

5-8-2006

Columbia Chronicle (05/08/2006)

Columbia College Chicago

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Columbia spends six figures on Manifest

End of the year arts festival costs college, sponsors \$150,000

By Jim Jaworski
Assistant Campus News Editor

Manifest, Columbia's end of the year arts festival, is expected to be larger in 2006 than previous years and is anticipated to bring more exposure to the school. The budget on this event, which is in its fifth year, is \$150,000, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

The money to fund the festival, which runs all day on May 12 at different locations around campus, comes from various sources, ranging from student activity fees to cash and services from sponsors, according to Kelly. The money is used to fund all aspects of the event, from its construction to musical performances.

"I think it is a grand bargain for what we are doing for students as they graduate," Kelly said.

Much of the budget comes from student activity fees, a \$60 charge on top of tuition for full-time students and a \$30 charge for part-time students. However, not all of the money comes from students. About \$20,000 in cash comes from various sponsors, and another \$20,000 comes in the form of services such as free advertisement.

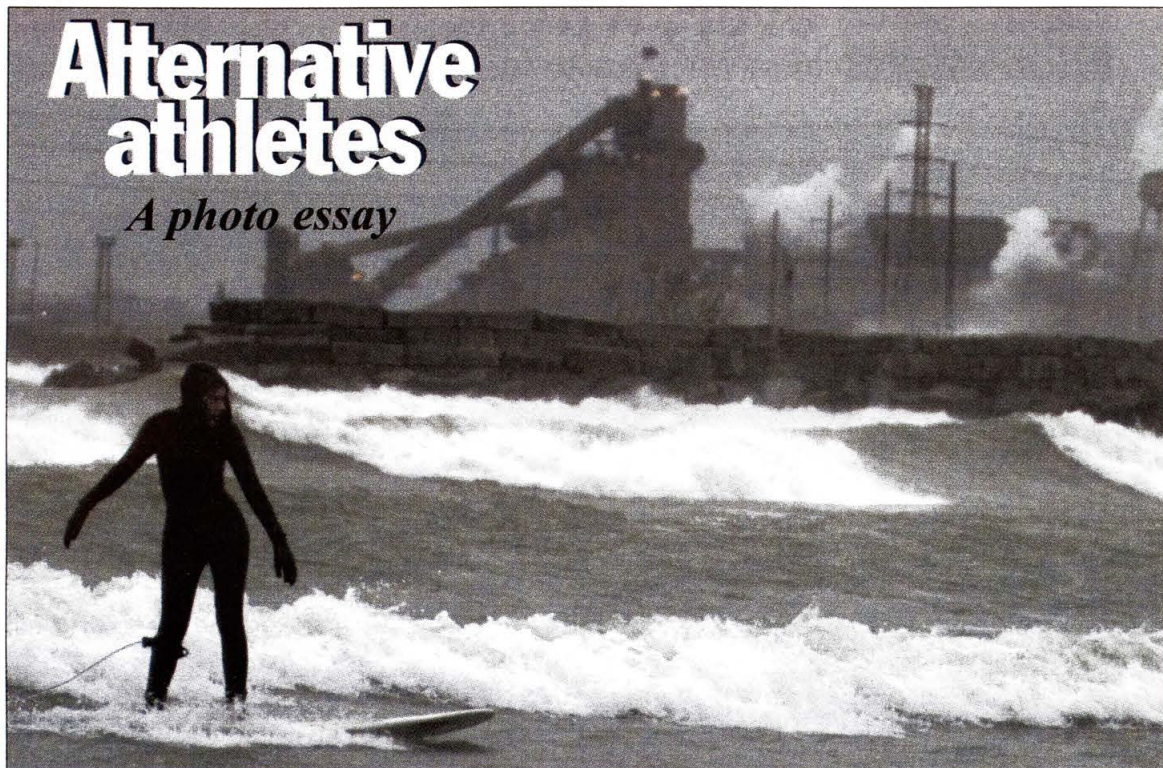
Students were involved in the budgeting, Kelly said, which was done with the support of the Student Government Association.

Funds were allocated to departments based on factors such as number of students. Not all departments receive the same amount of funds. For example, the Journalism Department received \$3,000 while the Fiction Department received \$2,500. The departments use the money to put on events that showcase their students.

The cash spent on Manifest comes from different entities at Columbia, not only the Office of Student Affairs. For example, the Office of Institutional Advancement spent \$47,000 this year's Manifest. The purpose of the money is to attract alumni back to Columbia to, hopefully, increase donations, according to Eric Winston, interim vice president of Institutional Advancement.

"Getting the ability to reconnect with the alumni is, quite frankly, going to be a costly affair," Winston said. "There's

See Manifest, Page 8



Alternative athletes

A photo essay

Mike Sandra/The Chronicle

There's no question that the definitions of 'sport' and 'athlete' are changing with the times. Once nontraditional activities, like snowboarding, are now so popular that they have become Olympic events. Liz Cockrum, above, rides out the end of a wave on the waters of Lake Michigan on April 25 in Whiting, Indiana. Local surfers call this part of the beach 'Shooters,' due to the number of empty shotgun shells found in the area. See the full photo essay on pull-out pages 10 & 11.

Students taking studies overseas

Administrators say study abroad exposes artists to global views

By Amanda Maurer
Assistant Campus News Editor

While some students may consider traveling abroad at some point in time, Jessica Drewitz, a junior art and design major, transformed that wish into a memorable experience by participating in one of Columbia's study abroad programs.

During the fall 2005 semester, Drewitz flew to Italy, traveled around the country and lived with nine girls in an apartment, all while studying art.

"The more you are exposed to new cultures [and] different works of art and design, the more research you do," Drewitz said. "You find it easier and easier to be more creative. I've learned to combine old theories with new theories and make a beauty all its own. It is also always good to know the foundation of art and where it came from."

Drewitz is among many who have studied abroad during the 50 years the college has allowed international students to come visit the college.

Columbia's Office of Academic Initiatives and International Programs guides students through the process.

Gillian Moore, the executive director of the office, recommends that students allow as much time as possible before any international study trip, which she said is best done dur-

ing junior year. After that, other college obligations may make it too difficult.

"You have a lot on your plate in your final year," Moore said.

Students should be planning their trip as early as their first year of college, but traveling for older students is possible too, she said.

While most programs last for a semester, others vary from a few weeks to a year.

The office offers three types of international study to Columbia students.

The most commonly utilized programs are available through the college's departments. Nearly 80 students participate each year in various programs,

which include the Art and Design Department's semester in Florence, which Drewitz participated in, and the Fiction Writing Department's summer in Prague.

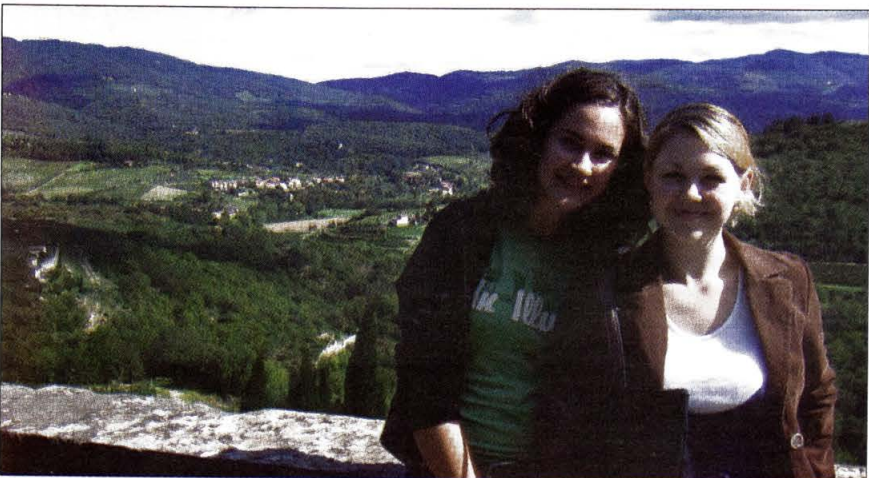
Another option allows students to participate in a student exchange program. These programs tend to be very competitive and only a handful of students can switch for the semester. Students continue to pay Columbia's tuition during an exchange, although they must pay for housing at the other university. According to Chris Greiner, the director of International Programs, housing prices depend on the country, but usually run higher than

Columbia's.

Students may also choose to go through a provider, which is an organization that helps arrange studying abroad programs separate from Columbia. This choice allows students to travel on their own. In this case, students pay the institution they will attend. The prices of these trips vary depending on the location of the school and the duration of the program. Many range from a few thousand to more than \$25,000. Around 50 students from Columbia opt for this choice every year.

But students aren't the only ones who can take advantage of

See Abroad, Page 10



Courtesy Jessica Drewitz

Jessica Drewitz, right, and one of her study abroad trip roommates, left, pose in front of a vineyard in Tuscany, Italy. Drewitz took part in the Art and Design Department's study abroad program in Florence last fall.



I've been everywhere

By Jeff Danna, Editor-in-Chief

To some of my friends from back home, I live in "the big, bad city." No matter how many times I plead with them to come visit me, they always seem hesitant about venturing into the concrete jungle that is Chicago—and I can't understand why.

Chicago isn't scary; it's exciting. It's a place where a simple walk to the grocery store is an adventure, a complete sensory experience. When I moved to the city from suburban Antioch three years ago to attend Columbia, I couldn't wait to explore every nook and cranny of Chicago. My strategy was simple: get lost and find my way home. Often, I'd venture out on foot and walk miles just to see a new neighborhood, rarely fearing for my safety.

So instead of getting sentimental in my final column about leaving Columbia in a few days, I decided to dedicate this space to the place I call home and share my favorite streets, buildings and haunts. I might be saying goodbye to this school, but I'm not saying goodbye to the city I love so dearly. Here's a list of my favorite city spots:

Dearborn Street between Polk Street and Jackson Boulevard: From Dearborn Station and Printers Row on the south and the Fischer Building and Federal Plaza on the north, this downtown stretch practically maps out Chicago's history in architecture. It's also one of the few areas of downtown that hasn't been overrun by chain stores and restaurants, with places like Harry's sandwich shop and Kasey's tavern adding to the charm of this historic street.

Drexel Boulevard and King Drive: These streets that cut through Bronzeville and Kenwood/Oakland are two of Chicago's most majestic boule-

wards. The gray- and brownstone mansions that line Drexel and King date back to the late 1800s and resemble castles more than homes. Fortunately, many of these structures that have deteriorated over the years are being restored to their former glory.

Western Avenue: A few months ago I drove up one of Chicago's longest thoroughfares from 115th Street to Montrose Avenue and was amazed to see that it's almost a continuous strip of used car dealers—the kind that look like they're run by middle-aged men with comb-overs and plaid sport coats.

Diners/greasy spoons: These restaurants might not be as famous or abundant as Chicago's hot dog joints, but seeking them out for breakfast anytime is just as much of an adventure as finding a hole-in-the-wall hot dog stand. The best are the ones open 24 hours. Grab a window seat at midnight, order some eggs and coffee and watch the traffic outside.

Lawrence Avenue and Broadway: Uptown's entertainment center is too often overshadowed by Lakeview's 16 blocks to the south, but Lakeview doesn't have one of the best jazz clubs in the city, The Green Mill; a great record and book store, Shake, Rattle and Read; and three of the most beautiful theaters anywhere, the Aragon, the Riviera and the Uptown Theater.

The Chicago Skyway: Rarely do I have the opportunity to drive this nearly 8-mile toll road, but when I do, I'm reminded of the sheer size of Chicago. The best part of this drive is near the Indiana Toll Road where the city literally ends in a wall of cottages across the street from a field of power lines.

Eddy Street between Damen

and Ravenswood avenues: I came upon this block by chance while out shooting photos one day, and I immediately fell in love with it. Both sides of the street are lined with quaint rowhouses, complete with slightly disheveled front yards scattered with children's toys and other knickknacks. It's exactly how I imagine urban family life.

The Chicago Board of Trade lobby: There is no shortage of great, luxurious lobbies in downtown office buildings. But this is by far my favorite, mostly because it was the first lobby I wandered through just for fun when a friend of mine was anxious to show it to me. Its gold art deco details are perfectly preserved, giving anyone who walks through the feeling they stepped temporarily into 1929.

The CTA el stations on the West Side Green Line: The Brown Line stations might be getting all the attention right now while they are modernized, but it's the Green Line stations on the way to Oak Park that will always be my favorites. These Queen Ann stations are unlike any other in the entire el system.

The Columbia Chronicle office: I couldn't bring myself to end my final column without getting a little mushy; I had to mention my second home and second family. For three years I've worked at this fine newspaper, holding various positions, working with different staff members, and I've loved every second of it. There might be other places in Chicago I like visiting, but since I came to Columbia, there has been no place I've enjoyed spending nearly every free moment more than this office. And there are no people I've enjoyed spending more time with than the members of this staff.

—jdanna@colum.edu

IN THIS ISSUE

1/10 Campus News
14/16 Commentary
Pullout The Word
18/24 City Beat

Announcements

Asian Arts Exhibit

The Center for Asian Arts and Media will host "Rice, Chopsticks and the Melting Pot: Asian American Restaurants in Chicago," which will run from May 8 to 12. Students can visit the free showing of photographs and documents. There will also be food at the event, which will be held at the James R. Thompson Center, 100 W. Randolph St. For more information call Yuchia Chang at (312) 344-8213.

SHOW OFF Portfolio Reviews

On May 9, the Portfolio Center will host two student review sessions. NextMedia Radio (WXLC) will visit from 10 a.m. to noon, and Chicago Magazine will be present from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in room 307 in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. For more information call the Portfolio Center at (312) 344-7280.

Fashion Columbia

On May 11 there will be two presentations of Fashion Columbia 2006, the college's fashion show that features students' work. The events will be held under a tent at Wabash Avenue and Harrison Street at 1 p.m. and at 7 p.m. General admission costs \$60, but students with an ID pay \$35. For more information call Chris Peak at (312) 344-6280.

Film Club Films

On May 8 at 7 p.m., the Film Club will present *Freaks* in room 602 of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave. In the same location and at the same time, it will show *The Killer* on May 10 and *Dead Alive* on May 11. On May 9, it will show *Beyond the Valley of the Dolls* in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

Correction

In The Chronicle's May 1 issue, a photograph on page 23 should have been credited to Kelly Bryan.

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.

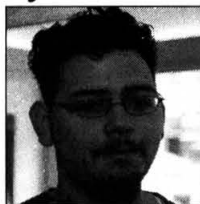
IN YOUR OPINION

What can Columbia's administration do to improve next year?



"The service in the Student Financial Services office needs to be improved."

—Camille Cadenhead, sophomore, fiction writing



"I'm OK with everything."

—Matthew Silva, sophomore, graphic design



"They can work on freshman assimilation. There isn't much guidance."

—Nick Chirico, freshman, film and video



"They can lower the tuition."

—Rebecca O'Sullivan, sophomore, photography

Columbia: a year in review

Moving forward after a year of growth, transitions

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

From a dispute over a satirical cartoon to the approval of a \$90 million campus center, Columbia's 2005-2006 academic year has been full of changes.

The termination of Columbia graduate and Science Institute part-time employee Mark Phillips ignited controversy among faculty in the institute. Phillips was fired after a midnight raid of the Science Institute's Visualization and Communication Laboratory, where Phillips worked. The raid revealed that he was one of the brains behind the satirical website WackyWarrick.com, which pokes fun at Columbia president Warrick L. Carter.

Following the firing of Phillips, administrators announced that after 15 years of being a separate entity of Columbia, the Science Institute's curriculum is being reunified with the Science and Math Department's curriculum.

Officials said the curriculum shift was necessary to avoid confusion during registration and to eliminate overlapping classes. Starting in the fall semester, all science and math classes will be under the umbrella of the Science and Math

Department, and the Science Institute will remain strictly as a research entity.

The college is also cutting back on a staple program. Columbia put one of its celebrations of African-American culture on hiatus this year. For the first time in 15 years the college will not have DanceAfrica, an event featuring various types of African dance. Organizers of the event have not revealed why DanceAfrica is being put on hold.

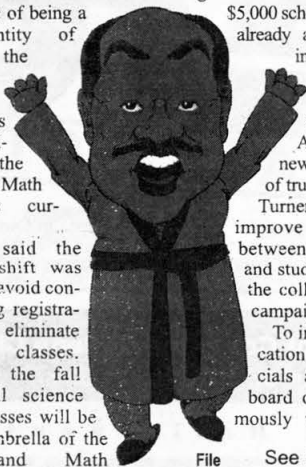
The cut of DanceAfrica comes during a time when the college is having an increase in overall minority enrollment, while the number of African-American students and minority faculty at Columbia drops.

As the college continues to deal with the declining number of African-American students, the college added 500 new \$4,000 to \$5,000 scholarships to the 200 already available for low-income students.

The year had begun with the appointment of Allen Turner as the new chair of the board of trustees.

Turner's goals were to improve communication between administrators and students and organize the college's first capital campaign.

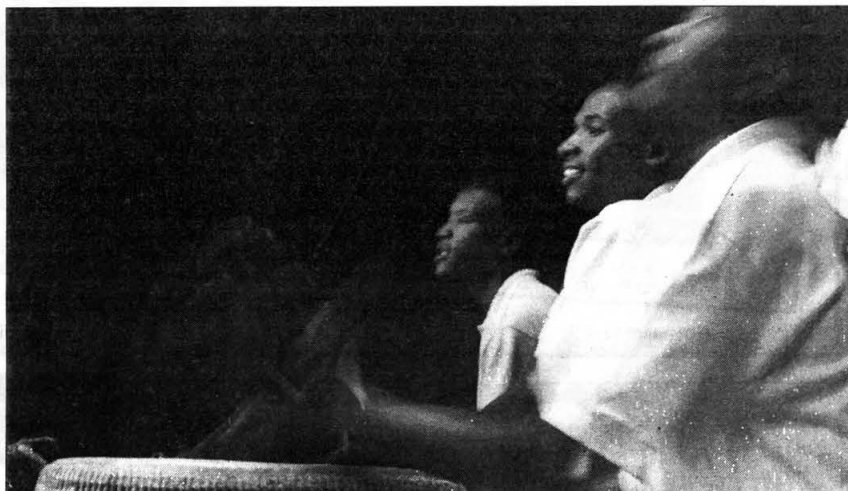
To increase communication among the officials and students, the board of trustees unanimously voted to have a



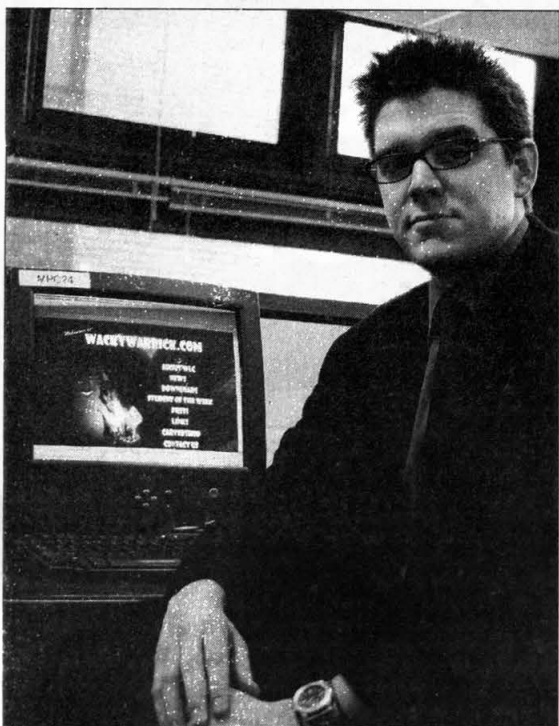
File See Review, Page 8



Columbia president Warrick L. Carter addresses issues of diversity, growth and enrollment at Columbia's annual State of the College Address in March.



DanceAfrica had its last performance in the fall before being put on hiatus.



File

Columbia graduate Mark Phillips was fired from his part-time position in the Science Institute's Visualization and Communication Laboratory after a midnight raid of the lab revealed that he was one of the brains behind the satirical Wacky Warrick website.

Council passes incomplete grade policy

By Jim Jaworski
Assistant Campus News Editor

Columbia's College Council approved a measure on May 5 to unify all incomplete grading practices under one collegewide policy in an effort to end potential confusion.

Under the current procedure, departments have their own policies to handle students who are unable to complete classes due to factors such as medical emergencies and personal issues. The new policy, effective fall semester 2006, will require the student and instructor to sign a form that states the requirements that must be met to turn the incomplete into a passing grade. The chair of the department will then have to sign off on the form in order for the student to receive a temporary incomplete. Whether the student is eligible for an incomplete will remain at the instructor's discretion.

"It was a problem before," said Suzanne Blum Malley, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee. "It was inconsistent because there was no formal policy in place. Every department had its own rules."

The new policy is an attempt to unify all departments as well as avoid potential confusion that may arise. On some occasions in the

past, students have received failing grades while claiming they did not know what they needed to do to complete the class.

"Some students have said they didn't know what was expected of them," Blum Malley said. "Now both the student and the instructor know what's expected."

The student will have until the end of the following semester to complete the work the instructor requires. Students who do not meet the requirements will then receive a failing grade in the class.

"This will eliminate confusion," said Pan Papacosta, a faculty member in the Science and Mathematics Department. "It often happens that students don't know they have a right to request this."

The new policy addresses how Columbia will handle incompletes given by adjunct instructors who are not with the school the following semester. In those situations, the program coordinator, director, or department chair will review the work and assign the student a grade.

If a student has an internship that qualifies for college credit and the external supervisor fails to report a grade to Columbia by the deadline, the student will receive a temporary incomplete. The department's internship coordinator will then be responsible for obtaining the work

from the external supervisor and will assign the student a grade by the eighth week of the following semester.

Blum Malley stressed that not only the new policy, but incomplete grades all together, are intended to help students who are doing well in a class and have an unexpected emergency.

"This is not intended for students who are failing and just want more time to finish the class," Blum Malley said.

The College Council also approved a measure that allows students to use classes taken for their minors to also be applied to core requirements. In some cases, mostly with interdisciplinary minors, a student will take a course that could apply to both the minor and general education requirements. The student will be allowed to apply the credits, a maximum of nine, to both requirements.

"That's not a bad idea," said Andrew Dennison, a sophomore poetry major who once considered taking a minor in fiction writing. "If you're getting the credit [for core classes,] then you might as well."

Credits from such classes will not be counted twice under the policy, however, and will not have an effect on the student's requirement of 120 hours for graduation.

URBAN ARTS FESTIVAL 2006

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manifest

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COLLEGE CHICAGO

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

Concert Hall Events

Monday May 1

Counterpoint Recital	12:30 PM
Musical Theatre Workshop 3	3:00 PM
Vocal Jazz Recital	7:30 PM

Tuesday May 2

Groove Band 1 Recital	12:30 PM
Groove Band 2 Recital	3:00 PM
Piano Recital	7:00 PM

Wednesday May 3

Musical Theatre Workshop 1	12:30 PM
Blues Ensemble Recital	7:00 PM

Thursday May 4

I Solisti Della Scall Trio in Concert	12:30 PM
I Solisti Della Scall Trio Workshop	1:30 PM
Jazz Combo Fest	6:00 PM

All events are free. For more info: 312/344-6300

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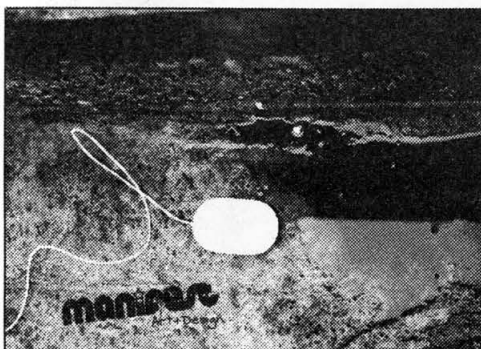
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COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

manifest features: ArtWalk

May 12, 2006



ANTICIPATION, MARCH 18—MAY 20, 2006 / 10:00AM—5:00PM / RECEPTION 5:00PM—7:00PM
MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY 600 S. MICHIGAN AVE., 1ST FL.

In Anticipation, nine international artists and artist teams probe the nature of perception by emphasizing the powerful allure of anticipation and suspense in their video and still photography. Rather than concerning themselves with the communication of narrative, these artists are more interested in our psychological response to their work and our experience of the space in which it is presented. The artworks they create force us to slow down and confront our need for resolution and distraction, reminding us that "nothing happening" is an impossible condition.

THIS IS NOT A BOOK, APRIL 28—MAY 19, 2006 / 11:00AM—7:00PM / RECEPTION 5:00PM—7:00PM
CENTER FOR BOOK AND PAPER ARTS 1104 S. WABASH AVE., 2ND FL.

This MFA in Interdisciplinary Book and Paper Arts thesis exhibition features the work of Maria C. H. Burke, Aaron Kohl, Aimee Lee, Elisabeth Long, Sara Loosen Otto, Mardy Sears and Ami Trosley.

BA/BFA PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION, Month of May / 11:00am—7:00pm
RAW SPACE GALLERY AT UNIVERSITY CENTER CHICAGO / 525 S. STATE ST.

Graduating seniors in the Photography Department's BA and BFA programs present works from their final projects. Presented by the Photography Department.

MFA PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION, Month of May / 9:00am—5:00pm
GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY / 1104 S. WABASH AVE. / 1ST FLOOR

Master of Fine Arts candidates in the Photography Department present works from their thesis projects. Presented by the Photography Department.

I (HEART) TECHNOLOGY, May—June, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
RAW SPACE AT 2 E. 8TH ST.

I (Heart) Technology! transforms a once-empty storefront space into a multimedia feast for the senses. Print works, sound art, video projections and interactive installations, complete with a Podcast guided tour and a virtual gallery, can be found at www.iam.colum.edu/manifest. Presented by the Interactive Arts and Media Department.

SENIOR PORTFOLIO SHOW, May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
CONAWAY CENTER / 1104 S. WABASH / 1ST FLOOR

Seniors in Advertising Art Direction, Graphic Design and Illustration present their bodies of work to the Columbia community and invited industry professionals. Presented by the Art + Design Department.

BFA INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION, Opens May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
HOKIN GALLERY / 623 S. WABASH AVE. / 1ST FLOOR

This showcase of senior Interior Architecture student work is the culmination of a yearlong capstone project exploring a variety of typologies. Presented by the Art + Design Department.

MFA INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION, Opens May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
C33 GALLERY / 33 E. CONGRESS / 1ST FLOOR

The culmination of a yearlong, two-component thesis, this exhibition focuses both on written documents and graphic representations of students' design resolutions. Presented by the Art + Design Department.

PRODUCT DESIGN @ COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO, May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
HOKIN ANNEX GALLERY / 623 S. WABASH AVE. / 1ST FLOOR

Presented by the Art + Design Department

BFA FINE ART EXHIBITION, Opening May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
A+D GALLERY / 619 S. WABASH AVE. / 1ST FLOOR

This exhibition showcases the accomplishments of graduating BFA students working in Fine Art. Work will be presented in a wide variety of media, including painting, sculpture, printmaking, video and performance. Presented by the Art + Design Department.

INTERARTS THESIS EXHIBITION AND PERFORMANCES, May 5—12, 2006 / 6:00—10:00pm
IRON STUDIOS / 3636 S. IRON ST. / PERFORMANCES AT 7:00PM ON MAY 5, 6 & 12

Thirteen MFA candidates in Interdisciplinary Arts present their thesis installations and performances throughout this weeklong exhibition. Presented by the Interdisciplinary Arts and Media Department

ART OF THE LIBRARY, May 4—May 31, 2006 / 5:00—7:00pm
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO LIBRARY / 624 S. WABASH AVE. / 3RD FLOOR

The ongoing Art of the Library program presents its last show of the academic year, featuring the work of graduating students in a variety of disciplines. Presented by the Columbia College Chicago Library

ANYTHING NEW...2006 May 12, 2006 / 11:00AM—7:00PM
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO LIBRARY / 624 S. MICHIGAN AVE., 3RD FL.

Early Childhood Education prepares professionals to work with children from birth through age 12. This exhibit features interdisciplinary work that focuses on the role of the arts in the development of individuals as educators.

FASHION COLUMBIA: THE EXHIBITION, May 12, 2006 / 11:00am—7:00pm
CONAWAY CENTER / 1104 S. WABASH AVE / 1ST FLOOR

Get a closer look at outstanding garments from the Fashion Columbia runway show, as well as other wearable art produced by students at Fashion Columbia: The Exhibition. Also on display are works in accessory/jewelry design, graphic design, photography, illustration, and a variety of other mediums.



Photography by Ben Reed, BFA Photography, 2006 / Art direction by Sarah Eve Krancic

manifest

[HTTP://MANIFEST.COLUM.EDU](http://MANIFEST.COLUM.EDU)

Review: Looking back on the academic year

Continued from Page 3

student representative to fully participate in all discussions. This will be the first time in 30 years that students will have a

voice on the board.

For the first time Columbia will also have a faculty representative on the board of trustees. The student and faculty representatives will sit on the board for a one-year trial period, and then the board will vote to decide whether or not to make the positions permanent.

The board made another bold move by approving a \$90 million campus center that was proposed as a part of Columbia's 10-year Campus Master Plan. To fund the

project Turner said the college needs to raise at least \$50 million through a comprehensive capital campaign. Turner said his goal for the campaign is to raise \$100 million over the next few years.

In order to cope with the campus space crunch the college purchased the neighboring building, which currently houses the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 618 S. Michigan Ave., and is planning to move into the building by 2007.

During a time when Columbia's

increasing enrollment is causing the campus to be bursting at its seams, a Chronicle investigation found that the college has several centers taking up campus space that are not being fully utilized. A non-scientific survey conducted by The Chronicle revealed that many students are unaware that these centers even existed.

Many of the issues Columbia was focused on this year are expected to be continually addressed in many years to come.

Students discuss retention rates



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Eric Winston, interim vice president of Institutional Advancement, meets with students at the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, to discuss the retention rate of African-American students at Columbia on May 3. Winston also listened students' concerns over financial aid at the meeting.

Manifest: Official confident festival will prove profitable in future

Continued from Front Page

no other way to do it than to spend some money to do it."

The money, Winston said, will be valuable in Columbia's efforts to become less dependent on tuition dollars by increasing revenue from other sources, such as alumni donations. Winston acknowledged that the amount of money spent by his office on Manifest this year will be more than what the festival will bring in with donations.

"We'll make that money back, plus more, in the long-term," Winston said. "Not in the short-term."

Columbia was able to avoid some costs from running the festival. The City of Chicago waived fees usually associated with holding a parade. Charges for city services, such as street closures and increased police presence, were waived by the city, according to Tom Gray, spokesman for the Mayor's Office of Special Events.

Waiving certain fees for festivals is not uncommon for the city when dealing with nonprofit institutions, especially schools.

Seniors, you'll be alumni soon.

Columbia's Office of Alumni Relations is here to help.

What's next?

- **Networking**
 - Register with the Alumni Online Community at www.colum.edu/alumni (follow the links to the Online Community)
 - Come to Alumni networking events.
 - Monthly meetings in Chicago and L.A.
 - Events listed on Alumni website
- **Benefits**

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 - Get a job! Get help getting one.
 - Student Loan Consolidation
 - National and local retail and service discounts
 - Coming soon - Alumni Insurance
 - More and more to come!

www.colum.edu/alumni

Introducing the... Alumni Online Community

A powerful tool for networking and staying involved with the Columbia Community - and it's **FREE!**

Who can register?

- All current seniors, grad students, and alumni

What are the benefits?

- Searchable **online directory**
- **Permanent e-mail forwarding**
 >> yourname@alumni.colum.edu
- **Events Calendar** - get out and have some fun
- **News/Notes** - brag a little
- **Moving?** - update your contact information
- **Chapter Pages** - CCC alums are all over the nation
- **Yellow Pages** - alumni business directory
- **Message Boards** and **MORE!**

Where do I register?

Follow the simple sign-up process by following the Online Community links on the alumni website.

www.colum.edu/alumni

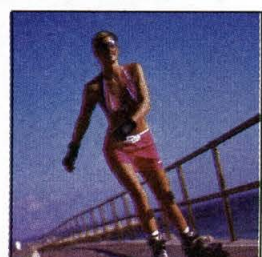
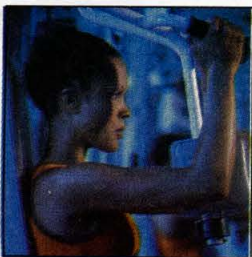


A HIDDEN OASIS, THERE IS NOTHING ELSE LIKE IT ON THE LAKEFRONT.

Everything you want is at Regents Park! Our on-site health club features a 20-yard pool and complete fitness center. Our amenities include concierge service, a heated garage, dry cleaner, gourmet market and so much more.

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Abroad: Columbia faculty to travel to Dublin

Continued from Front Page

the international programs the college offers. Faculty members are becoming involved too. This fall Barbara Iverson, a faculty member in the Journalism Department, and Carol Ann Stowe, a faculty member in the Early Childhood Education Department, will travel to the Dublin Institute of Technology to explore what the college's programs offer.

Administrators believe that the study programs benefit more

than Columbia.

"It opens up huge possibilities for the profile of Columbia itself but also for individual students," Greiner said.

But not everyone believes this is the best use of resources. According to Steven Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, a few people have argued that Columbia should keep its focus on the college rather than international programs. However, he said the programs don't cost the college much, and it's important for Columbia to offer these programs to its students.

"It's impossible for us to claim that we're preparing students for a global economy, a global culture, without taking in the opportunity to experience other cultures and travel," Kapelke said.

Students who are interested in studying abroad can visit the Office of Academic Initiatives and International Programs and discuss the process with Greiner. People in the office can help answer questions about insurance, banking, student discounts and many others, Moore said.

"There is never too obvious a question," Moore said.

Drewitz said she recommends the experience.

"You learn so much about life and yourself," Drewitz said. "I started off on my journey alone, but I came home with newly built lifelong friendships and contacts from all over the world. It is one of the best soul-searching experiences I have ever had. It was absolutely amazing."



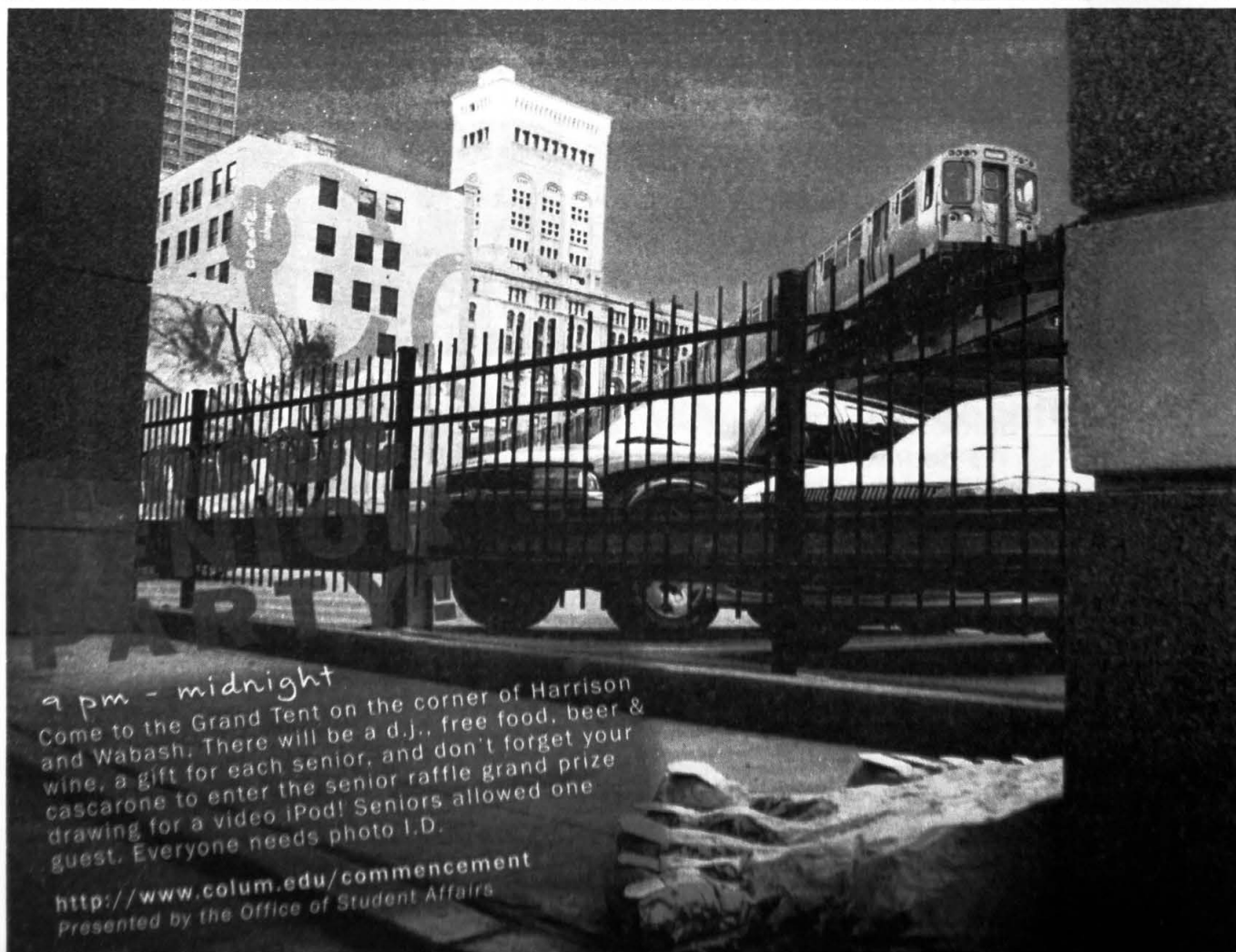
Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Gillian Moore, executive director of the office of Academic Initiatives and International Programs, reads student e-mails in her office, which helps students plan study abroad ventures.

Step by step: How to begin the study abroad process

1. Visit **Chris Greiner**, the director of International Programs. He can explain the benefits and drawbacks of studying abroad or becoming an exchange student and will help start the process.
2. If you think you may need financial aid, visit **Jennifer Pall Joseph** in Student Financial Services.
3. Talk to **your adviser** in the Advising Center to see if your trip will affect the requirements you need to graduate.
4. **Susan Sindlinger**, director of Transfer Evaluation, can help you figure out what classes you can take and what credits will transfer.
5. Return to **Student Financial Services** and fill out the appropriate paperwork so you can receive your aid.
6. Visit **Chris Greiner** again to finalize other details.

For more information, visit the Office of Academic Initiatives and International Programs in room 914 of the Alexandroff Campus Building, 600 S. Michigan Ave., or call Chris Greiner at (312) 344-7893.



MANIFEST...WHERE IT'S AT

CAMPUS MAP

Welcome to Manifest and the vibrant campus of Columbia College Chicago. To help you discover what the South Loop buzz is all about, refer to the following map for locations of all the Manifest events.

A free trolley service with eight convenient stops around campus will be running continuously from 11AM to 9PM to assist in your exploration.

TROLLEY STOPS

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 50 E. HARRISON | 5 BALBO AND WABASH |
| 2 600 S. MICHIGAN | 6 623 S. WABASH |
| 3 11TH AND MICHIGAN | 7 STATE AND HARRISON |
| 4 725 S. STATE | 8 33 E. CONGRESS |

TOO MUCH TO SEE? BEGIN WITH THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS:

TICTOC KICK-OFF

33 E. CONGRESS PKWY. / SUITE 530 / 9:30AM-11:00AM

Breakfast, Performances, Installation and Special Prizes!

FESTIVAL KICK-OFF

524 S. WABASH AVE. / 11:30AM

Mucca Pazza, the Punk rock marching band, Sur Taal, a fusion of classical Indian and modern dance performance, and introductory remarks by Maggie Ness, Mark Kelly and President Warrick L. Carter, Ph.D.

THE CORE

524 S. WABASH AVE. / 11:30AM-4:00PM

Entertainment, music, henna tattoos, fortune tellers, giveaways and more!

ARTWALK AND SALE

VARIOUS LOCATIONS / 11:00AM-7:00PM

Jump on a trolley and explore the vast and varied galleries of Columbia College Chicago! Exhibition receptions from 5:00PM-7:00PM.

GREG OSBY & COLUMBIA COLLEGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

MAIN STAGE / GRANT PARK

11TH ST. AND MICHIGAN AVE. / 4:00PM-5:30PM

The saxophonist, composer, producer and educator performs live.

BUDDY GUY PERFORMING WITH CCC R&B ENSEMBLE

MAIN STAGE / GRANT PARK

11TH ST. AND MICHIGAN AVE. / 6:00PM-6:45PM

Chicago's very own blues legend performs live.

SPECTACLE FORTUNA + BLESSING

HARRISON ST. AND WABASH AVE. / 7:00PM-8:00PM

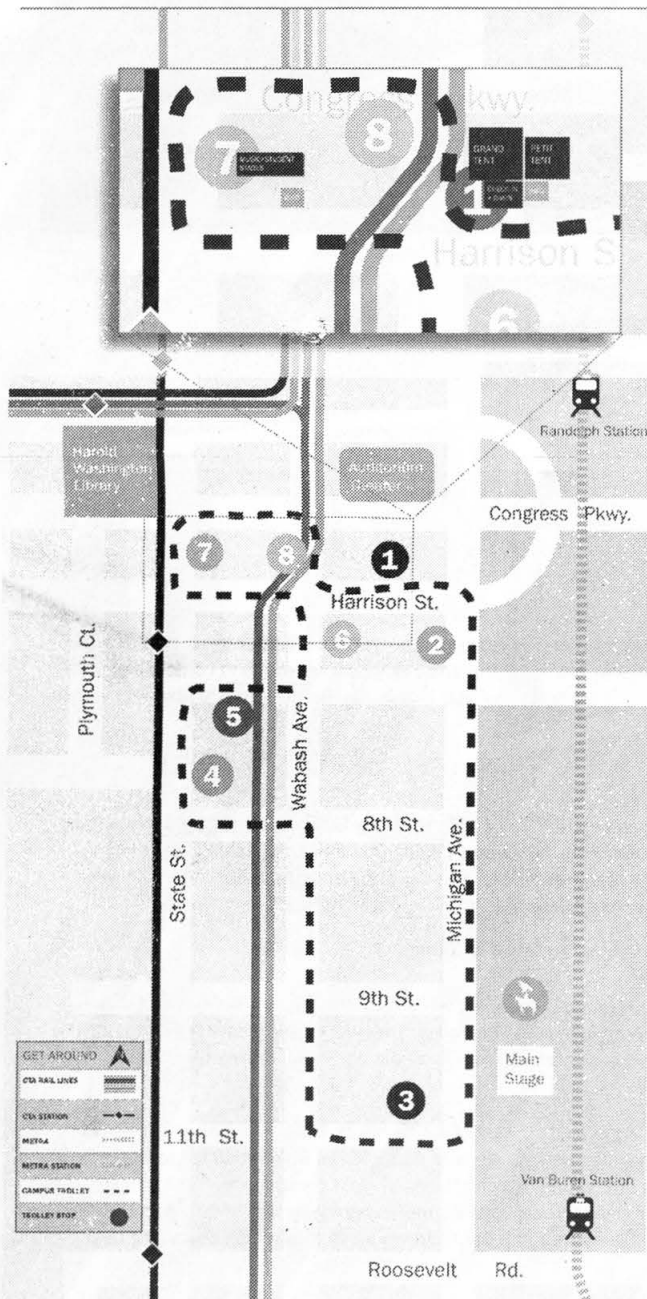
A collaboration of music, large scale puppets, street spectacle and community ritual proceeds into Grant Park to kick off the evening's festivities. Culminates in a raucous celebration for graduating seniors including cascarnes (confetti-filled eggs!).

THE PHARCYDE AND THE DETROIT COBRAS

MAIN STAGE / GRANT PARK

11TH ST. AND MICHIGAN AVE. / 8:00PM-10:00PM

Two high-octane, dance-inducing headliners rock this year's Main Stage.



FOR MORE INFO VISIT [HTTP://MANIFEST.COLUM.EDU](http://manifest.colum.edu)

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Manifest features: Music

May 12, 2006

MUSIC DEPARTMENT STAGE PERFORMANCES

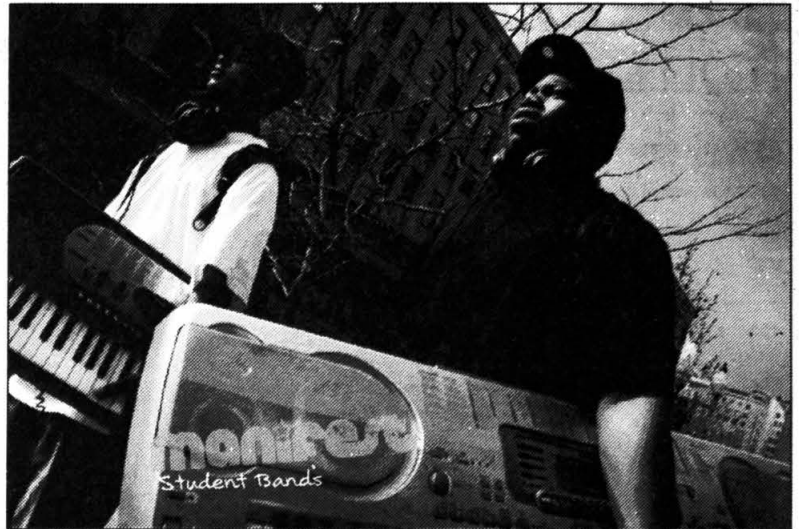
STREET FAIR / 524 S. WABASH AVE.

11:00AM—11:15AM / Jazz Combo
 11:15AM—11:30AM / Martez Rucker
 12:50PM—1:10PM / Charles Hammond
 1:30PM—1:45PM / Pop Orchestra
 2:05PM—2:20PM / Groove Band
 2:40PM—2:50PM / Singers Alliance
 2:50PM—3:00PM / Aviva Jaye
 3:20PM—3:40PM / Duets
 3:40PM—3:50PM / Jenn Jones

STUDENT STAGE

STREET FAIR / 524 S. WABASH AVE.

12:30pm-12:50pm The Lavellas
 1:10pm-1:30pm Youngz BLVD
 1:45pm-2:05pm The Bullet that B reathed
 2:20pm-2:40pm Heather Perry
 3:00pm-3:20pm Mathew Santos with Troy
 "Trombone Shorty" Andrews
 3:50pm-4:10pm S herry Amour
 4:10pm-4:30pm I ll Legit



MAIN STAGE LINE UP

GRANT PARK MAIN STAGE / 11TH ST. AND MICHIGAN AVE.

4:00pm-5:30pm Columbia College Jazz Ensemble with Greg Osby
 6:00pm-6:45pm Buddy Guy and the Columbia College Chicago R&B Ensemble
 7:00pm-7:30pm The Changes
 8:00pm-8:45pm The Pharcyde
 9:15pm-10:00pm The Detroit Cobras

Manifest features: headliners

CCJE and Greg Osby

Saxophonist, composer, producer and educator Greg Osby has made an indelible mark on contemporary jazz as a leader of his own ensembles and as a guest artist with renowned jazz groups for the past 20 years. Notable for his insightful and innovative approach to composition and performance of original jazz music, Osby is a shining beacon among the current generation of jazz musicians. He performs at Manifest with the Chicago Vocal Jazz Ensemble and the Columbia College Jazz Ensemble.

Buddy Guy & CCC R&B Ensemble

The internationally acclaimed Grammy award winner and inductee of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Buddy Guy has cemented a blues legacy that places him squarely in the company of his legendary predecessors. Buddy Guy has been a chief guitar influence to rock titans like Hendrix, Clapton, Beck and Vaughn. A pioneer of Chicago's famed West Side, the musician is credited with being the living link to the city's halcyon days of electric blues. Buddy Guy will be performing with students from Columbia's Music Department R&B Ensemble.

The Changes

The Changes' progressive indie rock sound continues to generate buzz and attract a burgeoning fan base. Sexy guitar licks backing sultry, poignant vocals poise the band to become Chicago's next big thing. While comparisons to The Police, The Smiths and Phoenix fly around, The Changes continue to tweak their sound and morph into a band in its own category, crafting what can best be called intelligent rock.

The Pharcyde

Inspired by the LA underground dance scene of the 1980's, The Pharcyde began a serious study of music in the 90's which led to the production of an album that went gold. Critics called their music "hip-hop's swan song" which offered the last great hurrah for this musical style. Since then the group has reinvented itself more than once to becoming an increasingly influential alternative rap group. With the release of their new album "Humboldt Beginnings," Spaceboy Boogie X aka Cassanova and Booty Brown prove they're still producing beats and tunes that are sure to be classics.

The Detroit Cobras

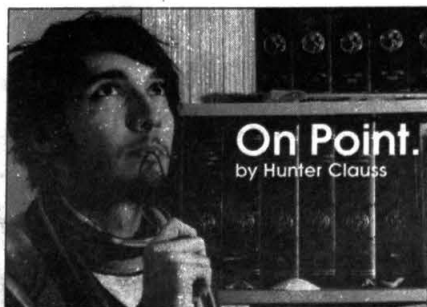
Detroit Cobras mash up the dance floor with their covers of lost Soul and R&B gems of the '50s and '60s. Known for sultry vocals and thundering guitars, the Cobras dig deep into the bin of vintage dusties, giving new life to obscure would-be hits and classics of the past. As if that's not enough, the Cobras promise to get you moving when they whip out "anthems to good times, wild times, and the high and lows of L-U-V-E; you best believe it and you best not mess with it."

THE WORD

AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE



Neighborhoods of Chicago, Page 14



On Point.
by Hunter Clauss

Not my type

It always happens to me. I'll be at a party with some friends, and some 19-year-old girl will approach me and compliment me on my attire. Now, I don't mind the attention because I find it surprising that anyone notices me at all. What I do mind, though, is when these girls start coming on to me.

While it is always a different 19-year-old girl, she will eternally be the same person to me. I like to think that she listens to French new wave music even though she secretly hates it, reads Kafka and eats way too much Brie cheese while watching "Gilmore Girls."

It is this person who will stalk me down at a crowded bar or loft party; the kind where every boy is wearing tight

girl's jeans (sadly, most don't even have the package to really pull this look off), and every-other girl is showing off her new, asymmetrical haircut, most of which look cute. The partygoers are all over the place, checking each other out, when this 19-year-old girl makes her way over to me like she's parting the Red Sea.

"Hey, I really like your tie," she'll say as she grabs it.

"Uh, thanks," I reply as I yank my tie out of her chubby, sweaty hands.

"So, are you here with your girlfriend?" she'll then ask.

Now this question can pop up in a variety of ways and is often not as straightforward as this. Sometimes I'll be nice and fake laugh and say, "Haha. No, I'm gay, but nice try."

But why do so many girls excite themselves over guys who either look gay or are gay? I mean, I like guys, but everywhere I go there's some girl wetting herself to grab my all-boys-club crotch. It's like some sick joke that Mother Nature or God or society is playing on me. Why can't skinny guys with shaved heads and arms covered in tattoos come on to me at parties or at bars?

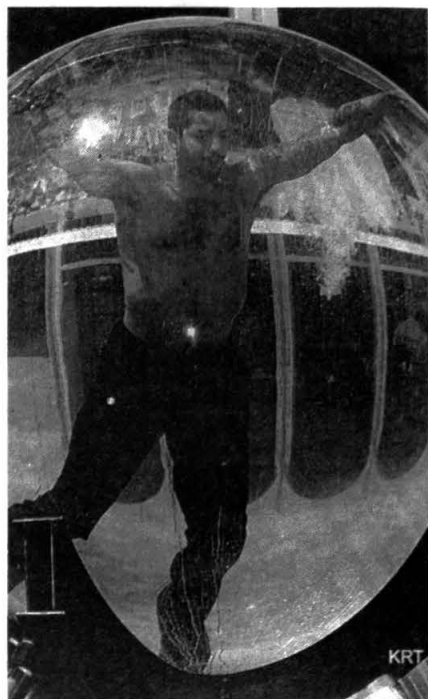
"Sorry," I reply to the 19-year-old. "I'm a fag, and there's not enough beer in the world to make me go home with you."

I do consider myself as a fag, a word which I believe is the n-word for gay men and, therefore, can only be used by gay men. For a while I thought about identifying myself as being queer, but that's such a half-assed Generation X thing to do. Sure, it was a negative term that referred to homosexuals, but it doesn't have the punch like faggot does.

I've got nothing against gay guys. But as a fag, I just don't find a lot of them very attractive. The radioactive orange from using tanning beds and the bleach-blond hair make me wonder if they can glow in the dark, and that frightens me. And I'll never understand the 30-year-old men who look like a 12-year-old Pee Wee Herman. Whenever those guys come up to me at parties, I usually just tell them I'm straight.

"Sorry," I say to them. "I'm a baseball-loving, heterosexual male, and there's not enough Cher music you can play that will get me to go home with you."

It's hard for everyone to meet someone he or she is attracted to regardless of sexual orientation, but I've decided to build a time machine so that I can teleport myself to the gay '70s and meet beefy, mustached men who are naturally blond and tan. Now that's a faggot.



When Will Ferrell played self-absorbed reporter Ron Burgundy in *Anchorman*, we found it charming. We still quote his quirky phrases like "I'm kind of a big deal," and "Hey, everybody; come see how good I look!" Funny stuff, right?

Well, when that same narcissistic attitude is used by real-life freaks of nature, it just doesn't have the same effect. The freak we're talking about is David Blaine, magician and weird record holder du jour. Blaine is always up to some zany task that begs attention from America, such as when he was buried alive for a week; sat on some tall, skinny pole for 35 hours; and hung out in a glass box above a river for more than a month.

His latest endeavor, though, couldn't be more blatant in its quest for attention: The Houdini wannabe is spending a week in a water-filled glass bubble in the midst of the New York bustle in front of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Anyone in New York could walk by and see Blaine swimming around the bubble, which isn't much bigger than he is, and he'll just stare back because he's got nothing better to do but float around and pee through a tube when necessary. He may even wave at some lucky passersby.

But wait, the excitement doesn't stop there! At the end of the weeklong underwater endeavor, Blaine will attempt to hold his breath for nine minutes, beating out the record of eight minutes and 58 seconds, all while handcuffed to 150 pounds of chains—all on TV. Bam! Pow! It's like a one-two punch of amazement ... or stupidity.

Blaine trained for this challenge with the Navy SEALs to learn oxygen deprivation techniques and to help lose weight. So that's what we have the SEALs around for—teaching idiots how to hang out in water and hold their breath for extended amounts of time so people will be impressed by their sweet skills. We wouldn't be surprised if his next trick is just simply shouting at people to look at him every second of every day. At least that would be more entertaining to watch.

Blaine said he decided to perform his outrageous stunt in New York because it's his hometown, and he's proud of it. We thank our lucky stars he's not from Chicago; we wouldn't want that Jackass reping it up for our great city.

— T. Breyne



Below the Belt
by Jennifer...

One last caress

As much as I've been anticipating the end of my college career, the idea of writing my last column left a rather foul taste in my mouth. As I enter the "real world" with rattled nerves and an uncertain future, I shudder at the thought of not having a place to rant about the varying nonsense that has filled this space for the past year and a half.

This column almost didn't happen, actually. When I started at the paper, I begged, pleaded and whined to my editors at the time for a column. They eventually gave in to me (I can be rather infuriating when whiney—just ask my boyfriend) and I started *Below the Belt* under a pseudonym, *Beatrix*, after my lovely cat.

erate me "writing like a prostitute."

I got high-fived in the hallway when I wrote about abortion rights and screamed at my mother when I mentioned anal sex.

"Anal sex?" she shouted. "Why can't you just write about something normal like Jeff Danna? He writes about real news."

Unfortunately for me (and my future career in news), I would much rather write about why oral sex rules than why the Dan Ryan is a nightmare. For example, at the moment, I can think of nothing more than the fact that last week my boyfriend said "I love you" for the first time. While I'm concerned about immigration rights and fired up about the state of

our union in general, the warm and fuzzy feeling in the pit of my stomach simply can't be outdone. And I'm OK with that.

Last year, it was so easy for me to say, "When I graduate, I'm going to have a fantastic writing job lined up, and everything is going to be lovely." But let's be honest, nothing in life is that easy. And why should it be? The future is scary, in every sense.

Rushing into a job decision is just as bad as rushing into a relationship. Maybe I'm just not ready to move to a small town and write for its newspaper. Maybe I want to stay in a city I love, with the people I love and just take it easy. While pushy women coerce their men into unwanted marriage (or vice versa, of course), our pushy society wants us to be stressed from grades K through eternity.

Despite the praise (which has been much appreciated by the way) and the not-so-good-reviews (hey, I can take it) this column writing thing has been pretty amazing. It's rather convenient to work out your relationship issues on paper—putting it all out there can be hard otherwise.

So what's next? Who knows? I'll probably make some horrible decisions and have some bad luck, maybe some good luck, too. I'm not really concerned with knowing exactly what is next, but I know one way or another, I'll be OK. Thanks for reading, Columbia. I will miss you terribly.

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Love us or hate us...

We'd love to hear from you. How to contact The Word:



Ratings Guide

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

1 heart	Complete Crap
2 hearts	Download it
3 hearts	Pretty Entertaining
4 hearts	Very Good
5 hearts	Word Up.

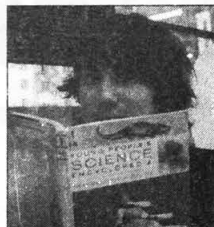
Hunter Clauss - hclauss@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8970
 Tiffany Breyne - tbreyne@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8971
 Mark Byrne - mbyrne@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8969



Jeff Danna



Michelle Finkler



Josh Covarrubias

top five

The Balvenie Doublewood: At \$50 a bottle, this 12-year-old scotch could do a number on your wallet and your liver, but it's certainly worth the price. Pair it with a pint of Guinness—it's like a party in your mouth, and everyone's invited.

"Take Me Home Tonight" by Eddie Money: I tell people I like this '80s cheese song because Ronnie Spector sings during the chorus, but really, I love the poetic lyrics: "I feel a hunger ... IT'S A HUNGER!"

Cowboy boots: They're uncomfortable as hell, but they look damn good with a pair of ripped Levi's. I also plan on stocking up on western shirts and hats so I can single-handedly revive the urban cowboy trend of the late '70s and early '80s.

Stylus Magazine: The reviews are intelligent, funny and poignant, and the features like "Album Art Challenge" (readers try to guess album titles by looking at covers sans distinguishing text) are pure fun.

The Jam: Paul Weller and Co. got no respect in the U.S., but nearly every song Weller wrote was a gem. I put their three masterpieces—*All Mod Cons*, *Setting Sons* and *Sound Affects*—on the turntable the other day and just listened in bliss. God, I wish I were mod.

Myself: I never realized how much self-love I had until I joined MySpace. I look at my own profile more than anyone else's. Oh, and if I'm ever late, it's probably because there was a mirror or highly reflective window on the way.

Poison Control: When I was a little girl, I used to eat mushrooms that grew in my backyard, and my mom would freak out and call Poison Control. To this day, the phone number is still taped to the fridge. Those Poison Control workers are the unsung heroes of childhood munchies.

Roger Waters in concert: It seems all those Pink Floyd reunion rumors are just rumors after all. But seeing Waters in concert on Sept. 29, performing *Dark Side of the Moon* in its entirety is the next best thing.

The Cubs: I am a vengeful Cubs fan. I don't even care if my Cubbies win anymore; I'm happy as long as the Sox lose.

Graduation: I suppose I should say something about how cool graduating is, but I'd rather not because it's been completely anticlimactic and lame. Well, more accurately, I'm just pissed about joining the "real world." I did get a cute graduation dress out of it, though.

Versionfest 2006: While I'm missing the vast majority of events trying to catch up with final projects, I am definitely excited for the International Noise awards hosted by Versionfest. With categories like "Best Circuit Bending" and "Most People on Stage at One Time" this is guaranteed to be the most OK event this month.

Lifelongfriendshipsociety.com: This site is completely bananas.

Podcasts: I have fallen into the habit of binge subscribing. There are so many amazing podcasts available, and I can't seem to help but keep clicking and filling up my hard drive. At this rate I think soon I will have more time in podcasts than time in a day.

Alèmayèhu Eshètè: I have been rocking '70s Ethiopian pop music all week long. This guy's music is probably best suited for dance-offs and car chases.

Bicycles: Because it's the season.

Calendar of Events

Monday

Michael Levitron plays at Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave., with Cairo Gang and Scary Mansion. The show starts at 8 p.m. and costs \$6.

Schubas' monthly Practice Space band Office plays at the venue, 3159 N. Southport Ave., with Those Transatlantics. The show starts at 8 p.m. and costs \$6.

Tuesday

Daniel Raeburn, author of *Chris Ware*, speaks about the cartoonist at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. The free event starts at 6 p.m. Call (312)-397-4010 to reserve a seat.

Wednesday

Eric Schlosser, author of *Fast Food Nation*, will talk about and sign his new book, *Chew on This!* at Borders, 2817 N. Clark St. The free event starts at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

Take Back the Night 2006, an anti-violence rally, takes place at the intersection of 57th Street and South University Avenue. The rally starts at 6 p.m. and also includes a march, music and various speakers.

People Under the Stairs play at Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave., with Time Machine and Psalm One. The show starts at 9 p.m. and costs \$12 in advance and \$14 at the door.

Friday

Manifest Urban Arts Festival takes place throughout the South Loop from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The festival features art sales, live music, readings and street performances. For more information visit manifest.colum.edu.

Midnight Movies are playing at Music Box, 3733 N. Southport Ave. Choose from either *Transformers: The Movie* or adult film *HOT SKIN in 3-D*. Both movies cost \$9.25.

Saturday

Beer on the Pier, the city's largest beer garden event, takes place at Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave. Beer sampling will take place from noon to 4 p.m. and again from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$45 at the pier.

Last day of the Spring '06 semester. Throw away your notebooks and knock back a few.

Sunday

Experimental Dental School plays at Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave., with J+J and The Amateurs. The show starts 9:30 p.m. and costs \$8.

Exposure



Pictures attempt to capture a moment but sometimes don't do any justice. At the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio, Calif., ordinary and otherwise banal pictures encapsulate the magnitude of the event better than anything else. The middle of Ted Leo + the Pharmacists set, a seemingly unimportant moment, is as universal in telling the story of the festival as anything.

Chris Ewert for The Chronicle

Fashionable Croc of shoes

Foam shoes may be nasty, but comfortable

By Michelle C. Finkler/Copy Editor

Ugliness had no place in fashion—until now. Crocs brand shoes, which are available for men, women and children, appear to be the must-have for feet, as these funky-colored foam shoes trample sidewalks nationwide. They're certainly not sleek or sassy or a newfangled creation from a top Italian designer. In fact, by many standards they're just ugly. But many have decided to embrace this ugliness and the architectural adage that form follows function.

"They're ridiculously comfortable," said Eileen Cain, a sophomore public relations major. "It's when functional becomes trendy."

Crocs are a popular brand of shoe made from Proprietary Closed Cell Resin, which is a material that feels and looks like cushiony foam. Crocs resemble gardening shoes but have an updated appearance with a variety of new colors to match everyone's style. The company's best-selling model, the Beach, is sold in almost two-dozen hues, ranging from a succulent lemony yellow to a vibrant fuchsia to a military green. Some models offer holes in the shoe's surface, providing ventilation. And according to Meghan Cleary, shoe expert and author of *The Perfect Fit: What Your Shoes Say About You*, Crocs are replacing flip-

flops.

"I think people are sort of looking for the next answer to the flip-flop," she said. "I just know, here in New York that while flip-flops are disposable and great for the summer, they actually don't offer any foot protection."

Cleary said that while wearing flip-flops, feet are exposed to the elements like city streets, but the Croc silhouette offers the protection of a clog. Crocs are a sort of crosspollination between flip-flops and clogs, which may not have been the vision of the original Crocs designers.

The idea for these shoes was spawned by a 2002 Caribbean sailing trip in which the founders from Colorado envisioned a boating shoe that would be functional and fashionable. Crocs were named after the crocodile, because of its versatility in different terrains, according to the company's website.

"I know that they've really taken off among sort of urban pioneers in New York," Cleary said.

She said that Crocs have been marketed as a lifestyle shoe, appealing to people who enjoy outdoor activities like swimming, boating, hiking and gardening or people who are on their feet a lot. But she doesn't know exactly how Crocs caught on with such immense popularity.

She thinks that people probably thought the shoes were cute and easy to wear and then realized that they are a good product.

"I suggest them to anyone who has feet problems," said Maggie Leonatti, a senior marketing major. She just bought a pair of brown Crocs and likes them because of their casual appearance and comfort.

People with foot problems may consider trying Crocs because they have the American Podiatric Medical Association's Seal of Acceptance, which recognizes products that are beneficial to feet.

"[Crocs] have a degree of arch support built-in, which most flip-flops don't have," said Dr. James Christina, director of Scientific Affairs for the APMA. "The properties of the materials that they use actually have some antimicrobial and anti-fungal properties to it, and they're vented so they breathe."

He also mentioned that Crocs mold to feet and have a non-skid component. Christina said that although he wouldn't recommend Crocs as a first-line therapeutic option for patients with foot problems, they could be suggested to patients who don't want to wear regular gym shoes in the summer.

Nurses and other medical personnel have also taken to the



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Croc's popularity has spawned lines of mock Crocs, like these available at Payless.

Crocs trend since they're constantly on their feet, and Crocs offer necessary comfort.

"I work at a doctor's office, so they're really light and comfortable," said Sarah Furnish, a senior marketing major. She actually bought a pair of Crocs about six months ago and returned them because she got comments from people saying they were ugly. She more recently bought another pair even though she admits "they're ugly and hideous."

But some people just won't succumb to wearing such unconventional shoes in exchange for foot relief.

"They're so nasty," said Santina Maino, a freshman radio major. "I don't know who the hell wears those things. They're so ugly. Who wears foam shoes with holes in them?"

Apparently many people are wearing Crocs because there have been many knockoff brands produced, which are available at

stores like Target and Payless. But buyers should beware of these fakes.

"I would be very suspicious about buying something that's imitation like that," Cleary said, although she has not checked out the mock Crocs. "I can only imagine if they're at a much lower price point, the materials are probably not as good."

Christina agreed and said that the material the knockoffs use isn't as cushiony as the actual Crocs. But as far as arch support goes, he isn't sure whether or not these alternative brands offer any.

But whether or not people sport the real thing or the imitations, Cleary said Crocs should not be worn everywhere.

"I think they're fine to knock around in," she said. "But, like I said, I wouldn't wear them to a black-tie event."

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A better blend

Chicago cafes do more than just serve coffee

By Mark Byrne/ Assistant A&E Editor

As a linguistics professor in Seattle during the late 1990s, Jeff Dreyfuss spent a lot of time reading and correcting papers in coffee shops. Most of his time was spent in Seattle's Cafe Vita, and after a while, he developed a friendship with the shop's roaster, who taught him there is much more to coffee than simply brewing and pouring it.

Now Dreyfuss owns and runs Metropolis Coffee Co., 1039 W. Granville Ave., which is one of only a few coffee shops in Chicago that roast their own beans. With the others, Intelligentsia Coffee and Tea Inc. and Coffee & Tea Exchange, Metropolis roasts beans for many of Chicago's smaller independent shops and provides for its customers small-batch, fresh roasted coffee that Dreyfuss considers essential to a good coffee experience.

Dreyfuss has been in the coffee business for about two and a half years since he came to Chicago, but spent eight years prior to that learning extensively about roasting at Cafe Vita. The head roaster asked him to come in one morning and see what making coffee was all about.

"It startled me that the differences were not subtle, and that there were differences between coffees at all," Dreyfuss said of his first cupping, which is a test of a small, sample batch of coffee. "I guess I never had paid a whole lot of attention."

Dreyfuss learned that roasting coffee requires much finesse because there are

only two settings—gas and airflow—on most roasters, and one must tweak the two very carefully. Each coffee bean has a different 'profile,' and the time they take to roast can vary. Since Dreyfuss had spent so long as a teacher, he enjoyed the hands-on process involved in roasting coffee.

While Dreyfuss is relatively new to the industry, Steven Siefer got into roasting coffee right out of college, and his company, Coffee & Tea Exchange, boasts that it has been roasting beans since 1975.

"Obviously the coffee is much fresher," Siefer said, comparing to chain shops like Starbucks. "You can't get any fresher. We're like a bakery."

Coffee & Tea Exchange has one location at 3111 N. Broadway, but it provides beans to several shops in the area and distributes nationally.

Intelligentsia Coffee and Tea Inc. also distributes all over the United States. Though it has only been around for a little more than 10 years, Intelligentsia just recently opened its third shop, and is the largest distributor in the Chicago area.

Marc Johnson, the director of marketing for Intelligentsia, explained that when Douglas Zell and his wife started Intelligentsia in 1995, they made the decision to roast their own beans because it allowed them to hold higher standards for the quality of the brew.

"When you're roasting your own coffee, you're able to really control the process and



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Owner of Metropolis Jeff Dreyfuss (from left), chief coffee officer Chris Schooley and assistant roaster Jake Parker pose next to the coffee roaster. Metropolis Coffee Co., 1039 W. Granville Ave., is one of the few coffee houses that roast its own beans daily.

kind of deliver a cup of coffee for your costumers that you really feel is the best available coffee," Johnson said.

Zell also likes to actually travel to locations in Africa or South America to sample the beans before the company invests in them. He was unavailable for comment because he was in Mexico.

Intelligentsia's customers note the difference, too. Alan Parker, who works in the South Loop, chooses coffee from Intelligentsia's location at 53 W. Jackson St. over places like Starbucks because he prefers its smaller batch sizes of roasts.

"They take it seriously, clearly, because they don't have to feed a nation the same kind of a roast," Parker said. "It makes sense that they can be more focused on quality."

Both the roasters at Intelligentsia and Coffee & Tea Exchange have moved off location, but customers at Metropolis can still see its roaster in action. According to Dreyfuss, his roaster was made in 1935, and he thinks it resembles a contraption from a

Charlie Chaplin film.

Siefer likens his roasting machine to a big popcorn popper, but despite the comparison he urges people not to try the process at home. According to Siefer, there is a chafe on the outside of the beans that could cause a fire if not properly removed.

Dreyfuss considers it a coincidence that the language in which he specialized, Indonesian, ended up helping him when he changed his career to coffee roasting. Now, he is learning languages that will help his current career. He speaks Spanish, and he is learning Brazilian Portuguese.

"My romancing of coffee is that I really want to know a much larger picture than the coffee; the people who grow it, what's important to them, their language," Dreyfuss said. This desire to be more involved is typical of Dreyfuss as a linguist, but it is also representative of a much larger theme with coffee roasters. Metropolis, Coffee & Tea Exchange and Intelligentsia didn't have to go to the extra step and roast their own beans; they could have just sold coffee.

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Event includes an introduction by Department Chair Nancy Day, Webcast interview with Richard Roeper, and reception in the Journalism Department Orange Space.

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Art imitating life

Film students use different methods to entertain, educate

Many students attend Columbia in order to get a hands-on education that they can use well after graduation and into their careers. For some students, though, waiting until graduation to practice their art isn't part of the plan. These are the stories of two different films made by Columbia students: *Broke*, a comedic movie about a broken car, was made independently outside of Columbia, and *Leaving Kansas*, made with Columbia's film resources, focuses on the reality of drugs and homelessness.

By Allison Riggio/Staff Writer

Broke

To generalize Columbia film students means to place them in one of two categories: There are the Sundance-loving artsy types or the Spielberg-worshipping movie gurus, with little in-between. Bill Whirity is one student who would prefer to be one of the latter.

"People go to the movies for entertainment," Whirity, who wrote and directed his first feature-length film before graduating from Columbia in 2005, said. "I want to make them laugh, and it's what I'm good at."

Filming for *Broke* began in the summer of 2003 and was made entirely independently of Columbia and any sort of class assignments or projects. According to Whirity, the school does not allow students to create feature-length films for credit, so filming and post-production work took place independently over the next three years.

"They wouldn't let [students] do a feature for an independent project because most kids that do independent projects sometimes don't even finish short films," Whirity said.

Citing *Broke* as a great learning experience, Whirity said the only regret he has when looking back on the finished product was not having made more revisions to the original script.

"[Whirity] even said he learned more doing that movie than he did in four years at film school," said actor Josh Alletto, a junior fiction writing major at Columbia. "That's the greatest thing about it. You don't know until you do it."

Relying on the assistance of friends, classmates and total strangers, Whirity was able to gather a cast, crew and equipment to produce this full-length movie on a budget of roughly \$1,000.

"If you know anything about [Whirity, you know] he's the master of getting stuff for free and making connections," said Mike Baltz, assistant director on the film and a 2005 Columbia graduate. "He's very resourceful, so that's how we were able to keep the budget low and shoot a movie."

Broke chronicles the misadventures of a group of high school boys on a risky road trip to Canada, that is, until their car bites the dust before ever leaving the driveway.

Since the trip must go on, the teenagers decide to borrow the car of one boy's parents—only to crash it long before the Canadian border.

The movie follows the 1980s comedy recipe, Whirity said, in the fashion of such staples to the decade as *Better Off Dead* and *Risky Business*. Whirity wanted to stay away from the "gross-out" humor of such recent films as *American Pie* by using clever humor that requires a bit more thought.

The film's tagline, "The car is broke ... and so are they," hints at the characters' ongoing struggle throughout the movie to come up with enough money to get their car fixed before their parents get back in town a week after it's wrecked.

"We wanted to do something we could watch over and over again; where you catch jokes the second time that you didn't get the first time," Whirity said. "People will think they know where this joke is going but we'll take it in a completely different way."

Alletto said that Whirity gathered much of his inspiration for the film from his own adolescence. Both men are from the Beverly neighborhood on Chicago's South west Side, where the movie was filmed and also is set.

"I think a lot of the teachers [in the film] are very archetypal—you know boring teachers or like that crazy, way-too-into-math-and-doesn't-get-that-the-kids-aren't-really-into-it type [of teacher]," Alletto said. "We all went to different high schools, but I mean what's the difference? It's all the same experience."

A major benefit for everyone involved



Bill Whirity and the others behind the independently made film 'Broke,' hang out and think about their next project. 'Broke' is a comedy that follows a group of teenagers attempting a road trip to Canada with a broken-down car.

with *Broke* was the practice it provided in all areas of production, and the preparation it gave them for a future in the industry.

"We kind of did it partially as a learning experience and partially just to start making a feature film and have one under our belts," Baltz said. "You hear [of] some people that we look up to like Trey Parker and Matt Stone [who created "South Park"]. They just went out and started making stuff, and they didn't really care if they didn't have all the tools yet. That [way] they could end up on the coast with an actual product to show someone in Hollywood."

Broke will premiere at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St., on June 15. Whirity also hopes to either get the film latched on to a festival circuit or find a company to distribute it on a "straight-to-video" basis.

"Everyone wants to get their movie picked up and put in theaters and stuff, but you've got to be realistic about some stuff," Whirity said. "The odds of that happening [are slim]. It seems like there's going to be kind of a grassroots kind of cult following thing where people would talk about it and tell their friends. It [will probably] be like more of a tool to get us another job."

Dorothy isn't the only one in Kansas skipping town. Wichita, Kan., native and Columbia senior Brian Schodorf didn't come to Chicago in a twister, but his new documentary *Leaving Kansas* is sure to stir up something.

Leaving Kansas takes a raw look at Chicago's homeless, many of whom may be seen panhandling Columbia students on campus street corners. Upon moving to Chicago, Schodorf said he was amazed by the number of homeless people surrounding the Columbia campus, many of whom he learned come from the Pacific Garden Mission, the homeless shelter on

"I'd like to see it shown in the classroom to try to keep kids from doing drugs," Ayi said.

Ayi, a Chicago native, co-wrote the script with Schodorf and drove him around while shooting. Schodorf said that Ayi gave him credibility when he talked to many of the documentary's characters, admitting they would have been much less likely to talk to a white man from Wichita.

Schodorf said that while the documentary started out as a class project, he has developed a personal attachment to the men he met while shooting.

At one point in the documentary Schodorf talks to a homeless man outside the HotHouse who is clearly having medical trouble. The man is taken away in an ambulance on camera, and it is later known that he had a heart attack. Schodorf meets up with the man weeks later, and he thanks Schodorf for saving his life.

"That guy walked around for three hours and no one helped him," Schodorf, who called the ambulance, said.

Schodorf said he wants people to realize that the men in the documentary are real people with real lives. Schodorf said he built a strong relationship with Delvin Rollins, a man with one leg who is featured in the documentary.

"That guy is a saint," Schodorf said. "He had the worst conditions of anyone I've ever met and the best outlook on life."

One of Schodorf's goals is to take money from the film and use it to help get Rollins into rehab. Burt, who helped film many of the interviews with Rollins, agrees the experience has broadened his perspective on life.

"It isn't their goal to be homeless," Burt said. "They always have the goal to be rich and famous but stuff happens. The economy is up and down. I wish them well, and I hope I don't ever end up in that situation, which is why I do what I do."

Schodorf began working on the film in his first semester documentary filmmaking class with instructor Eric Scholl. Only needing a few credits to graduate, Schodorf decided to make *Leaving Kansas* his entire academic focus second semester as a part of an independent study with Scholl.

Aside from using class time for the film, Schodorf and his crew shot the film using only Columbia equipment. Scholl said that not enough students take advantage of the materials Columbia offers its students, citing *Leaving Kansas* as an example of the filmmaking that can be made from the school's resources. Schodorf said he uses Columbia for everything he does with the film from cameras to editing material.

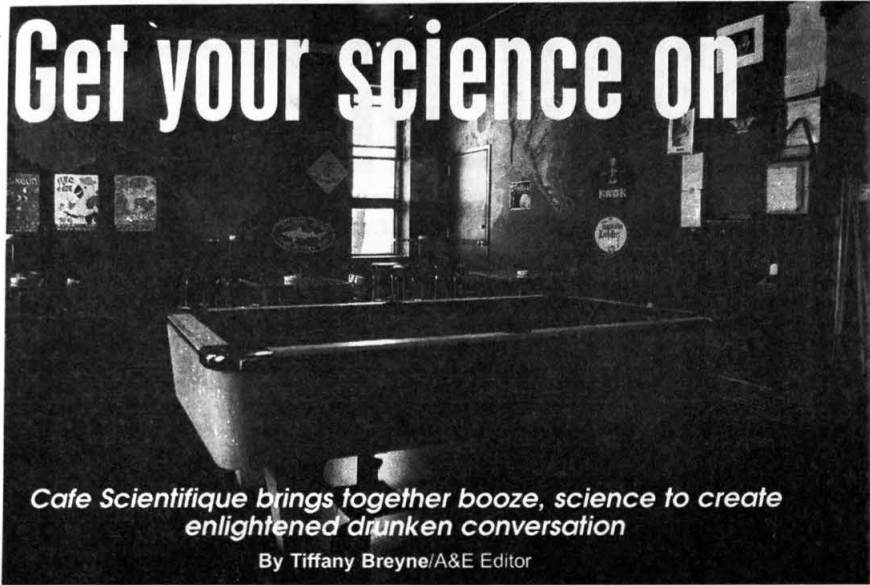
Funding opportunities in the form of small grants are also offered to students who have film projects in the works, Scholl said.

He pointed out that Schodorf made the entire film using Columbia materials, something he said students should do more of because it is the last time they have access to free equipment and means of production.

"He made it a first-person exploration from his point of view which is what made it a strong piece," Scholl said. "You have to find your voice and make that voice a part of the piece."

"It's not about politics; it's about human rights," Schodorf said. Ayi, who acted as both producer and partner in the film, agrees that the film is more than just entertainment.

Get your science on



Cafe Scientifique brings together booze, science to create enlightened drunken conversation

By Tiffany Breyne/A&E Editor

Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Map Room, 1949 N. Hoyne Ave., played host to Chicago's first Cafe Scientifique gathering April 26.

If you and your friends are the type of people to sit around over a few drinks waxing scientific with ideas about the universe and what it all means, then Cafe Scientifique is the thing for you.

Cafe Scientifique, set up in cozy cafes and bars all around the world, attempts to accomplish two goals: start up an informal conversation about science-related issues and do it in a comfortable and sociable atmosphere.

Though Cafe Scientifiques have been taking place on nearly every continent in various forms for a while now, Chicago's first

meeting took place April 26 at Map Room, 1949 N. Hoyne Ave.

Scientifique meetings typically start with a 20-minute talk from a scientist or someone related in the field, and then audience members are given a 15-minute break to get drinks before a discussion takes place for about an hour and a half. The motivation behind the discussions is to try and answer questions individuals might have and make the connection between scientists and non-scientists.

Randy Landsberg, director of public outreach for the astronom-

my and astrophysics department at the University of Chicago, is the founder of the Chicago chapter and organized the first event. Since his job is to find ways to involve the community with science, Landsberg thought that the cafe would be a good way to do just that.

"It's an opportunity to go out into the community and let people, whoever they are, who might not normally have this opportunity or might not want to go to the formal institutions, [talk about science] in a normal, comforting environment," Landsberg said.

Landsberg thinks the meetings are becoming so popular because of a New York Times article about the club that ran in February. Landsberg said the article caused a "huge surge" in cafe openings across the country, including one in Evanston that has yet to meet up.

Scientist Sean Carroll, assistant professor in the physics department at the Enrico Fermi Institute and the Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics at the U of C, was the speaker in attendance for the first meeting. Carroll addressed the issue of time and how it travels forward, and not backward. Carroll said that the audience turnout of 40 to 50 people with little to no formal science background was a success.

"The nice thing about having it at a bar or a cafe is it feels more like a bunch of people getting together to talk rather than just sitting and listening to someone else hand down their wisdom from on top," Carroll said.

For many individuals the topic of science is intimidating with complex terms and ideas that require details and years of study. Those involved in the cafe say that doesn't always have to be the case. Landsberg said the first topic of time and cosmology, the study of the physical universe in terms of space and time, was an easy choice because of Carroll's background in the subject and his ability to translate technical terms to conversational issues. Map Room owner Laura Blasingame agrees that Carroll was a good choice. Blasingame said that Carroll was good at

keeping the audience's attention.

"He was very careful [about] not going over people's heads [and] making people feel stupid," Blasingame said.

Landsberg and Carroll both agree that events like the cafe that bring together scientists and non-scientists don't happen enough in the city. Landsberg said that many people in the science community are hoping the cafe will be a gateway for more public interest in the subject. He said studies have indicated that people show the most interest in science while in elementary and middle schools but lose that interest as the subject becomes stricter in high school and college.

"I think people forget that science is fun and creative, and [scientists] are really insane," Landsberg said. "They're doing bold and audacious things; one of our people built an observatory the size of the state of Rhode Island in Argentina. They're really excited and passionate about it."

Though no future plans are set in stone, Landsberg hopes to have the cafe take place once a month due to the positive feedback from the first one. He said that there's one thing that makes the combination of science and bars so enticing.

"My informal study has shown that scientists and non-scientists [both] like lots of beer," Landsberg said.

For more information about Cafe Scientifique in Chicago, visit www.cafescientifique.org.

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Shaken to the Gore

Former vice president Al Gore brings global warming to spotlight with 'An Inconvenient Truth'

By Hunter Clauss/A&E Editor

Is it getting hot in here? Well, don't take off your clothes just yet because former vice president Al Gore is hoping to spark a renewed conversation on how mankind is responsible for global warming. A new documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, follows Gore as he gives a slideshow on the effects of global warming and how mankind is at the tipping point of potentially catastrophic events. This film is interjected with Gore's personal life and looks at how deeply personal tragedies, such as a car accident involving his son and the death of his older sister to cancer, have shaped his perspective of the world. Although Gore is returning to the limelight, he has repeatedly said he is not considering stepping back into the political arena as a candidate for the 2008 presidential election. The Chronicle was able to chat with Gore while he was in Chicago for a showing of *An Inconvenient Truth*, which is due out May 24.



Courtesy Paramount Classics

The Chronicle: An Inconvenient Truth is partly about you. Why did you decide to include some deeply personal moments in the film?

Gore: It wasn't my idea. It was the director, David Guggenheim, who suggested that. I would not have thought to do that. I would not really have wanted to do that, but he convinced me that there's something very different about a movie compared to a live presentation. When someone is there onstage, even if it's me, you have a connection because the person may fall over dead. You don't know. There's a dramatic tension, but that does not translate to the screen. So you have to supply that. This is David Guggenheim talking. I'm recounting his argument to me. He said people connect to people, and you have to provide a narrative thread that allows the audience to connect to a character or characters on the screen, and he said you're it. You're the only character in this movie.

How did he earn your trust?
By then, he had [already]

earned my trust. We had become close friends, and I knew that whatever he did he would do well. So I agreed to do that, and he embarked on a set of interviews that were far more in-depth than any I've ever had. He had more time, which was one reason. Each of the interviews was hours and hours.

What was that like?

It was very difficult, to tell you the truth. It was almost like psychoanalysis or something. It was like peeling layers of the onion one right after the other. Questions that you maybe have answered a thousand times, he then said, "OK. Well why?" And I would answer that. "Well why?" But after awhile, it actually resulted in me digging so deeply that I discovered new things about myself.

How do audiences show their gratification for what you've done with *An Inconvenient Truth* and your slideshows?

I've had a number of experiences where people who came as skeptics came up afterward and said, "You convinced me. I'm done. Sign me up." That's the whole objective. Lots of

people come out of the movie and say, "OK, I am getting a hybrid. I'm getting a clock thermostat. I'm changing this and that." That's why I have tried to refer to this movie as the ultimate action movie because it gets the audience to take action. I hope and I know that with some it does.

To take action politically?

Well, personal action. You know, the person is the political, but it operates on both levels, I think.

How long did it take you to master Keynote, the Apple equivalent of PowerPoint?

Keynote is a fantastic program, and it took me not very long to get the basics, but to become really proficient at it, about four years so far. I actually do a lot of that myself, but I have a little graphic design shop that I hired out of Mountain View, Calif., and every few weeks I go back there to get them to clean it up. They look at what I've done and go, "Oh, my God. What is this?" It actually works out fine when you do the play mode, but when someone who knows what they're doing

looks at it, it's like it's done by an idiot savant. It's a fun program. If you do one thing for long enough, you'll get it down.

Do you ever feel like you're just going through the motions when you're giving your slideshow presentation?

No, I don't. One reason I don't is I add slides or move slides around literally after every single time I show it. I'm always changing it, and it's a little like looking for shells at the beach. After every tide, it's completely new. I don't want to overdo this but it's true. I do learn from it almost all the time. Scanning all these websites that these scientists use to look for the new studies and look for the new reports, I try to integrate them into the slideshow. Often, as they come out, they will also change the way one should interpret stuff that is already in there. I've gone back and changed the sequence a little bit because of the new stuff that has come out.

Why do you think environmental problems have not been addressed by our political system but have in other

countries?

This conversation of democracy is not operating the way that it should. This movie is, in part, a way to break into that conversation with a medium that takes the truth of this crisis—it is a planetary emergency—and takes the truth straight to the American people. Even though the threshold action based on knowledge is now absurdly high, I think that those of us who are deeply concerned about kick-starting a response to this have a powerful ally in Mother Nature, whose voice has been increasingly difficult to ignore in that last couple of years.

How optimistic are you that we can solve many of these environmental problems?

I'm optimistic. I've been trying to deliver this message for 30 years, and now the debate is over. What's there to debate? There are five points that the global scientific community has agreed on. Global warming is real; we're the main cause of it; the results are catastrophic; we need to fix it now; and it's not too late.

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Playing Around

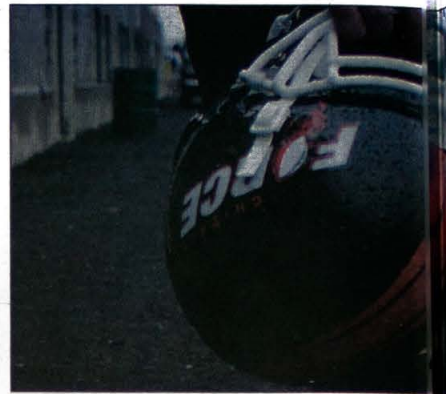
While traditional sports require competitiveness, endurance and self-determination, "extreme" sports also require a hunger for adrenaline. Chronicle photographers ventured out in search of these athletes.

They found industrial surfers in Whiting, Ind. (bottom left) These early-morning warriors geared up in full-body suits and ventured into Lake Michigan's still-frigid late winter/early spring waters, carefully stepping around the waste that cluttered the beach.

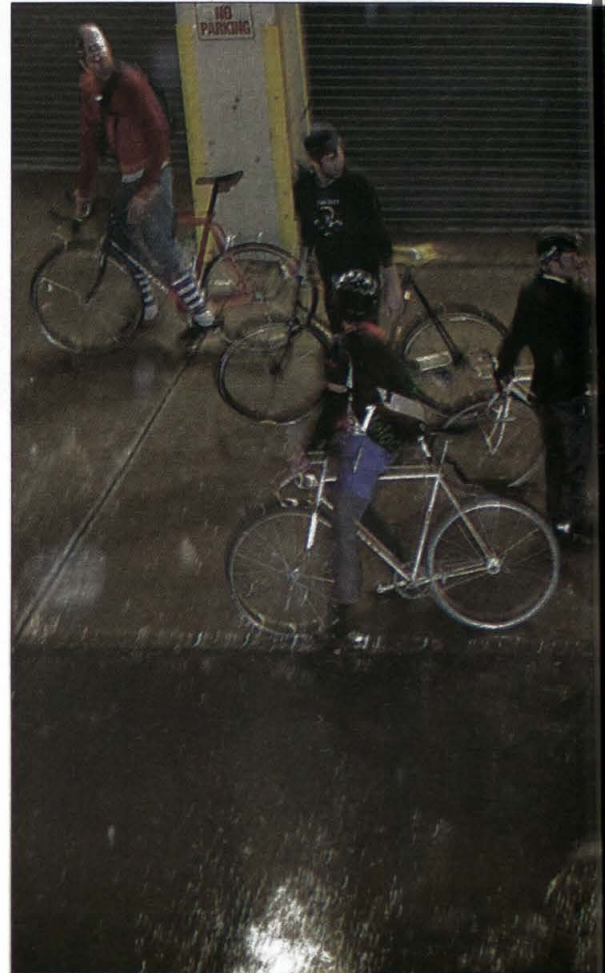
Next, our photographers headed to northwest suburban Algonquin, Ill. to track down snowboarders at Raging Buffalo Snowboard Park. Snowboarders were performing 360s (bottom center) and forcing their way to the bottom of the hill, only to find themselves venturing to the top again (center right). In Joliet, our photographers captured a paintballer in action (bottom right) at Challenge Park Xtreme.

Back in Chicago, mass groups of bikers met downtown to ride through the streets (center) for Critical Mass, and the city's own professional women's football team, The Force, (upper left) gave a traditional sport an untraditional twist.

These "weekend warriors" exhibit the sort of competitive spirit and passion that professional athletes are glorified for.



Allison Williams



Dan Ciskey/The Chronicle



Dan Ciskey/The Chronicle



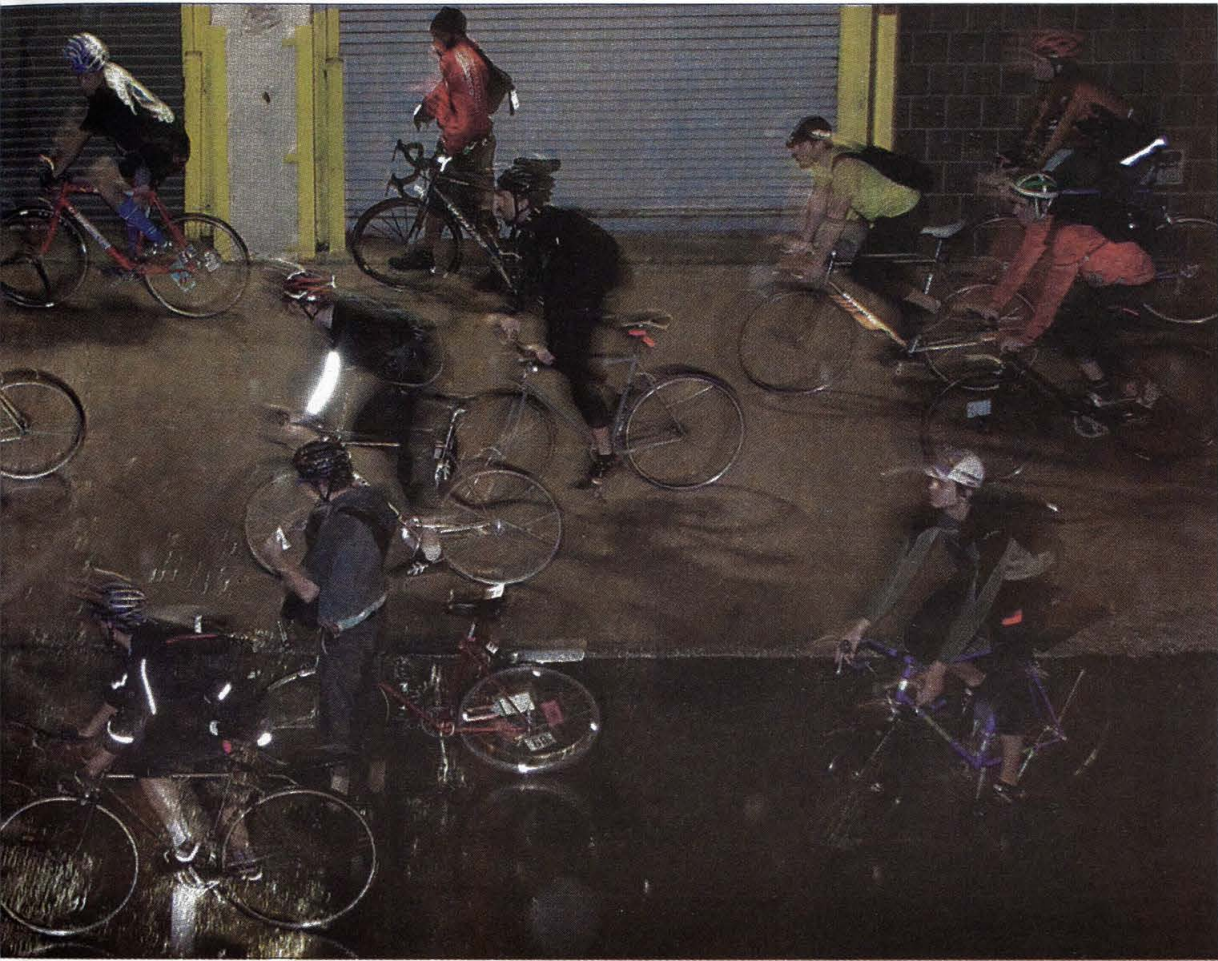


Chronicle

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Dan Ciskey/The Chronicle



Mike Sendra/The Chronicle

Joe Meno's 'Boy Detective' debuts on stage

'Hairstyles of the Damned' author's latest book also being converted into play

By Sam Libretti/Associate Editor

Joe Meno considers himself lucky. He is only in his early 30s and has had nine plays produced and five books published. His book *Hairstyles of the Damned* received widely positive reviews and has sold about 70,000 copies.

But the Columbia fiction writing instructor also realizes that there are some things in life that don't go as planned, and they often don't come with simple explanations. This is the central theme to his upcoming book. *The Boy Detective Fails*, which is simultaneously being converted into a play. While the book won't be released until September, the play opens May 13 at the Viaduct Theatre, 3111 N. Western Ave.

Meno said that young detective novels like *The Hardy Boys* and *Encyclopedia Brown* served as a sort of inspiration for *The Boy Detective Fails*.

"In those books, there was always an answer at the end—they always found out who did what and why," he said. "But as I got older, I realized that things don't always happen that way. So here I'm trying to show what happens when there's not a simple answer for everything."

The play is being produced by the theater company House Theatre of Chicago. It begins as a sort of epilogue about what happened to a trio of youngsters who solved important mysteries and helped to jail a number of criminals.

At the play's start, the main character, Billy Argo, has grown into a young adult and is trying to tie up the loose ends from the trio's final (and unsolved) mystery: the kidnapping and death of a young girl.

What complicates Billy's situation is the fact that his sister had committed suicide shortly after police declared the case unsolvable; he and his best friend were not on speaking terms, and he was living in a home for the "mentally unstable" after trying to follow in his sister's footsteps and take his own life. Not to mention there is a demented old professor from Billy's past also living in the home who periodically hatches unsuccessful schemes to kill the "boy detective."

Shawn Pfautsch, a founding member of House Theatre of Chicago, plays the role of Billy. He said that as soon as he read Meno's script, he was drawn to it.

"It doesn't happen very often that you read something and immediately know you need to be a part of it," Pfautsch said. "But looking at this thing once, I knew it was something that I absolutely had to do."

Meno said that he is a longtime fan of House Theatre of Chicago, which recently celebrated its fifth birthday. The author was drawn to the company's penchant for productions that deal in comic book-style situations,

which he said worked well for "The Boy Detective Fails."

Nathan Allen, the play's director and another founding member of the House, said that the company was excited for the chance to produce Meno's work for a variety of reasons, including the fact that "The Boy Detective Fails" will be the first House production from an outside writer.

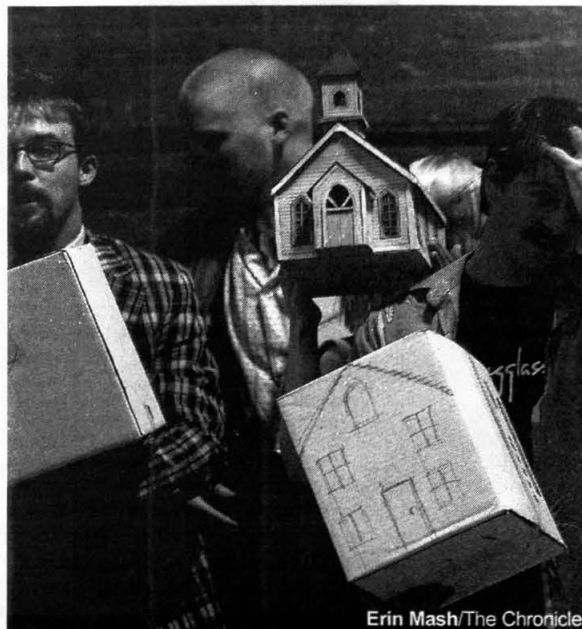
"We were all fans of Joe's work," Allen said. "When we saw what he was working on, we knew it would translate well to what we typically do in a show. Having a script like Joe's combined with what we do has been great."

Typical House plays often use methods that allow for some audience participation. Allen said that in the past the company has staged partially 3-D plays and passed out 3-D glasses to the audience.

To coincide with the "detective" theme of the play, Meno said that the audience will receive decoder rings to use during the play. When the book is released, readers will also be able to use a decoder on the book's flaps.

Meno said that while the play shows that there isn't a tidy answer for all of life's mysteries, it also shows that while trying to find those answers, it is possible to find something positive.

"What makes me happiest is when there is a total sense of



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Stephen Taylor (left), Jake Minton and Mike Smith prepare to rehearse a scene in 'Boy Detective Fails,' a play written by author and Columbia instructor Joe Meno. The play opens May 13 at the Viaduct Theatre, 3111 N. Western Ave.

chaos and mystery," he said. "But along with that, you can find something that you maybe weren't looking for, like love."

'The Boy Detective Fails' by Joe Meno opens at the Viaduct Theatre, 3111 N. Western Ave., on May 13 and runs through July 1.

Shows are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets with a student ID are \$10 each. For more information call the House Theatre of Chicago at (773) 251-2195.

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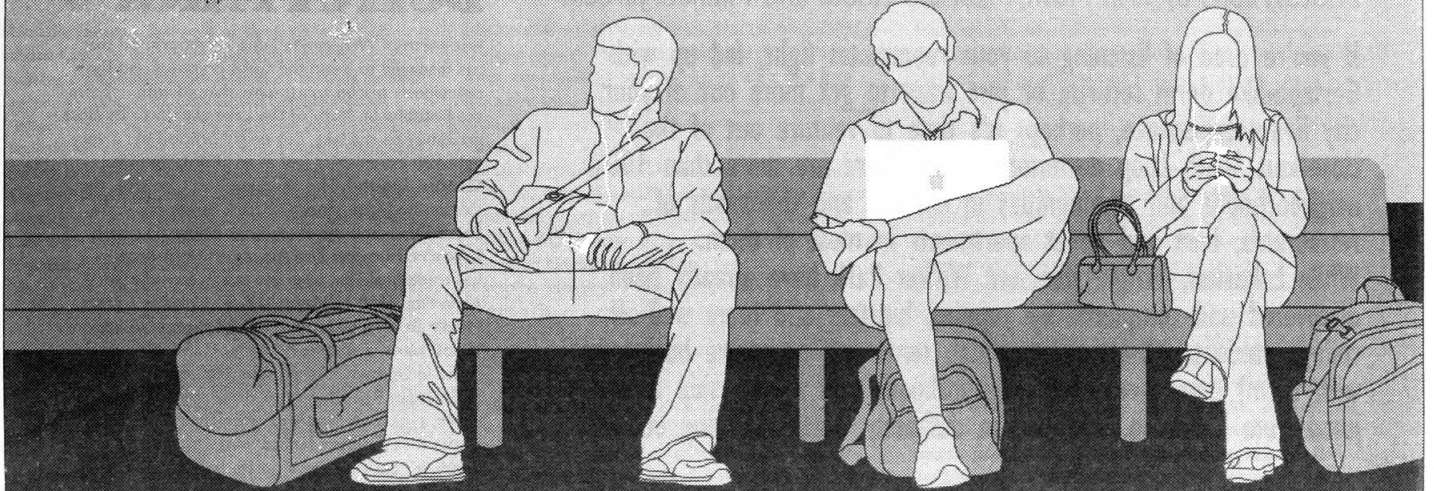
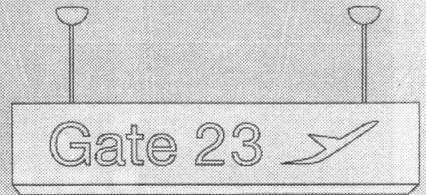
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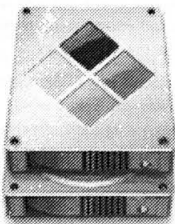
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Story by Jennifer Sabella

Photographs by Erin Mash, Mauricio Rubio and Michael Jarecki

If you're tired of listening to your roommates fight, fed up with Gestapo-like dorm security or just want to get more out of your city living experience, perhaps it's time to venture out of the close-knit South Loop dormitory scene. There are more than 100 neighborhoods and communities in Chicago and thousands of restaurants, bars and sweet apartments in most of them. While Lakeview, Wrigleyville and Wicker Park have already been discovered and conquered by yuppies, hipsters and more well-off college students, (bringing über-high rents and expensive businesses with them) there are other neighborhoods just a hop, skip and a jump from Columbia. And they're definitely worth checking out.

UPTOWN/ BUENA PARK

Just north of Wrigleyville lies a neighborhood that has managed to avoid the Cubs craziness and the ridiculously priced apartments that go with it. From the beautiful St. Mary of the Lake church to its close proximity to the lake, this neighborhood has a very tight-knit community feel at an affordable price.

Gettin' around: The Sheridan Red Line stop, the Wilson Red Line stop, #22 Clark Street bus, Lake Shore Drive and the lovely Lake Shore bike path.

If you're hungry: Thai Aroma, 4144 N. Broadway, has traditional Thai favorites at a pretty low price. Alma Pita, 4600 N. Magnolia Ave., Unit F, is a great Middle Eastern place with lots of vegetarian options.

If you need a drink: When food and drink intertwine in Uptown, it is glorious. Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Road, has great drink specials, karaoke nights, a jukebox filled with everything from Sinatra to the Kills, fantastic buffalo wings, pizza and a photo booth. It's basically the ultimate bar. The Bar on Buena, 910 W. Buena Ave., has a variety of food and a large beer list as well, with food and drink specials most days of the week.

What the hood-rats say: Steve Groom, a Columbia grad and Buena Park local, said that he didn't have the money to stay in the pricey South Loop dorms but is satisfied with his neighborhood of choice. "Everyone says Wicker Park's where it's at, but I feel like we've got more trees than most neighborhoods, and strangely enough that makes me feel way better than if I were living downtown or something," Groom said. "It makes all the difference."

Finding an apartment: You can use an agency like Apartment People or Chicago Apartment Finders, or just scour the Chicago Reader, Craigslist.org and other apartment listings. Prices can be high in Uptown, but there are some cheap places as well. A two-bedroom will run you anywhere from \$800 to \$1,400 per month, but there are lots of big places too. If you don't mind roommates, three and four bedrooms might be the way to go.

PILSEN

This Near South West Side gem has been the topic of many-a-news story and the center of much talk of gentrification in the past few years, but it remains a mostly-Hispanic, family-centered neighborhood with a pretty amazing art scene.

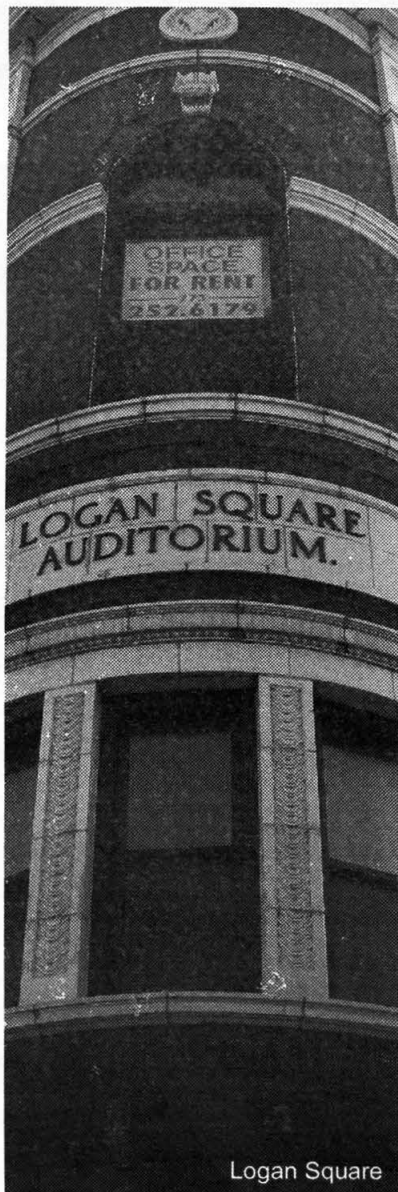
Gettin' around: The UIC/Halsted stop on the Blue Line, #8 Halsted Bus, 18th Street Blue Line stop, and it's actually a short bike ride to Columbia if you're inclined.

If you're hungry: Nuevo Leon, 1515 W. 18th St., has not-so-run-of-the-mill Mexican food and is also BYOB. Can't beat that.

If you need a drink: Skylark, 2149 S. Halsted St., has a fantastic beer list, a cool photo booth and really good food. There is plenty of room to sit and chat with friends and even if you don't live in Pilsen, this bar is worth the trip.

What the hood-rats say: Gaby Valdez or Miss Gab, a 22-year-old DePaul University student and local DJ, moved to Pilsen last year and has no desire to go elsewhere. "I like Pilsen because it's a real neighborhood," Valdez said. "There are little businesses and people sit on their front steps. Many people don't think about it but there's actually a pretty cool mix of people. My next-door neighbors are an artist and a little, old Mexican couple. It's not hipster central."

Finding an apartment: You can get a great place in Pilsen for a really good price. Rents vary, as always. But two- and three-bedroom apartments are currently listed for anywhere from \$550 to \$1,200 per month. Valdez recommended walking around the neighborhood and checking for "for rent" signs, which is also a good way to get to know the area.



Logan Square

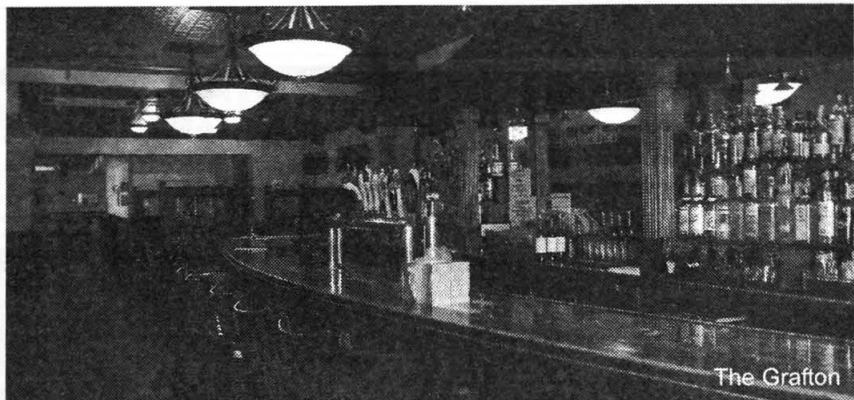


Lincoln Square





Alliance Bakery



The Grafton

LINCOLN SQUARE

Lincoln Square, a bit west of Uptown, is one of those Chicago neighborhoods that has that cozy, homey, childhood-memories feel to it—and families agree. It's difficult to walk down Lincoln Avenue without being run over by a stroller, but if you're looking for a quaint neighborhood with a mellow feel to it, Lincoln Square is the place to be.

Gettin' around: The Western Brown Line, Lincoln Avenue bus and Ravenswood Avenue Metra stop at Lawrence Avenue.

If you're hungry: Bistro Campagne, 4518 N. Lincoln Ave., is a local favorite. University of Illinois at Chicago grad and Lincoln Square resident Kevin Kitchen raved about the French bistro. "[It] really knocks out most people who try it for the first time," Kitchen said via e-mail. "They specialize in organic foods, have a great wine list and in the summer they have a great little patio for alfresco dining. It's the bee's knees, baby."

If you need a drink: Bars are not hard to come by in Lincoln Square. The Horseshoe, 4115 N. Lincoln Ave., is a country-western-themed bar with Quarter Beer Night on Tuesdays. That's right. One quarter for a beer: If you're looking for a long list of whiskey, scotch and brews, The Grafton Pub & Grill, 4530 N. Lincoln Ave., is where it's at. The Irish-owned and operated pub is a favorite of Old Town School of Music regulars, and you can find live bands playing Irish tunes on Wednesdays and Sundays.

What the hood-rats say: "Granted, those new dorms in the South Loop look pretty flashy," Kitchen said via e-mail. "But come on! They're still dorms. You still live in a closet with a complete stranger or two (or three?). Hippies will enjoy the numerous outdoor spots friendly to hacky-sack and Frisbee, while the indie/emo type can find many lovely places to be sullen. Goth kids are not welcome in Lincoln Square currently, but we residents are working hard to change this."

Finding an apartment: Two-bedroom apartments in Lincoln Square can be cheap. Kitchen has a two-bedroom garden unit for \$575 per month, but generally two-bedroom places range anywhere from \$700 to \$1,400 per month. Listings are loaded with Lincoln Square places, so finding available apartments shouldn't be a problem.

UKRAINIAN VILLAGE

Just southwest of Wicker Park, the Ukrainian Village is close enough to all the action but far enough from it for affordability's sake. While it's a bit of a hike from the train, there are plenty of other ways to get around, and everything you need is within walking distance.

Gettin' around: The Damen and Division Blue Line stops are a bit of a walk, but doable. There are also buses you can catch off these lines. The Damen, Division and Chicago buses are key for living in the area. Bike lanes are plentiful as well.

If you're hungry: The Alliance Bakery, 1736 W. Division St., is a great place to sit, drink coffee, read a book and munch on their wide array of tasty baked goods. Bob San, 1805 W. Division St., is sushi-heaven. It gives you warm towels and has a full bar of tasty Japanese beers. And sake, of course.

If you need a drink: Innertown Pub, 1935 W. Thomas St., is a classic neighborhood bar set off from the busy streets. When you're in search of a place with character where you can have a conversation, \$2.50 pints and free pool, this is your place.

What the hood-rats say: A college grad from England, who prefers to remain anonymous for the sake of legality, came to Chicago this year and found herself living in the Ukrainian Village due to its cheap rent. "I love all the little Czech, Ukrainian and Polish bars that litter these streets and all the depressive alcoholic [people] that spend their days in them," she said. "I hate the trendy Wicker Parkians that strut around in places like Rainbo [Club, a bar on Damen Avenue,] like they rule this city."

Finding an apartment: Apartments can get steep the closer you get to Wicker Park, but stay a bit south and you're golden. Places range anywhere from \$750 to \$1,800 for two bedrooms

LOGAN SQUARE

Many people who loved Wicker Park but didn't love the high costs and a slew of young professionals taking over the neighborhood headed north to Logan Square. Logan Square, like Pilsen, is another center of the gentrification debate, but since it's such a diverse and interesting neighborhood, it's understandable why lots of people are discovering it.

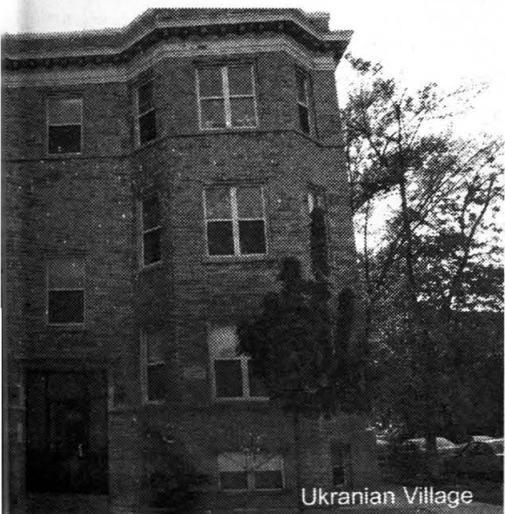
Gettin' around: The California, Western and Logan Square Blue Line stops are right in the Logan Square neighborhood. The Milwaukee bus and the 24-hour Western Avenue bus are also pretty handy.

If you're hungry: Lula Cafe, 2537 N. Kedzie Ave., is a hot spot in Logan Square. Lula has lots of organic and vegetarian options, as well as a widely praised weekend brunch menu.

If you need a drink: Logan Square is dive-bar central. The Whirlaway Lounge, 3224 W. Fullerton Ave., is a small, cheap bar that many have grown to love in recent years. This is probably due to the fact that the bar's owner/bartender, Maria, remembers nearly every patron's name and drink—even if you've only been in there once or twice. The Mutiny, 2428 N. Western Ave., is another cheap place, where you can find live music, a pool table and a rather interesting jukebox (example: Metallica, Thin Lizzy and Will Smith).

What the hood-rats say: Eliza Hajek, a Columbia film graduate, said in an e-mail that she wished she had discovered the Square sooner. "The dorms are so loud and expensive and, for sure, not as lenient as some would like. I don't regret living there for my first year, because I think it's easier to meet people that way. But there are so many students (mostly film) living in Logan Square anyway. I totally miss Logan Square. I live in the Hollywood Hills now, and it's pretty lame."

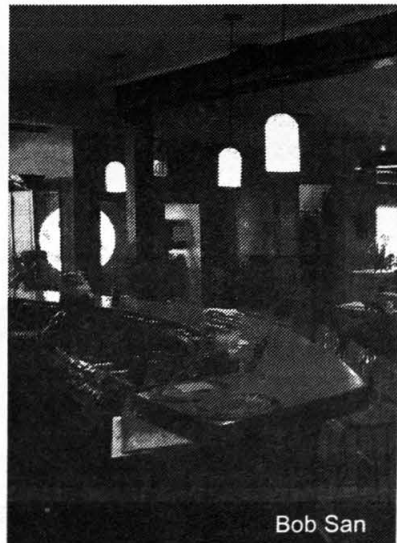
Finding an apartment: Apartments in Logan Square are generally pretty, vintage places with low prices. Two-bedroom apartments will run you anywhere from \$800 to \$1,300, but there are deals all over the place; just keep your eyes open.



Ukrainian Village



Bistro Campagne



Bob San

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No joke for 'Mission: Impossible III' director

J.J. Abrams discusses his influences, working with crazy old Tom Cruise

By Philip Wuntch/KRT

Shortly after producer and star Tom Cruise approached J.J. Abrams to direct *Mission: Impossible III*, Abrams had visions of Ashton Kutcher.

"I was in apoplectic shock when Tom first talked to me," Abrams said in a recent telephone conversation. "I kept expecting Ashton to suddenly appear out of nowhere and say, 'You've been Punk'd.' Why would Tom trust me with a movie like this?"

It's not as outrageous as the director seems to think. Although *Mission: Impossible III* is Abrams' first film, he has also worked on "Lost," "Alias" and "Felicity."

"It becomes a full circle, actually," Abrams said. "I loved all the 'Mission: Impossible' television shows—just crazy about them. 'Alias' showed the influence of my love for the TV series, and it was 'Alias' that influenced Tom. He asked me to do the movie before 'Lost' premiered."

Despite his television renown, Abrams is not influenced by big names in Hollywood. For example, he had not seen any footage of *Capote* when he cast Philip Seymour Hoffman as *Mission:*

Impossible III's supremely nasty villain.

"I'm glad I hadn't seen any of *Capote*," he said. "It was such a flawless performance, I would have been too intimidated to expect him to take my direction."

And Abrams really comes across as genuine. He sounds like a team player, and he sought to return onscreen teamwork to the *Mission: Impossible* franchise.

"I loved the way the series itself embraced teamwork," he said. "That had a huge impact on the series, seeing this group of incredibly sophisticated spies working together. I don't mean to talk against the first two movies, but the first *M: I* killed off the team early. And the second *M: I* really had no team at all."

Abrams wanted the new *Mission: Impossible* to have humor and humanity, which he has added by making Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt, into an individual person.

"I wanted a personal story, but I didn't want the movie to take itself too seriously," Abrams said. Three of his favorite movies are *North by Northwest*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *The Philadelphia Story*. "Part of the fun of *North by Northwest* is that

it tells you that it's OK if you don't always understand what's going on. Just have fun watching it. *Raiders* has that quality, too."

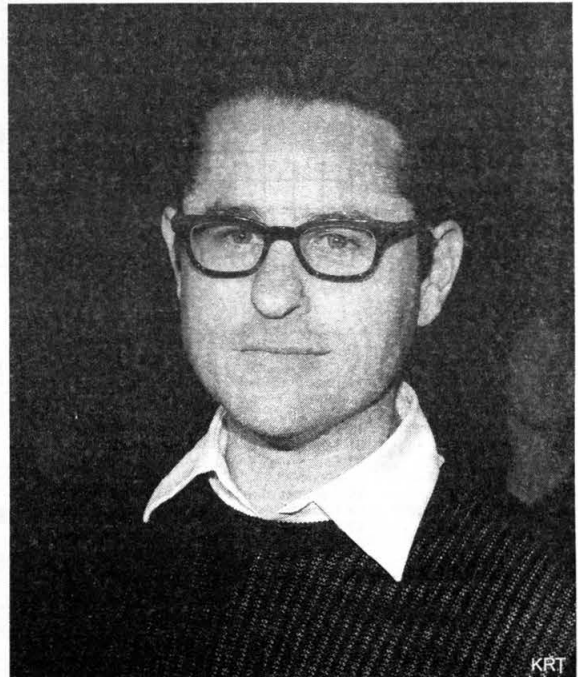
He said *The Philadelphia Story* flows beautifully because it's based on a play from the 1940s era, but it never looks stage-bound.

Cruise did his own stunts to create more realistic action sequences for *Mission: Impossible III*.

"At times I thought I was incredibly stupid to let Tom do his own stunts," Abrams said. "But he committed himself completely, both physically and emotionally, to the film."

The film's many locales include Shanghai, Berlin and Rome. In Rome, the cast and crew shot outside the Vatican but were not allowed inside. A palace near Naples doubled for the Vatican's interior.

Some critics have pegged *Mission: Impossible III* as superior to the first two entries, with Abrams emerging as a hot property. He said he would possibly produce two new films and maybe direct one of them, but he wouldn't name them.



'Mission: Impossible III' director J.J. Abrams (above) said that he wanted to add a personal element to Tom Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt. The film opened May 5.



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FRIDAY MAY 5 - 7 pm

The Gore Gore Girls (1972)

Directed by Herschell Gordon Lewis
Hokin Hall-1st floor 623 South Wabash



MONDAY MAY 8 - 7 pm

Freaks (1932)

Directed by Tod Browning
Collins Hall-#602 624 South Michigan



TUESDAY MAY 9 - 7 pm

Beyond the Valley of the Dolls (1970)

Directed by Russ Meyer
Hokin Hall-1st floor 623 South Wabash



WEDNESDAY MAY 10 - 7 pm

The Killer (1989)

Directed by John Woo
Collins Hall-#602 624 South Michigan



THURSDAY MAY 11 - 7 pm

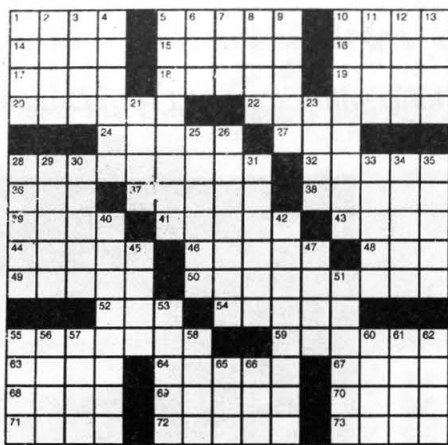
Dead Alive (1991)

Directed by Peter Jackson
Collins Hall-# 602 624 South Michigan



Crossword

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 1 Qualified
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 15 Eaglet's abode
 16 Gin flavored
 17 Host before
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 18 Genetic copy
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 20 Author of the
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 37 Fry lightly
 38 Show surprise
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5/8/06

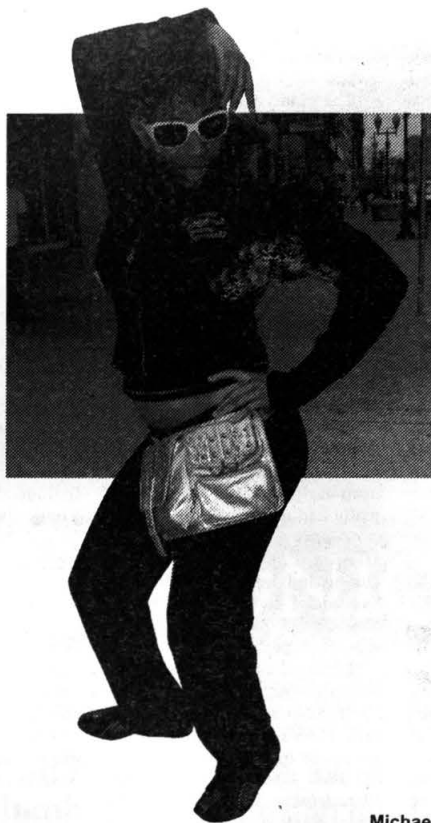
Solutions

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 51 Shoot-'em-ups
 53 Sharp remarks
 55 Boom's
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 56 Not in port
 57 Side
 58 Jodie Foster
 film
 60 Bayh or Hunter
 61 Latvian capital
 62 Belt
 65 Shoe's tip
 66 High card

to the nines

fashion@columbia

Airielle Owens, a freshman television production major, said she likes to be comfortable in what she wears, but she likes to look good as well. "Comfort is the main ingredient for my fashion, and I like to show a little skin," Owens said. She sports a Roca Wear jogging suit that she said she got at an independent clothing store on the South Side, and carries her things around in a stylish knapsack. Owens said she likes to shop at Essex 5, a boutique in the Plaza Shopping Center at 97th Street and Western Avenue, and stores in the Water Tower Mall.



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle













Out of My Head

by Scotty Carlson



horoscopes

By Alicia Dorr

-  **Aries** (March 21 – April 20): You will graduate from college and become wildly successful as the host of a new game show, "The Most Dangerous Game." That means people will be hunting people under your watch; way to go!
-  **Taurus** (April 21 – May 21): You will watch one too many daytime TV shows and actually become your greatest fear: That person who sits on the couch and watches daytime TV shows. Better luck next time.
-  **Gemini** (May 22 – June 21): I will tell you what I see in the cards for you; in the cards I see for you what only I can see in the cards, and I can see that you are in the cards. Oh no, I've gone cross-eyed.
-  **Cancer** (June 22 – July 23): Little did you know, you're destined to be President of the United States when you're older. Yeah, Bush really lowered the bar.
-  **Leo** (July 24 – Aug. 23): You will plummet 30 stories after you accidentally fall out the window of your friend's high-rise apartment, but you will end up without a scratch. Remarkable, really, but the neighborhood still has to burn you at the stake for it, pagan.
-  **Virgo** (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23): You are destined to work in department stores for the greater part of your future, and you know what really sucks about that? The perfume smell from the beauty counters renders you unable to feel any longer.
-  **Libra** (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23): Your foot itches. Wow—I'm good! How the hell did I know that?
-  **Scorpio** (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22): You will change your name to Stinky Whizzleteets and become a carnie. Ironically, you will be the happiest person in the world because of it.
-  **Sagittarius** (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21): This week, you'll be walking down the street at night in the South Loop when a strange man will unexpectedly pop out of a gutter and eat your soul.
-  **Capricorn** (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20): Go hog wild!
-  **Aquarius** (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19): The Kool-Aid man is going to bust through your wall and say, "Oh, yeeeeeah" this week, and you'll be telling and re-telling the story for the rest of your life.
-  **Pisces** (Feb. 20 – Mar. 20): You're a nice kid. Too bad I neglected you and treated you poorly, even though that's all your therapist ever said you could hope for. Sorry about that.

Reviews

♥ ♥
The Horrorpops
Bring it On!



This band brings back memories of my red lipstick, leopard-print shirt and cuffed Levi's rockabilly days. Their new album is annoying (especially the title track) but some of it makes me want to call up my old friends, get drunk and listen to *Hell Yeah!*, the band's first album. — *J. Sabella*

♥ ♥
The Old Haunts
Fuel on Fire



The Old Haunts are a less talented version of the White Stripes and are childish guitar solo gods. *Fuel on Fire* has its own version of creepy modern rock 'n' roll, but variety is nilch on this album. If you've heard one song, you've heard them all. Only recommended if you're bored and it's free. — *T. Breyne*

♥ ♥ ♥
Left Alone
Lonely Starts and Broken Hearts



Despite every indication that this album should suck—the lame picture on the front, the color scheme, the album and song titles—it doesn't. It really works that stripped-down, coked-up sound and actually passes for legitimate '80s punk rock, which is respectable. Unfortunately, they're 20 years too late. — *M. Byrne*

♥ ♥ ♥
Garlic and Sapphires
Ruth Reichl



This story chronicles food critic Ruth Reichl's difficult life as a "celebrity." Reichl writes that as a critic restaurant owners and chefs often rejected her due to their fear of a scathing review, leading her to wear disguises just to get a damn meal. The book is fairly entertaining and recommended for half-asleep easy summertime reading. — *T. Breyne*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Judas Goat Quarterly
Spring 2006



The newest zine from local, self-proclaimed alarmist Grant Schreiber has gone down from standard to digest size, but it hasn't lost any of its brilliance. The best piece in this episode is about all of the ways the world could end, but it's also worth tracking down for the newest campfire song sensation, "If you're resigned to your existence, clap your hands!" — *A. Dorr*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Juxtapoz
May issue



This art culture magazine loves to do stories about artists who are testing the boundaries, and this issue is no different. The feature is on Nathan Cabrera, who has created an army of life-size "toys," like a girl scout on a low-ride bike holding a shotgun. Read the issue to find out what else he's been working on. — *M. Byrne*

♥ ♥
Mission: Impossible III
Directed by J.J. Abrams



If you dislike Tom Cruise, don't see this movie. It's completely about him. Cruise's character, Ethan Hunt, is engaged to a Katie Holmes look-alike, and it seems like all he talks about is getting married to her. Scientology is also played around with in the sense that Philip Seymour Hoffman looks vaguely like L. Ron Hubbard. — *H. Clauss*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Friends with Money
Directed by Nicole Holofcener



This melancholy movie about, well, friends with money (and a friend without it), was one of those I never expected to like "so much." But the cast was superb, and the film captured the struggle that the human experience sometimes is quite well, reinforcing the adage that money can't buy happiness. — *J. Fischer*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
United 93
Directed by Paul Greengrass



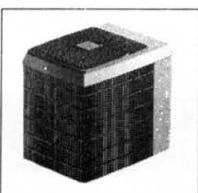
Never before have I been in a theater where 400 people are left speechless for minutes after the end of a movie. For an in-your-face account of the chaos on 9/11, *United 93* is a must-see. And if your heart rate is any less than 150 beats per minute by the end of the film, call a doctor because something is seriously wrong with you. — *J. Cagle*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Alicia Dorr



She's funny, cute and matches with any outfit. She also makes work 95 percent more amusing and can drink with the best of 'em. The downside is, she has a very busy schedule, and I cannot put her in my pocket and carry her around with me for constant amusement. Damn you, Alicia Dorr! Damn you! — *J. Sabella*

♥
Air conditioning in May



The sunshine is beaming down in the warm, toasty way that reminds us summer is near. Why, then, do I feel like I'm stepping into a freezing-cold meat locker whenever I enter the Journalism Department? Come on, people! Air conditioning ought to be reserved for summer's most sweltering days. — *J. Fischer*

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Half-off martinis at the Kit Kat Lounge



Tuesdays and Sundays mean half-off martinis at the Kit Kat Lounge, 3700 N. Halsted St. It offers a wide selection, and none of them disappoint. Some favorites include the Blue Hawaii, chocolate chip cookie and watermelon martini. But beware. A drag queen will interrupt all conversations to the typical lip-synched lounge routine. It's better to sit outside. — *H. Clauss*

Premium Blend

Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

While many bands don't like to think that they're poppy, catchy or anything close to mainstream and TRL-worthy, Made in Hollywood strives for just that. Formed in July 2005, the band—Brian Lee on lead vocals and guitars, Ryan McLain on guitar, RJ DeYoung on bass and Tim McLaughlan on drums—plays catchy and neatly produced songs with a touch of electronic funk. Lee and DeYoung both played in bands for awhile before they joined up with McLaughlan and eventually McLain when he moved to Chicago about a year ago. The boys have played their fair share of quality shows already; their first was opening for Mest at The Vic Theater, they were the first band to play during ABC's Thanksgiving Parade and they have also opened for local band Lucky Boys Confusion. They are currently working on an EP to help acquire a label and hope to start touring this summer. McLain took some time to talk to The Chronicle.

The Chronicle: You guys have all played in bands before. Were you all looking to play the same type of music when you came together?

McLain: I think so. There were kind of a few styles going on when we first started. We have some reggae songs that we do [and] some kind of punkish style songs. We're all on the same page as far as the music that we're playing. I don't know how to label it, [but] what it's come to be is pop, funk and electronic.

Most bands don't like to define themselves as pop; you guys don't mind describing yourselves that way.

No, not at all. We are all about the pop. We want to write

hit songs, [and] that's what we're doing.

You haven't been around for even a year but you've managed to play some notable shows. How did you manage that?

It's because we all have such extensive musical pasts. I guess we all have great connections. Tim was in a band that was signed to New Line Cinema Records, RJ was on Lookout! Records with his old band, Brian was in a band that was doing really well a couple years ago with the lead singer from Showoff, and then I was in a band and we opened for Good Charlotte and went on tour with Something Corporate and Everclear. We've all done a lot of stuff. It's been really easy, and it's weird.

Lead singer Lee is also a violin player, so will you guys incorporate any of that in your songs on the EP?

Actually, we just started to. We just recorded a three-song demo with producer Mark McClusky (Hit the Lights) a couple months ago, and on one of [the songs] he pulled out the violin. The kid's amazing at the violin; I don't know how he does it. And piano and whatever he picks up. He's one of those Asian musical prodigies.

Made in Hollywood



Courtesy Made in Hollywood

What should listeners expect from the EP?

I think what we're going for is definitely the pop. We're trying to make the songs as radio-friendly as possible, I guess. They're trying to write hooks, so we're trying to incorporate funk, which I don't know too many bands that are doing that right now, which is what we're [doing to try] to make ourselves special. [RJ's father Ray has] played bass with Sly and the Family Stone [when RJ was growing up], so RJ loves the funk—he's got it running through his veins.

Made in Hollywood's next Chicago show is May 27 at Congress Theater, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. For more information visit www.myspace.com/madeinhollywood.com.

— *T. Breyne*

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Manifestations

A showcase of student organization work

Thursday, May 11, 2006

7:00pm *pre party for manifest!*

presented by
The office of Student Leadership and



- performances
- Artwork
- presentations
- Food and Drink
- 18+

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Where do we go from here?

This weekend, Manifest will mark the conclusion of another spring semester at Columbia, and many of us will be looking forward to a summer break away from classes. And while the next school year seems a long time away, Columbia's administration should begin taking steps to truly streamline how this great college functions. Certainly, issues such as tuition and enrollment have been discussed, but now is the time to begin actually tackling them.

With more than 10,000 students enrolled this year and even more expected in the future, Columbia's facilities are already being tested. Columbia's mission and legacy has been catered to "creative students" who might not have performed as well academically in high school, and that admirable goal of keeping the doors open as wide as possible has helped the school attract a significant number of applicants.

But, as board of trustees chairman Allen Turner said at the April 7 College Council meeting, "How big should we be?" Plans for an enrollment cap somewhere in the near future should be given serious consideration. The mentality of the sky being the limit was fine when the school was founded. But Columbia's open enrollment policy will directly test how beneficial it is to the college's ultimate goal of becoming "the best student-centered media arts college in the world."

Columbia's administration needs to begin establishing higher standards in which it accepts its applicants. If respective departments at the college are to be seen as the best in their fields, then Columbia will have to ensure that it is educating the students who are the most motivated.

College education is expensive in America. While Columbia boasts that its tuition is lower in comparison with other media arts schools, how those tuition dollars are spent reflects on the school as a whole. More of the money that each student has invested could be put toward services and resources that actually benefit them.

The administration knows this, but it cannot afford to postpone balancing the cost of attending Columbia with the size and academic quality of the students it accepts.

Tuition will go up next year by 4.75 percent, a figure that translates to an extra \$740. And if the college is going to continue to be driven by its tuition, how that money is spent now will largely dictate the donations it hopes to receive from its alumni—currently, our strongest hope for a capital campaign.

The Chronicle's April 24 investigation into the various centers on campus revealed limited student awareness of them. Such centers are more possible financially at larger institutions with solid endowments that can sustain them. But if organizations such as

the Story Workshop Institute and the Center for Teaching Excellence are not serving current students, there's little reason to believe they serve the college's future either.

While Columbia's location in Chicago's South Loop is second to none, more must be done to create the sense of community within the college that cultivates these future donors. For example, many have high hopes for a \$90 million student center.

But that's really only one part of the changing student body. If Columbia hopes that the demographics of its student body continue to reflect the diverse ethnic makeup of the city in which it's located, then a plan will have to be implemented that reverses the college's trend of decreasing minority enrollment. And perhaps one of the best ways the school can make this possible is not only trying to avoid another tuition increase. Columbia has offered more scholarships, and it should continue looking for ways to create more.

These are very complicated issues for the school to handle, but they are also very real. And as Columbia continues to grow and establish a reputation as a college that offers an education second to none, the administration needs to make the decisions regarding which policies are truly in the school's and students' best interests for the future. That's a lot of work, to be sure, but it's going to be a long summer.

Exposing the 'truthiness'

The White House Correspondents Association holds an annual black-tie dinner where the current administration and those who report on it set aside their differences for an evening to enjoy a few cheap laughs.

But the April 29 event's organizers should have known that by inviting Stephen Colbert, host of Comedy Central's "The Colbert Report," to be the night's featured speaker, the comedian who consistently does his job would find a way to mercilessly call out many of the more than 2,700 in attendance who have failed to do theirs.

Standing just feet away from President Bush, Colbert praised "his hero" and expressed disgust at being "surrounded by the liberal media that is destroying America." He said scandalous stories—such as the National Security Agency's wiretapping—were kept secret for being "super-depressing," and went on to recall when

the press corps was "so good" because of limited reporting—such as on weapons of mass destruction intelligence.

"We Americans didn't want to know, and you had the courtesy not to try to find out," Colbert said. "Those were good times—as far as we knew."

Colbert's routine wasn't as well-received as the act he was following—a segment in which Bush and impersonator Steve Bridges exchanged quips, poking fun at the president's butchering of the English language.

Colbert effectively did what any great satirist aims for: He made his targets squirm. Because those targets made up the audience he was performing in front of, his act could not have been more effective. Besides, even the leading member of the Supreme Court's conservative wing, Justice Antonin Scalia, was laughing.

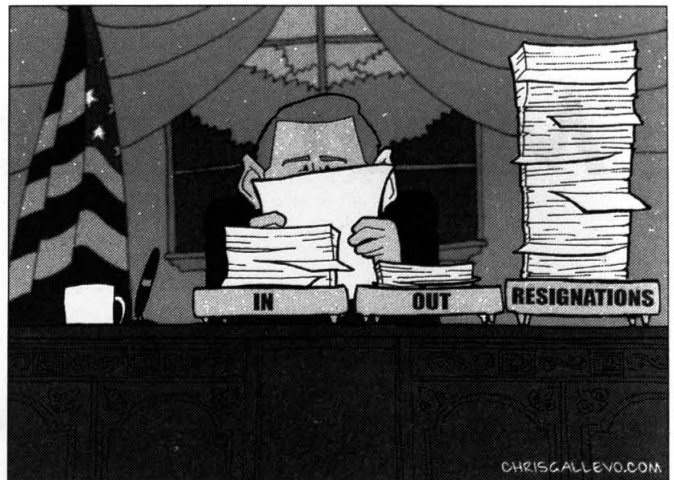
Mainstream media coverage largely ignored Colbert's performance in favor of highlighting Bush's act. That rein-

forced the idea that the dinner is what Jon Stewart of "The Daily Show"—where Colbert was a correspondent for five years—described as "where the President and the press corps consummate their loveless marriage." But it also represented the notion Colbert portrayed as the media's duty simply being to write down policies and report them without asking further questions.

The American Dialect Society selected "truthiness," a term Colbert coined on the premiere episode of the "Report," as its 2005 Word of the Year. He told CBS' "60 Minutes" that he defines the word as "what you want the facts to be as opposed to what they are."

Colbert's sharp routine should cut deep enough to leave a lasting impression, one in which future truthiness given to or reported by the press corps is sliced in half, hopefully resulting in a commitment to always getting the former half of the 10-letter word.

BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS

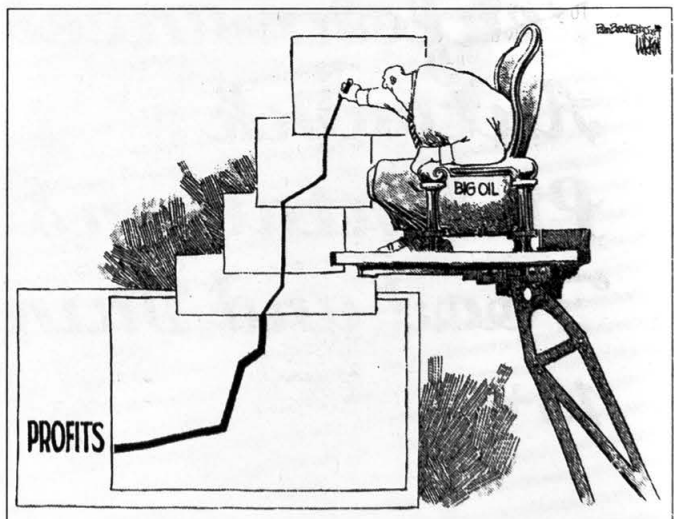


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Chris Gallevo/The Chronicle



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

Why not write a Letter to the Editor? At the bottom of Page 15 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

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Misbehaving in the dorms (and other stories)

By Alicia Dorf
Managing Editor

Freshman year, when I lived in the 18 E. Congress Parkway dorms, I tricked the resident advisers into thinking we didn't have alcohol when we really had a six-pack of Busch cans, several bottles of top shelf liquor and some cheap port. When they knocked on the door, we thought we were doomed.

But as one friend opened the door and the other two stared, comatose and frightened, I was touched by an angel of mercy. I threw a pot over the cans strewn at Jeff's feet, placed the port in the sink and tucked the last bottle in a drawer behind me as three RAs walked into the kitchen. Mandy curbed her Tippy McStagger walk as they pounced on their last hope, what appeared to be a beer bottle on Pat's desk. He grinned smugly and sneered, "Root beer."

I felt this tell-all was a necessary step in my saying goodbye to Columbia less because I felt bad about it and more because I realized the statute of limitations for my crime has to be expired. Besides that, though, it is one of those memories that made my Columbia experience what

it was—a gag that fit nicely into a kooky training montage.

Columbia was at a tipping point when I started here, so it packed a few youths into the dorm designated for upperclassmen, and what did we do to thank them? Taped my roommate Hala to the middle of the 10-foot wall. Needless to say, I quickly found a way out. The few times I have been back to the dorms it's been a different world.

But now, as I'm getting ready to say goodbye to Columbia, I can see that the school itself is a different world. I feel a little like a granny when I say things like, "When I started at this school we didn't have to worry about that newfangled Oasis! We waited in line for our advisers to punch in the numbers of our classes for us!" or, "When I was a freshman, hipsters really meant it when they cut their hair ironically!"

But it's true. In the last four years, Columbia has changed at a dizzying pace and, so have I, both in it and because of it.

My sophomore year, I almost couldn't afford to come back. I cried in the financial aid office to no avail, until one day I was

directed to the unassuming door at the other end of the hall. Inside what I just call "the scholarship office" was a magical place where they wiped my tears away with hard-earned scholarships.

I loathe thinking about what would have happened if I hadn't been able to come back. Take my favorite history teacher, Keith Green; I took every one of his classes, because who else finds a way to sneak a giant race of rats below the earth's surface into a lecture on the Black Plague while never once getting off topic? Or what about that guy in one of my lib-ed classes who sang his final project in a pinched-ball falsetto? You can't get that stuff at other schools.

Then there are the priceless memories from *The Chronicle*, where I learned to network and interview professionals and send Eric Davis out to find photos at 4 p.m. on production day. I will never have a boss as awesome as Chris Richert again because no one will be willing to meet my demand for a trolley to take the staff from the school to a restaurant on Wacker for food and drinks.

Finishing up my last semester of school and hoping for the last time that



I don't plummet to my death in the aging elevators, I am feeling sentimental. Columbia offered a wholly distinctive college experience. The largest class I ever had was 35 people. Chicago itself was my campus. The faculty was not only trained in their field, but they worked in it—they cut through the bullshit and gave me tools I can use in my field, the tools I am already using.

Sure, Columbia has changed and will continue to change. But if I come back in 10 years and the school has a student center, a quad and a sports team, I will still know that the school is different, and it set me on the path to become successful in my career.

And, on top of all this, nothing can take away the pride of the time I got the best of the RAs.

Roamin' Numerals

\$165,200

Annual salary of Sonny Bono's widow, Rep. Mary Bono (R-CA), who on May 3 told the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer protection that it would not be enough to pay for her 18-year-old son Chesare to attend college at the University of Southern California this fall. Bono also mentioned that she recently purchased new cars for herself and her son, both of which need satellite radio and Bluetooth capabilities. She voted for a congressional pay raise last year.

3,738

Number of mothers who gathered in Manila, Phillipines, on May 4 to break the world breastfeeding record.

\$134,121

Amount a full-time stay-at-home mother would earn a year if she were paid for all her work, according to a study released by the compensation experts Salary.com on May 3.

Choice Cuts

“The man had gone in the bathroom and sat down. He was banging on the wall when the employee came in.”

Salisbury, Md., Police Department Lt. Cheryl Rantz commenting on a 20-year-old man who was found by a Wal-Mart employee in the bathroom on April 30 after he sat down and was glued to the toilet seat. The man was treated and released.

'You're gonna be oh-OK-ay!'

By Derek Strum
Commentary Editor

Sometime before graduating high school, I remember filling out a questionnaire for quotes that could be used in our yearbook. One question asked to complete this phrase: "10 years from now I'll be..." I wrote the only thing I felt certain of: "Being asked what I'll be doing 10 years from then."

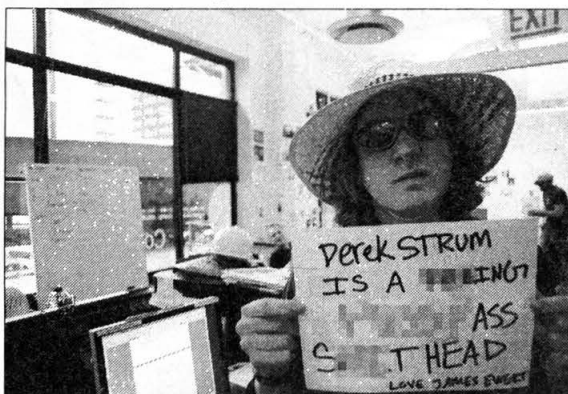
That was 1996. Go figure. Now that it appears I've finally reached this point where I'm actually going to graduate college, hopefully this commentary will be read by the undergraduate who is in that position of uncertainty about college that I was in all too often.

Since this is Columbia, I'm fairly confident this newspaper's readers are rather creative—and have: also seen *Reservoir Dogs*. If you can recall the scene in which Mr. White (Harvey Keitel) is driving from the scene of a robbery, and Mr. Orange (Tim Roth) is lying in the back seat believing that he's going to die from a gunshot wound to his belly, you'll have a pretty good idea of what I'm trying to tell you. I'd reach out of this paper, squeeze your hand and sing—just like Keitel—to you, "You're gonna be oh-OK-ay!"

"Say the goddamn whir-erds! You're gonna be oh-OK-ay!"

But then you'd probably tell me to let go of your hand—and that I

do an awful Keitel impression. The point is that you're not dying. I know it feels like it. Thinking about "taking some time off"? I did—twice. Want to transfer? Been there, done that. Should you change your major? I lost count of how many times that happened.



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

But in the end, I came back to journalism. My very first job was a weekly newspaper route. And after I threw all the newspapers away for a couple weeks in a row, I got fired. Of course, then I went and got another newspaper route—a semi-daily one. Every morning for nearly four years, I was up at dawn. Up until freshman year of high school, I folded newspapers and watched a program called "Fox Thing in the

Morning," hosted by Bob Sirott and Marianne Murciano.

I ended up going to the same school as Sirott, having a class with Murciano and hoping I'd be writing for a newspaper instead of just folding it—or throwing it away.

Of course, for the past three

semesters I've *already* been writing for a very good newspaper: this one. I hadn't really intended to write for *The Chronicle* out of fear of interfering with my classes. But when professor Dodie Hofstetter told me that she had recommended me to a fellow by the name of Mark Anderson for an open position, I changed my mind. And anything I wrote was read for one reason: If I could reach out

of this page again, my index finger would point directly to each and every name on that masthead at the bottom of the opposite page. Their hard work week in and week out helped this newspaper look great and get picked up. A fellow staff member told me one night not too long ago, "I don't think I'll ever work with a better staff."

I wanted to be optimistic and believe I'll have a career that sees me working alongside many professionals I will come to call friends; but at the same time, I didn't disagree with the observation.

And there's names of people that aren't on that masthead that I've had the pleasure of working with in past semesters too. If you're really curious, you can ask Chris Richert for a back issue when you come in to ask for movie passes.

Everything about my experience at Columbia has been positive—even the nice people in the Financial Aid office. And now as I prepare to leave it, I look forward to no longer pursuing jobs where my daily business begins with me saying, "Hi. I'm Derek, and I'll be your server tonight."

I don't expect to jump directly into my dream job, but I don't worry about it, either. I'll just keep working, keep writing, keep looking. But for now, I just want to savor graduation, believing that me, you, all of us—we're all going to be "oh-OK-ay."

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Learning to embrace the 'real world'

By Michelle C. Finkler
Copy Editor

Whenever anyone asks me, "Aren't you so excited to graduate?" I usually smile and try to humor them. All the while, I can't help but feel like I've been handed a death sentence. I know this may sound a bit dramatic, but while most of my senior counterparts are basking in the idea of no more homework or tuition payments, I can't help but dwell on the fact that I'm about to embark into the "real world," and I'm not sure what I'm going to do once I get there.

I know I'm not alone in this bout of uncertainty, but it often feels like it as I witness other seniors reminiscing about their years at Columbia.

It's hard for me to focus on how far I've come in my academic endeavors when my future

endeavors are about as clear as the Chicago River. With this degree, I've been told that I will have the world at my fingertips, but I just can't seem to get a grip on it.

Maybe I'm just bitter about missing out on all of this collegiate nostalgia since I'm a transfer student, and most of my fondest memories are from Northern Illinois University—the school I attended my freshman and sophomore years. Although the sprawling architectural landscape of Chicago was a pleasant change from the corn fields of DeKalb, I still find myself yearning for that academic commune equipped with a student center, carefully manicured swards dotted with trees and, yes, even frat boys.

Or maybe it's just the fact that I like going to school because it's fun and a hell of a lot easier than anything I'll experience in the real world.

Whatever it is, I just have this sudden urge to trade in the miniscule intricacies of my normal, suburban life for something outside of my box as well as time zone. A romp through some far-off land or yearlong sabbatical in a mountain shack sounds like the perfect remedy to my real-world blues.

But as alluring as the thought of becoming a real-life Sal Paradise or Dean Moriarty is, it's not practical. I can't be putzing around the American West like Jack Kerouac in search of someone's dad when I have bills to pay and need health insurance. Besides, I just spent thousands of dollars on this degree, and I would feel a little cheated if I didn't put it to good use.

So instead of fighting this world I've feared, I should just embrace the power suit that has been taunting me from the back of my closet.



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

et. It's time to trade in my sneakers and ratty, old, backpack for a pair of pumps and a briefcase. Who knows, maybe I'll like what the real world has to offer. Maybe I'll like being a nine-to-five—or

maybe not. Either way, I've come to understand what the Beatles meant when they sang, "Out of college, money spent / See no future, pay no rent / All the money's gone / Nowhere to go."

Time of my life

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

I flew into Chicago for a few hours in the spring of 2004 after my professor at the New England Institute of Art, a private two-year communications school in Boston, wanted me to check out Columbia.

She had spent time in Chicago years before and said the student-oriented school had ambitious goals and better opportunities for me.

Sure, it was awkward to have a current professor encourage me to leave the institution where she worked, but I gave it a shot anyway.

Despite the rain and chilly temperatures, there was something about Columbia I liked as I trudged through the South Loop campus, soaking wet. I just didn't know what it was at the time.

The following two years were remarkable, despite what other people have said about this school. I have never before been integrated within a large, diverse group of students, professors and community at large like I have been here at Columbia.

Looking back I realize how lucky we are to attend a school in downtown Chicago. Unlike earlier classes at NEIA, many of my classes integrated the curriculum with issues in the community.

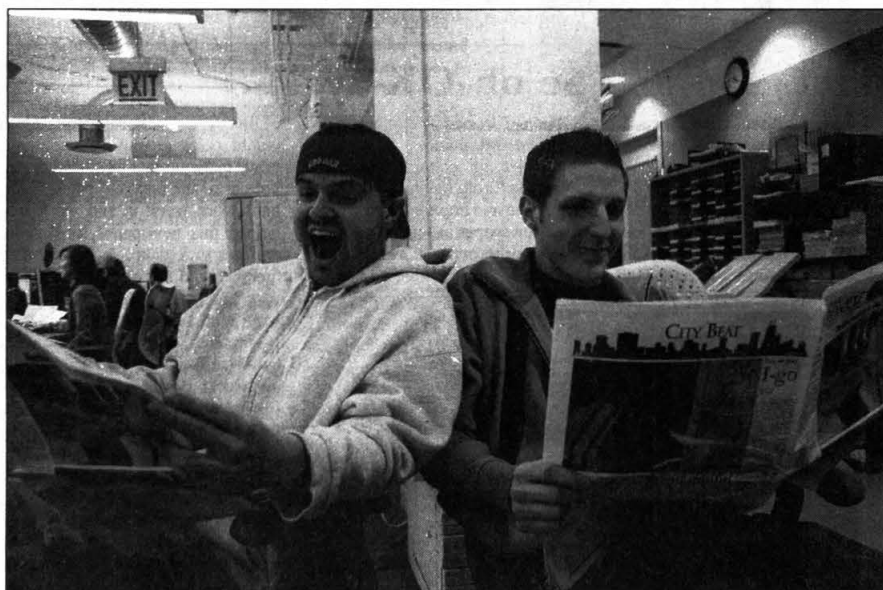
Bonnie Booth's Covering the Courts class spent much of the semester reporting on a trial at the Dirksen Federal Building. Jeff Lyon sent us to the streets for quotes on what community members thought on certain issues.

This past winter break sent me and 11 other students to the nation's capital as part of Rose Economou's Covering Washington, D.C., class. And I was fortunate enough to travel to Waveland, Miss., in March to spend my spring break with Columbia student-leaders for

Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts.

But The Chronicle has been the best part of Columbia for me. The skills and techniques learned and genuine friendships with each staff member have prepared me well for the future and made me a better person.

None of this would have been possible if it weren't for my



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

peers at this institution. Columbia was a wake up call that if you want to succeed, not only in school but your career, you have to take the initiative to do so.

You have to get out there, do your part and do whatever it takes to better yourself.

And for that you need the support and respect of your friends, peers, family and co-workers. To all of mine, I thank you.

I've honestly had the time of my life here, and I hope that carries on to many other students well after I leave.

By Sam Libretti
Associate Editor

After four years, three colleges and a seemingly endless parade of stories, projects and papers, my "Graduation Countdown Calendar" (which is actually the Onion calendar on Alicia Dorr's desk) is down to single digits. Yes, I'm scared to death of what's ahead. Yes, I have

Milwaukee. It's a fine school, and I have nothing negative to say about it, but when a guy grows up in Chicago and then tries to find the same action in Milwaukee, he eventually finds his way back to Chicago. My apologies to anyone from Milwaukee—I have sympathy for you.

Then I landed at Columbia. I didn't know all that much about it,

owe you a Coke.

It took just one semester for me to get tangled up in the web known as The Chronicle. I had reservations, especially after hearing the horror stories about not being able to leave until 1 a.m. on Fridays. And what the hell was kerning and leading? But when Mick Dumke suggests you do something, you do it, whether it's doing shots of Jameson on his (approximately) 23rd birthday or applying to The Chronicle. Just kidding about the Jameson thing—that wasn't Dumke's suggestion; it was mine.

Joining The Chronicle ended up being the best decision of my college career. I made some great friends, drank a pretty heroic amount of beer and helped to put out an awesome newspaper every week. And there may have been a 30-hour road trip to Las Vegas thrown in there, too.

A lot can be said about Columbia, from mildly positive to horribly negative. But in my short time here, I had a lot of fun and learned a thing or two about the news writing business. I have some good friends here, and while some are leaving, others are sticking around, so it wouldn't be very kind to scare them with a spewing of venom about where all the money is going at this school, would it?

Speaking of which, my good friend Glennon Curran—an audio arts and acoustics major at Columbia—would be disappointed in me if I didn't mention the fact that we became good friends (or "bros," as we kids are calling it these days) during my time at the school, and even more disappointed if his name didn't get in the damn paper at least once. So there you go, man. See you tomorrow, or something.

So, school's out forever (for some of us). I know I'm excited, and looking back on it, my time at Columbia was probably my best in college. And if you don't believe me, then you go live in Milwaukee for two years.

concerns about whether I'll be in a comfortable job at a daily newspaper or back behind the counter at 7-Eleven in the coming months. But I had a blast in college, I'm graduating soon, and it's about damn time.

I've only technically been at Columbia for three semesters. The first semester of my freshman year was spent at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where my experiment in getting rich through a degree in pharmacy failed miserably.

I spent the next two and a half years majoring in journalism at Marquette University in

except that it was located in just the right spot in Chicago, and its journalism curriculum looked pretty good. At an open house I met Curtis Lawrence, an instructor in the Journalism Department. I'm sure he doesn't remember it, but long before he was lying on the floor of the Cook County Board chambers giving hushed instructions to those of us in his Covering Urban Affairs class, he was doing a nice job of convincing me that Columbia's journalism program was a good fit for me. Thanks, Curtis. Marquette wasn't cheap and you saved me a bunch of money. I

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Mounted: Horses make police more visible

Continued from Back Page

and learn everything from the stall cleaning chores to ridership skills. After completion of the program a decision is made as to which officers will be transferred.

"We try to be as selective as possible," Shaffer said. "I want to make sure that the guy that comes in here has the desire to really ride a police horse."

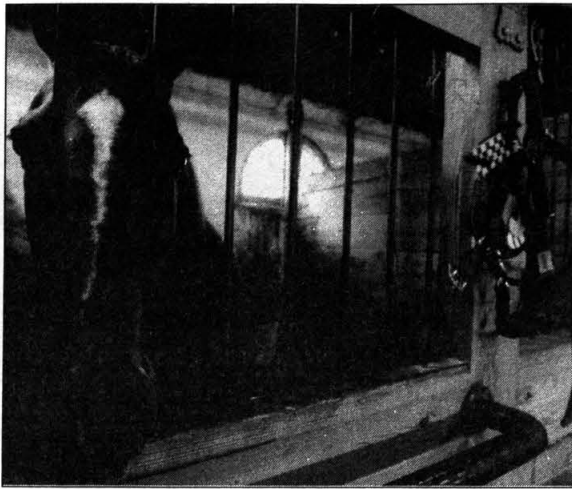
The last training program was five years ago.

Officer Joe Cistaro spent six years patrolling Chicago's Englewood neighborhood before joining the mounted unit nine years ago. And for the past four years he's been training other officers on the basics of horsemanship and the cues that horses respond to.

"I love being with the horses and that we work off such a small, close-knit unit," Cistaro said. "People also come up to you and want to talk, so it's very friendly and that's nice to have."

The department gets horses from donors or a dealer who the unit has been working with for years and really understands its needs, Shaffer said. The unit only raises dark-colored, neutered males because the department wants a sense of uniformity. Some of the horses have been with the fleet for almost 20 years.

Dian Cecil owns Police Mounts of Camelot with her husband where the two train horses in Kentucky exclusively for police departments.



Erin Mash/Chronicle

One of 30 police horses sticks its head through a stall at the Chicago Police Department's stable at 7059 S. South Shore Dr. The mounted unit started in 1974 following an increase of crimes in Grant Park.

While Cecil has not worked directly with the Chicago Police Department, she said training is constantly ongoing.

"Training actually takes a lifetime with a horse," Cecil said. "But by 4 or 5 years old the horse can be pretty comfortable with the world around him."

She said her horses are trained differently than traditional horses because they have to adapt to sudden noises and hectic conditions.

Cecil has raised about 100 horses at her stable throughout the past year and has sold others to departments across the United States, primarily east of the Mississippi River.

There are no firm numbers as to how many mounted units are in the

United States, but Mike Tilton, an officer in Ohio's Butler County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol, said there could be between 2,000 and 3,000 units.

Those units range from one horse to New York City's soon-to-be 160, said Tilton, who also created the informative website Mountedpolice.com.

Shaffer said Chicago has a reasonable size unit and that he's lucky to be part of it because he's always been a horse lover.

"When I first came on the police department, there were no horses," Shaffer said. "So this isn't the place I thought I would be, but it's something I've always been interested in."

Rallying: Immigrant fights to stay in America

Continued from Back Page

immigration official; he then received asylum in 1992. The department determined that Parlak had a credible fear of persecution if he returned to Turkey, according to the Free Ibrahim website.

However, the United States deemed the PKK a terrorist group in 1997; subsequently, the Department of Homeland Security reviewed Parlak's case again and stated that he had misrepresented himself on his application. He was arrested in 2004 and held for 10 months in detention. Parlak was released in 2005, and his attorney, his friends and politicians have been helping him stay in the country.

Martin Dzuris, a friend and spokesman for Parlak, said Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.) introduced a bill on Parlak's behalf in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Although initially it asked for citizenship, the politicians decided to take a simpler path.

"It's easier to get a bill for a green card [than citizenship]," Dzuris said.

Dzuris noted the irony that Parlak originally received residency after obtaining asylum in 1992. Parlak lost his green card after the

Board of Immigration Appeals denied his appeal not to be deported. Currently, the bill is pending while Parlak's attorney prepares to present his case to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. Dzuris said that as long as the bill is pending, Parlak cannot be deported.

"The bill is good through this session of Congress until February of 2007," Dzuris said. "It's just sitting there and it's accomplishing its goal of keeping him in the country."

While the bill sits in Congress, Parlak's attorney, Jay Marhoefer of Chicago's Latham & Watkins LLP, is working on the stay of deportation. He said with the various court filings and oral arguments, it could be a while before the court renders a verdict.

"We could be looking at close to a year before the 6th Circuit actually decides his case," Marhoefer said.

And although the Circuit Courts of Appeals tend to be conservative, the Chicago-based 7th Circuit Court has made several rulings for people who had previously lost their asylum and residency cases. Marhoefer said that the 7th Circuit, like other courts, is starting to take a closer look at the deportation cases.

"I think these [Circuit Courts of Appeals] similarly, although not quite as strident as the 7th Circuit, have some concerns about how these cases are being handled by [the Department of Homeland Security] and the Justice Department," Marhoefer said.

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Chicago debates Commandment displays

Groups weigh in on Supreme Court, Ten Commandments

By Ingrid Yonata
Contributing Writer

In the past, the U.S. Supreme Court has had to decide whether it is constitutional to display the Ten Commandments on public property. Now, with two new conservative justices on board, Chicago-area college students, lawyers and religious leaders have mixed views as to how the high court might rule on the issue in the future.

The Supreme Court's decisions have varied from case to case, but with President George W. Bush's appointment of John Roberts Jr. and Samuel Alito Jr., two justices with histories of being more conservative, some people are concerned that the court might be lenient on the issue of the separation of church and state.

"I think the court has tilted dangerously to the right," said Rev. Susan Thistlethwaite, president of the Chicago Theological Seminary at the University of Chicago.

Prior to Bush's appointments, the political ideologies of the Supreme Court's nine justices were relatively balanced—four conservatives, four liberals and one justice, the now-retired Sandra Day O'Connor, acting as the swing vote. When former chief justice William Rehnquist died last year, Bush appointed Roberts to that top position. And

when O'Connor announced her retirement shortly after, the president chose Alito as her successor, causing concern among liberals that the court had become too conservative.

These appointments have also led Chicago religious leaders and U.S. Constitution experts to believe that the Supreme Court will be more tolerant in future rulings of public displays of the Ten Commandments.

Rev. Larry Greenfield of the American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan Chicago is one of those people concerned about the Supreme Court's collective ideology.

"The separation of church and state is very important for our democracy, and if the court weakens on this ... it is a serious slip-page," he said.

His view is shared by Harold Washington College student Jeremie Crump, who believes that the president is trying to fill the court with justices who share his mindset.

"Now that Bush had assigned people that are 'more like him,' they can pretty much get their way with more stuff," he said.

Before Roberts and Alito were on board, the court issued opinions in two cases regarding public displays of the Ten Commandments—one in Texas (Van Orden v. Perry) and another

in Kentucky (McCreary County v. ACLU). In the Texas case, justices said a Ten Commandments monument on state Capitol grounds in Austin could remain because it had been on display for 40 years, and no one had contested its constitutionality.

However, in the Kentucky case, the high court ordered displays at two county courthouses to be taken down because they were promoting religion.

In another recent case of the constitutionality of displaying the Ten Commandments, Georgia legislators said that they were in the process of making the display of the commandments part of an historical display.

John Mauck, a Chicago attorney practicing U.S. Constitutional law, explained that the constitutionality of the Georgia legislation would rest on the context and the display—whether it has valid educational and historical values.

"If the intent of the legislation is to defy the Supreme Court decision, then it's not going to stand either with the liberal Supreme Court or the conservative Supreme Court," he said.

While some Chicagoans are apprehensive about how the Supreme Court could rule with Roberts and Alito as justices, others have a more positive outlook.

"I'm beginning to be worried whether the general tilt of the United States is towards theocracy—actually establishing Christianity as the official religion."

—Rev. Susan Thistlethwaite, president of the Chicago Theological Seminary at the University of Chicago



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

The U.S. Supreme Court, in Washington, D.C., which was having its entrance facade worked on in January 2006, recently heard cases regarding the display of the 10 Commandments on public property.

Focus on the Family, a Christian organization that promotes traditional family values, issued a press release applauding the confirmation of Justice Alito.

"It is clear, from his record as an appellate court judge and his testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, that Justice Alito understands that his responsibility will be to interpret law, not create it," the release read. "He will be a welcome addition to a Supreme Court whose justices often fail to recognize the limits of judicial power and authority."

Joseph Morris, a U.S. Constitutional law expert, said he believes the justices' ideologies are irrelevant when it comes to making rulings. It does not matter, Morris said, whether the court has more conservative justices like Roberts and Alito because each case's constitutionality depends on whether the court finds an intention to promote religion.

"In the absence of this intention, the court might hold the display as constitutional," he said.

See **Court**, Page 21

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Court:

Secular, religious views mixed on public displays

Continued from page 20

"The government is to be neutral toward religion. It is not to favor it; it is not to oppose it; it is not to embrace it; it is not to be hostile to it. It is to be accommodated to the fullest extent that it can be accommodated without crossing the line into establishment—that is, favoring one over the other."

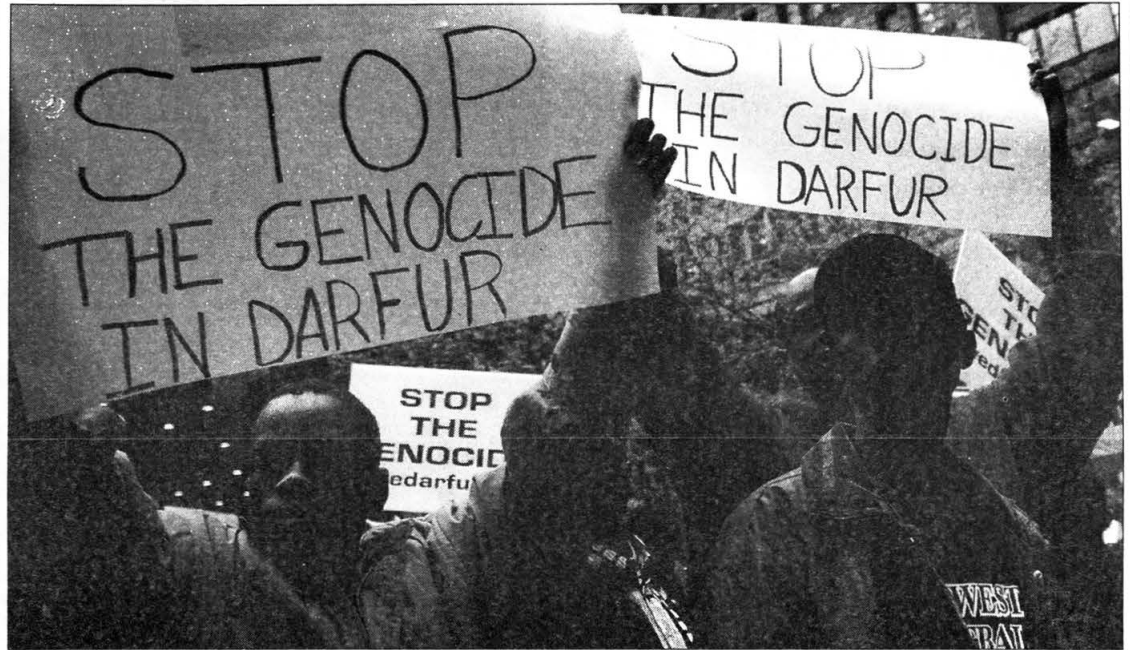
Still, various religious leaders and political experts remained concerned with government infringement on privacy.

"I'm beginning to be worried whether the general tilt of the United States is toward theocracy—actually establishing Christianity as the official religion," Thistlethwaite, who is a devout Christian, said.

American Civil Liberties Union spokesman Edwin Yohnka explained that the ACLU had no objections on the free exercise of religion by individuals in their private lives but is against using power of authority to allow governmental or public buildings to advance one's religion.

"The notion that government would start involving itself in choosing which religion is favored and which isn't is one that ought to give us all pause for concern," Yohnka said. "I think people ought to be watching what the court does and what it says on this thing, and really sort of monitoring it because it is really critically important."

Breaking the silence on genocide



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

The Chicago Coalition to Save Darfur, an organization comprised of religious and ethnic groups to help stop the genocide in Darfur, rallies on Federal Plaza at Adams and Dearborn Streets on May 1. More than 180,000 people have died, and more than 2 million have been displaced since the conflict started three years ago in the Darfur region of Sudan. The Save Darfur Coalition hosted 18 similar rallies throughout the United States on April 30.

However, organizations like Focus on the Family believe the Supreme Court should not give preference to secular views.

"It is no more neutral to favor the secular over the religious than to favor the religious over the secular," according to a statement from Focus on the Family.

The organization called on

judges and lawyers "to return the interpretation of Establishment Clause to its rightful and original place as a protector of equality for all religions in public square and not as a weapon to shield public life from religion," according to the press release.

Ultimately, the Court's rulings on public displays of the Ten

Commandments will depend on chief justice Roberts and how he handles the case, as well as his reaction to the other justices' viewpoints, said Alysia Franklin, who is a first-year DePaul law student.

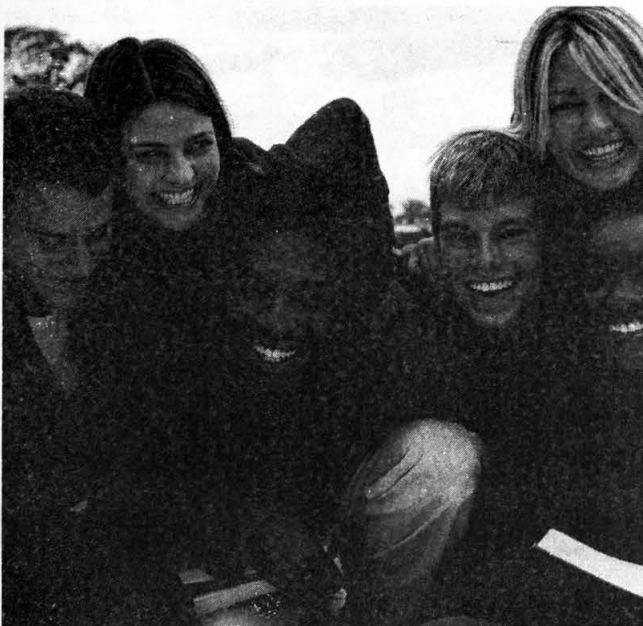
Though there could always be a surprise, Thistlethwaite said that she is relatively sure of the

direction the Supreme Court will lean.

"People can surprise you; they can surprise you very negatively, and they can surprise you very positively," Thistlethwaite said. "But I think on balance, it is my guess that the court is going to tilt toward much more conservative positions."

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Schools' policies clash with military

'Don't ask, don't tell' policy discriminates under college policies

By Jenn Zimmerman
Staff Writer

The U.S. Supreme Court recently upheld the Solomon Amendment, which bars federal funding to schools that ban military recruiters from its campuses.

Despite the March 6 ruling, some groups within the law programs at Chicago-Kent College of Law, Northwestern University and DePaul University say that this ruling goes against the schools' anti-discriminatory policies by allowing the military to discriminate on campus against homosexuality with its "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

"The military discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation," Bill Chamberlin said from Northwestern's career strategy office. "This goes against Northwestern's discriminatory policy."

According to Chamberlin, all employers who come on campus as recruiters—whether it's for a particular law firm or for the military—must offer equal opportunity employment. Because the military does not allow homosexuals to serve, it is not an equal opportunity employer and is breaking Northwestern's non-discriminatory

policy.

DePaul and Chicago-Kent also believe that because the military discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation it is breaking school policies.

"This is an anti-discrimination issue," said N. Morrison Torrey, a law professor at DePaul. "This is not a military issue."

To persuade the Supreme Court that the amendment is unconstitutional, DePaul and Chicago-Kent are joining the Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights.

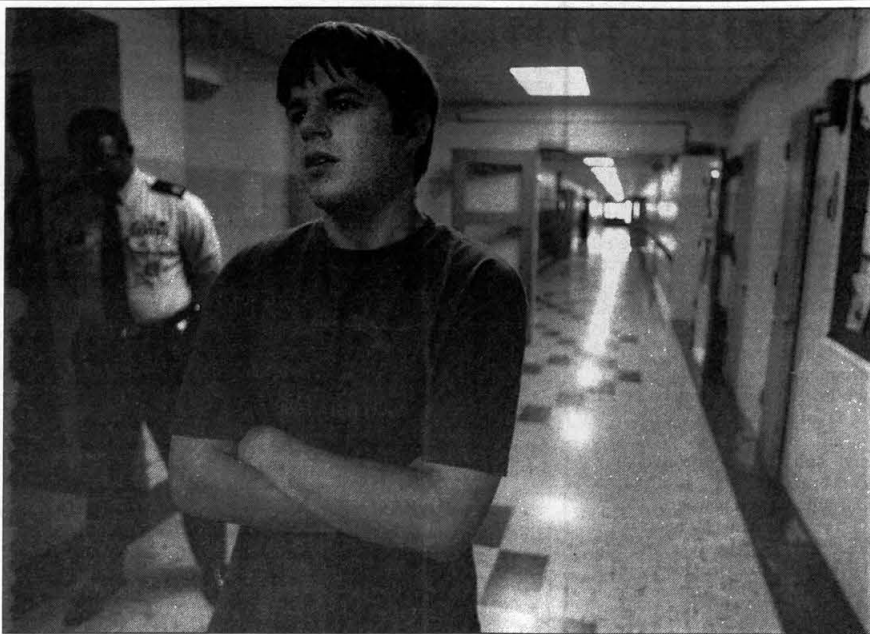
With schools having no choice but to allow recruiters on campus, students like Rachel Weber at Northwestern, are stuck having to find ways to deal with the decision.

Weber is president of Northwestern's gay and lesbian rights group, OutLaws. She is hoping the whole community, gay and straight, will now become more involved not just because of the military's policy is violating Northwestern's, but because it is being enforced by federal law.

"This is a discussion for the whole community," Weber said. "You need to streamline your objectives and priorities."

Weber hopes to hold a public forum on the topic. She believes by coming together as a community and brainstorming different ideas, a solution on how to deal with the military's policy can be reached.

One solution could be for the school to sacrifice its federal fund-



KRT

High School student Jeff Szymkosk (right), 17, talks about signing up for ROTC in the near future; Sgt. James Pearson stands in back. The military's "don't ask, don't tell" recruiting policy regarding homosexuality is drawing opposition at many Chicago colleges because it violates anti-discrimination policies.

ing in order to respect the gay student population. Weber agrees that this is something Northwestern could do as long as the funds that are lost are still being received by a different source.

"By accommodating through alternative funding it could be a way to lose federal funds," Weber said.

However, Weber worries that each source would have its own set of guidelines and policies that the university must follow in order to receive the grant money.

For now, all Northwestern, DePaul and Chicago-Kent can offer as an option for their students is to protest on days when the recruiters will be on campus, which is something each school has been partaking in since the amendment was upheld.

Elizabeth Ellis, DePaul's assistant dean in the career office, said her office sends out mass e-mails to students letting them know when recruiters will be at the school in case they want to arrange a protest. "We as a school do a protest each

time they come," said Jean Kraft, an assistant dean at Chicago-Kent. And for Weber, the protests have already begun.

When military recruiters came to Northwestern's campus in April, OutLaws set up a table with a petition to sign against the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. For now though, Weber continues to hope that through her efforts and OutLaws' protests more people will join in on the fight against the military policies and eventually more solutions will be reached.

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Learning curve

Man's crusade helps shed light on rare neurological disorder

By Kelly Bryan
Staff Writer

When he moved into his new Lincoln Park apartment, Warren Fried bought a table to help fill out the empty space in his living room. He also purchased a corner table, but it didn't seem to fit anywhere in the room. But the real problem was that Fried had no idea what a corner was to begin with.

Fried suffers from a rare neurological disorder called dyspraxia, which, among other things, prohibits him from seeing 3-D space. He has never seen a corner.

In addition to lacking 3-D vision, Fried has no concept of distances, weights, right and left, or any other spatial relationship. He is also more sensitive to bright lights, bright colors and loud noises than an average person. This leads to difficulties performing tasks a typical person wouldn't think twice about—he lacks the fine motor skills to button a jacket, can't drive a car and has no short-term memory.

According to the Developmental Adult Neuro-Diversity Association, a support group for people with the disorder, dyspraxia, formerly known as Clumsy Child Syndrome or Minimal Brain Damage, falls into the same category of disorders as Asperger's syndrome and autism.

Dyspraxia often manifests itself alongside attention deficit disorder and dyslexia. The condition is characterized by a lack of coordination, speech and writing impairments, perception problems, poor social skills and emotional and behavioral prob-

lems, according to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, which aims to reduce the burden from neurological diseases.

Fried, 24, who has lived in various places in the United States and the United Kingdom, came to Chicago on a crusade to increase awareness of his disorder. In January of 2006, Fried formed a nonprofit group called Dyspraxia USA, which provides support and social gatherings for dyspraxics in the Chicagoland area.

Based on a model set by the Developmental Adult Neuro-Diversity Association in the UK, Fried hopes Dyspraxia USA will provide information and support to American dyspraxics. The disease is not listed in the Diagnostic and Statistics Manual of the American Psychiatric Association, which means insurance companies do not recognize it, and there is no official therapy available to treat it.

"As a society we judge by looking at people, looking for some visual defect or abnormality."

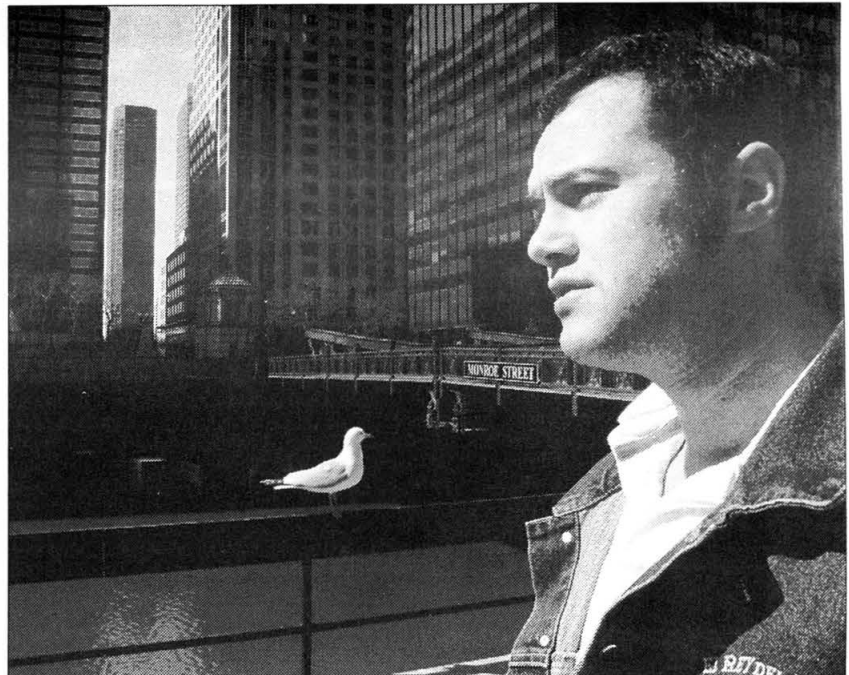
—Sharon Hartwick, mother of a son who has dyspraxia

Individual therapies are needed to treat all the aspects of dyspraxia and can become costly and time consuming.

In addition to a lack of available treatment, many dyspraxics simply lack information and knowledge about the disease. Fried has received dozens of e-mails from around the world from dyspraxics and their family members inquiring about the disease and his organization.

Sharon Hartwick of Warren, Mich., whose 6-year-old son has dyspraxia, found Fried's group online and said she has high hopes for Dyspraxia USA. Hartwick said in an e-mail that one of the biggest challenges in raising a child with dyspraxia is that it is a "hidden condition."

"As a society we judge by looking at people, looking for some visual defect or abnormal-



Kelly Bryan/The Chronicle

Warren Fried, founder of Dyspraxia USA, a nonprofit support group for people with a neurological condition known as dyspraxia, looks across the Chicago River at the building that houses the group's offices. Fried, who has the disorder, hopes to unite local dyspraxics through social networks and by providing information for sufferers and their families.

ity," she wrote. She said that because her son looks like an average little boy, other people assume there is nothing wrong with him and that his difficulties are the result of misbehavior rather than a disability.

Like many people with dyspraxia, Fried also suffers from a variety of other disorders, including attention deficit disorder and another neurological disorder called Asperger's syndrome.

Fried's attention deficit disorder causes his mind to work faster than his body. He said that because of the disorder, he has difficulty organizing his thoughts in a logical pattern. Fried said that writing an essay is impossible since his thoughts move too quickly for his hand to get them on the paper. But he also said the quick thoughts make him want to work harder at Dyspraxia USA.

Though dyspraxics are highly functioning, many often have emotional disorders and other neurological conditions because they find it difficult to fit in with a typical social dynamic. Low self-esteem, depression, behavioral disorders and eating disorders are often associated with dyspraxia.

Judith Trytten, a clinical psychologist who specializes in Asperger's syndrome and autism, said that living with dyspraxia can be like placing yourself in a foreign country and never adapting.

Trytten said raising awareness is the first step to diagnosing dyspraxia and helping people deal with these roadblocks. She said in the case of Asperger's syndrome, although her patients have a hard time functioning in social situations, they are often quite talented in other areas and their condition helps them to see details that a typical person

might miss. "What many people consider neurological deficits are actually benefits because other people don't have them," Trytten said. "It's a group of people who have a very different skill set that others often don't recognize."

Fried hopes that Dyspraxia USA will bring people with the disease together to help them build the confidence needed to function in everyday life.

Roy Moller, a dyspraxic from Glasgow, Scotland, said in an e-mail that he is encouraged by groups like Dyspraxia USA and sees hope.

"Finding out you're not a freak and that all the issues you've had all your life are linked by a common cause is very liberating," Moller wrote.

For more information on Dyspraxia USA, please visit www.dyspraxiausa.com or call (312) 207-0000.

Working for a haircut

On April 28, a 15-year-old boy was pushing a 19-year-old woman in a wheelchair at Jones College Prep, 606 S. State St. While the boy was pushing the wheelchair, the woman felt him going through her purse in the back of her chair. The woman realized that \$20 was missing and notified careakers. After the boy was questioned and searched, he admitted that he took the money for a haircut. The boy was taken into custody.

Carjacking

An unknown man, between the ages of 20 and 25, exited a silver vehicle at 460 S. Dearborn St. on April 25 and approached a 28-year-old man. The unknown man brandished a dark-colored gun and demanded the victim's vehicle. The offender, dressed in a black sweatshirt and black pants, then fled westbound on Congress Parkway.



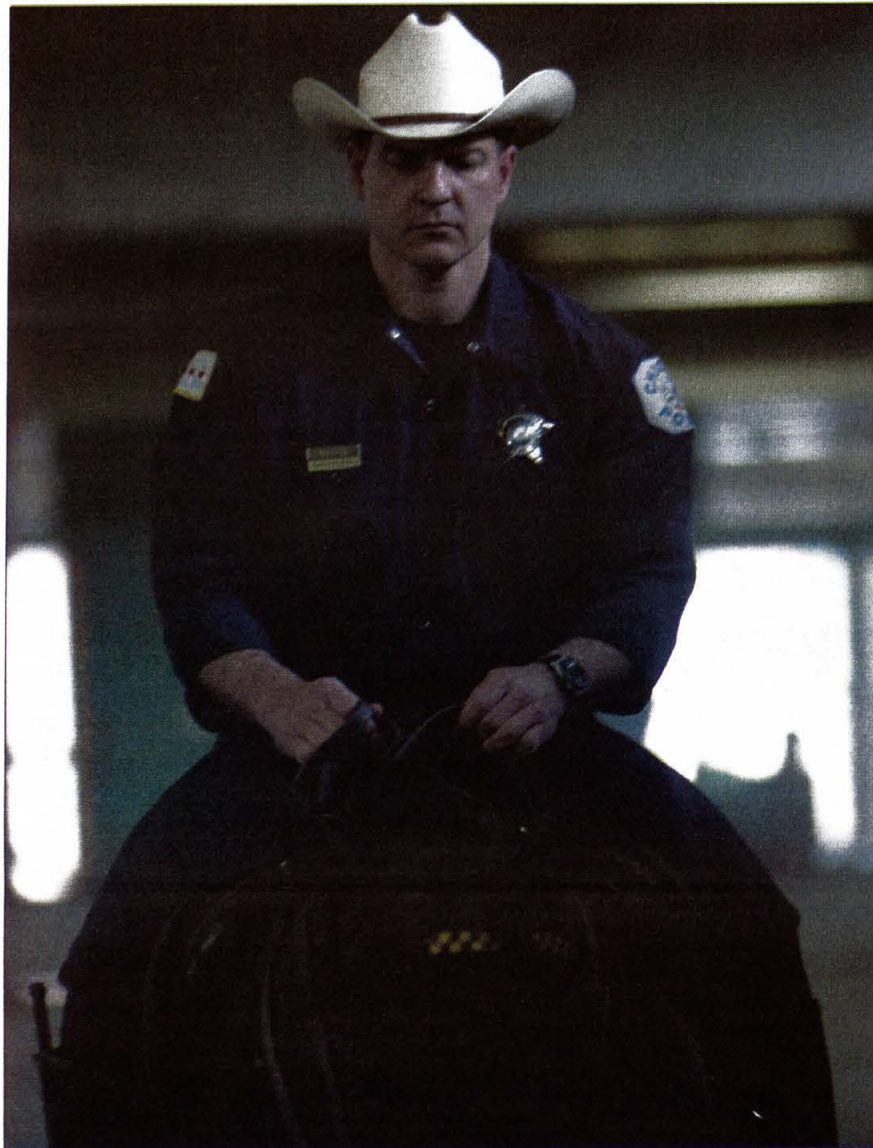
Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Hands on

While a 22-year-old woman stood in the hallway of East-West University, 816 S. Michigan Ave., on April 25 a 32-year-old man grabbed her breast. When the victim said, "You just grabbed my tittie," the man replied, "What do you mean, like this?" and fondled it a second time. The victim called the police and the man was arrested and given a court date.

Rough ending

Police responded to a robbery at 1168 S. Plymouth Court on April 27. The victim, a 53-year-old cab driver, said that a man, between the ages of 19 to 23, hailed his cab at Halsted Street and Jackson Boulevard and asked to be dropped off at State and 9th streets. At the Plymouth Court address, the offender got out of the cab and a second unknown man sprayed the driver in the face with pepper spray. He was also punched around the face and had his credit card and \$8 cab fare stolen. The two offenders fled west towards Clark Street.



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Chicago Police Officer Joe Cistaro rides one of the 30 mounted unit horses at the department's stable at the old South Shore Country Club, 7059 S. South Shore Drive. The unit has grown from 10 horses in 1974 to 30 today.

Chicago's finest on horseback

Police department maintains fleet of 30 horses for patrol

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

At a time when the maneuverability of bicycles, Segways and four-wheelers are making for efficient patrol vehicles for the Chicago Police Department, one unit still relies on one of the oldest forms of transportation.

Officers in the Chicago Police mounted unit continue to saddle up and hit the streets on horseback as the department grows over the years. However, despite the seeming historic significance of horses, the present unit hasn't been around for as long as one might think.

Chicago police used horses in the early 1900s through the end of World War II, at which time they were eliminated as a form of transportation following the mechanical advancements of motorcycles and cars. But after a rape and murder in Grant Park in

the early 1970s, the department realized it needed more of a presence in the area, so the mounted unit was rejuvenated in 1974, said John Schaffer, head trainer and officer with the unit.

"When people see an officer on a horse they know police are there because we have such a presence," Schaffer said. "And it's still in their minds afterwards even if we're not visible."

The unit started with 10 horses and that number more than doubled within three years. By spring of this year officers were caring for 30 horses in the stables at the old South Shore Country Club, 7059 S. South Shore Drive, Schaffer said.

Officers work in two shifts with the same horse every day of the year. After arriving, officers saddle up and put their horses into trailers before being sent out on assignment, which comes from police headquarters.

Typically officers are on the job eight hours a day, with six of those on their horses patrolling. During winter months a lot of time is spent in the downtown

Loop and Michigan Avenue area. In the summer, units make their way through parks and other areas throughout the rest of the city.

"Our main job is to patrol," Schaffer said. "The only difference from other officers is that we're on the back of a horse."

The unit also makes its presence known during any event that attracts crowds, because mounted officers are more visible from the ground. And if the crowds need to be moved, officers can line up their horses and slowly direct them elsewhere.

Getting into the unit is easier said than done considering it's just a few dozen officers out of the entire police force of more than 13,000 in Chicago.

If Schaffer expects to be short five or six officers, then he sets up an extensive 14-week training program that starts with an application process. Officers elsewhere in the force can apply if they have at least three years experience. Fifteen are selected

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Rallying rights

Asylum policy among complicated issues of immigration reform

By Eric Kasang
Staff Writer

Chanting slogans like "The people, united, will never be defeated" and "We are not terrorists," almost 400,000 people marched through the Loop on May 1. With a colorful barrage of flags from countries like the United States, Mexico and Poland, the crowd walked from Union Park at Ashland Avenue and Lake Street to its final destination of Grant Park.

However, through the various calls for reform for undocumented persons' rights and a guest worker program, one particular—and complicated—issue of immigration is often overlooked: refugees and immigrants seeking asylum.

In order to seek asylum, a person needs to prove that he or she was persecuted while living in his or her home country and fears retribution if forced to return, according to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, a bureau of the Department of Homeland Security. The asylum process allows this refugee to remain in the United States.

The Office of Immigration Statistics, an office in the Department of Homeland Security that gathers information on immigration and refugee trends, releases a yearly report on the number of people filing applications for asylum. Since the Refugee Act, which went into effect in April 1980, the asylum approval rate had not dropped below 70 percent.

After 2001, however, it dropped to 49 percent. And although 80 percent of the applicants had their asylum cases approved in 2004, the number of applications actually filed in 2004 was down 27 percent since 2001.

Karen Zwick, an asylum project coordinator for Heartland Alliance's Midwest Immigrant and Human Rights Center, a nonprofit organization that provides legal services for impoverished immigrants and asylum seekers, said that while the overall asylum numbers are down, the group's numbers have gone up.

"People are realizing the importance of having an attorney," Zwick said.

Zwick said that a majority of the center's clients are from western Africa, places like Togo and Cameroon, but the group works with clients who have come to the United States from all over the world. She also said that a person has about a 30 percent chance of getting approved for asylum without a lawyer; 70 percent is the average with an attorney, but the center has a high success rate.

"Attorneys make a huge difference," Zwick said. "Our attorneys have close to a 90 percent success rate."

If a person is denied asylum by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, he can appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals based in Falls Church, Va., which is comprised of 11 members who review the case, according to the Department of Justice's website.

If a person loses this appeal, however, his or her last chance is to appear before a U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Or in the case of Ibrahim Parlak, a current resident of Michigan, introduce a bill into the House and Senate seeking a green card.

Parlak, a Kurd who emigrated from Turkey, sought and received asylum in the United States in 1991. During his asylum application, Parlak detailed his past involvement in a human rights group that had ties to the Kurdistan Worker's Party, or PKK, to an

See **Rallying**, Page 18



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Robert Ayala marches during the May Day immigration rights rally on May 1. The crowd chanted about unity and said that immigrants are not terrorists.