

3-26-2007

Columbia Chronicle (03/26/2007)

Columbia College Chicago

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle



Part of the [Journalism Studies Commons](#)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 License](#).

Recommended Citation

Columbia College Chicago, "Columbia Chronicle (03/26/2007)" (March 26, 2007). *Columbia Chronicle*, College Publications, College Archives & Special Collections, Columbia College Chicago. http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle/700

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago. It has been accepted for inclusion in Columbia Chronicle by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago.



Recreating the Big Bang

Chicago physics professor attempts to clone early universe

By Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor

While the Big Bang theory is widely accepted within the scientific community as the origin of the universe, proving it in a lab setting is insurmountably difficult. However, a Chicago lab may soon prove the mechanisms of the Big Bang as well as what matter may have been present at the beginning of the developing universe.

The Gordon Center for Integrative Research at the University of Chicago built the coldest lab in the city to demonstrate the physics of the early universe. Through cold temperatures, Cheng Chin, assistant professor in physics at U of C, hopes to recreate what may have happened shortly after the Big Bang to form the universe.

"The Big Bang is now the biggest story in cosmology," said Pan Papacosta, physics teacher at Columbia. "I'm sure this may try to add something to the picture."

Papacosta said people have a desire to know who we are and where we came from, and science experiments such as Chin's attempt to answer these questions.

"It's a wonderful story to know how we started," Papacosta said. "Science is making that story of the universe much clearer."

This is the first time Chin has integrated theories of cosmology into his research, although he has previously experimented with matter in extreme conditions.

"When we go to very, very

See Big Bang, Page 36



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Cheng Chin, assistant professor of physics at the University of Chicago, tinkers with his ultra-cold chamber, looking through tiny windows to check the status of the molecules inside. Chin is heading a group that is trying to simulate the Big Bang theory using this chamber.

Brutal attack puts student in hospital

By George P. Slef
Assistant Campus News Editor

Columbia junior Steven Parr is in critical condition after being brutally attacked less than a block away from his Logan Square apartment on March 7 around 10 p.m.

Parr was attacked on the 3100 block of Logan Boulevard by two unknown assailants with a baseball bat after he got off the Logan Square Blue Line stop, according to family members.

The attackers stole his wallet and charged more than \$300 on his credit card, family members said.

At the time of publication, Parr was in an unconscious state and had a breathing tube attached to his neck because of lung damage.

"The doctors aren't sure, but he may have brain damage," said Jane Parr, Steven's younger sister.

According to Chicagocrime.org, a nonprofit database of crimes reported in Chicago, the 3100 block of Logan Boulevard has experienced 27 reported crimes in the months of December and January—the highest among the eleven neighboring blocks listed.

Jane said her family "has practically lived" at Illinois Masonic Medical Center, 836 W. Wellington Ave., since the incident.

"He looks nothing like himself," Jane said. "He made it through the first 48 hours, which is good. Those are the critical ones."

Steven's father, Mike Parr, said his son's face was severely swollen, but doctors believe Steven is "doing better."

Wenhwa Ts'ao, faculty in the Film and Video Department, had Steven, a film major, as her teacher's assistant this semester.

"Steven is a hand-picked student," Ts'ao said. "Steven is driven, energetic, lively—a completely wonderful student to have in the classroom."

Steven Parr's family is asking Columbia students and faculty to show their support by attending Logan Square's next meeting of the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy, a community policing program.

"The way CAPS meetings work, is a lot of people have to show up," Mike Parr said. "The more students, the more people that show up, the more seriously police will take the case."

Join Steven Parr's family and friends in an effort to find his attackers by attending the next CAPS meeting in the 14th district. Meet at 7 p.m. in the Resurrection Church, 3045 N. Francisco Ave., on April 16.

gslef@chroniclemail.com

Columbia's recycling numbers show growth

By Amanda Maurer
Campus News Editor

Columbia's newest recycling initiative has increased paper recycling, according to recent reports. In January alone, the college saved the equivalent of more than 240 trees.

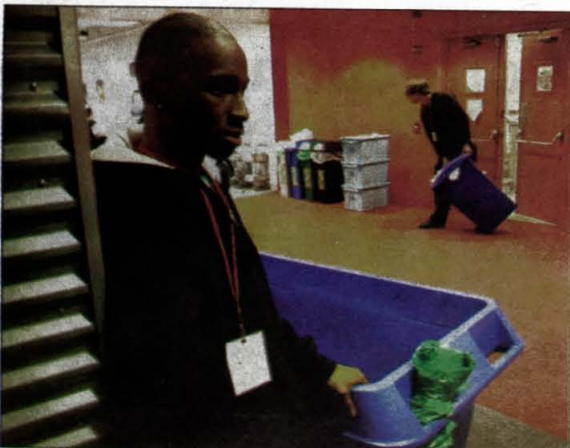
Reports from Recycling Services, Inc., Columbia's recycling provider, show the college community is recycling an increasing amount of paper each month. Officials believe it may be due to new recycling containers that provide individual bins for paper, plastic, waste and one for

glass and aluminum.

The program began last year when the college received a \$30,000 grant from the state of Illinois. The college used those funds to purchase 70 sets of the new recycling containers, which have been placed around campus.

The first set of reports that came out in April included all campus buildings. However, statements for the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, didn't come out until October—a few months after it implemented the program. That month

See Recycling, Page 11



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Christian Williams, a freshman interactive arts and media major, works for the school's recycling program.

In this issue



The official student newspaper at Columbia College Chicago and Chicago's South Loop



A boring hideout for secret agents

Back Page



Amy Poehler glorifies ice skating

Page 18



Avoiding the watchman

By Eric Kasang, Managing Editor

I'm like the Christopher Columbus of technology. Similar to the Portuguese navigator who "discovered" land masses previously known by other sailors, I "found" YouTube.com about two months ago.

And while it's been great revisiting alternative music videos from the 1980s and 1990s, I'm still confused as to why people would post themselves often engaging in awkward antics online for millions to see. And it creeps me out when video downloads sport embarrassing moments without the subjects knowing or having any control over the postings.

Like someone out of the loop, I first discovered YouTube while searching for old Throwing Muses videos. I Googled the band hoping that a fan boy had downloaded them on a tribute site. I figured they would be grainy videos; during the 1990s, I'd scour various television listings looking for any late night performances by my favorite bands and record them. This is probably how a good number of the bootlegged videos appeared on YouTube—by audiophiles like myself.

A Google search led me to YouTube and I soon became addicted, watching old clips of R.E.M. while sipping on beer. Of course, my younger colleagues at The Chronicle enlightened me on content other than music videos.

I watched as an overweight lad freaked out on a rollercoast-

er while a woman, presumably a relative or guardian, laughed uncontrollably. I stared as an Alabamian community regaled a television reporter about a leprechaun in a tree.

And then there was the painful singing-in-the-pen-as-a-microphone performance of a techno song "Relations"

leave an embarrassing record. Maybe it's that feeling people get about wanting to be remembered as important or influential. Although I don't have any online diaries like Facebook or MySpace, I often wonder about my relevancy, especially when I'm reading books containing hundreds of letters from a particular author.

Still, I wouldn't want to wind up looking like a joke on YouTube.

Once, while I covered a story on a fleet of Chicago Public School buses using an ethanol fuel blend, I chased after a CPS spokesman.

Running along the curb, I momentarily lost my balance and almost crashed face first into the sidewalk. Although I avoided the concrete swan dive, my initial thought wasn't that the CLTV or Fox camera guys were laughing at me; rather, my paranoia sent my mind reeling toward the idea of cameras rolling and a short clip hitting YouTube.

Still, with Viacom filing a suit against YouTube, my favorite videos, albeit crudely pirated and downloaded, may disappear from the site. Which means the website may only contain amateur and corporate-sanctioned videos. So watch your back, there's a plethora of digital video recorders and cell phones among the sea of people. And they're outside watching.

ekasang@chroniclemail.com



Joshua Covarrubias/The Chronicle

from what looked to be a high school girl. It's bad enough that she didn't even know all the words, but even more confusing that she'd post it. Let's just say from a website where almost every clip received 4 1/2 or 5 stars, she received 2 1/2. And people also left unnecessarily nasty comments.

I guess I'm confused as to why somebody would want to

Index

1/12

Campus News

13/29

A&E

30/31

Commentary

32/40

City Beat

Calendar

March 26-31

Body and Sold Reading

Come watch a documentary-style play that captures the sex trade of young women being recruited by shady hustlers. The event is March 26 in the Writing Center in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building at 6 p.m.

For more information, call Kathleen McLaughlin at (312) 344-8594.

President's State of the College Address

Students are encouraged to join Columbia President Warrick L. Carter and the Student Government Association for the State of the College Address. Dr. Carter will speak about the college community and answer questions from participants. The event begins at 12 p.m. on March 28 in the Ferguson Theater in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

For more information, call Brian Matos at (312) 344-6657.

SHOW OFF: Outsider Inc.

Quoted as being "an enlightened urban lifestyle magazine," Conscious Choice writes about environmental issues, politics and other topics. Listen to Charles Snow, production manager, discuss student writing samples and ideas for improvement. The workshop is on March 28 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Portfolio Center, 623 S. Wabash Ave. in Suite 307.

For more information, call Mercedes Cooper at (312) 344-8612.

Take 1 Student Film Festival

Come celebrate as the Film and Video Department classes begin the Take 1 Film Festival where the best work of Production I and Production II will be showcased. The celebration is on March 28 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. on the 8th floor.

For more information, call Sandy Cuprisin at (312) 344-6708.

In Your Opinion

Do you recycle on campus?



"Yeah. I think it is important to reduce garbage."

—Jenna Boelenis, senior photography major



"Yes. Because the recycling bins are there."

—Greg Johnson, sophomore photography major



"Sometimes. If it's readily available, I'll throw it in the bin."

—Jen Orf, junior graphic design major



"Yes. When I can. I feel there is no reason not to recycle."

—Ron Appert, sophomore music production major

Corrections

In the March 12 story "Clubs' costs not covered," the Student Government Association was incorrectly identified as a student organization with the largest budget. The Student Organization Council, which distributes the budgets to student clubs, receives the largest budget.

In the story "Katrina relief group finds hope in fundraising," the Reach Out trip was said to have been sponsored by the office of Student Organizations and Leadership as a college initiative. It became a student organization this year after students decided to make plans for this year's trip.

The graphic accompanying the story "Overwhelmed advisers deny students cap and gown" that ran on March 12 incorrectly shows the number of canceled applications in 2003 to be 47. This number is wrong because many of the cancellations were lost during a data conversion problem, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. Kelly was unable to provide an accurate number because of this data error. Consequently, this makes the reported 406 percent increase in canceled applications from the year 2003 to 2004 inaccurate.

THE COLUMBIA
CHRONICLE

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, contact the news desk
chronicle@colum.edu
(312) 344-8964

Free speech law holds student press liable

By Steve Yaccino
Assistant Campus News Editor

Although most college officials don't use the legal right to censor campus media, a new bill approved by Illinois state senators on March 15 could secure free speech for college students at every institution in the state.

The College Campus Press Act was designed to make all public and private Illinois campus media a "public forum for expression" by barring school administrations from the right to preview or censor published material. The bill would also protect faculty advisers from being fired or disciplined due to content related issues; instead, it would hold student editors liable.

"The system of government we have in this country depends more than anything else on a responsible exchange of information," said Sen. Dale Righter, co-sponsor of the bill. "A lot of that starts with the press."

The senate passed the bill unanimously, 57-0, and it will now go to the Illinois House of Representatives for further debate.

"I think we can make great arguments on behalf of the bill," he said.

The bill was written by Sen. Susan Garrett in opposition to the 2005 *Hosty v. Carter* ruling, which gave officials at Governor University the right to approve its student newspaper content before publishing it. The 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals extended high school censorship laws to include college students, giving administration the option to interfere with campus media if necessary. The Supreme Court denied hearing the *Hosty v. Carter* case in February 2006.

Ron Wiginton, president of the Illinois College Press Association, has been lobbying state legislators on behalf of the bill since February. He said the legislation is a "feel-good bill" because most institutions already have a general policy not to interfere with their students' rights of expression.

"The bill's not going to change much, because schools don't [censor students]," he said. "This is an immunity clause. If [students] screw up big time, they are the ones that are going to be sued. It would protect the administration."

But the bill doesn't address the issue of students just learning to be journalists, who might unknowingly make mistakes and be held legally liable. Wiginton said school officials should protect students by establishing academic and curricular systems designed to teach the necessary reporting and writing skills before they even reach the campus newsroom.

"We know that students are learning," he said. "We know they will make mistakes and we [should] have a system in place that will hopefully stop those mistakes from becoming potentially liable."

See Law, Page 6

Human rights may be new area of study

Columbia faculty express concerns over minor programs

By Brent Steven White
Associate Editor

Since adding a human rights class to Columbia's Liberal

Education Department in the spring of 2005, Shayna Plaut has seen enough interest in the subject to lead her to create a second course in human rights.

She took the topic a step further and organized a round table discussion on Feb. 26, which focused on human rights studies

at Columbia. About 13 people, including students, attended, Plaut said.

Now, as the popularity of human rights studies at Columbia continues to grow, a dialogue among some students, faculty and administrative officials is brewing. Some are calling for the school to offer a minor in human rights studies or offer a human rights focus.

Whatever approach is taken, Plaut said she wants Columbia to approach the issue in a more academic way.

"There needs to be some institutionalization [at Columbia because] of all the classes and interest that's being generated, with regards to human rights and the use of media, art and culture as the forum for human rights exploration," Plaut said. "The point is, when you want to expose human rights violations ... you need to reach out to people who are producers of culture."

Part of the Feb. 26 discussion centered on the surge of human rights programs in higher education in recent years. The University of Chicago, University of Minnesota and Northwestern University, among many others, all offer human rights programs.

The syllabi, Plaut further noted, are generally integrated into international studies programs, political science programs or law schools.

Columbia, therefore, would be the first private arts and communication school to offer "an organized academic program" that would provide students with knowledge about the foundation of human rights, and focus on conjoining human rights with cultural production, media and art, Plaut said.

"Other colleges and universities around the country have used

things like minors and certificates," Plaut said. "[But] there is no school focusing on communications, media and culture production that offer any sort of academic program regarding human rights."

Lisa Brock, chair of the Liberal Education Department, said she likes the idea of a human rights program, specifically a minor, and that it's something worth exploring. If Columbia offered a minor in human rights, she would like to see different departments, like the Film and Video and Journalism Departments, possibly come together to create it.

But Brock said the responsibility lies with students to push the faculty and administration.

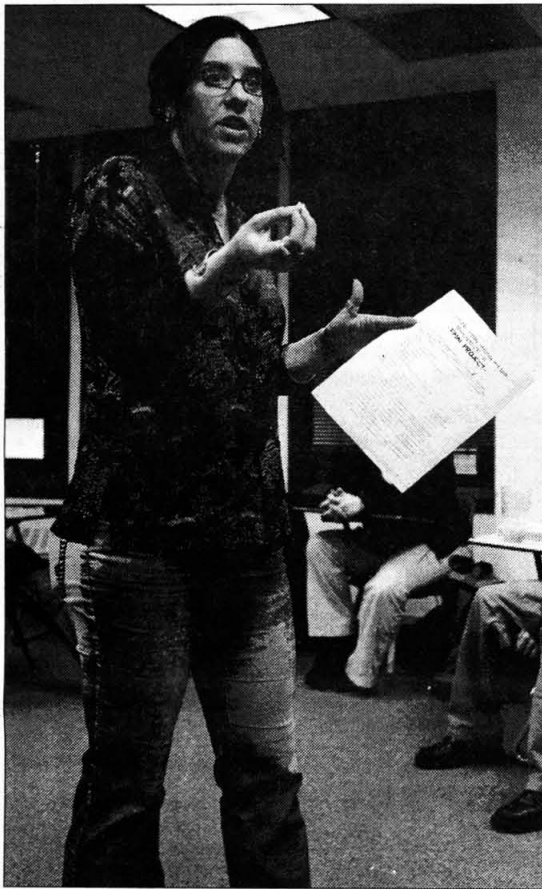
"If students really want this, then I think it will get a hearing," Brock said. "It's the kind of thing where [students] have to convince the college that it's worth [the school's] time and energy."

But Brock, who would be instrumental in implementing a human rights program if enough interest was raised, was wary of Columbia's current minor system.

"One of my concerns is that it's very difficult for students to achieve minors because of the credit distribution," Brock said. "To be a major in some of the departments requires so many credits, and, very often, students realize they can't graduate on time and still minor."

But Austin Heredia, a sophomore film and video major who took both of Plaut's classes and attended the Feb. 26 discussion, said despite Columbia's credit intensive film program, he would pursue a minor in human rights if it were offered.

See Human rights, Page 6



Rogan Birnie/The Chronicle

Shayna Plaut lectures her class on human rights in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., on March 19.

Today's students are more narcissistic, study says

Some students not surprised by results

By George P. Slefo
Assistant Campus News Editor

Welcome to 'Holly World.'

At least that's what 22-year-old Columbia student Holly Rubenstein calls her life.

Rubenstein, a self-proclaimed narcissist, said people have to carry themselves with confidence and charisma in order to be successful. She also isn't surprised by the results of a study released from San Diego State University last month that says college students are more narcissistic and self-centered than ever before.

Rubenstein even admits that her looks have helped her land jobs.

During baseball season, she will pose for pictures with patrons on the rooftops behind Wrigley Field. Her official job title: Miller Party Girl.

During the off season, however, Rubenstein works as an assistant at an upscale law firm downtown. Rubenstein, a senior marketing major, said she gets "chauffeured" to work everyday by her boyfriend.

"At my last job, I did the same kind of work," Rubenstein said. "And I basically ..."

Her pink cell phone rings. "I'm not picking this up," Rubenstein said. "I'm always blowing up. What was I saying? Yeah, and basically I got hired because I was attractive. At least that's what my old boss said."

Jean Twenge, the 31-year-old psychology professor at San Diego State University who conducted the study, included more than 16,000 college students between 1982 to 2006 from different schools across the nation.

It was "the largest ever conducted on generational changes in narcissism," according to San

Diego State University's press release.

The study found that people born after 1982 are the most narcissistic generation in recent history, giving college students the label 'Generation Me.'

Twenge used the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, a test that measures narcissism among individuals, for her data. The inventory asked students for responses to statements like "I like to be the center of attention."

"Narcissism is an [unhealthy] trait to have ... [Like] the notion of being overly confident is tied in with success—that simply isn't true," Twenge said.

Another statement students responded to on the inventory was "If you ruled the world would it be a better place?"

Rubenstein said her response to that would be, "Obesity is a huge problem, and if I ruled the world, people would take care of themselves and care about how they look."

While Rubenstein didn't participate in Twenge's study, Twenge said her answer is typical



Courtesy Holly Rubenstein

Columbia senior Holly Rubenstein is a self-proclaimed narcissist and is not surprised by results of a recent study that says students are more self-centered than ever.

See Narcissism, Page 7

Columbia students play on words and poetry

New exhibit combines print, graphics

By George P. Slefo
Assistant Campus News Editor

Times New Roman, you're not welcome here.

The font was nonexistent at the opening of the WORD2 exhibit at the Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Letters were bent and twisted as they displayed themselves on the bare walls on March 15.

Columbia writers collaborated creatively, and laid a variety of texts in different shapes and patterns—also known as typography.

A few of the pieces combined students' work by having one write a poem and the other display the words creatively using typography.

"The way you use letters and what you write affects the art," said Ivan Brunetti, an instructor and web designer at Columbia.

Brunetti's graphic novel class submitted its final projects to be presented at WORD2. While not all students made the cut, Candice Johnson, a senior art and design major, was selected to have her piece, "Alla," displayed at the exhibit.

"The pieces play off each other really well," Brunetti said. Johnson previously worked at

a bar on the North Side and took interest in one of her elderly customers named Alla.

"I like to tell stories," Johnson said. "I studied Alla and the way she interacted at the bar and captured her story."

Nancy Julson-Riely, exhibition coordinator at the Hokin Annex, said she would like to see more typography and graphic novels in future exhibits. She also played a large role in selecting which art pieces would be displayed at the event.

She added that because many typography artists are graphic designers, they would rather

"Some artists don't pay attention to the font's history. The font's history can be used to express a message."

—Erick Delgado, Columbia alumnus

showcase their artwork on the Internet as opposed to an exhibit.

"This is the third [typography exhibit] in Columbia's history," Julson-Riely said. "I would love to see more artwork from students, absolutely."

One Columbia alumnus couldn't resist returning to his old school to see what students were creating. Erick Delgado, a former graphic design major, said some of the pieces didn't use fonts correctly.

"Some artists don't pay atten-



Andrew Nelles/The Chronicle

'Alla' featured in both works above, was a customer at a North Side bar where Candice Johnson, a Columbia graphic design major, used to work. Johnson said she studied 'Alla' before making the artwork.

tion to the font's history. The font's history can be used to express a message," Delgado said. "I'm not even [reading the words], I'm looking at the art."

Artwork in typography and graphic novels has gained interest at Columbia, according to Rori DeClue, a senior graphic design major. Next semester, Columbia will be releasing

Made Magazine, a publication which will display various artworks and writings.

"The school's funding the magazine and it's going to be coming out once a semester," DeClue said. "Sort of like Echo."

While DeClue didn't talk about specifics, she said graphic design students are becoming

more involved in creating artwork at Columbia.

"I think its great the school is going forward with this," DeClue said. "The interest is definitely there."

WORD2 will run until April 20 at the Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

gslefo@chroniclemail.com

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

Concert Hall Events

Monday March 26

Musicians Studio with
Shemekia Copeland 6:30 PM

Tuesday March 27

CUBE in Concert 12:00 PM
Student Concert Series 7:00 PM

Wednesday March 28

Jazz Gallery in the Lobby 12:00 PM

Thursday March 29

Groove Band 2 Recital 12:00 PM

Friday March 30

CUBE in Concert 7:30 PM

All events are free.
For more info: 312/344-8300

MAKE IT A HABIT. PITCH IN.

for more information contact recycling@colum.edu

COLUMBIA COLLEGE RECYCLING PROGRAM

www.colum.edu/recycling

we now recycle
paper, glass,
aluminum, plastic
look for recycling centers
throughout campus



Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

dceo
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Students weave social justice into artwork

By Beth Palmer
Assistant Campus News Editor

Columbia students have made politics an art.

The former students of U.S. Foreign Policy, taught by Patricia Walker, a faculty member in the Liberal Education Department, have organized a public presentation of their politically-inspired art and have also created a new student organization, Artists of Foreign Policy.

On March 14, the club, which is unofficial until the fall, shared passion for issues like poverty, AIDS and fair trade in the first of what they hope will be an annual multimedia performance art event called "See Our Change: Be the Change" in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

"We are students making a difference," said Rinska Carrasco, a freshman acting major who will be the club's president. "We want to create change in our communities, in our states and worldwide."

Both the event and the club stemmed from a new project Walker added to her syllabus last semester, which required students to use creativity to express their views on a foreign policy issue, Walker said.

Fueled with passion and anger about social justice, conversations among classmates often became heated, eventually leading to the students' idea for the club, Carrasco said.

Carrasco, who is from the Dominican Republic, had witnessed extreme poverty and unfair compensation for farmers and she said Walker's class allowed her to explore the issues further.

"I understand that people get caught up in their own s---t, but at the same time these issues will affect this generation in the future and that scares me," she said.

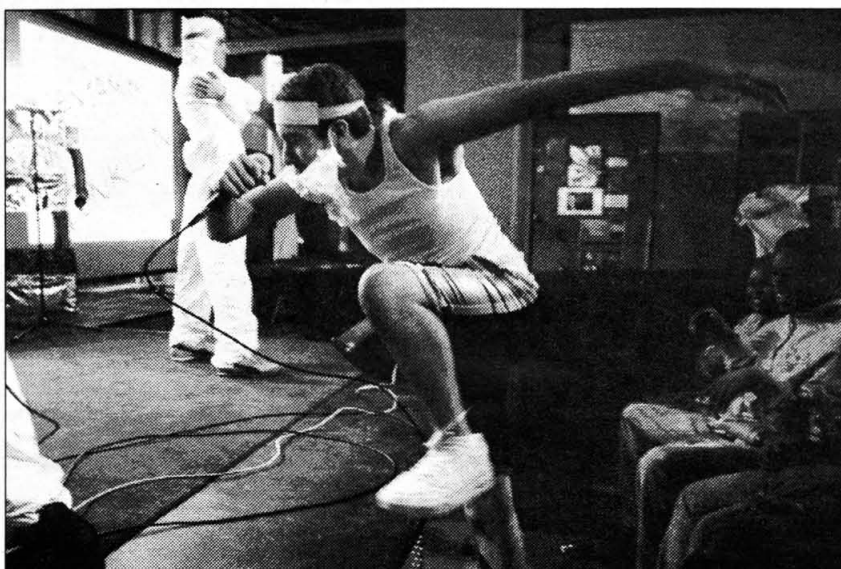
In addition to holding an annual presentation of students' projects from Walker's class, Artists of Foreign Policy plans to have a booth at freshmen Convocation, Carrasco said.

The club also plans on holding events to increase Columbia's awareness of social issues through film, audio, visual, dance and any other type of creative expression, Carrasco said.

"With foreign policy the job is never done," said Michael Lencioni, a freshman film major and member of the club. "We live in a visual world; we can reach people in that way."

Artists of Foreign Policy hopes to change Columbia students' definition of art to include politics, said Lencioni, who showed three public service announcements about poverty in Africa at the event.

Although foreign policy is the club's main focus, Rinska said Artists of Foreign Policy seeks the membership of any artist who feels strongly about an injustice. The more diverse the issues



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Joe Tollefson performed a rap about U.S. foreign policy during a political art exhibition, "See Our Change: Be the Change," in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on March 14

addressed and the more kinds of mediums of expression, the better, she said.

Artists of Foreign Policy is new at Columbia, but nationally, many colleges participate in organizations that artistically raise social awareness.

Speak Out, a California-based nonprofit, arranges for activist artists to perform or present on the campuses of at least 500 colleges a year, said Felicia Gustin, director of programming for

Speak Out.

"Youth are the future of this country," Gustin said. "Tomorrow they will be leaders of society."

Kristy Lueshen, a freshman cultural studies major, said her generation is too apathetic. She wrote a play, performed by actors at the March 14 event, that challenges young adults to care about politics.

After taking the class, Lueshen said she felt that her future writing must always have a social

commentary component.

Walker said she is proud of her students for their initiative to turn what they learned in her class into the Artists of Foreign Policy.

"They stepped up to the plate," she said. "And their commitment to pursue this [club] is a testament to their own heart and conviction and compassion to make a difference in the world."

bpalmer@chroniclemail.com

Attention Students!

Are you current on your student account balance?

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

In order to have your SFS hold removed, your SFS account must be current!
Check your current balance and or financial aid status by logging into OASIS.

Payments can be made through CCCPay, in person at the Cashier Window 600 S. Michigan 3rd floor or by mail sent to Student Financial Services Attention: Payments.

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

Help Line at 1-866-705-0200

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

Tips from photo pros



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

From left, Alex Garcia, Able Uribe, and Antonio Perez speak during the Hispanic Journalists of Columbia's photojournalism panel at the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building on March 12. The trio spoke about using photos to make articles visually interesting.

Law: Bill would hold college reporters accountable

Continued from Page 3

Nancy Day, chair of Columbia's Journalism Department, said the new bill will change little at the school because the administration has a history of allowing students freedom of expression.

"It's not our job to be lobbyist for the college and they don't want us to," she said. "I suppose they could oppose [the bill], but it would make them look bad."

But for schools like Wheaton College, a private Christian lib-

eral arts college in Wheaton, Ill., the new bill could affect editors at the Wheaton Record, the student campus newspaper.

Currently, The Record has an adviser who previews and approves all content before it is published, said Editor-in-Chief Sarah Pulliam.

She said Wheaton has a set of rules, called the Community Covenant, that the paper must abide by, which prohibits any promotion of pre-marital sex, alcohol, gambling or R-rated movies.

"Sometimes it's a little bit of a burden," she said. "Sometimes we just want to make our own decisions but it's nothing contentious. [What they would censor] is not relevant to our readers anyway, so it is usually not a problem."

Still, if the bill passes, Pulliam said the paper might rethink sending its paper to the advisers before it goes to press.

"It would just be kind of nice if they would actually trust us to execute it professionally," she said.

Jon Seidel, staff writer for the Post Tribune and a member of the board of directors for the Chicago Headline Club, said there's no benefit to the current censorship law. He said the new bill will force students to be accountable for their words.

"It's about the future of the profession," he said. "A lot of people talk about irresponsible press coverage and I think this is one way to train future journalists to be more responsible."

syaccino@chroniclemail.com

Minor: Student interest is key factor, faculty says

Continued from Page 3

"Columbia has kind of an activist edge to it ... you can see it walking around campus," Heredia said. "But we need the information and knowledge behind activism."

Rose Economou, a faculty member in the Journalism Department, also attended the roundtable discussion and, like Brock, expressed concern about Columbia's current approach toward minors. Very few students have enough extra credit hours to devote to pursuing a minor, she said.

But Economou, who taught Topics in Journalism: Human Rights and Media in the spring of 2003, and served as project director of two human rights conferences at the Chicago Hilton in 2002 and 2003, would like to see the minor created. She said it could be housed in either the Liberal Education or Journalism Department.

Still, the idea of offering a human rights program hasn't reached some of the people who could administer it.

"This is the first I've heard of it," said Dominic Pacyga, acting dean for the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "But of course I'd be willing to listen if [a proposal for the minor] was put together with faculty in Liberal Education."

Pacyga echoed Brock's sentiment and said students must pressure faculty if they want a human rights program.

If Columbia created the minor, it would begin with a department, or a group of departments, coming together to create the curriculum, Brock said. It would then go to the office of Academic Affairs to be implemented, adjusted or denied. The process could take at least a year, Brock said.

Still, Plaut said she's optimistic that the school will consider taking the next step and become the first arts and media college to offer a human rights program.

"I believe if Columbia lives up to its reputation and mission statement it would be remiss not to," Plaut said. "We have the vision and the focus, now we just have to follow this in an academic sense."

Going forward, Plaut said she's organizing another discussion at Columbia, and inviting Mark Ensalaco, one of the founding members of the International Human Rights Education Consortium and the director of the Human Rights Studies program at the University of Dayton. The University of Dayton offers the only B.A. in human rights studies in the United States, Plaut said.

She hopes the discussion, which will be open to everyone, will take place in mid-April.

For more information on human rights studies at Columbia, e-mail Shayna Plaut at shayna.plaut@gmail.com

bwhite@chroniclemail.com



Melissa Jay Craig's exhibit: Alternate Selections

Exhibition runs March 29th - May 15th

Reception Thursday, March 29th 5pm-7pm
2nd floor of Columbia College Library
624 S. Michigan Ave.

Refreshments served

library



Narcissism: Not all students agree with the results

Continued from Page 3

among narcissists.

"Improvement in appearance among others [is] classic narcissism," Twenge said.

She said she developed an interest in "different generations" when she was an undergraduate at the University of Chicago.

In 1998, she received a PhD in personality psychology from the University of Michigan.

While Twenge was at the University of Michigan, she saw professors measure personality traits and attitudes "with carefully designed and validated questionnaires."

"There wasn't any data available [on narcissism and college students]," Twenge said.

She also authored the book, *Generation Me: Why Today's Young Americans are More Confident, Assertive, Entitled—and More Miserable than Ever Before*. Published in 2006, the book said today's teachers believe the most important aspect of teaching is making the children feel good about themselves, such as placing stickers on instruction forms for simply filling them out or constantly telling children "they're special."

Twenge's research states that children and teens are being raised with too much individual attention and aren't being taught the lesson that "life isn't fair."

"Narcissists lack empathy and are unable to take someone else's perspective," Twenge said. "They generally aren't happy for their partner if they have success, unless the success reflects on them—like being a trophy wife."

Throughout Twenge's book, she drives at the notion that today's children have too much attention focused on them, hence her book's title, *Generation Me*.

"This is a time of soaring expectations and crushing realities," her book proclaims.

Not all college students apply to her book.

Britney Sherman, a freshman film and video major, said she grew up in an upper

class neighborhood in Wisconsin and "hated" the atmosphere.

"The atmosphere was very about 'me,'" Sherman said. "People only cared about themselves."

Although she grew up in an "all about me" environment, Sherman doesn't consider herself a narcissist and is no stranger when it comes to volunteer work. Six months after Hurricane Katrina, she volunteered with 30 other Columbia students and knocked down homes as well as "picking up a lot of garbage."

"[The study] doesn't upset me. I can totally relate to [the study] myself," Sherman said. "Overall, it seems that we're progressively getting worse."

Sherman said the "disturbing results" of the study don't surprise her.

"I don't know how a change will come about," she said. "We need to initiate a change in the world to make it a better place."

Gene Liebler, a therapist on the North Side, said he uses a cognitive behavioral approach when dealing with a narcissistic patient. While Liebler said he hasn't noticed an increase in patients, he did say it may not surprise him.

"They're often pretty," Liebler said. "They try to surround themselves with people that reflect [well] with them. They're not comfortable around competitive people, either."

He also said it's "extremely unusual" for a narcissist to come from a well-balanced household.

Rubenstein said her mindset comes from being raised in an upper-class Jewish family.

"My grandmother and mom carried themselves in such a confident way," Rubenstein said. "I was basically raised as a JAP—Jewish American Princess."

Karen Schmitz, Rubenstein's 25-year-old best friend, said Rubenstein's confidence is something she keeps to herself and said her friend doesn't act as if she's better than everyone else.

"There is nothing wrong with being confident," Schmitz said. "Anyone who knows Holly will tell you that she is very generous to those close to her. She's also very smart, like Reese Witherspoon in *Legally Blonde*."

gslefo@chroniclemail.com



Joshua
Covarrubias/
The Chronicle

Glossing over 'Food and Sex'

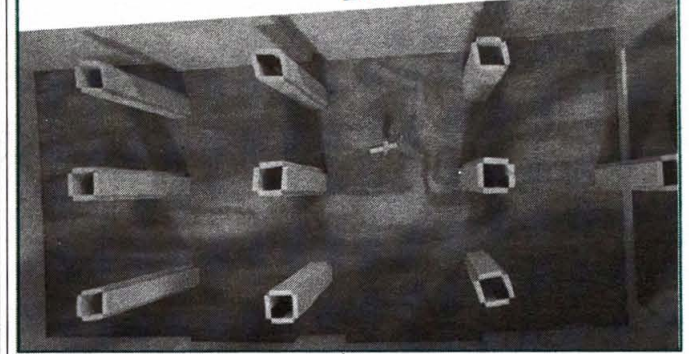


Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Nelson Feldberg looks at work by Misty Keasler in the Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., in the exhibition 'Robert Heinecken: Sex and Food.'

[c]spaces. your spaces

LIZ NOFZIGER-CORE



GLASS CURTAIN GALLERY, 1104 S WABASH AVENUE

Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Thursday

CORE, SITE SPECIFIC INSTALLATION BY LIZ NOFZIGER

March 12 - April 20, 2007

Reception: March 13, 5-7pm

Artist Lecture: March 15, 6:30pm, Conaway Center

Columbia College Chicago is proud to present CORE, a site-specific installation by visual artist Liz Nofziger. CORE presents an abstracted "core sample" of architect William Le Baron Jenney's Ludington Building which now houses the Glass Curtain Gallery. Nofziger will create CORE by working with the physical space of the gallery, its myriad past and present uses, and its architecturally significant beginnings. Viewer exploration will complete the work, revealing reflections of the building's past, from the vibration of printing presses to toothpaste and auto-parts.

Nofziger states, "I examine scale and demand physical involvement and curiosity from the viewer. I aim to challenge the viewers' perceptions and awareness of their surroundings within the exhibition and beyond. I am interested in broadened relationships to our environments, current events, and history within the context of physical personal experience and the impact each of us has on the future."

C33 GALLERY, 33 E CONGRESS AVENUE

Hours: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Friday

ORGANICISM, Nature Functioning Nontraditionally

March 5 - April 20, 2007

Opening Reception, March 8, 5-7pm

As the urban landscape rapidly encroaches on the natural environment, organic form and material is being overcome. While calls to action for environmental welfare are abundant, they are often solely in the name of preserving nature for its functionality as a system. The preservation of the natural environment is unquestionably vital, however it is essential to consider that nature fills the dual-role of both form and function.

The term "organicism" is a philosophy that suggests the whole cannot be defined by the sum of its parts; that the system is important above its components. Organicism questions this philosophy by asking if the intricacies of an individual leaf can be just as intriguing as the entire forest. In this context the exhibition celebrates all that occurs naturally for the sake of aesthetic and personal experience. Artists examine their own existence in relation to how they experience organic form and material. Organicism: Nature Functioning Nontraditionally provides a multi-sensory account of these complex relationships; relationships that have gone beyond the bounds of how we have traditionally understood nature.

Organicism: Nature Functioning Nontraditionally is curated by Columbia College student Tannar Veatch, an art and design major with concentrations in the fine and media arts.

HOKIN GALLERY, 623 S WABASH AVENUE

Hours: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Friday

WORD 2: TYPE + IMAGE

March 12-April 20, 2007

Reception: March 15, 5-7pm

Word 2: type + image is the third [C]Spaces exhibition celebrating the union of art and the written word. The exhibit features work from Columbia College Chicago's illustration, Graphic Design and Poetry students. Word 2 illustrates the different uses of typography in artwork and the interdependence of imagery and text. Work displayed includes graphic novels, typeset poems, font designs and artwork incorporating letterforms.

Participating instructors: Ivan Brunetti, William Linehan, and Richard Zeid
Poetry curated by: Jen Watman, Columbia College Chicago Poetry Major

HOKIN ANNEX, 623 S WABASH AVENUE

Hours: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Friday

SKETCHY FIVE

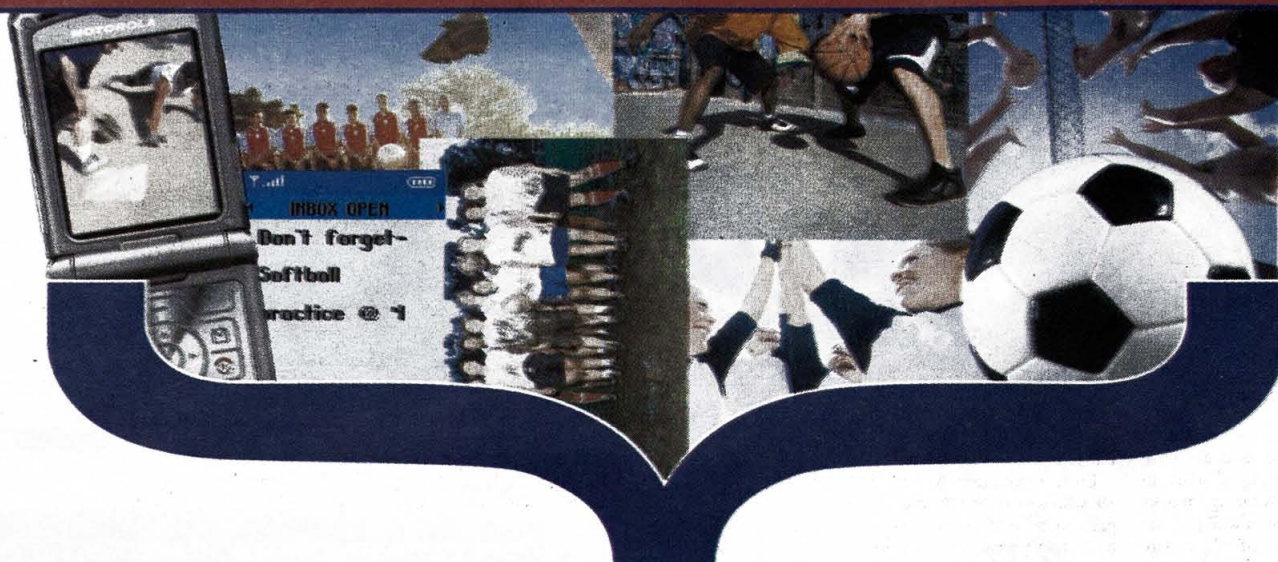
March 12-April 20, 2007

Reception: Thursday, March 29, 5-7pm

Sketchy Five is the fifth annual exhibition of sketches, drawings and sketchbooks of the students, faculty and staff of Columbia College Chicago. The exhibit explores the process of art and the thought progression of the artist.

For more [C]Space information, including employment opportunities, exhibition opportunities, workshops, and artist lectures, visit: cspaces.colum.edu

CAMPUS INTRAMURAL UPDATE



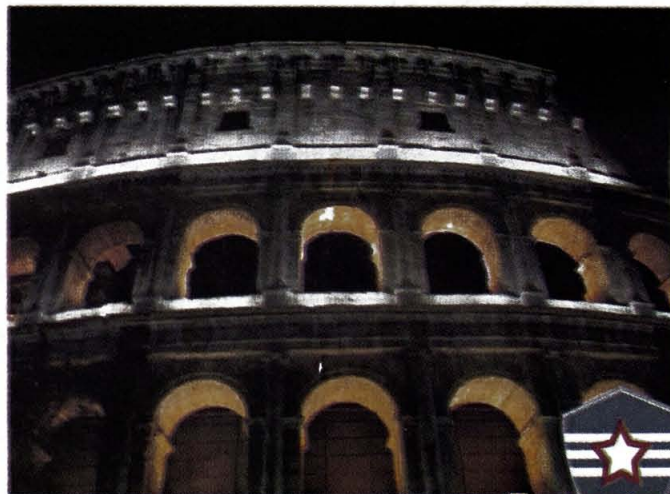
U.S. Cellular® gets me... so I can always get the score.

TEAM COLUMBIA COMPETES IN ROME!

This week Team Columbia travels to ROME for international competition. The team will be running the ROME marathon in the name of Columbia College Chicago with hopes to not only enjoy ROME with fellow Columbia students but to also build community among Columbia students on campus via club & intramural athletics. Chris Schroeder, president of the Student Athletics Association - Renegades, had these words to say:

"This is a great way to show the college that we have students from different departments working together as a team. Athletics on campus fosters this type of closer bond among students involved in club or intramural sports. These close relationships naturally breed a large amount of academic collaboration among students on the athletic teams and that's a pivotal reason why athletics exist on campus"

There are 7 students running the marathon for Team Columbia and an additional 6 students traveling to Rome with the team to document the trip and build their own portfolio.



Team Columbia leaves on March 15th to compete in the ROME marathon that starts and finishes at the Roman Coliseum!

Renegades

The students will be in Rome for the entire week of spring break leaving on March 15th and returning on March 22nd. All students attending the event have paid for it out of their own budgets.

If you would like to know more about Team Columbia or how you can get involved with athletics at Columbia please visit their website: <http://www.cccathletics.com> or e-mail them: athletics@colum.edu

<http://ATHLETICS.COLUM.EDU>

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

 **U.S. Cellular**
We connect with you.

getusc.com
1-888-buy-uscc

Wearing protection questioned

College students sport masks for germ research

By Jodi S. Cohen

In her dorm at the University of Michigan, Denise Rowe looks as much like a sick patient as a student.

Before she eats a meal, goes to sleep at night, or even kisses her boyfriend, she first has to slip off the blue surgical mask that covers her nose and mouth and hooks around her ears.

"People do kind of look at you weird," said Rowe, 18, the outline of her mouth moving behind the cotton mask.

Around the Ann Arbor campus this winter, 1,400 students have been participating in a study to learn whether wearing masks makes a difference in who gets the flu. About 830 of them are assigned to wear facial cover devices for six weeks, while the rest take no precautions. Some of the mask wearers also use hand sanitizer.

"I felt it was a worthy cause to participate in," said Rowe, who plans to go to medical school.

The \$2 million study, funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is one of several studies worldwide. The initiation of the study is intended to evaluate the feasibility and effec-

tiveness of non-pharmaceutical measures in containing the next deadly flu pandemic.

In the case of such a pandemic, like bird flu, federal officials have said a vaccine may not be available until six months on, making it more important to know the effectiveness of other measures, such as masks and hand washing, in controlling the disease.

But the first year of the CDC study, which ended a week ago, may reveal as much about slacker students as it does about science. Though 187 residents in one dorm had enrolled in the project, students this past week said they rarely saw anyone wearing the masks anymore.

"It was inconvenient," said 19-year-old Meghan McMahon.

"It's hard to breathe with them on," said her friend Kelly Patrick, 18.

Even sophomore Asman Butt, 19, who was among the more loyal participants in the beginning of the trial, didn't wear his mask to the cafeteria last week. "It started to bother me," he said.

Study co-investigator Allison Aiello, assistant professor of epidemiology at the university's School of Public Health, said she's not concerned about lax participation.

She said students have been filling out online weekly surveys about their health, the amount of time spent wearing the masks and the reasons for not wearing them, including embarrassment and dis-

comfort. Observers also are stationed in the dorms and cafeterias to watch how many students are wearing the masks—and wearing them correctly.

Researchers said the project will be valuable even if some students don't wear the protection. The study may find that while masks help prevent the spread of the flu and other respiratory illnesses, they may not be a viable option because people won't use them.

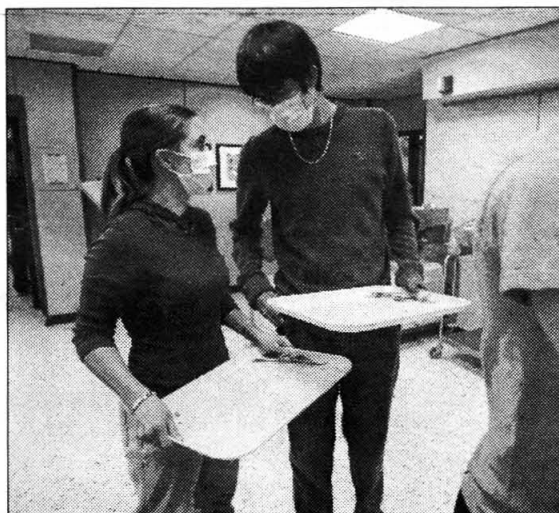
"There seems to be good acceptance of mask-wearing in many Asian countries, but there needs to be more research on the stigma associated with it here in the U.S. That is one of the things we want to try to get at in this study," Aiello said.

Tomas Aragon, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Preparedness at the University of California Berkeley School of Public Health, said it's hard to study disease prevention using healthy subjects because they may not feel threatened enough to change their behavior.

"It might well be that in the real world ... people are unwilling to wear a mask until maybe there is a real threat right upon them," Aragon said.

And even among those who wear them, how soon will they take them off?

"How good is a mask when you throw a large pizza in the middle of the table in the dorm?" asked Dr. Steven Wolinsky, chief of infectious diseases at



MCT

Denise Rowe, left, and boyfriend Brad Larson, both 18, wear masks at the University of Michigan as participants in a study of germ spreading.

Northwestern University.

That's what Michigan researchers will learn after collecting data from seven dorms, where students eat, sleep, study and socialize in close quarters.

Study coordinators lured participants with money—always needed by college students—and the chance to win iPods.

The mask wearers will get \$100 at the end of the study, while those in the control group will get \$40.

It even pays to get sick. Students who feel ill and get their throat swabbed to check for the influenza virus get an additional \$25.

Study participant Rowe, who

said she wears the mask eight hours a day, said she's upset that her dorm-mates aren't taking the study as seriously.

But, then again, she's not looking for a date.

Her boyfriend, 18-year-old Bradley Larson, also is in the study, said they wear their masks when they're watching television, studying, or waiting in line in the dorm's dining hall.

They even won a photo contest with a picture of their lips touching from beneath the masks.

Under the photo was a message: "Always wear protection."

MCT

Can we get a show of hands?

Election packets are ready for pick-up.

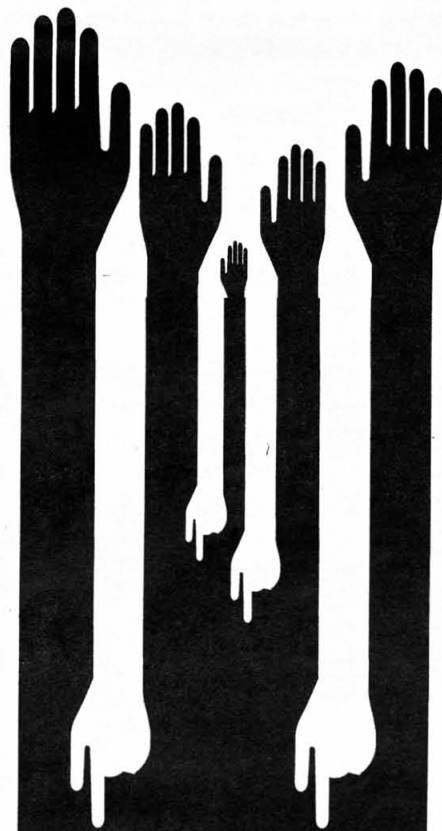
If you plan on running for senate in the 2007 Student government elections pick up your election packet, located in 1104 S. Wabash downstairs HUB office C.

Columbia 
COLLEGE CHICAGO



Packets are due March 27th

Elections will be held the week of April 16th-20th



Student Government Association presents

**Dr. Warrick Carter's
State of the
College
Address**

Wednesday
March 28th, 2007

Ferguson Theater
in 600 S. Michigan

Noon - 1:30

312-344-6657 sga@colum.edu



Columbia 

C O L L E G E C H I C A G O



Recycling: College may add more bins around campus

Continued from Front Page

Columbia recycled 21,117 lbs. of unsorted office paper, according to the report. In January, that number increased to 27,766 lbs.

Joanne Harding, who oversees recycling in the Office of Facilities and Operations, said she thinks the latest statements are encouraging.

"That means the new containers that we got are serving their purpose," she said.

Every month, Harding receives reports from Recycling Services, Inc., which list how much paper was recycled during that time, and the equivalent numbers of trees saved, water conserved and the amount of matter that did not go into landfills.

While Recycling Services, Inc. cannot currently provide reports on how much glass, plastic or aluminum is recycled, Kathryn Lisinicchia, program developer for Recycling Services, Inc., said the company would like to provide the reports in the future.

John Wawrzaszek has participated with the college's recycling program since 2000, three years before he graduated from Columbia and became employed by the college. He oversees a group of several student workers who visit each building at least once a week to pick up the recycling.

Wawrzaszek said they usually don't have a schedule to pick up the recycling, but rather they visit each building once a week and more often if necessary.

Beating up the big screen



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Shawn Bernal, far left, is filming Emmanuel Manzanara as he knees Anthony Paape in Grant Park on March 16. The three are members of Lazy Brown Productions which focuses on filming '80s kickboxing-style films.

"There's no rhyme or reason," Wawrzaszek said. "It just depends on where they're going for the day."

Wawrzaszek and the student workers put each building's waste and recycling into one of four dumpsters around campus. However, Wawrzaszek said all waste and recycling from south campus buildings go into a dumpster at the 1104 Center,

1104 S. Wabash Ave. And one dumpster is solely reserved for all of the Residence Center's waste.

The Residence Center didn't begin participating in the program until students returned in August, a few months after the other buildings had started, Wawrzaszek said.

"We needed a program over at the Residence Center, because you're going to get a lot more

glass, plastic and cans there, just because people live there and cook dinners," Harding said. "We needed to have a program in place to get a lot of that recyclable material out of the waste."

The Residence Center's participation also complies with a new city ordinance that requires all residential buildings to recycle, Wawrzaszek said.

While the college currently has four dumpsters, Harding said her office is looking into obtaining another for the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building for trash and recycling. She said they're determining if there is enough space for a dumpster behind the building. It should be determined in the next few months.

Other college officials are pleased with the program and its reports.

"I'm thrilled we finally instituted a comprehensive program," said Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment. "We were a little behind the times."

Although Columbia has had a recycling program for more than 15 years, it didn't take off until Wawrzaszek could spend more time with the student workers. Other institutions that have recycling programs through Recycling Services, Inc. include the City Colleges of Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago, Lisinicchia said.

Berg said she's looking forward to other recycling initiatives from Columbia. One possibility is participating in a study that would reveal the college's other main waste sources and suggesting how that amount could be lessened.

Berg said her office has continued to consider where some of the new recycling bin sets could

be used. There are currently 70 sets around campus, but the college may purchase more bins if there is an increased demand, she said.

"I'm sure we could always provide more [bins]," Berg said. "I'm sure there are instances on campus where people don't see a recycling bin handy and then, therefore, don't recycle."

Wawrzaszek said the only issue he's confronted is making it clear that the different colored bins mean that plastics, glass and aluminum can now be recycled.

"The only difficulty is getting people aware that we're doing it now," Wawrzaszek said. "People are just so used to the paper thing."

Now that the new initiative has begun, Wawrzaszek said an extra student worker has been hired to help with the recycling collections.

Now that the group is responsible for collecting wet waste, including pop cans and bottles, the team needs to make sure their pick-up schedule is more consistent.

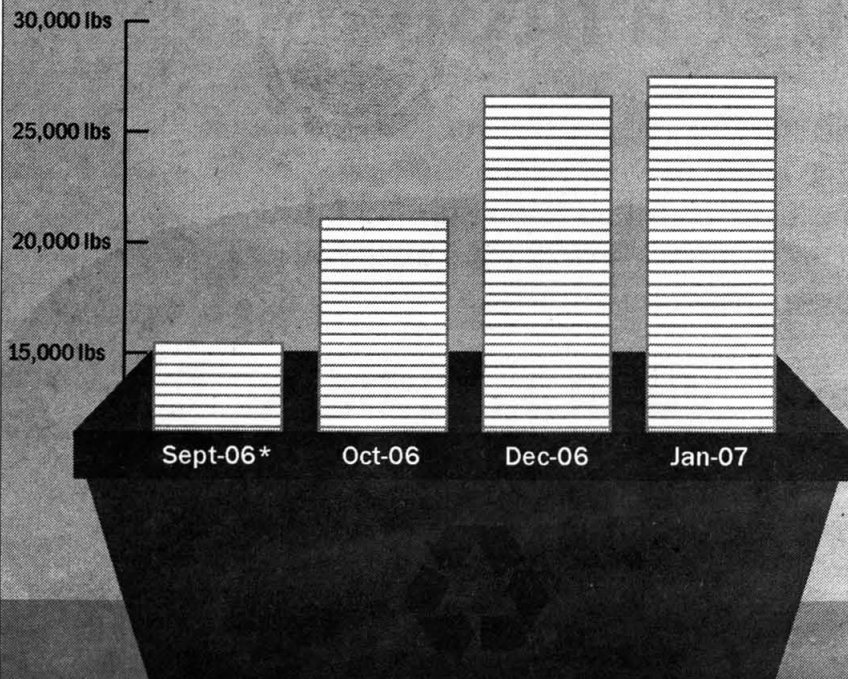
Christian Williams, a freshman interactive arts and media major, began working with Wawrzaszek last fall. Although he originally didn't recycle, he said this job has showed him how important it is.

The only problem he encounters when picking up the recycling is discovering that people don't pay attention when they use the bins and he has to then sort out the trash, he said.

"People confuse it with garbage, but it's recycling," Williams said. "We try to keep it simple and have the bins clearly marked."

amaurer@chroniclemail.com

Total Volume of Office Paper Collected from all Campus Buildings



*September does not include 731 S. Plymouth Court
November 2006 not available
Source: Building Services

Kimi Badger/The Chronicle



Give a lot of luck with just a little.

In five brilliant colors and starting at just \$72*, the 1GB iPod shuffle lets you wear up to 240 songs on your sleeve. Increase your music library up to 8GB with the the iPod Nano, starting at just \$199. Buy online or buy in store. Save an extra \$10 on the Silver 2GB Nano when purchased on campus.

Apple Store - Columbia College

Suite 224
33 East Congress Parkway
Chicago, Illinois
60605

www.colum.edu/applestore
applestore@colum.edu
(312)-344-8MAC
Facebook Group: Columbia Apple Students

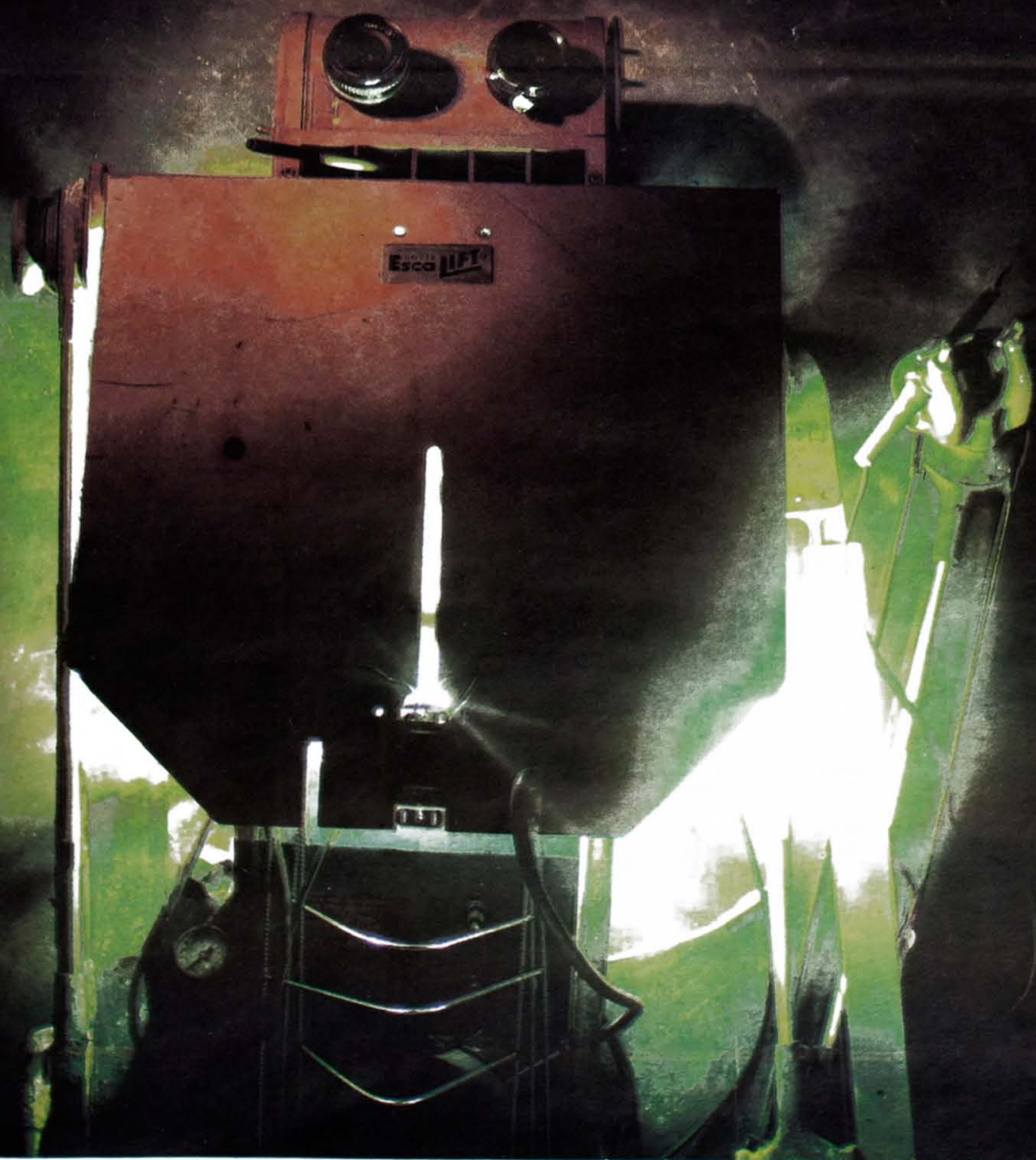


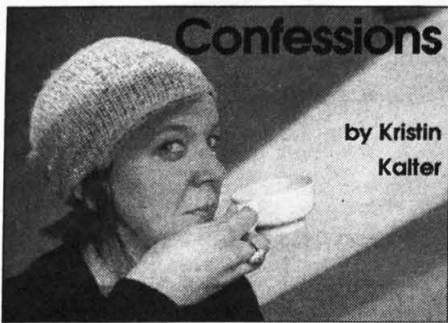
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



An Arts and Entertainment Supplement of the Columbia Chronicle

GLOBAL
ROBO
RAMPAGE
PAGE 20





Confessions

by Kristin Kalter

Buggin' out

I don't get frightened easily. I can't remember ever being scared from a horror film, haunted house or ghost story. But I do have one fear that freezes me in place at first sight and it's those creepy crawly things smaller than me: bugs! And I'm not just talking about spiders. I don't like any of them.

I don't know what started my fear, because as a kid I remember liking worms and roly-polies, the little gray bugs that would roll up into a ball. I used to hunt for them under rocks or the "Welcome" mat on our front porch after it rained, but now I run from them.

Maybe it started one morning when I was about 10 years old. I woke up, lying in bed on my back, and the first thing I saw was this huge furry black spider hanging about a foot away from my face. I screamed and rolled off the bed. Then I rushed my mom into my

kitchen. That thing didn't want to be caught and it seemed to be in there for a few days. That caused me to keep my door closed at all times and seal the crack between it and the wall with a towel. I would rush in and out of my room, determined not to let that monster with wings back in my space.

An old roommate of mine took advantage of my fear one day. He found a spider in his room and thought it would be funny if he held onto it with both of his hands. He started chasing me around the apartment, laughing hysterically as I was screaming at the top of my lungs.

Then, he decided to open up his hands and throw the spider in my direction. This made me lose it, and I started jumping around the room, shaking and stomping to make sure the spider was not crawling on any part of me, hopefully killing it if it was on the ground.

area, but we were lonely.

In fact, between me and the majority of my female comrades, less than a handful of hook-ups occurred before this school year started, and that just isn't right.

But if the weekend of the South Side Irish Parade is any indication of how this spring and summer will play out, I think we're off to a good start. For the past

three years, my friends and I have made a tradition out of having a day-long drink-a-thon on parade day. This time around my boyfriend and I met up with our friends at P.J. Clarke's, a Gold Coast bar, at 9 in the morning. We reveled in the all-you-can-eat buffet and all-you-can-drink open bar for three hours, then continued the party at a friend's apartment in Little Italy.

Judging from the way the beer was flowing and the way the warm weather was heightening everyone's spring fever, a hook-up or two seemed inevitable. As the afternoon carried on in a drunken haze of random conversations, hormones started running full force. By sundown, two of my single friends made their way to the bathroom to make out. I didn't really see it coming, but I was happy they were both able to get their piece on such a great and festive day.

Unfortunately their bathroom

escapades were interrupted when another friend knocked the door open because people were lining up to pee.

And I must say the alcohol and my never-ending crush on my boy's cute looks brought me over the edge as well; I couldn't keep my hands off him. I think at some point I wanted to make my way into the bathroom too when it finally opened up, but my boyfriend, thankfully, has better manners.

That weekend may have only consisted of minor hook-ups, but it was already more exciting and scandalous than last year. And I can tell my friends and I are going to have a successful season; spring fever's not gonna keep us down and out forever!

tbreyne@chroniclemail.com

Read My Lips

by Tiffany Breyne



Spring into action

The fabulous 60-plus degree weather before spring break came at a much-needed time as the winter slump of harsh winds and dirty slush were starting to drive me insane. And while I can't explain how ready I was to throw my winter jacket back in the closet, I must say I wasn't quite as ready for the inevitable spring fever that came with it.

As my friend and I headed out to a bar one weekend after a long day at work, we realized our last bout of spring fever didn't even seem that long ago. Not too many months prior, we had been pining for some sexual healing as we spent our summer days lounging on the beach, and nights emptying our beer bottles at various bars in the city.

Unfortunately for both of us, last spring and summer proved to be a bit of a bust in the hooking-up department; maybe we weren't looking in the right spots or there was a depressing shortage of decent guys in the Chicagoland

area, but we were lonely.

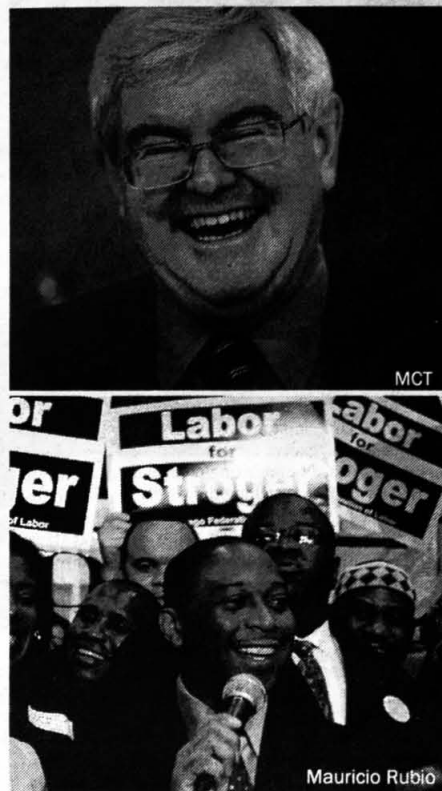
In fact, between me and the majority of my female comrades, less than a handful of hook-ups occurred before this school year started, and that just isn't right.

But if the weekend of the South Side Irish Parade is any indication of how this spring and summer will play out, I think we're off to a good start. For the past

tbreyne@chroniclemail.com



JACKASS OF THE WEEK



Mauricio Rubio

While some weeks are slower than others in terms of jackass-ness, it seems politicians have really stepped up to the plate and kept things interesting over the past few weeks. So, for your reading pleasure, here are two of the latest political "boo-boos" in the news:

Newt Gingrich: Gingrich, Speaker of the House during the 1990s, was one of the forerunners in the Clinton impeachment after the president engaged in—and then lied about—an extra-marital affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. Now he admits that, oops, he was also having an affair at the time of the impeachment trials. While still married to his now ex-wife, the 63-year-old got it on with a congressional assistant 20 years his junior. But hey, he eventually married the younger one, the lucky gal. Maybe Newt finally realized his soul was on the line after he so adamantly—and hypocritically—worked to punish a guy for committing the same act of adultery and felt the need to work on that. Juicy!

Cook County government officials: Hey, remember that time when \$500,000 went missing from the Cook County budget? Yeah, that was funny ... or maybe not so much. After a recent audit of the county, it was discovered that nearly \$290,000 of inmates' money being held in the jail commissary is missing, as well as \$240,000 from an account holding money for heirs that can't be found. Aside from the money, the audit also came across a county car auction in which 65 cars were sold in less than 40 minutes, mostly to one individual, leading auditors to believe a kickback scheme was the motivation for the quick sells.

Although it seems people are pretty clueless as to how so much money could have slipped through the cracks from the already debt-ridden budget, Cook County Commissioner Tony Peraica is MacGuyver-ing it up and trying to get to the bottom of the case. Fingerprinting is aimed in the direction of the Stroger father-son duo: the elder John Stroger, the former county board president, and Todd Stroger, the younger current one. Todd's response? "We're all human, and eventually, something is going to happen that you are going to have to correct." Though his answer is priceless, the dude's still out half a million dollars for his county.

—T. Breyne



Love us or hate us...

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



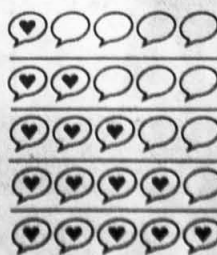
Chrissy Mahlmeister - cmahlmeister@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8975

Kristin Kalter - kkalter@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8970

Matt Fagerholm - mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com - (312) 344-8969

Ratings Guide

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



Complete Crap

Download It

Pretty Entertaining

Very Good

Word Up

Dana
NelsonJenn
ZimmermanLeah
Banks

Top 5

REASONS I DON'T LIKE COMING BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER SPRING BREAK

Homework: Why do teachers insist on piling up the workload while I'm supposed to be enjoying time away? It's like being in school, except the classrooms are locked and instead of relaxing on a sunny Florida beach, I'm watching the waves from inside a glass prison. And working on some extensive assignment that was given because I supposedly have more time to work on it now.

Summer: Spring break is the ultimate summer teaser. Not only has it started warming up outside, but I'm finally free to do whatever I want for an entire week. It's just like being a little kid again.

Laziness: After becoming accustomed to lounging in hammocks and cloud-gazing, it's hard to get back into the swing of going to class and work every day. I'd rather space out during class and hang out at the park instead of paying attention and doing homework.

Traveling: The trip away is always exciting, but the trip back is just a pile of dread. Jet lag, long hours on a bus or in a car, the responsibilities that eagerly await back home... Traveling back is definitely not a favorite of mine.

Finals: Disregarding the fact that midterms just finished and finals are about six weeks away, they have a way of sneaking up before you're able to come back to reality. At least when finals are over, summer break is here!

REASONS WHY MIDTERMS ROCK MY WORLD RIGHT NOW

Class gets out early: Sure, I may be up studying all night and stress might make my shoulders feel like there are rocks in them. But for the first time this semester, I got home before the sun went down and I gotta say, I missed it.

Halfway anyone?: I am now half through my last semester and I can almost smell the dirty water and city pollution outside Navy Pier on Graduation Day.

Drinking: I've never been a big drinker but the taste of a Corona with lime always brightens the mood after knowing I bombed that test.

Spring Break: No, I'm not going anywhere. Yet sleeping in, not showering till 5 and then having my own mini-concert in the shower—because I have time to belt it out like no one's business—sounds like a vacation to me.

Friends: I will be spending some serious time making up for the nights out I had to say no to. My life has been in shambles right now between work, school and moving.

THINGS THAT KEEP ME ALIVE

Dirty politicians: In a place where it's OK to be a little dirty, I have come to appreciate the sticky politicians of the Windy City. Hey, if they weren't so dirty maybe this city wouldn't need two newspapers and so many reporters.

Blogger: I'm always the last to know about the latest trend, and this time it's Blogger.com. In just 10 minutes you can be up and running with this fabulous website, blabbing about the latest outrage of the day. Getting someone to read it is the hard part.

Red Bull: I have to admit, I was turned off by my first sip. I bought it as a joke the first time, and quickly discarded the full can. Now I'm a Red Bull addict. I've also managed to get my mother and a bevy of friends hooked on the golden juice.

Cupcakes from Southport Cafe: Fluffy, yellow cake as light as air. Thick, buttercream frosting. Enough said. 3552 N. Southport Ave.

James H. Ewert Jr.: You may not know this kid, but he sits behind me and he's my opposite in almost every way. He wears recycled clothes, travels the city by public transportation and is anti-everything. But most importantly he is a passionate journalist committed to covering the aforementioned dirty politicians. Moral: Don't judge people because you just might like them.

Calendar of Events

MONDAY

Do design and architecture strike your fancy? Well, the **Streeterville Organization of Active Residents** is hosting an event for Chicagoans to take a gander at the design plans for the **Chicago Spire**. Registration is at 5:45 p.m. in the Ontario Room of the Courtyard by Marriott, 165 E. Ontario St. For more information, visit the website soarchicago.org.

TUESDAY

Think you're the big cheese? Two chefs from New York restaurants **Picholine** and **Artisanal Cheese** collaborate to make a menu entirely of delectable cheeses at **160 Blue**, 1400 W. Randolph St., and wines from **Hartley-Ostini Hitching Post Winery** (recognizable from the movie *Sideways*). Five course meal paired with wine is \$95, and reservations can only be made by calling (312) 850-0303.

WEDNESDAY

Explosions In The Sky, an instrumental band with a reputation of wowing audiences, returns to Chicago with their new album *All Of A Sudden I Miss Everyone*. This all ages show is at 6:30 p.m. at the **Metro**, 3730 N. Clark St. Tickets cost \$13 in advance, and \$15 at the door.

Silent films get a dose of sound. The **Accessible Contemporary Music** group is performing current music to new silent films at the **Chopin Theatre**, 1543 W. Division St. Tickets cost \$7 and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit acmusic.org.

THURSDAY

Never thought that **Viewmasters** would land a place in an art exhibit? Well, now they have, thanks to artist **Vladimir** from Portland, Ore. The artist handmade stereoscopic images for the attendees to enjoy through a Viewmaster at the **Gene Siskel Film Center**, 164 N. State St. Tickets are \$7 for students, and general admission is \$9.

FRIDAY

The first day of the 2007 **Chicago International Documentary Film Festival** begins at the **Pritzker Auditorium** located in the **Harold Washington Library**, 400 S. State St. The festival runs until April 8 throughout many Chicago theaters. Individual student tickets are \$7 and \$9 for everyone else.

SATURDAY

A DIY circuit-bending workshop for people that want to make electronic music through modifying toys with circuits is at **The Old Town School of Folk Music**, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., from 1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. The price is \$40, and you need to bring an electronic toy and batteries. For more information, visit oldtownschool.org.

SUNDAY

Enjoy the end of the week by taking a nice 60-minute tour on the **Shoreline Sightseeing Architecture Cruise**. The trip starts at **Illinois Street** and **Streeter Drive** and travels the **Chicago River** to give viewers more than 40 buildings to gawk at. Tours start at 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tickets cost anywhere from \$13 to \$26. For more information call (312) 222-9328.

Exposure



Andrew Nelles/The Chronicle

The amount of renewal and growth in the downtown area is astonishing; it is hard to walk more than a few blocks without seeing a major construction project of some sort. In this photo a construction worker assists the movement of a large metal beam near Dearborn and Randolph streets.

Customizing the bar experience

System lets tavern-goers showcase personalized videos

By Allison Riggio/Associate Editor

If reality television shows like "American Idol" and "Dancing with the Stars" prove anything, it's an itch for 15 minutes of fame that's taken most of the country by storm. And if Chicago bar-goers are looking for a chance to scratch that itch, Livebar.net might be just what they're looking for.

This new service allows registered users to upload video content to the website and request to see it at any of several participating bars. Users can decide when and where they want to see their favorite homemade videos.

Livebar.net is the newest installation to Tap.tv, a network service that provides on-screen music, sports and news content to bars and other retailers, according to

Tim Dorgan, president and Chief Operating Officer of Tap.tv.

"What we're trying to do—and it's probably pretty obvious—is take advantage of all the interest in consumer-created content," Dorgan said.

While websites like YouTube.com allow Internet surfers to upload and watch videos, viewing is limited to the computer screen, Dorgan added.

"We wanted to take that and allow people to show it in an out-of-home environment where maybe a bunch of their friends could see it," Dorgan said.

Registration with Livebar.net is free and requires that users provide an e-mail address and cell phone number. Once registration is com-

plete, members can upload their personal videos to the website and choose which bar they want to see them played at. The company then sends a code via text message to the member's cell phone. When he or she arrives at the bar, they can "call up" their video by texting the code back to the company. About an hour later, their personal video will play at the bar.

"We offer bar owners the chance to offer unique content, the ability to advertise on their own screens and, through our technology, be able to control those very expensive video screens that they have in a way that they've never been able to do before," Dorgan said.

Livebar.net first arrived in Chicago during late February and currently, users can only view their videos at the three John Barleycorn locations at 658 W. Belden Ave., 3524 N. Clark St. and 2142 N. Clybourn Ave. Other Chicagoland subscribers to Tap.tv are awaiting rollout of the Livebar.net channel.

Users have uploaded about 100 videos since Livebar.net started roughly a month ago, Dorgan said, and Tap.tv is hopeful that interest will pick up in time.

Participation with the Tap.tv program has been a success at the John Barleycorn location on Clybourn Avenue; however, customers at the Clark Street bar in Wrigleyville don't notice the sys-

tem as much, according to J.R. Cranston, manager at the Clark location.

"It's not a big draw," Cranston said. "Some people do take note of it, but don't [participate]."

The clientele in the Wrigleyville location tends to be primarily sports fans, he said, so patrons enjoy the extreme sports clips that Tap.tv provides. He added it's too early to tell whether or not the customers at the Clark Street Barleycorn will participate with Tap.tv's Livebar.net.

If it does take off, Dorgan thinks it may be possible to start an "underground 'American Idol'" where bar patrons could view members' performances on the Livebar.net screens and vote on their favorites—just like on the show—by sending in a text message.

"I think the opportunity for amateur musicians and amateur stand-up comics to get their stuff on a screen is almost too much to resist," Dorgan said.

Tap.tv runs as a split-screen so bars can use the other half for in-house ads and Tap.tv can generate third-party ad revenue as well.

Timothy O'Toole's, 622 N.

BECOME A BAR STAR

1. Register with Livebar.net
2. Log on
3. Upload videos from your PC
4. Pick the bar
5. Submit selection
6. Receive text code
7. Go to selected bar
8. Send code back
9. Wait about an hour
10. Watch your video play

Kimi Badger/The Chronicle

Fairbanks Court, has had the Tap.tv service since the end of 2006. They expect the Livebar.net feature soon, according to the pub's marketing manager, Alexis Spetly.

"We really wanted a way to advertise—and not just advertise—but inform our customers about what was going on and what we had to offer," Spetly said. "[We wanted to] get away from all the posters and all that kind of stuff that I think just really doesn't fit the atmosphere."

O'Toole's expects the new channel will do well on its Tap.tv lineup—which Spetly said has gotten a good response from customers so far.

"I think that the more places that carry it the more it will take off," Spetly said, "because then you know no matter where you go that you can see your videos."

ariggio@chroniclemail.com



Tim Hunt/The Chronicle

A screen at Timothy O'Toole's, 622 N. Fairbanks Court, plays Tap.tv for patrons. The bar expects Livebar.net to arrive soon.

SLC

A NEIGHBORHOOD HOT SPOT...

SOUTH LOOP CLUB

Bar & Grill

SLEEP CLASS. WORK. SLC.

Stop in for a bit to eat, watch your favorite sports teams on the big screen, listen to great tunes on the jukebox or just stop in for a drink:

WE ARE OPEN WHEN YOU ARE!

701 S. STATE ST.
312.427.2787
SUN - FRI: 11AM-4AM
SAT UNTIL 5AM

10%
Student Discount
w/ food purchase
(show ID)

HOT BARTENDERS,
SERVERS & BUKIN'
BUFFALO WINGS!

over 60 beers. 8 screens. private parties. open late!

Got Eggs?

EGG DONORS NEEDED.
Will Pay a Minimum of \$7,000 For Donation.

.....The Center for EGG Options, LLC

Our egg donor program is completely anonymous and is owned and operated by our professional and caring nursing staff.

We are in need of healthy, non-smoking females between the ages of 21-30 years old.

- Local physicians available
- Matches made quickly
- 24/7 donor support
- Driving expenses reimbursed

847.656.8733 or 773.490.EGGS
www.egg411.com
info@egg411.com

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH LOOP!

Plymouth Restaurant & Bar

Located Next to the Harold Washington Library!

Mon - Fri: 6am - Late Night Saturday: 7am - Late Night Sunday: 7am - Evening

PLYMOUTH

Great Food! Great Prices!

South Loop's Newest Diner!

- ★ Breakfast Served ALL Day!
- ★ Daily Restaurant & Bar Specials!!
- ★ Full Bar ★ Plasma TV's

Book Your Next School Event @ Plymouth Gift Cards Available!

****10% off for Staff, Faculty & Students**

327 S. PLYMOUTH CT
(312) 362-1212

*** Limited Time Offer
Valid ID & Food purchase required

DELILAH'S

2771 N. Lincoln • (773) 472-2771

PUNK ROCK MONDAYS

\$1 AMERICAN BEER

\$2 Jim Beam

Free Pool & Fun !!!

DIY: The Entrepreneurial Spirit

A Business of Art Conference

April 13-14, 2007
at Columbia College Chicago

This 2-day conference will provide you with the skills necessary to create and develop your artistic practice in the "Do-it-Yourself" spirit.

create...
change

WWW.COLUM.EDU/PORTFOLIO

Sponsored by: Chicago Artists' Coalition, College Art Association and
Columbia College Chicago's Art & Design Department, Ecenter AEMMD and Portfolio Center

Friday, April 13

The DIY Panel

6PM in 623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor Hokin Hall

Join us for a panel discussion focusing on strategies for successful careers with Adam Brooks and Mathew Wilson of the Industry of the Ordinary, Two Girls Working (collaborative duo from NY), and moderator Melissa Potter, Career Development Associate, College Art Association

FREE admission. No registration necessary.

Saturday, April 14

623 S. Wabash, 2nd Floor

12PM

Opening Session: Preparing "Creatives" for Entrepreneurial Ventures

Joseph Roberts, Columbia College Chicago
Genevieve Thiers, OperaModa and Sittercity, Inc

1PM-5PM

The DIY Workshops

Learn the Ins-and-outs of developing a sustainable art practice during a day of workshops:

Developing a Digital Portfolio Dirk Matthews, Portfolio Center

Grant Writing Melissa Potter, College Art Association

Creating a Business Plan Chris Smith, Chicago Artists' Coalition

Financial Planning Michele Conti, Chicago Artists' Coalition

Space is limited to 100 participants. To register, log-on to www.caconline.org before April 11.

Costs:

CAC members: \$40

Columbia College students: \$10

Other students: \$20

Non CAC members: \$60

Graduating students & recent alumni:

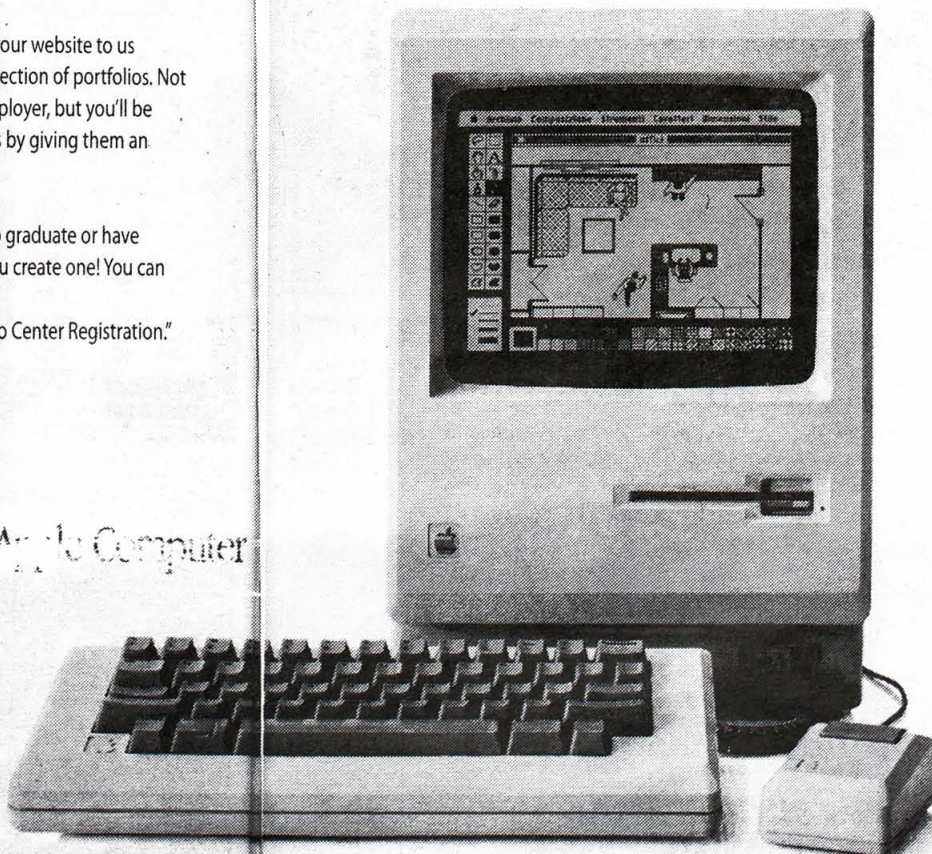
Do you already have a web portfolio? If so, please email your website to us (dmatthews@colum.edu), so we can include it in our collection of portfolios. Not only might you end up getting a call from a potential employer, but you'll be helping those who haven't yet completed their portfolios by giving them an excellent example of how it's done.

If you DO NOT have a web portfolio, and you are about to graduate or have graduated within the past six months, then let us help you create one! You can register for portfolio production by going online to: <http://www.colum.edu/portfolio> and clicking on "Portfolio Center Registration."



Apple Computer

PORTFOLIO CENTER



The ice queen comes clean

Amy Poehler adds a comedic twist to ice skating

By Chrissy Mahlmeister/A&E Editor

"Saturday Night Live" star Amy Poehler jumps into the rink for her newest film, *Blades of Glory*, as an ice champion named Fairchild, who Poehler described as "the kind of evil girl who would sit on top of a cake." Poehler and Will Arnett—not only an on-screen couple on the ice, but a real-life one as well—are jealous of Will Ferrell and Jon Heder's popularity as an unlikely male duo and will do anything to bring them down.

Amy Poehler spared a moment from her home in Los Angeles to discuss how much she misses her improv days in Chicago and the enormous amount of fun she had on the set of *Blades of Glory*, which glides into theaters on March 30.

The Chronicle: Did you have any control over the costumes in the movie? Looking at the movie stills, they are pretty outrageous.

Amy Poehler: Julie Weiss was the costume designer and we had tons and tons of fittings. We would

just go crazy and then we would watch the actual Olympics and then say, "No, we need to go crazier! We need to go bigger!"

There were amazing and uncomfortable costumes that lit up like a Christmas tree. There was this disgusting costume where Will [Arnett] and I are skating to our version of a hip-hop song and we have thug outfits that are just not right. They're a little outdated.

We had some super cool costumes. We had really long fittings to make sure we could actually skate in them. I didn't get to keep any, but I wanted to, though. I'm hoping one day they'll hang in the comedy Smithsonian.

I think they're going to start sweeping the campus. They're very, very tight lycra and lots of jewels and feathers and stuff. I think my favorite part about the outfit was the Converse skates. Will had Timberlands. Those are for all the inner-city kids that are out there.

It must have been fun working with this hilarious cast. What was it like on the set?

We had to rehearse a lot. We had to practice a lot [of] ice skating together. A lot of times we would be out on the ice rehearsing, and as you know, Will Ferrell is a mountain of a man as it is and on ice skates, he's officially 10 feet tall. So there would be a lot of trash-talking on the ice about us taking each other out and ending each others' careers. That was really fun.

What was your strategy for taking down Will?

What I lack inside I make up for with a fresh mouth. I'd yell my stuff and then I'd skate away. I'd go hide under a chair where no one could find me.

What are your ultimate goals in life?

They involve world peace, stopping global warming and making sure we all just start getting along.



MCT

Amy Poehler is all smiles for her new film 'Blades of Glory.'

They involve building robots and building a rocket ship in my basement. As you college kids know, there's too much going on in this world. It's a crazy world. We're at a boiling point right now. They're really big goals. I'm really screwed. I'm not going to be able to do any of it, but I'm going to try my best. I watched *The Secret*, and it told me that it could happen.

In high school or college, did you ever go through an awkward phase?

I'm still in it. Do you see how short I am? In high school and college I was a real loud mouth, I gotta say. I grew up in the '80s in Massachusetts, which means big hair and not-so-fantastic fashion. [There was] a lot of Bon Jovi influence, so I had to fight against that. Then, when I got to college, I started doing theater and I met all

my cool gay friends, and they turned me around. They gave me a makeover. I think for the most part I'm the same as I was in high school and college. Maybe my eyebrows are a little thinner.

What's your favorite memory from Chicago?

Oh, Chicago! I miss Chicago so much! Potbelly sandwiches! I was so broke when I lived in Chicago. I started at ImprovOlympic, [now called the iO Theater], and Second City. I don't know if I can pick just one. I have so many. Maybe rolling pennies because I was so broke and then riding my bike to free improv shows. I have very nostalgic days about Chicago.

cmahlmeister@chroniclemail.com

take 1 FILMFESTIVAL

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO'S FILM & VIDEO DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
TAKE 1 FILMFESTIVAL

A JURIED FESTIVAL FEATURING THE BEST OF PRODUCTION I AND PRODUCTION II STUDENT FILMS



wednesday march 28
film row cinema
1104 south wabash, 8th floor

reception 5:30 pm
food and beverages will be served
festival screening 6:00 pm

awards will be presented
free admission

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

WHAT SETS YOU OFF?
This September, blaze a brand new trail to success.

FILM

GAME DEVELOPMENT

RECORDING ARTS

COMPUTER ANIMATION

FLASHPOINT

THE ACADEMY OF MEDIA ARTS AND SCIENCES

The time is now to ignite your potential at a new digital media college that will forever change the face of education in Chicago.

Only at Flashpoint will you find intimate classes, emerging technologies and immediate access to over 50,000 sq ft of state-of-the-art production facilities, including multiple sound stages, Avid suites, mixing rooms and graphics bays. Focus exclusively on your creative passion. Learn workflow skills the industry wants and demands. Actively participate in working productions.

Don't just study, become a highly valuable prospect as you launch yourself into a lucrative career. A white-hot future awaits.

Light the fuse. Find your Flashpoint.

ENROLLMENT LIMITED

flashpointacademy.com

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

I'm the operator with a pocket calculator

Story by Kristin Kalter and Chrissy Mahlmeister

Photos by Mauricio Rubio

Graphics by Joshua Covarrubias

Blue and red wires reflect playfully off of Gil Carre's glasses and with a wide smile, he places his tiny machine upon the strategically-taped runway. Carre quickly glances around at his opponents, who are cracking jokes about calculators and engineering, and he adjusts his collar and sets his handmade creation to work. With one press of a button, the robot gains speed, senses the white tape on the desk and stops when it gets to the edge of the table. It returns to Carre exactly where he had first placed it. The crowd of boys and men cheer in excitement and wring their hands for their possible chance at robot programming stardom.

These men are from the ChiBots, a robotics group in Chicago, which is one of the few groups that have formed throughout the Midwest. Unified by an interest in mechanics, engineering and programming, they are finally packing up their soldering irons and moving their machine building from the basement to libraries and museums across Illinois where they can not only share ideas and tips, but laughs and entertainment as well.

ChiBots

Tabletop competitions are just one of the bullet points on the Chibots monthly agenda. The group caters to those who have a strong interest in robots, regardless of their background in electronics. While the ChiBots are about building very basic robots, the group can be the stepping stone to more advanced building and programming.

Royce Pipkins, the president of ChiBots, said there are three major disciplines associated with building robots: mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and computer science—but being a genius in all three is nearly impossible.

"No one is ever good at all of them," Pipkins said. "It helps to have some skill in at least one of them, but the best thing you can do is find an actual club that meets and talk to them about it."

ChiBots has grown dramatically in size since it first began in 2001 with six members. Now it has around 35 to 40 people per meeting, according to the ChiBots secretary Tom Gralewicz. Most of the members are boys and their fathers or retired engineers and programmers.

"Robotics can replace the model railroad father-child hobby," said Cliff Boerema, a ChiBots member who specializes in building circuits. "Some robots are very accessible, but you can get pretty sophisticated."

Development in the world of robotics has become more apparent from robot vacuum cleaners to lawn mowers, sparking quite an interest in consumers.

"Robots mirror the computer in a lot of ways," Pipkins said. "I think initially the necessity [of robots] won't be

totally apparent, but someone will begin to use robots to increase their productivity, like in car manufacturing plants, for example. They are ultimately rudimentary robots that do well and do it the exact same way every time, but it increases their productivity and quality."

He said as people start to take advantage of that, the competitive pressure will start to take over and robots will become more necessary.

While the importance of robots in the future is still in question, engineers and programmers are hard at work trying to recreate a mechanical human brain. According to Pipkins, it's been possible to make a computer's mathematical power equal to that of a cockroach for about a decade or two, but it still seems impossible to make an actual computerized cockroach.

There's a big difference between the hardware installed in a robot and the algorithms that run inside of it. Robots can see with perfect clarity, but they can't perceive. To them, it's just an array of pixels, Pipkins said.

"Sometimes it's hard for folks to understand because [the ability to perceive is] born into them," Pipkins said. "They don't realize the actual processing that is going on. The photons hitting your retina is just the beginning of the process. The brain does a massive amount of analysis on the information coming into your eyeballs. That analysis is extremely hard to emulate, but we're getting better."

While the idea of robots impersonating humans poses quite a challenge, the concept of robots helping humans is making

big strides in the science and medical world. Engineers are currently working on nano-sized robots that can be sent into the body to do cellular repair or fix arteries. The creators are teaching these nano robots to walk and swim, Pipkins said.

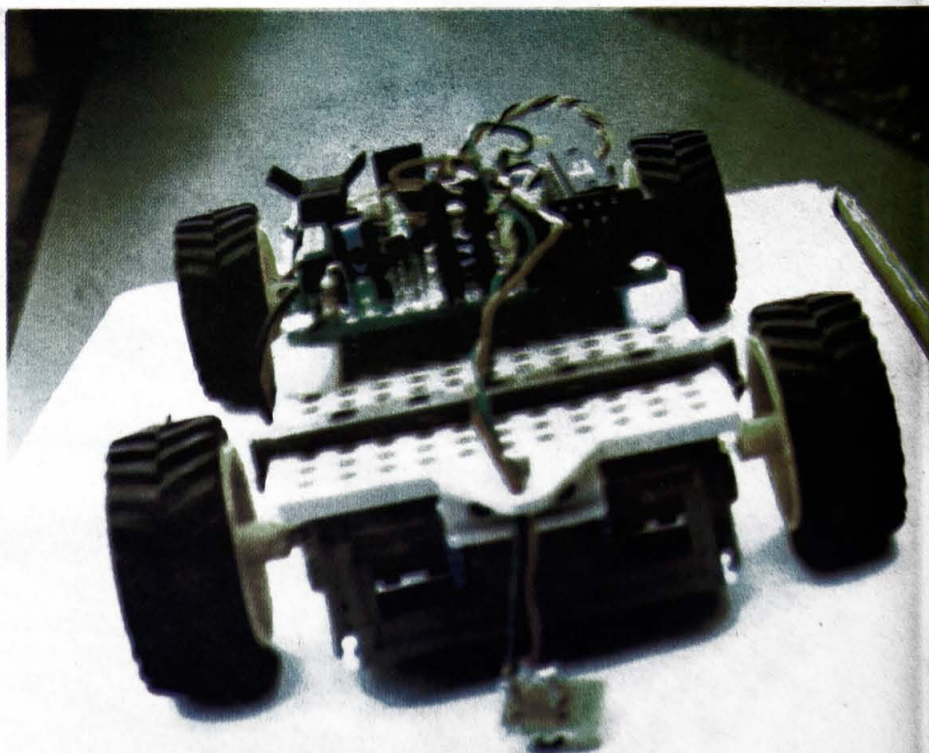
Central Illinois Robotics Club

People living outside of Chicago with a strong interest in robots can still partake in the mechanical adventures that ChiBots offers. In the town of Peoria, Ill., which has a population of a little more than 100,000, a small group of about eight people meet monthly to show off their newly-built or purchased toy robots. They are called the Central Illinois Robotics Club and only one of their members makes a living from building the robots. The rest just do it for fun.

"It's hobby robotics," said Bruce Stott, president of the Central Illinois Robotics Club. "The club is made up of people who enjoy building robots but might not necessarily have enough time."

He said the type of people who build robots for a hobby usually enjoy working with their hands, messing around with mechanical and electronic equipment and programming computers. Stott said the ideal builder would be good at all of those things, but someone could learn even if they're not good at any of them.

On March 10, the Central Illinois Bot Brawl 2007 took place in Peoria. It was



Seen above are a couple of the handmade robots being tested to see if they meet



Royce Pipkins, president of the ChiBots, gets his robot ready to go for the tabletop competition at an event held in Schaumburg on March 11.

open to anyone who wanted to enter their robot in one of the competitions, which included radio controlled combat, autonomous sumo, line following and line maze. People traveled from Racine, Wis., Fort Wayne, Ind., Purdue University and St. Louis to put their bots to the test.

Stott said only three of the CIRC members entered the competition.

"It's frustrating because I'm one of the people that didn't do it," he said.

The autonomous sumo is one of the competitions Stott enjoyed watching and wished he would have had the chance to participate in.

The way the sumo competition works is this: Two robots are put in a ring one inch above ground level with white tape that borders the circle. The object of the game is for one of the robots to push the other one out of the ring. Stott said the robots are set down in the ring and once the referee says "go," a button is pressed and the owners get out of the way. The robots are pro-

grammed to sense brightness, darkness and touch in order to sense where the boundaries and other robots are.

The sumo competition was divided up by weight class, similar to how real wrestling is divided. There is a Lego class for robots built with parts from the Lego toy company, the 500 gram class for robots weighing just more than a pound and the 3 kilogram class for robots weighing about 6.6 pounds.

"People have different strategies,"

Stott said. "One person in the Lego class had it set up to just shoot straight forward as fast as it could to just ram the other [robot] out."

He said the other robots in the competition couldn't figure out a strategy to back away quick enough from the super fast robot, which ended up winning the division because it was shooting across the ring in less than a tenth of a second.

Stott said he got into the club by attending one of the competitions three years ago.

"I thought this would be something fun for me and my son to get involved together," he said. "He was little bit too young, but now that he's [9 years old] he does OK with it and can do OK programming."

Children's interest in robotics is a big part of the resurgence of the hobby, Stott said. This is why the CIRC also co-sponsors the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics competition every October for kids from fourth to eighth grade.

Stott works full time as a research engineer at Caterpillar, a construction, mining and industrial equipment manufacturer. He said his mechanical work there is on a much bigger and more complicated scale than what building hobby robots entails.

Due to his strenuous job, he prefers to stay on the hobby side of robot building. This is why when he hears about people building robot parts to become part of—or go inside of—humans, it kind of scares him, he said.

"I could see it being very good, but I could see it being kind of misused, too," Stott said. "I like the idea of it becoming an extension of a person as long as it's not automatic and the person is still in control. You don't want the arm smacking you in the head."

But when he thought about it, he said hobby robots could be used as military intelligence with a little tweaking.

"People are working on little cockroach, bird or butterfly-looking things," Stott said. "From 100 feet away, you wouldn't realize it was something flying around, taking pictures."

While the possibilities of robots are endless, so are the creations and innovative ideas which stem from the members themselves.

Both clubs are open for anyone to join. On May 12, ChiBots is hosting a competition similar to the CIRC competition. Anyone interested can head to the Museum of Science and Industry, located at the intersection of 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive. For more information, visit chibots.org or <http://cirm.mtco.com>.



standards to compete in the competition at the ChiBots monthly

The write stuff

Author Ben Tanzer independently releases 'Lucky Man'

By Becky Schlikerman/Staff Writer

Finding a balance between a 9-to-5 job and an artistic endeavor may be hard, but Ben Tanzer proves it can be done.

Tanzer, a 38-year-old social worker, husband and father, can now add novelist to that list. He has released his first novel, *Lucky Man*, and held his first reading at Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave., on March 7.

The reading at Quimby's, an independent bookstore known for the unusual publications it carries, was the first for the book.

The novel tracks the story of four friends through the end of high school, into college and for a few years after. The book is divided into four parts and each one of the characters is focused upon in a section. The characters confront issues of abandonment while dealing with other problems like rage, substance abuse and sexuality.

"My inspiration was an interest in trying to track the lives of people who are friends of a certain age who spend so much time together that in many ways their lives start to merge together," Tanzer said.

Although *Lucky Man* is highly fictionalized, Tanzer borrows from his own experiences to breathe life into his characters.

An example can be found in Louie, a character whose father suffers from seizures. Tanzer's father also has a seizure disorder.

"[The experiences] are very lifted but not in the same way I've lived them," Tanzer said.

Tanzer wrote *Lucky Man* in three months. He would write early in the morning or late at night after his family was asleep or on his lunch break at work.

According to Tanzer, the director of chapter services for Prevent Child Abuse America, writing while having a full time job and a family is a difficult juggling act.

"I'm trying to do all three as well as possible," Tanzer said. "My goal is to write a minimum of 30 minutes every day."

But since his writing career only started eight years ago, he knows nothing different.

"This is the only way I know how to do it," Tanzer said.

He started writing *Lucky Man* after seeing Don De Grazia, a faculty member in the Fiction Writing Department at Columbia, read from *American Skin: A Novel* five years ago.

"[American Skin] convinced me that I could write a book," Tanzer said. "It sounded like a book I could write."

In addition to short stories and novels, Tanzer has been published in magazines like Punk Planet, Chicago Parent and Opium Magazine, among others. Tanzer also writes a blog where he mostly records observations and tracks the progress of his new novel.

The novel passed through the hands of two publishers, one of which "flaked out" while the other closed because of a lack of funding for independent books. Oregon-based Manx Media eventually published the novel.

"If you're a fantastic writer and you keep at it, things will break for you," Tanzer said.

But being published isn't the most important thing.

Steve Lafler, owner of Manx Media, also read from his new graphic novel *40 Hour Man*, at Quimby's March 7. Lafler said creating art doesn't have to be based on financial gains.

People like Tanzer tackle the art first and then worry about the commercial and business aspect, Lafler said.

"[There is a] love of the craft," Lafler said. "If you want to make art, make art."

Tanzer recommends that students interested in writing be dedicated to their work. In addition,



Andrew Nelles/The Chronicle

Ben Tanzer smiles outside of his office at 500 N. Michigan Ave. He recently released his first book, 'Lucky Man.'

tion, he suggests keeping a list of ongoing ideas.

Aaron Skog, a 37-year-old Oak Park librarian, said he plans on reading the book after attending the reading. He said the novel focuses on life experiences, which are usual themes of first novels, and the writing seems refreshing and straightforward.

Tanzer is currently working on another novel, and said he would

love to teach at Columbia like a few of his inspirations, Joe Meno and De Grazia.

"There's something going at Columbia that is awesome," Tanzer said.

Tanzer's blog "This Blog Will Change Your Life" can be found at benttanzer.blogspot.com.

chronicle@colum.edu

Let us hear about it...

and this iPod could be yours!

Five 30GB iPods will be allocated to randomly selected students who have submitted the online Student Satisfaction Inventory survey during April 2 through April 13.



Complete the Student Satisfaction Survey

1

Check your Columbia College Chicago email inbox (Lastname.Firstname@myoasis.colum.edu) during April 2 through April 13 for your invitation to participate in the survey.

2

Click on the link provided, complete the Student Satisfaction Inventory.

3

Hit "Submit."

Graduate and Undergraduate students' responses are welcome. Your point of view will help the college determine elements working effectively and how to augment your experience at Columbia College Chicago. iPod recipients will be notified by the office of Institutional Research at the conclusion of the survey.

Thank you in advance for completing this important survey.

create...
change

'Gift' adrift in cliché

Fox Faith film delivers preachy clichés

By Matt Fagerholm/Assistant A&E Editor

The entrance of Jason Stevens to his grandfather's funeral couldn't be more obnoxious: he drives a loud car, smokes a joint, and when told by his mother that he's late, states, "Late for what?"

Looks like someone's past due for repentance! Good thing his deceased grandpa—played by James Garner, in reportedly his final role—taped hours of footage of himself preaching to Jason the rules of the good life, while unleashing a diabolical plan for redemption more cunningly layered than that of the *Saw* killer!

Welcome to the latest film from Twentieth Century Fox's emerging division Fox Faith, which markets religious-themed films to a predominantly Christian audience. Their last release was February's little-seen embarrassment, *The Last Sin Eater*, yet director Michael O. Sajbel's *The Ultimate Gift* boasts the involvement of two Oscar nominees. They should have a firm discussion with their agents.

This deathly do-gooder film has bad laughs written all over it. The story is so painfully predictable that all the plot mechanisms fueling tears and spiritual uplift are stripped of any subtlety or sophistication. After his rain-soaked funeral, Garner's recording yeams, "I guess my funeral was today. Gee, I hope it rained." Hmm...so I guess there really is a God! Thanks, Fox Faith!

The story concerns Jason, played by Drew Fuller, a spoiled

trust fund baby impatient to receive the inheritance from his dead grandpa. However, grandpa's recording informs Jason that he must first go on a journey of self-discovery to earn it. Jason will receive a series of life-affirming 'gifts' along the way, until he finally receives—you guessed it—"the ultimate gift," which will teach him what's most important in life: money or happiness. If this sounds like an instructional lecture, it pretty much is—more on that later.

What's worse is that Fuller, in a fatally stiff performance, never seems to transform emotionally throughout the course of the film. It also doesn't help that every single person in *The Ultimate Gift* is a broad caricature. For example, the filmmakers demonstrate Jason's girlfriend is spoiled by having her weep uncontrollably when he can't pay a lousy bill.

Along the way, Jason catches the eye of a pretty single mom—Ali Hills—with a daughter Emily, played by *Little Miss Sunshine*'s exceptional Abigail Breslin. She's faced here with a fatally stereotypical "tug-at-the-heartstrings" child role that combines three cataclysmic archetypes: a wiser-than-thou precocious smartass; a matchmaker determined to set up her mother with Jason; and a leukemia patient with not much longer to live. There's even one scene where she has to play all three shades of her character simultaneously!

It's completely to the credit of Breslin that she somehow pulls it off—never turning to the cheap "cutes," and sporting comic timing she must have sharpened from her previous cinematic outing. Breslin is the real thing, though the film she's in isn't.

Shot with zero cinematic style, the film has all the quality of a second-rate TV movie. *Gift* also has a flaw shared by nearly every Fox Faith film: it's simply too heavy and adult-oriented for most kids, while anyone over the age of 12 would be insulted by its shameless emotional manipulation.

Based on Jim Stovall's book of the same name, the film bears a startling resemblance to *Pay it Forward*. Both films aim to 'change the world' by offering a child as a martyr for humanity's flaws. Will Christian audiences be relieved to find that the PG-rated family film marketed to them contains no swearing or sex, but is almost entirely shrouded in death?

Meanwhile, the plot is so relentlessly rushed that no character motivations are remotely believable. In the film's most outlandishly bizarre sequence, Jason travels to the kind of Ecuadorian town that could only be filmed on location—in Charlotte, N.C. For two weeks, he's held for ransom, and on the day he's scheduled to die he makes a wildly improbable escape.

Next time we see him, he's clean-shaven and in America. This jaw-dropping episode is never mentioned again—except when Jason explains to a perturbed Emily that he was "unavoidably detained." This line gets almost as big a groan as the final symbolic shot of Emily's "hovering presence," which fails to draw any real tears because of its inherent cliché.



MCT

Abigail Breslin shines through the dreary 'The Ultimate Gift.'

Any time a dying kid says she thinks heaven will be full of butterflies, guess what's gonna be flying on down into the audience's tear duct during the last shot?

I have nothing against good-hearted films—my favorite film of all time is Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*. I'm against films that insult my intelligence and desire to manipulate my emotions to such a degree that they forget to tell a believably moving story. *The Ultimate Gift* is nothing more than an excruciatingly earnest failure.

And if you feel like you didn't get lectured enough on the film's moral code, make sure to sit through the end credits, where scenes from the film are played

over again to illustrate the deceased grandfather's gifts. They are each displayed, complete with a verbal label and a helpful illustration for the illiterate, such as "work," a picture of a hammer; "laughter," a picture of a jester hat—just in case you felt compelled to take notes afterward.

mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com

'The Ultimate Gift'
Directed by

Michael O. Sajbel

Cracking into the dangerous life

XBOX 360's 'Crackdown' offers cool location and addictive action

By George P. Slef/Assistant Campus News Editor

XBOX 360's exclusive shooter *Crackdown* may as well be called "crack," because it's that addictive.

It isn't a surprise that a game developed by Real Time Worlds and led by David Jones, who gave gamers *Grand Theft Auto*, brings yet another version of the "go anywhere you want and do whatever you want" style of game.

With the narrator's voice sounding a lot like the ones from TV shows like *Forensic Files* or *Unsolved Mysteries*, it isn't a surprise that the storyline carries a patriotic theme throughout the game.

The game takes place in the fictional Pacific City, which is overrun by a collection of gangs who have united to create chaos and crime. While citizens walk down streets freely, the gangs are doing everything they can to kill cops. Cops are dying off so fast, Pacific City has created a fortress called the Hub—which is barely holding off attacks from the gangs—and creating genetically engineered super cops. In many ways, the game stole the plot from that crappy Stallone movie, *Judge Dredd*.

However, *Crackdown* is all about game play and not story line. It kicks off by throwing the player right in the mix of a gang war. Kill the bad guys and they release orbs, which the player collects to level up their character. The more orbs

players collect, the higher they can jump and stronger they become. Over time, a gamer can jump onto tall buildings and pick up and throw trucks. Players shouldn't be surprised if they start the game by ignoring the missions and just driving around and collecting orbs.

Considering the raw power of

the XBOX 360, the graphics aren't amazing and resemble a comic-book. The controls use the lock-on system, allowing players to target enemies from a distance with the click of a button, which makes playing the game easy for any beginner to pick up and start a killing spree.

Perhaps one of the more innovative features comes when the main character starts to kill gang members; if a player starts shooting at them, more gang members show up. But don't fear, working as a cop comes with its perks. Almost every shootout the player gets into, police backup rolls

through to help out.

On the downside, there aren't enough weapons or hidden cars to collect. While the huge world is awesome, the designers should have put more things in the game that give players a reason to explore.

The game isn't that long, either. The campaign mode only takes about ten hours to complete.

Gamers can solve this problem by playing online or working together like Tango and Cash and beat the game using the co-op mode. Gamers can also partake in various time trials that have gamers racing cars or seeing who can kill the most gang members.

While this isn't the next *Grand Theft Auto*, it's definitely an awesome game that's trying to expand on previous games like *Saint's Row*, *Super Mario 64*, and yes, *Grand Theft Auto*. The game isn't worth owning because it's very short, so rent this puppy and flip it over the weekend.

gslef@chroniclemail.com

'Crackdown'
XBOX 360 by Real Time
Worlds/Microsoft

Michael O. Sajbel



AP

XBOX 360's 'Crackdown' offers plenty of car chases, explosions and cities to explore.

Let's all go-go back in time

Old Town School of Folk Music workshop caters to 1960s-era dancing

By Annie Slezickey/Staff Writer

1960s music, brightly colored knee-high boots and mini skirts all come to mind when the term go-go dancing is used. But go-go dancers today would disagree.

Because of recent workshops, go-go dancing is evolving since its inception in the early 1960's.

On March 10, the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., held a go-go dancing workshop that was open to the public with a \$25 admission fee. This workshop was the third one held at the OTSFM and was hosted by The Janes, Chicago's go-go dancer troupe.

Tina Stasny, the instructor of the workshop, is the founder and choreographer of The Janes.

"A lot of people have the wrong impression," said Krista Ortgiesen, lead go-goist of The Janes.

"Go-go dancing is goofy, silly, and fun to do. It's not dancers ripping off their clothes."

Ortgiesen helped Stasny start The Janes almost two years ago. Stasny decided to organize the group after performing dances at parties and bars with other women.

"I just thought, 'Why not? We dance for fun anyway,'" Stasny said.

According to Stasny and Ortgiesen, go-go dancing has come a long way from where it started. Stasny said go-go dancing

started during the 1960s when band owners wanted to see young, attractive girls on stage behind the bands, dancing to music. She said the motions the dancers used were subtle, like simple arm movements up and down, and body twists. Today, Stasny said, go-go dancing is a lot different.

"One thing that has changed is women are fully clothed while dancing," Stasny said.

Another change is that modern go-go dancers, such as The Janes, no longer dance alongside live bands. The Janes perform at different events such as gallery openings, parties, park festivals and at bars. She also said that instead of dancers repeating the same, simple movements, go-go dancers today perform choreographed dances.

"We pull different dance moves together and it's choreographed, unlike the traditional style which is a lot of improv," Ortgiesen said.

She said the main attraction of go-go dancing is the ability to exercise while having fun. She said the appeal explains why women who take classes and attend the workshops range quite a bit in age. Arlene Martin, 59, said she and her friend attended the workshop to experience go-go dancing first hand.

"I figured I'll get a lot of laughs and if I can get a work out, too—even better!" Martin said.

Shannon Lengerich, an instructor in the dance therapy department at Columbia, also attended the workshop to learn about go-go dancing. Lengerich, 30, said she got a lot out of the workshop, which lasted two hours.

Ortgiesen said in addition to workshops, The Janes also hold

classes three nights a week at the Flamenco Art Center, 3755 N. Western Ave., which are open to the public. Ortgiesen said those who attend the classes see go-go dancing as a chance to let loose and have fun during the workweek.

"The main thing is our lack of

seriousness and complete intent of just having fun," Ortgiesen said.

For more information, visit The Janes website listed below: smileanddance.com

chronicle@colum.edu



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Krista Ortgiesen poses in her go-go dancing attire at Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., on March 15.

Printersrowwine.com

PRINTERS ROW WINE SHOP

...South Loop Campus!

E=MC²?

BEER?
Victory, Dogfish Head, Rogue, Wychwood, Chimay, Saison Du Pont, Fat Tire, Delerium, PBK 30 packs...mini kegs!!!

Roll Your Own?
Amsterdam Shag, Ball Shag, Drum, London Shag, American Spirit & Cigars and Booze!

663-9314

719 S Dearborn

CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

GO TELL IT on the MOUNTAIN

by James Baldwin

ONE BOOK, ONE CHICAGO Spring 2007

For details on book discussions, film screenings and special events such as a "Voice and Song" celebration on April 16, call 312-747-4010 or visit chicagopubliclibrary.org.

presenting sponsors:

in partnership with:

Manly huggin'

Guys warm up to embraces in various macho forms

By Cynthia Hubert

Will Smith and Forest Whitaker did it on the red carpet at the SAG Awards in January. The men of TV's "Entourage" embrace it. The Soprano boys take it in stride.

We're talking about the man hug. Dudes hugging dudes—in public and with enthusiasm.

It's happening more and more, and not only among celebrity guys.

"As American men, we used to have one option for greeting one another: the handshake," said psychotherapist and pop culture commentator Joshua Estrin. "Not anymore. I travel a lot, and I'm seeing it all over the country. You can walk into a Cheesecake Factory in the Midwest and see guys with their girlfriends greeting other guys with hugs. It's interesting and rather uplifting."

Hip-hop artists are widely credited with introducing the popular "pound hug" or "pound shake" as a greeting between men. It consists of a combination of a handshake and a stiff one-armed hug, and includes two slaps on the back.

"Depending on the circumstances, it can also include a loud exclamation, a general grunting noise to assert your masculinity," said Patrick Carone, entertainment director for Stuff magazine, a publication geared mostly to men.

That's just one of the ways that

American man hugs are different from hugs between men and women, and even embraces among females, he notes. The accepted protocol? Man hugs are brief, involve minimal body contact and may include a back slap, a guttural noise, or both.

"We're still men, after all," jokes Carone. "It's OK to show that we like each other, but we still have to act tough."

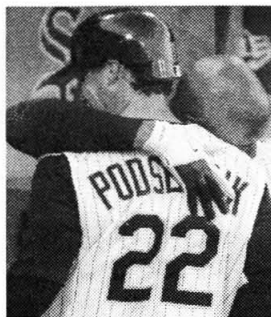
Nancy O'Reilly, a clinical psychologist who practices in Missouri, believes in hugs.

"Studies tell us that hugging and physical intimacy can be extremely powerful to the psyche," O'Reilly said. "Of course, it can also be scary."

Affectionate behavior "simply isn't a part of the masculine gender role," said Kory Floyd, an associate professor of communication at Arizona State University who has studied the man hug phenomenon.

Floyd has documented the types and lengths of hugs between men and found that they rarely involve full body contact or last more than a second.

"They often begin with a handshake that continues through the hug, so they have their hands as a barrier between them," Floyd notes. Men watching other men hug each other tend to become uncomfortable when the



MCT

Jermaine Dye and Scott Podsednik celebrate after a home run in May 2006.

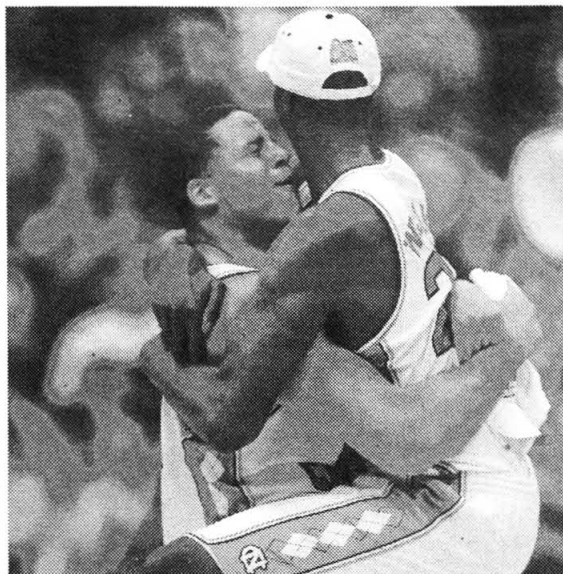
embraces last more than a couple of seconds, he said.

"Research shows that when people see two women hugging in public, they don't think twice about it," he said. "Seeing two men hugging is more unexpected, so it causes people to question why they're embracing. Specifically, whether the male huggers are more than just friends."

O'Reilly said many heterosexual men are afraid to appear gay. He also believes men are worried if they have feelings like they want to hug another man, then that might mean they are homosexual.

But those thoughts go out the window when men celebrate sports accomplishments, say O'Reilly and others.

Football games offer good opportunities for men to show unabashed affection toward one another, said Cecil Taylor of Sacramento, Calif., who hunts and fishes and makes his living installing sprinklers.



MCT

University of North Carolina's Sean May (left) embraces Marvin Williams after their victory in the NCAA regional finals in March 2005.

"I think it's OK to hug your buddies for a celebration, like when we're watching a game and our team wins," he said.

The Internet and the global economy have given American men a better window on cultural practices in places where platonic hugs and kisses between males are no big deal, Estrin notes.

The terrorist attacks of 2001 gave men permission to express emotion, he says, and war and general chaos around the world have made everyone feel more vulnerable.

For all of these reasons, "men are much more willing now to connect with one another in a physical way," he said.

"It strikes me that we're all rethinking and redefining what it means to be alive," Estrin said. "So if I want to congratulate a friend, I'm not going to ask myself whether I should give him a great big man hug. I'm just gonna do it."

MCT

Help create a family.

Chicago's first and most highly respected program is looking for the following:

EGG DONORS

\$7,000 compensation to healthy women between the ages of 20-29 to be anonymous egg donors. Donors will be evaluated, take medication and undergo a minor surgical procedure. Serious inquiries only.

GESTATIONAL SURROGATES

Minimum compensation **\$20,000**. Healthy women between the ages of 21-35 who have given birth to at least one child.

ARR ALTERNATIVE REPRODUCTIVE RESOURCES www.arri.com
773.327.7315 847.446.1001

Free Admission

FOR YOU PLUS 5 GUESTS WITH AD & STUDENT ID
ALL NIGHT LONG EVERY FRIDAY OR SATURDAY

DO YOU HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR GATHERING COMING UP?

Zentra's Ultimate Party Package

IT INCLUDES FREE ADMISSION FOR YOU & YOUR ENTIRE PARTY, FREE TABLE RESERVATION, VIP COCKTAIL RECEPTION, WHISTBANG FOR SHOTS & A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE!
TO GET THE PARTY STARTED RIGHT!! COMPLETE DETAILS CAN BE FOUND AT ZENTRANIGHTCLUB.COM

Looking To Earn EXTRA MONEY!

BECOME AN EVENT COORDINATOR
AND EARN HUNDREDS A WEEK GUARANTEED!!
ORGANIZE COLLEGE PARTIES, BIRTHDAY GATHERINGS, ORGANIZATION EVENTS, CHARITY FUNCTIONS, MARKETING & PROMOTIONS, ETC.

EMAIL ROB@ZENTRANIGHTCLUB.COM
FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

ZENTRA NIGHTCLUB
923 WEST WEEB STREET
CHICAGO IL 60622
(312) 787 0400

ZENTRANIGHTCLUB.COM

21+ TO ENTER
WITH VALID ID
EXPIRES 11/07

ZENTRA
NIGHTCLUB

Leave early. Leave late. Alternate.

The Three-Track phase of CTA's \$530 million **Brown Line Capacity Expansion** project is tentatively scheduled to begin in April. For a more modern and efficient CTA, Belmont and Fullerton stations are being upgraded with elevators and more spacious platforms. So, if you ride the **Brown Line**, north branch of the **Red Line** or **Purple Line Express**, here are a few things you need to know:

- We will continue to run trains and the Fullerton and Belmont Stations will remain open during construction.
- While we work to serve you better, longer wait times and more crowded trains may be unavoidable during peak travel times. We ask for your patience.
- We recommend that you consult the CTA Bus & Rail Map to identify which bus routes could serve as viable alternatives. The CTA has an extensive bus network that complements rail service. There are more than 40 bus routes in the area, including nine lakefront express routes that provide direct service to and from the Loop.
- We suggest allowing extra travel time and encourage you to leave earlier or later during peak travel times, especially during the p.m. rush.
- Call the RTA's Travel Information Center (836-7000 from any local area code) or visit www.transitchicago.com and click on the RTA Trip Planner for assistance in planning an alternate travel itinerary.
- Visit www.transitchicago.com or www.ctabrownline.com for more information.

1-888-YOUR-CTA
(TTY: 1-888-CTA-TTY1)
836-7000 - Travel Information
(TTY: 312-836-4949)

www.transitchicago.com
www.ctabrownline.com

cta

Fashionation

'Project Runway' inspires students to see if they have what it takes to be in the fashion industry

By Nerissa Pacio

From the "Project Runway" phenomenon to Hollywood's designer craze, Americans are obsessed with fashion. And one way it's showing is in the growing number of wannabe designers from coast to coast.

"There's been a major boom in fashion education for at least five years," said Tim Marshall, dean of Parsons the New School for Design in New York City. "Fashion has gotten big, big, big."

Blame the enthusiasm for all things stylish on pop culture's excessive fascination with fashion.

Twice Emmy-nominated "Project Runway," hosted by supermodel Heidi Klum, and "America's Top Model," hosted by Tyra Banks, are both reality TV hits. Many pop stars and B-listers are launching signature clothing lines. Major cities from San Francisco to Miami claim their own fashion weeks. And, fashion and entertainment media have boosted stylists and high fashion designers to rock-star status.

Fashion is everywhere—and its accessibility is causing an already-competitive industry to burst at the seams with a crop of interested

new talent.

Many are seeking professional training in fashion programs across the country, where enrollment continues to soar. Parsons, often regarded as the "Harvard of fashion colleges," has seen its undergraduate student body triple—from 83 to 240 students since 2001, Marshall said. The school in Manhattan is famous for graduating such illustrious alums as Marc Jacobs, Tom Ford, Isaac Mizrahi and James Mischka.

Together, the undergraduate and graduate fashion programs at the Academy of Art in San Francisco have also tripled from 400 to 1,200 students in five years, said Ian Mackintosh, spokesman for the academy's school of fashion.

He said Academy graduates often are hired by established labels, including Nike, Gap, Louis Vuitton and Burberry. For the second year in a row, 14 of the school's master's graduates were the only students to show their debut collections at Olympus Fashion Week in New York.

Glitz and glam, beautiful models and trendy clothes are the obvious draw. But is merely an interest in

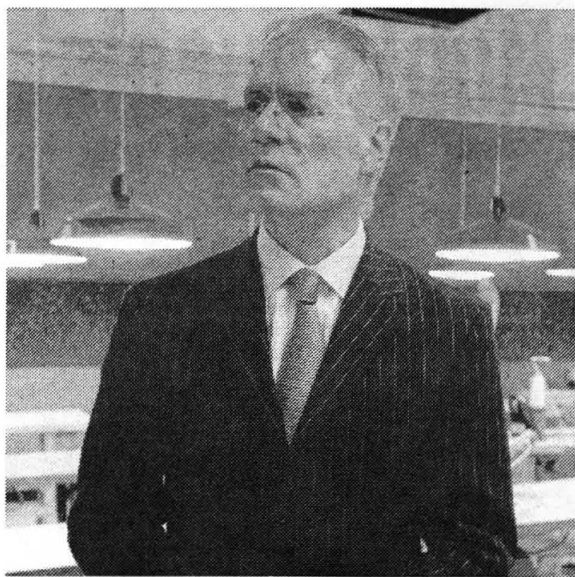
fashion enough to make it as the next Marc Jacobs?

"People might see TV shows or runway shows on the Internet and think 'Wow! How glamorous!'," said Barbara Beccio, an instructor and former academic director of fashion at the Art Institute of California-San Francisco. "But then they actually get here and realize, 'Oh, my God, I have to learn how to sketch, make a pattern, do this construction and sew?' It's a lot more hard work making a garment than they thought."

A typical fashion design curriculum might include lecture courses on the history of fashion, color theory, art history, trend forecasting and manufacturing. There are also hands-on courses in illustration, fabric draping and sewing.

Those who pursue careers outside design can work as stylists, personal shoppers, marketers or merchandisers, which translates into jobs as store buyers, managers, planners or product developers.

Once they've nailed the basics, seniors must also pass the final test: the often-daunting, all-con-



MCT

Tim Gunn of 'Project Runway' mentors contestants throughout each season. The show's success has spawned interest in the fashion design industry.

suming thesis project for which they create from scratch a six- to 12-piece themed collection that is shown on the runway at a graduate fashion show.

Yana Galbshtein's undergraduate thesis collection of tailored, edgy women's wear won her the school's prestigious Wilkes Bashford internship.

Galbshtein is leaving for a three-month apprenticeship—plane ticket, room and board paid—cutting and sewing in Naples, Italy, for Kiton, a couture menswear and women's wear tailoring house.

After her internship, she plans to move to New York and launch

ya'ro—a casual women's wear label—with a business partner and college friend.

"Lots of kids think it's easy, but it's round-the-clock work," said Galbshtein, who transferred to the academy after attending West Valley College for two years. "In art school, we're sleeping under the tables and passing out on couches hoping we don't sew seams over our fingers in the middle of the night ... But now I feel like I'm ready for the real world. I can make anything."

MCT



CHICAGO TATTOOING COMPANY

Tattooing
& Body Piercing
1000's of designs

Bring in this ad and your college I.D. and receive
15% OFF all body jewelry!!!!

1017 West Belmont Avenue
Chicago, IL 60657
773.528.6969
open 7 days noon til midnight
1/2 block west of the belmont redline stop

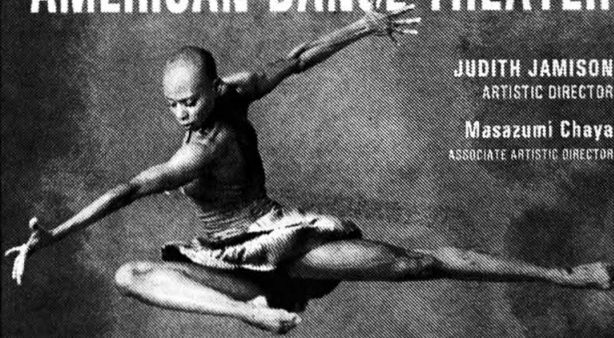
AUDITORIUM THEATRE
of ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

PRESENTS

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

JUDITH JAMISON
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Masazumi Chaya
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



OPENS
NEXT
WEEK!

MARCH 28
THROUGH
APRIL 1

6 PERFORMANCES ONLY!

"BETTER THAN EVER"
- The New York Times

A CHICAGO PREMIERE! THREE ALL NEW PRODUCTIONS! A COMPANY PREMIERE!
March 28 - April 1, 2007 • Tickets: \$25 - \$79

FOUR EASY WAYS TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE: 312.902.1500 ONLINE: TICKETMASTER.COM
IN PERSON: 50 E. CONGRESS GROUPS: 312.431.2357
WWW.AUDITORIUMTHEATRE.ORG

LeSalle Bank Family Series: FREE CHILD TICKET with paid adult March 31 at 2 PM. Use code FAMTIX during transaction. Children under 18; subject to availability. Restrictions apply.

NATIONAL SPONSOR Morgan Stanley FAMILY SERIES SPONSOR LeSalle Bank STUDENT MATINEE SPONSOR JPMorgan Chase

SUMMER & FALL 2007

It's almost time to REGISTER!

Your registration time slots for both summer and fall semesters can be obtained in March by going to the Register for Classes screen on OASIS (under CX-Enrollment). Set the options to Summer or Fall 2007. Time slots are based on your cumulative credit hours. Emails with your summer and fall registration time slots, and other registration information, will also be sent. Registration time slots do not apply to graduate students. All continuing graduate students register beginning March 12 for the summer semester, and April 2 for the fall.

Your OASIS email login format is as follows:

Firstname.Lastname

Example: Joseph.Smith would be your full email login

Your email password is the same as your original default OASIS password (until YOU change it). Remember, changing your password in OASIS does NOT change your email password, and vice versa. If you have problems logging into your email account, please contact OASIS User Support at 312-344-7788.

SUMMER 2007

Seniors	Monday, March 12 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Juniors	Tuesday, March 13 - beginning at 8 a.m.
2BA/PCRT	Tuesday, March 13 - beginning at 1 p.m.
Sophomores	Wednesday, March 14 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Freshmen	Thursday, March 15 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Open Registration	Thursday, March 15 - beginning at 1 p.m.

The above time slots will remain open for summer registration until Tuesday, May 22 at Midnight (CST).

Orientation for new freshman and transfer students will be in July/August.

Students who owe an unpaid balance cannot participate in registration. Check your OASIS course and fee statement for your current balance. Please contact the Student Financial Services office at 1-866-705-0200 or email sfs@colum.edu to resolve any unpaid balance.

FOR FALL ONLY

- Check with your major department to determine if faculty advising is required. If so, meet with a faculty advisor before your registration time or as soon as possible. Faculty advising is not required for summer registration.
- You will be required to update your emergency contact information before you can register. You can also check and update your other addresses.

FALL 2007

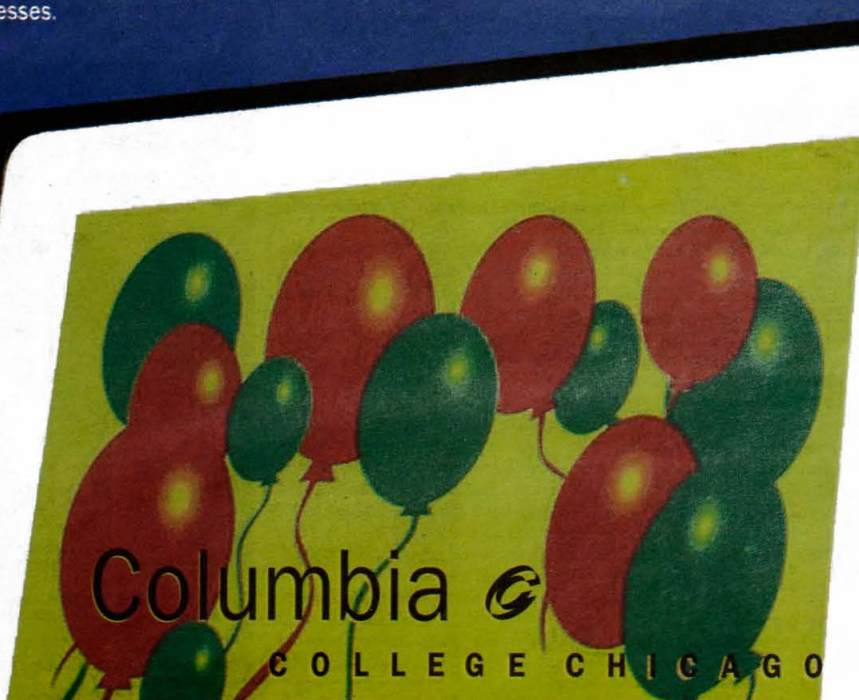
Continuing degree-seeking
undergrad registration begins Monday, April 2

Open Registration (all students including
degree-seeking & students at large) begins Monday, August 13

The above time slots will remain open for fall registration until Monday, September 10 at Midnight (CST).

create...
change

Photo by Bryan Serafini



Reviews

MUSIC



The Fratellis
Costello Music

Since the album's cover, which sports garter-and-stockings-clad women drinking, smoking and listening to vinyl, caught my eye, I decided to give the Fratellis' *Costello* a spin. Poppy Brit rock with songs that average three minutes, the album has more hits than clunkers. "Vince the Lovable Stoner" is a particular standout. It's like a Blur-Beatles hybrid.

—E. Kasang



Paolo Nutini
These Streets

I must admit I am a sucker for British pop. When I first heard the single, "New Shoes," I instantly thought of James Blunt or Coldplay. But I love the way that Paolo sports the sunshine-on-your-skin, happy British pop that just makes you smile. Not only is the single a song you will put on repeat, but the entire album will make your soul feel warm for the spring.

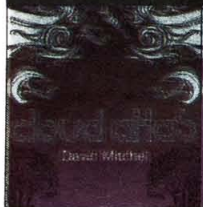
—P. Algrim



Noel Gourdin
The River

I decided that every time Noel said the word "baby" I would add another heart. Unfortunately there isn't room for 78 hearts on this page. Noel is so smooth, it's no wonder he's singing about babies' bottoms all the time. —C. Mahlmeister

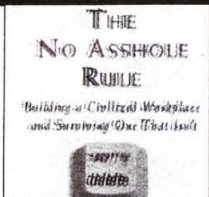
PRINT



Cloud Atlas
By David Mitchell

Cloud Atlas consists of six stories spanning several centuries nested within each other, sort of like Matryoshka dolls. In the end, they form a cohesive whole. Mitchell does a really nice job experimenting with a different prose form, and it helps that the novel is written beautifully.

—R. Strecher



The No Asshole Rule: Building a Civilized Workplace and Surviving One That Isn't
By Robert I. Sutton

Stories in this book about a—hole encounters literally made me laugh out loud, they were that rude. The author lets readers know how to decipher between a real a—hole and a temporary one, and then how to deal with them. It's an interesting read and provides fairly decent insight. Good for anyone that has a job.

—T. Breyne



'Gripes of filthy CTA buses, trains pile up'
By Monifa Thomas,
Chicago Sun-Times

Not only was this article informative on the matter of CTA cleanliness, but a quote from one concerned citizen made me grin from ear-to-ear. "... There was one time I found used underwear..." said CTA rider Maria Wicks, concerning trash left on buses and rail cars. Yep. That about sums up the CTA. —A. Riggio

FILM & TV



Half Nelson
Directed by Ryan Fleck

This overwritten, predictable story somehow held my attention for nearly two hours. Although I've seen some version of this movie many times before, it sure beat *The Notebook*. Perhaps I was in desperate need for entertainment, because however cliché the hypocritical, inspirational teacher story was, I'd be lying if I said I didn't enjoy this one.

—S. Yaccino



The Prestige
Directed by Christopher Nolan

Christina Bale's work in *The Prestige* pales in comparison to the stuff he was in before—*Batman Begins* or *American Psycho*. Bale throws down with Hugh Jackman as two magicians trying to find out each other's secrets. But much like in a magician's act, if anything goes wrong, it usually means tragedy. This is a tragedy to watch.

—C. Jakubowski



Shortbus DVD
Directed by John Cameron Mitchell

Rent this movie, just released on DVD, if you want to see a bunch of so-called New York "hipsters" so confused about their relationships that they decide to partake in casual sex and orgies with other random urbanites. I was somewhat disappointed with this artsy movie that seemed to be trying to get multiple messages across without making any of them clear in the end.

—K. Kalter

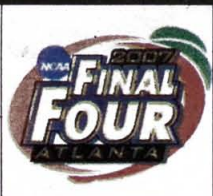
MISC.



Jumpers

With the gloriously warm weather we had two weeks ago—predicting it's probably cold again as you're reading this—an exciting piece of clothing makes its way back onto the streets: jumpers. There's something about these cute little frocks that make me feel like I'm 8 years old again, ruffled socks, Keds and all.

—J. Galliant



March Madness

After the long cold winter punctuated by a February where the Bears lost the Superbowl and sports life as I know it ceased to exist, March Madness is finally here. This is what sports is all about. Anybody has a shot and this year's tournament looks wide open. I love this time of year. —M. Rubio



Spring Break

I think everyone would go crazy if it weren't for this blessed week of non-productivity. I got my sleep on, got my read on, got my drink on and most importantly, got my FUN on! To be fair to those who still had to work, at least you didn't have to sit in a class you don't want to be in for 3 hours. —T. Breyne

Premium Blend

Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

What do you get when you mix a drummer with a punk background, a classical violinist from the Chicago Civic Orchestra, and various other musicians with wildly diverse talents? You get Inspector Owl, the acclaimed dance-rock quintet from Dekalb, Ill. The band is made up of Corey Wills on guitar and vocals, Jesse James Fisher on drums and vocals, Kara Eubanks on violin, Ben Grigg on synths, trumpet and auxiliary percussion and Bobby Lord on bass and falsetto. Blending social commentary with music ideal for a dance party, the band will be releasing their latest album, *Life Finds a Way*, on March 27. Wills recently spoke with *The Chronicle* about music, life crises and the band's mysterious name.

The Chronicle: What was the inspiration for your band's name?

Wills: When our band was just two people—me, a bass player, and a laptop—we decided to go by the name Io, you know like input, output. But then we realized that there were probably like 400 other bands named Io. So we decided that we should come up with what Io stands for. So we came up with a contest on our website where if you came up with a name that we like, we'd buy you tacos.

Describe collaborating with so many diverse performers.

It works out really well. On [our latest] CD I wrote the songs and did all the programming, and then everyone comes together and adds their own elements to these songs. The cool thing about Kara, our violin player, is that

she comes from a classical background, so the parts that she's adding to the songs are definitely not your typical rock violins. The way they're arranged and written are very classically influenced. The contrast between that and rock music works out in an interesting way.

***Life Finds a Way* is reportedly based on a post-collegiate crisis of yours.**

At the time I wrote a bunch of the lyrics for this album, I had been out of college for six months, had a degree, and didn't know exactly what I should be doing. I wanted to play music, but was having problems finding jobs to support it. You get to this point where you have a degree, and it makes you feel like you have to make a decision about what to do with your life.

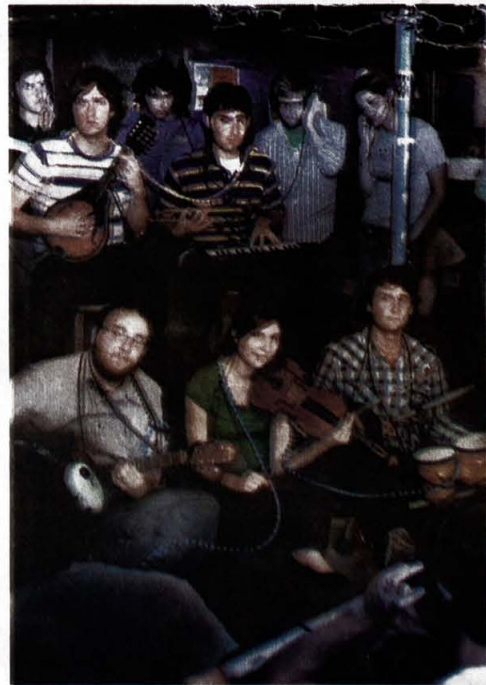
What do you hope to have your listeners get out of your music?

As far as music and art is concerned, I'm of the opinion that people should listen to something and take out their own meaning. I definitely have things that I put into a song that means something to me, but if someone else listens to the song and gets something else out entirely, that's awesome. We also want people to listen to the music, enjoy the music, come out to shows and dance.

For more information, visit inspectorowl.com or myspace.com/inspectorowl.

—M. Fagerholm

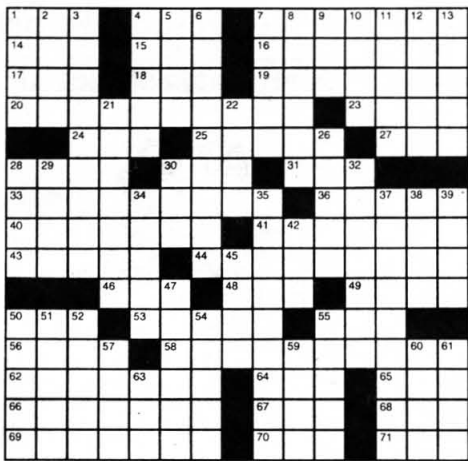
Inspector Owl



Courtesy of Inspector Owl

Crossword

- ACROSS
1 Had a bite
4 Profound dread
7 Casual tops
14 Gender
15 River block
16 Bum's rush
17 Circle part
18 Part of a pelvis
19 Host Hall
20 Baby grand
23 Faction
24 Singer Damone
25 "The Man Who There"
27 Blue shade
28 Metal waste
30 Luau neckwear
31 Galactic period
33 Long-time "New Yorker" cartoonist
36 Man of fables
40 ERA part
41 oblongata
43 Skirts of a certain length
44 Certain farm girl
46 Well-suited
48 Made in the
49 Blyth and Sheridan
50 Hot tub
53 for the asking
55 Also
56 Title for Godiva
58 Smarts
62 Leakeys' African gorge
64 Keep out
65 Quarrel
66 Covering of feathers
67 Tell it like it isn't
68 NASA partner
69 Cervantes' tongue
70 High RRs
71 Adams or McLean
- DOWN
1 Rush-job acronym
2 Garr of "Close Encounters"
3 Engaged in digging
4 Committee type
5 Homeless child
6 Authorized
7 what you think!
8 Tranquil
9 Contains
10 Folk singer Burl
11 Russo and Auberjonois
12 None too bright
13 Like a dirty chimney
21 African nation
22 Precipitation
26 Fawning sycophant
28 PC junk mail
29 First name in jeans
30 Trail behind
32 Liselotte of the LPGA
34 Gravelly
35 Unnecessary
37 Badmouthed
38 "Havana" star
39 Writing tablets
42 Period of time



© 2007 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

3/24/07

Solutions

N	O	D	S	T	E	T	O	N	V	A	S	E
V	S	E	I	T	E	D	V	W	N	T	E	
M	O	H	A	V	E	I	V	A	N	O	T	O
S	S	E	N	I	N	I	V	E	R	A	D	V
C	N	V	S	H	O	A	V	A	S			
S	N	N	V	V	S	N	L	A	V			
O	I	V	A	H	I	V	O	S	I	O	I	W
V	T	O	N	O	W	E	D	V	H	E	A	V
A	O	S	E	O	N	H	V	H	E	I	E	D
A	X	S	I	N	S	V	M	O	I	A		
L	O	S	E	L	H	O	F	O	N	V	I	D
O	I	N	E	S	H	V	A	I	H	O	H	V
O	H	E	A	V	E	H	W	V	O	X	E	S
S	L	I	H	S	L	E	M	V	E	L	V	

- 45 That certain something
47 Trinidad's partner
50 Slalom incline
51 Coffin covers
52 Make sense
54 One archangel
55 Buenos Arg.
57 Arizona city
59 Claw
60 Average
61 Ugly duckling, really
63 Moving truck

TO THE NINES



Talia King, a 20-year-old public relations major, caught our eye with her enormous metallic gold purse and killer smile.

With fashion inspiration from Dolce and Gabbana and Dooney and Bourke, King likes to mold her own style from her favorite store, Charlotte Russe.

Wearing a teal Baby Phat jacket with some long chains and layered Charlotte Russe shirts, King finished off the look with some simple jeans and beige suede shoes from Bakers.

But the real secret to looking your best?

"The bra," King said. "It's my favorite piece of clothing, and it's from Victoria's Secret. It makes me look good and feel good."

Chrissy Mahlmeister/The Chronicle

9'S

Sudoku By Michael Mephram

Level: 1 2 3 4

3				4	2			7	
			8	9					3
2								1	
				7	6			4	
9			2			4			6
			2		9	3			
			3						1
1						7	6		
	6			3	8				4

4	2	5	9	7	6	3	1	8
3	6	8	4	2	1	5	9	7
7	9	1	3	8	5	6	2	4
6	1	9	7	3	8	4	5	2
5	3	2	6	4	9	8	7	1
8	7	4	1	5	2	9	6	3
2	5	3	8	6	7	1	4	9
9	4	6	2	1	3	7	8	5
1	8	7	5	9	4	2	3	6

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!

Some carrier charges may apply.

© 2006 Michael Mephram. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

★ Horoscopes ★

by random Chronicle staff members exclusively chosen by the all-knowing, all-sarcastic stars



Pisces (Feb. 20—March 20): Spring Break is over. So is the rest of your life.



Aries (March 21—April 20): As much as you want to solve the Sudoku puzzle on this page, you will continuously fail at it. Try as you might, you will never finish it, and are doomed to fall into irreparable insanity. You will fail, do you hear me? FAIL!!! FAIL—oops, looks like you solved it. Guess I gotta double-check those stars.



Taurus (April 21—May 21): Despite what you believe, parasites are not man's best friend.



Gemini (May 22—June 21): All your dreams will come true, and from this day forward, nothing bad will happen to you for the rest of your life.



Cancer (June 22—July 23): The fact you thought of that lousy movie *Ice Pirates* moments before impact pretty much sums up your life.



Leo (July 24—Aug. 23): You're pissed that you lost the Oscar again! Oh well, there's always the next Scorsese film...



Virgo (Aug. 24—Sept. 23): You will die in exactly 24 hours unless you send multiple issues of this week's Chronicle to all of your friends, family members, peers, professors, casual acquaintances, complete strangers and Roger Ebert—and force them to read it!



Libra (Sept. 24—Oct. 23): It's not that the stars don't understand your problems, it's just that the stars don't care anymore.



Scorpio (Oct. 24—Nov. 22): You're confused as to why the crossword on this page is for March 24th, not March 26th. Here's the answer: you're in a time warp. Escape is futile.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23—Dec. 21): What is a "sagittarius" anyway? Anyone know? Hello?



Capricorn (Dec. 22—Jan. 20): Despite your luck with athleticism, intelligence and good looks, the meat grinding accident won't come as a surprise.



Aquarius (Jan. 21—Feb. 19): When the moon is in the Seventh House, and Jupiter aligns with Mars, then peace will guide the planets and love will steer the stars. Harmony and understanding, sympathy and trust abounding. No more falsehoods or derisions; golden living dreams of visions, mystic crystal revelation, and the mind's true liberation.

Editorials

SGA: Address immediate issues first

The Student Government Association is responsible for representing the student body and giving a voice to students about issues that matter. However, we think the SGA should spend more of its time and resources on issues that affect students in the immediate future.

Long-term goals, such as the creation of a new Student Center, are praiseworthy in the long run, but there are different, more pertinent issues the SGA should look into, such as the elevator congestion in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., textbook prices and the CCC-Pay program, which allows students to view, print and pay bills online, while charging an additional 2.75 percent service fee to use credit cards.

Having the power to work with the administration to create a better community for Columbia is something the SGA shouldn't take lightly. Their work affects all of us, and a 10-cent soda increase pales in comparison to students not getting to class on time because of packed elevators.

While some students have voiced concerns about the elevators, some see other problems as well.

"In 624 S. Michigan it gets crowded at about 6:30 p.m.," said Margaret Dost, senior film and video major. "But I normally take the stairs."

That may be OK for students with classes on the 7th floor, but those on the 13th

might not need that much exercise.

"Yeah those are bad," said Steve Farland, interactive arts and media major, when asked about the elevator problem. But he also voiced other concerns that he thought the SGA could possibly help with.

"My academic adviser is an idiot," Farland said. "He cleared me to graduate, then it turns out I am two credits short."

Farland also said the \$300 fee to pay tuition online is ridiculous—referring to CCC-Pay's 2.75 percent fee for using a credit card online.

Yes, students pay more than \$17,103 annually in tuition and fees to attend Columbia. But they also pay for the SGA through activity fees. Nitpicking issues such as 10-cent soda price increases or tearing out covers of books are trivial, the latter of which turned out to be inaccurate and not beneficial to the Columbia community.

The lack of transparency in the SGA is how these issues start. The SGA should provide more opportunities for students to voice their concerns more often. Perhaps the Student Census Report, which was last released in 2006 and based off information compiled in 2005, should be published twice a year and sample more than 6.5 percent of the student body. The SGA could have more forums and have most of their members on the same page with what students want.

For example, in our March

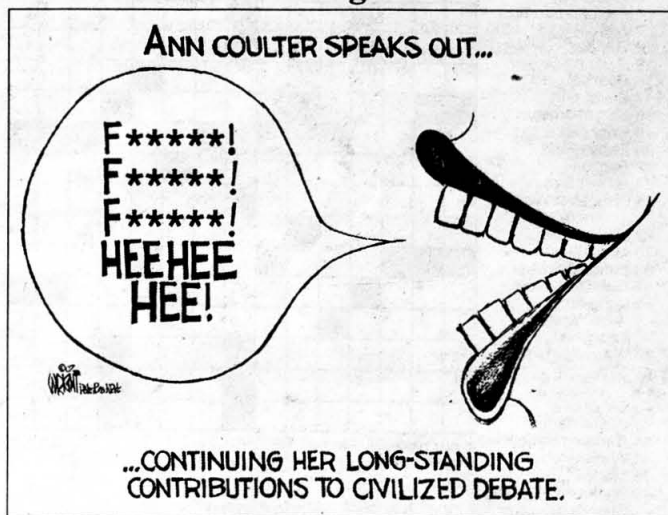
12 edition, some members of the SGA fed The Chronicle a story regarding a well-respected Columbia professor, Kimo Williams, who allegedly required his students to rip off the front cover of an assigned textbook that he wrote. The SGA alluded to an accusation that Williams was using the requirement as a way to make profits off of his book. The SGA wrote a resolution asking the teacher to immediately remove the requirement, but it was tabled by Dominic Cottone, director of Student Organization and Leadership.

Many of the facts the SGA claimed were slightly exaggerated, and their proposal was shut down. The "textbooks" were workbooks and couldn't be returned to the bookstore regardless.

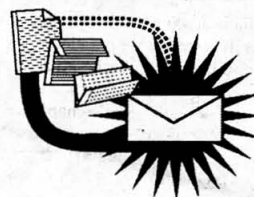
It's noble that the SGA voiced concerns about keeping textbook costs to a minimum in the past, as stated in the Student Census Report. However, smearing a teacher who essentially didn't do anything wrong with inaccurate facts is embarrassing to the whole student body. However, Cottone said the SGA didn't have enough time to look into the resolution before it was made public.

The SGA needs to be visible and write resolutions about short-term problems and not long-winded pipe dreams such as the Student Center. Will we ever get the Student Center? Maybe—but that is a long time coming. Concentrate on what matters right now.

Back from the Drawing Boards



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



Commendable job

I wish to commend the Chronicle (specifically Steven Yaccino) for your article [March 12, "SGA's book resolution 'uncovered'"] referencing the SGA and the use of my book *Applied Music Theory for Managers, Engineers, Producers and Artists*. Not so much the fact that through your investigation it was revealed that the information was incorrect as provided by the SGA, but that true journalism is in place at the College. As I have dealt with the media in many situations as a combat veteran, a manager of a nationally recognized band and as a composer of music, I have had an opportunity to see how a story can find a bend just for the sake of the story and not for the quality of information.

Steven did not bend the story in any way—he just provided the facts. During our phone conversation he asked specific and direct and nonjudgmental questions to insure his facts where straight.

In this day and age of sensationalism in the media, it is great to see that our future journalists from Columbia College understand the need to provide accurate and fully researched information to the public.

Kimo Williams, faculty, Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department

Dear Chronicle:

I read your article [March 12, "SGA's book resolution 'uncovered'"], then when I went online to post a letter to the editor or blog or whatever, when WHACK! There it is. I invite everyone on campus to simply click through the "blog" link on the Chronicle's website to get the "big picture" of where this trashy culture is really at. I guess "shallow" is not only in, it's downright fashionable. Create Change this!

My values are totally in collision with what you call news and your decision to go there at all regarding this issue. Your story served no other purpose than piling on hearsay. Are you so corrupted by the lure of gossip that you intentionally spread what you know to be "false accusations," making sure the gory details infected the rest of us? What should have stayed small and incidental is now community mention. What was your motivation? I am stumped.

Kimo Williams knows all too well, after 55,000+ body bags and the reality of our generation, that "the enemy of truth and beauty is hearsay and gossip." End of story.

Monica Grayless, faculty, Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department

Universal healthcare blues

While it's easy to assume that health insurance is a scam in this country of fat-cat companies seething with greed, the unfortunate truth is that insurance is a necessity.

Students should be concerned about health insurance since it is affecting them. Students in their early 20s, and having left home, will soon find out that their parents' policy no longer covers them.

And unless they are being rolled into the John Stroger Cook County Hospital on a gurney with a gunshot wound, they can expect to wait for at least 12 hours.

But health insurance, on average, with a decent deductible, will cost a student about a hundred bucks a month. They already have to pay for rent, utilities and food. It's expensive no matter what they do.

Illinois Covered, the universal healthcare plan, which

Illinois Gov. Blagojevich proposed along with his new budget, is a step in the right direction. It's delivery, though, is worrisome.

"There are over 1.4 million adults in Illinois who don't have health insurance," Blagojevich said during his budget proposal in Springfield on March 7. He said the plan will cover those who are uninsured and provide assistance to middle-class families to keep their insurance affordable. The plan will also help small businesses pay for health insurance for their workers.

According to Illinois Covered, the plan would provide affordable insurance to anyone who "does not have access to employer-sponsored insurance" by implementing a combination of programs to make it affordable. If someone happens to be living below the poverty line, then that person's single coverage would be provided free.

We agree with the idea of Illinois paving the way for universal healthcare in this country, but even though democrats rule both chambers of Congress in Springfield, Blago is still an unpopular fellow there. At least it's a step in the right direction.

Passing a \$2.1 billion-a-year plan, however, comes at a price. The governor has proposed the largest tax increase in Illinois history. Depending on how one feels about a tax increase, universal insurance can't get mired in middle management rhetoric.

The Chronicle endorsed Rich Whitney, the Green party candidate, since his platform also called for similar healthcare and a 3 percent payroll tax, so we're surprised Blago wants to pull off universal healthcare. He also wants to put in a 3 percent payroll tax to those employers who don't provide health insurance. We just hope he can do it.

Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

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 31 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

Hayley Graham
Huntley Clavin
Editors in Chief

Cyrl Jakubowski
Commentary Editor

Allison Riggio
Brent Steven White
Associate Editors

Steve Yaccino
George Sief
Beth Palmer
Assistant Campus Editors

Christy Mahmeister
A&E Editor
Kristin Kaller
Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editors

Andrew Nelles
Rachael Strecher
Assistant Photo Editors

Katherine Neville
Account Executive

Steve Baltrukonis
Copy Chief

Christopher Richert
General Manager

Tiffany Bryson
Eric Kassig
Managing Editors

Jenn Zimmerman
Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor

Armanda Maurer
Campus News Editor

Joshua Covarrubias
Kimi Badger
Graphic Designers

Mauricio Rubio
Photo Editor

Jon Jones
Advertising & Business
Manager

Patrick Algrim
Webmaster

Sara Harvey
Jessica Gallert
Copy Editors

Mick Dumke
Jim Sulski
Faculty Advisers

The tortured souls of comedians



By Cyril Jakubowski
Commentary Editor

On the morning of March 11, one day before my 25th birthday, I was driving to work in my Columbo-esque car, when I heard the news: Comedian Richard Jeni, 49, committed suicide. I listened intently, not because I have a morbid curiosity for suicides, but because I was familiar with Jeni's work.

This was the same guy who witnessed the start of Cameron Diaz's career, as she walked in dripping wet from the rain in a skimpy red outfit in the movie *The Mask*, to which Jeni said, "Hold the phone, killer at 3 o'clock."

Then I heard Jeni's girlfriend had called the police saying, "My boyfriend just shot himself in the face." Jeni died in the hospital later. But it was the nature of his death that made me think about all the great minds that came before him. It's strange how many comedians, humorists and authors have killed themselves.

It bothers me why bright and talented minds usually end up battling their demons to the point they kill themselves. It seems to me that the funniest minds are also the most depressed. I guess that's what makes them funny. Their life tragedies, usually expressed through stand-up, are hilarious to us.

It reminded me of a gloomy May morning in 1998, when Phil Hartman was shot in his sleep by his wife. At that time I think I was still discovering study hall make-out sessions with girls. I didn't care much about comedy.

But over the years, comedy, especially stand-up comedy, has grown on me. I've

seen Bill Maher go from "Politically Incorrect" to "Real Time With Bill Maher" on HBO, and Robin Williams move from "Mork and Mindy," to, gulp, *Man of the Year*. I've even seen George Carlin and Dave Chappelle live.

But it's weird how many comedians off themselves or die during February and March. It's like those months are a comedy harvest time and death take its toll. Hunter S. Thompson shot himself on February 21, 2005. This March was the 25th anniversary of John Belushi's death. Even Mitch Hedberg, the comedian who said, "An escalator can never break; it can only become stairs," died on March 29, 2005 from a drug overdose.

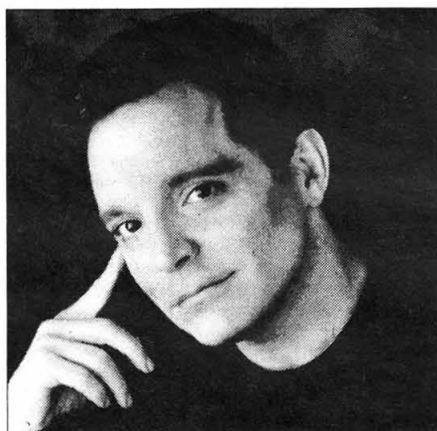
So it's the drugs, guns and wives that kill comedians. Really? I thought it was how far the comedy business pushes these individuals in order to stay fresh and relevant and creative that really kills them.

Comedians don't get any respect. They rarely win Oscars. And though their careers sometimes stay within grasp of the spotlight, it usually takes years to make it to the main stage.

Richard Jeni was one of those people. He appeared frequently on the "Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson and continued on into Jay Leno's tenure.

He was very cynical; he rarely missed the mark with his jokes. He had energy, great timing, and above all, a great sense of humor. On his 2005 HBO special, *A Big Steaming Pile of Me*, he had a joke about relationships.

"You don't want to be alone like a mas-



AP

turbating loser, when you can have the woman next to you in the car, cranking out non-stop, real-time, updated traffic information. It's like having a brand-new radio station," Jeni said in the special.

"You're listening to all-driving-complaint-radio. Bustin' your balls from the driveway to the highway. You get all the great hits: Your exit's coming up. Your exit's coming up. Your exit's coming up. Your exit's coming up. And after a while you're going, 'Yeah, well, so is yours.'"

Too bad his exit came up too soon. They say laughter is the best medicine—no, really. A daily dose of laughter may be good for the heart since it is linked to healthy functioning of blood vessels, according to a study by the University of Maryland Medical Center. It's almost like warfare out there on the stage—just to make people laugh. That's why when comedians have a great show they say they

"killed," and when they suck they "bombed."

While I don't really know why the funniest people usually end up committing suicide or overdosing on drugs, I think it's the need to be constantly creative that pushes them. And since we come to Columbia, the Mecca of creativity, we should be vigilant.

I use humor, albeit sometimes to ill and gross effects, because I view humor, to an extent, as a shield. Funny voices, an acerbic wit—they all hide my pain from the world. I think some of the best comedians are tortured souls.

People wonder why Jim Carrey is so funny, or why Robin Williams is never himself. These people lived horrible and painful lives. I read Williams' unofficial biography that said Williams had a mental breakdown when he was attending Juilliard. But he was also big on cocaine and Kamikaze shots. Nevertheless, I think Williams is still the best comic improviser out there.

While Richard Jeni was no George Carlin, he definitely had a long-running career. But in the business of wanting more—wanting that spotlight—comedy can swallow you up, or you can carve out a niche market and go with it. Jeni will be missed.

People think comedians give it their best every time they step in front of the audience. But in truth, it's just a job in the end. I think the late great Bill Hicks summed up the essence of comedy the best by saying on his *Relentless* album, "How ya doing folks? You have to bear with me; I'm very tired of doing comedy. I'm very tired of staring out into your vacant faces looking back at me, wanting me to fill your empty lives with humor. You couldn't possibly think of yourselves. Good evening."

cjakubowski@chroniclemail.com

Roamin' Numerals

\$4,350 The amount William Elich, 46, wants from Greg Scott Ely, 32, in a lawsuit for allegedly throwing a snowball at him. The snowball, which allegedly hit Elich, broke a lens in his glasses and bruised his eyeball according to *The Oregonian*. "I don't need the money," Elich said. "This is a 32-year-old man acting like a 16-year-old." Ely denied the claims.

128 The number of felonies a 13-year-old Nelsonville, OH boy will face in juvenile court. "In my 30 years of doing this, I've never had a juvenile that young with so many charges," Athens County Prosecutor C. David Warren told *The Associated Press*. The boy faces delinquency counts of burglary, theft, vandalism and witness intimidation.

120 Number of days that Tank Johnson will have to serve in jail for violating his probation in his weapon case, according to the Sun-Times. Deputies took the defensive tackle into custody immediately after the verdict was reached. Johnson was visibly stunned, the March 16 story said.

Don't fret, it's just a pet



By Tiffany Breyne
Managing Editor

The only pet that's ever actually meant something to me was Bear, my family dog (yes, he was named after Da Bears). My dad gave Bear to my mom one Christmas when I was a kid. He was an adorable and fluffy puppy and, for the most part, provided fun and cuddly memories.

As Bear got older, though, he lost sight in one eye and started walking into walls and acting not-so adorable. After my dad took him to the vet, we discovered that Bear had tumors throughout his body and in his brain, which affected his paw-eye coordination. The doc said it was best to put Bear to sleep.

So we followed orders and Bear went to doggie heaven. Though we were sad to let go of our beloved pet, we knew that it served us all for the best; I assumed this to be a typical chain of events.

Lately, though, it seems like a lot of people aren't getting the whole concept of letting a pet go. Many pet owners are putting money and emotional energy into keeping their furry friends around and in the best shape possible—and businesses and medical technology are catering to this ridiculous trend.

The latest announcement of advanced medical help for animals comes from Pfizer, the pharmaceutical company that produces the erectile dysfunction pill Viagra and cholesterol medication Lipitor. Rather than coming up with possible medicines that could benefit humans, Pfizer decided to make diet pills for dogs and medicine to help curb canine car sickness.

At first I didn't get why Pfizer thinks that doggie weight and motion sickness problems are in need of cures. But everything about the pet industry, from pharmaceutical sales to money spent on clothing, grooming and boarding prove that such attention for pets is obviously in demand.

The annual amount spent on U.S. animal health products, reached \$6.3 billion in 2005, according to Animal Pharm, a London-based company that follows the

animal health industry. This means that pills designed to keep animals skinny, cancer-free, heart-healthy and whatever else are being sold en masse to pet owners across the nation. And the insanity doesn't stop at health; Fido lovers are also investing more money into luxury comfort.

Laura Bennett, CEO of Embrace Pet Insurance, gave blogsite *Small Business Trends* a list of pet industry movements to watch for in 2007. The lists included the growth of pet services such as boarding, pet sitting and photography. Bennett said pet owners are more willing to spend money on pet sitting services because of the growing mentality that it is socially unacceptable to leave an animal home alone all day or for a weekend.

This trend is obvious in Chicago; mini boutiques that specifically sell pet clothes and toys are scattered across the city. Doggie daycare centers charge outrageous prices and provide over-the-top services such as acupuncture while owners vacation or go to work.

Canine Empire, a members-only doggie daycare in Chicago, boasts an indoor heated swimming pool, 100,000 square feet of

play space and valet service so owners don't have to get out of their car when dropping off their pet. It is an extreme example of pet service gone too far. Members pay a \$500 initiation fee and \$500 a year, plus \$100 for each additional dog, and have the opportunity to sign their pooch up for chiropractic and massage therapy sessions.

As an animal lover I feel slightly guilty that I can't afford to pay \$1,000 to have my dog play in a heated pool and get massages. I can't understand buying a hooded shirt or silly hats to keep my dog "warm" during the winter.

A pet is a pet; it may make up for a lack of home companionship, make for a cozy pillow at night and a good running partner during the summer, but that's it. No matter how much money and effort a person puts into an animal it's still going to die and unfortunately no pill or heated pool is going to prevent that. Besides, I bet "doggie heaven" has way more space and better weather than any earthly company or city can provide.

tbreyne@chroniclemail.com

The Columbia Chronicle is a student-produced publication of Columbia College Chicago and does not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of college administrators, faculty or students.

All text, photos and graphics are the property of The Columbia Chronicle and may not be reproduced or published without written permission.

Editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Board of The Columbia Chronicle. Columns are the opinions of the author(s).

Views expressed in this publication are those of the writer and are not the opinions of The Columbia Chronicle, Columbia's Journalism Department or Columbia College Chicago.

Letters to the editor must include full name, year, major and phone number. All letters are edited for grammar and may be cut due to a limited space. Letters can be faxed to (312) 344-8430, e-mailed to Chronicle@colum.edu or mailed to The Columbia Chronicle, 33 E. Congress Parkway Suite 224, Chicago, IL 60605-1996.

Press releases
Chronicle@colum.edu

Advertisements
Crichet@colum.edu

The Columbia Chronicle
33 E. Congress Parkway
Suite 224
Chicago, IL 60605-1996

Main line: (312) 344-8999
Advertising Fax: (312) 344-8032
Newsroom Fax: (312) 344-8430

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

A nation in shock

Massachusetts could follow suit due to Illinois ban

By Lindsey Tanner

Bradley Bernstein's parents say an electric cattle prod is the only thing that stops him from banging his head and violently punching his eyes, nearly blinding himself.

The Illinois couple's fight to continue shock treatment on their severely autistic 48-year-old son, and the uproar over a Massachusetts school that uses similar treatment, have pulled back the curtain on this extreme form of behavior modification. Critics call it outmoded, barbaric and unethical.

Even a leading supporter of the technique, Harvard-educated psychologist Matthew Israel, said, "The natural reaction is to be horrified."

"It always has been very controversial and is not politically correct, and if you want to advance your career, you try to stay away from it," Israel said.

He is the founder and director of the Judge Rotenberg Center, which is a residential school in Canton, Mass. The institution houses children and adults with autism, mental retardation and other behavioral and psychiatric disorders.

The school is under legislative and regulatory scrutiny for routinely using skin shocks on about half of its 230 students to stop seri-

ous behavior problems, including self-injury.

Electric shocks and other painful or unpleasant treatments known as "aversive conditioning" were accepted more than a generation ago. But mainstream psychiatry relies on new drugs and other methods that have proven effective.

Using this form of shock therapy is "cruel and unusual punishment," said Dr. Louis Kraus, an associate professor of psychiatry at Chicago's Rush University Medical Center. "The concept of doing that is frightening."

Some states, including Illinois last year, have banned or severely restricted the use of electric shocks for mental health treatment.

But Israel favors the technique over psychiatric drugs that he said makes students too drowsy to learn. He believes most critics "have never seen children who have blinded themselves, or banged their head to the point of brain injury, or bit a hole in their cheek."

Israel developed a device he calls a graduated electronic decelerator. It's carried in a student's backpack and elicits shocks through electrodes strapped on their arms and legs.

"The beauty of it is there's no side effects," Israel said. "It's a temporary painful experience for two seconds."

His school's techniques are the subject of a bill pending in the Massachusetts legislature and complaints including a lawsuit by

a New York mother who says the shocks traumatized her son, who is now 18 years old.

The device used on Bradley Bernstein is a cattle prod. It used to be a long electrified rod, but the newer model is a handheld shocker about the size of a portable phone, with two short metal prongs.

Fran Bernstein, his mother, said it delivers a shock about as painful as a bee sting. But, critics say it's considerably stronger, akin to sticking a finger in an electric socket.

Often just seeing the device was enough to make Bradley stop hurting himself, Fran Bernstein said.

Bradley Bernstein only says a few words and sometimes hurts himself in frustration or opposition to his caretakers' demands, his mother said. He is also allergic to several drugs that could calm his behavior.

The Bernsteins are fighting a Cook County judge's March 2 ruling that said Bradley's shock treatment violates an amendment to state law passed last May.

"Now we're not going to be able to control him and we don't know what's going to happen," said Fran Bernstein, of suburban Lincolnshire, Ill.

A therapist recommended the shocks when Bradley was a boy and he got the treatment routinely in group homes where he lived until the state law was enacted last year, his mother said.

Specialists at Trinity Services Inc., which took over the agency



AP

Bradley Bernstein, who is severely autistic, ties his shoes in the living room of his group home on March 12.

that used to care for Bradley, O'Donnell is appealing and has enlisted Matthew Israel to help evaluate Bradley and determine whether his shock treatment should resume.

"Anything that causes pain isn't necessarily cruel and inhumane," Israel said. "If you go to a dentist or a surgeon, you're going to be involved in temporary pain but have long-term hope of improvement."

Bradley Bernstein is the only group home patient in Illinois known to have received shock treatment in recent years. His parents agreed to a compromise to gradually stop the treatment, but sued when Trinity officials abruptly stopped it after the law changed, according to their attorney, Robert O'Donnell.

The judge's recent ruling said the change in Illinois law makes the Bernsteins' complaint moot.

AP

www.fordcollegehq.com

I AM Stoked. define yourself.

student
bonus cash
EXCLUSIVE OFFER
\$500

Additional savings just for college and trade school students, recent grads and grad students

The All New 2007 Ford Edge

07 college student purchase program

Ford LINCOLN MERCURY

it's surfin' time!

www.columbiachronicle.com

[illegible]

Boring: Spy store started by Chicago author David Eggers

Continued from Back Page

and creative writing. It provides free walk-in tutoring and workshops to improve writing skills, publishing opportunities, field trips and other programs for adults or schools.

Since then, five other 826 stores have been opened and numerous writers have been brought onto the project to help tutor the students.

In Chicago, the Board of Advisors includes Columbia fiction professor Joe Meno and former journalism teacher Anne Elizabeth Moore, Jeffrey Eugenides, author of *Middlesex*, Monica Eng, reporter for the Chicago Tribune, Audrey Niffenegger, author of *The Time Traveler's Wife* and an adjunct faculty member in Columbia's Center for Book & Paper Arts, and Alex Kotlowitz, who wrote *There Are No Children Here*.

The rest of the list goes on. The Board of Directors includes the public radio host of "This American Life," Ira Glass, and RedEye columnist Kyra Kyles.

The storefronts are a way to bring attention to the organization as well as raise funds for the tutoring programs.

According to Anna Ura, director of events at 826 Valencia, the non-profit's stores try to have a theme that's fun, quirky and imaginative.

826NYC has a superhero theme, 826 Valencia features pirates, 826 Seattle encourages space travel and 826 Michigan is the proud location of the International Monsters Union.

The need for storefronts came about as a zoning requirement in San Francisco for 826 Valencia. For the store to remain in its location a storefront was needed. The operators decided on a pirate theme because the space was already decorated to look like a ship on the inside. This idea spread as the other stores opened in Los Angeles, Seattle, New York City and Chicago. This year another is set to open in Boston.

According to Leah Guenther, the executive director of 826CHI, the idea for a secret agent supply store came after some polling among their students determined that they were in need of surveillance equipment.

Matthew Garza, a student who works at the neighboring Belmont Army Surplus, had no idea what The Boring Store was.

"I walked past it and wondered what it was," he said. "I thought it was an art project."

Garza said he has not seen an increased amount of secret agents or men in trench coats in the area since the store opened—which means the secret agents must be doing their jobs.

dnelson@chroniclemail.com



Rogan Birnie/The Chronicle

Dale Glowacki, a retired military helicopter pilot who spent a considerable amount of time flying in Iraq, examines the memorial exhibit at Federal Plaza for civilians that have been killed in Iraq. Glowacki said he 'isn't a big fan' of the war and believes it was a "mistake".

Exhibit: Thousands of deceased Iraqis honored at Federal Plaza

Continued from Back Page

Jarrar is among an estimated 1.8 million citizens that have been displaced outside of Iraq, according to the AFSC. Additionally, another 1.6 million have been displaced within the country.

During the opening ceremony, the committee cited an Associated Press poll in which Americans estimated that only 9,890 Iraqis have died since the fighting began.

An estimated 655,000 Iraqis have died in the fighting since the

war started, according to a study done by John Hopkins School of Public Health. However, the U.S., U.K. and Iraqi governments have all challenged that figure. Shortly after the study was released, President Bush estimated that as few as 30,000 civilians have been killed. Iraq's Health Ministry puts estimates around 50,000.

Dr. Dahlia Wasfi, an Iraqi-American with family in Basra, has been speaking out against the war since she returned from visiting her family last year.

"Just because you have elections doesn't mean you have democracy," Wasfi said during the opening ceremony. "We have to support the troops who resist."

Albert Stabler, a teacher at James H. Bowen High School on Chicago's South Side, brought his class to see the exhibit during their lunch break on March 13.

"Students feel passionate about the war [and this gives] them something to organize around," he said.

Stabler said Bowen is one of the most highly recruited schools by the military in the area. He hopes to start a counter-recruitment movement within the school by setting up a table in the cafeteria. Students would be given information about other options following high school including the actual opportunities available for financial aid for college.

He said he wants them to know "what the real gamble is that you're taking in the war."

Lisa Hauschild, who came with a group of friends to read aloud the names of the dead Iraqis, said that out of thousands of Iraqis who have died, only about 3,000 names have been compiled.

"When you see a shoe that's the size of your baby niece's foot ... [what you're doing] becomes very real," she said.

Erin Polley, a senior cultural studies major, helped organize the event.

"I volunteered at the start of the war after the exhibit gained some notoriety," she said.

"Dreams and Nightmares" has traveled across the country with its counterpart exhibit "Eyes Wide Open," which honors fallen American soldiers. The exhibits have traveled from Washington D.C. to Denver and places in between.

"Dreams and Nightmares" will be in South Bend, Ind. next before coming to Grant Park over Memorial Day weekend.

chronicle@colum.edu

Student Showcase

student work in response to HIV & AIDS

03. 28. 07

11am – 4:30 pm

Conaway Center

1104 S. Wabash

visual art & live performances include:

11:30 Can Art Save Lives?

a conversation with Joe Goode, Susan Imus and Dorian Jones

1:00 Solo Not Alone

featuring members of the Theater Department

2:30 SurvivedBY

documentary theater by Anthony Newman

3:30-4:30 OPEN MIC

CriticalEncounters:

HIV/AIDS

colum.edu/criticalencounters

11:00-3:30 HIV TESTING

ARE YOU **UP-TO-DATE** ON YOUR IMMUNIZATIONS?

Columbia makes it quick and painless for students to
lift their immunization account holds.

create...
change

Columbia offers students the opportunity to get up-to-date immunizations on campus.

Columbia Immunization Days:

Monday, March 26	10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 27	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Wednesday, March 28	10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: 731 S. Plymouth Court, First floor

Cost per vaccination:

- Tetanus/Diphtheria \$45
- MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella) \$95 each
(Two measles vaccines are required within your lifetime. If you need both, you must wait 28 days between the first and second shot.)
- Tetanus/Diphtheria and MMR \$140
- Payment is not required at the vaccination time. The charge/s will be applied to your Student Financial Services account.

The majority of college students have already received all or most required immunizations. The Illinois Public Act 85-1315 requires all students enrolled for six credit hours or more to provide the college with proof of immunity against tetanus-diphtheria, measles, mumps, and rubella.

To have your registration hold removed, please submit proof of your required immunizations!

To determine which specific immunizations you need, follow these easy steps:

- Sign on to OASIS
- Click on the student tab
- Click on the Immunization link in the student profile portlet

To obtain an immunization record:

- Contact your parents or doctor and request they submit a faxed proof of immunization to (312) 344.8073 or (312) 344.8091. Please be sure the fax includes your full name and OASIS ID.
- A record of immunization may also be obtained from your high school.

For questions about immunization requirements or for doctor referrals, please contact the Columbia Student Health Center.

Hours: 12-5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Location: 731 South Plymouth Court, First Floor

Phone: (312) 344.6830

If you have any additional questions, call the Columbia Student Immunization Hotline at (312) 344.7390 or visit www.colum.edu/go/immunization/

Columbia 
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Big Bang: Professor tries to recreate famous scientific theory

Continued from Front Page

low temperatures, there's a kind of universality, meaning the chemicals interact in the same way," Chin said. "In room temperature you see different materials: wood, paper, air; they have all different properties. But when you go to very low temperatures, they have very similar properties."

Chin explained the universe began as a tight ball of energy that developed holes. These holes allowed the contained energy to eventually burst open, creating the ever-expanding universe as we know it. While this may have occurred at billions of degrees Fahrenheit, Chin's lab will demonstrate similar principles through incredibly cold temperatures close to absolute zero since the properties are likely to be the same.

By creating the lab, which can be cooled to a billionth of a degree above absolute zero, the interactions between atoms can be controlled and studied.

In quantum physics, the heat left over from the Big Bang means the universe will never reach absolute zero, or -459 degrees Fahrenheit. The coldest place in nature is in outer space, which is still about 3 degrees above absolute zero, Chin said.

Steve Koppes, a spokesman for the U of C Physical Sciences department, said Chin has been

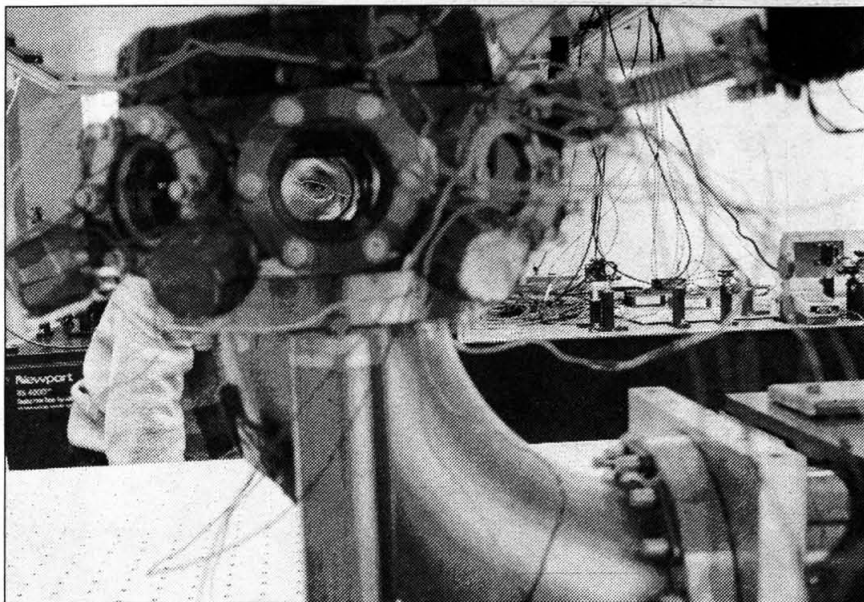
working with matter in exotic states of extremely high or low temperatures for years.

"Previously he was working on new forms of matter under extreme conditions, where the materials they produced are different from the normal states of matter we're all familiar with, which are solids, liquids and gases," Koppes said. "Materials react differently under extreme conditions in such a way that they're categorized on an entirely different kind of matter."

Temperature affects the movement and reactivity of particles. The warmer a particle becomes, the faster it moves. Likewise, the colder it becomes, the slower it will move. At absolute zero, the atoms are moving so slow they can be seen using a quantum computer, a complicated arrangement of lasers and a camera to photograph the atomic interactions.

Chin's research involves basic particles called fermions, which form larger particles, such as protons, neutrons and electrons. They are responsible for maintaining stability within atoms and molecules, which keeps all matter in the universe from falling apart or disintegrating before our eyes.

By bringing the laboratory to temperatures close to absolute zero, Chin is able to study a theory called Bose-Einstein condensation. This theory explains how atoms at absolute zero become super-fluid, and are able to overlap and occupy the same state at the same time. This is like two people trying to stand in the same space at once—either they would collide or come very close, but they would never be able to stand in the same place at the same time.



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Cheng Chin, assistant professor at the University of Chicago, looks through a window created in his ultra-cold chamber to view the molecules slowing down.

This is impossible under typical circumstances; even atoms in states with extremely low density, such as gases, still cannot occupy the same state.

In Bose-Einstein condensation, however, atoms take on a different state altogether, making it possible for atoms to overlap. This may be how the universe was compiled before the Big Bang and when particles started taking on their own distinctive properties.

To conduct this kind of research where atoms are in extreme conditions, the lab itself had to be built specifically so that the atoms could not only be seen and pho-

tographed, but also undisturbed by outside influences.

"It's probably the only building on campus where he could do his experiments, because [the atoms] are sensitive to vibrations," Koppes said. He said the lab was built under the basement to ensure that his experiment would be conducted without interference from the outside world.

Chin said even the elevator that goes down to the sub-basement doesn't touch the ground so that it doesn't disrupt the experiment. The tables he is using are also pressurized so that they can float at times.

Koppes said the university was also providing start-up funds, but the majority of Chin's funding is through grants. He has received \$625,000 from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and \$45,000 from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to conduct his research.

Koppes said Chin had been working on this project since 2005, but there was no deadline set.

"It might keep him busy for the rest of his career," Koppes said.

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

Pedro Pérez-Sarduy

Cuban Scholar & Activist

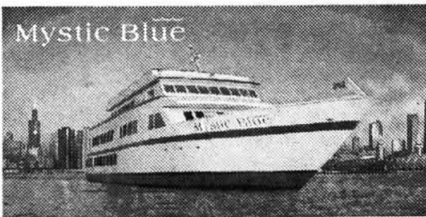
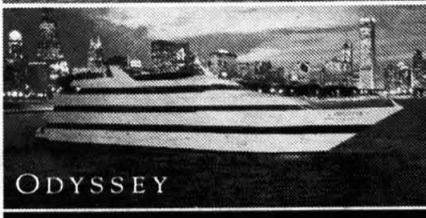

Poetry & Novel Reading & Discussion, *Maids of Havana*
Tuesday, March 27th 12:30 - 2:00pm
600 S. Michigan Ave. Room 401

Art & Revolution, Film Screening, Cuban Films
Wednesday, March 28th 6:30 - 8:30pm
Ferguson Hall 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Pedro Pérez-Sarduy is an Afro-Cuban poet, writer, journalist, radio broadcaster and Cuba consultant residing in London, England. He worked in Cuba for national radio (1965-79) and for the Latin American Service of the BBC World Service (1981-1994). He is the author of several books, *Surrealidad* (1967), *Cumbite and Other Poems*, (1990) and *Malecón Sigloveinte* (2006) poetry.

He co-edited with Jean Stubbs *AFRO-CUBA: An Anthology of Cuban Writing on Race, Politics and Culture* (1993) and *Afro-Cuban Voices on Race and Identity in Contemporary Cuba* (2000) and was co-author of the *Introduction to No Longer Invisible/Afro-Latin Americans Today* (1995). He has published his first novel, *Las Criadas de La Habana* (The Maids of Havana, 2001). Pedro is also recipient of several literary awards. He was a Charles McGill Fellow Visiting Lecturer at Trinity College, Hartford Connecticut, (Fall 2004). Pérez Sarduy is also an Associate Fellow at the Caribbean Studies Centre at London Metropolitan University.

Free and Open to the Public
Sponsored by the Liberal Education Department

THIS JOB ADVANCES EVERY DAY.

It's a great time to join Chicago's largest dining cruise company. Whether you prefer the more formal and elegant atmosphere on Odyssey Cruises or the fun and casual vibe of Mystic Blue Cruises, you can get all of the benefits of working in an unmatched culture, receive professional hospitality service training, cash bonuses and employee discounts for all our products. Not only do we take pride in what we do, we have FUN.

COMPETITIVE WAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS
ABOARD ODYSSEY AND MYSTIC BLUE CRUISES:

- Servers/Server Assistants
- Bartenders
- Hosts
- Cooks/Runners
- Ticket Booth Agents
- Marine Crew

To apply or for more information please visit www.jobflash.com/pyi or contact your Career Center.

Experience not required but preferred for interested applicants

ODYSSEY
Odyssey.com

Mystic Blue
MysticBlueCruises.com

Wearin' (out) the green in Chicago

A Chronicle news analysis of Chicago's City Council

By James H. Ewert Jr.
City Beat Editor

Green was the color of the day at the March 14 Chicago City Council meeting with many members wearing green ties or sporting green handkerchiefs in their jacket pockets in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. However, one council member, 16th Ward Alderman Shirley Coleman, was sporting a white hard hat—a sign of the heated debate that later ensued.

In its first gathering since the Feb. 27 municipal election, the council meeting had everything a typical one should have: an irate peanut gallery, a rambunctious aldermanic debate, an irritated Mayor Richard M. Daley and a press box full of snarky reporters.

Though some came later than others, all of the City Council's 50 aldermen showed up; and for the first hour-and-a-half the meeting went on as it normally does with resolutions honoring city workers, students and notable Chicagoans.

A resolution was approved unanimously honoring the police and firemen who helped battle the North Side apartment fire last week that claimed four lives; as well as a resolution commending several high school students for outstanding performances.

While aldermen congratulated the students, one unnamed reporter in the press box leaned over and was overheard saying, "When are they going to pass a resolution supporting straight A's?"

After the resolutions, the council passed an ordinance that would require all municipal buildings to fly flags at half mast whenever an Illinois military service member is

killed.

Following the typical council business was the debate about Chicago's 2016 Olympic bid and the \$500 million that taxpayers would have to put up for collateral—which was anything but typical.

One of the first council members to give a speech on the subject was 4th Ward Alderman Toni Preckwinkle, whose turf would be at the heart of Chicago's Olympic festivities.

She voiced major concerns regarding how the executive body is treated by the administrative branch. She also noted it was hard to believe that no one knew about the \$500 million guarantee prior to the mayoral election.

Preckwinkle, who was briefed less than a week ago about the city's plans, said she was "dismayed" at the process leading up to the vote on March 14. She was one of the handful of aldermen to vote against the ordinance, which passed 45-5.

Aldermen who voted "no" along with Preckwinkle were Dorothy Tillman (3rd), Shirley Coleman (14th), Arenda Troutman (20th) and Howard Brookings Jr. (21st).

Preckwinkle is the only one of the five to have won reelection. Tillman, Coleman and Brookings are all headed to the April 17 runoff election, while Troutman lost outright to Alderman-elect Willie Cochran.

Troutman said the ordinance would probably be the most important issue she would have a chance to vote on before leaving office and tried to draw connections between her ousting and opposition.



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Alderman Latasha Thomas of the 15th Ward, left, and Alderman Shirley Coleman (16th Ward) talk during a City Council meeting on March 14. Coleman's hard hat stated "the 16th ward is not for sale."

"Every Olympic games put the city they were held in at a devastating financial deficit," Troutman said as Mayor Daley exited the chamber. "[There is] a 9 to 12-billion dollar deficit in Athens and Sydney is still paying off the 2000 games."

Despite the Olympics' looming financial obligations, many aldermen spoke out in wide favor of the games, with some evoking references to the 1893 Columbian Exposition and 1933 Century of Progress World's Fair.

Alderman Bernie Stone of the 50th Ward gave the games and the ordinance his full backing.

"Is it worth it?" Stone asked the council in reference to Alderman Preckwinkle's comments. "Damn right it's worth it, because it will produce residuals...Every single Olympics has had a surplus."

Throughout the meeting numer-

ous patrons in the public gallery could be heard voicing their opinions in favor of public hearings on this matter. At one point during 1st Ward Alderman Manny Flores' speech, the council chamber erupted in argument between the aldermen and the public. Alderman Ed Burke of the 14th Ward, reminded the mayor he had the authority to clear the entire chamber. Several people were ejected from the balcony area above the chamber for banging on the glass partition.

Many aldermen in support of the ordinance acknowledged skepticism of a potential taxpayer loss, but explained Chicago must show the Olympic committee—which makes the final decision—that the games have the city's full support.

And no council meeting would be complete without flamboyant

comments from 42nd Ward Alderman Burton Natarus, who, after losing his long-held aldermanic seat in February, seemed as jovial as ever.

Natarus commented that he wanted everyone to be included on the planning, which drew applause from the boastful public. Mayor Daley hushed the crowd by banging his gavel several times.

"I'm worried about having a city with a false mystique," Natarus said. "Like New York. What's so great about New York other than flying in on a weekend to see a Broadway show?"

After speaking, Natarus turned toward the crowd and said, "Don't clap."

jewert@chroniclemail.com

Olympics: \$500 million guarantee spikes worries among aldermen

Continued from Back Page

were not invited to the Olympics," Troutman said during the meeting.

All three Aldermen come from multi-racial communities where they said residents have also been left in the dark about Olympic decisions affecting their neighborhoods.

Although there was a public hearing held for residents to voice their concerns, Preckwinkle said because it was in at Grant Park it still didn't include the voices of many South Side residents.

"They must include those whose lands and parks they plan on using," Hairston said during the meeting.

And the questions don't stop with just who is being included in the planning process.

When it comes to the \$500 million in guarantees requested by the Olympic Bid Committee, Preckwinkle, among other aldermen, hammered Mayor Daley with the idea that he knew about the large proposal needed prior to



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Alderman Arenda Troutman of the 20th Ward spoke out against the Olympic games coming to Chicago at City Council meeting on March 14. Troutman said the face of the Olympics is one of a rich white man and doesn't include many minorities or South Side residents.

the Feb. 27 mayoral election.

"It's very hard for me to believe that someone in the city didn't know that prior to the election that we were going to be required to put up \$500 million in guarantees," she said. "Ironically, those same people that are going to tell us that the guarantees are going to be required [also] want us to trust them that the possibility of having to use these guarantees is very, very, very remote."

Adding to speculation, top mayoral aide Dana Leveson, abruptly

resigned as chief financial officer on March 16. Leveson recently assured taxpayers they wouldn't be left responsible for the large chunk of change.

Still, Daley ensured during a press conference held shortly after the meeting on March 14 that the \$500 million should only be seen as an insurance policy for the Games and that residents' pockets would only be tapped into if some kind of natural disaster occurred within the city prior to the Games.

Daley also said he was unaware of the large proposal needed prior to the election and said the Olympics will be a financial profit to the city of Chicago, a statement agreed upon and voiced by other aldermen during the meeting.

"This is the best thing that could happen in Chicago," said 33rd Ward Alderman Richard Mell. "We have a chance to showcase Chicago like never before."

However, even outside the

large finances, some aldermen question how great the long-term effects will be to their communities as a whole.

Troutman spoke at the meeting about the "dark secrets" of the Olympics and its long connection with unwarranted evictions of residents and purging of the homeless. She also said that many previous host cities, like Montreal, Canada, have spent 30 years recovering from financial debt caused by the Games.

For Troutman, the negative outcome of hosting the Olympics outweighs the possible benefits proposed by other aldermen and the mayor.

"[The Olympics] are being built on the dollars and not the welfare of the people," she said during the meeting.

Preckwinkle also mentioned that although the Games are a wonderful idea, the possible profits were not presented in a timely way, making it seem like the city would lose more than it could gain.

Despite the questions fired at Mayor Daley about his proposal, he said people need to keep in mind everything is still in the beginning stages.

"We are in batting practice," he said during the press conference. "We haven't even stepped up to the plate yet."

jzimmerman@chroniclemail.com

Curbing violence against women

New campaign strives to make Illinois safest state in the U.S.

By Alsha Qidwai
Staff Writer

If an Illinois women's advocacy group initiative proves successful, violence against women could drop in this state.

The Chicago Foundation of Women's initiative called "What Will It Take?" introduced a year-long campaign to make Illinois the safest state for all women and girls, beginning March 8, International Women's Day.

This initiative involves residents' input from nine town hall meetings, ads, an online forum, and public events to find a solution to end violence toward women and girls. One solution includes tackling pop culture that degrades women, said Mary F. Morten, the associate director at the foundation.

"We want to hold pop culture accountable," Morten said.

The campaign has been dividing up \$1 million in state grant aid to nonprofit groups for advocacy and direct services. It has also established a Safe State Council, a statewide group of advocates and experts, to help support the project.

Unlike previous campaigns, this initiative will engage residents across the state in a grassroots approach, including reaching out to men and students on campuses.

Columbia was the first to sign on to the campaign, according to the foundation. The college's Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media is partnering to do outreach by distributing flyers, T-shirts, buttons and stickers on campus to raise awareness about the campaign.

Jane Saks, executive director of the institute, said violence against women affects everyone and crosses generation, class, race, gender, sexual orientation and geography.

"It is really a disease," Saks said. "It's something that permeates our society and its unacceptable."

She said students are on the cutting edge of social activism and have a responsibility to get involved in discussions and develop decisions.

"All the arts—from the spoken word, to visual arts, to media, to performance and new technologies—all have a unique role in addressing social issues and supporting the best of our human capacities," said Saks, who is also on the board of the Chicago Foundation for Women.

Events sponsored by the foundation involve artists sharing their personal accounts through stories, songs and theater.

The initiative doesn't just include women. Men, who are often seen as the problem of domestic and sexual violence, are now becoming part of the solution, said Hannah Rosenthal, the executive director of the foundation.

Adam Shamoan of the Men's Initiative said men need to step up during a March 8 press conference announcing the initiative's kickoff.

"When it comes to violence, all women and girls have the right to be safe in their homes, in their communities and in their workplaces," Shamoan said.

The Men's Initiative aims to change males' perceptions of females through events on April 5

featuring Jackson Katz, an expert on the men's movement.

The initiative will also be screening *The Macho Paradox* at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Public Service Announcements on television, radio and print ads across the state and on 10 college campuses will show individuals' 30-second opinions on how to end violence.

Upcoming events include

"Portraits: Stories of Hope and Survival" on May 3, "Race for a Safe State: A 5K Run, Walk and Roll" on May 10 and "Music Matters: Singers and Songwriters Unite Against Violence," featuring Jill Scott, on June 7.

For locations and times, visit whatwillittake.org.

chronicle@colum.edu

Meditating human rights



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Wan Xing Deng practices a type of meditation called Falun Gong on March 14 at Federal Plaza, 230 S. Dearborn St. The meditation is aimed at ending the practice of organ harvesting in China.

'Darkroom to Digital' 'Awesome Savings' 'Your Imaging Partner'

Huge Selection

Nikon

Kodak

Lowepro

Canon

FUJIFILM

ILFORD

HEWES

BERGGER

foma

Leica

GOSSEN

hahnemuhle

Central
Camera Company

Since
1899

Third Generation • Same Family Ownership
-Our 108th Year -

5% Student and Faculty Discounts

On Most FILM; AUDIO, DV, or VIDEO TAPE; PAPER; CHEMISTRY;
& OTHER SUPPLY Purchases.

- film: 35mm, 120, 4x5
- Loupes
- Polaroid
- 16mm film

- chemistry & paper
- video tape
- inkjet paper & inks
- darkroom accessories

- film storage
- and more . . .

FREE DELIVERY • Ask for Details

230 S. Wabash

Near Jackson Blvd.

(312) 427-5580

24 HOUR FAX

(312) 427-1808

Mon-Fri 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Sat 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

centralcamera.com

"friendly & knowledgeable"

tamrac
CARRYING SYSTEMS

HOLGA

EPSON

SEKONIC

GITZO

bogen
imaging

FORTE
FILMS & PAPERS

LEGION PAPER
Low Cost Papers

Mamiya
SanDisk

Peachpit

Manfrotto

Scoop in the Loop: A forgotten history in Chicago



By Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor

Alice Hamilton, a professor of pathology at Northwestern University, studied industrial medicine to aid factory workers. She became the first female faculty member at Harvard Medical School in 1919. Her role in occupational medicine helped bring attention to the toxic effects of carbon monoxide, mercury, aniline dyes, lead and more—saving the lives of millions of workers exposed to these poisons.

Oprah Winfrey, the Chicago talk show host; Esther "Eppie" Lederer, better known as Ann Landers, the advice columnist for the Chicago Tribune; and native Chicagoan Hillary Clinton, a U.S. Senator from New York and 2008 presidential candidate, have all been popular influences in the modern world.

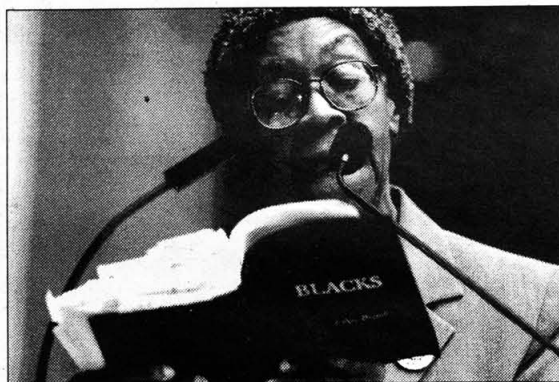
Why has Chicago done so little to honor these women and the dozens more that have made major accomplishments to further advancements in society? Has the importance of getting wasted and dying the river green on St. Patrick's Day completely overshadowed the rest of the month so that we can no longer appreciate equality and achievement?

Last month, the Chicago Park District hosted festivals, art galleries, spoken word and performances including spoken word, music and dance to honor Black History Month. For Women's History Month, the Park District renamed 24 parks after famous

Why is it, that of all the accomplishments women have made in the past century—attaining the right to vote, feminist movements that brought greater equality in the workplace and electing a woman to the U.S. Senate—that Chicago has done so little to celebrate this month?

March is National Women's History Month. A month that honors women who have worked toward personal and political freedoms in the workplace and society. A month that illustrates the obstacles women have faced and the achievements made.

Jane Addams, the director and founder of Chicago's settlement house, the Hull House, was the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 for her work as president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. She supported women's movements and fought to create child labor laws in Chicago which expanded to a national level.



MCT

Illinois Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks reads poetry to a crowd at Chicago's Union Station in February of 2000.

Chicago women, such as Gwendolyn Brooks, a Pulitzer Prize winning poet; Mahalia Jackson, a gospel singer; Chi Che Wang-University of Chicago professor and scientist; and Mary Jane Richardson Jones, an activist and abolitionist who helped hundreds of slaves along the Underground Railroad.

Renaming city parks after trailblazing women is an important step, but it does not attract the same attention like festivals, galleries and performances. Black History is something to be celebrated, while Women's History appears in commemoration: a somber, silent affair in which women are applauded rather than cheered for their advancements.

Regardless of race, women have faced battles for decades to attain the same status as men, and they have succeeded in many different ways. Today's women work in nearly every field. They juggle family and work lives in an almost impossible balancing act. According to the Department of Education, more women are likely to attend and graduate college than men.

For an entire city to downplay the efforts women have made takes audacity—and a lot of apathy. People deserve to be celebrated for who they are and what they've done for society. Without that, we cannot fully appreciate our humanity.

In Public

Monday, March 26

If you dig science and ethics, then stop by the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St., in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium at 6 p.m. to listen to Dr. Bernard Rollin. The professor of philosophy, biomedical ethics and animal sciences will discuss and sign his new book, *Science and Ethics*. The event is free.

Tuesday, March 27

Check out a free screening of the documentary *Black Gold* at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St., on the lower level at 6 p.m. The film exposes the lives of Ethiopian coffee farmers and their relationship with the \$80 billion coffee industry. The showing is free. For more information, contact Naomi_walker@itvs.org.

Wednesday, March 28

Journalist and author Tom Bissell stops by the Book Cellar, 4736 N. Lincoln Ave., to discuss his new book, *The Father of All Things: A Marine, His Son, and the Legacy of Vietnam*. Bissell wrote about his father's tour in Vietnam intertwining personal and military history. The event starts at 7 p.m. and is free. For more information, visit bookcellarinc.com or call (773) 293-2665.

Thursday, March 29

Want to help out children and families ... and drink wine? Kafka Wine, 3325 N. Halsted, is hosting a benefit for ChildServ, a non-profit that helps families. For \$45 in advance and \$50 at the door, you can sample unlimited wines and chocolates. There will also be a drawing for White Sox tickets. For more information or to RSVP, visit childserv.org or call (773) 867-7360.

Saturday, March 31

Julia Asherman wants you to know your rights. Asherman will discuss street rights, warrants and detention for protestors or anyone interested in the law. She's speaking at A+D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave., from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (312) 344-8687.

Metro news briefs: a short week in review

Not your typical UIC student

He may be studying engineering at the University of Illinois, but he sure got his lesson in criminal justice on March 13.

After entering Michael Petrelli's apartment, police officers found a bound woman convulsing, a grenade launcher, a large container of hallucinogenic mushrooms, marijuana, a fully loaded assault rifle, ammunition, lab equipment and unknown chemicals that are being tested.

According to the Associated Press, Petrelli was charged with possession of a controlled substance and misdemeanor weapons violations. His bond was set at \$250,000.

Police entered the student's West Side apartment after responding to a disturbance call.

The woman was found tied up on the sofa in the front room suffering from convulsions.

Fire in Wrigleyville

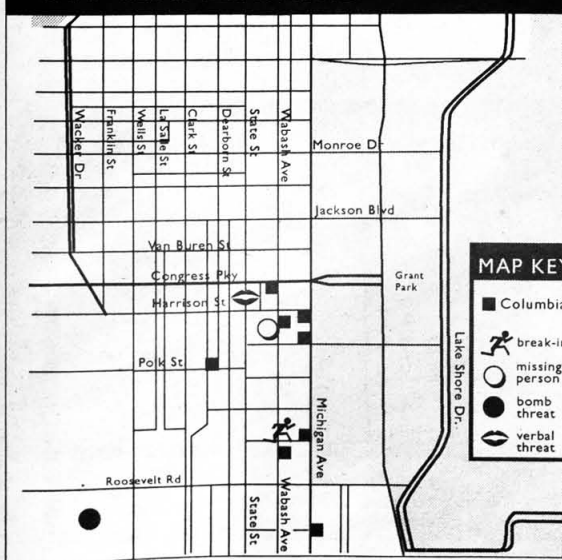
On March 10, four people died in a North Side apartment fire at 3553 N. Fremont St., according to the Chicago Tribune. Police charged Mary Smith, a homeless woman, later in the week with setting the Fremont fire as well as another in the area. The families of the deceased also filed lawsuits against the building owners and managers for failing to maintain functioning locks at the entrance doors, the article reported.

Tank lands in the slammer

Chicago Bears defensive tackle Terry "Tank" Johnson was sentenced March 15 to 120 days in jail and fined \$2,500 for violating his probation for a 2005 conviction, according to a Chicago Tribune article.

Johnson was also accompanied in court by Chicago Bears head coach Lovie Smith. Johnson was immediately taken into custody after the trial has the potential to serve only 60 days with good behavior.

Off the Blotter



Kimi Badger/The Chronicle

Ring the alarm

On March 8, police responded to an alarm going off inside an office at Samuel's Care Center, 1130 S. Wabash Ave. Police noticed the front and back door of the facility had been damaged and left open. Although no items were reported stolen, an employee of the medical center said her office had been burglarized multiple times.

Just disorderly conduct?

On March 9, police officers were called into Perspectives Charter School, 1930 S. Archer Ave., to arrest two students who made bomb threats inside the school. According to two witnesses, the offenders, both 16-year-old boys, told them they knew about smoke bombs, bottles and other items necessary "to shut the school down." A witness also said one of the boys told her to start looking for a new job because the school would be gone. Police searched the school but no bombs were found. Police charged the offenders with disorderly conduct.

A lost friend

While using one of the computers at Roosevelt University on March 6, a homeless man from the Pacific Garden Mission, 646 S. State St., told police his friend went missing after leaving to use the bathroom. The man told police his 33-year-old friend, who suffers from bi-polar disorder, is known for wandering off. The man has still not been found or returned to The Mission as of press time.

Harassing phone call

An 18-year-old woman staying at the University Center, 525 S. State St., called police after receiving a threatening phone call from her boyfriend's ex-girlfriend. According to police, the victim stated that the woman called her a "b—h," ho and was going to beat her up and f—k her up. No arrests have been made.

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

An Olympic-sized debate

Aldermen accuse Mayor of going over their heads

By Jenn Zimmerman
Assistant City Beat Editor

Chicago's City Council on March 14 may have overwhelmingly voted 45 to five in favor of the \$500 million bid needed for the 2016 Olympic Games. And many aldermen did voice their excitement for the Games to be held in the city, but not everyone is on board.

From worries of an increase in lack of affordable housing and job availability in communities, to allegations of excluding blacks from the Olympics, Aldermen Toni Preckwinkle (4th), Leslie Hairston (5th) and Arenda Troutman (20th) are joining in to ask one question about the Games: Where are their voices?

"The Olympic Committee hasn't been very transparent or inclusive," said Preckwinkle, whose

ward could end up being home to the \$1.1 billion Olympic Village and part of the \$366 million Olympic Stadium.

Preckwinkle said she and other city officials weren't included in many decisions made by Mayor Daley and the Olympic Bid Committee.

In particular, Preckwinkle finds the Olympic Village "hopelessly ugly" and said she had no input on its actual design despite that it would be built in her ward.

"It looks like something that dropped out of outer space," she said.

If given the bid, the Olympic Village will be built near the lakefront over the McCormick Place staging area. However, Preckwinkle said the Metra tracks that are now near McCormick Place will not be moved, causing a major barrier between the South Side and the Village.

She also added that Daley hasn't discussed the idea of building more roads leading to the Village, which if not constructed, could cause major gridlock along city streets.

And Preckwinkle isn't alone in her Olympic fight, either.

Both Alderman Troutman, whose ward shares the Olympic Stadium with Preckwinkle's, and Alderman Hairston agree that the face of the Olympics doesn't share many colors.

"The black and brown people

See Olympics, Page 37



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Alderman Toni Preckwinkle (4th Ward) said she was "dismayed" at the March 14 Chicago City Council meeting when Chicago's Olympic plans were discussed. Below: Washington Park is the site city will use for the 2016 Olympic Stadium if chosen to host the Summer Games.



Rogan Birnie/The Chronicle

Pairs of shoes representing Iraqi civilian deaths are laid out at Federal Plaza, 230 S. Dearborn St., March 13, to memorialize the 4th anniversary of the war. Accompanied by the shoes were people banging a gong and reading off the names of Iraqi civilians killed during the conflict.

Honoring Iraqi civilians

American group draws attention to people killed overseas

By Lindsay Welbers
Staff Writer

For three days, Federal Plaza, had a new voice speaking amid normal city traffic.

As part of the American Friends Service Committee's newest exhibit "Dreams and Nightmares", thousands of names of Iraqi civilians who have been killed in the

war were read aloud from March 13 to 15. All the names read aloud matched one out of the 2,500 pairs of shoes that covered Federal Plaza, 230 S. Dearborn St.

The exhibit, which will appear in Chicago again over Memorial Day weekend, aims to give a face to the Iraqi civilians, who the committee said are generally forgotten by the media.

The shoes were donated to the AFSC and each were tagged with a name and age of an Iraqi civilian who was killed.

"What's happening now is a

political conflict that is trying to be passed off as a religious war," said Raed Jarrar a half-Sunni, half-Shiite Iraqi citizen who spoke at the opening ceremony.

"The only way to stop the death and destruction is to stop the occupation and give Iraq back to the Iraqis," Jarrar said.

Jarrar lived in Iraq before the war began and has been working to collect the names of Iraqi civilians who have been killed. He was displaced to the United States when the war started.

See Exhibit, Page 34

Secret agents find a home

Local authors help young writers behind quirky storefront

By Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor
and
Lindsay Welbers
Staff Writer

At first glance, the Boring Store appears to have nothing of value. The bright orange awning announces that its merchandise is "lifeless, bland, insipid, unvaried and dry." The signs even recommend shoppers continue walking

by the store, located at 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave. so as not to become bored by the ultimately characterless objects.

But, if shoppers heed this sign, they'll fail to realize that within the store, beyond a wall full of 25 surveillance cameras, lies a wealth of secretly disguised items such as grappling hooks, mustaches and banana-shaped cell phones designed specifically with secret agents in mind. Not that anyone would ever know that, as a sign in the front window clearly states, "This is not a secret agent supply store."

That's only partially correct. The Boring Store also functions as an after school writing center called 826CHI for students aged six to 18.

826CHI is the brainchild of author and Chicago native Dave Eggers, who wrote *They Shall Know Our Velocity*, *How We Are Hungry* and *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*. He is also the founder and editor of McSweeney's publishing house.

Eggers opened 826 Valencia in 2002 as a nonprofit organization that helps students with expository

See Boring, Page 34



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

The 'boring' storefront at 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave. may not fully explain the tutoring sessions going on in the backroom.