

5-27-1997

Columbia Chronicle (05/27/1997)

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Recommended Citation

Columbia College Chicago, "Columbia Chronicle (05/27/1997)" (May 27, 1997). *Columbia Chronicle*, College Publications, College Archives & Special Collections, Columbia College Chicago. http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle/385

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THE CHRONICLE

OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOL. XXX, No. 28

May 27, 1997

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Student aid dilemma

Clinton's policy gives students tax break, but questions remain over who really benefits

By Eileen La Valle
Staff Writer
and Rui Keyaya
Copy Editor

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MAY 27 1997

Michelle, a junior student at Columbia, used to receive the Pell Grant—financial aid program based on need—along with other student aid that provided her with a large portion of her tuition costs.

But this year, she is not able to receive any financial assistance from the government. With Columbia's tuition increase, Michelle (who asked to be identified by first name only) now has to work two jobs just to pay for her education.

Though the idea was to make the college education affordable to everyone, critics say that President Clinton's new education plan does not substantially increase the amount of grants available and might not support the very people who need the help.

According to the budget deal reached between the president and the congressional Republicans last week, a tax-cut of \$35 billion over five years will be directed toward the benefit of those paying for higher education.

The deal includes the biggest theme of president's re-election attempt last year: the HOPE scholarship—a \$1,500 per-year tax credit—and \$10,000 tax deduction for those paying higher education costs.

But the concerns of many critics are that such policies would do little to help those who are not attending college now.

"The issue is that it doesn't address the needs for tax breaks for folks who aren't eligible," said John Olino, director of Columbia's Financial Aid Office. "There's a hot potato in Washington because it seems to be favoring those folks with money. I think, in order to get anything done in the democracy, you've got to give everybody a feeling of having their needs addressed."

To help the poor, it would be more effective to focus on the Pell Grant, according to Olino. "Plans that will help those folks from lower income would be increasing Pell Grants, work study and other increases in the need-based financial assistance," said Olino.

The new budget resolution will increase the maximum amount of the Pell Grant by \$300 from \$2,700. But it is \$1.8 billion less than an original proposal made by the president.

The state of Illinois currently provides its own grant, called MAP, which supplies students with \$4,000.

"I think the state of Illinois has done a pretty good job of funding \$4,000," said Olino. "That is one of the highest, if not the highest, state grant in the country. So I'm very pleased with that."

In a letter to the Chronicle, Columbia's president, John Duff, said that he expects the increase in the MAP. "At the state level, at



Photo by Mema Ayi

Nearly half of Columbia's student body receive financial aid.

this writing, it appears that Governor Edgar will sign into law a bill increasing the MAP grant from \$4,000 to \$4,120 for full-time undergraduate students and from \$2,000 to \$2,060 for part-time undergraduates," the letter said.

Olinio says he strongly supports the increase in such increases. "From my perspective, any increase in the grant may help students keep down their debt burden," he said.

However, a study released by two research groups, Washington-based Institute for Higher Education Policy and Education Resources Institute, based in Boston, says that the Pell Grant maximum would be required to grow from current \$2,700 to \$5,000 to match, in real dollars [taking into account inflation and the rise in tuition] its level in 1980.

See Aid, page 2

Survey leaves some students guessing

By Mema Ayi
Managing Editor

An unscientific survey conducted by Jim Sulski's Interpretive Reporting class concluded that, among other things, it's not easy to predict what types of trivia Columbia students excel at.

The Interpretive Reporting class collaborated ideas for the survey, aiming to test students' academic knowledge and that of popular culture. Over 200 students responded to the survey and, on average, survey respondents answered 58 percent of the 12 questions correctly.

Only one student, a Chemistry major, did well on the survey, answering 11 of the 12 questions correctly.

Each popular culture question was paired with an academic question. For instance, naming the five Great lakes (Michigan, Ontario, Erie, Huron and Superior) was paired with naming Snow White's seven dwarfs (Doc, Happy, Sneezy, Dopey, Grumpy, Sleepy and Bashful). Only 50 percent of the respondents surveyed could name all of the Great LWHAT SEEMS TO BE akes and 62 percent could name all of Snow White's

dwarfs.

And how long the castaway's on Gilligan's Island were supposed to have been on tour (three hours) was paired with how many months have 31 days (seven). Surprisingly, only 35 percent of respondents could answer the Gilligan's Island reference while 60 percent knew how many months contain 31 days.

Also surprising, given how much our generation has spent in front of screens big and small, was how many students didn't know who Luke Skywalker's father was (Darth Vader). Seventy-seven percent didn't answer that correctly or its sister question: What number planet is Earth from the sun? (Three) Sixty-six percent couldn't answer that.

But more students knew that Darth Vader was Luke Skywalker's father than knew which president was the first to be assassinated (Lincoln). Sixty-seven percent got the latter one wrong and even more (88 percent) didn't know which

president was a famous actor (Reagan).

The only two Fiction Writing majors to complete the survey were among 70 percent able to answer the most difficult question: Who wrote "Moby Dick"? (Herman Melville), while only 21 percent knew who wrote "Green Eggs and Ham" (Dr. Seuss).

One Television major said that the survey insulted students' intelligence. "This attempt to exploit ignorance displays an arrogance and complete contempt for fellow students which is beyond belief," he said.



Photo by Mema Ayi

Marco Fernandez fills out survey.

Clinton wants Web for college students

By Danielle Hirsch
Senior Writer

When Leo Watters, a chemical engineering major, was assigned a 20-page research paper on Studs Turkel, the first thought that rambled through his head was, "How will I ever get enough information to fill 20 pages?"

Several years ago, Watters would have to go through the tedious job of searching card catalogs and photocopying dozens of magazine or book pages relating to the subject. Now, however, the task of researching is much easier. Just keystrokes away, Watters can access all the information he may ever need. This miracle for college students is the Internet, nicknamed "the Net."

As the Internet is becoming an all important tool, President Clinton proposed Internet access for all higher-education students by the year 2000. In Clinton's plan, states and local communities must ensure that students do not become divided by access to technology. But will his dream become a reality for students? Or

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

Tarini, founder of marketing communications retires after 15 years as marketing chair

By Chuck Jordan
Copy Editor

When John Tarini came to Columbia 15 years ago, the department that he will retire from this year did not exist.

Tarini, who was executive vice-president at Lee King & Partners Advertising and a part-time instructor at the University of Chicago was given the opportunity to chair the creation of the advertising department of Columbia.

He inherited three classes and no full-time faculty.

During the first year Tarini didn't even have a secretary.

Many things have changed; the department name went from advertising to marketing commu-

nication. More than the name has changed; according to Tarini marketing and communication transformed inside Columbia and outside.

He said that the two biggest changes in the marketing communication field were the technological advancement and the mingling of the different branches, which includes marketing, public relations and advertising.

"A good PR person must understand marketing and advertising," said Tarini.

Tarini hopes Columbia works to keep up with the new technologies.

"We can't attract students without being cutting edge," said Tarini. "The [new] chair must have a very strong background in

computer technology. If not, the department will have problems in the future."

Tarini would also like to see an increase in the number of full-time faculty in marketing.

The department's faculty grew to become one of the largest in Columbia.

One of the key to the department's success is the internship program for which Chicago provides a good resource.

Internships are important because they give students an advantage. Tarini contends that when employers hire entry level position they want to make sure they have the knowledge they require.

The department has made sure that the internships are not 'gofer' positions. Tarini said that

he was proud of the fact that 75 percent of the internships are paid. The compensation would help offset the cost of pay to take the internship.

Tarini's career began as a research director at Edward H. Weiss & Co. Advertising after he received his doctorate from the University of Chicago.

Tarini said that he was proud of his accomplishment with the marketing communication department.

"It has been a great run in terms of what the department has achieved," he said.

Tarini said that he also is happy that the department has attracted top-flight students. He cites the fact that several of the last valedictorians have been

Aid

Continued from page 1

In 1979, the maximum Pell Grant provided 77 percent of the cost of a public education. In 1993, it covered only 35 percent, according to the College Board.

"Specifically, Congress should substantially increase the Pell and other need based grants, reduce the cost of student loans and provide significant tax relief to low and middle income students," said Ivan Frishberg, director of U.S. Public Interest Research Group, or PIRG.

However, concentrating on giving the tax breaks for upper and middle class, the president's new education policy will do little to revamp the providing of grants.

Last June, the president introduced his new education theme: HOPE scholarship. (HOPE stands for Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally.)

The original incarnation of the HOPE scholarship was dramatically successful in Georgia. It was the idea of president's old friend Zell Miller, Georgia's governor.

Miller's scholarship made any student graduating from high

school with at least a B average eligible for free college tuition plus a book allowance at any of the state's colleges or universities. The state picks up the tab as long as a student keeps up the tab as long as her grades. Those who fail to meet the minimum requirement are still eligible for free tuition at technical institutes. Even those who choose a private college in Georgia receive a \$3,000 grant.

In the three years the program has been in place, 239,000 students received the HOPE money. At Georgia's highest-ranking institutions of higher learning—Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia—an astonishing 97 percent of this year's in-state freshmen are not paying any tuition or fees. Even their books are covered. The program costs about \$190 million a year, all of which comes from the state's lottery.

Without a lottery to foot the bill though, Clinton's five-year \$35 billion national version is much more complex. Money for the new plan would be raised in part by reinstating a lapsed aviation tax on departing international flights and raising the per-passenger fee from \$6 to \$16. That would raise \$2.3 billion over seven years. Another \$3.5 billion will be collected in new taxes from the profits U.S. firms

make—and shield from the Treasury Department—in overseas business.

But Columbia students would never expect the same luxury that students in Georgia enjoy. Worse yet, critics warn that students might face a new raise in their tuition as schools try to meet the \$1,500 credit.

Even without the new increase, college tuition is already exceeding the nation's inflation rate. Even though the grant funding is increased, with cost of inflation, Columbia's tuition for the '97-98 academic year will be increased substantially more than the grant—an increase of \$828 a year.

In inflation-adjusted terms, tuition at public universities is 33 percent higher than it was a decade ago, education officials say. It is also still rising at a faster rate than the nation's much costlier private colleges. (Average tuition for higher education nationally in adjusted terms: Public, in '86-87, \$1,973; in '95-96, \$2,801. Private, in '86-87, \$7,851; in '95-96, \$10,671.)

Tuition at most community colleges is about \$1,300, less than Clinton's proposed \$1,500 tax credit. The cash-strapped community colleges may use this as an incentive to raise tuition. And many other colleges and

universities are expected to follow.

"It seems very dishonest to freeze funding and increase the tuition at the same time," Frishberg said.

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate began debate last week on their budget resolutions, the first legislative step in the budget process and the outline for specific changes to come later.

After the resolution is passed in both chambers, the bill has to go through the appropriations committee, which decides how the money is specifically dispersed.

"When you look at the whole quiver of the financial-aid program, it's still migrating towards the loan, rather than the grant," said Olino. "So the young people really have to protest by participating in the political process."

U.S. PIRG has started a petition to express the voice of college students by using its Web site. "This Web petition is a new tool for students who have been organizing to keep the doors of college open to all," said Kazim Ali, president of the U.S. Student Association.

To sign the short petition, the Web site can be reached at www.pirg.org.

Corrections and Clarifications

In the May 19 issue, Neil Bartoleit and Angela Arndts name was misspelled. And a quote from Caroline Latta, Academic Dean, should have read: Latta hopes that the program will be mandated by the fall of 1998. "It is essential that we have it," said Latta.

Have a great summer off.

We'll return in the fall.

The Chronicle

We have Columbia covered

Check out the Graduation pullout in the middle of the paper.

Columbia makes plans for future with document

By Elizabeth Chmurak
Correspondent

It is a glance back and a vision into the future of Columbia College, a strategic plan for the continuing effort toward a more student-centered community.

Back in the fall of 1995, Columbia President John B. Duff, along with the Board of Trustees, developed a collection of summary reports called "Voices from the Planning Forums." These summary reports were the recorded discussions among members of the Columbia College community who worked together to develop ideas for the "vision" of the future of Columbia students.

The following document, "Laying the Foundation," has continued the vision of the future with strategic goals. The goals of this planning document were devoted to centering students and their education. It highlighted six critical areas: retention, recruitment, curriculum, growth, finances, and the College's relationship to the arts and communi-

cation professions. The purpose of "Laying The Foundation" is not a "to-do" list, but rather "an articulation of the underlying goals and values that will guide Columbia decision making in the future."

The latest planning document, "Framing a Plan of Action," presents a new set of strategies for the College goals already established in "Laying The Foundation." Its main is on the needs of Columbia students rather than Columbia the institution. In the document, Duff offers the opportunity "to make real improvements in the quality of education we [Columbia College] offer to the students." It also calls on the student body, faculty, administration, staff and alumni to take action and implement the strategies. Duff also urges Columbia to "consider what you can do, as an individual and as a member of the College community, to take the plan from recommendations to actions. The future of Columbia and the future of our students depend on it."

Zekman, panel to discuss ethics

Channel 2 investigative reporter Pam Zekman will be one of three panelists discussing news ethics in the wake of such issues as the Channel 5 Springer fiasco and ABC News "Food Lion" case.

Student journalists, or any news junkies, are being invited to the panel discussion to take place on Wednesday, June 4th.

The discussion is being organized by the Association for Women Journalists and will take place at the WBBM-TV studios, 630 N. McClurg Court. Along with Zekman, Northwestern University Professor Ava Greenwell, and Laura Pincus, director of DePaul University's Institute for Business and Ethics, will be on hand to tackle ethical issues.

Anyone interested in attending is being asked to call 312-988-4229.

Columbia News & Notes

Columbia receives a \$33,589 grant

The American Council of Learned Societies has awarded a grant of \$33,589 to Columbia for a project to implement courses that will use computers and digital technologies into the liberal art, science and math courses.

"The project addresses three problems facing liberal arts colleges today: how to get students involved and active in their own learning and help them actualize what they learn, how to integrate computers and digital technology into the curriculum rather than merely adding them on existing course offerings, and how to teach computer and digital skills to the faculty without adding to their current workload," said Dr. Christine Somerville, Associate Academic Dean for development.

The grant will allow Columbia to implement two courses in the 1997-98 school year pairing faculty from computer-oriented disciplines and those from Liberal Arts Departments. Those courses will give liberal arts faculty members a chance to become a part of the digital environment. Students will benefit by gaining information from the course. They will learn hands on experience on how to research, write and produce an interactive CD ROM.

"Most commercially produced CD ROM software is targeted to a mass audience because the constraints of the production process require sales of millions of copies of any title. Their topics will be diversity and/or multicultural issues that are not currently commercially available in CD ROM form," said Dr. Barbara K. Iverson, a Columbia faculty member.

The funds for the project were provided by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation for a program on Innovation and Vitality in Contemporary Liberal Education.

College News From Around the Nation

Thousands Of CU Students Riot

BOULDER, Colo.—An end-of-the-semester party turned violent May 2 when mobs of University of Colorado students set bonfires in the street and threw rocks, bricks and bottles at police.

Participants said the riot was the result of simmering tensions between CU students and police over a crackdown on underage drinking.

More than 100 police officers dressed in full riot gear fired tear gas to disperse the crowd, which at one point swelled to 1,500 people. Rioters overturned dumpsters, burned couches and lumber, smashed windows and broke parking meters.

The next night, after the university bars closed, rioting began again with a smaller crowd. When the weekend was over, 20 students were arrested and as many as 18 officers reported injured.

In a statement, the University of Colorado Student Union said, "In an attempt to curb underage drinking throughout the Boulder community, students have been treated as a nuisance rather than valued members of the community."

Police called the five-hour standoff on the first night the worst riot in Boulder in 25 years, and CU Chancellor Richard L. Byyny said he was "disturbed and disappointed" by students' behavior.

"The vast majority of CU-Boulder's 25,000-plus students know how to have fun in safe and healthy ways," he said. "This is not one of those ways."

Students found to have been involved in the riots would face disciplinary actions from the university, he said.

Going The Distance For Science

BOSTON—Twenty-six miles in the Boston Marathon is a long way to go in the name of science.

But an MIT professor and two students went the distance April 21, strapping on electronic monitors and battery packs to gather scientific research as they ran.

Professor Michael Hawley, along with students Bradley Geilfuss and Craig Wisneski, tested out newly developed heart monitors and other devices used to track vital signs.

Also, each runner swallowed a radio transmitter the size of a vitamin pill before starting the run. "It's halfway between an oral thermometer and the other kind," said Hawley, who teaches media arts and sciences at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As they ran, data on their vital signs was transmitted back to three non-running members of the research team, graduate student Maria S. Redin, senior Matthew Lau and junior Oliver Roup.

Finally, though, the loftier goals of science took a back seat to just finishing the race.

"The equipment turned out to be too heavy," said Geilfuss. "Craig and I dropped our rigs off at the 20-mile mark. Mike managed to carry his through the finish."

The researchers hope the experiment will yield valuable information for their "Black Boxes" research project, which aims to develop wearable body monitoring devices.

Clinton plan for students puts Web in reach by 2000

Continued from page one

were these education promises a plot for re-election? Will the Internet hook up college students worldwide?

In February of 1996, Clinton announced the "New Technology Learning Challenge" which includes:

- *classrooms wired to the information superhighway
- *computers in every school and classroom
- *technology-trained teachers
- *engaging learning software that challenges students

If enacted, this proposal will cost taxpayers \$2 billion. Clinton says he wants students to access technology in a way that increases learning in isolated urban and rural areas via hooking up all classrooms to the Internet.

Shortly before his re-election, Clinton proposed to expand the Internet. In October of 1996, Clinton asked for \$500 million in federal money over a five-year period to improve Internet capabilities at 100 universities, national research laboratories and other federal institutions.

Clinton said he will push the 1998 federal budget to begin his project, "Next-Generation Internet." The plan would enable universities and national laboratories to use the Internet to communicate at speeds 100 to 1,000 times as fast as current T-1 connections allow. A T-1 connection provides for high speed downloads.

In subsequent years, Clinton will seek the remaining funds needed to complete the "Next Generation Internet" project. "Like any other piece of critical infrastructure, the [Internet] has to be repaired and upgraded to meet all our education, medical and national security needs," said Clinton. The plan would support the development of "Internet II," an effort by 34 research universities to create a national network for higher education that would be much faster than the current speeds of the Internet. Clinton said his plan would use faster fiber optic networking and eliminate the bottlenecks that have frustrated many internet user in academics. The changes for the Inter would promote research on the environment, energy and health care.

These changes on the Internet would benefit all computer users and especially college students. "The Internet provides access to information on any subject not readily available," said Lax Pati, associate head of electrical engineering and computer science at University of Illinois at Chicago. For example, students working on a design project can conduct research and talk with other people about their accomplishments and difficulties in school on the

Internet. "With the Internet the three key words are information, information, information," said Pati.

However, with so much information and knowledge only keystrokes away, there are dangerous hazards on the Internet. For example, inaccurate information can be quickly posted to the Internet. "People call themselves experts without knowing anything in particular," said Pati. Internet browsers have to make judgment calls on the validity of the information on the Internet, said Pati.

Another hot issue for Internet users is the right to freedom of speech. Since freedom of speech is a constitutional right, this freedom shouldn't be restricted on the Internet. If those who create homepages are told what they can and cannot put on the Internet. Judie Lewis, of Maywood, a mother o

Included in Clinton's plan:

Classrooms wired to the Internet, computers in every classroom, and technology-trained teachers.

bought a computer for her children. "In this computer age, I want my sons to know how to use a computer and the Internet." But one day, she found her son, Randy, 14, downloading pictures of naked women. "I was outraged at myself and at the people who would put this garbage accessible to children," she said. "It wasn't hard to find the naked pictures, I was just surfing the net," said Randy. His mother now is educating herself on safeguarding against pornography on her computer.

On the other hand, Silvia Hill, off Oak Park, a mother of one 15-year-old daughter, finds nothing wrong with pornographic pictures on the Internet. "If she [her daughter] doesn't see them on the Internet, she will see it on a movie screen or magazine."

As most consumers are starting to buy their own home computer, there are still those who can't afford one. The average price for a new home computer ranges from \$1,200 to \$2,800.

However, there are still the students who rely on university computer labs to provide technological access. But can the president take credit for these technological advantages? "At UIC, computer and the Internet are a huge part of the curriculum and the university makes it a top priority to have the most advanced technological sources," said Pati. However, at Columbia College where the emphasis is on the media and the arts, the Internet is a necessity, but not a top priority.

How's Your Steak?

With
John Henry Biederman

Has moved to page 20 for this issue

Final Exam Question #2

The Collect Call

What's the only number to use for all your collect calls that could instantly win you cool stuff (like hip Planet Hollywood® jackets and packs of 24 free movie passes) every hour, every day?



a) d

b) d

c) d

d) 1 800 CALL ATT

e) HELLO-d



1-800

call

ATT



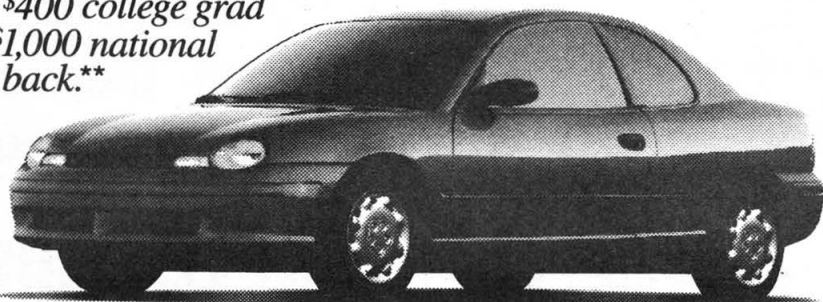
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COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Columbia students feel pressure of Hollywood-style production

By Leon Tripplett
Senior Writer

Never mind the trend of restructuring, downsizing and belt-tightening. Film phenoms Micah Gendron and Scott Knudson have given downward mobility short shrift. On this early Saturday morning, they're more worried about lights for their film project.

The two seniors know that the perennial graduation march on June 1 will not be all pomp and circumstance. They know breaking into the industry will be tough. They know that they may never have what their parents currently nestle in: a home, a decent wage and some measure of security.

Still, they persist. Gendron is not satisfied with the light setup.

Clad in a tattered shirt and soiled brown khakis, Gendron and Knudson have repeated their ritual chorus: They've turned their loft-styled dorms into a virtual Hollywood stage with eleven lights rigged, student actors in tow and a bevy of technical support from other Columbia film students.

And, despite filmmaking not being on the top ten list of most promising jobs, Gendron is still worried about the "damn lights."

Before the crack of dawn, the bright lights beam out into the hallway on the sixth floor. Large cables and bulky gear for today's shoot lie on the hotel-looking carpet. Most of the other residents in the college's dorms are still asleep, yet already Gendron and Knudson have decided how they're going to shoot Knudson's piece on a dream he had about peanut butter cookies.

"I bought this batch of peanut butter cookies and I became obsessed with them. I just started to dream about them," says Knudson. "We need our actor to express what the dreams portrayed."

Gendron is going over the dialogue now with his lead actor, Todd Williams, 20, a theater major at Columbia.

"We just need you to be yourself on this Todd," Gendron tells Williams. But Gendron knows that he doesn't have to tell Williams much. "Todd is a natural in front of the camera, but you always need to go over some point so everything is going to run smoothly."

Gendron knows everything doesn't always run smoothly on a film shoot.

For four years, seniors Knudson and Gendron have danced a pas de deux around, lights, cameras and actors. Gendron has become decidedly infatuated with what lights can do to a set and the subtle messages they can purvey. "You can almost change the story line in a film with lights," Gendron says. One of the technicians on the set agrees. "The cinematographer has to be obsessed with lights."

Another reason Gendron has taken keen interest in lights is because lights are probably the hardest part of filmmaking. "It's definitely the animal of filmmaking," says Knudson, nodding his approval. "Through an understanding of lighting, you can create whatever atmosphere you want."

Knudson made his voyage from Northern Minnesota to Columbia College right after high school, and though he'll be back next semester to take more classes, he already feels the anxiety over the competitive employment outlook for the industry that Gendron will feel on graduation day.

In a Jan. 20 Time article, "Where The Jobs Are," the only mention of show business is at Disney World and Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla, where they need peo-



Photo by Trina Mura
Micah Gendron's camera has focused on numerous subjects throughout his two years at Columbia. Gendron and Scott Knudson have turned their loft-style dorm into a movie set.

ple from "top management" to "ticket takers"—not alluring enough for Knudson and Gendron.

For those not wanting to slug it out in the film industry or other liberal arts positions, the economy, according to experts, looks rather bright. According to early 1996 numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate for college graduates was at a low three percent in 1996.

Job developer Keith Lusson at Columbia knows the hardship of trying to find a job after graduation, but on filmmaking, he advises to "work hard at it and those [who do] are the ones who will get the job." The obstacles, however, have not scared away students like Knudson and Gendron.

Knudson and Gendron are optimistic about their future. They've already set up their own company, KG Productions, and hope to make a theatrical foray into documentaries.

"All I watch is documentaries," says Knudson. "You can really tell a good story with a documentary."

Although "Peanut Butter Cookies" is not a documentary, it's what Knudson and Gendron hopes will get them in the film business.

The entire building is filled with directors, lighters, shooters, screen writers and editors. And on any given day the building, once the bulwark of printing behemoths, can be morphed into Tinsel Town. Finding the right shooters and other technicians for the job is just a stroll down the hallway or a floor up or down.

Trina Mura, a skilled photographer and student at Columbia, bobs and weaves throughout the set with a camera in tow. She's responsible for, among other things, making the set look real.

"I'm usually taking pictures for them, but this time I'm taking pictures and doing some set designing."

Several companies have come from the Plymouth Court [dorm] artists already. Commercials have been made and marketed, and would-be actors are getting

knocks at the door from production managers like student Cannon Kinnard, who's working on Knudson and Gendron's peanut butter cookie film.

"I'm taking care of the logistics of the film. That includes anything from making sure everyone is fed to ensuring that the actors are here on time," says Kinnard. At this point, about 4p.m., the dorm has burst into life and room 602 is suffering from a virtual heatwave with lights perched high on cabinets in the kitchen and throughout the livingroom area. The actor, Williams, is now beginning to reshoot scenes. Trina Mura whispers in someone's ear that the actor "is in a dream mode...his vision is distorted."

At 4:45 p.m., Gendron calls Knudson over for help with the lights; they smell something burning, but can't detect which light is the culprit. Meanwhile, Williams makes small chat about his career as an actor.

"They called me the other day about doing this story, and I just said, 'yeah, sure,'" says Williams in a monotone voice. Admitting that he had a limited knowledge of what is going on technically, he says. "I just try to be the best that I can and not think about what's going on around me."

Gendron and Knudson have found the faulty light and are ready to begin shooting again. Gendron reminds his actor of his importance one last time. "Remember, you're the tempo of this film."

Now that the film is in the can—at least the shooting aspect is over—Knudson heaves a sigh of relief and thinks about his future a little more. "As soon as school's out, I need a job so I can see my name on the credits in a theater," he says jokingly.

But Bob Blinn, Columbia's academic advisor, knows that it's not difficult if you're prepared—and he speaks from experience. He was in the industry himself for two decades and now advises students like Knudson and Gendron about getting into the industry. He strongly advises internships.

"It's not as hard as people may think it is, but they have to see me early in the semester so that I can get them prepared for internships and possible jobs."

To date, Columbia students are present in Hollywood production houses working on movies like "Titanic" and Spielberg's latest saga, "The Lost World."

Blinn, who just returned from a week-long trip from Los Angeles to make connections with movie directors, wasn't amazed at the visibility of Columbia students working on films. He was surprised, however, to learn that no other film school in the nation had talked to directors about getting their students as interns on the set, like Tomomi Itaya, who worked on Stephen Spielberg's "Lost World."

"It was a great experience for me; I really got a chance to work with some good photographers," said Itaya.

But Blinn cautions that the students must be prepared before they go out into the industry. "They must jump through my hoops before they get out there; they have to do a lot of work before they rub elbows with Spielberg," he says.

"Most students think that it's tough, and it is if you just show up to class and nothing else."

For Gendron and Knudson, it's hardly been just showing up for classes—they're hoping now that four years of hard work will pay off. "Columbia students are going to be the worse coffee makers on the set," says Blinn. "That's because they're not going to have to do that when they get into the film industry."

Students examine summer options

Internships, vacations among plans for Columbia students

By Dan Bischoff
Correspondent

Ah...yes. The dog days of summer are finally upon us. The warm days where one can kick back on the beach, sip a tall glass of ice cold lemonade and not have a care in the world. However, for most students at Columbia, this summer will be far from peaceful and lazy. Summer is a time to get internships, earn that extra dollar, maybe take a class and to definitely travel.

"I'm going to summer school," said Tyree Lewis, 22, a junior.

While some students fill their summer days taking classes, others will be busy working.

"This summer I'll be working at the House of Blues," said Tim Long, 21, a junior majoring in music business. "I also plan to attend a couple of music seminars."

Once a time to hang out in the park and

practice your skate-boarding skills, summer for most college students has become a time to expand on future career goals. It is a common question overheard in the hallways, the classrooms, even the stairwells: "Do you have an internship somewhere this summer?" For a lot of students, the answer to that question is yes, and possible future employers will be on the lookout for these motivated students.

"I have an internship with Holiday Inn, to learn more about hotel management," said junior Rachel Beals, 21, majoring in management. "I'm really excited about it. After getting turned away from several places I applied at, this looks to be a great opportunity. I'm getting paid, too."

With a little planning, and a solid resume, summertime can be an excellent time for students to get their foot in the door in their desired area of study. In a lot of cases, an internship turns into a job. Employers like to see that their interns can do the work of a professional, and if impressed enough, interns will soon be the professional worker.

"No internship for me, just work. But I'm working in the field I plan to have a

career in," said sophomore Steven Wilkes, an undeclared major. "I'm going to be working at the Cheesecake Factory restaurant in Skokie. Right now I'm a waiter, but what I really want to do is cook."

With many of Columbia's students working hard, doing internships and taking summer classes, where are the travelers? Yes, traveling is expensive, but some students have found ways to get to exciting destinations. Africa, Europe, South America, Australia, Asia and the Caribbean are all places that students from Chicago would love to visit. Well, some are doing just that.

"The last week of June, I'm going to Jamaica with my fiancé, so that should be a lot of fun," said senior Amy Zuchowski, majoring in fashion design. "Airplane tickets were around \$300, but prices vary because, in some packages, the price includes hotel costs."

While some students are hitting the tropics of the Caribbean, other students are taking a more rugged approach with their summer travel plans.

"Yeah, I have already bought a Eur-rail pass and everything; I plan to go all over Europe," said junior Mark Guilden, 24, currently studying film. "I don't have solid

plans or anything. I figure this way, I can go anywhere and not be tied down to just one city or one country. I'm also going alone, which should be interesting. I'm psyched."

For most college students, money is the leading factor keeping them from seeing the world. Who says one has to go to Australia to see a koala bear? The city of Chicago is a world in and of itself. With two zoos, one of the best aquariums in the world and museums to boggle the mind, Chicago can be an adventure. If school and work have tied you down during the academic year, take time out this summer to visit those places you've always wanted to see, right here in Chicago.

"This will be my first summer in Chicago," said sophomore Maria Gomez, majoring in business. "I have been in this city for a while and I still haven't made it to the Museum of Science and Industry. This summer, I'm going."

So grab the bull by the horns—no, not Benny—and take these three months off from school to have some fun, relax, and soak up the warm weather.

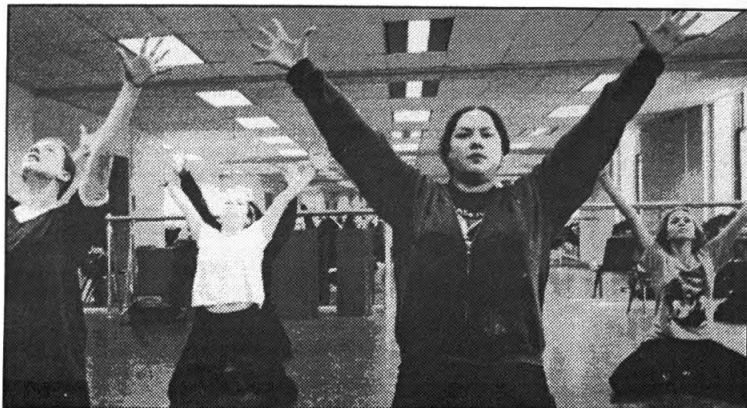
A review of the semester

By James Boozer, News Editor

The Chronicle looks back at the top news stories of this semester

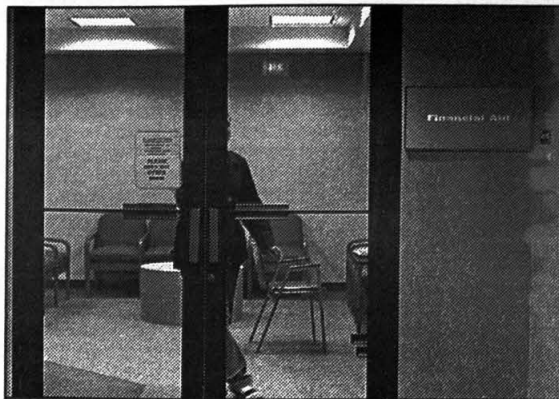
February 1997

Photo by Aaron Notfzinger



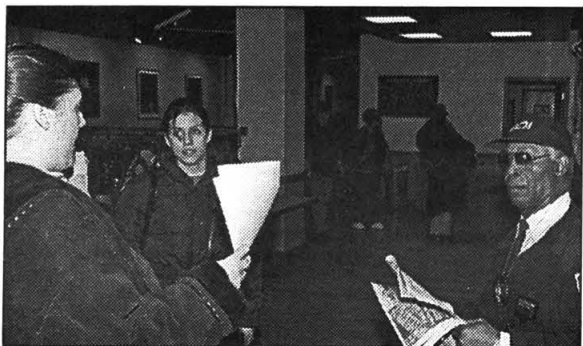
Columbia students get the feeling as they prepare for the the musical "Godspell."

Photo by Lisa Mandez



A Chronicle investigation revealed alleged drinking on the job in the Financial Aid Department.

Photo by Brian Markiewicz



The Hokin was on lockdown as students were required to show their IDs as they entered.

March 1997

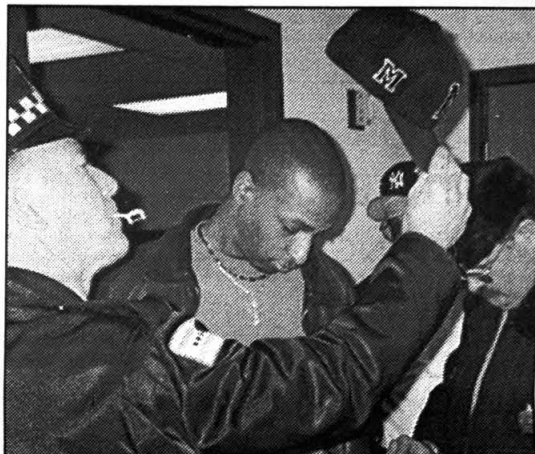


Photo by Bob Chiarito

Jermaine Chandler, a former Columbia student, was arrested for allegedly walking naked through the Torco building.

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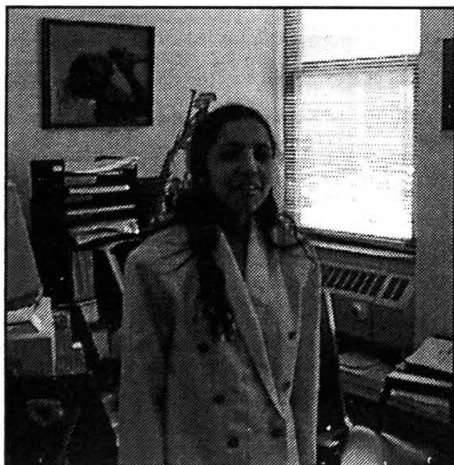


Photo by Jo Machado

Questions were raised on whether or not Columbia is doing enough for disabled students.

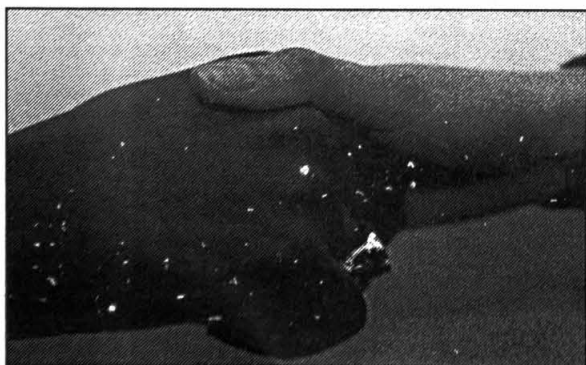


Photo by Brian Markiewicz

Diversity is the key behind the Lilly Endowment Project.

May 1997

Columbia's motto should be "Where you always spend more money" due to the rise in tuition for the 1997-98 school year.

1997-98 Undergraduate Tuition and Fees

Effective September 1, 1997

The 1997-1998 Tuition and Fee information detailed below supersedes all previously published 1997-1998 Tuition and Fee information.

Fall 1997 and Spring 1998 Semesters	Full-Time Students—Per Semester	\$4,249.00
	Enrolled 12-16 Credit Hours	
	Each Additional Credit Hour Over 16	\$ 216.00
	Part-Time Students	
	Enrolled 1-11 Credit Hours	
	Per Credit Hour Per Semester	\$ 291.00
	Summer Session	
	All Credit Hours Each	\$ 230.00

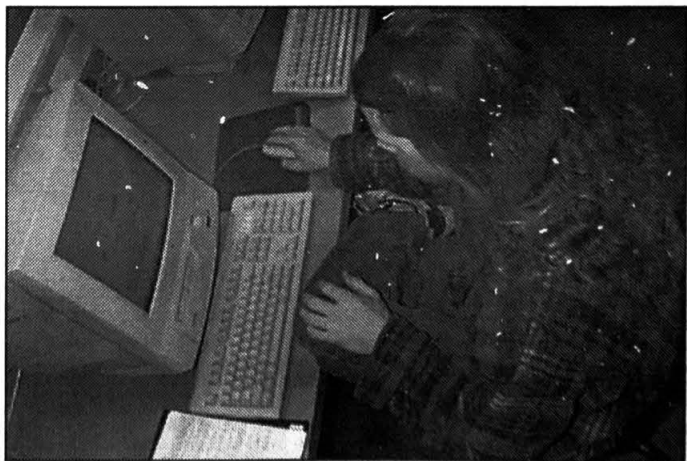


Photo by Dave Brennan

Computer cheating raised to a new level as the Information Super-highway grows.

An outsiders look at the porcelain palace

Sam Walters

Periodically, I feel a strong compulsion to attack some aspect of Chicago, my adoptive home of one year. This is because I'm from Boston and, well... that's just what people from Boston do O.K.? We have to make fun of other people; if we didn't, we might turn our voracious appetite for derision on each other, or inwards on ourselves, and the whole of Boston would be consumed almost instantaneously in one big, negative feeding frenzy. Wouldn't that be a shame?

Doubtless, some smirking "Bostonians" would charge I'm projecting my own bent, hateful thinking onto an entire city populace, but that's not true. Those people aren't Bostonians, they're cowards. They live in fear of being assaulted by proper Bostonians. Not that Boston is simply a holding pen for this country's worst jerks. New England has been designated by God as the source of all contempt in the universe—the spinning tire at the center of creation from which all the cosmos' snide, stinging gravel flies out. We occupy a nasty space in The Creator's great plan, and as such, we're not jerks. We're divine. Now New Yorkers, there are some jerks for you.

The subject of today's bashing is that sacred Midwestern institution, White Castle. I was initially enticed by the very competitive prices White Castle seemed to offer.

"Sixty cents for a cheezburgh!" I slurred, somewhat drunkenly, one night at around three in the morning after stumbling into the White Castle near my loft for the first time. I clutched my \$2 in loose change excitedly in my fist, eagerly anticipating the glutinous beef fest I thought my meager funds could afford me. I was surprised and dismayed by the two paltry ham biscuits that were delivered to me some two hours later. Not only were my "cheeseburgers" two inches across, and the patties less than one-eighth of an inch thick, but some vandal had the audacity to drill holes in them as well! Having by now sobered up completely, I inquired about my burgled beef bits.

"Why are there holes in my freaking hamburger?" I demanded to know of my server.

"Those are to ventilate the steam throughout your sandwich sir."

"What the hell are you talking about?"

"I... I don't know," she confessed.

Later that night I learned why White Castle burgers are nick-named "Sliders:" they slide through your intestines in much the same manner a baseball is shot out of a batting machine.

The White Castle by my loft has screwed up my double cheeseburgers three times in

a row now. How one can mistake "double cheeseburger, cheese and ketchup only" with "double cheeseburger, slathered in onions, soaked through with mustard, and topped with two humongous slices of pickle sticking out rudely from the edges of the bun," I don't know. This actually occurred twice in one trip. I caught their error, pointed it out to them, and they succeeded in duplicating it exactly. It seems they have bungled down to a precise science.

What's most astounding are the hurdles a White Castle burger technician must overcome to achieve such a high standard of incompetence. Allow me to explain.

The White Castle by my house is a tiny shack, probably no more than 20 feet by 20 feet. Given the size of the room, it is generally staffed to capacity by five people on duty. This crack team is aided by the latest technologies; they all sport state-of-the-art radio headsets and banks of computer monitors line the walls. The inside of the place bears a closer resemblance to Mission Control at NASA than it does a burger hut. The registers the employees work on are almost completely automated and in fact could probably be operated by blind triple amputees with less than half of one digit remaining on their unsevered limb.

This White Castle also handles about half the volume in customers that your average McDonald's does and their food products are three-quarters the size. This should translate into service time that is six times faster than a McDonald's but, in fact, one should plan on making a day trip out of any excursion there. Bring a lawn chair, or a hammock. Read a novel, or better yet, write one, just don't count on lunch. The employees skillfully manage to subvert any technical or tactical advantages their workplace offers them, producing burgers with bizarre combinations of condiments hours after you've placed your order. Perhaps I could operate a gambling ring, betting on the date and month your food will arrive and the odds of actually getting your burger as you ordered it.

I'm probably so sore about White Castle because, despite the crawling service and the perforated patties, I continue to eat there regularly. Maybe they put opium in the buns, I don't know. Actually, I do know why I eat there (and kids, there is NO opium in White Castle buns so, please Mr. White Castle attorney, don't sue me). It's because I'm always poor and often drunk. Having spent my dinner money on beer, I stagger the few miles from the bar to White Castle to spend my bus money on Sliders. I'm always amazed I'm eating there again; "Thish iss the las' time," I swear to myself. Then, "What've you got fer' sixty cents?"

TO BE OR NOT TO BE: TRANSLATING SHAKESPEARE INTO BLACK ENGLISH

Jeff Grygny

It's hard to get anyone to listen to a really great idea. People think I'm crazy because I want to translate Shakespeare's plays into contemporary African-American slang. I'm not talking about "Yo! Juliet!" either. After all, "Play On," one of latest new shows on Broadway, sets Shakespeare's Twelfth Night into the Harlem Renaissance—a definite fit, since both eras contained creative, intelligent people, living life to its fullest.

Generations of English teachers might rise from their graves and, zombie-like, overrun the streets at the thought—but they've been using Shakespeare as an instrument of torture. I mean Poetry, Complex Characters, Romance, Comedy, High Drama—all of these you find in Shakespeare, but the language is a barrier to a vast majority, who have no idea what a "bare bodkin" is, but could easily relate to Hamlet contemplating taking his own life with six inches of cold steel. How about turning people on to the fact that the reason why Shakespeare's stories have lasted so long is because, like all great art, they're deep, rich and fabulously entertaining?

Translating Shakespeare into contemporary poetry isn't that bizarre a concept when you remember that the Original Bard himself wrote in the street jargon of Elizabethan England. He also wrote in the high-flow rhetoric of the nobility, but that was in the day when the ruling classes studied classical poetry to command beautiful and eloquent speech. Nowadays, white English has become too institutionalized, flat and prosaic to carry poetry. Officials and business leaders alike speak a stunted, barely-literate form of officialese, impoverished of poetry and destitute of imagination, feeling, or imagery, except for the most hackneyed clichés. Just listen to some of Mayor Daley's flat utterances—a bad muffler sounds better!

So-called politically correct speech is just as bad—it turns the worst of official-dumb and "medicalese" into a really ugly attempt to send out signals of sensitivity as subtle as an ambulance. The unfortunate term "Ebonics" falls into that class: ugly words that don't fool anybody into believing they express true consideration for others. The U.S. needs poetic vision as an alternative to commercial "Mac-culture."

What better choice than the most living tradition of poetic speech today—black American Dialect in its many forms? Much of whatever there is of poetry in the rough and ready speech of athletes and gangster movies was appropriated from the "Dark People." The update would be good for everybody—Black speech can demonstrate to doubters that it is as varied, poetic, raucous, vital, as capable of nuance and profundity as Elizabethan English. Let culture snobs struggle to understand a black Rosalind, dancing verbal rings around Orlando in a joust of love—they won't be able to deny the beauty and power of the language. A poetic update of some of the greatest stories of Western Civilization would join together a vital living language with a great but antiquated tradition: It will bring us together in ways we can't imagine, not as "White culture" or "Afrocentric culture," but as "Our culture."

The verbal intelligence of African-American speech, inspired by blues, the King James Bible, the high rhetoric of preachers and an ancient tradition of spontaneous poetry by griots and rappers, is not to be underrated. We could get corporations and government agencies to offer lottery-sized prizes for the most eloquent, accurate and important translations, putting high school and college rapsters and poets to work on Julius Caesar or Hamlet. I'd like to see Archer Daniels Midland offer a million dollars to update "A Midsummer Night's Dream" — McDonalds for Macbeth; Time-Warner could use some of its vast resources to fund "The Tempest;" Oprah Winfrey, Inc., could probably pay for all of "Romeo and Juliet" and "Anthony and Cleopatra."

Is this capitalism? socialism? I don't know, but it seems just as worthwhile to invest in the language skills and poetic insight of America as it is to pay big bucks for athletic excellence. After all, feats on the playing field come to an end with the next generation, but the written word comforts and counsels throughout life; giving warmth and light even into old age. Shakespeare knew that his words would live on forever; let's give some of our best minds the chance to meet him and better him on the playing field of poetry.

An unique look back at the year that was

Wilfred Brandt

Well this is it. The end of another year. Between scarfing down mini-thins for those late night study sessions and trying to get that sexy science teacher of yours to sign your yearbook, time is limited to this last week. Not many of us get the chance to truly reflect on the changes of the past eight months. I'm no exception; the crunch hit me hard. After peeling the cellophane off of my textbooks, I realized that to resist was futile. I should accept the inevitable.

There's no way to cram a semester's worth of information into one head. Even my fat German head. So with too many responsibilities and too little time on my hands, I decided to focus my attention on writing more drivel for the Chronicle. This being my first year at Columbia, I've decided to take a look back on everything that's transpired since the first day I squeezed my ass onto those lovely Michigan Building elevators. (For optimum effect, please play "Memories" on your stereo while reading.)

Ahh, my third freshman year, the good times I've had. The hazing, the keggers, the panty raids...for sure, this year was one to remember. Tickle-Me-Elmos and Beanie Babies gave us a reason to hate little kids again. The Spice Girls gave us a reason to watch MTV on mute. And Heaven's Gate gave men a reason to cross their legs, scrunch up their faces and say "Eye-Yi-Yi!" But what will historians remember as the major events that shaped our lives for the last 31 weeks, five days, three hours and 54 minutes? Will it be the way the dreaded Macarena crept into our everyday lives? How that old guy who

couldn't move his hand didn't win the election? Or how a few "Friends" taught yuppies everywhere how to wear their hair?

What did happen this year? Beavis and Butt-head proved they could make people fork over cash for their act and took it to the silver screen. Jenny McCarthy proved she could do more than inane banter on someone else's revolting show and started her own revolting show. And Rosie O'Donnell proved that she's not just Madonna's fat friend, she also has a terrible singing voice—and a show to showcase it!

Following the great tradition of "Whoop, there it is!" and "Where's the beef?" Cuba Gooding Jr. immortalized "Show me the money!" (Coming soon to a t-shirt that will lie at the back of your closet for years to come.) Ellen DeGeneres came out of the closet with enough media blitz to choke one of Steven Spielberg's dinosaurs. Speaking of coming out, babies were popping out of the most unexpected places this year, one of them being Madonna! And who would have guessed this to be the year that the king of pop got a new baby playmate, one that he even had a hand in creating?

Courtney Love cleaned up her act and got her first big acting role, playing a strung out bimbo who spends years holed up in a mansion with her rich hubby. You've come a long way, baby! Vein spotting fever got a hold of Robert Downey Jr., who got caught with his sleeves rolled up.

Clinton's campaign advisor got caught with his pants down. So did that Kennedy guy, and Eddie Murphy, and probably countless others we've already forgiven. Disaster movies took American audiences to new heights of Hollywood bandwagoning (is that a word?). Not to mention that blockbuster no-we're-not-just-in-it-for-the-money reissue, Star Wars, which taught us that everything old is new again—er, not exactly new, but at least new and improved... er, not really improved but...

Oh never mind. I guess I should get back to my real work. What will next year bring? More stars coming out? More babies being made? More of the same? Probably. I can't wait. See you next year.

A big thank you to all the people who wrote to and for the Opinion Pages this year!

SHOOTS AND LETTERS DEPARTMENT



"All the nuts that are unfit to print elsewhere!"
 This page rated SH—the discretion of a sense of humor is required. The opinions represented herein are not those of the college, Journalism Department, Chronicle or, in some cases, anybody in their right mind.
 When sending correspondence to the Shoots And Letters Department, please also include your name and phone number for verification purposes. You can "write" us in the following ways: Mail: c/o Columbia College Chicago Chronicle, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60605; FAX: (312) 427-3920; e-mail: Chron96@interaccess.com; Web page message board: <http://www5.interaccess.com/chronicle>. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity.

In response to...

After two years as Director of The Freshman Seminar and at least five interviews with Columbia Chronicle reporters "threatening" to write a story on the program, you have, at long last, delivered. While I take issue with some of the points raised in the story by Leon Triplett, I wish to commend him and the newspaper for a generally insightful article.

I wish to emphasize that Freshman Seminar is a program for all Columbia students and not only for those most at risk for dropping out because of poor grades or indifferent academic preparation before enrolling in college. Each year, academically successful students exit from Columbia in far larger numbers than one would envision given their superior grades. The commuter nature of the school makes it difficult for students to bond with the institution a problem the Freshman seeks to fix.

Mr. Triplett writes in the story that nationally 27 percent of freshman leave college before their sophomore year. Given that Columbia's graduation rate of zero

credit hour freshman is less than that percentage, the seminar's mission is a grave one indeed. The article cites Fall Semester 1995 enrollment statistics as evidence that the program is failing in its mission. You repeat this assertion in your editorial on the program. First, few, if any, schools have 100 percent retention rates. Second, when the number of returning students who took the Freshman Seminar is compared with a control group that did not enroll in our voluntary program, Freshman Seminar has a higher retention rate: 145 or 63 percent for the seminar and 122 or 53 percent for the control group after three semesters. Am I, as director, satisfied with this result? NO! There is ample room for improvement. The staff of the Freshman Seminar, the administration of Columbia College and the faculty, so crucial to the success of Freshman Seminar, will double our efforts to make the program something we all can be proud of.

Glennon Graham,
 Director The Freshman Seminar

Mr. Graham: You have issues with Leon Triplett's story! Whooh boy! Imagine the horror our copy editors go through!—Eds.

Wanted: Competency in hiring practices

This is just a reminder to everyone in hiring positions—make sure you hire people who can teach. Don't get me wrong, I have had some wonderful, talented, helpful teachers here at Columbia, but until this semester I never really thought it was possible to not learn anything in class.

Yes. Columbia is known for hiring teachers who are working in the field they are teaching, but Columbia must also remember this is not the only credential they need to be a qualified teacher. How about making sure they can teach? I understand that, with a first time teacher, it can be difficult to predict if they are any good, but I and many others are paying good money and deserve for these "teachers" to be thoroughly checked out. From what I experienced this semester, I can tell that doesn't always happen.

Maybe it is more important for

Columbia to hire people knowledgeable in their field than in teaching. Fine. But in my case, and everyone else's in my class, we had the pleasure of having a teacher who didn't even know that. Come on. Columbia can do better than that. I know they can because I have had plenty of teachers who knew their field and how to teach. Students don't want Columbia to get lazy on the job, just like Columbia doesn't want students to get lazy on the job.

It just upsets me that everything I learned in this class I learned from people who had this course previously and had a qualified teacher who taught them. I was not fortunate enough to have that luxury. I should not have to feel sick every time in the class knowing how much of my and my parents hard-earned money is going to complete waste.

Then I start to think that it would be nice to get paid to do what this teacher does—nothing.

Melissa Breault

Ms. Breault: There was a time when we had Investigative Editor Bob Chiarito "thoroughly check out" all Columbia teachers, but... hell, one word: "tail hook." —Eds.

Here's
 to a
 smokin'
 summer!



THE CHRONICLE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Special Pullout Section

May 27, 1997

Graduation 1996-1997

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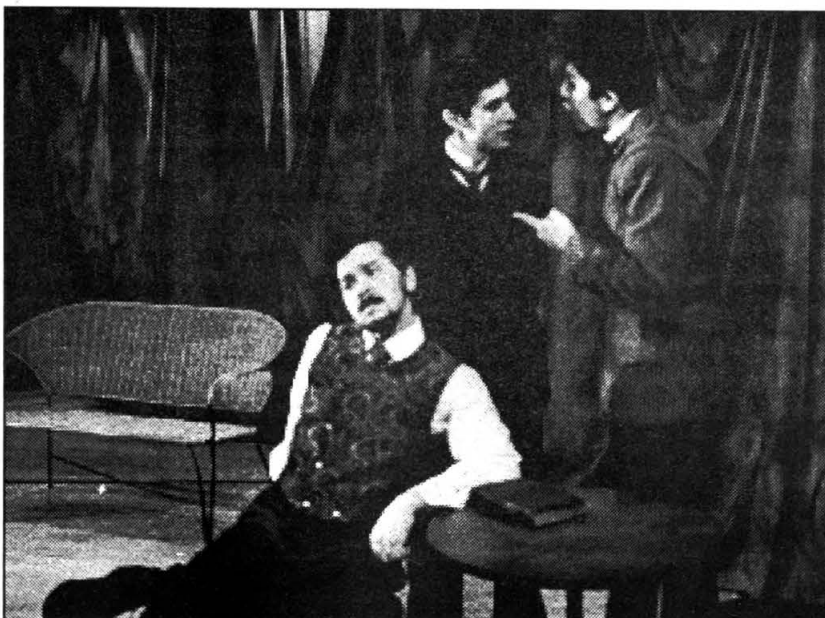


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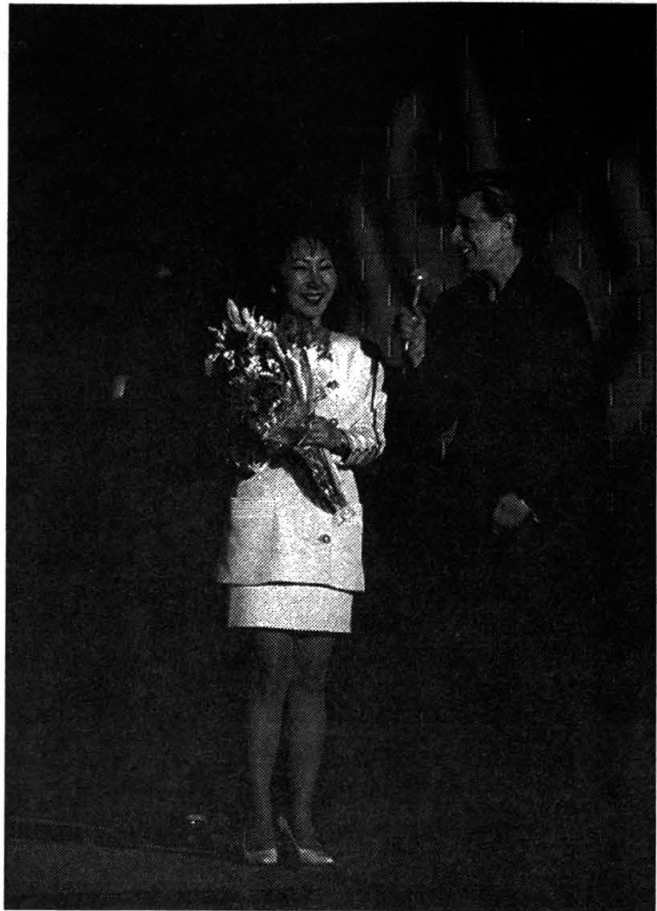
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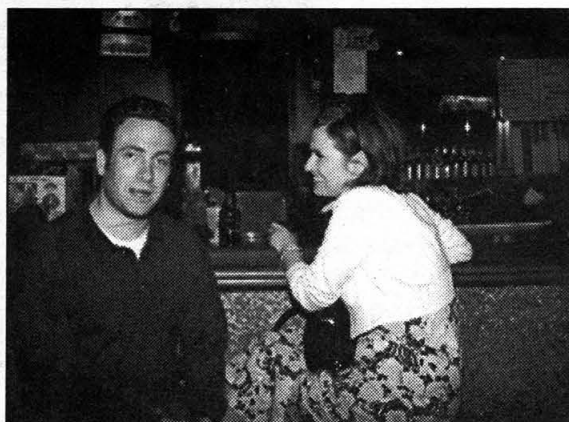
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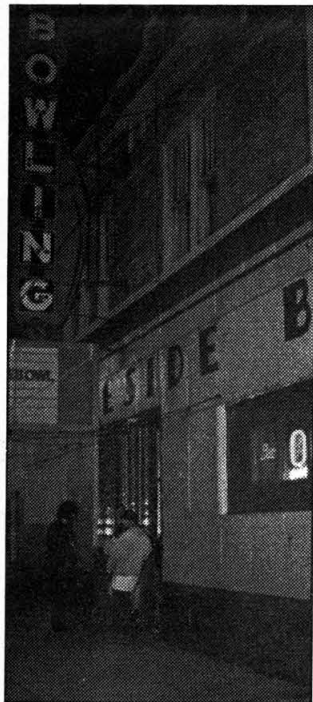
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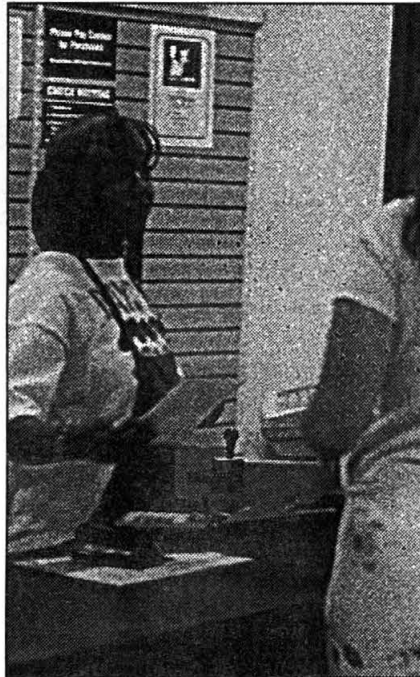
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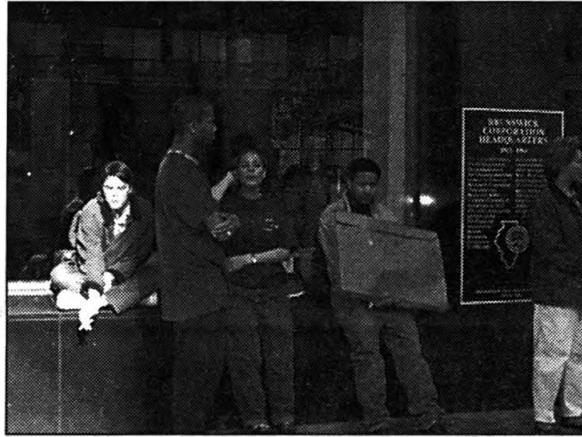
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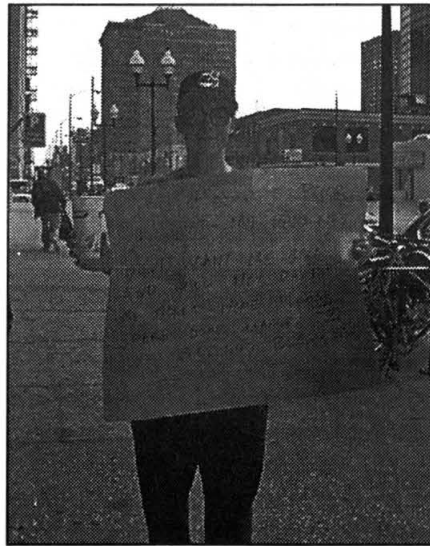


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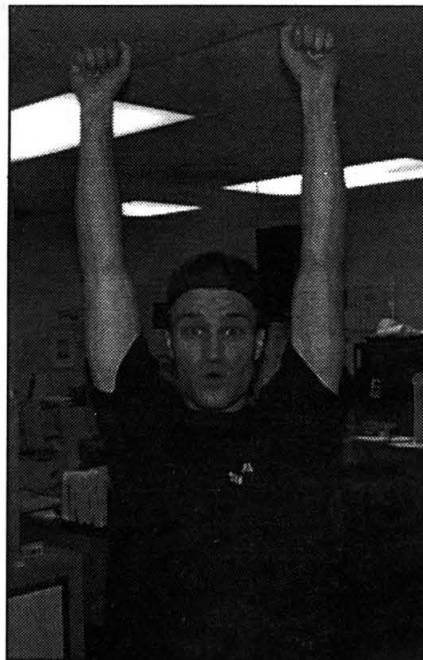
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This Is This

Bob Chiarito



Remembering my roots

Last week while covering a story at a Loop hotel, I walked outside to have a smoke and get a break from the pompous fools I had to interview. As I was talking to the doorman about the hordes of women that walked by, a truck drove past, giving off a smell that sent my mind thinking of my days on the docks.

Before coming to college, I worked at a warehouse near O'Hare, but those days ended five years ago. And, although my days at Columbia also will soon end, graduation doesn't seem real to me yet. For some reason, I fear a mistake will be made and I'll never get out of here. But when I start thinking like that, I remind myself that the administration has had enough of me and won't let anything keep me from leaving.

Over the past few weeks, many people have asked me if I am excited about graduating. To tell the truth, I am anxious and I can't believe how fast my college career went by. While there have been times when I felt like a rat on a treadmill, overall time sped by.

Another question I am often asked is how I found the time to complete 3 internships, work for the Chronicle and attend class full-time. Well, it hasn't been easy, but it's easier than loading 40-foot containers eight hours a day. I believe if I had a chance to do it all again I'd accomplish even more.

What keeps me going is simple. One is my competitive instincts. I hate to lose and realized early in my college career that my competition isn't only with other Columbia students but with students from around the country who will soon be vying for a few job openings.

Another thing that keeps me going is remembering who I am.

As a working class Italian kid from Melrose Park, I realize I got a shot that many will never get. Although it has been awhile, I can still remember the admiration my co-workers gave me when I told them I was leaving the docks for college. I pledged to myself then that I would do good for them and many of my other friends who never got the chance—or chose hanging out on the corner over going to college.

Since those days, I've been with important people from renown institutions but nothing makes me happier than when old friends tell me I haven't changed. Although depending who you ask, that might not be a good thing.

Some say meeting new people helps shape what you'll become, but it also reinforces what you already are. My resume may be pretty solid, but as I enter the job market, what gives me real confidence is my hunger and my ability to relate to anyone, from Harvard scholars to Wabash winos. Not surprisingly, Wabash winos have a more realistic outlook on life than any academic I ever met.

In the end, the one thing I've learned in college is that good people are all the same, no matter if they work in the White House or work at the corner tavern. What's really important is not to lose touch with good people. For me, that means not forgetting where I came from.



One final hurrah, for this year anyway

This issue brings an end to Volume 30 of the Columbia College Chicago Chronicle as this week brings an end to the regular 1996-97 school year. And we, like many members of the school itself, are feeling a strange mix of emotion over that.

This marks the end of what we feel has been a very good year for the Chronicle. We broke some important stories, won some important awards and did our best to spotlight some of the more interesting students, events and organizations here at the college. We hope, in our capacity as the weekly student voice of the school, that we have served you, the student body, faculty and administration, in a worthwhile manner.

We have received our share of criticisms. Some of it was deserved and all of it is to be expected in the position we have held. And, contrary to the attitude some may glean from this year's experimental Shoots and Letters page, all these criticisms are valued. Criticism is a necessary adjunct to journalism and, without it, improvement cannot occur.

The Chronicle will be back next year for Volume 31 and, like Columbia, there will be new faces intermingled with some of the old. This publication is constantly changing but, all the while, evolving toward a better paper, seeking to learn from the mistakes of the past and take risks—some successful, some not—as part of the experimental college newspaper experience. We hope that returning students will continue to criticize and consider doing something about changing the Chronicle—from writing a letter to the editor to passing along some information to maybe even writing that column or story you'd like to see in your college newspaper.

We've enjoyed the experience and feel a sense of accomplishment in serving the school as best we can. This is a happy time—a time of relief from the duties this paper has required, a repose from the grind of school work for returning students and a celebration for those of us who are graduating. But, like so many of life's moments, this time of happiness is also mingled with a strain of sadness.

Editor-in-Chief and "How's Your Steak" columnist John Henry Biederman, Features Editor Jill Schimelpfenig and Investigative Editor and "This is This" columnist Bob Chiarito (along with numerous staff writers) are all graduating this June. While the prospect of facing the weeks ahead sans Chronicle duties has its appeal, these staffers will also miss the Chronicle, as the Chronicle will miss them. Our advice to the graduating staffers mirrors our advice to all upcoming graduates: As you leave, realize you have also left something with us—Columbia is the sum, and more, of all it's living, breathing parts, past, present and future. We only ask you to make sure that Columbia—and the Chronicle—leaves something with you.

Congratulations graduates. And, to the rest of you, the Chronicle will be back to greet you for the first day of the fall 1997 semester.

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Stuff from Staff

Jill Schimelpfenig



Jill goes postal

So, I've come back to this computer for the second time to try and write something brilliant, witty and comical as my farewell-to-Columbia-forever column. Because I don't have any more time to sit here and rack my brains for the incentive to be someone I am not, I will resort back to my more familiar serious nature to discuss what has really bothered me since I first arrived at this school—all of the unnecessary fronts that people put on around here.

Whether it be sitting outside of the Wabash Building or riding an elevator, students at Columbia do not take the time to pleasantly interact with one another. I'm not trying to suggest that I am innocent of this crime, because I am not. Unfriendliness is catching and I've picked up the habit.

For example, I am usually a polite, perhaps even friendly, consumer but after frequenting the Hokin Annex all semester and being treated like a dog by many of the people who work there, I have become hardened. One can only take rudeness for so long before finally deciding to give in and return the shitty behavior. Now when I go to the Hokin, I don't even bother to look these people in the face before demanding my coffee. Screw them!

And when I go to smoke a cigarette outside the Wabash building, I've begun to talk shit about people I don't even know as they walk by wearing something totally unhip. Yep, they don't deserve anything better. How dare they come to school looking so normal.

In my class I contribute my two cents, sometimes three, when the girl next to me begins to bad mouth the other girl with no brains. We are in college, for gosh sakes, we should be smart, on the ball. How appalling that she utilize Columbia's open-admissions policy to barge in on the intelligent masses. She deserves to be ridiculed.

I now sit with my own kind, since that's obviously cool around here, and it's all about being cool and fitting in, isn't it? Oh no, that was the eighties. In the nineties it's all about being an individual. That is why I really sit by myself and put on a facade.

Yes, it is time to move on, time to escape the negative attitude of this realm so that I may attune myself to a higher dose of it in the next—the real world, where there is a whole new set of fronts to pick up.

Instead of the silent, too-cool-for-words attitude, it will be over-done, put-on, bogus, bubbly, business-minded blah where after work we all go home to mull over our lackluster lives only to get up the following day to do it all over again!

Maybe I'll get lucky, though. Perhaps my ship will come in to take me to a world unlike what ours has become, a world where appearances are what they seem, and people think and act out of truth, sincerity and kindness. Or maybe I should take my head out of dreamland and put it back into the former one of this piece.

Now you might think that I am going out on a sour note, but you misinterpret my bravado. I am merely accepting of the way of our western world. After all, I have chosen this route and so have you. So, prepare yourself for the future. Lighten your soul, catch up with the spirit of despondency because it is not slowing down. Oh, and it's hip.

Dance Theatre blazes into Spring

By Erin Bonillo
Staff Writer

The Muntu Dance Theatre brought new meaning to "Rites and Rituals" with a rousing, infectious interpretation of African dance this week at the Shubert Theatre.

It was a blaze of brilliant colors on the evening of May 15, not simply in the resplendent garb donned by the dancers but also in the choreography and movement, in the music and singing. Simply breathtaking.

The 25-year-old company's two-hour program, part of the Spring Festival of Dance, was highly stylized and followed traditional African dance rituals, with a foregrounding of articulate drums and percussion. With "Rites and Rituals," Muntu wove together the ancient ways of the African continent with contemporary African-American traditions.

Muntu should be applauded for continuously increasing awareness and appreciation for African culture as a performing art form. They've proven that the physical expression of dance and music are often a stronger link to the

past than words.

A strong example of this influence came during the show-stealing portrayal of female and male initiation ritual dances. It almost appeared to be a ferocious dancing competition between the sexes, as each group flashed their bodies in rhythmic unison, overflowing with unbounded energy and spirit. Artistic director Amaniyea Payne exploded on-stage with her tireless footwork and strong grace.

The drums proved to be a performance in itself. The African djembe drums were mastered with amazing complex rhythmic patterns and played with energizing strength and endurance. In Guinea, West Africa, the drum commands high respect, believed to be a vehicle for teaching wisdom and communication. The power and song of the drum led the program through with fluidity as it seemed to pull the movements out of the dancer's feet.

Drums pounding out complex, overlaying rhythms, dancers soulfully exploring the beats through their able bodies—Muntu moved from rites and rituals to festive redemption.



Valedictorian eagerly awaits commencement

By Chuck Jordan
Copy Editor

Graduating seniors have a lot of loose ends to tie up in May. Between mailing invitations and picking up cap and gown orders, seniors probably feel they have enough to do.

However, most graduating seniors won't have the responsibility of writing and presenting a speech in front of hundreds of people knowing that their speech will represent the best that the class of 1997 has to offer.

This year's Valedictorian, Vicki Willis, has the opportunity to showcase her rhetorical skills.

Most students graduating from high school don't know what they might major in; however, Willis came to Columbia because she had an interest in marketing.

The native Jamaican attended Von Stuben High School on Chicago's North Side and chose Columbia because of its Marketing Communications department's reputation. She didn't think that she would end up finding an interest in the area of direct mail, a field she once looked down on.

She said that she enjoys direct marketing because the results are measurable. Willis said that she also finds advertising interesting but she finds the pace too fast.

Willis had two internships while she was at Columbia. She interned for CPM, a media management company, as a broadcast media intern.

The other was for the Jamaican Tourist Board where she took part in sales and marketing.

Both internships were positive experiences. She found that she wasn't interested in sales marketing. However, she feels that the internships helped narrow her focus.

Willis cites Sheila Baldwin from the English department and Stephen Neulander from marketing as the two most influential faculty members in her development.

She said that Baldwin was a positive influence on her; she could identify with her as a black woman that has achieved success that she is striving for.

Baldwin introduced her to many books including black cultural books.

Willis said that Neulander prompted her interest in direct marketing.

"Prior to taking his class, I thought of it as junk mail. He [Neulander] taught me it could be fun and he taught me what to look for," Willis said.

After graduation, Willis said that her only plan is to relax and explore the different cultures and lifestyles of Europe for two weeks. She will spend time in London and Paris.

She said that she was proud when she found out about the award but admits she was scared at the same time because she has never given a speech under these circumstances before.



Vicki Willis is the valedictorian for the 1997 graduating class at Columbia College Chicago.

Photo by Blair Fredrick

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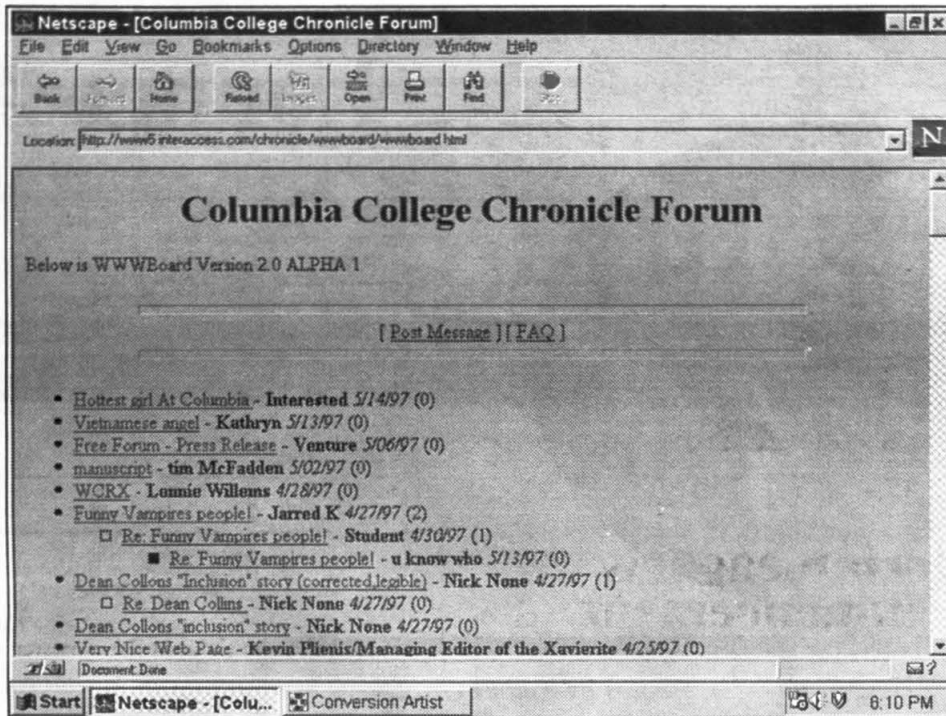
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Advertising, editorial, and graphic design professionals will take an informal look at student (and recent graduate) portfolios. In-progress portfolios are welcome. Just have the work cleaned up and organized. Our guests will include art buyers, artists' reps, designers, and illustrators from Leo Burnett, Laughing Dog Creative, Scott Foresman Publishing, and others.

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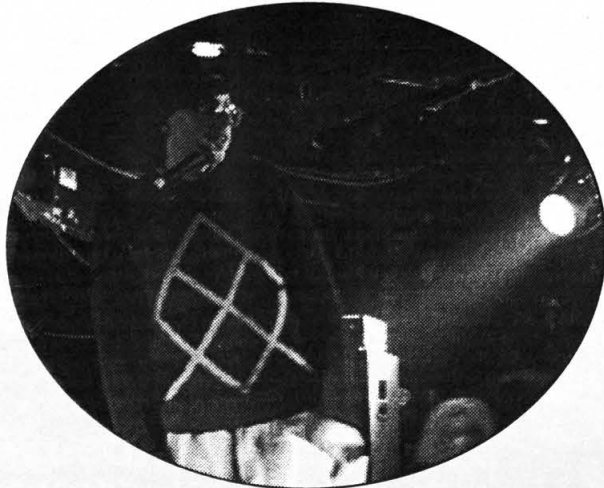
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INSIDE... THE CHICAGO

PART X (THE FINAL INSTALLMENT)

Lounge Ax



By John Henry Biederman
Editor-in-Chief

Lounge Ax, at 2438 N. Lincoln Ave., is best-known for showcasing local rock and roll bands. Thax Douglas, long-time poet on the scene, puts on his \$5 "Thax After Dark" show on a Wednesday toward the end of each month, however, and it's heavy on performance poetry.

Always advertised in the Chicago Reader, Douglas showcases everything from music to drama and usually ends with a band or two. Some of the strangest acts on the scene can be witnessed here, like dancing macrame dolls, obnoxious comic/musicians and bizarre monologues. Somehow, Douglas manages to put together a show that entertains regulars used to rock acts and he almost always packs the house, which is no easy feat—the size of Lounge Ax's stage and floor rival the Green Mill.

While "Thax After Dark" features only invited talent—something this article is generally unconcerned with—Douglas picks many of his performers from open-mic venues.

Douglas, who's looking forward to the publication of his first book of poetry in 1997 by Juggernaut Press, hit the Green Mill's slam soon after it began but soured on it quickly, describing the scenario as "unpleasant." Not quite finding what he wanted through his previous open-mic gigs, he crafted his own type of show.

"I go to open-mics sometimes and some, they have a loser quality, like some of the performers could never play anywhere else. I just thought it would be nice to have a nightclub atmosphere."

Douglas operates under a less-is-best theory of hosting, introducing acts in a quiet, steady voice and getting out of the way as soon as possible.

Photos by Amber Gribben

Clockwise, from upper left: Host Thax Douglas announces another bizarre act for Thax After Dark; Rob Harless as a one-man-band and poet all at one time; Rock and Roll is performed alongside poetry and performance at Thax After Dark; Thax Douglas reads some poetry himself along with a band; Jason Pettus performs some of his short fiction and; hey---it's the last issue, so here's a picture of me [J.H.B] reading my "Ballad of Charly Browne."



About this series

Today's look at Lounge Ax is Part X, the final installment, in a series of poetry open-mic reviews the Chronicle has run this semester—excerpted from a book tentatively scheduled for release this summer and tentatively titled, "The Chicago Poetry Scene: A Comprehensive Guide."

The book, by editor-in-chief John Henry Biederman, seeks to define The Scene, from the invention of the slam onward, to an extent never seen before. As The Scene is an ever-changing, largely unchronicled monster, the rare write-ups it has received have suffered from inaccuracies and misrepresentations—but this book strives to be different, written from a Scene insider's point of view.

Although the excerpts printed herein form but a small part of that work, enough has been included within these pages to allow one interested in The Scene to get started. For those interested in the book itself—keep your eyes peeled, as publication is now being negotiated between publishers and even an agent or two.

Currently, Biederman is working on a chapter for "Underground Chicago," to be published by Manic D Press out of San Francisco, on the poetry scene. He also appeared on the WGN morning news on April 23 as an expert on the scene.

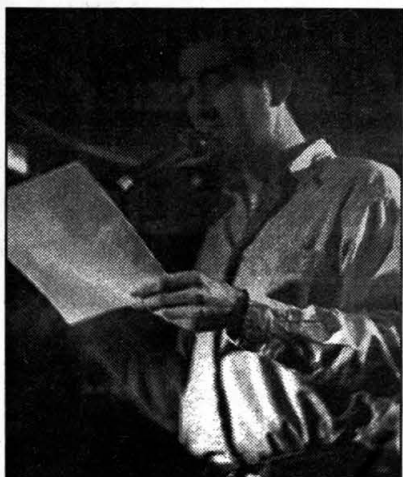
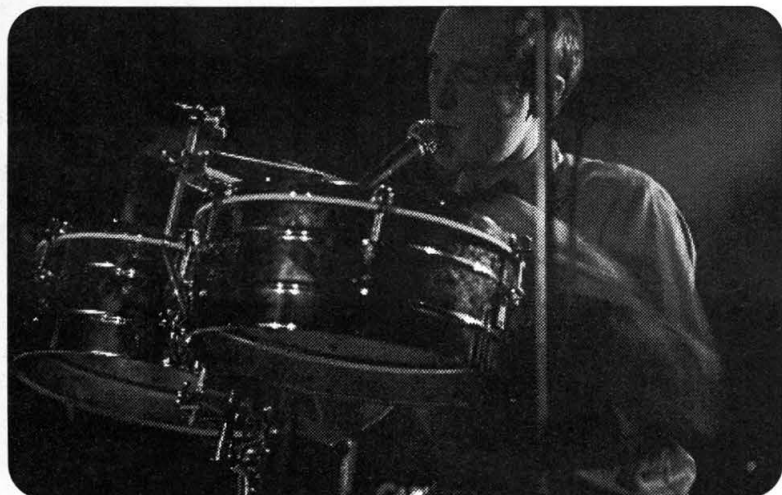
Hope you've enjoyed this series—jump in and get involved if it sounds like something you want to do, or check out the Chronicle's Web page to refresh yourself on past installments.

Any comments or suggestions can be e-mailed to Biederman directly at kdolphin@xsite.net.

**The next
Thax After
Dark will
occur on
June 4—be
there around
8 p.m.**

POETRY SCENE

IN A CHRONICLE SERIES



I thought that I'd leave you with some of my own poetry before I wrapped this series up. Considering that this is the last issue, I had better do it now, no?

I consider this one of my better works—and it's certainly one of the most popular requests I get at open-mics. It's also in keeping with the style I generally shoot for. So, without further ado, heeere's...

The Creamy Leprechaun ©1997, John Henry Biederman

Out of the id and into his dawn;
Enter: The Creamy Leprechaun.

From a cash brainstorm for lattés to pawn,
working the café, the syrups did spawn
ideas for flavors, concoctions and mixes
like thin mints and turtle-taste lattés as fixes
but for Irish Creme my creative block nixes;
and likewise for creme dé menthe, brain lost its kickses.

But mix up the two with espresso and milk
and write it on boards with the hazelnut ilk—
a marketing board I devised and had drawn,
announcing our Creamy Leprechaun.

The feature was not well-received by the owner;
I confided to a comrade that my theme brought a boner;
with the owner, he did let me give it a try,
and many a customer twinkled an eye
and ordered my drink with a voice on the sly
while my coworker gasped and her verbiage was spry—
she thought it bizarre to think dirty upon
the concept of Creamy Leprechaun.

Now I think that the time may be ripe for digressin'—
we all think of sweatin' and grindin' and messin'—
and what on the slate of your mind is thereon
when YOU think of Creamy Leprechaun?
Answer me now and be honest and true
for a show of hands is demanded of you!
Raise yours if carnal thoughts increase in brawn
When YOU hear "Creamy Leprechaun"?

But with my creation I started to pine,
perhaps a real entity came with design
of this coffee character, creation mine—
true essence would make me a chance Frankenstein!

But what does he look like, my free-wheeling pawn?
Who is, the Creamy Leprechaun?
The leprechaun's easy—the traits always stick—
but what makes him creamy? And what makes him tick?
And where does he slumber, and where does he hang?
How often's his lumber, how often's he bang?
Is he a teamster or is he a sailor?
The Unabomber or simply a tailor?

I know I must find him—I must find him quick!
And if you help me, I'll show you my prick
I have on my cactus, we'll watch it grow thick!
And if you find Creamy, I'll show you a trick!

So follow me now on my nutty new quest—
my mind is a cheap hotel, but you're a guest—
for civilization's a helpless young fawn
when loosed with the Creamy Leprechaun.

'Night Falls on Manhattan,' not as exciting as an evening in Times Square

By Sandy Campbell
Film Correspondent

"Night Falls on Manhattan," based on Robert Daley's novel "Tainted Evidence," is a so-so Law-and-Order-ish New York lawyer drama directed and written by Sidney Lumet. It concerns a young, hotshot prosecutor, who eventually becomes the District Attorney of Manhattan and rises out of nowhere from his humble roots.

His first case has him using his father, Ian Holm ("Fifth Element," "Chariot of Fire") as his key witness, as his father was severely wounded by a notorious drug-lord (Shiek Mahmud-Bey) that he and his precinct were trying to track.

Richard Dreyfuss plays an Alan Dershowitz-like defense lawyer only defending Bey in order to clamp down on police corruption, suspecting authorities of protecting Bey's drug ring before deciding to turn on him.

The best thing about the film is that it is a fine, small ensemble piece. Ron Leibman's District Attorney, Morgenstern

("Norma Rae," "Slaughterhouse Five"), definitely steals the movie. One wishes that all of sudden he didn't get sick and have to step down from the DA's office, disappearing from the film. Ian Holm, as Liam Casey, a New York cop trying his best to be honest in a corrupt police precinct, also delivers a notable performance, as does James Gandolfini as his crooked partner. Shiek Mahmud-Bey's slick drug lord is also a small scene stealer. I was disappointed to find out that he was not Arabian since I don't get to see many Arabs in Hollywood films.

There is one scene in "Night Falls on Manhattan" that I thought should have ended on the cutting-room floor. It's a scene we have seen hundreds and hundreds of times in movies and it gets more ludicrous every time we see it. Andy Garcia ends up in bed with Lena Olin, ("Enemies," "A Love Story") a lawyer-aid to Richard Dreyfuss. It's not just that they are not in love or that there is no sexual tension. The scene comes off like, "Well, I am the main male character and you're the only female character, so we do it or the story will not make sense."

"Night Falls on Manhattan" reflects its slow, muddling jazz music-score and opening paintings. B-



Photo courtesy of Spelling Films

Andy Garcia (right) and Lena Olin (left) star as opposing attorneys whose personal involvement threatens an already highly-charged criminal case.



Photo courtesy of Spelling Films

Andy Garcia stars as Sean Casey, an idealistic street cop turned Manhattan District Attorney who is thrust into the limelight after prosecuting a high profile case.

Mema's Love Loft



With
Mema Ayi

This is it. The last installment of the Love Loft for the semester.

For a while there, the Loft was filled with anger, bitterness and even hate. Random guys around Columbia are still calling me names when they see me on campus. "Cow" is one of many names I've been called (and one of the few I can print) since the infamous "Men are jerks" column.

And I still stand by that. Most men are jerks and too many women are dumb enough to stand for it. I'm done with jerks. Finished. It's over. No more. From here on out, it's nice guys or nothing.

To quote Chronicle reader Carrie Nelson, I think I found a "Prince Respectful with balls" of my own. If he's got a brother Carrie, I'll let you know.

Finding a Mr. Respectful is as simple as holding out for one. There are plenty out there. Yours will come to you if you wait. But you can't do what so many women do and put lots of "forever" pressure on him. That scares most guys away. And it's annoying. Besides, forever is a long, long time and even Prince Respectful, Mr. Perfect In Every Way or Grant Hill (yes, I had to throw that in there) has the potential to turn into a jerk.

But, if you've been reading the Love Loft, you know how to spot a jerk and can get out if your Prince Respectful turns into one.

Here are the answers to some questions I've received (mostly in passing) over the semester and didn't quite get around to answering:

Where or how can you meet your mate?

If I knew the answer to that, I'd have one.

Almost all the guys I've dated over the past year I met somehow through work (no I'm not a hooker). I'm not suggesting that you begin to date your co-workers (that's a really bad idea), but keep your eyes open. And open yourself up to new experiences or find a social hobby, like beach volleyball. This is a great way to meet new and interesting people who share your interests (not necessarily beach volleyball--that was just a suggestion and it's certainly not for everyone. Find something you like to do).

What are appropriate things to do on a first date and how do I get a second one?

Never take a woman to an adult bookstore for a first date. Mainly you want to try to avoid any situation where you won't be able to talk to each other, like a movie or a party where only one of you knows everybody there.

What about interracial dating?

I'm not even touching that one! Let me just say that my views on interracial dating (and some other controversial issues) make me the world's biggest hypocrite.

How can shy guys make the first move?

Just make it already!!! There's nothing more frustrating than dealing with a "shy" guy. That forces women into getting information about your feelings from other sources. You shy guys have to realize that rejection is just a part of life and that you're never going to get anywhere if you don't start taking some chances. It's the '90s and we are asking guys out, but it's not going to happen as often as you'd like it to. Just go for it!

I'll leave you for the summer now. I hope your summer is filled with lots of romance and/or at least one "summer fling." Keep in mind though, that summer flings are not meant to last forever. That's why they're called summer flings. Consider yourself lucky if your fling is more of a romance and lasts through the fall (or beyond). Honestly, you should consider yourself lucky if you get a summer fling at all. Sometimes those are mighty hard to come by!

You can e-mail all of your love/relationships questions to me over the summer at: maayi@hotmail.com

WANTED: Writers and Photographers!

The Columbia Chronicle is looking for staff writers and photographers to help fill its pages for the fall 1997 semester.

Interested students should sign up for the class "College Newspaper Workshop", which is held every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. To qualify, you must be a Journalism or Photography major, of junior or senior status, and have a 3.0 GPA.

The class is three credit hours.

Students participating in the workshop will have their work published weekly in the Chronicle and also learn about the newspaper industry.

For more information, call Chronicle faculty adviser Jim Sulski at ext. 5584.



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The Bradford Group, a direct marketer of limited edition collectible products, has the following internships available. If you are of junior/senior standing with a GPA of 2.7 or above, please consider the following:

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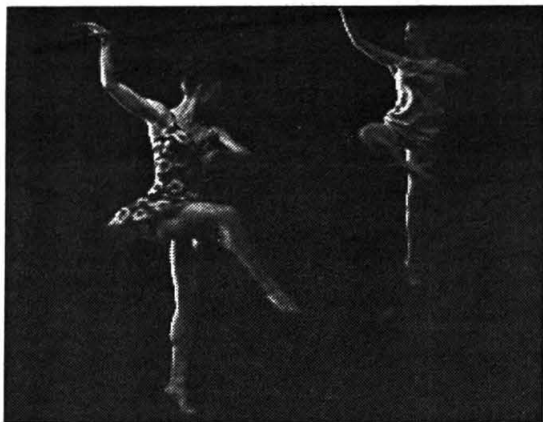
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PERSONALS

SRF petite, smart, fun, and ohhh sooo sassy, seeks **SRM** who is big (tall), beautiful and brilliant, who likes to party. No losers (you know who you are) need apply. Please write me in care of The Chronicle, code # A1125.

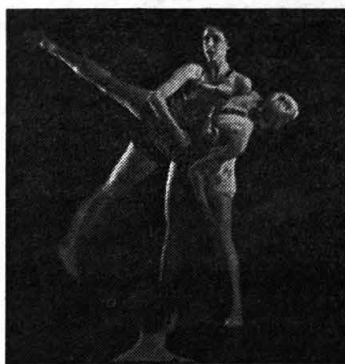
GWM, handsome, 30-ish, 5'10", 160 lbs., dark blond, hazel eyes, HIV- and very muscular. I'm a charming, sexy, caring romantic Leo looking for an attractive, intelligent, warm, compassionate man. I am a non-smoker/non-drug user who seeks same. I enjoy quiet time at home, which includes romantic dinners and thought-provoking conversation. Please write me if you want someone strong to keep you warm on those cold winter nights. code # A1028.

To respond to a Personal ad, write to the code number in care of The Chronicle, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605.



"Distractions," this year's senior student dance concert, was presented by Deborah Dorhman and Tiffany Bowden on May 17.

Photos by Blair Fredrick



Dance students arrange, perform visual wonder

By Maria Tacderas
Staff Writer

Toward the end of every semester at Columbia's Dance Center, 4730 N. Sheridan Road, a selected number of seniors are chosen to choreograph and perform in a senior student concert.

Such was the privilege for both Tiffany Bowden and Deborah Dorhman, who painstakingly arranged a seven-number program that not only moved a packed house Saturday, May 17, but also enlightened a few audience members who otherwise would have indulged in an inebriated Blockbuster night.

The nearly two-hour performance, titled "Distractions," was a visual wonder, especially for this dance-reviewing novice. The grace and effortlessness with which the dances moved was awe-inspiring and the simplicity of the stage design appropriately enhanced the presence of the dancers.

The senior concert was augmented by musician Rick Kubas and also included dancers Mary Chorba, Rachel Evans, Joseph Harkin, Christina Kelly, Jenn Raleigh, Peter Sciscioli, Ebony Smith, Keturah Stickann, Casey Von Loon, Tracee Westmoreland and Oyin Wordlaw.

"The dancers could not have been more lovely," said audience member Scott Mulholland. "It really renewed my desire to teach again."

"To be honest, my girlfriend made me go," said Julian Bradley. "I expected to fall asleep, but ended up really impressed. I felt a sense of culture creeping up on me."

Dorhman graduates this June with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance/Choreography. She has accomplished many goals throughout her academic career. She has choreographed numerous works, the most noteworthy being "These are the Blues," which was eventually selected to be performed at the 1997 American College Dance festival.

Bowden also graduates this June with a Bachelor of Arts in dance with an emphasis in Performance/Choreography and Teaching. Before venturing to Chicago, she danced with the Ballet East Dance Theater in Austin, Texas, where she also performed works by Regina Larkin of the Joyce Tristler Company and by Toni Bravo of Kinesis. Bowden also taught for Ballet East's outreach program, Dare to Dance. She is presently teaching Creative Modern Dance at Mount Carmel Academy of Lakeview.



Cafe serves up more than java

By Sheryl Tirol
Correspondent
and John Henry Biederman
Editor-in-Chief

In a day and age when students are constantly studying and trying to catch up on work, the old bedroom and library just don't cut it anymore. A place where one can relax, chat, study and even get a good cup of coffee can be hard to find, especially at 2 a.m.

Let's face it most of us college students wait until the "wee hours" of the night to get inspired and motivated to finish our work. In this phase, one needs a great cup of coffee or mocha latte, and a place of motivation.

Sometime in the early '90s, coffee became hip. It wasn't that most everyone was drinking it, it became almost a way of life. Coffeehouses began springing up on every other city corner where people would talk, study, read and chat. Coffee bars, like Starbucks, began proliferating, too, as people became willing to shell out around \$2 for better tasting jo.

Coffee is still a hip commodity, but the scenario has changed somewhat. Coffee houses are rare. It boils down to economic facts. Coffeehouses, with their bottomless cups and atmosphere conducive to "hanging out" return a smaller profit than the stop-and-go, pay-for-a-cup-and-get-on-your-way coffee bars.

But don't tell that to Kathy Carey. Carey is the owner and manager of the 3rd Coast coffeehouses and winebars, with Gold Coast locations at 1260 N. Dearborn St. and 29 E. Delaware Blvd. And although she doesn't label the 3rd Coast a coffeehouse, it certainly has the coffeehouse feel.

As soon as you walk in or even peer through the windows of the café, you'll see students or others buried in books or chatting.

"I had a warm intimate feeling when I first walked in because of its atmosphere," said Columbia student, Anita

Hardwick.

3rd Coast's atmosphere serves as not only a nice relaxing place for students but also a great place to go after a night of socializing or a "late date."

They're not just known for their coffees—the restaurant offers exotic fare, from quiches to curries, alongside breakfasts, sandwiches, salads and typical "snack" coffeehouse items. And in addition to the coffee drinks, teas, Italian sodas and steamed milk beverages, 3rd Coast boasts a wine and beer list impressive enough to attract well-to-do professionals living in the Gold Coast.

"I studied art history for 2 years at college," Carey explained, "so I understand the whole coffeehouse thing. But a plain, old coffeehouse has real trouble turning a profit," Carey said.

Carey has only owned 3rd Coast since January. She managed the restaurants for seven years before taking out the loans necessary to buy the business, however, and still continues in the capacity of manager, coordinating 25 employees.

"It's a great place because any time you're just hungry or want to hang out with some friends, 3rd Coast is perfect," said a frequent customer, Bon Aguilan. Celebrities at 3rd Coast have also been spotted. Aguilan and his friends one night ran into Dennis Rodman of the Chicago Bulls.

"He was just sitting there at one of the tables and just drinking some coffee and we were able to say hello and chat with him for a few minutes," Aguilan said.

3rd Coast is not only a hit with college students but also with many working professionals in the area.

Hard work and long hours or not, Carey doesn't see much choice in the matter for someone who wants to achieve.

"I've learned that you get absolutely nothing for nothing in life," concluded Carey.

Fiction Department celebrates Hairtrigger

By Sheryl Tirol
Correspondent
and Chuck Jordan
Copy Editor

The Fiction Writing Department's own literary magazine, Hair Trigger 19 was celebrated with a publication party, reading and reception on Friday, May 23 at 7:30 p.m.

"It's the highlight of the year because it's the last event of the year," said department chairman, Randy Albers. Recently the Hair Trigger 18 won a sweep of awards in traditional fiction, experimental fiction, and essay in the 1997 Columbia University Scholastic Press association. A Gold Medal award in the critique of the CSPA. Ten of the 24 individual pieces appeared in Hair Trigger 18 were awarded. Among those who received awards were: Kristin Bair, Todd Burger, Serfina Chamberlain, Jill Pollack, Joy Reeves, Paul Wagemann, Harvey Wilcox, Terrick Wilkerson and Jennifer Yos.

"We won awards in 1, 2 and 3 category this was her finest showing ever," Albers commented. As opposed to many other schools Columbia's fiction writing is its own kind because most institutions don't have their own fiction writing department.

The University of Illinois at Chicago was among the closest program had a program Columbia. David Walsh, an English major at UIC, said that the students are English majors but can go into creative writing as a concentration.

"Our program has a big range of students and offers various workshops each semester for under graduates and graduates," Walsh said. Walsh also added that like Columbia their faculty encourages their students to get published before they graduate. Radio Active I is their annually published literary magazine and another one is Rio, which is on the Internet.

Another big asset of Columbia's fiction writing department is that many of the faculty have a literary background and have a strong focus on the arts and communications in their style of teaching.

"We like to have our students have a literature background and more reading and writing," Albers said.

A prime aspect in the department is the story workshop approach, which was developed

Albers believes that the story workshop and prose core develops skills in a systematic way. Two other areas of the curriculum are the specialty writing area, which allow students to write genre in adult fiction writing, popular and suspense writing.

Publishing courses, critical reading and writing, and researching is the other area that is unique to the department.

"They are broad based and focused writing courses," said Albers.

Something new that is being started is the interdisciplinary major with fiction writing and theater. This will allow students to not only study theater courses but be able to use their writing skills such as play writing. Many highlights the department involve well-respected writers, such as Charles Johnson, University of Washington and national book award recipient: Jane Hamilton, "Book of Ruth," and Penway award winner, Ana Castillo, "Far from God," Michael Curtis Atlantic Monthly, David Bradley and John Edgar White.

Many of the writers come to speak to students and discuss the writing process. They also help give student tips on writing manuscripts and an individual discussion to encourage students.

Also, a new scholarship fund was created by Shultz and faculty member Betty Shiflett. Faculty member Andre Allegretti benefited through efforts and the events raised \$60,000. It was a tribute to the story workshop approach developing the alumni board.

"The story workshop approach has trained many people within the diversity of jobs, from the arts to business to academia. Each SWS class develops the students' skills in reading, writing, listening, and abstracting. It's a creative, imaginative field of conceptualizing," said Albers.

The award-winning Hair Trigger is a showcase of the department. Many pieces are taken from fiction writing classes. Advance students choose pieces for publication.

The department also has its own student board to give suggestions to the department and faculty.

Staff tellin' it like it was

Photos by staff

What was your favorite Chronicle memory?



John Biederman
Editor-in-Chief
Senior

That time that Mich... Oh, no, not that. Maybe the time I... Uh-uh, not putting that in print. I guess the Kiss make-up. The "fan" mail. Oh, and of course, the dinner conversation.



Mema Ayi
Managing Editor
Junior

Personally ridding the Chronicle of the ridiculously pointless and simple-minded Bagman comic.



Jill Schimelpfenig
Features Editor
Senior

Chasing down writers for their stories and listening to the pitiful excuses for why they insisted upon giving me headaches and high blood pressure on Fridays, when I had only received one-eighth of the copy that I had assigned. I guess that I just "don't understand."



Jim Boozer
News Editor

My first official day as News Editor. I thought I was going to die. My ulcer was very close to exploding like a fireball from my stomach.



Michelle DuFour
Assistant
Features Editor
Junior

Enjoying all of the free CDs and movie passes and being overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the workshop.



Robert Stevenson
Opinion Editor
Junior

Favorite memory?! From here? You're kidding, right? That's one of the funniest things I've ever heard, no, wait, that was the use of the phrase "cum savior" earlier this semester.



Blair Fredrick
Photo Editor
Junior

When Bob busted the naked guy in the Torco building.



Jerry LaBuy
Copy Editor
Junior

When I learned to never shoot an RPG at close range.

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Bob Chiarito
Catcher of
Naked Men
Senior

Angry phone calls, hate mail and death threats were nice, but the first week of every semester stands out because the female writers are still nice and innocent-that's what I like most. Also, dirty looks from the administration.



Rui Kaneya
Copy Editor
Junior

Sending this picture to my parents.



Jim Sulski
Faculty Advisor
Freshman

It had to be that weekend where I was able to wean most of the staff off their methadone addictions and marathon viewings of "Step by Step."



Leon Triplett
Senior Writer
Sophomore

My memory betrays me.



Amy Pickle
Advertising Manager
Junior

The day the story broke about the Financial Aid "Happy Hour." With all the cocktailing going on, it's a small wonder why financial aid files end up "lost" or "misplaced."



Jason Kravarik
Assistant
News Editor
Junior

Getting free food on Friday nights.



Chuck Jordan
Copy Editor
Graduate

Having my copy editing criticized by one of the Chronicle's ace investigative staff writers.

This is the very last installment of "How's Your Steak?" in the Columbia College Chicago Chronicle, so I figured I'd do something special...or at least something fitting. Therefore, I'm going to sing you a song—my version of "My Way."

Okay, so you're only going to see it on the page. But I encourage you to sing to the melody of the original song as you read it. So slip into something more comfortable (and preferably revealing), fix yourself a martini, a cup of coffee, a strong cup of Alka Seltzer or whatever you'd like, put on your favorite version of "My Way" (Sinatra's, The Sex Pistols' or, my personal recommendation, Elvis' off Aloha from Hawaii via Satellite) and sing along to...



My Way

And now, the end is here
 you're holding this, the final issue
 I'm sure, a bunch will cheer
 but just in case, I'd grab some tissue
 I've stretched the rules—some'd say
 I've been a lane, short of a highway—
 but none, deny me this
 I did it My Way

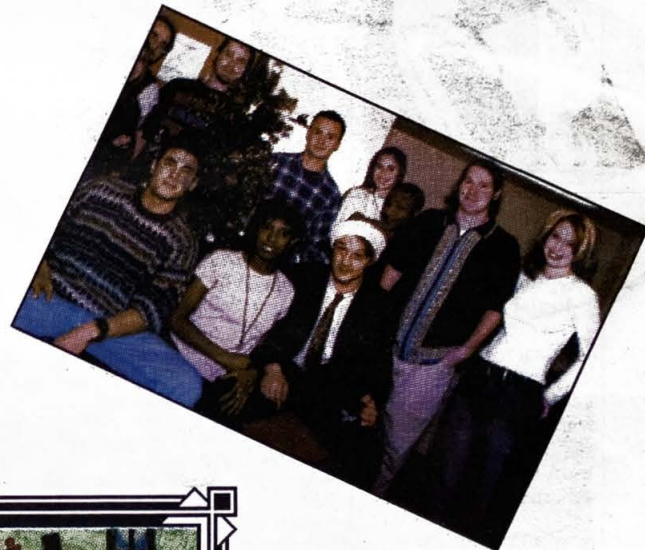
Regrets—oh man this job,
 been overworked, and often lonely
 (thank you very much)
 But if, it came again
 I'd do the same, this choice my only
 I've loved, this stressful ride
 I'll 'member each, detour and byway—
 and more, much more than this
 I did it My Way

When Knuckles came, he was a hit
 perhaps soon o-verdone a bit,
 but through it all, I took the flack,
 and stabbed tradi-tion in the back
 "good" mail was rare, I didn't care—
 just did it My Way

I've pissed, some people off,
 I almost fought, a crazy swinger
 (thank you, try the veal—How's Your Steak?)
 And count-less are the schmucks
 who blew their stack, at "Shoots" zingers
 To think, I pulled this crap
 while socially, still played my shy way—
 don't like it?—then screw off
 because it's My way

For what is this school? The cutting edge!
 Where all the Arts, swing from a ledge
 You freak 'em out, and lose your mind
 and never simp-ly follow blind
 The record's clear, I tore loose here—
 and did it My Way!

Yes—it was Myyyyyy Waaay.



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