

11-5-2007

## Columbia Chronicle (11/05/2007)

Columbia College Chicago

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc\\_chronicle](http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle)



Part of the [Journalism Studies Commons](#)



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

---

### Recommended Citation

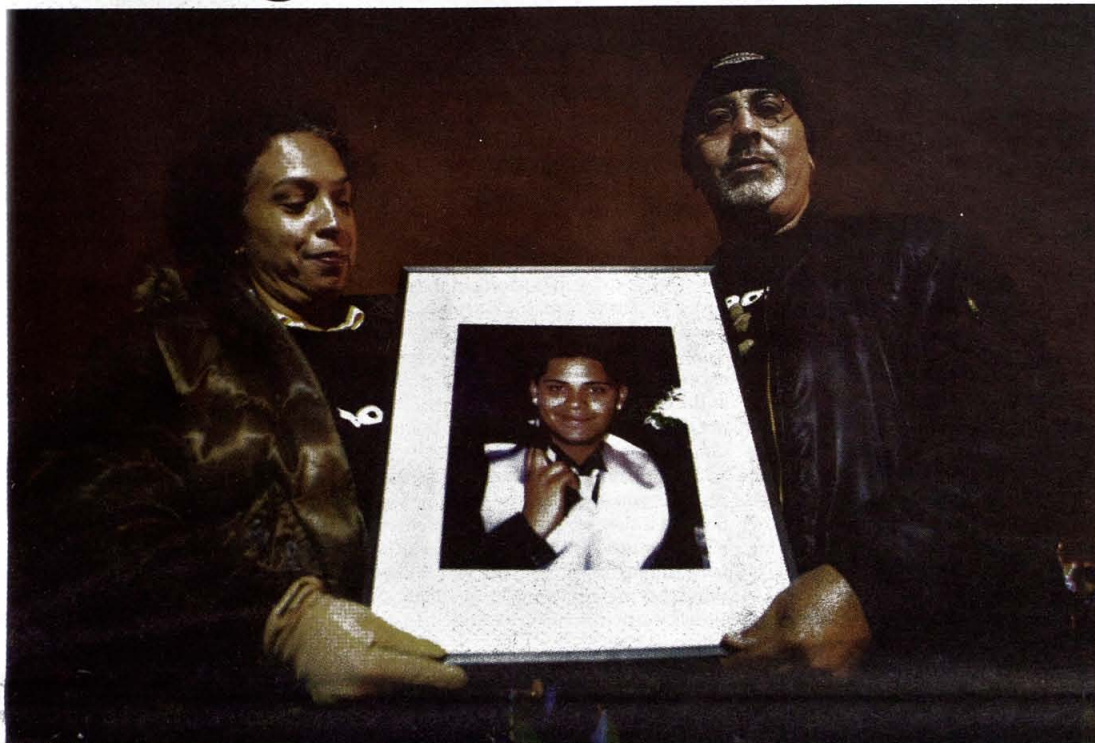
Columbia College Chicago, "Columbia Chronicle (11/5/2007)" (November 5, 2007). *Columbia Chronicle*, College Publications, College Archives & Special Collections, Columbia College Chicago. [http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc\\_chronicle/714](http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle/714)

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

# THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago November 5, 2007 Volume 43 Number 10 ColumbiaChronicle.com

## Pleading for safer communities



Mydia Santos and Edward Epifanio Santo hold a picture of their son, Edward Epifanio Santos Jr., who was killed by gun violence last year. They attended an event hosted by local church groups on curbing gun violence Oct. 19.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

• SEE PG. 33

## Twisting and turning laughter around the world

Hot-air pair knots cool balloons

by Brett Marlow  
Assistant A&E Editor

SOME PEOPLE are born to be musicians, writers or athletes. But Addi Somekh never thought his gift would be coiling balloons.

Somekh and photographer Charlie Eckert have traveled to more than 30 countries across the world including Croatia, Israel, Russia, and most recently, to the Amazon jungle. They also stopped in cities around the United States, including Chicago, adorning the heads of street artists and record shop gurus in Wicker Park with balloon hats twisted in all kinds of shapes, colors and designs created by Somekh.

The duo traveled around different countries, communicating not through language, but through balloon hats. At first it was an experiment, but their worldwide visits, dubbed "The Varieties of the Balloonhat Experience," brought humor and laughter to many people, bridging gaps in communication with an inflatable piece of latex, Somekh said.

"It was our goal to just show that everyone around the world is born with a sense of humor and the ability to laugh," Somekh said. "Laughing sounds the same in every language."

Somekh said a majority of the time the people, villages, tribes and different cul-

tures welcomed the duo's presence.

"Ninety-eight point eight percent of the time it was general joy, excitement, appreciation and very few times there was dis-



A man and woman stand in Turkana District, Kenya with their balloon hat creations.

Courtesy CHARLES ECKERT

interest, let alone negativity," Somekh said.

Balloon twisting wasn't a profession of choice, but he stumbled upon it.

After graduate school, Somekh found himself learning how to make balloon animals and motorcycles from a friend who did it when his construction business was slow. To his surprise, it was something he was good at.

"I didn't even have to think about it; it was like an inborn gift," Somekh said. "Then I was very irritated that of all things to be gifted at, it was balloons."

But the job appealed to him: no traffic, no bosses leaning over his shoulder and no shaving every day. Making the typical dog balloon over and over wasn't something he wanted to do either, so Somekh learned to improvise and started making them differently—into hats.

Somekh and Eckert set out on their first trip in 1996 and traveled until 2002. When traveling through these different cities, Somekh is the social one. Eckert, who has snapped 12,000 photos of people sporting Somekh's creations from all the duo's stops, stays out of the limelight and behind the lens.

Kevin Welsh, a financial adviser from Omaha, Neb., met the duo while backpacking around the world in St. Petersburg, Russia in 1996.

• SEE BALLOONS PG. 23



## CAN IT!

Red Bull refuse becomes artistry

The makers of the energy drink Red Bull have challenged artists to create and construct sculptures out of the beverage's aluminum cans. With little to no guidelines and restrictions, the works of 39 artists will be featured this week in Chicago.

• SEE PG. 23



## NOT YOUR AVERAGE BATH

Century-old landmark gets a makeover for the ladies

Expensive European spas and health clubs have come and gone through the years. Most offer scrubs, massages, saunas and fancy frou-frou products for women—and men—to use at the price of an arm and a leg. But the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths in West Town, once a men-only establishment, says it can offer women all of that plus its famous amenity, the hot steam room fueled by heated granite boulders, for about \$30.

• SEE PG. 13

ch-ch-ch-changes  
Inside!

SEE  
PG. 2



# Climb and conquer: A view from the top



by **Amanda Maurer**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

A few days ago, I lived an allegory. I know it's weird and probably incredibly nerdy of me, but it happened. Here's some of the back story:

I officially became an apartment-dweller on Oct. 1, when my first rent check was cashed, and my roommate and I promptly drew up a list of items that needed to be fixed in our unit. Near the top of the list was a simple request: To remove the ladder on our enclosed back porch that leads to our roof.

However, of all the things that ended up being fixed, which included some dead light bulbs and a door with a splintered hole in it, the ladder wasn't taken away. For weeks my roommate and I walked past it, giving it a shake now and then, almost as a reminder that it wasn't safe. When any weight was put on the ladder, it would bend more than I thought it should. It was pretty much useless to us—until we decided we could hang wet rags out on it to dry.

That worked for a bit, but each time a friend would come over, we'd walk back to

our porch, stare up at the ladder and give it a good shake. We would wonder if we should even try to climb it. We frequently made deals with the guys in our building that if they could build us a new, sturdy ladder, we would let them explore the roof with us.

Well, that never happened. But the other night, when two guy friends were over, we found ourselves staring up at the roof again.

I'll pause to explain my decision to move to Chicago was a sudden one. Over the course of three weeks, I abruptly chose to live in the city, found an apartment within days and moved less than two weeks later. When I first changed zip codes, everything happened so quickly I didn't have any time to realize how different my life had become. But it was the middle of the semester, so I couldn't really stop to reevaluate things.

But there was one night when everything began to sink in—fast. It was the night after we had started the paperwork, and I woke up in a cold sweat questioning everything. Terrified of taking on this venture alone financially, I spoke to a friend in the middle of the night searching for support.

After deciding to live with my family for a year, it was tough being separated again. Suddenly I wasn't around to confront family crises—I would only hear about them a few weeks after they happened. We seemed to limit ourselves to brief e-mails and the infrequent phone calls to say everything was great, whether it was or not, simply to not worry anyone.

Not only that, but I revamped my entire schedule, and I reprioritized everything. It was something everyone faces—gaining freedom, but realizing that you need to be more responsible than ever. Do I save money

and make lunch, or do I splurge and go out to eat? Will I finish my homework tonight, or finally explore my roof?

Speaking of ...

So there we were, looking up a dozen feet to the 2-foot by 2-foot square hole in our roof, covered with a box lid-like cover. We gave the ladder a shake and looked at one another.

We trusted each other, and it was a nice night, so one of our guy friends decided to give it a try and climbed up a few rungs. Then a few more.

Needless to say, when it was my turn, I was still a little unsure. Even with someone holding the ladder at the bottom and another from the top, it still jostled back and forth when I climbed up. One friend gave me the brilliant suggestion to "climb straighter" so the ladder wouldn't wiggle as much. Right.

I hated climbing that ladder, but I suppose a drive to reach the top and the support of my friends kept me moving.

Well, I reached the top, and I'm glad I did, because it was such an incredible experience to stand out there in the cold and stare at the city. It was incredibly satisfying to not only marvel at the gorgeous view, but also appreciate my new life.

Like the trip up the ladder, life can shake you up. So many situations are intimidating, and if they require any time or effort, it's that much easier to create reasons to not go through with them. But I think anything that presents a challenge is almost always worth it, even if it's just a climb up a shaky ladder.

amaurer@chroniclemail.com

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CAMPUS	1
A&E	13
COMMENTARY	30
CITY BEAT	33

<b>Management</b>	
Amanda Maurer	Editor-in-Chief
Chrissy Mahlmeister	Managing Editor
<b>Editor</b>	
George Siefel	Associate Editor
<b>Campus News</b>	
Beth Palmer	Campus News Editor
Derek Kucynda	Assistant Campus News Editor
Robert Bykowski	Assistant Campus News Editor
<b>Arts and Entertainment</b>	
Jessica Gallart	A+E Editor
Matthew Fagerholm	Assistant A+E Editor
Luke Smucker	Assistant A+E Editor
Brett Marlow	Assistant A+E Editor
<b>City Beat</b>	
Dana Nelson	City Beat Editor
Becky Schilkerman	Assistant City Beat Editor
Silvana Tabares	Assistant City Beat Editor
<b>Commentary</b>	
Wes Giglio	Commentary Editor
<b>Copy</b>	
Steve Z. Baltrukonis	Copy Chief
Sara Harvey	Copy Editor
Quinn Milton	Copy Editor
<b>Photo</b>	
Andrew A. Nelles	Photo Editor
Rachael Strecher	Assistant Photo Editor
Tim Hunt	Assistant Photo Editor
<b>Graphics</b>	
Kimi Badger	Senior Graphic Designer
Emilia Kilmluk	Graphic Designer
Allyson McGovern	Graphic Designer
<b>Advertising</b>	
Katie Neville	Advertising and Business Manager
Amanda Rasario	Account Executive
<b>Web</b>	
Patrick Algrim	Webmaster
<b>Senior Staff</b>	
Chris Richert	General Manager
Jim Sulski	Co-Faculty Adviser
Billy Montgomery	Co-Faculty Adviser

## IN YOUR OPINION: Do you support hybrid public transportation?



"I think it would be a great option for the environment and cut down on our dependence on foreign oil. I would like to go beyond hybrid vehicles and [use] something that is more sustainable."

**Ryan Wichmann**  
*Junior Fiction Writing*



"I guess so ... if it's better for the environment [and] it's not more expensive."

**Katie Morlin**  
*Junior Art and Design*



"The least they can do is try to save some money [and] reduce the emissions—at least try to act responsible."

**Sam Snow**  
*Sophomore Fiction Writing*

## WE'VE MOVED!

... Our pages around, that is. In the process to make our paper more reader-friendly, our Back Page has jumped inside—this week you can find it on page 33. Also, we've made some changes to our A&E section, so check them out! Let us know what you think of our new design, e-mail us at [chronicle@colum.edu](mailto:chronicle@colum.edu).

—The Chronicle staff



# Campus News



Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE



Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

## DAY OF THE DEAD

*On Nov. 2, the Latino Alliance held a masquerade gala in celebration of its 20th anniversary and Dia de los Muertos. Tango Chicago and Sones de Mexico performed at the formal event in the Conaway Center.*



Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

## Columbia in 10 seconds ... or less

### Columbia alumna stars in local production of famous musical

Columbia graduate Dina DiCostanzo has the role of Janet Weiss in "The Rocky Horror Show" at the Mercury Theatre, 3745 N. Southport Ave. The production runs through Dec. 2.

The Pioneer Local newspaper reported DiCostanzo performed in two productions at Munster's Theatre at the Center: she was a dancing feline in "Cats" and played Frenchy in "Grease." She now sings at Tommy Guns Garage, a local dinner-theater with a Valentine's Day Massacre theme, the Local reported.

### Partnership results in recently unveiled History Center

A partnership between Columbia and the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center has resulted in a new center within the museum. The Frank S. Kameros Oral History Center is the result of three years of work piecing together the experiences and history of Greek Americans. Students at Columbia helped compile audio and video histories of numerous participants. The center is located at 801 W. Adams Ave. on the 4th floor.

### SGA fails to fill seat of recently-resigned vice president

The Student Government Association failed to fill its vacant vice president position at its Oct. 23 meeting.

SGA president Brian Matos recommended the appointment of at-large senator Kelly Zea, who sits on the Student Campus Environment Committee, but Zea didn't receive the required votes. Matos said the vote was close, with eight votes in favor, 11 against and two votes abstaining. Matos will make another recommendation to the senate during its Nov. 6 meeting.

## Calendar

### Photographer Jay Maisel to speak

Jay Maisel, a recipient of the American Society of Media Photographers' Lifetime Achievement Award, will speak on Nov. 5 in the Conaway Center located in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. The event starts at 7 p.m. and is free for students. The event is sponsored by SanDisk.

For more information, call Caroline Juhlin at (312) 344-7281.

### Papel Mexicano

The Latino Alliance will take part in creating a Dia de los Muertos altar to honor Dard Hunter, a seminal papermaker with local Mexican Americans. The Nov. 6 event will take place in the Center for Book and Paper arts on the second floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, call Bill Drendel at (312) 344-6684.

### Cinema Slapdown

A screening of *Waking Life*, presented by the Film and Video Department, will be followed with a debate about the film by Columbia faculty members George Eastman and Ron Fleischer. The screening starts at 7 p.m. on Nov. 7 in the Film Row Cinema in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

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

### Science and Math Colloquium Series

A lecture entitled "Where Art and Science Meet: Conservation Science Activities at the Art Institute of Chicago" will take place Nov. 8 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Ferguson Auditorium located in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. The lecture will be given by Francesca Casadio, A.W. Mellon Conservation Scientist at the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave. The event is free.

For more information, call Kevin Fuller at (312) 344-8505.



# Lawsuit against college awaiting trial

Multi-million suit against Columbia nears pre-trial after more than two years

by George P. Slefo  
Associate Editor

AFTER FILING a civil lawsuit against Columbia in December 2005, former photography instructor Accra Shepp is still awaiting his trial.

Shepp is suing Columbia and the chair of the college's Photography Department, Bob Thall, for \$2.3 million in general and punitive damages.

In 2002, Shepp was expecting to receive tenure at Columbia. But by 2005, Shepp was unemployed.

Now he's teaching at Princeton University.

While Columbia has reached out and tried to settle the case outside of court, the negotiations have gone "nowhere," according to Shepp's attorney, Thomas Rosenwein. The pre-trial date is set for Dec. 14, according to Cook County's Circuit Court website.

In 2004, Shepp received notice that his contract with the school would not be renewed. Shortly after, Shepp appealed the non-renewal proposal to the Elected Representatives to the College, an appeal committee for faculty, according to legal documents.

During those hearings, three tenured faculty members and three department

chairs heard his case.

Their conclusion: Shepp's contract should have been renewed.

Yet according to the tenure policy, President Warrick L. Carter had 15 days to accept or refuse the Elected Representatives to the College's findings. He deferred on their results and did not sign off on Shepp's renewal.

Some of Shepp's work has appeared in major daily newspapers like the New York Times and the Boston Globe, and his photos have been shown in countries like Indonesia and Colombia.

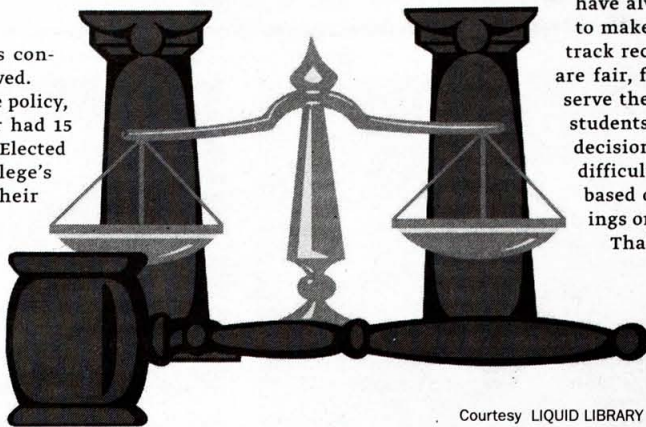
A Fulbright Scholar, Shepp received strong reviews during his 2002 annual renewal and was also given accolades in his 2003 evaluation by the school.

Shepp is suing Thall because he claims he didn't handle his tenure review properly, according to Rosenwein.

"[Shepp] felt very burned by the way he was treated," Rosenwein said. "It left a very bitter taste in his mouth."

Rosenwein said litigation is always a last resort, and the trial hasn't started yet because Columbia tried taking the case outside of the Illinois legal system.

"The legal wheels are turning slowly, there was certainly a delay in the case,"



Courtesy LIQUID LIBRARY

have always sincerely tried to make tenure and tenure-track recommendations that are fair, follow the rules and serve the best interest of the students and program. These decisions can sometimes be difficult, but are never made based on any personal feelings or agendas."

Thall also said it is his understanding that in the course of litigation, the court will sometimes ask the parties to meet with the court to see if the matter can be resolved short of "full-blown litigation."

he said. "Initially, [Columbia] had the case transferred to the federal courts; the federal courts disagreed and said it should move back to Illinois court ... It typically takes two to three years to go to trial."

The judge amended the case and sent it back to the state level in April 2006.

Thall said he cannot discuss the issues involving the renewal of Shepp's contract.

"Everyone involved in tenure and renewal issues makes recommendations based on what they think is best for the students, the department and the college," Thall said. "I think we

tion."

"That is what has happened in this case," he said. "It is just routine."

While no trial date has been set, Micki Leventhal, the college's director of Media Relations, wouldn't comment on the case and said Columbia's outside defense counsel doesn't provide information on the school's legal matters.

"They don't give us that information," she said. "And we don't comment on pending litigation anyway."

gslefo@chroniclemail.com

## The Music Center of Columbia College Chicago 1014 S. Michigan at 11<sup>th</sup> St.

### Concert Hall Events

#### Monday November 5

Groove Band 2 in Concert  
12:00 PM

#### Tuesday November 6

The R&B Ensemble in Concert  
12:00 PM

#### Wednesday November 7

The Pop Orchestra in Concert  
12:00 PM  
Robert Palos Senior Recital  
7:30 PM

#### Thursday November 8

Groove Band 4: Smooth Jazz in Concert  
12:00 PM  
Justine Taurianen Senior Recital  
7:00 PM

#### Friday November 9

Jazz Gallery in the Lobby  
12:00 PM  
CCC Jazz Ensemble in Concert  
7:30 PM

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

# MAKE IT A HABIT. PITCH IN.

for more information contact [recycling@colum.edu](mailto:recycling@colum.edu)

COLUMBIA COLLEGE RECYCLING PROGRAM

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

Columbia  
COLLEGE CHICAGO

dceo  
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



# College Council focuses on security issues

Improvements to policy and new initiatives highlight future of Columbia security

by Robert Bykowski  
Assistant Campus News Editor

THE COLLEGE Council mainly discussed campus safety at its meeting on Nov. 2.

The meeting, which is the second of the year for the council, took place in the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., and featured a special report on the state of campus security given by a handful of Columbia officials.

"I think it goes without saying with the Virginia Tech tragedy, every college in this country felt the need to revisit how to work with students who are experiencing difficulties and what emergency preparedness plans are in place," said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

Recently, Columbia has been advertising its adoption of an emergency alert notification system with a testing of the system scheduled for Nov. 15. The addition of the system, however, is not the only change to Columbia's security.

What was loosely recognized as the Immediate Response Team in the past is now the Student Health and Support Intervention Team, and Kelly notified the council that there is now a hotline for staff and faculty to request the services of the team.

The team is built to instantly respond to emergency situations involving students, and the hotline is a resource for faculty and staff to request assistance. The team deals with a wide range of student related



Martha Meegan, Director of Campus Safety and Security, speaks about campus safety during the Nov. 2 College Council meeting.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

emergencies, which varies from students displaying behavioral problems to students dealing with emotional issues like the loss of a loved one.

According to Kelly, one call to the hotline is spread out to four different phones. If no one is able to answer the phone, the call is then transferred to an answering service which then sends the call to a cell phone, making sure the team is immediately contacted.

The new hotline will replace a cumbersome system that had three or four phone numbers, Kelly said.

Kelly is also expected to attend the Nov.

6 Student Government Association meeting and ask the senators to vote on a \$5 increase to the Student Health Center Fee to add two more therapists next year.

Brian Matos, SGA president, said a similar fee increase was passed last year, and while he doesn't expect there to be much opposition this time around, there are long-term concerns.

"The Health Center Fee funds the Health Center too, and sometimes folks have a hard time getting into [the health center] because it's overbooked and there's not enough doctors and not enough hours," Matos said. "Long term, down the road,

we want to ... look at the implications of expanding the Health Center or even moving it off campus if necessary to accommodate."

Matos said he is concerned whether the Health Center in its current size and operation capacity will be able to accommodate a growing on-campus student body.

Other additions to security presented at the meeting included plans for a public address system throughout Columbia, and LCD signs that can be displayed in buildings alerting the college community of emergency situations.

Director of Campus Safety and Security Martha Meegan stressed the importance of community partnerships during her presentation on safety, which prompted fellow council member Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa, a film and video faculty member, to ask for advice on dealing with law enforcement officials.

Saeed-Vafa told Meegan she had recently been contacted by a FBI agent who wanted her to "report any students that have anti-establishment, anti-government sentiments."

"No law enforcement official should be approaching you on campus directly ... whether it's the Chicago Police Department, FBI, Department of Homeland Security, CIA—I don't care who they are," Meegan said.

Meegan instructed the council that there are regulations that law enforcement officials need to follow, and that all requests for information must be sent through Meegan's office.

rbykowski@chroniclemail.com

## Attention Students!

Are you current on your student account balance?

If not, you will be restricted from registering for spring classes. SFS has placed **REGISTRATION HOLDS** on student accounts that are not current on their balance. Students are notified of holds through their Columbia student email account and by the Student Financial Services help line call campaign.

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

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

Payments can be made online through CCCPay, by mail (sent to the SFS contact address below,) or in person at the cashier window located at 600 S. Michigan Ave on the 3rd floor.

If you have any additional questions, or would like to review your financing options, please contact SFS by dialing our toll-free help line: 1.866.705.0200. You can also visit our Customer Service Options webpage: [www.colum.edu/sfs](http://www.colum.edu/sfs)

**SFS**  
STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

600 S. Michigan Ave, St 303  
Chicago, IL 60605

Columbia

COLLEGE CHICAGO



# Loan fraud charges await runaway woman

Feds say she collected over \$100,000 in student aid, and maxed out credit cards

By Jennifer Sullivan

A HIGH school dropout who is suspected of assuming at least three identities to gain entrance to some of the nation's most prestigious colleges and to fraudulently collect more than \$100,000 in student loans is now the subject of a federal investigation.

Esther Reed, 29, disappeared from the area in 1999 after pleading guilty in King County, Wash., to stealing her sister's checkbook. Since then, law enforcement officials say, she has conned friends, employers, boyfriends and college admissions officials into believing she was one of three different women to gain admission into Harvard, Columbia University and California State University, Fullerton.

Reed is now wanted by federal authorities because she fraudulently received more than \$100,000 in student loans, racked up credit card bills and obtained a passport in someone else's name, according to federal charging papers. She was indicted last summer by a federal grand jury in South Carolina on charges of mail fraud, wire fraud, aggravated identity theft and Social Security fraud, according to the indictment that was unsealed this week.

Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Walter Wilkins said the U.S. Marshals Service and the Secret Service, which is assigned to investigate identity theft and Social Security fraud, are searching for the missing woman. He said that if Reed is found, tried



Esther Reed, 29, never showed up for a DNA test in July 2006, which would have confirmed she stole the identity of another missing woman.

MCT

and convicted, she could face more than 20 years in prison.

"She could be anywhere," said Wilkins, who is based in Greenville, S.C. "Esther Reed has obviously become very creative and skilled in assuming somebody else's

identification."

Before the indictment, Reed was wanted by King County authorities for the checkbook theft and by police in Travelers Rest, S.C., home of a missing woman whose identity Reed allegedly assumed.

On July 4, 1999—the same year Reed last spoke with her family in the Pacific Northwest—Brooke Henson vanished from a house party in Travelers Rest. Local police believed the 20-year-old woman had been slain, until receiving a telephone call from New York City police last year.

Henson, a high-school dropout, had somehow gained entrance to Columbia University. A prospective employer researching Henson's background contacted police in New York when she found a website dedicated to the missing woman, according to police in Travelers Rest.

Authorities investigated and determined the woman claiming to be Henson was actually Reed. Confronted with the allegations, the woman agreed to take a DNA test in July 2006, but never showed up. Investigators who searched her apartment said she appeared to have left in a hurry.

Lisa Henson, Brooke Henson's sister, said Oct. 24 she heard that law enforcement had been close to finding Reed. Wilkins declined to say what leads authorities have.

"I don't necessarily want to talk to Esther Reed," Henson said. "We want to see her brought to justice. Obviously she has no conscience."

In the months after Reed walked away from her apartment, police from South Carolina to King County unraveled a secret life so unbelievable that it could have been

from a movie.

She had claimed to be a European chess champion, dated U.S. Military Academy cadets and somehow gained entrance to the three schools. Reed got a passport, passed a high school equivalency test, obtained an Ohio identification card, took an SAT test in California and was accepted to the School of General Studies at Columbia University—all by using Henson's identity, according to grand jury charging documents.

"Identity theft cases are not that uncommon, but an individual who completely assumes the identity of a person who is missing and could be deceased is unique," Wilkins said. "To take a GRE (Graduate Record Examination), the SAT and send applications to two very prominent universities is also very unique."

While police in Travelers Rest don't believe Reed had anything to do with Henson's disappearance, they still want to talk to her to find out where she was when Henson was last seen, said Detective Clark Brazier.

"We would like to establish her alibi and eliminate her from our leads," Brazier said. "It looks like a matter of identity theft."

Though Reed never served her jail time locally, she is no longer wanted by the King County Sheriff's Office because the warrant for her arrest has expired, said sheriff's spokesman John Urquhart.

"The prosecutor's office could ask a judge to reinstate a warrant, but for a nonviolent crime like this it is fairly unlikely," he said.

MCT

# ORGAnize!

November 7

Meeting This Wednesday  
at 5:00pm in the HUB!

Join an Org!  
Start a New One!

**Student Organizations Council**

**1104 South Wabash**  
**HUB [Basement]**  
312.334.6656 [soc@colum.edu](mailto:soc@colum.edu)





# Clothing drive builds bridges to future employment

**Fashion retail management class collects clothes to help ex-cons, ex-addicts**

by Derek Kucynda

Assistant Campus News Editor

IT CAN be problematic for ex-addicts and former prisoners to find work, especially without interview-appropriate clothes. However, Columbia students are collecting professional wear to help these individuals start over.

The capstone Decision Making class, in the fashion retail management concentration, engages seniors to take part in service learning. The students work closely with Bridge to Success, 4822 N. Broadway St., a program that assists ex-addicts, ex-convicts and unemployed individuals rebuild their lives and become equipped to find work.

A group of four students from the concentration, which is in the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department, set up a clothing drive for Bridge to Success at Columbia. The clothing drive runs until Nov. 16 and has drop-off locations around campus.

Dana Connell, a faculty member in the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department and instructor of the Decision Making course, said the class utilizes a number of different skills, such as marketing and business, the students have learned in courses at Columbia.

"When they take this capstone course, they are put to the test to use those skills and make decisions on their

own," Connell said.

She said a lot of the fashion industry is concerned with the grandeur and superficial aspects of fashion, but she hopes the clothing drive teaches a different approach to working in and managing the fashion and retail industry.

"In most of what we teach, it's about desire and want ... what we teach in the service learning class is about need," Connell said. "It gives our students a very different perspective on what fashion

is really about."

Susan Van Veen, director of Bridge to Success, said the program's goal is to provide clothing and interview skills to the men and women in the Chicagoland area who need them most.

"These are individuals that are graduating from their area's job training program and lack the resources to purchase work-appropriate clothing at a retail store, so we provide that clothing for them," Van Veen said.

She said studies estimate that 40 percent of all interview rejections are based on appearance, but she thinks the percentage is more like 80 percent.

The goal of the clothing drive is to expand inventory for Bridge to Success, so they can accommodate more than the program's typical clients, men and plus-size individuals.

The drive will accept suits, trousers, sweaters, shirts, shoes, coats, jewelry and accessories, Connell said.

Connell said any donations will help the program's clients have a better chance of landing work.

"These people need to have the right kinds of clothes in order to get a job [and] to be contributing citizens," she said.

Marc Howell, a sophomore art and design major, said he wants to get involved with organizations that help people who are disadvantaged.

"If they are trying to get their life back on track, it's definitely a good thing to help them," Howell said. "But if they are throwing their life away, then let them. They can make the change."

The drop-off locations are located at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 301; the 1006 S. Michigan Ave. Building, Suite 301; the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 907B; the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 700 and the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 703A.



Students in the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department organized a clothes drive collecting professional clothes for Bridge to Success, 4822 N. Broadway Ave., until Nov. 16.

Courtesy SUSAN VAN VEEN

dkucynda@chroniclemail.com

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE:

**November 13, 11:30 - 1:00**  
**December 4, 11:30 - 1:00**

To R.S.V.P. or for more information call  
312-201-5900 or visit [www.adler.edu](http://www.adler.edu)



**ADLER**  
SCHOOL of Professional Psychology  
[www.adler.edu](http://www.adler.edu)

*socially responsible graduates*  
*holistic services*  
*social justice*

Adler School is committed to socially responsible graduates. Our students learn to understand and address social injustices and to develop skills and attitudes to initiate social change. Adler School offers the following master's and doctoral degree programs:

**Doctor of Psychology in**  
**Clinical Psychology**

**Master of Arts in:**  
Counseling Psychology  
Counseling & Organizational Psychology  
Counseling: Art Therapy  
Marriage & Family Counseling  
Police Psychology

**socially**  
**responsible**  
**graduates**



# Thank You!

The Office of Human Resources congratulates the following employees for their years of service, dedication and contributions to Columbia College Chicago. These individuals will be honored at the annual Service Award Luncheon on November 9th, 2007 at the Chicago Hilton & Towers.

## 25 Years

**Mary Forde**, Creative & Printing Services  
**Cathy Gladney**, Information Technology  
**Mark Gonzalez**, Facilities & Operations  
**Brett Johnson**, Audio, Arts & Acoustics  
**Edward Maddux**, Theater  
**Bernadette McMahon**, Information Technology  
**Dominic Pacyga**, Liberal Education  
**Diego Trejo Jr.**, Film & Video  
**Richard Woods**, Facilities & Operations

## 20 Years

**Jeanne Boruta**, Dean of Students  
**Daniel Kero**, Information Technology  
**Clyde McCusker**, Dance  
**Janet Talbot**, College Advising

## 15 Years

**H.E. Baccus**, Music  
**Paula Brien**, College Advising  
**Craig Kirsch**, Upward Bound  
**Keith Lusson**, College Advising  
**Carolle Voltaire**, Upward Bound

## 10 Years

**Karen Anderson**, Music  
**Cynthia Harrig**, Film & Video  
**Gerlyn Jackson**, Recruitment & Development  
**Thomas Kesling**, Film & Video  
**Teresa Mittons**, Student Financial Services  
**James Moore**, Film & Video  
**Linda Naslund**, Fiction Writing  
**Thomas Plum**, Art & Design  
**Emily Reible**, Film & Video  
**Ned Schechter**, Accounting  
**Paula Scheiwe**, Business Affairs  
**Jill Summers**, College Wide Events  
**Keri Walters**, College Advising  
**Patrice Ward-Newkirk**, Records  
**Linda Williams**, Payroll

## 5 Years

**Christophe Andersen**, Library  
**Sherry Anton**, Undergraduate Admissions  
**Toni Campbell**, Science Institute  
**Ted Cho**, C-Spaces  
**Dominic Cottone**, Student Leadership  
**Anthony Curry**, Facilities & Operations  
**Lott Hill**, Center for Teaching Excellence  
**Paul Holmquist**, Dance Movement  
**Joanne Johnson**, Accounting  
**April Langworthy**, Center for Community Arts Partnerships  
**Melissa Lawrenz**, Film & Video  
**Joshua Lefley**, Art & Design  
**Laura Levitt-Gamis**, Television  
**Mary Ellen Lewandowski-Engman**, Instructional Media  
**Rajinder Mago**, Center for Black Music Research  
**Lauren Noel**, Library  
**Emily Payne**, Library  
**Robin Redmond**, Center for Arts Policy  
**Corinne Rose**, Museum of Contemporary Photography  
**Kathleen Ryan**, Chicago Jazz Ensemble  
**Jeffrey Sams**, Student Financial Services  
**Jeffrey Sanderson**, Undergraduate Admissions  
**Sarah Schroeder**, Alumni Relations  
**Lori Seidemann**, Marketing Communications  
**Rod Slemmons**, Museum of Contemporary Photography  
**Kari Sommers**, Dean of Students  
**Elizabeth Tallman**, Information Technology  
**Cynthia Weiss**, Center for Community Arts Partnerships

We thank you for your commitment to the mission of Columbia College Chicago. Your efforts make it possible for our students to experience a supportive and stimulating academic environment!

create...  
change

Columbia 

COLLEGE CHICAGO



# 'Lost' artists and 'Found' sketches

Double helpings of student art in Wabash Campus Building's two new exhibits

by Derek Kucynda  
Assistant Campus News Editor

THERE IS a letter written to an estranged uncle asking for a photo of a deceased father. The woman writing the letter is Elspeth Jackson, a senior art and design major, who lost her favorite photo of her father during his memorial service. She has finally tracked down her uncle Bill, who took the picture from the funeral.

Dated Sept. 20, it is a simple letter regarding a lost photo, waiting to be found. This photocopied letter and Jackson's notes are some of the pieces of work on display at "Lost and Found," a new exhibit in the Hokin Annex, in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The uncle never responded, and Jackson is left with scattered memories of the photo and her father.

Across the hall, "Sketchy 6," another exhibit, is on display at the Hokin Gallery. Both exhibits feature Columbia artists who have garnered student attention due to the introspective and interactive nature of the shows. Coordinated by C-Spaces, the exhibits explore realistic themes and surrealist ideas through a wide variety of media.

*"It does have a feeling of something being lost and [there is] something meditative going on in [the Hokin Annex]. There is a nice vibe in there."*

— Julia Meineke, junior photography major

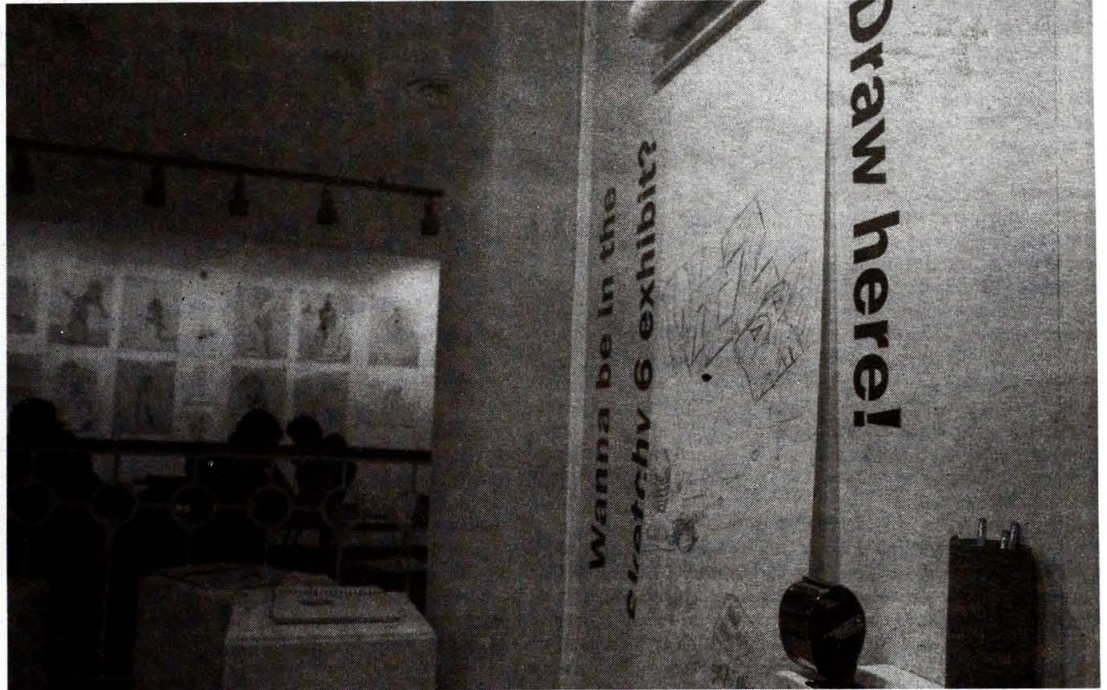
"Lost and Found" began when its curators, Image Unit, a student group comprised of MFA students in the Interactive Arts & Media Department, put out an open call to students and faculty asking for ideas and pieces dealing with the process of loss and discovery.

Image Unit was involved in Columbia's art scene last year, creating an exhibit called "Working Frameworks."

According to Betsy Odom, the exhibition coordinator for C-Spaces, there was a big response to the open call, with dozens of undergraduate and graduate students submitting illustrations, interactive media, photographs and other types of media to the exhibit. The response brought together an assortment of work that was specific to the topic, yet some pieces are abstract, Odom said.

"[There's] really quite a variety of stuff in the show, and I think it's connected a lot by a very silent tone," Odom said. "It does have a feeling of something being lost and [there is] something meditative going on in [the Hokin Annex]. There is a nice vibe in there."

The media featured in "Lost and Found" range from photographs and performance pieces to video work and sound art. Many of the pieces evoke images of loss and loneliness. Objects such as half-drunken wine glasses, corners and dimly lit rooms build upon the theme of "Lost and Found."



Above: Students have the option of drawing their own pictures on a wall and possibly having their work be a part of 'Sketchy 6,' which runs until Dec. 14 in the Hokin Gallery in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Below: 'Lost and Found' utilizes a variety of media including photographs, paintings and interactive media to show elements of loss and discovery, and the journey or relationships that are affected by being lost or finding something.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

Julia Meineke, a junior photography major, has seen parts of "Lost and Found" when she has class in the Wabash Campus Building, and she is interested in seeing the rest of the show.

"['Lost and Found'] is something that everyone can relate to because everyone has lost something," Meineke said. "It's like losing part of yourself."

Walking south through the Wabash Campus Building, "Sketchy 6" is an exhibit featuring sketches, drawings and process work. Unlike "Lost and Found," the open call for "Sketchy 6" did not receive enough submissions, so Nancy Julson-Rieley, the gallery coordinator for C-Spaces, went to faculty member Fred Nelson's Figure Illustration class in the Art and Design Department. Nelson had his students sketch their ideal Halloween costumes, with no physical constraints on the costumes, Rieley said. The costume sketches and the process work for the illustrations were put into "Sketchy 6."

"Sketchy 6" has a mix of realistic and surrealist sketches. Some pieces are very abstract and some of the work is very concept driven, with a range of character drawings and creature manifestations shown throughout the Hokin Gallery.

Many of the costume sketches are reminiscent of horror movie monsters and creatures of the dark. Some of the students drew basic Halloween costumes like zombies and werewolves and enhanced the sketches to look more realistic and more frightening.

For the first time in the exhibit's six-year history, Julson-Rieley decided to hang up a roll of paper so students can draw on it and create their own sketches for "Sketchy 6." It was also the first year it featured process work from students, she said.

"It's nice to say [to students] just go draw on the wall," Julson-Rieley said.

There will be a live artist and students in the Art and Design Department present at the Nov. 8 reception and they will draw on one of the unused walls in the Hokin Gal-

lery during the reception. The exhibit will be curated by Nicholas Steindorf, a sophomore art and design major.

Jarrett Kelly, a sophomore art and design major, was drawing undead vampires from the movie *30 Days of Night* and characters from his personal collection on the "Sketchy 6" wall. Even though he never heard of the exhibit before it opened, he hopes to be a part of "Sketchy 7" next year.

"['Sketchy 6'] is awesome," Kelly said. "I can just come up here and draw something and still be a part of ['Sketchy 6']."

There will be an opening reception for "Lost and Found" and "Sketchy 6" on Nov. 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Hokin Gallery and Annex, 623 S. Wabash Ave. "Sketchy 6" runs until Dec. 14 and "Lost and Found" runs until Jan. 2.

dkucynda@chroniclemail.com



# SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Critical Encounters' Roots and Routes: Weekly personal narratives of Poverty and Privilege

'Borders'

by Teresa Puente

Faculty, Journalism Department  
Alumna, Fiction Writing MFA

## critical encounters: POVERTY ± privilege

WHEN MY mother's family moved to Illinois in the 1950s to pick vegetables on a farm near Elk Grove Village, Ill., all 11 of them lived in a two-car garage.

They slept on cots under comforters my grandmother made. There was no plumbing. They used water gathered from a pump to wash their dishes, their clothes and themselves. They worked from sunrise to sunset, picking corn, green beans and tomatoes.

They were Mexican-American migrant workers who left their home in Texas and traveled through the Midwest to work. My mother was about 6 years old when she first started picking in the fields. My mother, now 70, went on to earn a college degree in education. All five of her children graduated from college and three of us have master's degrees.

My parents worked hard in search of the American dream. They eventually bought a house in the suburbs and sent us to "good" schools. Education has enabled me to start my career as a journalist and now, as a faculty member in the Journalism Department at Columbia.

But I wonder what my life would have been like if I had been born on the Mexican side of the border, or even if I had grown up in another Chicago

neighborhood. Still, growing up in suburban Chicago, I was acutely aware of my class and ethnicity. I didn't have designer clothes like many of my classmates. My mom, once she learned to drive, didn't have a fancy car. I was one of a handful of Latino students in my high school.

In my honors Spanish class, a student once told me that I couldn't be Mexican. I asked why. He said it was because I was "too smart." I didn't fit his stereotype of an "uneducated Mexican." As an adult, I later learned that the class divisions in Mexico are far greater than in the U.S. when I moved to Mexico to teach and write in 2002.

I taught children of the wealthiest class at a private university. They drove to school in fancy sports cars and SUVs. Many of them spent vacations in the U.S. or Europe, and didn't have to worry about getting a job after college because their parents had money.

But for those in the middle and working class in Mexico, it's hard to get ahead even with an education. I have friends with college degrees who earn less than \$500 a month in Guadalajara, where the

cost of a modest apartment in this city is at least \$300 a month. So if you come from rural Mexico with a primary school education, you have even fewer options. This is why so many people migrate north to the U.S. in search of a better life.

Today, we have a nation with 12 million undocumented immigrants, many of them part of an underclass toiling for substandard wages in jobs most Americans don't want. Our country has to find a way to allow those who contribute to become equal and legal members of our society. Still, it's not as easy for them to change their class as it was for my parents and their family.

I think back to the time when my maternal great grandparents left Mexico. It was 1890 and there was no border fence and passports or green cards weren't required. They were among the first Mexican families to settle in Carizzo Springs, Texas. They worked in the country and the fields. Once in Chicago, they transitioned from farm work to factory work.

My mother was the youngest in the family and the only one to complete high school. I think



Teresa Puente, a faculty member in the Journalism Department, said her parents worked hard to establish the American dream for their five children.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

how fortunate I am that she did, and I admire how she went to college as a middle-aged homemaker.

My hands have never known hard labor in the way that hers have. I am thankful for my mother and also that I have the benefit of an education and the freedom to travel and work in the country of my choice.


The aim of Critical Encounters is to encourage you to engage with difficult questions about poverty and privilege. Each week, Critical Encounters will present a personal narrative from a student, faculty,

staff, or administrator of Columbia College Chicago. I welcome your reactions to each of these narratives. Write to me about what you think, how these narratives made you think about your own journey, whether you agree or disagree with the views that emerge from these narratives. Hopefully, you will feel inspired to write your own narratives, which you can send to me for inclusion in this column or on our website. Guidelines are on our website. — Stephanie Shonekan, [criticalencounters@colum.edu](mailto:criticalencounters@colum.edu) [colum.edu/criticalencounters](http://colum.edu/criticalencounters)



student  
bonus cash  
EXCLUSIVE OFFER  
**\$500**

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



2008 Ford F-150

**I AM solid.** define yourself.

[www.fordcollegehq.com](http://www.fordcollegehq.com)




See Web site for Official Program Rules




**DRIVES**

COLLEGE STUDENT PURCHASE PROGRAM

[www.fordcollegehq.com](http://www.fordcollegehq.com)

**FREE SCREENINGS!!!**



PRODUCED & NARRATED BY LEONARDO DICAPRIO  
**THE 11TH HOUR**  
THEN MANKIND'S DARKEST HOUR INTO ITS FINEST

Thursday, November 15th, America Recycles Day  
Hokin Lecture Hall Room 109, 623 S. Wabash  
Screenings at 4pm & 6pm  
There will be a screening at 9pm at  
731 S. Plymouth Ct. for residents only

Sponsored by  
COLUMBIA  
**recycling**  
PROGRAM

For more information go to [www.colum.edu/recycling](http://www.colum.edu/recycling)  
To get further involved go to [www.11thhouraction.com](http://www.11thhouraction.com)





Cherita Murrell, a senior television major, (left) and Quintella Rodriguez, a senior fashion design major, looked into Columbia's current student health insurance plan, but both found it unaffordable. The plan, managed by Koster Insurance Agency, would cost them about \$140 a month and require paying in full upfront for prescriptions and visits to the doctor, and up to a month waiting period for a refund. Both students said the process would not work for their budgets. Currently, both Murrell and Rodriguez are without health insurance. Instead, Murrell said she goes to the emergency room when she needs a doctor; Rodriguez said she visits free clinics.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

# Insurance option review begins

**Expert says college could cancel low-enrolled student health coverage**

by Beth Palmer  
Campus News Editor

COLUMBIA'S STUDENT health insurance plan has officially come into question.

The Student Health Insurance Committee, commissioned by the Office of Student Health and Support, held its first meeting on Oct. 30 to hear information about the school's current insurance manager, Koster Insurance Agency.

Despite students' complaints about the cost and long claim process of the Koster plan, it may be the best Columbia can offer if the coverage remains voluntary, according to both college officials and a higher education health insurance consultant.

The consultant said there are three directions Columbia's student health insurance can go from here: stay voluntary, switch to hard waiver or cancel completely.

Columbia has a voluntary plan for all students except for international students and students who live on-campus, who have a hard waiver, which means those students are automatically enrolled in the school's health insurance unless they show proof of equivalent coverage from an outside source.

Students who are U.S. residents and are younger than 24 years old can purchase the coverage at Columbia for about \$148 a month. After 24, the monthly rate goes up beginning at \$190. International students pay a flat \$1,071 yearly, in two payments.

Students can see any licensed doctor under the Koster plan, which covers 100 percent of the first \$5,000 medical expenses per injury or sickness, and 80 percent thereafter up to a maximum benefit of \$50,000 for each injury or sickness.

But students have complained about its claims process that requires those enrolled

to pay for doctors' visits, prescriptions, etc., in full up front, and then send the receipt to a processor in Texas. If the claim is approved, the student could receive a refund check via postal mail in two to four weeks.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said Columbia would never want to send students into the open market by not offering insurance. But the college will probably stay with the voluntary plan for now, he said.

"Our gut still tells us [a hard waiver] would not benefit Columbia students," Kelly said.

Gigi Posejpal, dean of International Student Affairs, attended the meeting and said international students want to look for their own insurance; they don't want to pay for Koster. But when students have to use the Koster plan, they feel differently, she said.

"[They] said to me, 'It's good I had it,'" she said. "It becomes a benefit when you use it ... I want them to stick with it."

Miles Vance, a senior art and design major, had Koster for three months last year, but is now uninsured due to lack of funds. A member of the committee, Vance said he supports Columbia having a hard waiver.

"I don't think we should have it any other way," Vance said. "The hard waiver is the compromise between voluntary and mandatory."

If Columbia had a hard waiver, students would pay for health insurance as a part of tuition. As a result, Vance and other committee members said, student loans could fund insurance.

Sharon Wilson-Taylor, dean of students, said she's not sure if Columbia is ready to subject students to a hard waiver.

"That's radical for this college to say, 'For you to go to this school, you must be enrolled in this insurance, if you can't show proof,'" she said. "[The plan] is just there in case someone wants it; students can go

around and find any insurance."

In survey results published this year by the American College Health Association, 79 percent of private four-year schools that responded had a hard waiver plan.

"For private institutions it's really rare to see voluntary plans," said Stephen Beckley, a Certified Employee Benefits Specialist.

Beckley founded Stephen L. Beckley and Associates, a healthcare management and benefit consultants specializing in higher education, based in Fort Collins, Colo., which helped deliver and quantify the results of the ACHA survey.

Less than 200 students of Columbia's 12,000 are enrolled in the plan this semester, according to college officials, and Beckley said switching to a hard waiver isn't necessarily the next step for the college.

Instead, he said the college could analyze the need for voluntary insurance and possibly remove it altogether.

"It sounds like you have a really lousy voluntary program," Beckley said. "It's not inappropriate to say, 'We could not have a plan at all.'"

He recommended the "family member" test: "If you don't want to have a loved one on the plan then don't have a plan at all," he said.

The agency's number of clients at Columbia peaked at 250 since the contract began in 1997, Bergonzi said.

Founded in a suburb of Boston in 1994, Koster has 80 clients—all institutions of higher education—including Georgetown University and Vanderbilt University.

Roosevelt University has the same system as Columbia: A voluntary plan for everyone except international students and dorm residents.

Both Roosevelt and DePaul University contract with The Chickering Group, which offers an Aetna health insurance plan, the same provider to Starbucks' employees.

Michele Bergonzi, vice president of Account Management at Koster, attended

the Oct. 30 meeting but is not a part of the committee. She said Koster is not an insurance company; it's more of a dealmaker between colleges and insurance providers like United Healthcare, the provider for Columbia's voluntary health insurance plan.

If the committee decides to search for a new health insurance game plan, Bergonzi said she would hope Koster could have a chance to present options, she said.

Cherita Murrell, a senior television major, said she's not interested in the current plan because she cannot afford to wait for claim refunds.

Other students feel the same way.

Quintella Rodriguez, a senior fashion design major, said she could not afford the claims process either.

"The school's plan is horrible. You have to pay out of [your own] pocket," Rodriguez said. "I feel that the plan is not useful for me."

Both Murrell and Rodriguez said they wouldn't mind a hard waiver.

Rodriguez said she's most concerned about what the hard waiver insurance would cover. If it didn't require too much extra money in addition to the hard waiver fee, she would support the school adding the hard waiver fee to tuition.

"Health insurance is very costly but that would be a nice way to do it, to include it with tuition for people who need it," Murrell said.

Murrell said she is concerned about people who aren't aware of the fee waiver option. People could pay their flat tuition, not realizing there's an option to provide insurance through personal venues, she said.

"Personally I would be OK with [the hard waiver]," she said. "But I'm also thinking for the entire school as a whole that will have to go through this extra stuff."

bpalmer@chroniclemail.com



# Campaign trails cross on Iowa campus

Clinton, Giuliani and Obama offices stand side-by-side in college town

by John McCormick and Christi Parsons

THE EPICENTER of political activism in Iowa's largest college town is the retail level of a four-story brick apartment building at the corner of Gilbert and College streets. Tenants include the local presidential campaign offices for Sen. Hillary Clinton, (D-N.Y.), Republican Rudolph Giuliani, Sen. Barack Obama, (D-Ill.) and Gov. Bill Richardson, (D-N.M.).

For now, however, the street fighting for the college vote is only starting to simmer, as the campaigns seek to harness voters whose activism often stops short of actual voting. With the first balloting just more than two months away, the Democratic campaigns in particular are intensifying their courtship. In trying to tap the campus vote across the state, the campaigns are going after a niche audience, just as they are with Latinos, veterans and farmers, all in an effort to build a winning coalition of voters. With as few as 50,000 votes potentially yielding a win in Iowa, the state's tens of thousands of college students present a tantalizing target. Some will caucus near their schools, while others, at home on break, could have even greater influence by participating in small towns.

In trying to attract young voters, the Democratic candidates frequently talk about their opposition to the war in Iraq,



Cody Eliff, left, campus leader for Students for Hillary Clinton at the University of Iowa and an intern in Clinton's Iowa City campaign office, and Jessie Appleby, an intern in Rudy Giuliani's campaign office, stand outside their respective campaign offices which are next door in downtown Iowa City, Iowa.

MCT

America's role in the world and the environment, top issues for many students.

The students said they are less likely to get their information from traditional news programs, although they do watch campaign ads on the Internet and attend candidate appearances on campus.

Yet volunteerism is on the rise, students are leading sophisticated divestment drives and technological advances have provided a broader forum for their views.

Young voters already may be more politically engaged. In 2004, more voters ages 18

to 29 went to the polls in the presidential election than had in 2000. Youth turnout also was higher in last year's midterm elections.

One recent study even suggested that half of those under 30 call themselves "enthusiastic" about a candidate.

That research, conducted jointly by MTV, The New York Times and CBS News, also found that 77 percent of those voters think their generation will have an impact on the selection of the next president.

Stephen Friedman, head of MTV's college

network, mtvU, said the survey showed that over the summer, 28 percent had done something connected to the campaign, such as attending a rally or volunteering.

"They're engaged in a way that we have not seen for many years," Friedman said. "The way they were raised technologically, they feel empowered to have an impact."

Yet the turnout of voters ages 18 through 29 in general elections has crept above the 50 percent mark only two times, in 1992 and in 2004, since the military draft was last in effect.

Most students will not return from winter break at the University of Iowa until Jan. 22, which adds another layer of complexity.

"Some people don't have a place to come back to," said Karie O'Brien, a leader with Hawkeyes for John Edwards. "Most of the dorms will be closed at caucus time."

O'Brien, 20, said she expects to take in as many as five students at her apartment. "I have lots of open space," she said.

Meanwhile, Jessie Appleby, 22, spends 20 hours or more a week volunteering for Giuliani, the former New York City mayor and only top-tier Republican with a major presence in the heavily Democratic community.

"Even just with a few more people hitting the caucuses here or caucusing for the first time, we can change the election," she said. "It would surprise a lot of people how many want to get involved."

MCT

## OPENING RECEPTIONS THIS THURSDAY

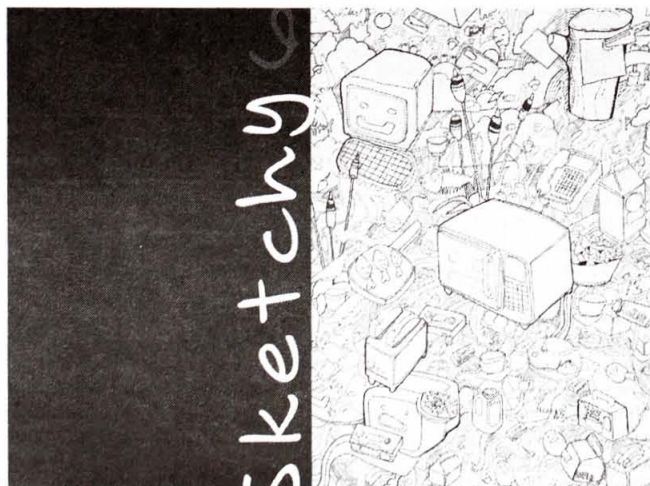
### Sketchy 6

Reception: Thursday, November 8, 5-7 pm

Hokin Gallery, 623 S Wabash Ave, first floor

Sketchy 6 is the sixth annual exhibition of sketches, drawings and sketchbooks of the students, faculty and staff of Columbia College Chicago. The exhibit explores the process of art and the thought progression of the artist.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [CSPACES.COLUM.EDU](http://CSPACES.COLUM.EDU)



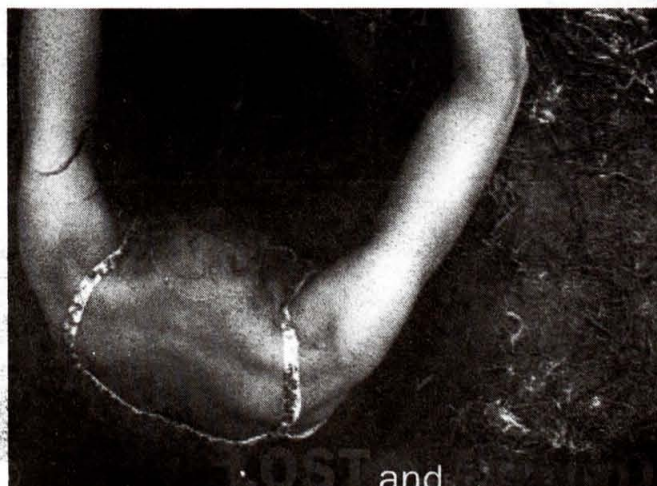
### Lost and Found

Reception, November 8, 5 - 7 pm

Hokin Anenx Gallery, 623 S Wabash Ave, first floor

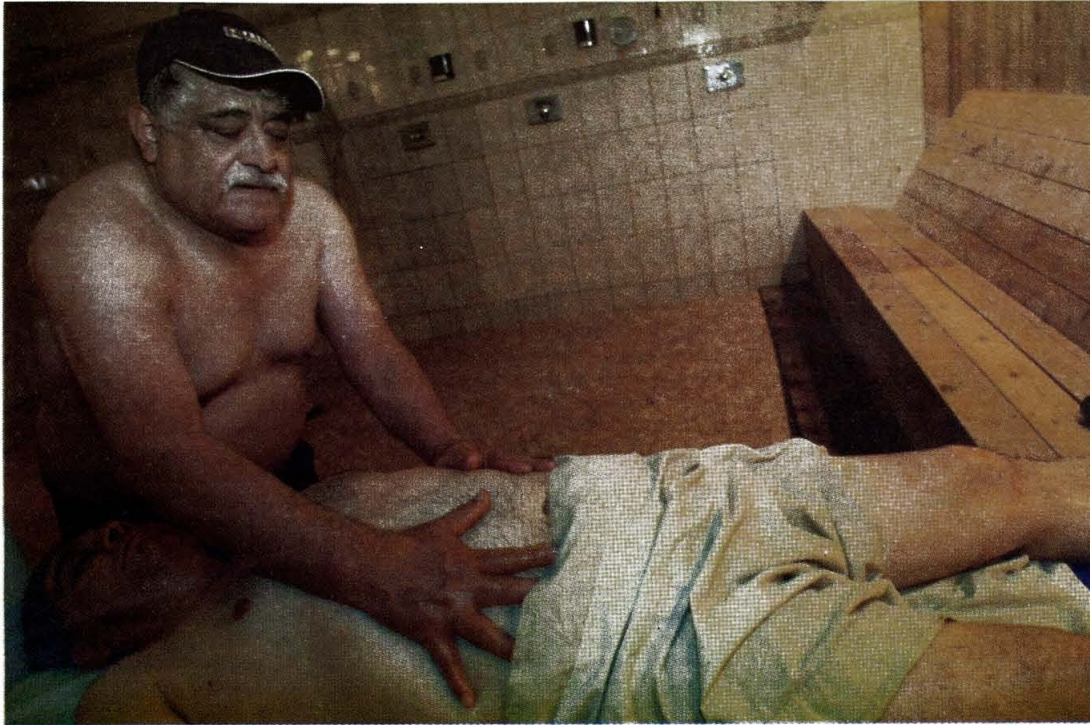
*"Like the misplaced mitten or errant earring, each one of us eventually ends up at the lost and found. When we have been abandoned, cast away, forgotten, set free, moved on, we are confronted with a bleak universe. When we lose sight of the path, however, we are suddenly free to go whichever way we choose. Being at the lost and found is a moment of utmost distress, and at the same time, a place to begin again."*

Lost and Found is curated by IMAGE Unit, a collective of the Columbia College Chicago Interdisciplinary Arts and Media MFACandidates dedicated to the principles of collaborative and individual creative excellence. IMAGE Unit invited Columbia students of all disciplines to submit works based upon the theme "lost and found." The exhibition features a broad range of artworks from traditional photography to multimedia installation.





# Arts & Entertainment



Eddy Anaya, a masseur of 35 years at the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths, gives Roger Garcia, a patron of 20 years, a massage in the afternoon.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

## Calendar

### Monday

Come to Del Close Theater, 3541 N. Clark St., for the Armando Diaz Experience, a comic performance that often features celebrity guests. Tickets are \$12. The show starts at 8:30 p.m.

Call (773) 880-0199 for more information.

### Tuesday

For between \$25.50 and \$122.50 you can purchase tickets from Ticketmaster.com to see Andrew Lloyd Webber's "The Phantom of the Opera" at 7:30 p.m. at the Cadillac Palace Theater, 151 W. Randolph St.

Call (312) 977-1700 ext. 1259 for more information.

### Wednesday

Graduates and current students of the Annoyance Productions Training Center will be performing their sets of Cheap Beer Improv at the Annoyance Theater, 4830 N. Broadway St. Tickets are \$2.

For more information, visit EmptyBottle.com.

### Thursday

Avenged Sevenfold, a punk-metal band, will be performing at the Congress Theater, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. Tickets cost between \$27.50 and \$30. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Call Ticketmaster at (312) 559-1212 for more information.

### Friday

The Matter of Reaction Movement Project will be performing at Links Hall Studio, 3435 N. Sheffield Ave., at 8 p.m. The modern dance works will also feature guest choreographers. Tickets cost \$10.

For more information, visit SOFAExpo.com.

### Saturday

"Light of Love" is a world-premiere commedia Dell'Arte play. Tickets cost \$20, and the show will be performed by the City Lit Theatre Company, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., at 8 p.m.

Call (773) 293-3682 for more information.

### Sunday

Head up to ESPN Zone, 43 E. Ohio St., for the Chicago Bears game at 3:15 p.m. Games are featured on big screen TVs in high definition.

Call (312) 644-3776 for more information.

## Ladies and gents: Full steam ahead

### Historic Russian Baths prepares new wing for women

By Jessica Galliant  
A&E Editor

REMNANTS OF dust litter the marble floors of the staircase and empty entryway of the building. The white paint on the walls looks fresh, but the stained glass chandeliers hanging from the ceiling seem to have hung untouched in the same spots.

The somewhat-darker connected hallway to the left spells out the history of the building on its walls—literally. Framed newspaper clippings documenting the 101-year-old

landmark's evolution throughout the years are hung on the walls and lead to a dimly lit lounge, with sports games and newscasts playing in the background.

Although the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths, 1914 W. Division St., has catered to men in Chicago for more than a century, the last remaining Russian bath in Chicago will soon open its doors to women.

In November, the previously men-only establishment will open a fully renovated new wing just for the ladies.

The entire facility, which was closed down in 2005, reopened in 2006 after banker Murad Sweiss bought the historic building

in 2005 and began renovations on the structure that was built in 1906. Co-owner of the Baths Joe Colucci had worked in the Baths off and on throughout his life, since both his grandfather and father had operated the business since 1974.

"There's just a history here," Colucci said. "They come here for the heat and to get away from the outside world. They get a little bit of everything."

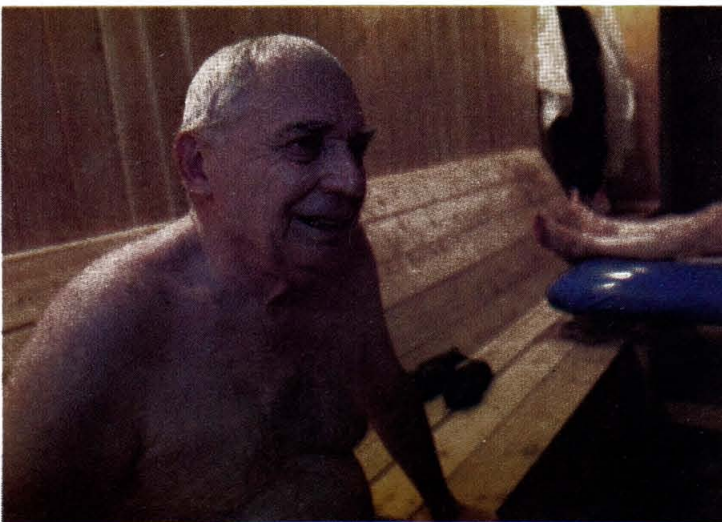
Noteworthy people including the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Barack Obama have frequented the Baths, Sweiss said.

For \$20, men receive a towel, soap, razors and sandals and can stay all day if they like. After paying, patrons head downstairs to the shower room, where they can rinse off, or head straight to the hot room, where water is splashed onto hot granite boulders in an oven to produce the Baths' infamous 180-degree heat.

A 35-year patron, Jeffrey Serota visits the Baths twice a week and is known around the establishment as a "heat junkie." In a group of about a dozen men on a chilly afternoon, Serota explained that the heat in the hot room opens the pores in the skin, then the cold pool and cold showers in the shower room close them to cleanse the skin. Serota said at the end of his day, he can relieve stress by taking in a massage with oak leaves.

"I feel at peace," Serota said. "Here's the best thing: When you come here, it doesn't matter if you're black, white, Asian or Mexican. You're all the same."

Although the Baths has attempted to appeal to women in the past by adding on a spa area, it wasn't successful. But for the new wing that will open this month, Sweiss



Gidon 'Giddy' Lavr relaxes in the shower room after soaking in 180-degree heat in the hot room at the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths, 1914 W. Division St.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

»BATHS, PG. 15



Just the Ticket

# Happy trailers to you



by Matt Fagerholm  
Assistant A&E Editor

OK, so let's say you've been waiting for a film all year, and it finally comes out. You rush to the theater, wait in a long line, plunk down 18 bucks for you and your girlfriend and then enter the magical darkness of the theater. All you want to do is simply sit back and see the movie you came to see. But no, the studios will have none of that. First you must sit through an onslaught of trailers, where various films pitch themselves to you in two-and-a-half minutes or less, desperately trying to convince you they too are worth your time and money. This, of course, might annoy most audience members.

As for me, I love trailers. When they're done right, they can truly be art forms in and of themselves. The first trailer I remember seeing was for *Home Alone* back in 1990. Macaulay Culkin ran screaming through his house as the film's tagline charged onto the screen: "A family comedy without the family." At age five, I found this premise to be wonderfully exciting and scary—imagine having the whole house to yourself!

As I grew older, I began to appreciate the

trailers that artfully conveyed the essence of a given film without giving away the entire plotline. Director Robert Zemeckis has increasingly shot himself in the foot by carefully structuring the twisting plots of his films before ruining all their surprises in the trailers for everything from *What Lies Beneath* to *The Polar Express*. He should've learned the lesson illustrated by the trailer for his own 1985 classic *Back to the Future*, which simply showed Michael J. Fox preparing to cruise down the road in his time-traveling DeLorean. If that trailer gave away the whole plot about Fox traveling back to the 1950s to play matchmaker for his teenage parents, the film wouldn't have been nearly as big of a hit.

Of course, some filmmakers have been able to provide a wealth of details about their film in a trailer without ruining their intended cinematic experience for audiences. In the trailer for his groundbreaking thriller *Psycho*, Alfred Hitchcock led viewers on a tour of all the key locations in the film, namely the Bates Motel and mansion. With dry British wit sprinkled over every syllable of his speech, Hitchcock described in surprising detail the murders that would take place at each location, without ever mentioning the names of the victims or the elusive killer. This only maximized the suspense for viewers, who would squirm nervously in their chairs as characters approached these notorious locations in the film. Hitchcock was building nightmares in his trailer, not diffusing them.

Sure, many people don't want to see any footage from a film before seeing it in its entirety, and that's understandable. Some trailers set the audience up with misguid-

ing expectations. Consider the irresistible trailers of Wes Anderson, which provide winning combinations of his formidable line-up of actors, pitch-perfect song choices, sparkling cinematography and instantly memorable one-liners. Yet I've sometimes found his trailers to be far more entertaining than the actual films. I personally thought the trailer for *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* was uproariously funny and even touching, while the film itself was a melancholy, wildly uneven curiosity. Another example is one of the best trailers I've ever seen, the nearly wordless visual ballet for Todd Field's *Little Children*. It made the film's plot so hypnotically ambiguous that when it was actually revealed, the effect was slightly underwhelming.

A great number of films will be pitching themselves to potential filmgoers in the next two months as Oscar season commences. This is the time of the year where trailers have to be really spectacular in order to stand out, and a select few have certainly stuck out in my mind: the rousing star-studded teaser for Todd Haynes's audacious Bob Dylan biopic *I'm Not There*, set to "Like a Rolling Stone"; the deliriously dreamlike promo for Julian Schnabel's fact-based masterwork *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*; and the intriguingly low-key trailer for Paul Thomas Anderson's *There Will Be Blood*, promising great work from leads Daniel Day Lewis and Paul Dano. Let's hope that each of these marvelous trailers is setting us up for a great upcoming cinematic experience, and not just future disappointment.

mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com

Chrissy Knows Best

# May I have your attention, please?



by Chrissy Mahlmeister  
Managing Editor

Everybody wants attention. But growing up, I wanted more than my fair share. I was the kid at the lunch table who would do any dare that was asked of me: "Chrissy, I totally dare you to drink this milk with ketchup, relish and peas in it." I would chug it down without an ounce of hesitation, laughing hysterically while wiping away my chin dribble of the nastiest concoction of the week. While it drew big laughs within my circle of friends, being an attention addict had its repercussions.

One typically boring day at lunch in high school, my friends and I were stuffing our faces with the usual pizza and pop. The night before I had been to my friend's birthday party and, as a joke, I bought her brightly colored flavored condoms. This was funny back then because A.) I was 16 and B.) we were so far from being sexually active it wasn't even funny. At the table I busted them out and they all started spazzing big time, as any 16-year-old would.

Next to us was this annoying table of freshman. It was jam-packed with skinny chicks hidden by long hair and chunky highlights. They wore push-up bras when

they didn't even need to wear a bra, and they thought they were God's gift to men.

To me, they were a walking joke. As my friend was examining a bright yellow banana-flavored condom, I tore it out of her hand and whispered, "Watch this." I proceeded to chuck the condom at one of the freshman at the table, hitting her right in her center part.

"Oh my gawwwd," she said. Flipping her hair around dramatically in utter disgust. By this time, my friends and I were crying-laughing. We obviously needed to harass them more. So I continued to throw the condoms, one after another, until finally the lunch lady tuned in to the commotion.

"What's going on here?" the lunch lady asked. "There is no throwing food allowed in the—WHAT IS THIS CONDOM DOING ON THE GROUND? WHO IS THROWING CONDOMS?"

The freshman started whining, saying someone was throwing them at their table. And then, like out of a movie, this one girl turned in her seat, directly at me, pointed and said, "It was her."

The lunch lady, hands never leaving her hips, slowly walked toward me.

"So it was you, eh? Mahl ... meister?" she said, reading the back of my shirt.

SHOOT. The one day I decide to throw condoms is the one day I decide to wear a shirt with my last name on it.

"Well, Miss Mahlmeister, there's nothing I can do now. You'll have to speak to the dean about this," she said with a grin.

The bell rang, and I was off to trigonometry, thinking I got out of this one. Fifteen minutes into class I got a note: "Dean's office. Now."

I cringed and headed to the dean's office,

a man whom I'd never met before, but a legend among the students: Mr. McKenzie.

I nestled in his uncomfortable chair, crossed my arms and waited for scolding.

But instead of saying anything, he enacted a 16-year-old's worst nightmare. He grabbed the yellow banana condom, dangled it in front of me and said, "Is this yours?"

I wanted to vomit right there. A gross old man just asked me if a yellow condom was mine while waving it only inches from my face—a living nightmare.

"Yes," I meekly replied.

"OK. Well, there's nothing in the code of conduct about this so ... I'm going to call your parents."

This was followed by an extremely awkward phone call: "Mr. Mahlmeister? Yes, hi, Dean McKenzie here. Your daughter was caught throwing condoms at some students today ... Yes. Have a good one. Bye."

I couldn't have been more embarrassed. Calling my dad was a worse punishment than being scolded by some man-in-a-grey-suit and outdated tie. He shooed me out of his office, and the next victim went in.

I couldn't believe the amount of embarrassment I had to go through just because I decided to be stupid and make my friends laugh. My parents just knowing I had bought condoms was bad enough, but then throwing them? Gosh. I couldn't even bare the thought of going home.

From then on, my friends always said to me, "What's your flavor?" in reference to the condom and my parents never let me live that incident down. And, years later, it still wasn't worth it for those few laughs, but at least I got to miss trigonometry class.

cmahlmeister@chroniclemail.com

# Best Bets

## Music

*The Meat Puppets with Ha Ha Tonka*

Although their name may make you gag, The Meat Puppets have been in and out of the music scene for almost 20 years. Brothers Curt and Kris Kirkwood reunited for the group's new album, *Rise to Your Knees*, after Kris Kirkwood's long battle with substance abuse. The Meat Puppets' oddly infectious sound and energy combined with Ha Ha Tonka's mellow, feel-good vibes should make for a good show at 9 p.m. on both Nov. 7 and 8 at the Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. Admission is \$16 in advance, \$18 at the door.

Call (773) 489-3160 for tickets.

## Film

*Brew & View at The Vic*

Any opportunity to drink booze and watch good flicks is OK with us. That's why Brew & View at The Vic, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave., is always a good choice for a night at the movies. The whole point is to enjoy some good cheap flicks with some mediocre cheap beer. But if you're under 21, no worries. You only have to be 18 to attend the showings and 21 to drink. If you missed *Knocked Up* or *The Simpsons Movie* while they were in first-run, go to Brew & View at 9 p.m. to see *The Simpsons Movie* and 10 p.m. to see *Knocked Up* on Nov. 7. and watch both for \$5.

Call (773) 929-6713 for more information on the event.

## Food

*The Chopping Block's Holiday Hootenanny*

Not every meal has to be a table-filling event. Learn to create as well as taste unique finger foods like sweet potato blinis with cured salmon and creme fraiches as well as goat cheese-stuffed mushrooms at the Holiday Hootenanny event. Held at The Chopping Block, 4747 N. Lincoln Ave., on Nov. 10 at 7 p.m., recipes and store discounts will be provided. A \$75 reservation is required.

Call (773) 472-6700 for more information on the tastiness.

## Performance

*Late Night Catechism*

This play centers on a nun named Sister who has a little fun with the audience, acting as their classroom instructor. Good boys and girls in the audience are rewarded with glow-in-the-dark rosaries and other prizes, but Sister places the naughty schoolchildren in a corner on stage for the rest of the show. Ouch! To see how you fare with Sister, check out the performance at the Royal George Theater, 1641 N. Halsted St., on Nov. 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30.

For more information, visit [TheRoyalGeorgeTheater.com](http://TheRoyalGeorgeTheater.com).



## » BATHS

Continued from PG. 13

Designated co-ed days also planned with renovation, co-owner says

said women will have everything at their disposal, including mud baths, manicures and pedicures, high-pressure showers, a lounge and their own hot room, almost identical to the men's.

"The treatment we will bring to women will be from Jordan, my home country," Sweiss said. "But we'll sell the treatments, like sea salt, and let them take them into the hot room, the shower room. So for \$30 you can get everything you would get for \$130 at a different spa. It's like a cheap health club. You can lose so many calories here that a one-hour visit is equivalent to a three-mile jog."

Though the women's wing will be downstairs in the two-story white stone building, separate from the men's wing upstairs, Sweiss said he plans to leave three days a week open for co-ed baths. Women and men will be able to share the entire facility Sundays, Mondays and Tuesdays.

Mikkel Aaland, author of *Sweat*, a book about the different forms of sweat bathing, visited the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths in the 1970s. He said he was surprised, but delighted, that

the Baths was still in Chicago. But, he said, the traditional Russian baths generally separated men from women, though many of the current baths are experimenting with designated co-ed days.

"In general most people would find the separation more comfortable," Aaland said. "The reason [Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths] continues to exist is that it has a following; it's an ethnic thing. People nowadays are looking for the authentic. This is something that's lacking in modern society. I think people are hungry for that."

Although beauty spas and health clubs come and go, especially in urban areas, the Baths have continued to sweat it out, becoming somewhat of a haven for those who frequent it. For 15 years, Danny Garcia has been a dedicated patron to the Baths—since he was 8 years old. He said he used to come with his father to the Baths, where he would feel "alive."

Serota agreed.

"You become part of a clan here," Serota said. "You take those clothes off, and we're all safe."

Students can receive services at a discounted price. For more information about the Division Street Russian and Turkish Baths, call (773) 384-8150.

jgallart@chroniclemail.com



Above: Tommy McShane demonstrates how oak leaves are used for massages. Right: Co-owner Murad Sweiss bought the 101-year-old building that houses the Russian Baths in 2005 when it was shut down. He quickly began renovations with co-owner Joe Colucci, and the two reopened the business in 2006.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE



**OUR**

**SECRET**

**SAUCE**

**IS**

**SPEED!**

**FREAKY FAST!**

**JIMMY JOHN'S**  
Since 1983  
**GOURMET SANDWICHES**

**FREAKY GOOD!**

**AMERICA'S #1 SANDWICH DELIVERY!**

TO FIND THE LOCATION NEAREST YOU  
VISIT [JIMMYJOHNS.COM](http://JIMMYJOHNS.COM)

[JIMMYJOHNS.COM](http://JIMMYJOHNS.COM)

©2007 JIMMY JOHN'S FRANCHISE, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

**NOW PLAYING**

**WRISTCUTTERS**

**A LOVE STORY**

AN AUTONOMOUS FILMS RELEASE. HALCYON PICTURES LIMITED AND ADAM SHERMAN INC. PRESENT A NO MATTER PICTURES PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH CRISPY FILM A FILM BY BORAN DUKIC  
"WRISTCUTTERS A LOVE STORY" PATRICK FUGIT SHANNYN SOSSAMON SHEA WHIGHAM LESLIE RIBB MIKAL P. LAZAREV WITH JOHN HAWKES AND TOM WAITS CASTING BY SHANNON MAKHANIAN  
VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR CHRIS DAWSON MUSIC SUPERVISOR ROBIN URBANO MUSIC BY BOBBY JOHNSTON DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY VANJA CERNJUL EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JONATHAN SCHWARTZ  
PRODUCERS ADAM SHERMAN CHRIS COEN TATIANA KELLY MIKAL P. LAZAREV BASED ON THE NOVELLA "KNELLERS HAPPY CAMPERS" BY ETIENNE KRET WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BORAN DUKIC

**R RESTRICTED** UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN  
LANGUAGE AND DISTURBING CONTENT INVOLVING SUICIDE

**Halcyon** Adam Sherman Inc. **autonomous [films]**  
© 2007 Autonomous Films

**lovesurvives.com**

**NOW PLAYING**

CHECK YOUR LOCAL LISTINGS OR LOG ON TO  
**LOVESURVIVES.COM** FOR TICKET INFORMATION



## Top 5



Derek Kucynda, Assistant Campus News Editor



Beth Palmer, Campus News Editor



Robert Bykowski, Assistant Campus News Editor

### Things to look forward to post-Halloween

**Candy:** I don't really care for delicious sweets the other 11 months of the year, but with Pixy Stix, caramel apple lollipops and Reeses Stix littering my little brother's candy stash, who can resist them?

**Thanksgiving:** It's probably my empty stomach thinking about Halloween candy that made me think of Thanksgiving. It's the best holiday to eat food without guilt. My family will be there, devouring what's left of their failed diets on this glorious day.

**The last day of school:** Even though we are weeks away from Dec. 13, my official last day of class, I can still daydream of winter wonderlands, snow angels and how much fun I'm going to have on my birthday, which is on Jan. 2. Presents are greatly appreciated from the general public.

**Black Friday:** I never wake up to shop at 6 a.m. unless it's the day after Thanksgiving. The sales are incredible; I can finally get my Christmas shopping done and, like a fun night out at the bar, I realize how much money I blew the next day.

**The first snowfall:** I don't know about you, but I can't wait to see the fluffy snow on the ground, make a snowball and lob it at my unsuspecting boss as he walks into work.

### Things we might live to see

**Peace in the Middle East:** I've read about scientists from Saudi Arabia, Israel and Palestine at conferences discussing global nature concerns. Some say because the scientists are abandoning their political agendas for these conferences, other members of conflict countries will reach peace agreements.

**Space tourism thrive:** If rich people follow through with what they're saying they're doing, we should be able to go into the atmosphere in the next 10 years—for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

**Science develop God-like capabilities:** Our greatest dream would come true if scientists, too, achieve what they claim to be able to do in the next couple of decades: Healthy organs will be lab-created and gene replacement therapy will cure disease.

**The Apocalypse:** I have no proof, but I'm sure somebody somewhere can back me up on this claim, which is depressing.

**Stephen Colbert as a presidential nominee:** Sorry, this just in: We won't. A Democratic leader in South Carolina denied Colbert from the ballot. But we can continue to get INDECISION 2008 coverage on Comedy Central.

### Things I avoid

**Grates:** One time, while trying to photograph a bridge, a metal grate I was standing on gave way and I plummeted 10 feet into the stagnant, freezing Illinois & Michigan canal. I no longer step on grates—ever.

**Spinach:** I don't care what kind of leafy, lettuce-like image spinach has come up with. I still remember my dad forcing me to eat wet, stringy spinach that came from a can. Never again, spinach, never again.

**Dishes:** Ways I've tried to avoid doing dishes: drinking and/or eating directly from the container; throwing out all dishes except for a plate and a couple of forks; using plastic utensils and paper plates; doing a terrible job on dishes so that my services weren't requested the next time around.

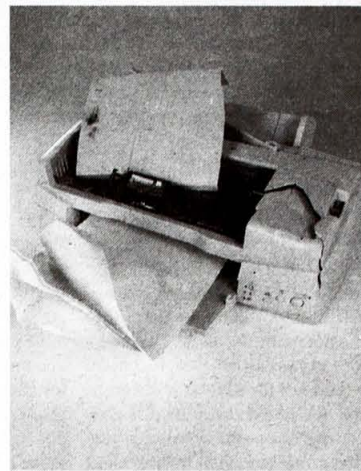
**Buses:** If I can't get somewhere via plane, train or automobile, I'm not going. Buses are depressing, never arrive when you really need them and there are far too many routes to memorize.

**Wal-Mart:** Never mind the low prices (which border on being witchcraft, anyway) and the supposed "great" values—Wal-Mart is a hellhole. The customers are obnoxious, and the employees are either brain dead or near dead, depending on their age.

## Jack Ass

OF THE WEEK

### Stupid criminal steals printer, gets inked



LIQUID LIBRARY

Stealing is lame. This is something most can agree on. But what about stealing a printer from a government office, then calling the manufacturer's help line because it doesn't work?

Enter another stupid criminal.

Timothy Scott Short was charged on Oct. 11 for felony possession of "document-making implements" after he stole a printer that was used to print driver's licenses, then called the manufacturer's tech support line after he discovered the printer would not work without a key, according to an IDG News Service report.

On Oct. 5 the printer and a PC were stolen from the St. Charles contract office of the Missouri Department of Revenue. The stolen PC was locked with a tangible key that was stored in a secure location, making the printer unusable to the thief. Obviously thinking logically, Short called Digimarc Corp., the manufacturer of the printer, and asked the tech support line about buying printer drivers for the model of the printer he had stolen from the St. Charles office two days earlier so it would work. The thief identified himself only as "Scott." What a sneaky little jerk.

A Secret Service agent listened to a recording of the tech support phone call and identified Short's voice from a different investigation. The mysterious "Scott" provided Digimarc with a phone number Short used in an unrelated identity theft case, according to the report.

Imagine how hilarious the look on "Scott's" face would be if the cops showed up at his door to bust him for his bandit blunder. First, he looks surprised. Then, after a few moments to think over his actions in his latest criminal endeavor, he has a moment of clarity: "Oh, is this about that thing with the printer? Crap."

More and more stupid criminals seem to constantly outdo themselves with their ridiculous ideas on how to cheat and steal. If "Scott" would have at least been clever enough to figure out how to bust into the top secret printer himself without calling tech support, which usually isn't any help anyways, he might not be considered such a complete idiot.

Next time a stupid criminal makes such a grandiose effort to break into a government office and steal a piece of equipment with the information of hundreds of people, he should make sure he gives it more than two days before calling his victim's tech support line for help when it doesn't work properly. Have fun in jail, jack ass.

—J. Gallart

# HOW TO

## Be a creepster

with Jessica Gallart



One of my secret favorite things is finding out information about strangers without them knowing. If something about you sparks me as interesting, weird or downright dumb, then I'll do my best to find out whatever I can about you.

But although I know I'm not alone in my inquisitive adventures, I know that there's a line I won't cross: that line between being curious and being weird. With all of the technological advances like news feeds on Facebook, text messaging and MySpace pages, it may be easy to fall into the trap of being creepy. So if you feel like you're sliding out of the curious stage and into the creepster category, check if the following match up with your actions. Because then, you probably are a creepster.

### Interweb relations

• Once Facebook created the news feed section where you can see what your friends are up to on the social/psychopathic networking site, I knew the stalkers could utilize a new weapon. If there's someone you've had your eye on lately,

go pretty far back in said person's news feed history and send her a message complimenting her on the funny joke she posted on her friend's wall in August. She'll think you're sweet, I promise.

• Like someone in your math class who doesn't know you exist? Facebook and AIM are the keys to her heart. Glance at her homework assignment as she passes it in to get her name, search for her on Facebook, then send a message to both her Facebook inbox and her AOL instant messenger screen name. If she doesn't reply, continue to send one message to both every evening until she replies. Persistence is key.

• When you finally do talk to her, make sure you use everything on her profile as a starting-off point. If her profile says she lives in Wrigleyville, mention how much you detest the Red Line after a Cubs game. She writes on her profile that she likes the movie *Tren Wolf*? Casually mention how you used to watch it with your mom every Friday night while you

reenacted the scenes where Michael J. Fox transformed into a wolf. There's your icebreaker, right there.

### Creepy catchphrases

• There are certain ways to say something in order to sound creepy. Instead of telling her she looks pretty today, tell her she looks thin. Then pat your belly and say you wish you were as thin as her.

• If you see the girl you've been hounding on the street one day, the next time you see her tell her that you spotted her. "Hey do you live in Wicker Park? I heard you tell someone in class that you do, so when I was there the other day I waited by the train stop and saw you walk to Jewel by yourself. I didn't want to scare you, so I followed you there just to make sure you made it safely."

• The final nail in the coffin will come when you utter this phrase: "Am I being creepy?" If this proves ineffective, try "I hope that's not creepy." If she didn't think you were creepy before, she definitely thinks you're a creepster now.



# The Chicago Outfit returns ... in skates and knee pads

New roller derby league rolls into Chicago

by David Lister  
Staff Writer

PARTICIPATION IN Chicago's newest roller derby league, the Chicago Outfit, is a labor of love. Some members come straight from work, while others come from northern Indiana to meet weekly for the chance to turn into their alter egos—donning names such as Electrocute and Charlene In Charge. The two-hour-long practice will leave many of them sore, bruised or even bloody, but they will quickly explain that pain is part of roller derby.

The Outfit formed after the disbanding of another all-women's roller derby league, the Chitown Sirens, earlier this year. Some members of the Sirens joined the Windy City Rollers, a league created in 2004, while others began working on the new league.

Before their season officially begins in May, the Outfit hosted their first event, a Halloween costume open skate fundraiser, Oct. 30 at the Fleetwood Roller Rink, 7321 W. Archer Ave.

The league also plans to host a charity bout before the start of the season in May on Nov. 13 at the Fleetwood Roller Rink. The Outfit will divide into two teams, each representing a different charity organization. They will donate proceeds from the event to the chosen charity of the winning team.

The league currently has 25 members, and Cornelio said they hope to eventually have 40 skaters, which will allow for rotating rosters. According to the Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Association, teams consist of a maximum of 20 skaters.

Roller derby bouts are played between two teams and consist of either two 30-minute periods or three 20-minute periods. Five skaters—three blockers, one pivot and one jammer—are allowed from each team on the track at a time. The infamous violence and bruising come from the need to stop the other team from scoring, as points are awarded when the jammer passes by a skater from the opposing team.

Nata Cornelio joined the Outfit after the Sirens disbanded. Cornelio said the Outfit is concentrating on promotion and building relationships with other leagues, as well as preparing for the upcoming season.

"We're trying to get our profile up and get our name out," Cornelio said. "Hopefully, we'll eventually be able to compete against other leagues. That's how you learn the most."

According to Catherine Mabe, author of *Roller Derby: The History and All-Girl Revival of the Greatest Sport on Wheels*, there are more than 200 leagues in the United States.

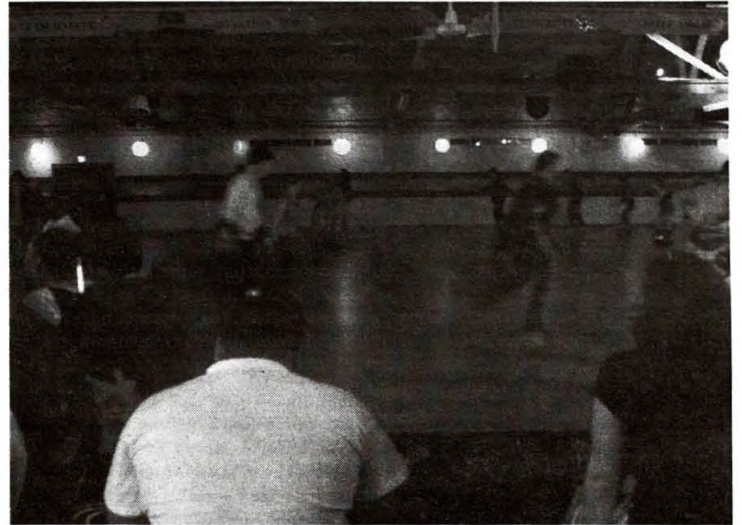
One thing that is standard across all leagues is the use of an alias by skaters. Mabe said nicknames have been a part of the sport from almost the very beginning.

"Aside from the bumps and bruises, that's one of the most important things about roller girls," she said. "It's a badge of honor, definitely a way to kind of switch modes."

Like Cornelio, Lara Rosenbush was a member of the Sirens who now competes with the Outfit. She agreed about the importance of nicknames.

"You think of something that's almost too awesome to handle and you wonder if you can [handle it]," Rosenbush said of her alias, Matzah Ballbreaker. "The family was so proud."

Rosenbush said the physical aspect of the



The Chicago Outfit, a new Chicago roller derby team, hosted a Halloween costume open skate fundraiser Oct. 30 at the Fleetwood Roller Rink, 7321 W. Archer Ave.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

sport is what appealed to her.

"It's a perfect place to come when you're done with work," said Rosenbush. "It's fun to see how far you can push your body, and the camaraderie is pretty sweet."

While competition on the track can be fierce, Cornelio said there is no rivalry between the upstart league and The Rollers. She said she knows many members of the Rollers who were former Sirens.

"Ultimately we'd love to have a great relationship together, but we see that as further down the road," she said. "We're supportive of [roller derby] leagues in general. It's awesome there are so many girls

in the area who are interested."

Danielle Ramirez is the director of Community Relations for the Rollers and competes under the name Belle Diablo. She said while the two leagues are competing for the same fan-base, the Rollers concentrate only on its league.

"Probably less than half of Chicago even knows that roller derby exists," Ramirez said. "We're all vying for the same fans. I imagine some girls are concerned that might be competition for us, but we really just try to focus on our own league."

chronicle@colum.edu

**VILLAINS BAR & GRILL**

**WEEKLY SPECIALS**

**MAYHEM MONDAYS** FIRST RULE OF MAYHEM MONDAY IS DON'T TALK ABOUT IT, JUST SHOW UP

\$3 COORS LT. DRAFTS \$2 BEAM 8 SHOTS

**PUNK ROCK TUESDAYS**

LISTEN TO PUNK - PAST & PRESENT \$2 WELL DRINKS ALL NIGHT

**TRASHY WEDNESDAYS** COME GET DIRTY

50¢ LARGE WINGS \$2 PBR ON TAP

**ROCKSTAR THURSDAYS**

ROCK OUT WITH \$3 ROCKSTAR & VODKA DRINKS

**REVOLVER FRIDAYS**

LOAD THE CHAMBER GIVE IT A SPIN. PULL THE TRIGGER ON \$4 DRAFTS \$4 JAEGER & "O" BOMBS

**SWITCHBLADE SATURDAYS**

TAKE A STAB AT \$4 GUINNESS & \$5 MIMOSAS

**SUNDAY BLOODY SUNDAY** NEED WE SAY MORE?

\$5 BLOODY MARYS & \$3 MILLER LT. BOTTLES

VILLAINS. 649 SOUTH CLARK STREET. CHICAGO. (312) 356-9992. FREE WIFI

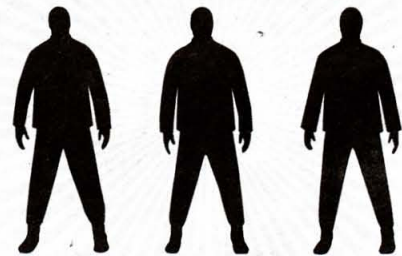
OPEN NIGHTLY, WE'LL PAST YOUR BEDTIME.

COME WATCH FOOTBALL, SOCCER, RUGBY @ YOUR NEW FAVORITE HIDEOUT

SAT. - ESPN GAMEPLAN & BIG TEN NETWORK FREE SETANTA SPORTS

SUN. - NFL TICKET

Blue Man Group Gift Certificates  
make people happy.



**BLUE  
MAN  
GROUP**

Box Office 773.348.4000  
ticketmaster 312.902.1500  
ticketmaster.com  
Group Sales 773.348.3300

1.800.BLUEMAN blueman.com

BRIAR STREET THEATRE 3133 North Halsted  
Chicago

©CMP



# New films prove there's no slump for Josh Brolin

Actor discusses his latest role in 'No Country for Old Men'

by Matt Fagerholm  
Assistant A&E Editor

JOSH BROLIN leans forward, gesturing eagerly. He wants to engage his listener in the tale he's unfolding. The story of his life has certainly been a page-turner. He garnered laughs and chills for his roles in the critically-acclaimed but little-seen films *Grindhouse* and *In the Valley of Elah*, and acted alongside Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe in Ridley Scott's *American Gangster*.

But Brolin's breakout role is in *No Country for Old Men*, the new thriller from Joel and Ethan Coen, based on the book by Cormac McCarthy. Brolin stars as Llewelyn Moss, an innocent young hunter who discovers \$2 million in cash alongside a load of heroin and several dead bodies. When Moss takes the money, he finds himself pursued by the mysterious Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem), a homicidal maniac who's on the radar of veteran Sheriff Bell (Tommy Lee Jones). The Chronicle recently spoke with Brolin about his new film, out in theaters Nov. 9.

**The Chronicle: Describe the challenge of capturing the spirit of Cormac's writing on-screen.**

Josh Brolin: I know the Coens had never talked to Cormac. They just tried to be extremely loyal to the tone in which Cormac wrote this book, and I think that they were. The editing that they did [to the story] wasn't OK'd by Cormac. I think Cormac feels this way anyway: 'I wrote the book, whatever you want to do beyond that is your medium; I've already accomplished my medium.' He went on to [write] *The*



Actor Josh Brolin stars as Llewelyn Moss in the new film from Joel and Ethan Coen, 'No Country for Old Men,' also starring Javier Bardem and Tommy Lee Jones. The film opens on Nov. 9.

*Road*, which ended up winning a Pulitzer, which I think is fantastic and deserved. To me, he's the greatest American writer we have today, so to be able to be a part of an adaptation of one of his creations [makes me] feel very fortunate. I think that they translated the spirit of Cormac very well and appropriately.

**You've said the film's three main characters are essentially the same person split three ways.**

It's [clearer] in the book than in the movie, but I think in the movie it comes across. You have Javier's character Chigurh and Llewelyn Moss who I think are the same type of character, just at the opposite ends of the spectrum. I think they both have the same level of principle and integrity—[Chigurh] about his work, and Llewelyn about his loyalty and love for his wife which allows him to make the decision to take that kind of money. I think that he has the resources to be able to protect himself and his family, having been to Vietnam twice. So Llewelyn is the good, the innocent.

[Chigurh] is the grim reaper manifest, so he's that dark side of ourselves that we're unwilling to look at. And Javier's manifested it in such a human way even though it's of mythological proportions. There's a logic to his dialogue that's so scary because it's so visceral and so human.

And then you have Tommy Lee's character, who's looking back on his life now and saying, 'Where did I screw up?' There's this whole part of the book where Sheriff Bell did this thing in Vietnam and couldn't deal with it, and [he] said that he was there for his comrades, when in essence he wasn't. He's living [with] that guilt and shame every day of what it is when you don't have a sense of integrity and follow that integrity through with courage. I think Llewelyn is doing all of those things. [But] Cormac is saying, 'Look, no matter what you do or no matter how resourceful you are, you really don't have any control over any of it.'

**You've done a great deal of acting both on stage and on film. Which do you prefer?**

They're so completely different. In stage acting, anything can happen. It's like a big rehearsal during film acting. You just put yourself out there and sometimes you get it and sometimes you don't. And even if you don't get it, the next night you might get it like you'll never get it again. On stage, you have an audience that you're reacting off of. Any actor [who] tells you, 'I don't even know the audience is there,' you go, 'Shut up!' The audience is so obviously there and so obviously feeding you, or you're feeding them. So there's a very personal relationship that happens on stage. In film, even when you're doing a comedy, once you do the same frickin' joke for the 90th time, the crew is looking at their watches and they can't wait to get home. And the joke's not working. So you have to get beyond a massive self-consciousness in film that makes it a lot more difficult.

**What is your advice for aspiring actors at Columbia?**

Do it only if you love it. It's too difficult to do it if you don't really love it. I don't particularly love acting, but I love storytelling. I love the art of storytelling, so however I can be involved in that, whether it be through writing or directing or [whatever]. I have a theater club in Los Angeles, [and] I just did a short film recently. So I [want] to be involved in the storytelling process and be involved with great filmmakers like the Coens or Ridley Scott or David O. Russell or Woody Allen. Acting is a weird thing, and it still is a weird thing. But I've gotten to the point of a comfort zone at least where I like to scare myself or stretch myself or push myself only for the end result.

[mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com](mailto:mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com)

MORRIS CHESTNUT GABRIELLE UNION CHARLIE MURPHY KATT WILLIAMS  
WITH TAZOO LOVE AMY TERRENCE AND QUEEN LATIFAH

THE PERFECT HOLIDAY  
THIS CHRISTMAS THE PERFECT MAN JUST HAPPENS TO BE SANTA

www.ThePerfectHolidayMovie.com

Y&E THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE  
www.columbiachronicle.com

INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING!

STOP BY  
THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE  
www.columbiachronicle.com

33 E. CONGRESS, SUITE 224 • CHICAGO

ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH  
TO PICK UP A COMPLIMENTARY  
PASS (ADMITS 2) TO A  
SPECIAL SCREENING ON  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH OF

THE PERFECT HOLIDAY

One entry per household. No purchase necessary. Those that have received a screening pass or promotional prize within the last 90 days are not eligible. Must present a valid student ID.

IN THEATRES DECEMBER 12TH!



# Artists discuss the 'Climate of Concern'

Galleries, panelists  
address issues for  
Humanities Festival

by John Lendman  
Staff Writer

THIS TIME of year, a variety of changes are apparent: the changing colors of the falling leaves and the coming of the sharp, chilly weather. Amidst these changes, Chicago Humanities Festival officials hope to create some change in public opinion with a diverse festival comprised of artists, scholars, poets and playwrights performing in Chicago's urban arena.

The 18th Annual Chicago Humanities Festival, scattered around various city venues, runs through Nov. 11 and focuses on the critical issues behind global warming. With the theme "The Climate of Concern," festival officials want to look into the future of the environment through the expression of hundreds of artists. Students and educators can experience more than 140 performances, readings, panels, exhibitions and concerts offered at more than 30 various venues with free admission.

Chicago Humanities Festival artistic director Lawrence Weschler said he hopes the theme will inspire younger generations to be concerned about the drastic changes in the environment, and understand the importance of the responsibilities society carries as a result.

"Our place in nature puts us at a position where we have to take care of our planet when no one else will," Weschler said. "The arts and humanities this year will address this issue and stir a dialogue among scholars and policy-makers alike."

The inspiration for the theme developed when festival officials realized the lack of concern from the American public and politicians about climate change, Weschler said.

"At some level we hope to make this real for people and wake them up from their sleepwalking," Weschler said.

Topics and presenters look into the global economy, conservation, ecological beliefs and government policy. Panel discussions include mapping the global environment, adapting as a response to global warming and breakthroughs in sustainable design.

Weschler said one of the most influential lectures to attend is the "Doris Conant Lecture on Women and Culture" with Majora Carter on Nov. 9 at Northwestern University's Thorne Auditorium, 375 E. Chicago Ave. Carter is the founder of the community-based initiative Sustainable South Bronx, which has sought to remove toxic waste dumps from poor neighborhoods in New York City. The discussion will focus on a proactive approach to cultivating "green" neighborhoods in poor communities.

Gary Paulsen, the author of acclaimed young adult fiction books, like *Hatchet*, one of five books in the series "Brian's Saga," led a discussion on nature and

survival to kick off the Children's Humanities Festival on Oct. 27, while the Chicago Sinfonietta composed a concert with visuals from the Notebaert Nature Museum at the Symphony Center at 220 S. Michigan Ave. on Oct. 29.

On Oct. 30, the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., hosted a panel entitled "Sustainable Building in Chicago: A Scorecard" where speakers such as Chicago's Green Projects administrator Erik Olsen and sustainable architecture expert Helen Kessler led a dialogue on urban building and sustainability.

One of the guests invited to speak at the panel was Douglas Baum, who is heading the Green Exchange building in Chicago. He believes the main concern of developers is in the education of the public. He said the "green community" is all about sharing ideas and making sure "green development" becomes more mainstream.



The Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., hosted a panel discussion Oct. 30 about urban building.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

"Everyone is in this together," Baum said. "Hopefully we'll all be here 20, 50 or 100 years from now; the less people know about this, the less they can do about it. People right now just take [environmental awareness] for granted."

University of Chicago Graduate

School of Business student, J.S. Roy, said he was engaged in the panel discussion because of his interest in climate change and how it affects Chicago.

"I'm at a point where 'green technology' is where I want to be," Roy said. "I want to know

that Chicago is making an effort to recognize these concepts."

For schedules of upcoming events at the Chicago Humanities Festival, visit [CHFestival.org](http://CHFestival.org).

[chronicle@colum.com](mailto:chronicle@colum.com)

**I WANT  
TEAM SPIRIT  
GLORY**  
AND NOT TO SHOW UP IN FULL  
UNIFORM FOR A GAME THAT WAS  
CANCELLED THREE DAYS AGO.



**Renegades**  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

Columbia College Fencing Team  
presents  
★ THE MEDIEVAL FAIRE  
FUNDRAISER

Nov. 16th @ 731 s. Plymouth (lower level)  
Come out and fence with your friends! Try the  
Trebuchet! Test your knowledge in the Monty  
Python Trivial Challenge, and much more!  
☞ COME IN COSTUME ☞

★  
**CURRENT ACTIVE SPORTS:**

\*Baseball \*Men's Basketball \*Capoeira \*Lacrosse \*Soccer (Men's and  
CoEd)  
\*Cross Country \*Cycling \*Flag Football \*Softball \*Swimming \*Fencing  
\*Tennis  
\*And many more,...

**STUDENT ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION**  
the art of play

★ FITNESS CLASSES OFFERED!  
EVERY WEEK!

\*Hatha Yoga—Tues. 5:30pm-  
7:00pm  
instructor: Micki Leventhal

\*Ashtanga Yoga (power yoga)  
—Wed.

6:00pm-7:30pm  
Instructor: Edna Radnik-Madonia

\*Pilates Mat class—Fri. 6:00pm-  
7:00pm

Instructor: Edna Radnik-Madonia

(All classes to be held in the Fitness Studio  
located in the lower level of 731 s. Plymouth Ct.  
Free for all students.)



U.S. Cellular is wireless  
where you matter most.™

[getusc.com](http://getusc.com) 1-888-BUY-USCC



*"Part of my own personal journey was to sort of internalize being defined by the mall during my stay there," Townsend said. "Nordstrom was really looking like a good job opportunity for me. I think I would have been a very very good salesperson."*  
—Michael Townsend, who maintained a secret apartment inside of a shopping mall for four years



illustration & layout:  
*Emilia Klimiuk*

Townsend, who lived close to the



# Mall Experiment

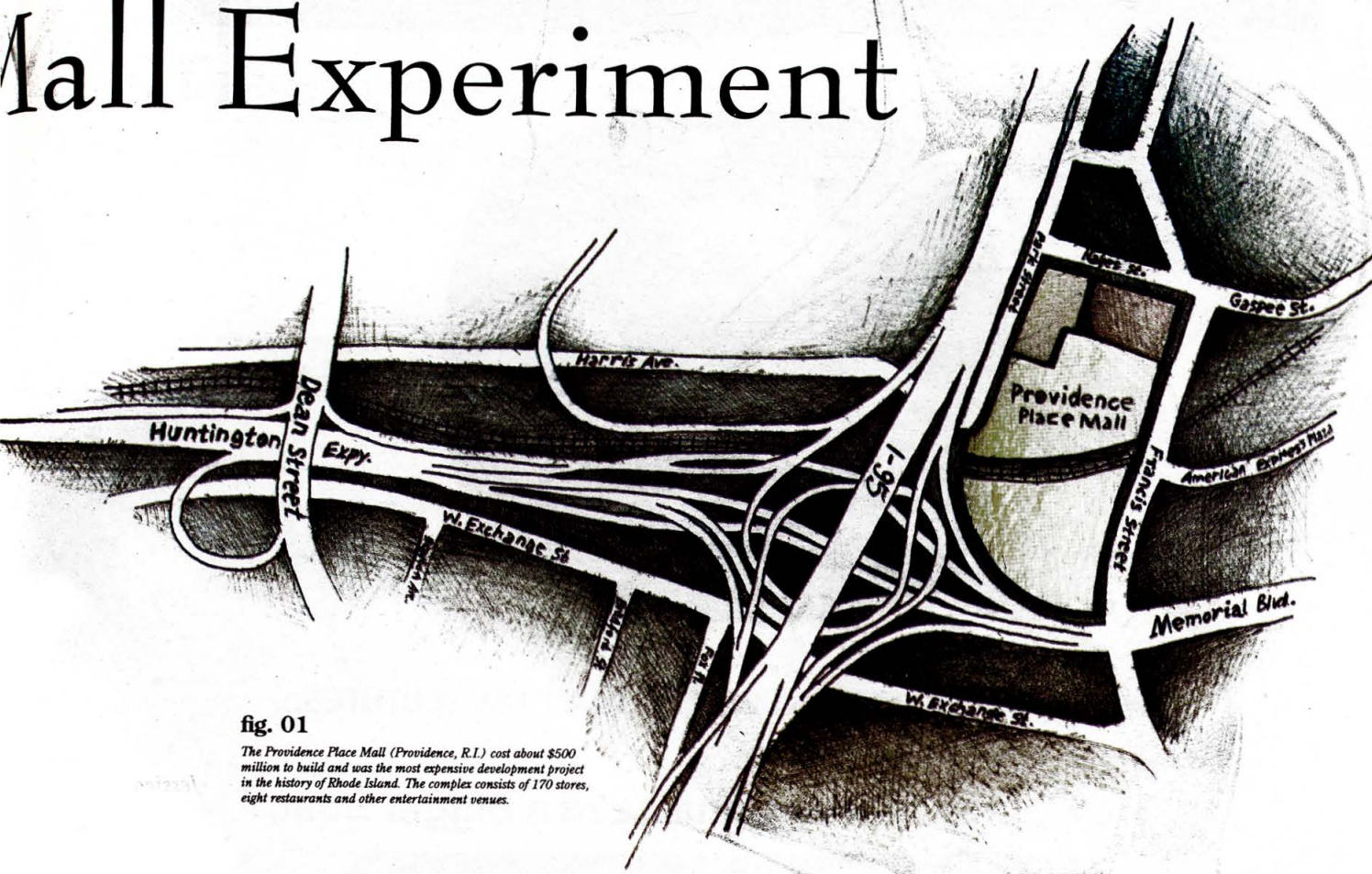


fig. 01

The Providence Place Mall (Providence, R.I.) cost about \$500 million to build and was the most expensive development project in the history of Rhode Island. The complex consists of 170 stores, eight restaurants and other entertainment venues.

mall, had watched as every beam of the structure was built.

## The mall moves in

The Providence Place Mall, built in the late 1990s, became a strong fixture in the lives of Townsend and his wife, Adriana Yoto. Townsend literally had to drive through a "canyon" in the middle of the mall to reach downtown Providence.

"Its arrival had ramifications that rippled through my entire neighborhood," Townsend said. "Even if I never saw the mall being built, I would have known from its creation that something big was happening. Even if I never physically saw the mall, it would have radically affected me."

Yoto, who began studying the mall for her project "Mallife," said the structure separated the wealthier side of the city, the East Side, from the poorer neighborhoods on the West Side, where Yoto and Townsend live.

"In the architecture and design itself of the mall, it is seducing. It's like opening its arms to the East Side but turning its back onto our neighborhood," Yoto said. "So since the mall has never been looking at us, we've always been looking at the mall."

In 2003, Townsend and Yoto decided they needed to get to know their neighbor—the mall. The couple and two other artists agreed to spend an entire week, from one Friday morning until the next, inside of the Providence Place Mall as an adventure of sorts. Each of them brought \$20 in cash and voted on one item that each person could bring on the week-long adventure. The crew voted on flashlights, a sketchbook, a foil car blanket and a wash cloth for the all-nighters in the mall.

Though four years had gone by

since construction finished on the mall, Townsend still remembered every architectural aspect of it. During the week-long journey inside the mall, the artists explored the unused—or "undefined"—as Yoto and Townsend describe them—spaces inside of the mall.

"Undefined has more to do with serving the defined spaces, and you never see any decoration or care for how it looks; it's just there to be there," Townsend said. "Then there's the forgotten spaces. And that means just being completely off everyone's radar, just abandoned. They may have been undefined at one point, but they have slipped into the realm of forgotten."

It was during their exploration of the undefined and forgotten spaces of the mall that Townsend was looking for a spot he remembered from the construction of the mall. In the middle of the mall, above a storage room, was a "launchpad" area for I-beams, or beams used as support for construction. Townsend said the space couldn't have served any purpose after the I-beams were gone, and he set out to look for it.

## The four-year journey

The first night of their week-long adventure, Townsend found an "anomaly" in the architecture: two cinderblock walls separated by a gap almost 2-feet wide. The dark, narrow passageway Townsend found was a path that led directly from the outside of the mall to the space he remembered from years earlier.

Yoto said the intrusion of the mall into their everyday lives led them to want to get as close as they could to the mall—living in it.

"It was just about us and the mall. There was a somewhat personal relation-

ship we had [with it] because the mall had taken over our city," Yoto said. "So we wanted to have a dialogue with it. The closest we could think of was actually moving in and trying to coexist."

The only passageways to the apartment were through the narrow gap from the outside, or through the storage room with a steep ladder that led up to the apartment. Townsend accessed the room from an exit stairwell, where he said he always found the door ajar. Every piece of furniture was moved up to the apartment from the ladder. They also built a wall from cinderblocks they carried through the small passageway with a stationary door to section off the lofted apartment from the storage room below.

"We had a very strange place to actually define, because we built our own cinderblock wall and we had our own door with a key. And so if we have a key to a door, does that make it a home?" Townsend said.

Until this spring, the artists lived in and out of the apartment—using extension cords from the storage room for electricity and bathrooms in the mall to clean up—without any intrusions.

## "Letting the mall define you"

In the process, though, Townsend said he eventually wanted to get a job at the mall to become a reflection of the mall itself. He wanted to dress like those who shopped in the mall and those who worked in the mall to understand the phenomenon behind it all.

"Part of my own personal journey was to sort of internalize being defined by the mall during my stay there," Townsend said. "Nordstrom was really looking like a good job opportunity for

me. I think I would have been a very, very good salesperson." (Fig. 02)

When Townsend would spend back-to-back nights in the mall, he would fall asleep on the large couch in the secret apartment, then wake up the next morning and walk to the office of his full-time job with TapeArt, a community art project, while he lived in the mall. He and other artists visit schools and communities to show the different ways art can be created to reflect on the community, including using tape to create murals.

Adam Brooks, faculty member in the Art and Design Department at Columbia, is half of the performance art duo Industry of the Ordinary. Brooks said he has heard of secret installations in Chicago before, but he said he's not sure how art like this can engage an audience.

"I think essentially the real question becomes what the idea of engaging an audience is integrated into the work and whether this is an activity for the artist alone, in which case the audience is secondary," Brooks said.

After the media got wind of Townsend's experience, he said he received hundreds of e-mails in response to the apartment in the mall—every single one positive.

"One of the recurring themes in these e-mails is this tone [of] 'thank you.' It's said over and over," Townsend said. "Every time I see this I'm always caught off guard by it. I think they're thanking me for my take on it that the secret mall apartment manages to encapsulate the love/hate that everyone has with the mall."

To read more about the secret apartment in the mall and see more of Townsend's work, visit [Trummerkind.com](http://Trummerkind.com). To learn more about Yoto's "Mallife" project, visit [ColinCantRead.com/Mallife.html](http://ColinCantRead.com/Mallife.html).



**Columbia College Chicago**  
Campus Apple Store

33 E. Congress 1st Floor  
Chicago, IL 60660  
312.344.8MAC  
apple1@colum.edu  
www.colum.edu/applestore



Meet OS X Leopard with 300+ new features...

**Hey Quint, we're gonna need a bigger boat.**

**Get the all new OS X Leopard ONLY \$79\***



**16 GB iPod Touch**  
**\$399**



**Final Cut Studio 2**  
**\$499\***

\*In-Store Only Price

**Store Hours: M-F 11pm to 6pm**

Prices Subject To Change Without Notice



**Authorized Campus Reseller**



# Recycled cans lend heart to commerical art

Red Bull competition offers winning artists trip to modern art exhibit

by Brett Marlow  
Assistant A&E Editor

THE MAKERS of the energy drink Red Bull are laying down their wings and picking up some art.

The Red Bull "Art of Can" exhibit pops open its lid in the city this week. Contestants from the Chicago area and abroad submitted pieces of art created from recycled Red Bull energy drink cans and they're now on display at the River East Art Center, 435 E. Illinois St., from Nov. 9-18. It's the first time Red Bull has hosted an exhibit of this nature in Chicago.

The display features 39 pieces that were selected by a panel of local Chicago judges familiar with the arts. The panel includes William Frederking, a faculty member in Columbia's Photography Department.

About 200 entries were received, said Nyla Hassell, spokeswoman for Red Bull.

Pieces include aluminum can sculptures of knights, aluminum dresses and statue heads.

Hassell said the pieces were evaluated on their construction, creativity, overall

concept and execution.

The contestants were given a short list of rules and guidelines and were asked to create something that either embodied the Red Bull spirit or anything creative they could think of, Hassell said.

Asta Razma, a 45-year-old pharmacist, entered the contest after seeing an ad in a fashion magazine. It took her three months, off and on, to create her scuba diving creation she named "Dive for Red Bull ... (It gives you fins)."

Razma said her piece is a scuba diver who finds a treasure chest deep in the sea overflowing with tiny Red Bull cans.

She got the idea from a family trip to Australia where her sons learned to scuba dive. The diver's suit is decked out in the Red Bull logo, highlighting that he's diving for a drink under the sea, she said.

Razma considers art more of a hobby, but it's also something she's done since grammar school. Working with aluminum cans was something foreign to her, and the process wasn't easy, she said.

"It was very challenging. At one point I was ready to throw the whole thing out the window," Razma said. "[But] the more I worked with it, the easier it got."

She used scissors, wire cutters and a glue

gun to construct her 2.5 foot long structure. It's featured on a billboard advertising the exhibit in downtown Chicago on Clark Street and Grand Avenue.

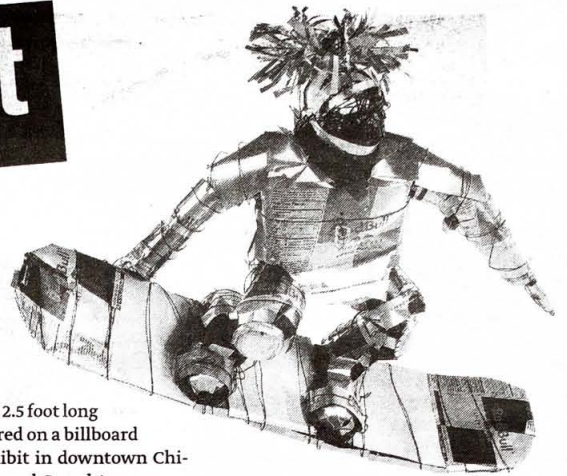
Taking inspiration from another sport, John Herget, who works as an advertising and marketing consultant, modeled his submission after snowboarder Shaun White. The piece is titled "Attack of the Killer Tomato" and features an aluminum replica of White doing a back-side grab atop a snowboard.

Herget used high-tension wire to construct the skeleton of the piece and used the cans to act as the "skin" around it. Herget said it took about a week to complete his piece. Like Razma, he faced challenges working with the aluminum cans. He used a rotary tool to cut the aluminum.

Using recycled materials instead of creating new ones was interesting to him, he said.

"I think found art is great, creating something artistic out of other random objects in life," Herget said. "I've always sort of been intrigued by that, taking an existing item and changing it into something new and compelling and different."

Herget said he thought the concept of this exhibit was something that would get people more engaged in thinking about art



Courtesy RED BULL

in a new way, even if it's somewhat commercial.

The winner, which will be announced at a private event for the contestants and media, will receive a trip to Art Basel, a modern art exhibit in Switzerland. Second place wins a trip to Art Basel in Miami and the third place contestant wins their own customized local art experience.

Workshop classes will also be taught during the exhibit's opening week by participating artists.

The exhibits started in 2005 in Boston, and in addition to the exhibit this year in Chicago, one was held in Philadelphia last week.

"Doing artwork is one of those things that I've just always done and always will do. It's just a way to purge those creative ideas from my head," Herget said.

For more information, visit [RedBullArtOfCan.com](http://RedBullArtOfCan.com). The exhibit is free.

[bmarlow@chroniclemail.com](mailto:bmarlow@chroniclemail.com)

# Horror, Hollywood and 'A Writer in Trouble'

Hopkins invites viewers into his own fascinating 'Slipstream'

by Matt Fagerholm  
Assistant A&E Editor

WHAT HAPPENS in Hollywood certainly doesn't stay in Hollywood. Filmmakers have always been eager to illustrate their observations, fears and insecurities about show business in their work. Yet a fairly new trend in American cinema was set off in 2001 by David Lynch's masterpiece *Mulholland Dr.* That film spent the majority of its running time literally delving into the nightmares of a disillusioned actress whose dreams of love and success have been crushed.

Lynch followed up this film half a decade later with the more audacious *Inland Empire*, which blurred reality and fantasy even more impenetrably as it followed another actress through the horrors of Hollywoodland. It's no surprise that another filmmaker would be influenced by this unique storytelling technique, but could anyone have expected it to be Anthony Hopkins?

Yes, Hopkins, an actor who has succeeded in giving cannibals, madmen and even Richard Nixon a shade of elegance and dignity, has made *Slipstream* one of the most bombastically experimental films of the year. Before its Oct. 13 screening at the Chicago International Film Festival, Hopkins described the film as "a thumbnail sketch of his own inner life." If *Slipstream* is truly Hopkins' inner life, it's a wonder the man can function at all. Hopkins plays Felix Bonhoeffer, a screenwriter who shares the

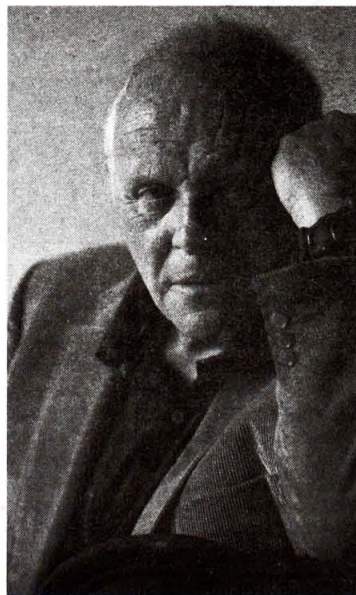
same last name of Hitler's would-be assassin. Bonhoeffer seems on the verge of a complete mental breakdown as he finds characters from his script turning up in his own life. One of them is killed off early on, only to return complaining to the befuddled writer that he had three more scenes left. When 1956's *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* is mentioned, that film's star, Kevin McCarthy, shows up, apparently playing himself.

As in many of Lynch's films, the "fictional" within the movie take on an unnerving reality of their own. There's a very long protracted sequence where a pair of gangsters hold up a desolate diner, only to be halted when one of the performers is accused of overacting. Sometimes Bonhoeffer seems to be writing the story of the film's production as well. *Slipstream*'s utter lack of continuity seems inexplicable until viewers learn that Bonhoeffer "killed off" the script supervisor. The film is thus a carefully constructed mess that will either intrigue or infuriate viewers. For me, it did both.

The film is loaded with colorful supporting roles that generate interest even as the film flirts with the black hole of chaotic inconsequence. John Turturro is a riot as the monstrously egocentric director, who at one point appears trapped in Bonhoeffer's computer. There's also nice work by Camryn Manheim, Christian Slater, Fionnula Flanagan, Michael Clarke Duncan, S. Epatah Merkerson and even Hopkins' wife, Stella Arroyave, who naturally plays Bonhoeffer's wife in the film. And the priceless Jeffrey Tambor, proving he's lost none of the comic timing he mastered in "Arrested Development," gets all of the film's best

lines, and even has the opportunity to play a character named Dr. Geekman.

There's no way of knowing if Hopkins was at all influenced by Lynch, who he had previously worked with only once on the director's uncharacteristically linear *The Elephant Man*. But the similarities between *Slipstream* and Lynch's latest work are undeniable. Hopkins' film is every bit as self-



Legendary actor Anthony Hopkins wrote, directed and scored the new thriller 'Slipstream.'

indulgent, frustrated and experimental as *Inland Empire*. What it lacks is an actor like Laura Dern, who functioned in *Empire* as the emotional anchor to ground viewers from simply floating off into Lynch's own slipstream. Here, Hopkins doesn't offer a single character for the audience to identify with, making them as hopelessly lost and adrift as Bonhoeffer. Thankfully, the film is far more deliberately entertaining than *Empire*, making it certainly more accessible, if less artful.

One of the most striking images in both films depicts the tormented main character charging headlong into the camera. Viewers at these films frequently feel as if they too have been bludgeoned by the screen. Both films obviously represent various life experiences of their respective directors, but one has to ponder whether these projects serve any function outside of personal catharsis. Hopkins wrote, directed and scored this film, but to what end? For fun, it seems.

While I noted in my review of *Empire* in The Chronicle that the film warranted five smiles for die-hard Lynch fans and about two and a half for everyone else, I'd say *Slipstream* measures up to a solid three for all filmgoers. They certainly won't be bored, but they might leave the theater feeling like the butt of a joke. As one character says, "The guy who wrote it did it for a laugh." That seems to be about the level Hopkins is working at. It's a challenging lark, but a lark nonetheless.

[mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com](mailto:mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com)

MCT



# Senator's daughter inspires country song

Cries of a child motivated  
Martina McBride's new single

by Alfred Lubrano

COUNTRY MUSIC is usually about the basics: hearth and home, kin and flag.

Turns out it can also be about the weeping daughter of a former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania.

This month, country singer Martina McBride released the single "For These Times" from her album *Wake Up Laughing*, with a verse inspired by Sarah Maria Santorum, Rick Santorum's 9-year-old daughter.

On election night 2006, the Republican Santorum was defeated by Democrat Bob Casey Jr. Sarah Maria, then 8, clutched a doll and cried inconsolably. The image was captured by news cameras and became a much-viewed and debated item on the Internet.

When Sarah Maria started crying, singer/songwriter Leslie Satcher, who knows and admires Santorum, was watching, chagrined.

"Rick was giving this speech how he loved Pennsylvania, and the cameras zoomed in on this little girl," Satcher said by phone from a Nashville recording session. "I said, 'They're not even paying attention to Rick, and they're just showing us this girl hurting for him.' It spoke to our times. We forget people are grieving and forget to give them space."

A few months later, Satcher said, she was in the process of writing songs for McBride's then-forthcoming album, when she attended a church service.

Her pastor held up a Bible and said, "For these times in which we live, you are going

to need this book."

Satcher said she quickly wrote those words into the Bible she was carrying, then recalled Sarah Maria and penned the song at three the next morning. Within four days, McBride had recorded it.

"It's not so much about Rick's daugh-

ter," Satcher said. "My daughter loves Martina McBride and is a real fan."

Santorum said he made a special moment out of telling Sarah Maria about the McBride song, informing her as he recorded her on a video camera.

Once again, the girl cried, as Santorum

his family since the vitriolic Internet reaction to Sarah Maria's tears on the night of the election loss.

"Cry me a river, little girl, your dad sucks," was typical fare from liberal bloggers opposed to Santorum's conservative stances on abortion and gay rights. Others called out Santorum for "using" Sarah Maria and his other children as props on election night.

"You're a complete jerk when you write stuff like that," Santorum said. "They're picking on my little girl, saying things like, 'I never got so much joy from an 8-year-old's tears.' You don't do that."

"And I wasn't trotting out my family. I'd lost. To not have had my family out there would have been inappropriate," he said.

Santorum said he's a big fan of McBride, a singer who has recorded message songs like 1993's "Independence Day," an anti-domestic-violence song about leaving an abusive husband.

McBride did not know until well after recording "For These Times," however, that the song had its genesis in Santorum's election loss, Satcher said.

"Martina's response to me was she was appreciative," Satcher said. "She wanted a social-commentary song. It's like the song was born that night I wrote it for her."

Satcher said she has written for other major country artists, including George Strait, Vince Gill, Reba McEntire—"everybody but Garth Brooks."

She writes, she said, for "the majority of Americans, who are traditional, faith-based people. This song speaks to that."



Martina McBride's debut single for her new album 'Wake Up Laughing' was based on a girl she saw crying on election night in 2006.

MCT

ter, as how everything is on TV, how everything is media-driven and how people don't have much privacy because of that," Satcher said.

The other verses are about U.S. soldiers and religious faith.

"I thought it was a cute thing," Santorum

knew she would.

"I wanted to record her reaction," he said. "We do that for family movies."

But don't look for his video on YouTube. "[It's] not for public consumption," Santorum said.

Santorum said he is more protective of

MCT

## CALM BODY, PEACEFUL MIND.

Anxiety, alcohol, and depression screenings.

Wellness Fair • **November 7** • 731 South Plymouth Court • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

[www.colum.edu/wellness](http://www.colum.edu/wellness)

Take care

Sponsored by your student activity and student health fees. Bring your student ID.

Columbia   
COLLEGE CHICAGO

create...  
change



# Award-winning singer Robert Goulet dies at 73

Performer was awaiting lung transplant

by Daisy Nguyen

ROBERT GOULET was in good spirits as he waited for a lung transplant, even telling doctors before they inserted a breathing tube, "Just watch my vocal cords," his wife said.

The big-voiced baritone, whose Broadway debut in "Camelot" launched an award-winning stage and recording career, died Oct. 30 at a Los Angeles hospital. He had been awaiting the transplant after being diagnosed last month with a rare form of pulmonary fibrosis. Goulet was 73.

Vera Goulet, his wife of 25 years, said they were last able to speak three weeks ago before the singer was placed on a respirator.

Longtime friend Wayne Newton said Goulet's sense of humor "kept my spirits up in some of the lowest valleys in my life."

"His incredible voice will live on in his music, and as Bob so brilliantly sang, 'There will be another song for him and he will sing it,' for God now has another singing angel by his side," Newton said in a statement.

The Massachusetts-born Goulet, who spent much of his youth in Canada, gained stardom in 1960 with "Camelot," the Lerner and Loewe musical that starred Richard Burton as King Arthur and Julie Andrews as his Queen Guenevere.

Goulet played Sir Lancelot, the French knight who falls in love with Guenevere. He became a hit with American TV

viewers with appearances on "The Ed Sullivan Show" and other programs. Sullivan labeled him the "American baritone from Canada," where he had already been a popular star in the 1950s, hosting his own TV show called "General Electric's Showtime."

Goulet won a Grammy Award in 1962 as best new artist and made the singles chart in 1964 with "My Love Forgive Me."

"When I'm using a microphone or doing recordings I try to concentrate on the emotional content of the song and to forget about the voice itself," he told The New York Times in 1962.

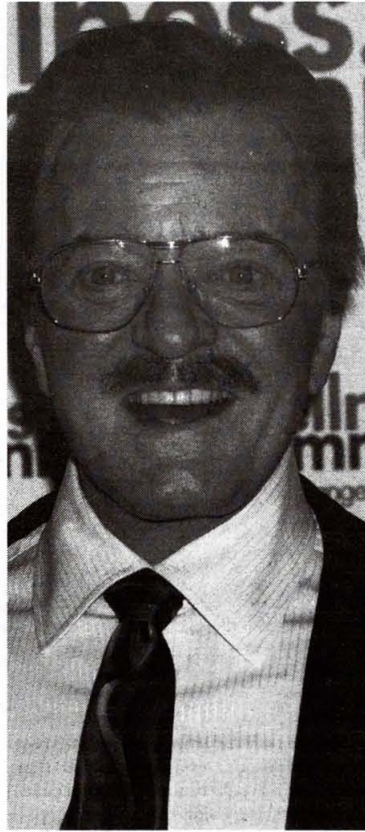
"Sometimes I think that if you sing with a big voice, the people in the audience don't listen to the words, as they should," he told the newspaper. "They just listen to the sound."

His stage credits elsewhere include productions of "Carousel," "Finian's Rainbow," "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," "The Pajama Game," "Meet Me in St. Louis" and "South Pacific."

Goulet also performed in movies ranging from the animated *Gay Purr-ee* (1962) to *Underground* (1970) to *The Naked Gun 2½* (1991). He played a lounge singer in Louis Malle's acclaimed 1980 film *Atlantic City*.

He returned to Broadway in 2005 as one half of a gay couple in "La Cage aux Folles."

Goulet had no problems poking fun at his fame, appearing recently in an Emerald nuts commercial in which he messes with the stuff of dozing office workers, and lending his name to Goulet's SnoozeBars. Will Ferrell also joked about Goulet on



Goulet's last performance was on Sept. 20 when he performed 'A Man and His Music' and was backed by a 15-piece orchestra.

MCT

"Saturday Night Live."

"You have to have humor and be able to laugh at yourself," Goulet said in a biography on his website.

The only son of French-Canadian parents, Goulet was born in Lawrence, Mass. After his father died, his mother moved the family to Canada when the future star was about 13.

He received vocal training at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, but decided opera wasn't for him. He made his first professional appearance at age 16 with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

Pianist Roger Williams said he first met Goulet when he performed on a Canadian television show.

"He appeared on the last part of the show, and I knew then that he was a tremendous talent," Williams said. "He could shake a room with that big beautiful voice."

Although Goulet headlined frequently on the Las Vegas Strip, one period stood out, evidenced by a photograph that hung on his office wall. It was the mid-1970s, and he had just finished a two-week run at the Desert Inn when he was asked to fill in at the Frontier, across the street.

"I played there many, many years and have wonderful memories of the place," Goulet told the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

His first two marriages ended in divorce. He had a daughter with his first wife, Louise Longmore, and two sons with his second wife, Carol Lawrence, production of "West Side Story."

AP

THE ONLY THING MORE TERRIFYING THAN BEING ALONE  
IS DISCOVERING THAT YOU'RE NOT.

P2  
PARKING

A NEW LEVEL OF FEAR

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
A SPECIAL SCREENING

P2

STOP BY THE  
THE COLUMBIA  
CHRONICLE  
www.columbiachronicle.com

LOCATED AT 33 E. CONGRESS, SUITE 224  
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER  
5TH FOR YOUR CHANCE  
TO RECEIVE A  
COMPLIMENTARY PASS  
FOR TWO.\*

\* Passes available while supplies last on a first-come, first served basis. No purchase necessary. Must present a valid student ID to receive a pass. One admit-two pass per person. Employees of all promotional partners, their agencies and those who have received a pass within the last 90 days are not eligible.



THE COLUMBIA  
CHRONICLE  
www.columbiachronicle.com

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH!



## REVIEWS



SHIIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD

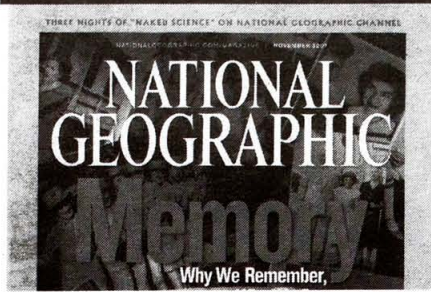


WORTH A GIGGLE



HAPPY DANCE!

## PRINT



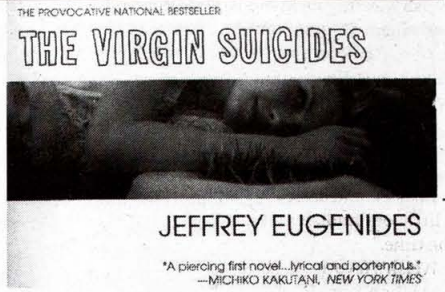
## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, NOVEMBER 2007

Like an old friend, National Geographic never lets me down. Every month I tear into the magazine, and I can barely take in all the amazing pictures and stories because I look through it too fast. This month is no exception and the cover story, "Memory: Why We Remember and Why We Forget," is touching yet informative. —B. Schlikerman



## THE NEW CHICAGO READER FORMAT

Feelings remained mixed about the Reader's new tabloid format, but my feeling is this: ABOUT TIME! No longer do I fuddle through pages stretched out across my neighbor's lap on the train. However, I do miss the cut-outs and graphic-centered listings section. All in all, good move, backwards R! —B. Marlow



## 'THE VIRGIN SUICIDES,' JEFFREY EUGENIDES

I'm always a little weary of required reading books for classes, but when I signed up for a fiction writing class as a humanities credit, I had high hopes. *The Virgin Suicides* was on the reading list and upon finishing it a few days ago, I was pleasantly surprised. So don't just count on the movie; try reading the book too. —Q. Milton



## MOVIES / DVD / TV



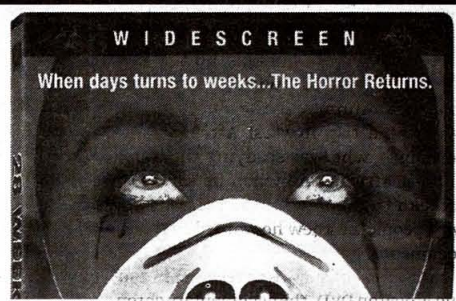
## 'DIRTY SEXY MONEY' ON ABC

Peter Krause may have been great in "Six Feet Under," but it didn't translate above ground. Although the plot is slightly interesting—a quest to bring justice to his deceased father and get engrossed in a life of luxury—the actors fall short. The show might be catchy with its title, but its content needs some resuscitation. —B. Marlow



## 'ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW' AT THE MUSIC BOX THEATRE

*Rocky Horror* was surreal, and it's a blast to sit in a theater and watch the toilet paper, glowsticks, noisemakers and balloons of the faithful thrust into the darkened air. However, I could do without the pre-show and the re-enactments of the scenes on the screen. —W. Giglio



## '28 WEEKS LATER' DVD

While the first one was great, the DVD release sequel stinks. The story follows the aftermath of the original outbreak, but the story line is way too far fetched—even for a zombie movie. You are better off renting *Night of the Living Dead*. —G. Slefo



## MUSIC



## PUSCIFER: 'V IS FOR VAGINA'

Tool's lead singer, Maynard James Keenan, has a new side-project, and it doesn't sound like anything you'd expect from him. Gone is his tenor voice as well as any form of guitar. In its place is a low voice with processed music to match it. —L. Smucker



## PANTHER: 'SECRET LAWSNS'

Calling this album unbelievable is an understatement. Main man Charlie Salas-Humara is a certified weirdo, with awkward and slightly uncomfortable dance moves at every show. Best song on the album? "You Don't Want Your Nails Done," without a doubt. If you only buy (or steal) one record this year, this should be it. —C. Mahlmeister



## RACHEL RIES: 'WITHOUT A BIRD'

Ries, a local transplant hailing from the plains of South Dakota, recently released her second full-length CD on her own record label. Folk with a little bit of jazz and bluegrass, this album is as satisfying as a warm bath on a chilly Chicago night. She'll melt your heart. —S. Harvey



## RANDOM



## 'BIOSHOCK' FOR XBOX 360

Wow, this game is amazing. A first person shooter, you follow the story of a mad-man politician who built an entire city underwater. After some crazy experiments, everyone goes nuts, and it is up to you to save the day. Buy this game right now. —G. Slefo



## NEW MACBOOK

What can a PC user do that a Mac user can't? Shut their mouth about their laptop's technology. But there's a reason. It's a surreal experience working on a computer that doesn't freeze or crash. Am I a victim of the corporate virus that is Mac? Yes. Am I ashamed? No. —S. Baltrukonis



## LYRIC OPERA STUDENT TICKET PROGRAM

If you like theater and classical music, you might just like opera. If you sign up at [LyricOpera.org](http://LyricOpera.org), you will receive e-mail notifications as \$20 student tickets (with amazing seats) become available. What's more posh than an opera date? —S. Harvey





## »BALLOONS:

Continued from Front Page

### Duo's 'social' balloon experiment anything but a bust

Welsh was staying in the same hostel room with them. It wasn't until he saw Somekh with his balloon apron that he discovered their hobby. He thought it was interesting and traveled with them for a day.

"Addi is amazing when it comes to interfacing with strangers," Welsh said. "It comes naturally to him after being a balloon artist and basically taking something a little outlandish and dealing with it all the time."

Welsh's favorite memory from that time was when Somekh made a hat for a Russian man outside of a Russian Orthodox church. It was a blend of gold and emerald green balloons that formed a long cylinder hive that spanned out into long balloons with antennae-like buds at the end. It took nearly an hour to make, but it gave people a break from the daily grind of their lives, he said.

"It's sort of a little social experiment," Welsh said. "People all of a sudden lose track of what they're doing during their day. You put these balloon hats on them and their personality comes tumbling out."

The works of Somekh and Eckert struck a chord with Andy Vermouth, a filmmaker the duo ran into while on a trip in West Africa in 1997. Vermouth, who was studying the music in West Africa, said when he saw what Somekh could do with the balloons and with people, he knew he wanted to make a documentary of it.

*The Balloonhat Movie* was released in 2005 and is now on DVD. The documentary chron-

icled Somekh and Eckert's excursions for a period of two years, traveling through Romania, to Hungary, to Israel and on to Egypt. They also traveled to Brazil. Some people thought the duo were mocking their culture and asked them to leave, Vermouth said. The duo and Vermouth were filming a group of women pounding grain in West Africa, and the men of the tribe thought they were making fun of their culture and wanted them out immediately, Vermouth said. However, often the response was enthusiastic.

For the majority of the time, Somekh said, people were willing to participate. But even though there were the occasional few who didn't want to be photographed, Somekh and Eckert still gave them hats.

"You know this is the only language you have in common," Vermouth said. "This laughter and joy and seeing the balloon [hats]. And that's sort of your communication with each other."

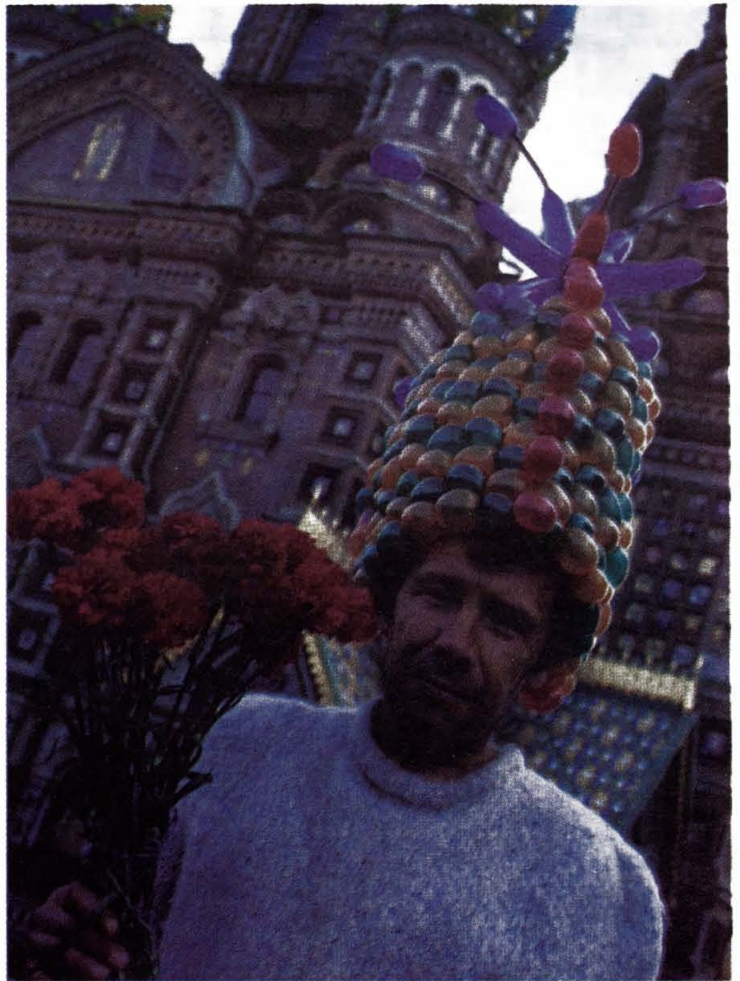
Until the duo goes back for another trip to excite people with more balloon creations, Somekh continues to make creations for events in California and all over the country.

He has also made another one of his dreams come true, he said. He now is in a band.

And what does he play? A balloon bass, literally built from a skinny balloon which acts as the string, and a round balloon. He's fittingly named his band Unpoppable.

For more information and to see photos of the voyages, visit [BalloonHat.com](http://BalloonHat.com).

[bmarlow@chroniclemail.com](mailto:bmarlow@chroniclemail.com)



A flower vendor outside a Russian Orthodox church poses with Addi Somekh's balloon hat creation.

Courtesy CHARLES ECKERT

## SO. IT'S TIME TO PLAN A FALL EVENT. THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE CHICAGO IS ON THE WATER.

(Trust us, it's way more fun on the water than in another college bar.)

Leave the sticky dance floors and long bar lines behind and hop aboard for incredible skyline views, dining, dancing and live DJ music on a Brunch, Lunch, Dinner or After-Hours Cruise. Good thing we accommodate groups of 2-600, because with a venue this great, your event will be sure to draw a crowd.

Book a Mystic Blue Cruise and receive your choice of the following:\*

- iPod Shuffle
- \$100 Apple Gift Card
- \$100 Target GiftCard
- \$100 Gift Card to your favorite airline
- Any of the above!

To book your next event, call Hadley Eblen at 312.321.7615 or [HEblen@pyi.com](mailto:HEblen@pyi.com).

Mystic Blue Cruises  
DOCKED AT NAVY PIER

MysticBlueCruises.com 312.321.7615

\* Book a cruise of 50 passengers or more and receive one of the above. Book a cruise of 150 passengers or more and receive one of the above at the value of \$150. Deposit and signed contract must be received between 10/1/07 and 11/16/07 to qualify. Certain restrictions apply. New bookings only.



# Premium Blend

with Scotland Yard Gospel Choir

SCOTLAND YARD Gospel Choir, a local band with six core members, is a little bit folk, a little bit pop and a little bit indie. The band recently released their latest self-titled album on Oct. 26.

Scotland Yard's lead singer, Elia Einhorn, is a Columbia alumnus who created his own major with a mix of music and music business courses. He graduated in 2003 and since then has been writing, playing and singing along side the likes of The Arcade Fire, Violent Femmes and Tegan and Sara.

Although the band started in 2001, they didn't put out their first album, *I Bet You Say That To All The Boys*, until 2003.

The Chronicle spoke with Einhorn while he was watching some "Hawaii Five-O."

**The Chronicle: What are some of the issues, themes or stories you tackle or tell on the new album?**

Elia Einhorn: I think that I put a lot of the pain I see in my own life and in the lives of the people I know into the record. I also try to include the hope in our lives. It sort of becomes a duality on the record. There's a song about losing someone you love. There's a song about the kind of travails of growing up.

**It's been about four years since your last CD release. How has your sound changed?**

It was more folk-influenced. For the new record, I drew more on the sounds during the time I spent growing up in Wales listen-

ing to Manchester bands. [This new record] may be a little bit darker.

**What would you say is the best part of being a Chicago-based band?**

One great thing is the rent is cheap, relative to Los Angeles and New York. You have a lower overhead for practice spaces and for apartments. You've got a lot of the amenities of a bigger city without the craziness. But having said that, I think a lot of bands who are pretty big in Chicago would be bigger nationally if they were from New York, which is a pretty big media center.

**How do you go about writing your songs?**

I carry a notebook everywhere I go, and I carry a digital recorder everywhere I go so I can record any thoughts or ideas. I typically hear the song in my head with melody and words, but not all the time. Sometimes I'll have a whole song written without the melody or vice versa. I realized sometimes it may come across as pretentious to take out your notebook and write something down, but I thought about it and what is my depth to my commitment to my songcraft. It's deep enough that I'll write down something even if it makes me look a bit like an artsy poet.

**Are there any musicians you personally look up to as influences or inspirations?**

I love Shane MacGowan from the Pogues. We don't sound anything like the Pogues,



Elia Einhorn of Scotland Yard Gospel Choir talked about his past at Columbia and what he's done with his music as the band's lead singer.

Courtesy BLOODSHOT RECORDS

but I really respect the way he mixes emotion and ballads with a kind of punk-rock background. I think [I look up to] the Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, or hope the Choir does that in the same way.

**Does it scare you to be so honest and frank?**

No, it doesn't at all. I get asked that a lot in interviews. It's my life and I've experienced a lot and I'm just sharing it with hopes it can help someone else.

**What would you say has been the most interesting or pivotal moment in your career so far?**

This isn't necessarily something that happened to me in my career, but it affected it. I saw The Strokes when they toured before

they had a record out. I saw them at The Metro and that really, really changed my artistic sensibility. I realized all of a sudden that I wanted electric guitars in my band. Before that, we had been a very folksy group. After seeing The Strokes back then, when they were so fresh and new, it was really a life-changing experience.

For an extended interview with Einhorn, visit [ColumbiaChronicle.com](http://ColumbiaChronicle.com).

For more information on Scotland Yard Gospel Choir, visit [SYGC.com](http://SYGC.com) or [MySpace.com/ScotlandYardGospelChoir](http://MySpace.com/ScotlandYardGospelChoir).

—B. Marlow

## HOROSCOPES



**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Make sure the details are accurate on an item you're sending for. This advice also applies to things you're sending away. Do yourself a favor and place your orders tomorrow.



**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Again, you realize that you need to economize. Don't despair, some of your best ideas come as a result of shortfalls. You're a genius at making do.



**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) Conditions are changing for the better, as you may have noticed. Ignore past differences of opinion or turn them into fascinations. Yes, it can be done.



**CANCER** (June 22-July 22) Move a little bit slower now, and think more carefully. Imagine the results of your actions and increase your rate of success.



**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) You can avoid financial stress in a lot of ways. Make more money, do without or build what you want from scratch. Get the family involved.



**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Reasoning doesn't always work to win the argument. Sometimes it's best to simply agree to disagree. Differences make life interesting, and you can still get along.



**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) A difficult situation is just about solved, partially thanks to you. You didn't let a confrontation slow you down, you forged ahead. Charmingly, of course.



**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You love to take care of others, but don't fall for a silly scheme. If you're going to invest in a charity, make sure you know how the money's spent. Get on the board of directors.



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) A difficult situation forces you to take a stand. Hopefully you know what you want and how you propose to achieve it. If not, make something up.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Caution is advised. Don't even try to do everything by yourself. Send your partner out to get what you need, or have it delivered.



**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Once you've cleaned up the mess, you'll feel a lot better, as usual. Then, allow yourself an outing to visit special friends.



**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) An older person is hard to convince, perhaps for a good reason. He or she may be looking ahead at something you can't see.

## CHECK ME OUT



**MICHAEL SHIELDS**

THEATER  
FRESHMAN

With fall in full swing, it's sometimes hard to decide whether to break out the winter clothes or wear a T-shirt for what may be the last chance of the year.

One student who seems to have it all figured out is freshman theater major Michael Shields.

With aviator sunglasses, a thick scarf and crisp pair of Chuck Taylors, he briskly made his way to class.

Shields said when it comes to style, he is his own boss. He recently went to Forever 21 to check out their new men's section and is always a fan of H&M.

"I just do my own thing," Shields said.

—L. Smucker

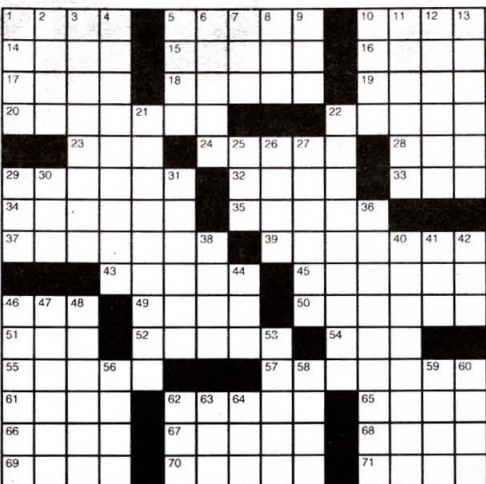
Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE



Crossword

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Mess maker
  - 5 Shells and elbows
  - 10 Ms. Bombeck
  - 14 Navajo's neighbor
  - 15 PC messages
  - 16 Pass out cards
  - 17 Aid a fugitive
  - 18 Stories
  - 19 Dress
  - 20 Settles down
  - 22 Muslim holy city
  - 23 "Agnus"
  - 24 Feel
  - 28 Solder component
  - 29 Anchored
  - 32 Old videotape format
  - 33 Articulate
  - 34 Buffay of "Friends"
  - 35 Farm buildings
  - 37 Charlotte's cagers
  - 39 Alphabet units
  - 43 Sci-fi flick cast member
  - 45 Gershwin song
  - 46 10 of dates
  - 49 Speechless
  - 50 Pay up
  - 51 Sale-tag abbr.
  - 52 Action site
  - 54 Actor Ayres
  - 55 Memorize
  - 57 Carry out
  - 61 Arrive
  - 62 Dillon and McCoy
  - 65 Largest continent
  - 66 Austrian range
  - 67 Think alike
  - 68 Newspaper tidbit
  - 69 Viper collective
  - 70 Brings up
  - 71 Invitation acronym
- DOWN
- 1 Uneven hairdo
  - 2 Place for an earring
  - 3 Free access
  - 4 Disastrous extremity
  - 5 Rozelle or Rose
  - 6 Stock up on
  - 7 Maglie or Mineo
  - 8 Even score
  - 9 Roker and Michaels
  - 10 Outskirts
  - 11 Does a double take
  - 12 Actress Strassman
  - 13 Empire State capital
  - 21 Nancy of basketball
  - 22 Had good intentions
  - 25 Flow out
  - 26 Schon of Journey
  - 27 Underscore
  - 29 Velocity meas.
  - 30 Now I see!
  - 31 Way around
  - 36 Boone musical
  - 38 Location
  - 40 Twines together
  - 41 Theol. belief
  - 42 Observe
  - 44 Bear's lair
  - 46 Tin Man's need
  - 47 Louisiana lingo
  - 48 Hobos
  - 53 Following
  - 56 Remainder
  - 58 Functions
  - 59 Schreiber of "RKO 281"
  - 60 Light source
  - 62 Besmirch
  - 63 Time period
  - 64 Refrain syllable



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

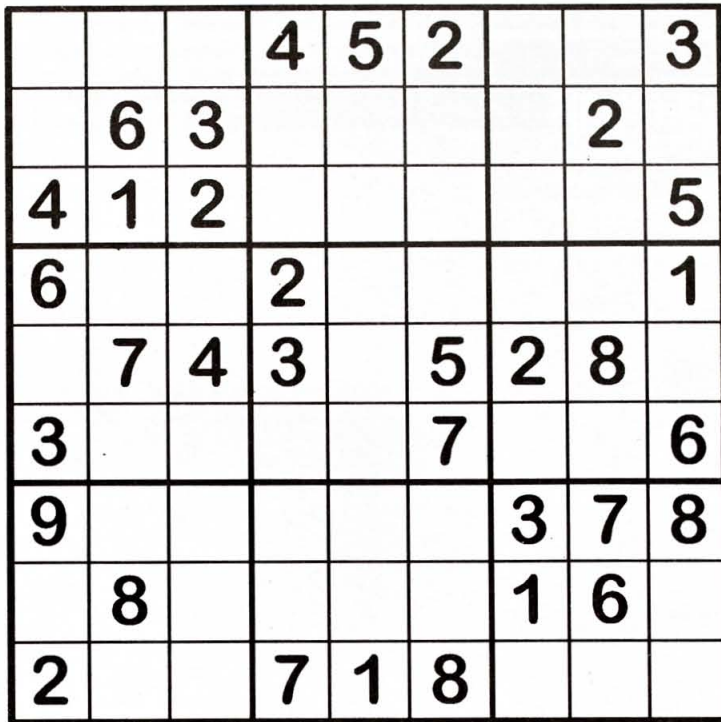
11/5/07

Solutions



Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.



Joke of the Week

Q: Did you hear about the guy who lost his left arm and leg in a car crash?

A: He's all right now.

Comic Relief

Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Josh Shalek



PAUL



BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL





# Commentary

## Editorials

### Congress backs down again

For the last few weeks, Congress constructed an appropriations bill in response to President George Bush's budget request of \$196 billion for the war in Iraq. The bill was structured to include funding for several different programs, including SCHIP, a health care program for the children of low-income families who make too much money to qualify for Medicare. The \$35 billion program, which Bush had previously vetoed, would have provided coverage to 10 million children. The bill also cut the president's war money request by three-fourths, to \$42 billion.

By tying SCHIP and other labor and health initiatives into the budget for the Department of Defense, Congress could have forced the president's hand, showing a strength and ingenuity that has been sorely lacking from the newly Democratic majority. But on Nov. 1, in the face of criticism from the right, Congress' resolve crumbled.

"Congress is not getting its work done," said President Bush on Oct. 30 at the White House, according to CNN. "The House of Representatives has wasted valuable time on a constant stream of investigations, and the Senate has wasted valuable time on an endless series of failed votes to pull our troops out of Iraq."

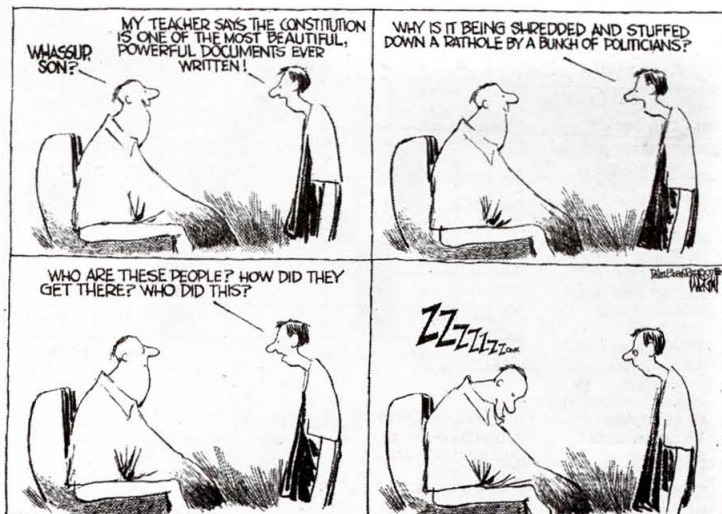
Whether or not time is wasted discussing troop withdrawal is more than debatable, but when it comes to which branch of government is "not getting its work done," the executive branch doesn't have a leg to stand on. The country faces record fiscal deficit, and while wiretapping and torture have gone from speculative fiction to reality, oil

is approaching \$100 a barrel and thousands of men and women have died overseas in a war without moral and ethical standing. The president's hypocrisy is astounding, and his call for more cash is increasingly desperate.

However, when his remarks were supported by the efforts of 44 GOP senators who wrote a letter condemning congressional Democrats for "holding hostage" military funding, Republican bullying resulted in Democrats separating the Pentagon budget from the rest of the bill. The administration and its few remaining allies broke down again what should have been a major victory not only for children's health care, but for the end of the war in Iraq.

Rep. David Obey (D-WI), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said in terms of funding the Democrats have "gone 88 percent of the way toward the preference of our Republican friends." Obey sees this as a kind of victory, and asks that Republicans give back by passing the rest of the bill (which is now couched in funding for military bases) in return. He's fooling himself if he thinks they will.

In 2006, American voters put Democrats in Congress with a clear mandate to end the war and stand up to the president. The new representatives have done neither, and are thusly complicit in this administration's execution of children's health care, constitutional rights and the lives of American soldiers. This latest example of Democratic cowardice proves that in a choice between controversy and complacency, Democrats choose the latter.



MCT

### Iraq has the right to prosecute

On Sept. 16 in Nusoor Square, Baghdad, 16 Iraqi civilians were shot by American non-military personnel. The company responsible for the violence was Blackwater, a private security company. Iraqi investigations into the killings concluded they were pre-meditated murder. American investigations, as of yet, are inconclusive.

The first American soldiers on the scene told CNN there were no signs to indicate that civilians fired on the security personnel, as Blackwater officials claim.

The Iraqi government should have the right, as they have every reason, to investigate these possible homicides. However, after the American occupation of Iraq began, a provision was enacted that put private contractors under the protection of American law. Since then, private security companies like Blackwater have been imported to the country by businesses as a kind of private army to protect their property, and when something like this happens, the companies don't answer to Iraqi law. According to Iraqis, these kinds of incidents aren't rare.

On Oct. 29 it was revealed that some of the Blackwater employees involved in the fray were "promised immunity from prosecution" in all forms if they gave statements to the investigation, according to the New York Times. On Oct. 30, the U.S. Department of State confirmed this news. The new Iraqi government reacted strongly.

On Oct. 30 the Iraqi parliament began

deliberating on a resolution introduced by its cabinet, which would void the immunity given to foreign companies by the American occupation and make them subject to Iraqi law. Further, security companies like Blackwater would have to comply with several Iraqi regulations, such as licensing their weapons with the Iraqi Interior Ministry and their helicopters and vehicles with transportation agencies. All of their employees would have to get visas from the Iraqi Foreign Ministry.

These new laws would be in direct opposition to legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on Oct. 4, which places all private government contractors under U.S. criminal statutes.

The Iraqi government has every right to be angry about the violence Blackwater and its peer companies are exhibiting in its country. The law government officials will soon pass that will put a stop to U.S. protection for these rogue companies is completely justified. It is a free nation, and it has the inherent right to protect its citizens from foreign abuse, the same principles outlined in the U.S. Declaration of Independence.

Congress would do well to allow the fledgling democracy as much self-rule as is possible, and that includes holding Americans accountable to an Iraqi law that is reasonable and fair. After all, we won't be there forever, will we?

### Letter to the Editor:

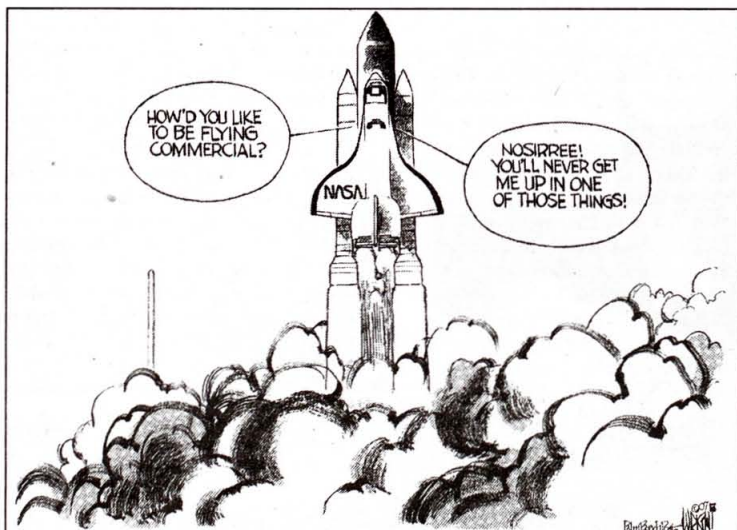
In a recent article by John Lendman, ("Students heard: GLBT curriculum expanding," Oct. 22) I was absolutely thrilled to read about the progress the GLBT program is making here at Columbia.

When I took Victoria Shannon's class, Gay and Lesbian Studies, during my very first semester (I am now in my last), she was already trying to expand the curriculum. I'm so proud of her persistence and all the support from the student body and other faculty members.

I really do hope the GLBT curriculum expands into a major or at the very least, a minor. Victoria Shannon's class is one of very few I actually remember and cherish.

Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to accomplish all you have, but if Shannon's class has taught me anything it's that the battle is far from over.

Jennifer Velazquez  
Marketing Communications, senior



MCT

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

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board



# A moment of silence for separation of church and state



by Silvana Tabares  
Assistant City Beat Editor

Before public school students in Illinois can recite the pledge of allegiance every morning, they are now observing a moment of silence, which I think is a pointless routine.

The Silent Reflection and Student Prayer Act is new legislation that requires students at all Illinois public schools to take part in a moment of silence at the beginning of every weekday. I can understand if the law is imposed only on religious schools, but these are public schools, where religion is not taught.

At a religious school it is understandable to have a moment of silence so students can reflect spiritually on their religion. But a silent reflection and student prayer legislation at a public school is unnecessary.

The mandatory legislation did not stop the father of an Illinois public high school student to speak out. Robert Sherman, an atheist and a prominent Chicago activist, filed a lawsuit saying the law violates the U.S. Constitution and integrates religion

into public schools, according to an article in the Chicago Tribune on Oct. 29. Sherman will return to court on Nov. 14 to follow-up on the lawsuit.

Sherman has a point; the law is assimilating religion into Illinois public schools. I am not against prayer. I attended a religious grade school and high school, and the first thing I did to start off the day in grade school was to recite a prayer along with other students and the teacher, who was a nun. My first class every morning was Religion. I also attended mass Friday mornings with the student body and with my family on Sundays. These activities made sense because I attended a Catholic school.

I often take a moment to reflect on how my day went at the end of it but in my own time and when I needed to. Taking time out of your day to reflect is a choice, not a requirement.

I remember attending public school for one day and instead of starting class with prayer I recited the Pledge of Allegiance. However, the moment of silence law compels students to pray in a public school.

The government does not need to impose legislation to obligate students and force them to reflect and pray at a public school. If students need a moment of silence, they can reflect in their own time at home. They need to be given the freedom to reflect on their religion in private.

I consider the new state law a sacred moment of reflection of a person's intimate thoughts and the government does not need to interfere with a student's own personal beliefs and traditions. It is not the lawmakers' responsibility to initiate a law

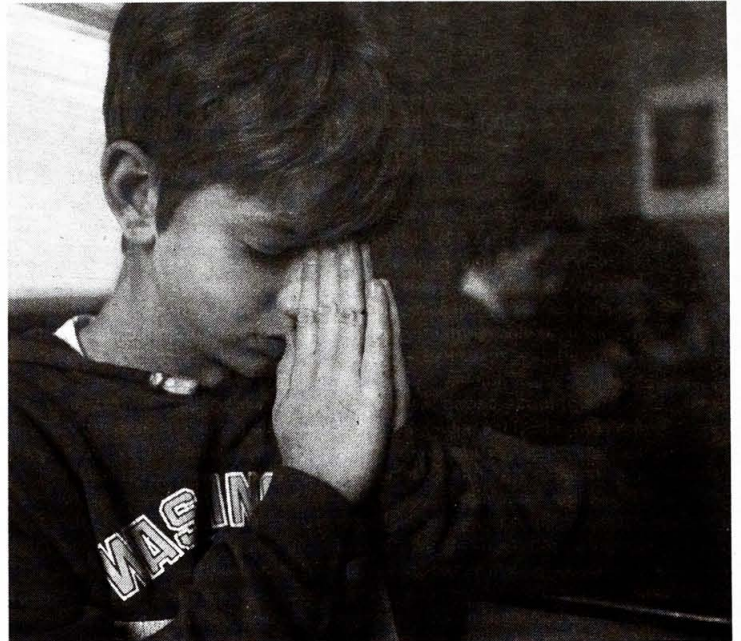
for a time and place for students to reflect on their life and spirit. It is up to their parents to make decisions for their children.

Legislators need to focus on how to improve education like math and science and create laws that will better prepare students for the future, rather than worrying about enforcing a mandatory state law for a moment of silence at public schools that

is pointless.

If government officials want to create an opportunity for silent reflection and student prayer, they could implement a program for public school students to voluntarily attend a retreat to focus on self, others and God.

stabares@chroniclemail.com



Fourth grade student Nathan Good says a prayer in his religion class at Timberville Plains Elementary in Timberville, Va.  
MCT

# Election coverage lacks substance, intelligence and flexibility



by Wes Giglio  
Commentary Editor

Several weeks ago presidential hopeful and U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton appeared on all of the Sunday morning news shows for interviews. During her time spent in pundit hell, she did something quite unforgivable—she tried to change the narrative. She laughed. Hard.

Her actions became the fodder for hundreds of columnists, magazine writers, cartoonists and comedians—her laughter seemed fake to them. The narrative for Clinton has always been that she's a robotic frontrunner nobody likes. That she's mirthless and cold; unelectable in a general election. Newspapers and networks fret continually over her "negatives," which are always high. The media was comfortable with their narrative, and the public wasn't complaining (they never do) so there was never any need for substantive policy discussion about her campaign.

When Clinton laughed it represented a break from the narrative, and the media wasted no time in whipping her and the public back into line. From the New Yorker to "The Daily Show," the images of her laughter were played over and over again and criticized as fake, forced or both. Chris Matthews and the rest of the political talking heads jumped on air to discuss how the laughter would affect her ratings among

Iowan farmers and New Hampshire soccer moms, and to present pie charts measuring the voter's opinion on how funny she is compared to the other major candidates.

The non-story of Clinton's laughter is a glaring example of the laziness and lack of substance that pervades the news media, especially when it comes to elections. In recent years the coverage of elections has been focused entirely on the election itself. The candidates are branded as quickly as possible in terms of personality and their chance of winning, with frontrunners separating themselves from the pack with the help of cash and a complacent media. News shows begin to focus not on who should win, but who they think will win. They forget that they're as responsible for the outcome as the voters themselves.

The perception of the media becomes the reality of the voters. Voters are faced with a choice between the three of four candidates sanctioned and discussed by CNN, and a bunch of names they've never heard before, like Dodd, Paul and Kucinich. These candidates might have the best ideas, but every autumn they watch their chances

disappear at an exponential rate with every poll. When the media is reporting on only a few candidates, and national polls reflect an equal number, the electorate begins to feel a vote, or even a quick scan of the candidates' record, is a waste of time. The frontrunners are anointed, and the narrative does not change. Perception controls reality, and the media control perception.

On Oct. 30, Drexel University in Philadelphia hosted a democratic presidential debate for MSNBC. All the major candidates were there and most of the lower tier were given places at the futuristic lecterns as well. The debate served to highlight the essential sameness of most of the candidates, but a few stood out. Rep. Dennis Kucinich, for instance, called for the impeachment of the president on three separate occasions, as well as a single payer nonprofit health care system. Bill Richardson, the governor of New Mexico, advocated a new tuition system for medical students that would mutually benefit doctors and patients. Sen. Joe Biden advocated splitting Iraq into three different counties, one for Kurds, one for Sunnis and one for Shiites. They didn't

follow the narrative, and they were put in their place by the punditocracy.

During the debate, Tim Russert embarrassed Kucinich by asking about his claim that he saw a UFO many years ago (so have 14 percent of Americans, according to Russert). After the debate, Chris Matthews hammered Richardson for daring to defend Clinton from the "personal attacks" of other candidates. Joe Biden was interviewed after the debate, but all the questions referred not to the substance of his ideas, but to whether or not he thought Clinton "hurt herself" by seeming to take an unclear stance about an obscure immigration issue.

The current news media are trapped in a strange kind of lazy cycle. They guess that consumers (as they think of us) want to know the frontrunners, so they guess who they are. They quickly quantify them and decide on the narrative for the election, and never veer from the path of least research. The electorate takes their advice and ignores the other candidates. And on and on.

jigiglio@chroniclemail.com



Sen. Mike Gravel (D-Alaska), Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Conn.), Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.), Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.), Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Sen. Joe Biden (D-Del.) and Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) interact with the crowd after a Democratic primary debate at St. Anselm College in New Hampshire on June 3.

MCT



# THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

[www.columbiachronicle.com](http://www.columbiachronicle.com)

*What matters to you*

## 2007 Pacemaker Winner Excellence in college student media

create...  
change

Columbia

COLLEGE CHICAGO



# City Beat

## Bears midseason report card

by George P. Siefko  
Associate Editor

### Where they stand

The Chicago Bears are at 3-5 this season in the NFC North, only having one more win than the 2-5 Minnesota Vikings. Many NFL experts say the NFC North is the weakest division in the entire league. And with the Packers somehow at first place (6-1), some Bears fans are already throwing in the towel.

Chicago ranks dead last in rushing defense, has given up more yards than any other NFC team and has the third worst overall defense in the NFC.

Some may call it an urban legend, but experts are blaming the Bears' poor performance on their post-Super Bowl rut, more commonly known as "Super Bowl Hangover." And the facts don't lie.

Since 1998, only three teams that lost the Super Bowl made the playoffs the following year: the Packers in 1998, Titans in 2000 and Seahawks in 2006. And six Super Bowl runners-up since 1998 didn't even finish with a record above .500.

That makes this year's Bears (3-5) just another statistic thus far.

### The General Manager's report

On Oct. 31, Bears General Manager Jerry Angelo met with the media at Halas Hall in Lake Forest to address the team's season to date. According to the Bears' website, Angelo said he was "very disappointed" with the team's performance. When asked about the poor performance of his top two picks—Rex Grossman and

Cedric Benson—Angelo said, "It's disappointing, but I'm not going to pin it that they can't play."

While Angelo and head coach Lovie Smith are saying a single player cannot be blamed for the team's poor play, many fans would disagree and point to the quarterback position.

Angelo wouldn't comment on whether the quarterback position is going to be a top priority during the offseason.

Opening day quarterback Rex Grossman was benched after week four to bring in 10-year veteran Brian Griese, and the results have been under par. In his first start, he threw four interceptions during a loss to the Detroit Lions. With only two wins under his belt this season, Griese has thrown 10 interceptions in five games—which easily contributes to the team's poor record.

### Quarterback carousel

Would the Bears have had a worse record this year if Grossman was still under center? Many NFL experts don't think so. Angelo said the decision to bench Grossman and start Griese wasn't based on emotion, but on results.

Members of the Chicago media have already started to call for the Bears' third string quarterback Kyle Orton. In his 2005 rookie season, Orton started 10 games and finished with a 9-1 record—the second most wins by any rookie quarterback in NFL history.

Many are also calling for the Bears to try to pick up Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb during the offseason.

McNabb grew up in Chicago and played

his high school football at Mount Carmel High School on the South Side. He is in the final year of his contract, and may call Chicago home once again in the near future.

Last summer, pro-bowl defensive tackle Tommie Harris joked to a Philadelphia TV reporter, "If McNabb comes to Chicago, we'll definitely win the Super Bowl."

The Bears would need to win seven of their last eight games to have a significant postseason chance. Otherwise, it may be time to start looking to the future.

While he's never said it, Angelo seems like he has already given up on the Bears making the playoffs this year. "We just haven't clicked. It's that simple. I wish I could give you a simple reason why it hasn't happened. If that were the case, we wouldn't be in this boat," he said.

### Final Grade: D

The Bears went from having a 13-3 record to having a 3-5 record by midseason. Making the playoffs this year is a long shot, the quarterback position is up for grabs and the running game hasn't gotten any better with only two rushing touchdowns. Feature running back Cedric Benson is only averaging 3.1 yards per carry and our best chance of making the playoffs means signing Donovan McNabb in the offseason.

## Calendar

### Monday, Nov. 5

Celebrate DIY culture at the Ephemera Festival at the DePaul University Student Center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave. The festival is a one-day event that will feature handmade crafts, fanzines, live demonstrations and readings, among much more. The festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, contact [EphemeraFestival@gmail.com](mailto:EphemeraFestival@gmail.com).

### Wednesday, Nov. 7

Check out an exclusive test screening of *Idiots and Angels*, a work-in-progress by animator and director Bill Plympton at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave. The show begins at 10 p.m. and will be followed by a question and answer session with Plympton. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door.

For more information and to buy tickets, visit [GabeLevinsonPresents.com](http://GabeLevinsonPresents.com).

### Thursday, Nov. 8

Check out the Songza.com launch party at Elephant & Castle Pub and Restaurant, 185 N. Wabash Ave. Songza.com is a free Internet music search engine that allows users to play and share music without illegally downloading it. Try it out at the party or listen to DJs play Songza sets.

For more information, call (773) 661-3011 or visit [Songza.com](http://Songza.com)/trial.

### Saturday, Nov. 10

Head over to the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, 5850 S. Woodlawn Ave., at 7 p.m. for the national convention of the Campaign to End the Death Penalty. Sister Helen Prejean, who wrote the memoir *Dead Man Walking*, will be the keynote speaker. This event is free.

For more information, call (773) 955-4841 or visit [NoDeathPenalty.org](http://NoDeathPenalty.org).

### Sunday, Nov. 11

If you enjoy biking with no traffic, roll over to the newly-built overpass at the 127th Street I-355 interchange in Lemont, Ill. From 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., bikers will be given exclusive rights to the road on Nov. 12 and it will be open to auto traffic.

Visit [RollTheTollway.org](http://RollTheTollway.org) for more information and to register.

## Churches call for end of violence

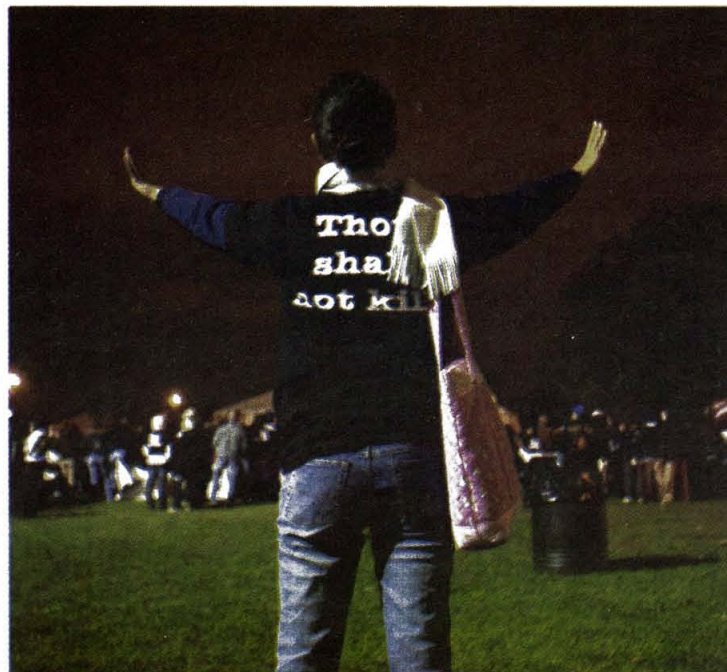
Numerous Chicago congregations rally for safer neighborhoods, tighter gun laws

by Dana Nelson  
City Beat Editor

ALTHOUGH VIOLENCE is on the rise in Chicago, it is not without its opposition. A new voice is chiming in to help end violence—the churches.

A group called EX 20:13, named for its reference to the Bible verse "Thou shalt not kill," was started in October by Alderman Billy Ocasio of the 26th Ward and the Rev. Wilfredo De Jesus, the pastor of New Life Covenant church, which Ocasio attends. EX 20:13 is a collection of church groups that have collaborated to push for tighter gun control, more youth programs and a community safer for children.

Ocasio said he started the movement



Julissa Wiggins from New Life Covenant church prays at an event put on by local church groups to curb gun violence on Oct. 19.

»SEE EX 20:13, PG. 38

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE



# Scoop in the Loop: Taking a stand against corruption



by Dana Nelson  
City Beat Editor

In what I would call the boldest move I've seen the Chicago Tribune make since I started reading it a few years ago, an editorial was published asking readers' opinions on whether or not Gov. Rod Blagojevich should be impeached. The editorial went on to list the numerous failures of Blagojevich and his administration, and demands the creation of a recall provision to the Illinois Constitution, which would allow voters to essentially "un-elect" persons in office.

When I first read that, I was astounded. I've been itching to see a newspaper take a stand against the corrupt and broken mechanisms of state and city politics for a long time. The "What do you think?" aspect of asking readers for their opinions was a bit weak, but overall, I was pleased to see the crooked governor's faults plainly displayed

with a call to action.

The strong stance isn't typical for newspapers or general news media. They're supposed to be fair, balanced and unbiased. Any aspiring journalist has heard lectures in class after class about presenting only facts, not inserting personal opinion and staying safely central to the topic.

But the article wasn't written as a news story—it wasn't even written as a column, which can express personal opinion without necessarily representing the publication. It was written as an editorial, which speaks much louder as the voice of the whole entity. Ethically, I don't think news publications such as these should take such strong stances when it comes to politics, especially considering the comments posted on the Chicago Tribune's online forum immediately following the article, which called the Tribune conservative and biased against the Democratic governor since his inception. An editorial like the one asking for Blagojevich's impeachment is one that could turn readers away from other articles discussing important events and issues because a reader could assume the paper falls too far to the left or right.

However, this time, I think the Chicago Tribune should be congratulated. The apathy of the public when it comes to the corruption in city and state politics is ridiculous. Every day, journalists are digging up dirt on politicians, yet the public does nothing.

Fewer people vote. Protests are small and petitions have shorter and shorter lists of names. Organizations and individuals passionate about the state of our country wait patiently for the next election, hoping things will change once the next person gets into office.

But they won't. Both Democratic and Republican parties are filled with crooked, corrupt, downright dirty politicians who want nothing more than to profit off the

American public. Taking sides doesn't solve the problem any more than waiting for the next election. What needs to happen is more along the lines of what the Chicago Tribune is calling for. And it's not just an impeachment, it's public action.

I consider journalists some of the most informed people when it comes to what's going on in the world and what's going on behind the closed doors of the Senate, House of Representatives and City Council. If anyone should have an opinion, it's the press. The press has dutifully hung everyone's dirty laundry out to dry day after day and examined those specks of dirt for what they really are.

The Chicago Tribune didn't present an unfounded opinion; it clearly showed why Blagojevich was inept. Regardless of whether the Chicago Tribune is essentially conservative, or like most publications, liberal, it should be patted on the back for voicing that opinion and demanding something be done. If the public won't say anything, then it's up to the press to say what everyone's thinking. And I can only hope the Tribune continues to write editorials like these—not just for Blagojevich, but for George Ryan, Todd Stroger, Richard M. Daley and all the other corrupt politicians who are making poor decisions on behalf of the public.



The Chicago Tribune published an editorial on Oct. 28 calling for Blagojevich's impeachment.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

## In Other News

### Luxury movie theater

Muvico Entertainment plans to build a new movie theater at 108 N. State St., across the street from Macy's department store, 111 N. State St. The theater would open in 2009 and feature 800 seats, reserved seating, digital projection, free popcorn, a restaurant and a bar, according to the Chicago Tribune on Oct. 31. Michael Whalen, president and chief executive of Muvico Entertainment, said the theater would cater to demographics in the area and expects to sign a lease within 30 days. The company opened its first Chicago area movie theater in Rosemont in September.

### Recalled pizzas

General Mills has recalled five million frozen pizzas for E. coli contamination on Nov. 1. General Mills is asking consumers to throw away recalled pizzas containing pepperoni from Totino's and Jeno's that have been produced since July. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said eight victims have been hospitalized and four have developed kidney failure, according to an article in the Chicago Tribune. Several cases have been reported in Illinois.

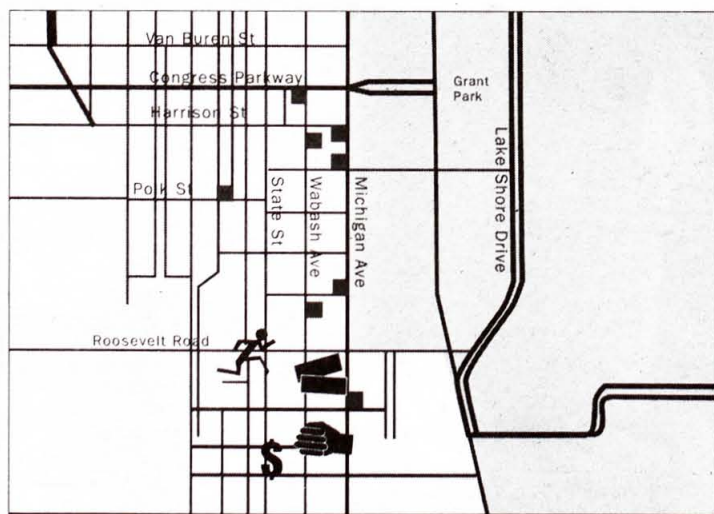
### AIBA boxers arrested

Three Romanian boxers from the AIBA World Boxing Championships were caught shoplifting at Nordstorm, 55 E. Grand Ave., on Oct. 26. A police report identified the three men as 21-year-old Marius Bogdan Dinu, 21-year-old Ronald Gavril and 20-year-old Gabriel Julian Stan, according to an article in the Chicago Sun-Times. The three boxers and their team manager were expelled from the AIBA and sent home on Oct. 28. AIBA President Dr. Ching-Kuo Wu said the actions from these boxers create a negative image of the AIBA and the organization will not tolerate any misconduct.

### The kissing bug

The American Red Cross is using a new test to screen blood donors that may have Chagas, a disease known to cause heart failure. The disease, also known as the kissing bug, is caused by a parasite passed on by a bug that bites on the face. It is found in rural areas in Latin America, and about 11 million people are not aware that they have it, according to an article reported by the Chicago Sun-Times on Oct. 29. American Red Cross Scientific Officer Susan Stramer said blood banks that have used the new test have found 241 donations infected with Chagas since January. Seven patients in the U.S. and Canada have received Chagas from donors.

## OFF THE BLOTTER



Kimi Badger THE CHRONICLE

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

### Disorganized crime

A 36-year-old male reported to police that a 46-year-old male ran out of Jewel-Osco, 1224 S. Wabash Ave., with a bag in hand on Oct. 30. A police officer chased the offender down Wabash Avenue and through an alley, where he was apprehended and arrested. The police report said the offender is affiliated with a gang. The report did not specify what was stolen, but the police confiscated vodka from the offender.

### Asking for arrest

Two police officers filed a police report that a 26-year-old male climbed into the back of a Chicago Fire Department ambulance and would not get out on Oct. 28 at 1325 S. Wabash Ave., according to police reports. The officers told the offender to exit the ambulance so the patient inside could be transported to the hospital, but he sat down and said "F--- you," "Where you from, b----?" "I ain't going nowhere," and "Take me to jail, you b----." The officers arrested him.

### Bogus Bears tickets

An anonymous witness reported to police that a 35-year-old man was selling counterfeit tickets on Oct. 28, according to police reports. An officer saw a man who fit the description at a BP Connect gas station, 1221 S. Wabash Ave. When the officer attempted to speak to the offender, he fled west. After a brief chase, the offender was detained and he was holding five Bears vs. Lions tickets in his hand. The offender said someone gave him the tickets, but he knew they were counterfeit. A manager at Soldier Field confirmed the tickets were fake.

### Identity theft

A 73-year-old male reported to the 1st District Police Station, 1718 S. State St., that unauthorized purchases amounting to \$600 had been made on his credit cards, according to police reports. The victim was notified of these transactions via telephone. At press time, the offender is unknown.



# City hopes taxicabs turn green



Commissioners want city's fleets to convert to hybrid vehicles over time

by Becky Schlikerman  
Assistant City Beat Editor

DESPITE SOME city officials' desire to convert Chicago's taxicab and public vehicle fleet to hybrid cars, there are still various obstacles to overcome. Nonetheless, the city government and private taxicab owners are slowly increasing the number of hybrid cars.

Commissioners from the Department of Fleet Management, Department of Consumer Services and Department of Environment testified before City Council members at a joint meeting of the Committee on Finance and Committee on Transportation and Public Way on Oct. 29.

All of the commissioners and some committee members are interested in making the switch from standard cars to hybrids because they said hybrids are fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly. But some of the issues that taxicab owners and the city's fleet would face pose a larger problem.

Norma Reyes, the commissioner for the Department of Consumer Services, said the major concern she has heard from the taxicab industry is the cost of maintenance and parts for upkeep. Likewise, the lack of a "purpose-built vehicle," or a car that is spe-

cifically built to be a taxi, is a major issue. If there was a hybrid car specifically built to be a taxicab, the city could have more than 6,000 environmentally friendly taxicabs on the road, Reyes said.

Even so, Reyes said she expects 10 hybrid taxicabs to be on the road by the end of this year. The first hybrid taxi was required to begin operating in July 2007, according to regulation created by the Department of Consumer Services.

Just like the taxicabs, the City of Chicago faces similar issues with its fleet of vehicles.

The possibility of changing the city's fleet of vehicles to hybrids depends on the types of cars available in terms of size and function, said Howard Henneman, the commissioner for the Department of Fleet Management. Currently, hybrids are limited to small or mid-sized cars and some SUVs, he said.

Cost is a concern as well.

Henneman said the initial purchase price has to be kept in mind, especially because the various tax incentives available to hybrid car purchasers aren't available to the city because the city doesn't pay taxes on those purchases. Furthermore, he said the battery packs the hybrid uses eventually stop working and have to be replaced, which is an additional cost.

Nevertheless, he said the Department of Fleet Management is committed to increasing the number of hybrid or alternative fuel

cars in the city's fleet by 10 percent annually. He said there are 214 hybrid vehicles in the city's fleet and 289 that use alternative fuel such as ethanol and compressed natural gas.

Because of the continued increase of alternative fuel vehicles used by the city, Henneman said the savings in gasoline have been increasing. He said officials in the Department of Fleet Management estimated more than 10,000 gallons of fuel were saved in 2005. In 2006 they estimated 16,500 gallons of fuel were saved and so far in 2007 they estimate they have saved 13,000 gallons, but expect to save more than 30,000 gallons by the end of this year.

In addition, Henneman said hybrids are effective in reducing emissions because they use a smaller engine since they are "assisted" by the electric power of the hybrid. This electric power supplies electricity to small features, such as the radio, which conserves fuel and reduces pollutants. Also, when the car is stopped, the engine turns off automatically.

One of the industry representatives who testified before the committee was John



Kimi Badger THE CHRONICLE

Mohberg, president of Checkered Taxi Affiliation. He read a statement from Michael Levine, the principal owner of Checkered Taxi Affiliation, which said Yellow Checker is going to test different fuel-efficient vehicles and will develop incentives for affiliates who want to purchase fuel-efficient cars.

But one critic of the current hybrid cars said available models are too small for commercial needs.

"As someone who has had a knee replacement, I can tell you that getting into a mid-sized taxicab right now is very difficult," said Alderman Bernard Stone (50th Ward). "Getting into a hybrid would be an impossibility."

He said the city should continue to research hybrid technology because what is available doesn't meet the needs of commercial industry.

bschlikerman@chroniclemail.com



Religion



City Events



Environmental Issues



Transportation



Politics



Health and Science



Education



Social Issues



Business and Technology



Arts



Sports



GLBT Issues

**Central**  
CAMERA COMPANY

'Darkroom to Digital ...  
Your Imaging Partner'

**5% Student and  
Faculty Discounts**  
On Most FILM; AUDIO,  
DV, or VIDEO TAPE;  
PAPER; CHEMISTRY;  
& OTHER SUPPLY  
Purchases.

- film: 35mm, 120, 4x5
- chemistry & paper
- film storage
- Loupes
- video tape
- Polaroid
- inkjet paper & inks
- 16mm film
- darkroom accessories
- and more

FREE DELIVERY  
Ask for Details

**230 S. Wabash**  
Near Jackson Blvd.

(312) 427-5580  
24 Hour Fax: (312) 427-1898  
www.centralcamera.com

Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
Sat: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**The Spirit of Photography.**



**Canon**  
**EOS**  
**40D**  
DIGITAL

**\$1,499.00**

Kit with EF 28-135mm lens

- An entirely new 10.1 Megapixel CMOS Sensor, extensive noise reduction technology, and 14-bit conversion for outstanding color tones and gradations.
- 6.5 fps, burst rate up to 75 consecutive JPEGs or 17 RAW images and DIGIC III Image Processor.
- Shutter durability-tested to 100,000 cycles, top speed 1/8000, top x-sync speed 1/250.
- New AF system with 9 cross-type sensors, and world's first diagonal center cross-type AF point with f/2.8 and faster lenses.
- EOS Integrated Cleaning System, Picture Style settings, Spot metering, and Highlight Tone Priority for in-camera image control.
- Large 3.0-inch LCD monitor and advanced Live View Function.
- Includes Canon USA 1-year Limited Warranty/Registration Card. Warranty available for inspection.



# Contemporary writer shares life with public



Giovanni becomes first poet to win Carl Sandburg Literary Award

by Brian P. Roach  
Staff Writer

FEW PEOPLE can boast of the numerous accomplishments, awards and achievements as famed poet, Nikki Giovanni, can.

Giovanni visited the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St., on Oct. 17 to receive the Carl Sandburg Literary Award and on Oct. 18 discussed her life and poetry, along with a later book signing in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium at the library.

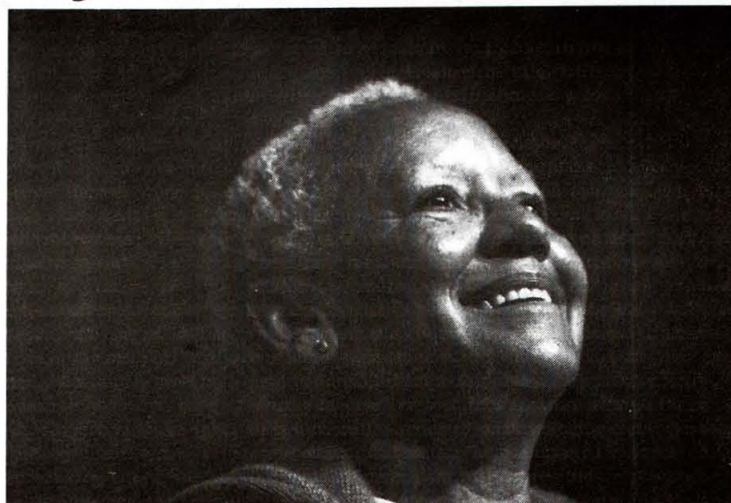
Giovanni became the first poet to receive this award. She is also the first recipient of the Rosa Parks Woman of Courage Award; is a three-time NAACP Image Award winner; is a recipient of the Langston Hughes Medal for Outstanding Poetry and is an Oprah Winfrey top 25 legend.

On top of her awards, Giovanni is a visiting professor at her alma mater, Fisk University and is a distinguished faculty member in the English Department at Virginia Tech.

Giovanni said winning an award is better than receiving a paycheck because she feels more appreciated for her work. She also said she's very competitive and loves to win.

The Chicago Public Library Foundation, a private non-profit organization that provides funding for the Chicago Public Library, honored Giovanni with the award, making her the eighth recipient and the second woman to receive it.

"Poetry is an art form that we haven't recognized," said Rhona Frazin, president



Nikki Giovanni, pictured above in 2004, reflected on the deaths of her mother and sister on Oct. 18 at the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St.

MCT

and CEO of the foundation. "There have been writers that have dabbled in poetry, but none [have been] true poets."

Craig Davis, director of Adult Services at the Chicago Public Library, said the award honors the writer who has provided the public with an awareness of the written word.

"Ms. Giovanni is a worthy and deserving recipient of the award," Davis said. "Her body of work and her popularity speaks for itself."

Previous recipients of the award include David Mamet, John Updike, David McCullough, Henry Louis Gates Jr., Kurt Vonnegut, Robert Caro and Joyce Carol Oates.

At the event, Giovanni began the evening with a talk of bereavement.

*Acolytes*, her latest book of poetry, is the first book her mother was never able to see. Giovanni said *Acolytes* is a book about loss that was written beside her mother's hospital bed. Her mother, Yolande Cornelia, died on June 24, 2005 and her sister, Gary, died on Aug. 10, 2005, both of lung cancer.

"I really wish that mommy had been here," Giovanni said. "When your father dies you have your mother. When your mother dies it's a redefinition of yourself."

Giovanni said she lost a close friend in addition to her mother and sister, but has never doubted God's plans.

"You don't look up and ask, 'How much more, Lord?' [Because] he'll show you just how much more," Giovanni said.

Despite her loss and hardships, Giovanni kept the mood light and comical. She spoke of Rosa Parks, who Giovanni said was the most important figure of the 21st century, and of Condoleezza Rice, the secretary of state. She said Rice has changed from her younger, more respectable days and has forgotten the roots that sprung her above the soil.

"Rosa's casket moved when Condoleezza went to pay her respects," Giovanni joked.

Giovanni also read a few of her poems aloud. She started with "Seamstress of Montgomery" and read five more, including "I Am in the Water," "Your Pillow" and "The Genie in the Jar," which she said she wrote for Nina Simone, a singer, songwriter and musician who passed away in 2003.

In between the poems, Giovanni told more about her life and personality, saying she has her grandmother's mouth, she considers herself unlucky and she often visits Mexico.

Giovanni closed the evening with a word of advice:

"If you call yourself a writer, you have to be able to write a love poem," she said.

Before Giovanni left the stage to begin autographing books, a representative from the Chicago Public Library presented Giovanni with a framed library card of her first published book, *Black Feeling Black Talk*.

chronicle@colum.edu

**DELILAH'S**  
2771 N. Lincoln • (773) 472-2771

**PUNK ROCK MONDAYS**

**\$1 AMERICAN BEER**

**\$2 Jim Beam**

**Free Pool & Fun !!!**

**Real Mexican Food. Real Prices. Late Night Delivery**



**El Ranchito**

2829 N. Milwaukee (773) 227-1688  
Sun-Thurs: 8am - 2am  
Fri. and Sat.: 8am - 5am  
Music 7 days a week.

Mention this ad for:

**ALL DAY 99 cent margaritas**  
(Dine in only)

**Free Delivery to the Loop**

Buy one dinner at regular price and get a second dinner half off!

## PMS Tummy Tamer

The new way to defeat that monthly malady is with a microwavable pillow called the Belly Buddy (\$35). Filled with vanilla-scented grains, the weight and warmth do wonders for PMS and other tummy discomforts.

Call 1-888-664-4732 or visit  
www.gutwisdom.com to order.

A Neighborhood Hot Spot...



**SOUTH LOOP CLUB**

Bar & Grill

sleep . class . work . SLC

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

Stop in for a bite to eat,  
watch your favorite sport teams on the big screen,  
listen to great tunes on the jukebox or  
just stop in for a drink...

**10% Student Discount**  
with food purchase  
(must show ID)  
Sun-Thurs only

**WE ARE OPEN WHEN YOU ARE!**

701 S. State St. 312.427.2787

Sun - Fri 11AM - 4 AM  
Sat until 5 AM

HOT BARTENDERS  
SERVERS & ROCKIN'  
BUFFALO WINGS!



# Students against guns take pledge

Chicago takes part in national program aimed at curbing violence in schools

by Shay Bapple  
Staff Writer

WITH THE rising number of school-aged children dying from gun violence, six during this school year alone, students, faculty and staff of Chicago Public Schools are taking a pledge to continue fighting the problem through peace.

Students from Talcott Fine Arts and Museum Academy, 1840 W. Ohio St., and Jones College Preparatory High School, 606 S. State St., recited a gun violence pledge on Oct. 24 during the Chicago Public School board meeting. Guest speakers, board members, and teachers also recited the pledge.

This is the first year that the CPS board has brought this pledge to the attention of those at the meeting and recited it with everybody in the chamber.

The pledge was written in 1996 by Student Pledge Against Gun Violence, a nationwide program that encourages students to take an active role in stopping gun violence.

Before reciting the pledge, CPS board president Rufus Williams asked for a moment of silence for the six students who have died from gun violence since the beginning of the year. Williams mentioned 10-year-old Arthur Jones of Oak Park's Oliver Wendell Holmes Elementary School, whose funeral was held on the same day as the board meeting.

After the silence, Williams spoke about the importance of curbing gun violence.

"Helping to get and keep guns out of the hands of children is a responsibility that we should all take seriously," Williams said.

The program asks students

from kindergarten to 12th grade to speak out against student gun carrying. The oral and written pledge is only part of the program.

Every year, the program announces its Day of National Concern, during which students are asked to build awareness in their communities. The pledge website, Pledge.org, suggests that students ask their town's mayor to issue a proclamation in observance of the day, lead a march or rally to celebrate young people who have chosen peace. It encourages schools to take part in signing the pledge, as well as asking local radio stations to dedicate an hour of airtime to promote the pledge against gun violence.

The program also provides resources for teachers to educate students about the consequences of possessing or using guns. It also suggests incorporating curriculum like social studies projects involving Second Amendment issues, researching gun violence and having students log personal accounts of violent acts to detect patterns of gun usage.

The website also pushes students to lead others in the recitation and signing of the pledge. According to Pledge.org, more than 200,000 students signed the pledge on this year's Day of National Concern, Oct. 24, and more than 10 million students have signed it since 1996.

On this year's Day of National Concern, Jones College Prep and

Talcott students spoke for an hour during the "Eddie and JoBo" show on WBBM-FM B96 before the board meeting, receiving calls from government officials and other students.

Chicago police officer Robert Hargesheimer, commander of the Chicago Police Youth Investigations unit, spoke with students in the B96 studio on Oct. 24. Hargesheimer has been making rounds at public schools, speak-

ing to mostly elementary-aged students about the dangers of guns. Hargesheimer uses the picture book, *Gorp's Gift*, featuring a fictional character who teaches kids that guns hurt people. The book also con-

tains the pledge.

Hargesheimer said he believes Chicago has become the national model for participating in the program by employing several of the tactics suggested by the website.

"Chicago adopted the pro-

gram from the beginning and keeps building on it every year," Hargesheimer said. "We don't want to make this a one-day initiative; instead we make it a point to do this year-round."

Grace Moody, assistant director of Student Development for Jones College Prep, said the three students who appeared at the board meeting and on the Eddie and JoBo radio program voluntarily became involved with the pledge. Moody said the students were made aware of the pledge through an e-mail from Arne Duncan, CEO of the Chicago Public Schools, and immediately began working on increasing awareness in Jones College Prep's student body.

Moody said it is difficult at times for the faculty to get away from the business end of the job to take on a project like the pledge, so students hold the key to making the program successful at Jones.

"It's good to see the students take the initiative to do something positive and increase awareness," Moody said. "This is a good program because it is proactive and not reactive to something that has already gone too far."

Students can find links on Pledge.org to other anti-gun violence websites like KidsAndGuns.org.

chronicle@colum.edu

*"It's good to see the students take the initiative to do something positive and increase awareness."*

—Grace Moody, assistant director of Student Development for Jones College Prep

## The pledge reads:

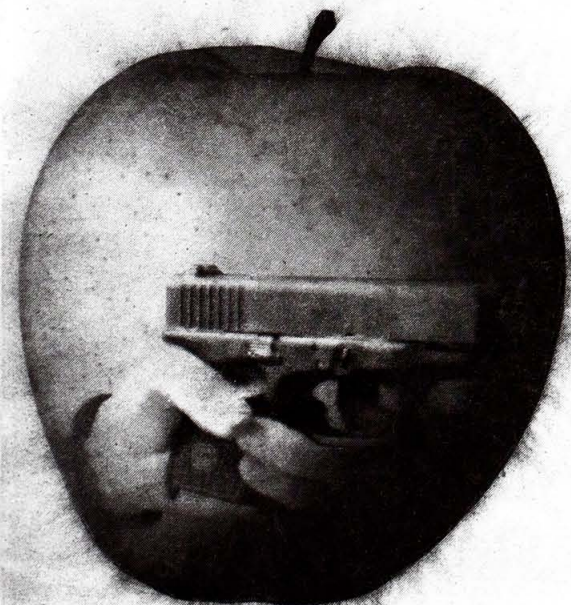
I will never bring a gun to school.

I will never resolve a dispute with a gun.

I will use my influence with my friends to keep them from using guns to settle disputes.

Together, by honoring this pledge, we can reverse the violence and grow up in safety.

Sign it, mean it, live it, keep it.



Due to the rise in gun violence in Chicago, children in public schools have started taking a pledge to keep guns out of school and not resolve disputes through gun violence.

MCT

## GRADUATES... TAKE NOTE!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF  
THIS GREAT  
DEAL AND DRIVE HOME  
IN A NEW GM VEHICLE.

Get  
**\$400**  
GMAC allowance  
when you qualify  
to buy or lease  
an eligible new  
GM vehicle.

LOGON TO >

[www.gmcollegegrad.com/ILO16](http://www.gmcollegegrad.com/ILO16)

CHEVROLET BUICK PONTIAC GMC SATURN HUMMER

Take delivery by 12/31/07. Residency and other restrictions apply.  
See dealer OR Visit [www.GMCollegeGrad.com](http://www.GMCollegeGrad.com) for details.



## » EX 20:13:

Continued from PG. 33

Collection of church groups plans to continue work every month in different communities

get churches involved because on the day he took his children to Walt Disney World Resort, he received a call from a staff member who told him a little girl was shot in a schoolyard in his ward.

"I just spent my time in Disney World thinking about all those families who will never have the opportunity to take their children someplace like Disney World due to the fact that their life was lost so early," Ocasio said.

He said when he got back, he spoke with De Jesus about the violence and decided it was an issue they needed to tackle head-on.

On Oct. 19, hundreds of EX 20:13 members marched toward Humboldt Park, 1400 N. Sacramento Ave., where a rally was held. From 6 p.m. until after midnight, people who had lost family members and friends mourned their losses, while worship music played and speeches were given by pastors and reverends from several different churches. Tents were pitched for people to have a place to spend the night, as other activities calling for an end to violence began in the morning.

All throughout the night, marchers walked around the park in shifts.

"A lot of people are here to support the healing," said Ivan Figueroa, a youth leader for New Life Covenant who helped set up tents.

Figueroa said it was important that the churches were stepping up to deal with violence, because the churches can spread the

message to reduce gun and gang violence.

"It's not just about the law doing their share," Figueroa said. "Gang violence doesn't just affect one denomination."

EX 20:13 also created a petition calling for stricter gun control and funding for resources and programs that will help build a safer environment, Ocasio said. Hundreds of people signed their names to the petitions at the rally and more added to it later, including Chicago Public School faculty, staff and students, he said.

Members of EX 20:13 have also met with Gov. Rod Blagojevich and Mayor Richard M. Daley, as well as other elected officials.

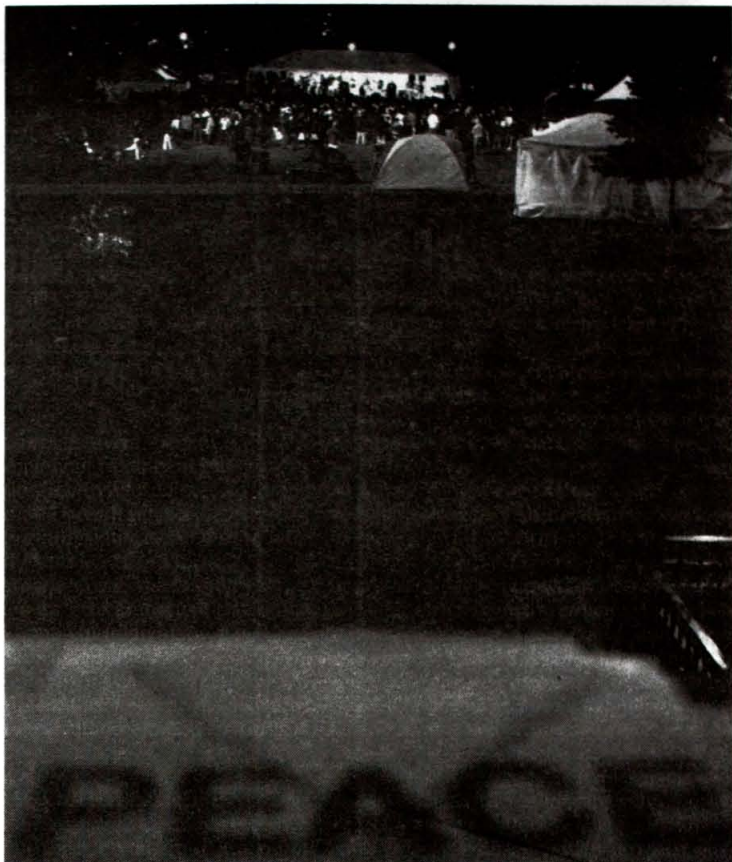
"Every day more and more people are calling, more and more clergy are getting involved, and I think that's what's going to make the difference here," Ocasio said. "I think government can't solve this thing alone. We really need the people from different communities and different congregations ... to help change the way everybody thinks."

EX 20:13 is largely aimed at the youth, and not just those in the congregations. Ocasio said youth violence was increasing and less children had places to go after school. He also said it was important to give them a voice, so church members go out, speak with youth and ask what their needs are and how they can be met.

Pastor Santiago Valentin of Backyard Bible Church said apathy in the church has led to more violence on the streets.

"While we sing and dance in the pews, our streets are crying out for help," Valentin said. "The community leaders are crying out for help. Our government leaders are crying out for help and the church needs to cry out for help tonight. We need God's help in our midst."

The march wasn't just a weekend event, Ocasio said. Another march is planned to



The crowd of EX 20:13 members gathered before a stage in Humboldt Park, 1400 N. Sacramento Ave., on Oct. 17 to sign petitions and mourn the losses of friends and family members to gun violence.

Rachael Strecher/THE CHRONICLE

take place in Garfield Park, 100 N. Central Park Ave., on Nov. 17. In December, a third march will take place on the South Side, although a park hasn't been decided yet.

"This is the season for change," Valentin said. "I'm just glad to be a part of this."

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

**"AMONG THE VERY BEST  
ORIGINAL THEATER  
PIECES I'VE EVER SEEN."**

-Jones, Chicago Tribune

# THE SPARROW



**"The Sparrow contains moments so honest, so genuine  
IT WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY!"**

-Barbara Vitello, Daily Herald

**"HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!"**

-Albert Williams, Chicago Reader

**"GENUINELY TERRIFIC!"**

-Bob Mondello, National Public Radio

**TICKETS  
AS LOW  
AS \$25!**

**CALL 773-935-6100 TODAY! APOLLO THEATER 2540 N LINCOLN AVE**

**IN THE HEART OF LINCOLN PARK WITH CONVENIENT PARKING**

**Broadway In Chicago ticketmaster line: 312-902-1400 Groups (20+) 312-977-1710 • visit [broadwayinchicago.com](http://broadwayinchicago.com)**

\*\$25 Student Rush Tickets available on day of performance. Valid only with student ID at the Apollo Theater box office. Subject to limited availability. Not valid with any other offer or on previously purchased tickets.

**HOUSE**



# Union: Large financial entity ignoring minorities



**A recent report says Bank of America does not serve everyone equally**

by Becky Schlikerman  
Assistant City Beat Editor

**BANK OF America** is not serving low-income and minority residents of Chicago and other cities, according to a report released on Nov. 1 by the Service Employees International Union. The report came on the heels of the Bank of America and LaSalle Bank merger.

The report, "Shut Out of the American Dream: How Bank of America is Systematically Underserving Communities of Color and Harming Low-income Families with Questionable Practices," said Bank of America has not opened enough branches in Latino and black neighborhoods, does not lend equally to minorities and does not provide "quality financial services" to minorities, which affects their financial futures in terms of savings and home ownership.

Scott Silvestri, a Bank of America spokesman, said the report is without merit because it ignores important facts and is selective in its data and coverage.

The report found that in Chicago, Bank of America has 12 times more branches in the 10 wards with the fewest minority residents, such as the 42nd Ward, 43rd Ward and 44th Ward, compared to the 10 wards with the highest minority residents, such as the 17th Ward, 22nd Ward and 31st Ward.

According to the report, Chicago has 36 wards that qualify as "majority minor-

ity areas," which means that more than 50 percent of the residents are "people of color," according to the U.S. Census Bureau. In these wards, Bank of America has 26 branches. But in the 14 remaining wards, which are predominantly white, there are 42 branches.

Chicago, along with Buffalo, N.Y., Detroit, New York City, Philadelphia and St. Louis were studied. These cities were chosen because they were ranked as the most segregated cities in the United States by the U.S. Census Bureau and are all served by Bank of America, according to the report.

However, Silvestri said minorities make up an average of 25 percent of the population near Bank of America locations in the six cities that were studied.

The report also found that Bank of America lends mortgages to whites twice as often as to blacks or Latinos in Chicago and Detroit.

But Silvestri said almost one-third of Bank of America's 2006 mortgage originations were given to minorities, a 25-percent increase from the previous year for blacks.

Other banks in Chicago are reported to be more accessible in minority neighborhoods.

The report said banks, such as Harris Bank and Chase Bank, outperform Bank of America by having 52 percent of their branches in minority wards. Bank of America has 38 percent of its branches in mostly minority wards, the report said.

Nevertheless, those banks need to improve as well, said Manny Pastreich, deputy director of the Service Employees International Union Property Services Divi-

## Bank of America/LaSalle Bank Locations in Chicago



*"Compiled from Service Employees International Union's report 'Shut Out of the American Dream: How Bank of America Systematically Underserving Communities of Color and Harming Low-income Families with Questionable Practices'"*

Allyson McGovern THE CHRONICLE

Pastreich said. "Instead, Bank of America has been systematically shutting low-income and minority families out of the American dream."

The Service Employees International Union, which has two million members, half of who are minorities, created the report because banking availability is crucial to the well-being of working-class people, Pastreich said.

"Access to banking services is a fundamental stepping stone in attaining financial stability, owning a home and having a chance at the American dream, especially for low-income and minority families," Pastreich said.

Al Higgins, a member of the Service Employees International Union Local 1 and a security guard in Chicago, agrees. Higgins, a resident of the 16th Ward, said Bank of America does not have a branch in his community. Instead, his neighborhood has currency exchanges, Payday Loan stores and high-fee ATMs, including some provided by Bank of America. The lack of bank branches, Higgins said, affects his community because there aren't new businesses opening or new job opportunities. In addition, he said many residents are not homeowners.

"It makes me feel disrespected to know that so much money is being passed above our heads and we don't benefit from it," Higgins said. "We deserve the same opportunities as other neighborhoods."

[bschlikerman@chroniclemail.com](mailto:bschlikerman@chroniclemail.com)

# Chicago counts on boxing knockout in Olympic bid



**City hopes to impress committee officials through tournament**

by Deanna Bellandi

**NEW ZEALAND** boxing coach Billy Meehan has a few choice words about Chicago and the World Boxing Championships it's hosting. He's waiting to see if the Windy City can stage an Olympic-style event. The opening ceremony with boxing great Muhammad Ali was "just awesome." And what it all says about Chicago's readiness to host an Olympics: "They should have it," Meehan said.

Chicago has earned high marks from boxers, coaches and other sports officials as the nearly two-week tournament winds down. But there's one more person the city needs to impress: International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge, who attended the Nov. 3 finals.

Chicago wants to capitalize on the success of the amateur boxing championships as it competes against six other international cities for the chance to host the 2016 Summer Olympics. That means showing off for IOC members, something rival Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, got to do by hosting the Pan-American Games this summer. The IOC will choose the 2016 winner in 2009.

The past two weeks have had their oddities: Three Romanian boxers were sent home after allegedly shoplifting at a department store; two Ugandan boxers and an Armenian fighter walked away from the competition; and six judges were sanctioned for reasons that haven't been disclosed.

Still, Rogge won't have to go far to hear how Chicago did playing host to almost

700 amateur boxers from 120 countries in a sport the IOC has pushed to reform its scoring and judging.

International Amateur Boxing Association president Ching-Kuo Wu of Taiwan, an IOC member, said the tournament has done well.

"I hope at the end of the championships I can openly declare this is the best world championships ever," Wu said Nov. 1.

Boxers like Darren Sutherland of Ireland agree.

"I think it was very well-organized. The weigh-in, everything was great, the venue was nice. It was like a home away from home," said Sutherland, who was at the 2005 world championships in China.

When issues did arise, Wu reacted swiftly, including a lifetime ban for the Romanian boxers, said Jack Sandner, the head of the local organizing committee.

"This guy is tough love," Sandner said.

For some participants, like Meehan, the journey to Chicago was their first trip to the United States. Meehan got a chance to explore downtown Chicago, go shopping and visit other sites, including Grant Park and Navy Pier.

"The people are awesome," he said.

The boxers who qualified in Chicago for the 2008 Beijing Olympics did so at the same competition venue that would be used if an Olympics is held here.

Organizers say the tournament at the University of Illinois at Chicago Pavilion, 525 S. Racine Ave., averaged about 3,500 spectators daily in its first week.

The venue seemed to be a hit with participants, and the athletes' village—a posh downtown hotel—got a thumbs-up from boxer McWilliams Arroyo of Puerto Rico, who also said he appreciated Chicago's



Bardley Sanders (left), of England, battles Alexis Vastine, of France, during their quarterfinal bout in the Light Welterweight 64 kg class of the World Boxing Championships in Chicago on Nov. 1. Sanders advanced in the Championships with a 30-13 win.

AP

ethnic diversity.

"I feel at home," Arroyo said.

One thing Chicago organizers knew they had to get right was the 2-mile bus ride between the hotel and the venue because boxers late for a bout would be out of the competition. A few days into the competition, there were no complaints about the buses from Scott Murphy, the physiotherapist for the Irish team.

"They get us here when we need to be," Murphy said.

As with any event, there have been some complaints.

Arroyo said there has been some griping that U.S. boxers get too much credit for their punches, but he said the judging has been

fair. Russian coach Alexander Lebzyak was unhappy about the food, saying through a translator that there wasn't enough.

Wu said the judging is constantly scrutinized and AIBA "is absolutely clean, honest and transparent." He also said buses have run on time and people seem pleased with the quantity and quality of the food.

U.S. Olympic Committee spokesman Darryl Seibel said Chicago accomplished what it needed to with the tournament.

"They demonstrated their ability to organize and stage a major world championship and they've done an exceptional job," Seibel said.

AP



# It's almost that time again – REGISTER

## -starting November 5!

### What you need to know:

- Prepare to register – check your official student email, login to OASIS to see if you have a registration hold, and visit [www.colum.edu/records](http://www.colum.edu/records).
- Students with an unpaid balance cannot register – contact the Student Financial Services office at 1.866.705.0200, email [sfs@colum.edu](mailto:sfs@colum.edu), or visit [www.colum.edu/sfs](http://www.colum.edu/sfs) to pay your balance.
- Students who are not in compliance with the state of Illinois immunization requirements, will have a registration hold. Check your immunization status on OASIS. Visit [www.colum.edu/immunization](http://www.colum.edu/immunization) for additional information.
- Make an appointment with your college advisor to make sure you are on track to graduate.
- Check with your major department to determine if faculty advising is required.
- Registration will remain open until midnight (CST) Saturday, February 2.

create...  
change