

9-6-2005

## Columbia Chronicle (09/06/2005)

Columbia College Chicago

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Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Allen Turner, the new chairman of Columbia's board of trustees, plans to address issues such as a student center and communication between students and administration in the coming year.

## The musical chair

### Top trustee discusses Columbia's future

By Jeff Danna  
Editor-In-Chief

When he's singing, Allen Turner does a decent Tom Waits impersonation. His original composition "Waiting for the New York Times" is a lively, silly country song in which Turner's voice resembles Waits' gruff, hoarse tone.

Allen Turner also happens to be the new chairman of

Columbia's board of trustees, replacing Bill Hood, who had held the position since 2001. As the chairman, Turner has ambitious plans for Columbia that include increasing communication between students and administration, solving the problem of limited classroom space and organizing the college's first capital campaign.

*"I want to make Columbia famous."*

—Allen Turner, chairman of Columbia's board of trustees

Turner, 68, spent the past four years as a Columbia trustee, and in May a committee of board members elected him as chairman. In addition to writing and performing original songs like "Waiting for the New York Times," which he wrote for a documentary about a small town that receives only three copies of the newspaper each week, Turner has helped raise money for

See Turner, Page 6

## 170 books ruined in library flood

By Hayley Graham  
Campus News Editor

Warped books lined the walls and covered tables in the aftermath of a flood that soaked the center of the fifth floor of Columbia's library.

A steady leak poured down for hours near the center column on the fifth floor of the library, destroying 170 books before being discovered when the library opened at 8 a.m. on Aug. 29, according to Kimberly Hale, head of collection management at the library.

"I suspect that a drain pipe that was probably part of the building when it was originally built back in 1922, failed, probably at a joint or connection, which then allowed water from an air-conditioning unit to penetrate the fifth floor of the library," said Mike Debish, associate vice president of facilities and operations.

Debish believes that the fittings on the pipes rusted through, leaking cooling water from the air conditioning system. The water was clean, so there were no sanitary problems.

The destroyed books are valued at an estimated \$1,865, according to Michelle Ferguson, administrative assistant in the library. Fifty-one of the lost books are out of print. The literature and poetry collections were damaged during the flood, including most of the monologues.

Students need the monologues within the first week of school, so the library is rushing to find replacements from vendors, said Jo Cates, associate vice president for academic research and dean of the library.

"We are hoping to replace as many books as possible before school starts," Ferguson said.

Although the carpet was saturated, it does not need to be replaced since there were no chemicals in the water and it is not stained, Ferguson said. The shelving in the flooded area had to be disassembled for the area to be dried.

"It was soaking wet underneath the stacks," said Roland Hansen, head of access services in the library.

The library is in the process of assessing the damage and the cause of the leak to prevent it from re-occurring.

"We totally re-plumbed the entire [pipe] line in copper, which should be good for another hundred years," Debish said. "However, that is just one of many pipes in the building that could fail at anytime."



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Damaged books line the floor of Columbia's library.



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Sliwinski's lawyers, Howard Wise (left) and William Wise, issue a statement after Sliwinski was denied bail.

## Suicidal grad denied bail

By Jessica Pearce  
Assistant Campus News Editor

Columbia graduate Jeanette Sliwinski was once again denied bail in a hearing at the Skokie Courthouse on Sept. 1. Sliwinski, 23, is being held in Cermak Hospital at Cook County Jail on six charges of first-degree murder and two counts of aggravated battery for a July 14 incident in which she police say hit another car, killing the three men inside.

Defense attorney William H.

Wise said he was "disappointed" in the decision, arguing that this was not a murder case.

"At best, this is a reckless homicide case," he said in a statement to reporters after the hearing. "In no way did her actions show that she intended to hit that vehicle. She didn't know what she was doing at the time. This case has been over-charged."

Ted Sliwinski, Jeanette's father, held her mother as she sobbed throughout the proceedings.

See Sliwinski, Page 3

## A bird's-eye view of Chicago

### Former Columbia teacher's work shown in Millennium Park

By Alicia Dorr  
Managing Editor

When Terry Evans took on the task of photographing Chicago from above, she expected to see nothing but flat, gray buildings. But when she got up in the air she found out she was wrong.

"It was fascinating—I thought it'd be rooftops and concrete, but it is amazing how much color there is in the city," Evans said. "It is the most interesting aerial work I've ever done."

Evans worked for almost three years photographing the Chicago region from above, resulting in "Revealing Chicago: An Aerial Portrait," an exhibit in Millennium Park running through Oct. 23. The extensive work which the Openlands Project and Chicago Metropolitan 2020 commissioned Evans to do in 2002, also yielded a book by the same name.

From March 2003 to August 2004, Evans, who has been a part-time teacher at Columbia in the past and plans to come back, photographed the region from helicopters, hot-air balloons and Piper Cub planes in an effort to illustrate a sense of community in a public space.

The Openlands Project and Chicago Metropolitan 2020, both nonprofit groups that raise awareness about issues facing the Chicago area, originally teamed up to find a way to reach a lot of people with planning and environmental issues in the region. According to Jerry Adelman, executive director of the Openlands Project, Evans worked with the group before and immediately seemed like a perfect fit.

"She's a great photographer, takes her photographs from the air and is also passionate about conservation and the things that

we are concerned with," Adelman said. "She seemed like a natural choice."

Once she agreed to the work, Evans and the two groups set out to raise money and attracting the city of Chicago's attention. They succeeded in getting the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs on board, but the groups needed to sign up sponsors like LaSalle Bank and Exelon Corp. before they could move forward.

"The fundraising itself was a huge undertaking, which was really interesting and complicated, and none of it had anything to do with the actual making of the photographs," Evans said.

Once the funds were in place, the real work began. Evans asked the Openlands Project to plan a few meetings with people from all over the region to discuss what landmarks and areas she should pay attention to when she was in

See Evans, Page 22





## Lessons and Lies

By Jeffrey Danna, Editor-in-Chief

Journalists and the public have a strange relationship.

On the one hand, people who read the news can be viewed as assertive patrons, raising their voices to tell journalists what they want to read like hungry customers shouting to a short-order cook. In this scenario, journalists, who have long been taught to report objectively, try to retain their readers by churning out what the public demands.

On the other hand, readers can be viewed as passive consumers subjected to the product of journalists' own creativity and self-serving taste for knowledge and excitement. In this case, the journalist acts as a renegade, muckraking and tracking down fascinating stories to tell based on his own interests and his assumption of what the public will find compelling.

Such is the delicate balance of journalism. It is what leads to suspicions of bias in the media and apathy among readers, as well as other conflicts.

It is also what turned a captivating story in the Daily Egyptian, the student newspaper of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, into one of the most embarrassing follies college journalism has seen in a long time.

The great part of the Daily Egyptian's story of 8-year-old Kodee Kennings and her father, Sgt. Dan Kennings, was that it appealed both to the writer's sense of adventure and the public's desire for drama.

For those who don't know, the story of Kodee Kennings is already an urban legend of sorts. For two years, the Daily Egyptian ran articles about Kodee, a child whose father was reportedly deployed to Iraq and later killed in combat. The writers at the Daily Egyptian, including former editor Michael Brenner, who wrote the first stories

in the series, explained how the girl was living with Dan Kennings' stepbrother and his wife after Kennings was sent to Iraq. The Daily Egyptian staff also reported that Kodee's mother died when the girl was 5. Kodee even wrote her own column in the paper, in which she tried to make sense of her hardships in the honest, innocent way only an 8-year-old can.

The series was a sensation with readers—but it was also fiction. Last week, after Chicago Tribune reporters unsuccessfully attempted to put together a story about Dan Kennings' death, it was revealed that the Daily Egyptian staff—as well as members of the community—had been duped.

Kodee's tale was an elaborate setup orchestrated by former SIUC journalism student Jaimie Reynolds, who told the story's "sources" they were part of a documentary. The main character, Kodee, was played by Caitlin Hadley, the daughter of Reynolds' friends. To complicate matters even more, Hadley went as far as making public appearances as Kodee and accepting gifts from local figures such as firefighters.

What's shocking about the hoax is that it exemplifies how the combination of public ruthlessness and media negligence, can strike a mighty blow not only to journalism's credibility, but also to any person's faith in honesty and goodwill.

Reynolds exploited people's emotions for the sake of trying to help her friend Brenner in his future career, according to the Tribune. She concocted what can now be seen as a schmalzty, tear-jerker of a story and passed it on to Brenner as genuine poignancy, as if a heart-wrenching account were a sure-fire way to win accolades.

At a time when Brenner should have been honing his reporting skills, Reynolds helped put a

dampener on any progress he has made as a journalist. She insulted Brenner's abilities and insulted the news-reading public's intelligence.

At the same time, Brenner and the other Daily Egyptian writers who worked on stories about Kennings, acted recklessly by not preventing mistakes before they happened, which is, after all, a journalist's responsibility. Instead of getting caught up in the possibility of a first-rate story and rushing through the reporting and fact-checking process, more thorough preliminary work would have exposed the hoax sooner. It took just eight days for the Tribune to discover Kodee and Sgt. Dan Kennings did not exist. If the Daily Egyptian reporters took eight days to dig into their story, they could have thwarted a two-year sham.

"There is no pleasant way to put it," reads a staff apology on the Daily Egyptian's website. "We didn't check the facts carefully. We believed what we were told without verifying. We weren't as skeptical as we are supposed to be. We were fooled by a little girl with a cute smile, surrounded by a group of adults who acted the hoax with her."

The Kodee Kennings fiasco illustrates the vulnerabilities of journalists to a brutal and demanding public, suggesting reporters remember to act scrupulously on the job. It's a simple, but important, Journalism 101 lesson young reporters should know as they aspire to succeed in the field.

But it also illustrates how irresponsibly and dishonestly humans can act when striving for self-satisfaction. It's a reminder that the most fulfilling and rewarding accomplishments are the ones that come as a result of integrity.

And that's something everyone, not just journalists, can take away from this mess.

## IN THIS ISSUE

1/12 Campus News

16/17 Commentary

22/24 City Beat

Pull-Out The Word

## Announcements

### Relief for Displaced Students

Students from the areas hit by Hurricane Katrina who were supposed to go to local schools are being offered free tuition and room and board at Columbia for up to a year, or until they can transfer. Students from around Chicago who were attending school in the affected areas will be offered late enrollment at Columbia and counseling will be provided to Columbia students from the devastated areas.

### C-Spaces Honors Exhibition

Students nominated by faculty for their outstanding artistic talents will have their work on display at the Hokin Gallery through Oct. 7. The exhibit features artwork not previously displayed at Columbia. Local professional artists will judge the work and award first, second and third prizes, as well honorable mentions. Awarded pieces will become part of Columbia's permanent collection.

### Visual Construction

International alumni Anni Holm, Masaru Nakatomo and Camila Olar will be exhibiting their photography in C-Spaces' Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash, through Oct. 14. A reception for the artists will be held in the gallery Sept. 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibition is free of charge.

### Taryn Simons: The Innocents

The Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., hosts an exhibit that shows how easily the memory of a witness to a crime can be changed. Simons, on assignment for *The New York Times Magazine*, photographed wrongfully convicted men and women whose convictions were overturned after DNA evidence later surfaced. The exhibit is free and runs until Oct. 1.

### Eirik Johnson: Borderlands

Eirik Johnson and the Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., examines the strange and chance things that happen in places that are largely left alone through his photos. Johnson navigates the frontiers of the American Northwest, looking for the relationships that develop when human and environmental forces meet. The exhibit is free and runs until Oct. 1.

### The Cartoonist's Eye

The A+D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave., hosts the work of comic artists including Chris Ware, Art Spiegelman and Robert Crumb. The exhibit features original artwork created for comic strips and graphic novels by artists featured in curator Ivan Brunetti's upcoming *Anthology of Graphic Fiction*. The exhibit is free and runs through Oct. 22. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, call The Chronicle's news desk at (312) 344-8964 or e-mail [chronicle@colum.edu](mailto:chronicle@colum.edu).

## IN YOUR OPINION

### What do you think of the new schedule?



"The new schedule sucks because of not having the longer summer."

—Ryan Jacobsen, Sophomore, Photography



"I think it sounds like a great idea, it was really stressful studying for exams during the break."

—Angelique Gall, 2004 Alumna



"I like that we have five weeks for Christmas. I like to travel and it makes it a lot easier."

—Jim Jaworski, Senior, Journalism



"The new schedule is great, we should have a break between semesters to give us a chance to catch up."

—Shalman Sanford, Senior, Fashion Design



## Convocation offers old time festivities for new students

By Hayley Graham  
Campus News Editor

The parking lot at Harrison Street and Wabash Avenue was transformed into an 1890s world's fair as Columbia kicked off a new school year with its seventh annual new student convocation.

Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs, wore a top hat and handle-bar mustache observing the 1890s theme. He began the celebration of the "largest assembly of creative talent" to ever come to Columbia by silencing the crowd for a moment of reflection on the tragedy happening in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Surrounded by a group of students dressed as cigarette girls from the late 1800s and throwing out T-shirts, Kelly urged students to "recognize the great

collective power you can create." "Be inspired and become electrified," Kelly said.

Kelly went on to introduce Columbia's President Dr. Warrick L. Carter, by addressing him as "a very cool cat" after describing Carter's jazz achievements and dramatic contributions to the college.

"We welcome you to our community," Carter said. "We expect you to share your unique creativity with us."

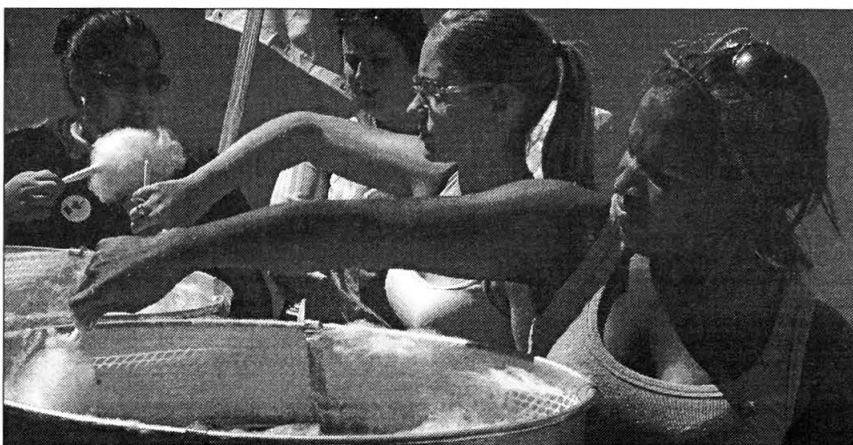
**"I was expecting it to be more business than fun."**

—Paul Dybas,  
freshman film major

Fresh-faced students gave their attention to Carter as he went on to encourage them to work hard and network as much as possible during their time here in order to make an impact on Columbia, the "largest institution of media and arts in the county."

"I thought the speeches were good and added a flavor of attitude," said Trent Johnson, junior film major.

The band Bad News Jones got



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Freshmen Ebone McCloud (right) and Kathy Kubala (left) represent SGA by passing out cotton candy for SGA at the Convocation. Alumni Robyn Martin (center) watches.

the crowd dancing with its hip-hop beats with global, jazz and rock influences.

As the band played, students lined up for veggie burgers, hot dogs, cotton candy and fake tattoos.

Students also gathered under a large tent to learn about Columbia's organizations, including the Student Government Association, Columbia College Singers Alliance and the Improv Club.

The number of people and student organizations was "kind of

overwhelming" to Angela Pestano, a freshman illustration major who joined the Curt Flowers Project and Campus Crusaders.

"I think it's very nice and it was very well put together," said Tyana Wilson, a freshman film major.

For some new students the convocation was a pleasant surprise.

"I was expecting it to be more business than fun," said Paul Dybas, a freshman film major.

According to Kelly, this was the most successful convocation

to date.

"It was mobbed. We have about 3,300 new students and it looked to me like 90 percent of them were there," Kelly said. "The feedback I received from students was stunningly positive."

Contributing to the atmosphere was a man on stilts, a fortune teller and people dressed as guests at a 19th century world's fair.

"It's not something that I would expect from a college," said Josh Feemey, a freshman film major.

## Unfinished construction won't dirty students' first day on campus

By Jeff Danna  
Editor-in-Chief

Some summer renovations around Columbia, scheduled to be finished by Sept. 6, remain incomplete as students and teachers return from vacation. However, college officials are confident ongoing projects will not be inconveniences.

The college took on an ambitious set of projects over the summer: reshuffling classrooms, renovating various lobbies and adapting existing space for new uses. Due to a reworking of the school year schedule and on-campus events during the break, construction crews were working against Columbia's shortest summer to date, which put a strain on some of the projects. Just days before classes resumed, some teachers were concerned the construction would put a damper on their classes.

"We're down to the 11th hour and 59th minute here," Mike Debish, associate vice president of facilities and operations said in late August. He said that, toward the end of the summer, construction workers put in longer hours on nights and weekends to finish as many of the projects as possible before Sept. 6.

One of the largest projects that is still incomplete, Debish said, is the overhaul of the Conaway Center, in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The gathering space is undergoing a redesign that, when finished, will feature a portable stage, a wireless Internet center and computer lab on the mezzanine enclosed in glass.

"We've had insurmountable problems with that project, mostly due to the age of the facility," Debish said. "Working in that building is a challenge because of the way it's constructed, getting that building to meet modern-day codes

and also running into things you never thought would be there."

The entire project is scheduled to be complete by late September, Debish said.

Philip Feinstein, superintendent for Turner Construction, the firm that is working on the project, said that despite the unfinished state of the Conaway Center, the construction will not be a nuisance to students who have classes in the 1104 Center. The elevators are working, and the lobby is accessible. Plus, Feinstein said, students have access to a renovated Hub below the Conaway Center, which was not originally scheduled as a summer project.

"It's going to be a showcase, since you're on the end [of the building] with all the glass," Feinstein said. "It's going to be sharp."

Debish also expects a new welcome center, which will be part of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., to remain under construction through the end of September. However, because the project is "behind the curtain," workers can finish it without disturbing activities in the building.

The welcome center will transform a section of the building previously used for storage into a storefront along Harrison Street, Debish said.

On top of a short summer schedule, activities throughout July and August, such as orientation and summer institute, set back renovations in buildings like the 11th Street Campus, 72 E. 11th St., which houses the Theater Department. As a result, work did not begin on that building until the first week of August, Debish said.

The A+D Gallery on the first floor of the 11th Street Campus relocated to the recently acquired building at 619 S. Wabash Ave.,

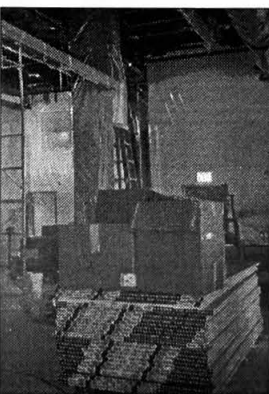
leaving space for two Theater Department classrooms. But due to what Debish calls "a very ambitious undertaking for just one month," some people like Kathleen Perkins, a full-time faculty member in the Theater Department, are concerned the project will not be complete by the time classes begin.

"It's still a mess in there," Perkins said, just days before the Sept. 6 deadline. She was worried that her 9 a.m. class on Sept. 6 would have to relocate to an available theater because of the construction. "If this room turns out the way we thought, it will be excellent, definitely. We need the space."

While Perkins was concerned about the Theater Department, Jennifer Murray, director of the A+D Gallery, was fretting because an exhibit, "The Cartoonist's Eye," opens in the new space Sept. 8.

"It was a little nerve-racking for a while," Murray said. While the space isn't totally complete—it is

See Construction, Page 6



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Columbia's Conaway Center still under construction weeks before classes begin.

## Sliwinski: Lawyers seek conditional bail

Sliwinski sat calmly, neither speaking nor moving after being wheeled into the courtroom. Sliwinski broke her ankle in the accident, and has undergone one surgery at Cermak Hospital. Wise told the judge that she needed another surgery, which Cermak was refusing to do.

Sliwinski, a marketing major who graduated from Columbia in 2004, was on her way to see her therapist, Wise said, when she hit the Honda Civic containing three Chicago-area musicians driving back from their lunch break. According to Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Steve Goebel, John Glick, 35, who was sitting in the back seat, was thrown through the windshield and killed when Sliwinski's red Ford Mustang hit the Civic at about 70 mph. Michael Dahlquist, 39, and Doug Meis, 29, died at the hospital. A statement Sliwinski made to police after the incident has been contested by her attorneys—Sliwinski said she was suicidal and looking for the Skokie train tracks. Sliwinski has since stated that she does not remember the accident. According to Dr. Henry Lahmeyer, a psychiatrist for the defense, Sliwinski was in "no condition" to make any kind of official statement or to waive her Miranda rights.

Blood tests at the scene determined that Sliwinski did not have any illegal drugs or alcohol in her system at the time. Wise said that she had recently stopped taking medication, including Paxil, for depression because she felt that the drugs were making her feel worse. Sliwinski had been self-medicating, using herbal remedies. Wise intends to file a motion to suppress her statement, saying that it was deliberately taken

before she could talk to an attorney.

"We don't think the statement's good," said Howard Wise, partner of William Wise, who agreed.

"She was in a rollover accident, she was unconscious at the time, she had a concussion," he added. "They took her to the hospital and pumped her up with morphine then right after that the police started going and trying to take her statement."

Although an Illinois statute states that any defendant held on charges that might return a minimum sentence of natural life in prison is automatically denied bail, Wise sought conditional bail for his client, arguing that she should be moved to another hospital better able to care for her psychiatric needs. Lahmeyer said in his evaluation that Sliwinski suffers from "psychotic depression" as well as bi-polar disorder and Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder. Wise said she is also paranoid and delusional, fearing that her lawyers are on the state's side and that the devil is out to get her.

During her incarceration, Sliwinski has tried to commit suicide hanging herself by using sheets and flushing her head in the toilet. Cermak Hospital has refused repeated attempts by the defense to subpoena her medical records. In a statement after the hearing, Wise said he has no idea what, if any, medications or psychiatric care his client is being given at the hospital.

"This woman needs psychiatric care, physical care," he said. "She needs to be in a facility where she can't do harm to anyone, including herself."

Columbia officials had no statement on the case, and few faculty members in the Marketing and Communications Department said they remember her.

Sliwinski's next court date is set for Oct. 6, when the state is expected to present the results from its psychological examination.



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

**Concert Hall Events**  
**SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

**Thursday September 15**

Chicago Jazz Ensemble Saxophone Section  
Master Class 12:30 PM

**Tuesday September 20**

John Pizzarelli in Concert 12:30 PM  
John Pizzarelli Workshop 1:30 PM

**Thursday September 22**

Chicago Jazz Ensemble Trombone Section  
Master Class 12:30 PM  
Music & Theater Faculty Performance 7:00 PM

**Tuesday September 27**

Student Concert Series 7:00 PM

**Thursday September 29**

Chicago Jazz Ensemble Trumpet Section  
Master Class with Jon Faddis 12:30 PM

All Concert Hall events are  
free unless otherwise noted

For more info: 312-344-6300

# FREQUENCY 32

**Television Department**  
Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

**Program Guide for University Center on Channel 32**

## Reel Stuff

A profile of student film, video, animation & documentary projects.  
This week's featured artist: Vanessa Herrera, Television major  
TWTRFSa: 10:00a

## NBC 5 Live

Frequency TV continues Live coverage of NBC5 News at 11am.



## Out on A Limb

The Television Department's Emmy nominated sketch comedy program.  
TWTRFSu: 1:00p

## Window's Anthology

Short stories explore the seven deadly sins.  
TWF: 6:00pm

## Gamers (NL)

Get a preview of the latest video game gadgets for your game system and get a cool video tutorial that will create the ultimate video game experience.  
MWFSu: 8:00p

## Reality Bar Crawl (NL)

Take a ride on a rock star tour bus with the cast of two reality television shows.  
It's a trip you don't want to miss!  
MWFSu: 8:30p

## AV Squad (NL)

If you thought you've seen the best music videos of the year, then you've been misled. Check out new music videos that are more than you could imagine.  
MWFSu: 9:00p

## College Town, USA (NL)

The crew visits college campuses, hang-outs and students around the country.  
This week's open house: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
MWFSu: 9:30p

## Comedy Night School (NL)

Ever taken a course that won't dock you points for laughing in class? How about a course that offers the best way to cure a hangover and how to cook reneck-style?  
It's all here at Comedy Night School.  
MWFSu: 10:00p

## Funny Money (NL)

Comedians battle head to head for big money and audience laughs.  
MWFSu: 10:30p

## AV Squad (NL)

Be the first to see the latest music videos and live performances from your favorite musical artists.  
MWFSu: 11:00p

## Planet X (NL)

Instead of the ordinary sports, explore extreme sports from the H<sub>2</sub>O Winter Classic.  
MWFSu: 11:30p

(NL) National Lampoon Network Programming

Interested in volunteering for Frequency TV? Contact:

**Frequency TV**

Columbia College Television Dept.

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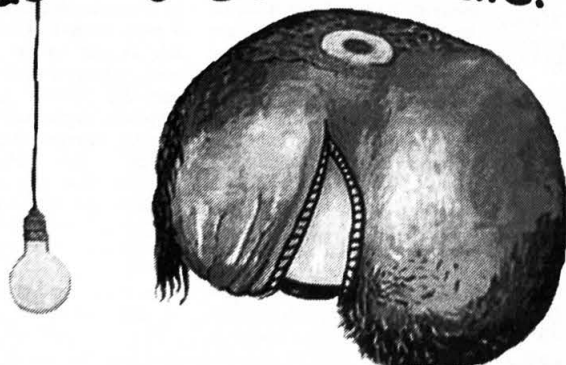
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9-22

PEAN RADICAL 1888 17

for painful evidence that the attempt of on when they are opposed to those of (vary 26), it is doubtful whether anything at Shanghai, but that may be excused on. The more serious matter is the American control of China by means of the difficulties, partly owing to the anarchy by Japan, partly owing to the withdrawal of the British Inspector-General of Customs says:

his country [China] could be ren- the Government provided with a stroke of the foreigner's pen, while be bankruptcy pure and simple. political chaos, the Customs Revenue year exceeded all records by sanctioned by the Washington revenue to liquidate the whole in a very few years, leaving the Government. The but to find a Government to

the Chinese say they would like to be a consequence of foreign control to meet an obligation of \$5,000,000 of America is set forth in The

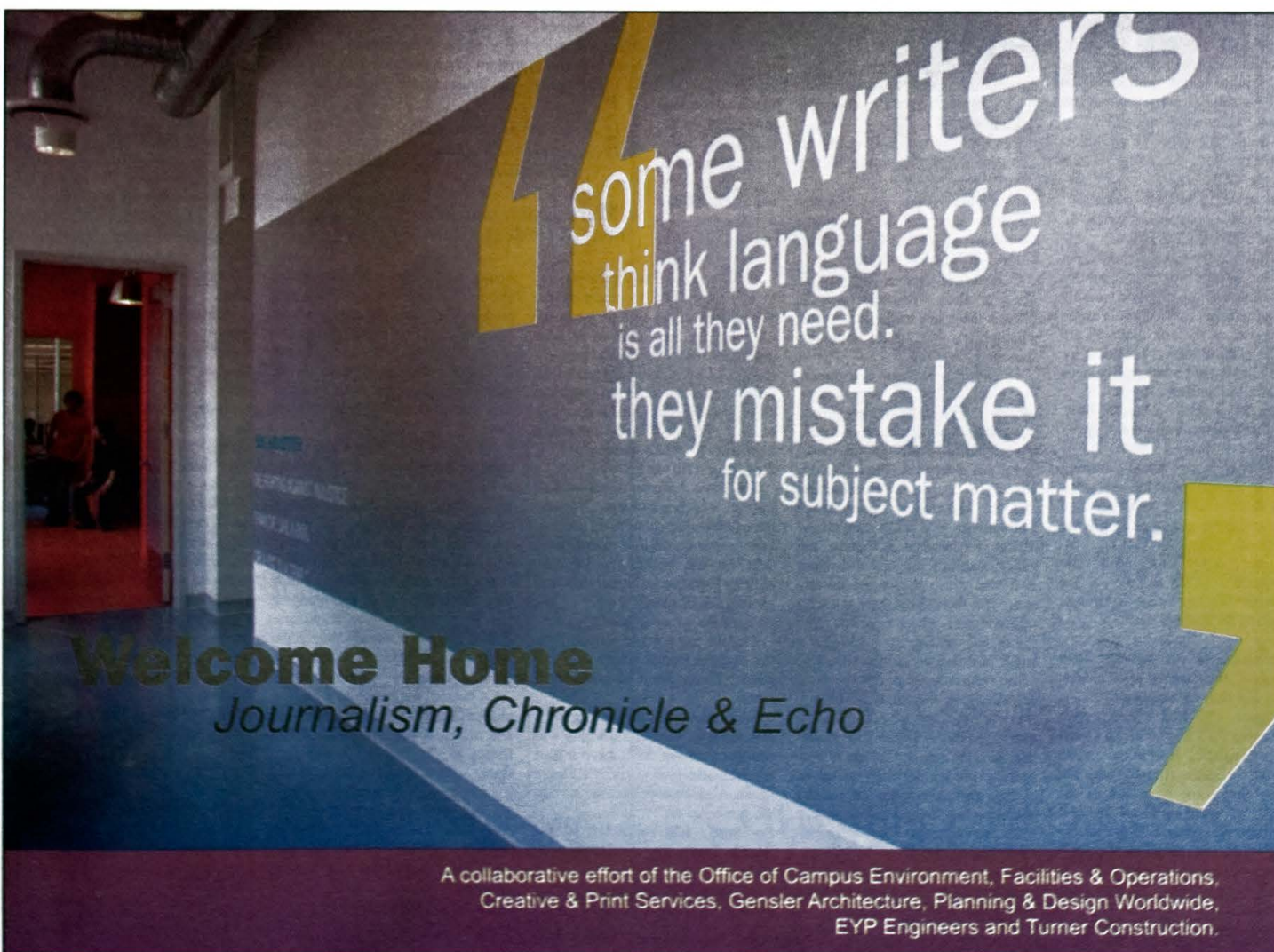
and performed were at one and the same time the source and victim of the same having composed in the course of a dangerous situation, they came forward handily

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some writers  
think language  
is all they need.  
they mistake it  
for subject matter.

**Welcome Home**  
*Journalism, Chronicle & Echo*

A collaborative effort of the Office of Campus Environment, Facilities & Operations,  
Creative & Print Services, Gensler Architecture, Planning & Design Worldwide,  
EYP Engineers and Turner Construction.



## Student reactions mixed regarding new schedule

By Jessica Pearce  
Assistant Campus News Editor

On Sept. 6, Columbia students will be getting used to a host of new experiences. Professors, classrooms, dorm rooms and roommates will all be brand new—and to add to the stress, they'll be doing it a month earlier than last year.

The biggest complaint students have about the Sept. 6 starting date is the truncated summer that preceded it.

"I think we're starting too early," said Ellona Reddick, a senior early childhood education major. "This year we start right after summer school ends, so there's no break."

Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs, said the positives of the schedule change outweigh the negatives.

"The real benefits of the change are in two places," he said. "One, first semester ends before the holiday break. The students don't have

exams or projects hanging over their heads. Students and professors were also worried about the loss of momentum after the break. The other advantage comes at the end of the year, when students are applying for jobs and internships and other time sensitive positions. Columbia students can now compete with students from other schools."

Freshman theater major Chris Friedlich likes the schedule for another reason: It syncs with that of his friends.

"It's easier as a freshman," he said. "If I'd left any later I would have been all alone, but if I'd left

earlier I would have been left out." The new schedule is a major change, since the previous calendar had been in place for decades. Kelly said the changes were made to make the campus more student-oriented. "How can we have a schedule that doesn't serve the students' educational or financial interests?" he said.

**"This year we start right after summer school ends, so there's no break."**

**—Ellona Reddick, senior early childhood education major**

## Turner: Chair seeks to better Columbia

institutions like the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Goodman Theatre. He is also a partner in Pritzker and Pritzker, the law firm headed by members of one of Chicago's wealthiest and most connected families.

Based on his history in philanthropy and the arts in Chicago, Columbia administrators said they are enthusiastic about what Turner's ability to raise money and enhance Columbia's image.

"Clearly, Allen will be a wonderful partner with the administration and the college as we move forward in the [capital] campaign," Columbia president Warrick L. Carter told The Chronicle.

While Turner's fundraising experience will help increase donations to Columbia, it's his personality and admiration for Columbia as an institution of the arts that will aid him in accomplishing his goals for the college, said Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs.

"He loves what Columbia does, and that's damn important," Kelly said.

Turner is excited about assuming the responsibilities of his new position at, as he said, "the largest and most complete school of arts in the country."

Turner sat down with The Chronicle over the summer, in his office on Wacker Drive, to discuss his plans for Columbia.

**Chronicle: So you are the new chair of the board of trustees. How did that come about?**

Turner: I had been with Columbia for a few years, in a variety of capacities. And in the course of that, I became friendly with Dr. Carter and some members of the faculty as well as some trustees. My natural enthusiasm for doing things led me to speak up, and those who speak up get elected. If I had been quieter, I'd probably have some other job.

**You've been a trustee for the past four years. What have been some of the biggest challenges for you serving on the board?**

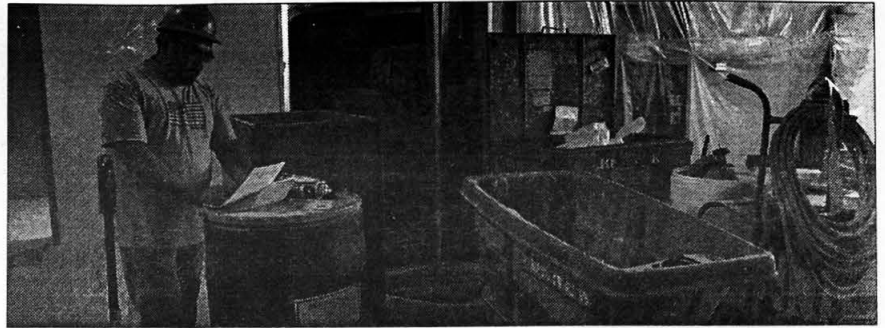
Well, the first thing was the learning curve. When I came on, I, like most people in Chicago, knew very little about Columbia. It's sort of the best-kept secret. So, really, what it is, which I'm still doing, was an extraordinary, complicated matter, because it's this big elephant, and, you know, you get a piece. So if you're grabbing the tail, the leg or the trunk and you indefinitely think it's all like that, and then you learn something else. So the notion of seeing what the whole elephant looks like—I'm about 50 percent there.

**What do you think is going to make a better Columbia in the coming year?**

Well, there's this year and the future, because short-term fixes are the enemy of solving the problem. Students need space. There are several kinds of spaces they need. There's the classroom space. There's the space to do their work, whether it's lab space, sculpture space, dance space.

There's also the issue of a gathering place. It is on everybody's agenda. There are gathering places on campus, but the notion of a central gathering place on an urban campus is a desirable kind of thing. There's a couple of possibilities: one, the \$30 million luxury space that contains in it [a] theater, all the offices for student activities, the gallery exhibition space and whatever else you can imagine for any space like that. Then, there is the \$5 million space, which is taking three floors and redoing it, or building a small building on land we own in some central location or rehabbing something in an existing building. It is my belief we are not in a position to build the \$30 million building. And the reason for that is economics. We are devoting ourselves to figuring out a space for student gathering, so the student offices can be there, perhaps some performances can be there.

**What are you taking into consideration when you're thinking about this gathering space?**



Employee of Turner Construction works to complete renovations to Columbia's Conaway Center.

## Construction: Projects nearly complete

still missing walls for displays—it is ready to house the exhibition.

Despite some of the unfinished projects, administrators are pleased with the amount of work that is complete—considering the setbacks.

Debish said the college's most ambitious job was one of the most successful: moving the Journalism Department from the 13th floor of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., and The Columbia Chronicle newspaper office from the second floor of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash

Ave., to the remodeled second floor of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building.

"From start to finish, that was probably a six-month-long project with three months of hard construction," Debish said. "It was partly due to the fact that we had to gut out the entire floor and rebuild it."

The 14th floor of the South Campus Building will be used as classrooms and temporary office space, and the former Chronicle office will house the printshop and gallery Anchor Graphics toward the spring semester.

Among the other complete or nearly complete projects are the rehab of The Ferguson Theater, now the Ferguson Auditorium, 600 S. Michigan Ave., and the renovation of the lobby of the Music Building, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., Debish said. He expects both spaces to accommodate students and teachers as they return.

Some of the remaining work around Columbia is smaller in scale, said Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment. For example, the directories in the lobby of the Alexandroff Campus Center will feature student and alumni art in their designs.

Berg said these projects improve Columbia's image and make the college more visible to the city.

"I hope, because it's going to be such a benefit, the community is going to be understanding with us," she said.

another building at this very moment. Someone wants to sell us a parking structure in the Wabash corridor, and we'd be happy to buy that if we can make a satisfactory financial deal. We want to be active players because it will not be less expensive later. [Note: Turner declined to comment on the location of the parking structure.]

**What has happened in the last year that's going to make life at Columbia better?**

I hope what people notice is an increase in communication. And it's already happening with the board of trustees. We had dinner at my house. I have a loft in the West Loop. It's not where I live, but I have an art collection there. Big loft. So I had the executive committee and committee heads over to my house. We ate dinner and we talked about Columbia and challenges and push-pull. What we talked about was all of the elements and problems that go into running an institution so we understand that it's all connected. So if you push a button down here, something pops up over there.

So one of the things I asked the staff to do together with the faculty is [determine] what [they] think is the most important. Are the science program and the new lab more important than the film program? More important than finding a new space for poetry people? Because they sound like apples and oranges, but all of them call on resources. And if there are limited resources, we have to think of what's the most pressing thing.

Of course, the problem with that sort of thing, as I see in business and in life, if you make a list of 10 things to do, No. 10 never gets done—unless it moves to No. 4. So it's a little like—what all of us do—waiting until you get in trouble. "Oh yeah, I'll do that." And then suddenly it's late. So you run and do it. So it moved from 10 to four or three. You really only have time to do the top three or five or four—

**"He loves what Columbia does, and that's damn important."**

**—Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs**

Issues of what functions are going to be performed there. There is the function, of course, of gathering. We're thinking of the consequences of serving food, the consequences of creating meeting space, the consequences of performance space or gallery space or things like that where student art can be centered. We're thinking about that and trying to balance it and trying to weigh cost-benefit.

On the whole space issue, we are just completing our study, which has been shared with [the administration], on space utilization, with recommendations. Now we know where space is, what departments use it, how many hours they use it, and we're thinking in terms of is it adequately used? That assessment is coming up this year.

There's no substitute for having to buy a building to create space. We will never be able to reconfigure what we have and do an adequate job. There's a capital requirement. We have some money to do that already. We have the means to create additional buildings. We already own some land—we are in a position to create space.

**How much do we have?**

We have borrowed about \$10 million, which is available. We also have borrowing capacity in the university; we could float some more debt for the buildings. We only have \$15 million of actual debt and we can afford to pay it off.

**Where do we own land?**

Oh, we own some vacant lots. We own the Buddy Guy's site.

**Right. That's been an issue for a while.**

Well, Buddy Guy's just signed a new lease for two years, which was fine because we don't have a plan for until after two years. It's a huge space. And we own another lot that we can build on.

**So there's still room left in the South Loop for Columbia to grow.**

For sure, even though it's getting pressing. We are looking at buying

you never get to 10. 'I'm going to clean my car.' The car's got to be really dirty. You've got to be having a date or something before you really clean it. That moves it up. And running an institution is like that.

Students also want communication. They want access to people at the top. So what's going to happen is I'm going to arrange for students to come address the board of trustees. And that will be done in the fall.

**What do you think this will accomplish in the future?**

People want to know you care about them and understand what their issues are. Even though you might, unless you see them face to face they don't believe you. I'm sort of a social person—I'm happy to talk to anybody: I'm easy to talk to. I'm not defensive. I'm open—I don't have any secrets. The ability for people to have access and to feel they are being heard is crucial in establishing confidence and trust.

[Carter's] team is in place, and they're good. Now our job is to do better. I want to make Columbia famous. It's not only telling the story that's fun and interesting, because we are good enough to be famous. Recite the number of Emmy nominees we have—we have things that make us famous, and it's a great story. So I want to be better at telling that story. If we do it, and we are famous for the right reasons—as opposed to students streaking or something—then it should result in people wanting to come here, which they seem to want to. I mean, admissions are not our issue. It should result in people wanting to support us financially. So if the school does become famous, how does Columbia make the transition from this little art school to a major university?

Here's the thing: It's already made the transition. It's just that people don't know it.

Next week, Allen Turner discusses issues of faculty workload and fundraising.



# IF YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A LEADER IN OUR COMPANY, THIS COULD BE YOUR OFFICE.

If you've ever dreamed of an airplane, this is your like. A Marine Corps who can take you up for

being behind the controls of chance to find out what it's really pilot is coming to the Chicago area trial flights. We're looking for a few college

students who have the brains and skill – as well as the desire – to become Marine Pilots. If you're cut out for it, we'll give you free civilian flight training, maybe even \$300 a month cash while you're in school. And someday you could be flying a Harrier, Cobra or F/A-18. Get a taste of what life is like at the top. The flight is on us.

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A Marine Corps pilot will be giving Incentive flights in the Chicago area from Tuesday, Sept. 6 through Friday, Sept. 9. To qualify for free flight time with you at the controls, contact Capt. Dennis Frantsve or Capt. Mike Kaniuk:

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This is Columbia.

## THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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## Welcome to Columbia....

On behalf of the college's faculty and staff, I would like to welcome all new students to campus and say "welcome back" to those who are returning to continue their studies.

Columbia College Chicago is an exciting place to be – the center of arts and media education in the heart of one of America's great cities. Take advantage of all that the college – and the city – has to offer. Make this year an experience that you will never forget.

Because we know that education occurs inside and outside the classroom, we offer a robust calendar of cultural programs for you to sample. Below is a partial listing of the public events happening this fall at Columbia. You can find a more complete list at [www.colum.edu/calendar](http://www.colum.edu/calendar).

I look forward to seeing you at our theaters, in our galleries, at our concerts and performances, in our lecture halls – or just around town.

Welcome to Columbia.

Warrick L. Carter, Ph.D.  
President

**Columbia**   
COLLEGE CHICAGO

create..  
change

### GALLERIES

The Cartoonist's Eye  
A&D Gallery/619 S.  
Wabash/312.344.6156  
September 8 through October 22  
Original artwork for comic strips  
and graphic novels by such luminaries  
in the field as Chris Ware, Art  
Spiegelman, and Robert Crumb.

Stages of Memory  
Museum of Contemporary  
Photography/600 S.  
Michigan/312.663.5554  
October 13-December 17  
The thirtieth anniversary of the fall of  
Saigon is marked by images excavating  
memory by witnesses to the war.

Talk the Walk: A Curatorial Tour of  
the Columbia Art District  
Various South Loop  
locations/312.344.8695 or [www.colum.edu/artdistrict](http://www.colum.edu/artdistrict)  
October 19, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Curators discuss the current  
exhibitions at A & D, Glass Curtain,  
Museum of Contemporary  
Photography, Center for Book and  
Paper Arts, and others.

### DANCE

DanceAfrica Chicago 2005: Sankofa  
Chicago Theater/175 N. State St.  
October 21-23  
Student tickets available at [www.danceafricachicago.com](http://www.danceafricachicago.com) or  
312.344.7070  
Celebrate the festival's fifteenth  
anniversary with some of the most  
impressive dance ensembles in its  
history!

Merce Cunningham Dance Company  
Harris Theater for Music and Dance  
in Millennium Park  
October 28-29  
Student tickets available at [www.dancecenter.org](http://www.dancecenter.org) or 312.344.8300  
Merce Cunningham remains at  
the forefront of modern dance,  
astonishing audiences with his  
devotion to innovation. Different  
program each evening. Presented  
by The Dance Center of Columbia  
College Chicago.

### FILM

Doc Week  
1104 S. Wabash/Doc Center and Film  
Row Center/[www.filmatcolumbia.com/events.html](http://www.filmatcolumbia.com/events.html) or 312.344.6725  
November 14-18  
A week of documentaries with  
workshops, seminars, and screenings  
of professional and student work,

### MUSIC

The Best of the CJE: A Tribute to Bill  
Russo [BILL RUSSO PHOTO]  
Getz Theater/72 E. 11th St.  
October 8, 8:00 p.m.  
Check for prices and purchase tickets  
at [www.chijazz.com](http://www.chijazz.com) or 312.344.6269  
The Chicago Jazz Ensemble is joined  
by special guests for a concert  
dedicated to the memory of founder/  
conductor Bill Russo.

Kurt Elling  
Music Center Concert Hall/1014 S.  
Michigan Ave.  
November 10, 12:30 p.m.  
Reservations required, priority seating  
given to Columbia music students  
This international star has re-  
energized the art of jazz singing for  
a new generation. Presented by the  
Music Department.

### READINGS

Naomi Shihab Nye  
Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan  
312.344.8139  
October 13, 6:00 p.m.  
This poet, essayist, and children's  
writer has authored more than  
20 volumes. She will speak at  
the Democratic Vistas Forum,  
cosponsored by the Center for Arts  
Policy.

### THEATER

The Cripple of Inishmaan  
New Studio Theater/72 E. 11th St.  
October 12-23  
Tickets: \$5 at 312.344.6126 or at the  
door  
A strange comic tale, set on a remote  
Irish island in the 1930s, about a  
disabled youth who seeks to escape  
his everyday existence.

The Changeling  
Getz Theater/72 E. 11th St.  
November 10-20  
Tickets at 312.344.6126  
A Jacobean tragedy and horror story  
filled with passion, violence, and  
multiple "changelings" who are not  
what they seem.



## Graduate tracks Katrina in Alabama

By Josh Kantarski  
**Associate Editor**

On the surface it may appear that Columbia College's ties to Hurricane Katrina are weak at best, but some are actually dealing with the disaster's horrible aftereffects firsthand.

A graduate of Columbia in 1998, Robert Stevenson took jobs in Peoria, Ill., and Rockford, Ill., after earning a degree in broadcast journalism. After a few years of work in southern Illinois and another year in Memphis, Tenn., Stevenson found himself a job, with the help of a friend, in Tuscaloosa, Ala., producing and broadcasting the midday weather segment for WVUA, the University of Alabama's news station.

Recently Stevenson, who has been on WVUA's staff for more

than 10 months, has witnessed and documented "the worst destruction [Alabama has] seen."

"[The weather] got bad at around 8 o'clock on Monday night," said Stevenson, regarding the 60 mph winds and pouring rain that residents of Tuscaloosa experienced. "It knocked-out power for most of the city."

He added, "I hate to say it because it's such a cliché, but the [University of Alabama] campus, on the day after the hurricane, looked like a war zone."

Overnight, Stevenson's job changed.

"Every day there were, and still are, so many stories to get, stories that impact our community," he said. "There are still 40,000 people without power

and thousands of refugees are flooding the state, which has led to nonstop coverage”

And while Stevenson continues to work long days at the station, documenting the strife caused by one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history, he applies the tools and knowledge he gathered at Columbia.

"As far as the producing aspect goes," Stevenson said, "I still use the things I learned at Columbia every day, whether it's something from a production class, or class in print when I need to write copy."

Even though his work has kept him busy, Stevenson has paused, along with the rest of the country, to note the after-effects.

It is amazing to actually see the destruction," he said. "It's just a catastrophe."



Members of the New York City Urban Search and Rescue Task Force search through a home destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in Bay St. Louis, Mo., on Friday, Sept. 2.

## Library survey yields no surprises for staff

By Hayley Graham  
**Campus News Editor**

The results of the survey of students and faculty, conducted by Columbia's library last April and May, uncovered no surprising concerns.

"It pretty much reinforced the things that we already knew," said Conrad Winke, associate dean of the library.

During the two months the online satisfaction survey ran on Oasis, 459 students responded. This was the first time the library asked students how they felt about its services.

"Given the size of the college and the fact that we didn't give an incentive for filling in the survey, the number was respective," Winke said.

The results of the survey confirmed that students want group study spaces to be available in the library, along with comfier chairs. Over the next couple of years the library is planning to replace chairs with updated and more comfortable furniture.

Jo Cates, associate vice president for academic research and dean of the library, said it was validating to see the need for group study areas, because it is an issue she had been hearing from students.

"Students are different from five to ten years ago. They are working more communally," Cates said.

She would like to approach this creatively by possibly designating an entire floor to group studying.

"The minute you enter you'll realize this isn't a quiet space," Cates said.

The results of the survey also revealed that some students are

unaware that the library is open on weekends and that databases are available for use. These issues can be resolved by better communication, according to Winke.

The need for word processing in the library was also shown in the survey's results, which before was a wiring problem, said Winke. The library was recently wired for Wi-Fi, which means that once Wi-Fi cards are put into computers students will be able to do word processing. Wi-Fi cards allow computers to go wireless.

"It's a possibility that wouldn't cost that much money," Winke said.

Students also want the library to be open later on Sundays. Staffing availability will determine if this will be possible.

"Building group study areas costs money and that's not going to happen overnight. Extending Sunday hours is more doable," said Winke, "Some things are easier to deal with than others."

The library staff is currently in the preliminary stages of implementing changes. Winke is in the process of creating a document that identifies themes that emerged from the results of the survey, and creating an action plan for those needs. Changes will be implemented as early as this fall, according to Cates.

"The plan is to look at the major themes or issues brought up by the survey and develop a solution," Cates said.

Winke said that he was satisfied with the results of the survey, and he would like to do it again in three or four years after the issues have been addressed to see if they have been resolved.

**PARK LEASING**

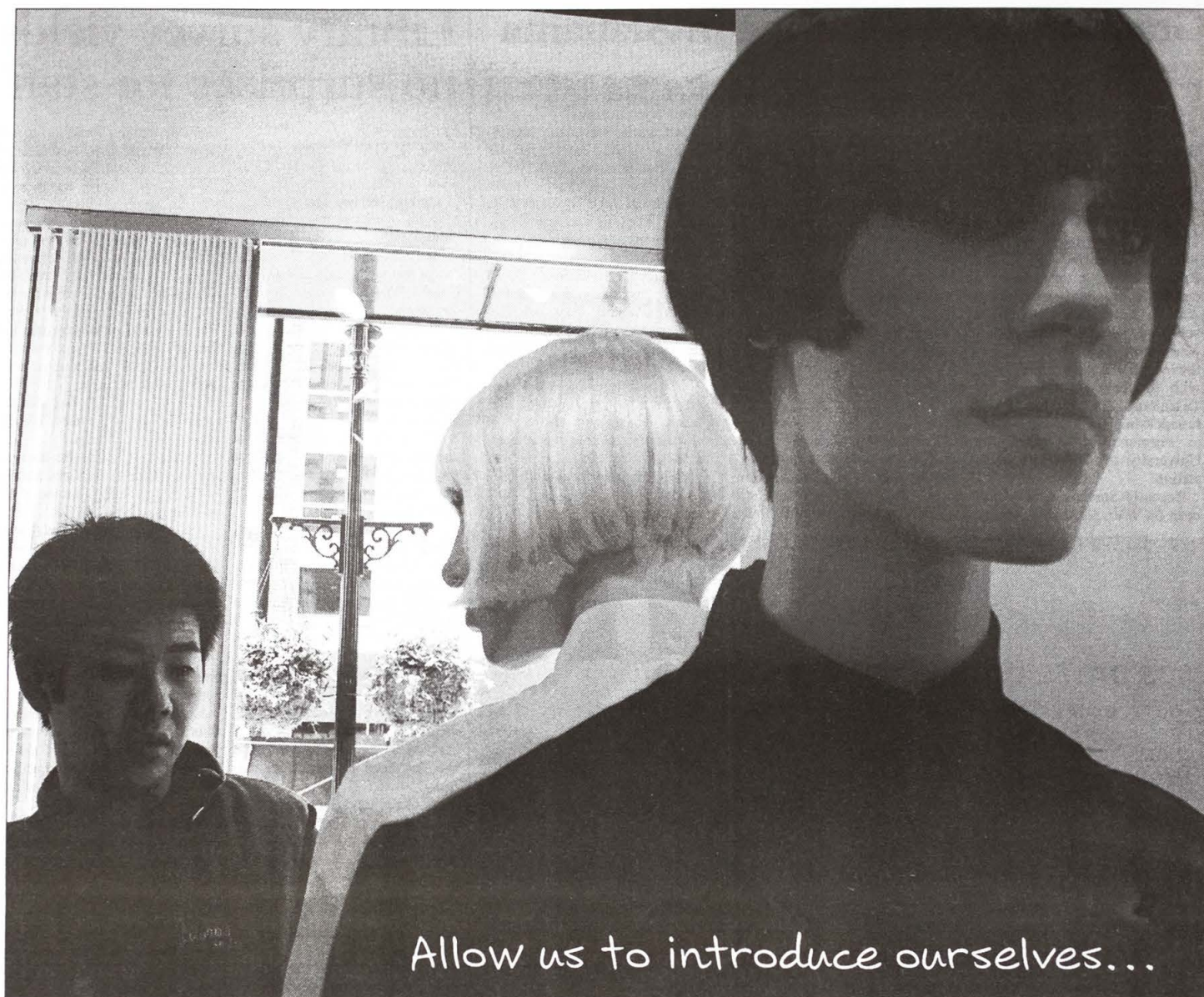
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Allow us to introduce ourselves...

## [C]SPACES

The [C]Spaces are common areas where students can interact, relax, and socialize with fellow students. [C]Spaces plans and promotes nearly three dozen gallery exhibitions each year, as well as fiction and poetry readings, film and video screenings, music, theater and dance performances, most of which showcase student work to the public.

### GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY 画 ①

1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor • 312.344.6650

Located in the South Loop in the historic Ludington building, the Glass Curtain Gallery's 2,200 square-foot space welcomes professional artists, Columbia College resident artists, students, and alumni to exhibit a variety of contemporary media. The gallery also hosts performance workshops and visiting artist lectures, all to enhance dialogue essential to the development and growth within the arts.

Gallery  
Study Area  
Performance Space  
Computer lab

Wireless access  
[C]Spaces staff available  
Dining

### HOKIN CENTER 画 演 ① ② ③

623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor • 312.344.7188

In its fifteen years, the Myron Hokin Student Center has earned its reputation on campus as the heart of Columbia College. The center's facilities, the Hokin Gallery, Hokin Annex and Hokin Annex Gallery, offer a variety of performance, exhibit, and event opportunities for students to showcase a wide range of work.

### C33 GALLERY 画 演

33 E. Congress, 1st Floor • 312.344.7188

Located on the ground floor of 33 E. Congress, this gallery's prime location with high street visibility provides an exciting opportunity to showcase student work as well as the work of international, national, and local community artists.

### HERMANN D. CONAWAY CENTER 演 ① ② ③

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

The Conaway Center's activities and programs are designed to enhance social, cultural, and intellectual growth among Columbia students, as well as promote social interaction with faculty, staff and the community at large. This newly renovated multimedia facility is equipped with a movable stage and a state of the art lighting and audio-visual system for both student and professional use.

**Columbia**   
COLLEGE CHICAGO

**[C]** SPACES  
THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

**GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY**  
**C33 GALLERY**  
**HOKIN CENTER**  
**conaway center**



## [C]SPACES FALL SCHEDULE

LEARN MORE AT [HTTP://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU](http://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU)

### HOKIN GALLERY & HOKIN ANNEX 623 S. WABASH AVENUE

HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

#### 13th Annual [C]Spaces Honors Exhibition

August 29—October 7, 2005

Reception: September 15, 5-7pm

Awards Ceremony: 5:45

The 13th Annual [C]Spaces Honors Exhibition (formerly Hokin Honors), features students of outstanding artistic achievement in all fine art media (installation, painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, collage, etc.), photography, fashion, graphic design, film and video, and television.

### C33 GALLERY 33 E. CONGRESS AVENUE

HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

#### Tecnológica

*adj. Having to do with, or related to technology, Perteneciente o relativo a la tecnología*

August 29—September 30, 2005

Reception: September 8, 5-7pm

Tecnológica is an exhibition of video, installation, video performance, sound art, digital prints, and other new media works by Latina artists. The new media works in this exhibition explore ideas of identity in a constantly shifting 21st Century society that is mediated by technology.

Participating Artists:

Amanda Gutiérrez, Jessica Hereman, Claudia Lozano-Albero, Elvia Rodriguez-Ochoa, Edra Soto

### GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY 1104 S. WABASH AVENUE

HOURS: 10 AM - 5 PM TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AND 10 AM - 7 PM ON MON & THUR

#### Visual Constructions: Photography by international alumni

September 1 - October 14, 2005

Reception: Wednesday, September 7, 5-7pm

Anni Holm

Masaru Nakamoto

Camila Olarte

An international exhibition primarily exploring the medium of digital photography through the works of Columbia College Chicago alumni Anni Holm (Denmark), Masaru Nakamoto (Japan), and Camila Olarte (Colombia). Curated by Greg Weiss.



# Hoax strikes student paper

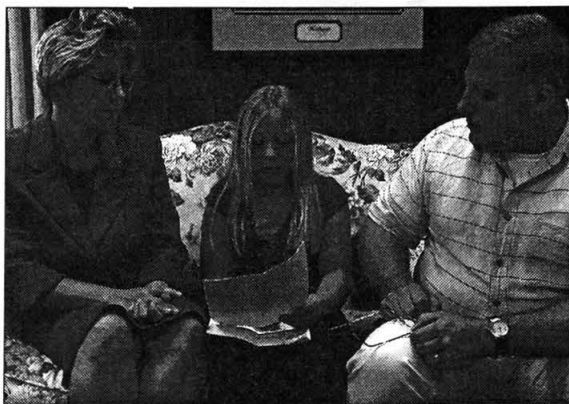
By Rex W. Huppke and David Heinzmann  
Chicago Tribune(KRT)

Students and faculty from the Southern Illinois University journalism school in Carbondale, Ill., are investigating a hoax that led the school's student newspaper to spend more than a year chronicling the lives of an Army soldier in Iraq and the young daughter he left behind.

The stories had captured the emotions and attention of the university community, but an investigation found that Sgt. Dan Kennings and his daughter, Kodee, were fabricated by former SIU student Jaimie Reynolds.

Her motives remain unclear, though she claimed a former student reporter at the university's Daily Egyptian newspaper talked her into the scheme so he would have a compelling story. That student, Michael Brenner of West Chicago, Ill., denies the allegation, saying he was duped along with everyone else.

On Aug. 26, the day the story came to light, the Daily Egyptian newsroom was deluged with phone calls from national TV networks and reporters across the country. Eric Fidler, the newspaper's faculty adviser, said the widespread atten-



KRT

On Aug. 25, Caitlin Hadley reads copies of letters that Kodee Kennings allegedly wrote to the Daily Egyptian of Southern Illinois University. Her parents, Richard and Tawyna, sit next to her at the Northeast Indiana District Office of the Nazarene Church in Marion, Ill. Caitlin Hadley was used in the hoax against SIU, which left students of the school paper reporting on the story for more than a year.

tion was a shock to the students.

"It's an awful lot of pressure for people who are in their early 20s and going to school to cope with," he said. "There's still a great deal of confusion over the facts of the case. We still don't know exactly what happened."

The paper ran a full retraction and apology Friday, stating: "We blew it. ... We were fooled by a little girl with a cute smile, surrounded by a group of adults who acted the hoax with her."

Law enforcement officials declined to comment publicly about the possibility of criminal charges. They did point to a state law that prohibits people from impersonating public officials or members of the armed services. That violation is a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in jail.

The little girl who played the role of Kodee Kennings is actually

Caitlin Hadley, the daughter of an Indiana couple who were friends with Reynolds. They said they believed their daughter was taking part in the filming of a documentary about a soldier and his daughter.

Law enforcement officials said it was unlikely any state law was broken by transporting Caitlin under false pretenses.

Reynolds did not return phone calls seeking further comment Friday.

Brenner's father, Steve Brenner, said his entire family bought into the story of Dan and Kodee Kennings.

"It had to be an attention-driven thing," he said. "It couldn't have been a con thing, because she would've been asking for money, and she never did. Whatever it is, it's way beyond anything I've ever experienced."

# Alcohol dangers hit students early

More than 1,700 students die a year from abuse

By Sarah Voss  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Tom Byers might have been the first college student to die this school year at the University of Kentucky in an alcohol-related incident. But he won't be the last.

Alcohol abuse is a perennial problem on college campuses, and as many as 1,700 college students die each year in incidents involving alcohol, whether from alcohol poisoning, traffic accidents or, in this case, getting hit by a train.

The dangers are especially acute as the school year starts.

In the first six weeks, high-risk drinking, defined as four or more drinks for a woman and five or more drinks for a man, increases 75 percent for freshmen.

Problematic drinking, eight or more drinks for a woman and 10 or more for a man, increases 220 percent, according to Outside the Classroom, a company that provides online alcohol education for colleges.

"This is a huge, huge issue," said Brandon Busteed, founder of Outside the Classroom. "It really is a social phenomenon. What is it about coming to college?"

He answers his own question: Students drink because of a combination of peer pressure and

new found freedom. They see alcohol as a way to release stress and sexual inhibitions.

In fact, students start drinking more often the summer before they begin classes.

"It's almost like they're trying to train for college," said Bill DeJong, a professor at Stanford University and the former director of the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention.

Across Kentucky and the rest of the nation, universities and colleges are trying to curb excessive drinking by students. Many use a combination of education and enforcement.

But each school year the toll grows. This year at the University of Kentucky, it was Thomas Joseph Byers III, 19, who was at an off-campus party early Tuesday when he ran from police officers and onto the train tracks.

Last year, it was Brian A. Muth, a 19-year-old UK student who was hit by a tractor-trailer on New Circle Road after being released from the Fayette County jail. He had been charged with alcohol intoxication.

But alcohol contributes to more than just the deaths of college students, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Each year, drinking by college students contributes to 97,000 sexual assaults, 599,000 injuries and 696,000 assaults.

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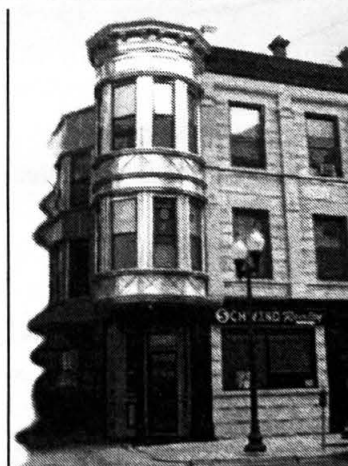
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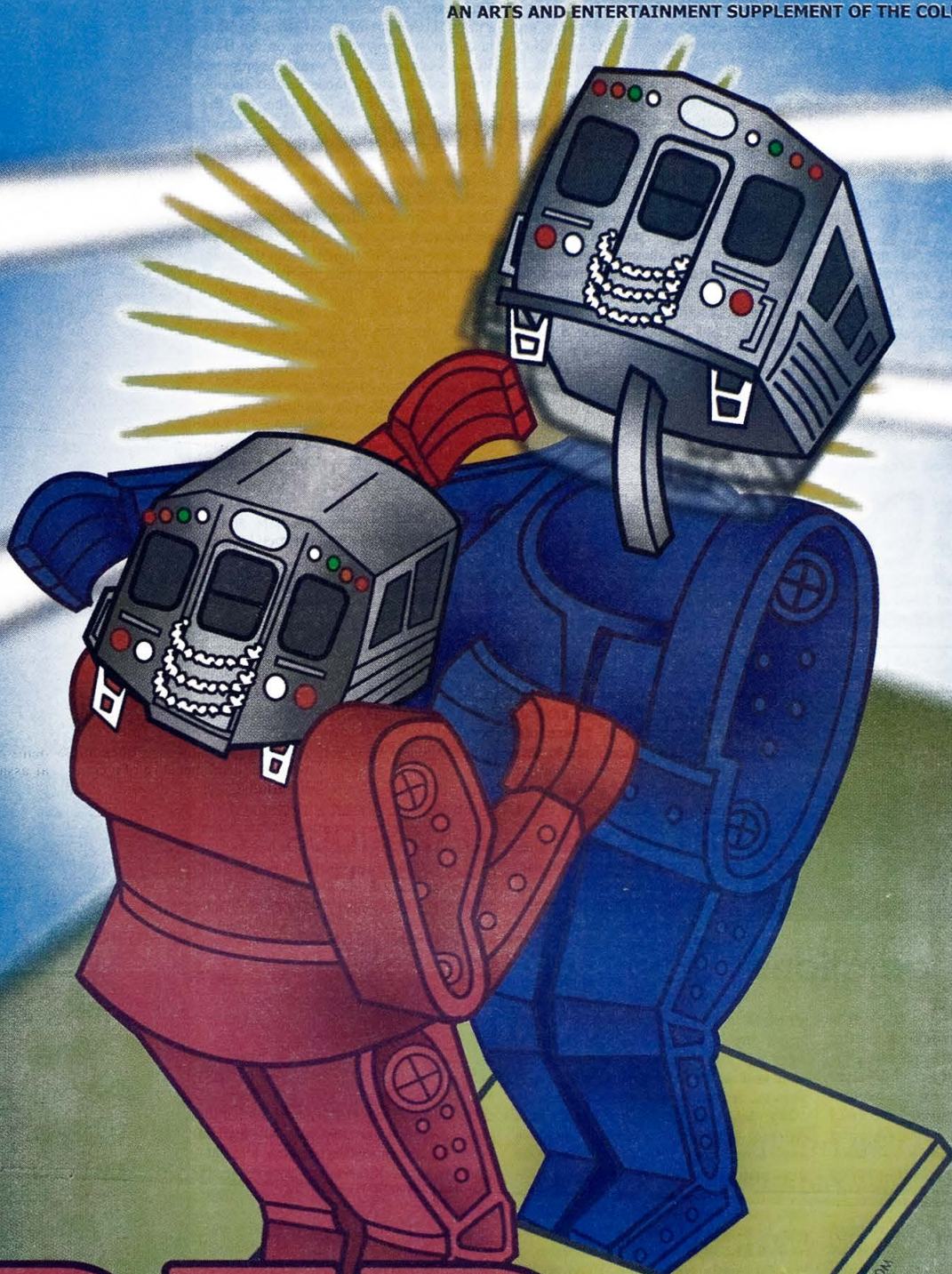
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# RED vs. BLUE

FIND OUT WHICH  
CTA LINE HAS  
THE BEST HOTSPOTS  
IN THE CITY! page 6



## On point.

By Alicia Dorr



## Roam if you want to

I like to pretend that when I first moved to Chicago I was all over the place, wandering about town a la Mary Tyler Moore. It's not true.

I partied on the weekends my first semester, sure, but I really spent about 95 percent of my time in the Congress Parkway dorms. On the one hand, this was a fantastic experience. Nothing will replace nights wandering around in slippers and laughing hysterically for no real reason (other than first encounters with the demon rum). More importantly, nothing will replace the friends I met—the ones I may not have ever run into if I had gone straight to apartment life when I moved to the city.

But I got all that out of my system in one short semester, opting for an enormous apartment with three other people on Damen Avenue and Division Street. Rent wasn't a burden, especially figuring that my mom and I spent \$800 a month for me to stay in an apartment-style dorm,

and I cut that in half immediately.

Along with paying less though, I was also finally free to roam, and I finally did. An 18-year-old in a big city with free access to public transportation is either the best idea in the world or the worst, but for me it seemed to work. I spent my days navigating the neighborhoods. And by navigating, I mean having a perfectly logical destination, proceeding to set out in the exact opposite direction and getting lost. Hopelessly lost.

The good thing about these excursions is that I got to know Chicago, at its most average. Before long I could tell my friends what bus to take to get from Wicker Park to Lakeview faster than doing the laborious Red Line to Blue Line switch. I could tell you where the cool bars were, even though I wasn't old enough to drink. And, of course, I could tell you about cool coffee shops off the less frequented Blue or Red Line stops.

I learned other things, too, though—utility knowledge. Don't trust a train that smells like cleaning supplies, because it means someone just threw up, shat or pissed themselves on it. The Blue Line goes faster because it's underground from downtown more than the Red Line, but watch the closing double doors and the crazy-eyed bums. The Red Line is a party in itself on a Friday or Saturday night, but hide any and all booze because people do, in fact, get tickets. Oh yeah, and bring a book or music, because otherwise you're

going to zone out and not realize you're staring at someone, and they will be very uncomfortable. And you'll be a weirdo.

As far as Red Line versus Blue Line, though, I could never decide. I would rather live off the Red Line for the nights that I am going home alone late and there are several people on each car doing the same. Then again, I'm often coming home from doing something on the Blue Line, because a lot of young people are better able to afford those neighborhoods than the ones off the Red Line, and the bars are cheaper. The "hoboes," however, are ten times better on the Red Line, because they're more practiced.

So there you go. Absolutely no answer to the Red Line/Blue Line conflict aside from a few ramblings from my own meandering existence. I wish I could tell you something substantial about the lines, aside from the fact that the Blue Line is often hipper and the Red Line is often yuppier. The truth is that they're different, and, in this city, of equal importance to your well-rounded college experience.

The one thing I can say with some certainty is that you should ride them. Take buses and explore, ride the lines to neighborhoods far from your own—who knows what crazy. Saved By the Bell-esque adventure you might get yourself into. Some cities are hard to get to know, but Chicago isn't one of them. There's something going on somewhere and it makes sense to make the most of your free ride.

P.S. If you place the dash in the U-PASS one letter to the right, it's always good for a laugh.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### TUESDAY

CD Release: The Rolling Stone's "A Bigger Bang"

DVD Release: *Crash*

### WEDNESDAY

Sigur Ros preview listening party @ Museum of Contemporary Art, 600 S. Michigan Ave. Free admission 7p.m. - 9p.m.

### THURSDAY

16th Annual Around the Coyote Fall Arts Festival, 1935 1/2 North Ave. 8p.m. - 12a.m. \$20.

Opening reception of Cartoonist's Eye A+D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave. 5p.m. - 8p.m.

### FRIDAY

Opening night of the film *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*

XIU XIU @ The Bottom Lounge, 3206 N. Wilton St. 7pm, all ages, \$12

### SATURDAY

Daredevil's opens @ the Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N. Ashland. 8p.m. \$10 for students

Mustard Plug @ the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 5p.m., all ages, \$15

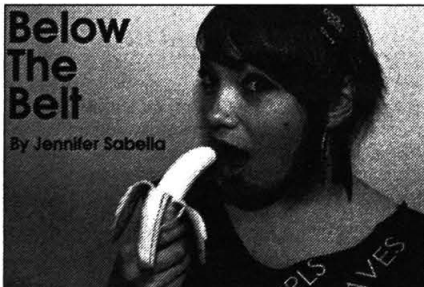
Cajmere and Brad Owen @ Smartbar, 3730 N. Clark St. \$10 before 12a.m., \$15 after 10p.m. 21 +

### SUNDAY

Myopic Poetry Series presents poets David Trinidad and Joel Felix Myopic Bookstore, 1564 N. Milwaukee. Free admission

## Below The Belt

By Jennifer Sabella



## Great Expectations

When I was 11, I dreamt of being a Pink Lady. I would watch *Grease* after school every day, sometimes multiple times, and then run to my record player and blare the soundtrack for the remainder of the evening. I knew that one day I would have a fabulous, retro-inspired wardrobe and a rebellious boy with black hair who was willing to do choreographed dances for me. Summer lovin', right?

Wrong. As I enter my final (crossed fingers) year of college, I've decided to blame my inability to have a functioning relationship on my sky-high childhood expectations—I can't commit because I have yet to meet someone who meets my three-page list of demands. Or maybe I have met someone I can be "hopelessly devoted" and just don't know it yet.

After a slew of bad luck and breakups, I decided I needed to either stop dating for

awhile or see a therapist. But true to form, I was dating again a week later. This time around, I'm determined to figure out what it is that leads me to that restless and unsatisfied part of the relationship so soon—it should take at least a year to get that bored feeling.

"Maybe you're just bad with men," my friend Alex told me. I convinced myself he was wrong. Is there really something wrong with trying on a few dresses before you buy one? Isn't that the point? As much as the "dating around" angle is an easy one to take, it usually doesn't work out so well. People get hurt, hearts break and friendships crumble. Does that mean we should throw up our arms and settle for someone who really likes us, or can we really have it all?

My version of "having it all" looks a lot different from anyone else's. I suppose that's how it goes. I like to think there are three major elements to any working relationship: sex, romance and friendship. Is that too much to ask for? Having someone to talk to, laugh with and watch movies with on a rainy day is amazing—but it's simply not enough. I can do the same thing with my roommates. Maybe my sexual appetite is more voracious than others, but I'm going to bet money that it isn't. Am I too picky or has it become a chore for men in their twenties to balance a sex life with a friendship?

"Good luck finding a guy who wants to screw regularly over the age of thirty,"

my coworker, Carrie, told me the other night. "I found a 42-year-old man who loves sex, and there's no way I'm giving him up."

I started to wonder if all women had boxed up their dream relationships along with their old Sassy magazines and hidden them in the closet in exchange for a lasting erection or someone who loves the Smiths as much as they do. I may be out of touch with reality in many ways, but I refuse to believe it's impossible to find someone who fits just right. Men call it high maintenance; I call it not settling for something that doesn't give me stomach butterflies and several orgasms a week.

When I meet someone I'm extremely attracted to, makes me laugh and treats me well, I can't help but dive headfirst into a relationship with that person—which isn't a bad thing. The problem lies in giving up when the going gets tough. Everyone has high expectations of something. I'm willing to repaint my filthy new apartment and constantly take my car in for repairs, but when someone I'm dating pisses me off, I tend to write them off and pretend the whole thing never happened.

I'm only 21. Chances are I'll deal with plenty of emotional games, bad breakups and sexual deviances in my lifetime. I've yet to meet my raven haired, rockabilly dream man who will serenade me to sleep, but who knows—maybe there's something right in front of me that fits just right. And I've been too busy looking around to notice it.



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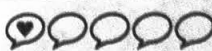
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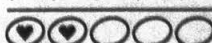
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### Ratings Guide

So, is that movie worth watching? That CD worth buying? Count the hearts in each review and use this handy chart to find out.



Complete Crap



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Pretty Entertaining



Very Good



Word Up.



# Well-laid 'Plans'

*Latest Death Cab for Cutie effort sticks to the script, but shines thanks to superior songwriting*

By Jennifer Sabella/Managing Editor

Over the years, people have found dozens of reasons to write off Death Cab for Cutie, whether it's their disdain for *The O.C.*, the band's move to a major label or a plain old hatred for melodic indie rock with loads of emotion. Whatever their reason, Death Cab's latest release, *Plans*, does not show an ounce of remorse for what the band is and always has been since its 1997 debut, and that's a good thing.

The songs of lost love, loneliness and dwindling feelings that got Death Cab fans hooked from the start haven't been lost over the years. Despite the good year front-man Ben Gibbard has reportedly been having (a happy relationship, successful tour and a more widespread appreciation for his music), his songs still reflect the sadder side of love.

"What Sarah Said" tells the story of a man watching his love slip closer toward death in a hospital. Gibbard's words are sincere and beautiful, as usual: "Each descending peak of the LCD took you a little farther away from me."

There are few bands that can truly master the art of the love song. It's all been done before, and most of the time it feels like a desperate plea for a hit. Like Robert Smith

of The Cure, Gibbard has a gift of writing love songs that people can relate to, with words that few know how to put together as beautifully.

The opening track to *Plans* is quite possibly the best on the album. "Marching Bands of Manhattan" is a straight forward love song, full of lyrics that seem tailor-made for a mix tape: "If I could open my mouth / Wide enough for a marching band to march out of / They would make your name sing / And bend through alleys and bounce off other buildings."

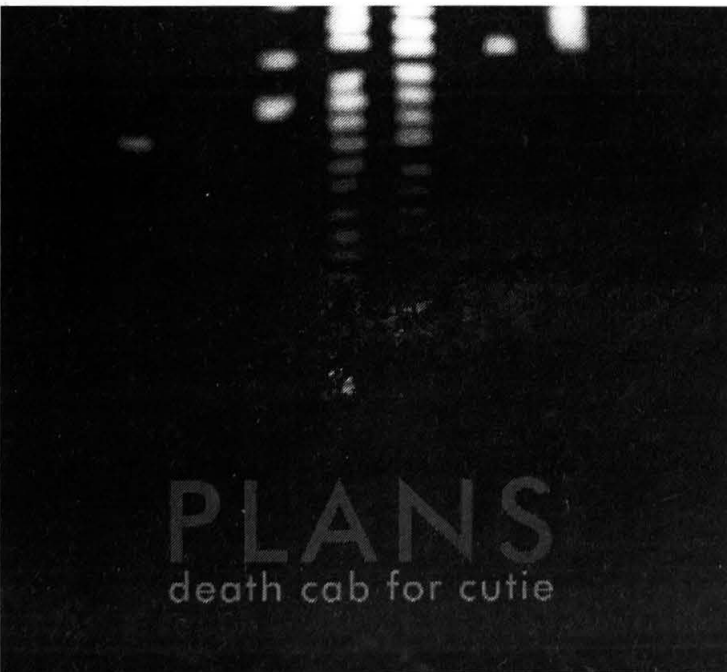
*Plans* sticks to Death Cab's signature sound and lyrical formula, but it's still fabulous. Other highlights are "Crooked Teeth" and "Someday You Will be Loved," while songs like "Brothers on a Hotel Bed" and "Different Names for the Same Thing" seem to drag on a bit.

All in all, *Plans* is a great album. Death Cab fans won't be thrown off and new listeners will be hooked.

"Plans"  
By Death Cab for Cutie



Above: Death Cab can't rely on their looks; they have to write good songs. Below: The new album, with its very dark cover.



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# Porn's final frontier

**'Sticky' is not your dad's kind of comic book—that is, unless he's gay**

By Hunter Clauss/Assistant A&E Editor

Sex! Sex! Sex! It's everywhere and it's selling everything from blue jeans to erectile dysfunction medication. To be fair, though, sex doesn't sell anything as well as it does porn. In the United States alone, Americans are estimated to spend about \$10 billion per year on adult entertainment, anything from skin flicks and nudie mags to live strip teases.

**"I'd like to think that things will just get more and more open minded and allow for different points of view like (*Sticky*)."**

While the porn industry is often viewed as a seedy business that has spread its tentacles into every medium at its disposal, one niche that is often overlooked and misunderstood is that of comic books.

One comic book that is breaking ground in the realm of porn is *Sticky*, written by Dale Lazarov, 40, and drawn by Steve MacIsaac, 35. *Sticky* is published by Eros Comix, a division of Fantagraphics, and features stories that Lazarov describes as

"slice of life" in context. One such story in *Sticky* #1 depicts two gay men seeing how long they can go until they reach the climax of the story's plot.

Sexual puns aside, *Sticky* is an incredibly clever book that incorporates an indie comic book feel to its sense of style. MacIsaac's art work is like Tom of Finland on the pornographic side and Los

Bros Hernandez of the famed *Love and Rockets* on the indie comic book side. *Sticky*'s indie comic aesthetic to pornography makes it a diamond in the rough.

"Gay comics, with the exception of a few, have been drawn [really] badly and have been vulgar," Lazarov said. "One thing [about] comics is that it softens the blow of the really hard stuff."

The amount of time and dedication Lazarov and MacIsaac put into their book can be instantly noticed.

"They really take their work seriously, and I think it shows in the product," said Eric Reynolds, 34, a publicist for



Illustration Courtesy Dale Lazarov

Make no bones about it. *Sticky* #1 holds no bars when it comes down to manly love. Art work by Steve MacIsaac.

Fantagraphics and editor of the *Complete Crumb* anthology. "*Sticky* is one of the most rewarding comics to publish."

Despite how well-crafted the book is, it's having a hard time catching on to a large audience.

"*Sticky* is... one of the best comics that Eros publishes and it has not been one of the best sellers, unfortunately," Reynolds said.

"I think it's pretty simple to understand. The direct comics market where the comics are sold in is not the most progressive industry in the world. There's just not a huge audience in the comics market for that kind of a title."

Comic books do have a reputation for not being the most welcoming industry for minorities. Homosexuality was virtually banned from the colorful panels in comics thanks to Dr. Fredric Wertham's 1954 book, *Seduction of the Innocent*, which claimed that comic books lead to juvenile delinquency. Wertham also made accusations that Batman and Robin are secretly gay lovers, and that reading about the dynamic duo's fight against crime would turn men gay.

Funny, sure, but the government at the time didn't see anything to laugh about. The Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency held hearings on many of Wertham's claims, bringing in many professionals from the industry to testify. In response to the subcommittee's hearings, major comic book publishers developed the Comics Code Authority, an organization that heavily censored the content in comic books. Sexually explicit material was banned, and the allegations of Batman and Robin's homosexuality caused writers to introduce Batwoman and Batgirl.

Today, the Authority is a dying system and many publishers, such as Marvel

**"The direct comics market where the comics are sold in is not the most progressive industry in the world."**

Comics, have abandoned it. "I'd like to think that there will be more and more diversity in titles because that's been sort of the most satisfying thing about publishing Eros," Reynolds said.

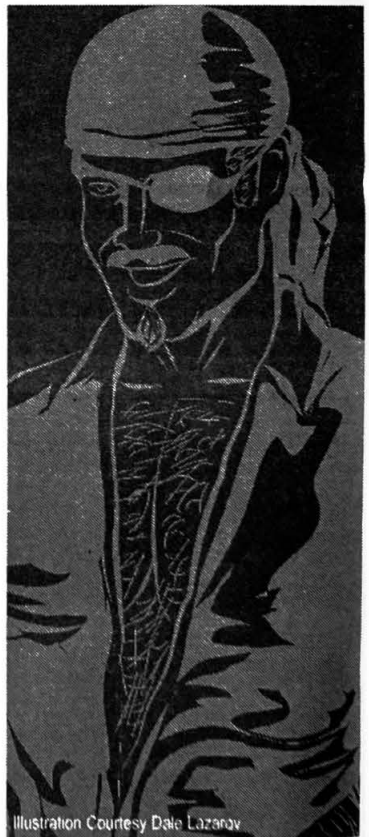


Illustration Courtesy Dale Lazarov

Arrg! Beware of the one-eyed monsters. A panel from *Sticky* #3 by MacIsaac.

"For us, it's just doing things like *Sticky* that are just definitely filling a niche that hasn't been filled before, and I think the market would have been even more resistant to *Sticky* 10 years ago. If anything, I'd like to think that things will just get more and more open minded and allow for different points of view like [*Sticky*]."

For more information visit [www.eroscomix.com](http://www.eroscomix.com)

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# Between words and film

New A+D Gallery opens with 'Cartoonists' Eye'

By Todd Burbo/A&E Editor

This September, Columbia's Art & Design gallery debuts its new digs with The Cartoonist's Eye, an exhibition in which Columbia's own Web designer, Ivan Brunetti, makes his curatorial debut. Born in Italy but raised on Chicago's South Side, Brunetti has worked for Columbia since 1999, and has been involved with a number of exhibitions. Last week, Brunetti spoke with The Chronicle about his upcoming show.

**Chronicle:** How did you go about selecting artists to showcase in the exhibit?

Brunetti: I've worked at Columbia since February of '99. I've been involved with a lot of exhibits, and have been part of a lot of group shows, but this is the first time I've curated here. I'm editing a book for the Yale University Press, called *An Anthology of Graphic Fiction*, which is basically comics. It was supposed to be done in a month, but I'll probably need more time. The exhibit is sort of in conjunction with the book—it features the same artists. I wanted to have some work from the book featured in the show. It was, in most cases, impossible to find the original art from the stories, but I had each artist in the book send a few pieces. So it's the same artists, but not necessarily the same pieces as in the book, which will be pub-

lished in September 2006.

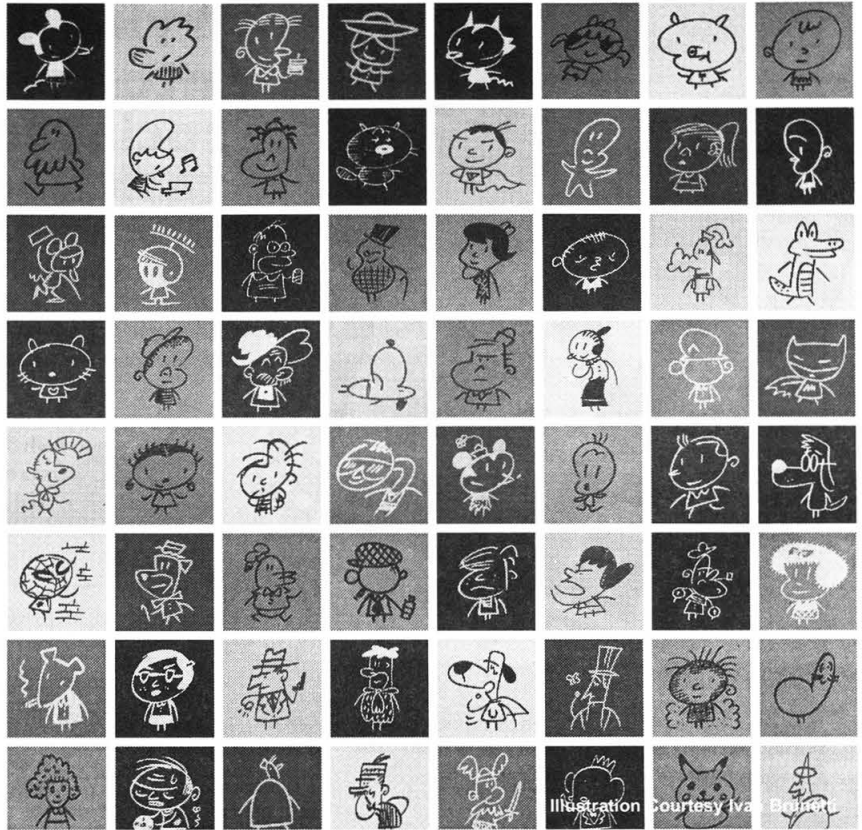
I tend to have a very broad definition of 'cartooning.' It's not always fiction. There are autobiographies; some things are purely internal lives of the artist; it runs the whole gamut. A lot of the people are really fine artists that are using cartooning as their [medium].

**Where does the name "Cartoonists' Eye" come from?**

Cartooning is a way of seeing the world, a way of seeing reality. It's the sort of drawing that is a combination of reading and seeing it at the same time. It's not really pure drawing or pure writing. It's sort of its own language. That's the guiding principle of the show.

Most of the work is what I would consider contemporary; it's from the last 20 years. There is also historical material in the show, but I tried to pick comics where there's a very clear influence on modern-day cartoonists. I tended to avoid certain genres, like the superhero genre. I tried to show that there are other things that can be done with comics. **Charles Schulz has obviously been a major influence on the genre. What makes his 'Peanuts' strip so timeless—the art or the writing?**

Here's the thing with cartooning: You can't really separate them. Charles Schulz always said,



Illustrations by Ivan Brunetti, Chris Ware and many others can be seen at 'The Cartoonists' Eye' exhibit in the A+D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave. The show opens Sept. 8.

"I'm not a writer and I'm not a cartoonist." You're writing with pictures. What makes "Peanuts" timeless is that people really believe that those characters are living things, like a character in any kind of story. The amazing thing is that he did it with these little drawings. When you look at a "Peanuts" strip, you're not looking at a drawing of Charlie Brown. You believe that these are actual characters.

**According to your website, you're interested in European and Japanese knock-offs of classic Disney characters. What do you find interesting about them?**

Sometimes when you draw a character "wrong," you capture more of the life of the character. I like the knock-offs that capture something essential about the character that wasn't there in the "official" version of the character.

You can really see the craftsmanship and that someone really took the time to give it their own personal spin, but not in a self-conscious, artsy way—just from the pride of their craftsmanship.

*"The Cartoonist's Eye" opens at Columbia's A&D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave., on Sept. 8 and runs through Oct. 22. Mr. Brunetti will give a curator's talk on Oct. 19, from 6pm to 8pm.*

# Zinesters find community in Gutters

By Hunter Clauss/Assistant A&E Editor

Past a woman covered in comic strips, along a wall lined with comic books, past a table stacked with all sorts of toys, and behind racks full of magazines and zines that's where the monthly meeting

of Gutters is held at Chicago Comics, 3244 N. Clark St.

Gutters, a zine and comics workshop for aspiring authors and artists, meets the last Sunday of every month from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Pulling in an ever-growing crowd, founder Atuey Diaz, 26, and Keith Heldt, 26, lead discussions on the how-tos of self-publishing, ranging from pointers on silk screening to what types of pens and paper to use.

Aside from the more technical aspect of self-publishing, Diaz and Heldt's overall goal is to create a community of up-and-coming zinesters who can support each other.

"Bring in what you're working on," Diaz said. "We want to help flesh things out."

One way Gutters helps "flesh things out" is by having guest speakers come in and talk about their creative process and how they got started in self-publishing. Last month's guest speaker was Anders Nilsen, 31, author and artist of *Big Questions* and *The Ballad of the Two-Headed Boy*. *Ballad* is a comic that chronicles the journey of a two-headed homeless boy who can't figure out how to put his life back together.

For his work in self-publishing, Nilsen won the Xeric grant in 2000. This grant offers up to \$5,000 for financial assistance and was founded by Peter A. Laird, co-creator of the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*.

"It felt awesome," Nilsen said about receiving the grant. "It was a huge validation."

Aside from the Xeric grant, Nilsen has been nominated for numerous Ignatz awards that are handed out during the Small Press Expo. *Big Questions* #4 was nominated for a 2002 award for promising new talent and outstanding comic. His comic *Dogs & Water* was nominated for another Ignatz award for outstanding debut in 2004.

Nilsen didn't start off on the top though. He moved to Chicago in 1999 to attend the School of the Art Institute for graduate studies in painting. While he enjoyed it, Nilsen became increasingly aware of his fondness for creating comic books and exploring the boundaries of the medium, but he had a somewhat difficult time finding

the help he needed.

"It sort of felt like I was into comics and there weren't more people in the faculty that really could relate to it," Nilsen said. "They were very supportive, but they couldn't really talk about it in a helpful way."

Nilsen left the Art Institute after his first year to go into publishing his own comics.

Along the way, however, he noticed a minor setback.

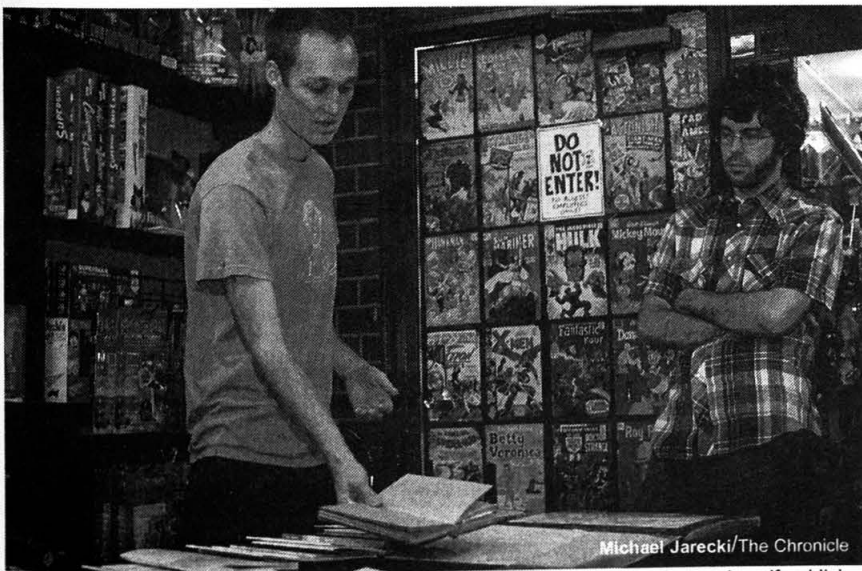
"When you're in school you're constantly having critiques—granted you always have an audience built into school, and when you're done with school you don't," Nilsen said. "No matter what you do in school, somebody's going to look at it."

It is in this way that Gutters has helped many people interested in self-publishing, from experts to beginners. Pulling in a nice-size crowd of 12 to 15 people, Gutters guarantees an audience of peers who prove to be a valuable resource of constructive criticism and promotion of each other's work.

"Comics is kind of an antisocial endeavor," Diaz said, adding that it is something he is willing to change through Gutters.

Gutters is scheduled to meet next on Sept. 25 at Chicago Comics, 3244 N. Clark St., between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

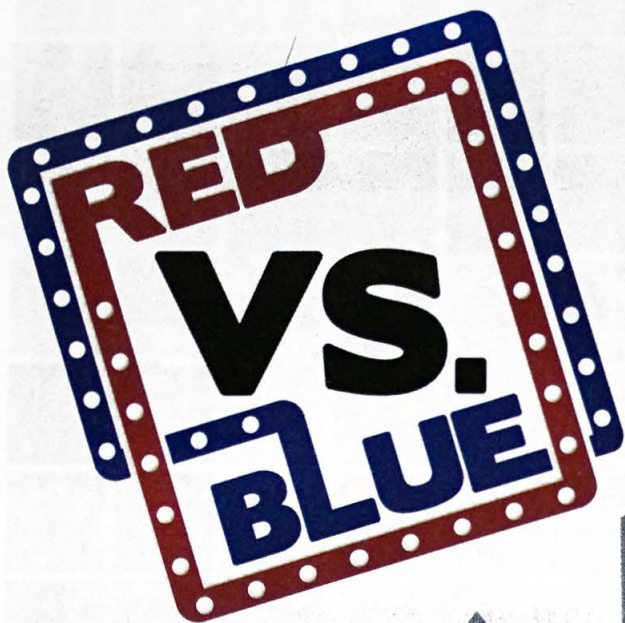
For more information on Gutters, visit their website at [www.myspace.com/gutterszine](http://www.myspace.com/gutterszine).



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Keith Heldt (right) listens to Anders Nilsen (left) as he talks about his experiences in self-publishing at the Aug. 28 meeting of Gutters.





Compiled by Todd Burbo, Tiffany Breynne and Hunter Clauss  
Photographs by Eric Davis, Erin Mash, and Michael Jarecki  
Illustrations by Chris Gallevo

**Trying to divide Chicago into two neatly-separated social scenes is a difficult task, requiring an eye for stereotypes and over observed details, as well as a great ability to generalize. Lucky for you, our A&E staff has done the legwork, allowing you to simply read and insert yourself into the scene of your choice.**

In the broadest of terms, the Red Line is home to yuppies and tourists, quickly shuttling you to both baseball fields, a variety of museums and the ever-posh Lincoln Park. Cars are often flooded with drunken Cubs fans, strollers and large groups nervously poring over CTA maps. The Blue Line plays host to a horde of hipsters convinced they're escaping commercial America and gentrification, never seeming to notice that Wicker Park's rent prices have long since matched or surpassed those of Wrigleyville. They should also note that Josh Hartnett's recent bomb of a film was called *Wicker Park*, not Lincoln Park. Shouldn't that have signaled a time to move on?

So which is the lesser of two evils? Well, to be honest, you should ignore our glaring cynicism. Both lines, Red and Blue, offer a road to amazing neighborhoods. Great food, music and people will be found east and west. Here we've accumulated a few highlights. Think of it as a starting point, our gift to you.

Where to begin? If there is any category in which the Red Line is a clear winner over Blue, it is the music venues. First, we have The Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., off the Addison stop, one of the most beloved venues in the city. This is due in part to its 1100-person capacity—a perfect size that allows intimacy while still drawing major acts. The Metro's fall lineup includes the Brian Jonestown Massacre, M.I.A. and Sleater-Kinney. Shows at The Metro range from all ages to 21 and over so be sure to check with its website, [metrochicago.com](http://metrochicago.com), before purchasing tickets. The Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave., is another powerhouse venue, just west of the Belmont stop. Although the space seems large at first, with its 1,400-person capacity, The Vic is surprisingly cozy. Upcoming Vic shows include Atmosphere, The Bravery and LCD Soundsystem. Like The Metro, age restrictions range at The Vic, so do some research on its website at [victheatre.com](http://victheatre.com).

Wondering what to do after a show at The Metro? Go out the front door, turn left and walk about 10 feet. You'll find yourself at The Gingerman Tavern, 3740 N. Clark St., one of the greatest semi-dives the North Side has to offer. Although it sits in the center of Wrigleyville, you'll find the Gingerman strangely vacant of rowdy Cubs fans—perhaps the environment is too relaxed for them. You'll find most patrons sitting and chatting among friends, not so much socializing as merely drinking in public. Wander into the back room and you'll find a bit more movement, courtesy of two pool tables and some open space. The best thing about the Gingerman, though, is its jukebox, which can be officially declared the best in the city.

Another Red Line favorite is The Holiday Club, ironically a Wicker Park transplant. Located at 4000 N. Sheridan



Road, just off the Sheridan stop, Holiday bills itself as a "swinger's mecca," but aside from its gaudy glittering exterior, its swinging 60s theme is fairly unobtrusive. Holiday is a winner for all the right reasons: cheap beer, good food and a fun crowd. It is one of the rare Chicago bars that offers both food and drink specials every day of the week, highlighted by Sunday's half-price import pitchers and \$5 pizzas. And trust us, the pizza is good—so are the chicken wings, so is the salad, so is the...oh, just go there and eat and drink. You won't be sorry. For more info, check out [www.swingersmecca.com](http://www.swingersmecca.com).



While the Blue Line may not rival the sheer number of venues available off the Red Line, it does boast at least one worthy Chicago icon: the Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave., right across from the Damen stop. First opened in 1994, the small space has played host to bands such as The Smashing Pumpkins, Liz Phair and Bush. With a capacity of fewer than 500 (473 to be exact), the Double Door is your place for up close and personal music.

Also worth mentioning is the Logan Square Auditorium, 2539 N. Kedzie Blvd., off the Logan Square stop. Commonly hosting punk or metal shows, the Logan Square Auditorium's fall lineup includes Strung Out, The HorrorPops and The 5,6,7,8's. For more information and schedules go to [logansquareauditorium.com](http://logansquareauditorium.com).



Wicker Park is generally known as one giant hotspot these days, but a few bars off the Damen stop stand above the competition. Perhaps the most iconic of the Wicker Park scene is Rainbo Club, 1150 N. Damen Ave. Essentially, Rainbo's one large, dingy room draws hipster clientele who, fortunately for the bar, enjoy nothing more than staring at each other in this drab space. The bar is usually packed shoulder-to-shoulder on weekends though, so try it out during the week first.



Ginbucks' GC Cuff and its signature drink.

A new Blue Line favorite of The Chronicle staff's is Ginbucks, 1469 N. Milwaukee Ave. The dimly-lit and well-decorated Wicker Park bar actually has the audacity to play ESPN on its TV screens—a sure way to stand out in the neighborhood. It also has food specials, such as Monday's \$2 burger and tots deal. Also, check out their signature drink, the Ginbuck (photo above), which is \$3 nightly.



Unabridged Books Inc., 3251 N. Broadway, is the sexiest independent bookstore in the Lakeview area. Located in colorful Boystown, Unabridged includes a wide selection of literature for the GLBT community as well as the heterosexual crowd. The staff is friendly and is more than willing to special-order books not currently in the store. They will special-order almost anything as long as it's available. This is good news for anyone interested in locating all the *Harry Potter* books in German. While Unabridged doesn't carry used books the same way Myopic does, it does mark down books to affordable prices. For instance, a hardcover copy of DBC Pierre's *Vernon God Little*, 2003 winner of the Booker Prize, can be found for less than 10 bucks. Unabridged Books is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information call (773) 883-9119.



Myopic Books, 1564 N. Milwaukee Ave., is the Harold Washington Library of used bookstores. With a collection of more than 80,000 books, Myopic has three floors for book lovers to peruse through, but don't even think about putting books in the wrong places—the price is raised on each misplaced book the employees find. For more information on buying or selling books, visit [myopic@myopicbookstore.com](http://myopic@myopicbookstore.com). Regular business hours are Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Pick Me Up Café, 3408 N. Clark St., is a colorful little hideout ideal for meeting up with friends. With a jukebox including everything from Prince to Gang of Four, this little coffee house is the perfect place to get a cup of coffee and to chill out late at night. Menus are also available with an excellent selection of food. One favorite is the "garlicious" chicken breast sandwich with goat cheese. But if that doesn't float your boat, there is a wide selection of vegetarian and vegan entrees and desserts. While the Pick Me Up does have a somewhat wild and alternative late-night crowd, it has a milder mannered clientele during the day, which is ideal for doing homework while sipping a cup of coffee. The Pick Me Up Café is open Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 3 a.m., and 24 hours Saturday and Sunday. For more information call (773) 248-6613. Smoking and non-smoking sections are available.



Laptop? Check. Hipster haircut? Check. Now all you need is a few bucks and you're ready for Filter, 1585 N. Milwaukee Ave. Coffee snobs will be satisfied with the bean selection at Filter while internet junkies love the cheap (\$3 per hour) wireless access. If you're hungry, Filter has typical coffee shop food such as quiche, sandwiches, baked goods, and decent soup. During the day, Filter is a laid-back place to hang out with its cozy couches galore, art on the walls and plenty of windows to gaze out of. Later in the evening, however, it's Wicker Park's hotspot. From scenesters scoping out new locals to pseudo-intellectuals showing off their new iBooks, Filter is jam-packed with a younger, edgier crowd. It's a perfect place to sit, drink coffee and pretend to be reading the *New Yorker* while scoping out hot boys or girls. Filter is open 7 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to midnight on Saturday and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, call (773) 227-4850.



Filter manager Stevie Rox prepares a drink.



Located off the Cermak/Chinatown stop, Chinatown gives the visitor an opportunity to enjoy a variety of restaurants and shops while taking in the scenic view of Chicago. Separated in two sections, Chinatown Square and Wentworth Avenue, both offer different aspects to this attraction. Chinatown Square has restaurants galore, as well as tiny groceries. In the square, friendly locals and visitors will point you to Joy Yee's Noodle Shop, 2159 S. China Place, as the most popular spot to eat authentic food. The scenery inside the square is calm and quiet—good for a relaxing chat or a walk with a friend. Whether shopping and eating, Chinatown is a calm and friendly environment with numerous options to choose from. If it all seems to be too much, just ask a local and they'll point you in the right direction.



The Red Line has much to offer in this category with the happening stops of Belmont and Addison. Off the Belmont stop is the ever famous Clarke's, 932 W. Belmont Ave., the 24-hour restaurant serving all the locals' needs with a cheap menu featuring sandwiches, burgers, salads and more. It's located just a few steps from the El. One stop up at Addison is Bacci Pizza, 950 W. Addison St., open until 3 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays, and 4 a.m. on Saturday. With a typical Italian menu, fast food style, there are many good items to choose from. The most noteworthy menu item is the pizza, which is as big as your face and super cheap.

Welcome to the festive world of Greektown, the life of Halsted Street off the UIC/Halsted stop. Filled with restaurants and shops, Greektown serves to please college students, locals and tourists. Daytime visitors looking for an authentic Greek lunch can check out Artopolis, 306 S. Halsted St., a classic bakery with a menu too good to be true. To try your own hand at Greek cooking go to the Pan Hellenic Pastry Shop, 323 S. Halsted St., which specializes in Greek pastry and bread. Or enjoy a cigar in style at Jorgio Cigar Inc., 320 S. Halsted St., two steps down. College students will enjoy the late-night eats at Mr. Greek, 234 S. Halsted St., which is well known for its tasty gyro platters and the occasional drunken brawl. Zorba's, 301 S. Halsted St., also caters to the late-night eaters with a similar menu and delivery to boot.

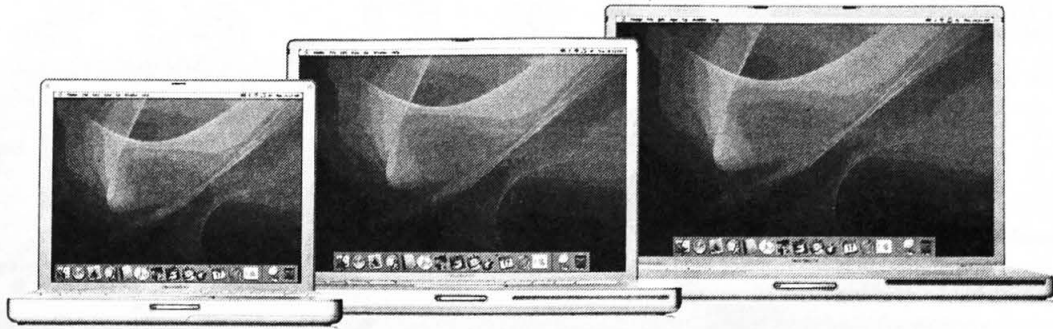


Looking for Mexican food? The Blue Line has two restaurants located right off the el that serve late night cravers. First, off the Division stop is La Pasadita, 1141 N. Ashland Ave. With a reputation for having the best tacos in Chicago, its menu more than satisfies the high expectations patrons set for their dinners. Combined with cheap prices, La Pasadita offers one of the best deals in town and is open for hungry—and probably drunk—people until 2 a.m.

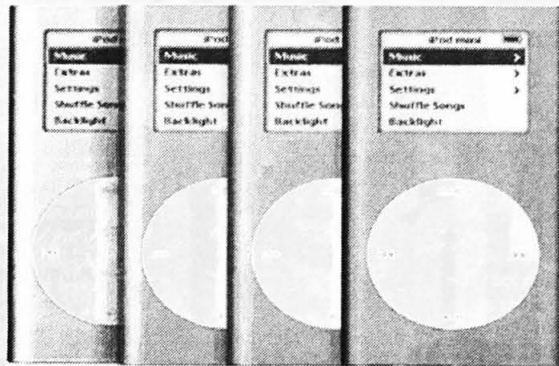
A few steps up off the Logan Square stop is El Cid 2, 2645 N. Kedzie Ave., winning raves from newcomers and regulars alike. Offering more than just tacos, El Cid 2 offers various seafood and an extensive alcohol lineup for people looking to get the party started or keep it going late into the night. El Cid 2 is open until midnight on Thursdays and 2 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.



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# Things are looking 'Grimm'

Latest film by Terry Gilliam likely to upset PETA, fans of Brazil

By Tiffany Breyne/Assistant A&E Editor

Note to movie goers: *The Brothers Grimm* is not intended for animal lovers or anal retentive individuals who can't handle bad editing. For everyone else, *The Brothers Grimm* is worth seeing on a boring Sunday night two months from now when it comes out on DVD.

Watching the splotchy yet entertaining *Grimm* is like watching a colorblind kid try to pick out a matching outfit. Jake and Will Grimm, played by Heath Ledger and Matt Damon, are entertaining with their German accents and

brotherly ways, though Ledger's character carries most of the movie. Playing the effeminate, goofier brother, Ledger manages to tease the audience with his awkward yet heroic demeanor. He also manages to keep his accent throughout the movie, unlike Damon, who really seems like a celebrity name used to boost sales at the box office.

Set in the 19th century, the movie follows Jake and Will Grimm as they con communities with fake witches and demons, and then charge a fortune to get rid of them. All is well until one day a witch turns out to be the real deal and they must use their knowledge of fairy tales to save the community and their reputation.

As for the animals, they're doomed from the start. *Grimm* director Terry Gilliam (*Brazil*, *12 Monkeys*) must have a vendetta against our furry friends. One scene shows a rabbit skinned and gutted in disgustingly plain view. *Grimm* also has horses' butts being lit on fire and then a furry little kitten splattered to death, with sinew flying everywhere.

The movie does a great job of intertwining numerous fairy tales such as "Hansel and Gretel,"



Photos courtesy of Warner Bros.

Monica Bellucci has this effect on most men. Below left, Matt Damon as Will Grimm.

"Sleeping Beauty" and "Little Red Riding Hood" into the storyline. Deciphering which character or scene is based on a fairy tale is half the fun of the movie. Despite this, the editing is shoddy at best, skipping from one setting to the next without much explanation of how the characters are fighting demons in one place and then tied up and captured in the next. Some characters come into play without explanation of who they are and why they're there—if for any reason at all.

The relationships between the brothers and the other characters

are unnecessarily rocky, coasting between love and hate in a bipolar fashion. Given more time to evolve, the characters could have developed more interesting and sensible connections. Yet *Grimm* goes more for action and quirky comedy than developed characters, which both helps and hurts the movie.

Along with animal torture and demons, *Grimm* is an odd combination of action, comedy, and suspense. Bad editing and under developed characters aside, *Grimm* does a good job of keeping up the balance between the light-hearted

intentions of Jake and Will while still keeping the audience in suspense with the demonic action sequences. *The Brothers Grimm* keeps the audience's attention; just leave any expectations of a stellar performance at the popcorn stand.

**The Brothers Grimm**  
(PG-13)  
Directed by Terry Gilliam



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A.O. SCOTT, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"HANDS DOWN THE FUNNIEST OF THE YEAR!"

DAVID ANSEN, NEWSWEEK

"WONDERFULLY RAUNCHY. THE COMIC HIGHLIGHTS ARE COUNTLESS."

DAVID GERMAIN, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"FASCINATING AND HILARIOUS."

OWEN GLEIBERMAN, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY



"KILLER FUNNY. YOU'LL LAUGH TILL IT HURTS!"

PRODUCES MORE LAUGHS THAN ANY HUNDRED JOKES YOU EVER HEARD."

PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

"OBSCENE, DISGUSTING, VULGAR AND VILE, MIGHT BE THE FUNNIEST MOVIE YOU'LL EVER SEE!"

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

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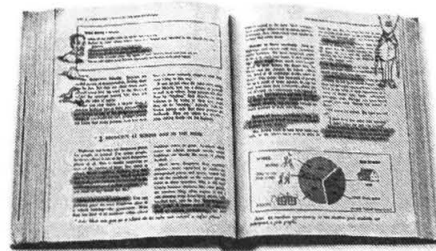
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**Washington Mutual**



# Are you buying what they're selling?

**American Apparel wants to turn you on**

By Tiffany Breynne/Assistant A&E Editor

Meet Miguel. He's young, natural, and oozing sex appeal as he greets you in his underwear from the back cover of your Time Out Chicago magazine.

Now meet American Apparel, the clothing company geared toward young and natural individuals who can relate to the laid-back and revealing Miguel.

American Apparel prides itself on using provocative images of real people, instead of professional models, to send a message to its audience.

"The ads appeal to the younger generation, who are having sex and partying," said Alexandra Spunt, contact advisor for American Apparel. "It represents their lifestyle, something they can identify with." Yet for some people, that message isn't coming through as clearly as Spunt might hope. Grace Ragsdale, a marketing communication major at Columbia, is one of them.

"I think it's scandalous," Ragsdale said. "I would think these

ads were either for clothes or for an anti-AIDS campaign."

At age 19, Ragsdale is part of the core audience American Apparel is trying to reach; she's even close to the same age as most of its workers. According to Spunt, most of the American Apparel staff are in their 20s.

"We want to represent the demographic," Spunt said. "There are no board meetings; we're 20-year-

**"The ads appeal to the younger generation, who are having sex and partying."**

olds working—it's a bunch of kids running the show."

Tom Hamilton, director of Marketing Studies at Columbia, doesn't see the attraction of their method. "These ads make me think, but there is little shock value," Hamilton said.

When it comes to advertise-

ments, using sex to sell is nothing new, and American Apparel is not the first company to use sex-driven ads to promote its clothes.

Clothing retailer Abercrombie and Fitch has also drawn controversy for the scantily clad models in its ads. The difference between the two is that Abercrombie and Fitch contains its images in one catalogue whereas American Apparel is much more "in your face," Spunt said.

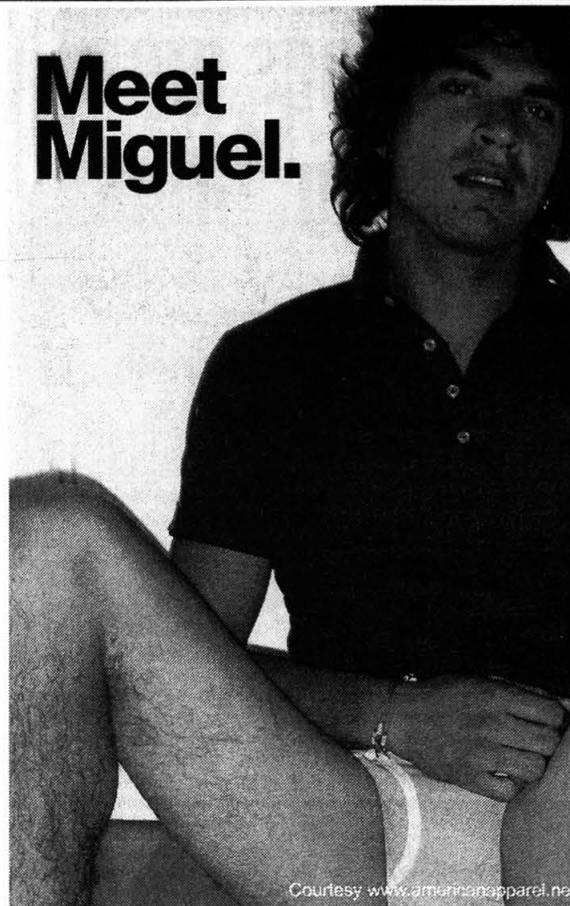
American Apparel's campaign approach has been in the works since 1997, when founder Dov Charney opened the first store in Los Angeles. Going for a classic and logo free style, American Apparel aims for a target audience of 20-to 45-year-olds.

According to some, repititious ads miss their mark. "I would think this was geared toward horny teens, probably about 16," said Shareen Chehade, freshman fashion design major at Columbia.

Whatever the audience or ad, American Apparel is sure of one thing:

"There's not one particular message we're sending out," Spunt said. "We just want to turn people on—whether that's sexually or to the clothes. We want to make an exciting vibe."

## Meet Miguel.



Courtesy www.americanapparel.net

Miguel won't put his pants back on until you buy American Apparel's clothes. Revealing images such as this one aren't unusual in the company's ad campaign.

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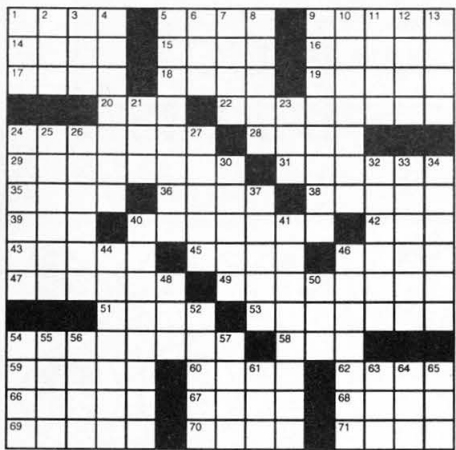
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Crossword

- ACROSS  
1 Time periods  
5 Dupes  
9 Thin pancake  
14 Interstate incline  
15 Small group  
16 Marsh wader  
17 Approach  
18 Prayer ender  
19 Like Wrigley's walls  
20 Ring king  
22 Differs in opinion  
24 Some tobacco users  
28 Lyricist Sammy  
29 Like jack-o'-lanterns  
31 Church doctrines  
35 Levin and Gershwin  
36 Pub choices  
38 Sierra \_\_\_\_  
39 Stroke softly  
40 Sign  
42 \_\_\_\_ polloi  
43 Frost over  
45 Minute quantity  
46 Profit  
47 Fitted together in a stack  
49 Fracture type  
51 Oklahoma city  
53 Casual tops  
54 Completely unused  
58 Drunkard  
59 Awaken  
60 Type of skirt  
62 Cake layer  
66 Up and about  
67 Sandwich cookie  
68 Nervous  
69 London lockups  
70 Light gas  
71 Fury

- DOWN  
1 European eagle  
2 "Norma" \_\_\_\_  
3 MDS' org.  
4 Suburban expansions  
5 Passage between floors  
6 Supply with weapons



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09/06/05

Solutions

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7 Jumbled                           | 56 Sedan or coupe     |
| 8 Type of boom                      | 57 Tightrope, e.g.    |
| 9 Trail from San Antonio to Abilene | 61 Classic beginning? |
| 10 Retaliation                      | 63 Actress Lupino     |
| 11 Emerald Isle                     | 64 Ovum               |
| 12 Frost or Dove                    | 65 ____ whiskey       |
| 13 Concludes                        |                       |
| 21 Lion's name                      |                       |
| 23 Blue                             |                       |
| 24 Add cash                         |                       |
| 25 Greeley or Mann                  |                       |
| 26 Gladdens                         |                       |
| 27 Alabama city                     |                       |
| 30 Downward measurement             |                       |
| 32 Angora goat coat                 |                       |
| 33 Consecrate with oil              |                       |
| 34 Fishing nets                     |                       |
| 37 Ermine in a light coat           |                       |
| 40 Cash dispensers?                 |                       |
| 41 Thing left out                   |                       |
| 44 Kitchen tool                     |                       |
| 46 Play of light                    |                       |
| 48 Noisy clamor                     |                       |
| 50 Greek letter                     |                       |
| 52 Evil spirit                      |                       |
| 54 Boast                            |                       |
| 55 Diva Ponselle                    |                       |



Out of My Head

by  
Scotty Carlson



HOROSCOPES

By Alicia Dorr

Alicia Dorr is not licensed to give advice in any way, but seems to believe that she can see into the future. Heed advice at own risk.

- Aries**  
Just so you know, those pants do not make you look fat. The Kool-Aid mustache and Cheetos powder on your fingers do.
- Taurus**  
Your horrific past in the underbelly of the circus world will once again haunt you this week when you come home to your hoity-toity condo to find a roving band of carnies demanding the return of their beloved spider monkey, Dodger.
- Gemini**  
Did you squander your paycheck on cartons of Natural American Spirit cigarettes and fireworks again? Stop going to Indiana, jackass!
- Cancer**  
Due to your little jaunt trying to be "The Wet Bandit" in the early '90s, we all have to deal with faucets that you can't manually turn on. This week that will come to a head when we all come after you, because automatic faucets are annoying as hell.
- Leo**  
You have a luxurious mane of curls, and I'm jealous.
- Virgo**  
You're tired. Take a nap.
- Libra**  
This week you will meet your match in a little game we like to call "Dance Dance Revolution."
- Scorpio**  
You think you have a manly musk, but it's actually more like swampass.
- Sagittarius**  
Women and men alike love you, but you do not love them. You're kind of a cold-hearted snake, but it's okay.
- Capricorn**  
You've often proclaimed your love for the Super Mario Bros., but if you go into Giordano's and shout, "Itsa me, Mario!" this week, you may get a punch in the face.
- Aquarius**  
Tonight, after you have your 14th drink, you will be visited by two spirits, and also Courtney Love. If that doesn't stop you from drinking, nothing will.
- Pisces**  
You will achieve all of your wildest dreams this week. Lucky you! Look at all these other poor saps!

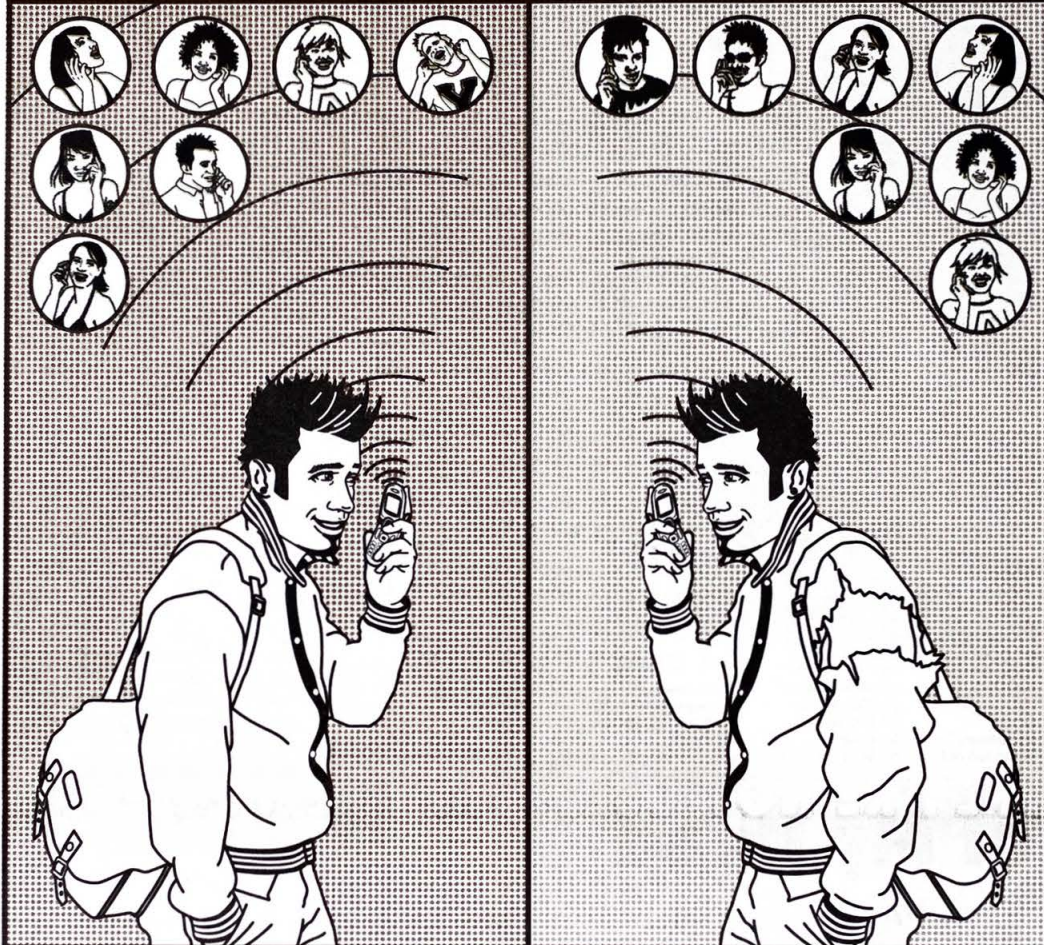


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## No summer break for projects

Columbia entered its shortest break in the school's history with little intent of simply taking a vacation. Rather, the college's Office of Campus Environment opted to go forth with a bold and ambitious series of projects large and small. As Mike Debish, associate vice president of Facilities and Operations, told *The Chronicle* when the spring semester was drawing to a close, one would "literally need a spreadsheet on a computer to keep track" of the amount of work the school had scheduled for the summer months. The efforts, though, have been worth the trouble.

As Columbia continues to carve a stronger identity into the ever-changing South Loop, the projects—ranging from minor repairs to major moves and renovations—go a long way in helping the school with the growth of its campus and the creation of a more student-friendly environment.

For some of the projects, the changes are immediately noticeable, and their impact is swift. The Journalism Department has moved from the 13th floor of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., to its new home on the second floor of

the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, leaving more general-purpose classrooms in its old residence. The multimedia environment of the Conaway Center in the 1104 S. Wabash Center, will offer a wireless center, computer lab, portable stage and lounge to meet all the needs of its variety of users. And the theater department, at the 11th St. Campus, 72 E. 11th St., will also boast an improved lobby and additional classrooms.

Going forward with these projects involved its fair share of difficulties in receiving permits from the city, respecting the historical significance of certain buildings and resolving scheduling conflicts created by the summer institute and orientation.

It's true that some of the work is still wrapping up. The Conaway Center may not be complete until the end of this month; the new revolving door at the entrance to the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., won't be completed until over Christmas break; and moving some of Art and Design to the second floor of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., is projected for the end of February.

However, nearly all of the longer hours from additional nights and weekends spent trying to finish by the start of the fall semester have been successful in the sense that ongoing work has had, and will have, very little interference with our return to classes this week.

Campus Environment has done much to improve the previously drab image of a commuter school into a college-friendly community.

Perhaps the changes are best embodied by the work currently occurring at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. While the rehab to the lobby and the Ferguson Auditorium will be nearly finished, the new Welcome Center will not likely be ready until the end of this month, with new windows along Harrison Street allowing passersby to glimpse inside and view some of what the school has to offer.

Columbia has always been proud to showcase what its students are capable of producing. Despite any conflicts or setbacks involved with the improvements planned this summer, the result of the heavy workload is a case where the ends will ultimately justify the means.

## Hearings should not be free pass

An appointment for life to the highest court in the land is not a matter to be taken lightly, which is what we hope the Senate Judiciary Committee will keep in mind when the confirmation hearings for John G. Roberts Jr. begin today.

President Bush called for a "dignified confirmation process" when he used a prime-time appearance on July 19 to introduce his first Supreme Court appointee. Dignity is what is required to fill the opening created by the retirement of Sandra Day O'Connor, the 75-year-old who became the court's first female justice and established a reputation as the crucial swing vote.

But O'Connor's moderately conservative view is one that hardly seems echoed by Roberts, 50, whose staunch conservative record led the liberal advocacy group *People for the American Way* to conclude that he has expressed views that "often came down to the right of ultraconservative legal luminaries, including Robert Bork."

Comparing Roberts to Ronald Reagan's failed 1987 associate justice nominee is a bold statement, but advoca-

cy groups on both the right and the left have been rallying their troops for battle since O'Connor announced her intention to step down on July 1. The only surprise would be if this fight didn't get ugly.

Conservative interest group *Progress for America* has already set up a website endorsing Roberts at [UporDownVote.com](http://UporDownVote.com), and the abortion rights group *NARAL Pro-Choice America* came under a barrage of criticism for a television ad that connected Roberts to violent anti-choice activists.

With groups on both sides threatening that votes not to their liking will be paying the price at the polls, it's no wonder some senators are opting to say they'll take the "wait-and-see" approach. The hesitation to press Roberts regarding his judicial philosophy should end there.

While Republican control of the Senate may make any potential fight on the part of Democrats an exercise in futility, it's disheartening for some elected officials to dismiss hearings of this magnitude as not being the most appetizing item on their political plates.

Judiciary Committee member Sen. Russell D. Feingold, a Democrat from Wisconsin, told *The New York Times* he wasn't eager to talk about the process in political terms, but admitted that dragging the confirmation hearings out "could take away time from issues where Democrats have a much better position politically, on things like health care, the economy, and, yes, Iraq."

We hope a clear statement of Roberts' views, which could factor into his future decisions, are something all committee members decide to press for aggressively. Republican Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California have already stated they will.

The uncertainty about how Roberts will handle issues dealing with abortion, civil rights and personal privacy deserves to be addressed as completely and thoroughly as possible—even at the risk of delaying a vote in the Senate.

Concern for a party's fate in later elections, after all, pales in comparison to rushing a confirmation that will last a lifetime.

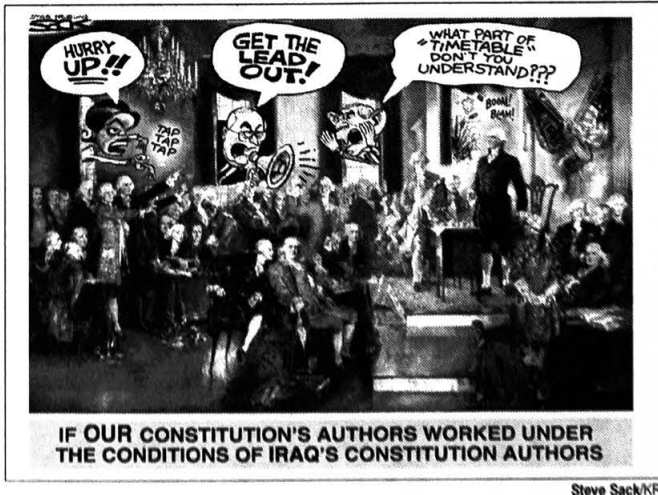
## BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Chris Gallevo/The Chronicle



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# Smoking ban would extinguish small business

By Derek Strum  
Commentary Editor

In a country that prides itself on people of freewill enjoying a free-market economy, smoking bans violate the right to own property free from government tampering.

Beginning Jan. 1, every city in the state of Illinois will have the power to enact its own smoking bans in restaurants and bars. Gov. Rod Blagojevich signed this into law on Aug. 10, a few weeks after expressing hesitation because of the possible economic burden it could create in some communities.

The law changes nothing in Chicago, one of the 21 Illinois cities that are currently allowed to adopt their own smoking regulations. Besides, the Chicago City Council Health Committee Chairman and 28th Ward Alderman Ed Smith had already donned a red cape and slapped an "S" across his chest when he unveiled a proposed anti-smoking ordinance on June 29—one that would eliminate smoking from not only every enclosed area in Chicago, but ban lighting up within 25 feet of such establishments as well.

There were immediate suggestions for a deal, such as possibly allowing smoking after a certain time or selling "smoking licenses." But in the wake of a \$1.5 million campaign by the American Cancer Society to help get Smith's ordinance passed, the group's Illinois Division CEO, Steven M. Derks, told the Chicago Sun-Times, "We are not here to talk about any kind of compromise."

Small-business owners catering to their patronage hardly deserve to suffer the consequences of offering

their customers what they want, much less the opportunity to enjoy a cigarette, cigar or pipe—which are all quite legal, recreational activities. As the Sun-Times reported, there are more than 2,000 smoke-free restaurants among the 6,700 in Chicago, and the number of seats in required non-smoking sections has increased by 90 percent over the past five years.



Anti-smoking advocates who dismiss the effects of bans on the hospitality industry as myths would be wise to look at the ongoing, heated debate occurring a few hours away in another Midwestern city: Madison, Wis.

Less than a week after Blagojevich restored power to the municipalities in Illinois, city council members in Madison were seeking ways to deal with the hardships suffered by their city's bars and restaurants since their smoking ban took effect in July. The Wisconsin State Journal reported

smaller neighborhood establishments closer to city limits were struggling to compete with neighboring cities that allowed smoking. Reacting to the outcry from taverns citing business losses, council members proposed an April advisory referendum as well as an exemption for establishments that can prove they've hit hard times.

A day after officials offered the

proposals, Madison's thedaily-page.com reported that a "sizeable crowd" of demonstrators gathered downtown to protest the ordinance and voice concerns—not about their health, but about how they'd pay their bills. One of the city's former aldermen, Dorothy Borchardt, told the suddenly income-deprived crowd, "We can't wait for a referendum." Again, a compromise seems out of the question.

The unfortunate truth about tobacco is that beyond all the health risks and societal problems that it and its bans may cause, the tax money it generates seems to trump health concerns. In a New York Times editorial last month, Howard Markel, a pediatrician and historian of medicine at the University of Michigan, called attention to the legal settlement made with each of the 50 states (including the District of Columbia) in the late 1990s in which the tobacco companies agreed to pay \$246 billion over 25 years for tobacco prevention and cessation programs. However, only 5 percent of the \$40.7 billion received so far has been dedicated to such causes.

Just as many other states opted to invest in everything but programs to help those who smoke or prevent others from starting, Markel noted Illinois put \$315 million toward property tax relief and an earned-income tax rebate.

And it's still strapped for cash. The Tribune reported that the Illinois Department of Revenue is seeking more than \$2.1 million in back taxes, penalties and interest from nearly 5,000 residents for cigarettes purchased via the Internet—as far back as two years ago.

That's an awful lot of dependable revenue coming from a group so frequently demonized. Chicago's latest proposed ordinance won't be the final word in what will remain a matter of individual tolerance, as the harms caused by smoking have become a redundancy that's almost as addicting to its critics as the product is to its users. The hospitality industry should be able to continue accommodating both, since an acceptable compromise, after all, appears out of the question.

Chicago's latest proposed ordinance won't be the final word in what will remain a matter of individual tolerance, as the harms caused by smoking have become a redundancy that's almost as addicting to its critics as the product is to its users. The hospitality industry should be able to continue accommodating both, since an acceptable compromise, after all, appears out of the question.

## Smokers should take it outside

By Jennifer Sabella  
Managing Editor

A few weeks back, I was driving home after a long day waitressing at a South Side restaurant when a billboard caught my eye. The sign read: "Waitresses deserve a smoke-free workplace." I agreed.

When I began waitressing, I never really thought about the smoke. I figured dealing with smokers was just a part of the job—something I needed to get used to. It never really crossed my mind that I was not only dealing with stingy tippers and cranky co-workers, but I was also breathing in thousands of toxins a night—whether I liked it or not.

When I heard about the proposed smoking ban in Chicago bars and restaurants, I got pretty excited. My smoke-free drinking and dining experiences in New York last year were fabulous (there's nothing quite like coming home from a bar and NOT smelling like smoke), and I longed to have that in my own city.

I decided to get another opinion on the matter, and I spoke to

some of the other servers at my restaurant, since all of them smoke. My excitement was quickly shot to the ground. "That's bullshit," one cigarette-loving server exclaimed. "The best tippers are smokers."

People will really say anything to keep puffing away in bars and restaurants, and I have yet to hear an opinion on the matter that is not self-serving.

Since then, I've stumbled upon dozens of groups protesting the proposed ban, saying that banning smoking is taking away our rights and that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has exaggerated the number of deaths associated with secondhand smoke. Some have gone as far as to say there is no credible evidence that exposure to secondhand smoke is at all harmful (a statement that would make the American Lung Association and lung cancer patients cringe).

The other side of the coin seems a lot more logical. Sure, people have the right to smoke, just like people have the right to consume alcohol, watch porn and walk around their houses in their underwear. Just because

these things are your rights (and there is nothing wrong with doing any of them) doesn't mean other people should be subjected to the ramifications.

I drink, but I don't drive drunk. I watch porn, but not in front of children and you bet your ass I walk around my apartment in my underwear, but doubt my Nana would appreciate me doing that on Michigan Avenue. Personal freedom is fabulous, but when you put other people's lives (or general health) in danger, that's just not cool.

People have asthma, people are allergic to cigarette smoke and people do not want to inhale smoke when they're trying to enjoy a \$30 steak—including the waitstaff. While it is important for restaurant owners to run their businesses the way they please, it's also important to be conscious of risks associated with secondhand smoke. If a restaurant owner didn't feel like getting rid of cockroaches or taking out the garbage, the city would shut him/her down.

Sometimes personal preference should be sacrificed for the good of the people: According to the EPA, secondhand smoke kills

3,000 non-smoking lung cancer patients each year and also increases the risk of death from heart disease.

Everyone knows that smoking is bad for your health. Smoking is a decision people make, just like I decide to damage my liver at the bar once a week. Health problems aside, the ban issue has stirred up local politicians across the nation. Some cities have seen a decline in patronage, while some remain unaffected.

The idea of not being able to smoke in bars and restaurants is by no means an extreme or unfair rule. It's a matter of compromise, which political leaders aren't willing to do.

It shouldn't be a big ordeal to sit at a bar or restaurant for an hour without lighting up, and if you really need to, you can always go outside. The problem lies in rules prohibiting smoking up to 25 feet outside a bar or restaurant.

A smoke-free Chicago sounds great to me. But I'm willing to compromise. Once we get both sides of the fence to hear each other out, then maybe we'll get somewhere before this all blows up in smoke.

## Roamin' Numerals

20

Number of minutes late an air traffic controller at Australia's Canberra International Airport arrived at work on Aug. 31, causing a plane carrying 68 passengers to circle the city before being cleared to land. A spokesman for Air Services Australia said, "The guy slept in."

115

Age of Hendrikje van Andel-Schipper was at the time of her death Aug. 30. Recognized in 2004 by the *Guinness Book of Records* as the world's oldest person, the Dutch woman is succeeded by 115-year-old Elizabeth Bolden of Tennessee.

15

Number of stories 2-month-old kitten Rajah survived, uninjured, after a fall following a potty break on a high-rise balcony in Alexandria, Md., on Aug. 28. Rajah's owner, Jessica Vides, said she's since moved the litter box inside.

## Choice Cuts

“

"I was saying something serious about Native American literature, and they made it into something trivial and stupid about Tommy Lee's penis."

University of Nebraska-Lincoln English professor Frances Kaye, commenting on how footage of one of her classroom discussions on child birth was edited for the NBC reality series, "Tommy Lee Goes to College."

”

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## Illinois colleges plan to aid hurricane victims

**Chicago's City Colleges to waive tuition and fees for fall semester**

By Tara Burghart  
AP Writer

Students from Illinois enrolled in colleges in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama shuttered because of the hurricane will be able to attend community colleges in Illinois.

"Many of them can't afford to lose a semester on their way to a college degree," Gov. Rod Blagojevich said. "We need the community colleges of Illinois to help them to continue their studies uninterrupted."

Whether the students have to pay tuition or fees will be decided on a case-by-case basis by each school, said Blagojevich spokesman Gerardo Cardenas.

In Chicago, the head of City Colleges urged any city resident who was supposed to attend a college closed because of Hurricane Katrina to sit in on classes at one of Chicago's seven community colleges.

Chancellor Wayne Watson said the students can audit the classes for free, which means they won't earn a grade or

credit, but will keep learning until their universities reopen.

If the effects of Hurricane Katrina continue longer than expected and the student decides to enroll for credit at mid-semester, City Colleges will waive tuition and fees for this semester, said spokeswoman Elsa Tullo.

Watson said he worries most that students will get discouraged by the delay and drop out, but he doesn't want to poach students from already-suffering universities.

"This is successful if two things happen: One, the students are able to continue their educational experience. Two, if the student returns to their home campus, which is down South," he said.



Dillard University students look for toiletries and clothes among items donated in Shreveport, La., on Aug. 28.

## Mayor apologizes for errors, corruption

**Daley says he 'could have done more' and promises to 'root out' the bad weeds**

Associated Press

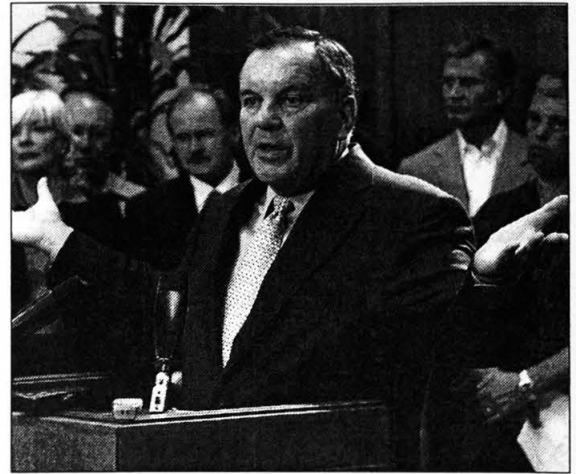
Mayor Richard M. Daley has apologized for the state of scandal-plagued City Hall, saying he should have done more to prevent corruption in his administration.

Speaking to about 300 people at a budget hearing on Aug. 30 at the South Shore Cultural Center, the mayor said he should have worked harder to ensure good government.

"It's become clear to me that I should have done more to maintain higher ethical standards and prevent corruption," he said. "I let you down by not putting the same energy into fixing those problems that I have into moving our city forward."

Federal authorities have spent more than 18 months investigating bribes given in return for jobs in a city trucking program. Earlier this year, that probe expanded to alleged fraud in the city's hiring practices.

"I take responsibility for these problems, and tonight, I make a commitment to you to do everything within my power to fix



AP

On Aug. 30, Mayor Richard M. Daley apologized before a group at the Chicago Cultural Center for corruption and ethical shortcomings within his administration. For months, federal investigators have investigated 'pay for play' bribes in a city trucking program.

them, root out those who engage in misconduct and hold them accountable for their misdeeds," Daley told a standing room only crowd.

Tuesday's public hearing was held to give residents a chance to appeal for more funding for various community services. In his opening remarks, however, Daley took the opportunity to address corruption issues that have dogged him in recent weeks.

"I know I should have done more to end the corruption more quickly," he said.

Daley, who has not been accused of wrongdoing, answered questions on Aug. 19 from U.S. attorney representatives investigating corruption in

City Hall. Daley officials said the interview concerned certain city programs and policies for hiring and promotion.

At the Aug. 30 gathering, the mayor also outlined some of his successes at the helm of the city since 1989. He pointed to how his administration had saved tax dollars by cutting 3,000 city jobs and how it had hired an additional 1,500 police officers.

At the hearing, the first of several scheduled to discuss the city's preliminary 2006 budget, some attendees complained about the removal of police cameras from certain street corners. Others called for more new schools and more police officers.

**Share your space, but live on your own.**



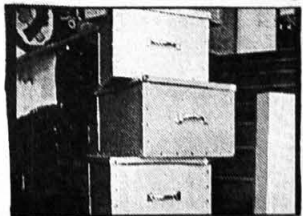
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## SRO: Organization reaches out

It's easier to get drunk, it's easier to do heroin, but it's a job to stay focused."

That is just what Brown is doing in his new home at the SRO. Born in Flint, Mich., and raised on the West Side of Chicago near Racine Avenue and Roosevelt Road, Brown attended Lane Tech High School and graduated in 1969; two years after he began using drugs. After attending the University of Illinois at Chicago for one year, Brown took a job for General Motors Corp. in Broadview, Ill., where the company paid for him to go to school. He married twice and is currently separated from his second wife. Brown also has five children he still sees.

"I was very fortunate then, had a great start very early in education but then the gas crunch of 1977 happened and I was laid off," Brown said. From there he bounced around jobs, working for a steel mill repairing machines and then for the Chicago Transit Authority from 1984 until 1999, when he was laid off for failing drug tests.

"The drugs just got the best of me," he said. "The work I had

done for the majority of my life took a toll on my body. I needed to have both hips replaced and my liver was going bad. I haven't been diagnosed with hepatitis C, but I know it's coming."

All of that is what enabled Brown to get set up with Social Security disability income, which allows him to pay rent for his second-floor room. Even though the CCIL built the new SRO in order to help stop homelessness, the building has a much farther reaching goal.

"We hope to better people's lives here," Roberts said. "We look at this as the place to put your life back together. If nothing else, it's a start."

The facility has numerous amenities to help people adjust and feel comfortable with their new homes: a common area on each floor, a laundry room, exercise room, a library and computer lab, as well as a rooftop garden that overlooks the buildings to the east.

Drugs and alcohol are not allowed in the building at any time. However, the facility cannot regulate what the tenants do outside of the building. It also has around-the-clock security that monitors the tenants' guests and requires them to leave by a certain time. The tenants are also given a limited amount of overnight passes for guests.

"We have programs here to get

*"I'm proud and very fortunate to have a place like this. It gave me a foundation to do something, because it's a job to stay sober."*

—Harry Brown,  
SRO resident

## And the beat goes on



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Lawrence Allen (from left to right), Melvin Lindsay and Musa Mosley, all from Chicago, keep rhythm in an impromptu drum circle during the African Arts Festival in Washington Park on Sept. 2. The 16th annual event, featuring a plethora of musical forms and African art, continued through Labor Day, Sept. 5.

people on their feet, to teach them computer skills, and we have a case management department that meets regularly with the tenants," Roberts said. "We don't expect this to be the final place for people; hopefully they are able to leave after they get their lives together."

Brown said he would like to help others who are struggling. He does advocacy work for the Supportive Housing Association, which helps to

finance other supportive housing developments throughout Illinois, and hopes to one day start his own recovery home for anyone who needs help.

"There are a lot of homeless people out there and it's not always because of drugs or alcohol—some have problems because they are homeless and some just can't find a job," Brown said. "I want to start a recovery home for people trying to work their way back into soci-

ety, for people stuck between a rock and a hard place."

Until he has the chance to start his own recovery home, Brown plans on staying put in his new apartment, enjoying the amenities and looking out his second floor window at the street below—something he said is especially nice during summer.

"A year from now I just hope to be living, breathing, walking and talking. I hope I've found my clique here."

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# New smart lights giving pedestrians a run-around

**Motion system at Balbo and Lake Shore Drives speeds up traffic**

By Alan J. Baker  
City Beat Editor

A pilot program implemented by city officials last month seems to be speeding up the commute for motorists on Lake Shore Drive, but pedestrians are getting the red light.

Smart Signaling cameras detecting movement have replaced the traditional fixed-time scheduled traffic lights at the intersection of Balbo and Lake Shore Drives, decreasing the southbound wait time by 90 percent, according to Chicago's Traffic Management Authority, which oversees the program.

The cameras measure traffic movement within the intersection, allowing the turning lights to remain red if there are no vehicles within the lanes, said Monique Bond, spokeswoman for the city's 911 center, which oversees the Traffic Management Authority.

Before the lights were installed, traffic was stopping on Lake Shore Drive for 35 seconds at a time, even when there were no cars waiting to turn, Bond said.

"The results mean more green time for vehicles to move through Lake Shore Drive," Bond said.

The Traffic Management Authority also removed the historic Queen's Landing pedestrian crossing just before the Taste of Chicago this summer in an effort to keep traffic flowing northbound and away from the intersection.

Pedestrians formerly crossed between Buckingham Fountain, with an estimated 5 million visitors per year, and Monroe Harbor using a 30-second pedestrian countdown light. Now a temporary metal fence and an additional wood and metal fence-lining stretch along the crossing, forcing pedestrians to walk south to the Balbo Drive crossing or north to the Monroe Drive or Jackson Drive crossings.

The lack of public input and communication from the city have upset some who use the crossing daily.

"As a runner I like to head straight across Lake Shore from Buckingham," said Dan Jones, a South Loop resident. Now it takes me out of my way at least a block in either direction."

Cyclist Kathy Schubert was showing foreign tourists around Grant Park when they came upon workers taking down the crossing lights at Queen's Landing this summer.

"I saw the crew and asked them what they were doing," Schubert said. "They

said it's what the mayor wants."

Schubert doesn't like the decision, so on Aug. 31 she attended a budget meeting at a city office at 2102 West Ogden Ave.

After waiting nearly two hours she presented her opinion to Mayor Richard M. Daley regarding the removal of the crosswalk.

Daley replied that eventually a tunnel will be constructed under Lake Shore Drive for pedestrian access, according to Schubert.

"A cheaper solution would be to reinstall the crossing lights," Schubert said. "They are putting the drivers before the people."

In 2003 Chicago drivers spent 58 hours sitting in traffic during rush hours, three hours longer than commuters endured in 2002, according to a report issued by the Texas Transportation Institute.

In March, Daley created the Traffic Management Authority in an effort to gather more data on the city's traffic flow through centralized control and the improved technology. The initial cost of the new program, in conjunction with the office of Emergency Management and Communications, is estimated at \$18 million, with most of the money coming from federal grants.

Other cities including Tokyo, London, Los Angeles, Houston and Atlanta already use the technology. These cities were taken into consideration when developing the new program.

James Moore, professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Southern California, said Chicago is on the right track for speeding up traffic, and the city will learn a lot from the cameras and pedestrian changes.

"You have a lot of flexibility by what is taken out of the system," Moore said. "You're at an advantage because you can have post processing of the information from intersections."

Moore said the traffic system in Los Angeles monitors numerous intersections, and information is sent back to the department's database.

"In Chicago there is only one intersection," Moore said. "I assume they are taking a close look at the performance of the intersection."

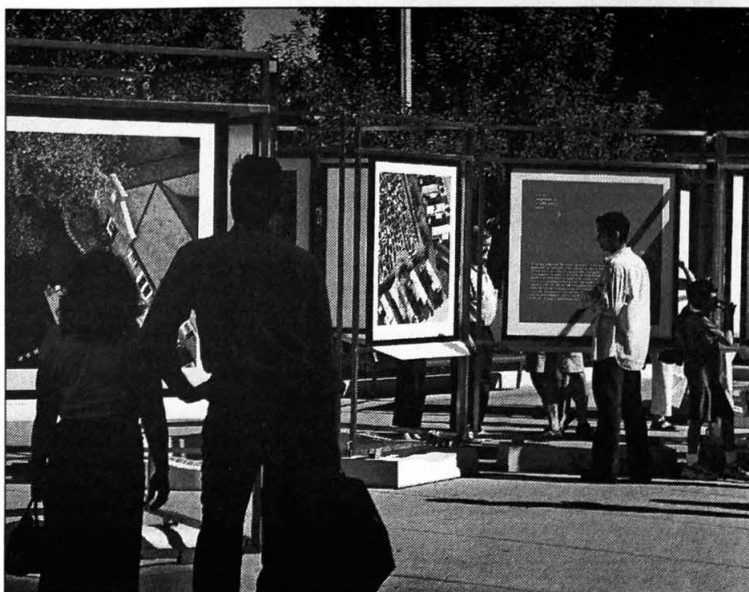
Since the new system was installed, including the pedestrian closure, drivers northbound on Lake Shore Drive have seen more than a 12 percent reduction in stops, according to Bond.

"We have plans to install the camera technology at other locations," Bond said. "Our goal is to keep Chicago moving faster."



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

A pilot program designed to speed up stop-and-go traffic along Lake Shore Drive last month appears to be working, but pedestrians can no longer cross Lake Shore Drive at Queen's Landing between Grant Park and the waterfront.



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Visitors at Millennium Park view 'Revealing Chicago: An Aerial Portrait,' a collection of photographs depicting Chicago from above. Photographer Terry Evans, once a part-time teacher at Columbia, worked on the project for more than a year.

## Evans: Photographer shoots from above

the air. She met with conservationists, city planners, landscape historians, cultural geographers and people who know the area, eventually coming up with a rough idea of what to photograph.

According to Adelman, there were two loose goals that the organizers were looking to achieve. One main idea was to display photographs that show the region as one entity, rather than suburbs versus city or prairie landscape. Another was that the region looks the way it does because of planning.

"Public policy does matter. For example, most American cities have turned their backs on their waterfronts, while there are parks all along Lake Michigan in Chicago," Adelman said. "People planned that when the area was developing and one hundred years later we are beneficiaries of that plan."

With a mix of clear objectives and a commitment to beautiful photography, Evans was able to start. Evans has had one-person shows at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and the Smithsonian of American Art and the Field Museum of Natural History, among others. But she had new challenges to overcome with this project.

She said that when she was undertaking the approximately 50 helicopter flights with one pilot, Chicago weather became a huge complication.

"I felt like a doctor on call for a year," Evans said. "Whenever the weather was good I had to be up in the air. I probably had to cancel 50 percent of the flights because I had to have strong sunlight."

While she was watching the sky for clouds, she also had to purchase a device to keep her camera from shaking. She said that the shaking of the aircraft caused the pictures to seem "generalized," and she was looking for a sharper view.

"I wanted to be able to show people in the pictures, so the pictures could tell a human story," Evans said.

The people involved with the project believe she achieved just that. Walker Blackwell, a part-time student at Columbia in the Photography Department, worked as Evans' assistant throughout the project. Evans, whom he met as an aide in Columbia's digital lab when she needed negatives cleaned up, said she can get important issues across to a wide group of people with this exhibit.

"Photography like this is perfect for a public space," Blackwell said. "It's

inspired by the way it connects with people, because they can look at the photos and see themselves."

Blackwell started his own business, Black Point Editions, along with three fellow Columbia students during the course of the project. From his experiences in everything from developing concepts for photographs with Evans to creating an interactive website with two other designers, Blackwell said he learned a great deal.

Photography is an effective way to convey the issues that the Openlands Project and Chicago Metropolis 2020 are looking to raise awareness about, Blackwell added.

"An exhibit like this has to be public because in a gallery it's not going to reach the people who are affected," Blackwell said.

Adelman agrees, pointing out that an estimated 2.5 million people or more have seen the exhibit just by passing through the park. He said that it is clear through the interviews and listening at Millennium Park that the ideals are getting through.

"Photography is a way to engage people and yet there's a message there," Adelman said.

Evans said in the end all the work was "well worth it," pointing out that the text, written by Charles Wheelan, a lecturer on public policy at the University of Chicago, and the photos work well to bring people together in the region.

"I don't know how much pictures motivate people, but even recognizing your own connectedness to an area is a good thing," Evans said.



Courtesy Walker Blackwell

Photographer Terry Evans flew in helicopters, Piper Cub planes and hot-air balloons to create 'Revealing Chicago: An Aerial Portrait.'



# YMCA chooses South Loop for expanded headquarters

**Staying local could generate estimated \$2.5 billion over 20 years**

By Alan J. Baker  
City Beat Editor

After considering 10 other cities, the YMCA of the USA opted to keep national headquarters in Chicago and plans to move the facility to the South Loop.

Y-USA, the national resource office for all 2,594 YMCAs across America, recently announced plans to construct a larger facility on South State Street on two adjoining parcels of land between Balbo and Harrison streets.

Marie Trzupke Lynch, director of operations at Y-USA, said the South Loop best fit the criteria in terms of sites for construction.

"What is attractive was that there was a feel to the community that matched the Y," Lynch said. "Such as the student population and the neighborhood."

Construction of the new facility is scheduled for completion by 2010 and will include a state-of-the-art training center for YMCA staff from across the country.

An archive and museum exhibit will allow the organization to display artifacts such as the first basketball ever used at

the YMCA, Lynch said. With the additional plans, Y-USA officials expect the organization to gain more than 60 employees in the next 20 years.

The Chicago Department of Planning and Development has offered Y-USA \$9.5 million through its Tax Increment Financing program to help keep the headquarters in Chicago. The organization will use the funds toward the \$50 million to \$70 million project.

TIF dollars is revenue collected within city districts though local taxes. The Department of Planning and Development then redistributes that money back into the same community, according to Constancy Buscemi, assistant commissioner.

"This is the Y's headquarters and we are happy about that," said Buscemi. "We want to keep them here because it will be a great boon to the city."

The Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce also worked with Y-USA to keep the organization local. According to Jerry Roper, the chamber's president and CEO, Chicago is the second largest home of nonprofit organizations in the county.

"We felt that it was critical that we launch an effort to keep them here," Roper said. "We were successful; the decision came down between Dallas and Chicago."

Roper said that being the

incumbent city, Chicago had the upper hand in the decision. If Y-USA was to leave the state the organization could lose employees.

By staying in Chicago, Y-USA estimates it will generate about \$2.5 billion in economic impact during the next 20 years.

"Over 22,000 hotel rooms were rented last year around the headquarters because of the number of meetings they have," Roper said. "Taxes, car rental, and food and drink are not included in that."

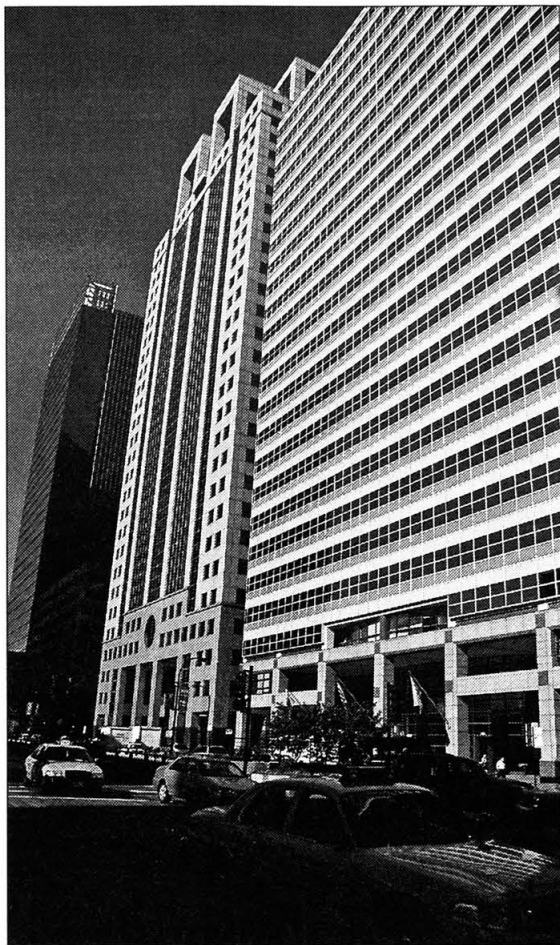
Roper added that the potential for the museum at the South Loop location would only fuel growth as people come from elsewhere and create a tourism venue.

"This is going to be very good for the South Loop and very good for the entire city of Chicago," Roper said.

About 200 people work at the YMCA's current location at 101 N. Wacker Drive, where it has been for 24 years. With the property lease due to expire in 2006, the YMCA started looking for other locations suitable for expansion three years ago. The current lease is being extended until construction of the new facility is complete.

The YMCA has more than 20 million members and more than 600,000 volunteers, and it's the nation's leader in afterschool programs.

The Metropolitan Chicago YMCA has been in the area since 1858, making it one of the most historically significant YMCAs in the country, another factor in the decision to stay local.



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

The YMCA of America will keep its offices at 101 N. Wacker Drive through 2010. The organization has purchased two parcels of land in the South Loop and plans to construct a larger facility that will include a state-of-the-art training center and a museum.

"Times change, issues change, and as long as they are dealing with the same population they're dealing with, I could only see the organization grow from

here," Roper said.

Lynch agreed and added she was looking forward to being a great neighbor in the South Loop.

## CTA: Construction forces closures

"There is no construction timetable as of yet," Gregory said "When it is completed we will make details available to our customers, the community

and the general public."

Although the CTA will compensate businesses being moved it will not cover the loss of business incurred during the moving period. Since the move is to be made during the fall and winter, Belmont Army Surplus expects to miss out on much of its Halloween and winter sales.

"The fall and winter is when we normally do most of our

business, selling boots and jackets," said Kara Young, a sales associate at the store. "We're also going to miss out on a lot of Halloween sales, which are usually the best time of year. Even if we are able to stay open in October we won't have very much stock because most of it is on sale."

Whether or not it is worth the cost of uprooting local business-

es, renovations to the Brown Line and Belmont platform are sorely needed. The Brown Line is one of the CTA's most frequently used lines with 13 stops from Kimball Avenue to the Loop, transporting 60,000 riders every weekday. The Line has also gained more in ridership over the past five years than any other Line. Along with the Purple line, it is the only other

route that can accommodate only six-car trains rather than eight-car trains.

Starting in October the "Screwed by the CTA" sign will be gone along with the building and its residents.

"Construction is supposed to start in the fall, and that can mean anything," Young said "We are going to stay as long as we can," Young said.

## On the Lighter Side

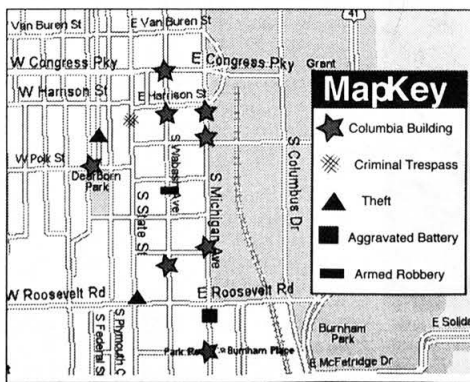
### Insanely large digital theft from local book shop

A 47-year-old employee at the Printers Row Fine and Rare Book's store, 715 S. Dearborn St., called police on Aug. 26 to report a deceptive practice. The witness said a 58-year-old man and 35-year-old female "unlawfully electronically removed funds" of approximately \$365,000 from Strohmman Book LTD Inc. without permission.

### The case of the missing hair clippers

A 30-year-old male employee at Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, foiled a brazen-hair bandit after the 35-year-old set off the store's security alarm. The witness and a 21-year-old male employee apprehended the offender outside the store. Once the witnesses brought the offender back into the store and questioned him, they found hair clippers stuffed under the offender's shirt. Police took the offender in for questioning.

—Compiled by Chronicle staff through information provided by the Chicago Police Department.



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

## On a Serious Note

### Armed robbery at grocery store

After two 30-year-old males asked for change from a grocery store attendant to feed their meters at 824 S. Wabash Ave. on Aug. 29, they returned with a handgun. The offenders entered the rear of the store when they brandished a handgun, at which time a 27-year-old male victim recognized the gun as "a silver .22 double-barrel 2-shot Deringer." The offender then grabbed a 99-year-old victim and pressed the gun to her side, taking \$10 from her. The offenders then ordered both victims into the bathroom, where they took \$5 and a cell phone from the 30-year-old victim. Both offenders left after taking cash from the register.

### Police respond to domestic abuse call

A 28-year-old woman called police after an altercation with a 32-year-old man at her residence at 1212 S. Michigan Ave. on Aug. 27. At approximately 1 a.m., the offender, using a closed fist, began striking the victim in her head and chest, knocking her to the ground. After leaving the residence, the offender shattered the taillights and driver's side window of the victim's vehicle. The victim refused medical attention.



## SRO opens doors to hopeful tenants

**Single-Room Occupancy building quickly nearing its capacity**

By James Ewert  
Assistant City Beat Editor

A great number of people move into the South Loop this time of year. But this fall they are not all college students.

This September, the single-room occupancy building across the street from Columbia's Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., will be inhabited by a slew of new residents who will call the South Loop home. Many of whom have never had a home, or have been without one for a long time, something the SRO's owner's hope to correct.

Even though residents began moving into the first two floors of the building since late July, finishing touches like painting and moving in furniture still need to be made. Construction crews are expected to be out by mid-September, with a dedication ceremony to take place in the following weeks, according to Darlene Roberts, the property manager of the building.

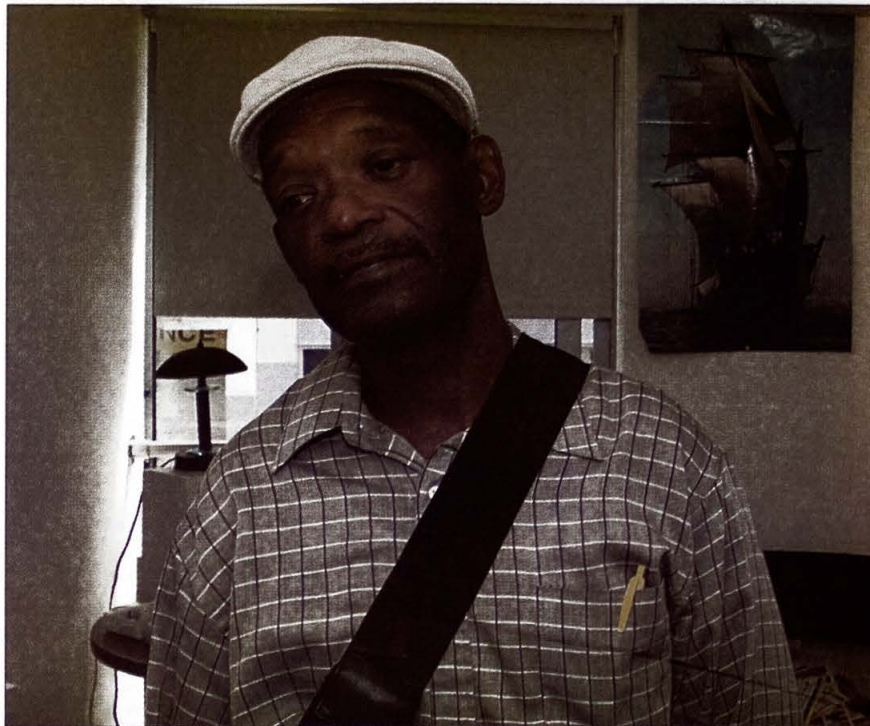
The SRO, located at 618 S.

Wabash Ave., is owned and operated by the Chicago Christian Industrial League, which bought the corner property from the City of Chicago for \$1. The purchase was in conjunction with Mayor Richard M. Daley's 10-year-plan to end homelessness. The CCIL is a nonprofit organization established to assist homeless individuals and combat the effects of poverty by offering affordable housing. Along with its partner, Central City Housing Ventures, the CCIL owns and maintains another SRO building at 1801 S. Wabash Ave.

Judy McIntyre, executive director at the CCIL, said she hopes the new SRO will have a lasting impact on people's lives.

"With the new building, we hope to offer people a chance to have their own home, possibly for the first time, but for many of the people it has been a very long time since they have had a place of their own," said McIntyre. "The great American dream is the great American dream for everyone."

She also hopes the facility will make a contribution to the South Loop, with a number of new retailers moving into the area. As it stands now, The Charming Wok restaurant, which used to be located across



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Recovering from years of drug abuse, Harry Brown, 57, now lives at the single-room occupancy building at 618 S. Wabash Ave. The SRO is working with the city of Chicago to bring people off the street and into a home of their own.

the street; Dunkin' Donuts; and Subway have signed leases with the building and should open within six months. Two other spaces are in negotiations to be filled and one space remains open.

Harry Brown, a resident of the newly built SRO, said the facility has already impacted his life.

Nearly three years ago, Brown decided that after 35 years of drug and alcohol abuse, he wanted to turn his life around.

"I had to deal with life in life's terms," said Brown, one of the SRO's first residents. "I took my last drink and my last drug in October of 2002. It was a little boy that sold me some

drugs, and I looked at the little boy and then I looked at myself, and I realized that this isn't what life is meant to be. I'm proud and very fortunate to have a place like this. It gave me a foundation to do something, because it's a job to stay sober.

See SRO, Page 21

## Belmont business derailed by CTA

**Local businesses must relocate due to Brown Line station platform improvements**

By James Ewert  
Assistant City Beat Editor

"Screwed by the CTA" in bold, black letters is displayed outside Belmont Army Surplus at 945 W. Belmont Ave.

The three-story building that the Army Surplus store has occupied for more than 25 years has been bought by the Chicago Transit Authority to make way for the expansion of the Belmont platform, which is a stop on the Brown, Red and Purple lines.

Eminent domain is defined as taking or condemning of private property from its rightful owner by the government, generally for public use, without the owner's consent, provided the owner receives fair-market compensation. The CTA has opted for this route, to demolish existing structures on sites it has acquired.

For years commuters on the Belmont platform would always see the brick façade and window of Belmont Army Surplus displaying shoes or military gear.

Now, however, there is the "Screwed by the CTA" moving sale sign.

"They notified the owner through a form letter, telling us we were being kicked out," said Kris King, manager of the store. "What makes it complicated is that the timetable keeps changing....As it looks now, we will probably be here until early October."

Belmont Army Surplus is not the only site affected by the CTA's plans. The Bottom Lounge, 3206 N. Wilton St., a longtime performance space and bar for many local bands, will also be moved out due to the project, which has been in the making since 2001.

The Bottom Lounge could not be reached for comment.

The improvements on the Belmont platform are part of a larger project that includes renovating 18 Brown Line stations. Construction, which is set to begin this fall, is meant to lengthen station platforms to

accommodate eight-car trains rather than six-car trains, bring all stations up to the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act, upgrade or replace signal and communications equipment, and reduce the number of slow zones on the line. The Belmont stop will see wider, longer platforms to alleviate overcrowding, elevators, more turnstiles and increased lighting. A grant the

**"Construction is supposed to start in the fall, and that could mean anything. We are going to stay as long as we can"**

**—Kara Young, Sales Associate at Belmont Army Surplus**

CTA received from the government stipulates that construction be complete by the end of 2009. While the Brown, Red, and Purple lines will not experience any changes in service at Belmont, the changes at in the neighborhood may

be felt fairly soon.

"Because there are no temporary station closures, impact on surrounding businesses is expected to be minimal, as we do not anticipate a significant decrease in foot traffic," said Sheila Gregory, general manager of public affairs for the CTA.

See CTA, Page 23



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Signs hang in the windows of Belmont Army Surplus informing customers that it will be moving. The CTA plans to demolish the site to make platform improvements at the Belmont station.