

11-29-1999

Columbia Chronicle (11/29/1999)

Columbia College Chicago

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

www.ccchronicle.com

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 10

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1999



CAMPUS

Sun-Times columnist
Mary Mitchell
returns to Columbia

PAGE 3



VITALITY

DVD review on "Life"

INSIDE



SPORTS

NCAA Hoops 1999-00
Couch makes his picks!

BACK PAGE

Duff still ranks as one of the highest-paid presidents: survey

JAMES BOOZER

Editor-in-Chief

Columbia President John B. Duff remains one of the highest-paid private college presidents according to a recent survey. The survey, conducted by the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, found that in 1997-98, the presidents of eight private institutions earned more than \$500,000 per year in pay and benefits while 13 others topped \$400,000. Sixty-one presidents—about 13 percent of those in the survey—earned more than \$300,000 according to the survey.

Duff's pay and benefits for 1997-98 totalled \$392,431, which was lower than what he received during the 1996-97 academic year. Duff's pay and benefits during that period was \$407,227 which ranked him as the number one person in the category of Master's Universities and College I and II.

Institutions in that category offer a full range of baccalaureate programs and are committed to graduate education through the master's degree according to the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. They award 20 or more master's degrees in one or more disciplines.

In the latest survey, Duff moved to second place behind Orley R.

Herron, former president of National-Louis University, who received \$639,694. In October of 1997, Herron resigned as president after serving for 20 years.

In September, NLU relocated its downtown Chicago campus from 18 S. Michigan to its new home at 122 S. Michigan. The university occupies the second through

seventh floors of the new building which is 70,000 square feet more than their former space.

During the 1997-98 academic year, 1,821 students attended the Chicago campus and the university also has campuses in Evanston, Wheaton, Wheeling and Elgin.

Herron was widely blamed for the university's financial difficulties in his last years as president, according to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

His total compensation for 1997-98 included retirement payments and a severance package, which will be paid over time. Efforts by the *Chronicle* to reach school officials at NLU for comment were unsuccessful.

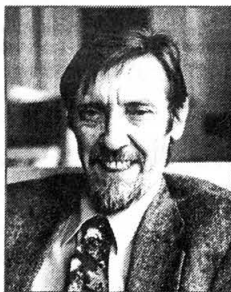
Following Duff on the list of the top paid officials at Columbia is the director of the Institute for Science Education and Communication, Zafra Lerman. Her pay for the 1997-98 period was \$179,537 and she also received \$52,065 in benefits. Lerman retains the number two spot she held during the 1996-97 academic period.

Columbia's Executive Vice President Bert Gall is listed third with a salary of \$135,192 and \$39,206 in benefits. R. Michael DeSalle, vice president of finance received \$131,575 and \$38,159 in benefits, and John Mulvany, former chairperson of the Photography and Art Departments received \$131,142 and \$38,031 in benefits. Surprisingly listed six on the list is Philip Klukoff, associate vice president of Columbia 2, the college of continuing education.

Columbia 2, which began in the spring of 1996, is an educational program for professionals interested in the arts and communications. Klukoff, former chairperson of the English Department, was asked by Duff to fill the position of associate vice president.

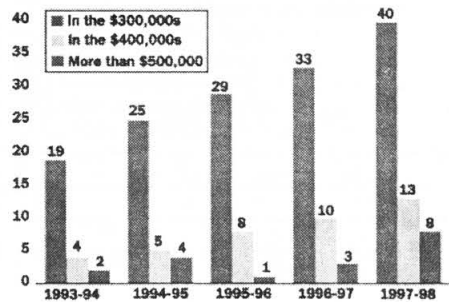


JOHN B. DUFF



BERT GALL

Presidents in Top Pay Brackets



Source: Chronicle Reporting
Chronicle chart by Margaret Ross

Information courtesy of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*

Facts & Figures

Columbia College Chicago

1997-98 Revenue: \$72 million 1997-98 Expenditures: \$69 million

*Note: Benefits include \$109,000 in deferred compensation and other deferred benefits to adjust for pension-plan revision.

	'96-'97	'97-'98	'97-'98
	Pay	Pay	Benefits
John B. Duff, President	\$198,695	\$219,598	\$172,833*
Zafra Lerman, Director of Science Institute	\$162,339	\$179,537	\$52,065
Albert C. Gall, Executive Vice President	\$130,751	\$135,192	\$39,206
R. Michael DeSalle, Vice President of Finance	\$124,058	\$131,142	\$38,159
John Mulvany, former chair of Photography and Art Department	\$116,810	\$131,142	\$38,031
Philip Klukoff, Associate Vice President, Columbia 2 (Not listed)		\$131,061	\$38,007

Information courtesy of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*

JAMES BOOZER/CHRONICLE

South Loop among the highest-risk college communities in Chicago



BILL MANLEY/CHRONICLE

Columbia security officer Mike Brown, stationed in the Wabash building, gives a student a helping hand. Columbia recently topped a list of Chicago area colleges that were located in high crime areas.

DANIELLE HAAS

Staff Writer

According to a new federal law, next fall, by October 2000, Columbia safety and security statistics will be forced to include crimes committed on any property adjacent to Columbia campus buildings, including the area in front of and behind the buildings.

"Colleges and universities generally report crimes that occur on campus, but do not include what happens on its borders or on the public streets that run through the campus," said J. Robert Port, whose company, APB commissioned the campus security study.

The 1999 College Community Risk Assessment was published in Barron's Profile of American Colleges. Columbia was one of the many urban schools evaluated in the study.

Columbia's risk factor was a nine out of 10, on a scale of one to 10, with 10 being the highest. Columbia ranked 31 in the list of more than 1,400 Illinois schools as the highest risk. The University of Chicago placed two above Columbia and DePaul placed 32.

"Our analysis doesn't take you inside the college walls, but frankly, all campuses are pretty safe," Port said. "But some of them are in sections of cities that are deeply troubled. They are surrounded by social disarray."

Columbia's current safety and security pamphlet, published annually, lists a total of three campus crimes through December 1997. These were two burglaries and one robbery. These statistics don't reflect crimes committed off campus property such as last year's rape and the recent muggings.

Columbia currently has 30 security officers, contracted through the SDI Security Company as well as an evening patrol car provided by SDI.

Just this past year, Columbia acquired its own security vehicle, a pickup truck marked with Columbia's logo. It also roams throughout the evenings around campus property.

The truck was acquired shortly after the rape that occurred last spring.

An escort service was started last spring, as well, but was discontinued, due to lack of student interest in the program. "If I were to get a feel for added interest we could start [the escort service] again,"

SEE SECURITY, PAGE 2

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

COLUMBIA'S CHOICE

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News Briefs

Hillary Clinton to run for U.S. Senate in New York

TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

NEW YORK - Hillary Rodham Clinton made her bid for a Senate seat from New York official last week, saying "The answer is yes, I intend to run."

It's time to get moving and get started," she said. "I'll be traveling around the state and campaigning." Her likely Republican challenger is New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Mrs. Clinton made her comments while addressing a teacher's union. Randi Weingarten, head of the United Federation of Teachers, had asked Mrs. Clinton, "Is it yes or is it no?"

Then at a news conference following the event, she said: "I believe that this is time for me to answer a direct question (about her candidacy) and I did so, because I believe that this campaign is about the issues that people are talking to me about."

Mrs. Clinton was in New York City today for her first campaign-like appearance in the state in two weeks. She had been in the Mideast and Europe.

1999, TMS Media Services

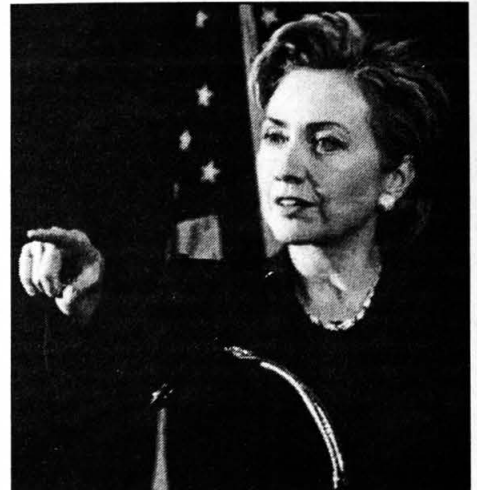


PHOTO COURTESY OF REUTERS

The First Lady gets ready for a showdown with Rudy Giuliani as she confirmed her intention to run for U.S. Senate in New York.

\$500,000 to assist new Columbia students

Bridge program must be completed, but open admission policy not threatened

MARY BETH COOPER
Staff Writer

Columbia has received a federal grant of \$500,000 to expand and strengthen its student retention program. Some of the money will be used for a bridge program and to insure that all new students will be connected with the departments and services that they need to successfully stay at the college.

The bridge program will be designed for students who experience difficulty with the challenges of college studies but still want to attend.

"I have always been a strong believer in the open admissions policy," said Dr. John Duff, president of Columbia. "I'm in favor of spending some money on students who

need help in the beginning."

According to Duff, the policy would still offer students open admission to Columbia, but would require some new students to take preparatory classes to ensure they are ready to comply with Columbia's academic regimen.

Duff explained the federal funding associated with the bridge program. "I'm happy to say that we're going to receive \$500,000 from the federal government," he said.

Discussion of the validity of the open admissions policy is not new. According to Duff, discussion regarding the open admissions policy began before the NCA (North Central Association) evaluation of Columbia last April.

Dean Caroline Latta said that talk of the policy was initiated following a self-study

conducted by Columbia. "The NCA asked us to address the question based on the fact that we brought the issues to light before the facts," Latta said.

As a result, the college formed "The Blue Ribbon Committee" in June 1998 to determine the fate of the open admissions policy. Latta and Duff, both members of the 16-person committee, say it is expected to issue a final report soon.

"The association recommends that we come to a conclusion by June of next year," Duff said.

Committee members are reluctant to discuss the open admissions policy. "It's hard before the reports come from the committee to get into specifics, so it's hard to comment on the report," Latta said.

Survey

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Klukoff's salary for 1997-98 was 131,061 and he received \$38,007 in benefits. This is the first time Klukoff was listed in the survey. He replaced Lya Rosenblum, vice president/dean of the graduate school, who was listed in the 1996-97 survey. Efforts by the *Chronicle* to reach Duff and Klukoff for comment were unsuccessful.

The survey is based on information obtained by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* from the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 which was filed by 475 private colleges listed in the survey for 1997-98. During the 1996-97 academic period, a new federal law went into effect that allows the IRS to impose large fines on officials of non-profit organizations who benefit from receiving sizable amounts of money and sweetheart deals.

Form 990 is considered by many to be the best source available

for financial information on private colleges. However, it does not provide a clear answer due to the lack of knowledge on how to complete the form. The form lists the finances of tax-exempt organizations, their revenue, and a list of the top paid officials of the organization.

According to the survey, colleges are expected to list on the Form 990 the total compensation, benefits, and expense provisions for key administrators and the five highest-paid employees. The IRS instructions say "compensation" should include salaries, bonuses and severance payments paid in the current year.

"Benefits" should include medical and insurance benefits and other payments such as future retirement funds. Housing and cars should be included under "expenses" along with expense allowances.

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* requested the tax information from the 485 private colleges that are categorized by the Carnegie Foundation as Research Universities I and II, Doctorial Universities I and II, Master's Universities and Colleges I and II, and Baccalaureate Colleges I.

Security

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

said Columbia Public Safety and Security Director Martha Sheegan. director of security at Columbia, Jose Gallegas said "Education is the key." Others think it's just plain common sense. "If you're

applying to a campus that's in a rural area, you know it's relatively crime free. That's not rocket science," said James Alan Fox, a criminal justice professor with Northeastern University in Boston.

Sheegan agreed with Gallegas: "Community awareness is a big factor. It has to be an inside effort, as opposed to an outside force. You can't have a police officer on every single corner of the block. It's a caring about each other approach."

CAMPUS NEWS

Around Campus



BILL MANLEY/CHRONICLE

Students in John Ardent's 3-D design class dig in bins of quick drying plaster in order to make casts for carving sculpture in the round.

Sun-Times writer tells budding journalists to show spark

BRIAN CAMPBELL
Assistant Editor

Chicago *Sun-Times* columnist and Columbia graduate Mary Mitchell told Columbia students how she quit her day-job to study journalism and put in endless effort to get to where she is today. She was speaking at the Freshman Seminar lecture series.

Mitchell graduated from Columbia in 1991, having switched her major to Journalism from Creative Writing and Poetry. "I was much older than other students," she said. "I had a Marshall Field's credit card bill." She taught Opinion Writing at Columbia for one semester in 1997 and said she was always happy to come back.

Having interned at the *Sun-Times* in 1990, she was offered a job and began writing her column in 1996. She is also on the editorial board.

"Being on the editorial board is great, people come to you humble. It's an honor to be on the board. I grew up in Chicago, in public housing," Mitchell said. "They hire you not just because you write well, but for your whole experience. My biggest thrill is getting respect for my voice. The way I phrase things is unique to me. I can only write like Mary Mitchell."

"Once I take a stand, I have to defend that position with examples," Mitchell said. "Everyone has their own opinion, and if people don't agree with you, you can't take it to heart." She disagreed with the recent stance taken by Rev. Jesse Jackson and parents in Decatur. She accused them of "putting race over reason," and wrote that "the seven black male students who were expelled for brawling at a football game were wrong."

She told students "I sometimes have to disagree with what a lot of other African-Americans are saying, like *The Defender*. With Jesse Jackson, I had to say 'hold on a minute...'" On readers responding to her columns, Mitchell added, "Readers may resent my voice. I get 40 to 50 E-mails a day. Sometimes people tell me off, sometimes I answer."

Another of her columns welcomed the appointment of Don Baylor as the new Cubs coach. "I grew up very aware of the invisible lines that separated Chicago neighborhoods. No one actually told me where those

lines were, but I could see the barriers as clearly as if they were built of bricks...this man could do a lot to improve the racial climate in Chicago."

She told the *Chronicle*, "Race relations [in Chicago] are improving in some areas, although there is still a lot of tension between groups. People are separated outside of the workplace, and there are segregated communities. There is no such thing as an integrated school system. But there is less racial tension."

When *Sun-Times* reporters gave guest lectures while she was at Columbia, Mitchell asked what they thought about her going to school and working. "They said you have to risk everything. There are far more people looking for jobs [in journalism] than there are jobs. So I quit

my job. I had to wear a hat because I could never [afford to] get my hair done."

Mitchell said that most of the skills which serve her well are not the "textbook things" she learned at Columbia. She went to every seminar she could, all over the Midwest, acquiring contacts. "By the time I left Columbia, everyone knew my name, including people from the *Sun-Times* and *Tribune*. I was a hot property."

Her internship at the *Sun-Times* saw her enter a newsroom

for the first time, at age 40, never having worked on deadline. "People knew I was at a disadvantage. Having a family was not an asset. At holidays, people traded with me, so I could spend time with my family. But the management needed to see I had spark. While everyone else was having a great summer, I was working away. Yet I ended up with more front page stories than anyone else. I got a leg up on everyone else. On Graduation Day in '91, when everyone was thinking about what they'd do next, I could say I had a job at the *Sun-Times*."

Mitchell told students that they must rise above the competition, if they hope to get a job in the media. "With an opening in the *Sun-Times* or *Tribune*, there will be 40 or 50 responses to the position. This will go down to 10. That 10 are the people you are competing against. You've got to bring something extra to the table. If you're like everyone else, you won't be remembered."



DANA LORD/CHRONICLE

MARY MITCHELL

Columbia

NEWS AND NOTES

Columbia becomes a scholarship partner with Latino Art Beat

Columbia has joined with Latino Art Beat, a non-profit organization that encourages the artistic talents of young high school artists, as a scholarship partner. The school also will play an active role in city-wide art competitions held by Latino Art Beat which awards its winners monetary prizes, grants and scholarships.

Loyola University will play host to a concert on Dec. 3 to raise funds for the Latino Art Beat scholarship fund. Next year, Columbia plans to start awarding advanced art competition winners full scholarships.

Some of the funds have been earmarked for a new Latino Art Beat art training center. The center will be built in the Little Village area and will offer free art instruction to underprivileged High School student artists.

Photography Department announces winners of juried competition

The Photography Department recently held a juried competition to produce limited editions of 12"x18" digital prints for four of its faculty members and three of its graduate students. The review jury was composed of Nancy Fewlers, assistant director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Thomas Shirley and Peter Thompson, both faculty members of the department.

The work of Jane Calvin, Liz Chilsen, Tim Long, Melissa Pinney (part-time faculty members), Colleen Dahlberg, Alex Fradkin and Carolyn Otto (graduate students) was selected by the review jury.

The winners will be the guest of Black Box, the digital production company, to tour their facilities and review the Indigo printing process. They will also receive technical support from the Photography Department's digital imaging staff to help prepare original work for digital conversion. The printing of the winner's work of limited editions will be on site at the Black Box before being placed in the Museum of Contemporary Photography's print study room for teaching purposes.

eFollett.com offers students chance to win concert tickets and CDs

College students interested in a chance to win both concert tickets and CDs should check out eFollett.com on the Internet. Students can enter to win online or by completing an entry form which can be obtained at the campus bookstore.

efollett.com is promoting its foray into the music business by offering titles from the *The College Top 50*, *Billboard's Top 25* and *Hot Picks*. To find which CDs are being sold, simply click onto the "music" link on the Web site. Students will be able to listen to music selections as well as order their picks.

In addition to selling the current top CDs, efollett.com is promoting upcoming concert tours from today's most popular groups. As well as giving a listing of when your favorite artists will be in town, the Web site will offer chances to win free tickets.

SPRING EARLY REGISTRATION

Spring 2000 Early Registration for continuing students (only) begins November 29, 1999 and ends December 10, 1999. Registration information will be mailed out to all students within the first two weeks of November.

TO ALL STUDENTS

If you have changed your address or if you are not sure that the address on file is correct you should go to the Records office and inquire or correct the address on file.

To qualify for Early Registration, you must be a Continuing student (currently enrolled).

New students do not qualify for Early Registration.

VOID DATE

Students who early register for the Spring 2000 will have until December 17, 1999 to sign their Bursar contracts. Students who do not sign their contracts by this deadline will have their classes dropped.

VIEWPOINTS

EDITORIAL

And justice for all?

Should students be forced to help fund groups that are at odds with their beliefs? That is a question that is going to need to be answered by the United States Supreme Court.

The U. S. Supreme Court met last week to grapple with this issue because of a case that came from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At that school, a group of conservative students sued the school to stop their activity fees from going to organizations that they found objectionable, such as the International Socialist Organization, the Campus Women's Center and the Madison AIDS Support Network.

The students feel that funding groups they don't support is a direct violation of their 1st Amendment rights. They don't want to give their tuition dollars, which are hard to come by, to private organizations that engage in political and ideological speech that they oppose.

In our opinion, the justices on the Supreme Court don't need to take a lot of time discussing this issue. Why should a student be forced to support all groups just because they are allowed to form at their school? Don't get us wrong. We at the *Chronicle* believe that everyone should have the right to form a group at and be recognized by their school. For example, although we may not agree with their beliefs, we would support a Neo-Nazi group's right to band together and meet at Columbia. They would have a right to be recognized by our school as a legitimate group. But that does not mean we would want to have to fund that group. If they believe so strongly in their own ideologies let them pay for it.

College is expensive. Many are denied the opportunity to receive higher education because of lack of funds. Students are never asked where their tuition

dollars should go. We don't get to decide teacher salaries. We don't get to choose whether or not our school buys yet another building in the ever-growing South Loop. We don't have a voice in the decision to buy more computers or to build a student center.

What we as students do have a choice in is whether or not to join or support the groups around campus. Only we can decide if we want to be a part of the Black Journalists of Columbia. Only we can choose to join S.U.M. and try to make a difference here at our school. Only we can determine if a group like C.U.M.A. needs our help.

Why should a college be able to dictate where our dollars go and which groups are to be supported. Is this constitutional? We think not. As a 1st Amendment right, groups should be able to speak freely and have forums to do so. As for the right of students we should be able to decide where our tuition dollars go.

There are ample opportunities for groups to fundraise on their own without dabbling in educational expenses. Every year tuition increases and the students are left wondering why. If groups continue to expand and form who will draw the line regarding expenses? In order to control where our money goes, students have every right to at least vote on whether or not an institution should spend tuition costs on campus organizations and activities.

Universities involved in the trial feel that the students are asking them to do something against the traditions that have been around for many, many years. Times have changed and school policies should reflect that. Tuition has increased, groups have emerged and student's rights are threatened.

And about that justice for all? We'll see what the courts say.

You'll shoot your eye out

I knew it was that Yuletide time of year a couple of weeks ago, when I got the annual heavily-decorated envelope from my credit card company in the mail, exclaiming "open immediately!" Yes, I was declared a valued and responsible customer, and therefore entitled to a \$500 increase in my credit limit—oh, and just in time for the holidays, they happily added! Imagine my shock and utter delight! They value me so much that they want me to rack up a major debt all in the name of holiday cheer. Cha-ching. It'll be so much easier to purchase that perfect gift for grandma now!

Maybe it's just me, but it seems the holiday season starts earlier and earlier every year. I'm sure those bigwigs at Citibank don't mind. Nowadays, Christmas decorations precede the Halloween ones and the funny thing is, most people don't seem to mind. In fact, a friend of my mom's was just bragging the other day how she had almost all of her holiday gifts purchased. Gulp. This was before the Thanksgiving feast, mind you. Of course it freaks Mom out since she hasn't even been shopping for gifts yet. So instead of just kicking back and not worrying about it, she only gets herself in a I-don't-have-any-gifts-for-anybody-yet frenzy.

When I drove by my local mall on the two weekends before Thanksgiving, the parking lot was practically overflowing with eager-to-spend shoppers. By the time the season is over, they are probably going to have a cramp in their hands after signing all of those credit card receipts.

VALERIE DANNER
COPY EDITOR

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If you ask me, the psychology behind all this hoopla is that people are trying to capture that warm and fuzzy sitting by the fire Yuletide-feeling earlier because it is just that—warm and fuzzy.

Not that I mind that the holidays are here by the beginning of October. When I see outside lights in the beginning of November, I don't completely shutter. If you ask me, the psychology behind all this hoopla is that people are trying to capture that warm and fuzzy sitting by the fire Yuletide-feeling earlier because it is just that—warm and fuzzy. It makes them happy. They simply want that euphoria to come sooner and last longer. Nothing wrong with that, right?

It certainly makes your local mall happy. If they have a market willing to deck the halls when there are still leaves on the trees, they aren't ones to cry about it. The green they see ain't the needles on those artificial trees babe.

That's just the thing. When did this warm and fuzzy feeling equate itself with finding that perfect gift? It seems more and more people just stress themselves out about the holiday shopping instead of enjoying the season for what it is—a time to be close to people that you care about. Instead we're all out looking for that great present that just screams Aunt Sally's name, and worried that we won't find the latest Beanie-Pokemon-talking-Furby for Bobby Jo.

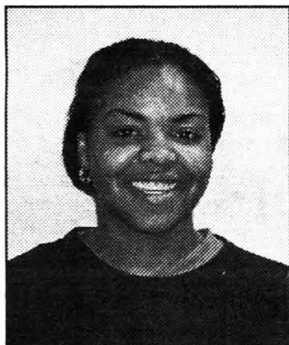
OK, call me a sentimental nerdy birdy. But when I was younger, my happy holiday memories involved me sitting near the tree and toasting some marshmallows over the fire. Sure I loved the Barbie that Santa brought, but what I miss most about Christmas nowadays are those times curled up in front of the fire, just being around the relatives and getting dressed up in my nice holiday attire to go to Christmas Eve mass. I actually didn't want Christmas day to come simply because it meant that the season would be winding down. It would depress me.

Those days are over for me now, but this time of year, I think of them with every flashing Christmas bulb I see. I would trade in that new sweater that I might get this year for some of those times back in a heartbeat.

So just remember, while you're out fighting the holiday crowds and standing in line to grab some of that oh so scrumptious food court grub, think about what your grandma would prefer—some on-sale turtleneck from Marshall Field's or a promise to spend a day with her and chat over some coffee. Sometimes finding the perfect gift is easier than you think.

Columbia Chronicle Opinion Poll

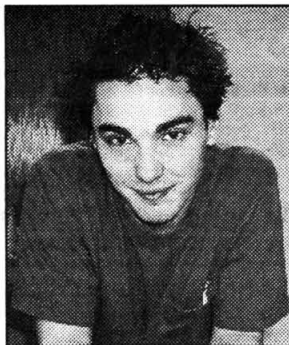
Question: Do you feel safe when you're at Columbia?



Lashauna Williams

Senior/Film & TV

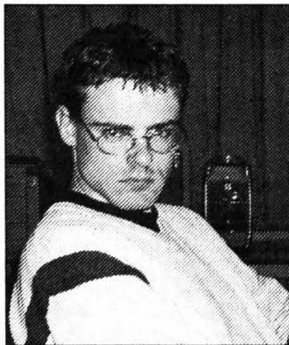
"I feel safe in the buildings, but not in the general vicinity. There are too many vagrants"



Ron Lipski

Sophomore/Film

"I never feel threatened so I guess I never gave it much thought."



John Regan

Senior/Journalism

"The walk from the Wabash building to the "L" stop is scary at night."



Johnanna Moya

Senior/Photography

"In the building it's OK, but at night they should have more security in case you want an escort."

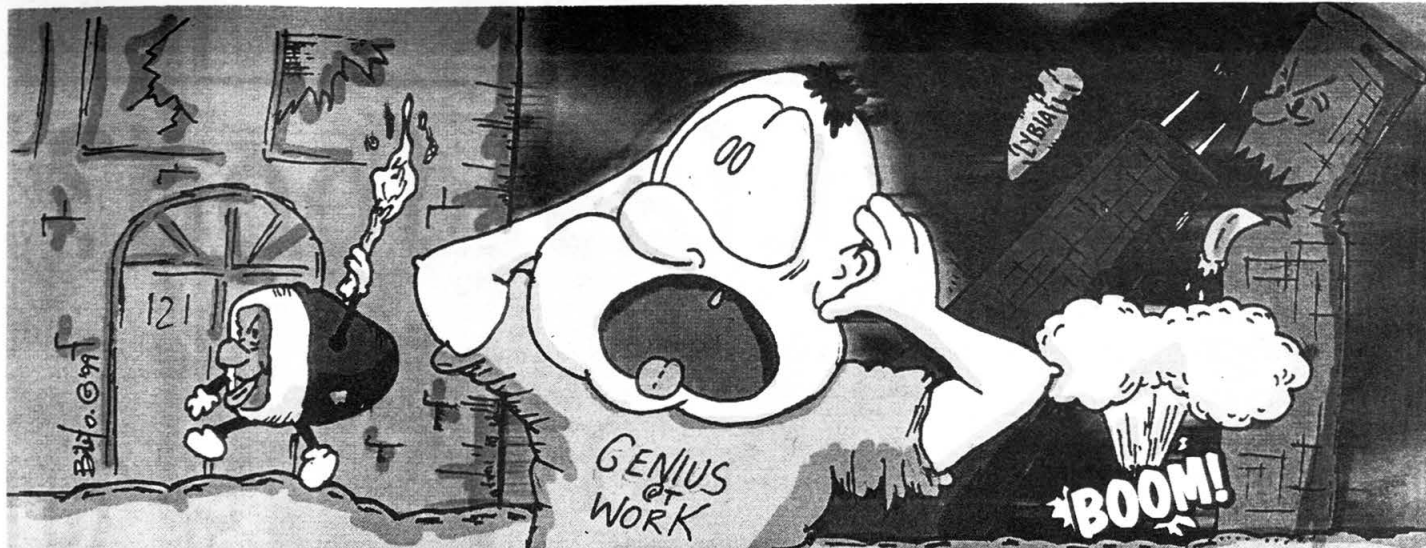
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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
C O L U M B I A ' S
C H O I C E

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You thought it would never happen. You thought it was a joke, because your friend is always playing stupid jokes and well, he owes you five bucks and all--oh, no matter. In any stinkin' case, it's here:

WHY2K: THE COLUMN!

A couple of weeks ago, I walked down the platform at the Cumberland "L" stop and noticed something new. Hanging from the rafters, at separate ends of the platform, were two electronic marquees that resembled your common stock ticker or scoreboard. At that point in time, both displayed a message in the form of "Don't smoke on CTA property." The exact words elude me.



BILLY O'KEEFE
VIEWPOINTS/NEW
MEDIA EDITOR

Why these words elude me is a mystery, since this one crummy message is all these crazy signs, which now hang in several CTA stations around the Chicago area, want to say.

Like a suburban yokel experiencing public transportation for the first time, I stood and stared, waiting for the message on the sign to change. But when the message disappeared, the same message replaced it. My train pulled into the station, but I just stood there, waiting for the stupid sign to say something else. When my train left, I still stood there, mesmerized by this total misuse of circuits which served a purpose that some dumb cardboard sign could carry out just as nicely.

I almost missed a second train, but hopped on at the last minute. This is a true story. I also like shiny things that make noises.

So now, the twelve dollar question: Will we really miss this on January 1st? If all the escalators, PalmPilots and electronic

letter openers (as if the manual variety is even that necessary) go down in a blaze of not-quite glory on the first of the year, should we really be sad?

I for one can't wait to find out. In this day and age, we are allowed almost no escape from constant e-mails, faxes and enough ringing cell phones to wake the Bears, Chicago or otherwise, from their annual winter hibernation. Even the weekend offers no relief, as our own appliances turn on us as deceitful monitoring devices. And in the case of those who don't have access to any of these supposed conveniences, the gap between them and the rest of society is growing to immense levels. The modern world is leaving people out like never before.

Previously, death was pretty much the only break we had from this mess. Now, with the whole Y2K bug crawling up everybody's arm, there's another way.

In case you still don't know (and what's the matter with you?), the Y2K bug is this whole big electronic debacle that may or may not fool computer systems and various garage door openers into thinking it's 1900 instead of 2000. This will cause major appliances to reset themselves, malfunction, run rampant and eat your family. Buildings will fall because they want to, people will explode, the sun will roll into your house. All this because you can't launch Microsoft Office. Nice going.

The good news, if all this really amounts to anything (and, according to NBC's poignant "Y2K: The Movie," it will do all that and more): No unnecessary e-mail, no bad TV, no faxes of any kind--none of that swine for as little as a few days and as long as a few weeks. For a too-short period of time, there will be no such thing as conference calls, cyber sex or "Veronica's Closet." Tell me that doesn't get your mojo rising. It has to.

Or so I'd like to think. In reality, here we are, crying mamma because of the supposed chaos that lies ahead. Never mind that the greatest chaos will come not from falling planes and nuclear missiles going bananas, but from people going off like gunpowder and emptying their bank accounts, hoarding canned food and screaming bloody murder while running in eight directions at once. What will the messiah think if he really does return that night? I for one would be pretty annoyed if some wayward microwave stole

my big night, but that's another completely offensive column altogether.

Don't get me wrong. I love getting e-mail, and when my goofy little Web site welcomed its 100,000th viewer last weekend, I was thrilled. Conan O'Brien's show is the closest thing I have to nightly mass, and the only thing better than a ham and turkey sandwich is a grilled ham and turkey sandwich. Electricity is a wonderful thing, and shunning it isn't nearly as cool or practical as the Unabomber makes it out to be. Don't listen to that Unabomber. He's trouble.

But as the Lone Ranger or "Blossom's" Joey Lawrence would say: Whoa! Let's get a grip here.

For years, we lived without remote controls, VCRs and online pornography. Now, we can't. In 10 years we'll probably feel the same way about cable modems, digital music players--even that ridiculous TiVo, which is what happens when you combine the wonders of the VCR and deep-pocketed people who just don't have time in their busy days for thinking or memory skills.

Will we perish if our gadgets are taken away from us? Probably not, but a lot of us will want to. Too bad too, because sunlight and precipitation don't run on batteries, and you don't need to plug in a garden to watch it grow. In fact, you don't even need a modem to play network games with friends. It's called playing outside, and it's taking place in an open field near you.

If the worst thing that happens to you on New Year's Day is that your lousy spreadsheet disappears or that the garage door falls off its rocker and smashes your favorite trash can, consider yourself lucky. Without getting into the millions of reasons why, everyone can agree that life could be much worse than a bum computer, especially when you consider that most of them don't work that well in the first place. Mine crashed three times while I tried to write this ridiculous column.

If by some freak design all of our electricity disappears within the next couple months, it will be a big ol' shame--but only because we made it so. You will live on the Jan. 2. How you live is up to you.

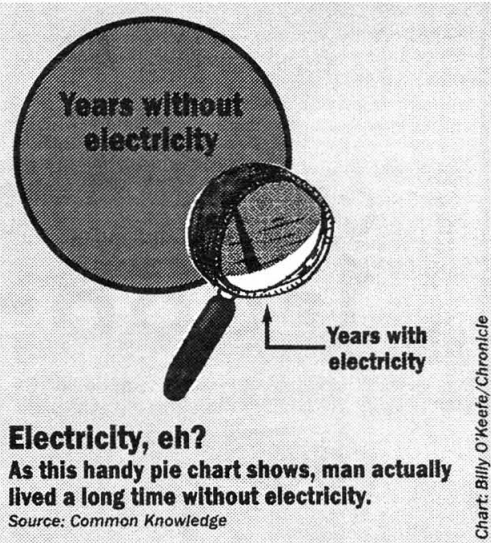


Chart: Billy O'Keefe/Chronicle

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Fire invented



A really long time ago
Wheel invented



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Just recently
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Chart: Billy O'Keefe/Chronicle

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VITALITY

CHAMBERLAIN'S
MIDWESTERN HEARTBREAK

MARTINA SHEEHAN
Staff Writer

If the state of Indiana had a soundtrack, Chamberlain would surely be on it. This four-piece from our neighbor state gave a heartfelt performance at Lincoln Avenue's Elbo Room last week in support of their 1998 release *The Moon, My Saddle*. Songs like "Racing Cincinnati" and "Until the Day Burns Down" instantly conjured up a crisp Midwestern fall day, describing the land, the sky and of course the many complexities of love. On "Mountain of a Heart," vocalist David Moore sings, "You took a train ride through Illinois and found yourself alone/ The Midwest ain't no place for a queen but I'm here so it's home."

Moore's lyrical and vocal tendencies unmistakably resemble fellow Hoosier John Mellencamp, but perhaps with an added pinch of the Counting Crows. Although the band doesn't cite Mellencamp as an influence, the similarity may have something to do with Chamberlain recording at Mellencamp's guitarist's studio in Bloomington, Ind. The band also got some help on the album from Mellencamp's keyboardist.

With this mature, rural-rock sound, it's hard to imagine these guys as the old angst-ridden punk band, Split Lip. But before Chamberlain was Chamberlain, singer David and guitarist Adam Rubenstein made a name for themselves playing at VFW halls and community centers in the tightly knit punk scene of the early '90s. Moore describes the transition from the erratic Split Lip sound to Chamberlain's pathos-inspired material as a sort of coming of age. He says that as the guys got older, they came closer to having their own voice.

"We stick to more traditional song structures now as opposed to older stuff we did. With Split Lip and that scene, a lot of the song structure goes against the grain." Along with returning to more traditional structures, the band has also come home to the music they grew up with. "We started getting back to the stuff we heard as kids on Saturday mornings while our parents were cleaning the house," he said. "More folksy stuff like Dylan and Cat Stevens. We'd also listen to old Motown records, soul music and some blues."

Since the release of *The Moon, My Saddle* on Dog House Records, the band has enjoyed some success both at home and abroad. They have toured the United States four or five times and Europe once. But you needn't go far to see them now. They'll be in Chicago at the Beat Kitchen on Nov. 30.

Inside: Sleepy Hollow, Into the Woods, Raekwan, End of Days, Life and more....



2000 Minute dance party

PATRICIA OROZCO
Staff Writer

As the end of the year nears, Chicago begins to prepare itself for the coming of the new millennium with special celebrations underway, including a 2000-minute dance party.

As part of Chicago's three-year millennium celebration, "Chicago: For the Time of Your Life," the Department of Cultural Affairs is coordinating a 2000-minute dance bash. Chicagoans and visitors are invited to participate in "Dance 'til the Dawn of the New Millennium" beginning Dec. 31, at 9 a.m. through 6:20 p.m. on Jan. 1. The rest of the celebration will run through 2001.

Community centers, dance clubs, hotels and museums will host the 200 dance groups taking part in the event in nearly 100 locations.

In the midst of the celebration, the public will also be offered dance lessons. These will include lessons in ballet, belly dancing, the camel walk, the charleston, flamenco, the jitterbug, jazz, hip-hop, rumba, salsa, swing and Irish step dancing.

Aside from these dance lessons, a dance film festival, a "dance slam," and a dance marathon will be included in the event's highlights. Three films will be included in the dance film festival.

"There will also be a live demonstration of that particular dancing (in the film)," said Program's Associate, Sara Berliner. *Stormy Weather* will be shown at noon, *Hairspray* at 2 p.m. and *Dance with Me* at 4 p.m. at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St., in the Randolph Cafe.

"It [the Dance Countdown] will feature 30 Chicago dance groups who will each have four minutes to perform their last dance of the millennium," said Belinger.

The cost of the event will depend on which activity you participate in and what place you will attend. The prices vary from five dollars to \$15, and some are even free.

Those interested in finding out more about the event can pick-up a 2000-minute party planner at the Chicago Cultural Center, visitor information centers, libraries and 7-Eleven stores, or call (312) 742-2001.

First nations 6th Annual native American Film & Video Festival

BRIAN CAMPBELL

Assistant Editor

NANIBAA. David Grotell, produced by the Rock Point Community School, Navajo, 1999, starring Tara Arnold and Carleen Harvey.

Set in Rock Point, "Navajo," a contemporary film, follows the eponymous heroine, as she contemplates leaving the reservation (the Rez). Nanibaa has no desire to stick around, having been accepted by a prep school. Her family and teacher strongly oppose her leaving ("you'll forget what is sacred about here"), so she and a friend borrow her dad's car to take a trip into the outside world, to meet her "internet guy."

Fate pops his head around the door to decide that the two teenagers vow to go home, without meeting the unknown quality of the Internet guy. Fate has nothing to do tonight, so he now decides that Nanibaa should lose her money, forcing the duo to look up Mr. On-line for help. He unfortunately turns out to be a very scary version of Lyle Lovett, with "Smack My Bitch Up" by the Prodigy setting the scene, as the girls escape his ugly clutches.

They make it back to the Rez, and the message is hammered home that this is where they belong. "We're back home and the holy people are with us again." This is fine and well, but our heroine's mother is such an awful actress that Nanibaa should most definitely have gone to that prep school.

IMAGES OF INDIANS. Phil Lucas. Presented by Will Sampson (One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest)

"Native Americans can be reduced to ignorant savages, merely by the language used about them." - Will Sampson. "Images of Indians" documents the racial stereotyping in westerns. This series may be twenty years old, but it applies as much now as it ever did. No matter what developments occur regarding the portrayal of Native Americans in the media, the fact is that Hollywood made over 2000 films on cowboys and Indians since 1913, with most derogatory towards Indians.

As "Images of Indians" confirms, natives were consistently portrayed as "sav-

age warriors, renegades, vicious murderers, not quite humans, merciless scalpers, in full feather head-dress." The American Indian Movement called Hollywood "one of the most vicious institutions which has hurt the Indian people... it is making money out of Indians being killed in films."

Movies such as "The Wild Dakotas," "The Searchers," "Winterhawk" and "A Man Called Horse" suggest that the white man is infinitely superior. "Until changes come, natives will have to contend with the myths." Jim Ford is accused of racism in his films. In "The Searchers", Ford suggested that lengthy contact with Indians makes people go insane.

Movie quote: "D'y'ever see what Indians do when they get a white woman?" This is the legacy that Hollywood has left the Indian people. The negative effect on the people is inevitable, especially on the youngsters, who would see the Indians as the bad guys. Reaction of whites to natives and their beliefs is compared to the reaction in movies of aliens to humans. "For most, the native American is invisible, unless he looks like the Hollywood Indian."

"Images..." points out that customs such as the sacred pipe ritual are often portrayed wrongly in movies, applying to the wrong tribe, or entirely made up for cinematic effect. "They show us doing things that never were." The cultural life of the native is not understood. Few films portray the native man as having feelings, as loving his wife and children.

Native women are stereotyped beyond belief. Native American actresses never get roles playing secretaries. Without fail, they play "slaves with no sense." Indian men and women have always been equal, women always had the vote, and sometimes made decisions in war, according to "Images..." They are never portrayed as human beings, but rather "caricatures like Mickey Mouse or Donald Duck." We are reminded that native women in westerns are either beautiful 17-year-olds or fat matron-like 60-year-olds.

"Will Sampson played the first non-stereotypical role, with wit and intelligence. It is still the finest role ever played by a Native American," said the "Images of Indians" co-producer.

If anything supports the view that westerns grossly misrepresented Native Americans, it is the claim that Hitler was influenced by reading western novels.

"Sleepy Hollow"

EDEL COFFEY

Staff Writer

The opening scene of Tim Burton's new movie, "Sleepy Hollow," gives us a taste of the fear, conspiracy and gruesome murder that lie in wait for the innocent viewer. Ichabod Crane (Johnny Depp), a bumbling and girlish constable from New York City is sent to the remote village of Sleepy Hollow to investigate a spate of murders, in which all the victims are beheaded.

After an eerie two-day coach drive, Ichabod arrives in Sleepy Hollow where he first sets eyes on Katrina Van Tassel (Christina Ricci) with whom he promptly falls in love. With her white steed, golden locks and magic spells of protection, Ricci is the princess in this story—a bit of a character change for her. In classic Burton style, the world of "Sleepy Hollow" is wonderfully created and has the same otherworldly atmosphere as his Gotham City in Batman and post-modern suburbia in Edward Scissorhands. The set of gnarled trees, the creeping mist, the omnipresent twilight and the 18th century costumes all combine to complete the fairytale quality of "Sleepy Hollow."

The headless horseman (with head, played by Christopher Walken) is a formidable nemesis, a medieval version of Schwarzenegger's invincible enemy in Terminator 2. Tim Burton makes the most of the horseman scenes with the camera trained on thundering hooves and unsheathed sword. The pace of the scenes gives a sense of the horseman's supernatural speed and also the feeling of helplessness in running from such a spirit.

The symbolism in the film is linked nicely to some of its major themes, while at the same time it creates a deep emotional tie between Ichabod and Katrina. Ichabod's talisman, a two-sided card with a red cardinal on one side and a cage on the other, was given to him by his mother. The cardinal represents his mother, a free and beautiful bird, while the cage represents the evil men who executed her as a witch. When

Ichabod comes across a dead cardinal in a witch's cave, he recognizes it as an omen.

There is a major romantic theme here, and Burton remains aware of it. The tongue-in-cheek delivery of romantic lines and scenes demolishes any sense of real romance between Ichabod and Katrina. One can only assume that this method was chosen because Burton is too much of

a cynic to deal with romance seriously, which in some ways is petty because there is a good love story in here somewhere. However, on another level it works because it is in the same style as the humor to be found elsewhere in the film. Ichabod is merely an apprentice detective but is unwilling to admit this, least of all to these superstitious and backward folk of "Sleepy Hollow." He is anxious to appear the logical and reasonable city sophisticate and attempts to add credibility to this image by making obvious conclusions only after using his intricate self-designed implements and chemicals. His cowardly antics also provide a source of humor and ridicule, just enough to cancel out his arrogance and make him a likeable character.

"Sleepy Hollow" takes the best bits of the book on which it is based ("The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" by Irving Washington) and builds upon the basic story to create a gothic thriller full of sorcery and superstition. It is a tense and fast-paced ride through the supernatural world with a "who-dunnit" smart enough ending to elude even the Ichabod Cranes amongst us.



"End of Days"

TOM SNYDER

Correspondent

There is a biblical quotation that appears repeatedly throughout Director Peter Hyam's new star vehicle for Arnold Schwarzenegger "End of Days:" "And when the thousand years have ended, Satan shall be loosed from his prison." -- Revelations, 20:7

And, boy is that devil horny! After assuming human form (Gabriel Byrne) in a restaurant bathroom, Mr. Smoothy, Suave Satan approaches a beautiful blonde and gropes, fondles and madly ravages her mouth as a dinner guest sits in stunned disbelief.

Why the unnecessary PDA (Public Display of Affection)? I guess he is practicing for his big moment with innocent, young Christine York (Robin Tunney). It must be carried out during the final hour before the year 2000, which is the moment he will insert his key to the gates of Hell and end all existence.

Sound like a corny gimmick? Well, it is, but despite the weak direction of an even weaker script, "End of Days" does have a few moments that weren't all laughably horrible.

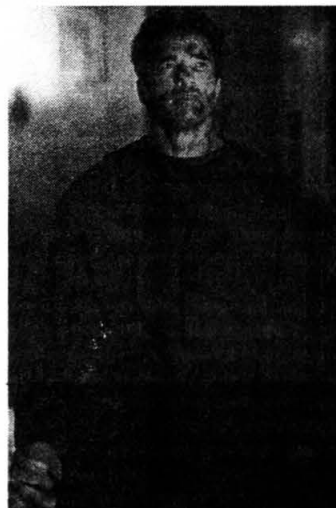
As Jericho Cane, an ex-NYC cop with a love for the bottle and a guilty conscience, Schwarzenegger does his limited best with a handful of grim looks and meant-to-be witty one-liners, but he really isn't the right man for such a serious role. But then again, "End of Days" is clearly an action film and who better to beat some Hellish-ass than good old muscle-mad Arnold?

Also, worth mentioning is Stan Winston Studio's stellar job of creating some eye-popping creature effects and Gabriel Byrne's playing turn as that darkest of dark lords. You can tell from the gleam in Byrne's eye that he relished every second of the role. Looking cool and walking that bad-boy,

no-one-can-touch-me walk, Byrne brings entertainment to a film killing itself in uncountable attempts to scare and creep out the audience. Some of the scare-tactics do work (don't worry, I won't ruin them for you), but numerous poorly staged stunts and a depressingly predictable plot quickly begin to run "End of Days" into the ground.

"End of Days" manages to save itself from being one of the biggest disappointments of the year with great monster effects, and some good and often enjoyable performances by Schwarzenegger, Byrne and Kevin Pollack (Arnold's buddy "Chicago"), but the result is still empty and uninspired.

How much fun can you honestly have at a film when you know exactly what is coming at each and every turn? Like Arnold pleads midway through the action, "Why don't you just stop all of this church talk and tell us what is going on?" I agree Arnold. Why couldn't the filmmakers have spent a little more time trying to answer that question, instead of staging so many pyrotechnic fireballs, shaking camera shots and campy dialogue exchanges that you clearly could not get enough of?





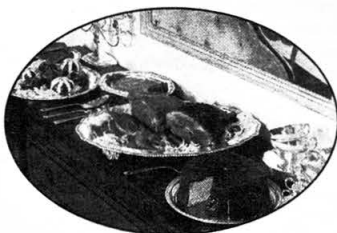
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set to take the online music industry by storm

JAMES BOOZER
Editor-in-Chief

Move over MP3.com and RealAudio, there's a new kid on the block who wants to take the digital music industry to the next level. His name is Bob Hendrickson, and he is about to embark on the biggest venture of his life--starting an online music label.

Hendrickson, 31, a Columbia alumnus and CEO of Zerorpm.com, an online record company that offers free recording and studio services to up- and-coming artists, is striving to make his mark in an area filled with other artists and music companies who have already developed a loyal audience. Will he accomplish this goal--who knows? But one thing is for sure, he's not going to stop until he reaches the top.

"I had a very good experience at Columbia. The teachers were extremely knowledgeable from a practical standpoint...so they had a lot of industry experience behind them," Hendrickson said. It was those days at Columbia that helped him craft his skills and increase his interest in music. For those who are not big music fans, Zerorpm.com may just change your mind. If you're an aspiring artist or songwriter, Hendrickson's online record label may be one of the best avenues available to get your music out to a large audience for free.

"I had started a company in California in 1996 called Big Think studios. It was an audio post-production studio, and I used some of the revenue from that company to fund my own producing of undiscovered artist. In 1998, I got out of that an into investment banking," Hendrickson said.

While he still owned part of the company, Hendrickson soon decided that this situation wasn't something he wanted to do for the rest of his life and decided to start his own music label.

"I saw the potential of online music as MP3s gained a lot of momentum and one of the key things in my mind that stood out about MP3s was that their distribution was inexpensive," he said.

While MP3s (a digital music format that reduces the music on a CD a 10th of its original size while retaining the crystal-clear sound quality) are popular, there are some risks that come with them.

"I think that they [MP3s] are excellent, and a lot of people focus on the piracy aspects. I think that there are always going to be people who are going to pirate music and any other form of art. There is nobody who can create a system that's going to outlast a person's determination if that is their goal to hack through that system," Hendrickson said. He added

that since MP3s are available on the market now, that they will create the need for having them somewhere down the road.

Zerorpm.com will fill the significant content-creation void that now exists in the online music industry and will become the definitive musician's hub on the Internet, combining free recording studios and services with the Web's largest database of musician profiles, personalized tools for musicians and songwriters, and educational content to further the commercial songwriter's craft, according to Hendrickson.

He hopes to accomplish all of this based on a four step process that will help artist distribute their music while providing the consumer with the best variety of music available on the Net. The four steps are, providing free recording studio and services; online knowledge and downloadable tools to facilitate the content creation process; a user database system called zerodb, that will house a list of musicians and songwriters for networking on and off the Internet; and Music Primitives, a powerful tool for rapid development of commercial music. Hendrickson feels that these initiatives will help his company succeed on the Web.

According to Hendrickson, the musicians and songwriters using his site and services are both Zerorpm.com's suppliers and customers. While this segment is considered a non-paying customer base, its expectations, and Zerorpm.com's ability to meet and exceed these needs, will determine the extent to which groups registered on the Web site can reach their target audience.

The development of Zerorpm.com's v1 zerodb database is currently one-third complete, and the proof-of-concept site will go live in the next couple of weeks which will allow for the collection of 20 parameters on 10,000 registered users.

The v2 database is already designed and ready for implementation upon the receipt of funding according to Hendrickson. He expects to raise \$1 million to keep the online record label going and says it should take between 60 to 90 days to collect the necessary funding.

Despite having no free time to do other things, Hendrickson is determined to make this venture work and is prepared for whatever obstacles that may come his way. He is also looking for individuals who may be interested in working for Zerorpm.com or aspiring artists or songwriters. If you're interested in Zerorpm.com, you can contact Hendrickson at 312-697-7182 or you can check out www.Zeroipm.com for more information.

ROACH & Seals Reels

DONNIE SEALS

Assistant Photo Editor

CHRIS ROACH

Correspondent

Are you thinking about going on a killing spree? If so, I suggest doing it in Mississippi, in hopes that you will end up in the same prison that Eddie Murphy and Martin Lawrence did in "Life." I was hoping there would be a deleted scene that had the judge saying, "I hereby sentence you to life at summer camp" because that would have made the film make much more sense.

The film begins when Lawrence and Murphy agree to smuggle some booze for a Harlem crime boss, so he will spare their lives. They have to smuggle it back to his speakeasy because it is 1932,

and Prohibition is still in effect. It might be hard to recognize the times, as their lingo is very '90s.

Anyway, they end up getting framed for the murder of a guy that was actually killed by a low down, dirty redneck cop. They get life in prison (hence the title), and have to go to a prison/labor camp to serve their sentence.

Once in prison, it isn't long before these two innocent men are right at home. And who wouldn't be at this place? I mean, they have barbecues, women, places to "get it on," baseball games, radios and no fences. In fact, they even share a back yard with a lady who cooks pie.

When introduced to all the loveable convicts at the camp, we find out they are "locked away" for such brutal crimes as cutting a half-sister (get it, half) in half, and skinning somebody. Despite all these homicidal tendencies shared by these men, the prison has no fences; they just have a line the prisoners know not to cross.

Despite all the idiotic things in this film, I did learn something from it. Did you know that a major league baseball team has the authority to give a man his full pardon, so he can join the team? I sure didn't, but according to this movie, it is true.

"Life" goes on as the odd

couple of Murphy and Lawrence go from feuding to the best of friends. Overall, I found this movie to be quite the dud.

Martin Lawrence and Eddie Murphy both are good and funny, but the jokes miss their marks, and the dialogue is far from witty. This film suffers from extreme predictability and too many clichés. By the time "Life" was over, I felt as if I had spent way too much of mine watching it.

AUDIO

The 5.1 track does not have much life to begin with. Your rear speakers will not get much attention except for birds chirping or people chattering. The dialogue is clear and the musical soundtrack comes through nicely from your front speakers.

VIDEO

Paramount delivers a clean transfer for "Life" in its 1:85:1 aspect ration. The colors are bright and clear of all distractions throughout the film and even the night scenes were free of clutter.

EXTRAS:

The "Life" DVD has enough extras to fill a cellblock. My favorite was an outtake reel, which had a lot more funny moments than the ones that actually made the movie. This disc also had two features I had yet to

see on a DVD, one pointless, and one kind of cool.

The pointless one allows you to jump to any scene with music in it. I guess this is a feature that might be useful if you dislike the movie but love the music (but isn't there a soundtrack for that?).

The other feature is scenes that the director cut differently from the ones in the film. Sometimes the producers want something edited in a different way than the director's vision. This feature let Ted Demme, show what he wanted.

This DVD also has director's commentary, cast and crew bios, production notes, trailers and a "spotlight on location," which brings us behind the scenes of "Life." There are many cool features on this DVD, so if you liked the movie, it's a DVD worth stealing (from a store in Mississippi of course).



DVD REVIEWS DVD REVIEWS DVD REVIEWS



THE ENGLISH, FICTION WRITING & JOURNALISM DEPARTMENTS
OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO PRESENT:

CREATIVE NONFICTION WEEK: CULTURE, IDENTITY, & THE ARTS

DECEMBER 6-10

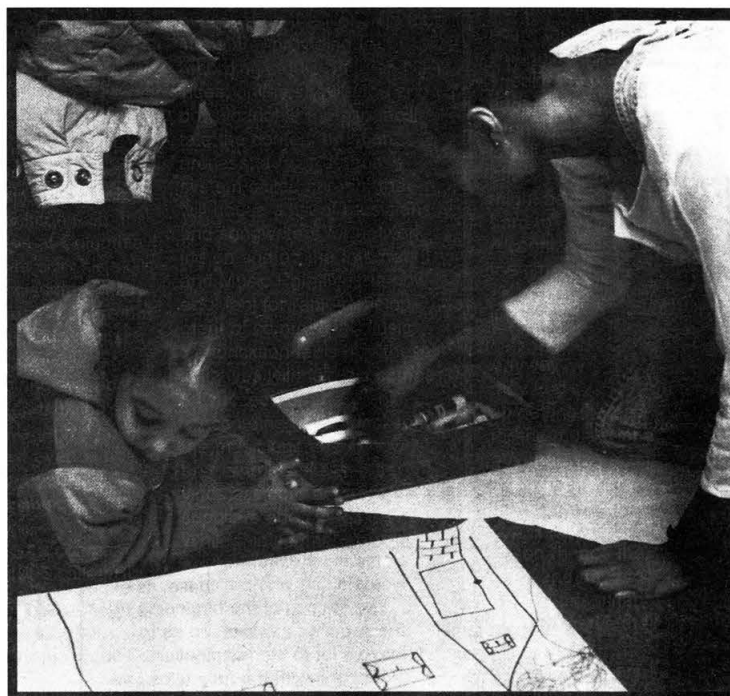
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DURING A WEEK OF EVENTS AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO.



ALEX KOTLOWITZ

writer for *The New Yorker*, *Wall Street Journal*. Books include:

There Are No Children Here On the New York Public Library's list of 150 most notable books of the century

The Other Side of the River Winner of the *Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Award for Nonfiction



MARITA GOLDEN

author of nine books, including:

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PHILLIP LOPATE

author and editor of numerous essay collections, anthologies, novels and poetry, including:

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Against Joie De Vivre "...calmly articulate, hungry for truth" Philadelphia Inquirer

Totally, Tenderly, Tiagically "...Lopate is one of our few essential essayists" Sven Birkerts

SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

1:00-3:00 Student Reading, Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth
6:00-7:30 Faculty Reading, Hokin Hall Auditorium, 623 S. Wabash

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

3:00-4:30 Phillip Lopate meets with Columbia students, Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth
7:00-8:30 Phillip Lopate Reading, The Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

2:00-3:00 Alex Kotlowitz Reading, The Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.
3:00-4:00 Alex Kotlowitz, Marita Golden, and Columbia College faculty on panel entitled, "Culture and Identity."
7:00-8:30 Marita Golden Reading, The Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

1:30-3:00 Magazine writers and editors panel: "Not Just the Facts: Making Journalism Literary."
Ferguson Auditorium, 600 S. Michigan

Panelists include:

BILL ZEHME, writer at large for *Esquire*
MARY SCHMICH, columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*
JONATHAN EIG, executive editor of *Chicago Magazine*, writer for *New Republic*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Sporting News*
ALISON TRUE, the editor of the *Chicago Reader*
TED ALLEN, contributing editor to *Esquire* and *Chicago Magazine*
ROSALIND CUMMINGS-YEATES, a freelance writer published in the *Chicago Tribune*, *Sun-Times*, *Chicago Reader*
SHANE DUBOW, nonfiction in *Harper's*, *Playboy*, *GO* and others

This Week's Lineup

- 11/30 Nymb, Sidekick Kato, NIL8 @ Metro**
Hot Tuna @ House of Blues
Atombombpocketknife, Tristeza, Calliope @ Empty Bottle
- 12/1 Freestylers Sound System @ Double Door**
Verbena, Lokomotiv, Ruby Grass @ Metro
- 12/2 Four Freshman @ Fitzgerald's**
12/3 Neurosis, Candaria, Isis @ Metro
Hefner Ok Go @ Empty Bottle
Jerry Rivera, Brenda K. Starr, Tito Puente Jr., Los Malkriados @ Loyola University
Sting @ Chicago Theatre
Those Bastard Souls, Edith Frost @ Schubas
KC and the Sunshine Band @ House of Blues
- 12/4 Bush, Foo Fighters, Oasis, Filter, Moby, Run-DMC, Fiona Apple, Blink 182 @ Allstate Arena**
Chris Connelly @ Morseland
Sting @ Chicago Theatre
Fantomas @ Metro
Loraxx, Three Dollar Bill, Puta-Pons @ Lounge Ax
- 12/5 Meatloaf @ Arie Crown**
Barbarito Torres @ Hot House
U-God @ Double Door
Indigo Girls @ Chicago Theatre
Isotope 217 @ Empty Bottle

Columbia students shine in "Into the Woods"

MARY BETH COOPER
 Staff Writer

Columbia students brought familiar fairy tale characters to life as they captivated audiences of all ages through their production of the musical "Into the Woods" at Columbia's Getz Theater. They danced, sang and made the audience laugh out loud to create an entertaining and magical event fit for a king.

"Into the Woods," based on the music of Stephanie Sondheim and the book by James Lapine, is a musical fantasy that combines many fairy tales into one. The musical combines "Little Red Riding Hood," "the Baker and His Wife," "Cinderella," "Rapunzel," "Jack and the Beanstalk" and other well-known fairy tales into one comical, musical bit of nonsense.

It is evident that these musical theater gurus put on the ritz, glitz and charm for this production (OK—maybe in a Chuckie Cheese sort of way). The cast members of "Into the Woods" exhibited clear, crisp solos along with heart-warming harmonies that made this event enjoyable to watch. Not to mention that the play in general is, well, really fun. Who wouldn't want to revert to childhood to play their favorite fairy tale character?

And dare I forget to say that the adults in the audience seemed just as entertained as the children. As the familiar tune "Into the Woods" chimed through the theater, audience members smiled with appar-

ent recognition of the catchy lyrics. Some were even mouthing the words along with the characters.

The staging of the beginning of the show was sparse, so as to leave a lot to the imagination. The plot opens with the fairy tales told simultaneously. The characters sing about their particular tale before the curtain opens to unfold the show's set. Each character is brought to life by his or her familiar story—and the people associated with it (Cinderella and her evil step sisters, for example). This part of the play would captivate any music lover's attention because it draws you near to all the fairy tales you used to love and hate (in an annoying, yet comforting sort of way).

And the sets were charming. The multi-dimensional staging of the event, along with a little help from a scream (when the wolf ate Little Red Riding Hood), made the set mysterious and appealing to the eye.

Furthermore, the lighting of the forest scenes was cool, crisp and exciting. It made the characters seem more magical than ever.

And not to mention the musicians associated with the production. A harmonic combination of the violin, flute, cello, piano and trumpet made the music of this production flow beautifully.

All in all, Columbia staged an excellent production of "Into the Woods." The talent that Columbia's Musical Theater Department has to offer was put to good use in this production.

The Sound Corner

BENJAMIN TRECROCI

Sports Editor

Immobility
 Raekwon
 (Loud)



A sophomore, by definition, is supposed to have sharper skills and be ready to move on. Unfortunately this is not true for the Wu-Tang Clan. On *Immobility*, Raekwon displays some of the vocal abilities that made his debut album, *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx*, the most complete album of the solo projects, but also brings to the forefront the lost edge to the Wu-Tang. After Method Man and GZA released lackluster efforts (*Judgement Day*, *Beneath the Surface*), and the schizophrenic *Nigga Please* by Ol' Dirty Bastard, it was hoped that *Immobility* would solidify the Clan as a hip-hop power.

Gone are the vocal chords of the Wu's diva, Blue Raspberry, ally, Ghostface Killah, and most noticeably the production of RZA. Instead of the eerie samples of Kung-Fu movies from the 70s that made the sounds of Wu-Tang distinguishable, there are decent but somewhat monotonous beats from Raekwon's new crew, the American Cream Team.

This 21-track album is inconsistent and contains songs that range from the emotional sequel "All I Got is You" to Ghostface's Ironman that tells of the trial and tribulations growing up.

For the hard-core Wu-Tang fan, the album is something to pick up and listen to, but for the casual fan that may have heard the Wu's *Enter the Wu-Tang: 36 Chambers* or other members of the Clan, they will be disappointed.

Chronic 2001

Dr. Dre
 (Interscope/Aftermath)



Seven years have passed since the release of the rap classic and hip-hop trendsetting album, *The Chronic*. Now the fans have more to smoke with the release of *Chronic 2001*. Executive producer of the album, Dre, once again was able to bring his disciples together, including the return of Snoop Doggy Dogg and the '99 version of Snoop-Eminem. Since releasing Slim Shady, Eminem with the backing of Dre, has been the top prodigy in the rap game.

While the album contains some visions of the street and bedroom escapades, it does not measure up to the original batch of *Chronic*, the reality that moved the album from start to finish. On the album's first single, "Still Dre" with Snoop, Dre brings up a presumption that his skills have diminished—"playas pay homage/but haters say people say Dre fell off/but how nigga/ my last album was the Chronic."

On the album's most complete track, "Forgot about Dre" with Eminem, Dre once again proves the people, who thought that his career was over, to be wrong. Using a beat that was full of Southern bounce and West Coast funk, and the nasally-induced lyrics of Eminem as a springboard, would make nobody ever forget about Dre.

Chronic 2001 shows that once Dre is able to have free reign over his album, that people take heed and listen. From producing and putting together the beats, too managing the roster of emcees, this album is worthy of picking up and listening to. It's a true sense of musical talent.

good eats ————— good eats —————

MARTINA SHEEHAN
 Staff Writer

Chicago's Privata Café combines the cuisines of two of Chicago's most prominent ethnic groups for one delicious plate of food. Under the banner of "Italian with a Touch of Mexican," this cozy restaurant at 1938 W. Chicago Ave. offers a variety of unique dishes unlikely to occur naturally anywhere else in the universe.

The unlikely teaming of Mexican and Italian cuisine spawned from chef Mario's kitchen encounters with his former mother-in-law, an old world Italian who loved to cook. Mario, of Mexican descent, would add his two cents while helping out in the kitchen. The result became the basis for a unique menu featuring dishes such as Chipotle black bean pesto, escargots in tomatillo black olive cream, and mole verdi pesto.

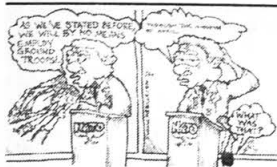
The menu offers a dozen antipasto and insalata dishes to get you started. One dish that is highly recommended is the Azteca mushroom plate. This consists of a garlic grilled jumbo mushroom steeped in anchiote vinaigrette. The Italian and Mexican elements work surprisingly well together, especially in the very satisfying curry cream jalapeno grilled octopus dish, which is served

over a bed of noodles. Many dishes include interesting combinations such as ancho peppers with sundried tomatoes or cilantro and basil with feta.

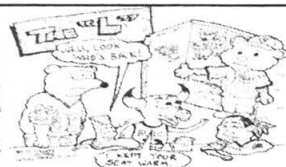
Chef Mario originally opened Privata five years ago as a tiny four-table basement abode on Damen Avenue. Apparently, the neighborhood wasn't ready yet to support such an eclectic fusion of flavor so the restaurant reopened at another Chicago location before settling in its present home last year. While the restaurant thrives on a loyal neighborhood clientele base, its stylish new location has drawn increasing numbers from around the city.

Patrons can dine in the warm glow of Christmas tree lighting, enjoying Harry Belafonte tunes while taking in the colorful artwork on the walls. But don't be mistaken—Privata's hip new look and artsy décor haven't detracted from the restaurant's focus on uncommonly good food.

With a slew of new eclectic urban eateries popping up around the city, Privata stands out as good old-fashioned home cooking. With, of course, a very unusual Italian-Mexican twist. Prices range from a five dollar grilled veggie burrito to top of the line Paella Siciliana for \$12.75. Dishes average around \$7.50. Guests are welcome to bring their own alcoholic beverages for



CHRONIC COMICS



Thanksgiving's over, you idiot!

by Billy O'Keefe



Purgatory

by Mark Stern





COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO AIDS AWARENESS WEEK

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29:

**DOCUMENTARY FILM: 20/20:
"SEX, DRUGS AND CONSEQUENCES"**

**HOKIN GALLERY
12:00 NOON**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30:

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JUAN ORTEGA WILL GIVE A
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AWARENESS AND STATISTICS**

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(PIZZA & POPS WILL BE SERVED)**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1:

**NATIONAL AIDS AWARENESS DAY:
HEALTH WORKS THEATER
PRESENTS: BREAK IT DOWN: AN HIV
AIDS PLAY FOR THE NEW
MILLENNIUM**

**HOKIN ANNEX
2:00 PM
(REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED)**

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- Last day to **Drop classes** for the Fall 99 Semester is Oct. 22, 1999
- Last day to **Withdraw** from classes is November 19, 1999
- Last day to **comply** with the state's law on immunization is **November 19, 1999**. A complete immunization history must be in the record's office by that deadline.

After Deadline

-After the November 19, 1999 deadline has passed and a \$50 fine has been attached to the student's account that students (as well as anybody who desires) to become compliant at our Immunization Days on Campus held in the Faculty lounge in the Torco Building, November 29 thru December 2.

IMMUNIZATION DAYS ON CAMPUS

- Monday, Nov. 29 (2:00-6:00)
- Tuesday, Nov. 30 (10:00-3:00)
- Wednesday Dec. 1 (10:00-3:00)
- Thursday Dec. 2 (10:00-3:00)

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Who: Dan Decker, Chicago Center for Film Development Director
What: Discussion/signing of his book "ANATOMY OF A SCREENPLAY"
When: December 2, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Barnes & Noble 1130 N. State Street, 312-280-8155

Barnes and Noble is pleased to present Dan Decker for a discussion and signing of his book, "ANATOMY OF A SCREENPLAY" December 2nd at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Decker is a Chicago native and director of the Screenwriters Group. The Screenwriters Group works with writers to develop their movie ideas and get them to market. In Addition, Mr. Decker is also the head of Stylus Management, a writers representation firm.

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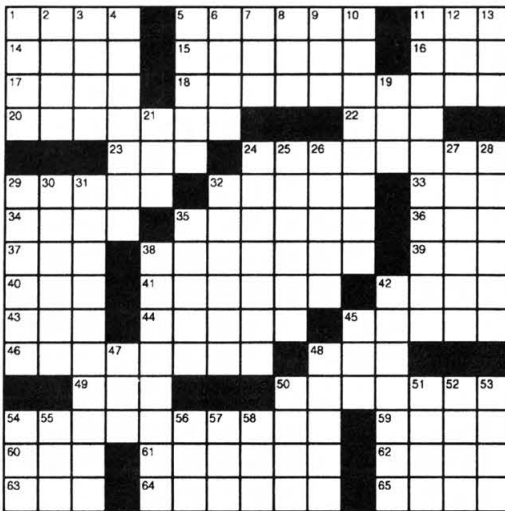
ACROSS

- 1 Scram!
5 Classified
11 Polish
14 Ark builder
15 Stick together or break up
16 Memorable time
17 Farm measure
18 Speaking to
20 Upholstery fabrics
22 No _____ intended
23 "_____ Miniver"
24 Of the Middle Ages
29 Game-show host Pat
32 Throws down the gauntlet
33 Actress Gabor
34 Book before Obadiah
35 Infuse with oxygen
36 Blubber
37 Hive builder
38 Offers counsel
39 A couple
40 "A Nightmare on _____ Street"

- 41 Word manufacturer
42 Diviner
43 Spanish river
44 City in Provence
45 Naomi and Wynonna
46 Rationality
48 _____ excellence
49 Small child
50 Rugs
54 "Red Dust" star
59 _____ vera
60 Possess
61 Prenatal
62 Blackthorn
63 Herbal drink
64 Reeks
65 Bacteriologist Jonas

DOWN

- 1 Break sharply
2 Chanel of fashion
3 Org. for seniors
4 Ritter and Long
5 Scrutinizes



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12/10/99

- 6 GM make
7 Skelton or Buttons
8 Pipe collection?
9 Holiday lead-in
10 Loathes
11 Used earnings for more shares
12 Container with a tap
13 Valise
19 "For Love" author Miller
21 Anger
24 Leathemocks
25 Rubs out
26 Talk out of
27 Confessed
28 Tasks
29 Cavalry swords
30 Aviator Earhart
31 Three-time Super Bowl MVP
32 _____ advocate
35 Be nuts about
38 Bear's breech
42 Go beyond
45 Clash



- 47 Long time
48 Hocks
50 Wine stopper
51 Cinder ending?
52 Piece of equipment
53 Endeavor to obtain
54 Iota
55 Female of the flock
56 Colonial insect
57 Slugger's stat
58 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"

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COLLEGE WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

By Billy "the Billy" O'Keefe



Aries (March 21-April 19). Your days of looking at your watch and wondering when your big moment is coming will finally end this week, because your watch will be stolen, along with some other belongings of yours, including your hair gel. Buy some reinforcements now or you'll be sorry.



Taurus (April 20-May 20). Today will bring with it a chance encounter, and a big meeting will give you an idea. At the end of the day, you will unwind and reflect on something. All this, and tons of other predictable crap that makes me every bit as good as Linda Black.



Gemini (May 21-June 21). Change that underwear, buy some shoes and socks, and wash that hand; you're getting a date this week!



Cancer (June 22-July 22). Freaks.



Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). I once competed in a track meet with some guys from a High School called Leo. They won a lot of races, and celebrated by chanting, "We are Leo!" So I chanted "I am Billy!" They beat me shortly after. When the crying subsided, we all had a good laugh.



Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You WILL meet the love of your life this week, and you WILL land the job of your dreams. Then you will wake up on the "L" in a puddle of drool and confusion. Get off the train before someone sees the stain on your shirt.



Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). If you thought last week's episode "Odd Man Out" was wild, wait til you get a load of this week's episode! Those white people are so funny when they're in mischief. What clods!



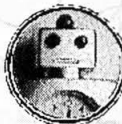
Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). No amount of lemon juice is gonna make that monstrosity of a pimple go away, so have some fun with it! Tell people you're spawning a second head. It's funny that way!



Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sagiwhat now?



Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The love of your life? She's only in it for the money. Ditto for your family, which is odd considering you're broke, unemployed and living in a box in someone's backyard. Do yourself a favor and kick these people out of your box. Then, you'll have enough room for the kitchen you've always wanted.



Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb 18). Your supersonic beam is making a strange sputtering noise, and your big tin head has a little rust from the pool party at Gorax's pad. Despite all this, however, it's still a great week to go out and kill some humans



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). I like bunnies. They go hop hop.



Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). This is not a good week to discuss money with your spouse, seeing as you have no money and no spouse. Instead, keep on staring at that ground. Seeing the earth actually spin on its axis may be impossible if you're not in space, but you're too determined to stop trying now.

If You're Having a Birthday This Week...

- Nov. 29: You're really excited about the whole year 2000 thing. Too bad you're gonna die on December 19th.
- Nov. 30: Who cares? Big deal.
- Dec. 1: Boy oh boy, if you thought people had a problem with you now, wait until next year.
- Dec. 2: Graduate already, you freaking failure!
- Dec. 3: Your friend was going to throw you a party, but you went and stole her man and now she's all, "I ain't gonna throw you no party!"
- Dec. 4: That's nice.
- Dec. 5: Actually, you were born on 5/12, not 12/5. In other news, you're dyslexic. Do something about it.

Underground Cafe Specials

Nov29 - Dec 3

1. Taco Salad \$3.50
Lettuce, Tomato, Beef, Refried Beans
Cheese, Salsa, Sour Cream

2. Vegetable Wrap Sandwich, Rice \$3.50
Artichokes, Mixed Greens, Grilled Peppers,
Asparagus, Sun Dried Tomato Sauce

3. Cashew Chicken Salad \$3.50

Soups: Monday - Chicken Rice
Tuesday - Tortellini
Wednesday - Corn Chowder
Thursday - Cream of Potato

SPECIAL HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES ADDED!

Join Blue Man Group
the day their debut album *Audio*
is released! Tues., Dec. 7, @5:30pm
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and Sun 12-7pm

REGULAR SCHEDULE: WEDNESDAY 8PM, THURSDAY 8PM, SATURDAY 8PM, SUNDAY 10PM

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Dec. 13 8 PM	Dec. 14 8 PM	Dec. 15 8 PM	Dec. 16 8 PM	Dec. 17 7 & 10	Dec. 18 4, 7 & 10	Dec. 19 2, 5 & 8
Dec. 20 8 PM	Dec. 21 2, 5 & 8	Dec. 22 2, 5 & 8	Dec. 23 2, 5 & 8	Orymas Eve 2 & 5	Christmas no repeat	Dec. 26 2, 5 & 8
Dec. 27 2, 5 & 8	Dec. 28 2, 5 & 8	Dec. 29 2, 5 & 8	Dec. 30 2, 5 & 8	New Year's Eve 11 & 12	Jan. 1 4, 7 & 10	Jan. 2 3 & 6

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Trecroci

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

shining behind the new creativity of Vince Russo and Ed Ferrara. Bret Hart is finally the WCW World Champion and fans are beginning to notice that the product is better. "Mayhem" also marked the return of Kanyon and DDP during the David Flair Kimberly Page match. Kanyon, who calls himself the "Innovator of Offense," is also known for the array of unusual debut moves that he puts on his opponents. He had

been out for months with numerous injuries as was DDP. Hopefully, they will continue their allegiance minus Bam Bam Bigelow who has not made an impact since arriving in the WCW last year. Also, showing the significance of their return, Scott Hall is not only the U.S. champion but also the T.V. Champion after "stripping" Rick Steiner of the belt at "Mayhem" and Kevin Nash has returned to the ring after his so-called "retirement."

Finally, starting next month WCW Thunder on TBS will move from Thursday to Wednesday nights in an attempt to get more viewers and concede the Thursday night loss to WWF's Smackdown.

Basketball

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

(19.5 ppg), Ohio State might push Michigan State for the league title.

However, the key to the Buckeyes' season may rest on the long shoulders of junior center Ken Johnson.

Johnson improved drastically during the course of last season. He will have to continue that trend this season, because after him, Ohio State is thin inside.

Although an early season loss to Notre Dame was puzzling, look for the Buckeyes to rack up wins early with only Kansas as a viable opponent before the Big Ten season.

6. Florida Gators

Remembering last year's last second loss to Gonzaga in the second round of the NCAA Tournament is what drives this young Gator team. Despite their youth, Florida may be the most all-around talented team in college basketball. The problem that faces Florida Coach Billy Donovan is he must find a way to give everyone enough minutes.

Versatile sophomore forward Mike Miller is the star of this team. With all of the talent surrounding him, look for Miller (12.4 ppg) to blossom. That talent includes three freshman who make the Gators deep inside and out. Donnell Harvey and Matt Bonner will bolster an inside attack that became Florida's obvious weakness last season. Look for McDonald's All-American freshman Brett Nelson to push sophomore Teddy Dupay for the starting point guard spot. Most teams would kill for just one of those guys.

7. Temple Owls

Every year John Cheaney's vaunted zone-trap defense takes down several of the powerhouses in college basketball. This year, Cheaney's Temple Owls may be one of those powerhouses.

Led by four-year starter point guard Pepe Sanchez (5.6 apg), the Owls are solid throughout their starting five. They have a nice front court combination with sophomore Kevin Lyde, junior Mark Karcher (12.9 ppg, 5.9 rpg), and senior Lamont Barnes (12.5 ppg, 6.5 rpg). Lyde is one of the few college players who still likes to play with his back to the basket. His low post game gives Temple a threat many teams do not have. Cheaney is still looking for his first Final Four appearance. This could be the team that gets him there.

8. North Carolina Tar Heels

Point guard Ed Cota has been reinstated to the team and that is excellent news for Coach Bill Guthridge. Cota (7.1 apg), who had been suspended for violating team rules, is the one man the Tar Heels cannot afford to lose.

For all the talent North Carolina has in its starting lineup, they lack depth, especially at point guard. Unheralded recruit Jon Holmes will backup Cota at the point.

The loss of Vasco Evtimov to professional basketball in Greece and their top recruit Jason Parker as an academic casualty, make injuries unaffordable for the Tar Heels.

With junior center Brendon Haywood (12.6 ppg, 7.3 rpg) and sophomores Kris Lang and Jason Capel as forwards, North Carolina's frontcourt alone will get them past most opponents. However, it will be tested early. The Tar Heels face Michigan State, Cincinnati, Miami, Indiana, and Louisville all in December.

9. Arizona Wildcats

The strength of the Wildcats has traditionally been their great backcourts. Just in the last few years, Arizona has sprung the NBA careers of Damon Stoudamire, Khalid Reeves, Mike Bibby, Michael Dickerson and Jason Terry.

Now the Wildcats will turn to a talented frontcourt to carry them and hope a freshman point guard can fill the shoes of the departed Terry.

Pac-10 Freshman of the Year Michael Wright returns for his sophomore season. Wright (13.7 ppg, 8.6 rpg) is incredibly tough offensively around the basket. He will team up with Loren Woods who transferred from Wake Forest after failing to live up to the hype as the next Tim Duncan. Woods has exceptional talent for a big man, but must keep it together mentally to be effective in the paint.

At point guard, Arizona will look to heralded freshman Jason Gardner. The faster he develops, the better the Wildcats chances of making a deep tournament run.

10. Stanford Cardinal

With Brevin Knight and Arthur Lee both graduated, the most pressing question for the Cardinal is who will take over at the point. Sophomore Michael McDonald is the most talented of the group, but fellow sophomore Tony Giovacchini has more experience and is more comfortable running the offense.

Stanford needs someone to step up at point guard or they risk wasting the most talent they have had in years. Inside, brothers Jason and Jarron Collins will join senior Mark Madsen (12.8 ppg, 8.4 rpg) in a talented and animated frontcourt.

This team is young and must hold its breath at point guard, but there might be more talent here than Stanford had during its Final Four run two years ago.

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COMING IN TWO WEEKS

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 10

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1999

CHAIR SHOTS

An inside look at wrestling and its hold on America

At the worst possible time for the WWF, the man that put them on top of the world may be forced into early retirement. "Stone Cold" Steve Austin has re-injured his neck from wear and tear in the ring and will not see any action for the next few months.

His neck was originally hurt in '97 by the late Owen Hart—who drove Austin's skull into the mat and fractured his neck during a botched piledriver—and forced him to miss three months.

This injury to Austin completely changed the world-title scenario at the Survivor Series two weeks ago. Instead of the three way match between Austin, The Rock and HHH, Austin's slot was filled with the eventual champion, "The Big Show" Paul Wight (after Austin was shown being run over by a mysterious car with not-mentioned yet driver).

Now with the status of Austin up in the air, and only HHH and The Rock in the world title picture, the WWF is having to put mid-card wrestlers into the limelight. Not only is the Big Bossman the number-one contender, but also Hardcore Holly has received a title shot. This is a sad state of affairs for the WWF. The question has to be asked why them and not somebody like Chris Jericho or X-Pac? While Holly has improved his in-ring skills, as well as being hilarious on the microphone, he is not really going to win the title.

The only person that measures up to the Big Show not only in stature, but also in skills is Kane. The two are set for a feud that could last until the Royal Rumble.

The WWF main event for the monthly pay-per-view is called, "Armageddon" and has been set between Vince McMahon and HHH. Also, a possible return of the Rock 'n' Sock Connection may be in the works to bring the popular duo of Mankind and The Rock back together and contend for the tag-team titles with the New Age Outlaws.

While the WWF is restructuring itself around the inevitable absence of Austin, the WCW is

SEE TRECROCI, PAGE 15



BENJAMIN TRECROCI
SPORTS EDITOR

NCAA HOOPS 1999-00

Michigan State, Auburn will meet in Indianapolis in March

GRAHAM COUCH
Assistant Editor

With college basketball season officially under way, ESPN is clearly the most important station on the television dial (as if it wasn't already).

This season there isn't a clear cut favorite on the road to the Final Four. Michigan State and Auburn return the most players. Ohio State has the best back court. Florida may have the most overall talent. However, none of these teams are unanimous number ones the way Duke was hyped to be a year ago.

Teams with good veteran guards usually do the best at tournament time. Many of the teams I picked in the top 10 have that advantage. Yet, in an age where the top players often leave after their sophomore or junior seasons, a sophomore is now considered a veteran.

This season, young exciting talent will rule college basketball.

In my eyes, these are the top 10 teams in the country. That is as good as etched in stone.

1. Michigan State Spartans

As long as All-American point guard Mateen Cleaves returns in time for the Big Ten season, the Spartans should win the Big Ten. Cleaves (11.7 ppg, 7.1 apg) will be out for at least six more weeks with a bone fracture in his foot.

Until then, Coach Tom Izzo will hand over the point guard duties to junior David Thomas. Thomas has plenty of talent to take some of the pressure off. The Spartans return four starters: All-Big Ten forward Morris Peterson, shooting guard Charlie Bell, forward Andre Hutson, and Cleaves. Also in Izzo's unbelievably talented playing group will be sharp-shooting forward A.J. Granger, swing man Mike Chappell