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Columbia College Chicago

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College hikes tuition 8.5 percent for fall

○ Price tag tops out at all-time high of \$14,880 per year

By Ryan Adair
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Columbia students will pay an additional \$1,100 to attend the college for the 2003 to 2004 academic year, according to President Warrick L. Carter.

The 8.5 percent tuition increase comes after approval from the college's Board of Trustees. Overall, students will shell out \$14,880 in tuition

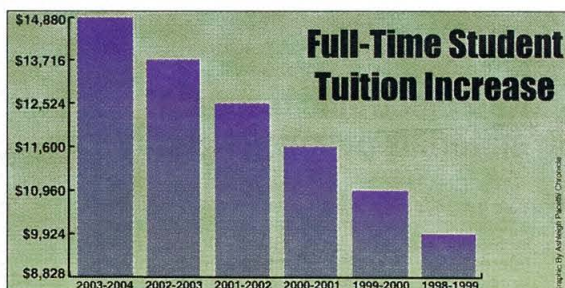
for the forthcoming academic year. The sum does not include mandatory or class fees.

Carter cited the poor economy, in addition to the price of continuing expansion of the college, as reasons for the increase.

"Because we are 87 percent dependent on tuition, we have to look to our tuition base in order to introduce new technologies for the institution," Carter said. "We've chosen one of the most expensive areas in which to educate and we must have contemporary things."

Carter said Columbia has suffered significant investment losses in the stock market, with the

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Construction crews begin demolition of the building at 531 S. Wabash Ave. on March 28—marking the third construction site on the block.

Heather Morrison/Chronicle

Online, grading the grader is easy

○ Websites give students chance to sound off about faculty

By Doris Dadayan
Copy Editor

"Not only is the book a better teacher, it also has a better personality."

"I learned there are 137 tiles on the ceiling."

"The movies he shows are so bad that even he has to leave the room."

"He will destroy you like an academic ninja."

These are just a few of the entries by college students across the United States and Canada on RateMyProfessors.com, a website with the goal of allowing students the opportunity to post messages and rate professors on campus anonymously; to give their overall opinion of the class while seeing what other classmates have written; and to use as a resource in helping with planning class

schedules.

The website was created in 1999 after the founder, John Swapceinski, had a bad experience with a professor while attending San Jose State University in the computer science master's degree program. "I had a particularly dastardly professor who helped to inspire me to find a way to warn other students about her, and hence, the site was born," he said, in an e-mail interview.

RateMyProfessors.com is the largest listing of college professor ratings on the Internet. The site consists of more than 650,000 ratings for professors from 1,700 schools, and gets about 12,000 visitors a day, according to Swapceinski.

The site offers public scrutiny of instructors that are rated on a scale of one to five based on three classifications: clarity, helpfulness and easiness. Clarity is how the instructor presents the class material, his or her organization, and if class time was spent effectively. Helpfulness refers to the

See Ratings, Page 6

Returning from Iraq, military students will still have a spot at Columbia, says official

○ College plans to waive fees and return financial aid

By Angela Caputo
Contributing Editor

As combat rages thousands of miles away in Iraq, college officials have taken measures to ensure Columbia students enlisted in the military can return to classes without penalty.

"We're trying to create as friendly of an environment as we can," said John Olino, Columbia's director of financial aid.

"It's the least we can do for putting our soldiers in harm's way," he said.

The policy, finalized on March 10, says students who are activated or join mid-semester will be withdrawn from class without penalty. Financial aid will be returned and charges for the term would be waived, according to the Student Financial Services Office.

Olin said that he hopes the new policy will make it easier for students to return to college after they return from duty.

"It's unfortunate that this war is interrupting students' lives," he said. "My hope is that they will return to college, either here or somewhere else."

During the Gulf War in 1991, five students were called up but only two returned to Columbia, according to E.J. Chip Talbot, admissions counselor for Columbia's veteran office.

In his State of the College address on March 20, President Carter said, "about 15 members of our community...have been called up and therefore are serving the country on our behalf."

The President's Office was unable to account for 15 people, nor were any other administrative offices on campus.

The Chronicle can confirm two Columbia students currently on inactive military duty.

Columbia student Tina Blumenberg, 22, an interdisciplinary arts major, was pulled out of her last semester of classes, her friends said, when the U.S. Army reactivated her in early February.

Blumenberg, also known by her hip-hop performance name "ToMBoy," worked as a data clerk in the Student Financial Services Office for three years before she shipped out.

Steve Washington, 22, an interactive multimedia student, said he spoke to Blumenberg on March 26 at the Wisconsin military base she is stationed. "Her morale is really high," Washington said.

Washington said that Blumenberg is awaiting orders on where she will be stationed next.

Blumenberg told Washington that she doesn't know if she will be sent to Iraq.

Illinois' military affairs office said it was not able to release information on whether or not Blumenberg's unit would be deployed to Iraq.

"For the sake and safety of our soldiers we're not going to give out that information," said Sgt. Michelle Morgan of the Illinois Department of Military Affairs.

Blumenberg was a GI Bill recipient, which was paying for her education at Columbia according to the Admissions Office.

Pat Fahrenbach, 20, a recent transfer student to Columbia and a theater major, will report to duty in San Diego, Calif. on April 21.

He said he thinks most college-age people apply for the military to receive financial aid.

When Fahrenbach joined the Marine Corps in March, he said the recruiter was surprised that he wasn't joining in pursuit of tuition money.

"I enlisted to defend our beliefs, our country and people who can't and won't fight for themselves," Fahrenbach said.

Briefly News and Notes

Hair Trigger grabs award

The Fiction Writing Department's annual magazine, Hair Trigger, was awarded a Silver Crown Award from the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association. The award for Hair Trigger 24 honors the efforts of the magazine's student editors and faculty adviser, Chris Maul Rice.

The annual award—given March 22 in New York City—honors more than 1,550 entries from across the country. Hair Trigger 24 was among three other magazines in the Silver Circle rank—marking the sixth year the magazine has won either a Gold or Silver Crown Award.

New electronic research materials at college library

The Columbia Library, 624 S. Michigan Ave., has expanded its electronic resources with the addition of several image and article databases, including: Art Full Text, Black Drama, FIAF International FilmArchive Database, Design and Applied Arts Index, AMICO image database and Social Sciences Full Text.

For more information, call (312) 344-7966.

Peace activist to speak

On April 9, Arn Chon Pond, a Cambodian-American peace activist, will speak in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Pond survived the notorious Killing Fields of Cambodia, winning the Spirit of Anne Frank Award and the Amnesty International Award. He is currently a mediator between Asian gangs in Massachusetts. Sponsored by Columbia's Center for Asian Arts and Media, Columbia's Human Rights Conference Project, the Cambodian Association of Illinois and the Foundation for Asian American Independent Media. The event is at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call (312) 344-7870.

College poetry fest planned

As part of Poetry Month, the English Department presents the Fourth Annual Citywide Undergraduate Poetry Festival on April 10 in the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1104 S. Michigan Ave.

Aside from Columbia poets, the 5:30 p.m. event features noteworthy talent from area schools including Roosevelt, Chicago State, DePaul, Loyola, National Louis and Northwestern universities plus the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

For more information, call (312) 344-8138.

Russo tribute in works

College officials are planning a memorial for the late William Russo, founder and former head of Columbia's Music Department, who died Jan. 11.

In his 74 years, Russo's body of work included several jazz performances with Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday, to name a few. The memorial is scheduled for April 16 at 1:30 p.m. in the Getz Theater. For more information, call (312) 344-7383.

How to make \$1K a minute

On April 8, the Career Center for Arts and Media presents a lecture by Jack Chapman, author of "Negotiating Salary: How to make \$1,000 a minute."

The free lecture, at 11:30 a.m., is in Room 404, at 33 E. Congress Parkway.

For more information, call (312) 344-8188.

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

Around Campus



Chris Coates/Chronicle

Fashion art work by Lisa Maruna is part of the 'Muliebral' exhibit in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Sponsored by C-Spaces, the event examines the cultural construction of femininity. For more information, call (312) 344-7696.

Columbia's Summer Institute offers a 'taste of college environment'

High schoolers get summer preview of Columbia

By Ana Hristova
Staff Writer

Summer might typically be a time to relax for some, but for the students attending Columbia's High School Summer Institute, it's a time to evaluate options and choose a direction for their future education.

"One of the biggest benefits of the program is getting an idea what college is like," said Stephanie Strait, assistant director of admissions for and the coordinator of the High School Summer Institute. "Students can get a taste of college environment and also pursue an art form they are already interested in or try something new."

Designed to establish Columbia as a school of choice for students interested in arts, the High School Summer Institute is a five-week program that gives sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to take college-level courses for credit. The introductory courses, taught by Columbia faculty, offer a glimpse into the college's visual, performing and communication art programs.

The Program was launched by Bonnie Lennon in 1984 and has been growing ever since. New courses have been added to the curriculum over the years to accommodate the increasing enrollment and to compete with similar programs at other schools. Under Lennon, who ran the institute for 15 years, the program's enrollment hit a high of 604 students in 1999. After she left, the

numbers went down—567 in 2000 and 492 in 2001—due to the lack of a permanent director. Since Strait took over the position two and a half years ago, enrollment has increased with 576 students registering for classes in 2002. Strait said she hopes to top that number with this year's schedule, which offers eight new courses.

A report for 2002 received by the school administration shows that 226 students who went through the High School Summer Institute either in 2001 or 2002 currently attend Columbia.

From the 576 people who took classes at the institute last year, 80 percent were from Chicago and the metropolitan area and 20 were from the other parts of the country.

Sabrina Raaf, who started teaching digital photography at the institute in 2002, said that her experience was "very, very positive." She said she was surprised how talented high school students were, having no trouble keeping up with the material.

"The students were energetic and very bright," she said. As for the classes, Raaf finds them more intensive than regular college classes in terms of the amount of material that needs to be covered in a short period of time.

"My class was smaller than what I typically teach to and so I was able to be somewhat more informal in my approach," she said. "However, I did not lessen the complexity of the material I covered from that of the academic school year."

J. Kimo Williams, whose Fundamentals of Record Production class is the most popular course according to the school administration, said his main goal is to help students make quality

decisions about what they are going to do with their lives.

"The students are in a candy store," said Williams referring to the courses offered by the institute.

"They are eager. They are excited. They watch MTV and they read about how easy it is to produce or to make your musical dreams happen. I, as a teacher, especially at the High School Institute, am able to get them even more excited but also help them understand that it is extremely hard work."

A way to get students even more excited, according to Williams, is to give them the opportunity to apply their acquired knowledge.

"These young kids are a lot smarter than we think," said Williams, who has an 18-year-old daughter at home.

Williams said he wants to teach more classes this year in order to have a stronger impact on students when the time comes for them to make the big decision regarding their future careers.

"That child is going to go back to mom and not just say 'I had a good time,' but they are going to say 'I learned so much. I am so excited.' In that way, that parent is going to support decisions that they normally wouldn't because they don't have enough information," Williams said.

Registration deadline for this year's High School Summer Institute is May 15. Classes begin June 7. Class fees are \$150 per credit hour, with each class ranging from two to three credits.

The Residence Life Office is offering on-campus housing for \$1,400 for the five-week program. For more information call (312) 344-7131.

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Newspaper foreign to students

○ International students introduce paper's new format, name

By Ana Hristova
Staff Writer

In an effort to give international students a better vehicle to express their diversity and integrate smoothly into the school community, the Office of International Student Affairs renamed its old publication—The Columbia Spotlight, launched in 1998—The Foreigner. The new name and tagline, "Documenting the F-1 Experience at Columbia College," are designed to capture the essence of the publication and evoke curiosity about international students, according to officials.

The Office of International Student Affairs introduced The Foreigner at its spring reception for international students, March 13. The semester newspaper will be distributed at events and mailed to international students and college faculty and staff.

According to school administration, 244 students with F-1 visas, which grant foreign students the right to study in the United States, are currently attending Columbia. Ogeto thinks that the international community is much larger—including students with Green Cards and those on different types of visas.

Symon Ogeto, adviser for international students at Columbia—which oversees the production of the publication—said he hopes The Foreigner would increase in circulation and become monthly beginning the fall 2003 semester. The staff is currently

working on the new issue, which will come out late April or early May.

"Students felt that The Foreigner would give the rest of the Columbia College community an idea that there is a whole different group of individuals another different dynamic to our overall diverse population," said Gigi Posejpal, assistant dean of International Student Affairs. "They wanted to have more presence and identity on campus."

Funded by the Office of International Student Affairs, The Foreigner has a circulation of 1000—200 copies more than The Columbia Spotlight—and is currently published twice a semester. The eight-page publication gives international students the opportunity to express themselves, share the pages with American students and get information about issues concerning immigration.

"Initially, the newspaper was focusing on international students only, which was isolating," said Ogeto. "What international students really wanted was to reach out to their American counterparts: 'Look, we have something in common. We are documenting the F-1 experience but we want you to be a part of this experience.'"

Ogeto said he sees The Foreigner as a great opportunity for students to enhance their writing skills, build a portfolio and even raise money for scholarships. The newspaper has already proven that articles published on its pages can open many doors for its writers. Christina Radveski from Argentina, a former editor-in-chief, used clips from The Columbia Spotlight to get a job at Sanchez and Associates Inc., a Chicago-based financial firm.

The current editor-in-chief, Shikha Sharma, who came up with the idea for the publication's new name, is not an amateur in the field. A graduate student pursuing a degree in teaching interdisciplinary arts, Sharma has worked as a senior editor at Encyclopedia Britannica and as a sub-editor/correspondent at Design Digest, both based in her native country, India.

Sharma said she thinks that many international students have difficulties expressing themselves in English and said that part of her role is to inspire confidence that each voice is worth hearing.

"The Foreigner's catch phrase goes beyond the trivial and is reflective of a larger picture," Sharma said.

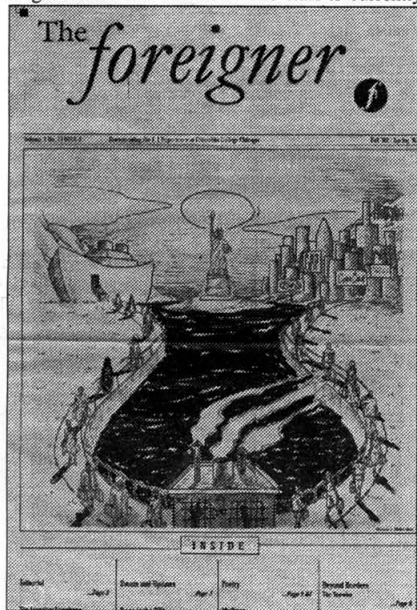
"Columbia College is an important arts and communications institution and a channel like this is needed."

Andres Palencia, a film major with a sound concentration sent his published work to his parents in native Colombia. He said, "It was a new experience. I wanted to do something in a second language. It is just poetry. I have done it before and I am going to keep on doing it. It was good to get published in this country."

Ken Kagawa, a fiction writing major from Japan, thinks that the newspaper is a nice opportunity for international students to have a voice in the community.

"I see a lot of advocate groups like GLBT Pride, black support groups like Big Mouth," Kagawa said. "I think that it is nice that all these Asian, French kids and everybody gets to have a voice to say what goes on. I think that it is a nice chance."

"We are building it slowly but surely," Ogeto said. "It is going to be something very powerful."



The current edition of The Foreigner is a production of the Office of International Student Affairs.

Panel takes on culture, American-style

○ Story Week continues with a lecture among six authors

By British Battle
Staff Writer

Politics and the oppression of free speech took center stage at the March 26, "In Search of our American story" roundtable discussion. Held in the Harold Washington Library as part of Columbia's annual Story Week Festival of Writers, the discussion featured six panelists, who shared their views on everything from the need for multiculturalism in modern America, to life as an immigrant.

The six panelists included Elizabeth Berg (*Open House*); Junot Diaz (*Drown*); Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni (*The Vine of Desire*); Stephen Harrigan (*The Gates of the Alamo*); Irvine Welsh (*Trainspotting*); and Don De Grazia (*American Skin*). The authors gave a bit of insight into what inspires their search for their own American stories.

Although the event was scheduled to be a panel discussion, some attendees said they thought the panelists shared too much of their personal views. Erika Martinez, a writer, said that she enjoyed listening to the diverse perceptions from the writers, but that their views were too individual.

"It's very surprising to see something so linear come from such creative people. But, I was also happy to hear a lot about all the different discussions, political views and everybody's openness about how they feel because a lot of times I think

people are afraid to say how they really feel," Martinez said.

De Grazia named books such as *Huckleberry Finn*, *The Catcher in the Rye* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* as novels with a strong and distinctly American voice.

"I was trying to think: What are the qualities that are similar about these books? And very often it seems like there is a journey, some sort of situation where characters [are] able to encounter people from all different walks of life and social classes," De Grazia said.

Diaz talked about his experience growing up as an immigrant in the United States. He said that we would have a different impression of what the American story is about if we asked a 12-year-old immigrant about life in America. Although Diaz credited the United States for its diversity, he said, "All the immigrants that I grew up with including myself were victimized by something called America."

While many of the topics addressed were somewhat controversial, Jessica Volpe, a freelance writer, said that the panel discussion exposed her to another side of the American story.

"I come from a white and uptight background. So my American story is the *Great Gatsby*, Hemingway, and loving Fitzgerald and all his fantasy worlds," Volpe said. "Once Junot started speaking, I really started to realize that there is [this] whole other perspective. I was exposed to something a little bit different tonight, which is a positive thing."

The Editor's Desk



Georgia Evdoxiadis
Co-Editor-in-Chief

When it comes to defending the weak and promoting freedom, George W. Bush seems to have real tunnel vision. While he hasn't been able to get his mind off of Saddam Hussein's evil doings, the evil doings of non-Iraqis have managed to go entirely unnoticed.

There sits, as I write, a woman in Nigeria sentenced to death. Under Sharia law, Amina Lawal has committed a capital offense—she had a baby with someone to which she wasn't married.

Now the man with whom she committed this "crime" isn't facing death by stoning (as she is), nor is he even in jail. In fact, no one really cares where he is. It's her they are worried about.

On March 26, the court that sentenced her to death "delayed" her appeal because they said one of the judges is sick. The government of Nigeria has ordered the court to release her, but so far it appears the grim sentence will be carried out anyway. So while we use the full power of the most up-to-date weaponry on the planet in order to forcibly remove one man from power for his crimes, we won't lift a finger to save one helpless woman in Africa.

Also as I write, another dictator (one who has admitted to owning weapons of mass destruction) holds the starving people of his country in an iron fist. Kim Jong-Il has done everything but bomb us in his strange attempt to garner international attention. He's pretty much jumping up and down waving his nuclear missiles in hand. But never mind him, we've got Saddam Hussein to kill.

At this moment yet another dictator, one who also took power in a military coup (like Saddam), has nuclear weapons that aren't exactly what you'd call "secure."

Gen. Pervez Musharraf, who has only recently made it onto our buddy list, presents an interesting quandary. He's technically on our side, but there are probably more terrorists—including Osama bin Laden—hiding out in Pakistan than anywhere else in the world. And one of them getting their hands on an unsecured nuclear weapon is much more likely than the "Saddam-giving-his-only-bargaining-chip-to-some-terrorist-that-hates-him" scenario the Bush administration has been selling.

Meanwhile, in northern Iraq, Turkish troops are moving in to subjugate the Kurds we care so much about. Remember them, the ones Saddam gassed? The Kurds, an ethnic minority in many countries—including Iraq and Turkey—have been amassing a pretty organized movement in the Middle East. Turkey is scared to death that the war might cause the groups to break off and form Kurdistan, perhaps creating vocal and difficult problems from the Kurds in Turkey.

Those are just a few of the problems outside our country, the ones inside it are even worse. Attorney General John Ashcroft—or, as I like to call him, the Grand Inquisitor—is trying to increase the scope of the USA Patriot Act with Patriot, part two.

In the new and updated version, the government will have the power to spy on anyone it would like and won't have to get a warrant to do it.

Anyone determined to belong to or affiliated with a group the government decides is a terrorist organization can then be deported to any country the United States chooses, even if the citizen has no ties to that country.

If the country to which the government would like to deport that person doesn't want him, then the United States can hold him indefinitely without a trial or an attorney. Sounds a little repressive, doesn't it? Maybe we should be liberating ourselves.

The Air Force Academy is in a bit of hot water right now for allegedly discouraging rape victims from reporting the crimes and mocking the ones who do. At least four people have already lost their jobs and more firings are expected.

The Supreme Court is busy deciding whether or not gay men and women should be allowed to legally have sex, and there is at least one judge (Antonin Scalia) who would like it to remain illegal in Texas (one of the four states where the sodomy law specifically targets homosexual sex). There are another nine states where any kind of sodomy is illegal, so I guess you should look up your summer vacation site on the internet before you break any laws.

There sure is a lot getting ignored while Bush chases his daddy's demons on the other side of the world. I know, we can't do everything at once, but just consider for a moment which is more dangerous: Saddam Hussein or our Chicago public schools. At this point, it's pretty hard to tell.

The situation seems bleak, but look on the bright side: At least we'll have plenty to do after Persian Gulf II ends.

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'Hair Trigger' wins top awards in NYC

○ Fiction Writing Department's 24th issue beats out 200 other colleges

By British Battle
Staff Writer

At his State of the College address on March 20, Columbia's President Warrick L. Carter said that the Fiction Writing Department "beat[s] every year Harvard and Yale." And while Carter didn't mention Hair Trigger by name, it seems the Fiction Writing Department's annual magazine has done it again.

On March 21, at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's 2003 College Gold Circle Awards at Columbia University in New York City, Hair Trigger 24 scored exceptionally high in the national competition.

Deborah Roberts, assistant to the chair of the Fiction Writing Department, attended the Silver Crown awards ceremony Saturday, March 22, which was

held in New York City at The Roosevelt Hotel. Roberts said that out of 1,000 points, Hair Trigger 24 scored 984 points and brought home the crown.

"The three aspects of the thousand points are content, organization and design. In all three of these categories we scored very high," Roberts said.

Roberts said the magazine is well-known throughout the national competitions by instructors and students from other colleges throughout the country.

"As soon as the Silver Crown heard the name Hair Trigger, there was this big round of applause," Roberts said.

She proofreads some of the students' work and counsels them in areas where their work may need to be strengthened.

"I've enjoyed how talented and creative our students are and how open to growth they are," Roberts said.

For the past six years, Hair Trigger has been judged for its quality of writing and has not failed to win a major award, according to Randall Albers, chairperson of the Fiction Writing Department. Albers said that at least 200

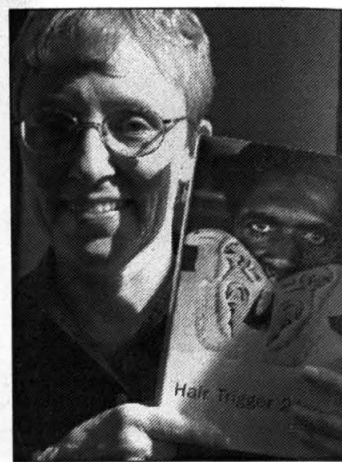
colleges from across the country entered the magazine competition. There were four finalists and Hair Trigger was named the best. Albers said he attributes the success of the magazine to the quality of the student writing and to the work of Hair Trigger editors.

Albers said, "We have great writers here and we have the hardest working faculty in show business. We have a very intensive editing process with the students working with a faculty adviser, Chris Maul-Rice, that's really designed to sift out the best of the best."

"What gets into Hair Trigger is probably about one half of one percent of what actually gets written in this program in a typical year, so that process is very thorough," Albers explained.

Since its publication, prior to this year, the magazine has won 19 major awards.

Albers said that the department is currently in the process of editing the 25th issue of Hair Trigger. They will be celebrating the magazine's 24th publication with a party in May.



Alex Kedler/Chronicle

Deborah Roberts, of the Fiction Writing Department, displays an edition of the award-winning Hair Trigger 24.

Work-study programs receive \$200K

○ Funds may open 75 spots for students

By Angela Caputo
Contributing Editor

Columbia students may have more money in their pockets next year after the federal government awarded the college an additional \$200,000 to boost two financial aid programs.

The Federal Work-Study Program budget jumped to \$887,506; up \$100,000 from the 2002-03 academic year, according to the Student Financial Services Office.

The program may potentially open up employment to an additional 75 students, said Maxine Evans of the Student Employment Office. This year, the budget afforded the school an opportunity to employ 217 students, so far.

Work study is initially granted on a first come first serve basis. "It is up to students to go out and get the jobs," said John Olino, director of Columbia's Student Financial Services Office.

Selena Salfen, 22, a photography major, has a work-study job in the photo lab on the 10th floor at 600 S. Michigan Ave.

"I was lucky to get this job," she said. "I came in here early, before the semester started, and I got it. A lot of other people [who came later] were turned away."

If students do not claim a work-study award in a timely fashion they will lose it and another student has the opportunity to take it, according to Evans.

"Competition for work-study jobs is increasing," Evans said. "In the past we were begging people [to work]...Now that there is a decent wage students are more interested," she said.

Last year, undergraduate student wages were bumped up to \$7 per hour and graduate student wages to \$10, for on-campus jobs.

Mike Bridgeforth, 30, a senior in the Theater Department who works in the Freshman Center through the work-study program, said that he sees students becoming increasingly competitive over work-study jobs. "I see more students who are eligible taking the jobs," he said.

Columbia's Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant is also

up 100 percent this year. "We finally broke \$1 million," Olino said about the budget that has grown since he started in the office 16 years ago.

Supplemental opportunity grants include various grants and scholarships that are available to students based on income eligibility.

Eligible students who file their Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms early have a better chance of being awarded the work-study and other non-loan aid.

"If you procrastinate you may get iced out," Olino said. "N-O-W is the time [to apply]," he said.

Although the college has made gains in grant, scholarship and work-study awards from the Federal government, students are still left with mounting debt.

Students are increasingly taking out loans to finance their education, according to the Student Financial Services

Office. Currently, 60 percent of aid comes from loans, and 40 percent from aid that does not require repayment.

"The ratio has not been good. It has failed to meet the needs of students," Olino said.

Salfen said she has financed about half of her college education through loans. Between her time at Columbia, which she transferred to this year, and a balance from her last college in St. Louis, Mo., Salfen said she will owe more than \$50,000.

Bridgeforth said he will also graduate next fall buried deep in loans—owing more than \$47,000. He said he is nervous about graduating while in the red financially. "I'm wondering what's going to happen, like am I going to land a [decent paying] job?" he said.

Olino said he worries that the burden of increasing debt has the potential to "create a whole new generation of indentured servants."

Tuition

Continued from Front Page

college's endowment losing nearly \$15 million in the past two years.

"[The endowment] can't support the college anymore and has cut into our borrowing capacity," he said.

Carter said he shared students' anxieties about Columbia becoming too expensive.

"There is a great amount [of] concern among myself and Board of Trustees members," he said. "We try to hold down increases as much as we can while meeting the needs of the growing institution...it's a delicate balance."

Carter noted that tuition would most likely continue to increase over the next few years, however in smaller percentages.

The newly announced increase is slightly lower than this past year's tuition jump, which saw a 9.5 percent increase, or, an additional \$1,200.

The coming year's hike was decided after college officials evaluated a list of 36 "strategic initiatives" that Columbia must accomplish within the next five years, Carter said.

These include continued campus expansion

—The college recently bid on an undisclosed South Loop building to further develop and move a portion of the Art and Design Department.

—College wide maintenance such as fixing the continuing elevator problems in the school's various buildings.

—And attracting new and elite "members of the community" to serve as faculty.

After an approximate price tag was assessed for each of the items on the list, as well as leaving room for unknown factors, such as the weak economy and health care expenditures, the finance committee brought the tuition increase proposal to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Carter said the college has made recent initiatives to help defer some of the financial burden on students.

New scholarships have been created by the Alumni Association chapters of both Chicago and Los Angeles, in addition to the college stepping up efforts to establish a new scholarship to support Chicago Public School students who wish to attend Columbia. Carter acknowledged these future scholarships would benefit only a limited number of students, but nonetheless, still help defray costs.

The school is also actively seeking to raise funds for the yet-to-be built student center, additional scholarships, and continued academic progress, such as departmental expansion and new faculty recruitment.

Rating

Continued from Front Page

instructor's attitude toward the students; if he or she were nice and approachable, and if they were willing to stay after class for extra help. The easiness category is not included in the calculated overall rating since it would be unclear as to whether the actual course material was easy, or if the teacher was easy.

Instructors are given either a yellow smiley face for a "good" rating; a green smiley face for an "average" rating; a blue sad face for a "poor" quality rating and, yes, a chili pepper for the instructor's sex appeal. "I get lots of feedback from professors, about a third of it being negative," Swapceinski said.

Columbia has 13 instructors that are currently posted on the site, compared to schools like Grand Valley State University with 24,189 ratings—the highest number of all schools on the site—or the Milwaukee School of Engineering, with 1,448 ratings.

Journalism faculty member and an online media specialist Barbara Iverson, one of the teachers listed on the website, said, "I actually found out about RateMyProfessor.com about two years ago. There was little participation from my students, so I shamelessly put my own name in there and asked the students to put in their rates for me. I look at it as something playful, not something to be taken seriously."

But, other teachers have different opinions about the site.

"I get threatened with legal action on a weekly basis. Professors often want me to remove their names; some of them just don't quite get the meaning of the First Amendment," Swapceinski said.

RateMyProfessors.com isn't the only website that offers students this type of service. Ratingonline.com, Professorperformance.com and Studentreviews.com also offer rating systems for students to be able to evaluate their teachers.

Hope Daniels, a Radio Department instructor and one of the teachers who received a positive rating on the site, said that the online ratings are a good idea, only if the ratings and what they symbolize are

explained well.

"I think it's spiffy for the kids to be able to do something like this. I hope that the good quality rating that I received means that I respect my students, and that I want them to learn all that they can possibly learn about the topic that they're coming to me for—that the class is worthwhile and a benefit to their careers and their lives," she said. "I always believe the information I'm sharing is not just for today, but for a lifetime."

Mandy Farkas, a freshman majoring in Radio, said that she would check out a site like RateMyProfessors.com to see what other students have posted. "I've never heard of [the website], but yeah, I think it'd actually be good. I know of some teachers that aren't so good, so it'd be something for them to see how they're doing," she said.

Freshman film production major Christopher Guest, 18, thinks that the website is a good idea, but is indifferent when it comes to choosing a teacher. "Basically, I'll take whatever class I need to get out [of school] as quick as possible," he said.

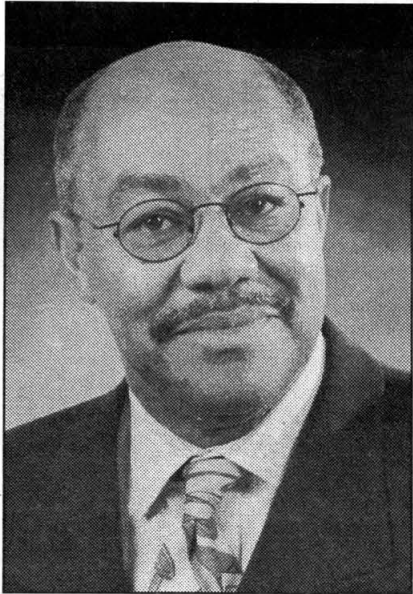
Columbia's current evaluation system is done by Scantron, distributed to students toward the end of the semester to evaluate the teacher and the course.

According to Daniels, the Scantrons go back to the departments, where each department's chair reviews the information. Then the faculty—both full and part time—meet and discuss the student feedback.

Full-time faculty also sit-in on the part-time faculty classes and new full-time faculty classes to ensure that they're maintaining an academic discipline in their classes; looking at how the instructors interact with their students, the way they present information, and the quality of information given.

"We take students' stuff to heart. We really do," Daniels said. "Students need to know that they can do this anonymously."

"It costs too much money to have a faculty person who's not giving you what you need."



A Message from the President

Dear Columbia Students:

At Columbia College Chicago, we work very hard to keep our tuition affordable. Our buildings are serviceable, but not palatial. We don't support high-cost athletic programs or expensive sports stadiums. We spend our money to serve students by providing excellent preparation in careers in visual, performing and media arts. We attract highly qualified faculty with real-world experience and provide state-of-the-art equipment and resources for our students.

We rely almost completely upon tuition income to provide these faculty and technology resources. In order to preserve our commitment to these initiatives and priorities, the college's Board of Trustees, at its most recent meeting, approved a full-time annual tuition rate of \$14,880 for the 2003-2004 academic year.

There are a number of reasons why tuition at Columbia - and tuition at all colleges and universities - is rising. There is less money available from college endowments to support educational programs because of the stock market's lackluster performance for the past three years. State and federal funding for higher education is being reduced because of huge government deficits.

Meanwhile, the cost of educating students and providing needed programs and services continues to rise. The cost of replacing or adding instructional equipment has risen. The cost of ensuring the safety and security of people and buildings on our campus has increased. We are adding new Web-based technology for registration, advising, billing and admissions to improve

student services. All these improvements are expensive.

To try to offset tuition increases, we continue to pursue ways to enhance scholarship opportunities for students. Our alumni in Chicago and Los Angeles have responded enthusiastically and are establishing new student scholarship programs. Although our tuition increase is higher than any of us would like, our increase for next year reflects our ongoing efforts to restrain tuition increases by finding ways to cut expenses without sacrificing our commitment to quality.

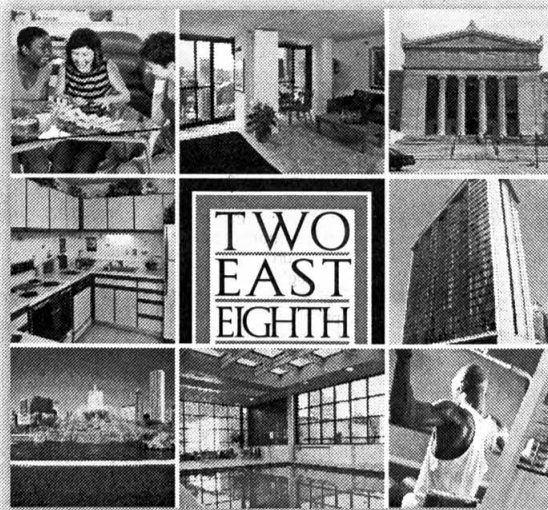
The bottom line is this: We are increasing tuition. We don't want to. We are seeking additional sources of scholarship funds to support our students. We are also trimming fat from an already lean budget.

But make no mistake: You can be assured that we will maintain the quality of Columbia's programs so that this college continues to be a place you're proud to attend, a place where you'll receive first-class preparation for jobs in the real world.

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manifest03 mayfest

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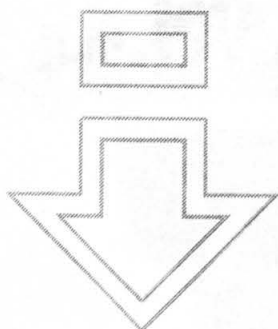
what is mayfest

MayFest is a month-long celebration of student work, a festival of student talent, and an opportunity for graduating seniors and graduate thesis students to exhibit and perform their work. Visual, performing and media arts exhibitions and events will take place all over campus during the month of May. MayFest culminates in a day-long festival, Manifest 03.



what is manifest

Manifest is an urban arts festival happening at Columbia College on May 22. Enjoy live music from student, local, and international bands on three sound stages, a campus wide gallery artwalk and site-specific performance works including dance concerts, spoken word, theater pieces and musical recitals.

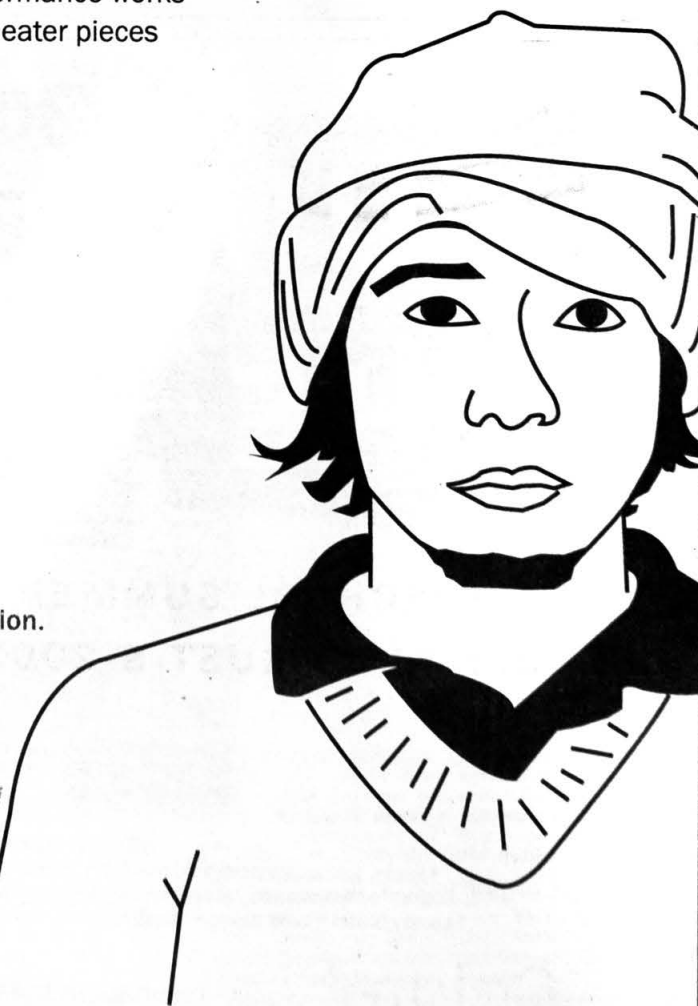


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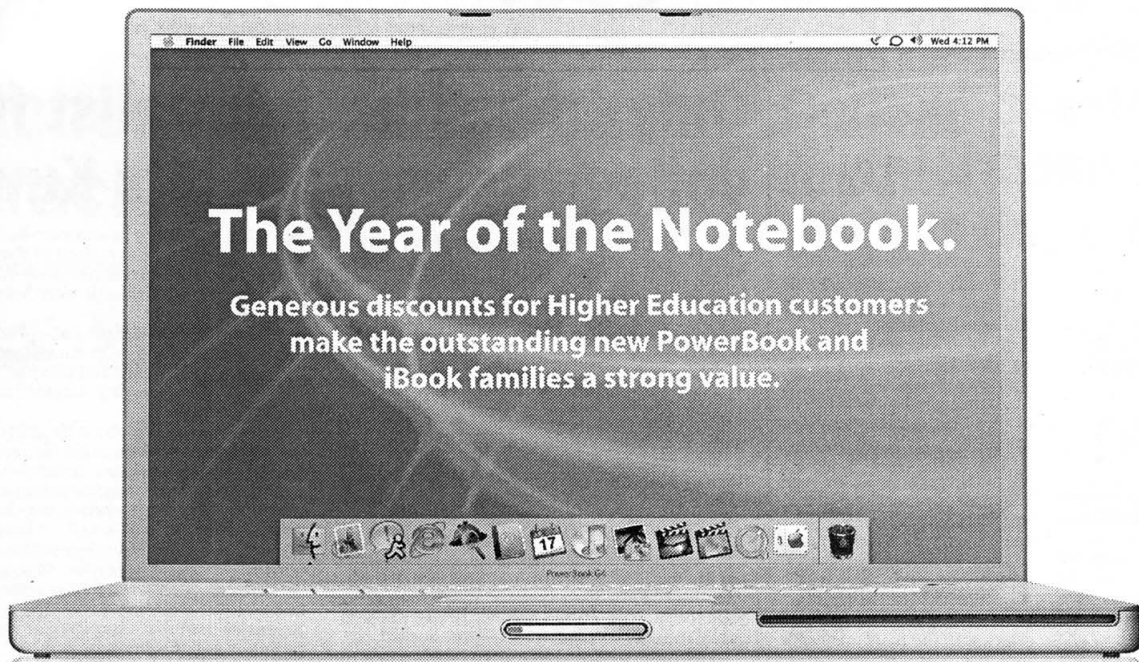
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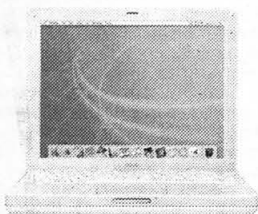
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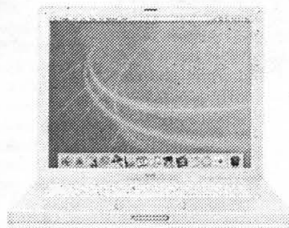
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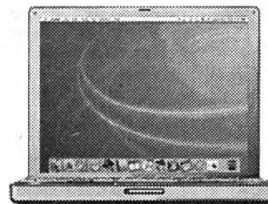
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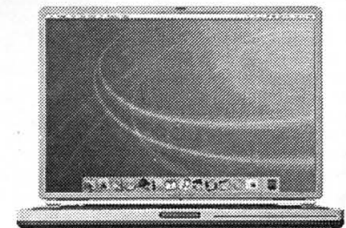
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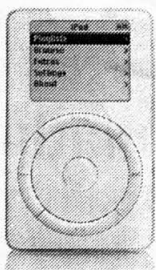
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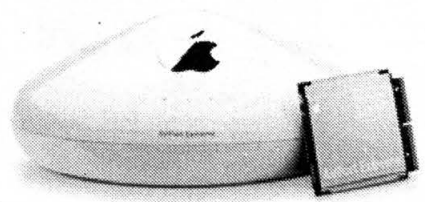
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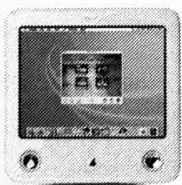
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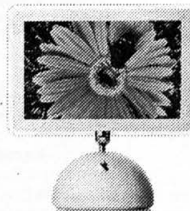


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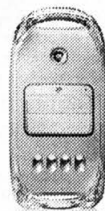
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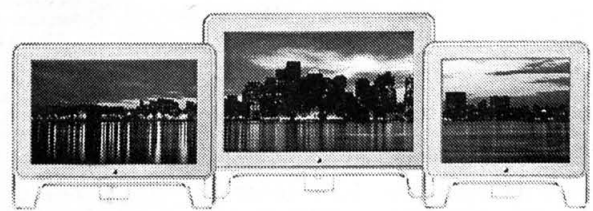
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Graduates to face greater uncertainty in a bleak job market

○ Graduating students facing similar dilemma as those who entered the job market during the early 1990s recession

By Diane Carroll

Knight Ridder Newspapers

KANSAS CITY—Spring break traditionally is a time for college students to escape their burdens and loll on sunny beaches.

Amanda Denning has friends at the University of Kansas who will carry out that custom in Acapulco, Mexico, and she could go with them. But with the job market for college graduates shaping up as the worst in a decade, Denning instead decided to visit companies in Austin, Texas.

She is setting up "informational interviews" in the public relations field, hoping they will lead to job interviews.

"I have friends who graduated with the very same major as mine last year, and they still are looking," said Denning, 22, who will graduate in May. "It's very scary. Very, very scary."

The booming job market of the late 1990s started to give way early in 2001 and soured significantly last year. This year it is even tighter. The bumpy economy and war with Iraq have dissolved earlier hopes that things might turn around this spring, said Philip Gardner, director of the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at Michigan State University.

"Everything is on hold," Gardner said. "I have employers who say they have intentions to hire. They just don't know when."

At universities in Kansas and Missouri, career placement directors see the same uncertainty. Some companies are hiring, they said, but not in the numbers of the past.

Graduates are in relatively the same fix as their counterparts were 10 years ago with the recession of the early 1990s, according to Gardner and others. The difference, they said, is that 10 years ago everyone knew that the economy would turn around after companies restructured.

This time, it is harder to predict when things will shake out, said Douglas Buchanan, director of Student Affairs at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

"Now it's like everybody is waiting on something," Buchanan said. "Everything depends on everything else."

That inability to predict a turnaround also weighs on Gardner. Because of it, he said, "in all my [20] years of doing this, I haven't been quite as pessimistic."

In August, a survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers showed that employers expected to hire 3.6 percent fewer graduates this spring. When the survey was updated in

December, one-third of the respondents said they planned additional cutbacks.

"A lot of kids are trying really hard and still coming up short," said Camille Luckenbaugh, the association's employment information manager.

"Last year people were hoping the first quarter of this year would be a turning point, but that is not happening. ... We keep hoping we'll see a spark somewhere, but we just haven't seen it yet."

Last month, the association released a report that showed salary offers to many new college graduates were lower than they were a year ago.

The average offer to computer science graduates sank 13.1 percent, from \$51,429 in January 2002 to \$44,678 this January. Starting salaries slipped in many engineering disciplines and increased about 1 percent for liberal arts graduates.

At the University of Missouri-Columbia, the 400 engineering students who will graduate this spring are feeling the pinch, said Matthew Reiske, assistant director for the school's careers office.

"I think we got spoiled a couple years ago because the economy was so good that students could push things off until last minute and still receive very good employment," Reiske said. "Now the companies that are hiring are not filling as many positions, so the market is pretty competitive."

Although the overall hiring picture looks glum, graduates in education, health care and the food industry are among those who should fare better than most, area universities reported. Graduates in computer science, technology and consulting have bleaker prospects.

"The most optimistic place for college graduates right now is employment with the federal government," said Gail Rooney, director of Career and Employment Services at the University of Kansas. The government is not growing, she said, but 50 percent of the federal government's employees are eligible to retire between 2005 and 2010, and some are retiring now.

University of Missouri-Columbia senior Jonathan Lloyd of Kansas City thinks his chances are improved because of potential retirements in his field of parks, recreation and tourism. The 23-year-old, who has one class to take this summer before graduating, said he initially might have to do something he doesn't like. But in the long run, Lloyd is optimistic that he will get a good job.

University of Kansas senior Bridget Morrissey of Ottawa, Kan., said she had friends majoring in art who wanted to work at museums, but who were so unsettled by the employment prospects that they weren't even looking.

Morrissey, 21, will graduate in May with a degree in psy-

See Graduates, page 13

Only embedded journalist for college newspaper hits Kuwait

○ Student reporter reaches into his wallet to fund trip to cover the war with Iraq

By Jeff Rowe

The Orange County Register

(KRT) SANTA ANA, Calif.—While his classmates at California State University, Fullerton, are scoping out sunny locations for spring break, Ronald Paul Larson arrived Monday in a very warm place.

Kuwait.

It's nice this time of year in the desert kingdom—well, except for the severe sandstorms, such as the one that recently blew down 17 U.S. Army tents.

Grilling, 120-degree heat is just a few weeks away. Nary a river nor a lake interrupts the country's flat carpet of sand.

So why did Larson spend \$1,403 for a round-trip airline ticket to Kuwait City?

He wants to cover a war.

Kuwait is the staging area for much of the U.S. military buildup in the Persian Gulf. Tens of thousands of U.S. soldiers set up camp there, poised to attack Iraq.

Larson's decision to practice journalism halfway around the globe came as he neared the end of course work for a master's degree in history.

The studied pace of a college professor, his goal when he enrolled at Cal State Fullerton, has been replaced by a new aspiration—correspondent. At 39, he's older than most of the other staff at the Daily Titan, but he's perhaps the most driven.

Besides the airfare, he reached into his own wallet for a satellite telephone rental (\$185 a month, \$1.80 per minute), antenna, transmission data kit, adapter and batteries (\$308) flak vest (\$130) and a used Kevlar helmet (\$85). The helmet's former owner apparently was "Prewitt," the name that's printed on the inside.

His pay will be a hearty thanks from the Daily Titan and perhaps two credits for "independent study." After he has sent his dispatches to the Daily Titan, the paper will make them available to college newspapers around the nation.

He also will be writing for the Kenosha (Wis.)

News, his hometown newspaper; RedEye; and The Orange County Register. Each of those papers will pay him a piece rate for his work. At best, Larson probably will earn enough to pay for his trip and equipment.

Unless the final diplomatic forays succeed, Larson is unlikely to be in Kuwait very long. He is traveling with an Army unit pressing into Iraq soon after U.S. bombers hit targets in and around Baghdad.

Larson worries less about his safety than possible technological problems with his laptop computer, satellite telephone, video camera and 35mm still camera. Should the improbable happen, though, and all that equipment fails, Larson may be able to entertain the troops. In high school, he tap danced a number in his school's production of "No, No, Nanette."

When he was told earlier this month that the Department of Defense had accepted his application to cover the Middle East buildup, Larson said he was excited, but also nervous that he might be getting in over his head.

"I still feel that way," he said before leaving.

His parents and older sister, all back in Kenosha, where he grew up, are "worried, nervous and excited" about his trip, he said.

His editor and the Titan faculty adviser are confident.

"It's a great opportunity for Ron and the Daily Titan," said professor Tom Clanin, the paper's faculty adviser. "He's going to focus on profiles and personalities—he will put a human face on the war."

And he has seen combat.

After completing his Army service mostly guarding weapons in Germany, Larson journeyed to Afghanistan and spent a month taking pictures of Mujahedeen soldiers fighting the Soviet army.

Larson wonders whether he will be deep in Iraq a month from now. He will be eating, sleeping and traveling with the unit he is attached to, a radical departure from the access allowed journalists in previous conflicts.

His role model is Ernie Pyle, the famed World War II correspondent who focused on the ordinary soldier's life. He says he "questions the wisdom" of the U.S. attack on Iraq, "but as far as my job, I'm apolitical."

"My job will be to explain what life is like for these soldiers," he said. "I just hope my equipment will not break, and I will do a good job."

Illinois State U.-area group tries to disprove false war information

○ Organization formed to combat Bush administration and current war with Iraq

By Annie Spiro

The Daily Vidette (Illinois State U.)

(U-WIRE) NORMAL, Ill.—The Bloomington-Normal Citizens for Peace and Justice organization was started after the 9/11 attacks in order to try to maintain a democratic approach to world events.

"We formed after 9/11 and are dealing with the aftermath which includes the war in Iraq."

"There is no critical evidence that connects the two," leader of the organization David Feurzeig said.

The Citizens for Peace and Justice is a nonpartisan organization, Feurzeig added.

The organization was also established to fight injustice in the Bush administration and the death penalty, but most of its current energies are aimed toward the war, Feurzeig said.

"The people's right to speak out against their government is the definition of democracy," he said. "It is absolutely un-American not to have debate at all times."

One of the ways that the organization seeks to

help is by educating Americans on the facts of the war, media spokesman Bob Broad said.

"The Bush-Cheney administration has the highest number, of either party, of broken promises made to the American people and to the world," Broad said.

"Forty percent of Americans believe that the Al Qaeda members who hijacked the planes on 9/11 were Iraqi. This is absolutely not true, in fact none of them were," Feurzeig said.

"There is no connection between Afghanistan and Iraq [in relation to America]," he added.

Since its inception, the organization has been very active in organizing rallies and marches.

They have also met members of the Illinois state legislature, Feurzeig said.

"I think we have had tremendous success," Broad said.

"We have a high level of involvement in the community, and we will absolutely continue to fight after this war ends."

The Citizens for Peace and Justice hold meetings on the first Sunday of every month at 4 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, Feurzeig said.

"This country was founded when a bunch of people got tired of people across the ocean telling them what to do," Feurzeig said.

"We have to ask ourselves is this the kind of country we want to be," he added. "Are we going to fight wars of choice or are we going to fight wars based on fallacious evidence?"

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Glitches riddle database to track foreign students

○ SEVIS causes headaches for students and administration

By Robert Becker

Chicago Tribune

(KRT) CHICAGO—The computer system intended to track international students as part of the nation's stepped-up security, routinely loses sensitive information about foreign students and faculty, according to university officials throughout the country.

Gaffes in the \$36 million Student and Exchange Visitor Information System—or SEVIS—have also left schools unable to print documents that international students and visiting scholars need to obtain visas, delaying their entry into the country.

Remarkably, universities trying to print documents for their visiting scholars through the SEVIS program operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security have had those papers appear on printers at other campuses thousands of miles away.

And in an incident creating concern in academic circles around the country, a student from Thailand attending Southeastern University in Washington was arrested March 12 by federal agents after the SEVIS database incorrectly listed her as having dropped out, university officials said.

"We are very concerned about this kind of precipitous action, especially during the time that the database is getting the kinks worked out of it," said Charlene Drew Jarvis, Southeastern's president.

Federal officials could not be reached for comment about the incident.

Flaws in the federal government's ability to track the approximately 500,000 foreign students who come to the United States each year to attend school surfaced after two terrorists involved in the 9/11 attacks received approval for student visas six months later.

As part of a congressionally mandated system to track international students, SEVIS was rolled out in January, with schools required to use the system exclusively by Feb. 15.

SEVIS, developed for the government by Electronic Data Systems Corp., for the first time will link schools that admit foreign students with federal agencies. It will provide an instantaneous exchange of information.

SEVIS is designed to replace a tracking system riddled with errors and fraud. The U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, formerly known as the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, had conceded that it had all but stopped monitoring more than 70,000 schools and institutions empowered to admit foreign students.

Chris Bentley, a spokesman for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which oversees SEVIS, acknowledged that the computer network "is not a perfect system."

Bentley said the agency decided to roll out SEVIS during the relatively quiet spring semester so glitches could be identified. He said officials remained "fully confident" SEVIS would be ready for fall semester, when the bulk of new international students need records processed.

University officials said that in the month since it has been compulsory to use SEVIS to track international students, staff members have spent untold hours trying to resolve data-entry problems.

"I think the system is just overwhelmed," said Ravi Shankar, director of the International Office at Northwestern University. "We just hope they do something about it."

The officials also fear it's only going to get worse in coming months, when hundreds of thousands of students seek entry to study in the United States and a similar number of graduates seek to stay for postgraduate studies or training.

University officials say much of their frustration stems from the lack of flexibility in the SEVIS system.

In the case of the Southeastern University student, university officials said the matter could have been avoided if SEVIS had allowed the university to fix the student's record.

Southeastern's Jarvis said the school noticed in December that the student's record erroneously showed she had dropped out. But Jarvis, who declined to identify the student, said the school's attempts to correct that record were blocked.

Jarvis said that at 8 a.m. on March 12, federal agents appeared at the young woman's house and during their interview learned that she was working part time at a restaurant.

Although education officials say that employment outside a university without permission is a potential violation of a student's visa, they say it's unlikely it would lead to an arrest.

Jarvis said the student was led away in handcuffs. She has since been released.

"You can't fight terrorism by terrorizing the students," Jarvis said.

College gives grades for drinking in class

○ Class began in early 1960s to develop students' appreciation of wine

By Michael Margolis

Cornell Daily Sun (Cornell U.)

(U-WIRE) ITHACA, N.Y.—Every Wednesday this semester from 2:30 to 4:25 p.m., more than 800 Cornell University students are getting credit for imbibing alcohol. No, this isn't an early April Fool's printing of The Sun nor a cheap trick by the School of Hotel Administration to increase enrollment.

The students are enrolled in the hotel school's two-credit Wine Appreciation class, and they are not getting drunk on the six one-ounce wine samples given to them.

The near-capacity class is taught every semester by professors Abby Nash and Stephen Mutkoski, the Banfi Vintners Professor of Wine Education and Management. Mutkoski is on sabbatical this semester.

The class began in the early 1960s and has stayed close to its original goal of developing students' appreciation of wines.

It is not a requirement for hotel students, except for the 20 or so who go on to take more advanced beverage management courses.

All students in the hotel school are encouraged to take the course, however, and most do. The class is open to all students at Cornell, regardless of college affiliation.

The class has become a rite of passage for seniors of all colleges and has received attention in the national media including NBC's "20/20," USA Today and the industry magazine Wine Spectator.

Nash, who has taught the class for over 12 years, credits some of that attention to the unique American interest in alcohol.

"Alcoholic beverages are such a charged topic in the U.S.," Nash said.

With that in mind, Nash said that he hoped the class could provide "an alternative to the typical consumption of alcohol in the college setting."

"A lot of young people will become moderate regular wine drinkers, mostly with food. You might as well get there sooner rather than later," said Nash of some of the course's appeal.

Most students agree with Nash's assessment and also credit wine's growing appeal in American culture.

"Wine is so popular, and it seems like the 'in thing,'" said Christie Yeoh.

Raquel Look said, "it's a good conversation starter."

He said that he often runs into alumni of his class who thank him for interesting them in wine. Of this Nash said, "We deliver something of value. We give [our students] something they can take with them."

Nash explained that another goal of the class is to try to remove some of the snobbish connotations associated with

"Wine is so popular, and it seems like the 'in thing,'"

—Christie Yeoh

wine in the United States.

To assist with this endeavor, most wines sampled are within a reasonable price range.

"The wines are overwhelmingly under \$20," Nash said.

Benchmark wines make up the back bone of the course. These wines are red Bordeaux, red and white burgundy, Champagne, port and sherry.

The class covers basic facts about various wine regions, what kind of grapes, climate, and terrain produce the best wines, wine history and the specifics of making a particular wine. Almost no region is left out. Regions covered in class include California, Oregon, Washington, the Finger Lakes, Chile, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany and Austria.

"We don't leave much out. We squeeze everything in," Nash said.

A typical class will begin with an hour-long lecture concerning the specifics of the region and its wines. After this introductory lecture, six one-ounce samples will be served to students by a small group of about 20 white-coated graduate and undergraduates teaching assistants. And no, they don't check IDs. The New York state 21-year-old age restriction is waived for the class.

As students sample the wines, they rate the wines according to their personal tastes on "tasting sheets" handed out at the beginning of class. They are asked to comment on its aroma, body and the "evolution" of its taste. Students are introduced to these terms and many more in the first class, so that they will have the proper vocabulary to address the wines.

In a typical spring class six different wines are sampled. For each distinct wine, four cases, or 48 bottles, are consumed.

Sellers and sometimes importers, who have an excess supply, donate most of the wines. More often than not, an alumni is involved, but even when they are not involved donors "never expect a return."

Grades for the class are based upon three 100 question multiple-choice prelims; two are given in class and the third during exam week. A popular myth has arisen that the class is the most failed at Cornell.

However, Nash and most students who take the class find this to be untrue.

Overall, as Udi Falkson said, the class provides knowledge about something "that might come in handy someday in a fun setting."

Graduates

Continued from Page 12

chology. She said she hopes to land a job in sales and has had several interviews. If nothing pans out, she said she plans to go to graduate school.

She is not the only one thinking along those lines.

Applications for University of Missouri's law school in Columbia are up, Assistant Dean Donna Pavlick said.

Pavlick said that the school usually receives 700 applications for the 150 spots in its freshman class. Last year, with the big drop in the job market, applications soared to 903. This year, Pavlick said, she expects them to hit 1,000.

At Kansas State University, placement officers are talking about how to help those they call the "NIKE" graduates—"no-income kids with education," said Kerri Day Keller, interim director of Kansas State's Career and Employment Services.

Keller said she expects some graduates who fail to find jobs will return home this summer and live with their parents. With a "NIKE in the home," she said, those parents may start pushing their children in their job searches. Kansas State plans to offer online help, she said.

No one has had to push Denning, the University of Kansas student who is skipping the trip to Acapulco. She has had internships with Sprint Corp. and the University of Kansas and is doing another now with a communications company near the Country Club Plaza.

Denning, from Basehor in Leavenworth County, said she would be delighted to get a job offer in Kansas City, but she also thinks Austin

"A lot of kids are trying really hard and still coming up short,"

—Employment information manager
Camille Luckenbaugh

would be a good place to live.

Denning has turned to members of the university of Kansas Alumni Association and others to help her find company employees in Austin willing to meet for those "informational" interviews. She said she will share something about herself and ask for information about the public relations field.

She said she hopes the companies will also remember her when a job opens up.

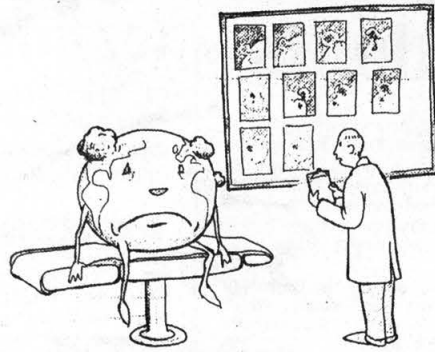
Denning gets a little envious when she thinks about her friends lolling on the beaches of Acapulco.

"But they may be jealous of me when they come back and I have a job and they don't," she said. "At least that's what I am hoping."

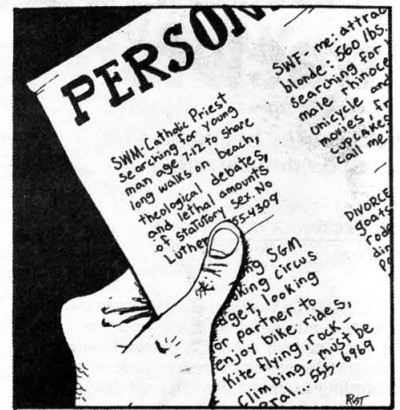
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1st Place
Ryan Duggan



2nd Place
Nathan Poetzsch



3rd Place
Adam Rust



Honorable Mention
Adam Rust

FICTION SUPPLEMENT

The Columbia Chronicle is planning its annual literary supplement to be published Monday, April 28.

We are looking for

Poetry

No more than three poems - Free verse or structured, fewer than 40 lines each

Short Fiction

No longer than 750 words

Essays

No longer than 750 words

**All Submissions
Are Due
No Later Than
April 21**

Please bring your submissions to the Columbia Chronicle office (623 S. Wabash, Suite 205). Submissions should be on disk (Word files) accompanied by a manuscript copy and all pertinent information. All disks will be available for you to pick up after May 1. Please call Chris Richert 312-344-7432 or email chronicle@colum.edu with any questions.


Community Service Day



**Wednesday
April 16, 2003
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Hokin Annex**

- **Meet Representatives from various non-profit organizations.**
- **Get information on the federal work-study community service program.**
- **Volunteer for community activities.**
- **Refreshments will be served.**

Sponsored by Student Employment, A division of Student Affairs



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Classes is
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To withdraw from a class go to the Records Office, 6th floor, 600 S. Michigan.

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2003★

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	april	Think womanly thoughts...			
31	1	2	3	4	5
 1-3pm SCREENING—Student works Hokin Gallery 2-3pm Artist Talk: Barbara Bansley Glass Curtain Gallery	1-3pm PANEL: <i>Beauty Myth in the Media</i> with Rose Economeau, Journalism Faculty Beau Beaudion, Television Dept. Faculty Shannon Bonner, Bride Noir Magazine Kat Lovesky, Student Curator of Muliebral Rachel Johnson, Coordinator of Student Organizations Hokin Gallery	1-3pm Evidence—READING. Fiction and Poetry about Women's Experience. Hostessed by Barrie Cole. Hokin Gallery <i>"As a woman I have no country. As a woman my country is the whole world."</i> -Virginia Woolf	7-10pm The Lady Show Inter-Arts Student Performances Curated by JT Newman Hokin Annex 	1-3pm SCREENING <i>Fried Green Tomatoes</i> Hokin Gallery	MULIEBRAL closes
7	8	9	10	11	12
1-3pm SCREENING Monday Documentary Series - Student/artist based works TBA. Conway Center 	 Tic Toc Chicago			1-3pm SCREENING <i>The Color Purple</i> Hokin Gallery	
14	15	16	17	18	
1-3pm SCREENING Monday Documentary Series - Student/artist based works TBA. Conway Center		1-3pm SCREENING <i>Daughters of the Dust</i> Hokin Gallery		1-3pm SCREENING <i>I Shot Andy Warhol</i> Hokin Gallery	
21	22	23		25	26
1-3pm SCREENING Monday Documentary Series - Student/artist based works TBA. Conway Center	1-3pm SCREENING <i>The P.W. A PBS Documentary</i> Hokin Gallery 6-9pm SCREENING & PANEL Documentary Series Conway Center		may	<i>Nil of America's First Ladies closes</i> "The Clear Valley Incident 1615-2003" Photographic Installation by Despina Melnaroglou 72 East 11th Street Rm. 211 6:30-8:00	Reception A&D Gallery 5-6 pm Panel discussion: Do artists have a responsibility to respond to human rights abuse? Does the definition of art change? Moderated by Jay Wolfe
28	29	30	1		2

MARCH APRIL MAY

exhibitions

*Nil of America's First Ladies*An installation that celebrates each First Lady
in American history.Interdisciplinary Book and Paper alum:
Barbara Wynn Bansley**March 26 - May 2****March 28 5-8pm** Opening Reception
Glass Curtain Gallery**MULIEBRAL**Student Women Artists of Columbia College Chicago
explore female identity.Curated by Undergraduate Photography Major
Kathryn Lovesky**March 20 - April 12****March 20 5-7pm** Opening Reception
Hokin GalleryHokin Gallery & Annex 623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, Chicago
Glass Curtain Gallery & Conway Center 1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, Chicago
www.colum.edu/spaces, Strong Women Hotline 312/344-7696Sponsored by C-Spaces and Student Activities, divisions of Student Affairs, funded
by Student activity fees; Pride, a student organization, Department of Film and
Video - The Rabiger Documentary Center, The Fiction Writing Department, Journalism
Department, Interdisciplinary Arts Department and the Columbia Chronicle.

Kathryn Lovesky



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At Attendants may send scripts in advance. Write for the ear and too to video. Get your message across loud and clear. Learn to forge youyour own writing style. By **Abel Dimant**, Former CNNE ExeExecutive Copy Editor, Stylebook author and media critic.



***Writing for Television.** Avoid typical writing mistakes and enhance your chances of making it in mainstream media. What makes or breaks the story. By **John Garcia**, ABC7's general assignment reporter.



***Tape critiques/ Attendants are encouraged to bring VHS tapes.** By Abel Dimant, Robert Pons and Daisy Pareja, media coach



***Media Job Market.** Latino Journalist representative **Daisy Pareja** talks daily to news directors, other decision makers and journalists nationwide, both from mainstream and Spanish language media. She will give you an insight on the current market, what they are looking for, how to better your chances of landing a job in this demanding industry.



***Grab a news director's attention.** Hear the Do's and don'ts for your resume, cover letter and demo tape. What a news director looks for when hiring. What makes him tick and what turns him off! By: **Roberto Pons**, NBC/Telemundo WSNS news director

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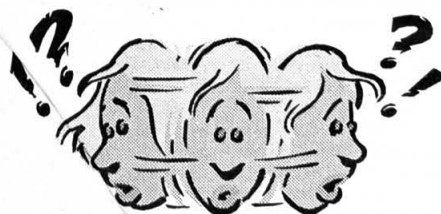
To check this information:

1. Log into **OASIS** (oasis.colum.edu)
2. click on **Student** (upper right-hand corner)
3. click on **Biographical Data** (lower right hand corner)
4. check the information about your Major (and Minor, if that applies).
5. if the information is incorrect, please tell your Faculty Advisor immediately.

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**This applies to students who enrolled in or after Fall 2001 OR are working toward a BFA or a BMus.*

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FREE ADMISSION!

Presented by the Career Center for Art & Media and by the Columbia College Music Department

COMMENTARY

Columbia Chronicle Editorials

Student award revoked for speaking out

Students of all ages around the country have been voicing their opinions about the issues surrounding the war with Iraq. We can walk out, protest and chant because it is our right. But now a university has decided that they have the power to censor it.

Elizabeth Monnin, a senior at Tufts University in Boston, had her Senior Award for academic achievement and leadership revoked after participating in a protest during President Bush's speech at the campus on Feb. 26. The protest drew a crowd of more than 4,800 students, faculty and administrators.

Monnin's rights may not have been taken away, but she was punished for exercising them.

It was the first time the award has been withdrawn in the 48 years that the honor has been given out.

Lawrence Bacow, president of Tufts, was not involved in the decision concerning Monnin. The action was taken by the Tufts University Alumni Association.

The association gives out 12 Senior Awards every year to students "who have excelled academically and who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in campus and/or community activities," according to the alumni association's webpage.

Monnin, who is a double major in women's studies and peace and justice, had fulfilled those requirements during her years at Tufts. Monnin was chosen for the award in part because of her reputation around campus as a political activist. She was part of the Feminist

Alliance, organized many demonstrations and was a very vocal student for various causes.

What did the association expect from a student majoring in peace and justice? But apparently opposing the president was too much.

When Bush began talking about the 1991 Gulf War, Monnin allegedly made an obscene hand gesture toward him. However, she denies the accusation and there is no proof that it occurred.

It should be noted that Tuft's endowment—which currently stands at \$677 million, and goes toward such things as new labs, facilities and faculty—relies on alumni. During the last capital campaign, alumni contributed about \$200 million. So, it would be safe to say that it is important to keep these people happy.

After Alan M. MacDougall, president of the alumni association, received several complaints from alumni regarding Monnin's actions, he asked the committee to reconsider Monnin's award. MacDougall said that his reason for doing so was because Monnin's involvement wasn't the behavior appropriate for a leader. He said that quality leaders are supposed to listen to other opinions and hear what people have to say.

Well, if those are the reasons MacDougall chose to take back her award, then the leadership of the association itself is questionable. They didn't support Monnin's opinion, and they didn't want to listen to her. So they took her award away. What kind of leadership example is that?

Higher education needs diversity

America is a diverse nation, and institutes of higher education need to reflect this mix of cultures. Within the Columbia campus alone, minority students make up 31 percent of the student body, according to the fall 2002 fact book prepared by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research.

Yet since racism still exists, so do the people who try to keep segregation alive.

Stanley Rothman, a professor at Smith College, recently authored a study aimed to prove that diversity causes racial tension on campuses; therefore sacrificing the quality of education.

The survey was administered to 4,000 students, administrators and faculty at 100 different colleges and found that with an increase of African-American students, the educational experiences and work ethic fell.

However, there are many problems with the so-called study.

The fact that the funding for the project came from The Earhart Foundation and the Randolph Foundation is the first biased factor. The Randolph Foundation has financially funded organizations that are against affirmative action and are working to eliminate it, according to their tax records.

Also, the study has not yet made its way into the public eye. It was only published in The International Journal of Public Opinion Research, a peer-reviewed journal, and The Public Interest, a conservative publication. By keeping it among a close circle of supporters, there is no room for perspective and dissent.

More importantly, the results don't take into account why people were against diversity on campuses. The people who were surveyed weren't asked to explain themselves.

According to the study, as the black student population rose, the regard for quality education fell as well as work ethic.

Maybe racism is to blame.

College is supposed to be about new experiences and preparing yourself for the "real world." And part of that process includes leaving your comfort zone. Diversity in higher education should, at the very least, induce the tolerance of other cultures.

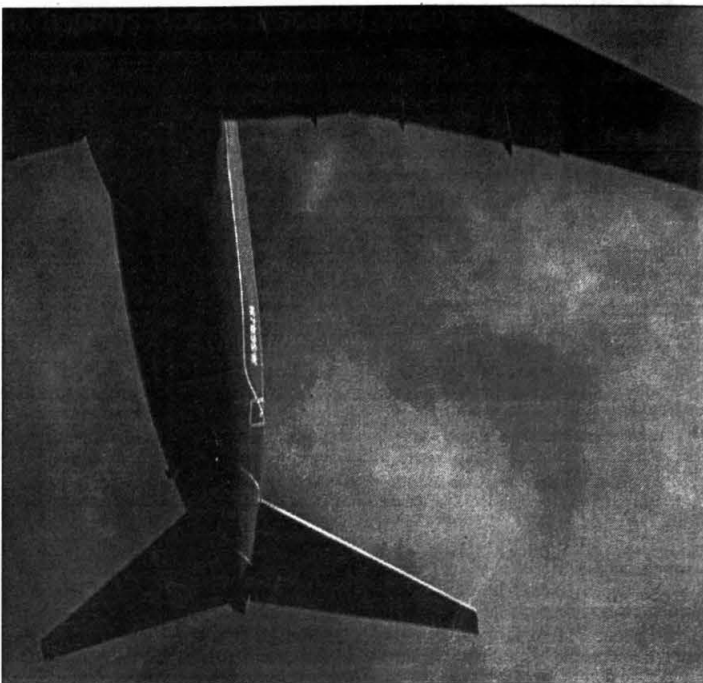
If the results are true, what does that mean for the three percent of universities and colleges that are historically black?

The number of African-American students who attend predominantly white schools is 32.7 percent, according to a study done by Harvard University, which compiled data from 1988 to 1998.

The affirmative action system may need improvement, but without its existence, people could continue to overlook qualified minorities. People have fought for years to be equal. Why revert back to being separate?

Once the level of equality is achieved, methods such as affirmative action can be thrown out. But we are far from that goal. And studies such as Mr. Rothman's are proof of how far we still have to go.

Exposure



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

Bushwhacked! Portraits in history



Donald Rumsfeld: Secretary of Defense

John West/Chronicle

There's nothing like living on your own

By Emily Smith
Commentary Editor

OK, so I admit that I am jealous of the students who live on campus. As I stood waiting for the bus during this past cruel winter, I mumbled obscenities under my breath at my fellow classmates who walked merely blocks to get inside their warm apartments before talking off their scarves, hats, gloves, coats and other necessary frost attire.

I dreaded the ride home, not knowing how long the unpredictable CTA would take to get me there. After a long, exhausting day of classes and headaches and homework, I ached to live closer to school.

But now spring is here. The weather hasn't been quite as nice as I'd hoped it would be, but at least the bite is gone from this windy city. Flip-flops and tank tops are making appearances, and the glimmer of the beautiful weather to come is shining through.

And, like every spring during my three years here at Columbia, my bitter winter attitude melts away and I remember why I appreciate living off campus.

I have learned more than I expected here in Chicago by living on my own.

Students that live on campus have rules

to follow. They have RAs to watch over them and give counsel. Even the number of guests allowed is limited. Sure, they don't have to worry about things like the electric bill, but they also don't know the tricks to cut on heating costs in the winter.

They also aren't forced to learn the CTA. Unless they have a job, they usually don't have much need to travel beyond the Loop area. I have many friends who have used their U-PASS only a handful of times. I, on the other hand, couldn't live without mine. And by having to use it so frequently, I know my way around Chicago. I know the districts, train stops and bus routes.

Students on campus live with other students and have more students as their neighbors. I have lived in two different districts in Chicago, and I consider this aspect a benefit to my college years.

I currently live in the Pilsen district. Pilsen has one of the largest Latino communities and is located on the southwest side of the Chicago River. The culture is thick and took some time for me to get used to, but with so many interesting and different aspects, it didn't take long.

I love the cheap burritos and fresh fruit markets. I like the cute cafés and murals on the buildings. And I like the art galleries and artists.

But there was one thing that I hated, at first.

Right outside my apartment is a structure my roommate and I refer to as "creepy Jesus" because it's, well, creepy. A new sanctuary donated by local artists has been built on the corner of my block. It is an open garden-like area with a miniature fountain and room for worship. There is only one standing wall, and on the side that faces my apartment is creepy Jesus.

It is a carved, wooden depiction of Jesus on the cross with his hands tied. Blood is painted on the bones. And to make matters worse, a light shines up on the structure at

night, giving it a scary movie-like effect—highlighting its creepiness.

Nevertheless, it has grown on me. And, now, I see it as a symbol of how the community has grown on me.

My landlord, Mrs. Rocco, was born and raised in the Pilsen area and has lived in her current building for 54 years. She is an 81 year-old Czechoslovakian who has watched the neighborhood transform over the years.

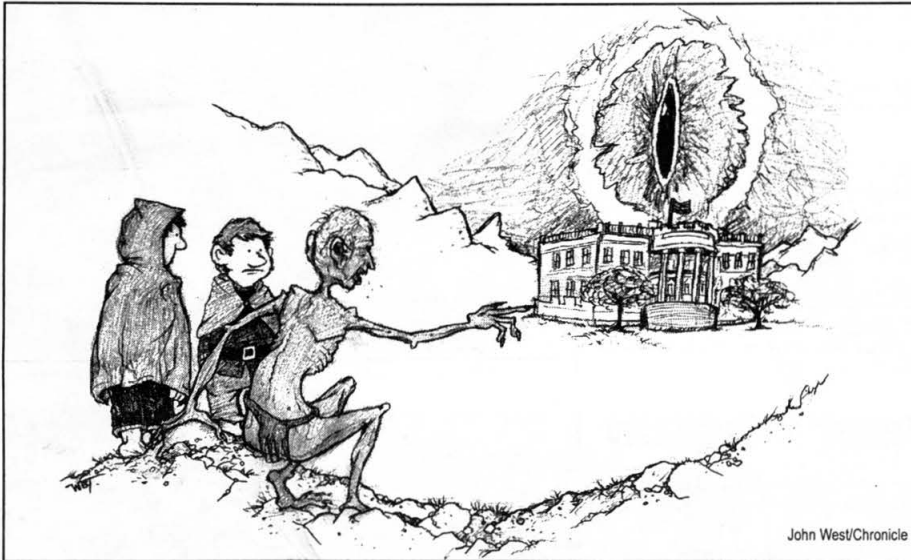
"This used to be a family neighborhood," she said. "Now it's just artists with their dogs. And they never pick up after them. They go right in my flowerpot."

But I like the area. Then again, I am a dog person and I guess I don't have a flowerpot for them to "go" in.

It must be hard for her to see things change. Change always takes time.

For all the students living in the dorms, they will one day have to make the change of moving out on their own. And I hope they make the adjustment smoothly. But I am glad that I have some experience under my belt.

So, now that my time here is coming to an end—and another winter drifts away—I think I have the advantage. I didn't just gain classroom knowledge, but I also gathered valuable life lessons from living on my own.



Look for more opinions online at
www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

The Columbia Chronicle photo poll

Question: What was your favorite childhood toy?



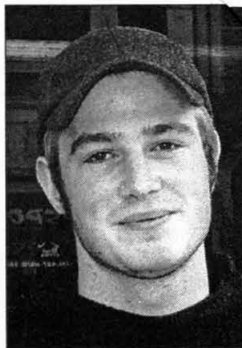
Phil Beckner
Senior/Sound for picture

"The He-Man figure."



Elizabeth Kaiser
Sophomore/Early Childhood

"The Easy-Bake Oven."



Roger Haasroche
Senior/Animation

"Gobots. They were the cheap Transformers."



Natalie Szewczyk
Freshman/Photography

"Legos. You can build stuff and use your imagination."

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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This film is rated "PG-13" for crude sexual content and language.

Passes are available while supplies last on a first-come, first-served basis. One pass per person. No purchase necessary. Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies, and those who have received a pass within the last 90 days are not eligible.

IN THEATRES APRIL 11TH!



These Young Adults
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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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APRIL 7, 2003**

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April 2003

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Immunization Deadline April 11

US born students need:

1 Rubella
2 Measles
1 Mumps
1 DT

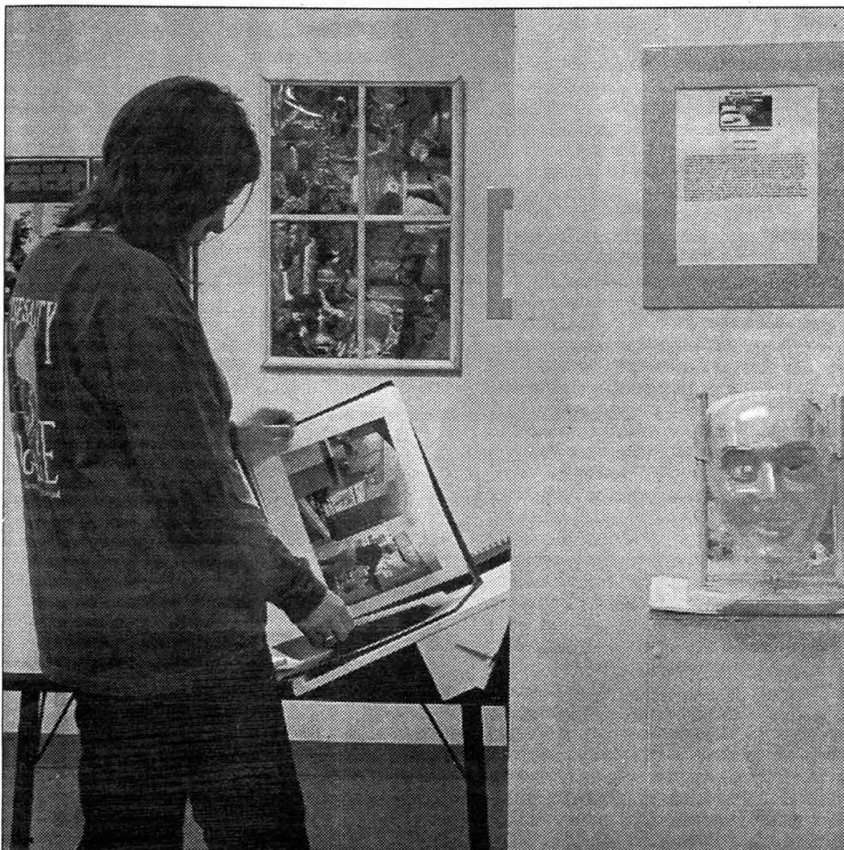
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Submit your complete immunization history to the Records Office.

Honoring senior seminar

○ Alexandroff exhibit displays students' social, personal work



Angela R. Simpson/Chronicle

Senior seminar students show off their talents in 'Creativity with a Conscience: The Alexandroff Exhibit.'

By Jason Lee

Staff Writer

Showcasing the diverse artistic talents of its graduates, the Senior Seminar program held an exhibit titled, "Creativity with a Conscience: The Alexandroff Exhibit," at 33 E. Congress Parkway from March 13-28. A panel of judges awarded cash prizes to the top three pieces of artwork at a reception held on March 19.

The exhibit—named in honor of Mirron "Mike" Alexandroff, Columbia's first president, and his wife Jane—consisted of 42 pieces of artwork displayed in a variety of formats, including listening stations for audio projects and a continuous video featuring student films.

Norman Alexandroff, son of Mike Alexandroff and Columbia's publication director, was active in constructing the exhibit.

"The general premise of the program—to support artists in human service—is absolutely con-

sistent with my mother's life and work," Alexandroff said. "We are delighted at the outstanding young men and women who have benefited from the program."

Jim Hoffman, a film and video major, submitted a 2-and-a-half-minute animated piece for the exhibit. Titled *The Cozomies*, the film is a children's educational program featuring characters named Captain, Leena and Sphinx and their "efforts to defend earth from the malicious Rancor and his evil minions," Hoffman said.

Hoffman said he geared *The Cozomies* toward a second-grade audience, constructing a 13-episode synopsis that he hopes will one day become a full-length show.

"The exhibit is great because it does give you a nice forum to get feedback, and that is very important at this stage," Hoffman said.

Ben Mayer, also a film and video major, tied for third place with his painting titled "Alchemy."

See **Alexandroff**, page 29

Annual festival features student poetry

By Jennifer Golz

Staff Writer

Columbia's English Department will celebrate National Poetry Month with the Fourth Annual Citywide Undergraduate Poetry Festival, featuring outstanding student poets from 10 of Chicago's colleges and universities.

The poetry festival will be held Thursday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

The poetry festival is a non-competitive event designed to bring together students from within the city, to showcase their talents. "This is the greatest hits of undergraduate stu-

dents on any given semester," said Tony Trigilio, the poetry festival's creator and a faculty member in the English Department.

Trigilio came to Columbia four years ago, excited to be in the nation's third largest city. He said he wanted to bridge the gap between the urban schools of Chicago, allowing students to share their work.

"The poet from Chicago State and the poet from Loyola have a lot of geographic miles separating them," Trigilio said. "How often do we get to collapse the miles and get everyone together?"

Of the 10 colleges and universities participating this year, each school is only allowed one

student to represent it. There is no formal list of criteria for the festival, except that students must be chosen from a creative writing program at their institution. At Columbia, students are nominated based on their previous work and class rank.

"We consider it to be a real honor," Trigilio said. "We want to choose someone who represents their school fantastically."

Ric Cleary was nominated by the English Department and will share his works at this year's festival. Cleary was elated when he was asked to be a featured reader. "I'm a little nervous but I think that's good because it forces you to want to do extremely well," he said.

See **Poetry**, page 28

Commentary

(Almost) Banned in the U.S.A.

By K. Ryann Zalewski

A&E Editor

An internal memo from MTV Europe posted on F---edTelevision.com recommended that certain videos should not be played due to the current conflict with Iraq. The memo said that because of public sensitivity to war-related images, videos featuring images such as soldiers, warplanes, bombs, missiles, executions and riots might offend viewers.

The memo went on to list some videos as examples and explained what possibly offensive images that video had. Among the list was Aerosmith's "Don't Want to Miss a Thing" (which has clips from 1998's *Armageddon*), Radiohead's "Lucky," Billy Idol's "Hot in the City" and System of a Down's "Boom!" which was described as "an anti-war video containing facts and figures about, amongst other things, the projected casualties of war."

"Boom!" was directed by none other than Michael Moore, whose anti-Bush comments during his acceptance speech at the Oscars on March 23 were booed by the audience.

The memo is only in reference to MTV Europe and does not apply here in the United States.

However, in a New York Times article, an MTV spokeswoman, who would only speak anonymously, said that America's MTV is "responsive to the heightened sensitivities of its audience."

Serj Tankian, lead singer for System of a Down, said in the same article that while the video for "Boom!" was not being played by MTV in Britain, it is currently in rotation here in America.

While I respect the station wanting to be sensitive to the needs of their audience, I find it ludicrous that certain videos would be singled out for their imagery, the song titles (also on the list is Radiohead's "Invasion") or even the name of the band (the B-52's are also on the list).

And what truly makes the situation more ridiculous are two not so little facts. One, the B-52's name is a reference to the two female lead singers hairstyles. Two, a spokesman for Radiohead told the New York Times that he was unfamiliar with any song by the band titled "Invasion." Obviously, MTV Europe didn't do much homework before writing up this list.

MTV is not the only media outlet watching what it airs. Clear Channel Communications, which owns over 1,200 stations—six of which are in Chicago including WKSC-FM—has been guilty of a similar suggested no-play list.

After 9/11, Clear Channel sent a list of 150 songs that were potentially offensive. The list, created by Clear Channel's Senior Regional Vice President of Programming Jack Evans, included all songs by Rage Against The Machine, Led

Zepplin's "Stairway to Heaven," Don McLean's "American Pie" and even John Lennon's "Imagine."

In a New York Post article from Sept. 18, 2001, Clear Channel executives said, "the list was not an attempt to ban songs, only a guide for programming directors." But luckily for Rage, Zeppelin, Lennon and other rational music fans everywhere, most Clear Channel stations ignored the list.

More recently Clear Channel has been in the news for organizing demonstrations, under the name Rally for America, in support of the war with Iraq. Clear Channel claims the demonstrations are really organized by their individual stations.

However, according to a March 25 article in the New York Times, such individuality is atypical of Clear Channel. The article said that Clear Channel has a reputation "for its iron-fisted centralized control."

All of these suggestion lists, suggest corporate censorship to me.

Journalists, including those at this paper, pride themselves on their ability to write fairly and unbiased; it's one of the main points stressed to us. The only exception is opinion pieces and broadcast commentators—and the audience knows these are people paid to share their viewpoints—like Bill O'Reilly, FOX News Channel's conservative commentator.

But how can the audience trust that coverage of a news story will be unbiased when the media outlet is organizing rallies for one side? How can we be sure the coverage of any conflict won't be slanted, when the company publicly endorses one viewpoint? These are dangerous times when we cannot even trust those who are supposed to give us the straight facts.

Before the Federal Communications Commission repealed the Fairness Doctrine in 1987, broadcasters were required to fairly cover community issues by having a fair balance of all views.

And with Clear Channel's obvious support of America's invasion of Iraq, another suggestion list won't be far behind. Why would a company publicly support a war only to play songs that support peace?

Will Clear Channel create a new list including anti-war songs like the queen of controversy herself Madonna's "American Life" or John Mellencamp's "To Washington"? According to E! Online, the company already is since polls are still showing high support for the war.

Some artists have gone around these stations by posting their protest songs on the Internet. Lenny Kravitz's new song "We Want Peace," featuring Iraqi pop star Kadim Al Sahir, can be downloaded, (oddly enough), on MTV's Rock the Vote website at rock-thevote.org.

See **Banned**, page 28

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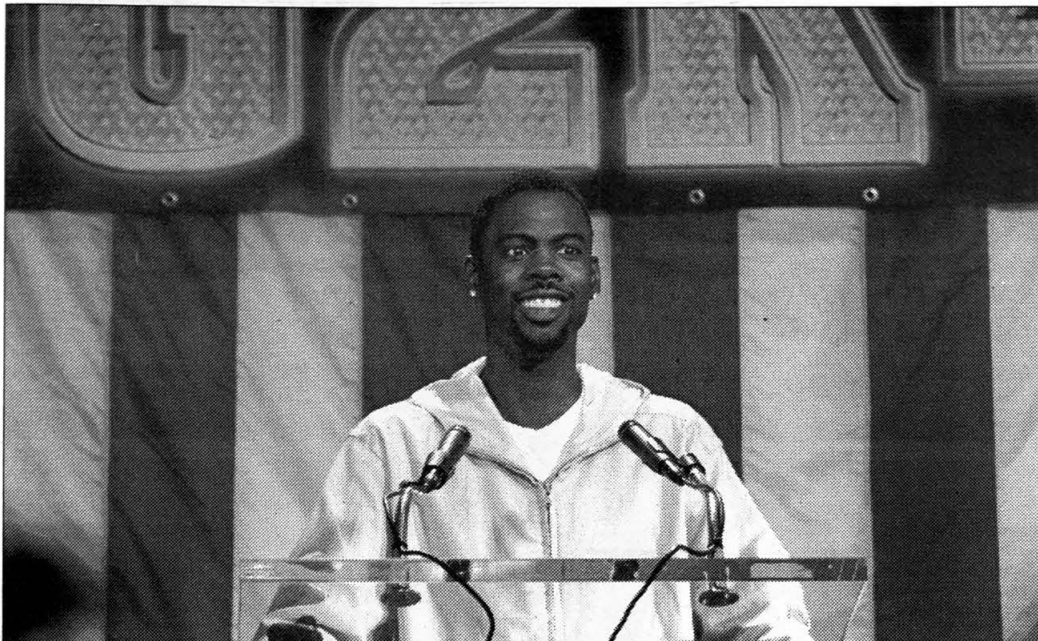
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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH!



Chris Rock gives an impromptu campaign speech in his directorial debut, 'Head of State.'

Photo by Phillip Caruso/DreamWorks Pictures

Between Rock and a presidential race

By Michael Hirtzer

A&E Editor

Where Chris Rock once portrayed a crackhead in the 1991 film *New Jack City*, he can now be compared to a much more dignified rock: Mount Rushmore, where his likeness is carved in stone alongside Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln in *Head of State*.

And while Rock is a registered voter and plays a presidential candidate in *Head of State*, his latest film and directorial debut, he has no further political plans.

"I will never pursue a political career—ever," Rock said. "There's no money, unless you're going to steal it," he added, "You can do so much more. Look at Oprah; she does so much. You couldn't do that as a politician."

Indeed, Oprah can cause even a hardened comedian to lose their cool during her talk show. Rock, who was in Chicago late in March promoting *Head of State*, was in an uncharacteristic misty-eyed condition on "The Oprah Winfrey Show," after segments featuring his mother, wife and baby.

It was a time of reflection for the 37-

year-old comedian-turned-actor, who, after doing stand-up for more than a decade, landed a role on his first film, *Beverly Hills Cop 2*, and then as a cast member on "Saturday Night Live."

And even though Rock wrote and directed HBO's "The Chris Rock Show," getting the green light to direct *Head of State*, the story of an everyman chosen to be a throwaway presidential candidate, was difficult.

"Some people didn't want to make the movie at all," Rock said. "Some people wanted to make the movie, but not have me direct, which was a big slap: 'We think you're funny, but we don't think you're competent.'"

"If you're Tom Hanks," Rock added, "you're collaborating with the highest of the high [studio] people. If you're me, you're collaborating with people from the mailroom. It's rough—movies are rough, man," he said.

It was a learning experience for Rock, who likens directing to managing a supermarket. (To not tire your film crew, you must "look for elevators before you look for locations," Rock said.)

He said his co-star, and fellow commedi-

an Bernie Mac seemed perfect for the part. "We seemed like an old-fashioned comedy team," Rock said.

"You try to keep the drama close to the page and you let your comedy expand and see where you can go with it," Rock said. "It depends on the actors. Bernie Mac, do what you want, you know you let him loose. Nick Searcy [who plays Rock's opponent], you pull back a little bit."

"It's no different than Phil Jackson coaching the Bulls. Michael [Jordan] you do what you want. B.J. Armstrong, you bring the ball up the court—just get it to Michael," Rock said.

Asked if he had any advice for young people, Rock said, "Go to school, don't have a kid until you're married and stay off drugs, and things will pretty much open up."

"Being rich isn't about having money; it's about having options. If you make certain mistakes, it cuts down on your options. Spend your money on drugs, you [have] less options for your money."

"There's no magical path," Rock added. "Nothing remotely special happened to me—I just worked hard and didn't have a kid."

Adcult coming to a newsstand near you

By Kristen Gianfortune

Staff Writer

Columbia's Marketing Communication Department hopes to launch a new student publication dedicated to critiquing advertisements, said Department Chair Margaret Sullivan. With a formal proposal expected to be submitted to the dean at this summer's budget meeting, Sullivan said she hopes the publication will be available on campus by next spring.

Adcult magazine would build off of concepts covered in a course with the same name offered through the Marketing Department.

"[The purpose of] criticizing advertising is to understand it better," Sullivan said. "Critical thinking is part of anyone's education, and marketing communication deserves that kind of attention."

Sullivan said she believes the magazine will benefit not only marketing students, but the student body as a whole.

"To move your oppressions into a world of rational analysis, to teach our students to live in a world of just responding to imagery and responding to impulses into a more rational, conscious understanding of manipulation and propaganda—that would be the goal," Sullivan said.

The department itself has grown tremendously during Sullivan's tenure and this would be one of the largest projects for it to undertake.

"I definitely would [read it], and probably would pay for it, too," said Falon Pherigo, an advertising major.

Pherigo said she would consider working on the publication depending on how flexible the hours were.

"If there was a class for credit you would probably get a lot of students to join," she said.

Sullivan said she was unsure if there would ever be a class offered for the publication, but said the Adcult class already has similarly structured assignments in the course.

About five years ago, Sullivan had the idea for the magazine, but never had enough money in the budget and considered creating it as an online magazine. Sullivan said the department was much smaller then, and "the timing wasn't right to launch something so important and so large. In the meantime, the environment changed, and I think especially because of Stay Free!" (Stay Free! is an independent magazine published by Carrie McLaren about commercialism in American culture.)

Stay Free! is much like what Sullivan said she envisioned Adcult magazine to be, so she decided to rethink the concept of the magazine so the two wouldn't be so similar. She wanted it to criticize advertising without using it in the magazine, but wanted to mimic ads at the same time.

"We're always interested in raising our profile and showing people what we do best," Sullivan said, "and one of the things we do best is examine and understand the fascinating world of marketing communications everywhere."

Sullivan said the entire department staff supports the idea of the magazine. She said it would probably attract students from

other areas of study and that she welcomes the possibility. Ideally, Sullivan said she would like the publication to be free to students, but sold to the rest of the community.

Lauren Schroeder, an advertising major who is currently taking the Adcult class said, "I like it because it shows different approaches to the advertising world as to what people disapprove of." Schroeder said she would be interested in reading and working on the magazine.

Sullivan said many of the assignments in the class are similar to what the content of the magazine would be. Some ideas for the first issue as well as issues to follow include an improvised story told through ads, exploring sex and sexual content in advertising, poetry constructed from slogans and sales pitches, and alternative uses for famous advertising slogans.

"It sounds like something good, something positive," Mario Vasquez, a marketing student said.

He liked the Adcult class and said the concepts he learned help him in his internship. He said he probably would not have time to participate in the magazine, but said it would be beneficial to the Marketing Department because it would shine light on the program and fieldwork associated with the profession.

"The School of Media Arts is acquiring a real central identity pretty quickly. The student body seems increasingly sophisticated and capable of indulging in this kind of work. The students are increasingly [more] productive every year I'm here," Sullivan said.

French fries, Berg and bliss

By Rachel Yeomans

Contributing Writer

Eloquent: that is the word that comes to mind when Elizabeth Berg starts to speak. Berg, 65, is both a New York Times bestselling writer and a featured author of Oprah's Book Club for her novel *Open House* (2000).

She was speaking to friend and fellow author Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, at an event during the Story Week Festival of Writers: In Search of the American Story, on Wednesday, March 26, at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St.

Divakaruni and Berg conversed with the audience, answering questions and going through their history. Divakaruni finished her explanation of her writing style and an audience member asked Berg to explain her own. Berg said, "Boring. Chitra?"

Yet Berg's responses grew in length during the proceedings and even more so when she was back in her hotel room, blazer taken off, sleeves rolled up and room service ordered.

This was Berg's second appearance at Story Week. She has written two writing guides and more than 13 novels. She has received the New England Book Award in fiction, two American Library Association Best Book of the Year Awards, and the AMC Cancer Research Illuminator Award.

However, Berg didn't find her calling to write until after working as a waitress, a rock 'n' roll singer, and a registered nurse. She began writing after winning an essay contest in Parents magazine. She won \$500 and then pursued a career that would bring her not only to the "Oprah" show three times, but also to bookstores across America.

"There are two things," she said while lying back on her hotel couch. "One is that writing is like acting for me. I really do inhabit every character I'm writing at the time to the best of my ability. The other thing is I think it's the job of the writer to notice, to pay attention."

Three of Berg's most popular novels, *Durable Goods*, *Joy School* and *True to Form*, are told from the perspective of a 13-year-old named Katie. Berg recalled how she was once asked how she could write from a perspective of someone so young.

"You know I was 13," Berg said. "So if I jog my memory by a book that I read at the time...or by some dorky outfit I wore, there are myriad details that can open up."

Berg is now expanding her written horizons and working on a screenplay, her first, based on *Durable Goods*, which Sharon Stone will direct.

"She's going to direct for the first time and I'm going to write a screenplay for the first time...so this'll be really interesting," Berg said.

Two of her other novels, *Open House* and *Range of Motion*, were made for television. But Berg didn't participate in the productions.

"I wasn't interested at that point in even trying to write a screenplay," Berg said. "But now I'm trying this because I've seen the scripts of my books before and I wasn't nuts about them. At least by writing the screenplay for *Never Change* I have a little more control."

At 7 p.m., in the Harold Washington auditorium, Berg stood on the stage behind a podium and a large orange banner stretched across its base reading, "Columbia College Fiction Writing Department Story Week's presenter."

"I thought that since I've talked to a lot of students, we would start with a quiz," Berg said jokingly. During her reading to the audience, Berg presented a quiz she was once given. She was given a single sentence and from it she made a story, "Returns and Exchanges." It was about a 58-year-old woman who started a dating service for those over 50.

And the introductory sentence given to Berg was, "It wasn't until she got outside into the sunlight that she realized her socks didn't match, but somehow she didn't mind."

Berg's reading captured the humor and emotion of growing old, past relationships and future hopes. From the narrator Agnes' perspective, Berg provided flashbacks to when the character forgot her underpants in Catholic school. And then she jumped forward to Agnes pondering what heaven would be like: It would have puppies, children who never grew older than five years, fried food floating in the air, pink magnolias and jazz.

Berg told the story in such a believable and accurate tone, that one might think she experienced each thought and feeling of her character.

Her advice to those wanting to follow in her professional footsteps: "Get your love, get your french fries and follow your bliss."

Film festival highlights diverse Latino culture

By Jennifer Golz
Staff Writer

The International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago held a pre-party for the 19th Annual Chicago Latino Film Festival, March 26, previewing the festival, which runs through April 16 and will feature more than 100 foreign films from every genre and three gala events.

This year, the ILCC has decided to hold the opening and closing night galas immediately following the screening of films at Kaleidoscope, 800 W. Superior St.

The film festival kicked off April 4 with the Colombian film *Bolivar Soy Yo (Bolivar I am)* at the Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

At the midpoint of all the festivities is "Noche Mexicana," on Friday, April 11. Watch the film *El Tigre de Santa Julia (The Tiger of Santa Julia)*, a story similar to Robin Hood, in which the main character—while in the company of several beautiful women—robs from the rich and gives to the poor.

Homemade gorditas and drinks cantina-style will be served at the reception to follow; song requests can be made to the mariachi band, Grupo Bolero. There will be special appearances by the director Alejandro Gamboa and actor Miguel Rodarte.

Also during Mexican night, the 2003 Gloria Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Leonardo Niemman, for his contributions during his 45 years in the art world. The award is considered the highest recognition of excellence and success from the ILCC. Niemman's art has resided at the Vatican Gardens, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Albert Einstein Institute and the Museum of Modern Art in Mexico, to name a few.

The closing night gala is on



'Viva Vo (Speaker Phone),' a Brazilian comedy about a man who gets into trouble after the misuse of a cell phone, closes the 19th Annual Chicago Latino Film Festival, Wednesday, April 16.

April 16. The evening will start off with the Brazilian comedy *Viva Vo (Speaker Phone)*, which explores the humorous complications modern technology can create; a cheating husband's wife tracking his every move via his cellular phone.

Afterward, be prepared to samba into the night at Kaleidoscope. African influences from Brazil will be demonstrated from a capoeira team, a traditional form of dancing and martial arts combined. The film's director Paulo Morelli will also be present.

Raúl Merchand Sanchez will return to accept his award at the closing night gala for *12 Horas (12 Hours)*, last year's Audience Choice Award winner at the festi-

val.

In addition to the gala events will be screenings of more than a dozen films, including the three finalists from Columbia's 5th Latino Student Film Festival, chosen in March.

Everybody Dies In It, by Gabriel Feijóo, explores the relationships between corporate religion, consumer drug and fast food consumption.

Imaginary Landscape No. 11, by J. Reynaldo Delgado Román, takes a closer look at the correlation between death and rebirth, nature and architecture, social conscious versus madness and loneliness and contact.

Michael Ryan, by Mario Carrasco, follows the daily strug-

gles of a high school student in Chicago dealing with an untold truth.

The Chicago Latino Film Festival was created in 1985, showcasing 14 films with 500 attendees. Since then, it has escalated to an estimated 30,000 who will attend this year's festival.

The annual festival is intended to promote awareness and understanding about the Latino community. "The Latino community is a profoundly rich culture because of all its differences such as religion,

racism and nationalities," said Pepe Vargas, founder and executive director of the ILCC.

All films at this year's festival will have English subtitles. The official film schedule is available at www.latinoculturalcenter.org. Students with a valid ID will receive a discount off the price of their ticket at the box office the night of each film performance. For tickets or more information about any of the three galas, call (312) 431-1330.

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Weekly Horoscope (April 7-13)

Emotional peak for Pisces

By Lasha Seniuk

Tribune News Service

Aries (March 21-April 20)

Late Tuesday, a powerful wave of sensitivity from loved ones may be distracting. Previously silent friends or lovers may boldly state their romantic ideals and social concerns. Intimacy and new passion are necessary for emotional success. Expect unproductive or stalled relationships to steadily fade. Physical energy or sleep patterns are also unpredictable this week. Get extra rest, if possible, and wait for obvious indications of renewed vitality.

Taurus (April 21-May 20)

Minor health concerns or lagging physical energy will no longer drain social or family confidence. Early this week, expect bothersome skin, digestive or eye ailments to dramatically improve. Some Taurans will also experience a powerful increase in creative energy or artistic awareness. If so, expect romantic and long-term social relations to also be affected. Stay alert. Before next week, increased sensuality and renewed trust will require active dedication and revised social plans.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Love affairs and long-term friendships are particularly rewarding over the next few days. Watch for loved ones and close friends to declare their intentions or commitments. Many Geminis, especially those born between 1968 and 1980, will experience a profound deepening of key relationships. By early May expect delayed romance and stalled relationships to be firmly re-established. Stay focused. Fast emotional decisions will be required.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

This week, business relationships may be unusually emotional or flirtatious. Expect key officials or trusted work mates to express their social needs and long-term romantic plans. New communications will eventually create improved friendships, but also demand delicate social timing. If possible, remain quietly distant and avoid confrontation. After Friday, family finances may be mildly strained. Thoroughly check records, payments or debt schedules.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Late Tuesday, a close friend or work companion may ask for sensitive and highly personal advice. Areas of concern are power dynamics between loved ones or long-term lifestyle choices. Encourage caution. Important life decisions need to be fully considered. Early Friday, also watch for an unusual financial or business message from the past. Old job offers or delayed projects are featured. Take extra time to carefully evaluate all ideas and proposals.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Business policies, financial obligations and long-term property matters will require your immediate attention. Late Monday, watch for important changes to key documents, procedures or workplace methods. Many Virgos will be expected to make sense of past financial mistakes or bring clarity to conflicting business standards. After Thursday, minor home finances may also apply. Watch budgets and spending needs for obvious mistakes.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Avoid social discussions or romantic speculation in all workplace relationships. At present, work mates and colleagues may be extremely sensitive to personal information or minor social dis-

putes. Don't be fooled. Even though an atmosphere of humor and light discussion may exist, underlying resentments will create a lasting impression. After Friday, family or intimate relationships will offer peaceful resolve. Enjoy the company of trusted companions.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Old social wounds and past relationships may reoccur over the next few days. Before midweek, watch for friends, distant relatives or yesterday's loved ones to reappear and demand completion. Although minor jealousies are unavoidable, by the end of this week small disagreements will actually work in your favor. Remain diplomatic. Old ideals, memories or romantic expectations will soon fade. By mid-April, new love will require your full attention.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Past romantic and social delays will be quickly resolved. Beginning late Tuesday and lasting over the next two to three days, expect long-term friends and romantic partners to firmly state their needs, intentions and future plans. Much of this may come as a relief. Watch for stalled relationships to move rapidly forward. Early Saturday, an unusual financial mistake may create mistrust between relatives. Overspending or missed payments are accented.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Early this week, rental agreements, leases or minor financial disputes may be briefly annoying. Monday through Wednesday, react quickly to unexpected repairs or revised property contracts. Some Capricorns, especially those born late in December, will also be asked to clarify banking documents or financial procedures. Oddly enough, money delays or strained work relations will soon lead to dramatically improved business practices. Stay open. There's much to consider.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Friends, lovers and close work mates may be moody and reflective. Watch for unexpected social and workplace delays. Over the next two days, past business records and yesterday's romantic history will have strong effects on daily relationships. Allow others the necessary time to complete past assignments or finalize outgoing relationships. Later this week, discuss your romantic ideas and social concerns with loved ones. New options may soon emerge.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20)

Family relationships are strong concerns this week. Pay attention to the minor criticisms of close relatives or loved ones. Over the next three days, small social irritations could lead to stalled relationships or broken trusts. React with sensitivity to the needs of others. Early this weekend, an unexpected romantic flirtation will draw attention. Mildly unethical attractions or private invitations may soon create controversy. Emotions are high. Avoid unnecessary tensions, if possible.

* If your birthday is this week ...

Business negotiations will work to your advantage over the next 12 weeks. Use this time to review methods, procedures and expectations. Key officials will steadily improve office policies or rules. After mid-July, an important romantic or family decision may be needed. Long-term relationships require careful planning and a new awareness of social goals. By late August, loved ones will either improve their outlook or begin serious changes in their lives. Offer encouragement and expect steady gains. August through November also accept revised financial or career deadlines. Budgets, loans and delayed payments are highlighted.

Warhol's Jackie O. series on display in Dallas

First showing in city where her husband was assassinated

By Susan Parrott

Associated Press

DALLAS—As news photos, the 1963 images of Jacqueline Kennedy as a grieving widow captured the nation, reflecting America's mourning after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. For pop artist Andy Warhol, the photos became the catalyst for his "Jackie" works, a series of paintings and screen prints created between 1963 and 1968 that captured the moments before and after the assassination as she was transformed from glamorous first lady to grieving widow.

For the first time, those iconographic pieces will be displayed at the place of the tragedy, the former School Book Depository where the Warren Commission concluded Lee Harvey Oswald fired the fatal shots at the presidential procession through downtown Dallas.

"Warhol had perhaps the most familiar images that deal with the assassination," said Sixth Floor Museum Executive Director Jeff West, who added that the paintings are best seen in their historical context in Dallas. "No other artist had the kind of immediacy that Warhol created."

The "Warhol and Jackie: Artist and Icon" exhibition runs through Oct. 26 on the building's seventh floor, a newly renovated exhibition space one level above the museum's historical exhibits. The show then moves to the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, opening in time to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the president's death on Nov. 22.

Most of the succession of portraits created by Warhol are screened in black on funereal blue backgrounds.

The first lady, who, like celebrities Marilyn Monroe and Elizabeth Taylor, seemed pursued by the shadow of death, fascinated Warhol.

Tom Sokolowski, director of the Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, said Warhol realized that the president's death and its aftermath would forever be

etched in the memories of Americans.

"He was the most brilliant chronicler of his time," he said. "Everything touched him."

While Warhol wanted to memorialize a horrific moment in history, he thought it would be distasteful to use news images of the president as he was killed, Sokolowski said.

"Hence he embodied everything in the young widow," Sokolowski said.

"This young woman who should not have to suffer as she did, suffered for all of us," he said. "She bore the weight of the nation in her souring face."

The show includes 30 portraits of Jackie Kennedy by Warhol, along with the smiling "Red Jackie" painted from a photo taken before the assassination and two Warhol self-portraits. Loaned by the Warhol museum, most were created in Warhol's New York studio, The Factory, in the months after the assassination.

For the first time, the museum will display its "Flash-Nov. 22, 1963" series of 11 screen prints and accompanying text replicating news wire copy of the assassination.

Dealing finally with the assassination itself, Warhol used news photos to create images of the first couple arriving at Dallas' Love Field airport, riding in the motorcade, Oswald in the Dallas police station and the alleged murder weapon. Finished in 1968 and printed in sequential order, they create the effect of a news story shaded in green, magenta and orange.

"In a way it puts you back in Andy's world," said show curator Richard Brettell. "Even though he wasn't in Dallas, he experienced these events through the media."

The deaths seemed even more tragic because the Kennedys—a handsome, well-dressed couple—were the embodiment of a nation hoping for good fortune, Sokolowski said.

"It was this notion that this was the perfect couple and how can this perfect moment end," he said. "Warhol was not an intellectual artist, but he was an incredibly instinctive artist."

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Animé 'cowboy' rides into Chicago

By Michael Hirtzer
A&E Editor

Cowboy Bebop: The Movie doesn't involve cowboys or bebop, at least not in the traditional sense.

The cowboys are actually bounty hunters, but since the film takes place on the planet Mars in the year 2071, don't expect any horses, chaps or spurs—aside from their presence in the videos the bounty hunters watch. However, there are lots of bloody battles and apocalyptic themes.

Likewise, there aren't any smoky jazz clubs or appearances by Thelouious Monk; however the bounty hunters do have laid back, jazz-cat attitudes—they're hip, cool and unconventional.

Based on the popular animé television series of the same name, which is currently airing on the Cartoon Network, the feature-length version of *Cowboy Bebop* surrounds a biological terrorist

attack on one of Mars' main highways. The Bebop crew, as they're commonly called, jumps at the opportunity to apprehend the terrorist and collect the bounty.

The complicated themes and confusing twists in the film have been compared to those of *The Matrix*, and coincidentally enough the film's director, Shinichiro Watanabe, directed a segment of the computer-generated *Matrix* teasers, *The Animatrix*.

Cowboy Bebop: The Movie premiered on April 4 for a limited engagement at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave. Music Box programmer Brian Andreotti, who is also a part-time History of Cinema instructor at Columbia, said he likes "to present an interesting, eclectic mix of films."

Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust was the last animé film screened at the Music Box Theatre, which is well-known for its screenings of documentaries, cult classics, foreign language and art films.



Photo courtesy of Destination Films and Samuel Goldwyn Films

(Clockwise from top) The Bebop crew: Jet Black, Faye Valentine, Edward Wong and Spike Spiegel.

Banned

Continued from Page 23

Another website, protest-records.com, created by Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore, features songs from mainstream bands like R.E.M.'s "Last Straw" and the Beastie Boys' "In a World Gone Mad," along with songs by independent artists. The site is also expecting songs from Mudhoney and Zach de la Rocha, former lead singer of Rage Against the Machine.

Like I said earlier, I respect everyone's right to choose their music. And yes, any TV or radio station has the right to play anything they want. But the station should make those choices based on input from their audience and not the political beliefs of the executives who run the station. This isn't a hard concept, it's a sim-

ple media rule—keep your audience happy.

But if the TV and radio stations really want to be sensitive to their audience, I have a few suggestions.

R. Kelly, who has been indicted on child pornography charges, should have his songs pulled from the play lists until he is either found not guilty or, if convicted, they should be pulled permanently.

Eminem's songs should be on the list because he manages to insult all groups, including women and homosexuals.

And finally, Avril Lavigne should be included. Not because she really upsets any group of people, but simply because she insults anyone with ears and halfway decent taste.

Poetry

Continued from Page 23

Cleary graduated last fall with a Bachelor of Arts degree in poetry. He plans to pursue a Master of Fine Arts in poetry at Columbia starting in the fall semester.

Each school makes their own choices and nominations for presenters. Columbia tends to choose upperclassmen, but not all schools participating follow the same practice.

Guy Trayling, a freshman studying creative writing and performance at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago said, "I'm excited someone thinks my writing is good enough."

Trayling said he is nervous to perform, but it is a good pressure to have. He said, "Any place I can find a place to read I am more than happy to read at."

"Each school has different aesthetics which change from year to year," Trigilio said. He said the festival is not only for the students, but for the programs to come together as well.

Kate Klein, a senior at Roosevelt University studying English and majoring in creative writing said she is excited to see what other people are writing. "Everyone has a different style and I like to see what people think about my style," Klein said.

"The range of poetry readings you see is phenomenal," Trigilio said of previous festivals. He said it is important to have a diversity of voices and to get an outsider's feedback.

Other presenters at the poetry festival include: Jamie Foltz, National-Louis University; April Kopp, University of Chicago; Douglas Hahn, Loyola University; Brandon Morton, Chicago State University; Zoran Panjak, University of Illinois at Chicago; Michael Tortorich, DePaul University; and Andrew Rawson, Northwestern University.

"This event reaches out to the entire Chicago community," Trigilio said. "The poets are connecting with the audience; there is no barrier between the audience and the poets."

"[The festival] has been everything we have wanted it to be," Trigilio said, "a non-competitive celebration of poetry."

Immediately following the poetry readings will be a catered reception. Admission is free and the festival is open to the public. For more information about the festival, call Tony Trigilio at (312) 344-8138.

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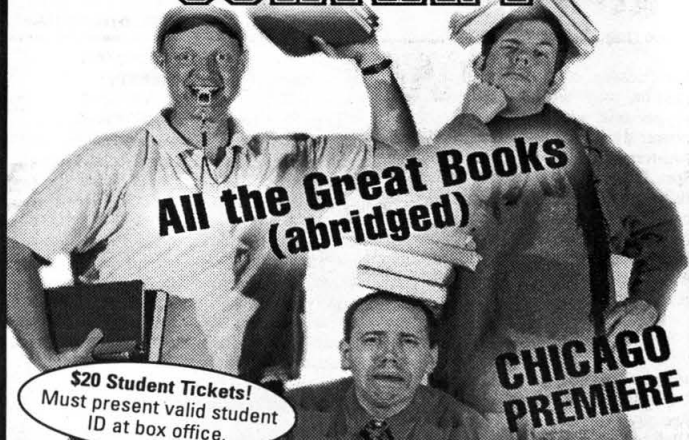
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Computer Game Review

'1893' has history, mystery

○ New text video game takes you inside Chicago's World's Fair

By Nick Wadhams

Associated Press

NEW YORK—So consumed was Peter Nepstad by the 1893 Chicago World's Fair that he spent four years of nights and weekends programming its every facet into a computer game.

The result is *1893: A World's Fair Mystery*, whose idea is surprisingly rare for computer games—the meticulous recreation of a real place, down to the smallest detail.

That Nepstad, who made the game entirely by himself, brought the fair so vividly to life is an achievement more impressive because there is not a single piece of animation or motion-capture video in the game.

A World's Fair Mystery is a text adventure.

Computer gamers usually fall into two camps when it comes to so-called "interactive fiction." There are those who wistfully remember it as the greatest symbol of gaming's promise back in the early 1980s, the single-celled organism at the start of an evolutionary chain still unmatched for its simple elegance.

And then there are gamers who revile it as a tedious, obtuse, stupid frustration whose creators seemed intent on driving gamers into conniptions of fury.

A World's Fair Mystery, thankfully, inspires more feelings associated with the former category. You play a detective on the trail of a diamond thief. But the real character here, and the real story, is the fair itself.

The only graphics you'll get are still photos that date from the fair, an event that for its time produced something unseen anywhere in the world. It was an amalgam of architectural styles and oddities from the then-exotic lands of Asia and Africa, and above all a testament to the rising might of America and Chicago.

Nepstad's job of re-creating the fair was formidable, but also easy because the fair was documented extensively with what was then a groundbreaking new technology: Kodak's portable camera.

Whoever catalogued the fair was about as

meticulous as Nepstad: There are pictures of every sculpture, exhibition hall, fake village, restaurant and pathway, and Nepstad has included it all.

The pictures provide an exact and rustic feel to the game without robbing your imagination of room to roam over a world that exists almost entirely inside your head.

It's tough not to like, partly because the puzzles are generally logical and unobtrusive. I got the most delight just wandering around, taking a tour programmed into the game, looking at every possible object and reading the bountiful description of each.

Every time I did so, I marveled even more at how much passion Nepstad put into the game. A technical writer, he said he has long been fascinated by the World's Fair—fascinated enough to make the game and distribute it on his own nickel. Copies are available on his website for \$19.95.

A World's Fair Mystery suffers a few of the old text adventures' faults.

They went extinct in part because it was easy to get lost unless gamers meticulously drew out maps of the game world. A rare few players found that enjoyable; the rest quickly fled to the far more navigable graphic adventures that had begun appearing in force.

But nitpicking with *1893* seems profane.

A car lover wouldn't, for example, complain that a 1968 Ford Fairlane gets worse mileage than his new Toyota Prius, or doesn't protect urban cowfolk as well as the Hummer H2.

A World's Fair Mystery proves convincingly that the best games aren't about razzle-dazzle special effects or cheap gimmickry. They're about story, character, and especially here—location, location, location.

Nepstad's creation is a wonderful journey back to the heady, early days of gaming, when the best titles, though they could fit on a floppy disk, painted beautiful pictures with words.

Don't fret about system requirements. "I haven't actually been able to locate a computer on which it wouldn't run," Nepstad said.

Alexandroff

Continued from Page 23

Depicting a performance by a hip-hop artist, the blue painting "captures an actual moment that took place through the filtration of myself as an artist," Mayer said.

Mayer said he used the name "Alchemy" to represent his opinion on the current state of hip-hop. "Early alchemists were divided into two brands," Mayer said; one group believed alchemy was a "spiritual process," while others saw it as simply "the transformation of metal into gold."

This is similar to the two "schools" of hip-hop that exist today, according to Mayer. "One school [of artists] chases money and fame," while the other school seeks "heightened consciousness" through the music.

Next to "Alchemy," a listening station was available with an audio presentation by Paul Williams, an instrumental music major. Titled "Alone till it is Love: An Anagram," the improvised piece featured "small or short music ideas looped over and over, which is similar to minimalism," Williams said.

Overall, Williams said he was pleased with the experience. "I plan to make music for the rest of my life," Williams said. "This gave me a chance and forced me to compose something."

Meredith Accardi created a collage composed of "newspaper clippings,

Polaroids, photographs, plastic wrap, Xeroxes, oil paint, glass, metal and rubber cement." The combination of these elements "create a message that visually communicates power in our society and throughout the world," according to Accardi. "Art, I believe, is my generation's biggest asset and we must utilize it in every aspect for as long as we can," Accardi said. "I want my piece to affect people."

According to Bill Hayashi, director of Senior Seminar, the judges used specific criteria when choosing the winners. "Social significance and the depth of personal meaning [are important]," Hayashi said. "The artist also must be aware of his or her audience, which shows [the judges] how well the piece works."

The reception turned out to be a success, according to Hayashi. "There was a lot of interest in the artists' statements," Hayashi said. This exhibit "gave us a window into the intention and spirit of the [students'] work."

A \$400 cash prize was awarded to Kelsie Huff for her performance piece titled, "Papa Smurf is Dead." Other winners included a three-way tie for second place, including Joe Compean's photograph and protest sign titled "A Small Sign of Hope," D.B. Mann's video titled *Revealing Persephone*, and Ben Mayer's painting titled "Alchemy."

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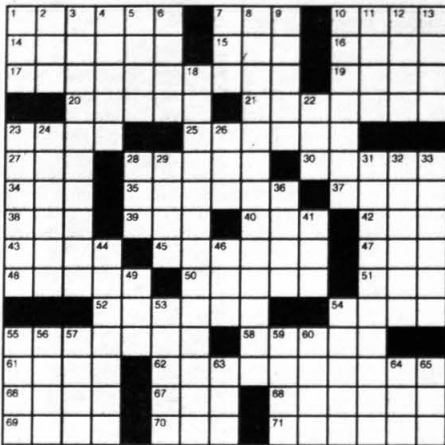
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21 Dazed states
23 Hollywood figure
25 Under control
27 Org. of Flyers and Jets
28 Fragrant bloom
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48 Cicero, e.g.
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61 Passageway
62 Mail stairways
66 Prod
67 By way of
68 Hawaiian dress
69 Resting spot
70 So far
71 Beach south of Clearwater

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2 Actor Wallach
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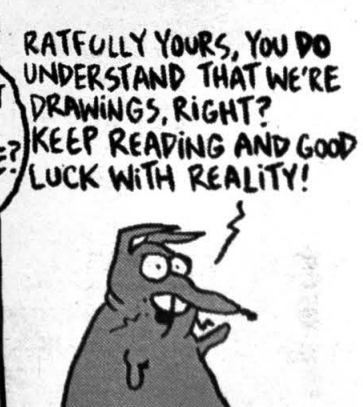
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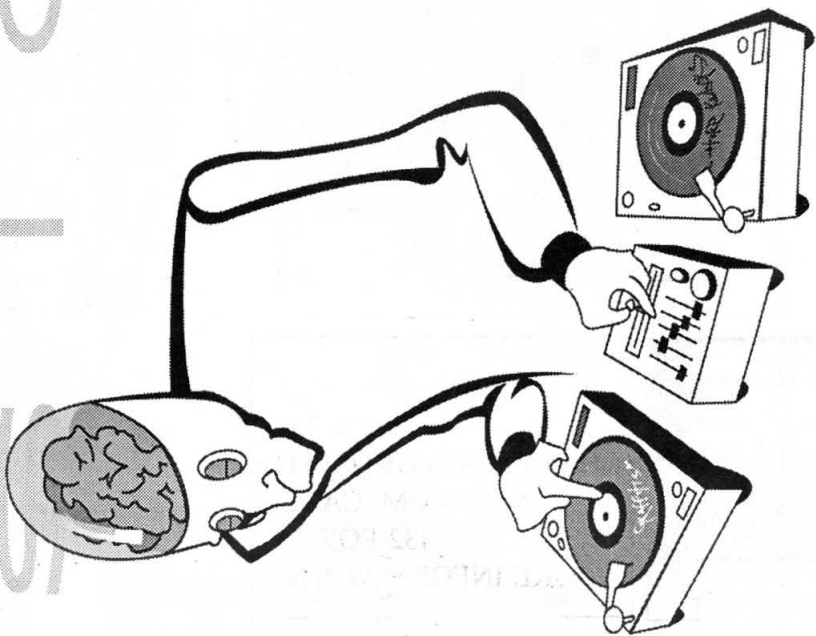
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IN THEATRES WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH!

'Star Trek' franchise future unknown

By Allan Johnson

Tribune Wire Services

When "Star Trek" premiered in 1966, William Shatner, as Capt. James T. Kirk, stated the Federation starship Enterprise's "five-year mission to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations, to boldly go where no man has gone before."

When the spinoff series "Star Trek: The Next Generation" premiered in 1987, Patrick Stewart, as Enterprise Capt. Jean-Luc Picard, uttered the same manifesto, reworked in part so that the "five-year" mission became a "continuing" one.

But five series, 10-movies and countless book, cartoon and comic book interpretations later, many say the 37-year-old franchise's "continuing mission" may in fact be discontinuing, based in part on poor box office returns for the movie *Star Trek: Nemesis* and falling ratings for the television series, UPN's "Enterprise."

The "Trek" franchise is facing new challenges to its popularity that its producers, as well as industry watchers and fans, believe are worse than a war with the Klingon Empire.

"I think [producers] might want to take a breath and reflect on what they've done all these years," said Kate Mulgrew, who for seven seasons played Starfleet Capt. Kathryn Janeway on UPN's "Star Trek: Voyager." "Trek" fatigue may be partly to blame for the franchise's uncertain future," said Starlog magazine editor David McDonnell.

Understandable, considering there are hundreds of hours of "Trek" television, starting with the syndicated "Next Generation" in 1987, and continuing with the syndicated "Deep Space Nine" in 1993, UPN's "Voyager" in 1995 and UPN's "Enterprise" in 2001.

And this doesn't include the 80 episodes of the original NBC 1966-1969 series or NBC's Saturday morning cartoon starting in 1973 with the original actors voicing their characters.

Some 10 years after "Star Trek" went off the air, *Star Trek—The*

Motion Picture bowed in 1979, the first of 10 films that would deal with two separate crews roaming the galaxy in a massive spaceship bearing the name Enterprise.

The film series generated more than \$1 billion.

However, *Nemesis*, the fourth film to feature the "Next Generation" cast, only made \$43 million at the box office after its December 2002 premiere, by far the poorest showing for a "Trek" film.

"I don't even know if Paramount can even explain it," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of the tracking firm, Exhibitor Relations, of *Nemesis*' performance. (Paramount officials wouldn't comment.)

"It was very disappointing," said Rick Berman, executive producer and guiding light of the franchise. "The reason for it is very hard to put a finger on."

Besides a dwindling fan base that is getting older, many questioned opening *Nemesis* only a few days before *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, and a few weeks after the huge opening of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*.

"I think that could have hurt us, but I don't want to blame it on that," Berman said.

Meanwhile, "Enterprise" ended its 2001-02 season averaging 5.8 million viewers, higher than the 4.6 million that tuned in to "Voyager" during its last season on UPN.

But the series, about the first crew of the starship Enterprise 100 years before Capt. Kirk, is now averaging 4.3 million viewers.

Ratings are down across the board for UPN, Dawn Ostroff, the networks entertainment president admitted. Plus, the excitement for "Enterprise's" premiere has leveled off.

"If you follow the pattern of many of the 'Star Trek' series, 'Voyager,' 'Enterprise,' so-on and so-forth, many of them have a very similar pattern, in that they start off in a very strong condition, and then they start to come down and settle into the core viewers," Ostroff said. "We were realistic about where the numbers would be this year."

Berman said that "Star Trek" sat-

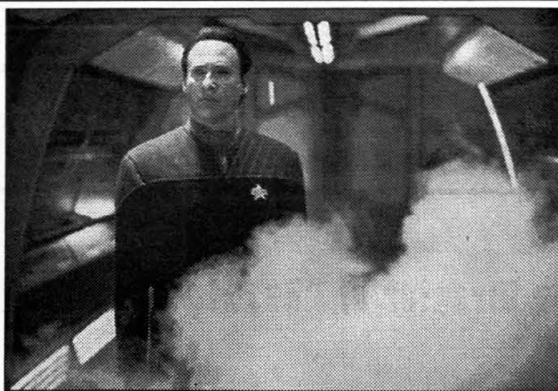


Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

The popular 'Star Trek' character Data had his fate sealed when he was killed in the latest film 'Star Trek: Nemesis.'

uration is a reality.

"When 'The Next Generation' began, it was the first 'Star Trek' show in 20 years," he explains. "[Enterprise] is the fourth 'Star Trek' show in 15 years." Almost 600 episodes have been done since "Next Generation," he added.

Between 1992 and 1999, there were two "Trek" shows on the air—"Next Generation" and "Deep Space 9" from 1992 to 1994, and "Deep Space 9" and "Voyager" from 1994 to 1999. And as soon as "Voyager" went away in the spring of 2001, "Enterprise" followed in the fall.

"It might have been a better idea," McDonnell said, "if 'Voyager' had ended and 'Enterprise' didn't start right up, even though 'Enterprise' is good"—a notion Berman agreed with.

"I'm just tired of learning about a whole new set of characters with new characteristics," said Michael Cornett, professor of communications at Loyola University, and a "Trek" fan.

Kristine Huntley of Evanston, Ill., moderates an "Enterprise" chat on www.trekbbbs.com. Talk among fans is of "discontent" with the series.

"It's kind of a little static," said Huntley, 25. "It's just very the opposite of the ideal of the original 'Star Trek,' which was groundbreaking, and it would challenge people's ideas and do stories that were really the allegories of things that were happening in our world."

"On 'Enterprise,' they're still doing space stories, of course, but they're not groundbreak-

ing, they're not thought-provoking, they're not challenging to a viewer and a viewer's idea."

Cornett added that, "each series has had to offer some things that were new. And that would be a real challenge to come up with something new now."

In addition, the franchise has competition.

"It's not just 'Star Trek' anymore," McDonnell said. "Back in the '70s, there wasn't a lot of science-fiction on television. So you had to be bloody grateful that there was 'Buck Rogers in the 25th Century.'"

"There's so much other science-fiction on television" now, McDonnell said of shows such as "The X-Files," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Angel," "Stargate SG-1" and more.

"Star Trek's" most visible presence is obviously through TV. "Staying true to the heart of the franchise while reinventing it is the key to keeping a franchise viable for years and years to come," said Thomas Vitale, senior vice president-acquisitions, scheduling and program planning for the Sci-Fi Channel.

"I think killing Kirk (in *Star Trek Generation*) hurt the franchise a little bit. Series that end bad don't always repeat or work as well in syndication."

"But now you've killed Kirk and you've killed Data (the popular "Next Generation" android character in *Nemesis*), so when you watch the old repeats, it isn't as much fun to watch these characters that you know end tragically."

With all the talk about how impaired the "Trek" franchise is, many still feel it is an enduring one that can be a sustaining force for years come.

"My 'Janeway' answer to that would be I certainly hope [the franchise isn't dying]," said Mulgrew, who contends that "Trek" is "the only science fiction on television that is essentially mythology with a moral epicenter."

"I think you will always see a passion for the content," said Kathryn Thomas, associate director for Chicago-based media buyer, Starcom Entertainment. "'Star Trek' will continue to [have a presence in licensing and merchandise] because at its heart and core there is such a loyal fan base."

So far now, the viability of "Trek" rests with "Enterprise."

"I think we're turning in wonderful programs" Berman said, "and I think we made the right choice doing a prequel, and going back to the beginning, to the kind of *Right Stuff* time where people are truly going where no man has gone before."

"The re-imagining and re-creating and starting from a new point has been, I think, a great shot in the arm for it," said Scott Bakula, who plays Enterprise Capt. Jonathan Archer on the series.

"How we go from here in year two and move through, hopefully, a few more years of this and take the franchise to kind of a new place, is really in the hands of Rick and Brannon." (Braga, the show's co-creator and executive producer with Berman).

Bakula added, "Our mission was a peaceful exploration. Well, that's great, but I don't know that you can build that kind of TV series in this day and age for a long period of time. So I think what you're going to see is a different kind of energy come into the show that's going to give it a little more weight."

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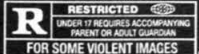
—Steve Ringgenberg, HEAVY METAL MAGAZINE

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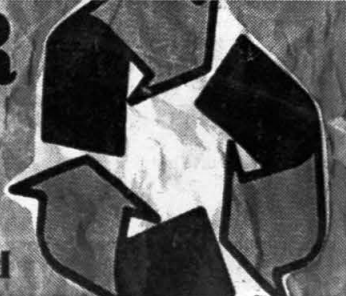
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CITY BEAT

Scuba shop remains solid as economy takes dive

○ **Magnum Scuba serves as South Loop's link to the ocean**

By Lisa Balde

Assistant News Editor

There's a portal to the ocean hidden in the South Loop. Just two blocks west of Lake Michigan, around the corner from the Burnham Park Pet Hospital and up a small, narrow stairway just off of East 11th Street, there's a passport to another world.

Thousands of miles away from the nearest ocean, Mike Parnell's Magnum Scuba—at 14 E. 11th St.—has been an unlikely fixture in the South Loop for eight years. And, with the declining drop in the economy and a depleting interest in travel after 9/11, maintaining a scuba shop can prove to be a challenging endeavor.

At first glance, the colorful rack of travel magazines and the deep blue underwater mural covering the wall in the entrance of the shop could lead one to believe that Magnum Scuba is simply a good place to book a cruise or get some information on a traditional summer family vacation to the Florida Keys.

But the plethora of photos filled with smiling divers that are spread throughout the store gives it away.

Offering an array of diving classes and deep-sea expeditions, Magnum Scuba caters to a niche that beckons just enough mystery and intrigue to attract a healthy clientele. And that clientele can include anybody as long as they show an interest in diving, according to Mike Parnell, the owner of Magnum Scuba, who takes pride in the fact that he and his small, dedicated staff will teach anyone how to become a skilled diver no matter what their initial level of their skill is.

"If you make a commitment to diving, we'll make a commitment to you," said Mike Parnell, who has been a certified master dive instructor for nearly 15 years and currently teaches diving at Northwestern University.

Parnell started his first "dive shop" in 1982 in Maywood, Ill. to take a break from life and put to use the activity that he's loved ever since he was a child.

At the time, diving was a popular pastime activity, so Parnell doubled business and moved the shop to St. Croix.

Then, just over eight years ago, Hurricane Hugo hit the island, and Parnell decided that it was time to move back home to Chicago.

Sitting in the back office of the present Magnum Scuba, the only one left remaining of his three stores, Parnell seems like he runs the place virtually by himself. None of his staff is on payroll. Working like "contractors," Parnell said, the eight or 10 people who have worked with him since the 1980s get paid for the work that they do as they do it. And Parnell stressed that, even though he facilitates everything, they do a lot of the work—from running the web site, to teaching classes, to hosting diving trips.

"I think it's a terrific shop," said Evelyn Jones, a dive master and travel coordinator at Magnum Scuba. "It adds diversity to the South Loop that nobody else offers."

Ted Melant has worked as an instructor at the shop since 1986. Parnell was the one who certified Melant to teach, and the two have been friends ever since.

"I love the activity so much," he said. "[Magnum Scuba] is there to teach people to enjoy the underwater world."

Parnell's love for diving is apparent as soon as he utters the word. With a huge grin, he talked about his many trips around the world as a diving instructor, the history of his business and the large offering of programs he has to teach anyone to learn and love to dive.

Even if someone walked in off the street—according to Parnell, they often do—and said they wanted to dive, Parnell would place them in a class the next day.

Beginners start out with classroom work and lectures to prep them on the safety that an activity like diving constantly demands of its participants. Students then hit the pool for their first taste of a simulated diving experience.

Magnum Scuba offers seven- and three-day intensive classes for basic diving certification, but if a student still needs more work after the sessions are over, Parnell will continue to train them free of charge.

Every year, Parnell and his staff take groups of student on diving trips all over the world. At the beginning of every year, the Magnum Scuba asks their clients where they would like to travel, and based on their suggestions, the trips are set up. The last expedition explored the depths of Thailand in 16 days for a cost of \$2,700.

Parnell even offers a savings system for clients to book a spot on the trip in advance and pay for it in small incre-



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

Mike Parnell, owner of Magnum Scuba, has been a master diving instructor for nearly 15 years.

ments up until they go.

As a result of the decline in tourism Magnum Scuba is one of the last scuba or dive shops left in Chicago. This year alone, 11 shops have closed.

But, with a database full of customers and a 1,000-person mailing list, Parnell feels comfortable with his store being in the emerging South Loop neighborhood.

"We want to expand to the islands," he said.

Once the economy brightens, Parnell aspires to use his present store as a feeder for a store he plans to open closer to the ocean. He also plans to put a diver boat in Lake Michigan so his clients can finally explore the nearly 1,000 sunken boats beneath the lake's surface.

"I'm living my dream," he said.

A small group of about six activists gathered on March 18 to protest the killing of a U.S. woman in occupied Palestinian territory two days earlier.

Rachel Corrie, 23, was run over by an Israeli bulldozer driver attempting to raze a Palestinian home. The activists contend that Corrie was doing nothing to provoke the attack, but a spokesman for the Israeli Defense Forces told Ha'aretz newspaper that she was part of a group "acting very irresponsibly, putting everyone in danger." Corrie was wearing a red windbreaker in pictures taken by the International Solidarity Movement of the event. She died from fractures to her skull, legs and arms.

Members of the ISM and other activist organizations demonstrated in front of the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest at 111 E. Wacker Dr., starting at noon. Hoosier Dara, one of the protesters, held up a poster with pictures of Corrie—and several of her death—glued to it.

Matt Gaines, 26, said he organized the event. Gaines is a member of the Chicago Coalition Against War and Racism, and said the protest was a call to the Israeli government to investigate Corrie's death.

"Rachel's death has hit many of us very hard," Gaines said. "While we understand that thousands of Palestinians have been killed, seeing someone who decided to give up their own comforts here and risk their life to help the defenseless really brings home the brutality of the occupation."

—Georgia Evdoxiadis



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

OFF the BLOTTER

- A gas station in the 1200 block of South Wabash Avenue was reportedly robbed on March 16 at 7:50 p.m. But, no one at BP gas station, the only business of that kind in the area, could confirm that the incident occurred.
- A car was stolen from the First District Police Department's parking lot on March 19 at 1:45 a.m.
- Aggravated battery was reported in the 600 block of South State Street on March 15 at 10:13 p.m. A similar crime was reported the same day in an alley in the 600 block of South State Street at 3:30 p.m.
- On March 17, simple battery in the 600 block of South State Street was reported at 9:15 p.m.
- On March 13, \$90 was stolen from Movietime Home Video, 900 S. Wabash Ave., according to Shane Stanley, an employee at the store. The theft was reported at 3:30 p.m.
- A similar incident was reported on March 14. In the 600 block of South State Street, more than \$300 was stolen.
- Criminal trespass was reported at a grocery store in the 1200 block of South Wabash Avenue on March 14 at 4:24 p.m.
- A weapons violation occurred in the 600 block of South Wabash Avenue on March 14. It was reported at 7:39 p.m.

Compiled by Lisa Balde through data provided by the Chicago Police Department.



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

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CITY BEAT

Da Bears, Bulls together at last

○ **Comiskey home plate, curse of Billy Goat included in sports nostalgia**

By Nicole Caragiannides
Staff Writer

For those Chicago sports fans who want to look back at the glory days, a new exhibit allows them to admire six Chicago Bulls' championship trophies, the Chicago Bears' Super Bowl and NFL championship trophy and the Chicago Fire's championship trophy under one roof.

The Chicago Historical Society's new exhibition "Chicago Sports! You Shoulda Been There," allows fans to take a nostalgic trip through Chicago sports history.

The 6,000-square-foot gallery is divided into four areas that represent the stadiums of Chicago—Wrigley Field, Comiskey Park, Soldier Field, and the Chicago Stadium/United Center. The exhibition boasts an impressive collection of Chicago sports memorabilia that society officials said have never been shown together.

"Chicago Sports" is more than a collection of pictures and trophies. The exhibits were designed to remind people of their lives and community during the time period.

"We didn't want people to walk in and just see artifacts—we wanted people to connect with the stories," said communications manager, Marty Cusack. He said that "Chicago Sports" is the result of five years of hard work by the employees of the CHS.

Some of the pieces shown are part of the CHS, but many are on loan from the teams, private collectors or, in some cases, the players themselves.

Walking into the exhibit, the first area highlights the history of Soldier Field. Although most people picture the Chicago Bears when they think of Soldier Field, the Bears did not start

playing there until 1970. The pictures on the wall showcase some of the events the stadium hosted before it became the home of the Bears, such as rodeos and ski jumping. The section also holds one of the two theaters that show a documentary on the Chicago stadiums made by the History Channel.

The next area is dedicated to Comiskey Park. This section contains pictures of the 1919 Black Sox in court with their lawyers. It also has Shoeless Joe Jackson's signed affidavit.

There are also pictures from the first All-Star Game that was played in Comiskey in 1933, which was originally held to attract fans from the World's Fair that was being held in Chicago at the same time.

The exhibit features the home plate from the old Comiskey Park, which was torn down in 1990 to make way for the park now known as U.S. Cellular Field.

Through a corridor that is meant to look like a CTA train car, you enter the Wrigley Field area. Among interesting tidbits about the history of Wrigley is the story of the curse of the Billy Goat.

William Sianis went to the fourth game of the World Series in 1945 with his goat, Murphy, and was asked to leave; he was so upset that on his way out he put a hex on the team. The Cubs went on to lose that game and eventually the World Series, the last time the Cubs made it to the series.

The last part concerns the Chicago stadium. It houses three autographed Michael Jordan jerseys, his Olympic team jersey, his Birmingham Barons minor league baseball jersey and his No. 45 Bulls jersey. The Chicago stadium also hosted the Harlem Globetrotters who, despite their name, were founded in Chicago.

The "Chicago Sports" exhibit will run until Jan. 25, 2004. The Chicago Historical Society is located at 1601 N. Clark St. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for students (13-22) and seniors (65 and older). For more information, call (312) 642-4600 or visit www.chicagohs.org.

Pub stands up to gentrification

○ **Where 'a workingman's palace' once stood, South Loop Club remains**

By Lisa A. Skoczen
Contributing Writer

Chicago's South Loop has been home to many businesses and restaurants that have come and gone, but at least one building has stood the test of time. Since 1988, the corner of South State Street and East Balbo Drive has been home to the South Loop Club, a neighborhood restaurant and sports bar.

The owners, Nick Vranas and his brother Leo, purchased the building in 1986 after the building had been vacant for 25 years. They fixed it up and tried to sell it.

Due to the location and other factors, including the Pacific Garden Mission at 646 S. State St., no one would purchase it, Nick Vranas said. Instead,

they turned the dilapidated property into a restaurant that served neighborhood and Loop patrons.

The top floors of the building, 701 S. State St., house the Carter Hotel, which rents rooms to single-month tenants only.

The building's history can be traced back to the 1930s, when an Italian family owned the property. During the 1950s, the Carter Hotel was a "showboat lounge."

"It was a working man's palace," Vranas said. "It had dancing girls, [a] bar and entertainment." Years later, the first floor was changed into a barbershop.

The changing demographics of the South Loop, along with Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley's avid plan to clean up the city, have spawned a gentrification effort in the South Loop.

"[The bar is] really misplaced demographically," said Joseph Belknap, a worker at the bar. "But it's a local establishment and it's really busy at night."

With the building of the condominiums along State Street and the construction of the University Center of Chicago, the South Loop is changing drastically. Because of its proximity to the Pacific Garden Mission, there are many homeless people in the area.

"The homeless are a bother. Black, white, it doesn't matter," Vranas said.

The clientele of the South Loop ranges from the middle-aged to college students, neighborhood residents to police officers and construction workers.

As the years progressed, Vranas said they changed the menu to adapt to the customers' liking. Nights are the busiest time because it's a sports bar, especially when there are college or playoff games scheduled.

Hanging on the wall is a large sign promoting a college basketball game with beer specials and raffles for those who come to watch.

On a typical Friday night at the South Loop Club, patrons who are just getting off work will come in to grab a bite to eat, hang at the bar and catch the game.

"I recognize the regulars. I like talking to the tourists," said Cheryl Porter, a waitress at the restaurant.

When there are events in the Loop, such as parades, festivals and races, business booms.

In the Loop...



Chris Coates

News Editor

The tourists were scared. Their trip up the Magnificent Mile suddenly turned ugly. Now a cavalry of police vehicles, horses, officers, protesters, camera crews and onlookers blocked the route to their hotel. And they thought Baghdad was fearsome.

Beneath the Water Tower, a homeless fellow made another round. A police officer, clad in a flak jacket, smoked a cigarette. The helicopters circled over Lake Michigan as thousands of protesters became trapped.

Looking at the steps (or lack thereof) that police officials took in preparing for the protest, one would hardly know the impact of Abbey Hoffman or the Haymarket Riots on Chicago's history.

Back in November, Chicago Police officials said they spent weeks (and millions of dollars) strategizing exactly how they would handle the onslaught of thousands of TransAtlantic Business Dialogue protesters in the Loop. They planned and they tested their theories at mock protests at O'Hare.

And by the time the real protests rolled around, the Chicago Police handled the thousands of demonstrators with calm, authoritative might. No looting. No riots. Nothing. It was a peaceful evening—the polar opposite of the events on March 20.

On that night—the first full day of U.S.-led attacks on Iraq—tens of thousands took to the streets, initially at the Federal Building, before closing Lake Shore Drive and amassing at Chicago and Michigan avenues.

Pity the city and its officials—especially the city council, which moved to oppose a war with Iraq.

If thousands came out of the woodwork for a meager business meeting, who did Superintendent Hillard think would come out for a declaration of war? Surely, the protesters would simply have a latte and call it a night.

What happened was utterly predictable. When the United States began an unprovoked attack on Iraq, some would protest—a privilege that is, for the most part, guaranteed by the Constitution.

The only caveat is this: It cannot disrupt others. A simple clause, one that is universally understood. Unfortunately, the war protesters of March 20 violated this crinkle in the First Amendment. What good would a protest be if it didn't disrupt?

And herein lies the problem. With the protesters taking over the streets and city officials caught utterly off guard, Chicago police overreacted—detaining more than 500 folks caught in the mayhem.

Were the arrests justified? Perhaps. Did the police overreact? Perhaps. Was it right? Absolutely not.

But the scene at Michigan and Chicago avenues was, as protests tend to be, awfully surreal.

At the foot of the Water Tower, the only significant structure to survive the Chicago fire, and within the grasp of the snobbery of the Magnificent Mile, somehow—through some obvious tear in the cosmic lining of logic—10,000 protesters found themselves trapped between a Walgreens and the Ralph Lauren store.

But in all of the mayhem, something was potent about this entire din and screaming: It was democracy at work. Tourists from North Dakota, working stiffs from Midlothian, college students in every direction. No matter what side you're on, it was an impressive sight.

However, the novelty will wear off. The anti-war faction will realize that the troops are not returning. Their voice was merely a whisper in the so-called movement to liberate Iraq.

Indeed, the push should now move to supporting our troops—a group that has more right than any of us to complain about the rigors of war. This will be a hard pill to swallow for the anti-war group. For some, the fact that a president who wasn't elected by them is sending us into a war that wasn't needed is a sad affair.

Then again, knowing your opinion wasn't heard by the Bush administration should be nothing new. Just ask the United Nations—they're dealing with it right now, too.



Angela R. Simpson/Chronicle

Natalija Versinina and Thomas Jones are part of the wait staff at the South Loop Club, a neighborhood pub since 1988.

Remembering tragedy



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle



Brian Morowczynski/Chronicle

In a benefit on March 26, attendees honor the 21 victims who died in the E2 nightclub stampede last month with a benefit concert entitled 'Triumph Over Tragedy Memorial Benefit Concert.'

Sharon Pass (above) sings Celine Dion's 'My Heart Will Go On' as part of the memorial.

Yuneq'ka McNeal and Wisdom Mahon (background, left) perform for the crowd gathered to honor the patrons who died.

The concert was held at Isaac Hayes restaurant, 739 N. Clark St.

DaShand Ray, a former Columbia student, was one of those killed in the crowd at E2.

Gas fires sparking concern

○ Stations warn of static electricity while filling up

By Janille M. Miller

Contributing Writer

Some drivers get shocked when they pull up to a gas station to refuel their vehicles. Why? Not because of rising gas prices, but because of a dangerous spark that could result in a fire when refueling a running car.

"Although it is rare, this is a serious problem," said Bill Fleischli, executive vice president of the Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association.

In the last few months, several people have been seriously injured while pumping gas into their cars, either while the engine was on or while the key was turned to auxiliary.

In most cases, the driver places the nozzle on automatic and returns to the car as the tank refuels. When the pump stops, the driver then reaches for the nozzle and a static discharge occurs, igniting the vapors and causing a fire.

First and second degree burns to the face, hands and upper body are the most common injuries sustained by fire.

In many instances, the vehicle completely caught fire and, in at least two cases reported by the Petroleum Equipment Institute, the pump and nearby building were completely destroyed. There has also been one death, according to the incident report listed on PEI's web site.

In cities where winters are brutal, many people sit in their cars to stay warm while refueling their gas tank. According to a March 2003 report by the PEI, most accidents occur between November and March. During winter months, the air is drier and static electricity occurs more often, which can spark a fire at the point of refueling.

"There are currently no Illinois laws mandating that gas stations display signs to customers about static danger. It is completely up to the vender," said Brenda Fox, comptroller for the IPMA.

BP Amoco, headquartered in Chicago, recommends turning off the engine before refueling.

Riliwan Ojelade, assistant manager at a BP Amoco gas station located at 1221 S. Wabash Ave., said the static warnings have been on pumps at his station since opening last summer.

"All we can really do is post the warn-

ings on the pumps. They [the customers] have to read the warnings and practice caution around the pumps," Ojelade said.

Several fuel pump manufacturers have taken steps to prevent static sparks from occurring at pumps. Accurate Tank Technologies in Naperville manufactures, services and installs gas hoses with static discharge wires running through the hoses.

"This works if the tank being pumped into is metallic, preventing the electrical bonds from transferring to the nozzle," said Steve Berning, president of Accurate Tank Technologies.

A measure that is currently being considered by gas stations is the use of anti-static stickers located on each gas pump that customers would touch before touching the nozzle. This would transfer any static electricity that may be on the individual onto the sticker.

However, the anti-static sticker has not gotten the stamp of approval from PEI because of fears that the sticker will divert the customer's attention away from signs warning about other hazards such as smoking at the pump.

According to BP Amoco's web site, leaving the engine on can cause "electrical leaks from old spark plug leads or other electrical wires can cause a spark." There have been about 100 reported cases nationwide of static spark fires in the last four years. Five cases have been reported in Illinois.

"We want to keep those numbers down," Fleischli said. Before refueling, Fleischli suggests taking a few extra minutes at the pump to read the warnings that may be posted.



Heather Morrison/Chronicle

Static electricity has been determined to cause fires at some gas pumps.

Despite mission move, radio show won't be 'unshackled'

○ Emotional drama the basis for longest-running show in radio history

By Michael DesEnfants

Staff Writer

Although there is uncertainty about the future of the Pacific Garden Mission, officials from the century-old shelter said that "Unshackled" will continue to broadcast its message across the globe every week.

Over the last 52 years, "Unshackled," the longest-running radio show in broadcast history, according to its web site, is recorded out of the Pacific Garden Mission every week.

The religious drama has aired 2,741 shows, according to Dudley Donaldson, the program manager for "Unshackled" for the past five and a half years. While a good share of stories have come straight from the mission, many others have come from sources around the world.

The city has been trying for nearly eight years to move the Pacific Garden Mission from its current location at 646 S. State St., according to Donaldson.

"Unshackled" is now heard on 150 stations around the

world, in 147 different countries and in four languages.

Donaldson said he is sure that the show has touched more lives than he will ever hear about.

"We hear over and over and over again from people that say the show relates directly to their lives. That their suffering had been changed because they prayed to Christ," he said.

The idea for "Unshackled" came from Harry Saulnier, who was the superintendent of the homeless shelter over 50 years ago. He believed that there were people outside of the mission that needed help, Donaldson said.

"It was his desire to be able to reach people outside of the mission. To help them with anything they needed. Back then, the homeless were troubled with alcoholism. They were jobless, hopeless, and [Saulnier] had the facilities to help," he said.

Donaldson said that Saulnier believed that the homeless needed a slice of religious faith; to let the faith of Jesus Christ into their lives.

Saulnier's idea turned into a half-hour radio show that would take stories of recovery and use emotional drama as a form of broadcast entertainment. In 1950, "Unshackled" aired on WGN-AM and continued to air live for five years, Donaldson said.

Donaldson said the show is still recorded and pre-formed the way it was 50 years ago—in front of an auditorium of people at the State Street mission.

"In the beginning, we had about four or five actors,

someone playing keyboard, a sound effects person, and back in those days, that meant banging anything that made a sound.

"The announcer/director tells the story of someone's life. How they grew. Where they came from and how they got there...the alcohol abuse and at what point of the struggle they heard the gospel," he said.

Although many of the stories face the same struggles of drugs and alcohol abuse, Donaldson said that "every story is different, and every life is different."

And, although the city has plans to expand the neighboring Jones College Prep onto the mission grounds, Donaldson said that "Unshackled" and the mission are optimistic they will relocate and continue.

"We are not concerned with the city. We are confident that God is in control, not us or the city. Whether it is here or someplace else, God has a plan," he said.

"Unshackled" is recorded in the auditorium of the mission, and Donaldson urges Columbia students to attend the Saturday evening recording. The show airs on Sundays at 6 p.m. on WMBI FM.

"People have come from all over the country to see the production," he said. Donaldson said that a woman recently visited the radio show's set to celebrate her birthday.

For more information on "Unshackled" or the Pacific Garden Mission, visit the web site at www.unshackled.org.