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Columbia Chronicle (04/03/2006)

Columbia College Chicago

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Picking up after Katrina



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

Junior Lindsey Dietzler carries oxygen tanks to a debris pile across the street after finding them while gutting a mobile home in Bay St. Louis, Miss. She was one of 32 volunteers from Columbia that made the trip south during spring break to help the community clean up after Hurricane Katrina.

Columbia student-leaders volunteer their spring break to help victims of Hurricane Katrina

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

Jane Vaughn was so grateful to see volunteers arriving at her trailer in Bay St. Louis, Miss., she stepped out on her porch smiling and thanked the group for coming as soon as it filed off the school bus.

The 57-year-old moved into the trailer, supplied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, at the beginning of November, more than two months after Hurricane Katrina slammed the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29 and flooded her mobile home with 4 feet of water. She lives two miles inland.

The volunteers, many of them from Columbia, were sent by Community Collaborations International, a university-oriented program, in an effort to improve Vaughn's living conditions.

However, living in a trailer has been difficult for Vaughn. Soon after moving in, her husband's cancer had progressed, and maneuvering around the 12-by-30 foot space became difficult.

Her husband passed away on Jan. 6, and since that time Vaughn has been having a hard time coping with the loss while balancing her own medical problems. Her heart and blood conditions, as well as diabetes, have contributed to her own space and mobility issues.

"I can't even take a shower here," Vaughn said, pointing to a small tub cramped between a toilet and door. "I have to go to my daughter's [place]. It's miserable."

Directly behind the FEMA trailer, students began removing debris and items left during the storm from Vaughn's mobile home.

Community Collaborations' project coordinator Angelica

Schultz heard Vaughn's story and organized the group of students to completely dismantle and haul the mobile home across the street, where it will eventually be picked up by the Army Core of Engineers for disposal.

Schultz has been in contact with Mississippi Congressman Gene Taylor, and is lobbying to get Vaughn a larger, handicapped-accessible FEMA trailer that would be placed over the foundation of her dismantled mobile home.

"It's giving me some hope," Vaughn said. "It means so much to me. I really appreciate the work."

The students working at Vaughn's site were among 28 from Columbia that made the trip south to take part in Gulf Coast recovery efforts.

Dominic Cottone, director of Student Leadership; Pattie Mackenzie, a freshman adviser; Lott Hill, assistant director of the Center for Teaching Excellence; and Kimberly Weatherly, director of African-American Cultural Affairs also made the trip.

Following the storm, students and leadership groups began fundraising at Columbia and brought in nearly \$10,000. The money was donated to the McCormick Tribune Fund, which was then directed toward Gulf Coast relief, Cottone said.

"Signing a check and giving money was easy," Cottone said. "But what's really needed is the manpower and people taking the time to go down and support the citizens."

So Columbia's Student Organization Council's community director Holly De Ruyter began researching ways last fall to bring a group of students down to get involved during spring break.



Alan J. Baker/The Chronicle

Jane Vaughn hugs Columbia junior Jacob Holland as he and other students leave after gutting her mobile home to make space for a larger FEMA trailer.

Faculty seat open on board of trustees

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

Columbia's board of trustees will have a new seat for a full-time faculty member starting at its next meeting on May 11, and the selection process to fill the position has already begun.

Once the nomination process is completed this week there will be an election among all faculty members. Three candidates will be elected for the position, and they will then go through interviews with the Nomination Committee of the board of trustees. The committee will decide which candidate will fill the seat on the board.

"We will be able to give our impressions on matters relevant to the faculty," said Keith Kostecka, president of the Columbia College Faculty Organization and faculty member in the Science Institute.

See **Trustees**, Page 10

Columbia student satisfaction on the rise

By Hayley Graham
Campus News Editor

Students are more satisfied with their Columbia experience than ever, according to the results of the college's Student Satisfaction Inventory 2005.

"In 2000 the results were not very encouraging," said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. "It told us that students were extremely dissatisfied [with the] overall college experience."

Since 2000 the college has conducted the Student Satisfaction Inventory, an instrument used nationally by over 1,000 colleges that measures the quality of student experience on campus, three different times. Kelly said the college will continue to do the survey every few years.

During spring 2005, 1,700 students, or 17 percent of the student body, responded to the online survey via Oasis. The results showed a dramatic increase in satisfaction in all categories: Campus Support Services, Campus Life, Instructional Effectiveness, Student-Centeredness, Campus Climate, Concerns for the Individual and Service Excellence.

"We've seen a transformation on how students view Columbia over the past five years," Kelly said. "The fact that students now say they are more satisfied than

See **Survey**, Page 11

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Career opportunities

By Jeff Danna, Editor-in-Chief

When I began my foray into the world of journalism my junior year of high school, I was driven by the notion that one day I would write for Rolling Stone.

I would roam the halls of my school from class to class with the latest issue of the famed music magazine tucked under my arm and diligently read it cover to cover during my free time. I discussed the latest album reviews ad nauseam with my indifferent friends. In my entertainment column in the school newspaper, I tried to emulate Rolling Stone then-columnist Rob Sheffield.

My ambitions took a turn over the next couple years, though. Either the magazine's quality of writing declined, or I came to the realization that what I thought was the epitome of music journalism was nothing more than a glorified tabloid.

Perhaps as a naive high school journalist I was simply blind to the magazine's pandering, or perhaps I became interested in other types of reporting besides entertainment.

The fact was, though, that by the time I came to Columbia as a transfer student my sophomore year, the thought of writing for Rolling Stone made me gag.

Now, I'm graduating in a month and a half and have begun the nerve-racking job hunt. Until last week, the fantasies of being a renowned Rolling Stone reporter had been out of my head for about three years.

But as I began sending out resumes, a curious flier appeared in my mailbox that read, "WRITERS WANTED! Rolling Stone magazine is looking for a group of talented writers between the ages of 18 and 24 to work for the summer in its New York offices as FULL-TIME STAFF WRITERS."

Suddenly, the ancient urge to whore myself out to Rolling Stone hit me. There I was, a soon-to-be-college grad desperate for a job,

and sitting in front of me was a chance to land a high-profile gig and rub shoulders with some of the most visible magazine writers in the country.

It sounded like a good idea until I read on: "Your experiences will be filmed for an MTV series exploring the exciting world of journalism."

I was too disgusted to even crumple the paper and toss it in the trash; I read the sentence over in disbelief. No way was I going to exploit myself on MTV for the sake of my career. My hatred for Rolling Stone returned.

First of all, searching for a job after college is stressful enough as it is, and no doubt actually becoming accustomed to that first real-world job will too. That can be true even if that job is fairly low-profile, but we're talking Rolling Stone here. Even though I have little respect for the magazine, I for one would certainly feel intimidated if my first post-collegiate job was at Rolling Stone.

And if that isn't enough pressure, the young entertainment journalists will also be the subjects of an MTV reality show. Millions of people will anxiously await the reporters' mistakes, cheer on their favorites and heckle the unpopular like rabid spectators at a sporting event. After all, we know how reality shows work, and this shameless exploitation of amateur writers would be damaging.

Self-esteem issues aside, reporters—and all Americans for that matter—must be aware of the crass cultural manipulation in which both Rolling Stone and MTV take part.

When it comes to Rolling Stone, Chicago Sun-Times rock critic Jim DeRogatis hits the nail right on the head in his book *Milk It: Collected Musings on the Alternative Music Explosion of the '90s* when he discusses his stint at the magazine, which was cut short when he

refused to give Hootie and the Blowfish a good review at the request of publisher Jann Wenner.

The problem with Rolling Stone, he and New York Observer columnist Carl Swanson concluded, was that Wenner was constantly "making sure his magazine greases the wheels of commerce by pandering to what's popular."

Essentially, Rolling Stone is not a credible source of music reporting (although I do continue to admire its political articles), but rather a giant advertisement designed to convince teenagers of which up-and-coming bands must be popular and baby boomers that dinosaur rockers are still relevant. Any post-collegiate journalist with half a brain and an ounce of self-respect would understand that Rolling Stone can hardly be a nurturing environment for establishing a career.

MTV is even more powerful. Not only does the network dictate every trend from music to fashion to slang, it also has the potential to manipulate a young writer's experience at Rolling Stone and present it to an audience.

Through the magic of editing, the reality show's producers can portray the Rolling Stone reporters how they or audiences wish. If they want to show incompetence when a writer is actually skilled, no problem. They can create drama where there is none. MTV is not out to advance the careers of any of the writers on the show—it's out to create entertainment for mass consumption.

Personally, I'd hate for my career to be reduced to a cultural stereotype just so some television executives can sell it to an audience of oblivious teenagers. I'd also hate for my work to be manipulated by a publication's management so that it becomes little more than a marketing tool.

Man, I wish I could write that on my resume.

—jdanna@colum.edu

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Announcements

Israeli Film Festival

In an effort to create a broader view of culture and life in Israel, Columbia will present a series of films and speakers April 3 through 6. The event will be held each night from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Admission is free. For more information call Rachel Winokur at (773)315-1996.

Chaotic Concert

Chaos, a free concert available to Columbia students with a current school ID, will feature performances by Lupe Fiasco, Number One Fan and Little Brother. The show will be at the Conaway Center in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on April 5 at 7 p.m. Advanced tickets have all been claimed, but a limited amount of tickets will be available at the door. For more information call the Student Activities Office at (312)344-7459.

Undergraduate Poetry Festival

The 7th Annual Columbia College Citywide Undergraduate Poetry Festival will feature 11 poets from Chicago-area colleges and universities reading their work. The free event, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on April 6, will be held at the Ferguson Theater in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. For more information call Tony Trigilio at (312)344-8138.

'Hair Trigger' wins award

The Fiction Writing Department's publication, *Hair Trigger*, was awarded a Gold Crown Award from the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association. Only three other magazines won the award in the country. *Hair Trigger* has won Crown Awards for the past three years.

Renegades Bake Sale and Game

The Columbia Renegades baseball team will be hosting a bake sale on April 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the HUT, located in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The team will be playing Northwestern at the University of Illinois at Chicago on April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

IN YOUR OPINION

Would you sign up for the University Center's new meal plan?



"I would probably buy it if I were in the position to."

—Robert Pushing, freshman, film and video



"Yeah, because I don't live on campus and I eat here a lot."

—Latoya White, freshman, arts and media management



"Yeah, I would do it if the food was good."

—Katie Houser, sophomore, fine arts

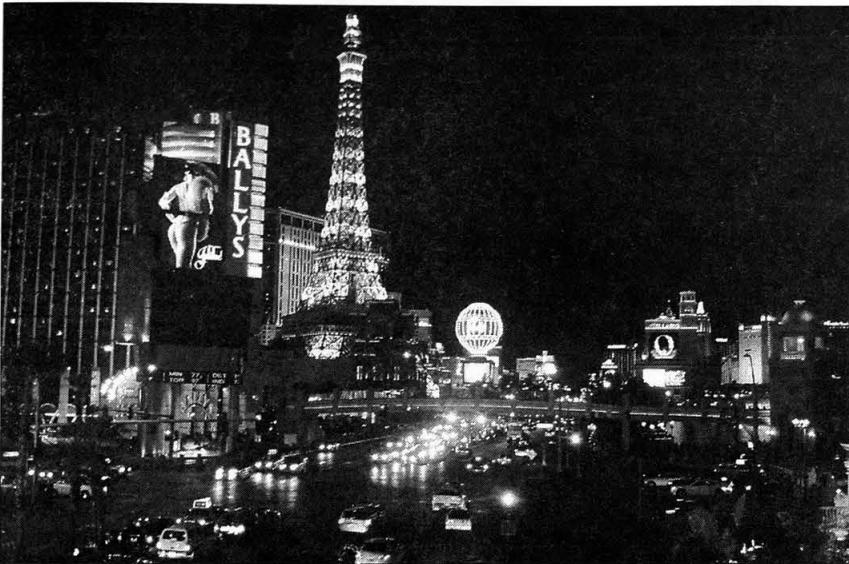


"Fifteen-hundred dollars is a lot of money. They would have to be pretty good meals, so no, I wouldn't."

—John Buhl, sophomore, illustration

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.



Jim Jaworski/The Chronicle

With more and more college students swarming to gambling destinations like Las Vegas, experts are concerned innocent entertainment may eventually become a serious problem.

More students letting it ride

Statistics, experts see increase in gambling among college students

By Jim Jaworski
Assistant Campus News Editor

The background noise sounded much more like a casino than an airport. Travelers leaving Las Vegas' McCarran International Airport crowded the slot machines, looking for one last chance to hit it

big before heading back home.

Meanwhile, Matt Oleszkiewicz sat in an airport bar waiting to board his plane, watching all the gamblers. The architecture major from the University of Arkansas, who was on spring break, wasn't about to join them.

"I gambled already, and I lost," he said. "I don't understand playing slot machines in the airport. People are so delusional."

It was the first time Oleszkiewicz

had been to Las Vegas. He lost \$50, which he considered lucky.

While Oleszkiewicz did not lose much money, he is part of an increasing trend of gambling among college students. Experts say college students, with easy access to money and a low appreciation for the value of a dollar, are wagering and losing in record numbers.

See **Gambling**, Page 11

Adding another course to the meal plan

University Center may begin to offer meal package to all students

By Amanda Maurer
Assistant Campus News Editor

Starting this fall, the University Center of Chicago may open its dining doors to a greater number of Columbia, DePaul University and Roosevelt University students.

The proposed idea would allow students who do not reside in the University Center, 525 S. State St., to purchase a set number of meals, which they would be able to use at any time throughout the academic year. This would include students living in other Columbia residence halls that do not offer meal plans.

According to Bill Reich, the director of Dining Services at the University Center, the meal plan would consist of 150 meals and \$250 worth of flex, or credit that allows students to buy other items in the dining hall. The plan would cost approximately \$1,500.

The idea was developed after non-resident students asked about the possibility of dining at the University Center. Columbia officials liked the idea, but the plan did not come without care-

ful consideration.

"We don't want it to be an inconvenience to current [University Center] residents," Reich said.

To balance the number of non-residents who might be interested, the University Center plans to make a few changes if the program becomes official.

The University Center would create a separate entrance that would allow those who purchase the meal plan to enter and leave the building securely.

They would also implement a yet-to-be-determined non-invasive barrier that would prevent non-residents from wandering into residential areas. Officials stressed that the barrier would be created to keep any resident inconvenience to a minimum.

Along with the changed security plans, the dining hours for non-residents would be at slightly different times, so as to not overcrowd the facility.

Jeff Bethke works as the Owners' Representative for the Education Advancement Fund, a group composed of the presidents from Columbia, DePaul and Roosevelt and the three directors of

See **Meal Plan**, Page 9

Columbia students choose Renaissance man to represent

Pageant winner embodies school's creative spirit

By Jenifer Fischer
Copy Chief

Six Columbia men competed for the title of Mr. Columbia at an AEMMP Records-sponsored pageant on March 17 in the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. After strutting their stuff in dashing eveningwear, answering interview questions and demonstrating an array of talents, the Columbia student-audience voted for the man they thought best represented them. They chose a man who told them of his love for the school, gave an impassioned hip-hop performance of an original song, and despite missing the memo about the eveningwear portion of the competition, nailed it by displaying his self-proclaimed urban style with confidence.

Andre "Renaissance" Collins was pronounced the school's first Mr. Columbia. He walked away with a title and a set of prizes including an iPod Shuffle, House of Blues package, two CDs and a \$30 iTunes gift card.

Collins, who prefers to be known as Renaissance, is a 23-year-old sophomore music business management major who cites Tupac, Mos Def and Twista as some of his influences. Collins, a native of Chicago's South Side, spent four years in an artillery unit of the military before coming to Columbia. With a mix tape coming out later this spring and an album to be released in the fall, it is evident that

he is a man on a mission.

Columbia's hard-working renaissance man sat down to talk with The Chronicle about his latest projects, what he plans to do for hip-hop and what it means to represent his school.

The Chronicle: So you've been voted Mr. Columbia. What happens next?

Collins: I don't know. You tell me. [Laughs]

What does getting this title from your peers mean to you?

Well, I feel like it was a great opportunity to show the school I have talent, and I would like to represent the school. I mean, I guess the best thing that happened out of this is being in the newspaper because I have an album coming out in fall 2006. Positive vibes. I want people to know I'm doing things right now and support it.

What made you decide to go for Mr. Columbia in the first place?

Well, I'm an artist and I've been getting into different competitions lately, and I don't want to leave [any] stones unturned.

What attracted you to Columbia?

I knew that there were a lot of people here who all have the same dreams and goals. Going to this school allows you a chance to network with a lot of people who are doing the same thing you're doing. And I've been meeting a lot of people since I've been here and made some connections—industry connections. So overall I think it's a

really good school to go to. As far as the academic programs we have, I've learned a lot since I've been here. And if I could do it all over again, I'd do it [here].

How do you represent Columbia and the Columbia spirit?

I have a lot of school spirit, and I have pride in the school that I go to. I try to meet people on a daily basis. I always let people know what I'm doing. I network. I tell everybody about this school. I tell them it's a wonderful school to go to and I'm gonna stay here until I graduate.

What do you think the no. 1 issue on our campus is right now?

I could be wrong, but I think it might be tuition. It goes up like, what, every semester? [Laughs]

What's your favorite thing about being a Columbia student?

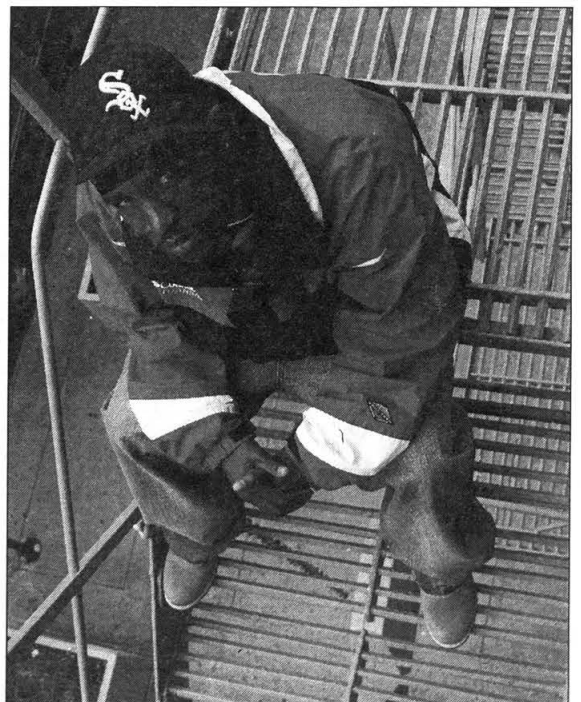
I guess my favorite thing about going here is that we have a lot of people with industry connections. It seems like every month we have somebody coming to this school, like we had David Banner and different people coming up here all the time.

What do you hope to do when you leave this college? What are your aspirations?

I hope to work as an artist in the industry, but at the same time it's a fallback plan. I can work for a major label or start out doing an internship.

What projects are you currently working on?

I have a mix tape I'm doing right now, it's called Microphone Solo



Allison Williams/The Chronicle

Andre 'Renaissance' Collins recently won the title of Mr. Columbia. Competing contestants underwent an interview, talent show and fashion show on March 17 at the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

Mix Tape. It's going to hitting the streets in April. Hip-hop.

You did your own hip-hop performance in the show. What was that called?

"They Don't Know."

What's the driving force behind your music?

Well, I go by the name of Renaissance. The reason why I chose that name is that I feel like

hip-hop is an art. A lot of people are changing hip-hop right now and it's going in a different direction. But I'm like grass-roots, underground, and I try to keep it artistic and creative and stick to the basics—the basic elements of hip-hop. That's the reason I chose the name that I have. My reason for doing it is to keep hip-hop alive and also to send a message. I have a positive message in every song that I do.

A MESSAGE FROM STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Are you planning on registering for summer classes?
 Summer 2006 Financial Aid Applications will be available March 13-May 26. Please visit the SFS News Spotlight or Forms page at www.colum.edu/sfs for more details.

For more information, please contact Student Financial Services by dialing 1-866-705-0200 or visit our website www.colum.edu/sfs

■ Summer 2006 registration begins March 13. Fall registration begins April 3. **Registration holds** have been placed on accounts with outstanding balances. Please log onto your Oasis Portal to check the status of your account or to make a payment.



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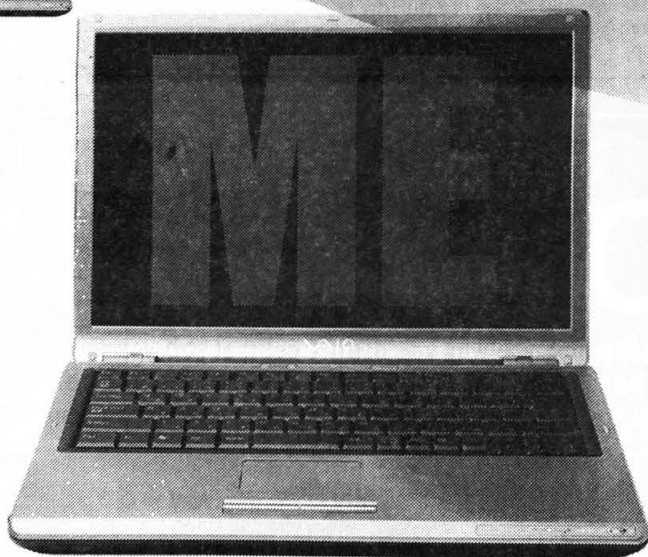
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Student organizes hoops game to help

By Jenn Zimmerman
Staff Writer

When Brittney Sherman, a sophomore film major, heard Youth Rally Camp lost its sponsor, therefore threatening the camp's closure, she turned to Catalyst, the Columbia volunteer organization she is part of, for help. In an effort to keep the camp's doors open, Catalyst is holding a three-on-three basketball tournament April 14.

Youth Rally Camp is an educational refuge for 11 to 17-year-olds with mostly urinary and digestive diseases where they can learn more about their illnesses and new medical procedures being offered, said Youth Rally chairwoman Elizabeth Hiltabedel. This will be the first time in 27 years that the camp will be trying to function without its former sponsor, the United Ostomy Association, a volunteer-based organization associated with intestinal and urinary diversions. The organization stopped sponsoring because of financial problems, Hiltabedel said.

She said that the organization tries to show children how they are like their peers, except for their diseases.

Sherman, who is heading the event, said teams are made up of five players, and each person will be asked to donate \$5 to

help the organization reach its goal of \$2,500. The tournament will choose players for each team randomly through a bracketing system.

Columbia's Student Organization Council has offered to match up to \$500 in donations.

Kelsey Wild, president and founder of Catalyst, said the tournament is only open to Columbia and Roosevelt University students for now, but the organization is hoping to extend admission to other schools. However, because the tournament will be held in the Marvin Moss Gym and Fitness Center in Roosevelt's Herman Crown Center, 425 S. Wabash Ave., only select schools are allowed access inside.

Sherman is also hoping to get Columbia's dance team involved to bring cheerleading to the game.

"There is a lack of community on campus," Wild said. "This is a way to meet all different people."

For former campers like Sherman, helping support Rally Camp through the tournament is an issue that hits close to home.

Sherman was born with a disease that left her without muscles in the bottom part of her legs and caused her to undergo more than 60 surgeries. But after attending Rally Camp she was able to relate to others who were suffering, helping her develop

Mid-day Jazz



Kelly Bryan/The Chronicle

Guitarist Aaron Koppel, a junior jazz performance major, and bassist Nicholas Hill, a senior interdisciplinary major, of the Aaron Koppel Trio perform at the Hokin Gallery in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The band members said they like the way jazz pushes the boundaries of music through improv and gives musicians the ability to communicate in a different way.

self-confidence.

Sherman hopes that raising money for the camp will help campers continue to have the experiences she was able to walk away with.

Sherman said the camp works as a small, needed vacation, as well as a place where children can learn about their diseases.

"Many people spent much of their life in hospitals," Sherman said. "This is like a week life escape to get your mind off of negative things in their life, to show life outside of that."

Hiltabedel said the camp costs

\$250 to attend, not including airfare, and about 40 kids come each year. The camp is held on a different college campus each time to help show children that they can survive outside of their parents' homes.

However, according to Hiltabedel, many campers can't afford the camp or the airfare.

"A lot of people come from small towns and don't have the money," Hiltabedel said. "If they can't afford it, they indicate they need sponsors."

By receiving money from different independent sponsors, the Rally

Camp board will use the money to pay the way for those who want to attend.

But now, with its main sponsor gone, more donations are needed than ever, Sherman said.

According to Hiltabedel, each donation will be sent to Youth Rally to help sponsor a camper in order to attend.

The tournament will begin at 6 p.m. at the Marvin Moss Student Center, 425 S. Wabash Ave., and donations can be made at the door. Participants can sign up by picking up a form from the Hub, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

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ThereMedia/ Thursday, April 6 @ 2:30 pm

A "been there, done that" kind of agency - creative director, Tom Kwilosz, will be here to share his wealth of experience with motion and flash designers.

SomeOddPilot/ Monday, April 10 @ 2 pm

Chief creative, Chris Eichenseer, will help designers (graphic, web, flash and motion graphics) decide what to include in their portfolios and how to best showcase their skills.

Nathan Beckner/ Tuesday, April 11 @ 1 pm

A prominent fashion photographer whose studio and location work is frequently in international publications and ad campaigns, Nathan will give feedback on developing photography portfolios.

Time Out Chicago/ Thursday, April 13 @ 11 am

Photo editor, Nicole Radja, '96, is returning to review developing editorial photography portfolios.

Firebelly/ Thursday, April 13 @ 3 pm

Owner/Creative director, Dawn Hancock, and one of her colleagues will review print and interactive design portfolios in-progress. Learn how to package, promote, and advertise your work and yourself!

ChicagoTribune.Com/ Friday, April 14 @ 9:30 am

Melisa Goh will be here to comment on writing samples and discuss the emerging idea of "digital clip" packages and online journalism.

Chicago Tribune Magazine/ Friday, April 14 @ 9:00 am

Michael Zajakowski is visiting yet again to offer his advice to aspiring photojournalists and editorial photographers on how to present their work to national and international publications.

Simutronics/ Friday, April 14 @ 2 pm

Eric Slick will advise computer animation and game design students on how to best put together and showcase their portfolios.

SHOW OFF/ Portfolio Reviews

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PORTFOLIO CENTER 623 SOUTH WABASH, SUITE 307

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Meal Plan: Plan requires dining area changes

Continued from Page 3

the University Center. The total number of meal plans offered to non-residents would be limited, Bethke said.

"We don't want a level [of participation] that overwhelms the capacity of the dining operation," he said.

The meal times' change would include increased weekday hours to accommodate the non-residents. Tentative plans would extend weekday dinner hours from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Residents would also be free to eat during those times.

Other plans would increase the amount of seating available, including the possible creation of window seating.

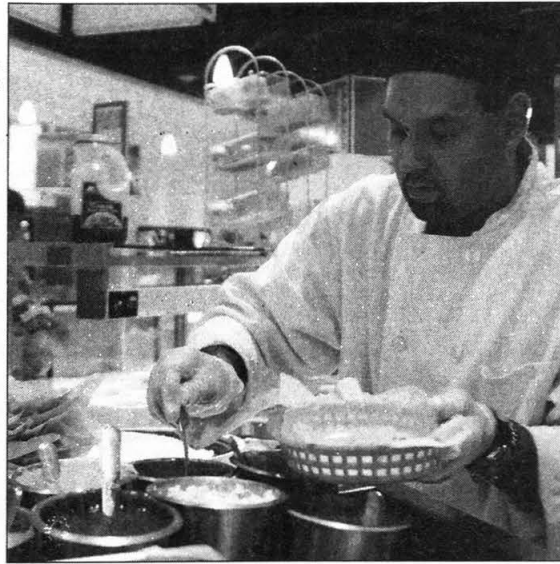
Officials said that interested students can contact their school's Office of Residence Life.

"We're hoping our students respond by actually buying the meal plans," said Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment.

Veronica Kott, a senior interdisciplinary major who commutes to Columbia, believes the meal plan is a good idea for students who currently don't have that option. While she would rather go home to eat, she thinks commuters who are on campus between classes would appreciate it, as well as students in other dorms that don't have meal services.

"I could see more freshmen and sophomores taking advantage of that," Kott said.

According to Bethke, the plan is being designed carefully so that it wouldn't need to be very profitable



Mike Sendra/The Chronicle

Chef Jesus Balcazan serves a custom wrap for a student at the University Center's cafeteria. Next year a program may allow non-resident students from Columbia, Roosevelt and DePaul to eat at the University Center cafeteria.

in order to be successful.

"We really feel like we stand to benefit the most from a food service for our students," Berg said. "I was really thrilled that the other two schools were willing to look at opening up the dining center to non-resident students."

Columbia currently has one food service provider, Plum Cafe, which has various locations around campus. However, Berg said she does not think that the University Center's new meal plan would affect Plum Cafe's business.

"I think the Plum Cafe realizes this neighborhood is getting more and more food options in it and

they're used to working in a city and they have to remain competitive," Berg said.

Although Columbia doesn't have a student cafeteria of its own, Roosevelt, whose students may also participate in the program, does. It is located in the Herman Crown Center, 426 S. Wabash Ave., and Columbia students are able to purchase meal plans there as well.

"It's an interesting program, and we'll have to see how it plays out—if there is any interest with students, if they pick up on it or not," said Angela Ryan, director of Residence Life at Roosevelt.

Printers Roast Cafe expands to Columbia

New kiosk promises bargain food prices

By Rashauna C. Hull
Contributing Writer

After three years as the owner of Printers Roast Cafe, Andrew Stanko found a new way to expand his business. In March, Printers Roast Cafe opened a kiosk in the lobby of the 2 East 8th building.

Although the kiosk is located in 2 East 8th, non-students can also stop by and purchase a sandwich or a cup of coffee for what Stanko said is a bargain.

"Where can you go and buy a sandwich, chips and a pop for \$2.99?" Stanko said.

The cafe began more than three years ago as a kiosk in the Dearborn Station, 47 W. Polk St., in front of what is now its current storefront. With both the Chicago School of Professional Psychology and the Merit School of Music located in the station, the Cafe's business went well. But when the schools relocated, Stanko felt it was time to expand his business.

Stanko noticed heavy traffic near 2 East 8th and decided to move the kiosk from the back of his cafe to the lobby of 2 East 8th. The idea struck College Park Communities, 2 East 8th's management company, as a great way to bring in more revenue. For residents, the kiosk is convenient.

"I am so happy I can get a smoothie without leaving the

door," said Jamella Brown, a freshman broadcast journalism major, who lives in 2 East 8th.

However, it could also be challenging for residents who attempting to avoid splurging their money on quick snacks, she said.

"If you are a student trying to save your money, you can't just say no when there is a smoothie right in front of your face," Brown said.

Cafe employees were also excited about Stanko's idea.

"I feel more comfortable working at the kiosk because of the lighter workload," said Glenda Dillon, a cashier at Printers Roast Cafe. "I will also enjoy getting to know the students."

Printers Roast Cafe kiosk is open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturdays. It sells smoothies, sandwiches, bakery goods, espressos, candy, chips and its award-winning coffee. For a larger variety of foods, customers will have to go to the actual cafe, which is what Stanko thinks will eventually happen.

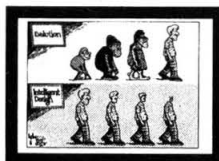
Stanko also hopes that the kiosk's proximity to 2 East 8th gives him an advantage over similar businesses in the area.

"Here [at Printer's Roast Cafe], you can pass Starbucks, White Hen or Panera Bread before you get to us, but at the kiosk in 2 East 8th, residents cannot miss it," Stanko said.

In the future Stanko plans to have a larger variety of food and more space for his kiosk within 2 East 8th.

Fischetti/Pfeffer

06



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Ed Stein, Rocky Mountain News

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Steve Breen, San Diego Union-Tribune
Scott Nychay, Northwest Herald



Alan Baker/The Chronicle

Federal Emergency Management Agency has delivered roughly 2,100 temporary trailers to residents of Waveland, Miss., in the months following Hurricane Katrina. The majority of the trailers are placed on private property. However, 118 have been placed within commercial sites, as with this site on Old Spanish Trail, because debris is still preventing homeowners from parking them on their property.

Katrina: Waveland citizens have high spirits

Continued from Front Page

De Ruyter settled with Community Collaborations International, a relief group, set up across the beach in one of the hardest hit areas of Waveland, Miss. Community Collaborations International works with universities, high schools and other organizations to bring in students to help complete work requests submitted by citizens throughout the city.

The Student Organizational Council used an application process to select a handful of students for the trip, most of which had previous leadership skills on campus.

"I see trips like this as a reward for those who have really given their time to Columbia and have gotten involved to make a difference to the community we have here," Cottone said.

Students left campus early on the morning of March 18 after packing five rental vans with supplies and gear for the nearly 1,000-mile drive to Waveland. The group stayed at the Morrell Foundations I-Care Village, a camp that provides room and board for volunteers brought in through Community Collaborations International.

Groups from Northern Arizona University and Dartmouth College were also there. Together with students from Columbia, about 90 people camped out for the week on cots in old World War II-style army tents. Meals, bathrooms and showers were provided by I-Care Village.

Waveland today

Waveland, which sits along the coast about 60 miles east of New Orleans, was considered ground zero after Katrina. Before the storm, the town had about 8,000 residents, and as of March 29,

Kathy Pinn, donations coordinator for the city of Waveland, said about 3,000 had returned.

The city is still reeling from the effects of Katrina, with 95 percent of its buildings having extensive damage. A mere 12 homes escaped flood damage following the ocean's surge, avoiding water levels that rose to 40 feet in some parts of the area.

Every vehicle left behind after

Meetings were held each night, during which site work was discussed and volunteers signed up for work that best fit their abilities.

Hayes' workweek included gutting two houses, painting another and even picking up tombstones and cleaning the yard of a local cemetery.

What surprised Hayes the most was the citizens' high spirits

Hayes' work, when added with everybody working through Community Collaborations International during spring break, brought the weekly volunteer hours to 4,376. That saves the city of Waveland close to \$60,000, Schultz said, considering residents don't have to hire contractors for the same jobs.

CCI

Steve Boisvert established Community Collaborations International as an alternative spring break program in 1993, taking students to Costa Rica and Alaska where they worked in native communities and helped develop funding for environmental projects.

The same schools then contacted Boisvert following Katrina asking if there was anything they could do in terms of relief help. Boisvert liked the idea, and by Jan. 2, he teamed up with I-Care Village to bring more student volunteers to Waveland.

Schultz has been with Community Collaborations International since the first college

groups started arriving at the beginning of the year and said Columbia stood out in a lot of different ways.

"Columbia came in and fit the beautiful niche of having creative people that were willing to figure it out, improvise and get the work done," Schultz said. "The level of communication and intimacy in the group was one of the most unique situations I have ever seen like that."

Cottone agreed and said he hopes to bring the sense of school spirit and energy back to campus and get more students involved.

"The students went down there and busted their butts while learning about these people and their incredible stories," Cottone said. "The rest of the time was about bonding and getting to know each other as friends and leaders. Friendships were formed through that trip that will last a lifetime."

—City Beat Editor Alan J. Baker was one of 32 Columbia leaders who volunteered their spring breaks to help the citizens of Waveland, Miss.

"I see trips like this as a reward for those who have really given their time to Columbia and have gotten involved to make a difference to the community we have here."

—Dominic Cottone,
director of Student Leadership

the city was evacuated was destroyed by water damage, including the entire fleet of police cruisers and fire trucks, Pinn said. All of the vehicles currently being used by the departments were donated.

Waveland's entire staff of 26 police officers survived after riding out the storm in town, but unfortunately, about 50 citizens lost their lives, Pinn said.

Despite all of this, the city has steadily been making progress over the last few months and most of the house-gutting process has been completed. Pinn said residents have started rebuilding their homes while getting their yards back in shape.

"If it [wasn't] for the people like [the students] coming down, I don't think Waveland would be 20 percent on its feet," Pinn said. "Waveland has depended on the graces of volunteers who have come down here and helped on an individual basis with people."

Student participation

For junior Na'm Hayes, working on a personal level with families was more rewarding than donating money.

Hayes, a broadcast journalism major, also said he liked the wide range of job postings.

despite their losses.

"I thought the community was going to be low, but it was completely opposite," Hayes said. "They were grateful for their everyday living, family and volunteers. It changed my life for the better and really made me appreciate where I am and what's actually necessary when it comes to living."

Trustees: Faculty seat will undergo one-year trial period

Continued from Front Page

CCFO has discussed getting a faculty member on the board for well over a year, Kostecka said. The board of trustees agreed in late February to grant a seat to a faculty member.

The instructor will sit on the board for a one-year trial period, allowing the board and the faculty member to become acclimated. During this time that person will serve on one of the board's committees. When the year is up, the board will then vote on whether or not to make the faculty seat permanent.

Members of the board are expected to give \$5,000 and bring in \$5,000 each year, which will not be expected of the faculty member, Kostecka said.

Columbia has never had a faculty member sitting on its board of trustees, according to Mark Lloyd, assistant vice president of Marketing and Communications.

"It will provide [an] opportunity for faculty to raise their issues and concerns more directly [to the trustees]," Lloyd said.

Although the faculty seat will be a first for Columbia, one neighboring institution has had faculty seats on its board for years.

Roosevelt University has five voting faculty members on its board of trustees who are elected by the university's senate, according to Laura Janota, associate director of public relations at Roosevelt. The faculty trustees serve three-year terms and serve on

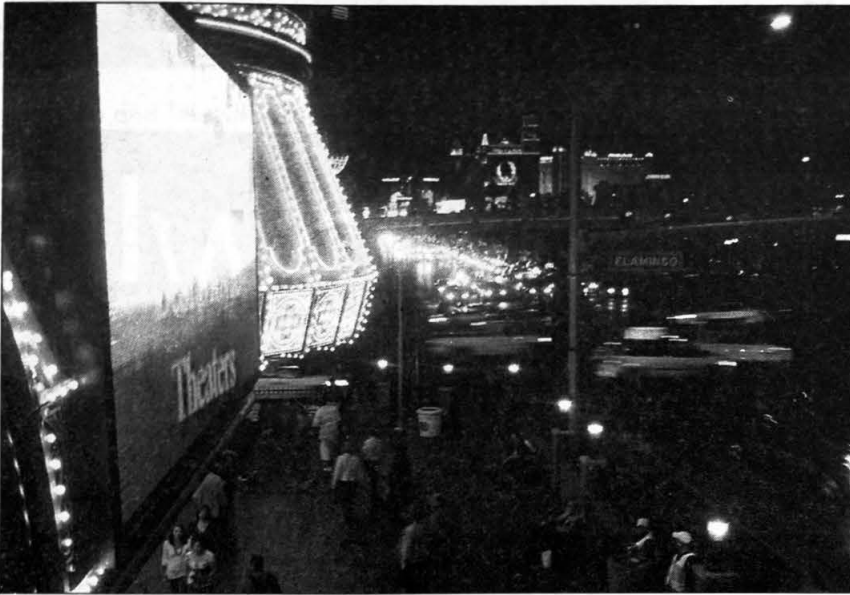
all of the board's committees.

"Having faculty input into the decision-making process is important," Janota said. "I think that the university and the board of trustees have benefited by being able to hear the views of the faculty members, because they are the ones working closest with students."

Roosevelt also has two voting student trustees, Janota said.

For the first time in more than 30 years there will also be a student on Columbia's board. The student member of the board will also be elected and present at the May 11 board meeting. The one-year trial period also applies for the student.

"That's a big step for the board," said Vanessa Torres, president of the Student Government Association. "I hope that the board will set up the next term and say that this will go into effect permanently."



Jim Jaworski/The Chronicle

Tourists walk past the Barbary Coast casino on Flamingo Avenue in Las Vegas. The already-popular vacation spot saw an increased amount of visitors due to the spring break.

Gambling: Some students falling thousands of dollars in debt

Continued from Page 3

About 53 percent of college students gambled at least once a month in 2005, up from nearly 49 percent in 2004, according to a study by the Annenberg Public Policy Center, a group that researches hot button issues in society, at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2005, 15.5 percent of college students gambled at least once a week, up from 8.3 percent in 2002. The study does not account for anyone older than 22.

There are many factors that contribute to the increase in college gambling, said Bill Schwarzkopf, an associate with the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling, an advocacy group that refers gamblers to addiction clinics. Increasingly easy access to gambling, especially on the

Internet, is probably the largest issue, he said.

"People of college-age are computer literate and have access to credit cards," he said. "The accessibility to online gambling is tremendous."

Alex Roseborough, president of the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling, said that the amount of time college students spend online is only attracting more of them to gambling websites.

"A lot of research is being done [by college students] online," he said. "You're seeing more and more things online about gambling. The pop-ups are all over the place. I think it can become subliminal."

Students of the same age who are not in college are actually gambling less, according to the study. In 2004, 53.5 percent of those not in school, but under 23 years old, reported gambling once a month. In 2005, that number dropped to 45.7 percent.

Schwarzkopf said those numbers are a result of college students having more disposable income due to fewer expenses, such as rent. Those not in college tend to have less money to lose,

he said.

"People who work for their money value it more," he said. "Those people are more responsible with their own money, because they need it."

Many students also still live under the protection of their parents, even if they live far away. Schwarzkopf said that many students are less concerned with losing large amounts of money because they can always go to their parents for help.

"Many times parents will bail out their college students, so I don't think kids expecting [that] is

unrealistic," he said.

Although both Schwarzkopf and Roseborough said that online gambling is the largest problem, students still have access to more traditional forms of gambling, such as casinos.

Illinois currently has nine operating casinos, totaling a gross revenue of \$1.7 billion, according to the American Gaming Association. Indiana has 10 casinos, totaling \$2.2 billion in gross revenue. Because of laws in both states, all casinos are riverboats.

Simply treating problem gamblers isn't a simple solution, Schwarzkopf said.

"Treatment is a big problem because the typical person who needs treatment doesn't have any money—they lost it all," he said. "Certainly treatment has to be available for all people who recognize they have a problem and want to resolve the problem."

Chris Anderson, director and founder of the Gambling Recovery Center in Evanston, has been treating those with gambling problems for 20 years. Anderson is a mental health therapist and recovering gambler. He lost money in the stock market, which he said can be perceived as the "world's largest casino."

He said that the key for slowing the gambling problem among students is increased education. Treatment can help those who are addicted, he said, but the issue has to be addressed before it becomes a serious problem.

"I don't get a call until the student has done a fair amount of damage," Anderson said. "The first couple of times around, mom and dad bail them out. Then it's only after [the parents] said 'no more,'

then I get a call."

The worst case he can remember is treating a student who had lost more than \$100,000 gambling.

Increased education will combat what Anderson sees as a change in perception in American culture. Not long ago gambling was seen as a problem, now it is seen simply as recreation, he said.

"About 15 years ago, we used to use words like crime, vice, sin and immoral," he said. "Now we use words like entertainment. Gambling hasn't changed. A wager is the same today as it was 15 years ago. What's changed is our perception."

Anderson attributes the drastic shift in the view of gambling to increased legalization across the country and clever marketing by casinos.

"They don't call themselves the gambling industry anymore, they call themselves the gaming industry," he said. "There's nothing wrong with playing games, is there?"

Anderson stressed that while he is not "anti-gambling," he feels it is important for society to recognize that gambling is an addictive and, at times, dangerous business.

"When the newspapers report, 'Illinois casinos post record profits,' an equally true statement would have to be, 'Gamblers at Illinois casinos lose record amounts of money,'" he said. "Why don't we ever see that headline?"

Schwarzkopf suggested gambling education should start as early as junior high school.

"Gambling, much like drugs, alcohol and sexual activity, [is] starting at younger and younger ages," Schwarzkopf said.

Survey: Asking students about concerns is key, officials say

Continued from Front Page

other arts and media colleges was unimaginable five years ago."

The results of the survey were also compared to a peer group of urban and media arts institutions like the Savannah School of Art and Design, Roosevelt University and the Illinois Institute of Art. Out of the 19 schools compared the results showed that students at Columbia are significantly more satisfied with their college experience than students at peer institutions.

Kelly believes that the college has been working hard to create positive change, and he said that the positive results mirror Columbia's rise in retention.

Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, said she wasn't surprised by the results, because Columbia has experienced a lot of good changes across the

board.

"Dr. Carter's plan to be the most student-centered campus sort of turned the attention to the needs of the students more specifically," she said.

Sommers said she thinks that the turnaround of the results can be attributed to the hard work put toward making changes that fit the concerns of students.

"We need to always be on top of the needs of our clients," she said. "The simple idea of not making assumptions of what people want or need, but asking has been key."

Vanessa Torres, president of the Student Government Association, said she has noticed a lot of positive changes since she came to Columbia in 2002.

"Overall students have one or two things permanent in their minds," Torres said.

The number one concern she hears from students is that tuition is too high. She also commonly hears students say that there is a lack of minority faculty and staff.

"There is always something that can be worked on," Torres said.

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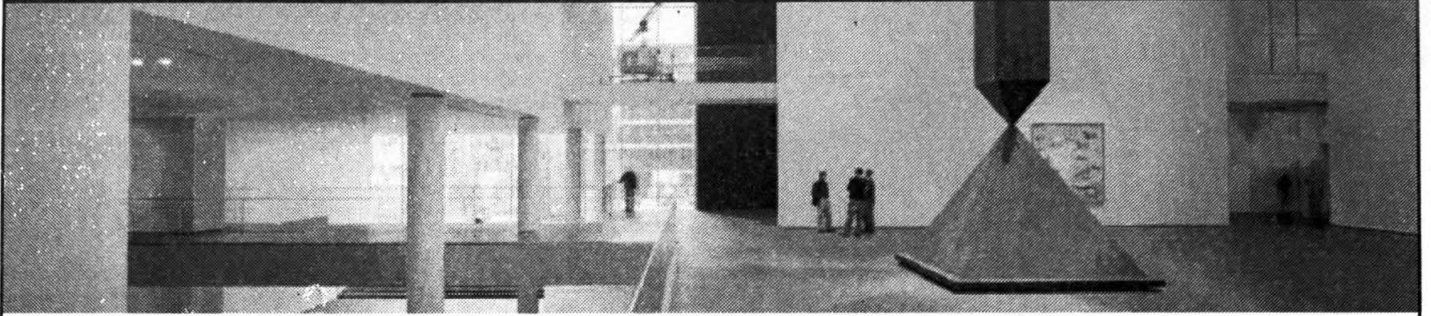
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Apocalypse Now

A little more than three years ago, this page scolded President George W. Bush and the Environmental Protection Agency for relaxing a provision of the Clean Air Act called the New Source Review. The provision, in place for more than a quarter-century, enforced tighter pollution controls. For an even longer period of time, environmental concerns have been stereotyped as bleeding-heart wail of those who wear tie-dye T-shirts and hug trees.

Killing the planet for cash has its consequences, among them rising sea levels as well as water temperatures that contribute to typhoons and hurricanes. While the cataclysmic force of global warming might make for an entertaining Jake Gyllenhaal motion picture, we'd prefer Mother Nature unloading on us to remain purely fictional. As we said before, the environment should not solely be a liberal issue.

The dismissal of a rapidly changing habitat was embodied in the way conservative columnist George Will rolled his eyes when the subject came up on ABC's "This Week with George Stephanopoulos" on March 26. The topic arose because of the cover story on global warming hitting newsstands the following day in the April 3 issue of Time, warning "Be Worried. Be Very Worried."

But the Time article was just the latest in what has been a series of alarming recent reports. As the story noted, a study published just the previous week suggested sea levels could rise as much as 20 feet by the end of the century. Two

other studies in 2005 found that the number of Category 4 and 5 hurricanes worldwide has doubled in the past 35 years while the wind speed and duration of all hurricanes increased 20 percent. And one week prior to the "This Week" discussion, the CBS news program "60 Minutes" aired a startling interview with James Hansen, the head of NASA's top institute studying the earth's climate.

In the segment, Hansen said that man had only 10 years to reduce greenhouse gases before global warming reaches its "tipping point" and becomes unstoppable. Ralph Cicerone, president of the National Academy of Sciences, told "60 Minutes" that as far as expertise, he could think of nobody better than Hansen.

Yet, Hansen was only allowed to be interviewed while taped by a NASA representative. And NASA even denied National Public Radio the opportunity to speak with him. So why the secrecy?

Because Hansen has been vocally criticizing the Bush administration's attempts to alter his findings. "In my more than three decades in the government I've never witnessed such restrictions on the ability of scientists to communicate with the public," Hansen said.

In June 2005, the New York Times said climate reports Hansen co-wrote with Rick Piltz for the federal Climate Change Science Program had handwritten edits on the hard copy by the chief-of-staff of the Council on Environmental Quality, Philip Cooney. Before coming into that position, Cooney had been a lobbyist for the American

Petroleum Institute, the largest trade group representing the interests of the oil industry. Uncertainty language was added—the earth "undergoing rapid change" became "may be undergoing change" for example—and references to human health were removed.

Ironically, the same day of the Times article, the United Kingdom's Guardian reported that pressure from ExxonMobil and other industries influenced Bush's decision to pull out of the Kyoto Global Warming Treaty, which 141 other nations have ratified. If that's not bad enough, two days after those articles were published, Cooney resigned to "spend more time with his family" after accumulating four weeks of leave. He landed a position at ExxonMobil five days later. As Kert Davies, U.S. research director of Greenpeace, told the Guardian, "The cynical way to look at this is that ExxonMobil has removed its sleeper cell from the White House and extracted him back to the mother ship."

The Bush administration's policies have relied heavily on empty rhetoric and voluntary emission controls. More effort is actually made instead to silence those like Hansen who disagree with the White House agenda. The president has voiced his support for teaching intelligent design alongside evolution. That's an entertaining, albeit hopelessly never-ending debate about how the world began. But what we'd really like to see now is serious action in the nation's capital that shows concern about how to prevent the globe from coming to a premature end.

Jump on the Board

Columbia's board of trustees has made two notable additions in the past few months. In February the Student Government Association was informed that the board unanimously approved including the first student representative in nearly 30 years. And now the Columbia College Faculty Organization is in the process of selecting its own representative after being granted a seat as well.

These are encouraging early steps taken by the board and will certainly allow Columbia president Warrick L. Carter and the 48 trustees to have more direct access to the concerns of the students who attend classes at the college as well as the faculty who teach them. Hopefully these decisions will help to fix gaps, not only in communication but in

fundraising as well.

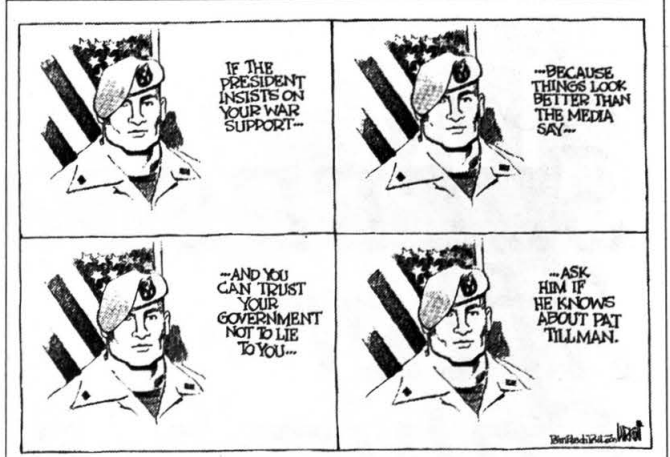
At his State of the College address, Carter alluded to the disappointing \$48,000 Columbia has raised from its more than 30,000 alumni. While it would be encouraging to see more donations from our college graduates as a measure of their success, there's another avenue to fundraising that might be preferable to seeking new memberships into the President's Club from all of Columbia's faculty (as expressed at March's faculty convocation): Expect more from our board of trustees.

And perhaps having a student and faculty member on the board can create more involvement from the trustees than we currently have. You'd be hard pressed to find a student on campus who could name any member of the

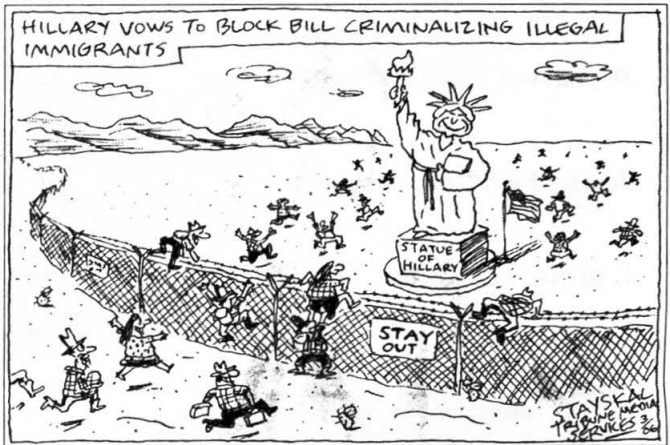
board aside from Chairman Allen Turner. And that's rather disappointing considering Columbia's ambitions as an arts and media school, since our trustees have a wide range of careers in some rather prominent media outlets. Consider some of the connections: New Line Cinema, Clear Channel Radio and Second City.

Many students would savor the opportunity to have a better dialogue with people who have experience with the fields they are pursuing. And we'd love to think the board members would be equally eager to share their knowledge. The board has chosen to include two new members from the front lines, but many of Columbia's interests would be best served if the trustees occasionally came see the action for themselves.

BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Don Wright/The Chronicle



Wayne Stayskal/KRT



Dan Carino/KRT

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

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

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

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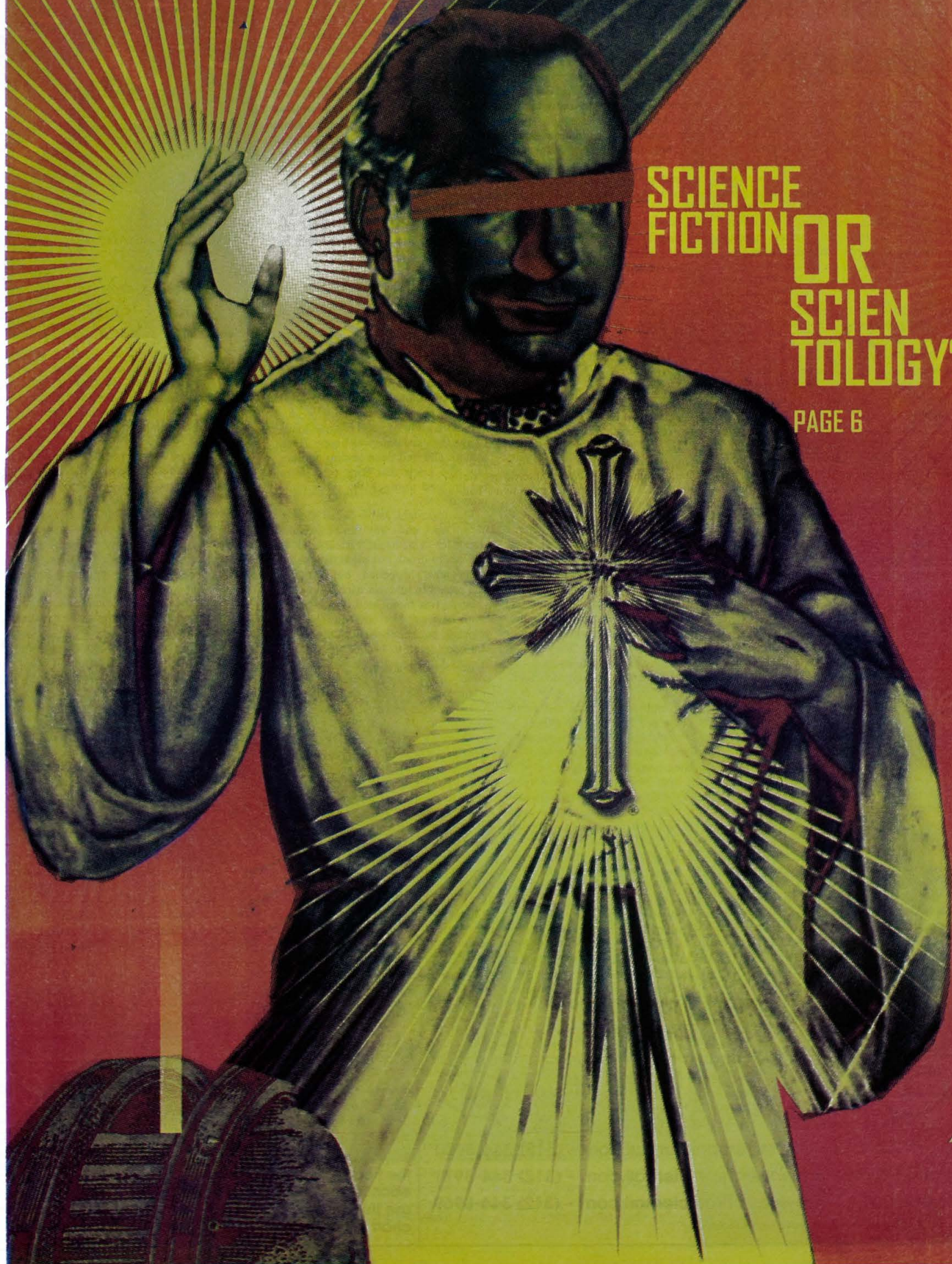
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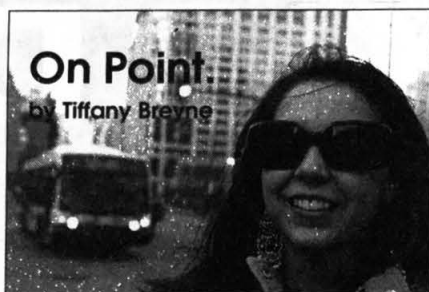
THE WORD

AN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT SUPPLEMENT OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

SCIENCE
FICTION OR
SCIEN
TOLOGY?

PAGE 6





Last minute thoughts

I've always been good at procrastinating on everything. From schoolwork to calling people to paying my bills, it's all stuff I'd rather do tomorrow than today. For instance, I haven't received a gas bill since November. This is probably a problem, but I think I'll wait until tomorrow to call the gas company—I've got too much on my hands right now. I still haven't received my March issue of Esquire, but I'll hold off on calling the maga-

zine, also, 'cause maybe it'll come in the mail tomorrow. I need to register for summer school, find a summer internship and just get my life in order overall. But instead, I've spent the past hour or two watching Natalie Portman's Saturday Night Live gangsta rap video and stalking people on Facebook and MySpace.

With this week's article about Scientology, my procrastination level was at its highest. I originally came up with this crazy idea about talking to

Scientologists to figure out what's up with them last semester. I e-mailed them thinking I would never hear back, but weeks later I got a response from the Chicago Church of Scientology saying that they would be willing to do an interview. So I did the interview in early January and then didn't even touch the recorded tapes and materials I received until just recently, when I realized that I couldn't put the article off any longer.

So I dusted off the tape of nearly two-hours worth of information and realized why I was procrastinating for so long: There's so much information about Scientology that it's a task to figure out how everything works, what stems from what and how everything comes together to make the bigger picture. If I wanted to or could explain every single aspect of Scientology, I would probably fill up a whole semester's worth of Chronicles.

As I've been dissecting everything I've learned from interviews and the numerous informational packets and videos, I'm still trying to draw my own conclusions about Scientology and how its viewpoints compare to my own, and I hope that other people will do the same. With so many stereotypes and criticisms of Scientology in the media, I think sometimes it's hard for people to ignore the hype and see how they feel about it. Maybe if I hadn't procrastinated, tackling this project I could have more intelligent remarks about Scientology in the news, but I'm working on it. There is so much information about Scientology nowadays that I hope this issue and other researched articles in the news can shed a little bit of an unbiased light on the topic.



Keeping things friendly

When it comes to relationships between a man and a woman, there is always an assumed romantic connection. "Awww, Lauren and Kyle are going to get married!" I profess every time my little sister hangs out with her friend since kindergarten. She makes a puking noise and tells me to shut up, but that will change, I think to myself. And they will fall madly in love. Or will they?

The thought of narrowing a list of friends down along gender lines seems insane. But I've always tried to keep my friends female, not because I don't have fun with guys, but because it always seems to turn into a big mess for me otherwise, and I'm not alone.

In ninth grade, my friend Jamie met Rick through some friends. They liked the same music, hung out at the same places and Jamie was instantly hooked. After weeks of playing it cool and getting to know each other on a friendly level, Rick kissed her. "I'm not crazy," she would tell me. "He's into me too."

After a brief romantic stint, Rick

lost interest in Jamie on a romantic level. He stopped kissing her, would only hang out if it were with a group and, before Jamie could even talk to him about it, he started dating his ex-girlfriend.

Usually, the story would end there. But since Rick and Jamie were friends, neither of them knew how to react to the situation. As months and years passed, Jamie realized that Rick was someone she was meant to have

in her life one way or the other, and she became satisfied with having him as a friend. It wasn't awkward or dramatic—it was normal. They would chat on the phone, go to parties, talk about love troubles and do, well, friend stuff.

After high school, Rick and Jamie saw less and less of each other. As with many high school friendships, they grew apart, and that was all right. But then everything changed.

"It was train wreck after train wreck when it came to my relationships," Rick explained. "The only girl I wanted to associate myself with was Jamie ... she got me."

After nearly seven years of friendship, Jamie barely remembered the puppy love feelings she had for Rick, but was excited when he called her randomly to hang out.

In just one night, Rick and Jamie were back to their laughing, joking and having a good time. Nothing had changed, except for Rick.

"We're out drinking, and he taps me on the shoulder," Jamie tells me, furi-

ous. "I made a mistake," he says to me. "I want to be with you."

And for some reason, as soon as the words came out of Rick's mouth, the feelings she had dismissed just hours ago came pouring back.

"I don't know what it is about that bastard," she said.

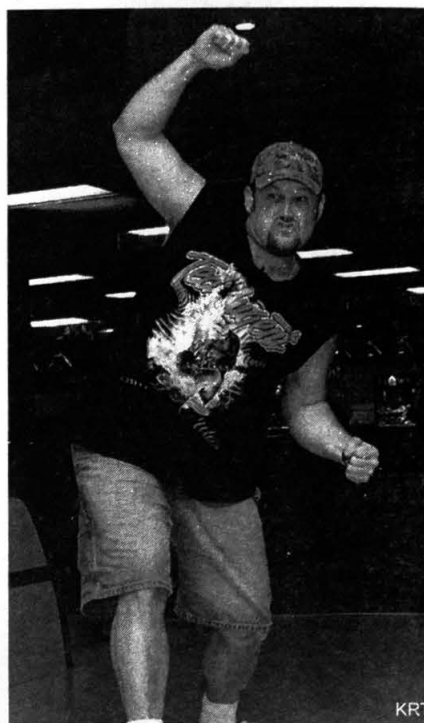
After a night of good sex and loads of sweet talk, Jamie was happy. Even though she had been seeing another guy, she knew that Rick was better for her and dumped the other dude immediately.

The next night, Jamie called Rick to hang out and got an awkward response: "Uh, listen," Rick said. "I was really drunk last night. I'm sorry about what happened, but I really don't want to ruin our friendship."

Jamie was humiliated. Who did he think he was? Not only did she feel rejected, but she thought that the guy she considered to be one of her best friends didn't respect her. She was just some girl at a bar who he fucked while drunk.

Again, their story should end here. But it still doesn't. While a shitty boyfriend seems easy to shake, an eight-year friendship is a bit tougher, even if it wasn't always so black and white. Is Rick a good friend to Jamie when he keeps hurting her time and time again? Does Rick respect Jamie when he comes to her out of boredom, even when she's obviously happy?

I'm really not so sure. Maybe all men and women can have friendships, but I don't really see sunshine and happy endings in the near future for anyone involved. I'm not saying we should only be friends with people we could never be sexually attracted to, but there should be some sort of line that separates real friends from detached lovers. I guess I'll start working on the screenplay.



For some reason movie studios Lions Gate Entertainment and Parallel Entertainment thought it was a good idea to give pro-redneck and anti-intellectual comedian Larry the Cable Guy, whose real name is Daniel Whitney, his own movie.

Sure, washed-up comedians like David Spade and Rob Schneider make lame movies all the time. They're actually pretty good at making miserable films, though, and know how to fail with flying colors. But neither Spade nor Schneider center their humorless jokes on blatant racism the way Whitney does.

For example, in his not-so-cleverly titled book, *Git-R-Done*, Whitney opens up a section on the Abu Ghraib prison scandal by saying, "Let me ask some of these commie rag head, carpet flying, wicker-basket-on-the-head-balancing scumbags something!"

In a Rolling Stone article from April 26, 2005, Whitney is also quoted as saying, "This is a song about an illegal Mexican hitchhiking through Texas. I call it 'El Paso.'"

Whitney is also quoted in the same article as saying, "There'll be a new show out next week called 'Black Eye on the Queer Guy.'"

Who wouldn't read any of this and think, Let's give this guy a movie? It's like the South has genetically engineered the antithesis of Michael Moore and called him Larry the Cable Guy. They're both at opposite ends of the American political spectrum and are equally annoying.

But is anyone else mystified as to why right-wing moral groups will boycott movies like *Brokeback Mountain* because it's supposedly destroying the fragile moral fabric of America, but a movie like *Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector* runs with no objection? Maybe *Brokeback Mountain* would have had an easier time with these groups if it included more fart jokes in every scene.

—H. Clauss



Love us or hate us...

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



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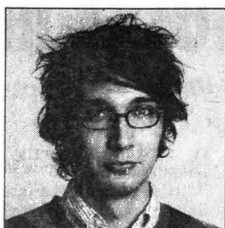
Ratings Guide

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

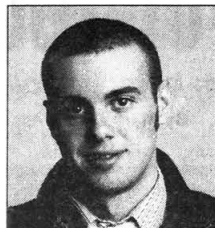
1 heart	Complete Crap
2 hearts	Download It
3 hearts	Pretty Entertaining
4 hearts	Very Good
5 hearts	Word Up.



James Ewert



Hunter Clauss



Mark Byrne

top five

Spring: This spring I will walk outside throughout the entire season rather than just at the beginning. Nothing says spring like hordes of people walking excitedly around in shorts and skittis for no particular reason.

Books: One would be amazed at how much smarter books make you. Ever since I started reading again this semester, I've been on the top of my game. Who would've think it? The more you read, the more you write.

Drugs: No, not the illegal kind, which lead to teen pregnancy and suicide. I'm talking about good old-fashioned caffeine and alcohol. It's about time they start getting the credit they deserve.

Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival: With April coming, it means only one thing to me—Coachella. I went last year and it changed my life forever. I just kept saying, "If this is it, what's next?" Now I know my answer: Depeche Mode—except this time I might just stay out there.

The Chicago Cubs: I am hopeful that this could finally be our year. Laugh all you want, but they don't call it hope for nothing, and I love being underestimated. So bring it on Sox fans, make me eat my words.

White tigers: My new goal in life is to purchase a pair of white tigers in hopes that they will give me magical powers akin to the ones they gave Siegfried and Roy. Beware, my enemies.

My brother: Apparently my younger brother Miles is in a baseball video game. Miles goes to the University of Texas and plays for the Longhorns. Photographer Mauricio Rubio told me his number is included in *MVP '06 NCAA Baseball* by EA Sports. Talk about sibling rivalry. How can I compete with that? The best I can come up with is a top five list.

146 bus: Truly, it is one of the last, great magical buses. I would like to see it get into a death match with the Magic School Bus.

Wily old man: I can't wait to become an old man and get away with crazy shit, like hitting things with my cane and complaining about everything. Oh wait; I already do that.

Fourth Mad Max film: Director George Miller II was rumored to have been working on a new Mad Max film, but the Internet Movie Database said the project "seems dead." This is so bad that it has to be a plague from God.

Brown Line construction: I really enjoy sitting on a train as it inches down the rails, stops, inches a little more and then stops again. It forces me to reflect on how very little the CTA cares about me, which is something I don't do enough.

Biking: Another thing that I don't do enough of is bike, and thanks to the non-freezing weather, I can finally take to the streets again and put my life at the mercy of those cars driving by me.

The Cars: Speaking of cars, the song "Just What I Needed" by The Cars (yes, that obnoxious-80's tune in the Circuit City commercials) really is "just what I needed" as far as songs that I can't get out of my head.

My name in big letters: And concerning advertisements, it makes me smile every time I get on an el car with a giant ad for Thomas Byrne for judge. This is something that is fun for pretty much only me.

Not caring about baseball: Another thing that concerns pretty much only me is apathy toward the baseball season. I'm excited that, over the course of the next few months, I will once again spend no money whatsoever on game tickets.

Calendar of Events

Monday

Ira Glass, host of "This American Life," will interview author Shalom Auslander (*Beware of God*) at Northwestern University's Chicago campus Thorne Auditorium, 375 E. Chicago Ave. The interview begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and \$8 for students.

Tuesday

The Israeli Film Festival screens *Beit She'an: A War Story* and *Drix's Brother* at the Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor. The free screening starts at 6:30 p.m. and includes an appetizer reception and an introduction by local filmmakers.

Wednesday

Frankie and Michelle's Star and Garter Burlesque show performs at Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. The show starts at 9 p.m. and costs \$5.

Thursday

Mates of State, Maria Taylor and Saturday Looks Good To Me play an 18 and over show at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. Doors open at 8 p.m. and tickets cost \$15.

The Poetry Center of Chicago debuts the Lip Reading Series at Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Road. The show is hosted by Joel Chmara and Mary Fons, starts at 8 p.m. and costs \$5.

Friday

Jeremy Sosenko, Idris Goodwin, Jill Summers, Ben Johnson and Jonathan Messenger will read short stories and prose inspired by objects found in a dollar store. The 21-and-over reading starts at 7 p.m. at the Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. Cover is \$1.

Lucky Number Slevin, *Take the Lead*, *The Benchwarmers* and *Phat Girlz* open in theaters.

Saturday

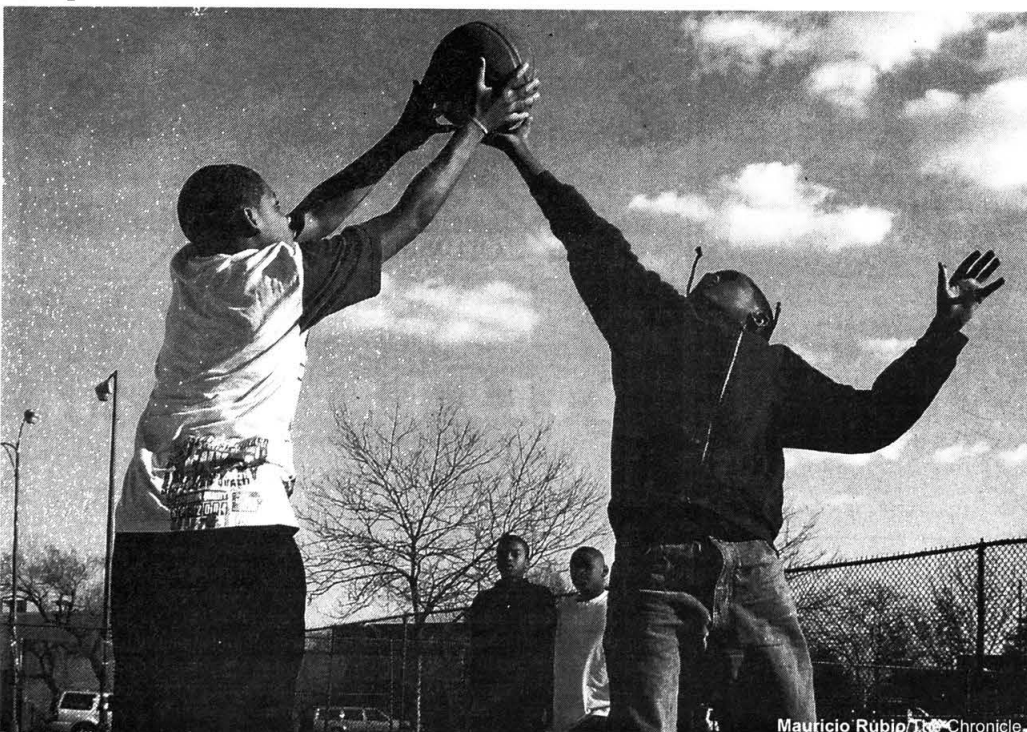
Gogol Bordello, Dub Trio and Zox play an all ages show at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$16.

Independent radio station WLUW 88.7 will host its annual record fair from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Pulaski Park Fieldhouse, 1419 W. Blackhawk St. For more information on this two day event, visit www.wluw.org.

Sunday

Jeffrey Gaines and Ethan Kaulas play at Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave., at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 for this 21-and-over show.

Exposure



Mauricio Rubio/Chicago Chronicle

Pro-athletes get paid millions of dollars to play a game that these two kids, Christopher Daniels, 12, (left) and Najee Robinson, 13, are perfectly content to play for free. The children pictured gave a warm welcome to a photographer who came to document their after-school pickup game at Union Park, 2936 N. Southport Ave. Seeing young kids doing what they love is refreshing, especially when pampered athletes tend to hold out to make more money for playing the same game.

Fountain of Youth for \$34.95

Himalayan berry has all the right ingredients

By Mark Byrne/Assistant A&E Editor

About a year ago, Marguerite LaLonde's friend recommended a juice to her. LaLonde considers herself open-minded, so she gave it a shot. Within two days, LaLonde said her allergies, which had previously been severe, had vanished.

"[My friend] said it was an amazing, potent berry," LaLonde said. "[She said] the only known side effect was [being] happy."

The drink her friend was talking about is Goji juice, which is made from a berry that is supposedly responsible for the extreme longevity of some Himalayan monks. Though there isn't much definitive research concerning the juice, the many websites selling Goji report a long list of uses and effects. One site even offers further information on everything from "Goji and Cancer" and "Goji and Depressive Disorders" to "Goji and Great Sex."

LaLonde discontinued her use of Claritin and other allergy medications and instead drinks about two ounces of Goji juice with iced tea every day. About five months ago, she also started selling the product.

LaLonde's reaction is not uncommon. The juice is becoming more and more popular thanks to Dr. Earl Mindell, a pharmacist and author of many nutrition and diet books. Mindell nationally distributes

Goji juice with the company FreeLife to LaLonde and others, who can then sell the products at their own stores or independently. The juice is imported from Central Asia, so unless it is bought wholesale, it costs \$34.95 for a one-liter bottle.

To avoid buying an entire bottle, one can order a drink with a shot of Goji juice in it at LaLonde's coffee shop, Cafe Avanti, 3714 N. Southport Ave.

Isabella Samovsky, a former Columbia student, also sells Goji juice in her store. Samovsky owns Natural Salt Lamps, 6448 N. Francisco Ave., and started carrying Goji juice about three months ago after she tried it.

"You could really tell the difference," Samovsky said. "Personally, my body responded really well to it."

Samovsky's business is based mainly on a different form of alternative therapy, and so it isn't too reliant on Goji juice. However, in the past few months, she said that it has been selling more and more, and she has been getting positive feedback.

Dr. Reed Berger, a specialist in nutrition at the University of Illinois at Chicago, has never heard of Goji juice. While she is unsure of any verifiable tests on the effects of the juice, she said that she thinks that the claimed health improvements might be the result of people's

overall habits.

"I think that people that drink that kind of juice are also people that adopt the sort of lifestyle where they eat natural food and take care of themselves," Berger said.

She attributed the same theo-

ry to the longevity of the Himalayan monks.

"It's probably a matter of their entire lifestyle, not just a specific juice," Berger said.

LaLonde is confident that her own experience with Goji juice is enough reason to both use the

product and sell it at her cafe.

"You don't want to sell anything at your shop that's not good, because people won't return," LaLonde said. "It had to be something that was extraordinary."



Michael Jerecki/The Chronicle

Marguerite LaLonde, owner of Cafe Avanti, 3714 N. Southport Ave., holds a bottle of Goji juice. The drink is made from the Goji berry, which can be found in the Himalayans and is believed by some to be an anti-aging ailment.

ROB SCHNEIDER DAVID SPADE JON HEDER

3 older dudes should be able to beat 9 young jocks... Right?

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APRIL 7

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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH!

Lip Reading Series perfect for beginners

New poetry series at Holiday Club gives novices a chance to read

By Liliana Esquivel/Staff Writer

The Poetry Center of Chicago, which attracts national and international professional writers, will give beginners and students a chance to read their work every month beginning April 6.

The Lip Reading Series will feature an open mic session along with a local spotlight performer and be hosted by poets Joel Chmara, who has been featured on HBO's Def Poetry Jam, and Mary Fons, who is featured in the book, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Slam Poetry*.

Lisa Buscani, executive director of the Poetry Center of Chicago, said the series is not a competition and welcomes all poets—especially students—to the relaxed environment.

"For the first time we are giving people street-level access [to read poetry]," Buscani said.

Because the Poetry Center is known mostly to only professional writers, Buscani said this new series, which will be held at the retro-themed bar, Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Road, is important. This event will be open to all writers whether they have experience or not, which is something the Poetry Center doesn't normally offer.

Phil Cook, manager of the Holiday Club, said the Poetry Center approached him with the idea, and he agreed. The Holiday Club already has an open mic session on Tuesday nights, but it is not the same theme as the one the Poetry Center will be hosting.

"It's a little different, but hope-

fully it will bring people in," Cook said.

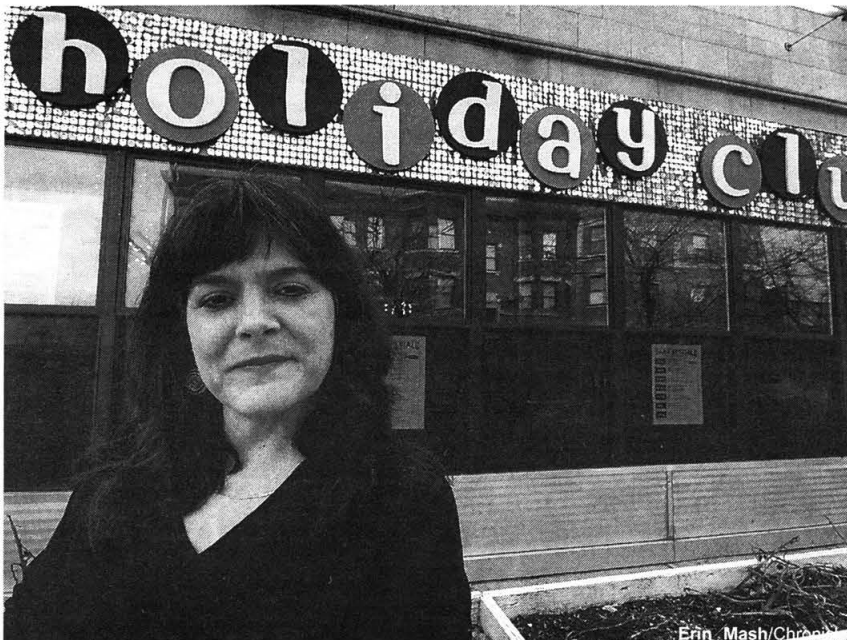
Lucy Anderton received her master's in fine arts in poetry from Warren Wilson College in North Carolina and has been writing poetry on and off for 12 years. Anderton, who will be April's local spotlight at the Lip Reading Series, said in an e-mail that it was wise for the Poetry Center to begin an open mic series that can provide a forum for beginner poets.

"I am sure that the series will be a good place for beginners to read," Anderton said. "However, they will have to be brave as the attention of a bar crowd can be difficult to obtain."

The Lip Reading Series will continue every month if audience participation continues to increase with each event, so organizers are trying to get the word out as much as they can, Buscani said. All audiences are welcome, and admission is \$5, which will benefit the Poetry Center, not the Holiday Club.

Buscani believes many people write poetry as a way to express themselves, and it has become a popular form of writing. She said that five to 10 years ago, poetry was mostly academic, and few venues held readings. Now, poetry enthusiasts can attend a reading almost any day of the week, and because of this, more people are writing.

She points out that venues were not as readily available five to 10 years ago for readings, but now poetry enthusiasts can attend a reading almost any day of the



Poetry Center of Chicago executive director Lisa Buscani stands outside the Holiday Club, 4000 N. Sheridan Road, where a new poetry reading called the Lip Reading Series will soon debut.

week. Poetry readings and styles have changed, and Anderton pointed out that it is probably based on what people are reading and listening to. However, she agrees that more and more people are getting involved

with poetry. "People are sharing poetry more widely [due] to a growing number of people involved in international poetry happenings such as poetry slams," Anderton said. She recommended the series and

said that poets, especially beginners, can hone their skills through frequent reading and writing. "Chicago has a great reading scene with open mics and scheduled readings with visiting writers," Anderton said.

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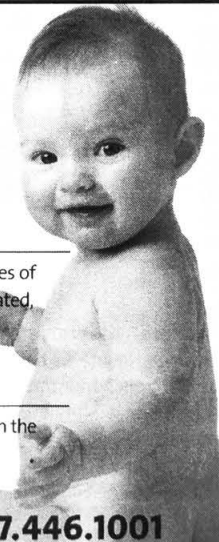
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By Tiffany Breyne

Graphics by Joshua Covarrubias

In a Utopian society there is no fighting, no poverty, no immorality, no miscommunication or self struggles. While most would argue that the world today is nowhere near Utopia, it seems as though one group is aiming to find a happy balance among man, his spirit and his society.

"That's what our goal is," said Maryann Ahmad of the Church of Scientology of Illinois located in Chicago. "To help man achieve a state where there's no war [and] there's no disease—where honest people can have rights [and] people can exist the way they like to exist."

Some outsiders call it a cult, some call it a religion, but there is no definite number as to how many people call themselves Scientologists—statistics range anywhere from thousands to millions. No matter what, Scientology has managed to stir up controversy and confusion about its beliefs, its methods and its people. The basics of Scientology have become lost in the various opinions and ideas—it is represented in the media by figures from Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes to the former voice of "South Park" Chef, Isaac Hayes. For many, though, the question still remains: What is Scientology?

While the only way to truly understand Scientology is to actually become a Scientologist, people involved in the church can offer explanations to those who are unfamiliar with it. Ahmad explained that when broken down, the word Scientology itself means "the study of knowledge," or "learning how to know."

Scientologists believe that man is an immortal spiritual being and that he is naturally good. With this belief, Scientologists strive to know the environment around them and have a clean and healthy connection with that environment.

The idea of Scientology came about in the 1950s when science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard presented work on something he called dianetics,

which descends from Greek words meaning "through the mind." Hubbard wrote the book *The Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health*, which delved into the topic of how the mind affects the body and how it's divided into two sections: the analytical mind and the reactive mind.

According to Hubbard's findings, the analytical mind is used to consciously make decisions about events, and the reactive mind tells the body to react in a particular way. Ahmad said that the reactive mind is constantly recording events that people encounter, particularly while they are unconscious and in pain. Memories recorded from these times of pain and unconsciousness are what triggers "aberrated" or painful physical responses.

"[An] example is: You have some kids playing baseball, and this kid gets hit in the head with a baseball bat, and he's unconscious," Ahmad said. "His face is in the grass, so he smells the grass—whatever is going on is being recorded. But when he comes to, he doesn't recall any of this. Before he comes to, there's a dog barking in one of the neighbors' backyards, and then there's a fire engine going past. Some time later, he's walking down the street [and] he smells the fresh cut grass, and a fire engine goes down the street. He hears the siren, and all of a sudden he gets this major headache. He doesn't know where it came from."

In Scientology, the way to get rid of these responses is to participate in dianetics auditing. Auditing is a process that helps a person discover these memories recorded during a time of pain and unconsciousness step by step until he or she has recovered and confronted the entire memory, and therefore the negative response no longer occurs. Auditing always involves two people: a trained

individual called an auditor, who is also a minister in the Church of Scientology, and the preclear, or the individual being audited. The auditor uses an electropsychometer, or E-Meter, to question the preclear: the preclear holds onto rods attached to the E-Meter which measures "spiritual distress" and changes in a person's mental state.

Ahmad and other Scientologists believe that because of these aberrated responses and an inability to get rid of them, people don't react to problems in life the way they should. She said that this is what causes the world to be in the state of war and poverty, she believes it is in today.

"It's a little bit of an overwhelming task," Ahmad said. "If you could take every single individual and get them through every auditing procedure in Scientology, the truth is, the planet would be much better off than it is now."

Another part of Scientology that Ahmad said helps people communicate and solve problems is Hubbard's method of study technology. This style of education simply means that a person should always understand the words that they are saying and reading. Study technology aims to help people communicate and educate themselves more properly so that he or she can understand their rights as humans and convey their thoughts more clearly.

Ahmad said that nowadays education has taken a turn for the worse. Not as much emphasis is put on looking up words and understanding their meaning, which causes kids to be "functioning illiterates," she said.

"How easy it is to control an uneducated population," Maryann said. "Just look at Saddam Hussein. It's pretty easy. If you have a population that's not educated, can't read newspapers and can't read books and have no idea what their rights are, what do you think is going to happen to them? They have these methods of teaching children how to read. One of them is, if you don't know what a word means, to figure it out from the context it's used in. How stupid is that?"

To help up and coming teachers learn the "correct" method of teaching based on Hubbard's study technology, Applied Scholastics International was formed in 1972 by educators to help find the best way to teach children. The Applied

St. Louis campus is located in St. Louis and is a place for teachers to learn the study technology method for their classes.

While Ahmad and many other Scientologists are happy to talk about the reasoning behind and basics of Scientology, others think that the group is simply a cult using people's money and damaging their lives. Paul Horner, creator of two anti-Scientology websites, StopScientology.com and scienTOMogy.com, started the websites about a year ago after Cruise started making more appearances and "acting up" in public. Horner said that while researching Scientology, he found a lot of sites that were text-heavy didn't have any pictures or videos to go along with the information and were geared toward people already involved in-

If you could take every single individual and get them through every auditing procedure in Scientology, the truth is the planet would be much better off than it is now."

Scientology. That's when Horner decided to make a site for younger people, who he feels are most affected by the group and should be most aware of what Scientology is about.

Horner's main disagreement with Scientology is that too much information is hidden and only revealed after hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent taking courses and auditing sessions through the church. Horner said that most Scientologists, like Ahmad, don't talk about certain aspects of Scientology until in the later courses, such as Hubbard's theory about Xenu. Horner's website and numerous others state that according to Hubbard's theory, Xenu was a galaxy overlord who brought 76 planets worth of people to Earth millions of years ago, placed them by volcanoes and then blasted them with H-bombs. The souls of these people still exist today inside every person, and with Scientology audits, it is possible to rid oneself of these evil souls.

Horner verifies that the information he posts on his website are the real beliefs of Scientology by checking with individuals he knows who were involved with the church for two or more decades.

"The thing with being a critic of the church is I find it very weird," Horner said. "A lot of the critics find it weird, and they want to make sure that all the information is very factual, because with [Scientology] you don't need to exaggerate anything. You just need to make sure it's factual. A lot of Scientologists don't like me, and I always [tell] them, 'Point out anything that's not true, and I'll take it off,' and they never have."

Aside from the fact checking, Horner and many other Scientology critics say that they have had encounters with Scientologists demanding they get rid of information about the group that may show them in a negative light. Horner said that 10 percent of the church's revenue goes toward private investigators and The Office of Special Affairs, a special operations group that follows and harasses Scientology critics by spreading rumors to discredit them.

The Rick A. Ross Institute of New Jersey is a nonprofit organization that researches destructive cults, controversial groups and movements. Rick Ross has been researching Scientology since the '80s, and said that the Church has often tried to have databases like his shut down via lawyers, citing copyright infringement or other excuses. Ross defines Scientology as a cult, stating that cults have "absolute authoritarian leaders" that define the group, like Hubbard. Ross also points out that a cult is a group that has "undue influence over its members," which he feels Scientology does. Lastly, Ross claims the group does harm to individuals. He said that the church has a history of lawsuits against it, such as a wrongful death lawsuit last year and a

case in which the church paid \$8.5 million in a settlement on a personal injury claim.

Based on Ross' experiences with former Scientologists, the biggest complaint about the group is that individuals have been hurt in non-physical ways by the church.

"A lot of people have contacted me claiming they have been hurt by Scientology," Ross said. "They have been hurt emotionally; they've been hurt psychologically; their relationships have suffered; their family has suffered. [Another complaint is] that they have given Scientology a great deal of money for courses, religious services and that they're undergoing financial difficulties because of that. It's very difficult; many people stay for many years."

For Ahmad, the individuals calling them-

selves former Scientologists or critics of the group are a nuisance and distract from the meaning and motivation of Scientology. She feels that the media and society are not educated enough about Scientology to truly comprehend the main goals, which is what inspired her to start working at the church.

"I'm on a crusade to get the media educated about Scientology," Ahmad said. "There's so much out there by these people who used to be Scientologists, and you go, 'Would you please get a life?' Something didn't work out for them. Well gee, maybe they didn't do something right. Maybe they had something they were trying to hide. Who knows? Just shut up and get on with your life please. Enough's enough."

Science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard started Scientology to help man help himself and others. From his point of view there are an elite few who are capable of providing the most help for others: artists and entertainers. He thought that artists deserve special treatment for their contributions to society, which is why in 1969 he founded the Church of Scientology Celebrity Centre International. The centre, located in Hollywood, provides classes and services to people in the art and entertainment industry to help further their careers and ambitions while learning how to better help society. Because of this, the Church is known for its laundry list of celebrity Scientologists. Among them are:

1. Tom Cruise
- Katie Holmes
2. John Travolta
- Kelly Preston, *The Cat in the Hat*
3. Juliette Lewis, *The Other Sister*
4. Isaac Hayes, "South Park", musician
5. Giovanni Ribisi, *That Thing You Do!*
6. Leah Remini, "King of Queens"



Millionaire creates gem in 'Hazelnuts'

New endeavor a slight touch of 'Sock Monkey' mixed with a hint of Mark Twain

By Hunter Claus/A&E Editor

When a mischievous band of hungry mice discovers that stealing food from a farmhouse pantry isn't as easy as it looks, they turn to Billy Hazelnuts for help in their never-ending battle for sustenance. Constructing him out of trash, flies and mince-meat pie, the rodents release the troll-like Billy into the kitchen with hopes that he'll guard them from the dangers of a broom-wielding woman and her cat. But what the mice hadn't planned for was the woman's young daughter, Becky, a scientific kid-genius who befriends Billy.

This is the premise of Tony Millionaire's delightful new graphic novel, *Billy Hazelnuts*. Millionaire is widely known for his darkly humored *Maakies* comic strip, which follows the hilarious misadventures of an absent-minded monkey named Uncle Gabby and an alcoholic crow named Drinky Crow as they sail across the seven seas meeting women and accidentally getting each other killed.

But while *Maakies* pokes fun at touchy subjects like substance abuse and death, *Billy Hazelnuts* has the same playful mood as Millionaire's *Sock Monkey*, which follows the childlike doppelgangers of Uncle Gabby and Drinky Crow in the form of a sock monkey doll also named Uncle Gabby and his stuffed animal companion Mr. Crow.

Unlike *Sock Monkey*, though, *Billy Hazelnuts* is a Brothers Grimm fairytale for adults—entertainingly simple but with much more going on beneath the surface. The humor is much more whimsical than Millionaire's previous work, and yet *Billy Hazelnuts* still has that pleasurable and edgy feeling of discomfort that is a hallmark of Millionaire's style.

For example, Becky is introduced into the story as she tests out a homemade invention that projects a holographic image of Venus, allowing her to see aliens dancing jigs and waving back at her.

Before Becky can begin to study these aliens, her mother calls for help as she fends off a temperamental Billy in the kitchen. The unpleasant-looking Billy has gotten a hold of a meat tenderizer, which he uses to pound the mother's foot in to a bloody mess.

It is moments like these that make Millionaire's work brilliant. His transitions from a tender moment like Becky discovering life on Venus to a quick and gruesome panel of her mother's foot being squashed by a meat tenderizer are both shocking and hilarious. Just wait and see what happens when Billy gets a hold of the cat.

Through the course of this three-chapter book Becky calms Billy by replacing his fly-infested eyes with hazelnuts. This adjustment improves Billy's attitude, and the two quickly become friends. But the story isn't over yet.

Billy and Becky find themselves on the run from Eugene, a not-so-secret admirer of Becky's who writes foppish poetry for her in an attempt to win her heart. When Eugene is harshly denied by Becky, he creates his own monster—a steam-powered, blind alligator that uses a seeing-eye skunk and travels around in a flying pirate ship.

To help fight back against the steam-powered alligator, Becky uses her "matter expander" machine to make her toy replica of Noah's Ark to grow into a life-sized version. The animals in the toy ship also manage to become alive during the process, and they help Becky and Billy fire cannons and steer the ship as they wage an attack on the steam-powered alligator.

Scenes like this make *Billy Hazelnuts* stand out among other graphic novels. While a battleship clad Noah's Ark is awesomely silly, Millionaire is providing a cleverly subtle commentary on society in the vane of Mark Twain's *Huckleberry*



Courtesy Tony Millionaire

In this magical, cartoonish world written and illustrated by Tony Millionaire (*Maakies*), Billy Hazelnuts accuses a herd of sheep with stealing the moon. The herd's reputal is one of many scenes that is well worth the cover price.

Finn. It's not surprising that the graphic novel is partially dedicated to Twain, seeing that Millionaire has incorporated elements of American folklore adventure like themes of religion, nature and the supernatural hero.

Billy Hazelnuts is a nice addition to Millionaire's body of work and further establishes him as one of the greatest graphic novelist alive.

'Billy Hazelnuts'
by Tony Millionaire
and published by
Fantagraphics - \$19.95



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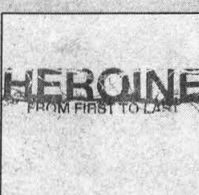
Reviews

♥ ♥ ♥
Tokyo Rose
New American Saint



New American Saint offers MTV-friendly, alterna-rock with a tight sound. Album highlights include "Goodbye Almond Eyes," "Bottle Marked: Caution" and "A Reason to Come Home Again." Despite some petulant lyrics, Tokyo Rose still falls in a slightly higher tier than many of their musical contemporaries. —E. Kasang

♥ From First to Last
Heroine



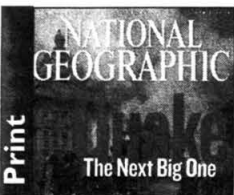
With music that is reminiscent of a teenage band full of boys trying to replicate Staind, this screamo band fails to produce a mature sound. Singer Sonny Moore is too dramatic for his own good. The only semi-decent song is "World War Me," which could make even the calmest person want to get up and break shit. — T. Breyne

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Willy Mason
Where the Humans Eat



Imagine yourself driving down a seemingly endless strip of sun-drenched highway on a cross-country road trip. *Where the Humans Eat* is your soundtrack. This folk-inspired album is mellow, comforting and familiar on the first listen. Mason writes lyrics that are soulful and wise. This is a must-have. —J. Fischer

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
National Geographic
April 2006 Issue



Not only does the April 2006 edition of National Geographic feature a cover story on earthquakes, but the pull-out map shows the global hotspots (so long, L.A.). Other topics include Chernobyl 20 years later, Glen Canyon and Hugo Chávez's influence on Venezuela. And there's kinky dragonfly sex, too. —E. Kasang

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Modern Drunkard
Magazine



Modern Drunkard Magazine, a glossy, monthly, Colorado publication, brims with decadent lore and admiration of the functional alcoholic. This month's gin-soaked pages are perfect for finding reasons to get soused, learning to slur like a pro or spotting a teetotaler. It's genuine material that's the perfect cure for society's ills. — C. Jakubowski

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Batman Year 100 Pt. 2
Paul Pope



This new installment of Paul Pope's *Batman Year 100* is more action-packed than the previous issue. The Gotham City Police Department goes through a century's worth of files on the Caped Crusader only to discover that most of it has been deleted—but by whom? —H. Clauss

♥ ♥ ♥
V for Vendetta



More like *O for Overdone* post-9/11 imagery. This new Wachowski brothers film spends too much time and energy drawing similarities to the war on terrorism. But the movie picks up in the second half with wonderful moments involving Natalie Portman's character and, unlike the last two *Matrix* films, *Vendetta* actually has a good ending. — H. Clauss

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
The Squid and the Whale
DVD



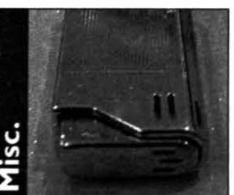
This movie is brilliant and clever, but if you buy the DVD, be prepared for the hour-and-15-minute feature to be the only thing of substance on it. There is basically nothing besides the typical director commentary and a behind-the-scenes clip show, but one gets the impression that there just wasn't much else to say about a movie that speaks for itself. — M. Byrne

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Thank you for Smoking



This film is a satirical look at the life of a Big Tobacco spokesman. Watching the sultan of spin, Nick Naylor, battle with journalists, kidnappers, senators and cancer societies is nothing short of ridiculous and hilarious. Moviegoers may even walk away with a few arguing tips. — H. Graham

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
The Shock Lighter



After pumping electricity from a triple-A throughout your body, you will soon realize that there is no better way to wake up in the morning. It works best by telling someone it makes a giant flame. Common victims are usually bosses and unwitting cigarette smokers. — J. Ewert

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Nicotine Patch



I decided to quit smoking and enlisted the patch to assist in this great struggle. I was skeptical that it would help, but I was wrong. The steady flow of wonderful, soothing nicotine has kept me from punching a hole in my computer screen. For that, I give thanks. — J. Jaworski

♥
Nose Pickers



Like public displays of affection, nose picking is also unacceptable when surrounded by strangers. Unfortunately, no one told this to the tiny, little woman who sat next to me on the train. It was like she was mining a tunnel to her brain. Chicago should pass a nose-picking ordinance since it's already passed one on smoking. — H. Clauss

Premium Blend

Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

After a certain number of years in the music industry it only makes sense for a solo artist to collaborate with his peers. Chicago's own producer Copperpot, a.k.a. Daniel Kuypers, and emcee Longshot, a.k.a. Chad Keslup, are no exception. EV Records labelmates and friends for a few years now, the two have united their hip-hop style and life experiences to form Coppershot. The socially and politically aware group combine Copperpot's chill, simple beats with Longshot's deep voice and consistently cool flow. Both artists have had their fill of run-ins with authority figures and have dealt with everything from rehab to debt to anger management. Together they use their past to make *Issues*, their debut album which comes out April 25. Copperpot took some time out while in the studio to talk to *The Chronicle*.

The Chronicle: Why did you guys decided to collaborate after knowing each other for so many years?

Copperpot: We just kind of get along pretty well, as far as outside the studio, but in the studio especially we get along well as musicians. We have similar processes. We're both kind of knuckleheads a little bit—we're intelligent, [but] we write to push the boundaries perhaps. We just met through mutual people that we knew in the scene and started recording tracks for other projects and then we decided to do a whole record together.

So what do you each bring to the table to make Coppershot work?

We complete the circle. I'm very private with my art making, it's a very personal thing for me. So I'll do that. I'll

make a lot of beats, a lot of music, and I'll give it to Longshot. He'll listen to it and decide what he likes, and he'll write a song to the music. Then we'll sit down together and arrange the song after he's recorded the lyrics. All my stuff is a little bit odd I think, and Longshot definitely has a distinct voice that he uses as well. So it works [out] well.

Your songs are pretty revealing. Do you find it tough to put yourself out there like that?

We're really personal about our art [but] both of us draw from our struggle because I think honestly that we both need this outlet. I can speak for myself and I know that I need this outlet; otherwise I'll be a maniac. I really need a way to express myself and that's the way that I do it. A lot of times it's calming, and it makes me be able to function really. And I think that Longshot is the same way; he really needs to express himself in order to function.

How did you manage to get into so much trouble in the past?

How do you not? I don't understand how people don't. I try not to, I'm a little bit more reserved now. I learned a lot of lessons along the way. I am the type of person where I need to learn from my mistakes. I can't see my friend do something stupid and learn from that. I have to actually mess it up myself to learn what not to do. Along the way I made a lot of bad decisions, and I learned from them.

What are the issues you hear people mention about Chicago's hip-hop scene?

Coppershot



Courtesy Copperpot

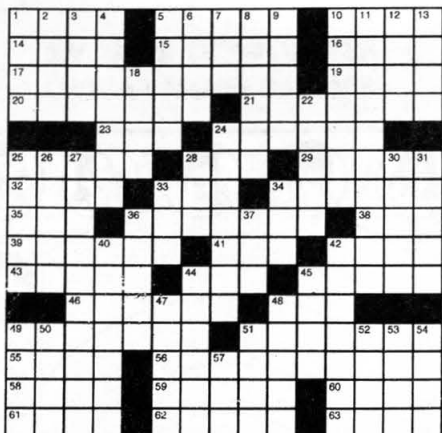
People are always saying that Chicago's not unified. Everyone thinks that they're better than the next person. There's a lot of quote-unquote hate. Everyone complains. People that I know in other cities, they complain about their hip-hop scene too. I think it's just kind of a thing in general with young people. They just like to complain about stuff. I was just like, 'I'm just gonna drink it away.'

Issues will be available April 25. For more information about Coppershot, the individual artists and to find out where you can pick up the album, visit www.evrecords.net.

— T. Breyne

Crossword

- ACROSS**
 1 Little bit
 5 Jazz singer
 Carmen
 10 Ice melter
 14 Christmas song
 15 Large antelope
 16 Court entreaty
 17 Committee
 head, perhaps
 19 Paper tidbit
 20 Violent attack
 21 Quadrille dance
 23 Bro's sib
 24 More optimistic
 25 Mr. Universe
 contestants
 28 Cribbage piece
 29 "Din"
 32 God of love
 33 Piece of the
 action
 34 Go
 35 Turn informer
 36 One archangel
 38 Bill at the bar
 39 E-flat
 41 Flow out
 42 Actress
 Rowlands
 43 Note from the
 boss
 44 Singer Tillis
 45 Pal
 46 Greet like a lion
 48 Family men
 49 Honors formally
 51 Frankfurter's
 cousin
 55 Teheran land
 56 Junkyard
 collection
 58 Easter season
 59 Restaurant unit
 60 Enamelled
 metalware
 61 Men-to-be
 62 Twice as
 cunning
 63 PC junk mail
- DOWN**
 1 Old Peruvian
 2 Circus-goers'
 cries
 3 Brewed drinks
 4 Assumed
 names
 5 Whippers



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- 6 Congeal
 7 Ewe's mate
 8 Computer type
 9 Ferber and Best
 10 Enliven
 11 Took turns
 12 Provocative look
 13 Scottish berets
 18 Downfall
 22 Patrick or Bruce
 24 Backpedal
 25 Buffalo bunches
 26 Re-create blank
 tape
 27 Country of
 origin
 28 Alehouse
 30 Stately
 31 Cornered
 33 Upper limit
 34 Gal at the ball
 36 Extensive
 37 Original PC
 maker
 40 Quantities
 42 Seam inserts
 44 Mathematician
 Blaise

Solutions



- 45 Creator of Oz
 47 Takes five
 48 Writing sheet
 49 Pie-cooling
 ledge
 50 Surface
 measure
 51 Store lure
 52 On the summit
 of
 53 Fancy party
 54 First sch.
 57 Baseball
 player's stat

to the nines

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Obie Perez's style has a lot to do with his mode of transportation. "I bike pretty much everywhere, so everything has to survive me riding," said Perez, a senior computer animation major. He rolls his pants up so they won't get caught in the chain and said he buys clothes that "won't fall apart after a few months." Perez got his scarf from a Pakistani friend who told him that in the summertime helps you keep cool. Besides that, he just thinks it looks hip. The fashionable bag he's carrying an essential part of his healthy lifestyle.

Michael Jerecki/The Chronicle

Out of My Head













by Scotty Carlson



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HOROSCOPES

by Alicia Dorr

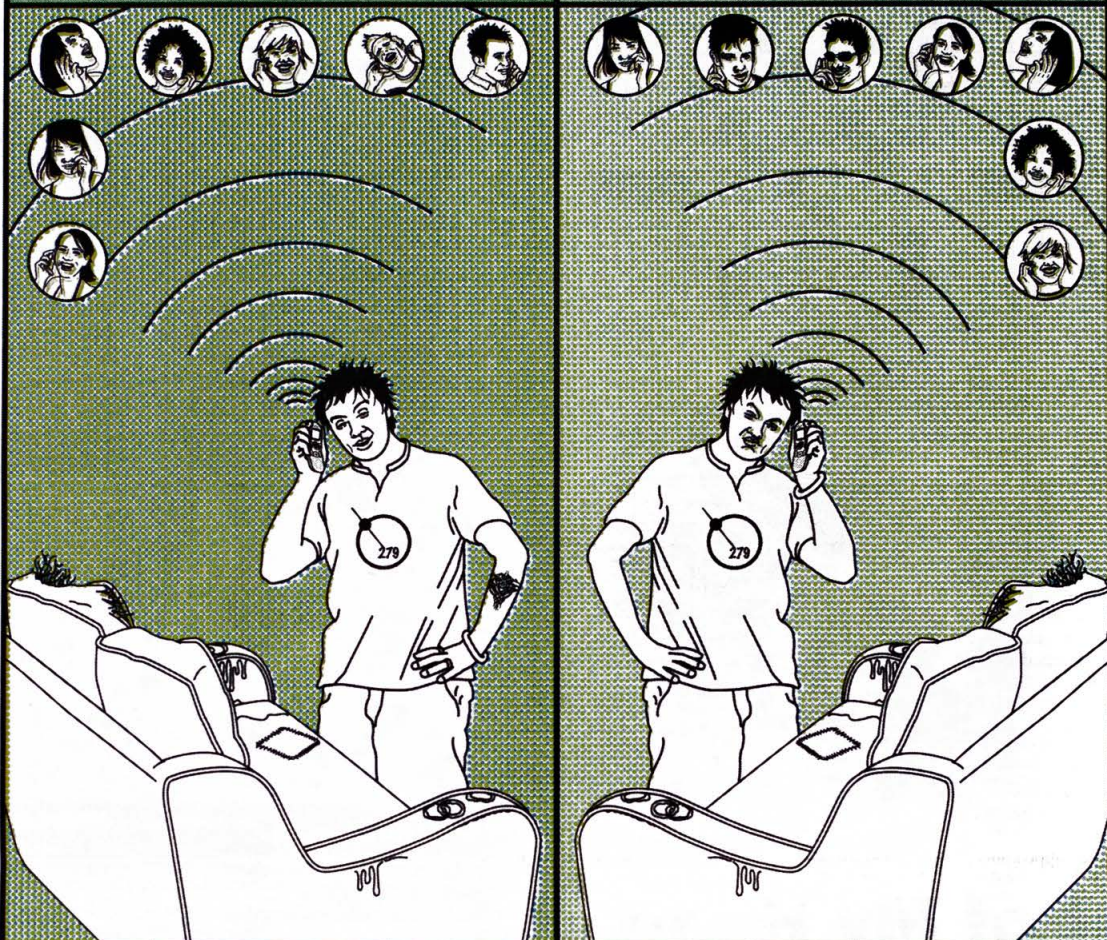
-  **Aries (March 21 – April 20):** You crazy for that one, Von Boozenstein.
-  **Taurus (April 21 – May 21):** After many months and many more millions of dollars, your scientific study has finally concluded that it is not, in fact, easy to steal candy from a baby.
-  **Gemini (May 22 – June 21):** You will discover that in a past life you were a gruesome tyrant who ruled your lands with an iron fist. You will pay for that in this life by being a professional clown.
-  **Cancer (June 22 – July 23):** No, I cannot glue your hair back on. I told you not to cut it, dufus.
-  **Leo (July 24 – Aug. 23):** You will find a pot of gold at the foot of your stairs tomorrow and quickly find that it is really, really difficult to use gold as currency in America.
-  **Virgo (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23):** You don't believe in banks or paying taxes, but I feel it necessary to tell you that they believe in you.
-  **Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23):** You will make your millions by patenting the genre of movies that stars annoying child actors who befriend strange animals. Who knew you could patent that shit?
-  **Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22):** When you look in the mirror, you see you. When you walk around on the streets, though, other people see Julia Child. I have no idea who you think you look like.
-  **Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21):** When your significant other wakes up in the morning he/she looks like a recipe for a horror movie. I mean, seriously, what do you see in that creepout?
-  **Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20):** Your smile's crooked like my eyebrows.
-  **Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19):** When someone calls you a child this week, it would be better to not take offense. I mean, they were just pointing out that you deal with uncomfortable situations by sticking your fingers in your ear and saying, "LALALALAL" over and over.
-  **Pisces (Feb. 20 – Mar. 20):** Oh, go fly a kite, Pisces.

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Where have all the macho men gone?

By Cyril Jakubowski
Assistant Commentary Editor

College hoops has a new crybaby. Adam Morrison's theatrics—crying and clutching his head with time still left in the game before sprawling out on the court afterward—are just other examples of how men are turning softer.

Considering all the hoopla surrounding Morrison's meltdown during the March 17 Gonzaga-UCLA NCAA regional semifinal game, it should come as no surprise that the kid reacted the way that he did. After all, society has inadvertently conditioned him for that sort of emotional and overly sensitive response.

And if you're wondering why that is a bad thing, does anyone remember the idea of macho? Me neither. But most men have an idea of what macho means to them and going by my standards me even writing about it suggest what a pussy I am. Yet sensitivity and emotional response rather than pure, primal, beastly instincts are more often the standard these days and that's why it's important to get reacquainted with macho again—it helps guys with their self-confidence. But when it comes to personal hygiene, drinking etiquette or even the actual image of macho these days, the whole idea has been turned into a farce—an idea that comedian George Carlin called the "pussification of the American male."

Why are people ganging up on Morrison? I'll tell you why: That well groomed moustache and crying has to go. We have to remember that this male sensitivity, especially when it comes to appearance, should now be totally acceptable. Some men these days are waxing (read: Nairing) their chests and legs—and sometimes their asses—getting facials and foot scrubs, manicures and pedicures, even shopping for beauty products. Men! They use exfoliates and clay masks because, as we all know, reducing the size of your pores makes you look, well, pretty.

The definition of macho is, "An overly assertive, virile and domi-

neering man." It's sad that I actually looked up the definition. But if males are evolving with the times, then we are doing it the wrong way. I've always heard that narcissism is unhealthy—a Smurf was guilty of it, so it has to be true. But the way I use macho here is not to be confused with misogyny—I'm talking about toughness and carrying on in the world and wading through the muck and not carrying about superficiality.

American society churns out soft men into the big and bad world. There's actually a spa center for men in Chicago called Spa Space, which provides luxurious services for men. Honestly, do guys need a \$75 HeadBlade s4 Scalp Razor or Sharp's Daily Prep Skin Tuner?



AP

Sure, nothing is wrong with looking good, since apparently it gets you ahead in the professional world, as well with the ladies. But I long for the "good old days."

Even though the macho ideal seems to be dead, something tells me regular guys are clenching their fists about the state of the American male in these modern, highly evolved days. American author Norman Mailer once talked about lack of responsibility for actions: "Because there is very little honor left in American life, there is a certain built-in tendency to destroy masculinity in American men."

Perhaps Morrison should have

congratulated his opponents and cried into a pillow later like the rest of us. Because deep down guys know there is no going back to macho. The type of a man who embodied the spirit of Sam Peckinpah, Humphrey Bogart and Sean Connery as James Bond. Tough, were violent guys who cursed and puked, and rode out their heart attacks and punched holes in walls while paying for the mortgage.

We don't have macho men anymore. Colin Farrell? Give me a break. Farrell is today's societal substitute for the image of macho, not the actual masculinity that Ernest Hemingway used to write about. Where do you think the term "bad boy image" came from? It

colored swill without tomorrow.

It used to be that boys turned into men. Through a sea of misfortunes such as sticking our hands into electrical outlets, getting our hearts broken after chasing women we shouldn't have and breaking hands after punching walls in anger, we became men. Our fathers followed the likes of John Wayne and Steve McQueen. Even though they may have divorced and paid alimony, they did what was expected of them. And while getting your heart-broken doesn't fall into the macho category (macho guys wouldn't care) it's the survival that counts.

But my idea of macho is probably not your idea of macho. To me James Woods is macho. There should be a pendant that says, "What would James Woods do?" He'd blow everything up, have a cigarette and walk away with a girl on his arm. Yet even in the movie *The Hard Way*, he needs Michael J. Fox to teach him how to share his feelings. Can you hear the puke hitting the toilet?

Look, I'm not saying all men have been the victims of "pussification," but too many have. And I understand that being macho these days is passé. We're not supposed to drink "that" much, or smoke, or fight at all.

We used to look at Playboy for the women. Now we read GQ to look at how well the men dress and Maxim for what, I don't even know. We discuss our feelings and slap lawsuits on each other instead of punching one another. One of these days, maybe in the near future, guys will say boxing is too brutal, music is too loud and crying itself will become a sport.

And in sports I expected the sort of crying Morrison displayed after a game in the women's tournament. There's no crying in basketball.

But whatever our culture has in store for men, guys should stop talking about their feelings or pampering and cooing about their Prada shoes and facial moisturizers. Be men from time to time and do what men do: break stuff, get dirty and drink tequila shots—oh, and call Morrison a pussy.

Roamin' Numerals \$10 billion

Cost of rebuilding New Orleans' levees to federal standards, according to Bush administration rebuilding coordinator Donald Powell. The rebuilding effort could take 25 years and may not be enough to fully protect the entire region from flooding.

101 mph

The speed that South Carolina Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer was traveling in his state car, but was not issued a citation for, according to state records. Bauer was stopped twice in the last four months for speeding but denied the incidents.

108

The number of bags of marijuana in a sack that a Boston detective had to wrestle out of the mouth of a pit bull named Prada on March 28. The detective also found \$1,000 in cash and 14 bags of the substance before encountering the dog.

Choice Cuts

“You're not going to print that, are you?”

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's reported comment to Boston University assistant photojournalism professor Peter Smith outside the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on March 26. The Boston Herald published Smith's photo of Scalia thrusting his right hand out from under his chin after saying, "To my critics, I say, 'Vaffanculo.'" The Italian phrase means "(expletive) you."

Making a difference in the Gulf Coast

By Alan J. Baker
City Beat Editor

While en route to Waveland, Miss., Columbia's caravan of five vehicles packed with campus leaders pulled into a shopping plaza for lunch. The weather was beautiful, business was thriving and buildings were intact.

As we were leaving, the waitresses approached one of the drivers, Columbia adviser Pattie Mackenzie, and asked if the group was there to help rebuild the Gulf Coast. Mackenzie said yes and the young woman began to cry, replying, "God bless you."

It was a kind gesture at the time, but it didn't register until the group exited Interstate Highway 10 in Waveland. That waitress knew what to expect; we didn't.

Her comment was encouraging

during the three-mile drive down to the beach when no words or emotions could ever describe what we saw and felt. It was almost unbearable.

The Gulf Coast city that once housed more than 8,000 people was ground zero when Katrina struck seven months ago. The debris is still everywhere—cars and boats overturned miles inland, toys and trash stuck high in trees and pieces homes dropped as far as the eye could see.

What kept the group going was getting to know everybody who was a part of it. Out of the 32 student and staff from Columbia, only a handful had interacted with or met one another before the trip.

The second everybody piled out of the cramped vehicles sparked a sense of bonding and friendship. Columbia students came together and put all differences aside in an

effort to help serve the people of Waveland.

Columbia worked in full force for five straight days. We did the best we could with the limited tools and resources we had. It was about teamwork, communication, dedication and a sense of pride many of us have never experienced before at Columbia.

While at Sonic, one of the three restaurants that have reopened, a woman got out of her car and asked if I was from Columbia. Apparently, the word had gotten around town. I looked her in the eyes and said, "Yes I am," having never felt so proud to be a part of any school or group.

I can guarantee everybody in the group agrees. As for the people we met in Waveland, Columbia is a school they're grateful for and will never forget.

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Letters to the editor must include full name, year, major and phone number. All letters are edited for grammar and may be cut due to a limited space.

Letters can be faxed to (312) 344-8430, e-mailed to Chronicle@colum.edu or mailed to The Columbia Chronicle, 33 E. Congress Parkway Suite 224, Chicago, IL 60605-1996.

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Chairs do not understand discrimination

I would have otherwise ignored the letter to the editor ("Discrimination claims untrue," March 6) signed by a select group of chairs if I did not feel strongly that it is important for Columbia students to recognize when it is appropriate to jump aboard a petition and when to ignore it.

Having served for 20 years as the chairwoman of the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights of the American Chemical Society, and as vice chair of the Board of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, I have dealt with issues of human rights abuses and issues of discrimination against different groups in the United States and around the world.

One thing is clear: In order to feel the victim of discrimination against a group, you must belong to the group that is being discriminated against.

I am therefore sure no one will be surprised to hear that Doug Jones, Bruce Sheridan, Richard Dunscomb, Richard Woodbury and Ken Daley (for example) have never felt discriminated against as an Israeli Jewish woman—and I doubt they will ever feel discriminated against as an Israeli Jewish woman in the future.

—Zafra Lerman,

Head, Institute for Science Education and Science Communication

Grateful in Mississippi

I recently had the opportunity to meet several students from Columbia. These students forfeited the usual spring break activities to come and work with Community Collaborations International in Waveland, Miss., and participated in the ongoing hurricane relief work.

As one of the organizers for CCI, I would like to shout THANK YOU! THANK YOU! These students were amazing. No matter how dirty or hard the job, they attacked each project with enthusiasm. It was wonderful to see their sense of camaraderie they shared, not just with members of their own school, but with all of us on the ground.

Although they lived in old, leaky army tents, ate mess tent food and often had cold showers, I never heard one complaint. On the contrary, over and over again they spoke of how happy they were to be able to be in Waveland to help.

The type of help they provided was not just the labor—gutting houses, debris

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

removal, building sheds, etc. I think the most important help they gave the community was hope. Over and over again my phone rang with calls from locals saying how much they appreciated these students coming down, how glad they were that not everyone has forgotten the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The most important gift your students gave to Waveland was letting the people in Waveland know that you cared enough to come down. That you remembered them.

Everyone at Columbia should be very proud of these students I know all of us at CCI are! Y'all come back anytime; we miss you!

—Marianna Papsdorf

Community Collaborations International
Waveland, Miss.

Learning from Waveland

I was one of 28 Columbia students who went to Waveland, Miss., for spring break. Waveland was devastated by Hurricane Katrina last August and is still in pieces. Driving into Waveland, the damage became apparent. Tree limbs had snapped, boats got stuck in trees and clothes were still dangling from branches. Piles of debris that were once homes stood guard along almost every street and dirt road. Cars had been crushed, homes were toppled and even marble headstones at the local cemetery were overturned.

I was privileged to speak to many residents in Waveland and neighboring Bay St. Louis. I can't forget their faces and I won't forget their stories. Sara's home had been destroyed after flood waters engulfed it. She

lost her sister in the storm and heard about it on CNN. J.E. stayed with his wife in the attic of their home, and they stayed together through the storm. He wanted his cemetery cleaned up more than he wanted help with his home. I visited the home of a New Orleans firefighter who lost everything. His friends and neighbors came together to help rebuild the house. I received a hug from a woman named Tanya who simply wanted a tree cleared from her well. I was fortunate enough to meet with residents in a Waveland restaurant. I'll never forget the smile of Whitney, our hostess who lost everything in the storm. I also remember the generosity of the town that deeply appreciated our presence and wouldn't let us pay for our lunches.

I can tell that a fire once burned in Waveland. This was a place of peace, beauty and friendship. A hurricane and it's 28-foot storm surge tried to extinguish that fire. Neither the winds nor the rain could do it though. The fire of life still burns in the residents of these Gulf Coast communities. I could see it in the faces of the police officers and the people who simply wanted to say thank you. These residents will rebuild. They are committed to staying and refuse to leave. They choose not to be overwhelmed by grief, but choose instead to be grateful for what is left.

Where does courage like that come from? How can citizens who have lost so much find the strength to go on? Their undying courage and iron resolve helped relight a fire in my heart and I believe it did so in the hearts of my companions.

The fire of Waveland lights the way for this nation. It is still strong enough now to enter our souls and ignite this generation into action. Thirty-two students went to

Mississippi and changed the lives of an entire community. They deserve the respect and admiration of our college community. The flame of hope burns brightly now on the shadows of the Gulf Coast. We have not forgotten them.

May Chicago take this lesson from Waveland: Look out for your neighbor in a time of need.

—Brian Matos
Sophomore

Broadcast Journalism

Expressing the need for Safe Zones

At a time when Columbia is creating so much ... change, should we not be careful about what change we are creating? I'm concerned when we act on behalf of our students and create a solution to a problem that they do not tell us exists. In the short six months I have been working with the Multicultural Affairs offices, I'm not aware of any students voicing a need for Safe Zones on campus—and neither was Kathleen McLaughlin, the GLBT Coordinator until interviewed for last week's article ("GLBT students fight for 'Safe Zone,'" March 27). That said, if the students voice a desire for a Safe Zone program, of course we will do everything in our power to initiate one right away.

It also concerns me that The Chronicle assumes that the office is not capable of creating long-lasting programs or that Safe Zones is the only useful program. We are really proud of the vibrant and engaged GLBT Student Organization, Q-Force, our annual World AIDS Day event, our participation and presence in the Gay Pride Parade, our hugely successful Gender Fusions event, sexual health awareness and education programming, visiting artists, Student Leadership and Multicultural Affairs receptions and other programs.

It is true that we are working very hard to secure space for a GLBT Resource Center, but we Columbia folks also know just how high that space mountain is to climb!

We are aggressively working to advance issues of diversity and awareness on campus in a multitude of ways that will activate the entire Columbia community.

—Kari Sommers
Assistant Dean of Student Life

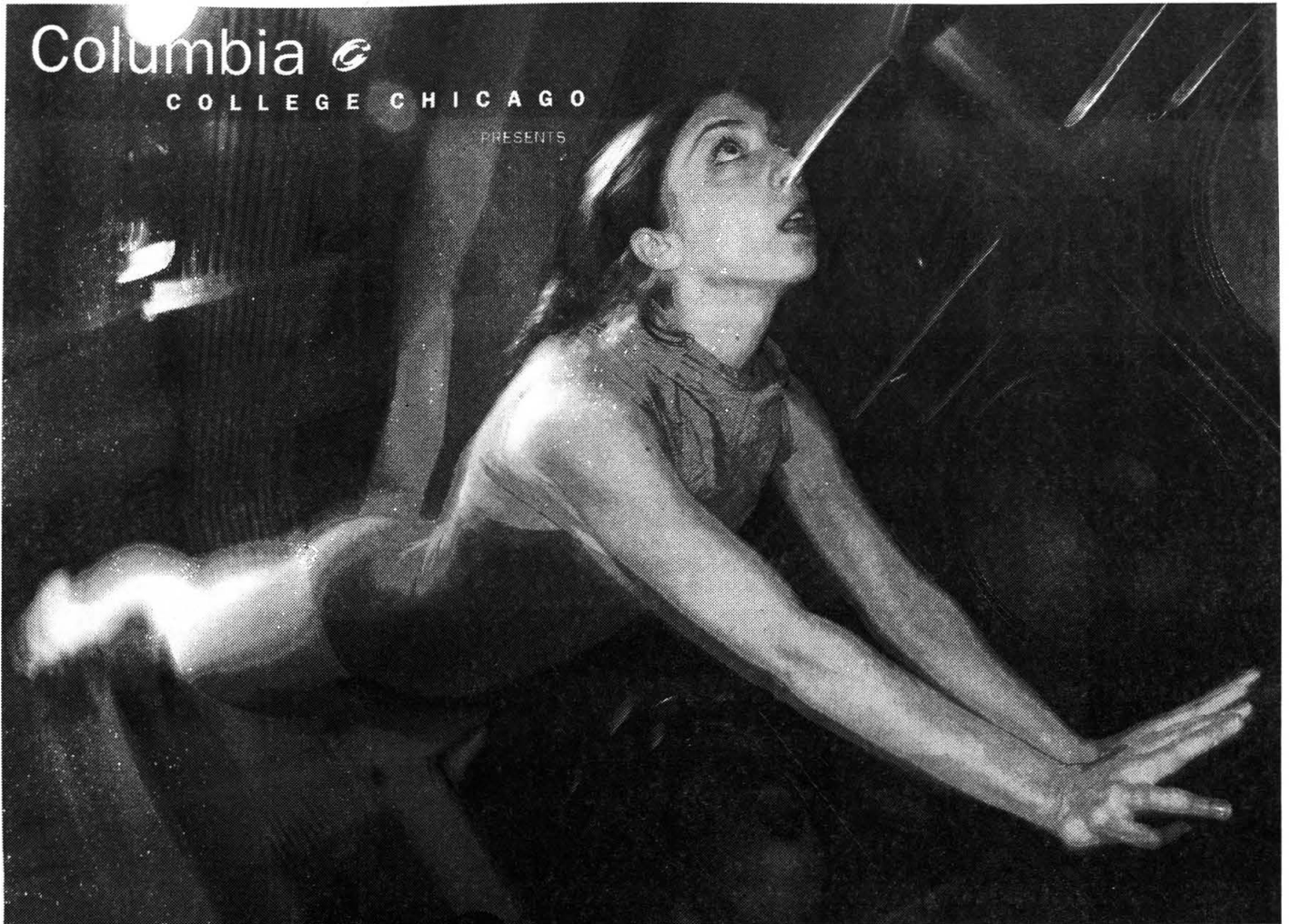
Editor's note: The Chronicle attempted to reach Ms. Sommers for comment in the story, but calls were not returned.



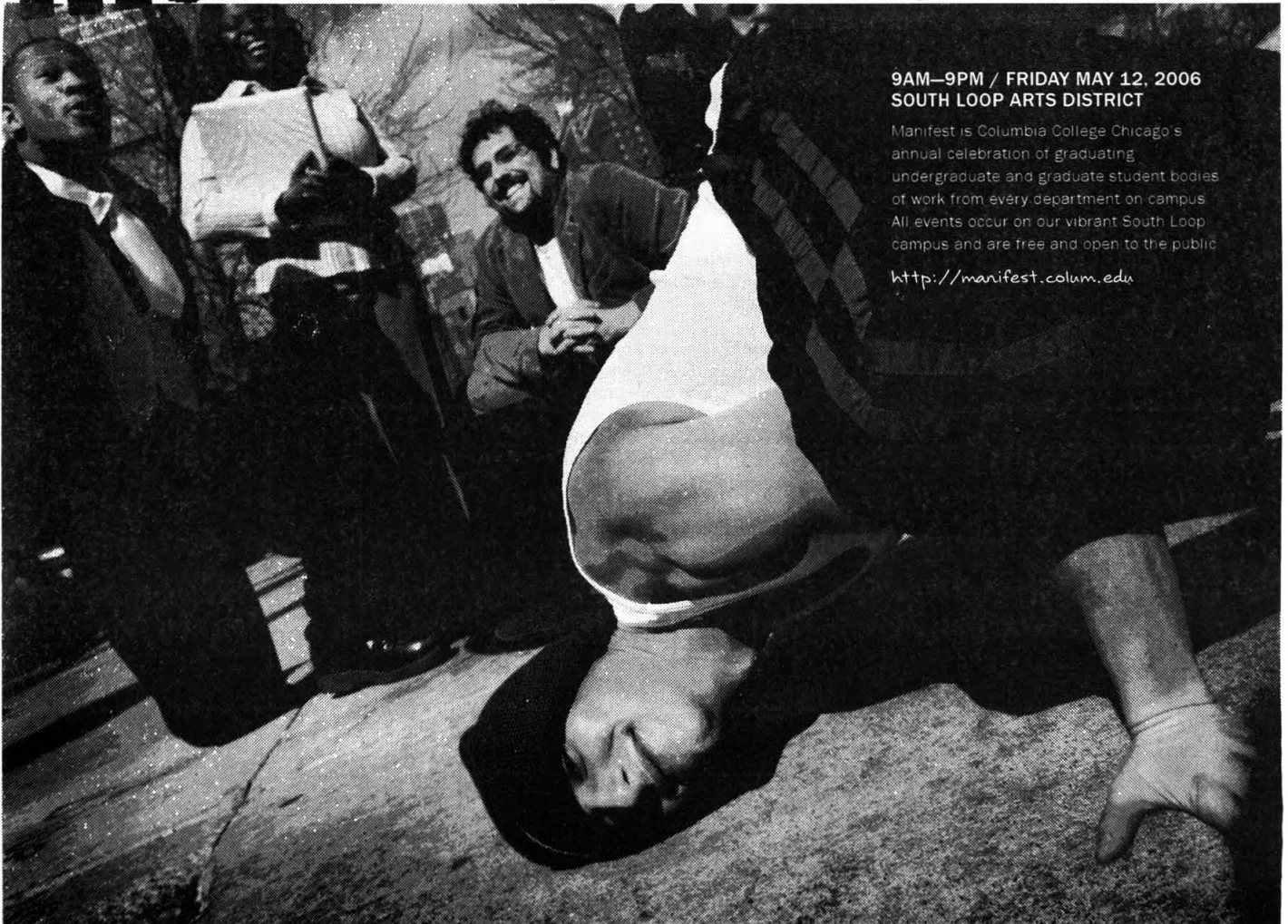
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SOUTH LOOP ARTS DISTRICT

Manifest is Columbia College Chicago's annual celebration of graduating undergraduate and graduate student bodies of work from every department on campus. All events occur on our vibrant South Loop campus and are free and open to the public.

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HOKIN GALLERY

623 S WABASH AVENUE. HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

THE CONTEMPORARY CONDITION, March 6- April 21

The Contemporary Condition: Photographs of Our Time is an exhibit of undergraduate and graduate student photography which explores the state of today's society.

"The photographs in this exhibit were created to point and ask, plead even, for answers to questions as diverse as: do we really go so numb in front of an embarrassment of riches; can you image buying a brand new house that looks exactly like every house on the block; does anyone seriously believe that these plastic plants don't, in fact, make things worse; or are we that afraid of death that we feel compelled to turn corpses into dolls?"

There is a certain disbelief at work here that only occurs when the filter of routinization is stripped away by seeing something freshly. And as with any revelation, there is a challenge: is this the way you want it? what are you going to do about it?"
- Curator, Paul D'Amato, Professor of Photography, Columbia College Chicago



HOKIN ANNEX

623 S WABASH AVENUE. HOURS: 9 AM - 7 PM MONDAY - THURSDAY AND 9 AM - 5 PM ON FRIDAY

NEW AMERICANA, March 13 - April 21

This open-call student 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.



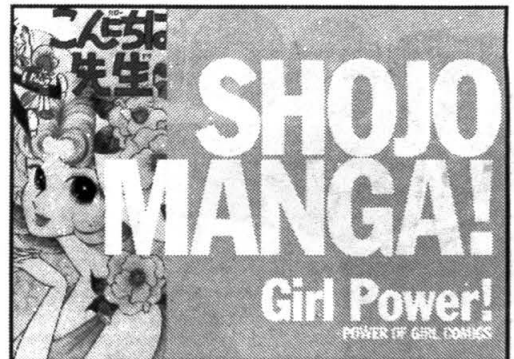
C33 GALLERY, 33 E Congress Avenue.

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

Shojo Manga! Girl Power! Power of Girl Comics, March 13 - April 26, 2006

Shojo Manga! Girl Power! is an internationally touring exhibition. The show includes more than 200 artworks from 23 artists who have contributed to the development of modern Shojo Manga (girl comics) in Japan since World War II. The medium reflects the evolution of the social roles of Japanese girls and women during this period. The exhibition also documents how the visual composition of manga mirrors the developments in Japanese aesthetics.

Shojo Manga! Girl Power! is curated by Dr. Masami Toku, Associate Professor of Art and Art History at California State University Chico.



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

LO ROMANTICO: CHICAGO'S LATINO/A ART, April 7 - May 5, 2006

Reception: April 13, 5-7 pm, featuring a performance by Robert Karimi, funded by the Latino Cultural Affairs Office of Columbia College Chicago.

Columbia College and the Glass Curtain Gallery are proud to present Lo Romántico: Chicago's Latino/a Art. Curated by Jesus Macarena-Avila, cofounder of Polvo, the exhibition features works by emerging artists from the Latino/a arts community of Chicago.

Lo Romántico, or "the romantic," refers to a practice of immigrants who romanticize their heritage due to cultural displacement or nostalgia. Ranging from comical manipulations to specific cultural examinations, the exhibit explores and challenges Latino/a "high" and "lo" art aesthetics through a wide range of media.

This exhibit will run in conjunction with the International Latino Center of Chicago's 2006 Latino Film Festival. Columbia's Latino Cultural Affairs Office will also present a series of panel discussions and lectures. For more information call Ana Maria Soto at 312.344.7812.



lo romántico

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

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HOKIN ANNEX ▶ 623 SOUTH WABASH

THE PANEL BEGINS AT 6 IN THE HOKIN ANNEX FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION
AND VIEWING OF SHOJO MANGA! GIRL POWER! AT THE G33 GALLERY.

Hatuey Diaz runs the "Gutters" workshop for independent publishing, zines and mini-comics. He is the resident "manga guy" of Chicago Comics and writes comic reviews for both the store and for Punk Planet magazine. He was recently featured in a *BoVibe* article about the manga phenomenon.

Nicole Hollander is the renowned author of the *SYLVIA* comic strip, which is syndicated internationally and appears in over 60 newspapers. She has taught in the Art and Design Department at Columbia College and has lectured in numerous colleges and universities.

Laura Miller specializes in linguistic anthropology and Japan studies, and has carried out field research in Japan and Russia. Dr. Miller is the President of the Society for East Asian Anthropology, American Anthropological Association.


Anne Elizabeth Moore is the editor of Houghton Mifflin's new *Best American Comics* line. She is also the associate publisher of *Punk Planet* magazine, and the author of *Hey! Just Buy This Book: A Radical Primer on Corporate and Governmental Propaganda and Artistic Activism for Short People*.



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The Defiant Thomas Brothers are Seth Thomas and Peter Thomas. Seth is a member of the band The Defiant Thomas Brothers and has performed at the 2005 and 2006 Chicago Comedy Festivals. Peter is a member of the Chicago Comedy Festivals and has performed at the 2005 and 2006 Chicago Comedy Festivals.

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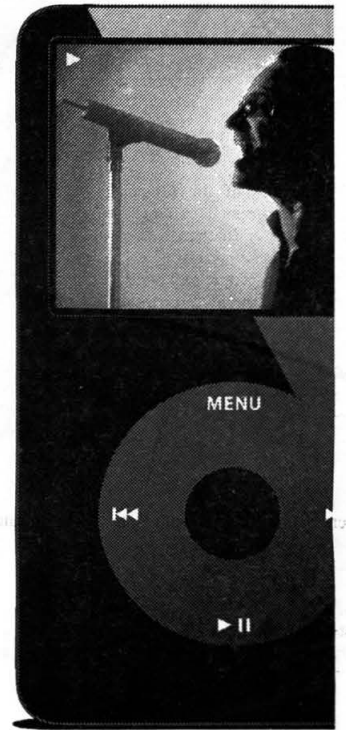
IMPROV SIGN UP
Various improv games will be played throughout the evening. Audience participation encouraged.

PERFORMANCE/ADMISSION GUIDELINES
All times, first come, first served. No cash for drinks. College students welcome. All Spring 2006 Columbia College (C) and Columbia College Chicago students in attendance. See www.columbiacollege.edu

**WISEASS HOKIN ANNEX
623 S WABASH AVE**

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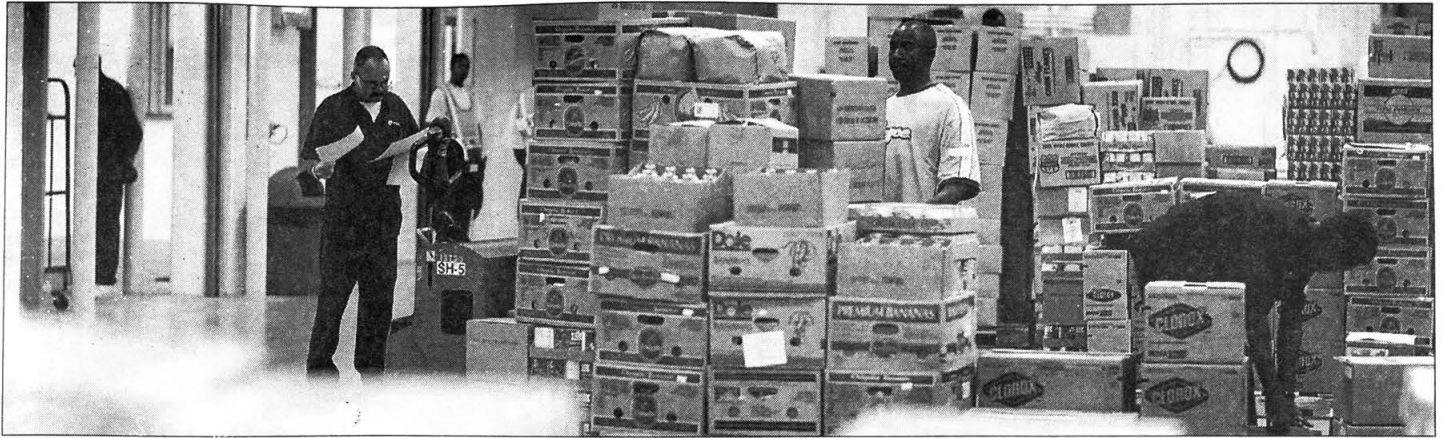


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Courtesy the Greater Chicago Food Depository

Volunteers at the Greater Chicago Food Depository prepare food for shipping to its network of more than 600 member food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters across Chicagoland. A recent survey showed that 39 percent of households served by the service have one employed adult.

Households outnumber homeless in shelter attendance

Depository relies on donations, food drives for funding

Allison Riggio
Staff Writer

A 2005 study of the Greater Chicago Food Depository and its nearly 600 soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters showed that roughly 500,000 people rely on the food assistance provided by these resources in Cook County. Only 9 percent of the patrons, though, are homeless.

In conjunction with America's Second Harvest, the Greater Chicago Food Depository's parent organization, 438 patrons and 324 agencies were surveyed to find out how many and what kinds of people were battling hunger, said Bob Dolgan, the food depository's public relations manager.

The study showed that 39 percent of the households served have at least one employed adult, and 22 percent live in the suburbs. Nine percent of the depository's clients are homeless.

"When [people] think of hunger they think of people who are homeless living in the city," said Ruth Igoe, a spokeswoman for the food depository. "The reality is that hunger is everywhere. It's in all

neighborhoods. It's in all suburbs—it's indiscriminate."

Roughly 80 percent of the agencies are food pantries that distribute groceries to families who then go home and prepare meals, according to Lisa Koch, the food depository's director of public policy. The remaining 20 percent of the agencies are soup kitchens and shelters, which accounts for the seemingly low percentage of the depository's clients. Dolgan said the survey was revealing of both clientele and distributors.

"Essentially this study gave us a better understanding of who receives emergency food assistance through the food depository's agencies...are actually out there and directly distributing our food," Dolgan said.

Koch said that since most of the agency's work is through food pantries rather than soup kitchens, the percentage of homeless who use the services would be lower. She also said it is often surprising to those who assume the food depository mainly benefits the homeless.

"I think there's a stereotype that urban hunger is homelessness because that's the most visible form of hunger," Koch said. "You don't see hunger among people with homes because they have

homes—they're not on the street."

According to Dolgan, the total number of people served annually rose from 300,000 in 2001 to roughly 500,000 in 2005. The number served weekly, however, has gone down from 91,000 to 88,000 in the four-year span.

The annual and weekly averages, though they may not appear to add up correctly, actually represent different figures, according to Igoe. The annual average of 500,000 totals how many individual people rely on the food depository each year—so even if the same people go in every week they are only counted once. The average of 88,000 each week represents how many people walk in and receive food from the depository, allowing the same people to be counted more than once if they receive food more than once.

It is likely that the number of short-term clients increased since 2001, meaning more people sought food assistance for only a short period of time, causing the annual average of individual clients to rise

while the weekly average of over-all users dropped, Dolgan said.

"Maybe there was a medical emergency in the family or somebody was out of work for a period of time," Dolgan said. "Maybe money is [tighter], so you come in and pick up some food. That's our educated guess [about the increase and decrease]."

Dolgan said the food depository relies on donations and partnerships with food manufacturers and grocery stores to do its best to distribute enough food to local agencies.

Worldwide Produce, a Chicago produce market, president Breck Grigas said his company has been working with the depository for several years, donating roughly 40,000 pounds of produce each week.

"It seemed like a good program for everyone," Grigas said. "[We donate] produce that's distressed or [not sellable] for the retail level, but still has tremendous nutritional value."

Other donations come from food

drives held by various organizations. The Chicago Bulls, for example, have been holding several food drives each season for the past three years, said Dave Kurland, the Bulls' director of community relations.

"Forty-one times a year we have a minimum [of] 17,000 people [at the United Center] for one of our games," Kurland said. "When we decided to start a food drive we thought, wow, this is an opportunity."

According to Christine Cronin, the Chicago Bulls' coordinator of corporate communications, the team's drive on March 18 collected nearly 1,200 pounds of food and raised roughly \$600 dollars for the food depository. This is equivalent to about 3,200 meals for Cook County residents, Cronin said. Additionally, players Jannero Pargo and Darius Songalia made a donation of several hundred dollars worth of food, which Kurland said filled an entire SUV to the roof from the driver's seat to the back.

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Construction: CTA scouting alternate parking lots

Continued from Back Page

potential increases in public transportation riders.

"If it's needed, we're prepared to add buses and trains," Gregory said.

Gregory said that CTA officials are going to key areas along the Red Line and also to bus stops to observe the actual number of people using the services. The CTA currently measures the number of riders through turnstile uses and fare card payments. This does not reflect the actual amount of foot traffic like transferring from one train to another.

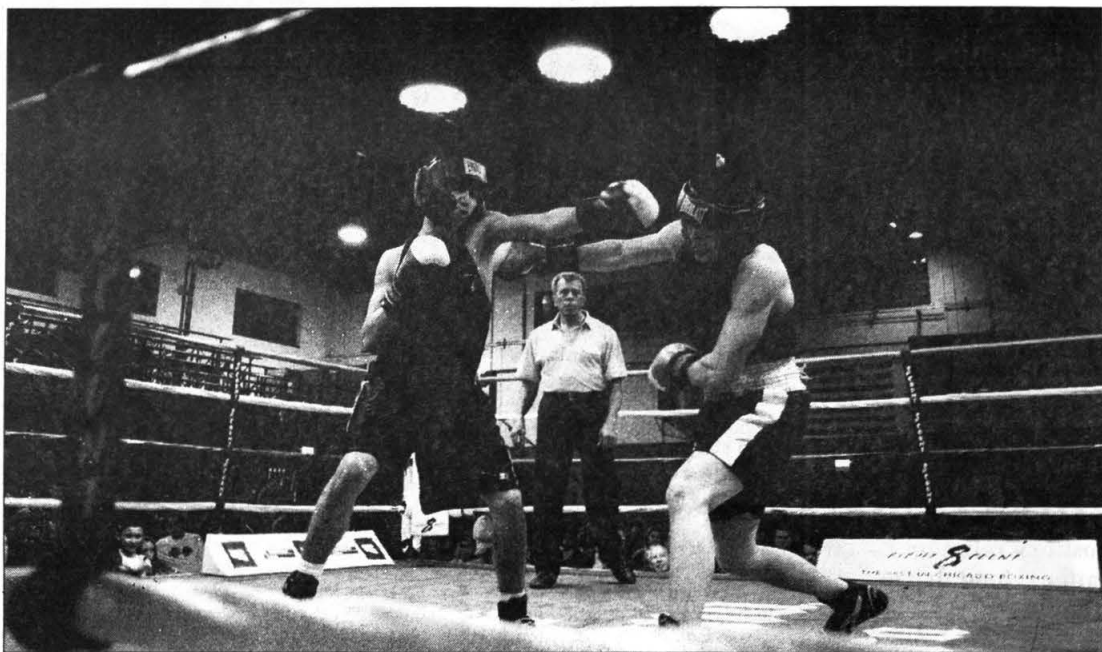
Gregory also noted that the Red Line, which runs parallel to the

"The Ryan is over 40-years-old. We think the public will be please with the end result."

—Marisa Kollias,
spokesperson for the Illinois
Department of Transportation

Dan Ryan and divides the north and southbound lanes, is the busiest line in Chicago. Total Red Line ridership increased 6 percent from 2005 to 2006, according to a January 2006 CTA data services and development report. About 40 percent of all train riders use the Red Line, as opposed to the six

A mark of tradition



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Tony Sibel (left) evades a jab by Jesus Vargas during the Golden Gloves semifinal bout on March 28. The fight took place at St. Andrews Gym, 1658 W. Addison St. Jesus Vargas eventually won the three-round bout by unanimous decision.

other train lines, according to a calculation by The Chronicle. And these numbers don't reflect the internal train-to-train transfers.

Despite the potential increase in CTA riders, there are no lots for people to park their vehicles near the end of the Red Line at the 95th/Dan Ryan stop if they choose

to ride the train through the construction zone instead of fighting traffic.

Still, Gregory said the CTA is currently scouting for locations around the 95th/Dan Ryan area. Along with rerouting buses to get them off the Ryan, the CTA built a parking lot at the Green Line Garfield station. The station cur-

rently has 117 open spots, according to the CTA website.

However, this still does not come as a comfort to Holly Laurin, a Columbia student who commutes daily on the Ryan from south-suburban Alsip. Laurin estimated her drive to school before construction wasn't too bad.

"I don't usually drive during

rush hour," Laurin said. "There's generally not that much traffic."

Since hearing about the Ryan overhaul, she has found an alternate route, but it's much longer. Laurin said her new direction will increase her commute from 25 minutes to an hour, and she's not happy.

"I'm dreading it," Laurin said.

"She Speaks Volumes" Poetry Event & After Party

Sponsored by YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

The **"She Speaks Volumes"** poetry event and after party will conclude YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities. Acclaimed poet Staceyann Chin, featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, NBC, CNN, VH1, and BET, will perform for an audience of more than 300 attendees.

Additional Guests:

- Angela Rose, Activist
- Krista Franklin, Poet
- Kelly Zen-Yie Tsai, Poet
- Ganasta, Music

Featuring
Staceyann Chin
Thursday, April 27, 2006
HotHouse
31 E. Balbo
Chicago
Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$15

To purchase tickets for the event, visit us at www.ywcachicago.org or for information about VIP seating and pricing, contact us at 312.762.2743.

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PHOTOGRAPH BY AMY MOLEND

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Athletes compete for more than gold

Special Olympics give advantage to the mentally disabled

By Whitney Schlosser
Staff Writer

Sean Hurley of Chicago is a decorated athlete who has competed all over the country in sports ranging from downhill skiing to weightlifting.

The 34-year-old is one of the 4,800 mentally disabled athletes who participate in Chicago's Special Olympics, which are held year-round. Events take place at Soldier Field, the Chicago Cultural Center and other locations across the city.

Hurley, who began competing at the age of 8, has made the Special Olympics a large part of his life and the life of his family, said his mother, Vera Hurley. The Olympics has offered Sean Hurley a wide range of opportunities to learn social skills and put them to use by making friends all over the country.

The SOC, in part with Special Olympic Illinois, offer training and competition to mentally disabled athletes across the Chicago area. Sean Hurley has been involved in a variety of sports, although weightlifting his favorite.

He even represented Chicago in the downhill ski competition at the 2001 World Games in Alaska, Vera Hurley said.

Pam Munizzi of the Special

Olympics Board of Chicago said that the biggest misconception about the Special Olympics is that it is a one-time event.

"People usually associate it with track and field competitions that take place in the summer," Munizzi said.

There are 22 sports available to Chicago athletes during all four seasons, she said.

Vera Hurley said that many people do not know her son practices different sports year-round in Marquette Park. Volunteer coaches work with athletes to help them develop an understanding of their events and athletic skills.

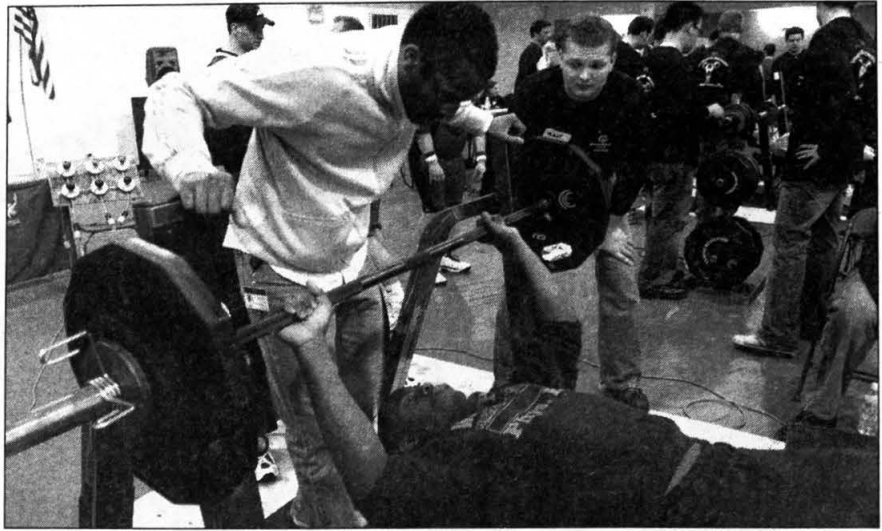
Dan Conley, manager of operations for the SOC, explained that athletes choose a sport with the help of volunteer coaches, and they train for their events at different places around the city.

The coaches submit the athletes' scores to the Olympic coordinators prior to competitions. The athletes are then placed into groups of eight based on their scores as well as their mental and physical health.

On game day, each athlete competes against seven others with similar scores and abilities. The winner in each skill level then advances to the next competition against winners of the same level.

Conley said different heats allow all skill levels to advance and everyone to participate.

Athletes may participate in team sports such as basketball or indi-



Courtesy Chicago Special Olympics

Weightlifting is just one of the 19 events that are offered to the 4,800 participants of the Special Olympics Chicago continuously throughout the year.

vidual sports, the most popular being track and field, according to Munizzi.

Conley said that it's important for athletes to choose the right sports because some participants' mental disabilities affect their interaction with other athletes. He said that no athletes are ever turned away from the Olympics, and the organization works hard to find events that may work for all ability levels.

Health conditions are also a concern when choosing events. Sean Hurley, for example, used to compete in physically demanding activities such as skiing. However, two years ago blood clots were discovered in his leg, which now

prevent him from rough physical competition.

"If he were to fall [it] would be very, very bad," Vera Hurley said.

She explained that because of the blood clots, her son is very anemic, and he would not be able to handle even a miniscule fall.

Vera Hurley believes the Olympics, though at times dangerous, are important for her son and still allows him to participate in more individual sports. He is currently training in golf, bowling and weightlifting.

Conley stressed the significance of being able to offer events to all athletes of every level of disability.

"For example, if someone was in a wheelchair, and they could not

play team basketball, we may set up the gym so they simply shoot a ball at different levels around the court," Conley said. "That way they are still able to participate and achieve an accomplishment."

Munizzi said the SOC have continued to grow since Chicago became the site of the first Special Olympics in 1968.

It is now being held in more than 150 countries worldwide, Munizzi said.

The United States will also be hosting the first National Special Olympics this summer.

"The goal of the Special Olympics is to promote self-esteem and self-worth among its athletes," Conley said.

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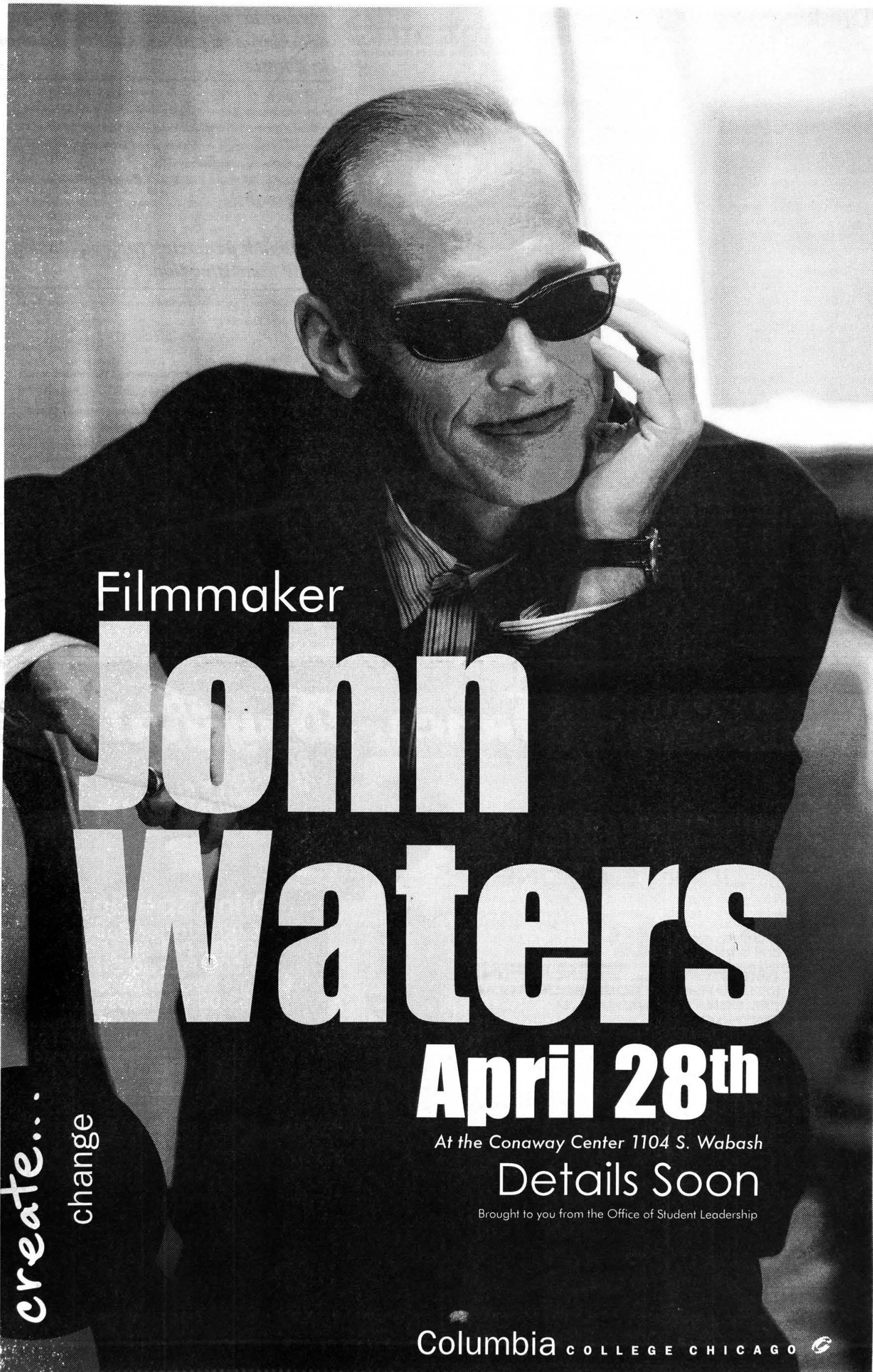
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Drinking: Town hall forums raise awareness

Continued from Back Page

day in Chicago was at the Austin YMCA, 501 N. Central Ave., except it did not take place. No employees at the Austin YMCA had any knowledge or recollection of the meeting and neither did Thomas Green, spokesman for the Illinois Department of Human Services, which is helping to coordinate the meetings in Illinois.

Green said he was surprised that the meeting didn't happen, but that the nationwide initiative was meant only to encourage communities to hold meetings and didn't require them to. He also said most of the town hall meetings were scheduled mainly in suburban and downstate towns rather than in the city itself.

"It won't have immediate results, but it will certainly move in that direction as far as raising awareness," Green said. "The objective was to get a statewide dialog going and get communities across the state to talk about youth and alcohol."

Both Green and Wing said nothing in particular spurred the project to start now, but that the prevalence and acceptance of underage drinking in America is so far-reaching that it needs to be addressed.

"It's not that numbers have risen dramatically; it's just that it continues to be a serious problem that could potentially take

the lives of teenagers through drunk driving, drinking too much and other accidents," Green said.

According to a SAMHSA survey on drugs and health, alcohol is used more in America by youth ages 12 to 20 than tobacco or any other illicit drug.

The organization also found that nearly 30 percent of people aged 12 to 20 consumed alcohol in the past month and 56 percent had used alcohol at least once in their life time. Of that 56 percent, 12-year-olds accounted for 11 percent.

"For several years there's been a growing awareness of the prob-

"You can't turn a blind eye toward underage drinking. There are too many problems involved with it, and it creates problems that spill over into other things."

—David Peters, University of Illinois as Chicago Police Department commander

lem," Wing said. "The statistics show that if you start drinking before you're 16, you are five times more likely to be diagnosed with an alcohol problem later in life."

David Peters, commander for the University of Illinois at Chicago's Police Department, said it's hard to tell if underage drinking is increasing because there are so many factors that contribute to it.

Peters said that new sports bars opening near UIC have possibly led to an increase in alcohol-related arrests in the past

year. "We've become more aggressive as a result of complaints, but that could be due to the transition period we are in here on campus," Peters said.

Six months ago, Peters said there was a murder on campus where the victim and offenders had no prior criminal record but were drinking alcohol.

"If you removed alcohol from that situation, the likelihood is that [the killing] would never have happened," Peters said. "You can't turn a blind eye toward underage drinking. There are too many problems involved with it, and it creates problems that spill over into other things."

According to a 2003 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse published by SAMSHA, 57 percent of full time college students ages 18 to 20 reported using alcohol in the past month, and 39 percent reported binge drinking—five or more drinks in one sitting—in the past month. Comparatively, only 47 percent of underage youth ages 18 to 20 not enrolled full time in college reported alcohol use in the past month, and 34 percent reported current binge drinking.

Peters said that although underage drinking is not tolerated on campus, he understands that going away to school can contribute to students experimenting with alcohol.

"You go to school to get smart and grow up," Peters said. "You're also going through this maturation process, and it can be problematic when you're away from home and away from the ever-present eye of your parents. There is this sense of freedom

Maximum penalties for underage drinking and possession of alcohol in Illinois:

- Underage possession of alcohol: six-month jail term and \$500 fine.
- Underage consumption of alcohol: possible jail time and \$2,500 fine.
- Illegal transportation of alcohol by an individual under the age of 21: one-year suspension of drivers license and \$1,000 fine, revocation of drivers license for subsequent offenses.
- Providing alcohol to an individual under the age of 21: one-year prison term and \$2,500 fine

Maximum penalties for possessing false identification:

- First offense: suspension of drivers license or driving privileges for a minimum of 12 months.
- Second offense: revocation of drivers license or driving privileges indefinitely.
- For possessing, manufacturing, or transferring a fraudulent drivers license (fraudulent means produced by someone other than the Secretary of State), altering any drivers license or state ID: Class 4 felony, 3 years imprisonment and \$2,500 fine.

Source: Illinois Liquor Control Commission
Josh Corarrubias/The Chronicle

that can often be misleading."

Jeff Gonzales, a 19-year-old product design major at Columbia, said underage drinking can be a problem for some, but it is different in every circumstance. Gonzales, who lives with his parents, said he usually drinks a couple times a week and binge drinks about once a month.

"My parents don't really approve of it," Gonzales said. "Depending on the situation, [underage drinking] can be a big

deal."

Gonzales said underage drinking is a problem and the age restriction should stay the same because it is so hard to control. Gonzales said the availability of alcohol is what makes underage drinking more of a problem on college campuses.

"If you're talking to students, it's not a bad idea to remind them [that] you don't get smarter by drinking," Peters said. "At least I haven't come across anybody."

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Katrina zines hit Chicago

Zines chronicle New Orleans' life after hurricane

By Seth Stauffer
Staff Writer

When Hurricane Katrina hit, 25-year-old author Ethan Clark wanted help with the aftermath, but he didn't know what to do. Clark, who was living in North Carolina during Katrina, witnessed evacuees pouring into the state.

Then one day, while sitting in a library, he considered a suggestion a friend made to him about putting together a collection of DIY or do-it-yourself publications called "zines." Although Clark initially thought the idea was "sappy," he eventually created a zine collection.

The book, titled *Stories Care Forgot: An Anthology of New Orleans Zines*, collected zines from Clark, as well as publications sent to him by New Orleans' authors. The various zines recounted life in New Orleans before Katrina and its aftermath. The book's goal was to preserve many of the zines, as well as raise money for a hurricane relief fund.

Clark edited the book and said that the whole project was completed in about six months. He said he laid it out on a Xerox machine, and the money to put the book together came from a publisher called Last Gasp.

A book tour, which began in on Feb. 19, started in Chapel Hill, N.C. and finished in Columbia, Mo. on March 30.

The book was presented in

Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave. on March 28. Clark sat down and read a selection titled "Neighborhoods" from a zine he wrote called *Clowns Make Good Watchdogs*.

In between sips of beer and water, Clark read his story to a crowd of fewer than 20 people. He also read another story called "Wild Dogs," which described Clark's experience of living in the heavily damaged Lower 9th Ward of New Orleans.

Afterward Clark answered whatever questions he could about New Orleans. He said that he enjoys writing and drawing, but he does not consider himself a zine writer.

Logan Bay, an assistant manager at Quimby's Bookstore, said he was familiar with some of the zines in the collection and that the collection is a haven for artists and writers who would create a book of this nature.

Bay then described New Orleans as a "make your own destiny city."

Some of the people who attended the event, like Lindsay Dawson, had never heard of Clark's zines or the book until she saw the event advertised in the *Chicago Reader*.

"I don't read zines, [and] I'd never been to Quimby's and heard it was a great place," Dawson said. She hopes this

event will help raise awareness in Chicago about New Orleans.

Among the people in attendance were New Orleans natives Megan Milliken, 22, and Ashlang McGrath, 23. Both were there to advertise a number of initiatives aimed at helping New Orleans and the rest of Louisiana during relief efforts.

"You can't just repopulate the city for the sake of repopulating it," Milliken said.

She wants to help rebuild the city and eventually move back but thinks that the resolutions she was promoting should be passed before the city is completely rebuilt. McGrath said her feelings are similar to Milliken's.

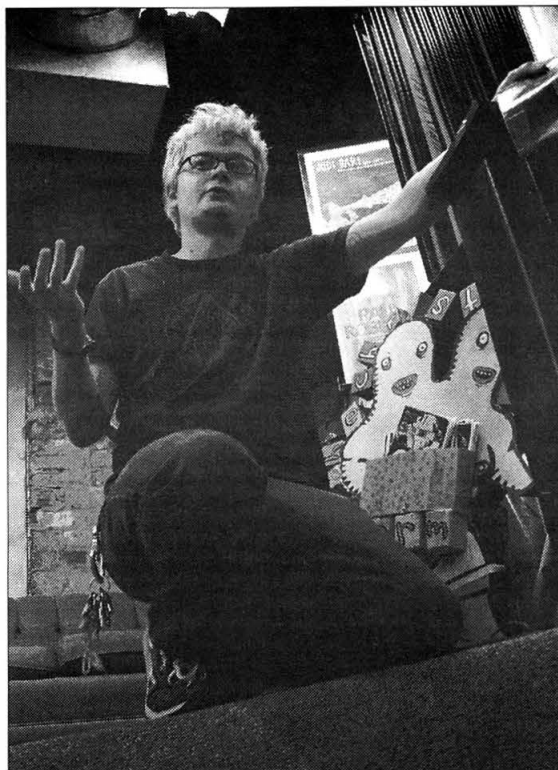
"I was thinking about moving back for awhile, but it's just too difficult," McGrath said.

Both she and Milliken said that things still need a lot of work. Looters are still a problem in the city. Even though he missed Clark's reading, paramedic Ryan Hageman bought a copy of the book. He's from New Orleans and has lived in Chicago for about a year.

"I worked down there in September for almost the whole month," Hageman said.

He said he was doing cleanup while he was there and that there has been hardly any progress in the flooded areas, but things could have been worse.

"If the eye of the storm had been 10 miles west, it would have been much worse," Hageman said.



Kelly Bryan/The Chronicle

Ethan Clark reads 'Wild Dogs,' an article from his zine *Clowns Make Good Watch Dogs*, at Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave., on March 30. The story recounts the author's experience of living in New Orleans' heavily damaged Lower 9th Ward. Book proceeds will go to People's Hurricane Relief Fund.

"You can't just repopulate the city for the sake of repopulating it."

—Megan Milliken, 22, a New Orleans native who attended the Quimby's Bookstore reading

Lizards: Komodo habitat replicates Indonesian island

created by Komodo dragons.

Explorers first discovered the Komodo dragon, whose scientific name is *Varanus komodoensis*, in 1910. However, it wasn't dubbed the Komodo dragon until in a National Geographic article in 1927.

Designer Julie Adams took great care in reproducing the

Indonesian environment a Komodo dragon would be used to while constructing the 1,000 square foot habitat. She said the exhibit floor is covered in 20 inches of sand so Faust can dig around. She also said the mural backdrop is based on actual photographs of Komodo Island.

Adams said that three of the main rocks in the exhibit are heated which she said helps with digestion.

The rocks, which have tem-

peratures ranging from 100 to about 110 degrees, are heated by water coils. The overall habitat climate is dry and the temperature is 90 degrees.

"It's like being in a sauna, but he likes it."

—Julie Adams, exhibit designer on Faust's habitat

"It's like being in a sauna, but he likes it," Adams said.

Adams noted that the Komodo dragon seemed acclimated to his new environment since he arrived on March 23. While Adams explained the habitat layout, the sandy-green-colored lizard lazily

moved around his home behind her.

Shedd Director of Exhibits Dana Thorpe said all of the departments, like planning and development and education, came together for the design of the lizard exhibit. She also said external influences helped with the design too.

"A lot of our inspiration came from prior relationships the Shedd has had [with other research institutions]," Thorpe said.

Thorpe explained that many of the Shedd's aquarists work around the world, including in

Indonesia. The scientists received help from the outside research facilities to help create the Shedd's lizard exhibit.

The entire exhibit, which cost around \$750,000, will include video monitors depicting real footage of Komodo dragons in their natural environment and fighting with other Komodos.

"Lizards and the Komodo King" opens on April 8 and runs through Feb. 28, 2007 at the Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive. Tickets are required for this exhibit. For more information visit www.sheddquarium.org.

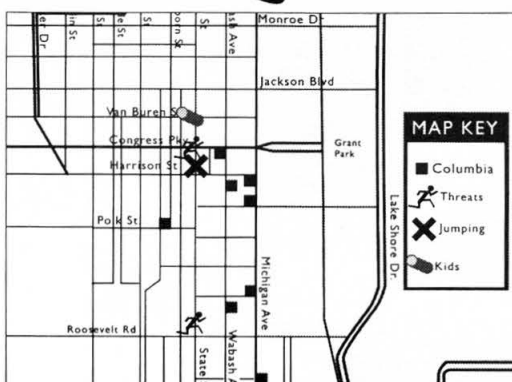


Honey, I stole the kids

A 42-year-old man called police from the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St., on March 26 after his children's mother didn't show up to drop them off. The man tried calling the woman numerous times, but she did not respond. He told police he was recently granted visitation rights through court. Police are looking into the matter.

Verbal abuse

A security guard was verbally assaulted when he tried waking a 34-year-old man from a desk at the Harold Washington Library on March 21. The offender told the guard, "I'm going to kill you." The guard placed the offender in custody until police arrived. He was issued a court date.



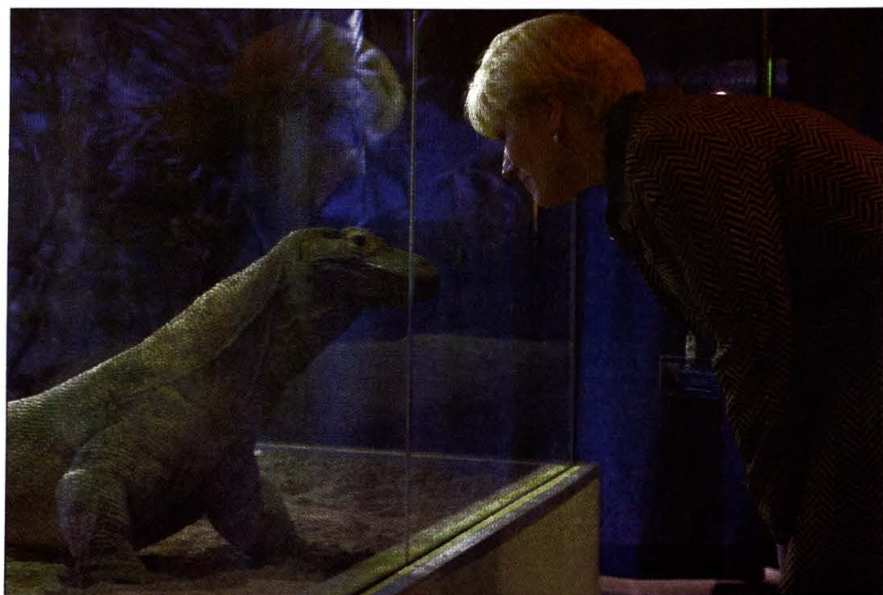
Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Interrupting happy hour

During routine patrol, officers noticed a 26-year-old man drinking out of a 40-ounce bottle on the Roosevelt Red Line platform. While police were questioning him, a 36-year-old man approached and told police the offender had threatened to cut his throat. The offender was taken into custody and transported for processing.

Turnstile jumper

A 22-year-old man was seen by routine officers at the Harrison Red Line station jumping the turnstile without paying his fare on March 22. Officers took the man into custody for further processing.



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Dana Thorpe, director of exhibits at the Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, gets a closer look at Faust, a 129-pound, 7-foot-10-inch Komodo dragon on March 29. The Shedd will present 25 different types of lizards along with its star attraction.

Chicago's lizard king

Shedd Aquarium to unveil lizards, 8-foot Komodo dragon

By Eric Kasang
Assistant City Beat Editor

True to its name, the Shedd Aquarium is home to thousands of varieties of fishes, as well as dolphins and beluga whales. However, on April 8 the Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, plans on housing a new type of species: lizards.

"Lizards and the Komodo King," an upcoming exhibit, marks a departure from the usual marine life special events and instead will present 25 different types of lizards along with a large Komodo dragon. Senior aquarist Ray Owczarzak spoke about the exhibit's biggest star,

Faust, a 7-foot-10-inch, 129-pound Komodo dragon.

"If [a Komodo dragon is] hunting, it's known to take down the equivalent of a small deer," Owczarzak said.

The Komodo dragon, named after an Indonesian island containing many of these lizards, generally eats small rodents and mammals, but will also attack small water buffalo, said Owczarzak.

"Sheer power is what's going to overpower its prey," he said.

Komodo dragons divide their prey roughly between alive and scavenged, according to Owczarzak. The lizard's bite has a nasty dose of infectious bacteria from eating rancid meat. Owczarzak said the Shedd feeds Faust six frozen rats and rabbits, weighing around one-and-a-half pounds each, once a week.

Faust, who came via Fed Ex from the Fort Worth Zoo in Texas, is rather calm for a Komodo dragon. Generally, the lizards are housed alone; Komodos are cannibals and sometimes eat younger dragons. Despite Faust's serene nature, Owczarzak said a minimum of three staff members will be working with the animal.

"[If a person is nervous with Faust], there's a better chance he'll take advantage of it," he said.

Komodo dragons can reach speeds up to 12 mph and can live up to 50 years, said Owczarzak. Although they tend to avoid people, human encroachment has made Komodos more defensive and unpredictable. There are known cases of human fatalities

See **Lizards**, Page 27

Dan Ryan overhaul descends on Chicago

CTA looking into bus, train additions to help counteract closures

By Eric Kasang
Assistant City Beat Editor

Although it would have been a relief for Chicago commuters if the Dan Ryan construction was an April Fool's Day joke, however, the massive reconstruction plan was no gag. The \$600 million, two-year project closed eight express lanes, sending commuters scrambling for alternate routes and causing headaches for hundreds of thousands of drivers.

Illinois Department of Transportation spokeswoman Marisa Kollias said that there's been growing hostility toward IDOT since announcing the lane closures.

"Unfortunately, we've seen a lot of animosity because people get frustrated with construction near their neighborhoods," Kollias said.

Eight express lanes, starting at 71st Street, north of the Bishop Ford Interstate Highway 94/57 Interchange on Chicago's South Side, closed at 12:01 a.m. on April 1. Construction continued north until 13th Street. All eight express lanes are closed and traffic has been diverted to the six

local lanes, or three for each direction. Kollias said that the construction will stop in November 2006 and start again around April 2007. IDOT is scheduled to finish the overhaul by Thanksgiving 2007.

Kollias also said that she was not sure if traffic started to decrease since IDOT started issuing warnings about its massive project several weeks ago. She said that some of the sensors monitoring traffic were not operational. Still, despite the early resentment toward IDOT, the agency remains optimistic about the project.

"The Ryan is over 40 years old," Kollias said. "We think the public will be pleased with the end result."

Although the Dan Ryan has gone through various construction facelifts throughout the years, this is the biggest overhaul since the expressway opened in 1962. Around 320,000 vehicles travel along the Ryan each day, according to IDOT. But people driving on the Ryan may not be the only ones affected by the lane closures.

Sheila Gregory, the Chicago Transit Authority's Public Affairs general manager, said the CTA is waiting for construction to start before gauging any

See **Construction**, Page 22

Sobering up young drinkers

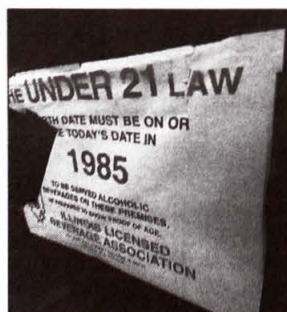
Nationwide initiative renews concerns of underage drinking

By James Ewert Jr.
Assistant City Beat Editor

To help raise awareness about the problem of underage drinking, the United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and 12 other federal agencies are organizing town hall meetings in more than 1,200 communities across the country.

The meetings, which began in late March and will last through early April, will address contributing factors that lead to underage drinking and ways to combat and avert the problem.

Two meetings are scheduled at



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Under 21 Law posted on the door of Nick's Uptown Bar, 4015-17 N. Sheridan Road.

locations in Chicago on April 4, and last week, various towns in Illinois held their own.

Steve Wing, associate administrator for alcohol policy at the

SAMHSA, said the organization helped aid the communities and local preventative underage drinking coalitions that sponsored the town hall meetings by providing them with a stipend of nearly \$1,000.

"In some cases there are towns doing it without a stipend, but yes, we provided a modest stipend to coalitions across the country," Wing said.

Along with the money, SAMHSA supplied a planning guide and video on how to properly conduct the town hall meetings to participating communities through its website.

In Illinois, over three dozen rural and suburban communities held meetings on March 28. The only meeting scheduled for that

See **Drinking**, Page 26

Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle