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Columbia Chronicle (05/29/2001)

Columbia College Chicago

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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Columbia College Chicago

Tuesday, May 29, 2001

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New structure, new deans set in place

Journalism's Hulse resigns in protest

By Amber Holst
Editor-in-Chief

After more than a year of debate and discussion Columbia administrators have finally enacted on a restructuring plan that redefines the college from an organizational standpoint.

The plan has caused controversy in regards to the appointment of one of four new deans that head new divisions that will align various departments throughout the school.

On May 25, Interim Journalism Chair Carolyn Hulse announced her resignation from the position because she had strong disagreements with the appointment of Wade Roberts, who was chosen to serve as the acting dean for the new school of media arts.

Hulse, who planned to step down from the position Sept. 1, was told by school administrators that she would instead be

relieved of the position as of June 1.

Roberts, who currently heads the Interactive Multimedia program, was fired from the *Chicago Sun-Times* in 1985 after editors there said he fabricated a story about Texas football fans watching a Bears game in a bar. Roberts has denied any wrongdoing and came to work at Columbia in 1988 as a part-time instructor.

In his new position Roberts would oversee the Journalism department as well as the Television, Radio, Sound, Marketing Communication and Academic Computing departments.

Roberts has a B.A. and has attended Stephen F. Austin State University and the University of Houston.

In other appointments, Cheryl Johnson-Odim of the Liberal Education department

See **Restructuring**, page 2

Spiral Tap



Patricia Dieball/Chronicle

Christian Norcross, a fine arts major, finishes her 3D Design final project by creating a coat rack fashioned out of copper tubing.

Graduates' take on current Chicago job market

By Allison Clark
Staff Writer

Graduation time is rolling around and some students are having a difficult time finding jobs. Even with solid resumes, including a college degree and an internship, soon-to-be graduates are simply not finding employment.

"It's a lot of catering your resume to what is out there," Elisa Ford, a graduating journalism student, said about the job market. "I'm not very confident right now. There doesn't seem to be a lot of opportunities."

Ford posted her resume on Web sites like hotjobs.com and cooljobs.com. "They actually send your resume to companies that fit your criteria," Ford said. She also visited the job lead bulletin board at the Career Center for Arts and Media at Columbia. The Web page and the career center have not produced any job interviews for Ford.

While at Columbia, Ford did a two-semester internship at a trade publication. "I felt it was a decent taste of the working world," she said. "I don't expect it to be much different."

Along with an internship, Ford took a magazine journalism workshop, which publishes *Echo*. Some students consider this amount of experience to be a leg up in the job market. Graduation is around the corner and Ford's job search reflects what the market is like this year.

"The job market is a little different than in past years," they will be able to help you," she said.

"There have been some real job cuts which leads to steep competition," said Keith Lusson, director at the Career Center for Arts and Media, who said that professions like the Internet industry, graphic design and copywriting seem to have fewer job openings than in past years.

"Students are competing with the victims of job cuts who have more experience than they do," he said.

At the career center, Lusson encourages students to start building a resume as early as sophomore year. "When you're at Columbia you should get to know your industry and the individuals in it," he said. "Internships are huge. Having the city as a campus is really advantageous when networking. This is something other colleges don't offer."

The biggest concerns of students who come to the career center is that they have not prepared themselves and are not sure what they want to do, Lusson said. He sug-

gested that students, regardless of their major, should get some practical experience.

"Our message is 'it's not who you know, but who knows you,'" Lusson said.

Jason Livin, an advertising major, is graduating this fall and taking a more independent approach to the job market. "I want to work for a corporation for a year or two, get my feet wet, and then open up my own advertising company with my sister," Livin said.

Livin's idea to create his own business stemmed from his frustration with the job market. Several area advertising firms recently laid off numerous employees and when the economy goes down they blame advertisers Livin said. "They are the first people to be laid off."

Livin transferred to Columbia from Ohio State University. He didn't find a reason to do an internship or use the career center. He doesn't plan on rushing into a job after graduation instead he is traveling to Europe.

There seems to be a mix of confidence between students graduating this year. Some students seem more laid back, while others are sending out a stream of resumes. Everyone seems to agree, though, that the job market seems to be slow.

Film instructor inducted to Chicago's Senior Hall of Fame

After 40 years of filmmaking and social activism, Columbia's Ron Pitts gains recognition for his causes

By Melanie Masserant
Staff Writer

Columbia film teacher Ron Pitts' career epitomizes endurance. He is a risk taker who has made sacrifices for his craft. After numerous threats against his life, arrests and racial boundaries he has persevered. Over 40 years of filmmaking and unfathomable time spent volunteering in the 3rd Ward, Fuller Park community, has earned the 67-year-old veteran filmmaker and social activist a spot in the

Chicago Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. Pitts was inducted in a ceremony at the Chicago Cultural Center on May 24.

Although Pitts is active in the Film and Video department where he teaches undergraduate courses, he finds the time to give back to the community where he has lived since the 1930s. Currently he is working on a project with "The Flamigos," a community group that grew out of a neighborhood softball team, which will benefit the community. They are building a low-powered TV station that will facilitate neighborhood commu-

nications. The concept was created 20 years ago.

"We thought about different ways of giving back to the neighborhood," Pitts said. "I was in and out of San Francisco a lot so we could never completely collaborate. Now that I am back we plan on pursuing this. This TV station is a model that we hope will be copied in other neighborhoods. I hope this is the first of many."

Pitts is familiar with the aspects of direct communication. In 1974 he helped create the first cable access station in the

country, in San Francisco. He invented the program called "Meet Your Supervisor," which is about the city council; now all cable access stations now have this program.

Pitts broke an all-white industry barrier when he became one of the first African-American camera operators in Chicago. Prior to that he was making socially relevant documentaries with "The Film Group." He covered the Civil Rights Movement, the 1968 Democratic

See **Pitts**, page 3

Briefly

News and Notes

Television students present 'Technicolor Revelations'

Students of the spring 2001 Television department's Experimental Video class will present their works in "Technicolor Revelations" on Friday, June 1, at 7 p.m. in the Hokin Hall, in the 623 S. Wabash Ave. building.

"Technicolor Revelations" consists of nine experimental video productions by Columbia students and promises to be an innovative evening of creative entertainment. Admission is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Barbara Sykes at (312)-344-7203.

Movement poetry reading

Thom Gunn Poetry Reading will open on May 31 and run through June, from 5:30 until 7 p.m. The event, sponsored by the English department's undergraduate poetry program, will take place at the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan Ave. Admission is free and the event is open to the public. For more information call Paul Hoover at (415)-389-1877.

Prominent award given to outstanding student poetry

The Eileen Lannan Award will be presented at the Columbia Poetry Review Publication on June 1 at 5:30 to 7 p.m. The award is sponsored by the Academy of American Poets and will be given for the best student poetry of the year. A reading by contributors to Columbia Poetry Review will also take place. The event is sponsored by the English Department's nationally distributed poetry magazine. The award presentation will be held at the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan Ave. For more information contact Paul Hoover at (415)-389-1877.

Dance company to perform

The performance Zephyr Dance will be held at the Dance Center of Columbia on June 7 at 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$18; discounts are available with valid Columbia ID. For more information contact the Box Office at (312) 344-8300.

Salt Creek announces auditions for 2001-2002

Salt Creek Ballet will be holding auditions for its 16th season which will include "The Nutcracker" and "Alice in Wonderland" on June 15, at 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Salt Creek Ballet Studios, 98 East Naperville Road, Westmont, IL. Auditions are open to dancers 15 years and older (male and female). Training in classical ballet and previous points work experience is necessary. Scholarship programs are available for male dancers. For more information, or to schedule an appointment please visit Salt Creek Ballet's Web site at www.saltcreekballet.org, or call 603-769-1199.

Alumni artwork explored

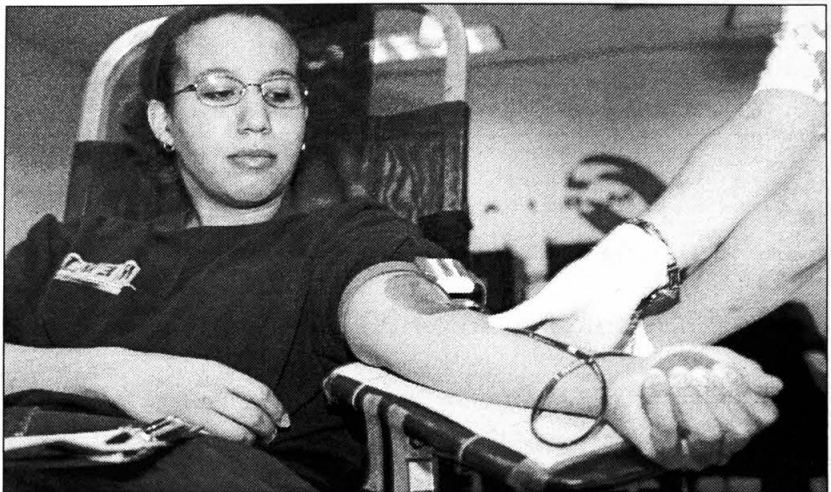
Join Columbia's alumni on Friday, June 15, as they present Four Walls: Painting Alumni Exhibit. The event will celebrate the recent works from some of the college's artistic alumni. The exhibition will be held in the Glass Curtain Gallery in the 1104 S. Wabash building, on the first floor, from 5-8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (312)-344-6650.

Infinity to host job fair

Infinity Broadcasting, one of the nation's largest broadcasting companies, will be conducting a job fair on Thursday, June 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the 33 E. Congress building, on the 7th floor. Among the companies represented include, WBBM-AM, B96, WCKG, WJMK "Magic," "The Score," US 99 and WXRT. The stations will be interviewing for the following openings in the following positions: account executive, sales assistants, producers, interns, promotions, writers and traffic/continuity assistance.

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Around Campus



Film major Octavia Taylor donates blood during the drive held last Tuesday, May 22, sponsored by one of Columbia's Senior Seminar classes.

Advisor removed from *Chronicle* post

By Amber Holst & Ryan Adair
Editor-in-Chief/Managing Editor

In a decision made by Columbia President Warrick L. Carter, Journalism department faculty member Jim Sulski was removed last week as advisor for the *Columbia Chronicle*, according to Academic Dean Caroline Latta.

The decision took place after the newspaper ran an anonymous letter critical of Science Institute head Zafra Lerman. The letter was written in response to a quarter million dollar settlement made by the college to two faculty members in Columbia's Math and Science department as a result of a plagiarism lawsuit. In addition, the decision was made because of "managerial issues," according to Latta.

In the Lerman situation the faculty members filed the lawsuit against Lerman and Keith Kostecka of the college's Institute of Science Education and Science Communication, citing that the latter had accused them, as well as the Math and Science department, of plagiarism.

The legal fees and settlement costs from the case were covered by the college's insurance policy and the settlement bares no liability toward the school, according to school officials.

Sulski is a Chicago-based journalist with more than 20 years experience, mostly in newspapers



Jim Sulski

and magazines. He currently freelances several stories each month, including pieces for the *Chicago Tribune*, *Crain's Chicago Business*, *Chicago Social Magazine*, *Real Estate Chicago*, *Consumers Digest Magazine* and numerous other publications. He is also a columnist for the Right at Home Daily Web site, which is published by Studio On Networks.

He is a graduate of Columbia College. Sulski also has a masters degree in communications from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Under his tutelage, *The Chronicle* has grown both in its size and coverage.

Since Sulski began working as adviser, the paper has garnered more than 150 awards, including honors from the Illinois College Press Association, the Society of

Professional Journalists, the Associated Collegiate Press Online Pacemaker Competition, Associated Collegiate Press National College Newspaper Convention Best of Show, Associated Collegiate Press/College Media Advisers National College Media Convention Best of Show, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Circle Competition, Northern Illinois Newspaper Association/Northern Illinois University Journalism Program College Newspaper Competition and the Illinois College Newspaper Business and Managers Association.

A few of the highlights awards-wise has been the First Place berth in the 2000 Illinois College Press Association General Excellence category for non-daily newspapers and the Best Online College Newspaper award from the 2000 Associated Collegiate Press Online Pacemaker Competition.

Student editors and writers who have worked with *The Chronicle* have gone on to a multitude of jobs in both the broadcast and print journalism industries.

Among the more well-known media outlets employing former *Chronicle* staffers are *The Daily Southtown*, *The Northwest Herald*, *The Times*, *The Chicago Reporter*, various ABC, CBS and NBC affiliates; and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Restructuring

Continued from Front Page

was chosen to serve as acting dean of the general studies division. Keith Cleveland of the Graduate school was picked as acting dean of the graduate division; and Leonard Leher, from New York University, was picked as acting dean of the fine arts division.

The last hurdle for approval of the restructuring plan was an endorsement by the College Council, which came by a tight 20 to 15 vote on May 10.

At the college council meeting, Columbia President Warrick L. Carter said "as an institution, we need to change." He said the restructuring plan "will create mechanisms by which these concerns can be answered. We need to

work collectively and will make sure it's [restructuring] as broad-based as possible."

According to a document released by outgoing Provost Sam Floyd, the plan will relieve some of the workload of the chairs and other administrators at the college, will promote "collegiality and interdisciplinary activities" between departments, and create more opportunities for fundraising.

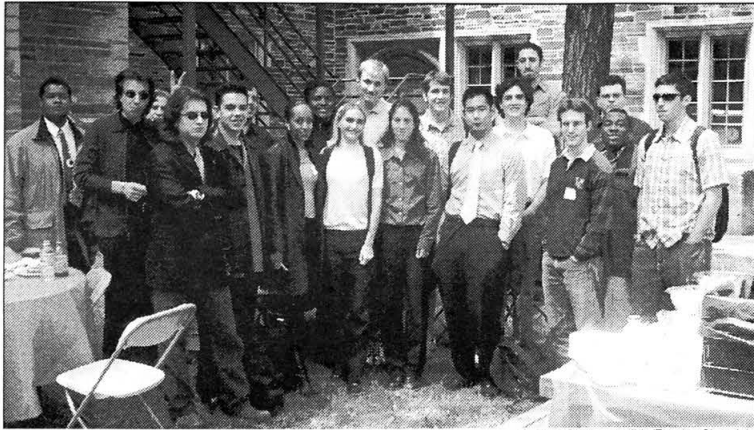
"The plan will take time to evolve, but it will furnish an opportunity for another kind of fundraising which we haven't traditionally had," said Executive Vice President Bert Gall. "This will ultimately help to keep tuition low and provide either more faculty or facilities."

The plan organizes the college into

several divisions incorporating several existing departments each. Departments that share both educational philosophies and equipment will be grouped together and supervised by a divisional dean. It is the dean's responsibility to manage divisional functions, as well as to oversee executive-level activities that support divisional and college-wide goals.

Since its inception and now with its implementation, reaction to the restructuring has always been varied.

"I think that it is important to look ahead and try and make it work," said Fiction Writing Chair Randy Albers. "It's clear that the college needed some changes, however a lot still needs to be worked out."



Sabina Ghebremedhin/For the Chronicle

Columbia students pose with their Princeton hosts during a break in their Princeton trip, where they showcased several original projects.

Science students travel to Princeton

By Sabina Ghebremedhin

Correspondent

The sight of Columbia students strolling through the prestigious campus of Princeton University is not an everyday scene. Since 1992 Professor Zafra Lerman, head of the Science Institute, has made the Princeton trip a tradition and students enrolled in a variety of the Institute's classes have had the opportunity to showcase their various science projects.

David Morton, director of Science Visualization Lab, explained that the classes in the Science Institute that deals with environmental issues are screened, and the best projects are selected and sent with the students to Princeton.

Last week, nine Columbia students were selected to present their work in Princeton, New Jersey through the Science Institute.

"I always wanted to do this because I wanted to prove that Columbia, being an open admission college, could be equal to Princeton," said Lerman.

Nearly 10 years ago, Lerman, in association with Princeton, received a grant to develop a joint curriculum that would include Columbia students. The nine students chosen to visit Princeton demonstrated science projects in the various disciplines offered by Columbia. The chosen students traveled to New Jersey excited to see what Princeton University had to offer.

"This trip gave us the opportunity to meet students who we normally put on a pedestal, but once we got there, they were just like any other students," said Darryl Nicolas, a sophomore, music business major.

The Columbia students met with a chemistry class, which usually gathers every Monday. The difference this time was that Columbia students joined the class and both

schools were ready to present. Princeton students also demonstrated their science projects.

Anne Ndeti, a Columbia student from Kenya in the interactive multimedia program said that the experience of the trip would only help her resume.

"We have the same knowledge but students from Columbia focus more on the technological aspect of science," Ndeti said. "They had the detail but we had the technology."

Another student, Omid Keshkar, a senior, film and video major said, "It was an educational experience and was more intimate than expected."

After the three-hour presentation, all students met in the courtyard for lunch. Following the down time, the Columbia students were off for a tour of the campus.

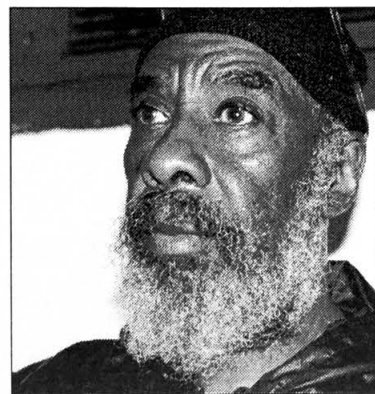
"We hung out and had a great time," Nicholas said. "They were not like those 'preppy' people we see in the movies," he added.

"I saw what a real university was like," Keshkar said. "I think that Columbia should have more interactions with other universities worldwide. This trip to Princeton is a great touchstone for the students to gain valuable contacts for the future," Keshkar added.

Not only did the Columbia students get to socialize with the Ivy Leaguers but they also had the opportunity to explore New York City. "The Science Institute gave us good food and great accommodations," Ndeti said.

"The way we were taken care of, it was really good considering it was Columbia," Ndeti said. "We were treated like professionals."

Many students who went on the trip agreed with Lerman and think Columbia is equal to Princeton when it comes to science. "It's a great opportunity to meet other students, especially from an Ivy League school and realize we are the same," Ndeti said.



Sheila Bocchini/Chronicle

Columbia film instructor Ron Pitts

College establishes suggestion box in effort to strengthen feedback

By N. Simeonova & J. Helmer

Assistant Editor/Staff Writer

One of the biggest problems at colleges today is the lack of communication between students and the administration. Each institution finds its own way to improve this problem.

Columbia has taken its own approach in dealing with the situation. Four Columbia product design students, under the supervision of Kevin Henry, coordinator of product design at Columbia, put their heads together to create a suggestion box for Columbia students, as part of their final project.

Mark Kelly vice-president of Student Affairs, assigned the idea for the project to Kevin Henry's Design Theory I class.

"Mark came to me and said that this would be a good class project," Henry said.

The class decided to turn the project into a competition, where all students would work on design concepts for the box. At the end, the top four students were asked to collaborate on a final project.

Henry said the students worked well together. "It was a nice blending of all our concepts, which is exciting because you have to let go of egos."

"I think it's nice that it's produced right here at Columbia," said Janna Kimel, a co-creator of the box and freshman product design major.

"The idea is to put at least one box up before the end of the semester, and later, develop more. There is always a certain amount of testing that has to be done. [The box] is still in a prototype form," Henry said.

The final design of the box keeps both safety and accessibility in mind.

"We like the soft corners for

safety reasons. The two writing surfaces will provide multiple access," said one of the box's creators Aaron Lacey, a junior product design major.

The box will be situated low to accommodate disabled students; according to the creators, the lower part is accessible for the disabled to write on.

The designers of the box decided that students will have to provide their own pens and paper, otherwise the area around the box would become a messy place.

The suggestion box's transparent, tinted, blue-plastic bin is chosen purposely, not only because it is trendy, but also because it will allow students to see that other suggestions have been made, which could encourage them to make their own contribution.

Replies from Columbia's administration will be posted next to the box. Henry says, "they are not going to answer every question, but if they see a trend develop in the messages, they will post an answer."

Henry said that Kelly wanted to create a dialogue between students and the administration and hopes that the suggestion box would help accomplish that goal.

"It is designed to be a suggestion box, not just a place for comments," said Sara Anderson, a product design freshman, another of creators.

"We'll have to wait and see how [the box] will work," said David Alcazar, a product design sophomore who helped with the creation of the box.

The idea for a suggestion box, rather than a computer terminal at which students could make suggestions, goes along with Columbia's vintage approach of utilizing the ways of the pre-electronic age—"it's more user friendly," Henry said.

Student given probation, community service for attack on college staffer

By Sal J. Barry

Webmaster

In October of 2000, the *Columbia Chronicle* reported on a staff member being attacked by a student in one of the computer labs. Since then, the incident has met the due process of the law.

On September 26, Julie Trainor was attacked by a Columbia College student in the Open Computer Lab located on the 4th floor of the 623 S. Wabash building. Trainor, who was conversing with a coworker, was grabbed from behind and strangled.

The incident started when Trainor, who runs the Academic Computing facilities, went to examine the student's credentials for using the lab. A newly hired lab aide accidentally allowed the student to enter and use the lab by leaving a Columbia tuition receipt instead of a Student ID.

"The student grabbed Julie around the neck and put her in a head lock and tried to rip the paper from her hands," said one lab aide who was working that day. "I went up to her and told

her to calm down and that Julie was doing her job. She then got in my face and started yelling at me that it wasn't any of my business."

"It scared me," Trainor said. "She grabbed me from behind. I didn't even see her coming, because I was talking to another (person)."

The student, a 21-year-old film and video major, fled the scene before security or police could arrive. Since then, the student was arrested.

Trainor pressed charges, and the case went to trial March 2001. The judge sentenced the now-former student to one year's probation and 40 hours of community service.

"It was an unfortunate incident," said Academic Computing chairperson Rebecca Courington. "I believe this puts some closure to the incident."

However, the college has not taken an official stance on this matter. Sources indicate that the student is still considered "inactive," and no official expulsion from the college has been issued.

Pitts

Continued from Front Page

National Convention and the Woodstock festival. Pitts also documented some of the most controversial individuals of that turbulent era.

While Pitts was shooting a documentary about Fred Hampton, the 20-year-old leader of Black Panthers' Illinois chapter, Hampton was gunned down in an early morning raid of the group's Chicago headquarters on Dec. 4, 1969. After Hampton was killed, he and "The Film Group" named the film "The Murder of Fred Hampton." This is the most remembered event in Pitts' career.

"When I saw the head of a person that was living yesterday and understanding the brain that was just there a few minutes ago was no longer, it was very devastating. This was probably the most moving area of my life," Pitts said.

Through out Pitts' career there have been many attempts on his life. He feels that it was worth jeopardizing his life for his craft. According to Pitts, there is a conspiracy against people with cameras because they can get the message out. His survival techniques and filmmaking can be directly related.

"You don't want to die. You just don't allow that to entertain your mind," Pitts said. "That's really what it is. You know that you will survive and I don't know what kind of

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Columbia College Chicago's Division of Student Affairs Congratulates the Class of 2001!

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Susan Greenwald, Director of Admissions
John Olino, Director of Financial Aid
Gigi Posejpal, Assistant Dean of International Students
Marvin Cohen, Director of Records
Art Burton, Director of African-American Cultural Affairs
Ana Maria Soto, Director of Latino Cultural Affairs
Mary Oaks, Director of Residence Life
Sheila Carter, Director of Special Events
CarolAnn Brown, Director of Student Galleries
Dana Ingrassia, Director of Student Organizations & Government
Janet Talbot, Director of Academic Advising
Keith Lusson, Director of the Career Center for Arts & Media
Marc Malone, Director of the Conaway Achievement Project
Timothy Gordon, Director of the Freshman Center

Historically black colleges receive computer funding

By Peralte C. Paul
Knight-Ridder Tribune

Robert Franklin remembers when college presidents of historically black institutions had to plead with their boards of directors to get more than just piecemeal funding for their technology initiatives.

One three-character phrase helped those school boards take notice: Y2K. In 1998, more attention was being given to computer networks across a host of industries because of worries that systems would go haywire when Jan. 1, 2000, rolled around.

Doomsday didn't materialize, of course, but for Franklin, president of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, the Y2K drama brought another issue to the forefront: While other major schools of higher learning had invested millions in wiring their campuses for the technology revolution, many majority-black institutions had only begun to start.

Faced with smaller resources than their majority counterparts, the 39 schools have partnered with some of the nation's largest companies and foundations to get campuses wired for the next generation of technology. Under the auspices of the United Negro College Fund, the institutions, including Atlanta schools Clark Atlanta University, Spelman College, Morehouse College and Morris Brown College, have received more than \$70 million in funds and software through the 2-year-old Technology Enhancement Capital Campaign.

The campaign starts another

round of aid to schools this Friday with a \$1 million grant of software and hardware from Hewlett-Packard Co. at a ceremony at Atlanta University Center. Past corporate partners have included Microsoft Corp., AT&T and EDS Corp.

"We need to have tighter marriages between colleges and corporations," said Ellis Rainie, vice president of media and information technology at Spelman.

"It makes a big difference. Indeed, what prompted UNCF to start the campaign was a study it conducted in 1999 to see how wide the gap or so-called digital divide was between black colleges and their majority white counterparts."

We found only 1 out of 6 students and only 4 out of 10 faculty owned or had access to computer technology," said William H. Gray III, UNCF's chief executive and president. That's compared with majority white schools where 1 out of every 2 students and 7 out of every 10 faculty had access to computers and technology.

For many schools, even those already wired, the momentum of change in technology makes it expensive to keep up. Morehouse, for example, has spent \$12 million to \$15 million in the last five years to build its technology infrastructure, but funding sources at the school are tight — its endowment fund is \$100 million, paltry compared with Georgia Tech's \$1.14 billion, Emory University's \$5 billion or even Agnes Scott College's \$408 million.

"Many of the colleges are wired sufficiently to handle the technology needs as they

exist," said Morehouse President Walter E. Massey.

"But the challenge is technology changes so fast, it's really hard to keep up with the technology demands."

Companies making such investments aren't necessarily agreeing to these partnerships simply out of some corporate benevolence, said Lee Rainie, director of the Pew Internet and American Life Project, which studies the Web's social impact.

"It's wise for these companies to reach underserved populations," Rainie said.

"They're serving their next market, the next generation of customers."

Morehouse's Massey said these companies are looking to diversify their staffs and better market an increasingly diversifying consumer marketplace.

"Most of the better corporations in America are serious about diversity, and they know that they can't get that diversity," without partnering with institutions that are producing a pool of diverse students, he said.

"There's some altruism, but some of it is self-interest, which I like."

Hewlett-Packard gave more than \$52 million in cash and equipment to organizations worldwide last year and was ranked No. 1 among computer firms by the National Community for Responsive Philanthropy that gave to organizations that serve ethnic minorities.

"We think philanthropy is good for business," said Rebecca Robboy, a company spokeswoman. "By contributing to the communities in which we work and live, it contributes to our visibility and corporate citizenship."

City looking into SIU student's arrest

Tribune Media Services

Following allegations of extreme force and racism, the Carbondale Board of Police and Fire Commissioners is considering a public hearing to see if police overreacted when breaking up a party at the home of a black Southern Illinois University student. Police used tear gas to break up a party from which they received a "loud music" complaint.

Commissioners met Thursday, May 24, and viewed footage from the incident and more than 60 complaints. The board will meet again June 14.

"We are going to look at this material and determine if there is sufficient information to hold a public hearing," commission chairman Harvey Welch told the

Associated Press. Patrick Gant, a 26-year-old SIU student, was arrested at the party and charged with battering, resisting and obstructing a police officer.

Following the April 22 party and subsequent arrest, about 200 protesters lined the main commercial strip in downtown Carbondale. Police allege that Gant resisted arrest and assaulted officers in the process.

While receiving a noise citation from police, Gant allegedly struck an officer in the arm in an attempt to grab his ID card, police said. A chase though Gant's house allegedly ensued and ended when Gant tried to flee from his bedroom window, aided by a crowd outside, police said. Witnesses said about six or seven police officers arrested Gant after spraying him and the crowd with tear gas.

U. Pittsburgh considers offering same-sex benefits

(U-WIRE) PITTSBURGH — The University of Pittsburgh announced Tuesday that it would form a committee to study the feasibility of extending health benefits to the same-sex partners of University employees.

The decision comes after more than five years of litigation between Pitt and the American Civil Liberties Union, which represents seven current and former employees to whom the University has refused to extend same-sex partner health benefits.

The class-action suit, which has been temporarily suspended as a result of Pitt's decision to form the committee, seeks damages on behalf of gay and lesbian Pitt employees. But according to the ACLU, the lawsuit's higher purpose is to foster policy change. Vic Walczak, director of the Pittsburgh chapter of the ACLU, said the committee's formation was a step in the right direction.

Walczak cited numerous other colleges and universities — including Carnegie Mellon University, which extended the benefits in May 2000 — as evidence that providing same-sex benefits is both feasible and increasingly common.

Throughout the suit's six-year history Pitt has repeatedly declined to extend benefits based on the costs and legal complications it claims would result from such a decision. In 1999, Pitt asserted that offering benefits would cost the University more than \$300,000.

According to the ACLU, Pitt recently assessed the costs associated with grant-

ing benefits at \$50,000, but the ACLU maintains that figure is closer to \$25,000.

Pitt has also cited the possibility of losing funding from state legislators who could jeopardize the state-related school's funding if it extended benefits.

In 1999, the state passed legislation that exempted state and state-related universities from adhering to local ordinances regarding the extension of benefits. The legislation boosted Pitt's position against the ACLU because it prevented the city's ordinance on same-sex benefits from applying to Pitt.

The ACLU maintains that Pitt's refusal to extend benefits is partly fueled by some members of the Board of Trustees that have "expressed hostility toward lesbians and gay men as well as concern that the provision of same-sex domestic partner benefits would harm University fund-raising efforts."

In a 1999 sworn deposition, Trustee J. Wray Connolly said he would have a problem with gays being employed as child care workers. Former Pitt trustee James Flaherty, who left the board in 1995, has also been accused of having an anti-homosexual attitude.

Pitt said the investigation will provide "a full and impartial exploration of the ramifications and implications of the policy options available to the University." The University also praised those involved with the lawsuit, saying that the moratorium on the lawsuit establishes a climate that "permits the University an appropriate examination of the issues involved."

UNC sues creators of UNCgirls.com

By Matthew McQuire
Tribune Media Services

The University of North Carolina has filed suit against the creators of the pornographic Web site UNCgirls.com, which the university says infringes on the school's trademark.

The lawsuit alleges that Jack R. Erickson and April M. Erickson violated federal trademark laws when they named the site UNCgirls.com. Jack Erickson said he feels he is the incorrect target of the lawsuit and that he did not run the site. Erickson says he was contracted to design the Web site and hasn't had anything to do with it since October 2000.

Erickson declined to release the name of the person he said operates the site. UNCgirls.com was no longer accessible Thursday, May 24, though a copy of the Web site was still accessible through a Web site operated by Jack R. Erickson

and April M. Erickson.

The site, The Value Companies, markets the Web design talents of the Ericksons and displays examples of design work they have performed, including UNCgirls.com. The Web site contains a disclaimer stating, "this site is not affiliated with The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill."

The site does contain pictures of the on-campus UNC bookstore and of the street signs at the intersection of the two main commercial avenues in downtown Chapel Hill, East Franklin Street and North Columbia Street. The site also places the words "UNC" and "Chapel Hill" in the HTML code of the Web site, which would attract Internet search engines to pull up UNCgirls.com when the two terms were entered.

In addition to ownership of the domain name UNCgirls.com, the university's suit also asks

for damages up to \$100,000 and any revenue generated by the Web site.

The UNCgirls.com Web site generates 5,000 page hits a day, has a monthly income of \$600 a month, costs \$200 a month to run and can be purchased for \$10,000.

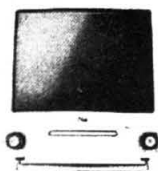
According to Value Companies' Web site, it also has designed the Web site ASUnudes.com.

The page states that the acronym "ASU" stands for "All State Undergraduate Nudes" and that the site is "not affiliated with, sponsored by or supported in any way by Arizona State University." Arizona State officials have asked the World Intellectual Property Organization, an agency of the United Nations that protects intellectual property, to mediate a resolution. An answer could come as soon as the end of the summer, a spokeswoman said.

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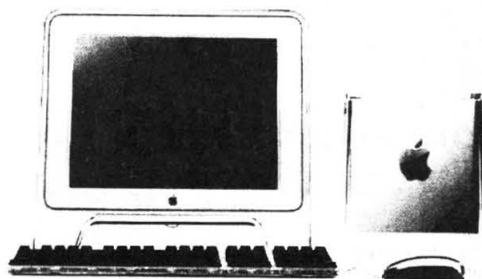
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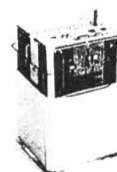
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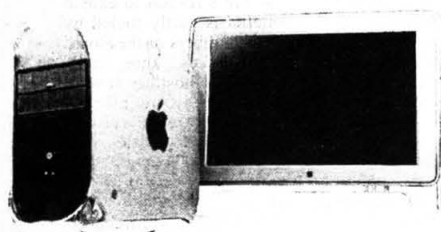
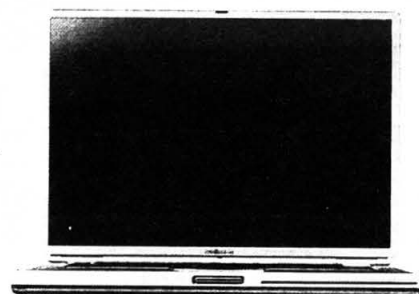
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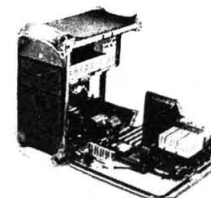
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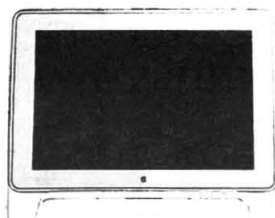


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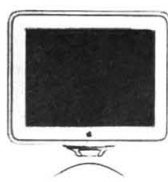
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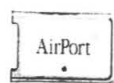


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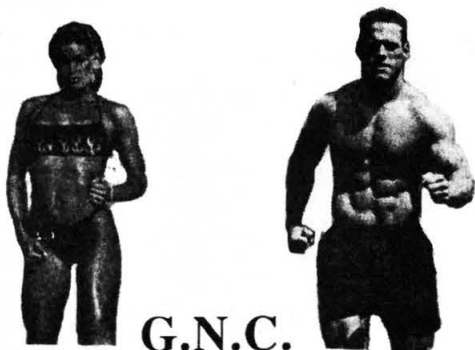


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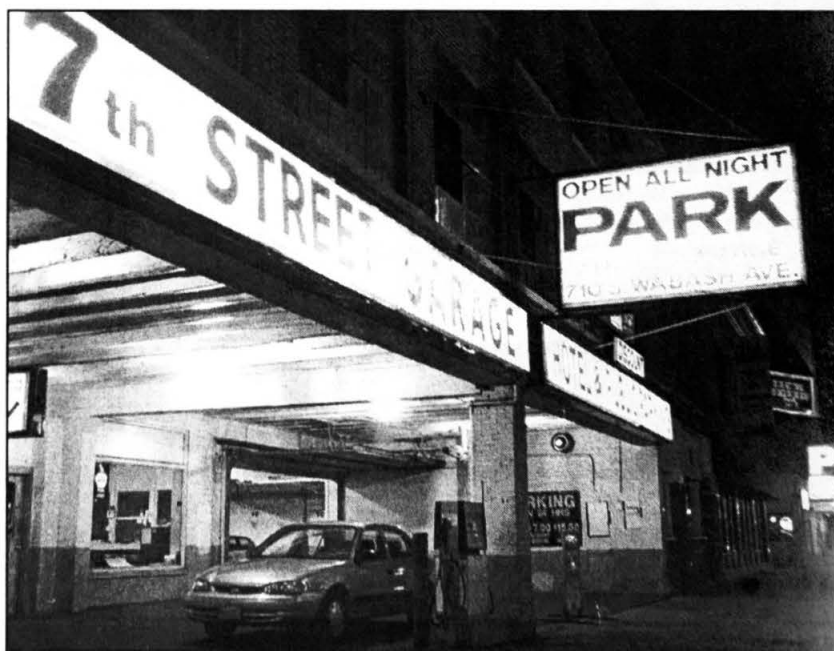
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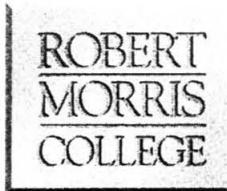
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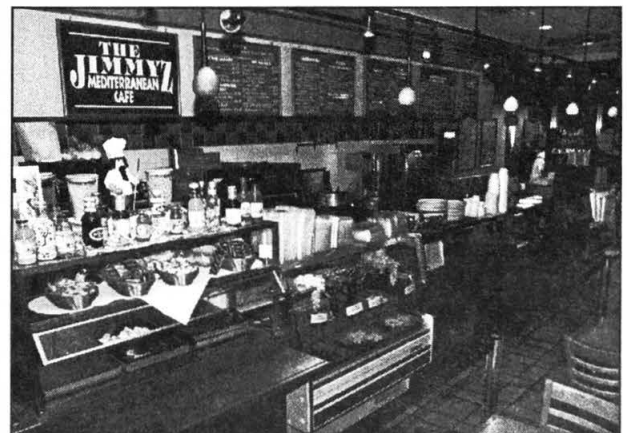
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COMMENTARY

Looking forward, looking back

By Jill Helmer
Staff Writer

Columbia is growing up. One way the college has grown up this year is by its significant physical expansion, adding two new locations to its campus. Columbia gained a new dormitory, and increased its total housing capacity to about 450 students, when it leased three floors of the Hosteling International building at 33 E. Congress.

The college also made plans for a new student center, including a commons area, student art galleries and a fitness center—which will be built on the new property Columbia acquired from an anonymous donor two years ago.

Columbia this year has also seen the makeup of its community change. This year, the college has gained a new president, started a major reorganization of its departments, and said goodbye to its founder, Mirron "Mike" Alexandroff, who passed away on April 20.

Meanwhile, the college's new president, Warrick L. Carter will be inaugurated on June 1.

In addition, Columbia will welcome new members to its family because of the reorganization of its departments.

Another way Columbia has grown up is through the great academic and professional accomplishments made by its students and alumni this year.

For example, Columbia graduates George Tillman and Robert Teitel premiered their \$32 million movie, "Men of Honor," which starred Robert DeNiro and Cuba Gooding Jr.

The movie screening was shown at the McClurg Court Theater, followed by a reception at Nicolina's in the NBC Tower. The

money raised from the \$100 a ticket benefit was donated to the Film and Video department.

The Fiction Writing department also made some great achievements. It's annual publication of student work, Hair Trigger, brought home national awards at its yearly competition.

And of course, there was also the *Chronicle*, which accomplished many great feats this year, including bringing home national and local awards.

Columbia's other successful student publication, *ECHO* Magazine, won first place for the Best Student Magazine Published Once a Year. In addition to winning this prestigious award, Echo has made quite a significant change, having decided to expand their publication to twice a year starting next fall.

Columbia has also proved its maturity by the fact that it was being more closely watched by the news media.

One of the major stories that the college dealt with was a personal email accidentally sent to the inboxes of faculty and staff by Pres. Carter, which gave details about his personal and professional life. The email raised questions about Carter's employment history prior to Columbia.

Another major news story at Columbia this year was Russian dance legend Mikhail Baryshnikov's visit to the dance center in October.

Columbia also gained its first two sports teams—the Ultimate Frisbee team and the baseball team—both called the Columbia Killer Bees.

One of the biggest stories of the year though was the loss of Alexandroff, who basically engineered the college into what it is today. To honor the memory of Alexandroff, a memorial service was held,



and the entire college was closed; it was the first closing of its kind ever at Columbia.

Columbia is definitely growing up. And not only is it growing; it is at a crossroad. The decisions being made now will lay important groundwork for the students here 10 or 20 years from now.

As the old proverb says, "Those who forget their past are doomed to repeat it." In order for the administration to best build Columbia's future, the best thing they can do is to look at Columbia's past and learn from their past mistakes. Before the administration considers our future, they need to consider where we came from.

Letters to the Editor

I beg to differ

To the editor, *Columbia Chronicle*,
In a recent article describing the settlement reached in the libel case filed by my colleagues Pan Papacosta and Ann Hanson against Zafra Lerman and the college, several unfortunate misstatements were made that I'd like to address.

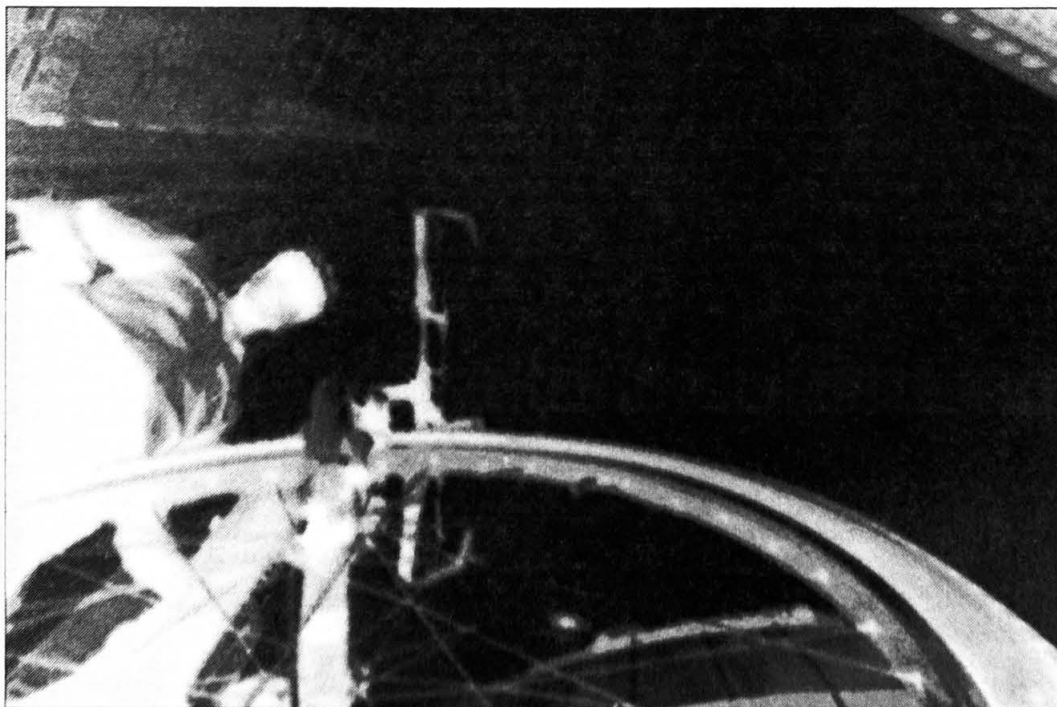
First, I'd like to congratulate my colleagues Papacosta and Hanson on the successful resolution of their lawsuit. This provides a vindication for them that the college failed to provide by suppressing the outcome of the college's inquiry into Lerman's charges (and in which my colleagues were found to have done nothing wrong).

In the article, Lerman is quoted as claiming she was forced to sign the settlement agreement by the college's insurance company (which is paying the bills for this fiasco), and she wishes the case had gone to trial. I have three comments. 1) Insurance companies don't "force" people to sign settlements of cases. 2) Insurance companies don't settle cases they can win. 3) My colleagues Papacosta and Hanson, along with many other witnesses, gave pre-trial depositions, under oath, and subject to cross examination, while Lerman failed to appear for her depositions on three separate occasions. It seems Lerman is much more adept at empty posturing from the security of her office than in telling the truth, under oath, on the witness stand. On this basis, the insurance company decided not to take the case to trial, probably because they feared that a jury would find that Lerman's written claims about my colleagues were false, damaging, and made with malicious intent. Lerman would have us believe that her testimony would have turned the case around, if only she'd had the time in her busy schedule to appear in court. If the case had gone to trial, the evidence suggests my colleagues would have had Lerman for lunch.

Lerman also says she wishes the college had taken the "principled" position. I suppose she means that she wishes the college had supported a libelous personal attack against my colleagues and my department, made in the Science Institute's self-study, that the college investigated and found to be untrue, that a court was likely to find both untrue and malicious, and that nobody in the Science Institute has the guts to say that they wrote, even now when the case is settled. In the same way, Lerman tells us that all her important colleagues were shocked by the outcome (as if their opinions were relevant), because she wants other people to do her talking for her. Those are her "principles".

The article also reiterates the claim that the Science and Mathematics department is "jealous" of the success of the Science Institute. Let's look at the facts. For the last ten years, the Science Institute has been bringing in grant money, which is their job (never mind that the money they've brought in doesn't even cover the cost of the Science Institute to the college). In the meantime, the Science and Mathematics department has been teaching many excellent courses

Exposure



Patricia Dieball/Chronicle

Loop Patrol

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See Letters, page 11

Letters

Continued from Previous Page

and developing new ones, which is our job, and we've been doing it at a fraction of the cost to the college. In response, the Science Institute bad mouths our courses, writes anonymous falsehoods about our faculty, and creates copies of the same courses they've been badmouthing. So, who's jealous of whom?

Gerald Adams / Science and Mathematics Dept.

An Explanation

I would like to share the following letter sent to Columbia College Pres. Warrick Carter with the college community:

May 22, 2001

Dear Dr. Carter:

On behalf of the Journalism department and the editors of the *Columbia Chronicle*, I would like to express my deep regret for the publication on May 14 of an anonymous letter maligning a member of the college community.

The decision to include the letter on the *Chronicle's* Commentary Page was journalistically incorrect and ethically wrong. The students realize their error, have apologized for it in the pages of the newspaper, and will not make a mistake of this nature again. Henceforth, the policy of rejecting all letters to the editor that come in unsigned will be consistently enforced.

I would also like to remind all who were offended by the inclusion of the anonymous letter that the *Columbia Chronicle* is an educational laboratory—like all student media at the college—where students often make mistakes and learn from the consequences that follow.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Hulse
Interim Chair, Journalism Dept.

A letter from the president

May 22, 2001

Dear Editor and College Community:

The *Columbia Chronicle* published an anonymous letter in its May 14 edition.

As was communicated by the editorial staff in the May 21 edition, "It is not generally the policy of the *Chronicle* to run anonymous letters." This statement does not go far enough in actually stating the policy. As is clearly indicated on the Commentary page of all editions, "Letters to the Editor must include your full name, year, major and a phone number." The importance of this policy is further under-



lined in the above letter from the Interim Chair of the Journalism department, Carolyn Hulse.

What the chair and the editorial staff failed to convey is the harm that may result from anonymous attacks and comments, as it does not provide an individual to which the targeted person may respond. This kind of behavior is not accepted at Columbia College Chicago. On behalf of the entire college community, I offer my regrets for the inclusion of this unsigned correspondence in our college paper and apologize to the targeted faculty member.

Sincerely,
Warrick L. Carter, Ph.D.
President

Science students speak out

Upon reading the May 14th issue of the *Chronicle*, we were appalled at what we saw in the Commentary section; the Letter to the Editor, titled, "Blinded by Science." The statements made by anonymous were completely unfounded. The language used by the so-called anonymous was childish and filled with inaccuracies.

We have the honor of being the "Princeton Group." On the weekend of May 13th, a group of students had the pleasure of traveling to Princeton, New Jersey to present their projects at Princeton University. We met and exchanged projects with the chemistry class. We all met Dr. Lerman's colleagues and we can tell you none of them were janitors. The program was a huge success.

Dr. Lerman works very hard here at Columbia for the students, if it were not for her such a program with Princeton University would have never come to be.

It is our opinion that the *Chronicle* made a huge mistake by publishing slanderous lies by "Anonymous." The college paper should not be a forum for spiteful people to exchange insults. We feel that Dr. Lerman is owed an apology by the Editor

of the *Chronicle* for what was printed.

We would also like to ask Anonymous, do you have an agenda? Why don't you have a name to backup your accusations?

Sincerely Yours,
Dante Harding, Omid Keshtkar, Orli Levine, Anne Ndeti, Darryl Nicolas, Carlo Pierri, Damir Polic, Shelly Poole, Matt Steinbacher

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Virginia Hawthorne / Sophomore
Goucher College Political Science

I do too

I agree completely with your critique of Homestarrunner.com it's 'totally awesome!' And being enjoyed by very many (probably) English speakers over in Europe. It's nice to see people writing about it, because it's worth writing about, it's a cultural phenomenon in a place where people who write about cultural phenomenon don't normally look.

Adam Sherwood / Reader

Another look at reparations

There is a difference between slavery and persecution, which you fail to understand. Many people have been the victims of prejudice, including myself, and I'm white, but that doesn't mean we are owed reparations. Your point is a real stretch, but it rings hollow.

Dennis Durband / Staff, ASU Graduate College

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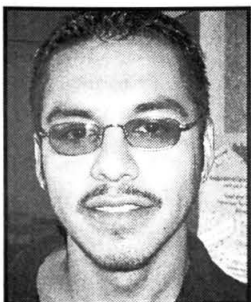
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The Columbia Chronicle Photo Poll

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Rolando Torres
Senior/Photography

"I would be Mexican food because it's hot and spicy, and then everyone would eat me."



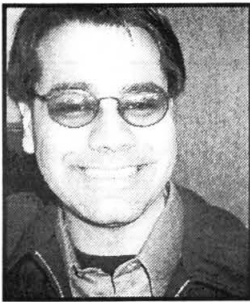
Jenny Miazga
Junior/Interior Design

"I would be a strawberry and my boyfriend would eat me."



Paula Carmicino
Sophomore/Film

"A popsicle. River Phoenix would eat me."



Sal J. Barry
Senior/Interactive Multimedia

"I would be Dr. Pepper and thirsty rabbits would drink me."

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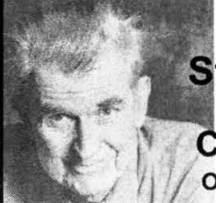
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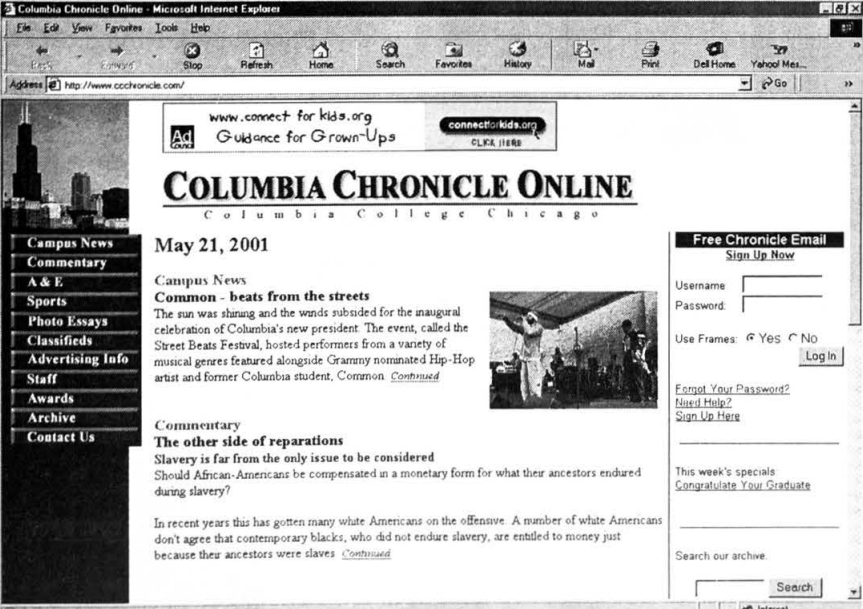
	5 & 6	7&8	High School
Des Plaines	7/22	7/22	7/7
Elgin	6/14	6/14	7/5
Evanston	6/9	6/9	6/9
Marquette Park	7/21	7/21	7/13
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Keep In Touch With Us

Visit the Columbia Chronicle Website for updates all summer long!



The screenshot shows the Columbia Chronicle Online website in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar shows 'http://www.cccollege.com/'. The website has a navigation menu on the left with links like 'Campus News', 'Commentary', 'A & E', 'Sports', 'Photo Essays', 'Classifieds', 'Advertising Info', 'Staff', 'Awards', 'Archive', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area features an article titled 'Common - beats from the streets' with a sub-headline 'The sun was shining and the winds subsided for the inaugural celebration of Columbia's new president. The event, called the Street Beats Festival, hosted performers from a variety of musical genres featured alongside Grammy nominated Hip-Hop artist and former Columbia student, Common. Continued'. There is also a 'Free Chronicle Email Sign Up Now' section with fields for Username and Password, and a 'Log In' button. At the bottom, there is a 'Search our archive' section with a search box and a 'Search' button.

Don't fret....

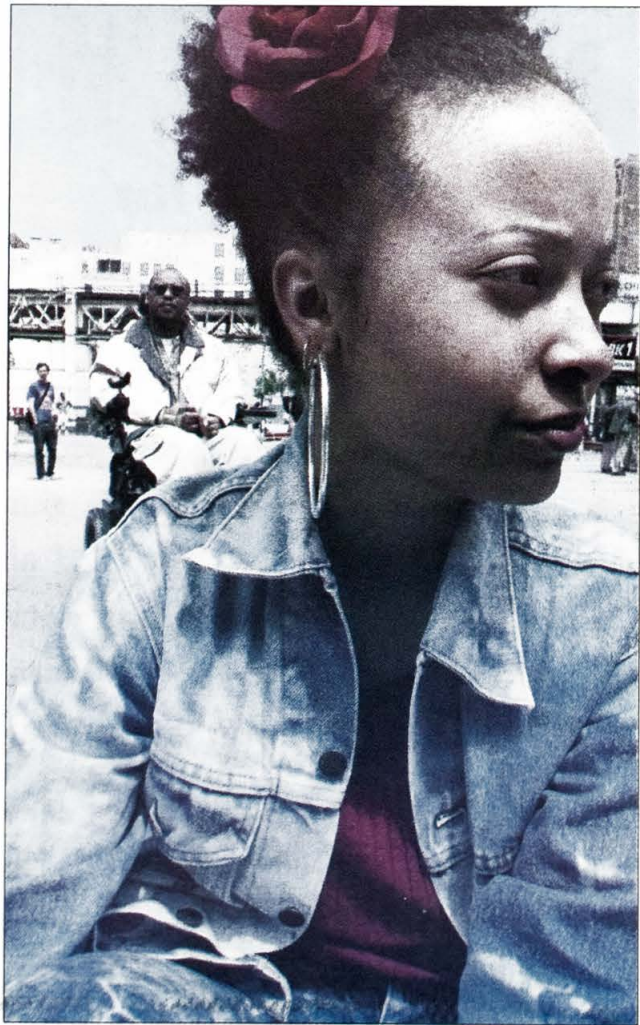
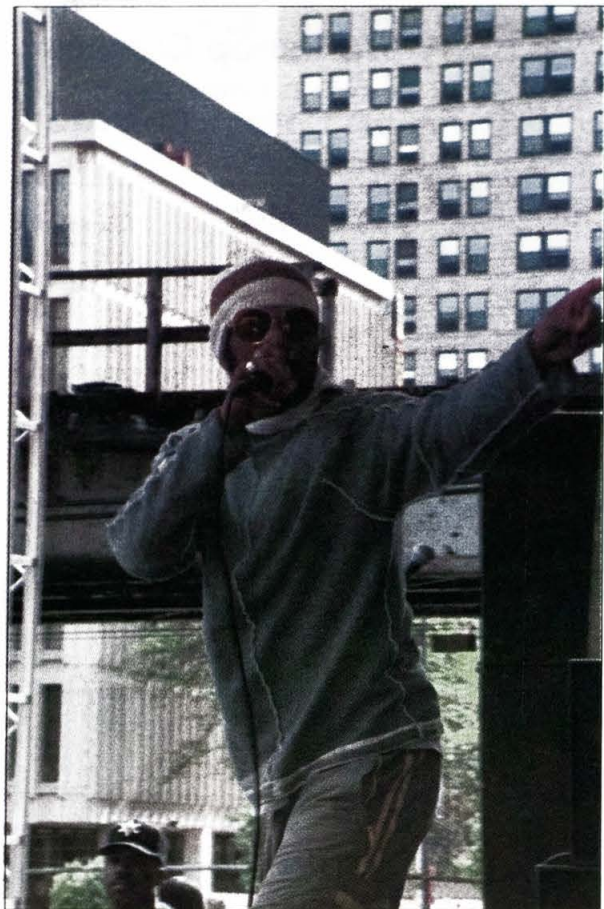
Even though we won't have a print version our web team will be hard at work this summer with new stories to keep you fresh on Columbia news.

Check us out @

www.columbiachronicle.com

STREET

Columbia's annual Street Beat event had something for everyone. The student Common (upper left and center top) entertained with his group World Famous (upper right); Last Man Out (second row); and The performances delighted attendees of all ages.



Photos by Adrian S. Burrows, Brenna M.

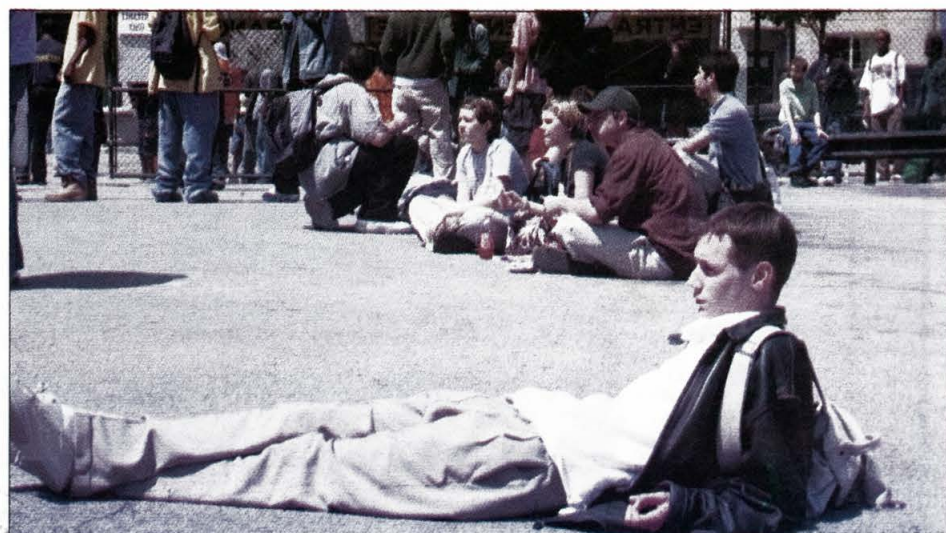


T BEATS

r everyone, including: hip-hopper and former Columbia
ng at his old stomping grounds; plus entertainment by
d from bottom); and Sudden Dark (center bottom).
no matter how they perched themselves to view.

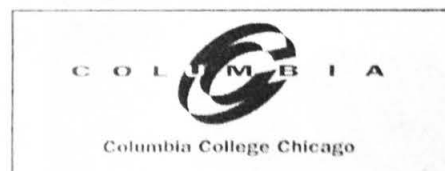


McLaughlin and Dwayne M. Thomas.

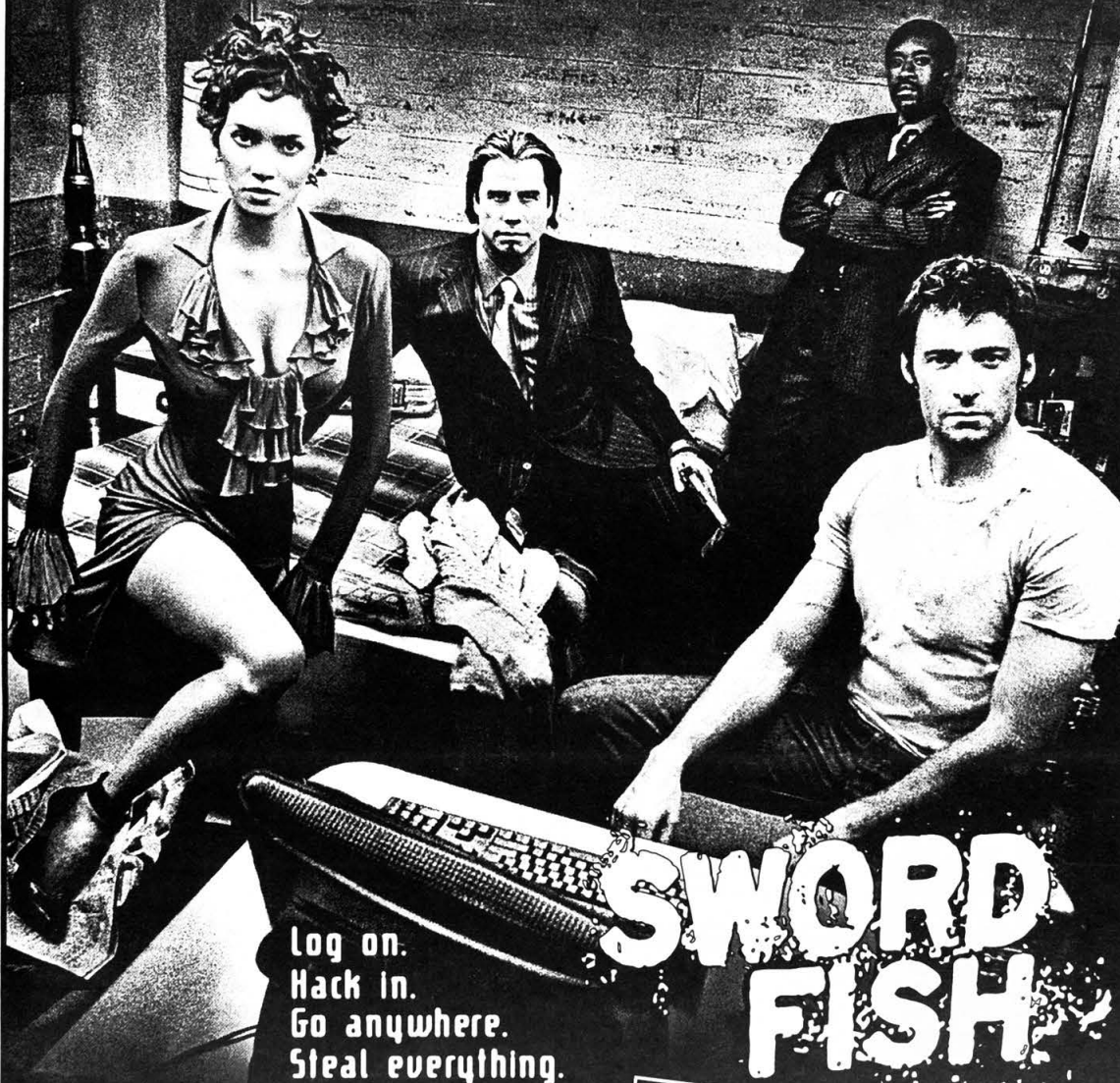




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Opening reception:
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JOHN TRAVOLTA HUGH JACKMAN "SWORDFISH" HALLE BERRY DON CHEADLE VINNIE JONES AND SAM SHEPARD EDITED BY STEPHEN RIVKIN, A.C.E.
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JEFF MANN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PAUL CAMERON MUSIC BY CHRISTOPHER YOUNG AND PAUL OAKENFOLD CO-PRODUCED BY DAN CRACCHIOLO SKIP WOODS
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America Online Keyword: Swordfish
www.operationswordfish.com

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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 "Swordfish" at the Pipers Alley Theatre on Monday, June 4.

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

This film is rated "R" for violence, language and some sexuality/nudity.
No one under 17 will be admitted to the theatre to see this film unless accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.

FREE TICKETS!!! FREE TICKETS!!!

A NIGHT AT THE 'MOULIN ROUGE'

By Cassie Weicher

A&E Editor

Truth, beauty, freedom, and above all things, love. These themes revolve in the Bohemian movie, "Moulin Rouge." The movie is set in the infamous, gaudy and glamorous Paris nightclub, circa 1900. Director Baz Luhrman brings together period design and modern-era



Photo courtesy of 20th Century Fox

pop tunes to create a unique comic/tragic motion picture experience. Nicole Kidman portrays Satine, "The Sparkling Diamond," star of the Moulin Rouge and the city's most famous courtesan. Satine is caught between the love of a young writer named Christian (Ewan McGregor), who finds himself plunged into this decadent world where anything goes—except for falling in love.

Baz Luhrman, director of such films as "Romeo+Juliet" and "Strictly Ballroom," brings this period piece to the modern screen in a beautiful fashion. Luhrman always seems to capture the audience with his visually stunning style. He seems to remind us that, although this could happen, it is still just a movie. His creations are at heart stories that captured us long ago, but he puts in his own effects to twist the story. I would have to say that when "Romeo+Juliet" was released, I had already grown tired of the 70s version they used to show every year in high school English class. Moulin Rouge has the same concept. It takes a would-be boring story and makes it a stunning masterpiece.

Now for the acting... Luhrman and his casting directors could not have chosen a better cast—and it was a humongous one. There were dancers, singers, acrobats, and many other superb artists and, of course, Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor. Kidman, who had experience with singing and dancing, did an incredible job. She played every "Satine" scene to perfection, especially confronting the slimy Duke of Worcester (Richard Roxburgh). Ewan McGregor... I have to say that he has never been one of those actors where you absolutely love their work, but now I think he is incredible. This movie makes you forget about Nicole and wish that you were falling in love with the poor, yet unbelievably good-looking writer. Who cares how poor he is? Nini Legs in the Air, Arabia, China Doll, Green Fairy, Le Chocolat are just some of the hysterically funny names the "Moulin Rouge" dancers have been given. You can tell from each character how they received that specific name. Luhrman also brings back John Leguizamo as Toulouse Lautrec, the small, alcoholic friend of Christian. He, in the movie, appears to be no more than 4-foot tall. If you see this movie for anything, see it for the work that the actors did with dancing, singing, and acting...all at once.

It is hard to believe that this movie was filmed in



Photo courtesy of 20th Century Fox

Australia with special effects done by Animal Logic, an effects company. They created a Paris backdrop that included all the Bohemian aspects of the movie. You could tell that it was not real, but you didn't care because it looked so incredible. It is an artistic movie, so why worry about how real it looks? You won't even think twice about that when you see it.

What many do not know is that the "Moulin Rouge" was actually a real place and Luhrman took that into consideration when creating a duplicate. The Elephant in the middle of the "Moulin Rouge," was a real. It was a house that the brothel women would bring their men to.

I have also heard that Luhrman will be the one to revive movie musicals, but I guess we will have to wait and see what incredible piece he releases next. I will say that I was surprised that this was a musical, but not disappointed.

You really can't miss "Moulin Rouge." I overheard a lady coming out of the theater say that she is glad this movie played early because she will have the rest of the day to recover (in the good sense of the word).

It is a truly beautiful movie in every aspect (I can't stress that enough) that will leave you thinking about the love of Satine and Christian for the rest of the day.

Harold Ramis: 'Bedazzling' Columbia Students

By Angela Timmons

Staff Writer

The guy has one hell of a resume.

A successful actor, writer, director and producer, Chicago native Harold Ramis' list of credits contains many of the most successful comedies from the last 25 years. His films "Animal House," "Stripes," "Caddyshack," "Meatballs," "Ghostbusters," and "National Lampoon's Vacation," have served to define comedy for those coming of age in the late 70s and early 80s.

Ramis, 56, agrees somewhat with that last assertion. "The world was changing when I was in college... certain values were emerging, and we were right there to experience it," he said. To him, the group of performers he worked with such as Bill Murray and Chevy Chase were just popularizing what was already going on when he began to turn out hit after hit, starting with "Animal House" in 1978, which he co-wrote.

As the inaugural artist in the Columbia Film Department's Visiting Director Program, Ramis recently spent time with students and faculty to discuss his work and field questions at two events held on May 14 and May 16. At the May 16 event, students were able to discuss his directorial and editing decisions with his most recent movie, "Bedazzled."

"I had been determined to get him involved with Columbia," said Ron Falzone, an instructor in the Film Department who coordinated the events. Falzone said Ramis' personal vision as a film maker and his ability to convey it to an audience, were two of the reasons he sought Ramis out.

Ramis is also slated to receive an honorary degree and speak at Columbia's graduation commencement on June 3.

A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Ramis has talked with students at his alma mater and at other institutions before, but said he was impressed with Columbia's film school, which is the largest in the world. "I thought there was terrific energy in the student body," he said. "[The film school] felt like it had a strong professional atmosphere where the students were learning their craft."



Sheila Boccone/Chronicle

Harold Ramis talks to the students at Columbia on Monday. He will be the guest speaker at the 2001 Commencement, June 3 at the UIC Pavilion.

Originally, Ramis said, he had planned to be a doctor when he entered college in the early 1960s. But after about a week of the pre-med classes, he realized he wasn't willing to exert effort beyond what it took him to write in the words "pre-med" on his college application.

Since he had taken advanced-placement science and math classes and did well on his SATs, he said, "That meant I must be smart. But it turned out I had been fooled by my own aptitude."

Born in Chicago on Nov. 21, 1944, Ramis watched a lot of television and movies. "I really loved comedy as a kid. I couldn't get enough of it," he said. He had been active in theater in high school and was in a few shows with his fraternity.

Returning to Chicago after college, Ramis worked seven months as an orderly in a psychiatric ward before taking a job with Playboy as jokes page editor. He also freelanced for the Chicago Daily News, a paper that went out of business in the 70s.

He soon started to figure out that he was funny enough to attempt making a living with comedy, so he joined the Second City Comedy Troupe. "I knew about Second City

so I decided to try it. And then I started getting laughs from the other members." He knew he was on to something.

Joyce Sloane, Second City producer emeritus ("Emeritus means I'm old," she said) had worked with Ramis while he was with the troupe. "Harold was very important in that company," she said. She described him as "very compassionate" and recalled how he used to help her young daughter who sat at the bar while Sloane was working with her homework.

After working with the famed group, he and other Second City alumni Gilda Radner, Bill Murray, and John Belushi were part of the "National Lampoon Show" in New York. When he didn't make the cast of the original "Saturday Night Live," he, Eugene Levy, and others who were also passed over, started their own sketch comedy show, "SCTV," in 1976.

"Animal House" followed, and with its success, doors opened in Hollywood for Ramis. "Caddyshack" was his next hit and directorial debut. He said they were trying to represent the many different male archetypes in Animal House, the classic comedy portraying the antics of a party-loving fraternity.

Did Ramis identify with any of the characters? He said people who know him best would describe him as a "secret 'Otter' (the suave ladies' man in Delta House) and part-'Hoover' (the responsible chapter president)." But he says he has an affinity for all the different personalities explored in "Animal House." "I'm very adaptable," he said. "I understand them all."

Currently, he said he's working on a couple of film and television projects.

One television project, which is being developed for Comedy Central, will involve film and video students submitting work that humorously depicts college life.

Writing good comedy is famously difficult. Columbia's Falzone described it as "amazingly hard" where writers are "constantly walking a tightrope." Some might wonder where Ramis' mind was at when he was coming up with the insanely funny material that pops up in his movies.

"I'm a very sane person in my life," he said, laughing. "I try to explore what other sides I have that might be out of balance [in my writing]."

Ramis returned from California to live in the Chicago area five years ago with his wife Erica, and their two young sons. He also has a grown daughter from a previ-

Poetry On the PC

By Sarah Schmidlin

Staff Writer

So you like poetry, write poetry and you're feeling ready to send your crafted words out into the world. Maybe you also classify yourself as a member of this instant gratification generation where information is received at a keystroke of your PC.

There is a time and a place for everything, however, and speedy reply and response is something the literary publishing world hasn't yet mastered. What's the alternative?

Poetry.com is a Web site that boasts a monthly contest rewarding first place recipients \$1,000. Sounds alluring.

According to its own Web site, poetry.com is sponsored by the International Library of Poetry and boasts itself as, "by far the largest and most comprehensive poetry site on the Internet. 'We're here,' reads the text, 'to encourage the expression of your unique vision.'"

There are other Web sites, however, that would argue to the contrary.

Charles Hughes, owner of Wind Publications, has taken it upon himself to try and spread the word of his less than pleasurable experiences with the now notorious contest.

In an attempt to share his perspective, as well as encourage others to take action, his allegations against poetry.com begin with the fact that although the company might not be breaking any laws, it is "engaged in deceptive and unethical practices," according to his letter to the Maryland Better Business Bureau posted at wind.wind.org.bbb.htm. This site also includes several

links to previously published reports about the International Library of Poetry.

Poetry.com's practices, it seems, involve accepting poems by anyone for the monthly contest, and soon after sending the writer an announcement that he or she has been selected as a semi-finalist for any number of other contests and offering the poet a chance to see the poem printed in one of the company's annual anthologies.

According to Hughes, who sent more than one bad poem in an attempt to be rejected, "virtually every poem that is entered goes into the 'final round' unless it has more than 20 lines or contains forbidden words such as profanity or other selected words that are screened by computer."

Hughes also notes that in the letter from The International Library of Poetry, which he received after sending his 'bad poem,' he was told that the anthologies' customers, "include libraries, bookstores, magazines, newspapers, historical societies, foundations and fine poets...like you." To this Hughes responds, "Deceptive, if not an outright lie." Hughes challenges interested readers to try to find these anthologies in any bookstore.

In an attempt to contact the ILP, I was put on hold for about 10 minutes and only permitted to speak with Carla, in the customer service department. Carla, only after hesitating, told me that her last name is Tweedale.

Tweedale did confirm that around 12 anthologies are published every year. But denied that customers are often dissatisfied.

"The main reason that people are dissatisfied is because the books take so long," Tony Triglio is a full timer in the English Department here at Columbia. "It's good that

(amateur poets) are getting a sense of audience. It is always good to see poetry as a public art form," Triglio said. He quickly amended that, "I would never recommend those publications." Triglio said, adding that poetry.com seems like a place where there is no editorial gate keeping.

"If you get published where you know they could've rejected you, it's a bigger boost. If you want to start publishing things, it's a really great step for an artist, it shows that you're really interested in the public art form. I would never totally brush aside poetry.com."

"One thing about places like poetry.com, and they were around before the web—places where you submit a poem and then have to buy an anthology—if a person wants to get some experience getting their work out there they can, as long as they don't have expectations," Triglio said.

What options are there?

"Any kind of regional or local publications," Triglio recommends, where the pool of people you're competing with isn't too overwhelming. "The other thing is the Writers Market or Poets Market. If you've just been writing for a short time and you know it's something you want to keep doing [these books] let you know who accepts new writers, and it also gives you a sense of where your material fits in with other peoples' voices. And it's a good way of learning what journals are available at bookstores...you end up learning more going through the Writers Market."

According to Tweedale, the monthly contests are real and the winners actually receive the monetary prize. If you're interested in talking to Hughes, his email is available at his Web site and he is willing to talk to you.

The History of Grant Park

By Allison Clark

Staff Writer

When Columbia's students race to class, building to building, they don't always notice their surroundings. Grant Park is an example of the incredible landscape students should not miss. The 319-acre lakefront park sprawled before the campus has an awesome history.

After recently taking a tour of Grant Park, Patricia Dart, communication's assistant for the lakefront region, found the symmetry of the park impressive. Everything from the trees to the French-influenced sidewalks is meticulously placed, she said.

During the tour, Dart was introduced to Queen's Landing, an unmarked area between the Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain and the lake. In 1959, Queen Elizabeth II made a grand entrance off her ship. Since then residents have referred to the area as Queen's Landing.

In May, the Chicago Park District is beginning an eight-month series of public meetings called the Grant Park Framework Plan. During that time, residents can discuss the improvements in Grant Park they would like to see. The only current project is the Lakefront Millennium Park.

Without dwelling on the general history of Grant Park (though important), here are some of the more unusual stories.

Just north of Columbia is a sculpture of



The Clarence Buckingham Fountain is one of the most popular sites in Grant Park.

Equestrian Indians. The sculpture, built in 1928, is the entrance into Grant Park. At first glance the Indians look as though they are going to shoot a bow and arrow. Ivan Mestrovic, who sculpted the Indians, purposely left them without weapons. He wanted onlookers to use imagination.

Standing two blocks south is the General John Logan Memorial. The sculpture was built in 1897, eleven years after Logan's death. The sculpture, a man riding a horse with a flag in his hand, was

intended to be a tomb. It remains empty because Logan's body was never moved from Washington D.C.

With a few flower gardens between, the Buckingham Fountain lies in front of Columbia. The fountain, built in 1927, holds 1.5 million gallons of water, 134 jets whose power ranges from 75 to 250 pounds per square inch. The mist from the fountain refreshes the crowd the park attracts over the summer.

Though the year was not specified, the

Chicago Park District said that two carved fish heads were stolen from the fountain. A buyer reported seeing the two fish heads when they were being offered at a salvage place.

Many Columbia students and faculty take advantage of Grant Park when the weather permits. They may not be aware that they are eating lunch or holding a class session over a former landfill.

Over the years landfills have contributed to the expansion of Grant Park. In 1871, the Chicago Fire left the city with about 1,700 acres of destruction. The city decided to use the shoreline as a dumping ground for garbage and debris. The trash was eventually removed using railroad cars.

With a convenient location and historical ambience, it's not surprising that Grant Park has housed plenty of celebrities. The Chicago Cubs, Dalai Lama, Chicago Bulls, and Babe Ruth have visited the park. Music events, like this summer's Chicago Blues Festival, Grant Park Music Festival and Taste of Chicago, also take place in the park.

The park is also used for exercise events like the Y-Me Race Against Breast Cancer 5k and the Shamrock Shuffle.

Chicago's Grant Park is too prominent to be ignored. Celebrities, sculptures, and events held at the park give the city character. Columbia students might like to take notice of the history in their front yard.

South Side Chicago Influences Poetry

By TreAndres Members

Staff Writer

Open mics and poetry cafes seem to be spreading like wildfire in the city that produced poets like Carl Sandburg and Gwendolyn Brooks. Chicago's poetry circuit is flourishing with vibrant artists that are determined to carve out a niche for themselves in the land of metaphors and similes.

Particularly on Chicago's South Side a new pedigree of poet has emerged, poets who were born at the beginning of the Hip-hop era, and subsequently who have matured along with the art form. These post Civil Rights poets were told stories of Malcolm X and Marcus Garvey, Bob Marley, Jimi Hendrix and schooled that "Black is beautiful." It is no wonder that the poetry that emerges from the souls of the South Side seem as ancient as Ethiopian proverbs, yet as revolutionary as when Charlie Parker let the world in on the secret to Bebop.

These poets inhabit dimly lit, crowded, smoke filled cafes and basements expounding on "Peace, Love and Understanding." The Escense of life, an up and coming poetry venue, is a proverbial watering hole for these

"I feel more at home [on the South Side]. A lot of times the vibration on the North Side is very bitter."

—Zi Annankantankra

artists. At the Escense you'll hear soliloquies of love and revolution, you'll see dread locked B-boys mingling with afroed divas and super thugs.

But what makes South Side poetry different from the poetry emanating from New York, or Detroit or even the poetry on the North Side of Chicago? According to local artist Zi Annankantankra, 22, the atmosphere in the poetry venues on the South Side is more jovial. "I feel more at home [on the South Side]. A lot of times the vibration [on the North Side] is very bitter." But he also says that not every spot on the North Side is bitter and not every spot on the South Side feels like home. "It all depends on the people." Kendall Johnson-Smith, a native of Massachusetts says that the poetry scene is much stronger here in Chicago than in her home state.

Johnson-Smith says that the most defining element of Chicago poetry is "The realness of it." She also adds that because Chicago the atmosphere up north is very reserved as opposed to the atmosphere on the South Side.

Though the poetry scene out south is open, one no-no among real poetry heads is when they feel someone is prostituting the art. There is a label given to these people that try to pimp the art form, they are referred to as "Pussy poets." Johnson-Smith says "You have to be real to know the difference."

The movie "Love Jones" is credited for inspiring legions of "Pussy Poets" whose main objective is to win sexual favors for their poetry. But it must also be stressed that there are many "Poetry groupies out there willing to do whatever it takes to get with a Lorenz Tate wannabe."

However, it is indicative of how popular the poetry scene is when one considers that poets have groupies. When asked about the future of South Side poetry, Annankantankra offers, " "

Anything that is positive in the scene is totally heading toward the betterment of all people everywhere and the Earth. Anything that is negative in poetry or in any type of scene is going to fall off the Earth."

A TALK WITH 'CHICAGO'

By Ken Czechanski
Correspondent

In 1967, seven young men from both Chicago's De Paul University and Roosevelt University met in the basement of a North side apartment. They would go on to launch one of the biggest musical phenomenons in American history; a band that would integrate the hard rock sound of the time with a jazz-style brass section, and go on to enjoy an unprecedented thirty years of success.

The band Chicago is well known for its chart-topping power ballads such as "Hard to Say I'm Sorry," and "You're the Inspiration." But almost twenty years before these songs even hit the airwaves, Chicago was topping the charts with songs like "25 Or 6 To 4," "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It is," and "Saturday In The Park."

The music may have changed over the years, but the dream of a rock n' roll band with horns has remained intact. While in Los Angeles, I had a chance to sit down and interview one of the founding members of Chicago, keyboardist Robert Lamm. During the course of our discussion, Robert provided some great insight into what it is like to be part of a group and a musician from the city of Chicago struggling to make it in L.A.

Q: How has Chicago's music changed over the years?

A: As we became more successful, we found ourselves more and more having to succumb to our producers and give up some of our creative freedom. So, even though the quality of the production and the musicianship was high, the music ended up sounding less edgy and more "marketable."

Q: When you were first starting out in the city of Chicago, did you find it difficult to make a name for yourselves?

A: No way. We were knocking them out wherever we played.

Q: Why the move to L.A. then?

A: At the time, Chicago had a smaller recording industry. If we had signed with a local label, we would have only achieved a local following. Although, now with bands like Smashing Pumpkins and Veruca Salt who are from



Photo courtesy of www.celebrity-mania.com

Chicago, and primarily based in Chicago, the industry has changed.

Q: You have all endured hardships both personally and as a group. How have you managed to hold it together for over thirty years?

A: There are eight members in the band at present and therefore eight different opinions about what should be done as far as the music and production aspects are concerned. The key for us is to communicate, and remain open to each other's opinions. We also have a willingness to keep in shape both in terms of writing, playing, and performing on the road.

Q: Who would you say is your biggest audience today?

A: If I had to break it down I would say about 30% of our audiences are fans who have been with us since the beginning, and another 30% are new faces. The other 40% are just a mix of all ages.

Q: What about the youth market?

A: That's not really our world. There is a phenomenon going on today that is more about the visual presence of a singer or group. We were never really a visual band. It's always been about the music for us, just touring and playing like Dave Matthews' Band.

Q: A word about marketing in general. Having spent most of your career hidden behind the infamous Chicago logo, how important would you say that marketing is to a young group, just starting out?

A: Well, marketing is a reality, but I don't think that it's something that the musicians should

really get into. There are very talented people out there who love to do that sort of thing, and they should be the ones who handle it. But marketing really is only important on certain levels. Again, look at Dave Matthews' Band, they have no gimmicks or marketing ploys, and yet they have a huge following.

Q: I know it was a while ago, but what were some of your favorite venues to play at in Chicago?

A: To be able to play anywhere there was an audience was great. It no longer exists, but there was a place called Barnaby's on State Street that was two stories, but open up all the way to the top on the inside. The stage was literally where the second floor would've been. I don't know how we managed not to fall off.

Q: Do you miss the city of Chicago?

A: I love Chicago! A couple of the guys in the band still have family there and I like to take my kids with when I'm there. Lake Michigan is a lot different for them than the Pacific Ocean. I also like to visit the Art Institute and some of the old book stores. It's just a great town.

Q: What advice would you give to the thousands of up and coming musicians in Chicago?

A: Practice your instrument and try to keep your mind and ears open as far as other music is concerned. Music is music, you don't have to like everything, but you have to be willing to listen. Try to write a little bit everyday, and remember that a life in music is just that, a life in music. Chicago is headed back into the studio this Fall to record tracks for their 27th album. Look for them on the road this summer.

Visible Amazement:
A Fourteen year old runaway's story

By Tamara Michael
Correspondent

A cross between Holden Caulfield and Lolita coming of age in the 1980s? More like a fourteen-year-old runaway with the incredible luck of never interacting with anyone that isn't either rich, good-looking, or the owner of a sports car.

Roanne, our heroine, spends most of *Visible Amazement* running away from home and from Del, her English, bohemian mother. Roanne hits the road after she catches Del having sex with the object of her own lust, but not before drawing blood and wreaking general havoc, biting her mother on the butt while she's busy copulating.

Roanne is at her best when she is simply replaying sights in her still impressionable mind. As she is leaving her first runaway pit stop, the house of Didi, a French dwarf cartoonist, she ponders her idea of his birth: "Then the face formed, under the ground, and when this little face couldn't breathe, the tiny legs and arms started to scratch and kick and push like crazy until the little head popped out of the earth, panting and spitting dirt, alone in the forest."

But Roanne's voice dips to some unbearable lows as she has sex with Pascal, a forty something, independently rich photographer. He is Didi's good-looking brother who smokes French cigarettes and lives in Malibu. Yeah, he drives a sports car.

When it is convenient, Roanne makes favorable impressions on the ritzy crowd she is introduced to by displaying her sophisticated knowledge of art, travel and the rock stars her mother exposed her to when they lived in merry ole England.

But when it comes to sex with her fourth partner, Pascal, she turns into a totally inexperienced ingenue: "I...I don't know what I'm supposed to do."

I would strongly advise skipping the slightly nauseating description of the aftermath of Roanne's double orgasm, which of course happens the first time she bops Pascal.

There is also the clutter of the ridiculous trust that she develops with a middle-aged cabdriver, leaving her beaten-up friend in his care with the feeble warning: "Ray....I think her father knows these gangsters and stuff. If you touch her..."

So what becomes of Roanne? Will Del hunt her down? Is Pascal just a forty-year-old creep? I will never tell. If you are not looking for a book whose characters display whatever reactions are needed by the author to move the plot along, then skip this one.

But if you are looking for an escapist read that sets up a wise-cracking teenager with money and sex, then this is the book for you.

Book review correspondents can be reached at chroniclereviews@hotmail.com



Visible
Amazement

By: Gale Zoe
Garnett

Hardcover,
Simon &
Schuster, 2001

256 pages

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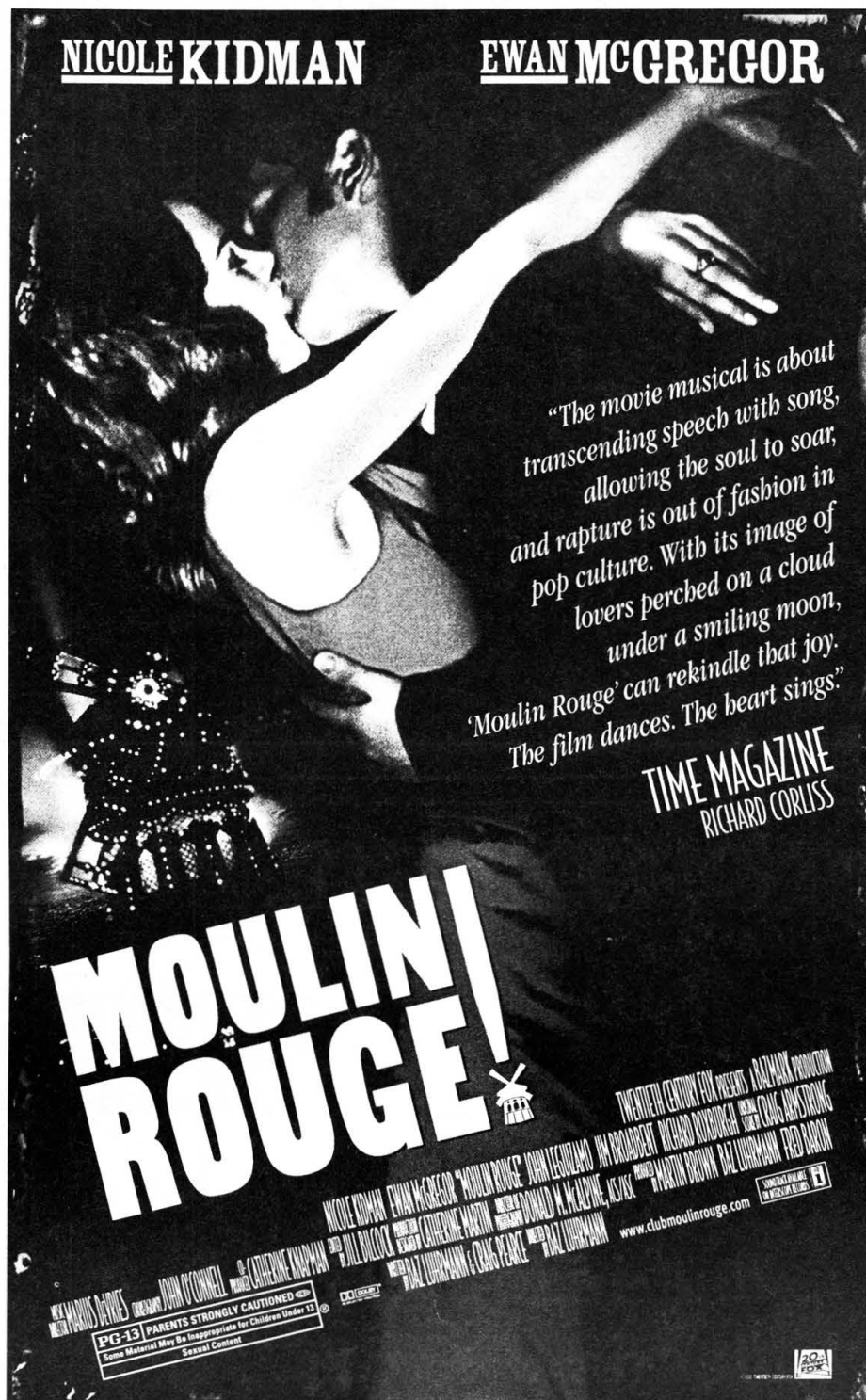
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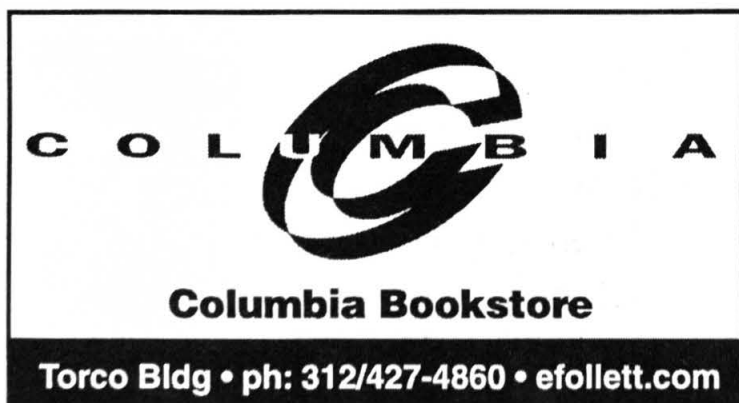
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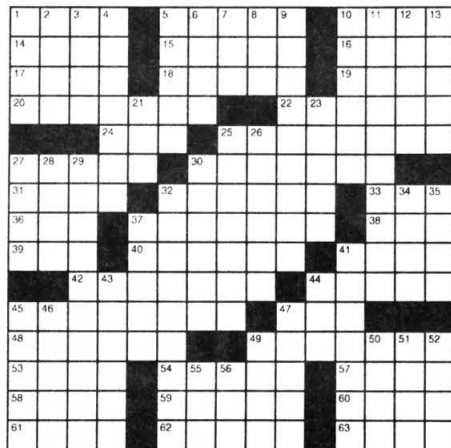
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CROSSWORD

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Circle parts
 - J.R. of "Dallas"
 - Final Four letters
 - Decree
 - News services
 - Deserve
 - Field measure
 - Swift, vigorous attack
 - Novelist Bagnold
 - Diminished
 - Sell door-to-door
 - Mac
 - In shirt sleeves
 - Ire
 - Paige of Cooperstown
 - Rustic building
 - Mrs. Washington
 - Candidate
 - London
 - Marie Saint
 - Ill humor
 - Feathery scarf
 - Moon vehicle, for short
 - Passions
 - Micronesian island group
 - Centers
 - Packing case
 - SRO crowd
 - Unknown John
 - Suffering believer
 - Batting zero
 - NYC theatrical award
 - Singer John
 - Tra follower
 - Family group
 - Singer Della
 - Goddess of fertility
 - Hrbek or McCord
 - Guide
 - Gels

- DOWN**
- At a distance
 - Wedding shower?
 - Amusing person
 - Glass Works
 - Fix firmly
 - Actress Tuesday



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5/28/01

Solutions

- Ugandan dictator Amin
- Young louse
- Chilled Spanish soups
- Heckle
- Decorative candleholders
- Seed coverings
- Peruvian mountains
- Mongrel
- Vermont's Allen
- Ships' loads
- Aquatic mammals
- Cain's victim
- Main aisle in St. Peter's
- Linguist's kin
- Leather seat
- Killers
- Oaf
- Phony
- Pop
- Latticework structure



- Purpose
- Foldaway bed
- Artist's garment
- Hold for later action
- Roadside restaurant
- Firefighter's carry
- Comfort
- Narrow cut
- Give lip
- Tennis do-over
- PGA peg

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Nokes

Continued from Back Page

learn, and perhaps stumble around?

And getting into that room of experts is an even further compounding issue, I feel a sense of overwhelmingness that I have never before experienced.

I've dreamed up a little analogy to show where my confidence resides.

Just last week a guy named Steven Hunter declared for the NBA draft. A week earlier I was playing against him in a basketball league. Steve is 7' 0," when he takes the floor he towers over every player. His persona on the court compares to that of a Dan Rather in the journalism field.

Steve's team beat mine 55-54, but not once did I back down or become intimidated by his size. I made a shot over him and he hit me on the arm and fouled me, but I didn't get the call. On the way down the floor he pats me on the ass and says, "Jimmy, you can tell all your friends you hit a shot and got fouled by a guy going pro."

He hadn't yet announced he was going pro but I felt special to have some inside info. So the chance to get a shot to break into my field scares me, it is a new thing for me, for me it is easier to hit a 10 foot 'J' on Steven Hunter, I'm comfortable with that.

For my job search that will soon ensure I have taken this to mind. All I can ask for is a chance to fail. It is like the split second in my mind before I shoot on Steven Hunter. Hey I can shoot and it might go in or it might get blocked, but if I never shoot, I'll never know.

All I need is that one break and my job shot just may fall in, but I have to get the fear to fail out of my mind. The worst thing someone can say is no, and there are many people in search of the news in this world.

I have already coached high school, and talk to my old coaches regularly, so there is a crack in the door there. More enticing is a connection on the college

level. A couple of college coaches wanted me to play baseball coming out of high school, but my injured arm prevented me from doing so. Before I transferred into Columbia, a number of coaches had called to inquire if I was healthy and wanted to play for them. I decided to put education first, and the decision to do so has gnawed at me every day since.

Coaching-wise, I have had a prominent coaches son in a Saturday morning class of little kids, and this coach has come out to see me guide my eighth grade team. He has expressed interest to hire me on the basketball or baseball staff as a coach once I graduate.

So my foot is in the door in the realm of starting off as a coach. Granted, I would be an understudy as an assistant coach, but it would hopefully lead to other things not too far down the line.

Trailing 26-6 very early into a game against the Orland Park Magic, I benched our entire starting line up. They sat the whole first quarter on the bench, and the subs came in.

Before the start of the second quarter, I said, "are you guys tired of screwing around yet? Cause I'll just leave the bench in, they could easily do what you did."

I reinserted the starters and we cut the margin to 14 at half time. We were coming around. The star players were diving on the ground for loose balls and any basket the Magic scored it fought for.

There are so many incredible events that took place in the comeback that I would try to describe them, but this diary would turn into the Old Testament rather quickly.

When it was done, it was our team that hoisted the trophy. I had tears in my eyes, and it was because I got to see the success these young men achieved after having worked so hard to get there. As I graduate, I hope my hard work pays off the same way.

And you did appear to Mario Lemieux in a vision, and ordain him to return from retirement in order to save the Penguins. As a fan and a worshiper of the sport of hockey, I thank you for those gifts.

But before the season is through, I wish to see one last success bestowed upon someone who has done so much for the National Hockey League. That is why I pray for Ray.

In the name of the Gordie, and the Gretzky, and the Holy Zamboni. Amen.

Barry

Continued from Back Page

true punishment would have been a trade to Carolina. No, in all your benevolence you saw to it that Ray was traded to one of the top contenders, so that he may indeed have his chance to win the Cup.

So I implore you, mighty one, hear my prayer. Ray Bourque is a man who should retire with a Stanley Cup ring on his finger. I know that you listen to me, great Slapshoticus. Sure, you don't answer every prayer of mine, but you did let Chris Osgood beat up Patrick Roy a few years ago.

Roller Skating in Chicago

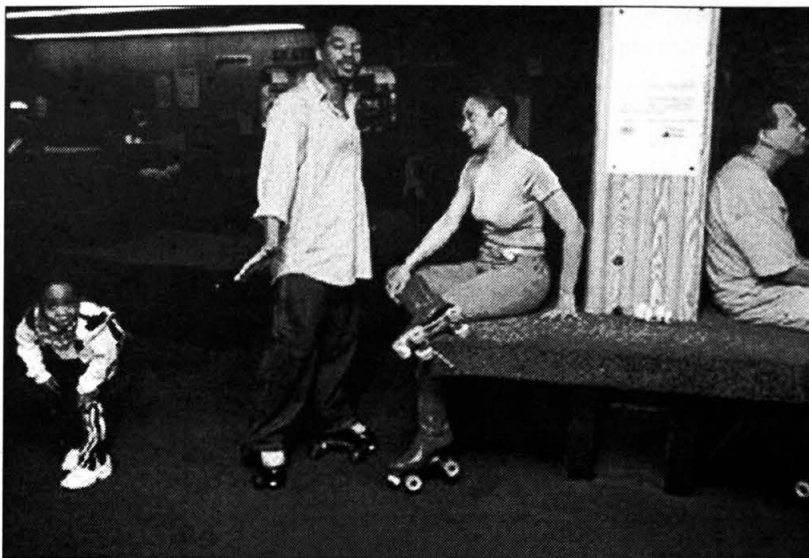


Photo courtesy of Leah Missbach/City 2000

The Rink Fitness Factory gets people fit because they are roller skating. The factory accommodates 1,000 people at a time, so there are thousands of people getting fit everyday.

By Molly Moonen

Staff Writer

So you think that roller skating rinks are just places for twenty-something guys to pick up thirteen-year-old girls? Well, you may be right. But that doesn't mean that you can't rule the rink when you show off your fancy crossover moves. If you can shoot the duck without falling down, you won't have to sit out the couple's skates at these Chicago-area rinks.

USA-Rainbo Rollerskating Center
4836 N. Clark St.
773-271-5668

Starting in June Rainbo will be offering open skating sessions from 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for only \$5. At some point during the session they will let you get down to the Hokey Pokey and the Cha Cha Slide. As if that wasn't enough, this summer the rink is bringing back the Limbo. The rink offers adult birthday packages, for \$12 a person you and your friends can enjoy free skate rental, 2 drink tickets for beer or wine and a nacho platter. Yes, I said nacho platter. "I'll tell you why people should choose Rainbo over other rinks," says sales associate Dori West. "Because we offer

clean, safe and friendly fun."

Route 66 Skating Rink
6630 S. M L King Drive
773-955-1000

Route 66 has two separate rinks for your skating fun. Party Coordinator Diane Ray says the rink's claim to fame is their fabulous birthday parties, complete with clowns and balloons. You can bring your own food to the rink or dine on pizza and hot dogs in the snack shop. Ray says to make sure you know what neighborhood your going into before you go, but that once you get there you won't be sorry.

The Rink Fitness Factory
1122 E. 87th
773-221-2600

The Fitness Factory can accommodate over 1,000 people, so you can cover a lot of territory during the couple skate. The rink has open skating from 12-3 p.m. Saturdays for the open skate. The rest of the week is occupied with private parties. It costs about \$800 to rent the place out, and you'll need about 50 of your closest friends, perfect for that graduation party. The employees are the nicest in the city, says Cathy Dillard, the rinks secretary and its easy to get to.

Batavia Funway
1335 S River St.
Batavia

630-879-8717

Funway is a bit of a drive, but you may find it worth your while. Funway is more than just a roller rink it is a full service fun park with go carts, batting cages and more. The rink is 180 feet by 80 feet, one of the largest in the Midwest according to manager Janet Dieter. The rink offers theme nights and classes including the Christian Skate Tuesday and Thursday nights. Open skating is available every night except Monday and Tuesday so when the city rinks aren't open and you need your roller skating fix, it may be worth the trip.

Lombard Roller Skating Rink
201 W. 22nd St.
Lombard
630-953-2400

The Lombard rink has open skating almost every day, they offer rhythm and blues as well as organ sessions. For those of you who need them, lessons are available. Admission is between \$4-6, and socks are available for purchase—just in case you forget. All skates and rollerblades are inspected at the door, so don't try to sneak in any worn out bumpers or they will make you spring for the rental.

Sports Editor's note:

Upon his graduation I would like to thank Sal J. Barry for his outstanding contribution to the Sports section over the past two months.

His knowledge on hockey has made the Sports section more diverse.

Thank you and good luck to my good friend.

Scott Venci

P.S. — You will always be a sports editor in my book!!

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Bike Messenger Tournament hits Chicago

By Angela Timmons
Staff Writer

Whizzing at breakneck speeds through the congested streets of Chicago's Loop, bike messengers often appear fearless as they move to get a package quickly to its destination. Taking that fearlessness and love for cycling to a competitive level, a group of local messengers formed XXXRacing in 1999.

XXXRacing is a close-knit group of nearly 50 cyclists, and though everyone isn't necessarily a bike messenger, most are or have been at one time. With a far-reaching mission, XXXRacing targets anyone with the desire to improve their fitness, increase their cycling knowledge, or strengthen their competitive spirit," according to their Web site at xxxracing.org.

Donny Quixote, a former messenger for On the Fly Courier and now full-time XXXRacing team manager, says the team spends a lot of time together training and preparing for competition. There are weekly training rides, and regular team meetings with things really heating up when the season started recently.

The team competed in the Monsters of the Midway Criterium on Sunday, May 13 at the Midway Plaisance in Hyde Park. Men and women from all ages and abilities competed for prizes and cash in 15 different categories in the Criterium which is a short-circuit race focused on sprints.

XXXRacing had 24 riders in several different categories in the Criterium, organized by the University of Chicago Velo Club. Cash prizes in each race ranged from \$60 to \$400. The highlight of the day came early when one of their newest members, Sarah Tillotson, took first place in the Category three race for women.

It was a 10-lap race around a 1.1 mile track, and Tillotson said she basically hung back with the pack of other cyclists until the seventh lap. "With three laps to go, I could hear heavy breathing," she said. "I then sprinted out to the front of the pack, when typically someone would chase you down." No one did.



Bikers at the starting line anticipate the gun shot that will announce the beginning of the competition

The Senior Men Category three race brought seven members of XXXRacing out for a 20 lap race.

The race took a bad turn early when Quixote had some mechanical difficulties with his bike and dropped back a lap from the rest of the group.

Since Quixote was serving a role in the race much like a point guard does in basketball, the team was thrown off a bit to have him out so early in the race.

The team shifted strategy, and the field of riders was still riding close together into the last lap when at about 250 yards from the finish, XXXRacing team member Jason Pyrzynski took a bad spill with two other racers. Erik Tomlinson from XXXRacing ended up with the best showing for the team in the race with 2nd place. Assistant Team Manager Jeff Benjamin took seventh.

Benjamin complimented his teammate Tomlinson on the move to snag second place. "He made one of the best moves I've ever seen when he shot to the front," he said.

Pyrzynski, who suffered severe scrapes on his back and sides, was most concerned about the damage to his bike and crashing so close to the finish line. "I'm pissed off," he said. "My bike is destroyed. . . ." He added that was more of an "ego bruising" than anything, and seemed to take it

all in stride.

XXXRacing team members are frequently injured and post pictures of some of the dandies on their Web site. Quixote took a spill last year that appeared to take a fare amount of skin off of his rear end, and he shows the wound proudly for the cameras. Another photo from 2000 shows team member James Little smiling on a stretcher after breaking a collarbone.

One aspect of a Criterium is that prizes are given out at intervals during the laps to entice the riders to keep pushing themselves. Called "primes", riders who cross the finish line first on a lap when a prime is announced can win anything from cycling equipment to energy bars, and even a box of Krispy Kreme doughnuts. Benjamin picked up the Krispy Kremes prime and shared one with his injured teammate, Pyrzynski.

Though of course they like to win cash and even the occasional Krispy Kreme, XXXRacing members are simply dedicated to cycling. For example, at a race in Kenosha, Wis. held in early March, team members Gareth Newfield, Adrian Redd, and Nick Jackson decided against taking a ride in the team vehicle and opted to bike 120 miles to get there and back, on top of racing in their events that day.

And their fans are as

dedicated to the team as XXXRacing is to their sport. Janet Schmidt, who was one of several fans cheering XXXRacing on at the Plaisance, is undoubtedly their most ardent supporter. She says she met some of the

team 4 or 5 years ago when she was working as a receptionist.

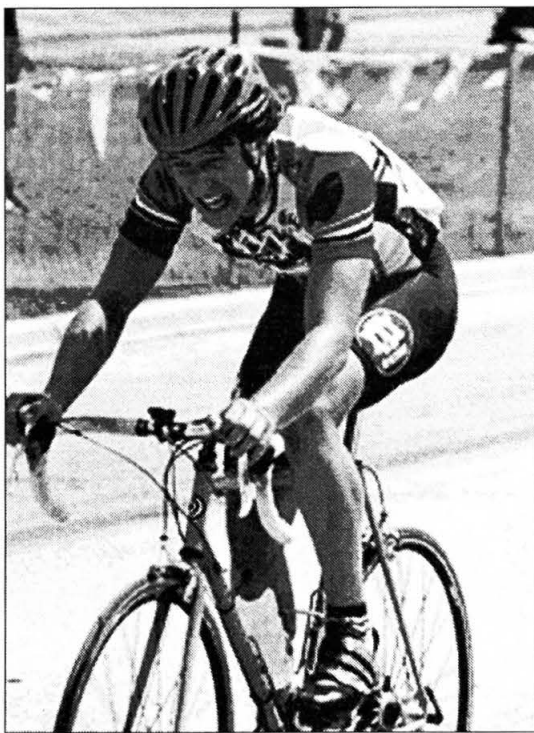
"Messengers were the highlight of your day. They were so intriguing. Most of them had something else going on like art or acting," Schmidt said. Schmidt began coming to their events, and helping out by driving them and taking photos.

Recently, Schmidt took on a fundraising endeavor, The Manhattan Project, to raise money for XXXRacing's Junior cyclist program.

The Juniors program provides bikes and equipment, uniforms, fees, and transportation to races for 2 or 3 Chicago youth each season.

Schmidt raised over \$3,500 with her nearly 70 mile bike ride to Manhattan, Ill. in late April. Other fundraisers connected to the project included a silent date auction and raffles. A newcomer to cycling, she says she was inspired by the XXXRacing team.

"I have a lot of respect for them, especially their focus and drive," she said. "I'll love them forever."



A biker practices his smile for the award ceremony.

The Chronicle Salutes....



Noel Sutcliff

After going to school for seven years, Sutcliff is finally graduating from Columbia College. The 25-year-old is moving to the West Coast after graduation with his girlfriend of six years. Despite having jobs periodically throughout their relationship, Sutcliff's girlfriend continues to financially support him through the "rough times." Sutcliff denies rumors that he will leave her once she pays off the rest of his student loans.

10 events that have taken place since Sutcliff first entered college:

1. Jesus was born.
2. The Cubs won a World Series.
3. Football helmets were introduced.
4. The Artist was known as Prince.
5. Shoeless Joe Jackson was banned from baseball.
6. Columbia College was named an institution.
7. People discovered the world wasn't flat.
8. Hawaii was named the 50th state.
9. George Washington chopped down a cherry tree.
10. Chris Richert passed kidney stones.

A Sutcliff factoid

Sutcliff's most embarrassing moment came at a recent Cubs-Phillies game. Minutes after yelling at a man who dropped a foul ball with his bare hands, Phillie infielder Rob Ducey came up to the plate. Ducey hit a foul ball over the home plate screen and right into the hands of a shocked Sutcliff. He drops the ball, and proceeds to watch three fans dive at his legs to get it. Sutcliff sits down in silence as he's being laughed at.

I pray for Ray

Oh mighty Slapshoticus Maximus, supreme ruler of the Hockey Gods high above Canada, heed my prayer. It's me, Sal, your loyal follower since 1988. No, I'm not praying for Mark Messier's retirement again. And no, I am not praying for Chris Chelios to return to the Blackhawks—I figured you needed a break



Sal J. Barry
Webmaster

from hearing about that after two years. It is yet another that I pray for, a noble and loyal soul who has toiled for 22 years—22 years!—and has yet failed to win what all hockey players dream of: the Stanley Cup. This noble soul that I speak of is no other than Colorado Avalanche defenseman Ray Bourque.

I know you are aware of who he is, because you've smiled upon him many times. You have gifted him with great playmaking ability, skating prowess, and one of the most accurate shots in the National Hockey League. And I know that Ray has made the Hockey Gods proud: winning Rookie of the Year in 1980, being named the League's top defenseman five times, and playing in every NHL All-Star Game for the past 22 years.

But Ray would gladly sacrifice all those personal accolades for a Stanley Cup victory. Ray is no stranger to sacrifice, nor is he a stranger to humility. He has been shown humility in the past, when the Boston Bruins advanced to the Stanley Cup finals in 1988 and 1990, only to lose both times to the Edmonton Oilers. Actually, the Oilers taught every team the meaning of the word humility back then.

Meanwhile, Ray would continue to toil in the League, winning personal awards as his team deteriorated around him, until they could no longer make the playoffs. When Ray was traded from the Boston Bruins to the Colorado Avalanche in 2000, to some heretics it may have appeared like a punishment handed down by you Hockey Gods; to uproot a man from the team that he loved for many years, where he was the team captain for a decade. But I knew that it was no punishment, for a

"I'd love to pursue a career in coaching, but I examine the professional field, the only place to make a real lucrative living, and it disgusts me. I couldn't deal with the bad attitudes, and the superstar attitudes"

James Nokes, journalism major



Photo courtesy of James Nokes

Nokes also coaches football during the fall along with his basketball job.

Remembering a mentor

By James Nokes
Correspondent

The most passionate man I know died suddenly this week. "Coach" Pete was 43-years-old when he died, a man who never took a breath that wasn't filled with desire.

Pete was the finest basketball coach I ever had. Everything I know about basketball was born with the fundamentals this man taught. He coached me in 6th and 7th grade, but he really belonged coaching high school or college. He sacrificed those possibilities to coach the youth in his town.

As I have been coaching a traveling team of eighth graders, I had spoken to Pete about how to motivate, cultivate, and instruct this talented bunch. From the moment I asked him a few months back to be a mentor of sorts, passion spewed from his mouth.

"The first thing about man to man defense is you can't get beat off the ball, can't get beat, everything breaks down then..."

His voice told me that the embers to coach and teach still burned brightly inside of him. He hadn't coached for five years but I could tell by starting the conversation that he yearned to do so.

One night we talked for

about an hour at a local bar and I tried to cajole him into coming out for a game or a practice. I could tell he was interested in the team as I described my players, and after a while I mingled through the bar, and Pete sat down to talk to some of his pals.

A few hours later, with his coat in tow, an itching Pete came up to me.

"Uh, uh, well...Jimbo I, uh, got some time off work lately and uh, well you know I figure I can come out and watch a game or something, maybe give you some pointers, I uh, I don't wanna coach that's you, but I can help out and see what's going on...You know blocking out is something that can take two years to learn you gotta want to do it..."

A week later he was at a game, standing in the corner of the gym with his old pre game scowl. He watched intently, and I could see the same emotion on his face. After a turnover, the eyebrows raised and lips exasperated, after a marvelous play the head scratch, and after brilliant hustle for a rebound or lose ball the smirk from the side of his mouth.

I never caught up with Pete after that game, he left before I could talk to him. For the next couple weeks I wanted to get in touch with him, but to no

avail. He died suddenly last Friday, steps from the doctors office.

I could still hear his patented call of "are you nuts?!?" echo through the funeral home. I could feel the electricity as his casket rolled down the church aisle. A man of 43, who lived with such vigor and passion, literally sucking the marrow out of life's bone, had probably doubled that 43 years with each breath he took.

My team is in the midst of a six game tournament as I write this diary. I hate to jinx us by making a correlation between our success and his death, but we have played defense with such intensity in this tournament, blocking shots, diving for balls, making steals, and shutting teams down with pressure defense.

I'd like to think we may have an "angel in the outfield," that somewhere Pete is watching my guys from above, maybe heavily instilling a little of that will to play with a tedious defensive intensity.

Two wins this evening and we have a chance to win the tournament. The team is playing the way one of Pete's team would have.

I'd love to pursue a career in coaching, but I examine the professional field, the only place to make a real lucrative liv-

ing, and it disgusts me. I couldn't deal with the bad attitudes, and the superstar attitudes.

Often times in scholarly work I put myself in a game situation; the paper is due tomorrow, e.g., bottom of the ninth two outs, down one. It is corny but it is motivation.

Because I attack assignments with a full steam vigor, I believe I can be successful in my journalism endeavors. The hustle and bustle doesn't phase me, and I am probably at my best when I can create on the fly.

The actual transition into the job is what scares me though. I believe I have attained a massive amount of knowledge in my time, and am prepared to go into the work force. But it is daunting, and it is the only thing that a book or teacher cannot prepare you for.

For years I have been accustomed to succeeding athletically. It has come naturally, and what I fear and dread is that I will not traverse through the work world with such natural ease.

Here's perhaps my biggest fear. Throw me in a room of guys who are experts in the journalism field and tell me to work with them. Do they want to wait for this kid to