

3-15-2004

## Columbia Chronicle (03/15/2004)

Columbia College Chicago

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## Carter blames students for unspent cash

○ Expanding in the South Loop also on agenda

By Chris Coates  
Editor-in-Chief

At his second State of the College address, Columbia President Warrick L. Carter said he partly blamed students March 10 for the \$400,000 in scholarship monies not spent by the college last year.

"Shame on you students," Carter said at the nearly hour-long address in the Ferguson Theater of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. "Because you didn't come and bang down the doors and make sure that you have entered every conceivable ounce of [financial assistance] that we had in scholarships available to you."

In December, college official announced they had not awarded the nearly half-million dollars in scholarships because of what they said was a lack of applicants. College officials also said a large number of applicants did not fit scholarship criteria.

In his speech, Carter acknowledged that some students were unaware of the scholarship opportunities.

"Shame on us," Carter said to the near capacity crowd of staff, faculty and students. "But shame on you."

In the Q-and-A session that fol-

lowed Carter's address, Stephanie Berliant, a freshman theater major, said she wasn't aware of the scholarship money.

Berliant, who lives in Columbia's Residence Life system, said her current scholarships—which total \$3,000 a year—aren't enough. The cost of education at Columbia is \$29,687 per academic year for a student like Berliant who lives on campus, according to the college's Office of Student Financial Services.

"Any awards I've gotten have been on my own, and it's tough. It's really tough to find funding," Berliant told The Chronicle after Carter's speech.

"The fact that they had 400,000 extra dollars laying around is ridiculous," she said.

Carter said that's going to change.

"We're going to spend those funds," Carter said. Next year, "if the money is not spent, shame on you students for not coming and taking advantage and making sure all of those funds were spent," Carter said.

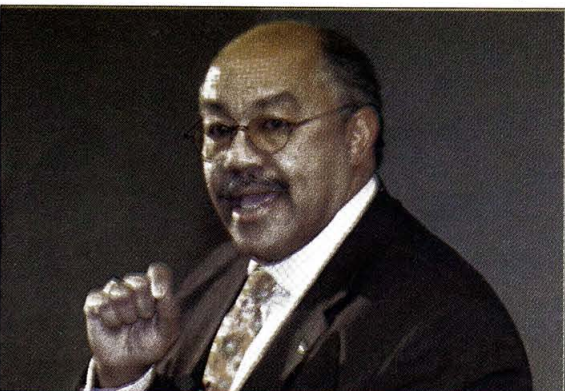
The majority of the speech focused on the senior administration's long-term goals as outlined in the college's Columbia 2010, a comprehensive plan to make Columbia "the best student centered college in media and the arts in the world," Carter said. The speech was also broadcast college-wide on Frequency TV.

The breadth of the 2010 plan deals directly with expanding

See Address Page 10

### Students say Carter's speech fell flat.

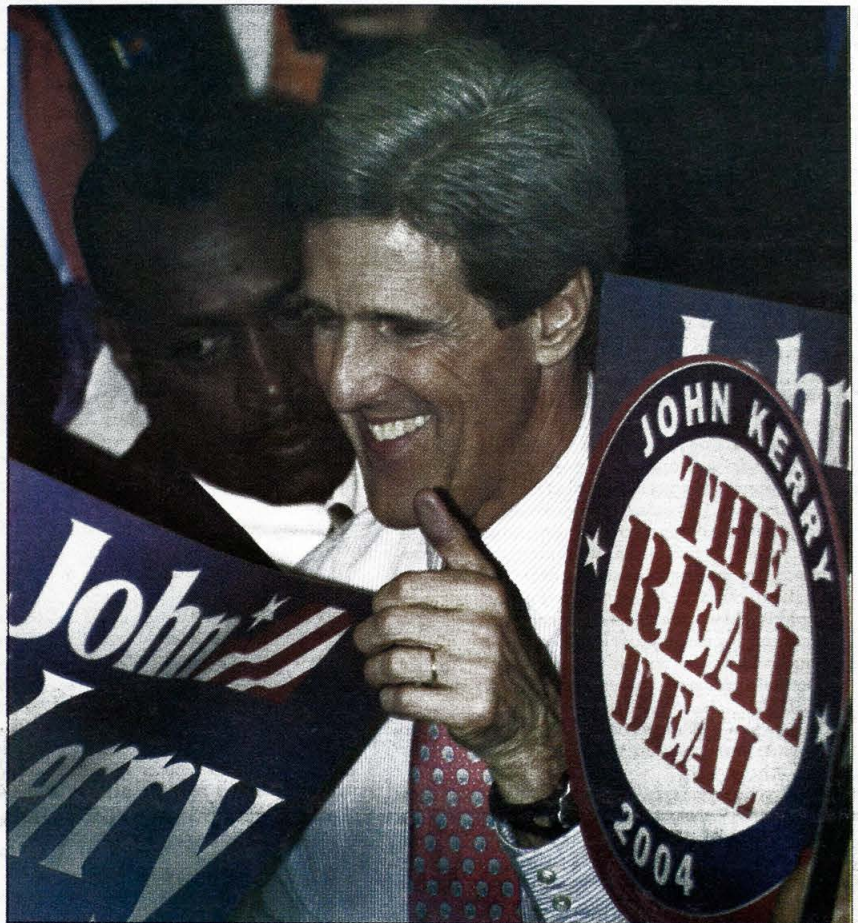
See Page 3 for more coverage



Andrew J. Scott/The Chronicle

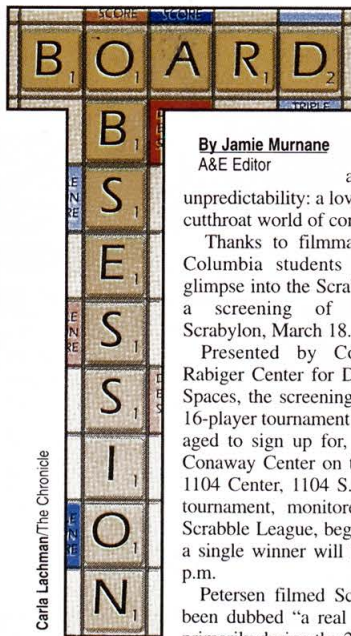
President Warrick L. Carter speaks to students and faculty about the state of the college March 10.

## Kerry sweeps into Chicago



Andrew J. Scott/The Chronicle

John Kerry greets Democratic supporters March 9 at Union Station, 210 S. Canal St. It was Kerry's first stop in Chicago since he began his presidential election campaign.



Carla Lachman/The Chronicle

## SCRABYLON

○ Filmmaker shows viewers Scrabble subculture

By Jamie Murnane  
A&E Editor

Obsession, desire, anticipation, risk and unpredictability: a love affair? No, it's the cutthroat world of competitive Scrabble.

Thanks to filmmaker Scott Petersen, Columbia students will be offered a glimpse into the Scrabble subculture with a screening of his documentary, *Scrablylon*, March 18.

Presented by Columbia's Michael Rabiger Center for Documentary and C-Spaces, the screening, accompanied by a 16-player tournament students are encouraged to sign up for, will be held at the Conaway Center on the first floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The tournament, monitored by the Chicago Scrabble League, begins at 3:30 p.m. and a single winner will be announced at 10 p.m.

Petersen filmed *Scrablylon*, which has been dubbed "a real life *Best in Show*," primarily during the 2001 World Scrabble

Championships that were held in Las Vegas. Peterson said he also took trips to Chicago (where he's originally from), Detroit, Los Angeles and San Diego for the National Scrabble Championships in August 2002.

While Petersen said he enjoys a game of Scrabble now and then, he's not a "hard-core player like some of the people in the movie."

Ultimately, it was a Scrabble subculture and the obsession surrounding the board game, which was created in 1948, that interested him.

"There's just a tremendous amount of obsession," Petersen said. "People get obsessed with any number of things in the world. I might be obsessed with making movies and people out there are obsessed with Scrabble or stamp collecting or whatever. And it's interesting to see why they get that was ..."

See *Scrablylon* Page 27

Inside  
this week



### Commentary

Mister Bush, those firemen ain't real ...

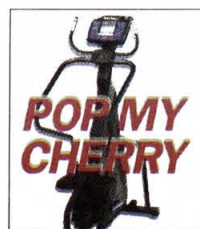
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### A&E

A little bit of Patty's Day history for ye

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### City Beat

They're talking about the machines right?

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## Calendar: March 15-19

## MONDAY

The Center for Book and Paper Arts presents "Structure and Skin," a new exhibit on the second floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

"Structure and Skin" focuses on the work of New York artist Lesley Dill, who uses paper and cloth as metaphors to shroud or reveal the spirit. Her techniques reflect the intricacies of the human condition. This exhibition concentrates on her paper dress and suit forms often used in her performances.

Also featured is Cris Bruch, who investigates the commonplace. He immerses himself in everyday rituals and materials to create sculptural works that address social issues. Milk cartons, file folders, sheetrock tape and liquor bottles are among the materials Bruch uses.

"Structure and Skin" appears at the center until April 24. For more information on this free event, call (312) 344-6630.

## TUESDAY

The Museum of Contemporary Photography's "Gallery Talk" series presents a discussion with exhibiting artist Lewis Koch.

Koch has been working independently as a visual artist and documentary photographer for 25 years. His work has been shown in solo exhibitions in London; New York City; Rotterdam, Netherlands; Brussels, Belgium; Chicago; and Los Angeles, as well as in numerous group exhibitions. His photographs are in permanent collections throughout North America and Europe, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Staatsgalerie Stuttgart.

The Gallery Talk begins at 3 p.m. in the museum, located on the first floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. For more information, call (312) 344-7104.

## WEDNESDAY

The Wednesday Screening Series presents "Gotta Get It," a series of short films that explore themes of passion and obsession through documentary, animation and experimental formats. The series is on tour as a part of the MadCat Women's International Festival, which emphasizes innovative works by women.

The screenings begin at 6 p.m. in Room 302 of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. For more information, call (312) 344-6708.

## THURSDAY

Columbia's Intersarsity Christian Fellowship hosts a Q-and-A session about Mel Gibson's film, *The Passion of the Christ*. The session begins at 6:30 p.m. at The Hub, in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. For more information, e-mail IVColumbia@yahoo.com.

## FRIDAY

Columbia's Getz Theater presents "Stage Door," a play by Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman, directed by faculty member David Cromer.

Set in late 1930s New York, "Stage Door" is about the eternal struggle to "make it" and still hold on to ideals. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Getz Theater, 62 E. 11th St. Admission is free to Columbia students. Nonstudent admission is between \$10 and \$14, with discounts for other students and senior citizens. For information or reservations, call (312) 344-6126.

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

## THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

## March 8 - 12 user poll results

Do you plan to drink green beer on St. Patrick's day?

Yes: 83 percent No: 17 percent

Vote at ColumbiaChronicle.com



## Chris Coates Editor-in-Chief

## You've got to be kidding

I don't know what it is with Columbia, but I always seem to burn out around March 15.

At normal colleges, March is almost April, which is almost graduation, which is almost summer. I can almost feel the sunshine.

At Columbia, March is just the second month of the semester. It does have St. Patrick's Day, which is an obvious high point.

Maybe it's the winter getting to me, but I'm feeling increasingly confused, tired and frustrated.

Thus, I introduce, the 2004 spring semester Chris Coates pre-burnout column titled "You've got to be kidding."

## ● UCLA's cadavers for profit

The University of California at Los Angeles employee in charge of cadaver research is busted on allegations he sold donated body parts for profit.

What the purchasers planned on doing with such parts is unclear.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Blair Hull

This guy makes former Illinois Gov. Ryan look like a school marm.

If his voting records are any indication, I doubt he'll vote in the election anyway.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● NASCAR dads

Same concept as "soccer moms," only this time they're male, pro-gun

Democrats from rural areas who follow auto racing. Why did President Bush show up at the Daytona 500 last month? NASCAR dads.

Actually, to be politically correct, they're National Association of Stock Car Racing enthusiast fathers.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Columbia's hiring practices

Follow this logic: Even though Columbia's facing a budget crunch, administrators decide not to raise tuition. Then they hire a half-dozen outsiders to fill new positions.

Hmm ... I guess you've got spend money to earn money.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Haiti

Thirty-two coups in 200 years.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● The stance on gay marriages

## Who cares?

I'm pretty sure our children will look back on this same sex marriage thing the same way we cringe at "Whites Only" drinking fountains.

## ● What an embarrassment.

What happened to the Republicans? Weren't they supposed to support a smaller government, one that tries to stay out of our personal lives?

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Caribou Coffee

I used to be a feverish opponent of corporate coffee chains. But with the opening of Caribou's 800 S. Wabash

Ave. location, it's too damned close to have scruples.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● SGA shuttle

Only at Columbia could student dollars be put toward an unmarked shuttle that stops at unmarked stops at unmarked times. At the self-purported "premier visual, performing, media and communications arts college" in the country, why aren't students involved in communicating the message?

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Harrison Street's reopening!

The reopening of Harrison Street means only a one-block walk to campus from the Red Line. For female students, it also means a walk past two, active construction sites—full of active and vocal construction workers.

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● The mansion

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● Senior Seminar

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● John Stosell

He used to be mildly entertaining on "20/20." Now he just relies on his tired slogan, "give me a break."

## ● You've got to be kidding.

## ● This column

## ● You've got to be kidding.

—ccoates@chroniclemail.com

## 14 years ago in The Chronicle

Ah, how the times change.

In the March 19, 1990, edition under the headline "Broadcast news: CNN ready to hire," The Chronicle writes that the then-fledgling Cable News Network was looking to tap Columbia's source of young journalists.

"All [video journalists] will work the teleprompter, cameras and other studio machines like the coffee maker," said Marsha P. Needham, one of CNN's recruiters at a meeting with Columbia students. Today, Needham is director of the Atlanta-based network's Human Relations Department.

Aside from the \$15,000 a year income, what was the best part of interviewing with the network? You didn't have to be a journalism major to apply.

"We do about 60 percent of our interviews over the telephone and have hired students after successful phone interviews," Needham said.

## Announcements

## Art for Chicago's sake

Two faculty members of Columbia's Art and Design Department have been awarded public commissions.

Adam Brooks, professor and coordinator of fine arts, and Louise LeBourgeois, adjunct professor and former artist-in-residence, have both been selected by the City of Chicago Public Art Program to design permanent pieces of art for public locations. Brooks' venue will

be the Pulaski CTA station on the Blue Line, while LeBourgeois will produce work for the 17th District Police station at 4650 N. Pulaski Road.

## Now hiring

Rebecca Snyder, associate dean of Columbia's Graduate School, worked her last day at Columbia March 12.

Snyder, who has worked in the Graduate School office for four years, will be establishing her own business and spending time with family.

"She's always been an incredible asset since she started working here," said Keith Cleveland, dean of the Graduate School.

## Stealing homepage

The website for the Columbia Coyotes, Columbia's baseball team, is now up and running.

Rosters, practice dates and upcoming games are posted on the site, along with current sports headlines. The website can be accessed at <http://columbiabaseball.net/>

## Midnight at the OASIS

Anyone who has complaints, compliments or questions about OASIS, the college's online portal, will be able to bring them to help desk employees in the CIT computer lab, located in Room 416 in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., from 10 a.m. to noon. Refreshments will be served.

## Farewell Perk

Coleridge-Taylor Perkins, the director of Columbia's Center for Black Music Research, died March 8, from complications with cancer.

His survivors include a daughter, two grandchildren and a sister. Funeral arrangements are pending.

## Mr. Holland in the Hokin

Columbia's ASL-English Interpretation Department presents a free showing of the Richard Dreyfuss film *Mr. Holland's Opus* Mar. 19. The showing is in Hokin Hall, room 109, of the Wabash building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., at 3:30 p.m.

## Weather

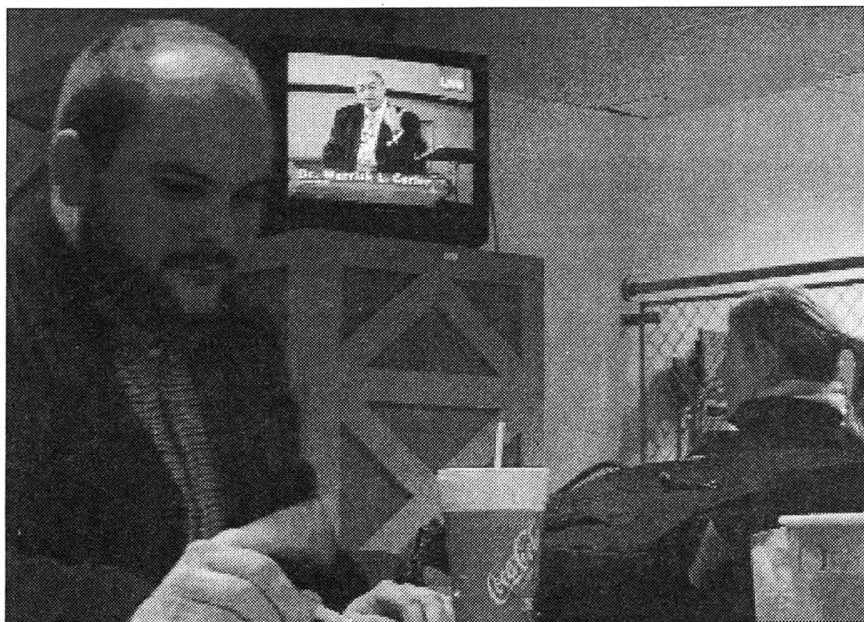
## AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Chicago

Monday, March 15	
	High 38° Low 28°
Tuesday, March 16	
	High 44° Low 34°
Wednesday, March 17	
	High 50° Low 32°
Thursday, March 18	
	High 48° Low 30°
Friday, March 19	
	High 50° Low 32°
Saturday, March 20	
	High 52° Low 34°
Sunday, March 21	
	High 47° Low 29°

All forecasts provided by AccuWeather.com ©2004

## Students dissatisfied with 'state' address

○ Carter failed to address key college issues in his speech, some students say



Charles Kushner/The Chronicle

James Dalton ashes his cigarette as President Carter delivers the 2nd annual State of the College address. Frequency TV broadcast the speech in the Underground Cafe, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

By Lisa Balde  
Managing Editor

Fewer than 25 students gathered to listen to Columbia President Warrick L. Carter's second State of the College address in the smoky confines of the Underground Café in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., March 10. Of those in attendance, many were dissatisfied with what they heard.

"I was trying to figure out what [Carter] was talking about," said senior James Dalton. "He was kind of ambiguous."

Dalton said the speech should have identified specific timetables for the projects Carter discussed, especially for the refurbishment of the elevators in the 33 East Congress Parkway Building that the president poked fun at during his address.

The discussion of issues such as tuition affordability and campus safety is needed, but Carter could have done more to outline those issues' specifics, Dalton said.

"Give examples of specific issues that are important to students," he said.

Connie Carbone, a sophomore film and video major, said overall she felt disappointed by the speech.

"He kind of just beat around every issue," she said. "He didn't seem very comfortable in how he was presenting his issues."

Carbone said she did agree with Carter's comments about faculty members' high level of dedication and the rising professional development among teachers.

But she wanted to know about the administration's short-term plans.

"He didn't mention really anything that's happening now," Carbone said.

As students strained to hear the speech, broadcast live from one floor above in the Ferguson Theater, they shared puzzled looks about Carter's comments. They all wanted to know the same thing: What improvements in the school can students expect before they graduate?

"It seems that everything is in the future," said Caryn Campbell, a junior television major, "but in 2005, I'm not going to be at this school anymore."

Campbell said that despite complaints about the speech, an address of this nature should occur more often so every member of the college community can attend.

Everyone should be required to attend, as long as it's held in a bigger space, she said. Campbell was one of the students asked to watch the speech in the Underground Café after the Ferguson Theater reached capacity.

Student Government Association President Justin Kulovsek said the speech was held in the theater to attract as many students as possible.

"The biggest concern is that when it comes to the space, we want to fill it," said Kulovsek, who emceed the event.

Because a majority of students frequent the north side of Columbia's campus, Kulovsek said he thought it appropriate to hold the speech in a location where more students could access it.

Lauren Frontino, a sophomore film and video major, agreed that a State of the College address should occur more often in order to keep students up-to-date with what's going on

around the school.

"There's changes all the time," she said. "Issues change, and things happen. It's important for Columbia to have it once a year, but more like twice a semester [would be better]."

For a few students, Carter's speech was exactly what they needed to feel better about their school.

"I thought [the speech] was very informative," said freshman George Tiggs. "It gave an idea about the [school's] expansion and the direction they're trying to go in."

Tiggs said although he thought Carter only touched briefly on issues students have questions about, he understood the president only had a short amount of time to address the entire school.

Tiggs said he was especially excited about the prominent alumni that Columbia still keeps in contact with.

"I saw Judas this weekend, and [Carter] said that three [alumni] worked on that," Tiggs said. "Maybe he could have ... been more detailed about the people who already graduated from here."

During a Q-and-A session after the speech, Laydon Umanos, a freshman illustration major, made his way from the Underground to pose a question about a habitually truant English teacher he had last semester.

"What do you think of a teacher missing three days, which we still pay her \$2,000 for her salary?" he asked.

Umanos said he was less than pleased with the answer that didn't even come from Carter, telling him to simply report the teacher if it happened again.

"I felt as though it was my fault for her [being absent]," he said. "For the most part, it was a cop-out."

## Columbia looks to convert photocopiers

○ New system could alleviate copier problems

By Andrew Greiner  
Assistant News Editor

Columbia's office copiers could soon join the digital age. Two companies, Xerox and Linear, are conducting surveys to measure the need and cost benefits for the college to switch to digital printing.

The companies are analyzing the possibility of an all-in-one network that would handle printing, faxing and copying, said Mike DeSalle, vice president of finance for Columbia.

If the results from the Xerox and Linear surveys are positive, the college could have a digital system for all of its printing and copying needs.

Recently, Columbia's analog copiers received local press. A Feb. 22 Chicago Tribune article published excerpts from a journal kept by the Fiction Writing Department that cataloged their copier machine woes.

The Fiction Writing Department's copier, which they named "Bartleby" after a character in a Herman Melville novel, is a Toshiba copier, and like many of the copiers on campus, it is refurbished. There are between 70 and 80 refurbished Toshiba photocopiers on Columbia's campus, said Corey Plazak, production coordinator for Creative and Printing Services.

Copier World supplies the refurbished Toshibas to Columbia and services the machines when they need work. Columbia and Copier World have been operating on a handshake deal for 21 years, DeSalle said.

In 1983, Copier World, a Chicago-based copy machine vendor, bought the retail branches of Toshiba's copier division after Toshiba decided to phase out direct sales. Copier World inherited some employees, technicians and customers from Toshiba in the deal, and Columbia is one of those transferred customers.

Joseph Udziela, vice president of regional sales for Copier World, said his company has provided reliable service to Columbia for years.

"The industry standard for service calls is about six to eight hours response time. We respond to Columbia in four hours or less," Udziela said.

But the Copier World's response time is not an issue, although the volume of calls it receives could be. Several departments report problems with their Toshiba copiers regularly.

"A day does not go by where it doesn't eat something or mess something up," said Toni Campbell, an administrative assistant at the Institute for Science Education, about the refurbished Toshiba copier in her department.

Udziela said Copier World cannot be held responsible for Columbia's copier problems; they just supply the machines the school asked for.

"Columbia College set a man-

date with Copier World to save the college money," Udziela said.

Plazak said it is hard to find a lower cost or a better option on the market.

But, according to Udziela, analog copiers, new or used, have a tendency to break down.

Analog copiers have a shelf life of about three to five years and whether or not the college buys new copiers or refurbished copiers, they will probably have to replace them in a few years, Udziela said.

By buying the refurbished machines Udziela estimates that Copier World saved Columbia around \$3 million during their 21-year relationship.

After the article about the Fiction Writing Department's copier appeared in the Chicago Tribune, Nichole Chakalis, an assistant in the department, said she received a lot of calls offering support.

Raymond Tolbert, owner of Multiple Business Systems, a company that sells and services copiers, contacted Chakalis and offered to donate a new Kodak copier to her department.

Tolbert said he sympathizes with the Fiction Writing Department.

"Schools are using office copiers to handle school workloads," he said.

According to Tolbert, products that are designed to handle a minimal workload are pumping out thousands of copies a month. But, his digital Kodak machine can handle 300,000 copies a month, Tolbert said.

"It brings me great joy to educate the public on copier issues," Tolbert said.

Tolbert has donated more than 65 copiers to Chicago Public Schools.

DeSalle said he wouldn't be against accepting a donation for any department. Columbia does not deal exclusively with Copier World, he said. There are brands other than Toshiba on the campus, he said.

Roland Hansen, head of access services for the library, said the library uses Minolta printers and, while they still run into occasional problems, he is happy with their performance.

Hansen said buying a refurbished copier is like buying a used car—they cost less, but more maintenance is expected than on a new model.

Copier World supplied a temporary replacement for the Fiction Writing Department's "Bartleby" while technicians repair it.

Udziela said Copier World could sell the college updated digital machines, but the college wants the most economical copying solution from them, and digital machines are expensive.

"From an economic point of view, what we are doing [with the Toshiba machines] couldn't be better," DeSalle said. "[But] we don't want quality to suffer. We definitely need to move to digital."



**The Music Center of Columbia College Chicago**  
1014 S. Michigan at 11<sup>th</sup> St.

**Concert Hall Events:**

*The following events qualify for Recital Attendance credit.*

**Mon. March 15**

**Tribute to Women Composers** 12:30 PM

Music by groundbreaking women composers performed by CUBE, facilitated by Patricia Morehead.

**American Klezmer Musical** 5:00 PM

New musical featuring music by Ilya Levinson, performed by members of the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band.

**Wed. March 17**

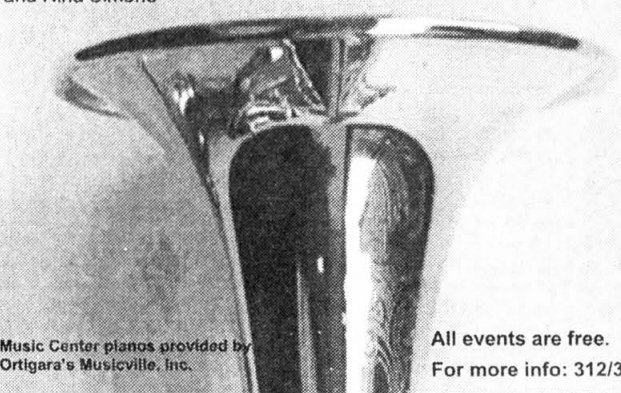
**SHE in Concert** 12:30 PM

Bobbi Wilsyn performs with her all-female jazz sensation

**Thurs. March 18**

**Billy, Betty and Nina** 12:30 PM

Tanya Reed performs a tribute to Billy Holiday, Betty Carter, and Nina Simone



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**WED: Veggie Lasagna w/wheat roll: \$4.95\***

**THURS: Open Mic Night! Specials posted weekly**

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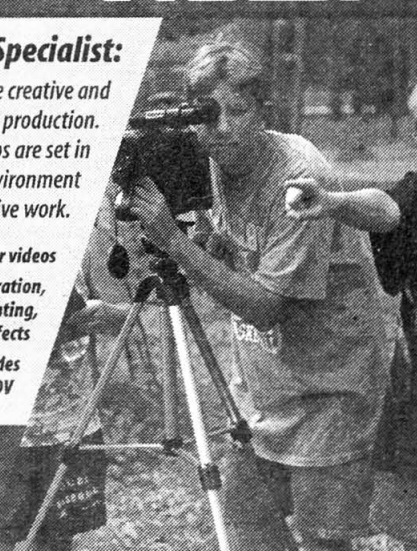
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### THIRD PRIZE: \$20 iTunes Gift Certificate

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Visit the Apple Store @ Columbia College in Suite 205, 623 S. Wabash to enter!

No purchase required. Contest ends at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31st, 2004. PEPSI, PEPSI COLA, DRET PEPSI, SEPPA MIST and the Pepsi Globe design are trademarks of PepsiCo, Inc.



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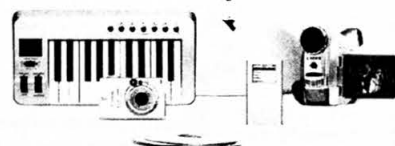
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# No help for apartment seekers here

○ Students encouraged to use outside services

By Scott Carlson  
Assistant News Editor

Students hoping Columbia's Residence Life officials will help them find an apartment next semester had better start paging through the classifieds.

After Columbia's orientation programs concluded in August 2003, Columbia's Residence Life office, which manages the on-campus housing of students, began phasing out a program that in the past helped students who hadn't found space in the dorms find off-campus housing.

Now, with the University Center of Chicago adding 682 spaces of on-campus living to Columbia's community, the Residence Life office decided to focus efforts on filling the 1,100 total spaces for living that will become available for the fall 2004 semester.

"It was more that we need to fill our buildings, instead of filling a landlord's building," said Mary Oakes, director of Residence Life.

In the past, the on-campus housing program had a great demand for very little space, Oakes said. Six years ago, the campus had 344 housing spaces, which left some parents worried about where their children would live.

In response to parental concerns, the Residence Life office created a minimal relocation guide and added an off-campus housing coordinator position five years ago to enhance efforts to find alternative housing for students.

"The intention of the position was to calm concerns people had and guide them in a direction of student-friendly landlords," Oakes said. "It was never us telling people, 'Here's where you can live,' because people were entering leases with landlords that we had nothing to do with."

However, according to Oakes, the Residence Life office did not have the manpower to cover the surge of interest in the service. In response, the office decided

to phase out the program.

"We had to restructure and refocus our intentions of what Residence Life was, and the fact that we are adding 682 on-campus beds to the college next year was the prime focus of working, making sure that particular building fills," Oakes said.

Many students currently living in Columbia's dormitories were unaware that Columbia had previously offered the off-campus housing service, and some, especially students who have lived around the Chicago area, said they felt relatively unaffected.

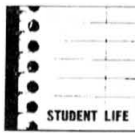
"It's not something that's that scary to me," said Cassandra Wilson, a student living in the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court. "It's something that my parents would help me with."

Other students, many of whom came to Columbia from out of state, said they were uneasy about losing the off-campus housing service. Though many will not be moving into apartments for another few years, they considered the program a necessary aid.

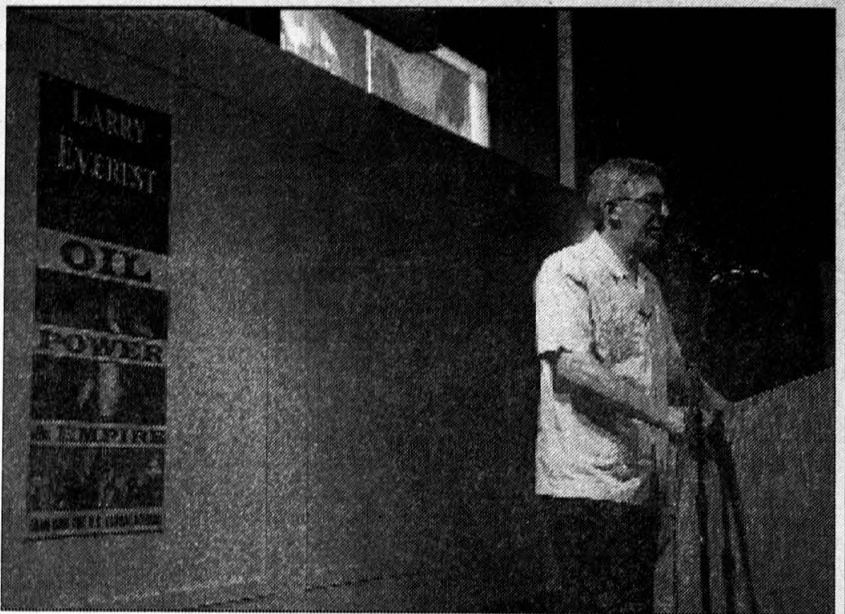
"Coming from Nebraska, I don't know anything about the city except right here, in the South Loop, so it's definitely a concern that there isn't someone here to help me," said freshman Kate Swanson. "I know there are a lot of other businesses out there to help you find an apartment, but it would definitely be convenient if they had kept a program here."

Taran Allen, a freshman who came to Chicago from Mount Pleasant, Mich., said he had similar reservations about the service now that he is looking for an apartment for next semester.

"I'm disappointed there won't be someone to help," Allen said. "I'm just using the Tribune to find apartments, and I don't know what decent apartments are like. If there were apartments recommended by Columbia, I would trust them."



## Striking back at the empire



Labeeba Hameed/The Chronicle

Larry Everest discusses his book *Oil, Power and Empire* March 10 at the Conway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Everest's book dissects American origins and current foreign policy.

## Annual festival takes next step

○ Story Week celebrates the narrative form and its impact on society

By Jeff Danna  
Copy Editor

Columbia's Story Week Festival of Writers, a staple of the Fiction Writing Department for eight years, is expanding this semester.

The Story Week title is a bit misleading this time around, as the festival will last 10 days from March 18 through March 27, coinciding with the Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel, 17 E. Monroe St., during the festival's final four days.

Story Week, subtitled "Story and the Sister Arts," also has been broadened this year to examine "how the idea of the story and the narrative form translates to other art forms," said full-time faculty member and artistic director for Story Week, Patty McNair.

"It's going to be one of the most interdisciplinary, cross-collegial festivals we've done so far," McNair said. "We're really exposing most of what Columbia can do."

This year, more than 50 participants will be featured during Story Week, making the event at least one-third larger than it ever has been, McNair said.

The AWWP conference will feature events in conjunction with Story Week, such as an informal meet-and-greet with participating Story Week authors; readings by authors Jane Hamilton and Lorrie Moore, an event moderated by McNair; and "shortie" readings, two-page excerpts from novels by various writers hosted by Betty Shiflett, Fiction Writing Department instructor emeritus.

In keeping with the theme of "Story and the Sister Arts," Story Week also will feature events that fall outside the field of fiction writing.

Filmmaker and Columbia teacher Hakim Bellabes' film *Threads*, a look at parent-child

relationships through six short segments, will be shown on March 20 at 7 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater, at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Also, part-time Fiction Writing Department faculty member Antonia Logue will host a panel discussion entitled "What's the Story?" during which members of Columbia's various artistic departments will discuss the influence of the narrative on their fields of expertise.

"I think that many art forms ... make use of the sense of, 'What's the story behind this?'" McNair said. "I also think that right now, for whatever reason, we're really eager to tell stories as a community and society."

In addition to this year's new Story Week events are the traditional activities, such as student readings, full- and part-time faculty readings and Q-and-A sessions.

Author, Chicago native and former Columbia student and writing teacher Harry Mark Petrakis will make his second Story Week appearance on March 24 at 2 p.m. in Columbia's Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, where he will read from one of his 20-plus novels.

"Any contact with others— younger people, older people— has something to teach us," Petrakis said. "And I find that the best parts of my appearances at lectures and readings are not the things I say, because I've said them so many times before."

Shiflett, who will also host the Fiction Writing Department full-time faculty readings, said that the idea of reading before an audience is an "instructive buzz" for the author, an educational experience for the presenter and the listener.

Andrew Allegretti, assistant chairman of the Fiction Writing Department and full-time faculty reader, agreed.

"Anyone who writes fiction is in kind of a bubble," Allegretti said. "You're alone with yourself, and every writer needs a life-giving response from an audience. You need that sense of give and take of a live audience listening to what you've written, and that tends to confirm when the writing's going well."

But Story Week isn't just conventional readings and lectures. The Fiction Writing Department has teamed up with The Metro and Smart Bar to bring new dimensions to literature.

For the fifth year, "Literary Rock & Roll" will be held at The Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., March 24 at 6 p.m. during which Chicago authors Elizabeth Crane, Aleksander Hemon and coordinator of faculty development for the Fiction Writing Department Shawn Shiflett will read portions of their works.

"There is that ... idea that a reading is stuffy and intellectual, and if you'd read any of these authors, you'd know that they're anything but stuffy and intellectual," McNair said.

"Literary Rock & Roll" was conceived as more of a show than a presentation, with music being provided by the Chicago group Bumpus.

McNair is hoping those who attend for the music will take an interest in the writers and those who attend for the writers will enjoy the music.

Ultimately, the concept of Story Week, as in past years, is to celebrate the narrative form and acknowledge its impact on society.

"I think stories go back as early as the first man on Earth, and that need in some way to recreate experience, to enhance experience, is basic to human experience," Petrakis said. "Storytelling is a very rich means of communicating with other human beings and helping us understand and feel compassionate to other human beings."



Got an idea  
for a story?





Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

Mikele Brigforth, (left) a senior theater major, and Carrico "Kingdom" Sanders, Columbia alumnus, mouth off at Wise Ass Comedy Night in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

## Columbia shows off its 'wise asses'

○ Diverse turnout, performances at Columbia's biannual comedy night

By Jennifer Sabella  
Staff Writer

From George Bush to boogers, gay marriage to Hindu hip-hop, students and hired performers at Columbia's Wise Ass Comedy Night had the crowd roaring with laughter.

The stage was set in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., where students and professional comedians came to get some laughs out of the crowd.

Wise Ass Comedy Night, sponsored by C-Spaces, was organized by junior theater student Rebecca Gallagher. The show was divided into three open-registration segments—improv, sketch, and stand-up comedy.

The March 11 event also featured the Second City all-female improv troupe Sirens and stand-up comedienne Sapna Kumar, who does her own shows at Stage Left Theatre, 3408 N. Sheffield Ave. The stand-up and improv had a crowd of more than 60 revved up and ready for more.

When music business major

Ayesha Sharif-Williams took the stage, she made sure everyone knew her stage name.

"Call me Ma Duke," Sharif-Williams said. "I just want to talk about these damn elevators."

Ma Duke made the whole room laugh when she impersonated the elevator congestion in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., and had everyone chanting "get off the elevators!"

Broadcast journalism major Melissa Perez volunteered for a sketch comedy game that needed audience members to get up on stage and test their improv skills. While she wasn't signed up for open mic, Perez had fun taking part in the game.

"It's fun to express and make a fool out of yourself sometimes," she said. "I think it's awesome."

Most of the energetic crowd shared her enthusiasm and joined in the games as well. Columbia alumni Carrico Sanders, or "Kingdom" as he was called on stage, came back to take part in the festivities. The arts and entertainment and media management graduate said he "came back to be

funny," and feels that an event like Wise Ass is a good opportunity for everyone, not just rappers and musicians.

There was a feeling of unity among the students in the Hokin Annex, which was Gallagher's goal.

"Comedy brings people together," Gallagher said. "Everyone loves to laugh."

While working with Tanya Reed, who started the Big Mouth open-mic nights and currently works for C-Spaces, Gallagher suggested finding a way to get people of all majors and interests involved in the open-mic events.

As a theater major, Gallagher felt separated from the rest of the Columbia community and thought that comedy could bring students together.

"I wanted something that would spark student interest and encompass everyone," Gallagher said. "It's a lot of fun. It's a lot of stress, but it's totally worth it."

The energetic and enthusiastic host joined the participants on stage for some improv games and kept everyone laughing until the end.

## Soccer not a kick with students

○ Intramural sport program fails to draw any interest for spring season

By Lance Williams  
Staff Writer

Despite a campuswide advertising campaign, Columbia's intramural soccer program has failed to establish student teams, organizers said.

"We had no teams register," said Mark Brticevich, wellness coordinator at Columbia and director of the Roosevelt University Fitness Center. "Advertising doesn't seem to work. People read something, or see something, and because they're so busy, they just forget about it."

This was the first year Columbia offered students the chance to play intramural soccer. For the past three years, Columbia's intramural basketball program has continued to grow, Brticevich said.

"Fall of last year, our intramural basketball program was very competitive," Brticevich said. "We had seven teams, and a decent crowd showed up to watch."

Brticevich said students

requested the soccer team and students continue to show up during the open soccer time on Fridays and Saturdays at the Fitness Center.

Class and work schedules might have played a part in the low turnout, along with the commitment for playing in games, Brticevich said.

"Playing on Tuesdays and Wednesdays nights for eight weeks might have been too much of a commitment for some people," Brticevich said.

Roosevelt student Denise Chapman said she often sees Columbia students at the Fitness Center.

"The problem is not participation," Chapman said. "Basketball is great. Soccer and volleyball just didn't take off."

Columbia student Scott Church said he was not surprised by soccer's low turnout.

"Columbia has never been a sports school," Church said. "I just found out we have a baseball team."

Regardless of the problems in

organizing a soccer team, Brticevich said he has some plans to offer more opportunities to Columbia students, including the planning of a "big, sports weekend event."

Brticevich said he envisions a tournament that would include teams playing volleyball, basketball and soccer. Students from both Columbia and Roosevelt would be invited to participate in the tournament. The two schools have a partnership involving the use of facilities, such as The Marvin Moss Student Center, 425 S. Wabash Ave.

"People would just come out and play and have fun," Brticevich said. "We'd have staff from Columbia and Roosevelt referee. That way we'd eliminate and saying that they got a bad call or were mistreated."

But all is not lost for intramural soccer.

"We'll try it again," Brticevich said. "Hopefully, this will draw some more interest in the program and we can go forward."

## Students start new debate on drug laws

○ Drug convictions bar students from financial aid

By Mark W. Anderson  
Associate Editor

Some Columbia students are concerned marijuana possession charges could deny students nationwide the financial aid assistance they need to stay in college.

Believing U.S. government policy in the current war on drugs is harmful and misguided, a group of Columbia students is looking to start a student organization designed to raise awareness of the issues surrounding drug use and the ways in which drug laws affect educational opportunities.

A group of more than 15 students is working on setting up a Columbia chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, a national organization committed to getting the word out about the harmful effects of current drug laws. The group is currently working on gathering members and completing the steps necessary to be officially recognized by the Student Organization Council. Louis Silverstein, an instructor in the Liberal Education Department, has agreed to serve as the group's faculty adviser.

Like the national organization, the founders of Columbia's chapter hope to educate students about problems inherent in current drug laws—particularly how the laws affect student and minority communities. Of chief concern are education funding provisions that block access to financial aid for students who have run afoul of drug laws, and working to replace "zero tolerance" and drug testing policies in high schools and colleges across the country.

"I've heard a lot of stories about people who have been affected by exorbitant drug laws," said Matt Battaglia, a sophomore animation major who attended a recent organizational meeting for the chapter. "This was an opportunity given by the school with some funding, so it's a chance for us to do something."

As part of its overall mission statement, SSDP says that while it "neither encourages nor condemns drug use," it is committed to "promoting an open, honest and rational discussion of alternative solutions to our nation's drug problems."

Emily Fioramonti, an interactive media sophomore who's helping set the chapter up, agrees.

"Publicity is our main goal right now," Fioramonti said. "With Columbia being the sort of liberal breeding ground as it is, our goal is to motivate people to be more aware. SSDP is about reforming drug policy, but it's also about getting young people into the political process in general. It's our generation that has to make the changes happen."

On the national level, the organizers of the Columbia chapter are focusing much of their effort on laws that hurt access to financial aid. In 1998, a new law known as the Drug-Free Student Aid Provision was amended to the Higher Education Act of 1965 by

Congress, denying financial aid to students with drug convictions regardless of the nature or severity of the charge.

According to Melissa Milam, media director of the SSDP in Washington, D.C., the amendment ends up harming the very people the law originally intended to benefit.

"The 1965 Higher Education Act was created to help middle- and lower-income Americans afford college," Milam said. "In 1998, the provision was enacted to deny financial aid to students with drug convictions on their record no matter what the charge was."

"[The 1998 provision] basically set up a system where a first time conviction for drug possession or distribution can mean a college student gets no financial aid for a year," Fioramonti said. "A second conviction means three years with no aid, and the third time means no aid ever. The basic problem is in looking at what drug addiction is—it's a disease, and taking away aid from someone with a disease is unfair."

According to Milam, the U.S. Department of Education estimates that some 128,000 students have had difficulty receiving financial aid as of the 2000-2001 school year, the first year questions about a student's drug convictions appeared on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

For Silverstein, there are benefits for students that go beyond the narrow focus of simply addressing problems in current drug policy.

"One goal [of this group] would be to model for students that they have the right in this country to speak out on controversial issues," Silverstein said. "There's a fear right out there now that if you speak out there may be retribution of some sort. I think it's important to show students that it's incumbent on them to author the culture of our times, which is one of the mottoes of Columbia itself."

For his part, Silverstein doesn't foresee the group running into any problems in its bid to be recognized as part of SOC due to the nature of its advocacy, although he himself has run into resistance on campus in the past.

"Two years ago, when my book [*Deep Spirit & Great Heart: Living In Marijuana Consciousness*] came out, and I proposed there be a book reading and signing," Silverstein said. "However, for the very first time a Columbia College author was told it couldn't happen. The legal counsel [for the school] said the book was advocating drug use, and that given that this is a drug-free school, such an event couldn't happen."

The organizers of the Columbia chapter simply hope to make Columbia a place where the drug laws can be discussed.

"By gathering as many people together as possible, people will start to feel comfortable talking about this stuff," Fioramonti said. "Educating people who might come for one reason and learn something else can only be good."



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# STORY WEEK FESTIVAL OF WRITERS

## 2004: STORY AND THE SISTER ARTS

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☆	Thursday March 18	Friday March 19	Saturday March 20	Sunday March 21	Monday March 22	Tuesday March 23	Wednesday March 24	Thursday March 25	Friday March 26	Saturday March 27
M A R C H  18 - 27 ★ 20 04	<b>2:00 PM</b> Conversation with the Authors John McNally and Colson Whitehead. Moderated by Mara Iapp Harold Washington Library Auditorium	<b>6:30 PM</b> Columbia College Fiction Writing Department Alumni and Student Reading Featuring Herb Jackson, Shelli Johnson, Phillip Klapperich, Judy Veramendi Smart Bar (21 & Over)	<b>2:00 PM</b> State of the Arts Day Readings, Conversations, Performances and Exhibitions by Illinois Artists: Philip Hartigan, Scott Nava, Audrey Niffenegger, Deb Siegel, Richard G. Stem, and many others. Sponsored in part by Columbia College Office of Latino Cultural Affairs Ferguson Theatre Columbia College Chicago	<b>6:30 PM</b> Readings in the Raw, Fiction Writing Department Graduate Student Reading Café Penelope	<b>10:30 AM</b> Columbia College Fiction Writing Department Part- Time Faculty Reading Ferguson Theatre Columbia College Chicago	<b>2:00 PM</b> Columbia College Fiction Writing Department Full- Time Faculty Reading Featuring Andrew Allegretti, Don De Grazia, Patricia Ann McNair	<b>2:00 PM</b> Reading and Conversation with the Author Harry Mark Petrakis Residence Hall Columbia College Chicago	<b>12:00 NOON</b> iMagazine presents a Conversation with the Author Shawn Shifflett Faculty Lounge Columbia College Chicago	<b>6:00 PM</b> Panel: Conversations: Text and Image Randy Albers, Fiction Writing Department; W.J.T. Mitchell, The University of Chicago; Matt Siber, artist; Lynn Sloan, Photography Department; and Rod Stiemmons, curator and director, Museum of Contemporary Photography Museum of Contemporary Photography Columbia College Chicago	<b>1:00 PM</b> Young Authors High School Writing Contest Awards Ceremony and Workshop Columbia College Chicago
	<b>6:30 PM</b> Reading and Q&A: John McNally and Colson Whitehead Harold Washington Library Auditorium				<b>1:30 PM</b> Panel: What's the Story? Columbia College Community Members discuss the role of the narrative in a variety of artistic endeavors. Moderated by Antonia Logue Ferguson Theatre	<b>4:00 PM</b> Fiction Writing Department Student Board Open Mic Reading <b>7:30 PM</b> Panel: Story in the Professions Therapist Blair Barbour, Attorney Richard McLeese, Columbia College Marketing Communications Chair Margaret Sullivan, Senior Writer Eli Lilly & Company Rob Friedman, Journalist Marianne Murciano, and Professor Emeritus John Schultz discuss the role of storytelling in professional endeavors. Moderated by Randall Albers All Tuesday Events Hokin Gallery Columbia College Chicago	<b>3:00 PM</b> The Next Step: A Publishing Panel Featuring Elizabeth Crow, magazine editor; Brigid Hughes, Executive Editor, Paris Review; Amy Hundley, editor, Grove/Atlantic; Kathie Tolingator, pro- ducer, Stones on Stage; Harry Mark Petrakis, author; Stephanie Von Hirschberg, literary agent. Moderated by Lila Nagarajan Residence Hall <b>6:00 PM</b> Literary Rock n' Roll, Chicago Style Elizabeth Crane, Aleksandar Hemon, Shawn Shifflett, and Music by Bumpus. Metro	<b>6:00 PM</b> Playing the Story A reading, conversa- tion, and concert fea- turing author Jeffery Renard Allen and Musician and Composer Corky Siegel Claudia Cassidy Theater, Chicago Cultural Center		<b>6:30 PM</b> Story Week at AWP Meet the Authors Chicago and Story Week authors in an informal setting Palmer House Hilton Hotel
					<b>8:00 PM</b> The Brian Costello Show featuring John McNally Empty Bottle (\$3 Cover, 21 & Over)				<b>10:30 PM</b> Piece by Piece, a multi- media event co-pre- sented by Sleepwalk Magazine, Barefoot Productions, and Story Week featuring Elizabeth Crane, Lott Hill, Megan Stielstra, Joe Meno Chopin Theater (\$3 Cover)	<b>8:30 PM</b> Reading and Conversation with The Authors Jane Hamilton and Lorie Moore. Moderated by Patricia Ann McNair Palmer House Hilton Hotel

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Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash Avenue  
Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Avenue

Residence Hall, 731 S. Plymouth Court  
Faculty Lounge, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

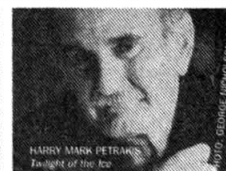
Chicago Cultural Center  
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Harold Washington Library Center  
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Palmer House Hilton Hotel  
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Chopin Theater  
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Columbia College Chicago

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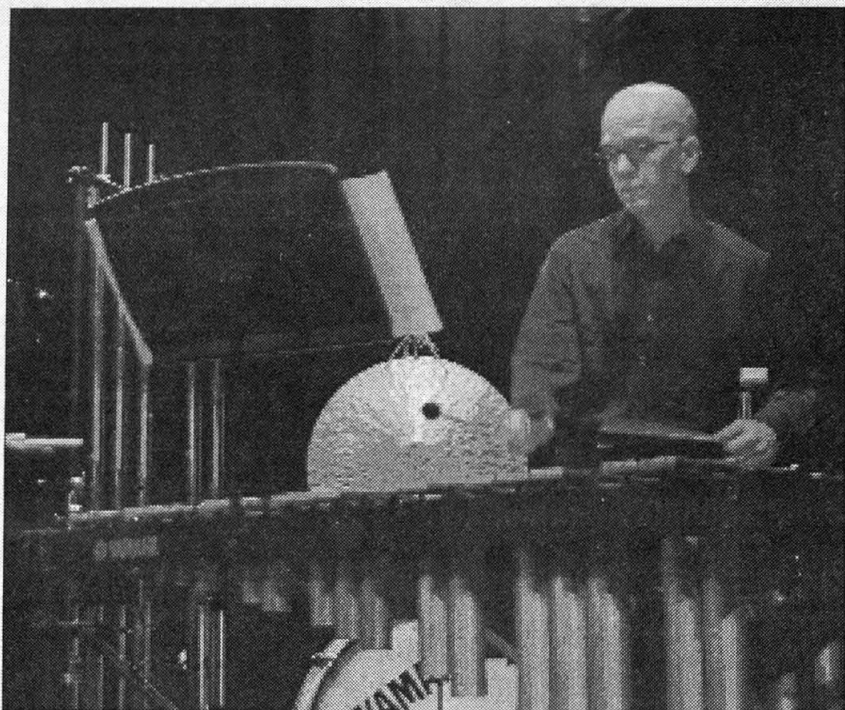
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Office of Enrollment Management,  
600 S. Michigan, Room 300

Academic Advising,  
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## Sounding off



Labeeba Hameed/The Chronicle

Timothy Bowlby plays his vibraphone at the Chiarscuro Cube Preview Recital in the Columbia College Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., Thursday March 11.

## Address *Continued from Front Page*

Columbia's footprint in the South Loop.

It is a fundamental shift for a Columbia president, according to Carter.

"I have the luxury of being involved in planning," Carter said, unlike previous Columbia presi-



Andrew Scott/The Chronicle  
Stephanie Berliant voices her scholarship concerns.

dents John D. Duff and Mike Alexandroff. "The two of them did not. They did not have such a luxury because they were too involved with saving the institution."

In February, the college hired Alicia Berg, Chicago's former commissioner of planning and development, as vice president of campus environment. Berg was sitting in the front row during the March 10 address.

Carter pointed to Berg's leadership as a tool for implementing plans for a student center once funds are raised.

Plans for a student center on the plot currently occupied by Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave., have been stalled and downsized since 2000. Originally, construction was set to start this year.

The original price tag for the center was more than \$30 million.

Carter—who, sat in a leather chair on stage—said the college would spend no tuition dollars in the construction of the proposed student center. The college is currently looking to sell the structure's naming rights, he said.

The need for a student center comes as more than 1,000 Columbia students are set to live in the University Center of Chicago—on the southeast corner of East Congress Parkway and South State Street—when it opens in August.

Carter said library and lab hours and class schedules would fall in line with a 24-hour campus for the new academic year.

The completion of the University Center of Chicago makes Columbia one of the South Loop's largest landowners, owning or operating out of 14 buildings from East Congress Parkway to 15th Street.

Using language similar to last year's State of the College address, Carter focused on globalizing Columbia's reach beyond the "corner of Michigan and Harrison" and stepping away from tuition dependence by increasing the college's endowment and donations, particularly from alumni.

The fund-raising task falls on Vice President of Institutional Advancement Sam Ross, who was hired in October, and has since overseen the creation and hiring of several new positions in the department. Ross formerly worked at St. Bonaventure College in New York.

Aside from the issue of scholarships, Carter spent abbreviated time addressing student financial issues, a fixture of last year's address. Carter promised no new student expenses next year, although he did indicate modest tuition increases in the future.

In February, the college announced it would not raise tuition for the 2004 academic year.

Carter also said the college will

actively seek grants and monies from the federal and state government.

In the speech's only round of applause from the theater's audience, Carter said the college is investing in fixing the elevators inside the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building.

He also pointed to "branding" the South Loop as Columbia's home and improving the college's relationship with the city.

"Columbia College rules in the South Loop," Carter said, calling the area one of the "hottest neighborhoods in the city."

"It's happening because we're here," he said.

Unlike last year's address, Carter answered only a handful of questions, some dealing with the smoking conditions of the Underground Café and even the school's colors.

In response to a question concerning faculty diversity after Carter's speech, Provost Steve Kapelke said, "I need to assure you that we are working very hard on it."

All six of Carter's senior management, who were sitting in the front row of the theater, are Caucasian.

"I think it went great," said Justin Kulovsek, president of Columbia's Student Government Association, the group that organized the noon event. Before Carter's speech, Kulovsek pointed to the SGA's successes with Ride Columbia, a trial bus shuttle serving Columbia students in the South Loop. He said roughly 200 students ride the shuttle every week.

"The turnout was just what we expected," Kulovsek said. He pointed to the gathering of students in the Underground Café in the Alexandroff Campus Center.

"It's always nice to meet with students. There was a good deal of faculty and staff here, which was surprising," Carter said. "The state of the college is good."

—Andrew Greiner contributed to this report.

## Tank malfunction creates disruption

○ Small flood leaves Radio Department soggy

By Marianne Lyles  
Staff Writer

Water rushed down the stairwell of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, forcing students and faculty to leave March 9, according to Mike Debish, associate vice president of facilities and operations. At the time, rumors were flying that a water tank exploded.

Debish said the water level detector, which is located in the water tank, malfunctioned causing more water to be pumped into the tank than it could hold. The building's tank holds 1,500 gallons of fresh water.

Debish also said the situation would have been worse if the elevator technicians had not been there. Since the building boasts the highest numbers of elevator problems on campus, the mechanics have logged the most time in this building.

"It's almost ironic that this incident happened with two elevator techs in the plant house and they spotted the leak. Had they not been working, it could have been worse," Debish said.

According to SDI security officer Fred Whisby, the water had reached the first floor at around 4 p.m. He immediately called American Building Maintenance, Columbia's subcontracted cleaning team. Whisby said he then assisted students down the stairs because it was slippery.

Elevator technicians and the ABM cleaning crew helped to control the situation. Even Turner Construction Co., located on the second floor, sent a couple of its men.

Cleaners mopped and vacuumed the stairwell, while others started from the top floor and worked their way down. They used shampoo

extractors that applied 300 pounds of pressure to the carpets.

The seventh floor Radio Department and the sixth floor Audio Arts and Acoustics Office were the affected most. Tom Joyce, facilities coordinator, said there was no structural damage, and the radio equipment was still in tact. The Radio Department was closed for the rest of the evening, inconveniencing many.

"It ruined studio time that needed to be turned in this week," said Roosevelt Sturkey, a junior radio major.

Sturkey was one of many students affected by the broken tank. Some sat in the third floor lounge waiting for the OK to go to class.

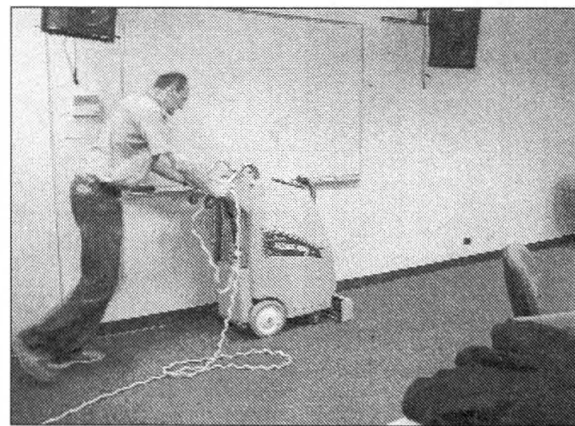
Sean Bradley, an undeclared freshman, was on the third floor for an hour because he was told not to go any higher.

"By the time I got to the second floor it got so bad that I had to walk on my tip toes. It was pretty chaotic and all you could hear was splash, splash, splash," Bradley said.

Yet, there were many who were unaffected by the tank's rupture. The fourth floor's Senior Seminar classes and the Educational Studies Department continued without disruption, and a conference taking place at the time had only a slight delay because water seeped into the room.

"In [Room] 402, the water started to just roll in, and I had to raise my pants for a bit," said Ava Belisle-Chatterjee, chairwoman of the Educational Studies Department.

Debish said this time the level detector malfunctioned, but Columbia hopes to put a backup system in place for situations like this.



Carrie Bergagna/The Chronicle

Cvijetin Gliresic, of American Building Maintenance, cleans a lab on the sixth floor of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building after a water tank malfunction caused it to flood.

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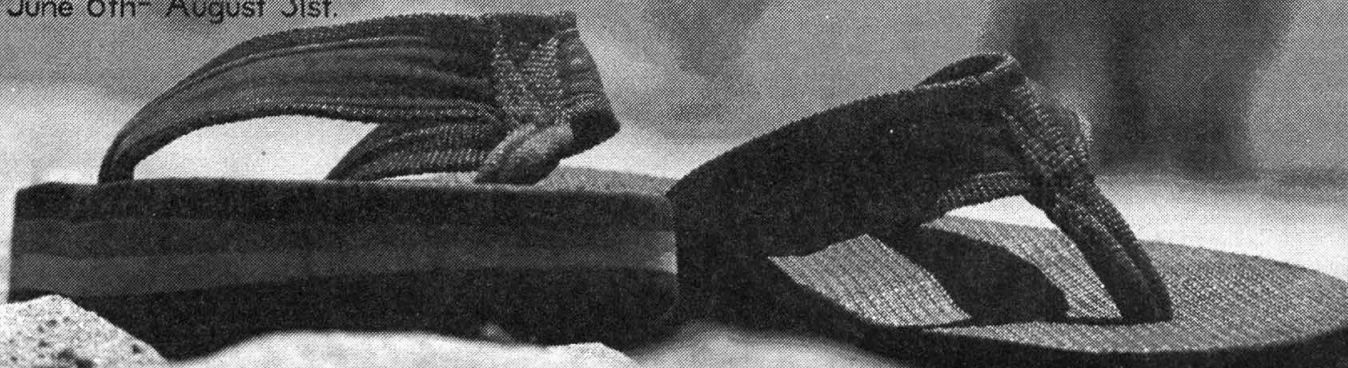
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## 50 years after Brown v. Board of Ed., cafeterias still divided

○ Dealing with race issues, kids are 'mirror images' of parents, says dean



Eric Seals/Detroit Free Press

Edward Chen, from China, and Dan Pan from Canton, Mich., eat lunch with other Asian friends in the Cranbrook School cafeteria in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., last month.

By Teresa Mask and Marianne George  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

(KRT) DETROIT—White girls sit on one side of the room. Black girls sit on the other. Chaldeans are in a corner.

It's lunchtime at Mercy High School, an all-girls Catholic school in Farmington Hills, Mich.

The scene mirrors that of cafeterias in schools across metro Detroit and on college campuses like the University of Michigan. As the nation recognizes 50 years of integrated schools with the May 17 anniversary of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. the Board of Education*, educators and students are struggling to understand why it's so difficult to truly integrate social circles.

Despite all of the programs and attempts to bridge the cultural gap in schools, the reality is that efforts often fade at lunchtime and on weekends.

It's an issue 17-year-old Chanel Shaba, a Chaldean senior at Mercy High School, raised at a recent student diversity forum. It also came up for the second year in a row during student chats after the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in West Bloomfield, Mich.

It's human nature, experts agree.

"There is nothing inherently wrong with it," said DeWitt Dykes, an associate professor of history at Oakland University, unless the seating decisions are based on misconceptions of people in other cultures.

Beverly Daniel Tatum, president of Spelman College in Atlanta and author of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* said, "We have all gotten misinfor-

mation about people who are different from ourselves. It doesn't really matter where you grew up. You've been exposed to stereotypes about groups other than your own, and to some extent, your own group."

She said students from the same background sitting together in school cafeterias is not a sign that integration has failed.

"We shouldn't assume that because people sit together that it doesn't work," Tatum said recently at the University of Michigan. "Sometimes, people are together because of shared experiences."

"When I have to sit here because I'm not allowed to sit anywhere else, that is a failure," Tatum said. "But when I'm sitting here because I feel comfortable and because I share language or my slang expressions or music, that's OK. The true failure is if we don't create opportunities for people who might not naturally be drawn to each other to interact."

Dan Pan, Allen Li, Edward Chen and Tepparat Wongcharoenwanakij, students at Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, admit that they often dine together because they have a lot in common due to their Asian culture, not because they don't like the other students.

Dwayne Duncan agrees that comfort is important.

"It's just more comfortable to sit with certain people," Duncan said, a black student at Cranbrook. "It's all about relationships and how you can talk to them."

He said he was having lunch with 17-year-old Ray Gage, who is white.

Duncan said he sits with black students at dinnertime.

"I just end up eating with

people on the basketball team who I hang out with. I don't know if [fully integrated cafeterias] will ever be achieved. People always are going to just sit with people like them. It's stupid, I guess."

Segregated cafeterias used to bother Sharkey Haddad, dean of students and community liaison for the West Bloomfield School District.

"Before, we used to say, 'It's wrong, they should be integrated,'" he said. "Now, we say, 'We should respect their comfort zone.'"

Still, he said, groups at his school such as the Cultural Information Advisory Council still have a purpose. He said they have helped dispel myths about various cultural groups in the district.

Other districts have similar groups and diversity clubs geared toward cultural understanding. Some officials said students get it on an intellectual level but have trouble putting that knowledge into action.

"The students are a mirror image of their parents and their community and their society," Haddad explained. "How do we expect them to figure it out and to be more advanced than us?"

Some sixth-grade girls at Cranbrook said their generation would be different. Their lunch table is an integrated one.

Lauren Meier, Tiffany Carey, Shelby Houttekier, Amanda Mitchell and Teddi Cantor come from different ethnic and religious backgrounds.

"We're just friends. It really doesn't matter," 12-year-old Lauren said.

Integration is something that can be achieved everywhere if students are challenged, said 15-year-old Samantha Tazzia, a freshman at Cranbrook. People

## Tenure bill gets shelved

○ Move looked to end alleged bias in higher ed.

By Dan Cohen  
Contributing Writer

A state bill designed to end what the author alleges is racism in higher education has been scrapped until next year, due to a sponsorship limit imposed on legislators.

Acting on advice from Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, State Rep. Monique D. Davis (D-27th District) will wait until next year to push a bill that would apply standards for who gets tenure at tax-supported public university, Davis said.

Davis went over her limit of sponsoring four bills during any one session.

Columbia would not be affected by the bill.

Illinois House bill No. 4073 looked to create the Higher Education Commission Act and establish criteria for the tenure of public university professors to be submitted to each university for use in making tenure decisions. Each university would be forced to submit all tenure decisions to the commission for approval.

Davis, whose southwest suburban district includes Alsip and Blue Island, said she sponsored the bill to combat what she said is unfairness in the tenure process at most public universities.

"I received a number of complaints from women and African Americans that the state universities are not granting tenure to these people," Davis said. "They can work for five or six years, and when it's time to grant tenure, they're not given it."

Davis, who introduced the legislation to the Illinois General Assembly on Jan. 15, said the problem is not caused by any one person but rather the whole system.

"I call it the 'good old boys network.' If all of us are Caucasians, then we pick people like us," Davis said. "We don't want someone outside of our club."

Davis, who also sits on the

House Appropriations Higher Education Committee and the Elementary and Secondary Education Committee, has a record of supporting and introducing education bills.

The proposed commission would consist of three members appointed by the governor and two faculty members from each public university, who would serve four-year terms.

Members may be reappointed for 14 additional terms and would serve without compensation but will be reimbursed for expenses.

Those affected by the proposed legislation said they are supportive of the bill's intentions.

"Our university is always willing, able and does work with members of the legislature on issues of their concern," said Tom Hardy, executive director for university relations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

But Hardy said the university, not the state, chooses who gets tenure.

"The University of Illinois is very diligent about working to make sure that minorities are represented in increasing percentage both in student enrollment, in tenured track faculty and faculty that have tenure," Hardy said. "Could the university and each campus do better than it has so far? Certainly, and I think that Rep. Davis and other legislators have heard directly from the chancellor of our campuses that it's one of their priorities."

Another University of Illinois professor said he also supports the majority of the bill.

"I agree with the spirit of that [legislation], but there are so many aspects of going into tenure," said Michael Lemke, an associate professor in biology at the University of Illinois at Springfield who received tenure last year. "I tend to still believe that if you are going to have the tenure system that the fellow faculty and administrators ... should be the ones who are doing the heavy lifting."

at other schools "aren't challenged to talk to other people they don't know—or they don't feel the need to," she said.

But at least once a year, school districts across Michigan do challenge their students. They participate in a national event in which they are encouraged to sit with students they normally wouldn't dine with.

It's a gesture that lasts only a day for some students, but the acquaintances that are made endure, said Kyle Stuef, a Hazel Park High School senior.

Educators are slowly recognizing that acceptance can exist without sharing a meal together.

But they still hope.

"It's not important whether they eat together. But I'd love to see the cafeteria just totally integrated. For some reason, it would really be a symbol that things are truly integrated," said Wil Gervais, assistant principal at Mercy High School.

"[Students] are realizing it's really the change inside that makes a difference."

And acknowledging prejudices allows people to move toward discussions about racial understanding more quickly, Tatum said. Just having the discussion can be a start.

"It's useful to say this is a hard conversation and people will get uncomfortable," Tatum said. "I might say something offensive not because I mean to, but because it slips out. You might say something that offends me."

"But if we make that long-term commitment and examine what it means to be white, black, Latino or Native American in this society, and I listen carefully to you, and you listen to me, we may not come to agree, but we will understand where each other is coming from."

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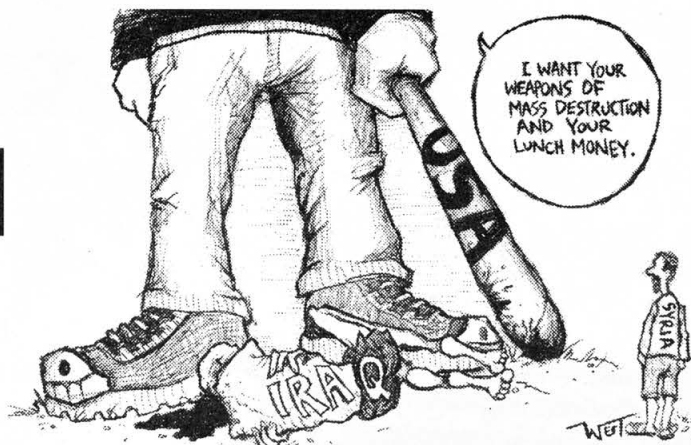
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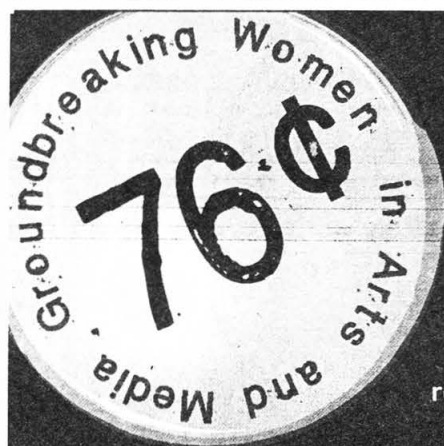
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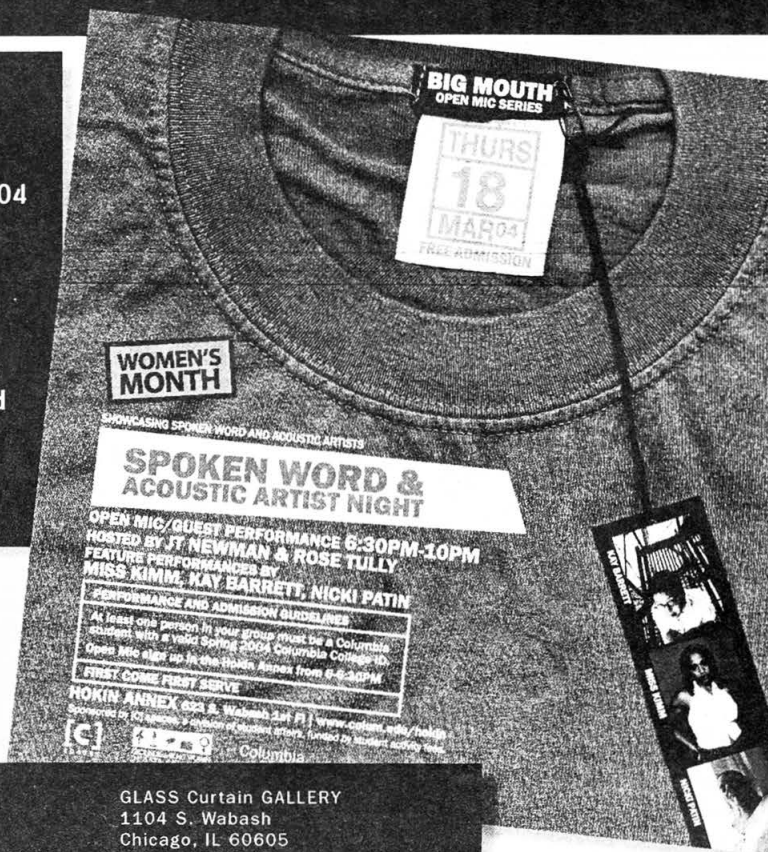
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# [C] EVENTS

spaces

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*Scrabylon* is a documentary on the cutthroat world of tournament Scrabble. Featuring the fiercest anagrammers, rack balancers, and bingo experts in competitive Scrabble, *Scrabylon* delves deep into this sometimes wacky, sometimes odd, and always compelling subculture. Shot primarily during the 2001 World Scrabble Championships in Las Vegas, *Scrabylon* features players from around the globe and gives an up-close look at why people get obsessed with a seemingly benign game played at countless kitchen tables.

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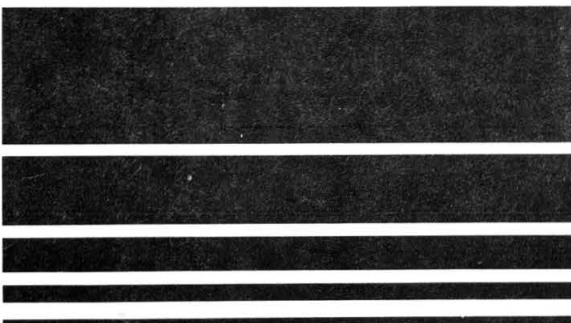
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## Battling the Birth: BLACK IMAGES ON SCREEN

In conjunction with African-American Heritage Month, the Glass Curtain Gallery is proud to present this exhibition, curated by photographer and Columbia College Chicago alumnus Rashid Johnson. *Black Images on Screen* explores African-American identity, race issues, and artistic vision through the media of film and television.



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## Carter's address falls on deaf ears

Things are looking up. This much, at least, was clear following Columbia President Warrick L. Carter's State of the College address during which the leader of this institution sought to alleviate Columbia's problems by introducing a bold new set of initiatives.

The problem is, almost no one heard it.

Unless you were present in the auditorium, packed into the noxious cave of the Underground Café or watching Frequency TV while waiting for an elevator, you didn't see the address. And therein lies the problem.

For a school that bills itself as "the nation's premier performing arts and media college," there seems to be a distinct and gross lack of communication throughout campus, particularly between the administration and the students.

Halfway through his speech, Carter blamed students for not seeking out the \$400,000 scholarship surplus obtainable at the end of last year, saying, "Shame on you, students, because you didn't come and bang down the door and make sure that you have entered every conceivable

amount of [financial assistance] that we had in scholarships available to you."

Give us a little bit of credit here. We're not dumb. College students can smell money like blood in the water a mile off. If it's anyone's fault, it's the administration's for not alerting us to the available funds, or providing

out of the school; Columbia isn't your typical college campus. Instead of a verdant cobbled quad and a student center, we have skyscrapers, construction girders and itinerants shuffling about. None of us came here expecting the trappings of a traditional school; the integrated architecture of a vertical campus is part of Columbia's charm, as well as its Achilles' heel.

For Columbia to continue to grow, there needs to be a greater cooperation toward integrating all its elements: students, faculty, administration and the city of Chicago. Right now, only half of those elements are in place.

Carter's enterprise to propel Columbia forward as a respected name in the arts and media community is a laudable one that will hopefully pay off for all members—past, present and future. However, before we plunge forward, we need to strengthen our own ties so we don't find ourselves even more severed than before.

Baby steps President Carter, baby steps.

## THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

### Our Turn

proper channels through which to get them.

And that's just an example. Carter spoke with a grand flourish, using obtuse language to talk about "zero tuition increase," "creating and changing," "authoring the culture of our times," and "branding" the South Loop area. All fine and good proposals, but it belies the problem we face trying to connect with each other, and that's why we're all here—to learn how to communicate.

This is a major problem when considering the disconnected lay-

## Presidential candidate skips a generation

In complete disregard for the 18- to 30-year-old voting population, Democratic presidential front-runner Sen. John Kerry bypassed all of Chicago's more than 100 colleges and universities during his March 9 visit to the Second City.

Kerry made several stops in and around the state; he ran through Chicago preaching messages of job growth, cheaper prescription drugs and anti-Bushism.

His congregations gathered in venues such as Union Station, senior centers and West Side factories. Somehow he forgot to make a pit stop at any of Chicago's institutions of higher learning.

Either Kerry lives and breathes by Urban Outfitter's T-shirts emblazoned with "Voting is for Old People" slogans, or young people simply don't vote. According to the Youth Vote Coalition, even though people ages 18 to 30 are 42.5 million strong and comprise almost a quarter of the voting population, time and time again this voting body is skipped over by politicians.

But it's not because younger

voters care more about the latest CD or MTV Real World Nebraska episodes than politics. It's because of candidates like Kerry acting as if the youth don't have issues.

During election years, candidates are the first in the pulpits of Southern black churches. They're first on the construction sites of the labor unions. And they're the first in the Jell-O line at the senior citizens' homes. However, they make few public appearances at music stores, counters of local bars or more importantly, campus auditoriums.

Candidates, especially this election season, have to realize young Americans have issues too. The job market affects young people, especially college students. The national unemployment rate stands at 5.6 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, with no sign of recovery in the near future. Who do these candidates think will be searching for jobs in droves come this spring?

The national deficit, which stands at more than \$500 billion, and the depletion of Social Security will also heavily impact

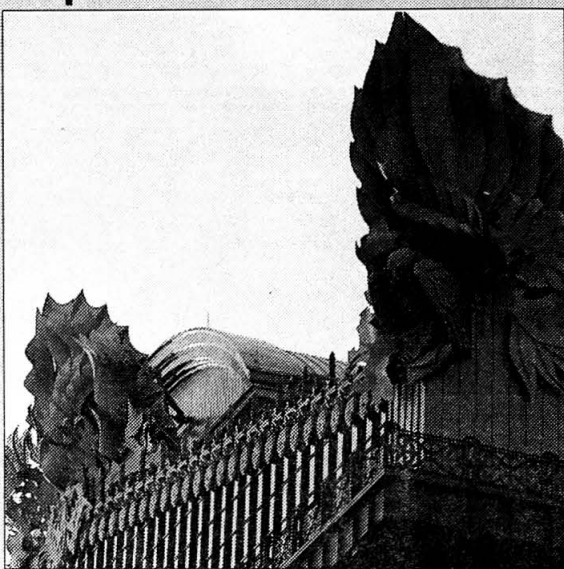
young people. The nation's economic gospel, according to Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, is that Social Security will be dried up by the time Generation X chooses to retire.

Let's not forget the U.S. military occupations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo and Haiti. Who will be going to fight in or occupy these places? It won't be dear-old Grandpa or Mommy and Daddy. It will be the nation's youth, college students included. And don't leave out prescription drugs. Oops, I'm sorry, young people don't get sick, and if they did, they wouldn't have to pay for it.

Regardless of what impacts the young adult voting population, their voting numbers don't show promise, so their "Meet the Candidates" never happens. According to recent press polls, young people can swing this year's presidential election, much like the soccer moms of old.

The Chronicle implores you to get out to the voting booths on March 16 and Nov. 2 and vote for the candidate who at least stopped by Chicago to say hello.

## Exposure



Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

Got a good shot? E-mail us: [Chronicle@colum.edu](mailto:Chronicle@colum.edu)

## Off the beaten path :

### Views from campuses across the country

## Religion no excuse to discriminate

**Jonathan Reeder**  
University Daily Kansan (U. Kansas)

(U-WIRE) LAWRENCE, Kan.—On Feb. 27, 2004, the Baylor Lariat, the student newspaper of Baylor University, published an editorial supporting San Francisco's decision to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

The editorial raised the hackles of students, parents and college administrators.

Robert B. Sloan Jr., president of Baylor, said in a statement that the editorial view was out of touch with the university's Christian values. He also said the statement violated the school's publications policy, which says that no publication can take a stance "attacking the basic tenets of Christian theology or of Christian morality."

Religion is an attractive scapegoat, but it isn't the true problem. The problem is our inability or unwillingness to accept people or customs different from our own—an inability made evident by the fact that there is so much resistance to the idea of same-sex marriage.

In early February, hundreds of people gathered in Boston to support the proposed Constitutional amendment that would define marriage as "the union of one man and one woman." The amendment would overturn the Massachusetts State Supreme Court ruling allowing same-sex marriages.

The debate has brought America's Christian foundation to the fore. A man at the march stated that the institution of marriage was a religious tradition dating back thousands of years. The argument is not orig-

inal. Some of the loudest opposition to same-sex marriage comes from religious sources. A religious rights law firm in New York is seeking the removal of Jason West, the New Paltz mayor who performed same-sex marriages, and the firm is asking the state Supreme Court to bar same-sex marriages.

There is not a fact-based argument that these marriages will have a definite negative effect on the United States. But according to one interpretation of U.S. Census information from 2000, there are roughly 600,000 same-sex couples who might benefit from legalization.

The same-sex marriage debate is part of the most important civil rights battle of our generation. It is unfortunate that so many people view the issue as an attack on their religion, because homosexual couples aren't trying to destroy or change anyone's religious beliefs. They are simply seeking the same rights as everybody else. The people working against same-sex marriage are endorsing nothing less than segregation based on sexuality.

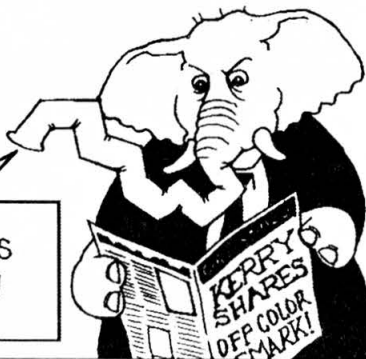
As future policymakers and parents, we should take note of the struggle and work in whatever way possible to make same-sex marriage a reality. It is a small step toward achieving equality. We must learn to accept that people have the right to live their lives as they chose.

Because it is a private university, Baylor has the right to insist that its values be respected and followed by its students and faculty members. It has the luxury of existing in a microcosm. America cannot allow itself that luxury.

## IRONY IS NOT HUMOR

BY RYAN DUGGAN

He called us CROOKED!



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# Bush's bid for re-election a classless campaign

Adam J. Ferington  
Commentary Editor

The firemen aren't real, and there's no body in the casket draped with an American flag. It's empty. They're actors.

But perhaps I'm getting ahead of myself.

Recently, the Bush camp rolled out the first of its re-election ads, a predictable series of political ads featuring a mélange of saccharine and brainless images targeted at the most dull-witted and frightened of creatures. Titled "Safer, Stronger," the commercials feature images of the burning Twin Towers collapsing, firefighters carrying a casket draped with an American flag, people attending religious services and a female soldier dressed in fatigues cradling an identically clothed baby, ending with a shot of a self-assured Bush strolling haughtily down the White House corridors.

Numerous families of 9/11 victims have voiced their outrage toward the ad campaigns, accusing Bush of exploiting 9/11 imagery for political gain after he explicitly stated back in January 2002 that, "I have no ambition whatsoever to use this as a political issue."

But rather than address the issue in a constructive manner that might reinforce a show of character and experience, Bush's former spokeswoman and longtime adviser Karen Hughes said in an interview, "[the family's] anger or revulsion is wrong... They are plain wrong to be incensed that Bush-Cheney 04 is using 9/11 footage in a multimillion-dollar ad campaign. With all due respect, I just completely disagree, and I believe the vast majority of the American people will as well," adding, "I can understand why some Democrats might not want the American people to remember the great leadership and strength the president and First Lady Laura Bush brought to our country in the aftermath of

that." This is a low blow, even for the Bush administration.

Never mind that the firemen portrayed in the ad are actors, that the 6 foot by 2 foot coffin draped with old Glory is as empty as Bush's head. Oh yes, actors. You see, Bush couldn't get any actual firemen to appear in his ads because he effectively alienated the lot of them when he cut their funding after 9/11, infuriating the International Association of Firefighters. IAFF general president Harold Schaitberger said, "Since the attacks, Bush has been using images of himself putting his arm around a retired FDNY firefighter on the pile of rubble at ground zero. But for two and a half years he has basically shortchanged firefighters and the safety of our homeland by not providing firefighters the resources needed to do the job that America deserves. The fact is Bush's actions have resulted in fire stations closing in communities around the country. Two-thirds of America's fire departments remain understaffed because Bush is failing to enforce a new law that was passed with bipartisan support in Congress that would put more firefighters in our communities."

But this is just the tip of the iceberg. It's Bush who has been consistently stonewalling the independent 9/11 investigation commission; the Administration officials opposed the creation of the panel, has consistently avoided cooperating with them

and has only recently caved to the unrelenting pressure placed on it. Even then, Bush has aggressively negotiated to divorce his involvement from the panel, offering only to speak for an hour and exempting National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice from testifying.

But then again, this should be expected from Bush. After nearly four years in office, he has almost nothing to show for it; the economy is still as flaccid as ever, gas prices are skyrocketing and more U.S. soldiers are murdered in sneak attacks by unrelenting militants in Iraq everyday. His only claim to fame is that he just happened to be in office during 9/11.

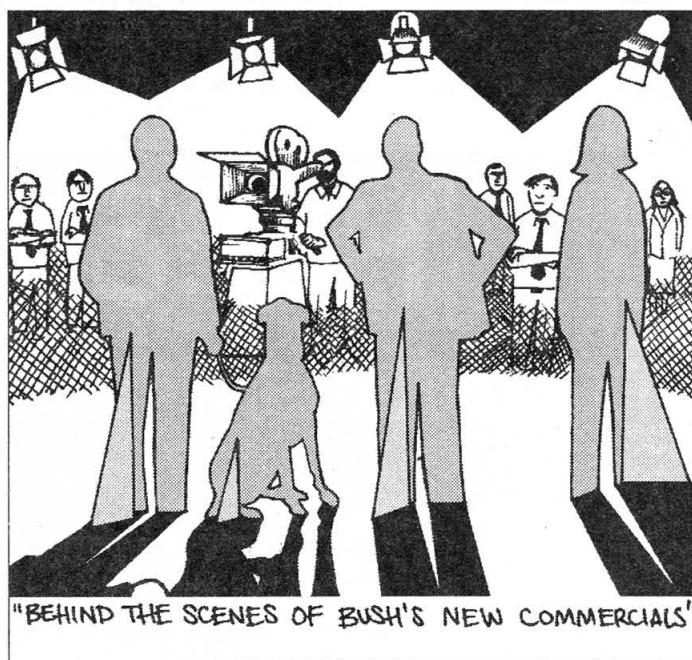
Let's face it, Bush did what any other leader would've and should've done during the aftermath, and he did it well enough. But should he really be patting himself on the back? A good leader, an individual of charac-

ter, resolve and vision would simply accept the accomplishment, carrying himself with the squared shoulders and high chin of confidence and humility. Not Bush. Bush is intent on running about, making sure everybody knows what a great job he's done, rather than trusting the American people to make the "right" choice; because he doesn't trust the American people, regardless of what he says.

He's suspicious and fearful, and you can see it in his beady little eyes; the furtive, little animal jerks of the head as he parades in front of reporters and campaign supporters.

The past four years have been all the proof we need and no carefully crafted ad dripping with sentimental jingoism and clichéd rhetoric can change that. If you truly believe what you see, then you're stupid enough to get what you deserve.

So much for strong, consistent leadership.



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

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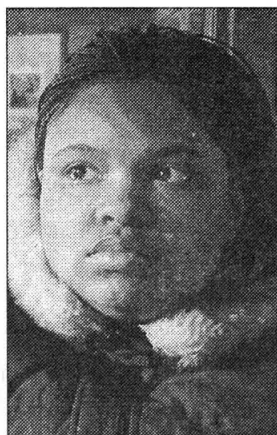
## THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE Your Turn

Question: Did you watch President Carter's State of the College address?



"I had no clue that he was on."

—Sarah Jeziorski  
Junior, Fine Arts



"No. I didn't know."

—Melaney Liddell  
Sophomore, Early  
Childhood Development



"I wasn't aware."

—Jeff Citron  
Senior, Film



"No ... I didn't even know he spoke."

—Diana Ritter  
Sophomore, Journalism



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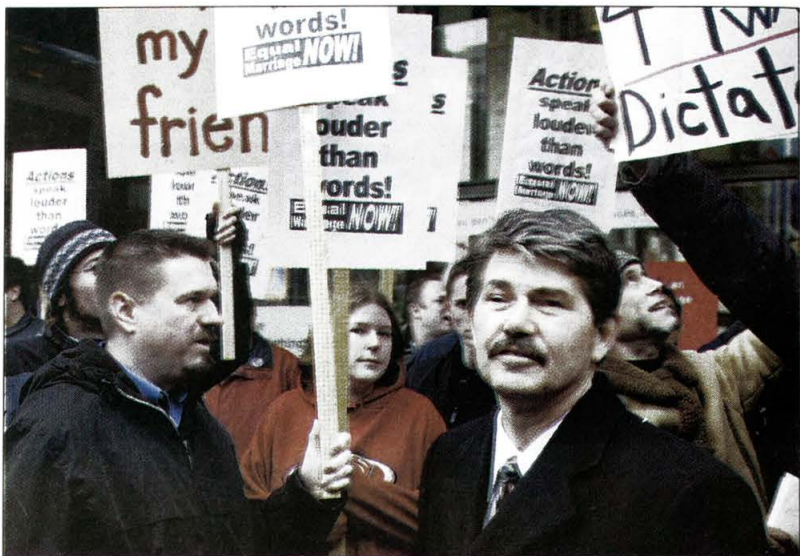
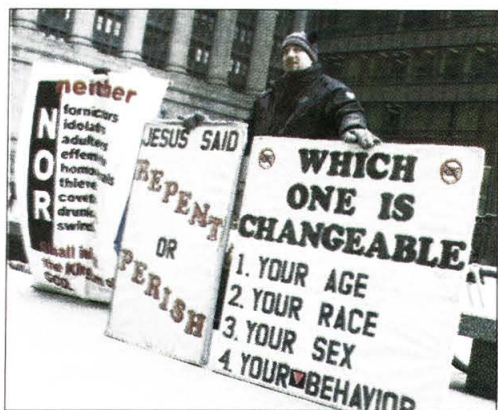
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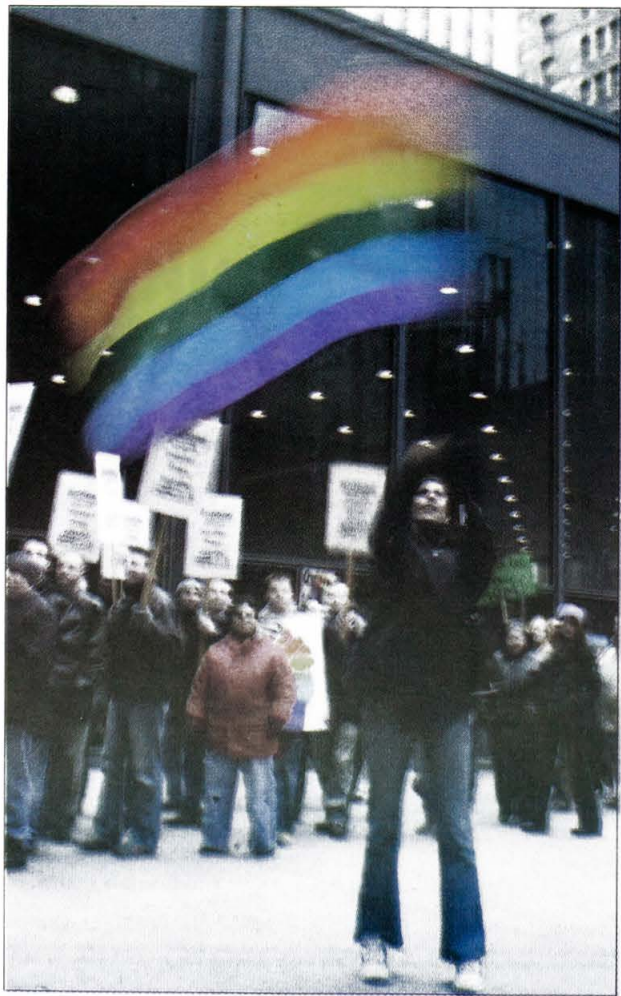


For the past two weeks protesters in front of City Hall were divided by more than a street—with same-sex marriage rights activists on one side and a small group against marriage rights for gays on the other.

On March 4 same-sex couples were denied the issuance of marriage licenses at the Cook County Marriage License Bureau. The crowd called for an appearance by David Orr, who issues licenses, but when he did not emerge, protesters filed into the street. With only one arrest, the protest ended peacefully.

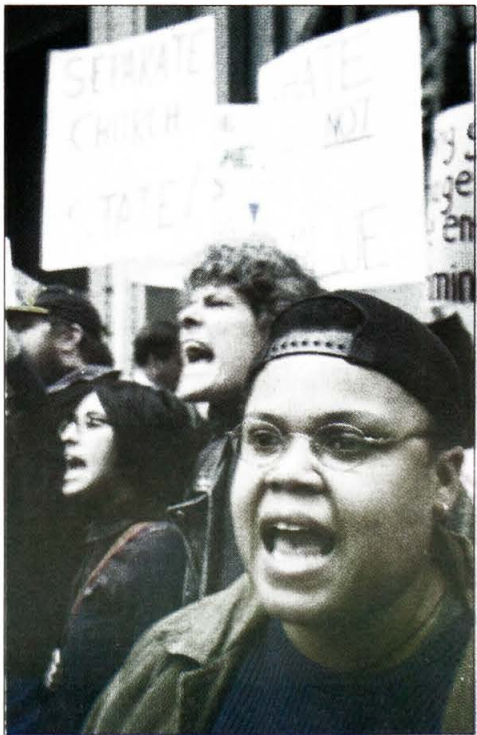
On March 11, David Orr and two openly gay officials, Illinois General Assembly Rep. Larry McKeon (D-Chicago) and Alderman Tom Tunney (44th Ward) added their signatures to a letter addressed to Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert. The letter urges Hastert and President George W. Bush to drop their position against any constitutional amendment placing a ban on same-sex marriages.

Text and photos by: Andrew J. Scott





# Equal rights shout out







# Columbia students tackle 'beast' of a

○ Biblical prophecies unveiled with 'The 4th Beast: Mask of the Antichrist' release this summer

By Doris Dadayan  
A&E Editor

Vatican agents in shades, *Matrix*-style action scenes and a disc of information on the Antichrist—2004 has certainly become the year for Christian-based action filmmaking, and directors are starting to create new spins on a story that's as old as time.

Currently, crews from the biblical thriller *The 4th Beast: Mask of the Antichrist* are filming at locations on Columbia's campus and around the city. The film is set to be released summer 2004.

Based on the book *End Times Delusions* by Steve Wohlberg, the movie is the story of an ex-army ranger, Daniel (played by Jon Ross), who comes back from war and is given a disc containing information about the Antichrist from his friend, a priest. In the process of trying to get the disc to a newspaper journalist, Veronica (played by Vanita Nickole), Daniel fights two rogue Vatican agents, Sebastian and Delilah, who will do anything to get the disc from him.

According to Nathyn Brendan Masters, director of *The 4th Beast* and a Columbia alumnus, the idea behind the movie is that Bible prophecies aren't going to be happening sometime in the future—they are happening right now. The film raises the question of who the villain known as the Antichrist is.

The movie is a breakdown of prophecies from the Bible, explaining the "endtimes." The premise of the movie revolves around the endtimes prophecies, the Revelation prophecies and the Bible's Daniel, with action and suspense to create an entirely new perspective for audiences.

"I want people to get an understanding that the stuff that they've been taught—is the revelations, the prophecies and stuff—is not necessarily biblically true," Masters said. "It's based on a lot of ideals."

The shooting of the project began in late



All photos courtesy David Paul

Columbia students Jason Walsh, Joelly Mejia, Jon Ross and Vanita Nickole star in the pulp action thriller, 'The 4th Beast: Mask of the Antichrist,' set for release this summer.

February in Columbia's Residence Center, The Artist Snack Shop and Grant Park.

The screenwriting of the film began in fall 2003. According to Masters, the cast was chosen from Columbia because they were "a strong group of actors."

Joelly Mejia, a freshman film and video major at Columbia, was originally cast as an understudy for Myra, Daniel's girlfriend, but was then cast to play the role.

"She's a tough chick, kinda like every character [actress] Michelle Rodriguez plays," Mejia said. "She helps [Daniel]

kick butt, and she's also beautiful at the same time."

Before filming began, one of the key problems Masters had was he didn't have the money for equipment to begin shooting.

"Truly as a testament to God, you know, I prayed, I made a promise. I said, 'If you give me the equipment, I will make this film,'" Masters said.

According to Masters, a few days later he was accidentally put in contact with people who, over a period of time, helped him get the equipment he needed to get the project started.

According to David Michael Chance, spokesman for *The 4th Beast*, the movie is made to be entertaining and educational.

"Especially after 9/11, people really want to know what these prophecies are saying," Chance said. "And a lot of people aren't getting the information. They're getting something that is totally questionable."

"Now it's kinda popular to be Christian. But my fear, and not just my fear, but everybody involved in the project, is once Hollywood gets their hands in there and screws it all up, that's when things are going to get really weird. It's going to be

hard separating the real Christian filmmaking from the stuff Hollywood is throwing out there. You know if you really want to mess a picture up, as far as a message is concerned, you can count on Hollywood to do that."

Mejia said, overall, her experience



working on the film has been unbelievable.

"We have a blast. It's a completely new experience for me. I have to give the thumbs up to Nathyn and Columbia for giving us all this opportunity," Mejia said.

For more information and to order a copy of the movie, set to be released on DVD in the summer, visit [www.the4thbeast.com](http://www.the4thbeast.com).



# St. Patrick's Day about more than just drinking

○ The Chronicle unveils some of the biggest misconceptions about one of Chicago's favorite holidays

By Matthew Jaster  
A&E Editor

Contrary to popular belief, St. Patrick's Day isn't about drinking beer and eating corned beef and cabbage. While most people think of green beer and shamrocks, true Irish men and women celebrate St. Patrick himself, the man responsible for founding hundreds of Catholic churches across Ireland.

"St. Patrick's Day is a holiday of obligation," said Gerry Archbold, 71, a volunteer at

Chicago's Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave. "Since the holiday is during Lent, we would get permission to eat meat on St. Patrick's Day."

The holiday itself is the celebration of Briton man who was kidnapped by Irish marauders and spent six years in captivity. According to [www.historychannel.com](http://www.historychannel.com), while he was imprisoned, St. Patrick came up with the idea to convert Irish people to Christianity.

During his escape, Patrick believed God

spoke to him in a dream. After years of religious training, he returned to Ireland to establish churches and teach organized religion.

"People need to know that St. Patrick was directly responsible for bringing Catholicism to the country," said John O'Malley, former president of the Irish American Center. "The day isn't about drinking. In fact, there's a hell of a lot of people in Ireland that don't drink at all."

The holiday is celebrated March 17 to commemorate the anniversary of St. Patrick's death in the fifth century. The first St. Patrick's Day

parade didn't take place in Ireland, but in New York City on March 17, 1762.

"The whole idea of corn beef and cabbage actually started in New York, not Ireland," Archbold said. "In Ireland, St. Patty's Day is a day for sport. They play soccer and rugby and head to the stadium for horse or dog racing."

On March 17, the Irish American Center will have an all-day celebration of music and dancing. "I

plan to attend Mass in the morning and then head over to the center and enjoy the rest of the day," O'Malley said.

Although St. Patrick's Day celebrations may have strayed off course through the years, it seems people with an interest in history have a certain amount of respect and admiration for the holiday. For the rest of the community, it's a day to celebrate and play along.

"Everybody wants to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day," Archbold said.



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle



## DORIS' DISH

DORIS DADAYAN

ddadayan@chroniclemail.com



## DISCLAIMER:

This column was written under the influence of alcohol due to the upcoming St. Patty's Day holiday. Apologies beforehand for any Freudian slips, fabrication and improper grammar.

To all you lads and lasses: In light of the upcoming holiday, St. Patty's Day, I decided to have me a little Irish fun.

Some wee bit unedited Irish fun, a little bit o' liquor-related Irish fun.

Oh, for f---'s sake, who ever said that alcohol intake affects abilities to use a keyboard and concentrate on truth, proper spelling, grammar and punctuation. kg/?.nff

I had the idea to do an exclusive interview with an imaginary leprechaun and bring up issues about his secret, reclusive life that have been on my mind for years.

It was agreed on, but only under one condition: Never ask for his name. Refer to him only as "Kay."

I was a little nervous at first. Hanging out with a mythical creature was new to me. But there's a first time for everything, I suppose.

Everything was specifically discussed with Kay beforehand. I told him his quotes would be on the record. He said he's never spoken to the press before and doesn't understand what going on a record has to do with anything.

It was a done deal. At first, the two-foot tall, beady-eyed little man was a tad suspicious of me. He asked me if I was Irish.

"Dadayan? Short for O'Dadayan?"

Nay, I told him. It's Armenian, but pretty close to Irish.

He liked that.

He was dressed plainly, and I saw a glimpse of two coins. Dressed in a green suit with buckled shoes and a green top hat, the shady, suspicious-looking guy was smoking a clay pipe. He had a red beard and sideburns. He smelled like a fresh slice of Irish Spring soap.

I asked him if he's ever been caught and had gold stolen from him.

Kay said that, personally, it's never happened, although he's heard some bad stories.

According to him, a captured leprechaun will usually try to bribe his way to freedom, and for that reason always carries a pouch with two coins inside—a silver shilling, which reappears in the pouch when it's spent, and a gold coin that will turn to ashes when he's freed.

I asked him whether he has ever been able to trick someone out of snatching his pot of

gold—since we all know leprechauns are shady, sketchy and clever.

He said, "Me lady, I just did."

Alright.

So now he's asking me what I think about the inequality of women leprechauns. Where the hell are they, exactly?

I told him to go to Wal-Mart.

He says he has, but his gold coins aren't accepted there—he can never get change from all the falling prices of the store.

He said he's concerned that leprechauns can't mate. That seems to be the problem of the land—no attractive leprechauns around, male or female.

According to Kay, doing finger-snapping song-and-dance routines doesn't seem to do any good. Wishes aren't granted apparently.

"Aye. I shall grant ye a wish. But it will not be magical. Nay, only five more minutes of dis sheet," he said.

OK.

Legend has it that since catching a leprechaun is difficult, a leprechaun must reveal his treasure to anyone who can catch him. This means that probably the best time to do it is when he is heavily intoxicated. Slip him a little Bailey's, perhaps a pint o' Guinness.

And so I offered him a drink, but he declined. He said, "Oh, no. Nothing for this lad. Thank ye."

He wanted to be able to answer honestly without slurring his words or fumbling for nouns.

He admitted that during his free time he likes to frolic in the lush, green hillside of Ireland.

He doesn't have, or even want to have, any friends. He said leprechauns tend to avoid mortals as well as other leprechauns—although he did make an exception for this one exclusive interview. Though they are antisocial, they are actually hard-working folks—often found behind bushes and trees, smoking pipes.

"May I say, me lady, we leprechauns were one of the first contact ye humans had, ye know?"

If my head was a bit clearer, I would've asked him about dinosaurs, Abe Lincoln and how he manages to keep occupied for centuries making shoes for fairies.

"If ye be quiet, ye hear thee sound of folks working from under the bushes by ye home," he said, out of the blue.

According to Kay, the leprechaun connection to pots of gold refers to some technology that humans have yet to find out about. He swears leprechauns have more advanced technology than humans. He says he doesn't need an iPod, and most definitely doesn't need the Internet.

It's been said if you look away, even for an instant, the clever creature has the ability to vanish, which he utilizes any chance he gets.

As soon as I turned off the recorder for a photo, he was gone.

—ddadayan@chroniclemail.com

## Jamie Murnane's

## Artist Interrogation ...

With the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band

The Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band is the official bagpipe band of the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. In honor of this year's celebration, approximately 85 members of the band will hit the city streets for both the 26th Annual South Side Irish St. Patrick's Day Parade and the 2004 Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. Bill McTighe, a pipe band member since 1967, along with other Shannon Rovers members, will be in Dublin, Ireland, on St. Patty's for the Dublin St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17. Before hopping on the long flight, McTighe spoke with The Chronicle about his piping experiences.

**The Chronicle:** When did you get involved with the Shannon Rovers Pipe Band?

**Bill McTighe:** I've been involved with the Shannon Rovers pipe band since 1967, when I was 12 years old.

**C:** How did you get interested in it?

**BM:** My dad—a policeman—knew a few people that were involved with the band, and they took me to practice one day to see if I liked it, and it was like a duck in water. I had a good time and was pretty proficient at it. Over that next year I spent learning on the practice chanter and the pipes. About 11 months later, I started playing with, and marching, with the band and have been doing so ever since.

**C:** So what was it about the bagpipes that interested you?

**BM:** Well, I don't know if there was any particular thing. I was just fascinated by the whole instrument. I had played the piano a little bit and messed around with the saxophone. But the pipes just seemed to be a good fit for me.

**C:** And are you Irish?

**BM:** Well, mostly Irish, but, like, fifth generation. So, my Irish roots are pretty far back.

**C:** How many band members are there?

**BM:** Well, we'll put about 85 people on the streets on St. Patrick's Day—including the pipers, drummers and color guard.

**C:** So, I noticed that you guys are playing a lot of events coming up. This, obviously, must be your busiest time of the year.

**BM:** It is, but the rest of the year is no slouch either. We run our calendar year from—we have our yearly meeting in June—and we run our year from June 1 to May 31. Last cycle, we did 454 shows. That included everything from one piper to full-band stuff, and 175 of those were in March.

**C:** Have you ever done that before?

**BM:** No. We're the official band of the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade, and with all our commitment here, it's hard to get away. But, the way the calendar falls this year with the downtown parade on Saturday the 13 and the South Side parade on Sunday the 14—we do have some commitments on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and the following weekend—but there's enough people that can go, as well as send a large constituency to Dublin.

**C:** How would people who are interested get involved or join the band?

**BM:** We have people call all the time that want to learn. First, you start out on an instrument that looks a lot like a recorder; it's called a practice chanter. Mainly what you learn on the practice chanter is the fingering. That could take, depending on what you put into it, anywhere from six months to a couple years. Then, at some point you start looking for pipes, and then we transition onto the bagpipe. We have a good 10 to 12 people a year start and probably two or three persevere.

**C:** So how long did you spend with the practice chanter?

**BM:** I think I had the advantage of being extremely young with an empty computer at the time, so my slate was pretty clean. I spent a lot of time with it, so I picked it up relatively quick. But I would say the average person probably spends a year, year and a half before they're on the pipes and then another year transitioning into bagpipes and then the rest of your life trying to perfect it.

**C:** Do you have a favorite song or march you like to perform?

**BM:** It varies. There's a couple marches I like particularly. "Minstrel Boy" is one of my favorites, and I like to play jigs. If I play at somebody's wedding or party, I probably know 35 or 40 jigs, and I'll just start putting a string of jigs together. Just the more lively, lighter stuff I like better than the traditional dirge type music.

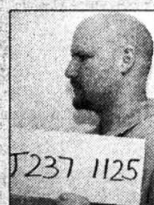
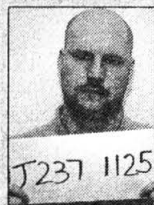
**C:** Is there a wide age range among the members?

**BM:** Oh, yeah, actually our youngest person playing with the band is a 14-year-old drummer, and the oldest one would probably be John McLaughlin, who I think is 76. So there's a full gamut. And the question always comes up, I guess, because it's such a traditional thing. But yes, we have a lot of girls in the band—I think there's 14 or 15 right now that are playing, and we do have a couple students as well.

For more information on the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band, visit [www.shannonrovers.com](http://www.shannonrovers.com) or call (773)792-3131.

## UNDER THE INFLUENCE

BY MATTHEW JASTER



## Ode to the Irish

● **The Irish Tenors:** Just like The Three Tenors except they enjoy slugging down pints and puking all over each other after concerts.

● **U2:** A band on a mission to fight for every political movement in the history of the world until Bono runs out of sunglasses to wear.

● **James Joyce:** One of the most influential writers of the 20th century and I still can't understand a damn word he's trying to say.

● **Colin Farrell:** Had one too many pints of Guinness before agreeing to star in films like *Daredevil* and *S.W.A.T.*

● **Happiness equals a Shamrock Shake.**

● **Conan O'Brien:** The only late-night talk show host left on television who still has some personality.

● **Sinead O'Connor:** Nothing compares to a career that disappears faster than a shot of whiskey on St. Patty's Day.

● **The Corrs:** They're hot, but they sing god-awful, new-age mood music nobody wants to hear.

● **Michael Flatley:** The Lord of the Dance wouldn't last five minutes in an Irish pub in Chicago.

● **Lucky Charms:** God bless those green clovers, blue diamonds, yellow stars and whatever other gimmicks they toss into the cereal week after week.

● **The Cranberries:** Did you have to let your career linger?

● **Jennifer Aniston:** Should be named an honorary Irish woman for participating in the incredible motion picture *Leprechaun*.

● **Guinness:** the official beer of alcoholics on St. Patty's Day.

● **The Irish jig:** Thousands of drunk Americans will attempt to do this March 17, 18, 19 ...

● **After consuming mass quantities of liquor,** legions of Irish-Americans will demonstrate the patience and even temperament the Irish are renowned for on St. Patty's Day.

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# Mix it up for St. Patty's Day

By Doris Dadyan  
A&E Editor

Having trouble getting your thoughts across? Slurring your words? Experiencing blurred vision? Mouth open but glass keeps being applied to the wrong part of the face?

Oh, shucks, shamrock, it must be March 17, St. Patty's Day—a day celebrated around the world after St. Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland in the fifth century.

Although there have been some misconceptions regarding Patrick in the past—he wasn't even born in Ireland but in Britain, and his real name isn't believed to be Patrick but Maewyn Succat—there is one thing we do know for sure: The man was arrested several times in his life.

And so, in light of that fact, it's time for the big drinkers to come out to play, to raise a glass of Guinness to the Celtic past and say, "Slainte!"—whether they're genetically Irish or just mentally Irish.

Leprechauns, Irish stew, Maewyn Succat, potatoes and corned beef are good enough reasons to indulge in green beer and other Irish-related festivities, as well as take note that this is the only country that can celebrate a holiday without knowing its true meaning—all the while noting there are far less intoxicated individuals walking down the streets of Ireland than there are walking the streets of Rush and Division.

And although the original St. Patrick's Day was a nonalcohol-related affair, The Chronicle's got a few recipe suggestions for celebrating and drinking with some alcohol-related frivolity and some nonalcohol related frivolity thrown in for good measure.

Erin go brag!

## Irish Car Bomb

- One-half pint Guinness
- One-half ounce Bailey's Irish Cream
- One-half ounce Irish Whiskey

Directions: Mix Bailey's Irish Cream and Irish Whiskey in shot glass, drop in a glass of Guinness.

## Leprechaun's Lemonade:

# Rock it the Irish way

## ○ Chicago plays host to a very Celtic celebration

By Jamie Murmane  
A&E Editor

Sure, there's a drunken parade going on down the block, and the Chicago River is turning green, but where's the good ol' St. Patty's Day music?

From traditional bagpipers to rockers clinging tightly to their (or someone else's) Irish heritage, Chicago's got it going on when it comes to getting green. So, here's a list of some of the best Irish music to listen to while downing countless pints of Guinness.

## Shamrock & Roll

Dada, Indigenous and The Elders will perform March 17 at Shenannigans House of Beer, 16 W. Division St. While no bagpipers will be present, this show promises to celebrate just as much as any leprechaun can. Bobby Skafish of WXRT-FM will be on site to broadcast the show live.

The Elders, known as the "best Irish rock band in America," stick so close to Irish tradition, one would guess them to be from Dublin. In fact, they hail from Kansas City. This six-piece band is sure to please with their Irish rock ballads. For more information on Shamrock & Roll, call Shenannigans at (312) 642-2344.

## Abbey Pub St. Patrick's Day Party

If the lack of bagpipers at the aforementioned celebration was a disappointment, have no fear, the Shannon Rovers Bagpipers are here—well, at the Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St., that is.

The bagpipers, along with Tim O'Shea and Gavin Whelan, Mulligan Stew, Spirorad Damhsa Irish Dancers and Fonnmhór, start

- Two cups lemonade
- One cup lemon-lime soda
- One cup Surge or Mountain Dew
- Ice

Directions: Mix lemonade, soft drink and soda with ice.

## Irish Eyes:

- One shot Irish Whiskey
- One shot Green Crème de Menthe
- One shot heavy cream
- Ice

Directions: Combine with ice and shake in a shaker. Serve with cherry.

## Luck o' the Irish Punch:

- Two envelopes of lime soft drink powder
- Two cups sugar
- Two quarts cold water
- Two cans thawed, frozen lemonade concentrate
- Three and a half cups of ginger ale
- Ice

Directions: Mix and serve over ice.

## Dingle Dream:

- One and a half ounce Irish Whiskey
- One-half ounce Irish Mist
- Coffee soda
- Crème de Cacao
- Whipped cream
- Ice

Directions: Pour Irish Whiskey and Irish Mist into glass of ice. Add coffee soda and stir. Top with crème de cacao and whip cream.

## Irish Buck:

- One and a half ounce Irish Whiskey
- Ginger ale
- Lemon peel
- Ice

Directions: Pour Irish Whiskey into glass of ice and ginger ale. Twist lemon peel and drop in glass.

Recipes courtesy of [www.barMeister.com](http://www.barMeister.com), [www.justgreatrecipes.com](http://www.justgreatrecipes.com), [www.cooks.com](http://www.cooks.com) and [www.drinkoftheweek.com](http://www.drinkoftheweek.com).

performing at 3 p.m. on St. Patrick's Day—which is actually late in the game for most people, since it's never-too early to start the party on St. Patrick's Day. For tickets contact the Abbey's box office at (773) 478-4408.

## Chief O'Neill's St. Patrick's Celebration

This North Side pub at 3471 N. Elston Ave. has been celebrating the luck of the Irish since March 11. The celebration, rich with fiddle lessons and green drinks, will culminate on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, with a performance by The Wanderers from Chicago's South Side. For more information, call Chief O'Neill's at (773) 583-3066.

## RedEye St. Patrick's Day Party

See the hot, young Irish band Gael Sli and those ubiquitous Spirorad Damhsa Irish Dancers on St. Patrick's Day at the Mystic Celt, 3443 N. Southport Ave. This party is different from the rest in that fancy electronic prizes (such as digital cameras and DVD players) will be given away. For more information, call the Mystic Celt at (773) 529-8550.

## Traditional Irish Jam Session

If St. Patrick's Day doesn't satisfy your Irish music needs, then step into Keegan's Pub at 10618 S. Western Ave. any Wednesday night year-round to participate in, or listen to an Irish open-mic jam session. Keegan's is well-known for their traditional Irish-infused music, and the jam sessions tend to draw fairly large crowds. For more information, call Keegan's at (773) 233-6829.



Sunday, March 28, 2004

Grant Park - Chicago

# Join the Party with Poi Dog Pondering

Register for The 25th Anniversary LaSalle Bank Shamrock Shuffle 8K or 5K Fitness Walk\* and gain free entry into the Post-Race Party with live music by Poi Dog Pondering.

Entry into the Post-Race Party is limited to registered participants and one guest.  
\*\$2 from every entry will benefit the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago

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For more information visit us at [shamrockshuffle.com](http://shamrockshuffle.com).

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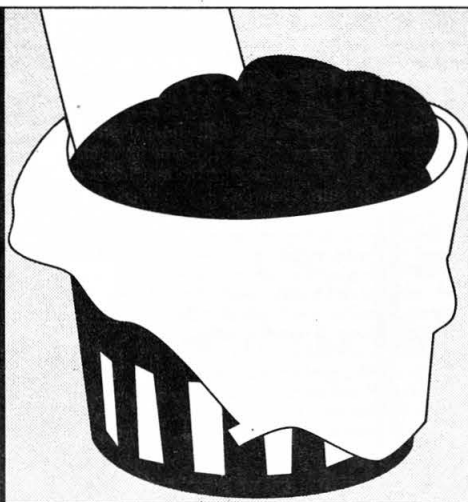
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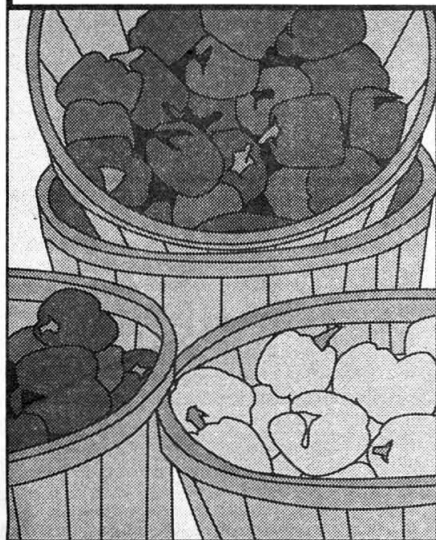
## Deadline: March 22

Work must be turned in to the  
Visual Resource Department  
623 S. Wabash, room 719  
Label all work!  
Name, title (if any), phone,  
email, class & instructor from  
which the work was completed.



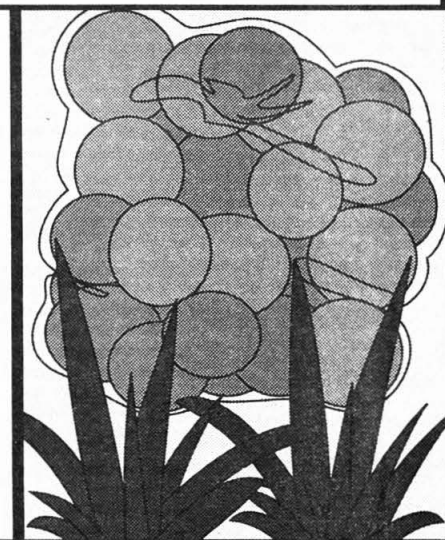
## Show: March 25

Exhibit opening and  
awards presentation  
at 5:30 pm in the  
10th floor gallery  
and exhibit cases,  
623 S. Wabash building.  
Through April 15.



# Fresh Pick

All participants  
will receive a gift certificate  
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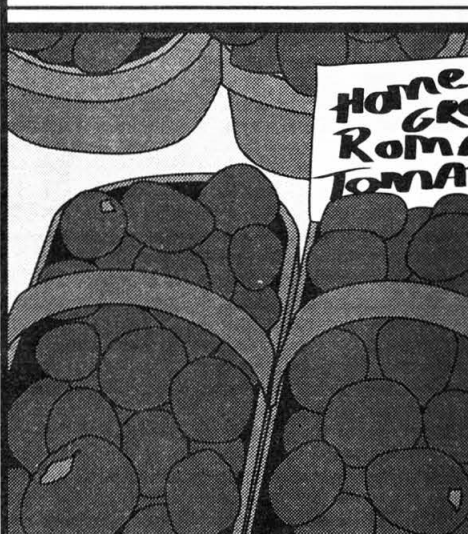


## Awards

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes will  
be awarded in three categories:

- 2-dimensional design
- 3-dimensional design/sculpture
- Drawing/illustration/rendering

1st place: \$300 plus  
MCA student membership  
2nd place: \$200  
3rd place: \$100

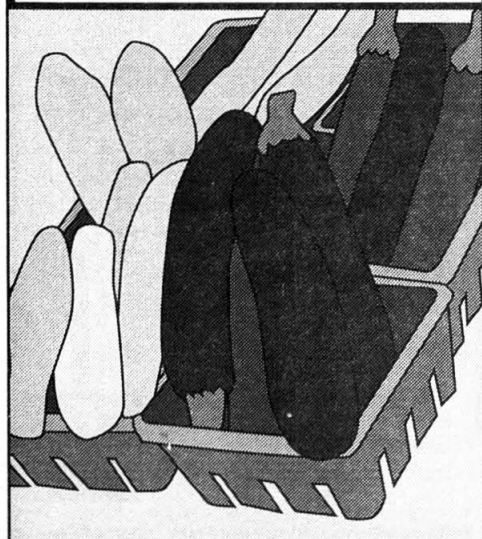


## Requirements

Fresh pick is open to all currently  
enrolled Art & Design freshman  
(as of this or last semester) to  
exhibit one of your works!

Submissions should be pieces  
executed during the Fall 2003  
or Spring 2004 semesters in an  
Art & Design Class.

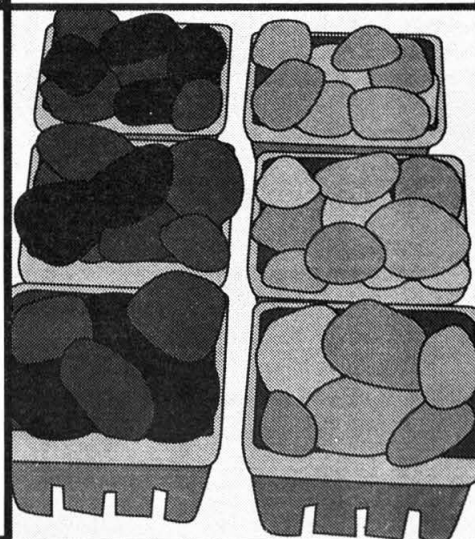
One piece per student (no photos).



## Freshman Exhibit

Sponsored by  
the Art & Design Department,  
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Questions? Carol Hammerman  
(cghammer@yahoo.com),  
Heather Rounds (312-344-7380),  
or Bob Blinn (312-344-7929).





## St. Patty's Day Parade will have one less Irish rover

By Chris Coates  
Editor-in-Chief

When Chicago's St. Patrick's Day Parade steps onto Columbus Drive March 13, the mile-long gaggle of shamrocks and emeralds will have one less Irish person than last year.

It would have been Barbara O'Hara's 49th trek in Chicago's St. Pat's parade.

When she died June 23 of cancer, O'Hara had marched in every St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Chicago, starting with the very first in 1956.

As a bag piper in the Shannon Rovers Irish Pipe Band of Chicago, O'Hara was near the front of the pack every year, leading the more than 70 member band in dozens of parades.

Those who knew her said she was proudly Irish.

"Barbara, through no desire of her own ... just became an institution," said Bill McTighe, a Shannon Rover's piper major.

Beginning in 1926, the Shannon Rovers have played for every U.S. president since Franklin D. Roosevelt. In 1965, Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley named the Rovers the official band of the city of Chicago.

And for many of the years, O'Hara, who joined the group in 1946, was a member. In fact, McTighe, who has been involved with the Rovers since 1967, said O'Hara might have the distinction of being the longest performing member in the band.

"She did not have a bad bone in her body," he said. "No matter how bad you might have felt, Barbara would tell you 'Oh, it'll get better, time will pass.'"

It was a seemingly strenuous schedule. Between February and the middle of March, the Shannon Rovers play hundred of events—

from parades to concerts to weddings to funerals—as far away as Ireland.

And if O'Hara could be there, she was. Even in her later years, O'Hara never missed a practice, according to Bill King, an administrator with the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and a friend of O'Hara's.

O'Hara was unmarried and spent the latter half of her life rescuing abandoned cats and nursing them to health.

O'Hara never drove, always hitching a ride with a fellow Shannon Rover to practice or taking public transportation to her job.

Even at her job as one of a handful of secretaries for the Chicago Journeymen Plumbers Local Union 30, it was clear O'Hara was Irish.

"Barbara was someone you could always talk with, always have a real pleasant conversation," said Jim Sullivan, the union's business manager who also serves as general chairman of the Chicago's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

She had worked at the office for more than 20 years.

O'Hara retired last year not because of her age, but because she was sick, Sullivan said.

According to McTighe, O'Hara played her pipes to the end—just 10 days before she was hospitalized.

McTighe said O'Hara's absence would be a quiet loss for the pipers, drummers and color guard.

As for the parade, McTighe said O'Hara's absence would be a quiet loss for the pipers, drummers and color guard.

"To the average person watching the parade, it probably won't even be noticed," McTighe said. "But to the people who have been involved in the workings of the parade for the past 50 years, it's greatly noticed."

## Reverend Glasseye 'falls' into fantasy

○The good 'Reverend' entertains with folklore for the holidays

By Doris Dadayan  
A&E Editor

With the creepy instrumental combination of banjos, fiddles, organ and horns thrown together with mad, chaotic and freakish lyrics in questionable English, Reverend Glasseye and His Wooden Legs' 2001 *Black River Falls*, makes the perfect accompaniment for any family-related dinner or get-together this St. Patrick's Day.

Adam Beckley (Reverend Ignatious Glasseye) and his Wooden Legs quartet create a sound that can best be described as a roller-coaster ride through hell, with lyrics that refer to little girls, opium, train rides and "dancing all night 'til the house falls down, but we'll never pull your body from the bleeding ground."

The Boston-based band's folk/carnival music album takes the listener through 11 short stories that sound like they were plucked from a tale of total insanity. The voice of "The Reverend" howls

throughout the album and gives listeners a bone-chilling first-person account, setting a back-of-the-woods-vaudeville-gypsy-circus scene, circa 1904.

With lyrics such as "With blood upon their hands / Stopped briefly for a beer / And then on the train

disc?

Song titles such as "50% Murder," "Carnival of Pills" and "Blood O' Lambs" give a pretty good idea of the dementia to come. The album's beats are insane, and the melody pulsates with a Fiddler-on-the-Roof-type tone. Yet, there is still something kind of attractive about this album—and no, it's definitely not the creepy-looking girls dressed in white on the cover jacket.

Although the album's overall sound evokes images of hell, combined with a wedding day in a Russian peasant village and a Texas hoedown, the melodies are contagious and create the urge to bust out a bootlegged bottle of vodka, throw on some patched clothes and dance the forbidden dance in a log cabin in an Appalachian village.

The CD entertains with its mountain folk music beats and yodeling, while the Reverend Glasseye sings his tunes of murder, blood and vandals.



coo-coo bird records

again," and "Just give me one more smoke before I go" and "She talks so clear the words get in the way," what's not to like about the

## Read this, get tickets

You've got a chance to pick up two free tickets to see songstress Jonatha Brooke play at the Park West, 322 W. Amitage Ave., on April 2! Just bring your answer to these two questions to Caribou Coffee, 800 S. Wabash Ave., on March 22 at 6:30 p.m.

The first two correct answers we draw gets the prize—two tickets to Brooke's upcoming concert OR an autographed copy of her CD.

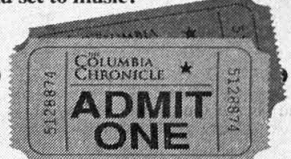
The first 20 guests at Caribou Coffee get a CD gift bag, courtesy of Universal, The Columbia Chronicle, WXRT-FM and Caribou Coffee.

The featured drink of the night is said to be Brooke's favorite—a triple-shot cappuccino with half and half.

For more information, call (312) 344-7086.

What was the headline for Brooke's CD review that was published in The Chronicle?

What was the first song Brooke wrote that was taken from an e. e. Cummings poem and set to music?



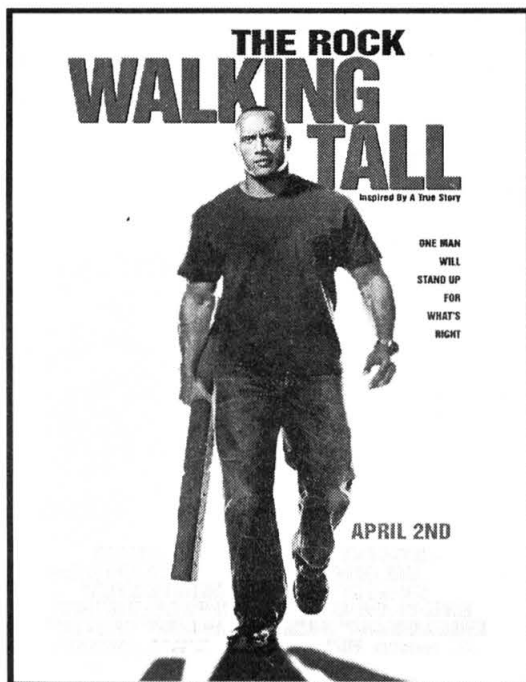
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# All bets are on

By Matthew Jaster  
A&E Editor

With 60 basketball games in three weeks, millions of basketball fans spend a great deal of March glued to television screens and computer monitors. Since most first round games take place during the work week, it's a safe bet that employee productivity drops during March Madness.

The NCAA College Tournament gives sports enthusiasts a chance to go head-to-head with co-workers and friends through the often-notorious office pool. Though some conduct office pools for fun, others put up serious cash in an effort to win big.

"The temptation to do online gambling is greater than ever," said Ronnie Manning, public relations director for Websense Inc. "There are over 54,500 websites dedicated to gambling and 252,000 general sports-related sites currently on the web."

The Internet has made it easier for sports fans to check scores, fill out brackets and watch tournament games in the comfort of their office cubicles.

According to a survey conducted by the Society for Human Resource Management, approximately one-third of human resource professionals say basketball pools for the NCAA College Tournament occur at their organizations. In the same survey, 63 percent said there are currently no written policies to address gambling in the workplace.

There isn't a shortage of information online to keep sports fans from downloading stat sheets and collecting hours and hours of useless basketball information. Interested parties can get a copy of "How To Win Your Office Pool" at [www.probasketball.about.com](http://www.probasketball.about.com) or read NCAA tournament history at [www.thesportingnews.com](http://www.thesportingnews.com).

Websense Inc. is an organization

that provides employee Internet-management solutions. It serves to maintain productivity and control bandwidth usage during high-profile sporting events, including the NCAA tournament.

"The obvious sites like ESPN.com and cbsportsline.com are visited on a daily basis during the tournament," Manning said. "We have the ability to allow companies to manage employee Internet use at the office."

At the website [www.websense.com](http://www.websense.com), a press release details the current problems associated with March Madness.

"The NCAA Tournament is one of the most exciting times of the year for college basketball fans," said Harold Kester, chief technology officer at Websense.

"Unfortunately, with the good comes the bad, and March Madness can be a major distraction for your employees at work."

Although Internet monitoring is usually related to preventing children from viewing questionable websites, there's a growing problem during major American sports events. The office pool craze can easily be associated with the sports communities' current obsession with fantasy sports teams. According to the SHRM survey, football pools are the most common form of gambling in the workplace. In the same survey, however, 56 percent said there has been no effect on worker productivity due to these activities. The great debate continues.

Perhaps the role of the sports enthusiast is the real problem. James Verner summed it up best in an article about fantasy sports at [www.theopinion.com](http://www.theopinion.com).

"Let me emphasize that in no way am I suggesting this hobby is remotely cool," Verner wrote. "It's sports without the exercise, a way to derive joy from statistics, and a generally unproductive waste of time."

## Scrabylon continued from Front Page

"It's funny because some people think, wow, that's really freakish, but it's only freakish if you're not obsessed with it... This is just one group's obsession, and there are a lot of different facets of it."

According to the National Scrabble Association, there is no small Scrabble subculture, but a large and continuously growing one that transcends cultures and borders. This is exactly what the focus of Petersen's film was.

"It's sort of about Scrabble," he said. "But it's really about the obsession and the different personalities."

John D. Williams Jr., executive director of the NSA and one of the subjects of Scrabylon, said Petersen came to the NSA when he got the idea for the film.

"Basically, I told him what I could and told him who some of the interesting players were, and he started following us around," Williams said.

According to Williams, aka "Mr. Scrabble," the NSA represents more than 10,000 Scrabble club and tournament players in the United States and Canada. It also sanctions approximately 200 tournaments every year, organizes the national and world championships and even publishes the Scrabble News.

"We also run a national school Scrabble program in 20,000 schools around the country," Williams said. "And, if Scrabble's going to be in the movies or a television show, we read the script to make sure it's depicted right."

Williams, who has been the head of the NSA since 1987, said his biggest accomplishment came about last year, when the first televised Scrabble match in history

aired on ESPN. The next big tournament is the National Championships, which also will be televised.

"It will be July 31 through August 5 in New Orleans, and we're expecting 800 Scrabble experts at that from probably 40 states and seven or eight different countries," he said.

Another subject of Scrabylon is Chicago's own Marty Gabriel, who will be at Columbia for a Q-and-A session following the film's screening. Gabriel, along with his wife, is a Scrabble expert.

"Scott contacted me through the local Scrabble club, and I was at the time one of the top, if not the top player," he said. "I think he liked the idea that my wife and I were a couple that played

"Now Scott wrote in there about the intimidation aspect, but I think that's kind of a little bonus... anything to give you an edge."

Gabriel said his athletic build from years of playing sports also probably throws some players off. "Most of the players who tend to play in the clubs tend to be more mild-mannered," he said. "If you look at the words on a Scrabble box, the words... are usually ones like safe, quiet, home. So one of the surprises when I got involved with Scrabble was to realize how competitive a lot of the players are who play in clubs and tournaments."

"I told my wife they should have a skit on 'Saturday Night Live' or something... have people playing Scrabble and you see these old ladies kind of getting into a war of words not just on the board but kind of cussing each other out, gloating, doing a little touchdown dance. It's not like that all the time but it's certainly more competitive than people would imagine."

Scrabylon captures all of the gloating and touchdown dancing one could imagine when it comes to Scrabble. The documentary focuses on the strategies and the quirky personalities of high scorers like Gabriel, who is one of only three club or tournament players who have scored higher than 700 in a single match. Then, there's "G.I." Joel Sherman, named so for his gastrointestinal problems that cause him to belch uncontrollably during matches. Sherman is one of the only professional Scrabble players in the world.

Throw these unique personalities into a large room with multiple Scrabble matches going on simultaneously, and there's bound to be plenty of F-U-N.



1997 World Champ "G.I." Joel Sherman in 'Scrabylon'.

Scrabble—sort of the glamour couple."

In the Scrabylon description, Gabriel is identified as the player who drinks vinegar straight from the bottle to intimidate his opponents, but that wasn't his main intention.

"Sometimes, you're a little sluggish, like in the morning, and people think a little bit of coffee will help, but I feel like the vinegar sort of peps me up," he said.

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# Wilson and Stiller play it safe in television remake

By Matthew Jaster  
A&E Editor



Before "Cagney and Lacey," "Miami Vice" and "NYPD Blue," there was "Starsky and Hutch." Most college students were too young to appreciate the quintessential cop show that celebrated the '70s, but syndication made it possible to jump back into the era of disco dancing and flashy fashion trends.

When it originally aired in September 1975, "Starsky and Hutch" was a humorous, action-packed, good cop/bad cop police drama. The thought of creating a big budget Hollywood version in 2004 brought back memories of films like *The Avengers*, *Scooby Doo*, and *Charlie's Angels*. Usually the transition from television to the big screen is a financial disaster.

Thankfully, the collaboration of Owen Wilson, Ben Stiller and director Todd Phillips is a fairly successful one. Phillips, responsible for directing films like *Old School* and *Road Trip*, doesn't go over the top with his take on *Starsky and Hutch*. The film doesn't try to do anything mind blowing for two hours except bring audiences along on an entertaining ride with a couple of quirky cops.

Wilson and Stiller manage to have a few laughs, a couple of chase scenes and play out the buddy cop formula to perfection. Although the cocaine plot line seems tedious and unnecessary, there has to be something going on to get these police officers through their day. Phillips spends less time worrying about clever plot devices and concentrates more on the humor of his two main characters.

Wilson plays Ken Hutchinson with the kind of arrogant charm he made famous in films such as *Meet the Parents* and *The Royal Tenebaums*. Stiller's David Starsky is over

the top and, although funny at times, really starts to wear out its welcome halfway through the film.

During a contrived disco dance-off, Starsky shakes and bakes his way across the floor in a sequence audiences already saw in films such as *Along Came Polly* and *Zoolander*.

It's the supporting cast that saves the film from being just another action flick. Snoop Dogg was born to play Huggy Bear, and there isn't an actor in Hollywood who can work a '70s moustache better than Vince Vaughn. Jason Bateman, Juliette Lewis and Fred Williamson also contribute minor roles to the film.

Will Ferrell makes an appearance as a prison inmate with some disgusting sexual fantasies he'd like to see the heroes play out. In order to get information from the inmate, the two cops have to submit to his perverted demands. The real star of the show, however, is the red and white striped Ford Gran Torino owned by Starsky. The muscle car of all muscle cars, the Torino is like another character in the film—loud, obnoxious and fun.

The desire to do a cop film set in the '70s would have plenty of directors making fun of the decade along the way. Instead, Phillips plays the story straight, allowing the audience to enjoy the costumes, hairstyles and muscle cars without trying to go over the top. Owens and Stiller make the most out of an average script because the film relies on character interaction between the two stars more than anything else.

For an action-comedy, *Starsky and Hutch* does everything it sets out to do. The film doesn't play around with too many gimmicks, special effects or plot twists—it simply is what it is.

Just like the original cops in the television series, the film tries to be serious, but it has a little fun along the way. What else can you possibly ask for from a film set in the '70s?

## The Bad Plus reinvent jazz

By Jeff Danna  
Copy Editor



If you hard rock fans are feeling unsatisfied by the sorry state of your favorite genre but find it difficult to listen to music sans that almighty riff, never fear—The Bad Plus make jazz music you can bang your head to.

On their sophomore album, *Give*, the Midwestern piano-bass-drums combo have crafted an excellent companion piece to their lauded 2003 debut *These are the Vistas*, attacking the 11 tracks with all the ferocity of a rock band and the dexterity of a jazz band.

But make no mistake about it—the songs on *Give* aren't uninspired replicas of *Bitches Brew*-like fusion experiments, nor are they the offspring of Steely Dan's densely layered jazz-rock explored on *Aja*. *Give*'s power comes from the sheer intensity of the playing—the way the musicians bash out technically complex solos like they were power chords.

This is emotional jazz music that wears its heart not on its sleeve, but tattooed on a bulging bicep.

Where *Vistas*' content was balanced between commanding, mid- to up-tempo numbers and moody ballads, *Give* ups the ante in terms of recklessness and fire. The music constantly sounds like it's on the verge of collapse as dynamics shift more abruptly than Chicago weather patterns, and the rhythm section of drummer David King and bassist Reid Anderson bring each number to a chaotic climax.

"Do Your Sums-Die Like a Dog-Play for Home" is a prime example of The Bad Plus' approach to jazz, an eclectic arrangement in which the band jumps from groove-oriented, disciplined musicianship to fragile piano passages, to discordant mania over the course of five minutes.

Pianist Ethan Iverson's virtuosity is on full display here as he interjects his left and right hand counter-melodies with agile 16th-note runs and bursts of rhythmic pounding straight out of the Jerry Lee Lewis songbook. All the while, Anderson builds chord upon chord until the musical tension is so great, the only option left is to fall apart.

Like they did with Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" on *Vistas*, The Bad Plus completely deconstruct The Pixies' "Velouria," playing off that influential, alternative rock band's trademark dynamics and transforming the song into a menacing bass- and drum-fueled grind that builds from a haunting throb to one hot piano workout.

Elsewhere on *Give*, The Bad Plus branch out into unfamiliar genres, like the country-shuffle of "Layin' a Strip for the Higher-Self State Line" and the Mexican-influenced rhythms of "Cheney Piñata." But no matter what territory the band explores, the foundation always consists of raw, passionate playing without the use of overdubs.

It's in the final two tracks, though, that *Give* fully achieves greatness.

"Neptune (The Planet)" is a smoky, subtle Anderson original in which piano lines trickle down like rainwater and the melody is all but swept away in a wash of high-hats. The track suggests release from the turbulence of the previous nine tracks, but as that final, ominous minor chord hits, we become aware that it's only the calm before the storm.

Any sense of ease or comfort is completely demolished with the band's cover of Black Sabbath's "Iron Man," a six-minute meditation on alienation that brims with apocalyptic dissonance.

The sound made by King's drum kit can only be likened to the terrifying resonance of crumbling brick walls, while Anderson's bass tears into the familiar, trudging melody with the force of God.

Between verses there are heart-stopping silences, distant rumbles of thunder, the eerie plinking of a toy piano and the sudden stalling of a car engine created by a scratchy drum roll.

And by the end of the track, the band is reveling in the madness, shifting to a brighter, major-key cadence that ends with a murky thud.

With modern jazz—like pop music—running short on innovation and creativity, The Bad Plus take pride not in reinventing the wheel, but in getting back to basics and playing with primal intensity. They are a band that sees the biggest step forward is sometimes a step back.

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CAMPUS NOMINATING COMMITTEES AND EDITORS OF THE ANNUAL DIRECTORY HAVE INCLUDED THE NAMES OF THESE STUDENTS BASED ON THEIR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, LEADERSHIP IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND POTENTIAL FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS.

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OFFICE OF STUDENT LEADERSHIP



## DVD brings the Holocaust into the 21st century

○ 'Schindler' finally makes 'list' of new releases

By Jennifer Sabella  
Staff Writer

The March 9 release of Steven Spielberg's masterpiece *Schindler's List* coincides with the 10-year anniversary of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, a group dedicated to giving Holocaust survivors a voice and educating others on the importance of the history.

Spielberg founded the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation in 1994. His objective was to preserve the stories of the survivors in visual form. The foundation has collected nearly 52,000 testimonies from 56 countries in 32 languages, according to its website.

Universal Studios Home Video is also supporting the foundation by providing partial funding to "Giving Voice," a reality-based educational pro-



gram for high-schoolers that allows them to see testimonials and discuss issues of intolerance and bias.

The Survivors of the Shoah took part in a massive effort to get thousands of Holocaust stories organized and accessible for high school children.

The objective of the foundation was to create a more tolerant and unbiased society by educating youth and giving more than 6,000 Holocaust survivors a chance to tell their stories.

The DVD includes the original *Schindler's List* on widescreen and full screen, as well as 89 minutes of special features and a 77-minute documentary with never-before-seen testimonials from Holocaust survivors called *Voices from the List*. Also included is a 12-minute, behind-the-scenes look at the Shoah Foundation and its accomplishments, as told by Spielberg.

*Schindler's List* was adapted from the novel by Thomas Keneally and tells the story of Oskar Schindler, a former Nazi party member who risked his career and life to employ 1,100 Jews in his factory during the Holocaust. The film won seven Academy Awards in 1994.

The DVD release will also have a collector's edition, with a book of images from the film and a foreword from Spielberg.

## 'The Sopranos' starts with a bang

○ The long-awaited fifth season of HBO's hit series has begun



Courtesy www.Sopranos.org

By Avi Flombaum  
Badger Herald (U.Wisconsin)

(U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis.—In the event that "The Sopranos" is an unfamiliar subject, please consider the following: A motivated viewer would only need two days to watch the 52 one-hour episodes that compose the first four seasons. And after that scholarly, pleasurable and very impressive viewing marathon, such a viewer would surely find comfort in the premiere of season five that aired March 7 on HBO.

The year-and-a-half break between seasons gave a nightmarish quality to the explosive season-four finale. In all likelihood, had season five chosen to ignore the events of the fourth season completely, viewers would have assumed it was just a bad dream.

But writer David Chase is not quite ready to turn the lights off. Instead of glossing over the jagged turn of events introduced in "Whitecaps" (the 75-minute season-four finale), he chooses to emphasize the bizarre climate. Tony and Carmela are separated. Chase makes that clear in the opening sequence of the episode. The camera floats around the outside of the house, wondering the

same exact thing as the viewer: "Shouldn't Tony be in his bathrobe getting the paper?"

But it isn't just Tony and Carmela who have changed. Who could explain Janice cooking Sunday-night dinner for her family? Or how about saintlike Bobby Bacala marrying the same woman who shot her fiancé in the chest? Something is rotten in the state of New Jersey.

While obvious changes call attention to themselves, season five also introduces many subtle differences that could be even more relevant. Paulie and Christopher's rivalry began in season three, and they have both been fueling the fire ever since. The fight is reintroduced with a hint of irony.

As Chase narrates the episode at the Meadowlands, which just happens to be what started their fight, Paulie gets offended by Chris's disrespectful mockery and almost hits him. However, all that hatred surprisingly dissipates and they forgive each other. Despite what one might think, seeing those two badass mobsters make up is really quite heartwarming. Nevertheless, this truce may simply be an example of Chase's mastery of misdi-

rection.

Yes, Paulie and Chris finally seem to be getting along again, but do not forget that at the core of their fight is a power struggle. Will their friendship survive when Tony's cousin is released from prison and joins the family?

The episode has an unusual structure. Seeing subplots intertwine on "The Sopranos" is as common as hearing Tony curse. More so, these unrelated storylines always tend to come to a climax at the same time and within the same scene.

In this episode, though, everything is given its own space and time. Every plot exists separately, and every scene is given just one story. At the same time, however, a premiere requires that sort of structure because continuing stories need reintroduction, and new plotlines require space to develop.

But that does not excuse the almost intentional absence of two important developments from season four. The assumption, then, is that it's those two plots, which of course will remain secret, that are going to be the most significant surprises "The Sopranos" has in store for season five.



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# Chicago fans get essential Dylan

○ Sold out show hits the Aragon Ballroom, among other Chicago venues

By Holly Jones  
Contributing Writer

This is the stuff of legends: standing room only under the castle-esque framework of the Aragon Ballroom, 1106 N. Lawrence Ave., waiting for the man. Of course he's no mere mortal. He's Bob Dylan. And according to audiences, he still has what it takes to pack premier venues.

Dylan sounded fantastic, his trademark mumble added to the originality of the tracks. Chords were transposed, and classic tunes molded into something brand new.

Concentrating on the past was never an option, though he did throw the audience a bone when he tossed in glorified and updated versions of "Highway 61 Revisited," "The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll" and his encore of "Like a Rolling Stone."

Lyrics were added to songs such as "Girl From the North Country" and chords were switched around in every manner to achieve a fresh, dynamic tone. Some of his trademark harmonica solos were injected into ballads such as "It's All Over Now, Baby Blue," where he found time to stagger away from the keyboard for some crowd-pleasing center-stage action. In one of his more recent pieces, "Floater (Too Much to Ask)," a fiddler played at his side as he tapped a foot in time to the accompaniment.

During a break, Dylan swayed back and forth with the music from his obscure hiding place at the right side of the stage. Wearing a humble black suit with a white cowboy hat, he looked on with pride as the members of his band received their share of acclaim.

Fans of all ages gathered, clad in hippie chic, khaki conservative and groupie a-go-go and followed along closely with the living legend—dancing, signing and screaming for more.

Two hours and 17 songs later he called it quits. Fans lingered around hoping for just one more dose of his lyrical genius. With so many poignant



Niels Meilvang/AP

On his current 30-date tour, Bob Dylan performed at four Chicago venues.

songs in his vast repertoire, it's certain that no Dylan fan left completely satisfied with the set list.

The fact that he didn't succumb to the pressure of playing all of his "hits" was refreshing. With Dylan, what was old suddenly became new again.

After a clear performance, with minimal mumbling, he escaped with no more than a few personal words to the audience. But what do you expect? After all, he is Bob Dylan, and judging from his outstanding performance, he'll continue to live up to the legend.

# Artists display power of paper

○ New exhibit uses 'skin' as medium

By Jennifer Sabella  
Staff Writer

Strength in art is not about the materials used to make it. The flimsiest substance can sometimes make the strongest statement. Sculptors Lesley Dill and Cris Bruch use paper as their medium and strive to send powerful messages with their art.

"Structure and Skin" is an exhibit at Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts, 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., which opened March 12, from the Interdisciplinary Arts Department.

Bruch's sculptures and Dill's paper costumes embody the type of art the Center for Book and Paper Arts exhibits.

Dill is widely recognized in the art world. Her costumes and projects can be found at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Cleveland Museum of Art and many other institutions.

Dill's work is based around costumes, in which she tears and unravels material to display words and poetry.

"I'm very interested in relationships between femininity and gentleness and fierceness, danger and sexuality."

"What changed my art life was when my mother gave me a book of Emily Dickinson's. Working with language was incredibly fascinating to me," Dill said.

At Columbia, Dill will be showing works of performance art using models to display her costumes.

Seattle-based sculptor Bruch also will have works in the exhibit. Chairwoman of the Interdisciplinary Arts Department's graduate program, Suzanne Cohan-Lange discovered Bruch's art and found its emphasis on the world of work and labor very compelling.

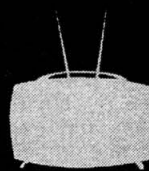
Bruch began sculpting in college, while attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He started using paper in his works, creating large, abstract pieces representing the "cycle of labor and rest that drive our lives."

His work has been exhibited in galleries in Oregon and Washington state as well as in Düsseldorf, Germany.

"I'm honored to be invited to exhibit at Columbia," Bruch said.

The "Structure and Skin" exhibit is on display until April 24 at Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts, located on the second floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. For more information, visit to [www.bookandpaper.org](http://www.bookandpaper.org) or call (312) 344-6630.

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### THURS 18

\* Tanya Reed presents "Billy, Betty and Nina" 12:30 - 1:30 pm, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., 1st Floor, Concert Hall  
\* "WomanLore" performance & discussion 1:30 pm, 624 S. Michigan Ave., Rm. 901  
\* Performance by Audrey Morrison, 1:30-2:50 pm 1014 S. Michigan Ave., Rm. 207  
\* "Big Mouth" Open Mic Series featuring: spoken word w/ Nikki Patin, Kay Barrett & Miss Kimm 6:00 pm, 623 S. Wabash Ave., 1st fl., Hokin Annex

### FRI 19

\* "Making the Magazine: Women Managing Periodical Production" featuring Bride Noir & Mouth to Mouth 1:00 pm, 623 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor, Hokin Annex  
\* Women in Film at Columbia Screening: "Real Women Have Curves" 12:30 pm "Monsoon Wedding" 2:30 pm Open Discussion Featuring a Local Chicago Filmmaker 5:00-7:00 pm 1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor Conaway Center



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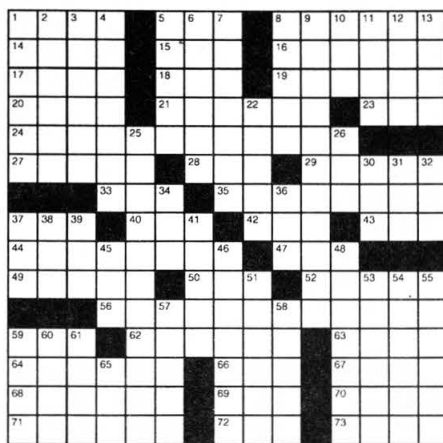
# Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Island near Java
- 5 Old card game
- 8 Degraded
- 14 Mimicked
- 15 Product to mine
- 16 Reprimand
- 17 Memorizing process
- 18 Quirky
- 19 Gap
- 20 Lohengrin's love
- 21 Fishing nets
- 23 Human seat
- 24 Overnight get-together
- 27 Drunkard
- 28 Dine
- 29 Rental agreement
- 33 Carpet fiber
- 35 Almost a desert
- 37 Lofty poem
- 40 Saturate
- 42 Immoral misdeed
- 43 "Miniver"
- 44 Sofa for two
- 47 Half a score
- 49 Started a card game
- 50 Query word
- 52 Brazilian dance in duple time
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- 2 "13"
- 3 Eases
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03/15/04

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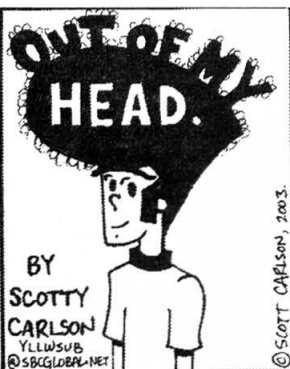
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JIM VINCENT  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Optional bacon, cheddar, green onion

Served w/ pretzels

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Tomato, monterey jack cheese

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Tues - Cheddar Vegetable  
Wed - Black Bean  
Thurs - Tomato Florentine

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The James Simpson Theatre, with new seats providing greater comfort, increased accessibility and updated acoustics, is a premier venue for special events at The Field Museum. The revitalized space is now truly wheelchair accessible. The center aisle has been widened and handicapped seating added, and a crossover aisle has been created for further accessibility and flexible crowd circulation. An upgraded sound system allows for better control and enhanced acoustics. Enjoy these, and many more events throughout the year at The Field Museum's James Simpson Theatre.



### An Evening With Meave Leakey

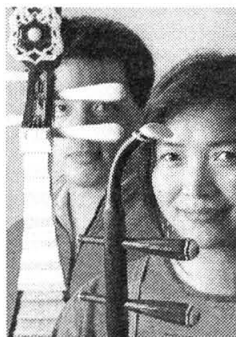
Discover how Dr. Meave Leakey's field and lab work have established her as one of the most visible and eminent scientists in the field of paleoanthropology.

Friday, March 19, 2004, 7 p.m.  
Reserved Seats \$24, members \$22  
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### Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra

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Saturday, March 20, 2 p.m.  
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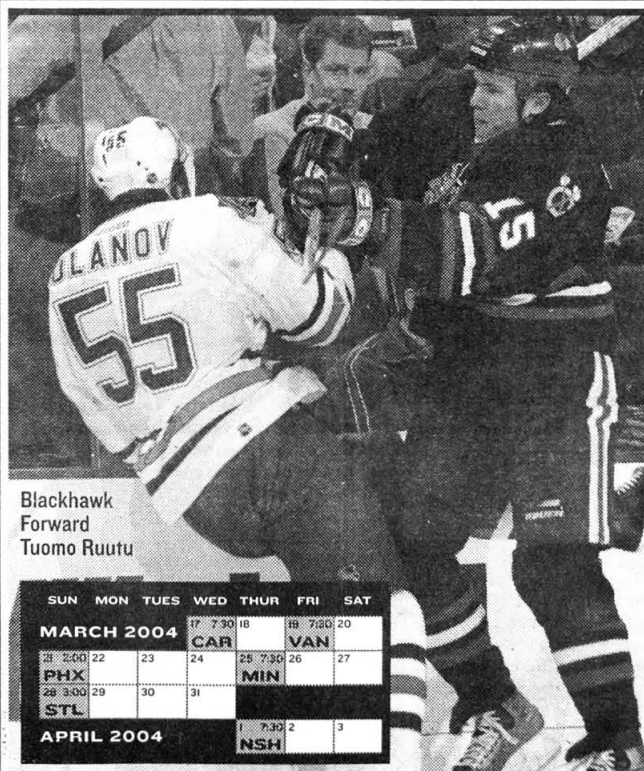
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STL						
APRIL 2004						
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# New exercise equipment 'like a virgin'?

○ Though no longer in use, the Crunch ad campaign designed for the opening of its newest Chicago location still sparks debate

By Jennifer Golz  
City Beat Editor

It's been said that any press is good press, but Crunch Fitness may have gotten more than it bargained for when the company launched a campaign for the opening of a new Chicago gym located at 939 W. North Ave.

To create a buzz for the new, unused fitness equipment, Crunch advertised a single piece of exercise equipment (such as a treadmill or stationary bicycle) with large red letters across the front that read, "Virgin," "Deflower me," "Steal my innocence," or "Pop my cherry."

"We don't try to create negative publicity," said Mary Beth Evens, a spokeswoman for DiMassimo Brand Advertising, the agency that created the campaign for Crunch. "[The campaign] is definitely creating buzz. People have thought it was creative and innovative."

Margaret Sullivan, chairwoman for the Marketing Communications Department at Columbia, said this Crunch campaign fulfills all of the branding requirements in advertising.

"There is an efficiency to this campaign that is very powerful," Sullivan said. "I normally get excited because of the efficiency, but I don't with this ad. Nor is it something I would be proud to have in my portfolio, even though it's very good branding."

Shetal Amin, a spokeswoman for Crunch, said the fitness company is very satisfied with the overall campaign, even though it has created some controversy. Amin also said that Crunch is in talks with several women's groups who have complaints regarding the objectification of women.

Courtney Arnold, coordinator of Columbia's Office of GLBT Student Concerns, was on the el last week when she saw the

Crunch poster as an advertisement on the Red Line train.

"I looked up and there it was," Arnold said. "I physically got sick to my stomach, which was a pretty intense emotion. [Crunch] is not even trying to veil the fact that they are using extreme, violent suggestions and eroticizing rape."

"The treadmill is a virgin calling to be violated ... and that's going to offend the female audience," Sullivan said. "But when one gender is being assaulted, the other gender is just as affected."

Laurence Minsky is a faculty member in Columbia's Marketing Communications Department. He has been in the advertising industry for 18 years and has authored several books on the topic.

Minsky said he feels the Crunch campaign may or may not reach its target audience, but it does reflect a larger

an S&M fashion; and the peek-a-booo showers, where those working out can watch the shadow of those bathing through a frosted window, Crunch has a different atmosphere than most traditional gyms.

"This campaign is not intended to offend anyone. The brand and the campaign are launched with a sense of humor," Amin said. "These ads don't show or elude to societal concerns at all. It really is about equipment and suggests an invitation to a potential gym member—nothing more."

But many still argue that the phrase, "Steal my innocence," is irresponsible.

"[Crunch] is blasting this message on the el and in television commercials that, not only is rape something that is tolerable, but sexy, empowering and desirable," Arnold said.

Minsky said that he would not want his children to see the advertisements and believes there are other ways for Crunch to reach the audience they are trying to reach.

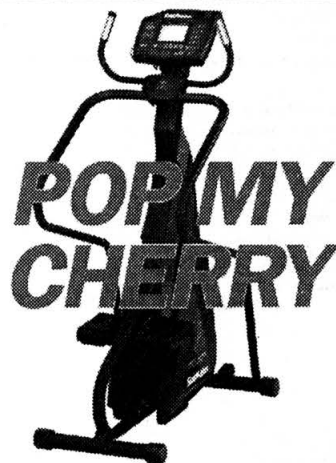
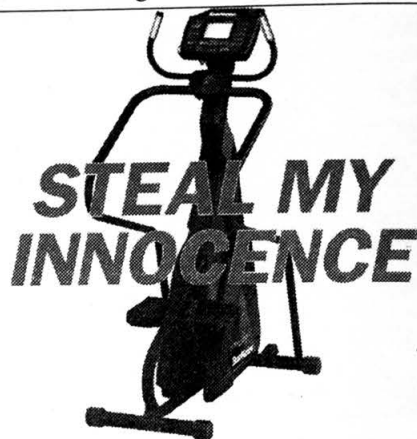
According to Amin, the campaign did create controversy, but the ads were never pulled. The newest Crunch location opened at the end of February, ending the campaign just in time for National Women's Month in March.

"I understand that certain members of the general public are confronting their own issues through viewing this campaign," Amin said. "This ad campaign is not intended for these people."

Jamie Rubin, spokeswoman for Crunch said, "The campaign is actually over, so I don't know if it really has any relevance."

While the campaign may be over, the posters can still be found throughout the city. Sullivan said she feels it is an irresponsible statement for Crunch representatives to say that the campaign is no longer relevant.

"Because is it intelligent branding and has such a response within the community, it is not going to go away," she said.



Source: Crunch Fitness

## Local leagues offer the sports Columbia doesn't

By Eric W. Alexy  
Assistant City Beat Editor

While Columbia may hardly be known for its athletic programs and intramural athletic activities (there are only a handful), several organizations in the Chicago area offer an array of year-round sports leagues for adults of all ages and skill levels.

All of these organizations—Sports Monster, Chicago Sport and Social Club and Players Sports Group—offer basketball, floor hockey, football, soccer, softball and volleyball leagues, in addition to numerous other athletic and social activities.

Chicago Sport and Social Club, 1516 N. Fremont St., the longest-running of the three groups, also offers rock climbing, kickball, bowling, dancing, yoga, kayaking and, according to Chris Hastings, vice president of operations, "thirty different social events per year—anything from parties at different bars through-

out the city to ski trips and outings to Cubs games and casinos."

"We infuse a strong social side to our sports leagues," Hastings said. "What we try to do is offer as much of an athletic outlet as a social outlet."

In addition, Hastings said Chicago Sport and Social Club leagues are larger than others and 75 percent of its leagues are coed.

According to Gary Hazan, president of Players Sports, 3347 N. Southport Ave., Players Sports' basketball leagues are the only ones to use certified referees.

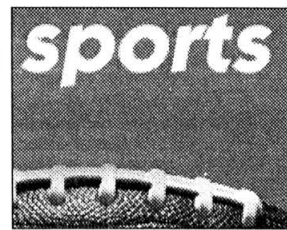
"We offer the best referees and use some of the best facilities around and are substantially more organized [than the other organizations]," he said.

In addition, while the other two organizations require players to be 21, Players Sports' minimum age requirement is 18.

Players Sports also plans social

outings, including a March 18 ski trip to Whistler, Canada.

Established in Chicago in 1994, Sports Monster, 4237 N. Western Ave., has leagues throughout the country. Sports Monster has bowling, broomball, golf and kickball leagues.



Additionally, they offer volleyball, golf and tennis lessons. Social Monster, a division of Sports Monster, arranges social activities throughout the year.

"We will offer anything that's of interest to the customer," said Sports Monster President Bart

Fitzpatrick.

Sports Monster's annual Go-Deep football tournament is scheduled to take place in Chicago Aug. 21 and 22. Volleyball, bowling and basketball tournaments are also slated for March.

Every summer Chicago Sport and Social Club offers the world's largest volleyball tournament at North Avenue Beach, according to Hastings.

Sports Monster is the only one of the three groups that charges membership fees. The fees are \$50 per year and give members priority when signing up. Nonmembers have to pay a small additional fee to join Sports Monster leagues.

"People like a sense of belonging," Fitzpatrick said. "Even though 90 percent of our participants are nonmembers, those 10 percent are very loyal; we do things for them."

"You pay for what you want to

participate in," Hazan said of Players Sports.

Hastings said the leagues in general don't seem very well known among Columbia students.

"I believe Columbia may be one college [where our] name is not that strong," he said.

"Most of our advertising is word-of-mouth. It's an issue of manpower," Fitzpatrick said.

The price and locations for each group and sport differ, though most are under \$100 and are located close to Columbia's campus. All three organizations are currently taking registration for both teams and individuals.

For additional information, contact Players Sports at (773) 528-1999 or [www.playerssports.net](http://www.playerssports.net), Sports Monster at (773) 866-2955 or [www.sportsmonster.net](http://www.sportsmonster.net), or Chicago Sport & Social Club at (312) 335-9596 or [www.chicagosportandsocialclub.com](http://www.chicagosportandsocialclub.com).

# Illinois suffers business slump

○ Business community warns U.S. Senate candidates to bring employment back to state or risk losing votes this election

By Kwame Abasi Patterson  
Associate Editor

Reconstructing U.S. trade agreements and reducing federal mandates against state businesses in order to create jobs must top the to-do list for Illinois' U.S. Senate candidates, according to some state business leaders.

"Boxes of companies are leaving Illinois, leaving thousands without even a chance to work. The actions of our elected officials will be very critical to bring these companies back," said Gerald J. Roper, president and CEO of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor statistics for January 2004, Illinois' unemployment rate is 6.4 percent, exceeding the national level by 0.8 percent.

To bring jobs back to the fourth largest manufacturing state in the nation, Roper said candidates running for the Illinois U.S. Senate seat have to take action against current U.S. trade agreements.

According to DePaul University's Department of Economics Chairman Dr. Michael Miller, the trade agreements are contracts between the United States and its international trading partners for manufactured products and services.

These contracts allow countries to enjoy duty-free access to U.S. exports through trade preference programs designed by Congress.

However, University of Illinois at Chicago's Undergraduate Department of Economics Director Evelyn Lehrer said, "These contracts come with several freebies that ultimately hurt U.S. businesses."

Congress has set up preferential programs that allow these countries to put restrictions on our businesses, and they create high tariffs and nontariff barriers on our exports, according to Lehrer.

"These [candidates] need to look at the World Trade Agreement more closely to see if it's not working," Roper said. "The U.S. is letting China and

India take all of its jobs and allowing them to cheat Illinois workers."

The candy industry, according to Roper, once dominant in Illinois, is now scarce. Candy manufacturers are going to Mexico because they're charged high rates in Illinois.

"The Florida Cuban cartels are keeping sugar imports out of Illinois by charging us 33 percent more than other countries. We need a senator on this issue immediately," Roper said.

Glen Johnson, chairman of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, said free trade is Illinois businesses' worst enemy, and the candidates are going to have to change the way the federal government thinks of manufacturing jobs if they want the business communities' votes.

"Our elected officials are oper-

Business Roundtable.

"The group will monitor votes and actions by lawmakers and support those who are working to keep jobs here," Mays said.

The coalition consists of more than 30 representatives from the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Business Roundtable, the Illinois Civic Justice League, the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce.

On top of restructuring free trade agreements, the group is also calling for lawmakers to reduce federal and state mandates, taxes and fees in order for companies to continue doing business in the state.

In February, Gov. Rod Blagojevich said he was going to close all business-tax loopholes, according to Roper. Additionally, the governor is looking to increase taxes on the state's businesses in order to generate money to pay off the state's deficit.

Meanwhile, companies are leaving Illinois in record numbers for cheaper production costs, reduced land and equipment taxing and lower operating fees.

"We're lagging behind every other Midwestern state in every job sector except hospitality and leisure," Roper said.

But the business coalition isn't faulting the governor for heaping on the charges. Instead, members blame former Illinois politicians for not stopping the problem before it started.

According to Mays, Blagojevich is simply trying to fix a decade of state financial problems by not raising taxes on Illinois residents and taxing state businesses instead.

"More than \$1 billion in usable revenue comes from us," Mays said. "That's 52 percent of the state's profitable budget from just the business sector. Stop taxing us to death and we'll build more and create new jobs. Right now we're hanging on the bare edge."

Johnson agrees that job creation remains stagnant in Illinois. He said it would be in the states' and federal governments' best

interests to reduce fees and taxes on business, because "when people are working, they are paying taxes."

Still, there is a bright side to be found in the backbone of Illinois' economy—manufacturing has recently been getting a much needed boost.

The Federal Reserve Board Book's economic report for Chicago, released March 3, states the manufacturing sector is showing signs of life.

Chicago's manufacturing shipments, product demand and orders are up significantly since the beginning of the year, with

no signs of slowing down.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago also reported slight gains in the manufacturing sector as the Midwest Manufacturing Index, which reports economic trends in area industry, rose 2 percent in December.

Further indications of growth were in The National Association of Purchasing Management's Chicago Business Barometer. It showed area businesses' profitability margins reached 65.9 percent in January, making it the highest level of increase since 1994.

## Depository Continued from Back Page

600 area agencies, which in turn served more than 300,000 residents in need of assistance. Much of the food is donated from area retailers, such as grocery chains Jewel-Osco and Dominick's, while agreements with many food manufacturers allow the GCFD to purchase other items at very low cost. In addition, food drives and "food rescue" programs from restaurants and commercial kitchens add to the 87,000 meals it distributes a day.

The food is distributed to a range of social service agencies, such as soup kitchens, food pantries, halfway houses and women's shelters, which in turn deliver it directly to those in need. The quality of its relationships with its member agencies is high on the list of priorities for the GCFD.

"This building has been planned for the benefit of the agencies we work with," Larkin said. "Everything that comes in is computerized, and then it's put on a daily menu so agencies can choose what they need. We pride ourselves on working effectively for them."

Sister Barbara Rastatter, coordinator of the social care office for St. James Catholic Church, 2942 S. Wabash Ave., sees the effect such commitment has on food pantries like the one offered at St. James.

"They take care of us very well," she said. "They listen to what our needs are and do everything they can to help us."

She said the services GCFD provides are critical to her work.

"We are the only food pantry in two separate postal areas—60616 and 60605—and we have a lot of

seniors who rely on our services. We get the bulk of our food from [the GCFD], and with them, we get a wide variety of food for a nominal price."

Beyond the new building, the GCFD is also involved in other activities designed to get its message out and help achieve its goals. The fifth annual "Hunger Knows No Season" campaign, in which brings together retailers and food manufacturers make donations every time a shopper buys a specially marked product, runs through April 3. The Greater Chicago Commercial Real Estate Dinner, a real-estate industry awards benefit, held March 4 in Chicago, raised more than \$625,000 for the GCFD.

The new facility reflects not a desire for higher profits but for the growing number of Chicagoans in need of the GCFD's services. According to Larkin, during the GCFD's last fiscal year food pantries in the greater Chicago area reported a 13 percent increase in demand for their services.

"We know the need is out there," she said. "We hear anecdotally that there are a lot more working poor, not to mention the number of baby boomers who are now becoming seniors, who may be having to make choices between medicine and food, or heating and food."

The new location has been designed to handle significant increases in demand.

"We built this building so that we could distribute 80 million pounds of food a year, although we hope it doesn't come to that," Larkin said.

**"Boxes of companies are leaving Illinois, leaving thousands without even a chance to work. The actions of our elected officials will be very critical to bring these companies back."**

**—Gerald J. Roper, president and CEO of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce**

ating on this hundred-year-old stereotype of manufacturing jobs. They believe we're all Henry Ford with huge assembly lines and thousands of workers at each end," Johnson said. "Seventy-five percent of IMA's members employ less than 50 employees."

He also said for 10 years the candidates have talked about bringing jobs back to Illinois, but nothing has been done about it, and he fears the current slate for the senate race won't do much either.

In order to reverse the decade-long trend of job loss, the Illinois business community announced the launch of the Coalition for Jobs, Growth and Prosperity on March 9. The bipartisan organization's goal is to inform voters about their elected officials' actions with regard to protecting Illinois jobs, according to Jeff Mays, president of the Illinois

## OFF THE BLOTTER

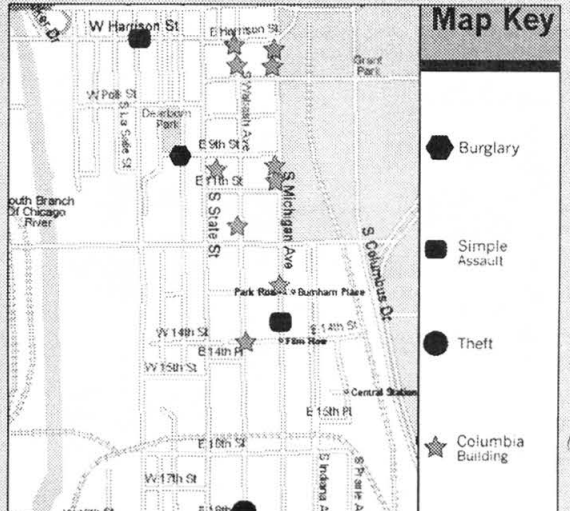
◆ A simple assault occurred at the Domestic Violence Court, 1340 S. Michigan Ave., March 9. A 24-year-old male of the 4500 block of West Congress Parkway filed a report against his girlfriend, a 21-year-old of the 7700 block of South Kingston Avenue, who threatened physical violence against him in front of the public defender. The couple was at the Domestic Violence Court because of an ongoing dispute.

◆ A burglary occurred March 7 between 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at a residence at 899 S. Plymouth Court. The suspect came in through the front door and stole more than \$600 in valuables, including Tiffany & Co. jewelry and cash. No one has been taken into custody in connection with the incident.

◆ A simple assault occurred between two parking attendants at the People's Auto Parking, 600 S. Clark St., March 10. The altercation occurred between the two men, a 33-year-old of the first block of North Garfield Boulevard and a 39-year-old of the 4800 block of North Christiana Avenue. Both were treated for injuries they sustained via fist and foot.

◆ A theft was reported March 2 at 7:30 p.m. when a man noticed his front and back license plates were missing from his vehicle after leaving the Municipality Tire Co., 1824 S. Wabash Ave., earlier in the day. Confusion arose when Chicago Police discovered the individual was arrested the day before for possession of cannabis. At the time of his arrest he gave police a Wisconsin ID card. The ID card the individual presented at the time of the theft report was from Illinois. The man eventually stated his Illinois license plates were stolen a year ago, and it was his temporary plates that were taken at the Municipality Tire Co.

—Compiled by Jennifer Golz



Carla Lachman/The Chronicle



# Chicago food bank relocates to South Side

○ Food depository serves 87,000 meals a day

By Mark W. Anderson  
Associate Editor

The fight against hunger in Chicago just got a bit of much-needed breathing space—215,000 square feet of it.

That's the size of the new warehouse and distribution center that's being inaugurated this spring by the Greater Chicago Food Depository, a nonprofit agency that provides food for hundreds of thousands of hungry people in the Chicago area.

The new building, a state-of-the-art facility located at 4100 W. Ann Lurie Place, is in a primarily industrial strip of Chicago's Southwest Side. It replaces the old distribution center a couple of blocks away that had been occupied for almost 20 years. Part of a \$30 million fund-raising effort undertaken by the GCFD, one of the largest food banks in the nation, the new facility will also allow an expansion into some much-needed areas, such as food preparation, agency management training and vocational programs.

"We built this building to be a model for the rest of the country," said Donna Larkin, director of communications for the depository. "We've been planning this for about four years and have been raising money for the past year and a half to two years. Moving into this building is the most responsible thing we can do for the hungry men, women and children of Chicago, and we want to make sure that we're as efficient and effective as possible in getting food to them."

The GCFD outgrew its old

facility, and the new building is expected to allow the GCFD to have an easier time fulfilling its mission. The new location almost doubles the amount of warehouse space previously available. There's also a 10-bay shipping dock, 32-foot-tall ceilings and separate "clean" and "cold" rooms designed to allow processing and packaging of bulk items for distribution.

Extensive training facilities, including specially-designed classrooms for the "Pantry University" program which teaches grant writing, fund raising and financial management for soup kitchens, food pantries and other agencies have been created—along with expanded operations in food service training programs for unemployed adults and an on-site "mart" that will look and feel like a single-item convenience store.

The last delivery to a member agency from the old location took place March 5, with the new facility ready to handle deliveries March 8. The formal grand opening of the facility is scheduled for sometime in May, while the Pantry University program is expected to be inaugurated June 3, which is National Hunger Awareness Day. The GCFD will host an agency nutrition conference on that day as part of the inauguration.

Last year, the GCFD distributed more than 42 million pounds of food, including 6.7 million pounds of fresh produce and more than four million pounds of prepared and perishable food, to more than

See **Depository**, Page 39



Carrie Bergagna/The Chronicle

Rose Prince, supervisor at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, 2907 S. Wabash Ave., helps organize the week's food donations.

## 'Jeopardy' without Alex?



Carrie Bergagna/The Chronicle

Dennis McClendon hosts the South Loop Jeopardy Competition on March 10. The returning champions, the gold team, Bonnie McGrath (left to right) and Wendy Cobrin, competed against three other teams including Gail Merritt and Genita Robinson, as the green team. The Historic Printers Row Neighbors sponsored the event.

## Only suckers buy these 'pops'

○ Chicago Police on the lookout for PCP- and THC-laced lollipops

By Jennifer Golz  
City Beat Editor

The Chicago Police issued a community alert last week warning citizens of the potentially hazardous effects of drugs disguised as harmless looking candy suckers being sold on the street.

Individually wrapped lollipops in the shapes of Santa Claus heads, pumpkins and maple leaves, in bright shades of green, amber and red were selling on the city's West Side for \$10, according to police officials. What makes these candies so expensive is they contain PCP, a hallucinogenic, and THC, the active component in marijuana.

On a search warrant, Chicago Police Special Operations arrested Michael Pernell, 29, of the 1300 block of South Central Park Avenue. Pernell's residence was under surveillance after the CPD received information about the sale of candy containing a suspected narcotic.

The sale of the suckers has primarily been in the 15th District, the areas between 13th Street and Douglas Boulevard, and Central Park Avenue and Independence Boulevard, according to the community alert.

"We put out the community alert to notify parents and children," said Sgt. Edward Alonzo, CPD news affairs spokesman. "We don't want kids to be using [the suckers]."

According to the police report, items obtained from Pernell's home included 34 lollipops containing PCP, 348 rounds of .22-caliber ammunition and smaller amounts of cash and marijuana.

Alonzo said Pernell was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of cannabis, as well as possession with intent to deliver. Pernell was also charged for the possession of the ammunition, because he did not have a firearm owner's identification card, which is required in Illinois for possession of a gun or ammunition.

"At this point, we don't know the extent or how many [lollipops] are out there," Alonzo said.

But Jake Epperly, medical director of the New Hope Recovery Center at the Lincoln Park Hospital, does not have too much concern for this phenomenon.

"Overall, in the United States in 2002, there was a 48 percent increase in the use of PCP. But in the Chicago area there was actually a decrease," Epperly said.

Epperly said in the 20 years

he's been in the medical field, this is the first time he has heard of PCP coming in the form of a lollipop.

Dr. David Gorelick, a doctor with the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health, said PCP is a difficult drug to deal with.

"[PCP] can have such a varied effect. It can act as an upper, a downer, a anesthetic, and it can make people psychotic, which is probably one of the more undesirable effects," Gorelick said. "With cocaine or marijuana, you can better predict [people's reactions], but PCP can be much more unpredictable."

How PCP affects an individual depends on the potency, how the drug is taken and the individual's size. While the CPD has issued the alert to warn of children consuming the lollipops, experts believe they are meant for an older audience.

"The customer base is anyone who can afford the \$10 to buy them," Alonzo said.

Chicago Police is asking anyone who sees any such candies to call 911.

