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Columbia Chronicle (09/27/2004)

Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Columbia College Chicago's weekly newspaper

Views mixed as corridors get 'blitzed'

○ Second wave of 'Blitz' planned, but needs funds

By **Kristen Menke**
Managing Editor

Seven of Columbia's 13 buildings underwent cosmetic overhaul this summer as part of the "Corridor Blitz" project, an aggressive painting and carpeting campaign designed to unify Columbia's South Loop campus. But the "Blitz" has garnered mixed reactions from the school at large.

Spearheaded by Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment, "Corridor Blitz" uses neutral colors and asymmetrical designs to create an artistic feel. The goal of the \$1.2 million project, according to Berg, was to create a cohesive look, but honor the artistic side of the students and faculty at Columbia.

"When I first got here, it didn't really look like an art school to me. There wasn't sort of a look; it looked a little outdated, a little frumpy," Berg said. "I wanted to have an impact quickly, so I proposed the project and worked with a variety of different chairs from around the school and kind of said, 'We're going to do this.'"

Reaction to the project has run a broad spectrum of opinion.

"I think it's bad taste and I'm not quite sure how a fresh paint

job that expensive is going to benefit the students," said Jenny Seay, a full-time secretary and graduate student in the Fiction Writing Department. "If they're going to try to improve the buildings ... it seems like it would have been more intelligent to remodel the classrooms as well as the hallways, focusing on one building a year."

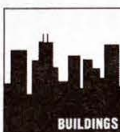
"They need to tone it down. You get off the elevator and it practically takes the wind out of you," said Linda Naslund, an administrative assistant in the Fiction Writing Department.

"In my building it's gray and dark blue. When you first get off the elevator it's too dark. It looks like a hospital or a jail," said junior television major Brad Chielewski.

"I think it's not as bad as everyone makes it out to be," said Patty Templeton, a junior fiction writing major. "They should have saved the \$1.2 million and had students do it. It would have given students something to put on a résumé and saved the school money."

While there are critics of the summer project, some in the Columbia community welcome the changes to the urban campus.

See **Corridor Blitz** Page 10



Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

While most of Columbia's buildings undergo a facelift with new paint jobs, the second floor of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., undergoes a 'footlift' Sept. 14 as part of the 'Corridor Blitz' campaign.

Nice hat...



Tina Wagner/The Chronicle

Mark Kelly (left), vice president of student affairs, appears on stage with juggler John Scheurich during Columbia's New Student Convocation celebration on Sept. 24. For the full story on convocation, see page 5.

Staff battles for union

○ College says a 'direct relationship' with employees is a better plan

By **Scott Carlson**
News Editor

Columbia's pro-union staff members are one step closer to forming an independent union.

After garnering support from other staffers, the United Staff of Columbia College, a group of full- and part-time staff members, received the opportunity to vote for unionization. The election, slated for Oct. 14, will take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m., and will be held in Room 311 of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., and Room 835 of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Mark Lloyd, assistant vice president of communications and marketing, said the college, while not endorsing unionization, is encouraging eligible staffers to turn out for the vote. Because the election needs a majority vote, according to Lloyd. If only three staff members show up, and two elect to unionize, those two would be responsible for everyone else paying union dues, Lloyd said.

"The results are binding on all those in the group, even if they elect not to vote for [the union]," Lloyd said. "We think it's important to have people have a voice, and that means they need to get out and vote for what they want."

Columbia received notification from the National Labor Relations Board that the National Education Association and its Illinois chapter,

the Illinois Education Association, filed a petition on Sept. 8 for an election to represent the US of CC. If the election turns out in favor of the staff members, the staff members' union would be an independent, autonomous local, represented through the NEA and the IEA, which also represents P-fac, Columbia's part-time faculty union.

While the date has been set for the vote, the decision for who is eligible to vote has not been decided.

"There will be some discussion about which employees are eligible to vote," Lloyd said. "Our definitions and their definitions may or may not be in alignment. I don't know what they are, but we want to make sure we both agree on which employees should be eligible to vote in that election."

The election is a small victory for the US of CC. The group voted to affiliate with the IEA in November of 2003, but was unable to be certified with the NLRB until at least 30 percent of the staff showed interest in being represented by a union, a percentage they achieved earlier in the year.

According to Tom Suhrbur, an organizer in the Lombard office of the IEA working with the US of CC, the main reason for the staffers' push for unionization is to gain collective bargaining rights and have more input into decisions, what

Suhrbur calls "democracy in the work place."

"Everything [the staff members] have is at the will of the employer," Suhrbur said. "When you establish a bargaining unit, the employer cannot unilaterally change things at will. If there are going to be any changes in future, once you've established collective bargaining rights, it has to be bargained with the representatives of the bargaining unit."

Columbia's position, on the other hand, is that while they respect the rights of employees seeking unionization, maintaining a direct relationship with the staff members is a better solution for addressing their needs, according to Lloyd. Lloyd said the benefits package of workers at Columbia is one of the most robust on the market.

"Every year, we compare our benefits structure versus competitors in the marketplace, and we believe it's a strong one," Lloyd said. "That includes paid time off, our health insurance benefit, our retirement ... [and] we obviously look at salaries as well, to look at our competitive place in the market place, so we think we are competitive with what other folks do, certainly in terms of private industry."

Before the election, Columbia President Warrick L. Carter scheduled a number of meetings for staff members to discuss the college's position on unionization, which began Sept. 23.



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this week



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'Scuse me while I pay this fine

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A&E

The section goes solo

See the new pull-out section!



City Beat

Lights, camera, museum exhibit

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Andrew Greiner

Editor-in-Chief

An eye for change

Since I transferred to Columbia, one year ago, I have thoroughly enjoyed going to school every day. I mean the actual trip. First of all, the el beats the heck out of Southern Illinois University's bus system, and I still get excited about the fact that I walk down Michigan Avenue to go to class every day, although the walk from the Library stop down VanBuren Street to Michigan Avenue in the Chicago winter can sting the cheeks a bit.

It's enjoyable to see how much the scenery changes along the way. Beside the tracks of the winding Brown Line, there are new businesses opening and old ones closing, there are new condos going up and there are buildings that have burned down. Some people call this gentrification; some call it progress. I just get to watch it from my window seat on the train.

Chicago's scenery changed pretty dramatically this summer with the opening of Millennium Park. A wild pavilion and a giant bean permanently joined the landscape of Chicago. Pretty soon a new Trump Tower will muscle its way in with some serious heavyweights, as far as skyscrapers go. Yes, things are changing around town.

The walk from the train station to school has been just as entertaining as the ride. All last year I watched as the "Superdorm" took shape, curious about how nice it would be inside, and eager to see if this grand experiment of housing three schools in one place works out. Doesn't "Superdorm" sound like reality TV waiting to happen?

But the "Superdorm" is nice,

I toured it this summer. All the rooms have a new car smell and the furniture is virgin. The enormous cafeteria, game room and great location do make me a little envious of the more than 600 Columbia students that reside there. Although I can smoke cigarettes and drink alcohol in my North Side apartment if I so choose—a luxury no Columbia student in the University Center will share.

At close to \$1,000 a month, it is probably safe to say that the "Superdorm" will be a lot more expensive than the single-room-occupancy facility that's going up across the street from the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. This should be another entertaining experiment—low-income housing in the middle of a steadily growing campus—that students can watch through the windows of the Hokin Gallery.

Speaking of a growing campus, the school's enrollment now tops 10,000, which means that Columbia has about one-fourth the attendance of a sold-out Cubs home game. We acquired a new building that used to be called Universal Bowling Supplies, which is now periwinkle. As a matter of fact, the campus is starting to become more defined thanks to the various shades of purple paint that now adorn random Columbia exteriors. How exactly periwinkle became our school color is a mystery to me, but if it was the result of a vote, I think we should demand a recount.

But all the paint is just a signal of the change at Columbia, and there has been a lot of painting this summer, if you hadn't already noticed.

At first, the prospect of spending the summer working at Columbia seemed dull—since it

was my last summer as a college student, I could have probably thought of a few things more exciting than covering a school with barely any students—but in retrospect the experience was quite interesting. I was able to witness most of the summer changes, like watching the Torco sign come down. I don't know why, but I couldn't help but feel a bit melancholy after watching that old sign get sliced up and carted off.

But that's how it goes. Regardless of sentimentality, things have to change. The Greek philosopher Heraclitus said: Change is the only constant. That might be true, and The Chronicle was not immune to summer changes. Much to the editors' chagrin, we did not get that giant metallic bean for the office.

We did, however, give birth. The Chronicle staffers are now proud parents of a new A&E section. Poor thing kept the A&E editor up all night last night. I know everyone will think it's so cute that they just have to pick it up.

The A&E section may be the most visible, but it is not the only alteration here. Being a student paper, The Chronicle inevitably goes through a changing of the guard each year, and this year's staff looks outstanding. We're all excited to make this the paper's best year ever.

Finally, I would like to mention one other change to the newspaper. Me. For the next 30 weeks you will see my smiling face in the upper left-hand corner of the page and a new e-mail address at the bottom of this column where I encourage you to direct all of your compliments or complaints.

—agreiner@chroniclemail.com

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A&E Supplement

Announcements

■ Farewell, fellas

Chairman of the department of Art and Design, Jay Wolke submitted his resignation papers. The resignation is effective at the end of the 2004-2005 school year. Wolke's contributions include expanding the Art and Design Department to include 1,400 majors, making it the second-largest department at Columbia.

A committee will be assembled to search for Wolke's replacement early in the fall semester. Wolke will be returning to Columbia in 2006 as a full-time member of the Art and Design Department.

Rich Prouty left Columbia last week almost five years after he began. Prouty served as an administrative assistant for the Center for Teaching Excellence and has managed many school programs, such as the New Faculty Orientation and many seminars for the CTE. Prouty plans on pursuing improvisational theater, and his first stop is Bar Harbor, Maine.

■ Book and Paper looks good for its age

The Center for Book and Paper

Arts turns 10 this year. A group of local artists started the center in 1994, and it has grown quite a bit since then. The center has grown to a 20,000-square-foot building in the Printers' Row area and is decked out with studios, a darkroom, a computer lab and classrooms. To celebrate the big 10, the center is holding an exhibition of 47 artists' works. The exhibition takes place at the Center for Book and Paper Arts and runs from Sept. 10 to Oct. 23.

For more information, go to www.bookandpaper.org or call (312) 344-6684.

■ Quirky artist hits up Columbia

Thanks to the Art and Design Department, local artist John Phillips is bringing his abstract work to Columbia. The exhibit runs Sept. 30 to Nov. 6 at the Art and Design 11th Street Gallery, 72 E. 11th Street. The artist will be displaying his works from the '70s to the present. Usually using oil and wax as his medium, Phillips' work currently exhibits at the Bodybuilder and Sportsman Galleries.

For more information call (312) 344-6156.

Weather

AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Chicago

Monday, Sept. 27		
	Sunshine and patchy clouds	High 73° Low 55°
Tuesday, Sept. 28		
	A good deal of sunshine	High 73° Low 52°
Wednesday, Sept. 29		
	Sun and some clouds	High 73° Low 51°
Thursday, Sept. 30		
	Sun mixing with some clouds	High 74° Low 51°
Friday, Oct. 1		
	Partly sunny	High 75° Low 50°
Saturday, Oct. 2		
	Some sun, chance for a t-storm	High 75° Low 48°
Sunday, Oct. 3		
	Cooler, a mix of clouds and sun	High 67° Low 43°

All forecasts provided by—
AccuWeather.com—©2004

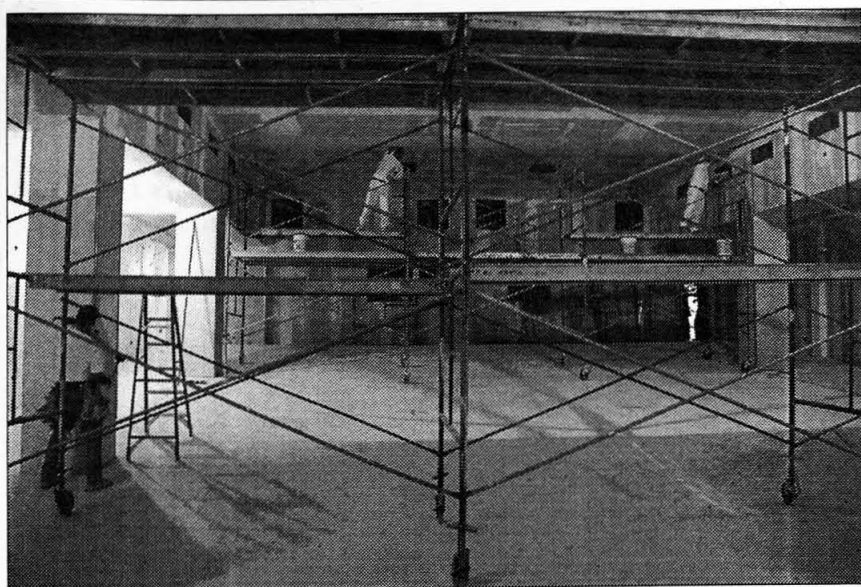


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IN THE AWARD-WINNING
COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

September 27, 2004



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Drywallers continue working on the new screening room on the eighth floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The facility, which is expected to offer around 250 seats, will likely be completed sometime in mid-October.

Columbia on the mend

○ Sprinkler systems for Columbia buildings on tap over the next 10 years

By Scott Carlson
News Editor

Over the summer, Columbia invested \$11 million in capital for building improvements and deferred maintenance. Nearly \$4 million has been spent on continuous repairs and maintenance for the elevators in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, South Campus Building, 624 S. Wabash Ave., and the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

According to Mike Debish, associate vice president of Facilities and Operations, the repairs are expected to reduce the constant maintenance the old elevators required during the last school year.

"When a replacement or an upgrade starts costing as much as you're paying each year for maintenance, it makes sense to do the upgrade," said Debish. "In a perfect world, they should be able to run, if they're well maintained, for 70 or 80 years."

Although Debish said the maintenance was scheduled almost a year-and-a-half ago, the repairs only began in June.

"The reason we had to wait until June was it meant taking one car, if not two cars, out of service to replace and repair them," Debish said. "Try to do that with a full student population in the building and you'd have a revolt."

Debish said that by the end of the 2004 spring semester, Anderson Elevators, the company Columbia has a maintenance contract with, had people at the school almost around the clock to keep the elevators going, especially with the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building elevators, which Debish said were in the most dire need of repair.

After the spring 2004 semester ended, Debish said all three elevator cars in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building were removed and the revamping began. The school originally intended to work on one car in the summer of 2004 and do the remaining two next summer, but the schedule unexpectedly became hectic.

"There was enough wailing and gnashing of teeth that we decided to bite the bullet and do all three cars this summer," Debish said.

Debish said the first car was successfully running by the end of August and it is now running reliably. The second car is expected to be operational by the second week of October and the third by the end of November or early December.

The elevators in the South Campus Building, formerly the Torco building, are currently going through an upgrade, but Debish said he was promised that two of the four elevators will be operational in time for the first week of school. Debish said the remaining two will continue to run, although they will not operate any more efficiently than they did last year, mainly because the upgraded elevators cannot communicate with the old cars.

"When you have two elevators that are upgraded and two that aren't ... and you hit the down button, both the new elevators and the old elevators will chase that call, which is not the most efficient method in the world," said Debish. "But there will be two reliable cars running for the 2004 year, and in June we're going to take the two remaining elevators out and replace them and hopefully have them running for the start of the next year."

The elevators in the 1104 Center, which have been repaired and are currently running (with some minor glitches), were the only elevators originally slated for repair at the same time this summer, Debish said. Because the building has two virtually brand new elevators in the rear of the building—which were installed two or three years ago—and all of the building's elevators need to function for life safety operations, he said it just made sense to fix all three at the same time.

While safety and efficiency concerns necessitated the full overhaul for the 1104 Center elevators, Debish said they were also completed to complement another of the maintenance department's new

additions: a new screening room on the eighth floor.

New screening facility

The screening room, a \$2 million project designed by SAS Architects and currently being built by general contractor Brown and Associates, is expected to be complete by mid-October. According to Charlie Celander, manager of technical services in the Film and Video Department, the facility will offer more than 250 seats, making it the largest screening venue on campus, beating the capacity of the Ferguson Theater in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., by 90 seats, according to Susan Babyk, executive assistant in the office of Campus Environment. It also bests the Art Institute's Gene Siskel Film Center screening theaters, the largest of which seats only 197, according to Rebecca Burgess of the Film Center.

The new screening facility will feature state-of-the-art picture and sound, Celander said, including digital cinema projection and every traditional 35mm film format, from 2.35:1 anamorphic (scope) widescreen, to 1.85:1 (standard movie theater size), to 1.66:1 (the European format), to 1.33:1 (the common TV screen format).

Outside of the screening facility, the rest of the eighth floor will be developed just as much. The floor will have an area for holding receptions before and after screenings, including a coat check area, a kitchenette for refreshments and food preparation, and three breakout rooms. Celander said the screening facility will probably have the ability to feed video from the main screening facility to the breakout rooms, used for either separate, smaller showings or for overflow from the main room.

"If we have a visiting film director ... it's quite easy to max out the capacity of a room if you have some big names," Celander said. "We're going to have video projection in each of the three breakout rooms, and we'll be able to feed that source over to those rooms

See Maintenance Page 12

University Center financial outlook less than 'super'

○ Managing fees, lack of retail space raise concern

By Mark W. Anderson
Commentary Editor

Citing cost overruns for management fees and increased insurance expenses, an investment ratings agency has reduced its outlook on the financial health of the University Center of Chicago, known as the "Superdorm."

Fitch Ratings, an agency that evaluates corporate bonds, said over the summer that the bonds created and sold to finance the construction of the building at 525 S. State St. may be less attractive to investors in the future if larger-than-expected costs associated with the building are not brought under control. Fitch released its report in July, before the building opened but after revised budget numbers were released.

Acknowledging that there were issues to address, Dr. Warrick L. Carter, Columbia's president and chairman of the nonprofit organization that owns the building, said that increased efforts to reduce costs and increase revenues are already underway. He pointed to security costs and a slower-than-expected pace of retail space rentals as contributing factors in the budget shortfalls.

"We have worked diligently to address [Fitch's] concerns," Carter said.

"We have reduced our budget, and are working on increasing revenues and cutting expenses."

The "Superdorm" houses students from Columbia, Roosevelt and DePaul universities, and is owned in part by all three schools.

Fitch changed its ratings outlook from "stable" to "negative," and expressed concern over the ability of the Educational Advancement Fund, which owns the building on behalf of the schools, to meet the terms of the bond issue in the future. The actual ratings on the bonds, however, remain unchanged.

One of the primary issues Fitch identified in changing its outlook was the relative inexperience of U.S. Equities, the management firm hired to run the building.

"Fitch is concerned that the management contract is with U.S. Equities, a firm that does not have experience in managing student housing facilities, thus creating the need to sub-contract for services such as residence life programs," according to a July press release from the agency.

Pam Clayton, senior director of Fitch and one of the analysts who

issued the outlook, said that a 40 percent increase in management fees raised red flags at the agency.

"If they have a 40 percent increase in this line item—management fees—which is the largest increase in the budget, we're concerned," she said. "The problem is that they budgeted \$850,000 for this expense, but it is now \$1.2 million. If they had an offsetting decrease, we wouldn't have been worried."

Carter is confident that as a result of efforts to cut costs and increase revenue, the building will meet all of its financial expectations in the coming months. In addition to cutting costs, he pointed to the likelihood of increased revenues from retail leases as a big boost in meeting the goal.

"We haven't been as successful as we had hoped in renting out the retail space," he said. "At this point, we only have two signed contracts and two others in negotiations. Our budget, when we sold the bonds, was optimistic in that we thought we would have

all of the spaces rented by opening. We moved the process of leasing the retail spaces in-house from a third party, which should help."

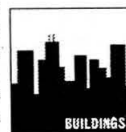
For his part, Carter has also praised U.S. Equities

and its selection as the University Center's manager.

"U.S. Equities is clearly one of the major firms in managing property in Chicago," Carter said. "They manage millions of square feet of commercial real estate. What they have done, to their credit—since this is a new business for them—is they have brought on board people who have years of business experience in this activity. The group they have managing the building is well seasoned."

Fitch is expected to review the matter once again in the coming months, when it will issue a revised rating on the bonds themselves, instead of just an outlook on the financial health of the building. Revised bond ratings are considered significant events for investors.

"All three schools have been very positive to our change in outlook," Clayton said, noting that Fitch expects the building to retain complete occupancy for the foreseeable future. "We're saying that if net income in 18 months doesn't improve, then the bonds may be candidates for a downgrade."



"The problem is that they budgeted \$850,000 for [management fees], but it is now \$1.2 million. If they had an offsetting decrease, we wouldn't have been worried."

—Pam Clayton, senior director of Fitch Ratings

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Last name: _____ First name: _____ MI: _____ Age: _____
Sex: ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE Expected graduation date: 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009
(circle one) 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 Dorm room: _____ sq/ft Window: ☐ YES ☐ NO

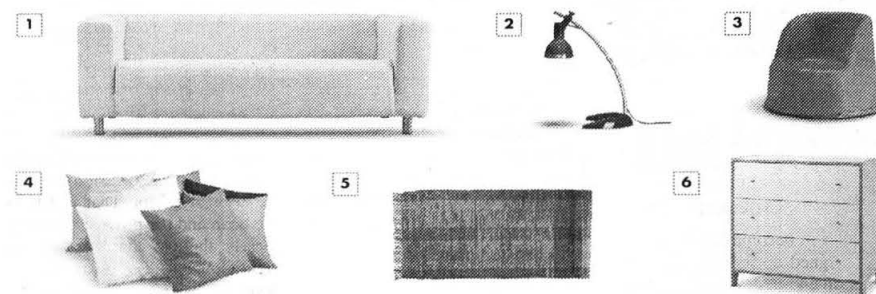
FURNITURE

Lounging/Entertaining

1. Did you choose this school based on an advantageous male to female ratio? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Does your school rank in the "party school" top ten? ☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Do you like experimenting with new things? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If you answered YES on the previous questions, see below:

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1 **\$199**
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4 **\$3.99**
GRANAT cushion (each)

\$71.98

5 **\$4.99**
MARIENTA RUTA RAG rug

\$369.33

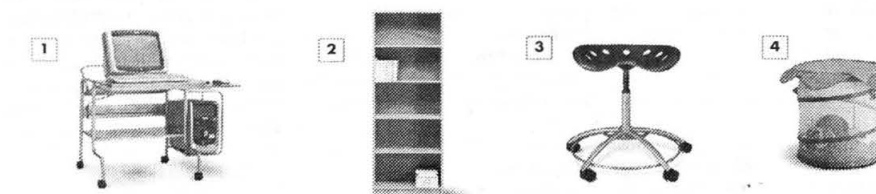
6 **\$59**
ROBIN drawers

Cramming

1. Does studying cut into your talking-to-people time? ☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Do you practice a discriminating highlighting technique? ☐ YES ☐ NO
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Tina Wagner/The Chronicle
Marcus Ranucci (left), Angelo Garcia and T.J. Braxton of the Columbia Jazz Ensemble play in the main tent during convocation, Sept. 24.

'Welcome to Columbia'

○ 2004 convocation gears incoming students up for a new semester

By Jennifer Sabella
Assistant News Editor

"Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to the sixth annual New Student Convocation," exclaimed Mark Kelly, the "ringmaster" and vice president of student affairs, at the beginning of this year's convocation on Sept. 24.

The corner parking lot at Harrison Street and Wabash Avenue became somewhat of a circus, with three massive tents, acrobats, jugglers and the largest student crowd ever at convocation. Close to 3,000 students attended, Kelly said.

Kelly's red top hat and full ringmaster get-up added to the "under the big top" theme of the new student event that for the first time was held before the fall semester commenced.

"Today is a day to celebrate Columbia's talent, and have a little fun while we do it," Kelly said to the crowd that over-filled the massive tent. "You [new students] have chosen wisely."

Kelly retreated as Forms in Motion, an acrobatic dance troupe, took center stage. "Motion" members Adam McDonald, Amanda McLaughlin, Amy Roccio and Rob Sokolick were decked out in red and threw each other in the air as the crowd applauded.

Columbia President, Dr. Warrick L. Carter, watched and smiled at the dancers, the jazz ensemble and the other speakers. Kelly introduced the president, lauding Carter's achievements in jazz and music education.

"Welcome to this fabulous college," Carter said proudly. "We will nurture and support you."

Carter introduced the new students to the school and commended them for choosing to attend the "best school of media communications and arts in the country."

The crowded tent was filled with bright faces of new students,

which remained attentive as the speeches went on.

Kelly, who organized the event, said he was pleased with the large turnout.

"This may have been the greatest assemblage of Columbia students, other than commencement," Kelly said.

According to Kelly, the attendance boost can be attributed to a combination of things.

"There are over 900 new students living on campus. They rolled out of bed and came," Kelly said. "Enrollment is significantly up as well, and I think it was a right move to change the date."

In past years, convocation has been held a few weeks into the school year. This year, school officials decided to hold the event before the semester as part of Phase II Orientation, a more personal orientation strategy.

"For Phase II [of orientation], we had layers and layers of events. We moved this up to the Friday before [classes]. What we heard from students was that they're in class and it's more fitting to hear all this advice and be inspired before you begin the semester instead of two or three weeks into the semester," Kelly said.

Kelly said this year's convocation saw a 100 percent increase over last year's turnout. Last year, less than 1,500 attended. Kelly also saw a large attendance boost during other "Weeks of Welcome" events last week.

Jalanta Cobbs, a freshman music theater major, had a lot of good things to say about convocation.

"I think it's great," Cobbs said. "Everyone is friendly here. It's just a really friendly, warm welcome."

Student organizations were stationed in adjacent tents, alongside hot dogs and hamburgers, poised to recruit new students.

The list of organizations was long, and the new students were

anxious to become involved.

"I signed up for television production and fiction writing clubs," Cobbs said.

Nearly 50 other student organizations filled the tent, including Columbia Coyotes, Columbia's Baseball team, Fashion Association, Cultural Studies Club, Campus Christian Ministry and the Swing Dance Club, among others.

Some students browsed the organization booths, while other students took advantage of the activities going on in the tents.

Local rock band The Late Nights had the crowd dancing under the big tent for nearly an hour.

"I knew this [convocation] was today, but I didn't know it was going to be this big," said sophomore radio major Kevin Kellam, who just happened to hear The Late Nights playing as he was picking up his U-Pass.

"[The Late Nights] are ridiculously awesome for all the right reasons," Kellam said. "If you aren't shaking your hips, you don't belong at their shows."

Rock 'n' roll was not the only music to dance to at the convocation. Hip-hop beats boomed from large speakers near the student organization tent as a crowd gathered around.

Incoming freshman Walter Downing, or "Walt Dizzle," isn't a dance major, but the music business major showed off his dance moves to the small crowd around him.

"It was nice," freshman Sarah Morris said of Convocation. "Really informative, and I got to meet people."

Transfer student Jessica Holvay said her previous school never had anything like the big tent event.

"I thought it was good," said Holvay, who was standing in the back for the crowded presentation, "but it would have been nice if I could see the speakers."

Jazz celebrity hired as new Music chair

○ Dunscomb says 'world class' program coming

By Andrew Greiner
Editor-in-Chief

The late, great Columbia Music Department founder, William Russo, left some big shoes to fill when he retired from his post as department chairman. His contributions to Columbia and the Chicago music scene were widely celebrated; so much so that upon his passing Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley declared April 16 William Russo Day.

For the past year, a search committee made up of college deans and the provost took on the challenge of replacing a legend.

How do you replace a legend? With another legend, of course.

J. Richard Dunscomb, a hall of fame jazz educator and one-time president of the International Association for Jazz Education, has formally signed on as the college's new chairman of the Music Department, and he says he cannot wait to get started.

"I believe that Columbia College music, at this stage of the game, has an opportunity to ... be something very special in the world of music," Dunscomb said. "We're at that stage in the development of the college where it is music's turn to really do something."

"The program, as it exists right now, is a good one. So, [I plan] not to take anything away from what exists, but to build on it and to develop new areas that would be interesting to students coming into a situation like here," Dunscomb said.

One idea Dunscomb has for the department is to include course work in "pop" music.

"I don't know of any other school in Chicago that deals with that. Yet, it is an area where most musicians end up performing, and where a lot of young students have an interest in learning," he said.

There are many avenues that Dunscomb can take with the Columbia Music Department. The most exciting part of his new job is the creative control that he enjoys, he said.

"It is not often that you get the opportunity to walk into a place that says 'build it,'" Dunscomb said.

Dunscomb is no stranger to the Columbia brass. Columbia President Warrick L. Carter and college Chief of Staff Paul Chiaravalle have known Dunscomb for decades.

"I've known him for probably 20 years," Chiaravalle said. "Dick is well known in the music industry especially in jazz and in college circles. He has a great reputation."

Carter has had a relationship with Dunscomb for nearly 30 years, Dunscomb said. Besides being well known in the music industry, Dunscomb did work for Disney, where Chiaravalle and

Carter both held positions.

"When I was at Disney I hired him many times to come in to work as a clinician and a consultant for my various programs there," Chiaravalle said.

But both the president and chief of staff insist that their relationships with Dunscomb did not influence the college's decision to bring him on board.

"Knowing the guy for 20 years, you know, that's fine, but that doesn't make him the right guy for the job. Both Dr. Carter and I

had no input into the decision of bringing him here. That was done by the search committee. We felt very strongly about remaining separated from that," Chiaravalle said.

"We had a real good array of candidates for this position," Carter said. "I wasn't and am not involved in the decision to hire department chairs. That is left to the dean and the provost, and they clearly thought that he was the right choice to lead us to the next level in the terms of where we have to go with that department."

The next level, according to Dunscomb, is to transform the Music Department's curriculum into a "world class" program, and an innovative one to boot.

"My philosophy is that when we bring students into our school we're obligated to help them be a success," Dunscomb said. "So that means that we must work with them and nurture them while they are here, and on top of that we have to prepare them for getting a real job. I think Columbia is a great example of how that is best done: through the internships, through the work with professionals in their field. I mean, we're already doing that in a terrific way and in a way that is not done at other schools, particularly at music schools."

"Music schools have a tendency to teach music the way it was taught the last century and prepare students to play European classical music. We want to do that, but we want to do much more than that," he said. "Whatever area we expand into, I want it to be quality and I want it to have the great depth of educational value."

Dunscomb knows about educational value. He has a long list of achievements and awards in the field of music education, including the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Florida International University, where he headed the music program, an induction into the International Association for Jazz Education Hall of Fame as well as a cornucopia of published works on jazz education.

"I know when he was most recently at Florida International University he built that program there to the point that it was one of the strongest programs in the country," Chiaravalle said.

See Dunscomb Page 12

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Purple paint still present in Loop

○ New look for buildings estimated to cost \$25,000

By Jennifer Sabella
Assistant News Editor

The periwinkle paint that made its debut on the front of the 619 S. Wabash Ave. Building—formerly Universal Bowling Supplies—in June was just the beginning of a project that will soon make Columbia's buildings hard to miss.

"It's kind of a whole exterior identification program that we're working on," said Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment. "The idea is to use our 'Create change' image. It's coming up all over campus."

Berg, along with the Office of Creative and Printing Services, decided that Columbia needed to stand out and become more unified in the South Loop. "Create change" has become the school's new motto, and students will be seeing more of it as the revamping of Columbia's buildings continues.

Along with the 619 S. Wabash Ave. Building in June, the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building went purple this summer, and, according to Berg, there's more to come.

While the 619 S. Wabash Ave. Building was the first to receive a purple coat, further work has been delayed and the building sits dormant.

"Because of its construction, we can't put a lot of students in it," said Mike Debish, associate vice president of facilities and operations.

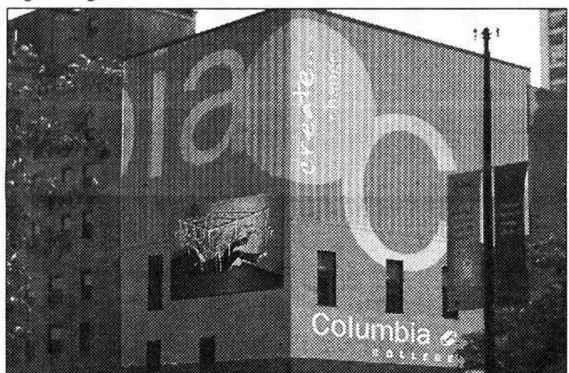
The building has a maximum occupancy of 100 people, so some proposals for the building's use include gallery space for the Art and Design Department, a mailroom or the new Xerox copy center, which will be a Kinkos-style copy center on campus.

"The city has to approve it, and that takes typically four to six months. So it might be spring semester," Debish said. "I'd like to have it ready for occupants at the end of this year."

Some student artwork is already on display in the window space of the 619 S. Wabash Ave. Building.

"Even though we're dealing with historic buildings doesn't mean that it can't look like a campus," Debish said.

According to Berg and Debish, the idea is to make Columbia look



Courtesy the Office of Campus Environment

An artist's rendering of what the 11th Street Campus, 72 E. 11th St., would look like after its makeover.

"Hopefully, they'll start painting the [11th Street Campus] purple within the next couple of weeks," Berg said.

All the periwinkle lays the groundwork for the ultimate branding goal. The college contracted a Chicago-based architecture firm, Gonzalez Hasbrouck, to come up with a creative and cost-efficient way to tie Columbia's buildings together and promote the school's image.

"Right now a lot of people don't know where Columbia really is," Berg said.

The goal for the painting project is to be sure everyone does know where Columbia resides. According to the plan, the word "Columbia" will be stenciled in green across both the 11th Street Campus and the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building along with the college tag line, "Create change." A large piece of student art selected from Manifest will also be displayed on each of the purple buildings.

The schedule for the rest of the painting is tentative, because Columbia has had a hard time retaining a sign painter, Berg said.

"The school has only been able to find one guy who does that kind of work, and he travels all over the country," Berg said.

more like a college campus while staying true to the school's creative roots.

"When you look around at other colleges they all kind of identify themselves with nice banners and little kiosks in the street. That's all very nice, but it's kind of not Columbia—it's kind of conservative," Berg said.

The bright green and purple plans are "funky," Berg said, and although purple paint is the extent of the work so far, it has Columbia students and staff stirred up.

Incoming freshman Jessica Nail noted the purple paint when she came to pick up her U-Pass Sept. 21.

"I like it," said Nail. "It's better than a plain building."

But, while the paint is aesthetically pleasing to some, other students aren't so pleased. Christine Fuja also came to get her U-Pass last Tuesday, and had plenty to say about Columbia's new look.

"They should invest that money in new elevators, or other stuff that has needed to be done for awhile," said Fuja. "If everything was done, that would be fine, but when things are old and falling apart in the buildings, that needs to be fixed first."

The estimated total cost for both buildings is \$25,000, Berg said.



Andrew Greiner/The Chronicle

Sam Ross, vice president of institutional advancement (second from left), Laurel Carter, Kim Clement, assistant vice president of advancement, and Randy Albers, chairman of fiction writing, gear up before the Emmys on Sept. 11 at the poolside bar in the Encino, Calif. estate of college trustee Gary Belz.

Greetings from Los Angeles

○ What's happening at Columbia's other campus—2,000 miles away

By Andrew Greiner
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia honors Emmy nominated alumni

LOS ANGELES—Columbia is not traditionally known as a party school, but college officials proved that they know how to get down—as long as there is a reason to celebrate.

The college hosted a party Sept. 11 to honor its six Emmy nominated alumni at a posh Encino, Calif., ranch, owned by Gary Belz, Columbia trustee and co-owner of the House of Blues chain.

At the party, Tom LaBonge, Los Angeles city councilman, presented a certificate of achievement from the city of Los Angeles to four of the six nominees: Cece DeStefano, Fred Pienkos, Beth Morgan and Len Amato. Genndy Tartakovsky and Jeff Jur were unable to attend.

College President Warrick L. Carter said that these Emmy nominations prove that Columbia graduates are ahead of the curve as far as success in the entertainment industry goes.

"You judge an institution by two things: the quality of its faculty, but more importantly, the quality of its output. The quality of its output is its alumni. And clearly we see that a strong faculty creates these kinds of alumni, who represent us well," Carter said.

"I don't know about these other schools out here in L.A., but I doubt if there is any institution that will have that many people to celebrate [at the Emmy Awards]," Carter said.

Carter touted 2002 Columbia grad Morgan's Emmy nomination as a sign of "the kind of things we do at Columbia."

Destefano, who received her second Emmy nomination since graduating from Columbia in 1994, said that Columbia's curriculum played a big role in her Hollywood success.

"Columbia definitely played an important role in my success," Destefano said. "The teachers worked in the industry, so it was a hands-on environment."

LaBonge said his city is honored to host Columbia students, faculty and staff, and he looks forward to Columbia's continued presence in Los Angeles.

The college has a permanent

installation on the CBS studio lot where the Semester in L.A. bungalow is housed.

The six Columbia alumni received nominations for creative Emmys, a division of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences awards held a week before the prime-time Emmy Awards. The six alumni garnered 11 nominations between them. The Emmy Awards were broadcast on ABC on Sept. 19.

Pienkos, Tartakovsky and Jur took home Emmy Awards in their respective categories. For in-depth coverage on Columbia's Emmy nominated alumni see Todd Burbo's story in the A&E supplement.

L.A. Bungalow moves

The Semester in L.A. bungalow has relocated. According to Sarah Schroeder, director of West Coast alumni relations for Columbia—whose office is located inside the bungalow—the triple wide trailer that serves as the project headquarters moved across the CBS Studio Center lot, in Studio City, Calif.

Originally installed as Bungalow 5, the offices are now located at Bungalow 25.

Crews dismantled the trailer, moved it piece by piece, and reassembled it across the lot.

Although the move was not dramatic, Schroeder said the trailer now resides in a more centralized location.

"And now we have a better view," Schroeder said.

Katzman takes command of Semester in L.A. program

When Jon Katzman designed the sitcom writing class for Columbia's Semester in L.A. program last summer, he had no idea that one year later he would be running the entire show.

The director at the time, Bob Enrietto, was the creator and lifeblood of the program; it was his show, no questions asked.

But when Enrietto died unexpectedly in December, there were concerns that the young, successful program, located on the CBS studio lot, might die with him—until the college tapped Katzman to take over as the director of the Semester in L.A. program.

Columbia officials were enthused with Katzman's resume and industry contacts. He began a

15-year Hollywood career at NBC, and then moved through Warner Bros. and New Regency Television in executive positions.

Schroeder said that she was ecstatic when she saw that Katzman was a candidate for the director position. She said she knew he would be a perfect fit.

Katzman said there is no way he can fill Enrietto's shoes, but he plans to do the best job he can.

"Bob was a one-of-a-kind, pure form, fantastic guy, and there is no way that he can be replaced," Katzman said.

Katzman takes over a program that is just beginning its sixth year, and optimism for the one-of-a-kind program is once again riding high.

"There are many, many, many big projects [for this semester], but I can't talk about them yet. If I tell you, I will have to shoot you," Katzman joked.

Death threats aside, there are a couple of new elements that have been added to the Semester in L.A. curriculum.

According to Doreen Bartoni, dean of the School of Liberal Arts at Columbia, the five-week program now includes a costume design and a music concentration.

"We just finished a music class and the kids were really, really excited," Katzman said. "I think it went really well."

Katzman, a resident of California, takes on the role of director of the Semester in L.A. in conjunction with various other projects around Hollywood. He will split his time between his production company, KCW Productions, and the Columbia program.

One of his recent productions, *Man in the Mirror: The Michael Jackson Story*, aired on VH1 this August. Katzman said he even had students from last year's Semester in L.A. program help him "punch up" the script.

Columbia's Semester in L.A. program is unique because it is the only instance in which a college or university has a permanent satellite on a professional studio lot.

"I think Semester in L.A. gives Columbia College students a huge leg up," Katzman said. "It allows them to hone their craft before they actually have to make it out here in L.A."



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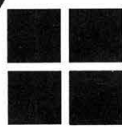


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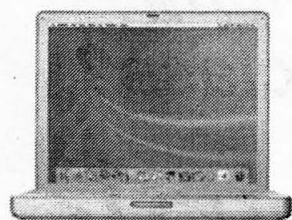
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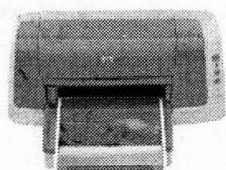
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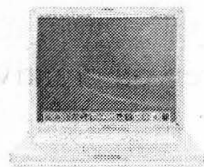
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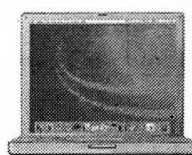
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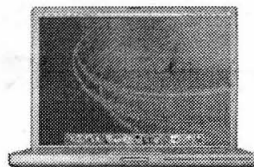
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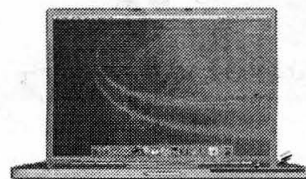
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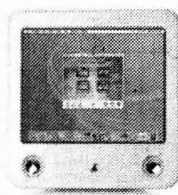
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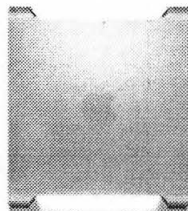
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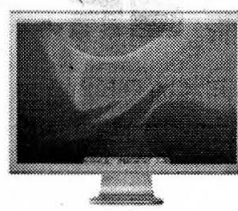
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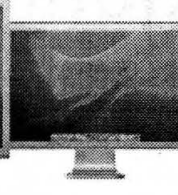
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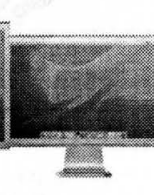
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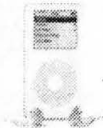
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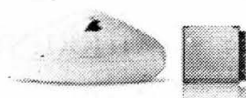
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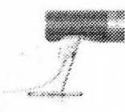
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Full house

○ Move-in day at 'Superdorm' runs smoothly

By Jennifer Sabella
Assistant News Editor

After a four hour drive from Springfield, Ill., Tim Schlosser, father of freshman journalism major Whitney Schlosser, finally arrived at his destination: the University Center of Chicago.

With two cars full of Whitney's belongings, Schlosser, his wife, and Whitney got ready for one chaotic Saturday morning.

Schlosser parked his car away from the long lines of vehicles surrounding the "Superdorm." He unpacked it himself and headed to the loading dock.

"Looks like a confusing mess, which it is, but I don't know how they could do it differently," Schlosser said.

Schlosser was just one of many there Sept. 18 for Columbia's move-in day at the "Superdorm," some arriving as early as 7 a.m.

He stood at the dock, surrounded by more than 50 volunteers, hundreds of parents and roughly 712 Columbia students, and waited for his wife to get through the line of cars.

The brand-new University Center

is home to 1,700 students from Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt universities.

Officials organized the move-ins alphabetically. Surnames beginning with A-L moved in from 8 a.m. to noon, the rest thereafter, and were overseen by Ed Bell, senior director of U.S. Equities Student Housing, the company that manages the "superdorm."

Incoming freshman Julie Leaderbrand said the process was "confusing, but moving fast." Leaderbrand's comments reflected the consensus of the early crowd.

Roosevelt freshman Megan Doffin volunteered for the day, but did not know she would be directing traffic. The voice major used her vocal chords to move crowds as police watched and laughed.

"Our first goal is to keep the cars moving," said Eric Luskin, co-project executive for the University Center.

It took an hour-and-a-half for Schlosser's wife to get through the long line of cars and drop off the rest of their daughter's things. All they needed was a box.

The "infamous box," as Schlosser



Tim Schlosser waits for the 'infamous box,' Sept. 18, during the move-in for Columbia students at the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St. His daughter, Whitney, is an incoming freshman at Columbia.

called it, provided by the University Center to help the movers, was hard to come by, as students and parents lined up their full boxes around the dock, waiting to get past the check-in and through the door. The large boxes on wheels became harder to find as the day went on, but were essential in getting belongings into the "Superdorm."

Martha Meegan, director of campus safety, said she made sure there was enough police present, while the "Superdorm" provided their own security, which worked well on DePaul and Roosevelt's move-in days a few weeks prior.

"There is a great relationship between all of us [Roosevelt, DePaul and Columbia]," Meegan said. "Communication is really good between us. We've got our system in place."

Meegan contacted 1st District Chicago Police Sgt. Bill O'Reilly weeks in advance to assure proper

traffic control. While there were no incidents, some cars, like the Schlossers', were sitting in the line for nearly two hours.

"Does anyone need a box?" yelled out a student who had grabbed one too many. Tim Schlosser jumped at the opportunity and soon after, his daughter was on her way in.

Once students had a box, they checked in, unpacked their boxes in their rooms, got their IDs, and made sure their rooms had the Internet, television and telephone set up.

Whitney was then free to explore the "Superdorm" and see what the 461-unit building had to offer.

The cafeteria serves everything from burgers to sushi. Meal plans are included for students in suites and those in apartment-style rooms. The 30,000-square-foot building also features sound-proofed studios for musicians to practice and an art room with studio lighting and easels

that are on their way.

While the building had students gazing at it all day, the anticipation for friends in a new city was on the mind of students moving in last Saturday.

"It's a new experience," said freshman Cassie Garcia. "I'm trying to just let it happen and enjoy everything about it."

Kelli Collins, associate director of residence life at Columbia, said "Superdorm" occupants would have plenty to do throughout the semester. While some activities are campus-based, "Superdorm" students will have some activities of their own.

"Karaoke nights, movie nights—there are various things for students to take part in," Collins said.

As the day came to a close, things got a little more backed up, but eventually everyone made it into their rooms without any major problems.



Freshman Laura Berres unpacks boxes in her new dorm at the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St.

Corridor Blitz

Continued from Front Page

"It's certainly startling. Ninety percent of our floors are exactly what we needed, and I think they look better than they've ever looked," said Bob Thall, chairman of the Photography Department, who was involved in the initial design meetings. "I don't know if I would have picked the blue, but it's a small thing in our facility. It's just that one little burst at the elevator. The rest of the floors where we hang the artwork up and the two shades of gray and the way the gray is broken up—that's perfect for us."

"I like it—it's vibrant," said Felicia Thurton, a sophomore in the early childhood education program. "It's a change. It's not dull."

"It's like unifying everything," Thurton said.

"It makes it more intimate and more personal than another school that would just do the same old thing," said Columbia student and freshman poetry major Juliana Morgado.

"People have been here a really long time and they even get used to the duct tape on the floor," said Jay Wolke, chairman of the Art and Design Department. "Change is tough

for people, but I'm quickly adapting to it and I think the others will as well."

To facilitate the campaign, the college hired the architecture firm Gensler to create a design scheme and Turner Construction Co. to complete the work in the corridors before students returned to campus. The buildings included in the eight week "blitz" received new carpet as well as paint on both the doors and walls, and four display cases on each floor to showcase student artwork. The hallways will eventually house 132 pieces of student art.

"You don't get a sense of Columbia by walking the streets of Chicago or even walking inside the school," said Elva Rubio, design director for Gensler. "It's amazing the production of that school and it needs to be out there. It needs to be promoted, and it needs to be saved."

Initially conceived as a way to update Columbia's "frumpy" buildings and create a more cohesive appearance to Columbia's corridors, the project's scope originally included replacing the carpeting, painting the walls gray and white in order to provide a

neutral palette to exhibit student artwork, as well as changing the lighting and creating several "events" to facilitate student-meeting places on each floor.

But the magnitude of the project threatened to skyrocket costs above the \$1.2 million budget. School officials needed to make some decisions.

"I was a little frightened at the speed we were moving on this project when I came on board, and that we were going into an old building. ... It's pretty amazing how fast it's come together," Rubio said.

"Next time I'm going to recommend fewer buildings and more time," said Mike Debish, associate vice president of facilities and operations.

The college quickly began scaling back the scope of the project when it became clear that the plans would put the project over its \$1.2 million budget. Plans for a body/yoga area, a quiet zone for reading and doing homework, a social space that included games and even a refreshment area were eventually scrapped.

"There's electric lighting issues that we could not afford to take care of. There's ceiling issues. We really wanted to do something about the ceilings but we couldn't afford that. We want-

ed to do a signage program obviously, but we didn't have money to do that ... which I think is really important, but we didn't have money for that," Rubio said.

"It was bumping to \$1.8 million when we got into it. We decided to save for a second wave, a second phase," Debish said.

At this time there are no plans to institute the cosmetic changes to the ceilings and lighting. According to Berg, a second wave of the "Corridor Blitz" project will have to wait until funds can be budgeted for next year.

"In an ideal world we would have done everything," Berg said.

Rubio, who signed onto the project in late May, agreed with Berg.

"I'm amazed we got this far," Rubio said. "It was an incredibly tight budget because you have about 150,000 square feet of corridors and the buildings were in really bad shape."

Berg also said that not every floor was "blitzed." Floors that were worked on recently, such as the ninth floor of the Alexandroff Campus Building, 600 S. Michigan Ave., were excluded from the project in order to keep the cost of the project on target. Existing student artwork, like the

mural on the seventh floor in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., will remain intact in all the "Corridor Blitz" buildings—which includes the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building; the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court; the Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave.; the 11th Street Campus, 72 E. 11th St.; and the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave.—as part of the effort to highlight student work.

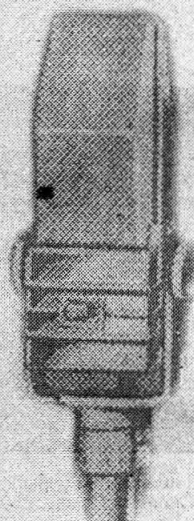
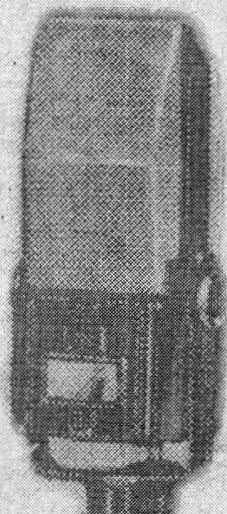
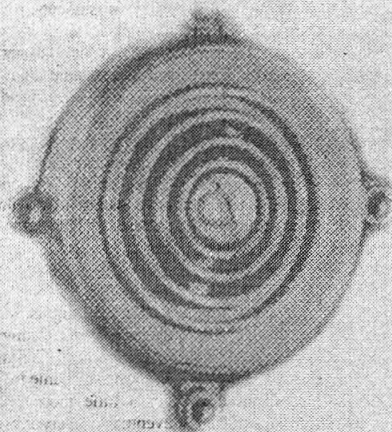
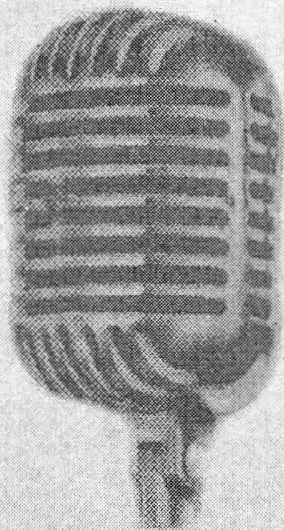
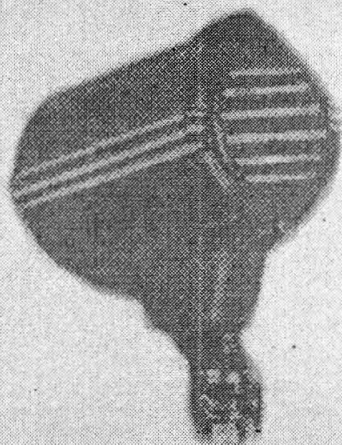
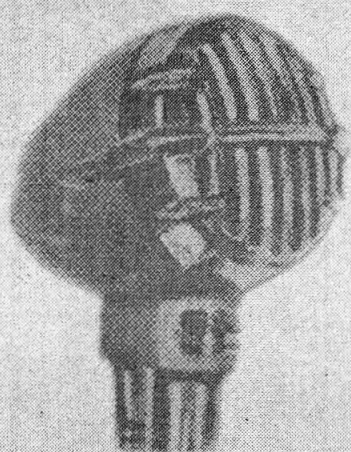
"It's never going to be a totally perfect scheme, but I think it did a lot to get us more together in terms of our look," Berg said.

Wolke, who was asked for his input during the early design stages, agreed.

"I think the most important thing is that we now have a clean, bright surface on which to really assert our identity, that the hallways themselves are more of a template, more of a stage," Wolke said. "We want our artworks then to be able to take center stage and I think the walls will facilitate that."

"It's one thing to come in to lay new carpeting and paint walls, but it's another to maintain," Debish said. "It's going to be a challenge and a learning experience to see how we get around this."

THE HOKIN GALLERY 623 SOUTH WABASH THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 1PM - 3PM




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MULTI-CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Columbia 

COLLEGE CHICAGO

Student Affairs syncs voter drive with U-Pass lines

○ Rainbow/PUSH: today's students should step up

By Scott Carlson
News Editor

John Moore has tried pushing students to the polls since the 1960s, and he may have found a fool-proof method to get Columbia students registered to vote: set up camp at a sure-fire student hangout.

And where does one go to find students? Well, maybe hangout isn't the right word, but there sure will be a lot of students in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Sept. 27 through 30, picking up their U-Passes.

Location, location, location.

This is the second year that Moore, associate dean of Student Affairs, aided by Operation PUSH of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, has synchronized a voter registration drive with the U-Pass traffic. With a majority of students using public transit to commute to Columbia, Moore said he views U-Pass distribution as one of the only definite times students will stream into the buildings now that they can register for classes online.

"In the old days, we had people go through the lines during registration, and we could register a lot of people to vote because we always set it up at the last step, and we could talk to everybody who was finished," Moore said. "Now, they might be living in Timbuktu ... so the only time we can be sure people will be coming through [is] to pick up the U-Pass."

Alice Tregay, coordinator of voter registration for the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, said the coalition and Student Affairs registered about 800 students last year. This year, she expects more.

"I'm hoping young people will now step up to the plate, putting other young people in office," said Tregay. "The only way to do that is to register to vote."

"We did pretty good for the primaries ... and the weather was

really bad," Moore said. "Now, we'll have seven full days plus Friday during New Student Convocation. We'll probably do over 1,500."

But Moore and Tregay may have an uphill climb. According to the survey conducted by the Princeton Survey Research Associates International on behalf of Declare Yourself, a nonpartisan, nonprofit group trying to motivate young people to vote, 66 percent of those surveyed said that encouragement from sources like organized campaigns to register young people to vote did not have a major impact on their motivation.

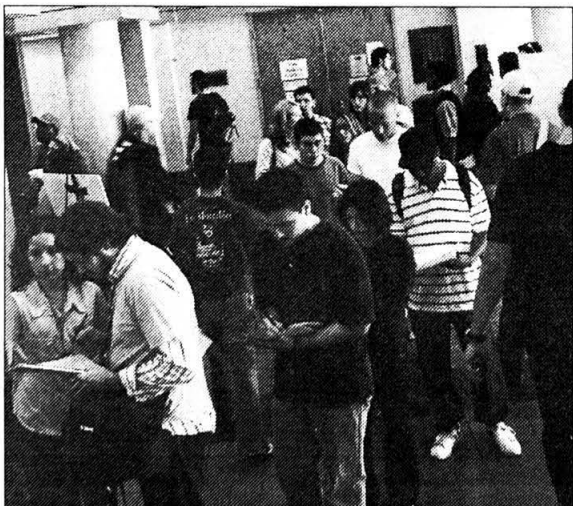
The majority of nonregistered young people said not knowing about the candidates or the issues were main reasons they decided not to go to the polls, according to the survey.

Tregay said that students and young people everywhere need to accept the responsibility of learning about the issues and the candidates for themselves, as they occupy a part of society historically seen as holding the power to motivate change.

"I'd like to see young people step up to the plate, like they did in the '60s," Tregay said. "It was not Rosa Parks or Dr. King—it was college students who got the dogs chasing them or fire hoses sprayed on them. They did the sit-ins. They went to jail. They made the civil rights movement work."

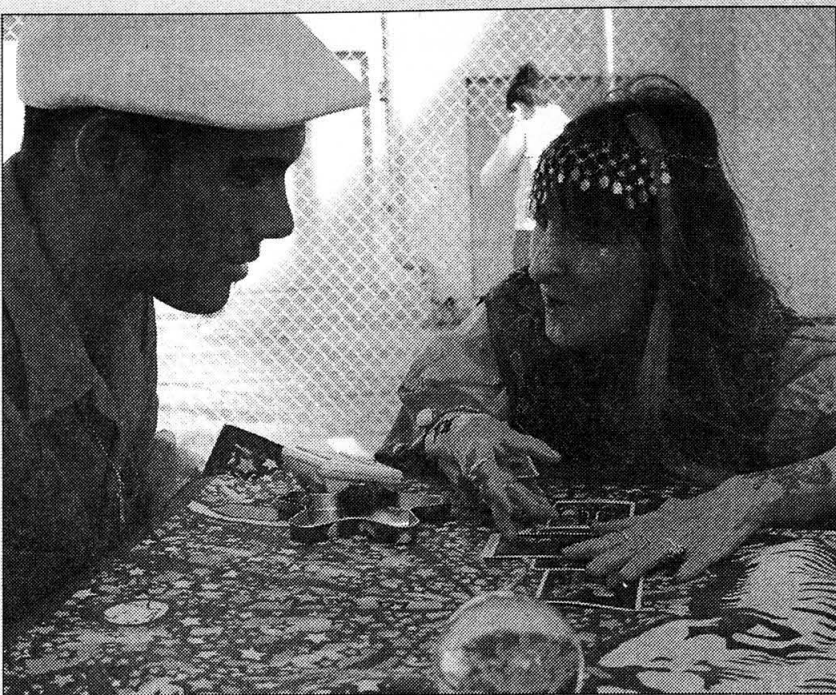
Naturally, Moore also has lofty goals, especially when Columbia students are concerned.

"I think our school, in general, is civic-minded in trying to ... be on the cutting edge and to change things," Moore said. "Getting people registered is one thing, but getting them to vote is another, and there's where you need more interest year-round. You do have a choice, even if it is the lesser of two evils."



Eric Davis/The Chronicle
Students crowd the foyer of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., as they wait to receive U-Passes Sept. 21.

I see student loan collectors in your future



Tina Wagner/The Chronicle
Xavier Burgos (left), a freshman majoring in film, listens to the all-knowing Clang (right) tell him what fate has in store for him at the New Student Convocation on Sept. 24.

Maintenance *Continued from Page 3*

simultaneously for projection. We can also put up a video camera, so if we have a visiting film director and he or she is going to do a presentation afterward, we'll be able to feed the video from that room."

Celander said the predominantly film and video 1104 Center has always had structural limitations. The building has columns on 16-foot centers, meaning no screening facilities can be wider than 16 feet without disrupting the audience's sight lines. Celander said until the eighth floor was built, the Film and Video Department's premiere room was Room 302, which seats about 100 people, but had inherent viewing limitations.

"To fit 100 people in there, we had to make it long and narrow ... which necessitated putting longer lenses on our film and video projectors, and we ended up with a small image on the end of the room," said Celander. "Here, we're going to be able to broaden the image a lot. We have a screen about 24 feet wide."

To achieve the greater screen size, structural steel has been laid across the roof for support. This meant four of the structural columns could be dropped from the room, creating a 32-foot span with aisles on the outsides of columns

with tiered, or sloped, seating. According to Debish, this provided a better viewing area, but also drove up the project's price.

"Any time you remove vertical structural steel, the price tag jumps," Debish said.

Coming soon: sprinklers

Along with the eighth floor, Debish said the \$1 million ninth floor photo lab in the Alexandroff Campus Center and the basement Underground Cafe have been "sprinklered," partly in response to the city's stance on installing sprinklers in high-rises after last year's fire in the Cook County Administration Building, 69 W. Washington St., but also because of a personal goal he formed when he joined Columbia.

"When I came on board a year ago, I had a ... desire to start sprinklering all of our high-rise buildings, before the Cook County fire," Debish said. "It's going to be a slow uphill battle, but eventually all of our buildings that are over seven stories will have them."

Goodbye, Torco sign

Besides the elevators, the screening facility and the new sprinklers, Debish said the school invested a little more than \$1 million in exterior maintenance, including the removal of the Torco sign on the

South Campus Building. Because of the deterioration of its masonry, Debish called it "an accident waiting to happen."

"The city of Chicago has a vendetta about pieces of buildings falling off and hitting people, and certainly we don't want to get into that position, so that resulted in some major tuck pointing in a lot of our taller facilities," Debish said.

State grant ahead?

Although the maintenance updates had an allotted \$11 million for the repairs, Debish said Columbia's zero-tuition increase for the 2004-2005 school year will likely affect the operating expense budget this year. To offset any dips in funding, Debish said, the maintenance department is hoping to get a grant from the state of Illinois to replace the old lighting fixtures in all of the buildings with new electronic lamps which consume only half the energy used by the old fixtures, lowering Columbia's overall electrical bill.

"Every little penny we can save here and there adds up to keeping the operations and maintenance budget in check," said Debish. "It's things like that we're employing in this coming fiscal year to help offset the fact that we have a flat tuition."

Dunscomb *Continued from Page 5*

For 18 years Dunscomb worked as the North American coordinator for the Montreux Jazz Festival, and he still serves as the international chairman for the IAJE, two experiences that Dunscomb said will benefit the school.

"I got to spend the month of July over there for 18 years, and it was such a terrific experience. And I got to see all of the greats—Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis. They all came through there. I think it is the most beautiful place I've seen in the world. It is just at the foot of the Alps on Lake Geneva," Dunscomb said. "I'm very involved internationally, with the IAJE organization as their interna-

tional chair, so I've got a lot of contacts around the world, as well as in the United States. And I intend to build on those contacts to help [Columbia]."

Contacts should not be hard to come by for the accomplished Dunscomb. He has a history of working with great musicians and bringing them to where he works.

"He was able to hire some outstanding staff [at FIU]," Chiarvalle said. "Grammy winners like Arturo Sandoval, [the] Cuban trumpet player and one of the greatest in the world. Dick gave him his first job when he defected to this country. Plus many others on his staff of folks there at the

university were well-known artists."

"Dick is the kind of guy ... that allows his staff to grow to their potentials, and I think he's really going to allow them to really stretch and be creative and step outside of the box," Chiarvalle said.

Now that Dunscomb and Carter, an accomplished drummer, are in the same neck of the woods, could there be a Dunscomb-Carter jam session on the horizon?

"Maybe someplace in the future that will happen. We'll have to let him get settled in, but something of that nature would be a lot of fun," Carter said.

Welcome....

We're glad to have you here with us this semester.

For many of you, welcome back. For others, this is your first college experience or your first college experience at Columbia. Regardless if you are new, a transfer or returning student, we welcome all of you.

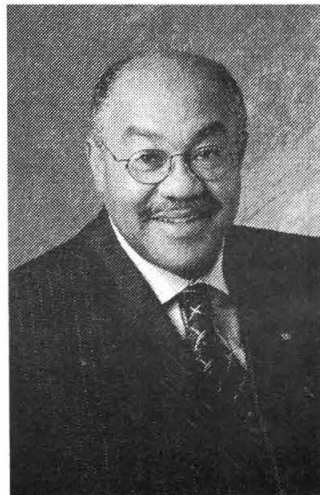
Here, as our Mission statement demands, we prepare our students to "communicate creatively" and "shape the public's perceptions of issues and events," to "author the culture of their times." Columbia enrolls students who "reflect the economic, racial, cultural and educational diversity of contemporary America." We recognize that we serve an "important civic purpose by active engagement in the life and culture of the City of Chicago."

Here at Columbia, you will find opportunities for such engagement. You'll find photographic and art galleries, a music center, a world-class dance center, a professional-quality theater, numerous experimental theater spaces and auditoriums, cabaret-style venues, award-winning fiction and poetry publications, a campus-based radio station, a Columbia College television station, a truly outstanding student newspaper, and research resources like the Center for Black Music Research and the Center for Arts Policy – all with public programs. With these programs, we are not only encouraging free expression, as freely and wholly as we can, but we are also maintaining vital connections with the daily lives of our neighbors.

As you begin a new semester of work, I invite you to work hard, to make the most of the opportunities that you'll discover here. And I especially invite you to expand your intellectual and artistic horizons. Get involved. Help author the culture of *your* times...!

Have a rewarding and productive semester.

Warrick L. Carter, Ph. D.
President, Columbia College Chicago



And this is what We call homework:

Mary Ellen Mark: Twins and Falkland Road

August 22 - October 5

The Museum of Contemporary Photography presents Mary Ellen Mark and Falkland Road. Mary Ellen Mark is one of very few contemporary photographers who manage to work in the realms of art, social documentary and photo-journalism without compromising the integrity of any of them or herself. For the past 35 years, in 14 books, and hundreds of media publications she has recorded prostitutes, rodeos, circuses, street children, mental health facilities, film production-the list is long and varied. Knowing full well that photographing people who are radically different than the photographer can turn exploitive, she has developed a reputation for humanitarian concern. As she says, "In most cases, if I didn't tell their story, nobody would." This exhibition combines one of her first projects, Falkland Road, dealing with prostitutes in Bombay, and her last large project, Twins, portraits and interviews from the Twins Days festival in Twinsburg, Ohio. Also on view: a selection of photographs from the permanent collection that deal with replication and duplication.

Location: Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 South Michigan, 1st Floor
Admission: Free
Phone: 312/663-5554

D. A. Powell Poetry Reading

October 20
5:30PM

D. A. Powell is the author of the highly acclaimed trilogy made up of *Tea* (Wesleyan University Press, 1998), *Lunch* (Wesleyan,

2000), and *Cocktails* (Graywolf Press, 2004). His poems have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, and he has received awards from the James Michener Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Academy of American Poets, and the Poetry Society of America. Powell has taught at University of Iowa, Columbia University, San Francisco State University, Sonoma State University, and Harvard University. He currently teaches at University of San Francisco. Together with Katherine Swiggart, he edits *Electronic Poetry Review*.

Location: Columbia College Library, 624 South Michigan, 3rd Floor
Admission: Free
Phone: 312/344-8139

Mario Castillo: Minimalist Reassertions

September 13 - October 13

A pioneer in the Latino muralist movement of the mid 1960s, Mario Castillo turned to Minimalism in the late 60s and early 70s. During this period, he created unique works that not only explored minimalist issues concerning perception and art, but also universal human issues with a Latino-Mexican sensibility. In Mario Castillo: Minimalist Reassertions, Castillo reclaims, reprocesses, and transforms these works, asserting the notion that artistic issues from the past are valid in the present.

Reception and Artist Talk, October 6th, 5:00PM - 7:00PM
Location: Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash
Admission: Free
Phone: 312/344-6650

AYAI DanceAfrica Chicago Festival 2004

October 22 - 24

Friday and Saturday, 8:00PM - Sunday, 3:00PM

AYAI! Columbia College Chicago's DanceAfrica Chicago Festival 2004 pays tribute to the deep influence of African dance and music on diverse world cultures beyond African shores. Aya is a Ghanaian Adinkra symbol representing survival, strength, and endurance. This year's festival explores how blended cultures have persevered to protect their identities in defiance of the odds.

Under the direction of Baba Chuck Davis, the festival brings together African-influenced dance companies from around the world, including: National Song and Dance Company of Mozambique (Maputo, Mozambique); Peru Negro (Lima, Peru); Sidi Goma (Gujarat, India); and Ko-Thi Dance Company (Milwaukee, Wisconsin).
Location: The Chicago Theatre, 175 North State Street
Admission: General: \$24-\$36; Call for Columbia College discounts
Phone: 312/344-7070

John Yeh and Norman Ruiz in Concert

October 26

12:30PM - 1:30PM
Chicago Symphony Orchestra's clarinetist John Yeh and classical guitarist Norman Ruiz. A rare chance to hear two virtuoso musicians together.

Location: Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 South Michigan
Admission: Free
Phone: 312/344-6179

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL: LAUREN BACALL

November 11

Up Close and Personal with Lauren Bacall offers an informative lecture and a facilitated question and answer session with this legendary star of stage and screen. Tickets estimated to be available around October 1, 2004. This one night only opportunity to hear about the life and work history of one of the world's greatest leading ladies, whose career has spanned generations, is not to be missed.

Location: The Dance Center, 1306 South Michigan
Admission: TBA
Phone: 312/344-8653

Elko & Koma

November 18-20

8:00PM
Elko & Koma have developed a unique style combining aspects of German dance theater and butoh, a form of Japanese avant-garde dance known for extreme austerity of movement. The Japanese duo, now based in New York, extends the form with vivid images that illuminate universal themes of impermanence and the inevitability of change. Set to a piano score and danced under mosquito netting adorned with Koma's paintings, the new work, "Fall Moon," exudes the erotic aura of remembered warmth...like body heat that lingers in the cool night air.
Location: The Dance Center, 1306 South Michigan
Admission: General: \$20-24; Columbia student discounts available, call for details.
Phone: 312/344-8300

Kurt Elling and the Laurence

Hobgood Trio

November 30

12:30PM - 1:30PM
Internationally renowned jazz singer performs in a rare free concert.
Location: Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 South Michigan
Admission: Free
Phone: 312/344-6300

Guys and Dolls

December 9-12

The world of Damon Runyon's stories is occupied by a delightful crew of eccentrics, non-conformists, gamblers, Salvation Army do-gooders, chorus girls, and other irresistible felons. Desperate to find money to pay for his floating crap game, Nathan Detroit bets Sky Masterson a thousand dollars that Sky will not be able to take a local Salvation Army sergeant, Sarah Brown, to Havana. Surprisingly, Sky ends up falling in love with Sarah in this loveable musical in which almost every song is a hummable hit ("Adelaide's Lament", "I'll Know", "A Bushel and a Peck", "If I Were a Bell" and "Guys and Dolls", to name a few.)
Location: Getz Theater, 62 East 11th Street
Admission: General Admission- \$10-\$14, Students-Free
Phone: 312/344-6126

For more information and a full listing of events visit:
<http://web2.colum.edu/calendar/>

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The Office of Student Employment
623 S. Wabash, Suite 315

Job openings currently available in the Federal Work-Study program

www.colum.edu/student-life/employment

**All student employees must sign up for direct deposit thru the Payroll Office. Any student who does not currently have a checking or savings account may open a \$0 minimum balance checking account with Bank One. Payroll has the necessary information for students to open an account.

The Music Center of Columbia College Chicago
1014 S. Michigan at 11th St.

The Center for
Black Music Research presents
a Concert Series of
The Association for
Advancement of Creative Musicians

Fri. October 1
Ed Wilkerson &
Nicole Mitchell Quintet
7:30 PM

Fri. October 8
Ernest Dawkins & Generation Next
7:30 PM

Sat. October 16
Savior Faire & East Side Project
7:30 PM

Tues. October 19
AACM Live Ensemble
12:30 PM

Fri. October 22
Nicole Mitchell's Black Ensemble
7:30 PM

Mon. October 29
Mwata Bowden & Sound
Spectrum 7:30 PM

For tickets and more information, call: 312/344-7559

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JUSTIN LONG - (.DOTBLEEP,
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LEGO - (POONTIN MUZIK,
SOULFURIC RECORDS, WWW.POON-
TINMUZIK.COM)

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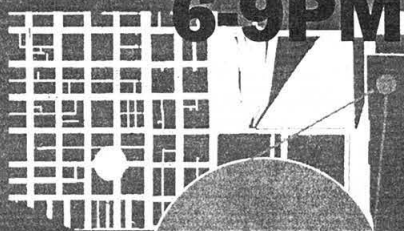
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6-9PM



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Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO



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GALLERY**

**HOKIN
CENTER**

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center**

SPACES

THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

The [C]Spaces are common areas where students can interact, relax, and socialize with fellow students. [C]Spaces plan and promote nearly three dozen gallery exhibitions each year, as well as fiction and poetry readings, film and video screenings, music, theater and dance performances, most of which showcase student work to the public. Visit us online at <http://cspaces.colum.edu>.

Glass Curtain Gallery

1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor • 312.344.6650

Located in the South Loop Arts Corridor, the Glass Curtain Gallery's 2,200 square-foot space welcomes Columbia College resident artists, students, and alumni to exhibit a variety of contemporary media in a professional environment. The gallery offers professional exhibition opportunities, workshops, visiting artist lectures, and dialogue essential to development and growth within the arts.

Hokin Center

623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor • 312.344.7188

The Myron Hokin Student Center provides accessible space for students to showcase their exhibitions and events. In its fifteen years, the Hokin has earned its reputation on campus as the heart of Columbia College. The Hokin Center's facilities include the Hokin Gallery and the Hokin Annex.

C33 Gallery

33 E. Congress, 1st Floor • 312.344.7188

C33 serves as an art gallery and meeting place for students. The newest member of the [C]Spaces family, C33 provides an additional exhibition space for students, resident artists, thematic exhibitions, and installation artwork.

Hermann D. Conaway Center

1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st Floor • 312.344.6650

The Conaway Center provides a creative environment where students can perform and review a variety of art forms. This multimedia center is equipped with a stage, lighting, and audio and visual system for students and professionals. The center's activities and programs are designed to enhance social, cultural, and intellectual growth among Columbia students, as well as promote social interaction with faculty, staff and the community at large.

Call for participation in Student Curatorial Board

Attention Art & Design, Art Entertainment, Media, Management, Photography students and other interested student leaders.... Are you interested in participating in the curatorial process of the [C]Spaces' exhibition calendar? We are forming a student board of qualified students with an interest and aptitude in exhibition planning and/or curatorial practices. This is a great opportunity to have artistic input and develop your arts administration resume. There will be bi-weekly meetings throughout the semester. The authority and responsibilities of the board will be mutually agreed upon at the first meetings. Please submit a letter of interest and resumé to: Julie Caffey, Assistant Director [C]Spaces, 623 S. Wabash Ave, Chicago, IL 60605, email to jcaffey@colum.edu or drop it in the Hokin Gallery office mail box.

How else can I get involved with [C]Spaces? Students are encouraged to approach [C]Spaces about exhibiting their artwork or curating exhibitions or performances. Contact Julie Caffey, Assistant Director, at 312.344.7696 or jcaffey@colum.edu.

cspaces.colum.edu

Upcoming Events



ARTWALK

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 5-8PM

This forefinger was used to record the city by touching everything it came in contact with on a single day

TIC TAC TOE

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY **C33 GALLERY** **HOKIN GALLERY** **FOUNTAIN GALLERY**

SPACES THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS
HAYLEY NEWMAN PERFORMANCE RESIDENCY
 OCTOBER 18-29, 2004

For more information and to apply online, go to <http://spaces.colum.edu/hayley/> or stop by the Hokin Center, 623 S. Wabash or Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash to pick up an application.

The selected students will participate in workshops, rehearsals, installation, blogging, and a performance with international performance artist, Hayley Newman. The residency will culminate in a performance at Glass Curtain Gallery on October 29, 2004. Residency schedule is to be determined.

Participants will be asked to complete a writing reflecting the experience and events they encounter during the residency. This material will be used as the starting point to make a series of performance works. The workshop will take its name from the Italian Slow Food movement, a movement advocating the local production and control of food in a sustainable environment. Slow Innovation supports this, advocating a slowed down, reflective relationship with information in the world around us.

APPLY BY OCTOBER 8, 2004

w/e a s s . Wise Ass Comedy Night is an open mic event that showcases stand-up, improvisation and sketch comedy by Columbia College students and members of the Chicago community. Thursday, October 21, 2004 - 7-9:30pm

Afternoon Acoustic Music Series, a monthly series featuring a rotating schedule of groups and solo artists, occurs throughout all [C]Spaces facilities. Next event featuring: **Chris Paquette** October 12, 2004 - 1:00pm-3:00pm

The monthly **Lunchtime Drum Circle Series** features various guest leaders. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to bring a percussion instrument and join the circle of music. Next event featuring: **The Kevin Martinez Project**, October 6, 2004 - 12:00-2:00pm

Big Mouth Open Mic Series is an informal open mic features spoken word, poetry and performance with a rotating schedule of artist, emcees, and musicians. Next event: October 14, 2004 - 6-10pm

Art Walk and Reception

Wednesday, October 6, 5-8pm

Free continuous trolley service will be provided.

Twins

Museum of Contemporary Photography
 600 S. Michigan, 1st fl
 Polaroid prints by famed photographer Mary Ellen Mark from her acclaimed series made in a studio in Twinsburg, Ohio during their annual Twin Days festival.



12th Annual Hokin Honors

Hokin Gallery and Annex
 623 S. Wabash, 1st fl
 Mixed media by top Columbia art students



Bonafide

C33 Gallery
 33 E. Congress Ave, 1st fl
 Mixed media and installation work by three of Columbia's Interdisciplinary Arts Alumni



Mario Castillo: Minimalist Reassertions

Glass Curtain Gallery
 1104 S. Wabash, 1st fl
 The famed muralist and Columbia faculty member reclaims, reprocesses and transforms his early sculptural works of the 1960s and 1970s, asserting the notion that artistic issues from the past are valid in the present.



"10" A Tenth Anniversary Exhibition

Center for Book and Paper Arts
 1104 S. Wabash, 2nd fl
 Work by 47 artists including traditional bookbinding, artist books, paper sculpture, printmaking, papermaking and letterpress.



Hot Mix

A&D Gallery, 72 E. 11th Street, 1st fl
 Selected painting and drawings by Chicago artist John Phillips

A + D 11

cspaces.colum.edu



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Mildred Logan, deputy registrar from the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition helps sophomore music business major Dominick Worthy register to vote in the Wabash Campus Building on Sept. 21.

40 Million strong and looking to be counted

○ Political actions groups look to young voters to take a stance in '04

By Adam J. Ferington
Associate Editor

The 1972 presidential election was the first in American history in which 18-year-olds had the right to vote. Feeding off almost absolute dissatisfaction toward then President Richard Nixon and Vice President Spiro Agnew that ran through the youth culture at the time, 1972 marked a historical precedent as an entire generation went to the polls in an attempt to make their voices heard. Now, in 2004, it may happen again.

The 2000 presidential election was marked by the lowest youth voter turnout in history, with only 42 percent of eligible 18- to 29-year-olds hitting the polls, according to a statement from the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning & Engagement. Conversely, nearly 70 percent of eligible voters over the age of 25 turned out to vote in 2000, according to findings by CIRCLE. In the four years since the "hanging chad" controversy in Florida, a whole new generation has come to voting age. Dozens of groups, both partisan and nonpartisan, are hoping to muster the combined strength of nearly 40 million eligible voters under the age of 30.

"We registered 98 people the

other day, 94 yesterday and we're hoping to get at least as many today," said Willie Dukes, a staff member for the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition's voter registration drive. "We're trying to motivate the kids to vote. ... It's what needs to get done. Otherwise they don't get counted."

Historically, the 18- to 29-year-old demographic has been a group largely overlooked by both Republicans and Democrats because campaigns "don't tend to focus on young people because they don't tend to vote," said Donald Green, a professor of political science at Yale University, in a Sept. 20 article in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. "But if you ignore young people, then they don't vote. It gets into a vicious cycle."

A recent research study conducted by Princeton University shows that most youths don't vote. "They don't care about the issues or feel that the candidates don't speak to their needs," said Christy Salcido, communications director for nonpartisan voter education organization Declare Yourself. "Of the 16 million 18- to 29-year-olds eligible to vote in 2000, only about eight million did. This year, almost 40 million 18- to 29-year-olds are eligible [to vote], so we're trying

to register as many people as possible before the deadline."

With issues such as health care, gay marriage, the economy and the war in Iraq in the forefront for both political parties during the summer, support for Republicans and Democrats is split nearly evenly among college students and Americans under 30, thanks in part to a more inclusive effort by both parties to tap the previously needed votes of the country's youngest constituency.

"Youth voters in the past have felt politically incompetent," Salcido said. "It wasn't that they didn't care—they just didn't know how to become informed on the issues and each candidate's stance."

With the first Tuesday in November fast approaching, both political parties and voter awareness groups are working to collect as many votes as possible for their respective causes. But even with the marked increase in visibility on the issues, some young voters made up their minds long ago.

"I registered to vote as soon as I turned 18," said Andrew Dowd, a 20-year-old film major at Columbia. "I want to do it because I think it matters. I want to get Bush out of office."

Colorado University death raises questions

○ Colorado campus mourns latest death

By Lila Hickey
Rocky Mountain Collegian (Colorado State U.)

(U-WIRE) FORT COLLINS, Colo.—Lynn Gordon Bailey Jr., a University of Colorado-Boulder freshman, was found dead in CU's Chi Psi fraternity house on Sept. 17, according to a statement by Chancellor Richard Byyny.

Bailey, whose cause of death has not been released, was the second student found dead in a Colorado fraternity house in less than three weeks. Samantha Spady, a sophomore business major at CSU, was found dead at the Sigma Pi fraternity house on Sept. 5. Spady's cause of death was determined to be acute alcohol poisoning.

"At this point, we do not know the circumstances surrounding this incident. In light of recent events in Colorado and around the nation, we are, of course, concerned about any possibility of the involvement of alcohol in this tragedy," Byyny said in a Sept. 17 statement.

An investigation continues into the latest fraternity incident.

"It's under investigation by the city of Boulder Police Department," said CU spokeswoman Pauline Hale. "We will wait to see what we learn from the investigation."

In a Sept. 16 press release, CSU President Larry Penley announced the members of a task force on alcohol and substance abuse, chaired by Lt. Gov. Jane Norton, to examine alcohol-related issues such as binge drinking and underage drinking.

Ray Baker, head of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, said the commission does not have any plans to create a task force or committee in regard to the two recent deaths.

Amber O'Connor, communications specialist for Norton's office, said Penley has not talked about expanding the committee.

"We are hoping that whatever the task force comes up with

will be looked at nationwide," O'Connor said. "As far as the actions of the task force itself, it will stay concentrated on just CSU."

The two student deaths, as well as two Fort Collins, Colo., riots the weekend before school started, have put Colorado universities in the national spotlight.

"The rest of the nation will forget it in a week and we'll still be dealing with it," said Associated Students of CSU President Katie Clausen. "I think that definitely, Colorado's going to be a spot on the map now, and not in a positive way."

Still, Baker said he does not believe heavy drinking problems are the result of any one organization or environment.

"I don't think it's an issue for CSU and CU. I think it's an issue around the country," he said.

In fact, approximately 1,400 students die each year in alcohol-related accidents, O'Connor said.

"It's not just a Greek problem and it's not just a college problem. I don't think it can be categorized as a problem at universities," she said. "If you categorize it only as a campus, you're going to be leaving out a big community of individuals that are involved just as much."

The real question, O'Connor said, is what social situations and circumstances cause binge drinking.

Robert Maust, chairman of CU's Standing Committee on Substance Abuse, agreed. Although all freshmen at CU are required to undergo a three-hour online alcohol education program, AlcoholEdu, individual choices are ultimately the biggest determinant of student behavior, Maust said.

Until the cause of death is determined, Maust said, no new programs or initiatives can be created.

"I think any time that we experience a tragedy, we have to pause, reflect and see what we can learn from it and how to make [CU] a safer community," Maust said.

Writing the book on the global sex trade

○ Author: Sex trade "biggest human rights crisis facing women today"

By Jessica Sidman
Daily Pennsylvanian (U. Pennsylvania)

(U-WIRE) PHILADELPHIA—Each year, 800,000 to 900,000 people, mostly women and children, are bought and sold worldwide in the global sex market. They are ordered through Internet sites, given as birthday gifts to soldiers and stripped of their dignity and identity.

Victor Malarek, author of the new book *The Natashas: The*

New Global Sex Trade, spoke at the University of Pennsylvania bookstore on Sept. 20 about the trafficking of women—the black market's third most profitable commodity—and the blind eye that governments and world organizations have turned to the flesh trade.

"It's a brutal book about a brutal trade," Malarek said. "*The Natashas* is a call to action."

The event, which drew a crowd of about 30 people, was hosted by the Ukrainian Society

at Pennsylvania State in conjunction with the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Women's Studies Program.

"I've lived in the Ukraine and Eastern Europe, and I've seen prostitutes," said junior Mark Kindrachuk, who is also one of the founders of the Ukrainian Society. "And walking down the street you don't even think about it, because you see even more people who are so impoverished. ... I knew [prostitution] existed, but I didn't know to

what capacity."

Most people dismiss these women as "whores" who have chosen their own lifestyle, Malarek said. In reality, they are duped into lives of sexual slavery with false promises of real jobs and are beaten into submission and often killed if they protest, he said.

Malarek further condemned the lack of intervention by local, national and international authorities. Immigration officials, police officers and so-called peacekeepers are often the aggressors, leaving the women with the impression that there is no one to turn to for help.

"He seems very knowledgeable and very passionate about

the issue," west Philadelphia resident Laurie Burras said of Malarek. "I want to know why nobody is doing anything."

Other students, professors and community members in attendance said they were also chilled by Malarek's account of "the biggest human rights crisis facing women today."

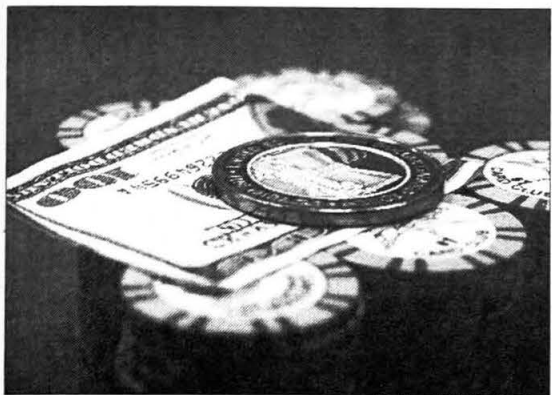
"It was a powerful speech," Kindrachuk said. "I hope he sells a lot of books."

Malarek hopes that his book will raise awareness and foster discussion that will lead to change.

"I just think we've got to do something," Malarek said. "We can't allow these girls and women to be continually raped and demoralized."

College tournament offers 40k scholarship to best 'hold 'em player'

○ National championship offers an alternative to traditional scholarships



Courtesy KRT Wire Service

By Adam J. Ferington
Associate Editor

For those students struggling to find money for college tuition without picking up another job, there may be a solution to your problem: poker.

Piggybacking on the age-old tradition that has married college students with late nights and a deck of cards, the College Poker Championship is offering \$40,000 to "the best college Texas no-limit hold'em player in the world," said best-selling poker author and event host Lou Krieger.

While games like Euchre and Hearts have long been staples of undergraduate socialization, the College Poker Championship has capitalized on the rising popularity of poker among college-age youth, fueled in part by the attractiveness of online casinos and tel-

vised celebrity poker tournaments. However, the tournament isn't just glamorous, it also focuses on charity as well as financial scholarships. In addition to the \$40,000 jackpot, \$10,000 in charitable donations will be furnished by online casino Royal Vegas Poker, to be contributed to any organization or charity that the finalists dictate.

"Last year's first annual College Poker Championship was an unparalleled success," said Krieger in a released statement. "It's about giving back to the community and students while at the same time enjoying a game that is fast becoming the next spectator sport."

The 2005 competition, which began Aug. 29, runs for six months, consisting of 25 "Super Satellite" qualifying rounds played every Sunday at 3 p.m. The players who make it into the top 10 percent during the 25

Super Satellite rounds will compete in the Satellite event Feb. 13. From there only those in the top 20 percent make it to the Feb. 27 online final and into the Land Based Grand Final on March 16.

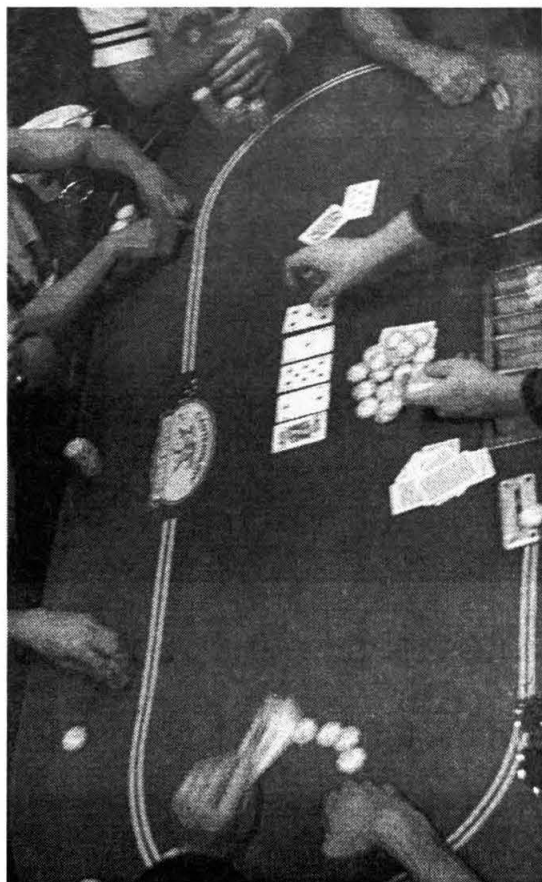
"This is a terrific event," Krieger said in his statement, "as well as a great opportunity for students from around the world to meet one another online and compete for large cash scholarships."

But despite Krieger's enthusiasm for the competition, some people are still a bit wary of the promise of easy money.

"Scholarships are good... the more scholarships students can get, the better, but a lot of people have gambling addictions and we don't need to expose them to that," said Timothy Bauhs, executive director of student financial services at Columbia. "With that much money being available, someone is making a lot more [money off of this] than they're letting on."

The ambivalent nature of the competition aside, the idea seems to have found significant favor with its target audience. "I think it sounds really cool," said Derek Lynch, a junior at Columbia who plays poker a couple times a week with his friends. "I'm not really eligible for scholarships or financial aid, so being able to win money for school with something I'm good at is really great."

For more information on dates, registration and events, visit www.collegepokerchampionship.com.



Courtesy KRT Wire Service

FBI granted access to foreign student's files

○ FBI cites security precedent for War on Terror

By Duni Heimpek & Rachel King
Daily Californian (U. California—Berkeley)

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif.—The U.S. Department of Homeland Security granted the FBI direct access to records of international students and scholars Sept. 14, affecting thousands of University of California-Berkeley foreigners.

The new provision gives FBI agents the ability to view the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, a database that tracks information about international students and scholars, and the U.S. Visitor and Immigration Status Indicator Technology Program, which requires information such as photos and fingerprints from incoming foreign students. Agents were previously required to report to homeland security officials for such clearance.

This shift in policy will affect nearly 300,000 students and scholars nationwide, about 2,400 of whom are at UC-Berkeley.

However the new access is not unlimited. The FBI can only access files of an individual if there is an open case against that person and justification for it, said FBI special agent LaRae Quy.

FBI officials said the access will expedite their investigations.

"If we have an investigation about someone who is violating a federal law, that information will help us determine if that person is really guilty, and to help bring a successful prosecution," Quy said.

The decision by the Homeland Security Department is the latest in a slew of screening modifications introduced since the 9/11 attacks.

"We've made a lot of changes, very dramatic changes to enhance security at the border," said Tom Ridge, secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, in an interview Sept. 13 at Johns Hopkins University.

The announcement has drawn mixed response at UC-Berkeley.

"At a practical level, the access to the information should not ordinarily have any negative affect on our students and scholars," said Ivor Emmanuel, director of UC-Berkeley's Services for International Students and Scholars. "What is worrisome is that the information can be misunderstood and used in ways that is other than what was intended."

Although the change has the potential to affect all 2,400 of UC-Berkeley's international students, some had difficulty finding the significance this switch will hold for them.

"I think it is pretty bad, but I don't see how it would affect me," said Niina Glas, a visiting scholar from Holland. "This is not an effective way to fight terrorism."

In addition, the federal government began charging a standard fee for international students and exchange visitors who received a visa after Sept. 1 of this year.

The one-time \$100 fee is intended to shoulder costs of the tracking system.

NIU hosts Vice President Dick Cheney

○ Cheney blasts Sen. Kerry's 'startling' shifts on war during speech

By Nick Swedberg
Northern Star (Northern Illinois U.)

(U-WIRE) DEKALB, Ill.—Vice President Dick Cheney accused Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry of "flip-flopping" on issues during a campaign fund-raiser speech for fellow Republican and House Speaker Dennis Hastert at the Northern Illinois University-area Convocation Center on Sept. 18.

The event, which drew about 2,500 people to the arena, was part of Hastert's "Mega Event 2004: A Rally for America" fund-raiser. Attendees paid \$150 per plate, with Hastert's re-election campaign collecting more than \$300,000 before expenses.

Speaking in front of a giant Patton-esque American flag, Cheney hammered Kerry's back-and-forth stances on campaign issues—including his support for the troops in Iraq.

"The constant back-and-forth may be good for windsurfing, but not for running for president of the United States," Cheney said, drawing applause and laughter from the crowd.

Cheney described Kerry as "an opponent who adopts a new position on the war every day" and whose shifts in attitude are "startling."

"Voting for American troops



Courtesy KRT Wire Service

Vice President Dick Cheney stumps on the campaign trail for Republican incumbent President George W. Bush's re-election.

in combat should never be a complicated question," Cheney said.

The vice president voiced similar statements at several rallies he attended in various states last week.

"We need a president who will back our troops 100 percent, and that's what we've got with President George W. Bush," Cheney said. He also spoke about the steadily growing economy and the 1.7 million jobs the Bush administra-

tion created last year.

"The Bush tax cuts are working," Cheney said.

"We're working to make the Bush tax cuts permanent."

Hastert, who introduced the vice president and spoke first, talked confidently about the role Illinois will play in the November election.

"We can carry Illinois for the president and vice president of the United States," Hastert said.

A recent St. Louis Post-Dispatch and KMOV-TV poll of 800 likely Illinois voters put Kerry 15 points ahead of Bush.

In a press conference before the event, Hastert said he is "watching those polls carefully." He also said the number of people coming to the event was a good indication of the support the 14th Illinois Congressional District—his district—has for the Bush-Cheney ticket.

"That's a good indication that people want to hear what he has to say," Hastert said.

Both Hastert and Cheney were greeted with standing ovations from the crowd. Supporters waved Hastert and Bush-Cheney re-election signs given away at both the dinner and outside the door.

Hastert said supporters need to do what they can to bring Illinois around for Republicans.

"It's that little extra effort that each of us has to put out," Hastert said.


COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL SCREENING!

From the director of
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i ♥ huckabees

FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH OVERTY FILMS A KANZEON/SCOTT RUDIN/N2 EUROPEAN FILM PRODUCTIONS PRODUCTION "I ♥ HUCKABEES" WRITTEN BY JON BRION PRODUCED BY DANA L. WEINTRAUB EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARK BRIDGES AND ROBERT K. LAMBERT A.C.T. PRODUCED BY K. K. BARRETT DIRECTED BY PETER DEMING, A.S.C. EDITED BY MICHAEL KOHN PRODUCTION DESIGNER DAVID O. RUSSELL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GREGORY GOODMAN SCOTT RUDIN WRITTEN BY DAVID O. RUSSELL & JEFF BAENA DIRECTED BY DAVID O. RUSSELL

www.foxsearchlight.com

**Stop by The Columbia Chronicle Office
623 S. Wabash, Room 205
Chicago**

TODAY, September 27th, during regular office hours, to receive a complimentary pass to a special screening of "I ♥ Huckabees" on Thursday, September 30th at 7:00pm.

One pass per person. Passes are available on a first-come first-served basis. 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. This film is rated "R" for strong grisly violence and language.

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH!


COLUMBIA CHRONICLE
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Sports Illustrated has called it
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FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND IMAGINE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT A BRIAN GRAZER PRODUCTION A PETER BERG FILM BILLY BOB THORNTON
"FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS" DEREK LUKE JAY HERNANDEZ LUCAS BLACK GARRETT HEGLUND AND TIM MCGRAW MUSIC BY BRIAN REITZELL ORIGINAL MUSIC BY EXPLOSIONS IN THE SKY
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JAMES WHITAKER JOHN CAMERON BASED ON THE BOOK BY H.G. BISSINGER SCREENPLAY BY DAVID AARON COHEN AND PETER BERG PRODUCED BY BRIAN GRAZER DIRECTED BY PETER BERG
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*Today, September 27TH to pick up a complimentary pass
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on Tuesday, October 5TH.*

One pass per person. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies and those who have
received a pass within the last 90 days are not eligible.

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8TH!

Color, but at what cost?

Color is nice, but \$1.2 million is an awful lot of money.

That's a conservative estimate—\$1.2 million—of the cost of the biggest project undertaken on campus over the summer: Seven of Columbia's 13 buildings have undergone a paint-and-carpeting overhaul to replace the dingy off-white of previous years. As a result, students, faculty and staff alike will be stepping off elevators all this week to a new look designed to help brand Columbia as a little bit more cutting edge, and a little bit more unified in feel.

Alicia Berg, Columbia's vice president of campus environment and the driving force behind the change, should be commended for wanting to make an impact in her still-relatively-new position.

That's because her instincts are right: Columbia, mostly housed in venerable but aging buildings, can always use a sprucing up. What better way to create an appropriate feel for one of the nation's premier

arts and media colleges than by creating a little bit of change inside the school? And, truth be told, attractive oranges, blues and greens can go a long way to make our school a more pleasant and productive place to learn.

"It's vital that students feel that administrators are spending their admission dollars wisely."

But behind the shiny new façades lurk deeper questions. For example, from what we have seen it does not appear that students themselves were involved to any extent when it came to planning—or executing—the project. Was that the best way to manage a project in a school filled with burgeoning talent in the fields of art and design? And what about the possibility that the project may be going over budget? Does that mean that what we're getting is a half-realized vision, never to be completed? In fact, now that we think about it, we're not

even sure what the project's goals are. Is it designed to make us feel better? Help us learn? Impress donors?

As well, at a cost of \$1.2 million it would seem critical that everybody affected by the new color scheme be made fully aware of the reasons scarce resources were shifted from such critical expenditures as faculty salaries, technology upgrades, and addressing Columbia's perennial space crunch.

Right now, all we know is that some hallways are a different color, some floors have new carpet, and Columbia looks a little bit more like a "unified" campus in some places. Even in a time when tuition increases have been kept in check, it is vital that students feel that administrators are spending their admission dollars wisely and that every decision made has been made with their best interests at heart.

Unfortunately, we're not sure that's the case here.

But we are willing to listen.

Chicago lights up a radical idea

Facing a perennial budget shortfall, Mayor Richard M. Daley has come up with a novel idea: get some dough from marijuana smokers.

Last week, the mayor suggested that instead of a lengthy, time consuming, and expensive process of arresting and sending to court those caught with small amounts of marijuana, perhaps a better idea would be to simply to write a ticket and levy a fine, like those issued for parking violations. That way, the mayor reasons, the city can save money instead of watching most cases of possession for less than 30 grams get thrown

out, like they are now.

Which makes sense on some level, especially for college students, who, faced with a misdemeanor conviction, might end up being denied access to financial aid in the future. Anything that keeps people out of the criminal justice system for minor infractions has to be applauded. But a darker side to the proposal might be found by simply following the money: How many taxpayers in Chicago will be upset if their taxes don't go up one year because Chicago police have had a particularly good run of catching and fining pot smokers? Or, worse, what if the city initi-

ates a program designed to meet a "dope" quota right around the time of a city budget shortfall?

Let's hope the mayor's recent dalliance with the idea ends up as another mark in the win column for Chicago's image as a progressive city coming to terms with victimless crimes, and isn't another creative way to make the books balance at the end of the year. And that police won't have to add "revenue collector" to their already long list of job responsibilities.

Besides—aren't there more important crimes for the city to focus on?

September may never be the same

It happens around this time every year. Friends and family, feeling a touch of fall in the air, assume you must be back at school. "How's it going?" they ask, all kindness and concern.

But if you're a Columbia student, there's only one answer in September: "Don't know. Haven't started yet."

For years, Columbia has started its academic calendar nearly a full month later than almost every other institution of higher learning in the Chicago area. That means

students who choose to attend one of the country's premier arts and media colleges often have to find creative ways to juggle their schedule, hanging on to jobs or internships or places to live at the front end of the school year and letting them go later in the spring.

It's difficult at times, and can only add to the stress of an already stressful time.

Not to mention the fact that few really enjoy having their year-end holiday cheer dampened by the thought of returning to school a week later for finals.

But fret not. Next year, it all changes, and Columbia begins the traditional first-week-of-September start date just like everybody else.

Which means we'll be out there fighting for apartment space, lining up at bookstore counters and filling out job applications in August like any other college student. And our Christmas holidays can be spent worry-free, watching bowl games, drinking eggnog and not thinking about the big test.

You know, it just might be nice to be normal.

IRONY IS NOT HUMOR



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



New cookie cutter Columbia off target?

I walked into work a few weeks ago, on the twelfth floor of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., and bore witness to the aftermath of bad taste. The foyers on every floor of the South Campus Building have been painted the green color of a glowing carbon rod, while the classroom-lined hallways are unassuming grays and whites, matching the scheme of a rec room at the Illinois Department of Corrections.

In addition, I've heard the same paint-job influenzas have plagued other campus buildings.

Allegedly, this college-wide branding, this tossing of individual departmental identity flavors into a bureaucratic mixing bowl, was contracted out by the new vice president of campus environment, Alicia Berg, for the meager sum of \$1.2 million.

Did you hear that, incoming freshmen?

Did you hear that, weathered graduate students?

Do you hear me,

Columbia administration?

While our campus was homogenized by an interior decorating faux pas—an aesthetic decision that looks like it was made during a nuclear meltdown, a solar eclipse, or a Vietnam-combat flashback—the budget of organizations that actually serve our students was cut almost completely. Compared with last year, those organizations have retained 25 percent of their previous budget, hardly a student-centered decision.

Nice job, guys.

I have fellow writer friends who scrape by selling plasma for rent money, subsisting only on Ramen noodles and sunflower seeds, who sink deeper and deeper into financial debt to get an education at this school by paying the already exorbitant tuition costs. For you to use the money that we, the students, earned working late nights at the 24-hour Popeye's on West Montrose to pay to you; for you to use that money to ruin our school is not simply fodder for commentary like this.

It's a shot in the foot with our own bullet. It's theft. It's a dirty trick.

You are robber barons, and the students that have to look at what you've done to their school every day are your victims.

Happy campus improvement.

Stay off my lawn.

—Joe Tower
Graduate Student,
Fiction Writing

Who paints a bulletin board?

I stepped out of the elevator on the twelfth floor of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., for the first time in a couple of months, and yikes! I was horrified by the nauseating and grotesque choice of color for the walls.

What a bilious shade of green it is. And the contrast with the cold and repellent institutional gray beyond the elevators (demarcated by a line so crisp that it had to be drawn with a razor blade) was so intense and revolting that I couldn't believe rational human beings had chosen the combination. What were they thinking? Did they have any color sense at all? And the extent of the painting was mind-boggling—the perfectly nice wooden door painted over, the cork bulletin board painted over. Who paints a bulletin board?

Somebody with very bad taste wasted a whole lot of money on the South Campus Building.

—Phyllis Eisenstein
Instructor,
Fiction Writing

Have an opinion about something you read on these pages? Did you catch a mistake, think we could have covered a story better, or believe strongly about an issue that faces all of us here at Columbia?

Why not write a Letter to the Editor? At the bottom of page 23 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

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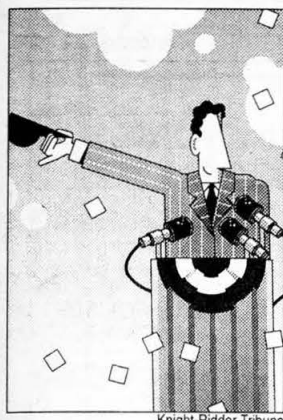
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By Mark W. Anderson
Commentary Editor

Pop quiz: Which of the following statements is true?

1. Freedom is "on the march" in Iraq, and the country is getting more peaceful, stable and democratic by the day.
2. President Bush has already spent more than \$200 billion on the war in Iraq, which is more than the gross national product of all but the top 20 or so countries in the world.
3. If Sen. John Kerry becomes president, the federal government is going to take over the country's health care system and dictate which doctors you can go to.
4. None of the above.

The answer, of course, is No. 4: None of the above. How can you tell? Easy—each of the statements was uttered by either the Republican or Democratic candidate for president while on

The death of truth

the campaign trail in recent weeks.

In fact, statements like these, which have become the meat and potatoes of the race for the White House, have almost completely replaced meaningful political debate this campaign season. As the contest heats up in advance of the November election, both Bush and Kerry seem to be operating on the assumption that when it comes to the highest office in the land, a lie is easier—and better—than the truth. And so both candidates have resorted to unprecedented levels of disingenuousness, regardless of the consequences for the political process.

Take, for example, Bush's recent assertion, repeated at more than one campaign stop, that Kerry's health plan represented a "government takeover" of the American health care system.

"I'm running against a fellow who has got a massive, complicated blueprint to have our government take over the decision-making in health care," The New York Times reported the president as saying in Muskegon, Mich., earlier this month. "Not only is his plan going to increase the power of bureaucrats in your life, but he can't pay for it unless he raises your taxes."

The fact that no one can actually find an example of Kerry saying such a thing, or that his health plan seems little more than some rehearsed ideas about "expanding access," matters little. And what of Kerry's assertion—said no less than 14 times in a single speech in Cincinnati earlier this month—that Bush has already spent more than

\$200 billion in Iraq, a number so big it is larger than the gross national product of every country smaller than Greece? Also not true, according to the Congressional Budget Office, which estimates the current cost in Iraq at \$93.7 billion—less than half of Kerry's number.

From Medicare premiums to assault weapons to abortion rights, and from how to fight terrorism to who voted for what taxes, to win the presidency it's no longer enough to simply paint your opponent as a well-meaning but misguided politician with a poor grasp of policy issues. Instead, you have to lie about what he or she said and did—because that way, you can whip your supporters into a frenzy while demonizing and demoralizing the other side. And if you have to call black white to accomplish this, so be it.

Look at Iraq. By any stretch of the imagination, things there look bleak: Iraqi civilians and American soldiers are dying on a daily basis, upcoming elections may have to be postponed due to poor security, and even a group of senior U.S. intelligence officials recently said the country may well slide into civil war.

How exactly does that play on the campaign trail? For Bush, the worsening situation in Iraq is simply "freedom on the march." For Kerry, the story is one of a need for "internationalization" and a "serious commitment to training Iraqi security forces." Neither candidate is willing to say how they would solve the problems of one of the messiest and deadliest places in the world, and both are unlikely to come up with anything more

specific before Election Day. To do so simply isn't required when an attractive fantasy will do.

How did we get to this point? Part of the blame, of course, lies with the candidates themselves, who, along with their high-powered advisers, see elections as more about tactical victories and media market buys than anything to do with public policy. They are helped in this endeavor by a press corps that's happy to settle for the easy sound bite instead of reasoned analysis, with easy images replacing hard-won reporting.

But, in the end, much of the blame lies with average American voters. As Americans, after all, we have a fondness for being lied to, whether it be in believing sport utility vehicles will help us regain our pioneer spirits in some forested glade, clean-burning gasoline will help save the environment, or invading a country that posed no threat to us will help make us safer. Facing up to the truth seems somehow un-American these days unless it involves the public denouement of a tear-stained reality show, and, truth be told, there isn't really a very powerful visual to go along with the fact that a \$450 billion federal budget deficit threatens our children's future.

So we trudge merrily along, not holding our politicians accountable for what they tell us and looking for the one true lie that makes us feel good about our decision come Election Day. After all, someone's going to get elected president in November.

Who cares if he hasn't been entirely truthful with us?

Perhaps some things just shouldn't be advertised

By Adam J. Ferington
Associate Editor

Good taste is irrelevant. Inconsequential, in fact, when it comes to intellectual and ethical matters, because the idea of whether something is polite, inappropriate or downright offensive is of little consideration to the practical implications of an issue.

However, the core of an issue, as ugly or necessary as it is, can be different from how the veneer catches the eye. Needless to say, outside appearances color how people approach and digest a subject, so the implications of painting yourself with an idiot brush can be like smoking in a shed full of dynamite.

This summer, Planned Parenthood unveiled a T-shirt with the slogan "I had an abortion" printed across the front, created as a "statement" for the film of the same name by author and self-proclaimed "professional feminist" Jennifer Baumgardner. Rather than being the kind of somber and emotionally complex study that the sub-

ject deserves, the film instead consists of women adorned in said shirts talking about their own experiences with abortions with the same indifferent manner that they might use to describe a weekend at a spa.

On www.i-had-an-abortion.org, the unofficial website inspired by the movie a campaign to "put the issues of unwanted pregnancy and illegal abortion on the agenda" seems to be in full swing. The site goes on to say, "There is an enormous misrelation between the amount of women concerned and the public/media attention: On average every woman will have at least one abortion during her lifetime." Utter rot.

First and foremost, show me a reliable figure that every woman in the world, all three billion of

them, will have an abortion at one time or another. There is none. But this argument is secondary to necessity when you consider that it is nothing more than a cosmetic patina to rhetoric that is meant to disguise discussion of the real issue.

I'm not questioning a woman's right to choose, nor am I disputing it. But boiling something as emotionally, legally and, yes, morally difficult as abortion down to a bumper sticker philosophy is insulting to both society and the women whose lives are affected by the issue.

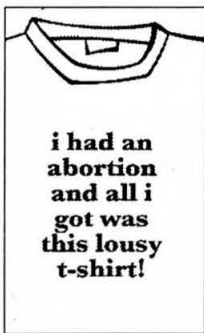
For years, abortion has been the Holy Grail of the feminist movement—a sacrament whose communion is completely above reproach, lest you wish to be branded as a misogynist and bigot. But it isn't a simple issue, nor should it be. There are exceptional consequences—

both physical and emotional—that sometimes take years to manifest themselves. Regardless of how bad certain groups may wish to portray it, abortion will never be as simple as going in during your lunch break for a procedure and walking out with an "I got my uterus vacuumed out today!" T-shirt.

It by no means deserves stigmatization, but there are some things that are best left as personal decisions. To present it as something to be bandied about over dinner with mixed company not only takes away from the sanctity and ethical complexity of women's innate choice, but also chips away at the position many women have built over the years on numerous other issues by presenting the two as mutually exclusive.

Discussing and moving a dialogue forward is admirable, but when it comes to fighting an issue, you only have so many bullets.

It's best not to waste one shooting your own foot.



i had an
abortion
and all i
got was
this lousy
t-shirt!

Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

Roamin' Numerals

400,000

The number of people who "make some money" by selling things on eBay but aren't included in employment figures, cited by Vice President Dick Cheney earlier this month as proof of a stronger-than-expected economy.

19m

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Value, in billions, of eBay's stock as of Sept. 23, 2004.

Choice Cuts



"Thank you, America. We the people of the new Iraq will remember those who have stood by us. And as generous as you have been, we will stand with you, too."

Iraqi interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi on Sept. 23, during a speech before a joint session of Congress in Washington, D.C.

"I am a tool of nobody."

Allawi, dismissing charges his speech to Congress was designed to help President Bush win re-election



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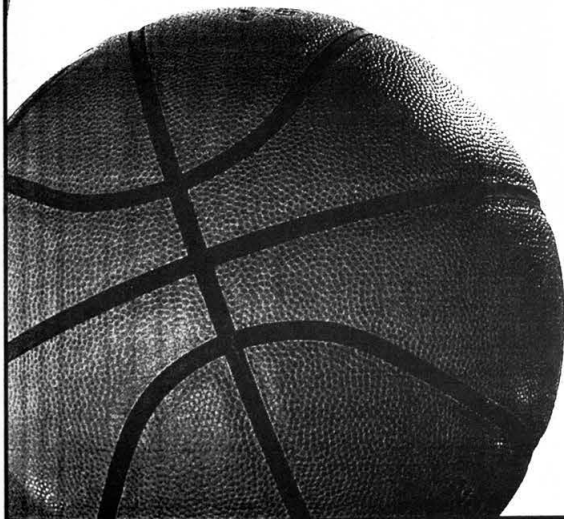
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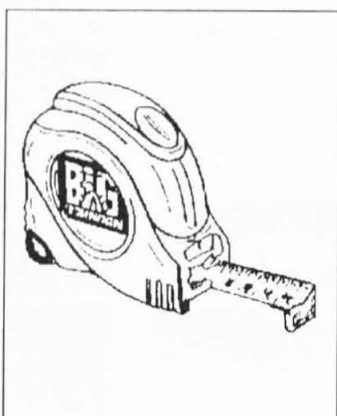


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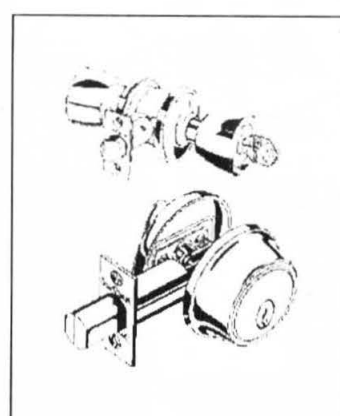
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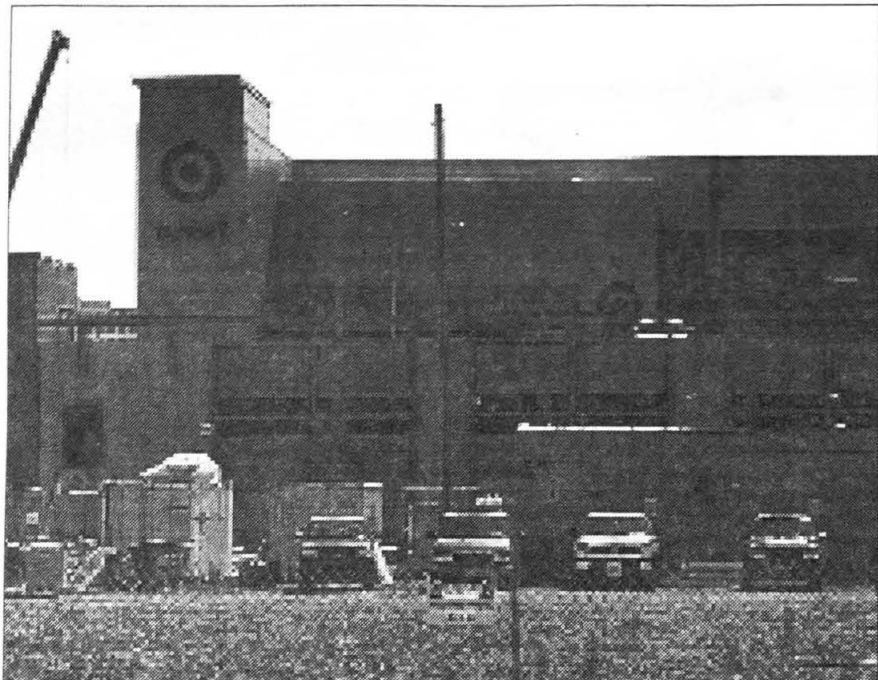
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Tina Wagner/The Chronicle

Scheduled to open next month, the Target store at Roosevelt Road and Clark Street is expected to establish the South Loop as an economically vital community.

Big box retail latest 'target' for developing South Loop

○ Target officials say new store will help spur retail boom in neighborhood

By Jeff Danna
City Beat Editor

With new houses and condos rapidly sprouting up across the South Loop, the Target Corp. is swooping in to fill what it sees as a need for accessible shopping for residents.

A new Target department store at the northwest corner of Clark Street and Roosevelt Road is scheduled to open on Oct. 10 and will boast features such as a two-story design, a three-level parking garage and a green roof that will make the building more energy efficient. Target officials expect the store to be a valuable resource in the South Loop.

"We've been working at the site for five years trying to come up with a design and project that works both economically and physically," said Forrest Russell, senior development manager for Target.

The 179,000-square-foot Target will feature two floors of shopping connected by elevators, rather than one floor like a traditional department store. This vertical design will allow for maxi-

mum development in the surrounding area, Russell said.

The store's other major component, a green roof, is the result of an agreement with the city of Chicago to help conserve the building's energy and to encourage environmentally-friendly architecture.

Pete Scales, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, said the city

"It will make the neighborhood more viable by providing a convenient and value-oriented place to shop."

—Forrest Russell, senior development manager for Target

has made it a policy to work with large retailers to include green roofs on their buildings. Working with Target to develop a green roof on a new store is a task he said the city is familiar with.

"They did a rehab of an old Montgomery Ward building on Addison [Street and California Avenue], and they've got a green roof that covers about 20 percent of the roof," Scales said.

Like the North Side store, the

South Loop Target's green roof—which is mostly made up of low-maintenance, absorbent lichens—also occupies about 20 percent of roof space, Scales said. The remainder of the roof is colored white and reflects sunlight. Along with the green area, this will help cut back on the building's heat loss and save the company money in the long run.

Mesa Development brokered the sale of the land at Roosevelt and Clark, which is owned by Clark/Taylor LLC, to Target. Dick Shields, principal of Mesa Development, is excited about the store's design.

"I think architecturally it's very appropriate for what the city is doing," Shields said.

"It's a very urban looking store." Contemporary aesthetics are not the only aspects Shields sees as being beneficial to the South Loop. He thinks Target will keep existing residents in the neighborhood and attract new residents looking to live near a retail hub.

Russell agreed.

"It will make the neighborhood more viable by providing a convenient and value-oriented place to shop," Russell said. "There's no other shopping like this in the area."

Bonnie Sanchez-Carlson, president and executive director of the Near South Planning Board, hopes Target will entice other, smaller retailers to move into the area by showing prospective businesses that the South Loop is an economically stable community.

"Some people are hesitant to move into a developing area," she said. "This store shows the area has the critical mass to support businesses."

Because Target will be opening in a neighborhood that is home to many colleges, Russell believes the store will be a valuable

Palahniuk to read 'Diary' in Chicago

○ Fan: Author has 'rabid cult-like following'

By Alicia Dorr
Assistant City Beat Editor

Chuck Palahniuk, author of the bestselling novel *Fight Club*, will stop by the Harold Washington Library on Sept. 27 to read from his newest novel, *Diary*.

Palahniuk, who is well-known for his stylized writing and out of the ordinary story lines, approached Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave., a few months ago about making a stop there on his nationwide book tour for *Diary*. The managers immediately began searching for a larger venue than the store.

"He's too well-known for our space, so we sought out larger places in the city," said Logan Bay, assistant manager of Quimby's.

Palahniuk will be signing his most recent novel, *Diary*, in the auditorium of the Harold Washington Library, which can hold 385 people, but has overflow space for up to 685. The event fits into the library's already packed schedule of author readings. Leah Vesclobis, spokeswoman for the Harold Washington, said the library was enthusiastic about hosting Palahniuk.

"Just as the library has books on its shelves for people of different interests, we also do many different kinds of events that appeal to different readers," Vesclobis said.

Both Quimby's and the library expect a diverse crowd for the event, which Vesclobis said would attract readers who are looking for something more "edgy and unpredictable."

Dennis Widmyer, facilitator of Palahniuk's official website "The Cult," said he thought *Diary* was a bit different from the author's other works.

"It covers a lot of the same themes but technically, as a writer, his prose took a step into a new realm of writing," said Widmyer.

Diary is the story of a woman, whose husband goes into a coma after a botched suicide attempt. On an island where eerie and almost supernatural things take place, Misty begins a diary for her bedridden husband. As the

novel progresses, the reader sees Misty's anger in a way only Palahniuk could write.

Palahniuk sent a "mysterious box" to Quimby's from his home address that he instructed the managers not to open until the reading, according to Bay. Palahniuk will read from the novel and hand the unknown contents out during a Q-and-A portion of the reading. Widmyer, who has been to several of Palahniuk's readings and has met the author, said he could not wait until the Chicago audience sees what Palahniuk has in the box.

"He always packs the house. He is almost more like a rock star than an author. Chuck knows how to work the crowd," Widmyer said.

Bay anticipates an interesting audience because of what he calls Palahniuk's "rabid cult following." He said the staff has been excited about Palahniuk coming because he offers a different style.

"He definitely has a form of writing that appeals to readers who are bored with the John Grisham-type writing," Bay said.

Another fan, the webmaster for "The Cult," Kirk Clawes of Elgin, Ill., agrees that Palahniuk's work is appealing because it is different from most writing out there today.

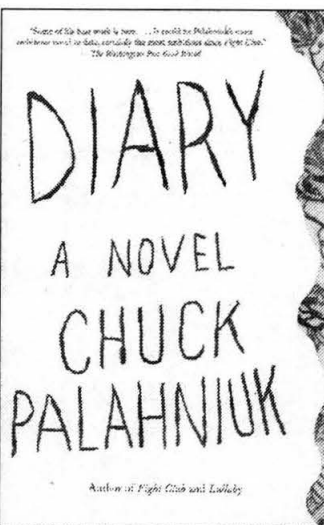
"[Palahniuk] puts his characters in extreme circumstances, using an almost absurd sense of humor, and I think that's what

attracts a lot of people to his writing, especially the younger crowd," said Clawes.

Vesclobis said the library is not concerned about the audience or the content of Palahniuk's sometimes graphic writing because people know what they are getting into. The library hosts readings by authors and writers every week, and is used to seeing a diverse crowd.

"Everybody is a library patron. People usually choose to attend an event based on their interest in the author or the subject," Vesclobis said.

Chuck Palahniuk will read at 6 p.m. on Sept. 27 at the Harold Washington Library. Check out Adam J. Ferington's conversation with Chuck Palahniuk in next week's A&E supplement.



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

See Target, Page 30

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asian ginger sesame, cesar, thousand island, buttermilk ranch, honey poppyseed, white balsamic zinfandel, blue cheese, mandarin orange, red russian, low-fat cilantro lime vinaigrette, fat free sun-dried basil, fat free raspberry, fat free honey mustard

the underground cafe

basement - 600 south michigan
salads available after 10:00 a.m.

Roosevelt, National-Louis discontinue merger talks

Two of Illinois' largest private universities, Roosevelt University in Chicago and National-Louis University in Evanston, aborted a plan last week to merge, citing difficulties in combining two institutions of similar size.

Officials from Roosevelt and National-Louis initially decided to merge to create more programs, facilities and opportunities for students, but discontinued talks of a union Sept. 21 during review of each school's financial status.

"The boards have agreed this isn't a financial decision or a business decision. The bottom line will be whether we decide we can serve students better through this," said Chris Anderson, vice president for

public affairs at National-Louis University, prior to the decision to end merger discussions.

The combined university would have been the third-largest private college in Illinois with approximately 14,900 students.

Roosevelt and National-Louis had considered merging three years ago, but decided that each board of trustees wanted to know more about itself "in terms of each developing a strategic plan," Anderson said.

Merger talks started up again last month after university officials concluded they understood the complementarities of their schools.

—Jeff Danna

SRO Continued from Back Page

stock—what's available in the city of Chicago—was eliminated in the '60s and '70s largely because the buildings were in bad shape," O'Keefe said. "What the city of Chicago is committed to doing is bringing the stock in affordable housing up to that level in the '60s and '70s."

O'Keefe said he hopes building the SROs, complete with support services, will help correct the mistakes of building low-income high-rises in poverty-stricken neighborhoods. Where high-rises create tension among their residents by cramming them into concentrated areas, he said, these new SROs will help create a more hospitable environment by stressing the independence of their residents through the services they offer.

O'Keefe said the Christian Industrial League, whose mission is to aid homeless and near-homeless people through social services, has great hope for these new and improved SROs, including the one under construction at Harrison Street and Wabash Avenue.

"[SROs] provide an additional sense of community for [people]," O'Keefe said. "These

facilities are really like communities. They've all been through some things in their pasts, and they'd like to move on."

He explained that some of the people the league serves have lost or cut ties with their families and rely on each other for support.

Ed Shurna, executive director for the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, said his organization fought for new SROs in the South Loop. He thinks the new building will help establish the neighborhood as a strong mixed-income area.

"We think there should be more low-income housing across the city," Shurna said. "It's more real to life. It brings diversity and awareness and acceptance of other people."

The South Loop has tradition-

ally been an area for low-income residents, Shurna said, and with the increasing gentrification of the neighborhood, upper-class residents are becoming critical of those near the bottom of the socioeconomic ladder.

Bonnie Sanchez-Carlson, president and executive director of the Near South Planning Board, agreed that the economic diversity the new SRO will bring to the South Loop is important.

"We don't want to be displacing individuals who have been living here their whole lives," she said. "Just because we're trying to revitalize the neighborhood doesn't mean we have to displace people."

Sahli said the Coalition for the Homeless was instrumental in assuring South Loop residents the building of the new SRO will not necessarily decrease property values in the area and that the facility is the kind of investment that will improve the neighborhood.

"The South Loop is kind of unusual," O'Keefe said. "It's still developing—it's not a fully gen-

trified community. It already has a history of being a mixed-income community and welcomes a facility such as this."

Because so much attention is being

given to the fact that the South Loop is an up-and-coming neighborhood, O'Keefe said, he is grateful the city's initiatives to establish affordable housing are becoming a reality.

"We're very supportive of the mayor and his initiatives in this area," he said. "He's put this in the forefront as the city has been going through intense beautification and gentrification."

Rooms in the new SRO building are expected to rent for approximately \$430 a month, but no official price has been determined, O'Keefe said. Each room will be 260 square feet and include a kitchenette, bathroom, sleeping area, living area and air conditioning. However, O'Keefe said, there will be no waiting list for prospective residents until January.

Museum exhibit 'action'-packed

○ Visitors see Hollywood blockbuster, but not independent, filmmaking

By Alicia Dorr
Assistant City Beat Editor

Many Chicagoans have seen Hollywood in action this year with big budget films such as *Batman Begins* and *Ocean's 12* filming in the city, but for those still looking for an in-depth look behind the scenes, the Museum of Science and Industry's "Action!" exhibit is a good place to start.

"Action! An Adventure in Moviemaking," which runs through Jan. 9, takes visitors through every aspect of moviemaking from concept to completion. The Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, spent two-and-a-half years working with major studios and industry professionals to create what they hope is a realistic look at what moviemaking is really about.

"The idea is to demystify filmmaking and show all of the detailed, hard work that goes into all aspects of a movie," said John Beckman, the "Action!" exhibit's chief producer.

The exhibit touches on the major aspects of a film—scripts and storyboards, producers, actors, make-up and costume design, stunts and computer animation. The museum had help from more than a dozen studios and production companies for the exhibit, which will be the Museum of Science and Industry's first traveling exhibition.

"Action!" begins with a short movie exclusive to the museum with director Ridley Scott and Orlando Bloom on the set of the film *Kingdom of Heaven*. When visitors enter the exhibit they receive a hands-on, interactive look at a movie from concept to completion.

The exhibit starts with what the audience is familiar with—actors and directors. As guests move through the exhibit, the more technical side of filmmaking is revealed. Rich Moskal of the Chicago Film Office said that this is the kind of thing people are really looking for.

"These days the interest has shifted behind the scenes, what with the popularity of DVD supplements and interviews. This exhibit meets people at that level. It's technical and scientific," said Moskal.

At the end of the exhibit, 30 to 40 visitors at a time are invited to make their own movie, *Escape from Zircon*. Though the soundstage is already set, guests are able to perform, direct, work props and even adjust lighting somewhat.

While visitors make their own movie, the staff defines technical terms in a way they can see and hear. At the end they can purchase their movie for \$5, or download it later from the Internet for free.

"We get a lot of people who come in and say, 'I didn't realize how much went into making a movie.' They work for 20 to 30 minutes and come out with a piece that's less than five minutes, which gives a lot of perspective," Beckman said.

Though the exhibit looks at blockbuster movies from all angles, it does not touch on independent films at all. Moskal said that the exhibit opens a door to the variety of filmmaking for visitors. Beckman attributes the lack of diversity not only to space and time issues, but ensuring the exhibit covers what visitors are familiar with.

During the summer, the exhibit featured Q-and-A periods called "Meet the Credits" with industry professionals. This meet and greet with Chicago filmmakers will be brought back for the holidays, Beckman said. Beckman also hopes to bring back the Oscar statuettes, which were on display before this year's ceremony in California. The Oscars are particularly interesting to visitors because the statuettes are made in the Chicago area, Beckman said.

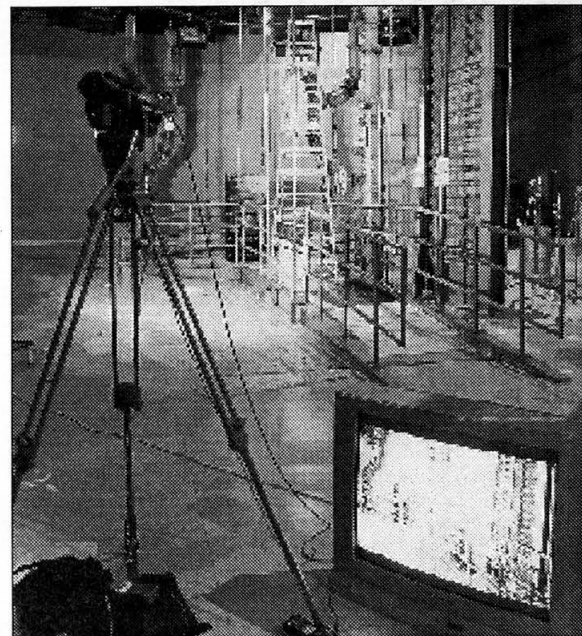
Before going into "Action!", guests can view the "Chicago Walk of Fame," a floor arrangement of Chicago actors and behind-the-scenes filmmakers, created to incorporate Chicago into the event, said to Lisa Miner, a spokeswoman for the museum.

"I don't know many other cities that underscore the importance of filmmaking all around. You might be on the same street as a movie is being made, or you might know someone who is a costume designer for film," Miner said.

Though the "Walk of Fame" will not be a part of the exhibit when it travels, Moskal said "Action!" is an important reflection of Hollywood's interest in Chicago.

"Chicago will always ride out drops in production because it is a cinematic metropolis with an infrastructure of talented crew and an abundance of resources. The fact that major studios were so generous to the museum illustrates their interest in Chicago," Moskal said.

The Museum of Science and Industry is open Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. General admission is \$9 for adults and \$7.50 for the "Action!" exhibit. For information on free days, visit the museum's website at www.msichicago.org or call (773) 684-1414.



Courtesy Museum of Science and Industry

Museum of Science and Industry visitors have a chance to make their own movie called 'Escape from Zircon' using film industry facilities such as the sound stage shown here.

Target Continued from Page 28

resource for students looking for inexpensive merchandise.

"Target offers things students need," he said. "One of our major markets is college and high school students."

Unlike Wal-Mart's initiatives to move into Chicago, Target's plan to move into the South Loop was well-received from the beginning, mainly because of the company's commitment to hiring

workers from the area—the store is expected to generate 350 to 400 jobs—and its reputation for supporting community organizations, Sanchez-Carlson said.

"I don't foresee [any backlash], because we have a great community relations program," said Dave Craig, a store team leader at the South Loop Target. "We try to better the community we're in ... Target nationally gives \$2 mil-

lion a week to charities and organizations, mainly education."

In the past, Target has donated money to the Near South Planning Board and has assisted the organization in bringing authors to schools around the city, Sanchez-Carlson said.

"As long as they work with the surrounding community," she said, "they are welcome."



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Lindsay Gershon, sales associate at the Segway Experience of Chicago, 224 S. Michigan Ave., explains the features of the Segway Human Transport while balancing it.

Chicago police on a roll with latest technology

○ Segway sparks CPD's interest in environmentally-friendly transportation

By Alicia Dorr
Assistant City Beat Editor

The Chicago Police Department uses everything from bicycles to golf carts and squad cars to patrol the streets and buildings in the city. Now a brand new transport can be added to the list—the Segway.

Ever since Mayor Richard M. Daley approved a three-month trial of Segway Human Transport in 2002, the Police Department has been training more officers to use the battery-operated devices.

The self-balancing machine goes up to 12.5 mph and a few miles for every battery charge, proving to be an asset for a police force already pressed for time.

Forty police officers are trained to patrol on the Segway, according to police spokesman Patrick Camden. Police use Segways at O'Hare and Midway airports, the Lincoln Park Zoo, Navy Pier and on Michigan Avenue. Camden said officers who use the Segway have been satisfied with the transport.

"It allows additional mobility for an officer—it's quicker, it puts them higher above the ground and it's easy to use," Camden said.

The Segway is best for short-distance travel, making it an ideal choice for officers doing lengthy but essential beats at airports. The Segway raises riders about 8 inches taller than their normal heights and has the same turning radius as the human body. According to Carla Vallone, a spokeswoman for Segway LLC, a niche market of police departments looking to increase efficiency caught on.

through word-of-mouth.

"One officer at O'Hare doing beats in a parking garage can check the whole floor [on a Segway] in half the time it takes on foot," Vallone said.

Despite all advantages for officers who use Segways, there is one main problem—cost. Segways are about \$4,500 apiece, which curbs some enthusiasm for the new technology. Though police departments that use the Segway can qualify for group discounts, the city has taken its time purchasing and training officers.

According to Camden, Segway's short battery life is an issue that needs to be addressed. A Segway uses more battery power going up hills or straining against heavy winds, something that could be a problem in Chicago. The Segway, which charges from the wall, like a cell phone, and uses less than \$5 in energy costs a year, now has a new battery that Vallone said will last twice as long as the old one.

Though fewer than 50 officers are trained in the use of Segways, a sales associate at the Segway store, Lindsay Gershon, said she often gives demonstrations to police officers interested in the technology.

But officers are not the only people interested in Segways. Katie Mohrfeld, manager of the Segway Experience of Chicago, 224 S. Michigan Ave., and Gershon said they have worked with a variety of people and businesses in the city—commuters, certain warehouses, maintenance

staff for apartment complexes and older people who have a harder time getting around. Daley, who is known for being progressive with new technology, said in 2002 that he enjoyed the Segway. Mohrfeld said the company was drawn to Chicago because of this and other reasons.

"The Segway Store opened in Chicago because of the urban environment. There are too many cars and it's a mess—Chicago needs another mode of transport," Mohrfeld said.

Less than a year ago, the city approved the use of Segways on sidewalks, putting Segway riders under the same laws as pedestrians. Regulations and laws regarding the use of Segways are changing every day, a sign that the new technology has caught some attention, according to Mohrfeld. This is also the case in California, Florida and other places Gershon said are "Segway friendly."

In certain areas of the city, Segway riders are still asked not to ride the vehicles, according to Mohrfeld, but have rarely been ticketed. Gershon said she has been pulled over once and the officer was only interested in learning more about the device. She often uses the Lake Shore Drive bike path to commute. Gershon said the Segway is generally becoming more acceptable as people learn about the technology.

"It only takes a few minutes to learn how to handle a Segway. We try to teach people that it's not magic—you just have to use common sense," Vallone said.

Spertus *Continued from Back Page*

complementing its existing graduate college, museum and the Asher Library. The top floor will house a kosher cafeteria, the only one in central Chicago.

In addition to being symbolic of Jewish heritage, the new Spertus building will provide much needed storage space and proper climate control for the institute's 500,000 historic artifacts, including books, sculptures and pieces of music, Sulkin said.

While the majority of the comments made at the symposium about the building's design were positive, not everyone was enthusiastic.

“[Sulkin] was talking about the missing tooth, but it seems like he’s putting in a gold tooth,” said Printers’ Row resident Dennis McCleendon. “I think it would be a terrific building on a lot of Chicago streets, but not the Michigan Avenue corridor.”

McClennond attended the meeting because he was anxious to see the building that may fill a vacant lot several blocks from his home.

Gene Stunard, a Chicago resident for 29 years, who lives just north of Grant Park, disagreed with McClenndon. He called the

proposed Spertus building "another piece of great art" in Chicago. He said he does not believe new structures should

"We're looking for public support on this, which we see as the next progression of this great street that deserves something new."

—Howard Sulkin, president of the Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies

have to blend in with their neighboring buildings.

"I don't want Chicago to be a museum of past architecture," Stunard said.

Sexton is certain that the new building, if approved by the city's planning and landmarks committees, will fit nicely in the line of buildings along Michigan Avenue. He explained that the existing buildings along that stretch of road are not all alike in that they each create a different pattern of shadows and light with their architecture; the Spertus building would be an extension of this


"What [the new Spertus building] does is take the shadows and movement and balance it," Sexton said. "It creates a series of elements that absorb and

reflect the light."

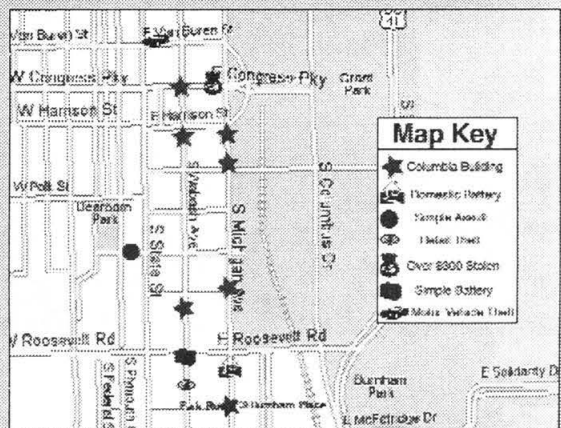
Sulkin hopes this new design will entice the public to use the institute's resources and learn about the Jewish experience. With Millennium Park asserting itself with bold architecture at the north end of Grant Park and the Museum Campus attracting visitors with its educational resources at the south end, Sulkin would like to see the Spertus Institute fit into this environment.

"We like to see ourselves as a gift to the city and an important linkage between these two very, very important parts of our new Chicago," Sulkin said.

OFF THE BLOTTER

- 
- OFF THE BLOTTER**
- A 40-year-old man was arrested for simple battery that occurred at the BP Amoco gas station at 1221 S. Wabash Ave. on Sept. 20 at 2:03 a.m.
 - A 17-year-old male was arrested for a theft that occurred at the Jewel-Osco grocery store at 1224 S. Wabash Ave. on Sept. 19 at 7:25 a.m.
 - A theft occurred at the J. Ira and Nicki Harris Family Hostel, 24 E. Congress Parkway, between 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 17 and 9 a.m. on Sept. 18. A hostel guest told police he had left his room and locked the door. When he returned, his Sony Mini-Disc player was missing. No one has been arrested in connection with this incident.
 - A 27-year-old man was arrested for simple assault that occurred on the street at 1 E. Balbo Drive on Sept. 19 at 4 a.m. The victim, a 31-year-old man, told the offender to leave the location, and the offender said he would return and shoot the victim.
 - A silver 2000 Chevrolet Impala was stolen from 47 E. Van Buren St. on Sept. 17 between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. No one has been taken into custody in connection with this incident.
 - A 25-year-old man was arrested for domestic battery in an apartment at 1212 S. Michigan Ave. on Sept. 19 at 1:45 a.m. The victim, a 24-year-old female, told police that during an argument, the offender grabbed her right upper arm.
- Compiled by Jeff Danna through data provided by the Chicago Police Department

-----Compiled by Jeff Danna
through data provided by the
Chicago Police Department



Linsey Burritt/The Chronicle

Columbia eyes Spertus space for expansion

○ Area residents praise, criticize edgy architecture

By Jeff Danna
City Beat Editor

South Michigan Avenue's smile is in need of dental work and Howard Sulkin, president of the Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies, intends to fix it.

The Spertus Institute, 618 S. Michigan Ave., is nestled just north of Columbia's South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., in a line of landmark buildings overlooking Grant Park that, to Sulkin, resemble a row of teeth. Immediately north of the Spertus Institute is a vacant lot that is a proverbial gap in an otherwise perfect smile. That vacancy will be the site of the new Spertus Institute building.

During a Sept. 20 symposium that reviewed new architecture around Grant Park, Sulkin and architectural firm Krueck-Sexton unveiled the plans for Spertus' new 10-story glass structure to the public. Sexton represented Krueck-Sexton, the firm working with Spertus to design the building.

In light of the recent unveiling, Columbia officials have acknowledged their interest in purchasing Spertus' existing building.

The cutting-edge design drew

mixed responses from the audience, but Sulkin and Mark Sexton, who represented Krueck-Sexton, remained confident in their idea.

"We're looking for public support on this, which we see as the next progression of this great street that deserves something new," Sulkin said.

With the Spertus Institute's current building officially up for sale, Sulkin has been meeting with organizations that could be potential buyers, including Columbia.

"We went to Columbia first," Sulkin said. "You always go to your neighbor first."

Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment at Columbia, said the college has been eyeing the building for several months and that the school is "always looking for new buildings that are available in the area" to accommodate its growing student population with more classrooms.

Although Sulkin was not at liberty to discuss which other organizations are interested in the building, he said he would "like to see another educational institute move in and bring new life."



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Mark Sexton, architect for the firm Krueck-Sexton, presents plans for the Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies' new building to be constructed in the empty lot at 610 S. Michigan Ave. The proposed modern design would sit among landmark buildings overlooking Grant Park.

Sulkin and his colleagues presented the plans for the new Spertus building to Columbia executives several days before revealing them to the public, and Berg said she was impressed with the institute's proposed sleek new look.

The South Loop, she said, often goes unrecognized architecturally, and the new Spertus Institute building would be a focal point of the neighborhood.

Sulkin and Sexton planned the design of the new building around

the religious maxim "let there be light," and developed a concept that would incorporate light into the everyday workings of the institution.

The building's diamondlike façade will act as a massive bay window, letting in light from the east, but because the glass front is a pattern of concave and convex panes, the light will be refracted at various angles, Sexton said. He explained that this, combined with a series of atriums, would give visitors a clear connection to

each part of the building.

"We were trying to link the various components—the library, the college, this public events area, as well as the museum—so that they're linked together in that a person who might use the library would interact in some form with the college or the museum or even the auditorium," Sexton said.

The auditorium will be a new addition to the Spertus Institute,

See **Spertus**, Page 31

SRO construction on schedule

○ Community members hope SRO will bring more diversity to South Loop

By Jeff Danna
City Beat Editor

Five years after the closing of several South Loop single-room occupancy buildings, and a decade after the city of Chicago's vow to bring affordable housing back to the neighborhood, the Chicago Christian Industrial League is in the process of constructing the South Loop's third "new-fangled" SRO across from Columbia's Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

What is now a steel and concrete skeleton looming over Wabash Avenue and Harrison Street will be, by late spring 2005, an eight-story, 169-unit SRO that will offer affordable housing along with job training services, social activities and other programs to help low-income residents get on their feet.

According to Pete Scales, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, the city sold the

property at Wabash and Harrison to the Christian Industrial League for \$1 so it would develop the \$16.3 million building.

"The movement of providing this kind of housing along with support services is relatively new and hasn't been going on for more than eight to 10 years in the city," said Denis O'Keefe, chief operating officer for the Chicago

new-fangled SRO, not a flop-house. This new style SRO is the kind of building the city is committed to."

City officials took the initiative because they felt the South Loop was rapidly losing affordable housing units to higher-income residences, Sahli said. The result, she explained, was the opening of two new-style

SRO buildings in the South Loop, one built by the Christian Industrial League at 18th Street and Wabash Avenue and one built by Lakefront Single Room Occupancy Corp. at 15th Street and Wabash Avenue.

In 1999, coming on the heels of the closings of two other affordable housing units in the South Loop—the Roosevelt Hotel, 1 W. Roosevelt Road, and the St. James Hotel, 1234 S. Wabash Ave.—the city decided to bring a third SRO to the neighborhood.

"The affordable housing

See **SRO**, Page 30



Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

Construction on the Chicago Christian Industrial League's new South Loop single-room occupancy facility is underway at Wabash Avenue and Harrison Street. The SRO, which sits across from Columbia's Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., is scheduled to open in late spring 2005.

Our South Loop
changing

Christian Industrial League.

For the past 10 years, the city of Chicago has taken the initiative to establish SRO buildings in close proximity to downtown, particularly in the South Loop, giving low-income residents the opportunity to find work within walking distance, said Ellen Sahli, Mayor Richard M. Daley's liaison on homelessness and supportive housing.

"This is proactive planning on our part," Sahli said. "This is a