

2-17-2003

## Columbia Chronicle (02/17/2003)

Columbia College Chicago

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this week**



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## No parking: South Loop's new dilemma

○ Part two in a two-part series: Construction woes

**By Chris Coates**  
News Editor

Parking: Commuters compare the current situation to a drought. With construction sites consuming former public lots, parking in Chicago's South Loop has become more expensive with every new building erected.

A survey of area surface lots and parking garages show a two-hour fare average of \$8. The most expensive, at the Harrison Garage, 605 S. Wabash Ave., tops out at \$9 for three hours. At that rate, a student with five classes (at three hours each) doles out \$675 a semester, or \$1,350 a year.

Meanwhile parking meters cost 25 cents for five minutes, and end up being \$9 for a three-hour class. That is, of course, if one decides to "feed the meter" some 36 times. "It's definitely a problem," said Matt Jamkauski, a graphic design major, who said his car was ticketed this month on the street while parked at a meter.

Several Columbia students suggested Columbia offer school-sponsored parking.

DePaul University, for example, offers parking on its Lincoln Park campus for a daily fee of \$4. But, like Columbia, DePaul provides no such school-sponsored lots near its downtown campus in the Loop.

And with area property costs rising, Columbia officials contend a school-sponsored lot is increasingly unlikely.

"We make the case to the city on a regular basis about our concerns about the declining number of parking spaces in the neighborhood," said Bert Gall, Columbia's executive vice president.

Although no plans are in the works for student parking, Gall said the school is aware of the problem for commuting students. He also pointed out that the school

does not provide paid parking for faculty members, aside from a "handful of vehicles" that Columbia owns.

"There is certainly an awareness and a concern that over time, as parking lots get turned into other functions, its going to be an increasing—not decreasing—problem," Gall said. "We're certainly sensitive to that."

Meanwhile, parking lot owners say business is actually down compared to previous years.

One such lot, the Seventh Street Garage at 710 S. Wabash Ave., is raffling off a free month of parking to a Columbia student. The garage's owner, Donald Poulter, said the 200-space parking garage is rarely filled to capacity. His other surface lots are having similar problems. Poulter blames a shaky economy and job losses in downtown Chicago.

"The number of people driving are fewer now because of the economy," Poulter said.

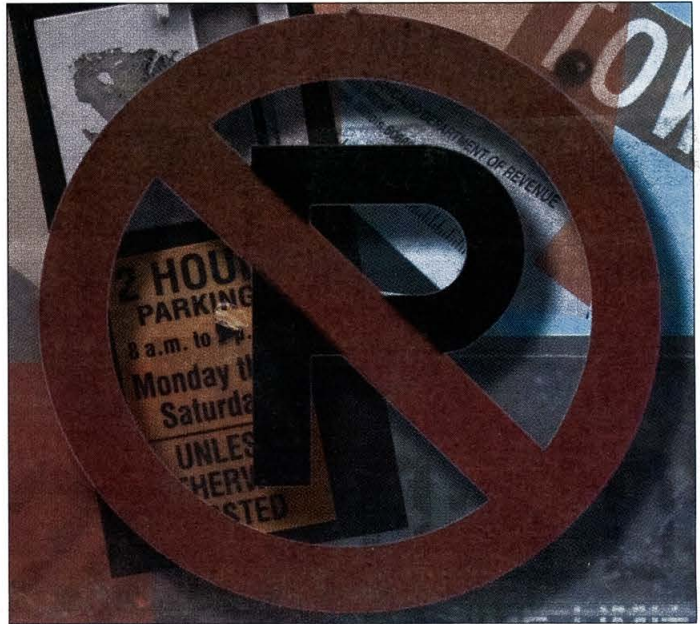
The contest, which was advertised in the Chronicle, has a value of \$124 for a month's worth of free parking.

Yet, such concessions are few, especially in the South Loop. On average, parking lot fees rose 30 percent since 1999. As for street meters, the cost will soon rise to 25 cents for five minutes in the downtown area, a rise that the city hopes will help dig it out of a budget shortfall.

For the rest of the city, Chicago residents are required to purchase a \$75 annual vehicle sticker to park on residential streets. In areas that are more crowded than the South Loop, street parking is scarce—and more expensive.

"It'll take 30 years—maybe 40, 50—for the South Loop to become as dense as, say, the Lincoln Park-area," said Tommy Bezanec, executive director of the New South Association and owner of Standing Room Only, a restaurant at 610 S. Dearborn St.

"If you lived in Lincoln Park and you



Photographs by Brian Morowczynski, compiled by Heather Morrison and Brian Morowczynski

looked at the South Loop as an objective observer, you'd say 'Wow, I don't know why the South Loop complains,'" Bezanec said.

With street parking banned in some areas and parking fees rising, both Columbia and city officials suggest a simple alternative.

"We would certainly encourage students to take advantage of public transit," Gall said. "[But] I realize it's not practical for everyone."

Indeed, Columbia promotes such use of public transit through a semester-long pass to be used on CTA buses and trains. All

full-time Columbia students, whether or not they actually use the card, pay \$70 per semester for the unlimited-use card. The CTA offers the University Pass, as its called, to students at 27 other colleges in Chicago.

As for non-CTA riders, Gall said the structures taking over former parking lots could spawn a surprising side effect: more parking.

"While there's disappearing parking [now] there'll end up being more than there was once all these projects come online," Gall said.

## Student center, Buddy Guy's plans off-track

○ Center's construction on hold until blues club moves out

**By Lisa Balde**  
Assistant News Editor

The site of Columbia's future student center, scheduled to be built on the corner of Wabash Avenue and Eighth Street, is a place that has been billed as a hub for the college community. But Buddy Guy's is still stands in that lot.

The much-anticipated center, which is expected to cost between \$30 and \$35 million to complete, is an idea that has been discussed for years.

When it was first mentioned in 2000, the notion of a student center for Columbia basically consisted of ideas. What it might look like or what it might contain was purely based on theory.

Columbia's administration has since consulted with students and faculty to begin narrowing down the contents of a student center that, even two years ago, had no set completion date.

According to Columbia's Executive Vice President Bert Gall, the administration held forums in which students could voice their opinion as to what they'd like to see included in their center.

Some students even met with architects regarding the project, said Gall.

As a result of such efforts, students are really starting to get excited.

"I think it'll help build the college community,"



Angela Simpson/Chronicle

**Construction of Columbia's student center is on hold until Buddy Guy's Legends vacates its current location at 754 S. Wabash Ave.**

said Lucas Graham, a transfer music marketing student.

Lyndsy Darland, a freshman acting major, agreed. "I think it's a big priority to have a student center," said Darland. "[For example] I have an hour and a half to do nothing."

"I don't see what's holding them up," she said later.

Gall said there are no new developments in the project.

Until Buddy Guy's moves to its projected location next to Columbia's 623 S. Wabash Ave. building, Columbia can't begin construction.

"If Buddy had building permits and finished drawings," Gall said, "it would be two to two and a half years [before the center is complete]."

See **Student Center**, page 2

## Registration hits the 21st century

○ Leaving MASCOT behind, new software offers students online tools

**By Fernando Diaz**  
Contributing Writer

After years of waiting and a failed attempt with MASCOT, Columbia is taking another step into cyberspace with Online Administrative Student Information Service, providing services such as the ability to register online.

OASIS was developed to offer students better services, according to Bernadette McMahon, chief information officer of Information Technology at Columbia, who said the project will cost about \$3 million.

"The goal here is to give students self-service tools beyond registration," McMahon said. In addition to online registration, students will eventually be able to view and print copies of their transcripts, be notified of important financial information, and/or when an event is being held at the college.

"I think it's important to note that it's going to roll out in stages," said Dorothy Dare, project manager at the Information Technology Department which is handling the project. The portal and the Learning Management System are the only services that will be available this spring, which McMahon said is serving as a test semester.

The LMS is based on a group system where every student or faculty member is a user, and access to groups such as stu-

See **OASIS**, page 3

## Briefly News and Notes

### Poster exhibit honors African-American Scientists

On Feb. 19, the Institute for Science Education and Science Communication will open "Honoring African-American Scientists."

The poster exhibit, in homage of Black History Month, will run from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

### Asian-American Affairs to celebrate year of the sheep

Also on Feb. 19, Asian-American Cultural Affairs presents a celebration of the Pan Asian Lunar New Year: The Year of the Black Sheep.

The event, in the Hokin Gallery at 623 S. Wabash Ave., runs from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. and features Chinese lion dancers and a Cambodian feast. For more information, contact (312) 344-7813.

### Contest winner's play a glimpse of Wright's life

This year's Theodore Ward African-American Playwriting Contest winner is Leslie Lee, for her work titled "Sundown Name and Night-gone Things."

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Lee's play follows the life of Richard Wright, the Chicago author.

The play will be performed at the New Studio Theater, 72 E. 11th St., from Feb. 26 through March 9. After the Feb. 27 performance, the theater will feature a discussion with the play's cast and crew. For more information, contact (312) 344 6126.

### Simmons performing for future Columbia students

On March 6, Russell Simmons of Def Jam Records fame will perform at The Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., to benefit Chicago Public School students interested in attending Columbia.

Admission prices start at \$25 for the 7 p.m. event. For more information, contact (312) 344-7472.

### Experimental poet presents lecture, works in March

On March 11, the experimental poet Laura Millen will dissect the works of John Yau, poet and author of *Forbidden Entries*.

Millen, who is a visiting poet in the Spring 2003 Poetry Program, will read from her own works on March 13. Both events are at 5:30 p.m. in the Columbia Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. For more information contact (312) 344-8100.

The series will continue with the works of Gwen Ebert, Maureen Owen, Hoang Hung and Quincy Troupe through May 29.

### Best of Midwest on display

Through March 10, the Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., presents The Midwest Photographers Project.

The event showcases black and white, panoramic and color photography of Andrea Robbins and Max Becher; Shirana Shahbazi and Andrew Borowiec.

For more information, contact the Museum at (312) 663-5554.

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

## Around Campus



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

Columbia's Magazine Workshop instructor Sharon Bloyd-Peshkin chats with magazine student Jaime DeGroot at the ECHO launch party at the Streetside Café in Humboldt Park on Feb 13. The magazine, produced by the magazine workshop class, is printed each semester and is now available on stands.

## Fulbright scholar files for new dean spot

### Search begins for new dean of the School of Media Arts

By Chris Coates  
News Editor

Columbia faculty and administrators gathered Feb. 10 to listen in as the first of four candidates bid for the position of dean of the School of Media Arts, which has not had a permanent dean for more than a year.

Dr. David Sachsman, currently a professor of communications at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, discussed his qualifications for the job at Columbia, a place with resources that he said "most schools would dream of having."

Sachsman is not new to such dean interviews. A cursory search shows he has interviewed for a similar position at Southern Illinois University in March 2001. Three days after his meeting with Columbia, Sachsman appeared at a similar session at Towson University, outside Baltimore, Md., where he is interviewing for its position as dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communications, according to a news editor with the Towerlight newspaper.

Sachsman has also held positions as head of the Journalism and Mass Media Department at Rutgers University and as dean of California State University, Fullerton's School of Communications. He is currently the George R. West Jr. Chair of Excellence in Communications and Public Affairs.

He is a Stanford University graduate and a Senior Fulbright-Hays Scholar recipient, according to a brief biography provided by Columbia's provost. The provost refused to provide Sachsman's resume to the Chronicle.

The Columbia event, in the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., featured Sachsman's views concerning the "acceleration of technological convergence

in media arts" and his ideas on how to "collaborate across [the school's] disciplines in order to foster the development of student voice and creative outcome."

Standing informally in the hall's aisle way, Sachsman discussed at length his suggestions for the school's various departments, especially fostering the ability of students to cross over to different majors. He also talked of his past, including his stint as "grammar coach" in a Tennessee television news department and his distaste for Connie Chung and NBC's "Dateline."

Sachsman, who said he is the author of three books in Columbia's library, used his past in communications and education as a jumping off point for the improvement he thinks Columbia deserves.

"[Communications,] in many ways, is number two or three in the world for fostering democracy and freedom of life and speech," Sachsman said.

During the second portion, Sachsman answered questions from the audience, which was peppered with various faculty and department members. He stressed the importance of teaching media ethos and preparing students for positions in management.

"[Students] need grounding across the areas of school," he said, offering tips for making the segue from college to a professional job seamless. Rather than preaching the technical angle of a field, Sachsman said faculty should focus on theory, particularly in the liberal arts.

The search committee for dean of the School of Media Arts will feature similar sessions with Dr. E. Lincoln James of Washington State University on Feb. 17, Dr. Stuart Sigman of Emerson College on Feb. 24 and Doreen Bartoni, acting dean of Columbia's School of Media Arts, on March 3.

All of the events will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. Faculty, staff and students are invited to attend the sessions.

## Student Center

Continued from Front Page

But, the sign that sits before the parking lot at 625 S. Wabash Ave. shows a detailed drawing of what the new building, in which Buddy Guy's would reside, will look like.

"Technically Advanced Office Building" it reads. "Full floor space available / Sam - Isabel Building / Future Home of Buddy Guy's."

The sign reports that the building will be six stories and will occupy "65,000 GSF."

The contact information for Kevin Blinkal is listed, but, when that number was called, an automated voice service stated his mailbox no longer existed.

Brian Moravec, the current general manager for Buddy Guy's, confirmed that Blinkal no longer works with the company. He, too, was unaware of any

progress being made within the project.

"Buddy's talking with his lawyers and with Bert Gall," Moravec said. "They're trying to work out a deal."

Regarding Columbia's plan for the student center, Gall said the administration hasn't decided on a final design for the building.

"I think they've changed their [plans] about the project they worked to develop," he said.

Meanwhile, Columbia students are still waiting for the student center that was promised to them years ago.

Shanell Oliver, a sophomore broadcast journalism major, said that the center is long overdue.

"It's important that Columbia...accommodates its students," she said.

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# College honors Weisman winners

○ Scholarship named for former Columbia faculty member

By Nicole Caragiannides  
Staff Writer

Currently on display in the Hokin Gallery is the artwork created by the 2002 recipients of the Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship. The Weisman Scholarship is awarded annually to students in order to offer financial support for their projects.

Albert P. Weisman was a Columbia trustee, worked as a journalist and a publicist, and taught advertising at Columbia. His last job was teaching at the University of Chicago.

"He loved students' enthusiasm, their creativity, really just their zest for life," said his son, Tony Weisman. "His passion in life was to help students, he loved getting them internships, introductions, whatever it took."

Now the Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship is continuing his life's work. Since 1974, the scholarship has been awarded to students in order to fund projects relating to communication.

The awards are given to projects related to almost any field of communication including creative writing, photography, film, dance, advertising, journalism and theater. The awarded scholarships, up to \$3,000, can-

not exceed more than half the cost of the project. Weisman explained that the scholarship is intended to give the artist a helping hand while they do their work, not fully support them.

On Feb. 11 a panel of judges went through the Hokin Gallery to view all the exhibits and they will choose a winner.

Among the art on display is a work titled "Cabrini Green" by Kyle Higgins. It consists of a podium built from bricks brought in from torn-down building that were once part of the Cabrini Green housing project. Sitting on the podium is a photo album filled with pictures of the housing project and some of its residents.

Theresa Bertocci's work displays photographs of Muslim women. In a letter that accompanies the photos, Bertocci explains that her exhibit "explores the isolation, identity, and assimilation issues faced by female Muslims in post-September 11 America."

Scholarship recipient Ben Gest's photography is not in the gallery's exhibit because it is currently on display at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Undergraduates and graduates students enrolled in 15 hours in the fall and spring are eligible to apply for the Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship. Applications are available in the Student Activities Office, Room 313, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The application deadline is April 7, 2003. The exhibition on display in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash Ave., until March 15.

# SGA petitions for bus shuttle

○ Group encourages students to voice their opinions, expectations

By Lisa Balde  
Assistant News Editor

Columbia's first-ever Student Government Association is kicking off the term with a new logo, a petition to promote a schoolwide shuttle service and a forum to address student and faculty concerns.

These activities are the first in a series of efforts planned by the SGA for the upcoming months to make improvements to the campus and better inform students about their college.

Such initiatives come at a vulnerable time for the SGA, after it experienced a deficiency in senate members and the resignation of its initial president, Klaas Van Der Wey, within the SGA's first few months as an organization last semester.

"[During] the first semester, we had to find our ground...and now we're ready to work," said SGA Vice President Justin Kulovsek.

And the work, according to Kulovsek, will start March 6 at noon at the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan Ave. for the SGA's first "speak-out."

At that time, the senate executive board, including the SGA president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, will allow students and faculty to voice concerns about any issue pertaining to the college.

"We want to know what the students want at Columbia," said Gina Jiannuzzi, president of the SGA. "We are going to give all of the students that are not informed all of the answers they need."

The speak out will also serve as an advertisement for Columbia President Dr. Warrick L. Carter's State of the College address, an event that will be co-sponsored by the SGA.

Carter's speech—which is scheduled for noon on March 20 in the Ferguson Theater, 600 S. Michigan—will be aired, with the assistance of the Television Department, on every TV monitor throughout the school.

According to Kulovsek, Carter is expected to

## OASIS

Continued from Front Page

dent organizations or classes is based on authorization. Professors will be able to establish an online component of their class where they can post links to relevant course information and post syllabi and grades. Eventually students will be able to handle many of the administrative tasks of college from anywhere they can connect to the Internet.

Also, every member of the Columbia community will have an e-mail account through OASIS, which McMahan hopes will streamline communication between the administration and students.

A help desk has been setup in the Hermann D. Conaway Center at the site of the Internet Café that is also new this semester. The college plans to have registration take place in a controlled environment in May at the café instead of at individual departments.

"We hope that online registration will be a refuge from lining up in the halls," Dare said. The process is detailed in a mailing that was sent out the week before the Spring Semester began to students who registered early, McMahan said. In it, students were provided with their new number and their e-mail address. The new system will replace students' social security number with a shorter identification number, which also

address such topics as the long-awaited student center and the capital campaign that has been set up to fund it, as well as the development currently taking place, which has been proposed throughout the campus.

After Carter's speech, students will be given a chance to ask their president a few questions regarding whatever is of particular interest to them.

According to Jiannuzzi, the event will only last an hour, giving students a limited time frame to get questions answered.

During its last meeting on Feb. 11, the senate also solidified its interest in initiating a shuttle service to transport students to different locations throughout Columbia's campus with the start of a petition process that is set to be completed by March 6, the date of the SGA speak-out.

"In order for [the administration] to help us in any way, they need to see proof that students will utilize the shuttle," Jiannuzzi said. "I think it's relevant that we have a petition."

By the said date, the senate wants to have signatures from at least ten percent of Columbia's students, saying that a shuttle would benefit them and the rest of the school. After the petitions are turned in to the administration regarding the new transportation system, details including routes, the number of buses needed and bus size, will be worked out.

A separate shuttle service may not need to be found, though, if Columbia decides to switch security providers. According to Jiannuzzi, SDI, Columbia's current security provider, is coming to the end of their contract with the school at the end of this semester.

If a new security service is hired, administrative officials may look toward those companies that offer transportation shuttles or even an escort system.

Also announced at its last meeting was the creation of the student government's new logo. A simple, professional design, dominated by the SGA acronym, replaced the previously used Columbia logo.

The SGA executive board said that it is eager to accomplish tasks that will benefit the school and its community of students, as well as to make their name known among those who still may not be aware that a student government exists.

will be used as the login for OASIS, but not for the e-mail.

"Some of this technology will actually drive the actual policies and procedures," Dare said. One immediate benefit will be the standardization of e-mail accounts. "We have a thousand or so part time faculty that were disconnected because we never knew their e-mail addresses," she said. The department is also working with an outside payment plan company to arrange for students to pay their tuition on a 10-month plan.

Dominic Cottone, director of the Office of Student Leadership, already has plans for OASIS. He is administering a group for the Student Government Association and will use the lessons learned from that project to proceed in establishing groups for other student organizations. Cottone hopes to set up a group for each individual organization on campus.

This would benefit involvement in student organizations because sometimes students can't make the meetings or don't want to be too involved, he said. "The ultimate goal is being able to have the SGA inform the entire student body by e-mail," he said.

"I think [OASIS] is opening new doors," Cottone said.

## The Editor's Desk



Georgia Evdoxiadis  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Don't pretend you've never seen it. It's the show that you love to hate (now that "Jerry Springer" is so passé), and it's getting Super Bowl-size ratings for its deception-themed "reality" premise. It's "Joe Millionaire."

You're still pretending like you don't know what it is. OK, I'll humor you.

The premise of the story is simple: There are 20 women, who are really pretty and really stupid. They think their prince charming has \$50 million, but he's really a construction worker (sort of)—If he's a real construction worker, he probably got fired for taking three months off work).

He has to pick one of the 20 women, but none of them really know what he's picking them for because he seems a couple millennia away from marriage. Yet it also seems like going on this show is a drastic way to get a date with a construction worker.

Now it's down to two women. So he picks this woman Zora, who seems the least likely to care if he's really a "large machine operator," or whatever. And they're theoretically going to live happily ever after, or at least date for a couple of weeks until the furor dies down.

'Wait,' you're thinking, 'it's Monday, so how does she know that Zora is the "winner"?' I don't like to reveal my secrets, but it's really not all that complicated. You're a Columbia student; you've heard of it—It's called editing.

The editing is so bad, so clearly biased in favor of everyone else, that it's totally Zora. Plus, I read it in the Globe.

But anyway, My idea is for the next show. The whole premise of this show is that women are so materialistic, so money-hungry that they will eventually be crushed to find out that their beau only makes \$19,000 a year.

So what about the guys? If we automatically assume that women have a flaw, characteristic of their sex, that will keep them from mates who would normally be perfect for them, then guys must have a comparable characteristic.

I propose that the next show be called "Jane Gorgeous."

There are 20 men competing for the attention of a woman they all think is a model. She looks sexy, fantastic—but she's not. Maybe they pad her bra, plump up her lips and slap on a few pounds of Mary Kay.

Then, after the men meet and talk to the interesting and intelligent woman, they are eliminated, one by one. In the last show, she wipes off all the makeup, takes out the fake boobs and lets it all hang loose. Will the man stay or will he run screaming?

That would be some real "reality" TV. And, for once, we'd get to make fun of all the superficial male tendencies.

"Joe Millionaire" is a great example of a show that mocks stereotypes for being stereotypes. "Will and Grace" is another. People just love to laugh at the flaming gay man, but it sure doesn't do much to alleviate prejudices. Ditto catty women fighting over ball gowns and drooling over jewelry.

When was the last time you saw something that really made fun of men for only dating hot women? Not that there is no humor in the subject.

Recently, when some male work friends who are...ahem, less than hot...listed some of their requirements for potential mates, I couldn't help but laugh.

"She's gotta be fit: skinny, but not too skinny," suggests one slightly pudgy guy with a bit of an acne problem.

"With big breasts," adds another friend, who happens to be wearing a silky Chinese dragon shirt.

"Long, blond hair, but not too fake-looking," agrees the balding, 38-year-old bartender who lives with his parents.

This is suspiciously starting to sound a great deal like a description of a Victoria's Secret model. One of the men said that he absolutely cannot stand it when a woman wears tennis shoes. It looks so sloppy, he said.

This is the same man wearing a Chinese dragon shirt with black jeans, white socks and black leather dress shoes.

But what he's looking for in a woman is clearly not what he's prepared to offer. He's just got his standards, and they are pretty high (no pun intended). The woman of his dreams is a blind hottie.

Either that, or she's a fantastically gorgeous woman who spends much of her time worrying about what she looks like but little of it caring about the appearance of her boyfriend: Very, very little of it.

But above all, by far the most important requirement is this: She can't be only interested in money.

That would be superficial.

# Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

CELEBRATES AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH WITH:

# THE POWER OF BLACK MUSIC

More than 40 events celebrate the joy, power and influence of Black music.

Performances, film screenings, discussions and cultural presentations explore blues, gospel, classical, jazz, soul, hip-hop, rap, spoken word — and everything in between.

## THIS WEEK'S FREE EVENTS INCLUDE:

### DRUM CIRCLE

Bring your own percussion instruments!  
WHEN: 1-3 p.m., Tuesday, February 18  
WHERE: Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Talent showcase featuring a diversity of musical genres.  
WHEN: 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 19  
WHERE: Columbia Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan

### ORBERT DAVIS SEXTET

Performs "The Roots of Jazz."  
WHEN: 6 p.m., Thursday, February 20  
WHERE: Columbia Concert Hall

### DANCE PARTY - STEPPERS' SET

Featuring D.J. Wali Muhammad from V103.  
WHEN: 8 p.m., Thursday, February 20  
LOCATION: Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor

### BIG MOUTH OPEN MIC SERIES

Open Mic 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
At 9 p.m., Donnie performs songs from "The Colored Section."  
WHEN: 6 p.m., Friday, February 21  
WHERE: Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash

### DON'T MISS...

#### TRADITION BEARERS SERIES

Presented by Columbia's Center for Black Music Research

Visit with jazz masters **Von Freeman**, **Jodie Christian** and **Dr. Burgess Gardner**, and music critic **Howard Reich**.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 18  
WHERE: Hermann Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash

Visit with gospel queen **Albertina Walker** and cultural historian **Dr. Margaret Burroughs**.

WHEN: 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 25  
WHERE: Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash

#### FREE

(Made possible, in part, by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Illinois General Assembly)

#### THE BIRTH OF JAZZ

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble, the internationally renowned jazz orchestra in residence at Columbia College Chicago, founded by the late **William Russo**, performs New Orleans-style jazz featuring **Franz Jackson** and **Johnny Frigo**.  
WHEN & WHERE: Various dates, times and locations around Chicagoland. Visit [www.chjjazz.com](http://www.chjjazz.com) or call 312-344-6245.

HOW MUCH: \$15

### PLUS ...

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs celebrates African American History Month with musical performances, discussions, and tours. All FREE.

Visit [www.cityofchicago.org/tour/culturalcenter/](http://www.cityofchicago.org/tour/culturalcenter/) for a complete schedule of events.  
Phone: 312-744-6630.

Musical performances, dance, lectures and discussions throughout the month will be held at the DuSable Museum of African American History.

Visit [www.dusablemuseum.org](http://www.dusablemuseum.org) for a complete schedule of events.  
Phone: 773-947-0600.

### SAVE THE DATE...

#### RUSSELL SIMMONS AND THE DEF POETS

Co-Sponsored by Metro, Across the Board and Power 92, The Power of Black Music's feature presentation is a conversation with **Russell Simmons**, founder of Def Jam Records, and a performance by the **Def Poets** — including two poetry students from Columbia!

(Invitation to present a scholarship fund for Chicago Public High School students wishing to attend Columbia College Chicago.)

WHEN: 8 p.m., Thursday, March 6

WHERE: Metro, 3730 N. Clark

HOW MUCH: \$20 for Columbia College Chicago Students (\$30 general admission; \$50 VIP tickets)

Tickets for Columbia students only: 312-314-7458; Other ticket purchases: at all Ticketmaster locations; Charge by phone 312-559-1212 or at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). Also available at the Metro Box Office (no service fee) in Chubbouse (3728 N. Clark St.)



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Program partners for The Power of Black Music are: Columbia College Chicago's Division of Student Affairs, The Office of the President, Department of Music, Center for Black Music Research, Department of English, Department of Radio, Dance Africa Chicago, Columbia College Library, C-Spaces, and our Chicago Cultural Partners: The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the DuSable Museum of African American History and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

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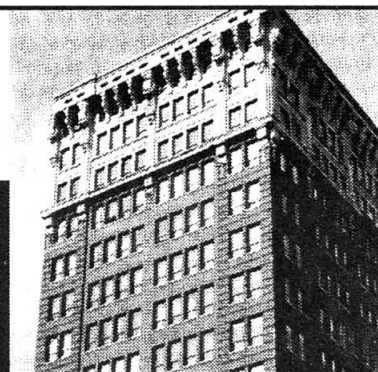


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**Deadline: March 14, 2003**

#### Applications are available at:

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600 S. Michigan, Room 303
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600 S. Michigan, Room 300
- Academic Advising,  
623 S. Wabash, Room 300

### David Rubin Trustees' Scholarship

\$2000 for one academic year (\$1000 awarded in Fall, 2002, and \$1000 awarded in Spring, 2003). This scholarship is for full-time outstanding students to defray tuition costs. Scholarship awards are based on academic achievement and demonstration of financial need.

**Deadline: April 1, 2003**

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**Deadline: March 14, 2003**

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**Deadline: March 14, 2003**

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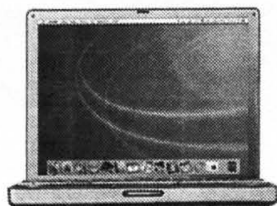
**Deadline: April 1, 2003**



[www.colum.edu/scholarships](http://www.colum.edu/scholarships)

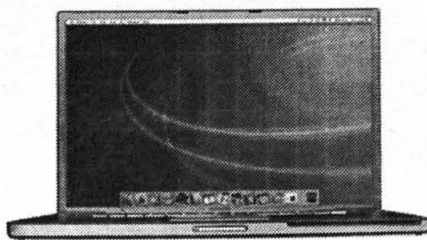
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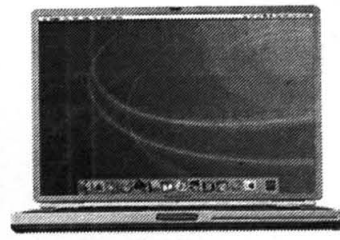
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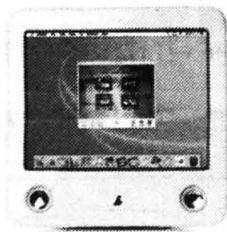
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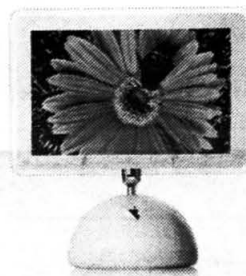
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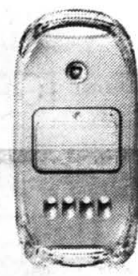
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Visit <http://oasis.colum.edu> to learn more.





## Another tight year for student aid

○ **Bush plan would erase shortfall in Pell Grants, but many programs would receive no increases**

**By Stephen Burd**

Chronicle of Higher Education

WASHINGTON—President Bush's 2004 budget request for federal student aid programs directs virtually all available new money toward wiping out a lingering problem: a budget shortfall in the Pell Grant program. The spending plan would eliminate a couple of financial aid programs outright and leave most other college-related programs at their current budget levels.

Under the president's proposal, which was released last week, spending on Pell Grants would increase by \$1.9 billion, to \$12.7 billion. But because that money would be used to erase the program's budget deficit, the maximum grant would remain at \$4,000.

U.S. Education Department officials said the president's request would enable 4.9 million students to receive Pell Grants, a million more than were in the program when the Bush administration began. Pell Grants are the government's primary source of grants for low-income students.

"The substantial funding increase we are seeking will help millions of needy families pay for higher education and give millions of students the opportunity to pursue their educational goals and make the most of their potential," said U.S. Secretary of Education Roderick R. Paige.

College lobbyists and student advocates, however, were extremely disappointed that none of the additional money the president has proposed for Pell Grants would go toward raising the maximum grant, which continues to lose its purchasing power at a time when tuitions, particularly at public colleges, are rising steeply. They also challenged the depart-

ment's assertion that the budget request would increase the number of students served by the program. By devoting the money to paying off the shortfall, they said, the president is not actually increasing the number of grants, but instead reimbursing the government for grants it has already awarded.

"The administration would like to portray this as a boon for needy students when in reality these additional funds would cover only those grants that have already been provided," said Kate L. Rube, higher education adviser for the State Public Interest Research Groups. "Just as students don't receive extra credit for doing the absolute minimum in their assignments, the president shouldn't expect extra credit for a budget that proposes doing what the government is already supposed to do."

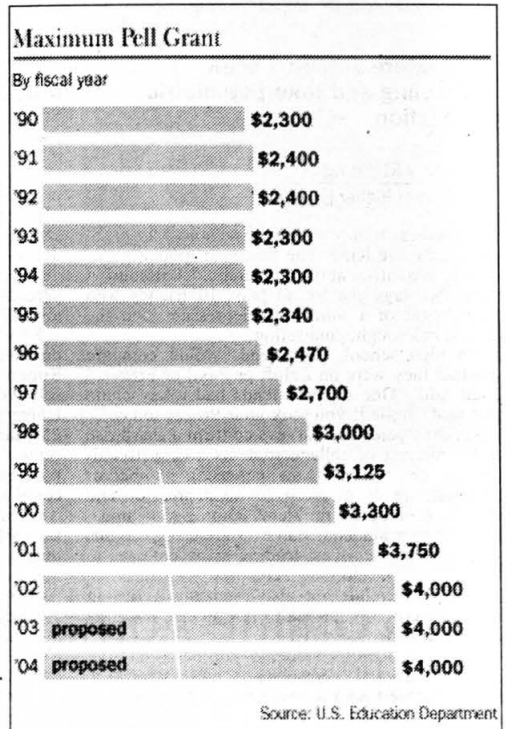
Deficits have plagued the Pell Grant program over the past two years as demand for the grants has far exceeded expectations.

Student aid experts believe that the growth in demand for the grants is a result of a feeble economy, which has driven many recent graduates to continue their education rather than look for jobs, and has led others who have been laid off or unable to find employment to enroll in short-term job-training programs to upgrade their skills.

Some supporters of the administration say the lobbyists should not look a gift horse in the mouth. They note that the \$1.9 billion request for Pell Grants is one of the largest budgetary increases that the president is seeking in any non entitlement program outside of the Defense Department.

"The bottom line is that the president's budget pumps another \$1.9 billion into Pell Grants at a time when most other domestic programs are being flat-funded or cut. That's 'billion,' with a 'B,'" said Rep. John A. Boehner, the Ohio Republican who is chairman of the House of Representatives Education and the Workforce Committee.

"In a time of war, economic turmoil and limited resources, this is an achievement education lobbyists ought to be applauding."



Graphic courtesy of the Chronicle of Higher Education

## Fraternity suspended for connection with goose death

○ **Arrested students charged with felony cruelty to animals; conviction carries a penalty of three months of community service and one year in jail**

**By Diane Suchetka**

Knight Ridder Newspapers

(KRT Campus), CHARLOTTE, N.C.—The international governing board of Kappa Sigma fraternity suspended its Davidson College chapter Feb. 5.

The punishment stands at least until the board completes an investigation into the arrests of seven fraternity members or pledges charged with felonies in the beating death of a goose.

The college has already suspended the chapter. The board's action means that Davidson's 64 Kappa Sigmas cannot meet socially or do anything in the name of the fraternity, said Mitchell Wilson, executive director of Kappa Sigma's 205 chapters in the United States and Canada.

The fraternity's Supreme Executive Committee also agreed it would vote next month on whether to revoke the charter of the Davidson chapter. That would close the house for at least two years.

"It is probably one of the most serious moments we have in the life of a chapter in Kappa Sigma fraternity," Wilson said.

The fraternity also continues to investigate whether the students were required to kill the goose to become chapter members.

Six of the seven students arrested were joining the fraternity. The seventh was a full member.

They were charged with felony cruelty to animals and conspiracy to commit cruelty to animals. Conviction of felony cruelty to animals carries a penalty of three months of community service or up to 12 months of jail time, depending on prior record.

For these kinds of crimes, those with no record can apply for deferred prosecution, a special version of probation that ranges from six months to two years and often includes community service.

All seven have been released on bonds of \$15,000 to \$20,000. The beating death occurred at Roosevelt Wilson Park in Davidson, police said.

## Beware the dangers of over-exercising

○ **Working out too much can come from an unhealthy obsession with fitness, experts say**

**By Jeyling Chou**

Daily Bruin (U. California-Los Angeles)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES—Vinh Lam, a fourth-year University of California-Los Angeles economics student works out up to three hours a day, six days a week.

His exercise regimen is divided between weightlifting, cardio and abdominal exercises.

Jessica Reid, a third-year political science and Spanish student, visits the gym up to five times a week.

Her workouts consist of resistance training, work on an exercise ball, and cardio.

Lam refuses to sacrifice his workout routine for his social life. After a party, he might still head over to 24 Hour Fitness for a late-night workout.

Meanwhile, Reid puts pressure on herself to stay fit because of her job as a physical trainer, and becomes depressed when she is unable to work out.

Are these fitness-minded college students models of dedication or bordering on obsession?

Over-exercising can be a result of an unhealthy obsession with fitness. The factors which can cause this condition are becoming increasingly prevalent.

According to UCLA's Student Nutrition Awareness Campaign website, 75 percent of college-age women and 43 percent of college-age men are dissatisfied with their bodies.

Some think societal pressures added to this dissatisfaction may be just enough to push someone over the edge.

Under the shadow of Hollywood and neighbored by Bel Air, UCLA students may be especially susceptible to these pressures.

"Los Angeles is the hub of physical attraction," said Elisa Terry, fitness instruction training program manager for UCLA Recreation. "There's an emphasis on how you look here."

Over-exercising may also be a result of an unawareness of the recommended levels of fitness and the way to exercise effectively.

"If they don't know the effective way to exercise, it's like they're spinning their wheels," Terry said. "This could lead to an injury which could devastate the person even more."

The most dangerous aspect of compulsive exercise is the ease with which it can go unrecognized. The condition can be easily hidden by an emphasis on fitness or a

"Over-exercising is a symptom of something else that the student might be struggling with,"

—William Parham,

associate director of clinical services at Student Psychological Services

desire to be healthy.

"We can disguise our obsessions under the guise of being fit because it is a socially acceptable way to purge," said Sheri Barke, a registered dietician at the Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center.

"It's like a drug that gives you that short-term quick fix, but it's not really dealing with the underlying issues."

For the over-exerciser, those endless hours at the gym may not only indicate insecurity in body image, but deeper emotional or spiritual problems.

"Over-exercising is a symptom of something else that the student might be struggling with," said William Parham, associate director of clinical services at Student Psychological Services.

"It can be problematic, but rarely is it the problem." Excessive time spent in the gym may become a means of self-affirmation or a way to avoid dealing with problems in other aspects of life.

"It's a coping mechanism or an escape used in order to numb themselves from the stress in their life," Barke said. "It's important to use exercise as an outlet to stress, but not to the point that you're using it to the extreme."

Over-exercising is placed in the same class as eating disorders like bulimia and anorexia where individuals deny themselves of adequate nutrition by restrictive eating behaviors.

For men, the term "bigorexia" describes a condition known as muscle dysmorphia, which arises from a delusional preoccupation with body image and size.

"Bigorexia is a kind of reverse anorexia," Barke said. "The person views himself as not being big enough even though to everyone around him, he's obviously very muscular."

Hidden psychological issues that may lead someone to compulsive exercise are also paired with physical consequences.

Someone who over-exercises may experience a loss of coordination, irregular sleeping patterns, gastrointestinal disturbances, and a weakened immune system.

See Over-exercising, page 9

## Prozac campus

○ **More students seek counseling and take psychiatric medication**

By Jeffrey R. Young  
Chronicle of Higher Education

It's almost trendy to have psychological problems, said Eve Kidd. The first-year graduate student in journalism at the University of Missouri at Columbia says she has at least 10 friends who take Prozac or a similar antidepressant, and she herself has sought counseling.

"In high school, my friends would compare whether they were on Zoloft or Paxil or Prozac," Kidd said. "One of my friends had a key chain that said 'Smile if you took your Prozac today.'"

Recent studies and surveys confirm a sharp rise in the number of college students taking psychiatric medication, with an increasing number of students already diagnosed with depression and other psychological problems coming to campuses. And more students than ever are using campus mental-health services, leading some colleges to hire more counselors over the past few years.

College officials are also reporting a rise in more severe mental-health problems, such as bipolar disorder.

Hoping to identify students who need help but might not seek it themselves, some colleges are training professors and resident assistants to identify signs of psychological disorders, and they are coordinating efforts of various student services to help keep students from slipping through the cracks.

Some see the rise in reported mental-health problems as a sign that college has become more stressful, as more students juggle work, academics, extracurricular activities and complicated family issues.

But others worry that some students are popping pills unnecessarily, or that they are taking drugs without also seeking therapy to work through underlying problems.

"We want quick fixes to things, and we don't want to take the time to develop long-term relationships with people," said Gertrude C. Carter, director of psychological services for students at Bennington College. "We work against having medication used in the Olympics," she said, so why should medication be allowed to "increase performance in school"?

### Seeking Help

A study published this month in *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice* highlights the changes that college counseling centers have faced in the past decade. For the study, which is one of the largest of its kind, campus mental-health officials at Kansas State University carefully tracked the types of cases they saw from 1989 to 2001.

During that period, the number of students with depression doubled, and the proportion of students taking psychiatric medication rose from 10 percent to 25 percent. The number of suicidal students tripled.

"A big part of it is that students just are experi-

encing more stress, more anxiety, more depression than they were a decade ago," said Sherry A. Benton, assistant director of training at Kansas State University's counseling center, who led the study. "Over the years, college has come to feel more competitive, and it's a bigger struggle financially to get through college. I think those are probably big factors."

In a national survey of counseling directors at 283 colleges, 95 percent reported seeing more students on psychiatric medication than in previous years. Most colleges reported that about 18 to 20 percent of those who sought counseling were already on medication.

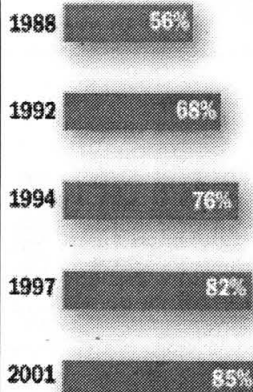
Elite colleges report a greater share of students on psychiatric drugs than other institutions, said Robert P. Gallagher, who led the survey of counseling directors. Gallagher was the director of the University of Pittsburgh's counseling center for 25 years, and continues as a psychologist at the center. He points out that elite colleges offer a broader range of mental-health services, which could account for the difference.

Of the 2,000 students who sought counseling at Harvard University last year, for instance, more than 1,000 received a prescription for an antidepressant, according to a report in the May 2002 issue of *Psychology Today*.

"There is definitely a rise in the instances of mental-health problems," said David S. Rosenthal, the director of Harvard University's health services.

Like many other colleges, Harvard has increased its staff to deal with the demand, adding five full-time positions to its counseling center in the past four years, bringing the number to about 23, Rosenthal said.

Proportion of counselors seeing more students with severe psychological problems:



Source: Annual Survey of Counseling Center Directors  
Graphic by Vatrice Chestnut  
Artwork courtesy of Chronicle of Higher Education

## Northwestern U. foreign students wary of tracking

○ **Mandated SEVIS is part of the USA PATRIOT Act—in place after Sept. 11 hijackers used fake student visas**

By Elaine Heim  
Daily Northwestern

(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill.—As the Saturday deadline approached for universities to implement a new international student tracking program, some of Northwestern University's 1,700 international students said the system makes them feel inconvenienced, distrusted and even unwanted.

"It's so vague—what kind of information they want from us," said Grigorios Andrianis, a McCormick junior from Greece. "Everything you say or do could make a difference."

"If you ever see me you'll know why they stopped me. I'm kind of dark and I have a goatee. I'm the perfect suspect."

—Jawdat Sha'sha'a

The information management program, called the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, was implemented at NU in December, said Ravi Shankar, director of the International Office. Congress mandated SEVIS as part of the USA PATRIOT Act after several hijackers in the Sept. 11 attacks were found to have expired student visas.

Shankar said the system requires his office to report information about international students directly to the government. Students are required to update certain information within 21 days of any change, including their academic programs, full- or part-time status, off-campus employment and school addresses. Students who don't comply risk losing their visa status.

McCormick sophomore Zhi Chuen Tan said when he attends job fairs, he finds employers often immediately disregard him after learning he is from Malaysia.

"The first question they ask you is not 'What's your major?' or 'What's your GPA?'" he said. "The first question they ask you is, 'Are you a U.S. citizen?'"

Tan reported to SEVIS last week when he was chosen for a summer internship with Cummings Power Generation in Minneapolis. He said he understands the need to reduce

national security threats but resents the inconvenience of the new system.

"It definitely makes me feel a little uneasy, being tracked down," he said.

NU's international students are being notified of regulation changes in e-mails and information sessions by the International Office, Shankar said.

"It's not so much of a change in the information being reported as in the reporting requirements," he said.

But some students said they wish they knew more about what kind of information the university is sharing with the government.

"The information they give us through the International Office is really superficial," Andrianis said. "We don't really know what information that's related to us is funneled to the [Department of] Homeland Security. They claim it's just academic information, like what classes we're taking, but we really don't know."

Tina Valkanoff, president of College Democrats and former president of ACLU-NU, said she understands why the government collects basic information, such as addresses and enrollment statuses. But she questions the relevance of students' employment status and majors.

"It implies to me that the government is looking very closely at these students in areas that don't necessarily have anything to do with their immigration status," said Valkanoff, a Weinberg senior.

Since 9/11, international students have received many forms of special treatment limiting the freedoms that American students take for granted, said Jawdat Sha'sha'a, Andrianis' roommate. Sha'sha'a, a Jordanian citizen, was detained and interviewed at O'Hare International Airport immediately after 9/11 by Immigration and Naturalization Service agents.

"If you ever see me you'll know why they stopped me. I'm kind of dark and I have a goatee. I'm the perfect suspect," said Sha'sha'a, a McCormick junior considering a transfer to Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences—which he half-jokingly said he would soon report to the International Office.

Sha'sha'a said the frequent airport searches do not bother him too much, although he said it is "kind of a curse these days to be from the Middle East." If SEVIS had existed when he was choosing where to go to college, however, he might have stayed home.

"If I were going to just start my education career, I would reconsider coming here," he said. "The education is worth it. But...I feel kind of constrained."

## Over-exercising

Continued from Page 8

"The body just gets rundown and overused so that the exercise program becomes ineffective," Terry said. "All you're doing is tearing the body down and you're not giving enough time for it to recover and build back up."

Women who exercise an unhealthy amount may have irregular periods and severe bone loss due to a drop in estrogen.

Too much exercise can lower testosterone levels in men, resulting in problems with sexual function. Individuals who exercise compulsively often ignore injuries and bodily warning signals that they are going too far.

"Exercising a lot may be a sign of some kind of

eating disorder or body image disturbance," said Christina Miller, coordinator of the behavioral medicine program at the Ashe Center.

"It would be good to talk to a counselor to see what their motivations were for doing it."

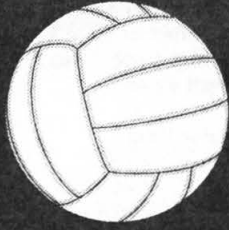
The physical and academic pressures of college may lead to health problems in students trying to achieve too much.

"We try to get people to move their bodies and exercise not for what they can do to change their physical appearance, but for what they can learn about themselves," Terry said. "Physical activity provides a huge amount of confidence. We try to get people to see that."

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Columbia College Chicago and Roosevelt University Present:

# Volleyball Intramurals



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Chicago, IL 60605  
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Columbia College Student Activities Office  
623 S. Wabash Rm. 313  
Chicago, IL 60605  
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- **Open volleyball and team sign up** will be Feb. 18th & 19th at 7pm.
- **Team Rosters Due:** Monday, Feb. 24th. 10 players per roster. Rosters must be complete before submission.
- **Games will be played on:** Tuesday & Wednesday from 7-10pm at Roosevelt Gym
- **Play Begins:** Tuesday, Feb. 25th at 7pm.

**Roosevelt University Fitness Center  
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# DRUM CIRCLE



**Tuesday, February 18**

**1:00-3:00 pm**

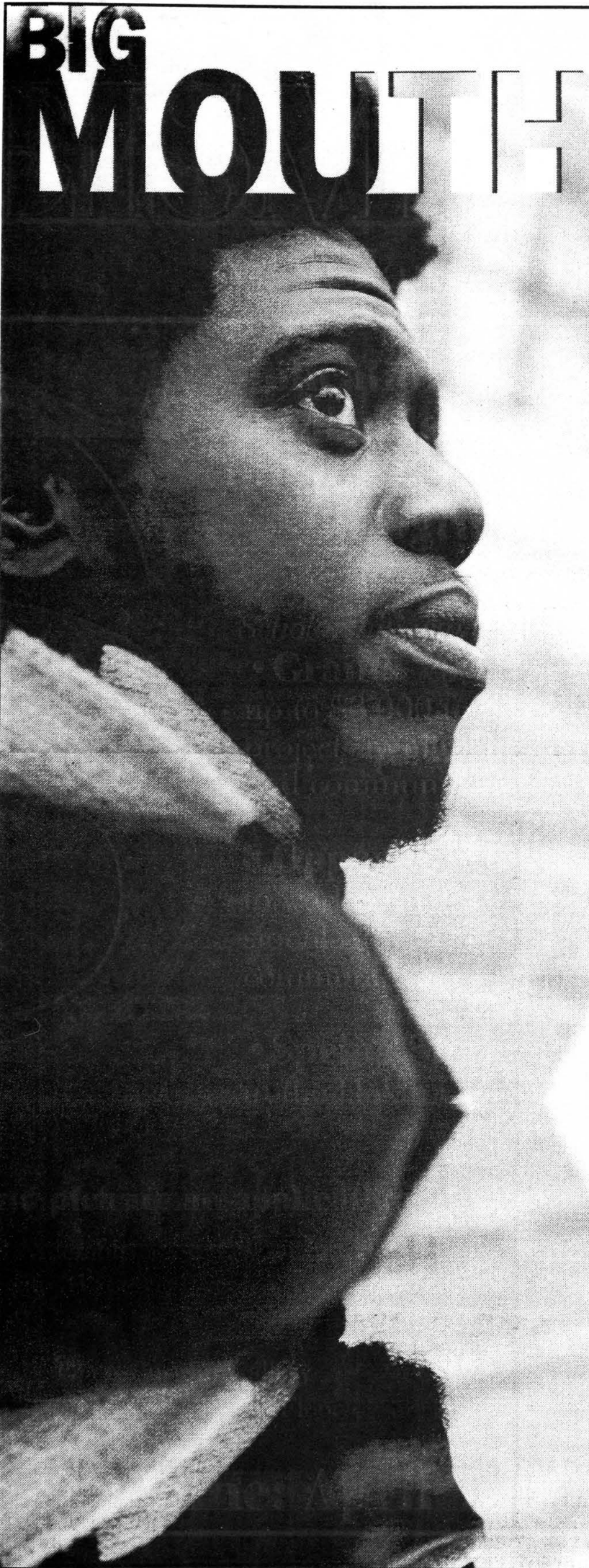
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Featuring Master Drummer Nick Alvarez**

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Open Mic Sign Up 6pm-6:30pm in Conaway Center  
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 **Columbia** COLLEGE CHICAGO

# BIG MOUTH

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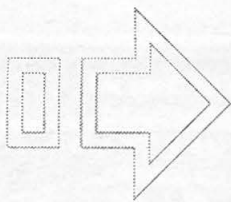
Columbia College Chicago Urban Arts Festival : May 22



## CALL FOR DEMOS

from graduating senior students

C•SPACES is accepting demo submissions from bands and solo musical artists. Selected artists will be featured at Manifest03 on May 22, 2003 at outdoor sound stages around campus.



**DEMO SUBMISSION DATE: March 12, 2003**

**DROP OFF: Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash**



### DEMO SUBMISSION CRITERIA

- > At least one member of the group must be of graduating senior status (the completion of 90 credits or more). We prefer that the entire group be comprised of Columbia students.
- > Demo must be on a CD, video or audio tape and of good sound and/or visual quality.
- > Demos must be clearly labeled with the title of group, contact number and e-mail address.
- > Submitted demos will not be returned.

Artists selected will be posted at the Hokin Annex March 14, 2003

# Need Graduation Tickets?



Graduation applications must be submitted by February 28, 2003 in order to receive 6 tickets.

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Apply in the Academic Advising Office,  
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A division of student affairs.



## Attention All Journalism Students, Photojournalists & Editorial Cartoonists!

Applications for the 2003-2004 John Fischetti Scholarship are now available in the Journalism Department, Suite 1300, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

All full-time Columbia College students, including graduate students, who specialize in print or broadcast journalism, photojournalism, editorial art or political cartooning, are eligible to apply. Awards are based on academic merit, financial need and service in the student's speciality (i.e., internships, work on student publication or productions). Twenty-one scholarships, up to \$2,000 each, were awarded for 2002-2003.

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# COMMENTARY

## Columbia Chronicle Editorials

### AIDS epidemic needs real-life depiction

Between 850,000 and 950,000 people are currently infected with HIV in the United States, according to a report compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. An estimated 36 million people are infected worldwide.

The AIDS epidemic is bigger than ever, which puts more people at risk. And as the virus evolves and mutates, it becomes harder to initially diagnose.

For the first time since 1993, an increase was found in the number of AIDS cases diagnosed, according to the CDC. Such a statistic proves the lack of education concerning the degree of danger the disease poses, specifically in the growing number of people engaging in unsafe sex. As a result, the issue of "AIDS complacency" is becoming more of a problem.

Many people still perceive AIDS as a problem that exists only in other countries. But the truth is not only does AIDS exist in America, it is also incurable and the epidemic is getting worse.

One reason for this is that HIV can go undetected if not tested in its initial stages. Many times, it takes on the symptoms of a common cold. Because of factors such as this, there are an estimated 280,000 people living in America unaware that they are infected with HIV.

With so many preventative measures on the market for sexually transmitted diseases, it is astonishing that so many people are still getting infected. Such devices can protect people if used properly.

However, protection is not perfect, and testing still needs to be done. But abstinence is absolute. It's been said over and over again: Abstinence is the only true protection against deadly diseases. And AIDS is definitely deadly.

Obviously, the media isn't doing enough to properly inform people about HIV/AIDS. Success stories are advertised far more often than the realistic traumas that a majority of those infected have to deal with daily. Those who have fought—and are currently fighting—the disease are certainly worthy of news coverage. The realistic side just needs to be seen more often.

A recent AIDS campaign featuring Magic Johnson can be seen covering CTA ad space throughout Chicago. Johnson is posed confident and triumphant beside the story of his successful struggle with HIV. The campaign reminds people that they can survive the disease. Yet the advertisements neglected to inform that Johnson has quite a bit more money than the average citizen with HIV/AIDS. Therefore, he has access to a wide range of medication unattainable to most.

The first step in solving AIDS complacency and getting rid of ignorance is to thoroughly educate everyone about the virus. This includes revealing its negative symptoms and side effects as well as the fact that there is hope. Sugarcoating is not the answer.

### Insurance: Enough to make you sick

More than half of the U.S. population is uninsured or underinsured, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Unemployment is rising, and many companies are cutting benefits to offset losses suffered in the declining economy. The increasing health care crisis is one that students rarely are educated about; until, that is, they are forced to deal with the negative consequences of being uninsured.

Protection isn't an issue for those lucky individuals still covered under their parents' health plans. But the problem for many Columbia students is that insurance companies terminate a dependant's coverage when he or she turns 23 years old; or, when the child graduates (as if the pressure of entering the "real world" weren't enough).

What to do? The options are very limited.

First of all, Columbia provides a little-known service for students in need of medical attention. The Columbia College Chicago Student Health Center, located at 731 S. Plymouth Court, provides care for individuals with minor illnesses and injuries. So, if for instance, you have a bad sore throat or constant headaches, you can get some relief.

The center is available to all Columbia students. Better yet, it's free. Kind of.

As little known as the center is, even more so is the charge that appears on students' tuition installment contract. For students enrolled in more than 6 credit hours, an automatic \$25 is added for the "free" clinic, located in the Residence Center. It works the same as the U-PASS: regardless of whether or not students use public transportation, we are automatically charged \$70.

Another medical option for Columbia students is the Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Plan. For \$869 a year, a student can get annual coverage. That is, if he or she is under 25 years old. If not, the price jumps to \$1,014 a year. Have a kid? Add about a thousand more. Marry, and they tack on an additional \$500.

The plan offers prescription benefits, emergency treatment and vision care, among other

things. Pamphlets explaining the full plan are in the Student Life Center on the third floor in the 623 S. Wabash Ave. building. But be sure and read all the limitations, conditions, eligibility, policies, exclusions and restrictions, because the plan fails to offer the kind of coverage available through employer-provided insurance.

Any kind of regular office visit, including physical examinations and gynecological exams, will have to be paid out of the student's pocket, because the plan doesn't cover it.

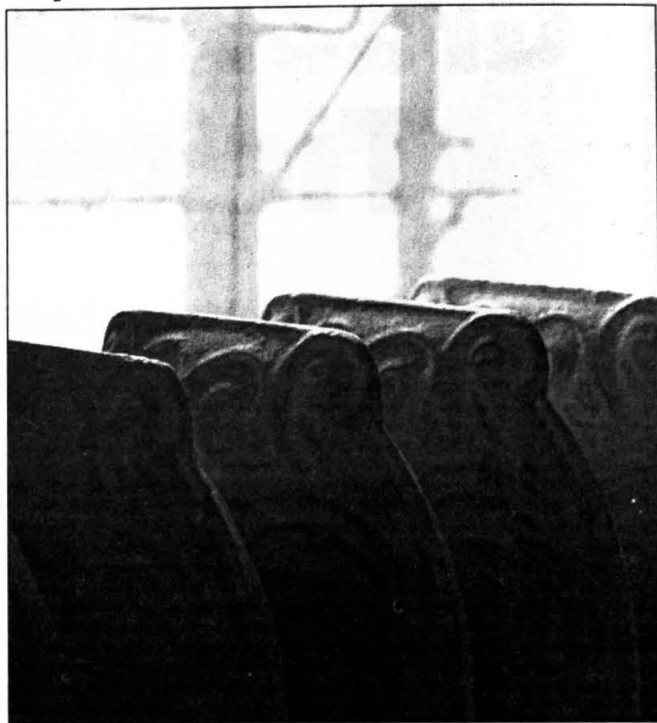
Chances are, Columbia students won't catch a disease that requires weeks of hospitalization (and if they do, they better heal quick, because the plan only covers \$5,000 in hospital expenses—which doesn't go very far). They will, however, need to get Pap smears and physicals. Some may need prenatal and postnatal care (not covered) for their children, and some will need treatment for injuries they sustained in a car accident (also not covered).

Columbia is not the only school in the country where students go underinsured (or uninsured), but our demographics have special needs. Our student body is older and more urban than that of many other colleges. We also have a significant population of students from low- or medium-income families, who may not be able to provide health insurance for their children. It appears, though, that for now, students must find their own way in the health insurance jungle.

From the top down, no one seems willing to address the problem. Start with the federal government, who doesn't care about any group that can't be bothered to vote, and go down the line through the many politicians who don't care and finally come to the Columbia administration that is decades behind in meeting students' needs, and you'll eventually come to the heart of the matter: Students' health is last on just about everyone's list. They must fend for themselves.

But that is Columbia's unofficial motto, after all: Preparing students for the real world.

## Exposure



Alex Kedler/Chronicle

### Students step up protests

By Vinnie Bevivino  
Technician

(U-WIRE) COLLEGE PARK, Md.—The recent State of the Union address was met with a colorful protest of live music, videos and speakers against the potential war in Iraq and the overall pitiful state of our country. Just a few weeks prior, hundreds of thousands marched from the National Mall to the Navy Yards, voicing their opinion against the potential war in Iraq.

Dissent against the administration's plans and actions, has become increasingly prevalent, showing that the true foundation of democracy isn't found by blindly supporting those in charge, but voicing disgust toward a pre-emptive strike that is not in the interest of national security, but of oil corporations.

However, there are still those who do not support the idea of war but will continue supporting the administration. George H. W. Bush's Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, for instance, is not convinced there is a need for a second Gulf War, although he said he would support the president if he chooses to go to war, undermining not only his own morals but also the democracy of this country. This is too important to let the president decide the outcome, and people like Schwarzkopf need to be outspoken against the administration.

There are plenty of examples of people criticizing the president's plans for war without compromising their opinion. Christian religious groups, who were once thought to support the administration, are speaking out against the possible war in Iraq. They are now proponents of the peace movement and are not afraid to speak out against the administration.

Some people say it is un-American not to support the president during

this time, and voicing dissent against the administration will just encourage terrorism and the chance for Saddam Hussein to use nuclear or biological weapons. We need to remind ourselves that President Bush is merely one person who was barely elected into office. He does not necessarily know, or care, what is best for this country.

The real heroes are not our politicians, who are unconditionally supporting their higher-ups, or our administration that is unconditionally supporting the interest of big oil corporations; they are the countless citizens voicing their opinion against this war.

We should support the students who speak out against attacking Iraq. They are attempting to educate and motivate us.

We need to learn from our peers and break out of our fear of criticizing the administration and its illogical campaign for war in Iraq.

The president has drawn scrutiny from the international community and has turned our allies into outspoken opponents. Polls have shown that 70 percent of Americans are not in favor of attacking Iraq.

If the president really cares about the foundation of America and strengthening democracy, he would listen to those he is supposed to represent.

We have seen the largest march for peace since the Vietnam War and the first demonstration against the State of the Union address, both within the last month. The administration is ignoring our anemic economy, insufficient health care system, underfunded education budgets and national and worldwide security all for the control of oil in Iraq.

We need to let it be known that we don't want, nor will we benefit, from attacking Iraq.

# Bush lacks power to fight North Korea alone



John West/Chronicle

By Emily Smith  
Commentary Editor

This whole thing has snowballed out of fear of an attack.

Bush said that he won't attack, but he has made no effort to assure North Korea that he won't. It's like a bully saying, "I won't beat you up after class today." But I would still be scared as the last bell rang. I would still prepare myself.

Bush likes to keep North Korea in fear. Without fear, North Korea would do as it pleased and continue to proceed freely with its nuclear agenda. But Bush won't negotiate until North Korea terminates its nuclear program. And North Korea won't cease its program until Bush signs a nonaggression act. So around and around it goes. We have to ask ourselves, do we really think we can stop North Korea's nuclear program?

We are giving Bush way too much credit for power he doesn't have.

For a moment, Bush needs to forget the who-has-bigger-balls ego trip and pay attention to the more important question: Can North Korea's nuclear program be stopped?

In order to examine this question in the light it requires, we have to realize that this is not an issue between the United States and North Korea. This is a global issue.

In December of 2002, a North Korean newspaper read, "There can be no earth without Korea. The army and people of the [Democratic People's Republic of Korea] will destroy the earth if the enemies dare make a nuclear strike at it."

Did everybody catch that? So, this is when allies come into the picture. And right now, Korea is staggering out on a thin, lonely limb.

The World Food Program has announced that many countries have cut their food donations to North Korea because of the hostile government in Pyongyang. The United Nations alone cut 2.2 million of its 4.2 million recipients. And it plans to cut an additional 700,000 by the end of this month.

Food aid should not be used as a political trump card. After all, the innocent civilians of North Korea should not be denied food and basic survival necessities. Yet North Korea is making it difficult for anyone to help its people.

Gerald Bourke, a WFP spokesman, said in a Feb. 11 article in the Chicago Tribune that the government has cut off access to 44 of its 206 counties. The deliverers have to make requests in advance to enter checkpoints, and when they do, there are frequent arguments as to where the food can be distributed.

Another disturbing issue is whether or not the food is even making it to the civilians. Bourke said in the Feb. 11 article that a constant worry is that Pyongyang is diverting food to the military.

So the United States and Japan have completely cut off food deliveries. And as North Korea's relationships with other nations deteriorate because of its persistence with its nuclear program, the donations continue to drop.

Three major Pyongyang newspapers wrote a joint editorial saying that all Koreans need to place the importance of the nation above themselves and that outside forces should be rejected. In other words, the citizens should get ready to die of malnutrition, because the government is not about to back down.

As the countries continue to work together, the result will be overwhelming for North Korea.

Although denying food is a drastic measure, there are two powerful benefits of this tactic. One is that nations are getting together and taking a plan of action. And two, this is a way to avoid an attack on or from anyone.

It is unfair to ignore the children and sick people who are denied food. But North Korea needs to realize what it is doing. A government's main purpose is to protect and support its people, and North Korea has been slacking for awhile. As humanitarians, we feel it is the job of the United States to step up and fulfill these duties.

But a line has to be drawn somewhere. And since Bush made the mistake of drawing the wrong one, we now have to deal with what was inevitable from the beginning: figuring out a way to stop North Korea's nuclear program.

The international community needs to fight this together. Bush is in over his head if he thinks he can do it alone.

North Korea will not give up its nuclear program. In 1994, when Clinton was in office, we asked North Korea to halt its agenda in exchange for our continued food and energy help. Hunger and suffering in North Korea were rampant, so it agreed, and we signed the Nonproliferation Treaty. However, "halt" means to put on hold, not terminate. Did we expect North Korea to never reactivate its nuclear program? For a while there, we did. But then Bush had to go and mutter the words "axis of evil." He drew a line in the dirt and placed North Korea on the other side. And logically, you don't trust somebody on the other side. So, North Korea withdrew from the agreement and held its ground. In October of 2002, North Korea broke the Nonproliferation Treaty, kicked out the International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors and reactivated the nuclear weapons program that had been put on hold since 1994. Should we have been so surprised? After all, it's about trust, and we don't trust each other. Both countries are stubborn and ready to use force if needed. Negotiations are an option, but nobody can agree on the terms.

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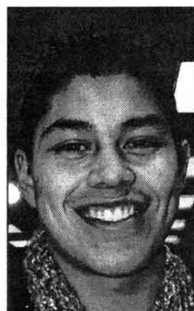
## The Columbia Chronicle photo poll

Question: What CD is currently in your CD player?



Amy Molenda  
Junior/photography

Staind:  
"My sister borrowed my CD player and she left it in there."



Kyle Gozo  
Freshman/Advertising Art & Design

Jimmy Eat World:  
"Somebody burned it for me."



Candice Reilly  
Senior/photography

NIN (Nine Inch Nails):  
"Trent Reznor is a sex god."



Salana Walker  
Junior/Interpreting training

Mary Mary:  
"I like the beat! Nice lyrics too."



Monica Pedraza  
Junior/Marketing & TV

Norah Jones:  
"I like the jazzy mix and upper voice. It's very sweet."



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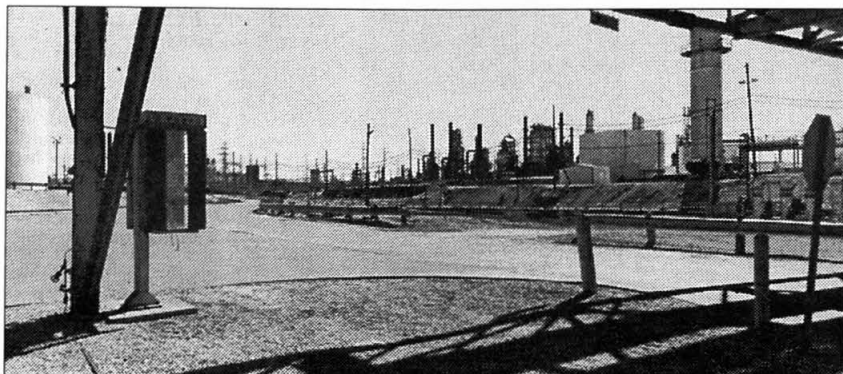
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## Industrial Revolution



Andrew Borowiec

'Phone Booth at Intersection of B Dock' is just one of the photos in Andrew Borowiec's 'Midwestern Photographers Project' on display at The Museum of Contemporary Photography through March 10.

**By Stephanie Sarto**  
Assistant A&E Editor

With scenes from Indiana to Texas, Andrew Borowiec's "Midwestern Photographers Project" exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Photography features stark industrial landscapes captured in black and white.

Borowiec included about 20 photographs of the simplest surroundings showcasing mass-production factories and machinery in the collection. He created a three-dimensional feel with the placement of pipes and other foreground objects as well as the contrast in lighting weaved throughout the pieces.

In Borowiec's "Bicycles Outside the Butane Recovery Unit Control Room" the Lyondell-CITGO Refinery serves as the location for this eye-catching photograph. Borowiec chose to display antiques of the technology-driven factory such as steel pipes and even old-fashioned tricycles.

Heaping piles of windowsills, sinks, wheels, car-buretors, a chain link fence and other junk are the focus of "Scrap Yard." The different objects create the illusion of texture in the piece. The only thing

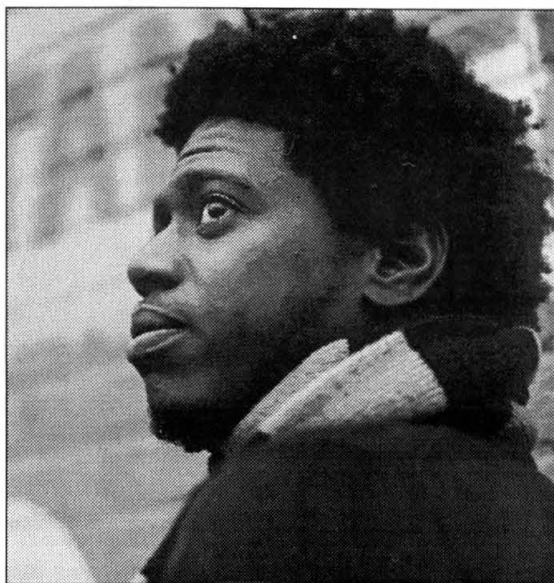
that breaks up the stacks is the lone road that runs through the middle of the junkyard. The mountains of debris frame a puddle of stagnant water near the center of the photo.

Nature and industrialism meet in Borowiec's "Bonne Carré spillway." Billows of smoke hang over the bayou, in a serene setting where a small pond is juxtaposed with a skyline of smokestacks. The gray smog and pollution are almost palpable. "Phone Booth at the Intersection of B Dock Road" lacks direction and doesn't make much of an impression. In this instance, "less is more" simply wasn't enough.

Overall, Borowiec's collection of cold steel pipes and machinery cleverly creates the feeling of being in the midst of all the machinery pumping mercilessly. The piles and piles of industrial garbage spotlighted in these pieces successfully depict the impact of America's oil refineries, ports and factories and the legacy they leave behind.

The collection can be found in The Museum of Contemporary Photography in the 600 S. Michigan Ave. building, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday until 8 p.m. and Saturday from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit runs until March 10.

## Big Mouth guest talks color



Andrew Dosunmu/Giant Street Records

Rising Atlanta soul artist Donnie will perform at 9 p.m. on Feb. 21 at Big Mouth in the Hermann D. Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

**By Michael Hirtzer**  
A&E Editor

Donnie Johnson, who prefers just "Donnie," is a 1970s-style soul singer out of Atlanta. His songs recall the golden era of soul music, and are closer to the music of Stevie Wonder and Donny Hathaway than to his neo-soul contemporaries like D'Angelo or Johnson's friend India.Arie.

Donnie, in fact, came out of the same scene that spawned Arie—the Yin Yang Café, which according to Donnie, was "soul central." He likened it to the Harlem Renaissance of the South.

"It was just all one vibe, it was very happening—the lighting, the art, the people, what they had on, what they were about—it was happening. It was not like any club I've ever seen. It was, I wouldn't say black, but cultural," Donnie said.

Likewise, when Donnie, 28, comes to Chicago on Friday, Feb. 21, he will perform at Big Mouth, an event that highlights a new set of burgeoning poets, singers and rappers. And his performance couldn't come at a better time—during Black History Month.

Tanya Reed, administrative assistant for the Hokin Center and the founder of Big Mouth, said, "Donnie is definitely a very talented musician. He sets a good precedent for anyone who's watching and who's aspiring to be a performer."

In a telephone interview, Donnie recounted his anger about the closed-mindedness that continues to nurture racism.

"Racism is ingrained in our culture, it just seems like it's ingrained into our DNA too," he said. "Like if you were born in America and your parents' parents were American, then you really know racism, especially when you're black. A lot of folks don't understand that and they say 'you're just whining,' but try being black for a day, especially being dark-skinned."

Racism and race relations are frequently addressed in his aptly titled debut, *The Colored Section*, a critically-acclaimed album released last November on Giant Street Records.

"I do not think race relations have gotten better, I just think they've taken on another form. I

can't walk down the street without being stopped... You see Rodney King getting beaten on TV—it's on tape—and they don't even convict the guys who did it. Amado Dialo got shot 41 times and had no gun, he was reaching for his identification and those cops got off," Donnie said. "So do you really expect me to keep getting jiggy with it and shake my ass? No. I'm not because there are people suffering because of the color of their skin."

Donnie, however, has channeled his anger on his mostly positive album that encourages people to come together.

He said, "I'm guilty of hate, but I understand why I feel the way I feel. And in understanding why, I know I can get over it, because I don't want to hate white people, or whatever that is. I don't want to hate Caucasoids [sic]—that's the right terminology. Nobody's white and I'm not black. That's the problem with America. We're on this color thing. I am a Negro—Caucasian, Negro—that's the correct terminology."

Racism runs deep but it can be uprooted and worked out through conversation, Donnie said. "To be totally honest, we're cousins. My last name is Johnson, not Enfume. My last name is not Baraka, My last name is Johnson. There are white Johnsons in this country, white Taylors, Gayes, Wilsons, Garretts—we're cousins."

For now, Donnie, the sole performer at an NAACP Image Awards afterparty and also a distant relative of Marvin Gaye, will continue to spread his positive message. He hopes to cut a music video and wouldn't mind collaborating with Tweet, Missy Elliot and Timalband.

"I try my best to be as optimistic as possible. I used to be very negative. I didn't love myself. I guess this whole thing with the album has kind of proved something to myself [rather than] anyone else," he said.

Donnie will perform at Big Mouth at the Hermann D. Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. on Friday, Feb. 21. The open-mic performances will begin at 6:30 p.m., although students who want to perform must sign up by 6 p.m. Donnie will perform from 9 p.m.—10 p.m. Students must present identification to be admitted.

## Poets protest White House

NYU holds poetry reading in response to symposium cancellation

**By Jon Mummolo**  
Washington Square News (NYU)

(U-WIRE) NEW YORK—Poets, professors and students gathered in Bobst Library at New York University on Feb. 12 for a poetry reading protesting the cancellation of a special White House poetry symposium.

First Lady Laura Bush, the symposium's sponsor, canceled the event upon learning that invited guests intended to read

anti-war poems.

The reading, which took place the afternoon of Feb. 12 in the Fales Collection of Bobst, featured 22 readers including E.L. Doctorow, NYU professor and author of *Ragtime*; NYU professor Galway Kinnell; and poet Charlotte Mandel, all of whom received invitations to the White House event.

"Today we come together in recognition...of the arts and free speech as an integral part of the

American culture, especially at a time of national and international conflict and crisis," said Melissa Hammer, organizer of the event and director of NYU's creative writing program.

The White House symposium, "Poetry and the American Voice," was scheduled for Feb. 12 and was planned in part to feature the works of Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes and Walt Whitman.

See Poetry, page 24

## Celebrating Black History Month

Monday, Feb. 17

There will be a free screening of the documentary *Standing in the Shadows of Motown* at 2 p.m. in Hokin Hall, 623 S. Wabash Ave. *Standing in the Shadows of Motown* tells the story of the legendary Funk Brothers who performed on many of Motown's biggest hits. Faculty member Sheila Baldwin of the English Department will host a post-screening discussion.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

The Center for Black Music Research is holding an interview/discussion and jazz performance demonstration as part of their Tradition Bearers Series. Participants include Howard Reich, music critic for the Chicago Tribune, saxophonist Von Freeman, pianist Jodie Christian and trumpeter Dr. Burgess Gardner. The free event will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the Hermann D. Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble will perform at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. A panel discussion, titled "The Future of Black Jazz," will follow the performance, with WNUR-FM DJ Eric Ricks serving as moderator. For more

information, call the Museum of Contemporary Art at (312) 280-2660.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

Andrew Schultz will perform a variety of work in the "18th and 19th century Classical Composers from the African Diaspora." The free event will be held in Columbia's Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., starting at 12:30 p.m.

Later that evening in the Concert Hall, there will be a student talent showcase from various musical genres. The show, also free, will start at 7 p.m. For more information, call Student Activities at (312) 344-7459.

Thursday, February 20

The Orbert Davis Sextet will perform "The Roots of Jazz" twice. The first free performance is at 12:15 p.m. at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. For more information, call the Cultural Center at (312) 744-6630 or visit [www.cityofchicago.org/CulturalAffairs](http://www.cityofchicago.org/CulturalAffairs).

The second performance will be held at 6 p.m. at Columbia's Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. This concert is also free. Call Student Activities at (312) 344-7459 with any questions.



Alex Kedler/Chronicle

Head chef Iida Takashi waits for the doors to open at Oysy, 888 S. Michigan Ave., the South Loop's newest Asian restaurant.

## Restaurant Review

# Mmm mmm, Oysy!

By Stephanie Sarto  
Assistant A&E Editor

A stylish and sleek sushi bar, this is what the South Loop has been waiting for. If you want something other than Charming Cuisine or Thai Spoon (which is tasty in its own right), you should head over to Oysy (pronounced Oh-see-she).

This quaint, yet chic, hot spot will definitely appeal to all the senses. Pistachio-colored walls; bamboo, box-styled furniture and blue-tinted glass panels line the vaulted ceilings of this Japanese restaurant, nestled on the corner of Ninth Street and South Michigan Avenue.

Oysy means delicious in Japanese, and this restaurant certainly lives up to its name. The portions are average-sized and serve about three to four

people. They offer several Japanese beers, sake (warm or cold), wine, tea and a variety of soft drinks. The service is friendly and accommodating.

Since this was my first experience eating sushi, I was really apprehensive about eating raw seafood. So, I took the easy way out and ordered the vegetable maki. It came in six pieces and was bursting with an array of fresh vegetables. Asparagus, baby carrots, mushrooms and cucumber with rice and sesame seeds lined the seaweed wrap.

I did try some of the squid maki. Two servings of thick slices of raw squid with wasabi and rice arrived at the table presented elegantly on the white, square plate, however, the texture was rubbery and unappealing.

I also tried the orange shrimp. Four large pieces arrived displayed atop a circular orange slice. They were the colors of the rainbow—vivid orange, green and pink. Three sauces—plum, ginger and orange—accompanied the shrimp. The ginger/hoisen sauce was a bit spicy and the orange sauce was very tropical tasting, with a hint of pineapple.

I would recommend any of the selections of fish. I sampled the sesame salmon steak and the tuna. Both arrived perfectly grilled—juicy, tender and very flavorful.

I don't recommend the grilled lobster with lemon garlic sauce. I received two very petite, over-grilled lobster tails. The sauce was bitter and the lobster was chewy.

The most unique dish I sampled was the mango mochi ice cream. It was a fried wonton with warm mango puree in the center, drizzled with warm honey and chocolate sauce. Next to the wonton were two moon-shaped halves of mango ice cream. The coating was similar to that of a gummy bear and in the center was the mango ice cream. The texture was unbelievable. An odd combination, but it was sweet and satisfying.

Overall my dining experience was unique and enjoyable, and didn't leave me broke. I spent a mere \$34 on the entire meal. So, if you are craving something out of the ordinary, head to Oysy at 888 S. Michigan Ave. For more information, call (312) 922-1127.

## Commentary

# Finest 'Hours'

By K. Ryann Zalewski  
Assistant A&E Editor

Academy Award nominations were announced on Feb. 11 and there were very few surprises. The biggest winner in the nomination race was *Chicago*, with 13 nods, followed by Martin Scorsese's *Gangs of New York* with 10, *The Hours* with nine and Roman Polanski's *The Pianist* with seven. Those four movies, along with *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, are all nominated in the Best Picture category. All five nominees in the Best Picture category were all December releases. (Can we say short attention span?)

*Chicago* is the front-runner to win for Best Picture because it has the most nominations. In the past 10 years, nine films with the most nominations went on to win Best Picture. The only exception was *A Beautiful Mind*'s win last year over *Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*.



Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Julianne Moore is up for Best Supporting Actress for her role in 'The Hours,' in addition to Best Actress for her role in 'Far From Heaven.'

My personal favorite to win the Best Picture category is *The Hours*. *Chicago*, while it's a lively film with great songs, is simply not Best Picture material.

And I felt that *Gangs of New York* was a disjointed mess, probably the result of continuous script rewrites during filming. As for *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, well I just don't feel a fantasy movie is worthy of a best picture Oscar.

But *The Hours* is a well-crafted, beautiful film. This movie deserves the Oscar for its high-quality acting by Nicole Kidman, Meryl Streep and

Julianne Moore. Kidman and Moore are nominated for Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress respectively.

There were only a few surprises in the list of nominations: the lack of recognition of *Road to Perdition*, which had Oscar buzz when released, and the nomination for *Bowling for Columbine* for Best Documentary feature. In fact, the only nomination *Road to Perdition* received in a major category was Paul Newman's nod for Supporting Actor. Sorry Mr. Hanks, two Oscars will have to do for now.

Following is a list of major category Oscar nominations with my choice in bold.

### Best Picture

*Chicago*; *Gangs of New York*; *The Hours*; *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*; *The Pianist*

### Best Actor

Adrien Brody, *The Pianist*; Nicholas Cage, *Adaptation*; Michael Caine, *The Quiet American*; Daniel Day-Lewis, *Gangs of New York*; Jack Nicholson, *About Schmidt*

### Best Actress

Salma Hayek, *Frida*; Nicole Kidman, *The Hours*; Diane Lane, *Unfaithful*; Julianne Moore, *Far From Heaven*; Renee Zellweger, *Chicago*

### Supporting Actor

Chris Cooper, *Adaptation*; Ed Harris, *The Hours*; Paul Newman, *Road to Perdition*; John C. Reilly, *Chicago*; Christopher Walken, *Catch Me If You Can*

### Supporting Actress

Kathy Bates, *About Schmidt*; Julianne Moore, *The Hours*; Queen Latifah, *Chicago*; Meryl Streep, *Adaptation*; Catherine Zeta-Jones, *Chicago*

For more information on Oscar nominations, visit the Academy Awards website at [www.oscar.com](http://www.oscar.com). The awards will air March 23 at 7:30 p.m. CST on ABC.

# Mya hits the stage

By Stephanie Sarto  
Assistant A&E Editor

The terms "velvety-smooth voice" and "down-to-earth personality" describe Mya best. Her edgy twist on R&B help her maintain her popularity in the music industry, and keep her "Movin' On" up. She has worked with the likes of Missy "Misdemeanor" Elliot, Wyclef Jean and is rumored to have worked with Pink on an upcoming single.

As a triple threat—singing, dancing and acting—Mya encompasses beauty, talent and modesty. She started out as a dancer, training with her local dance studio, Tappers With Attitude, eventually studying under the direction of Savion Glover.

Soon after, Mya broke into the music scene in 1999 at Lilith Fair. Her first album appropriately named *Mya* contained such tracks as "Movin' On" featuring Silkk the Shocker and "It's All About Me."

In late 2000, her sophomore album *Fear of Flying* showed a more grown-up version of the sultry singer. After releasing "Ghetto Superstar" and "Case of the Ex," she found her way to the charts. Her catchy beats and intense voice spread to MTV's "TRL" and BET's "106 & Park."

Staying true to herself, Mya keeps her clothes on most of the time, minus the "Lady Marmalade" video where she shared the stage with Lil' Kim, Pink and Christina Aguilera.

It was rumored that Mya, with her exceptional dancer's body, was very hesitant about revealing herself in that video. "I'm a woman now. It was a costume; I don't wear clothes like that on a regular basis," she said.

Mya continues to keep it real in her new Coca-Cola commercial, where she's accompanied by former Columbia student Common. Her sound is really raw, completely exposed and vulnerable. Mya informed me that she might feature the new commercial jingle on her upcoming album, which is set for release late this spring.

According to Mya, Common was "very laid-back. One day we were laying down beats and just messing around, the next thing you know [Coca-Cola] has us in the studio."

With her breakthrough performance as Mona in the highly acclaimed musical *Chicago*, Mya is exploring her options as an actress. "Before I got my recording contract, I had always wanted to be on Broadway," she said.

Evidently, Mya's role was so similar to her life as a singer and dancer, except for the fact that the character was in the jailhouse, she didn't really have to prepare for the role in any special way.

As a performer, Mya strives to improve her talent and hone her skills on stage and on the big screen. But, don't expect to see her name in film credits anytime soon.

"I've been looking at some other scripts right now, but nothing is final," Mya said.

This woman has it all: beauty and brains. Mya began speaking to young women in 2000 about their self-esteem and growing up.

"It's hard to grow up in today's society when all you see on TV are the pop divas baring it all," she said.

As a spokeswoman for the Secret to Self-Esteem program, an alliance between the Partnership of Women's Health and Secret antiperspirant, she is dedicated to helping young women overcome teen issues. The main goal for Mya is to transform these young girls into strong women.

Mya continues to focus on her singing career and is working on scheduling a tour beginning in the summer of 2003. Who will she be touring with?

"Mariah and Mya, that sounds good, doesn't it? But nothing is final yet," she said.

# A death-penalty thriller

By Michael Hirtzer  
A&E Editor

Actors Kevin Spacey and Laura Linney will both tell you *The Life of David Gale* is a thriller. It just happens to be about the death penalty, a touchy topic in Illinois, especially since the beginning of January, when the film premiered in Chicago, and when George Ryan declared a blanket clemency for Illinois' 150-plus death-row inmates on his last day in the governor's office.

Naturally, when Spacey and Linney were in town, conversation swayed toward the death penalty. During a Q-and-A session the two actors hosted after a screening of the film, Linney said, "People are very curious about what our personal beliefs are and if we have an agenda with this film. And while I certainly have my own opinion about the death penalty—I'm against it—I didn't make the movie because of it."

She was hesitant to answer the question, though. She said, "I don't want our views to distract from the movie," to which Spacey added, "We don't want to be judged."

Directed by Alan Parker, *The Life of David Gale* is the story of a philosophy teacher on death row for murdering his former colleague. The irony that both is Gale (Spacey) and the victim, Constance Harraway (Linney), are death penalty abolitionists.

In the final days before his execution, Gale gives hotshot magazine journalist Bitsey Bloom (Kate Winslet) several exclusive interviews to tell his story.

The film is set in Austin, Texas, which is considered by many to be this country's death penalty capital. (For example, 33 of the 71 executions in 2002 occurred at a facility in nearby Huntsville,



(Center): David Gale (Kevin Spacey) and Constance Harraway (Laura Linney) lead a protest in the death penalty thriller *The Life of David Gale*.

Photo by David Appleby/Universal Studios

according to the Death Penalty Information Center.)

This is all familiar territory for Alan Parker, director of politically charged films like *Midnight Express*, the civil rights drama *Mississippi Burning* and *Come See the Paradise*, a love story set during the oppression of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Reading the director's notes, it's clear Parker is against the death penalty, but his intention was not to make an activist movie.

Spacey, 43, said, "I didn't go into it thinking we were going to make a big pro or con movie and I hope that, even though it is an issue that's divisive and people will talk about, that again it won't

take away from what we wanted, which was to give people an entertaining film. And if the politics start to percolate down and it ignites conversation, then that's great."

Indeed, when you have Kevin Spacey in your film it hardly matters if, as the Hollywood Reporter's Kurt Honeycutt writes, it's a thriller disguised as a death penalty diatribe or a death penalty diatribe disguised as a thriller. The Spacey stamp is good enough for many. At the Q-and-A, he had the crowd in his grip, making them laugh with his impression of Johnny Carson.

When Spacey gives you a long look, you look back into his big brown eyes and you listen. The day after the screening in an

interview at the Peninsula Hotel, Spacey, wearing a blue button-up shirt and a black jacket, said "[The death penalty] is so complicated and I really see both sides of it. I want people to see the film because I just think it's provocatively laid out."

He then added, "We just hope, and I think we may have said some of this last night, that the issue doesn't override the entertainment value of the film."

Spacey, who broke into mainstream consciousness with a trio of films in the mid '90s (*Swimming with Sharks*, *The Usual Suspects* and *Seven*), has previous experience with capital punishment roles; he played Clarence Darrow, the famed attorney who defended child killers

Leopold and Loeb, in a TV movie.

Still, Spacey recognizes the complexity of the issue. "When you do the amount of research we did and you really start to understand the statistics: how much money it costs; is it really a deterrent; you know all of the things that make sense...but I've never had a family member of mine murdered," he said. "I have absolutely no idea how I'd react to that person, and I don't think killing is right in any circumstance. The argument always is, you know I always love the line [the film's] governor has: 'I'm against killing and we'll keep killing until we prove ourselves right.'"

Laura Linney, who was nominated for an Academy Award for her role in *You Can Count on Me*, said the scene in which she dies was "the hardest sequence I've ever done." Linney, 39, is no stranger to thrillers. Her credits include *Absolute Power*, *The Mothman Prophecies* and the Chicago-set *Primal Fear*.

She said, "These characters are facing much more personal issues than in *Primal Fear*. *Primal Fear* was plot-driven; this movie is character-driven."

At both the Q-and-A and the interview at the hotel, Linney expressed that she was against the death penalty, but added, "I'm embarrassed to say that I've never been politically active in a legitimate sort of way."

Spacey, addressing the complex twist at the end of *The Life of David Gale*, said he "was attracted to the idea of someone who, after losing everything he loses, still has something left to give. That was a contradiction and it was complex to me."

Was he paying it forward? No, Spacey said, he was "perhaps spewing it forth, not paying it forward."

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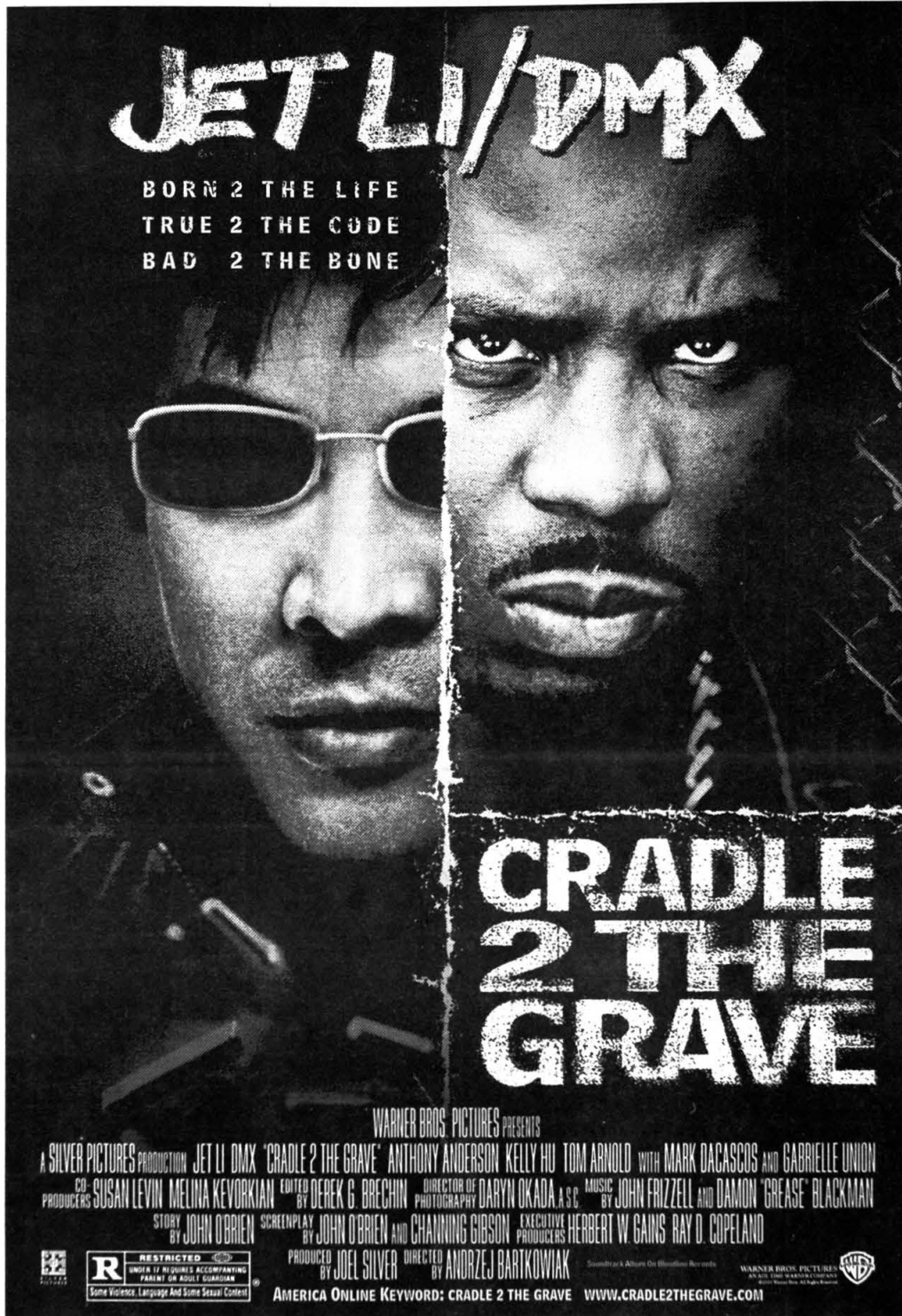
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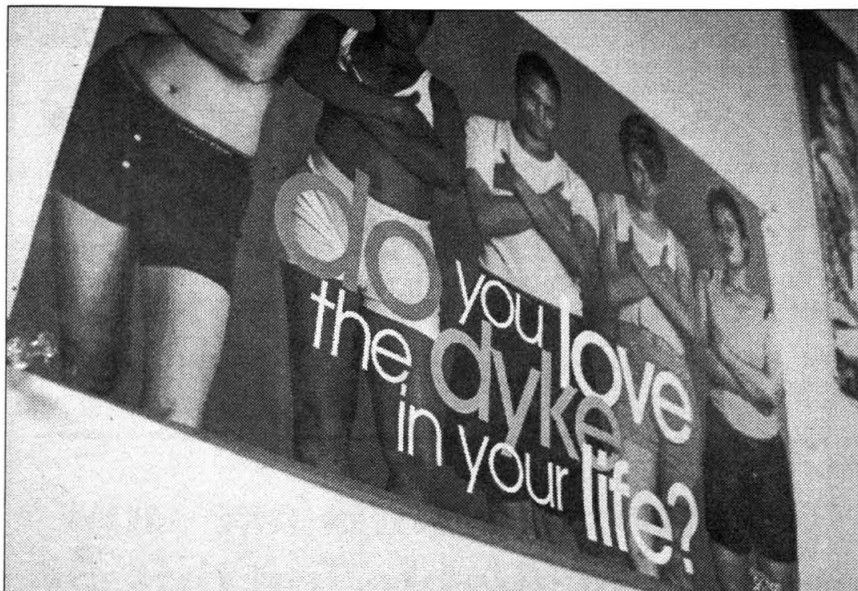


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(Clockwise from left): A photo from the 'Dyke Action Machine' series places lesbian images into familiar corporate advertising environments. Bill Barminski's 'Mickey Gas Mask' and a portion of Wally Wood's 'Disneyland Memorial Orgy' poster from 1967 both sparked a lawsuit from Disney.



# Copyright this

Catch it while you can. Not only is "Illegal Art: Freedom of Expression in the Corporate Age" closing Friday, Feb. 21, but it's probably only a matter of time before the powers that be file a stack of lawsuits to shut down the exhibit.

The multimedia exhibition includes such works as a drawing of Bert from "Sesame Street" hanging from a noose, a Starbucks logo stating "Evil Empire" where it once said "Starbucks" and the 1991 song by the California rock band Negativland, which used an unauthorized sample from a Casey Kasem radio broadcast and a U2 song.

On display at the In These Times magazine offices in West Bucktown, "Illegal Art" was organized by Stay Free! magazine and it opened in New York last

November.

It's a testament to the encroachment of corporate America on our daily lives and copyright infringement.

In fact, one of the most humorous parts of "Illegal Art" is the lengthy, tongue-in-cheek user license agreement. Here's a sample from their website: "Notice to user: By metabolizing you accept all the terms and conditions of this agreement including, but not limited to, use of your home and car by the authors of this agreement."

See the exhibit at the In These Times offices, 2040 N. Milwaukee Ave. They maintain pretty regular office hours, but call ahead at (773) 772-0100. View the Illegal Art website at [www.illegal-art.org](http://www.illegal-art.org).

—Michael Hirtzer



Photos by Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle



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THE POWER OF BLACK MUSIC PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION  
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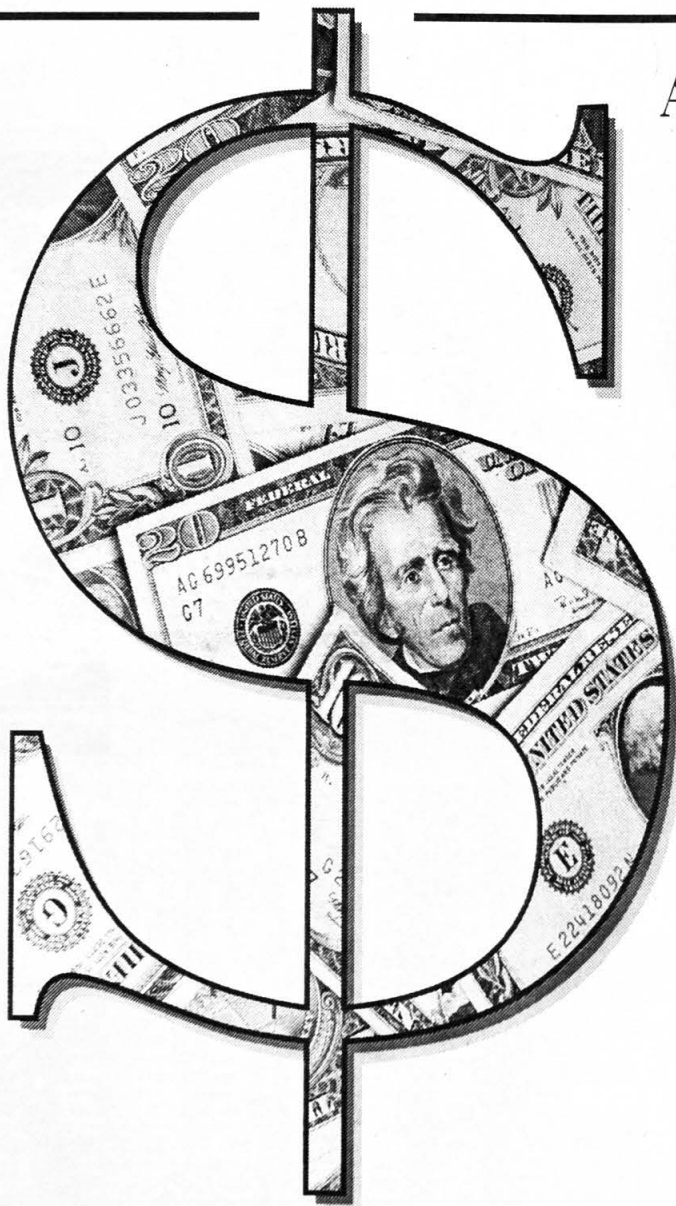
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## Book Review

# Palahniuk premieres unique 'Lullaby'

By Tony Luce

Contributing Writer

If your idea of a lullaby has something to do with gently putting babies to sleep, be warned: Chuck Palahniuk's (*Fight Club*, *Survivor*, *Invisible Monsters*, *Choke*) new book, *Lullaby*, has little to do with tiny beings nestled safely in their cribs.

This lullaby is a societal one, something that seeks to silence our over-stimulated, hyper-caffeinated, noise-polluted ways. It is a lullaby only in essence; this book seeks to ease the tensions of its characters through means much more maniacal than simple song, though like every book from Palahniuk, it does not comfort the reader. Quite the opposite, for his audience, the author offers a wake-up call.

At the opening of the book, the main character, journalist Carl Streater, recounts the final examination in his media ethics class where the instructor posed this question to him: "An infant has choked to death on an ornament at an apartment on Christmas Eve. You go to the apartment and get all the details, talk to the parents as much as you can, you talk to the paramedics, you get back to the office and type it up just in time for the morning edition.

When you get home, your editor calls you up and asks 'What color was the ornament?' He then gives you an ultimatum: call and get the color of the ornament or

lose your job." What was Carl's answer? Call the paramedics. They have to have that kind of stuff on file. The item had to get bagged and tagged.

Carl got a D. Instead of learning ethics, he learned to give people what they want. Give them the gory details. Above all, write everything down. And thus the journey begins.

Carl goes on assignment investigating recent occurrences of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome for a local magazine. At each of the homes where the deaths took place, he finds a copy of the book *Poems and Rhymes From Around the World* turned to page 27 and a baby belly up in a crib.

According to the distraught parents, the child just went to sleep and never woke up. After more digging, Carl finds that this page contains a "culling song," a song that was sung to warriors dying after a battle or children who were facing a famine. The hymn was sung to ease people's suffering.

Now Carl has memorized the song, which becomes a major problem. See, our hero is not much of what you might deem a 'people person' and therefore sees fit, at times unintentionally, to relieve his own suffering by eliminating certain individuals: for instance, the guy who stepped into his path on the sidewalk and his "quiet-phobic" music-blaring upstairs neighbor.

To prevent any further accidental deaths, Carl goes on a quest to find the remaining copies of the book with the help of Helen,

a real estate agent who sells haunted houses, and her Wiccan personal assistant.

From here, the story unfolds the only way Palahniuk knows how to let it. Every page is stuffed full of scathing social commentary delivered by characters that in anybody else's work could be viewed as poor caricatures.

In all of Palahniuk's work and in this book particularly, the definition of caricature is "...the subjects' distinct human features, flaws, peculiarities and ticks..." for it is impossible for these characters to exist. Carl and Helen, the two main characters in the book, are somewhat outlandish, but when Palahniuk does this on the page, the result is enlightening. Helen is like Florence Henderson in a pink business suit, fingers and neck wreathed in gold and jewels. Helen's assistant Mona is a taller, darker and moodier version of Ani DiFranco, with her black and red dreadlocks falling around her pale face and eyes.

But, the characters' humanity is expressed through their actions in various situations. Carl and Helen both lost children to AIDS, and while on their cross-country book hunt, both struggle to view their new companions as people and not the child they lost, as represented by Mona, and the spouse that consequently followed the child out of their lives.

The way Carl, Helen and Mona work off each other, with each other and against each other is like watching a dysfunctional family. Which, under these circum-

stances, is completely believable. Like any family, dysfunctional or otherwise, the response of the members reveals their frailties and failings. Sometimes it's ugly, sometimes it's divine; regardless, it's always honest.

This book (as with all good things) forces the reader to look at the world differently. Try and remember the last time you divided your life into pre-something and post-something. Think about what you did last night. Watched TV, went to a bar, went to a movie...did you think about any of these things 10 minutes later? 30 minutes later? Probably not. But Palahniuk's work sticks with you.

The reader can literally hear his voice barking, deadpanning, repeating and spouting little tidbits of McGyveresque knowledge, those random things that float through our heads at all the wrong times. All of these quirks are uniquely Palahniuk's—all you can do is sit back and admire the hell out of this well-crafted story.



**Lullaby**  
By Chuck Palahniuk  
Doubleday  
256 pages  
\$24.95  
ISBN 0385504470

## Poetry

Continued from Page 17

Bush canceled the festival after poet Sam Hamill declined his invitation and rallied other invitees to recite anti-war poems at the White House.

"It came to the attention of the first lady's office that some invited guests want to turn what is intended to be a literary event into a political forum," the White House said in a statement. "While Mrs. Bush understands the right of all Americans to express their political views, this event was designed to celebrate poetry."

Speakers at the protest reading said Bush acted inappropriately in canceling the symposium.

"[Laura Bush] got a little panicky," said Kinnell, who read poems by Whitman and Dickinson. "She kind of jumped the gun in canceling the symposium. But I think very few poets would have attended it. It would have been more of a boycott."

Some poets said that politics and art are inseparable, contrary to Bush's reasoning for canceling the event.

"I think every piece of art is political by its nature, either by what it doesn't mention—therefore implying that it doesn't matter—or by what it does mention," said Sharon Olds, an NYU creative writing professor and poet.

After learning that the White House event was canceled, Olds said she sent Bush a letter, a poem and a package of rice with an attached biblical quote that read, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him."

Sending rice to the White House has become a popular symbol of protest for those opposed to the possible invasion of Iraq, Olds said.

The NYU event provided a much-needed forum for supporters of the peace movement, poets said.

"It's a breath of [fresh] air in a time when we're all virtually suffocating," poet Marie Perle said. "We're in a very bad moment right now."

Organizers insisted the reading was more than a war protest.

"The reason that I wanted this to happen was not

so much as an anti-war reading," Hammerle said. "It's a bigger issue. This is an issue about artists and writers and how to bring them into the political dialogue rather than keep them out of it."

Closing speaker Marvin Taylor, director of Bobst's Fales Collection, called for Bush's resignation from the American Library Association, an organization committed to end censorship.

The reading is one of more than 60 readings to be held in coffeehouses, bookstores and college campuses across the nation in coming weeks.

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Photos courtesy of Fueled by Ramen Records

Fallout Boy (from left to right): Joe Trohman, Andy Hurley, Patrick Stumph and Pete Wentz, recently signed a deal with Fueled by Ramen Records. Their next album is set to be released in April

## Rock groups land contracts

By Eric W. Alexy  
Contributing Writer

After making considerable noise on the local scene, two of Chicago's premier rock acts, Fallout Boy and Spitalfield, have signed recording contracts with prominent independent record labels.

Fallout Boy, who came together in 2001, has inked a deal with Fueled By Ramen Records (Gainesville, Fla.), while Spitalfield, formerly of Sinister Label, has signed with Chicago-based Victory Records.

Formed from the ashes of hardcore acts Arma Angelus and Race Traitor, Fallout Boy features members Patrick Stumph, vocals/guitar; Joe Trohman, guitar; Pete Wentz, bass, and Andy Hurley, drums. To date, the act has two releases under its belt: a self-titled three-song demo (2001) and a split release with *Project Rocket* on Uprising Records (2002). The quartet will be releasing a nine-song LP entitled *Fallout Boy's Evening Out With Your Girlfriend* through Uprising Records on Feb. 25.

Numerous labels courted the band before they signed with Fueled by Ramen. Wentz said, "We definitely had some interest from really big labels to smaller ones, but in the end we had to go with the label that was the right

fit for us and who saw where we wanted to go with Fallout Boy."

Fueled By Ramen is co-owned by John Janick and Vinnie Balzano, drummer of Less Than Jake, and has been in existence since 1996. The label's current roster includes Kissing Chaos and The Pietasters, among others.

"Fallout Boy's clever song writing first attracted us to the band and we see a lot of potential in them," Janick said. "Their determination and work ethic goes above and beyond anything a label can ask for. We are all really glad that they are now part of the Fueled By Ramen family."

Spitalfield vocalist/guitarist Mark Rose, who along with band mates Dan Lowder, guitar/vocals; bassist T.J. Minnich; and drummer J.D. Romero officially signed with Victory Records on Jan. 3, explained that "Victory just impressed us with how personal they were, and how hard working the staff was. There's obviously a lot of factors that go into a decision like [signing a record deal], and Victory had an edge on most of them."

Victory Records, home to bands like Voodoo Glow Skulls, Snapcase and Atreyu, was established in 1989 and is located in Chicago's River West area. Several of the label's acts, including Thursday and

Hatebreed, have gone on to sign with major labels.

Spitalfield is currently recording its 11-song Victory Records debut with producer Sean O'Keefe (Motion City Soundtrack) at Smart Studios in Madison, Wis. The album will be mixed at Chicago's Gravity Studios and is set for a June release.

Fallout Boy recently finished recording its forthcoming Fueled By Ramen release *Take This To Your Grave*, which is set to be released in late April. The album was also produced by O'Keefe at Smart Studios and will feature 12 tracks, including "Light On In Chicago" and "Nailed to the eX."

"I think [the new release] will surprise people who expect something different from us," Wentz said.

In addition to Fallout Boy's recently completed tour with label mate Punchline, the band toured with Spitalfield last summer and has opened for the likes of OKGo and Taking Back Sunday. The four-piece is currently touring with Less Than Jake and Madcap.

Spitalfield performed alongside Allister (Drive-Thru Records) as part of 94.7 The Zone's First Contact at the Metro on Feb. 6. The band intends to tour in the coming months, though no specifics are available as of press time.

## 'One Bedroom' in New Year

By Sean Silver  
Contributing Writer

The Hideout on Chicago's near West Side played host to a listening party for the Sea and Cake's new album, *One Bedroom* (Thrill Jockey) on Jan. 20.

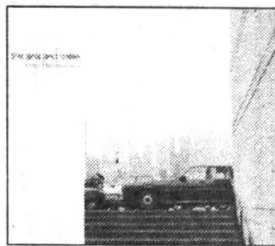
A capacity crowd piled into the bar to catch the first listen to the band's seventh record (and first album in nearly three years). The audience was also given the opportunity to buy the album at midnight when it was officially released.

What the Hideout crowd didn't expect was the band hitting the stage to give an impromptu performance of songs culled primarily from the new album.

With *One Bedroom*, the Sea and Cake take quite a step forward from *Oui*, which was released in 2000. Whereas *Oui* showcased a free-form-jazz feel built around Sam Prekop's breathy vocals, *One Bedroom* (dare I say) "rocks" at several points, and "rock" was the operative word at the Hideout. Prekop and guitarist Archer Prewitt seemed to have a running joke concerning Prewitt's propensity to do just that—rock.

The band hit the ground running with the not quite instrumental "Four Corners"—*One Bedroom*'s lead track—a song built around a nearly three minute circular guitar theme before Prekop's vocals chimed in. After "Left Side Clouded," which features John McEntire's delicate drumming, it was time to break out an "old chestnut," as Prekop would call it, and the band launched into the title track from 1995's *The Biz*.

More than a few songs on *One Bedroom* are reminiscent of *The Biz*, but in the claustrophobic



'One Bedroom'

Chicago post-rock scene, the Sea and Cake continue to evolve, whether by minor steps or prodigious strides.

Several songs center around an almost electronica feel, and the crunching drum effect on "Shoulder Length" could be the indie feel good hit of the summer (had it not been released in January). It came off extremely well live, and was followed by a new "rocker" entitled "Echo."

As if the spontaneous performance wasn't enough, the band brought up Aluminum Group members John and Frank Navin to lend background vocals to the closing track on *One Bedroom*, David Bowie's "Sound and Vision." The band pulled it off without a hitch and was definitely the highlight of the show.

On the heels of a year that many deemed lackluster as far as quality recordings go, the Sea and Cake started 2003 off in full stride.

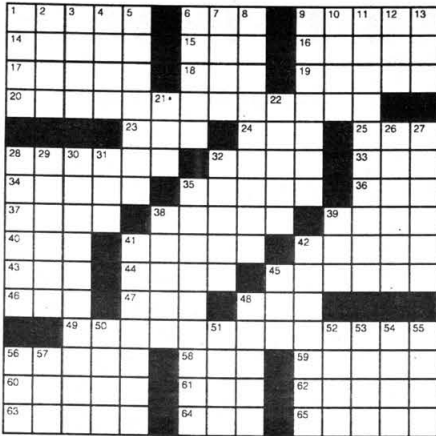
They have made a record that is recognizable, yet different to their fans, and have thus offered something to the fan-in-waiting. This is the type of album that makes a first-time listener want to peruse a band's back catalog, maybe see what they've missed. The Sea and Cake have fired the first shot of 2003: the year's first great record.

# Student Organization Council (SOC) meeting!

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- ACROSS**  
 1 Road rollers  
 6 Ms. MacGraw  
 9 Used a keyboard  
 14 Pontificate  
 15 Fellow  
 16 Blusher  
 17 Carta  
 18 NASA outpost  
 19 Popular treats  
 20 Forthright one  
 23 "Now or Never"  
 24 Overweight  
 25 Black goo  
 28 Harmonized  
 32 Example  
 33 Raw mineral  
 34 Change prices  
 35 More unusual  
 36 Grave letters  
 37 Cuddly George Lucas creature  
 38 Round dances  
 39 Italian city  
 40 Little bite  
 41 Handles roughly  
 42 Confronts boldly  
 43 6th sense  
 44 Dancer Pavlova  
 45 Copland and Spelling  
 46 Haggard novel  
 47 Silent agreement  
 48 Diminish  
 49 Contemporary picture taker  
 56 Create a chasm  
 58 Agile deer  
 59 Measuring strip  
 60 Prisoner forever  
 61 Back of a bus.  
 62 Acclamation  
 63 Group seats  
 64 Family dog  
 65 Molts
- DOWN**  
 1 Hanks and Brokaw  
 2 Contemporary Babylon  
 3 Prego rival  
 4 Italian volcano  
 5 Cauterizing  
 6 Out of order



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02/17/03

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 8 To such an extent that  
 9 Harness-racing horse  
 10 Eld  
 11 U.S. commonwealth  
 12 Conceit  
 13 Plaines, IL & so forth  
 21 Desert refuges  
 22 Up for the day  
 26 Go by again  
 28 Ryan and Dunne  
 29 Somewhat recent  
 30 Paid a visit  
 31 Tibetan ox  
 32 "Cheers" barmaid  
 35 Going both ways  
 38 Vietnam capital  
 39 Links score  
 41 Feeding troughs  
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- 45 Natl. TV network  
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**where:** Music Center Concert Hall  
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**time:** 3:30 to 4:30 pm

**names' and dates:**

david sachsmann, monday, feb. 10<sup>th</sup>  
e. lincoln james, monday, feb. 17<sup>th</sup>  
stuart sigman, monday, feb. 24<sup>th</sup>  
doreen bartoni, monday, march 3<sup>rd</sup>

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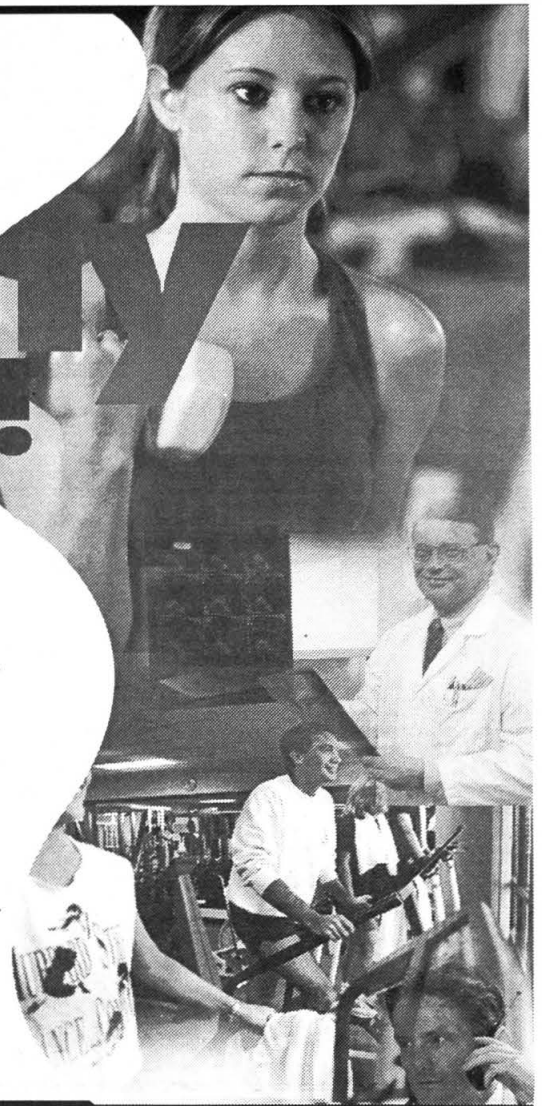
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# CITY BEAT

## Around Chicago



Angela R. Simpson/Chronicle

### 'Chicago' doesn't live up to its name

○ Daley disappointed movie was made in Canada

The Associated Press

CHICAGO—Mayor Richard M. Daley gives the movie that bears his city's name high marks.

He has one complaint, though: It was shot in Canada. "The movie is great," Daley said Feb. 11. "I said, 'Too bad it wasn't filmed in Chicago.'"

He blamed the federal government, saying it needs to

provide incentives to American filmmakers that would match what the Canadians offer.

"The film industry in America was going strong. Canada says, 'OK, we want the film industry. We will subsidize you.' So all the film industry went from America up to Canada," Daley said.

Chicago, adapted from the stage hit about two murderous women competing for tabloid celebrity, leads this year's Oscar contenders with 13 nominations, including best picture.

"We do the creative work," Daley said.

"We do the financial work. Why should we send the production work overseas?"

"Our priorities should be keeping people working in the film industry right here," Daley said.

He said American workers will continue to lose out until the federal government gets the message.

"I really believe we have to get our priorities straight in Washington, D.C.," he said. "You know—knock, knock. No one is home in Washington. They have to get reality. If they listen to people, they will find out what is happening."

## In the Loop...



Chris Coates

-News Editor-

A few months back, the former anchors of WBBM-TV's newscast—Walter Jacobson (now with WFLD-TV) and Bill Kurtis (now seen on A&E)—spoke with Bob Sirott about their reign at the top of Chicago's news empire in the '70s. In all, it was an enlightening, WTTW-quality broadcast, complete with a bit of name-dropping here and there. (Careful viewers even heard a mention of Columbia journalism faculty member and former WBBM-TV producer Rose Economou.) But the best bit of wisdom came at the end of the broadcast, when Jacobson confessed to one of his lifelong dreams: someday he wanted to open a bookstore.

I have similar aspirations, barring one difference: someday, I want to open a college bookstore. No wanton T-shirts or magnets, though. Just books. And unlike our bookstore, I'll offer students a deal: I'll only make an 800 percent profit.

The Columbia Bookstore, on the other hand, makes at least a 2,000 percent profit, by my public school calculations.

The mathematics is a bit vague: the bookstore, which is owned by an outside company, buys a text at a wholesale value. Let's suppose such a book costs \$1, for simplicity's sake. The bookstore then ups the price to account for profit. At ten percent, that raises the cost to \$1.10, which you pay.

A semester passes, and you sell back the text. Depending on various factors including availability (which the friendly folks at the bookstore remind me of each and every semester), the most you'll receive back is half of its selling price—dropping the store's net no more than 50 cents.

Next semester, the bookstore sells the books to someone else for slightly less than its original value, say 80 cents, a net of \$1.30.

In other words, after one semester, the bookstore makes staggering profits of at least 75 percent. Used car salesmen would be envious of that amount.

This process repeats itself, with each pass upping the profit for the bookstore, or until a faculty member foolishly changes their classes' text—which befuddles the whole process for the betterment of the bookstore.

The point is this: the bookstore always breaks even; they never lose money permanently. Instead, they simply lower exchange rates as each semester passes. Finally, when the text has a resale value of a plug nickel, a naïve student decides to just keep the damned thing. Or the store refuses to buy back the text under the "lack of demand" song-and-dance. It's quite a bit of genius, in a Gennady Zyuganov sort of way.

Yet, in a school that charges a hodgepodge of fees, at least the bookstore could avoid trying to rake in huge profits. Or any profit, for that matter. That's what the Columbia snow globes and tchotkes are for. Forget tuition and the inflated class fees.

This is further exacerbated by an interesting finding last week. Some schools let their students lease textbooks by the semester. Southern Illinois University in downstate Edwardsville has such a system, I've learned from an inside source. Yet, such a "book rental" program would be downright illogical at our tiny private school, or so Columbia might say.

What makes this slightly palatable is the fact that overcharging cash-strapped students is hardly out of the norm. This is partly because college students looking to buy a required text are a captive audience. Collegiate press editorials across the nation condemn their respective college bookstores for such assaults.

Some of the stores, 625 in North America in fact, are operated by Follett Higher Education Group. The privately held company also manages Columbia's bookstore and does out 20 million books a year across the continent, according to their website. In lay terms, it's big business—enough to make Follett a Fortune 500 company in 1999.

So, who's to blame? Certainly not Follett or, I'm chagrined to say, Columbia itself.

The culpability should lie in the hands of Columbia's faculty who, more often than not, suggest buying a selected text when its use in the course is overrated. Why pay \$63 for a used text when the professor rarely assigns a worthwhile reading assignment? Perhaps our faculty should consider offering texts online. After all, every professor I know went through this whole bookstore rigmarole in college too.

My new bookstore will offer just that: used textbooks, scanned to a floppy disk for consumption at home. That way, we can donate our used books to someone who really needs them: the public library.

## OFF the BLOTTER

Chicago Police reported a string of car thefts over the past month. On Jan. 29, a motor vehicle was stolen in the 700 block of Wabash Avenue at 2:30 p.m.

Three days later, a similar theft took place in the 700 block of South State Street at 5 p.m. And at 10:25 a.m., one more theft occurred in the 1100 block of South Wabash Avenue the next day.

- A homeless man was charged with criminal trespass on Feb. 1 at 5:05 p.m. at Harold's Chicken Shack at 636 S. Wabash Ave., according to an employee of the restaurant. The man was arrested after bothering customers.

A second incident occurred the next day at 4:02 p.m. at the same location.

- On Feb. 4, a residence was burglar-

ized on Eighth Street at 11:30 a.m.

- An aggravated assault involving a knife or another form of "cutting instrument" occurred in the 600 block of South State Street on Feb. 6 at 12:45 p.m.

- On Feb. 2, an aggravated assault incident took place at 8:28 p.m. on Harrison Street CTA platform.

- An incidence of interference with judicial process took place Feb. 2 on the sidewalk of the 600 block of South Wabash Avenue at 7:20 p.m.

- Criminal damage to property at a hotel (unknown) occurred in the 1000 block of South State Street on Feb. 1 at 6:03 a.m.

—Compiled by Lisa Balde

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# A touch of Emmys, five floors above Congress

○ NATAS, the group that picks Emmy award winners, offers membership to local television students, including those from Columbia

By Fernando Diaz  
Contributing Writer

Aside from picking the annual Emmy awards, the Midwest chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences' fifth floor office at 33 E. Congress Parkway offers a unique treat to Columbia's television majors: a chance to join.

The chapter, which moved its offices from Michigan Avenue three years ago, offers a unique opportunity for television students and professionals alike to get their foot into the door of the country's third largest market.

It is one of 19 other chapters scattered around the country that represent different markets and regions.

The Midwest chapter counts several of the Television Department's faculty and staff among its board members and represents markets such as Chicago, Milwaukee, Green Bay, and Rockford. It also awards this region's Emmy awards.

There is a "long, proud history between the college and NATAS," said Michael Niederman, chair of the Television Department and a board member of the

organization.

Niederman said that, in some ways, the relationship is the legacy of the late Ed Morris, a distinguished member of both the department and the organization.

Studio C, on the 15th floor of Columbia's 600 S. Michigan Ave. building, also carries Morris' name. "There aren't really any other colleges at the table at NATAS meetings," Niederman said.

Jim Disch, a part-time broadcast journalism professor and current director of television and radio for the archdiocese of Chicago is the chapter's president.

Disch said via an e-mail interview that NATAS is going through an ongoing process of changing its name to the National Television Academy to improve marketing.

Lucas Palermo, who teaches production and post-production classes, co-chairs the Emmy Judging Committee with NBC's Diana Borri.

He said that an estimated 600 to 700 entries are received each year from within the region and then about 100 are traded with other chapters in compatible markets for judging.

"Larger markets trade with larger markets," he said, so that competition is kept balanced.

NATAS awards the regional Emmys for achievement in 45 categories that encompass news, sports and documentary programming as well as on- and off-camera work. It also awards scholarships to students, with deadlines coming this spring.

This past year, three Columbia students, Travell Eiland, David Pitcher, and Michael Costello each received a \$4,000 scholarship from the organization.

In last year's regional awards, WTTW-TV netted the most awards for their programming.

At last year's 54th Emmy awards for national primetime broadcasting, two Columbia graduates received nominations.

Jeanette Christensen ('91) was nominated in the category of editing for her work on the second season of CBS' "Survivor," and Cecele Destefano ('94) won for art direction on the pilot episode of "Alias."

Bert Gall, Columbia's executive vice president, thinks students have much to gain from having NATAS on campus because it offers them a "jump start" on their careers.

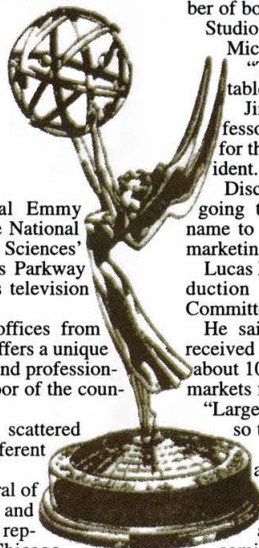
"Anything that gives us an opportunity to connect the institution and the students to the industry is a good thing," he said.

For \$30, students can receive a membership that includes advantages and perks, such as networking with professionals at an annual career day, monthly free movie screenings, and access to the movers and shakers in the business.

"As a student you don't always get to be in the same room with the general managers of stations," Niederman said.

There are about a thousand members in the Midwest chapter of NATAS," said Rebekah Cowing, executive director of the Midwest chapter, "and two percent are student members."

"Membership is very inexpensive and the benefits of it are well worth it," Cowing said.



Heather Morrison/Chronicle  
Rebekah Cowing, executive director of the NATAS Midwest chapter.



On the corner of Balbo and Wabash Avenue, the new Kinko's undergoes construction.

## New Kinko's to open

○ New South Loop printing resource expects to be open by April

By Lisa Balde  
Assistant News Editor

Construction has begun on a new Kinko's that will be on the corner of Balbo Drive and Wabash Avenue, three blocks away from Columbia's main campus.

Although no dates are confirmed, the new location is expected to open by the end of March or the beginning of April, according to Kinko's spokesman, Chris Barnes.

The space will be between 2,800 and 3,000 square feet, said Barnes, and it will offer all services that are available in a "fully-equipped" store.

Such services may include the printing, binding, mounting and laminating of documents; the use of computers; faxing, scanning

and, of course, copying.

This location, like its other 1,100 branches worldwide, will offer a range of paper stock and supplies for sale to customers.

A shipping and receiving option through FedEx and the United States Postal Service will also be available for customer use.

This development will occur only six blocks away from a previously established Kinko's at 55 E. Monroe St.

Although Barnes said that he didn't have an adequate amount of information to provide a reason for why corporate executives would choose to build two Kinko's institutions so close together, he did comment that the Kinko's corporation "looks forward to" serving the Columbia community in regards to all of its copying needs at each of those locations.

Because store hours depend on location, this particular store's hours will be announced upon opening within the next couple of months.

## Newcity saves Chicago Weekly News

○ Alternative newsweekly forms partnership with U of Chicago newspaper to reach a larger college audience

By Lisa Balde  
Assistant News Editor

What does a college newspaper run by the University of Chicago's students and a free alternative newsweekly have in common?

As of January, everything.

After the Chicago Weekly News shut down their publication due to a lack of funds last October, University of Chicago alumni and Newcity publishers Brian and Jan Hieggelke formed a partnership with the paper in an attempt to revive it.

"We sort of took over the business side of it," said Brian Hieggelke.

Newcity now prints the paper and controls a majority of its advertising and its staff provides advice concerning design and layout issues.

In return, every issue of the Weekly News contains a copy of Newcity, which allows the alternative newsweekly to expand its readership to include a college-age South Loop audience.

Hieggelke said a partnership like this is believed to be the first of its kind.

"[Students] are not only getting the Chicago Weekly News, they're also getting what Newcity has to offer," said Weekly News co-publisher Thane Rehn.

The student paper, which is still solely paid for through advertising, originally became distressed due to the mismanagement of the editors at the time, Rehn said.

"Essentially, they just failed to collect revenue from ads," he said. "We had debt to the printer, and, in today's economy, we were having problems [selling] new ads."

The paper's editors then came to Newcity in search of a helping hand to restructure and rebuild the financially unstable student publication.

"It was a work-in-progress," said Sivani

Babu, the Weekly News' executive editor, regarding the newfound relationship between the two papers. "We approached Newcity not knowing what was going to come out of it."

According to Babu, the deal was "mutually beneficial" for both entities. "It's also a mentorship process," Babu said. "It provides a great opportunity to have access to professionals."

Although Newcity prints and publishes the Weekly News, it has no editorial input regarding content.

"Their single editorial say is in the issue of libel," Rehn said. "They disapproved one front page headline so far...[because] it was potentially inaccurate."

Not much has changed regarding the Weekly News' process of doing things. Staff writers still cover the same community and campus news they always did, and they still provide their readers with a commentary section every week. They do leave the entertainment and arts writing to Newcity, though.

Every week, editors design and lay out their pages, or boards, just as they traditionally have in the past. The only difference is that, as the staff gets ready for print time, they take the boards down-

town to the Newcity offices to be produced.

Newcity then prints two runs of papers: one solely for Newcity's audience and one that includes the Weekly News.

The Weekly News did experience some degree of change, however. The paper used to use a broadsheet format, for example, whereas now they employ a tabloid look.

The entire paper also underwent a design facelift during its inactive time period.

Plans to extend the Newcity/Weekly News partnership are already in the works. An implementation of journalism workshops to be taught to University of Chicago students by the Newcity staff has already been discussed. Such workshops, if initiated, will touch on the reporting, editing and design skills that students don't receive because of the University of Chicago's lack of a journalism department.

"There is certainly an educational component, as well," Hieggelke said. "It also gives us a chance to get to know the students for recruiting purposes down the road."

