

12-14-1998

## Columbia Chronicle (12/14/1998 - Supplement 2 of 2)

Columbia College Chicago

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### Recommended Citation

Columbia College Chicago, "Columbia Chronicle (12/14/1998 - Supplement 2 of 2)" (December 14, 1998). *Columbia Chronicle*, College Publications, College Archives & Special Collections, Columbia College Chicago. [http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc\\_chronicle/412](http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle/412)

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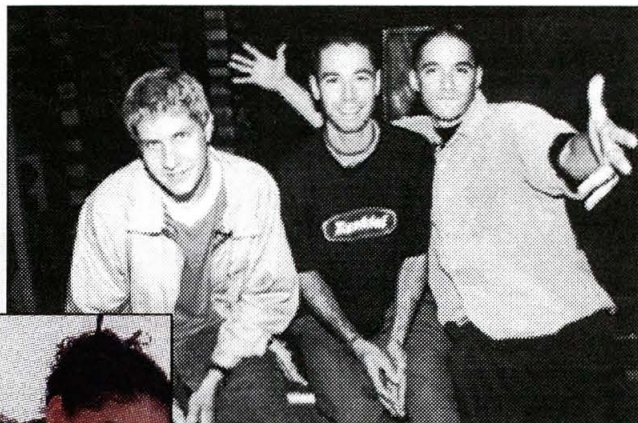
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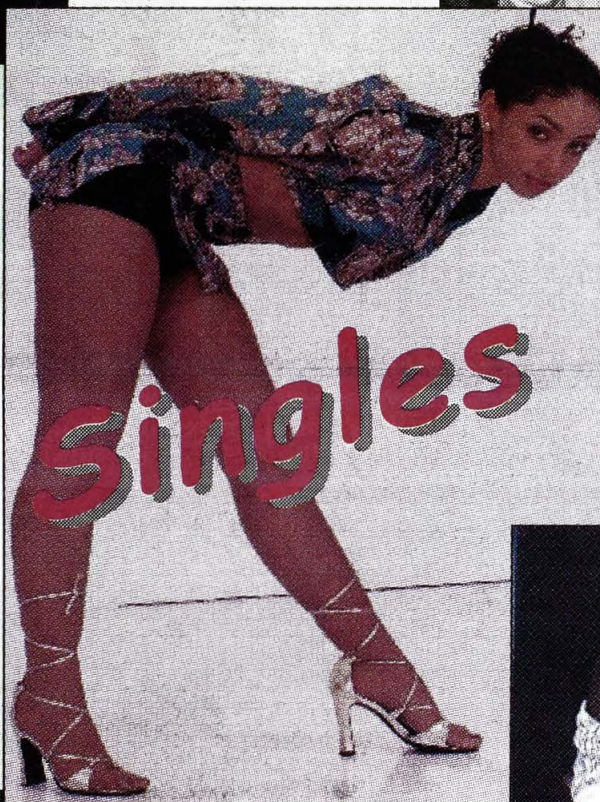
# VITALITY

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SECTION OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

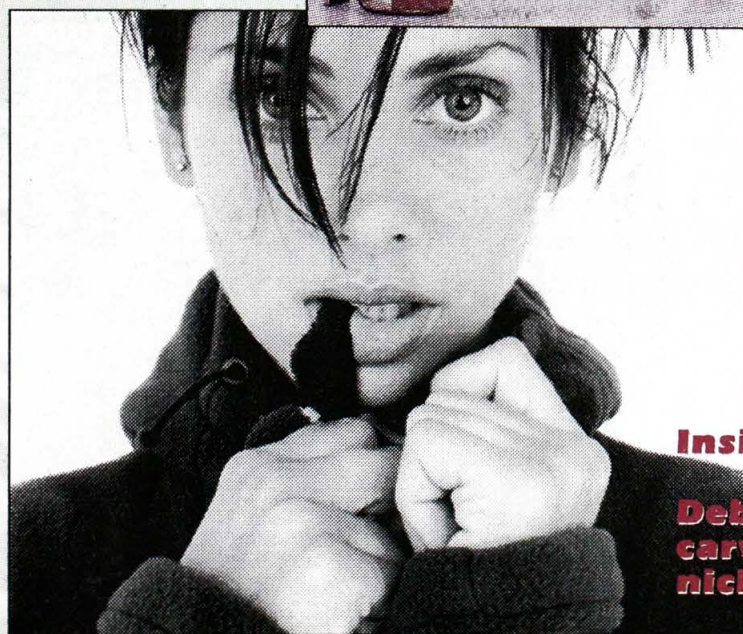
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# The



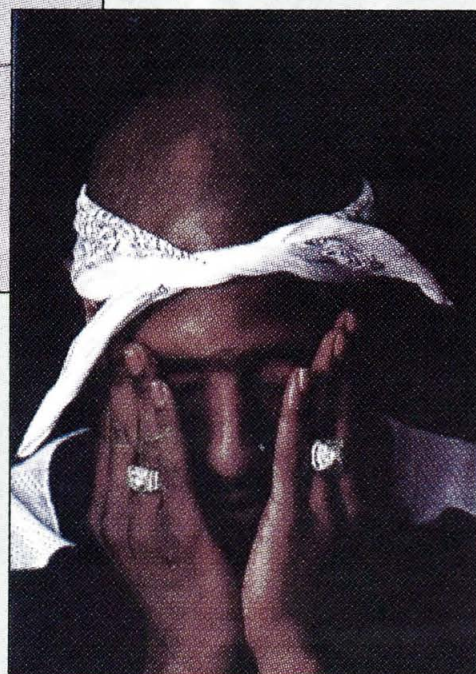
# of '98



**Inside Vitality:**

**Deborah Cox  
carves out her  
niche**

**Page 2**



**"Premiere  
Night" in the  
TV Department**

**Page 6**



**vitality** *n.* 1. The characteristic that distinguishes the living from the nonliving. 2. The capacity to grow or develop. 3. Physical or intellectual vigor; energy.

## Deborah Cox gets her "Wish"

By LaWanda Bryant  
Correspondent

For those of you who have been sleeping on the R&B scene, you may not know that 23-year-old Arista recording artist Deborah Cox has come out with her second album after three years. This Canadian singer has produced an album that is sure to please the ballad junkie, such as myself.

Cox's new album "One Wish" is number one on the Billboard R&B Charts and number five on the Billboard Hot Charts. It provides the listener with a

mix of dance cuts, along with "curling up with your honey" type music. I personally like the slow cuts offered; such as the second track "It's Over Now," produced by Kay-Gee of Naughty By Nature (also producer of Next). This somewhat mid-tempo song is about a woman who has put up with a man that she has basically had enough of. It is followed by the first platinum single from the album "Nobody's Supposed To Be Here." Let's face it, we've all been in that heartbroken state when we didn't want to be bothered with anyone, and along comes that somebody that makes you forget what you were mad about.

This track was co-written and produced by singer Montel Jordan. If you watch music videos, MTV or BET, or listen to the radio, you've heard this song. It's only being played every day, at least every two hours.

The next cut, which is one of my favorites, is a

duet with lead singer R.L. from Next. You know him as the cute, younger looking version of Teddy Riley from Blackstreet and former group Guy. "We Can't Be Friends," also co-produced by Jordan, is a song about breaking up and trying to fight whatever still keeps your heart warm for that person. Yes, we've all been there also. "Couldn't We" is another, you guessed it, love song about trying again. While this didn't appeal to my taste, it's still worth listening to. The next song, the title track, "One Wish" is a pretty laid-back cut produced by DJ Quik, and you Quik fans will recognize the beat right away.

Another slow single put in the category with the aforementioned "We Can't Be Friends" is "I Won't Give Up." It has a nice, slow, relaxing beat with just a little bass tweeting in the background, definitely a favorite of mine. The song after is "One Day You Will," a slow song that can be associated with the many "I Will Survive" type songs we hear so often on the radio.

The album ends with the remix dance version of "Nobody's Supposed To Be Here," you're sure to hear it in the local club scene. Finally, Cox rounds everything up with a dance mix named "Things Just Ain't The Same."

Although Cox left us hanging for awhile, she came through and gave the people, or at

least the ballad junkies, what they wanted, and that's the name of the business.

If you would like to know more about Cox, you can visit her website at [www.deborahcoxonline.com](http://www.deborahcoxonline.com) and her link at Arista (found on her website).



23-year-old Deborah Cox is quietly making a name for herself on the R&B scene with her new album "One Wish."

## Vital Pick of the Week:

By Patrick M. Walsh  
Managing Editor

'Tis the season to be jolly! What a cruel statement, whoever came up with this saying never had to find Elmo dolls and Furbies. They never had to plan holiday parties or were forced to listen to the brain numbing jingle of "Welcome to my World," at FAO Schwartz. Christmas time is an exhausting time that makes everyone lose a little hair. I say, Christmas. Bah-Humbug!

Fear not faithful readers, all is not lost. I am here to guide on a break from all your holiday shopping and indulge in Chicagoland holiday's "spirits," or watering holes as they have come to be known. So put on your Santa hat and make sure that your boots are on tight, because we are going on a "Christmas Bender."

Hog Head McDunna's is holding its annual Santa Hat Pub Crawl, Sunday Dec. 20. Enjoy making a spectacle of yourself parading to six different



bars in the Chicago area and drink until you vomit into your Santa hat. All this and more for only \$20! Call John at (773) 929-0944 for tickets.

All this pales in comparison to the events at Club Foot, 1824 W. Augusta Blvd. Thursday, Dec. 17, "Kissmas," is coming to town. You heard right, the musical stylings of Kiss will help bring out your holiday cheer when DJ Don Hedeker and Joe Wislak break out the vinyl and play all the great ballads of the American treasure known as Kiss.

Bud and Bud Light will be priced at \$1.50, a price so cheap you will be able to pee your name in the snow three times over.

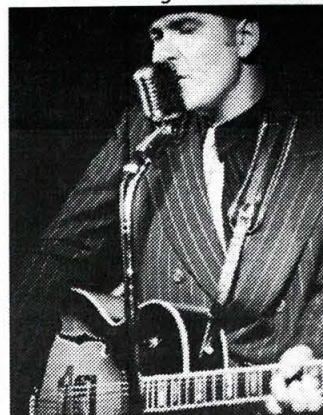
Christmas does not have to be a bore, it's only as hectic as you make it. So go out and find that Furby and start mixing the egg nog, but save time to have fun.

Enjoy Christmas for all it's cheer and beer, cause after all, isn't that the true meaning of Christmas?

## LOOKING AHEAD....

Concerts in Chicago this week and beyond

Man or Astroman?  
with The Causey Way  
Monday December 14  
Lounge Ax



Big Bad Voodoo Daddy  
Wednesday December 16  
House of Blues

Dave Matthews Band  
with Maceo Parker  
Saturday December 19  
United Center

Blue Meanies  
with Oblivion, The Tossers, The Baltimores  
and Electric Summer  
Wednesday December 23  
Metro

The Roots  
New Year's Eve  
Congress Theatre

Chris Isaak  
with New Radicals and Better Than Ezra  
New Year's Eve  
House of Blues

Morphine  
with The Lonesome Organist  
New Year's Eve  
Riviera Theatre

Mighty Blue Kings  
with Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire  
New Year's Eve  
Vic Theater

Glenn Underground  
with Vic Lavender and Darrel Woodson  
New Year's Eve  
Smart Bar



Method Man & Redman  
Tuesday January 5  
House of Blues

LTJ Bukem  
with MC Conrad, Tayla, MC DRS & Blame  
Sunday January 10  
House of Blues



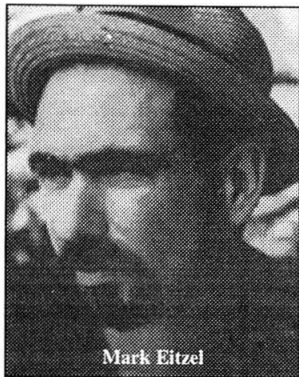
# INDIE 500:

## THE TRACKS OF '98

By Michael O'Brien  
Staff Writer

Well, here it is, the long-awaited list of the top independent music songs of the year. Hours of research, phone surveys and numerous interviews with the security guys at Metro were utilized in selecting the worthy songs, but in the end it just came down to what I kept in my CD player most of the year.

1. **"Bad Diary Days,"** Pedro The Lion. Apparently, David Bazan's girlfriend went to a movie with some other guy last year. David found the ticket



Mark Eitzel

in Ford's understated bass playing. To finish off, Bazan jumps on the electric guitar and turns the song's gentle guitar riff into a blazing crescendo, letting off all the frustration this untrustworthy woman created.

2. **"First Day Back,"** Braid. Bust out that old Superchunk t-shirt, roll down the car window and sing along with this one at maximum volume. This was the song of the summer it made punk and emo sound new again.

3. **"Go Away,"** Mark Eitzel. "The prison guards just try and sell me these little yellow pills, they say they'll cover up the pain of a wound that never heals." Mark Eitzel is the greatest songwriter alive. Backed by a member of Sonic Youth and Yo La Tengo on this song, there is no way he can go wrong. This one is a lot more up tempo than most of Eitzel's work and it's a welcome change.

4. **"New Birds,"** Arab Strap. This isn't a song. It's an experience. The listener becomes lead singer Aidan Moffat for 6 minutes. You are walking in his shoes, you're trying to decide whether or not to betray your girlfriend and sleep with this girl. Every lyric, every note of music will grab a small bit of your past and remind you of the places and people in your life. It's simply the greatest merger of words and music I've ever heard.

5. **"Dressed up Like Nebraska,"** Josh Rouse. "All of your demons rest in my space," sings Rouse — and all of a sudden the tired genre of country rock singer-songwriters seems alive again. Rouse knows that country music is best when it's done up proper, so he breaks out a trombone, cello and trumpet for this song. He succeeds in building up an acoustic - based song into a full blown masterpiece.



Above: Andy Cohen, of Silk Worm, seems happy with being number six on the Indie 500 list. Left: The guys in Mercury Rev made the top ten with "Tonite It Shows," a song that features "top notch song-writing."

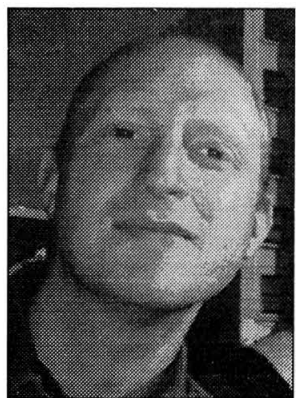
6. **"Beyond Repair,"** Silk Worm. The first time you hear this song, you'll fall on the floor with laughter. Andy Cohen tries to sound all deep and meaningful while singing lines like "Who wants to fall in love with a whore? Not me, less you, least of all Winnie the Pooh." The second time you hear it you'll realize the killer music behind all the madness.

7. **"Overcome By Happiness,"** Pernice Brothers. Pure pop beauty. Former Scud Mountain Boy Joe Pernice teamed up with his brother Bob and created one of the truly special musical moments of 1998. This song, and the entire album, manages to consistently achieve a level of well-produced, sublime magic rarely heard on an independent record.

8. **"Photograph,"** The Aluminum Group. Frank and John Navin, The Aluminum Group's two lead singers are both blessed with the smoothest voices since legendary jazz singer Johnny Hartman. The fact that their songwriting and musical chops are also first rate

is just a bonus. This is the kind of tune that even your grandparents will enjoy.

9. **"Tonite It Shows,"** Mercury Rev. I can't actually believe I like this. Overly quirky music rarely does anything for me, but for some reason Mercury Rev is able to pull it off. It's probably the top notch songwriting that



does it. "The way you were the day we met, the way I lit your cigarette, the way it changed into a strange Cole Porter phrase." Those are the kind of lyrics that can make Mercury Rev special. They always make sure they have a good solid song before they start throwing wacky stuff in, and that secures Mercury Rev's status as the best off-kilter band since the Flaming Lips.

10. Every song put out on Touch and Go this year - The greatest record label in Chicago, America and the world.

By Lawrence Benedetto  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Singles are the songs that give you an impression of an artist. Singles are the ones you remember. Last year, it was a "Semi-Charmed" kind of summer. There wasn't a rock heavy enough to crawl under where you couldn't hear the incessant "Doo doo doo, doo doo doo doos" echoing across the airwaves.

This year was full of highs and lows, just like any other year in the mainstream of music consciousness. Some singles made me get up and dance. Others made me want to vomit.

In no particular order, here is what I loved about 1998:

**"Rockafeller Skank,"** Fatboy Slim. Sure, he may not be the purest DJ on the market, but he gets to the point. "Right about now, the funk soul brothers."

**"Jump Jive An' Wail,"** Brian Setzer Orchestra. I love my Gap Khakis. They swing.

**"Fly Away,"** Lenny Kravitz. He may have shaved off those awesome dreads, but Lenny can still lay down some great licks.

**"Intergalactic,"** Beastie Boys. "If you try to knock me you'll get mocked / I'll stir-fry you in my wok." That is the lyric of the year.

**"My Way,"** Usher. This kid has the skills to be a huge star, and "My Way" has to be the smoothest jam of the year.

**"Crush,"** Dave Matthews Band. MTV and the radio (except for XRT) did no justice by chopping this one apart, cutting it down by almost three minutes. But when I hear that opening bass line, I start to melt almost immediately.

**"Too Close,"** Next. I just love getting jiggy to this song. And speaking of that...

**"Gettin' Jiggy Wit' It,"** Will Smith. There's no two ways around it. Big Willie put out the best dance track of the year. And I can't stop saying that I've got to get jiggy with everything.

**"London Rain (Nothing Heals Me Like You Do),"** Heather Nova. She is one of those "first-track-wonders." On her previous album "Oyster," "Walk This World" was a great lead into a less-gratifying complete record. It is the same way with her 1998 effort, "Siren." Nova puts the best song first, and leaves only a few highlights scattered across the rest of the album. I must admit that I liked this song even more after it was used as the "Dawson and Joey Song" on "Dawson's Creek."

**"It's All About Me,"** Mya. It's all about her, her, her, her, her.

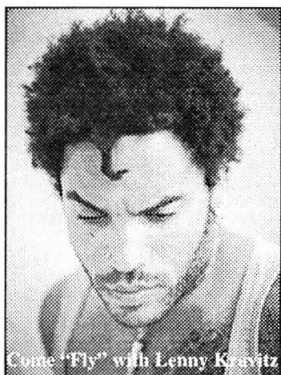
**"Walking After You,"** Foo Fighters. What a nice song. That is about the only thing I can say about it. While listening to it, I just felt really nice all over.

**"Doo Wop (That Thing),"** Lauryn Hill. L-Boogie took time out from her fellow Refugee All-Stars to create one of the best albums of the year. "That Thing" was the single that I couldn't get out of my head, but I didn't mind it being there.

**"Inside Out,"** Eve. One of the few good tunes to come out of the Q101 ranks this summer.

**"You Get What You Give,"** New Radicals. The lead singer has Marilyn Manson after him now and that is good enough for me.

**"Changes,"** Tupac Shakur. Puffy ripped off The Police, so when Tupac reached for his copy of Bruce Hornsby and The Range, it seemed like the next logical step. Yes, this is a new single, and I think it proves what I've been thinking about for the past two years:



Come "Fly" with Lenny Kravitz

He's not dead. I'm telling you, Tupac (or Makaveli, or whatever he wants to call himself) is living in the Alps somewhere, and soon enough, maybe in 1999, he will reappear with the phattest hip-hop record of all time!

Now for the fun part. Some music has a way of bringing out a sheer hatred from deep inside of me.

Here is what I hated about 1998:

**"Torn,"** Natalie Imbruglia. This song was much better in 1995 when a Los Angeles band called Ednaswap played it with the enthusiasm and wailing guitars necessary to make it an alt-radio hit. But nobody listened, and three years later it has come to this: a sappy pop song sung by an Australian soap star.

**"I Don't Want to Miss a Thing,"** Aerosmith. Please, I mean, did you see the video for this? It was a two-and-a-half hour waste of money called "Armageddon." Yikes.

**"Sex and Candy,"** Marcy Playground. Perhaps the worst song of the year, Marcy Playground hit it big with lyrics like "Mama this surely is a dream, yeah." I nearly shot many a speaker after hearing the first five seconds of this one and I'm glad to see they are finally starting to go away.

**"The Way,"** Fastball. Another radio staple this year, but certainly not one of my favorites. I can't remember how many times I had to change the station after hearing the start of this song.

**"Flagpole Sitta,"** Harvey Danger. Could this song be any more annoying? I just wish this guy



"Torn" apart: Natalie Imbruglia

would shut up.

**"The Boy Is Mine,"** Brandy and Monica. This song might have made these two young divas as angry as it made me. The rumors of a catfight between them continue to swirl. If the rumors are true, they ought to just set up a ring on the UPN and have the ladies duke it out after "Moesha."

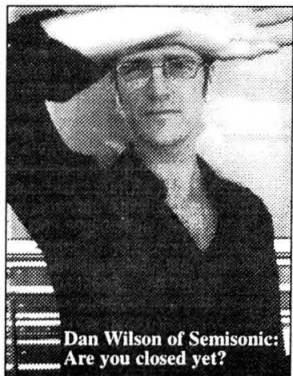
**"Lullaby,"** Shawn Mullins. He doesn't sing, but instead speaks through the verses the way Lou Reed has done for many years.

He's not Lou Reed. "Everything's gonna be all right" if they stop playing this song on the radio.

**"My Heart Will Go On,"** Celine Dion. Do I have to explain?

**"Closing Time,"** Semisonic. These guys are this year's version of Better Than Ezra, and that is not necessarily a "Good" thing (sorry, I couldn't help it). I know it's not the worst song of the year, but do I have to hear it every time I am forced to leave a bar?

Well, that seems like a fitting end to my rants and raves. And that just about does it for this year in the mainstream. I hope that we don't have to party like it's 1999 too much next year, because I might have to get angry again.



Dan Wilson of Semisonic: Are you closed yet?



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## Monday

## Tuesday

## Wednesday

## Thursday

## Friday/Saturday

14

Pre-Kwanzaa Ceremony  
2 pm (Hokin Hall)

YOUR OWN THING

15

Music Department Presents  
Concert by Classical Guitarist  
Norman Ruiz  
Noon (Concert Hall, 1014 S.  
Michigan. Call 344-6179 for more  
info)

Ellington's Nutcracker  
Chicago Jazz Ensemble Concert  
6-8 pm (Concert Hall - see above)

Call 312-344-6126 for times

16

The Business of Getting A Job  
10-2:30 (3rd floor, Wabash bldg)

Music Department Student  
Concert  
6-7 pm (Concert Hall)

17

18

Pack your bags ... Christmas  
Break is here!

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

- 12/14: AIDS patient Jeff Getty receives a baboon bone marrow transplant in 1995
- 12/15: A Long Island woman sues Mike Tyson in 1988 for grabbing her buttocks
- 12/16: Shannen Doherty is fired from Beverly Hills, 90210 in 1993
- 12/17: Tiny Tim weds Miss Vicky on the Tonight Show in 1969
- 12/18: Chris Farley dies in 1997 at age 33
- 12/19: MTV drops Prodigy's "Smack My Bitch Up" video in 1997
- 12/20: Donald Trump and Marla Maples wed in 1993



Boozier Claus says: "Come sit on my lap and tell me if you've been naughty or nice ..."

## YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

- 12/14: Patty Duke, Gammy (Ashley's Grandmother)
- 12/15: Tim Conway, Helen Slater (Supergirl/Billie Jean)
- 12/16: Steven Bochco, Benny Andersson of ABBA
- 12/17: Milla Jovovich, Mike Mills of R.E.M.
- 12/18: Brad Pitt, Steven Spielberg, Krispi (Ashley's sister)
- 12/19: Alyssa Milano, Daryl Hannah
- 12/20: Chris Robinson of the Black Crowes, Patty Smith

Is your birthday coming up? Let us know, heck, send a picture of yourself if you'd like, and we'll put you on our list.

## HISTORY

## BIRTHDAYS

*This is a big  
red box.*

## WE HAVE A WINNER!!!

Jennifer Kreitz gets a prize for the best (and only) response to last week's trivia question, "Who's Your Daddy?":

*My new daddy is Don Smith, an instructor here at Columbia College in the Film/Video Department. He's my fabulous advisor and he's taught about four of my last film classes. Most importantly, he just hooked up an editing job for me, which excites me to no end! And he always wears cozy sweaters.*

Congratulations, Jennifer!

## Top Ten Rejected Christmas Carols

10. Silent Night, Horny Night
9. It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like I Had Too Much Egg Nog
8. Jingle Balls
7. O Christmas Bud
6. Chex Mix Roasting On An Open Fire
5. I Saw Mommy Kissing Boozier Claus
4. I'm Wet Dreaming Of A Hot Christmas
3. Deck Your Balls With Boughs Of Holly
2. Frosty The Yellow Snowman
1. The Twelve Steps Of Christmas (The Rehab Remix)

Daily Planner Trivia is on hiatus this week and will return in 1999. Since we've never had anyone enter, we aren't terribly concerned. However, in lieu of trivia we will give a prize to the first person who comes to the Chronicle office and says "Mark Dasecoli really pumps my nads." Extra bonus if you know which essential 80s movie we stole this line from.

## DAILY PLANNER CORRESPONDENCE

This page is brought to you by Chris Richert and Ashley Willard, who can be reached at 312-344-7432. They're almost always in the Chronicle office, which is in the Wabash building, room 205. Sometimes they're allowed to use the computers in the office, so you can e-mail them at AdsChronicle@aol.com. They're not sure how to use the fax machine, but you can fax them at 312-344-8032. Be sure to get your info to them by 5 p.m.

Tuesday for the following week's paper. Otherwise you might confuse them, and the last thing we need is another straightjacket episode.