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## Columbia Chronicle (01/03/2005)

Columbia College Chicago

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# THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Columbia College Chicago's weekly newspaper

## Fund named for late Semester in L.A. co-founder

○ Planners hope to have first award ready by June

By Scott Carlson  
News Editor

When faculty member Robert Enrietto died a year ago, some college officials feared the Semester in L.A. program would leave with him.

But, not only is the program he co-founded with Don Smith nearly five years ago still up and running, it soon will be \$50,000 richer.

According to Doreen Bartoni, dean of the School of Media Arts at Columbia, and Kim Clement, assistant vice president of advancement in the Office of Institutional Advancement, the details are currently being hammered out for a scholarship in Enrietto's honor to be funded by his sister, Jean Kralka.

"The scholarship is really coming from her heart to honor her brother's memory, and to highlight everything he did at Semester in L.A.," Bartoni said.

According to Clement, Kralka contributed \$50,000 to an endowment that would be used as scholarships for Columbia film and video students currently in the Semester in L.A. program, and perhaps students who have participated in it before.

"Right now, I would like it to be for Semester in L.A.," Kralka said. "If we can build this fund, then I think it should be opened up a little more, but right now I would like for young people to be able to go to Los Angeles."

Clement said Kralka's financial contribution is a significant gift for Columbia.

Through the Semester in L.A. program students go to California for five weeks and receive a full semester's credit in one of several class sec-

tions, which include producing, screenwriting, adaptation, marketing and directing.

According to Sarah Schroeder, director of alumni relations and stewardship-west, about 100 to 200 students come out to L.A. each year to take the five week program. Schroeder said a scholarship aimed specifically at students in the program would increase the chances for students to make it out west.

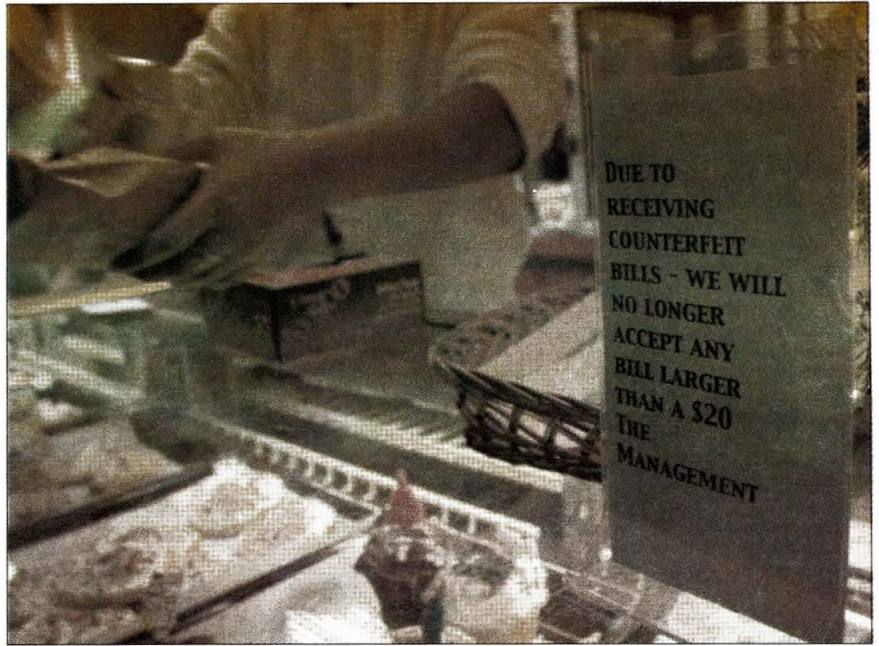
"It's not a cheap investment for students, but it's very worthwhile for them to come out here," Schroeder said. "It's a huge step for their careers ... that they can't get anywhere else. But it's not cheap to come out and ... go to school and pay for an apartment. The scholarship could definitely open a lot of doors for some students."

Clement said Kralka's gift is an opportunity, because the school can now leverage her endowed scholarship fund with other donors who are known to be interested in setting up funds at Columbia.

Scholarship money from an endowed fund, Clement said, comes from a percent of the fund's annual interest, because it's been committed as a long-term investment. Clement said a minimum of \$25,000 was established for starting an endowment because typically 5 percent of the fund's interest is spent on the scholarship. The smaller the amount, the less money there is for scholarships.

According to Clement, Columbia alumni in the California area are going to be asked to make their annual contribution into the Enrietto

See Enrietto, Page 6



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Business as usual at the Underground Café in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.—except for the crackdown on counterfeit money. Vending Consultants is prohibiting students from using bills larger than \$20 to pay for their food, due to recent instances of counterfeit bills at the café.

## Fake cash infiltrates college

○ New technology makes counterfeiting easier, says Secret Service

By Scott Carlson  
News Editor

The bank of Columbia is open for business, but thanks to counterfeit money, students should probably leave their larger bills at home.

Because of problems with counterfeit money, Vending Consultants, the company that manages Columbia's cafés, recently enacted a policy of not accepting bills larger than \$20.

Martha Meegan, director of campus safety at Columbia, said she put out a preliminary advisory notice to all of the school's

financial operations, or any operation that receive funds, such as the cashier office, the dance theater and the school bookstore. Meegan said she alerted them that Vending Consultants reported the problem and asked to post notification that payment should be made by check, credit card or bills smaller than \$50.

Meegan said no other counterfeit problems have since been reported at Columbia.

Nancy Bernier, who runs Vending Consultants with her husband, Larry, also said that since enacting their policy, the

counterfeit problem has largely disappeared. Meegan said the school is not investigating counterfeit money.

In the United States, counterfeiting cases are handled by the Secret Service. Typically, banks forward confiscated counterfeit money to the Treasury Department, which housed the Secret Service prior to the founding of the Department of Homeland Security.

According to the Secret Service, counterfeiting is an old offense and modern photography and computerized printing technologies have contributed to the rise of counterfeiting.

See Counterfeit, Page 6

### How To Detect Counterfeit Money:

**1**

**Portrait:** The genuine portrait appears lifelike and stands out distinctly from the background. Counterfeits usually look lifeless and flat.

**Seals:** On a genuine bill, the saw-tooth points of the Federal Reserve and Treasury seals are clear, distinct and sharp—not broken or uneven.

**Border:** The fine lines in the border of a genuine bill are clear and unbroken. On a counterfeit, the lines in the outer margin and scrollwork may be blurred.

**Serial Numbers:** Genuine serial numbers have a distinctive style and are evenly spaced. On a counterfeit, the numbers may differ in color or shade from the Treasury seal or they may be misaligned or haphazardly spaced.

**Paper:** Genuine currency paper has tiny red and blue fibers embedded throughout. Some counterfeiters will attempt to recreate these fibers by printing tiny red and blue lines. Upon inspection, it is possible to see that these lines are on the paper, not in it.

**1**

**ONE DOLLAR**

Source: United States Secret Service

Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

Inside this week



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A spiritual awakening?

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To be young, gifted and Audrey Tautou

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### City Beat

Block 37 plans are on schedule

Page 27





## Andrew Greiner

Editor-in-Chief

### Too cool for Princeton?

Good news: Columbia is not the No. 1 Birkenstock-wearing, tree-hugging, clove-smoking, vegetarian school in the country. Nor is it the No. 1 jock school. It is not the most politically motivated, nor the most studious.

These tidbits are courtesy of The Princeton Review, a yearly publication that has been ranking the best colleges in the nation since 1991.

I think I'm fine with that information.

I really wouldn't want to go here if Columbia was a typical jock-laden, overly political, highly academic school.

But it might be fun to make the list one year—in at least one category.

Maybe we could take the title of "most beautiful campus."

Right now Wagner College, in Staten Island, NY, claims that crown.

Or maybe we could wrestle away the "dorms like palaces" distinction from Pepperdine University in California. I think the University Center could put us in the running.

To be honest, there are a number of categories that Columbia could compete in: "great college town," "most diverse student body," "best instructors," and "greatest college newspaper"—if I can toot my own horn a bit.

We might not take home the top prize in these categories, but I think we have a real shot at a top 20 list one day.

So, I called up The Princeton

Review and asked Erik Olson, one of the editors, what it would take for Columbia to make it in their book.

He said it would take something just short of a miracle.

"We only add a few new schools every year," he said.

It basically comes down to this. In order to get into *The Princeton Review's 357 Best Colleges*, the administration has to pitch its case to the editors for what makes this school different.

So, I took the liberty of pitching a few ideas to Olson.

"Well, we are an open admission school. We have a great downtown campus and we have the largest film school in the nation," I said.

"Those are all good arguing points," Olson said. "Maybe if you start the dialogue, your school will see the benefits of our guide."

But I think it is deeper than just a dialogue between Columbia's administration and the editors of the book.

I think Columbia's students can make a difference.

The Princeton Review bases its rankings mainly on student surveys. Each year, for the past 13 years, the organization has been sending out teams to interview students on college campuses across the nation. These surveys play a large part in the rankings.

Now, with the advent of the Internet, The Princeton Review's survey is online, giving students a better chance to voice their opinions about the school.

"Erik, what if all 10,000 of our students get online en masse and nominate Columbia as the best school in the nation?" I asked.

"If we have that kind of student support, then it would just be a matter of organizing with the administration," Olson said; a simple dialogue to hammer out some of the finer details like admissions ratings and such.

If Columbia were able to orchestrate that kind of student coup, and 10,000 kids voted we might not even need the book. Ironically, that kind of support could translate to another of Princeton's Ranking: Happiest student.

So getting into The Princeton Review becomes more of a dialogue between Columbia's administration and its students. Rather than imploring the editors of The Princeton Review to include our fine arts school in the book, ask the students what would make Columbia the best school in the nation. I think a few students would have something to say; might I suggest a student center.

And soon, Columbia will be showing up on all sorts of prestigious lists, because its students have taken up the cause.

When that falls into place, it won't matter how some book does or doesn't rank this school.

Because, like Olson told me: There is no one best school, there is only one best school for you. As it is right now, that's Columbia.

—agreiner@chroniclemail.com

## In This Issue

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### Announcements

#### ■ Carter represents

Columbia President Warrick L. Carter is a recipient of the ninth annual Multicultural Prism Award.

The awards ceremony, which was held in Hollywood, Calif., Dec. 17, celebrates minority leaders for their positive images in the media. Other honorees include Ludacris, Jamie Foxx, Chuck D. and Mary J. Blige.

#### ■ Multi-Channel art

After a monthlong exhibition, the 83rd Art Directors Club Annual Award Exhibition closes Jan. 8 at Columbia.

The exhibit, which opened Dec. 2, showcases some of 2004's best commercial graphic design, photography and new media.

The exhibition includes a new category, Multi-Channel, which employs three different media to convey a story.

The exhibit is housed in the 11th Street Gallery in the 11th Street Campus, 72 E. 11 St. For more information, call (312) 344-6156.

#### ■ Got a good 'Repp'

Poet John Repp, author of *Thirst Like This*, *Gratitude* and *The Fertile Crescent*, reads Jan. 6 in the Ferguson Theater of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Repp, currently teaching writing and literature at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, received a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship and a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Special opportunity Stipend in Fiction.

The reading begins at 5:30 p.m. and is free. For more information, call (312) 344-8139.

#### ■ Funny stuff

C&E Productions presents "Comedic Monologues" on Jan. 6 in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

The event features Columbia students performing their own monologues. Free entertainment and visual art will be on display.

The event goes from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information contact Lisa Coester at (773) 497-7410.

THE  
COLUMBIA  
CHRONICLE

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, call The Chronicle's news desk at (312) 344-7254 or e-mail [chronicle@colum.edu](mailto:chronicle@colum.edu).

### Tromboning around



Trombonist T.J. Braxton (right), bassist Kevin Martinez, guitarist Aaron Koppel and drummer Robbie Tucker lay down the jams on Dec. 16 with the Columbia College Jazz Ensemble. The ensemble performed Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn's 'The Nutcracker Suite' in the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

Eric Davis/The Chronicle

## Ozomatli to perform at 2005 Manifest

○ College gearing for end-of-the-year celebration

By Jennifer Sabella  
News Editor

Despite frigid winter temperatures, Columbia's faculty and staff have spring 'on their minds. Administrators began preparing for what they anticipate to be one hot Manifest.

At a Dec. 13 Manifest kick-off meeting, individuals from departments campuswide came to see what the college has in store for the 5th annual Columbia urban arts festival.

"I truly believe that last year's success [speaking of last year's large turnout] was a tipping point," said Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs and executive producer of Manifest. "Everyone gets it now, everyone is on board."

Kelly said he expects more students to attend this year's Manifest than ever before. He said that he wants to see the entire student body—more than 10,000 people—show up.

"It gets bigger and better every year," said Carol Ann Brown, Manifest producer.

The musical lineup for the final day of Manifest, June 3, is just that—bigger and better, according to Kelly. Musical acts Ozomatli, Saul Williams and the Brazilian Girls are expected; Manifest organizers are hoping to confirm the bands soon.

Manifest is a showcase of Columbia students, particularly Columbia seniors' work. The monthlong celebration will have gallery exhibits, showcases and performances at various times and locations on campus. Manifest concludes with an all-day art festival, which is exclusive to Columbia.

Leonard Lehrer, dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts, said he is always excited about Manifest, and feels that festivals like it are very important to the college.

"I really believe the arts serve as a guide for us to get through our experience," Lehrer said. "It's important like you can't believe."

The puppet parade is another Manifest exclusive. It combines stunts, puppets and music into a

display of guerilla street theater. The procession, complete with floats and costumed marchers, is large enough to close down Wabash Avenue, where the parade journeys north and ends in Grant Park.

With Ozomatli's unusual pre-show stage antics, procession organizer Jennifer Friedrich hopes that the Latin Grammy-winning act will lead the puppet parade.

Kelly said that three stages will be needed to showcase the performances, and announced he is working on getting a fourth stage dedicated to hip-hop, DJs and spoken word acts.

Since not all of Columbia's departments produce physical works of art or performances, this year departments are coming together to figure out how all of Columbia's programs can fit into Manifest.

Phyllis Johnson, a faculty member in the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department, found a way to incorporate the work of her students into Manifest by having them help put on gallery exhibits, showcasing, booking shows and organizing a fashion show.

Kari Sommers, director of alumni relations, wants graduates to see how far Columbia has come by attending Manifest, to see the art and hopefully show off their work as well.

Columbia alumnus Chester Gregory is set to put on a one-man-show at the Getz Theater, 62 E. 11th St., and Adam and Steve director Kirkland Tibbels may also make an appearance.

Most of Manifest is currently in the planning stages, and Kelly anticipates a large marketing campaign to draw in students, faculty, staff, parents and anyone with an interest in Columbia to the events.

With the long lists of events at Manifest, Kelly said it would be nearly impossible to attend every one, but said that it is in keeping with Columbia's mission.

"We mean this to be overwhelming," Kelly said, "because Columbia is overwhelming."



File Photos  
A few staples of Manifest, Columbia's annual urban arts festival are slated to return this spring including, the puppet parade, (Top and Middle) human chess, (Bottom Right). Columbia will keep with its multicultural music theme this year with the Grammy-winning latin band Ozomatli.





# SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## FOR STUDENTS AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

### Department Scholarships

#### ART & DESIGN

- Pougialis Fine Arts Award (Deadline: April 2005)
- Precious Lashley Fashion Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2005)

#### ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & MEDIA MANAGEMENT

- The Make A Dent Scholarship (Deadline: May 20, 2005)
- Precious Lashley Fashion Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2005)
- The Chuck Suber Scholarship (Deadline: March 15, 2005)

#### ASL - ENGLISH INTERPRETATION

- Michael Fryzlewicz Scholarship (Deadline: June 1, 2005)

#### DANCE

- Forest Foundation Scholarship (Deadline: April 8, 2005)

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- Joan and Irving Harris Scholarship (Deadline: April 15, 2005)

#### FICTION WRITING

- John Schultz and Betty Shiflett Story Workshop Scholarship (Deadline: March 2005)
- Sylvia McNair Travel Story Scholarship (Deadline: March 2005)

#### JOURNALISM

- John Fischetti Scholarship (Deadline: March 4, 2005)
- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (Deadline: March 18, 2005)

#### MARKETING COMMUNICATION

- The Patricia McCarty Scholarship Fund (Deadline: March 18, 2005)

#### MUSIC

- Music Department Scholarship (Deadline: December 18, 2004)

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

- Kodak Scholarship (Deadline: May 6, 2005)

#### RADIO

- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (March 18, 2005)

#### SENIOR SEMINAR

- Jane Alexandroff Senior Project Award (Deadline: Spring 2005)

#### TELEVISION

- Al Lira Scholarship (Deadline: March 18, 2005)
- Thaine Lyman Scholarship (Deadline: March 18, 2005)
- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (Deadline: March 18, 2005)

#### THEATER

- Betty Garrett Musical Theater Scholarship Fund (Deadline: May 2, 2005)
- David Talbot Cox Scholarship Fund (Deadline: June 1, 2005)
- Freshman Achievement Award (Deadline: May 13, 2005)
- John Murbach Scholarship/Designer-In-Residence (Deadline: May 2, 2005)

### Open to all majors

- Academic Excellence Award (Deadline: March 18, 2005)
- Albert Weisman Scholarship (Deadline: April 2005)
- Alumni Scholarship (Deadline: April 18, 2005)
- David Rubin Scholarship (Deadline: April 1, 2005)

- Helen Fong Dare Scholarship (Deadline: March 2005)
- Hermann Conaway Scholarship (Deadline: March 18, 2005)
- Hillary Kalish Scholarship (Deadline: April 1, 2005)
- Ron Pitts Scholarship (Deadline: April 1, 2005)

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COLLEGE CHICAGO

visit [COLUM.EDU/SCHOLARSHIPS](http://COLUM.EDU/SCHOLARSHIPS)



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curtain  
GALLERY

C33  
GALLERY

HOKIN  
CENTER

conaway  
center

THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

**Welcome Back! Happy New Year!**

### [C]Spaces Hokin Annex Open House

Come see your remodeled space in the Hokin Annex!  
623 S. Wabash Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> floor

After six weeks of construction the Hokin Annex will re-open it's doors  
to the entire college community.

Annex hours are Monday – Thursday 9-7, Friday 9-5 pm.

Open house events include live music and Djs 11 am – 2 pm  
Tuesday, January 3 – Wednesday, January 5, 2005.

Refreshments will be served. [C] Spaces staff will be on hand with  
info on how you can become more involved.

**Get seen. Get heard.**

[C] Spaces is a division of Student Affairs, funded by student activity fees.



# Who's

**Among Students In American Universities and Colleges**

The 2005 edition of **Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges** will include the names of 26 students from Columbia College Chicago who have been selected as national outstanding campus leaders.

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.

They join an elite group of students from more than 2,000 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

Outstanding students have been honored in the annual directory since it was first published in 1934.

## **Students named this year from Columbia College are:**

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Lauren Mclain              | 14. Cezil Reed            |
| 2. Nathan Gabbard             | 15. Maisha Thompson-Heath |
| 3. Vanessa Torres             | 16. Lauren Wells          |
| 4. Michael Gallo              | 17. Epifanio Monarrez     |
| 5. Robyn Martin               | 18. Joel Canik            |
| 6. Stephanie Dean             | 19. Neil Flanders         |
| 7. Michael Kalopedis          | 20. Brittany Tate         |
| 8. Maggie Ness                | 21. Shawnecee Schneider   |
| 9. Jessica Diehl              | 22. Janja Taylor          |
| 10. Hettie Barnhill           | 23. Jonique Smith         |
| 11. Rachel Winokur            | 24. Kim Jean              |
| 12. Holly DeRuyter            | 25. Sana Mahmood          |
| 13. Karla Patricia Leal-Perez | 26. Lynn Clementi         |

**On Behalf of the Office of Student Leadership,**

# Congratulations

**who have received this award!**



## Music students sing it proud, play it loud



Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

The Tuesday Student Concert, part of the Music Department's Fall 2004 Concert Series, featured performances by coordinator Doug Lofstrom on bass (left) and the vocal talents of sophomore Natalie Oliveri, who is majoring in music business. The performance was one of the final events of the held Dec. 14 in the Concert Hall of the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

## Counterfeit *Continued from Front Page*

According to Brandon Bridgeforth, special agent for public affairs with the Secret Service, Chicago has a definite citywide counterfeit problem that changes with the weather. Bridgeforth said the holiday shopping season is a zenith period for counterfeiting because bills can be passed easily when merchants are too busy to check every single one they get.

However, Bridgeforth said, as a city, Chicago has a relatively small problem compared with Miami, New York and Los Angeles, which are the largest

cities for counterfeiting.

"Chicago is not even in the top five for the problem," Bridgeforth said.

Bridgeforth said Chicago has a relatively small problem because it doesn't have seaports, where counterfeit bills are most commonly passed and seized.

Students can safeguard against handling counterfeit cash by educating themselves about what new bills are supposed to look like, including the new \$20 and \$50 bills, and to learn about their security features, Bridgeforth said.

The best time for counterfeit bills to be passed along is right now, he said, when people are not familiar with what those bills look like.

Bridgeforth also said students should look closely at the money they receive. While a good counterfeit job often requires a microscope to see the detail, the poorer jobs are often made on home computers—and it shows.

"They can be of so poor quality that if you spill water on it, the ink runs," Bridgeforth said. "That will not happen on real money."

## Enrietto *Continued from Front Page*

fund to build it up and create more scholarships.

"It's one of those funds that we could potentially have half a million dollars in if we keep directing alumni in that area to give to it," Clement said.

"We're going to build on it, because we want it to be an ongoing scholarship, not a one or two-shot deal," Bartoni said.

Kralka said she first began toying with the idea of donating money for a fund in memory of her brother in the summer of 2004.

"I just thought some of the money should go to the school," Kralka said. "[Enrietto] loved the school and I'm in a position in my life that I can give some back. [The Semester in L.A. program] was something he always thought should have a scholarship program at Columbia, and I thought, 'Isn't that the best way to do it?'"

Kralka said she also donated the money because of how

impressed she was with the school's growth.

"When I think of what the school was [like] when my brother started there, it was just south on State Street," Kralka said. "It's just marvelous how the school has grown. It's a wonderful story. Anybody who doesn't know about it, too bad for them."

This is Kralka's first donation to any school, and she said she hopes it won't be the last time she gives money to Columbia.

"If I stay healthy and working, maybe there will be some more," Kralka said. "If we can get more funds into the scholarship, I would like to see ... a portion go to the film school, because those are the things he loved."

Clement said one of the major emphases of the Office of Institutional Advancement's is on establishing more scholarship monies. While Columbia has a number of significant funds, including the

Journalism Department's John Fischetti Scholarship and the Paul Berger Arts Entrepreneurship Awards, Clement said institutional advancement is going to make an effort among alumni to establish many more.

The Enrietto Scholarship will not be the only aid for students in the Semester in L.A. program. Schroeder said for two years the program has had the West Coast Alumni Scholarship fund. In that time, Schroeder said, they dispersed five scholarships—two \$1,000 scholarships for students who went out to Semester in L.A. in the fund's first year and three \$2,000 scholarships this year.

Clement and Bartoni said they will be meeting with Kralka soon to discuss the criteria for awarding the future prize. Clement said more will be known after the first of the year, and that they hope to have the first scholarship awarded by June 2005.

# Liberace doles out money to students

○ Foundation donates \$4 million since '76

By Todd Burbo  
Assistant A&E Editor

Sarah Seaman is a veteran of the college circuit—Columbia is the third school on her transcript. Now a theater major attempting to "create change," she understands the important role financial aid plays in the future of her education.

Seaman, like most transfer students who have bills from schools across the country, knows that the ever-rising cost of tuition can be a burden, and she has been working to find ways of reducing her costs.

She found one such asset last year with the Liberace Foundation for the Performing Creative Arts Scholarship.

Named after the piano virtuoso, the Liberace Foundation has provided more than \$4 million in scholarship grants to art institutions and community organizations since 1976. The foundation recently approved funding to aid the finances of three worthy Columbia students.

Caroline Latta of Columbia's theater faculty was instrumental in helping students receive the foundation's aid.

"We became aware of the foundation's scholarship, and I decided that the Theater Department would be the guinea pig to see if we could get funding from them," Latta said. "It seemed like such a natural fit for a performance-oriented foundation."

The foundation's approval was not the only hurdle Latta faced—Columbia's contribution to her financial aid would determine the amount of her aid.

"It's a match-based system, meaning whatever money you ask for, the college has to agree to match," Latta said. "Luckily, the dean has been very supportive, and said that whatever we got, they would match."

What they got was \$1,000 per student, per year, to be matched by Columbia, for a total of \$2,000 of annual aid for each recipient.

The scholarship does not take into account the recipient's financial need.

"It's entirely merit-based," Latta said. "[The foundation] was very interested in what our audition process would be like."

The faculty decided that in addition to having a certain GPA, applicants had to present their work to a panel of faculty mem-

bers.

Actors performed a monologue, while directors and set designers presented portfolios. Presentations were supplemented by interviews.

The applicants said they experienced an uncommon process when applying for the Liberace Foundation Scholarship.

"They focused heavily on a directing project that I had recently finished. They were really concerned with what I had learned—what the experience had done for me," Seaman said.

Theater major Eric Burgher, another Liberace Scholar, said he found the audition process a refreshing change from the average scholarship application.

"What I liked about [the Liberace Scholarship audition] was that they didn't just look at a paper with your credentials on it and pick you out of a stack. It was more personal, so I felt much more proud of it," Burgher said.

Besides auditioning, Liberace Scholars are encouraged to actively work and grow in their fields in order to receive further funding.

"The foundation indicated that it looks favorably upon us re-applying for funding for the same people," Latta said. "We chose students who were going to be juniors, hoping that they would continue to receive money through their senior years, while at the same time, we select a new pool of juniors."

Seaman said she would be content with that plan.

"I hope I continue to earn it. It's been very helpful. It seems we have to give them an update of what our progress has been, which is what we're doing at the moment," she said.

This is Columbia's first year of involvement with the foundation's scholarship; the three theater majors were selected from a pool of about 25 who were chosen to audition. Of the three, one was chosen from each concentration: musical theater, straight theater and scene design.

Based on the success of the first-time recipients, Latta said she hopes to increase the amount of funding from the foundation awards.

"Now that we have a track record, hopefully we can increase the number of scholarships we can give," Latta said. "It's something we desperately need."

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

Applications for the 2005-2006 John Fischetti Scholarship are now available in the Journalism Department, Suite 1300, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

All full-time Columbia College students, including graduate students, who specialize in print or broadcast journalism, photojournalism, editorial art or political cartooning, are eligible to apply. Awards are based on academic merit, financial need and service in the student's speciality (i.e., internships, work on student publication or productions). Twenty-one scholarships, up to \$2,000 each, were awarded for 2004-2005.

**THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS  
MARCH 4, 2005**

The Student Satellite Chapter of the Chicago Headline Club Proudly Presents our first  
**"The Stories Behind The Story" Panel Discussion:**

### "Investigating the Hired Truck Scandal"

...

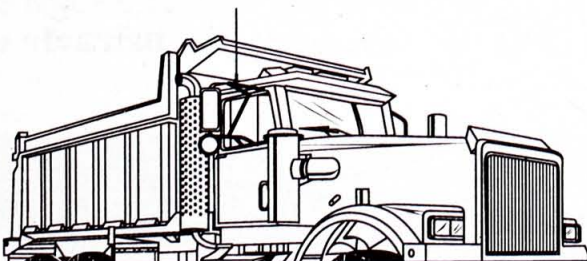
featuring **Chicago Sun-Times** Reporters  
**Tim Novak** and **Steve Warmbir**

On Thursday, January 6th **5:30 - 7:30 PM**

2nd Floor reading room, Columbia College Library

**Check out "Clout on Wheels" for background:**  
[www.suntimes.com/special\\_sections/clout](http://www.suntimes.com/special_sections/clout)

**Admission is Free**



# THANK YOU

As you know, the Congress Hotel workers have been on strike for over a year and a half. There are 80 members on the picket line! Some of them have found temporary positions, but those will end as the holidays come to a close. This is a hardship on their families beyond our imagination.

A fund for these workers was started by the Local One Union called the Local One Hardship Fund. The Columbia College Faculty, Staff and Friends had a silent drive to raise money for the families. We would like to take a moment to thank all the people who contributed to this fund:

Michael Jackson  
Corey Plazak  
Lisa Lewandowski  
Anonymous  
Irv Meyer  
Mike DeSalle  
Alicia Berg  
Susan Babyk  
Sheila Brady  
Paul Chiaravalle  
Jenny Seay  
Linda Naslund  
Deborah Roberts  
Lena Renteria  
Keith Kostecka  
Thomas Plum  
Sallie Gordon  
Jackie Monahan  
Yvonne Sode  
Pepe Vargas  
Jean Aiken  
Pat Killion  
Kevin Cassidy  
Dominic Pacgya  
Suzanne  
Flandreau  
Deborah Coney  
Christina Tucker

Victoria Shannon  
Mary Ellingsen  
Joanne Harding  
Suzanne Cohan Lange  
Tracy Cargo  
Sandy Cuprison  
George Bailey  
Tom Russell  
Mary Ellen Lewandowski  
Paula Epstein  
Tom Nawrocki  
Caroline Caligiuri  
Kathleen Caligiuri  
Christopher Greiner  
Robin and Anne Matell  
Paula Scheiwe  
Margie Nicholson  
Dianne Erpenbach  
Alton Miller  
Virginia Deoliveriera-Alves  
Nesreen Akhtarkhavari  
Erin McCarthy  
Larry Sussman  
Joel Rich  
Dan Graff  
Li Wang  
Pat Baker

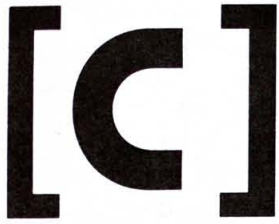
Joe Leamanczyk  
Susan Padveen  
Kate Ezra  
Kari Sommers  
Shelley Brown  
Mary Samerdyke  
Stephanie Arthur  
Steve Kapelke  
Barry Benson  
Mike Guidotti  
Lisa Brock  
Susan Imus  
Maya Shewnarain  
Louis Silverstein  
Joan McGrath  
Mike Bright  
Julie Redman  
Edna Radnik  
Anita Leverance  
Garnett Kilberg-Cohen  
Carol Gulyas  
Susan Augustine  
Greg Weiss  
Rhonda Dibbern  
Judy Dyke  
Mark Kelly  
Kevin Henry  
Mike Debish

These amazing people helped raise over \$1500 for this fund in just over two weeks. If you were unaware of this drive and would still like to contribute, you may send donations directly to the attention of Henry Tamarin, President of the Union:

**Local One Hardship Fund**  
**55 West Van Buren Street**  
**Chicago, IL 60605**  
**(312) 663-4373**

For more information about the strike, you can visit  
their website at [www.congresshotelstrike.info](http://www.congresshotelstrike.info)





**SPACES**

**GLASS  
curtain  
GALLERY**

**C33  
GALLERY**

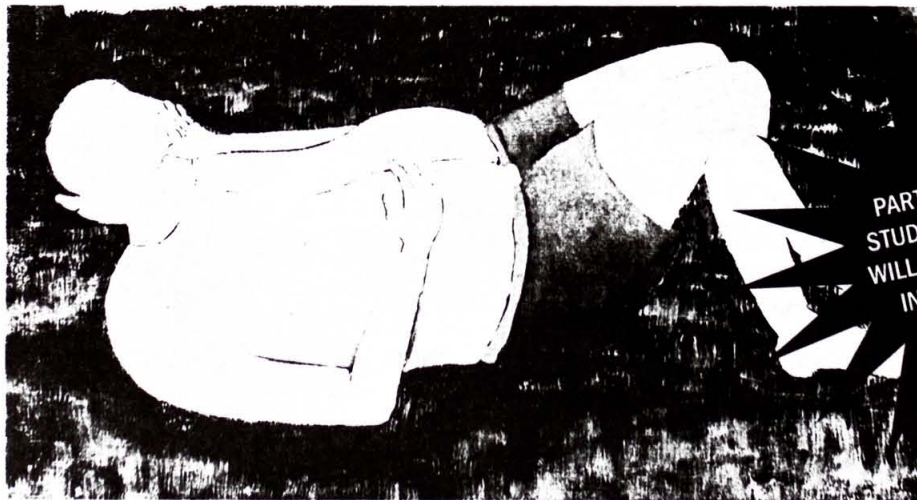
**HOKIN  
CENTER**

**conaway  
center**

**THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO**

# ATTENTION GRADUATING STUDENTS!

**[C]SPACES IS LOOKING FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS TO SUBMIT HIGH-QUALITY PHOTOGRAPHS OF ARTWORK IN ANY MEDIA (ILLUSTRATION, PAINTING, FILM/VIDEO STILLS, PERFORMANCE STILLS, PHOTOGRAPHY, ETC.) FOR MANIFEST PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISING: POSTERS, BROCHURES, WEB SITE & MORE. OVER 500,000 PRINT MATERIALS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED. IF YOU'RE GRADUATING IN JANUARY, JUNE, OR AUGUST, SUBMIT YOUR WORK AND BE SEEN!**



**PARTICIPATING  
STUDENTS' WORK  
WILL BE FEATURED  
IN AN ONLINE  
GALLERY!**

**HOW TO SUBMIT:** Bring a CD-ROM with your images and a printout of the images to: Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor / **IMAGE SPECS:** 300 dpi, at least 5"x 5", B&W or Color (CMYK), jpeg, tiff or scalable eps / **Questions?** Ania Greiner, 312.344.6642 or [agreiner@colum.edu](mailto:agreiner@colum.edu)

**[cspaces.colum.edu](http://cspaces.colum.edu)**



# MANIFEST OPENINGS

## MANIFEST 05 CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

**ATTENTION GRADUATING STUDENTS!** ♦ [C]Spaces is looking for graduating students to submit high-quality photographs of artwork in any media (illustration, painting, film/video stills, performance stills, photography, etc.), for Manifest promotional advertising: posters, brochures, web site & more.

## MANIFEST 05 MUSIC MANAGEMENT INTERN

**Intern Position for AEMM Student** ♦ Under the supervision of the [C]Spaces Director, the Technical Director, and the Manifest Coordinator, the Manifest Music Intern will focus on all duties related to marketing the student and professional bands playing at the festival, as well as helping to organize the performing stages at the festival.

## MANIFEST 05 GALLERY ASSISTANT INTERN

**Intern Position for AEMM Student** ♦ Under the supervision of the [C]Spaces Director, the Gallery Coordinators, and the Manifest Coordinator, the Manifest Gallery Assistant Intern will play a vital role in the installation of exhibitions, staffing special events, and performing various tasks in the service of the festival.

## MANIFEST 05 MARKETING INTERN

**Intern Position for AEMM Student** ♦ Under the supervision of the [C]Spaces Director, Assistant to the Director and the Manifest Coordinator, the Manifest 05 Marketing Intern will concentrate on marketing and promoting end-of-year events to the Columbia College and South Loop communities, and will play a vital role in organizing the festival.

**Learn more about these opportunities online at**  
<http://cspaces.colum.edu/opportunities/>



GLASS  
curtain  
GALLERY

C33  
GALLERY

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THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

**C33 Gallery**  
33 E Congress, first floor  
hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5, Sat. by appt.

### Liminal: An Annual Visual Environments Class Installation Exhibition

**December 16, 2004–January 19, 2005**

An exhibition of installation works created by beginning Center for Book & Paper Arts MFA students in the Interdisciplinary Arts Department's Visual Environments class. Taught by Melissa Jay Craig.



GLASS  
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THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

**Hokin Gallery**  
623 S. Wabash Ave, first floor  
hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5, Sat. by appt.

### no matter how hard you try, you can't stop us now

**December 8, 2004 – January 21, 2005**

An exhibition of graffiti style artworks and sketchbooks by the Graffiti Student Organization of Columbia College Chicago and other select community artists.



GLASS  
curtain  
GALLERY

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CENTER

conaway  
center

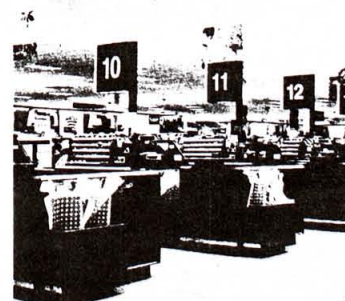
THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

**Hokin Annex**  
623 S. Wabash Ave, first floor  
hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5, Sat. by appt.

### Vice Grip: Bad Habits Exploited

**January 12-21, 2005**

Opening reception: Wednesday, January 12, 2005, 6 - 8pm. Vice Grip explores ungoverned appetites and unnatural curiosity through artworks in a wide-range of media by Columbia College Chicago students and local artists. Curated by the Special Topics in Visual Arts Management Course at Columbia College Chicago.



[cspaces.colum.edu](http://cspaces.colum.edu)



## Psychotropic drug research receives approval from FDA

○ 'Magic mushrooms,' and ecstasy approved

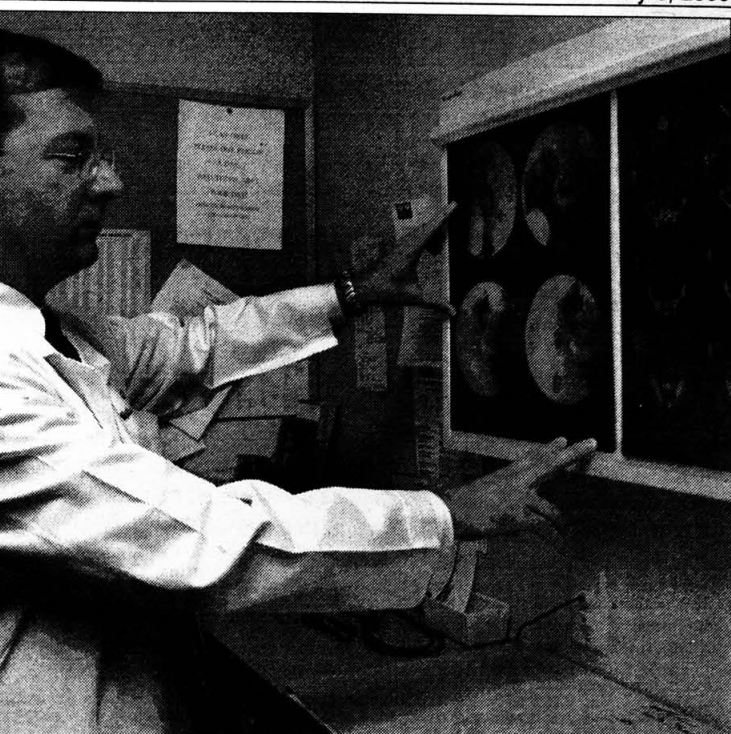
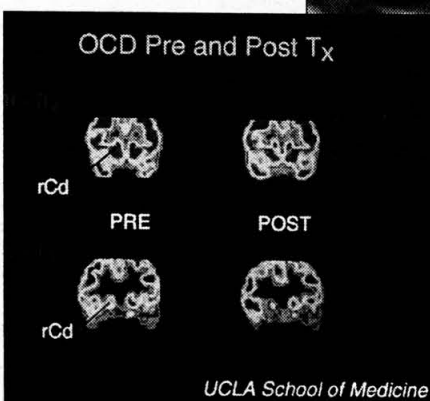
By Adam J. Ferington  
Associate Editor

Ever since noted Harvard professor and counter-culture icon Timothy Leary advocated the use of LSD in the late '60s, urging people to "Turn on, tune in and drop out," psychoactive drugs, whether used recreationally or in a medical setting, have been considered taboo.

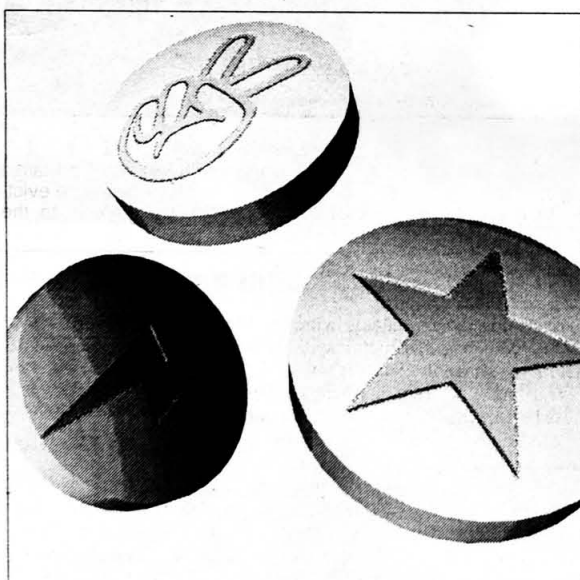
After nearly 25 years of restrictive guidelines, a handful of organizations, including the Heffter Research Institute and the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, successfully lobbied the Federal Drug Administration to approve a limited number of trials using psychoactive drugs such as cannabis, psilocybin and ecstasy to treat a variety of persistent illnesses and psychiatric disorders, such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, post-trau-

matic stress syndrome, anxiety disorder and a variety of cancer symptoms.

"From the research and rationale given to us, [the FDA] decided that there was a sustainable basis to allow clinical trials to proceed," said a spokeswoman for the FDA.



Scans (left) show the brain of patients with obsessive compulsive disorder before (top) and after drug treatment and psychotherapy (bottom). The bottom scan shows substantially less neurological activity in the areas of the brain where the disease manifests. The combination therapy helps normalize the chemical levels and association triggers that provoke the disease. Both methods were effective in changing the patient's brain structures, as well as the chemistry.



Treatment with ecstasy, or MDMA, may have profound effects on individuals suffering from psychiatric disorders, particularly anxiety and schizophrenia.

"[I'm] interested in the treatment being available to people who need it, and doing it aboveboard and publishing good results," said George Greer, founder of the Heffter Research Institute, in a statement.

Although the FDA has given the research the go ahead, it has not approved its funding. However, the Heffter Research Institute has committed itself to picking up the tab for each institution that gains approval from the FDA.

Dr. Charles Grob, professor of psychiatry and pediatrics at UCLA-Harbor Medical Center, is one of the scientists with the responsibility of overseeing testing at Harbor Medical Center.

"There's an impressive body of research from the '60s that is going untapped," Grob said. "[UCLA] is extremely excited to be engaged in this type of research, but there is always that level of caution that has to be

observed."

While psychedelics first gained prominence in the form of LSD, a synthesized psychotropic usually administered in a concentrated form through blotter paper, current clinical research involves the use of psilocybin, which occurs naturally in mushrooms.

"We chose psilocybin because it's a much milder, more easily controlled experience," Grob said. "Whenever you treat with hallucinogens, setting is essential. In terms of the initial batch of experiments, we've had success across the board, particularly with a number of the psychiatric disorders."

Despite the success of the trials, not just anyone can qualify.

"There's an extensive screening process that potential recipients must go through before they are qualified," Grob said. "When you're dealing with any kind of psychoactive substance, there's an immense amount of [emotional] baggage that comes with

it. We make sure to look at an individual's medical history before we proceed."

Grob's success could prove a watershed case for psychotropic research and help pave the way for an influx of treatment programs into the medical mainstream.

In August, Harvard University, former home to Leary, accepted a proposal to treat terminally ill cancer with MDMA, or ecstasy, in order to alleviate patient's symptoms of anxiety.

And at the University of Arizona, Dr. Francisco Moreno has recently completed a four-year study in which he oversaw eight obsessively compulsive patients received psilocybin derivatives as treatment for their disorder.

"I think if we proceed carefully, we can really discover and utilize a lot of the potential inherent in these substances," Grob said. "Hopefully at some point in the future, the FDA will agree to fund it."

## Court says colleges can bar military recruiters from campuses

○ 10-year-old law requiring universities to allow access to recruiters struck down by federal appeals court

By Joseph A. Slobodzin  
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

In a case that pitted academic freedom against the government's power of the purse, a divided federal appeals court in Philadelphia invalidated the 10-year-old Solomon Amendment that requires universities to give campus access to military recruiters or forfeit federal funding.

The 2-1 November decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit was the first to hold that the law violated universities' free-speech rights under the First Amendment.

"This is definitely ground-

breaking," said E. Joshua Rosenkranz, a New York lawyer who argued the case on June 30 for the Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, the Society of American Law Teachers Inc., and several others. "This is a victory for liberty and equality, a victory for conscience over compulsion."

"Unless this gets reversed by the 3rd Circuit or by the United States Supreme Court on review, I'd say this is the end of the Solomon Amendment," said David Rudovsky, a Philadelphia civil-rights lawyer and University of Pennsylvania law professor. Last year, he

filed a suit challenging the Solomon Amendment on behalf of Penn law professors and students.

Justice Department spokesman Charles Miller said lawyers were reviewing the 3rd Circuit opinion but had not decided whether to appeal. Many legal experts, however, say they believe an appeal is certain.

The presence of military recruiters on campus and military-funded programs such as ROTC has sparked controversy, as during the Vietnam War.

For university officials trying to comply with expanding federal civil rights and discrimination laws, the Solomon

Amendment added complications—especially for those responsible for training future lawyers. The amendment was named for U.S. Rep. Gerald Solomon, the New York Republican who sponsored it and a 1982 amendment to strengthen Selective Service registration.

Professors and students interested in the legal rights of gays and lesbians objected strongly, arguing they should not support the campus presence of military recruiters, who bar individuals who are openly homosexual from the military and oust those whose sexual orientation becomes known. It

was argued that nongovernmental groups that discriminate would not be allowed to recruit on campus.

Since last year, when Congress began toughening the Solomon Amendment by expanding the types of federal funding at stake, four federal suits have challenged its constitutionality.

Two, by Yale University law professors and students, are pending in federal court in Connecticut; the Penn law professors' suit is pending in Philadelphia.

It was the fourth case—filed

See Recruiters, Page 11

# NEWS BRIEFS

Stories from colleges across the country

## Video-game workers sue for overtime pay; cat receives MBA from Dallas university.

**SAN JOSE, Calif.**—Working in the video game industry is a dream job for those raised on *Super Mario Bros.* and *The Sims*. Thousands of programmers and artists have flocked to companies such as Electronic Arts for the chance to create popular games like *James Bond* or *Madden NFL 2005*.

But Jamie Kirschenbaum, a 26-year-old lead animator at EA's Redwood City, Calif., studio, is not happy. In July, he filed a class-action lawsuit against the world's largest video game company, alleging EA drives workers to exhaustion without paying overtime.

Around the same time, game programmer Neil Aitken filed a similar suit against Vivendi Universal Games in Los Angeles. Aitken claims he and his co-workers regularly worked 12-hour-plus days without being paid overtime and were asked to falsify time sheets.

The lawsuits have opened a window into a long-smoldering controversy in the \$10 billion U.S. video game industry over the widespread practice of "crunch time," or working long hours to finish a project as its deadline nears.

EA is now considering making some jobs eligible for overtime, according to an internal company memo.

**DALLAS**—Colby Nolan might be smart (for a cat), but a 3.5 GPA on MBA coursework?

Pennsylvania's attorney general's office thought not.

The state sued a Frisco, Texas, man and his brother in December, accusing them of using spam e-mail to peddle bogus degrees from a Dallas operation called Trinity Southern University.

Colby, a cat belonging to a state official, got his MBA and a transcript showing he notched a 3.5 GPA for \$398.

"These diplomas have no value in the job market except to harm genuinely accredited colleges and universities, and their online academic programs," said Jerry Pappert, the Pennsylvania attorney general.

Colby had enough work experience to qualify for an "Executive MBA" from Trinity Southern University. Officials in

Pennsylvania paid for the animal's academic degree.

Craig Barton Poe, 35, of Frisco is named in the civil complaint, along with his brother Alton Scott Poe, 40, of St. Cloud, Fla.

The two are charged with violating Pennsylvania's Unsolicited Telecommunication Advertisement Act and Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law. Penalties could range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per violation.

**UNIVERSITY PARK, Texas**—A Southern Methodist University student, 21-year-old Kristina Kiik, is primed to become one of the youngest—if not the youngest—Electoral College members ever to cast a presidential vote.

Although some political observers consider the Electoral College a woefully archaic system for selecting a national leader, Kiik, a Richardson, Texas resident born to Estonian immigrants, sharply disagrees.

She's also representing a maligned age demographic, at least politically. Even though more young voters cast ballots in November than in recent elections, the perception lingers that the nation's youth are politically disengaged.

Age records of Electoral College members don't exist in full, said Harvard University history professor Alexander Keyssar, an Electoral College expert. So knowing for sure whether Kiik is the youngest ballot-casting elector ever is nearly impossible. At the least, Keyssar said, she's one of the youngest in U.S. history.

**PHILADELPHIA**—As a Temple University freshman, Arsenia Solomon needed to borrow \$5,000 to cover college expenses that were not met by grants, limited family help and a part-time job.

Three years later, Solomon has added a night shift as a bank teller to her résumé—and mounting costs have still forced her to double her student-loan load to \$10,000 a year.

Her financial burden may be even greater next year, if the Bush administration goes ahead with a plan to change the Pell

## Back off my aerie.



The "Hawk" mascot from New York's Hunter College participates in a vigil in front of a luxury apartment building on New York's Fifth Avenue, Dec. 16, 2004, where the nest of two red-tailed hawks was ordered removed by the building's co-op board. A week after the hawks were evicted from their aerie outside the building, the board that runs the high-rise gave in to the demands of bird lovers and agreed to let the couple rebuild their nest.

Grant funding formula.

If the formula is changed, an estimated 90,000 students receiving Pell grants would become ineligible for the program, and an additional 1.2 million students would see their grants shaved by \$200 to \$300, according to a financial-aid advisory committee created by Congress.

The Pell program, which was authorized in 1972, is the principal federal grant program for higher education. About 5 million students a year receive Pell grants, splitting \$12.5 billion.

Congress has invested heavily in the program in recent years, but the Pell applicant pool has grown so quickly—up 37 percent in the last decade—appropriations still routinely lag behind demand.

**STATE UNIVERSITY, Ark.**—

The Arkansas State University archaeology team, along with Julie Morrow, instructor and station archaeologist, discovered human remains near Cushman, Ark.

In September, the team found a partially unearthed skeleton that became known as the remains of a young woman. The privately owned piece of land where the remains were found also contained artifacts that dated back as far as 1,300 years.

People searching for artifacts have vandalized the lot; most of them are felons, according to Morrow. She said they search for the artifacts and then sell them to buy drugs. But some people just go to the site to

party and hang out with their friends.

While partying, Morrow said, a male stumbled upon a human skull he took home with him. His girlfriend suggested that he contact someone and tell what he found. He contacted Morrow and her team.

Because it is a felony to dig up unmarked graves, she called the Independence County Sheriff's department to go with her to the site.

When they arrived, they began digging. They found the rest of the remains of the skeleton along with some other bones.

—Compiled by Adam J. Ferington & Rebecca Mielcarski

## Recruiters *Continued from Page 10*

by the Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, the Society of American Law Teachers, the Coalition for Equality, the Rutgers Gay and Lesbian Caucus and five individuals—that resulted in the ruling.

In the 1994 House debate on the amendment, Solomon argued that campus access by military recruiters was important for military preparedness. He said it was hypocritical for universities to accept federal money yet deny military recruiters access to students.

Many colleges capitulated, and, for a time, universities with law schools found a middle ground, letting military recruiters on campus even if the law schools were out of bounds. Law schools argued that they could not ethically permit an organization that discriminates (the U.S. military) because they are sworn to teach future lawyers to uphold the Constitution and the law.

That middle ground disappeared after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when Defense Department officials obtained

changes to the Solomon Amendment requiring university access and assistance for military recruiters equal to that granted to any other career recruiter.

Sheldon E. Steinbach, general counsel for the American Council on Education, which represents 1,800 colleges and universities, said these changes were worrying.

"[They] would have penalized an entire institution for the position of one of its entities who chose, on specific ethical grounds, not to allow military

recruiters," Steinbach said.

Writing for the 3rd Circuit majority, U.S. Circuit Judge Thomas L. Ambro said the government had failed to prove a "compelling need" to curtail universities' First Amendment rights.

"The government has failed to proffer a shred of evidence that the Solomon Amendment materially enhances its stated goal," Ambro wrote. "And not only might other methods of recruitment yield acceptable results, they might actually fare better than the current system."

U.S. Circuit Judge Ruggero J. Aldisert dissented from Ambro and Judge Walter K. Stapleton, writing that the Solomon Amendment's goal of maintaining the military does not "unreasonably burden speech."

"The interest of protecting the national security of the United States outweighs the indirect and attenuated interest in the law schools' speech, expressive association and academic freedom rights," Aldisert wrote.



## Columbia College Chicago Taps Into Guerilla Creativity With Space Heaters!

Announcing the Space Heaters initiative! Space Heaters is designed for Columbia's students, faculty and staff to take underutilized areas and transform them into "living art installations" that will be attractive, welcoming gathering places for the college's community and its visitors.



### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE AND HOW MUCH TIME WILL IT TAKE?

Any Columbia College student, student organization, faculty, staff, class or affiliate (such as the Center for Book & Paper Arts) can participate. A faculty or administrative artistic advisor must supervise the composition and execution.

The Office of Campus Environment must receive the application at least 3 weeks prior to the desired start date of the project. Design approval will occur within a few days of receiving the application. Painting a mural can take up to 3-4 weeks, depending on the number of painters in a group and the number of hours per painting session.

### WHAT IS SPACE HEATERS AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Space Heaters is an innovative, new art and campus beautification initiative designed to give Columbia artists a chance to create a fresh look for the college by using a little paint and a lot of creativity. It is a key part of implementing the Columbia 2010 plan by helping to create a student-centered campus and developing facilities in a way that enhances campus life.

The college will contribute indoor wall space, paint and materials, and artists will conceive of the project, suggest a location, and donate their talent and labor to create "living art installations" in buildings across campus.

### GETTING STARTED

1. Get an idea.
2. Pick up an application at the Office of Campus Environment, Room 501, 600 S. Michigan Ave. or request one by calling Susan Babyk at 344-7211.
3. Complete and return the application form, budget worksheet, schedule, and renderings to the Office of Campus Environment.
4. Applicant advisors will be notified regarding the location and funding approval of the project. Upon approval, implementation details will be finalized and a check request will be made for the artistic advisor so that work may begin.
5. Simple as that.



create...  
change

ideas competition :: call for artists

# art escapes

Columbia

COLLEGE CHICAGO

The Office of Campus Environment is hosting an exciting ideas competition\* open to the Columbia College Chicago community.

At Columbia we are lucky to be immersed in this great urban environment, and to speak to the urban nature of our campus we want to celebrate our fire escapes. Many view these steel structures as eyesores, but we see them as an opportunity for public art. That's where you come in!

**who:**

Students, Faculty & Staff

**what:**

Come up with a creative concept for an art installation using the fire escapes. We have selected four fire escapes which can be used: 33 Congress (west & east façade), 623 S. Wabash (west façade), 72 E. 11th (west façade). You can develop an overall concept for all four, address them individually, or just choose one to focus on. Concepts should be submitted in the form of renderings, models, or a combination of both.

**when:**

Submissions are due Friday February 18th to JOE LEAMANCZYK in 600 S. Michigan, Room 501.

**prize:** \$500

We will have an exhibit to showcase the ideas, where we will award the prize for the Best in Show. Date to be determined.

Please contact JOE LEAMANCZYK at [jleamanczyk@colum.edu](mailto:jleamanczyk@colum.edu) for further information, and to receive a packet with scaled drawings of the fire escapes.

\*An award of Best in Show does not guarantee implementation of the design. Due to code, structural and cost issues, ideas presented may not be feasible.



Apple iMac G5

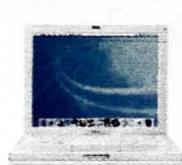
From the creators of iPod.



The new iMac G5.

- Three new models featuring:
- 1.6 GHz or 1.8 GHz PowerPC G5 processor
  - Widescreen 17-inch or 20-inch display
  - Up to 2GB of DDR 400 memory
  - Slot-load Combo or SuperDrive
  - AGP 8x graphics

Starting from \$1199



iBook  
12-inch - Starting at \$899.00



14-inch - Starting at \$1199.00



PowerBook G4  
12-inch - Starting at \$1,399.00



15-inch - Starting at \$1,799.00



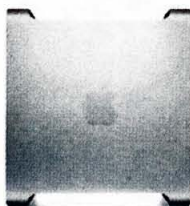
17-inch - Starting at \$2,499.00



eMac  
Starting at \$749.00



iMac G5  
Starting at \$1,199.00



Power Mac G5  
Starting at \$1,349.00



30-inch Cinema HD  
\$2,999.00



23-inch Cinema HD  
\$1,799.00



20-inch Cinema  
\$1,169.00

iPod



iPod  
Starting at \$269.00



iPod Mini  
\$229.00

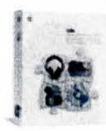


iPod Photo  
Starting at \$469.00

Other Products from Apple



Mac OS X  
\$69.00



iLife  
\$29.00



Final Cut Express  
\$149.00



Keynote  
\$79.00



Microsoft Office  
\$149.95

The Apple Store @ Columbia College

623 S. Wabash, Suite 205  
Phone: 312.344.8MAC  
<http://www.colum.edu/applestore/>

The Apple Store for Education

[www.apple.com/education/store/](http://www.apple.com/education/store/)  
(800) MY-APPLE





express yourself!

# call for entries

[www.mccormickmuseum.org](http://www.mccormickmuseum.org)

**artist commission: at least \$100,000**  
show the world what america's freedoms mean to you  
an international competition to commission a work of art  
deadline extended, entries due by february 25, 2005  
go to [www.mccormickmuseum.org](http://www.mccormickmuseum.org) for more details

# Be a part of an Award-winning Team!

**Sign Up For**  
**COLLEGE NEWSPAPER WORKSHOP**

Monday, 3 cr. 12:00-2:50    53-3530-01

The *Columbia Chronicle*, the weekly college newspaper and its website is written by this class. Students get hands-on experience in writing and reporting, copy editing, and headline writing.

*Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing, 3.0 GPA or permission from faculty advisor or general manager.  
Must have completed Reporting for Print and Broadcast with a "B" or better.*

If you have any questions please email Chris Richert at [crichert@colum.edu](mailto:crichert@colum.edu) or Jim Sulski at [jsulski@colum.edu](mailto:jsulski@colum.edu)



## An unnecessary gamble on the future

A massive government disinformation campaign is currently underway that threatens to bankrupt the nation's future, along with the future of millions of young Americans.

Yet, the misleading information isn't about the war in Iraq, voting irregularities in Ohio or whether Scott Peterson deserves the death penalty.

It's about Social Security. For many college students, concerns about Social Security hardly seem a priority, especially with textbooks, final exams and job pressures right in front of them.

The problem, however, is that changes to Social Security, such as the ones currently being proposed by the Bush administration, will affect almost everyone who is under the age of 55, and could lead to a bleak future for those of us who are still decades away from thinking about our retirements.

That's because, at their heart, these changes involve taking billions of dollars out of the pockets of ordinary Americans, giving it to large financial service corporations and hoping for the best.

The game goes like this: Social Security, a program created during the Great

Depression to ensure all Americans a minimum standard of living during their old age, is funded by taking money from current workers and paying benefits to current retirees.

Some of what's collected, of course, is kept for the future, but not all of it, and the question becomes whether the system will one day run out of money.

The solution? Put it in the stock market. That way, people can control their own financial futures, and not rely on government handouts to get by in their old age. Or so says the government.

It's called, in one of those euphemisms designed to make bad ideas seem good, "privatization."

Never mind that the handouts being spoken about come from the pockets of workers who have, in effect, put something away for their own retirement in a government safety deposit box.

And never mind that the stock market can be about as reliable as a weekend bingo game in a church basement when it comes to guaranteeing financial returns, or that there are ways in which the current system—which isn't expected to have a problem for another 40 years or so—

can be fixed.

What's important is that the government says there's a problem, and it has a solution.

Pay attention, however, to the fact that by putting billions of dollars of public money in the stock market, quite a few Wall Street firms are likely to make a very tidy profit when it comes to taking fees for handling the transactions.

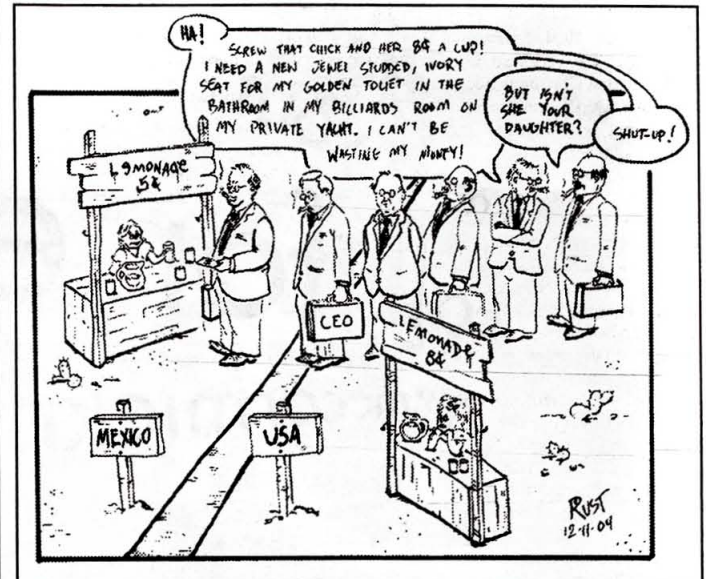
Austan Goolsbee, a professor at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, estimated that Wall Street could make \$39 billion over 75 years if the Bush administration succeeds in privatizing Social Security accounts.

Social Security reform is a complex and difficult issue, worthy of an engaged national debate involving all of those who are likely to be affected by any changes.

But what's going on right now is a headlong rush toward the administration's plan that seems eerily familiar to the run-up to the Iraq war: claim there's a crisis, propose the most extreme solution possible and then say we have no other choice.

The only difference is that this time everyone, not just soldiers, could end up paying the price.

## BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Adam Rust/The Chronicle



KRT

## Bullying, indecency and the FCC

American advocacy groups have the right to make their points and say what they want, but one group in particular should take a rest from nit-picking the Federal Communications Commission.

The Parents Television Council announced Dec. 7 that it is threatening the FCC with congressional investigations. In a statement released by the group, PTC President L. Brent Bozell accused the FCC of being "deliberately dishonest with the American people."

At issue is whether the FCC can be trusted in its reporting of filed complaints.

In wake of the Janet Jackson scandal at the 2004 Super Bowl and the Monday Night Football skit involving Philadelphia Eagles receiver Terrell Owens and "Desperate Housewives" star Nicollette Sheridan, the number of indecency reports filed with the agency have skyrocketed.

In 2000 and 2001, the number of complaints hovered around 350. That number rose to 14,000 in 2002 and jumped again to 240,000

in 2003.

As it turns out, the PTC folks think the number is even larger, reflecting both the decline in traditional American values and the need for an FCC crack down on liberal television networks.

However, what the PTC has not made public—and the FCC has—paints a different picture of what's really going on.

Internet-based magazine Mediaweek.com obtained reports from the FCC that show the vast majority of indecency complaints filed last year (99.8 percent) and this year through October (99.9 percent) were from one group: the PTC.

The reports of outrage, and the billowing dollar amounts in fines by the FCC, have made it seem like the country is ready to revert to a puritan hatred of vice and self-remorse for thinking dirty thoughts.

And then we find out that virtually all of the outrage is from one group. It would be kind of funny if it weren't so scary.

What's scariest, though, is the effect they're having on

the FCC. Even Fox Broadcasting Co., a network that could hardly be labeled highbrow, was nevertheless fined almost \$1.2 million showing digitally censored strippers on its reality show, "Married by America."

According to a report on Mediaweek.com, 5.1 million households watched the program in question. But apparently only 23 viewers lodged complaints.

Yet the FCC, feeling the pressure, felt compelled to act.

And don't think the absurdity is over. The New York Post reported on Dec. 13 that the FCC has asked NBC to hand over copies of the opening ceremonies for the Summer Olympics, because viewer mail called the dancing "too sexy for TV."

If the PTC really considers itself the litmus test for Americans' moral attitudes, it would not be the sole voice of complaint.

When one group has a stranglehold on swaying a government agency—and 99.9 percent of all complaints is a stranglehold—it's tantamount to censorship.



KRT

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

Why not write a Letter to the Editor? At the bottom of Page 17 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

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# Saying bye-bye to bah-humbug

By Mark W. Anderson  
Commentary Editor

On Dec. 11, 2004, I turned 41 years of age. The very next day, I bought my first Christmas tree.

Now it may not seem to some that buying a Christmas tree should be that big of a deal.

After all, according to the National Christmas Tree Association (yes, there is such a group), Americans bought an estimated 24 million real Christmas trees this past holiday season, making it the second year in a row the number of trees purchased went up from the previous year.

Until this year, however, I had not bought one. In fact, until a few weeks ago, I didn't even celebrate Christmas at all.

Didn't get a tree, didn't send out Christmas cards, didn't buy presents for my family and friends.

Instead, year after year, I simply pretended Christmas didn't exist.

And for years, my friends—and, later, my wife—put up with my little seasonal eccentricity.

They didn't have much choice, seeing how I would regularly rail against what I saw to be the hypocrisy of the holiday.

Thrust a gaily-colored Christmas cookie in my direction, and you'd probably hear me rant about how ludicrous I thought it was that people got together to celebrate a season of brotherhood and friendship only once a year.

Buy me a present, and you'd likely hear how I thought supporting multinational corporations that made billions in profits from sweatshop labor was morally wrong.

Try to corner me under the mistletoe after a few too many eggnogs and you'd run the risk of getting a lecture about the gender inequalities inherent in dominant social structures of late-stage capitalist societies.

OK, OK—very few people actually tried to corner me under

the mistletoe. But you get the idea.

All of that may be changing, however. I embarked on a journey this year intending to make peace with Christmas.

Some of this is due to my wife, who, having suffered through enough holiday seasons with her collection of antique Christmas ornaments safely tucked away in boxes, finally decided to make me confront what I was avoiding.

Some of it is due to the numerous friends who love me enough that they ignored my embarrass-

son trolling the aisles of some brightly-lit shopping mall, desperately searching for the perfect gift while listening to piped-in Christmas carols and running up credit card bills.

And I didn't have to feel guilty because I wouldn't squeeze myself into an overpriced airline seat for hours on end to visit relatives I don't like, or berate myself for not getting around to writing thank-you cards for presents I didn't like or never used.

Instead, I've come to realize that Christmas can be what I want



KRT

ment at receiving presents to buy them for me anyway.

And some of it, thankfully, has come from the realization that just because millions of Americans pervert the true meaning of Christmas doesn't mean I have to.

Millions of Americans may celebrate Christmas each year by going on an orgy of crass commercialism, blaspheming the religious meaning of the holiday by decorating their lawns with inflatable Jesuses and using the idea of Santa Claus as a bargaining chip to control their unruly children, but that didn't mean I had to do the same.

Nor did I have to spend the sea-

son to be, and not what others think it should.

That means, if I want Christmas Day to be nothing more than a quiet holiday of good friends, good food and a reflection on blessings received—along with a little dreaming of a more just, secure and hopeful world of the future—then that's what I'll do.

And so buying that Christmas tree was an important first step.

As it turned out, a test of my newfound belief about Christmas came only a few minutes after my wife and I stepped onto the Christmas tree lot, tucked away in the back of our local flower and garden store.

While we were looking at trees, a young man who worked there came up to us, bright smile on his face and cheerful lilt in his voice. Around 30 years old, he was dressed warmly against the biting December wind, and seemed to know an awful lot about trees. Within seconds, he became our own personal tree shopper.

Picking up tree after tree, he helpfully spun them around, showing exactly how much room each type of tree would take up in our front room.

When we couldn't decide, he took us back again and again to those trees we thought we liked, and answered our basic questions about how to care for them without rolling an eye or looking like he was only interested in getting to the next customer.

Finally, after almost half an hour, we were stumped, unable to choose between the Noble Fir and the Scotch Pine. Right around the time I began to think he was going to push us to buy the more expensive Noble Fir he described as "rare" and "beautiful," he gave us that look that made it seem like he was going to tell us a secret.

"Uh-oh," I said to myself. "Here it comes—the sales pitch."

"You guys look like you're cold," he said, putting the tree down and pointing toward the warm store across the parking lot.

"Why don't we take a break? There's coffee and cookies inside. And I'll be here when you're ready. No reason to get frostbite just to buy a tree, now, is there?"

And, for that moment, I felt my cynicism melt away and I believed him. To my surprise, someone was being nice to us right around Christmas, and he wasn't worried about whether we would buy something from him.

Instead, he just wanted us to be happy and warm.

And there were cookies involved.

After all, isn't that what Christmas is all about?

## Baseball's deception digs deep

By Andrew Greiner  
Editor-in-Chief

*I see great things in baseball. It's our game—the American game.*

—Walt Whitman, 1819-1892.

Back when Whitman, one of America's greatest poets, was alive, baseball was still just a game.

Unfortunately, that's no longer true. Instead, it's a multibillion-dollar enterprise.

For this reason alone, the recent allegations of steroid use by the game's most prolific sluggers are going to be swept under the carpet.

San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds, New York Yankees stars Jason Giambi and Gary Sheffield, and three other major league baseball players are reported to have received steroids

from BALCO, a California nutritional supplement lab. The accusations surfaced as a result of leaked testimony from a federal investigation into doping in sports.

But, despite the shock of the truth finally coming out, it seems there is little danger that anything serious will result.

Bonds will not have his records revoked, nor will he have an asterisk placed next to his performance statistics, because tarnishing the image of America's pastime is bad for business.

And here's why: Baseball is still America's game, like Whitman noted so many years ago, but it is not an elixir for our culture.

Baseball does not cure what ails us—it is what ails us.

Baseball is a reflection of America: a game dominated by greed and exorbitant salaries, with players who will lie and

cheat to get ahead.

And the commissioner of Major League Baseball, Bud Selig, isn't going to do a damn thing about it.

On the other hand, can you blame him?

Ticket sales are up. Nielsen ratings are up. Revenues are up. As a result, Selig's position seems to be: If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

And just because some drug manufacturer's representative sold a few players some "questionable" substances doesn't mean that anything is broken.

People want to see what they love about baseball—home runs.

That's how baseball was saved in 1998, back when it was suffering from a decline in ratings after a strike and suggestions it was no longer "America's pastime."

Remember Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire's thrilling home-run derby that ended up in the record books?

At the time, McGwire admitted to using the muscle-enhancing drug androstenedione, but the admission was generally swept under the rug. And Sosa? Well, his body sure does seem a lot smaller this year.

As for the latest round of scandals, Major League Baseball is sure to let the rumors fizzle and the media hoopla die.

In fact, there is no way that Bonds will be reprimanded. He is the poster boy for baseball: a hulking, cheating, extremely rich, moody man who smashes home runs with impressive power just about every time someone gets up the nerve to pitch to him.

That means, for as long as he wants, or until the fans themselves turn against him, Bonds will be up at the plate, swinging. And Americans will be in the stands, or at home, being lied to.

And liking it.

## Roamin' Numerals

\$20,000

Amount Albuquerque, N.M., resident Steve Barreras paid in child support for a nonexistent child as part of a fraud perpetrated by his ex-wife, Viola Trevino. Last month, a state district judge ruled the child did not exist.

610 lbs.

The amount of marijuana found by Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers hidden in four caskets being hauled in a truck stopped near Salisaw, Okla.

10,000

The number of recruits by which the U.S. National Guard has fallen short in reaching its 2004 recruitment goals due to the war in Iraq, as reported in December by Agence France-Presse.

## Choice Cuts

“Security at Newark Airport is of the highest caliber.”

Ann Davis, a spokeswoman for the federal Transportation Security Administration, after security screeners at Newark Liberty International Airport lost a bag in December containing fake explosives used to test the airport's bomb-detection system.

“This doesn't show our families the respect they deserve.”

Army Spc. Ivan Medina of New York, referring to a letter, signed by a machine, informing him that his twin brother, Irving, was killed in a roadside bombing in Iraq, as quoted last month in the Stars and Stripes newspaper.

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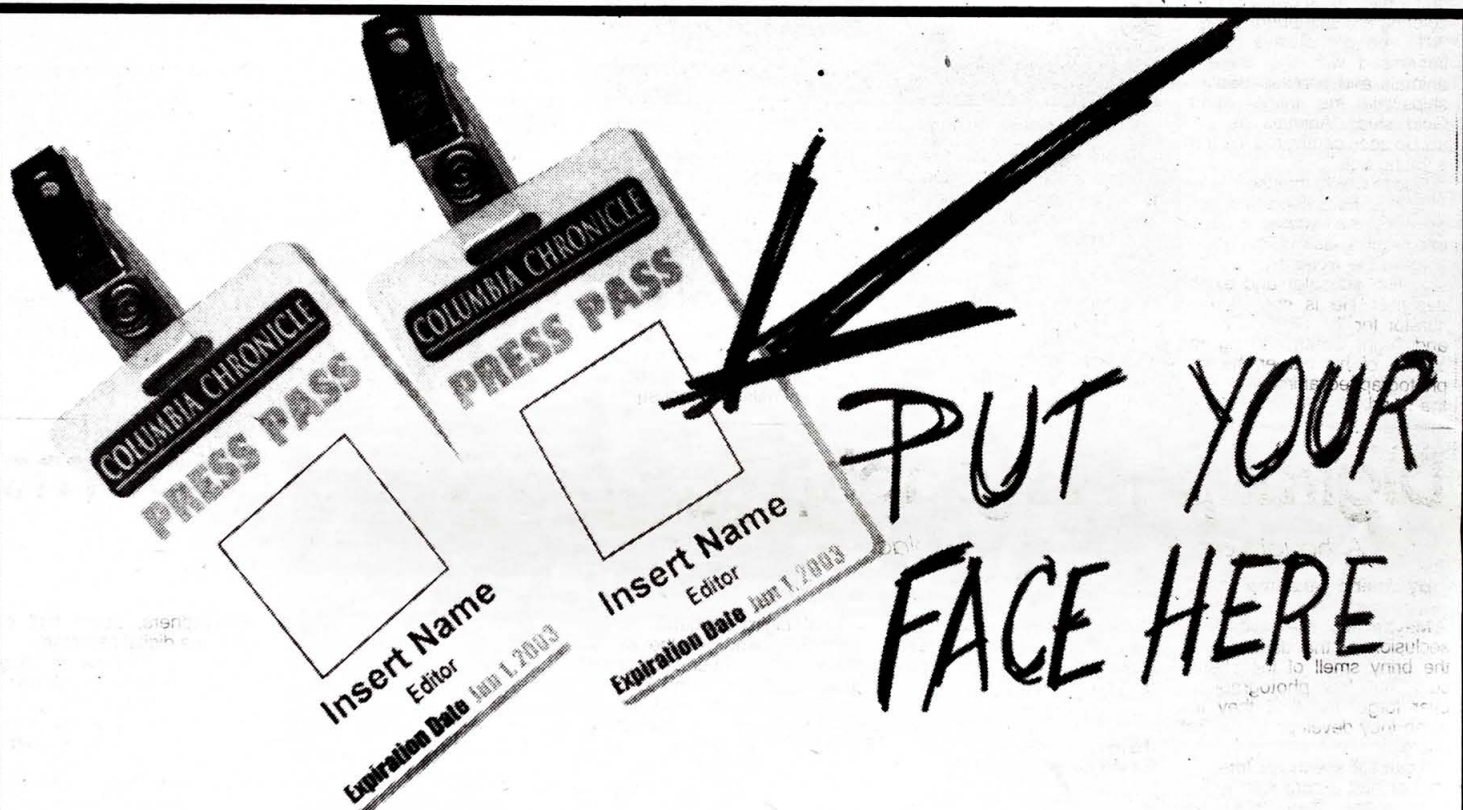
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## Animalistic photography

Ken Gold examines animals' role with photos

By Sarah Hetland/Staff Writer

There definitely isn't a lot of humor in Ken Gold's photography, but a lot of reality. And reality is exactly what Gold strives to produce with his exhibit "An Examination of the Roles Animals Play in Contemporary Society," which is on display at the Schopf Gallery, 942 W. Lake St., through Jan. 14.

Gold has no formal photography training. His talents in black and white darkroom and hand coloring are self-taught.

"I have always been impressed with the allure of animals and peoples' relationships with the animal world," Gold said. "Animals as pets and in zoos captivated me from a young age."

Due to Gold's intense interest in animal behavior, specifically primates, he became a primatologist. He has worked in zoos all over the world as a curator, scientist, educator and exhibit designer. He is currently the curator for the Singapore Zoo and Night Safari. During the course of his career, he has photographed animals all over the world.



'Orphaned Moose,' on display through Jan. 14, is far from Bullwinkle.

Gold said primates are the hardest subject to photograph because they move so fast, making it difficult to capture a good image. He said it's sometimes frustrating to work with animals because everything happens so quickly, he often misses good moments.

For the past five years Gold has been interested in publicly displaying his photography and finally got the opportunity,

thanks in part to support from a grant he received from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs in 2003.

Gold explained that through his art he strives to evoke feelings, whether it be curiosity, empathy, happiness or even pain.

"I want to challenge the viewer to think about their own personal everyday relationships with animals, as consumers,

users or stewards, and their comfort levels in these roles," Gold said.

According to Lynn M. Schubert, the director of the Schopf Gallery, Gold's work sits on the edge of art.

"His images instruct and inform us of worlds we are not privy to and remind us to look deeper when considering our relationships to animals everyday," she said.

Schubert said Gold's experience as a curator and his work as an advocate for animal treatment with the American Humane Society give him a one-of-a-kind perspective.

"Ken's lens subtly conveys humanity and compassion while capturing the seedier side of the use and abuse of animals today," Schubert said.

Viewers can see this darker side in one photograph titled, "Hands," taken at the San Diego Zoo in 1990. It shows the hands of orangutans reaching through the bars of their cage. At first glance it could pass for a jail cell with the hands of men poking through.

Not all of Gold's work is grim; he also captures a lighter side of animal and human interaction. One photograph titled, "The Pickpocket," shows an old man holding a camera with a cigar hanging from his mouth. The man appears caught off-guard while a monkey attempts to reach in and pull something from his coat pocket.

In addition to his other work, Gold helps the American Humane Film and TV unit as a field representative, monitoring the care and use of animals in entertainment. He has worked on several television shows and movies, including, "Angel," "Terminator 3," "The Ladykillers" and "Cheaper by the Dozen."

Gold plans to focus more on his art in the future and has begun photographing digitally in order to enhance his conventional photographs in new ways.

The exhibit runs through Jan. 14 at the Schopf Gallery, 942 W. Lake St. For more information call (312) 432-1630.

## Digital photography lightens up darkrooms

Although digital cameras are replacing film, some photographers are still doing it in the dark

By Valerie Takahma/The Orange County Register

Maybe it's the womb-like seclusion of the darkroom or the briny smell of the chemicals, but few photographers ever forget the thrill they felt when they developed their first photo.

"I can still see the picture. My mother had a coat with a raccoon collar. 'Gee, that's my mother,'" said Eugene Lally, 70, of Mission Viejo, Calif.

Mark Angus, 51, of Laguna Beach, Calif., remembers a similar moment during a photo class at Orange Coast College about 10 years ago.

"You look at a piece of paper in this soup, and all of a sudden, this image magically appears. It's very cool," he said.

Lally and Angus are serious amateur photographers a generation apart who got hooked on the possibilities of the medium in that moment. But with the popularity of digital cameras and computer programs like Adobe Photoshop, today's photographers will experience a different sort of "aha!" moment.

"When you can turn something into a posterization or make it look like a watercolor, it's a tremendous lift," said Chauncey Bayes, a graphic designer and photographer who teaches at OCC. "It's exciting. They almost become snake-bit."

While nobody is saying that film is dead, the days of daguerreotypes (14th century photographic images)—not just yet, anyway—the triumph of digital is nearly a fait accompli.

Last year, digital cameras outsold traditional cameras for

the first time, and more than 40 percent of U.S. households are expected to own digital cameras by the end of this year.

One clearer sign of film's demise: Eastman

Kodak stopped making the slide projector altogether this year. Soon, only purists and artists will use the old technology.

"I'm sure there will be people who hang onto traditional, wet photography for quite a while, but I think if you were to survey universities and colleges, fewer and fewer are putting an emphasis on wet photography and more on digital," said Steve Thomas, curator of collections at the UCR/California Museum of Photography.

"Kodak is no longer producing black-and-white paper," he said. "Those photographers who are still doing black and white have to give up the 'big yellow god.' The whole industry is shifting that way, much to the dismay of the disgruntled traditionalists."

Until digital cameras dominate the market in the same way that CDs overtook record albums, there's bound to be a period of turbulence in the collective cultural consciousness.

As more and more digital images are sent as e-mails, people miss flipping

through a photo album with a friend. And as fewer photos are printed, stored in their envelopes in a shoebox, there's less chance of coming across them spontaneously and reliving forgotten moments of that trip to Italy or a family celebration.

Perhaps the slow fade-to-black of the old technology has registered most strongly among photographers themselves.

Lally, a retired aeronautics engineer at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, Calif., started taking pictures more than 50

years ago when his grandmother gave him a Brownie Box camera. Now he's an accomplished photographer specializing in landscapes and American Indian subjects. He stands by film.

In his opinion, film is not only technically superior—it offers better color, especially the red tones, higher resolution and no capture-delay problems—but it's unsurpassed in abstract ways, as well.

"The thing I like about slides, there's a certain romance to them," said Lally, whose work has been exhibited at Soka University in Aliso Viejo and whose articles on photography are published in academic journals on

photographers, about half of whom use digital cameras.

"At night, when the shooting is done," he said, "I come back and I have loads of film. I put it away. I say, let's go walk around. They say, no, we're going back to the motel, and we're downloading our images onto our laptop. ... I'm out there communing with nature and these guys are playing with zeroes and ones."

Even more disheartening, he said, is that photographers have begun to accuse each other of doctoring their work on the computer.

"People look at that and say, you really cranked your colors up in Photoshop," he said, pointing to a photo with strong red tones and a dramatic, darkening sky taken at Yellowstone National Park.

"It was pretty aggravating at first because I'm not fudging the colors at all. If there were a contrail running through there, I wouldn't have taken the picture."

Not everyone shares Lally's romantic notions about slides and film.

Angus, who earns his living making and repairing guitars is wild for digital. In the past couple of years, he's sold his film cameras, permanently dismantled the darkroom he used to set up in his bathroom,

archaeology.

"These slides mean even more now than they ever did."

The slides are not only more concrete than digital images, they're less hassle to manage, he said. As proof, he recounts photo excursions with fellow





# Resolve This!

BY JAMIE MURNANE/A&E EDITOR



It's that time of year again—the beginning. It's time to start fresh and hope that this year is better than the last, something we all tend to do no matter how good our previous year was. It's time to take down the Christmas tree (unless you prefer stepping on dried pine needles for a couple more months) and face the year with a new, more positive outlook. In other words, it's New Year's resolution time—a time when people make and break unreasonable promises to themselves, and in turn, those around them. Suckers.

The last time I actually made a New Year's resolution that I stuck to was three years ago. I resolved to never make a New Year's resolution again.

This year, I've decided to change it up a bit and come up with an alternative to the empty promises that give people so much unneeded anxiety—they're New Year's "anti-lutions."

That is, instead of telling myself that I'll do things like lose weight, drink less, study more or remember to do yoga, the pressure is alleviated. I don't have to feel disappointed

in myself every day I forget to salute the sun or read for my gen. ed. class. If I don't promise anything, no promises will be broken. So I've decided any "promises" I make should be ones I don't even have to try to keep.

Here's a few examples:

**Be more social.** This doesn't necessarily mean to get over my initial shyness when meeting people. It just means I should hang out with my current friends more often. And not be afraid to have a few more drinks with them.

**Change my diet.** I don't really intend on trying to lose weight; I'm fine with how I am. I just think it's time to stop eating Potbelly every day for lunch. I should really try Jimmy John's—or maybe Subway.

**Be more cultured.** This means I should really try to find a way to afford to go to more concerts and movies, not to mention buying more books and foreign films on DVD. Perhaps I can talk to my family accountant and see what kind of tax write-offs are available for people trying to invest in their worldliness.

**Balance my budget.** I've realized that last year, I spent far too much money on media, such as CDs and magazines, instead of on clothing, which is normally my No. 1 shopping priority. While bill collectors are calling me no less than twice a day, I've decided I really need to balance my budget, or, balance the spending of my budget. I should be spending equal amounts of money on everything. So, this year, every time I purchase a new CD, I will try my best to also buy a new T-

shirt to maintain a delicate balance.

**Learn to deal with stress.** A low tolerance for stress coupled with an utter lack of patience runs in my family, and I just have to learn to live with it. This year, however, I should really try to find a way to alleviate the stress in my life. I figure the best way to do this, for me, is to just stay in bed all day and hire someone to bring me food, drinks and one of the many books that have been piling up on my shelves for months. I'm sure my family will be fine with me never getting a real job—they love paying for my new apartment; it's so nice.

**Quit smoking.** This one should be easy, since I don't actually smoke. Unless you count the occasional social cigarette. But I don't.

**Watch more TV.** Most people feel guilty for watching too much TV, while I feel bad for not watching enough. And in my line of work, lack of TV awareness could be a problem. I should really be setting the alarm on my television to wake me up to E! so I can catch up on what's happening in the entertainment world. Of course, this will be much easier when my roommate and I actually get cable installed in our new apartment. I mean, really, I've only seen "The O.C." once this season. I'm completely out of the loop.

I'm sure I could come up with a million more "anti-lutions" to ensure that I will have a better year than last, but this is a good place to start. I suggest some of you follow my example and take the pressure off yourselves.

THISWEEKINA&E

MONDAY

"The Best of The Second City" at Second City, 1616 N. Wells St. 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

"Monty Python's Spamalot" starring David Hyde Pierce, Tim Curry and Hank Azaria at The Shubert Theatre, 22 W. Monroe St. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Chicago Dance Practice Night at Chicago Dance, 3660 W. Irving Park Road. 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Rollo Tomasi, Twin Wrecks the Memory, Mt. St. Helens at Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

"Found: The Magazine, The Stuff" exhibit at Intuit, 756 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The Reputation, Bang! Bang!, Hanalei at Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 10 p.m.

SATURDAY

The Dog and Everything, Empeyrean, Ludo, Lovedrug at Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 6 p.m.

SUNDAY

Chicago music journalist John Corbett leads a discussion on his documentary film about reggae producer Lee "Scratch" Perry at Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St. 5 p.m.

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## WHOSAID?

What's your New Year's resolution?

1. "I think I'll try to complete my album."
2. "I'm a vegetarian, and this year I'm going to go vegan."
3. "I need to stop having unprotected sex with people I don't know."
4. "I'm just going to change my style."



Whitney Cullens  
Freshman  
Graphic Design



John Logan  
Sophomore  
Fiction Writing



Spike Mayer  
Freshman  
Media Management



Linda Molloy  
Freshman  
Cultural Studies

Answers: 1-B, 2-D, 3-C, 4-A.



# 'Dip' into adultery, murder and satire

By Adam J. Ferington/Associate Editor

Early on in Carl Hiaasen's latest book, *Skinny Dip*, heroine Joey Perrone finds herself naked and hanging on for dear life after a murder attempt by her husband, Chaz, on their second wedding anniversary sends her tumbling over the side of a cruise ship.

However, Joey, a former champion swimmer, manages to keep herself afloat on the rough southern Florida waves bordering the Atlantic until she is scooped up by semi-hermit and full-time crank Mick Stranaham. After being nursed back to health, Joey persuades Mick to help her scheme a plan for revenge against her dimwit and skirt-chasing "ex"-husband. And thus begins the game.

*Skinny Dip* isn't a murder mystery, at least not in the literal sense, because despite how vigorously the characters try to kill each other, they always end up failing miserably.

On the surface, *Skinny Dip* is a satire—although, not in the incisive, subtle vein of Mark Twain, or the overly nasty strokes of Jonathan Swift, but a satire nonetheless. At its core, it's a fresh memorandum in Hiaasen's love letter to Florida, muggy, alligator infested swamp that it is.

While the extremities of *Skinny Dip* are in themselves fictional, the heart of it beats out a purely sentimental cadence for the real state.

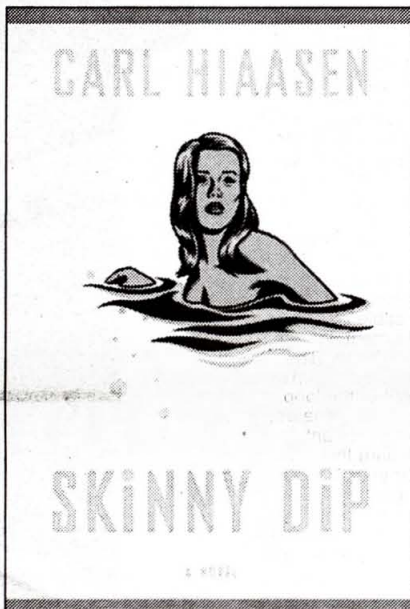
Journalist by trade and Floridian by fault, Hiaasen weaves what can only be classified as a morality tale around Joey's poorly constructed blackmail scheme, predicting both the faults and triumphs that come along the way.

Hiaasen's strength lies in his ability to construct what some might call "caricatures of humanity," but his unrestrained depictions of behaviors that can only be described as strange and sordid have a warmth and resonance despite their bizarre trappings. And while each of the characters is memorable—

Chaz, Joey's macho "ex"-husband and nimrod biologist; O'Toole, the excessively hairy former crew boss with an addiction to pain patches; Red Hammernut, a redneck intent on draining the wetlands for further expansion of his migrant farms and Karl Rolvaag, a transplanted Minnesota detective with two pet boa constrictors—it's Florida that comes out as the book's real character.

It would be easy to criticize Hiaasen for continuing to dust off an old chestnut, but the old axiom of "a good writer writes what he knows" stands on its own here, despite this being his 10th novel set in the Sunshine State.

No discerning reader would mistake *Skinny Dip* as a serious meditation on environmental squalor or political corruption, despite Hiaasen's extensively researched histories, but it certainly comes off as less shrill than a Greenpeace meeting, and loads more fun.



## Digital Continued from Page 19

and invested in a new digital camera, a PC, a scanner and a printer.

"I can take pictures, go in the house, print out a picture in five minutes," said Angus, who shoots weddings and takes portraits part time.

"It takes an hour to get your film developed. And then you've got a tree growing out of some guy's head. Well, I can make that tree disappear. Right away."

John Hesketh, a photographer who teaches at OCC, embraces new technology as a liberating force.

"Photography as we know it is dead," he said. "Almost the same way that the 500-year tradition of painting became a dead issue in 1836 when photography was invented."

"The ability to show realism and that truth was handed to photography, and painting had to reinvent itself. If it wasn't for the camera, the Impressionists, the Cubists, the Abstract Expressionists wouldn't exist."

In a way, Jerry Burchfield was searching for the photographic equivalent of a new Impressionism or Cubism when he organized the "Phone Camera/Camera Phone" exhibition at Cypress College and put out a call for submissions of snapshots taken with phone cameras this fall.

Burchfield, a photographer and director of the college's photography gallery, compares today's camera phones to the cheap toy camera called the Diana that

artists used to take intriguing photos in the 1970s.

"They were out of focus, they had light leaks and other problems. Yet people were able to make serious art works with them," he said. "They opened the door to images that had a wonderful character to them if you used it right."

He also saw the low-resolution camera phones as an alternative to the high-tech focus in photography today.

"One thing that's happened with digital, is there is such an emphasis on the technology and getting better and better stuff," he said. "How many mega-pixels does your camera have? When in reality, this toy-like, low-resolution image can produce high-quality art that has character and magic on their own. The idea is to acknowledge that not everything has to be high-tech."

He distributed about 500 fliers calling for entries and had high hopes for "a diverse group of images and a fairly broad response" since he sees students using their camera phones everywhere.

Instead, he got three submissions. He blamed the low response to users' problems with printing the phone snapshots, either because they don't know how or they don't have the equipment.

"I think any print-making tool has the potential to produce creative work, but the industry seems to be ignoring that potential," Burchfield said.

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# An 'engaging' war/love story

By Todd Burbo/ Assistant A&E Editor

At first glance, it is hard not to compare French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet's latest picture, *A Very Long Engagement*, with his last film, 2001's *Amelie*.

Both stories center around a young woman's efforts to find love, and both heroines are played by the remarkably charismatic Audrey Tautou, but the similarities end there.

From the first frame of *A Very Long Engagement*, it is apparent that Jeunet wasn't interested in cloning *Amelie*, despite its five Oscar nominations and worldwide success.

The film's opening credits foreshadow its darkness; names are projected over rain-splashed and rusty sheet metal amid flickering lights—stark images of wartime devastation.

Following the credits, viewers are immediately pulled into the story of five condemned French soldiers in World War I. Each is being court-martialed for self-mutilation—a crime brutally illustrated by five scenes in which the men find singular ways to shoot themselves in the hand.

Their hopes of being sent home with minor injuries are quickly destroyed as the Army, wise to such bailout strategies, places them under arrest. As punishment, they're brought to the frontlines, sent over the trenches weaponless and left for dead. The method of execution proves inefficient, and their individual fates become unknown, driving the remainder

of the film's story: the search for possible survivors.

The youngest of the condemned soldiers, Manech (Gaspard Ulliel), has left behind a young fiancée named Mathilde (Tautou). When informed of Manech's death, Mathilde refuses to believe it, and launches an exhaustive investigation to find him from her parents' home in the French countryside.

When described in a nutshell the story seems clichéd: a young couple separated by war; a woman fighting the odds to reunite with her fiancé. If made in America, the cast would likely have included Ben Affleck and Sarah Michelle Gellar and been completely trite.

Jeunet brings enough grit and subtle humor to the story to avoid sappiness, even during flashbacks of the protagonists meeting and falling in love. Despite having an outstanding cast, he never relies too heavily on them. His cinematography is always top-notch, with beautiful shots that, in addition to telling a love story, compose a compelling antiwar drama.

The film alternates between two starkly different moods, each strictly following its own color palette: the dark, wet and muddy trenches of World War I, and the warm, beautiful French countryside.

As the movie wears on, the opposing sets begin a gradual shift toward each other, with

Mathilde's search bringing her from the countryside to the slightly grittier streets of Paris, with images of the war flashing back from the frontlines to more civilized, less devastated locales.

Tautou's performance is fantastic—there are only a handful of actresses in the world with

such a dynamic screen presence. Her dark eyes and soft features seem overly cute at first glance, but upon further inspection betray strength and determination. Like in *Amelie*, her character tends to be shy, but stubborn when pushed.

After seeing both performances, one can't help but feel that they'd be familiar with Tautou's off-screen per-

sona. She has a way of portraying an intimate connection, a subtlety that fans feel like they alone have noticed.

Like Scarlett Johansson's turn in *Lost in Translation*, Tautou's performance in *Amelie* made the world fall in love with her. She is just as likeable as Mathilde, wearing period clothing and walking with a polio-induced limp. Her audience will undoubtedly expand once more.



Clockwise from left: Mathilde's investigation leads to Paris; the devastation of war; Manech in Germany; Mathilde awaiting his return.



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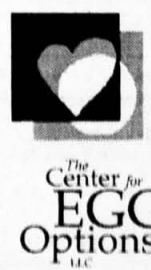
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# High school drama

By Trish Bendix/Assistant A&E Editor

Chicago high school students are getting a chance to craft their playwriting skills through the Annual Young Playwrights Festival. Students, with the assistance of the Pegasus Players, a local acting troupe, wrote one-act plays for the annual contest, which offers the young playwrights a chance to see their words come to life.

The 19th Annual Young Playwrights Festival received more than 600 submissions this year and will present the four winning plays during the month of January at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St.

"[The selection] is an enormous process," said Alex Levy, artistic director for Pegasus Players. "The entries go out, initially, to dozens of readers—generally theater professionals and those who work with youth for a living."

The professionals hand in a comment page, offering feedback to Pegasus.

After Levy reads the top half of the comment pages, the entries are narrowed to honorable mentions and finalists, and there are staged readings of the finalists' work.

"The finalists are able to come that night and see a panel of 12 to 15 people—theater professionals—perform the readings on stage," Levy said. "They act as a sort of jury."

As part of the Young Playwrights Festival, the Pegasus Players visit more than 70 Chicago Public Schools to educate students on writing plays. The yearlong festival culminates with the monthlong productions of the finalists' plays.

"They're an incredibly diverse group, from across the city and ethnic and economic backgrounds," Levy said of the participants. "All four plays are from public schools, which is the first time ever [in this contest]."

Nikhar Ahmed's winning play "Waking Up" is about, as she said, "a girl coping with the death of her brother and her own struggles."

Ahmed graduated from Northside College Preparatory High School last year and is now double majoring in international studies and political science, with a minor in communications, at Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

"I haven't been able to be too involved [with the rehearsals]," she said. "I'm as involved as one can be while not in Chicago. I've been e-mailing with the director back and forth. [I'm] on the phone scheduling and there are daily e-mails of progress and what's been going on in rehearsal, what the directors and actors have accomplished."

"It changes from student to

student, based on availability," Levy said of the students' involvement with the productions. "Most of them write the plays during their senior year of high school. The rehearsals are falling on Christmas break so all of them are involved in some sense."

Ahmed, like the others, wrote



her one-act play as a requirement for a class.

Imani Josey, who now attends Howard University in Washington, D.C. had her play "Grace" selected for the Playwrights Festival, as well.

"[Grace] is mainly about choices," Josey said. "Choices you make while growing up."

"The main character is 17 and she's trying to decide if she wants to leave home. Her background is a little different because she's adopted. She's confused about identity, finding love, leaving home, understanding."

Each of the plays are coming-of-age stories that pull out aspects of the writers' lives and put them on display.

"They're all very complex, well thought out plays ... dealing with transitions that people make from young adulthood into adulthood," Levy said.

Jose Requena, a graduate of Whitney Young Magnet High School, wrote his autobiographical play "Bowlderism" about the strain of acceptance on art.

"It's about a guy named Jose trying to be a writer," Requena said. "It's more or less about me. [Jose] is trying to write a play that everybody will like and be successful, but in doing that, listens to this imaginary agent, who tries to tell him how to promote himself, an imaginary audience member, who is speaking for what the audience wants to see. Then he starts hearing this film critic, who tells him what is artistic and what's right and what has been done. Throughout the play, he ends up writing about something he knows nothing about and doesn't like, but it eventually turns into a movie script because that's what's the most popular."

Requena is undeclared at University of Illinois at Chicago, though he said he's "fairly certain" he'll change his major to English. "Bowlderism" was his first attempt at playwriting, but Requena said he also writes short stories.

The fourth winner, Karina Hurtado, won for her play "Shattered Reflections," which

she wrote as a senior at Schurz High School. As the only one of the four finalists who found out about the contest on her own, Hurtado said she plans on continuing to write plays after she graduates from Wright Community College, where she's majoring in science.

Ahmed, Requena, Josey and Hurtado also each won \$350 and are entered into a national contest to compete for a college scholarship, as well as a week-long arts program in Miami, and the chance to go to Washington, D.C. to become a presidential scholar.

The cast for the 19th Annual Young Playwrights Festival including actors from Pegasus Players Ron Conner; Santa Leal; Taj McCord; Jamie Parker; Paul Pierro; Kristala Pouncy; Charlette Speiger; Juan Villa and Erik Walker.

The Young Playwrights Festival runs Jan. 6 through Jan. 30. Performances will be Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. There will be no performance on Jan. 14, but there will be one on Jan. 11 in its place. Tickets are \$12 and available by calling (773) 878-9761 or by visiting the box office one hour prior to show time at the Chicago Cultural Center.

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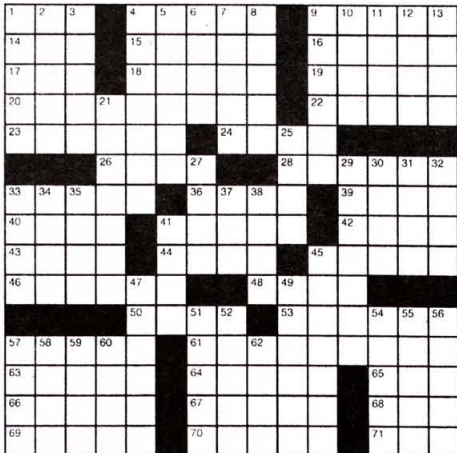
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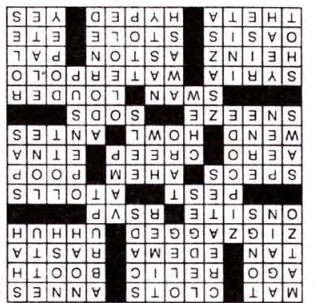
- ACROSS
- 1 Table protector
  - 4 Coagulates
  - 9 Baxter and Boleyn
  - 14 Back when
  - 15 Artifact
  - 16 Fair stall
  - 17 Light brown
  - 18 Swelling
  - 19 Dreadlocks wearer
  - 20 Took evasive action
  - 22 Yep!
  - 23 Type of inspection
  - 24 Invitation letters
  - 26 Nuisance
  - 28 Coral islands
  - 33 Eyeglasses, informally
  - 36 Attention-getter
  - 39 Inside info
  - 40 Prefix with dyne or drome
  - 41 Scuzzball
  - 42 Sicilian peak
  - 43 Proceed
  - 44 Wolf's wail
  - 45 Pays to play
  - 46 Nothing to \_ at
  - 48 Lays a lawn
  - 50 Type of dive
  - 53 Greater in volume
  - 57 Damascus land
  - 61 Aquatic Olympic game
  - 63 Big name in pickle packing
  - 64 \_ Martin (007's car)
  - 65 Sidekick
  - 66 Desert spring
  - 67 Ripped off
  - 68 Paris summer
  - 69 Greek letter
  - 70 Promoted to excess
  - 71 Affirmative
- DOWN
- 1 Bread for Passover
  - 2 Once more
  - 3 Sugar servers
  - 4 Invents
  - 5 Mountain climbers' rests
  - 6 Designer Cassini
  - 7 Track official
  - 8 Oodles
  - 9 Steeply inclined
  - 10 Ark patriarch
  - 11 Raid the fridge
  - 12 Caesar's penultimate words
  - 13 Former leader of Iran
  - 21 Number on a letter
  - 25 Shoe part
  - 27 Cocoyam
  - 29 Becomes candid
  - 30 Ronnie of football
  - 31 Wolf modifier
  - 32 Hot tubs
  - 33 Carpentry tools
  - 34 Hammer part
  - 35 Sea eagle
  - 37 Use an axe
  - 38 Snakelike fish
  - 41 Masticate
  - 45 Gussied up



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12/25/04

### Solutions



- 47 One Gabor
- 49 Enthusiastic corrida shout
- 51 Flooded
- 52 Spiteful
- 54 Disney dwarf
- 55 Make jubilant
- 56 Parts
- 57 Injection
- 58 Darn tootin'!
- 59 Increase
- 60 1st letter
- 62 Roof with removable panels

## Jackasses Of the Year: Parade of Fools

By Jené Shaw/Copy Editor

2004 was quite a year for the Jackasses of America. In honor of all these fine folks, The Chronicle decided to give shout outs to our favorites.

The year began with a bang when pop singer Britney Spears married childhood pal Jason Alexander in Las Vegas—a marriage which lasted a mere 55 hours.

The infamous Janet Jackson Super Bowl "wardrobe malfunction" embarrassed CBS in February, resulting in lawsuits and future changes for live televised events. Keeping it in the family, Janet's brother Michael was frequently in the news this year for fighting child molestation accusations.

Of course, who can forget the always-in-rehab Courtney Love or the slimmer-and-even-crazier Anna Nicole Smith?

The Hilton sisters astounded us again this year—multiple sex tapes from Paris and a less-than-three-month marriage by Nicky made them quite the dynamic '04 Jackass duo.

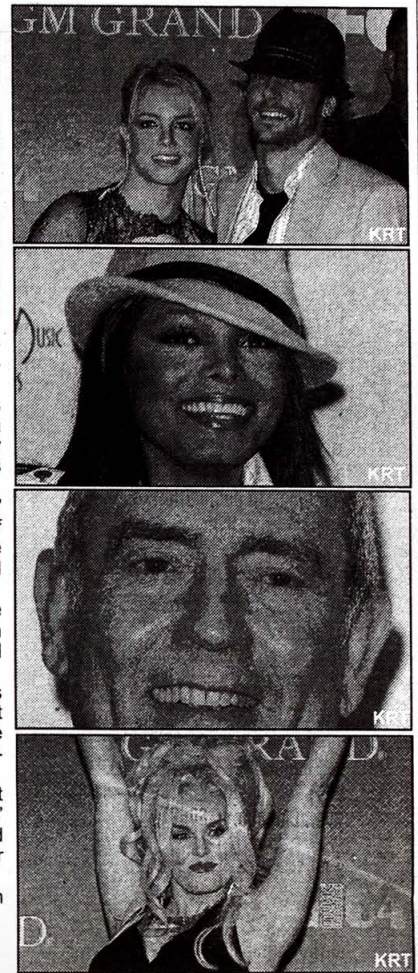
Ashlee Simpson's "Saturday Night Live" lip synching incident will go down as one of the year's funniest moments, right up there with Tara Reid's boob exposure on the red carpet.

Dan Rather and CBS's Jackass move was in September, with a report on President Bush's questionable war record put their reporting record in question.

We're sure Bill O'Reilly would love for us to forget the accusations brought against him when he supposedly had "intimate phone conversations" with a fellow employee of his Fox show "The O'Reilly Factor."

The year wouldn't be complete without our jackass sports stars—Indiana Pacers' Ron Artest for his basketball blow up and the San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds for his admitted steroid use.

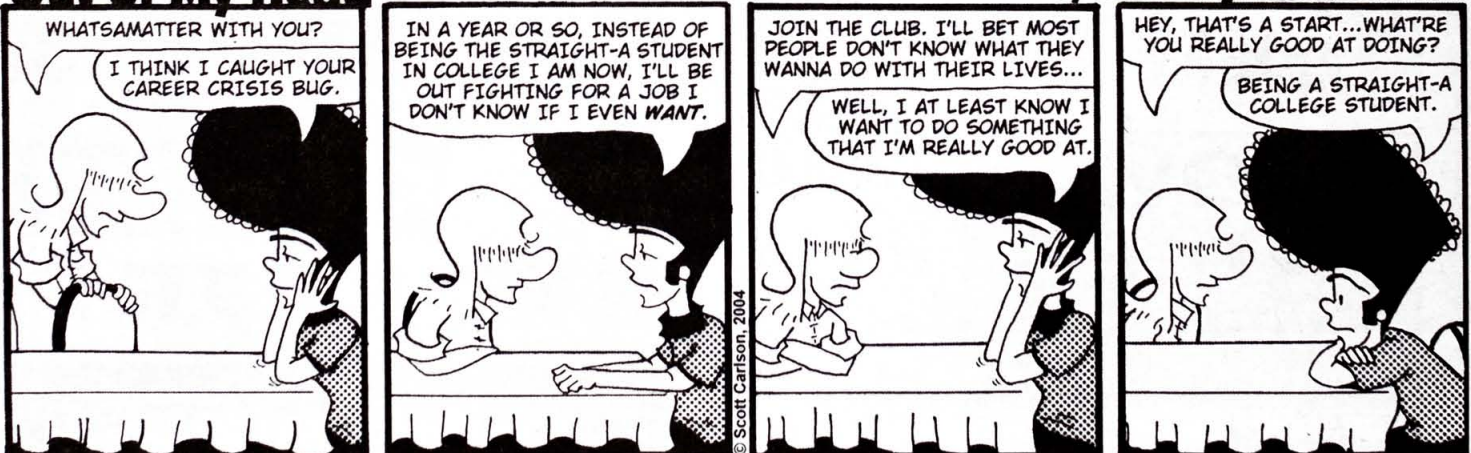
Here's to hoping 2005 will bring even more jackasses than last year!



## The Half Funny Page

### Out of My Head

by Scotty Carlson



### The Family Monster by Josh Shalek





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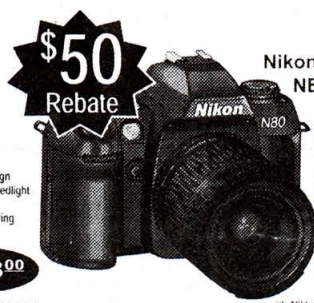


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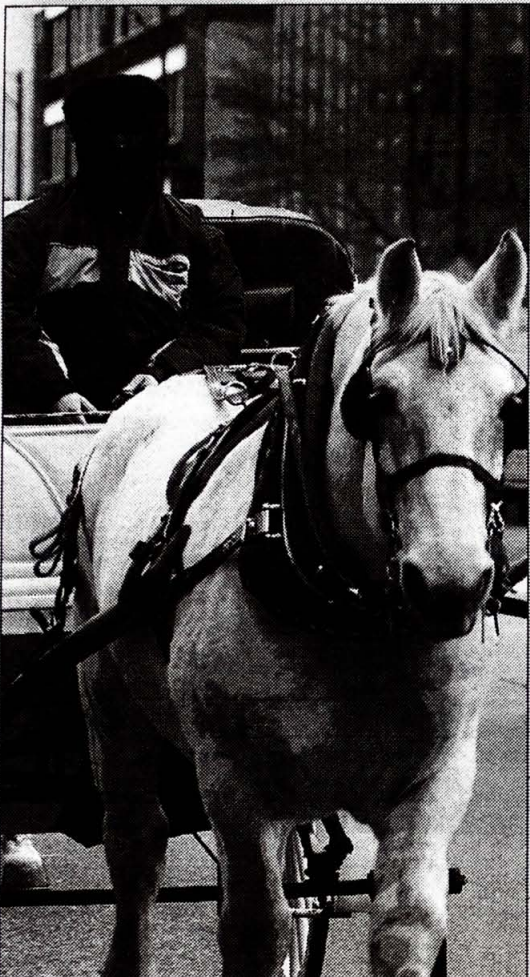
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## Trot along



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

A driver for The Noble Horse Carriage Co. bundles up to brave the frigid wind chill on the Magnificent Mile near historic Water Tower. Carriage rides are offered downtown year-round.

## 'Da Coach' becomes 'Da Owner' of Rush

○ Ditka makes move to Arena Football League

## Associated Press

Mike Ditka became a minority owner of the Chicago Rush on Dec. 16.

The Chicago icon joins the likes of fellow Pro Football Hall of Famer John Elway (Colorado) and music stars Jon Bon Jovi (Philadelphia) and Tim McGraw (Nashville) as a team owner in the indoor Arena Football League.

"I love arena football and am excited to become an owner of the Rush," Ditka said. "I have been watching as the league has turned into the fastest-growing sport in the country. Its strong ownership group and national TV contract with NBC were big influences on my decision to become involved."

"As for the Rush, over the past four years, this team has developed into one of the premier franchises in the AFL, and my goal is to help the team continue to prosper both on and off the field."

This is the first time he's been part owner of a pro-football team. Currently an ESPN football

analyst, Ditka began his NFL career in 1961 with the Bears as a first-round draft pick. Ditka spent six seasons with the Bears and was the 1961 Offensive Rookie of the Year. He played for the 1963 NFL championship team.

Ditka appeared in the Pro Bowl five times. He also played for Philadelphia and Dallas, retiring after the 1972 season. In 1988, he became the first tight end inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

He was hired as Bears coach in 1982 and led the team to the 1985 NFL championship, when he was voted Coach of the Year. He won that award again in 1988.

Ditka also coached the New Orleans Saints from 1997-99.

"What a perfect match: the man known as Iron Mike joining forces with the league known for Ironman football," said AFL commissioner David Baker.

The Rush begins its fifth season in January.



Courtesy Chicago Rush

# South Loop not as rich as report finds, officials say

○ Business magazine inaccurately uses zip codes to identify neighborhood

By Andrew Greiner  
Editor-in-Chief

A recent Crain's Chicago Business report ranked the South Loop as the second-most affluent community in the Chicagoland area. However, a small clarification about what makes up the South Loop could make those numbers incorrect.

The Nov. 29 report listed the burgeoning neighborhood among perennial north shore powerhouses, such as Kenilworth, Glencoe and Lake Forest, as the richest of the rich in Northern Illinois. Crain's listed the zip code 60604 as part of the South Loop, but area officials said it is made up of the zip codes 60605 and 60616.

"I don't consider 60604 the South Loop," said Bonnie Sanchez-Carlson, president and executive director of the Near South Planning Board. "It seems like they are stretching the boundaries a bit."

According to a zip code map of Chicago, the 60604 region predominately rests in the area known as the Loop. A sliver of the 60604 zip code actually touches the northern boundary of the South Loop, but 60604 is mainly composed of behemoth office buildings, finance companies and limited residential space.

The Crain's list shows a total of 14 renter-occupied housing units in the 60604 zip code.

But, according to Gail Lissner, vice president of Appraisal Research Counselors for the Chicago Association of Realtors, there are no small buildings in the South Loop. For example, the property at 330 S. Michigan Ave., on the border of the 60604 zip code, has 78 rental units listed.

"I know the South Loop isn't the second-richest neighborhood in Chicago, just because I know

the area," Lissner said. "I don't know how the numbers work."

Ken Hodges, chief demographer at Claritas—the market research firm that compiled the data for Crain's—said his company estimates numbers based on the most current Census data, which in this case is the 2000 Census.

"We do these for standard geographies, counties and Census tract block groups," Hodges said. "Once the esti-

**"We are seeing some very high end housing in the South Loop. Look at the mansions on Prairie Avenue—they are million-dollar-plus homes."**

**—Gail Lissner, vice president of Appraisal Research Counselors**

median household income by about \$1,700.

"The ranking is purely on median household income. There is no algorithm or formula," said Brandon Copple, assistant managing editor at Crain's Chicago Business, who put together the list. "Here's the lowest income in the community, here's the highest, and this is the middle. It's not an average."

However, a glance at the most recent Census data for the South Loop, based on the zip codes 60605 and 60616, revealed median household incomes of \$56,151 and \$30,625, respectively. A search for the disputed zip code 60604 reveals a median household income of \$31,571.

Lissner said that residents of the South Loop should not be discouraged by the news that they are not the second-richest neighborhood in Chicagoland.

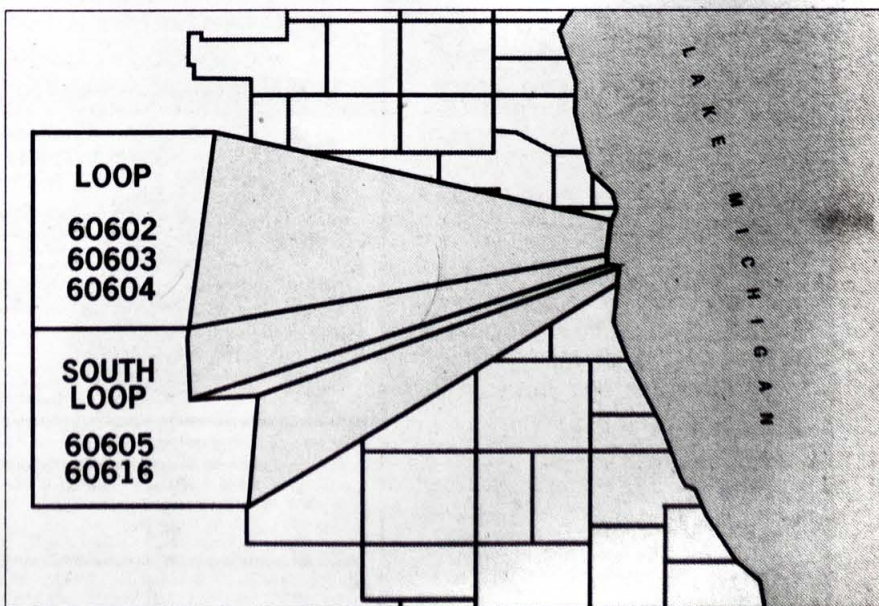
The area where Columbia sits has experienced quite a residential boom in the past few years, she said, and developers are taking notice.

"We are seeing some very high-end housing in the South Loop," Lissner said. "Look at the mansions on Prairie Avenue—they are million-dollar-plus homes."

Although she is unsure whether the South Loop will ever make Crain's list of the top 25 most affluent communities, she noted that it is an area on the rise.

"We are certainly seeing an increase in affluence in that area," Lissner said.

Last year, the list ranked the South Loop as the fifth-most affluent neighborhood in Chicagoland. Including the zip code 60604, the area had a projected median household income of \$155,882. The Crain's list of the 25 most affluent communities is published annually.



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

In a recent report, Crain's Chicago Business listed the South Loop as the second-most affluent community in the Chicagoland area. However, South Loop officials believe the publication identified the neighborhood by Loop zip codes, making the South Loop seem more wealthy than it really is.



# Mills Corp., City still working to fill empty block

○ Firm unlikely anchor for space, official says

By Alicia Dorr  
City Beat Editor

The new development plans for Chicago's empty Block 37 are the first to stay on track since 1989.

This fall the city of Chicago sold the block at 108 N. State St., at the corner of Washington and Dearborn streets, to Virginia-based Mills Corp. for a nearly \$20 million less than it was purchased for. The city shouldered the shortfall in hopes that the development of the vacant parcel would boost the street's economy.

Mills Corp. spokeswoman Aimee Thompson said the corporation does not expect the schedule for a 2007 opening to change. The first phase, developing a high-rise office space, is set to begin in

2005. The rest of the building will follow. It will include 400,000 square feet of retail space in one phase and hotel and residential units in the other. The biggest priority at the moment, according to Thompson, is getting the city's support for the design.

"We're continuing on with the plan development process and getting approval, and we're making considerable progress with that right now," Thompson said.

Mills Corp. is currently working on a deal with Lincoln Properties Co., a Dallas-based real estate developer, to build the first phase of the property, Thompson said. The office tower has no residents officially committed yet but the Chicago law firm of Seyfarth Shaw



Courtesy Mills Corp.

Plans for 108 N. State St., often called Block 37, include an office building, retail space and a hotel and residential complex.

was "pre-committed" to occupy a large portion of the space, according to published reports.

This unofficial plan hit a snag recently, possibly leaving Mills Corp. without an anchor for the

office tower. Carl Russo, a partner at Lincoln Properties, said a time constraint could keep the firm from using the space. Seyfarth's lease at its current location, 55 E. Monroe St., will be up before 2007 when the office complex is scheduled for completion. Russo said the Block 37 space is appealing because it could be tailored to the firm's needs.

"The space could be built to our specifications, and we could have a lot more say in the construction," Russo said. "It's in an exciting area."

Thompson said that possibilities of tenants for the retail space are still up in the air. The corporation would start to identify interested retailers when the approval process for the development is

completed. A Planning Department spokesperson Pete Scales could not be reached for comment.

Mills Corp. may not be seeking out possible tenants until it has approval from the city, but the corporation has found another investor for the project.

"Mills is in final negotiations for a 50-50 joint venture partnership with Kan Am," Thompson confirmed.

This will not be the first time Mills Corp. has worked with Kan Am, a real estate corporation with offices in Atlanta and Germany. The two companies have worked together on developments in Florida and elsewhere, and will continue the ongoing relationship in downtown Chicago.



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Currently the empty space of Block 37 is the site of events such as Christkindlmarket in December. Construction on the block is scheduled to begin in 2005.

## Mission *Continued from Back Page*

the mission for its proximity to downtown might not be willing to walk to 14th Place and Canal Street. But those who rely on the mission for the specific services it offers may continue to frequent the facility, even if it is farther from the Loop.

"There will always be people in an urban environment who find a way to live rough," Hoch said.

He also said he believes that no matter who accesses the Pacific Garden Mission at its new location, homeless traffic in the South Loop would likely decrease, because services for homeless people would no longer be provided in the area.

At the same time, the mission would bring more homeless people to the area around 14th Place and Canal Street, Hoch said.

Residents of the eastern part of the Pilsen neighborhood—which is several blocks from the mission's proposed new location—are concerned that an increase in homeless traffic will bring an increase in crime. This, Hoch explained, is part of the larger issue of what homeless people bring to an area.

Martha Velez, a Pilsen resident, is part of a group of nearly 20 community members who are concerned about the possible location for the Pacific Garden Mission. When the group members heard the mission might relocate near their neighborhood, they collected 120 signatures from Pilsen residents who share their apprehensions.

The group is looking to discuss the issue with 2nd Ward Alderman Madeline Haithecock, whose jurisdiction includes the South Loop, and 25th Ward Alderman Daniel Solis, who oversees Pilsen.

"I don't disagree that the mission helps people," Velez said. "As human beings, we agree there are people who need help. But we also recognize that there

are individuals who are offenders."

Velez said she and members of her community believe homeless people are responsible for several robberies that have occurred in their area. Homeless people, she explained, are believed to steal items like gutters and pipes from residents and take them to a nearby scrap yard in exchange for cash.

"It's an everyday thing," Velez said. "It's not uncommon to see someone walking through our neighborhood with a cart. It makes people apprehensive because they don't know what they'll take from them."

But McCarrell said Pilsen residents should not be worried about the mission possibly moving near their neighborhood.

The mission's goal, he explained, is to keep homeless people off the streets, and the organization could actually benefit Pilsen if the area does in fact experience the problems residents say it does.

"The mission houses homeless people who would otherwise cause problems," McCarrell said.

Shurna agreed, saying it's unfortunate that some people are uncomfortable having a homeless shelter near their homes. The Pacific Garden Mission, should it move to 14th and Canal, is looking to establish a friendly relationship with those who live in that area, he said.

Mary Ravit, a South Loop resident who lives near the mission, said Pilsen residents should learn

not to criticize homeless people and to tolerate them living nearby. She said she respects the mission and the service it provides to the community.

"This mission gets people off the streets," Ravit said. "This mission gives them dignity. People shun the homeless, but with the economy as it is now, the very ones who are criticizing the homeless could end up homeless themselves one day."

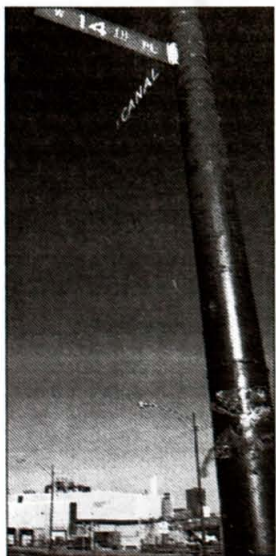
Velez said that because homeless advocates and South Loop residents like Ravit have no qualms about the mission's location on State Street, officials

should fight to keep it in the area, albeit in a different spot.

What this disagreement between neighborhoods boils down to, Hoch said, is an issue of stereotyping. If people associate a particular crime with a particular homeless person, they could apply this image to all homeless people.

Ultimately, though, Hoch said, people should consider the Pacific Garden Mission's history when they are concerned about the effect it could have on an area.

"If it had been a social threat, why didn't the city shut it down?" he said. "Is it a personal threat?"



David Maki/The Chronicle

Pilsen residents who live a few blocks from the proposed location for the Pacific Garden Mission are concerned the facility will bring more crime to their neighborhood.

## Condos *Continued from Back Page*

old railroad yard for 15 years. Some projects have been paid for by tax increment financing, which concentrates the revenue from a development into that particular area, rather than being spread around the entire city. Equity and bank financing will pay for the South Wall project, Desmond said. The influx of residents in the South Wall area is expected to stimulate the economy of the South Loop.

It is estimated that the residents may have high spending power since the units in the condos range from \$400,000 to \$1.4 million. There will also be five penthouses at \$4 million each.

The construction will not raise the property taxes of the area, Groce said.

"This is not like gentrifying an old neighborhood," Desmond said. "This is a brand new development in an area where there haven't been any taxes."

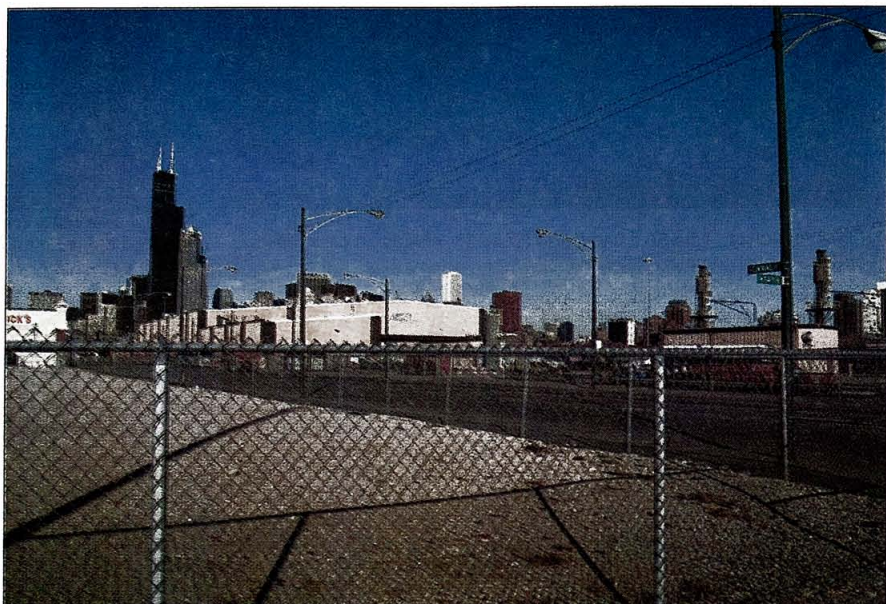
Although the South Wall will have a total of about 1,000 units, it is not expected to heavily increase traffic congestion in the area. Groce said people living in the new development will probably walk to work. And Desmond said Central Station Development has worked with the Chicago Department of Transportation to ensure traffic will not be congested.

The South Wall has inspired developments in south Grant Park, according to O'Neill. Proposals include a dog park and a skateboard park.



## DECOMMISSIONED +

the third in a three-part series



David Maki/The Chronicle

Officials from the Pacific Garden Mission are negotiating with the city and Chicago Public Schools to relocate the mission to Canal Street and 14th Place, near Pilsen. The move would allow for the mission's current neighbor, Jones College Prep, to expand.

## Sheltered Communities

*Residents and officials voice concerns over the Pacific Garden Mission's proposed move*

By Jeff Danna  
City Beat Editor

Every day around 6 p.m., the Pacific Garden Mission is packed so tightly with homeless people, a person must push through a barricade of bodies just to get in the door.

It is around this that those with no place to live make their way to the mission, looking for food and shelter. Come morning, that same crowd pushes its way out the door and onto State Street, where they disperse and wander downtown for another day, in search of work or handouts.

Such is the daily cycle at the Pacific Garden Mission, 646 S. State St. But if the mission relocates to make room for next-door neighbor Jones College Prep, 606 S. State St., to expand as proposed, some area residents question whether those who fill the mission each night would move, too.

Officials from the mission, Chicago Public Schools and the city have staked out property at 14th Place and Canal Street—several blocks southwest of the mission's current location—as a likely spot for a new, state-of-the-art facility for the shelter. Residents and officials have

mixed opinions about this proposed location.

While researchers say it is difficult to estimate the number of homeless people in Chicago, a study conducted by the city, the Chicago Continuum of Care and other organizations in spring 2004 estimated the homeless population to be about 10,000. Every night, the Pacific Garden Mission provides shelter to approximately 800.

Pacific Garden Mission President David McCarrell said he believes homeless people will opt to make the trek to the new location and make use of the services they've always received from the mission. And because the new facility is expected to be an improvement over the current one, homeless people will probably be attracted to the updated features.

But at the same time, McCarrell explained, homeless people will continue to spend their days in and around the Loop, trying to make money by working or panhandling.

Ed Shurna, executive director of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, agrees with McCarrell.

"My experience with homeless

people is that they'll walk," he said. "The Pacific Garden Mission has been in the South Loop for 80 years, and it has to go somewhere in the Loop area to carry out its mission."

Shurna said he believes the proposed location for the new facility is still close enough to downtown that its patrons will not be inconvenienced.

"The Pacific Garden Mission is unique in that, in effect, it's the last, oldest, sustainable provider of services for the homeless in the region," said Charles Hoch, a professor of urban planning at the University of Illinois at Chicago. In 2001, Hoch and other researchers at UIC conducted a study that analyzed the characteristics of Chicago's homeless population.

Hoch said that if the Pacific Garden Mission relocates, some of its current patrons would probably continue to use its services, while others would find another shelter that could suit their needs.

Whether homeless people access the mission at its new location depends on why they currently rely on it, Hoch explained. Those who depend on

## 'South Wall' to bookend Grant Park

Construction will not raise taxes, officials say

By Frank Life  
Staff Writer

A slew of new high-rises scheduled for construction at the south end of Grant Park will be the final touches to the city's front yard.

The major developments, a group of high-rises that will form what will be called the South Wall of Grant Park, are designed to bring in new residents. A \$1.6 billion project composed of four condominium buildings will be built at Roosevelt Road and Indiana Avenue with two buildings on each side of Indiana.

The design for the first building, One Museum Park Place East, was unveiled to residents, community organizations and colleges in the South Loop at a meeting on Dec. 9 sponsored by the Grant Park Advisory Council and Grant Park Conservancy. The design by Papageorge/Haymes Ltd. received positive reviews.

"I love it," said Harry Kenny, a resident from Harbor Point. "That's a paramount building and a complement to the 'bean' [in Millennium Park]."

Dennis McClendon, who represents the South Loop Neighbors group, agrees. He said he believes the building is "appropriate."

"Everyone wants to make sure

it is a good design," said Kristen Groce of the Chicago Department of Planning and Development. "I think that was the only concern with the community."

The project is seen as a wall of buildings to compliment the row of high-rises on the north end of Grant Park.

"The South Wall will anchor the south end of Grant Park and finally frame it," Bob O'Neill, of the Grant Park Conservancy, said in an e-mail.

Construction on the first building is slated for fall 2005 and will be built by Forest City Enterprises. According to B. Timothy Desmond, president of Central Station, the 65-story building will have 280 units and be entirely glazed with metal on the outside with no exposed concrete. The units will have a permanent view of Lake Michigan and Grant Park, since high-rises cannot be built in Grant Park. The building site is on the former Central Station train depot, 1211 S. Michigan Ave.

The Central Station Development Corp. has been involved in a series of developments in the 80-acre space of the

See **Condos**, Page 27



Theresa Scarbrough/The Chronicle

Four new condominiums will be built as a part of the residential development in the near the old Illinois Central railroad tracks, at Roosevelt Road and Indiana Avenue.

See **Mission**, Page 27