

9-19-2005

Columbia Chronicle (09/19/2005)

Columbia College Chicago

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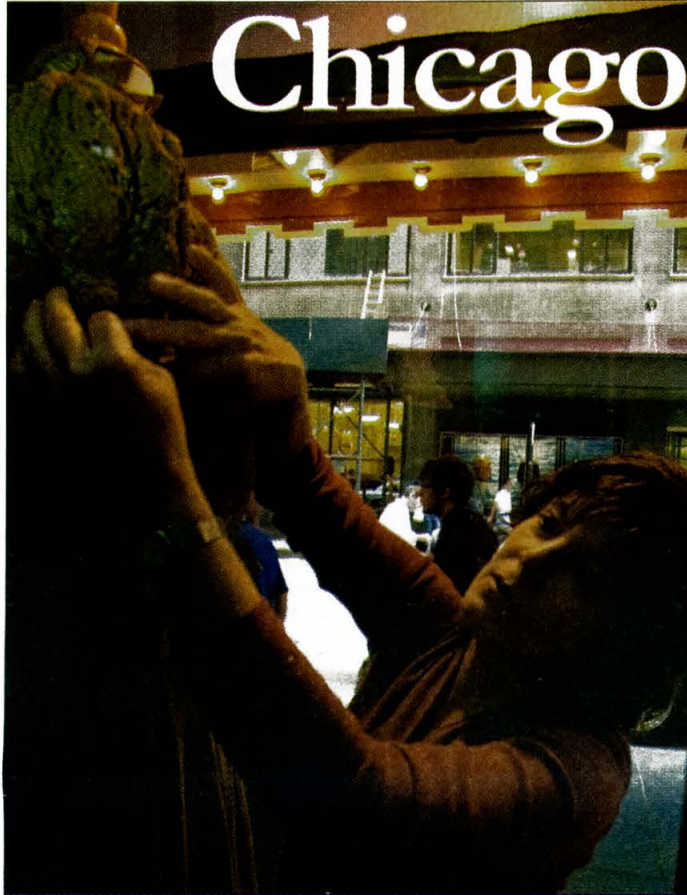
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Fashion forward



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Nancy Jensen, visual designer of Oak Street Design, puts the finishing touches on an ensemble designed by Becky Bisoulis as she prepares a window display at the Palmer House Hilton for Fashion Focus Week 2005. See story in The Word, pull-out page 6.

Rollins riles up student crowd

Musician encourages students to make "great" changes

By Jessica Pearce
Assistant Campus News Editor

Henry Rollins says his entire act can be summed up by a bit of mangled English he copied from a note in a restaurant in Okinawa, Japan. The piece of paper, which Rollins took pictures of to ensure correct transcription later, finished a list of rules by saying, "I finish in a loud voice and run about!" The legendary actor, musician, writer and monologist ranted, raved and laughed his way through a two and a half hour Columbia only stop on his spoken word tour Sept. 12. The event was sponsored by the Film and Fiction Writing departments.

The free event was only open to Columbia students, faculty and staff, and publicity was kept to a minimum.

Rollins spoke on a variety of topics during the two and a half hours he was on stage at the Film Row Cinema in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The self-proclaimed "angry man" ranted about the Bush administration in between stories of his taking care of a friend's 2-year-old son and his trip across Russia on the

"I have great confidence in you. If everyone did something this country would be very different. All change will come from you."

—Henry Rollins,
actor, musician and
writer

Trans-Siberian Express.

All the people who attended the show can thank Lauren Frontino for the opportunity. Frontino, a junior film major, said she's a member of Rollins' e-mail update list.

"I got an e-mail from the list asking, 'Do you want Henry Rollins to come to your college?'" she said. "And I thought, 'Yeah, that would be cool!'"

So she e-mailed Rollins' tour manager, who told her that she had to go through an administrator to set up the visit. She knew one of her professors, Josef Steiff, was a big fan, so she went to him. The Film Department collaborated with Randall Albers, the chair of the Fiction Writing Department, to bring Rollins to Columbia.

Albers welcomed Rollins, and his message:

"In an age of suppression, free speech is particularly important to college students," Albers said. As he welcomed Rollins to the stage, Albers encouraged students to speak out:

"I hope you all confront your own censors and move past them," Albers said. "Speak your mind."

Rollins took the stage in front of a packed house. There were 240 sitting in the theater, and 100 more -watching the closed-circuit broadcast in a nearby

See Rollins, Page 6

Campus disaster plan intact

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

From bomb scares to catastrophic airplane crashes to biochemical disasters, Columbia's Department of Security says it's ready.

"We are as ready as we possibly could be in the sense that any disaster presents obstacles and cir-

cumstances that can be beyond our comprehension at the time," said Martha Meegan, director of campus safety.

Following one of the most destructive natural disasters in the nation's history, Hurricane Katrina, disaster response plans are now being re-examined across the country.

Columbia's emergency response plan is a detailed procedure headed by the college vice presidents in the event of a disaster or major emergency on campus, which the plan defines as causing death or serious injury, disruption of operations, or physical and environmental damage. The plan was finalized July 2004.

"You can never anticipate everything that's going to happen, but at least we know how we are going to approach things," said Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment.

Two groups are responsible for putting the plan into operation, if necessary. The first group is composed of all of Columbia's vice presidents, the chief of staff and Meegan, who would work together to prioritize the order for emergency response.

The second group includes Columbia's directors, dean of students, Facilities Department and Information Technology Department. They implement the emergency response plan as prioritized by the first group.

According to Meegan, the next

step of Columbia's disaster plan is to follow a specific outline of responses, meant to direct and provide guidance to the emergency response team.

Each security guard station on campus is equipped with an emergency response and evacuation procedure protocol that they, too, have to follow, according to Aimee Hardwick, security operations manager for The Wackenhut Corporation, which provides campus security.

Security guards receive intensive training on how to deal with campus-wide evacuations. Wackenhut also has field supervisors working around the clock to provide assistance to Columbia.

"Our security services program here at Columbia is based on the notion that it takes a community to stay safe," Meegan said. "That sense of community is from the inside out—security offices, faculty, staff, students and other agencies."

"Columbia is on the forefront of educating themselves and partnering-up with the agencies to address a disaster at the best of their ability," Meegan said.



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Director of campus safety Martha Meegan keeps the disaster plan up-to-date.

ty," Meegan said.

In an effort to continue improving disaster plans and to stay prepared, Meegan is the vice chair of the Building Owners and Managers Association's security subcommittee and sits on the Chicago Police Department's advisory council for the First District of Chicago.

See Disaster, Page 6

If a disaster strikes Chicago how many people would need to evacuate the South Loop and its surrounding police district?

- In Chicago's First Police District: **25,613**
 - Attending higher education institutions: **52,000**
 - At Columbia: **10,389**
- Total number of people: 88,002**



Chris Gallevo/The Chronicle



'Girl' Crazy

By Jeff Danna, Editor-in-Chief

Call me obsessed. Call me sick. Call me a person who needs to get a life, as you roll your eyes. You'd be right.

I've allowed a television show to control a portion of my life, namely Tuesday nights. In the past, I have poked fun at people who schedule their activities around the pictures shown on their idiot boxes, but here I am scheduling my *fall semester classes* around a one-hour block of time.

I might as well come out and say it: I am a devoted "Gilmore Girls" fan. While I catch a lot of flack for it from men and women alike, I'm quite secure with my little TV viewing habit. People seem to think the show is the prime-time equivalent of a sappy chick-flick, but it is actually a consistently well-written show that can make me laugh my ass off, cry like a baby or scream at my TV in frustration. In other words, it reaffirms my passion for life, something few shows can accomplish.

For the uninitiated, "Gilmore Girls" revolves around the mother and daughter duo of Lorelei (Lauren Graham) and Rory (Alexis Bledel) Gilmore, who have more of a friendship than a parent-child relationship, due to their closeness in age. The supporting characters are the eccentric residents of the quaint New England town of Stars Hollow, Conn., and Lorelei's hoity-toity parents, Edward and Emily Gilmore.

Without getting into too many specific plot points, I must say

that the show is a classic example of art imitating life. At first, it comes across as hopelessly idealistic—an old-fashioned East Coast town, a goody two-shoes daughter (that would be Rory), trendy clothes and witty pop culture references. But "Gilmore Girls" gradually reveals its charms below the gilded surface as the characters encounter hurdles in their daily lives.

Although each character plays a different role in Stars Hollow—such as gruff-but-loveable diner owner Luke Danes, and town busybody and moralist Taylor Doosey—they never conform to stereotypes, making them relatable to viewers. The show's writers never attempt to turn picture-perfect Stars Hollow into the model American community; its inhabitants have had their share of life-altering experiences.

We've seen Rory, who has always seemed like the ideal daughter, arrested for stealing a yacht. We've seen Lane, Rory's best friend, disowned by her mother for choosing to join a rock band instead of a strict, Christian lifestyle. We've seen Luke, who has always seemed thick-skinned and down-to-earth, fall in love with Lorelei. Nothing is as it seems in Stars Hollow, and therein lies the beauty of "Gilmore Girls."

Through my not-so-private fixation on the show, I've realized its most powerful trait: It draws viewers into its world. Sure, most television shows try

to do the same, but "Gilmore Girls" does it through its epic, lifelike storytelling and complex characters. Situations are rarely contained and resolved in individual episodes; they are introduced mid-episode and usually span multiple weeks.

Because the show draws on life's highs and lows for inspiration, watching it is like looking into a mirror. Stars Hollow is a reflection of my hometown; the characters are reflections of my friends and family. I examine my own hopes and dreams with each year Rory spends at Yale; I examine my own romantic relationship as Luke and Lorelei's progresses.

Yes, it's an obsession, but it's the best kind of obsession. If a TV show is going to determine my Tuesday schedule and serve as the basis for countless conversations, it might as well challenge me in the process.

Plus, in a time when most of the programs that seem to survive multiple seasons are brainless, unrealistic reality shows, it's refreshing to know that a genuine work of art like "Gilmore Girls" has been on the air for five seasons (it just began its sixth last week) and is becoming more popular. I just hope that the show's other fans appreciate the same life-affirming quality I see in it. After all, its message is simple: Life may be charming and off-beat, but it's never perfect.

—jdanna@colum.edu

IN THIS ISSUE

1/6 Campus News

12/13 Commentary

17/20 City Beat

Pull-Out The Word

Announcements

Crystal Williams Poetry Reading

Crystal Williams, a teacher in Columbia's English Department, will be reading her poetry on Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the concert hall at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Williams has written two collections of poetry, *Kin* and *Lunatic*.

Baseball Tryouts

Tryouts for the Columbia Coyotes baseball team will be held on Sept. 24 and 25 at 11 a.m. The tryouts will be held in Grant Park at the softball fields located on Balbo Street between Columbus Drive and Michigan Avenue.

Wise Ass Comedy Night

Wise Ass Comedy night featuring the Neo-Futurists will be held in the Hokin Annex on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. Wise Ass is an open mic night where Columbia students and members of the Chicago community perform stand-up and sketch comedy. The event is free of charge.

John Pizzarelli Performance

Renowned jazz guitarist/vocalist John Pizzarelli will be performing Sept. 20, in the concert hall of the Columbia Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. After the concert, students will be able to talk with the artist. The concert is free and open to the public, although priority seating will be given to Columbia music students. For more information, contact Joe Cerqua, concert hall manager at (312) 344-6179.

Stand & Deliver

Stand & Deliver is a traveling exhibit that shows how books can be shaped, unfolded or engineered to present a three-dimensional approach to bookmaking. The show features three categories: intriguing shapes, revealing folds and uplifting pages. The free exhibit is running at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., until Oct. 28. For more information, contact Bill Drendel at (312) 344-6684.

Taiwan Film Festival

The Center for Asian Arts and Media and the Film/Video Department at Columbia, in conjunction with The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago present Banaba Paradise: Taiwan Film Festival. The festival features films that reflect the unique social structures, cultural fabric and everyday people during the post-war era. The free event is presented at the Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., and is running through Oct. 2. For information and showtimes, call (312) 344-7870.

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.

IN YOUR OPINION

What do you think of the American Idol auditions in Chicago?



"They were just looking for people to make fun of."

—Monica Gilliean, sophomore, theater, American Idol hopeful



"If you get lucky and can make it, it's awesome."

—Scott Gold, freshman, instrumental performance



"I don't like that someone can just go and get famous when they didn't earn it."

—Brad Surinak, sophomore, musical performance



"I think they're really brave to go out there and sing."

—Amanda Rodriguez, freshman, radio broadcasting

Carter, senator vocalize Constitution

Continuous reading of forefathers' words reminds listeners of importance of rights

By Jessica Pearce
Assistant Campus News Editor

"We the people..." Columbia students, faculty and staff, as well as Michigan Ave. passers-by listened to the entire text of the United States Constitution Wednesday in an event staged in front of the Columbia library.

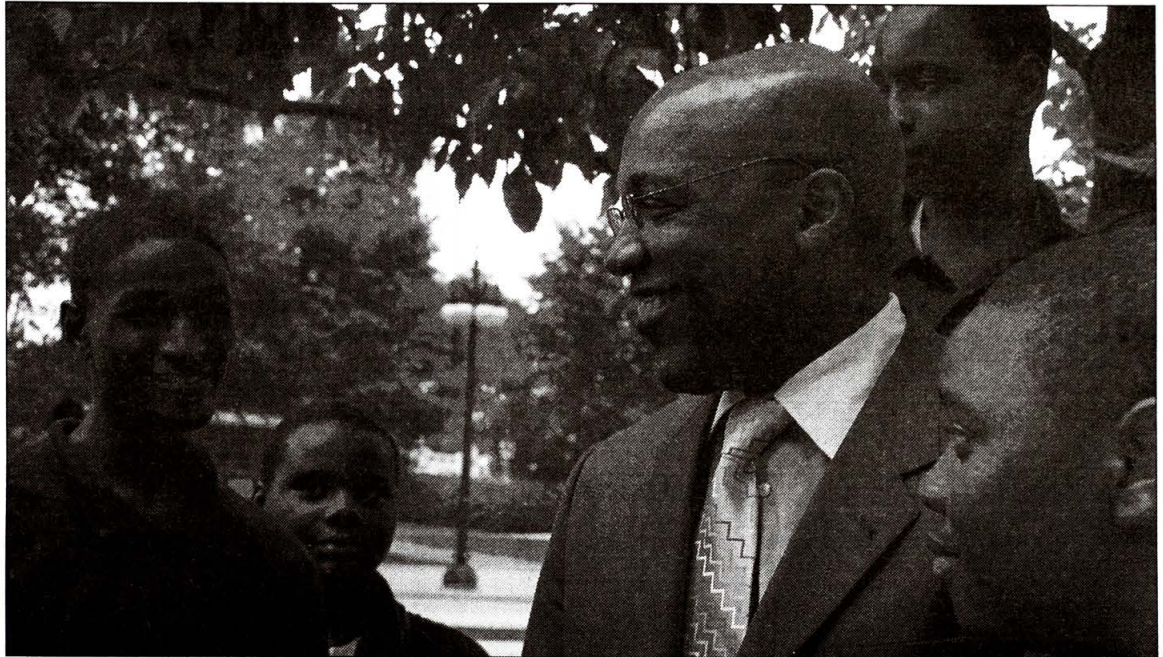
Columbia librarians organized the reading that brought together Columbia President Warrick L. Carter, State Sen. Kwame Raoul, students, faculty and local eighth-graders. Participants literally stood on a soapbox in front of the library as they read.

The event was part of the September Project, which, according to its website, is a "grassroots effort to encourage public events on freedom, democracy and citizenship in libraries on or around Sept. 11."

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, David Silver, an assistant professor of communication at the University of Washington, started the project with Sarah Washburn in 2004. Washburn had worked with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's U.S. Library Program.

Carter said it's especially important to remember that the Constitution is a living document.

"I have mixed emotions about this reading," Carter said. "At the time the Constitution was written, my ancestors were only counted as three-fifths of a person. But one of the things that makes the Constitution the best document in



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Students from the Chicago International Charter School gather around State Sen. Kwame Raoul after listening to him read a portion of the U.S. Constitution Wednesday in front of Columbia's library.

the world is that we're able to amend it. We can address problems that existed in the original."

Jo Cates, associate vice president of academic research and dean of Columbia's library, said part of a library's responsibility is to help maintain an informed citizenry.

"We felt it was important for the library to take the lead in reminding our community, in a simple and direct way, of how important the Constitution is to our basic freedoms," Cates said.

Raoul, who represents the 13th district, which runs along the lake-

front, said the reading of the Constitution takes on particular significance now, as the Senate Judiciary Committee conducts confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee John Roberts.

"It's important for people to have a basic understanding of how the Constitution works," Raoul said. "It governs so much that we take for granted as rights."

Students from the Chicago International Charter School also attended the reading. The eighth graders have been studying the Constitution in school, and their

teachers wanted to show them a different perspective.

"We wanted them to be able to hear the entire document all at once," said Deanna Amos, a social studies teacher at the school.

Carol Gulyas, Columbia's reference librarian, said Columbia librarians were motivated to read the Constitution by a study done earlier this year by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which promotes excellence in journalism worldwide. The study found that many American high school students are indifferent to the rights

protected by the First Amendment.

According to a press release from the organization, when told the exact text of the First Amendment, a third of high school students said it goes "too far" in the rights it guarantees.

"There's no awareness among young people," Gulyas said. "In their lifetimes, there hasn't been anything like the McCarthy era. We're in a period of complacency, and we wanted to highlight the importance of the Constitution and the foundational rights it protects."

SGA aims at historic goals

Student voices to be heard college-wide

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

Columbia's Student Government Association aims to achieve historic goals that would better communication college-wide as it begins its third year.

The SGA's first meeting of the year on Sept. 13 addressed key issues they feel will improve Columbia's campus environment.

"Our two highest priorities this year are getting a student center and a voice on the board of trustees," said Courtney Wylie, vice president of the SGA. "We want this to be what the students want, and we can't do it without their input."

On Oct. 6, the SGA will meet with Columbia's board of trustees to propose getting a student trustee on the board, which

has not happened in more than 30 years. SGA President Vanessa Torres said she does not know when the board of trustees will make its decision.

"This will mean that student voices will be heard at all levels of governance at Columbia," Torres said.

Last year, the SGA voted unanimously in favor of forming a task force dedicated to creating the student trustee proposal, which included six SGA and Student Organization Council members.

They had a run-through of the proposal with the Student Affairs Committee of the board of trustees on Sept. 13. The board members gave them feedback to help improve the presentation before meeting with the rest of the board.

"The committee was very receptive; they were happy to see that students care," Torres said.

The goal of having a student



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

The SGA's Vice President Courtney Wylie and President Vanessa Torres lead the first SGA meeting of the year, where new and continuing issues were addressed.

trustee is to enhance communication between Columbia's student body and board of trustees in order to improve the campus environment, said Torres.

"For this to happen would be a symbolic event and more importantly it would allow students to voice their concerns and offer their perspective to the board," said Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs.

Also on the SGA's agenda this

year is the continued fight for a student center that they say would create a sense of community on campus. Last year the SGA formed an ad hoc committee devoted to getting a student center. That committee will be starting up again soon and continuing its dedication.

The committee submitted a request for action to Columbia's board of trustees and college council last year. The document

stated that a student center is an "institutional necessity" and that Columbia's first capital campaign should fund the it.

The SGA will also present the need for a student center to the board of trustees at the Oct. 6 meeting.

"SGA is only as strong as its members and support from the college community," said Torres. "I feel that this year is going to be really positive and productive."

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Concert Hall Events

Tuesday September 20

John Pizzarelli in Concert
12:30 PM

John Pizzarelli Workshop
1:30 PM

Reservations Suggested 312-344-6300

Wednesday September 21

Third Week Music Student Meeting
12:30 PM

Thursday September 22

Chicago Jazz Ensemble
Trombone Section Master Class
12:30 PM

All Concert Hall events are free
unless ticket sales are indicated.
For more info: 312-344-6300

FREQUENCY 32

Television Department

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

Program Guide for University Center on Channel 32

Speak Up

A variety show that encourages local college students from Columbia College, Roosevelt and DePaul Universities to speak up on ideas and facts that matter to college students.

MWFSu: 10:30a TRSa: 7:30p

NBC 5 Live

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



Big Mouth

A music special showcasing the diverse talents of Columbia College students.

Featured: Sherry Amour, Drea Smith, Natalie Oliveria & more.

MWFSu: 11:30a TRSa: 8:30p

Out on A Limb

The latest episode of Columbia's own fast-paced sketch comedy show

features: "Cooking With Paris Hilton," "Fear Factor: Senior Citizens Edition" and "Grannies Gone Wild" - Don't miss it!

MWFSu: 12:30p TRSa: 9:30p

Gamers (NL)

Video games of all genres and game platforms are explored.

MWFSu: 8:00p

Not So Silent Pictures (NL)

A live sketch comedy performance of silent black & white pictured films that aren't so silent any more.

MWFSu: 8:30p

AV Squad (NL)

Meet musicians and dj's from around the country while visiting some hot clubs.

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 Georgia

MWFSu: 9:30p

Comedy Academy (NL)

From the Red Carpet to the cutting room floor, join the stars who take funny to a whole new level.

MWFSu: 10:00p

Comedy Night School (NL)

Join Professor Doug Gordon on various comedic adventures and lessons.

MWFSu: 10:30p

Beef Bologna (NL)

A sketch comedy of wacky guys doing really wacky things. Do you really know what's in your beef bologna?

MWFSu: 11:00p

Planet X (NL)

Some of the best footage in extreme sports on the planet.

MWFSu: 11:30p

(NL) National Lampoon Network Programming

Interested in volunteering for Frequency TV? Contact:

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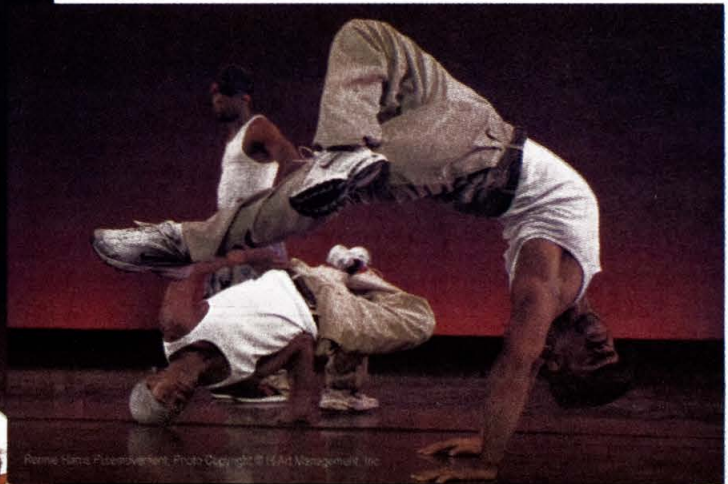
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African American Dance Ensemble
Photo credit: Bob Kiesel



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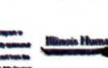
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Hosty v. Carter



Michael Jarecki/Chronicle

Margaret Hosty, former managing editor of the *Innovator*, speaks about the panel discussion on the Hosty v. Carter case, at Columbia's library Sept. 16. The case's outcome gives administrators the right to censor student-run newspapers.

Disaster: Campus ready for emergencies

"Columbia has developed strong partnerships with law enforcement agencies, both on the state and federal levels, and security response agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security," Meegan said.

Fire safety marshals who are located on each floor of Columbia's buildings are trained annually to stay current on disaster plan procedures. Each semester an emergency evacuation is

also practiced on campus.

Meegan also established the Security Council of Professional Educators last October, which meets every few months and ensures that the security needs of higher education institutions in Chicago's First District are recognized by Chicago's Office of Emergency Management and Communications.

It is important to represent the special needs of higher education institutions that house more than 52,000 students, museums and research facilities in Chicago's first district, according to Meegan.

"It's because we're creative that we come up with possible solutions," she said.

Rollins: Covers Bush to his own anger during spoken- word show

breakout room. Onstage Rollins was a compact man, muscled and energetic. He couldn't keep still, punctuating his speech with sound effects and movements, while hitting his forehead or tapping the microphone to make a point. He yells, ending sentences with a shouted expletive.

"I speak in uppercase letters," Rollins said.

Rollins has a gruff exterior, and his humor can be caustic. He's been ranting about the Bush presidency almost since the beginning, and this show was no different. He criticized the way Bush handled the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, saying that he had been misrepresented in the media.

"It would be so easy if Bush was just a racist," Rollins said. "It's so much worse than that!"

Rollins maintains that Bush is simply not very smart, and compares the president's thinking process to the cold he experienced during trip across Russia on the Trans-Siberian railroad. During a stop, Rollins said, he stepped outside. The frigid Siberian winter froze everything—including his thought process.

"I realized then—the president's not dumb, he's just cold!"

Rollins said.

Rollins is known for his books and spoken word CDs and DVDs, as well as his stint with the influential punk band Black Flag. He broke out on his own in 1988 with the Rollins Band, which released its last album in 2001. He had a mainstream hit with the song "Liar" in 1994.

Rollins has always been angry. Far from being a negative trait, though, he said his anger motivates him to learn, to travel and to speak out.

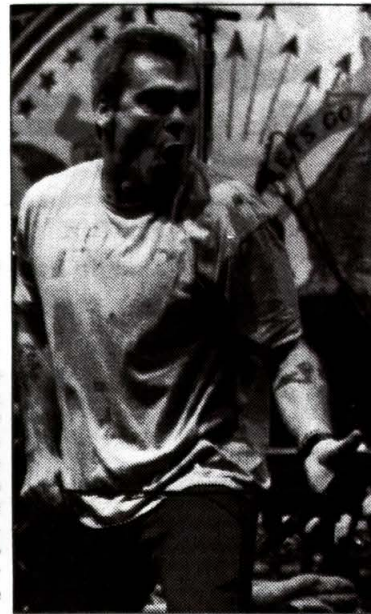
"My anger gets me up in the morning," Rollins said. "Anything I don't know, it's not that I want to know it so much as I'm angry that I don't. Anywhere I haven't traveled, it's not so much the desire to go but the anger that I haven't been yet."

Rollins has traveled extensively, most recently doing tours with the United Service Organization. Even though Rollins is extremely critical of the Bush administration, he talked at length of his experiences with the group. The USO is a nonprofit, charitable organization that provides entertainment to active-duty military members around the world. Rollins has done six USO tours, traveling to Afghanistan and Iraq to talk to troops.

Additionally, he volunteers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, visiting with disabled soldiers recovering from injuries.

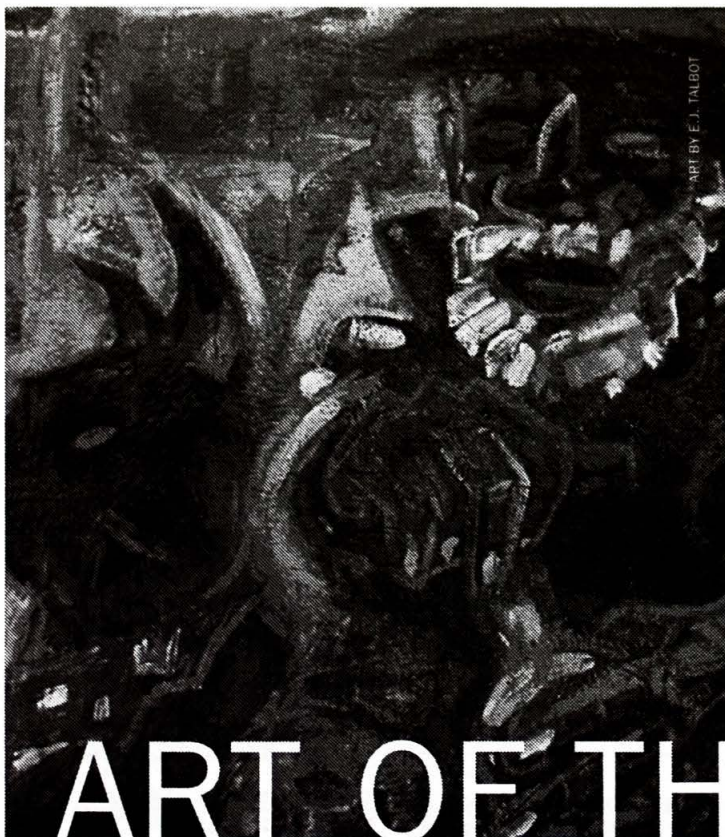
Rollins ended his speech with an appeal to the audience, saying that this generation can effect great changes.

"It's up to you," Rollins said. "I have great confidence in you. If everyone did something, this country would be very different. All change will come from you."



KRT

Henry Rollins ignites crowds through spoken-word. He recently brought his act to Columbia's Film Row Cinema.



ART BY E.J. TALBOT

Thursday, September 22, 2005
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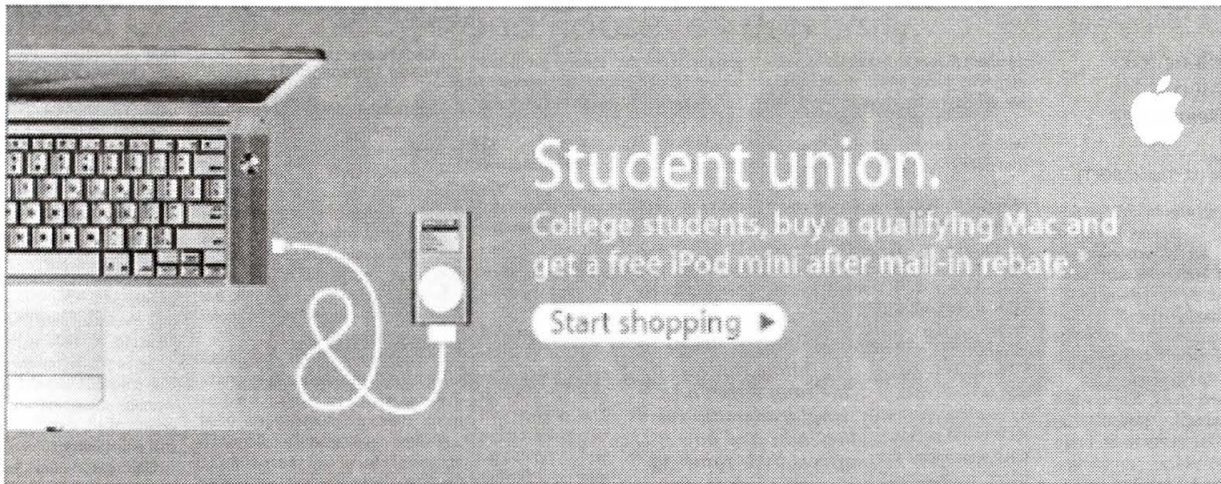
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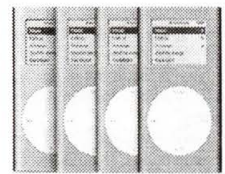
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More information at <http://www.lib.colum.edu/artofthelibrary.htm>

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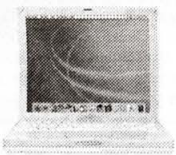


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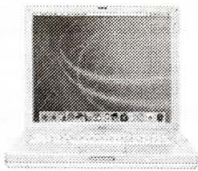


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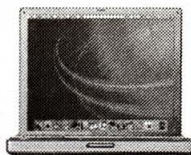
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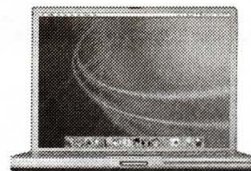
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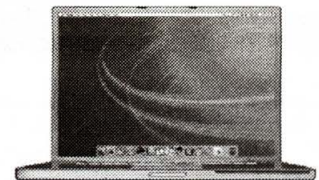
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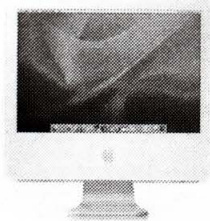


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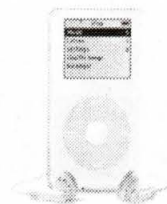
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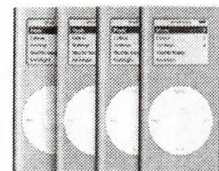
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Generation 9/11

Newsweek article sparks interest for Texas researcher

By Abby Terrell
Daily Texan (U. Texas)(KRT)

Anyone who was in college during the Sept. 11 attacks is part of "Generation 9/11," according to University of Texas education associate professor Patricia Somers.

After conducting a study on college students, Somers said the attacks on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, define this generation.

In a released study, Somers and several doctoral students at Washington University in St. Louis spent two years conducting research at five Midwestern universities and colleges, posing questions to 50 students about their immediate and long-term reactions to 9/11.

Somers said a Newsweek article on the attacks sparked her interest in the study, but found most research on reactions focused on New York City. She began the study with the intent of seeing how students reacted in other parts of the country.

"Having worked in the industry for generations, I could see the differences in my students, and I wanted to see how this generation has been impacted by 9/11," Somers said.

The study showed that many students' perspectives of the world are defined by certain events.

"For students of the '60s, it was the assassination of John F. Kennedy. In the '80s, it was the explosion of the Challenger," said Patrick Biddix, a researcher at Washington University.

The study uses the terror man-

agement theory to base as a hypothesis. The theory says that humans are unique in their ability to coincide basic instincts, like survival, with the knowledge that death is inevitable.

"The short-term reaction is to be distracted. You'll withdraw from society and gamble or drink, or exhibit signs of bigotry," said Robert Wild, a researcher at Washington University. "In the long term you will reach out to your family."

Somers found that students reacted by reaching out into their world perspectives more than the terror management theory predicted.

"[Students] signed up for more world and Middle-Eastern studies classes than before," Somers said. "We found that 20 percent of people we interviewed changed their course of study or their major because of 9/11."

The study found that more

groups than the theory predicted were skeptical of government actions after 9/11. Students were also more critical of social and economic issues.

"Generation X was recessive. This next Generation 9/11 will alternate and become dominant. More civic-minded, less materialistic. They will have more reactions to racial profiling, saying, 'How can I make a difference?'" Wild said.

"My broader hope is to follow students in the long term and see what leadership roles they take and how 9/11 affects their thinking."

—Patricia Somers,
professor, University
of Texas

and women.

"My broader hope is to follow students in the long term and see what leadership roles they take and how 9/11 affects their thinking," Somers said.



The World Trade Center site in New York is shown Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005, on the fourth anniversary of the attack.

Dartmouth grad prods generation of women

By Alison Neumer Lara
Chicago Tribune (KRT)

Dartmouth College started admitting women in 1972, but that didn't mean they were welcome.

At least that's the impression Gina Barreca had as she navigated between blatantly sexist professors and resentful male students in the mid-'70s. Banners reading "Better dead than co-ed" aren't exactly warm and fuzzy, nor are drunk frat boys who don't believe you attend the same school.

Over four years at an elite school in remote New Hampshire, smack in the middle of the women's movement, Barreca learned to do what any sassy smartypants would: challenge stale ideas and press buttons. Only later, after she had looked past the tofu and earth shoes, did she claim her new identity as a feminist.

"A good education can be subversive," she writes in her recent book on the experience, *Babes in Boyland: A Personal History of Co-Education in the Ivy League*. "I suspect, therefore, that only a very good education could have prepared me to be a troublemaker."

Women like Barreca fought for their place at newly co-ed colleges, so they're troubled by current women students who don't identify as feminists and aren't pushing the envelope.

"Girls are still taught that they have to please," Barreca said, she defines personal power as just the opposite—the ability not to have to please or to seek approval. These days the self-described humorist is still doing her best to raise eyebrows as a professor of literature and feminist theory at the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

"I know a lot of young women whose voices go up at the end of

their sentences," Barreca said. "I can't believe there are still girls who put on strappy platform shoes to walk across campus."

But, some students argue, isn't that behavior by choice?

"It's not as obvious who is a feminist anymore," said Elaine Kalder, a junior at University of Illinois at Chicago. "It's not about what you wear or what music you listen to."

Absolutely, Barreca agreed, recalling the day a strapping young guy waltzed into her classroom sporting a T-shirt that declared, "This is what a feminist looks like." But it's not common to see men or women demonstrate that view unprovoked, she says. "Feminist" is still a dirty word.

One reason could be that female students grew up assuming rights and beliefs that the feminist movement fought to establish, said Judith Roy, a professor of women's studies at Century College and president of the National Women's Studies Association.

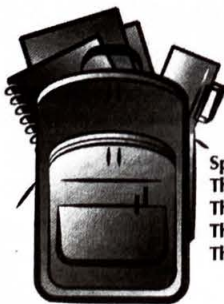
"I do see women becoming much more relaxed, more confident about sexuality, body image and taking for granted in a good way that they can follow whatever career path they want," Roy said. "The older generation is getting impatient improperly because we're not remembering what motivated (the women's movement). It was almost in the air."

Still, Barreca said, female students need to press ahead on a personal as well as professional level because sex and gender remain prominent issues on campus.

"I see girls informed by a sense of trepidation," Barreca said. "Take an astronomy class. Learn to play ice hockey. Do something out of character because you don't know your character yet."



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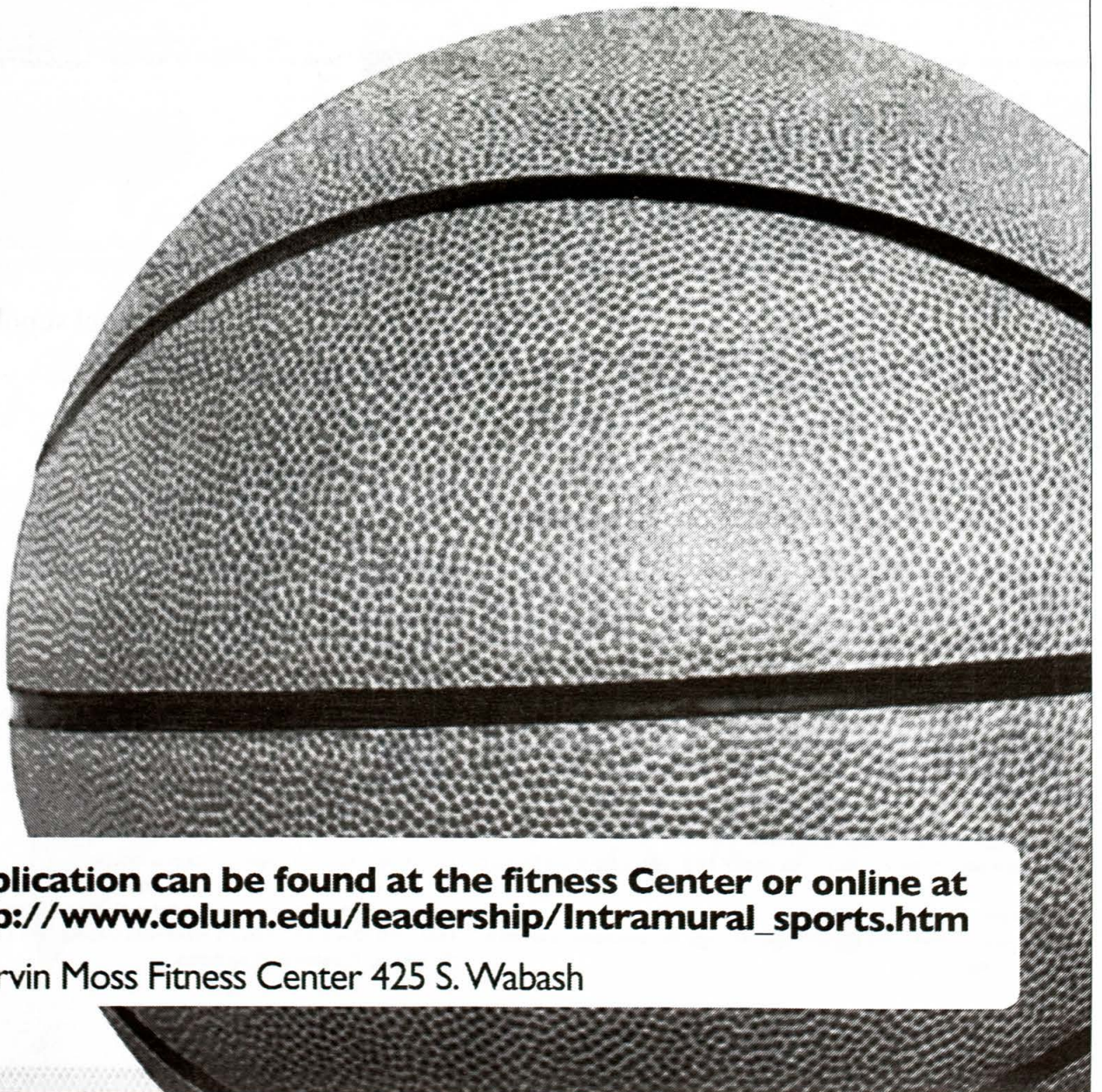
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Threshold by Camila Olarte, Visual Construction exhibition at the Glass Curtain Gallery

[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.

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C33 GALLERY

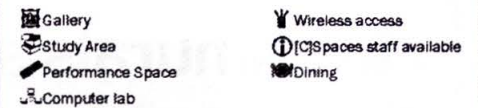
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HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

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

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Tecnológica

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

August 29—September 30, 2005

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:
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Visual Constructions: Photography by international alumni
September 1 - October 14, 2005

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.

THE WORD

AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE



¢ FASHION ¢ FOCUS CHICAGO 2005

page 6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



On point.
By Todd Burbo

End of an era

I lead a charmed existence. Whenever a new calamity arises in my life, a solution inevitably appears to meet the challenge, no matter how large or small the issue.

This weekend, I was lodging a recurring complaint to an uninterested (but stuck within earshot) group of co-workers. "I need to discover a new author," I whined. "I've run out of material from my favorites, most of whom are dead or have stopped publishing" (e.g., Taylor Caldwell and J.D. Salinger).

After a round of polite nods from my audience, I let the matter drop, expecting no more satisfaction.

The next day, I found myself in my neighborhood bookstore, wandering the aisles out of boredom rather than any desire to make an actual purchase. I had intended on escaping with my

wallet intact, but when I made my way to the new release table (usually the least promising area of any bookstore), a bomb was dropped on my world. There, in the middle of the table, sat a new book by Kurt Vonnegut, whom I would not only call my favorite author, but my personal hero.

Ever since my exceedingly liberal (a label Vonnegut abhors) high school English teacher put a copy of *Slaughterhouse*

Five in my hands, I've studied Vonnegut's satirical wit like it was my job. And if I recall correctly, upon finishing every one of his books, I have closed the jacket and exclaimed, "Damn it, he's brilliant!"

I began frantically collecting his work, and was happy to find that he had what then seemed to be an expansive back catalogue. As I wound my way through his library, however, a depressing thought quickly grew in my mind. I was running out of Vonnegut material at an alarming rate. I tried imposing a limit on myself: I would read only one Vonnegut book per year. That would have gotten me through my mid-20s, had I been strong enough to enforce it. Needless to say, I wasn't.

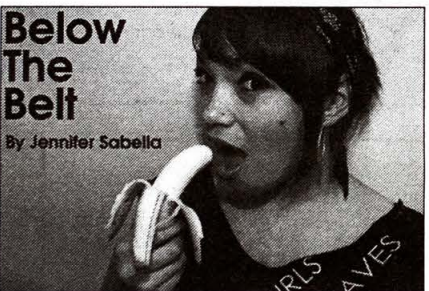
Obviously, one new book by the man isn't a long-term solution, and I

can't expect to see many more from him, as he is now 83 years old. What excited me about the release of a contemporary Vonnegut title was the chance to hear an inspiring voice that doesn't try to rise above, but rather ignores the current crop of gabbing politicians and celebrities.

Inspiration is a difficult thing to find and listening to someone who shares many of your viewpoints is not necessarily inspiring. For instance, Michael Moore is not inspiring. John Stewart is not inspiring. Funny, but not inspiring.

And despite his glaring cynicism, Vonnegut is inspiring on all levels. His work makes me want to write better, fight our government with more vigor and treat every person I meet as humanely as possible. Basically, he makes me want to save the world, even as he seems to be abandoning it.

Vonnegut has Chicago connections as well, which unfortunately go unnoticed, overshadowed by those of local pop-icons like Kanye West. The fact that he attended the University of Chicago is almost enough to make me transfer there (assuming my grades were up to par), and the locally published paper *In These Times* employs him as a senior editor, which single-handedly puts it near the top of my reading list. Check it out at www.InTheseTimes.com, then pick up Vonnegut's new book, and get ready for some unbridled genius.



Below The Belt
By Jennifer Sabella

Reality bites

As I wrapped up a column about kinky fetishes and sexual fantasy, I received a desperate phone call from a good friend of mine. Between the dramatic conversation and my ever-intensifying case of ADD, I found it impossible to think about whips or chains. However, the call made me realize just how deeply the realm of fantasy can affect our everyday lives.

A few years back, my friend Kathy developed an intense crush on a Christian Bale look-alike in her Spanish II class. She had a boyfriend at the time, but would regularly repeat the dreams she would have about her classmate to me. As the school year came to a close, she convinced herself that what she had with her boyfriend was much more special than a semester of flirtatious glances, and she dismissed the feelings as a surface attraction—nothing more. Years passed, and Kathy continued to date the guy she

has been with since high school—and then she entered her Art Theory class.

"Holy shit, Jen, he's in my class," Kathy was panicked. "I haven't been able to stop thinking about him for days. I keep having these dreams where we 'accidentally' have sex."

As I held back my laughter, (accidental sex?) I got to thinking about fantasies affecting our realities. Erotic dreams are great—pleasantly surprising even—but what happens when a dream or fantasy stirs up feelings you thought you had under wraps?

As Kathy continued asking me "What does all this mean?" and "What the hell should I do?" I began thinking about how fantasies have completely thrown me in a different direction in the past. Dreams are dreams, but is a fantasy about another a sign that you aren't happy in your own relationship? Or just one of the strange tricks your brain plays on you?

Kathy's situation is a familiar one for me. She has a long-term, comfortable boyfriend, whom she not only loves but considers her best friend. Sure, she's happy. But could she be happier? Is he really the one she wants to be with forever? Is she missing out on what could be the love of her life?

Was Kathy happy and satisfied two days ago or did it take seeing an old crush to make her realize that she's looking for something else? Deciding between your heart and your hormones

is a difficult task at this age, and can sometimes cause trouble.

Webster's Dictionary defines fantasy as "The power or process of creating especially unrealistic or improbable mental images in response to psychological need (an object of fantasy); also: a mental image or a series of mental images (as a daydream) so created sexual fantasies of adolescence."

If a fantasy is a response to a psychological need, then it has to be more deeply rooted than a temporary brain lapse. There has to be something missing.

My usual, hopeless romantic answer to this fantasy tug-of-war would be to talk to your partner about your needs and hope for the best, but the more I think about it, the less I think that would help.

If there's a sexual thought that you can't get out of your head, if you're secretly hoping to have "accidental sex" with someone, maybe sticking with someone you aren't so hot for isn't the best idea—not for now, at least.

Youth is a beautiful thing, and so is the human brain. Working at relationships is a great idea, and I in no way discourage that, but I don't discourage having a (safe) rendezvous with the object of your desire, either, if the opportunity arises.

As for Kathy, I'm pretty sure she'll keep her crush under wraps until it "goes away." That's just the kind of girl she is. Maybe it's for the best and she can think of her crush in her "alone time" so to speak. As for me, I should probably learn to keep my fantasies and my reality a bit more separate—Nah, I have my whole life to do that.

MONDAY

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Amy Ray with The Reputation and more, part of Estrojam The Bottom Lounge, 3206 N. Wilton 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

Pretty Girls Make Graves with Franz Ferdinand Aragon Ballroom, 1106 W. Lawrence Ave. 7 p.m., \$27.50

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WEDNESDAY

Beck The Riviera Theater, 4764 N. Racine Ave. 6:30 p.m. Sold Out!

Sigur Ros Chicago Theater, 175 N. State St. 7:30p.m., \$29-\$33

Bobby Conn with The Glass Gypsies The Bottom Lounge, 3206 N. Wilton Ave. 6 p.m., \$10 advance, \$12 at the door

THURSDAY

Numbers' record release party Bottom Lounge, 3206 N. Wilton Ave. 10 p.m.

FRIDAY

Untitled's 15th Anniversary Party Metro, 3730 N. Clark 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. (Open Bar 11 p.m. to midnight) \$5

The National Schubas, 3159 N. Southport 10:30 p.m., \$12

SATURDAY

The Proclaimers The Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 9 p.m., \$20

SUNDAY

My Chemical Romance with Alkaline Trio and Reggie and the Full Effect UIC Pavillion, 1150 W. Harrison St. 8 p.m., \$22



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Ratings Guide



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All joking aside

Vonnegut is back, and he's angry

By Todd Burbo/A&E Editor

Amongst authors of American literature—Midwestern American literature in particular—Kurt Vonnegut stands in a league of his own, much as Chicago stands among our country's landlocked cities.

Although he now lives in New York, Vonnegut is proud of his Midwestern heritage, and mentions it repeatedly in a number of his books. *A Man Without a Country* is no exception. Only 10 pages into the book, he declares, "I am one of America's Great Lakes people, her freshwater people." He continues, proudly describing the accomplishments of other Midwesterners, such as poet Carl Sandburg, Mark Twain and Abraham Lincoln.

Reading Vonnegut's opinions on current events will be exhilarating to his longtime fans, who have long believed that his days of published writing were over. As timeless as his past works are, it is nevertheless satisfying to hear his thoughts on subjects such as the war in Iraq. As a veteran of WWII and a survivor of the Dresden firebombings, his humanist take on war is as inspiring (and often heart-breaking) today as it was when he wrote *Slaughterhouse Five* in 1969.

As he tackles today's issues, Vonnegut's fans will notice a difference in his voice. Much of his humor is gone, but what little is left is of the driest, most cynical variety. Late in the book, Vonnegut himself discusses the change. After explaining his feeling that humor is a form of protection against pain, he sadly laments that he is no longer able to joke.

"I used to be funny, and perhaps I'm not anymore," he writes. "There may have been so many shocks and disappointments that the defense of humor no longer works."

As depressing as that sounds, he is not completely disillusioned with life, and in fact spends a large portion of this book praising people and things that he loves.

One of the greatest things about Vonnegut is his lack of ego, his tendency to recognize the greatness of others before himself. *A Man Without a Country*, like many of his other books, is packed with quotations from his favorite people, ranging from historic speeches by Abraham Lincoln to more personal inspirations provided by his siblings or children. Once a college professor, Vonnegut often dispens-

es advice to would-be writers. On the subject of quotations, he offers this advice: "It is almost always a mistake to mention Abraham Lincoln. He always steals the show."

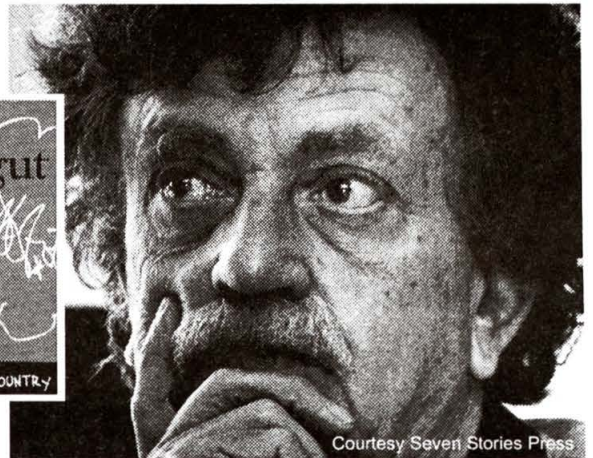
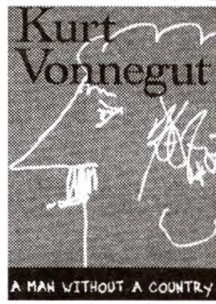
Whether or not he has given up on life, Vonnegut has almost certainly given up on America. If the book's title isn't enough evidence, he makes it clear further in.

"Many years ago I was so innocent I still considered it possible that we could become humane and reasonable," he writes. "But I know now that there is not a chance in hell of America becoming humane and reasonable. Because power corrupts us. And absolute power corrupts us absolutely."

He continues: "So I am a man without a country, except for the librarians, and a Chicago paper called *In These Times*."

In These Times is a locally published paper that, according to its mission statement, is "Dedicated to informing and analyzing popular movements for social, environmental, and economic justice." In the past few years, its pages have been the only source of new Vonnegut material, as he serves as a senior editor on its staff.

As for his praise of librarians, Vonnegut says this:



Courtesy Seven Stories Press

"I want to congratulate librarians, who, all over the country, have staunchly resisted anti-democratic bullies who have tried to remove certain books from their shelves, and destroyed records rather than have to reveal to thought police the names of persons who have checked out those titles."

His love of librarians seems to rekindle a sort of faith in humanity, sparking a rare moment of optimism in the book, and one that ultimately sets the tone for the entire work.

"So the America I loved still exists," he writes. "If not in the White House, the Supreme Court, the Senate...The America I loved still exists at the front desks of our public libraries."

Despite its appearance at the twi-

light of Vonnegut's career, it is the ideal place to start reading his work, if you haven't already. The book provides a straightforward, no-nonsense view of his thoughts, whereas his past work can be more alienating, using absurd and often abstract stories to get his points across.

There are no such excuses for not reading this book. It's packed with brilliance, is easy to read, and will most likely be the last published book by one of the most relevant authors of our lifetime.

'A Man Without a Country'
by Kurt Vonnegut



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'Transgeneration' examines lives of transsexual college students

New Sundance Channel series hits the books about transgenderism

By Hunter Claus/Assistant A&E Editor



Photos courtesy Sundance Channel

Clockwise from upper left: Gabbie, Lucas with his friend Kasey, T.J., and Raci all embark on their own journeys through college life in the Sundance Channel's new show *Transgeneration*.

The transition from high school to college can be a difficult one. New student orientation, dorm life and class registration can be a bit overwhelming no matter how prepared students believe they are.

The college experience, however, is different for everyone. A new documentary series airing on the Sundance Channel takes a look at how four transgendered students adjust to the hectic world of college life, while also confronting issues surrounding transgenderism. The show, which premieres Sept. 20 at 9 p.m., follows Gabbie, Lucas, Raci, and T.J. through their 2004-2005 school year.

Each of the four students attends a different school. Gabbie, 20, is a male to female transsexual majoring in computer science at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

"College is good," said Gabbie in an interview with *The Chronicle*. "I like it, especially in Boulder. It's a very liberal town.

College life in general is pretty liberal."

While Gabbie identifies as female and is in the process of becoming a woman—going through hormone therapy and anxiously awaiting the day of her sexual reassignment surgery—she is still required by Colorado law to use the men's restroom in the dormitory where she lived and worked as a resident advisor during the documentary.

"It's an annoyance," Gabbie said. Despite this, Gabbie said she enjoys college life.

"I have a group of friends and we're insanely close," Gabbie said. "I haven't really had many negative experiences in college because I found it to be a really nice environment."

If anything, she said, she loves living on her own much more than living at home and being in high school.

"At home I was really repressed," Gabbie said. "Being able to come to college and be my own person was really liber-

ating. So college has been a wonderful experience for me. The only thing that could be a downside is all of the homework."

The show's other male to female transsexual is Raci, 20, who is also hearing impaired. During the taping of *Transgeneration*, she was a

"It's a good example of ways to get through different challenges that a trans person might face in school or with their family or at that point in their life."

freshman English major at California State University in Los Angeles. Raci, who was born in the Philippines, had a hard first year at college; as she juggled attending school and dealing with her identity as a transsexual.

"I really like college," Raci told *The Chronicle*. Like Gabbie,

Raci appreciates how open-minded her fellow students are.

"I [go to] a diverse college, not only by race but by gender," Raci said. "There are a lot of gays and lesbians [on campus]. So we can help each other out of trouble."

One of Raci's friends shown on *Transgeneration* is Apple,

who is also a male to female transsexual. In the documentary, Apple provides support and comfort to Raci as she experiences a rough year. "I've learned how to love myself, have more confidence and to come out to a lot of people," Raci said. "So I'm not worried anymore." Since she has

come to terms with many of her hardships, Raci said that she was able to focus on school more.

"Last quarter I got straight A's," Raci said. "It's a good development for the last quarter and the quarter before that."

In addition to Gabbie and Raci, the show also focuses on Lucas, 21, a female to male transsexual who majored in neurobiology at Smith College in Northampton, Mass. Although Smith College is an all female school, Lucas, a senior, decided to continue his studies there so he could graduate on time. *Transgeneration* also follows Lucas as he researches and considers whether or not to pursue hormone therapy. While many of his friends have taken the option, he remains conflicted.

There is also T.J., 23, a male to female transsexual who is a graduate student in education at Michigan State University. Born in Lebanon, T.J. is able to study in the United States thanks to his

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page
Fulbright Scholarship, a study abroad program that was established by Congress in 1954. While his family lives miles away in Cyprus, T.J. is still affected by his mother's refusal to accept him as being transgendered.

Acceptance is a large topic throughout the documentary. In fact, college is all about being accepted into another stage in life. When one is having trouble accepting themselves, this stage can become much more complicated.

"I started out with some issues with it," Gabbie said, referring to her upbringing and how she was told that transgenderism was wrong. "In high school, my best friend was Mormon. With that, there were a lot of issues that had rubbed off on me."

Raci said coming to terms with her identity was hard.

"I was so confused. I tried to be a guy for a year," she said. Ultimately, she didn't feel comfortable with it.

"I had a lot of issues but because of my family, having transgendered friends, and being on [Transgeneration] have made me more confident about being a transsexual," Raci said. "I've come to accept myself."

Many of the themes and issues discussed in *Transgeneration* are familiar to many local Chicago support groups.

"It's a good example of ways to get through different chal-



Erin Mash/The Columbia Chronicle

Above: Raci (left) and Gabbie (right) discuss how they made the transition from high school to college.

lenges that a trans person might face in school or with their family or at that point in their life," said Casey Schwartz, 25, director of the Trans Youth Resource and Advocacy program at the Broadway Youth Center, 3179 N. Broadway. Schwartz sees *Transgeneration* as an excellent resource for people who are

interested in learning more about transgenderism.

Regina Griggs, executive director of Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays and Gays, thinks otherwise. PFOX is a nonprofit organization that supports ex-gays.

"I'm really unhappy about that," said Griggs of *Transgeneration*. "Whether you

agree with their decision or not, it takes hurting people who need support, who need to know the truth, who need to hear. . . That this is not the answer. So why would any television show want to promote self-mutilation and harm people?"

Griggs believes that transgenderism is a mental illness. She cites

Gender Identity Disorder, a category of the Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM IV), which is published by the American Psychiatric Association.

"By putting it there," Schwartz said of Gender Identity Disorder, "there became standards of care so that doctors and therapist [who were] working with trans people had specific standards they could follow."

Schwartz said that these standards are important in the fairness of medical treatment—such as hormone therapy—of transgendered people.

"The criteria can be challenging for a lot of people," Schwartz said, "and some people agree or disagree with the different standards of care, but they were put in place so that trans people would be treated similarly in medical situations." Schwartz also believes that the inclusion of Gender Identity Disorder into the DSM IV has caused doctors and psychiatrists to discuss transgenderism much more than they used to.

While the debate over Gender Identity Disorder will possibly grow after the airing of *Transgeneration*, Raci offers another way of looking at the situation.

"I'm unique," Raci said. "There are not a lot of transsexuals in the world, so we are in demand."

Transgeneration premieres on the Sundance Channel, Sept. 20 at 9 p.m.

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FASHION FOCUS CHICAGO 2005

Article by Alicia Dorr
Photos by Eric Davis
Graphics by Chris Gallevo

Highbrow glamour and gorgeous models. Frantic fittings and fast-paced runways. Eleven days of pure fashion. A world-class urban hub. No, it's not New York Fashion Week—it's Fashion Focus Chicago 2005, and it's happening right now.



great place to be and to become what you want in the (fashion) business."

Displaying work from up-and-coming designers is one way the presenters are drawing this attention. To that end, Marshall Field's flagship store, 111 N. State St., will have a Chicago Designer Boutique open through Oct. 31. A meet and greet with the crème de la crème of Chicago designers Sept. 21 at the W Chicago-City Center, 172 W. Adams St., offers even more accessibility. In fact, making Chicago's fashion industry accessible—both to designers in training at colleges in Chicago to the public at large—seems to be the underlying theme for many of the people involved. For instance, faculty and students at Columbia are presenting the Fashion Columbia Study Collection, from Sept. 19 through Sept. 30, in the windows of the Palmer House Hilton as a way to not only display the college's involvement, but also the importance of Chicago designers as a whole in a place that residents can easily see.

E. Hugh Manning, curator of the Fashion Columbia Study Collection, said that the designers chosen to be featured in the window display were kept to Chicago designers because of the week's focal point.

"We could have gone with heady European designers, but the point is saluting Chicago designers," Manning said. "These are people who have had success in Chicago, and even the world."

Some of the organizers have noticed the trend on which they might need some fashion advice: How to keep Chicago designers in Chicago. May said that as Chicago starts to be seen as a Midwest fashion mecca, the push to inform students and designers of the opportunities here is becoming more important.

"We've always had people here designing, but we want to show people—particularly students—that they have a real community that they can stay

The Loop will be packed with fashionistas and professionals alike from Sept. 19 through Sept. 29 as Chicago's fashion industry and the city present Fashion Focus Chicago 2005, a week of events highlighting everything from style experts to students. From work from Chicago designers on display in Marshall Field's to demonstrations in the windows of Carson Pirie Scott on how to dress, the week is aimed at drawing attention to the re-growth of fashion as an important part of Chicago business.

Growing out of fashion week at Marshall Field's the past two years, the city is sponsoring the festival this year as part of an initiative to promote independent designers in Chicago. The city couldn't do it alone, though, and enlisted everyone from organizations that were involved in past years, like the Chicago Loop Alliance and the Chicago Fashion Foundation, to colleges like Columbia and the International Academy of Art and Design. The hope is, with the involvement of all the fashion-conscious this year, the city's initiative will garner more attention, according to Mary May, spokeswoman for the Mayor's Office of Special Events.

"A lot of people don't even realize we have such a substantial industry in Chicago," May said. "We want to show why Chicago is a

"It takes awhile to build on initiatives and events. Are we anywhere near New York? No. Could we be in ten years? Possibly."

and thrive in," May said.

Not all designers are leaving, though. One Columbia alumna Devin McKenna, who graduated with a fashion degree in 1996, co-founded the Chicago Fashion Foundation, an organization designed to foster community among Chicago's fashion populace. After serving on the board that organized Fashion Focus Chicago

this year, McKenna underscored the prospects this year's events offer.

"This could be the beginning of something really great in Chicago—something I didn't have when I graduated from school," McKenna, who is also Vice President of the Chicago Fashion Foundation, said. "This is an opportunity to experience (the industry) and show that you do not have to go to New York

or L.A."

McKenna stresses that this is New York Fashion Week done the Midwestern way, i.e. it's free to the public and it does not just focus on runways, but the fashion industry as a whole. The movement to encourage designers to stay in sweet home Chicago is one of the group's main objectives, and she is happy to see the issue coming to light on a city-wide level.

There is another obvious reason behind a push for a fashion renaissance in the city—money. A booming industry would attract

fashion shows, in turn attracting people to the city. And while a major shopping center at 108 N. State St., the unlucky and perpetually unoccupied parcel of land in the heart of the Loop, will have a positive impact on residents, it's the money it will generate for businesses that is the key—"not the least of which is shopping," Manning said.

The Loop, where the fashion and business districts are undeniably intertwined, could certainly benefit from the money flow a fashion revival would bring. The Chicago Loop Alliance, the result of a recent merging of the Greater State Street Council and the Central Michigan Avenue Association, is sponsoring Fashion Focus Chicago this year as an outreach to the large retail piece of the Loop's fiscal pie. According to Laura Jones, associate director of the Alliance, investing in events like this is supporting both the business district and the educational district. Looking around the city and seeing not only designers working in the city but also students studying fashion, Jones said that area businesses wondered how they could encourage this while promoting Chicago and the Loop.

"Everyone's goal is to make Chicago another city that's known for fashion," Jones said.

Pairing the city's backing with the prominent Marshall Field's

"We want to show people—particularly students—that they have a real community that they can stay and thrive in."

"Street Beat" Fashion Show on Sept. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., as well as student demonstrations in the windows of stores on State Street during the week. McKenna said that this kind of student involvement is good because it gives fashion students a chance to see what's going on in the city.

"We know as Chicagoans that there is fashion in the city, but (these events) give the industry more notoriety," McKenna said. "These are top-rate fashion events, worthy of anywhere, even New York or Milan."

Though the unspoken mission of the event unlike other cities, nearly everyone agrees that it is a step in the right direction for a revitalization of the fashion industry in Chicago—a city with a fashion world of its own.

"It takes awhile to build on initiatives and events," Jones said. "Are we anywhere near New York? No. Could we be in 10 years? Possibly."

For information on events through Sept. 29, visit fashionfocuschicago.org. Most events are free and open to the public.



brand has certainly opened doors for this year's fashion week, even drawing big name celebrities like Jennifer Lopez on Thursday and Sarah Jessica Parker, who kicked off the festival on Sept. 16.

Including such marquee names, along with several fashion VIPs hosting talks throughout the week, shows how the industry in Chicago is growing. Placing the spotlight squarely on the city's designers is great for Chicago, but an obvious ulterior motive is to keep them here. The city, particularly the Loop area, used to have a thriving fashion world, Manning points out. Though he said he can't pinpoint what happened to drain the city of its couture culture, Fashion Focus events look to raise the kind of awareness that will reverse that trend.

"We'd like to see (Chicago designers) thrive, so it's not automatically grab your diploma and get on a plane," Manning said. Both Manning and Kathleen Embry, Fashion Design Program Director at the International Academy of Art and Design in Chicago, said that this year's program is larger than the last.

"We worked hard to have a variety this year. There really is a wonderful selection," Embry said.

Columbia and IADT will both have designs in the

Maps and Atlases won't lead you astray

Columbia band rocks out with New Black, Local H

By Tiffany Breyne/Assistant A&E Editor

It's no secret that Columbia is a breeding ground for all kinds of artistic talent, waiting to broaden its horizons in the real world. Traverse through its many paths leading to musical stardom, and you'll find Maps and Atlases.

Maps and Atlases formed a little over a year ago, joining together to produce a sound of "math rock," as Dave Davidson, 21, the band's vocalist, puts it. Math rock is a

stop at the Texas Ballroom, 3012 S. Archer Ave., along with New Black, Hanalei and Karma with a K on Sept. 23.

Erin Elders, 22, the band's guitarist, originally met the drummer Chris Hainey, 22, in Milwaukee while attending high school. Both eventually made the decision to attend Columbia as film majors, which is where Elders met Davidson, a cultural studies major, in a class they had together. By that time, Elders and Hainey had already posted ads on Craigslist, an online classifieds page, for band members and found their

bassist, Shiraz Dada, 24.

"I had a good friend that worked at a record store and knew of this really great band he'd told me about," Davidson said. "Then one day I realized it was Erin's band."

The name Maps and Atlases comes from an ad they saw posted on the side of a building.

"We were discussing band names and trying to find one that didn't define us—we didn't want to give any indication of what we sounded like," Davidson said. "It's a good name that describes the way we write songs, kind of like a guide."

Soon after Davidson joined the group, Maps and Atlases played its first show in Iowa, near the Illinois border.

"Of course we were nervous, cause it was our first show," Davidson said. "We showed up, and people were wearing cutoff camouflage shorts, no shirts and Skoal hats. It was bizarre. It was a house party. The kid throwing it eventually told us it was a white trash themed party."

Despite the mistaken setting of a trash-tastic town, Elders said, "It was a really good response."

For those unaware of Maps and Atlases sound, Davidson offers a more elaborate description.

"I don't think any band wants to be set in a genre, but I think we're different elements of math rock, which is instrumental, technical music," Davidson said. "We are that, but with vocals."

Furthering the description Elders said, "We're definitely influenced by math rock, and we like folk music too."

Davidson and Elders said they're inspired by Don Caballero, an instrumental group, and Hella, though they're not quite as harsh. At the moment, Davidson said he's really into Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, a Brooklyn based five-piece band, and Elders is into the Chicago-based band Make Believe.

Maps and Atlases knows it's important to keep good connections with Chicago's local music scene. Davidson notes that for the most part, they come into contact with good people and great attitudes—though there are a few bad seeds.

"We've made a lot of friends; we just try to play shows with bands with good attitudes. Being cool with other bands is good for getting shows," Davidson said.

On Sept. 16, Maps and Atlases played with Chicago band Local H at Otto's in DeKalb, Ill., an experience they never thought would happen years ago.

"It's the first band we listened to in junior high; it's weird," Davidson said. "We're really excited, but nervous since we don't share any similarities." Or as Elders puts it, "We don't rock as hard. They're the loudest band I've ever heard."

Maps and Atlases are currently recording a new EP, set to be released in late November. The Maps and Atlases website is currently under construction, so to learn more about the band, check out its MySpace account at www.myspace.com/mapsandat-lases.




Courtesy Maps and Atlases

Maps and Atlases adds math rock to equal a rocking good time at the Texas Ballroom, 3012 S. Archer Ave., on Sept. 23.

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Death becomes her

'The Exorcism of Emily Rose' inspires scares, contemplation; manages to avoid 'Exorcist' comparisons

By Tiffany Breyne/Assistant A&E Editor



Courtesy Sony Pictures

Being possessed by the devil isn't easy. Jennifer Carpenter plays Emily Rose in *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*.

Emily Rose used to be bright eyed and innocent—until she became possessed by demons. Now she's a tormented girl thrown into fits of screaming, scratching walls, eating insects and contorting her body into petrifying poses.

Though this eerie girl is the namesake and basis of *The Exorcism of Emily Rose*, don't mistake it for a typical horror movie—there are no ridiculous plot lines a 12-year-old could write, with numerous suspenseful scenes just because it's fun to scare people. (Ahem, does *Scream* ring a bell?) It's definitely not another version of *The Exorcist*.

But don't believe the creepy trailers shown on TV—they show a majority of the scary scenes from the movie. Instead, imagine a courtroom setting, an agnostic lawyer finding her place amongst spiritual beliefs and the underlying message of "do you believe?" This is a more accurate portrayal of *Emily Rose*.

The movie follows lawyer Erin Bruner (Laura Linney) as she defends Father Moore (Tom Wilkinson), who is on trial for the murder of Emily Rose (Jennifer Carpenter) after a failed exorcism lead to her death. Emily Rose is seen only in the flashbacks used when describing scenes in the courtroom about her possession.

Based on a true story, the line between fact and fiction is often blurred in *Emily Rose*. The real Emily Rose was Anneliese Michel of Germany, whose possession began in 1968 when she was 16 years old. Just like Emily Rose's character, Anneliese's religiously protective family looked towards the church to help rid her of a gruesome condition that medicine didn't seem to help. Anneliese died in 1976 after many failed exorcisms, and her parents and pastor were put to trial for negligent homicide. The court documents

from the case were the inspiration for *Emily Rose*.

Without looking at the court documents, it seems as though the similarities stop there, and the rest is writer and director Scott Derrickson's (*Urban Legend: Final Cut, Hellraiser: Inferno*) imagination. The events that happen to characters other than Emily Rose are so detailed that it seems impossible Derrickson would know all this information. Yet the movie manages to carry past that fact with its strong character development.

Emily Rose mostly follows Linney's character both in and outside of the courtroom. Skeptical about Father Moore's ideas of possession and demons, Linney does a great job of playing the semi-sarcastic, non-believing Bruner. Her character is relatable as she cycles through emotions throughout the movie, deciphering what's real and what's not. Hearing noises in the night and warnings from Father Moore that demons are all around, Bruner is caught between her agnostic self and the yearning to believe in such a power.

The question constantly looming in her mind is whether Emily Rose was actually possessed or if she suffered from an epileptic disease, as the prosecuting lawyer, Ethan Thomas (Campbell Scott), wants the jury to believe.

That same question runs through the audience's mind. Both sides of the trial offer up enough valid evidence to back up their case, and one starts to wonder—do demons exist? Is possession and exorcism really possible or just a figment of the imagination?

Though Linney's character does carry much of the movie, kudos to

Carpenter, with her startling ability to create such chilling scenes using only her body and facial expressions. Carpenter, a somewhat fresh face on the screen with her most recognizable movie being *White Chicks*, doesn't have many lines in the movie but still managed to produce a powerful and memorable image for the audience.

The trailers for *The Exorcism of Emily Rose* may be daunting and misleading, but the movie still manages to capture and

scare in an appropriate manner. For moviegoers looking for that perfect mix of drama and shock, this movie is a definite must-see.

The Exorcism of Emily Rose
(PG-13)
Directed by Scott Derrickson

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Paul McCartney releases new album!

Ex-Beatle not only still alive, but still recording

By Sam Libretti/Staff Writer

Apparently, this is the season for aging rockers to release albums designed to coincide with multimillion dollar tours. Earlier this month, the Rolling Stones released a new disc, *A Bigger Bang*, and their sold-out tour stopped at Soldier Field recently.

Tuesday saw the release of Paul McCartney's *Chaos and Creation in the Backyard*, his first new studio offering since 2001, and this October, the former Beatle brings his sold-out tour to the United Center for two nights.

On *Chaos*, released in the U.S. by Capitol Records, McCartney once again proves to the world that he is a master of his craft, churning out melodic piano-tinged pop like nobody's business. Listeners who were disappointed by 2001's *Driving Rain* will likely appreciate the effort put forth on *Chaos*. Listeners who enjoyed *Driving Rain*, well, God

bless them.

Where recent McCartney solo work has seemed forced and uninspired, this album feels light and energetic, even at its lowest points. Working with producer Nigel Godrich, who has helmed albums for Radiohead and Beck, McCartney was largely held back from his habit of getting too syrupy—what late ex-Beatle George Harrison once described as “granny music.” There are, however, a few times on the album when one wishes Godrich would have held the leash a little tighter on the corny balladry.

Sir Paul is credited with all of the instrumentation on most tracks, but there are appearances by the drummer for his touring band, Abe Laboriel Jr., as well as one of the band's guitarists, Rusty Anderson. A lot of the album's appeal lies in the eloquent string sections, harmoniums and



Above: Paul McCartney is hung out to dry. But not really.

Wurlitzer pianos. These layers of music come together to provide an ambiance to McCartney's songs that they have not had in some time, particularly on “A Certain Softness,” “At the Mercy” and “Riding to Vanity Fair.”

Beatles fans will quickly recognize “Jenny Wren” as being set firmly in the style of “Blackbird,” the McCartney-penned acoustic ballad on the Beatles' self-titled 1968 double album.

The album's opening track and current single, “Fine Line,” has an instantly catchy hook and is a

great melodic rocker, as are “Friends to Go” and “Promise to You Girl.” Most of the other songs are successful because of McCartney's musicianship, their precise arrangements and the strength of McCartney's voice.

Easily the biggest misstep on the album, “English Tea,” sees Sir Paul committing his most egregious musical sin: getting too campy for an album that is otherwise strong. Music icon or not, lines like “Very twee / very me” and “Nanny bakes / fairy cakes” just don't cut it. Despite its short-

comings, *Chaos and Creation in the Backyard* offers proof that at 63, Paul McCartney is still capable of making music that has relevance in a market that is vastly different from that of the 1960s and '70s.

Chaos and Creation in the Backyard
by Paul McCartney



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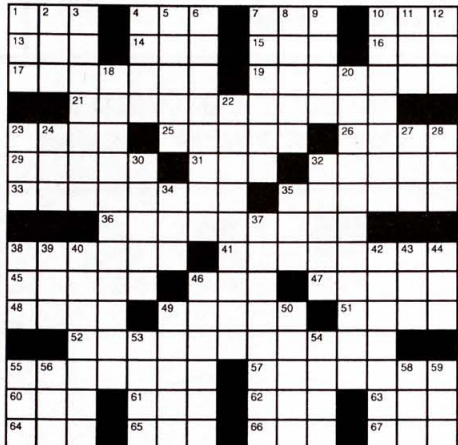
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Once existed
 - 4 Doze
 - 7 Building add-on
 - 10 Psychic's ability
 - 13 Actor Carney
 - 14 Pub preference
 - 15 Cravat
 - 16 Round legume
 - 17 Property merchant
 - 19 Funeral vehicles
 - 21 Mile High Center architect
 - 23 Sicilian volcano
 - 25 Eagle's abode
 - 26 Football foul
 - 29 City on the Aire
 - 31 Trajectory
 - 32 "You Send Me" singer
 - 33 Soak in wine
 - 35 Behavior
 - 36 Football lineman
 - 38 Very slow tempos
 - 41 Release, as a fist
 - 45 Native Alaskan
 - 46 Lofty peak
 - 47 Sound asleep?
 - 48 Radar screen image
 - 49 Truth twisters
 - 51 Netherworld river
 - 52 Roadwork vehicle
 - 55 Soaks up
 - 57 Span of arches
 - 60 \$ promise
 - 61 Decompose
 - 62 Asner and Wynn
 - 63 Skier Tommy
 - 64 "Sheila" singer
 - 65 Overflow letters
 - 66 Moines, IA
 - 67 Poker winnings
- DOWN**
- 1 Word with cry or chest
 - 2 Metric square measure
 - 3 Tarnisher
 - 4 W. alliance
 - 5 Wahine's welcome
 - 6 Pass through
 - 7 Racial
 - 8 Feudal lord
 - 9 Vault
 - 10 Fifth Greek letter
 - 11 Meet with
 - 12 Ballerina steps
 - 18 Before
 - 20 Abridged anew
 - 22 Anomalous
 - 23 "A Nightmare on ___ Street"
 - 24 Earl Grey, e.g.
 - 27 '50s candidate to like?
 - 28 Part of mph
 - 30 Schnoz
 - 32 Reiner and Jung
 - 34 Beast of burden
 - 35 Scottish prefix
 - 37 Yet to be verified
 - 38 Experimental rm.
 - 39 Every bit
 - 40 Publish again
 - 42 Bid without a suit
 - 43 Weep
 - 44 Put a spell on
 - 46 Has intentions
 - 49 Workers as a group
 - 50 End of a steal
 - 53 Muffs it
 - 54 Young miss
 - 55 Lung filler
 - 56 Scare word
 - 58 Bill and
 - 59 Asian holiday



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09/19/05

Solutions

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to the nines

fashion@columbia

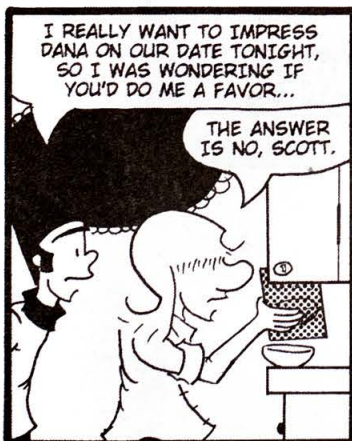


Music business major **Fernando Martinez** says no to leather, but the noir-loving freshman is a stickler for black Chuck Taylors. Martinez sites the boys of hard-core band Norma Jean as his fashion icons and picks up his threads at Sears or Army Surplus stores, where he said he finds pretty cool t-shirts. "I like wearing tight pants, tight shirts and black converse," Martinez said.

Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Out of My Head

by Scotty Carlson















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HOROSCOPES

by Alicia Dorr

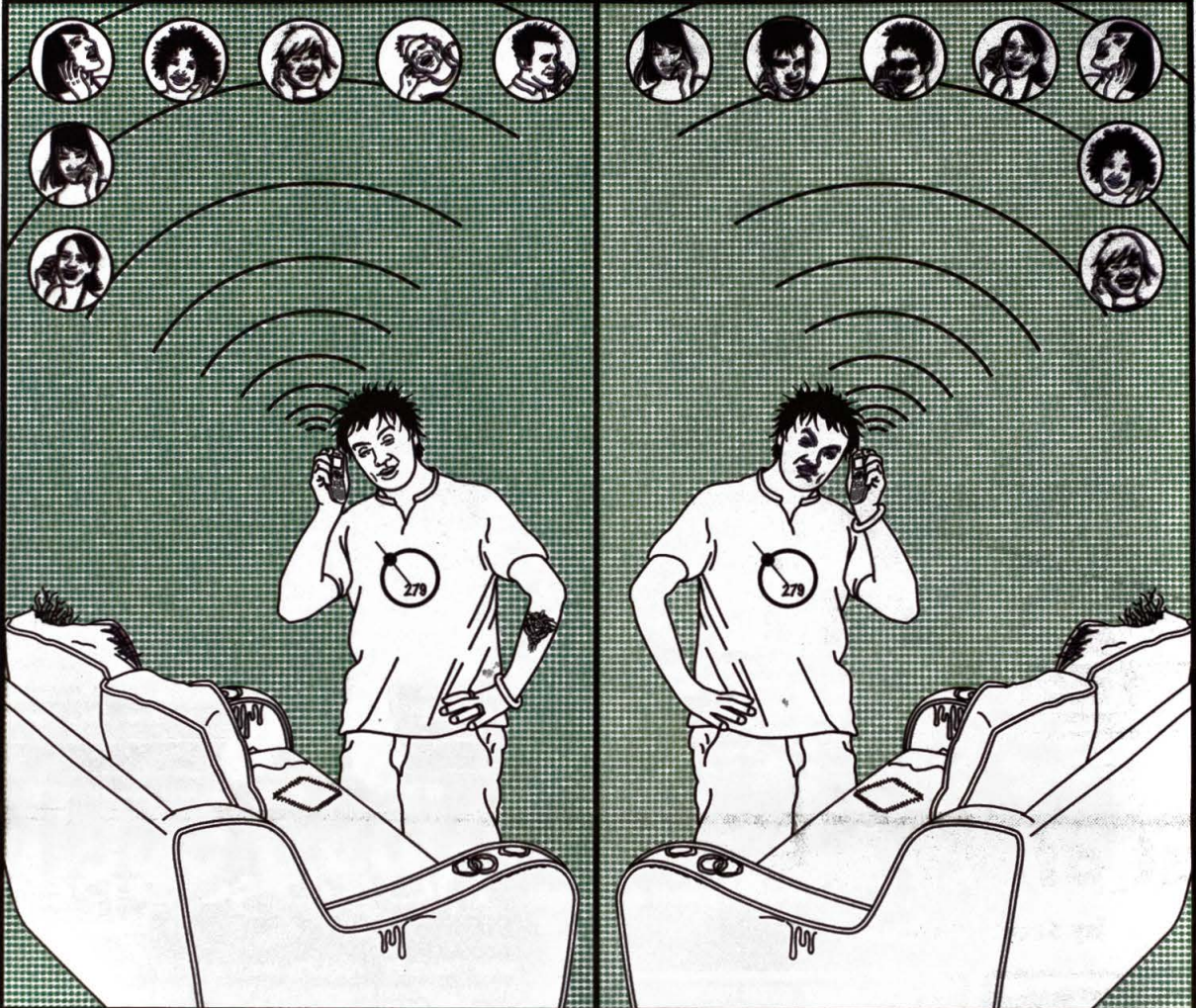
-  **Aries** (March 21 – April 20): In a recent City Council meeting, Chicago Alderman Burton Natarus (42nd Ward) asked another alderman to move because her hat was too large and was blocking his view. I think you, of all people, can draw an important lesson from this.
-  **Taurus** (April 21 – May 21): Don't be such a hobo.
-  **Gemini** (May 22 – June 21): I hate to break it to you, but you do, in fact, look Irish.
-  **Cancer** (June 22 – July 23): Your lack of productiveness is increasing in direct proportion to your confidence level. Blame yourself—everyone told you never to become a hippie.
-  **Leo** (July 24 – Aug. 23): I love you, but I'm not *in* love with you.
-  **Virgo** (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23): You'll have a fun day sometime this week, filled to the brim with hargwarsh and poppycock.
-  **Libra** (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23): Your mailperson will not, in fact, come rain or shine and is definitely confiscating your Victoria's Secret catalogues. If you want your luck to change, perhaps you should consider greasing his or her palm on the next Boxing Day.
-  **Scorpio** (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22): By jove, this week you're adorable!
-  **Sagittarius** (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21): Aw, is the stork going to bring you a little bundle of joy? No? Eee ... Sorry, it must be the sweater ... it's an optical illusion.
-  **Capricorn** (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20): You will be forced to move most of your office items into your bathroom for an extended period of time this week after a bad burrito.
-  **Aquarius** (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19): A road to riches is not in the cards, but a bright future in door-to-door magazine sales is looking promising.
-  **Pisces** (Feb. 20 – Mar. 20): Knock, knock. (You hopefully inquire: Who's there?) Your horoscope.

SPEEDTALKSM

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Wednesday, September 21
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OPEN MIC SIGN-UP 6PM: Time slots limited. First come first served.

STAND UP/SKETCH SIGN UP: Stand up participants get 3 minutes to perform. Sketch participants get 5 minutes to perform. Limited time slots available.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY SARAH EVA KRANCIC

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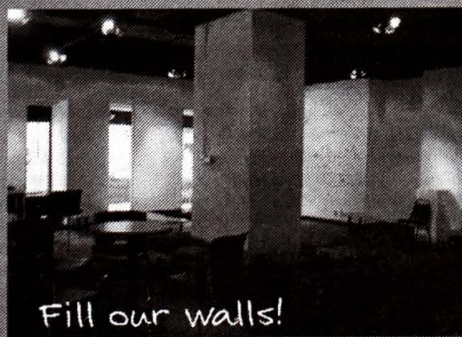
6:00- MIDIVAL PUNDITZ:
[HTTP://WWW.PUNDITZ.COM](http://WWW.PUNDITZ.COM)

7:00-SIDI GOMA
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LAST CALL FOR EXHIBITION PROPOSALS

The newly formed Curatorial Review Board will be reviewing proposals for the
SPRING EXHIBITION CALENDAR



Fill our walls!

To propose an exhibition, please go to:
[HTTP://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU/OPPORTUNITIES](http://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU/OPPORTUNITIES)
and click on curatorial rules and responsibilities.

Who should submit a proposal?
Students, Faculty, and staff who have a compelling curatorial idea and the energy to see it through.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE:
October 14, 2005

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Questions? Please contact Neysa Page-Lieberman
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Hoping for the best ...

If our goal is to become "the best student-centered arts and media college in the world," then addressing the workloads of Columbia's faculty should be one of the college's top priorities. Resolving this issue today would ensure future applicants make our school their first choice tomorrow.

Columbia has been fortunate enough to boast instructors who incorporate real-world experience from outside the classroom. At the same time, this offers students the opportunity to learn from the work performed by professionals who go beyond standard reading assignments and lectures. This aspect of who makes up our faculty is rewarding, but it has been coming at the expense of some rather overworked professors.

It has been five years since the All-College Workload Committee was formed following then-Provost Sam Floyd's call for reduced workloads for full-time faculty, and the committee made a proposal to make that happen in January 2004. There were hopes last spring that the reduction would occur this semester, but we're still waiting.

And we wait while P-fac, the Part-Time Faculty Association, sits at the bargaining table. At Columbia, we have more than three times as many part-time instructors as full-time

instructors. While these two sets of negotiations are unrelated, it is critical that we reach a solution that satisfies each and every member of our staff. The administration should have no concerns about whether or not it is getting its money's worth.

Workload and salary compression should be seen as returns on student investments that could exceed \$100,000 per individual. The quality of the education we receive is immediately impacted by the time those who teach us have to offer. As The Chronicle reported in March, a survey by Columbia College Faculty Organization found that reducing the current workload to nine credit hours was one of the most important issues among faculty.

With time also having to be dedicated to administrative duties, it is clear that reorganizing these priorities would not be an easy task. Striking a perfect balance between allowing all professors to develop professionally, as well as also honoring obligations to time on campus, makes it difficult to create any free time. This will not happen overnight, but clearly as Columbia grows, more is going to be required. And that is why the issue can be delayed no longer.

We feel that Columbia is already emerging as the college of choice in Chicago, and we believe that with continued dedication and

commitment to creating well-rounded students who are more than prepared to meet whatever challenge follows graduation, the notion of becoming the best in the world is hardly far-fetched.

However, how Columbia handles its faculty directly figures into such a goal. According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, a survey compiled by the American Association of University Professors found that the average salary for a professor at Columbia for the 2004-05 school year was \$64,000. That figure is lower than the \$83,986 national average for full-time professors at other master's institutions, a categorization for schools that offer both bachelor's and master's degrees. Full-time professors at our neighboring institution, Roosevelt University—which falls into the same AAUP category as Columbia—average \$81,600 a year, according to the survey.

It's hard to be considered the best in the world when salaries for your full-time faculty rank as being just above the 20th percentile in the country.

Producing the best and brightest means learning from the best and brightest. Of course, that kind of success comes at a price, and in order for our school to achieve a truly global reputation, Columbia needs to start getting ahead of the rest of the nation.

... preparing for the worst

It will be weeks before we know what led to the shocking death of DePaul student Jason Zarka, who was found in his University Center bedroom on Sept. 6. While college administrators and therapists are helping students cope with the news, it is crucial that the University Center be as open and honest as possible with its residents when the circumstances are revealed.

Zarka's roommate told police that he and the 21-year-old junior business student had traveled to the West Side to purchase heroin. Police are investigating if Zarka's death is related to a string of incidents involving the narcotic.

On the West Side, police suspected heroin was involved in the death of a 35-year-old man on Sept. 7. Four women in the same neighborhood were taken to area hospitals after becom-

ing sick from possibly using the substance on Sept. 5.

Results from the medical examiner are not expected for weeks, but if it turns out that the substance contributed to this tragedy, residents of the "Superdorm" should be made aware of it.

Many students are exposed to illegal drugs long before arriving at college, but heroin in the environment at the University Center should be limited to William S. Burroughs novels. The only way to continue to uphold that expectation is by addressing the role narcotics played in Zarka's death. Being forthright about all details is the best step to ensure that a similar incident does not happen again.

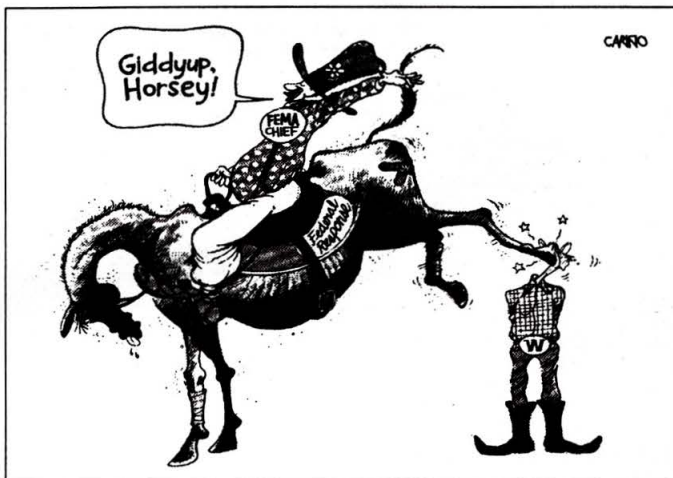
The 2003 National Survey on Drug Use and Health found that annual heroin use among the general population age 12 and older had dropped to

314,000 from 404,000 in 2002. And the number of youths who had used the drug between the ages of 12 and 17 fell from 13,000 in 2002 to 12,000 in 2003. The hope would be that these numbers will continue to plunge until the figures hit zero.

When the "Superdorm" opened in fall 2004, it welcomed students from Columbia as well as DePaul and Roosevelt universities. It is a key part of creating a sense of community for all three colleges, and if a student's death on its premises was the result of a drug overdose, the news would force officials to work harder toward reclaiming that feeling.

However, it also presents them with an opportunity to ease the concerns of its students and bring its residents together at a time when all three schools are carrying heavy hearts.

BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Dan Carino/KRT



Wayne Stayskal/KRT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



Keep Coca-Cola out of Columbia

I was surprised to read in The Chronicle that the college is negotiating a contract with Coca-Cola. Perhaps they aren't aware of a growing international campaign against Coca-Cola for a number of its practices in developing countries.

Alleged human rights violations at its bottling plants in Colombia, where assassinations of union activists by paramilitary groups are an issue, have given rise to numerous actions including a suit brought by labor groups and victims. In India, Coke's bottling operations are accused of drying up the water supply for small villages, as well as polluting groundwater and soil. In recent months, thousands of local Indians have turned out to protest existing and proposed plants.

Coca-Cola's recent shareholder meeting was taken over by shareholder activists condemning the company's actions in India and Colombia. New York City's comptroller is concerned about Coca-Cola's stock in the city's portfolio. College and university students, in particular, have played a key role in bringing the campaign to the national and international stage. Unions and campuses around the country are taking part in a Coke boycott.

The website KillerCoke.org has a wealth of information and links, including New York City television station WB11's special "Fact Finders Report" video in the site's August 31 news bulletin. Is this a good time to bring Coca-Cola to campus?

—Sheila Brady
Program Coordinator,
Educational Studies

Have an opinion about something you read on these pages? Why not write a Letter to the Editor? At the bottom of Page 13 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

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iPod killed the radio star

By Hunter Claus
Assistant A&E Editor

The car radio can be just as frustrating as the evening commute home from work, school or both. Continually pressing the scan button, flipping through the various stations for five minutes straight and the whole process of searching for something new to listen to can feel like the ending of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, when the Nazis open up the Ark of the Covenant and all their faces melt.

Radio is by no means a holy gift from God to humankind. It's a relic of the past thanks largely in part to the popular iPod, one of the greatest inventions of our lifetime. Listeners no longer have to sit and listen to what a bunch of corporations think of as good music, like Ace of Base or Ashlee Simpson. We, the listeners, can plug in our iPods and tune out the mindless drivel associated with commercial radio, which is largely owned by giant entities like Viacom and Clear Channel.

In some ways, one can see this as an example of Immanuel Kant's essay "What is Enlightenment?" In it, Kant argues that mankind can only mature through the public sphere, which consists of the reading public that has access to books. If the reading public is granted the freedom to pursue these published works, Kant believed, that progress would be achieved.

The only kick-in-the-groin that stands in the way of the public sphere is the guardians, an authoritative system that regulates what an individual can read and say. In the realm of radio, big businesses act as guardians. They control which radio personalities make it on the air, and what songs make it onto playlists. These personalities and playlists often lack a certain diversity that could be refreshing

to the drab routine of commercial radio.

At the moment, radio isn't doing so well with its public image. This fact is driven home by the recent "pay for play" scandal. In July 2005, New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer reported that Sony BMG, the second largest record label in the world, had paid radio stations to give more airtime to certain songs. This is incredibly damning because it's now apparent that the radio industry is largely a puppet for large record labels.

and Jack FM, 104.3, have switched to.

In April of last year, Q101 transformed from the "alternative station," playing heavy metal crap, to being "on shuffle," playing anything and everything. The night they made the switch was the first time I remember hearing Daft Punk on the station since the late 90s, and because the switch happened on April Fools' Day, I thought it was a strange joke.

Q101 wasn't the only station that changed its image. The

ple, because we all know how much they love new technology.

Podcasts, however, offer a refreshing change that commercial radio isn't capable of achieving. A podcast is a radio show that is posted online like a blog. Podcasts can be downloaded from Apple's iTunes music store. Though podcasts can be played on many portable mp3 players, this medium derived its name from Apple's iPod. There are podcasts like "Gas Radio" which tells listeners where they can find the cheapest gas prices. There are also podcasts like "Feast of Fools," which is the Johnny Carson Show for the GLBT community. Even U.S. Sen. Barack Obama has his own podcast.

Pretty much anyone can create and produce a radio show, and there are podcasts that appeal to Republicans, Democrats, Harry Potter fans, gays and lesbians, sports fans, mystery novel readers, cooks and a whole slew of others. This diversity of perspectives is something that is alien to radio. A majority of AM talk shows are very conservative, such as Rush Limbaugh's show, and FM morning talk show personalities often come off as catering to the shock jock mentality.

For Kant, achieving a public sphere in which the individual is allowed to think freely must be accomplished in order for progress to be made. If humankind bows down to the guardians and their private sphere, then society will never mature. Podcasting has made radio irrelevant because it opens up the floodgates for anyone to express themselves in an audio file medium. We no longer have to listen to the voice from the mountain, the corporations or the scripted radio personalities. Thanks to podcasting, anyone can have his or her own radio show online.



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

It is noticeable that the radio industry is stuck in a hard place. Many stations are reformatting themselves in order to effectively compete with the almighty iPod, which allows listeners to choose what they want to listen to without committing to a single genre. Many stations are ditching the old format of playing a single type of music to a format that encompasses a wide range of music, formats that stations like Q101, 101.1 FM,

beloved oldies station 104.3 FM bit the big one and transformed into Jack FM, trading in the charming radio personality Dick Biondi for the lame slogan, "We play what we want." The new incarnation of 104.3 plays an eclectic mix of music that nobody listened to when it first came out. The oldies station still does exist online, where you can find Dick Biondi, but who goes online to listen to Elvis or The Beatles? Not old peo-

Getting extremism down 'Pat'

By Derek Strum
Commentary Editor

The ongoing War on Terror takes aim at radicalism among Muslims, but as long we're calling a spade a spade, there's no American practicing the sort of extremism as detrimental to U.S. interests as Christian minister Pat Robertson.

The Christian Broadcasting Network chairman was "clearly" not having a "good week," according to the Anti-Defamation League, when the organization condemned Robertson for criticizing the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. During a broadcast of his religious vehicle, "The 700 Club," Robertson said, "God says, 'I am going to judge the nations who have parted my land.' He said, 'I am going to bring judgement against them.'"

Hoping to talk some sense into the good minister, ADL's statement noted, "As a staunch supporter of Israel, Mr. Robertson should understand that his comments further play into the division of a country and encourage those in

Israel who prefer a very narrow religious interpretation over the democratic institutions that keep the country together."

A narrow religious interpretation is Robertson's bread and holy water. On the May 1 edition of ABC's "This Week" with George Stephanopoulos, the CBN chairman voiced his opposition to judges who think the Constitution is "a living document that can be manipulated at the will of five out of nine judge[s]." Of course, if the U.S. went back to the 18th century understanding, theoretically the right to privacy would disappear and slavery could reappear, among other historical progresses that could be rewritten.

When Stephanopoulos asked Robertson if he was really serious about the claim in his book, *Courting Disaster*, that the judiciary is currently a bigger threat than Islamic terrorists, the CBN chairman replied, "I think the gradual erosion of the consensus that's held our country together is probably more serious than a few bearded terrorists who fly into buildings."

Robertson apparently didn't think that his own comments were too serious when he spoke of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on the Aug. 22 edition of "The 700 Club." Robertson said, "If he thinks we're trying to assassinate him, I think we really ought to go ahead and do it."

Two days later, under fierce criticism, Robertson said he was misinterpreted. "I didn't say 'assassination.' I said our special forces should 'take him out.'"

Actually, he said both. And either way, it seems quite odd (and a tad extreme) that a man who professes to represent the Christian community would call for the murder of a sovereign country's elected official.

"I don't know who that person is," Chavez said about the comments, according to CNN. "I don't know him, and as far as his opinion of me goes, I couldn't care less."

But, as Time reported, Robertson's public comments do little to help the impression in Latin America of a "right-wing establishment so closely aligned

with President Bush" and an administration that "got burned by accusations it backed a failed coup against Chavez in 2002," which the White House denies.

In the past, Robertson has been a little more willing to help leaders of foreign nations, such as brutal leaders in Zaire (now Congo) and Liberia, according to Ms. magazine. But in those cases, Robertson had financial interests in commercial companies mining for diamonds and gold, respectively. Naturally, when Robertson was criticized for supporting Liberia's exiled president, Charles Taylor, a partial bankroller for al-Qaida, Robertson once again claimed he was "misinterpreted."

With "The 700 Club" reaching 1 million households, Robertson is being misinterpreted, all right. Somehow, the minister maintains his credibility with his Christian audience, despite exploiting the name of God at every last chance. If our country is fighting a war against religious fanatics, we're hardly helped by having such a powerful one on our side.

Roamin' Numerals

\$43.45

Amount paid by Internet casino and poker room GoldenPalace.com for the only known deed to the property ownership for 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., or the location of the White House, according to a Sept. 15 press release. The item was acquired by David Jenneson following research for his book, *Night of the Realtors*, and sold through the online auction house eBid.tv.

69 hours, 48 minutes

Amount of time Suresh Joachim spent watching TV, breaking the Guinness world record on Sept. 16. Joachim holds more than 16 Guinness records, including the longest duration of balancing on one foot.

\$100 billion

Amount NASA plans to spend over the next 12 years in an effort to put humans back on the moon by 2018.

Choice Cuts

“Let's face it ... Cocoa Beach conjures up visions of palm trees, surfing and the beach. Houston conjures up petrochemicals.”

Lori Walters, director of the Florida Space Coast History Project at the University of Central Florida, commenting on whether the Texas city would have been more accurate for the setting of *I Dream of Jeannie*. Cocoa Beach residents celebrated the 40th anniversary of the show's first episode on Sept. 16.

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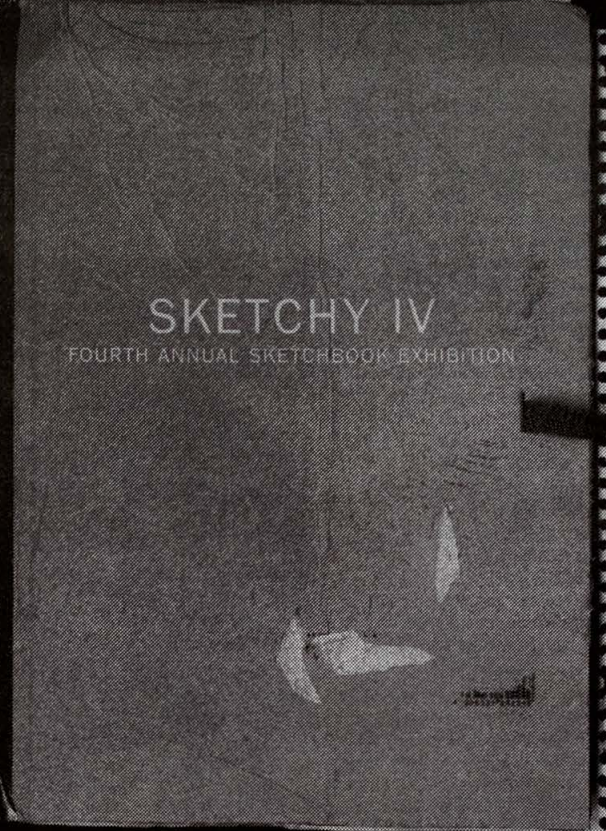
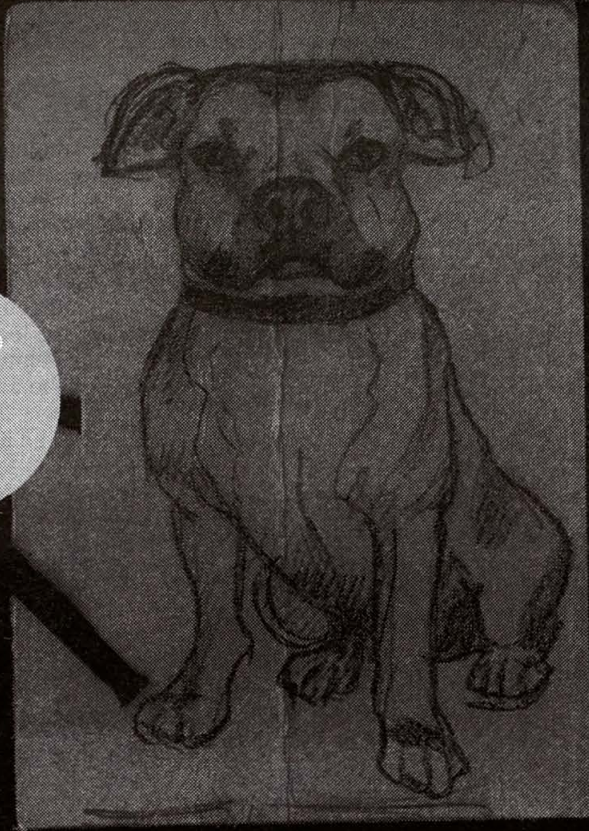
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SKETCHES BY NANCY JOHNSON

Governor, adversaries put spin on Illinois' economic standing

AP
As the political season approaches, the health of Illinois' economy under Gov. Rod Blagojevich is taking center stage in a drama where each side uses many of the same facts to tell vastly different stories.

On one side is the administration, with a story of recent job growth and declining unemployment. In this version, Illinois is slowly coming out of a deep recession thanks in part to initiatives that lower business costs and encourage them to grow and expand.

On the other side are Blagojevich's Republican opponents and some business groups. In their tale, Illinois' economic improvement is painfully small and lags behind neighboring states and the nation because of the administration's anti-business policies.

Caught in the middle are voters, who will be bombarded with claims from both sides hoping to use the economy for their political advantage. Judging Illinois' economic well-being is tricky, largely because state and federal data can be read in different ways.

After enjoying years of growth, Illinois' economy soured in late 2000, with the terrorist attacks of Sept. 2001 adding to the misery.

The state lost 246,000 jobs between November 2000 and March 2003, and its unemployment rolls grew by 120,000 peo-

ple during that time, according to the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

That trend has changed since Blagojevich took office. Illinois gained 17,200 jobs, and its unemployment rate dropped nearly a full percentage point, from 6.9 percent in September 2003 to 6 percent in July.

For historical comparison, Illinois gained 685,100 jobs and its unemployment rate dropped from 6.5 percent to 4.3 percent during former Republican Gov. Jim Edgar's eight years in office. Under his successor, Gov. George Ryan, Illinois lost 49,000 jobs and its unemployment rate increased from 4.3 percent to 5.4 percent.

The Republicans running for Blagojevich's seat see the latest economic numbers as encouraging but also a reminder of squandered opportunities.

They note that the nation and surrounding states have outpaced Illinois in job growth and lowering unemployment totals. Illinois could have hundreds of thousands more jobs if it had just kept up with everyone else, some conservatives say.

Critics in politics and business blame those results on increased business taxes and fees and a higher minimum wage pushed by Blagojevich, along with administration policies that have driven up health care costs.

"You can't continue to ignore the losses our state has struggled with," said state Sen. Bill Brady

(R.) of Bloomington. "The recipe that this administration has doctored up has been a disastrous one."

In the process, they say, businesses have flocked to neighboring states such as Indiana and Missouri to build and expand. Officials there welcome the attention.

"Bringing business in from other states is something we're working very hard on right now," said Weston Sedgwick of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

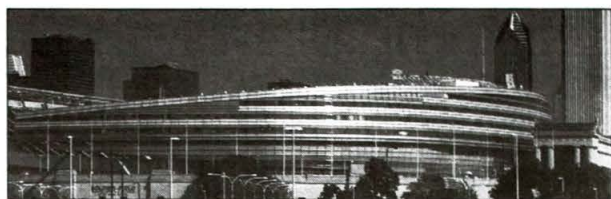
Critics also complain Illinois is trading high-paying jobs with good benefits, such as manufacturing, for service and temporary jobs that often come with lower pay and fewer benefits.

"Not all jobs are created equal," said Gregg Durham of the Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth and Prosperity, a business group. "Everyone's looking at quantity and not enough at quality."

The administration's version of the story is considerably rosier.

Because its economy is diverse, Illinois went into an economic downturn slower than other states, and as a result its recovery has been slower, too. But recent strong job numbers show pro-business initiatives are working, state officials say.

The state gained more than 53,000 jobs from this January to July, a pace that's among the nation's best.



AP

Soldier Field could lose its landmark status after the National Park System Advisory Board voted 5-3 to strip the field of its landmark designation. A final decision will be made within 60 days.

U.S. could strip Soldier Field of landmark status

Advisory board argues that renovation damaged stadium's character

AP

Whether Soldier Field will retain its status as a National Historic Landmark is now in the hands of a U.S. Cabinet secretary.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton is expected to decide within 60 days whether to strike Chicago's lakefront stadium from the nation's list of historic places.

Last week, the National Park System Advisory Board, which advises Norton, voted 5-3 to recommend that authorities strip Soldier Field of the prestigious designation.

The body agreed that a \$660 million makeover of the stadium, completed in 2003, destroyed the historic character of the 81-year-old stadium.

"We believe that there was so much change to the architecture that the reasons for it to have been designated in the first place have been lost," said Advisory Board Chairman, Douglas Wheeler.

Architectural preservationists have long bemoaned the construction, which put a modern steel and glass bowl atop the signature colonnades.

David Bahlman, president of the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, said he was pleased by the board's vote.

"The national historic designation program would be considered by the public to be a sham if one could do to a building what was done to Soldier Field without any censure or delisting action," Bahlman said.

Chicago city officials argue that the reconstruction added needed amenities without sacrificing the stadium's architectural integrity.

"The features that make the stadium landmark-worthy were preserved," said Chicago Park District spokeswoman, Michele Jones.

Still others say Soldier Field was named a landmark in 1987 because of historic events that took place there—not just because of its architecture.

Fewer than 2,500 properties nationwide have National Historic Landmark status.

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Cry me a song



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Gerica Arroyo, left, embraces her friend Jaimie Reyes after auditions for American Idol at Soldier Field on Sept. 16. Arroyo, who came from Whiting, Ind., was among the 5,000 people who showed up for their chance at stardom. She did not make it to the second qualifying round.

Dog walker: Popularity growing

Most clients, he said, usually wanted their dogs walked mid-day during a narrow, two-hour window. During that time, Keller would not only have to walk the dogs, but also care for the animals if they became sick and drive to each location, which could become a hassle in itself if traffic were heavy or if he experienced car troubles.

"I expected it to be very easy," Keller said. "I thought it would be fun and not very complicated. I expected to just kind of play with dogs all day—maybe not make a lot of money, but have a steady income.

"[But] it was a lot more hectic than I anticipated just because I thought I knew the city really well."

Now, as one of Danny's two field managers, it's his duty to know every dog the walkers care for south of Diversey Parkway, the company's approximate boundary line between its northern and southern customers. Keller also continues to walk dogs, filling in for the designated walkers if they can't make their shifts, and he accompanies other walkers on interviews with new clients and their pets.

"He's so proactive and takes on a lot to get to know all the dogs and all the owners. It keeps

dogs from seeing a stranger come into the house," said Rhonda Radford, business manager for Danny's and former South Loop dog walker.

Just as Keller got his start with Danny's Dog Walkers because of dissatisfaction with his previous job, Danny's came about when its owner grew tired of his career in the restaurant business.

Owner Danny Coval was one of the original partners in the Lettuce Entertain You restaurant chain, which includes Chicago area eateries like R.J. Grunts and Wildfire Steakhouse. The idea for Danny's Dog Walkers, he said, came from his cousin, who had operated a dog-walking business for three years. Coval started his business nine years ago when dog care was just becoming trendy.

"It certainly wasn't what it is today," Coval said. "There[are] hundreds of people doing it."

He doesn't know how many dog walking businesses there are in Chicago—the SBC Yellow Pages lists 38 "pet exercising services," which include walkers—but he said they are growing in popularity.

Danny's alone has about 500 clients throughout the city, and about 30 in the South Loop, Radford said. Most of the company's clients are people who lead busy professional and personal lives, yet still want to keep a pet around the home.

"I think people place such an importance on pets, and they don't want to make their dogs sit at home," said Kristine Lyons, secretary for the South Loop Dog Park Action Co-Op, an organization that promotes dog-friendly features in the South Loop.

Radford said the South Loop is one of the most recent additions to the list of neighborhoods Danny's serves. Along with Keller managing the neighborhood, three other walkers cover the South Loop, and one more is on the way.

Coval said he thinks the South Loop has one of the largest dog populations of all Chicago's neighborhoods.

Keller agrees that the number of dogs in the neighborhood is growing rapidly. He said the South Loop has so many dogs that when he's in the area, he recognizes dogs that are out with their owners.

"I came down for the Printers Row Book Fair [in June], and I knew at least three dogs," Keller said.

As for Keller's dog-walking career, he's uncertain how long it will last. Right now, because his hours are concentrated in the middle of the day, he has time to write fiction pieces in the evening. Someday, he said, he'd like to write a novel and put his English degree to use.

He's also considering attending graduate school for zoology; he's particularly interested in working with exotic animals, possibly as a zookeeper.

For the time being, though, he's enjoying spending time with the dogs he walks.

"So many people are stuck in an office all day," he said. "I get to go around the city walking dogs. I might not be making as much as some of my friends that graduated, but I like my job the best."



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Dennis McClendon listens to residents on Sept. 14, at the future of Wabash meeting

Wabash: Improvements

need to bring in more retail for the residents."

Residents at the meeting discussed many options for the available land use, but all seemed to agree that community members living on either end of Wabash would like to see a lot more street activity.

"There are quite a few people in the area who have money and want to spend it," said Marifran Carlson, a resident who lives on south Michigan Avenue and owns the Laughing Iguana gift shop at 1247 S. Wabash Ave. "There is just no place for them to spend it within their community."

Residents said they like the small business feel to Wabash and want to keep it that way. They would like to see more coffee shops, specialty stores and sidewalk seating.

"Wabash has the potential to become much more lively," said Leslie Sturino, president of South Loop Neighbors. "Even if the market for retail is soft now, we are just building for it later."

McClendon said that colleges along Wabash are providing a strong foundation for growth. With Columbia stretching along the street, more needs to be done to accommodate the students who are coming into the area, McClendon said.

"We need more nightlife for both students and adults," said a middle-age man in the crowd. "People are going elsewhere for food and entertainment."

McClendon agreed, pointing out that the Burnham Theater had just closed, leaving the South Loop without a cinema. There are plans on the drawing board for a few more restaurants including a 24-hour diner, which would be great for the student population, he said.

Parking for residents and shoppers, if the area did get a business boost, was also an issue at the meeting. With an influx of residential condominiums, most tenants have parking available to them. However, most of the housing facilities do not allow public parking in the garages.

"I think that Wabash is going to take on the effect of a walking district," Carlson said. "I can't see people driving into the area with their vehicles to shop."

The issue was brought up that it's great that community members voiced their opinion, but it's going to take more effort to change the South Loop.

"We can say all we want now," Carlson said. "But if we want to make a difference we need to get the building and property owners in here too so they can hear what we want."

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2005-06 watch list helps protect historic buildings

Ten most endangered sites in Chicago include hospitals and churches

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

The Western Shade Cloth Co. building once housed the largest window shade manufacturing facility in the world. But now the property, which was constructed in 1924, is being used as a boat storage facility.

Standing in front of the historic four- and five-story red brick building at 2141 S. Jefferson St., the president of the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, David Bahlman, announced the 4th annual Chicagoland Watch List on Sept. 14.

According to Bahlman, the 12 sites on this year's watch list are threatened by issues such as bad public policy, current or impending vacancies, redevelopment plans and poor maintenance.

"By placing these sites on our watch list we hope to call attention to these problems and work with local preservationists," Bahlman said. "It's in the best interest of both historic preservation and the community at large."

The old Western Shade Cloth Co. property sits within the Cermak Road Bridge District, which is a collection of four buildings and a double-leaf rolling lift bridge.

"This is arguably Chicago's best collection of early 20th century riverfront industrial buildings," Bahlman said. "This commission has recommended this area for local landmark designation."

The Wendnagel & Co. Warehouse, 2130 S. Jefferson St., was built in 1901 and specialized in manufacturing of brewers, vats and fire protection tanks, which still sit atop many rooftops throughout the city.

The Thomson & Taylor Spice Co., one of the city's earliest dealers of food ingredients, built a facility at 500 W. Cermak Road, in 1911. The seven-story red-brick building housed every aspect of spice manufacturing: shipping and receiving, packaging, storage and laboratories. The building is now being used as an art facility.

Butting against the flow of the Chicago River is the W.M. Hoyt Company's irregularly shaped building that sits at 465 W. Cermak Road.

The wholesale grocer warehouse was built in 1909 and had direct access to rail lines with trains literally pulling into the first floor of the building.

Construction of the 216-foot Cermak Road Bridge began in 1904 and features through trusses and counterweights. The bridge gave access for uninterrupted ground transportation of raw materials and goods throughout the area while helping to develop manufacturing along the Chicago River.

Bahlman said the manufacturing facilities eventually vacated the area probably because the companies were finding a more efficient means of production within other facilities.

"If they were to be designated as landmarks they would be saved," said Jim Peters, director of planning for LPCI. "This is a fabulous collection of buildings and there is no way these buildings could be replaced."

The other buildings on Chicago's watch list are: Israel-Samuel Church in North Lawndale, the New York Life building, Old Main Post Office, Ravenswood Club, Rosenwald Apartments, Union Station, Westinghouse High School and two historic hospitals in Hyde Park and Streeterville.

Pastor Ambus Morris at Ireal-Samuel Church in the West Side neighborhood of North Lawndale said he is blessed that LPCI nominated the church for the watch list.

"Certain parts of the church have fallen

into disrepair," Morris said. "Without the historic landmark status the city will tear the building down because of violations."

The church was constructed in 1915 as a Jewish synagogue with a second story worship space and lofted balconies. Currently that space is unoccupied due to extensive water damage, however, the basement and first floor are still being used for service. Estimates for refurbishing the property are in the range of \$700,000.

Approximately 200 community members turn out for weekly service at the 95-year-old

church, according to Morris.

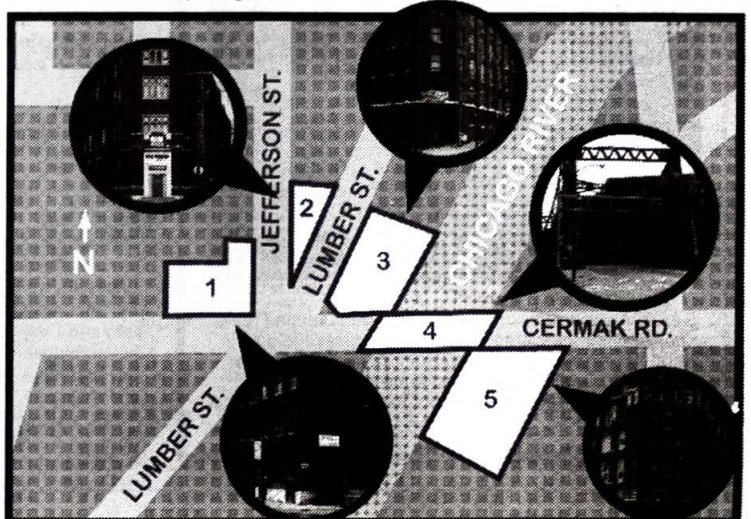
Out of the 27 Chicago landmarks, only 5 percent are churches or places of worship.

LPCI collects information on historic sites from many sources, including property owners. Each year the council narrows the list down to 100 sites, then again down to 10 or 15.

"Our goal is to try and preserve as many old and historic buildings as we can," said Bahlman. "I wish there was millions and millions of dollars given away to rehabilitation projects."

Cermak Road Bridge District

- 1. Wendnagel & Co. Warehouse
- 2. Western Shade Cloth Co.
- 3. Thomson & Taylor Spice Co.
- 4. Cermak Road Bridge
- 5. W.M. Hoyt Co.



Photos by Mauricio Mauricio

Graphics by Chris Gallovo

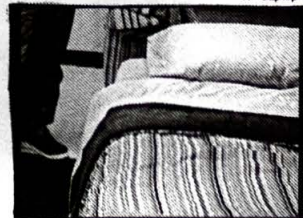
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PETA rallies during annual conference at Shedd Aquarium

Protesters wearing costumes rallied quietly promoting animal welfare

By Jessica Tobacman
Staff Writer

A line of animal rights protesters, some clad in tiger, bear and panda costumes, stood on the stairs of the Shedd Aquarium Sept. 14 during the American Zoo and Aquarium Association conference.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) protesters used the busy day at the aquarium to draw attention to their new website, zooinsiders.com. Created to engage the public in their protests of zoos and aquariums, the activists held signs advertising the site along with phrases as "Be a Hero for Animals."

"We wanted to create a more structured approach for [people concerned about animals] to get in touch with us," said Debbie Leahy, PETA Director of

Captive Animals and Entertainment Issues.

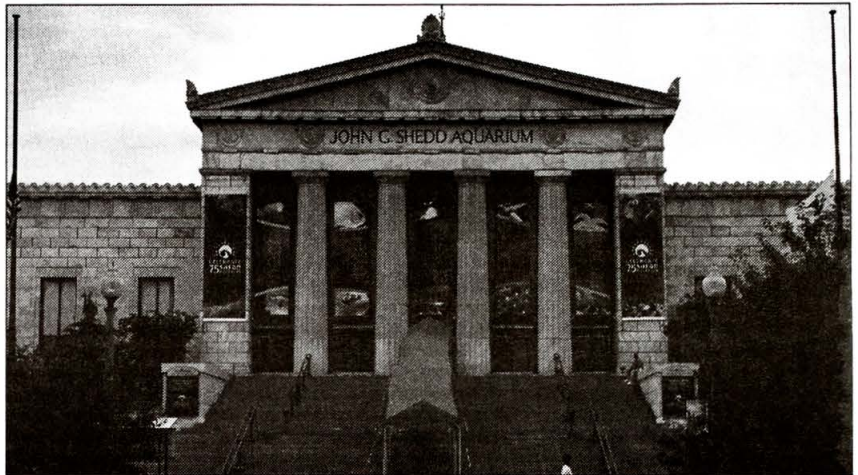
PETA Circus Specialist Raelann Smith agreed.

"If it looks wrong, it usually is," Smith said.

The group also advertised the site and the protest at the Aquarium to point out how Shedd and PETA's common involvement with animals diverges.

The Shedd is celebrating its 75th anniversary by hosting the AZA's annual conference and supporting two types of attractions, zoos and aquariums, some of which PETA believes have precedents of harming animals through mistreatment and neglect.

Both the Shedd Aquarium and PETA maintain that they place the highest priority on the care of animals. However, PETA's website presents an "action alert" entitled, "Stop Plans for a Dolphin Prison." The group charges that dolphins have suffered without their natural habitat, and even claims that the



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

People for Ethical Treatment of Animals protested during the American Zoo and Aquarium Associations annual conference at the Shedd Aquarium, pictured above, on Sept. 14. Protesters urged visitors to visit a website to support animal welfare.

Aquarium has caused the death of four dolphins.

Upon reading the report, the Shedd Aquarium's public relations director Roger Germann was skeptical.

"That's their opinion," Germann said. "Animal care's our top priority."

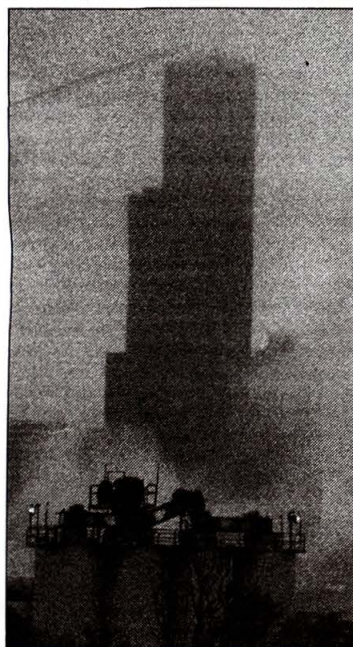
A few visitors to the aquarium understood PETA's mission, but

some didn't think the time and place was right.

"I'm not really interested in talking to those PETA demonstrators," said 34-year-old visitor, Scott Allen. However, he related that he understood the group's mission. "Zoos are a necessary evil."

Smith said that an ultimate goal is for animal care facilities

like zoos and aquariums to work with animal rights groups. She said that, organizations like PETA are currently ignored by care facilities. If animal care and animal rights groups and locals worked together, she maintains that individuals who would report ill-treatment and neglect could instead share information with the institutions.



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

According to the EPA, Chicago's air quality is good or moderate 95 percent of the time.

Emissions: Mandating helps to clean up Chicago

Chicago has been classified as 'good' or 'moderate' approximately 95 percent of the time. Also, Kuntzman said that after this summer, Chicago would meet the federal standard that measures pollution over a one-hour period. However, the one-hour average has been replaced by a more stringent standard that measures pollution over an 8-hour period.

Since the Clean Air Act of 1990 was implemented, federal regulations have routinely tightened, mandating that certain areas be cleaned up.

Despite stricter rules and guidelines addressing air pollution and it's effects, there is another cause for concern that producers of emissions are contributing to that cannot be as easily controlled.

It is known as the "heat island effect" and it can make a city up to 10 degrees hotter than the surrounding areas.

"When you're burning fossil fuels, you get not only the pollution and emissions, but, at the same time, you also get waste heat. It's two impacts occurring as the result of the same activity," said Debby

Mir, professor for the department of geography and environmental studies at Northeastern Illinois University.

When the waste heat is emitted from fossil fuel-burning industries and vehicles into the city, it has nowhere to go. That, in combination with the replacement of natural land with asphalt, buildings and other structures, increases urban temperatures.

"When you're burning fossil fuels, you get not only the pollution and emissions, but, at the same time, you also get waste heat. It's two impacts occurring as the result of the same activity."

—Debby Mir, professor for the department of geography and environmental studies at Northeastern Illinois University

The heat island effect has an especially significant effect on Chicago, not only because of the number of motorists and industries that burn fossil fuels, but because the tall buildings in the city help trap heat and reduce air flow, while the asphalt streets aid in absorbing heat and sunlight.

"Either you have a power plant produc-

ing energy or have electricity powering an air conditioner. You get what you want: a cooled house, but you also get the pollution and the wasted heat, that in turn heats up the city," Mir said.

According to the Federal EPA's website, Chicago is involved in a pilot project designed to assist cities in adopting and evaluating different strategies and programs to reduce the effects of the heat island effect, as well as encourage research, education and communication on the topic.

In the meantime, to limit pollution's effect, the EPA's website lists things like using light-reflecting roofing material instead of black, heat absorbing material. Also, installing rooftop gardens or "green roofs" to replace heat-absorbing surfaces with plants, shrubs and small trees will help cool the city. Other ways to curtail and limit the effects of both the heat island effect and air pollution in general are to limit the use of air conditioners and to try to avoid driving alone, instead making all attempts to carpool or use public transportation.

"Research is constantly being done to see what impacts pollution has on the environment and individuals. Additionally, it is inevitable that growth will always occur, whether it is cars on the road or more industry. Regulations will have to be adapted to incorporate the growing area," Kuntzman said.

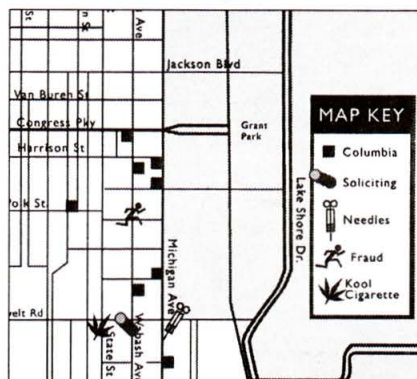
On the Lighter Side

Soliciting at gas station when prices are so high not good idea

A 31-year-old male was observed soliciting on the property of a gas station at 1221 S. Wabash Ave., on Sept. 7. A 38-year-old attendant asked the offender to leave after seeing him repeatedly asking for change from customers fueling their cars. The man refused the request, prompting the attendant to call the police, who arrested the man and took him in for processing.

Man leaves needles in apartment, breaks in to retrieve them

On Sept. 7, maintenance workers discovered a lock on a residence in the apartment building at 1212 S. Michigan Ave., had holes drilled into it, allowing someone to gain access to the unit. Nothing was reported stolen because the previous resident had been evicted the previous day and the apartment was empty. Employees noted that the renter, however, had called several times asking management to give him access to the apartment because he claimed he had left needles he needs for a medical condition.



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

On a Serious Note

Woman deceived by fraudulent hurricane survivors

A 39-year-old female was walking near 800 S. Wabash Ave., on Sept. 12 with a bag in her hand when two women asked her for money. The offenders claimed they were survivors of Hurricane Katrina. Because the victim's bag was heavy, she placed it on the offenders' car while searching for money to donate. The offenders entered their vehicle and drove away. The offenders are still at large.

Discerning police notice, seize pot

Undercover police observed a 41-year-old male smoking a Kool cigarette within view of a no-smoking sign near the CTA station at 1200 S. State St. Upon approaching the offender, police noticed a plastic bag sticking out of his pants pocket, which they believed to be narcotics. Police found cannabis in the baggie and took the offender in for processing.

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

Emissions heating Chicago while casting unhealthy haze

Report reveals pollution having combined effect on air and heat

By James Ewert
Assistant City Beat Editor

For children, the elderly, and people with respiratory diseases such as asthma in Cook County, there were 68 combined days last year when the air they breathed was unhealthy.

According to the American Lung Association, there were also five days in which the air was so unhealthy it could have possibly caused respiratory problems in the general population. On those days, designated as orange and red by the Environmental Protection Agency, there were either high concentrations of harmful ozone (smog) or high amounts of particle matter (PM 2.5, or soot) in the air. On days when the air reaches these levels, the Illinois EPA declares them "air pollution action days" and has the public notified of the risks.

"There are significant concerns when air quality reaches the category of orange, or unhealthy for sensitive groups, or red for concerns to the general public," said Kim Kuntzman of the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air. "The Chicago area is currently considered a severe non-attainment area, which means the area does not meet the federal one-hour standard for ozone."

Just last Monday, Sept. 12, the air quality in Chicago reached the level of orange and an air pollution action day was declared for sensitive groups. Pollution reaches these levels when the smog or soot emitted from the burning of fossil fuels com-

bines with low winds, high temperatures and humidity.

"Chicago's primary air pollutants of concern are ground level ozone and fine particulates. In the Chicago area, harmful pollutants come from both industrial sources and vehicles, both gasoline and diesel. Vehicles are the largest source of pollution that leads to ground level ozone," Kuntzman said.

When all the factors for pollution are put together, high concentrations of particle matter, no larger than 2.5 micrometers in size, interact with sunlight and atmospheric moisture to create a haze. This haze infiltrated the city many times this summer and increased risk of respiratory symptoms, as well as reducing visibility.

"Children and the elderly in general are more susceptible. Children's lungs are still developing and the elderly typically don't have as strong an immune system as the average adult," Renate Anderson, an environmental health associate for the ALA of Metropolitan Chicago, said. "But also people with lung ailments like asthma, bronchitis, emphysema—all those people are susceptible to air pollution."

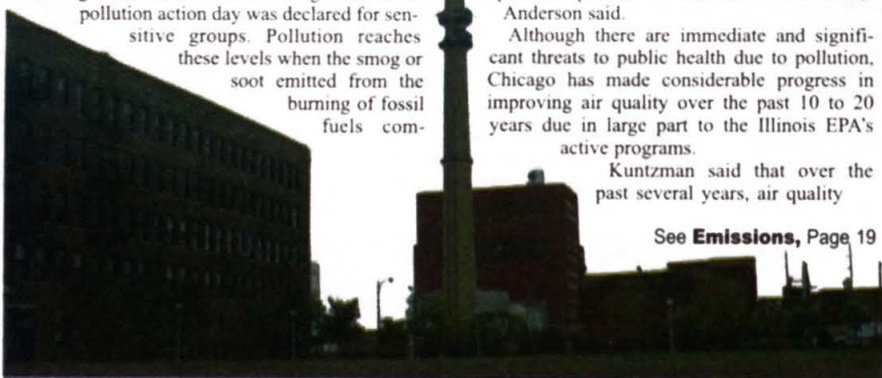
According to the ALA, nearly 400,000 children and adults in Chicago have asthma, and about 233,000 have either chronic bronchitis or emphysema.

"The health risks are even more prevalent in Chicago, where we have the highest morbidity rate for asthma. In some neighborhoods we have up to 25 percent of children with asthma," Anderson said.

Although there are immediate and significant threats to public health due to pollution, Chicago has made considerable progress in improving air quality over the past 10 to 20 years due in large part to the Illinois EPA's active programs.

Kuntzman said that over the past several years, air quality

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Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Industrial facilities and power plants like this one at 1111 W. Cermak Road, along with vehicles, are the largest producers of harmful emissions that create air pollution in Chicago.

South Loop residents discuss ways to improve quality of life on Wabash

Community members want more businesses, nightlife

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

Nearly 50 South Loop residents attended a meeting on Sept. 14 at Grace Place, 632 S. Dearborn St., to discuss the future of Wabash Avenue while encouraging growth from the Chicago River south to Roosevelt Road.

The South Loop Neighbors Organization along with Friends of Downtown, a group that works to influence planning and development decisions through debate and public advocacy, held the meeting to encourage input from local resi-

dents on improvements or suggestions along Wabash Avenue.

"Wabash has traditionally been the step-sister or back door to both Michigan Avenue and State Street," said Dennis McClendon, a Friends of Downtown committee member. "Wabash north of Harrison has been thriving with activity. Now we need to continue that south of Harrison."

McClendon presented a map of the mile-and-a-half stretch that outlined Wabash Avenue with five areas of valuable land use: street retail, office, institutional, residential, and soft sites.

"Soft sites are parcels of land that community members can expect to see being developed sometime within the near future," McClendon said. "That goes for

anything from vacant buildings to ground level parking lots."

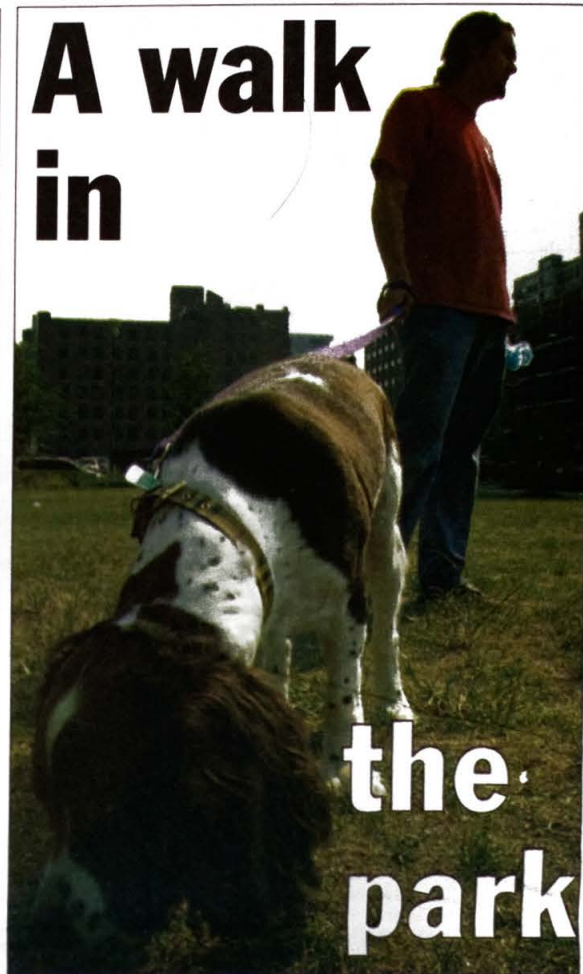
The majority of office and street retail businesses start at Harrison Street and head north, while the residential and soft sites are south of Harrison Street flowing into Roosevelt Road, McClendon said.

Susan Hickey, a board member for Friends of Downtown, said now is the time to take advantage of the soft sites to make South Loop's section of Wabash just as vibrant as it is in the Loop under the el tracks.

"We have a great opportunity once we get below Congress [Parkway]," Hickey said. "The street opens up and we don't have the el overhead. This is where we

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A walk in



the park

Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Symba, a 3-year-old Springer Spaniel, strolls around a park at Adams and Jefferson streets with dog walker Michael Keller, who leads the dog through the West Loop.

By Jeff Danna
Editor-in-Chief

When Michael Keller graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison with an English degree in May 2004, he didn't imagine he'd meet Symba.

On a sunny September day, Keller and Symba leisurely stroll side-by-side through the West Loop, and Symba, with a big, goofy grin on his face, occasionally picks up the pace as if to challenge his friend.

But Keller knows how to handle the situation. As they approach intersections, Keller firmly holds the purple leash keeping Symba from speeding into traffic.

Yes, Symba is a dog—a 3-year-old Springer Spaniel, to be exact—with short, brown fur, white spots, floppy ears and a tongue that never seems to stay in his mouth. Keller is a 24-year-old employee of Danny's Dog Walkers who began his job seven months ago as a walker in the South Loop and moved up to field manager a few weeks ago.

Keller has been walking Symba for about six months, and on this particular excursion, the pair travel a usual route: They begin at the apartment of Symba's owners at Clinton and Harrison streets, walk five blocks to a park at Adams and Jefferson streets, and head back.

"He's one of my favorites," Keller said. "He's sort of crazy. He's well-behaved. He never seems to get upset or anything."

Keller stumbled into his job at Danny's by accident. He said he was never certain what sort of career he hoped to have with an English degree, so he moved back to his parents' home in Lake County and lived there while he bounced around among temporary office jobs in the Chicago area.

Six months later, he moved to Chicago with his girlfriend and came across a "help wanted" ad on the popular classifieds website Craigslist.com for a position as a walker at Danny's.

"I was working at an office in Northbrook for awhile, and I just hated it," Keller said. "I had always kind of wanted to do something with animals. I was on the fence about maybe doing zoology in college. So I saw an ad for dog walking on Craigslist, and I just applied. It looked like a lot more fun than filing all day."

When he first began walking for Danny's, which is based in Lincoln Square, he was responsible for covering the South Loop. In the neighborhood, he had about 12 regular customers and usually walked about eight dogs a day.

His days could be hectic, working on a strict schedule.

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