

1-30-2006

Columbia Chronicle (01/30/2006)

Columbia College Chicago

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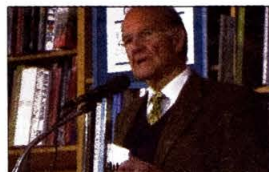


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Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Columbia students Patrick Buss and Janelle Sangone enjoy smoking in Columbia's 'fishbowl' in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., nine days after Chicago's smoking ban went into effect. A sign near the door read, 'Go for it. Smoke Here.'

Columbia cloudy on smoking ban

By Jim Jaworski
Assistant Campus News Editor

On Jan. 16, indoor smoking was banned everywhere in Chicago except bars, taverns and, apparently, Columbia.

Though the ban had been widely discussed in both the media and idle conversation for months, somehow it seems to have slipped by Columbia administrators.

The ordinance bans smoking in "enclosed public places and places of employment" with the exception of bars, taverns and restaurant bar areas. Educational facilities are considered public places.

"It is to my understanding [that] the entire campus would be off limits to smoking," said Tim Hadac, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Public Health.

For the first full week of school, indoor smoking areas in Columbia buildings remained open and did not have any signs telling students they could now be fined if they light up inside. In fact, it has been just the opposite.

As of late Jan. 27 the smoking area in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., had a Columbia sign posted by the door that read, "Go for it. Smoke here." Students and faculty did

exactly that, filling the "fishbowl," as it is commonly called, as if nothing had changed.

"I thought it would be closed, but people were smoking," said Patrick Buss, a sophomore film major, on Jan. 25, nine days after the ban went into effect. Buss, like other students in the "fishbowl," was completely unaware that the area should have become non-smoking.

See **Smoking**, Page 11

P-Fac passes contract with wide approval

By Amanda Maurer
Assistant Campus News Editor

After six months of talks, Columbia's part-time faculty union, P-Fac, passed a new contract that includes modest pay raises, developmental funds and a change in workload, Jan. 11.

The union, which represents 74 percent of Columbia's teaching faculty, approved the new contract after a vote on Jan. 11.

From the 600 ballots mailed out in December, 186 came back. Of those who voted, 180 were in favor of the new contract.

Although the number of part-time faculty who voted comprised only a fraction of the 1,018 part-time faculty members at Columbia, contract negotiators on both sides didn't see that as a problem.

"I think we have very good participation when we consider people's lives," said Pete Insley, a part-time instructor in the Science and Math Department and the membership chairman during negotiations.

Steven Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, agreed that the participation rate was high since a majority of part-time faculty members may hold full-time jobs outside of the school. Insley said other part-time members teach at various schools, which leaves a small percentage that may have time to take an interest in P-Fac.

Columbia president Warrick L. Carter called the contract signing a "momentous occasion" on Jan. 24.

See **P-Fac**, Page 10

Board approves \$90 million campus center

Three key plans now in the works

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

At its December meeting, Columbia's board of trustees approved the \$90 million Campus Master Plan. Faculty workload adjustments were also approved.

The reduction of required teaching hours will allow full-time faculty to better balance their professional and teaching responsibilities.

The board also approved additional scholarships for low-income students. College officials say the scholarships will make Columbia more affordable.

Campus Master Plan

Columbia is now faced with the challenge of raising \$90 million for a 14-story campus center to be built at the site of Buddy Guy's Legends

at 8th Street and Wabash Avenue, which is owned by Columbia. The college is doing its homework and developing financial strategies before a capital campaign is implemented within the next few years, according to Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment.

The campus center is going to add 245,000 useable square feet to Columbia, including a student center, cafe and performance spaces.

"It's not going to happen overnight, but, really, until the board approved the vision, we didn't have a clear direction," Berg said. "Now we do."

Dominic Cottone, director of Student Leadership, is excited about the campus center and thinks it is a necessary addition to Columbia. He said this will make the college more attractive to other institutions, because it will make Columbia a more student-centered campus.

See **Approvals**, Page 8

Fighting for Mary Jane's rights

Legalizing marijuana still up for debate

By Tiffany Breynne
A&E Editor

Clinton tried it but didn't inhale. Kanye wrote a song about it, and the Kottonmouth Kings base their entire lives around it. Marijuana has found a place in numerous people's lives, and most people are OK with that.

Now there's even a book about experiences and thoughts while smoking marijuana—the illegal substance that some organizations are fighting an uphill battle to change the negative image revolving around the drug.

This past December three guys—Arj Barker, Doug Benson and Tony Camin—published *The Marijuana Logues*, a humorous book parodying *The Vagina Monologues* that replaces the female anatomy with an illegal substance. The book, as the authors write, is "written by stoners, for

stoners, about stoners."

While this is an interesting concept that provides some laughs, with pointless conversations, "high-kus" and snippets on marijuana.

In the bigger scheme of things, though, producing a book devoted to stoner/marijuana

stereotypes could mean more than just a few laughs. For some, the fight to legalize marijuana for recreational, spiritual and medicinal purposes should be taken seriously. For Louis Silverstein, a liberal education

See **Pot**, Pull-out page 11



KRT

People continue to fight for the legalization of marijuana for recreational, spiritual and medicinal uses.



Bottoms down

By Jeff Danna, Editor-in-Chief

A little more than a week ago, after a long Friday at work, I was sitting on the Red Line with two friends when I took an elbow to the nose.

To make a long story short, one of my friends and I were innocently snickering at two men who were clearly plastered as they struggled to keep from falling out the train's door. The next thing I knew, one of the men was stumbling toward me, and he hit me square in the face.

As I fumbled to pick my glasses off the seat next to me and bend the wire earpieces back into shape, my other friend was busy punching the inebriated offender. When the second man by the door came to his friend's aid, I had fixed my glasses, and another friend and I jumped in to break up the near-brawl.

To avoid further embarrassment (and probably legal action), my friends and I jumped off the train as it stopped at North/Clybourn and made the wise decision to share a cab home.

I've had plenty of bad subway experiences, but most simply involve irritating and rude passengers or rush-hour delays. This, however, was far and away the craziest thing that I ever experienced on any CTA line, and I'm sure other people have had worse encounters than mine.

I mention this because last week in New York City, six subway passengers were arrested,

not for fighting or hassling other passengers, but for riding the train without pants.

Yes, apparently in the Big Apple police do not tolerate people riding the subway while not wearing pants.

The six people arrested were part of a group of about 150 members of Improv Everywhere, a comedy troupe that each year takes part in its creatively titled "No Pants Subway Ride" prank.

According to a Village Voice article, the other passengers on the train were more curious about the barelegged young people than offended by them, and they were even more intrigued by the accompanying journalists.

When the train reached 59th Street, though, the situation turned from a harmless joke into an all-out fiasco. A police officer waiting on the platform asked the conductor to stop the train and boarded the car with the pants-less pranksters. After all passengers were ordered off the train and the "offenders" were lined up against the wall, about 12 more officers arrived to handle the situation.

Frankly, I don't see the harm in parading in public sans pants (especially since the pranksters were wearing underwear). And I'm guessing it's a much more pleasant experience to be sitting next to a friendly man with no trousers than taking an elbow to the face from an angry drunken man in jeans, although I can't say I've experienced the former.

If the police are going to put a

halt to any train ride, it should be the one on which passengers are being violated, harassed, etc.—not the one with the half-dressed jokers.

As anyone living in the city knows, subway rides are often not pleasant. Besides disorderly passengers, riders have to deal with overcrowding, filthy seats, delays and conductors who drive so poorly it makes one wonder what exactly the requirements for the job are.

Given these conditions, people should be encouraged to make traveling underground a more pleasant experience. This is similar to the idea that street musicians and performers enliven the city sidewalks. Yet even this form of entertainment is heavily restricted in places like Chicago, where in November 42nd Ward Alderman Burton Natarus proposed to limit the distance at which street musicians can be heard.

But part of the fun of living in the city is this unpredictability. It's always a thrill to hear a blues guitarist jamming or a couple of rappers rhyming on the Blue Line platform. And I'm sure it would be just as interesting to share a subway car full of pantsless passengers.

On the morning commute tomorrow, all Chicagoans should hop on the CTA, put on a smile and take off their proverbial pants. It might just put everyone in a better mood.

—jdanna@colum.edu

IN THIS ISSUE

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Announcements

Civil Rights March Reenactment

The Columbia Black Student Union will march from the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., to the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech. The march will take place from noon to 1:20 p.m. on Jan. 30. For more information call the Office of African American Cultural Affairs at (312) 344-7569.

Chicago Jazz Lecture

Dr. Lawrence Gushee, professor emeritus of musicology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will discuss how New Orleans' jazz became a part of Chicago's culture. The lecture is being held Jan. 31 at Columbia's Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave., at 12:30 p.m. For more information call the office of African American Cultural Affairs at (312) 344-7569.

Bird Machine, Punk Planet Panel

Designers from Bird Machine, who create silk-screened posters for bands, and staff of the magazine Punk Planet will combine for a panel discussion, which will be moderated by Columbia creative writing professor Joe Meno. The event will be held Feb. 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in room 203 of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. For more information contact Debra Parr at (312) 344-7887.

Poetry Reading

Award-winning poet Joan Larkin will host a poetry reading in Columbia's Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. The reading will be held on Feb. 2 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information call David Trinidad at (312) 344-8139.

IN YOUR OPINION

Why do students plagiarize?



"Because they don't have enough time to do their own work."

—Lorraine Smith, junior, photography



"Because they don't have enough information and they procrastinate."

—Cassandra Gibson, freshman, dance



"Because at this school, students can't fucking write that good."

—John Bolles, junior, fine art



"Because professors don't read the work carefully enough."

—Frederick Santa Anna, senior, photography

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.

Plagiarism cases put Journalism Department on alert

By Sam Libretti
Associate Editor

Plagiarism is wrong. That fact is vigorously expressed to students of all ages and studies, but especially to journalism majors, whose careers are based on the principle of providing the most thorough representation of the facts possible.

Some high-profile cases of journalists violating the ethical guidelines on plagiarism have cast a light on one of the dark corners of the news reporting industry. Some reporters think that they can get away with passing off the work of others as their own or simply making up people or events.

At Columbia, several cases of plagiarism within the Journalism Department last semester have given cause to take a look at the practice of plagiarism and what can happen to a student who is found to have done it.

Nancy Day, the chair of the Journalism Department, said that the Academic Honesty Policy is required to be attached to every class syllabus and is strictly enforced. Day confirmed that there were "a handful" of plagiarism cases last semester, as many as five. But in the interest of student privacy rights, she could not discuss the cases specifically.

"Each case is handled as quietly as possible to provide fairness to the student," Day said. "I can say that all the cases from last semester involved undergraduate students."

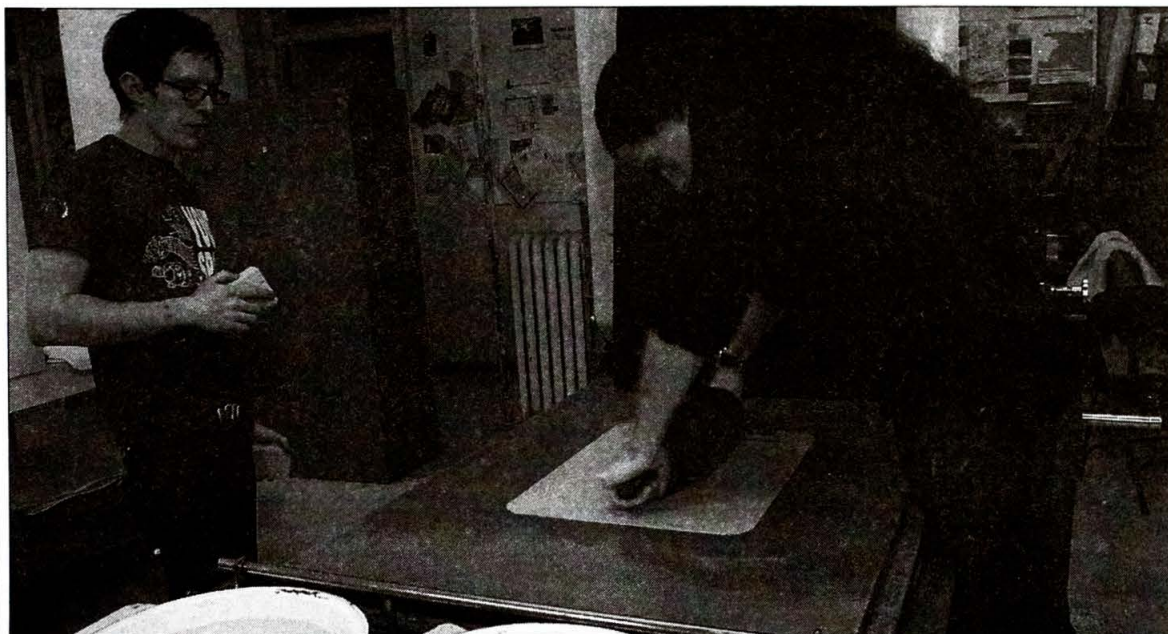
The Journalism Department's Academic Honesty Policy outlines cheating, fabricating, facilitating academic dishonesty and plagiarizing as principal violations. In addition to being included with every class syllabus, the policy is available at the department's website. (See graphic on page 7 for details.)

Day said that when an instructor suspects a student has violated the policy, the instructor will first speak with the student privately to see if a solution can be reached. If not, Day will speak with the student to find out exactly what happened and measure the egregiousness of the offense.

"There are varying levels of offense," Day said. "So we'll talk to the student to make sure they understand the seriousness of this matter and to make sure they understand what they were doing was wrong. The minimum punishment is that the student will fail that particular assignment."

If a solution still cannot be reached, the department has a committee dedicated to academic honesty that will hear the case. More serious offenses can result in a student failing the class, being removed from the Journalism program or being expelled from Columbia.

See Plagiarism, Page 7



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Scott Whipkey, a Columbia senior fine arts major, and master printer Chris Flynn go through the steps of hand lithography printing. Whipkey is interning at Anchor Graphics' current location, 119 W. Hubbard St.

Printshop construction begins

Professional printshop to take its place at Columbia

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

The transformation of the second floor of Columbia's Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., into a printmaking space began last month as construction got underway.

Anchor Graphics, a nonprofit organization, is leaving its space at 119 W. Hubbard St. to become a part of Columbia by fall 2005.

Approximately 6,000 square feet of the Wabash Campus Building's second floor is now being converted into Anchor Graphics, a professional nonprofit fine art printshop, and a space for the Art and Design Department.

"The whole idea of becoming part of Columbia is to provide a

broader educational experience for students and to create a magnet for artists," said David Jones, executive director of Anchor Graphics.

Leonard Lehrer, dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts, said this is another example of departments collegewide collaborating with professional organizations and artists to give their students a real-world educational experience.

"Art and Design has not, up until now, had a recognized professional component in its curriculum and the opportunity to witness the process of fine art print making with guest artists," Lehrer said.

Anchor Graphics works with artists, creating prints by the

same methods used in the 1800s while also incorporating modern techniques. The print shop also teaches the cultural significance of printmaking. It will not only work with students, but also people and artists from the area.

"The Anchor Graphics community is being worked into our printmaking curriculum," said Sabina Ott, chair of the Art and Design Department.

"Not only will we be able to expand and amplify the printmaking concentration, also what

it will do is to give exposure to contemporary artists using a graphic media."

Jay Wolke, faculty member and former chair of the Art and Design Department, helped make the idea of collaborating with Anchor

Graphics a reality when he and Jones began planning the facility about five years ago.

"It's going to create a whole new series of activities and opportunities," Wolke said.

Internships, as well as volunteer opportunities, will be available in the shop for students. Students and faculty will also have input into which artists will have residencies with Anchor Graphics.

"We encourage students to volunteer, to get involved with the shop," Jones said. "We are more than willing to share the experience with the students."

Scott Whipkey, a senior fine arts major with a concentration in printmaking, began a spring internship with Anchor Graphics last week. He believes that Anchor Graphics will be a perfect match for Columbia.

See Anchor, Page 9

Tutoring works both ways for student volunteer

By Jim Jaworski
Assistant Campus News Editor

Reading the writing of the inexperienced can make a person realize how far she has come. Trying to teach the writing to the inexperienced can make a person see how far she still has to go.

Lillian Pontius-Goldblatt, a junior fiction writing major, tutors high school students in the art of creative writing. She works with a community outreach program called Teens Together through Columbia's Fiction Writing Department. In the program, the students write a creative nonfiction story about an event in their lives. The students then turn the stories into a form of performance art and will present their stories and performances on Feb. 4 in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

"[The Columbia students] served as tutors and as mentors,"

said Alexis Pride, a Fiction Writing Department faculty member and coordinator of the community outreach events. "They teach the students to use talents in broadest possible way."

Pontius-Goldblatt, a native Philadelphian, moved to Chicago two years ago and helps the high school refine their writing, making it smoother and more professional.

"When I first came in, the writing was a little crude," she said. "I am very surprised how much progress they have made in such a short time."

Seven of the eight students in the program receive credit from their high school, the Young Women's Leadership Charter School. The other student and only male attends South Shore High School.

All the high school students

See Tutor, Page 9



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Lillian Pontius-Goldblatt, right, a junior fiction writing major, tutors students from the Young Women's Leadership Charter School as part of the Fiction Writing Department's community outreach program, Teens Together.

Frequency

Television Department
Columbia College Chicago

Program Guide for Student Lounges and the University Center on Channel 32

ENTERTAINMENT

Dude Turn That Up!

A special musical performance show that highlights bands and performers from the Chicago area. This show brings music to your eyes and ears.
MWFSu: 4:30p TRSa: 9:00a

COLLEGE COMMUNITY

Back Burner

First time cooking away from home with no help from mom? Learn how to throw together a quick healthy meal with Steve Siwinski.
MWFSa: 2:00p TRSu: 10:00a

POUITS

Helping Hands

A community service program that encourages young people to volunteer in their community.
MWFSu: 8:00a

POUITS

Fine Print

A political talk show hosted by Columbia students that approaches today's topics from a bipartisan point of view.
New Episode: Monday at 7p
MWFSu: 7:00p TRSu: 9:30a

Interested in volunteering for Frequency TV? Contact:

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Columbia College Television Dept.
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frequency@colum.edu

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1014 S. Michigan at 11th St.

Concert Hall Events

Monday January 30

Martin Luther King Jr.
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12:30 PM

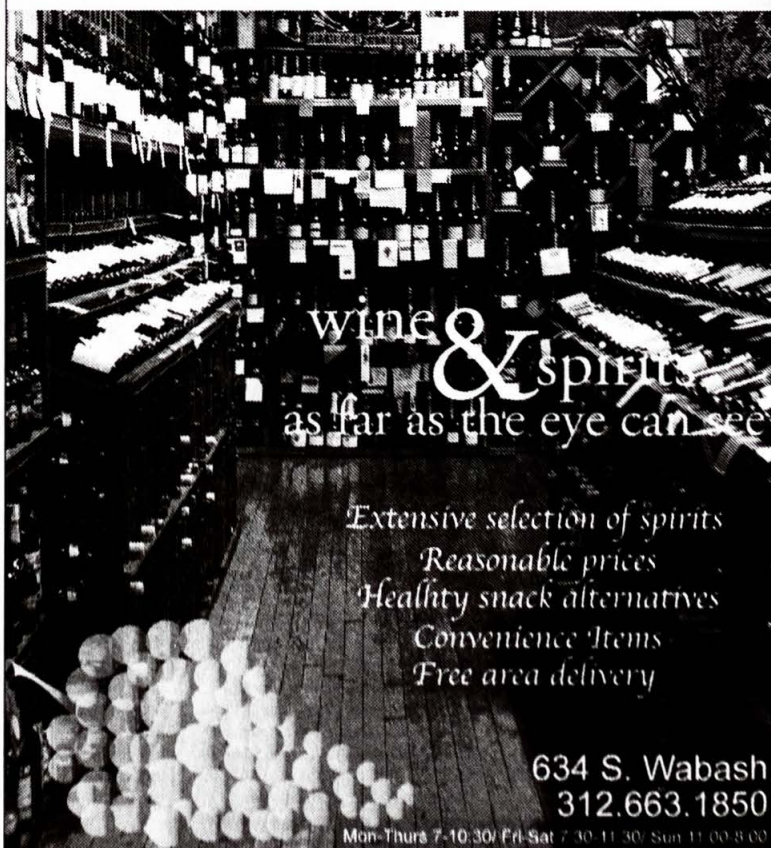
Tuesday January 31

Professor Larry Gushee Lecture:
The Chicago to New Orleans
Jazz Connection
12:30 PM

Wednesday February 1

Student Jam
12:30 PM

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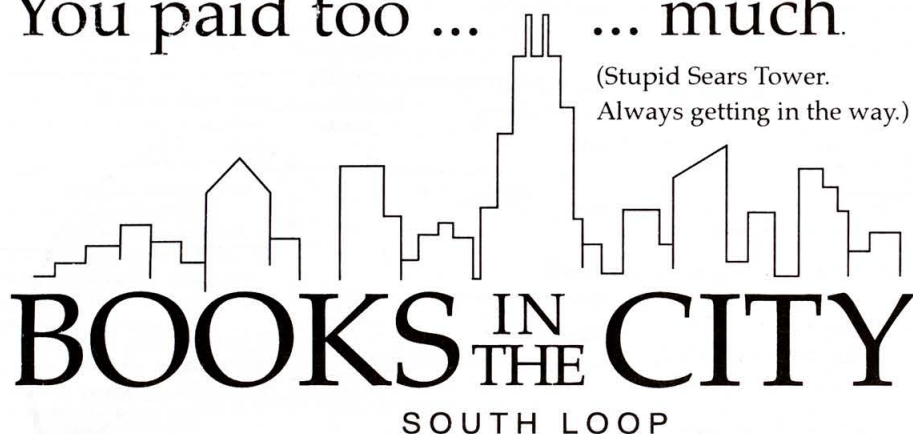
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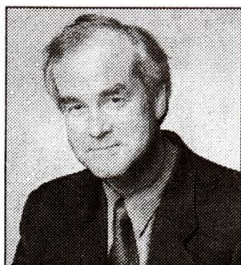
Columbia College's Society of Professional Journalists chapter
and the Columbia Chronicle

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• What are the stories behind the City Hall hiring scandals the Sun-Times broke?

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5 - 7 p.m.

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John Cruickshank rose through the ranks to be one of the most influential publishers in this country: from reporter to editor in Canada to publisher of the Chicago Sun-Times and COO of the Sun-Times News Group, whose publications include the Post-Tribune, the Daily Southtown, as well as 74 other community newspapers in the Pioneer Press, Star and Suburban Chicago newspaper chains.

For more about Community Media Workshop, see www.newstips.org.
For more about the Columbia Chronicle, www.cccchronicle.com.
For more about Columbia's SPJ chapter, spjccc.blogspot.com.



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- Albert Weisman Scholarship (Deadline: January 17, 2006)
- Alumni Scholarship (Deadline: April 14, 2006)
- Bob Enrietto Scholarship/Semester in L.A. (Deadline: March 15, 2006)
- David Rubin Scholarship (Deadline: March 15, 2006)
- Helen Fong Dare Scholarship (Deadline: March 2006)
- Hermann Conaway Scholarship (Deadline: March 1, 2006)
- Hillary Kalish Scholarship (Deadline: April 3, 2006)
- John Murbach Scholarship/Designer-in-Residence (Deadline: April 14, 2006)
- President's Club Scholarship (Deadline: April 30, 2006)
- Ron Pitts Scholarship (Deadline: March 15, 2006)

Department scholarships

ART & DESIGN

- Pougialis Fine Arts Award (Deadline: April 2006)
- Precious Lashley Fashion Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2006)

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & MEDIA MANAGEMENT

- The Make A Dent Scholarship (Deadline: April 28, 2006)
- Precious Lashley Fashion Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2006)
- The Chuck Suber Scholarship (Deadline: December 16, 2005)

ASL - ENGLISH INTERPRETATION

- Michael Fryzlewicz Scholarship (Deadline: June 1, 2006)

DANCE

- Forest Foundation Scholarship (Deadline: March 31, 2006)

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- Joan and Irving Harris Scholarship (Deadline: April 14, 2006)

FICTION WRITING

- John Schultz and Betty Shiflett Story Workshop Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2006)
- Sylvia McNair Travel Story Scholarship (Deadline: Spring 2006)

JOURNALISM

- John Fischetti Scholarship (Deadline: March 10, 2006)
- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (Deadline: March 1, 2006)

MARKETING COMMUNICATION

- The Patricia McCarty Scholarship Fund (Deadline: March 17, 2006)

MUSIC

- Music Department Scholarship (Deadline: February 15, 2006)

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Kodak Scholarship (Deadline: April 2006)

RADIO

- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (March 1, 2006)

TELEVISION

- Al Lira Scholarship (Deadline: March 1, 2006)
- Thaine Lyman Scholarship (Deadline: March 1, 2006)
- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (Deadline: March 1, 2006)

THEATER

- Betty Garrett Musical Theater Scholarship Fund (Deadline: April 14, 2006)
- David Talbot Cox Scholarship Fund (Deadline: April 14, 2006)
- Freshman Achievement Award (Deadline: April 14, 2006)

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Plagiarism: Instructors push consequences of fabricating work

Continued from Page 3

Curtis Lawrence, head of the Academic Integrity Committee, said that the policy was improved within the last year to better educate students about exactly what plagiarism is.

"We've now included examples of each violation, and in the introductory courses this topic is explored and discussed extensively," he said.

Lawrence added that even in some of the more advanced courses that he teaches, he spends time talking about the dangers of plagiarism.

Elizabeth Henschel, a junior magazine journalism major, said that the faculty does a thorough job of educating students about plagiarism.

"We hear about it in every class," she said. "It gets annoying."

Day said that in most cases, a student is simply being lazy or careless about an assignment, which will lead to intentional or unintentional plagiarism.

"The Internet culture has made it easy for a student to lift reporting that is not theirs," she said. "At the same time, it has also made it easier for instructors to catch."

Betsy Edgerton, who teaches several journalism courses, agreed that the ease of surfing the Internet has made it easier for students to plagiarize.

"Students will see whatever they read on the Internet as gospel and won't understand the guidelines about what it means to plagiarize," she said.

Edgerton also said that in many cases that student journalists are caught plagiarizing, they may claim not having known that it was wrong, but in reality, simply did not budget time well enough to get the assignment done the right way.

"There are different types of plagiarism," she said. "But I don't think ignorance is an excuse. It's definitely worse if it occurs in an advanced reporting class, but plagiarism still can't be tolerated in the lower-level journalism courses. It's beat into their heads that it's unacceptable."

"Students will see whatever they read on the Internet as gospel and won't understand the guidelines about what it means to plagiarize."

—Betsy Edgerton, journalism faculty member

Gary Hill, chairman of the Society of Professional Journalists' Ethics Committee, based in the Twin Cities, Minn., said that it is important for every journalism class to devote several days or weeks of study to the seriousness of plagiarism.

"I think it needs to be woven into the fabric of the curriculum," he said. "And not just the writing courses—graphics and photography courses also need to emphasize these facts."

Mike Carter, a junior journalism major, said that he never personally knew of anyone in the department plagiarizing and would never do it himself.

"If you're going to school for journalism and you start using other people's work, then you're only cheating yourself," he said. "It beats the fun out of being a journalism major."

Karen Larson, a sophomore magazine journalism major, said that the risks outweigh the benefits when it comes to plagiarism. "It's such a big deal," she said. "It's not worth it to even try."

Plagiarism and fabrication have tarnished the careers of several high-profile reporters in recent years. The most famous is probably the case of Jayson Blair, a young reporter for The New York Times who lifted reporting from the *San Antonio Express News* in 2003. It was also discovered that he had fabricated quotes. After Blair was caught, his career as a journalist was over.

While students who are caught violating the ethical standards of journalism are given a little more slack in terms of punishment, the more egregious the violation, the harder it becomes to think that the student can succeed in journalism.

"I think each case needs to be looked at differently," Hill said. "Sometimes it is almost a subconscious act to write something that you have read before, and student mistakes are a little more forgivable. At the same time, the school must take the responsibility and ensure that there is no way it will ever happen with that student again. If that's not the case, then there is no place for them in this

Cheating: The conscious use of unauthorized, prohibited, or unacknowledged materials or methods.

Fabricating: The conscious falsification or invention of information, interpretation or source materials.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: The conscious participation, in any manner, in another student's commission of any academically dishonest act.

Plagiarizing: The conscious representation of words, ideas, figures or materials from other sources as one's own.

Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Source: Academic Honesty Policy of Columbia's Journalism Department

business."

Lawrence emphasized the fact that if a student doesn't have the time to finish an assignment without making up facts or plagiarizing, it's better to stay honest.

"Taking a low grade on one assignment is always better than risking expulsion from the program for plagiarizing," he said.

While the cases and degrees of plagiarism vary, the bottom line

remains the same: The mistakes of a small minority of journalists have put the industry under the microscope, and it is more important now than ever to be as honest as possible.

"The students who will plagiarize are saying they are not willing to work at a high level," Edgerton said. "They are the ones who won't have a career in journalism."

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Interim V.P. suggests cultivating alumni, staff to raise funds

By Jeff Danna
Editor-in-Chief

At the end of the fall 2005 semester, Columbia's top fundraising official, vice president of Institutional Advancement Sam Ross, resigned suddenly, leaving behind an open administrative position.

As college officials seek to find a permanent replacement, Eric Winston is taking over Ross' former duties.

For more than 30 years, Winston served Wilberforce University in Ohio, and 20 of those years were spent as vice president of Development and University Relations, the school's chief fundraiser. In that position, Winston helped bring in more than \$40 million in operating funds and boost donations from alumni by 300 percent.

Winston also headed fundraising efforts at Central State University in Ohio. Under his direction at Central State, the school raised \$1.5 million to bring back the football program after it was discontinued nine years earlier and another \$1.5 million for scholarships.

Now, Winston will try to help Columbia increase alumni giving and bring in more funds from corporations and other private donors. The interim vice president sat down with The Chronicle to discuss the college's future in philanthropy.

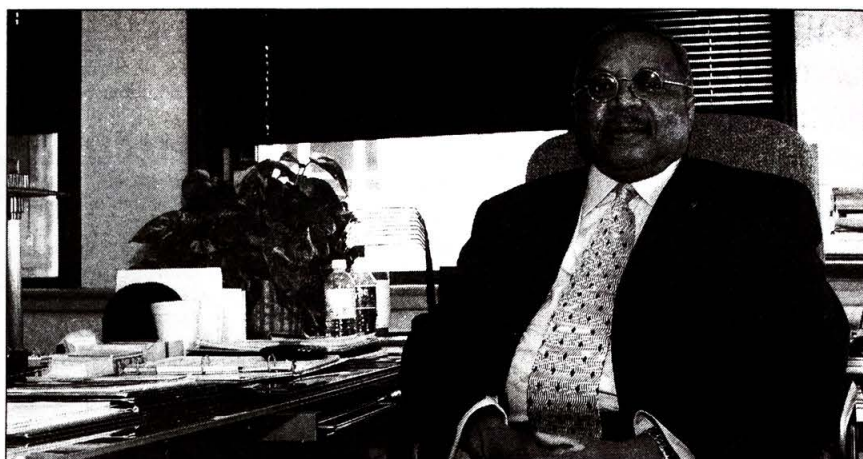
The Chronicle: Columbia seems to be in a different position in terms of fundraising than Central State or

Wilberforce. Our goal seems to be reducing this dependency on tuition. How do you think we can do that?

Eric Winston: I think you have to be careful with that. It's not a question of reducing dependency, because in some ways colleges are always dependent on student enrollment. That is the measure by which colleges are seen to be healthy. And by all status, Columbia is very healthy, because its enrollment is going up; its students appear to pay when they have to. When the college says it wants to reduce dependency, the reason I say that there's a reason to be careful is that you have colleges like Wilberforce and others that were overly dependent on philanthropic dollars to meet its annual operating budget. Interestingly enough, when you go to borrow money from a bank, if you should need to borrow money—this school doesn't need to do that just yet—the No. 1 question that's going to be asked by the funder is, "What is your student enrollment?" They're not going to ask you, "How much did you raise?" In fact, they're going to give less credence to the raised dollars than to the student enrollment dollars, because they know that if you don't have the enrollment, you don't have a school.

So what do you think is the best way to go about raising funds? I know a big portion of what we've been doing for the past year or so is trying to cultivate donors.

In fundraising, we're always



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Eric Winston is assuming the duties of Columbia's former vice president of Institutional Advancement, Sam Ross, until a permanent replacement is hired.

cultivating people. People don't give money just because you have a great cause. There's an old adage in fundraising: People give to people. They must have an understanding of what you're doing, and they have to have some kind of relationship with you or with your program.

"I'm not afraid of asking anybody for anything when it comes to money."

—Eric Winston,
interim vice president of
Institutional Advancement

So when you start this effort, the first thing you have to do is bring people in. What I've been able to determine in the short time I've been here is that three or four years ago, Columbia was doing very little of that. The alumni giving here is very low compared to most colleges. And quite frankly, a college is measured from a public perspective ... to be giving you the dollars that you need on the basis of how well are the people that benefited from this institution [doing], how are they contributing, and how are they supporting

this institution. So when we talk about a capital campaign, one of the things we're going to have to do is we've really got to embrace the alumni. What I'm saying to the staff now is we are now going to move into the cultivation and ask phase.

We're looking for 100 percent participation from the alumni. We're kicking off on Feb. 13 the first

Columbia

telethon. The telethon is going to be an annual telephone solicitation campaign that's going to be conducted three times each year. It's going to be going out to alumni, and what we're going to be saying to alumni is, "You went to Columbia; you benefited from Columbia; there are students here now—help us provide them with the resources they need." It's going to be a vehicle by which we ask people to contribute on an annual basis to the school. We've

got 45,000 folks out there, and we're going to say to those 45,000 folks, "You can give at any level. What is the level you're comfortable with?" Then, let's be consistent about it. Because it's not the kind of thing you can start in February 2006 and then don't do it again in 2008.

The Chronicle found contributions fell under Sam Ross. What can we do to increase the funds we're bringing in and the amount we're spending on fundraising translates to more contributions?

What Sam Ross did when he came in was he recognized that, because the college had not been a fundraising college in the traditional sense, he had to do this cultivating. Naturally, his funds coming in would not be as significant as they were in the past, because he was in that embracing stage where he had to go out and, as we say, win friends and influence people. The cultivating has taken place. Now we have to get to the point of doing the tough

See Winston, Page 10

Falling plaster on campus sparks student concerns

College officials have no history of the incident

By Amanda Maurer
Assistant Campus News Editor

During the last week of class before the semester break, Pablo Gaviria, a senior film major, waited to order a sandwich from the Plum Cafe in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., when he heard a loud noise behind him.

"I turned around and realized what it was, and I was scared as hell," Gaviria said.

Gaviria said he moved just before a piece of plaster fell from the ceiling and hit the floor.

Jasmine King, an employee at the Plum Cafe, was in the middle of a sale with a student when the incident occurred.

"About four customers came up, and they were about to order something, and the next thing I knew, it just fell down," King said.

A maintenance staff member, who wanted to remain anonymous, said this isn't the first time that the ceiling plaster has

cracked and fallen.

The maintenance person also said that the plaster was too thin to hurt anyone. In addition, the firm that renovated the 1104 Center, Turner Construction Company, is notified each time the work is found faulty.

Pete Scales, spokesman for Chicago's Department of Buildings said that there haven't been any building code violations for the 1104 Center in a couple of years.

"About four customers came up, and they were about to order something, and the next thing I knew, it just fell down."

—Jasmine King,
Plum Cafe employee

Descriptions of the fallen debris vary. Gaviria compared the piece to the size of a piece of paper, but 1- to 2-inch-thick. King said it was more like the size of a softball. However, further investigation revealed that the outermost layer of ceiling is a thin piece of plaster, approximately a quarter of an inch thick.

After the plaster fell, Gaviria said a student behind him informed security of the incident.

However, Columbia officials said there is no record of it being reported.

"If an incident occurs on campus, it needs to be reported to security," said Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety. "We have no history of this being reported to security."

According to Gaviria, when he returned from class, the area had been cleaned up, but the cafeteria remained open and there was no indication or warning about the earlier accident.

Gaviria believes that the area should not have been cleaned.

"I think they made the problem worse, because if people had seen a piece of rock on the ground, they would look up and see what happened," Gaviria said. "But there wasn't any sign of anything being wrong."

King agrees and believes that more should have been done.

"They should have looked into it to see if it was actually cement," King said. "What if something like that happened again and it does actually hit someone?"

Approvals: Changes to begin Fall 2006

Continued from Front Page

"We should benchmark with other institutions with what will make us competitive with them," Cottone said. "It's only going to make us look even better to prospective students. It's exciting."

Faculty Workload

Starting with the fall 2006 semester, tenured and tenure-track faculty will be reduced from having to teach four courses to three courses per semester over the next two academic years.

According to Steve Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, the adjusted workload will enable faculty to rebalance their responsibilities at Columbia with their professional work. This will improve the quality of education students are receiving, and faculty will have additional time to spend advising students outside of the classroom.

"It will enable faculty members to spend more time on class preparations and new delivery methods," Kapelke said.

Although Columbia is constantly hiring new part-time faculty, according to Kapelke, the college will have to hire even more part-time faculty to teach the courses that were once taught by full-time faculty members. The estimated

cost adjustments for this are \$900,000 for the first year and \$2 million for the second year.

Low-income Scholarships

Seven-hundred scholarships will now be available for incoming and continuing low-income students at Columbia. The new scholarships will be available as of the fall 2006 semester.

The board approved the addition of 500 scholarships worth \$4,000-\$5,000 in addition to the 200 low-income scholarships already available.

All low-income students with good merit will be considered for the scholarships when they apply or will be identified by the student financial aid office.

While federal and state resources become fewer, Columbia is taking a step toward making the school a possibility for low-income students, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

"Two years ago the school basically had no scholarships for low income students, but we have a relatively affordable tuition compared to other private arts colleges," Kelly said. "Now we are going to have 700 scholarships, which is a pretty big leap forward."

Columbia recently received a \$500,000 endowment from the McCormick Foundation for the low-income scholarship program, which the college will match. This will enable the college to add roughly 55 low-income scholarships per year.

Anchor: New fine art printshop opening soon

Continued from Page 3

It will provide "a more real-world sense of what actual people in the field do."

"It's a really rare opportunity to have that kind of exposure, especially as an undergraduate," Whipkey said.

Anchor Graphics and the student printmaking space will be adjacent to one another and will share some of the facilities, according to Jennifer York, printmaking lecturer in the Art and Design Department.

"We will be able to teach and execute techniques that are not possible in our current location, including silk screening," York said.

A printmaking gallery, which will house the work of professionals as well as students, is also being built on the same floor as the printshops.

"Anchor [Graphics] has a long history of bringing artists in to do lectures and residencies, and everyone coming to work with Anchor will be available to our students," York said. "It's really a fantastic opportunity to work with artists from across the country who are very well-known in printmaking."

Tutor: Student shows high schoolers art of writing

Continued from Page 3

attend the program voluntarily, coming in on their own free time. The six-hour classes are on Saturdays.

"I was impressed with the kids; they all really wanted to be there," Pontius-Goldblatt said.

She first started one-on-one tutoring with younger Columbia students last fall. She admitted that she was intimidated at the possibility of being an authority figure. When she received the name of her first student she decided to look him up on Facebook.com, a networking website for college students, to know what she was getting into.

"At first I kind of expected an asshole, a brat," she said. "He turned out being a really nice guy. I was really impressed by his work. After that, tutoring wasn't so scary anymore."

Other Columbia fiction students tutor for the program, but Pontius-Goldblatt is the only one who doesn't receive credit for her efforts. Since college and high school semesters don't always line up, Pontius-Goldblatt bridges the gap when the program has to cycle through a new set of tutors.

The students write creative nonfiction, but the tutors specialize in fiction. However, none of



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Columbia fiction major Lillian Pontius-Goldblatt helps South Shore High School student Michael Burns with his nonfiction story. Burns and seven other high school students will be presenting their work Feb. 4 in the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

the tutors has had trouble helping the students with their work, since both styles are so similar.

"Fiction and creative nonfiction are basically two sides of the same coin," said David Peak, fellow tutor and junior fiction major.

Pontius-Goldblatt has had a love for fiction since she was young. Her passion has refined her own skills as a writer and tutor, and has also offered her some strange and unexpected opportunities.

When she was 16, she worked at a small video store in Philadelphia. One of her regular customers was Paul Green. Known for the nation-

ally renowned Paul Green School of Rock Music, he would see her reading in the store and have brief conversations about fiction and art with her. Green was consistently impressed with Pontius-Goldblatt's taste in books at such a young age that he offered her a full scholarship, she said.

The school was recently the basis for "Rock School," a documentary, and Pontius-Goldblatt claims it was also the inspiration for the Jack Black feature "The School of Rock".

In January of 2002, her place in the school landed her on the

cover of the Philadelphia Weekly, the City of Brotherly Love's equivalent to the Chicago Reader. She thinks her 15 minutes of fame was pretty funny, given that the photo of her singing was staged.

"I can't sing at all," she said. "If you look at [the photo] close, the microphone isn't even on."

Pontius-Goldblatt said that while the tutoring helps the students, it is possibly more beneficial to her.

"As a tutor, you learn a lot about writing by trying to teach it," she said. "It helps more than simply writing."

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Columbia first in nation to show Chinese exhibition

Papercuts on display in campus library

By Amanda Maurer
Assistant Campus News Editor

The Asian Arts and Media Center hosted the opening of the international exhibit "Cutting Edge: The Beauty of Chinese Papercuts" just in time for the Chinese New Year. The exhibit is making its first U.S. appearance on the third floor of Columbia's library, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

"We wanted to use the opportunity to celebrate the heritage of Asian Americans," said Yuchia Chang, managing director of the Asian Arts Center.

Papercuts begin as a single piece of paper. The artist can use either scissors or a knife to cut out the design and details and sometimes color the papercut with pens. Although some paper cuts are now made with machines, labor is so inexpensive in China that the majority of them are still made by hand, Chang said. They can be used as decorations in the home or as gifts and vary in complexity and size.

Victoria Park, a graduate visual arts management major, moved

from Korea to the U.S. 10 years ago and is now an intern at the Asian Arts Center.

When the exhibit arrived, Park helped clean the frames that held the papercuts. Although she is Korean, the countries' similar cultures have allowed her to understand the patience it takes to make them, she said.

"When I was in junior high, I made some little birds—that were supposed to be birds, but really didn't look like them," Park said.

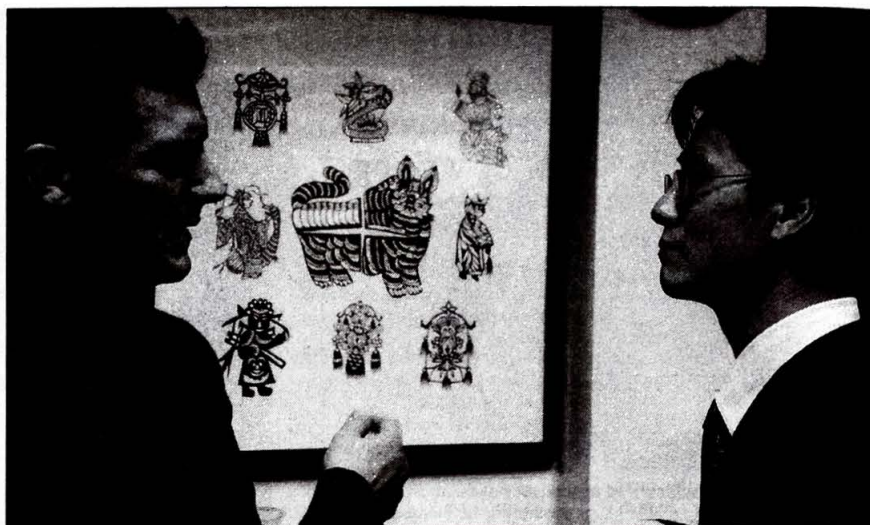
The exhibit consists of 200 individual works that were each handmade by peasants in China's Shannxi Province.

Papercuts in the exhibit include people, the 12 zodiac animals in full color and depictions of daily life.

Originally papercuts were a leisure activity for the rich, but the activity's popularity soon spread and became a characteristic of peasant life. According to Chang, the Chinese people appreciate the art form so much that it has survived various cultural revolutions in the country.

"It's rooted in the everyday life of common people," Chang said.

Papercuts are as much as a part of the Chinese New Year as a dec-



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Barry Benson, director of Corporate Sponsorship and Underwriting, and Xinjie Li, Cultural Consul for the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China discuss some of the artwork from the papercuts exhibit at the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

orated tree is to Christmas, said Xinjie Li, Consulate General of the Consulate of the People's Republic of China of Chicago, the office consulate that helped bring this exhibit to Columbia.

Although "Cutting Edge" is new to the United States, it is not the first time for Columbia to work with the Consulate General.

"Last year we joined hands with Columbia to have a film festival," Li said. He added that the Consulate had a "really good relationship" with Columbia.

"I want Columbia students to not

only enjoy the creativity of the Chinese people, [but I also] hope they realize the dream and feelings of the Chinese behind [the papercuts]," Li said.

However, students were not the only ones to attend. Those present included Columbia staff, faculty and retired Cynthia Laris, 60, from Chicago.

Laris said that while she enjoys showing up to Columbia exhibits, this time she came to the "Cutting Edge" to meet the Consulate General. But that didn't stop her from admiring the

papercuts.

"They look like valentines," Laris said. "They're very intricate, and they remind me of Victorian paper crafts."

Chang thinks that the exhibit will help Asian students feel closer to their heritage by celebrating a Chinese tradition in the United States.

"I hope that particularly Asian students will feel a sense of belonging, [since] it is a part of their culture," Chang said.

The "Cutting Edge" will run until Feb. 15.



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Janina Ciezadlo, president of P-Fac, signs a new contract on Jan. 24, while Columbia president Warrick L. Carter watches.

P-Fac: New contract well received

Continued from Front Page

Regarding the number of passing votes, Carter said that it was "clearly an indication of an agreement to the quality of the work that the two teams have done."

Those who were on the negotiating board were not surprised about the percentage of passing votes either.

"Everybody understood that we did our best on it," Insley said.

Columbia's administration officials feel the same way.

"We feel collectively that it is a very good contract between the college and the part-time faculty," Carter said.

Margaret Sullivan, chair of Marketing Communications and the chair representative during the negotiations, said that the

college took P-Fac's concerns seriously.

"Anything that was important to the part-time faculty was important to the administration," Sullivan said.

As usual, raises also came with the new contract, but this year they were distributed differently.

"The salary increases were modest anyway, but the bulk of them went to the new teachers," Insley said.

According to Insley, a majority of the raises went to newer instructors to encourage them to continue teaching at Columbia.

While several aspects of the contract have changed, benefits, including health, have remained too expensive to be offered to part-time faculty.

Despite this, part-time faculty can now access developmental funds. The funds, which come from a budget line in the provost's office, allow instructors to attend conferences and support their research, among other uses.

Both of the negotiating sides

appreciated this change, including Insley who said it was a "nice gesture."

In addition, part-time faculty can now reconfigure the number of classes they teach each year. Previously, they were restricted to nine credits per semester. However, now they are allowed to alter the number they teach each semester, so long as the classes stay within the 18 credits-per-year restriction.

This is coming on the heels of the full-time faculty having their teaching load readjusted, causing the part-time faculty to teach a larger percentage of classes.

Kapelke said the school is hiring both full- and part-time faculty to meet the demand of Columbia's growing student body.

According to Kapelke, this benefits the departments, instructors and students.

"It's better for the students because if we can have an excellent teacher ... this way he or she can teach an additional class," Kapelke said.

Winston: Temp V.P. looks to raise funds

Continued from Page 8

part of this job, which is asking people for money. What I'm hearing from various people that are associated with the college is that what has happened in the past is Columbia failed to ask. I'm not afraid of asking anybody for anything when it comes to money.

The other thing you've got to do is let people know you appreciate them. We're going to have the first ever faculty-staff reception for those who have donated. That's going to come off here sometime in March.

We've got over 200 people that have donated who work here. We've got over 1,500 people working here. My feeling is, if you work someplace, you need to contribute. You need to support the place you work. Regardless of what happens at Columbia, you are earning a living [here], and as a result, you want [the college] to always be viable.

As small as the contribution may be, it adds up to a lot when we go out and say to a foundation in Chicago, "One hundred percent of our staff is a donor to the college. Ninety percent of our alumni are donors to the college." They don't care if you got \$10 from somebody or \$100 from somebody or \$1 million.

Many administrators have talked about this capital campaign we're looking to start, and a big part of it is going to be funding a new building at Wabash Avenue and 8th Street. How realistic do you see those goals being, and how long will it take before we meet them?

We hired a very outstanding fundraising firm to conduct what

is a prerequisite to conducting a campaign. They're in the process of conducting a feasibility study.

We have assembled a list of about 100 names of people who have been on a prospect list for Columbia that includes board members, foundations, corporations, whatever. That feasibility study is a process most colleges go through to determine if in fact they are ready to conduct a capital campaign.

What they will do in very confidential settings is they will discuss with folks their willingness to give to Columbia at a significant level. And from that the consultants will be able to make a recommendation to the college as to how much monies might be out there if they should decide to go out for a capital campaign from among that core group of folks.

We've got a hundred people on the list; we'll be good if we talk to 60. [The consultants] are going to ask them questions like, "What is your perception of Columbia? What is your perception of the president of Columbia?"

All of these questions get asked in the mix of asking about their capacity to give and their willingness to give. They put that together in a report, and then they will make recommendations to the college.

One of their recommendations could be, "We believe Columbia is in a position to conduct a capital campaign of \$100 million, and we project that if Columbia were to initiate a campaign, that it should be able to raise in the neighborhood of \$70 million."

So the capital campaign I think is very much a possibility. It's a good measure. I was asked whether we should do it, and I said, "Absolutely so." I would not involve myself with Columbia if it were going to attempt a capital campaign without a feasibility study.

Smoking: Officials tight- lipped on indoor smoking

Continued from Front Page

They thought that because Columbia is a private college, the ordinance would not affect the school buildings. In the eyes of the city of Chicago and the new ordinance, that is simply not true.

"Institutions can be fined if it is believed that they are allowing smoking or not taking action," Hadac said.

After Hadac spoke to The Chronicle, he expressed concern that such a large institution would be still be allowing smoking.

"If they are in violation, then that simply surprises me," he said.

Hadac said that the school is in no immediate danger of being fined, since a letter from the city is the most likely first action. He consistently stressed that the city is willing to warn institutions that violate the ordinance before issuing a fine.

"It's not our goal in life to run out with a ticket book and start ticketing everyone," Hadac said. "We want compliance with the law, but you don't always have to run out and slap someone with a fine to get them to comply."

"Institutions can be fined if it is believed that they are allowing smoking or not taking action."

—Tim Hadac,
spokesman for the Chicago
Department of Public
Health

Sometimes simply reminding them of it and reminding them that we have our eye on them, we will get compliance.

"The bottom line is that if smoking is occurring where it is not supposed to be occurring, there is just no excuse for that, and it needs to be addressed right away."

Hadac said that an educational institution would not be held liable for people smoking in the building if a person decides to, for example, smoke in a stairwell.

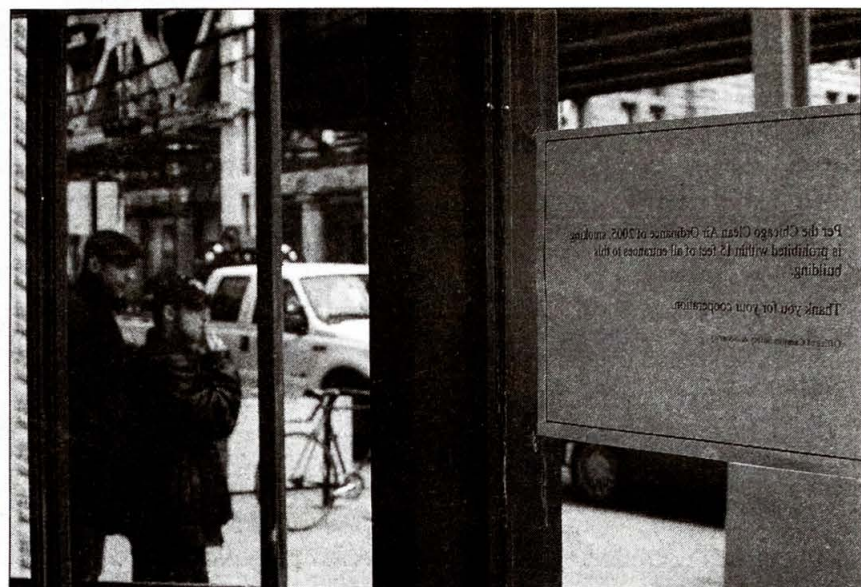
Despite the relatively minor nature of the violation, Columbia officials remained tight-lipped about it.

When The Chronicle first inquired about the ban, Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment, deferred questions to Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety. Meegan said that she was aware that Columbia could be fined if smoking is allowed indoors, but said she could not comment on Columbia's indoor smoking

areas until the issue has been reviewed by the college's legal counsel. She referred The Chronicle to Berg, who did not return additional phone calls.

Columbia is under no obligation, however, to force people to stand more than 15 feet away from the entrances, Hadac said.

Since individuals can be fined up to \$100 for disobeying the ordinance, Hadac encouraged any school to do its best to let



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Two Columbia students, who asked to remain anonymous, smoke in front of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building on Jan. 27.

students and faculty know about the new ordinance.

On Jan. 23, the first day of the semester, a full week after the ordinance went into effect, there weren't any postings to let students know of the possible fine. As the week went on, notification began to appear. Three standard-sized white sheets of paper that said "no smoking area" in pen were taped to the side of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

At other buildings the notification was a memo addressed to security officers informing them of protocol to handle the new ordinance. These were taped to

the doors.

The memo said the ordinance "was not a police matter" and asked security officers to avoid calling the police if someone was seen violating the ordinance. The memo also instructed security to avoid confrontations with smokers.

Meegan said the college is currently printing signs to notify all persons near the entrance that they need to smoke more than 15 feet from the door.

The Office of Campus Safety and Security placed advertisements in The Chronicle in both the Jan. 23 issue and the current issue. The advertisements told

readers of the 15 foot mandatory distance.

Meegan said all canisters and ashtrays near the entrances will be removed by the end of February.

Both Hadac and Meegan said that any student or faculty member who wants to register a complaint about any smoking violation should speak with the school first.

Hadac said if students or faculty members are not satisfied with the school's response to a complaint, they should then call 311, the city's non-emergency number.

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Prose

Poetry

Contest

Subject: Quilting as a metaphor for world peace.

Deadline February 27, 2006

Length: Up to five pages

Format: Text in 12 point font with 1" margins

Rules: One entry per person; please include your name, address, email and telephone number.

Prizes: First prize- \$250

Second Prize-\$100

Send written entries to:
Genesis at the Crossroads
P.O. Box 14781
Chicago, IL 60614

Or email entries to
info@gatc.org

The winning entries will be read at the VIP Opening Gala Reception on March 3, 2006 by the winners and will be displayed for the public in the Glass Curtain Gallery for the entire month of the Peace it Together Exhibit.

Capital Correspondents

Seventeen journalism students traveled to the nation's capital during the J-Session term in an effort to gain an inside perspective on politics and insight on how to cover Washington as a journalist. The following articles highlight some of the work from the students.



Courtesy Rob Buikema

Alum lands coveted White House beat

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

Pablo Martinez Monsivais' job requires him to be ready in a moment's notice and keeps him traveling around the globe more than three months a year to places like Afghanistan and Iraq.

As a photographer for the Associated Press Washington D.C. Bureau, Martinez Monsivais' primary responsibility is keeping the world informed on the whereabouts and logistics of president George W. Bush.

Martinez Monsivais was hired in 1998 by the AP and is one of 11 photographers working out of the largest AP bureau in the world. On day one, the big story was the Monica Lewinsky trial. Martinez Monsivais said he was not prepared for it.

"For the first six months I went numb," Martinez Monsivais said. "The story just would not die."

But Martinez Monsivais credits his humble childhood growing up on 26th Street in Chicago with helping him get through any experience, past or present.

After graduating from Whitney Young High School, Martinez Monsivais attended the Richard J. Daley College to earn general elective credits he would later transfer to Columbia.

One of these classes was an introduction to photography that Martinez Monsivais took because he had always been interested in the darkroom developing process. He said with the support and encouragement of his teacher he was inspired to pursue the field.

"My teacher said I had much more interest than any other students," Martinez Monsivais said. "So I said, 'I got a shot at this.'"

Martinez Monsivais still remembers his first photo class after transferring to Columbia. It was a night course he took during the summer while working full time during the day painting and working at a factory.

Meanwhile, Martinez Monsivais had a friend working as a security guard at the School of the Art Institute who told him tuition is waived for students who work on campus. Even though he was already enrolled in photo classes at Columbia, Martinez applied with the hope of taking more classes at SAIC concurrently

the next semester.

After applying for a janitorial position, Martinez Monsivais was called in for an interview where he was asked if he was crazy for applying.

"They asked me why I wanted the job, and I told them because I want to get into school here," Martinez Monsivais said. "'OK, you got the job,' they said."

He talked his way into cleaning the second floor of the building, where the darkroom is located. During his 11:30 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift, Martinez Monsivais spent much of the time in there, where he used all of the supplies and resources to his advantage.

Martinez Monsivais remained on the job and took classes for nearly a year and a half before stepping down and focusing his attention on Columbia and accepting an internship at the Chicago Sun-Times.

By the time he graduated with his bachelor's in photography from Columbia in 1993, Martinez

Monsivais had already landed a job with the Chicago paper and was making more money in six months than his father was making in a year.

"I must have done something right," Martinez Monsivais said. "The Sun-Times was my grad school, really. I grew up and became an adult there."

For the next five years Martinez Monsivais shot personal and intimate times and events in people's lives which he said could be difficult.

"When I'm shooting something tragic I feel like a complete jerk," Martinez Monsivais said. "But it's absolutely necessary because it's an indication of our society."

In 1998 Martinez Monsivais took a job at The Detroit News, where he remained for six months before being offered a position with the AP. Leaving the Sun-Times was difficult for Martinez Monsivais, but he said it was a move he was comfortable with.

"You have to keep pushing yourself," Martinez Monsivais said. "If you don't, life will pass and you won't notice."

AP photographers in Washington rotate White House duty once a week, otherwise covering anything from Capitol Hill to Congress to sports games, according to Dennis Paquin, photo editor for AP Chicago.

The White House photographer always accompanies the president wherever he goes, whether it's by bus, vanpool or Air Force One, Paquin said.

"Your job is really at the convenience of the president," Paquin said. "You do whatever he does, whenever

he wants."

When Martinez Monsivais is on assignment, his photos are posted on the wire within minutes of taking them. The AP worked out a relay system in which memory cards are passed along from photographers to editors during press conferences and immediately uploaded so photos are always being taken.

Photographers working out of Washington have a deadline every minute because they work for thousands of newspapers worldwide, Martinez Monsivais said.

"I'm enjoying it and having a lot of fun," he said. "I couldn't see myself doing anything else at this point."

Foreign correspondents size up Washington

By Tracy Gladden
Contributing Writer

It can be difficult enough to decipher Washington, D.C., politics as an American journalist, let alone as a journalist from another country. Hundreds of foreign correspondents cover Washington because much of American decision-making affects the rest of the world.

To Greek correspondent Lambros Papantoniou, covering American politics is important because he defends the interests of his own country.

"Americans are not concerned with or support Greek interests," Papantoniou said. "American journalists don't ask the questions that concern [Greece], and that's why it's important to have foreign journalists."

For example, during a press conference of the U.S. Department of State on Jan. 11, Papantoniou asked questions regarding an Avian Flu epidemic, because the issue is more of a concern in Greece. The issue was not raised by other correspondents.

"It's up to you to use your senses and ask the right questions for your audience," Papantoniou said.

BBC correspondent Justin Webb said the British are attracted to American politics because

they think the two countries are similar.

"[However], America is in fact culturally completely different from Britain," Webb said. "Although we speak the same language, we have virtually nothing else in common."

Webb said many British people dislike President George W. Bush. So he tends to side with the president because he doesn't want to tell British people what they want to hear.

"I should be telling things that are going to challenge them," Webb said.

Webb sees one major difference in how Americans deal with politicians. "We have a problem in Britain that we sometimes treat our politicians with too much contempt, but here you treat them with complete reverence," he said.

Sometimes American reporters in Washington feel like they're reporting from a different country.

James Warren, former Washington bureau chief with the Chicago Tribune, said the language could even seem foreign.

"Reporting on politics in Washington for the Chicago Tribune was almost like foreign correspondence," Warren said. "I was reporting back to Chicago on this very weird, strange community called the nation's Capital."



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

Pablo Martinez Monsivais, who graduated from Columbia with a photography degree in 1993, works at the Associated Press D.C. Bureau.

Alito nomination may hit home

By Maria Sultemeier
Contributing Writer

Many Illinois groups are wondering what the possible effects will be on controversial issues, such as abortion, if confirmation is given to Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito.

On Jan. 10, day two of the Alito hearings, Alito stated he would keep an open mind on abortion. Much of the controversy surrounding the nomination stems from his 1985 statement that the Constitution does not protect the right to an abortion. He stated this was "a true expression of his views at the time," but if confirmed to the Supreme Court, he would "approach the issue with an open mind."

When asked about the 1973 Roe v. Wade case, Alito stated that long-standing decisions deserve respect.

With the Roe v. Wade case marking its 33rd anniversary on Jan. 22, the Illinois chapter of the National Organization for Women held a press conference at the state capital. Illinois NOW president Bonnie Grabenhofer announced the organization's strategy to keep abortion legal in Illinois.

"As the recent Supreme Court confirmation hearings on Samuel Alito showed us, abortion continues to be one of the most tenuous rights women exercise in today's political climate," an Illinois NOW press statement read. "Illinois is a pro-choice state, yet its past legislatures have passed many anti-abortion bills that could become law if Roe is overturned."

Other groups are satisfied with Alito as the Supreme Court nominee.

"We have supported the President, and we support his nominees, includ-

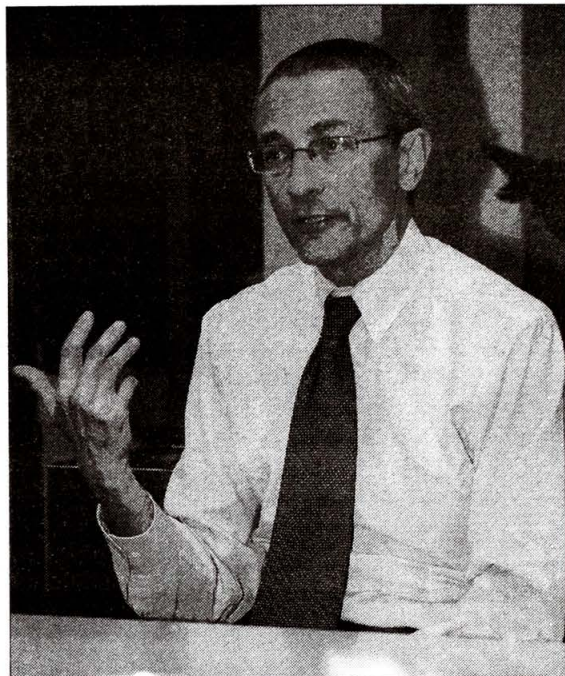
ing Alito," said a spokesman for the National Right to Life D.C. branch.

While there is no way to know what will happen unless Alito is confirmed and people can see how he votes on issues, some believe the abortion issue is not about Roe v. Wade but about the right to privacy.

"People should be thinking about the Griswold case, which proved that right to privacy is inherent in the Constitution," said Joe Shoemaker, press secretary for Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill). "The right to privacy is a bigger issue now than Roe v. Wade."

In the 1965 Griswold v. Connecticut case, the Supreme Court ruled the Constitution protected a right to privacy. The case was based on a law in Connecticut prohibiting the use of contraceptives.

"We can no longer depend on nine people in black robes to protect choice," Grabenhofer said.



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

Former White House Chief of Staff under Bill Clinton John Podesta discusses issues, including political involvement, with Columbia students at the Center for American Progress on Jan. 10.

Podesta encourages more student political involvement

By Jessica Runnion
Contributing Writer

John Podesta got involved in politics because he saw it as a "noble profession" and a "place where you could make a difference." As co-founder of Podesta Associates Inc., Bill Clinton's White House chief of staff and president and CEO of the Center for American Progress, he certainly has made a difference in Washington, D.C., in more ways than one.

Podesta started in politics in 1988 with his brother, handling government relations and public affairs.

The knowledge he gained from his first four years at the firm was put to use in 1992 when Podesta joined the Clinton campaign. Between 1993 and 2001 he served as senior adviser for government information, privacy, telecommunications security and regulatory policy. He was also an assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff and eventually President Clinton's chief of staff.

From 1993 to 1995, Podesta held various positions, including senior policy adviser for government information, privacy, telecommunications security and regulatory policy. From 1997 to 1998 he served as an assistant to the president and deputy chief of staff. From October 1998 to January 2001, he served as President Clinton's chief of staff.

While working in D.C., Podesta always felt it was necessary for college students to get involved in politics within their own communities.

So after leaving the White House, Podesta became president and CEO of the Center for American Progress, a "nonpartisan research and educational institute dedicated to promoting a strong,

just and free America that ensures opportunity for all," according to the organization's website.

The program brings together college students from across the country who want to be educated and involved in politics. Through blogs, campus speakers, action grants and support of campus publications, Campus Progress gives students a place to find the resources and assistance they need to make a difference on their campuses and in their government.

The company encourages students to sign up for a blog, start talking with other students from across the country and get involved in the various programs, volunteer opportunities or internships offered through the Campus Progress program.

Podesta has a lot more to worry about than student politics, however. Dealing with journalists, press secretaries and other media outlets proved to be a difficult task. He isn't afraid to speak his mind about the progress of politics and especially the press, and believes that the press have become "pussycats" by not being investigative enough. Podesta also said that after the Anthrax attacks to the Pentagon and other prominent places, in 2001, the press became weaker and tried to "cheerlead" the president.

Podesta thinks the Democrats must "make [the] argument that things are badly off track" in the upcoming midterm elections and make the point that "reform will not come from this [the Republican] system." He also said, however, that he does not believe the Democratic Party has improved much in the past few years either.

The most important factor in the midterm elections, Podesta said, will be the president's approval ratings.

Students question Social Security

By Rob Buikema
Contributing Writer

There is a question floating around among officials in Washington, D.C., about whether Social Security will be present by the time college students are old enough to collect. Most Democrats are optimistic. Republicans, on the other hand, are not.

Social Security, which supports people 65 and older, is pay-as-you-go, meaning each generation currently paying in is supporting the retirement generation of today.

Former Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) said the Social Security account currently has nearly \$2 trillion in assets. While that sounds like a lot of money, that amount, which goes to pay elders, disabled Americans and Social Security workers, will begin to pay baby boomers (those born post-World War II through the mid 1960s).

By the time the baby boomers receive their money, Social Security will be depleted. That means by the time college students are old enough to cash in, the program will be at a deficit, said Larry Dye, chief of staff for the Social Security Administration. And it will be harder for future genera-

tions to keep up with the demands.

"When [the program] started, there were more families, and families were bigger," said Andrew Biggs, a Social Security analyst for the Bush administration. "Now people have smaller families and are paying less in."

Social Security was initially designed to be part of a "three-legged stool"—pension plan, personal savings and social security used to pay bills and other expenses—"because there was no way to take care of old people," Dye said. Franklin Roosevelt began the program during the Great Depression when many families were considered poor by national standards.

The Social Security Administration website states that only 7.5 million people were over the age of 65 when the initiative first started; today there are over 36 million. The SSA reported, "In less than three years, America's 78 million baby boomers will begin to reach retirement age."

"The longer [administrators] wait to address Social Security, the harder it is to address the issues," Dye said. "Trying to raise people's awareness is difficult."

McGovern has come up with what he thinks is a viable solution

to the problem.

"What I propose is an alliance between the so-called Y generation ... and the on-coming generation [the baby boomers]," he said while talking about his new book, *Social Security and the Golden Age*.

"They enter into an alliance with old people and together you have maybe the two largest voting blocks in the country joining hands," McGovern said. "I would suggest their first target could be Social Security since every American sooner or later benefits from that or is tied in with that."

Whether an alliance will work or happen is unknown. It is clear, however, that each side feels something needs to be done to keep Social Security viable for coming generations. Political power and influence will play a large part in what happens not only for today's youth, but the youth of the future.

"Politics is the best game in town for consenting adults," McGovern said. "We need to get the message across that politics is fun, politics is dynamic, interesting, intriguing, yet a maddening, frustrating enterprise that will take all you've got."



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

Larry Dye, chief of staff for the Social Security Administration, speaks to Columbia students on Jan. 10 about how the administration was started and where it's expected to go in the future.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

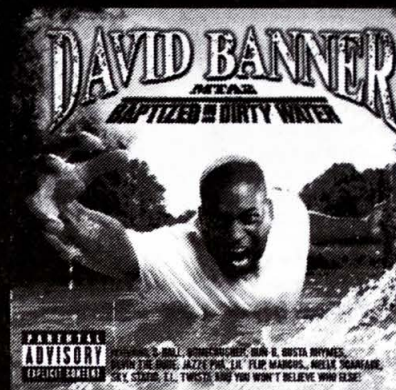
BAPTIZED IN DIRTY WATER: RAP ARTIST, DAVID BANNER SPEAKS

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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Karaoke Showdown

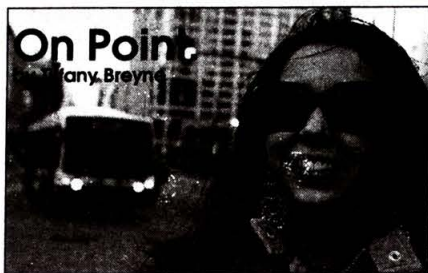
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Right

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Pot and paranoia

After working on a story about marijuana for a week, I have come to understand why some people have such paranoia of the government and believe in conspiracies. Marijuana and many other drugs have not always been illegal and were even recommended for health and used on a regular basis. For example, I learned in my human sexuality seminar that heroin used to be sold over-the-counter, and doctors told patients that it was "a perfect guardian of health."

Talking to organizations that favor the legalization of marijuana made me realize that the war on drugs really is a bunch of crap. I thought so before, but not with much reason other than the fact that I knew it was wasting money to try to stop people's habits. It's like trying to stop a dog from licking himself—it happens whether you like it or not.

So first off, marijuana is not the enemy. I knew this already, but talking to these people who have studied the issue just made it clearer. It also made me realize that the government has much more control over citizens than I've ever really realized.

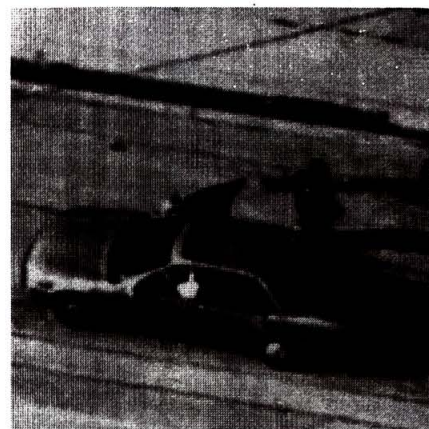
So, if marijuana really isn't the mad, bad drug that the DEA and government say it is (minus the whole inhaling smoke into your lungs thing), I've decided there are other issues I should be suspicious of. I'm already wary about the whole "don't have sex until you're mar-

ried" shtick that the government is enforcing with the outrageously funded abstinence-only programs.

While abstinence is a the most effective way to avoid disease and pregnancy, I still find many downfalls in the program. For instance, not everyone wants to get married to the one they love, so why should people have to wait for a little piece of paper and a ring to determine when they want to share intimate feelings with someone?

And something else I've always been leery about is the lottery. How many people do you know who have won the lottery? I'm guessing none. If you do know someone, then please let me know; I'd like to meet that person. My guess is that there really is no winner, just actors who pretend to win millions of dollars in the public eye, but really the government is cashing in fat dough from all the purchased lottery tickets.

The lottery thing is a stretch, and it's entirely possible that working on the marijuana story has rubbed some sort of paranoia effect onto me, but I may be on to something. If reading about marijuana isn't quite your thing but getting high on music and life is, then be sure to check out the karaoke roundup for information on the best places in the city to get down with your bad self.



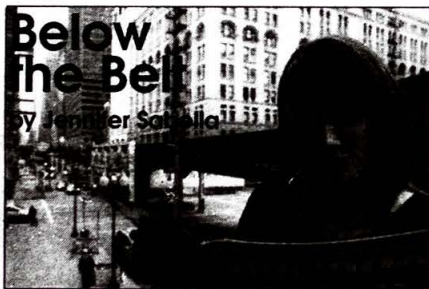
Last Monday was an interesting day in southern California. The area experienced not one, but two high speed car chases, and they were captured on live television.

The first chase was lead by a classy man who stole a silver Volkswagen Golf at knifepoint and then took the California Highway Patrol for a ride as he drove south down some highway we don't care about for a little over an hour. The car eventually came to a stop after tire-flattening spike strips punctured a wheel and the car ran out of gas. The driver then surrendered peacefully, and police took him into custody.

Immediately following the live excitement of the first chase, the news cut to another one a little farther north in Los Angeles. A woman with lower car standards stole an older, white vehicle and led cops through a maze of streets, stopping once to let someone out of the car. This chase unfortunately only lasted half an hour, and this suspect also lamely surrendered without a fight.

So our question is: Where ya goin' there, Mr. and Ms. Carjacker? Maybe your parents subjected you to days of watching ridiculous movies in your dank basement, and it left you idiotic and out of touch with reality. But really, can you name one movie where a car chase ended successfully?

We would love to see a car chase that lasted so long the cops just decided to let the driver win; 'cause damn, they sure are tired. But this isn't *2 Fast, 2 Furious* and you're not Paul Walker (which you should be oh-so-grateful for). But you're still a jackass, and we've got TV coverage to prove it. — T. Breyne



I'll check your box

For some reason or another, Americans have a need for everything to be either up or down, black or white—defined clearly to avoid confusion.

While people in my class bitch about the plus/minus grade scale, ("Why can't it just be an A or a B? This A- shit sucks"), people in the business world beat each other up over a better title, better salary, a desk with a view. We are so caught up in checking a box and winning a prize that we rarely notice what is actually going on around us, and, when it comes to relationships, this couldn't be more true. Married? Single? In a Relationship? Our status on Myspace and Facebook holds more weight than the relationship itself. But, really, what's in

a title?

Even my first Columbia class of the semester resulted in a brief argument about marriage. Why do two people have to be married to spend the rest of their lives together? What does a piece of paper have to do with true commitment and loyalty? I simply don't get it. Apparently, my friend Adam doesn't either.

In a drunken stupor, a few friends of mine got together last weekend and

decided to fly to Vegas for a few nights of drunken debauchery. I admired their spontaneity until I realized just how spontaneous they were. My good friend Adam has been after a cute bartender named Jen for a few months and they recently starting dating—I mean, I think they were dating. This is where the whole title thing comes in handy, I suppose.

Anyway, I get a drunken call from Adam one night and was shocked when I heard what he told me.

"I got married," he slurred. "Jen signed a prenup on a napkin."

After they sobered up, I asked Adam if they were going to get the marriage annulled. He didn't seem too concerned, and, really, what does it matter?

Aside from the skyrocketing costs of divorce, who cares if they're married? If they both think it's funny, and all their friends think it's funny, what harm is it causing?

Ever since I started dating at the young age of 15, I needed a title in order to be satisfied—"You're my boyfriend, or you're outta here." And as I got older, a title just seemed to help make everything more clear. Saying "Oh, he's just this guy I'm sleeping with" rarely goes over well. But as time goes by, I realize that it doesn't really matter.

Two adults can decide to spend the rest of their lives together monogamously and not get married; two adults can hang out regularly, have amazing sex and not rush to define things. Because, honestly, that's when things fall apart.

Having a formal title may not be a terrible thing. It helps during introductions and such, but I know so many people who spend more time panicking over "what we are" rather than focusing on the developing relationship.

For the first time in my life, I'm completely content not knowing exactly what is what. I'm satisfied. Maybe it's because of my busy schedule. Maybe it's because I'm tired of dramatic relationships with men. Either way, I'm calling off the search for a label, and embracing the "Que Sera, Sera" attitude that Doris Day sang about ages ago.

Whatever may be, may be. Amen, sister.



Love us or hate us...

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



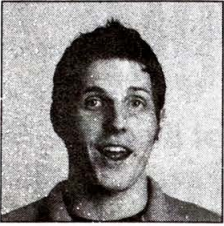
Hunter Clauss - hclauss@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8970

Tiffany Breyne - tbreyne@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8971

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.

Sam
LibrettiTiffany
BreynéHunter
Clauss

top five

The state of California: Two high-speed police chases in one day equals great afternoon entertainment. Especially when one of the outlaws is able to stop to drop off a passenger. Way to go, LAPD!

Los Angeles Lakers' Assistant Coach Tex Winter: Amid the blind praise of Kobe Bryant's 81-point outburst against the Toronto Raptors, old Tex served as the voice of reason, correctly observing, "I don't think you can win a championship that way."

Johnnie Walker Black Label: Sure, it's a little more expensive. But spending those few extra dollars is totally worth it for one of the best Scotches this side of Scotland.

Karaoke: In the spirit of the feature included in *The Word*, karaoke pretty much rocks. Give me five beers and watch me blow you away with my "Twist 'n' Shout."

U-Pass: The CTA's price hike and its cut of free transfers has made the U-Pass that much sexier.

U-Pass: Lordy, lordy, I'm riding every train and bus I see now that my broke-ass doesn't have to pay two dollars like the rest of the chumps who aren't in school.

School supplies: Oh man, I can't get enough of that fun, waxy crayon smell as I get psyched to see which class I might be making colorful dioramas in this semester.

Crossword puzzles with a dirty word theme: Take Human Sexuality Seminar and you'll know what I'm talking about.

Lisa Loeb: "#1 Single," Loeb's new TV show on E!, proves this four-eyed chick is adorable and should be anything but single.

Jell-O Castles: Mmmm ... some carnivorous folk may enjoy the thought of a castle made out of meat, but I favor a jiggly, fruity home.

School supplies: Going down the school supplies aisle is always fun no matter how daunting the new semester may be. I recommend getting the Cuddly Cuties folders with adorable puppies and kittens on them, because nothing says "Interpretive Reporting 101" like a tiny little kitten.

"24" the movie?: Kiefer Sutherland mentioned the idea of having a movie based on the television show "24" during a recent press conference. The show in itself is so delightfully stressful that a movie adaptation would make my head explode with glee.

U-Pass: The CTA can kiss my ass now that I have my U-Pass. Two dollars in their faces.

Bizarro Superman: I really wish Superman's intellectually challenged super clone Bizarro would be in the new *Superman Returns* movie. Bizarro says "bad-bye" instead of "goodbye," which makes Bizarro one of the greatest villains in comic book history.

MTV's "Next": This dating show blows all other dating shows away by scrapping what's at the bottom of the barrel in terms of the dating pool. Straights, gays and lesbians are all there, and things often get wildly hilarious.

Calendar of Events

Monday

Nile plays at the House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St., at 5 p.m. Tickets cost from \$25 to \$27.50.

Camille Paglia discusses her new book, *Break, Blow, Burn: Camille Paglia Reads Forty-Three of the World's Best Poems*, at Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St. Free at 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Night at Chicago Billiards Cafe, 5935 W. Irving Park Road, from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Ladies play free at the bright and family oriented cafe.

Nutrition and healthy eating classes at Fox and Obel Food Market, 401 E. Illinois St. The class runs from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and costs \$45.

Wednesday

Reading Under the Influence at Sheffield's, 3258 N. Sheffield Ave., from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Cover is \$3 and the night's theme is First Novels.

Aimee Mann plays at Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave., at 7:30. Tickets cost \$37, but the show is sold out.

Thursday

Windy City Roller Derby auditions at Delilah's, 2771 N. Lincoln Ave. The fun begins at 8:30 p.m. and \$5 donations are welcome.

Ricky Martin is livin' la vida loca at The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets cost from \$58.50 to \$93.50, but the show is sold out.

Friday

Chicago Craft Mafia presents the free St. Valentine's Crafts-acre fair at 826CHI, 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave., from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

"Through the Skin" opens tonight at the International Museum of Surgical Science, 1524 N. Lake Shore Drive. The opening reception is free and runs from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday

Watch Six Nations Rugby Tournament at Johnny O'Hagans, 3374 N. Clark St. \$4 Heineken and Amstel during games from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Sunday

The Hoyle Brothers play at the Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave., at 4 p.m. Catch the country band featuring special guests for free.



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Exposure

Pedro Ochoa, owner of Ochoa's Sporting Goods, 1649 W. 18th St., looks over his merchandise during a quiet evening on Jan. 24. Ochoa has been at his location for 42 years, specializing in baseball and soccer goods ranging from shin guards and gloves to balls and trophies.

In the Navy now

'Annapolis' tackles the rigors of the Naval Academy but may not get it right

By Sam Libretti/Associate Editor

Annapolis, a new film that takes a look at the hardships of training at the United States Naval Academy, joins a list of high-profile Hollywood productions that have attempted to provide an account of what it's like to be in one of the most elite militaries in the world.

The film, which opened Jan. 27, stars James Franco (*Spider-Man*, *Tristan & Isolde*) as a young man who fulfills a dream of being accepted to the Naval Academy, which is located in Annapolis, Md. He soon realizes that getting in is only the beginning, and that to emerge as one of the Navy's elite, he must compete in and win a Navy boxing championship. In his way is a tough midshipman, played by model-turned-actor Tyrese Gibson (*Baby Boy*, *2 Fast 2 Furious*).

While the film has taken steps to showcase what a prestigious institution the Naval Academy is, the academy itself wasn't so sure about the production's approach. In fact, the school has gone out of its way not to endorse the film.

Judy Campbell, a spokeswoman with the Naval Academy's Public Affairs office, issued a statement that said the film "does not realistically portray the Naval Academy or how we develop and train future

Navy and Marine Corps officers."

The statement went on to claim that the Naval Academy provided the filmmakers with access to actual academy midshipmen and offered script notes, but that in the end, "the filmmakers made the decision to shoot the film elsewhere and forego further contact with the Naval Academy."

Alex Nikonchuk, a Chicagoan who spent six years in the Navy and was stationed in Virginia, said that for the most part, many of Hollywood's military films aren't accurate.

"I think the bottom line is that Hollywood is going to show whatever they think will make the most money," he said. "If they spend time with the military doing research and what they find is too boring to make a good script, they'll just make the movie that they want to make without looking at the facts."

Nikonchuk said that even though he is a Navy alumnus, he probably won't see *Annapolis*.

"No way would I spend nine bucks on that," he said. "Being in the military isn't like competing in high school with a bully, where you have to beat him in order to gain respect. If you've signed up to

defend your country, everybody there will have mutual respect for one another."

Nikonchuk cited *Top Gun*, the 1986 Tom Cruise film about young pilots in the Naval Flying School, as another example of how Hollywood will over-dramatize events for the big screen.

"The scene where they engage enemy pilots near the end of *Top Gun* is a great scene to watch," Nikonchuk said. "But in real life, it would never happen like that. First of all, it takes a lot more than what they show to even prepare a plane to fire a shot. And in peace time, automatically engaging an aircraft just doesn't happen."

In regard to the elite status of Naval Academy graduates, Nikonchuk confirmed that it was not easy to earn acceptance to the Annapolis school—for the most part.

"I knew a lot of people who came from there," he said. "And you definitely need to be in pretty good shape, mentally and physically, to make it there. But just like any other elite school, there's ways of making it through while flying under the radar. I definitely knew some morons who were graduates of the Naval Academy."



Lightstone Pictures

Lt. Cole (Tyrese Gibson) and Jake Huard (James Franco) butt heads in the Naval Academy's boxing tournament in 'Annapolis.'

In spite of the errors of fact that *Annapolis* and other military films like it may contain, when the military is showcased on the big screen, it can lead to an increase in interest from possible recruits.

Navy FC2 Joseph Redemske, who works for a local Navy recruiting station, said that in the weeks and months following the release of a major motion picture about the military, he will see a higher percentage of interested parties.

"Over the next few months, I wouldn't be surprised if we see a lot

more kids asking questions about how they can sign up," he said. "Especially when we visit high schools. A movie about the Navy is bound to make people more interested, even if it's not to go join the Naval Academy."

Redemske said he probably would see *Annapolis*, even though it may not be totally realistic.

"I'm still interested, even though it probably follows the form of glorifying only what the filmmakers saw as a vision of the military."

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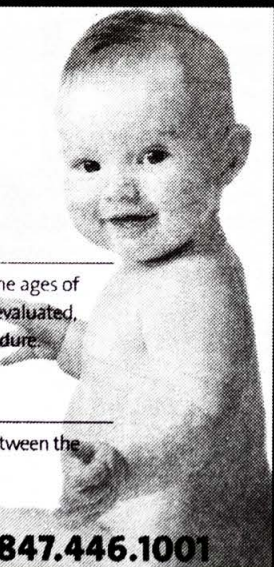
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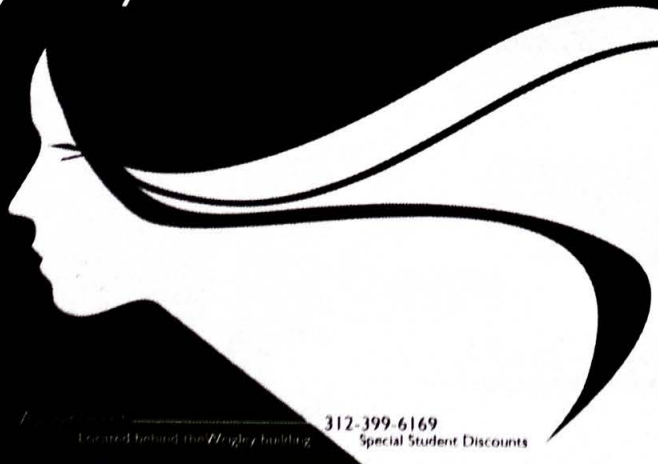
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Musicians band together for benefit

Gary Schemers has been helping out Chicago venues for decades—now it's their turn to give back

By Tiffany Breyne/A&E Editor

Gary Schemers may not be a well-known name, and his status may not be that of a rock star, but multiple musicians, including Wilco's Jeff Tweedy, have lined up to play benefit shows in his honor.

Schemers is probably a guy more involved in your life than you would think if you have ever attended shows at venues across the city such as Abbey Pub, Lounge Ax, The Hideout, The Empty Bottle and more. As a soundman, Schemers has helped set up shows and form friendships with local musicians and venue workers in Chicago over the past two decades.

On Dec. 11 Schemers worked a show at the Abbey Pub despite pain and swelling on his left foot. After the show, Schemers asked for directions to the nearest hospital to pick up some antibiotics but instead received life-changing news.

Doctors informed him that his foot was infected with a flesh-eating bacteria causing a gangrene infection. Had he waited 12 hours longer to get medical help, he would have lost his leg. In addition

to the infection, Schemers discovered that he had type 2 diabetes.

As if the news of his medical misfortunes isn't enough, Schemers doesn't have health insurance to help pay for the bills he racked up after spending 24 days in the hospital. Friends and local musicians have gathered together to create a series of benefit shows that, so far, have contributed thousands of dollars to the donation fund, aptly called the Gary Schemers Trust, in hopes of alleviating the mounting bills.

"He thought he'd get some antibiotics and go home and pay a couple hundred dollar hospital bill," said Kelly Hogan, a musician and friend of Schemers. "Instead it's a six-figure hospital bill and rising. Just being a musician, nobody I know [has health insurance], unless they marry into somebody who has a day job. You just can't afford it. It's ridiculous."

According to an article printed earlier this month in the Chicago Reader, Schemers is originally from Oklahoma. He studied music

and played tuba in college and began his Chicago career as a soundman at Pravda Sound, owned by Stan Doty, sound engineer for Wilco, in the '80s. Schemers was around to help out for Bloodshot Records' first concerts a decade ago and eventually started his sound freelancing around the city.

Schemers doesn't just participate behind the scenes at shows. He also plays tuba in Devil in a Woodpile, an acoustic blues band that plays shows every Tuesday night at The Hideout, and in The Prohibition Orchestra of Chicago, a band that plays dance songs from 1923 to 1934.

Hogan got to know Schemers before she moved to Chicago nine years ago when she came to town with her various traveling bands. She and her bandmates relied on Schemers and other sound guys to produce great sound at their shows, but Hogan said he also left a good impression on her that helped forge a friendship after she moved to the city and joined the local music scene.



Courtesy Bloodshot Records

Gary Schemers, local soundman and tuba player in Devil in a Woodpile, was recently diagnosed with type 2 diabetes.

"I affectionately call him the cream-filled cactus," Hogan said. "He's a big guy; he has a very hilarious dry sense of humor. He comes out kind of Eyore-esque sometimes, but he's got a heart of gold and a creamy center, and I love him to death."

Schemers' impressionable personality and reputation around Chicago have made it easy for people to volunteer their time and space so that Hogan and others, including Nan Warshaw, owner of Bloodshot Records, could set up the shows.

Seven performances have already taken place at some of the venues that Schemers has worked at over the years, including a sold-out show at Abbey Pub featuring Jeff Tweedy and Devil in a Woodpile. An eighth show will take place Feb. 4 at The Hideout, with musicians Freakwater, Jim Elkington and Deanna Varagona

scheduled to play.

"He's definitely a veteran," said Matt Rucins, Schubas talent buyer. "I mean he goes by, [and] basically is recognized by his first name."

Rucins said he's known Schemers for six years, and he's considered the sixth man around the place, filling in whenever he was needed and performing with his band. Rucins said the whole process was a "grassroots thing," and that he was willing to help by providing show time on Jan. 27, at a Bottle Rockets concert playing to a sold-out crowd.

Schemers is currently residing in a nursing home and is wheelchair-bound until his foot heals from the bacteria and he is able to get around on his own.

To find out more information about the benefit shows and how to help Gary Schemers, visit www.bloodshotrecords.com.

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Brief encounters of a different kind

Do people encounter God during a near-death experience, or is it just a trick of the mind?

By Hunter Clauss/A&E Editor

In 1994, Diane Willis was sitting at home reading the Chicago Tribune when it happened. The article she was reading, "Beyond the crystal ball" by Marya Smith about local psychic and spiritual author Sonia Choquette, began to do something Willis hadn't expected.

"I was reading this article, and as I was going along, the first thing that I noticed was that I started feeling love flowing out of the picture [and] into my chest," Willis said. "It was like a waterfall of love just flowing. For some reason or another I didn't get freaked by that, but I thought, 'Gee, this is interesting. This is really funny.'"

As she continued to read the article, the newspaper continued to act unusually. According to Willis, the edges of the paper became "shimmery like a road on a hot summer day."

"The whole article lifted off the page and came at me and that got my attention, and I freaked," Willis said. "It was really bizarre."

Willis had a near-death experience without having been injured or hospitalized. This event, as well as others, would later influence her to found the Chicago chapter of the International Association of Near-Death Studies, a nonprofit group that promotes public discussion and acceptance of these rare experiences through its monthly meetings and lectures.

Janice Holden, the president of the IANDS, has never had a near-death experience but is interested in paranormal and mystical experiences such as Willis'. The Chicago association is affiliated with and receives information from IANDS, but is completely independent otherwise.

Aside from her 1994 experi-



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Since her near-death experience, Diane Willis is no longer afraid of dying. She believes that what awaits her on the other side is more 'real' than life on Earth.

ence with the newspaper, Willis also went through another near-death event. Through a series of events, Willis discovered Transitions, a spiritual bookstore, and decided to visit it one day when she had time. Upon arriving at the store, she found out that Choquette was going to be speaking and signing copies of her book *The Psychic Pathway* that following Sunday.

Intrigued and curious, Willis and her husband attended the spiritual author's signing.

"I got in line to have her sign my book, and she took one look at me, and she said, 'Oh your energy is enormous,'" Willis said.

"She said, 'You're supposed to be doing something.' She said, 'Your soul is constantly in joy.' Anyway, she kept saying those things over and over again, and I thought 'Oh, yeah right, lady. She probably says that to everybody.'"

In addition to buying Choquette's book, Willis purchased a set of three meditation tapes in hopes of learning more about what had happened to her.

Willis, who attended a Lutheran high school as a young woman, said she was not familiar with meditation nor did she exactly believe in it, but she was willing to give it a try. She began meditating, and after three days

Willis began to notice things she had not realized before.

"After a few days, all of a sudden I had complete memories of having meditated thousand of times in just an instant," Willis said. "I could remember doing it, and I thought, 'What kind of a trick is this?'"

Then during another meditation session weeks later, Willis heard the voice on the meditation tape say, "Let your heart go out around the world," which caused Willis to see her heart stretch "about eight feet in diameter." Willis remained calm and felt herself being pulled through a black tunnel until she confronted a white light.

"Lots of weird things can happen when your brain is really stressed out under unusual circumstances."

"I knew immediately that this was God," Willis said about the white light. "I felt really embarrassed. I tried to hide because I thought I wasn't good enough to see God and I was assured, 'no, no, no that wasn't the case.' I communicated with the light telepathically, and I knew I was being blessed and sent back to do something."

When Willis awoke, she said she felt massive amounts of love as well as a different outlook on life on Earth.

"You look at things completely different," Willis said. "Before, I was totally involved in being here on Earth, but when I came back I knew that this was not home, and I knew that this is not real. The other side was much more real than this."

In addition to listening to stories from people who have gone through near-death experiences,

one area that Holden researches is veridical perception, which is when a person goes through an out-of-body experience and can recall specific details about his or her surroundings while unconscious or in a near-death state.

Holden recalled an example of veridical perception in which a woman had a heart attack and was brought into an emergency room of a hospital. While the woman was unconscious, she had an out-of-body experience in which she saw a tennis shoe on the hospital's top-floor ledge. A social worker who heard about the woman's claims checked the ledge and discovered the tennis shoe.

"That's just one of many anec-

she has not experienced before, the brain will try to make sense of it according to a person's cultural or religious background, which would explain why some people interpret a white light as being God.

"Lots of weird things can happen when your brain is really stressed out under unusual circumstances," Suzuki said.

He also pointed out that if the brain is stimulated in a certain way, the perception of an out-of-body experience could take place.

"The fact that you know where your toes are and your fingers are, it's not an automatic thing," Suzuki said. "It's processed by the brain. When that area gets screwed up or you stimulate that area, you can have a distorted body perception like you feel you're looking at your toes from 20 feet away."

Suzuki also points out that whether a person really encounters God or a dead relative while in a near-death experience can never be proven one way or another. Just because a person believes he or she saw God doesn't mean that is what actually happened, Suzuki said.

Although Suzuki offers another outlook on this experience, Willis is still dedicated in gathering information and passing it along to others with similar experiences or to those who just may be curious.

"I came back with a real drive to help people know that we don't die," Willis said. "A lot of people don't talk about it because they're afraid people will think that they are crazy. Because when they start talking about it, people who don't know what they're talking about tell them they're crazy. But they're not. So there's a big need for a place like this."



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Near-death experiences can strike at any moment.

'Geek' has tips for dating beauties

Former reality-TV contestant offers a few tips for guys trying to score a date

By Maureen Ryan/KRT

If you're a little on the nerdy side and you need tips on dealing with the opposite sex, why not get them from a guy who just had a crash course in de-geeking?

Last fall, Joe Block, a 24-year-old University of Chicago grad, took time off from getting his doctorate in mechanical engineering at Northwestern University to take part in "Beauty and the Geek 2." The reality show pairs hot ladies with brainy guys in the hopes that each group will learn something from the other, and the first edition of "Beauty" was a surprisingly entertaining—and successful—show for the WB network.

"Beauty," which returned Jan. 12, is not a dating show, but Block says that through his teammate on the show and the other women in the "Beauty" mansion, he learned a lot about how to present a better image to the opposite sex. Here are just a few of the things he learned:

- Try to create at least a little mystery about yourself; don't always offer tons of information up front. A lot of geeks "are very nice guys and go out of their way to do nice things, and girls sometimes take that and run with it. In the end, you have to be a little bit of a challenge" or you risk "falling into the friend zone," Block said.
- Check out how you're standing. "How you carry yourself—your posture, how you shake hands—all of that is important."
- Don't get hung up on setting up big,

official "dates." "Meeting up with friends and/or in group settings is less awkward."

- Be open-minded about whom you will or won't date. "Sometimes guys limit their possibilities by saying, 'I only like girls who like this or that.' You'll find a lot of geeky guys are very picky. It's good to know what you want, but there are pros and cons to everything and everyone," Block noted.

- Dress better. "A lot of guys get stuck in wardrobe ruts, and they're not willing to change." Be willing to change and to listen to hair and fashion advice from those you trust.

- Nobody's perfect. Even attractive people feel insecure at times. "The girls would look at pictures of themselves and point out all these things that were wrong with them—things guys would never think of," Block said, which was "kind of shocking."

- Avoid cheesy pickup lines. Just initiate a short conversation with someone who catches your eye at a bar, but then move on in a quick but friendly way. You never know, that person might seek you out later. "For every one out of 10 times that works, it's worth it."

- Take chances. "What was holding a lot of guys [on the show] back was the fear of failure," Block said. But he learned that "even if you do mess up, you'll still be all right."



Joe Block thinks that geeks, like the one shown above, can learn a thing or two from the WB's 'Beauty and the Geek.'

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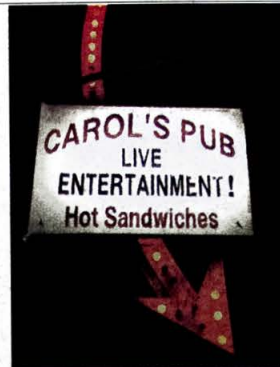
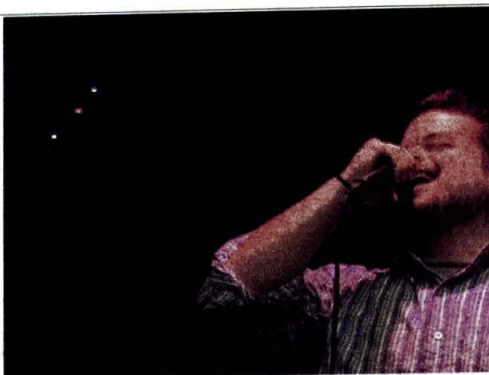
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Karaoke Fever

Whether it's inspired by downing a couple of drinks or finding the ultimate song, many late-night bar hoppers are handing in their tickets to step up to the microphone and cut loose through karaoke. While there are plenty of places to watch people try their luck at Johnny Cash or Prince, The Chronicle has put together some noteworthy bars and pubs that work at providing some of the best

Story by Hunter Clauss
Photography by Eric Davis and Michael Jarecki
Graphics by Joshua Covarrubias



Hidden Cove

Located at 5336 N. Lincoln Ave., Hidden Cove is decked out in bright lights and island-themed decorations. Drinks are moderately priced and sometimes served by women in bikinis, which can either be a good thing or a really depressing thing.

This bar has plenty of room to accommodate even the largest of parties, and if the whole gang wants to sing at the same time, the stage is definitely up to the challenge considering that it's larger than most.

Karaoke begins later in the evening, every night. Newcomers who may be a bit shy can try their luck during the weekdays when it's not as busy, but adventure seekers can find a captivated audience over the weekend.

Bartender Hector Hernandez enjoys watching people sing karaoke and has one regular he enjoys watching a little bit more.

"There's this one guy who comes here who plays the harmonica," Hernandez said. "He brings his own, and he plays along with the music. He does the Rolling Stones [and] the Doors. He's pretty good."

One aspect of the Hidden Cove that makes Hernandez proud is the diversity of people who stop by.

"We get different crowds," he said. "We get the older people. We get young people, and this is a nice place to get a drink and chill out for a while."

Carol's Pub

Aside from having your ID checked by a doorman who looks like he could possibly be a bounty hunter, this country and western dive bar, located at 4659 N. Clark St., is so laid-back that it makes for an excellent karaoke experience for anyone who may be new or shy.

Carol's hosts karaoke every Thursday night and has one of the finest selections of country and western music to choose from, as well as more mainstream stuff like the Beach Boys or Alicia Keyes.

While this bar is filled with some of the most colorful regulars in Chicago, Carol's also attracts younger crowds that pack the place during karaoke night.

Owner Carol Harris believes that the general mood of the bar lends itself to what makes karaoke special there.

"It seems like people are more down to earth," Harris said. "They're more friendly. They're normal people—if that makes sense." Harris doesn't sing much but enjoys watching her customers step up to the mic.

"Believe it or not, I get a big kick out of it," she said. "It's their moment, and they don't really care how they act. They're themselves."

In addition to karaoke, Carol's also has a pool table. Like karaoke, though, it usually gets snatched up pretty quickly. So get there early.

Trader Todd's

Famous for being co-owned by Don Gibb, who is better known as Ogre from the *Revenge of the Nerds* movies, Trader Todd's provides karaoke every night to a crowd that consists of lots of sports fans and yuppies.

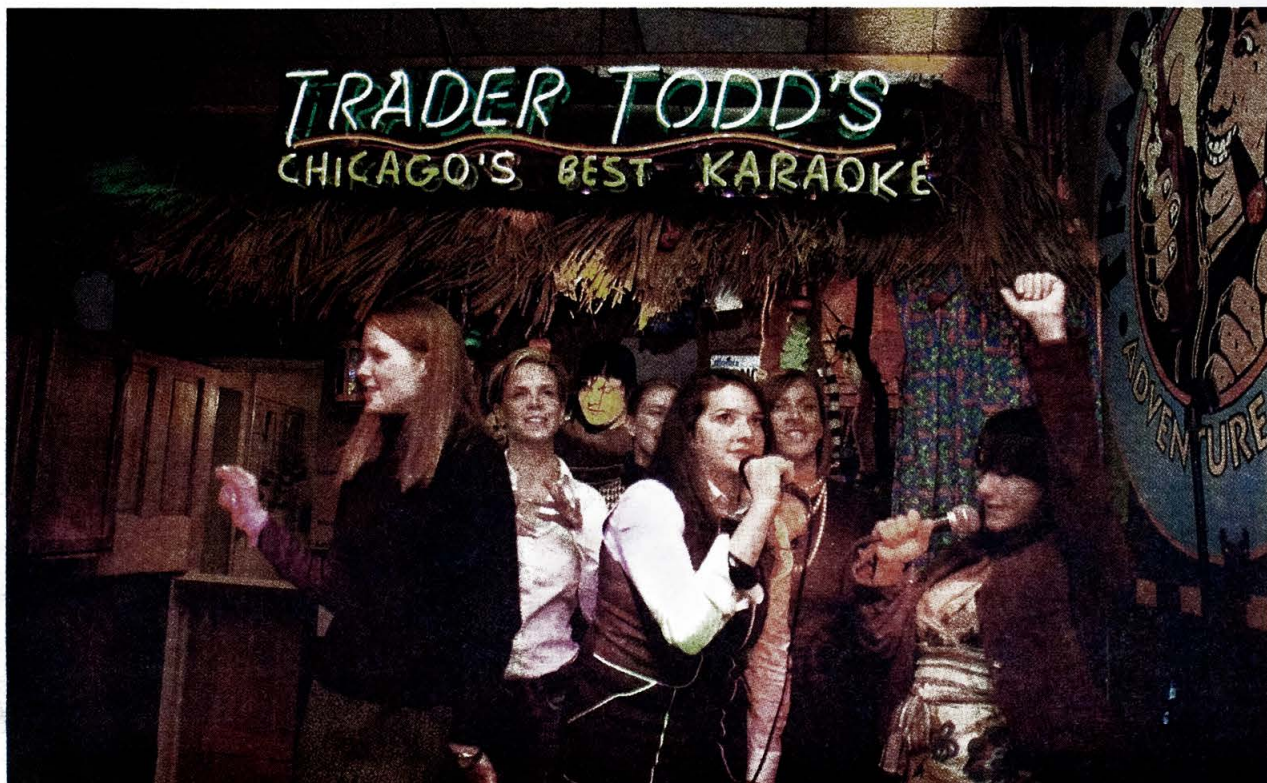
"Basically, we've kind of made karaoke cool," said general manager Clef Hagerman.

Trader Todd's, 3216 N. Sheffield Ave., didn't always have karaoke every night of the week. It originally started having it only once a week, but as it grew in popularity the bar expanded its karaoke night throughout the week. "It gives them a chance to be a rock star," Hagerman said.

According to Hagerman, what makes a good karaoke performance isn't so much a person's voice, it has everything to do with "stage presence."

"It's not taking yourself seriously and not worrying about what anybody else is thinking about you," he said.

To help lower inhibitions or anxiety over karaoke, Trader Todd's offers such drinks as the Pain Killer and the SoColada, which are sure to get anyone drunk fast.



Holiday Club

This swanky bar, which experienced some national attention in late 2005 when Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn stopped by after a day of shooting their movie *The Break Up*, breaks out the karaoke mic every Wednesday night starting around 9:30 p.m.

Holiday Club, which is located at 4000 N. Sheridan Road., has heavy influences from the Rat Pack and is split into two rooms: the front room geared toward sports fans with TVs tuned into a game, and the back room having more of an alternative feel with DJs spinning and televisions turned to Adult Swim.

The music selection at Holiday Club is diverse and includes tunes from the J. Geils Band to the Beastie Boys.

"You want to keep things lively," said Phil Cook, general manager of Holiday Club. "You don't want to listen to someone sing some mellow song and make everyone go to sleep."

Cook enjoys watching people step up to the mic and sing their favorite songs, and he always gets a hoot out of anything people do to liven up the crowd.

"It seems like over here people like to do it in groups, where someone will be singing, and they'll have three or four background dancers that goof around," Cook said.

In addition to karaoke, Holiday Club has a pool table, a jukebox that seems to have everything and one of the best Long Island iced teas in Chicago.

Louie's Pub

This hot spot on 1659 W. North Ave. hosts karaoke six nights a week, starting around 9 p.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Karaoke nights have caught on well with local residents and fill up pretty quickly, so the inexperienced may feel a bit discouraged. The music selection, though, is well worth it with over 10,000 titles to choose from.

"They get to act out that childhood dream of becoming a star," said general manager Abram Sanaoval about his regulars. "It's very entertaining. A lot of people have their staple song [that] they can execute fairly well."

This pub has cordless mic, a nice detail that can allow the singer to run around the room or get the whole crowd in on the action.

"Everyone participates," Sanaoval said. "It's one big party."

Sanaoval thinks that karaoke is appealing because it doesn't matter what state of mind a person is in.

"When people are sad, they sing; when they're happy, they sing," Sanaoval said. "It goes hand-in-hand with drinking. It's universal."

Sidekicks

This late-hour bar provides karaoke every night of the week and tends to get packed over the weekend, so it's a good idea to get there as early as possible.

Karaoke started at Sidekicks, 4424 W. Montrose Ave., about 15 years ago when it was offered to draw in customers. The event caught on and was later expanded to every night of the week.

"As far as I know, we were about the first bar around, if not in the city, that did it," said Joe Lonsfoote, general manager for Sidekicks.

Sidekicks is laid-back and has a nice mixture of both new and experienced singers. There's plenty of room to enjoy a drink with friends or to try out the Buffalo wings. There are also arcade games to play if a trio of drunken frat boys start singing "Walk Like an Egyptian."

"A lot of customers we have are customers that go out a lot, and they come here every couple of months or so and sing one or two songs because it's different or fun," Lonsfoote said. "Other people are regulars who are constantly here and constantly singing the same songs, and I have no idea what would bring them out or keep them coming."

Queen Latifah lives large in 'Last Holiday'

Rapper-turned-actress talks about new movie, what she would do with three weeks to live

By Roger Moore/KRT

Queen Latifah took the name "Queen" long before she was famous. But at 35, the former Dana Owens of Newark, N.J., looks more and more like the sovereign of all she surveys.

She has a new movie, an ambitious remake of *Last Holiday*, a comedy about Georgia Byrd, a woman who only starts to live when she discovers she's about to die. This downbeat comedy, a remake of a classic Alec Guinness film of the 1950s, co-stars Gerard Depardieu, LL Cool J and Timothy Hutton.

Question: What did you like about Georgia Byrd?

Latifah: I liked her heart, her sadness. I think I could identify—we can all identify—with those things we want to do with our lives, the things we never got around to. She's sweet. She's shy. I'm not like that at all, and I kind of liked that about her.

You touched on the fact that this is a sad story, and some of that comes unintentionally. This was shot in New Orleans, pre-Katrina.

The first time I sat through the finished film, I cried. I won't lie. You see all these places we filmed, all those people we got to know. I had been looking at find-

ing a place down there myself. What a gorgeous city. No other place like it. But now, it just adds to what I think of as a sort of a melancholy movie. My fans have come to expect a little bit of everything from me. Hopefully, they'll want to see that side of me too. And hopefully, people will be reminded of what a special place New Orleans is and how we should put it back the way it was.

You seem like somebody who has lived and accomplished a lot of what you wanted out of life. What would you do if you were given three weeks to live?

You know, people are gonna ask that when the movie's about a character who finds that out, and I have to say, I'd do just what Georgia did. I'd look after my friends and family. I'd give it all away—everything while I was still living. That's the way to do that. I'd travel, like Georgia did. Not to some big resort, but to Africa or somewhere I'd never been. But there's an awful lot I haven't gotten around to that I sure want to do. I hope I get a chance to do it all.

This movie gave you the chance to sort of relive the shock of what it must have been like the

first time price was no object in deciding how to spend money.

Any moments at the Hotel Pupp (the Czech resort where some of the film is set) or elsewhere that gave you flashbacks?

Oh, I don't know about that. I started young. And when I first got famous and started to see some money, I spent it. You don't tell a teenage girl who grew up with nothing not to spend her money when she gets some. I bought me a Jeep Wrangler—talked my partner into buying one, too. Had to get rid of it; terrible gas mileage, but it was fun. I got me a gold tooth, because everybody in hip-hop had to have one'a those. Then I lost it. And that and the Jeep showed me that material things don't matter, that they don't last. Good lesson to learn when you're young.

That's very Georgia-like, too. It kind of gets at why people seem to root for you in-person and in the movies.

I hope I come off as down-to-earth. I'm not this scary, unapproachable person. I live my life. I enjoy the same things everybody else enjoys. I'm not somebody who's at home in a Grand Hotel Pupp.



Queen Latifah samples some of the finer things in life when she finds out she has three weeks to live in 'Last Holiday.'

WHEN A STRANGER CALLS

DAVID ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS A FILM BY SIMON WEST WHEN A STRANGER CALLS
 CASTING BY BRIAN KIRCHGARTNER KATHY CASSIDY AND CLARK GIBSON MUSIC BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD PRODUCTION DESIGNER PAULY CULLEN
 PRODUCED BY JOHN DAVIS AND TIMOTHY WATSON WRITTEN BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD AND TIMOTHY WATSON
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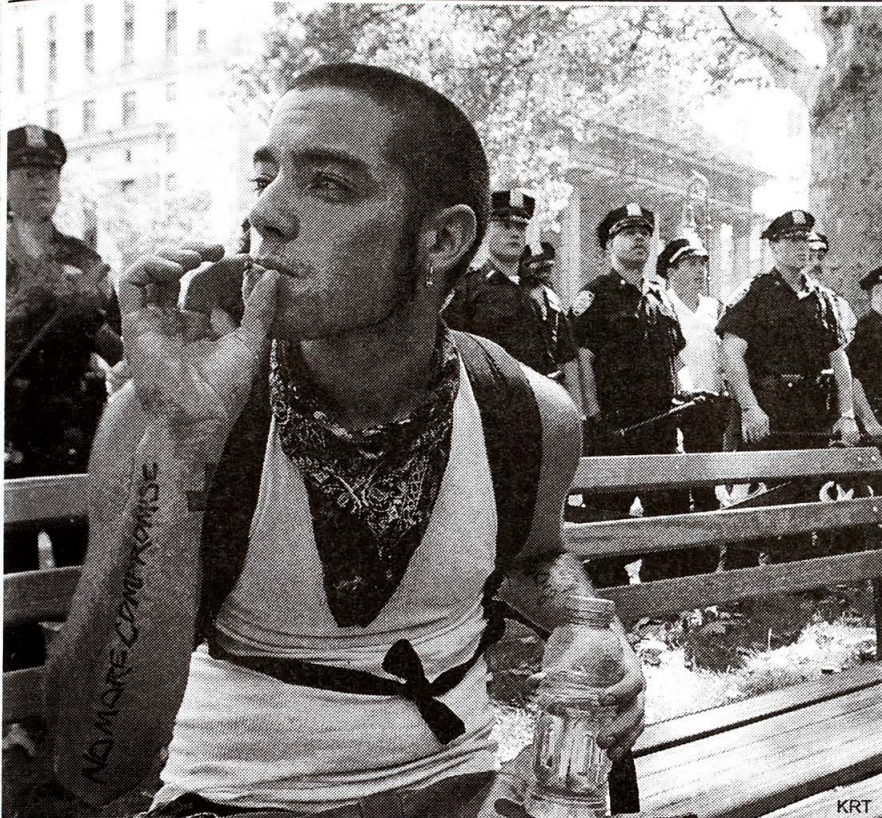
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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD



Left: This man smokes a joint in protest of the nation's laws on marijuana. Right: *The Marijuana Logues* chronicles three guys' journeys through their marijuana smoking experiences.

Pot: Talks about the controversial drug are still budding

Continued From Front Page

teacher at Columbia and author of *Deep Spirit and Great Heart: Living in Marijuana Consciousness*, publishing a book like *The Marijuana Logues* is a feat with a double-edged sword.

"I certainly think people have a right and should have the right to write and publish whatever they want to," Silverstein said. "I think people who are opposed will jump on this book and not pick out other literature on marijuana."

According to Silverstein, marijuana wasn't made illegal in the United States until the 20th century. Before that time, hemp was grown on plantations—including George Washington's—ship sails were made out of hemp and some constitutional documents were written on hemp paper.

Along with the term "reefer madness," Silverstein said that weed gained its negative image when American citizens opposing Mexican immigration to the states spread word that Mexicans were bringing with them this dangerous weed that would make people do terrible things and put them in a crazed sex mode.

Following the propaganda against marijuana, the Drug Enforcement Agency was formed and put on a mission to tell the public of marijuana and other drugs' negative effects on people.

"This allowed them to get more money and increase their organization, and that eventually turned into the war on drugs," Silverstein said. "Which right now is a multi-billion dollar industry, and there's so many people making money off the war that it's hard for them to hear that marijuana is not what they think it is."

The fight to make marijuana legal again, for whatever reason, is opposed not only by organizations like the DEA or government officials but also health advocates. Prevention First, an Illinois drug prevention organization, thinks that legalizing marijuana for any purposes can have

harmful effects on people's health.

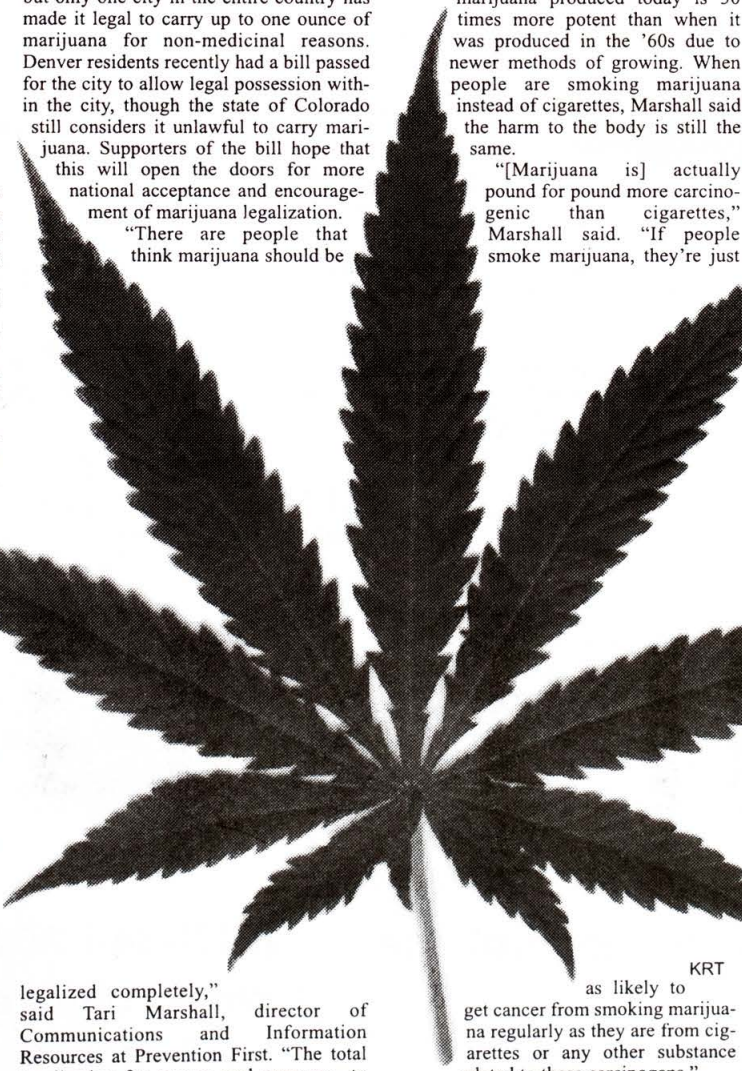
Eleven states in America have made marijuana legal for medicinal purposes, but only one city in the entire country has made it legal to carry up to one ounce of marijuana for non-medicinal reasons. Denver residents recently had a bill passed for the city to allow legal possession within the city, though the state of Colorado still considers it unlawful to carry marijuana. Supporters of the bill hope that this will open the doors for more national acceptance and encouragement of marijuana legalization.

"There are people that think marijuana should be

facts on marijuana and what it does to the body.

According to facts Marshall found, the marijuana produced today is 30 times more potent than when it was produced in the '60s due to newer methods of growing. When people are smoking marijuana instead of cigarettes, Marshall said the harm to the body is still the same.

"[Marijuana is] actually pound for pound more carcinogenic than cigarettes," Marshall said. "If people smoke marijuana, they're just



legalized completely," said Tari Marshall, director of Communications and Information Resources at Prevention First. "The total legalization for anyone and everyone, to us, would be a dangerous decision."

While Prevention First works with young adults and children under 18 to help them make healthy, drug-free choices, it has no overall view on the rights and wrongs of legalization, but they do have

as likely to get cancer from smoking marijuana regularly as they are from cigarettes or any other substance related to these carcinogens."

While Marshall has a strong case for the negative effects of marijuana, Allen St. Pierre, executive director for The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said that a number of studies dedicated to marijuana constantly conflict each

other. St. Pierre said that he divides the studies into two groups—the warning reports and the calming reports. The warning reports can be found on any substance, legal or not. The calming studies come out months later and deny the results of the warning reports.

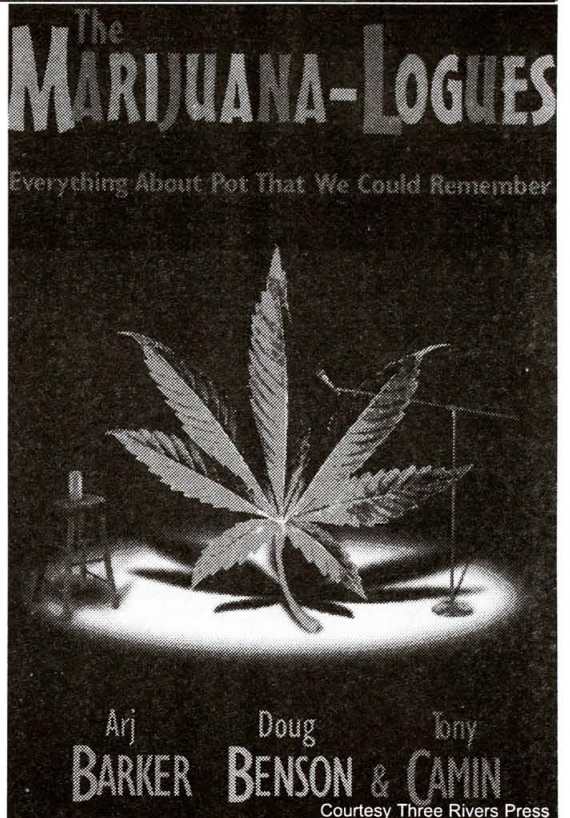
St. Pierre cites organizations such as D.A.R.E. and Partnership for a Drug-Free America as the primary sources of confusion and where the majority of younger people get their information from. According to St. Pierre these organizations do not use credible statistics in the same way they use them for tobacco studies. Regardless of the different studies, St. Pierre has other thoughts on the debate between the effects of tobacco and marijuana.

"One can make the easy concession here that when you burn something and draw it into your lungs, it's by definition not a wise health decision," St. Pierre said. "The question though is whether it should be a criminal decision. And in our country, it is not a criminal decision in most cases if you engage in something that harms only you."

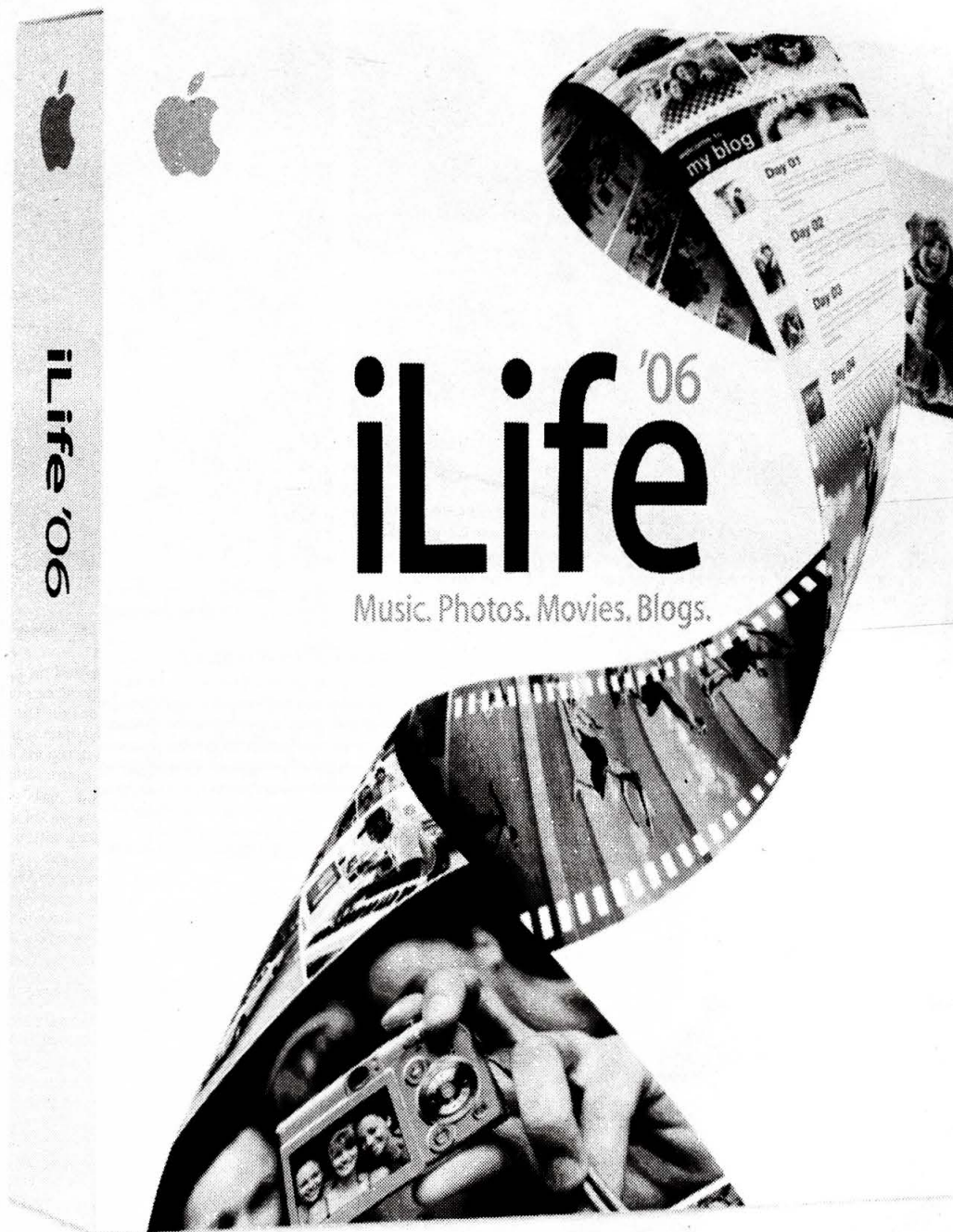
St. Pierre and Silverstein both agree that the government and monetary issues have much to do with marijuana remaining an illegal substance. Silverstein, though, sees possible positives in the legalization of the drug, such as economic benefits. This includes putting the billions of dollars used on the war on drugs every year toward Chicago's public school system, which recently announced that a lack of funds will cause layoffs in the near future. Silverstein said the money could also be used on helping the city's homeless people, and that in his perspective the war on drugs has not lessened the use of marijuana and just "creates havoc" and corruption. Silverstein is optimistic about a possible change in the drug's legality in the future, though he doesn't know when.

"I don't think there's any question that there is light there," Silverstein said. "In a number of European countries they have moved very forward. In the United States I still think it's off somewhere in the indefinite future. That's not gonna occur for awhile."

For more information on Illinois' marijuana laws and on substance use, visit www.norml.org or www.prevention.org.



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It's a 'Dirty' job and Mike Rowe mucks it up

Discovery Channel show explores the world of dirty, filthy jobs and the faces behind them

By Richard Huff/KRT

In the past year, Mike Rowe has ripped off a toenail, thrown out a shoulder, cracked a rib, hurt a hip and banged up a leg.

Oh, there's also the scar left behind when his hand was gnawed by an alligator gar, a large fish with a long, tooth-filled snout.

He's done all this as the host of—and participant in—the Discovery Channel's Tuesday night series "Dirty Jobs."

The title says it all. Each week, viewers see Rowe working as an apprentice on some of the nastiest and most dangerous jobs.

"I'm a B-list celebrity trying to give it an honest look," Rowe said. "They see me do actual work. I try to be the viewer with a microphone."

That job has taken him noodling, which is catching catfish with his hands. He's also been shoulder deep into the rear of a cow and stood inside a den of bats where he was showered by all sorts of vile bat fluids.

The point of the show, he said, is to give an insight into some of the jobs people hardly think about, like picking up dead animals on the road.

"I rarely do anything on the show by myself. I don't want it to be about me," Rowe said. "Squatting in the sewer in San Francisco, it's really hot; we're up to our knees in a river of [excrement]. Rats and cock-



'Dirty Jobs' host Mike Rowe isn't scared of garbage trucks, road kill, owl vomit, hot tar, ostriches, sewers or animal waste.

roaches are all over. I would never, ever walk into that environment, except for the fact that the guy who does it every day is squatting next to me."

Rowe calls what he does "immersion television" and said it fits somewhere between reality TV and documentaries.

The idea for "Dirty Jobs" was hatched a couple of years ago while Rowe was hosting the TV

show "Evening Magazine" in San Francisco. He did a piece on a part-time minister who artificially inseminated cows. Part of the process was talking about how life would be without that job. The segment was a hit, and soon he was doing more. He later sent a few to the folks at the Discovery Channel, where he worked as a narrator since the mid-1990s. They ordered 40

episodes, and he was gone from "Evening Magazine."

It's not the first time Rowe has changed jobs. For a while, he sang with the Baltimore Opera. He sold jewelry on-air at QVC. He's appeared in Tylenol commercials. And he's been the narrator for thousands of hours of television, including "American Chopper." He's also gone from hosting "Romantic Escapes," a

show about five-star hotels, to one about tough jobs.

"Now," Rowe said, "it's poo, blood and semen."

He said he's proud of the work he's doing now, which is something he hadn't felt at past jobs.

But are the bruises, scars and pains worth it? Rowe said whether or not the bruises, scars and pain are worth it is something only time can tell.

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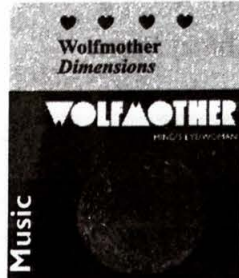
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Reviews



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Wolfmother
Dimensions

Aussie trio Wolfmother may not have the best name, but don't let it fool you. These guys are '70s rockers at heart, and *Dimensions*, their latest EP, displays great musical variety and skill in little time. *Dimensions* could lead you to look into the band's other work. — T. Breyne



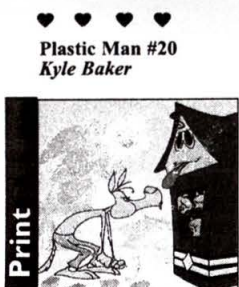
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
We Are Scientists
With Love and Squalor

Aside from the fact that We Are Scientists' lead singer, Keith Murray, is a stone-cold fox, the geek-rock sensations who have been getting loads of rave reviews lately deserve every one of them. *With Love and Squalor* is fun and catchy. And boys holding kittens on their album cover are instant winners of any girl's heart. — J. Sabella



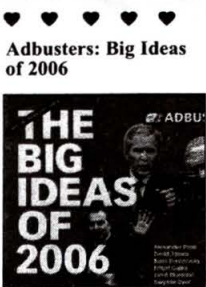
♥ ♥ ♥
Rachael Cantu
Run All Night

When I saw Rachael Cantu open for Tegan and Sara last winter, I fell in love. Her pretty voice and sincere lyrics fed my constant cravings for slightly sappy lady music. Her latest effort, *Run All Night*, is a bit slow at times, but songs like "Saturday" and "Hear My Laughter" are simply amazing. — J. Sabella



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Plastic Man #20
Kyle Baker

Famed artist and writer Kyle Baker ends his award-winning run as the super hero who can stretch to any shape and size. Baker's slapstick humor and stylized artwork reinvigorated a character most comic book nerds believed to be dead. Watch out for a collected edition that will most likely come out sooner than later. — H. Clauss



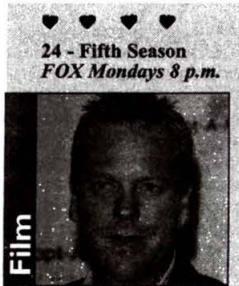
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Adbusters: Big Ideas of 2006

The international cultural activist magazine does not disappoint in its end-of-the-year issue that recaps major events in media, environment, business, science/technology, politics, activism and art/life. Steal it or buy if you contemplate questions like, Is it fascism yet, Can surveillance detect a bitter heart? Or should I change who I am? — J. Ewert



♥ ♥ ♥
Son of a Witch
Gregory Maguire

The famed author of *Wicked* does not let down with his sequel about Elphaba's long-believed-dead son, Liir. Maguire keeps up to par with his dark and mature writing and leads the reader through another inventive and extraordinary tale of magic and self discovery. — T. Breyne



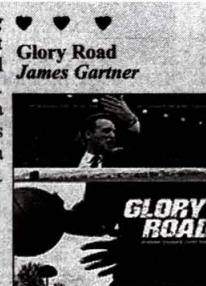
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
24 - Fifth Season
FOX Mondays 8 p.m.

Agent Jack Bauer is back in the game. Former president Palmer is dead, a mole is lurking in the president's office and terrorists have acquired nerve gas. Season five is already kickin'; the airport siege was resolved in two hours. Let's just hope there are no more episodes dedicated to man-versus-cougar brawls. — E. Kasang



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Big Momma's House 2
John Whitesell

This sequel of 2000's *Big Momma's House* pokes fun at the usual suspects: obesity and men dressed up as women. While many sequels come out a year or two after the previous movie, this one seems to be a little late and dated in humor. Better luck next time, Martin. — H. Clauss



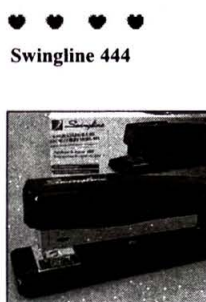
♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Glory Road
James Gartner

Glory Road chronicles Texas Western's 1966 NCAA Championship, which was won with a starting-lineup of all black players. Although it has been criticized for inaccuracy and its merit over other milestones for blacks in basketball, the film is entertaining. — M.C. Finkler



♥ ♥ ♥
Mega Man Maverick Hunter X for PSP
Capcom

Mega Man is making quite a comeback in the video game industry. This new game for PSP seems like it'll be a solid game for the portable player by offering entertainment to both diehard players as well as ones who are suckers for nostalgia. — H. Clauss



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Swingline 444

It's small, shiny, a bit heavy and can be used as a weapon. The commercial desk stapler Swingline 444 is a sleek little bugger than can staple up to 20 sheets of paper. It has a durable metal construction, perfect for frustrated students to pound staples into written projects. — C. Jakubowski



♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Thunderpower Megaphone

At \$39, this voice enhancer and magnifier would make an excellent Valentine's Day gift for that special someone in your life who is shy or tormented by a quiet voice. It can also be used by those suffering the ill effects of a late season cold in their throat or for those looking to be the voice of the next street protest. — J. Ewert

Premium Blend

Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

Inept is a negative word; it means incompetent, foolish, lacking judgment. Maybe that's how the members of Inept feel about themselves, but their music proves to be anything but. This local rock quintet—Anthony Lira, Lucas Mountain, Kevin Singleton, Mike Felton and Joey Ossey—is on fire with shows lined up and a new EP on the way.

How would you describe your performances?

Kevin: We used to do a lot more crazy stuff, but then again our older songs were more focused on "writing songs that we can rock hard in." With our newer songs we've been more focused on melody instead of being able to rock hard. I mean, we still rock out a lot and do all kinds of tricks. But now, we are honestly more focused on playing the songs perfect.

Mike: I think we are a band with tons of energy, and our movement on the stage helps our crowd get into it more and makes them get as wild as we do.

Anthony: We sometimes fly and defy the laws of gravity, and sometimes we fall and get hurt and break shit. It's something new every time. It's us, it's what we want it to be and it's fun.

Do you usually try to stick with the local scene and help other bands out, or do you try to branch out and travel?

K: Well, Inept has been through 22 states already, and we try to get out there and play out of state as much as possible. We love playing in Chicago, though. It's the best city ever.

A: We do both. We take what we can get and give any-

thing we can give. It's a "circle of rock."

Who are the people you guys grew up listening to, and what about bands you're listening to nowadays?

K: We all listen to different bands. I personally have been listening to all sorts of stuff like Augustana, The Receiving End of Sirens, The Classic Crime, Chronic Future and Circa Survive.

M: Right now I listen to everything you could say. I've been rotating Panic! At The Disco, Kanye West, The Academy Is..., Quietdrive and Over It.

A: My dad and my brother, they were and are in bands. I got into it when my grandmother died. My dad played a song on guitar for her at her funeral and for the longest time after that I would always have him play it for me—the most beautiful song I heard. One day I asked him to play it for me, and when he was done I said, "Hey dad, teach me how to play that song," and worked my way up to playing it and loved music ever since.

What can listeners expect from the new EP you're releasing at your show?

K: The songs are still rocking and upbeat but the "screaming" has been cut out. Sometimes I think that sucks because we gained a lot of fans off of the screaming stuff, but our singer can sing a lot better now. So it's all good. If anything, the listeners will be able to reflect on certain situations of their lives as result of listening to the lyrics. Our songs touch a lot of ground: broken hearts, suicide, child birth, the need for change, relationships and in the end, just being able to come together and have a good time.

Inept



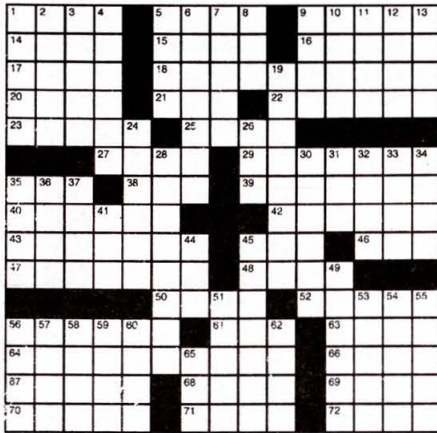
Courtesy Inept

Inept is playing an EP release show at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., on Feb. 4. Check out www.ineptband.com for more information about the band and upcoming shows.

— T. Breyne

Crossword

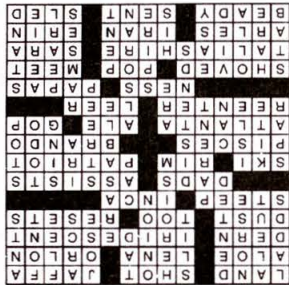
- ACROSS**
- Touch down
 - Worn out
 - Tel Aviv
 - African lily
 - Olin or Horne
 - Manmade fabric
 - Laura or Bruce
 - Like mother-of-pearl
 - Sprinkle with powder
 - In addition
 - Changes, as a timer
 - Much inclined
 - Old Peruvian
 - June honorees
 - Lends a hand
 - Slalom
 - Edge
 - Nationalist
 - Zodiac sign
 - Actor Marlon
 - Olympics site of 1996
 - Pub serving
 - Rep. letters
 - Make a second appearance
 - Malevolent stare
 - Scottish loch
 - Delicate Condition
 - Jostled
 - the question
 - Encounter
 - "Rocky" co-star
 - Gilbert or Teasdale
 - City on the Rhine River delta
 - Persian Gulf country
 - Land of Blarney and Killarney
 - Like some eyes
 - E-mailed
 - Snow coaster
- DOWN**
- Alan and Cheryl
 - Native Alaskan
 - Scandinavians
 - Pockmarked
 - Narrow cut
 - Brevery
 - Stew veggie
 - Abe's boy
 - San, CA
 - Parabolas
 - Make tracks
 - Typeface
 - Porch raiders
 - Like pencil marks
 - Allowance provider
 - Lid
 - Swells out
 - "Silkwood" star
 - Levin or Gershwin
 - Belt out
 - Busy person's list
 - Come to a standstill
 - Ship's pole
 - Flying toy
 - Capri or Man
 - Fire
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 - Losing competitor
 - Exodus pharaoh
 - Steeple top
 - Oyster yield
 - Eagle's home
 - Put up with
 - Piercing pain
 - Tortoise's competitor
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 - Comped (for)
 - Rider
 - House opening?
 - Howdy-dos



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1/30/06

Solutions



- 49 Exodus pharaoh
51 Steeple top
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54 Eagle's home
55 Put up with
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59 Comped (for)
60 Rider
62 House opening?
65 Howdy-dos

to the nines

fashion@columbia



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

A hip style influenced by rock and roll is the fashion preference for sophomore photographer major **Eric Garcia**.

The financial plight that comes with being a college student aside, Garcia goes for clothes from the city's hottest stores.

His jacket, vest and belt are all from H & M while his jeans are Gap originals.

While Garcia has no specific style heroes, electro-rock music like Fischerspooner and Peaches point him in the right direction.

"I just make up my own thing with whatever catches my eye," he said.

Out of My Head

by Scotty Carlson



horoscopes

by Alicia Dorr



Aries (March 21 – April 20): You claim you're too sexy for your cat, but it's actually a pretty tough call.



Taurus (April 21 – May 21): You'll experience more paper cuts today than there are prostitutes in Thailand.



Gemini (May 22 – June 21): This week you question how many political pundits will use the term "ballyhooed." This makes you a dork.



Cancer (June 22 – July 23): Your constant smiling is exhausting your family and peers.



Leo (July 24 – Aug. 23): You may have the heart of a lion in the heat of a fight, but that still doesn't hide the fact that you punch like a girl. And if you're already a girl, the punch will be especially girly.



Virgo (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23): This week you will be able to talk to animals, and you'll be so busy doing so that you'll never stop to ask if you should. I will refer you to the failing career of Eddie Murphy and let you make the call.



Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23): A wink and a smile will strike you as strange this week, due in no small part to the fact came from a carrier pigeon on your windowsill.



Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22): You will declare the South Loop your kingdom this week and set up a rigid feudal system, complete with serfs and knights. However, in playing along with your little game, the neighborhood will overthrow you and you will walk the streets alone, eventually dying of the Black Plague.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21): You are a scallywag. And you smell of booze.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20): Remember: Slicing the moldy part off the cheese does not make it safe to eat.



Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19): The fun of it all is you're not afraid of the Big Bad Wolf. He has no fucking clue that you yourself are, in fact, a Big Bad Wolf. I think it's a funny situation myself. Go you.



Pisces (Feb. 20 – Mar. 20): Peanut butter and a bottle of bubbly? I like the way you think.

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Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 5:00 - 8:00 PM

1/30

MARKED: LUTHER KING'S CELEBRATION AND
REACTIVATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH OF 1963
WITH THE MUSIC AND HISTORY OF THE COLUMBIA
COLLEGE CHICAGO CENTER
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 12:00 - 1:25 PM

1/31

LUTHER KING AND WHY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ
CAME TO CUBA: ALICE DILLAWAY'S CLUB, JAZZ,
AND THE HISTORY OF MUSIC AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF BLACK AT ULINACHAMPION
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 12:00 - 1:25 PM

2/2

EYES ON THE PRIZE, PART ONE OF A THREE PART
SERIES AND PANEL DISCUSSION
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, Room 405, 7:00 PM

2/6

PANEL DISCUSSION: AFTER THE STORM
Don Lemon, author, "After the Storm," and Dr. Clark Bell, oral
historian of the University of Illinois, will lead a panel discussion
at 6:00 PM, 623 S. Wabash, Room 405, 6:00 PM

2/7

FERNANDO JONES BLUES BAND
Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 12:30 - 1:25 PM

2/9

BAPTIZED IN DIRTY WATER: RAP ARTIST DAVID BANNER SPEAKS
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 2:00 PM

2/9

BIG MOUTH, FEATURING DAVID BANNER
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 7:00 PM

2/9

A FREE HISTORY OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE'S STUDENTS WITH RICH SHUTTLEWORTH
Columbia College, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, Monday through Friday

2/13

LECTURE: BLACK CREOLE COMPOSERS OF NINETEENTH
CENTURY NEW ORLEANS
LESTER GILLMAN, ARCHIVIST FOR XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Hobart Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

2/13

EYES ON THE PRIZE, PART TWO
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 7:00 PM

2/14

THE UNTOLD STORY OF EMMETT LOUIS
TILL, WITH DIRECTOR KITTIE BEAUCHAMP
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

2/15

AIDS ACTIVIST RAE LEWIS-THORNTON SPEAKS
Hobart Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 6:00 PM

2/16

CONVERSATIONS IN THE ARTS
UP CLOSE WITH JAMES EARL JONES
The Dance Center of Columbia College, 1104 S. Michigan, 7:30 PM, Tickets \$30, available at www.ticketweb.com or call 866-464-3463

2/21 & 2/22

CERQUA RIVERA: TRIBUTE TO LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 12:30 - 1:25 PM

2/21

EYES ON THE PRIZE, PART THREE
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, Room 405, 7:00 PM

2/23

MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE BALL
Chicago Cultural Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 7:00 PM

2/24 & 2/25

CERQUA RIVERA: THE SHADOW OF THE BLUES
Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, Feb 24
at 8:00 PM and Feb 25 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$18 - \$22

2/27

KATRINA FROM AFAR: ORAL HISTORIES OF THE
CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND FRIENDS OF
THE SOUTH
Hobart Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

2/28

BOOK READING: LERONE BENNETT, JR.
COLUMBIA COLLEGE TRUSTEE AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR, EMERITUS
OF THE NEW YORKER
Columbia College Chicago Bookstore, 521 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor, 7:00 PM

2/28

FAT TUESDAY: A TASTE OF NEW ORLEANS
Hobart Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

3/15

THE NEW BLACK MUSIC REPERTORY ENSEMBLE
Hobart Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 6:00 PM, Tickets \$35All events are free and open to the public. Tickets accepted on arrival. See event page
and website for extended descriptions of each event.

www.colum.edu/africanheritage

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HOKIN GALLERY AND HOKIN ANNEX, 623 S WABASH AVENUE, HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

ALBERT P. WEISMAN MEMORIAL EXHIBITION

January 23–February 24, 2006

Reception: Thursday, February 2, 2006, 5–7pm

Best of Show presentations will be made at 5:30pm

The Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1974 to encourage both undergraduate and graduate Columbia College Chicago students to complete projects in all fields of communication. Racial profiling, gender, illicit love affairs in spaceships, and family history are just some of the themes explored in this year's exhibition. The exhibit features work in nearly a dozen disciplines including photography, book and paper arts, comics, poetry, sculpture, film, and video documentation of performance art.

GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY, 1104 S WABASH AVENUE, HOURS: 10 AM - 5 PM TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AND 10 AM - 7 PM ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY

THE GIFTS OF NEW ORLEANS: MUSIC AND CULTURE EXHIBITION

January 12–February 17, 2006

Opening Reception: January 26, 5-8 pm featuring student performances

Columbia College Chicago and the Glass Curtain Gallery are proud to present Gifts of New Orleans: Music and Culture, the first major exhibition of the Library and Archives at the Center for Black Music Research. This seminal exhibition focuses on New Orleans' musical roots of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, contemporary Louisiana popular music styles, and the musical connections between New Orleans and Chicago, particularly in early jazz and blues. Curated by librarians/archivists Suzanne Flandreau and Andrew Leach, the exhibition will feature photographs, recordings (including audio examples), posters, album covers, printed music and archival materials. The exhibit will run in conjunction with Columbia College Chicago's African American Heritage Celebration.

For more information visit: <http://www.colum.edu/student-affairs/africanamericanaffairs/>

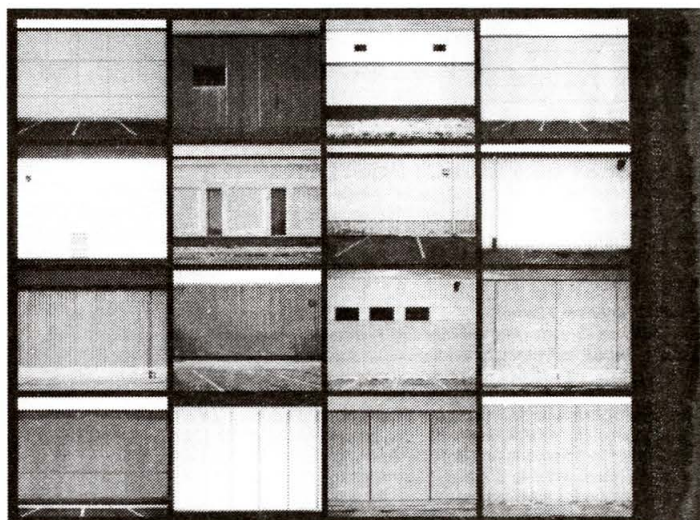
C33 GALLERY, 33 E Congress Avenue, HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

INSPIRING VISION: ARTISTS WHO TEACH

February 6–March 3, 2006

Opening Reception: February 9, 2006 6 - 8pm

Inspiring Vision: Artists Who Teach exhibits the collective work of the graduate students in the Educational Studies Department of Columbia College Chicago. The exhibitors, who are earning their masters' degrees in art education and elementary education, present works in photography, drawing, painting and mixed media. The teacher candidates and dedicated artists demonstrate that their passion and devotion to the arts will enable them to be the catalysts for their students' artistic pursuits. The innovative and vibrant work in Inspiring Vision: Artists Who Teach illustrates that the arts are a vital part of any student's education.



VISIT: [HTTP://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU](http://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU) FOR A LISTING OF ALL UPCOMING [C]SPACE PROGRAMS

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THE STUDENT CENTERS AND GALLERIES OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

[C]Spaces. Your opportunities.

manifest URBAN ARTS FESTIVAL 2006

MANIFEST 06 PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHER

Under the supervision of the [C]Spaces Director and the Visual Communication Coordinator, the Manifest 06 Project Photographer will shoot a series of images during the month of February to be used as the basis of the overall marketing campaign for Manifest 2006.

MANIFEST 06 MUSIC MANAGEMENT INTERN

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

MANIFEST 06 GALLERY ASSISTANT INTERN

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

MANIFEST 06 TECHNOLOGY INTERN

Under the supervision of the [C]Spaces Director and the Visual Communication Coordinator, the Manifest 06 Technology Intern will assist in web marketing and the coordination of digital assets and workflow integral to the planning and promotion of Manifest.

MANIFEST 06 MARKETING INTERN

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

MANIFEST 06 STUDENT ORGANIZATION INTERN

Under the supervision of the Director and Coordinator of Student Leadership and the Manifest Coordinator, the Student Organization CORE Intern will concentrate on organizing and developing an itinerary of events during Manifest 06 for the Student Government Association and Student Organization Council.

FOR COMPLETE JOB DESCRIPTIONS

visit: <http://cspaces.colum.edu/getinvolved/>

Please send all internship resumes and cover letters to: CarolAnn Brown, Director, [C]Spaces/Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, Chicago, IL 60605

CALL FOR WORK NEW AMERICANA

[C]Spaces seeks artistically aggressive undergraduate and graduate Columbia College students to submit to an art exhibition.

This exhibition explores and examines the New Americana. Many of today's ideals, ethics and climates can easily be identified as American. Definition can be drawn from consumerism, direct marketing techniques and fast foods to family values, sexuality, entertainment and environmental landscape.

We seek artistic response in all media to recognize and address these questions: What are the interpretations, relationships, similarities, differences, and/or definitions of American:

★ CULTURE?	★ STYLE?
★ SEXUALITY?	★ PATRIOTISM?
★ LANDSCAPE?	★ INDUSTRY?
★ CONSUMERISM?	★ FAMILY VALUES?
★ POLITICS?	★ ENTERTAINMENT?
★ MASS MARKETING?	★ EDUCATION?

ARTWORK DROP OFF:
CALLFORWORK MARCH 1-3
HOKIN ANNEX, 623 S WABASH AVE

WANT TO CURATE A SHOW AT HOKIN GALLERY, C33 OR GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY?

The workshop includes:

- How to draft a proposal
- What Curatorial Review Boards look for
- Examples of strong, well-developed proposals
- Explanation of budget planning
- Discussion of choosing artwork, including "open call," juries, and soliciting artists.
- Producing a statement of purpose/theme of exhibit
- How to choose an appropriate venue

All [C]Spaces exhibition proposals are reviewed by the Curatorial Review Board once a semester.

Proposals are due on February 15, 2006.

To RSVP for the workshop email: cspaces@colum.edu

To submit an exhibition proposal visit: <http://cspaces.colum.edu/getinvolved/>

PROPOSAL DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15!

The [C]Spaces Curatorial Review Board will soon be reviewing proposals for the 2006-2007 exhibition calendar.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT A PROPOSAL?

Students, faculty and staff, or outside organizations and individuals who have a compelling curatorial idea and the energy to see it through.

QUESTIONS?

Neyssa Page-Lieberman
312.344.7696
cspaces@colum.edu

TO PROPOSE A SHOW, PLEASE VISIT:

<http://cspaces.colum.edu/getinvolved>

DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15
DROP OFF MATERIALS AT THE HOKIN GALLERY

Deadline February 15, 2006!

COMING SOON!
CALL FOR MANIFEST STUDENT BANDS, TICTOC PERFORMERS, SPECTACLE WORKSHOPS, STUDENT ARTWORK, AND MORE!

STUDENT WORKSHOP

INTERESTED IN CURATING AN EXHIBIT AT [C]SPACES?

FEBRUARY 1, 2006 / 5-7PM

Bring your exhibition idea to a student-curator workshop and learn how to submit an exhibition proposal to [C]Spaces.

The workshop includes:

- How to draft a proposal
- What Curatorial Review Boards look for
- Examples of strong, well-developed proposals
- Explanation of budget planning
- Discussion of choosing artwork, including "open call," juries, and soliciting artists.
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**WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
HOKIN ANNEX**

February 1, 2006 5-7 pm

Mark your calendars...Manifest is May 12, 2006!

The Department of Liberal Education and the Office of the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences in collaboration with the Columbia Chronicle, the Journalism Department and the Art & Design Department announce



The 2006 Paula Pfeffer & Cheryl Johnson-Odim Political Cartoon Contest

Deadline for submissions:
Friday, March 17th

Send Submissions to:
Political Cartoon Contest
c/o Teresa Prados-Torreira
Liberal Education Department
624 S. Michigan Ave., 900A

Two \$350 first prizes
Two \$250 second prizes &
Two \$150 third prizes
will be awarded in each of two
categories, single panel and
multiple panel cartoons.

The six winning cartoons will be
selected by a jury, which will
include faculty from various
departments, a student and a
professional cartoonist. Submi-
tted cartoons must be drawn or
printed in black ink on 8.5" x 11"
white paper. Include name,
address, phone and student ID
number on back of entry.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Columbia 
COLLEGE CHICAGO



Blago's credit problems ...

Speaking at an event organized by the office of Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich on Jan. 22, Carlos Acevedo, a 24-year-old Columbia sophomore majoring in broadcast journalism, reminded the audience at Loyola University that many people live paycheck to paycheck.

"Some parents are not able to help assist their kids in going to school," Acevedo said in English and then Spanish. "Sometimes books and lab fees can get very expensive."

The event was an effort to promote Blagojevich's proposed tax credit of up to \$1,000 for Illinois residents attending an Illinois college or university, public or private. While the governor's proposal appears to be a noble effort to assist working-class families, the pitch is a last-minute attempt to throw money at the issues of higher education that have been largely ignored over the past four years.

Columbia president Warrick L. Carter praised the governor in a press release from Blagojevich's office, calling the proposal "an important initiative in support of Illinois families, especially middle and working class families who are disproportionately affected by the cost of higher education."

In comparison to the actions of the federal government, Carter said the state and the governor were to be "commended for this proactive proposal." "This legislation will have an extremely positive impact on students at Columbia," Carter said.

Indeed, a swing of \$1,000 in state taxes will have a posi-

tive impact for Columbia students participating in the Illinois Monetary Award Program. But the question is how many? And what other costs come with the program's \$90 million dollar price tag?

First, eligibility for the tax credit requires that freshmen must have maintained a B grade average from high school, and sophomores must have at least a B average following their first year of college. Considering Columbia's open admissions has no minimum G.P.A. requirement, not everyone stands to benefit.

Furthermore, possible educational consequences of setting the bar for the tax credit at a B average should not be ignored. Does a student, for whom \$1,000 is a world of difference, haggle for a grade they perhaps did not deserve? Does a professor compromise academic integrity out of sympathy to those struggling to make ends meet?

Blagojevich wasn't incorrect in using the terms "generous" and "meaningful" when describing the best intentions of the proposal in his State of the State address Jan. 18. While the goal may be sincere, the use of \$90 million in tax revenue does not seem to address the rising tuition costs involved with pursuing higher education.

The average cost of attending a public university in Illinois is more than \$7,000 annually, according to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, while attending a private college is more than \$18,000. A \$1,000 tax credit is ultimately a snowflake in the heat wave of continuing tuition inflation.

For many Illinois families,

higher education has become as much of a luxury as health care. Blagojevich's proposal also attempts to satisfy critics by assuring that taxpayer funds would be directed only to the students who earn the tax credit. But if the governor hopes to truly improve higher education in the state, then more attention must be given to realistic funding for institutions that would make tuition rates reasonable for all Illinois families.

Blagojevich gave up on hopes to authorize keno—a lottery mix of bingo and video poker—statewide, his plan to bring in \$500 million for new school construction projects. And his tax credit proposal ignores the scope of the state's current budget deficit. Campaigns are built on promises that often go unfulfilled, and we suspect that should Blagojevich win re-election, this will be one of those.

Many people may support the governor's attempt to reach out to families struggling to help pay for college, which would be nice, provided it works. But as tax guru Ralph Martire, executive director of the Chicago-based Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, told the Associated Press, the tax credit needs to be designed to ensure it benefits the people who need it the most.

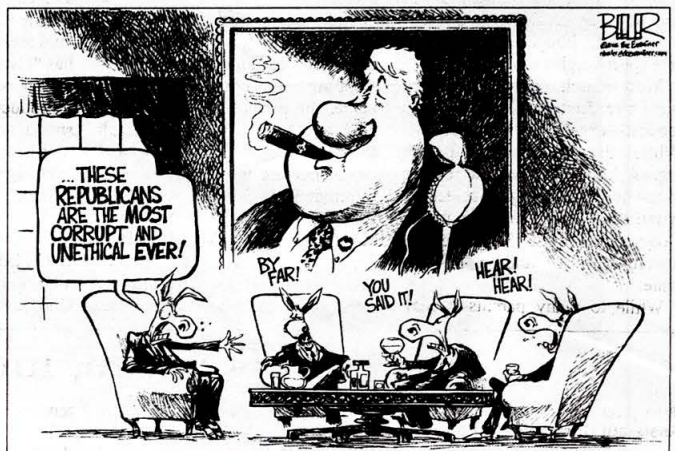
"I'm for anything that helps lower- to middle-income families from a tax point," Martire said. "But it has to be targeted at the income level to know that you're really hitting lower- to middle-income families."

Right now, however, it sounds like Blagojevich's proposal misses the mark.

BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Terrence Nowicki/KRT



Nate Beeler/KRT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



Columbia fails to respect satire

I am dismayed that Columbia fired Mark Phillips, a Science Institute Teaching Assistant, for his role in creating a cartoon that criticized president Warrick L. Carter ("Wacky raid at midnight," Jan. 23). The claim that he was fired not for cartooning but for doing it on company time is simply not believable. I am appalled at the manner in which the information implicating Phillips was acquired—disabling the security alarms and entering the institute in the middle of the night.

A few semesters ago, Phillips was my student in my Cartoons and Satire in American History class. In my class he learned that an individual's ability to poke fun at and question the actions of those in power is the measure of a democratic society. That's what car-

toonists do, and we should defend this First Amendment right, whether we love their work or find it tasteless.

Columbia prides itself—for good reason—as a champion of the satirical artist's right to lampoon authority. As the host of the Fischetti Awards, the most prestigious cartoonists' prize after the Pulitzer, the school invites every year a parade of talented—and often controversial—artists to share their work with our community.

The school's vibrant cartoon culture is also celebrated with the Paula Pfeffer/Cheryl Johnson-Odim Political Cartoon Contest for Columbia students. No other college in the country rewards student cartoonists as generously and as publicly as this competition does.

For all these reasons, Columbia is the last place where anyone should lose a job for drawing a cartoon.

—Teresa Prados-Torreira
Faculty
Liberal Education Department

Have an opinion about something you read on these pages? Why not write a Letter to the Editor? At the bottom of Page 19 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

... and giving credit where it's due

Last September, an editorial in *The Chronicle* stated that lightening the workloads of faculty at Columbia "should be one of the college's top priorities." And over the past two months, there have been numerous encouraging developments that lead us to believe that Columbia's administration agreed.

At its Dec. 15 meeting, the board of trustees unanimously approved the Provost's Recommendation on Faculty Workload and Productivity. That means beginning with the fall 2006 semester, tenured and tenure-track faculty will now be responsible for teaching three courses, or nine credits, per term over a two-year period rather than four courses, or 12 credits.

Implementation of the new plan is expected to be completed during the 2007-

2008 academic year and will allow professors an increase in the time available to advise students outside of class as well as further their professional accomplishments outside of the college. This will not only improve departmental curriculum, but also allow Columbia more improved methods of recruiting and retaining new faculty members.

Additionally, the Part-Time Faculty Association, or P-Fac, overwhelmingly approved its own new contract on Jan. 11.

Last Tuesday, Columbia president Warrick L. Carter ended six months of negotiations by signing a new contract for the part-time instructors, who make up more than three-quarters of Columbia's faculty.

Columbia's administration deserves to be applauded for resolving these issues key to

developing the college's long-term goals. As Columbia continues to grow, working out these concerns now will prove to be essential in helping all the college's departments more effectively meet the demands and expectations of students.

With both agreements, responsibilities for full-time faculty and salaries for part-time faculty at Columbia may now compare more favorably to other local colleges and universities, such as Roosevelt University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. We have a tremendous amount of talented and knowledgeable instructors, and Columbia's efforts to help meet the recommendations of the American Association of University Professors will help the college take another step toward gaining the global reputation it deserves.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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Keep your laws off my Internet

By Alicia Dorr
Managing Editor

The Internet has been readily accessible for barely over a decade, and yet it's impossible to imagine the world without it. It has sped everything up exponentially, bringing the world in contact like never before. This "information superhighway" is almost completely unrestricted—and is the only "free" public media in the world. Until now.

The U.S. Justice Department recently subpoenaed several major search engines for records of Internet user activity. The department claims it would not be using the information to monitor Internet users' habits online but to create a constitutional case for the Child Online Protection Act. The act, passed in 1998, was aimed at any sexual material on commercial websites deemed "harmful to minors," with jail time and a \$50,000 fine as punishment. It was shot down by the Supreme Court 5-4 last year, though, as a threat to free speech rights of adults.

Most search engines complied with the Justice Department's request—except for one, Google. While the Justice Department argued they would use the records to see how often people accidentally ran across illicit sexual material, Google challenged the request as unconstitutional and a privacy issue.

While to many parents it may

seem like a great idea to keep porn away from children, there are myriad problems with the legislation. For example, no one, not even the people who run the porn site, can really tell whether it is a child (deemed anyone under 13 by Congress) or an adult who is accessing the material. That is exactly why the Supreme Court sent it back to the lower courts, leaving it up to parents to keep their kids away from porn on the Internet.

One person may find porn totally repulsive or morally reprehensible, but that really doesn't matter, constitutionally speaking. Actual child pornography is an exception, and that has already been covered as illegal—but that is not the subject here. In a free society it is still someone else's right to view adult pornography if he or she pleases.

Then again, that hasn't really stopped the government from imposing its authority—or overstepping its bounds—when it comes to privacy or the Bill of Rights recently. It's a little difficult to believe that the government would not use the search engine's information to find out about consumers' habits when it defended its right to spy on individual Americans' phone calls. If something as overt as wiretapping tele-

phone conversations is fair game in light of the "War on Terror," then why wouldn't Internet records be?

The Supreme Court basically challenged the government to prove that a law would be more effective than Internet filters. In the search engine case, by attempting to "solve" a free speech and privacy issue, the government has brought up another one. And even if widespread legislation is favored, it still will not solve the problem: Legislation can not protect children in chat rooms, e-mail messages, or any websites from other countries, be it pornographic or otherwise.

The center of the Google controversy does not lie in whether porn is bad or good, or even whether children should be shielded from it, aside from child pornography.

The heart of the issue is the importance of an unregulated Internet, or as analyst Christopher Stern wrote for the Washington Post last week, "unfettered Internet access," which has "come to be seen by Americans in general as not just a privilege or a product, but a right akin to free speech and free association."

When it comes to the Internet, even big companies like Google are willing to stick their necks out. In fact, Google's move contributed to making investors nervous last week, leading to a 14 percent overall drop in market value. Of course, Google is a company, so the move

is its best interest despite the setback, but either way, the company has not faltered and neither has widespread support from bloggers and Internet privacy advocates.

If the Internet is opened for legal government surveillance, it will change the medium as we know it. What is now a wide-open territory with business, independent hackers and average people from around the world will change completely, leaving the door open for lobbyists, government favoritism and even censorship. Imagine not being able to choose between Amazon.com and eBay because eBay did not have enough money to lobby Congress. Consider the possibility of an Internet where the precedent of government meddling has led to censorship on individual blogs—like regulation of political views during an election or war. Or simply think of not being able to visit a porn site as a consenting adult, if you so chose.

Some argue that the Internet cannot stay free from major legal oversight forever, like the Wild West could not. But the Wild West involved one government, however unfairly, looking out for its own interest. The Internet is called the World Wide Web because it is just that—worldwide. It does not speak a language or answer to money in the same way as any one culture, and it has information available from them all. Now everyone simply has to choose whether it is worth it to them to keep it that way.

If the Internet is opened for legal government surveillance, it will change the medium as we know it.

Monkey see, monkey do

By Cyrill Jakubowski
Assistant Commentary Editor

With Academy Awards fever in full swing, focus has been taken away from big box office returns and aimed toward films that gleam with originality. Films that are thought-provoking, poignant and well-made reach for the industry's highest award—the coveted Oscar. But once the ceremony ends, Hollywood goes back to what it holds most dear: budget-busting sequels and lame remakes.

Remade movies seem to populate the market frequently these days. Recently, *King Kong* was expected to be a big money maker. The behemoth Peter Jackson opus cost close to \$207 million to make. Despite good reviews from critics across the nation, the film has failed to live up to expectations, having netted just about as much.

Beyond the facade of heavy computer-generated images, fresh new actors and an Oscar-winning director, studio executives failed to realize one elementary problem with *King Kong*: We've seen this story before—much like we've seen countless other remakes that Hollywood tried to pass off as original entertainment.

Last year's biggest box office hit, *Revenge of the Sith*, was a prequel—with the advantage that it had an audience before it even entered theaters. The problem with Hollywood studios is that they seem to think audiences prefer

safe bets, but we actually prefer gambles.

While Hollywood is worried about slumping box office receipts, it continues to try and appease to our tastes by releasing stories that we've seen. Sometimes they succeed, like Steven Spielberg's *War of the Worlds*, which offered nothing new to the story but still netted close to \$235 million last year.



KRT

But whereas projects like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* bring in loads of cash, other movies such as *Sahara*, *The Fog* and *Assault on Precinct 13* failed miserably at the box office because they were remakes of movies that didn't need to be remade. The same is likely for future films like *The Pink Panther* or *When a Stranger Calls*.

With Oscar nominations being announced on Tuesday, the tremendous praise for *King Kong* would typically make it a leading con-

tender. But it now seems unlikely.

Instead, *Brokeback Mountain* is the frontrunner for a nomination. With a budget of only about \$14 million, the movie's praise is propelling profits towards the \$50 million mark. The film is reminiscent of 1999's *American Beauty*, a tale of crisis and breaking down social norms in search of happiness. Arguably, *Brokeback* fits that bill.

People love good stories, and while *Brokeback* tackles controversial issues, it still makes for a moving and worthy experience. But big bucks and profits don't always translate to Oscars. The idea that *Brokeback*, a small-release film pegged as the "gay cowboy movie," might overpower the mighty ape at the Oscars is not only a possibility but a probability.

Despite various trailers and shameless plugs that bombard our senses, the average moviegoer's

tastes are tricky to gauge. How does the remake of *The Longest Yard* net close to \$160 million, but *Bad News Bears*, released only two months later, make less than \$33 million? Maybe the competition was worse on those opening weekends.

So what changed? How did 1984's *Ghostbusters* outgross last year's *War of the Worlds* or *King Kong*? Perhaps audiences are longing for more reliable days of originality coming out of Hollywood, when interesting stories were the norm, not the rarity. Audiences consistently showed up to see what Tinseltown had to offer.

To put it simply, we yearn for the days when we received what we paid for. Big budget movies were acceptable when they gave us good, original material presented in a nice package. Call me dated, but to this day, when 1982's *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* raises that finger (not the middle one) and gestures toward home, I can't believe what a great and original story it was.

The bottom line is that nobody should be forced to read rewritten versions of *Moby Dick* over and over again, no matter how brilliant a classic it is, much in the same way that Hollywood shouldn't keep telling us the same stories.

But on Oscar night, a night filled with glamour gowns, red carpet soirees and plastic surgery, that golden eight-and-a-half pound statuette is not the most coveted award in Hollywood; originality is.

Roamin' Numerals

\$20

Amount the Pentagon paid for each ice cube tray, which retails for less than a dollar. A Knight Ridder investigation estimated nearly \$200 million in similar wasteful spending by the Defense Department.

25

Number of stitches Khay Kaing, 40, received to his penis after his wife attempted to sever the organ with scissors early Jan. 21 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Kaing slapped his wife during an argument after returning home from a night of drinking and karaoke with friends.

\$2 million

Approximate amount of state revenue brought in by the first year of Tennessee's "Crack Tax." Drug dealers confidentially pay to receive a stamp, which protects them from being prosecuted for not paying taxes on illegal drugs should they be caught selling them.

Choice Cuts

“

"This is almost as good as being an Oprah book."

Washington historian William Blum commenting on his 2000 book, *Rogue State: The Guide to the World's Only Superpower*, which was mentioned by Osama bin Laden in his latest tape. On Jan. 20, the book soared from 205,763 to 26 on Amazon.com's index of the most-ordered books.

”

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1/12 - 2/17

THE GIFTS OF NEW ORLEANS MUSIC AND CULTURE
CENTER FOR BLACK MUSIC RESEARCH ARCHIVAL EXHIBITION
Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, 10:00 AM
to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday

1/26

OPENING RECEPTION: THE GIFTS OF NEW ORLEANS MUSIC
AND CULTURE
Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, 6:00 - 8:00
PM

1/30

MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION AND
REENACTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS MARCH OF 1963
WITH LECTURE AND SELECTIONS BY THE COLUMBIA
COLLEGE CHICAGO GOSPEL CHORUS
Columbia College Chicago Music Center,
1014 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 12:00 - 1:20 PM

1/31

LECTURE: HOW AND WHY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ

CAME TO CHICAGO: DR. LAWRENCE GUSHER, PROFESSOR
OF MUSIC HISTORY AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 12:30
PM



2/2

EYES ON THE PRIZE, PART ONE OF A THREE PART
SERIES AND PANEL DISCUSSION
623 S. Wabash, Room 405, 7:00 PM

2/6

PANEL DISCUSSION: AFTER THE STORM

Don Lemay, news anchor, WVAQ/NBCs and Dr. Carl Bell, legal
psychologist discuss effects of hurricane Katrina on Gulf Coast resi-
dents
623 S. Wabash, Holin Hall, 7:30 PM

2/7

FERNANDO JONES BLUES BAND

Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, 1st floor,
12:30 - 1:20 PM

2/9

BAPTIZED IN DIRTY WATER: RAP ARTIST DAVID BANNER SPEAKS
Ferguson Theatre, 600 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 2:00 PM



2/9

BIG MOUTH, FEATURING DAVID BANNER
Conaway Center, 1104 South Wabash, 1st Floor

7:00 PM
1 FREE ticket to Columbia College Students with current student ID. Non-
Columbia guests \$5.00 donation @ the door while quantities last. Proceeds
to benefit Katrina recovery. Limited tickets available at the Holin Annex in
advance. 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, Office A

2/13

LECTURE: BLACK CREOLE COMPOSERS OF NINETEENTH-
CENTURY NEW ORLEANS
LESTER SULLIVAN, ARCHIVIST FOR XAVIER UNIVERSITY
Holin Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 2:00 - 5:00 PM

2/13

EYES ON THE PRIZE PART TWO

Ferguson Theatre, 600 S. Michigan, 1st floor, 7:00 PM

2/14

THE UNTOLD STORY OF EMMETT LOUIS
TULL WITH DIRECTOR, KEITH BEAUCHAMP
Finn Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash,
2:30 - 5:00 PM



2/15

AIDS ACTIVIST RAE LEWIS THORNTON SPEAKS
Residence Hall, 731 S. Plymouth Ct., 6:00 PM

2/16

CONVERSATIONS IN THE ARTS:
UP CLOSE WITH JAMES EARL JONES
The Dance Center of Columbia College,
1308 S. Michigan, 7:30 PM. Tickets \$35,
available at www.ticketweb.com or call 866-468-3401



2/21 & 2/22

CERQUA RIVERA: TRIBUTE TO LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan,
1st floor, 12:30 - 1:20 PM

2/21

EYES ON THE PRIZE: PART THREE

623 S. Wabash, Room 405, 7:00 PM



2/23

MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE BALL

Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash, 1st Floor, 7:00 PM

2/24 & 2/25

CERQUA RIVERA: THE SHADOW OF THE BLUES

Columbia College Chicago Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan, Feb. 24
is at 8:00 PM and Feb. 25 is at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$18 - \$22

2/27

KATRINA FROM AFAR: ORAL HISTORIES OF THE
CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND FRIENDS OF
THE SOUTH

Holin Hall, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



2/28

BOOK READING: LERONE BENNETT, JR.,
COLUMBIA COLLEGE TRUSTEE AND EXECUTIVE EDITOR, EBONY
MAGAZINE
Columbia College Chicago Bookstore, 624 S. Michigan Ave., 1st Floor,
2:00 PM

2/28

FAT TUESDAY: A TASTE OF NEW ORLEANS

Holin Annex, 623 S. Wabash, 1st floor, 5:00 - 9:00 PM

3/15

THE NEW BLACK MUSIC REPERTORY ENSEMBLE
Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 8:00 PM. Tickets \$35

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Michael Jarecki/ The Chronicle

Chicago Blackhawks left wing Kyle Calder celebrates after scoring the second goal for the team on Jan. 26 against the Calgary Flames. The Blackhawks shut out Calgary 2-0, the team's first shutout win since 2004.

Cameras go up as businesses stay open

AP

Chicago licensed businesses that are open for more than 12 hours a day would be required to install security cameras in their stores and parking lots under a proposal endorsed on Jan. 26 by city safety officials.

Law enforcement and emergency-management officials voiced support for the proposal on Jan. 26 at a meeting of the City Council's license committee, while opponents said it would add to the already high cost of doing business in the city, the Chicago Tribune reported Jan. 26 on its website.

Hundreds of stores, restaurants, bars and gas stations would be required to install cameras under the measure.

Offices, apartment buildings and condominiums managed by companies holding city business licenses would also be forced to put up cameras, but factories and warehouses would be exempt.

"This is not intended to punish anyone," said Alderman Ray Suarez, a sponsor of the measure. "We are talking about public safety."

Cameras have been partly responsible for declining number of murders in Chicago, according to law enforcement officials. A sophisticated network of cameras transmit images from high-crime areas to the city's emergency response center.

Police Deputy Chief Michael McCotter said cameras are "an excellent tool as far as crime prevention."

Catholic Students

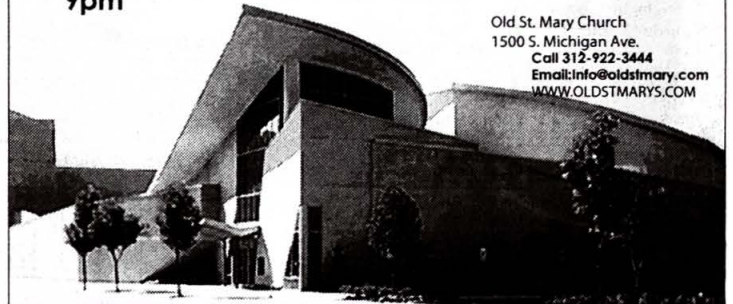
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Mass at UCC Dorm

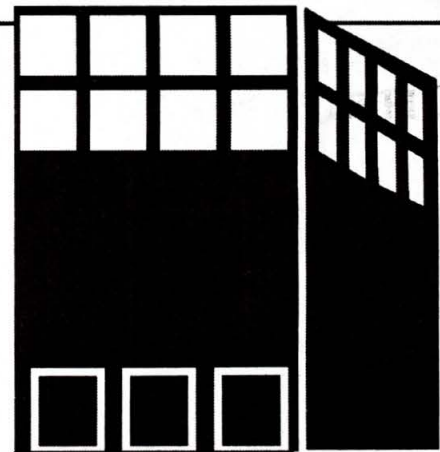
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Greeter: Success prompts more programs

Continued from Back Page

City's Big Apple Greeter, a first of its kind nonprofit program that started in 1992.

Officials from Chicago met with Big Apple Greeter to take a closer look at the program after they saw its mounting success, said Alicia Pierro, department director for Big Apple Greeter.

"[Big Apple Greeter] became much more successful than what was originally envisioned," Pierro said. "At one point New York had the only program in the world, but other cities have since consulted with Big Apple."

Houston; Fairbanks, Alaska; Toronto and two Australian cities have consulted with Big Apple Greeter along with Chicago, Pierro said.

The success of Chicago's program has prompted the creation of additional services. The Department of Cultural Affairs launched InstaGreeter in 2003, allowing one-hour walkup tours through the Loop on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Coyle said.

Millennium Park tours are also available on a first come, first serve basis as long as people register at the Chicago Cultural Center.

"It seems like every time we add something new it generates a new wave of interest and excitement in the program," Coyle said.

Reservations booked through Chicago Greeter slow down in



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Chicago greeter Nancy Bryant (right) gives a Malaysian couple a tour of the Chicago Cultural Center on Jan. 27. The couple, who are from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, are visiting the United States and applying for medical residency programs in Chicago.

the winter, but the Department of Cultural Affairs is currently interviewing new greeters for the spring and summer seasons. People who are knowledgeable about the city and know many languages are encouraged to apply, Coyle said.

However, one Malaysian couple was willing to brave Chicago

winter for a tour of Chicago.

The two were two doctors who signed up for a tour online and were in Chicago for the week visiting local hospitals for residency interviews.

Bryant lead the two around the loop and stopped at Marshall Fields and the Billy Goat Restaurant.

Bryant said the two were very happy to be in Chicago.

Because of winter Bryant has been averaging around one tour each week, but said she may increase that number during the summer because she enjoys learning about other cultures and lifestyles while showing people around.

Together they spent three hours together and "You get to know about their hometown and families," Bryant said. "It's always a very interesting conversation."

Grades: Some restaurants fine with ratings

Continued from Page 26

"They're always creating more and more laws and regulations," Ayed said. "But they don't have more people to enforce them."

Ayed, who has his health department certificate displayed near the register, said that the plan is "good for the people who have a good restaurant and bad for the mediocre ones." He also said that the proposed ordinance is more for show than anything.

"Everyone wants to get their name on a bill," Ayed said regarding the aldermen.

For Heather McDaniel, a manager at Eduardo's Natural Pizza Restaurant, 521 S. Dearborn St., the proposal is fine.

"I think that it's a good idea," McDaniel said. "You'd know how clean the restaurant is."

McDaniel said that she would probably visit an establishment graded B, but she probably would not visit a restaurant with a C-rating.

Kim Hoban, 24, had the same sentiment about visiting a C-rated eatery.

"[A] B [grade], yes, but C-I'd want to investigate how they got the C," Hoban said.

Hoban also said that she avoided a South Loop eatery for about a year because one of her friends complained that it was dirty and had bugs.

Still, Quinlan believes that the proposal will be good for the food establishment.

"It protects the restaurant industry," Quinlan said. "And this would be a step for restaurants to self-police themselves."

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Flamenco: Annual Chicago dance and music festival returns

Continued from Back Page

return to the structured beat of the musician. Often times both performers and audience members will shout "baile" or "dance" during the performance.

During the improvised dance, many flamenco dancers experience an untranslatable feeling that comes over them called "duende."

"It's kind of like being 'in the zone' like an athlete," said Beste, who has been dancing for 18 years.

Beste also said that she does not like to dwell on the duende; it sometimes intimidates people who are learning about flamenco. She said that the "purpose of Flamenco 2006 is to make it accessible to the public."

The festival itself has been going on for five years. Teresa Hernando, cultural activities coordinator for Instituto Cervantes de Chicago, 875 N. Michigan Ave.,

said that the Cervantes has been with the program since its inception. Hernando also said that she remembers how the festival has grown.

"[The first year], it was two performances, and it was a collaboration with other Chicago organizations," Hernando said. "It's been growing due to the popularity and response from the public."

Hernando said that Cervantes works on bringing the biggest groups, both from within the United States and internationally, to attend their flamenco series. She also said that although El Payo was one of the first events for Flamenco 2006, Hernando explained why it was not the official start of the festival.

"We don't have an official night," she said. "We have so many events; we don't want a particular event to be above the rest."

Hernando noted that next year, Cervantes may have an official opening for the festival, however.

Along with the Old Town School of Folk Music, Cervantes and the Flamenco Cultural Center, other organizations like the Chicago Cultural Center are hosting various events. Mike Orlove, the program director for the Chicago Cultural Center, said the



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

The group El Payo perform its style of nuevo flamenco during their set at the Old Town School of Folk Music on Jan. 25. Clapping set the tempo of many of El Payo's songs.

center will present three performances this year. The Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St., has been collaborating with Cervantes on the flamenco festival since its second year. Orlove

said that the number of events and people attending has been steadily growing.

"It's increased [in popularity] within the last two years with the number of events, programs, lec-

tures and films," Orlove said.

Flamenco 2006 runs through Feb. 24, throughout Chicago. For more information, visit www.cervantes1.org/upcomingevents.asp.

CTA: Alternative powering

Continued from Back Page

converts energy in the third rail into power.

Paul Korosa, vice president of operations at AC Propulsion, a

California-based company that produces electronic vehicle drive systems, said there has been a lot of development with AC propulsion.

"AC [propulsion] is lower maintenance and basically cheaper to build and maintain than [direct current] propulsion," Korosa said. "It's the newest part of propulsion power."

With AC propulsion, some of the power used to accelerate the train is put back into the third rail through a process of regeneration. Other trains can then use that energy, lowering the total amount it takes to operate the entire rail system, Ziegler said.

The CTA expects to reduce the growing cost of maintaining the current direct current propulsion

systems as they become obsolete, Ziegler said. And because there are more equipment suppliers for AC propulsion the supply costs will be more competitive.

The last time the CTA purchased rail cars was for the opening of the Orange Line during the 1990s, as well as replacing cars on the Brown and Yellow lines. Altogether the 256

cars cost the CTA more than \$200 million.

The CTA will not know the total cost of the new rail cars until a manufacturer is selected through the bidding process. Delivery of the cars is expected to begin in 2008.

"People like to see and ride on nice, clean rail cars," Jones said. "Improving the rail cars satisfies public interest."



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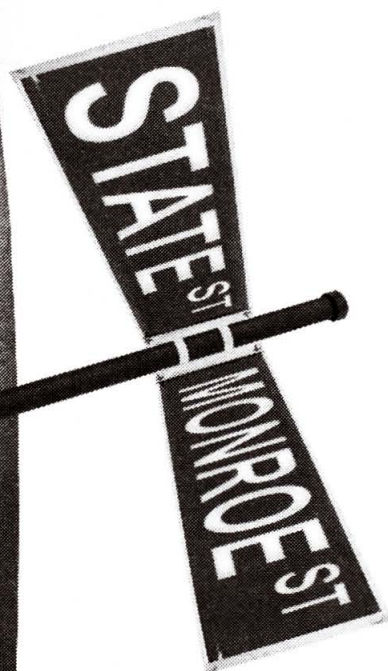
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Restaurant Honor Roll

Alderman wants grades posted in restaurants

By Eric Kasang
Assistant City Beat Editor

Chicago restaurants face a barrage of evaluations ranging from food critics' reviews to comments posted on the Internet. Now City Hall wants to jump in—only it will hand out sanitation grades for restaurants.

Chicago Alderman Edward M. Burke of the 14th Ward recently submitted a proposal to the city council's Committee on License and Consumer Protection to establish an A, B or C rating system. It's based on the city's health inspection reviews for restaurants and food establishments.

Donal Quinlan, the media liaison for Burke, explained why the alderman's office submitted the proposal.

"It's a good measure that's worked in smaller cities [in North and South Carolina]," Quinlan said. "A large city like Chicago should have a consumer-friendly measure on the books."

Quinlan said the proposed ordinance would assign a letter grade based on the health department's score. Similar to school grades, 90 to 100 would be an A, 80 to 89 would be a B and 70 to 79 would be a C. The grade would then be posted in a display case or window within five feet

of the entrance. An establishment that receives a score less than 70 could have its license suspended.

Currently, a restaurant displays a health department certificate in their business that shows the establishment passed the health department inspection.

Quinlan also said the grading system, and the smoking ban could be "knitted together" to help consumer health.

"Secondhand smoke is a health threat to Chicagoans," Quinlan said. "So are food-borne illnesses, which are very serious."

Although Quinlan said that he did not know if Burke personally had an unsanitary eating experience, he noted that Greenwich Council in London has a similar program. Alan French, the environmental health manager in Greenwich wrote in an e-mail about London's program.

"Greenwich was the first local authority in England to introduce such a [program] where the standard of hygiene in catering premises was publicized on the internet," French wrote. "But now the UK Food Standards Agency [is] considering a national [plan]."

Not everyone agrees on letter grading food establishments. Andrew Ariens, the director of communications for the Illinois Restaurant Association, thinks it will stigmatize restaurants.

"We think it's a bad idea because very minimal infractions could severely drop the score," Ariens said. "It's too subjective."

Ariens said that the current



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Phil Ayed, who co-owns Gina's Cuisine, 424 S. Wabash Ave., said the proposal to give restaurants letter grades is fine for the good ones, but bad for the mediocre ones.

health inspection system of pass/fail is working fine, and the city shouldn't fix something that is not broken. Ariens also said that Chicago has not experienced any major food-borne illnesses.

"If you look at the statistics, there are only very, very few cases in Chicago," Ariens said.

The Illinois Restaurant Association, a nonprofit trade organization, will fight this new proposal if it's endorsed by the Committee on License and Consumer Protection and goes back to the city council for approval, according to Ariens.

According to the Illinois

Department of Public Health, 100 to 200 cases of E.coli bacteria infections occur each year. E.coli is most often found in undercooked ground beef, but can be found in other foods as well.

Nationwide, there are about 73,000 E.coli infections a year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Chicago, however, doesn't keep track of the number of food-borne illness cases.

"A vast number of food-borne illnesses are unreported," said Tim Hadac, the director of public information for the Chicago Department of Public Health.

Hadac said that most people don't go to the doctor if they experience food poisoning, and many doctors do not test for food-borne sickness. He also said that a majority of the cases involving food poisoning are not restaurant related. The city will track any major food-borne outbreaks like salmonella.

However, for a couple restaurant employees, the grading system did not seem like a big deal. Phil Ayed, who is part-owner of Gina's Cuisine, 424 S. Wabash Ave., said that the proposal is nothing new from City Hall.

See **Grades**, Page 23

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JAN 17 - BYRON WILLIAMS & DAVID CHAVEZ
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Chicago City Council: highest paid overall

Salaries and number of aldermen among highest in nation

By James Ewert
Assistant City Beat Editor

The Chicago City Council spends more on its own salaries than most other cities, according to an analysis of salary figures.

This year Chicago will spend nearly \$5 million of taxpayers' money paying 48 of its 50 aldermen \$98,125 a year (two others receive \$85,000), according to the 2006 city budget. Aldermen's jobs include everything from arranging for garbage pickup to voting on citywide legislation.

Chicago's 50 aldermanic wards rank second only to New York's 51, even though New York has slightly more than 5 million more people.

The expensive salaries have caused some in Chicago think condensing the number of wards would combat government overspending.

"Seeing as we are always in some sort of budget crisis, maybe the city should think about possibly reducing how many aldermen we are paying," said Jay Stewart, executive director of the Better

Government Association, a Chicago-based group that investigates and researches government waste and inefficiency. "It would be a major change, but I think it would be something that would benefit more than just our pockets."

Stewart said with fewer aldermen, each would represent a larger base of people; which he said would help in creating a third party as well.

"Los Angeles gets by fine with 15 council members," Stewart said. "Granted, they pay them more, but their overall council budget is still less than Chicago's."

With nearly 800,000 more citizens than Chicago, Los Angeles spends slightly more than \$2 million on its council members' salaries, and in Houston, a city with 1 million fewer people than Chicago, the city spends \$739,970 on its 14-person council.

Aldermen in the central loop said if Chicago reduced the number of wards the city would not be able to work as effectively as it currently does.

Burton Natarus of the 42nd Ward in the central loop said if Chicago reduced the number of wards the city would not be able to work as effectively as it currently does.

"You end up with large districts and you can't service the public," Natarus said. "The idea is to represent smaller groups so you can give them attention. We have neighborhood-type districts, and that's what makes the city work, because we have 50 janitors."



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Chicago City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., spends more than \$5 million dollars each year on aldermen salaries, making the 50 positions some of the highest paid per capita.

issues in a broader sense. Now it just seems they only worry about the little things being done in their wards because that's all that really matters to them."

Rothkoper said he had no idea Chicago had so many more aldermanic districts than other cities. According to Census 2000 data, Chicago's population stands at just under 2.9 million people. With 50 aldermen, each ward represents approximately 58,000 people. Stewart said reducing the number of aldermen to 35 would put that number at roughly 82,000 people.

"Our taxes keep getting raised and so do the aldermen's salaries," Stewart said. "It's not hard to do

the math—we get rid of 15 aldermen and we save something like \$1.4 million. I don't think it's a far-fetched idea to at least have them think about. What harm could it do?"

Bennett Lawson, spokesman for Alderman Tom Tunney of the 44th Ward, said there is absolutely no reason to even think about reducing the number of aldermen. Doing so would cause such a controversy that more important issues would get stalled substantially.

"The city has budget issues just like any other city, but that doesn't mean we have to go out and redraw the entire legislative map," Lawson said. "That would be just too big of a plan to undertake. I think the reason behind it is relevant, trying to save money, but Chicago's City Council is one of the hardest working legislative bodies in the country. There is simply not a problem pressing enough right now to warrant such a measure."

Former alderman and current University of Illinois Chicago professor of political science Dick Simpson said it is obvious that there needs to be some sort of change in city council. Simpson said having so many aldermen scattered about the city makes for a more easily swayed council.

"The more people aldermen represent, the more people they have to please, and that means they work harder," Simpson said.

"The more people aldermen represent, the more people they have to please, and that means they work harder,"

—Dick Simpson, U.I.C. professor and former alderman

A CUT ABOVE THE REST

	N.Y.	L.A.	Chicago	Houston
Population	8,008,278	3,694,820	2,896,016	1,953,631
Aldermen (City council members)	51	15	50	14
Salaries	90,000	149,000	98,125	52,855
Residents per council member	157,025	246,321	57,920	139,545

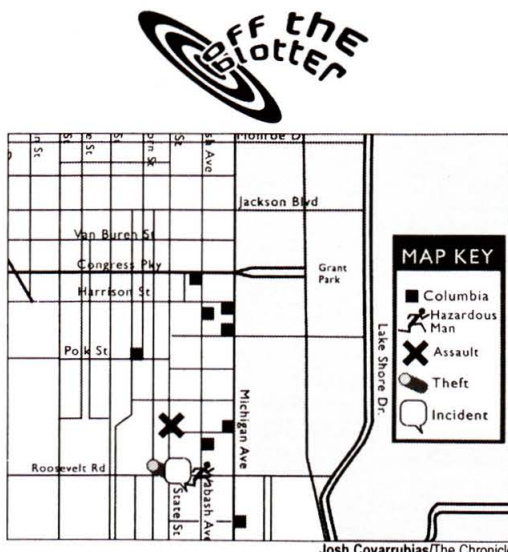
Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

On the road again

On Jan. 20 police officers saw a 50-year-old man walk into the road at 44 E. Roosevelt Road, trying to solicit funds from passing motorists. Officers issued the man a ticket after the situation became a hazard for both motorists and the man.

Seven times in the face

Police responded to a fight at 1007 S. State St. on Jan. 17 after an altercation between a 24-year-old man and an unknown offender. The victim told police the offender arrived at his residence and punched him seven times in the face, causing a bloody lip and a swollen jaw.



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Good night without the light

Employees at Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, called police on Jan. 17 after watching a 33-year-old man take items off the store's shelf and place them into a handbag. The offender was detained until officers arrived and searched the man. Among the items in the bag were tools, nightlights and razors totaling \$108. The man was placed under arrest and transported for processing.

Waiting for my kid

On Jan. 23, a 25-year-old man showed up at a Jewel parking lot at 1200 S. State St. to pick up his son. The man told police that he has a court order to see his son on Mondays and Thursdays. His son's mother, 28, called and told the man that she was not showing up to drop off the child. Police filed an incident report against the woman.

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

CTA moving forward with sideways seats

Alternative powering and video cameras also considered

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

Passengers will soon have a new perspective during their commute as the Chicago Transit Authority looks to purchase new rail cars and boost quality through its long-term capital improvements plan.

The CTA asked manufacturers for proposals on new rail cars with additional features including aisle-facing seats, security cameras and a new alternating-current propulsion powering system.

"Ordering the new rail cars is part of the CTA's commitment to bring its system to a state of good repair, attract new customers to the system and provide the foundation to meet the increasing demand for service," said Robyn Ziegler, a CTA spokeswoman.

The new rail cars will replace older models purchased more than 30 years ago, like the 2200-series Budd cars, found on the Blue Line, as well as the 2400-series Boeing-Vertol cars purchased from 1976-78, found on the Green and Purple Lines, Ziegler said.

Two rail cars were equipped with aisle-facing seating last year for observation. The CTA expects to move forward with the design because it allows for an additional seven to 10 passen-

gers per car.

The arrangement increases the aisle width by six inches, allowing more space for standing passengers, as well as backpacks, strollers and bikes, Ziegler said. Each car will still have 39 seats like the current models, and there will also be an additional wheelchair position.

The Campaign for Better Transit, a coalition of riders and community organizers trying to improve the experience of passengers, said there are additional advantages to having aisle-facing seats.

"People have the ability to all watch each other now," said John Paul Jones, director of community outreach. "When it comes to theft, passengers won't be blindsided."

Ziegler said the CTA always has safety and crime in mind when looking for ways to improve the commute for the 1.5 million passengers who ride the system every day.

Passengers can use the intercom units to speak with train operators if the need arises and passengers can connect directly with staff through customer assistance buttons on platforms.

"The security cameras will complement other measures we have taken to make our rail system safer," Ziegler said.

The new rail cars will also switch the power that drives the train from direct-current to alternating-current, a modern solution for powering rail cars that

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Eric Davis/The Chronicle

The Flamenco band El Payo performs for a standing room-only crowd at the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. The performance was part of the Flamenco 2006 festival, a month-long showcase featuring Spanish music, dance, lectures and film.

Baile! Flamenco 06' begins

Annual Spanish dance and music festival returns to Chicago

By Eric Kasang
Assistant City Beat Editor

Playing to a standing-room-only, 425-person crowd at Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., the band El Payo helped launch Flamenco 2006, a celebration of music, dance, film and lectures.

El Payo performed their Nuevo Flamenco set with tight percussion sounds, lyrics and finger-picked guitars. Singers Angela Ponzio and David Gonzalez either traded lyrics at the microphone or harmonized. Clapping drove many parts of the songs with the tempo often determined not by

the percussionists, but by the hand rhythm.

The Old Town School of Folk Music's presentation is one of the many events for this year's festival.

Instituto Cervantes Chicago, a Spanish language and cultural center, in collaboration with the Chicago Cultural Center and several other Chicago-based organizations, is hosting Flamenco 2006. The month-long festival is celebrating the dance and music of flamenco. Kathi Beste, the director of the Flamenco Arts Center, 3755 N. Western Ave., explained the origin and meaning behind the dance.

"There isn't a definitive definition or lineage of flamenco," Beste said. "It's a mixture of Flemish, Arabic [and gypsy] influences."

Beste said that flamenco originated in Andalusia, a region in southern Spain. Many of the cities in this region have variations of flamenco. She also said that the singing that accompanies the dance is a "confluence of cultures," too.

Although flamenco is set to a 12-step beat and is structured, it is also an improvisational dance. The guitarist will start with a particular style for the dancer. The dancer will then branch out on a certain beat and improvise a dance while the musician is playing. Since the performer is familiar with the different flamenco dances, the spontaneous dance could go on as long as the dancer wants. The dancer will then

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Greetings from Chicago

Program takes hands-on approach to welcoming visitors

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

Carol Bryant spent the week planning stops throughout the city where she would take a young couple during their visit to Chicago on Jan. 27 from Malaysia.

Bryant is among 180 volunteers with the Chicago Greeter program, which pairs visitors to the area with residents in an effort to give them an inside perspective on some of the better things Chicago has to offer.

Chicago's Office of Tourism started the free program in 2002 and has since seen an increase in the number of people who use it to their advantage. Over 20 languages are spoken among the volunteers, and the number of visitors doubled from 2,000 to 4,000 in 2005.

"It's kind of like when you have family or friends come to town and you bring them around to see all of the little things,"

Bryant said. "You get to know the visitors because it's not a guided group, it's personal."

Visitors must register online a week in advance so they can be matched with volunteers based on what they would like to see and their native language. So far, Chicago Greeter has given tours of dozens of sites and communi-

"It's kind of like when you have family or friends come to town and you bring them around to see all of the little things,"

—Carol Bryant, Chicago Greeter

ties throughout the city to visitors from every state and 53 countries.

Volunteers are broken down into areas of expertise such as the lakefront, Chinatown or restaurants around the city, said Dorothy Coyle, director of communication for the Office of Tourism.

When Chicago Greeter was first established, many people stepped forward offering to vol-

unteer because they had experience doing so with other city programs, Coyle said. Since that time, the program has spread by word of mouth, and everybody from students to neighborhood organizers has offered to help.

"I thought it sounded like a great job," said Bryant, who started six months after retiring from Columbia College. "First of all, you get loads of exercise, and you walk miles with each visitor."

For visitors who sign up for tours without specifics as to where they want to go, Bryant said she likes to take groups through the Loop before catching a Brown Line train to Old Town. Bryant regularly takes groups to well-known places like the Delaware Building, the Thompson Center, Navy Pier and the Oriental Theatre.

"The guests are really enthusiastic no matter where you go," Bryant said. "I think it's helping to make Chicago [a] more desirable destination."

The idea behind Chicago Greeter came from New York

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Michael Jurecki/The Chronicle

Robert Delapena, 33, of Chicago rides the CTA Brown Line to work. The forward-facing seating arrangement on trains will soon be rearranged to have the seats facing the aisle. The new trains will also run on a new alternative power system and have security cameras.