

4-30-2007

Columbia Chronicle (04/30/2007)

Columbia College Chicago

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Same school, new role

**Columbia grads
make up about a
fifth of college's
faculty, staff**

By Beth Palmer
Assistant Campus News Editor

Columbia doubles as alma mater and employer for about one out of five of the college's faculty and staff.

According to data from the Offices of Alumni Relations and Human Resources, 19 percent of part-time and 21 percent of full-time faculty and staff are Columbia alumni. While administrators see these numbers as positive for the college, some students feel alumni positions should be limited in order to prevent Columbia's educational influences from narrowing.

"No matter whether alumni are faculty or just connecting with Columbia on their own, their roles are critical ... because one of the ways we receive recognition is through the quality of our alumni," said Steve Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

Hiring managers in each academic department make final decisions about filling open positions, but Human Resources offers assistance in the recruitment process, said Michelle Jones-Foster, director of faculty and staff recruitment in Human Resources.

"Hiring managers select the best for the job. That being said, we find tremendous value in our grads," Jones-Foster said.

Mark Lloyd, associate vice president of Marketing and Communications, said alumni employees signify the college's lasting connection with students.

"Alumni working at Columbia create a sense of continuity over time," Lloyd said. "They provide a connection with an earlier time and help us retain a portion of the institution's culture."

But some film and video students said they are frustrated by the number of Columbia alumni who teach in their department.

"I do not think they should allow too many people who went to school here to teach," said Katie Mahalic, a film and

See Alumni, Page 9

Close-up with the Cubs



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Cubs second baseman Mark DeRosa tags out Rickie Weeks of the Milwaukee Brewers after Weeks tried to steal second. The Chronicle was invited to Wrigley Field for the game as a part of the Chicago Cubs College Media Day, on April 24. For more, see **Back Page**.

Read my shirt:

I'm not having sex with you



Courtesy Wait Wear

Wait Wear products promote abstinence through witty slogans on T-shirts and underwear, such as 'No vows, no sex' and 'No overnight parking.'

Wait Wear promotes abstinence through clothing line

By Jessica Galliant
Copy Editor

The movement to promote abstinence is implementing a new battle weapon: fashion.

Wait Wear, a clothing line promoting abstinence, will expand to produce multiple clothing lines targeted at teens this summer. The growing business is just one of many advocates bringing the abstinence movement into the retail and fashion industries.

Yvette Thomas, a 41-year-old single mom, started Wait Wear in 2002. Five years after its launch, Wait Wear products are now available at stores in Georgia, New Mexico and Wisconsin. Thomas is preparing to launch three new clothing lines this summer, with products hitting

retail and online stores and possibly by July.

"One of the best ways to make a statement is through fashion," Thomas said. "I've gotten a lot of good responses, and I'm continually updating styles."

Her three new lines, True Gentleman, Chaste Couture and Guarded Heart, are designed with the same messages as Wait Wear products, but each will cater to different fashion styles and tastes.

The True Gentleman line will cater to boys, and Chaste Couture, a line for girls, will represent a "mix of purity, chastity and power, and fuse these images in fashion," according to Chaste Couture's website, chastecouture.com. Wait Wear T-shirts and underwear have slogans like "Notice: No trespassing on this property. My father is watching," "Abstinence Ave. Exit when married" and "I'm saving it!" T-shirts cost about \$21 to \$32, and jackets

See Abstinence Apparel, Page 26

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



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forward**
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**Brushing to
the rescue**
Back Page



Flip-flop season, presidential candidates and a shoe scorpion

By Hunter Clauss, Editor-in-Chief

As potential presidential candidates in the 2008 race rev up their political engines by accusing their opponents of flip-flopping on key national issues, the less-than-fancy footwear that has entered into political rhetoric is also shuffling its way back as summer lurks on the horizon.

And there is nothing more grossly symbolic of laziness than these noisy sandals. Sure, they're great for the beach, but at school and in the workplace?

According to a survey released on April 24 by the online job listings firm Monster Worldwide Inc., 29 percent of the 18,000 individuals polled said flip-flops are the biggest catastrophe to hit the workplace during the spring and summer. Despite the low percentage, Monster recommended leaving the flops behind when heading out to work.

It isn't surprising, considering how these foot thongs are now regarded as being "fashionable." But feet are the grossest part of the human body. They somehow always look like a sweaty deformed hand no mat-

ter how beautiful a person believes her feet are. And the cheesy smell of feet is enough to drive anyone up the wall.

We all have to suffer this indecency through sandals of every kind. And each year there

And there's nothing dorkier than wearing socks with sandals. A girl in one of my many night classes only wears sandals—regardless of the weather. She loads up on wool socks when it's cold outside. I

always want to ask her why she doesn't just wear shoes and what made her such a die-hard wearer of sandals. Maybe a giant scorpion crawled into her shoe as a kid and forever scarred her. Or maybe she's just lazy, which seems more plausible of the two, considering she hasn't turned in many class assignments.

Aging baby boomers will no doubt revel in this protest of flip-flops as verification of how our generation is supposedly vain, perhaps devoting too much energy in dwelling on our own looks rather than solving such looming problems as the often forgotten about Social Security crisis, which we'll literally have to pay for.

But vanity and decency are two different things. If sandals are considered acceptable to wear wherever, what's next? Pajama pants?

hclauss@chroniclemail.com



MCT

seems to be a new sandal spin-off that garners much hype. From the Birkenstock to the Croc, the footwear industry conspires to plague humanity with a new way to expose feet around the globe.

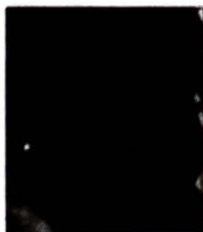
In Your Opinion

Would you work at Columbia upon graduation?



"That is a tough question. Most likely in the distant future."

—Victor Piriacy, freshman music major



"After graduating I would like to perform [instead of] working at Columbia."

—Krystal Metcalfe, junior music major



"Yes, I would. Columbia works hard and hooks you up with internships."

—Belen Romero, junior photography major



"Yes, I would, only because of the opportunities. Plus, I've given Columbia so much money I'd hope they'd give some back to me."

—Emir Ray, senior journalism major

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City Beat

Calendar

April 30-May 7

ADSTOCK

Columbia's Marketing Communication Department invites all students to ADSTOCK, a free conference featuring career, networking and leadership advice. Attendees can meet with Chicago business executives one-on-one during this day-long event, which runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the 8th floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on May 3.

For more information, call Kelsey O'Kane at (847) 899-9185.

Senior Concert/Choreographic Project II

Students completing a BFA in dance with a choreography concentration will present a showcase of their choreographed works. This free concert begins at 8 p.m. in the Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave., on May 3.

For more information, call Larry Russo at (312) 344-8310.

'Talkin' Back: Chicago Youth Respond'

"Talkin' Back" features work by Chicago youth who created pieces integrating photography and writing through programs sponsored collaboratively by the Museum of Contemporary Photography and the Center for Community Arts Partnerships, Columbia College Chicago and After School Matters. The exhibit's opening reception begins at 10 a.m. in the Museum of Contemporary Photography in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., on May 2.

For more information, call Jeff Arnett at (312) 344-7779.

Product Design Showcase

The Art and Design Department's Product Design Showcase features Columbia students' end of the year models, presentations and the Future Classroom project. The exhibit's opening reception begins at 9 a.m. in the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., on May 3.

For more information, call Nancy Julson-Rieley at (312) 344-6856.

Correction

In the April 23 issue of The Chronicle, Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, was reported to have told Blake Hausman, president of the Columbia Conservatives, that the group would have needed to provide its own security if the college did not approve the events.

The two did not discuss external security. However, had the group decided to host the event without the Student Organizations Council's approval, it would have needed to take place off campus. Therefore, the group would have been responsible for hiring its own security.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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

Common cancels

Lupe Fiasco to perform at Manifest

By Hayley Graham
Editor-In-Chief

Manifest headliner Common canceled last minute, but the college was able to find a replacement that won't leave students disappointed.

Grammy award nominee Lupe Fiasco will take Common's place as the final headlining musical act at Manifest on May 11. The hip-hop artist and Chicago native will take the main stage, located in the parking lot at 50 E. Harrison St., from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said the college was notified of the cancellation on April 20, leaving only three weeks to find a replacement. Common's representatives said he would not be able to perform because he will be on a film shoot in Prague, Kelly said.

"We didn't think this is just any concert that he agreed to be a part of," Kelly said. "He went to Columbia, and he was the first performer at the first Manifest six years ago when he was hardly the name he has become."

Sharon Smith, programming coordinator for the Office of College Wide Events, said that although Common is a pretty big artist, the festival isn't all about music. Because of this, he said the change will not have much of an affect on the advertising of Manifest.

"The show is going to go on, just not as big," Smith said.

College's restructuring continues

By Amanda Maurer
Campus News Editor

Additional changes in the college's administration will take place starting June 1, President Warrick L. Carter announced at the faculty convocation on April 27.

The reorganization will involve several title and responsibility changes. Namely, Steve Kapelke, current provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, will become provost and senior vice president. Louise Love, deputy provost, will take on Kapelke's role as vice president of Academic Affairs. In addition, Anne Foley will be promoted to vice president of Administration, Research and Planning.

Mark Lloyd, associate vice president of Marketing and Communications, said Carter has restructured the college in a number of ways, including these changes, to reduce the number of people reporting directly to him and make the college "a more efficient structure."

The announcement comes nearly three months after titles changes were made in the offices of Business Affairs and Institutional Advancement.

Columbia buys virtual realty

College purchases island in gaming world of Second Life

By Brett Marlow
Staff Writer

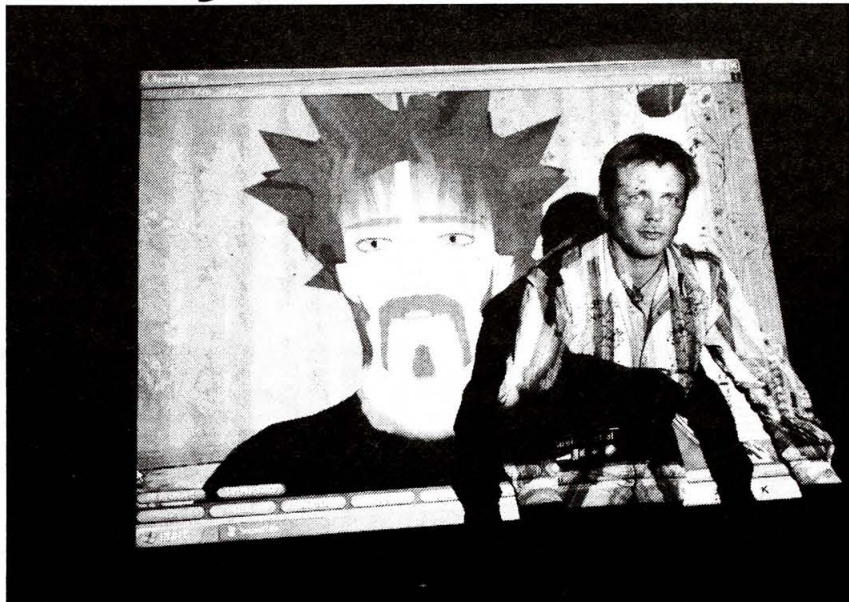
This May, Columbia students will have the option to explore Manifest in two realities.

Columbia has crossed over into the virtual world by joining millions of users who are creating alternate personas in Second Life just in time for this year's Manifest, the college's end of the year senior student showcase celebration.

Second Life is an online, virtual 3-D world, said Peter Gray, media representative for Linden Labs, the development company responsible for bringing Second Life to fruition.

The college's Second Life world, titled "I Am Columbia," is a digitally-created private island the college bought with funds provided by the Office of Student Affairs roughly two months ago. The island, which cost nearly \$1,000, requires a monthly web hosting fee of around \$150, according to Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life.

Patrick Lichty, a faculty member in the Interactive Arts and Media Department and Columbia's Second Life administrator, said the college has plans to expand the island and



MCT

Linden Labs CEO Philip Rosedale stands in front of a computer projection of his avatar, 'Philip Linden,' from the virtual world of Second Life in San Francisco on Nov. 8, 2006.

explore its educational and creative possibilities.

For now, a virtual world for Manifest, or "Manifest SL," is being created and will go live on May 11, the same day as Manifest, so students or alumni, who might not be able to attend the festival, can still participate.

Second Life is "completely open-ended" software, Gray said.

There are no goals, no levels and users can build and create their own world, objects, buildings and personas.

Users can log on to Second Life's website, download the program for free and create an avatar, or their own digital persona, said Tracy Taylor, external relations coordinator for the Interactive Arts and Media

Department. However, making purchases for new clothes or property would require an account with the game developer and prices vary according to different packages offered.

"This whole other world exists over the web," she said.

A user could be talking with someone from Japan sort of like

See Second Life, Page 11

Supporting the future of sports

The Student Athletics Association elects new leaders and plan for expansion

By Steve Yaccino
Assistant Campus News Editor

Leaders of the Student Athletics Association passed the baton April 25 as its members elected a new

executive board. But with Columbia athletics on a steady rise, association founders suggest hiring additional non-student staff to level the load.

All four original Student Athletics Association board members, or Renegades, will either graduate or transfer at the end of this semester. Anthony Ortega, a freshman marketing major, will become the new pres-

ident, and Akeem Lawanson, a sophomore radio major, will serve as vice president. The new board will shadow the old until the end of the semester to ensure a smooth transition.

Despite his dedication and excitement for next year, Ortega said he has big shoes to fill.

"It's kind of intimidating, because [the former executive board] did a terrific job," he said.

"But all of us are really dedicated to sports and athletics. We're just going to set our own expectations and grow from that."

According to the Renegades' constitution, the executive board members are only required to work a combined total of 12 hours a week, or an average of three hours a week per person. Chris Schroeder, the original association president, said he and vice president Matt Holihan currently put in close to 30 hours each week.

Schroeder and Holihan founded the association in August 2006. Since then, Columbia sports have grown from four to 18 clubs, with 30 intramural teams. In addition to the growth, the association had to turn away 20 other teams last year due to lack of funds, time and staff, Holihan said. Some of these teams included men's and women's volleyball, paintball, dodgeball and capture the flag.

"We don't have the manpower," Holihan said. "Either you can do only one thing well or you can do a mediocre job across the board."

He said having a full-time, non-student staff to handle the logistics of the association, such as keeping the website updated and starting new leagues and intramural teams, would allow the new executive board to focus on planning events and helping new teams become organized and recognized.

See Athletics Page x3



Tim Hunt/The Chronicle

Anthony Ortega, the new president of the the Student Athletics Association, delivers his speech to association members during the April 25 elections in the Hub at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Arts advocate Jane Alexander educates Columbia

Oscar-nominated actress speaks about chairing the NEA

By Beth Palmer
Assistant Campus News Editor

Jane Alexander advocates artists' rights and universal accessibility to arts education—in her spare time between shooting an HBO series and a film co-starring Morgan Freeman and Greg Kinnear.

Alexander, an Oscar-nominated actress, jet-setted to Columbia on April 26 as a guest for the college's "Conversation in the Arts." She spoke about being chair of the National Endowment for the Arts in the mid-'90s, the necessity of art exchanges between the United States and Muslim countries and her prediction of the next cultural 'bang.'

"Art is in stasis right now—it can't compete with science," Alexander said. "[To break from the derivative] is certainly going to involve marriage of technology and the arts."

In New York City, a few theater and dance productions already incorporate technology like laser holograms into live shows, she said.

"It's very exciting and very jarring at the same time because [it's hard to] know what's real [on stage]," she said.

Alexander calls New York home, but she recently spent time in Los Angeles shooting

10 episodes for a fall HBO series called "Tell Me You Love Me," about sexuality in marriage—she plays a sex therapist counseling couples of several age demographics.

"I am 100 percent an arts advocate, but I make my living as an actor," Alexander said.

The NEA funded her break-out role in the play "Great White Hope," which led to a movie version and Oscar nominations for both Alexander and her co-star, James Earl Jones. She said background in non-profit theater helped her understand the artists she defended when former President Bill Clinton appointed her to chair of the NEA in 1993.

Bonnie Brooks, chair of Columbia's Dance Department, has known Alexander since they met in Washington, D.C. in 1993. At that time, Brooks worked as director of Dance U.S.A., an organization that collaborated with the NEA to support many arts-related issues.

"Jane is a passionate and talented professional in the theater world and we trusted her [in D.C., because] she is very open, caring and honorable," Brooks said.

Alexander resigned in 1997, but only after tumultuous advocacy for controversial work like the NEA-funded photograph "Piss Christ" by Andres Serrano that nearly caused the collapse of the NEA.

"She made an enormous sacrifice, both financially and in her career when she took the

NEA position," Brooks said. "Jane just really took a position and stood by it, which won the life-long admiration of many of [her peers]."

Alexander had praise and concern for the current NEA.

"The NEA is doing a fine job with big projects like archiving the stories of soldiers coming back from Iraq," Alexander said.

But the NEA isn't very involved in international arts exchange between the United States and Muslim countries, she said. Alexander has constantly pushed for this initiative because through art, diverse people can find a common ground.

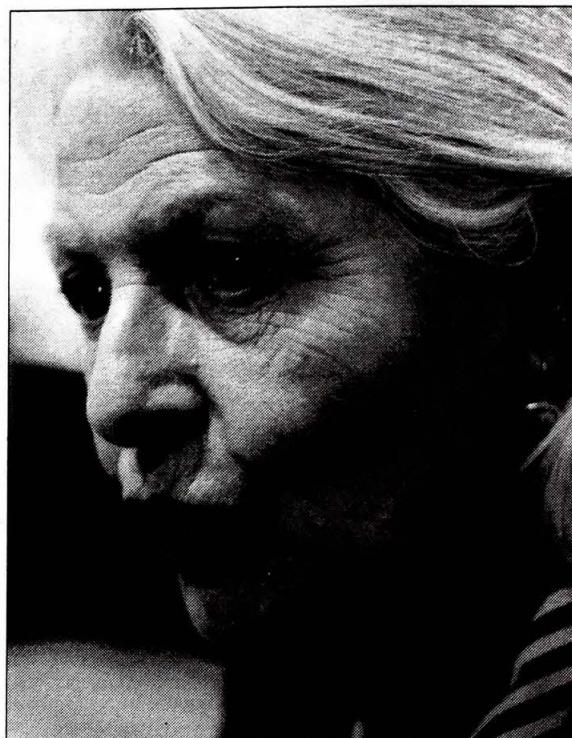
"There's so much bad will out there, so much bad feelings about America," Alexander said. "If we were just [in Muslim countries], as artists we could say, 'Look, we're all human beings.'"

Tony Chauveaux, NEA deputy chair for grants and awards, said the agency is participating in two international exchanges this year in the form of film and literature.

Art can build bridges between countries, but as NEA chair, she also witnessed art used effectively to teach students of all ages about math, history and nearly all subjects, Alexander said.

"[Art education] is very important," she said. "I like the mission of Columbia—to educate kids to think creatively and to present the issues of our time."

If she taught at Columbia, Alexander would like to teach an acting class to inform students



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Known for her roles in 'Kramer vs. Kramer' and 'Great White Hope,' actress Jane Alexander spoke to Columbia students April 26 as part of the college's 'Conversation in the Arts.'

about the human condition through performances of diverse works. Ideally, all teachers would use art in the classroom, but Alexander said she realizes it's too hard to add in without proper training and time.

"Unless we get some top down instructions about reorganizing our whole educational system for this century, it's not going to happen," she said.

bpalmer@chroniclemail.com

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Monday April 30

Drum and Percussion Recital

12:00 PM

Classical Guitar Ensemble/Solo Recital

6:30 PM

Tuesday May 1

Songwriting Recital

12:00 PM

Pop Orchestra

7:00 PM

Wednesday May 2

Jazz Combo Fest

6:00 PM

Thursday May 3

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Anthropological Studies Recital

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Solo Singing Recital

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ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Columbia's 'minor' expansion

Public relations to be offered this fall, others to follow

By Annie Slezickay
Staff Writer

Starting this fall, students will see several additional academic programs offered at Columbia as existing departments expand.

One of those will include a minor in public relations, which is currently a concentration within the Marketing Communications Department. The minor will be offered in the fall. Other programs including cultural studies and creative non-fiction are also being developed.

Columbia currently offers a marketing minor to students, but by offering the public relations minor, the Marketing Communications Department would attract more students, said Sandra Allen, director of Public Relations in the Marketing Communications Department.

She said each public relations class usually had several non-marketing communication majors. This led her to believe students may be interested in pursuing a minor in the field.

"Students in music business, film and journalism who will need to be marketing themselves can all benefit from a PR minor," Allen said.

David Lister, a senior journalism major, said if public relations had been offered as a minor earlier, he would have minored in it. Lister, who will graduate this fall, said he can understand how a background in public relations combined with a different major would make stu-

dents more marketable.

"[A public relations minor] would make it easier for me to get a job after college, which is my main concern," Lister said.

To find out how many students would be interested in a public relations minor, a survey was issued to students in non-marketing communications majors at the end of the spring 2006 semester and again last fall. Allen said the results showed 47 percent of students who responded would participate in the program if it existed.

The same classes offered for the current public relations concentration will be required for the minor. Therefore, the curriculum will not change.

The classes for the public relations minor will require 18 credit hours. The new program will be available to all students, except those majoring in marketing communications, due to a college-wide policy.

Steven Kapelke, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, said there are other proposals in the works for new academic programs, including one for cultural studies to be offered as a minor, as it is currently a major in the Liberal Education Department. Also, others are working on developing a proposal that would make creative non-fiction a major. Kapelke said neither the cultural studies proposal nor the creative non-fiction proposal has been approved.

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Kidding around at Columbia



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, tries to explain to Paula Gonzalez, 8, what his job entails during 'Take Your Kids To Work Day,' an event held on the 4th floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., on April 26.

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Student to cycle cross-country for cancer camp

Columbia sophomore to join U of I bikers

By Allison Shipley
Staff Writer

For many college students, summer break means spending time with friends, earning money and catching up on sleep. But this summer, Columbia student Michael Boehm will be one of 24 other college students to bike cross-country to raise money and awareness for cancer.

Illini 4000, a group based out

of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will stop at several hospitals along the ride to see the impact cancer has on children. The cyclists plan to raise \$100,000 to donate to the American Cancer Society Cancer Research Fund and Camp Kesem.

Camp Kesem runs summer camps across the nation for children ages 6-13 whose parents have cancer. Jeff Leibach, national program director for the organization, said there are 20 camps located on college campuses

nationwide. The camps are sponsored by student groups responsible for promoting and fundraising so about 60 kids can attend the week-long event for free.

"Our mission is to give kids who have been affected by cancer a chance to have a week of fun," Leibach said. "It'll give them a chance to just be kids. There's no therapy, and there's no pulling kids aside one-on-one. It's just a chance for kids to connect with other kids who have been affected by cancer."

Two years ago, another student group, Camp Kesem at Illinois,

wanted to start up a program on the U of I campus, but were unable to get the funding to do so, Leibach said.

"I kind of connected Illini 4000 with the other group by helping to initiate discussion between both organizations," Leibach said. "So now they are both going to be sponsoring the camp at U of I."

The trip will begin May 25 in New York City and end Aug. 2 in San Diego, covering approximately 4,000 miles.

Boehm, a sophomore photography major at Columbia, said he will be documenting the journey from coast to coast. In doing so, he hopes to "share the magnitude of our journey with others." He said documenting the trip through photography is the part of Illini 4000 that he is most excited about.

Boehm, who used to be an engineering major before transferring to Columbia, met Anish Thakkar, a senior engineering major at U of I, when they lived in the same dorm.

"I realized that there isn't enough [cancer] research out there for the work that needs to be done," Thakkar said. "Plus, I'm a big cyclist so I just sort of put the two concepts together to come up with the idea."

Thakkar, who has spent the majority of his college career studying ultrasound imaging for the early detection of cancer, said a large reason why students join the group is because cancer affects everyone in some way or another.

"On one hand, it's just an incredible adventure," he said. "College students realized that

this is the time in their life when they can do something that's kind of off the wall. It's such a valuable life experience."

Thakkar said he selected the 25 people out of about 35 applicants—most are students at U of I. His decision was based on athletic potential, previous experience, future goals and students who have passion toward the cause because of personal experiences with cancer.

To increase the riders' endurance, Illini 4000 hired a certified physical trainer who put together a four month training plan to prepare the team for the 80-100 miles per day.

"A lot of our team hadn't ridden a bike for years prior to being accepted the group," he said. "Now, they can bike 80 miles a day without a problem."

The cyclists of Illini 4000 held meetings throughout the fall to organize the trip and recruit students and sponsors. Each cyclist has to raise \$2,000 through individual, private and corporate donations to help reach the \$100,000 goal, Boehm said.

The majority of the donations Illini 4000 has received have been from large hospitals and businesses around the Champaign-Urbana campus. Thakkar said the group has not yet met its \$100,000 goal; however, the donation total is increasing by \$1,000 a day, he said. The group is currently accepting donations through their website at Illini4000.org.

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Keeping up Columbia



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Robert Noworulio, left, passes a cross beam down to Paul Proczkowskic on April 27 at the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building. Both have worked in construction for more than 10 years and put the scaffolding up earlier this semester. The scaffolding was used for caulking some of the building's crevices.



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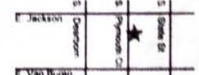
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Promoted By: The Columbia College Marketing Association

2006-07 Student Government Association

What did your Student Government Association do for you this year?

WCRX/Radio Department holiday food drive contribution
 Small donation to Reach Out (the Hurricane Katrina relief student organization) that went to New Orleans over spring break
 Travel expenses for several groups to attend educational conferences across the country
 Dozens of giveaways including food, iPods, and gift cards to students
 Academic Achievement Award Raffle (chance to win bookstore gift cards for excelling students)
 \$1,000 to the Hokie Spirit Relief Fund in response to the Virginia Tech massacre.

Funding for the purchase and installation of lockers in the following departments:

Film and Video
 AEMM
 Art and Design

Funding to support the Ad-Stock program
 Purchase of a laser printer and animation art tools and supplies for Film and Video students
 Funding for computer lab chairs in the TV department

Other funds went to support the St. Baldrick's charitable event (sponsored by the Social and Philanthropy Society), replacing the computer in the Peek-A-Boo room in the Cultural Studies Department, helping the Baseball team rent UIC North Field for a game, funding for travel expenses for CCABJ to for a Journalism conference and countless other smaller contributions.

Ok, so what else did SGA do this year?

Hosted the American Student Government Midwest Regional Conference

Introduced cheaper cans in vending machines as alternatives to more expensive bottles

Guaranteed no new activity fee increases beyond the one coming in Fall '07

Approved increase in health center fees for emergency response systems after Virginia Tech tragedy

Held forums in 15 departments and one school-wide forum

Contacted many regional colleges to build a coalition to propose a college student discount on Metra

Drafted a Student Census to gauge student opinion. To be released Fall '07.

Made suggestions to improve the efficiency of elevators in 624 S. Michigan Ave.

Convinced the college to study the cost of a free printing program in open labs and the library

Requested course fee disclosure and collaborated with the Provost's office to commit to a policy release

Worked with the provost to have a letter sent to faculty reminding them of the cost of textbooks so only essential texts are required

Worked with Title III Grant committee to review enrollment and retention programs

Worked with Student Financial Services to improve customer service and discuss the new Campus Card Initiative

Advised in the renovation of 731 S. Plymouth Ct. and the lobby of 623 S. Wabash Ave.

Organized the State of the College Address with Dr. Carter

Held a successful round of Senate elections for 2007-08

What has the college administration pledged to help the SGA do next year?

Install hand sanitizers in student spaces and near eating areas

Research the viability of free printing in open labs

Release a course fee policy

Clarify the assessed charges on the OASIS course and fee statement



Alumni: College balances alumni, new employee ratio

Continued from Front Page

video graduate student. "I don't think it's a fair education for the students."

Megan Corrigan, a junior film and video major, said Columbia needs to hire from a variety of sources to expose students to diverse influences.

"We're just getting people coming up through the Columbia system and teaching us," Corrigan said.

Lloyd said he doesn't know what a college's target percentage of employed alumni should be, but said Columbia wants to maintain a balance between those that know the school and newcomers.

"We want to make sure there's respect for both the alumni and for fresh ideas and to make sure we [evolve]," Lloyd said.

James Kinser, associate director of Alumni Relations, graduated from Columbia's interdisciplinary arts masters program in 2005 and said he is not surprised by the number of faculty and staff who are alumni.

"Columbia hires people successful in their field, so it's exciting because we have successful alumni who are basically passing on the torch," Kinser said.

One of the missions of Alumni Relations is to encourage all Columbia alumni to give back to

the college in the form of time, talent or money, and alumni who work at the college are fulfilling that role, Kinser said.

Kinser said the atmosphere at the college provides support to faculty and staff who also double as artists.

"I fit in the Columbia demographic of staff who are also working artists," said Kinser, a performance and sound installation artist. "I am supported by the artistic way of thinking [at Columbia], so if I need to take a day off for a performance, I have a community that understands."

Other Columbia alumni also find time to freelance in their fields while working at their alma mater.

Tony Kwiecinski, currently the station supervisor of WCRX, Columbia's student run and produced radio station, graduated from Columbia in 1989 with a degree in broadcast communications. For four years after graduating, Kwiecinski worked at a local radio station.

"Everybody has their dreams—they want to be millionaires in their field," Kwiecinski said.

But in 1993, Kwiecinski began working part-time at Columbia as adjunct faculty and in 2003 he became full-time.

"I realized I liked working with students, plus Columbia offered me a management position which was better than the assistant job I had," he said.

He continues to freelance in the radio industry, working nights and weekends as a producer for 98.7 WFMT.

Kwiecinski said he doesn't plan on changing careers; he'd like to stay at Columbia.

Part-time Faculty and Staff

1453

276

19%

Full-time Faculty and Staff

946

200

21%

Not Alumni
Alumni

Source: Human Resources/Office of Alumni Relations

Joshua Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Brian Shaw, associate chair of Columbia's Theater Department, was a theater major at Columbia and graduated valedictorian of the '86 class. He started working at the college three years later as a part-time faculty member—a job he took for many reasons, including a desire to get out of the restaurant industry and his appreciation of Columbia's generous admissions

policy, he said.

"[I was also attracted to the job] because Columbia's in Chicago and the faculty are expected to work as practitioners," Shaw said.

Shaw, who is tenured, plans to stay at Columbia long term but continues to work in his field as a freelance actor, director and teacher in community-based theater programs.

The two students from the Film and Video Department said, on a positive note, they can probably find work at Columbia post-graduation.

"For a lot of people I know, it's a fall-back plan," Corrigan said. "Honestly, a lot of us joke, 'At least we'll get hired here.'"

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Thank you for your participation in this important project!

Photo: Sahyley Hernandez ('06)

Athletics: Founders say more staff needed to handle growth

Continued from Page 3

Mark Bricevich, coordinator of fitness and club athletics, is the association's adviser and said the budget for an extra staff member is unavailable, despite a spike in the association funding for next year.

The 2007-2008 Renegades budget will increase from \$10,000 to \$46,000 next year, but he said the growth is only enough so athletes can play.

"It's a growing process," he said. "It's a slow process."

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said the school has worked closely with the association to provide extra funding through increased activity fees. He said the new budget was an "important breakthrough for the association and should be seen as such."

"I think we're doing all the right things to support athletics," he said.

But Schroeder and Holihan are worried Bricevich may be taking on too much. He currently manages the Roosevelt gym full-time and will manage the new workout facility being built in the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court.

"When it comes to getting things done, it's 10 times harder because we have to wait for him to get the paperwork and

process it," Holihan said. "We can either lose all the momentum we've built this year, or we can build it higher. A lot depends on how much support we receive."

Although Schroeder was hoping to fill the needed position after he graduates, the need for staff has nothing to do with his personal job search. Schroeder said he suggested himself for the position because he helped create the association and was familiar with the "uniqueness of the Columbia community," he said.

"If they hired someone else, we would be overjoyed," Holihan said. "We just want to see what we created being dealt with in the correct manner for Columbia."

Bricevich said there wouldn't be sports at Columbia without the work of the two graduating students. However, he said it is just as important to give other students experience in leadership and responsibility.

"One way or another, we will continue to move on upward and outward and make things happen," he said.

He said the former board's dedication can't be expected of everyone and plans to distribute more responsibility to the individual team presidents. He said the transition won't be difficult because an established structure has been built over the past year.

"Now that we have some form of a system, we can expect more from them," he said.

"It's the only way we can really function."

Stevie Wegrzyn, a freshman film and video major, member of

Columbia's fencing club and the Renegades' new treasurer, said even though club leaders are students and have classes to worry about, they should take more responsibility in the expansion of their respective sports.

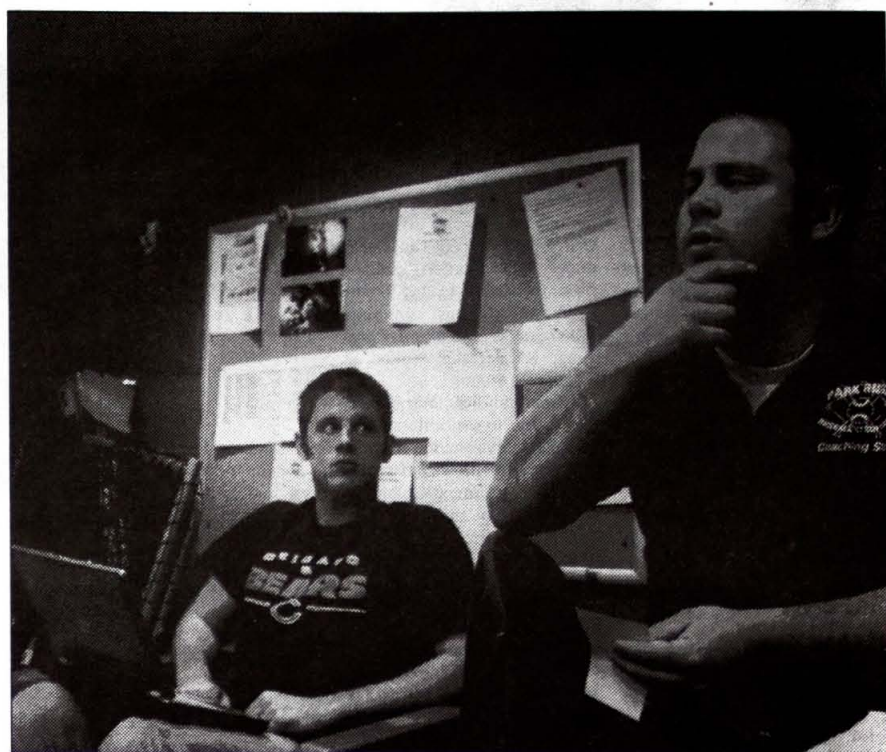
"I think that since it is the students' club, they should step up a little more," she said. "And I think that with the system that we

have, it would be easy to do that."

Ortega said the association will eventually require extra staff members or more than four students on the executive board, but that it's not necessary yet because the organization is still young. He said marketing will be a major goal for the association now that they have the budget to start more teams.

"I plan to break down the barriers," Ortega said in a speech to association members April 25. "People say we're an art school, but there's no reason we can't have athletics as well. I think athletics is an art in itself. It's the heartbeat for some of our students."

syaccino@chroniclemail.com



Tim Hunt/The Chronicle

Chris Schroeder and Matt Holihan, founders of the Student Athletics Association, discuss the future of the Renegades in the Hub at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on April 25.

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Second Life: College to host virtual Manifest celebration

Continued from Page 3

e-mail, Taylor said, but in Second Life, they could be standing right there next to them.

Users in the virtual world are referred to as "residents," Gray said. Each resident has a customizable character or "placeholder" and can choose individual features.

Currently there are around 6 million registered residents in Second Life.

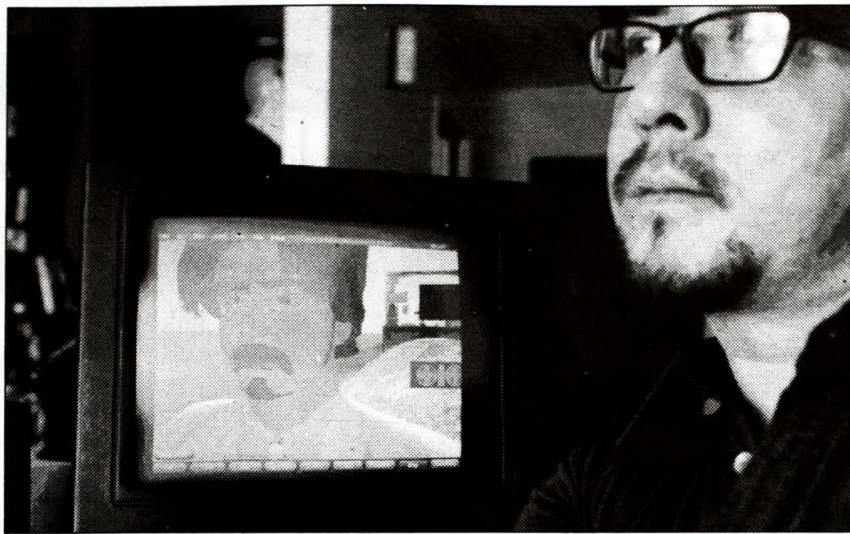
"It's more of an online social environment, which looks a lot like a video game, but isn't," Lichty said.

Once users have created their avatars, or characters, they're able to build a house or store, as well as wander around and see what others are doing, Taylor said.

"A lot of people go in because they want to see what it's like to interact in the world as someone else," she said.

Interactive Arts and Media student volunteers, who have been trained in Second Life, will be present on Columbia's island as Manifest SL goes live. The virtual volunteers will show all participating students how to navigate through Second Life's world, Taylor said.

Manifest SL will be active all summer on the island in Second Life, Taylor said.



Wagner James Au from Oakland, Calif., calls himself an 'embedded journalist' in Second Life.

"One of the good and sad things about Manifest is that it's just one night," Taylor said. "You can experience it, you can bring the memories home, but you can't go revisit it."

Beyond hosting Manifest SL, Second Life offers many possibilities for other educational uses.

Instructors could hold lectures in Second Life and students or their avatars could attend class regardless of their location, Gray said.

Barbara Iverson, a faculty member in the Journalism Department, said hold classes online is something she wants to explore.

"If it was snowing and I was

working on interactive slideshows with my students, why not meet in Second Life?" Iverson said. "[We could] talk about what we are doing, share some images, adjourn to work on the slideshows and then return and watch them at the end



Courtesy Patrick Lichty

of the class time."

Faculty can also use Second Life to develop relevant educational experience for students to participate in, she said.

"A history teacher could create old Athens and take her students there," Iverson said.

Architectural students could see the progress and construction of a building and even fly around it, Gray said.

And fashion design students wanting to test out their latest lines could create their designs in Second Life, put them in a store and see what kind of response they get, Taylor said.

Sommers said she would like to see thousands of students par-

ticipating throughout the year; however, students seem to have mixed feelings when it comes to the purchase of a virtual island.

"[Columbia] could spend money on the Music Department's practice rooms rather than a video game," said Brian Wheeler, a junior music major. "It's cool they're using it for art, but they could have gotten a website up instead."

But if it helps gain exposure, Lauren Zaleski, a senior art and design student, said she may use Second Life.

"I'd be interested to see how many people [visit Columbia's island]," she said. "If people get to see my work, then sweet."

The Interactive Arts and Media Department hopes to lead the way and show other departments how they can utilize the online world.

"After Manifest we want to have larger conversations about how the school can get involved," Taylor said. "Ideally, each department would have their own island to use as a giant sandbox."

Users can join as basic Second Life members for free at secondlife.com, for more advanced options. Membership fees apply.

To explore the I Am Columbia Island, use the program's search engine. Log into Second Life on May 11 to celebrate Manifest in the virtual world or stop by the Hokin Gallery, in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., to watch Manifest SL unfold on screen.

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Assistant Webmaster
Editorial Cartoonist
Freelance (any section)
Office Assistant

The Columbia Chronicle is the weekly student-produced college newspaper of Columbia College Chicago. It is published every Monday during the fall and winter semesters. The newspaper has four sections: Campus News, Arts & Entertainment, Commentary and City Beat.

Don't wait, come now... we plan to hire all positions before Spring semester ends!

The Columbia Chronicle 33 E. Congress Suite 224

Congratulations

To the following Student Government Association winners for the 2007-2008 academic year:

Miles Vance

Art and Design

Emily Rehm

AEMM

Andrew Breen

Cultural Studies

Scott Williams

Film and Video

Christopher Graham

Interactive Arts and Media

Annie Slezigkey

Journalism

Marisol Rosero

Marketing Communications

Hannah Epley

Photography

Jeff Frieders

Radio

Rachel Irving

Television

Tessana Nemenski

At-Large

Matthew Robinson

At-Large

Rachel Stapinsky

At-Large

George Lebessis Jr.

At-Large

Ebony Moseley

At-Large

Kelly Zea

At-Large



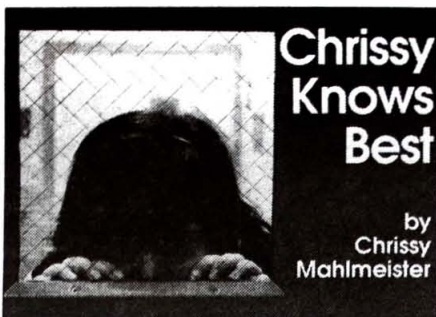


ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

An Arts and Entertainment Supplement of the Columbia Chronicle

Hoopling: more than a fad

page 20



Chrissy Knows Best

by
Chrissy
Mahlmeister

Maybe I am a weirdo

I've been called a lot of things: spaz, creepster, messed up, nutty, crazy, freaky, strange, grosso and even fruitcake. But I've been called a weirdo so many times that I began to take it as a compliment. Then I started to think: Am I really that weird? What makes me so eccentric compared to my human counterparts? I know I'm not the only weird one out there. Let's compare our strange stories and maybe we can figure this out together.

My weirdness was always apparent but really hit its peak in high school, which, oddly enough, is when most kids are trying to fit in and be cool. Not me. I remember those days well. I think more than anything, I was so completely bored, I did insane things to get a rise out of my robotic classmates.

One time, I smeared a brownie all over my teeth right before passing period. When my friends were walking down the hall I would point my finger at them and give a huge smile filled with brownie smushed between each

tooth and latching onto my gums. Their horrified looks whenever I flashed a grin gave me laughs for weeks.

Personally, I thought I was ahead of their time with my hilarious endeavors, but maybe I'm just really disgusting.

My friends became more cautious of me from then on, knowing my weirdness could explode at any second. Unfortunately for them, Halloween was right around the corner. I needed a costume that would be unmatched. And I didn't want something typically gross,

like dressing up as a giant tampon or something—that's just poor taste.

So, of course, I dressed up as a soccer mom. I wore light-colored, extremely high rise jeans that were tapered so sharply I could barely get my foot through the bottom, a tucked in, pale yellow mock turtleneck, huge blow-dried hair, a straw visor, a flower sweater tied around my shoulders, mom sandals and a huge button with a photo of my brother in a soccer uniform.

That was the day I lost about seven friends and gained about 10, all teachers. The teachers thought my outfit was so hilarious, they would drag me into their classrooms like I was some little puppy with booties on for everyone to ogle at. But my classmates, oh man, they hated it. They were constantly asking, "How is it possible to look so gross? Why are you in public like this? Aren't we supposed to dress slutty on Halloween? I don't get it." Again, I thought I was ahead of my time, pulling a stunt like that, but I guess 17-year-olds

can't handle hilarity in its highest form, according to my standards.

The last enormously weird thing I did was when I was a freshman at Illinois State University in Bloomington-Normal. I was on the bus, and my bus driver was in a bad mood. He was super sassy to everyone on the bus and told people to be silent as we were riding. I knew all he needed was a little love, so I turned to my friend and said, "I know what will make him feel better."

I made my way up to the front of the bus and started singing to him the unforgettable power ballad "Total Eclipse of the Heart." Before I began, I dedicated the song to him, and surprisingly, he didn't ask me to stop singing once I started. As I got more and more into it, I started belting the lyrics and the entire bus was focused on my performance, eager to see how the bus driver would respond. My stop was nearing and as he pulled up to the curb, I told him this was my time to leave.

When I stopped the entire bus applauded, and I got really embarrassed and started heading out the door. As I was going down the steps, the bus driver said, "Thank you so much. Maybe I can see you again sometime?" I started laughing because I couldn't come up with a coherent response and ran out the door as fast as my tootsies could carry me.

I realized then that although my weirdness is more for the entertainment of myself, maybe it can be used for the improvement of society. Yeah, that's it. Smearing brownies on my teeth is really the answer to society's problems.

Whatever, fruitcake.

cmahlmeister@chroniclemail.com

JACKASS OF THE WEEK



Angry men ruled the World of Jackass this week.

— No one likes a rude awakening from a deep sleep, especially early in the morning. But that's exactly what Caroline Marienau got on April 23 as her jackass soon-to-be ex-husband decided to show up on her doorstep at 7 a.m. and demand she bring him a cigarette.

Eric D. Marienau, intoxicated and in desperate need of a smoke, became angry when Caroline didn't oblige. And instead of walking away, he decided to do the next best thing: ram his truck into her house. The Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, man was arrested after he drove his full-size Chevy Silverado truck "at a high rate of speed" toward the garage area of the house at least two times, according to police as reported by the Canadian Press.

Because of the impact, police said a 1993 Ford Ranger parked inside the garage was pushed about four feet into a bedroom. Though no one was injured, both vehicles and the house sustained significant damage.

We can see why Caroline decided to ditch this jackass.

— Alec Baldwin was endearingly odd in *Beetlejuice*. He was an endearing badass in *The Departed*. He was a jackass father in *Running with Scissors*. And in real life, well, it turns out he's kind of a jackass father, and not in an endearing way. Baldwin and his ex-wife, Kim Basinger, have been going through bitter times the last couple years with divorcing and pursuing child custody, but things got juicy last week when a message Baldwin left on daughter's voicemail leaked on the Internet:

"You don't have the brains or the decency as a human being. I don't give a damn that you're 12 years old, or 11 years old, or that you're a child, or that your mother is a thoughtless pain in the ass who doesn't care about what you do, as far as I'm concerned ... You are a rude, thoughtless little pig, OK?"

The above quotes are just various excerpts that Baldwin left for his 12 (or 11?) year-old daughter, which can be heard in its entirety on youtube.com. It seems Baldwin has been pushed around and taken advantage of too much, and his best solution is to take it out on his pre-teen kid. What a jackass.

—T. Breyne

Read My Lips

by Tiffany
Breyne



Politics of love

I'm a moderate liberal. While some of my friends claim I'm a hippie simply because I used to have a hemp wallet with a peace sign on it as well as a general "love and peace" mentality, I think I've grown out of that phase and moved on to become a moderate liberal.

My boyfriend, on the other hand, is a moderate conservative. While the gap between our views isn't very big, we do have different opinions on various topics. I used to be a vegetarian because of my beliefs that humans don't naturally fit into the food chain nor need animal meat to survive; he doesn't get the point of vegetarianism and has never questioned the morality of eating meat. I think the war isn't a

solution to other people's problems and that religions in other nations, particularly in the Middle East, are highly stereotyped and misunderstood; he's not quite on the same page with that.

We've already reached the conclusion that we don't have much in common when it comes to food, politics, TV shows, music ... the list goes on. And some friends are quick to point out that

fact all the time; they say we're an odd match and don't understand how two people with mostly varying opinions could get along and date.

Somehow, though, it seems to help the relationship as opposed to hindering it. I've typically tended to date guys with similar political views and interests in the past, so our conversations would basically revolve around telling each other our ideas and agreeing with the other person. It was hunky-dory and endearing to share related thoughts with a significant other. Lately I'm realizing that politics and other likes and dislikes don't define a relationship; in fact, with my new guy, I realize that disagreeing is

almost more fun.

The other night as we sat at a neighborhood bar drinking beer and watching the Sox game, we got into a discussion about why I used to be a vegetarian and then eventually, somehow, moved onto our views on Islam and if we think the war is effective. While some of his viewpoints were borderline angering, I loved that we were so engaged in conversation to the point of missing Tadahito Iguchi tie up the game—which is odd, because our love of the White Sox is probably one of the few things we have in common.

I never really thought the rule of "opposites attract" applied to anyone other than 16-year-old sweet girls and their badass boyfriends or Dharma and Greg; but now I can see why it still sometimes works. Even though we have the same sense of sarcastic and goofy humor, our varying viewpoints keep both of us on our toes and even makes us, y' know, think about things in a different way.

It's possible that I'm the last person to realize the appeal in dating someone that doesn't think like me. But regardless, I'm happy to say I've stepped out of my moderately liberal box and discovered that the other side isn't all bad. In fact, it's more than moderately hot and fun.

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Ratings Guide

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



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Allison Riggio



James H. Ewert Jr.



Tiffany Breyne

Top 5

THINGS I'M TERRIFIED OF

Graduating: I recently overheard some friends discussing their plans for summer break and came to the shocking realization that it's not a break for me. It's just life. For 18 years, school has always been on the agenda for fall. Now it's the vast unknown. Yikes.

Death: I'm not afraid of my own death, but I am terrified of dealing with it while I'm alive. It's not that I lack compassion or sympathy; I just don't know how to deal with death. When the subject comes up I usually crack jokes and smile. What terrifies me is offending someone by awkwardly grinning from ear-to-ear when they talk about their loss. At the risk of looking like a jack-ass, I avoid the topic.

Feet: They're disgusting. Period. They're smelly and sweaty and collect dirt and grime everywhere they go. I'd cut off my own if I didn't need them to balance myself and walk.

The dark: I fall asleep with the TV on every night. Not because I'm interested in a program that's playing, but because both the ambient sound and light from the screen put my child-like mind at ease in my dark bedroom. If it were socially acceptable, I'd just get a night-light.

Tornados: Here in the Midwest, these monsters are as bad as Mother Nature gets. There's something about the idea of being sucked into a funnel cloud that makes my heart pound out of my chest. And the jarring, screeching tornado sirens don't help ease the fear.

POST-GRADUATION STRESS RELIEVERS

Montana: I got a job working for Project Vote-Smart. Two weeks after graduating I will leave the city of 2.5 million big shoulders for Philipsburg, Mont.'s population of 900 until the end of the 2008 election cycle. I never thought researching politicians and riding horses could be done at the same place. I was wrong.

Bonnaroo: Yes, I am going to get twisted at this music festival in Tennessee—by playing "Twister" of course. The Police, Tool, White Stripes, Wilco and as much, um, supplemental entertainment my little heart desires. Oh, and my station wagon has two open seats if there are any takers.

Arcade Fire: If it wasn't for their endorsement of the stupid "Red Campaign" that had Bono and Oprah running around Chicago trying to get consumers to buy things to help AIDS, they would be my favorite band. Nevertheless, they are still awesome. I have one ticket to see them on May 20.

I Sailed With Magellan: This Stuart Dybeck book about childhood tales in Chicago was adapted into a play, and my dear friend Justin Cholewa is playing Dybeck's character. I can't wait to see him on stage when it opens on June 8 at the Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.

Time: I cannot fathom what it will feel like to be able to focus all of my immediate attention on one thing. Without the newspaper to worry about or school or social responsibility in Montana, I will have the time to read again. No more pencils, no more books, no more teachers' dirty looks ... school's out forever.

REASONS WHY I LIKE WWW.PEOPLE.COM

Great news updates: Who else would take the time to let me know that Lance Bass is "loving the single life," or that Tyra Banks didn't mean to stiff a restaurant \$120 after a lunch, but rather just forgot? This is the stuff that really matters.

Top notch invasive photos: I love watching Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz's gross love blossom in each new photo album. And the element of surprise they manage to catch on celebrity's faces as they take a stroll or go shopping is quite impressive.

Matthew McConaughey coverage: I used to think Matthew was a sexy, Southern stud. But now, thanks to the never-ending shirtless photos of him working out, I think he's a dud. Thanks, People, for revealing the true dude.

Fashion Faceoff: Sometimes celebs pull a doozy and wear the exact same outfit while out on the town. People.com gives readers the chance to really voice their opinion on who looks better in the cute black mini: Hilary Duff or Nicky Hilton?

Celebrity Fun Facts: Did you know that Jennifer Garner was a saxophone playing band geek in high school? Well, you could know this and so much more after checking out the overwhelmingly juicy celebrity dish on this fab website.

Calendar of Events

MONDAY

The **Gene Siskel Film Center**, 164 N. State St., presents an evening of winning submissions from the **Student Academy Awards**. The showcase will screen the best in such categories as dramatic presentation and animation. The program starts at **6:30 p.m.** with a pre-show reception at **5:45 p.m.** Tickets: \$9, \$7 for students, \$5 for Film Center members and \$4 for The School of the Art Institute of Chicago students. For more information, call (312) 846-2600.

TUESDAY

Local author **Elizabeth Berg** will read passages from her new novel, *Dream When You're Feeling Blue*, at the **Book Cellar**, 4736 N. Lincoln Ave. The story is about Irish sisters living in Chicago during World War II. The event is free and starts at **7 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY

The **Partly Dave Show** is presenting an evening of cabaret. Spawned from Pansy King, the creator of the **Neo-Futurists**, the show features a mix of musicians and parody. The show starts at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Neo-Futurarium**, 5153 N. Ashland Ave. Admission is suggested at **\$12**, but there is a sliding scale depending on the roll of the dice.

THURSDAY

The **Poetry Center**, 4437 N. Broadway, has a new reading series beginning tonight at **8 p.m.** **Spoken word and featured readings** are followed by an open mic portion of the evening. Admission is **\$5**. For more information, visit poetrycenter.org or call (312) 899-7483.

FRIDAY

Spiderman fans can check out the latest film installment, *Spider-Man 3*—the IMAX way. IMAX has digitally re-mastered the flick for intensified picture and sound quality. The showing is at Navy Pier's IMAX theater, 600 E Grand Ave. No passes or discounts allowed at this one, and advanced purchase is strongly advised. For more information, visit imax.com/Chicago.

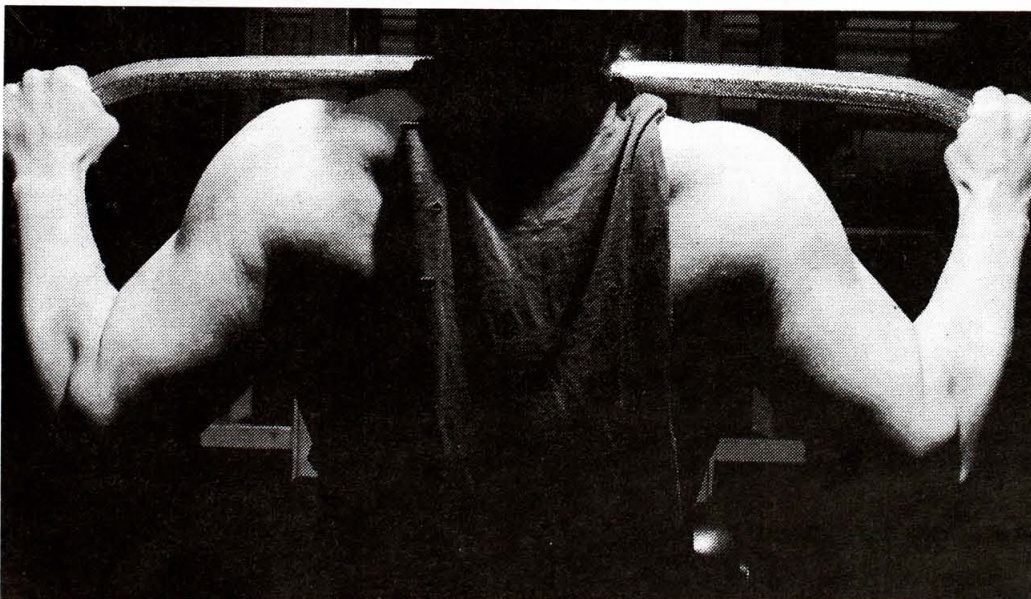
SATURDAY

It's **Cinco de Mayo**, and time to commemorate and kick off a love of **micro-brews** at **Handlebar**, 2311 W. North Ave. Indiana brewery Three Floyds is having a day of beer, bands and food. The fun is called the "Gumballhead Kick-off Party," and with a title like that, what reason is there to not go? For more information, visit handlebarchicago.com.

SUNDAY

His holiness the **Dalai Lama** will be speaking at the **Harris Theater**, 205 E. Randolph St., in **Millennium Park**, his first appearance in Chicago since 1999. His time will be divided into two sessions, **9:30 a.m.** and **1:00 p.m.** For more information and ticket prices, visit dalailamachicago.com.

Exposure



Andrew A. Nelles/The Chronicle

Light and shadow play a powerful role in photography; specifically with this image. The harsh light and strong shadows are combined with the straight vantage point, which emphasizes the shape and form on his body, calling attention to the form of his arms.

Look out Judy Blume

Julia Alvarez adds new page to forgotten story

By Aisha Qidwae/Staff Writer

Outlining about six years of research for her new novel, author Julia Alvarez introduced her latest novel, *Saving the World*, in a speech and power-point presentation at the National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th St.

Alvarez said 9/11 prompted her to ask questions such as, "What is the purpose of stories?" "Why do we read them?" and "How could they help us at times like this?" *Saving the World*, began to ask that, she said.

Saving the World is a story within a story about an expedition embarking from Spain in 1803 with a smallpox vaccine discovered by Francisco Xavier Balmis. He needs live "carriers" of the vaccine due to the lack of refrigeration and requests the help of Isabel Sendales y Gomez, the director of an orphanage and a smallpox survivor.

In 2005, Latina writer Alma Huebner decides to write about the true story of 22 orphan boys and an orphanage director leading the first global attempt to eradicate smallpox. Alma's husband is a physician working in the Dominican Republic at a humanitarian organization. When he is kidnapped, Alma's world takes a dramatic turn. While the story is fiction, it's based on true historical attempts to rid the world of smallpox.

Alvarez, also the author of *In the Time of the Butterflies* and *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents*, writes stories in historical contexts that shed light on the Dominican Republic, which is her parents' homeland and where she grew up after being born in New York.

Alvarez's husband is a physician, just like her character Alma.

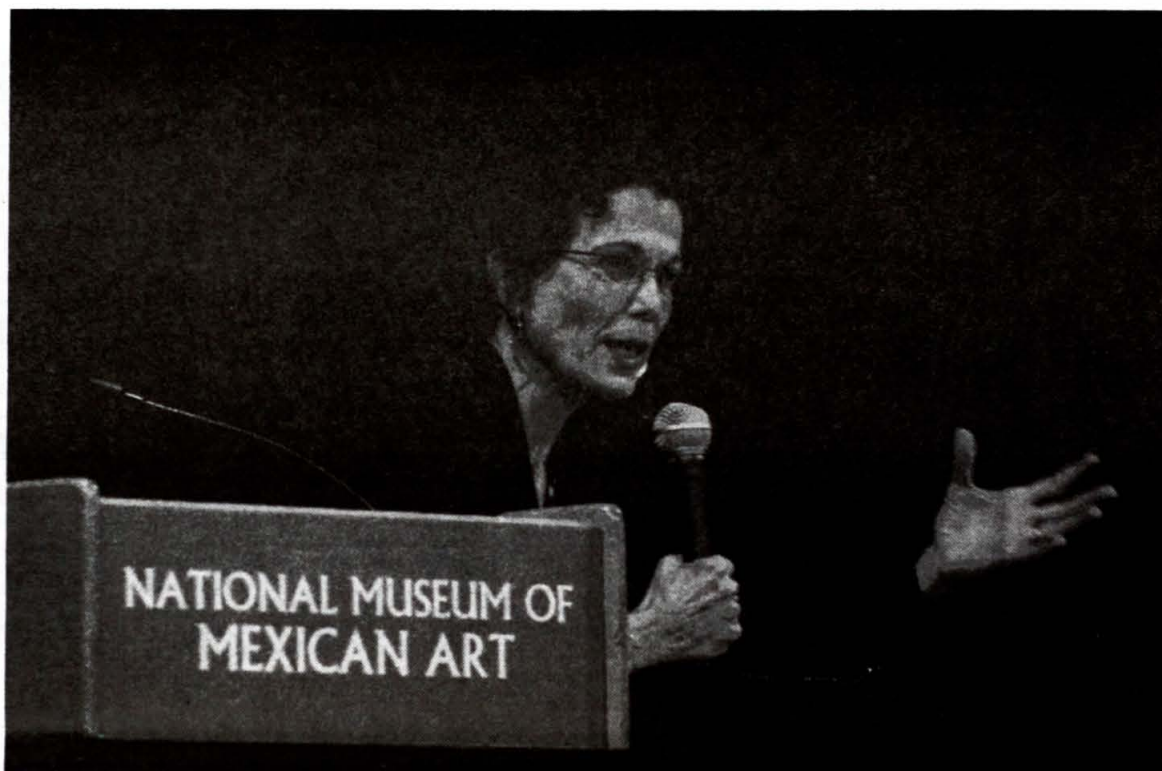
"Our characters come out of us; they're like our children," Alvarez said.

Veronica Sanchez, 26, an event attendee, called Alvarez "the next Judy Blume" because of her popularity among children. Blume is a popular American author of young adult and children's books, such as *Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret?* and *Tiger Eyes*.

Sanchez said she reads the author's books and essays in Spanish and English and can relate to her in many ways, from her portrayal of politics to her personal struggles.

"She's a feminist, she likes to associate with that and bring it to the real world and modern times," said Sanchez. "Her interest as a writer, her personality, her struggles at her age, [being] second generation."

Guillermo Mata, 35, who



Tim Hunt/The Chronicle

Julia Alvarez introduces her new book, *Saving the World*, at the National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th St.

brought his family to the event, said he reads Alvarez's books in Spanish, and has gotten his children to read them as well.

"I like the fact that she still goes back to the Dominican Republic, and [I also like] what she knows," Mata said. "I think it's interesting that she evolves but she still writes about the Dominican Republic and her experience with it."

But Alvarez spoke about getting a whole new education in order to understand her characters' worlds. She emphasized research by pointing out paintings of the 19th century in which she found inaccuracies.

Alvarez became an expert on 19th century medicine, clothing and orphans by traveling to Spain and studying paintings and pictures of smallpox and children being vaccinated.

"You want to enter into the world of your characters and anything, anything that can help you imagine that world, you just go for it," Alvarez said.

Alvarez told the audience writing her book wasn't like using a "recipe."

"What you're making hasn't been made before," she said. "And you're not sure if anything is going to result in your book but you have these little bits and pieces and your whole life becomes entangled in it ... for five, six years."

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WHERE INTELLIGENCE GOES TO WORK

Love is in the air

Airline travelers can seek significant others thanks to AirTroductions.com

By Chrissy Mahlmeister/A&E Editor

The anxiety heightens as the traveler makes his or her way down the airplane aisle. Scoping out the scene, it's a red-faced crying baby, a man crumbling Funyuns all over his chest or a creepy-looking guy. Of course, the only attractive person on the plane the traveler wished he or she could have sat next to is squished against the window next to some chatty tourists.

Normally, the traveler would pass right by a potential "date" and continue to have an hour and a half of cramped misery, but that doesn't have to be the case anymore.

AirTroductions.com is a website that helps maximize the importance of the time used while sitting on a plane by finding a potential seat mate before even boarding.

Peter Shankman, the founder of AirTroductions, said the website allows people to make better use of their travel time.

"We spend so much time in the air, in hotels and in rental cars and we don't make the best use of our time there," Shankman said. "For all we know, we could be on a flight and the biggest love of our life is one row behind, but we



Graphic by Joshua Covarrubias

don't even know it."

AirTroductions works like any other online dating site. First, users set up a profile and then submit a flight itinerary, and the website will show all the matches on the flight. From there, the person can pick who they want to contact and the other person can either accept or deny the request.

Anyone can sign up, but every profile has to be approved by AirTroductions. Once a match is made, the couple can meet at the airport past the security checkpoint.

Shankman created the website a year and half ago because he constantly travels. On one flight to Texas, Shankman had a fun flight with a lady he sat next to and figured everyone should have that type of flying experience.

"It's a much more useful flight than going from point A to point B," Shankman said. "We could be right down the hall from another fellow runner or fellow golfer and you wouldn't even know."

The people that are drawn to AirTroductions are usually very

busy and don't have time to look for dates, but according to Shankman, "They might as well kill two birds with one stone and try doing it."

But Dianna Bolen, a Chicago counselor and professional life coach specializing in relationship issues, said people constantly traveling need to slow down.

"You have to make a choice of whether you want a relationship and to invest the time that it takes to have one or not," Bolen said. "If you're not willing to slow down enough to find a relation-

ship, how the heck could you slow down enough to keep it?"

Although it is common for people to turn to dating websites, Margaret Mason, a certified relationship therapist and workshop presenter of "Getting the Love You Want," said to be careful before logging on.

"People aren't always honest with who they are and present themselves in ways that are perhaps misleading," Mason said. "I think it can be painful sometimes to go through the whole process because of the whole idea that you're definitely ... being scrutinized."

Although there are downfalls to the online dating scene and AirTroductions, both therapists agree that it's better than nothing at all.

"We need all the help we can get," Bolen said. "There isn't one right way to meet a person and the more different doors you open and look behind, the more likely you are to find the big prize."

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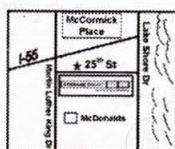
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Jukin' jokester

Reggie Watts' shows combine music, film and comedy

By Kristin Kalter/Assistant A&E Editor

Reggie Watts is probably most known for playing the role as lead singer in the band Maktub. But the musician has decided to take a new path and start doing solo, alternative comedic performances.

His shows have been described as a mix of attending a club, concert and standup show because he incorporates improvised music and films along with his monologues.

Watts is doing two shows at the Lakeshore Theater, 3175 N. Broadway Ave., on May 4 and 5. He took some time to talk with The Chronicle about his new direction, where it has taken him and where he wants to go.

The Chronicle: Why did you decide to incorporate music with comedy?

Reggie Watts: I've always been a musician, but I've always been interested in comedy. After a certain period of time with a band, I thought it would be really cool to try and do comedy.

What are some examples of the content of your comedy shows?

I'll talk about standard things like racism and sexuality and technology a lot. Most of the time I'm making fun of the topics that

comedians generally talk about. They talk about drugs—although I do like to talk about drugs—and they talk about politics a lot and sexuality and all that stuff; it's a mixture. But the reason I'm talking about those things is because I'm making fun of those topics and the way that they are usually done by comedians.

Do you think you relate well to other comedians or do you think some of them think what you're doing is strange?

[Laughs] It depends on the type of scene generally. You know, there's a movement of comedy called alternative comedy. In the alternative scene, we're all friends and we all get along with each other. We do production and videos and go to each other's shows, so I never really had a problem there.

What do mainstream comedians think of alternative comedians?

Mainstream comedians have a problem with some of the alternative comedians because they're stealing the press and attention from mainstream comedy. They don't really have anything to worry about, but some of those old-school comics are a little bit

bitter about the competition. I never view anything as competition.

Are you also working on a new music album?

Yes, I'm working on two albums. I'm working on a music comedy album and I'm also working on a music album with Maktub.

What path are you more dedicated to right now?

I'm definitely more dedicated to my solo career right now.

What artists or comedians do you look up to or respect now?

I like a guy named Stewart Lee. He's really amazing. Eddie Izzard. I like David Cross and Todd Barry. He's totally hilarious.

How would you say your career and life have changed since you started doing comedy?

[Laughs] I would say that it's changed in a way that's allowed me to experiment with a new side of myself. It enables me to explore my ideas more readily and [take] control, which is also an amazing thing within itself. I'm the one completely in charge



Photo courtesy of Reggie Watts

Reggie Watts will bring his music and comedy to the Lakeshore Theater, 3175 N. Broadway Ave., on May 4 and 5.

of my success and I don't know whether that's good or bad at this point.

Where do you call home now?

Now I live in New York. I'm from Montana but lived in Seattle for a long time. I moved to Seattle because I didn't get accepted to acting school in New York.

Where do you hope your career is going in the future?

I hope it fails. [Laughs] I just want to get to a point where ... one of my greatest days [will be] when I'll have medical insurance that I can pay for.

Have you been to Chicago before, and what are you looking forward to on this trip?

I'm looking forward to playing the Lakeshore [Theater]. It's a dope theater. I've seen pictures of it; it looks really fun. I've played [in Chicago] many times, but never stayed there that long. But, I am going to go check out this badass restaurant, that I forgot the name of, but it's this weird futuristic restaurant, where they use liquid nitrogen to freeze foods and these weird thermal techniques they develop. They use the same types of food they use for NASA, but the restaurant actually serves this food as well. It's super, super expensive, but a friend of mine is the chef, and [I] picked him up on his offer for dinner.

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More than they hooped for

Story by Steve Yaccino
Graphics by Kimi Badger

Thwap. The plastic hoop hit the studio floor around Kathy Anderson's bare feet. She quickly looked around, and sheepishly lifted it back up around her waist. It was her first time, and hoop dancing was harder than she expected. But her embarrassment seemed to evaporate as the other six women hula-hooping around her burst into vigorous applause.

She hurled the hoop around her waist once more. Thwap. Again, it hit the floor. More clapping, more cheering and even a whistle or two. The sound of a hoop falling is the sound of learning, said Mercedes Gomez, the class's instructor. Everyone was laughing—not at Anderson, nor anyone else—they were just laughing and smiling, moving their hips to the beat of house music as the hoops orbited their bodies.

Across the country, people are using the hula-hoop as an emerging art form that blurs the line between performance and fitness. Some are calling it the new yoga, others a recreation of the childhood game. Gomez said people have trouble getting motivated to pursue healthy lifestyles, and Americans face an epidemic of stress and obesity. She calls hoop dancing a fun way to unwind while toning abs and freeing minds. And while all of these may be true, hoop dancing is about so much more than an exercise or activity. It's about spirituality. It's about self-expression and self-discovery. It's about the hoop and the endless pos-

sibilities awaiting anyone willing to set it in motion.

"It's more about developing a connection and union with the hoop, rather than making it do what you want," Gomez said. "You become one with it."

After hearing of a burgeoning hooping scene in California, Gomez founded the company Chicago Hoop Dance last November with the intent of exposing the city to hoop dancing as a new form of exercise and moving meditation. In addition to her yoga classes, she leads ongoing group hooping lessons every other Thursday at Yoga Now studio, 742 N. LaSalle St., and plans to offer more intense six- to 12-week courses this summer at other studios around the Chicagoland area.

From the outside, Yoga Now could easily be overlooked, lost among the boisterous bustle of Chicago's River North community. Inside, however, everything seemed at rest. The walls were painted in earthy tones, insulated by recycled denim jeans and decorated by bamboo strips that reached from floor to ceiling every few feet. The air was thick, like stepping into a rainforest, and instantly invited a soothing, almost cleansing, sweat.

"This place specifically has harmony," Gomez said. "It feels like the walls are breathing. It feels different here. There's always healing going on."

The twirling hoops were no more than bent PVC pipes; simple irrigation tubing purchased at a local hardware store and decorated with vibrantly colored "friction generating tape." Each one Gomez made by hand and sold for \$35 to \$45 depending on the size and amount of "pizzazz." Unlike the mass-produced children's hoops, these were heavy and 40 to 45 inches wide, in order to slow its rotation and allow more time and freedom to invest in dance and self-expression.

Anderson, 30, wasn't the only one struggling during the class on the evening of April 19. While some of the women effortlessly swung the hoops around and around, intimate with the inertia, others staggered with arms held high, resembling cavemen frantically attempting to scare a bear away. Each student practiced moves of varying difficulty. Some were basic, like trying to keep the hoop off the floor,

while others attempted more advanced techniques, such as fluidly transitioning the spinning plastic into a lasso twirl overhead and back down around the waist. Everyone dropped their hoops multiple times, never unaccompanied by a series of hoots and hollers from the other participants.

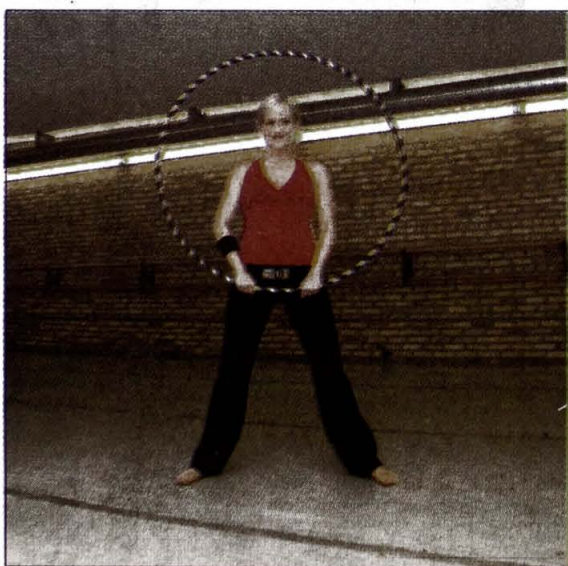
"This is the part where I turn my hula hoop into a jump rope," Anderson said half way through the evening.

And although she was joking, no one would have thought twice if she had. That was the beauty of it: There was no "wrong way" to hula-hoop. Soon the applause became infrequent, not because the women were dropping hoops less often, but because when they did, they continued dancing as if they had meant to, as if it was part of the routine. They would simply pick it up on beat, throw it around their waists and keep going.

Brooks Hall, a 36-year-old student, said the inclusive atmosphere has given her the opportunity to let loose and bring out her inner child.

"It's a place to let free and scream with a bunch of ladies," she said. "When you get older, you

**"Sexiness comes from your heart. That's what the hoop movement is doing, it's bringing it out."
—Heather Crosby**



Courtesy of Marta Sasinowska

History of the Hoop

1000 B.C.

The ancient Egyptian children made hoops from grape vines and grass. They would swing them around their waists and roll them on the ground using sticks for fun.

500 B.C. to 200 A.D.

Ancient Greek and Roman documents displayed hoop-rolling as a game for children, as well as adult exercise for those not athletic enough for more intense sports. The hoops were made of recycled metal strips.

1400s

Hoop dancing was briefly popular in England but was banned for allegedly causing heart attacks and back dislocations.

1700s

The name "hula" was added after British sailors witnessed hula dancing in Hawaii and connected the common hip movement of the two activities.

get trapped in a box sometimes of who you're supposed to be and hula-hooping is very liberating."

And then there's Christabel Bemor, Gomez's instructor and founder of the San Francisco-based company Hoop Girl whose tagline is "Get fit, feel sexy, have fun." She said the liberation of the hoop was the best thing that has ever happened to her. Six years ago, she was working on a doctorate in cultural anthropology when she first discovered the activity. After practicing in the park with her boom box, she decided to leave behind her dream of becoming a university professor and devoted her life to studying the hoop instead. She now makes hula hoops and instructional DVDs, while training other instructors from the United States, Canada and England.

"[Hooping] was so easy," she said. "It was such a remarkable sensory difference between trying to get the Ph.D. and making money hooping that I just decided to hoop."

Although Bemor often dresses in exotic costumes when she dances, she said hooping is about more than just performing and losing weight. It has made her feel more comfortable with her body. Because skin is a much better surface for the hoop to adhere to than fabric, she began wearing less clothing, thus invoking a new confidence in herself.

Heather Crosby, another of Bemor's pupils and founder of the Chicago-based company HooperPower, said hooping is redefining sexiness. She said it's about confidence and freedom rather than "silicone and outward appearance."

"We're constantly reminded of what we don't have, what we don't look like, and there's something about the hoop that creates this space," she said. "Sexiness comes from your heart. That's what the hoop movement is doing, it's bringing that out."

Crosby is scheduled to teach "HooperCamps" this summer in various parks around Chicago and believes the city's hooping community, which currently consists of only a few performers and instructors, is poised for a major explosion.

However, the idea of hooping is hardly new. Although it is rooted in ancient Egyptian, Greco and Roman cultures in the form of children's games and even adult fitness, the performance and philosophy of this practice may be more accurately traced back to Native American traditions.

Kevin Locke lives in the Standing Rock Lakota Reservation in South Dakota and has performed the traditional Lakota hoop dance in more than 58 countries at schools and festivals.

Locke said the traditional dance represents the tangible relationship between heaven and earth. The hoop symbolizes unity, harmony and continuity, he said.

"Any scientist studying this creation will tell you that everything forms to the hoop of life," he said. "Even the smallest proton, neutron and electron is bound by the laws of creation. There's no end to it."

He said the traditional hoop dance is choreographed prayer, intended to restore the people to wholeness and well-being.

"It's not just physical, it's not just emotional, it's not just mental, but it's spiritual," he said. "It's not just individual, but a collective wholeness."

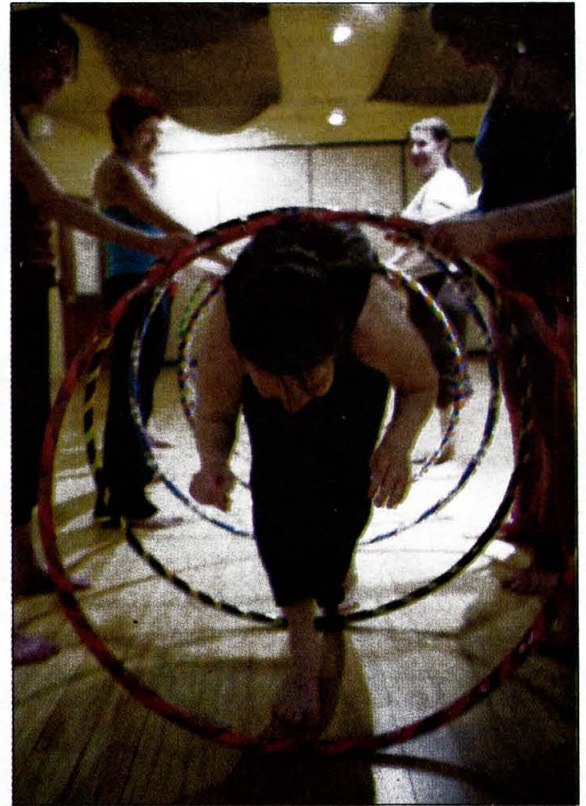
As the April 19 session ended, the women at Yoga Now formed their own circle of bodies standing in the middle of the studio. Each took turns performing in the center, while the others cheered her on. Gomez called it "The Jam."

To "jam" takes three steps: The entrance, the performance and the exit. And as each woman entered the circle with her hoop, it was as if her life was playing in fast-forward motion. Each took part in the ultimate, inevitable cycle of existence. They entered, they performed and then were finished. Only no one judged; they just applauded. Their praise was not reliant on skill or difficulty. The woman performing could do whatever she pleased, for as long as she pleased. It didn't matter. She was free. Nothing mattered, except that she held nothing back.

And once everyone had danced, the group aligned their hoops to form a tunnel. Before leaving, each woman would speak of a desire and pass through this tunnel in pursuit of it, while the rest of the group affirmed the request in uniformed echo. "Joy," they shouted together.

"Tranquility." One by one, they pass through and out the other side. "Perseverance." "Power." It was their re-assimilation into the world awaiting them, a transition back into their adult, city lives. "Calm strength." "Fun."

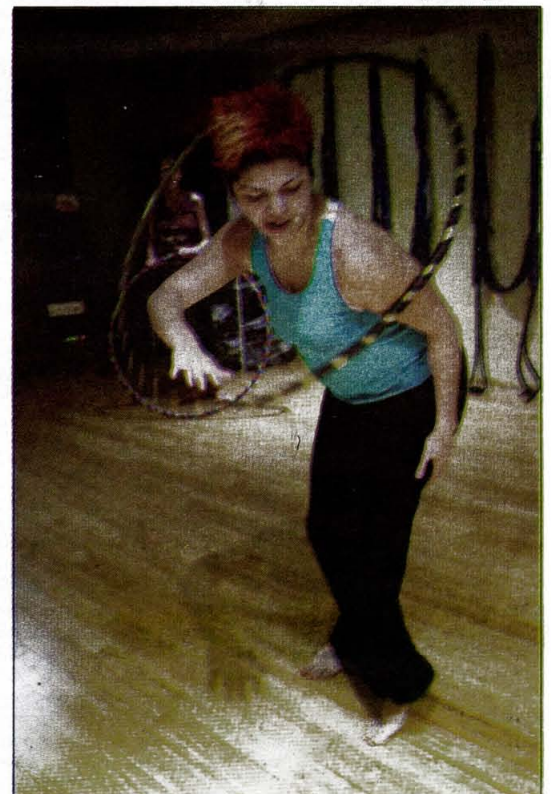
"What people do here reflects what they do out there," Gomez said. "If you can change your habits in here, in a safe place, you're going to do that outside."



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

Top: At the end of the hooping class, participants create a tunnel made of hula hoops and one by one travel through it while being supported by their fellow hoopers.

Below: Mercedes Gomez, who teaches a hoop dancing class at Yoga Now, shows off some moves for her class on April 19.



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

1958

Richard Knerr and Arthur "Spud" Melin, founders of the Wham-O toy company, created the first plastic hula hoop in America. Over the next decade, they sold more than 100 million hula hoops. The fad, however, lasted only for a few years.

1960

Japan banned the hula hoop due to inappropriate hip movements. The Soviet Union also outlawed the activity for representing the "emptiness of American culture."

1999

American acrobat Ken Kovach set the Guinness World Record for completing 101 revolutions of a hula hoop in a minute while somersaulting on a trampoline. He later broke his record on the "Live With Regis and Kathy Lee" show with 129 revolutions in one minute.

2000

In Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 2,290 people hula-hooped for more than two minutes, setting the world record for simultaneous hooping.

2005

Australian Kareena Oates kept 100 hula hoops spinning at once for three full revolutions, setting the Guinness World Record.

Reviews

MUSIC



Reel Gem
For Real

Chicago-based Reel Gem will debut its new album, *For Real*, June 1, and it definitely holds more hits than clunkers. Their sound is like Restin or Tara Jane O'Neil with hints of Throwing Muses. Some of the standouts include the title track, "Closer" and "You Crossed the Line." Give the album a spin. —E. Kasang



Bright Eyes
Cassadaga

Bright Eyes' latest release has the most surprising album cover ever, complete with a "spectral decoder" that reveals the album's artwork. The new tracks are markedly more optimistic, ranging from euphoric ballads to toe-tappin' Americana. The only downer: Oberst's voice, joined in a sweet chorus of his Saddle Creek chums, seems to lack the grit of his earlier albums. —S. Harvey



Bjork
"Earth Intruders" single
from *Volta*

If Bjork's single from her new album *Volta*, which comes out May 7, is any indication of what the rest of the songs will sound like, she definitely won't disappoint—as usual. The beats in this song are unusual for her, but, thanks to Timbaland, who worked on the song, it's definitely a sign of good things to come from Bjork. —J. Galliani

PRINT



Rolling Stone

The 40th anniversary issue of *Rolling Stone* oozes rock 'n' roll with its collection of 20 interviews with the "artist and leaders who helped shape our time." Make sure to check out the Tom Wolfe, George McGovern and Jack Nicholson interviews from the flock. Oh yeah, Keith Richards is still alive. —C. Jakubowski



Dragon Head vol. 1
Minetaro Mochizuki

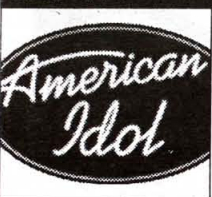
If you think manga is all about chesty ladies running around with giant animals, then check out this super creepy series. The story begins when a train full of students derails in a mountain tunnel and leaves few survivors. *Dragon Head* is a nicely disturbing read for a rainy evening while home alone. —H. Clauss



GQ Magazine
May 2007 Issue

The front half of the magazine: blah; not worth mentioning. The second half: better; actually worth reading. We recommend the list of recommended books composed by recommended authors, the "real" Colbert report, the profile on a 13-year-old baseball team owner and the interview with the Donald's sexy young'un, The Ivanka. —T. Breyne

FILM & TV



American Idol

As if both Fox and Simon Cowell discovered they really do have hearts, nobody was sent home last week on "American Idol." We don't watch it for the feel-good moments, we watch it for the embarrassing flops and dream-crushing eliminations. Where did you go wrong "Idol"? —A. Riggio



Living Lahlala
MTV

MTV successfully managed to create another terrible reality show about life in Hawaii. This show is just about as shallow as the entire cast of male surf instructors. The only reason to even consider watching this waste of thirty minutes is to check out the surfers' hot bodies. —H. Graham



The Showbiz show with
David Spade

Anyone familiar with E!'s "The Soup" will enjoy "The Showbiz Show with David Spade." Spade basically ruthlessly makes fun of everyone in Hollywood. This is a great show to watch if you come across it on the TV Guide menu. —G. Slefo

MISC.



Typos on neon signs

A sign declaring in neon blue letters "We Delivery" hangs proudly in the only window of the Gold Coast's Empire Chinese Food. Just blocks away, all-night diner Michael's North Restaurant shows off its recent remodel with signage reading "We Baked Our Own Bread"—so, they baked it one time? Or, they used to bake their own? —B. Palmer



Umbrella

April may be over, but it left an ugly scar on my collection of accessories. My umbrella was the victim of some violent winds last week and flipped completely inside-out while I walked downtown. Sure, I could blame the April rain for this. But I'd rather blame the crappy quality of the umbrella. —A. Riggio



Planets orbiting Gliese
581

Scientists have found a planet roughly 21 light years away from Earth in the habitable zone of a star called Gliese 581. Models run on the planet so far lead us to believe it may be covered in oceans. So it could theoretically support life of some kind. Get conquering, earth scientists. —S. Baltrukonis

Premium Blend

Taking a closer look at Chicago's local bands

Take seven guys from various backgrounds, with different influences and styles ranging from rock to hip-hop and you get Contriband, which stands for "contribution band."

Emcees Universe Neo and Ronbe, who is also known as Lifeone; DJ Stizo, who also emcees and plays trumpet; Alan Thicke, bass; Mike Fire, drums; Boggie G, guitar; and KP, keyboards, make up the band.

They are gearing up for the release of their new album, *Shorties Catchin' Fireflies*, on June 1, their first album since a hiatus and replacement of some band members. Fire talked with *The Chronicle* about the new direction the band is now going in and the roles each of them play within the group.

The Chronicle: With all your different influences, how do you complement each other musically?

Mike Fire: As the band is now, I think we all complement each other pretty well. I think what's nice about the band is that there's definitely a lot of different influences because of all the different backgrounds. Some of the guys come from a straight hip-hop [background], some of us come from a more rock background or a funk background. So what we bring to the table is our own style but we turn it into

something that unifies.

How do you label your music?

That's our toughest question. It is hip-hop because we have rappers, but the rappers also sing. So there's a lot of melody in our songs. In normal hip-hop, they don't have as much melody and singing as we do, and like I said, because of the uniqueness of the band, the elements we bring, like live instrumentation, we don't do a lot of programmed beats. We have keys, trumpet, live guitar, so it's a blend. It is hip-hop music, but it's a blend of rock, pop, jazz, soul. You know, we like to mix it up.

Do you write all original songs, or do you play covers?

We do make all original music, but we play shows that maybe for like two sets, we'll throw in some covers. Contriband is really all about having fun and good music where you can move to. We always like to throw in some fun covers that the audience will like. We change it up. To give you an example, we did "Electric Avenue," just odd songs like that, that we'll pull out and people recognize, but we make it our own.

How would you describe your live show?

A live show is entertaining. The two MCs

Contriband



Courtesy of Contriband

are really good frontmen. They like to talk with the crowd, joke around and have a good time. I think the band is really tight and people really enjoy it.

Did you guys know each other before this?

Ron and Neo started out [together]. I've known Ron and Al from previous bands, from just being in the Chicago music scene for years. When they started out in 2002, they had another keyboard player and back-up singers. It really was a completely different band. The sounds they were doing back then, it was a little more electronic, more programmed, but with the new members,

it's definitely gone in a more live direction. I think Neo and KP have been friends a long time. KP is also in a band called the Pacifics, a straight hip-hop band. DJ Steezo has been on board since day one, and I knew Ron and Al. And they asked me to come audition when they were thinking of reforming, so that's how I got involved.

Contriband will be at *Subterranean*, 2011 W. North Ave., on May 17 and *Metro*, 3730 N. Clark St., on June 1. For more information, visit myspace.com/contriband or contriband.com.

—K. Kalter

PS2's College Hoops 2K7

Nothing changes from last year's installment except new packaging

By George P. Slefo/Assistant Campus News Editor

Once a gamer experiences the supreme power of the XBOX 360 it becomes painful to play anything on the PS2.

Gamers may find themselves in this predicament when they have to review SEGA's College Hoops 2K7—a game that's also on the XBOX 360—for the graphically-outdated PS2.

And after sampling this game, PS2's College Hoops 2K7 isn't even worth the bargain-priced \$19.99 sticker.

For starters, the NCAA doesn't allow its athletes to be featured in video games, so the game doesn't carry any of the actual player names. Instead, the first time you pop in the game it will "randomly generate" names for all the players. While it does feature more than 200 real teams and rates each athlete similar to their real life abilities, the absence of the players' true name becomes an annoyance that ultimately takes away from the experience.

Game play-wise, College Hoops 2K7 is a lot like its older brother, NBA 2K7. Players can set up designed plays, create a franchise and scout prospects. It's practically the same game but with college rules and weaker graphics.

Another complaint is that athletes miss far too many lay-ups and way too many steals occur

throughout the course of a game. In fact, in the first game played, there were 14 steals with one player.

The only true standout, however, is the game's sound. Every school chants its own fight song effectively and cheers according to the play's impact, something NBA 2K7 executes poorly. For example, if the home team goes on a 10-0 run, the crowd gradually goes nuts. Make a steal and an easy two points, and you'll get a moderate reaction from fans.

Because of the crowd noise, momentum becomes a huge factor. The first attempt playing the game involved the Kansas Jayhawks and the opposing Coastal Carolina Chanticleers. In case you're wondering, Kansas is a powerhouse team while the Chanticleers are some no-name school featured in the game.

A lack of knowledge with College Hoops gave the Chanticleers an upper hand. It wasn't long before they went on a 12-0 run, and as their home crowd rocked the stadium, the computer automatically took a time-out for the Jayhawks so they could calm down—a pretty cool strategy that's practiced by NCAA and NBA teams.

In the end, the Jayhawks lost by a score of 49 to 36, and unless

you're some NCAA basketball nut, I wouldn't recommend buying, renting or even playing this game at a friend's house. This game would be much cooler if it was March and featured Columbia College Chicago as a Division I basketball school. Unfortunately, it's April, and Columbia will never be a Division I school.

gslefo@chroniclemail.com

Presentations:

Parent-approved music and an easy menu layout makes this simple enough for anyone.

Graphics:

Simply put: these graphics suck. And when are game developers going to get rid of those awful-looking polygon cheerleaders?

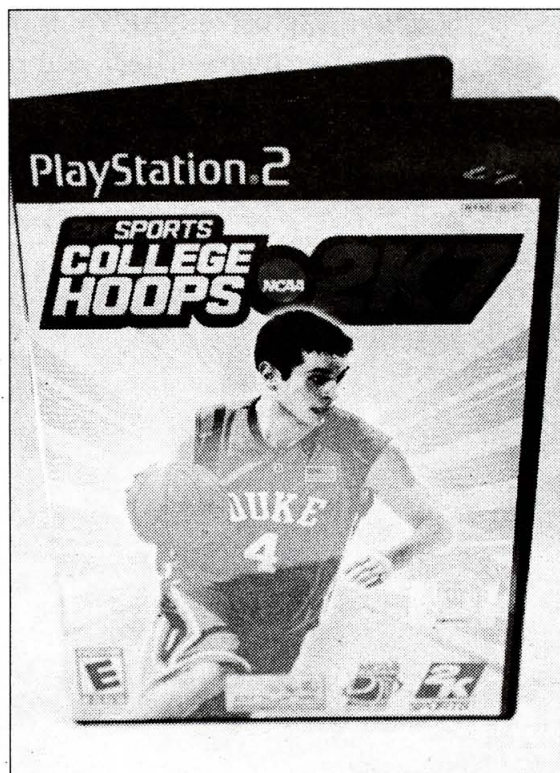
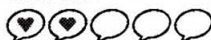
Sound:

Every school has their own fight song, and there are more than 200 schools. Outstanding.

Game play:

It may take a while to get used to, but anyone familiar with NBA 2K7 should get the hang of it.

Overall:



Rachael Strecher/The Chronicle

This year, College Hoops 2K7 has an improved sound and a new soundtrack.

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Kites to the extreme

Kiteboarding on Lake Michigan more dangerous than it looks

By Kristin Kalter/Assistant A&E Editor



Photo courtesy of Mackinaw Kites

Lake Michigan is one hotspot for kiteboarders and surfers in the United States. Despite waters too chilly for swimmers, riders hit the lake with their boards.

Those who seek adventure and an adrenaline rush can go fly a kite—or rather, fly with a kite on the water.

As the temperatures get warmer, more people than ever can be seen along Lake Michigan strapping on a kiteboard and launching their kites into the wind, which lets them glide, jump and fly back and forth along the water.

This activity is the fastest-growing water sport right now and is actually easier and more manageable than it may appear, said Steve Negen, instructor for Mackinaw Kites in Grand Haven, Mich.

"[Kiteboarders] have phenomenal control, but when people look at the kiteboarders, they assume they are out of control and don't know where they are going," Negen said.

Negen said the Great Lakes region had about 50 riders when he started kiteboarding five years ago. He believes the current num-

ber of serious riders has more than quadrupled.

He credits this partially to the improved quality of the equipment, which not only makes it easier and safer to ride but also to learn.

"In the old days, the only people who learned how to ride were the ones who really, really wanted to," he said. "Now the average person can go learn how to ride."

Although it might not be too difficult to learn the maneuvers, timid or easily frightened individuals might want to think twice about getting into the sport.

"It's a high-adrenaline sport, not for the faint at heart," Negen said. "It can be as dangerous as you choose to make it."

The average person who hasn't done any kind of physical activity in a while might want to do a few workouts before trying to take a kiteboarding lesson, according to Negen.

"It is a relatively intense sport, especially if you've been sitting

on the couch for the past three years," Negen said. "Even getting through a five-hour class can be a challenge."

Personal trainer Clint Phillips said some good ways to get in kiteboarding shape are to do exercises like push-ups and pull-ups. Phillips said someone who hasn't exercised in a few years, but hasn't put on a lot of weight, could whip him or herself back into decent shape in three to four weeks.

"I wouldn't put someone up there kiteboarding if they were completely deconditioned, because they probably would get hurt," Phillips said.

Gerard Alleje, kiteboarder and owner of the chicagokiteboarding.com website, said once someone actually knows how to kiteboard, it's not really a solid workout unless he or she wants it to be.

He likes to cruise back and forth across the water, while others like to jump and speed.

Those who take kiteboarding

to more extreme and challenging levels jump in the air and off of obstacles in the water, like one of Negen's friends who recently jumped off an iceberg in Lake Michigan. He said the average rider can jump five to 10 feet in the air, but a good rider can soar more than 20 feet.

A jump can last a second or more, with the world record at 13 seconds, which is "a really, really long time," Negen said. "It's like riding a snowboard and you jump, only you don't land nearly as hard."

The only beach in Chicago that allows kiteboarding is Montrose Beach, and even there someone must be an experienced and advanced kiteboarder due to safety issues.

The setup of Montrose Beach and the wind conditions there make it an ideal place for kiteboarders, but they do not monitor or oversee the activities, said Marta Juaniza, assistant press secretary for the Chicago Park

District. No incidents or accidents with riders have been reported in the last few years, she said.

"Our top priority is safety, and we want to ensure that everyone keeps themselves safe while enjoying activities along the lakefront," she said.

Although people can't learn kiteboarding in Chicago because of the beach restrictions, a one-hour drive out to Wisconsin, Indiana or Michigan will allow them plenty of space among other riders to practice and learn.

He said people who like to ride the most get to do so about 100 to 140 days out of the year in the Midwest.

To learn more about kiteboarding or surfing and lessons available visit mackkiteboarding.com, chicagokiteboarder.com or kitesurfing.com.

kkalter@chroniclemail.com



Photos courtesy of Mackinaw Kites

Experienced riders can jump and do tricks in the air like the rider on the left, or jump off obstacles in the water, like this iceberg off the coast in Michigan.

Abstinence fashion

Continued from Front Page

and matching pants will cost \$30 to \$40.

"Those are all lines with different looks than Wait Wear," Thomas said. "They will appeal to different fashion tastes, youths and young adults."

Abstinence Clearinghouse, a networking organization for educators of abstinence awareness, also sells clothing on its website, abstinence.net. Shoppers can find T-shirts sporting "Pet your dog, not your date" and underwear with stop signs on them that say "No trespassing." Leslee Unruh, president of the organization, said images in the media promoting sex send the wrong message, and the clothing is a new way of bringing the message of abstinence to the forefront.

"We need to be responsible and have some balance when it comes to sex," Unruh said. "We're going to think of more creative ways for people to hear this message, and the more you see the other, the more you're going to see us raising up the standard."

Before starting her clothing line, Thomas worked as a real estate broker and had no interest in fashion or promoting abstinence. The idea for Wait Wear came from a dream—literally.

In March 2002, Thomas awoke early one morning from a dream about putting messages like "No vows, no sex" on underwear to remind those who choose to stay abstinent until marriage.

After receiving some positive

feedback from friends about the idea, Thomas took her clothing line to the 2005 MAGIC marketplace show, a fashion industry purchasing event in Las Vegas in 2005. Thomas said retailers then expressed interest in carrying her products in their stores.

"That's where I got a lot of media attention and really got the word out about Wait Wear," Thomas said. "It's been very well received, not just with the youth, but with parents as well."

The launches for the new clothing lines come at a critical period for the abstinence movement. Congress ordered a study to evaluate the effectiveness of abstinence education programs in schools. The results from the study, conducted by Mathematica Policy Research Inc., showed students who participated in abstinence education programs were just as likely to have sex at about 15 years old as those who did not receive abstinence education.

Unruh said the study is flawed, and abstinence advocates know that the programs do work.

"I was a student who received all that kind of education myself, and it failed. Sex education failed," Unruh said. "Where is the analysis in the rigorous studies for those programs? It's highly suspect."

Not everyone is receptive to the T-shirts. Marti Mirandola-Mullen, a junior at the University of Notre Dame—where the student code prohibits any kind of sex outside of marriage—said the T-shirts may be offensive to those who haven't abstained.

"I think [abstinence] is a personal choice, and flaunting that choice is just as bad as flaunting the choice to have sex,"

Mirandola-Mullen said. "It sounds like a good idea, but it might be a little too in-your-face."

Though Mirandola-Mullen is abstinent and said abstinence education is important, she said it's also important to show the other side of the issue.

"I think the people who are for [Wait Wear] are going to love it and wear it, but is that really the point of the line?" Mirandola-Mullen said. "If you really want

people to stop and think about having sex, I don't think you should say 'This is what you should do, definitely.'"

As far as the message of the clothing being too in-your-face, Unruh said abstinence is all about discussing the issue at hand.

"Abstinence is about talking about sex," Unruh said. "We're not pervs. We think sex is great ... in marriage."

Despite criticisms of her cloth-

ing line, Thomas said the clothes will serve as a tool to help teens committed to remaining abstinent.

"For some it can be humor ... but I don't see anything wrong with something being funny," Thomas said. "For those who are committed, it really does drive the point home."

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Graphic by Joshua Covarrubias

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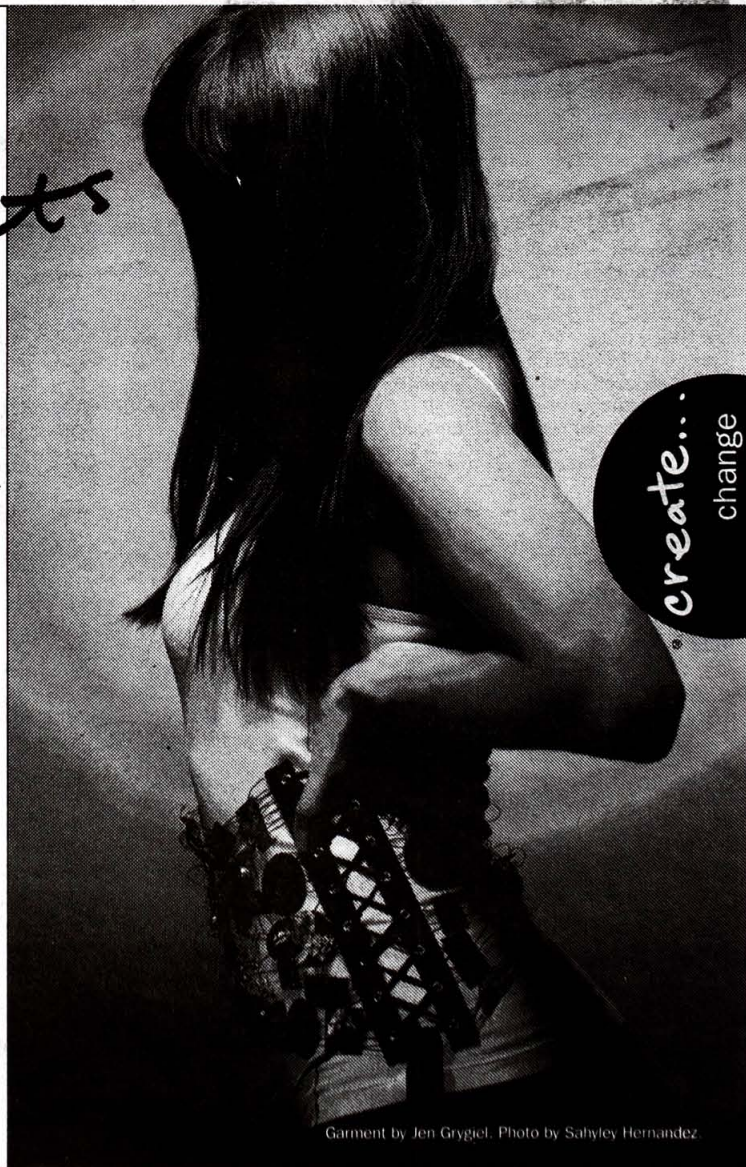
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Chicago's fashion frontier

The Windy City is looking to move forward in the fashion industry

By Catherine Rigod/Assistant A&E Editor

Chicago Fashion Week took the stage last week at the Hard Rock Hotel, 230 N. Michigan Ave., to showcase the fall's new looks and rising stars in the design world.

Wayne Redderick, manager for James de Cologne Designs and member of Mayor Daley's Fashion Focus Campaign said Chicago is still a small scene compared to other markets such as New York and Los Angeles. But it is growing and changing, trying to forge a new identity for all, from students to stockbrokers, he said.

"This is the first time Chicago is taking a leap forward," Redderick said.

Benefitting from the city's growing fashion scene is Yana German, 29, a ready-to-wear designer based in Chicago who recently showed her collection, Yana, for the first time at Chicago Fashion Week. She felt it was a great success for her line.

German, a Chicagoan originally from Belarus, began her career as a ballroom dance instructor and incorporated elements of dance wear. She merged both stretchy and comfortable materials into her designs. The Yana collection features slightly more detailed, tailored looks, with a focus on work-to-evening wear.

"I don't design gowns, but a woman needs something to be

able to wear to an important function that is comfortable," German said.

German managed to incorporate some upcoming trends, such as earth tones with deep chocolate browns, sailor inspired pants and flowing bell-sleeve tops into her designs.

German referred to her new collection as an East meets West concept, by blending aspects of East Asian culture, such as an Indian sari, with traditional Western pantsuits and tailoring.

Though many of the designers were showing their collections this week, Julia Cassandra, media coordinator and organizer of Chicago Fashion Week, said the staff for the event felt that it was only necessary to allow press access for one evening to view the collections, as opposed to the entire week.

According to Chicago Fashion Week event organizers, Chicago is too small of a market to be able to financially afford to host large catered fashion shows for the media's benefit for more than one evening.

This concept contradicts most fashion events, as some feel that the industry and media coverage go hand-in-hand.

"We need the press," Redderick said. He explained that without the media, the lack of buzz creat-

ed about new designers and lines would inhibit shoppers from looking to try something new.

"We are too small of a market to not want the attention. To stop people from seeing the shows is to not want your industry to grow," Redderick said.

While some presentations received praise, according to Wayne Redderick, manager for James de Cologne Designs, others made on-lookers cringe. The lack of excitement was evident to those who were seated, watching what seemed to be the death of haute couture.

According to Redderick, trying to cater to a large population is a struggle.

A few additional lines that were shown were Bel Form Designs, a plus-size womenswear line; Ella Brown Couture, an upscale couturier whose designs are created uniquely for each client; and Trends for Men, a contemporary menswear label.

German also shared her thoughts on Chicago's fashion industry status as a whole. She said the industry is still so new here and Chicago does not have a niche focus regarding clothing style. But she said she tries to design for women of all ages.

crigod@chroniclemail.com



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

A model wearing Ella Brown Couture poses at the end of the catwalk during the opening night shows for Chicago Fashion Week.



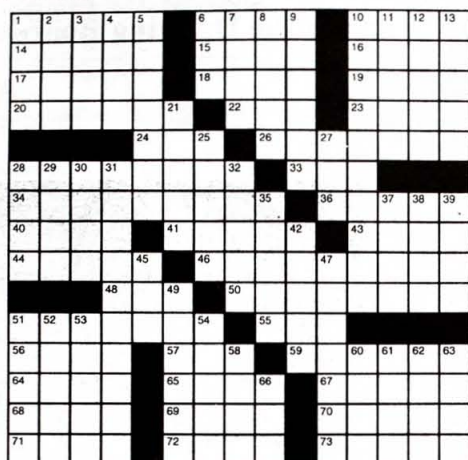
All Photos by Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Models from Chicago Fashion Week displayed outfits from designers such as Ella Brown Couture, Yana and Trends for Men. Some fall favorites were earthtones mixed with metallic accents with vibrant colors and high cinched waists. While skinny trousers are still all the rage, wide-leg pants are the new must-haves for the fall.

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Reporter's coup
 - Practice punching
 - Gather in
 - Japanese car maker
 - Top-drawer
 - Mayberry kid
 - Thespian
 - Bonkers
 - Stack TV role
 - Cheering shout
 - Yucatan uncle
 - Bombard
 - "Nova" network
 - Folds
 - Operators, of a sort
 - Aviv-Jaffa, Israel
 - Renter's place
 - Scales of the Zodiac
 - Clean coal
 - Boyfriends
 - Hideaway
 - Struck with a bent leg
 - Observance of ceremonies
 - Unpromising replies
 - Paper records
 - Adjusts gauges beforehand
 - Cool!
 - Bread quantity
 - Comic Romano
 - Hurries
 - Shrek, for one
 - Time periods
 - Domestic task
 - Kind of log
 - Bando and Mineo
 - Invigorating medicine
 - Notices
 - Mets stadium
 - Tuckered out

- DOWN
- Persian ruler
 - Chanel of fashion
 - Aware of
 - Smell
 - Fortress wall



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4/30/07

6 Clemente, CA

7 Look sullen

8 Bit of tomfoolery

9 La Costa or Tahoe

10 "Welcome Back

Kotter" co-star

11 Fencing tools

12 Wedding path

13 Bothersome ones

21 SALT subject

25 Scornful look

27 Slippery fish

28 Baseball base

29 Stratford—

Avon

30 Garden tool

31 Golf charges

32 Sluggish one

35 Private instructor

37 "Joanie Loves

Chachi" star

38 Chance taken

39 Weaponry

42 Sweetener

45 Unknown John

47 Kidnaps

Solutions



- 49 Emphasis
51 Stratagems
52 Scamp
53 "Guitar Town" singer Steve
54 Songstress McLachlan
58 Harvard rival
60 Boutique, e.g.
61 Make a point
62 Emerald Isle
63 Offshoot group
66 987-65-4321 grp.

TO THE NINES



We found our fashionista, **Rosaura Camacho**, 21, at Chicago Fashion Week on April 21 at The Hard Rock Hotel. The aspiring fashion student and Lombard, Ill. native caught our attention with her shimmering gold sequined mini-dress and metallic heels. Just like at a red carpet event, we asked Camacho which designers she was wearing for her night out on the town.

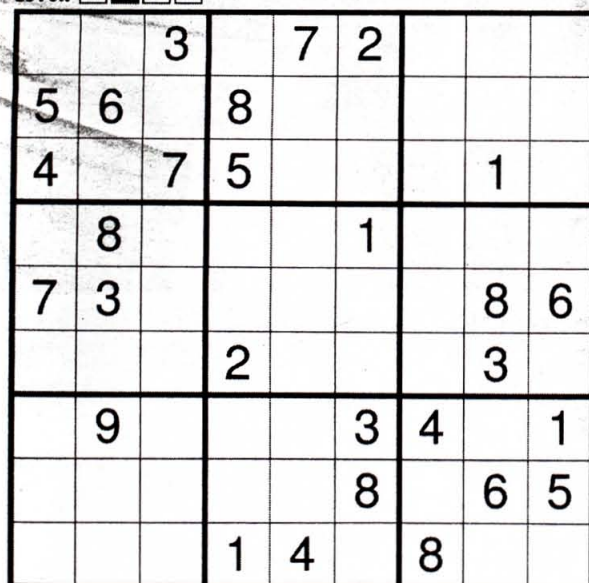
"I like Roberto Cavalli, but I can barely afford [his] shoes," Camacho said, pointing to the gold accent on her favorite pair of cream-colored pumps.

Her dress was by Arden B, though Camacho said on an average day she's more laid back. For her everyday wear she generally picks Steve Madden for footwear and Abercrombie or Puma for streetwear. And for those rainy days, Camacho turns to an old tried-and-true: Payless. "I don't care if my Payless shoes get ruined; they were cheap," Camacho said.

Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

Sudoku By Michael Mepham

Level: 1 2 3 4



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

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.

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★ Horoscopes ★



Aquarius (Jan. 21—Feb. 19): Being crushed to death by hundreds of comic books is not necessarily undignified. What does not help your case is that they were tattered *She-Hulk* and *Silver Surfer* comics.



Leo (July 24—Aug. 23): Don't get down on yourself right now because 47 potential employers turned you down. You have the rest of your life to lament over it.



Pisces (Feb. 20—March 20): You will not continue the legend of kung-fu—you suck.



Virgo (Aug. 24—Sept. 23): A plumber's butt is God's way of telling you he's always watching.



Aries (March 21—April 20): You know that gnawing pain in the back of your head? That's just a brown recluse spider setting the stage for your necrosis.



Libra (Sept. 24—Oct. 23): The stars hate to be the bearer of bad news, but your "super-fantastic sticky color paper" invention is not new. It's called Post-its.



Taurus (April 21—May 21): A confrontation this week at the local Taco Bell between you and an overweight man dressed as Captain America will go fatally wrong and prove how deadly a spork can really be.



Scorpio (Oct. 24—Nov. 22): The exciting life of a boy detective goes horribly awry while investigating the case of the missing child predator. Watch out for those white vans.



Gemini (May 22—June 21): No matter how many conferences you hold or manifestos you write, mayonnaise fetishism is just disgusting.



Sagittarius (Nov. 23—Dec. 21): The stars would like to say "kudos" to you for being able to mix a vodka tonic amidst the screaming and inevitable plane crash.



Cancer (June 22—July 23): The world of stud farming is a harsh mistress. It will lead to much heartache when you discover it's not as sexy as it sounds.



Capricorn (Dec. 22—Jan. 20): Stay away from that booze-bag Sagittarius this week.

by Random Chronicle Staff Members

Editorials

Free speech despite the message

The verbal sparring match between liberals and the Columbia College Conservatives in the past few weeks about racism, bigotry and attacks on free speech turned out to be what one can expect on college campuses anywhere—more bouts of clichéd political correctness.

The Conservatives, the only group that allegedly whistles to a different tune on campus, decided to cancel its controversial Conservative Coming Out Week, which featured satirical “games” such as “Catch an Illegal Immigrant” and “Affirmative Action Bake Sale.”

Well, apparently liberals and Columbia’s minority students didn’t think those were very funny “games.” Not to anyone’s surprise, students screamed “outrage” long before the event was to happen.

The thing about satire is that if you have to explain it, it’s not usually a good satire to begin with.

But the Conservatives, who have always been vocal about their victimization on campus, sure behaved like the victims.

What did the Conservatives expect? No matter how off-beat and allegedly “clever” their originally planned stunt was, it was bound to offend someone. Ironically

a group calling themselves a minority on campus were what seemed to many trying to attack other minorities with their “Affirmative Action Bake Sale,” and “Catch an illegal immigrant,” games.

The Conservatives’ Coming Out Week was canceled because of security issues and because the group chose not to fill out the appropriate paperwork with the Student Organization Council, which finances campus organizations.

If the Conservatives wanted to ruffle some feathers and believed in their ability to express their opinion, they should have filled out that paperwork.

However, Blake Hausman, president of the Columbia Conservatives said the administration and some students picked on him because of his views. Therefore, he chose to cancel the event due to the treatment he’s received, both online with Facebook and in person with the school’s administrators.

“These things happen nationally all the time,” Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, told the Chronicle last week about bouts over political correctness. “It’s absolutely within their rights to express their beliefs publicly.”

Hausman and the

Conservatives, in their official 29 page response to the controversy, “The Real State of Diversity at Columbia College Chicago,” available at battleorg.com, explained that this discrimination has been a common occurrence in his experience at Columbia.

But even through the brouhaha that grew out of this, with students posting abusive letters on Facebook prior to the scheduled event and some saying Hausman did not belong here at Columbia, the Conservatives could have continued the event. They would have proved that they were not racists. They even said they weren’t in their manifesto.

The last time we checked, the whole point of college was to view all kinds of opinions.

If the Conservatives were aiming to raise a few eyebrows—and from the looks of things they sure did—they should have heeded the warnings and usual attacks and proceeded as planned with their satire. Not because it would be insulting, but because the Conservatives would have had the chance to show that Columbia is a free speech campus where even unpopular thought is not frowned upon—despite the negative attention they would surly receive.

Rated R smoke?

The Marlboro Man is dead, Joe Camel is in chemo and lung cancer is winning. OK, we get it. Smoking is bad and we must protect our children from this allegedly vile and horrendous habit.

But the anti-smoking lobby has really outdone itself with its campaign to pressure movie studios into getting rid of smoking in movies in order to protect young children. They want to make all movies featuring smoking rated R.

Now the anti-smoking lobby has a new ally. Harvard jumped on this issue and the odds are stacking up against smoking in movies. Harvard’s School of Public Health recently joined other anti-smoking organizations and pressured Hollywood movie studios to give all movies featuring smoking an R rating, according to a recent report, because there is too much smoking in PG-13 movies.

Cruella DeVil will have an angry fit when she hears about this one. Not to mention that she needs to “catch those puppies!” And speaking of angry

fits, the three out of the four *Ghostbusters* and Samuel L. Jackson in *Jurassic Park* will also get pissed, so hold on to your butts.

And those were rated G, PG and PG-13 respectively.

According to the Harvard report, 66 percent of the top 50 grossing movies from 2004 to 2005 depicted smoking, as did 68 percent of PG-13 movies over that same time as well.

PG-13 films averaged 14.2 depictions during that time, apparently the highest since 1994 to 1995, and R-rated movies averaged 20.4 depictions, according to Harvard statistics.

What we find fascinating is that someone actually sat down and counted how many times people enjoyed a cigarette in a movie.

Never mind that most people who smoke in movies are villains and are going to die anyway. Usually not from cancer, but from a bullet or a car accident. However, it’s just silly to think about what is going on in this country when movies like *Big* and *Ghostbusters* are under attack

because they feature smoking.

What about film noir? Are kids going to have to sign waivers to watch those movies in classrooms?

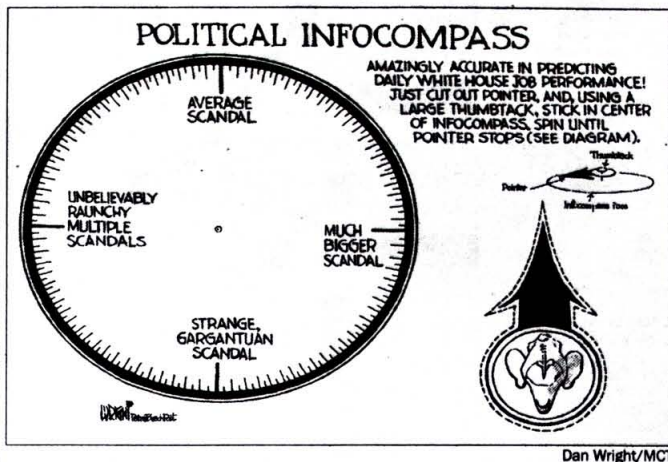
Apparently everything has to be an anti-smoking public service announcement. Screw artistic expression, artistic vision, accuracy and just plain acceptance that some smoke and some don’t. If this lunacy continues, it’s likely there will be smoking and non-smoking editions of movies.

And then people will watch smoke-free movies while eating theater popcorn, which, as we know, is the staple of a healthy diet.

Now all the characters in PG-13 movies will be stressed out because they can’t smoke on-screen, which in turn will make them smoke more off-screen, maybe in a booth somewhere, away from their children, while a raving maniac with a chainsaw will bust out of a closet, say the f-word and chop your head off—but of course it’s just a movie.

So, until anything happens with this issue, smoke em if you got em.

Back from the Drawing Boards



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



Gender neutral bathrooms

The article about Gender Fusions, “Feeling the fusion,” April 23, inaccurately stated that Q-Force was attempting to make all bathrooms at Columbia unisex. Our intention is, in fact, to make gender-neutral bathrooms accessible at Columbia for students who do not feel comfortable in a male or female bathroom.

We would like to see current single occupancy bathrooms (such as the ones on the 10th and 14th floors of 624 S. Michigan) gender neutral, as well as seeing single-occupancy bathrooms incorporated in all future building plans. At a venue such as the HotHouse, it is not possible to create a single occupancy situation, so we elected to make both bathrooms neutral. It would have been inappropriate for us to host an event focusing on the fluidity of gender, and expect all in attendance to fit easily into a binary bathroom system. However, at Columbia, it is possible to make available gender-neutral bathrooms without making anyone feel “uncomfortable.” There are students at Columbia who would not feel at ease going into a gendered bathroom, and a long day at school holding it can get pretty uncomfortable. Our intentions are to make everyone at Columbia comfortable, not just those who firmly identify with a binary pee system.

The Chronicle’s insensitivity to this subject can be witnessed not just in the misinformation about our petition, but also in the fact that Mr. Slefo misidentified Leslie Feinberg as a “lesbian drag king” and used female pronouns. Ze identifies as genderqueer, a person who “has changed their gender once and reserves the right to do it again.” Hopefully, by bringing the “bathroom” issue up at Columbia, we can also start a dialogue about gender and how to show respect to our classmates who are “beyond the binary.”

Kristen Gleaves,
junior, Co-President of Q-Force

The value of our differences

In recent days, following the tragic events at Virginia Tech, a number of incidents have been reported across the country where individuals of Asian descent have been harassed because of their ethnicity. Earlier this week, conservative students here at Columbia reported feeling threatened because of their political beliefs. Other students on our campus have been offended by political satire that, they say, constitutes ethnic bigotry.

All this calls into question what it means to be part of a college community. I want to share with you my philosophy about community and reiterate the college’s position about respecting the rights of others.

In this college community, it is especially important that we all recognize the value of our differences. Civility and mutual respect characterize who we are and who we want to be. Because we are a community of creative learners here, we seek to maintain work and academic environments that are free from discrimination and harassment. As a college that celebrates creative expression, we encourage the broadest articulation of individual views, provided that these views do not threaten, intimidate or humiliate others in our community.

Only in this kind of environment can learning occur and creative enterprise flourish.

As part of next year’s Critical Encounters program, which focuses on Poverty and Privilege, I plan to host forums to discuss—as a community—the different values that define us and shape our responses to these kinds of important social issues. These discussions will give us opportunities to deepen our sense of community and sharpen the kind of civility that permits us to treat others with respect, dignity, and individual worth.

Warrick L. Carter,
Columbia President

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

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Bad president? Try poor politician



By Brent White
Associate Editor

Roughly two in three Americans agree: George W. Bush is a bad president.

An April 13 USA Today poll showed 60 percent of Americans disapprove of his job performance. No shocker. His public approval ratings have barely dipped into the 40s since the beginning of '06. Some media outlets, like CBS, have polled his approval in the mid-to-lower 20s.

There are a number of things to consider when attempting to determine why Bush possesses a poor image in the collective American eye. Though the growing civil war in Iraq is an obvious place to start, arguing it's why most Americans dislike the president is passe. Of course, the large amount of anti-Bush sentiment that seeps into our psyche from media certainly contributes. Or perhaps it's his position on poverty, our fledgling Medicare and Social Security systems, the environment and tax cuts for the wealthy that are to blame.

But no single reason makes the majority of us dislike our president—it's a collection of things.

Yet one area that's frequently overlooked, and particularly relevant today, is his inability to release the bad fish in his administration. A few days after Attorney General Alberto Gonzales was drilled by the Senate Judiciary Committee about the firing of eight U. S. prosecutors, Bush issued a statement saying his confidence in Gonzales had risen. His response came just days after the attorney general admitted he'd made mistakes in firing the attorneys—"mistakes" that were probably

politically motivated.

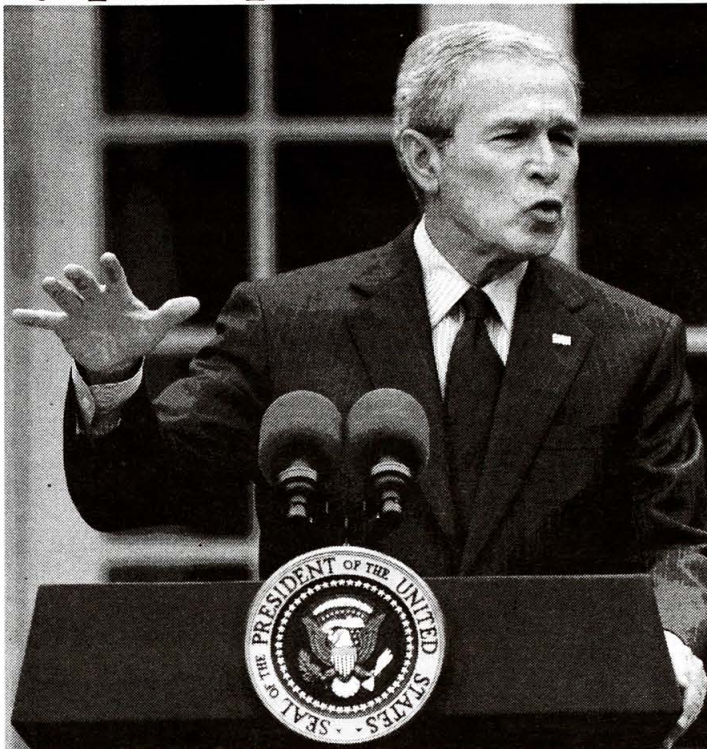
Although Gonzales appeared not to do anything illegal, Bush, despite the heat, is sticking by his longtime friend. But he's also losing political points in the process. Lawmakers from both parties, including Sen. Arlen Specter of Penn., the ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, are growing tired of Bush ignoring calls to either quietly ask Gonzales to step down or flat out fire him.

Politically, Bush is a fascinating person. When criticism of his administration crosses partisan boundaries, he seems to handle the pressure with a shrewd self-assurance that's truly difficult to comprehend. The more heat his people take, the more he feels compelled to defend them. We all desire friends of a similar caliber, but is his stubbornness good for what's left of his political career? Because it's not good for the country.

Not firing Gonzales has only created more distrust toward the president and his administration and has created more instability and tension between him and Congress. Don't count on Bush's approval rating to increase.

Of course, this isn't the first time a stubborn Bush has disregarded similar criticism of his administration. In the weeks and months following the Abu Ghraib scandal, both high-ranking military and Congressional officials called on Bush to fire former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Like today, he refused, citing confidence in his pal "Rummy" when many cited incompetence.

In many ways, Bush's approach to dealing with shortcomings in his administration matches his track record in foreign policy. The United Nations denounced his Iraq ambitions and that led to nothing, and his party's position on Gonzales presently



President Bush has a long history of taking little action when criticism of his administration occurs.

means nothing either.

Still, while listening to his constituents and firing Gonzales might make him a better politician by pleasing some lawmakers, it probably won't make him a better president in the collective American eye.

Tired of the behavior of this administration, Americans have become too smart for that.

bwhite@chroniclemail.com

Roamin' Numerals

72

Age of a man who was kicked in the groin and hit with a shovel by Vallissa Lorraine Small after the man refused to give her money for beer according to The Associated Press. Police later found Small and charged her with aggravated battery.

50

The age of a University of Washington time capsule that contained copies of Playboy and Hustler magazines from the '70s. "I just think this is a great college prank," department chair Gerald Baldasty said on April 25 according to The Seattle Times.

2

The number of unidentified flying objects that were spotted by Captain Ray Bowyer as he was flying his plane over Guernsey, England, according to the BBC. The bright yellow flat disc shapes were said to be twice the size of a Boeing 737 and were spotted by the pilot on April 23. The objects were also observed by other aircraft and passengers on the plane. Cue The X-Files music.

Let me do my job



By Catherine Rigod
Assistant A&E Editor

My career is being threatened and I want my job back. I'm a journalist, and these days, apparently anyone else can be too. Thanks to the Internet and the bright new world of citizen journalism, the ability to write, report and get the news out to the public in a structured and precise manner now seems like less of a learned and honed skill and more of a matter of luck. By the people, for the people, Citizen journalism, or user-generated media, is broken down as participative journalism, the act of collecting and disseminating information by the public themselves. Under this label fall bloggers, vloggers or video bloggers, weblogs, wikis, freelancers, chat room users, message boards and mobile reporting images and videos with camera phones.

That exhaustive list starts to make me question the thousands of dollars and hours I've spent on journalism school—I

hope it was worth it. If independent media has its way, apparently I could've skipped class and just slept in.

We've opened a window that was previously only reserved for those few who actually got a publisher or a journalism degree, those that took the time.

I remember as a child thinking Mark Twain was the greatest humorist and author I had ever come across, and I was going to strive to be that great. I was going to learn and study and master a craft. Twain was the first author to write a novel via the typewriter. What would he think of the instant gratification of the computer today? I think he would have lost his cool and then rolled over in his grave. Everyone is an author now. Paris Hilton wrote about her dog, and if O.J. Simpson's book would have had the chance, he now would be experiencing a new life in the literary spotlight. Our public is quickly laying down greenbacks at the bookstore to gain insight into their worlds, and the money is flowing just as fast on the Internet as well. Perez Hilton, no relation to Paris, started out writing a snarky page criticizing the celebrity machine and is

now one of the world's most handsomely paid celebrity gossip columnists.

I never imagined that the terms "blogging" or "citizen journalism" would enter our vocabulary, or that the media would turn into a branch of entertainment rather than a source for information. We are all so voyeuristic, thanks to reality TV and user-generated content, such as YouTube. We can watch ourselves every day of the week. So it makes sense that we would also want to watch and read what the "everyday Joe" says about the news.

Yahoo.com has hired a full-time vlogger to boil down the day's events every day. And Rocketboom.com, an online, stripped-down newscast, had so much success that former anchor Amanda Congdon has moved on to ABC, and Rocketboom picked up a vlogger to speak to the masses.

If today's media outlets don't figure out what to do with their current staff of writers and keep hiring amateur reporters, I don't even want to see the growing lines at the unemployment office.

I admit that I partake in it all with an occasional blog written and read. I use cit-

izen journalism as a testing ground before I pitch something to a print publication. I have even podcasted. I'd be a hypocrite to say that I don't love the concept of online writing. It's where my career began, and it seems that my entire real-world education is engulfed in the world of the Internet.

However, the fundamentals, such as the "inverted-pyramid," a hard-news article structure, the ability to recognize what news is or to know its audience are still important values of journalism and need to be learned. As with everything, we shouldn't shortchange the process.

There is an element of pride in clarifying that someone is an expert or professional in a field. Now my ego is getting in the way, and every word does have its place with the right readers. But if the stay-at-home mom with no previous writing experience is now the writer, I'll be watching the kids from now on—because I'm going to need a new job.

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New hope for Type 1 diabetics

Controversial study shows progress without insulin

By Jeremy Manier

A new diabetes treatment developed at Northwestern University has allowed some patients to stop taking insulin for more than two years, but it also has spurred ethical objections from researchers who say the trial put Brazilian children at unnecessary risk.

Thirteen of the 15 patients in a stem-cell study went off insulin for at least six months, prompting cautious excitement from some researchers who have seen the results that were published April 25 in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. All of the patients had the less common form of diabetes called early-onset, or Type 1 diabetes, which normally requires close blood-glucose monitoring and long-term use of insulin injections.

The new approach, designed by Dr. Richard Burt of Northwestern, enlists a patient's own adult stem cells in an effort to halt the immune system's destruction of insulin-producing "beta" cells in the pancreas—the root cause of Type 1 diabetes.

Burt drafted the protocol and doctors at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil carried it out. The patients, some as young as 14, got intense drug treatment that wiped out their immune systems. They then received injections of their



MCT

This device that 6-year-old Grace Chisholm keeps strapped to her waist pumps lifesaving insulin into her body. Without it, she would have to inject herself 10 times a day to treat her diabetes.

own blood stem cells in hopes of renewing the immune system without the flaw that makes it target beta cells.

"Their results look better than anything I've seen so far," said Dr. Gordon C. Weir, a diabetes researcher and head of a transplantation program at Harvard Medical School's Joslin Diabetes Center.

Though small in scale, the study is significant as the first attempt to treat diabetes using a "cell-based"

therapy, researchers said. Such treatments may become more common as scientists look beyond insulin and try approaches using adult stem cells or embryonic stem cells, which could directly replace the tissue damaged in diabetes. Type 1 diabetes accounts for between 5 and 10 percent of the 21 million diabetes cases in the United States; the rest suffer from Type 2 diabetes, which is linked with obesity.

"These are promising results

that suggest we should go further," said Burt, a specialist in immune suppression therapy.

Yet some experts doubted the protocol could have been approved in this country. Weir, like several other scientists reached for this story, said the risks of Burt's technique are high enough that he probably would not have approved the experiment if he had been responsible for reviewing it.

"It would have scared me," Weir said.

The problem is that although early-onset diabetes can have dire long-term effects such as blindness and heart disease, many patients succeed in managing their condition with insulin and lead normal lives for decades. That makes it harder to justify the risks of stem cell transplantation, which Burt has used before on diseases with few other treatment options, such as lupus or multiple sclerosis.

At worst, the immune suppression used in stem cell transplants can cause infections and even death. None of the patients in the Brazilian study died, though one had severe pneumonia that required supplementary oxygen. Burt, a specialist in immune suppression therapy, said a couple of his 170 non-diabetes patients have died from the procedure, though he believes they were far sicker and less able to handle the technique than the young diabetes subjects in the new study.

Several experts said the risks could have made it difficult to get

the study past an American institutional review board—the groups responsible for ensuring that research is safe and ethical.

"This is an incredibly invasive therapy to be tried on children without knowing if anyone will benefit from it," said Dr. Lainie Ross, associate director of the University of Chicago's MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics.

Ross said she would not have authorized such a study unless it enrolled only adults. She said research ethics guidelines state that risky experimental therapies should not be used on children unless it's impossible to test them on adult subjects—and in this case, adult diabetes patients were available.

In fact, Burt said his original protocol included a cut-off age of 18, but the Brazilian Institutional Review Board changed it to allow younger children in the study. Ages of subjects ranged from 14 to 31, with eight participants under the age of 18.

Burt said the study was done in Brazil not to avoid the need for an American review board but because he couldn't find an American diabetes expert interested in pursuing his idea. He said Northwestern IRB officials told him his collaboration with the Brazilian team was fine so long as he was not directly involved in patient care. Northwestern officials declined to comment.

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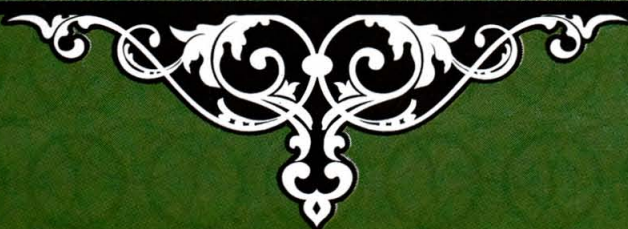
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Baseball: Sports beat writing not without its share of difficulties

Continued from Back Page

Miles took the microphone to face questions from the students.

"If you're looking for a job where it's 9-to-5 and you have your weekends and nights free, this isn't it," Miles said about sports writing. "But on the other hand, if you're looking for a job where you have an awful lot of fun, [and] you work real hard building up relationships that can last a lifetime, this is the place to be. Because that's what we do here."

The job, however, is not without its difficulties. Because sports writers sometimes follow the team and work in such close quarters with the players, maintaining relationships that are both personal and professional is troublesome. When writing stories about the team and players nearly every day, and in the Cubs' case, usually critical ones, the reporters must draw a fine line between what is and isn't fit to print. If a player finds a story by a particular writer too critical or fault-finding, the reporter is at risk of losing a vital source. Not being able to speak with a particular player can be debilitating and job threatening for a team's beat writer.

"I think anything on the field is

fair game to talk about, and we write about it without any hesitation at all," Miles said. "And what players have said to me over the years is, 'If I played bad, say that I played bad, just don't get personal about it.'"

Following the brief question-and-answer session in the Cubs' tiny interview room, the group of journalistic greenhorns was led to the field for batting practice. It is in these small, dimly-lit hallways with low ceilings, unlevel walkways and chipping concrete where the nearly hundred-year-old stadium shows its age.

While most ballparks and professional sports facilities in general would equip the players' quarters with the finest accommodations, Wrigley must make do with what it already has. Behind the dugout, just out of view from the fans and cameras, is an old, dingy sink and urinal for those times during the game when "it" just can't wait. Fans never see things like the dirty urinal and poor facilities on TV; since they don't always pertain to the game on the field, reporters don't ever write about them.

Stepping out onto the field and standing amongst the players brought me a bizarre new perspective to pre-game rituals. As a fan and even a former employee, I would watch batting practice and see it as habitual and unvaried, which to some extent it is. But watching batting practice as a reporter while standing on the infield grass just before dusk as the lights were being turned on, the seemingly uninteresting set of pre-game motions players go through appeared acutely ritualistic.

There was the game's starting



James H. Ewert Jr./ The Chronicle

Students and reporters stand on the side of the field during the Chicago Cubs batting practice before a game on April 24. The Cubs lost to the Milwaukee Brewers 4-1.

pitcher, Rich Hill, who the students were strictly instructed not to approach, as it is a superstition in baseball not to speak to the game's starting pitcher. Then there were the fashionably-clad TV reporters who looked almost super-imposed with their finely tailored attire and delicately applied make up sitting in the dusty dugout.

The handful of journalists milled about with tattered notebooks sticking out from back pockets, casually gabbing and joking with the players as they would to any friend. Here, the "symbiotic relationship" Miles spoke of earlier became even more apparent. It was hard not to wonder what secrets these journalists knew that the rest of the public didn't.

When we were led up to the

press box after batting practice, the overall atmosphere of the night drastically changed. Instead of the old and dilapidated player facilities below the stands, the press facilities above the field were impeccably clean and filled with almost every amenity a writer needs, except beer—that amenity was removed a few years ago.

"There is no cheering in the press box," is what we were told before heading up. And with the crowd noise muffled, the only sounds were quiet cell phone conversations and reporters daintily nibbling and slurping their (chicken limon and asparagus soup), the dinner a personal chef prepared that day in the press box cafeteria.

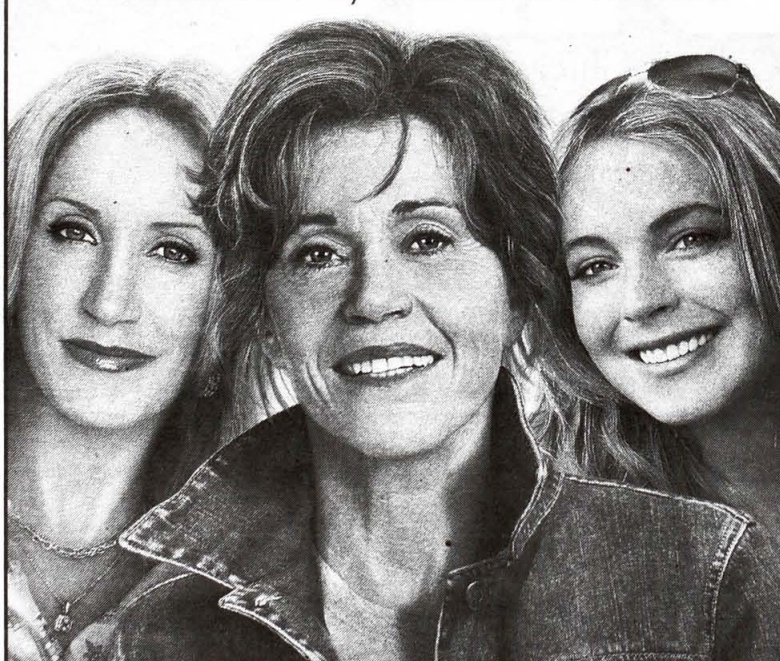
Initially it was strange, almost intimidating at times hearing

ESPN radio reporter 'Bruce Levine recording his periodic updates and the constant drone of typing. Schmoozing with the very people whose stories you read every day can make a journalism student timid, but on this night it didn't, because it was business. We weren't there to stare wide-eyed at all the people whose shoes we hope to one day fill, we were there to report—just like beat writers do.

It may have been the stagnant buzz that hovered over our heads all night, all the fantastically star-struck notions about famous players and quasi-famous writers fading away. After all, we had a job to do.

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THE FISCHETTI STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Royko: Columnist remembered at his second home

Continued from Back Page

"Welcome to the words of Mike Royko," said the master of ceremonies, Chicago Tribune writer Rick Kogan.

Kogan, along with a gathering of Royko's friends, family and other journalists, including the Chicago Sun-Times' Carol Marin, Tribune's John Kass, and author Studs Terkel, read his work and remembered the man that to this day means so much to so many in Chicago.

"I think there's a great irony that Mike was always called, and kind of liked being called, Mr. Big, because it's the little people who heard him most clearly—you so-called 'ordinary people,'" Kogan said. "I look around this crowd and many of you are wrinkled now, I see a cane here and there, but you were Mike's Chicago, the spirit of Chicago that Mike so celebrated."

Royko grew up living above a tavern, didn't go to college and truly had blue collar roots. It was likely that's why people identified with him, Kogan said in a telephone interview.

"The legend of Mike Royko is kind of weird because Mike was not a very public person," Kogan said. "He didn't go on TV a lot. He didn't 'do the town,' so to speak. If there is a legend of Royko, it's basically because of what he wrote rather than what he did."

His friends said he could be mean and he could be caustic,

but in the end it was all a part of being human.

He wrote five days a week and it was his daily wit that filled his 800-word columns that had people flocking to read his stuff. In some ways, Royko's fame can be attributed to former Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, whose biography, *Boss*, Royko penned.

"Mike never was Don Imus, for Christ's sake," Kogan said. "Did he have opinions and take stands on things that many disagreed with? Absolutely, but that's what a f—ing columnist is supposed to do."

In his columns, it was old man Daley's Chicago that made him laugh, made him tough, made him cry and made him get angry and outraged with Chicago politics. This was his kind of town and it all showed on the page.

"My father used satire often to make his point. And within that satire there were many clear messages defining our society, our history and labeling the situations we've put ourselves in."

—Sam Royko, youngest son of the late Mike Royko

Royko didn't like TV journalists, but he had a soft spot for Marin, Kogan said.

"From a very early age, we would fight [in our household] over who would get the Daily News, who would get Royko," Marin said.

Royko wrote columns for the old Chicago Daily News, the Chicago Sun-Times and of course, the Chicago Tribune, since he couldn't stand the notion of working for Rupert Murdoch.

Legendary Chicago author

Studs Terkel remembered the day when Royko quit the Sun-Times.

"He wrote a line: 'I resign. No self-respecting fish would be wrapped in a Murdoch paper,'" Terkel said, recalling the day Royko quit. "What is the key to that sentence? Self-respecting. That exact word. Mike worked hard to get that right word [every time]."

According to Terkel, Royko was under a spell when he wrote.

"A demon possesses him, a devil genius. Mike was a master of his trade. He never said 'writer,' he said 'trade,'" Terkel said.

Royko was no cactus; he liked to have a drink. When he drank, he drank hard, Kogan said. And even though he tried to quit drinking a couple of times, in the later years when he had kids it sort of balanced him out and he calmed down.

Most of the speakers at the event read columns that were inherently funny. When John Kass—the man who eventually took over Royko's column after he died—took the stage, a booze smell filled the audience, which may or may not have come from Kass. Kass then made a joke about having a 200 pound gorilla on his back every time he goes to work, a quip about the big shoes he has to fill on page two of the Tribune.

But the evening wasn't played for laughs most of the time. When one of Royko's sons, Sam, took the stage, he called out in defiance. He talked about how Royko was fearless and stood up to authority figures to question the unquestionable. Royko's messages were often as pertinent then as they are now. Sam Royko, a political science major at DePaul University, wanted to know what his dad would say now.

"My father used satire often to make his point," he said. "And



Cyrl Jakubowski/The Chronicle

A private party was held at the Billy Goat Tavern, 430 N. Michigan Ave., the second home for Chicago columnist Mike Royko, on April 25 to honor the legendary political columnist. Sam Sianis, the owner and dear friend of Mike Royko, is pictured below the Billy Goat Tavern sign.

within that satire there were many clear messages defining our society, our history and labeling the situations we've put ourselves in. I'm afraid to see these situations repeated and afraid to see these situations go unchallenged."

But the evening wasn't just about journalism. It was about trying to make Royko's heart beat one more time. When his wife, Judy, came on stage, she shared some instances with the crowd so those who didn't know Mike or didn't read his words could gain a better understanding of him.

She said even though the world viewed him as a compassionate, fun-loving guy with a successful newspaper career, there was obviously more depth behind those thick glasses. She

said that he was a prankster, a very caring man who hated to fly in an airplane, smoked three packs of cigarettes a day and above all was funny. Any situation could be an adventure with Mike, she said. He was up for any sort of outrageous behavior.

"It's true that Mike didn't always smile and have a 'How you doing?' to everyone he ran into," Judy Royko said. "But after all, this was the guy who wrote 'Show me somebody who is always smiling, always cheerful, always optimistic and I will show you somebody who hasn't the faintest idea of what the heck is really going on.'"

Additional reporting by James H. Ewert Jr.

cjakubowski@chroniclemail.com

Brush: Popular artists help disaster areas rebuild the arts

Continued from Back Page

to auction brushes for charity in what he calls "The Brush Project."

"I was thinking I'd love to have a brush of [Mark Ryden's]," Alphen said. "It's funny, now that I have one, I can't keep it. I have to put it in the auction. It wouldn't be fair if I kept it."

More than 30 well-known pop surrealists in North America, including Mark Ryden, are donating used paintbrushes for the cause, each autographed, splattered with paint and framed by Alphen. Chicago artists Mitch O'Connell, Travis Lampe and Jeremiah Ketner are participating, as well as Josh "Shag" Agle from Canada and many more.

Alphen wanted something simple that the artists could send without asking them to create something new.

"I'm just asking for their used brushes," Alphen said. "It's a piece of art in itself as in that's what created their artwork. And it's no time or skin off their backs. All they have to do is stick a brush in the mail and send it."

O'Connell, who has designed covers for Rolling Stone,



Andrew A. Nelles/The Chronicle

Pop surrealist art is displayed at the DvA Gallery, 2568 N. Lincoln Ave. Pop surrealism is usually inspired by underground pop symbols, such as tattoos, pin-up art, comic books, punk music and hot-rod culture.

Newsweek and Entertainment Weekly magazines, said he was happy to help out. O'Connell said he has contributed to charity before, but the charity groups usually asked for paintings.

"When people ask for a painting, it's no big deal," O'Connell said. "I have so many of my own pieces of artwork, I'm just happy to get rid of one. And if it can raise money for charity, all the better."

Lisa Petrucci, another contributing artist from Seattle, said she doesn't have time anymore to make art for specific charities

because her work sells out so quickly. Giving away brushes was much more convenient, she said.

"As an artist, you go through brushes pretty quickly," Petrucci said. "Generally, they either go to my kids or into the trash. It was nice to have this actually go and be useful someplace else."

Alphen said he would start the bidding at around \$15, the cost to frame the brushes. Additionally, following the art gallery auction is a seven-day eBay auction in which the remaining brushes can be bid on by anyone in the world.

Pop surrealism, also known as low brow, originates through the inspiration of comic books, cartoons, pin-up art and tattoos and is reflective of underground pop culture from the past. Petrucci said it's a celebration of pop icons that were mostly considered lower class and only for entertainment value.

"Most of the artists that I know that use these kinds of imagery and techniques in their art are fans of whatever it is, whether it is hot-rod culture or pin-up or monsters," Petrucci said.

Alphen said he likes it

because it's fun and kitschy.

"It's not potted flowers or anything like that," he said. "It's more fun illustrations and type-based artwork, and that's what I like about it."

Since Sept. 20, 2005, Americans for the Arts has donated more than \$110,000 to help arts organizations such as the Arts Council of New Orleans, the Mobile Arts Council and the Arts Alliance of Jackson and Hinds County.

Petrucci said most organizations that contribute to disaster relief only focus on housing and comfort concerns, which are important, but fail to help rebuild the artistic community.

"It's hard enough being a visual artist under the best of circumstances," Petrucci said. "When [a natural disaster] happens, so many things are affected that the arts fall through the cracks. It's kind of nice that somebody is thinking of those people."

The money in the emergency relief fund has since depleted, said Liz Bartolomeo of Americans for the Arts, and they have been unable to distribute funds to areas in need. They are still accepting donations, however, in the hope that eventually they'll be able to help the community in the future.

The Brush Project party and auction is open to the public. For more information on brushes and featured artists, visit thebrushproject.com.

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

Famous author dies at 73

David Halberstam killed in California car accident

By Lisa Leff

David Halberstam, the journalist whose acclaimed books included a towering study of the Vietnam War and a poignant portrait of aging baseball stars, died while heading to an interview for a new job.

The 73-year-old writer was killed in a car crash April 23 while working on a book about the legendary 1958 NFL championship game between the Baltimore Colts and the New York Giants. He was on the way to interview Hall of Fame quarterback Y.A. Tittle while researching "the greatest game ever played."

Halberstam was riding in a car that was broadsided by another vehicle in Menlo Park, about 25 miles south of San Francisco, authorities said. He was pronounced dead at the scene, and the cause appeared to be internal injuries, according to San Mateo County Coroner Robert Fournault.

"The world has lost one of our greatest journalists," said Arthur Sulzberger Jr., publisher of The New York Times, where Halberstam won a Pulitzer Prize in 1964 for his Vietnam coverage.

Halberstam's 1972 best-seller, *The Best and the Brightest*, a critical account of U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia and especially Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, established him as one

of the most committed journalists of his generation.

"He was the institutional memory of the Vietnam War. I think he understood it better than any other journalist," said former CNN correspondent Peter Arnett.

By contrast, Halberstam's 2003 book *The Teammates: A Portrait of a Friendship* told the story of Boston Red Sox great Ted Williams and his decades-long relationship with teammates Bobby Doerr, Johnny Pesky and Dom DiMaggio.

Pesky, 87, remembered Halberstam as "spellbinding. He was just an outstanding man."

At the time of the accident, Halberstam was being driven to an interview with Tittle, who played with the San Francisco 49ers against the Colts two weeks before Baltimore defeated the Giants, 23-17, to win the 1958 championship.

The drivers of the two cars were injured, but not seriously. Halberstam was being driven by a graduate journalism student from the University of California at Berkeley, where he had visited over the weekend.

Kevin Jones, 26, who was driving Halberstam, was devastated by the accident.

"It's like the ultimate failure, I had one easy thing to do—drive this man to his interview and I couldn't even do that," he told the San Jose Mercury News. "I'm still crying. I feel like my life's crumbling around me."

As word of Halberstam's death spread, tributes and remembrances

poured in for the veteran reporter whose deep baritone matched the heft of his nonfiction narratives.

"The thing about David Halberstam was that he stayed the course and he kept the faith in the belief in the people's right to know," said George Esper, who spent 10 years in Vietnam with The Associated Press.

Neil Sheehan, former Saigon bureau chief for United Press International, said he had lost his best friend, a man of enormous physical and mental energy who had "profound moral and physical courage."

"We were in Vietnam at a time when we were being denounced by those on high," Sheehan said. "There was tremendous pressure. David never buckled under it at all."

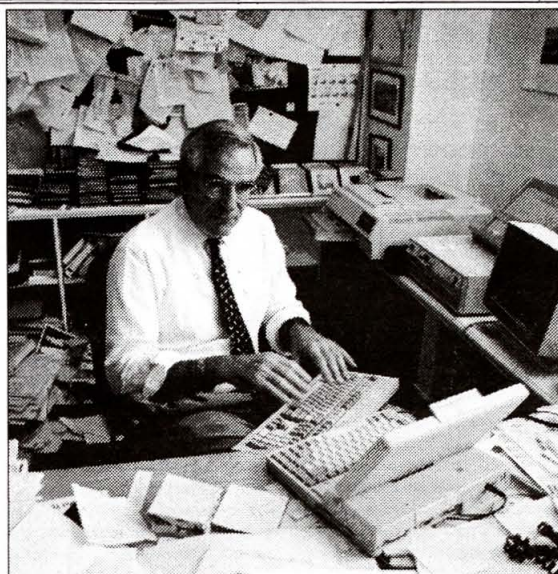
Author Gay Talese, who was at the Halberstams' home April 23, said he had known Halberstam since the early 1960s, was best man at his wedding and shared Thanksgiving dinner with him in Paris last year.

"He was a dear friend," Talese said.

Halberstam's wife, Jean Halberstam, said last Monday that she would remember him most for his "unending, bottomless generosity to young journalists."

"For someone who obviously was so competitive with himself, the generosity with other writers was incredible," she said. He is also survived by a daughter, Julia.

His brother, Washington cardiologist Dr. Michael Halberstam, was



AP

Author David Halberstam works at his office in New York City in this May 14, 1993 file photo. Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist Halberstam died in a car crash early on April 23. He was 73.

murdered in 1980 when he surprised a burglar upon returning to his District of Columbia home.

Born April 10, 1934 in New York City to a surgeon father and teacher mother, Halberstam attended Harvard University, where he was managing editor of the Harvard Crimson newspaper.

After graduating in 1955, he started his career at the Daily Times Leader in West Point, Miss.

He went on to The Tennessean, in Nashville, where he covered the civil rights struggle, and then The New York Times, which sent him to Vietnam. Halberstam quit daily journalism in 1967 and

turned to books.

"He was a mentor, a companion and a very dear friend," said Horst Faas, a retired AP photographer who met Halberstam in the Congo in 1960 and later shared a house with him in Saigon. "As a journalist he was very different from the rest of us. Not everybody went along with him, but he believed it was his duty to change things."

AP writers Kim Curtis, Ron Harris, Brian Melley, Sofia Mannos, Richard Pyle, Dino Hazell and Chris Talbott contributed to this report.

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Curbing violence with wireless devices

Cell phones donated to local shelters can help save lives

By Brittanney Meacham
Staff Writer

Cell phones may be a part of most people's everyday lives, but for some they can be seen as a life saving device.

The number of reported domestic violence incidents have jumped up 36 percent since last year, according to Joyce Coffee, executive director of Family Rescue. In hopes of curbing those numbers, the Chicago Police Department and Verizon Wireless have teamed up for the third year with the Hopeline Project, a program in which donated cell phones are refurbished and given to victims of domestic violence.

On April 23, white bins were placed in the main entrance of police branch offices so people could donate old cell phones, said Laura Coupe, program coordinator for the Chicago Police Department.

The donated cellphones will then be given out to different domestic violence shelters around Chicago in hopes that women will have a chance to call for help if needed, said Carolyn Schamberger, public relations manager for Verizon Wireless.

"We currently have 22 centers we send phones to in the

Chicago area which includes Schaumburg and Waukegan," Schamberger said.

According to Theresa DuBois, program coordinator for the Family Rescue center, abusers will sometimes stalk and kill victims when they leave the shelters, and a cell phone will give those victims a chance to get help.

"We wanted to make calling emergency personnel within reach to people who are in domestic abuse situations," said Sgt. Kathleen Argentino of the Chicago Police Department.

Coupe said the police department became more involved in reducing domestic violence in hopes of addressing complaints from shelter officials about victims not having a reliable phone.

The phones will be refurbished by Verizon Wireless, so they can be in any condition and from any previous wireless provider, DuBois said.

The service plan provided with each phone includes 3,000 minutes that can be used to call emergency personnel, places of employment and the victim's family.

The 3,000 minutes on each refurbished phone are not refillable once used up, DuBois said.

She added the phones have no insurance plan, so if they are broken or stolen a replacement may not be available.

Family Rescue needs an addi-



Mauricio Rubio/The Chronicle

White boxes were placed outside of Chicago Police departments for people to donate old cell phones for the Hopeline Project, a program that takes used or broken cell phones and refurbishes them to be given to victims of domestic violence.

tional 40 phones which DuBois said is the average number in demand for most Chicago shelters. Last year 1,000 phones were donated, but as the number of victims increases, the demand also increases for more phones.

The number of phones distributed to crisis centers depends on the number of phones collected and the client ratio of each cen-

ter, she said.

Despite the Chicago Police department advertising the cell phone donation event in each branch of the department, some Chicago residents, such as 24-year-old Tanya Osika, don't know about the project.

"I don't save my cell phones because I didn't know the city was accepting them. But it's an

excellent idea to keep in mind for when I do," Osika said.

Despite the project existing for three years, Coupe said people haven't caught on as well as she had hoped because the project does not have any source of revenue to pay for advertising costs.

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Scoop in the Loop: Steal-my-money-palooza



By Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor

I like music, but I don't often have time to go to concerts. So when Lollapalooza comes to Chicago, I usually take a few days off, check out a bunch of bands I like and listen to others I've never heard of before. This year, I don't think that's happening. Not because I can't take the time off, but because I don't want to spend an entire week's pay on a three-day pass.

Last year, I bought my tickets late; they were approximately \$165 each for a three-day pass. I had friends who bought tickets a couple months earlier for about \$120. This year, the early bird tickets are \$165. Of course, by now, all of those tickets have sold out, and the rest of the tickets will be sold for \$195. And if you watched the progression of ticket prices last year, you know they won't stay at \$195. They'll inch up, bit by bit, as more bands are announced and the

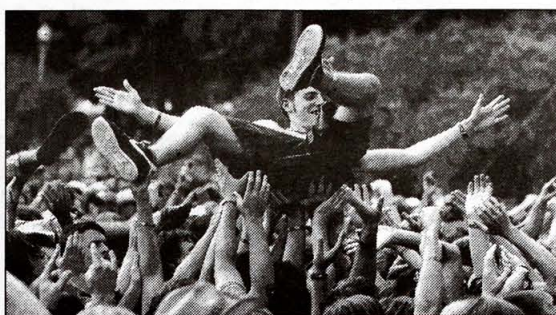
concert nears. I'm betting we'll see three-day passes for \$250 or more by mid-summer.

Part of the reason it's more expensive is because they're not tacking on additional service charges and shipping fees. It's all included in the ticket price, which is cool. At least people won't go on the website and try to buy them only to find out moments later that they're \$20 more. But that doesn't change the fact that the early prices are now as much as last year's late prices.

Student workers at Columbia won't make enough in one week to pay for that. Neither will other enthusiastic minimum wage employees. For people already struggling to pay for food, rent and transportation, the near-\$200 ticket prices are absurd. Even those coming from out of town may have to re-evaluate whether or not the ticket prices, in addition to travel expenses and hotel prices, are worthwhile.

Yes, there were the first 3,000 tickets sold to lucky fans for \$45. But they sold out within hours.

Lollapalooza is supposed to be a fun way for people all over the world to come together and enjoy music. Last year I met people from Cleveland, Ohio; Washington D.C.; London; Sydney, Australia; and Dublin, Ireland. I was kissed by a ran-



MCT

dom boy during the Death Cab for Cutie set. I had funny messages written on me by hyper, slightly-drunk Australians.

Of course, it wasn't all fun and games. I vaguely remember being crushed by a garbage-compactor-like crowd of thousands about 10 feet away from the front of the Red Hot Chili Peppers stage. I remember trying to get closer to the stage about an hour before they started performing and meeting people along the way. Sure, some were rude and didn't want you moving in front of them, but others eagerly helped us squeeze along to the front. It's that sense of random meeting and companionship that makes Lollapalooza worth going to. But with the prices the way they are, people on the bottom

rungs are being left out.

Woodstock, which started out as a profit-making venture, eventually transitioned into a free concert because of the multitudes of people that wanted to go. Ozzfest is becoming free this year as well. Warped Tour is less than half the cost of Lollapalooza and features about 100 bands every year, which, in comparison to the 130 at Lollapalooza, ends up being much cheaper.

I'm not saying Lollapalooza should become a free event—though I certainly wouldn't object to that—but they really shouldn't worry so much about making a profit as much as providing a great event that people of all ages and incomes can enjoy.

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

In Public

Monday, April 30

Get jazzy by seeing award-winning jazz composer David Berkman perform with his ensemble during a free event at the Claudia Cassidy Theater, 77 E. Randolph St. The event begins at 7 p.m. and is free. For more information, call (312) 744-6630.

Tuesday, May 1

Join thousands of immigrants in their protest for worker's rights at this year's May Day March. The march comes in recognition of the worker's holiday on May 1 that started in Chicago. The march begins at 3 p.m. and starts at 50 W. Washington St.

Saturday, May 5

Get to know your history through the Genealogy and Local History Orientation at the Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton St. The orientation will educate people about resources available to research family and neighborhood history. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. and is free. For more information, visit newberry.org.

Make a charitable donation at the West Lakeview branch of JP Morgan Chase, 3335 N. Ashland Ave., by bringing in your used bike. The Working Bikes Cooperative group will rehab it and then send it to other programs that supply bicycles to people who need them overseas. The donation begins at 9 a.m. and goes until 1 p.m. For more information, call (312) 437-3315 or visit bikechicago.us

Sunday, May 6

Take a walk through Andersonville during its first Wine Walk, starting at 2 p.m. The event will feature more than 40 wines available for tasting, and specially printed wine glasses will be given to each sipping participant. The tastings will be held at various restaurants and shops, and all proceeds will benefit the Andersonville Development Corporation. For more information, call (773) 506-WINE.

Metro news briefs: a short week in review

The high price of good health

Women in the United States with health insurance are more likely to go without needed care because of higher premiums and related costs, according to a national survey by the Commonwealth Fund, a private group that supports research on health and social issues.

As reported in the Chicago Tribune, women also experience more problems than men when paying their medical bills, are more likely to skip recommended visits or tests and don't seek treatment when they have medical problems. They also typically pay more in health insurance costs because of necessary routine exams.

The survey contributes to a larger national health care debate, as employers seek to switch to plans with higher deductibles and policy makers look for flexible, lower-cost options for the 16 million uninsured adults.

Copycat aftermath

Colleges and high schools across the country are still feeling the aftereffects of the Virginia Tech massacre on April 9.

According to the Associated Press, schools across the country have been shutting down in response to copycat threats believed to be linked to Virginia Tech and the 8th anniversary of the Columbine shooting that occurred on April 20, 1999.

A community college in Kalamazoo, Mich., is set to open this week after a threat was posted on the Internet. Also, all public schools in Yuba City, Calif. and neighboring city Marysville locked their doors while authorities searched for a man also threatening a massacre.

Locally, Schaumburg High School evacuated its students April 19 after a student was heard saying he planned to make a bomb. No charges have been made, but the student is still in questioning to determine if it was

a legitimate threat.

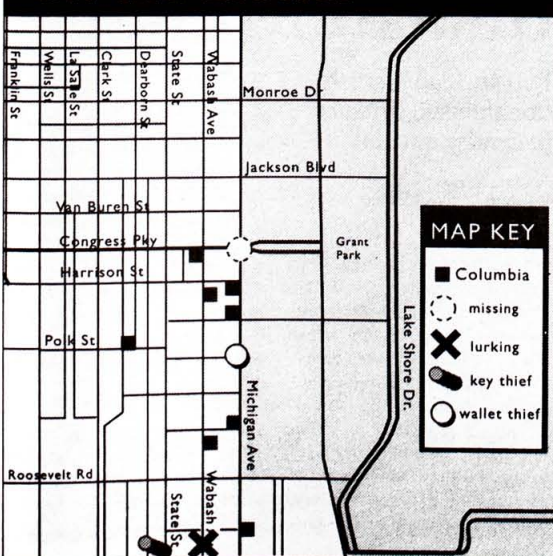
"I think the copycat thing in general has a short life span, maybe a few weeks," said Jack Levin, professor of sociology and criminology at Northeastern University in Boston, according to the Chicago Tribune article.

Stealing from poverty

An Oak Park man who used to manage Chicago Housing Authority-owned buildings was sentenced on April 26 for stealing nearly \$1 million dollars from residents.

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, William Moorehead was taking funds meant for public housing developments and the CHA and using them for his personal and business expenses.

Off the Blotter



Josh Covarrubias/The Chronicle

Missing at the bar

A 23-year-old man was reported missing from 520 S. Michigan Ave. on April 17 by a concerned friend. The friend said the man had gone for a walk and called him at 7 p.m. to say he wasn't feeling well. The missing man later called again at 8 p.m. to say he would be back soon. In the background, loud music could be heard, and the friend suspected he had gone to a bar and went to sleep, expecting the man to return that night. When the friend woke up the next morning on April 17, the man had not returned so he called the police. On April 18, the missing person returned safely around 7 a.m. Police were not informed of his whereabouts.

Lurking at the CTA

After a police officer watched a 19-year-old man walk back and forth on a CTA platform at 56 E. Roosevelt Rd. on April 17 for more than an hour, he decided to check out the situation. The police officer stopped the offender and patted him down, finding a 4-inch steel knife in the offender's waistband. He was read his Miranda rights and then taken to District No. 2 for processing.

He took the keys to the Lamborghini

A 23-year-old man reported to police on April 18 that he was robbed by a 16- or 17-year-old boy at 30 E. Roosevelt Rd. The victim said he was approached by the offender, who said "empty your pockets, motherf---er" and pointed a small handgun at him. The victim gave the offender a set of keys and approximately 50 cents. The offender then ran off in an unknown direction. The victim, who was at the time under the influence of alcohol, waited eight or nine hours before calling the police, because he said he didn't know whether to report a theft of 50 cents and keys.

Criminals keep getting younger

A young boy, around 13 years old, robbed an older man on April 21 at 800 S. Michigan Ave. The victim, a 24-year-old man, reported to police that the offender approached him and asked for money. When the victim pulled out his wallet and cell phone, the offender snatched both and fled. The victim said the wallet contained over \$500 in cash, IDs and credit cards.

Compiled by Chronicle staff through information provided by the Chicago Police Department.

'Inside baseball'

A Chronicle perspective on the media's symbiotic relationship with sports teams

By James H. Ewert Jr.
City Beat Editor

When I was being delivered on an early June morning in 1986, the doctor told my dad, a devout Chicago Cub fan since he was born, that I'd be out in time for Lead-Off Man, WGN TV's Chicago Cubs pre-game program. From that point forward, no other sports team has captured the attention of my family and I like the Chicago Cubs. I even went so far as to get a job as an usher at Wrigley Field while in high school.

A fan for 20 years and an employee for three and a half, I recently just added another facet to my deep affinity for the Cubs—that of a Cubs beat reporter.

On April 24, I was invited to Wrigley Field for "Chicago Cubs College Media Day," as it was dubbed. The once-in-a-lifetime opportunity offered about a dozen other college students and I a glimpse into the complicated and rarely examined relationship Cubs beat reporters have with their sources—the players.

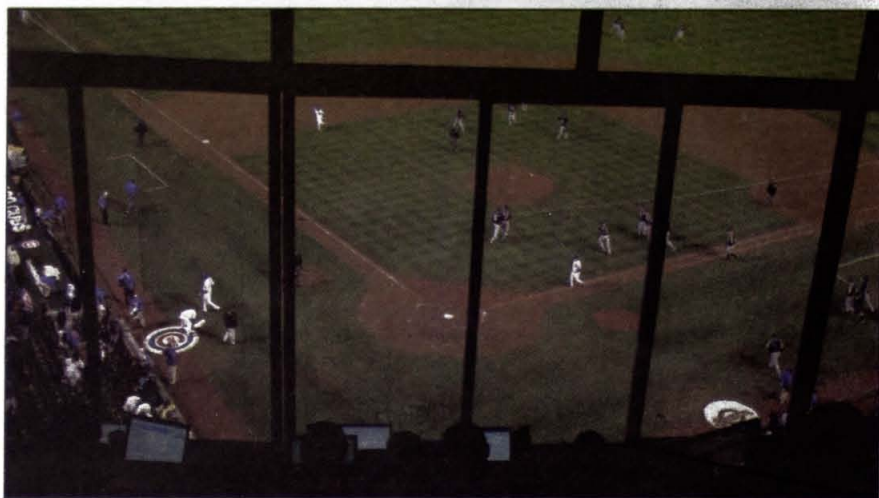
It was obvious from the get-go that this night game would be unlike any other I've ever experienced. Watching from a journalistic perspective allowed me to not only see the game, but what happens before and after as well. The intricate relationships writers have with the players are something no fan could normally comprehend.

The night began with a quick escapade through the archaic inner workings of Wrigley Field's underbelly. While romping through the dungeon-like corridors below the stands, the eager young journalists filed into the Cubs media interview room for interviews with closer Ryan Dempster, Cubs television play-by-play man Len Kasper and Daily Herald Cubs beat writer Bruce Miles.

The interview with Dempster was cut short abruptly, however, to make way for manager Lou Piniella, who the night before had skipped the post-game press conference for the first time in his short stint with the Cubs. It was especially interesting because the notoriously temperamental skipper had a closed-door talk with his team after the previous night's tough loss to the Milwaukee Brewers, a game that the Cubs, by all accounts, should have won.

The already-established members of Chicago's working press told the students in the interview room to brace themselves for potential fireworks from Piniella, who has been known to blow a gasket at times. Ultimately, though, Piniella appeared unusually relaxed and even offered some feelings about the reporters he sees every day.

"I missed you all like a toothache," a smiling Piniella said to the media, packed like sardines into Wrigley Field's cramped interview room.



James H. Ewert Jr./The Chronicle

Chicago Cubs outfielder Jacque Jones hits during batting practice, above left, during the Chicago Cubs College Media Day on April 24. Cubs catcher Michael Barrett fields questions from the college reporters, above right. Below, a view of the field from inside the press box.

A reporter then joked with Piniella, asking what dentist he would go to if that were the case.

After the manager's rather uneventful press conference, which was cluttered with inside jokes and laughter from both the media and Piniella, Kasper and

See Baseball, Page 34

One more time: Royko remembered

Friends and family honor the famous Chicago columnist

By Cyril Jakubowski
Commentary Editor

In many aspects, the Billy Goat tavern is as much part of legendary columnist Mike Royko as Mike Royko was a

part of Chicago. No other Chicago journalist has contributed to the fame of the Billy Goat as Royko did and vice versa. But much like his daily column, which to this day still touches people and makes them laugh, the Goat was his home away from home. Enter at your own risk.

Even though Royko died on

April 29, 1997, he was there on April 26 this year in the hearts of men and women who knew him, knew his words and knew his heart. He was also in the shot glasses. For a brief second, Royko's heart beat one more time because of what transpired elsewhere earlier that evening.

To the average tourist, the Billy Goat is a regular tavern, but to Chicagoans it is the birthplace of the Chicago Cubs' curse, and the place where John Belushi immortalized the phrase "Cheezborger! Cheezborger! No fries, cheeps!" But to Royko, this was the place where he dwelled and thrived and above all, formed an immortal friendship with the bar's owner, Sam Sianis.

"Indelible Ink," a sold-out tribute to the legendary columnist at the Chase Auditorium, 10 S. Dearborn St., on April 26, was a night filled with laughter, teary eyes and, above all, a celebration of all things Royko.

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Andrew A. Nelles/The Chronicle

Brushes of famous pop surrealists will be auctioned off to help the Americans for the Arts Emergency Relief Fund on June 23.

Brushing up on disaster relief

Pop surrealist artists donate used brushes to charity auction

By Dana Nelson
Assistant City Beat Editor

This summer, hula dancers will perform in a luau in a Chicago art gallery. And this luau will also sell used paintbrushes to help benefit artists living in disaster-stricken areas.

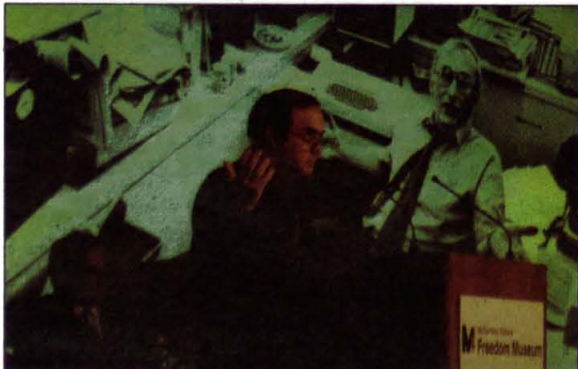
An auction of paintbrushes used by prominent pop surrealism artists will take place on June 23, during a tiki party celebrating the third anniversary of the opening of DvA Gallery, 2568 N. Lincoln Ave. The pro-

ceeds will be donated to the Americans for the Arts Emergency Relief fund, which goes toward more than 30 arts organizations in areas where natural disasters have taken place.

The Americans for the Arts Emergency Relief Fund was established in 2005 to help artists in communities suffering from natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, rebuild the arts. All of the funds raised are distributed.

David van Alphen, who opened the DvA Gallery in 2004, wanted to own a paintbrush from an artist he liked when he came up with the idea

See Brush Project, Page 36



James H. Ewert Jr./The Chronicle

Chicago Tribune writer Rick Kogan speaks at 'Indelible Ink,' an event honoring legendary Chicago columnist Mike Royko, on April 25 at the Chase Auditorium, 10 S. Dearborn St.