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CHRONICLE December 11, 2006 Volume 41, Number 15



INSIDE Check out Urban Excursion's full page spread ... Page 34 The year's biggest jackasses ... Page 23

Christmas at Columbia



A number of guests came to Columbia to celebrate the holidays at the college's "Holly Jolly" Holiday Food Drive hosted by WCRX-FM, Columbia's radio station. Santa, left, made a special appearance along with Secretary of State Jesse White, far right. Students in the band and choir from the South Loop Elementary School, 1212 S. Plymouth Court., played Christmas tunes for students, faculty and staff.

A conversation with President Carter

Columbia waits for state's money

By Steve Yaccino Assistant Campus News Editor

While most schools wait on state funding, Columbia is among a third of Illinois institutions fronting the money promised by a grant that may be delayed until mid-second semester.

In its first year, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission MAP Plus grant awards a total of \$500, \$250 each semester, to about 70,000 Illinois sophomores, juniors and seniors from families with a gross income between \$75,000 and \$200,000.

No tax dollars are being used to fund the MAP Plus, said Donald McNeil, chairman of the the commission. For other grants, the money is usually taken from the state budget and would be ready for distribution before the school semester begins. However, legislation signed by Gov. Rod Blagojevich in July required the commission to restructure and sell part of its assets to raise the \$34.4 million for MAP Plus.

"Even though there was a delay, it was for good reasons," McNeil said. "We're behind schedule simply because it took awhile to negotiate contracts for our financial advisers and the outcome of that process was that the state saved a substantial amount in terms of potential fees."

McNeil said transactions are underway, but the funds will not

See Grant, Page 6

Students, staff start GLBT friendly Stronghold Project By Jenn Zimmerman Assistant Campus News Editor

Many students and faculty members may not have met the man behind the floor-to-ceiling wooden doors that close off his fifth floor office in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., but according to Columbia president Warrick L. Carter, that doesn't mean he isn't listening.

Carter, alongside assistant vice president of Marketing and Communications, Mark Lloyd, sat down with The Chronicle to give faculty and students a chance to ask about some of the major problems Columbia is facing.

Through outlets like the new student trustee Annie Kelly, the Student Government Association and Student Organizations Council, Carter said he understands what students want to change around campus. This year, Carter's priorities include improving student's education, lowering vending machine prices, creating a student center and reworking course fees.

"I have to always keep my attention on those larger issues that are the long term issues and that's the student center, the construction projects and raising money," Carter said.

Carter said he continues to tackle this year's issues by having his staff look into better ways of communicating where course fees are going and researching local vending machine prices. He added that bringing in more donors to the school to increase the amount of scholarships available is also at the top of his list.

Carter said keeping up the school's relationship with its alumni and establishing connections with members outside of the Columbia community, Carter will help create more scholarships available to students.

As he continues his mission to bring in more donors or "friends to Columbia," he said other problems students are having with the school are not going overlooked.

See Carter, Page 9



Columbia president Warrick L. Carter spoke with The Chronicle on Dec. 4. Carter helped establish the college's Health Center and Student Government Association among other groups.

College increases GLBT visibility Students, staff start

GLBT friendly Stronghold Project

By Amanda Maurer Campus News Editor

In an effort to bring more visibility and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning students on campus, students and faculty have collaborated to launch Columbia's newest GLBT friendly initiative, the Stronghold Project.

The Stronghold Project allows faculty and staff to place rainbowcolored "Create Change" stickers near their offices or on their doors to let students know who they can speak with regarding GLBT issues. Those behind the project believe GLBT students needed more visibility on campus.

The stickers imply that students are welcome to speak with that faculty member and will not be judged, said Kristen Gleaves, a junior fiction writing major and co-president of the GLBT club Q-Force, who had an active role in creating the Stronghold Project.

Although staff, faculty and students agree Columbia holds the reputation of being GLBT friendly, those involved in the Stronghold Project thought it was necessary to make this clear to students.

"There is always a question of queer visibility here and that this is such a gay school, but

News & Notes



the last day of my high school weight lifting class before the holiday break, the teacher made us all sit silently together and close our eyes because, as he "This is a time for reflecsaid, tion." So there, on the gym floor in our P.E. uniforms, we listened to our school's 250pound varsity football coach get emotional as he recapped some of the best sports highlights of that semester and some of the worst games or plays that taught him lessons for improving next year's team.

As humorous as this was at the time, I recently realized that I have been doing my version of "reflection" as the semester winds down and my time to find the perfect New Year's Eve party dress narrows.

This year has been up and down and all over the place. College is all about growth and transitions, but the later half of my junior year and early part of my senior year seem to be filled with the most thus far. So in order to pass on some of the lessons I've learned during 2006, I've recapped a few of my learning experiences.

This year my dad taught the most significant lesson, which became a catalyst for change in my life. It's funny how as a terribly emotional teen full of angst you think your parents know nothing. "Life's too short for bull-

shit" is what my dad told me when I was feeling unsatisfied with my relationship with my boyfriend of four years. After hearing my dad say that, I knew staying in a relationship

2006 taught me a thing or two

By Hayley Graham, Editor-In-Chief

that I had been unsure of for a while was a mistake. That statement made me take a risk. and it turned out to be one of the best and most liberating risks I've ever taken. That relationship taught me ... well really, too many things to list. Basically, if you want to be a journalist and your boyfriend doesn't like news, then dump him.

Since I'm only 21 and I'd had a boyfriend since I was 17, I was blindly thrown into the whole dating scene. I quickly learned that I have no idea what the rules were of this whole "game" that daters talk about.

Being a highly competitive person I have always been good at playing games; I was even MVP for my high school's varsity tennis team at one point. But this dating game has done nothing but make me feel like I'm up-tobat with no idea what the coach's signals mean. I feel like I've become a benchwarmer

Who knew that when a guy says one thing it usually doesn't mean that at all?

Apparently, not me. A sim-ple "We'll go out next week," could really mean, "There's a good chance that I'll have moved to L.A. by next week and when I do move I'll just let you know via e-mail two weeks later." I guess I just didn't catch that one

Is there a handbook for cracking these codes? I suppose that's known as Cosmopolitan magazine yuck

The first date I went on taught me never to be in the

In Your Opinion

Is there anything you would want to see changed

around Columbia?

midst of gulping down a beer when your date is telling a funny story because you'll probably spit the drink all over yourself when you burst out laughing. Then to pour a little salt on the wound of embarrassment your date will say he'll call you, but he doesn't. But that's enough about dat-

ing. Maybe I'll figure that out in 2007.

My dad's bit of advice sparked some other spontaneous behavior that would have been generally out of my character. I'm not known for my spontaneity, but I've learned that no matter how busy I am, it's OK to set everything aside and take a break. Plus it makes for some really great stories.

If I hadn't realized this I may have never skipped a class to wait in line early one morning to get free tickets to see Lupe Fiasco, which turned out to be one of the best shows I've ever gone to.

And I definitely wouldn't have stayed out all night on a sailboat during the middle of finals week just so that I wouldn't have to swallow my pride when someone tried to call my bluff. That night I learned when a friend asks if you want to go sailing at 1 a.m. he probably isn't kidding And sometimes it's okay to back down from a challenge

The bottom line for what 2006 taught me is that having fun and relaxing is a necessity, not an option. And it's just as important as finishing the project that's standing in the way of having a good time.

hgraham@chroniclemail.com

In this issue

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The Columbia Chronicle December 11, 2006

Announcements

Repertory and Performance

Join the Dance Center for a free workshop and performance from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Dec. 14 and Dec. 15 in the Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave. The workshop will include three original works by visiting artists, followed by a performance of works cre-ated by Dance Center faculty members.

For more information, contact the Dance Center box office at (312) 344-8300.

Dress Up Against AIDS

The Glass Curtain Gallery Exhibition "Dress Up Against AIDS" runs through Jan. 5. Brazilian artist Adriana Bertini displays dresses she designed using thousands of colorful condoms in an effort to promote HIV prevention.

For more information, contact Mark Porter at (312) 344-6643.

india!

ents state with

An My Le: Small Wars

The Museum of Contemporary Photography, located in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., will explore the Vietnam War and the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The photographic series called "Small Wars" is by An My Le, who was born in Saigon, Vietnam, before coming to the U.S. as a refugee in 1975. Her exhibit runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily until Jan. 6.

For more information, contact Jeffery Arnett at (312) 344-7779.

Working Framework

Come to the third and final installment of the Working Framework Exhibition at the C33 Gallery, 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, and the Conway Center, in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The exhibition runs from Nov. 17 to Jan. 5. The Conway Center hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. The C33 Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday.

For more information, contact Mark Porter at (312) 344-6643.

"The attendance policy

· Peter Jankowski, senior

graphic design

I'm gonna be out

of here so I don't really care

would change anything

Heather Scott, freshman, art and design



'A little more consistency in classes. My teachers just show up and decide what to do in class.

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE If you have an upcoming event or announcement,

contact The Chronicle's news desk chronicle@colum.edu (312) 344-8964

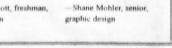
When breaking news happens We're your source for information

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

'I don't know if I



Justin Amorusi, senior television



2

Campus News | December 11, 2006

Preservation book course, a real page turner

By Kim Driscoll Staff Writer

The semester is ending and students must decide whether they will sell back their textbooks. However, other students may decide to build a library of their own with their books or even their class notes.

From precious novels sitting on a shelf to family recipes handed down through the ages, interested students can enroll in a class to learn how to properly preserve their cherished items.

Each year Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts offers two-day seminars to the community. This J-Term, the Center will offer "Conserving Family Papers," Jan. 6 and 7, to be taught by Susan Russick, a professional conservator and community instructor.

The course will focus on appropriate methods of preservation such as providing appropriate housing, good environ-mental conditions and safe handling of papers and other items. Production methods and basic conservation treatments such as surface cleaning, humidifying and flattening will also be studied.

"In this day and age all the predictions of a paperless society are not true," Russick said. "There is a need for people to hold on to the real thing for sentimental reasons, like the letter from grandma or the

baptism gown." Russick said the aging process cannot be stopped, but preserving can slow it. "Always handle your books

with clean hands because the oils on your hands can cause damage," said Lesa Dowd a conservator at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St.

She said tapes, glues, staples, rubber bands and paper clips can cause harm and should not be used to hold documents or books together.

Dowd led a public tour of the library's conservation center on Dec. 2. In addition to books, the center is used to preserve a variety of items and artifacts, including antique photos and old flags.

Dowd works in the library's Special Collections and Preservation Department and said and conservation falls under the preservation umbrella, which includes book restoration, usually the primary concern of a book collector.

"Sometimes there are stains, like coffee and ink, and a conservator might be able to reduce them, if not remove them," Dowd said

Professional restoration services may be expensive, so Dowd recommends good book care from the start.

Books should never be stored in basements or attics. The recom-mended storage environment includes moderate temperatures of about 70 degrees, and a stabile, relative humidity of about 50 percent. Books and papers should not be

See Preservation, Page 6

Campus News

Columbia pushing No strings attached new scholarships

By Rashauna C. Hull Staff Writer

Students come to Columbia looking forward to attending one of the most innovative arts and media colleges in the nation. However, they may not know the number of scholarship opportuni-ties available to them.

About \$50,000 in restricted scholarships or scholarships created by an outside donor go unused each year, according to Pearl Natali, counseling manager in the office of Student Financial Services. Several unrestricted scholarships, scholarships not created by a specified donor, are recycled and used for other scholarships due to lack of applicants.

Officials think the number of students applying for scholar-ships could be caused by several factors including academics, dis-couragement, busy schedules, apathy, ignorance and lack of confidence.

"I pretty much gave up on looking for any type of scholarships," said Andrew Kiefaber, a freshman acting major. "I would apply if I actually felt like I could win."

But other students are unaware that there are even scholarships at Columbia. "I didn't know you could still

apply for scholarships still available while in college," said Rassanee Ramangkhoun, a freshsaid man marketing communications major and recipient of the Opportunity Scholarship, which awards students based on income and merit. "I thought you had to apply for all of your scholarships before you got to college ... Now that I know I can apply during college, I will definitely look for more scholarships." Ramagkhoun said it would

help if advisers and teachers informed students about scholarships as much as they do about internships.

Because of some students' reasons for not applying for scholarships, the administration has decided to make changes to the scholarship application process at Columbia.

Columbia has set up an initiative that will award more than 1,000 scholarships per year to low-income students by 2009, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

This initiative began this fall when 300 of the college's 2,000 freshmen entered Columbia with one of five scholarships: Opportunity, Open Doors, Residence Center, Presidential and Trustee Award. The number of scholarship-receiving freshmen doubled from the number of students awarded last year.

The Opportunity, Open Doors and Residence Center scholarships, all of which are for lowincome students, were awarded

Students gather for the 'Balloon Madness' SGA fundraiser on Nov. 6 in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Participants bought balloons with the chance to win prizes. All money will go to SGA and the Open Door scholarship for minority students.

to 195 of the 300 freshmen. The remaining freshmen received the Presidential or Trustee Award scholarships.

All of these scholarships are renewable for three years and range from \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year. Recipients are chosen based on merit, ACT/ SAT scores and the essays they wrote for Columbia's undergraduate application. Scholarship opportunities for

continuing students have also increased. This academic year, 400 to 500 currently enrolled students will have a chance to

See Scholarships, Page 5

Respected journalism professor retires

By Brent Steven White Assistant A&E Editor

His students remember him as a patient, knowledgeable and goodhumored professor. His fellow faculty consider him an experienced, dedicated and helpful colleague.

After 13 years of teaching at Columbia, Bill Ferguson, one of Journalism Department's most beloved professors, has decided to retire.

"I will miss working with all of

the intelligent young people and all the faculty members who have taught me so much," Ferguson said. "Working with young people has made me keep up on things and helps me feel young. And when you get to 80, that's important.'

After having a heart attack six weeks ago, Ferguson said his health was one of the main reasons he thought it was time to retire. But he also wants to spend more time reading, playing golf and enjoying a "laid back" lifestyle, he said.

Ferguson came to Columbia in the early '90s after spending 40 years working for United Press International, one of the biggest wire services in the world. Working as a reporter and editor for UPI both inspired a passion for journalism and created in interest in teaching, he said.

Before retiring from UPI as managing editor at the age of 65,

Ferguson said he kept noticing young journalists just out of college who lacked a proper understanding of the basics of reporting. Ferguson, who was also a tutor in the Journalism Department, said this made him want to teach the

"I wanted to teach the basics," Ferguson said. "And I think I've been able to instill the foundation for students."

Beth Jones, a senior journalism major, had Ferguson for both Intro to Writing and Reporting and Copy Editing, and said he has been one of her favorite Columbia professors.

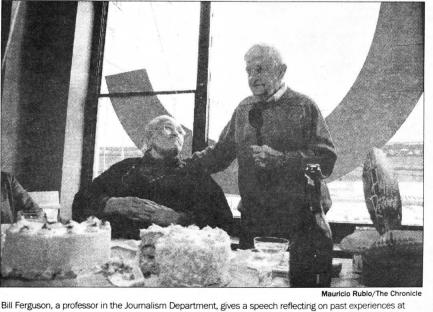
"He taught us what we needed to know and didn't baby us," Jones said. "You can tell he loves to teach, and he was really helpful with all his knowledge. He made things a lot easier [to learn]." Jones also said she appreciat-

ed his sense of humor. Ferguson used to say copy editing was "the most fun you could have with your clothes on," she said.

Mike Mara, a junior journal-ism major, said he also found Ferguson's classes to be indepth and informative.

"He didn't waste the students' time," Mara said. "He was great at teaching the fundamentals.

At a retirement party on Dec. 6 held in Columbia's Journalism Department, in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, faculty and students shared lunch and laughs with Ferguson and his wife. Betty. Ferguson expressed his admiration



Columbia during his retirement party on Dec. 6 at the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building. Ferguson's wife

Betty, who is pictured above, was present at the celebration.

If you're not, you will be restricted from registering. Student Financial Services placed REGISTRATION HOLDS on student accounts that are not current on their balance. Students were notified through their MyOASIS email accounts and called by the SFS Help Line.

In order to have your hold removed, your SFS account must be current!

Check your current balance or financial aid status by logging into OASIS.

Payments can be made through CCCPay, in person at the Cashier Window at 600 S. Michigan 3rd floor, or by mail to Student Financial Services' contact information listed below.

If you have any additional questions or need to review your financing options, contact Student Financial Services by dialing our toll free Help Line at 1-866-705-0200 or visit our Customer Service Options Page - Go to www.colum.edu - click on Current Students - Student Financial Services.

Student Financial Services 600 S. Michigan Room 303 Chicago, IL 60605

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

> Monday December 11 Singers Showcase 7:00 PM

Tuesday December 12 Composition 1C Recital 12:30 PM

New Music Ensemble 3:00 PM Jazz Guitar Ensemble 7:00 PM (At the Conway Center 1104 S. Wabash)

Advanced Composition Recital 7:30 PM

Wednesday December 13 Composition 1A Recital 12:30 PM Counterpoint 1 Concert 3:00 PM (At St. Vincent DePaul Church 1000 W. Webster St.)

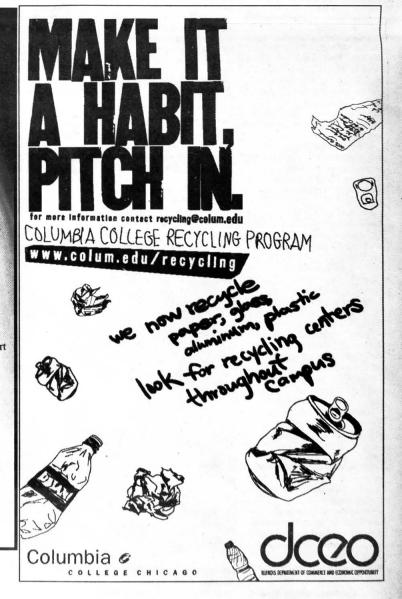
(At St. Vincent DePaul Church 1000 W. Webster St., Columbia College Choral Concert 7:00 PM (At Old St. Patrick's Church 700 W Adams St.)

International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) Concert with soprano Tony Arnold 7:30 PM (At the Museum of Contemporary Photography 600 S. Michigan Ave. Reservations suggested 312-494-2655)

Thursday December 14 Composition 1B Recital 12:30 PM Composition 3A Recital 3:00 PM Composition 3B Recital 7:30 PM

Friday December 15 MIDI Recital 1:00 PM Film Scoring Recital 7:00 PM

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



Columbia @

COLLEGE CHICAGO

Scholarships: SFS plans to boost award awareness

Continued from Page 3

receive the Retention Award Scholarship. This recently added scholarship will be awarded to low-income students based on merit. Recipients will be awarded \$5,000 per year for up to four years

Next year, 200 freshman awards will be added along with increase in Retention an Scholarships. In addition to these scholarships, departmental and general scholarships are posted on Columbia's website.

Scholarships are promoted a number of ways, including Columbia's, website, fliers and advertisements in and throughout departments. They are also discussed during open house and orientation, according to Maureen Herlehy, director of Enrollment Management Services.

Despite more scholarship opportunities and promotions, students still find it difficult to fit scholarship hunting into their schedules.

"Students have busy lives and so many things to think about,' said Candyce Allen, a sophomore marketing communica-tions major. "If a scholarship is not in front of us it's harder to go for it."

Some of the administration also agrees that a college stu-

dent's schedule can prevent them from getting a head start on scholarships searching. 'A lot of students apply for scholarships before they enter Columbia," Herlehy said. "Once they begin attending classes, they are involved in their studies and sometimes lose track of the

deadlines for scholarships. Nevertheless, many administrators believe that students' awareness of scholarship opportunities is a responsibility that falls on the students as much as it does on the administration.

"A lot of [scholarship awareness] has to do with word-of-mouth. If vou are a student who won a scholarship, let your peers know how you won it."

-Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs

"Looking for scholarships is a journey, but make time to look for the scholarships, maybe once a month on an ongoing basis," Natali said.

office of Student The Financial Services will assist students in their scholarshipsearching process through the Scholarship Working Group, a new program that aims to establish more scholarship awareness on campus. The group was created earlier this semester and consists of counselors, out-ofschool services and support representatives.

"We are trying to see what is the best way to get scholarships to students and provide scholarships that are relevant and current," said Janey Henning, Student Financial Services counselor and head of the group.

The group plans to provide information through a computer station, where students can learn and search the web for scholarships, in the lobby of the Student Financial Services office. The group also plans to post non-institutional scholarships on Columbia's website and has revamped its scholarship handouts.

Kelly thinks students could help their peers in their quest for scholarships.

"A lot of [scholarship awareness] has to do with word-ofmouth," Kelly said. "If you are a student who won a scholarship, let your peers know how you won it."

Mark Williams, a junior music composition major, searched for scholarships after hearing a conversation about scholarship opportunities.

"I overheard someone talking in Student Financial Services and asked about it," Williams said. "I received a list of scholarships, and I plan to apply for some of them.

Scholarship season is just beginning, and according to Herlehy, the best time to apply is now.

"It's a part-time job to apply for scholarships, so do not be discouraged," she said.

chronicle@colum.com

Professor: Instructor plans to move South

Continued from Page 3

for Columbia at the party and shared anecdotes about his professional life as a journalist.

"He's the voice of experience," said Betsy Edgerton, director of Magazine Writing and Editing in the Journalism Department. "In a lot of ways, he has taught me how to teach."

Nancy Day, chair of the Journalism Department, said Ferguson has contributed a great deal to the school and that his

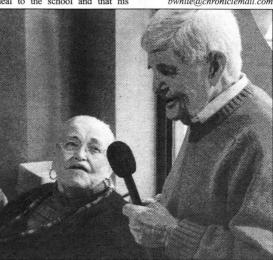
teaching style is a "wonderful" combination of both compassion and pushing students to improve their writing and reporting skills.

"We'll never be able to replace him," Day said.

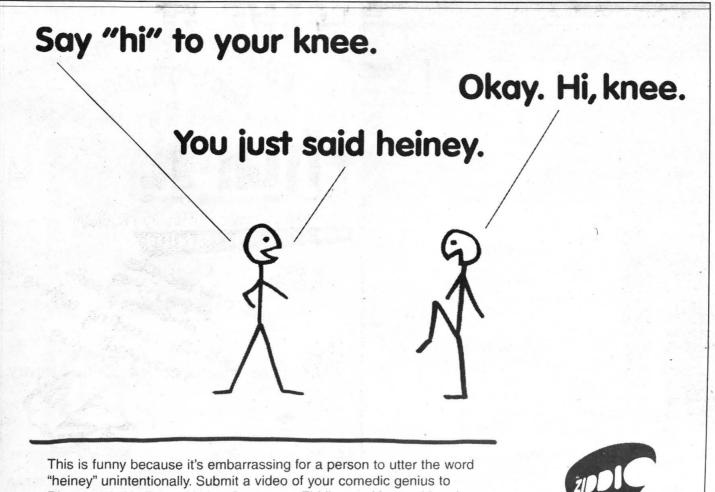
Ferguson said his future plans re to sell his house in Evanston, Ill., and move with his wife just north of Atlanta where they are buying a condo. The decision to retire wasn't an easy one to make, he said, because he's grown to care about the school and teaching.

"I never thought I'd say this, but my 13 years at Columbia College Chicago have been every bit as satisfying as my long career in jour-nalism," he said.

bwhite@chroniclemail.com



Retiring Journalism professor Bill Ferguson, who has worked for 13 years at Columbia, plans to retire just north of Atlanta.



Rhapsody's No Talent Nation Contest on Ziddio.com. You could end up on TV and get to appear at the 2007 U.S. Comedy Arts Festival.



5

Campus News December 11, 2006

Grant: Most schools wait for funding *Continued from Front Page*

be available until late January at the earliest, leaving schools to decide whether they will provide students the money and wait for reimbursement or hold off until the state funds arrive.

"The state kind of put us in a Catch-22 situation," said Jennifer Waters, director of operations for Student Financial Services. "They put out guidelines for the program, put advertisements to parents and students and said, 'Go ahead and start awarding.""

Columbia awarded students the money by borrowing from college operating funds, Waters said. She estimated 1,500 students have received money for the grant this year, totaling about \$400,000. This is considerably lower than the \$9 million the state provides for Columbia's 2,500 recipients of the need-based MAP grant.

"We front all the programs," Waters said. "We don't always wait exactly for that dollar to be deposited before it hits the students' account. All the money works in that way."

But two-thirds of Illinois institutions are waiting to award students until they receive money.

Northwestern University officials are waiting on the funds because they want to make sure the money is raised before it is awarded to students, said Carolyn Lindley, director of Financial Aid. "It's a brand new program and

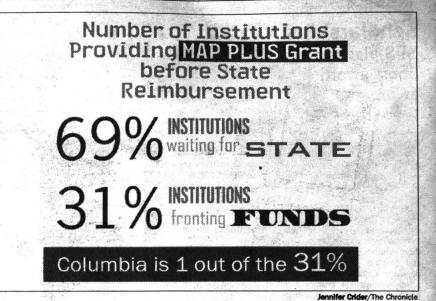
we want to make sure the funds are there," she said. DePaul University will also wait because the cost would be too much for the school to absorb if funds fail to arrive, said Paula Luff, assistant vice president and director of Financial Aid.

The University of Chicago, like Columbia, has distributed the money and is waiting for reimbursement because of concern about the affect it would have on tuition payments, said Monica Heath, assistant director of the University of Chicago's Office of College Aid.

"Right now there isn't any. Columbia money [permanently] used because we fully expect to get that payment," Waters said. "If anything out of the ordinary happens, we will obviously have to deal with that. We'll have to go and figure out how we're going to deal with not having those funds because it's not something we budgeted for."

The governor's office is not concerned about the grant, saying the funds are not "delayed" because schools will receive the money during the current school year, according to Becky Carroll, communications director for the Governor's Office of Management and Budget. She said any institutions that have provided the grant amount in advance will be fully reimbursed.

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Preservation: Expert tips to protect the past

Continued from Page 3

includes moderate temperatures of about 70 degrees, and a stabile, relative humidity of about 50 percent.

Books and papers should not be exposed to excessive light, including sunlight and fluorescent lighting, which have high amounts of ultraviolet (UV) radiation, officials at the library's conservation center said.

Heidi Marshall, the college archivist for Columbia's library, collects and preserves materials about the history of Columbia. The position is relatively new to the school and Marshall has only been at her job for about a year.

"The school has a lot of history, along with materials from every day activity, that need to be preserved," Marshall said. "Many items need to be available for viewing by everyone and not packed away in some box."

For example, the college has a schedule of classes from 1911, which was handwritten by Columbia founder Mary Blood.

"The schedule has been preserved by encapsulating it in Mylar for easier handling while at the same time protecting the item from further aging," Marshall said.

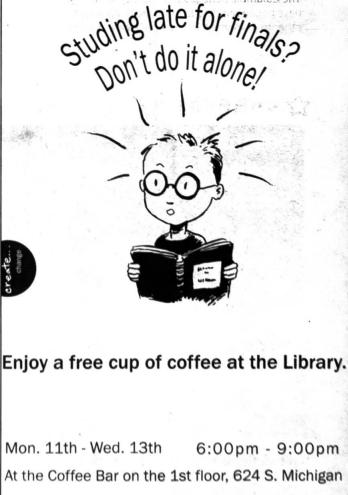
Marshall is in the process of preserving an original cartoon drawn by John Fischetti that was published in a 1975 edition of the Chicago Daily News. Additionally, the works include Fischetti's notebook with drafts of the cartoon, unveiling his creative process.

Stephanie Taylor, a junior journalism major, said she normally sells her books, but was interested in the preservation class. "My mom passed away over 14

"My mom passed away over 14 years ago and I have some things with her handwriting that I would like to preserve," Taylor said.

chronicle@colum.edu





brary

6

CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



U.S. Cellular® gets me... so I can always get the score.

Columbia Renegades Unite With Chicago

For those of you that haven't heard, Chicago has placed a bid to host the 2016 Olympics.

The Columbia Renegades & the City of Chicago have began building their relationship with each other to make the Olympics in Chicago a reality.



The Renegades support Chicago's 2016 Olympic bid!

CURRENT RENEGADES SPORTS

Baseball Cycling Soccer Cross Country Capoeira <u>Men's Lacrosse</u> Tennis Swimming Flag Football Softball Women's Volleyball Cheerleading Men's Basketball CO-ED Soccer Ultimate Frisbee Rugby Wrestling Dodgeball

HTTP://ATHLETICS.COLUM.EDU

Contact the Renegades - 1104 S. Wabash Lower Level Office A - 312-344-6917 - ATHLETICS@COLUM.EDU



getusc.com 1-888-buy-uscc

Stronghold: Officials provide 'stellar' support

Continued from Front Page even though it's considered a very liberal, welcoming school, we don't have that many visible signs.'

The office of GLBT Student Concerns falls under the college's office of Multicultural Relations. However, officials agree it can be hard to find and reach out to GLBT students, because they can't be identified like African American and Latino students.

"This is work

that will always

have to be done

because when

you move the

needle and

make progress, there's still

progress that

needs to be

made after

-Kari Sommers,

assistant dean of

Student Life

that.

"They need a broader community, and we're trying to identify what that community looks said Kari like," Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life.

The Stronghold Project can be com-pared to Safe Zone, a program utilized by nearly 200 institutions nationwide that creates areas on college campuses denoted by stickers where GLBT stu-

change

create.

dents can feel safe and support ed. However, students and faculty thought it necessary to develop initiative comparable to that, but with a twist. "To me Safe Zones imply

that every other place on cam-

is somehow unsafe, and I pus don't feel like that's true on Columbia's campus," Gleaves said. "I feel like overall, the campus is very, very safe, so we want to create a visibility [as] reminder of the presence of queer art and allies, and all the goodness that comes into Columbia's campus through

GLBT students and allies.' In the future, McLaughlin like the would office of Multicultural Affairs to offer training groups. They would teach faculty and staff members how to communicate to one another about minority groups on campus, and how to become allies to all

The Project, which has come to life in the last month, has received steady support from administrators, faculty and staff, Gleaves said. Some of the first adminis-trators who became involved by placing stickers on their doors were Sommers and Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, she said. '[Their support has] been absolutely stellar," Gleaves said.

"The overall reception's been great." While many faculty members have voiced their support for the Stronghold Project,

Gleaves said some of them don't feel as if they can participate because they don't have a private office. This is most

common with part-time faculty, she said.

However, Gleaves has yet to find anyone who refuses to participate. She would eventually like to have all faculty involved with the Stronghold Project.

Those involved came up with the "Stronghold Project" name after carefully considering the meaning of each word, Gleaves said. They settled on Stronghold after agreeing it represented strength, as well as a "base station" from which other GLBT

support could come, said Gleaves

Once the Stronghold Project ains popularity at Columbia, Gleaves said she would like to see the college recognizing and promoting more queer art and artists through venues like C-Spaces.

Those involved with the Project believe it will be a suc-cess because of the support already offered by faculty and staff

Unlike the college's previous Safe Zone program that disappeared a few years ago, the believes Sommers Stronghold Project will sucbecause Columbia is ceed known to be a GLBT-friendly school and there will always be students coming out of the

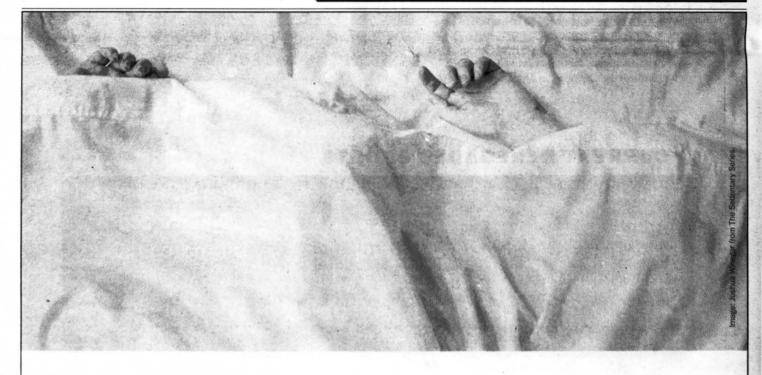
closet. "This is work that will always have to be done because when you move the needle and make progress, there's still progress that needs to be made after that," Sommers said.

amaurer@chroniclemail.com

Senior Gallery Night



Hildie Cohen and Jessica Tobacman, a journalism grad student, view work by senior photography majors Kate Swanson and Melissa Romito on Dec. 7 during Senior Gallery Night at the Conaway Center, in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.



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Carter: SGA speaks out about other concerns the school is facing

Continued from Front Page

Columbia recently bought the Spertus Institute, 618 S. Michigan Ave., and Carter said it will temporarily house a stu-dent center once the construc-tion on the building is complete.

tion on the building is complete. "The student organizations have indicated [the need for student cen-ter] as a priority," he said. "It's on our plates as well and we are spending a lot of time [finding] ways to make that possible." Although Brian Matos, presi-dent of the SGA, agreed that a student center is something his peers want on campus, there are

peers want on campus, there are other issues that weren't on Carter's list.

One of the concerns SGA would like Carter to look into is the rising cost of textbooks.

As prices increase on college texts, the idea of having a more affordable education at Columbia becomes more diffi-cult, Matos said. If the SGA was to gain Carter's support in low-ering book prices, Matos said it will help bring in more people from the Columbia community

"We are going to need [Carter] to endorse that and then ask the department chairs to take that on," he said.

Additionally, the decline in minority students at Columbia, the large student to teacher ratio and the ongoing problems with the school's space crunch are all

continuing prob-lems The Chronicle has reported on that weren't mentioned by Carter during by Carter during the interview. Although they weren't discussed, Carter addressed the issues in the past during other

meetings. And when to comes to discussing other issues the SGA or other student with Columbia, Dominic Cotto organizations have director of Student Organizations and Student Leadership, said the lines of communication between Carter and student leaders are excellent and always

open Whether it is at the state of the college address, the annual student leadership recep-tion at the presi-dent's house or the

round table dinner held once a semes- President Warrick L. Carter, right, said one of the college's greatest concerns is the vending machine prices. Mark Lloyd, ter, student leaders assistant vice president of Marketing and Communications, also sat in on the interview. are given opportunities to voice their concerns of

what needs to be looked into or changed on campus, Cottone said. "At other institutions there is a

lot of red tape [student organizations] need to get through to just get their foot in the door at the president's office," Cottone said. "Here at Columbia he is more then heave to meet with them." than happy to meet with them.

Although Cottone said he is satisfied with the relationship students have with Carter, he did

have one suggestion. "If Dr. Carter is looking for other ways to get in touch with students [he could] pop on by some of the student events that are happening on campus that are planned by the student organizations," he said. Despite that many of the prob-

lems at Columbia are long-term issues and don't have immediate solutions, Matos said Carter's presence at Columbia is one that won't be forgotten because of the many beneficial changes has

made for students. Going on his seventh year at Columbia, Carter has helped create the SGA, the Student Health Center, Counseling Services, the Portfolio Center and the office of Student Affairs all to make Columbia a more student-centered compus, said student-centered campus, said Mark Kelly, vi Student Affairs. vice president of

"This place went from a sec-ond-tier college to a first-tier

college," Matos said. As Carter works to make Columbia "the best student-centered arts and media college in the world," there is one thing he wants students to keep in mind about himself.

auricio Rubio/The Chronicle

"I still think of myself as a musician," he said. "That is how I got into this world, and I can understand the passions students have. It's my muse too

jzimmerman@chroniclemail.com

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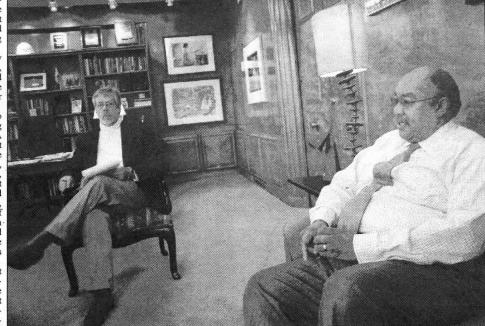
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Commentary

Much ado about Ziploc



10

When I travel, I often ask myself, has the Transportation Security Administration completely lost its mind? In November I was once again blessed with opportunity the to spend some quality

By Christen DeProto **Contributing Writer**

time with our own Big Brothers of the sky. And being the national security threat that I am, I almost missed my flight home. Why, you ask? Well, because of a Ziploc bag. That's right, a clear, one-quart bag that serves no purpose other than storage and freshness.

A frequent traveler, I take pride in my airport etiquette. On my return trip from Burlington, Vt., I even reveled in my superiority as I stepped through the security checkpoint, shoes already in hand. I scoffed at the other passengers as they clumsily waddled their way through the lines, unprepared.

So you can imagine my surprise when I was stopped for a search. On the way in I had noticed a table containing Ziploc bags for any liquids in carry-on luggage, but since the TSA officials in Chicago had already told me what I could and could not bring on board, I had already checked my bag containing "prohibited" items---the scary stuff like toothpaste and lotion. After I wound through an endless line of travelers to get through to the ONE screener the fine state of Vermont had to offer, I was shocked that my bag was deemed "questionable.

I agreed to the search knowing I was ahead of the game. I even joked to the screener. "Go ahead, I already got rid of all that dangerous water you guys don't like. No reply. Apparently having a sense of



humor is frowned upon in that industry.

But to give the man credit, I am pretty intimidating at 5'3, 100 pounds. About as intimidating as the 84-year-old man they were wanding down next to me.

After searching for about a minute, the screener, who could only be described politely as a "company man," reached into my bag and pulled out a tube of mascara and a one ounce container of face make-up. "Ma'am, these are prohibited items and

need to be in a one-quart Ziploc bag." "Can I have one then?" I replied.

"You need to go back out of security and get one at the beginning of the line before

you can return through this checkpoint,' the company man said.

With my flight boarding in 10 minutes, my irritation began to show. "Well if you don't mind me asking, what's the differ-ence between the bag it's in now-also

ias/The

plastic-and a Ziploc bag?" "It's procedure, ma'am, and if you are not willing, I will simply throw these items away," company man said as he walked toward the trash.

What? Throw away my \$20 makeup because of a 20-cent Ziploc? At this point I realized the stupidity of the situation. I asked why they couldn't just have the bags at the security point. No answer. Could I just go and grab one and come back? No. Since my bags had already been searched could I just leave them with him so I The age of a Sandhills Middle School boy who was arrested in Lexington, Texas for possession and consump-tion of beer. The boy brought mainer from his bome onto a

wouldn't have to lug them through the line again? Absolutely not! And if I did I would be subject to arrest!

Geez. All over a stupid Ziploc bag? I finally relented, and while I was being escorted out with my "prohibited" items I decided to utilize this time to talk to the man, person to person.

Surely beneath the guise of bureaucratic strong-arming, he too thought the situation

was silly. I poked. "I know you're just doing your job, but don't you think this is a bit excessive?" I asked "I mean, I'm going to have the SAME items, but now in a Ziploc?"

"I can't comment on that ma'am."

grumpily stomped back to the end of the line, Ziploc bag in hand. Barely making it through the line in time to make my flight, I waved the bag in his face. "Yeah, we're a whole lot safer now, aren't we!"

While I appreciate the many steps being taken for our safety, I am stupefied by the many idiotic ones. During the time the screener took to march me out like a criminal, someone far more dangerous could

have been slipping through. The old saying "You can't be too careful" really does apply in situations like this, but for opposite reasons. You CAN be too careful. Bad things are going to happen regardless of how much we prepare for them. And generally speaking, it only worsens the situation to begin treating everyone as if we were the entire terrorist sect.

From where I stand, TSA is there to protect us, not terrorize us. Especially w we sign their paychecks. They should be playing defense, not offense, and most of all, taking steps to get the public on their side, not against them.

Towering authority, intimidation and threats are not the way to make our country safer, but weaken it even further by fear.

Approximate number of teenagers who stormed a farmer's market in New York's Union Square on Dec. 7, killing a teen and injuring two others. The teens were armed with knives, bats and belts and killed Taishawn Bellevue, 17, of Brooklyn accord-ing to the United Press International. The brawl was supposedly triggered because of a dispute in a nearby high school according to officials.

By Kim Haburn Copy Chief

cut the parental umbil-ical cord and make a life for myself. After three and a half years and \$70,000 in loans, I will finally have a college degree. And now that my major is journalism, I won't have family members asking me what I plan to do with my life. When I was a history major they constantly asked me what I planned to do

become

adult. Sure, according

to the law I've been an

adult for four years,

but now I will have to

ап

with such a seemingly pointless calling. But that is the question I've been asking myself lately. Although I plan on going into copy editing, a field of journalism where there are usually plenty of job openings, the overall job market in journalism is frighteningly bad

Newspapers are in trouble around the country. Last year the Chicago Tribune

28 positions as well its WomanNews section after the Tribune Co.'s stock fell 27 percent. It also closed the renowned City News service, launching pad for young journalists for generations

And the Tribune Co.'s problems continue to grow this year. The company is looking to possibly break up its assets, letting the Los Angeles Times fend for itself.

Rumors also say the Tribune is searching for buyers for the Cubs, which the company has owned for 25 years.

Obviously, now is not a good time to be Tribune Co. employee or journalism major

Readership is in decline across the board, and newspapers are scrambling to find new ways to reach potential readers Online content is stressed, as are more graphics and reader-oriented news stories.

The number of newspapers is also steadily decreasing. In 1980, there were 1,745 daily newspapers; by 2002, that number was 1,457, a 17 percent decrease according to journalism org, a non-profit organization

As newspapers fold, experienced journalists are left without jobs, thereby flooding the market. In journalism, as with most other professions, experienced professionals have little to worry about in finding another job. It's the beginners that have cause for concern.

According to a 2004 report by the Newspaper Association of America, only 17.7 percent of journalism graduates got a job directly related to the field.

This year many Columbia students will graduate with a journalism degree, further flooding the market. While that does and doesn't guarantee a job, it's still increases the competition.

But all is not lost. Although major papers may be having difficulties, community newspapers and niche publica-tions are on the rise. Besides, new journalists hardly ever start out at the Chicago Tribune or the New York Times

Just look at the Chicago area for examples of the burgeoning industry: Publications like the Daily Herald, Daily Southtown, Windy City Times, Chicago Defender and The Reader are proof that the industry isn't dying.

There are careers in journalism, if jour-nalists are willing to adapt and grow with the industry. I am going into copy editing, a job for which there is always a demand, whether it be in newspapers, magazines or online publications.

Newspapers are constantly looking for good page, graphic and web designers as well as anyone with a combination of skills. If you're considering becoming a reporter, learn how to take good photo-graphs as well. If you're going into copy editing, learn how to design pages and edit graphics. Having a variety of abilities will make you much more marketable to publications.

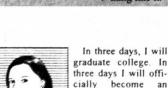
Although newspapers may be going through a difficult adjustment period in response to new technology, they're not going away. People may enjoy the imme-diacy of the Internet, but newspapers will always remain an important part of many Americans' lives, if for nothing more than cutting out the article on Johnny's high school basketball team or Susie's wedding announcement.

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13-year-old female student according to WLTX-TV, a CBS affiliate. Newspapers not extinct

\$279 The fine for tossing a pig over a Holiday Inn Express counter, which was issued to Kevin Pugh, 20, of Cedar Bluff, Miss. "He said it was a prank," Lt. Danny McCaskill told the Associated Press. "It must be some redneck thing, because I haven't ever heard of any-thing like it." a Batman container from his home onto a bus and shared it with his brother and a



Roamin' Numerals

Editorials

Leave the man on the moon

Space exploration is a giant leap for mankind, but wasting Americans' money on these programs is ridiculous. We should be conrentrating on fixing this plan-centrating on fixing this plan-et first before moving on to others. This NASA drivel has to stop. The Cold War and the space race are over. We've already gone to the moon once. Do we really need to go again?

Since the golden age of science fiction during the '50s and '40s, man has been '50s and '40s, man has been fascinated by space travel and uncovering new worlds. But that was a long time ago, and while there still is a fol-lowing for "Star Trek" afi-cionados, space travel has mound away from the main moved away from the main-stream and transformed into the nerdy pocket-protector-carrying NASA crews. It's true; those geniuses at NASA managed to put a man on the moon, placed the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit and ran many missions to Mars

Plus they gave us Teflon, Tang and that mattress you can chuck a bowling ball at without spilling your wine— all quite necessary for a bal-anced breakfast. Of course some critics will say that NASA is useful. To that we say: End the war in Iraq, which costs \$80 billion a year, and build the stupid moon station. We can't have it both ways. But since President Bush

Chronicle, said he recently became "very aware of the

became "very aware of the concerns regarding vending machines and the issue regarding the fees associated with classrooms." He also noted that a new student center might be placed tem-porarily in the Spertus Institute.

But with the semester ending, The Chronicle has touched on a few more seri-

ous matters within its pages this fall semester that the

administration should address as students are tak-

ing a break over the holi-One of the more prevalent concerns the administration needs to address quickly is the college's current space crunch. This is important to

students because they are the ones who deal with this

the most. From over-crowd-ed classrooms and elevators

to having no place to gather their thoughts—like a stu-

dent center-students feel

the space crunch the most.

Although the administra-tion will be adding a couple

of extra classrooms in the 623 S. Wabash Building, Columbia is still busting at the seams. Even though it doesn't seem like the admin-

istration is doing enough to

address this, they are imple-

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announced in 2004 that he will put astronauts back on the moon because he wants to re-energize the space pro-gram after setbacks. There has been much ensure has been much speculation about the future of NASA and its actual benefits. On Dec. 4, NASA announced that it has plans to return peo-ple to the moon and create a permanent lunar base by 2024.

"The survival of the human race is at risk as long as it is confined to a single planet," Professor Stephen Hawking told the BBC on Nov. 30. He mentioned that life on Earth could be wiped out by a nuclear disaster or by an asteroid.

Why is an asteroid "always" about to hit the Earth? Where's Bruce Willis Earth? Where's Bruce winns when you need him? Yes, an outpost on the moon will be helpful if the big one is about to hit, but at what price? According to The

According to The Independent News, a United Kingdom media outlet, NASA's budget will be \$17 billion for 2007 and \$18 billion for the next year. While The Chronicle has the utmost respect for Hawking, NASA proposals are going to cost an extreme amount of money— nearly a trillion dollars—if one accounts for predictable cost overruns for a mission of such magnitude. NASA suggests that a

lunar station might cost more than \$100 billion with a final

goal of a manned mission to Mars, that is estimated to cost \$600 billion. Of course this sounds huge, but when it is spread over a 20-year period, is possible to raise this type

of funding. But why bother? The reason NASA's reputation has been waning over the years is because their finds rarely amount to much. Surely discoveries of black holes are valuable additions to the physics community, but mean nothing to the averbut mean nothing to the aver-age joe in the end. To a NASA scientists rock debris might be gold, but to an American citizens it's, well, space trash. We don't care about NASA anymore and what it finds. Even the highwhat it finds. Even the high-est ideologue has to agree that yes, while space explo-ration is a noble calling, in the end, there are better things to concentrate on Earth

Camping on the moon and looking for life on Mars is like trying to find intelligence in the Jackass franchise. We can't find Osama bin can't find Osama bin Laden—and he's on Earth— let alone life on Mars. Take the money from NASA projects and throw it

into something that matters, like finding a cure for cancer or stopping global warming. We should be preventing dis-ease and working out solu-tions so nuclear disasters won't happen. Save humans now instead of later.

Serious issues first olumbia president, Dr. Warrick L. Carter, in an interview with The

menting a universal class start time which will help the congestion as well as finalize construction of the Spertus Institute. Perhaps acquiring the former George Diamond Steak House space would help to alleviate some of Columbia's concerns.

of Columbia's concerns. With more than 11,000 students, Columbia can't afford to keep bringing more students here. Our current physical setup will not be able to handle it in the future.

Our growing college overrelies on tuition. More students require more money to support students' needs. And the only way to address this now is by generating more money by attracting more students. This is not the way it should be. The administra-tion needs to place more emphasis on current stu-dents rather than future students

While future students are the fluctuating EKG line of this institution, current stu-dents also contribute money to the school. We are here now

Capping enrollment seems like a viable option for creating and preserving the legacy that Columbia aims for-becoming a respectable liberal arts instia tution where its name means something. Further, more full-time faculty are needed to ensure a quality educa-tion. Full-time faculty need to serve as advisers, which to date have been unable to perform as efficiently as they could because of their workload.

As we've stated before, let's make that degree mean something. Columbia should-n't behave like an expensive community college, but rather, it should behave as a liberal arts college. Students choose Columbia for its legacy and not being cramped in vators.

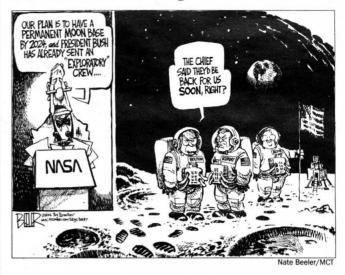
Students can deal with Students can deal with having a 10 cent increase when purchasing junk food and calorie-ridden soda from the vending machines on campus. Creating more fundraising opportunities along with providing more scholarships and grants ben-efits students more We real efits students more. We real-ly don't worry "that" much about dishing out an extra 10 cents on a can of 7-Up or Coca Cola.

Columbia has serious issues to deal with as its students trek into the New Year. Failure to address these issues in the future will only create a more hostile student environment. Students are tolerant, but only to a point. After all, it is the administration's duty to help address growing student concerns and not create growing student disillusionment.

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Back from the Drawing Boards







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 11 you'll find a

set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you

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I dream of College Council



EDITOR'S NOTE: In most hierarchies of power, be it local city politics or college administrations, the bureaucracy term causes much confusion. In our continuing quest for truth, Jim Jaworski, a savvy, single and disease-free

By Jim Jaworski

Chronicle reporter, had the privilege of covering most of this and last semester's College Council meetings. During those meetings, representatives from various departments discuss issues and submit proposals to Columbia president Warrick L. Carter. Jaworski's seen firsthand how business is conducted in the top echelons of power. Jaworski-who has admitted to being organizationally challenged-has always been a tad confused about the often cumbersome process and decided to run a meeting himself. Here is what ensued:

All right everybody, let's get this thing started. Take your seats. Member #1: But I haven't finished cream cheesing my bagel yet.

OK, fine. Just hurry up. Member #2: Hey, we have Garden Veggie now!

Member #1: Awesome! [A series of high-fives]

10:12 a.m.

All right. Good morning everybody. Let's get going. Member #3: We can't start the meeting

yet. You haven't officially started the meeting yet.

Um ... isn't that what I'm doing right now?

Member #1: No. Come on man, read the bylaws. It's procedure.

All right, all right. Let's see here ... oh, OK. I would like to motion to begin talking about considering the possibility of starting this meeting. Anybody second?

Member #2: Word.

Now, we only have two hours so first things first. I think there are some very important things we need to discuss and

Member #1: Hold on. We need to go over the minutes from the last meeting.

Why? We were all there. We remember what happened. Member #2: Procedure!! It's in the

bylaws

Oh, to hell with the bylaws. [Everybody gasps]

OK fine, go ahead.

10:37 a.m.

OK, good. Now I think there are some vital issues facing us this semester, so we should discuss ...

Member #1: We need to hear from the committees. Why?

Member #2: Procedure!!

OK, OK. We'll start with Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. Go ahead, Mark.

Kelly: Columbia College is the greatest school in the history of the universe

OK. Um ... is there anything else? Kelly: Manifest.

What about it?

Kelly. It's awesome

10:54 a.m. Now that we have that taken care of,

there are some serious problems that students are furious about. We need to talk about ...

Member #1: Academic Affairs. What about it?

Member #2: The bylaws state that, on the rare occasion that he is here, we have to reserve at least 20 minutes to yell at Steve Kapelke.

students will drop out!

[Everybody laughs]

Member #2: What a dumb idea! Member #3: Yeah, and what's the deal with this e-mail that says faculty evaluations are going to be made public for students to look at? Member #1: Is that legal?

Kapelke: Uh

OK, moving on. Let's go to the stu-Brian?

Matos: Where's our damn Student Center?

Good question. We need to raise \$90 million for that, right? Who can tell me how much we have saved up? Let's see, Bob Thall, chair of the Budget and Priorities Committee.

Thall: \$582.62.

That's fantastic. So, at this rate we'll have a student center by the 33rd century?

Kelly: [Laughs] Don't be silly. We'll easily have it by 2862.

Any way we can have it, ya know, a

here. Do we have any new business? Member #1: Yeah, we got a response from President Carter about the proposal

Member #1: Nothing. It's just a picture

I don't care. I'm hijacking this meeting. Let's get to the issues facing this school. Dependency on tuition has not been properly addressed. Students are being adversely affected by lack of available finances to increase classroo space and improve the student-to-faculty ratio.

A comprehensive plan needs to be put in place to increase money from outside urces and plan for the future instead of simply putting out fires as they come up. We need to work together. I mean everybody, from the students all the way up to the board of trustees. We can find a solution if we take the time to

discuss and wisely plan for ... Member #3: We're out of time. What?

Member #1: It's noon. The meeting's

Damn it!

Member #2: Motion to adjourn? Member #3: Second.

This is depressing. Who wants to go to the South Loop Club and get drunk? Member #2: Procedure!!

OK. I motion for anybody who's as

pissed as I am to go to SLC and get hammered. Anybody second? [The 38 council members who haven't said a word all meeting raise their

hands.] Good. At least we accomplished something.

Have a great Break and a good holiday.

We will see you next year.



Your friends at the





Oh yeah. OK, we'll go to the Academic Affairs Committee and Steve Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs. Kapelke: We want to raise the minimum grade to a C for all students. Higher standards. I like it.

Member #3: No way, it's bullshit. More

Oh, come on. Our students are smart enough to get a C.

10 a.m.

Oh, great. What does it say? of him giving us the finger. Oh, real mature, Carter. Anything



little sooner? Thall: Do you have a friend with \$89,999,417.38 lying around? No. over. Member #2: Hey, maybe we can raise tuition. Matos: Shut up! Member #2: No, you shut up!

11:52 a.m. Look, we're getting a little off track

we sent to him.





Dear makers of TaB,

TaB and I go a long way back. I think I've known that it existed since I was a kid. I remember Marty McFly asking for a can of TaB at the diner in

Back to the Future. But it wasn't until high school that I actually tried it. Those were, believe it or not, my punk rock days. I used to have gauged ears, a preoccupation with dying my hair unnatural colors and this ratty, old black sweatshirt to which I safety-

hair unnatural colors and this ratty, old black sweatshirt to which I safetypinned anarchistically-suggestive patches. Sometimes, I would stick the leftover safety pins through various piercings—see the picture for an example.

Of course, that wasn't my idea. Like most high-school behavior, I picked up the 'style' from the older kids. It's different now, but when you're in high school, a one year age difference is huge. Those were the kids who introduced me to such noble adventures as Bad Religion concerts, smoking parents' cigarettes, house shows, stolen beer and all of the other hedonistic learning experiences that are so crucial to a young man's development—and that includes TaBfest.

Mike introduced me to TaBfest. Mike was—and I assume still is—a weird kid. He was in this joke band called the Los Ramones, which dressed as Mexicans and played punk-rock standards in basements and garages around Appleton, Wis. They never played originals, and they assumed personalities like Juan Rotten and Ricardo Ramone, but they had a huge following in town. It was awesome.

Anyway, on one or two occasions, I ended up in front of the microphone at said concerts, yelling the lyrics to "Last Caress" by the Misfits and flailing around like an idiot. And I got to know

Mike. So Mike invited me to my first

TaBfest. One of the members of the Los Ramones held TaBfest in his backyard. I remember walking back there and seeing stacks of those ugly pink cases piled high on his deck. They didn't last for long.

TaBfest, to put it simply, consisted of a bunch of guys drinking entirely too much TaB. Depending on the variation, the winner either drank more TaB than everyone present, or finished a case in the shortest amount of time.

But there were all these other ridiculous rules, too. For one, each contestant was only allowed to have two cans open at the same time. In terms of paraphernalia to assist the TaB consumption, beer bongs were fair game, but intravenous needles were off limits. A contestant could only vomit after the sixth can of TaB. If he did before that point, he had to make up for it with an extra can.

According to the website—last updated in January 2003—the winner of TaBfest III was TaB Man. I remember him; he had a TaB tattoo on his shoulder and came all the way from Milwaukee to participate in TaBfest. He finished his case of 12 in about 26 minutes.

Like most things from high school, TaBfest was stupid and immature. But like most things that are stupid and immature, it was also incredibly fun. I've never seen so many people puking, much less having such a good time doing it.

A couple weeks ago, a mysterious case of TaB showed up in The Chronicle office refrigerator. People would take a can, and about five minutes later comment on how gross it is. I'm not going to drink any—I have more sense than that now—but it reminded me of all the stupid things I'd do before I came to college and wised up.

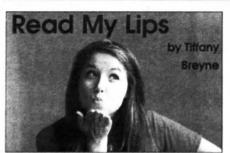
I wear ties all the time now; I have an entire wall of them in my closet. I have a pseudo-sophisticated beard and I'm snobby about music, no matter how hard I try not to be. I drink whiskey for the taste and have this obnoxious habit of defaulting to an "oh yeah?" response, as if I'm skeptical of every bit of dialogue that comes my way. But back in high school, I was much

But back in high school, I was much different. I went to concerts that I now make fun of. I wore militantly-liberal Tshirts. I was snippy and argumentative about everything, especially music and politics. I followed and sang with a band of white suburban kids who wore fake mustaches and ponchos and played shows dubbed "the exportation show." And I went to TaBfest.

TaB is a good representation of immaturity, and TaBfest is a good example of everything fun about immaturity.

Even though there's TaB in the fridge here now, I'm still not going to drink it. But I owe a lot to the stuff for reminding me how obnoxious I used to be—and how awesome that was—and how much lamer I got as I grew up.

mbyrne@chroniclemail.com



Hang in there, guys

Last week the RedEye ran a feature article on the malfunctions young guys may experience in bed when the pressure gets to be too much. Whether it's his lifestyle choices, such as drinking and smoking, or the nerves he feels to put out a stellar performance, there are plenty of reasons why things just don't work out sometimes.

And there's nothing wrong with that. We all have our good and bad moments, and I'm glad the RedEye addressed that fact. One part of the article, however, didn't sit quite so well with me. To get some expert advice on the possible problems, the paper contacted a source at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's sexual health program. The source said many men succumb to the pressure to provide an orgasm, which is a mighty goal considering it takes women four times as long to climax, if they even reach that point. In fact, the source said, it's a "misguided goal" since women prefer the intimacy of the act over the actual orgasm.

What? This is where the record obnoxiously screeches to a stop, everyone pauses and eerie crickets chirp in silent confusion. Women don't care about orgasm, they just want intimacy?

they just want intimacy? To me, that reads like, "Hey guys, don't worry about getting the woman off! Just have fun, cuddle a bit afterwards, and she'll love it, I promise!"

Now I do admit that the intimacy is one of the best things about sex; I love the hotness of being so close and just enjoying the moment. And I also admit that more often than not, I don't orgasm. But that's not to say I don't want to. It really is something that needs to be worked on. But that's part of the fun of sex—the exploration.

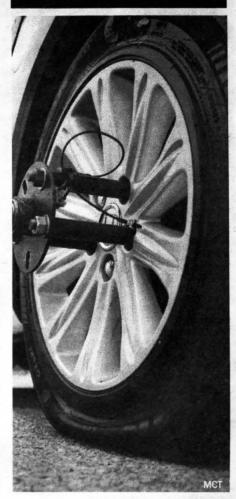
There's no need to be nervous about working on the orgasm. The final result is worth the wait of trial and error sessions. Not only does experimentation help open up communication between partners, it makes sex more fun and comfortable. Plus, it makes the guy a stud for putting in the effort. And speaking of studs, I have to say I've had the great pleasure of receiving e-mails from this column's readers all semester. It's flattering to not only know people are reading the paper, but to get feedback on it. And just to clear the air, if I didn't respond to your e-mail, don't take it personally. I don't respond to any of them; I guess to keep that air of mystery going.

But here's the twist: Starting next semester, I want to hear more from you. I want to hear about your problems, questions, stories—anything. And not only do I want to hear about them, I want to write about them, at your discretion, of course. I'm obviously not the only one having or talking about sex at our college, so I want to hear what else is going on out there. I'd like to get advice from professional experts as well, seeing as how I'm definitely not the end-all and be-all of sex talk.

I hope to hear from people over break and into the rest of the school year. Don't be nervous about sending your thoughts—just like reaching for that ultimate orgasm, there's nothing to lose in the end, just pure satisfaction. Until then, have a great break, hopefully full of fun and love and plenty of hot, multiple-orgasm sex.

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JACKASS OF THE WEEK



Rich people suck and deserve bad things, right? Well, that's at least what some may think. One jackass, especially, thinks so and isn't afraid to do something about it. Robert S. Evans, a 63-year-old Niles man, apparently out of a job and hating everyone else because of it, went on a tire-slashing bonanza across his town, damaging 18 trucks and cars in three days.

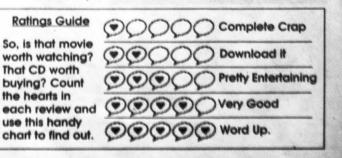
Evans' main targets were cars parked in a Jewel parking lot, an apartment complex and a funeral home. Yes, let's soak that one in. A family spends the whole day grieving over the unfortunate loss of a loved one, and all they want is the comfort of their car after a long day at the funeral home. Instead, they find a metal box of a car resting on limp, pathetic tires. These people are at a funeral, not a millionaire club.

If there ever was a true definition of a jackass, this guy is it. His slashing spree finally came to an end when a man looked out the window of his apartment complex after hearing the hissing of the air leaving his tires and spotted Evans. Obviously angry, the man ran outside and, according to a Sun-Times article, found, "a man, pocketknife in one hand, a cane in the other and at least one tire going flat on his pick-up truck."

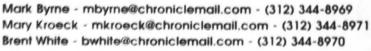
The younger man requested that Evans drop his knife, but after he refused, the man punched Evans in the face—twice. It was well deserved. There are plenty of rich people in this country, but don't blame them for your lack of employment, Evans.

Get a conscience; get a life and get a job. Well, at least try to after you spend time in jail for your 18 counts of criminal damage to property, aggravated assault, unlawful use of a weapon and battery. Good luck with that one, jackass.

-T. Breyne



We'd love to hear from you. How to contact the A&E Desk:





Тор 🖯

Old Chicago soul: In early winter, nothing seems more fitting than the stories of heartbreaking and lovemaking from Jerry Butler, Tyrone Davis, the staple singers the Chi-Lites and the Dells. And there's never a time when it doesn't make sense to plunge back into the falsetto, wah-wah guitars and social protest of Curtis Mayfield.

Elections: When bad guys get tossed, elections feel like you washed off something really nasty in the shower.

The New Yorker magazine from the months of October and November: I

months of October and November: 1 never finished August or September, of last year or this, but no matter—it's nice to read about how much of a cocky jerk Virginia Sen. George Allen was now that he's been beaten. And I'm really enjoying the pre-Thanksgiving piece on wild turkeys. Incidentally, I've never had the opportunity to utter that last sentence before, so you can imagine I'm pretty psyched.

Barack Obama, Tom Vilsack, Evan Bayh, Teresa Heinz Kerry, Method

Man: Somebody please get in position to take the Democratic presidential nomination and save the country from the disaster of another Clinton administration. Don't get me wrong—I too love Bubba as an ex-president and I think Sen. Clinton is pretty bright. But nothing will help bring back the religious right faster than a second President Clinton.

Hope: Let's hear it for the 2007 World Champion Chicago Cubs!

Exposure



Elf: After a couple of Christmas cocktails, I'm laughing involuntarily and uncontrollably. This movie has for some reason grown on me to the point where I have incorporated "ginormous," "he's an angry elf" and "you sit on a throne of lies!" into my daily vernacular. And my beautiful wife thinks it's funny too!

"Shake Hands with Santa Claus": The great Louis Prima belts out one of the best holiday songs that combines bananas, "pianas" and Santy Claus.

Any Food Network holiday special: Rachael Ray, Bobby Flay, Paula Dean and those Iron Chefs making uber egg nog, sparkling cookies and glistening turkeys. Mmmmm. Although, there is something very wrong about laying flat on the couch watching other people cook. Nonetheless, mmmm.

The advice that Clarence the Angel gives to George Bailey at the end of *It's A Wonderful Life*: "No man is a failure who has friends." Friendship, folks, is what it's all about. It's worth more than all the Christmas bonuses in the world combined.

Holiday toasts: Here is one: A sincere thanks to several elves who are leaving The Chronicle for bigger and better things: Jen, Jim, Mike, Kim and Chuck—you folks are the best. You deserve a lot in your stockings for all the hard work you have done this year. And for the laughs. It has truly been a gift to work with you. I wish you the very best in the new year. Chris Richert

Spam e-mail: My e-mail philosophy is that you are not popular unless you get at least 250 spam e-mails a day. I'm insecure anyway, but more so after I read email after e-mail about Viagra, Cialis, penis enlargements, stock trading tips and winning the lottery in a foreign country.

Boxer briefs: I said it. There are not a lot of men who share their thoughts on underwear. Who wants to be left hanging anyway? It's all about control (my therapist and I are working on this). A word of advice, never go commando ... zippers hurt.

Text messages: I never really understood them until this past summer when I became quite proficient at sending them. Who knew this amazing language of LOL, IMHO, TLKTYL8R and ROT-FLUTS?

Vending machines: I can sit there for hours and watch people take 3 to 5 minutes trying to figure out if they want the Snickers, M&Ms, Baby Ruth or Skittles.

The Chronic kids: I have met some of the best, brightest and talented students. They're the ones who work for little or no money, work overtime and publish more than 40 pages for 16 weeks straight. Winning more than 200 awards in the past few years is just a snapshot. These are the dedicated Columbia students who are holding the college's mission of "Creating Change" within themselves. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.



Direct sunlight is a gift. It shapes the contours of people, giving them a dramatic feel that cannot be re-created in a studio. This photo was taken at the Polk Blue Line stop, located at Paulina Street and Polk Street. There is a special feeling that is generated when you find natural light and work it to shape your image. People can lose sight of everyday scenes; they begin to take them for granted. Sometimes, you have to work really hard to create an image. Other times they fall right into your lap. It's up to the photographer to pursue it.

/ Get s

The show begins at 8 p.m. The suggested donation is \$10. SATURDAY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

MONDAY / Start your week off by attending a poetry open mic night at Weed's. 1555 N. Dayton St. The show begins at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free. TUESDAY / Sonotheque. 1444 W. Chicago Ave., hosts Ramp Chicago, show casing the newest electronic music. This is also a record release party for Proswell, a Chicago electronica artist who will be performing at the event. The show starts at 9 p.m. Admission is \$5. WEDNESDAY / Author Jean Iversen dis

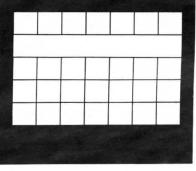
usses BYOB dining as she signs copies of her book BYOB Chicago at The Book Cellar. 4736 N. Lincoln Ave. The event begins at 7 p.m. Admission is free. THURSDAY / Crave Chicago comes to the River East Art Center. 435

inois St. This all girls night of luxury features boulique products, spa services and chocolate for everyone and an appearance by Chicago friefighters. The show starts at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance. \$35 at the door

injoy an evening of comedy at Gallery Cabaret. 2020 N. Oakley Ave., as the ensemble Schadenfreude performs their new material.

opping done by visiting the Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave., for the Handmade Market. This event features clothing, jewelry and other items that are one of a kind. The event begins at 12 p.m. and goes until 4:30 p.m. Admission

If cold weather doesn't stop you from riding your bike around town, then join Chicago Bike Winter for their Tour de Temples Chanukah ride. The group is meeting at the Waveland Clock Tower, 3700 N. Recreation Dr



SUNDAY

and rides

Jazz Showcase owner loses lease

In 1947, Joe Segal started the Jazz Showcase at Roosevelt University. Now, nearly 60 years later, Segal is being forced to move his business once again.

Jazz Showcase, 59 W. Grand Ave., is a venue with a club setting where guests can be entertained by some of the world's greatest jazz musicians. Past performers include Duke Ellington, Ahmad Jamal and Corky Siegel, to name a few. The club has relocated in the past, mainly due to landlord issues, and this time isn't much different.

According to Segal, the landlord did not renew Jazz Showcase's lease because he wants to rent the Grand Avenue space to a restaurant.

"He didn't give us a chance," Segal said. "He wanted the Italian restaurant. I guess they're giving him four times the money."

Segal knows this temporary closure will greatly affect the club's business and is worried that people will think the venue is completely closed. It may take up to six months to find another location for the Showcase. However, while Segal is looking for a new location, the Showcase will hold concerts at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, and Joe's Be-Bop Cafe at Navy Pier.

This is the third major relocation for the Jazz Showcase. It's first location was on the corner of Rush and Delaware streets in the Gold Coast. It then moved into the Blackstone Hotel, 636 S. Michigan Ave., in 1982. Chicago Tribune jazz critic Howard Reich said relocation is common for

jazz clubs. "Jazz clubs typically don't own the building," Reich said. "They're at the mercy of landlords."

In order for Jazz Showcase to relocate, Segal needs at least \$280,000 to pay for a security deposit and construction for the interior of the club. The problem is the business is not financially lucrative.

Though the current location has 150 seats at \$20 a head, and there is a full bar inside, the weekly profit does not measure up to the weekly expenses.

"Each artist comes in for a week and there is no one for under \$7,000 a week," Segal said. But Jazz Showcase has made

rent and paid artists for 60 years by holding fund raising concerts for \$100 a head, receiving donations, and by attracting audiences to hear global jazz greats like Ellington.

"Over the years it has become a center because they're open seven days a week," said Reich "You always know the best musicians will be at the Jazz Showcase."

Jazz Showcase is the second oldest jazz club in the country,

By Beth Palmer/Staff Writer Reich said. The Village Vanguard, opened in 1935 in New York City, is the oldest.

In looking for a new location, Segal said reopening in the South Loop would be ideal, especially if Jazz Showcase can share a space with Columbia.

"We are exploring several avenues to create partnerships between Joe Segal's Jazz Showcase and the Columbia College Chicago Music Department," said Richard Dunscomb, of the Music Department.

But the talks are only preliminary right now, Dunscomb said. Scott Hall, director of Jazz Studies at Columbia said the partnership would be great. Hall thinks the relocation would allow the college to easily collaborate with Segal, who had students visit the club and perform there in the past.

Segal's knowledge of jazz is also sought by industry professionals. Jim Fahey, director of Programming at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, has consulted with Segal to see which jazz artists he recommends. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra has 1,300 advance subscribers to its 10-concert jazz series every year, Fahey said

Fahey said he credits the tremendous number of jazz fans in Chicago with keeping the Jazz Showcase alive. But Segal said the jazz audience is dying—literally. "Our audience—50 and 60

"Our audience—50 and 60 year olds—they're dying out or home entertainment is keeping them in," Segal said.

Even Chicago public radio station, 91.5 WBEZ, is cutting jazz out of its program after Jan. 1, 2007, Segal said. They've lost their audience.

"Rock 'n' roll is what killed jazz," Segal said. "The Beatles and Elvis and all that other inferior junk—it's all music you don't have to think about. Jazz is a thinking person's music."

chronicle@colum.edu



Kenny Barron performed at Chicago's Jazz Showcase, 59 W. Grand Ave. The Showcase is being forced to relocate at the end of the year.



Bikes, beer and frostbite A winter bike ride through an altered state

By Mark Byrne/A&E Editor

Biking and booze make strange bedfellows, but they become more familiar every year a group of Chicagoans bring them together.

The Three Floyds Brew Pub Ride, which occurs for the second year in a row on Jan. 14, is a 65-mile, round-trip bike ride to the Three Floyds Brewery in Munster, Ind., in the dead of winter.

Last year, when Mark Sinclair organized the ride, more than 25 riders participated. The weather was sunny and the wind worked to their favor. By all accounts, the ride was a success, and Sinclair hoped it would become an annual event.

However, Sinclair, who was the comedy and sports editor at TimeOut Chicago, died of complications resulting from a brain aneurysm just four months later, on April 14. So his friends and co-workers at the magazine took over to ensure the ride would continue.

T.C. O'Rourke, the newsstand manager for TimeOut Chicago, rode along last year and took charge for the 2007 ride.

"There's a sort of satisfaction that a lot of long distance bicy-clists have that you gain from powering yourself across land-scape," O'Rourke said. "And it's not everybody's cup of tea."

O'Rourke is no stranger to group bike rides. He's participated in Critical Mass rides since

1997, before it was even known as that-back when it was the "Daley Plaza Ride.

He's also familiar with longdistance winter rides. In October, he spent a week riding through Upper Michigan and parts of Wisconsin. Parts of the Wisconsin leg even took place in the middle of a blizzard.

"There are always points when you feel like: 'This is crummy. Why I am doing this? I remember this from last time. I thought I wasn't going to do this anymore. I'm too tired, too old,'" O'Rourke said. "You always just remember the good parts, and the bad parts only give you bragging rights."

The group meets at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington Ave. They then head south and around Lake Michigan into Indiana on a course of bike paths, chosen with the help of Bob Matter, who works in circulation for TimeOut Chicago. Though he hadn't been to the Three Floyd's Brew Pub before last year, Matter lives in Indiana and knows the area.

Like Sinclair did and O'Rourke still does, Matter commutes via bike throughout the winter and knows how to keep warm. The basic rule for biking in the winter is to stack thin layers under a windbreaker shell-but with a long distance ride, it is a little different. "On a long ride like this you



T.C. O'Rourke, pictured with his bike and a jug o' beer, is organizing the 2007 Three Floyds Brew Pub Ride, a 65 mile round-trip bike ride to a brewery in Indiana.

have to worry about over dress-ing," Matter said. "That was a big problem a lot of people made. Once you've been riding for 10 minutes, you're warmed up. If anything you stop to peel off a layer or two. People actually get warmer along the ride."

Both Matter and O'Rourke recalled that most of the participants enjoyed the ride, and in honor of Sinclair's wishes, they hope it will continue for years to come

O'Rourke said the people at

Three Floyds received the group well and gave them a full tour of the brewery

Todd Gee, part-owner of Handlebar, 2311 W. North Ave., a Wicker Park bar and restaurant that caters to bicyclists, also participated in the ride last year.

Gee serves Three Floyds' Alpha King Brew on tap at his bar. They even have a Friday special for it-\$3 pints.

"It's a good beer," Gee said. "It's made locally, and now that Bell's is no longer sold in Illinois,

it's kind of our one good, strong, local beer.'

The bike ride takes place as a part of Chicago's Bike Winter program. Though the 2007 ride will revisit the Three Floyds brewery, O'Rourke said they are not attached to that destination.

"There are numerous other breweries around, and I'm inter-ested in riding to all of them," O'Rourke said

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Won't cha be my neighborhood bar?

Humboldt Park bar zooms in on crime-scene photographer Weegee for inspiration

By Mark Byrne/A&E Editor

On a Tuesday night, five guys sat around a table playing euchre and drinking. They were laughing, but not loudly. A girl sat at the bar, reading a newspaper. The rest: Silent. Silent-film silent. The kind of silent where jazz plays in the background, but real smooth stuff, nothing crazy. And there was Alex Huebner, behind the bar, pouring drinks for his neighbors.

This is Weegee's Lounge, 3659 W. Armitage Ave., hidden on the corner of a desolate street in Humboldt Park, on a block where blinking blue lights keep an eye on the neighborhood. And so does Huebner and his wife Lynn Marrs from the large window of the bar they opened together on June 8.

But this bar has a twist: It was modeled after 1930s crime scene photographer Arthur Fellig, whose nickname was Weegee. Huebner studied photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and has a collection of Fellig prints, which hang above tables. A photo booth occupies a back corner of the room. It feels like a place straight out of the 1930s—a place where Arthur Fellig might have hung out.

"I hate to use the word 'theme,'" Huebner said. "Let's be full of shit and just call it a motif."

The motif, then, is a product of Huebner's beer selections and the decorations by Marrs, who studied architecture at the Art Institute

The single room that makes up Weegee's Lounge is stark, but according to Huebner, the details it boasts are key to the vibe. The tin ceiling is original, but it spent years hidden above low-slung tiles in the building's previous incarnation as a dive bar called Chris' Place. The room is dark around the edges but the lights that hang above the wood bar keep the patrons nicely lit.

As for drinks, the beer is all from smaller breweries. You won't see Miller anywhere on the extensive list; in fact, you wouldn't even find Guinness. The cocktails, too, are a throwback to the '30s, all lifted straight from oldfashioned cocktail menus. The boilermaker, for instance, is the original Indiana boilermaker: a shot of Makers Mark dropped into a mug of PBR.

Despite the beer list, however, Huebner said he's not trying to mimic bars like Sheffield's in Lakeview or Map Room in Bucktown, which both have hundreds of microbrew beers on tap.

"I'm not really a beer geek," Huebner said. "But I like good beer."

So he filled the taps with beers he likes, and put his focus on the cocktail list—with drinks like the boilermaker, sloe gin fizz and the Godfather.

Though this is his first time as an owner, Huebner has been in the bar business for 17 years, and it shows in the way he speaks of the community. He constantly namedrops bars around Chicago, and refers to some by the first name of its owner. He's bartended everywhere from Sheffield's to Lincoln Park nightspot Raven's, and even Berlin, a predominantly gay club in Lakeview.

"I can work any kind of crowd," Huebner said. "I worked a club in San Francisco doing hip-hop nights."

Huebner and his wife have

more than just a working interest in the Humboldt Park neighborhood—they've also lived there for the past four years. Huebner said it is still rough, though it's getting better.

"I still think it's a little early, in terms of the neighborhood changing, or getting better," Huebner said. "But we've also watched it get better. We're helping develop the neighborhood." "It's not gentrification," his

wife, Lynn Marrs, chimed in. "We don't want the neighborhood to turn into Wicker Park or Bucktown." The choice to feature Arthur Fellig was also fitting because of

Fellig was also fitting because of the state of the neighborhood. "The stuff he was shooting, I

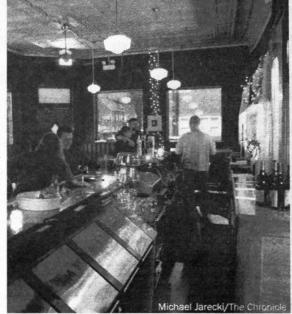
felt was very appropriate to the deeper themes of the neighborhood," Huebner said. "He was working in Manhattan in the '30s and '40s when it was an up-andcoming neighborhood."

Rod Slemmons, the Director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, said that Arthur Fellig's work was very important, though in an indirect way.

"He was kind of eccentric in his practice of being a journalistic photographer," Slemmons said. "Instead of pointing his camera at the action, he would turn 180 degrees and point it at the people reacting to what was going on."

Slemmons said that Fellig's work influenced some of America's most well-known photographers, like Lee Friedlander, Garry Winograd, Diane Arbus "and the whole New York School of photography." Huebner wanted Fellig's eccentricity to transfer into the aesthetic of the bar.

"It's a place where you can come in with friends and sit and



Alex Huebner, far right, chats with costumers at his bar, Weegee's Lounge, 3659 W. Armitage Ave.

have a conversation," Marrs said. "The music's not overwhelming, and you can get a great cocktail. There aren't TVs hypnotizing you in the corner. It's just a place you can go with friends and hang out. And that's what I look for in a bar."

Huebner doesn't intend to limit the prints on the wall to Fellig. In fact, in the future, he'd like to integrate the work of local photographers who work in the same mindset of Fellig's black-andwhite photojournalism. During the warmer months, he also intends to open a beer garden out back—another place for neighbors to kick back and drink a cold one.

From behind the bar, Huebner saw an older man pass by the window. Huebner smiled broadly, waved and yelled. "It's the judge!"

"He's a neighborhood guy," was the only description Huebner offered, but that's all that's needed. These are a bunch of neighbors. This is their neighborhood. And Weegee's Lounge, Huebner hopes, will be their neighborhood bar.

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Alex Huebner, framed in the mirror, mixes drinks at his bar, Weegee's Lounge, 3659 W. Armitage Ave. Weegee's Lounge is modeled after photographer Arthur Fellig, and features a photobooth in the back.

Drink today, no headache tomorrow? New energy pill claims to be "great for hangovers"

By Mary Kroeck/Assistant A&E Editor

supposed to be "great for hangovers.

skepticism.

nents of B vitamins, green tea, caffeine and

ginseng, among other supplements. It was

created by Acelera Nutrition, a Chicago-

based company. However, the effective-ness of the pill is being met with some

Even though the core components of Acelera are B vitamins, Marci Chapman,

chief operating officer of Acelera nutrition,

says it's the specific combination of various

"It's one thing to get a multivitamin," Chapman said. "This specifically targets what alcohol takes out ... It's also good as a

However, some are skeptical of the pill's

effectiveness. Dr. Susie Rockway of Rush

University said, based on the ingredients listed on the pill's website, she doesn't see it

being harmful toward anyone, but whether

or not it helps the symptoms of a hangover has yet to be determined.

"Typically companies get a lot of really cool ingredients and put them together," Rockway said. "It's all based on theory.

Whether it works for a hangover or not is

ruestionable." The fact that this product's target audience is Mexicans makes it different than others on

the market. "The Mexican culture favors herbal med-

ication because of the high price of health care in Mexico," Chapman said. Chapman also said because other compa-

nies are ignoring the Hispanic market, that is

In terms of the product being marketed

toward Mexicans, Rockway said she isn't

sure how much of a market there is for the

"Europe is much more [aware] of natural medicine," Rockway said. "I haven't heard

so much about a market for natural medicine

Rockway believes the most important way

their core audience.

product.

in Mexico."

nutrients that makes the pill effective.

daily natural energy supplement.

Just in time for the holiday party season, a participants and do a study to see if the pill actually helps them.

new energy pill is hitting the market. Not only is it full of vitamins and minerals to give a boost throughout the day, but it's also "As long as there's not too much of one ingredient or not enough of something else. you're guessing," Rockway said. "You don't really know. If you're going to blend these things, test them." This pill is an all-natural vitamin supplement called Acelera, which has compo-

In looking at a printed list of Acelera's ingredients, Ken Sidell, who has worked at Kramer's Health Foods store for 19 years. said someone could probably achieve the same effects of the pill by taking a B vitamin.

"The core [of the pill] is all B vitamins," Sidell said. "We've had a few hangover pills over the years. The core of all of them was B complex."

The reason behind this is what Chapman said—the pill tries to put back in the body what drinking takes out. However, Sidell also agreed with Rockway, saying that he doesn't know if the pill is that effective.

"A regular multivitamin would probably do the same thing," Sidell said. "If you take a B complex during the course of the evening you can avoid the effects of a hangover almost completely."

Sidell said although vitamins help with the symptoms of hangovers, they don't help with the effects of heavy drinking, and people can still feel nauseated. The main reason B vitamins can help, according to Sidell, is that the brain needs B vitamins to function properly. Alcohol washes out some of that vitamin and can cause impairments.

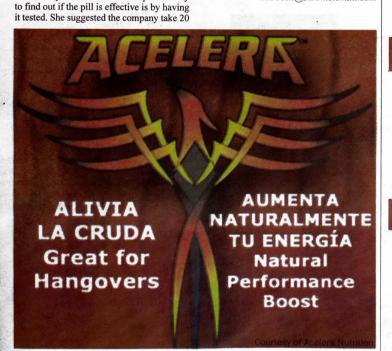
Rockway suggested a few other methods to ease the effects of alcohol, the best being to avoid heavy drinking and the second best being to drink two glasses of water between drinks.

Other traditional remedies like drinking milk and taking aspirin also decrease the symptoms of a hangover, according to Rockway.

Acelera is currently sold only online and by phone. There are a few sampling parties taking place in Chicago over the next few weeks, including one at Club Babalu on Dec. 16.

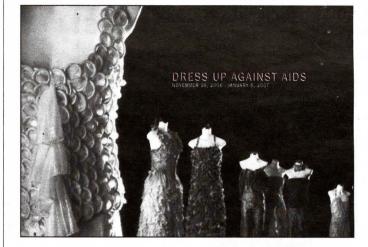
For more information, visit www.aceleraenergia.com.

mkroeck@chroniclemail.com



A new energy supplement, Acelera, hit the market a few weeks ago. The company claims the pill helps relieve the symptoms of a hangover by replenishing the body with the nutrients alcohol removes





GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY, 1104 S WABASH AVENUE

DRESS UP AGAINST AIDS, NOVEMBER 16, 2006-JANUARY 5, 2007 WORLD AIDS DAY RECEPTION: DECEMBER 1, 4:30-6PM

This week!

[C]Spaces is proud to present the work of Brazilian artist Adriana Bertini and her exhibition Dress Up Against Aids. Bertini uses thousands of condoms per garment to create beautiful evening dresses in an effort to promote HIV prevention. "My idea is to promote condom use not as a commercial fashion but as a conceptual fashion," says Bertini. The artist's use of the condom in a repetitive manner evokes Bertini's belief that if condoms become more commonly seen objects, people will be more likely to use them.

In 1994 the artist worked with HIV positive children as a volunteer for an AIDS prevention group. Over 10 years she has researched and executed several processes to work with this unque form of latex. Her years of commitment in AIDS prevention evolved within her background in fashion and ultimately led to the inception of this project in 1997. Since then, her work has been exhibited in the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Toronto and Bangkok. The showing at Columbia College is the national premiere of the collection.

C33 GALLERY, 33 E CONGRESS AVENUE Hours: 9 am - 7 pm Monday - Thursday and 9 am

WORKING FRAMEWORKS, November 17, 2006 - January 5, 2007

[C]Spaces is pleased to present the third and final installment of the traveling exhibition Working Frameworks in the C33 Gallery and the Conaway Center. Exhibition Coordinator Saul Appelbaum describes the exhibition as "a cross-disciplinary/cross-institutional/tri-state art network. Working Frameworks is a space-specific exhibition demonstrating the alignments and displacements, oth allegorical and material, occurring when an object of art moves from one locale to another." Originating at Cornell University in New York, moving to the Knowland School of Architecture in Ohio and concluding at Columbia College Chicago, the exhibition feafures interactive and site-specific works by over 40 artists.

Working Frameworks features Mark Van Fleets Van Gallery, a family van converted into a mobile art gallery and the Control Room created by Gene A. Felice II and Nathan Ober. The Control Room is an interactive kiosk that displays the progression of the exhibition and posts the finds on www.workingframeworks.com.

HOKIN GALLERY, 623 S WABASH AVENUE Hours: 9 am - 7 pm Monday - Thursday and 9 am - 5 pm on Friday

PICTURING HOPE: THROUGH THEIR EYES, Photographs by Children Affected by HIV/AIDS This week!

- November 29, 2006 January 10, 2007 Reception: World AIDS Day, Friday, December 1, 2006, 7:30 9 PM Curated by Craig Bender, Founder, Picturing Hope

This exhibit of photographs, taken by children in Burkina Faso, India, Malawi, Romania and Tanzania, provides a close look at how the global AIDS epidemic is shaping everyday lives through children's eyes. The images are selected from Picturing Hope, a program that provides resources to children affected by AIDS to explore their feelings, strengthen their sense of self and find a voice through which to tell their stories. For more information on the program, please visit: www.picturinghope.com

HOKIN ANNEX, 623 S WABASH AVENUE

WA-POP! The Invasion of Japanese Pop Art, November 29, 2006 - January 17, 2007 Reception: Thursday, November 30, 5-7PM

This week!

Curated by Yusuke Tanaka, Art and Design Major, Columbia College Chicago

WA-POPI The Invasion of Japanese Pop Art presents Pop Art by Japanese artists who are actively working in the States and by the students of Columbia College Chicago. The exhibition title is a playful expression that asks among other things. "What pop?" This eyepopping and often delightfully irreverent exhibit offers provocative ideas that explore a genre of art that is perceived very differently in Japan than in the United States.

cspaces.colum.edu

You've written your last paper. You've atter last class. You've sat through your last lect It's time to rest.

But wait! Now that your life doesn't revolve around classes and homework, it's time to have some fun and see some live music. The Chronicle has compiled a list of six must-see concerts to attend over the winter break. With jazz, rock, pop, blues and Mexican-American styles represented in this list, there's something here for everyone. We've also included background information on the band or artist and incorporated some extra information about the venues hosting these noteworthy performances.

Imogen Heap at the Riviera Theatre, 4746 N. Racine Ave., Dec. 19



Few solo female artists of today match Heap's artsy approach to crafting songs layered with samples, ethereal melodies and thick bottom-end. This British singer/songwriter, formally of the band Frou Frou, is frequently compared to Annie Lennox, PJ Harvey and, most of all, Bjork. Live, Heap is a one-woman show, despite the constant button-pushing and gadget fidgeting required to maintain the rhythm while she sings. Like Bjork, Heap's fashion is as original and bizarre as her music-she blends a mid-80s look with something resembling a modern-day runway model. Heap, who doesn't make it to

the U.S. that often, is touring in support of *iMegaphone*. The album, which came out in 1998 and is her first, was re-released Nov. 14—but you can count on Heap's set to feature many songs from her latest release, the brilliant *Speak for Yourself*. This show begins at 7:30 p.m., costs \$21 and is just two days after classes officially end for the fall semester. Kid Beyond and Levi Weaver will also be playing. So, celebrate Christmas break in its infancy by seeing one of music's most original female performers at the Riviera Theatre, a club rich with history.

Built in 1917 by architects George and C.W. Rapp, the theater is one of the leading mid-sized concert halls in Chicago. Capacity for this venue is about 2500 and it features some fantastic architecture inside. High ceilings create carrying acoustics that rival the sound quality of most opera houses. The main floor is massive, but concert-goers who choose to watch their shows in peace are in luck: the Riviera Theatre has a large balcony on the second level and an elevated floor in the back of the first level. Behind the soundboard is a wrap-around bar which serves beer and cocktails. Despite serving alcohol, this venue is all-ages.

Los Lobos at the Aragon Ballroom, 1106 W. Lawrence Ave., Dec. 30



Los Lobos are living legends. Since forming in the early '70s in East L.A., this band has blended all of their influences into a sound echoed in numerous current American bands—namely Devotchka and Dave Matthews Band. Incorporating various styles of music into their original sound, including blues, rock, country and traditonal Mexican-style genres, has allowed them to gain a multitude of fans just as diverse as their music. Live, Los Lobos is the perfect stylistic assimilation of traditional Mexican music performance—music that is participatory, intimate and hard not to dance to—combined with the

attitude of a southern bar band. Thirty years after forming, Los Lobos has perfected their live act. This show starts at 7 p.m., and costs \$30. Come celebrate the day before New Year's Eve by seeing this brilliant band at the Aragon Ballroom, one of Chicago's best concert halls.

Built in 1926 by Andrew and William Karzas, this club was one of the city's most popular hangouts when swing and jazz music swept the nation, and was once one of the best-known dance halls in America. The elegant interior is a little worn, but the venue's deterioration only adds to its mystique. Dancing on the shiny wooden floor feels like jumping on a thousand tiny trampolines, as the club has retained its spring-like feel since its dance hall days. The sound system can be blisteringly loud, especially when the venue hosts loud metal acts or salsa groups.

Russian Circles at the Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave., Dec. 31



After releasing their debut album, Enter, earlier this year, Russian Circles have established themselves as a leading local act, generating a massive amount of industry buzz and critical praise. Their music is a cross between loose progressive and dense atmospheric; think Dream Theater meets Tool, but without vocals. Live, Russian Circles is intense, energetic, loud and sonically enveloping. This local act may be instrumental, but that doesn't mean they're inaccessible to the general rock fan who typically prefers something to sing along to. Join post-rock/instrumental band Russian Circles for a

New Year's Eve bash at the Beat Kitchen. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Maps and Atlases, comprised of Columbia students, and Teith are opening. This show is 21 and over and begins at 8 p.m.

Beat Kitchen is a smaller venue, so get there early. But despite its modest size, the Beat Kitchen is one of the premiere spots to see a show in Chicago. It hosts a wide variety of concerts from bands of all different genres—but you wouldn't think so looking at the hall. Dark and dirty, it seems like a place gutter punks would hang out. But the club's friendly staff makes the Beat Kitchen a warm and welcoming venue to see a show in. The bar features over 40 beers on tap, and the food is reasonably priced. The dining area and bar are in a different room from the stage, so the majority of the shows at the Beat Kitchen are all ages.

Gregg Allman and Friends at the House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn Ave., Jan. 13



Much of the current progressive rock heard today incorporates elements of improvisation with a folk/blues mix, and that can be attributed to what Gregg Allman has accomplished in his 37 years as a professional musician. As a founding member and songwriter for The Allman Brothers, one of America's most influential blues bands, Allman is a true living legend. Though many Allman Brothers albums are known for their slick and simplistic production, the brilliance of their music can only be experienced in a live setting. Songs regularly turn into drawnout jams with Coltrane-esque solos and climaxing

crescendos. And though his brother and co-band member Duane Allman was killed tragically in 1971, Allman is keeping the music alive as he tours regularly with solo artists like guitarist Robben Ford and drummer Steve Potts. The concert starts at 9 p.m. and is \$36.50 through Ticketmaster.

Despite being a little expensive, the House of Blues is a great place to hang even if you're not seeing a concert. It hosts a wide variety of acts, including soul, rap, funk and rock and has a restaurant and bar. The staff is incredibly friendly, and most of the food is southern-fried cuisine. On Sundays, the House of Blues hosts a gospel brunch, where food is served to gospel music. A gift shop up front sells T-shirts, shot glasses and other House of Blues merchandise.

Office at Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Jan 15.



Office could be the best local act you've never heard of. The brainchild of musician and artist Scott Masson, Office combines danceable grooves with geeky, Weezerinspired lyrics and an approach to songwriting that echoes greats like Buddy Holly and Elvis Costello. A residence at Schubas in May of 2006 generated a massive amount of buzz for the band, and the group inked a deal with New Line Records. The band's last album, 2005's Q&A, also stirred up a lot of talk in the music industry, Living up to an office motif, the band dresses in suits when playing live. Their show is energetic, engaging and

shouldn't be missed. This concert starts at 9 p.m., costs \$15 at the door and is 18 and over. Also playing are Mucca Pazza, The God Damn Doo Wop Band and Tigercity. Like the Beat Kitchen, Schubas is a smaller venue, but what it lacks in size it makes

Located in Lakeview, the building was erected in 1903, and was built as a part of the Schlitz Brewery project, which built everything from corner taps to hotels in the first part of the 19th century. The venue was renovated in 1997, and a full-service kitchen was added, serving traditional American food. Schubas also has a full bar.

Von Freeman at New Apartment Lounge, 504 E. 75th St., Jan 19.



In a city rich with jazz history, Von Freeman is one of the few who's seen and played it all. Starting his career in the early '40s, Freeman, who plays tenor saxophone, has close to 20 studio albums and has played with everyone from Charlie Parker to Dizzy Gillespie, to modern-day jazz singers like Kurt Elling. Freeman is the father of jazz great Chico Freeman, also a tenor saxophonist. Even though growing up in the 30s he was taught a more traditional approach to jazz, Freeman's style has evolved to incorporate styles of free jazz and avant-garde. Freeman plays every Tuesday night at New Apartment Lounge, and the

show is free. His performance usually starts after 10 p.m., and has been known to carry long into the night.

Many people travel up north to see good jazz at clubs like the Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway St., or Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd., but few North siders know about this club located in Chicago's South Side. This venue has a full bar that is decorated by many Christmas lights this time of year. And although it doesn't host many shows besides Freeman's Tuesday performance, amateurs are often invited onstage to display their chops.

Story by Brent Steven White

Photography by Michael Jarecki and Mauricio Rubio Graphics by Joshua Covarrubias

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Imogen Heap

Riviera Theater 4746 N. Racine Ave.

Los Lobos

Aragon Ballroom 1106 W. Lawrence Ave.

Russian Circles

Beat Kitchen 2100 W. Belmont Ave.

shows 19

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Gregg Allman & Friends House of Blues

House of Blues 329 N. Dearborn Ave.

Office

Schubas 3159 N. Southport Ave.

Von Freeman New Apartment

504 E. 75th St.

See you at the show.

1000 -

January

January

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The biggest jackasses of 2k6

The Chronicle combines its passions—Jackasses and Top 5 lists—for a look back on the people that made 2006 a pain in the rear

By Hunter Clauss/Editor-in-Cheif & Tiffany Breyne/Managing Editor

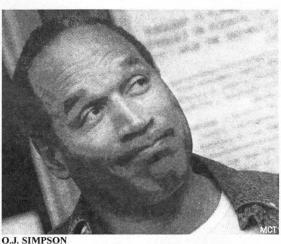
From celebrity mishaps and gossip to political scandals, 2006 saw an abundance of Jackass moments that made headlines across the nation. Now, despite the neverending list of stupid famous people, we at The Chronicle have narrowed it down to the Top 5 Jackasses of the Year. Though the level of idiocy is subjective, there is no uncertainty that these people belong on the list.

MEL GIBSON

Just when it seemed like



maybe Mel Gibson wasn't an anti-Semite, he had to get drunk and pull a Mad Max on a cop. In a drunken tirade, Gibson blamed Jews for basically every problem in the world including his arrest by a Los Angeles county deputy sheriff. But did everyone forget *The Passion of Chris?* Wasn't it obvious that the *Lethal Weapon* star pretty much blamed Jews for the death of J.C.? Good thing *Passion* raked in all that dough because Gibson's remarks are going to cost him when it comes to his new movie, *Apocalypto*.



For those Americans who have been living under a big pile of ignorance for a few years, former NFL star O.J. Simpson is no longer known only for his athleticism, but also for facing murder charges in the deaths of his ex-wife Nicole Brown-Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Simpson also marred the image of white Broncos everywhere by evading arrest and leading cops in a car chase throughout the Los Angeles area. Because, of course, if you drive long enough, the cops will just give up—especially when you're wanted for murder.

Luckily, many people were able to forget about that train wreck of a human being after far too much media coverage. But for some reason, Simpson felt the need to bring his idiotic behavior back into the public eye with an even more idiotic book, *If I Did It*, detailing that if he had committed the murders, this is how he would have done it. How convenient! Since we were all so disappointed about

How convenient! Since we were all so disappointed about Simpson's innocence, we could finally figure out just how the man would have done it! And even better, Simpson set up an interview with Fox to discuss the book and his hypothetical murder story. Eventually, due to bad media coverage and overall lack of respect for the victims' families, the book and the interview were kicked to the curb. And so was O.J. "Jackass" Simpson.





THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Riding the CTA is like riding a magical, dilapidated amusement ride around the city. However, unlike Mr. Toad's Wild Ride, commuters can hobnob with puking frat guys, restless home-less people carrying 20 different plastic bags filled with newspapers, clueless tourists and moms pushing monstrous double strollers. And with the CTA having just passed a fare hike at the beginning of the year, pumping it up from \$1.75 to \$2, another increase looms on the horizon as the CTA attempts to balance its budget. Too bad the agency is looking to spend \$1 billion on the Circle Line, or Circle Jerk, which will connect all of the Metra and CTA lines. It's nice to know the CTA is looking for new ways to blow its wad on the North Side when the South Side apparently ends at the 95th and Dan Ryan Red Line stop.

But the CTA can make good on two things: getting you where you need to go and getting you there late.



Republican congressman Mark Foley's pale, sweaty fingers can't help themselves when it comes to instant messaging young pages. The story of Foley's late-night messages broke only weeks before the mid-term elections, and in one conversation the Sunshine State representative asks his "favorite young stud" as to whether or not he recently received a hand job, then goes off on masturbation techniques. Yeah, who wouldn't want to flirt with some creepy right-wing politician? However, not to knock on the page, but the kid actually admitted he had a fetish for people wearing casts. It's hard to tell if the kid's joking and trying to creep out Foley or if he's serious. But the whole incident is just another reason Florida is one of the trashiest states in the union.

Kim Jong-il

MCT

Whatever happened to 'give peace a chance'? Maybe North Korea didn't get enough hugs as a child, but we're thinking the country is dealing with some complex personal and psychological issues. It's hard to

believe that people who resort to—oh, we don't know, nuclear weapons—are all too sane in the membrane. When the country tried out a test bomb on Oct. 9 of this year it sent a shock and a message to the rest of the world—don't mess with the N.K. Though North Korea hasn't since made any threats of nuclear action nor done anything too irrational, it still won't cooperate in terms of keeping regulations on their armed power.

Basically, dealing with the country and its nuclear capabilities is like dealing with an abnormally large and strong five year old pointing a gun at a person's face. There's no easy way to reason with it, and one wrong move could mean the end to, well, civilization.

In response, the U.S. and other countries have a similarly idiotic solution: withhold all imported luxuries such as cognac, iPods and plasma TVs from North Korean leader Kim Jong-il. Right, a good way to stop nuclear warfare is by denying a crazy man his iPod. That's not how you tame a jackass or his country. Instead, The Chronicle wants to say to North Korea: Get rid of the nuclear bomb; let's go grab an ice cream and then we'll have an Eskimo kiss session.

eam and then we'll have an Eskimo kiss se Now that's how you tame a jackass.

mail: Not just for deflecting swords

Chicago artist breathes new life into ancient armor

By Steve Baltrukonis/Copy Editor

Old-fashioned armor has gotten a new twist at the Razor's Edge Boutique, 4308 N. Lincoln Ave. Pendants, belts, bracelets and even scale models of tourist attractions that have been handmade from tiny, interlocking metal rings, known as chain mail, are just a small selection of the

items being displayed. Razor's Edge spotlights a new artist every month, said Kurt Okimoto, owner of the three-month-old gallery. This month, Okimoto chose to feature the art

of Rebeca Mojica, founder of Blue Buddha Boutique.

Mojica, a self-taught chain mail artisan, launched Blue Buddha Boutique in February 2003 as a diverse line of chain mail products. Her work is sold in cities from San Francisco to Buffalo, and she's even sold pieces to customers as far away as Sweden and Bulgaria.

"I picked up my pliers in May 2002 " Mojica said. She first became interested in the art form while living in Germany after

Courte

Rebecca Mojica, founder of Blue Buddha Boutique, uses chain mail to create jewelry and art

graduating from Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

"It was in Bielefeld at a Renaissance Fair which, as a side note, was incredibly cool," Mojica said. "It took place at a 17th-century fort which was right down the block from my house. There was a bunch of goths walking around. A gaggle of goths, if you will. A couple of them had on these really awesome chain mail belts."

Inspired by the sight, she searched the fair for similar belts, but came up empty-handed. After taking her search to the Internet and finding a kit on eBay, she created a chain-mail belt. She was hooked. Beginning that day in May, she claims to have chain mailed every day for two years.

It's more than just hooking one ring to another, said Kat Ramsland, a former student of Mojica's and a Lillstreet Art Center employee.

"The thing about Rebecca is that she knows just about every different technique that's out there for chain mail," Ramsland said, "from Japanese chain mail to Persian chain mail."

When I started there were 200 chain mail weaves, and now there are about 600," Mojica said. Weave is the term for the different ways mail is chained together. classifies MailArtisans.org weaves into five different fami-



These pieces of chain mail were made by Rebecca Mojica

lies, including Japanese and European. Mojica first noticed the growth in popularity of chain mail jewelry immediately after the release of the Lord of the *Rings* films, when it started expanding beyond the Society for Creative Anachronism crowd.

"Those are the people that make their own chain mail and battle one another [for recre-ation]," Mojica said. She said that in the past few

years, there's been a growth in types of weave. "Now the jewelry aspect of it

and other applications are really exploding," Mojica said. "A few years ago, if you would've gone to a craft fair, maybe you would've seen one piece of chain mail someone was selling. And

now I'm seeing more and more people selling it, more people buying it. It's just exploding." Mojica said Japanese weaves

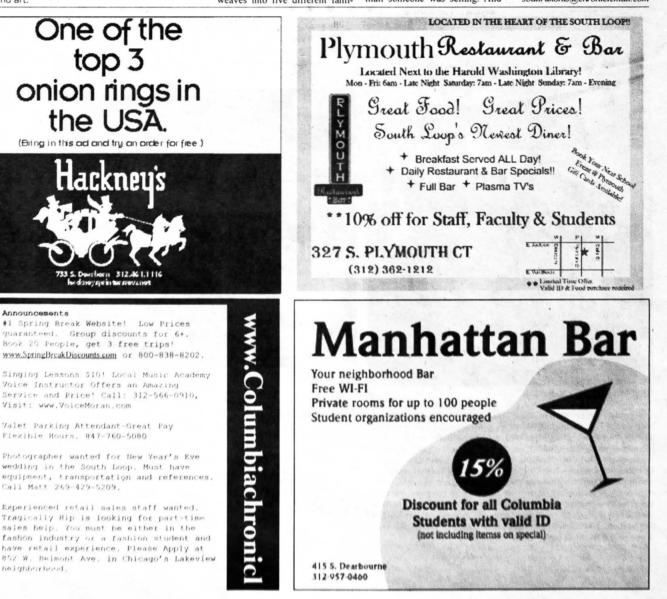
are her favorite.

"You can make triangles, squares, hexagons. All sorts of cool stuff you can expand out three dimensionally," she said.

Recently, Mojica was asked to participate in the Winter Delights festival in January at the Chicago Department of Tourism. To display something Chicago-themed, she's working on a Japaneseweave scale model of the Sears Tower

"It'll be about 10 inches tall, about 6,000 rings and many hours of work," she said.

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Announcements

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Reviews

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18 Singles





•••• ***Day Break** *ABC*



No Hearts Airport Security





Listen, Nylon makes me want a diamond grill. And an oversized velvet jacket. And a bright sequin dress. And some platforms. And Nike high tops. And thermal underwear with pom-poms on it. And to major in graphic design. They must be doing something right. —C. Mahmeister

This show is like a murder mystery version of Groundhog Day. Taye Diggs gives his character a compassionate personality, intelligence and a strong will to discover the truth behind a murder. If someone thinks they've had a bad day, after watching this show it's easy to realize it could always be worse. —M. Kroeck

I used to love flying—not anymore. The worst is taking my shoes off to go through the security checkpoint at O'Hare. I keep envisioning all the diseases that could be passed through my socks; I especially like the nice touch of my socks getting soaked from the snow fellow travelers tracked in the airport. —*K. Haburn*



The Decemberists

The Crane Wife

d Stop Smiling Issue 28

STOPSMILING

• • • • The Holiday Directed by Nancy Mevers



Dr. McGillicuddy's Peppermint Schnapps



Maybe the Decemberists should focus less on their green-screen rivalry with Stephen Colbert and more on making a record that doesn't suck as much as *The Crane Wife*. Their other albums are great, and frontman Colin Meloy is a fantastic storytelling songwriter, but they dropped the ball on this one. —*S. Yaccino*

This interview-only issue features 20 Q&A's with a scatterbrained list of musical, literary and cultural icons. Some of the issue's best are the ones with Tom Waits, Cat Power, RZA and 'new journalist' Gay Talese. It did, however, lack in organization with the interviewees, and that did take away from any consistent theme it might have had. —J. H. Ewert Jr.

Cheesy love scenes plus attractive people plus corny jokes minus quality acting skills equals a typical romantic comedy for the masses. Cameron Diaz is a charming mess, Kate Winslet is a classy dame, Jack Black is somewhat serious for once and Jude Law is quite cute. Recommended to anyone looking for brainless enter-

tainment. —T. Breyne This is one doctor I don't mind visiting every day. The smooth minty-ness of this refreshing beverage can be enjoyed on the rocks or mixed in with a nice hot chocolate. Winter has officially begun once this baby is opened up, and though it cools my throat it warms my heart and soul.

-T. Breyne

th Original Soundtrack



Best American Comics '06. Harvey Pekar and



Thank You for Smoking DVD, Directed by Jason Reitman



CTA Holiday Train



Listen to this album on a cold December day 'cause it's smokin' hot. Eddie Murphy, Jamie Foxx, Beyonce Knowles and Jennifer Hudson, along with other stellar vocalists, make this music come alive. One caveat: a couple songs get dangerously close to cheesy. —J. Fischer

Featuring the work of Chris Ware, Robert Crumb, Lynda Barry, Jaime Hernandez and many more, this inaugural collection captures the crème of the crop of comic books that continue to push the boundaries of the medium. It's an excellent gift for any shameless comic nerd fed up with the superhero genre. —H. Clauss

Though it could be slightly more provocative concerning the subject matter, this film does bring up a few good points. Obviously, don't rent it for a deep and considerate documentary on the process of lobbying and history of tobacco rather, do so because it because it's an entertaining movie. — M. Byrne

Deck your commute with boughs of holly. The CTA pulls out all the stops with this festive train. Lights, music, elves and candy canes bring smiles to even the weariest faces when it pulls into the station. Though a bit creepy initially, it melts the heart of any scrooge. -J. Fischer

Premium Blend The Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

If Jim DeRogatis, the snarky, snide and hard-to-please pop-music critic for the Chicago Sun-Times digs your band, you're already a success.

Blending warm, rich melodies with clever lyrics and a do-it-yourself attitude unmatched by most Chicago indie acts, the Scotland Yard Gospel Choir epitomize musical accessibly. Enjoying accolades from the critics while echoing such greats as Belle and Sebastian, Camera Obscura and The Smiths, this band, which underwent a lineup change earlier this year, enjoys admiration in nearly every indie in-crowd circle.

But things haven't always been so bright. The group's main songwriter, Elia Einhorn, trudged through years of substance abuse in his late teens. However, Einhorn, who was born in Wales, cleaned up to form the Scotland Yard Gospel Choir and record 2003's *I Bet You Say That to All the Boys*, an album hailed by critics around the country. Einhorn has also seen his band's music featured on "The O.C." and in Chicago's legendary Second City.

On the eve of his 27th birthday, which he planned to celebrate early with some friends by seeing *This is Spinal Tap* at the Musicbox, The Chronicle and Einhorn discussed the band's next record, the Chicago scene and what he wants people to get from his music.

The Chronicle: Are you excited or nervous about turning 27?

Einhorn: Excited. I'm definitely doing better these days than I have for most of my life. I'm on my own and away from the fucked-up family stuff from when I was a kid. I have a good job that lets me tour, a great band and a great girlfriend. It's a blessing. Being born in Wales and living in the U.S., what do you see as being the major differences between the two countries?

There are too many to list. For me, Chicago is a very urban city. There are more shows than you can go to, more bands than you can keep up with and probably 5,000 coffee shops and clubs. In Wales, where I'm from, it's a tiny village, about 1,200 people. You can hear the cows from my bedroom window.

As you mentioned, there are a lot of Chicago bands. How do you fit into the scene?

That's a good question. Our first album topped a lot of charts here and was on a lot of "Best Of" lists. That was a nice feeling to be accepted by the community that I've followed as a little kid. Now, we have a lot of people bugging us for a new record, which is almost done and should come out next year. We're just looking for a label [to release it on].

What do you want people to get from your music?

Two things: that the world is full of hopelessness and the world is full of hope—and also that there are other people who have felt like you're feeling and have gotten through it. Music has always saved me, whether it's Morrissey lyrics or Woody Guthrie reminding me what life is all about.

The Scotland Yard Gospel Choir are looking to release their new, self-titled album in 2007. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/scotlandyardgospelchoir.

The Scotland Yard Gospel Choir



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'Project Runway' mentor living it up

Television host Tim Gunn redesigning his life

By Jackie White/MCT

The answer to one question sealed the deal for Tim Gunn to join Bravo's "Project Runway" as mentor to the aspiring designers.

"Can you make a wedding dress in two days?" the producers asked him.

Gunn, the chairman of the Department of Fashion Design at New York's Parsons New School of Design. is long accustomed to pushing students

through deadlines. He shrugged and said, "Well, sure."

'You're the only person who has said s," replied the surprised TV producves. ers, who were looking for a consultant.

More than two years later, thanks to the walloping success of the reality show, Gunn is a high-profile personality with major celebrity status.

Last month he drew an admiring crowd estimated at 350 people to Macy's Leawood, Kan., store in an appearance with Angela Keslar, a designer from the recent "Runway" season. Macy's was a show sponsor, and Keslar created the winning design that was incorporated in its I.N.C. line.

Gunn is a gentle, soft-spoken man with graying hair, a stereotypical professorial look and a weakness for Banana Republic clothes. At 53, he appeared in People magazine's "Sexiest 100 Men Alive" issue along with George Clooney, Bill Clinton and Harrison Ford.

"I'm having the time of my life," he said. "And it all happened to me after I was 50."

Every season the television show brings together a group of upstart designers. Each has a clear personal aesthetic and distinctive, quirky personality. Each week the group is given specific challenges. For example: create an outfit with materials from a grocery store; dress a dog; design new postal uniforms.

Throughout each exercise, Gunn is their teacher, hand-holder, counselor and timekeeper. He tends to jump-start on," "I am concerned" or "Make it work."

At season's end, four contenders create collections that are sent down the runway during New York Fashion Week. One person is named the overall winner and gets a mentorship and money to start their own line.

Certainly a high point in the show's history came in the first season when it won an Emmy.

"We felt so validated," Gunn said. "It was a non-network show. And we won.

Judges include the host, model Heidi Klum, Elle magazine's Nina Garcia and designer Michael Kors. Guest judges have included Kate Spade, Fashion Week executive Fern Mallis and Teri Agins, a Wall Street Journal fashion writer.

Gunn has no interaction with judges and doesn't hesitate to voice his thoughts when he disagrees.

"I say hello and goodbye," he said. "And then at times I want to run up to them and shout and scream, 'Are you crazy?" he told the Macy's audience at Leawood's Town Center Plaza

He was, for instance, stunned when, in Season 2, Chloe Dao won out over the more creative Daniel Vosovic, As Gunn tells it, after a long session of deliberation, Garcia suddenly launched into a glowing pitch for Dao, and the judges shifted gears.

The judges' comments are decidedly harsh, and the more complimentary observations are usually edited out. But is enjoying his fame.

Gunn is the quiet, kindly voice helping contestants polish their visions and pump their egos.

Sometimes the designers rebel like teenagers who don't want to listen to their parents.

"There was a time when I was very rude to him," Keslar said. "I felt terri-ble." He assures her it was a healthy emotional outbreak.

"We are a family," he said to Keslar. "It is much better to get out the anger than let it fester."

His ability to critique in a non-combative way, he says, comes from long years of teaching. It did not come from his own upbringing in Washington, D.C., which he describes as terrible.

"I had a miserable childhood. It took years of psychiatry to get past it." Unhappy with himself, he said, he withdrew, played the piano, wrote poetry and didn't come into his own until he discovered art.

He studied at Yale and entered the art world at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington. At one point he designed architectural models for four years.

He moved to New York and Parsons to become associate dean 23 years ago. The move was difficult, he said. He was overwhelmed by the contrasts of the polite, civilized Washington with the raw, rough-edged New York.

In 2000 he was named chair of fashion design and is credited with raising the quality and profile of the school. The award-winning design team of Proenza Schouler brought acclaim to the school when, as students, they designed such a successful collection that Barney's, the

upscale New York retailer, purchased it. Gunn's "Runway" experience has been transforming. Always shy and hesitant even in his early teaching days, he said his role on the television show has changed how he feels about himself. He has gained confidence and a better sense of himself. As for the future of American fashion.

observing from his unique view in the classroom and on the show, Gunn said he is optimistic. "I have never seen more opportuni-

ties," he said.



Tim Gunn, the host of 'Project Runway,'

Pageant of the Christ

Latest biblical drama neither offensive nor moving

By Matt Fagerholm/Film Critic

Nearly three years after Mel Gibson's Passion of the Christ graced movie screens in all its bloody, controversial glory, director Catherine Hardwicke has crafted a suitable prequel just in time for the holidays. If Passion was an uncompromisingly brutal expression of personal faith, The Nativity Story plays more like a well-mannered dictation. Yes, the tale of Christ's birth is far more pleasant than the one about his death, and Hardwicke wisely avoids Gibson's 'fire and brim-stone' approach to biblical filmmaking by making the story more widely accessible, while emphasizing its more heartfelt and universal traits. The Nativity Story is a fairly impressive achievement to be sure, and while it will undoubtedly elate the choir it's preaching to, the film fails to achieve the greatness it was obviously aiming for.

Keisha Castle-Hughes embodies the adolescent Mary, who's not at all pleased with her arranged marriage to the much older Joseph, played by Oscar Isaac. Her virgin pregnancy proves a difficult story for her virgin pregnancy folks to swallow, but once the Angel Gabriel sets the record straight with Joseph, he joins Mary on a journey to Bethlehem slightly more perilous than the Bible describes. Other figures included in this cinematic canvas are King Herod, broodingly searching for the prophetic king he intends to destroy, three mildly wisecracking wise men and John the Baptist's mother Elizabeth—House of Sand and Fog's Shohreh Aghdashloo who shares a joyful moment with Mary straight out of the Good Book, as their unborn babies seemingly kick communicatively from inside the womb.

Like *Passion*, this film barely attempts to explain the plot, making its theological significance borderline meaningless to anyone unfamiliar with Christianity. What is perhaps most disap-

What is perhaps most disappointing about Nativity is the fact that its director and star have previously made two of the most riveting coming-of-age films about young women ever completed. Hardwicke's directorial debut was the startlingly raw Thirteen, charting a girl's descent into selfdestruction and emotional instability with documentary-style detail, while Hughes's spellbinding film debut fueled the elegant drama Whale Rider, about a Maori girl destined to become the first female leader of a patriarchal New Zealand tribe.

The collaboration of these two gifted women could have potentially made *The Nativity Story* a masterpiece. Instead, Hardwicke takes a sterile, plodding approach to the material, and despite Hughes's exceptionally understated nuances, her performance mostly comes off as stiflingly wooden.

The film has numerous strengths, not least of which Elliot Davis's exquisite de-saturated cinematography and the Italian locations—also used for *Passion*—which breathe authentic life into every frame. Hardwicke does allow small moments of levity and humanity to leak through, most notably in her inclusion of Mary's initial disdain for the husband forced upon her. Although *Nativity* never



Oscar Isaac plays Joseph in 'The Nativity Story.

babies,

panders to the intended family

audience and includes scenes

slaughtered cows, crucifixion and

even circumcision, the only nau-

Joseph's mud-caked feet. While

Hughes spends most of the movie simply looking distressed, Isaac's

sensitive and genuinely empa-

thetic portrayal makes Joseph emerge as the heart of the film.

Lovely re-enactment at best,

pageantry of zombie-like rever-

ence at worst, The Nativity Story

will exhilarate no one, and offend

even fewer. It lacks the awe-

struck joy of The Prince of Egypt,

the humanity of The Last Temptation of Christ and the gut-

wrenching passion of Gibson's

film. But it also is the first live-

action biblical film in awhile that

attempts to reach a wider audi-

ence, and Hardwicke should be

commended for taking on a proj-

ect of such epic scale and suc-

ceeding in making a film that

seating image on display

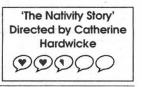
involving murdered

offers a warmer, more humanist view of Christianity in an age rampant with violent extremism.

Nativity will satisfy its target audience immensely and may work as a diverting portrait of the biblical story for others.

Toward the end of the film, when Gabriel appears to the shepherd and makes his immortal proclamation beginning with, "for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy," one yearns for Linus's rendition of the line from "A Charlie Brown Christmas." While this Gabriel delivered the words, Linus delivered their meaning.

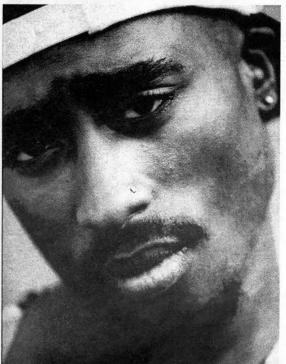
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King Herod, the ruler fearful of losing his thrown to an unborn child, is played by Ciaran Hinds in 'The Nativity Story.'

Another album from beyond the grave Posthumous 2Pac release features contributions from rap music's biggest names



Courtesy of Universal Mus

By Brent Steven White/Assistant A&E Editor

Since his violent and untimely death in September of 1996, 11 posthumous albums have been released under 2Pac's name twice as many as were released when the rapper was alive. At 25, just before his death, Tupac Shakur achieved more than most musicians achieve in a 50-year career. But a decade after his death, 2Pac's success is truly in a league of its own.

And his accomplishments continue to mount with another posthumous release, *Pac's Life*, which is a fairly decent, though non-cohesive, release featuring guest appearances by friends and fellow artists like Snoop Dogg, T.I., Ludacris and Bone Thugs 'N Harmony. Several producers also helped to create the record including LT Hutton, Sha Money XL and Swizz Beatz.

Although it's touching that this album was released to mark the 10th anniversary of Shakur's death, many of the songs are directionless, dull and saturated because of the varying contributions. The production on a remix of "Untouchable," for example, is weak and flat, which is unfortunate because Bone Thugs 'N Harmony deliver crushing lyrics and awesome harmonies in this song. "Playa Cardz Right," featuring singer Keyshia Cole, is another example of the blueprints of an unfinished song by 2Pac getting misinterpreted and misused by the people finishing it. On this track, 2Pac's customary approach to dense, highly prophetic lyrics is accented by Cole turning the song into a traditional R&B track. But "Playa Cardz Right" isn't a "Dear Mama," even though it's written to present itself in that way.

However, *Pac's Life* does have some quality songs. "Pac's Life Remix" features 2Pac rapping about being pissed off at censorship, while a thick, bouncing beat thumps hard. The song also includes contributions from Snoop Dogg, T.I. and Chris Starr, and could easily be a club hit. "Dumpin," featuring Hussein Fatal, Papoose and Carl Thomas is another solid song, and easily this album's best. Whatever attitude, emotion or feeling 2Pac was trying to convey when he recorded the lyrics is represented and pontificated upon in a wellconstructed and artistic manner. If 2Pac were alive today, it's likely that this is the kind of music we'd be hearing from him.

Shakur's posthumous accomplishments can largely be attributed to the work ethic he possessed when he was alive. It wasn't uncommon for him to be laying down.lyrics in two or three different studios simultaneously, which is amazing if you consider that he also filmed movies, made music videos and regularly performed live. After his death, the body of his recorded and unreleased work was left in the hands of his mother, former Black Panther Afeni Shakur, who has since over seen her son's music. And the impact of 2Pac's

And the impact of 2Pac's music on pop culture is both important and immeasurable. Even though his actions didn't often coincide with his message, we cannot deny or ignore his impact.

It's no wonder, then, that his peers constantly point to his music and message as a main influence and feel compelled to contribute to albums like this.

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Snoop Dogg, Ludacris and Bone Thugs 'N Harmony, among others, contribute to the new Tupac Shakur release.

Better than a Hallmark

Nonprofit creates original holiday cards By Mary Kroeck/Assistant A&E Editor

As many prepare for the onslaught of holiday cards, a few unsuspecting people may receive holiday cards that are more than just a friendly greeting.

Marwen, a Chicago nonprofit organization that helps underprivileged youth gain skills in the arts, is selling holiday cards designed by students to raise funds to keep the center running. The cards were made in one of the school's classes that gives students training in marketing and developing products for a client. Every year Marwen hires 10 students to create the holiday cards as part of an advanced entrepreneurship program. Most of the students are juniors and seniors in high school who have taken studio drawing and painting classes prior to being in the Holiday Card Program, said Isa Pressman, the assistant director of development for Marwen.

Pressman said the program, in its 11th year, is important because it helps bring in income for the school, which receives most of its funding from private donors. It also helps students refine their skills as artists and professionals.

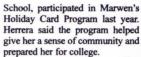
"The students learn how to apply their skills to a real-world job by creating the image, producing the product and selling the card," Pressman said.

There are 18 different card designs in the line and the cards are sold in packs of 12 of the same design. According to the program's teaching artist, Lisa Cinelli, the program has raised more than \$120, 000 for the nonprofit organization.

The cards can be purchased at Marwen, 833 N. Orleans St., or through the organization's website—www.marwen.org—as well as various stores around the city. The Shop at the Cultural Center of Chicago has been carrying the cards for at least the past seven years, according to Octavio Martinez, who works for the shop and helps teach the Retail Management practicum at Columbia.

"We like to support the cause because [Marwen] teaches art to underprivileged children and most of the cards are Chicago-themed, and we have a large selection of Chicago-themed Christmas cards," Martinez said.

Alejandra Herrera, an 18-yearold senior at John Hancock High



"I've been a part of art organizations before Marwen, but nothing compares to the community you have [with them],"Herrera said. "I did a lot of things with Marwen that I never thought I'd do."

Herrera said she learned a lot from the program and gained an understanding for what it takes to be an artist and a professional.

Cinelli has been teaching the program for the past four years and said every year each group of students comes in with different skill levels, but leave knowing they've improved.

"They're creating a product that's well respected and it's more than just making a painting," Cinelli said. "It goes farther than the walls of the studio ... They see the bigger picture and where their art can take them."

Cinelli also said the program helps students because, in order to get into it, they need to go through a series of interviews that determine whether or not they can participate. They have to demonstrate that they are willing to work for a client—Marwen—and have drawing and painting skills that are beneficial to the final product.

One of the main reasons for the program's success may lie in the marketing, according to Sherlene McCoy, assistant to the chair and department manager for Columbia's marketing program. McCoy thinks the cards might be popular because they are made by youth and are not the typical designs that many people buy. "People can feel good about the

"People can feel good about the purchase because you're getting something different," McCoy said. "I know when I buy cards I don't want to buy what I know everyone else is buying."

else is buying." McCoy said that in terms of fund raisers, the program is good because consumers know that what they're buying is supporting a charitable organization. She also said in purchasing the cards people feel like they are encouraging the students to be creative.

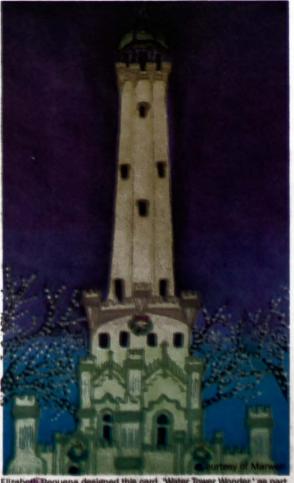
Former Holiday Card Program participant Elizabeth Requena is currently a senior at Whitney Young High School. She said the program improved her skills as an artist and made her think about the process of creating a piece differently.

"The card program was really fun," 18-year-old Requena said. "I made a lot of good friends who are committed to Marwen. It's very supportive there."

Requena also said that by being a part of the Holiday Card Program she was able to take trips to colleges. Through programs sponsored by Marwen, she visited schools in Boston and Rhode Island, which helped her make choices about where she would continue her education.

"It really helped me make decisions for college," Requena said. "I wasn't sure if I wanted to go to an art school or a regular university. Now I feel kind of prepared."

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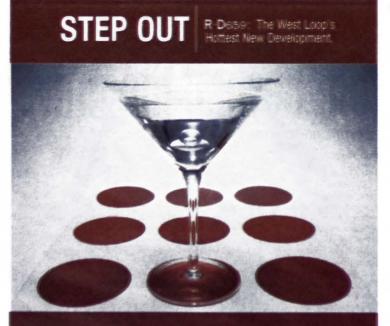


Elizabeth Requena designed this card, 'Water Tower Wonder,' as part of Marwan's Holiday Card Brogram last year

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Eighteen-year-old Alejandra Herrera created 'City Afternoon Fun' through Marwen's Holiday Card Program in 2005.



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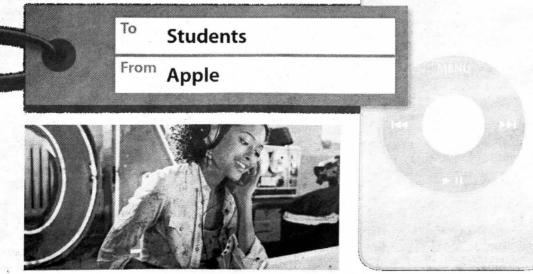
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Toby Keith in trouble Bar singer suing the country star for copyright infringment

By Cammy Clark /MCT

Folk singer Michael McCloud was strumming his guitar at Sloppy Joe's bar in Key West ,Fla, when he noticed his eclectic audience of spring breakers, tattooed bikers and lesbians in town for the Women in Paradise festival.

"Just about the moment I realized the strange soup of humanity was happening right before my eyes, a tour bus pulled up from Fort Lauderdale," McCloud recalled of that March day in 1988. "A bunch of geriatrics with walkers came in with their drink tickets."

Inspiration.

McCloud went into the men's bathroom and wrote "Tourist Town Bar."

The song was written for his own amusement. But now, nearly two decades later, the 60ish, chainsmoking performer is hoping the humorous ditty will provide for a nice retirement.

McCloud, who still sings for tips, is suing country superstar Toby Keith for copyright infringement, claiming striking similarities between his song and Keith's 2003 tune "I Love This Bar."

Keith's version became a No. 1 hit on country charts and lasted 20 weeks on the Hot 100 Airplay charts. It also was the first song on Keith's album, *Shock'n Y'All*, which rose to No. 1 on the country charts and sold 2.3 million copies in its first year. Calls to Keith's record company were answered by a secretary who said the company had no comment and referred calls to New York attorney Stuart Prager, who did not return any calls.

McCloud's attorney, Amy Quezon of the firm Wilkes & McHugh, said the primary issue is not the music, but the similarity of the two songs' lyrics.

McCloud's song begins: "We get bimbos and bozos and bikers and bozors/Daytime drunks and three-time losers/We get a room full of rednecks and fancy dressed fellas/And busloads of bluehairs and dirtbags and sailors."

Keith's song begins: "We got winners, we got losers/Chain smokers and boozers/And we got yuppies, we got bikers/We got thirsty hitchhikers."

Quezon said what makes the case "a slamdunk" to her is that Keith recorded the song in Key West, in Jimmy Buffet's Shrimp Boat Sound Studio, a stone's throw from the open-air Schooner Wharf Bar, where McCloud has played regularly for the past 12 years.

McCloud said Keith visited the Schooner Wharf Bar several times when he was playing.

"Yeah, Toby Keith was here," Schooner Wharf bartender Angus Cameron said. "Came in several times with his big old security dude that weighed like 400 pounds."

Cameron confirmed that Keith ate lunch at the bar several times during McCloud's afternoon gigs. Miami-based entertainment attorney David Bercuson, who has 20 years experience in music copyright law and is not involved in the case, listened to both songs and compared the lyrics at The Miami Herald's request.

His opinion: McCloud's lawsuit faces tough going. "The theme of the songs are

"The theme of the songs are comparable, the manner in which the theme is delivered are comparable, but every love song is sort of the same, too," Bercuson said. "You can't protect an idea. The notes aren't the same. The words aren't the same. It sounds like this guy Keith heard something, liked the idea and ran with it, giving it his own twist."

The suit was filed in federal court in Miami against Keith, his co-writer Scotty Emerick, his recording and distribution companies and Keith's own company, Tokeco.

McCloud says if Keith had asked him, he would have sold him the song for \$500.

"I really would have," he said. "Because the song was written on the toilet and it took me five minutes. Granted, the song has grown since then."

McCloud copyrighted "Tourist



A lawsuit has been filed against Toby Keith, a Grammy awardwinning artist, claiming copyright infringment.

Town Bar" in 1996 at the insistence of his wife. She told him someone on Duval Street was taking credit for his songs and he needed to protect himself. To save money, they combined 15 songs into a compilation in order to payjust one fee. The song is on *Gretastits*, one of his four self-promoted CDs.

On his website, Keith writes about how he came up with "I Love This Bar."

"I was sitting on the bus with co-writer Scotty Emerick one night after a show, and we had a little groove going on. We were just talking about all the characters you see in a bar and just started writing it. It didn't take very long. It just felt like a real good redneck sing-along song."

Bercuson said copyrightinfringement cases involving songs are common—and usually costly. But he said the government has made it easier for little-known song writers to battle big artists on major national labels because attorneys' fees can be included as damages. McCloud's attorneys are working on a contingency basis.

McCloud said he first heard about "I Love this Bar" from emails to his website. Some of his, fans, he said, were outraged that Keith had taken his song. Others congratulated him for having such a big star record his song.

McCloud said he went out and bought Keith's CD to hear the song. At first he didn't plan to do anything about it, then briefly looked into getting a lawyer, but decided it would be a waste of time and energy.

But when Quezon, who has been a fan of McCloud's for several years, approached him between sets at the Schooner Wharf, McCloud said he realized he wanted to make a stand.

"Even though that song is basically a piece of tripe, I nailed it," he said. "And it also is a matter of principle. I think Keith felt that an old gray-haired drunk wasn't going to do anything about it."

Chicago Symphony returns to airwaves

Deal made possible by \$3.4 million gift given by the petroleum company BP

After more than five years, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra announced Thursday, Nov. 30 it will return to the national radio airwaves early next year as part of a comprehensive new media agreement that includes the launch of a new in-house recording label for compact discs and digital downloads.

The agreement by the CSO Association, the Chicago Federation of Musicians and the WFMT Radio Network is made possible by a three-year, \$3.4 million gift from the petroleum company BP. Local and national broadcasts of in-concert performances by the CSO will resume in March as part of a 52-week series called the BP Chicago Symphony Orchestra Radio Broadcasts, pro-

2-

duced by WFMT-FM and syndicated by the WFMT network.

The series will comprise of 39 weekly programs, with interviews and special features augmenting the taped performances. The remaining 13 weeks of broadcasts will be commercial recordings by the CSO, which WFMT has been airing since 2001 as CSO Retrospectives.

CSO association president Deborah R. Card said Thursday the orchestra and its joint media committee decided they would not enter into any new media agreement that wasn't "all-inclusive."

"We did a lot of research with other orchestras that are either doing [recordings] on their own or in partnership with record companies like DG and Universal." she

By John von Rhein/MCT

said. "We decided we would have much greater control with a plan that allows us to manage the marketing, positioning, timing, all those things. Ultimately, I think the financial model works much better [for us]."

As another part of the agreement, early next year the CSO will join the San Francisco Symphony, the London Symphony and other orchestras that create their own live concert recordings and market them as commercial CDs and digital downloads.

The CSO will self-produce at least six new CD releases over the next three years under its own label, CSO Resound. All releases will be drawn from live recordings of CSO concerts. In addition, three to four digital-only releases will be issued each year. Partial funding comes from Boeing Co.

The initial release will be Mahler's Symphony No. 3, taped in concerts in October at Orchestra Hall under the direction of principal conductor Bernard Haitink. The live Mahler performance will be released in early 2007 as both a commercial recording and an audio file downloadable through the orchestra's website. www.cso.org, iTunes, www.ama-zon.com and other distribution channels. The CD also will be sold at traditional retail outlets, including the Symphony Store. Future

releases will be announced in mid-2007. p

In addition to contractual guidelines for radio broadcasts of CSO concerts, the agreement allows for simultaneous streaming on the Internet and sets terms for broadcasts of chamber music concerts and for creating self-produced CDs and digital downloads. It also includes provisions to create recordings for educational use in the Chicago public schools.

The new series represents the first new nationally syndicated radio programs by the CSO to be heard since 2001. It will be syndicated to more than 160 markets nationwide, according to Steve Robinson, senior vice president for WFMT and its radio network. He said he expects the number of stations to increase through 2007 as word reaches classical music outlets throughout the U.S.

Card said the CSO's renewed presence on radio and recordings, along with its expanded presence on the Internet, should significantly broaden the orchestra's local, national and international outreach.

"We feel the radio broadcasts can have a positive impact on our CDs and other recordings, drawing people to our website and, of course, bringing more people to our live concerts," she said. "We really want to extend the sound of the CSO and to engage more people as active participants" in what the orchestra does, she added.

The CSO is the second major classical organization in Chicago to reach a new electronic media agreement in recent months. In October, the Lyric Opera and its unions resumed local and national radio broadcasts on WFMT and via national syndication.

Also, downloads of the CSO's upcoming "Beyond the Score" series presentation of Bartok's "The Miraculous Mandarin," with conductor emeritus Pierre Boulez and host Gerard McBurney, will be made available free of charge on the orchestra's website beginning in January. The Bartok program will be given Sunday afternoon at Orchestra Hall and repeated Dec. 9 in New York's Carnegie Hall.

Part of the BP gift will support two European tours by the CSO, including one in fall 2007 to be conducted by Riccardo Muti. The petroleum company has contributed to the CSO's annual fund for more than 15 years and has supported CSO education and community initiatives since 2002. From 1976 until 2001, BP, once known as Standard Oil Co. of Indiana (later Amoco), underwrote the orchestra's local and national radio broadcasts.



Christoph von Dohnanyi conducts the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave.

Crossword ACROSS Junk e-mail Part of U.A.R. 9 Itemizes 14 Equestrian game 15 French mother 16 In a dominant position 17 Business 17 Business partner 19 Missouri river 20 Oxtord fastener 21 Third-party contract 22 Red ink 23 At any time 24 Chop off 27 "Kidnapped" auth. 27 "Kidnapped" auth. 28 Videotaping device 32 Glacial epoch 34 Be indisposed 35 Cotton bundle 36 Bird or Linville 37 Place 38 Streisand film 39 vera 12/11/06 © 2006 Tribune Me All rights reserved 39 __ vera 40 Derek and 40 Derek and Diddley 41 Joined in marriage 42 Appetizers 44 Org. with maps 45 Decade divs. 46 Walking stick 47 Baltic capital 49 Flynn and others 52 More vigorous 56 Bea Arthur sitcom 4 Bellowed like Solutions Bossy 5 Good-natured DES 6 Bounces back Comic Johnson 7 Comic Johnson 8 Busy insect 9 Free up 10 Engraved 11 Deneb or Vega 2 African nation 13 Pour out 18 Priesthood 21 Bad to the boost IIE 10 11 12 13 sitcom 57 Wretched 58 "King Solomon's 18 21 Bad to the bone 21 Bad to the bone 23 Send forth 24 Flowering shrub 25 Florida city 26 Evita or Juan 29 Sweet treat 30 Refashion 31 Card-game displaye MAD 59 Will of "The 59 Will of The Waltons" 60 Temperate 61 Feeling of apprehension 62 Disarrange 63 Pindar's output displays displays 33 Some three-digit numbers 34 Neighbor of Ger. 37 Sit for a shot 38 Test-pilot Chuck 40 Blue and Stiller 41 Deferments 43 Least colorful 44 Faces the day 52 In of 52 In ____ of 53 Footnote ditto 54 Model Macpherson 55 Cincinnati nine 57 Grand Casino letters DOWN 48 Crockett's Waterloo 1 Health resorts 2 Fancy schmancy 3 As well 49 Actress Samms 50 Drizzle 51 Ladder part

Sudoku By Michael Mepham

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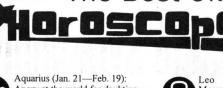
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk. Sudoku on Mobile Enter 783658.com in your mobile Web browser. Get a free game!

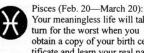
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Angry at the world for doubting your decision to major in poetry, you'll show them all by getting a teaching job at the university you graduated from.



Your meaningless life will take a turn for the worst when you obtain a copy of your birth cer-tificate and learn your real name is Osama bin Hitler.



Aries (March 21-April 20): Getting into a fight with a magician at the local bar will lead to unwanted attention. Not only will he strangle you as he pulls a never-ending handkerchief from his breast pocket, but he'll make your significant other disappear-in his pants.



are in the air for you. Gemini (May 22-June 21):

Your excruciating, agonizing death will appear much funnier to your friends than you thought it would. Luckily, you won't remember much of it, but they sure will.

Cancer (June 22—July 23): The sad thing about being out of grade school is that you don't get as much play from priests, substitute teachers, distant relatives, your older sibling's significant other, the neighbor's dog and clowns.

lan Holtquist, a 19-yearajor, was not only indled in the icy ooking stylishly 11

beanie under his e gave him a douof warmth and so tching gloves.

oke up," Holtquist on as many layers because I knew it to be cold out-

vn quilted jacket with slim-fitting ed behind a pair of ed brown sneak-

> ock for snug, goodclothes," Holtquist said."I buy girls' pants. I don't like things really baggy.

Leo (July 24—Aug. 23): Mermaids are heartless, tuna-smelling, blue-balling, sea-shell-bra-wearing skanks who will get their beardo mermen boyfriends to sink your ship with their gaudy tridents Plus they end do ard tridents. Plus, they only do oral.

Hunter

Claus

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 23): Remember that one time at the water park when Joey went down the tunnel slide and never came out on the other end? Yeah, that was great.



6

Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23): The possibility of getting hit by a bus on the way to work does count as a reason for waking up in the morning. So turn that frown upside down.



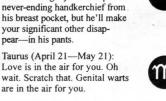
Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22): Cigarette holders only work for drag queens and Batman's portly enemy, the Penguin.



if I Don't.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23—Dec. 21): Your newfound fascination with Victorian-transgender-fisting porn will lead you to a life of suc-cess with the hit skin flick, Dandy

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): Instead of buying an expensive Kryptonite bike lock, just slap a sticker on your bike that says it's protected by one even though it totally isn't. Hey, if it worked for the Portfolio Center then why wouldn't it work for you?



City Beat December 11, 2006

Needing an Internet game fix

Alternative online world consuming gamers' lives

By Lisa Black/MCT

Doctors didn't believe Liz Woolley when she said her son was addicted to an Internet game in which players take on the roles of elves, ogres and trolls.

Sure, her son; Shawn, 21, was depressed, they said, telling Woolley that the 12-hour days of game playing, the social isolation and personality changes were a side effect rather than a cause of the Hudson, Wis., man's mental deterioration.

But five years after Shawn Woolley committed suicide at his keyboard, the medical profession is taking his mother's concerns more seriously.

Woolley's case was extreme, but the psychiatric profession is increasingly dealing with people who blame online role-playing games for lost jobs, failing grades, health problems and even divorce, counselors say.

Distressed family members blame fantasy games such as *EverQuest* and *World of Warcraft*, which differ from traditional video games because the player takes part in an ongoing drama with thousands of other players worldwide.

Manufacturers say the games aren't addictive, but experts say the games provide an alternative life in which people who don't feel they are successful in real life can become powerful as characters or plug into a world where they are welcome

The Internet games are just the latest in an evolution of online addictions that began with chat rooms, porn sites and gambling, experts say.

One study published in October in a neuropsychiatric journal, CNS Spectrums, found that nearly 6 percent of 2,513 adults reported that they felt their relationships suffered as a result of excessive Internet use.

"I get dozens of calls from parents," said Kimberly Young, a psychologist who opened the Center for Internet Addiction Recovery, in Bradford, Pa., in 1995. "It's the same story time and time again. Parents say, 'At first I thought it was a hobby and a phase, but he won't stop. He thinks it's fine to live in his bathrobe and play the game all day and not have any social contact." There's a whole subculture that supports that."

Many mental health professionals now agree that online gaming addictions exist, although little scientific research has been done. Internet addiction does not appear in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, a reference work that covers mental illness, compiled by the American Psychiatric Association. Instead, gaming addictions are usually categorized as a compulsive or behavioral disorder, experts said. Proctor Hospital in Peoria, Ill., routinely admits patients for residential treatment to overcome addiction to Internet games, said Coleen Moore, coordinator of resource development.

"This is very new," Moore said. "People are just getting educated and understanding how the Internet can be compulsive and can be an addiction."

In playing World of Warcraft, players choose a character that falls within races such as the undead, humans and trolls. They may be priests, warriors, shamans or other characters, each of which possesses certain skills and must meet challenges, such as slaying a certain type of monster, before they move up to new levels of skill.

Shawn Woolley wasn't able to find his way out of addiction, his mother said. He had lost his job at a pizza parlor and was evicted from his apartment before he shot himself in the head on Nov. 22, 2001, as he sat with the game on the screen in front of him, she said.

"We would take him to professionals, and they would tell us we're lucky he was not addicted to drugs or alcohol," said Woolley, whose son played *EverQuest*.

Gaming fans say any hobby, such as watching TV, can be abused.

"It's unfortunate that certain games or a genre get singled out," said Brad Witzel, 21. "I have never met a person who thinks



Melissa and Hudson Akridge of Hainesville, III. jump online to play 'World of Warcraft.' Hudson no longer clocks in 40 to 50 hours a week playing—as he once did—with his 'ninja mage' character.

this stuff is real, and if they do, there's a mental health problem."

The games' manufacturers said via e-mail that it is the responsibility of the individual player to monitor time spent playing the game.

"We feel that a person's day-today life should take precedence over any form of entertainment," wrote Paul Sams, chief operating officer of Blizzard Entertainment, the Irvine, Calif. maker of *World* of Warcraft.

Sony Online Entertainment, based in San Diego, issued a similar statement regarding its game, *EverQuest*.

Yet mental health professionals say the games are designed to encourage players to stay online, creating scenarios that entice them to keep playing to build their character's power, as well as offering no definitive conclusion to the game.

Some say gaming addicts exhibit some of the same signs as alcoholics. Proctor Hospital evaluates new clients by asking a series of questions, including, "Has there been an increased tolerance? How much time were you originally spending on gaming online versus today?"

ing online versus today?" Christopher Knippers, a psychologist for the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, Calif., said he has noticed that more of his patients arrive for substance abuse but are treated for online addictions, such as game-playing, as well. "You really define a behavior

"You really define a behavior or chemical as a problem in a person's life when it starts taking over some area of their functioning," he said. "These games do all of that."



City Beat December 11, 2006



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

The Great Lakes Naval Station Firing Detail proceeds in line outside Navy Pier during Chicago's Pearl Harbor 65th anniversary ceremony Dec. 7. The attack left more than 2,300 dead and 1,200 wounded. Of the dead, 118 were from Illinois, including 7 from Chicago.

Pearl Harbor: War stories to change when survivors are gone

Continued from Back Page

War II began.

Both a place and event, Pearl Harbor holds a spot in every American history textbook, but before long that could be the only place the story is told. Finnern, the secretary for the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, said the few who survived the attack are dying off at a rate of two a day.

To mark the 65th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Chicago held a memorial ceremony Dec. 7 at Navy Pier. Mayor Richard M. Daley was on hand to honor those who involved in the attack and the seven servicemen from Chicago who died during it.

"Let's thank the three-and-a half-million living American veterans of World War II, they have been called the greatest generation, and with good reason," Daley said at the ceremony. "They survived the great depression and fought in the greatest war in history and when they returned home, they basically built the greatest country."

Daley said Dec. 7 will forever be Pearl Harbor Day in Chicago and added that in order to make it easier for veterans to receive all the benefits they are entitled to, Chicago will create a veterans resource center. The center will combine all the veterans programs in Chicago.

"We have to show veterans how much they mean to us by holding more ceremonies like this one," Daley said. "I hope that every city in America, regardless of what size, would take out just a few minutes or a half hour or one hour to basically have a Pearl Harbor day ceremony."

Following Daley's speech, the dozen Pearl Harbor survivors on hand went outside to the pier's edge to drop a ceremonial wreath into Lake Michigan. With the sound of a 21-gun salute in the background, some survivors tried to put to rest a day that will always haunt them. Mitchell Skrzypek, 84, and a survivor of the attack, was on hand but watched the wreath laying ceremony from the windows inside. He said he is afraid that when all the survivors of Pearl Harbor die, the great extent of the attack will be forgotten. "[We're] trying to teach

"[We're] trying to teach younger people to honor and remember that date because time does heal, and if we do not appreciate the sacrifices, it could happen again," Skrzypek said.

Skrzypek served five years in the service and was a staff sergeant when the attack happened. He said people should remember the date for what it stands for in American history and that protecting the country should never be compromised.

Skrzypek, a west suburban Downers Grove resident, is among the few survivors from Illinois still living. Among those who died, 125 servicemen were from Illinois.

Finnern said the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association estimates that there are only about 5,600 left nationally, but to give an accurate figure is an impossibility.

He said the association keeps a file of about 3,000 people who have applied to join, but have been denied due to the stiff requirements.

association's The charter requires the applicant to have been a member of the armed forces on Dec. 7, 1941, they must have been on the island of Oahu, Hawaii or no more than 3 miles off shore, if discharged from the military it must have been an honorable discharge and the applicant must not and never be a member of the communist party or any other subversive organization which advocates the overthrow of the United States Government.

According to the 2000 Census, there are 217,908 World War II veterans left in Illinois and 86,646 of them live in Cook County. As the average age of veterans' increases and their numbers continue to drop exponentially, Finnern said it's important to always keep in mind what could happen if America lets its guard down.

James Kollenbroich, Ph.D.,

adjunct history professor at Columbia, said when all the World War II veterans and Pearl Harbor survivors do eventually die there will be a dramatic change in how the story is told.

"Walk through the parks of Chicago and see how many statues are dedicated to Civil War heroes and see how many names you recognize," Kollenbroich said. "There would have been ceremonies at those honoring them in the 19th century."

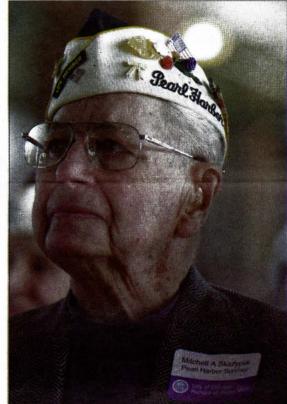
Although there will be changes in the next decade on how the history is taught, Kollenbroich said there are good things that could come of it.

"On a positive level you get rid of the mythology, as far the stuff that says this was all good and none of it was bad—that starts to disappear," he said. "You get a more equal treatment; people do tend to forget the negatives."

Finnern said when all the Pearl Harbor survivors are gone, the only thing he wants people to remember about the event is that there are grave consequences to a country that downsizes its military.

"There are a lot of people out there who would like a piece of our butt and would be happy about the country disarming," Finnern said.

jewert@chroniclemail.com



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

Mitchell Skrzypek, 84, a Pearl Harbor survivor, listens to speakers at Chicago's 65th anniversary ceremony at Navy Pier. Skrzypek was a Staff Sergeant in the Army and now lives in Downers Grove, III.



City Beat December 11, 2006

Urban Excursions: Hyde Park



By Jenifer K. Fischer Managing Editor

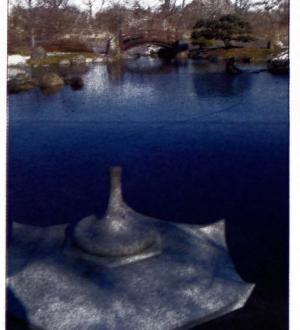
Heading about seven miles south of the Loop on Lake Shore Drive you get to a place where, if you close your eyes and imagine hard enough, you can almost hear the squeals of excitement and fascinated gasps of 1893 World Columbian Exposition attendees. When you open them again, you'll, find yourself amidst a patchwork of ornate old homes, late 20th century high-rise apartment buildings, one-of-a-kind shops and restaurants and strip malls.

Here you find the neighborhood of Hyde Park, the area between 51st Street and Midway Plaisance Boulevard, and Jackson Park, a 600-acre stretch of nature bordering Lake Michigan from the southern part of Hyde Park to 67th Street, where you'll find the Woodlawn neighborhood. This socioeconomic and ethnic melting pot offers plenty of charm yearround.

Jackson Park

For those interested in the time Chicago first hosted the World's Fair, this particular part of the city evokes a romantic sense of days gone by. After all, just stepping on Jackson Park soil near the Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive, one can't help but think about everything that unfolded there. It's the place where the world was introduced to the wondrous Ferris wheel, where Chicago's elevated electric railway debuted and foods such as shredded wheat, Cracker Jacks and Pabst Beer first tantalized taste buds.

Though none of this remains there today, of course, a delightful place to recreate does—with a few whispers of the past. Lagoons meander through the grassy lawns and shady trees. Jackson Park Golf Course, basketball hoops, walking paths, a yacht harbor and a beach filled with city dwellers. This time of year, though the snow-filled park is sparsely populated, it is



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle The Osaka Garden is a relic from the 1893 World Columbian Exposition and is located on Wooded Island in Jackson Park.

lovely just the same as a winter wonderland.

Amidst it all, at the intersection of Richards and Hayes drives, an immense, gilded bronze statue of a woman looms above the shimmering snow, demanding center stage. Unlike anything else in Chicago, Daniel Chester French's 24-foot replica of "The Republic" takes you back to a certain time and place. His 65-foot original plaster and gold leaf creation stood watch at the 1893 World's Fair.

New York City's Central Park creators, Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, designed the park in what was once useless swamp land. Later, for the 1893 World's Fair, Olmsted joined forces with Chicago architect and planner Daniel H. Burnham to transform it into the fairgrounds, and a small part of it still remains. Visitors can take a bridge on the north side of the lagoon to the Wooded Island, where the Osaka Japanese Garden was built for the World's Fair.

In the summer time especially, this urban oasis soothes many a soul with its waterfalls, enormous rocks, plentiful shrubbery and picturesque trees. Just to the north sits the Museum of Science and Industry, which was once the 1893 Exposition's Palace of Fine Arts and is now the only building that remains from the event.

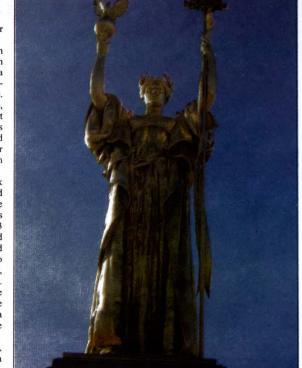
Hyde Park

Founded in the 1850s, the neighborhood has often been touted as one of the most successfully integrated neighborhoods in the United States. Throughout its history, it has maintained itself as a racially-diverse area and in it many prominent people have lived, including Barack Obama, Marshall Field, Muhammad Ali and Saul Bellow.

Perhaps most often the Hyde Park neighborhood brings to mind the University of Chicago or the many seminary schools residing there, but it offers so much more. This majestic neighborhood on Chicago's South Side shines with its colorful murals, plentiful natural elements and stately architecture.

On its historic 53rd Street, you'll encounter plenty of restaurants and shops to occupy an afternoon and evening.

You can't miss Mellow Yellow, 1508 E. 53rd St., emblazoned in yellow on a green canopy hanging



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

A replica of sculptor Daniel Chester French's 'The Republic,' which welcomed visitors to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. This version currently stands in Jackson Park around 64th Street and Stony Island Avenue.

over the sidewalk. Signs adorning it tout its phenomenal chicken and vegetarian friendly fare. And yes, for the record, the name is a nod to the Donavon song which, according to its menu, the owner's daughter received permission from the psychedelic folk singer in the 1970s to use the name. Not only is the ambience fun and friendly, the food, which includes crepes, award-winning chili, burgers, sandwiches, breakfast, chicken and Mexican dishes, is fantastic both in taste and price.

Just around the corner sits a taste of the South. Dixie Kitchen and Bait Shop, 5225 S. Harper Ave., known for its authentic Southern style cuisine, including gumbo, catfish, fried green tomatoes and po'boys. This down-home establishment sits in an area between 52nd and 53rd streets known as Harper Court.

In the summer, this park-like business area hosts a farmers market. But year-round you'll find a funy variety of shopping at places like Artisans 21, 5240 S. Harper Court, a cooperative art gallery; Toys et Cetera, 5211 Harper Court and Dr. Wax Records, 5225 S. Harper Court.

For a taste of art or culture, there are plenty of options. The Museum of Science and Industry is an obvious destination, but this area has more than you may know about. Though not technically in Hyde Park, just south of Jackson Park sits the South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Drive, which was once South Shore Country Club. Here you can take in performances, concerts, classes and exhibits.

The DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Place, provides an in-depth look at African-American history and art. Frank Lloyd Wright's Frederick Robie House, 5757 S. Woodlawn Ave., offers an opportunity to see the work of one of our nation's most well-known architects.

In this eclectic area, there is something for everyone on any day. To get there, just hop onto a city bus or train from the loop and find weekends' worth of entertainment for any budget.

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Two Hyde Park residents chill for a canine solo at 55th Street and Hyde Park Boulevard.



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

A couple strolls on one of Jackson Park's walking paths during a cold afternoon on Dec. 7. The 600 acre park offers miles of trails.

Looking for a 'few good women'

Chicago Force to hold tryouts for new players in '07

By Kristin Kalter Staff Writer

While football fans across the city are watching the Bears and dreaming that their team makes it to the Superbowl, the women of the Chicago Force are gearing up for their upcoming season. They are a professional women's football team who made it to the playoffs in the Independent Women's Football League last year. The Force would like to go even further this year: They're just looking for a few more good women.

Their season doesn't start until April, but try outs are currently taking place throughout Chicago. They are in need of female players with size, strength and speed to add to their line-up. The next tryouts are scheduled for Jan. 4 at North Central College in Naperville.

Home games will be played at Lane Tech High School at 2501 W. Addison St. The IWFL have 30 teams throughout the country, during the regular season the Force competes against teams in the Midwest Division, including Detroit, Kansas City and Iowa.

Last year was the first season for Angie Bandstra, 25, who stepped on to the team as a starting quarterback and ended up with the rookie-of-the-year award. She had never played football before, but was a basketball player in college. Stepping out on to the field

for the first time after hearing her name announced as the team's starting quarterback was Bandstra's most memorable moment so far. She threw the ball to one of her teammates in the first drive of that game, and the Force scored a touchdown. "This isn't that hard," she said she thought after that play.

Linda Bache, owner, general manager and player for the Chicago Force, said most players have never played tackle football before. But many are strong athletes, having either played on Division One teams in college or another professional sport, she said. Although most have played before, women with no experience are welcome to try out.

Players are not allowed to tackle until making the team, but the tryouts are still intense, Bache said.

The tryouts consist of strength and agility exercises, such as a timed 40-yard dash, pass and catch drills and pushup and sit-up tests. The most promising players are then recruited and trained for different plays, positions, techniques and proper ways to stand. While the players learn different moves, many find it overwhelming when they don helmets and shoulder

pads. "Just putting on the equipment, you can't imagine being athletic," Bache said. "Your vision is impaired, and the shoulder pads and helmet change your balance."

Dawn Pederson, 32, a culinary manager, attended the last tryout in hopes of joining the team. Pederson said she decided to try out because of the camaraderie, travel opportunities and because she likes to play. She has played flag football a lot, but never tackle football, and said the strenuous tryouts gave her flashbacks to the time she played field hockey.

Pederson said about 40 other women were at the last tryout with her. The Force did not have to make cuts due to the number of women that complete the tryouts. The women usually end up cutting themselves if they feel they cannot go on.

Though the players are women, they are coached by an all-male staff. Because women's football is fairly new, there aren't a lot of female coaches.

"I was so impressed by the product that they put on the field," said Jim Stahl, who's coached the team since 2005. "These are real athletes."

Stahl, who previously coached high school boys, said coaching women is very different than coaching men. "Women don't have the NFL

"Women don't have the NFL mentality that males pickup from watching T.V.," he said. "It's refreshing because there are no prima donnas or pompous kind of attitudes."

All players are trained on the proper methods of tackling because of the risk of paralysis or neck injuries, Bandstra said.

"My mom tells me after every practice or game that I'm nuts," she said. "But everyone thinks it's cool that women are playing something usually dominated by men."

Bandstra recalled the first time

Fie Poto

Abby Riewe, a wide receiver, relaxes during a halftime break of a Chicago Force scrimmage game last season. The team will hold tryouts Jan. 4 at North Central College in Naperville.

she was tackled on the field. She said that she was nervous thinking about it before it happened, wondering what it would feel like. "When it happened, I thought ...

"When it happened, I thought ... 'Oh good, it's finally over," she said.

"Once you put on the equipment and start hitting, it's totally different," Bache said. "Some don't like that aspect, others will love it."

Despite all of the action and competitiveness during the games, the players are close and friendly on and off the field.

"Everybody is like a family, and has each other's back," Bandstra said. "There isn't that usual cattiness or backstabbing that happens when you get together 40 to 50 women."

There is something to be said about that since these women come from different parts of the city and have different professions and personalities, Coach Stahl said.

"Some need a kick in the behind sometimes, others need a pat on the back."

The Force hopes to add about 20 new members to the team, and there is still time for women to tryout.

"There's a place on the team for people of any size," Bache said. "There are positions that celebrate people that are big or small and fast."

Since the team started four years ago, women of various sizes, from 120-300 pounds, and ages, including women in their 20s to women in their 40s, have played. Bache is the smallest member of the squad at 5'6'' and 125 pounds.

"If you're my size, you better be quick," she said.

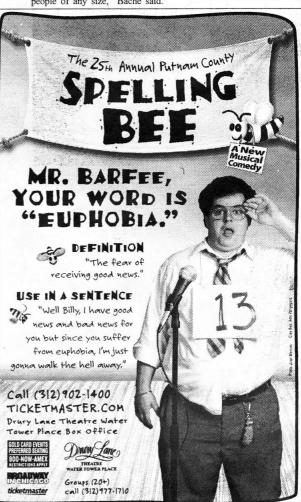
Those who make it through tryouts can expect a mini-camp to begin in February and practices through the season opening in April. The season goes through July, and they practice three times a week.

Stahl said since the team relocated to Lane Tech last year, they have attracted more curiosity from women interested in playing, and gained more fans around Chicago. He hopes that with the new additions to the coaching staff and line-up the team will make it farther in the play-offs this season.

For more information, visit www.chicagoforcefootball.com.

chronicle@colum.edu





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Returning to the city's deep musical roots

Museum gives auditory history on Chicago music

By Beth Palmer Staff Writer

The Chicago History Museum makes the city's musical history come alive with its newest exhibit, "Chicago Roots Music." In addition to catching people's attention with blues and gospel music, museum officials want to attract the iPod-saturated Generation Y.

'We're trying to reach out to a younger crowd," said Alison Eisendrath, exhibition curator. "We didn't do as good a job before, reaching that age group.

The exhibit depicts Chicago music history beginning with the 1940s blues on Maxwell Street and ending with an existing independent Chicago punk rock record label

In February 2006, when the Chicago Historical Society was renamed the Chicago History Museum, some within the museum called it "too quiet.

'The new director said, 'We need to wake this place up,' Eisendrath said.

Walter Payton High School jazz band performed live rhythm and blues on opening day, Nov. 11, complementing the authentic audio clips and documentary film featured in the exhibit.

"History isn't just hushed rever-

ence," Eisendrath said. "History is alive, it's musical. History is peo-ple telling their own story. This is everybody's history.'

Standing under a portal, visitors can listen to music selections recorded at six legendary Chicago music landmarks

Black and white photographs show visitors scenes from Maxwell Street: Little boys dancing as a man picks a guitar, elderly folks smiling and clapping their hands, and women singing, eyes closed, with their arms stretched out

The famous jazz club, the Blue Note, which closed in 1960, also has a section in the exhibit.

"I like the live music-the way it's integrated into the exhibit is interesting," said Dennis Joyce, visiting from Wisconsin with his wife.

A wall-sized graphic-a map of the United States' railroad linesshows how musicians like Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Muddy Waters and Mahalia Jackson came to Chicago from the South during the Great Migration

'People migrated, rubbed shoulders and transformed," Eisendrath said. "The exhibit shows the crossover in genre.

The Old Town School of Folk Music, which still offers classes and concerts at its two locations in Chicago, is also featured. On display is a guitar owned by Win Stracke, who founded the school in



Phil Blackwell points out some of the Blue Note's memorabilia featured in the Chicago History Museum's new exhibit 'Chicago Roots Music' to his wife Sally. The Blue Note was one of Chicago's famous jazz clubs during the 1950s.

1957 and was an important musiand cultural figure in cian Chicago.

In the 1950s, Mahalia Jackson, Jimmy Driftwood and Pete Seeger were just a few of the big names who performed at the Old Town School.

"History isn't just hushed reverence; history is alive, it's musical."

Alison Eisendrath, exhibition curator for the Chicago **History Museum**

who gathered Chicagoans downtown in grassroots-fashion to listen to the WLS Barn Dance, a Chicago-based folk music radio program, are featured.

Because the WLS Barn Dance

was broadcasted nationally, out-oftown visitors also have a chance to identify with the exhibit.

The showcase also dedicates one of its six sections to Chicago's gospel music history, featuring a biography of Chicagoan Mahalia Jackson, who it named the "gueen of gospel music."

Bloodshot Records, a Chicago independent record label created in 1994, is the exhibit's last landmark

"All music is informed by roots music," said Nan Warshaw, a founder and co-owner of Bloodshot.

Bloodshot signs artists with an 'insurgent country" sound, which is a mix of any or all of punk, country, bluegrass, soul, folk, rock, pop and blues.

The anti-commercial sensibility of folk music appeals to people who were brought up with the Sex Pistols," Eisendrath said.

The exhibit also has a mini theater where visitors can sit and watch a 15 minute excerpt of the documentary American Roots Music: Chicago, which was made by the museum, the Old Town School of Folk Music and other Chicago cultural institutions.

The documentary is part of a larger film made for Chicago pubtelevision station, WTTW Channel 11.

'The Barn Dance part was fascinating, and the Bloodshot Records-the whole exhibit is impressive," said Laura Burt, 26, a librarian visiting the museum with her husband.

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change

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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37

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- Al Lira Scholarship (Deadline: March 15, 2007)
- Thaine Lyman Scholarship
- (Deadline: March 15, 2007)
- Irv Kupcinet Media Arts Scholarship (Deadline: March 15, 2007)

THEATER

• Betty Garrett Musical Theater Scholarship Fund (Deadline: March 15, 2007) 2

- David Talbot Cox Scholarship Fund (Deadline: March 15, 2007)
- Freshman Achievement Award (Deadline: March 15, 2007)

Health: Columbia eatery amoung business cited for violations

Continued from Back Page

order, failed to vent the building well enough, stored the food poorly and without labels and didn't keep the building in good repair or cleanliness.

A.P. Deli management declined to comment and asked not to be called back on the issue

Boni Vino, 109 W. Van Buren St., received two critical violations, one serious violation and five minor violations. The Department of Health wrote that hot and cold food were not maintained at adequate temperatures suitable for preservation, and utensils, containers and counter tops were not properly cleaned.

The Department of Health also wrote that Boni Vino wasn't keeping the restaurant clean enough to pass inspection, and the employees weren't wearing clean uniforms either

"We don't have any violations against us," said one of the managers at Boni Vino, who refused to give his name. He insisted that the information was wrong, despite being listed under Food Establishment Inspections on the Department of Public Health's website.

Columbia has been cited with violations as well. The Plum Cafe, 1104 S. Wabash

Ave., was cited for two critical violations, one serious violation and

Police: Millions paid in misconduct suits

Continued from Back Page

Howard Brookins, Jr. (21st Ward) and Freddrenna Lyle (6th Ward) said attorneys attempting to contact arrested people are often stymied by police who refuse to tell them which station is holding their clients. Although Cline said he'd look into establishing a main call center to provide details on the whereabouts of detained people, he said protecting an arrested gang member from his affiliates is one reason the police may not give out a person's location.

In a later interview Brookins said that was not a good excuse.

"I thought it was disingenuous for Cline to say 'well, we won't let the person know that the attorney is there [to represent him] because this person is in a gang," Brookins said. "It's disingenuous to bar the attorney and paint us with such a broad stroke that we would be tools of gangbangers and help them continue their criminal enterprise

This inability to provide information on people in custody isn't the only problem communities have with the police. Brookins also said the police arresting a person who witnessed a crime causes disenchantment within the neighborhood.

When you have people who come forward as witnesses and they say [they saw the crime] and they get arrested, nobody is going to come forward and be a witness, Brookins said.

And the practice of detaining witnesses does not help the police two minor violations. They did not have adequate storage facilities for present.

ager, said that the Plum Cafe currently has no violations. She said it has been inspected every two or three weeks, with the last one on Dec. 4, and any violations they had have been fixed.

of Public Health, critical violations relate to food handling. hygiene and temperatures the food is stored at. If the violations are not corrected during the inspection, the establishment fails, receives a citation and has its license suspended.

Guichard said restaurants with critical violations are fined \$500 and they are requied to have another inspection in order to reopen.

Serious violations, according to The Department of Public Health website, consist of food that has been improperly thawed or kept warm, food served to customers that had once been on someone else's plate and food that has been contaminated during storage, preparation or on the trip from the kitchen to the table. Fines run about \$250.

If a serious violation is not corrected during the inspection. the business is required to be re-

Minor violations refer to the area the food is prepared in. Poor construction of the building, a lack of cleanliness in the clothing worn by the employees and unauthorized personnel where the food is made can lead to a minor violation.

department's image within the community

'It does a great disservice to establishing trust between community and police because of treating witnesses like they're criminal, said Craig Futterman, law professor at the University of Chicago.

witnesses from head to toe. remove items like belts and shoelaces and hold them for 24 hours or more at a station.

"There are people who are said

Although the police are trying to rectify the problems created by Burge, Futterman said the depart ment has no effective system of

about the police "taking the lead" to correct the situation of coerced confessions, Futterman said the department initially objected to being required to videotape confessions. Illinois passed a law in 2004 requiring police to start recording interrogations in July 2005. Futterman said while this is an improvement, police are only obligated to record a murder investigation. And if the police deem a person a "witness' instead of stating that he is in custody, they can skirt around recording the interrogation.

community policing-when everyone is engaged but it's the select few corrupt officers who stain the department's name with the public

"There remains a gulf of dis-trust between the Chicago Police

hot and cold food, the venting and air flow was poor and a certified food service manager was not Elvira Delgadl, the cafe's man-

According to the Department

inspected.

Futterman said police search

free-no probable cause to have done anything wrong," Futterman

rooting out patterns of abuse.

"The underlying abuses that allowed Burge and his henchmen to abuse people with impunity have yet to be corrected," Futterman said.

And although Cline spoke

Still, Futterman said he likes



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Passengers wait at the CTA's Green Line Adams Street stop for the next train as the 'Holiday Train' passes by. The 'Holiday Train' runs on various lines through Dec. 21.

Minor violations do not need to be corrected while the inspector is in the building.

However, if the violation is not corrected within the time frame given by the Department of Public Health, those little problems become serious violations, leading to a failed inspection and a citation.

Minor violations are not fined, Guichard said, because they are not serious health hazards.

Sanitation is not an immediate situation," Guichard said.

However, minor violations still need to be corrected.

If they're not corrected by the next inspection, it will be moved to

and the community they are assigned to serve [because] a small percent-5 percent-of the department is being allowed to abuse [without fear of disci-pline]," Futterman said. "Those abusive officers become the face of the law in the community

He said only two out of every 1,000 officers, with complaints against them, have been subjected to any significant discipline like a week's suspention.

However, Patrick Camden, deputy director of News Affairs the Chicago Police Department, disagreed with these assessments on police and community relations.

"I'm not going to even go there," Camden said. "People are entitled to their opinions. Camden said CAPS, the com-

LAKEVIEW ACTION COALITION

serious, then in five days moved to critical," Guichard said.

Risk-1 establishments are inspected at least twice a year, Risk-2 once a year, and Risk-3 every two years. Additional inspections may take place in the case of serious and critical violations, and also as a result of complaints or food-related illnesses

Complaints are screened for validity, Guichard said.

"Sometimes they'll just be frivolous, people disgruntled with the business and not an actual food concern," she said. Elana Tenner, a freshman

music business major, said that she wouldn't visit a restuarant if

munity policing program that engages neighborhood residents to work directly with the officers. said the police are working with locals to improve relationships.

Still, while Camden said the relationship is improving between the police and communities, the is still paying out millions of city dollars in lawsuits stemming from police misconduct like false confessions and imprisonment and excessive force. From December 2004 to June 2006, the city paid a little more than \$33 million in lawsuit settlements, according to data analyized by The Chronicle from the Chicago Law Department's webpage. This constituted 54 percent of all claim settlements from the city.

And while people have success-

the violations were sanitation problems. 'It depends on the violation, but

if it was because of cleanliness I wouldn't want to go and get sick," Tenner said.

"Even if it were my favorite restaurant, I still wouldn't go," said Erin Love, a journalism major.

Jonathan Drexler, an audio arts and acoustics major, agreed.

"There are plenty of restaurants to choose from," Drexler said. Unless I knew someone that worked there, I could just go somewhere else."

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conduct, certain reasons still play a major factor in how police deal with people, especially in lower income, black neighborhoods, Brookins said.

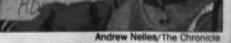
He also said the police will watch how they treat people if the officers know they're rich and powerful individuals.

"[As an officer], if you're picking on an alderman and you know this person to be an alderman, you're probably going to handle that situation a little bit differently and really make sure you dot. all of your 'i's and cross all of your 't's," Brookins said. "And really follow procedure and be courteous.'

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fully sued the city for police mis-

Marching against harassment



Members of the Lakeview Action Coalition gathered outside the Lakeview Presbyterian Church, 716 W. Addison St., on Dec. 5. The group protested recent reports of police harass ment and abuse of homeless and at-risk youth. After the demonstration, members of the group hand delivered reports of abuse to the 43rd and 23rd police district headquarters.

Scoop in the Loop



By Allison Riggio Assistant City Beat Editor

When it comes to childhood obesity, fast-food chains have been blamed for serving often up fatty goodies to kids across the country. But you might not think a hospital would be blamed for doing the same.

OK, so it's not exactly the hospital that's to blame for the junk food, but they are responsible for putting fast-food joints in the same buildings that should portray an image of health, science and medicine.

A recent study in the December issue of *Pediatrics*, the American Academy of Pediatrics' journal, surveyed three Chicago-area hospitals to gauge the rates of fast-food consumption for parents and kids on the day of outpatient treatment, according to an Associated Press article.

TV competition

first of its kind in

Continued from Back Page

view the pilots and predetermine

the winner to be announced at the

festival in July. Jury members

include vice presidents and direc-

tors of comedy development from

such networks as CBS, NBC,

ABC, Fox Broadcasting Company

Kathy Byrne, the project coordi-nator of the Chicago Film Office,

will be on the local screening com-

mittee which will narrow down the

entries to the few that will be sent

off to jurors. Sours has not yet

determined the criteria that the

screening committee will use to

judge the entries. Byrne said, and

the number chosen will depend on

the total number of entries received

"[Sours] went to the networks

in March

and Comedy Central, Sours said.

Chicago area

Pilot:

Children's Memorial Hospital, 2300 Children's Plaza, has a McDonald's restaurant on site; Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital, 2160 S. First Ave., in Maywood, has no restaurant, but uses logos and images of the franchise in the hospital; and the University of Chicago's Comer Children's Hospital, 5721 S. Maryland Ave., has neither a restaurant or brand images anywhere inside.

And what do you know? The study showed that 56 percent of participants at Children's Memorial ate fast food the day were in the hospital. they Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital showed 29 percent of those surveyed indulged in a greasy delight the day of treatment, while Comer Children's Hospital at U of C showed 33 percent.

While the McDonald's brand images didn't increase the chances of parents and kids eating fast food, the presence of the actual restaurant certainly did.

And that's not even the real kicker. Those surveyed at Children's Memorial were actually twice as likely as the others to rate McDonald's food as being somewhat healthy.

And if it wasn't bad enough already, the study showed that 59 of the 250 children's hospi-

and to people who have some sort of decision-making power," Byrne said, "so that if they see something they like-regardless of if it wins this competition or not-then they also have that potential to run with it as well. You're increasing your odds of something positive happening."

This competition is different from other film and video competitions since the scripts and plots for these pilots can't just come to a close like a movie would, accord-"I think the script is the key,"

Byrne said. "It's not a feature film. It's a script that has to potentially carry on for 22 episodes-it can't just be a one shot. Some ideas are good for two or three half hours and then it's over. You kind of have to think in [longer] terms.

Sours expects the quality of the pilots entered to be high, but is unsure how many entries the competition might see and said the subject matter can be anything-as long as it's a comedy.

However, juried competitions are hard to predict since it's difficult to know what outside judges will look for in a winning entry, tals in the country have on-site fast-food restaurants. Memorial

Children's A spokeswoman claimed the addi-tion of the McDonald's was tion of the McDonald's was meant to be a "special treat" for sick children-and this may be a valid point. Those golden arches could bring comfort and familiarity to a child that might be going through a scary illness.

Oh, wait. That still doesn't justify the fact that a hospital is not only allowing, but practically encouraging, the consumption of fatty, calorie-filled fast-food items to potentially sick hospital visitors.

It's great that Children's Memorial is concerned for the emotional well-being of its young patients. They understand what a child might be going through, and try to bring them a bit of joy during a rough time.

But what about the parents? As a hospital. Children's Memorial should also understand what moms and dads are coping with during an outpatient trip. They're probably distressed about their child's health and chances are they had to take a day off of work and travel a distance just to get to the renowned hospital.

Shove the golden arches in their faces after an emotional rollercoaster like that, and they're sure to bite. McDonald's is quick, cheap and familiar. It's actually surprising how 44 per-

said Dale Chapman, a faculty member of Columbia's Film and Video Department.

"Some juries are going to look for more abstract stuff," Chapman said. "Some are going to look for more professional stuff-and you have no idea. It may be worthwhile doing something that's technically crude but creative or really funny and then [maybe] that will impress them

One piece of advice Sours offers to possible applicants is not to go into debt trying to create the perfect TV pilot. While production quality is important, she said that a network interested in a show might purchase the idea and re-shoot the actual pilot later.

"Ideally then you could shoot as crudely as you wanted to," Chapman said, "[but] a lot of times people aren't that sophisticated. They just see what's before them.'

The cost of filming a pilot could run anywhere from practically nothing to around Chapman said. \$30,000,

"It could be under \$100," Chapman said. "It's going to look like it's under \$100, but you could do it

An argument wasn't on the menu

Police were called to Thai Spoon, 632 S. Wabash Ave., on Nov. 30 when a 43-year-old man entered the restaurant and began yelling and screaming at customers. A 43-year-old customer told the man to stop bothering everyone, but the offender replied, "I will kick your fucking ass," and then fled. Police found the man in the area around Thai Spoon and took him into custody.

Don't leave that much cash unattended!

A Roosevelt University student reported her wallet missing to police on Nov. 30 after she noticed it had vanished from her jacket pocket. The 23-yearold said she left her jacket unattended for a brief period in one of the school's buildings at 450 S Michigan Ave. and came back to notice her wallet was gone. The wallet contained \$200, two credit cards and several IDs.

Who ever said candy is just for kids?

A 7-Eleven, located at 525 S. State St., almost fell victim to a thief with a sweet tooth on Dec. 5

cent of those surveyed from Children's Memorial didn't eat at the franchise. Maybe they just

> Treat yourself to an early holiday gift with a City Council meeting. There's a high probability of political antics aplenty at City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., 2nd Floor, at 10 a.m. Dec. 13. For more information, visit cityofchicago.org.

> Hobnob with some Chicago writers at Local Authors Night. People can meet and talk to Jimmy Jimmy Carrane, Gordon. Mark Maller and Jean Iverson. The free event will be held at The Book Cellar, 4736-38 N. Lincoln Ave., at 7 p.m. Dec. 13.

> Blow your mind on Einstein. Dr. Rocky Kolb, on Astrophysics and Astronomy Department chair at the University of Chicago chats about Einstein and his contribution to understanding the universe. The lection is free at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St., at 1 p.m. Dec. 17. For more information, visit cityofchicago.org.

While on break:

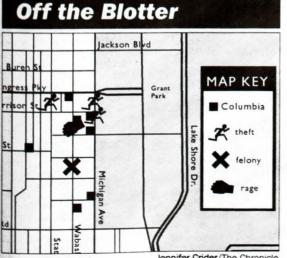
Embrace the über-nerd within. The Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave., presents the Lord of the Rings trilogy starting on Dec. 28. The Fellowship of the Ring begins at 1:20 p.m., The Two Towers starts at 4:40 p.m. and the Return of the King kicks off at 8 p.m. A \$10 ticket covers all three movies. For more information, call (773) 871-6604 or visit musicboxtheatre.com.

No plans for New Year's Eve? Party with your fellow revelers for a fireworks show starting at 11:40 p.m. Dec. 31. Watch and enjoy massive, colorful explosions choreographed to music. Gather around Buckingham Fountain at Columbus and Congress Avenue Parkway. For more information, visit cityofchicago.org.

Workers notified police after a 54-year-old man tried to leave the store with numerous candy bars that he did not pay for. The man admitted to trying to steal the candy, and police arrested him.

It seems he wanted candy, too

On Nov. 29, a 38-year-old man attempted to hold up Canady Le Chocolatier, 824 S. Wabash Ave., but was busted before he could get away by police officers notified by the store's alarm system. Police arrived to see the man, who appeared to be holding a weapon, standing behind 'a glass partitioned wall. Officers ordered the man to the ground at which time they heard a victim yell for help. Police found an employee, 28, on his knees with his hands tied behind his back. The victim notified police that the man entered the store and handed him a note threatening to shoot the victim if he didn't hand over all the store's money and his own. The victim obliged, giving the man \$74.35 from the store and one dollar of his own. Police arrived in time to arrest the offender and issue felony charges.



Jennifer Crider/The Chronicle

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

to be the most important thing [in the Chicago Short Comedy Video and Film Festival]," Byrne said. 'Funny is the key.' For more information about the Chicago Comedy TV Pilot Competition or the Chicago Short

Comedy Video and Film Festival, visit witsendshorts.com

ariggio a chroniclemail com

In Public

a nationally acclaimed hospital-and 58 others across the countrywould even consider offering fast food to guests. They wonder why kids are obese

weren't hungry

and then spend billions of dollars researching the genetic causes of childhood weight gain. While genetics can play a role, the star of the obesity show is usually our old friend trans fatthe use of which was recently banned in New York City restaurants and has been pending a ban in Chicago City Council for some time.

It's almost ironic to think that

With all due respect, there are a number of other, healthier, treats that could be given to sick children to boost their spirits. Toys or video and computer games, for example-the usual suspects from the original "let's blame childhood obesity on something" game. It's safe to say bringing a handheld video game to a sick child is probably less damaging in the long run than offering up fries and Big Macs inside an establishment that is considered to be an icon of health.

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The annual Chicago Short Comedy Video and Film Festival may better suit those who are interested, but on a tighter budget. The festival screens around 40 short films each year and awards two prizes, Sours said.

"You can [film a short] in a day, kind of going out on the street and videotaping gum spots on the ground and making that funny," Byrne said. "Or a short can take months to put together."

Budgets for low production qual-

ity shorts can be very inexpensive,

Chapman said, while longer, high-

er-quality shorts can range up to

"Production quality doesn't have

about \$10,000.

<u>40</u> CITY BEAT ***A day that will live in infamy'**

Chicago remembers Pearl Harbor survivors as numbers plummet By James H. Ewert Jr. City Beat Editor

On Dec. 7, 1941, United States Navy fireman first-class Julius "Jay" Finnern was five minutes away from being relieved of a 24hour shift on board the USS Destroyer Monaghan when bombs began raining from the sky.

began raining from the sky. "At 7:55 a.m. the Japs arrived and, needless to say, we did not get relieved." Finneran said, recalling memories from one of the worst attacks on American soil in history. "At about 8:20 a.m. a Japanese submarine surfaced inside the harbor. We rammed that submarine and it rolled underneath us, and when we cleared the submarine we dropped two depth charges on it and sent it to whatever heaven those people go to."

Finnern said the Monaghan shot down another Japanese aircraft and the ship's commanding officer received a navy cross. The attack lasted an hour and 45

The attack lasted an hour and 45 minutes—during which more than 2,300 people were killed and another 1,200 were injured. The following day President Franklin Roosevelt declared war on Japan, and U.S. involvement in World

See Pearl Harbor, Page 33



Michael Jarecki/The Chronicle

The Great Lakes Naval Hospital Color Gaurd (left) proceeds out of the 65th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor ceremony held Dec. 7 at Navy Pier. A commemorative wreath (top right) floats in Lake Michigan after being tossed in by several Pearl Harbor survivors, Survivor Dean Roland Garrett (bottom right), vice president of the Illinois Pearl Harbor Survivors Association Chapter One, salutes during the singing of 'America the Beautiful.' Grant served as a Navy Hospital Corpsman from 1940 to 1946.

Winning back the little screen

Chicago filmmakers, production companies creating TV pilots

By Allison Riggio Assistant City Beat Editor

Chicago filmmakers have a new challenge in 2007, one that's different from most other film and video competitions across the country. Entries for the first Chicago Comedy TV Pilot Competition are due on March 27, and winners will be revealed in July.

Only entries from Chicago filmmakers and production companies will be accepted in the pilot competition, according to Marion Sours, creator of the contest.

"It's something that hasn't been done widely, and we wanted something special," Sours said. Entries should be 20-30 minutes in length, and the ideas must be scripted and original—parodies or reality-based entries will not qualify, Sours said. The winner will receive a \$5,000 prize, provided by Alberto-Culver, a Chicagobased company specializing in

hair- and skin-care products. A selection committee made up of local television producers and writers will narrow the entries down to a handful that will be screened in July at the Chicago Short Comedy Video and Film Festival—an annual competition featuring films lasting anywhere from a few seconds to 10 minutes.

A jury of eight national television industry representatives will

See Pilot, Page 39



Jennifer Crider/The Chronicle

Keeping the status quo

Critics say police practices still strain community relations

By Eric Kasang City Beat Editor

It continues to be a rough month for the Chicago Police Department. As the Cook County State's Attorney's Office filed charges against seven officers accused of extortion and shakedowns, several Chicago aldermen demanded a comprehensive meeting about the alleged abuses under former Chicago Police Commander Jon Burge's command. Then a report issued by an expert on internal affairs stated the police maintain a "practice of indifference" toward handling complaints about officers accused of misconduct.

And while the police department promised to continue purging rogue officers from its roster, some people think Chicago law enforcement does not do enough to build strong community relations. And practices of detaining people who witnessed crimes, paying high lawsuit settlements from police misconduct and failing to inform attorneys where their clients are being held are not helping the department's image.

At a Nov. 21 City Council joint committees meeting, Police Superintendent Phil Cline spoke about improving techniques for interrogating detained suspects. He said detectives videotape people while questioning them and that they have improved these techniques since the release of the special prosecutor's Burge report. The report found Burge and several officers under his command systematically tortured and coerced false confessions from black suspects during the 1970s and 1980s. The city fired Burge in 1993 for police misconduct.

"The Chicago Police Department is cognizant of the lessons learned [from the Burge era]," Cline said. "The public expects a lot from us and we have an objective to uphold the truth." However, several aldermen like

See Police, Page 38

Chicago serves up citations

Health inspections force restaurants to clean up their act By Dana Nelson

By Dana Nelson Staff Writer

While Chicago may not have the best reputation when it comes to politics, its health department is serious when it comes to food. Restaurants found in violation must shape up or shut down: No exceptions. However, for the Department of Public Health, they can redeem themselves by cleaning up the act—and their kitchens—while the inspector is around.

And the South Loop neighborhood has had its fair share of cited restaurants. While the severity of the violations varied by eatery, at least half of the 120 South Loop restaurants have had at least three or more infractions.

Restaurants with critical violations have immediate health concerns.

Frances Guichard, director of the Department of Public Health Food Protection Program, said potential health hazards such as pest control issues, refrigerators problems or inproperly maintained facilities would result in critical violations.

Restaurants are divided into three different levels based on how risky the food is to prepare, handle and serve, with one being the highest and three being the lowest, according to Guichard and information from the Department of Public Health's website. High-risk establishments include the majority of sit-down restaurants from diners to cafes.

Medium-risk restaurants, Guichard said, have cook-toorder food that is not held for long, such as McDonald's, Burger King or other fast food restaurants.

Low risk businesses are those with prepackaged or commercial food, like 7-11 and White Hen, Guichard said.

And several South Loop restaurants did not escape violation-free. A. P. Deli, 704 S. Wabash, was listed with three critical violations and five minor violations. It failed to maintain adequate storage for hot and cold food, didn't have a toilet facility in working