

11-10-1997

## Columbia Chronicle (11/10/1997)

Columbia College Chicago

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# The Chronicle

OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Vol. XXXI, No.7

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November 10, 1997

## P-FAC still looking to acheive union

*Union certification election requires 30 percent of part-time faculty member to endorse*

By Amy Pugh  
Staff Writer

Columbia College's part-time faculty association, or P-FAC, conducted a card drive on campus last week. Many may have seen in the Wabash building: P-FAC has set up shop in the lobby, with its information packets, buttons and "7 cents" signs taped to card tables.

P-FAC's goal is to bring about a union certification election. Thirty percent of the part-time faculty members must respond favorably in order to acheive the goal. Then P-FAC members can vote to decide whether they want union representation at Columbia.

John Stevenson, spokesperson for P-FAC, says the outcome looks good. "I'm sure we'll have well over 30 percent," he said. "I am confident we will win an election."

Joe Laiacina, part-time faculty member in the academic computing department agrees. "The card drive is going very well, and we feel overwhelming support from almost all parts of the college campus."

In accordance with the National Labor Relations Act, which prohibits an employer from commenting on certain aspects of organized labor movements, Columbia's President John Duff was not able to comment.

P-FAC hopes to achieve equity, benefits and security through union representation. Currently, the average pay scale for part-time faculty members teaching one three-credit course is \$1,500. P-FAC would like a \$3,000 course minimum with room for advancement, depending on experience, qualification and achievement.

Stephen Mack, a film student at Columbia, would like to see the part-time faculty make better salaries.

"They [part-timers] provide a valuable education for the students," Mack said. "The administration needs to reassess and rethink the salary they pay these people."

Richard Holland, a sound/music major, agrees. "I think [the union] is essential," he said. "For all the money we pay for tuition, some of that should go to the part-time faculty."

Some of the money paid for tuition does go to the part-timers. Even though \$1,500 for one three-credit class may not seem like much, according to an Oct. 16 article in the Chicago Tribune, the Illinois average is a mere \$1,149. In addition, Columbia is not that far off from other colleges in Chicago.

At Truman College, the pay scale runs from \$1,305 to \$2,010. No medical benefits are included. At Roosevelt University, the part-time faculty's salary ranges from \$1,450 to \$1,800 and offers no benefits.

At the School of the Art Institute, however, the pay scale begins at \$2,700, and there is no maximum. After three years, its part-time faculty members may apply for adjunct professor status, which comes with medical benefits.

According to P-FAC literature, Columbia's part-time faculty is also asking for medical coverage. In President Duff's letter to the editor (published in last week's Chronicle), he states that, for the first time, insurance is being offered to the part-time faculty.

But Laiacina and Stevenson contend that the college's move was not more than an offer to contact a broker for them from the yellow pages—anyone could have done that themselves.

Paul Johnson, director of Human Resources, disagrees. "We provided a reputable broker and underwriter—someone who wanted this type of business—so people could design a plan they needed," he said. "In no way was it designed to give insurance, but to provide a way of getting

insurance."

Stevenson and other members of P-FAC are not satisfied. "Two students in one of my sections will pay more than I'll receive for teaching the course," he said. "Columbia should easily be able to pay its part-timers what four students pay without harming its fiscal health."

Stevenson, a lecturer in the liberal education department, said that the absence of a higher pay scale for teachers with seniority angers him. "I've been here for seven years, and my base salary is the same as anyone who came in this year."

Even though Duff could not comment on the possibility of a union, he did maintain the importance of part-time faculty at Columbia and stood by his statements that the part-timers had a 5-percent increase in their base salary this year. He also said that another 5 percent increase has been recommended for next year. "One of the goals of Columbia over the years has been to use as many part-time practitioners as possi-

ble," Duff said. "At the same time, another goal has been to keep the tuition low. Columbia has the lowest tuition of any four year independent college in Illinois."



"Faces of Tibet" photo exhibit, which showcases the works by Columbia grad Jessica Tampas, opened Nov. 6

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## Campus security reviews its practices

By Eva Boyer  
Staff Writer

### *Student's gold necklace ripped from her neck*

cars and \$15, was stolen from a coat hanging in room 1507.

In response to recent thefts, Columbia's security is stepping up its efforts to police areas that have been plagued by crime, according to Martha Meegan-Linehan, director of administrative services.

However, after a re-examination of the incidents by security, questions still linger about connections between the recent rash of thefts.

Security officers have been alerted to the thefts and will make extra rounds around campus buildings. The security department is asking faculty, staff and students to report any suspicious behavior.

Security has not been successful in identifying suspect(s) in the thefts. But school officials remain confident with security's performance.

Columbia has a "fairly high level of security," said Bert Gall,

provost and executive vice president. "In the area of personal safety, we are far away better than other campuses in the city."

Security is taking new measures to protect students' belongings, but campus theft can't be entirely prevented.

On Oct. 24, a student in room 1005 of the Wabash building had her purse, with an undisclosed amount of cash and credit cards, stolen after leaving it unattended in a classroom. On Oct. 28, in the same building, a student's wallet was stolen after she mistakenly left it by the pay phone on the first floor.

In the 600 S. Michigan building, on Oct. 21, a student had a gold necklace ripped from her neck while waiting for the elevator on the first floor. The thief grabbed the necklace and ran out the door. On Oct. 24, a student's wallet, with several credit

One theft was reported in the Torco building on Oct. 27 when a student left a book bag unattended in room 1301 during a class break. A short time later, she discovered \$20 and a few ATM transaction receipts were missing from her wallet.

Administration is in no hurry to contact the Chicago police for crimes of this nature.

"We have an excellent working relationship with the Chicago police department," said Jose Gallegos, head of security. "If I see a pattern, I will advise them as to what is going on."

The ultimate decision on whether or not to involve the Chicago Police Department rests on the shoulders of R. Michael DeSalle, vice president of finance.

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sports columnist

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## Theft

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who doesn't see the need to contact the police.

Students and faculty may be quick to lay blame with security, but some changes are planned to better secure the safety of everyone on campus.

For instance, in response to criticisms about the location of the security desk in the Wabash building, school officials have put together a plan to enlarge the security desk area by building a rounded counter at the west end of the building. A broadened view would enable security to see the stairs and the south end of the lobby. The vantage point from the security desk is poor, making it virtually impossible to see the stairs.

DeSalle said that security desk will be redesigned this year.

## Escort service to be offered

By Eva Boyer  
Staff Writer

Campus security is making another effort to ensure students' safety outside the buildings by sponsoring a student escort service.

Escorts will be available Monday through Thursday from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. to accompany students, staff and faculty to campus buildings, train stations, bus stops, parking lots and surrounding areas.

Anyone interested can stop by the Career Planning and Placement Department located in at 623 S. Wabash, suite 300 to get an application.

Escorts will undergo training by the security department. Flexible hours are available and positions range from six to 20 hours a week. A minimum of 3.00 GPA is required.

# Why 21? How the minimum drinking age became law

By Mat Herron  
The Kentucky Kernel  
University of Kentucky

To Matthew Heishman, the 21-minimum drinking age law sounds like the result of political duck-duck goose.

"I don't think you can pick an age and say, 'You're responsible enough to drink,'" said Heishman, a University of Kentucky first-year pharmacy student, who just turned 21 and said he hasn't been carded in four years.

Historically, arriving at the 21 minimum drinking age wasn't quite so simple.

Restrictions on drinking, buying and selling alcohol to minors date as far back as prohibition, the period in the 1920s when the federal government banned alcohol nationwide.

The government changed the constitution in 1964 to allow 18-year-olds to vote, affording this age group all the freedoms of being an adult "except the purchase of alcoholic beverages," said Norman Lawson, assistant statute reviser at the Legislative Research Commission in Frankfort.

During the '80s, former President Ronald Reagan suggested Congress threaten to withhold a certain percentage of highway traffic money unless state legislators passed the drinking limit.

"What's odd is that Ronald Reagan was the decentralizer, 'Get the government off people's backs,'" said Brad Canon, a political science professor who teaches civil liberties and constitutional interpretation at UK.

"But he had no (problem) whatsoever recommending that bill to Congress, and

Congress had no (problem) with passing it."

The states who refused were docked 5 percent of the funding the first year and 10 percent in subsequent years, said Sandra Davis, staff assistant in the General Counsel Office of Kentucky's Transportation Cabinet.

Why go the highway route?

The federal government has no constitutional authority to pass a drinking age, Canon said.

But the increasing number of drunk-driving accidents influenced state legislators to pass the bill, and Kentucky had little interest in challenging the law.

South Dakota and Louisiana, however, did.

When challenged by then-Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole in the '80s, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that "sufficient linkage" existed between highway safety and a drinking age, Canon said.

"It's a stretch," said Canon, a graduate student in Wisconsin when the state's minimum drinking age was 18. "Congress gives money to states on conditions all the time."

In 1995 minors Jody Manuel and Stacy Foret and alcohol retailers Burke Perrotti and Wendell J. Manuel sued several of Louisiana's top officials, including the governor and the attorney general, on grounds that the law was a form of age discrimination and that it violated the state's constitution.

The trial judge threw out the statutes against minors, calling them "unreasonable," and the state Supreme Court affirmed the judge's decision.

Yet after fiery criticism from editorial writers, religious organizations and alcohol

abuse prevention groups, the court reversed its decision on July 2, 1996, "based on statistical evidence that 18- to 20-year-olds had a higher likelihood" of being involved in drunk-driving accidents.

To John Rawls, that's bunk.

Rawls, a New Orleans attorney, filed a "friend of the court" brief slamming the Louisiana Supreme Court for using discriminatory proof to hand down a discriminatory verdict.

"Whenever we judge people by categories, we judge them unfairly," Rawls said. "There's no such thing as partial citizenship in this country. If they can stop 18-year-olds from drinking, they can stop 70-year-olds from drinking."

Legislation can't stop the libation for some UK students, who say the 21 law is virtually unenforceable.

And when it is enforced, be it by bartender, police officer or store clerk, students say it's not done consistently.

"I think they enforce it on a when-they-feel-like-it basis," said Shannon Clark, 18, a mechanical engineering freshman. "It's something that no one can do anything about."

"It keeps people out of bars, but it doesn't keep people from drinking. Just get somebody older," said Jody Larsen, a computer science junior. "There's so much alcohol floating around at (college) parties."

Bottom line: The law may be purely cosmetic but not subject to change.

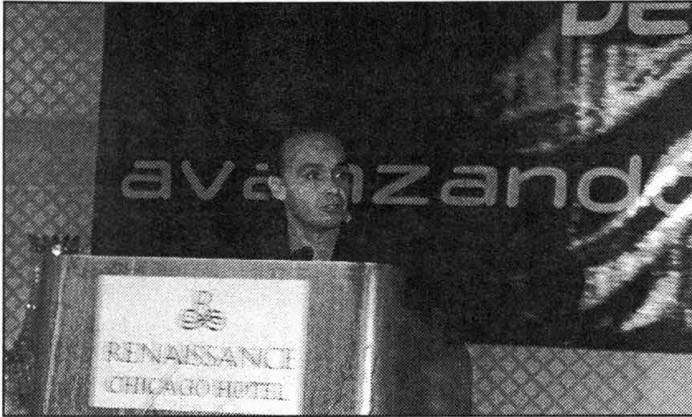
"In some ways, this is a symbolic law," Canon said, "because people who are under 21 and want to drink, can."

# Time to Surf!

## The Chronicle is on the Web

### [www5.interaccess.com/chronicle](http://www5.interaccess.com/chronicle)

# Latino Institute honors three Columbia students



Congressman Louis Guiterez delivers inspirational speech at Latino Institute

By Melissa Ramirez  
Correspondent

Over 600 men and women danced the mambo at the Renaissance Hotel over the weekend to raise money for the Latino Institute. Eleven college students from the Chicago area were honored with scholarships from various corporations, three of which went to Columbia College students.

Militzie Martinez, broadcast journalism major and a member of the Journalism Club, received a \$1,000 scholarship from Columbia College.

"I look forward to working in broadcasting and setting an example for future generations of Latinos," said Martinez.

The Puerto Rican Bar Association awarded \$1,000 scholarship to Claudia Herrera. Herrera, a broadcast journalism major, is interning with Dave Savini at Channel 5 News.

"I see myself working in the news field while attending law school. I want to thank the Puerto Rican Bar Association and the Latino Institute for this scholarship, which will help me reach my goals," said Herrera.

Miguel A. Sanchez was the only male to receive a scholarship.

"Tonight I am proud to be a Latino and proud to be awarded this scholarship," said Sanchez.

Sanchez plans to seek employment after graduation in the non-profit sector, working to help Latinos obtain affordable housing.

Congressman Luis Guiterez delivered a rousing speech to an enthusiastic audience. He thanked the Latino Institute for its research on public policy analysis, advocacy, workforce development and immigration in the Latino community.

Two outstanding professionals were also honored for donating their time, energy and money to help Latinos.

Luis Yarzagray, M.D., received the Dr. Jorge Prieto Humanitarian Award for treating hundreds of individuals worldwide as a neurosurgeon.

Since 1967, Yarzagray has donated thousands of dollars worth of medical equipment, land, buildings, ambulances and his time providing medical attention to the needy.

Demonstrating the characteristics that made him a recipient, he was unable to attend the dinner because he was in the Philippines performing brain surgery on a child. Yarzagray has donated 12 scholarships to Latino students.

Since 1990, the Latino Institute annually honors an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the Chicago area. This year, the Community Leadership Award went to Carlos DeJesus, executive director of Latinos United, a housing advocacy organization. DeJesus graduated from Yale University with a degree in psychology and has worked in and for the Latino community most of his professional career.

As executive director of Latinos United, DeJesus has escalated the fight against the discrimination of Latinos by filing a class action lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Chicago Housing Authority.

As the evening went on, an eclectic group of professionals from the corporate sector, community activists and future leaders celebrated the Latino spirit, dancing the night away to music by Mambo Express.

# Award-winning actress tells story of mentally ill

By Michelle Pocock  
Copy Editor

CHIPS (Chronic Illness Injury Pain Support) will be putting on a performance by award-winning stage and screen actress Judith Harding on Monday, Nov. 10, and Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Harding's is a unique autobiographical show called "You are Here," about her trials coping with debilitating mental illness since the age of seven. The show will feature five excerpts from the full length story that Harding has been working on for two years.

Harding debuted the show at Cafe Voltaire this summer, running from May to July.

New City calls the show "a priceless gift...Judith Harding has captured the rich, dramatic essence of sickness, recovery and carrying on. By telling her story in all its humor and horror without whit of self indulgence, Harding both exudes joy and shatters the wrong headed myths that instill a sense of shame instead of survival in those who suffer from mental illness. It's fascinating, funny and authentic."

Before branching out on her own, Harding starred in the award-winning film, "Alice Underground," directed by Kevin Kline. In addition to movies, Harding has performed in off-Broadway plays including "Richard III" and "A Doll's House."

The performances will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Hokin Annex and will be followed by a discussion with refreshments. All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend.

# Student government election expected before spring semester

By Latoya Clayton  
Correspondent

If you're one of the people always complaining about increased tuition, poor teachers and broken elevators, then the Representatives of Columbia College, or ROCCS task force, is on its way to give your voice some volume.

After toiling all summer long to figure out what Columbia College students want, ROCCS has decided to form a student government in which the students will have a say in the rules and regulations.

Art Burton, ROCCS staff advisor, says that they expect approval from administration soon and he hopes to hold an election by the beginning of the spring semester. Burton said this would be the first time Columbia College has had a student gov-

ernment on campus, and it's long overdue. Burton explained that, although he is an advisor, he will have nothing to do with the decision-making process of the representatives. "It's totally operated of, for and by the students."

The student representatives will be chosen from each academic department, and from these leaders, the executive council members will be picked.

Burton said that President John Duff and Dean of Students Jean Lee are behind the idea of a student government on campus. After working out minor technicalities, Lee said that ROCCS can expect everything they ask for to be approved.

According to Lee, the administration has been nothing but supportive toward the student government and that ROCCS has nothing to worry about.

# Columbia student awarded at Emmys

By Robert Stevenson  
Managing Editor

Three Chicago-area students received scholarships Nov. 1 at the 39th Annual Chicago Emmy Awards, including Columbia's Lisa Manna.

Manna, a senior broadcast journalism major, is the recipient of the \$3,500 Tom Skilling Scholarship, sponsored by the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

The scholarship will come in handy for the senior broadcast journalism major, who is graduating in January.

"Financially it's great, especially for my parents," Manna said.

Tom Skilling, meteorologist for WGN-TV and scholarship donor, remembers how much of a burden college is financially from his days at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"I remember going to the administrative offices and signing over checks to them," said Skilling. "I never saw money go so fast."

Skilling added that since he does not have a family, this is his way of giving to students who need help getting through school.

"I'm delighted and honored to be in a position to do this," Skilling said.

According to Steve Corman, director of Broadcast Journalism, Manna is a worthy recipient.

"She's an outstanding student and is very deserving of this award," Corman said.

Scholarships were awarded based on academic achievement, experience and potential in the television industry.

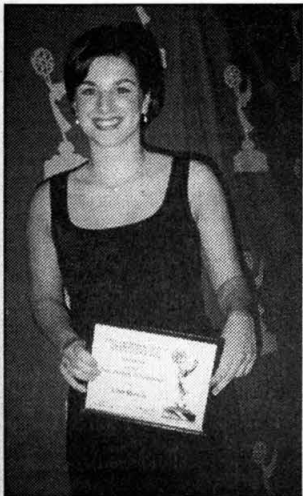
Manna worked as an intern at WMAQ-TV for Joan Esposito and CNN Chicago.

She now interns at WNDU-TV in South Bend, IN, where she field produces and writes stories for the station's afternoon and evening newscasts.

So what does she want to do after she graduates from Columbia?

"My immediate goal is to get a reporting/producing job in a medium to small market," said Manna.

The others who won scholarships attend colleges in the Chicago area. Kelley Rarey is a student at De Paul and received the Donald Ephraim scholarship. Peter Alexander attends Northwestern University and was awarded the Ann and John Drury scholarship.



Lisa Manna receives Tom Skilling Scholarship at Emmy Awards Nov. 1

# Corrections

The page 1 story on 'Echo' in the Nov. 3 issue said the magazine's cover story profiled a Columbia student struggling with the AIDS virus. The cover story actually chronicles the ancient art of body piercing and compares it to the contemporary fad.

Kat Zeman's page 3 story about the reunion in the Marketing dept. was sponsored by the Management dept.

The Chronicle apologizes for the errors.



# **Attention! Columbia College Chicago Students, Faculty & Staff**



## **Help Serve Thanksgiving Dinner to the Homeless**

**Thursday, November 20, 1997**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Pacific Garden Mission  
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# WEEKLY HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black  
Tribune Media Services

The sun is still in Scorpio this week, lending a mysterious quality to the scene. Study music and photography on Monday, while the moon's in Pisces. What you see is what you get on Tuesday and Wednesday, with the moon in Aries. On Thursday and Friday the moon is in Taurus. Allow plenty of time to reach your destination, because traffic will be slow. On Saturday and Sunday, the moon will be in Gemini. Since Gemini is a communicator and Scorpio is silent, conflict can arise. Feelings could get hurt on Saturday, so be careful what you say.

**Aries (March 21-April 19).** Monday is drudgery until late afternoon. That's when you come into your power. Tuesday night, your experience is quite valuable. On Wednesday it looks like you won't get your way, but by evening the tide has turned. Everything works out fine. Thursday and Friday are pretty good days to ask for a raise. If you're not working, those are pretty good days to get a job. The moon's in Gemini over the weekend. Expect to hear the whole truth. Also, write term papers and reports.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20).** Friends can help you understand your partner better on Monday. Explain what's going on and receive valuable insights. Tuesday and Wednesday could get tough in spots. It looks like someone's leaning on you pretty hard. Better get your homework done on time. On Thursday and Friday the moon's in your sign. You could attract positive attention from an exotic foreigner. Be careful with your money over the weekend. Only buy items that are already on your list.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21).** Watch out for subtle innuendoes on Monday. Most of the action is taking place behind the scenes. You and your friends rip and tear on Tuesday and Wednesday. An older person's experience gives your team the advantage. Take care of practical matters Thursday and Friday, before you get into trouble. You'll be in an exuberant mood over the weekend, since the moon is in your sign. Take care, however. With a friend who mirrors your moods, you can speak freely. Watch your words with the others.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22).** Contact with a foreigner on Monday could lead to true love and adventure. You understand each other despite the language barrier. A hot-tempered professor is in a terrible mood Tuesday and Wednesday. He or she has no tolerance for excuses, so forget the one about the dog eating your homework. On Thursday and Friday, you'll fare much better. People are in a more understanding and reasonable mood. Do difficult homework over the weekend. It's not going to get any easier if you wait.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22).** Go ahead and splurge on something for your living space on Monday, even if you have to go without a toy. You're in a rowdy mood on Tuesday and Wednesday. A conversation with a passionate foreigner could lead to amazing adventures. Take care. Arguing with your professors on Thursday and Friday is pointless. Don't even bother. This is definitely a party weekend for you. Celebrate Sadie Hawkins day by letting your true feelings be known.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You're in the spotlight Monday. A partner can't seem to function without you. Isn't it wonderful to be indispensable? There's a little more stress on Tuesday and Wednesday, but don't worry. You're doing better than you think you are. It's hard to travel Thursday and Friday. Obstacles keep getting in the way. If you do travel, be careful. You might do better staying home; that goes for the whole weekend. You'll find more peace and quiet there. If you prefer adventure, tag along with a Gemini.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Pay attention in class on Monday. The teacher wants to hear the answer he or she has in mind. Don't even try to win athletic competitions Tuesday and Wednesday. You'll make more points as a spectator. Let the jocks battle it out among themselves. Make financial decisions on Thursday. Careful deliberation is required. Go shopping Friday morning for something you'll need that night. Start your travels early so you can be cuddled in by nightfall. Romantic adventures prevail this weekend.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** You'll be tempted to ditch all your classes on Monday. You want to stay home in bed. If you can, do it. You'll be working by that night, all the way through Wednesday. There won't be much time for anything else. On Thursday, a partner has a good idea.

Listen carefully, but don't make up your mind until Friday morning. Put your money into neat little rows on Friday evening and Saturday. Budgeting is imperative. Follow through on a commitment Sunday.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** Try not to let a personal soap opera interfere with your schoolwork Monday. The professor would not be amused. Launch into your exercise program again on Tuesday. You could stick with it this time. Tell your friends on Wednesday that you won't have time later that evening. Concentrate on your work all through Thursday and most of Friday. No more excuses allowed. Let a fascinating conversationalist draw you out on Saturday. If you're lucky, the discussion could last through Sunday. Go for it.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** If you're a musician or photographer, Monday's the perfect day to practice. Postpone everything else. A roommate makes unreasonable demands on Tuesday. Comply with some and stall on the others. By Wednesday night, you'll have the advantage. You could also have a very interesting date. Thursday morning's good for romance, too. Get something you need for the house Friday night. Work on a paper over the weekend. It'll be easier to find the right words then.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You might get the money you need on Monday, if you ask nicely. Do your research Tuesday and Wednesday. Your previous experience could lead you to the perfect answer. Take it easy on Thursday and Friday. Your energy level is low then anyway. Might as well relax. You'll need as much enthusiasm as you can muster to keep up with your sweetheart on Saturday and Sunday. Follow through on promises you've already made to each other.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20).** You're lucky on Monday in an exotic setting. Start learning a new language from a native speaker. You're in the mood to shop Tuesday and Wednesday. Take care; that can get expensive real fast. You have the patience to study in depth on Thursday and Friday. Don't get sidetracked by romance and forget your homework. Unexpected company could drop in Friday night or Saturday. Better get some chips and dip on your way home. If you can find any peace and quiet, the weekend's also good for writing papers. You might have to go to the library for that.

**If You're Having a Birthday This Week ...** Born Nov. 10: A gentle playmate could be tougher than you thought. Don't push a moral issue. Nov. 11: Stiff competition will make you better at work this year. Nov. 12: Push yourself hard until spring; you can coast later. Nov. 13:

You and your partner hassle, but a good compromise is possible. Nov. 14: Make a commitment so you can buy something you both want. Nov. 15: Shared resources look plentiful, but can dissipate rapidly. Budget! Nov. 16: Careful saving starting now can make your dream vacation possible.

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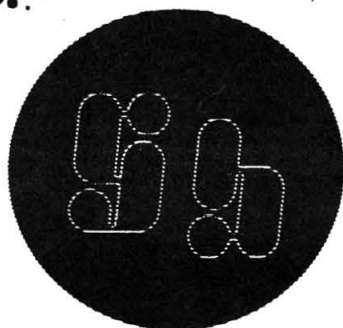
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ANNEX





**Robert Stevenson**

## Don't just sit there. Do something!

*indifference n. Lack of interest or concern.*

For some reason that is what I have been feeling around campus for awhile now, a sense of indifference by students and faculty. I do not know what it is that has me feeling this way.

Maybe it's the continuance of vandalism everywhere in the school. Graffiti being sprawled on walls, stairs, elevators and bathrooms. I think if I stand still long enough, I'll be "tagged" like so many other parts of the school.

Maybe it's the way some of my peers and I get treated indifferently in our dealings with one department we are a part of because of our major. And when questions are raised about the way things are by a mere student, they get upset and lash out at other faculty members. They think it is impossible for a student to be concerned about what is going on, so they have the audacity to assume (remember when you assume, you make an ass out of you and out of me) that the student was told to ask these things by other faculty members. How absurd! They'd never think that a student has a mind of their own and would want to look out for themselves and their peers.

Maybe it's the way the people in charge of that department think of me and my peers as second class students, not deserving of a fair shake even though our money goes to them and we do productive, respectable work in that department.

Maybe it's just because everyone is so complacent around here. Only a few have a fire inside of them to make a difference here at the school.

Groups like ROCCS and P-Fac come to mind as wanting to make a positive change. One for part-time faculty members and the other for students. I wish more individual students would grow a backbone like these groups. Perhaps it would cause the administration to be less lax towards us.

When I go to classes, no one is talking about solutions to problems, only complaints. Are we not the ones who are paying to be here? If you do not like the way things are either speak up and tell someone who can change things, or zip it! I am tired of hearing the whining by students.

Well, I say the hell with sitting idly by and watching the last year of my Columbia experience whiz by with out a few growls.

*"Nothing is so intolerable to man as being fully at rest, without passion, without business, without entertainment, without care. It is then that he recognizes that he is empty, insufficient, dependent, ineffectual. From the depths of his soul now comes at once boredom, gloom, sorrow, chagrin, resentment and despair."*

**Blaise Pascal.**

I think Pascal has something here. When you sit idly by, letting things happen with out speaking out, with out any action, you lose something. You lose out on being able to make a difference. Maybe things won't get better for yourself but maybe in the future others will have it a little easier.

It might not be totally comforting to know that things will remain the same during your stay, but take solace in the fact that things will change in the future.

But what can any of us do right now?

One of the main issues is that no one really knows who to talk to in order to get something taken care of here.

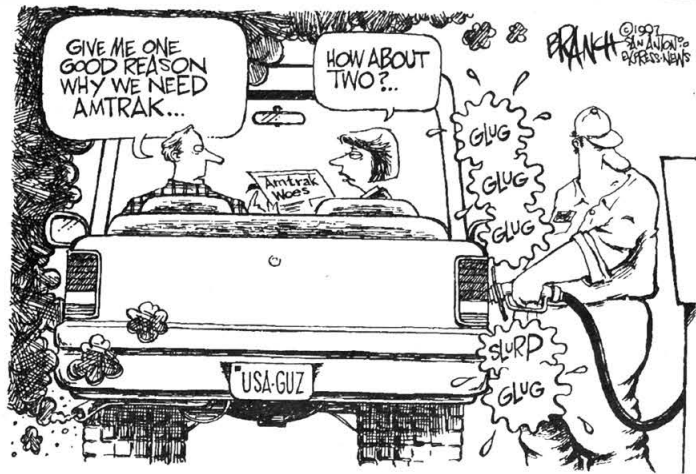
In the past I have gone up the ladder. It seems most effective. Start where the problem is, go to their supervisor, then if you still don't get the answer you want go to the next person and so on and so forth, until you can't go any farther. If you still can't get an answer or solution then find alternatives. If one complaint doesn't get an answer, perhaps you and ten of your friends showing up at once to voice the same concerns will be noticed.

If you have a complaint, a legitimate one, you can write to your campus newspaper. You can talk to the department you may have the problem with. You can talk to a dean. You can talk to a school vice-president. You can even talk to the president of the college. He has said many times that his office is open to all students and that he welcomes them.

So stand up and be heard, maybe you will make a difference.

**Editorials are the opinions of the Chronicle's editorial board. Columns are the opinions of the authors. Views expressed in the opinion pages aren't necessarily the opinions of The Chronicle, Columbia's journalism department or Columbia College.**

**The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor. Wednesday is the deadline for submissions. Please include full name, year and major. Letters can be faxed to 312/427-3920, e-mailed to Chron96@interaccess.com, mailed to 623 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 205, Chicago, IL 60605 or posted on the Chronicle's interactive forum located at <http://www.5.interaccess.com/chronicle>**



## Editorial

### Part-time formation of a union might benefit more than faculty

Columbia prides itself on the fact that many instructors are actually "working professionals." Many of the professionals, however, feel that they are unfairly compensated by administration. In 1993, several of these part-time instructors created P-Fac to speak to administration on their behalf and more recently to form a union.

Columbia, then, is faced with a dilemma: the responsibility of paying the salaries of part-time faculty, while at the same time trying to keep tuition as low as possible.

Many part-time instructors contend that the lack of pay and benefits has hurt their teaching ability. A survey last spring found that a majority of the part-time sample felt that their economic situation affects their ability to teach. It was argued that the lack pay and benefits prompts many of the part-time faculty hold several teaching jobs beyond Columbia in addition to work in their fields.

Administration hasn't been completely unresponsive to the needs of its part-time faculty; last spring, administration made a policy change, offering health insurance that could be purchased by

part-time instructors beginning this fall.

It seems as if a union might be the most expedient way to improve the status of part-time faculty.

Whatever the outcome of the union vote Columbia will be in a better situation if the part timers issues are resolved.

### Security acts to prevent crimes

The recent rash of burglaries has brought about changes in the way Columbia handles security. As reported by Eva Boyer security has instituted some changes that are meant to curtail crime.

The plan to enlarge the security desk in the Wabash building might help discourage potential thieves.

Columbia has addressed an area that could prove to be helpful. The escort service will not only provide security but peace of mind. Students walking alone at night from the school to parking lots, train or bus stations are all potential victims of crime.

The most important things that these changes illustrate is that security is aware that there are problems and is working on solutions.

## Letters to the editor

### Kudos to the Chronicle

Re: Mema Ayi and supporting staff

I want to commend the entire Chronicle staff for the new spread this semester. I'm a former newspaper advocate and editor from another college. I was rather disappointed in the quality of the Chronicle in previous semesters. And my Mama taught me that if I've got nothing good to say I shouldn't say anything at all.

Now, I've got a lot of good things to write. For some reason, this year's staff has connected to my interest in nearly all of the stories that have been chosen for each issue. There is a greater sense of community, which could be lacking in a commuter college, in this year's Chronicle. For a student that's been at Columbia for a year now, I can honestly admit how refreshing it is to see a positive change for improvement. Bravo, Chronicle, bravo!

I especially enjoy Mema's Loft, Jerry La Buy's article on George Tillman (director of 'Soul Food'), the movie reviews, and the coverage of entertainment events (i.e. Dance Africa, etc.). The diversity of the Chronicle has expanded. Each section integrates into a sweet compilation of a well-designed newspapers. Keep up the good work! And thanks for offering us journalism majors an outlet to speak our mind as well as enhance our awareness of quality journalistic style.

**Eloisa Luistro**

### More kudos

I would like to thank the Chronicle for providing me with such excellent insight into the Columbia College community. Keep up the good work guys!

**Posted by Dirk Diggler**  
via the Chronicle interactive forum

### Jed shoots back at the Tea Man

Chances are, you've been waiting for me to resurface, so I'll cut to the chase: It seems Sara and Sam are incensed that their columns have come under fire. Maybe I HAVE been a little hard on them. College newspapers are SUPPOSED to be dotted with asinine crap. But why the hostility? Why are you calling me a dick and an asshole? I'm

guilty of nothing more than voicing my opinions, just like you. And why shouldn't I use a pseudonym? It sounds like if you knew who I really was, you'd try to rip my arms off! Why do you think it's a gender issue when Sara's tri te (look it up) column is criticized? I'm an equal-opportunity critic...Finally, why do you assume that I hate you? I'm just poking fun at your inane ramblings.

It saddens me to see fellow journalism majors (that IS what you are, correct?) crumbling under such petty criticism. The very fact that Mr. Walters dedicated his entire space justifying his existence and ripping me to shreds speaks for itself.

Good luck, Chronicle.

**Posted by JC**  
via the Chronicle interactive forum

### Copy Editors: Leave Sam's column alone

I have to agree with Ms. Cheese. Sam Walters' column is hilarious and just about the best thing in the Chronicle. As for the disturbing punctuation, I would be happy to offer my proofreading services to the all-mighty Tea Man if he ever tires of the Chronicle staff butchering his enlightening pearls of wisdom.

**Posted by JDS**  
via the Chronicle interactive forum

### A rebuttal from Leyla

In Reply to: Re: sara's column posted by Goated Enigma:

Like I said and I guess must repeat:

The last time I looked the column was called "Sara on Sports"

Is your name there no I think not. just like Telander or Marriotti have there quirks in coverage. —which by the way is so anti-chicago it isn't funny—

my problem is that it's ok for the guy sports writers to write their opinions in their column but Sara can't—where's the fairness in that respect???

**Posted by leyla**  
via the Chronicle interactive forum



### (ONE OF) THE DAY(S) I ALMOST KILLED EVERYBODY—PART I

I received a telephone call from my mother recently. It went something like this:

"Hello son."  
 "Hi Ma."  
 "I thought I'd call."  
 "Yes, I know."  
 "Er, right...um, er..."  
 "What's the matter Ma?"  
 "Well, there's been a small accident."  
 "Accident?"  
 "Yes, the toaster caught on fire."  
 "What did you put it out with Ma?"  
 "Well..."  
 "You didn't use wine again did you?"  
 "No."  
 "Or oil?"  
 "No, just water this time."  
 "Really?"  
 "Yes, but the toaster was still plugged in."  
 "Oh Ma..."  
 "So I tried to unplug it..."  
 "Oh Ma!"  
 "With a pair of tongs."  
 "Were they wooden?"  
 "No, metal."  
 "Of course. And your hands, are they..."  
 "Blown off I'm afraid."  
 "Well, that's to be expected."

Given our seeming genetic propensity for executing dazzling, spectacularly illogical maneuvers under lethal, high pressure situations, it's a miracle mama stump and I don't resemble a family of lepers more than we do. This unfortunate incident reminded me of a similar deadly affair I almost perpetrated not so long ago. In fact, it reminded me of several instances, but this one in particular—for the sheer grandiosity and potential body count involved—stands out as perhaps the crown jewel in my veritable treasure trove of flawed anecdotal gems. It involves me, a hydrogen oven, and an enormous tank of anhydrous ammonia. Oh yeah...

I used to work at a flute company. By flute, I don't mean fluted piping, or fluted metal chimneys, or any other more masculine connotation of the word flute, but flute, the musical instrument, toot, toot. This sounds innocuous enough, possibly even a little girly. But in fact, as with any product made of metals, flutes are made partly in a machine shop, with towering ten-ton presses, biting bandsaws, and powerful spinning lathes that hold a jutting assortment of pointed tools and hardened drill bits; which, when not properly fastened in, shoot out from the machine and stick into something/someone most alarmingly.

While all these machines are easily transformed into efficient killing devices in the wrong hands—and mine are definitely the **WRONG** hands—none are so ludicrously loaded with danger, so chock full of death...as the oven. What is "the" oven? Well...

Simply put, the oven is an infernal machine. It's an open ended, long metal box, with wild, gothic looking tangles of steaming pipes and clouded gauges growing from its back. It belches fire and soot and has a blackened, chain-link conveyor belt running creakily through its belly. The oven was designed—by Satan—to bake liquid solder for the purpose of fusing little bits of metal together. It runs on ammonia, which somehow gets converted to hydrogen in its guts. Ammonia is a highly caustic, potentially lethal gas that, even when the best efforts have been made to contain it, seems to leak out in enough quantity to make your eyes and any paper cuts you might have burn like hellfire all day long. Hydrogen—as in hydrogen bomb, or the gas that brought you the Hindenburg disaster—is one the most combustible substances on the planet. Now, if my mother can detonate a toaster, and my father, I've heard tell, can detonate a small car, think what I, their son can do with an oven stuffed with hydrogen and a tank full of ammonia. Poison the entire neighborhood? Take out the block? At least.

See, as there is anti-matter, there are the anti-mechanically minded; people who are not just untalented with machines, but for whom contact with machines inevitably leads to lost limbs, a perforated head, the death of an entire flute company in a catastrophic explosion. Of course, I'm the very model of this trait. So you'll be surprised to learn that I didn't suffer a single injury operating any of these machines during my tenure at the flute company. A few co-workers may have died around me, sure, but on the whole trauma caused by my special machining skills was relatively minimal. That is, until the day I almost killed everyone.

(continued next week)

## Letters to the editor

### Telling it like it is

Leyla-

OK, calm down and take some valium, alright? Here goes—again: I don't care and I don't think most do that Sara is a female! Her remarks are, in my opinion, not funny and lack any insight or depth. That's what separates Mariotti and Telander apart from Sara. If the column was done by a guy and had the same content, even verbatim, I would knock that too! Again, TALENT is TALENT, regardless of sex. Stop making everything so gender oriented...sure there are those who do throw that into the mix, but everything us guys complain about

is not necessary because the recipient is of the opposite sex. N'est pas?

I'm also puzzled about somethin': If Sara can't attend sporting events, due to the teams clauses, etc...then doesn't that kinda tarnish her title as a sports reporter? Third person would seem to be more of a "Sports Gossiper"? Is **ACTUALLY** covering the event considered to be a "Quirk," Leyla? Maybe a budget for the Chronicle to send Sara to some games is in order...that way we can get some first person reports. (Yeah, let's see the College pop for that one) Nuthin' against Sara, mind ya...just the lack of substance with which she writes.

Posted by Michael Kammes  
 via the Chronicle interactive forum

## STUFF FROM STAFF

BY CHUCK JORDAN

### Boundary Management

This summer when I found out I was going to be opinion editor, I knew it would be a difficult job at times. I knew there might be controversial columns and editorials that would appear. And I might receive some slack for it.

The first six weeks have gone by without problems. Granted, some of the columns have pushed the boundaries of good taste. But sometimes I think it is important to allow different and unusual things to test the boundaries—to find out what is and is not appropriate.

This week I realized I went beyond a boundary. It occurred in a way that I hadn't expected. It didn't come from a column or editorial; it came from a letter to the editor I chose to run last issue.

Someone posted a message on the message board on the Chronicle's web site. The posting said that Eileen La Valle, one of the Chronicle's copy editors, was "hot" and that we should post more pictures of her in the paper. The idea behind the message wasn't a joke. Eileen is a very attractive woman. However, anyone who would be seriously interested in her or paying her a compliment wouldn't write something that treated her as if she were a sex object.

Everyone at the paper figured it was a joke by a friend or someone that had nothing better to do with his time. I said I was going to run it in the next issue. Our mail box wasn't exactly bulging with letters and the posting would provide comic

relief—a nice break from the rebuttals of anti- and pro-Sara camps.

The opinion pages in the past have done things that weren't meant to be taken too seriously. The editor of the Chronicle last Spring, John Biederman, began "Shoots and Letters" which gave the editorial board a chance to respond to each letter sent in. The responses were written with deliberate wit and sarcasm. Many of the letters weren't serious and a reply that wasn't meant to be serious made the section even more entertaining.

However, this semester we decided that the negatives of "Shoots and Letters" outweighed the positives. We realized it was time to end the section on a regular basis.

Even though I knew all of this, I decided that I would only use the posting if Eileen agreed, which she did. It was obviously someone who knew her and was playing a joke—everyone who saw the letter would view it the way we did and get a laugh out of it.

On Friday someone posted a response to the first posting. It said that he wanted to see a full page layout of this 'hot copy editor.'

Eileen wasn't at the office, so I decided to print it. It was a bit more risqué than the first posting, but no one would take it seriously. Right? Wrong!

As I found out on the following Tuesday, some male students in her classes felt it necessary to point out that she was the object of a stalker's desire and would be featured in a special spillover section of the paper.

"Hey! There's that hot copy editor," one male student told her this week.

Settle down guys. Putting that posting in the paper was meant to be humorous, something the rest of the school would find as funny as we at the paper did. It wasn't to embarrass her.

The opinion pages this year may have tested some boundaries, but sorry, there will be no full page spread of anyone.

### Avoid The Credit Monsters

Ed Fletcher

The Digest  
 Southern University

Beware of the cost of that free T-shirt. Students nationwide are suckered into signing up for student-rate credit cards for the candy, T-shirt, or other cheap gifts. After all, getting credit is so easy, plus you get free stuff.

Free? To pay off a debt of \$1,000 over one year at 21 percent annual finance rate, which is typical among credit companies that frequent colleges, you could buy 30 shirts at \$7 per T-shirt, or \$210 total.

Many students fail to realize what long-term damage they can do to their credit record by abusing a credit card. Your credit record is permanent and follows you where ever you may go.

Why do so many students end up in credit hell?

\* Many students lie about their income. Since

the company, rarely if ever check your information, it is easy to slip by. Since the employees get paid based on the number of forms people sign, they don't care if you really can't pay the bill.

\* Students don't read the fine print. Many cards offer an "introductory rate." Introductory means that rate will end, and the permanent rate usually will rise after this period is over.

\* Students don't shop around. Other companies offer better rates but won't find them knocking down your door to give you a card.

Companies that seek college students often charge exorbitant interest rates. They figure students are not smart enough to shop around or don't have enough income for another company to issue them a card.

\* Companies figure that most parents will pick up the bill if their kids fall into debt.

Why do colleges allow credit companies to set up their lair?

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This month's *Cosmopolitan* magazine has a quiz on what makes a woman bedable. What makes a woman bedable? They can't be serious.

Ok, Ok, that is one of the reasons why I bought the magazine, but "Big Butt Be Gone" is what really caught my eye.

Anyway, I bought the magazine and immediately turned to the quiz. According to Cosmo, I am "drastically doable." Well, there's a surprise. Turns out, I'm "begging for it" and "trying too hard."

Obviously I was a little pissed off after reading Cosmo's assessment of my "bedability." So insulted that I vowed never to buy that magazine again—but I do that every time I fail one of their quizzes.

I take every quiz, so I know that I'm drastically doable, "in recovery" over the break-up of my last relationship and I'm not compassionate enough to be

a good friend.

Just to show you how ridiculous those quizzes are, I polled my friends and they all told me that I am very compassionate and that I do listen when they speak. As for my being "in recovery" over the break-up of my last relationship, that's a bunch of bull. I don't ever feel lonely and I've completely lost the desire to call anyone I've ever dated. I'm just naturally bitter. And just for the record, I already knew that I was drastically doable.

But, what is it that draws women to magazines like *Cosmo*, *Mademoiselle* and *Glamour*? We know we'll never look like any of the models and even if we did a magazine still couldn't help us get him to say "I love you."

All these magazines do is confirm that we're cool, but still far from perfect, because if we were perfect, we wouldn't need to buy their magazines and they'd go out of business.

So, we're not perfect, but do they have to illustrate that by showing us models whose butts would probably explode if they actually had to digest a Twinkie. They feature products that most of us can't afford to buy and ridiculous articles on how to get that special guy, or how to solidify a relationship that's going down the toilet.

But we keep reading, as if all the answers to what's wrong with our pathetic love lives can be found between the covers of these magazines.

I won't lie, I read them religiously. I even have a subscription to one of them and throw a fit if I see it on the newsstand before my copy comes in the mail.

Like many women, I graduated to *Cosmo*, *Mademoiselle* and *Glamour* from *YM*, *Seventeen* and *Sassy*, when I decided I was too old to read things like "How to be more popular."

I thought it was time to move away from "Virgins speak out," to things that were applicable to my own adult life, like this month's *Glamour* which features an article on sexual confidence.

But, to their credit, these magazines do feature helpful articles on issues like date rape and...uh, well I looked through all of my old issues and date rape was the most relevant issue.

After 13 years of reading these magazines, I can honestly say that I am no better a person for having read them. I am no wiser, I know nothing about men that I haven't learned through personal experience. I was never the most popular girl in school or any more capable of getting my crush to notice me than I would be if I didn't read those magazines.

But I'll keep reading them—mostly because I don't own a television and need something mind numbing to thumb through when I get home from work. Besides, next month's *Cosmo* features Mariah Carey and something about how I can survive a breakup. I can't wait!

## Faces of Tibet

### Columbia grad captures expressions, emotions of the innocent

By Sheryl Tirol  
Staff Writer

The "Faces of Tibet" photo exhibit which opened in Chicago on Nov. 6, holds one of Columbia graduates in its crew.

Jalene Szuba, a film and video production graduate of the 1995 class participated in this unique and special event.

"I had a lot of creative ideas and a sense of business and production management. I created my own style of my degree because they didn't really offer a lot of classes for film management and I took some classes through the management department," Szuba said.

Szuba says she loved everything about Columbia and took as many classes as she could and feels the teachers are the best resources. For instance, her anthropology teacher put her in contact with his wife who got her a job at Motorola doing corporate videos immediately after graduation. Such connections have always made Szuba a believer in Columbia to this day.

"The networking possibilities are endless and that is invaluable," she said.

One of her great achievements while at Columbia was during her junior year when she was able to do an internship and travel all over the country. During her cross country tour she was given the opportunity to put together four marketing videos that she wrote, produced, shot and edited.

"I took one semester off and did this while getting six credit hours. It was paid tuition and travel for the National Retirement Volunteer Coalition," Szuba said.

The internship gave Szuba a taste of something she always wanted to do. She now freelances and produces corporate videos for Commonwealth Edison, which she says is her biggest project right now. She also just finished producing her first short film.

Admitted to the Sundance Film Festival, "On Being Blond" is a 12 and a half minute piece about a young brunette who becomes blond and her changing attitude as a result of the change in hair color. The film was directed by Columbia graduate, Melinda Roenisch.

Szuba first learned about the "Faces of Tibet" project when she met the other photographer involved in the project, Jessica Tampus. To prepare, Szuba did research on Tibet and on the Buddhism religion.

"The Buddhism religion is such a non-violent way of life," Szuba said.

After some research, Szuba was surprised to learn about the situation in Tibet and how the Chinese could imprison and torture people who follow a non-violent lifestyle. Szuba said it reminded her of the World War II situation with Germans and Jewish people. Szuba met with Tampus and was asked to go on the trip to India in March to work on the project. Szuba said she had a great time visiting the nuns and children.

"I took a lot of video footage while out there," Szuba said "I tried to capture the everyday life of the children and nuns as much as I could."

Szuba was also able to interview the Minister of Education and edit a couple of videos. What was she found most amazing was that the Tibetan send their children over the Himalayas to be raised as Tibetan because the Chinese want them to be brought up in the Chinese tradition because the Chinese do not believe in the Buddhist faith.

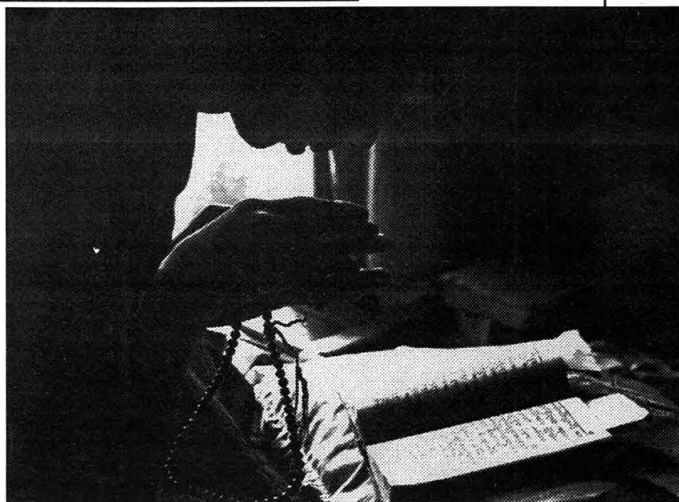
"It's incredible because they will probably never see their children again," Szuba said.

Through her camera, Szuba captured the village, which included 3,000 children and the nuns' project. Along with the children who had to flee were several nuns.

Many nuns had been imprisoned and tortured in Tibet and fled to Darsamla, India. Education action to put pressure on the government is something Szuba feels everyone can do.

"Being aware of what has been happening and educating people is important," Szuba said.

Szuba also feels fortunate about the timing with their project because of the Genre, Frontline and the recent release of the film, "Seven Years in Tibet." Szuba is excited about the "Faces of Tibet" project and hopes it will create more awareness of the situation. Szuba also feels honored to be work-



ing in the field.

"I studied and am fortunate about the success of everything," Szuba said.

By Sheryl Tirol  
Staff Writer

100 photographs from Dharmasala, India filled the studios of photographer, Jessica Tampus at the opening of the "Faces of Tibet" exhibit Nov. 6.

The photographs featured mainly children and nuns of the village.

About 300 people packed the studio at 4 E. Ohio St., nibbled on the hors d'oeuvres and sipped the wine served.

Photographers on the project include Jessica Tampus, Debra Funderwhite, and videographer, Jalene Szuba. Proceeds from the sales of photographs will benefit: The Tibetan Alliance of Chicago, The Tibetan Department of Education, Dharmasala, India and the Tibetan Nuns Project, Dharmasala, India.

A 12-minute videotape was also available to benefit those organizations. The videotape includes a montage of Tibet, the Department of Education and the Nuns Project.

A table asking people to sponsor a child from Tibet was set up alongside a table selling calendars to benefit the Nuns Project for \$15. Sponsors of Tibetan children would be asked to contribute to the welfare of these children each month.

Since the Communist Chinese troops invaded Tibet in 1950 over 100,000 Tibetans with the Dalai Lama have fled their native land.

The Tibetan Nuns Project was created in the 1980's to support nuns in exile.

The project supports an additional 200 nuns living on their own or in nearby nunneries.



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**"A RACY THRILLER! FRANCES O'CONNOR REALLY PACKS A WALLOP AS A CHARISMATIC SPITFIRE."**  
 —Jill Bernstein, PREMIERE MAGAZINE

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 production designer ANDREW PLIMMER editor BERTY DANCAR sound designer DAVID PASALUNDO and DAVID LEMMONY costumes MICHAEL COLLING and GARY HAMILTON  
 executive producers CORRIE SUTTERDAKE producers BILL BENNETT and JENNIFER BENNETT written and directed by BILL BENNETT  
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# 'Troopers' aim high

Special effects, story line contribute to amazing action movie

By Jerry LaBuy  
Copy Editor

What do you get when you send big, heavily armed and "cartoonish" soldiers to another planet to kill giant and violent bugs? How about one of the slickest and honest coming-of-age films ever made.

Paul Verhoeven's new film "Starship Troopers" may appear as a one-sided, gung-ho action flick aimed at the young, male, 18-24 crowd but, well, it should be. Sony's marketing department gets a lot of money to make you think that

go overboard with the awe-inspiring effects and forget about our lead characters. He goes beneath the film's action oriented surface and develops a fascinating study of how young people with their whole lives in front of them can be persuaded to risk their future for something, or in Rico's case someone, else.

The film is structured much like Verhoeven's film "RoboCop" from a decade ago. Satirical documentary style clips show up at regular intervals in order to move the film along and give the audience necessary information in a refreshing, and darkly funny, way. This is comparable with the futuristic T.V. news clips that show up in "RoboCop" which were used for the same reason. In "Starship Troopers" however these clips appear more like the now campy military training films of the 1940's. With the costumes and art direction by Allan Cameron these documentary style clips begin to show a striking resemblance to Leni Riefenstahl's Nazi propaganda films of the 1930's.

Another interesting fact is that although Verhoeven could have easily made the audience hate the bugs without remorse, he slips in a few moments when we can actually understand why they attack so violently. He does this in the satirical clips and although he doesn't dwell on it makes a definite statement.

With "Starship Troopers" most people are going to probably take a love or hate it attitude. It does have some corny dialogue and minor characters who are annoying Hollywood stereotypes (the wisecracking best friend, the other woman, the hard nosed drill Sargent), but no film is perfect and those less successful elements are extremely inconsequential to the film as a whole.

I recommend "Starship Troopers" only if you are open-minded enough to avoid the easy sarcasm and look through its mind blowing special effects for the film's most important element, its honest heart.

because that is where the money is. Verhoeven doesn't ignore that fact and delivers some of the most spectacular battle sequences I've ever seen in a film. He flawlessly blends his actors and computer animation into a believable world of conquest, action and violence. The thing that separates this action film from most others is that this one adds something most of the others forget, emotion.

Those emotions come mostly from the young, fresh-faced cast (most of which go on to meet savagely brutal deaths) as they enter military service after high school. They all have their own reasons for joining, but the lead character, Johnny Rico (Casper Van Dien), is the only one that joins so his girlfriend, Carmen Ibanez (Denise Richards), will continue to want him after she joins the space fleet. After graduation, she already seems to be distancing herself by associating with Zander Barcalow (Patrick Muldoon) who is also heading to the space fleet academy. So in desperation Johnny signs up for the only service he is qualified for, mobile infantry. He does this after talking to a high school teacher, Jean Rasczak (Michael Ironside), who praises military service and its benefit, citizenship and the right to vote. Anyone who has ever been confronted by a military recruiter will see a lot of truth in this scene, and this film.

This decision ostracizes him from his parents, who want him to go to Harvard, and leads him to a hellish boot camp where he begins to realize he may have made a big mistake. There he meets Sargent Zim (Clancy Brown) who finds Rico a natural leader and puts him in charge of his squad. He is also followed to boot camp by Dizzy Flores (Dina Meyer) a girl who has secretly longed for him since high school. His destiny begins here at boot camp when, after a series of tragic events, he and his fellow troopers are off to war.

Verhoeven really picks up the film's speed here but he doesn't



Photos by Stephen Vaughan, courtesy Tippet Studios.

(Top) Dizzy Flores (Dina Meyer), Johnny Rico (Casper Van Dien) and Sugar Watkins (Seth Gilliam) fight a Warrior Bug.  
(Above) (Casper Van Dien) warns the Mobile Infantry of an approaching Tanker Bug.  
(Right) Johnny Rico (Casper Van Dien), a Mobile Infantry trooper (James Morse), Dizzy Flores (Dina Meyer) and Sugar Watkins (Seth Gilliam) brace for a bug attack.



# NO 'ORDINARY' Love story



By Kat Zeman  
Staff Writer

If you see yourself as a person who is a little bit less ordinary, somewhat intelligent and capable of understanding satire and irony than this is a movie for you.

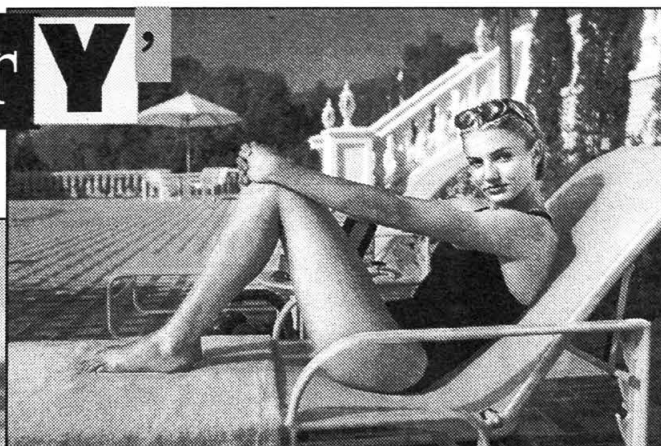
Absurdly funny yet deadly serious "A Life Less Ordinary" is a love story that is anything but ordinary. But that's no surprise considering it's by the same writer, director and producer of the mind boggling drug infested world of "Trainspotting." However, this movie's plot isn't about drugs but rather destiny and the fact that who you love is not a choice.

"A Life Less Ordinary" is about two souls who under normal circumstances would never meet, but with the help of destiny in the form of two celestial cops (Holly Hunter and Delroy Lindo) their paths cross in the most bizarre

ways. The angelic police officers are dispatched by Chief Gabriel (Dan Hedaya) and their mission is to unite man and woman in eternal bliss even if it means using guns, lies and threats to do it.

Ewan McGregor ("Trainspotting," "Shallow Grave") plays Robert, the janitor of a giant corporation, who dreams of writing a great trashy American novel someday. Suddenly, as fate would have it, he loses his job to a robot, his girlfriend dumps him for an aerobics instructor and he's evicted out of his apartment. He's a man with nothing left to lose. On the street and angry, Robert decides to pay his ex-boss a visit. It gets a little chaotic, bullets fly and Robert finds himself kidnapping his boss's beautiful daughter Celine played by Cameron Diaz.

Diaz ("The Mask," "Feeling Minnesota," "My Best Friend's Wedding") gives a fabulous performance as a spoiled rich girl who will do anything to irritate her cold-



Photos by Darren Michaels, courtesy Twentieth Century Fox.

(Above) Cameron Diaz is the sardonic and wealthy Celine. (Left) Ewan McGregor portrays one of life's losers, an out-of-work janitor dreaming of something less ordinary.

hearted father. The grossest indignity she could imagine is having her credit card rejected and her hobbies include shooting apples off her butler's head. Rich and bored, she suddenly finds herself in the company of a poor, handsome stranger, who is the world's most incompetent kidnapper. Celine even teaches Robert the correct way to demand ransom and is appalled when he only asks her father for half a million dollars.

The twosome bicker, try to drink each other under the table and as the story unfolds you begin to wonder who the kidnapper really is. Who is the real victim and of what? Then somewhere along the way bullets are removed by a dentist, angels with guns intervene and collaborations of the bank robbing type take place.

This is anything but a normal love story. It's spiked with malice, violence, love and war of the sexes. It's a love through violence kind of story with fate intervening in people's lives at the most unexpected of moments. A movie about how love is absurd, irrational, the beginning and the end.

Even after digging a grave and deciding that love will never happen, it does and somehow it works. It's an intelligently written movie with great performances given by the whole cast. It's just like what life is, a cluster of every emotion possible. Go see it. It's worth the seven bucks.

## Warm up this fall with 'Eve's Bayou'

By Wilfred Brandt  
Correspondent

Often times, I am of the belief that the longer a movie seems, the worse it is. As the end credits began to roll for "Eve's Bayou," I felt as if I had just barely made an imprint in my seat.

Kasi Lemmons' directorial debut tells the tale of a pivotal summer in the life of ten-year-old Eve Batiste. Rich in character and setting, Lemmons' portrayal of life in a misty Louisiana town is the perfect thing to warm one up on a chilly November evening.

Set in the gothic South of yesteryear, "Eve's Bayou" focuses on the lives of a well-to-do African American family, comprised of Eve Batiste (Jurnee Smollett), her father Louis (Samuel L. Jackson), mother Roz (Lynn Whitfield), Aunt Mozelle (Debbi Morgan), sister Cisely (Meagan Good) and brother Poe. The film traces the events of Eve's coming of age (God I hate that expression, but it actually works here) over a particularly tumultuous summer.

The plot revolves around a few key elements, namely father Louis' extra marital affairs, Aunt Mozelle's work as a spiritual visionary who subsequently dabbles in voodoo and the strong relationship between Cisely and Louis (which Eve feels slighted by). Over the course of a few months, these elements all come to a head.

First time out, Kasi Lemmons' storytelling is strong and intriguing, my only complaint being that it dips into melodrama at times. Throughout the hour and forty minutes of the film, there is a good mix of drama and comedy to be enjoyed. The characters' chemistry is a major strong point, due to some finely crafted portrayals by the actors. In particular, Samuel L. Jackson is wonderful as the philandering husband who is so charming and charismatic, you can't help but like him. Balancing him out remarkably well is Lynn Whitfield's Roz, the loving but stern mother who holds the family together through hard times.

The film is almost entirely self contained in its focus on the tensions within the Batiste family. Eve's Aunt Mozelle's psychic adds another element to the family, as her visions of things to come help guide the characters actions. This may sound cheesy as hell, but the director actually pulls it off with enough restraint and skepticism to make the subject matter palatable, even believable. Every time the realism of the film would start to drift into melodrama, Lemmons would break the tension with some much needed humor. And Debbi Morgan's portrayal of the Aunt as eccentric and overemotional helps keep the supernatural element from having too much sway over the tone of the entire film.

But while the storytelling and characterizations are both commendable, the real appeal of the film is the setting, costuming and music. The wardrobes of the prosperous African American family, the classic storybook appearance of their old style plantation house and the jazz laden soundtrack all draw you into Lemmons' story. These elements all work to match the characterizations and make them that

much more believable. The cinematography is well developed and consistent, though at times a bit bland. Except for some experimental work within the supernatural segments, the film is very straightforward and conventional in its approach. I don't mind this look; in a way, it keeps this small town story from getting too big for its britches. It just seems like they could have done more to express the vast misty swamps of the bayou and the regal class of the plantation.

Overall, the film works well on a number of levels. Aside from the traditional aspects of tension within the family, the mystic Aunt adds another element to the



Photo by Chris Helcermanas-Benge, courtesy Trimark Pictures

Lynn Whitfield stars as Roz Batiste with her children Meagan Good as Cisely, Jake Smollett as Poe and Jurnee Smollett as Eve.

film. Through her visions and flashbacks, questions are raised as to the objectivity of our memories and our control over our very own fate. This pushes the narrative to an ending that is much more open ended and ambiguous than the traditional Hollywood narrative. It's refreshing to see a film where the character's futures aren't entirely mapped out for us, where we have room to make decisions about the film on our own. These characters don't know what will happen to them after the credits roll, so why should we?

"Eve's Bayou" paints a detailed portrait of a three dimensional family facing a difficult summer. It showcases strong but subtle storytelling and characterizations. If you're looking to get out of the cold this coming winter, I highly recommend it.



# Sara on Sports

By Sara Willingham  
Sports Columnist



I commend the Chicago Bulls. Not for their recent years of success. Not for being a crew of heroic, reputable role models. I commend the Bulls on providing \$50,000 to the Lowell Elementary School in Humboldt Park to replace their computers that were destroyed by vandals. Seriously, it's not every day that an organization even remotely affiliated with Jerry Reinsdorf just gives away money...whether it be a good cause or not. I say, "Good for you Chicago Bulls, thanks for caring about our community!"

Think about it...the Bulls *could* be a bunch of Kevin Garnetts. They could be a crew of snot-nosed, Gen-X super athletes who have more zeros in their checkbooks than words in their vocabularies. Now, I know that Mr. Garnett came from Farragut High School, and a bunch of people are probably steaming mad that I could be so heartless as to insult a local-born celeb, but I've got a bone to pick with Kev.

Let's look at the facts: Kevin Garnett is **21-YEARS-OLD!** When I was 21, I worked as an Accounting Clerk for less than \$18,000 a year...and that was good money for a kid who only had to put gas in her car, and pay-up the bartender.

Kevin Garnett **REFUSED \$103 MILLION** from the Timberwolves! If someone offered me seven figures of ANYTHING, I'd take it.

Kevin Garnett finally settled on a **\$125 MILLION CONTRACT** with Minnesota! If I could land a job earning \$50,000 a year, I'd be ecstatic (especially if it's in Journalism/Broadcasting).

OK, so it may be obvious that I'm beyond jealous of Kevin Garnett's fortune. And I'm even more jealous that he gets to enjoy it at such a young age. That's all good and fine. However, what really kills me is that he hasn't pumped a penny back into his neighborhood.

Now, my point is not to compare Kevin Garnett, to say, Chris Zorich who is a generous guy with his time and money, because that story was done last week. My point, however, is this:

Isn't it frustrating as a fan, to fork over a couple bills to take your family to a local sporting event (and tie-one-on, of course)?

The tickets, with parking, beers throughout, a program, and some nachos will run you at least \$60. And that's for nose-bleed seats and flat, domestic beer at \$4 a stinkin' cup. Isn't it rather insulting to contribute to the salary of a 21-year-old punk who makes more than your salary combined with your parents', your friends', and your friends' parents' salaries? Does it seem fair that even if you simply catch the game on TV, you're still making the already rich richer?

No, it is not fair. It's unjust, and there really ought to be some sort of a consumer's rights group to watch out for the general welfare of fans and supporters. Physicians and surgeons rake in a pretty decent wad on an annual basis, but they had to endure years and years of hard-core schooling to get there, and frankly, I think they deserve every damn penny tossed their way. Professional athletes don't need a Master's degree. They don't need a B.A....they don't even need a High School Diploma! They're like cops or something (oh, I guess cops are required to have a high school education).

**THE BOTTOM LINE IS...WHO CARES ABOUT THE FANS?**

Have you ever asked yourself, "How is it possible that a bunch of dip-chewin', crotch-grabbin', ump-spittin' guys can seriously decide to go on a **STRIKE BECAUSE OF FINANCIAL WOES AND CANCEL A HISTORIC EVENT?**" Yes, I am referring to the Major League Baseball Players strike and the cancellation of the World Series. What a slap in our faces! How could they even begin to complain that they aren't properly compensated for their efforts?

I must say that MLB has suffered quite a blow in terms of popularity since their strike-stunt, and I tip my hat to the fans who inadvertently spoke-out by throwing-in-the-towel on baseball, and conveyed a message to team owners and players.

**THE BOTTOM LINE IS...WHO CARES ABOUT THE FANS?**

Did you know that a fourth-stringer for the Chicago Bears...a guy who simply puts on the uniform week-after-week, rarely sees a second of playing time, and doesn't have to deal with the press...earns the league minimum of \$131,000 per year?

Man, even a \$31,000 annual income would be a godsend right now.

**THE BOTTOM LINE IS...WHO CARES ABOUT THE FANS?**

On a final note, I will agree that I sound like an envious Democrat who goes to school, interns 30 hours a week (free labor), and holds two other jobs just to ensure that the heat stays on through the winter months. I admit that I am a person who cuts coupons and rides the bus...and daydreams about winning the lottery. Hell, I consider it a good night when I simply find five bucks on the barroom floor!

I suppose what I am ultimately saying is that professional athletics has become so damn popular that it has out-grown its bristles. The team owners need to know that it is our pastime to watch the entertainment that their teams provide. It's a time when we're not worrying about our bosses, co-workers, in-baskets, phone messages, etc.

It's obvious...we love sports. And if every professional athletic organization demonstrated just one glimpse of their gratitude to the fans (like the Bulls to Lowell Elementary), there would no limit to the harmonious relationships that could exist between players, owners, managers, reporters and most importantly...fans.

## 10 Fearless Predictions for the 1997-98 NBA Season

By Michael Johnson  
Correspondent

Thank God—it's basketball season! The NBA regular season is already a week old and we already have had some great games. This NBA season should be pretty interesting considering all of the player movement between teams. Shawn Kemp a Cavalier? Who would have thought. Kevin Garnett receives the highest paid multi-year contract ever, in the history of sports, at the age of 21. But then again this season has some familiar rings...Charles Barkley is arrested again, the Bulls are back together, and Pat Riley still uses way too much gel! But let's get on with the predictions of this NBA season.

1. The Bulls will repeat as champions. This team just has too much talent and experience for anyone to beat them in a seven game series. Rumors are soaring in Bulls camp about Scottie Pippen. Is he going to be traded? Why did he wait so long to have surgery on his foot? Forget about it! Pippen is staying in Chicago this season. The Bulls might not win home-court advantage for the playoffs but they will repeat as champions.

2. The San Antonio Spurs will be the most improved team in the NBA. This team went 20-62 last season. They could possibly go 62-20 this season. David Robinson played in only 6 games last season. Sean Elliott only 39. Both of these guys are back at full-strength and ready to play. The Spurs used the first pick in the draft to get Tim Duncan. Duncan is a 6'11" forward-center out of Wake Forest that can flat-out play. He's the real deal. The NBA hasn't seen a front line like this since the twin towers of Ralph Sampson and Hakeem Olajuwon.

3. The Detroit Pistons aren't as good as everybody thinks. What is the big deal with the Pistons? Grant Hill is still the man in the Motor City, but where is the bench on this club? Are you telling me Malik Sealy and Aaron McKie are going to scare the teams of the Eastern Conference? I don't think so.

4. The Washington Bullets, I mean Wizards, will make a lot of noise in the Eastern Conference. This team will finally advance to the second round of the playoffs this season. Juwan Howard is one of the better students of the game. Nobody is more durable. He averaged around 40 minutes a game and consistently put up double-doubles. Add to that mix Chris Webber and Rod Strickland. Both of whom are finally fulfilling their early expectations in the NBA. They've got a decent bench and should surprise some folks this season.

5. The Knicks will come up short again this season. As 76er Coach Larry Brown says, as long as Michael is still in the league the Bulls will win. The Knicks haven't done anything to improve their team to beat the Bulls. They got rid of some good young prospects to get who, Chris Dudley? Chris

Mills? Patrick Ewing will just have to wait another season to see if Michael finally retires so he can get his shot at an NBA championship.

6. Mitch Richmond will finally get out of Sacramento. Will it be New York or Los Angeles? Richmond doesn't care, he just wants to get the heck out of dodge. Richmond has been a solid player for nine years and is finally speaking out for a trade. He could be that final piece of the puzzle on a good veteran team to put the pressure on the Bulls and make a championship run. Look for this deal to get done by Christmas.

7. Somebody on the 76ers will be arrested by the end of the season. There are just way too many head-cases on this team. New coach Larry Brown has his hands full in Philadelphia. You have Jimmy Jackson and his ego. Watch out Halle Barry. Allen Iverson and his off the court problems. Oh yeah, he doesn't pass either. Derrick Coleman, enough said. Now they've added Terry Cummings. Hmm, what kind of veteran leadership can he give? Who is the best lawyer to call when you're in jail?

8. The Lakers will win the Western Conference. This is a very good young team that has a superstar. Shaquille O'Neal is a player that with a good surrounding cast can take a team to the finals. But there is one side note to this prediction. Nick Van Exel has to behave. This one is key, he can't be hitting referees and kicking balls into the seats. The addition of Rick Fox gives the Lakers a good scorer coming off the bench and Kobe Bryant is a year older and has shown signs of being a player.

9. The Bulls will be back for another season together. I know you're thinking that I'm on drugs, but think about it. If you're Reinsdorf and Krause would you want this to end? The Bulls have proven they have the money to spend. Pippen signs a one-year contract worth \$20 million, Jordan signs for \$35 million and Rodman for \$12 million. You still have Luc, Toni, and Harper under contract. They resign Caffey, Wennington and Kerr to smaller contracts and they somehow convince "The Zen Master" to hold off with surgery on his hip. The Bulls win seven championships in nine years.

10. Player awards. Rodman will win the rebounding title. He will get strong competition from Jayson Williams but Rodman will prevail. Jordan will win the scoring title. Finishing a close second is Karl Malone. But with Pippen out until Christmas, Jordan will play big minutes and put up big numbers. Defensive player of the year, Gary Payton. Payton, edging out Dikembe Mutombo, wins this award. The glove plays stellar defense every game. Coach of the Year, Dell Harris. The Laker coach will bring his team back to the NBA finals for the first time since 1991. MVP? Who else but his Airmess himself, Michael Jordan.

There you have it, the 1997-98 NBA season in a nutshell.

## Pinch Kicker Becomes First Woman To Play College Football

By Marco Buscaglia  
College Press Service

SALEM, Ore.—Liz Heaston's kick on October 18 was one for the record books.

It wasn't that Heaston's kick broke any conference records for distance or for points scored. But with it, she did become the first woman to play college football.

It's a day the 20-year-old Willamette University student says she'll never forget.

"I knew it was a big deal when I was out there but after the fact, it really started to sink in more and more," Heaston said. "I think about all those people who've wanted to do this, and to be the first, well, that's really special. I'm really proud I could be a part of it."

Heaston says she figured she'd get noticed after kicking a couple of extra points Saturday during Willamette University's 27-0 win over Linfield College. Yet she says nothing prepared her for the media attention she's received since the game.

"I knew there would be some people calling, asking questions, stuff like that," Heaston said. "I just had no idea it would be like this—no idea at all."

Despite Heaston's moment of glory, she still has more important things on her mind.

"I've got to get back to soccer," she said. "This was fun but I've got a job to do on the soccer field. I think I'm a lot more needed over there."

The day after her first taste of gridiron glory, Heaston was on the soccer field, playing a defensive role in Willamette's 3-2 victory over Pacific Lutheran.

Heaston played a soccer game on Saturday, too. She arrived at the football game only after her soccer game, a 2-0 victory over Puget Sound, was finished.

ished.

"I just rushed over to the stadium, changed uniforms in my parents' van along the way, and ran out on the sidelines," Heaston said.

She waited only 30 minutes before being put in the game to kick the extra point after Willamette's second touchdown.

"The crowd was going pretty crazy," Heaston said. "It was exciting."

Willamette coach Dan Hawkins sought out Heaston before the season began after his starting kicker was injured. Heaston had been practicing with the team for three weeks before her debut.

"I was just looking for the best person to help the team," Hawkins said. "This had nothing to do with politics or publicity. This was about putting the best people on the field, and Liz helped us do that."

Still, Hawkins knows he participated in making a little bit of history.

"Sure, it was a big deal," he said. "But if you think about it, a person that kicks like Liz does belongs on a football field. The fact that she's a woman has nothing to do with it."

Gordon Thomson, the injured kicker Hawkins sought to replace when he recruited Heaston, played in Saturday's game as well. He stood beside Heaston on the sidelines through most of the game, ready to offer help or advice if she needed it.

"But I never had to say anything," Thomson said. "After she nailed that first extra point, what could I say? It was a perfect kick."

Heaston, who earned a varsity letter for her performance, says she's ready to go back to soccer now that Thomson is fully recovered. But she'd love to come back if given the opportunity.

"It was a great experience," she said. "If they needed me, I'd be there again in a heartbeat."