of Iowa freshman Sharon Monaghan had just trudged back to her dorm room with a heavy sack of textbooks and a mild case of sticker shock.

"This one book alone cost \$40," said Monaghan, pointing to a text for a music appreciation class. "I couldn't believe it."

On average, college students spend about \$600 each school year on books and supplies, according to Martha Love, information analyst for the National Association of College Stores.

The trick is getting the most for your money, and the association offers a number of tips for shopping wisely at the campus bookstore.

In particular, freshman might be startled by the costs of textbooks on their first book-buying trip, Love said.

"Up until college, you go to school, your textbooks are there," she said. "There's no previous buying experience with that."

The association has conducted surveys and found that by senior year, many students have devised strategies to save money on books, Love said.

Freshman, on the other hand, "were much more compelled to buy anything the professor said," she said.

"Freshmen don't know the town and what other options they may have," Michelle Riche, a University of California-Santa Cruz junior, said. "On my campus there is the mega-bookstore that charges top dollars for books. First-year students are more likely to go there because they want to make sure they buy the right issue of a book."

But after two years on campus, Riche said she is more likely to check out other avenues. For example, at California-Santa Cruz, there is an independent student organization and a local bookstore that sell some textbooks.

Love said there are two schools of thought when it comes to buying books for class.

Some students recommend going to class first, before you buy your books. That way, you might discover that a roommate or friend is in the same class and could share a book with you, Love said.

Also, check with friends to see if they've taken the course. Ask if they'll lend you their textbook, or if the book was needed, she said.

Going to class first also gives the student a chance to question the professor about whether the textbook really will be used, she said. A student should ask if an older--and usually cheaper--edition can be substituted, or if a copy has been placed on reserve at the library.

If a professor is using a newer edition in the classroom, Riche said she'll just ask a student what section they're on if the page numbers don't match up. "Usually the material doesn't change that much," she added.

The other school of thought is that by hitting the bookstore early, before classes start, a student can get the least-worn used books, pay less money and beat the long lines, Love said.

Riche said she recommends students buy their books early. "First, the lines are absolutely amazing," she said. "If you buy books early, there's usually more used texts available. That saves money."

But make sure you find out first if your store will accept returns of used books without a drop/add card, Love said.

## Internet 'Indecency' ban stricken

College Press Service

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Justice Department announced in July it would fight a Philadelphia federal court decision that ruled a law banning "indecent" material on the Internet unconstitutional.

The Justice Department notified the Supreme Court it will appeal the federal court ruling, handed down by a three-judge panel June 12.

"The Internet may be regarded as a never-ending, worldwide conversation," the judges wrote then. "The government may not... interrupt that conversation."

The decision had been hailed as the first major step in creating federal rules for the worldwide computer network.

Now, Internet users and free-speech advocates could face more months of uncertainty over what can be transmitted on the network in the United States. Even if the Supreme Court agrees to hear the appeal, a final decision is not expected until next year.

The case stems from a measure in the Telecommunications Act, signed into law by President Clinton on Feb. 8, which made the transmission of "indecent" material punishable by a jail term or \$250,000 fine.

After its passage, the American Civil Liberties Union and 55 other groups immediately filed a suit, arguing the new law violated free-speech rights. Group such as the Student Press Law Center were concerned with the law's potential impact on online college newspapers, which often take risks with their content.

Educators also were worried that topics such as abortion or sex, and even some classical works, could not be discussed on the Internet.

However, those in favor of Internet restrictions, such as Sen. James Exon, D-Neb., said the law protects children while preserving the First Amendment rights of adults.

"It's wrong to hand out pornography to children on a street corner, and it's wrong to do it in cyberspace as well," Exon said.

That way you can return the book if you don't need it.

As far as whether to buy books early or wait until classes start, "It depends on the student. It's what you want to do," Love said. "You can save either way."

Other tips from the association:

■Be careful to distinguish between "required" and "optional" textbooks. Usually the information is on the shelf tag or book list. Don't buy optional books until you attend the first class. At that time, ask the instructor how much the text will cost.

■Find out your store's refund policy. How long do you have to return a text? Are new and used books returnable? And don't take books out of the shrink wrap until you find out whether the school will take opened packages back.

■Don't write in new books until you're sure you will keep them. Even if you've only written your name, many stores will not give you a full refund if there are any inkspots on them.

## How's Your Steak?



With  
John Henry Biederman

## The persnickety press conference pandemonium

Another week, another trashy column. I was sitting at my desk, wondering what to write about when...

"Hey—where's your tie?" It was my 'ol...er, friend, Knuckles Von Chuckler, entering the Chronicle office. "You're dressed like white trash for the press conference!"

"What press conference?"

"Ugh!" Knuckles put his hands over his head and tugged on his own hair. "Didn't you get my message?"

"No..."

"Oh, that's right. He hee. I forgot to call you. But, considering I'm your PR man, I called a press conference so the world could learn about you becoming editor-in-chief."

"You're not my PR man." I rose from my chair, shaking a finger at him.

"Is the New York Times here yet? People?"

"No—and I wouldn't bet on them showing."

"How 'bout Hustler?"

"Hustler?"

"Cat Fancy?"

"Listen here, see. I'm very busy and..."

"Should've expected this." Knuckles said, pulling a cassette recorder from his jacket pocket. "Can't trust the liberal media. You're still a raging, conservative fascist, right? You wearin' that Dole underwear I gave you?"

"No—I never was. And no to the second question to. Why don't you go bother somebody at Inside Journalism in the Michigan building?"

"All right, let's get started. I'm sure the Times'll show any time now." He shoves his tape recorder practically in my nose. "How are you answering critics who say that the Chronicle will suffer in objectivity because a columnist is also editor-in-chief?"

"What critics?"

"Aha! The 'ol 'What are you talking about' ploy. Very good. Use that on the Cat Fancy reporters—they're ruthless. But they may corner ya', so practice answering the question."

"I began writing for the Chronicle as a columnist two years ago—that's my main gig. And how am I going to slant every piece of writing that... Why am I even answering you?"

"Good, good. You're getting angry, so you don't appear nervous." He pulls one of those disposable cameras from his jacket and starts fishing around in another pocket. "Can you pose with this Pat Buchanan doll—just to show that you don't care if the Chronicle takes a right-wing slant?"

"No! And..."

"How did you get this job, anyway? Rumor has it you staged a coup, or slept with somebody or something."

"A coup?"

"Aha! So who'd you sleep with? Somebody slept with you? And still gave you a job?"

"Get out of here, you bleedin' nutjob!" I circled the desk, hands postured for strangulation. "Get, or I'll...I'll pour this hot coffee on you!" I raised my mug.

"Was it Lightfoot?" He asked. I tossed the contents of my cup in his direction, but he ducked. "No, hmmm. Duff?"

I ran toward the back of the room to the coffee maker, Knuckles following. I grabbed the pot, half-full of steaming java, from the coffee maker.

"I'm only doing this for your own good," he said. "You need to harden that skin of yours."

"I'll give you one more chance to leave, Knuckles, and then you're getting a coffee shower."

"Aha! I knew you were a pervert!"

I flung the pot in his direction. He feigned left, as the darkroom door opened and Photo Editor Natalie Battaglia was nailed with some jo. She shrieked with pain.

"Sorry Nat!" I said, chasing Knuckles into the hall.

"You're a violent guy, you know that? You oughta be on an FBI list—if you're not already," Knuckles said as he mowed down our fashion reporter, Melissa. "What kind of conservative won't pose with a... Aha! You're a liberal, ain't ya'?" he said, holding his recorder up and behind him as he ran. "You're attacking me because I'm a white, hetero- guy—and you whiny '90s liberals can't criticize anyone else! So that's how the paper's gonna be slanted!"

I hit him right in the buttocks with a stream of coffee, sending him whimpering down the stairs.

"I'll be back!"

## Unabomb suspect may have been inspired by Conrad novel

By College Press Service

WASHINGTON—A Joseph Conrad novel about a mad professor who shuns academia and builds a bomb may have inspired Unabomber suspect Ted Kaczynski, the Washington Post reported.

Kaczynski, a former math professor indicted in four Unabomber attacks, read Conrad's "The Secret Agent" about a dozen times, federal authorities and his family members told the Post.

The novel, published in 1907, is about a mad professor who lives in a

tiny room and fashions a bomb to destroy an observatory referred to as "that idol of science."

Kaczynski's primitive, one-room shack in the Montana hills was much like the protagonist's "hermitage," according to the Post.

Even before Kaczynski's arrest, FBI agents had noted striking parallels between the Unabomber suspect, who targeted science and technology experts, and Conrad's mad professor, who held a scathing contempt for science, according to the Post.

FBI agents reportedly sent a copy of

"The Secret Agent" to scholars last summer in an effort to identify the mysterious killer who eluded them throughout an 18-year mail-bombing spree.

The attacks, many of which targeted university professors, killed three and maimed 23 others.

The Post also reported that federal agents believe Kaczynski used the alias "Conrad" or "Konrad" while staying at hotels in the Sacramento area, where he allegedly went on three occasions to send mail bombs.



## Global understanding... Bridging the foreign gap

—Follow Leon Tripplett as he bridges the global gap next week with the first of a series on international students:  
Symon Ogetho from Kenya, Africa.



## PEOPLE

KNOW

By Mema Ayi  
Copy Editor

## Who is he?

Al Parker is the chairperson of the Radio/Sound department and the voice of the "Welcome to the Columbia College Phone-Mail Answering System" greeting.

Earlier this year, Al was honored with a fundraising gala at the Museum of Broadcast and Communications, complete with a scholarship established in his name to commemorate his 50th year at Columbia.

During most of his 50 years at Columbia, Al has worked simultaneously as an announcer for WLS-TV, and as a freelancer for other broadcast advertisers.

## How did he get into radio?

"Radio chose me." When Al was in high school, he began announcing and doing voice overs for NBC Radio. And before he was 16 he was narrating radio programs.

## What he loves about Columbia?

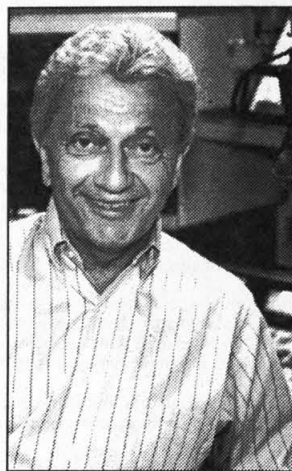
"Columbia's strength is directly related to its teaching staff. The faculty here is challenged more than at other colleges and universities. There isn't a textbook that can even come close to matching the kind of experience we have here on staff."

## On 50 years at Columbia:

Originally, Al started teaching at Columbia for walking around money. He had a wife and small children, so he needed the "extra bucks." Al's gratification is no longer financially driven. He said he is amazed that his work over the years has paid off and produced an upstanding department that has made it possible for many students, including Bob Sirot and Pat Sajak to become successful. Al hopes that through his students his teaching and chairing will go on after he leaves Columbia.



Al  
Parker



Al  
Parker

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# Welcome to Power of Our Rhythm

## The first installment from the Chronicle's new music columnist

By Tim Matthews  
Correspondent

Welcome to the new music column. I'd like to get acquainted with anyone who doesn't have any idea who I am or what this is for (which is probably most of you). I'm a new music columnist for the biggest, well actually the only newspaper on campus. My major is business management with a concentration in music. I'm just a junior, so my column P.O.R. (Power of Our Rhythm) will be here in this peace for a minute.

I'll be bringing you interviews, information on music seminars and conferences, and critiques on new music of all different flavas (hip-hop, r/b, jazz,

gospel, etc.). And if you, the best readers in the world, want to voice an opinion about something written or something which should have been written, you'll have that chance too. Just drop me a line at the Chronicle office, room 802 in the Wabash building, or call my voicemail at 512-1581.

For you local artists who are making a buzz on campus, in clubs and on the street, I'll give you publicity as long as more than one person can vouch for your talent.

Make sure you tune into the hottest tag-team on College radio, Omar (The Phat Kid) on Thursday nights and Davey "Do-Ya" on Friday nights, both from 7-12 p.m. on WCRX, 88.1 FM.

## New Kingdom scores for mixing punk rock, folk

New Kingdom  
"Paradise Don't Come Cheap"  
GeeStreet/Island

Beck and the Beastie Boys have racked up accolades by mixing punk rock and folk music with hip hop rhythms and beats. Now into this fertile new territory stomps New Kingdom, a bracing two-man crew with an equal disdain for genre boundaries and limitations.

"Paradise Don't Come Cheap" is a relentless, gloriously in-your-face affair, with thundering, lurching beats colliding again and again with insistent wah-wah guitars and boozy horns. Jason Furlow and Sebastian Laws punch their raps through distortion devices and over an edgy assortment of feedback squawks and squeals.

Lyrical, much of "Paradise" addresses a reliable old topic—the road trip as a journey both physical and mental—but with a hip hop and indie rock sensibility. That means there's time for a touch of social commentary ("Infested"), and plenty of wiggled-out lines about unicorns and even the "Hey you guys!" tagline from the old "Electric Co." kids TV show.

New Kingdom has created some inspired mayhem here, music that is funky yet experimental, dangerous yet funny and thoughtful.

Gastr Del Sol  
"Upgrade & Afterlife"  
Drag City

Bored silly by the three-chord antics of 10,000 Green Day wannabes, a growing number of musicians have decided that they won't continue flogging what they see as the dead horse of rock-'n'-roll, and have moved on to another beast altogether.

This experimental music, influenced by avant-garde jazz and wholly unconcerned with pop basics like choruses and hooks, has been dubbed "post-rock" by rock critic types. Whatever you call it, though, Gastr Del Sol is among its leading lights and the band's "Upgrade & Afterlife" offers an intriguing introduction to the genre.

Rather than being built upon traditional rock-'n'-roll rhythms, the music on "Upgrade" floats by unsteadily on a series of strange and intoxicating sounds.

Sparse acoustic guitars and piano lines lay foundations for off-beat effects like the ringing of an

old-fashioned alarm clock and trumpets that could come straight out of a Spanish bullfight. A number of the songs are instrumentals; those that aren't feature opaque lyrics delivered in quavering vocals that also hang in the air.

While that might seem simply bizarre, the overall effect is quite captivating. "Upgrade & Afterlife," like most post-rock, isn't for everyone. But those looking for real "alternative" music would do well to check it out.

Drag City, P.O. Box 476867,  
Chicago IL 60647.

D Generation  
"No Lunch"  
Columbia

Scruffy and brash, bawling out their lines like a pack of alley cats, the boys in D Generation can't be surprised by all the comparisons to their legendary hometown forefathers, the New York Dolls.

But this crew is too smart to mimic the Dolls' sound too closely. Instead they rev it up with the kick of '90s-style punk, pushing tracks like "She Stands There" into overdrive.

Elsewhere, on the soaring "Capital Offender," they conjure up the ghosts of the pop geniuses in Cheap Trick.

They're not doing anything radically new here, but these guys sure sound like they're having fun while they're at it.

George Clinton and the Mothership, along with Bootsy Collins, landed at the Riviera nightclub to a sell-out crowd. He put the flava into the joint with his old school hits like "We Want the Funk," "Atomic Dog" and "Flashlights," and got the crowd jumpin' with his new beats like "If Anybody Gets Funked Up" and "Summerswim." The Parliament also have been making some other noise this summer guest starring on Too Short's first single "Gettin It," off his double platinum album of the same title.

If you are throwing a party and you need one of the phat-test D.J.'s in Chi-town to rock the joint, consider D.J. Ravi (488-6173). No matter what music you're into, he's got it in his crates.

For you concertgoers out there, who need to fill your planbook up some more in October, take notice as I give it to ya!! On October 3rd, rappers Jay-Z, Foxy Brown, and Smooth will perform at the Clique nightclub, located at 23rd and Michigan. At the same location on October 4th, singer/songwriter Donnel Jones, whose killing us softly with his remake of Stevie Wonder's "You Should Know," will perform. Also that night check out Ann Nesby of Sounds of Blackness fame, whose first solo effort this year is getting rave reviews. Here's the rest of the special schedule:

Oct. 3— Hip-hop groups Goodie Mob and De La Soul, along with songwriter/producer Dallas Austin's alternative group Fishbone will be at the

Cubby Bear.

Oct. 5— Meet-n-Greet at Georges Music Rm, 3907 W. Roosevelt Rd., with rappers Sadat X (Brand Nubian fame) and Xhibit (Alcoholics) from 12-4 p.m.

Oct. 13— Columbia recording artist Maxwell will be at the Park West in a concert sponsored by Jam Productions.

Oct. 15— No location has been set, but Toni Braxton and Kenny G will be swinging through town for the "Secrets" national tour.

Oct. 26-28— Rap sensation E-40 and his boy B-Legit will be making rounds through local record stores, and there is even talk of a Playas ball. Listen out!

This summer saw Chicago host the 5th

annual Midwest Radio Music Business Conference at the Swiss Hotel. It was put together by Jerome Simmons of BRE (Black Radio Exclusive). New artists such as the singing trio Goodfellows off A/M records, and Copia soloist Symbryt represented well.

The industry still mourns the death of one of hip-hop's greatest lyricists, Tupac Shakur (a.k.a. 2Pac), who died two weeks ago as a result of injuries inflicted from a gunshot wound. He will be sorely missed.

Lastly, the bomb new music out includes the High School High Soundtrack, and Tevin Campbell's "Back to the World." Peace out and much love!



Rapper Tupac Shakur

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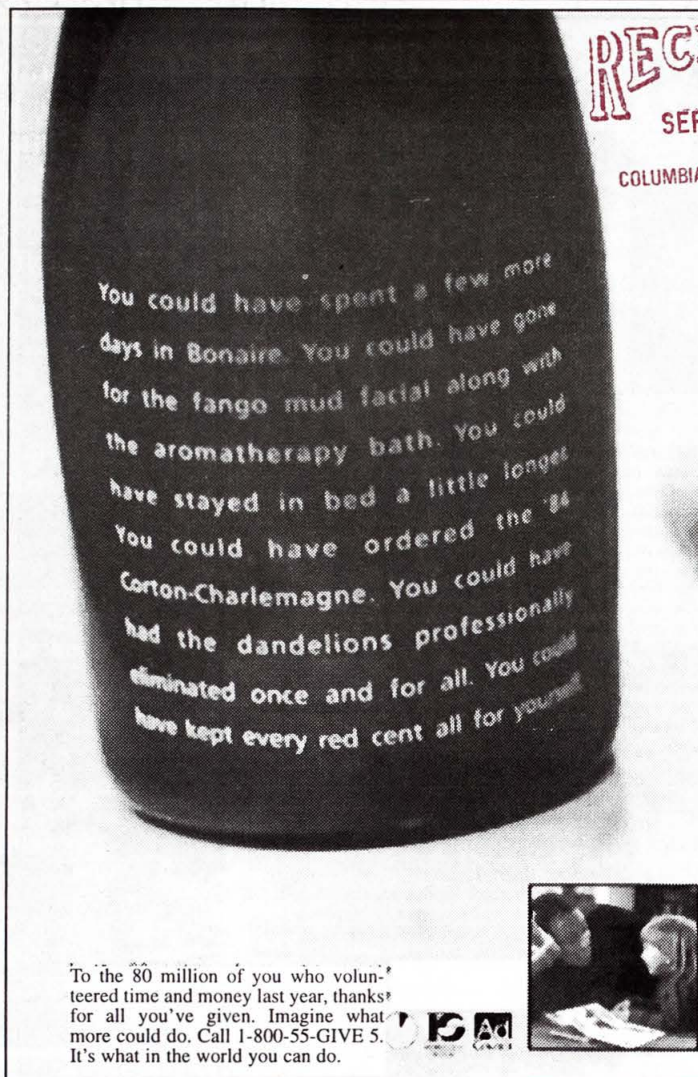
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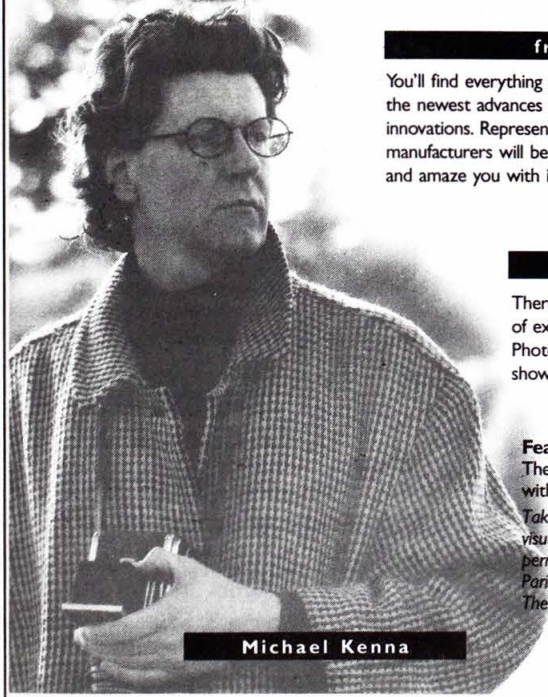
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# The chief cause of our problems with Iraq: ourselves

Stephan Portugal



On Sept. 3 and 4, American bombers and warships fired 31 tomahawk cruise missiles on what could nominally be called "strategic targets." The missile attacks were in response to the Iraqi troop violation of crossing the 36th parallel in northern Iraq. The area is a free fly zone under the protection of the United States and has been engulfed in factional warfare which has taken thousands of lives. Mainly through the CIA, the U.S. government has spent at least 900 million dollars in an attempt to unite an anti-Saddam coalition to topple his regime, a policy that has been a hopeless failure.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, which believes in an independent state for the Kurdish people, was receiving money and supplies from Iran, a country that lost a

seven-year war with Iraq at the cost of at least a million lives. The other member of this Kurdish family feud is the Kurdish Democratic Party, which advocates a Kurdish state within the country of Iraq. This faction invited Saddam, the man who eight years ago ordered 5,000 Kurds to be gassed to death, into the city of Erbil which was occupied by the Patriotic Union. The leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, Massoud Barzani, justified the invitation by saying that they were merely expelling a foreign enemy from Iraqi territory because they considered themselves to be Iraqi Kurds, not just Kurds.

But was that enough to test the resolve of the United States, especially when Iraq was about to reach an agreement to sell \$2 billion worth of oil to swap food and medicine for

the Iraqi people who are suffering from a U.N. imposed embargo that prevents the Iraqi government from selling oil? Probably not, but that was not all.

There was much more in the city of Erbil than some Iran-backed faction. The CIA headquarters was there, and they had given arms and money to support the Iraqi National Congress. When the CIA escaped right before Iraqi troops entered the town, they left behind hundreds and thousands of dollars of high-tech equipment, including a TV/Radio station that beamed 11 hours of anti-Saddam propaganda. They also left behind the 1,500 members of the Iraqi National Congress, most of whom were killed within hours of the city's occupation.

Now that the opposition is crushed, Saddam has more influence in northern Iraq. Hundreds of millions of our tax dollars have been wasted on trying to oust him, not to mention the estimated 40-billion-dollar-a-year price tag it takes to keep our military there. It makes me wonder why we did not topple his regime when we had a chance.

The worst sufferers are the Iraqi people. First we kill 300,000 of their people, then we leave them with the dictator who has been oppressing them for years. Was the Gulf War even worth all the consequences? If the whole thing was mainly over oil, then we should all switch to electric cars. Then again, we should all switch to electric cars anyway.

Stephan Portugal is a Columbia music major.

## Lunatic Fringe

By David Harrell



Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole has charged, correctly, that teen drug use has skyrocketed during Clinton's watch; that Clinton's "cavalier attitude toward drugs" sets a poor example; that he slashed the office of the drug policy director by 83 percent as soon as he arrived in the White House.

However, the Republican propaganda errs when it charges that "Bob Dole, on the other hand, has made the war on drugs a priority."

Dole has studiously avoided the real drug scandal that could topple Clinton in a second: the fact that Clinton knowingly allowed CIA-run cocaine smuggling to go on right under his nose, in his very own state of Arkansas.

"Boy Clinton," a new book by R. Emmett Tyrell, cites as a source a former Clinton bodyguard who says Clinton was fully aware of the drug activities.

"Compromised: Clinton, Bush and the CIA," by Terry Reed and journalist John Cummings, was published in 1994, revealing that the Mena, Ark. drug-and-gun-running was also Contra-connected. Reed gives ample evidence that he worked as a contract pilot for the CIA in the '80s. When he discovered he was carrying illegal cargo—guns to Central America and drugs back to the U.S.—he quit.

Betsy Wright, who was Clinton's chief of staff when he was governor, stated under oath

that Clinton knew at least as early as 1985. Clinton claimed he did not find out about the activities until 1988. In any case, he did nothing, and has yet to authorize any investigation into the Mena affair.

Some of the drug money was laundered through an Arkansas state agency ostensibly set up to provide loans to small businesses, say investigators and whistle-blower Larry Nichols. Instead, big "loans" went to businesses owned by Clinton cronies—and were never paid back. Much of the money, of course, found its way into Clinton's 1992 campaign.

Ain't America great? Eventually, everyone in Arkansas knew about the Mena drug operation, just like everyone in Chicago used to know about election fraud and graft. Grand juries were convened, and "investigations" began. But nothing ever happened.

Now why on earth would a Republican not seize on such an obvious opportunity to disgrace Clinton, once and for all?

Read "Dope, Inc.," first published in 1979 and revised in 1992. The 1992 edition of this nearly 700-page book details how "three successive U.S. administrations have made their peace with the dope cartel."

Ah! So Republicans are involved too! "While [Reagan's and Bush's] lips were

flapping about the 'war on drugs,'" the book continues, "... White House and CIA officials like National Security Council staffer Oliver North were peddling drugs to covertly finance their favorite secret missions." Including, but not limited to, the funding of the Contras in Nicaragua. (Of course, the Soviet-backed, communist Sandinistas were involved in drug trafficking too, the book says.)

"Dope, Inc.," by the way, was put out by supporters of Democratic gadfly Lyndon LaRouche. Perhaps that explains why the Reagan/Bush administration had LaRouche imprisoned in 1989 on what the book calls "trumped-up conspiracy charges." (Funny how citizens are always conspiring against the government, but oh my, heavens no, God forbid, don't ever suggest anyone in the government could be conspiring against us.)

It wasn't just LaRouche. Former Drug Enforcement Agency agent Michael Levine's "The Big White Lie" was published in 1992. It exposed a street-level agent's frustrating battles with a bureaucracy that always seemed to be undermining his efforts. Levine writes of the infiltration of the DEA by CIA moles who blocked any real investigation into just who was behind the drug cartels.

This is important for those who think the Democrats are the guys in the white hats and the Republicans the villains in the black hats—or vice versa. The 1992 election was a horse race between an old horse and a young horse both owned by the same people. It's also important information for those who argue for the legalization or "regulation" of illicit substances on the grounds that "we're losing the war on drugs."

Of course we're losing. We have yet to start really fighting.

## And now, a word of rebuff from the GOP

*Editor's note: Last week we ran a column from the Democratic Party's National Youth Coordinator. This week, in the interest of fairness, we are running this piece from the Republican National Committee. Next week (and up until this year's elections), we will run another column from the DPNYC's desk, as the committee has established a weekly column service for college newspapers through the elections.*

The mountain of evidence of Bill Clinton's abject failure in the war on drugs is far too big to sweep under the rug, yet that is precisely what the Administration has attempted to do with a key report during this election year.

Since May, Clinton's new drug czar, Gen. Barry McCaffrey, has suppressed a report that shows drug interdiction, which Clinton has cut about \$620 billion, is the most "successful and cost-effective way of dealing with the nation's drug problem." (The Washington Times, Sept. 26, 1996) The report was commissioned by the Pentagon and delivered May 8 to the Defense Department and Gen. McCaffrey. McCaffrey has refused to release the report.

One of Clinton's first acts as president was to slash the White House Office of Drug Control Policy 83 percent. He cut drug enforcement and cut drug interdiction. Under his presidency, drug prosecutions went down and sentencing for drug crimes went down. His Attorney General argued against minimum sentences for drug criminals. His Surgeon General suggested legalizing drugs. And when asked on MTV, a network watched by millions of America's young people, whether he would inhale marijuana if he had it to do over again, the President himself said, "Sure."

The result? First came the Clinton Administration's own report showing teen drug use has more than doubled on Clinton's watch.

Yesterday came another grim report from the National Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education (PRIDE), showing the teenage drug problem is even worse than the administration reported.

The PRIDE research found more than 1 in 4 high school seniors used drugs weekly; 1 in 10 daily, and that nearly a quarter of all students in grades 6-12 smoked marijuana in the past year—a record.

Now we learn that all this while, another report—just as damning, but also helpful in identifying solutions—has been conveniently covered-up during this election year by the Clinton Administration.

By suppressing release of this report, Clinton has put politics above principle. America's children deserve better. They deserve strong leadership in the war on drugs and the best strategies we can employ to fight it. That's what they'll get from Bob Dole and Republicans.

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# This Is This

Bob Chiarito



## College or corporation?

Last Tuesday marked the first day of the fall semester but judging from the appearance of many students, it could have easily been Halloween. Although the students looked like circus freaks and ghouls, the administration wasn't giving out any candy. In fact, many students were tricked, rather than treated.

That's because many classes that they waited hours in line to register for were canceled.

After months of lobbying for approval, the English Department canceled instructor Fred Gardaphe's "Italian American Experience," a class focused on Italian American literature. Gardaphe did teach the class once, in 1991, but since then the class either has not been offered or has been cancelled.

The cancellation of Gardaphe's class was only one of many cancellations around Columbia. Three were axed from both the Liberal Arts and Science and Math Departments, but it was the Music Department that had the largest amount cut with 15. There were cancellations in virtually every department and while most cuts were made because of low enrollment, making business sense for Columbia, some students were left in dire straits.

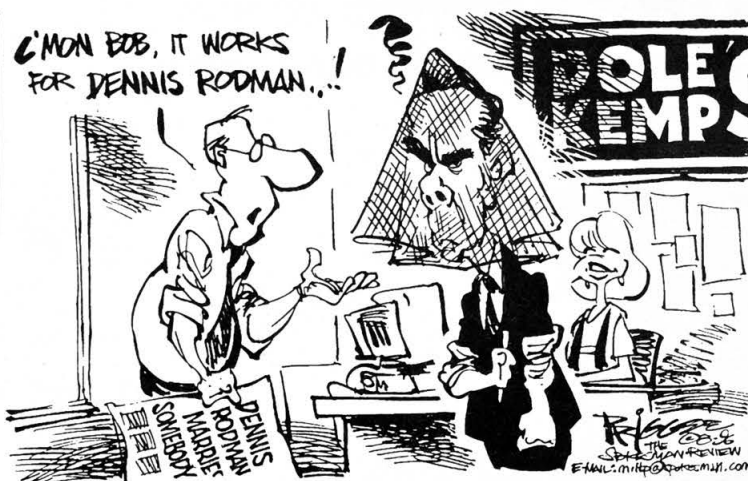
Luckily for students, many teachers are willing to accommodate them by teaching them the canceled course on a one on one basis as an independent study. That's what Gardaphe has opted to do, as well as Journalism instructor Carolyn Hulse.

Hulse's business reporting class, "The Business Beat," was canceled because only two students enrolled. Over the last few years "The Business Beat" has been plagued by low interest, although after taking it last year I can say that it was one of my favorite classes at Columbia. Hulse told me that she wants to try and get it required for journalism majors, starting next year.

For now, the always-generous Hulse is teaching the class (for no pay) to the two students who were stifled under the guise of an independent project. That's right, Hulse, like all full-time faculty who want to teach an independent study, is not getting paid for her work. Part-timers do get paid, but the amount is so low that it is almost an insult.

According to Mike DeSalle, Columbia's Vice President of Finance, part-time faculty (who teach most of Columbia's classes) are paid around \$1,400 for every semester long, three-hour class they teach. Students pay \$275 per credit hour, or \$825 for every three hour class. So it doesn't take a genius to figure out that the cost of classes, even those that utilize sophisticated equipment, do not require many students to be covered. And surely some classes are so profitable that they could subsidize those that are not, or at least pay instructors for teaching independent studies.

As for classes that do not attract many students, like Gardaphe's "Italian American Experience" or the Liberal Education Department's "Topics in Social Science: Fashion in Society" (which also was canceled) it is hard to acquire a high enrollment when a class doesn't get a chance to build a reputation. Columbia has the money to run a few classes that are not big-earners, but for now, the students, as well as the faculty of Columbia, will continue to get the short end of the stick.



# An evil shepherd

*The world is governed by very different personages from what is imagined by those who are not behind the scenes.*

—British statesman Benjamin Disraeli

If you haven't been lost in space with Shannon Lucid, you've heard of the big stink involving the Central Intelligence Agency and crack cocaine. And what a stink it is.

It started with a series of articles published last month in the San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News. Reporter Gary Webb had researched the matter for a year. He wrote, in a nutshell, that men employed by the CIA used a San Francisco Bay area drug dealer and the Los Angeles Crips and Bloods gangs to introduce the devastating drug to our streets in the 1980s. The CIA operatives then allegedly used the profits to fund then-President Ronald Reagan's pet secret project: the war against the communist Sandinistas in Nicaragua.

Meanwhile, the drug dealers used their profits to arm the gangs with semiautomatic weapons. Thus began the downward spiral in already crime-ridden inner cities: crack addiction. Death. Crack babies. Death. Destruction of families. Death. Thousands of lives taken in battles over drug turf. Death.

If you're not outraged at the possibility that such an enormous crime might have been committed using your tax dollars, you must be dead yourself.

The question is: Why would anyone be surprised?

Why should we be surprised that those who work under the cloak of secrecy would abuse the secrecy to do illegal things?

Slugs live under rocks, and roaches frolic under the cover of darkness. How could anyone not understand that covert agencies, and government in general, are a magnet for the wicked, lying, conniving slugs and roaches of the world? It amounts to a denial of human nature.

Another analogy from nature: It has been said that the world is composed of 95 percent innocent sheep and 5 percent ravenous wolves. The sheep are naive, you might even say dumb. They are not very fast runners. Worse, they spend most of their time standing around munching on grass, with their heads down—the perfect targets.

The wolves, on the other hand, are quick, slick, clever, conniving and deceitful. They spend most of their time thinking about the delicious lamb chops they'd like for dinner. One of their favorite ruses is dressing up as sheep so they can get in the middle of the flock.

It remains to be seen who will take the blame in this mess (if it is ever investigated). The CIA top leadership and the White House, of course, will likely blame this and other CIA-connected drug scandals on "rogue agents"—just a few guys who got out of control. After all, in covert operations, there is built-in "deniability": The foot soldiers who do the actual dirty work are often kept in the dark about exactly what they are doing, where it fits into the overall plan, and sometimes even who is giving them their orders. Even if they decide to talk to media or law enforcement, they have little to talk about. They may not even know who their direct superiors are or where their orders are coming from, it's easy for the bigwigs at the top to distance themselves from misdeeds of the guys on the bottom rungs.

However, regardless of where this scheme originated, it is clear that persons at "high levels"—meaning the White House and the National Security Council—looked the other way while America's cities were being devastated. And our so-called "leaders" must be held accountable.

It's time for the sheep to wake up.

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Ryan Healy



## The long and the short of it

My eyes turn up toward the ceiling, focusing on the shelf which rests just below it. Quickly scanning the office supplies which are piled up recklessly, I spot what I am searching for: coffee filters. I take a deep breath, gather my concentration, and slowly thrust my arm into the air, extending it to the fullest as if I were reaching for the heavens themselves.

The box of filters is two inches out of reach, now one inch; I can almost feel the box in my hands. Now I am grunting and heaving and breathing heavily like a maniacal demon and my arm feels like it may rip out of its socket at any moment. "C'mon," I'm thinking. "C'mon. Just a little bit higher. Almost there. Damn!" I give up. My arm falls limply to my side. The filters have challenged me and I have lost and I can hear them laughing at me.

Defeated, I swallow my pride and ask one of my co-workers to reach them for me. Ah, the travails of being short in a tall society.

Being a short person is something I've had to deal with my whole life, and it hasn't been particularly fun. Short people are constantly discriminated against in our society. For example, most athletic teams don't want us because we are too short, many members of the opposite sex don't want us because of our vertical problem, the elite won't let us participate in presidential debates, we cannot shop in Big and Tall stores, and we are often kicked out of movie theaters for drinking and smoking.

Furthermore, we are subjected to endless name calling. I've been called every name in the book: shorty, shortcake, stumpy, midget, asshole, loser, poseur, son-of-a-bitch, and those are just the beginning. Why the ridicule? Please stop. You're really upsetting me.

But instead of dwelling on the negative aspects of being short, I have embraced the positive. I can weave through crowds of people like an indy racer, making hairpin turns around tall people and underneath their arms. Most of them never know what happened. In a jam-packed car, I can fit snugly into a tiny spot while tall people struggle and complain and try to get comfortable. But perhaps the greatest benefit of being short is my proximity to the earth. I'm much closer to it than you tall people, and therefore I have a stronger connection to it than you. Ha! Ha! I'm more earthy than you. You might argue that you are closer to the sky, but my head is in the clouds most of the time anyway.

There was a time when I wished I was tall, until I realized what that would make me: a conformist. You see, tall people fit in well in our capitalist society because they have been suckered into embracing materialistic values. Case in point: Tall people cannot fit comfortably into small, compact cars, so they buy bigger cars. Bigger cars lead to bigger TV's, bigger couches, then bigger houses, more land, on and on until they are completely out of control. I hate the greedy bastards.

In conclusion, I will say that I am proud to be short. I have come to terms with my challenge and it has made me a stronger person. No longer will I let my problem stand in the way of my goals, aspirations and dreams. I'm going to strive to be the best short person I can be, because I love me. God bless America. Thanks for tuning in.



# 'La Negra Ester' sparks Latino Cinema

By Kimberly Watkins  
Features Editor

Ah, the trials and tribulations of another prostitute with a heart of gold. This fall season, Chicago Latino Cinema and Columbia College present "La Negra Ester," a love story lured towards doom right from the beginning.

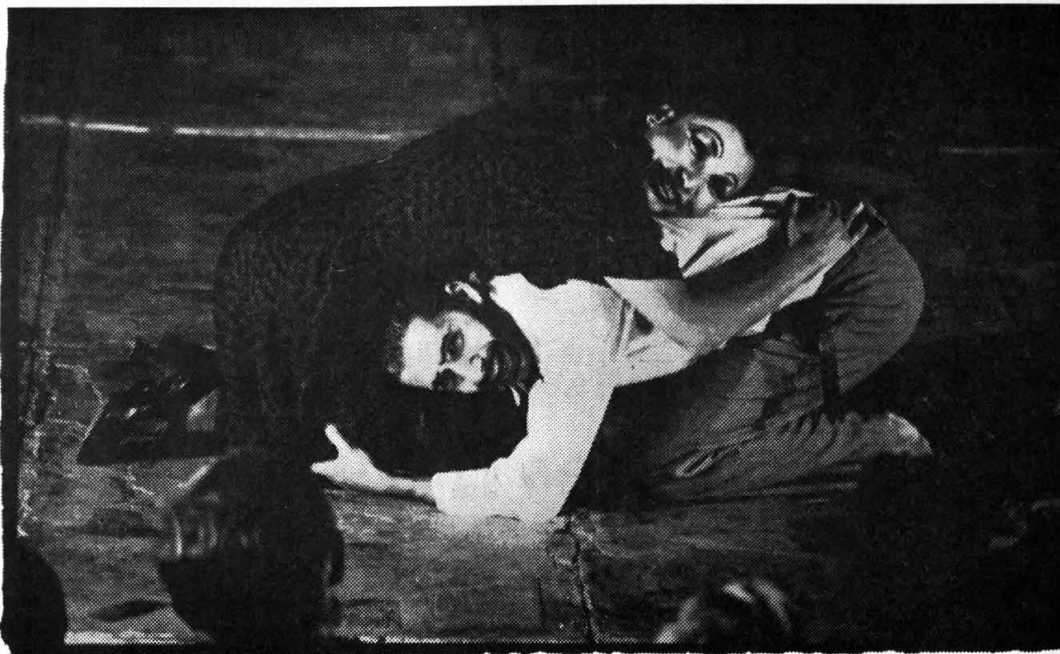
Based on the poem "Las Decimas de la Negra Ester" by Chilean poet, singer, composer and playwright Roberto Parra, "La Negra Ester" is an account of Parra's life and love. It takes place in a San Antonio 1940's brothel. The title character, La Negra Ester, is the beautiful prostitute desired by all the men. Roberto, too, falls in love with Ester, but is rejected and mocked for being poor. La Negra, here and in Latino culture, means dark-skinned one. It is a term of endearment and warmth.

In a time where political and military strife were and still is a fact of life in Chile, many have regarded "La Negra Ester" as a Godsend. Most of Chilean theater was political in content. "La Negra" is the love story that Chile needed. Theater in Chile is now referred to as pre- and post- "La Negra Ester."

Director Andres Perez Araya gives the play its spark and the actors give it the spunk. Often called folk or street theater, this technique can also be referred to as *commedia dell'arte*. The style encompasses broad and blunt humor with extreme makeup, including highly-arched eyebrows and exaggerated facial contortions.

Roberto eventually wins Ester over, only to leave her because he feels he doesn't deserve his happiness. In fact, he ends up giving her away to another man. Call it a new version of *Romero and Julieta*. The play is performed in Spanish, but is easy to follow with the supplied English synopsis. The play has achieved worldwide success in Los Angeles, London, Paris, Venice and Montreal.

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Forbidden love takes center stage in "La Negra Ester." The play is performed by Chilean theater group Gran Circo Teatro in cooperation with Chicago Latina Cinema and Columbia College.

Latino culture among Latinos and other communities has been a mission of Chicago Latino Cinema since its beginning in 1987. Films, theater, education, video events and other art forms are just a few of the ways CLC carries out its commitment. It answered the need presented from the Chicago Latino Film Festival, which began in 1985.

The Film Festival started with only 14 films projected onto a concrete wall with an audience of less than 500. It has since grown into a welcoming festival to all communities with over 100 films attracting over 25,000 movie-

goers to theaters all over the Chicago area. With the help of CLC, the countries of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Spain Uruguay and Venezuela get to showcase their art to Chicago and the world.

"La Negra Ester" begins October 2 - 5 at the Getz Theater, 72 E. 11th St. Each performance starts at 7 p.m. General admission is \$20. Chicago Latino Cinema members pay \$15. Call (312) 431-1330 to reserve your tickets.

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# The Cardigans lend a warm, fuzzy feeling

By Rob England  
Copy Editor

As a music lover, there is no thing I fear more. Not a face-to-face encounter with Courtney Love, not a Milli Vanilli reunion, not even having Michael Bolton, John Tesh and Kenny G as permanent house guests. No, there is nothing on God's green earth I fear more than a Swedish music group.

So when I was asked to review the new album by Sweden's latest darlings, The Cardigans, I imagined the worst. Abba jumped on the stage in my brain and performed "Dancing Queen" in their matching pantsuits. Then Ace of Base joined them for an impromptu group rendition of "The Sign." I felt a tear come to my eye. I was scared, very scared.

But as soon as I began listening to The Cardigans' "First Band on the Moon," those tears of fear turned into tears of joy.

The singer's voice was sweet like cotton candy, the music light and bubbly like a good champagne. It gave me a warm and fuzzy feeling, just like the wool variety of sweater that shares the band's name. The music was like a time warp to a better time where

everyone was happy. A point in time where, as a music critic, I am largely unfamiliar with.

Like their American debut, "Life," "First Band on the Moon" is full of kitschy 60's pop that is unique in today's music world. It may not be the most original music in the

world, but it's definitely different.

The album's lead off tune, "Your New Cuckoo," climaxes with a flute solo as Singer Nina Persson sings jubilantly about heartbreak after heartbreak. What makes this band so different is that they sound so

damn happy. The subject matter often involves the loss of love and other matters of the heart, but the music keeps the overall feeling upbeat. It is as though they refuse to let the world get them down.

That is why this album is so enjoyable. Listening to The

Cardigans is actually fun.

They make you want to get up and dance. "First Band on the Moon" is like an exciting night on the town. From the beatnik bar sound of "Your New Cuckoo" and "Choke," to the disco floor for "Lovefool," then home to bed for the lullaby feel of "Heartbreaker" and "Great Divide."

And for that odd event that makes the night stand out, The Cardigans throw in a truly strange cover song.

It seems as though The Cardigans are obsessed with, of all groups, Black Sabbath. On "Life" they covered "Sabbath Bloody Sabbath" and this time they take a stab at the Beavis and Butthead favorite, "Iron Man."

Gone are the driving guitars and Ozzy's howl. Replacing them are a nice relaxed groove and the seductive crooning of "Ooh, Iron Man." The song is so different from the original, it would go unnoticed as a cover if not for the album's liner notes.

And that's what gives The Cardigans their charm. They're different. In a music world full of sour apples they're the sweet peach that is so refreshing.



The Cardigans

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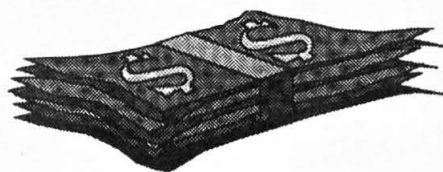
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# Baldwin sleeps through 'Curdled'

By John Clorus III  
Correspondent

Reb Braddock, co-screenwriter and director, and John Mass, co-screenwriter and producer, made the original thirty minute short film "Curdled" through Florida State University in 1991. During its screening at the Noir In Mystery and Suspense Film Festival in Viareggio, Italy, the filmmakers met Quentin Tarantino who loved the film and brought in funding for the feature length version of "Curdled."

This film boasts big names such as Angela Jones, who you might remember as Bruce Willis' cab driver in "Pulp Fiction." William Baldwin (A.K.A. Billy Baldwin) from the popular Baldwin family, Daisy Fuentes of MTV, Barry Corbin from "Northern Exposure," and Mel Gorham who appeared in "Smoke" and "Blue in the Face." Other familiar names in the credits are Quentin Tarantino, executive producer, and Slash from Guns-N-Roses who took part in writing the music.

Based on the short film, the feature length version did not have enough plot, story, or comedy to keep me interested for an hour-and-a-half. Though short on laughs, the idea for "Curdled" is amusing: Gabriela (Angela Jones), who has a passion for reading about grisly murders becomes a cleaning woman for the Post Forensic Cleaning Service, a cleaning service that goes to murder sites after they have been investigated. Infatuated with her new job, Gabriela quickly sees an opportunity to clean up after her favorite serial killer, the Blue Blood Killer

(William Baldwin).

One night, after spending the day cleaning the home of one of his victims, she returns to investigate for herself and figure out the last actions of the victim. The film climaxes as the Blue Blood Killer appears and confronts Gabriela.

Angela Jones' performance is consistent throughout the film as a happy-go-lucky bubble gum chewing sweetheart who enjoys reading up on homicides. Personally, I did not like the direction she went with the character. I feel it was very silly and she showed no range in emotions which made the character unreal.

William Baldwin on the other hand did absolutely nothing with his character. Not only was there no range in his performance, but motivation was lacking to explain his actions. While pretending to be slick and sexy, Baldwin forgot to play the other part of his roll, the serial killer. Uninteresting and undynamic, William Baldwin's attempt to fit in with the Independents was a failure.

"Curdled" will be released in Chicago on October 4th.

## First Wives Club

Based on the book "First Wives Club," the movie is a misguided attempt to show the frustrations of married middle-aged women experiencing their first divorce. The film fails to make the characters serious about anything of any moral value. In its politically correct dialogue and array of

stereotypical characters, the film avoids any potential to make a statement on the issues it safely jokes about.

The three main players are typecast directly from their public images: Goldie Hawn as a blonde, flighty, outrageous actress, Bette Midler as an overweight, loud, obnoxious housewife, and Diane Keaton as a neurotic, insecure, therapist loving W.A.S.P. Keaton gives a wonderful performance as a woman who becomes successful on her own and is now becoming insecure as she is divorced by her husband. The comedy in this film works because of Keaton's ability to play off the other actors, and in turn, them playing off her. She is impeccable in the physical slapstick routines that are so well executed.

Not so impressive is Bette Midler's depending on past comedy acts for motivation. A cliché and formulated performance from beginning to end, her comedy routines of the '80s were funnier and more meaningful.

Goldie Hawn is somewhat predictable in her roll, yet she does add a little spice to the character. Her best scenes in the film are with Elizabeth Berkley who plays an up and coming version of Hawn's character at a much younger age. Berkley is hilarious and perfectly cast for the few moments she is in the film.

All in all, director Hugh Wilson of Police Academy fame ruins the film with '90s humor that waters the film down and drowns out attention from the theme.

"First Wives Club" is currently in release.

## Cornell Students Invent Flavored Coffee Stirrers

By College Press Service

ITHACA, N.Y.—Why throw away your coffee stirrer when you can eat it?

That's the idea behind "Stir-Ins," edible coffee stirrers invented by a team of Cornell University students, who recently won a national award for their invention.

The product, for which the university will seek a patent, is a cookie wrapped in chocolate and topped with hazelnut, french vanilla, Irish creme or another flavor that dissolves when stirred into hot coffee. Once the coffee is stirred, the java drinker can enjoy a crunchy, chocolate-dipped cookie.

"We could hear it crunch! Yes!" said Kathryn Deibler, a Cornell graduate student and member of the 12-student team, describing the judges' correct use of the cookie.

The Cornell inventors won an annual student food product competition held over the summer at the Institute of Food Technologies in New Orleans.

This year, Cornell's "Stir-Ins" faced competition from second-place "Harvest Moons" (University of Minnesota), and third-place "Biscuit Bakes" (Kansas State University).

Other entries included "Skooschos" (Iowa State University), "Jungle Pals" (Michigan State University), and "The Bagelrito" (University of California at Davis).

Cornell is a repeat winner. Last year, it brought home the gold with its toaster-ready "Pizza Pop-ups."

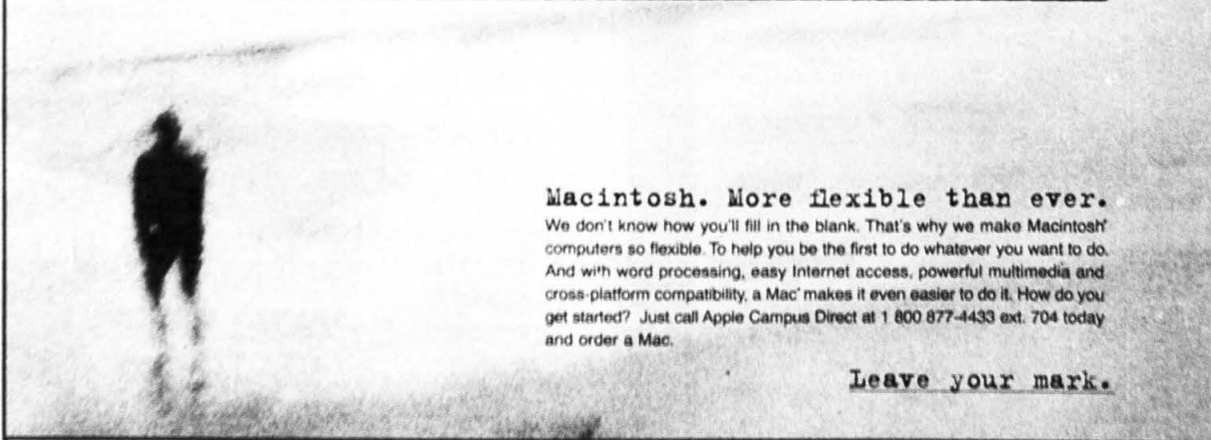
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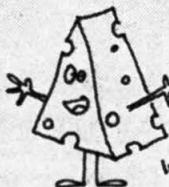


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POTATOE

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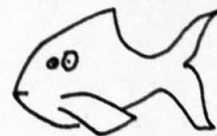
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> can i ask you something, and don't take this *wrong*, but, why would I go out with you when i've watched you ask out like 10,000 different girls around here?



that is a slight *exaggeration*, i think. <

> is it?

i haven't *slept* with any of them. <



✓ remember kids! next week, bring a date and redeem your coupon! and give her one or two for me. Heck, give her one for John too!

( Hey! You spell it right! )



# Hilfiger madness: Do you have it?

By Melissa Wendel  
Fashion Writer

TOMMY, TOMMY, TOMMY! Everywhere I look I see people wearing Tommy Hilfiger. On suburbanites, South-Siders, North-Siders, college students, my teenage brothers, my two-year-old brother and my father, which is definitely the last straw! However, I have come to accept the fact that everyone wears Tommy. And if you can relate to the Tommy overkill, watch out because Tommy's women's lines are about to hit a runaway near you. Look out Ralph, or should I say Calvin, here comes Tommy!

Over the summer, WWD headlines read "Here's Tommy," across the front page, "Hilfiger's Pay Leaps 65% to \$6.5 million," and "Tommy's Girl: Tommy's Encore." I have to say the man is hot. But my question is why?

Do not get me wrong. I like Tommy. He is a very personable and charming man, and I like his stuff. His ad campaigns are done well and he definitely is on top of the business. I met him four years ago when the Columbia College Fashion Association, brought him to Columbia as the guest designer for "Fashion Columbia." At that time, I, like many other unaware people, had never heard of the man. However, after I spent the day with Tommy, it was obvious that he was going to be a star. But huge?

The Hilfiger Corp. recently moved into the top three retail apparel money-earning race. His pay was only topped by the CEO of Federated Department Stores, a huge client of his, and the CEO of the Warnaco Group. Hilfiger himself earned \$6.5 million and a discretionary bonus of \$800,000, stated in the July 9 issue of WWD.

Keep in mind that this is before his women's lines have even hit the stores. Tommy's long-awaited women's jeans and sportswear are due out any day now for fall. He had intended for them to hit the stores four years ago. Then last March, when he finally presented his women's lines to his partners and other experts in the field, they voted against it and sent Tommy and his designers back to the drawing board. Their reason being it was too focused around jeans and too label-heavy, but to my observation that is what Tommy Hilfiger is all about, isn't it?

Anyway, I have seen pictures of his women's lines, and there is no doubt about it, the line's are filled with great pieces. But, realistically, will it sell over and above with stores like The Gap and The Limited, not to mention all the other designer's women's-

lines? The answer is yes! Forty-five million dollars in booking alone have already been pre-sold. In this case pre-sold means the merchandise has sold before it is even completed.

The lines are wide. They include your basic chinos and "All American" sweaters, in addition to a professional attire and a dab of fashion, in which he breaks out the stretch and techno fabrics. His price point is bridge, which, in other words, is affordable to students if they save, really want it, or will settle for only one or two small pieces and skip a dinner or two. Of course, I am only talking about those who have been cut off by daddy and left without his credit cards.

Tommy's future plans include his "encore," as WWD calls it, of Tommy's Girl, a new women's fragrance that will hit the stores this fall with his lines. He also plans to launch a higher priced women's sportswear line this spring in New York, open an amphitheater, where he will build his own runway, a women's footwear line, a separate active wear women's line and a women's golf line for spring of '98.

There is definitely a lot happening at the Tommy Hilfiger Corp. So for all you fashion, marketing, advertising, public relations, photography or art majors who are getting ready to graduate, send your resumes.

Please, write me and let me know your opinions of Tommy and why his business is skyrocketing. Or even simpler, why do you wear Tommy Hilfiger, or why do you wear what you wear?

At right: Navy and white polar fleece vest over a matte Lycra spandex jersey ski turtleneck and navy cotton stretch twill skirt.



At far left: A camel wool flannel peacoat over an ivory lambswool sweater and dark-dyed cotton denim jeans.

Below: Red cotton cardigan and striped turtleneck over a camel wool flannel skirt.



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## CORRECTION

Last week, my story was mistakenly cut off in the middle of a thought. Here is the last paragraph in full to the story "Definitely Gap" Chicago on verge of fashion explosion:

My feeling about Chicago fashion has always been that it is boring, drab and definitely Gap. I still feel this way, however Chicago has always had a distinct feel and personality and I think that for the first time that very distinct feel and personality I think that for the first time that very distinct personality is about to explode and serve as a major influence on music, dance and especially fashion. Write me if you feel it, too.

-- Melissa Wendel



# 'Narrative' flows from cover to cover

By Kimberly Watkins  
Features Editor

Gather 'round, gather 'round. The story is about to begin. Take a walk through the hall and hear a tale or two or three. The Columbia College Chicago Center for Book and Paper Arts, located on the seventh floor of 218 S. Wabash, is presenting "Narrative Flow." This multimedia exhibit merges the arts of drawing, painting, sculpture and performance that screams an ode to the art of storytelling.

Artist Teresa Pankratz reveals her fear of the creepy and the crawly. "Fear of Spiders" appears in the form of a book. One that stretches out over six feet. It begins with one spider and soon involves a multitude. They sprout from the ceiling, they sprout from the chairs. They emerge from the wallpaper. They're everywhere! She achieves this same effect in "Pas de Deux: A Tale Without Words." Two lovers run towards love, only to be pulled back by heavy duty rope.

NewCity's resident comic Chris Ware lends original boards for his "Acme" comic, featuring Jimmy Corrigan, Pocket Sam, Big Tex and How I Became an Artist. Enter the macabre comic world of Julie Doucet. Some of her "Dirty Plotte" comics are for mature readers only. Bert Menico takes you through "The Many Faces of Polyhead's Life." It includes 15 ink drawings of the four-faced Polyhead as he is fed, wed and put to bed.

"Her Fantasy of Love was Larger than Life" by Hollis Sigler is an thought-provoking piece and commentary on love. A black nightgown and heels lay near a pink chair. The bed is turned down and letters and wine lay on the floor. All is quiet, except for the rustling of the wind one can imagine that comes from an open window. Suicide? We are not told. Riva Lehrer paints a "Chorus." Her mythical self-portrait depicts tattoos of the

over 30 doctors that have operated on her back, slightly revealed through the opening of her hospital gown. Her chorus is one of sadness and solitude.

No object is left unturned or unused in this exhibit, especially in artist Gay Thrush's "Where I Lie." An actual bed and once brass frame immediately catches a visiting eye. The bed quilt is covered with a host of materials, including: a paperweight, a cowboy boot, a teacup, a lock of hair, eight teeth, a pack of Lucky Strikes, a green-haired Troll, and a 45 of Mary Poppin's "Super-Cali-Fragil-Istic." Family photos also adorn the quilt. Thrush computer-generated the photos onto linen through a process called Iris printing that took over 700 hours to complete.

"Patience" and "Nothing Curvy at All About 7" rounded out the multimedia mayhem with performance art. Kate Thomas, a graduate of Columbia's InterArts Program brings a Balthus painting to life in "Patience." Stillness to chaos to stillness again all take place on one stage with two women and one velvet love seat. She performed the piece with Julie Hopkins, a graduate of Columbia's Dance program. Molly Shanahan and Andrew Bird combined dance and violin into a beautiful orchestration called "Nothing Curvy at All About 7."

Steven Tomasula, Steven Farrell and Gregory Halvorson Schreck collaborate on a love story that looks to be something out of a lucid, deranged dream. Writer, photographer and typographer expand the meaning of "tic and toc." "Toc" is an experimentation in the never ending battle between content over form vs. form over content. See who wins out in the multimedia presentation on Friday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Center. "Narrative Flow" will continue through Nov. 1. Hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (312) 431-8612 for more information.

*A cowboy boot, a teacup, a lock of hair, eight teeth, a pack of Lucky Strikes, a green-haired Troll, and a 45 of Mary Poppin's "Super-Cali-Fragil-Istic"... How many items can you find?*

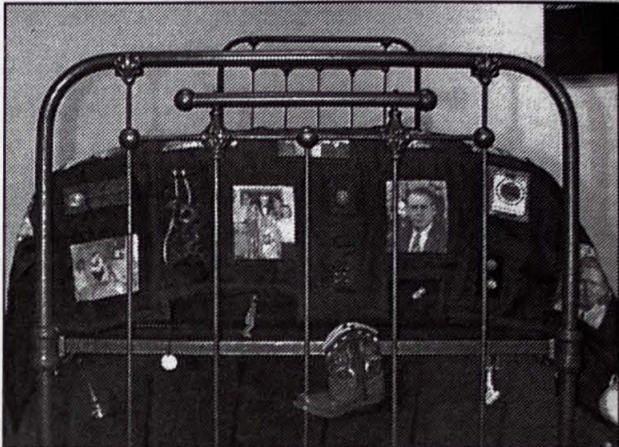


Photo By Natalie Battaglia



TOC is just one of the pieces of intriguing storytelling at Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts. The multimedia presentation takes place on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Center.

## Face Value

By Natalie Battaglia

### What was the wildest thing you did over summer?



**Matt Giblin**  
Radio  
Freshman

Drove five hours and back to see "Weird Al" Yankovic in concert with a friend.



**Trouble Wallace**  
Marketing Comm.  
Senior

I stripped at my boy's wedding (for the ladies of course).



**Aaron Jones**  
Animation  
Senior

I flew to San Francisco, where I know no one and have never been. Stayed there for four days, then left for Chicago to move in two days.



**F. Scott Hawley**  
Graphic Design  
Junior

I ran into Julia Roberts in June while she was filming a movie, and gave her a cigarette and told her the "hot spots" in Chicago. I ran into her again at the beginning of September, and can you believe it? She remembered me!



**Amy Clarkson**  
Graphic Design  
Senior

I went on a road trip cross-country, stopping in Colorado, Arizona and California.



**Marcela Gallo**  
Sound  
Senior

I traveled to Mexico and stayed in different cities for two months by myself and forgot to visit my grandmother.