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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 28

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JUNE 1, 1999

INSIDE

CAMPUS

College an active player in South Loop rebirth



VITALITY

CUMA spins urban music at conference



SPORTS

NFL draft gives Bears a new hope



Columbia buys 33 E. Congress



Rob Hart/Chronicle

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

In a not too surprising move, Columbia has purchased the building at 33 E. Congress, further expanding its property ownership in the South Loop. The price was \$6.3 million.

Since 1997, the college had been leasing 75,000 square feet on several floors in the seven-story building on the southwest corner of Wabash and Congress. The building currently houses Columbia's Radio/Sound, English, and Educational Studies departments.

Other tenants in the building, like MacCormac College, will remain there until their leases expire, a press release quoted Provost/Executive Vice President Bert Gall as saying.

According to the press release, the college now owns nearly 1.3 million square feet of space in eleven buildings in the South Loop area.

The Congress building was designed in 1925 by Alfred Shuler, the same architect who designed the Torco building at 624 S. Michigan.

There is no word yet as to what the college plans to do with the building.

College discusses new plans for expansion

By Jotham Sederstrom
Staff Writer

In a public forum Thursday, Provost and Executive Vice President, Bert Gall, emphasized the significance of shaping an identity within Columbia's facilities and the "absolute and singular notion of an urban campus in higher education."

Along with Gall, Jim Preacher of Loeb, Schlossman & Hackl, an architectural firm, spoke to more than 100 faculty members and students at the Hokin Hall about recent acquisitions at Columbia and recommendations for the college's future.

Columbia's recent throng of land acquisitions was central to forming a proposal for the college's future. "Lately we've been in the business section in the newspapers as much as the arts section," said Gall, commenting on the recently donated Buddy Guy property, the Ludington building at 1104 S. Wabash, and the former

Sherwood Conservatory of Music at 1014 S. Michigan.

In addition, the newly purchased 33 E. Congress building which, until last week, was being leased, will make room for some of the facilities currently at 624 S. Wabash. Plans for an art gallery where a holiday supply store was once housed are also being considered.

"We're playing catch-up," said Gall. "We're trying to make additional space for those areas most pressed."

Preacher recommended the concept of "Centers of Excellence," for each major. The Ludington building, for example, will soon house all of Columbia's film facilities.

According to Preacher, unifying resources for individual departments would embrace the notion of community within the school.

"The college can no longer afford to have a number of buildings that are anonymous on the inside," said Gall.

See Plan, page 3



Kevin Poirier/Chronicle
Bert Gall at the forum.

Product Design major mixes technology, creativity, practicality

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia's reputation for combining creativity with practicality received another boost of credibility this year with the addition of the Product Design major in the Art and Design department. This unique curriculum offers students the chance to design real, working products—everything from toys to machinery to furniture—on some of the most sophisticated computer software available. From these computer-assisted designs, the students then construct working prototypes of the products.

The ideal end result, according to Product Design coordinator Kevin Henry, would be to manufacture these products on a large scale for a mass market.

Initially, the students at the beginning of each new project must venture out and do their homework, researching and meeting with "potential end-users." Most of these would-be users, said Henry, "have needs that haven't been met yet."

One example was a recent project in which students designed specially-made cups for people whose arthritis prevented them from gripping a conventional container. The students designed the cup on a computer and then made the prototypes using polyurethane foam.

Another recent project the students have worked on was an interdisciplinary effort with Columbia's Early Childhood Education department.

A learning device that doubled as a toy was needed, so students set out to observe members of their target audience—three- to five-year-olds. After checking toy stores and catalogs for further creative (and practical) inspiration, the students came back and designed a puzzle game. After four iterations and some color studies, they let the children loose on the new toys and videotaped the results. Students from both departments watched the videos, much like a test market trial. The results were "very revealing," Henry said. "Until you embody a concept, you

have no idea whether it will work or not."

The product design program was conceptualized three years ago, Henry said. It wasn't until last year that the program was actually created, the first two years being spent on exhaustive research regarding the types of computers and software that were needed. "The technology," Henry said, "was the biggest issue." Currently, Columbia's computers in this field are state-of-the-art, rivaling the technology and similar programs already in place at the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Illinois Institute of Technology.

So what do they call the place on the eighth floor in the Wabash building where these students do their work? A lab? A studio? Neither of these names necessarily apply. For "creative inventors" like these, Henry said, it's a "model shop."

Henry said that one of the focuses of the product design course is on entrepreneurial skills. Many people haven't the fortitude to be entrepreneurs in these days of corporate congealing. "People are often scared away from that aspect of it," said Henry. More importantly, he said, "People in this field need to understand a lot more than they used to [have to]." He noted that in this field, it's often the independent designers and manufacturers that generally come away the most successful.

After graduation, students can apply what they've learned in a variety of places. Most major corporations



A Product Design student works on a prototype version of the latest project.

have in-house designers, and even then, they hire design consultants to come in and work on special projects, Henry said.

The product design classes' final project for the semester is a water toy that teaches children about numbers in terms of volume. "It's a fun project," said Henry.

The Product Design department is hosting a Chicago Chapter meeting of the Industrial Design Society of America on June 8 at 6 p.m. in room 803, Wabash Bldg. Two entrepreneur designers will discuss case studies.

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CAMPUS NEWS

Plan continued from front page

Under proposals made Thursday, the Buddy Guy building would be razed and replaced with a student center complete with art galleries, commons, a physical fitness center, day care, and a theater.

Though the building itself is undesirable, according to Mark Kelly, Associate Provost of Planning, the land 275,000 square-feet—will offer enough space to erect a signature building, which Preachered calls a "giant billboard for the college."

Estimated costs for the "giant billboard" by Loebel, Schlossman & Hackl who have worked with U of I at Champaign and North Central in Naperville are between \$12 million and \$14 million. But even more funding will be needed to accomplish all of the firm's recommendations.

"We can't do these things just by raising tuition," said Kelly. "Building on the \$3 million the anonymous donor gave, we still have to find millions more."

Maintenance programs funding, which doubled last year, are important in securing plans, but what Kelly calls a "major gift initiative," will be the most crucial to funding the proposals. By publicizing these initiatives, donations like the Buddy Guy building will be imperative in finalizing Columbia's vision, which, according to Gall may take five years or more.

In the meantime, internal and external task forces have been created to organize student representation and form neighborhood alliances. Because of a predicted upsurge in commercial buildings within the South Loop, according to Preachered, Columbia must lead the way in pursuing, "district-focused development activities."

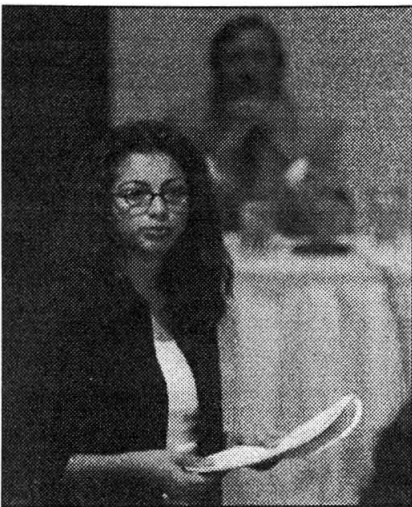
Most of the audience at Thursday's forum—dubbed a "community of communicators" by Gall—were optimistic, but Reina Alvarez, SOC Secretary, expressed the need for a cultural center that would cater to the school's ethnic community, 15 percent of which are Latino-American. According to Jean Lightfoot, there have been conversations on the topic with Alvarez and others. Currently, though, no decisions have been made.

"We're not only a part of a community of artists," said Maria Nancia, President of Latino Alliance, "but a community of human beings."

Still, the challenge of creating a community throughout a college surrounded and divided by buildings is daunting. An increase in commons areas and studio space is planned to bridge the campus and its facilities.

More visionary, according to an executive summary by Loebel, Schlossman & Hackl, is the "Corridor to the Arts," an initiative to designate South Wabash Avenue, between Congress Parkway and Roosevelt Road, as the school's main campus thoroughfare.

"If we can turn the neighborhood on its head with the buildings we have," said Preachered, "we should do so."



Kevin Poirier/Chronicle
Maria Nancia, president of Latino Alliance, addresses the panel last Thursday.

Columbia to simplify course-numbering system next year

By Jotham Sederstrom
Staff Writer

A proposal accepted by the College Council may simplify Columbia's current course numbering system, which, with curriculum changes in effect, has become less effective than ever before.

The new system will appear next Spring and be used throughout the curriculum. Though it will require changes, the same software will be used as before, and will not cost the school or students—extra money.

The idea, which the Curriculum Committee had been studying for eight years, was originally submitted to the Academic Affairs Committee. It accepted the plan after minor revisions.

"I wouldn't have supported it if I thought it was a bad idea," said Avis Moeller,

Associate Academic Dean.

The new system will indicate academic level and sequencing of Columbia's courses, making it easier for transfer students and faculty advisors to better select classes.

Currently, labels like "introductory," "intermediate," and "capstone" are being used to measure the complicity and depth of a course. But under the new plan, numbers between one and seven would be used as guides: One being a course not in need of prerequisites; three noting an advanced course, most likely necessitating a prerequisite; and seven, a course requiring Composition I and II.

Unlike many other schools that use abbreviations to designate departments, Columbia will continue to use two-digit numbers, which Moeller said, "has worked for so long."

gibility to be representatives of a particular department.

To be a student representative of the Dance department, for example, the student must be nominated and then prove that he or she is taking courses in the Dance curriculum. A vote would then confirm that student's office.

SUM's updated constitution was unveiled at the meeting. The bulky document comprehensively outlines every item SUM members could think of during the often tedious meetings of the past several weeks. "[The constitution] is looking pret-

cheat sheet

Issues and events you should know about on this semester's last, albeit short, sheet...

On Campus

According to a college memo, there will be free Internet email accounts for full-time students in the fall. The college had been beta-testing the software with student employees for the past several weeks.

A premier video exhibition of individual work produced by advanced level television department students in the Experimental Video Production class, "Better Than a Ham Sandwich," will be presented in the Hokin Auditorium in the Wabash Bldg. on Sat., June 5 at 3 p.m. For more information, call ext. 7203.

Poet Charles Wright, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for his poetry collection, "Black Zodiac," will speak and read from his work Thurs., June 3 at 3 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan. Wright is currently an English professor at the University of Virginia. The reading is free and open to the public. For more information, call ext. 8100.

Columbia's Black Student Union is having its end-of-year barbecue Friday, June 4 in Grant Park from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. WCRX DJs will be present and there will be a softball game, and oh yeah—free food. For more information, call ext. 7486.

Around town

The 14th annual Hunger Walk takes place June 19 along Chicago's lakefront, beginning and ending at Randolph and Lake Shore Drive. The 5K walk benefits the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Pre-registration is \$15 for adults and \$6 for children. On-site registration is \$20 for adults, \$9 for children. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. A picnic lunch and T-shirt are provided for all walkers. For more information, call (773) 247-3663.

Columbia's tuition hike second in state among private schools: Chicago Sun-Times

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia College has implemented the second highest tuition rate hike percentage among Illinois private colleges and universities for next year, according to a *Chicago Sun-Times* report. The college announced the increase several weeks ago.

The price of a year's worth of full-time tuition and fees at Columbia this year was \$9,924. For the 1999-2000 school year, it will cost students \$10,960—a 10.4 percent increase. Only one other school—Lewis University in

Romeville—had a higher increase rate at 11.9 percent.

According to the *Sun-Times*, Lewis and Columbia were the only two private colleges with an increase percentage in double digits.

Columbia is still, according to the *Sun-Times*' figures, one of the cheapest private institutions in the state. Of Illinois' public institutions, price increases for next year were generally more modest. The only sizable increase will be at Western Illinois University at Macomb, with a rate of 15.5 percent over this year; however, the increase from \$3,610 to \$3,127 is less than \$500.

New Admissions Director named

By Katie Celani
Staff Writer

Columbia College recently announced the appointment of Susan Greenwald as the new Director of Undergraduate Admissions. Greenwald brings to the position ten years of experience.

Greenwald served as the Assistant Director of Enrollment Marketing at the School of the Art Institute, where she demonstrated expertise in recruitment management and event coordination. She is the recipient of the CASE Gold Medal for Poster Design and the Silver Medal for Recruitment Publication Package Design.

Greenwald received her B.F.A. and M.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She also has an

interesting exhibition record as a print-maker and a book artist.

The main objective for Greenwald as Director of Undergraduate Admissions is to promote Columbia College and to recruit new students. The position also requires her to guide new students up to registration. Greenwald assumed her position on May 17 and says that her main goal upon joining Columbia is to become familiar with every department at the school. "I am eager to get to know every area at Columbia. There are lots of programs offered that I have never worked with before, such as theater and journalism, and I am interested to learn about them." Overall, Greenwald appears very happy with her new position and with Columbia. "I love it. I think this is a very exciting school."

SUM refines constitution, plans for next semester

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia's Student Union Movement continued to haggle over constitutional issues at last Thursday's meeting with some progress regarding election and representation procedures.

SUM wants an elected representative from each college department to be present at meetings next semester. These representatives and the officers (treasurer, secretary, and vice chairperson) would do the voting on future motions and issues. The chairperson will vote only in the case of a tie.

The question of emergency elections were also discussed, as well as student eli-

gibility to be representatives of a particular department.

Most of the necessary clarifications were made Thursday, with final editing to take place over the weekend.

The final copy of the constitution will then be handed over to the Student Life office. The constitution must be ratified by the Student Affairs Committee and pored over by the college's legal office before SUM can become an officially sanctioned student organization.

A SUM survey of 39 students at the block party on May 13 revealed at least a

Thirty-nine students surveyed at the CCEN block party earlier this month ranked "student unity" as the most important student-oriented issue at Columbia College.

weak pulse of what the student body is interested in. According to survey results, "student unity" was ranked the most important problem out of four student-oriented issues listed on the survey, though the definition of the term "student unity" was left open.

The rise in tuition slated to take effect next year was also of top concern, with 34 of the students ranking it of the highest importance. Ranked less important were campus security and social functions.

No one can deny that all the aforementioned issues are of some interest to even the most casual part-time student; perhaps for the entire student body, SUM, invariably existent in some form next semester, can become a force in college politics.

Columbia along for ride in South Loop revival

College instrumental in providing people, purchasing property in rejuvenated neighborhood

By Steve Stanis
Correspondent

The South Loop has undergone many changes in the last three decades. "It used to be a very dreary place," Dominic Pacyga, co-author of "Chicago: City of Neighborhoods" and professor at Columbia, said as he recalled walking through the crime-ridden no man's land of poor houses and adult book shops during the 1960s and '70s. "That no man's land has evolved into a redevelopment hot spot with Columbia College tagging along for the ride.

"The South Loop was pretty much a semi-industrial area. It was filled with flop houses, several burlesques, adult penny arcades, low-end commercial strips with mainly adult-orientated business, and then the railroad yards where Dearborn Park now sits," said Pacyga. "The South Loop 20 years ago was a dangerous place with lots of prostitution and drugs."

The changes began in the mid-'70s with the growing development of Dearborn



Donnie Seals, Jr./Chronicle

Chicago music landmark Buddy Guy's Legends on the corner of 8th and Wabash. Columbia, which now owns the building, is planning to raze it.

Park. These developments included the conversion of the former commercial buildings and printing plants - like Printers Row - into residential buildings. Real estate values have increased by more than 13 times their original worth since that time.

In Lois Wille's book "At Home in the Loop," the former *Chicago Tribune* reporter chronicles the development of Dearborn Park. A resident who bought a Printers Row condo in 1980 for \$19,200 can boast that by 1996, that same condo had an estimated worth of \$350,000.

One of the catalysts for the rise in real estate values has been the colleges, according to Pacyga. "The local colleges have been tremendously positive as far as real estate values in the area," he said. "Columbia is the real pioneer, and then there is Roosevelt north of Congress, DePaul University, Robert Morris College, the expansion of the Art Institute, and later on, the Harold Washington Library. These have really helped change the area," Pacyga said.

"Columbia in particular is a pioneer in the near south, with the way they are expanding," said Barbara Lynne, the Executive Director of the Near South Planning Board. She does not attribute the schools as being a major force in the redevelopment of the South Loop. "It is the developers," Lynne said, that are the major force.

It was not until the late '80s that the South Loop began to boom with redevelopment. In December 1993, Mayor Daley moved his family to a townhome in the South Loop and has stated in the past that he would like to see mixed income families living in the area.

The city has been a strong factor in the area. "The city has always been very cooperative," said Bert Gall, Provost and Executive Vice President at Columbia. "The new sidewalks on Michigan Avenue, the flower pots along the road, the expansion of Roosevelt Road, the redevelopment of Grant Park, and the Museum Campus have all been positive for the college," Gall said.

Lynne does feel that the schools are "a welcome addition to the community." She said there is no fear that the area will become just a big college town within the city. "There is plenty of land and plenty of buildings to go around."

The schools are still a regular ingredient in the redevelopment mix. In the early days of the South Loop's redevelopment, the Near South Planning Board included student population within its demographics, according to Lynne, who said that these numbers were equal if not greater than the residential populations at the time. Columbia has had a voice on the board since it began, then called the Burnham Park Planning Board. "The schools make it seem safer in the area and encourage growth both commercially and residentially," Lynne said.

Gall shares these sentiments. "I certainly think our presence and expanded presence encourages both commercial and residential growth. It is definitely not a bad presence."

Columbia's student body and other institutions provides a ready market for the local merchants. "Students buy books, CDs, food and so on. This puts money into the area," said Pacyga.

"The schools bring about a cultural presence to the city. World-class cities tend to have a downtown cultural factor, and Chicago is a world-class city," he added.

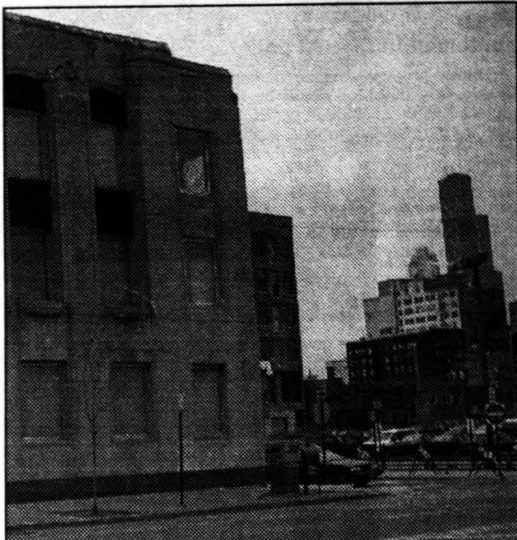
Pacyga and Lynne both feel that the students filling up the streets make the South Loop a safer area. "It is not the police that

make it safe - it's when the streets are filled with people. The colleges bring a group of people that walk and talk into the area. They bring a vitality, a growth in the cultural sense of diversity. The opening of the theaters and other things brings more life into the South Loop," Pacyga said.

Gall said that the South Loop has given Columbia a central location with a cultural presence in the city. "The South Loop in particular has evolved to be an attractive part of the city," he said.

Theodore L. Gross, President of Roosevelt University, has similar sentiments. "Our building and the Auditorium Theater are both great landmarks of the South Loop. Roosevelt is in the center of the student quarter. We continue to be part of the growing cultural education community, the university village," he said.

There are some downsides to the growth of the South Loop area. Working-class people who have called the area home, along with the Pacific Garden Mission, are all being pushed out by rising real estate values and expansions of the



Donnie Seals, Jr./Chronicle

Columbia bought 1306 S. Michigan for \$1.3 M in March.

The city does have plans to open two new SROs further south in the city, but the problem of affordable housing for the working-class poor still exist.

Columbia has plans to continue developing and renovating its urban campus and try to create a cohesive campus within the South Loop. The student quarter will continue to grow into the next century. A youth hostel is scheduled to open on Congress Parkway in August of 2000 and



Donnie Seals, Jr./Chronicle

The Ludington Building at 1104 S. Wabash, currently under renovation, is a landmark, built with a terra cotta facade. Columbia bought it in March for \$4.9M.

redeveloped South Loop. Single residency occupancies (SROs) are being pushed out of the area as well. "This is an area in transition. The real problem is the loss of SROs - the working poor are being pushed out," Pacyga said. "This is always a problem. Few people were displaced by the original redevelopment and Dearborn Park. Columbia has not displaced anyone, until now."

the colleges and universities should continue to grow as well as the community around it. "I don't think [redevelopment] is over. The South Loop is going to become more and more upscale and push further south, at least to 22nd St. It is leading to the eventual reinvestment of the rest of the South Side and Chinatown. It is a whole reinvestment into the inner city," Pacyga said.

Columbia expands during Duff's tenure

By Diane Krueger
Correspondent

"We needed space because of the growth of the college," said Columbia College President Dr. John Duff, on the college's role in the development of the South Loop.

Twenty years ago, the neighborhood that Columbia now calls home was filled with vacant buildings covered in soot from the long gone days of the railroad yards. The area had an

empty feeling because there were not many people around. However, a few brave developers saw potential in the South Loop.

The college purchased its first building at 600 S. Michigan Ave. in 1975 to accommodate the growing enrollment, then 1,800. Due to the close proximity of museums and theaters, Columbia considered the location ideal.

Five years later, in 1980, Columbia opened its wallet to purchase the 11th Street campus building. A \$1.8 million revival and renovation project began. Preservation of the old and modernization for the buildings new uses was the goal of the college. A \$750,000 donation from philanthropists Emma and Oscar Getz completed the final work on the renovated theater, lobby, marquee, and dressing rooms. In 1983, the 623 S. Wabash

building was added to Columbia's collection of South Loop campuses. The former wagon and carriage works building, built in 1895, underwent a dramatic transformation to accommodate the college's needs.

Continuing its rapid expansion program, Columbia acquired the historic Torco building at 624 S. Michigan Ave. in 1990. The \$12 million commitment added 181,000 square feet to the college's campus, which served 6,500 students.

When former President Mike Alexandroff took over the college in 1964 it had 175 students and was near bankruptcy. It was under Alexandroff's leadership and because of his vision Columbia has become what it is today. That is, a reputable institution known for its programs in media, performing arts, and lib-

eral arts, approaching the 10,000 mark for enrollment.

While the core expansion of the college took place under Alexandroff, the most expansion has been done under Duff's tenure. In the seven years since Duff has been president, Columbia has acquired nine additional facilities: The Residence Center at 731 S. Plymouth Ct.; the Audio Technology Center at 676 N. LaSalle St.; the Center for Book and Paper Arts at 218 S. Wabash; Columbia 2 at 540 S. Michigan Ave.; 1415 S. Wabash; 1014 S. Michigan Ave.; 33 E. Congress Parkway; the newly acquired Ludington building at 1104 S. Wabash; and the recent donation of Buddy Guy's Legends building at the corner of 8th Street and Wabash.

"Columbia has acquired numerous properties, fixed them

up, increased the student population, which has added to the liveliness of the neighborhood," said Barbara Lynne, executive director of the Near South Planning Board. According to Lynne, the student population has helped the demographics of the area and added to the increase in safety in the neighborhood. While Columbia has acquired numerous properties during the development of the South Loop, the purchases were not made for that reason. Rather, the college needed space to accommodate the growing enrollment. According to Duff, Columbia has never had plans for development. Instead, the college looks at the opportunities that arise and determines if they are suitable for the college.

"Columbia is always on the look out for more property," Duff said, though he doesn't foresee any new purchases soon.

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

C o l u m b i a ' s C h o i c e



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New Media Editor

The New Media editor is responsible for the content and design of the *Chronicle's* award-winning website.

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Assistant Editors help with supervising various parts of the newspaper, and assist Section Editors with story assignments and layout.

Copy Editors (2)

Copy Editors are in charge of checking, polishing and correcting stories written by staff editors, writers and correspondents.

Circulation Manager

The Circulation Manager is in charge of distributing the newspaper around campus.

Students must be in good academic standing, enrolled in at least 12 credit hours in the fall semester and should be taking and or have taken the core courses in either journalism or photography. Knowledge of Windows '98, word processing, Photoshop and/or QuarkXpress is a huge plus but not required.

Non-Paying Positions Available for the Fall 1999 semester:

Staff Writers/Photographers

Any students interested in receiving college credit as a staff writer or photographer **MUST** sign up for the **College Newspaper Workshop** which is listed under Journalism in the Fall '99 course schedule. All students are welcome to write for the *Chronicle*; however, only journalism and photography students may sign up for the workshop.

Guest Columnist- Viewpoints

If you're a Columbia student, you like to write and you want to speak your mind to an audience of thousands, why not join the Columbia Chronicle's 1999-2000 staff as a guest columnist? Interested applicants should contact Billy @ 312-344-7343 or e-mail him at mrbbilly@mrbbilly.com and set up an interview. Be sure to prepare a resume and some clips for your interview.

Sports Columnist/Correspondent

Do you have what it takes to be a sports columnist or correspondent for the *Chronicle*? If so, we want you to join our sports staff in the fall. Interested applicants should contact Ben @ 312-344-7343 or e-mail him at bft3@hotmail.com and set up an interview. Be sure to prepare a resume and some clips for your interview.

Viewpoints



Editorials

What a year!

With the end of the 1998-1999 school year only days away, we at the *Chronicle* would like to reflect on what has happened over the past year.

On September 28 1998, we began our editorial with the words: "Today marks the beginning of what we here at the *Chronicle* hope will lead to a very successful future." With that came our commitment to work harder, learn from our mistakes and grow to become Columbia's choice for campus news, viewpoints, arts and entertainment, and sports.

Looking back, we're proud to say that we've accomplished the goals we set for ourselves and much more. While we've had good and bad moments, we have always strived to maintain our goal of keeping our readers in mind. Without you, the paper wouldn't exist. Sure that may sound "cheesy," but it's the truth.

You've helped us make this past year one of the best the *Chronicle* has ever had; your e-mails, phone calls, faxes, et al, helped shape the newspaper into what it is today. And for that we thank you.

As we prepare for the fall, we're working to make this newspaper even better. We ask that you give us feedback on what we as your news source can do for you. The role that you play as a reader is vital and will continue to be.

Saying Goodbye

The time has come for us to bid farewell to those who have played an important role in our lives. We at the *Chronicle* are saying goodbye to seven staff editors whose journey at Columbia is coming to an end with graduation.

It is difficult to put into words what these people have meant to this newspaper and to those of us who remain. We take this opportunity to spotlight what they have done for the *Chronicle*.

Bruno VanderVelde worked his way up from a staff writer and copy editor to his current position as Editor-in-Chief. He is someone who never backs away from a challenge and he has led this newspaper to new heights. For all of the time and hard work he's put into this newspaper, we say thank you.

Leon Tripplett, currently our Focus Editor, has served in many positions over the four years he has been with us. This award-winning writer has accomplished so much, words can't truly express what he has done personally and professionally for this newspaper. From start to finish, Leon has been a leader and a friend. He will truly be missed.

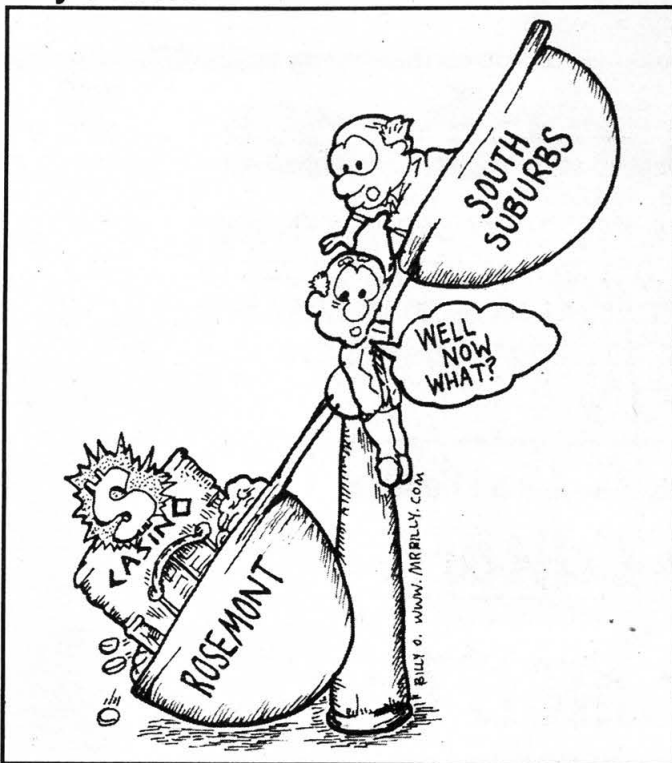
Patrick Walsh is our resident "fire-starter" and the *Chronicle's* Executive Editor who's never afraid to tell it like it is. His views were usually shocking (he's a riot) and he helped us better understand many issues we faced. We extend a hearty thank you to Patrick--without him, those long hours on Fridays would not have been as "interesting" as they were.

Lawrence Benedetto was part of the dynamic duo that created our Vitality section. This award-winning writer helped make the arts and entertainment section a joy each and every week. The "class-clown" that he is, he continuously made us laugh and will always be a part of us.

Danielle Narcissé was someone you

Editorials continues on page 7

Billy O'Keefe



Letters to the Editor

More than one way to land the perfect job

In last week's *Chronicle*, staff writer Jennifer Dickerson suggested that students use the Career Planning & Placement Office's website as an alternative to "hitting the pavement" in a job search.

Our site is easily navigable with information about how to use the Office and its resources, including our recently web-launched listing of job leads. The best way to use the on-line job leads database, which is updated weekly, is to visit weekly. Students should be expansive about the career categories in which they seek leads in the database, as one job opportunity (say, in television) might fall into another category (e.g. journalism).

Also, the site directs students to contact a career advisor for coaching on their job searches; the website is no substitution for one-to-one advice.

Dickerson is correct to say that job searching, even using the internet, takes lots of time. It does—even when you let the keyboard do the walking. Remember to take time to research your desired career field and begin your job search long before you need a job. If you do, the time spent will be worth it.

Keith Lusson
Director, Career Planning & Placement Office



All Columbia students are invited to write a guest column for The Columbia Chronicle. Columns should be no less than 600 words in length and must contain your full name and contact info. If you are interested or have any questions, call 312-344-7343 and ask for Billy, or send him e-mail at mrbilly@mrbilly.com

BURN!

Give the government points for trying, but the ridiculous war on cigarettes will do nothing if not backfire.

Author's Note: I pondered writing some year-end celebratory thingamastory that would make everyone feel good, but I was bankrupt for ideas. So instead, I give you, the Class of '99, a piece dedicated to the one thing almost all of you have in common: smoking! Enjoy, and have a nice summer.

So you like smoking, do ya!? You monster.

Some facts about smoking:

- Every seven seconds (or is it ten?), another person is killed in an accident because some devil like yourself was smoking and driving.
- Families are constantly destroyed by abusive adults who had one cigarette too many.
- Every hour, lives are turned upside-down when cigarette smugglers and dealers go to jail.
- Smoking is the number one cause of obesity, alcohol poisoning, and war. If there's a World War III, it will undoubtedly start because someone was smoking.
- Smoking is also to blame for the rise of Communism, the Great Depression, and the Montreal Expos.

Some facts about the facts about smoking:

- They're lies.
- They're not facts at all.

Is smoking bad for you? Duh. Smoking introduces boatloads of people to, among other things, heart disease, stroke, emphysema, bronchitis and pneumonia. A woman who smokes while pregnant puts her child's healthy delivery at serious risk. And if that's not enough, smoking factors in at least nine and eleven major types of cancers for men and women, respectively, including leukemia, stomach cancer (ouch!) and the original bad guy, lung cancer.

Want more? Okay. Smoking pollutes the environment (it has something to do with the smoke, you see), and second-hand smoke is a potentially lethal annoyance that non-smokers would very much love to do without.

That's a pretty harsh cache of weapons for something that fits in your shirt pocket. I wouldn't mess with it, and I never have. As someone who associates smoking a cigarette with drinking a glass of milk or eating an egg—it smells terrible, looks sordid and probably tastes worse, so why do it?—I've never been the least bit curious about the feeling that comes from taking a drag from Joe Camel, so I never have. Thus, I'm the posterchild for anti-smoking advocates and their newly energized television and print campaign against the, ahem, drug. Too bad I'd never take the job.

As if we can't make our own decisions (we can, can't we?), the big guns

Story continues on page 7

Give us your faxes, e-mail, letters and more!

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
COLUMBIA'S CHOICE

Editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Board of The Columbia Chronicle. Columns are the opinions of the author(s).

Views expressed in this publication are those of the writer and are not the opinions of The Columbia Chronicle, Columbia's Journalism Department or Columbia College Chicago.

Letters to the Editor must include your full name, year, major, and a phone number. All letters are edited for grammar and may be cut due to the limited amount of space available. Letters can be faxed to us @ 312-344-8032, e-mailed to Chron96@interaccess.com or mailed to The Columbia Chronicle c/o Letters To The Editor, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 205, Chicago, IL 60605.

Smoking Continued from page 6

stir crazy as smoking among teenagers and college students teeters at alarming levels. Check out those billboards with that wacky, grungy type! And if that's, like, not enough, Johnny B. Cool is in your TV set, coolly denouncing the smokes, all the while wearing an outfit to DIE for.

The minds(?) behind these campaigns would love you to believe that smokers are loners and freaks who get straight F's, drop out of school and wait to die. The dreamy guy who gets A's and girls in his sleep? He doesn't smoke, no way. Neither does the streetwise captain of the football team, the savvy head cheerleader or the leader of the marching band. It doesn't matter that the people who are responsible for these ads graduated from high school and college some two decades ago. They know what they're talking about, and you don't, so there. Stick that and your pipe and don't smoke it.

What a smokin' waste of money. On one hand, the pitfalls of cigarettes are plain as day to everyone with a heart-beat and at least one ear or eye. On the other hand, the message, idealistic as it is, cannot compete with the real thing.

Quite often, the captain of the football team and the head cheerleader do smoke. So does the tuba player in the marching band, the validictorian, half the dean's list, the entire audio-visual club, and the freak in the back of the class who calls herself "Starship." In fact, if young adults and students share any common ground at all, it starts with smoking (Columbia students can certainly attest to that). The lure of smoking is heavy, and--GUESS WHAT!--peer pressure isn't always the reason. Sometimes it's stress, other times it's a way to stay thin in the wake of pizza-and-beer breakfasts. And for some people, it just feels good.

Sound familiar? It should. If the government and the health care operations of this country are so concerned about everybody's health, that's nice, but they have a long way to go. Where are the ads denouncing fudge and Big Macs? How about the romp against cake and the so-called "chicken" wings at KFC? They may not contain tar or nicotine, but scarfing down enough of these can kill you just as quickly. And hey, where's the campaign against caffeine? How about

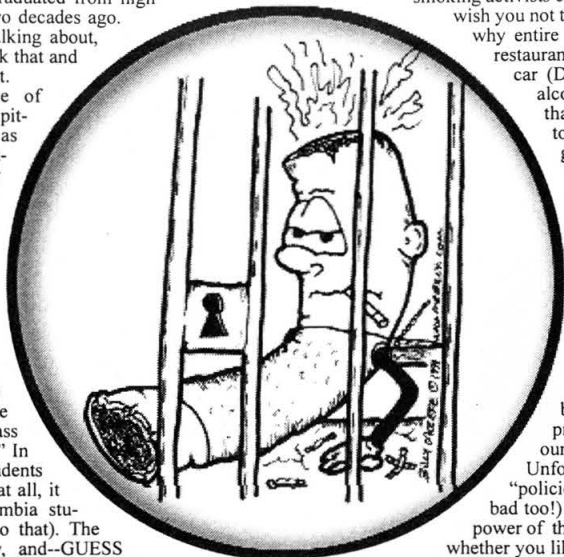
one against gabbing on your cell phone while driving? That could kill you too. And HEY, what about.... alcohol? That's KINDA bad, right?

Sure is. But if cigarettes are big business, television doesn't know about it. Meanwhile, joints like McDonald's and KFC practically make television possible; ditto for Budweiser and other breweries. And as long as these products keep the mainstream media in its comfort zone, there's not nearly enough momentum to get real and expose them for what they really are: dirty food and a substance far more dangerous and potent than some stupid cigarette.

What's worse, the fight against smoking is a battle of convenience; if cigarettes didn't smell so lousy, no one would care. Virulent anti-smoking activists care not about your health so much as they wish you not to cloud their meal with your habit. That's why entire states are going smoke-free while bars, restaurants, ballparks and all things accessible by car (DUI, anyone?) offer enough varieties of alcohol to drunk the Jolly Green Giant. And that's why independent, hard-working tobacco farmers (who are NOT the bad guys in this issue by any means) are going broke and out of business, while large agricultural companies mass-produce Grade Z meat and potatoes for your unending, unhealthy consumption. Cha-ching. And you wonder why the government gets behind it even as our president so obviously relishes his cigars.

Such goofiness goes on with little opposition (for fear of supporting the heads at the tobacco companies, or smoking in general), and it's really too bad. If the government was set up to preach the obvious and tell us that killing ourselves is wrong, we'd all be Senators. Unfortunately, as long as flat government "policies" (Smoking bad! AIDS bad! Cancer bad too!) rile people up like they do, the time and power of the country's most powerful asset (it's true, whether you like it or not) are wasted while more pressing issues (gun control, social security, foreign policy) fall behind until someone either shoots out a classroom, sues their HMO or starts a war (Ko-so-vo, come on down!).

So then, what's all the rage about? Nobody knows, and that's why nothing is ever accomplished when these attacks on smokers run out of whatever steam they had. Because while smoking is a selfish, stupid, dirty habit that can, over time, kill you, it's no crime. And while advocates can try and push people around as much as they like, people will always know better, whether their intentions are good or not.



Editorials Continued from page 6

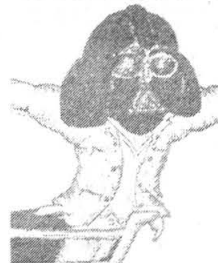
could count on, and like Patrick, always spoke her mind. The leadership she brought to her role as Copy Chief will never be matched by anyone. The perfection she demanded and the long hours she put into editing everything (and screaming at everyone) made this "Queen of Copy" one-of-a-kind.

Our special thanks to **Rob Steva** and **Mark Dascoli** for all their work for us. Rob served as our Sports Editor and even though he may not have been around when we needed him, he always came through when it counted. For nearly four years, Mark served as our Web Page Editor before holding his current position as Circulation Manager and

will be missed by all.

We say congratulations to you and wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors!

With the Titanic sunk, is "Star Wars" next?



With the long-awaited opening of the fourth "Star Wars" movie, Star Wars geeks are naturally turning their attention to "Episode II," scheduled for release in 2002. Rumors are flying about the film-to-be: The Wookie Wars will solve the Chewbacca mystery, Boba Fett will deservedly steal the show... and Leonardo DiCaprio will play Anakin Skywalker (and, eventually, Darth Vader).

You okay with that last one? Well be prepared then, for the next time you go to the movies to check out a new chapter in the "Star Wars" saga, you just might be joined by a bunch of screaming little girls who will tell you that Darth Vader is, like, sooo hot. If this possibility turns you off, write a letter to George Lucas. Do it for the common good.
- Billy O'Keefe

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE PHOTO POLL: EPISODE I

The Question: Chronicle Graduate-Elects Talk.



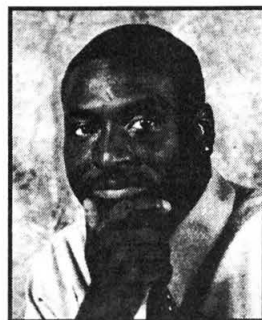
Lawrence "Happy Guy" Vital
Enthusiast
"Wear pants...maybe you'll get drunk, maybe you won't...but trust me on the pants."



Patrock M. Walsh
Angry Prospector
"A lot of people graduate in seven years....they're called doctors."



Mama D. Narcisse
Copy-editing machine
"As long as you know the difference between 'its' and 'it's' you'll be just fine, I promise."



Leon "U-Pass" Tripplett
Text Icon
"Gentlemen, gentlemen. The day is done. Let's head home--um, to the South Loop Club."

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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Are you ready?

A guide on how to land a job after graduation

By James Boozer
Contributing Editor

This column is the fifth and final part of a series on how seniors can find jobs after they graduate. I, along with experts from various fields, have given advice and insight on what a future college graduate can do to find the job they're looking for. I hope that this series has helped you prepare for your future and aided you in finding the job you want. Congratulations and best of luck to you on your future endeavors!

The event of a lifetime is almost upon us: Graduation Day! I know it has been a long time coming, but it's finally here and the time has come to break out the keg and party until dawn! Or has it?

Sorry to put a damper on what could be one of the happiest times of your life, but there are a few things I'm sure you've forgotten about or put off until the last minute. You may have won this battle, but the war has yet to be won.

Now that you have the job you want, it's time to lay the foundation that allows you to prosper in your career. Once you're settled in, find more information about your job, the company and the industry. The more you know before you get started at your job, the better off you'll be.

Try to get to know as many people as you can on your first day. The emphasis should be on getting acquainted—not a drill session about your boss or the work environment. Your mission is to learn more about your co-workers and establish friendships.

Stay in touch with what's going on in the industry by reading the newspaper—especially the business section. No matter where you work, the water-cooler conversation will likely center around what's in the news; you don't want to be left out of the loop. Basically, learn what you can without getting in someone's way. Remember, what goes around comes around. If you cross the line or step on somebody's toes on your way up the ladder, they may not be there for you on your way down.

And while you're working your way to obtaining a corner office, don't let the work take over your life. Try to separate your work from your social life. Make time for yourself, your family and your friends. There will always be times where work has to come first, but don't let it rule your life.

It's time to move on to another part of your career: your salary. It may be difficult to survive day-to-day on your initial salary, so you need to create a budget and stick to it. Regardless of your personal situation, building a budget enables you to get more from your money.

A budget will help you plan the most effective way to stretch your paycheck to make those all-important monthly payments. If you're debt-free, which is uncommon these days, congratulate yourself, and then start planning your budget.

Learning the basics will help you develop a second financial plan and good money-management skills according to the book, "Real Life Guide to Life After College," by Margot C. Lester and R. Allen Wyke. The time to start being proactive is now—even if you don't have a lot of cash in your pockets. In fact, that's an even better reason to start. Don't expect your parents to pay your bills.

Speaking of bills, remember your student loans? Now that you're out of school, those wonderful student loan folks are going to want their money back! The good thing about this situation is that student loans have one of the most flexible repayment plans there are. Just follow these guidelines from the book, "Real Life Guide to Life After College:"

1. Attend your financial aid exit interview. Your counselor will give you important information on managing your specific type of loan and will also give you contacts in case you get into trouble.

2. Know when your grace period ends. It's stated on the promissory note you signed when you accepted the loan.

3. Contact your loan servicer after you leave school. It's your responsibility to make sure they know where to find you. Even if you don't receive a bill from them, they still expect your payment. Paying late or not at all will permanently affect your credit record.

4. Keep your lender up to date on changes in your name, address, phone number, and marital status.

Each loan has its own alternate payment plans, but some of the common ones include: standard repayment, extended repayment, graduated repayment, suspended repayment, income-based repayment, and loan consolidation.

You can and will be denied credit and loans if there are blemishes on your credit rating. If you want to review your credit record, contact one of the independent credit rating companies such as Equifax, RTW, or Trans Union. For a \$10 fee, you can get a copy of your credit record.

If you find errors on the report, you can direct the credit agency to correct or delete them. The fastest way to improve your credit rating is to become a better borrower. Work on investments, accept a higher interest loan, and pay your bills on time.

It's also never too early to start planning for retirement. Many young people today realize how important it is to retire early with a large retirement fund under their belt. Something like that is possible, but there's a lot of work to get to that point.

Investing is a very risky business and it's not for everyone, so if you want to get rich quick, are impatient, unwilling to do your homework, and are averse to risk, then don't bother with investment. Now, if you're patient, willing to do some research, in it for the long haul, and you don't mind taking risks, then go for it. Your money will grow in time, but you just have to be determined and willing to wait it out until the dollars start pouring in!

With that, we come to the end of this series. You have, or eventually will have, what it takes to find the job you want. If you have followed along with this series and have taken some of the advice offered, your search will be a little easier. If not—are you ready?

9 things to know on how to make your money work for you

1. Your money should work as hard as you do.
2. Social Security is probably not an option for our generation.
3. Now is the right time to start saving for your retirement.
4. Higher risk equals higher return, or higher pain.
5. Don't play the stock market without help.
6. Investing is a risky business
7. You can reduce your risk.
8. Being too conservative can cost you as much as a bad investment.
9. You can—and should—invest in a number of financial vehicles.

Graphic designed by James Boozer/Chronicle

Information courtesy of "Real Life Guide to Life After College" from Pipeline Press.

Internet resources that can help you find a place to live



rent.net
The Most-Comprehensive Rental & Relocation Guide

Guides

- ▶ **Apartments & Rentals**
Photos, floor plans & virtual tours in the U.S. and Canada
- ▶ **Temporary Furnished Suites**
Short term & corporate housing worldwide
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Rent.Net

Like many other sites, this online version of apartment guides for various areas. You might have seen the printed version of these pamphlets at newsstands, grocery stores, etc. This site allows you to expand your searching capabilities by comparing different cities. It also offers an e-mail service that updates you daily on listings in a given city.



HOMEFAIR.com

What's New Find a Loan Special Offers Self Storage

Our mission is to provide interactive tools and useful information so that you can:

- stay organized
- make the right decisions
- and keep more of your own money

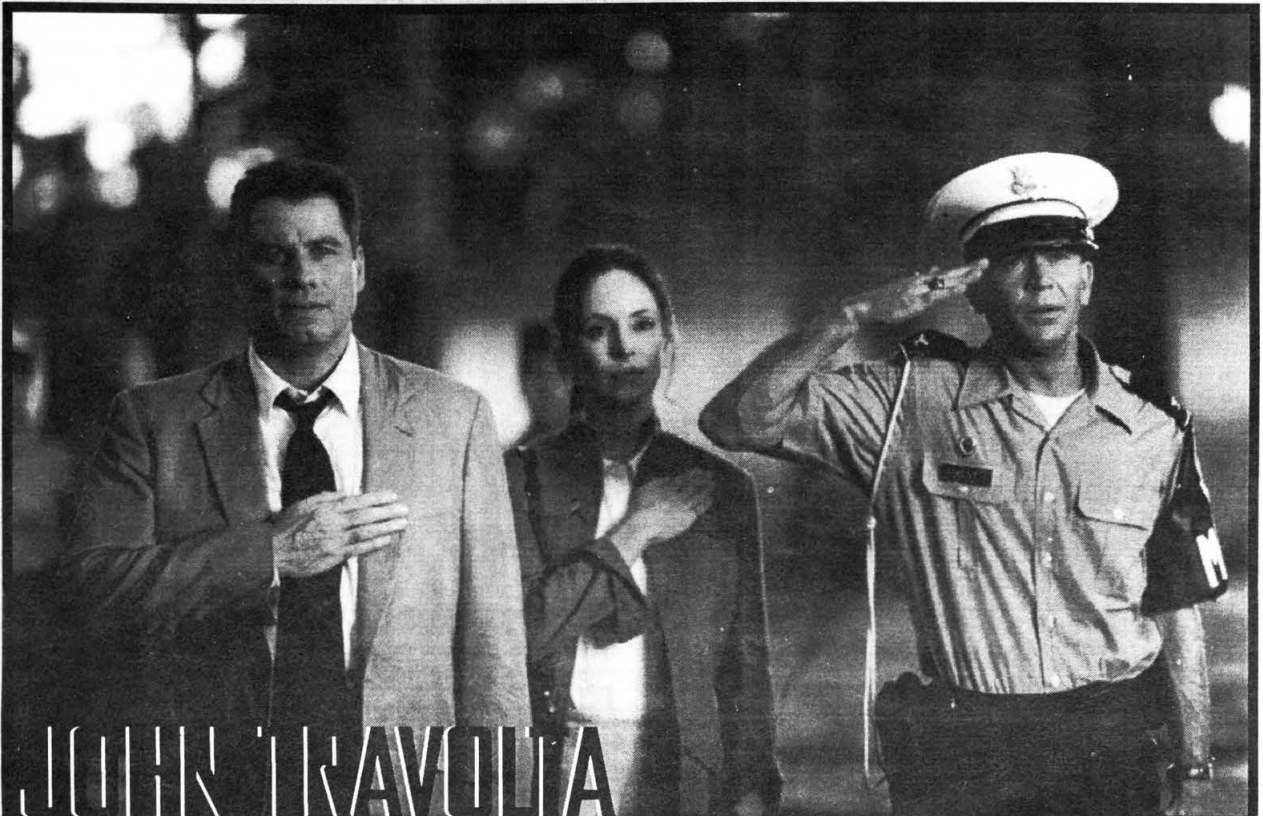
...when buying a home, selling a home, or relocating!

HomeFair.com

This one-stop shop offers a salary calculator, a moving calculator, information on where to live, insurance information, and much more. The main purpose of the salary calculator is to allow you to compare the cost of living from one area to the next. The moving calculator is another great tool to use. By indicating how much furniture you have, how many people you are moving, and how far you are moving, the site will estimate your expenses. It also provides a weight estimate for your belongings, which can help you determine the correct size truck to rent.

Information courtesy of "Real Life Guide to Life After College" from Pipeline Press.

WIN A FREE PASS!



JOHN TRAVOLTA

THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER

GO BEHIND THE LIES

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35 winners randomly selected from all entries received by Thursday, June 10 will win a pass (admit two). No purchase necessary. Employees of promotional partners are ineligible. Duplicate entries will be disqualified.

"THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER" OPENS IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FRIDAY, JUNE 18!

Vitality

YOUR GUIDE INTO THE WORLD OF ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

C.U.M.A. BRINGS THE MUSIC BUSINESS TO THE FOREFRONT

By Benjamin Trecroci
Managing/Sports Editor

Columbia Urban Music Association (C.U.M.A.) held its fourth annual music business conference, "Evolution" on May 22 at the Hokin Hall. For the last four years, C.U.M.A. has brought together representatives from the music industry to Columbia for students to recognize the business side of the industry. The conference offered two days of information, educational workshops, mentoring opportunities, networking and music at the afterparty at the HotHouse.

C.U.M.A. is a non-for-profit music business organization that was established to educate individuals about the music business. It not only provides members with an outlet to meet movers and shakers in the music industry, but also provided them with quality internships and mentors.

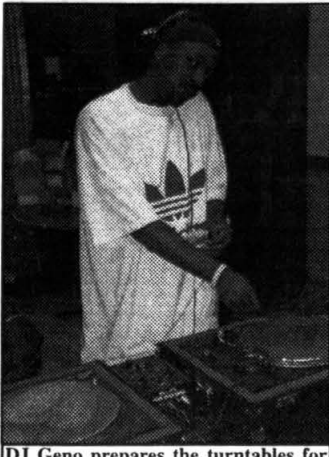
Through a panel, that included every aspect of a record deal from lawyers to songwriters, "Evolution" did not miss a step.

The opening workshop, "Knowin' Your Business" explained the proper way to approach the business aspect of the industry and knowledge that is needed to succeed. Lawyers and managers discussed the

legality of the business and what you should know before starting.

The next workshop called, "The Art & Business of Recording" discussed exactly what needs to get into the industry. From producers, engineers, programmers and artists they told the crowd that included budding artists to fans of the music.

All throughout the Hokin were distributors from almost every major and independent record label. Tommy Boy, Def Jam and Epic all set up shop giving out demo tapes, t-shirts, key chains and abundance of flyers. Outside the Wabash building was mini-van from Source Magazine plastered with Mountain Dew advertisements. The repre-



DJ Geno prepares the turntables for his 'spinnin'' assault.

Photo by Denise Hough

sentatives of the company were giving out all types of propaganda from bottles of Mountain Dew to coupons and other such items.

Also, outside was a huge gathering of people freestyling with a full-scale band including drums and a trumpet. In almost audition for the panelists, the sounds coming from the group were impressive.

By the third workshop, "Legal Aspects of Art & Entertainment" the panel of songwriters and publishers explained how to get real money in the industry. Explaining that by recording your song it does not guarantee that you will make money immediately. For someone to succeed, they need the right tools from not only marketing your music but also surrounding yourself with the right individuals.

In the fourth workshop, "Applied Marketing" a group of individuals ranging from Stress Magazine to Coca-Cola, this group was not shy about their intent. They talked about everything that can be expected in the industry. Most of the talk was about the marketing of music by individuals who tabbed as "snipers." Snipers are people who plaster billboards on street signs to throwing out flyers once someone is coming out of a show or a club.

Mark Armstrong of Stress Magazine talked in detail of some of the shady business that goes on in the industry. "At one point I had a scheduled interview with Les Nubians when suddenly people were coming at me from all angles trying to get an autograph." Armstrong did not shy away from telling about certain individuals or places that deal into the shady business of music.

After the conference, Psycho Drama from Suave House and Relativity's Syndicate, Qualohhen and All Natural all performed while Twilite Tone, Tim Buck 2 and DJ Geno all spun on the turntables.

While most of the music industry is legit, with people that are truly working hard to put out music made with hard work and determination, the industry is seen with a certain curtain over it.

Two Columbia alumni team up for "Love 101" Adrian Fulle and David Miller take movie-making to new heights

By James Boozer
Contributing Editor

With the opening of the 2nd annual Chicago Alt. Film Festival on June 9, comes the follow-up feature film by writer/director Adrian Fulle and producer David Miller entitled "Love 101."

The movie explores the relationship between two very different roommates, Andrew (Michael Muhney) and Joe (Jon Collins) and a sexy coed named Shayna (Mary Kay Cook). Joe is in love with Shayna, but can't quite get her attention or tell her how he feels. During Thanksgiving break, with Joe off to spend time with his family, Andrew and Shayna hook up and by chance, end up sleeping together. Knowing Joe is in love with Shayna, Andrew must decide whether or not he should act on his feelings for Shayna or maintain his friendship with Joe.

Filmed entirely on the campus of Northern Illinois University, the film is the second feature length film from Adrian whose first film, "Three Days" premiered at the Chicago International Film Festival in 1997. "Love 101" gives new meaning to the word friend and brings the talents of Fulle and Miller together again.

"This movie was interesting because it was based on our experiences college experiences," Miller said. He added that because of the experiences Adrian and himself had here at Columbia, they were incorporated in the film's script.

"Love 101" is an experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life. The cast and crew made the film pos-

sible. I'm excited to be premiering 'Love 101' at the [CAFF] and I'm looking forward to returning home and being surrounded by the community that accepted and supported me in my efforts to become a director," Fulle said.

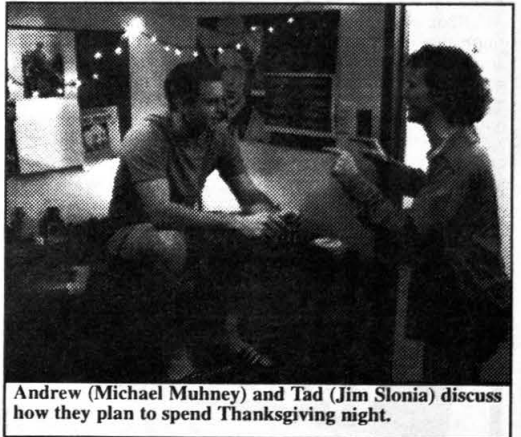
Born and raised in Des Plaines, Adrian graduated from Maine West High School in 1990 before attending Columbia where he majored in film and television production. While attending Columbia, Adrian met David, who is also a Chicago-area native and former Columbia grad. At the time, Miller was producing music videos and commercials under the banner, Mindlight Films and asked Adrian to join his team as assistant director.

In 1995, Fulle went to work for Walt Disney under the direction of John Hughes' production company Great Oaks Entertainment. Miller attended several North American premier film festivals when he decided to produce his first feature film.

After eight months apart, David asked Adrian to work on a low-budget, independent film called "The Ride."

"I loved that shoot. In one month, it taught me more than I had ever learned in five years of school," said Fulle about the experience serving as assistant director of "The Ride." Once the movie was completed, Adrian presented David with a script he had written for the film, "Three Days." The movie was the first collaboration between the two and marked Fulle's first time as a writer/director.

Following the film's high success at CIFF, Fulle and Miller went on to "Love 101" and created a film production company called Poya Pictures. "There was a commercial and short film or two in between, but our real passion lies in features. When we got the word from our investors that they were eager to invest in another project, Dave and I agreed that a fun movie was what we wanted



Andrew (Michael Muhney) and Tad (Jim Slonia) discuss how they plan to spend Thanksgiving night.

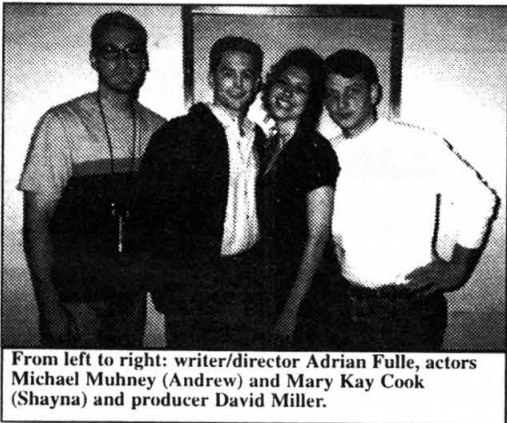
to make," Fulle said.

With the desire to expand Poya Pictures, in October of 1998, Adrian headed off to Los Angeles to establish a presence in the film capital of the world, while David remained behind to run the Chicago operations of Poya. "For Poya Pictures to thrive as a production company, we needed to continue to stay true to our roots in Chicago. But we also needed to be in Los Angeles to work with distributors and develop future projects with studios and attract name actors. It seemed natural to split up," said Fulle about leaving Chicago for Los Angeles.

Even though Miller and Fulle live in different cities, they continue to stay in touch. Miller is currently working on three projects, one of which is a lower budget film titled, "Alcohol." He also plans to work on another film sometime in November, but for right now, the main priority for David and Adrian is the upcoming film festival.

"Adrian and I are working on getting ready for the screening for the Chicago Alt. Film Festival and we are also planning our plan of attack for distribution because we have to set help distributor screening for studios in L.A.," Miller said.

It's safe to say that this dynamic duo will continue to produce the best independent feature films for an audience that continues to grow.



From left to right: writer/director Adrian Fulle, actors Michael Muhney (Andrew) and Mary Kay Cook (Shayna) and producer David Miller.

Putting this year to bed

Vitality Editor Lawrence Benedetto says farewell to all things *Chronicle*



You know I sure am gonna miss this place. I mean, how will I live without the *Chronicle*?

The computers are always broke, be it a mouse that doesn't move to the right or the inevitable "Friday Crash" that causes editors to have aneurysms.

The printers are always in need of "67 Service" or have a "13 Paper Jam." And if they do decide to work, they take 45 minutes to print a single page.

The photocopier gets more service done to it than a North Ave. hooker on a Saturday night. If you could get 3 copies out of it without a red light flashing, you were using Jedi mind tricks!

The phones never stopped ringing, and yet the calls were never for me.

The smoke wafting in from the back of the office always made its way into my face. Plus, it was nice to find "cigarette juice" (a combination of cigarette butts and ashes and water) on my desk about once a week.

The staff writers never ceased to amaze us with their brilliant sense of "journalism."

The temperature in the office ranged from "hot" to "hot-ter."

Some members of the staff played the infamous "Half-Life" game more than the kids in the Trench Coat Mafia.

But enough ranting already.

The *Chronicle* has been very, very good to me. It has given me a forum to publish my work. It has taught me to take a leadership role in an office. But, most of all, the *Chronicle* has given me a whole new group of friends. I need to thank all of my co-workers for putting up with my sometimes loud and obnoxious brand of humor, my constant complaining, my sometimes lackadaisical attitude, my plethora of "Friday Stories" and the incessant noises coming from the back of my throat.

Sure, Boozer, you might have lost your marbles due to all of my outbursts, but you seem better since you started taking your medication. Just kidding, James, thank you for hiring me last spring. Danielle, you could have killed me many times for

some of the things I said or did, but you spared me. Thank you, Danielle. Bruno, you went from lowly Staff Writer to Editor-in-Chief in a matter of months...that's amazing! Way to go, Dutch boy! Chris Richert, you are the glue that holds this place together. Thank you for everything (especially the free parking in May)! Billy, you are "The Man" in my book. You are the best writer that I've ever known, your artwork is side-splitting and you were a pleasure to have around the office. Leon, my brother, you are inspiration to us all. But I think you've heard enough praise from your pal Bert Gall, so I'll stop there. Thank you for realizing that when the day's work is done, it's time to kick back and relax. Steva, thanks for always being around the office. Valerie, you were a great addition to the staff. Amy "Double-A" Azzarito, the same can be said of you. Ashley, thank you for all of the times you helped me out with my section. Rob "Hitman" Hart, you were much better than the previous Photo Editor. Then again, the previous Photo Editor was Vince. But, honestly, it has been a pleasure to be around you. Donnie "DJ" Seals, Jr., you have been a pleasure as well. For as much smack as we've talked about the great "Photo vs. Text" debate, it's nice to know that you've accepted your role. Sulski, thank you for supporting my work and thanks for all of your help. Benny T., what can I say? I've got two words for you: I think you know those two words. You have become one of my favorites in the office and it's your fault that I know all about the WWF. Thank you for opening Treccroci's Lunch Counter. Although it may not compare to Tom's Grill, it was a much appreciated snacking spot. Great menu! Thanks for all of the crazy laughs. P.M. Walsh, you've quickly become another of my favorites. Perhaps it's because of our similar college backgrounds, or maybe it's because of all the words you like to put in my mouth. Thanks for everything, especially for "discovering" George's. I'll miss you come August when you leave us for Atlanta.

Finally, last but *certainly* not least, I must thank Jill "J-Lo" LoPresti. Without you, our section never would have been done. You are my layout queen. You are far more than my "assistant," you are my partner in crime. Our time together on this staff began with a "vital" dance that continued throughout the year. I hope that it can continue on for years to come. Thank you very much for everything. Good luck next year! I'm positive that you will make *Vitality* better than ever.

So let's give one more loud round of applause for the *Chronicle*! Thank you all very much! I will miss you all!

Audio Files

By Chris "Cow-Pants" Novak
Correspondent

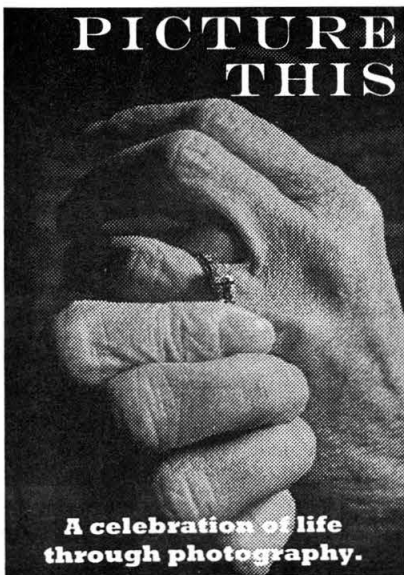
Ruffhouse Records "Greatest Hits"

Ruffhouse records, home of all the Fugees, has released a compilation of all the hit songs ever to grace the label. On this disc are Kris Kross, Cypress Hill, Nas, Lauryn Hill, Wyclef Jean, and the Fugees. When I first listened to this disc, it brought me back to my adolescence, with songs like "Jump" and "Insane in the Brain." But, the fun does not stop there. With "Doo Wop," "November Rain," and "Killing Me Softly with His Song," I enjoyed this even more. As a bonus, Jason Nevins remixed "Insane in the Brain" for the last track.

The surprise favorite of mine on this CD is "F--k Compton" by Tim Dog, a rap about why "Gangsta" Rap was horrible. A compilation with songs from my adolescence, and some fresh hits, a good buy at any price.

Burning London "The Clash Tribute"

Ice Cube, No Doubt, Afghan Wigs, Rancid, The Mighty Mighty Bosstones; all together for one purpose, to pay tribute to The Clash, one of the greatest bands to come from the UK. They were the lucky ones, for many bands saw this as an opportunity to pay tribute to a band that had influenced them. But, alas only so many songs can fit onto one CD. The two songs that stand out on this disc are The Mighty Mighty Bosstones version of "Rudy Can't Fail," for being an almost exact rendition, and Ice Cube with Mack 10 doing "Should I Stay or Should I Go," a very intriguing and original rendition. Warning though, if you are not familiar with The Clash's music you may not like this disc, and if you are, you will either love it or hate it.



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Guinness Fleadh Festival
Saturday, June 12
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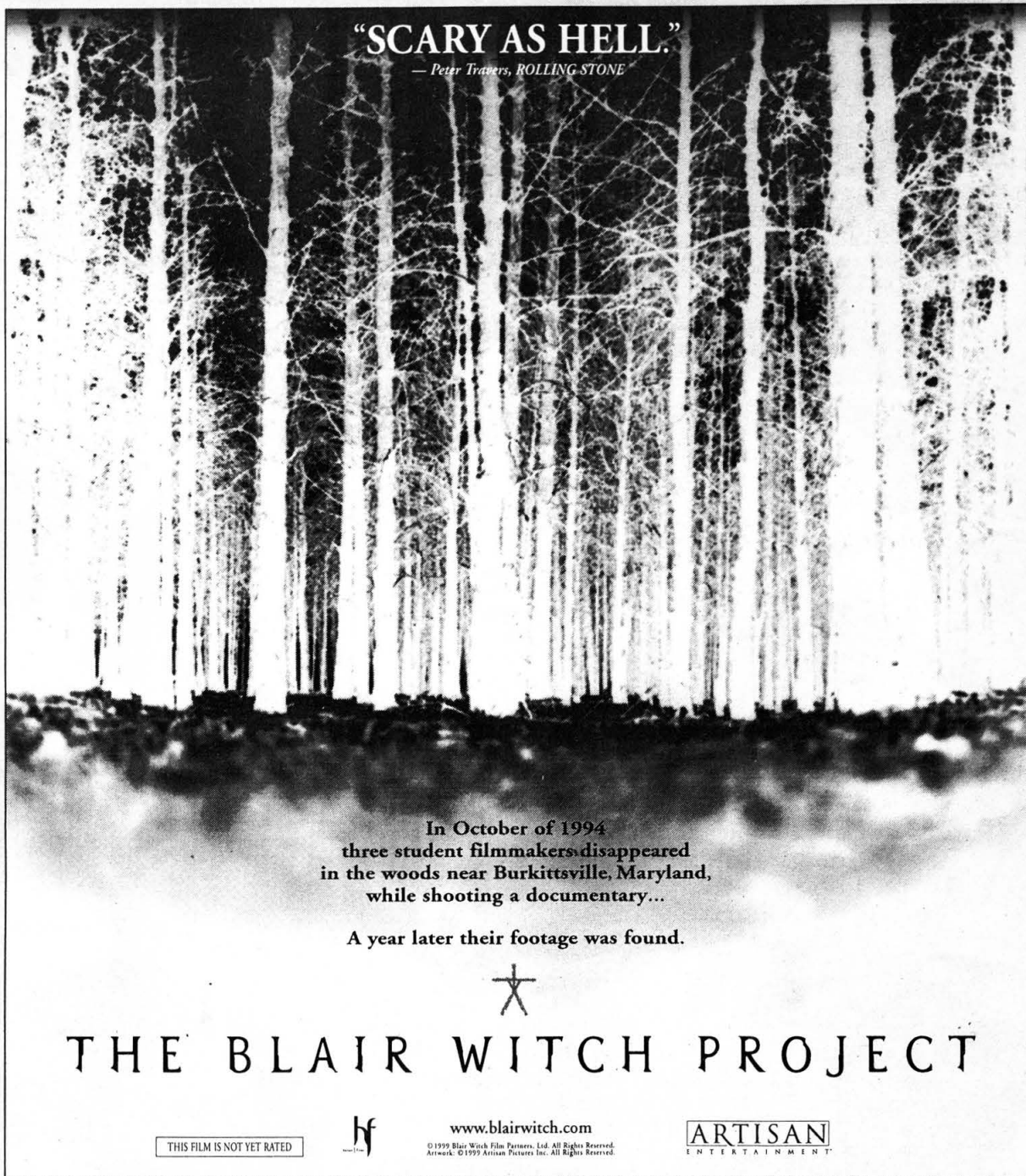
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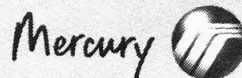
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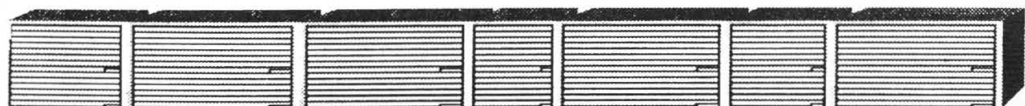
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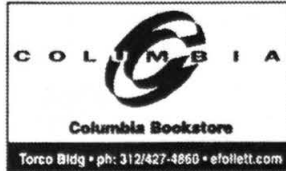
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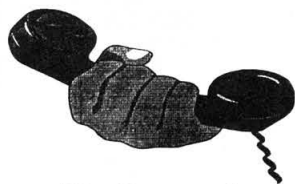
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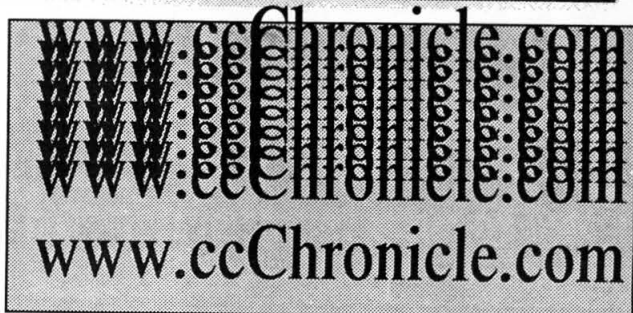
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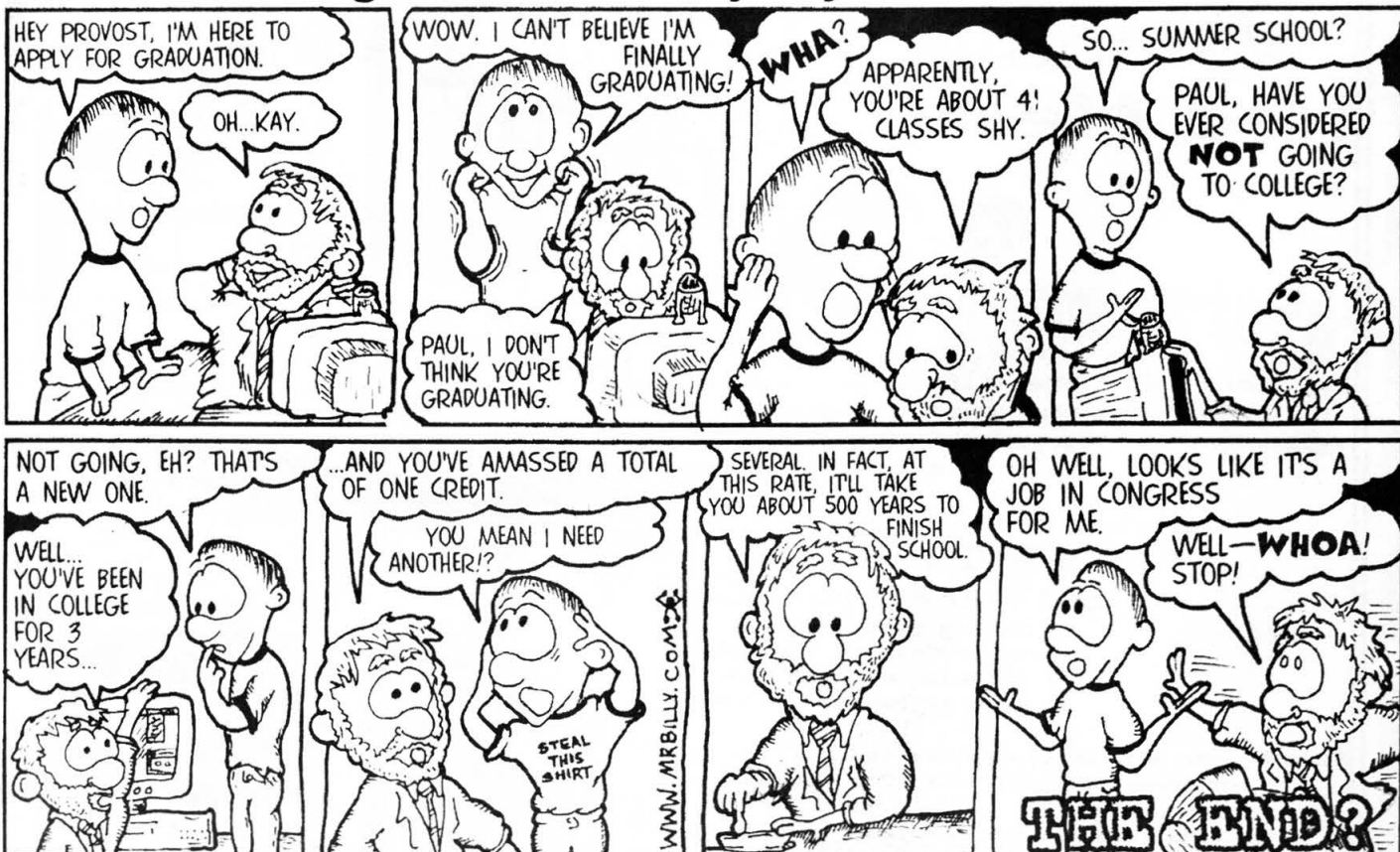
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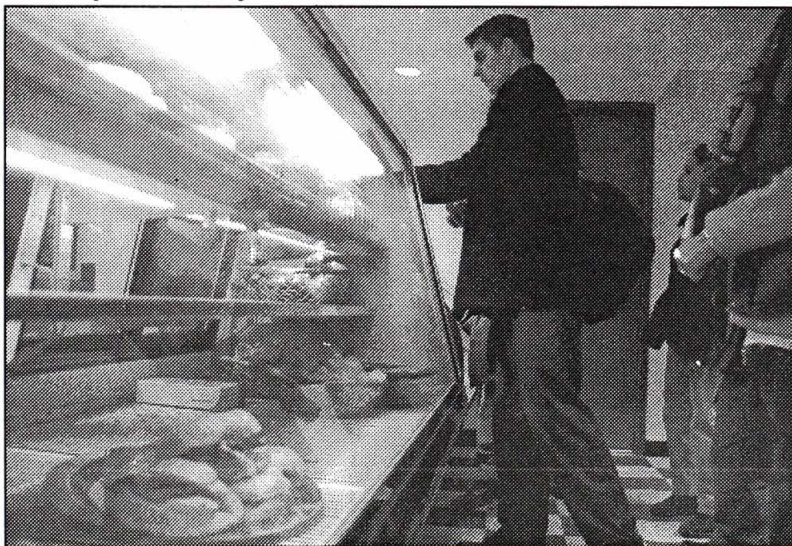
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What the Beck?

By Rob Steva
Sports Editor

It's safe to say that the force has certainly not been with Rod Beck and the Cubs through the beginning of the season.

After showing signs of brilliance, the Cubs gave hope to Chicago baseball and for an instant made us all feel as if it was the start of something good. Some popular magazines and sports writers even went so far as to include the Cubs in the '99 postseason.

However, it seems as though after hearing that the team would be without Kerry Wood for the 1999 season, throwing in the towel ran through everyone's mind. But why? The Cubs, even without Wood, were still a contender.

Instead, the Cubs chose not to go after big names in the free agency bonanza.

Give credit where credit is due - they did flirt with Hideo Nomo and signed him to a minor-league deal, but Nomo didn't even get a chance to throw an inning in the majors for the Cubs and was released and later picked up by Milwaukee. It was obvious Sosa wouldn't have a repeat season. Therefore the Cubs needed to solidify the offense, and more importantly, the pitching.

However, in typical Cub fashion, they became spectators and watched the rest of National League wheel and deal. The Braves got better by adding Brian Jordan and Brett Boone, the Mets got better by re-signing Piazza and adding Robin Ventura and Rickey Henderson. The list of available players was plentiful during the off-season with names such as Greg Vaughn, Kevin Brown, Randy Johnson, Mo Vaughn and Albert Belle.

Maybe Cubs management saw something the rest of the league didn't in Curtis Goodwin and Scott Sanders. What makes this season even more disappointing is that the Cubs are in one of the weakest divisions in baseball, the NL Central.

Going into the '99 season, the Cubs knew that their main problem would be the Houston Astros, and after losing Randy Johnson to free agency a run at the pennant seemed to be more of a reality than ever. The Cubs still have a chance to claim a wild card position, after all, there is a lot of baseball to be played.

However, if for some reason Riggelman continued to go to Beck in the closing stages of a game, the Cubs should surrender now.

Before being put on the injured list, Beck had become the recipient of bleacher boos, having blown countless games, pushing the Cubs further down the Central division ladder. Beck has one pitch, an 85 mile per hour fast ball, that looks like a basketball by the time it arrives to homeplate.

Opponents have crushed Beck, and as a result his earned run average has sky rocketed to over nine.

The bottom line is the Cubs need relief; they need to leave Beck on a road trip and get with the program before everyone is "waiting for next year" already.

Cade McNown brings his style of winning to Chicago

By John Gelsomino
Sports Correspondent

It was once Jim McMahon vs. Mike Tomczak, Jim Harbaugh vs. P.T. Willis and Eric Kramer vs. Steve Walsh. Now Kramer will have another competition ahead of him with the future of the Franchise.

The Bears selection of Cade McNown in the first round of the amateur draft showed that quarterback will be the Bears will build from. But when will that process begin? Eric Kramer is still the starter according to the Bears. Mini camp and Platteville will determine if this prediction is correct.

McNown comes from a terrific offensive program at UCLA. He may be undersized as an NFL QB but his heart could make up for any physical shortcomings.

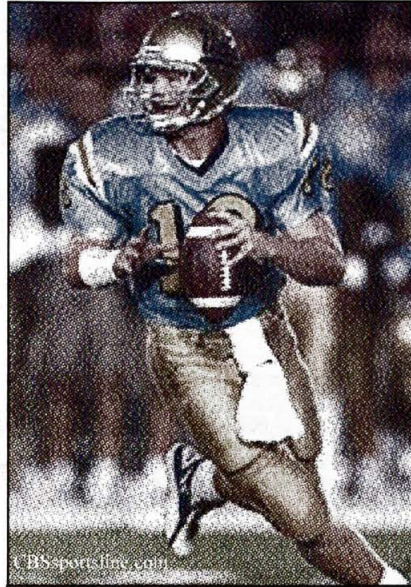
UCLA teammate Chad Overhauser witnessed McNown's field presence first hand. "He's enthusiastic, he loves to go out and play, and loves to go out and practice. He's not one of those guys who considers it work."

Bears personnel chief, Mark Hatley, has similar confidence in his No. 1 pick. "I think McNown was the best quarterback we could get. We're excited about him. We felt good about him all along. We felt Cade had the knowledge, the arm and the ability to take us where we want to go."

After back-to-back 4-12 seasons, the Bears need to look in a different direction. Eric Kramer is a veteran quarterback that is valuable asset to a football team. He may be better off in a more competitive situation, Denver for instance, than with the rebuilding Chicago Bears.

The more time Kramer spends here, the more time he will disrupt McNown's development. Although Bears brass says the quarterback position is Kramer's, it's not set in stone.

"Because it's a new offense, they're all going to have a



The Bears' Cade McNown in his UCLA days.

pretty equal start," said Bears offensive coordinator Gary Crowton. "[McNown will] be able to come in and start competing really quickly."

The Bears will be better off in the long run if McNown gets playing time early. The only way to improve and grow as a unit is by playing.

McNown needs to get acquainted with his receivers and runningbacks if he is going to be effective. He is a very confident young man - some would say cocky, but that is essential for a quarterback. He's the leader of the offense, the one who make things happen in the huddle and after the snap.

"No one questioned what I did at UCLA when we were winning a lot of games," said McNown. "If I come to Chicago and start winning, that will be forgotten pretty quickly. I have plenty of arm to throw and plenty of upside."

By no means am I a polished product yet; I have plenty of work to do."

Besides quarterback, the Bears have many other positions that are questionable. In the backfield, Curtis Enis has made solid progress on his torn ACL and may be back in time for training camp. The magnificent end of the season for James Allen also makes him a potent candidate for running back.

Receiver Curtis Conway must forget about a disappointing 1998 campaign and come in fresh, ready to help lead this offense.

It all starts with the quarterback, and so far McNown seems to believe he can make a difference. "Coming to the Bears, a team with such great history, and then in the last couple of years not to have been where they want to be, you have something to build on. It's, 'Hey, we were here, let's get back.'"

McNown has the right attitude to lead this team and we will soon find out if the 6'1", 213-lb. quarterback has the physical ability too. It is only fair to give him a chance and if he has an and impressive pre-season; he should be taking snaps on opening day.

Baseball draws a hard line in telecast negotiations with ESPN

By Cecil Conley
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Major League Baseball apparently doesn't mind taking a back seat to the NHL.

Dick Glover, executive vice president of programming for ESPN, said the cable network will pre-empt its Wednesday night baseball telecast on June 2 in order to televise a Stanley Cup playoff game, adding that baseball approved the switch.

When it comes to the NFL, however, baseball isn't willing to budge. That poses a problem for ESPN, which has baseball and NFL games on Sunday nights in September. ESPN would like to move the baseball games to ESPN2, which means about 12 million fewer homes would receive the games, but baseball has balked at the switch. As a result, baseball is attempting to terminate its contract with ESPN at the end of this season.

ESPN filed a suit on Tuesday in New York to prevent baseball from pulling the plug on the contract, which runs through the 2002 season.

"We were left with no choice," Glover said.

"This isn't about the NFL. This isn't about ESPN2. This is about the deal that baseball was thrilled with when it was signed," Glover said. "We're happy to live up to the deal. They have gone to the rather extreme step of saying they're going to terminate the entire thing."

"It makes no sense to us. That's why we're real disappointed and upset. We were shocked that it became a dispute at all. We do over 500 hours of programming under this agreement. We're talking about three games out of those 500 hours."

Glover said ESPN's contract with baseball allows the network to pre-empt as many as 10 games per season in order to televise "events of significant viewer interest."

Those events include three Sunday night NFL games in September. Glover said that baseball must approve each pre-emption but pointed out that there never has been a problem except when the Sunday night baseball telecasts conflict with the NFL. The Sunday night debate first became an issue last Sept. 20 when ESPN asked baseball if it could switch Yankees-Baltimore Orioles game to ESPN2 because it had the NFL game between the Arizona Cardinals and the Philadelphia Eagles.

Baseball didn't allow the move, so ESPN simply decided to pre-empt the Orioles-Yankees game. That happened to be the night Baltimore's Cal Ripken Jr. sat down, ending his record consecutive games streak at 2,632. There's no way that ESPN would consider moving its NFL telecasts, when you consider the ratings. Glover said Sunday night NFL games last season generated an average rating of 7.3, while baseball managed only a 1.8.

"There's no disagreement that the NFL represents the gold standard of viewer interest," Glover said.

Last season was ESPN's first with the entire Sunday night NFL schedule. The network previously had split the Sunday night games with TNT, with ESPN taking the last eight games to avoid a conflict with its Sunday night baseball games through September.

"Our contract (with baseball) specifically anticipated just this kind of occurrence," Glover said. "Given the amount of programming we do, the potential for conflict exists. That's why we built in the right to pre-empt up to 10 events and the right to place the pre-empted games on ESPN2."

That's in the agreement." Glover said ESPN has offered concessions to baseball in hopes of resolving the dispute but said baseball has pitched only one solution and that is to ask ESPN for more money. ESPN pays about \$40 million a year for rights to regular-season baseball games. Glover said baseball has asked for three times that amount to settle.

"Baseball's response has consistently been disproportionate to the issue at hand," he said. Baseball's demand for more money raises one question: Is it trying to end its contract with ESPN to seek a better deal with another network? -

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