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## Columbia Chronicle (03/05/2001)

Columbia College Chicago

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# COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Volume 34, Number 19

Columbia College Chicago

Monday, March 5, 2001

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this week



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XFL = T&A

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## Photo Essay: South Africa, the experience

pages 14 & 15



Jamie Humphrey/Chronicle

Chronicle Assistant Photo Editor, Jamie Humphrey, documents her trip to South Africa from Johannesburg to Cape Town.

## Council suffers low self-esteem

By Joe Giuliani

Contributing Editor

Negativity pervaded Friday's College Council meeting as members discussed ways of refining the council to make it more effective, and some council members expressed contempt for college administrators' poor attendance at council meetings.

A survey conducted by the council's executive committee found that many council members have low confidence in the council's ability to influence college policy. Among the survey's findings:

- 54 percent do not believe the council is one of Columbia's more effective committees.
- 47 percent believe the council is ineffective in facilitating improvements in the college.
- 45 percent said their time is not always well spent serving on the council.
- 11 percent said that serving on council has convinced them the college is in serious trouble.
- 46 percent called the council powerless, and at least one person referred to meetings as a "coffee and doughnuts opportunity."

A large discrepancy exists in what members understand the council's primary operating role should be and what they believe it actually is. Most believe the council should advise and

See **council**, page 2

## Columbia students explore new government option

By TreAndres Members

Staff Writer

In the ongoing saga to implement a student government, the first of two forums scheduled for this semester took place in the Hokin Gallery, Wednesday, Feb. 21. The students present in the gallery as the event began seemed shocked, annoyed and offended. Some students even walked

out during the first few words of Reina Alvarez's introductory speech. Alvarez, a senior at Columbia and S.O.C. president, continued with her speech, trying to gain the attention of what seemed to be an apathetic audience.

Many students at the event said that they did not know the forum was scheduled to take place and were not aware of the initiative to form a student government. However, the crowd's apathy did not halt

Alvarez. She engaged the crowd and related how past student involvement and activism led to the U-pass being brought to Columbia at a time when Columbia was the only school in the South Loop that did not offer the pass to its students.

When asked about the benefits of being involved in the student government by an audience member, Alvarez responded that it would be "a benefit for the students to become part of the decision making

process of issues that directly affect the Columbia student."

Alvarez went on to inform the audience that the first major step in the implementation of the student government is the formation of a task force that will draft the constitution and perform various other fundamental duties. The task force will be comprised of one faculty member, two

See **Government**, page 2

## Napster—hype or controversy?

By Christine Layous

Staff Writer

Reports have flown around that college students were rapidly downloading all the music they can get their hands on before Napster, the controversial site closes. But the attitude at Columbia shows a different side.

The controversy began when the heavy metal group Metallica filed a lawsuit against the website. Major recording companies also filed suit against Napster claiming the site is stealing their customers as well as violating copyright laws.

The recent ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals could force Napster to stop its users from trading copyrighted music files. Napster is coming close to losing the war, and is trying to strike a deal with the music company instead of being forced to shutdown.

Allegedly, the 53 million users are outraged and desperately trading off what

they can while there's still time; while college technicians are running around, trying to keep Napster from filling up their hard drive and eating up their bandwidth.

"Bandwidth is a space that's allocated in frequency for network traffic," Steve La Rock, a hardware specialist at Columbia, explained. Simply, it's like a glass of water. If the glass can only fit 20oz you can't try to fit in 40oz. Once you use up the 20oz of space, the rest of the stuff is going to get backed-up. So the effect is a slow network. What normally would have taken seconds to come up, for example email, will now take minutes because of the bandwidth that Napster uses up.

But the scene at Columbia is the complete opposite.

Students are not in any rush to download music and the Management Information Services department (MIS) is not worried.

See **Napster**, page 3

## Pampering pups



Patty Dieball/Chronicle

A line of groomers prep prize-winning pooches at the International Kennel Club, Chicago Division, Dog Show, held last Sunday, in McCormick Place.



## Briefly News and Notes

### Poetry contest to offer cash prize and publication

The English department and the Office of Student Affairs will hold a poetry contest for the best poem written by a currently enrolled Columbia student. The winning poem will receive a cash prize of \$250 and be printed in this year's commencement program. The poem must be under 30 lines in length. Students may submit any number of poems, each should be marked with their name, address and phone number. Please submit work to Maureen Seaton, artist-in-residence, English department, Columbia College, 600 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605. All poems must be received by March 20.

### Center for Book and Paper Arts hosts typography exhibit

"The Manuscript Illuminated," an exhibition that explores the work of five artists, offering a rare perspective on the mediums of typography and calligraphic ornaments, will open March 16 at Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts. The exhibition runs through May 4, with the opening reception of March 16 featuring readings and statements by the artists. Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts is located on the second floor in the 1104 S. Wabash building. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For further information, call William Drendel at (312) 344-6633.

### African art exhibition featured at Columbia's Art Gallery

"Contemporary African Art 1950-2000: Reframing Tradition," an exhibition featuring contemporary African art from museum and private collections in the Chicago area, is currently running through April 6 in Columbia's Art Gallery located at 72 E. 11 St. The exhibition is organized by a class for five graduate and undergraduate students supervised by Dr. Kate Ezra. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call (312) 663-1600 or (312) 344-5554.

### Math and science mix with art

The Math and Science departments will host a six-week exhibit entitled, The Art of Science and Mathematics. The exhibit is a celebration of creativity with student projects that integrate science or math with the arts. The projects come in a variety of art forms such as painting, sculptures, poems, holograms, photographs and computer graphics. Some of the themes of the artwork are: The Golden Ratio in mathematics, aesthetics and nature; Einstein's theory of relativity; materials and dyes for art and photography; the use of computers in creating art; the impact of the space program; and the physics of dance.

The event will take place in the Hokin Annex, in the 623 S. Wabash building. The exhibition begins March 9, with a reception on Wednesday, March 21, from 5-7 p.m. The works will be on display through April 16.

### Student Academy Awards sets application deadline

Applications for the 28th annual Student Academy Awards competition, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, are now available. Entries must be submitted by April 2 in order to be considered for this year's awards.

Entries may be submitted in one of four categories: alternate, animation, documentary or narrative.

Students selected as national winners will be flown to Los Angeles to participate in a week of industry-related activities and social events that will culminate June 10 with the awards presentation ceremony. Along with their trophies, Gold medal winners in each of the four categories will receive \$5,000; Silver medal winners take home \$3,000; and Bronze medal winners are awarded \$2,000.

Interested students may download an application from the Academy's website at [www.oscars.org/saa](http://www.oscars.org/saa) or send their application request, along with a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to:

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences  
8949 Wilshire Blvd.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90211  
Attn: Student Academy Awards

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, please call the Chronicle's news desk at (312) 344-7255.

Visit us on the Web at  
[www.ccchronicle.com](http://www.ccchronicle.com)

## Around Campus



Christina Mann/Chronicle  
Allegra Madsen (left) and Daniel Johnson, senior photography majors, discuss a photo exhibit at Columbia's Art Walk held on Thursday, March 1.

## Government

Continued from Front Page

student affairs staff members, two representatives from S.O.C. and four representatives from the student body at large.

The criteria for students to become eligible for task force nomination were: at least a 2.5 GPA, submission of a resume, 15 student signatures of support and a one page personal statement describing the student's qualifications and ideas about student government. Interested students were to submit the information to Dana Ingrassia, the new director of student organizations and government, by March 2.

The process to be a part of the task force may seem extensive, however, the members of the task force will have a tremendous and volatile role in the formation of the student government. Since the task force will be responsible for drafting the constitution and developing the executive positions, the task force, in Alvarez's words, "is going to construct the government as [it] sees fit."

This means that if the representatives on the task force are not of sound mind, the student government could be doomed from the start, or even worse, students could be subjugated to a government that does not have their best interest in mind.

By the end of the forum a few students seemed to be interested in the Student Government Initiative, but for the most part, many students were unmoved.

Sharon Wilson-Taylor, dean of Student Life, believed that because Columbia is a commuter school, many students either do not have the time or desire to be involved in

major student activities.

This is why Ingrassia has made it a personal goal to build more of a community among students here at Columbia. Both women are optimistic about this year's effort to implement the student government. The major difference this year, according to Wilson-Taylor, is that students and faculty are working together for the implementation of the student government. Wilson-Taylor says that when the movement started two years ago, "Students wanted minimal faculty involvement." This year students have embraced faculty participation.

Ideally, the task force and ultimately the student government will be constructed in a way that represents the diversity of Columbia's student body. However, Wilson-Taylor, Ingrassia and Alvarez know from experience that students who tend to get involved in student government are students who have had previous involvement or affiliation with student government in the past. For Alvarez, who transferred from Indiana University three years ago, this means transfer students. Alvarez contends that because transfer students who come to Columbia are probably transferring from schools that already have a student government in place, they are more prone to get involved with the student government initiative here at Columbia.

Klaas Van Derweg is a prime example of Alvarez's theory. Van Derweg is a junior transfer student at Columbia and has been involved with student government since high school. Van Derweg became

involved with the student government initiative here at Columbia because he truly believes in the power of student government and feels that a diverse school like Columbia could benefit from its implementation.

Heather Katlowksi, a freshman broadcast journalism major, feels that a student government could unify the students into more of a community. However, she said that because she has to work, she does not have time to commit to the student government initiative, though she supports it in spirit.

Besides the issues of student apathy and students not having enough time to commit to the student government initiative, the issue of informing students who may be willing to participate in the student government, may prove to be too much of an obstacle.

In a poll taken only a week after the forum that was held in the Hokin Gallery, 77 percent of the students polled said they did not know about the student government initiative at Columbia, even though there have been advertisements in the *Chronicle* preceding the forum. In all fairness to the students polled it must be mentioned that only 31 percent said that they read the *Chronicle* regularly. The election of the Student Government task force will be held on March 9 and the goal is to have a constitution drafted by April, so that student government elections can be held either late in the spring semester or early in the upcoming fall semester.

## Council

Continued from Front Page

impact college programs and policies. But in reality, the council serves only as an information source about college activities, they say.

Some members believe the council does not have enough business to attend to, and should meet less often.

Council secretary Kim McCarthy said meetings are "becoming a drag," because of negativity

among members.

Other members expressed concern about the council intranet, a webpage designed to allow members to communicate with each other via the Internet.

The council has had a difficult time getting members to use the network since it was created.

"We have to maintain that intranet site," said Kimo Williams, an instructor in the Management

department. "People will stop using it if it doesn't get updated."

Absent from Friday's meeting were Academic Dean Caroline Latta, Samuel Floyd, and Mike DeSalle.

Dennis Rich, chair of Arts, Entertainment, and Media Management, called administrators' low turnout at meetings "astonishing."

After meeting with gay and lesbian students, facul-

ty and staff, the Office of Student Affairs has decided to hire a part-time faculty member to coordinate gay and lesbian affairs on campus, said Mark Kelly.

The college is also in the process of hiring a Coordinator of Student Relations, whose job it will be to assist in resolving conflicts between students and faculty and staff, Kelly said.



**By Jill Helmer**  
Staff Writer

After his group from The Second City split, Bigness decided to try the group on his own, so he got together a collection of his best work. After going through a wholehearted string of directors who liked his work, but just didn't have the time to produce the play with Bigness, he finally



**Columbia alumnus, playwright and former journalist for the *Wall Street Journal* and *Chicago Tribune*. John Bigness**

After graduation, Bigness sent his resume out to 50 metropolitan daily papers, and one of them called him back—the *Wall Street Journal*. The bureau chief who called him from Dallas had never heard of Columbia, and after telling Bigness flat out that his first choice candidate for the job had fallen through, he told Bigness that he did

"Every time my mom would bring a new boyfriend home, she would have my sister and me act out skits from 'The Carroll Burnett Show' or 'Saturday Night Live.' And whenever we'd be watching 'Donnie and Marie,' she would always tell me and my sister, 'you kids could do that.'"

The screenings take place at 1104 S. Wabash in room 302. Admission is free.

[illegible]

If Napster is banned the problem won't necessarily go away. "You can already find a lot of those [music] sites. Some even better than Napster...It's just going to be pushed underground. It's always going to be there," Thompson said.



# The Admissions office is looking for Student Ambassadors to work the Spring Open House

<Do you like meeting new people?

<Would you like to meet prospective new Columbia students?

<Do you love to talk about Columbia?

You must be a currently enrolled Columbia student in good standing  
and available to work

Saturday, March 24th from 8am- to 4pm.

An application and interview is required. Applications are now available now in the  
Admissions office, 3rd floor, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Deadline for applications is March 9th.

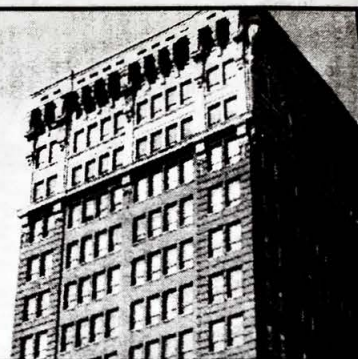
## Scholarships

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### Academic Excellence Award

\$3000 for one academic year (\$1,500 awarded in Fall, 2001 and \$1,500 awarded in Spring 2002). This scholarship is for full-time students with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and at least 12 credit hours earned at Columbia College Chicago.

**Deadline: March 15, 2001**

### Applications are available at:

Financial Aid Office,  
600 S. Michigan, Room 303  
Office of Enrollment Management,  
600 S. Michigan, Room 300  
Academic Advising,  
623 S. Wabash, Room 300

### David Rubin Trustees' Scholarship

\$2000.00 for one academic year (\$1000.00 awarded Fall, 2001 and \$1000.00 awarded in Spring, 2002). This scholarship is for full time outstanding students to defray tuition costs. Scholarship awards are based on academic achievement and demonstration of financial need.

**Deadline: April 2, 2001**

### Hermann Conaway Scholarship

\$2000 for one academic year (\$1000 awarded in Fall, 2001 and \$1000 awarded in Spring, 2002). This scholarship is for full time outstanding students who have demonstrated leadership ability on Columbia's Campus or beyond.

**Deadline: April 2, 2001**

### Hillary Kalish Scholarship

\$2500 maximum award per academic year (\$1250 awarded Fall, 2001 and \$1250 awarded Spring, 2002). This scholarship helps medically and financially challenged students complete an undergraduate degree. (Part-time students are eligible to apply.)

**Deadline: April 1, 2001**

### Thaine Lyman Scholarship

\$1,000 maximum award for the Fall, 2001 semester. This scholarship is for full-time television students who have at least 24 credit hours earned at Columbia.

**Deadline: March 15, 2001**



## The allure of Japanese animated films goes academic

By Tan Vinh

Knight-Ridder Tribune

BELLEVUE, Wash.—Japanese animated films—even the most violent, rock “em, sock em,” sci-fi dramas—served up as scholarly fare?

That’s exactly right, according to two instructors at Bellevue Community College who are teaching the first academic course in the state on the subject of anime, or Japanese animation.

The college is serious enough to allow students to take “Anime Revealed” to fulfill a composition-course requirement.

The college could be in on the early stages of an academic trend. The University of Michigan recently started an anime-history course, and film professors say many other colleges are preparing to do the same.

Anime, pronounced “AH-nee-may,” is an essential element of Japanese pop culture, notes Terry Weston, who along with

Scott Bessho teaches the Bellevue course to a full house of 46 students.

And although the art form may be most widely known for some of its more graphic and violent examples, it can be quite sophisticated, much more detailed in plot and artwork than the ordinary Saturday-morning TV cartoon.

While there are plenty of examples of slapstick stories for young viewers, anime often tackles such themes as death and betrayal, and the stories sometimes are so intense that they are edited for children in the United States.

The animations are shown as television series or feature-length movies in Japan, where adults are as likely as children to be the core audience.

The academic movement in the United States reflects the fact that so many students had already become anime aficionados on their own.

As elsewhere in the country, the University of Washington and most colleges around the

state have student-run anime clubs.

In the Bellevue class, students pack a classroom four days a week to watch and dissect an anime production, breaking

**The academic movement in the United States reflects the fact that so many students had already become anime aficionados on their own.**

down its symbolism, character development and message.

The class focuses mostly on the works of Hayao Miyazaki, the Shakespeare of the field, whose work includes the recent box-office hit “Princess Mononoke,” an epic steeped in Japanese legend and contempo-

rary themes such as the effect of industrial development on nature, mixed in with a struggle between good and evil.

While parents sometimes decry anime for its violence and gory graphics, anime fans argue that those more intense animations are geared toward adults, not kids.

Anime, with its intricate layers of stories, plot twists and moral dilemmas, also has loyal fans at the University of Michigan and the University of California, Berkeley.

The University of Michigan, for instance, offered a class in anime last fall, and Professor Abe Mark Nornes says other colleges have inquired about his syllabus.

He predicts classes will be offered at many universities before long.

“A lot of people are trying to figure out how to do it,” Nornes said. “Even more are integrating anime into other courses.”

Western Washington University includes lectures on anime as part of its Asian-history course.

Nornes attributes the phenomenon partly to the Internet, which has made Japan animation more accessible.

The craze borders on obsession for some. At Washington State University, a handful of students gather weekly to learn conversational Japanese simply to understand anime better. And diehards watch anime with subtitles instead of dubbed versions because they feel the dialects and the voice inflections get lost in translation.

WSU senior Trevor Menagh, a computer-science major and one of the founders of the campus anime club, says he went to study in Osaka, Japan, with the main purpose of understanding Japanese cartoons.

At Bellevue Community College, as soon as posters went up last fall announcing the new course, so many students signed up that a waiting list formed with names of anime fanatics such as Jeff Ravatt of Kirkland.

“I rearranged my schedule,” he said, “and jumped through hoops to take the class.”

## Notre Dame slated to build Regis Philbin studio theater

By Billy O’Keefe

Tribune Media Services

Notre Dame University did not pass the fastest finger round, did not answer any questions correctly, and didn’t even consider using its lifelines. And Regis Philbin handed the university a \$2.75 million check anyway.

The television personality, famously for his role as host of the ABC game show “Who Wants to be a Millionaire,” made the donation Tuesday to his alma mater, which plans to spend the money toward the creation of a studio theater in Philbin’s name.

The Regis Philbin Studio Theater, to be completed in 2003 as part of the planned DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, will stage presentations and per-

formances by the university’s film, television and theatre departments.

“Regis Philbin is not only one of Notre Dame’s most recognized graduates, he also is among our most generous,” said Notre Dame President Edward Malloy at a news conference Tuesday. “With his time, talent and resources, Regis has made numerous contributions to the university and our surrounding community. We are most appreciative of this latest gift, which will do much to enhance our growing commitment to and reputation in the dramatic arts.”

The \$50 million center will also house, among other facilities, a movie theater, a stage theater and a 900-seat concert hall.

Philbin, who also hosts “Live! With Regis and Kelly,” graduated from Notre Dame in 1953.

## Swedish hacker breaks into Indiana U. server to store MP3s

Tribune Media Services

Indiana University officials recently informed more than 3,000 graduate students that their names and identification numbers had been accessed when a Swedish computer hacker entered an unsecured Internet server on the school’s network.

The hacker apparently used the university server to store MP3 files, and in the process removed 3,230 files containing confidential student information. About 2,100 of the files also contained the student’s social security number.

“It’s a common trait for students to look for storage space on the Web,” Perry Metz, associate vice president for external affairs at IU, told the Associated Press.

“They go to Napster, find all these music files, then need a place to store them.”

The incident occurred between Jan. 24 and Feb. 6 and following an internal investigation the university notified the effected students until Feb. 23.

The break in the computer security came when a technician in the university’s bursar’s office repaired an Internet server after a hardware failure and reconfigured the system improperly.

The university’s computer staff did not find any of the information posted on Internet sites, but will continue regular checks for the next four to six months. Both the campus police and FBI have been notified of the incident, though no charges have been pressed, Metz said.

## Vermont first to give college credit for Americorps service

By Billy O’Keefe

Tribune Media Services

The University of Vermont announced Thursday that it will be the first institution in the country to offer students college credit for participating in the AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program, a national service program founded by former President Bill Clinton that has empowered more than 200,000 young adults through volunteer projects and community service programs.

By Kristin Wieben

Badger Herald (UofWisc.)

University of Wisconsin student fees are going up in smoke, as the student finance committee overwhelmingly voted to supply the student cigar club with \$495 for an upcoming cigar-tasting event.

Among other things, the money will be spent on a variety of fine cigars, some of which could cost upwards of \$150 per box, for club members and their guests to try at the April 21 event.

Finance Committee chair Leif Jorgensen backed the funding decision, saying it was perfectly inline with all university guidelines.

“It doesn’t violate any [Associated Students of Madison] bylaw, university policy or other regulation,” Jorgensen said.

Neither ASM Chair Mike Dean nor Jorgensen felt qualified to judge if buying cigars was an appropriate use of student funds.

The recent segregated student funds case has also forced the Finance Committee to pay special attention to

“This is a natural yet revolutionary step in the evolution of the service movement in the United States,” said AmeriCorps program director Matt Dunne at an on-campus press conference detailing the announcement.

Students participating in the Academic Learning Integrated with Volunteer Experience (ALIVE) project can earn up to nine college credits in a variety of areas. Participating AmeriCorps members will attend workshops, assemble portfolios and participate in weekend campus programs,

said Chris Koliba, ALIVE’s project director.

The university plans to give the program a three-year test run before taking further action.

Launched in 1993 to heavy skepticism from both sides of the political fence, AmeriCorps counts more than 50,000 young Americans under its wings in 2001, and has gained the support of both liberals and conservatives, including President George W. Bush and Sen. John McCain, a former critic of the program.

## U. Of Wisconsin student govt. buys cigars for club

remaining viewpoint neutral, a factor that may have played a role in the decision.

“I don’t know if [judging the appropriateness of the decision] is necessarily the role of Finance Committee given the current legal situation,” Jorgensen said.

UW Cigar Club chairman Susan Strzelec stood by the validity of the request and stressed that all UW students can benefit from and participate in the activities of the club.

“This is not something that is illegal; it is completely legal and a valid use of campus funds,” she said. “Cigar smoking is very big in our culture right now. If people are going to smoke cigars they might as well know what’s popular and what’s a good cigar. It’s for everybody - anyone can join.”

The UW Student Organization website states the purpose of the UW Cigar Club is, “to educate members on the art of fine cigars and provide members with a sampling of fine cigars.”

Strzelec also said the April 21 event will be able to provide support for students who feel the use of tobacco has been unfairly targeted as

wrong by society.

Strzelec also stated that the cigar-tasting event will abide by all university regulations, and will not pose a health threat to UW students.

“Cigar companies have said that there is no evidence that people will get lung cancer from one cigar,” she said. “I don’t think [health issues] will be a problem.”

Finance Committee member Matthew Pulda said ASM has used segregated fees in the past to purchase tobacco for students, and he saw nothing wrong with the decision.

“They presented us with a budget, just like anyone else, and were given money,” Dean said.

Jorgensen said that, although the subject matter of the group’s event grant was not typical, the amount of money they requested was definitely reasonable compared to other student organizations, some of which received up to \$10,000 from ASM.

“As far as I know, it’s just for smoking cigars,” Jorgensen said.

Students interested in the cigar-tasting event are encouraged to contact the UW Cigar Club.





# EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS 2001

*This important award provides a way for the Teaching and Learning Committee to advance the commitment of Columbia College Chicago to rigor and creativity in our approaches to teaching and learning across the college, while identifying and rewarding individual excellence in teaching. This year's awards will recognize teaching that emphasizes **ENGAGEMENT**: strategies that engage and connect students to worlds beyond themselves.*

*One full-time and one part-time Columbia teacher will each receive an award of **\$2,500** and an engraved plaque. Award recipients will be **notified in early June, 2001**. Arrangements for a suitable public presentation ceremony will be announced.*

## To nominate your most effective, most engaging teacher.

visit <http://www.colum.edu/faculty/teaching/eta.html>

and provide the information requested online

no later than 4:00 pm, **Friday, March 9, 2001**.

1. Provide all pertinent contact information (for both yourself and your teacher), including departmental affiliation(s), phone numbers, and e-mail.
2. Briefly explain (in 250 words or less) something specific about how the teacher you are nominating has effectively **engaged** you (and other students) in the learning process. In explaining just why you think your teacher is excellent, try to illustrate how he or she exemplifies at least **ONE** of the five characteristics of **excellence in teaching** identified below (be very clear about which characteristic[s] you are addressing).

*Recognizing that excellence in teaching manifests itself in many different modes, styles, and voices, the Teaching and Learning Committee endorses the following five characteristics of excellent teachers (stated here in language borrowed from Columbia College's current instrument for soliciting student observations of teaching and learning).*

### Excellent teachers

- (1) *communicate subject matter accurately, clearly, and with enthusiasm; and they present, invite, and test multiple and balanced points of view;*
- (2) *create communities of learners in which students can and do take intellectual risks and experiment creatively;*
- (3) *treat all students with respect and consideration, responding appropriately to the individual needs of each student;*
- (4) *stimulate the intellectual and/or artistic curiosity of students, fostering critical and creative thinking and problem solving;*
- (5) *challenge, inspire, and support students to do their best work, to achieve more than might have been expected.*

**For complete information about the selection process for the Excellence in Teaching Awards 2001, visit <http://www.colum.edu/faculty/teaching/eta.html>.**



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## Fiction Writing Department Columbia College Chicago

### *Summer Sessions Abroad*

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Each 5-week session package is \$2,600.00 which includes lodging, round-trip airfare from Chicago to Moscow or Chicago to Prague, trips to St. Petersburg (Moscow session), Terezin (Prague session), transfers, visas, some group activities. Food plus cultural programs are extra (approximately \$600.00 for 5 weeks). Charges do not include tuition.

### CONTACT

Fiction Writing Department, Suite 1200, 624 S. Michigan Ave., (312) 344-7611 or Mark Davidov at MARKDAVIDO@aol.com or (847) 795-0553

### DEADLINES

- ♦ Letter of Intent/Interest including all contact information (name, phone, etc.); please specify session: Moscow, Prague or both ASAP
- ♦ Bring the first deposit of \$300.00 (\$600 if considering both sessions) to the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- ♦ Final installment of \$2,300 (\$4,600 for both sessions) and photocopy of passport by April 16, 2001.

We strongly encourage you to register early for Summer Session.

**For more information, come to meeting  
in Faculty Lounge, Room 1107,  
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Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 PM**



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**Application Deadline:**  
**April 9, 2001**



# COMMENTARY

## What is George Ryan smoking?

On Saturday, Feb. 24, the *Chicago Sun-Times* reported Illinois Governor George Ryan's decision to veto legislation "requiring a study of industrial hemp as a potential alternative crop in Illinois."

If the bill had passed, two state universities would have received funding for the study of hemp's potential agricultural uses.

In the page-eight article, headlined "Ryan rejects hemp study," Ryan said, "I will not ignore the unified concern of drug treatment and prevention groups that the ultimate commercial cultivation and availability of a product that contains a mind-altering substance would leave open the prospect of substance abuse."

Ryan cited as his reason for the veto his worries that the bill might not require that the study explore ways to breed a version of industrial hemp completely free of THC, the chemical in marijuana that supplies the buzz.

Ryan was also concerned with the possibility that drug enforcement would be made more difficult. In addition, he stated that there is too low a demand for hemp products to justify spending \$1 million of "taxpayer money."

Wow. It sounds like there are a lot of reasons not to grow hemp. Thanks Governor.

Of course there are those who disagree with the governor. Just type "marijuana legalization" or "industrial hemp" into the Yahoo! box and you'll see there are more than a few who might respectfully and intelligently tell Ryan he is wrong.

Ryan's main concern, the plant's THC content, is unfounded. Industrial hemp is not the same as marijuana. It does contain trace amounts of THC, but not enough to get a person high. Smoking it will give a person a headache.

With his argument that there is too low a demand for the product, Ryan shows his lack of knowledge of the subject, and lack of respect for the intelligence of his constituents. According to the Web site of NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, hemp can be used in "the making of textiles, paper, paints, clothing, plastics, cosmetics, foodstuffs, insulation and animal feed." The hemp seed is "second only to soybeans in protein and contains the highest concentration of essential amino acids and fatty acids found in any food." The plant yields more material per acre than its inferior substitutes and is naturally resistant to most pests, reducing the need for pesticides.

NORML is the most well-known and respected of the many pro-hemp activist groups to be found on the Web. But since the group is a cheerleader for the hemp cause, their information should be taken with a grain of salt. There are many others who back hemp, as well, but a guy as important as a governor can't take just anyone's word for it, not even Ralph Nader's.

What he can (and should) do, however, is perform his own study of industrial hemp and its uses, and fund a couple of his state universities in the process. But wait, haven't we already heard that idea somewhere?

Ryan's refusal to study the uses of industrial hemp is so obviously fear-driven poll-data pandering, it makes you wonder how he ever had the balls to take the bribes from the truckers for the licenses. He doesn't know the demand for hemp products. He doesn't care how greatly the farmers, the eco-systems and the economy of this state could benefit from the cultivation of hemp. He doesn't even want to know.

He is doing what he thinks will keep him in office, even though the only public office he will ever see once his term is over is the post office.

## Eminem won't melt in the hands of history

By Kevin Kizer  
Correspondent

This past week's news has been dominated by political issues. Like an ex-president being harassed for decisions he made in office. Or the current "president" showing the nation that his entire belief system is stuck in the 1980s. Or our own beloved Columbia trying to develop an effective student government.

Which is why I've decided to address an issue of equal importance: Eminem's place in the annals of Rap.

I grew up in the Midwest, in

Indiana, and enjoyed my teenage years during the decade of the '80s. However, this was an unfortunate time period for mainstream music: Culture Club. Bon Jovi. Michael Jackson. It was pure torture.

However, my friends and I happened to stumble upon something called "rap" around 1984. It was described as an acronym for "Rhythm And Poetry." And to me, it was just that. It took the grand tradition of Ginsberg, Dylan Thomas and Langston Hughes, and raised the bar. Instead of a jazz band, these new poets were backed by drum machines and

turntables. It was honest and it was raw and it was rhythmic.

Much like the aforementioned poets, the early rappers "blew as deep as they wanted to blow," as Kerouac said. Much like the jazz musicians before them, they learned what was to be learned and then broke free from it, i.e. they were artists.

The names of early rappers are now revered by many. KRS-One. Chuck D. Kool Moe Dee. Later on, Poor Righteous Teachers. Plus the latest trinity. Biggie. Jay-Z. Tupac. And then there's the one rapper who had perhaps the greatest influence on the whole scene: Rakim. To

this day, his lyrics and style are copied and sampled by everyone.

Which brings me back to Eminem.

As a person who has listened to rap closely and has participated in debates, written stories and covered events related to the genre, I have to say unequivocally that I believe Eminem to be our generation's greatest storyteller.

The main reason for this is, like the great writers of this past century, he blurs the line between fact and fiction. So much so that people are unable to tell what is real and what is

See **Eminem**, page 11

## Letters to the Editor

### Boy Trouble

This letter is concerning the column / review by Rob Barto that was in the Feb. 26 issue about the "DJ Boy George" show at The Metro on Wednesday, Feb. 21. I will have to agree with him when he stated that he is not "the biggest know-it-all in the electronic music industry," because he really did prove that in his article.

Sure, Boy George is somewhat of an 1980s novelty for Americans, and probably did not belong on that stage at all.

But what he should realize is that in Europe, Boy George is a club DJ that has a huge following, so the natural thought was to bring him over to America and hopefully make a few bucks. And it obviously worked because not only did Barto shell out \$20 to see him, but so did enough people to sell out The Metro.

Shouldn't a reporter get all the facts before he writes a story? That "big-boned" wanna-be gangbanger on stage," was Terri Bristol, a Chicago techno/house DJ who has been in the business for over 20 years. And her "12-year-old friends that were enjoying the fact that they were on stage" were actually DJ Psycho Bitch (who just turned 40) and Terri's girlfriend.

Chris Novak  
Journalism/Junior

### Nascar Complaint

I am absolutely outraged over your coverage of Dale Earnhardt [Feb. 11st, alternate reality], who you so disparagingly lambasted as, "a second-tier hot-rodder unworthy of the spittle from Mario Andretti's brow."

As the top-bidder, thus far, on a circa '78, Earnhardt-inspired Coca-Cola bottle placed on E-bay, and also a graduate of some college, I say with staggering honesty, Mr. Richards, that you are clearly delusional concerning auto-centric sport-ing. Earnhardt was, and always will be, the Michael Jordan of car-related type things, an honor neither you nor the minions of anti-car people will succeed in tarnishing. To put Earnhardt's stature in another way, Senor Ricardo, imagine, say, a really, really fast bicyclist and then multiply him by racecar.

In conclusion, until you act as honorable journalists act—that is, responsibly—consider my subscription cancelled.

Jotham Sederstrom  
Journalism/Senior

### Exposure



Photo by Patrick Pyszka

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OPINIONS  
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## Eminem

Continued from Previous Page

not. And they are riveted to what he says. This is the pure definition of a great storyteller.

Think about it. Kerouac. Fitzgerald. Hemingway. They all did the same thing but in literature. Millions of people were convinced that what they wrote was entirely true. And they spent the rest of their short lives trying to live up to those expectations. And, as a result, they all died tragically.

Which brings me back to Eminem.

He seems to understand that people believe everything he says, even when he openly admits that he is just playing. And he seems to be able to deal with the misunderstandings.

But for Eminem, in order to truly carve a niche in the annals of rap, he must do one thing: survive.

Forget all the headhunters and cannibals who want to gnaw on his bones. Forget all the teeny-boppers who equate him with the boy bands. And forget the people who revere him as a great lyricist. Any one of them can bring him down. It's just as easy to be killed by love as it is to be smothered by hate. Just ask Lennon and Cobain.

My point is that great artists are made over time. And time will be the cosmic yardstick by which Eminem will be measured. I think, as far as his talent is concerned, we've only scratched the surface. So I for one hope he's around for a long time and is given the chance to fully develop.

After all, I can't think of anything more entertaining than a healthy, 65-year-old Eminem.



Cartoon by Nate Beeler/Tribune Media Services

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## Powell's approach in Middle East: kosher

By Hussein Ibish

Tribune Media Services

Secretary of State Colin Powell's recent tour of the Middle East seems to indicate several welcome and long-overdue changes in the U.S. approach toward the region.

After eight years of consistently maladroit behavior by the Clinton administration, Powell's remarks provide a ray of hope that the State Department is moving away from the counterproductive policies of the 1990s, especially with regard to Iraq and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Most dramatic was Powell's endorsement of measures to ease or abandon the economic sanctions that have caused so much death and devastation to the people of Iraq. A 1999 report from UNICEF estimated that 1 million civilians, most of them children, have died from malnutrition and disease as a result of the embargo. Meanwhile, the regime of Saddam Hussein—the intended target—remains almost entirely unscathed.

The Clinton administration simply refused to consider any alternatives. President Clinton himself made matters worse by publicly declaring that the sanctions against Iraq would remain "in perpetuity." This fueled a strong sense among many Arabs, including bitter opponents of the Iraqi government, that American foreign policy was fundamentally anti-Arab and had no regard whatsoever for the lives of Arab children.

In recent months, the sanctions have all but collapsed under their own weight.

Exasperated with the dysfunctional U.S. approach, American allies in the region, including Jordan, Egypt and Turkey, re-established diplomatic and trade relations with Iraq. The diplomatic "box," in which Clinton's secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, said she wanted to confine Iraq has been shattered.

The almost unanimous international outcry against the bombing attacks on Iraq two weeks ago indicates that the United States will have little or no support for renewed military actions. One can only hope that the bombing was designed to provide cover for Powell's endorsement of easing sanctions and to help forestall accusations of "appeasement."

There may be something of a split in the Bush administration on what should replace the sanctions policy. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and his deputy Paul Wolfowitz are on record as strongly supporting a vigorous effort—perhaps backed by American military forces—to establish U.S.-backed Iraqi opposition groups to overthrow the Saddam government. Powell and others have expressed deep and well-founded skepticism that another Iraqi "Bay of Pigs" is likely to prove more successful than previous attempts, such as the failed CIA-backed uprising in northern Iraq in 1996.

With regard to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Powell's comments, and those of President Bush, have been strikingly balanced in comparison to the deep Israeli bias of the Clinton team. While Albright blamed

Palestinians living under Israeli occupation for "besieging" Israel, Powell has called on Israel to lift its siege of Palestinian towns and cities. The new secretary of state has also condemned Israel's policy of extrajudicial executions of Palestinian political leaders, which Albright refused to do.

And most importantly, according to reports in the Israeli press, Powell made it clear to Israeli leaders that the United States has returned to its traditional policy of considering the building and expansion of Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories to be illegal and an obstacle to peace. Albright used to call them merely "unhelpful."

By presiding over negotiations while excluding the United Nations and the international community, ignoring international law and refusing to be an impartial mediator, the Clinton administration bears significant responsibility for creating the conditions that have led to the conflict raging in the Occupied Territories. The tone taken by the Bush administration so far gives grounds for hope that some degree of evenhandedness may be creeping back into U.S. policy.

As important first steps in building a more constructive approach to the region, the United States should stop bullying the Iraqi people in a futile attempt to change their government, and it should insist that Israel fulfill its obligations under international law to withdraw from all of the Occupied Territories. Powell's comments on both issues suggest that the State Department is moving in the right direction.

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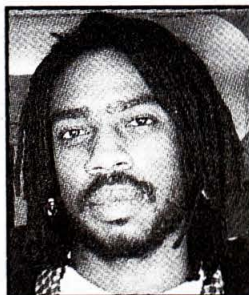
## The Columbia Chronicle Photo Poll

**Question:** Would Eminem be as successful if he were black?



Eric Panowko  
Freshman/Traditional Animation

"Yes. He's doing something different in style, no matter what his color is."



Shaun White  
Junior/Interior Design

"Not as successful. He wouldn't get props from conscious black folk."



Deyaa Ziadah  
Junior/Film

"Yes. A lot of people can relate to his situations, regardless of color."



Crystal Profit  
Sophomore/Photography

"Maybe, but it would have taken him longer to get where he is."

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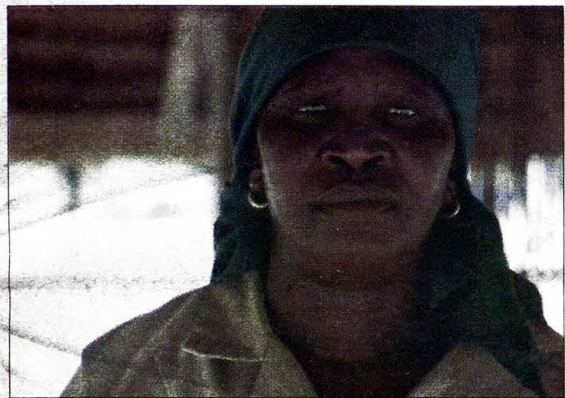
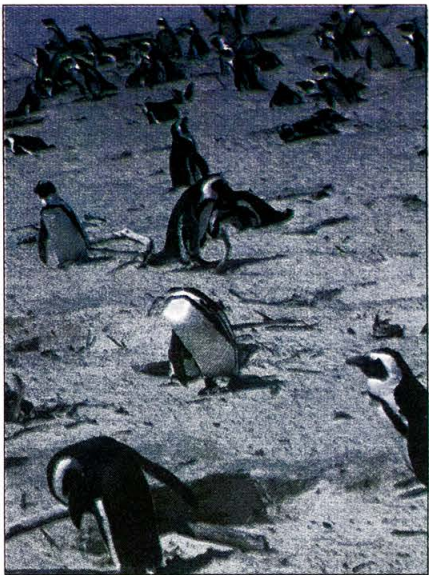
# South Africa: The People, The Place, The Experience



Ten days, I traveled around South Africa. The experience, but one I thought I'd never have. From outside of Johannesburg, we witnessed animals had to be escorted to our huts every night by an faced in the bush. I was constantly surrounded b daily for this country. The unity and romance bet the landscape was breathtaking to me. My expe and those dreams became my reality.

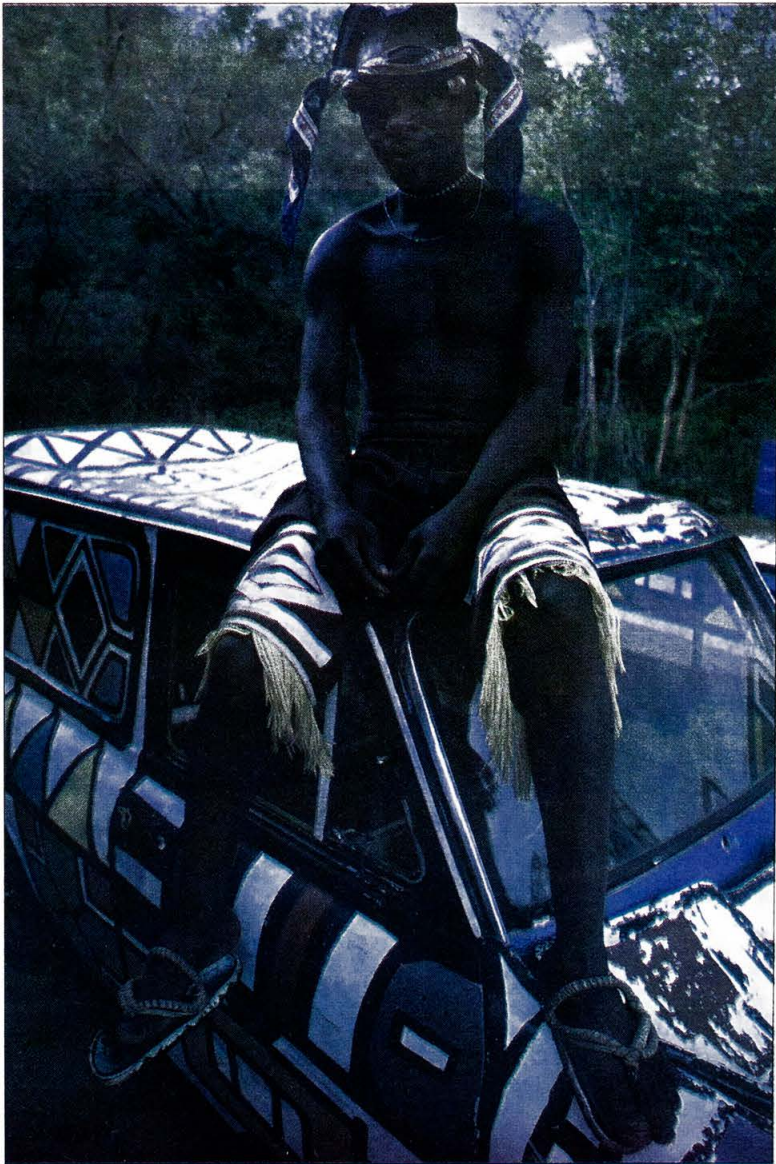






Photographs by Jamie Humphrey

The trip was not only an unforgettable  
From the back of a LandRover on safari  
imals roaming outside their 'cages.' We  
an armed guard, due to the danger we  
d by unfamiliar things, yet my love grew  
between these people, their culture and  
experience was something I only dreamt





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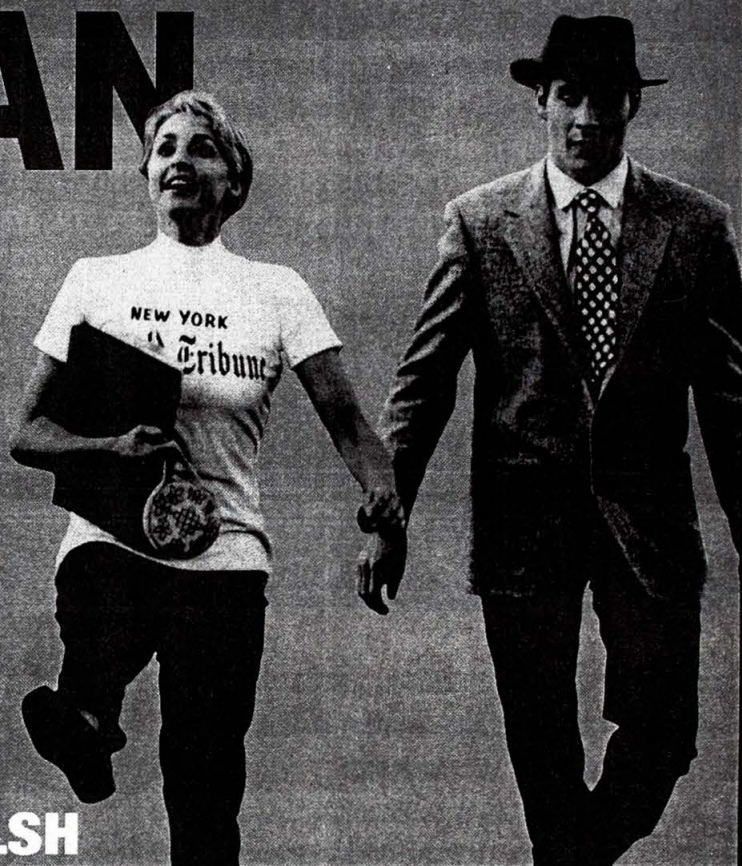
Christopher Null, filmcritic.com

**PETER MCDONALD**

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Sig Transit Gloria



Photos by Jamie McNeel/Chronicle

### A bumping CD release at the Fireside

By Allison Clark  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Feb. 24, Fireside Bowl's ceiling was covered with white, yellow, red and green balloons. The festive decorations were evidence that the venue wasn't having its regular weekend punk show. Surrounded by friends and family, Sig Transit Gloria were celebrating their full-length, self-titled record release.

Through Johann's Face Records, members of Sig Transit Gloria, Mike Perkins, Jason Waclawik, Pat Kilbryde, and Nate Hanyzewski released the band's second album. "Ever since we laid down the first track," Perkins said, "I had a really good feeling about it."

Between shout-outs to his mom in the audience, Hanyzewski's vocals were the proper cry for the up-tempo riffs. "I hit puberty yesterday," he claimed before breaking into "When I Get Home." One song that stood out during the hour long set was "For Sale." Perkins' keyboards were prominent and Hanyzewski's guitar flew side by side with Waclawik's bass.

While shaking his hips to the rhythm, Perkins' hand dangled above the keyboard's sensor to give the songs a "wa-wa-wow" finish. The introduction to "Monday Morning Gridlock's" benefited from his unexpected soft touch. It was almost reminiscent of a nursery rhyme. By the end of the song the band had the audience's hands clapping in

the air. The new "Unless I Forget" was powered by Kilbryde's drums. Bringing Waclawik's guitar-playing, next-door neighbor on stage, the band polished the evening off with "September," the last song on their album. Other bands performing at the party were Herc., Creature Comforts, and Tom Daily.

Saturday night's set list included mostly new songs and a few old. All four band members, three with microphones, had presence on the small stage. Nobody was missing out on the party. Between songs, the band joked and pointed fingers at audience members, but when they started playing they put on their strict business faces. Their sound was fun and the audience's response was frenzied. The audience got so intense it was hard to keep two feet flat on the ground for all the body slamming.

The band members were just as energetic as the audience. Drums were whacked, strings were pulled, keys were crushed. Girls with multi-colored hair and plaid pants hung on each other as boys soared into them at warp speed. Nobody seemed to mind the holes in the water-stained ceiling or the chipped paint on the walls. They were there to see the band rock and it showed.

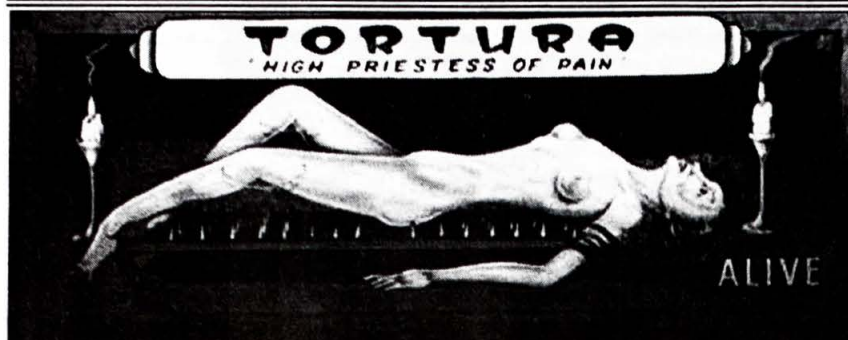
Before Johann's Face Records, Sig Transit Gloria recorded "The Orange Tape" and several other tapes. After that they released their first CD. Then came an EP and finally their self-titled album. During the band's first show at Fireside Bowl, Brian Peterson, the book keeper for the venue, indicated that the band would be good for

Johann's Face Records. Along with The Atari Star, they played a sort of test show for Marc Ruvolo who runs the record company. About a week later they got a call from him.

"We had dinner at the Golden Nugget and [Ruvolo] broke the news to us," Perkins said. "Ever since then it has been a beautiful thing." The band will be playing Sunday, March 25 for an all-ages show at the Cubby Bear.







## BANNERS FROM A DIFFERENT WORLD

By Melanie Masserant

Staff Writer

Long gone are the days when one could profit off their physical abnormality. Human pincushions and acrobatic Siamese twins have faded with the midway's sawdust.

Although the heyday of sideshows is over, its stars are immortalized in the flamboyant sideshow banners of artist and performer Johnny Meah. Armless marvels and two-headed babies have been portrayed on his inventive and enormous canvases. Saturday, February 24 Meah upstaged his banner subjects, performing a kaleidoscope of sideshow acts as the "Czar of Bizarre" at The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art.

Meah's repertoire included fire eating, sword swallowing, the human blockhead, and comedic commentary regarding life in the sideshow. The 63-year-old is commonly referred to as the "last surviving master practitioner" of a dying art.

"I'm popular with all the programs, like welfare and food stamps," Meah joked. "I am to small club shows what Saturday Night Live is to TV. People keep coming back to see if I got any better. I'm silly enough to still be doing this."

Much of what Meah performs are century old acts called Hindu Fakir. Physical obstacles must be overcome before they are presented. Sword swallowing requires lots of esophageal manipulation. According to Jim Rose's autobiography, *Freak Like Me*, sword swallowers tickle their gag reflexes seven times a day for three years until they stop gagging. When the reflex quits responding the sword can be effortlessly shoved down the esophagus and stomach. Meah performed a variation of this act by using a neon sword.

"Not many people do this anymore," Meah stated. This act is sincerely dangerous. I have lost many friends due to neon explosions."

Sideshows have always been a part of Meah's life just as natural born freaks are in a 'ten-in-one show'. For those of you not versed in carnal vernacular a 'ten-in-one' show is ten acts for the price of one.

Meah traveled with the King Brothers and Cristiani Circus. He began his sideshow career at the age of nine as 'The World's Youngest Portrait Artist' and studied painting under Hugo Zucchini, the 'Original Human Cannonball'. A fascination with sideshow performing manifested during Meah's first summer with Zachinini.

"It was like a kid going into today's version of Disney World because there was all these acts and people doing all these phenomenal performance things," Meah said. "When you're a kid you just want to learn all about them. The sideshow fascinated me probably more than any of the acts because they're so unusual. When you see someone swallow a sword or eat fire it's mysterious."

It was inevitable that Meah would work with an array of world famous human curiosities during his 46-year career. Some of his colleagues were Betty Lou Williams, who had a parasitic twin growing out of her side, Percilla Bejano, The Monkey Woman and Emmet the Alligator Skinned Man. They were billed as the "World's Strangest Married Couple." Bajano passed away last week.

"The thing that a lot of people ask me about working with sideshow human oddities is what was it like," Meah said. "It was like anything else. You go into the office for the first time you have no idea what the people are like. Once you see their peculiarities, whatever they may be, the next day that's all gone. Then you regard them on the merits of their personality and abilities. It's the same thing with freaks. You absorb it very quickly."

Not all freaks are as cordial. Grady Stiles Jr., a.k.a. Lobster Boy, was the most despicable person to work with. Lobster Boy was a chronic and abusive alcoholic. In 1992 his wife and stepson conspired to have him murdered. Police found Jack Daniels and Pall Mall cigarettes next to his mutilated corpse. According to Meah, they couldn't find enough pallbearers for his funeral due to his horrible nature.

A majority of Meah's time is spent painting in his Riverview, Fla. studio. It is a town away from Gibsonton, the 'Carnival Capital of U.S.A.'. He has painted over 2,000 banners since the 1950's. His banners sell for \$2,000 to \$4,000 and were featured on the Learning Channel documentary 'Sideshow'.

He also was a lecturer at a circus exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. By next year he plans to publish his novel about life in the sideshow. Meah hopes that the sideshow tradition will continue. "There are so many people doing working acts," Meah said at the end of his performance. "The interest is phenomenal. There is still a lot of interest in the acts themselves. I have to thank Jim Rose and William Dark, who does sideshow acts here in town. So many people are carrying the tradition on."



## THE ROACH SAYS...

By Chris Roach

Assistant A&E Editor

There was shocking news coming from WWF.com this past week stating that Jerry "The King" Lawler and The Kat have been released from the WWF. It saddens me to learn that Lawler will not be calling WWF matches, as he was the best color man in the business. However, what has really gotten to me is the fact that the Kat gets to leave the WWF. Now, maybe I didn't read the fine print on the contract, but I know that at WWF's "No Way Out" Jerry Lawler and Steven Richards had a match. If Lawler lost this match (which he did) then the Kat would be property of the Right to Censor. Well, I'm sorry, but I think she is the RTC's property fair and square, and I don't think the WWF has the right to overrule that just because they want to fire her. If I was Steven Richards, I would immediately get my lawyers on the phone and demand that The Kat be put back in the Right to Censor's custody. After all, if she gets away with this, what's next? Someone not wearing a dress after a "loser wears a dress" match?

On the brighter side of the WWF, we have a "WrestleMania" main event, and folks, it is huge. Wrestling's two biggest stars, The Rock (WWF Champion) and 'Stone Cold' Steve Austin go head to

head in Houston for the WWF title. These two had an epic match back at "WrestleMania XV," and I see a repeat of a classic on the horizon. No other matches have been confirmed at this point, but I see all the major players having a role.

Speaking of major players, I am worried about the tension between the Radicalz, namely Eddie Guerrero and Chris Benoit. If these two hot heads could stay a team, they could be the most dominant force in the WWF. However, I see them breaking apart, with their egos and desire for gold prevailing over friendship. It is sad really. Over the years watching WWF I have seen so many great friendships flushed down the tubes. From Hulk Hogan and Andre the Giant, to Virgil and The Million Dollar Man and even the split between Doink and Dink, many friendships have seen an end as the greed over power in the WWF rises. So sad.

What isn't sad is the fact that The Big Red Machine' Kane and his brother the Undertaker, are still kicking butt in the tag team ranks. I see these two brothers wearing tag team gold soon. I just hope Kane doesn't pawn the belts to pay for his plastic surgery. Then again, if I had to wear a mask to cover my Godless face, I might be tempted too, but Kane, for the love of God, don't pawn them until after "WrestleMania."

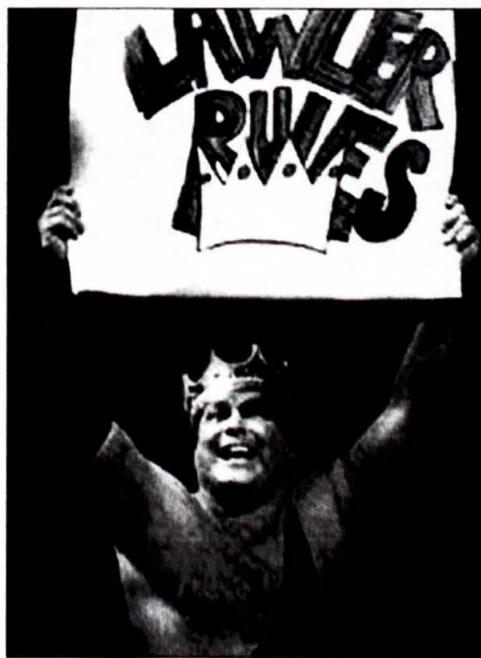


Photo from King Lawler.com



# Diverse Talent Shows at Battle of Colleges

By Michael Hirtzer

Staff Writer

One of the best aspects of Columbia College is that it allows for the convergence of painters, photographers, filmmakers, musicians, and writers. Everyone kindly shares the same hallways, classrooms, cafes, and in the case of the Battle of the Colleges, the same stage.

The Black Student Union (BSU) and 4 Reel Entertainment recently organized the battle, which gives young artists a forum to express themselves as well as a chance to network with people in the Chicago area entertainment industry. The battle was held in the Herman Conaway Center at Columbia's 1104 S.

Wabash dormitory, on Thursday, Feb. 22.

This was the first in a series of battles that are tentatively scheduled at Chicago State, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Kennedy-King College. Gousman's group, 4 Reel Entertainment and the BSU's goal was to "help unify Chicago's College Community through friendly competition," according to the press release.

The Hermann Conaway Center's lofty ceiling and wooden floor combined for fine acoustics which were ideal for the evening's entertainment, which ranged from rap and R&B to poetry and comedy. According to event coordinator Gerard Gousman, a senior television major, Columbia provided stage lights, microphones, and a mixing desk that was stationed on the second floor.

The evening, as well as the audience's collective "third eye" was opened by Sci-Fi, a hip-hop trio in which MC Eugene Ezekiah spit intense rhymes while fellow MCs Brian Joshiah and Aaron Stats followed through with a more "mellow-my-man" approach.

Adding to the laid-back vibe was Leone Q (who played his trumpet strictly for the "old folks"), as well as the R&B singing of Stephanie James and 360 ("AKA Byron Anderson")—clad in baggy pants and a headwrap—performing freestyle poetry.

Next up was Chicago State's Monopoly. This six-member rap group performed a set of synchronized rhymes similar to Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, but they looked more like the Cash Money Millionaires with their expensive denim suits and stage names like Phylme, Lay-Low, and the Reeper.

Special guests for the evening were the self-proclaimed "youngest, hottest comics in Chicago." Wildcat and Lil' Rel, two-thirds of the Last Laugh Troupe, each gave a stand-up performance. Lil' Rel talked about how he chooses women with thick glasses over the traditional choice of thick women; while Wildcat's set ranged from "selling herb to his grandma" to the joys of oral sex with big girls.

After the comedy, the music continued with the rap of Black Reign. Three of the members (Credo, Kountre Cool, and Ikhan) attend UIC, while the fourth (Nasir) attends Columbia. Solo rapper, Da Donfather followed Black Reign with a boastful set, and indicated that "like Hollowman, haters can't see." He commanded attention as he strolled across the front of the stage and walked into the crowd. He also gave an encore performance.

The Battle of the Colleges had to hold true to its name and declare a winner: the soul singer Meisha. Her sultry voice traveled the deepest and she was award-

ed eight hours of free studio time at Fox and Hounds Studio. A sophomore music-business major at Columbia, she has performed at the House of Blues, Metro, and the Arie Crown Theater. "I am always on the mic, trying to perfect my craft—competition drives me," she said after the show. She also wanted to thank "Columbia College for always supporting [her], especially the management department and the Hokin center." Tying for second place was Depaul student 360 and Da Donfather. Third place winner was Columbia student Stephanie James.

Although there were only four winners to this contest, all the talent had a professional demeanor. Some of the groups have CDs out, or on the way (Monopoly, Black Reign, Da Donfather), Sci-Fi has songs available online ([www.mp3.com/seff](http://www.mp3.com/seff)), while others perform at open-mic nights (Meisha, 360). Special guest Lil' Rel has a part in the upcoming movie "I'm in Love With a Crackhead," which premieres at E2's (formerly the Clique) on March 7, 2001.

4 Reel Entertainment, which promotes and helps artists network with producers, managers and talent scouts, also videotaped the show. It will be archived at [www.truststreets.com](http://www.truststreets.com) sometime in March.

The diversity exhibited at the Battle of the Colleges is rare. Most of the performer's had contrasting styles, but everyone listened with an open mind. This was illustrated when host Kingdom Rock reminisced about the old school when there might have been "a couple of fights, but no loss of lives." What he meant is that there have always been creative differences, but people listened to each other, and at the very least, agreed to disagree. After all, there are not too many places where poetry, thug rap, and comedy can share the same stage; I am happy to say that Columbia is one of them.



The "Don Father"

Dwayne M. Thomas/Chronicle

# Radio hysteria in perfect tune

By Angela Timmons

Staff Writer

The Great Beast Theater's "Radio Hysteria" is an entertaining collection of monologues and an example of the gems you can find in Chicago theater if you venture off the beaten path. Originally performed the old fashioned way-on the radio-the work of writer and director Matthew Wilson debuted on stage Friday, Feb. 23.

Interwoven with excerpts of a bitter and introspective disc jockey's (Matt Johnson) radio show that is about to go off the air for good, these 11 well-paced narratives gain momentum when John Ferrick takes the stage as a creepy security guard riding a commuter train. Ferrick's character is so self-immersed, he has trouble discerning whether or not his internal rants are audible to his fellow passengers.

Ferrick is simply hilarious and shines again in a later monologue—this time off stage—as a patient in a medical study who is scaring the hell out of the timid study observer (Kat McJinsey) with his behavior.

The performances by Deborah King in the monologues titled "Through the Woods" and "Almost Home" are undeniably the most impressive. In "Through the Woods," King plays a

neurotic mother deeply effected by her childhood who urges her daughter to avoid sticky topics of discussion as they drive to a family gathering. In King's voice and nervous laughter, she is careful to let the fear and desperation of the character surface.

With "Almost Home"—one of the darker pieces—King again captivates the audience as a troubled young woman pacing around the stage and absent-mindedly munching candy while telling the story of the

journey her family took to their new home. King's moving performance and simple lighting changes make it extremely effective.

Amy Eaton also gives a notable performance in the 2nd monologue, "Acid Tongue," where she talks about a guy who insists everyone hates him. She appears later in "The Smallest Room of All," as a woman knitting while telling a story about a murder, and in the process offers a glimpse of the quality of

her own life.

The entire cast comes together for the last piece, "On a Plane," with Ferrick and Eaton playing a married couple returning from a funeral, Rick Uecker sitting alone on a bar stool, and Michelle Power and Deborah King playing sisters returning from a concert. Power and King are exceptionally funny as they fire back and forth like, well, sisters.

The timing of the monologues within this fast-paced last piece

works extremely well. The audience can easily follow the characters as they work through their individual demons and catch a lot of laughs in the process.

"Radio Hysteria" continues its run at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights through March 31 on The Great Beast Theater's stage. The InnerTown Pub is located at 1935 W. Thomas.

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Stop by the Chronicle Office, Room 205, Wabash Building, to pick up a free ticket (Admit Two) to a Special Advance Showing of "Exit Wounds" at the Pipers Alley Theatre on Thursday, March 15.

Tickets are available while supplies last on a first-come, first-served basis.

THIS FILM IS NOT YET RATED.



# It Ain't Homer, But It's a Start

By Rob Barto  
A&E Editor

"You're making this music as much as we are," said Brian Haas, the keyboardist for The Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey. A definite truth for most live performers. The audience is a large part of the outcome of the music.

The Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey is a trio consisting of Reed Mathis on bass, Matthew Edwards on drums and Brian Haas on the keys. This band originates from Tulsa, Okla. and has been together for over four years. In the beginning this group held seven members rather than three, including percussion, trombone, and guitar. Over time the group has narrowed itself down to the three remaining players.

While playing at the House of Blues, this group showed Chicago what they were made of and the crowd acted in turn.

It was excellent. The trio was able to keep everyone shaking and moving.

For a trio comprised of mostly rhythm instruments, maintaining a big, full sound using melodies and a strong percussive foundation is not an easy thing to do.

Jacob Fred has the ability. Using a melodica (a small, toy-like piano that you have to blow into) and different pedals and sound effects for the bass, this group creates their own sound that keeps the crowd bumping.

The opening song, "Fourth Ave" was an excellent expression of free jazz. The almost psychedelic sound that they created within the music entranced the audience. Holding the audience's attention

with the spaced-out sounds, the band moved into a more hard-core rhythm that started the crowd shaking.

While they had a definite sound all their own I couldn't help but notice certain reflections of Chick Corea's **Return to Forever** in their sound. It came as a surprise to me when I later found out that they really weren't influenced by the jazz legend at all. "My first influences really are Bach and Beethoven and then late Coltrane and anything (Thelonius) Monk," Haas said.

Another thing that I found interesting about their show was that during one of the songs they changed drummers. This is something I've never seen before.

Usually the groups have someone come and sit in with them, but I've never seen a group have one of their musicians leave so they can play with another. Andrew Barr, the drummer from the headlining act The Slip, was able to join in perfectly with the group. "We love having Andrew drumming with us," Reed said.

Talking about the move to replace their drummer with another for one song, Reed commented, "It's all about the risk, and if you're not into risk then you're not into the unknown." This comment shows a little of the flavor behind this trio.

Covering all the bases in their music, the Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey was able to influence, and be influenced by, the crowd at the House of Blues. Using the energy from the audience and having it filter through them into their instruments, this group came off as an impressive musical talent well worth looking for in the future.

## ASSISTANT

### Letters to the A&E Editor

by Vance Roush

When the A&E section first began the project, "Save The Last Dance, for Shifty," we never dreamed that we would receive the response we have.

Based on the overwhelming amount of letters from Chronicle readers, it seems that our subject, Shifty Liebowitz, has touched the collective nerves of the Columbia community. "Save The Last Dance, For Shifty," is not only a project to help a movement-impaired individual; it has become a metaphor for the human condition.

For some, Shifty's experience has demonstrated that through hard work and determination, maneuvering through the cold and unfeeling world without skill or talent is possible.

While some can just slap on a pair of baggy pants and dance the night away, others are relegated to local taverns, stomping and nodding to a dusty jukebox. It doesn't have to be that way. The only limits we have

Dear A&E,  
... Your article really spoke me. I thought that I was the only one. Now I'm not afraid to seek help... I now feel free to DANCE!

Thanks,  
Rinaldo Coach  
Senior  
Columbia College

These were just a couple of the letters we have received since we've taken on the project. I feel a great sense of pride that we could make a difference. In order to continue to throw fuel on the fire caused by Shifty, we have recently enlisted the help of Mike Kimmons, freshman in dance at Columbia.

I hope that when reading the following correspondence from Shifty, his newfound confidence will show. It is through Shifty that we remember that the body and mind work as one, and only through the command of our parts, can we move as a whole.

Dear A&E,  
... Mike (Kimmons) is one bad mutha\*&^%\$! When I unleash these moves at the club, y'all will know that I ain't gonna be front'n. For all you disbelievers I will show you what's the deal-io. I now throw down the challenge to all you perpetrators that think you can hang with "The Shift."

Peace,  
Shifty Liebowitz

For all of you that haven't been following Shifty's progress, please check out our on-line archive and for this week's tutorial by Kimmons. The archive and web interactive display is located at [www.ccchronicle.com](http://www.ccchronicle.com).



Donnie Seals Jr./Chronicle  
Mike Kimmons looks on as Shifty Liebowitz demonstrates his loose hips.



Donnie Seals Jr./Chronicle  
"The Shift" challenges all comers to a dance off.

## PICKS OF THE WEEK

### March 5

Dirty M.F. and the Smoking Section  
-The Note  
Patricia Barber Trio  
-Green Mill

### March 6

O-Town  
-House of Blues  
The Vandermark 5  
-Empty Bottle  
Jimmy Sutton s Four Charms  
-Green Mill



O-Town, playing Tuesday night at the House of Blues, tops our picks of the week.

### March 7

Tobias Delius, Hamid Drake, Kent Kessler  
-Empty Bottle  
The Convulsions  
-Double Door

### March 8

Orgy  
-House of Blues  
764-Hero, Kingsbury Marx, Tim Kinsella  
-Empty Bottle

### March 9

Weezer  
-Metro  
Roni Size Reprazement  
-House of Blues

### March 10

Ok Go  
-Double Door

### March 11

The New Deal  
-Double Door



Donnie Seals Jr./Chronicle

are the limits that we place on ourselves. So please read the following letters with, not just the belief in Shifty, but also the belief in humanity.

Dear A&E,  
... The column about Shifty was truly inspiring. I used to just stand in the corner and make fun of people dancing. I would fill myself up with shots of tequila and beat people up as they left the club. I now know, through Shifty, that I was only compensating for my lack of rhythm by taking it out on the kinetically inclined.

I have now enrolled in dance workshops, and to all the people that I have hurt; please find it in your hearts to forgive me.

Sincerely,  
Bob Barto  
Columbia College



## DVD Reviews DVD Reviews DVD Reviews

ROACH and Seals...

Chris Roach  
Assistant A&E EditorDonnie Seals Jr.  
Photography Editor

## REELS

You have probably seen the commercials. "Girls, Girls and more Girls!" I know you have been tempted to call. Don't be ashamed, all card carrying heterosexual males have wanted to call too. Those naughty little vixens of "Girls Gone Wild" look as if they could put a little steam in anyone's strides. However, let me save you the money and disappointment, because I have seen the "Best of Mardi Gras" and "The Best of Spring Break" and the only thing my strides are feeling is nausea.

The girls featured on this "Girls Gone Wild" DVD are the kind of girls you wouldn't touch with a ten-foot pole. The girls of spring break dance with moves that would make dogs run and hide. The girls of Mardi Gras shamelessly show their horrific breasts in an attempt to get plastic beads. They might as well be exposing their souls to Satan himself. Now, don't get me wrong, I do not have a problem with blatant T & A shots. It's just that these girls give you all you can handle and a lot you don't want to. They are anything but sexy, and leave about as much to the imagination as my Uncle Monty left me in his will.

In the ads, they say these are "the girls next door." If you lived next door to this 'ho train you would probably want to move out of the red light district. If anything, this video should be shown in schools so kids can see what signs to look for to avoid STDs.

Plus, a lot of these "girls next door" are middle-aged women. Perhaps some of you will disagree, but C-section scars just do not turn me on. But OK, let's say these women would turn you on. That doesn't mean this isn't still a horrible video. The Spring Break portion has an hour long shot. No cuts, no change of scenery, nothing. Plus, this is a video anyone could make on their own spring break or trip to Mardi Gras.

There is no reason to ever watch this. I feel dirty and hell-bound since watching it myself. I have never gone through so much soap in my life. If provocative girls are your thing, do yourself a favor and go straight for the porn. Chances are the quality will be better, the girls will be sexier, and God knows it will be more entertaining. Wait a second; I am talking about porno having good production? Do you see? Do you see what "Girls Gone Wild" has done to me? Shoot me and shoot me now.



## AUDIO

Wouldn't it be lovely if the viewer were placed in the middle of Mardi Gras with the sounds of bands, food and people yelling "SHOW US YOUR TITS!"? I believe the producers probably cut that option out, and opted for the inexpensive monotone sound. Don't expect much.

## VIDEO

Can you imagine what some of your home video's look like? Well, the wonderful cinematographers (if I can call them that) of "Girls Gone Wild" did just that.

## mmm...Ham!

By Prema Chandrathil  
Staff Writer

Would you like a free ham dinner? How about a free ham dinner and a chance to see someone get an assortment of fresh veggies chucked at their faces?

If you answered yes to both of these questions, then you're in luck. The *Neo-Futurists*, best known for "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind," has created another theatre winner. "Torque."

"Torque," is a play about a "Merriam Cunningham" mother and her psychotic "Leave it to Beaver" son both of whom lead cherfuly dysfunctional lives.

The play starts with the overly pleasant mother (Melissa Culverwell) happily cleaning her 1950's house, until her son (Paul Grundy) comes home and they bust out into a cabaret dance number. They only stop to scrupulously taste-test the ham cooking in the oven.

They are about to sit down for dinner when the mother mentions how she misses "how father used to bring over visitors for dinner." This is when it gets good for the audience.

The theatergoers smell the ham, and see the tender pieces of ham being cut as the juices slowly drip down onto the plates. Just as you're getting hungry, both mother and son go and grab some lucky audience members to have a ham dinner with the family. But this time, one of the audience members got a strange look from the surprised actors, when she told them she was a vegetarian.

After dinner, both mother and son break into another little jig that even Michael Jackson would be proud of. Make that MC Hammer. This family continues to freak you out as they catch "dance fever" to break the monotony of their lonely, uneventful lives.

Later in the night, the family is invaded by two robbers that a four star hotel might provide.



Advice, pillows, and blankets to sleep on and, of course, ham!

Soon their sunny exteriors are stripped away as the robbers delve deeper into their past, and find out about their guilty feelings and corrupt dealings.

Revelations about family, life and death are all answered with one word: ham. The ham itself is an important character, as it holds the key to their family secret.

The actors were amazing; not only could they win a Star Search contest for best dance, but they also kept the audience happy and constantly involved in the performance. But even better than the actors was the set.

At first glance it looked like an ordinary wall, flat and one-dimensional, but Ryan McKinty-Trupp, set and lighting director, surprises you by making certain cupboards and doors open, to add dimension.

At one point the robber tries to walk up the stairs only to be diverted before she can smack into the wall. This whole set gives an angled dimension to the stage. But more importantly it left the audience laughing and hungry for ham.

The writer and mastermind behind this play is Steven Mosqueda, one of the robbers. His writing flowed easily, especially between the song and dances, when audience members can most easily be lost.

For poor students, such as myself, this could possibly turn out to be a dinner and a play if you're lucky, for the price of \$8, with a student ID or \$10 without. It runs on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through March 24<sup>th</sup>. And for those of you who are looking for something to do on St. Patrick's Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>, bring a cabbage to the show and you get in for free! What a deal.

**"A SUPERNOVA OF A HIT!"**  
— Sherianne Kaplan, WOMEN NEWSWOMAN

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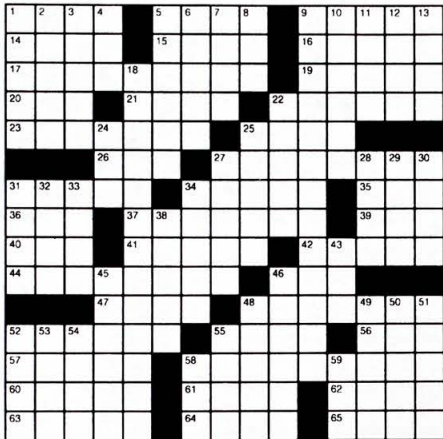
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# CROSSWORD

## Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 On the waves
  - 5 Plebiscite
  - 9 Puccini opera
  - 14 Son of Leah
  - 15 Saharan
  - 16 Sharif and Epps
  - 17 Sailboats with three hulls
  - 19 Revise charts
  - 20 Not at home
  - 21 Sediment
  - 22 Scatters randomly
  - 23 Broadway hits
  - 25 Scads
  - 26 Pea capsule
  - 27 Atlas' seven daughters
  - 31 Jack of the nursery rhyme
  - 34 Land of the dead
  - 35 Snacked
  - 36 Spherical vegetable
  - 37 Copy
  - 39 sequitur
  - 40 Container with a tap
  - 41 Central parts of churches
  - 42 Exhausted
  - 44 Women's sleepwear
  - 46 That woman
  - 47 Resistance units
  - 48 Himalayan climbers
  - 52 Mesas
  - 55 Ochs or Collins
  - 56 Ms. Tarbell
  - 57 Baker or Loos
  - 58 Heaths
  - 60 Equestrian
  - 61 Comic Meara
  - 62 Club fees
  - 63 Water vapor
  - 64 Poor grades
  - 65 Nimble
- DOWN
- 1 Countertenors
  - 2 Blood
  - 3 Madonna role
  - 4 Objective
  - 5 Diverse



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3/5/01

### Solutions

- 6 Face-to-face exam
- 7 Color shade
- 8 Asner and Sullivan
- 9 Hawksbill's carapace
- 10 Sicilian code of silence
- 11 Ditto
- 12 Bird's crop
- 13 Small vipers
- 18 Moral support
- 22 Ice fall
- 24 Health resort
- 25 Robert and Alan
- 27 Noggins
- 28 Laertes or Hamlet, e.g.
- 29 Winchester's rival
- 30 Dispatched
- 31 Rotated rapidly
- 32 Gilpin of "Frasier"
- 33 Told
- 34 Bee colonies
- 38 Disfigures
- 43 Part of rpm
- 45 Drink choice
- 46 Former English counties
- 48 Ginted
- 49 Cover girl
- 50 European viper
- 51 Pert
- 52 Obstacles
- 53 Military group
- 54 Ocean motion
- 55 Corn concoction
- 58 Loony
- 59 Commercial bits

# Classifieds

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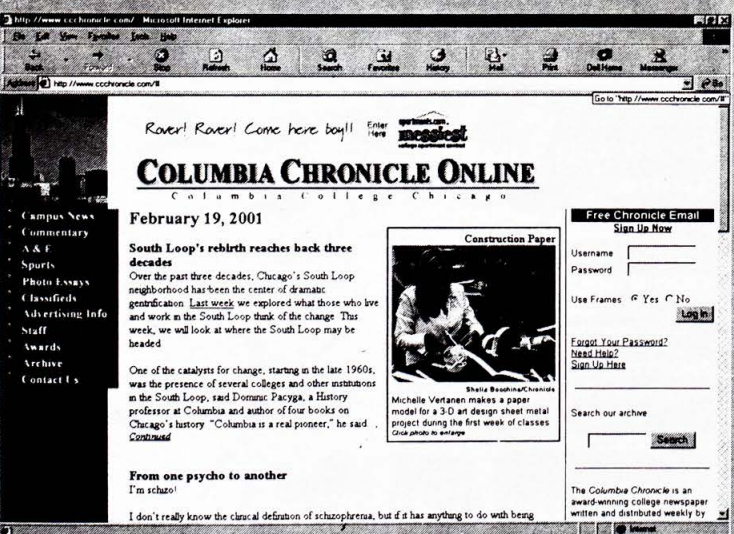
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## Academic Excellence Award

\$3000 for one academic year (\$1,500 awarded in Fall, 2001 and \$1,500 awarded in Spring 2002). This scholarship is for full-time students with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average and at least 12 credit hours earned at Columbia College Chicago.

**Deadline: March 15, 2001**

### Applications are available at:

Financial Aid Office,  
600 S. Michigan, Room 303

Office of Enrollment Management,  
600 S. Michigan, Room 300

Academic Advising,  
623 S. Wabash, Room 300

## David Rubin Trustees' Scholarship

\$2000.00 for one academic year (\$1000.00 awarded Fall, 2001 and \$1000.00 awarded in Spring, 2002). This scholarship is for full-time outstanding students to defray tuition costs. Scholarship awards are based on academic achievement and demonstration of financial need.

**Deadline: April 2, 2001**

## Hermann Conaway Scholarship

\$2000 for one academic year (\$1000 awarded in Fall, 2001 and \$1000 awarded in Spring, 2002). This scholarship is for full-time outstanding students who have demonstrated leadership ability on Columbia's Campus or beyond.

**Deadline: April 2, 2001**

## Hillary Kalish Scholarship

\$2500 maximum award per academic year (\$1250 awarded Fall, 2001 and \$1250 awarded Spring, 2002). This scholarship helps medically and financially challenged students complete an undergraduate degree. (Part-time students are eligible to apply.)

**Deadline: April 1, 2001**

## Thaine Lyman Scholarship

\$1,000 maximum award for the Fall, 2001 semester. This scholarship is for full-time television students who have at least 24 credit hours earned at Columbia.

**Deadline: March 15, 2001**

Columbia College Chicago admits students without regard to age, color, creed, sex, religion, handicap, disability, sexual orientation, and national or ethnic origin.

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**Wednesday-** Split Pea with Ham  
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Friday 8am to 3pm



## Big Hurt? Try Big Squirt

White Sox designated hitter Frank Thomas has always been known as the Big Hurt. When he was busy hitting just 15 homeruns a couple of years ago, Thomas was able to keep his nickname, even though the only thing he was hurting was his team.

Now a year after rejuvenating his career, Thomas should have a new nickname. How about the Big Squirt? It fits well because Thomas has left a big brown stain on his already shaky reputation. In what is hoped to be a World Series year for Big Squirt's team, Thomas picked the wrong time to start complaining about the contract he signed at the end of 1997. The team made a huge move getting the number one starter they coveted when they traded for David Wells, and all the young players that have been highly touted are finally ready to play.

This is a distraction that a

team with championship aspirations doesn't need. The Big Squirt put his own welfare before his teammates, and they sure can't be feeling good about him right now. Perhaps the most shocking part of the Thomas saga is that he feels underpaid. Exactly how much does the Big Squirt think a designated hitter should make? He comes up to bat four times a game and then goes back into the clubhouse. He has said in the past that he doesn't want to play defense and prefers the role of designated hitter. Why the Sox would even want a guy who feels like that is beyond me. Why they would keep a guy who complains about being paid nearly \$10 million a year for batting four times a game is really beyond me.

Thomas is overpaid right now. He does nothing worthy of making what the top players make, which is what the Big Squirt thinks his salary should be on par with. He was horrible the two seasons before last, and has never been a team leader. Does one good year after two bad seasons constitute a raise? In Thomas' mind it does. In the minds of other players and fans it certainly doesn't.

Nobody has come to his defense since his walk out, and the fans won't be so quick to forgive Thomas when he steps up to the plate for the first time this year. His reputation was already damaged, but he did a decent job repairing that bridge last year. This will no doubt alienate the fans that were starting to come back on his side.

Thomas should look on the other side of the city at a player who is handling his situation much better. Sammy Sosa may be much like Thomas in that his defense is below average, but the comparisons stop right there. Sosa has never complained about the contract he signed. After hitting 66 homeruns in 1998 and 179 homers in three seasons, Sosa never once threatened to hold out because he deserved more money. He has played out the four-year contract that he signed and has played almost every day during that duration. Sure, it's debatable whether he is worth \$17 million a year, but it's his right to ask for as much as he wants. Unlike Thomas, Sosa will be a free agent at year's end and deserves to make as much as a team will give him. If that's \$17 million, then so be it.

But Thomas doesn't deserve \$17 million or \$170 million. He deserves \$9.9 million a year through 2006, which is the amount of money that the contract he signed says he's worth. If the Big Squirt thinks he's worth more, put up good numbers for the next five seasons and get the money then.

Somehow though, it seems unlikely that Thomas will command anymore than \$9.9 million as a 38-year-old designated hitter. He's a 32-year-old one at this point, and he's not even worth that now.



Scott Venci  
Correspondent



AP Photo/Chris Putman

The United States' Josh Wolff (15) scored a goal in their victory over Mexico.

## Fire's Wolff helps U.S. get quick jump on World Cup qualifier

By Nell Buethe  
Assistant Sports Editor

There is a sport that is preparing to take the United States by storm and no, it's not XFL football. It's soccer, that sport you played when you were a little kid, but forgot about since you've spent so much time watching football, basketball and baseball.

For the next nine months the U. S. National Team will be playing games across North America in an attempt to qualify for the World Cup in 2002, and Chicago is directly involved.

To bolster the team, head coach Bruce Arena called upon four players from the

Chicago Fire. Arena called upon midfielders Chris Armas and DaMarcus Beasley (who will not play due to injury), along with midfielder Josh Wolff and goalkeeper Zach Thornton. The four selections were the most of any MLS team.

The four selections are a testament to the hard work and success that the Fire exhibited the past few years. Chicago won the MLS Central Division last season and the MLS Championship in 1998.

"We are very proud of the players accomplishment," said Chicago Fire GM Peter Wilt. "It reflects the talent and hard work these guys have toward the game."

The Fire organization is proud that they have the most MLS players representing them on the national team, but it comes at a price. The players will have to split time between the Fire and the national team this season. At certain points during the year the players will be playing or traveling with the national team and won't be available to the Chicago Fire.

"We need to work with the national team to compare schedules," said Wilt. "It will impact the team this season, but it won't be a huge effect. We recognized this could happen and we have built a deep team at all positions."

Wilt said that even though it is a challenge to fill the missing players' spots, it is worth it.

"I would rather have this problem than not," said Wilt. "This just shows we have very good players."

Last Wednesday, the United States National Team beat a tough Mexico squad 2-0, and the Fire's presence was definitely felt.

The U.S. had an advantage playing at Crew Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, where the temperature was below freezing. For Mexico, the ice-cold temperature was so unnatural the players were taught mind exercises to block out the cold.

In the first half the U.S. lost two of its players to injuries. Starting forward and Buffalo Grove native Brian McBride collided with a Mexican player going after a header and received the kind of black eye only seen in Rocky movies. With his right eye totally swollen shut, he was unable to see and was replaced by Wolff.

Eleven minutes later, Claudio Reyna, the team's epicenter at midfield, suffered a groin injury and NY/NJ Metrostars midfielder Clint Mathis was substituted in his place.

It appeared the two injuries would be a devastating blow to the American's offensive attack, but that all changed 1 minute and 10 seconds into the second half.

Mathis supplied Wolff, his ex-college teammate at South Carolina, with a magnificent ball, bending it over and around three Mexican defenders. Wolff was able to get a touch on the ball right before Mexico's flamboyant goalkeeper, Jorge Campos, came out to defend. Wolff beat Campos and placed the ball into the open net for a 1-0 lead.

Wolff was involved in America's second goal as well, beating three Mexican defenders who had trapped him in the left corner of the Mexican half. He drew Campos off his line again and gave a pinpoint pass to a streaking Ernie Stewart, who blasted it home.

"Josh Wolff was just terrific," said Arena in a Chicago Fire press release. "We talked to Josh the last couple of days and we really emphasized to him that his speed could make a difference in this game. Josh is very good at running off the ball, and I thought he was a factor as soon as he stepped on the field."

Mexico has always been considered a strong team and getting the first victory at home is a huge advantage. The away games are always the most difficult for the U.S. The countries' crazed fans will not only harass them during the game, but the night before as well. These fanatics try to disrupt the Americans as they try to sleep by banging drums and playing loud music outside their hotel. The players have learned to pack earplugs and put them in before they go to bed.

The victory put the U.S. in a tie for first place with Jamaica, who also won their first game. The other six teams in the qualifying group are Honduras, Trinidad and Tobago and Costa Rica. The border match against Mexico was the first of ten games the U.S. will play in the final qualifying round. They will play each team twice, once at home and once away.

Teams are awarded three points for a win, one point for a tie, and zero for a loss. The three top teams at the end of qualifying will advance to the World Cup in Korea Republic and Japan in the summer of 2002.

The U.S. is not only hoping they can qualify, but also make an impact at the biggest soccer tournament in the world. At the 1998 World Cup in France they got embarrassed, losing all three of their first round games to Germany, Iran and Yugoslavia. They were only able to net one goal and finished dead last out of 32 teams.

With the help of Chicago's best, the U.S. is hoping last place will be a thing of the past.

### U.S. Men's Soccer World Cup qualifying schedule

- 2/28 Mexico (Columbus) Won, 2-0
- 3/28 @ Honduras
- 4/25 Costa Rica (Kansas City)
- 6/16 @ Jamaica
- 6/20 Trinidad & Tobago (Foxboro)
- 7/1 @ Mexico
- 9/1 Honduras (Washington D.C.)
- 9/5 @ Costa Rica
- 10/7 Jamaica (Foxboro)
- 11/11 @ Trinidad & Tobago

### College Basketball

Thursday - Sunday  
Big Ten Tournament  
ACC Tournament  
Big 12 Tournament  
SEC Tournament  
Wednesday - Saturday  
Big East Tournament

### Blackhawks

Wednesday  
@ Dallas, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday  
@ Anaheim, 9:30 p.m.  
Saturday  
Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

### Bulls

Tuesday  
Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday  
@ Detroit, 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday  
@ Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.



# XFL

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

turning toward the camera and seductively saying, "But on the weekends, I'm an XFL cheerleader."

The crowd ate it up, ranting and raving as if they were at a spring break wet T-shirt contest. But it was even better since they were getting a chance to know these girls on a personal level.

Then the stadium announcer rudely interrupted the fun by announcing the teams as they took the field, reminding everyone they were actually there to watch football.

At first it sounded like the crowd moaned at the revelation that they would have to watch guys tackle each other instead, but soon it became clear the crowd was loudly booing the NY/NJ Hitmen, as if they were the Enforcers' oldest rival.

At that moment the Enforcers had the crowd wrapped around their finger. They had a chance to do something the Bears,

Bulls, Blackhawks, and even the Blue Demons couldn't—gain Chicago fans' trust and loyalty. All they had to do was win and they had the chance to be the savior, to be the team that took the path less traveled and showed Chicago fans that they might actually have a team that was-

quality of XFL football can't stand on its own and decided to throw in some soap-opera stories to keep the viewer interested? It worked for the WWF.

During the game, a tiff started between XFL announcer and Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura and NY/NJ coach Rusty Tillman.

**"I would be embarrassed if I was a citizen of Minnesota with a governor like that."**

—Rusty Tillman, NY/NJ Hitmen Head Coach

n't mediocre.

Instead, they followed the same, tired trail and became the fifth member of the "Losers Club."

So, what does an Enforcer fan have to look forward to now? The games only last a few hours and the cheerleaders go inside when it's over to warm up their fingers, ears, and anything else that was exposed to the harsh Chicago wind.

But don't fear. Vince McMahon is here. Could it be that McMahon has realized the

Ventura criticized the coach for opting for a field goal on fourth down and short in the red zone, calling him "gutless." Tillman was told about Ventura's comments, but shrugged them off by questioning the governor's football knowledge.

After the game, the ex-Navy SEAL confronted Tillman on the field and offered his congratulations on the win, but the coach blew him off. As Tillman went into the locker room, Ventura defiantly told the crowd, "He's scared of me."

Later at the press conference Tillman was asked about the Ventura incident.

"They're just trying to manufacture something, you know, and I've already said my peace about Jesse Ventura," said Tillman. "I could really care less for him and I think maybe he should work on the taxes for the state of Minnesota. I would be embarrassed if I was a citizen of Minnesota with a governor like that."

Later in the week, Tillman seemed to change his attitude about not getting into a dispute with Ventura. "I'm going to fix them this week," he told the Washington Post. "I'm gonna go on there and talk about Jesse, all the (league) suits, the TV suits, too."

Since the weather was so bad, the Enforcers organization allowed the fans to bring their ticket stubs to last Saturday's home game, and get in for free. It was a nice gesture and a way to boost attendance, but the only way the fans will come back is to get rid of the football and just have a gladiator death match between Ventura and Tillman—with cheerleaders of course. Now that would be entertaining.

# Baseball

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

own. "I am very excited about this new sport, and I feel that it will be fun and exciting for the students involved," said Dassow.

The Columbia baseball team will be added to an eight-team league called the Wisconsin-Illinois Baseball Conference. The other seven teams are the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Marquette University, Northwestern University, Loyola University, DePaul University and Robert Morris College.

The team is open to all full-time Columbia students. The members must be willing to fundraise, be available for practices and games, and comply with SOC guidelines, according to Dassow. The team is still looking for members and everyone who meets the criteria can join. You do need a proof of health insurance to be able to play, as is true with Ultimate Frisbee.

The first practices were held March 2 and March 4. The next session will be this March 10 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Grant Park or Union Park. The practice location has not yet been finalized. Anyone interested should con-

## Columbia Baseball Schedule

3/25 11 a.m. DePaul  
(Niles North H.S.)  
4/12 6 p.m. Northwestern  
4/21 TBA Robert Morris  
(Illinois-Chicago)  
4/22 noon @ Marquette  
4/28 noon Wis-Eau Claire  
4/29 noon Loyola  
5/4-5/6 WIBC Tournament  
(Wis-Eau Claire)

tact Dassow at the SOC for further information. The baseball team will open play on Sunday, March 18 vs. DePaul at 11:00 a.m. at Niles North High School.

"We are trying to follow in the footsteps of Ultimate Frisbee, and hope that this team will be just as exciting as they are now," Dassow said.

The team name as not been determined, but are getting together with the Frisbee team to come up with one in the near future.

**March Madness Online**  
**Check out how UIC and Loyola fared at the MCC tournament this past weekend with the Chronicle online at [www.ccchronicle.com](http://www.ccchronicle.com)**

# Intramural

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE

residents. Interested students will fill out a form, stating who their team members will be. Teams can consist of all boys or all girls, and to make it more interesting, boys and girls can compete on the same team. Now, if you can't come up with a whole team the organizers will help.

The sports season will last approximately eight games, each held once or twice a week. During that time, students will be able to have organized practices with their teammates. After the season there will be a final tournament.

Varnado has spoken with Roosevelt University about using their gymnasium

to host the games.

"Roosevelt doesn't have a problem with it," said Varnado.

Students can also use fields across the street from Columbia for games and practices.

Varnado and his team are working on a schedule that will let students know ahead of time whether or not they'll be available for games and practices. Then students can decide whether or not they want to commit.

Varnado also said that they were reviewing the school schedule, in an attempt to figure out which day the least amount of students attended school. So far, they have come up with tentative game days scheduled for Monday and Friday nights.

Varnado is hoping for a big turnout when the intramural sign-up sheets become available in a couple weeks and said a number of students are interested.



Jamie Humphrey/Chronicle

Bud Fugitt takes an at bat during last Friday's practice.

# Bet against the boys and the girl

Picks for March 5-11  
Conference Tournament Winners

Each week the Chronicle sports experts will make their picks for five basketball games for the upcoming week. If you think you can do better, send your picks to [Ghcouch@aol.com](mailto:Ghcouch@aol.com) or call them in to the Chronicle sports line at 312-344-7086. Your picks must be in no later than each Tuesday at 6 p.m. The person who does the best will appear in next weeks' "Bet against the boys and the girl." Here are this week's games and the way our guys and our girl picked them.



G. Couch  
Record: 6-4

Big Ten - MSU  
Big 12 - Iowa St.  
Big East - Syracuse  
ACC - N. Carolina  
SEC - Florida



N. Bueth  
Record: 5-5

Big Ten - MSU  
Big 12 - Iowa St.  
Big East - B.C.  
ACC - Duke  
SEC - Kentucky



T. Snyder  
Record: 6-4

Big Ten - Illinois  
Big 12 - Iowa St.  
Big East - B.C.  
ACC - Maryland  
SEC - Florida



M. Richmond  
Record: 5-5

Big Ten - Indiana  
Big 12 - Iowa St.  
Big East - Syr.  
ACC - N. Carolina  
SEC - Florida



A. Holst  
Record: 5-5

Big Ten - Illinois  
Big 12 - Iowa St.  
Big East - Syr.  
ACC - Maryland  
SEC - Florida



Guest: Matt Amick  
Record: n/a

Big Ten - MSU  
Big 12 - Missouri  
Big East - N.D.  
ACC - Duke  
SEC - Florida



## Lay off Coach Kennedy...for now

After watching DePaul get pounded 90-66 at UNC-Charlotte last Wednesday, I shook my head and began to believe everything the media has said this season about Head Coach Pat Kennedy.

"He needs a bench coach."

"He is just a recruiter."

"Players don't develop under him."

"He should be fired."



**Graham Couch**  
Sports Editor

But hold on. Does Kennedy really deserve the axe, or even all the negative publicity?

It is no secret that this season has been a disaster for the Blue Demons, considering expectations had them finishing in the top 20 in the nation. Going into the weekend they stood at 12-16 and 4-11 in conference play. Making the NCAA Tournament would mean a miracle at the Conference-USA Tournament, and even

the NIT is a long shot. And while not making any sort of postseason play is certainly a step backward, fulfilling preseason expectations was unrealistic.

Four years ago, Kennedy took over a fallen program. DePaul was the joke of Illinois college hoops, finishing 3-27 in Joey Meyer's final season. They had lost touch with the Chicago Public League coaches and were not landing any blue-chip recruits.

Enter Kennedy.

In four seasons, he has restored local recruiting connections, bringing in most of Chicago's top prospects, raised attendance each season at All-State Arena and made the fans care enough that they are actually pissed off about a sub par season.

Last year, just Kennedy's third, the Blue Demons finished 21-12, made it all the way to the Conference-USA Tournament Championship game and were selected to play in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 11 seasons. Success-starved Chicago fans and media immediately started hyping an encore for 2000-01.

However, a couple of roadblocks were set up for Kennedy's team before this season even tipped off—Quentin Richardson and Paul McPherson left for the NBA. You can't lose your first and third leading scorers and two would-be upperclassmen and expect to be an elite team, no matter how highly ranked your recruits are.

Kennedy brought in two local boys and McDonalds All-Americans, Andre Brown and Imari Sawyer. As good as these two will be, they are hardly ready to fill the shoes of Richardson and McPherson.

When Michigan's "Fab Five" made it all the way to the NCAA Championship game in 1992, it changed the way freshmen are perceived in college basketball. Gone are the days when freshman and sophomores spent their time learning so they could produce as juniors and seniors. Now if a kid is a High School All-American he is expected to be All-Conference his first year as a Division One player.

That's not the way it works.

DePaul is not the only program that has faced the burden of unrealistic expectations on freshmen. Seton Hall landed the nation's top recruiting class this year and the nation's top freshman, Eddie Griffin. The Pirates were preseason ranked as high as No. 7 in some publications. Now they are 13-13 and fighting for an NIT Berth.

Kennedy is not a great game coach. He is not as good with the X's and O's as Northwestern's Bill Carmody or UIC's Jimmy Collins, and he doesn't always have his team as prepared as the elite coaches do. Case-in-point being a near loss to Chicago State in December, in which Kennedy admitted after the game to not watching any film of the Cougars.

But DePaul must take baby steps if they want to be a consistent NCAA Tournament team. Kennedy is bringing in the players. He must be given a chance to get the most out of them.

See **Couch**, page 27

# Jesse's Girls



(Above) The Los Angeles Xtreme cheerleaders entertain. Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura has been doing commentary for NBC.

## The XFL is better known for its Cheerleaders and personalities than its on the field action

By Neil Bueth  
Assistant Sports Editor

It was dark, gloomy and sloppy. . . oh, and the weather was too.

In a frigid rainfall that turned the first XFL game in Chicago into an offensive catastrophe for both teams, the Chicago Enforcers were held scoreless by the NY/NJ Hitmen and lost their first home game, 13-0.

Over 24,000 tickets were sold for the Enforcers' inaugural game and despite

the elements, a crowd of almost 15,000 filled Soldier Field. From the looks of it, most of the people didn't seem to mind the lack of quality football displayed by the Enforcers and Hitmen. They were there for the real entertainment: the cheerleaders and Jesse Ventura.

There were signs for the Enforcer's cheerleaders scattered throughout the crowd. High school boys held up one that stated, "Nothing But Cheerleaders," clearing up what NBC really means. Another sign blatantly declared, "I'm here for the cheerleaders," explaining exactly why most of these adolescent boys were roughing the elements.

A half-hour before the game started, the lovely girls, wrapped in long leather coats to keep warm, introduced themselves one-by-one to the crowd. There were video features about some of the cheerleaders displayed on the jumbotron. The young women were taped at



work and explained what they did for a living. Then it quickly cut to a shot of them in their leather cheerleading outfit,

See **XFL**, page 27

## Columbia Club baseball team set to begin practice

By Dave Renderman  
Staff Writer

Columbia now has a second sport to go along with Ultimate Frisbee. It's baseball!

Starting March 18, Columbia will enter into a new era with a brand new club baseball team. Adam Dassow, a member of the Student Organization Committee, and a charter member of the team are structuring the team to find a captain. The co-ed, student-run team has 13 players.

The SOC helped fund the team by giving them \$1,000, the same amount given to the ultimate frisbee team. The team has raised 280 dollars on its



Freshman Bud Fugitt warms up at Columbia's first baseball practice.

## Intramurals to start at Columbia

By Megan Diaz  
Staff Writer

Grab your gym shoes and sweatbands, because intramurals are coming to Columbia.

Columbia students will now have a chance to compete in the sports they love, on a non-collegiate level. In other words, Columbia students will compete against other Columbia students.

Participation is free and equipment will be provided. There isn't much of a budget, so sports involving less equipment will be given a "trial run," according to co-organizer Carl Varnado. Basketball, volleyball, flag football, and soccer will be the first intramural sports at Columbia.

All Columbia students are encouraged to get involved, both commuters and

See **Intramurals** page 27

See **Baseball**, page 27