

5-17-1999

Columbia Chronicle (05/17/1999)

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

MAY 17 1999

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MAY 17, 1999

INSIDE

CAMPUS

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U-Pass for next year

VITALITY

There's a new Star
Wars movie coming
out this week!

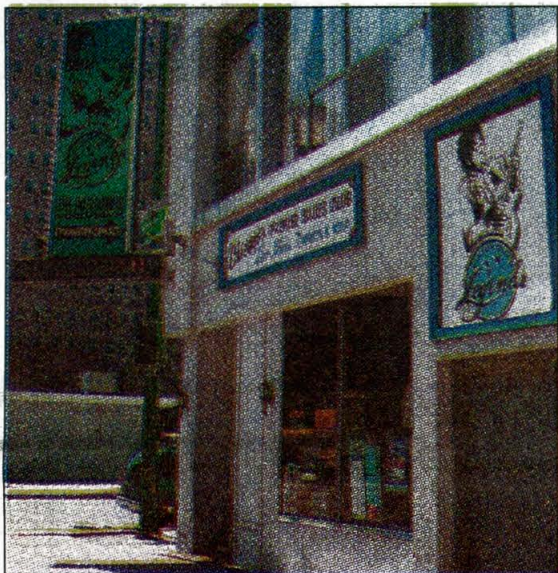
SPORTS

Baseball '99 heats up



College given Buddy Guy's building

School received structure at 8th and Wabash from 'anonymous' donor; current tenants to leave: school officials



Donnie Seals, Jr./Chronicle

Buddy Guy's world-famous Legends blues club stands at the corner of 8th and Wabash. Columbia now owns the building.

By James Boozer
Contributing Editor

Efforts by school officials to expand Columbia's campus became a little easier last week with the sudden and somewhat mysterious acquisition of the building which houses the Buddy Guy's Legends blues club.

Unlike other properties Columbia has acquired in recent months, the site, located on a half-acre of property on the southeast corner of 8th Street and Wabash Avenue, was given to the college by an anonymous donor.

As one of the first orders of business as the building's new landlord, Columbia officials notified all of the businesses in the building that their leases have been terminated, and they would have to relocate as early as possible.

Bert Gall, Columbia's Provost and Executive Vice-President, told the *Chronicle* that the college is unsure what it plans to do with the building. A parking lot behind the site is also included in the deal. Said Gall about the tenant's reaction to the college's eviction notice: "I can't guess

whether or not everyone will agree [to the school's decision]. Somebody may file a counter-suit...I don't know how long its going to take to get them out," Gall said.

The tenants include the world-renowned Buddy Guy's Legends blues club, an adult bookstore, a plant shop, and the Fish Hut restaurant. Charles Mosley, owner of the Fish Hut, was shocked by the school's decision to terminate his lease. Mosley was the first to receive a notice of termination of tenancy from the school last Monday. All the building's other tenants received their notice over the weekend. "God will take care of me," Mosley said.

Daniel Hyman, president of Millennium Properties, said the donor bought the property for \$3 million from an investor group and immediately donated it to Columbia. Hyman's company, which brokered the deal, added that he knows the identity of the donor, but declined to reveal the name.

In an interview with the *Chronicle*, Hyman also declined to comment on how the deal was

made between the donor and the school and was unaware how Columbia officials were notified regarding their acquisition of the site. The two-story, 23,000-square-foot building will join several other properties the school has recently acquired in the South Loop area.

"I hardly sense that we would make plans about the space because I'm not sure when we really have access," Gall said. Over the past year, the college acquired the former Sherwood Conservatory of Music building at 1014 S. Michigan and the Ludington building at 1104 S. Wabash. The two buildings cost more than \$20 million. The purchases were an effort to "centralize" all of the properties owned by Columbia in the South Loop and form more of a campus-like environment.

Buddy Guy's Legends has built a solid reputation of being one of the world's premier blues nightclubs. From Koko Taylor to Van Morrison, Legends has played host to many blues legends and other musicians since opening its doors in June 1989.

Man charged with South Loop Assault

By Kimberly A. Brehm
Staff Writer

Females in the South Loop can breathe a collective sigh of relief. Chicago police announced they have charged Randy Brown, 35, for a sexual assault that occurred April 24 at Oscar DeAngelo Park, located on Harrison Street and Congress Parkway along Wacker Drive.

He is also suspected in a sexual assault that occurred on April 8 at the same location.

First District police officers Jeffrey Ignowski and Robert Jasinsky had observed Brown following a woman walking to the LaSalle Metra Station at 414 S. LaSalle St. last Monday.

"We saw the guy and he was the perfect match," said Ignowski.

The victim in the April 24 attack had provided police with a detailed description of the assailant, which was key in identifying him.

"The comparison of the picture and the physical presence was uncanny," said 1st District Commander Patrick McNulty.

Metra police officers noticed Brown as well; he was wearing the same hat and glasses as in the

description.

"I followed him and he kept looking back at me, which made him more suspicious," said Metra officer Jack Kielczynski.

Chicago and Metra police covered all exits and apprehended Brown within five minutes just as he was exiting the escalator to board the 9:45 p.m. train.

According to Ignowski, Brown had been following a woman on the 400 block of South Financial Place. She was aware she was being followed and began to jog. The man stayed within five to ten feet behind her.

"He was going to do it again," said Commander McNulty. "He is a predator and there was no reason for him to stop."

Police said the woman did a great job of staying ahead of Brown.

"She's a very lucky person," said Kielczynski.

Criminal Court Judge Nicholas Ford on Tuesday ordered Brown held on \$500,000 bond.

Brown has a criminal record, including rape, robbery, and aggravated kidnapping charges.

Columbia takes fashion to the streets

Columbia presented a mini-fashion show last Thursday akin to its May 4 show, "Metamorphosis," at the Fairmont Hotel.

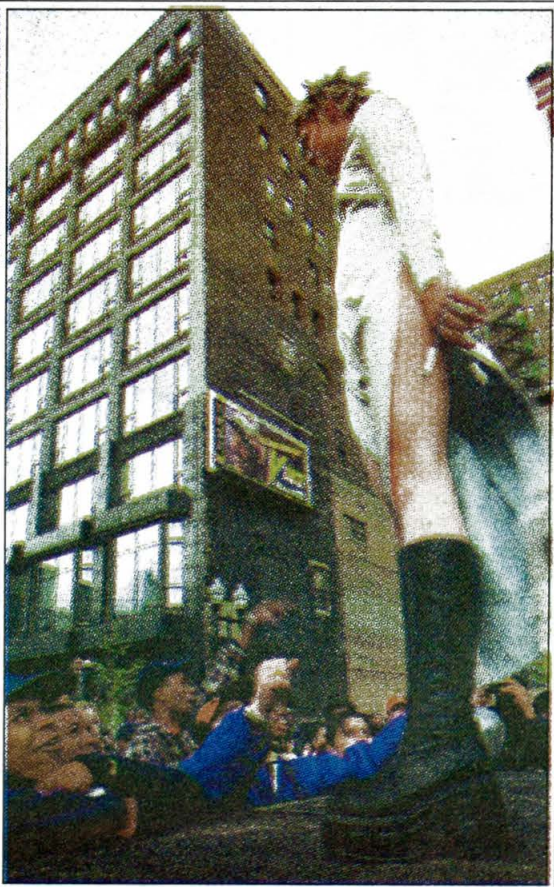
This show was presented in conjunction with a college block party on Wabash between Balbo and Harrison Sts. Thursday afternoon.

Several school organizations served up goodies from tents and there were musical acts on stage.

Despite the cold, blustery weather, the models (and their many adoring fans) made it outside for the afternoon.

A two-page photo special of the May 4 fashion show appears inside on pages 14 and 15.

Jason Glaser/Chronicle



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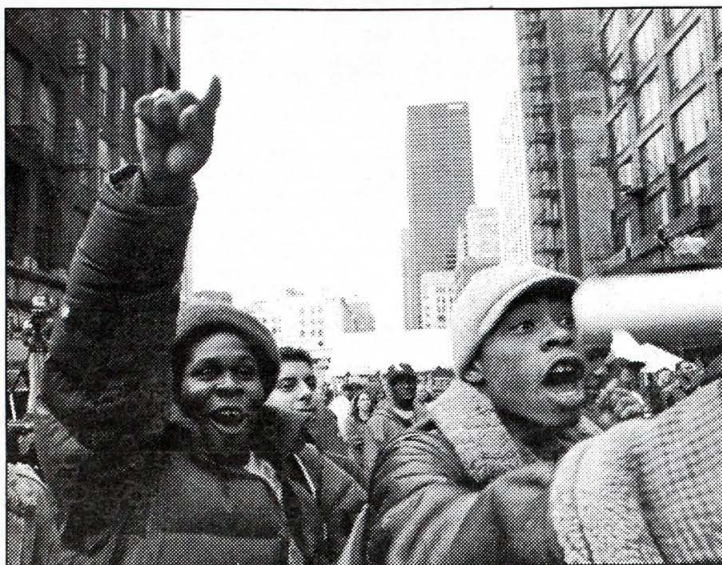
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CAMPUS NEWS



Jason Glaser/Chronicle

We're not sure if these guys were watching a music act or a model at last week's block party, but they sure seemed to like it.

College approves U-Pass for next year

By Sheryl Tirol
Correspondent

After a long wait, Columbia has finally accepted the Chicago Transit Authority's U-Pass program. The CTA's proposal had been rejected by the school twice before.

The college used commuter information from a student pre-registration survey to help them make the decision.

When students registered for classes for this spring semester, they were required to fill out a survey, and reportedly, a majority of Columbia students who participated in the survey claimed to be city-wide commuters.

Jean Lightfoot Lee, Dean of Students, also said that another problem that was holding them back was that CTA wanted the amount to be paid up front. "We knew we were going to get a backlash from students that didn't want it and we wanted to make sure that there would be enough students that were going to participate," said Lee, who explained that college administrators have received more protests from students that don't want the U-Pass now than ever before.

Lee said she still does not agree with the CTA's demand to have the money up front. The school has to pay the cost up front even before the fall semester is underway.

The cost of the U-Pass would be \$65 per student, instead of the \$60 cost that had been reported last year. Fees are based on enrollment information that colleges submit to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, according to Calvin Peete, U-Pass director at the CTA.

Other schools that have implemented U-Pass programs on their campus are DePaul, Loyola, Harold Washington College, Truman College, East-West College, Northwestern Business College and the Illinois Institute of Art.

SOC holds elections

By Jotham Sederstrom
Staff Writer

Four out of five nominations for next Fall's Student Organization Council members went uncontested two weeks ago, mostly because of scheduling restraints, according to officials.

In the race for chairperson, David Blumenthal was reelected over Erica Ashburn despite controversy surrounding his position with the newly-formed Student Union Movement.

As chairman of both groups, Blumenthal has attracted criticism as questions are being raised about a possible conflict of interest.

"I personally think it would be a good idea to get a different chair for SUM than David," said current Vice Chairman Tom Gunderson. It creates an image that only this one guy is good enough to run these things."

SUM, though not officially recognized by the school, is beginning where the Representatives of Columbia College Students left off by revising its constitution and writing bylaws. The group hopes to concentrate on campus issues and let SOC stick to promoting student organizations.

"SUM is pretty much his baby," said Gunderson of Blumenthal. Gunderson is stepping down as Vice Chairman so he can focus on the Audio Engineering Society. "There have been meetings where he was the only one who showed."

Although SUM has been mentioned at SOC meetings, it has only been to promote

the group and get others interested, according to Blumenthal. As chairman of these organizations, he is not permitted to vote on the issues.

Currently, SUM is tackling Columbia's rising tuition fees, which have seen a 3 percent to 5 percent increase for the past three years, according to Blumenthal, who said, "some people are paying through the nose to come here."

A problem, according to Gunderson, is SOC's constantly changing membership. "We made a smooth transition into the year," he said. Many SOC officials will be graduating in 2000, including Blumenthal and Gunderson, making it more difficult to organize efficiently.

"We try to keep our club in good standing with the school," said Ian

Wasseluk, SOC representative for OTAKU, Columbia's Japanese animation club. "Without the school's support we can't reserve rooms or televisions." With the constantly changing membership—due in part to schedule constraints and students graduating—it has been more difficult to promote student organizations. Currently, though, a website describing each group and a new brochure are being produced.

"We brought SOC a long way this year," said Gunderson. "It's something that I'm proud of."

Other SOC positions for next fall are Vice Chairperson Reina Alvarez, Secretary Erica Ashburn of the Television Arts Society, and Treasurer Herman Verner of Columbia Cares.

Issues and events you should know about

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.

Columbia's Film and Video Dept. is presenting **"The Big Screen,"** its annual student film festival on Thursday, May 20 at 7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theater, 418 S. Michigan. For more information, call Eileen Dominick at ext. 7172.

The 14 M.A. and M.F.A. candidates of Columbia's Interdisciplinary Arts Dept. will present their annual thesis exhibitions and performances under the title **"CHANNELS."** This year's events will take place at the Hokin Center, Wabash Bldg.; the Viaduct Theater, 3111 N. Western; and the Columbia College Center for Book and Paper Arts, 218 S. Wabash, 7th floor. These exhibits feature mixed media paintings, installations, and performances; most will run through June. For information about any of these exhibits, contact Jeff Abell at ext. 7270.

Speaking of thesis exhibitions, the 1999 M.A./M.F.A. thesis exhibition for Columbia's **Photography Dept.** will be held in the Columbia Art Gallery, 11th St. Campus, 72 E. 11th St. from June 18 until July 2. Admission to the exhibit is free. While we're there, the end-of-year **"Student Honor Exhibition"** opens at the gallery May 28, continuing through June 11. The exhibit will feature student works in many art, design, and photo media. Chicago art critic Susan Snodgrass will jury several of the categories.

For more information about either of these exhibitions, call Corinne Rose or Stephanie Graff, (312) 663-5554.

The **Dance Center** is presenting several performances in the coming weeks.

"Polarity to the Third Degree," a senior dance concert by Kate Crockett, Juan Estrada, and Perry Hampton, will be performed May 21 and 22 at 8 p.m.

Student Performance Night, an open stage night for Dance Center students, is May 26 at 7 p.m.

The faculty concert, a performance of works set on students during the past semester, will be held June 3 and 4 at 8 p.m.

All performances are at the Dance Center, 4730 N. Sheridan (Sheridan and Lawrence.) All these performances are free and open to the public.

Columbia's Urban Music Association is presenting its Fourth Annual Music Business conference, "Evolution," on Sat., 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.

"Columbia Cabaret! Celebrate Columbia!" Columbia's sixth annual benefit gala will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, 200 N. Columbus, on Fri., May 21 at 7 p.m. The gala, sponsored by its Board of Trustees, will feature Columbia talent in a selection from "Cabaret," "Dreamgirls," and "Damn Yankees." Marty Lennartz of WXRT will emcee the event, which will also feature dance music by "Together."

Want to go? Tickets are only \$250 per person.

Around town

The Chicago Department on Aging is presenting the **North Shore Senior Center's Photography Group** exhibition in the Renaissance Court Gallery of the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph. The exhibit runs from May 21 through June 27.

SUM considers need for adviser

By Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia's Student Union Movement continued to iron out wrinkles in its constitution and bylaws Thursday. Only when the constitution is finally revised will SUM begin taking the steps to become a bonafide college-sanctioned organization.

In its weekly meeting Thursday, SUM considered the need for a faculty or staff adviser who would help guide the organization and serve as a channel between student members and the administration. However, no steps were taken to nominate a particular staff or faculty member.

To this point, the Assistant Dean of Student Life, Madeline Roman-Vargas, and the Director of Student Development, Art Burton, have helped SUM stay on course within the bounds of college regulations since its inception.

The issue of dual membership caused some consternation during the meeting. SUM interim chairman, David Blumenthal, who has also been actively involved in the Student Organization Council this year was elected chairman of SOC two weeks ago. (SOC oversees the activities of Columbia's 28 student groups). Columbia's Student Affairs Committee, an umbrella group for student activities and issues, though reportedly pleased about SUM's progress, expressed concern that a conflict of interest may result of having the same person chair two similar organizations.

Blumenthal insisted that his job at SUM is temporary. He said that when elections were held two weeks ago "no one else wanted [the job of chairperson]." Blumenthal contended, also, that SUM and SOC are "very separate groups."

It is unlikely that any of this will hinder SUM's progress. New officers will likely be in place for the fall 1999 semester when the organization gains official status. SUM needs to have an official final draft of a constitution with complementary bylaws to be approved by the college's legal office, the Student Affairs Committee, and finally, the College Council itself. In the meantime, SUM has set up an online forum at www.netbabbler.com/goto?forumid=20696.

The next SUM meeting will be in the Student Center of the Wabash Bldg. (room 311) Thurs. May 20 at 1 p.m. ALL students are welcome to attend.

Latino community vies for fair, unbiased media coverage

By Benjamin Treco
Managing/Sports Editor

Columbia College held a workshop in the journalism department last week to determine whether it is necessary for someone to be Latino to cover Latino issues for news organizations. The panel, made up of Chicago and national personalities spoke about the importance of the Latino community and why some media outlets have decided not to cover Latino issues.

The host, Nadine Arroyo-Rodriguez, assignment editor of WYCC-Ch.20, told of her awkward position at CLTV every time an issue arose in the Latino community. "I sort of figured that every time something in the (Latino) community happened they were going to put me on the story," said Rodriguez.

Victor Hugo-Savedra, a Univision correspondent, said that a promising journalist should know some Spanish, because of the ever-growing population. "A good journalist should have interest in the Spanish community, and you should learn the language somewhat," said Savedra.

Savedra works on the national broadcasts for Univision and covers the issues that involve the Chicago Latino community. Univision reaches 25 million homes across the country and can be seen on Channel 66 in Chicago.

The entire panel spoke in disdain over the recent Cicero referendum that proposes to move gang members out of the community with no alternative place

or counseling. Ebito Rodriguez Barilari, editor of *La Raza*, a Spanish-language Chicago newspaper, has been covering the Cicero situation since the beginning and can't believe that the community would stand for such action. "I don't know where they think these people will go, they can't just kick them out of the [Cicero]," said Barilari.

La Raza, with a circulation of 150,000, is one of the nation's largest Latino newspapers; it covers everything from world news to neighborhood concerns. Barilari said *La Raza* is geared toward the Latino neighborhoods because of their deep roots in almost any Latino community in Chicago. "The Mexican community is always concerned about immigration issues, while Puerto Ricans are concerned about the status of the island and possible statehood." Both of the issues are covered at least once a week in *La Raza*.

Rodriguez said that as with any topic, a journalist should know the issue. "It applies to everything—for a journalist to become successful they must familiarize themselves with the story. You must educate yourself and familiarize with what the story is and find the story."

As the Latino community continues to grow, not only in Chicago but nation-wide, the media must decide that is imperative that the Latino community is just as important as any issue and needs to be covered with equal coverage.

CAPS offering peace of mind to residents

By Kimberly A. Brehm
Staff Writer

Residents of the Mount Greenwood area, Chicago's 22nd district, met with their beat police officers on Thursday to discuss the crimes of a known sex-offender in the area. Community members are very concerned and wanted to know what they could do to help police get this man off their streets.

"Our neighbor was caught peeking into our 18-year-old daughter's window while she was changing clothes," said resident Alice Barry. "He was arrested and we found out he's been charged with sex crimes before. Now, he's been charged again and I want to know what the follow-up is."

Tom Morrissey, 52, has been arrested three times in the Mount Greenwood area for peering into neighbors' windows. He has been caught watching children as young as six years old and women as elderly as 75.

"Unfortunately, we can only charge him with being a peeping tom and that's not considered a serious crime," said beat police officer Chuck Kaufmann. "It's a misdemeanor. What you can do to protect yourself and your family is to obtain an order of protection from him when you go to court. We can arrest him for simply standing in front of your house."

Approximately 24 community residents met with eight police officers at the Mount Greenwood Park Fieldhouse to discuss the crimes and disorders in the area last month. Once a month, the beat community meetings are hosted by the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS).

CAPS began in April 1993 in five of Chicago's police districts but has since been expanded city-wide. Now, every one of the 25 police districts in Chicago host CAPS meetings.

CAPS goal is to provide residents with the opportunity to help identify and prioritize crime problems, analyze those problems, and develop strategies to address them.

With CAPS, beat police officers work the same beat each day at the same time to get to know the community and its problems. When residents ask questions about suspicious activity in an area, the CAPS officer is well-informed and can address the issue.

The meeting was run by Officer Sophia Straka, a police beat officer for the past five years. Straka said she was looking for volunteers for court watch. Court watch is community members going to court to observe what happens when area offenders are

brought before a judge. Straka said court watch is crucial to show both police officers and court officers how concerned area residents are with what happens in their community.

Resident Marilyn Davidson organizes court watch for Mount Greenwood. She is a feisty senior citizen who isn't afraid to stare down criminals when they appear in court. Davidson said she relishes the opportunity to see justice occur.

"On the 12th, I attended court to watch Pat Kennedy be charged with aggravated battery and robbery attempt," said Davidson. "Kennedy attacked an elderly lady in front of a grocery store. He kept shooting me dirty looks all through court. I think he thought I was his victim. Maybe all us blue-haired old ladies look the same to him. Anyway, the state's attorney asked me to smile at him as he was led away in handcuffs after he was denied bail. I did it and loved every minute. He's getting what he deserved."

Davidson said court watch's purpose is to be a support system for victims of crime. The volunteers attend court and devote their time to improve people relations and safety of the area. Davidson said it's their way to let victims know they aren't alone. When a crime is committed against one resident, it affects everyone.

During the beat meeting, a presentation about the 911center was given by retired police officer C.K. Williams. Williams explained how 911 operators determine priority calls and how quickly you can expect police officers to arrive.

"It's extremely important to give the 911 operators as many details as possible," said Williams. "A burglary in progress will get police out more quickly than reporting a crime that has already been committed."

Williams said when a major crime has been reported, police must respond within 10 minutes, as mandated by law. A minor crime must be responded to within one hour.

"911 prioritizes by assigning every call a number between one and four," said Williams. "Number ones are most urgent, and four are less so. This number determines who gets service first by the police but everyone will get a response. Please be patient, but if you're concerned, feel free to keep calling."

Williams also announced that Chicago is starting a new program called 311. Residents will soon be able to dial 311 for all non-emergencies, such as crimes that have already occurred. The city hasn't advertised the program yet, said Williams, because the number isn't fully staffed yet but will be soon.

"Don't give up on us. We'll do anything we can to help clear up the problem."

**—Lt. Tom Tanzey,
Chicago Police Dept.**

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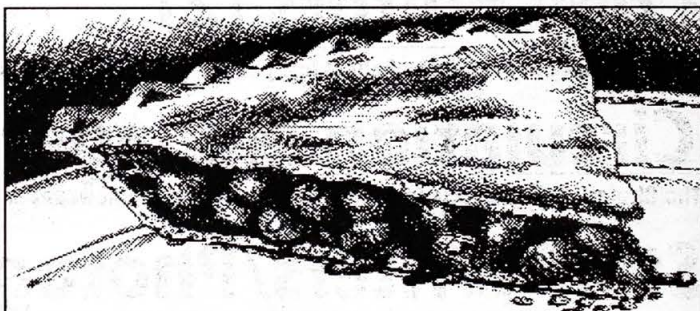
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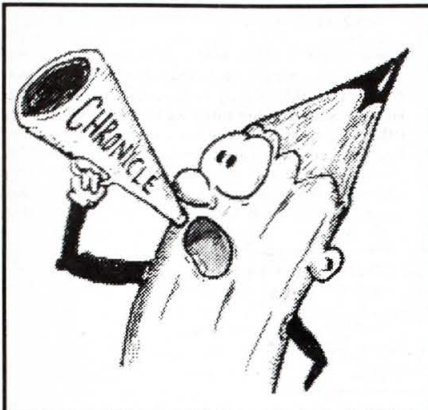
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Peter Pencilhead sez,

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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

Education has a new first name

The next book you buy from Columbia may be pretty cheap after all.

And you thought Super Bowl XXX was funny, you pervert. Get a load of this.

Last week, Columbia became the recipient of a kind heart and some fine architecture when an anonymous figure purchased the building on the corner of 8th Street and Wabash (better known as the home of Buddy Guy's Legends) and donated it to the college.

It's a story straight out of "7th Heaven" country. With yet another building in tow, Columbia's plans for expansion could top themselves once again this year.

(That concludes part one of this editorial. Before you move on to part two, take a stroll on down to the new building, go inside and look around. Tell us what you see.)

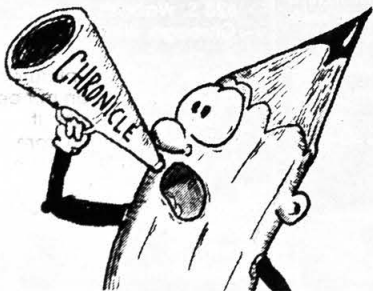
That's right. Unless you're blind (odd, since you're reading this article) you're probably looking at the Adult Video Bookstore. Yes, Columbia College owns that now.

Talk about a thorny (or is it horny?) issue. In the short amount of time since news of the acquisition broke, several problems with the building have surfaced. But nothing can top this: Whether you like it or hate it, whether it makes your day or ruins your life, Columbia College currently owns a porn store.

So what to do, what to do? Everyone has an opinion. Some are outraged, many are thrilled, and blah blah blah and so on and on. Could this play be any more dull? One of those most mediocre colleges in the country has a porn store, for crying out loud! And here we are, complaining and acting oh so politically correct, like this isn't the funniest story of the year.

Porn is wrong, we all know that. And you know what else? Big deal. National policy need not feel threatened by any calls to arms in the wake of this curious acquisition. Will Columbia become the nation's leading party commuter school? The smut capital of Chicago? Will a film major at Columbia mean something else now? Will the country throw a fit over the fact that a college owns a bookstore? No, no, no and probably not. In fact, reports indicate that the store won't even be around come July.

Whatever your opinion, this story too ridiculous and far too much fun to mull over and argue about. Save the fight for another day.



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 mrilly@mrilly.com

Billy O'Keefe



Letters to the Editor!?

Ads = money = Chronicle

Here comes the smut

I have been noticing this ongoing pattern in the paper that has been annoying me for a long time. It is the lack of content and the over abundance of advertising. The reason it bothers me the most is because you are wasting so much paper. You wouldn't need so much money from advertising if you just kept the paper 7 pages long, instead of 28 pages long with only 7 pages of content. Another thing is that the Columbia Chronicle is supposedly a tool for learning. Isn't it a forum for journalism majors to get practice in their career field? I understand you need a budget, but isn't that where tuition goes? I know that in the Theater department the budgets for all the plays are from the tuition. There is not really an income from the plays that are produced since they are free for students. The only thing I suggest is that you raise the prices of the full page ads so that less people will be encouraged to buy a whole page and maybe lower the prices of smaller-sized ads.

Mindy Fisher

Editor's note:

Yes, there has been an unprecedented amount of advertising in the Chronicle this year. However, a majority of our funding is directly from ad revenue and not from the school's budget, as you assumed.

Yes, the Chronicle is, we hope, a "tool for learning," and we as students are always learning.

We're not planning, by the way, to hike our ad rates any time soon.

Bruno VanderVelde
Editor-in-Chief

As an alumnus of Columbia, I always perk up when there is news about the school in the press. To say the least, I was intrigued to learn that an anonymous donor gave Columbia a half-acre of land at 8th Street and Wabash Avenue recently. Although this is good news, it does present the college with a problem.

The problem is that there is an adult bookstore that operates in the building that occupies the land. Although Provost Bert Gall and President John Duff haven't decided what to do with the building, letting the bookstore remain a tenant and pay rent would make Columbia a pornography profiteer.

If this is allowed to happen, faculty and students will face a moral dilemma: whether or not to attend a school that profits from pornography.

Unless Columbia wants to combine the adult bookstore, which offers peepshows, with the dance department, Gall and Duff should seriously consider shutting it down.

Bob Chiarito
South Barrington, Illinois

Cheers to SUM

I am very appreciative that SUM has been working hard for student's welfare. It is not only a benefit for all students, but also shows Columbia is willing to take care of students' problems.

Tzu-Wen Wang

Hidden Agendas

Chinese New Year promises year of the dog, but is starting to smell more like the year of the rat.

Get ready to put on your jackets again, because a cold war is a brewin' and the safety of our nation may be at risk.

Not because of those pesky Russians. No, they can't even afford to buy a bottle of vodka to keep themselves warm since their heat has been shut off.

This new (better yet, dormant) adversary is one much more dangerous. This nation is heavily militaristic, oppressive and nationalistic to its core. Compared to our apathetic, materialistic, loafing mass of land, we make them look like the true superpower.

In case you haven't guessed, it's China.

In the past few months, we have gone from buddy-buddy partners to suspicious adversaries. For many years it became apparent to everyone but the U.S. government that China's nuclear capability has improved by leaps and bounds. Did we think the Chinese people put magic beans in their silos and — presto — nuclear superpower?

We are supposed to be the leaders of the free world, but in an effort to expand our profit margins to a newly governed China, we let all of the signs warning of trouble fall by the wayside. Last election, they were pumping money into Clinton's campaign fund, but, hey — there's nothing wrong with a foreign country doing that, right? Wrong. During Clinton's recent trip to China he met with Chinese premiers and smiled for the cameras, knowing full well that there was a Mao sword poised to be driven into the back of democratic America. And guess what. We also gave them a "favored nation" status. How's that for a hearty thank you?

The puppeteer of global dominance has now become the puppet and China is pulling the strings.

China has slowly woven its web like a spider, waiting for the curious prey to become entangled before injecting its lethal venom. We should have known better than to play favoritism with a communist nation, knowing full well that its goal is to crush all the capitalists.

Now with the bombing of a Chinese embassy in Kosovo, there's been the spark of a cold war. China has responded by allowing their citizens to try to destroy our embassies on their soil. The anti-American backlash is reaching an alarming level; U.S. flags are burning in the streets and anything connected to NATO is being condemned.

I understand that the loss of life is deplorable and the United States is fully to blame for the incident, but who the hell does China think it is? I'm sorry, but wasn't this the same nation who ran over their own people with tanks in Tiananmen Square?

This country that does not know a damn thing about human rights is standing on top of a soapbox and giving us a lecture about what our peacekeeping duties should entail. Hey, tell you what — let's follow China's lead and imprison the people of Newfoundland, the western hemisphere's equivalent of Tibet. While we're at it, how about imposing a limit on the number of children per couple, and, since boys are more valuable, stand by as baby girls are murdered the minute they enter the world.

If we follow China's lead, all of our problem will disappear. It's simple — oppression is the formula for success, through which peace will eventually be attained.

It is scary to me that in one decade, the citizens of China have gone from a group of disenfranchised protestors looking for a piece of autonomy, to a centralized, obedient, nationalistic state. And all this time the joke has been on us. We failed to realize the true enormity of the impending disaster that was accumulating in the Pacific Rim.

It is time to open our eyes and take a closer look at the nation of China, but also take a look at ourselves. We allowed this problem to spin out of control, just to keep a president in the White House and to line our capitalistic pockets. I guess we have learned the true cost of selling our secrets along with the soul of this nation.

Be prepared, Americans. It's going to be a long winter.

Patrick M. Walsh
Executive Editor

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

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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 Chron98@interaccess.com or mailed to *The Columbia Chronicle c/o Letters To The Editor*, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 205, Chicago, IL 60605.

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
COLUMBIA'S CHOICE

Are you ready?

A guide on how to land a job after graduation

By James Boozer
Contributing Editor

This column is the fourth in a series on how seniors can find jobs after they graduate. In the next few weeks, I, along with experts from various fields, will offer advice and insight on what a future college graduate can do to find the job they're looking for. While I'm no expert, I, just like you, find myself preparing for the future and stressing over how to find the job I want. This column will provide you with important and helpful information that will help you in your search.

We all know that one of the most important parts of a job search is the interview. However, some of us might not know how stressful this situation can be. "What should I say?" "Do I look appropriate?" "What if I fall on my face?" are questions many people ask themselves.

Now is not the time to panic. Be confident that the experience and skills you have set you apart from other candidates.

Although the interviewer is evaluating you to match his/her company, you are also interviewing the company to determine whether you would feel comfortable working there. Too often, job seekers lose sight of the fact that they are as much the interviewer as the interviewee. There are several specific steps all interviewees should follow.

Your objective is to get a job; the interviewer's objective is to solve a problem — find a qualified candidate. You must journey across the boundary and demonstrate to the interviewer that you understand and can solve their problem.

Be prepared to discuss the unique skills and experience which make you the best person for the job. Instead of discussing bullet points from your resume, you should tell a story, keeping it relevant, brief and to the point.

According to the website Adguide's College Recruiter, you're competing against other candidates with similar experience and impressive resumes. Dress appropriately for your interview, firmly shake the interviewer's hand, and so on. It's important to distinguish yourself from the rest.

If you're applying for work in an industry that you've worked in previously, highlight your combination of professional training and industry experience. If by chance you don't have the exact skills or experience a prospective employer is looking for, don't worry. Simply say how you plan to pick up the necessary skills any way you can. Let the interviewer know that whatever skills you're lacking, you are working toward developing them. Regardless if you get the job or not, they might keep you in mind for another position that may open up down the road.

Your ability to take and follow direction is crucial. If you're expected to work independently or as a part of a team, your manageability is an important factor in whether you get the job. However, this doesn't mean you should be a follower instead of a leader. Working within the system will, you'll receive a lot of direction or very little. In any case, the less you receive, the better.

It's important to be professional about how you present yourself. This includes how you dress and your behavior. You should dress for the job you're applying for. A high-profile job would require you to dress up, while others might consider wearing a suit overdoing it (something that involves working outdoors, for instance). The best advice is to use common sense while choosing your wardrobe.

You have to act the part. Always be polite and greet people by name. If you forget a person's name, don't be afraid to ask for it again. Here are a few tips from the book "Real Life Guide to Life After College" by Margot C. Lester and Allen Wyke: you should also look people in the eye (don't stare), ask questions while making observations, don't fidget, smile, don't chew gum or smoke.

While a great resume and interview demeanor help in landing an offer, the deciding factor is in the amount of energy or enthusiasm you project during your interview. Adguide's College Recruiter describes this situation as having an "energy edge." Introverts, for example, tend to be uncomfortable about displaying enthusiasm.

Interviewing skills are learned, so you can teach yourself how to project confidence and enthusiasm during your interview. Prospective employers want you to provide them with the assurance that if hired, you'll work hard, achieve goals and connect well with your fellow co-workers. Even if you're not an extrovert, you can verbally and visually convey you're passionate about the work.

Remember that the second and subsequent interviews will give you the opportunity to seal the deal. During that time, questions will be more specific, and you will have the opportunity to speak with numerous individuals throughout the company, giving you the chance to ask any additional questions you have. Let the interview go at its own pace. Don't rush things along. Being anxious will work against you.

We all have weaknesses, but you can compensate with the strengths you have. Attitude and demeanor matter as much as what you say. Be professional and focused, friendly and personable at the same time. Remember, you need to fit into the workplace. No one wants an employee with no personality regardless of the qualifications she or he may have.

When responding to the interviewer, be brief while thorough in how you communicate. Long-winded, endless responses are not impressive -- the interviewer's time is valuable. You'll lose their interest quickly.

In almost every interview situation, there are common questions that will be asked of you. Don't wait until then to find your response; be prepared for whatever the interviewer may throw at you. Some of these questions include:

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What are your salary expectations?
3. What are your career goals?
4. What is your personal life situation?
5. What is your ideal position and career path?

Listening, confidence and the quality of your presentation are keys to a successful interview. Start preparing your future now before it's too late.

Coming in two weeks...

The last part of this series on how seniors can find a job after graduation.

10 things to know when going on an interview

1. Always tell the truth.
2. Every person charged with interviewing candidates wants to find the right person.
3. Be prepared to discuss your skills and experience that make you the best person for the job.
4. Your "manageability" is an important factor in determining whether you get the job.
5. You're not going to be right for every job you go after.
6. Looking good isn't enough. You have to act the part too.
7. Be prepared to prove you're eager and willing to do whatever it takes to do your job.
8. "Have you been arrested?" and "How is your health?" are the only two illegal questions a prospective employer can ask.
9. Be prepared to write down key points or questions you'd like to ask later, and the names of people you talk to.
10. Write your thank-you letters quickly and mail them the next day.

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 in your search for a job

NationJob Network

NationJob Online Jobs Database

Current update is 05-11

Welcome to NationJob Network, an on-line job search service with

Search

Sign up for free. No e-mail required.

Search for a job (no e-mail required)

Search for a company

Employers: NationJob Network reaches 1.5 million job seekers

Welcome to JOBTAK

The college's leading job listing service

students & alumni

online career list

employers

THE JOBTAK MAP

Need \$5 For School? check out... Scholarship EXPL

Need \$5 For School? check out... Scholarship EXPL

JOBTAK Corporation

2000 W. 10th St., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90015

NationJob.com

NationJob is a no-frills site, but it is designed more for beginners than most other sites. It is organized in a very simple, understandable way, and, lacking pictures, frames, and other features for you to quickly download each page. It has two basic features—a company listing and a job search wizard—and that allows users to establish accounts to retain their personal job search information.

Jobtrak.com

Jobtrak is a more fully featured site and is in the same league as Monster Board. Not only is this site, one of the largest employment sites on the Internet, but it specifically caters to the college graduate. It offers services in resume posting, job searching, and graduate school section, as well as several unique and helpful links.

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

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:

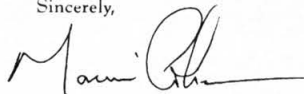
Columbia's 1999 Commencement Exercise will take place Sunday, June 6, 1999, at the University of Illinois Pavilion (1150 West Harrison Street), from 2:00 p.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. Please note the following:

- 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

600 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60605 1996 312 663 1600

Education in the Arts and Communications

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in addition to
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**Tuesday May 25, 1999
6 - 9 pm**

School of Music
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in the student lounge

For more info call: 773.325.7257

***Bring Questions, Your resume & Your Dreams
Expect to meet representatives from all facets
of the music industry***

Explore possible internship and job opportunities

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
9 am - 5 pm on Fridays**

If you have any questions, please call the Bursar's Office at 312-344-7475

Vitality

YOUR GUIDE INTO THE WORLD OF ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAR WARS™

EPISODE I

THE PHANTOM MENACE™

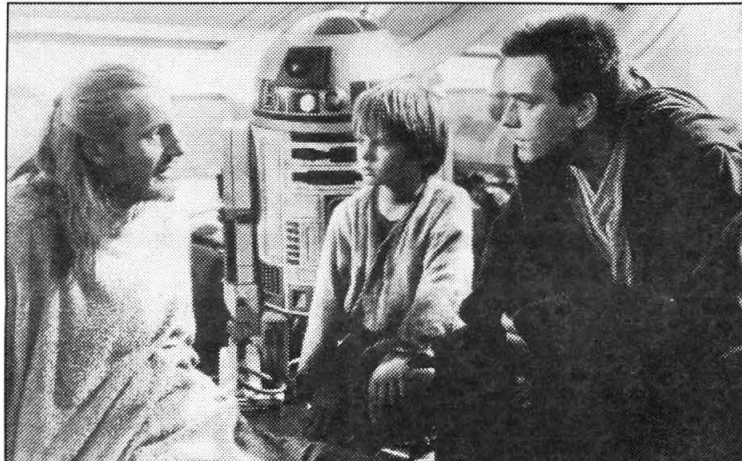
PREQUEL MADNESS

By Jerry LaBuy

Special to the Chronicle

Realization vs. expectation. As a film production alumnus from this fine school, I was taught how much power that equation has on the overall way a film is perceived. Whether it's a review from a vaguely interested *Newsweek* critic or the 27-year-old uber-fan who's been camped out on Hollywood Boulevard for two months (and probably smells like an unkept Wookiee), the reviews for "Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace" are going to boil down to if the person's realization matches what he or she expected.

At the advance screening in Hollywood, I was pleasantly surprised by "The Phantom Menace" based on what I personally expected from it. But it is not going to live up to the expectations of those relying on the hype. No matter how well made this film is, too much has been said to give this film



Jedi Master Qui-Gon Jinn (left), played by Liam Neeson, tells young Anakin Skywalker (Jake Lloyd) and Jedi Apprentice Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) about a near deadly encounter as droid R2-D2 looks on.

a chance to be judged in contrast to the other films in the series.

If you follow the hype, this film would have to be 10 times better than the originals. This just isn't the case, but it is still a very good movie.

This new "Star Wars" is aimed at the young set, as were the first films. The original audience has grown up and grown cynical which is reflected in the lukewarm early reviews. That child audience of the '70s and early '80s has moved on to noisy, action-laden marvels such as the recent "The Matrix." They're no longer the target audience and just won't enjoy the kid-themed, PG-rated action this new film offers.



The resolve of young Queen Amidala (Natalie Portman) is put to the test by an invasion of her peaceful planet Naboo.

this and has targeted this film directly at the same people who made the previous films a smash — the kids.

The film's storyline can be best summed up as simple and fun -- not complex as the others. This was somewhat expected. It sets up the next two films which are bound to become deeper in meaning and darker in theme. This light, friendly "Star Wars," however, opens with an invasion of the peaceful planet of Naboo by the new bad-dies -- The Trade Federation. They're hoping to get a foothold on the planet because it's a time when the Republic is fighting and weak. Naboo is the home of 14-year-old princess Amidala (Natalie Portman), who talks tough to these new invaders, but doesn't have the manpower to back it up. Soon the invasion is on and she flees with the aid of Jedi Knight Qui-Gon Jinn

(Liam Neeson) and his apprentice Obi Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor).

It's in these first action scenes that the effects really grab you more than the story. I don't think this will happen with the next two films, though, as we begin the mythology of Darth Vader.

After the escape from Naboo, Lucas transports the action to Tatooine, the desert farm-world of "Star Wars IV: A New Hope." There we get to know the young Anakin Skywalker (Jake Lloyd) who will eventually become Darth Vader.

The story takes a bunch of turns through the Jedi High

Council on the advanced, mechanical world of Coruscant, eventually ending with another battle that helps to end the invasion of Naboo much in the same way the Death Star ended in the first film. The battle was over, but the war was just beginning.

This film is technically set for sensory overload and is awesome in scope. Each setting, from the forests and swamps of Naboo to the Trade Federation ships, is deeply textured. I really enjoyed Lucas' attention to detail in the film, showing just how much these films mean to him. The CGI effects (computer generated images) are obvious but they're done so well you eventually don't notice. I believe the over-hyped fans who might feel let down by this film's content will return for the visuals alone.

One thing George Lucas is known for is creating engaging lead characters. Lucas doesn't seem to develop his leads in this film and it lacks a focused lead story. There is a definite, entertaining, all-purpose story unfolding, but nothing of any weight. For that, we will need to wait for Anakin's inevitable fall from grace.

I think everyone who grew up with the older "Star Wars" films should step back and re-think what they want from this film. The level of hype and anticipation has been set by a bunch of people from every walk of life, including fans and industry executives. This will damage the way some people perceive this film.

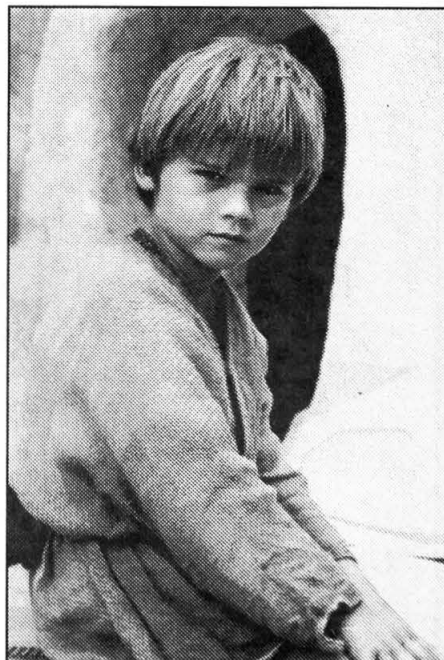
It is entertaining, fun to watch, and a step in a very popular film series, but it isn't going to change the "Star Wars" world.

As you sit down to watch it and see those slanted words begin to crawl up the screen, just appreciate what the film is rather than what it has been made to be.

Jerry LaBuy is a 1998 Film Graduate from Columbia College and a former Chronicle Features Editor.



Evil has a new name: Darth Maul (Ray Park), a dark Lord of the Sith, gets ready for a confrontation with two powerful Jedi.



Anakin Skywalker (Jake Lloyd) is astute and talented well beyond his years, and gives little hint of his ultimate destiny in "The Phantom Menace."

THE CRANBERRIES: PUSH THE BEAT AGAIN AND AGAIN

By Derrek Hull
Correspondent

After almost two years of time off, The Cranberries are back. *Bury the Hatchet*, the fourth and latest album symbolizes the band's readiness to return to their fans with a freshness and enthusiasm that have made the quartet—from Limerick, Ireland—one of the most successful rock bands in the world.

"The title *Bury the Hatchet* is our way of saying it's all behind us now," says acoustic guitarist Hogan, "Time to bury those things and get on with what we do best."

The Cranberries are setting the stage, by playing in a few select cities around North America for what they plan to be an ambitious world tour scheduled for this fall.

O'Riordan, the fiery Irish nymph, and her band mates set out on an all-out assault of Chicago's Riviera Theater last Wednesday. These "youthful old pros" proved they have the talent, energy and allure needed to consume rock masses well into the new millennium.

The group's staying-power is indisputable. The Cranberries catalog spans over nine years together as a band. Lead singer O'Riordan and guitarist Hogan form a dangerous duo which spawn most of the band's songs. O'Riordan took only a week after her auditions for the original band back in May 1990 to co-write her first songs with The Cranberries, including the smash-hit "Linger."

It would be another year before they'd sign to Island Records and another two before the release of their debut album — *Everybody Else Is Doing It, So Why Can't We* in 1993.

The album became an instant success in the U.S., staying on the American Billboard charts for two years, and the singles "Dreams" and "Linger" spearheaded The Cranberries'

breakthrough into America.

No Need to Argue, which contained hit singles "Ode To My Family," "I Can't Be With You," "Ridiculous Thoughts" and "Zombie," helped spawn a transformation in pop music at the time. Sold-out American arena-tours in the summer of 1995 boosted them to become the dynamic performers they are today.

To The Faithful Departed was their third album, finished in just five weeks and released in 1996. Demanding video

shoots, promotional appearances, interviews and a worldwide tour pushed the band to their brink in October '96, forcing The Cranberries to cancel remaining tour dates due to exhaustion.

Now after almost two years off, The Cranberries began in May '98 to record new songs in Toronto, London and Southern France.

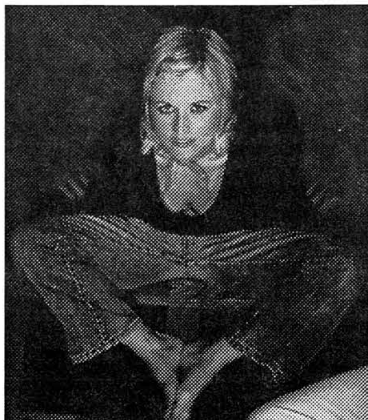
"In all, it took us about six months to record this album," says Hogan. "It wasn't like we were in a hurry or anything. We did it at a pace that felt right. And for us, six months is a very long time."

Altogether, The Cranberries and producer Benedict Fenner recorded the new songs "Cypcat," "Just My Imagination" and "Animal Instinct," which were the first three songs played at the Riviera show.

O'Riordan's outlandish ass-shaking and flailing arms give the true essence of how much she enjoys performing. The coquettish smirk O'Riordan gave just before each song's completion sent

a feverish chill down the spine signaling, "this narcotizing high" is about to end.

The wispy blue and pink lighting on stage illuminated dancing silhouettes of each band member and sent a surreal breeze into the crowd. As the songs' harmonies would kick for the second time, and the beat would fade, the entire crowd could feel the unity and bliss O'Riordan's magnetism thrust upon them. A truly brilliant and beautiful musical experience was shared by all.



The Cranberries lead singer Dolores O'Riordan has turned into a fiery nymph onstage as witnessed last Wednesday.

An industrial evening
at the House of Blues

By Jennifer Dickerson
Staff Writer

Back by popular demand, Switchblade Symphony and the Frontline Assembly hit the House of Blues for yet another spectacular night.

Great music from Switchblade Symphony began the show with hard, lusty sounds that can't be found elsewhere. With music from old and new albums, and smokey incense filling the House of Blues, the audience grooved like they were right in the group's living room.

Frontline Assembly, who put on the best show of the two, would rock anyone's world. They jammed accompanied with a light show to leave you blind. Mosh pits erupted in the center of the crowd, and just about everyone on the floor was moshing it up with their friends and neighbors.

Frontline Assembly, which plays hard industrial music reminiscent of Ministry or Nine Inch Nails can really get your heart thumping to their beat. The vibrations from the floor sent shockwaves of energy through the audience.

With the way both Switchblade Symphony and Frontline Assembly rocked the night, no one should miss out on their albums. Just check out a local music store — any album will do!

All in all, this show was very much worth the \$20 it cost to get in the door. The House of Blues provides the perfect setting to relax with friends and sip cocktails while watching a show to rave about for weeks afterward.

To see them live and kickin' call the House of Blues for information at (312) 923-2000, or the 24-hour concert line at (312) 923-2020. You can visit the House of Blues online at www.hob.com.

"ELECTION" SERVES UP A CAMPAIGN WORTH CARING ABOUT

By Adam Heun
Staff Writer

Before seeing Alexander Payne's "Election," the striking similarities between high school and Capitol Hill never crossed my mind. In both worlds, exists backstabbing, deceit, obsession, confusion, sex scandals, and a bit of insanity. Such is the environment in this dark comedy which portrays the lives of the students and faculty of Carver High as they descend down a path that parallels American politics. Like many satires, "Election" is presented with a bold, physical comedic style. It charges the audience with a direct and, at times, shocking presentation.

The story involves the school's three-time Teacher of the Year award recipient, Jim McAllister (Matthew Broderick), whose life is tormented by an annoying, over-achieving know-it-all, Tracy Flick (Reese Witherspoon).

Early in the film, a fragmented sequence of flashbacks, freeze-frames, and voice-overs serves to convey the teacher's intolerance for the young lady. Apparently she'd had an affair with a former teacher, Mr. McAllister's best friend, which ended his and career and somehow left the seemingly pure Tracy unscathed. When Tracy sets out to capture the student council presidency in an unopposed race, Mr.

McAllister decides to intervene. He puts a popular football moron (Chris Klein) up to stealing the race from her. Chaos results.

The film is very effective due to the acting, visual style, and overt comedy. To start, Reese Witherspoon is perfect, giving Tracy the dimensions of both an obsessive victory monger and an insecure teenager who cracks under pressure and leads older men to sexual mania — sort of a modern-day Lolita.

Broderick also gives a convincing performance. He's at his best when driven by Tracy down a psychological road of adultery, confusion, and, ultimately, deception.

The film's presentation style varies from visual metaphors, such as Mr. McAllister's bee-sting to the eye that symbolizes his character's turmoil and ugliness in the third act, to a camera that's constantly in motion, serving up surprising, distorted angles. The comedy leaves nothing to the imagination (sort of reminiscent of "There's Something About Mary") and works on an immediate and intelligent level.

The only thing that didn't satisfy me was the constant shift between the characters. While the transactions between Jim and Tracy were excellent, secondary characters get a little too much screen-time and are overdeveloped.

Overall, the film is witty and funny, providing a good look into human compulsion and corruption.



Reese Witherspoon stars as the over-achieving know-it-all Tracy Flick.

Looking Ahead

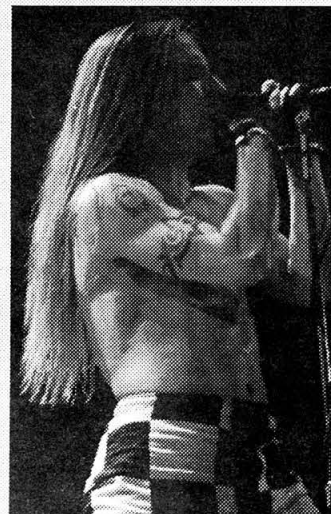
Mike Ness
with Deke Dickerson
Tuesday, May 18
Park West

Goodie Mob
Friday, May 21
DePaul Fest

Expo of the Extreme 2
featuring Motorhead,
Genitorturers, Dropkick
Murphy's, Hatebreed,
Jello Biafra & others
Friday & Saturday
May 21 & 22
Venue TBA

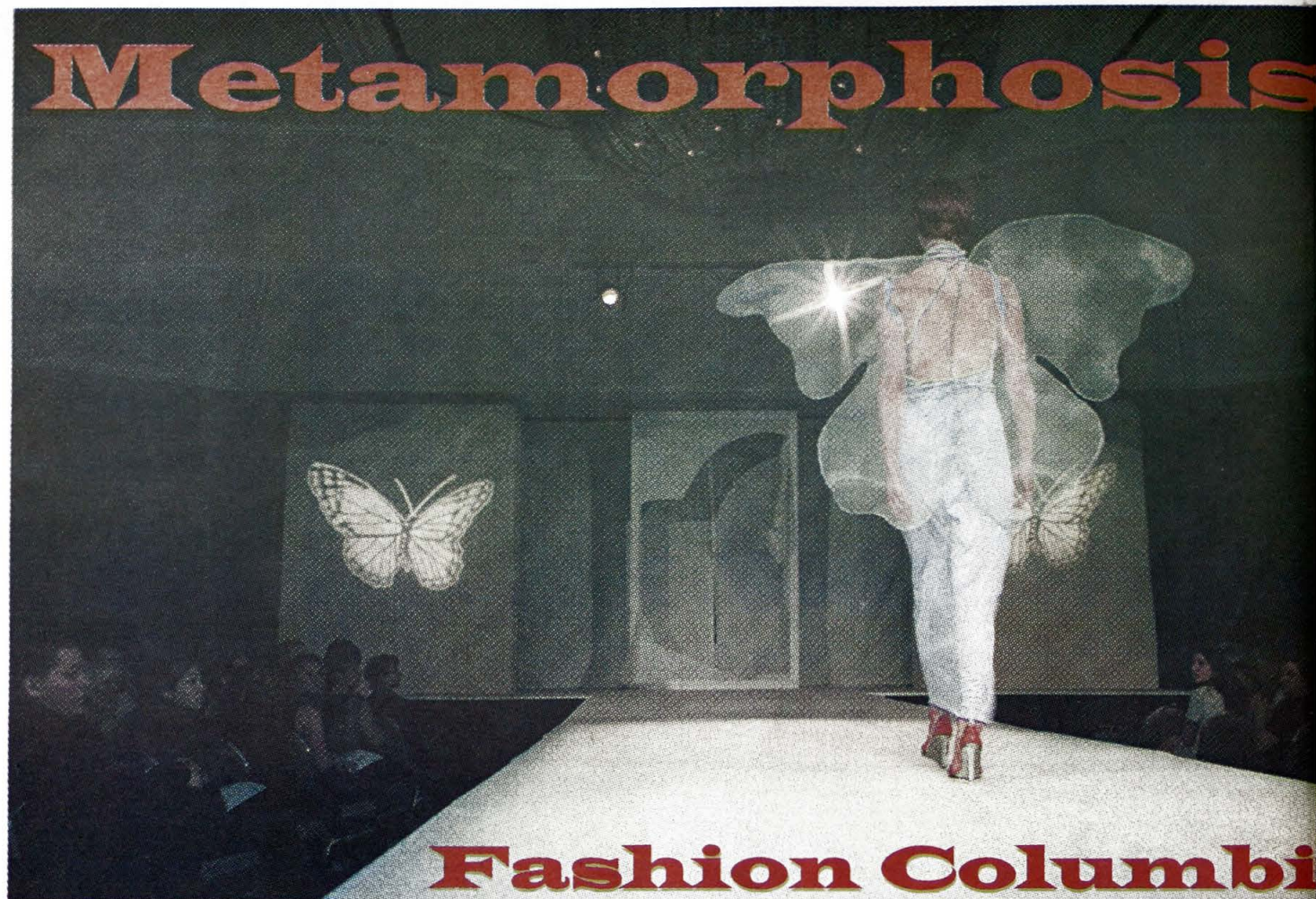
Morris Day & The Time
Saturday, May 22
Park West

Poi Dog Pondering
(Chicago Fire post-game
concert)
Saturday, May 22
Soldier Field



Q101 Jamboree
featuring Red Hot Chili
Peppers, Hole, Blondie,
Silverchair, Lit & others
Saturday, May 22
New World Music Theatre

Jonatha Brooke
with Rose Polenzani
Sunday, May 23
Park West



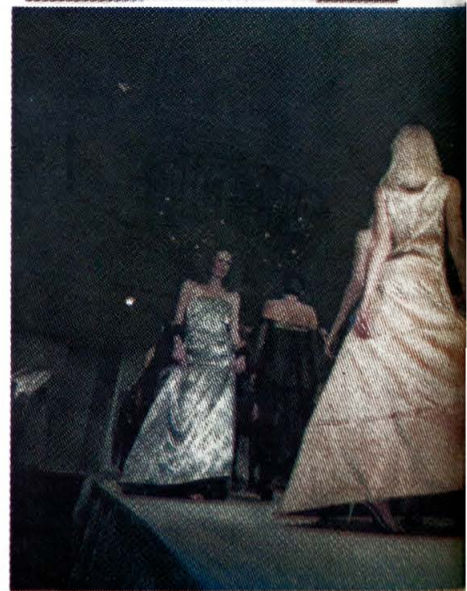
Jason Glaser/



Alyce Henson/Special to the Chronicle



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Black Tape for a Blue Girl captivates Chicago

Rosenthal brings his ethereal sounds to the Metro in support of *As One Aflame Laid Bare By Desire*

By Jill LoPresti

Assistant Vitality Editor

Sam Rosenthal does it again. His hallowing vocals and etheric musical accompaniment provided a spellbinding performance Tuesday night at the Metro. Chicago's own Black Tape for a Blue Girl marked their first performance in Chicago besides the annual Projekt festival, which has been staged the last three years at the Vic Theatre.

The show supported their newest release, *As One Aflame Laid Bare By Desire*, which incorporates lush instrumentation, synthesizers, symphonic strings, and acoustic guitars gracefully intertwined with ethereal vocals.

Performing with Black Tape, was The Lynn Canfield Band. Canfield is the former vocalist from Champaign's The Moon Seven Times, as well as Area and Shotgun Wedding.

The music of both groups is featured on the recent Projekt release, *A Cat-shaped Hole in Your Heart*, along with many other Projekt compilations.

Known for their use of folk, ambient and classical elements, Black Tape crosses over the thick lines defining what is gothic and what isn't. Please, don't throw them into the bag alongside Bauhaus, Sisters of Mercy or Christian Death. Black Tape's other-worldly sounds surpass traditional goth-rock. The Black Tape style is more along the lines of This Mortal Coil or early Dead Can Dance.

The band consists of Projekt founder, songwriter and keyboardist, Sam Rosenthal, vocalist Oscar Herrera, and sometime-members Lisa Feuer, artistic flow that was present at the Metro that night.

The turnout was disappointing — roughly 30 people clustered in front of the stage; not your typical Metro setting. The crowd consisted mainly of reverent fans clad in black and the slack atmosphere was even void of dancing.

Gently pacing across the stage, Lisa Feuer's pale white face glowed in the fade of a hazy green light. Smoke swirled about her black gown, circling her delicate bare arms as though caressing her. Slowly and seductively, she swayed in and out of the sweet, whispering lyrics to the backdrop of synthesized sounds and melodies.

Rosenthal, who owns the most delicate voice of the group, remained dim in the light behind his keyboards throughout the set. Julianna Towns provided the vocal strength for the evening. She maintained the darker edge of the group with her hallowing voice that soared over the desolate crowd, echoing from wall to wall.

Resembling acts in a play, Towns and Feuer entered the stage in sets for their individual and collaborative performances. Feuer traded off between violin, flute and her instrumental voice, while Towns relied on her vocals alone as her prop. A dimly lit, minimal stage set forced the attention on the performers and nothing else.

To my dismay, Black Tape's performance lasted only around an hour. Flowers in a vase preciously handed by an angelic goth-like waif embraced the reverence of Black Tape's fans and appreciation.

Within minutes the crowd disappeared and only a few people where left standing in the audience for The Lynn Canfield Band. Canfield could not upstage Black Tape and it showed. Their sounds clashed from one theme to the next and interrupted the



Jason Glaser/Chronicle
Black Tape for a Blue Girl's Julianna Towns sets the mood at the Metro.

GWAR MAY BE SICK IN THE HEAD, BUT FANS JUST CAN'T GET ENOUGH

By Bill Manley

Staff Writer

"GWAR, GWAR, GWAR!" chanted the mob of wrestling, sweaty, long-haired, kids waiting impatiently for one of the most notoriously insane concerts in existence. Fans streamed in by the hundreds, all fighting and squeezing to get to the front of the Vic Theater.

I'm pacing around in the stage-right wings, apprehensive of a potential interview with the crazy, theatric alien rockers. GWAR has legions of strangely devoted fans who are willing to not only withstand messy show after show, but pay money for it too. A security guard approaches me and asks if I'm planning to take photos; I nod and he lays down the deal, "Three songs, in and out. We're gonna be a bumpin' and a thumpin' and you're gonna get juiced, so be ready." Juiced! As a novice "GWARior," as fans are called, I knew nothing of what to expect besides vague rumor. I would find out soon enough.

The opening bands began performing and were theatric in their own rights, but GWAR they were not; and the fans let them know it at every opportunity. During breaks between songs, barely seconds would pass before they'd start throwing obscene gestures of every kind, chanting, "GWAR, GWAR, GWAR."

When the opening bands finished, I made my way to the stage, in front of the barricades. I watched as they wrapped the monitors, pedals and anything electronic in heavy plastic. A few words of warning and a muttered prophesy of the show to come were all it took for me to retreat to the balcony to shoot in relative safety.



Bill Manley/Chronicle
(Clockwise from above): Oderus Urungus leads the mayhem onstage at GWAR's insane show last week at the Vic Theater. The "slave pit" was up in arms and security had their hands full. Slymenstra Hymen helps summon an alien toilet to sacrifice willing fans. GWAR's alien visitor takes a sword to the arm of Elvis, spraying the pit with blood.



fake crack from a nitro-burnin' bong and shoot heroin out of a five-foot long needle. All this to the screaming delight of the crowd. In addition to the initiation, GWAR makes some statements about the music industry by murdering likenesses of Elvis and Marilyn Manson.

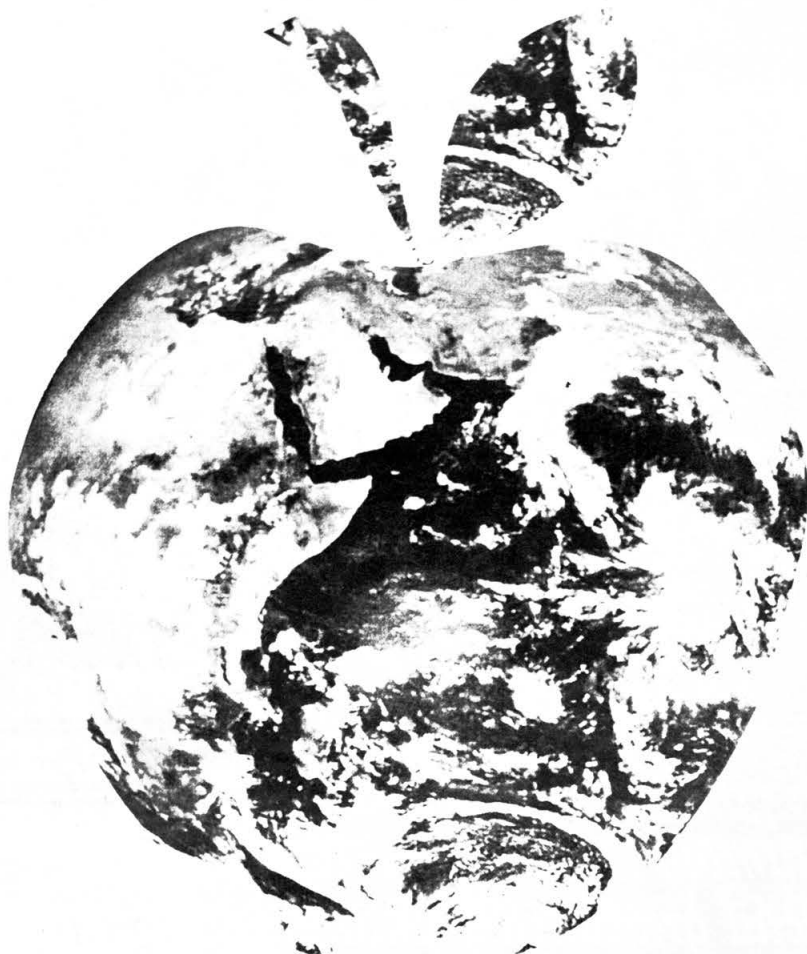
In between theatrics the band did manage to play some music. Oderus Urungus, guitarist Balsac, bassist Beefcake the Mighty, drummer Jizmak the Gusha, and slave dancer/vocalist

Slymenstra Hymen play their own brand of satirical heavy metal. GWAR's label, Metal Blade Records, never got back to me about the interview, but the show was something I could never forget. GWAR is the strangest band I've ever had the privilege of seeing, with some of the greatest showmen around.

GWAR has quite an elaborate traveling stage with fashioned ruins, rolling tablets and strange foam rubber constructions of unimaginable size. Perched on the balcony, I watched as the show began.

The lights dim down, one strum of a guitar, and the mayhem begins. Within the first

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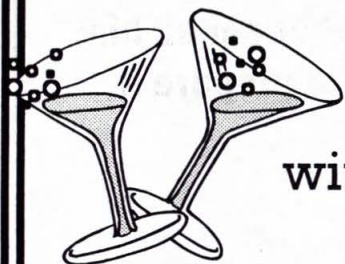
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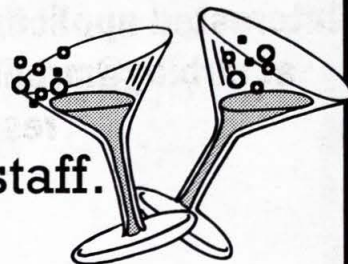


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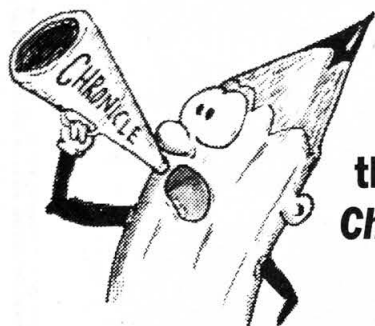


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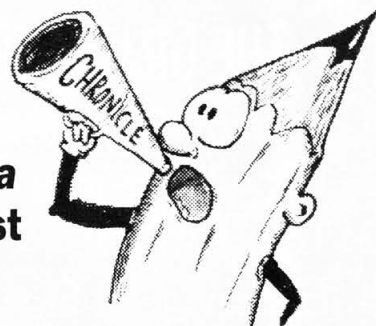
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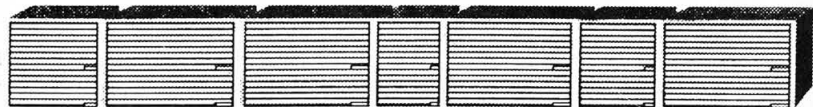
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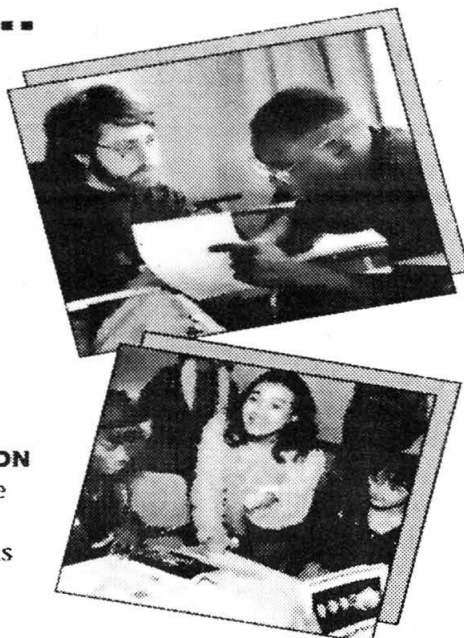
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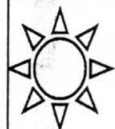


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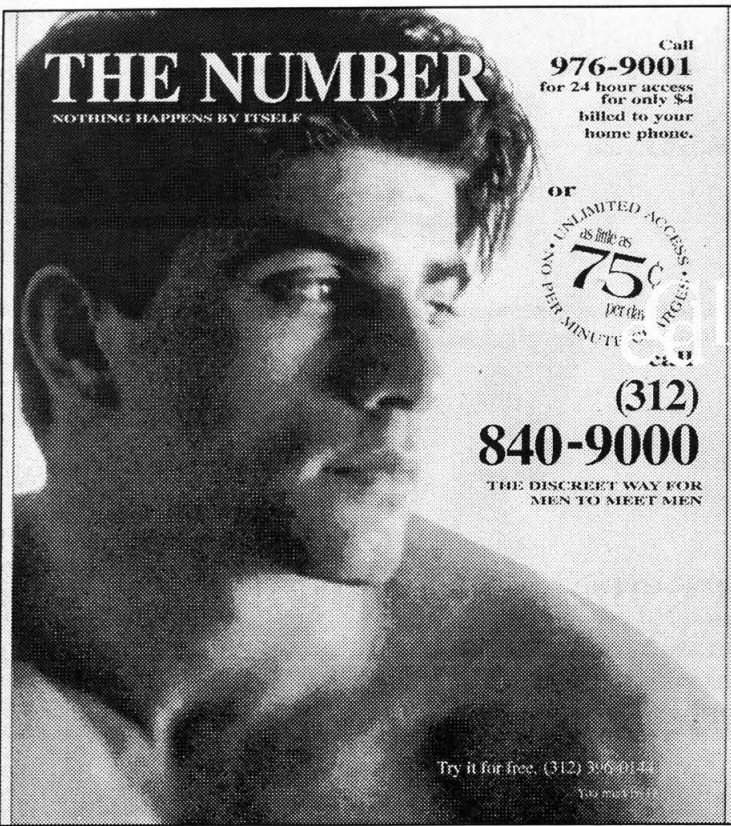
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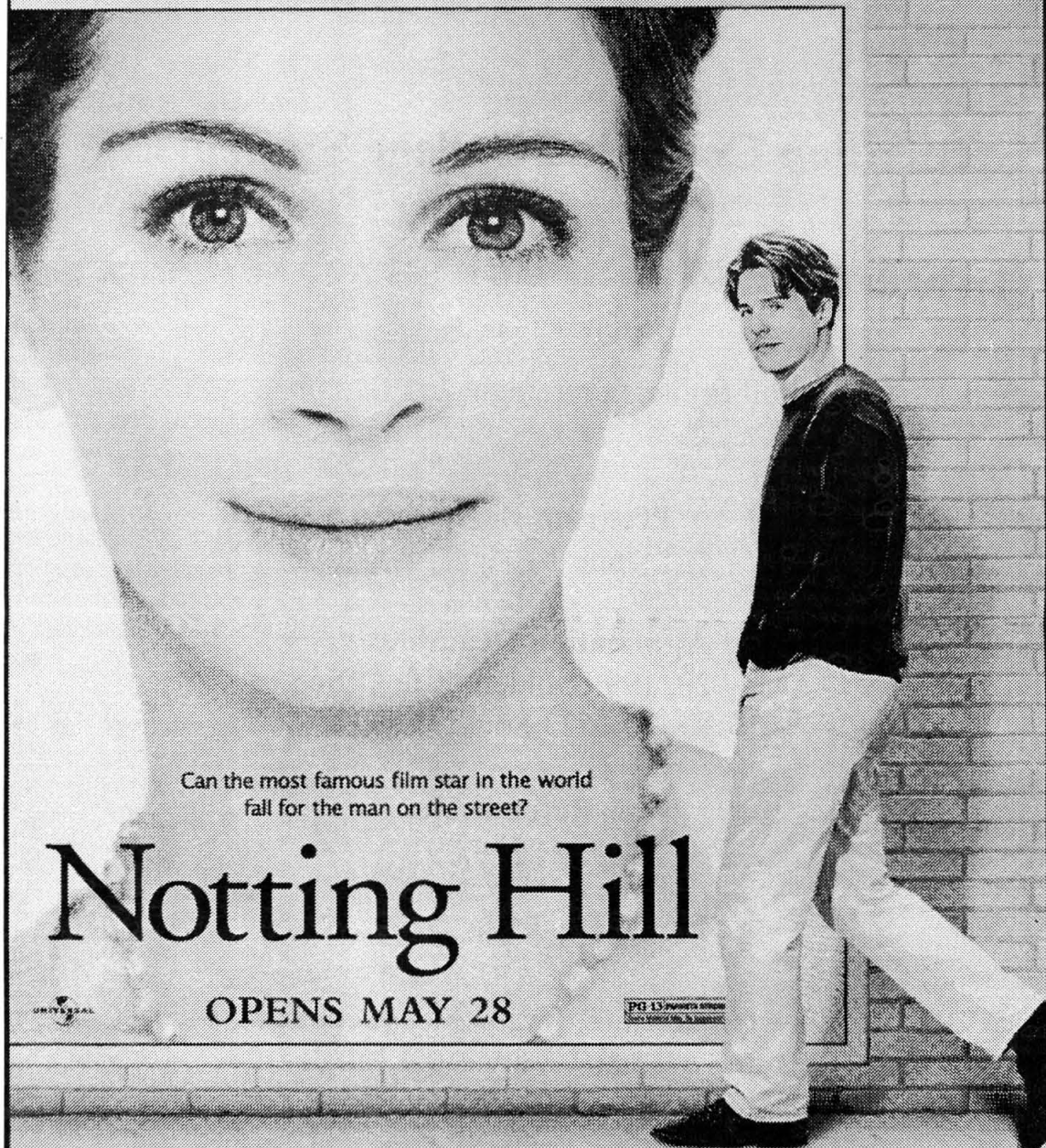
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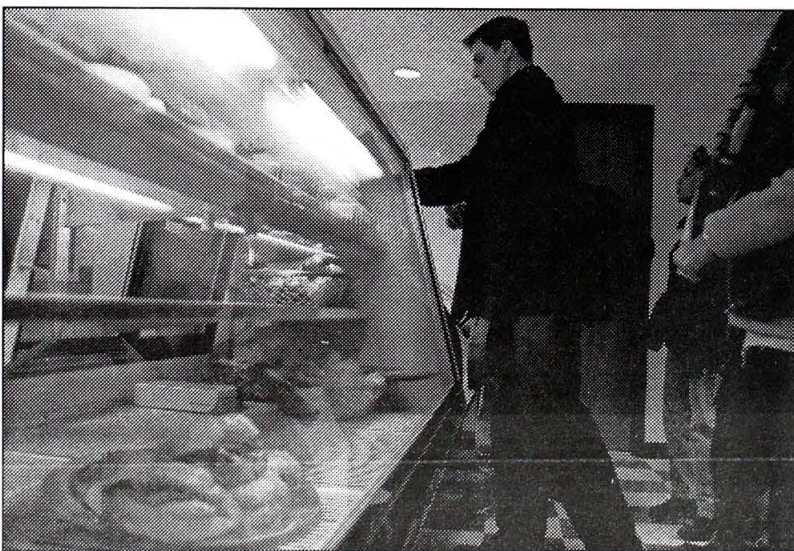
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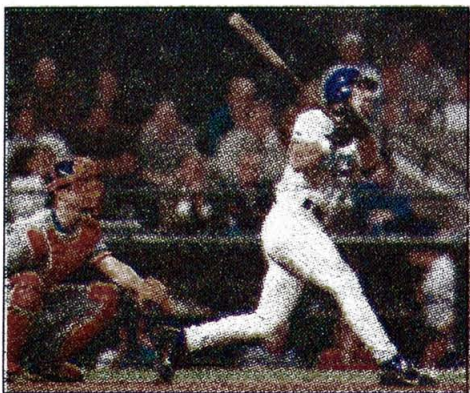
A grand season for baseball

By Benjamin Trecroci
Managing/Sports Editor

As baseball fans are finally putting an end to the McGwire vs. Sosa home run battle that captivated the nation in '98, so far this current season has provided a possible preview to an equally captivating season.

Already this season, fans have been treated to a plethora of highlights that would dominate any other season, but after last year, expectations are running high.

From the Los Angeles Dodgers' Raul Mondesi smashing home runs almost nightly to the resurgence of Tampa Bay Devil Ray teammates Jose Canseco and Fred McGriff, a new home run battle is in full bloom. Also, Arizona Diamondback and former Chicago Cub Luis



Arizona Diamondback Luis Gonzalez.

Gonzalez brought a 25-game hitting streak going into this weekend while leading the National League with a .385 batting average.

Gonzalez's streak has put the second year Diamondbacks near the top of the National League West and brought attention to Arizona baseball and not because of the swimming pool that adorns the Bank One Ballpark in Phoenix. Gonzalez, who has traveled from Houston to the Cubs, Detroit, and back to Houston before finally landing in Arizona, always put up good numbers. In his nine-year career, Gonzalez has averaged about 15 home runs and nearly 70 RBI's each season. Also, he has provided a stellar glove in leftfield, sporting a near .990 fielding percentage.

So far in the '90s, only two men, Eric Davis and Sandy Alomar, were able to reach the 30-game hitting streak, so Gonzalez has already put himself in with some select company. Whether Gonzalez comes close to the recently deceased Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak is something that we will see.

The story of Jose Canseco and Fred McGriff has been going on for nearly a decade. Canseco, considered the best player in baseball in the late '80s, continues to smash balls out of the yard. Canseco and Mark McGwire as teammates on the Oakland Athletics were known as the "Bash Brothers" for the continuous battering of the ball and their catchy congratulatory cheer, when they would bash their forearms together as a show of power to the rest of the league.

The "Bash Brothers," along with Rickey Henderson, Dennis Eckersley and Terry Steinbach, brought Oakland three straight division titles and a World Series win in 1989. After injuries and some personal problems which included divorce and drug use, Canseco had become a journeyman slugger for Texas, Boston and Toronto.

Now as a member of the Devil Rays, Canseco is tied for the American League lead with 13 home runs and belted out his 400th career home run earlier this season. Canseco had McGwire in Oakland, and he now has Fred McGriff, who last week belted his 34th home run in a different park, breaking a three-way tie, which now ties him for the all-time major league mark with Gary Gaetti and Ellis Burks.

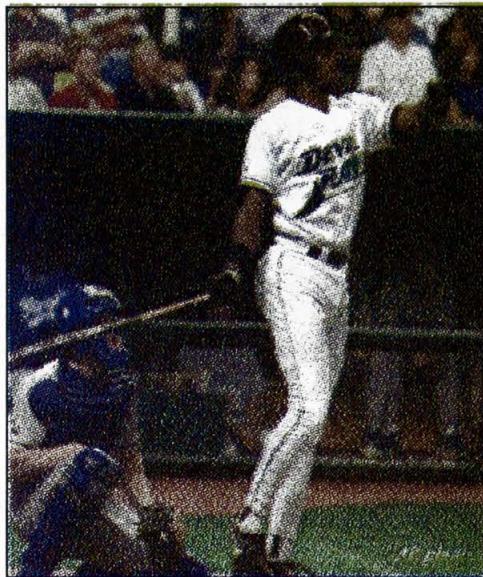
McGriff has played through seven different 30-home run seasons, accumulating 369 career home runs while playing for Toronto, San Diego, Atlanta, and now Tampa Bay. The one-two punch of Canseco and McGriff has, like Arizona, put the Devil Rays in the thick of an early pennant race.

With nearly 800 home runs between them, Canseco and McGriff have each played for four different teams, so once again it shows that while home runs are important, pitching still wins championships.

Besides the already mentioned players, a handful of players are showing up every day in the box scores doing something out of the ordinary. In a game against the Dodgers, Fernando Tatis of the St. Louis Cardinals belted two fifth-inning grand slams, making him the first ever player in Major League Baseball to perform such a feat.

Speaking of grand slams, the season has produced an abundance of grand slams. From the Cubs' Mark Grace, who had gone nearly 6,000 at-bats without one, to the Red Sox's Nomar Garciaparra, hitting two in one game last week, the grand slam has dominated the headlines.

The grand slam has changed the game from strategic pitching and execution to a home run derby reminiscent



Tampa Bay Devil Ray Fred "Crime Dog" McGriff.

of overweight 40-year-old men running the bases with beer guts stretching their company's logo.

Whether pitchers are walking more or hitters are not driving in the runs, the bases have been loaded and the hitters are feeling grand about that. Whether the grand slam is an early-season fad that will go out by summer or a league-wide pitching problem, stay tuned.

The '98 season was as good as it gets, but this year is shaping up quite well. Will the Yankees overcome the injury to Roger Clemens to repeat? Will Anaheim ever produce a healthy lineup? Can Rod Beck ever save another game for the Cubs?

With players like Ken Griffey, Jr., Manny Ramirez, and Matt Williams putting up their usual amazing numbers, and with players like Blue Jay teammates Sean Green and Shane Stewart having breakout seasons, '99 looks like it's going to be one hell of a jaunt. And just think--it's only May.

Chicago sportscasters talk the talk

By John Gelsomino
Sports Correspondent

At 10:20 p.m. every night, local sports fans have their choice of three sports broadcasts to get all the day's information in roughly five minutes. Some people have their favorites and others want to get as much information consolidated in that period as they can. "Who's the best?" Well, I'll try to answer that.

According to Nielsen ratings, ABC 7 News wins the hour, with NBC 5 News and News 2 Chicago following respectfully. But the question at hand is, which one of these news-casts delivers the best sports coverage?

It is hard to argue that ABC 7's sports is anything but terrific. Mark Giangreco's cynical yet informative style has become a favorite of many Chicagoans.

Solid reports filed by Jim Rose and Brad Palmer round out the newscast each night. Both are veterans of Chicago television and are strong night after night. Then there is Jeff Blanz, the new kid on the block who came to ABC 7 from Ohio last year. Blanz's style is awful, stumbling on his own words, asking meaningless questions, and appearing to be a complete airhead.

Why in the world Mark Schanowski was ever let go remains a mystery. Despite the plague known as Jeff Blanz, ABC 7 sports flourishes in other ways. Giangreco anchors a sportscast that provides more information and scores than any other in the city.

Another Chicago favorite, Tim Weigel, leads a wonderful sports operation at News 2 Chicago. Weigel's wonderful personality and love for sports glows every night at 10:00. Magnificent reports from Howard Sudberry and newcomer Chris Boden round out the

sportscast.

Weigel includes one of his famous "Weigel Wieners" every night and a whole reel of them on Thursday. Weigel and Sudberry are well-respected and usually get interviews that other stations sometimes can't. News 2 Chicago does a professional job of covering sports and despite its low news ratings, is well received by Chicago sports fans.

Even though we are in the third largest market, that still does not make us immune to subpar sports broadcasts. An example is NBC 5 Chicago, where Mike Adamle has taken over the bleak sports department.

Adamle is best known for his days at Northwestern and a brief stint with the Bears. Adamle appears stiff and nervous on a nightly basis. His reports are uninteresting and continued stories of him running in marathons and weight lifting competitions are just ridiculous.

We know Adamle is an ex-jock, we don't need to be continually reminded of it. Reports from Tom Shaer and Amy Stone are decent, but don't compare to those of their competition. The addition of Mark Schanowski was terrific, but his role needs to be increased.

Resources allow ABC 7 to do more with sports. Since they have four full-time sports people, they have the flexibility to be at more places than their competition. They take full advantage of this by doing professional and accurate work. This is the same at CBS 2 Chicago, where only two full-time sports people are employed.

They are able to get away with this because the two are so good at what they do. NBC 5 is still trying to recover from letting Mark Giangreco go five years ago. Jon Kelley didn't work, and unless Adamle calms down, his fate will be the same. He has to realize the job is his and he should just enjoy it. He has good depth in his department to help him out.

Whatever your taste, there is someone for you. Everyone has a favorite and everyone has an approach they respect and enjoy watching. It's hard to say who is best, because that is only one person's opinion. But at 10:20 every night, sports fans should flip around to find the sportscast that is most enjoyable and informative to them.

