

5-10-1999

Columbia Chronicle (05/10/1999)

Columbia College Chicago

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 25

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MAY 10, 1999

INSIDE

CAMPUS

Columbia to offer poetry major next year



VITALITY

Underworld proves their musical worth



SPORTS

After 50 games... it's playoff time!



Student Union Movement picking up speed, for now

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

In addition to grappling with the typical internal struggles of any fledgling student organization, the newly-formed Student Union Movement of Columbia College is desperately trying, in the words of its chairman, student David Blumenthal, to "hit the pavement running."

While the group has ratified a constitution and elected interim officers, regulations pertaining to bylaws, structure, and the group's future are still being painstakingly negotiated. SUM, which met last Thursday, is also looking to gain official recognition by the college via the Student Affairs Committee in the quickly waning weeks of the school year.

One of the many external issues that concerns SUM is administrative accountability for tuition increases. Claiming that Columbia is not specific on money-spending issues, the group, acting on behalf of the student body, wants a comprehensive report of the college's overall budget to be made public in order to explain where the tuition-dependent school is allocating money. This could not only help quiet inevitable student complaints arising from a tuition increase, SUM says, but it could also serve to restore an element of trust between students and a seemingly distant administration.

SUM hopes such a request will give the movement some legitimacy and encourage greater student interest in what the organization is attempting to do, leading to increased membership.

SUM faces the daunting task of not biting off more than it can chew—acting as the spokesman for an ostensibly apathetic student body while attempting to iron out its own kinks. The Student Union Movement, argued one student in attendance, needs to be officially recognized by the college before opening its mouth, so to speak, while others

share the view that SUM needs to make a name for itself in the closing weeks of the semester so that by next year it will have a more solid base of student support.

SUM was created last month to give Columbia students a voice in college affairs and to promote a more inclusive campus atmosphere. Ideally, an open dialogue between students and administrators would form as a result of its work.

The tuition increase and the college's role in it is just one concern that the SUM would be dealing with on behalf of the student body.

Chairman Blumenthal emphasized that SUM will never focus on issues within specific college departments. "[The organization] will be non-partisan and deal only with broad, campus issues," he said in the meeting last Thursday.

Blumenthal maintained that any student who attends SUM meetings consistently during the next few weeks will be considered an honorary officer. For the time being, until SUM gains more members, any student is eligible to vote on any motion proposed in a SUM session. Student Union Movement meetings are Thursdays at 1 p.m. for the remainder of the semester in the Student Center, room 311 of the Wabash Bldg. ALL students, part-time or full-time, graduate or undergraduate, are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Whatever the student issues may be, from tuition to classes to student life, SUM is hoping to be the mouthpiece of one of the fastest-growing collegiate student bodies in Illinois. It remains to be seen whether SUM can gain validity and be a force by next year, or whether student support for such a vital organization will expire much as its forebears have in the past, leaving an indispensable component of any healthy campus to languish and fade into obscurity.

Tuition raised for next year

College plans to expand, improve; March fire not a factor in hike

By Katie Celani
Staff Writer

The tuition rate rises again for Columbia students next year. The 1999-2000 school year tuition has been increased from \$4,500 to \$5,345 per semester. Despite the increase, tuition at Columbia still remains among the lowest of private colleges in Illinois and the lowest in the Chicago area. Columbia boasts that while tuition may increase, there are no reductions being made — the money will be spent on additional programs and facilities. Most private colleges will likely have an increase in tuition next year, but they will also be eliminating various programs, majors and facilities.

According to Michael DeSalle, vice president of finance at Columbia, a tuition increase is important to a college growing as fast as Columbia. "We are not unique; all colleges raise tuition for more facilities," he said. DeSalle claims the increase will fund the millions of dollars Columbia is spending on additional full-time faculty, new buildings, renovations, and creation of a better student environment.

Over the next two years, the college plans to add 50 new full-time faculty members. DeSalle said this is necessary to "continue doing an excellent job in the performing, visual and media arts." He said that in addition to full-time faculty, they're planning to increase the part-time staff as well.

Columbia has purchased two new buildings this year and is still looking to acquire more space.

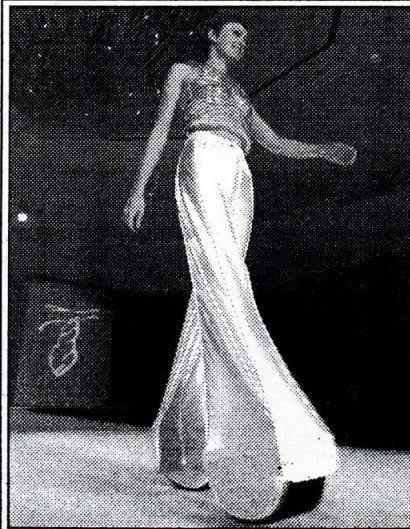
Among these new purchases is the historic \$4.9 million, 160,000 sq. ft. Ludington Building, located at 11th and Wabash. This building will house the expanding Film and Video programs and create a much-needed area for student life programs.

Though the college is spending millions on acquiring new buildings, DeSalle said that renovations of the older buildings will also be taking place. He said that the elevator project will be completed in all three of the main campus buildings, 600 and 624 S. Michigan and 623 S. Wabash. He also said that recent renovations, such as the Underground Cafe and the Hokin Center, are also going to be funded through this increase.

DeSalle adamantly rejected the notion that the fire in the 600 S. Michigan building on March 7, which destroyed some of the exterior and portions of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, had any impact on the increase. "The \$1.5-\$2 million in damages is covered by insurance — not even the college's insurance, [but] the contractors' insurance. It had virtually no impact on us financially."

DeSalle acknowledged that student financial aid is already high at Columbia, but he doesn't believe the increase will be an obstacle for students to receive more aid. "There are many student-aid programs. We do not feel this will hurt their chances."

DeSalle said that tuition rates go up every year with the rise of inflation. "Teachers need raises, there are things to buy, and prices go up on everything every year."



"Fashion Columbia '99," a fashion show of Columbia student-designed work, was held last Tuesday at the Fairmont Hotel, 200 N. Columbus.

Proceeds from the show benefited the Victor Skrebneski Fashion Scholarship and the Columbia College Fashion Association Management and Fashion Design Internship Fund.

An exhibition of some of the work, in everything from student-designed clothing to jewelry, sculpture, photographs, literature, paintings, video and graphic design, is currently in the Hokin Annex, Wabash Bldg. through May 13.

The show was produced by the Columbia College Fashion Association.

A special two-page photo spread of last week's fashion show will be featured in the May 17 issue of the *Chronicle*.

Photo: Jason Glaser/Chronicle

Columbia bookstore to be evaluated

By Billy O'Keefe
Viewpoints/ New Media Editor

Those of you accustomed to long lines, sparse inventory and less than adequate customer service at Columbia's bookstore, rest easy. You have friends in high places now.

As the college's contract with Follett Bookstores comes up for renewal and students continue to voice their frustration with the store's service, Vice President of finance Michael DeSalle formed the Bookstore Advisory Committee in hopes of curbing tensions and reforming bookstore policy.

The committee's goal is to open the lines of communication between students, faculty, bookstore workers and Follett. Members, which consist of both student and faculty representatives, have provided their e-mail addresses so students can contact them with concerns and ideas. Additionally, the committee meetings, held roughly every two weeks, are open to the public.

In line with the committee's wishes, Eileen Cleary has stepped into the role as bookstore manager, and a collective effort to present students with a friendlier, more knowledgeable staff has followed.

So far, according to student representative and SOC chairperson David Blumenthal, appointing Cleary was a wise move. "[Eileen] has proven to be very open and receptive to comments and suggestions from both faculty and students on how to improve goods and services in the campus store."

The committee's next goal is to better structure the policies between the bookstore and the school, as well as reorganize the bookstore itself (students have complained that the same book can sometimes be found in two different departments of the store, creating confusion among students as well as low quan-

tities).

According to Liberal Education instructor and committee member Joan Erdman, one of the biggest tasks involves simply informing students and staff how the bookstore conducts business.

For example, the sooner instructors place orders for books for the next semester, the easier it is for the bookstore to assess the demand for each book.

What that means to students is that the more aware Follett is of a particular book's demand, the more money they will pay students currently using the

See Bookstore, page 3

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CAMPUS NEWS



David Duchovny of "X-Files" fame, left, signs an autograph for some happy fans across the street from the Congress Hotel on S. Michigan last Thursday. Duchovny was in town to shoot "Return to Me," a 'classic love story' to be shot exclusively in Chicago. Minnie Driver, David Allan Grier, and Jim Belushi co-star in the movie.

The film crew cramped much of the South Loop last week with trucks, trailers, and blocked-off parking spaces.

Photo: Leah Stricklen/
Special to the Chronicle

Demand for weekend classes still varies

By Diane Krueger
Correspondent

For some students with demanding schedules, weekend classes are the only way to fit school into their lives.

"I take a Saturday class because I work during the week and I don't want to take a lot of night classes," said Jen Shannon, sophomore, public relations major.

In the Film/Video Department, weekend classes are in high demand. The department will offer 19 classes on both Fridays and Saturdays in the fall '99 semester.

"We have a lot of students who work," said Rick Coken, assistant Film/Video department chairperson. "Also, it alleviates staffing pressures [and] equipment pressures." Since there are 1,800 students in that department alone, Friday and Saturday classes are a must for the department to run effectively, he said.

While some departments have an abundance of classes on Fridays and Saturdays, others offer few courses due to lack of interest.

The Fiction Writing department will offer only three classes on Fridays and one class on Saturdays for the fall semester.

"Traditionally, enrollment has been a problem," said Shawn Shiflett, assistant chairman of the Fiction Writing department. "Fifteen to twenty years ago, we always had at least one Saturday class. Over the past five to ten years, we can't get enough interest."

Although interest in weekend classes has diminished in recent years, the tide may be changing.

"We had seven people sign up for a Saturday Fiction Writing I [class] this semester. This was the most interest we've seen in a while, but we needed at least 12 students for the class to take place," said Shiflett.

publish books, teach poetry or work in other fields of writing.

Columbia students will have the opportunity to work on two literary journals published by the college: Columbia Poetry Review, a national journal, and the South Loop Review, a student nonfiction journal.

Columbia has a concrete, historical foundation in the art of poetry. The program's first instructor, in 1965, was Pulitzer Prize winner Gwendolyn Brooks. Paul Hoover, the author of seven critically acclaimed poetry collections and editor of *Postmodern American Poetry* and *New American Writing*, has taught at Columbia since 1974; he is also published in association with the school.

Columbia offers six to twelve poetry writing workshops each semester. The program also sponsors a reading series with acclaimed poets and writers. For more information about Columbia's poetry major and its events, contact Columbia's English Department at ext. 8125.

Columbia first in offering poetry major

By Gloria Brand
Staff Writer

Columbia, renowned for its success in arts programs, is now going to be one of the first 4-year, accredited colleges in the area to offer an undergraduate major in poetry.

The poetry major program is scheduled to begin next fall and is designed to enhance students' language skills while preparing them for jobs in publishing and writing.

"I think that working with language is always beneficial to students and it helps them in a lot of ways," said English Department Chairman Garnett Kilbert Cohen. "In terms of getting jobs, the people who graduate from the program should have auxiliary skills in which to either

Bookstore

continued from front page

book to sell it back. But when faculty members don't know this and wait on their orders, the prices drop, and the students benefit less.

It's communication gaps like these that the committee hopes to eradicate. Erdman notes that the problems with the bookstores aren't just a student concern; if the students can't buy the books they need, the faculty cannot properly teach the material. Thus, with faculty and student enthusiasm driving the project, as well as increasing competition from outside sources, the bookstore has no choice but to listen and understand where the concerns are coming from.

"The bookstore can't just assume they'll get the students' business. If students need to find other routes - Amazon.com is a good example - and they get what they're looking for, I'll be the first to compliment them on that."

Erdman noted that Follet's new online bookstore, which has received positive reviews since its inception, is a partially due to Amazon's taking a bite out of the college textbook business.

Students are encouraged to contact the following people via e-mail with their suggestions and concerns, as well as any inquiries as to dates and times for the next meeting:

Michael DeSalle —
mdesalle@popmail.colum.edu
Joan Erdman —
jerdman@popmail.colum.edu
David Blumenthal —
strasse41@hotmail.com
Paula M. Scheiwe —
pscheiwe@popmail.colum.edu
Phyllis Johnson —
pjohn@popmail.colum.edu
Margaret Sullivan —
msullivan@popmail.colum.edu
Eileen Cleary —
www.columbia.bkstr.com

Issues and events you should know about on this week's extended sheet...

On campus

Want to be part of something important? Come to the next **Student Union Movement** meeting, Thursday at 1 p.m. in the Student Center, room 311, Wabash Bldg. What is SUM? See story on front page!

The Columbia College Art Gallery is presenting **"HOLD IT! Sacred and Secular Containers from Africa and Around the World,"** an exhibition of 40 vessels and containers that symbolize the individual, communal, and spiritual life of cultures from Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and the Americas. The exhibit runs at the Gallery in the 11th St. Campus, 72 E. 11th St. through May 22. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday; it is open also on Saturdays, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit was organized by students of the Columbia College course, *Exhibiting African Art, Theory, and Practice* under the supervision of Dr. Kate Ezra. Janice Klein, Registrar of the Anthropology Collections of the Field Museum, will speak on **"Woven in Wood: Basketry of the Great Lakes Indians"** on Monday, May 10 at 3 p.m. in the gallery. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The **Rachel Rosenthal Dance Company** will perform **"The Unexpurgated Virgin,"** a biography of 'regretful sexual expression and mind-altering meditation on purity and the loss of it.' The performance runs Thursday, May 13, to Saturday, May 15 at the Columbia College Dance Center, 4730 N. Sheridan, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20. For more information, call (773) 989-3310.

Columbia's **Urban Music Association** is presenting its Fourth Annual Music Business Conference, **"Evolution,"** on Saturday, May 22 at HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo. The \$25 student admission includes entry to workshops at the Hokin Center. Music producers, artists, and representatives will be in attendance. For more information, call ext. 7562.

Commencement update

Columbia has announced that award-winning author and filmmaker **Sherman Alexie** will give the commencement address and receive an honorary degree at this year's commencement ceremony, June 6 at the UIC Pavilion. Alexie, a poet, novelist, and Native American activist, has been called "one of the major lyric voices of our time" by the *New York Times Book Review*. He was the creator of the critically-acclaimed 1998 film, **"Smoke Signals,"** the first film to be written, produced, and directed by American Indians.

Columbia will also award honorary degrees to author **Sara Paretsky**, corporate wonk **Arthur C. Nielsen, Jr.**, and community activist/ art enthusiast **William E. Strickland, Jr.**

Columbia President John Duff will award the President's Medal for Distinguished Service to Columbia College to **Shirley Mordine**, founder and director emeritus, Columbia College Dance Center; **John Mulvany**, chair emeritus, departments of photography and art/design; and **Leslie Van Marter**, chair emeritus, liberal education department.

The Columbia College Jazz Ensemble, directed by William Russo, will perform at the ceremony.

Around town

The first in a series of competitions leading to the **1999 National Poetry Slam Championship** will kick off at Phyllis' Musical Inn, 1800 W. Division, on Tues., May 11 at 8 p.m. Judges will be selected at random from the audience. A team of the highest-rated Chicago poets will then represent the city in the championship to be held here from August 11-14. Forty-eight teams from across the country will compete in the championship. For more information, call (708) 484-2009.

The **1999 Chicago Comedy Festival** will present, among other things, a writing seminar, **"Comedy Writing for Television,"** featuring a panel of top television writers from "The Daily Show," "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," "The Tonight Show," and "The Chris Rock Show," among others. The seminar, being held Saturday, May 15 at 3:30 p.m. in the Apollo Theater, 2540 N. Lincoln, costs \$20, \$12 for students. For more information, call (773) 935-6100.

The **Columbia Center for Black Music Research's** Ensemble Stop-Time and the Ensemble Kalinda Chicago will present **"Stompin' at the Regal"** on Fri., May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the New Regal Theater, 1645 E. 79th St. (at Stony Island.) Legendary Chicago recording artist Jerry "the Iceman" Butler will be a featured guest soloist with Ensemble Stop-Time. Tickets, available at the New Regal box office or from Ticketmaster, range from \$10 to \$35. For more information, call ext. 7559.

The second annual **Kids Walk for Homeless Kids**, a unique fundraising event that grew out of one child's encounter with a homeless person, will kick off Sat., May 22 at 1 p.m. at Arvey Field, Roosevelt Rd. and Lake Shore Drive. The event is intended to encourage local youth to take an active role in shaping their world by volunteering while raising funds and awareness. On-site registration begins at noon; fees are \$10 for children under 17, \$15 for adults; \$2 will be discounted for groups of four or more. (Kids under four in a stroller walk for free.) All walkers will receive a goody bag and a commemorative t-shirt; the post-walk celebration will include refreshments and live entertainment. For more information, call (312) 642-2692 or (312) 944-6667.

C O L U M B I A | C O L L E G E | C H I C A G O

RECORDS

April 1999

Dear Graduate:

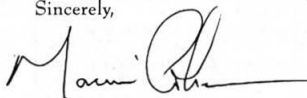
Columbia's 1999 Commencement Exercise will take place Sunday, June 6, 1999, at the University of Illinois Pavilion (1150 West Harrison Street), from 2:00 p.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. Please note the following:

- There will be open seating at the ceremony and tickets will not be required. You may pick up your announcements in the Records Office, Room 611, 600 South Michigan, the week of May 17. The office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Each student will receive ten announcements. Extra announcements may be available after May 24. Personalized invitations are available through the bookstore at a reasonable cost.
- Caps and gowns are to be picked up in the Hokin Annex, 623 South Wabash, Wednesday, June 2 (10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.). If you cannot pick-up your robe on June 2, you can obtain it immediately before the ceremony on June 6. You will receive your seating ticket with your cap and gown. **You must bring your seating ticket with you to Commencement.** Graduates should arrive at the Pavilion no later than 1:00 p.m. Signs will be posted to direct you to the processional staging area. Parking is available adjacent to the Pavilion and across the street. Guests will not be permitted to enter before 1:15 p.m.
- If you have a physical handicap and require any type of assistance, please contact Noel Rodriguez, Office of Student Support Services, 312-344-8133.
- Retain the diploma jacket issued to you at the ceremony. Diplomas are to be picked up in Academic Advising, Room 300, 623 South Wabash, on the appropriate date. All diplomas must be picked up in person. Diplomas are not issued until all academic and financial obligations have been satisfied. Contact Ruby Turner, 312-344-7441, for more information.

January Graduates	Week of June 14, 1999
June Graduates	Week of July 26, 1999
August Graduates	Week of September 20, 1999
- Caps and gowns must be returned to the designated area immediately following the ceremony. You may keep the tassel from the cap.
- A party for all graduating seniors is planned for the evening of June 4, 1999 at the Palmer House Hilton. Please contact the Student Life and Development Office for further details, 312-344-7459.

On behalf of the Student Services staff, I congratulate you on your accomplishment and extend our best wishes for a successful future.

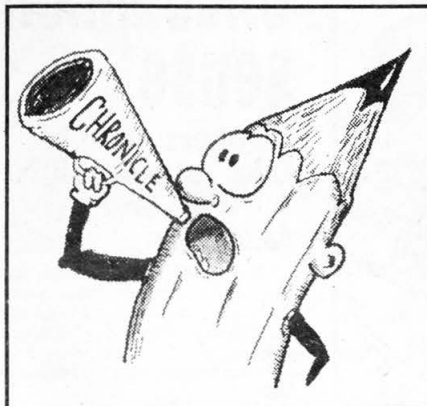
Sincerely,



Marvin Cohen
Director of Records and Registration

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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



Peter Pencilhead sez,

"These freaks can't write!"

Well that's too bad for Peter Pencilhead, because he can't write, either. But if you CAN write and you'd like to prove it, come join the *Columbia Chronicle* staff for the 1999-2000 school year!

Positions Available (Remember, with exception of staff writer/photographer, these are paying jobs!):

Campus Editor

The Campus Editor is in charge of news coverage of events, issues and people on campus. The Campus Editor is a member of the *Chronicle* Editorial Board.

Assistant Editors (2)

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

New Media Editor

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

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.

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.

Want a Job?

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.

If you're a dedicated, hard-working student who doesn't mind working with weirdos and would like a great job for next year, call (312) 344-7343 and ask for either James or Billy, and we'll answer any questions and set up an interview. Please be prepared to present a resumé, a transcript listing any journalism/photography classes you have taken and some examples of your work when you come for your interview.

Viewpoints

Editorial

Jackson deserves praise but not credit

Much has been made about Rev. Jesse Jackson's trip last week to Serbia. While there, he held hands with Slobodan Milosevic, preached about peace, and received permission to bring home the three American soldiers captured in Macedonia a month ago.

U.S. Rep. Rod Blagojevich (D-Ill.) accompanied Jackson on the trip. But it was Jackson, with his years of camera-hogging, preaching, and prisoner-releasing experience, who took the credit.

Credit, it should be asked, for what? Helping to release the soldiers? Embarrassing Washington? Forcing America to rethink its position on Kosovo?

Jackson deserves small credit for all three. Milosevic, however, played the starring role.

Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott said last week that the release of the prisoners was a "publicity stunt" on the part of Milosevic. Anyone who believes otherwise is wearing blinders. The fact is, any semi-political figure (Jimmy Carter?) likely could have traveled to Serbia and won their release. Milosevic is desperately trying to polish his image not just to American citizens, but to the rest of the world, and Jackson gave him the forum to do it in.

Why do you think the POWs were reportedly treated so well? The fact that one of the soldiers wrote a thank-you note to the Serbs upon his release only serves to spotlight how magnanimous Milosevic is in the face of Western aggression while humiliating Clinton and the Pentagon.

Well, Washington is only embarrassed because it set itself up to be. Had Clinton embraced Jackson's trip instead of condemning it, there would be little for know-it-all media types to poke at. Consider Sun-Times columnist Mary Mitchell's column of May 4 ("Jackson has nerve to succeed")—"While the families of the [freed soldiers] may be celebrating their return, there are a lot of people who wish Jackson had left them there."

Can any normal American, even a politician, be angry that his countrymen are now home and safe? Mitchell's assumption, despite whatever evil thoughts we think may lurk in the hearts of government bureaucrats, is sickening.

However, it is necessary to note that, as Mitchell quite arrogantly put it, Jackson "showed up Clinton." Clinton could not have single-handedly procured the prisoners' release, to be sure. But he could have made life easier for Jackson's entourage, and in the end, Clinton and Jackson could have claimed a dual victory. The state of this messy war probably prevented Clinton from credibly doing that. With that in mind, then, Jackson has upstaged Clinton on the camera, but he hasn't necessarily "accomplished what NATO bombs could not," as Mitchell maintains.

Even despite the servicemen's release, the only real victor here is Milosevic. Mitchell herself eerily echoes this when she writes about "so-called ethnic cleansing" and "undocumented reports of mass atrocities Milosevic allegedly has committed." Is she trying to deny that this neo-genocide is taking place? One can almost not wait until the conflict ends and the sobering damage is finally assessed to throw that one back in her face.

Bombs are still falling on Serbia. Kosovars are still being oppressed in a frighteningly inhumane way. At the present course of events, Milosevic, much like his equally crafty contemporary Saddam Hussein, is still in power and is threatening to be in a far better diplomatic position with the world should the war end tomorrow. This mess will not be easy to clean up, and there is no end in sight, Jesse Jackson or no Jesse Jackson.

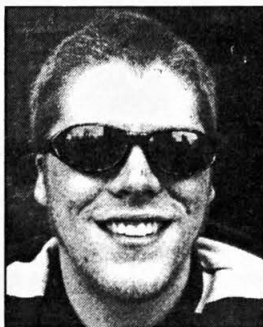
Editorial Cartoon

By Billy O'Keefe



The Columbia Chronicle Photo Poll

The Question: What do you think needs changing the most at Columbia?



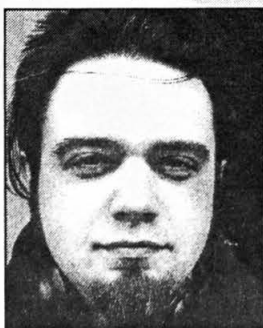
Kevin Conaughton
Fine Art/Senior

"Columbia has no sense of a college community, but I doubt they could change that."



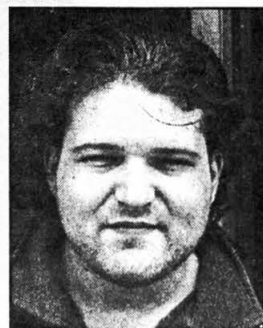
Andrea Adderly
Marketing/Senior

"The Dean of Students needs to be show herself and be more involved."



Chris Slutsky
Sound Engineering/Junior

"The registration process needs to be made easier and faster. Maybe phone registration would work."



Jason Levinson
Film/Freshman

"They need to get rid of all the freaks on campus."

Uncommon sense

Smokers need to take responsibility for their own mistakes

The anti-smoking campaign has been in full force in recent years. Billboards featuring Joe Camel and the Marlboro Man have become a memory, and in their place, anti-smoking advertisements reign on high.

It's obvious that smoking is bad for people and no matter what the tobacco companies say, cigarettes are indeed addictive. That's why people smoke for 20-plus years. Of course, it would be bad business for the companies to admit, "Yes, our product will get you hooked and most likely kill you someday."

More people are suing (and winning) because they smoke a pack or more a day and end up with lung cancer or some other respiratory disease (didn't these people realize they were only hurting themselves when they sucked down 40 cigarettes in one day?) Since 1996, there have been stories of people suing for wrongful death, endangerment, and most recently, lying.

In April, country singer Patricia Henley, a smoker for over 30 years, sued Philip Morris and won \$51 million after she learned that she had inoperable lung cancer. She sued them for lying and testified that she had phoned the cigarette company in 1986, shortly after she noticed the increased warning labels. She asked if she had anything to fear and they advised her to switch from her regular brand of Marlboro to Marlboro Lights. She did and her habit increased from two packs a day to three and a half.

If the \$51 million seems excessive, in March, an Oregon court ordered Phillip Morris to pay \$81 million to the widow of Jesse Williams, who died of lung cancer at the age of 67. He had smoked for almost 50 years. This staggering amount is the largest win so far against a cigarette company.

Did any of these people take responsibility for their habit?

Sure, they started smoking before warning labels, but Henley was just naive to think that switching to a lighter brand would be safer.

It is a personal choice for anyone who decides to start smoking. It is ridiculous to hold the cigarette companies liable when someone smokes to such extremes as two to three packs a day.

Everyone should know by now that if they take risks with their health, eventually they will pay. We need to stop placing the blame on others and take responsibility for our own actions. It's time to stop wasting tax-payers' money on frivolous lawsuits and start using common sense.

Gina Leyba
Correspondent

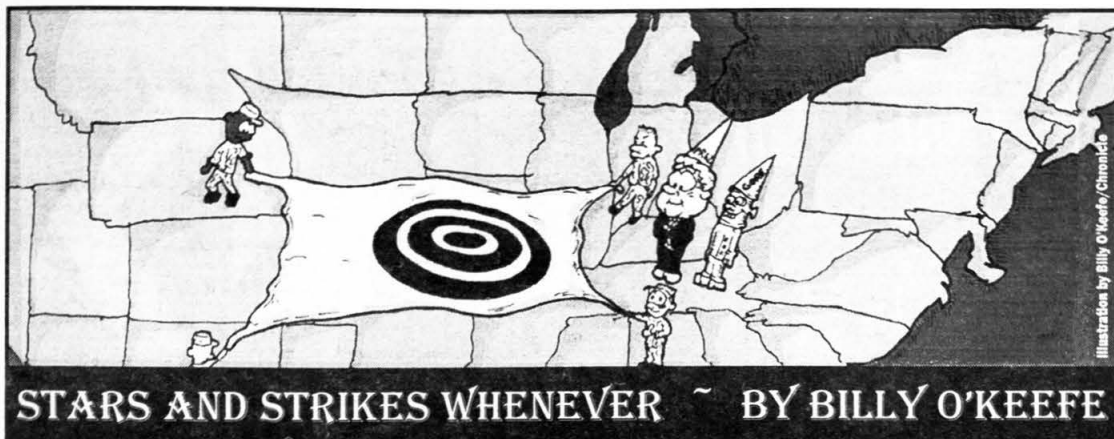
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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
COLUMBIA'S CHOICE

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.



STARS AND STRIKES WHENEVER ~ BY BILLY O'KEEFE

"I found the bomb in the woods and I was curious, so I took it home and showed my family. Then it exploded and now my mother and my brother are dead."

- Adem Mucalij, 11 years old, Podgorica, Yugoslavia

Adem's aunt, uncle and cousin also died in the blast.

Was the lethal bomb a product of NATO or Slobodan Milosevic? No one knows for sure, and an investigation is probably not in the works. After all, so many innocent civilians have already died in this heroless quest for whatever everyone is looking for, there's just no time or way.

Weeks ago, when news of the Kosovo crisis first peaked, one of my journalism instructors asked my class to trek around Chicago and collect people's thoughts on NATO's efforts. Besides the typical flood of "I don't know" and "I don't care," many of the answers involved the phrase "ethnic cleansing" in one form or another. "To stop the ethnic cleansing," several respondents said when asked what NATO's purpose was. "There's ethnic cleansing going on," others said.

The newest buzzphrase? You betcha. And the fact that people are spitting it out without understanding the who, what, where, when and - most importantly - why of this whole mess is just too convenient for Bill Clinton and NATO. That way, they can throw as much crap at the American public as they like without fear of any major ramifications.

Take the whole issue of ground troops, for example. We've all heard the booming arguments that in order to carry out this mission successfully, ground troops are not only unnecessary but detrimental to the cause. According to that logic, in order to push Milosevic out of power (although not necessarily kill him), we should drain his resources by blowing away everything around him.

That's brilliant for sure! But would you believe there are problems with this approach? It's true! For one thing, we're not stopping anything. Milosevic is still healthy and free, burdened perhaps but not squashed by the constant bombing. On the other hand, the rest of Yugoslavia is trashed. Huge chunks of the country are without power, innocent civilians are living and dying in constant fear and the skies are dense with smoke. If and when Milosevic steps down, voluntarily or otherwise, how can anyone lead the country when it's completely in ruins? (It should be noted that the U.S. has offered to pony up money to clean the mess

it has made when the barrage ends. The military may come home in one piece, but your tax dollars will not.)

But wait, that's not all. Seemingly every other day, NATO reports come in conceding some mistake or another. Just recently, a misfired missile took off a rooftop - in Bulgaria. Another one clocked a bus - no big deal, except that it was full of Albanian refugees, the people NATO is striving to protect. What unknown or unreported mistakes NATO has made, one can only guess.

Perhaps you were miffed at the relatively ho-hum reaction to Jesse Jackson and Rod Blagojevich's "rescue" of the three captured U.S. servicemen in Serbia. Don't be. While the duo deserve kudos for essentially doing Al Gore's job, it wasn't the work of Superman saving the good guys so much as it was Officer Friendly delivering three geographically-challenged boys home to mom and dad. In fact, the whole story is so cute that no one's talking about it and the media has been asked to keep it all hush-hush.

For one thing, Serbian forces did not capture Christopher Stone, Steven Gonzales and Andrew Ramirez so much as they put them up for a few weeks, according to official reports on the incident. The three soldiers were driving, in an armored convoy no less, back to NATO headquarters when they lost their way and took a wrong turn. And then, of course, they were captured, right? Nope. Rather, the soldiers spotted some kids, got out of the convoy and asked for directions.

Go ahead and read that last sentence again. Keep in mind that these were Serbian kids and not New Yorkers. Also note that these people are fully aware that NATO is bombing them, and don't forget that the soldiers, dressed in uniform and not khakis, were driving an armored truck and not a Mitsubishi.

Naturally, the kids gave them directions to Serbian military territory (wouldn't you?), where the three men were apprehended, much like your typical trespasser. What followed was not torture or even abuse, as was the case during the Vietnam War. The soldiers were isolated and given meager but sufficient supplies of food and utilities (when you consider how many civilians in Yugoslavia have lost their homes and more, the soldiers probably had better meals than many of the people who actually belong there).

All messages sent to the soldiers arrived safely, and the guards brought the three men books to read to ease the loneliness, which

the soldiers described as worst part of the whole ordeal. Of course, the guards could do nothing to alleviate their biggest fear - that a stray NATO missile would strike the prison and kill them.

"A lot of the guards, in fact, the majority of the guards treated us very well. As we were leaving them, it was kind of sad to know there's this war going on, we're leaving, and they're left behind."

- Soldier Christopher Stone, leaving the prison and returning home

When the three soldiers left the prison with Jackson and Blagojevich, they made a plea to NATO and President Clinton to stop the bombing; Jackson and Blagojevich did the same, echoing increasing sentiments from around the country.

No deal. Clinton and his NATO cronies (isn't it convenient that NATO takes the blame while Clinton ultimately calls the shots?) celebrated Milosevic's release of the soldiers by launching more missiles and knocking out the capitol's main source of power.

Does Bill Clinton give a crap what the American people think? Hell no. Eternally impeached, our president is counting the days until he can leave the White House behind. He did Afghanistan and he did it with Iraq, so what's the harm in bombing yet another country to ride out the clock? It's not as if the cruelty in Kosovo hasn't been going on for years, or that Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden have suddenly disappeared, or that China hasn't spied on our nuclear weapons facilities. Those toughies can wait; right now, however, this - mercilessly blasting a country that can't fight back - is what's convenient for Clinton.

How Bill Clinton fooled the American public so many times in the past few years is beyond me. But make no mistake this time: What Clinton is doing in Yugoslavia is textbook terrorism, using coercion to drive home whatever point he's supposedly making. Naturally, criticism is flowing in not only from around the world, but also from within our own country. What's more, the harsh words are increasing, and NATO's credibility is crumbling. Bill Clinton is the villain now, and the U.S. is the enemy.

It is without question that Slobodan Milosevic's methods of leadership must be stopped. But asking a gutless bully like Clinton to try and stop one of his own kind isn't the answer. We didn't have to learn this the hard way, but now it's too late.



Update

TV loves Littleton!

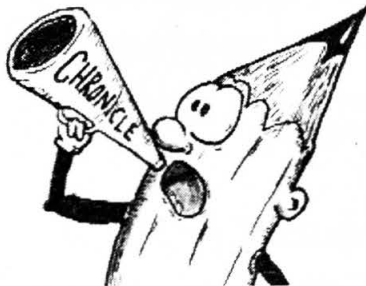
For the optimistic few who thought television would mend its ways following the tragic shootings and bombings in Littleton, Colorado, here's two reasons why you should come back to Earth.

On May 16, NBC will air the first half of "Atomic Train," a four-hour miniseries about a train, equipped with nuclear weapons, that derailed and explodes. The catch is that the explosion occurs in Denver, which, as anyone with some sense of geography can tell you, is not too far from Littleton. An explosion in Colorado? Not such a hot idea. Still, pressure to either postpone the series' airing or cancel it completely had little effect on the network, which stated that when May 16 comes around, America will have gotten over the tragedy to the point where no one will make a connection. Translation: May is sweeps week and we

like money, so stick that in your cha-ching and ch-ching it.

The network news isn't doing much hotter. Thursday's telecast featured important news on Kosovo, as well as the healing process in the wake of tornadoes in the midwest. At least in Channel 5's case, however, these topics were ignored in favor of the affiliate's boasting about a can't-miss car chase that was caught on tape. Several times, spots with footage of a patrol car ramming into and overturning a sports utility vehicle played between NBC's prime-time shows. Did it have any news value? Of course not. But did it give kids some nice, violent eye-candy? You bet. Kudos.

- Billy O'Keefe



Calling all writers!

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 mrbbilly.com

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SUMMER AND EARLY FALL REGISTRATION

SUMMER AND EARLY FALL REGISTRATION

SUMMER AND EARLY FALL REGISTRATION



Summer Registration 1999

SUMMER REGISTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE
IN THE HOKIN ANNEX

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MONDAY, APRIL 26 TO APRIL 30 - 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM

New and continuing students can register -

MONDAY JUNE 7 TO FRIDAY JUNE 11 - 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM

SATURDAY JUNE 12 - 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Early Registration for FALL 1999

MONDAY, MAY 3 TO FRIDAY, MAY 14

Early Registration will take place in the Academic Departments.

STUDENTS CAN CONTACT THEIR DEPARTMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION. DURING THIS PROCESS, THE BURSAR'S STATION WILL BE LOCATED IN THE 624 S. MICHIGAN BLDG. (TORCO) IN THE 11TH FLOOR FACULTY LOUNGE.

Students must have 75% of his/her tuition paid to be eligible to early register.

VOID DATE: JUNE 4TH - STUDENTS WHO CHOOSE TO REGISTER EARLY FOR THE FALL SEMESTER WILL HAVE UNTIL JUNE 4, 1999 TO SIGN THEIR CONTRACT IN THE BURSAR'S OFFICE BEFORE THEIR CLASSES ARE VOIDED.

To All Faculty: A Reminder

If you registered or drop classes for a student over the telephone, the student is **NOT OFFICIALLY REGISTERED OR DROPPED** until they meet with the bursar and sign their contract.

STUDENTS WITH UNSIGNED CONTRACTS WILL BE VOIDED AFTER THE PUBLISHED DATE, THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!!

for Early Summer Registration 1999, the Bursar's will be located in the Hokin Annex.

April 29, 1999-April 30, 1999	10 am-6 pm
June 7, 1999-June 11, 1999	10 am-6 pm
June 12, 1999	10 am-1 pm

for Early Fall Registration 1999, the Bursar's will be located in the faculty lounge 11th floor, 624 S. Michigan.

**May 3, 1999-May 14, 1999 9 am-6 pm Monday through Thursday
9 am - 5 pm Friday's**

**From May 17-June 4, 1999 We will be located in the Bursar's Office room 601 in the 600 South Michigan Building.
9 am-6 pm Monday through Thursday
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If you have any questions, please call the Bursar's Office at 312-344-7475

Attention Columbia College Students

Would you like to participate in the
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An information meeting
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Place: Room 301 Wabash building

**Time: 10:00 a.m. Or
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STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE WORKSHOP WILL HAVE THEIR WORK PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE CHRONICLE AND ALSO LEARN ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY.

For more information, call Chronicle faculty adviser Jim Sulski at 312-344-7584.

Awards

The 1998 Associated Collegiate Press's Best of the Midwest competition:

First Place - News Story
First Place - Online Publication
Second Place - Feature Story

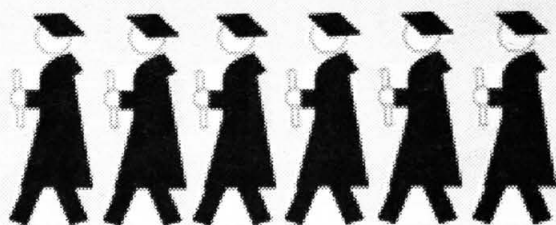
1998 Illinois College Press Association:

First Place - Critical Review Other Than Film
First Place - Sports Column
First Place - Sports Feature
First Place - In-Depth Reporting:
First Place - Feature Photo
First Place - Spot News Photo
First Place - Photo Essay
Second Place - News Story
Second Place - Editorial Cartoon
Second Place - Photo Essay
Second Place - Feature Story
Second Place - Sports Photo
Third Place - Cartoon Strip/Other Panel
Third Place - Full Page Advertisement
Honorable Mention - Front Page Layout
Honorable Mention - Column
Honorable Mention - Sports Feature
Honorable Mention - Feature Photo
Honorable Mention - Chicago Shoot-Out Photo Competition

1998 Annual Awards held by the Northern Illinois University Journalism Program and the Northern Illinois Newspaper Association:

Second Place Overall Excellence in College Newspapers

College Media Advisers Best of Collegiate Design 6 (1998) Competition:
Fourth Place - Photo Section



Congratulate your Graduate



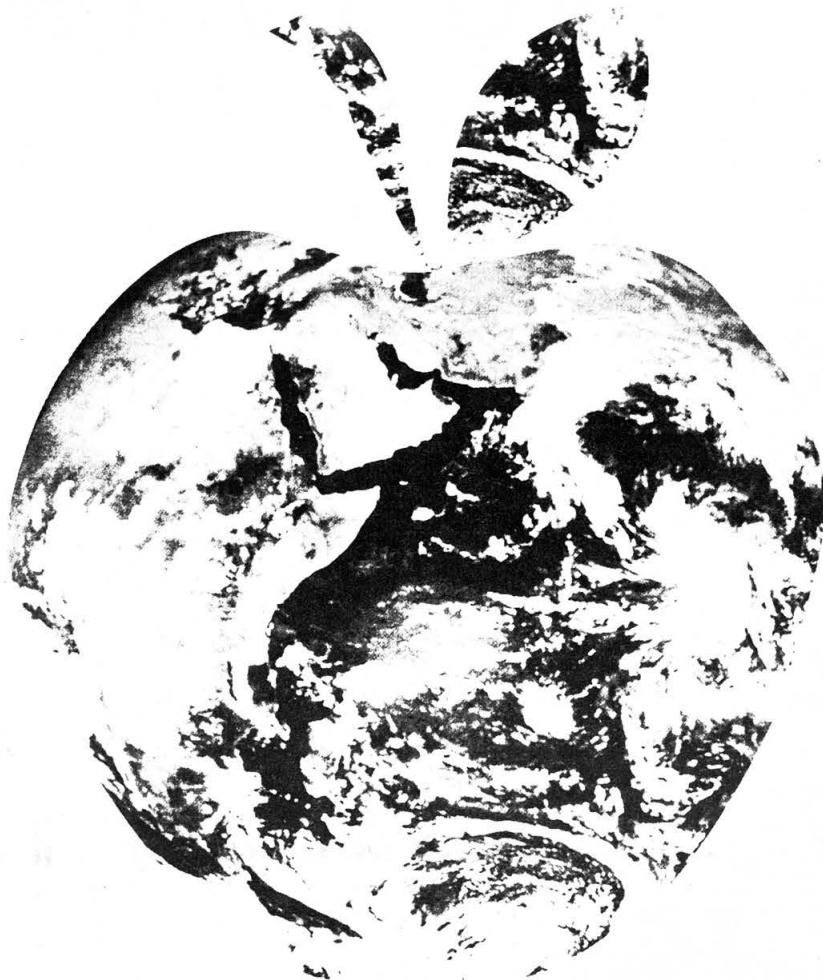
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Send your letter no later than May 21, 1999 to the Academic
Dean's office, Columbia College Chicago
600 S. Michigan Ave., Room 515, Chicago IL 60605. Questions?
Call 312.344.7496.



Designed by emma castañeda

Full-time Nominees

Andy Allegretti, Fiction Writing
Audrean Been, Art and Design
Barbara Calabrese, Radio/Sound
Dominique Cheenne, Radio/Sound
Jan Erkert, Dance
Elizabeth Ernst, Photography
Jeffrey Ginsberg, Theater
Norma Green, Journalism
Gustavo Leone, Music
Angelo Luciano, Management
Shyla McGill, Science and Mathematics
Steve Mogge, English
Cheryl Morton-Langston, Radio/Sound
Niki Nolin, Academic Computing
Dominic Pacyga, Liberal Education
Andrea Polli, Academic Computing
Wade Roberts, Television and Fiction Writing
Jeff Rosen, Photography
Nana Shineflug, Theater
George Thompson, Art and Design
Michael Welsh, Science and Mathematics

Part-Time Nominees

Judith Artoux, Academic Computing
Gunnar Berg, Science and Mathematics
Nadine Bopp, Science and Mathematics
Robert Bron, Management
Lynn Cachey, Interpreter Training
Phyllis Eisenstein, Fiction Writing
Michael G. Fry, Television and Film/Video
Jeffrey Gore, English
Gayle Guthrie, Management
Clare LaPlante, Journalism
Kevin James Miller, English
Bill Montgomery, Journalism
Tom Moss, English
Damon O. Smith, Management
Helene Smith-Romer, Academic Computing
L.J. Tan, Science Institute

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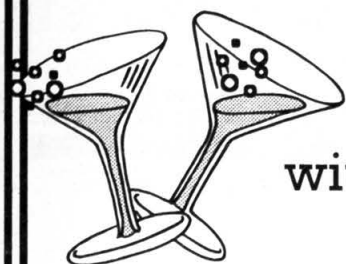
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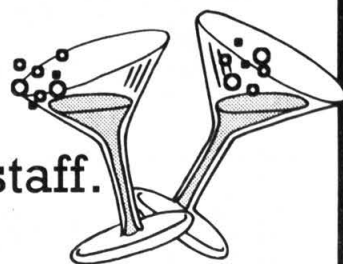
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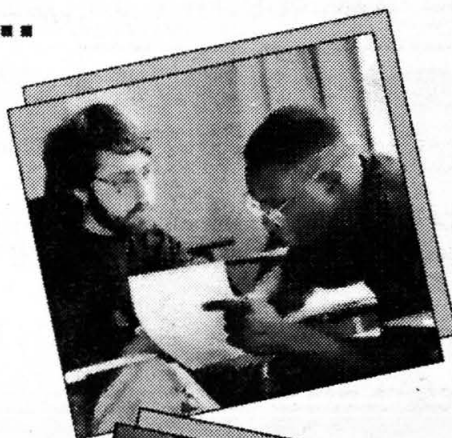
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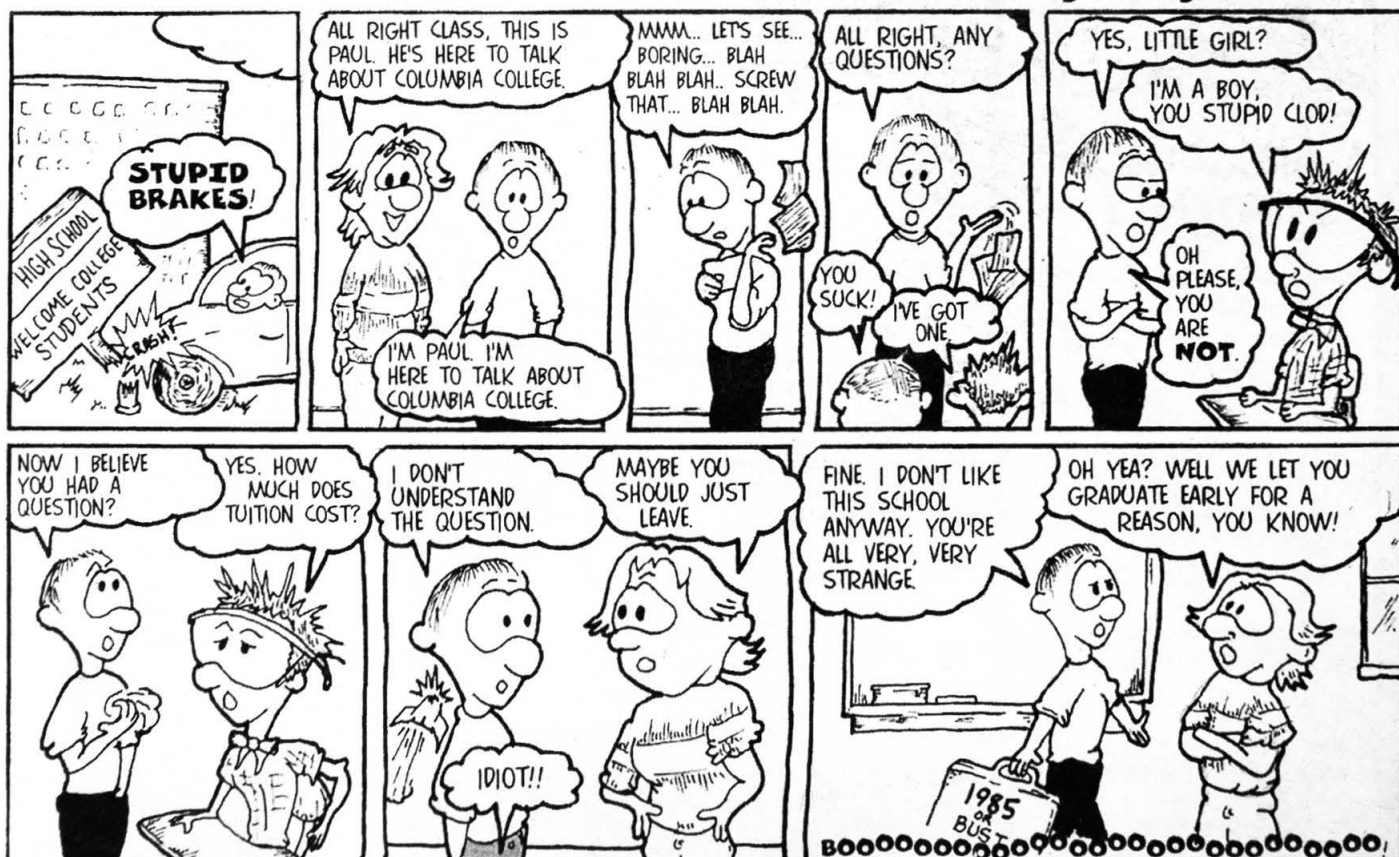
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By Billy O'Keefe



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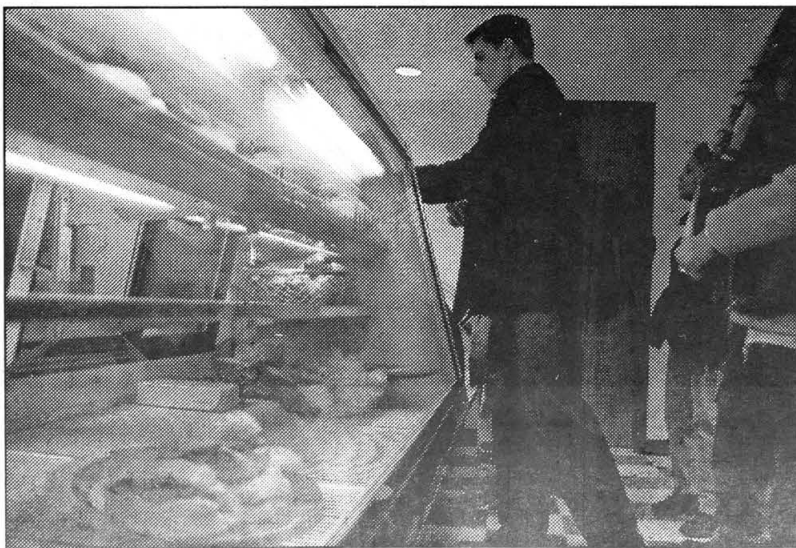
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Jordan misses Jackson's tribute

By Rob Steva
Sports Editor

Michael Jordan has clearly made his point. He boldly chose not to show his face at a single Bulls game this season, adding to the animosity between him, Jerry Reinsdorf, and Jerry Krause. Never mind the fact that they drafted him, paid him handsomely towards the end and provided him with the man power to capture six NBA championships. And last Wednesday night by not personally appearing for Phil Jackson's tribute, Jordan put the finishing touches on an otherwise tasteless first year away from the game.

From up above on the jumbotron scoreboard where for 13 seasons fans witnessed his mind-boggling replays, Jordan amazed us again, praising Jackson via videotape and apologizing for not being in attendance due to prior commitments. Are we to believe that Jordan couldn't have rescheduled his tee time? Or was it his turn for carpool duties?

Neither is valid; the real reason was the Jerrys. Of course Jordan would probably argue that he chose not to attend because he didn't want to upstage Jackson. What should start to become obvious to Jordan is that Jackson's rage towards Reinsdorf and Krause was most likely planned, in a Zen-like effort to keep Jordan motivated.

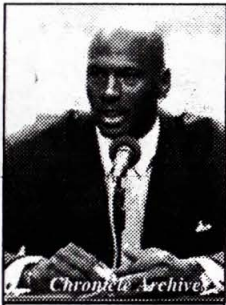
The time has come to put the past behind and get over it. However, perhaps there is a side of Jordan that the public doesn't know—an egotistical side filled with greed and selfishness. Perhaps a new nickname is in the works, "Air Jekel." As it is Jordan's reputation has been in full bloom of late.

Upon retiring he cited a desire to spend more time with his family. The "quality" time left over from golf outings, attending non-Bulls basketball games and contemplating the purchase of the Charlotte Hornets seems unworthy of family satisfaction.

Maybe his sister sees what the rest of the world doesn't. She has a proposed to write a tell-all-tale about. The book is said to reveal his struggling marriage with wife Juanita, his gambling addiction, and his obsession with greed and money. Part of being an athlete includes controlling the ego within. It can be argued that no coach has ever managed and controlled egos—especially Jordan's—for a longer and more successful time as did Phil Jackson. He was a master at handling situations and appears to still hold the ignition key to Dennis Rodman's brain.

As Jackson stood and watched the unveiling of his banner in the United Center rafters there was a new Phil upon us. As clean-shaven as Jordan's head, Jackson appeared as content and amused as ever. Despite rumors of replacing Jeff VanGundy as head coach of the New York Knicks, Jackson's game plan no longer consists of the triple post offense but rather assisting Democratic candidate Bill Bradley in winning the Illinois vote.

In his final run as coach of the Bulls, Jackson proclaimed the season as being the "Last Dance." Restart the music, because it's about time Michael and the Jerrys do another waltz.



Jordan's last appearance at the United Center.

NBA Playoffs...Why?

By John Gelsomino
Sports Correspondent

The NBA Playoffs have begun and despite the unfortunate fall of the Chicago Bulls, the playoffs should be of great interest to basketball fans. The Western Conference consists of five strong teams and the East has three that could be playing in June.

The heart and soul of the west is the Utah Jazz, who have gone to back-to-back finals the past two years seems poised and ready for their first title.

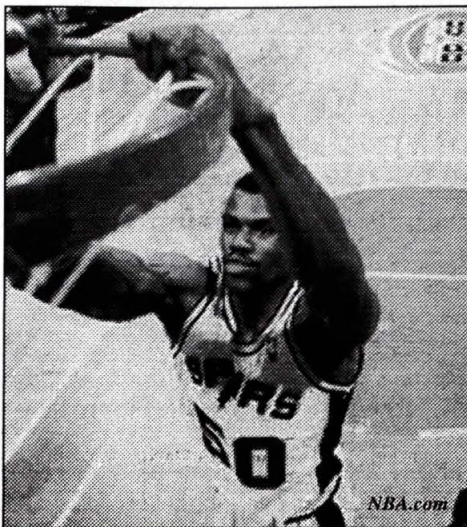
The San Antonio Spurs have been the hottest team in the Western Conference the past 25 games because they have finally realized that this is Tim Duncan's team. He is a powerful offensive force and his defense is brilliant. David Robinson's numbers have gone down but the Spurs will be better off with the "Admiral" in a secondary role.

Avery Johnson is one of the most underrated ball handlers in the league and the Spurs always are under control when he's involved in the offense.

The Portland Trail Blazers may be the most talented and deep team in the league. Mike Dunleavy has done a terrific job with this erratic crew and if they play together they can do some damage. Greg Anthony and Jim Jackson have been veteran catalysts off the bench with talented starters.

Damon Stoudamire, Arvydis Sabonis and J. R. Rider being the offensive keys in the starting lineup. Portland is one of those team's that coaches hate to prepare for because they can beat you in so many ways.

The Houston Rockets have not had the season they expected to have when they picked up Scottie Pippen, but they will be a veteran force in the playoffs. If Barkley is completely healthy, they will be tough. Remember last year they took the Utah Jazz to five games in the first round? With Scottie Pippen's open court ability and stifling defense, Houston may peak at the right time.



Did the Spurs' David Robinson travel on this play?

The problem is depth with the Rockets to be successful Pippen will have to hit the outside shot and Olajuwon, Barkley and Pippen must play big minutes. This may be a problem for the veteran legs. Have seen their ups and downs throughout the year. This is a team that needs direction and so far, it is not coming from Kurt Rambis. Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant will have to find some way to play with each other or a separation is inevitable. They must get Glen Rice involved in the offense and rebounding will be huge if this team is going to go anywhere. Derek Harper may play a big role in controlling the club on the court.

The Eastern Conference isn't as talented as the West, but offers some competitive physical match-ups that may be enjoyable. The top three seeds are all potential finalists with no real edge. Miami received the No. 1 seed and will hope that Alonzo Mourning's playoff nightmares will end so they can make a valid run at a championship. Pat Riley's guidance is a factor and preparation is a big key for the Heat.

The Indiana Pacers coasted through the regular season and need to turn it on if they want to get one step farther than last year. The same nucleus is back from the team that took the champion Bulls to seven games in the Eastern Conference Finals. Reggie Miller must provide offense and Jalen Rose and Travis Best have to produce off the bench. If that happens, the Pacers will be in the finals.

The most talented team in the east could be the Orlando Magic. Key additions of Ike Austin and draft choice Michael Doleac were helpful to Chuck Daly. Anfernee Hardaway is the key. He must continue to lead by

example and put petty bickering aside. Contribution from Nick Anderson and Horace Grant are vital. Darryl Armstrong is the ultimate sixth man and will provide needed energy for the Magic on both ends of the court.

The Indiana Pacers and Utah Jazz will meet in the Finals, with the Jazz winning in six. This will be the Mailman's year and this will certify is seat alongside John Stockton in the Hall-of-Fame.

Ignorance is not sports bliss

By Marc Jenkins
Sports Correspondent

Remember the old joke about the guy who goes to the boxing match and a hockey game breaks out?

It rings true today with a different angle. Now it may go something like this: 30,000 people packed a northside bar and a Cubs game broke out.

Been to Wrigley Field lately? It is not by any means a grand revelation to say that the game is secondary to the atmosphere. With the Harry Caray inspired "81 reasons to drink a beer" type attitude coupled with a new demon, intensely saturated advertising, the purest essence of a baseball experience is gone.

After watching the Cubs' 3-2 comeback win over the San Diego Padres, May 2, I realized that this wasn't my father's game anymore. Or the game my father took me to.

For an agonizing, nearly two-hour stretch before the game, during batting practice, one's ear was torched by ad-after-ad-after-ad coming out of the public address system. "When a Cub makes a diving catch, he'll be diving onto a lawn cut by a John Deere tractor," or "That batting practice foul ball off the bat of Ron Cey, was brought to you by Gingiss formal wear." Okay, the "Penguin" doesn't play for them anymore (nor does Gingiss sponsor Cubs games), but it's up to us to keep his name alive.

You get the picture. The ballparks, the newer ones in particular, have sold so much of their blank space to advertisers that they have gone to electronically superimposed ads on the wall behind the catcher that can only be seen on TV.

Teams are taking advantage of a captive audience by inundating them with advertising, which makes sense financially, but isn't there a ceiling that limits how far it can go?

"It's a 90s thing," White Sox Senior Vice President of Marketing and Broadcast Rob Gallas said of today's new methods of advertising. "We're always trying to look for new advertising. If you get more ad revenue, it takes the pressure off raising ticket prices."

If it keeps increasing at this rate, sporting events will be

free in 10 years.

Using a base figure of \$500 per 20-second ad (actual numbers are not a matter of public record, according to Gallas), multiply that by 100 spots, and math majors take note, \$50,000 a game in extra funds. Multiply that by 81 home games per year, and the amount skyrockets to an extra \$4 million-plus in teams' coffers.

But the signage might not stop at the stadium walls. "One of the things that are being talked about are sponsor icons on the sleeve of the baseball uniform," said Gallas. "If the value is there, it's something that we'll consider. We're not more than any other entertainment venues."

And the sports memorabilia business has also effected the common fan. Hours before and after game time, fans besiege players for game balls, signatures, spare change, and so on. Pity the poor player who actually succumbs to these repeated requests.

Like mosquitoes to blood, crowds dart toward the willing prey and push and poke and shove everything in his face for a signature.

That's fine, but today's average "fan" doesn't have a clue about who's who on the team. Case in point: Cubs' third base coach, Dan Radison, made the mistake of signing a ball for a youngster. Almost akin to a rush for a home run ball, people soon made a beeline toward him.

Why?

Nothing against Radison, but why would hundreds of people be interested in his autograph? "Hey, Dan, I love the way you make that windmill," or "Hey, Mr. Radison, what's the fake bunt sign today?" They're just after any willing soul.

Besides the kid who's enthralled just to be near someone in a uniform, what causes this? Ignorance of the game and what it stands for, or at least stood for. There is no more identification with players or teams—it's about the money.

The fans... Are they trying to recoup the loss on a \$20 ticket by getting Sammy Sosa to sign their hat? Maybe.

"I wish we could go back to nickel candy and dime cokes," said Gallas. "But, hey — this is the world we live in. That's the way it is now."