

1-28-2008

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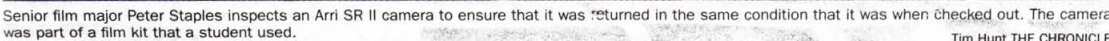
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The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago January 28, 2008 Volume 43 Number 16 ColumbiaChronicle.com



» SEE WRIGLEY, PG. 41



Editor's column

by Amanda Maurer
Editor-in-Chief

Reaching out to Chronicle readers

by Amanda Maurer
Editor-in-Chief

How do you make non-readers want to read?

It's obviously a growing problem in society, but to a newspaper, lack of readership can be lethal.

So, in a time when the Internet is always at your fingertips (how much easier can it get with the new iPods and other devices that let you connect to the web wherever you are?), and CNN is a click away, newspapers have been trying to figure out how to appeal to readers.

Here at The Chronicle we've been wondering the same thing. That's why you may have noticed some major changes to the newspaper. Granted, a good number of them debuted at the beginning of the fall semester, but if you look through this issue you'll find a few more.

Not one of the redesigns was taken lightly. As a seasoned Chronicle staff member, I wanted to see only the most appropriate changes take place on our pages. So, after meeting with the staff, speaking with designers and listening to readers, we decided it was time for a few updates.

It wasn't easy. Working on a newspaper is fascinating and horribly difficult if for no other reason than it's a place where many talents collide. There are writers,

editors, photographers, graphic designers and advertisers—dozens of students with extraordinary and different strengths.

The key is to take all of our puzzle pieces, everything a staff member can contribute, and mesh them together into one publication that everyone wants to pick up and best serves our readers. We think this year, and more specifically this semester, we've taken one step closer to those goals.

While we're trying to become more visually appealing by updating some fonts, giving stories some breathing room and creating more attractive layouts, we continue to work toward providing the most accurate, interesting and fairly reported stories.

Here are some things that we'd like you to look forward to this year:

—Our City Beat front page: If you haven't noticed, it's moved inside the paper. The section used to start on the back page, but we thought having the stories jumping backward through the newspaper could be confusing to some readers.

—"Get Out," the new back page: So what have we put back there? We grabbed all of the calendar events from our sections and pooled them into one big page of listings. Welcome to "Get Out," a place we hope you'll turn to when you're looking to, well, get out.

—More visuals: This semester we want to inform our readers with more than words. No, we're not planning on cutting out any essential information to make an article shorter, but we are going to try to trim down our stories a bit and find other ways to speak to our readers.

—Sidebars, infographics and more. We hope these added visuals will not only make our pages more appealing to the eye, but also provide instant information that you won't have to hunt for in the story.

—New fonts and more white space: Last semester we bought our own text font: Greta. We chose it because it's designed specifically for newspapers for readability's sake. Also, we hope the headline fonts (among others) will catch your eye and make you want to continue reading.

What's encouraging is that we're not the only paper that's making these redesign changes. Within the past few months The Chicago Reader and more recently, the Chicago Tribune, appeared on the stands with updated looks. And guess what? It's all for you.

So thanks for your readership, and we hope you enjoy this semester's Chronicle as we plan to make it the best semester yet.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CAMPUS	1
A&E	13
COMMENTARY	38
CITY BEAT	40

Management

Amanda Maurer Editor-in-Chief
Chrissy Mahlmeister Managing Editor

Associates

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CAMPUS POLL: What did you do over winter break?



"I got sick twice, so I'm glad I got it over with for this semester so that I'm not missing class."

Joel Reitsma
Senior
Theater



"I hung out with friends and my family, and I went to Nebraska."

Ashley Peszek
Freshman
Fashion Design



"I helped out with the family a lot and applied for a grant that I did get."

Christina Ingram
Sophomore
Graphic Design

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Campus News

Tuition costs to rise again in the fall

College approves increase in tuition for third year in a row; nearly \$850 more in the fall

by Robert Bykowski
Campus News Editor

STUDENTS ATTENDING Columbia in the fall will find themselves paying nearly \$850 more a year in tuition as a 4.95 percent increase was approved during the Dec. 6 board of trustees meeting.

Starting with the fall 2008 semester, tuition at Columbia will be \$17,950 a year, up from the \$17,104 students paid during the 2007-2008 academic year. The tuition increase will be the third in as many years; however, this coming year's percentage increase is higher. The previous two years both saw increases of 4.75 percent, slightly less than the 4.95 percent slated for fall.

Inflation and expansion are two of the main culprits, according to Mark Lloyd, chief marketing officer and associate vice president.

"It's an anticipation of what we think the general cost of inflation is going to be in the marketplace, and an analysis of what our own specific needs may be for programs, products and places that we own here," Lloyd said. He added the money would go toward salaries, health benefits, utilities and renovations to various academic spaces.

Data supplied by Lloyd and compiled by the National Center for Education Statistics and the College Board shows Columbia's tuition percentage increases over the fiscal

years '04 through '08 are below the national average. During that time, Columbia has seen a percentage change of 15 percent, while national averages for public and private art, music and design schools are at 30 percent.

Additionally, the average percentage change nationally for fiscal year '07 through fiscal year '08 is 9 percent, while Columbia's is at 4.95 percent. Similar data that charts the percentage increase for Illinois institutions also finds Columbia below average.

However, the data doesn't accurately reflect all of the additional fees and expenses like housing and course fees students often factor into their academic bottom line.

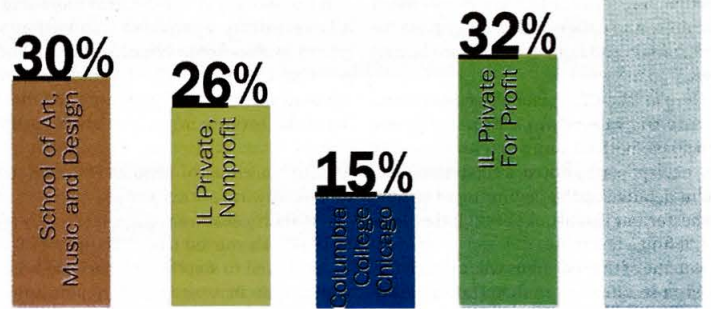
Columbia's website estimates on-campus housing will cost students between \$8,000 and \$12,000 an academic year, and students often pay course fees for individual classes.

Student Government Association President Brian Matos said he feels an increase in tuition means the college should focus more on expanding and increasing the number of institutional scholarships available.

"I don't know if there's any new money going toward institutional scholarships or not, but certainly from the students' perspective, when costs go up, our concern is how we're going to pay for it," Matos said. "You're not going to get a lot more money from the state and federal government so you look to your institution to provide, and Columbia does not have a particularly good record with institutional scholarships."

Monroe Patterson, a freshman audio arts

Average Tuition and Fee Rate Change by Institution between 2004 & 2008



The data above was compiled by the National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS Peer Analysis System and the College Board.

Kimi Badger THE CHRONICLE

and acoustics major, said the increase in tuition will require him to take out more money in student loans. Still, Patterson said he figures it will all be worth it in the long run, adding, "I gotta do what I gotta do," when it comes to paying for his education.

An increase in enrollment might be seen as a contributing factor to the tuition increase, but Lloyd said it isn't the case. If the college's economic model is sound, new students should, in effect,

"at least be sustaining their own needs," according to Lloyd.

Furthermore, Lloyd feels as though Columbia's fiscal model is in good shape.

"If I were to look at our own economic model, based on where we stand with our overall tuition versus our competitors as either arts and media schools or as general private colleges in the state of Illinois, we're very good," Lloyd said.

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Organization aims to find 'Common Ground' for all

Student club changes name, plans to expand awareness and representation

by Miles Maftean
Assistant Campus News Editor

RENAMING COMMON Ground, Columbia's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied student group, is just the beginning of opportunities for Columbia's LGBT community.

Common Ground, formally known as Q-Force, has become an official club with its newly ratified constitution at Columbia this past fall. Both Q-Force and Common Ground did not have a constitution until this year. The club plans to host its first event, a luncheon, on Feb. 22.

The Common Ground Breaking luncheon

will celebrate the ratification of its Constitution, since it was previously an unofficial organization at Columbia, and present an outreach opportunity to students.

According to the organization's president, James Talbott, Common Ground will promote the group by spreading the word around campus. In addition, the luncheon will provide the opportunity to branch out and contact other students about what the gay community is doing at Columbia and what Common Ground is focusing on specifically.

"Now that we have a constitution, we can be more organized and precise in the way we run the organization," said Talbott, a senior marketing communication major.

With the new semester bringing in new faces, Common Ground plans to expand its community by spreading the presence of

gay students at Columbia. The club does not exclude students who are not homosexual; rather, it promotes the students as allies to its cause, Talbott said. The club meets twice a week to discuss topics that affect the LGBT community, and the meetings give gay students the chance to branch out and meet other gay people their age. The group promotes the LGBT message that everyone is created equal and it fights to have these rights.

"Coming from a suburb that did not have a lot of opportunities for gay people, a club centered on the gay community really opened my eyes," said Michael Mullen, a freshman fiction writing major and member of Common Ground.

Talbott said that members of Common Ground are trying to reach out to other colleges as well. Common Ground is linking

together with other schools, such as the Illinois Institute of Technology, by promoting the luncheon. The group hopes that spreading its message of peace for gay people and unity with others to other schools will make the organization more known at Columbia and the surrounding areas. The message they spread is to promote gay rights and make people more aware that the LGBT community is all around them.

"We're trying to branch out and start coordinating events with people from other schools and be a lasting club at Columbia," said Charlie Rice-Minoso, freshman theater major and member of Common Ground. The club wants to promote gay culture and show students

» SEE GROUND, PG. 11

Columbia in 10 seconds ... or less

Dean of Students receives promotion

SHARON WILSON-TAYLOR, Columbia's dean of Students, has been promoted to associate vice president and dean of Students. She has been an employee at Columbia since 1990. Wilson-Taylor manages multiple Student Affairs divisions.

Media scholarship deadline approaching

MEDIA ARTS majors wishing to apply for the \$1,500 Studs Terkel scholarship need to have their media projects and letters of recommendation in order by the deadline on Mar. 3. For more information, visit NewsTips.org.

Bottled water prices in vending machines increase

TO COMPENSATE for the bottled water tax increase of five cents the mandated by the Chicago City Council on Jan. 1, prices of bottled water in Columbia's vending machines supplied by Mark Vend Company have risen from \$1.35 to \$1.40.

CUMA to hold third annual fashion show

COLUMBIA'S URBAN Music Association will hold its "Kullision" fashion show on Feb. 1 from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Conaway Center in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Tickets are \$5 for Columbia students and \$7 for general admission in advance.

New exhibit showcases printmaking innovations

Artists push the printmaking boundaries in new exhibit

by Miles Maftean

Assistant Campus News Editor

IT IS not every day that printmaking takes on the likes of 3D effects and numerical-controlled engraving. At Columbia, these printmaking innovations are not only welcome, but they are also displayed on the walls and windows of two galleries.

The "International Print Center New York's Prints: Autumn 2007" exhibition was brought to Chicago this year by Columbia and Anchor Graphics. The exhibit, displayed in the C33 Gallery in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building and the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., brings together 41 artists and presents 51 of the premium prints crafted in the past year.

The printmaking mediums range greatly, with some pieces displaying the traditional and others with more of a cutting-edge. The more traditional printmaking usually uses etching, lithography and linocuts. Yet more unconventional methods use screen-printing and digital prints rather than drawings. The prints push the boundaries of printmaking in unexpected directions, according to the members of the center's board.

Artists such as Chuck Close, whose work was once hung at Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and Alex Dodge, who has been involved in more than eight galleries, key in on the more cutting-edge mediums

for printmaking, like using computers to control the engraving process.

Close's self-portrait, a letter-sized sheet of watermarked paper, represents the drive of new printmaking innovations, which is different than the more traditional processes, like using blocks of wood for woodcuts. Dodge uses computer-numerical controlled engraving to craft his printmaking piece on display at the exhibit.

Michele Oka Doner, an artist in the exhibit, also extends a helping hand in printmaking innovation by utilizing banyan tree aerial roots to construct the abstract human form. William Kentridge, a South African artist featured in the exhibition, applies photogravures, a way of reproducing a photographic image, to his piece, which reveals 3D effects when viewed through a stereopticon, a projector that uses two lenses to dissolve between images when projected.

Anchor Graphics, a partner of Columbia, is an art print shop that students are allowed to use. They give professional guidance to students and people of all ages and allow the public to see the advancements of the art of printmaking.

"The idea of having this exhibit at Columbia is to expose students to what is going on in contemporary printmaking," said David Jones, executive director of Anchor Graphics. Jones comments that people can see alternative views with such innovations like looking through a

» SEE GALLERY, PG. 6



Andrew Raftery's piece, 'Hercules Reposing After Slaying the Lernean Hydra,' is on display at the International Print Center New York's Prints: 'Autumn 2007' Exhibit.

Courtesy MICHELLE LEVY

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Concert Hall Events

Monday January 30

Musician's Studio

3:00 PM

Wednesday January 30

Convocation*

12:00 PM

Thursday January 31

Convocation*

12:00 PM

Friday February 1

Jazz Gallery in The Lobby

12:00 PM

*It is required for all Music Students to attend one of these Convocations



create...
change

SUBMIT DEMOS TO PERFORM ON OUTSIDE STAGES AROUND CAMPUS DURING MANIFEST: MAY 16, 2008.

At least one group member must be a Columbia student.

Demos must be submitted on a CD or DVD and have good sound and/or video quality.

Demo must be clearly labeled with the name of the group, contact number, oasis number and email address. Submitted demos will not be returned.

Demos can be submitted to:

Sharod Smith, Program Coordinator of College-wide Events
623 South Wabash Avenue, Floor 1/Hokin Annex, Office A
312-344-7188, ssmith@colum.edu

DEADLINE: February 15, 2008

Supported by the student activity fee through the Office of College-wide Events.

Columbia 

COLLEGE CHICAGO



» GALLERY:

Continued from PG. 4

East Coast judges selected prints on display

on plain paper.

Columbia offers the chance for students to get more involved with the art of printmaking, like establishing Anchor Graphics and hosting the center's autumn 2007 exhibit.

"While there has been a printmaking area at Columbia College, what is happening now is there is a push to make printmaking into a much more visible part," Jones said.

Columbia's C-Spaces, or galleries, have jumped at the opportunity to showcase the advancements of printmaking. According to Nancy Julson-Rieley, the exhibition coordinator of C-Spaces, there is a board for C-Spaces that select the exhibitions, and since Columbia did not have many printmaking shows, they decided to bring this exhibition to the college this year. The exhibition brings many well-known and important artists to Columbia.

"I am pretty old-fashioned when it comes to printmaking, because I love the art of it and the specifics of making the piece," said Tom Baker, who is displaying his work at the exhibit and has been involved in many previous exhibits.

The artists in the show submitted their works and were selected by a committee of professionals across the printmaking industry. These professionals include some of the most-widely known names in the printmaking industry, including



Lothar Osterburg's 'Bridge Over Brooklyn' is on display at the International Print Center New York's: 'Autumn 2007' exhibit.

Courtesy MICHELLE LEVY

Christopher Cherix, curator of the department of Prints and Illustrated Books for the Museum of Modern Art, and Shelia Pepe, an artist and assistant chairperson of Fine Arts for the Pratt Institute. These professionals chose artists based on a number of qualities in the work, including creativity, neatness, and the overall work.

"This is one of the most dedicated selection jury that we have ever had," said Michelle Levy, program manager of the

International Print Center New York's autumn 2007 exhibit in New York, where the exhibit is frequently located.

"It is extremely rare to have these experts spend two days on choosing the artists," she added.

The exhibit runs from Jan. 16 to Feb. 22, with a reception on Jan. 31 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the C33 Gallery in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building. Mark Pascale, associate curator of Prints and Drawings for the Art Institute of Chicago,

will lead a discussion. The two locations for the exhibit are in the C33 Gallery in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, and the Hokin Annex in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Detailed information for each artist include their artwork, a brief biography of their lives, and is available on the "International Print Center New York's Prints: Autumn 2007" website at ICPNY.org.

mmafteam@chroniclemail.com

Who wants to be an RA?



Come out to the...
**Resident Assistant
Selection
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Tuesday, February 5
Sunday, February 10
All @ 7pm
731 S. Plymouth Court

Questions? Contact Kelli Collins
The Associate Director of Residence Life at Kcollins@colum.edu

NOTE: You must attend an Information Session to obtain an application.

» FILM:

Continued from Front Page

College left behind while film industry and other institutions go digital

why she chose the college.

"You [don't] get sent out with a handy cam; you [get] a real film camera and I think that's an important basis for your elementary education in film," she said.

Each department gets a limited budget that goes toward new equipment. A Bolex camera costs \$1,500 to \$2,000 in good condition, according to Harrig. Other schools receive endowments from their alumni, who donate film gear or money to buy new equipment, but Columbia is still "early in the alumni process," she added.

One alternative is to raise class fees for the individual classes, but according to Clifford, parts are getting hard to find because of the age of the Bolexs.

"We actually own more Bolexs than the Bolex company does, because I don't think they make them new anymore," she said, referring to the RX5 model the department uses.

Since much of the damage is cosmetic or an easy fix, the cameras are known for their sturdiness and can take "a knock and keep on ticking," Clifford said. She also said the department relies on eBay and donations for its cameras and camera parts.

Meanwhile, colleges such as the University of Southern California have decided to make the move to digital technology. The camera it will use for its introductory courses is the Sony PD170, which ranges



Justin Sudberry, a senior film and video major, returns film equipment back to its proper location in the Advanced Film Lab. The equipment was part of a film kit checked out by a student.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

from \$2,500 to \$3,000 in cost, according to staffers in the equipment center at USC.

John Zollinger, the assistant dean of the School of Cinematic Arts at USC, said the program reserves its film cameras for the more advanced students because they're still an integral part of the industry.

"The industry is moving [toward digital]," he said. "There is still some [film], but not a lot anymore."

Digital media has its own set of problems, though, according to Celander.

"An attribute to digital video is you can shoot vast amounts of material," he said.

"Does that mean you shoot a vast amount of good material? No, especially when you're starting out."

In addition, digital cameras are more expensive, have a shorter life and a longer turnaround for repairs, Celander said.

Harrig said beginning students tend to be more awkward with the equipment, which causes a certain degree of damage with the Bolex cameras.

However, Celander said the students would still manage to drop or damage digital cameras.

"Gravity knows no format," he said.

According to Celander, the Bolexs are

necessary for the proper training of film students.

"A roll of film runs for three minutes. We have 20-second winds on those cameras," he said. "That actually translates very well into shots and film language ... that definitely promotes the much higher production values that are traditionally associated with film."

While other schools are focusing on new technology, Columbia remains focused on the core of the craft.

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Film teacher encouraged students' dreams

Chris Burritt | 1948–2008

by Tim Bearden

Assistant Campus News Editor

COLUMBIA'S Film and Video Department suffered the loss of long-time professor and P-Fac representative, Chris Burritt, during winter break. Burritt passed away at age 59 on Jan. 7 due to complications with stomach cancer.

Burritt, who graduated from Columbia in 1970, had been a part-time teacher at Columbia for 10 years.

Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Film and Video Department, said he knew Burritt for more than six years.

"Chris was all about the students, their views and their empowerment," Sheridan said.

Sheridan delivered the eulogy at Burritt's wake on Jan. 11. A DVD of the eulogy was sent to California where a West Coast memorial was held on Jan. 19.

The memorial service was held at Hollywood Forever Cemetery next to the tomb of actor Douglas Fairbanks.

According to Annick Wolkan, a Columbia alumna of Columbia, the placement of the memorial service was appropriate for Burritt.

"Chris was always a huge fan of Hollywood history," Wolkan said. "He knew more about it than anybody I have ever known. We thought it was fitting to have it at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery where so many great people are buried."

The memorial service was held next

to a plaque of a man named Clark who had died on the Titanic. According to Wolkan, Burritt was also a Titanic enthusiast, which made it the ideal spot for his memorial.

One of the people who attended the service, Becky Doppelt, regarded Burritt as a father-figure.

Doppelt, a Columbia alumna, was Burritt's student in the summer of 2003 for Lighting I.

Although it was her only class with Burritt, the two stayed in touch after the class had ended.

She had an idea of a documentary called *Take a Bow* that involved a musical put on by disabled children. Burritt was one of the advisers for the independent project. The film has been sent off to film festivals across the globe.

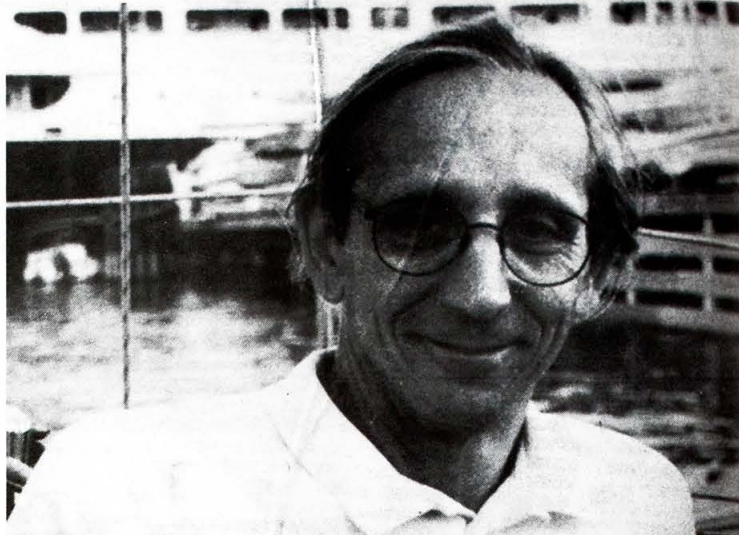
"He got so excited and said, 'Oh, kiddo, you have to do this movie and you have to put me down as your adviser. Go here and fill out this form and do it now,' and I did," she said. "That's how my first feature film was born."

His enthusiasm and love of students was reputed in the department as well.

Charles Celandier, manager of technical services in the Film and Video Department, asked Burritt to help with a project called "Flash Frame" for Manifest last year.

The project, which consists of multiple two-or-three minute video clips, allows students to showcase their work and graduating seniors to speak about their experiences at Columbia.

The project, according to Celandier, will



Chris Burritt passed away at age 59. He was a part-time faculty member in the Film and Video Department.

Courtesy SANDY CUPRISIN

help students get jobs in the future and is based on similar corporate models of testimonials.

"He was very enthusiastic about this initiative and this direction," Celandier said. "He was also a big fan of getting students jobs and getting them out in the industry working. It made total sense that he would be totally supportive about doing this kind of thing."

The department is currently working on a way to commemorate Bur-

ritt's memory through this project. It will be a part of Manifest again this year.

According to Doppelt, there wasn't a student who didn't like Burritt. She also said her phone rang for a couple of days, after he had died, with former students calling to talk about Burritt.

"The world was weeping when he passed," she said.

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Alumnus and faculty member 'loved by all'

Tim Densmore | 1963–2008

by Tim Bearden

Assistant Campus News Editor

DURING THE semester break, the Television Department lost an alumnus, full-time faculty member and humanitarian, 44-year-old Tim Densmore. He passed away in his sleep on Dec. 30.

Densmore taught Production and Editing I and II, Lighting Topics and the Out on a Limb sketch comedy class during his 22-year career at Columbia. He was also an active member of the community, participating in projects such as the Center for Community Arts Partnerships and Street-Level Youth Media, which teaches high school students television directing and producing.

Paul Teruel, director of Community Partnerships for CCAP, said Densmore was instrumental with the organization as a faculty partner.

"Tim was one of my closest friends," Teruel said. "We also had a professional relationship. We collaborated on over a dozen of community based arts projects that happened all over the city of Chicago."

Teruel said he saw Densmore interact with the youth in the community as well as college-age students and that he was "loved by all."

Elliot Scott, assistant to the chair in Audio Arts and Acoustics and adjunct faculty in the Television Department, was one of Densmore's former students in Video Tech



Tim Densmore passed away at age 44. He was a full-time faculty member in the Television Department.

Courtesy PAUL TERUEL

I. He took the course during the summer semester of '98.

"I did a documentary in [the class. [He said] it was the best one in class, and we just kind of bonded after that," he said. "Tim had a wonderful sense of humor, which is important for a teacher to have."

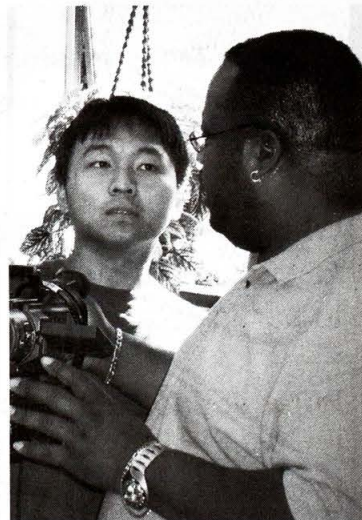
Densmore asked Scott to work in the department's equipment center after the class ended. Scott also worked with Densmore on a variety of community-based projects. One of the ventures was a documentary about a holocaust in Cambodia in the '70s. Densmore inspired Scott to give back

to the community and he became involved with CCAP and Street-Level Youth Media.

"Tim set a great blueprint for community-based organizations," Scott said, adding he and Densmore did a project every summer with the youth in the community and would like to keep it going in Densmore's memory.

Michael Niederman, chair of the Television Department, knew Densmore when he started at Columbia.

"I've known Tim for many years," he said. "I knew him as a student and a faculty member. He as a student hadn't changed



Tim Densmore interacts with a student from Street-Level Youth Media.

Courtesy PAUL TERUEL

when he was faculty. He was smart, energetic and had a lot of enthusiasm."

Niederman said all of the students had a strong connection with Densmore, as well as the faculty.

"We're a fairly close-knit bunch and he was like a member of the family," Niederman said.

A memorial service for Densmore will be held on Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. in room 1501 (Studio A) on the 15th floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. The service is open to all.

tbearden@chroniclemail.com



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Columbia 

COLLEGE CHICAGO



Northwestern's programs under investigation

College's study abroad office suspected of conflict of interest

by Jodi S. Cohen

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY'S study abroad programs are under investigation by the New York attorney general's office, as part of a larger probe into potential conflicts of interest between colleges and universities and overseas program providers.

Northwestern spokesman Al Cubbage confirmed Jan. 22 that the university received a subpoena the prior week from New York investigators asking for information about contracts Northwestern has with outside, or affiliated, study abroad programs.

The subpoena asked Northwestern to provide materials showing how officials chose the programs and whether Northwestern or its employees received money or perks from the organizations that operate the programs.

The office of New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo targeted 15 colleges and universities, following up on subpoenas issued to 10 study abroad providers last year. Other universities subpoenaed include Harvard, Cornell, Brown and Brandeis.

The investigation is similar to that of the student loan industry, which found that some universities received cash, stock options and other benefits from lenders in exchange for recommending the companies to student borrowers.

"The common thread here is making sure



The New York attorney general is investigating Northwestern University's study abroad program.

review by the attorney general's office.

Northwestern acknowledged that it receives funding—known as revenue-sharing—from some of its providers, but declined to name them or say how many are involved. The funds are used to provide scholarships or tuition discounts to students in the programs, according to a university statement.

Cubbage would not say whether the revenue-sharing arrangements are disclosed to students, citing the ongoing investigation.

"The attorney general's office has long held that specific arrangements between universities and their outside entities, which impact students in a financial way, should be clearly disclosed," Milgrim said.

The latest round of subpoenas comes after a trade association, NAFA: Association of International Educators, issued a report last week suggesting that colleges and universities enact conflict-of-interest policies for study abroad programs. The policies should include guidance on whether to accept free or subsidized trips, cash payments or discounts, according to the report.

"We hope that each college and university takes this as an opportunity to put their own study abroad programs under a microscope," said Karen Hunter Anderson of the Illinois Community College Board, one of 12 task force members.

Roughly 223,500 U.S. students studied abroad in 2005-2006.

that deals that colleges and universities go into with outside vendors are in the best interest of the students when they are indicated as such," said John Milgrim, spokesman for the attorney general's office. "The conflicts of interest on campuses end up hurting middle-class students and their families, who can't afford to pay extra for what could be a tremendous opportunity."

Critics have said deals between colleges and study-abroad providers can limit choice and drive up the price of the programs.

While some universities offer their own overseas programs, it also is common to expand opportunities and save costs by contracting with other providers.

Such is the case at Northwestern, which offers academic credit for participation

in more than 100 approved programs in 45 countries, most of them run by other institutions. About 700 of Northwestern's 8,000 undergraduates study abroad a year, up from about 125 students a decade ago.

Northwestern "strongly encourages" students to attend one of the affiliated programs, according to a university website. To attend an unaffiliated program, students must petition the university with a "compelling academic reason." Students in unaffiliated programs are ineligible for university financial aid.

"The decision ... on which programs we decide to affiliate with are based on a very thorough assessment of that program's quality," said Cubbage. Six of the providers affiliated with Northwestern are under

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SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

My life in the Emirates

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

by Craig Magee
Faculty, English Department

I left the United Arab Emirates in August of 2001, just a few weeks before the terrorist attacks that remade the way all of us look at the Middle East.

Even before the attacks, I was heartbroken and philosophically confused. On one hand, the UAE was a monument to one culture's idealistic endeavor to remake itself, an endeavor I willingly and eagerly joined.

On the other hand, the place was still entrenched in barbarism toward entire classes of people, laborers and women. I had inadvertently joined that as well.

Even while I was educating women in an environment that had previously forbidden this, other women were unjustly being sentenced to death. On a more abstract level, I was torn between my liberal respect for other cultures and a reactionary need to judge this particular way of life.

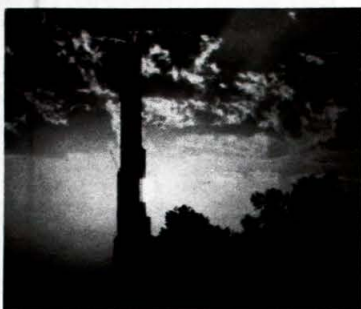
Who was I, a materialistic Westerner, to tell others what was right and wrong? Well, I was a thinking and feeling human being and I wanted to spell it out quite clearly. Respect for your culture be damned; this is evil.

After 9/11, my heartbreak and confusion worsened. Terrorism was sadly familiar to me. The current Palestinian Intifada was an ongoing issue during my stay in the Middle East and, in yet another instance that forced me to be judgmental, suicide bombers were popular celebrities. If a pizza parlor or disco had been destroyed in Jerusalem, I could go to the mall the next day and buy a T-shirt or poster featuring a heroic portrait of the attacker. I had been living in the Emirates when the *USS Cole* was bombed, so I knew about Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida.

In fact, I knew much more than I wanted to know.

I recall watching some workers puzzling over a problem with some buried irrigation lines. A shovel or pick had cut through some PVC piping, creating a small flood. A foreman was scratching his head over some diagrams trying to figure out how this mistake had happened. He looked up at me and said, "It is Osama's fault. He has once again put the pipes in the wrong place." The bin Laden Construction Company had built the university.

I was later informed that his nieces and nephews went to school there. Perhaps I



The author lived in the United Arab Emirates where the tallest building is Burj Dubai, pictured above, which is 1,965 feet tall and still under construction. MCT

had them in one of my classes. Perhaps I had taught them.

Perhaps. Perhaps we all did.

The American University of Sharjah had been started with heavy sponsorship from the American University of Washington, D.C., and from Georgia Tech.

Sometimes I wonder about what must be a complicated money trail. Tax money goes into universities; universities offer grants; maybe there is an aid package of some kind out of Congress. It gives me a headache. All I know is that somebody somewhere had to cut a check for the bin Laden Construction Company, and that money had to come from somewhere.

As to where that money eventually went, well, it did not go to the men laying the bricks—that much I know for certain. Some of it came to me, maybe, so I could have five bathrooms and delicious figs.

Note: You can look into the American University of Sharjah at the official web site: AUS.ac.ae. You will find many photos of beautiful buildings, but no pictures of those who tend them.

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

» GROUND:

Continued from PG. 3

what they can accomplish for the gay community at Columbia, he said. The group hopes to become more actively involved throughout the campus by throwing events like the luncheon. Common Ground is trying to create buzz about the group, which hasn't always been easy.

"In past years, there has been a lot of starting over every fall," Talbott said. "The group can really be strong in that year, but the next year, it starts back from the ground."

Talbott noticed that students would forget about the club because they were never certified at Columbia.

Talbott, along with the Common Ground members, plan to change this and obtaining a constitution was their first step toward that. The luncheon will also be the first major event for Common Ground this semester. They hope to continue planning events throughout the school year so that the club can flourish.

"A main thing the whole group wants to accomplish is to have the group thrive and be a really big organization on campus and not have to start over next year," Talbott said.

Common Ground meets Mondays at 1:00 p.m. and Fridays at 2:00 p.m. at the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. All students are welcome.

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Columbia 
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Interest cut bolsters the job market

Students looking for employment will benefit from cuts as businesses react

by Becky Schlikerman
Associate Editor

WHEN THE Federal Reserve Board cut interest rates, the effects on the economy were far-reaching. Students will be affected by the cut in the long run because it may boost the job market and lower the interest rate for older student loans. However, new student loans will not be affected, experts said.

The Federal Reserve cut federal fund rates three-quarters of a percent on Jan. 22, according to a Federal Reserve statement. The effects of the cuts of the federal fund rates, or the interest rate banks charge each other, are expected to spur the economy. The effects of the Federal Reserve's actions are expected to be noticeable in six months, just about the time students will be graduating.

The main issue that pertains to students is a possible increase in the job market because the economy will be stimulated, said Michael Miller, associate professor of economics at DePaul University.

Miller said if the Federal Reserve's action is successful, there is a possibility the econ-

omy will move at a faster pace and employment will grow faster, which means more jobs.

"The economy will have reacted by the time [May] graduation comes around," Miller said. "So if [businesses] have decided it's in their best interest to hire new people because they think the economy will do better and housing will do better, it will really be kicking in at that time."

Both experts agreed, however, that student loan interest rates will most likely not change at all.

"Most of the [student loan] interest rates that students face are fixed and don't fluctuate with the market," said Paul Pieper, associate professor of economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

This is because federal financial aid loans, such as the Stafford Student Loan and PLUS Loan, disbursed after July 1, 2006, have fixed rates, said Stephanie Babyak, spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of Education. As such, the Federal Reserve's cuts won't affect these loans.

But federal loans created before July 1, 2006 have variable rates, so those borrowers will experience some savings, said Kevin Bruns, executive director of America's Student Loan Provider, a coalition of lenders that

provide student loans.

Students interested in real estate may be affected by the changes in the housing market that are expected to occur as well.

Miller said those looking to buy their first home will find that mortgage rates will be lower in the coming months.

Although 40 to 50 percent of the effect on the market will be known in about six months, it will be two years before 100 percent of the effects of the interest rate cuts will be known, Miller said.

Although students and other consumers may be affected in the long run, the immediate effects of the cut only apply to banks. The cuts affect how banks borrow money from each other, Miller said. In essence, it becomes cheaper for banks to borrow money from each other.

"The hope is that when the banks lend to people, they will charge them less because they paid less to get the money in the first place," Miller said. Lowering the federal fund rate eventually makes it cheaper for people to borrow money to purchase things

such as cars or homes.

The Jan. 22 cut lowered rates by three-quarters of a percent, or 75 basis points, which is considered to be a large cut, Miller said. Typically, the Federal Reserve moves in small increments of 25 basis points.

"They do so cautiously because they're not sure what the market's reaction will be," Miller said. "But when they think the economy really is in trouble, or what the economy really needs is a kick in the butt, they'll use a big change."

If the Federal Reserve's monetary policy, or management of money, does not work, then fiscal policy, or economic government policy, will be the next step, Miller said. For example, the government may borrow tax money to pay for unemployment, he said.

Joe Pocs, a freshman photography and journalism major, said there is always some worry about recession. Eventually, he said, the interest rates will be back up. But Pocs is concerned about what the economy will be like in the future.

"Will I pay more in the long run?" he said.

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Arts & Entertainment

Columbia's next big 'Superstar'

Folk musician tours with Lupe Fiasco, leaves trail at college

by Jessica Galliard
A&E Editor

UNDER THE many videos of Chicago hip-hop artist Lupe Fiasco's latest single, "Superstar," scattered all over the Internet, most of the comments are the same: "Who is that Matthew Santos guy singing in the beginning?"

The musician with the fauxhawk, whose soothing voice opens Fiasco's new single, seems to have come out of nowhere. Even so, Santos, a former Columbia music composition major, has left a trail of footprints throughout Chicago and the college. Since leaving Columbia, Santos has been featured on Fiasco's new album, *The Cool*, which peaked at No. 14 on the Billboard Top 200 on Jan. 12, and performed at many major U.S. music festivals. Most recently, he and Fiasco helped welcome David Letterman back amidst the Writer's Guild of America strike by performing on "The Late Show with David Letterman" on Jan. 2, the show's first day back from hiatus.

After meeting Fiasco in a burrito house through a friend, a sound engineer who was working on both Santos' and Fiasco's latest projects at the time, the two musicians collaborated on Fiasco's 2006 album *Food and Liquor*. Fiasco "liked what he heard," Santos said, and he again worked with Fiasco to collaborate on three songs on *The Cool*.

"Things kind of gradually progressed, and [I] got more clout when I played shows like Lollapalooza [and] all of the big music festivals in the U.S. with Lupe," Santos said. "People started to wonder, 'What is this indie/folk rock musician playing with a hip-hop artist?' and 'How does that work?' Things just started to take off from there."

Now signed to Atlantic Records, Santos released his first solo album, *Matters of the Bittersweet*, on CandyRat Records in 2007. And although the singer/songwriter is consistently busy touring with Fiasco and recording in the studio, Santos and his three bandmates in The Matthew Santos Band of three years will play together for the first time in months at Metro, 3710 N. Clark St., on Feb. 15.

"I'm really excited to play [as a] full band in Chicago again," said Aviva Jaye, vocalist and keyboardist for Santos' band. "Since his collaboration, we've gotten some bigger shows, so the venues are more mainstream. I'm not sure if that would've been the case prior to Matt's collaboration."

Jaye, a Columbia alumna, said she and Santos began collaborating in 2003 after meeting through a mutual friend at the



Matthew Santos, a former Columbia student, was signed to Atlantic Records last year and now tours with hip-hop artist Lupe Fiasco. Santos' friends, colleagues and former instructors said he was always 'one of a kind.'

Courtesy PAMELA LUEDEKE

» SEE SANTOS, PG. 15



Just the ticket

by Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editor

There will be brilliance

There is a scene late in Paul Thomas Anderson's *There Will Be Blood* that encapsulates the genius of its lead actor, Daniel Day-Lewis. He plays an oil-drilling sociopath, Daniel Plainview, who intends to profit from the fertile land owned by his rival, the fraudulent preacher Eli Sunday. Declaring the covetous businessman a sinner, Sunday calls forth Plainview to make a public confession in front of his congregation. The dramatic complexity of the moment is mind-boggling: Plainview is resentful of the phony holy man, desperate to please the locals, amused by the religious spectacle's absurdity, and guilty of neglecting his son. When Sunday makes Plainview repeat the line, "I abandoned my child," all these layers of Plainview's inner psyche come firing through his face with a force to rival the streams of oil gushing through the ground.

It is the most singularly overwhelming display of acting I have seen in quite a while, and it proves once again that Daniel Day-Lewis is not only the greatest living film actor, but probably the best since Marlon Brando. He is always the best part of every film he's in, and he's been in some very good films indeed. Even *Blood* settles for abstract allegory while Day-Lewis

unceasingly ventures into his character's nihilistic soul. Like Brando, Day-Lewis is dedicated to upholding the technique of Method acting, which requires performers to fully submerge themselves within the mental and emotional reality of their characters.

Immediately after seeing *There Will Be Blood*, I went back and ordered all of his past films on Netflix, and I advise anyone interested in the arts of Method and film acting to do the same. I was astonished by the extent to which Day-Lewis literally transformed himself with each successive performance. It was hard to believe at times that all these diverse characters were brought to life by the same man.

Consider two of his early supporting roles, which each premiered on the same day in 1985. In *A Room with a View*, he's the monocle-clad, emotionally detached fiancé of a young English woman in the early 1900s. In *My Beautiful Laundrette*, he's the riotous gang leader with bleached hair who conducts a secret love affair with a Pakistani male in modern London. These characters couldn't have been more different. Then consider his next roles: a womanizing Czech doctor in *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, an accomplished artist with

cerebral palsy in *My Left Foot: The Story of Christy Brown*, an orphaned settler adopted by an Indian tribe in *The Last of the Mohicans* and a man who finds the desires of his heart restricted by New York's high society in *The Age of Innocence*. Nearly a decade later, Day-Lewis reunited with *Innocence* director Martin Scorsese for another film also set in 19th century New York. But no one expected his role to be the ruthlessly savage leader of the Native American army hell-bent on persecuting all immigrants. His performance was so spellbinding and multi-dimensional that it easily upstaged everything else in *Gangs of New York*.

And now we have *There Will Be Blood*, a film that literally requires Day-Lewis to embody the dehumanization of capitalism. Most actors would be simply dumbfounded at playing a role so conceptual and larger-than-life. But Day-Lewis has turned it into something so special and unique that it just might go down as the performance of his career. And when he kneels on the floor of Sunday's church and exclaims, "I abandoned my child," you will never see a more exhilarating display of acting in your life.

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Chrissy knows best

by Chrissy Mahlmeister
Managing Editor

Wilderness chic is weak

We don't live in the woods. We definitely don't live in the mountains. We walk on paved streets with (gasp!) drainage systems so even our little tootsies won't get wet. So what's the deal with everyone dressing like they are about to go camping or on an exhausting hike into the wilderness? All this hubbub about North Face, Uggs and Nalgene bottles makes me feel like pitching a tent in the middle of the el so these folks can feel closer to home. I lovingly call their outerwear obsession "wilderness chic."

I always hear, "But it's just sooo warm!" in relation to their snug bootie slip-ons and wind-resistant zip ups. Yeah, so is a bear rug tucked under my armpits but I'm not wearing that. I mean, what if the niche of scuba diving oozed its way into the fashion scene? Is everyone going to wear the incredibly warm, exceptionally waterproof and cozy scuba suits? Seems ridiculous, doesn't it? Hey, I'm just here to put it in perspective.

And does anyone honestly and truly love the way North Face and Uggs look with every ounce of their tiny heart? It's just a black fleece jacket with lining. Uggs are just gigantic sheepskin socks. That's it. I don't get it. Can't we just leave the hiking boots to the hikers and the mountain-climbing gear to the mountain climbers? Stop pretending there is an undying love for nature and the outdoors.

What about the outdoorsy types who used to be able to easily identify a potential hiking buddy and then clink their Nalgene bottles over an open campfire in adoration of their surroundings? They don't have it so easy anymore. They scratch their heads at the Uggs/miniskirt combo and are probably going to quit camping altogether in utter confusion in exchange for tree-hugging friends.

Since when did just plain ol' plastic water bottles just not cut it? I remember going to soccer practice and having the same three Gatorade bottles on rotation. But

now we need super-unbreakable, over-the-top, a-car-can't-break-this-thing-even-if-it-tried water bottles. My favorite thing to see is the Nalgene water bottle clipped to a North Face backpack. Then we know they really don't want to mess around with the earth's elements.

Plus, are my plain leather boots just not good enough anymore? Everyone into "wilderness chic" should quit making me feel so inadequate with my winter clothing choices. I mean, do I really need a few layers of sheepskin around my feet to be OK in my 5-minute walk to the train and back? Nope. I'm fine. But what about all the Ugg-wearers during the day at work in normal, albeit warm, temperatures? I bet they get killer toe sweat. Poor guys. If only they hadn't overcompensated for their minimal outdoor activity and fear of winter whipping past their tender calves, maybe they could survive indoors too.

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ROAMIN' NUMERALS

The number of plastic balls officials in Rome had to scoop up from the Spanish Steps on Jan. 16. Graziano Cecchini, the same guy who dyed the water in the Trevi Fountain red, emptied bags full of multicolored balls at the site, as passersby watched the thousands of balls bounce down the steps, according to The Associated Press.

500,000

30

The number of years since The Sex Pistols have recorded an album. On the band's website, drummer Paul Cook responds to online rumors of the band recording a new album in 2008: "There's talk of new material ... We might not pull together an album, but hopefully there will be some new stuff in time for the summer."

The age of the first artist to break the record for the number of digital downloads of a song. Teenage rapper Soulja Boy's single "Crank That (Soulja Boy)" has racked up 3 million digital downloads. Interscope Records announced on Jan. 10. The song is nominated for the Grammy Award for Best Rap Song.

17



INTERVENTION A&E 1/28 at 7 p.m.

Tressa, a former Olympic athlete, lost her career as a top female shot-putter after a routine drug test revealed she was an IV user. Her family plans an intervention for her after daily crystal meth use has sent her life spiraling out of control. Believe it or not, this one sounds tragic.



AMERICAN IDOL FOX 1/29 at 7 p.m.

For the third week in a row, "Idol" will embarrass the heck out of a couple of superstar wannabes. It was a little funny four or five years ago, but one can only laugh at a bucktoothed man in a "Princess Leia" costume singing the Jennifer Hudson anthem so many times.

MAKING THE BAND 4 MTV 1/30 at 7 p.m.

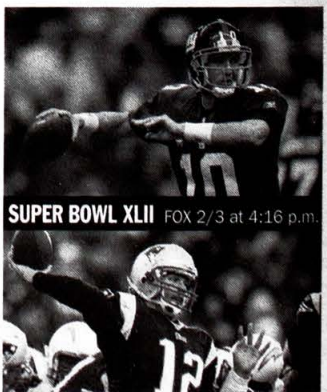
Yeah, Diddy did it again. Past winners of "Making the Band" move in together and begin working on their separate albums. Think of it as a competition to fail the hardest.

20 MOST OUTRAGEOUS BRAVO MOMENTS BRAVO 1/31 at 5 p.m.

The back-to-back pointless countdowns on Vh1 can be a bit jading, but this list of the best moments from Bravo reality shows should be interesting. How else can you squeeze Kathy Griffin, Bobby Brown, Heidi Klum and chefs with knives into a one-hour timeslot?

TAKE HOME CHEF TLC 2/1 at 6:30 p.m.

Hot chef/host Curtis Stone surprises a magician named "Magic Mike" at a New Orleans night club. If getting Curtis to come to my house to help cook dinner requires becoming a magician, we're so in.



The New York Giants and the New England Patriots face off in Arizona. The Chicago Bears will most likely be in Green Bay, Wisc. at kick-off time teasing the Packers for losing to the Giants.

» **SANTOS:**

Continued from PG. 13

Musician once hosted open mic night at popular South Loop coffee shop

open mic night Santos hosted at Gourmand, 728 S. Dearborn St., which closed in spring of 2007. Jaye said Santos' style of music attracted her to pursue working with him.

"When I first heard him perform solo at Gourmand, I had a really strong emotional reaction to the whole package, his voice, his songwriting, the lyrics," Jaye said. "I felt like it was really raw and vulnerable but not weak. He really did sound like one of a kind."

At home with his family, Santos isn't quite one of a kind—when it comes to being musically talented. Hailing from Minneapolis, he grew up in a family that was "intrinsically musical," he said. With a grandfather who played trumpet, a few uncles who were folk singers and an older brother with an acoustic guitar, Santos was writing songs on the guitar and playing the piano regularly by the time he was 15.

"I played piano since I was a wee lad, really," Santos said. "I played by ear, mostly, with a couple of years' worth of lessons when I was a teenager."

After graduating from high school in 2001, Santos moved to Chicago to pursue a degree in music composition at Columbia, and also for the chance to live in a big city.

As a student in his Music Composition I course, Doug Lofstrom, student assessment coordinator for the Music Department, said Santos did some "terrific work." Santos was very struck by the music of Astor Piazzolla, a

tango musician, and Lofstrom said he could hear the influence of the musician's work in Santos' music.

"Students get their start in that class, and they have to prove themselves," Lofstrom said. "He ultimately did very well. I was impressed with his work, that it was so good and expressive."

Though he didn't graduate from the program, Santos said he developed a sense of discipline at Columbia. And because he was used to learning music by ear, he learned the "language of music" while studying at Columbia, he said.

"It's helpful to see from a different light, because I could conceptualize harmony and approach melody differently, the gears behind what makes good music," Santos said. "It's like you open up the back of a watch and see how it works. You learn it, it passes through you and leaves a mark. And that affects how you approach music."

While hosting the weekly open mic night at Gourmand, Santos began playing acoustically at several Chicago venues until he developed a strong following, eventually leading to his collaborations with Fiasco and musicians like folk singer/songwriter John Martyn, soul singer Sam Butler Jr. and violinist Dr. L. Subramaniam.

But although Santos has found a new following with his collaboration with Fiasco, he said he also feels some of the pressure from the music industry to fit into a "standard format" of music.

"The industry is so saturated with b----- that it's difficult for people to sit through it. You've got artists throwing stuff in your face, labels trying to tell you what's good and what's not," Santos said. "But I guess my efforts are to move interests more towards talent and heart and other artists beside myself who feel like a song can change the



Matthew Santos and his band members, Aviva Jaye, Graham Burris and Robert Tucker, have played together in the The Matthew Santos Band for three years.

Courtesy PAMELA LUEDEKE

world. If it's not externally, it's internally."

Collaborations between indie and hip-hop artists isn't a new idea. Jim DeRogatis, pop music critic for the Chicago Sun-Times, said hip-hop artists go through waves of reaching out to different kinds of artists.

"After Eminem had that hit with Dido, I think a lot of different rappers tried that," DeRogatis said. "For whatever inexplicable reason, you've been seeing a lot of rappers working with John Mayer lately. I can't think of a whiter and less soulful guy than John Mayer."

As for Santos, DeRogatis said it's great to see him working with Fiasco.

"The case here is that Matthew obvi-

ously has a really soulful and really great voice. It's not hard to imagine him singing straight R&B or in a gospel church," he said. "Lupe can't sing, he's a great rapper. Matthew can't rap. I don't know if he wants to, but I think it's a great collaboration."

jgalliat@chroniclemail.com

CONCERT BITS**The Matthew Santos Band**

Where: Metro, 3710 N. Clark St.

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Cost: \$10

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TOP 5



Chrissy Mahlmeister, Managing Editor

Things never to say to kids

"You were an accident": The one way to crush a child's heart is to let him know he wasn't made on purpose—and you should just keep pretending you wanted their constant whining, crying and goo-goo-ga-gaing around every day.

"Mommy and daddy are getting a divorce—because of you": The truth hurts, but at least now the kid gets two houses and twice as many presents. Lighten up, little guy.

"I hope my next child is cuter than you": Everyone thinks it. They're at their family reunion looking around at all the crazy relatives, and you notice that one cousin with one too many moles on her chin and you think, "Gosh, how am I related to that?" Well, her parents are thinking the same thing.

"The Cookie Monster died of diabetes, just like grandma": Not only did the coolest creature on earth, aka the Cookie Monster, die, but now grandma? Though she was always pinching cheeks and smelled like medicine, kids are really going to miss her warm hugs and gooey fudge surprise.

"Honey, you just won a trip to Neverland Ranch": It's every child's worst nightmare disguised as an amusement park. Michael Jackson lurks around every corner ready to cuddle with unwilling tiny tots. Thank God California is an expensive flight away.



Amanda Maurer, Editor-in-Chief

Worst things to do when you're hungry

Watch foodie shows: Even if Anthony Bourdain's eating sauteed brains from a street vendor in Mumbai, it looks delicious. Don't even get me started with Rachael Ray's and Paula Deen's tempting treats (which always have at least a pound of butter in the recipe).

Getting into a fight: Since hunger may make you irritable, hold off all fights until you can wolf down a Twinkie. Remember, you're starving for something to snack on, not someone to fight with.

Start playing "chef": If you're starving, it's definitely not the time to get creative. Often it means getting greedy and combining too many ingredients into an unsatisfactory concoction.

Go grocery shopping: Warning: Will only result in overspending, purchasing foods you'd never otherwise want and the ever popular snacking-before-it's-paid-for syndrome. You know you're at this point if you run to the store mid-week and you're pushing around a cart, instead of carrying a basket.

Watch gastric bypass surgeries on TV: Nothing turns the tummy more than watching stomach surgery.



Steve Baltrukonis, Back Page Editor

Greatest zombie movies (Chronologically)

Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1978): An exploration of the philosophical zombie, the film introduces zombies that come in the night to replace your loved ones with an emotionless doppelganger. The cast's amazing, bringing Donald Sutherland, Jeff Goldblum and Leonard Nimoy together.

Dawn of the Dead (1979): George Romero's exploration of consumerist culture didn't need to be remade. It amazes me how many people ignore the original for its flawed remake.

Re-Animator (1985): A movie that illustrates what happens when science no longer has to concern itself with the ethics of theology and government. The moral of this zombie classic is that God is the gift man makes himself.

Night of the Living Dead (1990): Tom Savini's reinvention of the classic movie that started the zombie subgenre. The plot is nearly untouched, but it manages to keep room for better special effects and a strong female protagonist.

Dead Alive (1992): Peter Jackson made this comedy/horror hybrid early in his career. Ever seen a guy fight off zombies with a lawnmower? You can. You should.

JACKASS
OF THE WEEK

AP

CRUISE CONTROL

TOM CRUISE has not only jumped off of Oprah's couch, he has gone off his rocker.

Cameras caught Cruise running his mouth again about the importance of his Scientologist ways.

Numerous websites had posted the video of cruise, yet after copyright infringement was filed, only Gawker Media retained the video.

According to Gawker.com, they are using the video "in the context of news reporting and critical commentary."

Throughout the video, Cruise repetitively states Scientologist is what the world needs today.

"When you are a Scientologist and you drive by an accident, you know you have to do something about it, because you know you are the only one who can really help," said Cruise, according to Gawker.com.

Jackass.

We can now do away with emergency squads; the Scientologists have got it under control.

Cruise has overstepped it. Believing that one religion can overcome every obstacle is absurd. According to Gawker.com, Cruise said "We are the authorities on the mind," but perhaps his mind needs a thorough examination.

"Anyone would be proud to call themselves a Scientologist," Cruise said.

Cruise is a loony.

—C. Shively

check me out

by Elaine Tsang
Staff Writer

SPORTING A black and white printed zip-up hoodie accented by pink drawstrings, film and video graduate Stephanie Serine kept herself warm with a gray knitted Columbia beanie. Spotted outside the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., Serine was one of the brave people who did not wear a heavy-duty jacket, claiming she was warm because she was wearing a jacket from skateboard fashion retailer Zumiez.

"I like to keep people curious," Serine said.

The best part about her outfit was the black and white allover print artwork of a vintage, 1920s-like advertisement. From far away, it looked like the Magic Eye posters from the 1990s. The



Snowboarder Shaun White often sports the printed hoodie look when he's not on his board.

AP



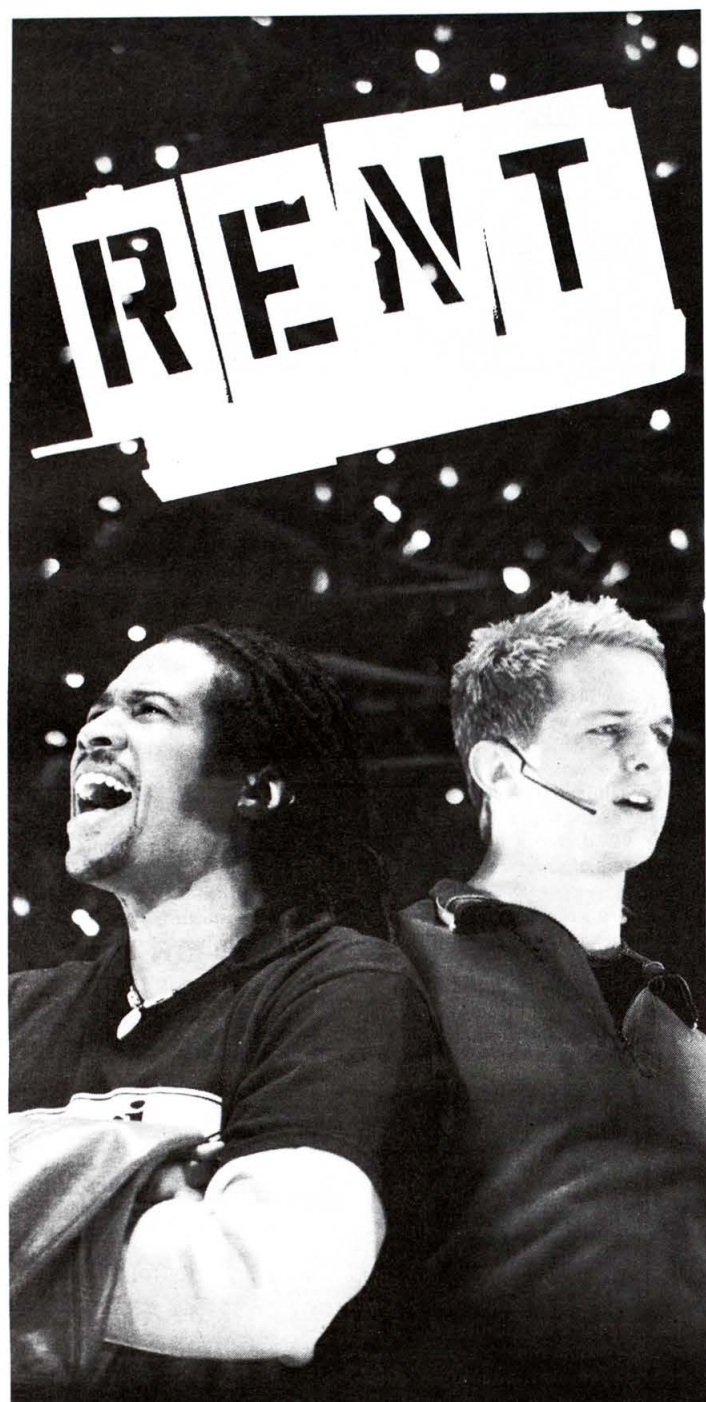
allover prints have been a trend for the past couple seasons, but every year artwork gets more creative. Designers play with the color scheme and highlight off-the-wall artwork in printed pieces. Allover print hoodies are popular in the skateboard and snowboard fashion industry, but have recently become a mainstream trend.

But be sparing with wearing allover printed hoodies. With their complex artwork and various colors, they can fool you and become difficult to match. But if you are looking to grab people's attention, the allover printed hoodie can definitely captivate, which is how Serine's outfit grabbed our attention on a cold, blustery day.

To sport Serine's snowboarding looks you can visit Zumiez.com for the various Chicagoland store locations or check out the local Burton store at 56 E. Walton St.

Have a question about current trends or want to recommend one? E-mail us at chronicle@colum.edu.

Elaine Tsang is a senior fashion design major at Columbia.



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Allyson McGovern THE CHRONICLE

Absinthe no longer absent in Chicago

After a ban that lasted nearly a century, absinthe is approved for consumption in the U.S.

by Derek Kucynda
 Assistant A&E Editor

NEWS OF absinthe drinkers committing murders and harming themselves rippled through Europe in the early 1900s, resulting in a ban of the neon-green spirit from bars and cafes for more than 90 years, according to Michael Rubel, the head bar manager at The Violet Hour, 1520 N. Damen Ave.

After being banned in 1912 in the United States because of reported violent and hallucinogenic side effects, absinthe has experienced a recent revival in Chicago after being legalized in United States just months earlier. Lucid, a brand of absinthe from the company Viridian Spirits LLC, was approved for legal consumption in early March 2007 by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, and the company worked with vendors around the nation to ensure a safe launch in each major city, according to Jared Gurfein, the president and CEO of Viridian Spirits LLC.

After working with members of the company, bars and liquor stores in Chicago were given the option to order Lucid through a Chicagoland area liquor distributor, Southern Wine and Spirits, Rubel said. However, many bars and lounges have simply over-

looked absinthe and its legalization; only a select number of bars and lounges carry the highly alcoholic liquor.

The illegality of absinthe led to a surge of young drinkers requesting the legalization of the green spirit, Rubel said. He said companies knew people were finding ways to sneak absinthe by purchasing it online, but due to strict regulations on one of absinthe's key ingredients, grand wormwood, which contains a chemical known as thujone, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau still needed to be convinced that absinthe was safe for public consumption, Rubel said.

It wasn't until Ted Breaux, an environmental chemist and absinthe expert, came up with the idea to manufacture Lucid, Rubel said. He said Breaux was interested in proving that the myths surrounding absinthe are almost always untrue. Breaux found thujone, which has been attributed to hallucinations in huge doses, is harmless in its small quantity in absinthe, Rubel said.

Art Resnick, spokesman for the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, said the Bureau received inquiries about obtaining label approval for Lucid in 2006.

"Upon testing those products, we determined that they contain less than 10 parts [of thujone] per million and we approved it,"

» SEE ABSINTHE, PG. 31

Revving up lamp restorations

by Derek Kucynda
Assistant A&E Editor

ONE PERSON'S trash is Chicago resident Scott Sullivan's treasure. By playing with a bright idea to infuse ordinary lamps with car transmissions, a business was born.

After finding a way to utilize used car parts, Sullivan started using the pieces to create various interior goods, such as lamps and coasters. Sullivan said he designs the interior goods in his garage, where he also works as a contractor. He said he is commissioned by his customers to build interior goods.

After transitioning from selling his goods online to actual stores and boutiques, Sullivan has been gaining publicity, showcasing his products in the Wall Street Journal and various online blogs. Besides lamps and coasters, Sullivan also makes bookends and small, pendant-shaped lights that hang from the ceiling.

Sullivan approached Sherri Weigand, co-owner of the home decor and interior goods boutique RR#1, 814 N. Ashland Ave., on Jan. 11 to show her his lamps. She said she was impressed and wanted to sell the lamps, which are currently featured in RR#1's front display window. Sullivan said the lamps have a modern and industrial look to them and are durable, due to the fact that the transmission parts are hefty.

"They are heavy duty, but they are beauti-

ful," Weigand said. "It is really a work of art."

Getting his foot through the door has only been the latest step in expanding his business. Before taking his products to area boutiques, Sullivan explored his design ideas.

He said he enjoys playing with the concept of dimensional and structural design and not knowing what gift to get his brother for Christmas ultimately led to his inspiration to build interior goods using car parts. Sullivan said he chose to use car parts to build lamps because of the many pieces they contain and the various shapes of the gears.

Sullivan spoke with mechanics at car repair shops around the Midwest, and many of them gave him permission to take recycled transmission parts, clutches and shift gears at no cost.

To build a lamp, Sullivan uses the parts from a transmission to create a base and builds the lamp from there, he said. Sullivan then uses his knowledge of geometry to find ways to stack the pieces together to create a stand, constantly looking out for parts that might pair well with each other in terms of style and structure. He said the lampshade is almost always created with the flat scrap parts of cars and is welded to create the shape of the lampshade.

"It's like doing a jigsaw puzzle," Sullivan said. "[I'm] trying to find things that work together [and] complement each other visually."



Lamps made from automobile parts are on display in the front window of RR#1, 814 N. Ashland Ave.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

The lamps sell for around \$300 each at RR#1 and are also available at Zella Brown, 1444 N. Milwaukee Ave. Sullivan approached the store's owner, Trisha London, six months ago.

London said the lamps were interesting and good for the environment because Sullivan uses recycled materials. Instead of having the scrap metal parts of cars melted down and thrown away at area scrap heaps, the parts can be used for Sullivan's lamps, which he said would eliminate waste that could potentially contaminate the river or air quality.

"I think it's cool that it's made of recycled products," London said. "They just have a really unique look to them."

Before selling his products through Zella Brown and RR#1, Sullivan sold his lamps on Etsy.com, a website where people can

buy and sell handmade items.

Kathy Cash-Tittle purchased one of Sullivan's lamps off Etsy.com. She said the sturdy lamp provides beautiful direct and indirect lighting.

"It's made of heavy metal, and it's going to last forever," Cash-Tittle said. "What makes the lamp so beautiful is that the silhouette [the light] creates is so unusual."

Cash-Tittle said she will be purchasing from Sullivan in the future, and she enjoys the fact that the lamps appeal to the eco-friendly consumer.

"I think he is brilliant," Cash-Tittle said. "He came up with a solution to be more eco-friendly, [while] making it into a work of art."

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Game review

Those who play together, stay together

Minimal dissonance in
Harmonix's 'Rock Band'

by Colin Shively
Assistant A&E Editor

I AM a hero; I am a legend of rock. Now I have the opportunity to create a band with my closest friends or by myself. What more can a game provide?

For those who are a bit behind on the times, *Rock Band* is the evolution of the *Guitar Hero* trilogy. Created by the same company, Harmonix, *Rock Band* outshines *Guitar Hero III* in every aspect. It fully embraces the band experience by offering every major instrument to the players.

Guitar Hero was great, but it got dull watching two players strumming away. Yet with *Rock Band*, up to four people can play together. In *Guitar Hero* players were only able to do a limited customization of their characters and guitar, yet in *Rock Band* the game yields to every whim of what the ideal rock star should look like. Hair color, style and even tattoos are at the players disposal. You can let your artistic side flourish.

Rock Band still carries the majority of features as *Guitar Hero*. Players still have their star power and that amusing whammy bar, yet *Rock Band* is far more exquisite in actual game play. The newest guitar comes with a second set of keys near the base of the instrument meant to give players an easier

ability to tap notes in a solo without strumming. The microphone is unique. It acts as a basic microphone but also serves as a tambourine and cowbell; just tap on the top when you see the notes. Also, if a member of the band is not as good, he or she still has four levels of difficulty to choose from. No need to punish the band because one member isn't an expert yet.

Rock Band is near perfect. The song selections are eclectic, providing every genre to rock out to. The game is programmed with 45 songs, with an opportunity to unlock 13 other songs as you achieve higher scores.

Another great component of the game is the downloadable content, specific songs you can purchase off the web, which has seen more than 2.5 million downloads since its November release, making the game double platinum in number of song sales. But the best part is jamming until the neighbors scream at you.

I have never sang in front of my friends,

but when "Maps" by Yeah Yeah Yeahs came on, that all changed. I was surprised that I actually sounded decent. The game recognizes different harmonic tones and pitches depending on the pitch and articulation of the player's voice. "Maps" became less of a challenge when I realized I didn't have to tighten my belt to reach the high notes.

But there are drawbacks to this game. The cost of the game, depending on city and store, can range from \$170-\$300. If a soloist can't afford this in one chunk, they should find a band to help fund the investment.

Another issue with *Rock Band* is that the instruments take up room. The drum set alone takes most of the space due to the drum pads, stool and foot pedal. For students who live in a small studio or dorm, they should make sure they have enough space for the instruments before buying the game.

The biggest drawback to the game has to do with the drum set. The set utilizes the same color scheme but in a different order. If you are a veteran to the green, red, yellow, blue and orange button lineup, make sure you relearn the order on the drum.

Despite small inconveniences, *Rock Band* is still a masterpiece of multi-player interaction and technology. Anyone who buys this game will surely enjoy the raptures of escalating to the title of a rock god.



This virtual rock star briefly depicts the actual excitement the real world player will experience.

Courtesy HARMONIX

THE GAME

Rock Band

Consoles: **XBOX 360, PS2, PS3**

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Headliners include Miami-based **Soulflower**, Detroit-based **Invincible**, and Chicago-based **AquaMoon & Tha Crew**. Artists will each perform and participate in a Q&A discussion about women, race, and gender issues in hip-hop, moderated by **Jane M. Saks** (Executive Director, Ellen Stone Belic Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media) and **Stephanie Shonekan** (Director, Black World Studies Program, Columbia College Chicago).

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Co-presented by: Ellen Stone Belic Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media, Liberal Education Department, Black World Studies Program, and Women and Gender Studies Program. This project is made possible in part by a grant from the National Performance Network's Performance Residency Program. Major contributors of the National Performance Network include the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency), Altria and the Nathan Cummings Foundation. For more information: www.npnweb.org.

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Builders and Stitchers needed!

Spectacle Fortuna is Columbia's parade and spectacle of creativity at Manifest on Friday May 16th: a mix of mardi gras and Halloween imagery, combined with Columbia's grit and glitter while celebrating the college's spirit and creative community.



Spectacle Fortuna is now hiring highly creative and motivated students to act as builders, designers and stitchers from now until the end of the school year!



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Successful applicants should be either skilled carpenters/builders or proficient costume designers/tailors with resumes and portfolios of current work examples. Interested parties should be current Columbia College students who are not already employed on campus.

Hours are flexible and those accepted can expect to work 10-20 hours per week. Pay is \$10 per hour.



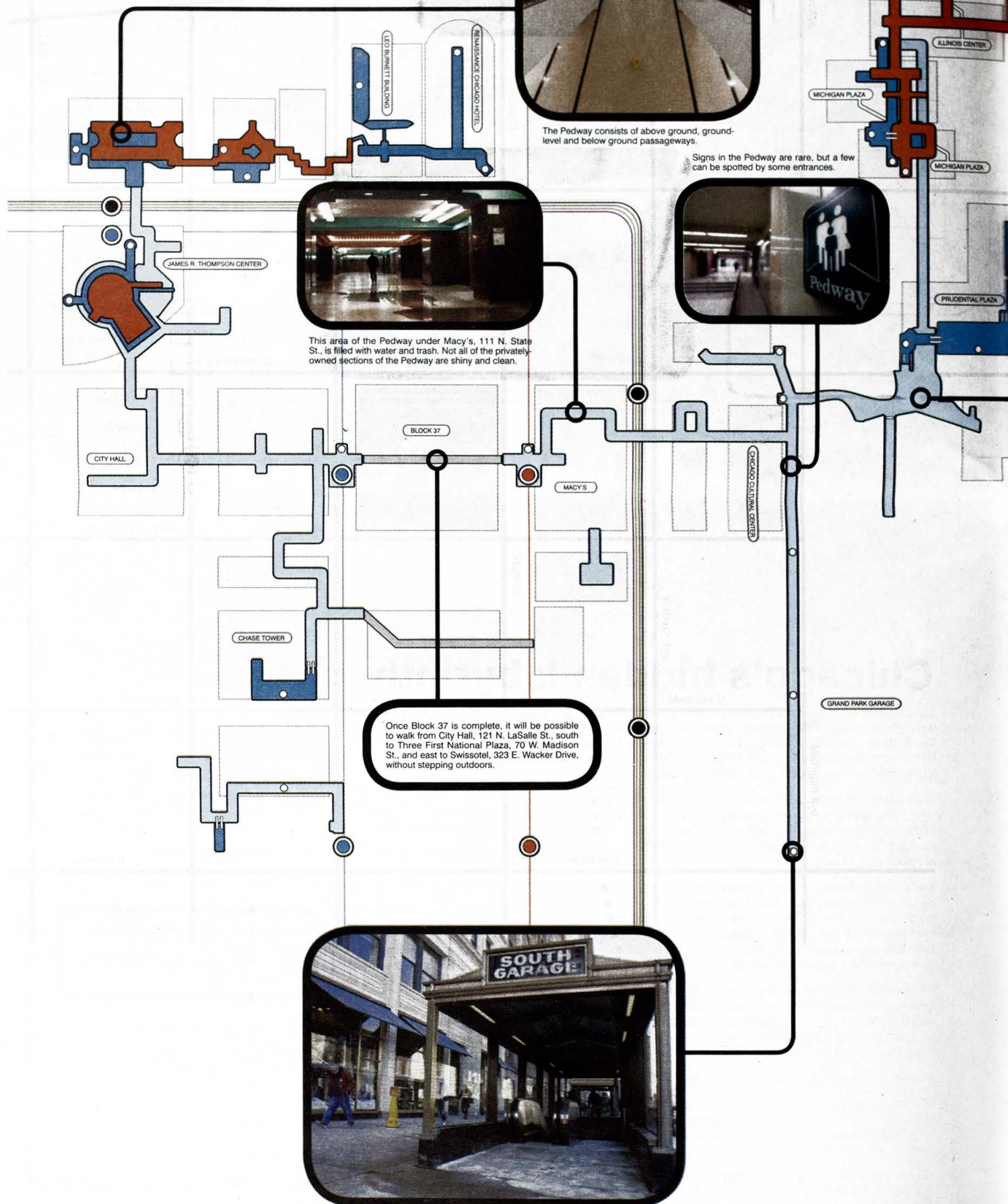


Chicago Pedway

the city's other downtown

CREDITS

- STORY - Dana Nelson
■ GRAPHICS - Emilia Klimiuk
■ PHOTOS - Andrew A. Nelles



The Pedway consists of above ground, ground-level and below ground passageways.

Signs in the Pedway are rare, but a few can be spotted by some entrances.

This area of the Pedway under Macy's, 111 N. State St., is filled with water and trash. Not all of the privately-owned sections of the Pedway are shiny and clean.

Once Block 37 is complete, it will be possible to walk from City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., south to Three First National Plaza, 70 W. Madison St., and east to Swissotel, 323 E. Wacker Drive, without stepping outdoors.

Entrance to the South Garage is also the entrance to the Pedway. It is proof that appearances can be deceiving. Pedestrians must walk on a sidewalk through rows and rows of cars to make it to the actual Pedway.



IF YOU GET LOST...

Since entrances are poorly marked, don't be afraid to go into hotels, condos or retail stores to find the location of an entrance.

If you get lost, try not to refer to the Pedway as "The Pedway" when asking for directions. Many people don't realize they're in the Pedway, so you may confuse them by asking.

There are different levels, so don't be afraid to go up and down stairs or escalators to continue your path.

The Pedway doesn't always look like a tunnel—it goes through parking garages, Metra stations, food courts and basements.

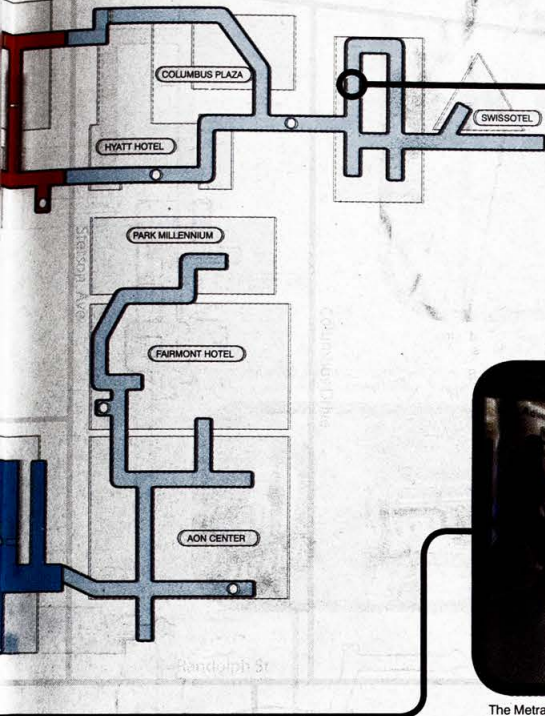
Find a copy of the Pedway Guide (commonly found in bookstores and hotels) and reference the retail locations to keep track of where you're going.

The best time to explore is during regular business hours, because certain sections will close if it gets too late.

Don't get discouraged. It's long and confusing, but once you know your way around, it's easy and fun to explore the Pedway.

MAP KEY

- Underground Pedway
- Street Level Pedway
- Upper Level Pedway
- Under Construction
- Subway Stop
- El Stop
- Entrance
- Stairs
- Building



Ralph Petrosino, owner of Petrosino's Parlor, said he likes working in the Pedway because of the community feel. One benefit to being located in the Pedway means his customers don't have to worry about the weather after they get their hair done.



The Metra station opens up into an expansive space below ground. Even though most maps make the Pedway look like a series of tunnels, it's mostly comprised of large basements and concourses.

Chicago's hidden labyrinth

Tom Boyden remembers the Pedway smelling rank, looking dirty and filled with "street people" when he used to travel from his job in the Aon Center, 200 E. Randolph St., to Macy's, 111 N. State St. Nearly 10 years later on a return trip to Chicago with his wife, Boyden was pleasantly surprised to see it with polished floors, bustling shops and marble columns.

The Pedway, one of Chicago's best-kept secrets, is the only place in Chicago where you can eat lunch, pick up your dry cleaning, buy flowers, get stamps at the post office, shop for clothes and board a Metra train—all without having to step foot outside. (By September, you will be able to get married or renew your ID too.)

The mostly unknown, poorly marked series of concourses, tunnels and basements connects more than 30 buildings in the Loop and is filled with barbershops and salons, restaurants ranging from McDonald's to the Midtown Kitchen and Bar, clothing and shoe stores, travel agencies and currency exchanges, to name a few. There are even gyms, art galleries and car rental services available within the Pedway.

While much of the Pedway is underground, some parts are ground-level lobbies or above-ground skyways. And much of the Pedway doesn't appear as a tunnel, as many maps portray, but instead has wide open spaces like the food court in the James R. Thompson Center or the Metra station under Grant Park.

In short, it feels like a giant mall, complete with all the necessities.

Matt Myers, editor-in-chief of the Pedway Guide, said he could get all his shopping done in the comfort of his pajamas. Myers used to live in the Park Millennium condos, 222 N. Columbus Drive, which has an entrance into the Pedway within the building.

For many who live and work in Chicago's business district, taking the Pedway is a way of life. Myers said the Pedway creates a tight-knit community of

people who are familiar with each other.

"This is my neighborhood," said Ralph Petrosino, owner and founder of Petrosino's Parlor, an upscale hair parlor located on the Concourse Level of 303 E. Wacker Drive.

Petrosino said he sees the same people every day while he's at work. Many he knows and greets as they pass by, others come and hang out at the hair parlor for a little while.

About 90 percent of the people who use the Pedway live or work in the buildings connected to it, Myers said, but many of the people who take it every day are unaware they're in a huge network of connecting walkways.

Others avoid it out of fear of getting lost.

"People get intimidated by the Pedway because they don't understand it," Petrosino said.

With help from the Chicago Department of Transportation and the Pedway Guide, the first magazine with detailed maps and listings of retailers within the Pedway, these unintentionally hidden walkways may become more well-known and accessed.

CDOT Spokesman Brian Steele said the Pedway system will be refitted with new signs and consistent maps throughout the Pedway in late January or early February to help pedestrians who have lost their way. As of now, many of the Pedway entrances remain unmarked, there are few maps below and the system is hard to navigate without a compass or knowledge of the below-ground landmarks.

For many who live and work in Chicago's business district, taking the Pedway is a way of life.

➔ SEE NEXT PAGE

➡ PEDWAY CONTINUED

Myers said Addison Design Studios, which produces the Pedway Guide, will set up informational kiosks to inform pedestrians of the retailers within the Pedway, similar to a mall guide. As of now, retailers are only listed in the Pedway Guide and on kiosks in the areas they're located, not throughout the entire Pedway.

Some of those retailers include all the usual franchises like Starbucks and Subway, but the Pedway is also home to individual retailers and restaurants that don't have locations downtown, or may not have any other locations outside the Pedway.

"What's unique about the Pedway is not that it spans 40 blocks, but all the retailers that are here," Myers said. "It's weird because the buildings [that make up the Pedway] don't really market it."

Myers predicts an "explosion" of new developments three years from now as businesses realize how profitable the Pedway can be and as more people aided by signs and kiosks find their way around this underground downtown.

Also, the Block 37 project, located at 108 N. State St., is due to be completed in September, which will re-open the walkway from State Street to Dearborn Street in between Randolph Street and Washington Boulevard streets. The project will bring more people into the Pedway as an express CTA train to O'Hare International Airport and Chicago Midway Airport is planned, complete with a baggage check-in location at the downtown terminal.

Some of the buildings in the Pedway, particularly residential ones, are raising awareness of the Pedway by giving tours of the easily accessible shopping and dining hub below.

"But until the city puts up signs, it's going to be hard to navigate," Myers said.

Some sections of the Pedway have yet to be cleaned up as well.

While much of the Pedway is privately owned by the building it occupies, other parts are city-owned, public areas, such as the basements of City Hall, the James R. Thompson Center and Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington Blvd.

Though anyone can traverse the Pedway, the distinction between private and public walkways is obvious. Many of the privately owned sections look expensive and classy, while the few publicly owned walkways tend to be plain, poorly lit and dirty. However, the privately-owned Pedway under Macy's, 111 N. State St., is also run down, which Myers said will change once Block 37 is complete.

"It's really up to the building owner to determine how much or how little they want to put within it," Steele said, adding that's why some areas look nicer, smell better and feel warmer than others.

But regardless of whether the Pedway is privately or publicly owned, users say it is relatively safe. Public sections are patrolled by police officers and private sections have building security, Myers said.

"From our experience ... the Pedway is very safe," Steele said. "It's the same as a downtown sidewalk except it's enclosed. Some sections might even be safer because [of security guards]—those are even safer than being on the sidewalk."

As of now, the city has no plans to expand its portion of the Pedway, though private developers may expand it further if they choose, Steele said.

Hit show seeks Chicago teen talent

Lee Norris talks to The Chronicle during a local 'One Tree Hill' casting call

by Derek Kucynda
Assistant A&E Editor

EVEN THOUGH many television shows have already finished their seasons, the CW's "One Tree Hill" is just beginning.

The show premiered its 5th season on Jan. 8. They also formed a partnership with Macy's stores around the United States to host a one-day, multi-city casting call on Jan. 19, with one person scoring a walk-on role on the show. The casting call also gives seven fans the chance to hang out on the "One Tree Hill" set in Wilmington, N.C.

Almost 1,000 fans attended the casting call at Macy's, 111 N. State St., said Marissa Reeves, a spokesperson for the department store. She said about 250 fans were allowed to meet Lee Norris, who plays Marvin "Mouth" McFadden on the show, as he signed autographs and took pictures with his fans on the 2nd floor of Macy's.

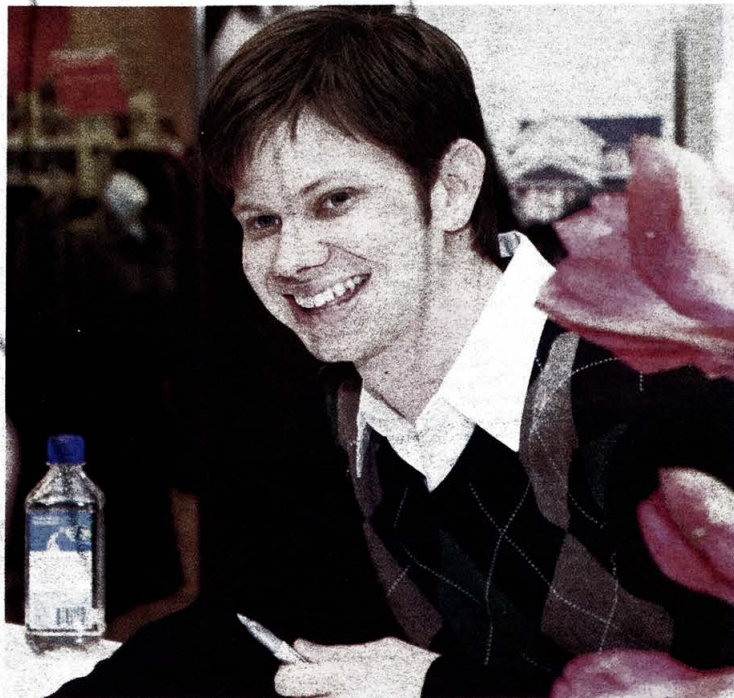
The Chronicle recently spoke with Norris to discuss the Writer's Guild of America strike, his career and his take on the current celebrity culture.

The Chronicle: How do you handle the attention that you are getting from "One Tree Hill"?

Lee Norris: I just do my job, which is acting, and all of the other attention that comes with it is fun. But it's not why I do it. It's just part of it and I just try and treat everybody like I would want to be treated if I walked up to my favorite actor.

Since your days as "Boy Meets World" character Stuart Minkus, you have made a complete change to play "Mouth" McFadden. How do you feel about breaking out of that typecast?

It was great. "Boy Meets World" was a show that I had so much fun on, and playing Minkus was certainly a lot of fun. It was nice when "One Tree Hill" came along to play a little bit of a different character, in that he isn't a stereotypical nerd. I think the writer just met me and



Actor Lee Norris portrays Marvin "Mouth" McFadden on the television program "One Tree Hill," seen on the CW. Norris attended a signing at Macy's, 111 N. State St., to promote an open casting call for a walk-on part on the TV show.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE



Sharhonda Roberts, 24, of Chicago, creates her personal video audition for "One Tree Hill."

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

saw that I'm just kind of a normal kid. I was in college, and I got the part. It just worked out.

Will Marvin "Mouth" McFadden find love this season?

You know, it's a good question. He's always looking for it, and it's tough. But he's definitely going to meet ... someone special.

Do you feel like you relate to "Mouth" McFadden?

Yeah, I do. He's a nice guy, and I try to be a nice guy. [However], he makes some decisions, [and] because it's a soap opera, some of the things he does are out there, so I would never do that. But, I relate to his good heart.

What is your take on the current celebrity culture?

The current celebrity culture is some-

times disappointing, because I feel like some people are celebrities just for the sake of being celebrities. But there are a lot of good celebrities out there that use their names and their time for good causes, and I try to be one of those people and I encourage it.

How do you feel about the Writer's Guild of America strike?

Obviously, as an actor, I support the writers, because they are the reason that we have our jobs. But I hope we can get it resolved quickly, because I think everybody wants to get back to work, including them. I'm just hoping that the two sides will talk it out. No more reruns, right?

Who or what inspired you to pursue acting?

It's something that I wanted to do since I

was a kid. I used to watch "The Cosby Show" when I was little, and [I] just wanted to be like those kids. But now, my co-workers inspire me, the people in film, everybody. I just love it.

What are some of your future plans? Will you be staying with "One Tree Hill"?

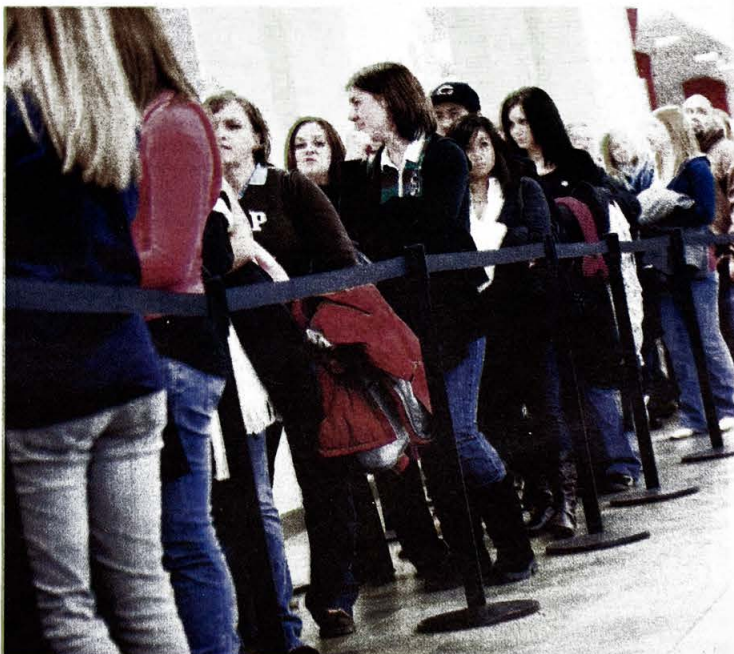
Yeah, I'm going to stick with "One Tree Hill." And when that's over, I'll audition for more stuff. And if life is good and gives me other things, [that's] great. But if not, I might go back to school and become a professor or a lawyer. That's a possibility.

dhkucynda@chroniclemail.com



Katie Pistorio, a sophomore at Dominican University, and Violeta Podreomedic, a sophomore at Resurrection High School, wait for their turn to make a video audition tape at an open-casting call for the television series "One Tree Hill."

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE



Several hundred young men and women showed up at Macy's on State Street on Jan. 19 for an open casting call for the television show "One Tree Hill." Fans had the opportunity to meet actor Lee Norris who plays character Marvin "Mouth" McFadden on the TV show. The show airs at 8 p.m. CST on the CW.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE



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Film review

'Cloverfield' capitalizes on 9/11 for its cheap thrills

Producer J.J. Abrams combines exploitation with formula scares

by Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editor

WITH THIS would-be thriller, 2008 opens with a bang, accompanied by a series of collective groans. What a letdown *Cloverfield* is, considering the tactful care given by its marketing campaign. The trailer that debuted last summer, bearing no details other than a release date, was pure brilliance. A series of handheld confessionals at a going-away party are interrupted by mysterious inhuman rumblings. The footage looked like nothing more than a random YouTube video—until, of course, the Statue of Liberty's head came bouncing down the street. With his TV series "Lost" and now this audacious mainstream feature, producer J.J. Abrams seems to specialize in putting great effort into building hype for his projects and little thought into their execution.

Cloverfield certainly holds viewer interest from the get-go, with its opening color bars cutting to a U.S. Department of Defense title card informing the viewer that the following footage was retrieved from a disaster site formerly known as Central Park. If this prologue sounds vaguely like 1999's *The Blair Witch Project*, it's no coincidence, since *Cloverfield* follows the previous film's structure as if it was another paint-by-numbers Hollywood formula. Thus, the first 20 minutes are devoted to lulling the audience into a sense of normalcy.

The decided star of the handheld footage is Rob Hawkins, played by



—See what Michael Stahl-David has to say about *Cloverfield* in *The Chronicle's* interview with the actor on PG. 34.

Michael Stahl-David, a twenty-something New Yorker planning a trip to Japan, a fact that is itself a sly inside joke for those familiar with that country's famed monster. The footage is shot by Rob's best friend and comic relief Hud, played by the delightfully deadpan T.J. Miller, who mistakenly tapes

over a video Rob shot of Beth, a girl he had a recent fling with. When Miller stops filming, the video automatically cuts to footage of Rob and Beth's relationship, thus creating an ingeniously natural portal for flashbacks.

Unfortunately, *Cloverfield* starts falling apart once the monster starts to attack. Soon, skyscrapers are collapsing and crowds of horrified New Yorkers find themselves running from towering clouds of debris. To say such spectacle is in bad taste would be an understatement. *Cloverfield* may finally be the first mainstream Hollywood release that is truly guilty of exploiting the events of 9/11 for the benefit of giddy popcorn entertainment, including the billowing explosion emanating from the city skyline, and the dazed citizens wandering debris-covered roads while random papers float through the air.

Director Matt Reeves and cinematographer Michael Bonvillian seem determined to recreate nearly every famous image from 9/11 news coverage. A film this flippant and disposable simply hasn't earned the right to use such powerful images, especially when its primary intent is to simply give the audience cheap thrills.

Godzilla was created in Japanese cinema to reflect the paranoia of a post-Hiroshima world. *Cloverfield* seems aimed to be the Godzilla of our generation, but it falls far short for being a cinematic allegory on post-9/11 paranoia. Drew Goddard's script includes a few shallow allusions to terrorism and government conspiracy that go nowhere. Since the film does nothing more than build the type of tongue-in-cheek dread that is commonplace in haunted houses, *Cloverfield* gives the complex, vital subject of terrorism the face of a fantastical monster—one that exists not to be understood, but simply destroyed. What's worse is that the monster, once it's finally exposed, is not even remotely scary or convincing. Along with the phony zombies seen in Will Smith's *I Am Legend*, this creature helps support the argument that computer animation is quickly losing its magic and beginning to look as false as those actors in the rubber Godzilla suits. It's a good thing Miller provides ample laughs, because without him, the picture as a whole would just be laughable.

And yet, despite all of this, there is certainly something to be said about a film that is effortlessly watchable from beginning to end, while occasionally creating a visceral atmosphere worthy of a fever nightmare. All of the young actors do an efficient job emoting, and Stahl-David once again proves

that he is a terrific actor deserving of better work than this. *Cloverfield* could have worked as either mindlessly fun escapism or hauntingly provocative drama, but since the film wants it both ways, it doesn't succeed as anything more than the guiltiest of pleasures: asinine exploitation.

With its homemade production values and instantly dated special effects, *Cloverfield* will surely prove to be a film very much representative of the time in which it was made. Its numbing effect on today's youthful target audience may also reflect the current generation's apathetic indifference to apocalyptic threat. Now *that's* scary.

mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com

FILM BITS

'Cloverfield'

Director: **Matt Reeves**
Screenwriter: **Drew Goddard**
Running time: **84 minutes**

Rating: PG-13
Now playing at local theaters



Michael Stahl-David and Jessica Lucas are hunted by a monster in 'Cloverfield.'

MCT

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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 1

A 'Dark Knight's' tale

Heath Ledger | 1979—2008

HEATH LEDGER, THE talented 28-year-old actor who gravitated toward dark, brooding roles that defied his leading-man looks, was found dead Jan. 22 in a Manhattan apartment, facedown at the foot of his bed with prescription sleeping pills nearby, police said.

There was no obvious indication that the Australian-born Ledger had committed suicide, NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said.

Ledger had an appointment for a massage at his SoHo apartment, Browne said. The massage therapist and a housekeeper found his naked body at about 3:30 p.m. They tried to revive him, but he was already dead.

"I had such great hope for him," said Mel Gibson, who played Ledger's vengeful father in *The Patriot*, in a statement. "He was just taking off and to lose his life at such a young age is a tragic loss."

Outside the Manhattan building on an upscale street, paparazzi and gawkers gathered, and several police officers put up barricades to control the crowd of about 300. Onlookers craned their necks as officers brought out a black bodybag on a gurney, took it across the sidewalk and put it into a medical examiner's office van.

As the door opened, bystanders snapped pictures with camera phones, rolled video and said, "He's coming out!"

The cause of Ledger's death will not be known for at least a week, after medical examiners complete toxicology tests. Authorities suspect a possible overdose, but nothing conclusive has been determined.

Ledger was born in 1979 to a mining engineer and a French teacher and got his first acting role playing Peter Pan at age 10 in a local theater company. He began acting in independent films as a 16-year-old in Sydney and played a cyclist hoping to land a spot on an Olympic team in a 1996 television show, "Seat."

While not a marquee movie star, Ledger was an award-winning actor who chose his roles carefully rather than cashing in on big-money parts. He was nominated for an Oscar for his performance as a gay cowboy in *Brokeback Mountain*. During filming, he met Michelle Williams, who played his wife in the film. The two had a daughter, now 2-year-old Matilda, and lived together in Brooklyn until they split up last year.

Ledger's publicist, Mara Buxbaum, said in a statement: "We are all deeply saddened and shocked by this accident. This is an extremely difficult time for his loved ones and we are asking the media to please respect the family's privacy and avoid speculation until the facts are known."

In the Australian city of Perth, where Ledger was born and raised, his father called the actor's death "tragic, untimely and accidental."

"He was [a] down-to-earth, generous, kind-hearted, life-loving, unselfish individual, extremely inspirational to many," said Kim Ledger, Heath Ledger's father, reading from a prepared statement. "Heath has touched so many people on so many different levels during his short life."

Ledger began to gravitate more toward independent fare, including Lasse Hall-



Heath Ledger poses while shooting 'A Knight's Tale' in 2000. The 'Brokeback Mountain' star was found dead in his Manhattan apartment on Jan. 22.

AP

strom's *Casanova* and Terry Gilliam's *The Brothers Grimm*, both released in 2005. His 2006 film *Candy* now seems destined to have an especially haunting quality: In a particularly realistic performance, Ledger played a poet wrestling with a heroin addiction along with his girlfriend, played by Abbie Cornish.

But Ledger's most recent choices were arguably the boldest yet: He costarred in *I'm Not There*, in which he played one of the many incarnations of Bob Dylan.

And in what may be his final finished performance, Ledger proved that he wouldn't be intimidated by taking on a character as iconic as Jack Nicholson's Joker. Ledger's version of the "Batman" villain, glimpsed in early teaser trailers, made it clear that his Joker would be more depraved and dark.

Curiosity about Ledger's final performance will likely stoke further interest in the summer blockbuster. *Dark Knight* direc-

tor Christopher Nolan said this month that Ledger's Joker would be wildly different from Nicholson's.

"It was a very great challenge for Heath," Nolan said. "He's extremely original, extremely frightening, tremendously edgy. A very young character, a very anarchic presence that taps into a lot of our basic fears and panic."

Ledger was a widely recognized figure in his Manhattan neighborhood, where he used to shop at a home and children's store. Michelle Vella, an employee there, said she had frequently seen Ledger with his daughter—carrying the toddler on his shoulders, or having ice cream with her.

"It's so sad. They were really close," Vella said. "[He was] a very down-to-earth guy and an amazing father."

AP

Vacationers enjoy Chicago during the winter, seriously

Not even snow and ice can keep winter-loving tourists away

by Don Babwin

PAUL MORRISON and Chicago are a perfect match. To him, winter is supposed to be cold, and in Chicago it is.

So maybe it's not surprising that the psychiatrist from Edinburgh, Scotland, was strolling around Millennium Park—a heavy jacket on his back and what looked like a sleeping muskrat on his head—taking in the sights the other day. And happy about it.

"You know, when it was really cold and snowing, we went for a walk through Lincoln Park and that was just magical," he said.

What may be surprising, though, is all the people around him. Tourists may not be flocking to Chicago like they do when Wrigley Field's walls are covered with ivy. But the average occupancy rates for the city's hotels between November and February is a respectable 61 percent, and many visitors think it's a good time to come because there are deals to be had and fewer crowds.

The city and hospitality industry are trying to convince more visitors to come, promoting everything from nine ice rinks around the city to deals at hotels and museums. And they also want people to know that although tour boats aren't running this time of year, visitors can still take architecture tours with the Chicago Architecture Foundation, as well as the Chicago History Museum's el tours.

This winter, the "Museum of Modern Ice" at Millennium Park will be the centerpiece



People venture out to Millennium Park for a day of ice skating on a wintry day in Chicago.

AP

of the city's winter celebration. On display in February will be two works of art by Canadian artist Gordon Halloran: a massive ice wall called "Paintings Below Zero" and another ice painting you can skate on.

The park also serves as a reminder that there is simply more for visitors to do in Chicago than even a few years ago. Another example is Northerly Island, the former site of a small airport between Soldier Field and Lake Michigan that was shuttered a few years back and is now park land. On Feb. 23

it will be the site of Polar Adventure Days—an event that includes a dog sled exhibit, ice sculptures, winter storytelling and, if there's snow, a supply of snowshoes people can borrow. Near Soldier Field there is even a small hill that has become a popular spot to sled.

"Northerly Island takes advantage of the cold weather there," said Amy Hayden, the Chicago editor of GoCityKids.com, a website aimed at families.

Some are more appealing still because

they're free. Both the Field Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago have waived their general admission fees between Feb. 1-29. And on Feb. 16, two exhibitions will open at the Art Institute—one of the paintings of Edward Hopper and the other of Winslow Homer watercolors. Both can be seen for \$10 until the end of the month, when the price doubles.

Hotels around the city are cheaper than they are in the spring and the summer. At the Homewood Suites Chicago Downtown, for example, a night's stay in February can be as low as \$139—or about a third what the same room can cost during the summer.

As for those who still think vacationing in Chicago in the middle of winter sounds crazy, Paul Morrison has this to say: "People go skiing and it's cold up in the mountains. This is perfect for me."

AP

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MUSEUM OF MODERN ICE
Art installation at Millennium Park, Feb. 1-29; CityOfChicago.org/Tourism

ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
"Edward Hopper" and "Watercolors by Winslow Homer: The Color of Light," Feb. 16-May 10. Tickets for the show (which are timed and dated) are \$10 through the end of February

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT
ChicagoParkDistrict.com, (312) 742-7529

» ABSINTHE

Continued from PG. 18

Lucid's CEO said absinthe has been portrayed in a false light by media

Resnick said. "We recognize these approved products are just the same as other distilled spirits."

Because Lucid contains the same ingredients as other traditional absinthe brands, including grand wormwood, fennel and green anise, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau remained skeptical.

Gurfein said approval for an alcohol product can typically take six to eight weeks to be effectively tested, but for Lucid, the federal government spent 12 months on informal and formal proceedings in order to approve the first genuine absinthe, Lucid, in almost a century.

"The real fight with the government wasn't even about what was in the bottle, it was a fight about the word absinthe," Gurfein said. "They felt that even if the contents were OK, the word absinthe was some sort of a code for drugs or hallucinations. We [had to] show the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau that Lucid, like traditional absinthe, did not contain any levels of any chemicals that would be prohibited today."

Gurfein said he is pleased Chicago area owners and bartenders are effectively introducing absinthe and informing their patrons about some of the misconceptions of absinthe. He said one of the common fallacies regarding Lucid's legality was that the press made an assumption that Lucid changed something in the absinthe formula so it would be approved.

"Lucid is exactly the same as traditional absinthe, [and] there is zero difference," Gurfein said.

Gurfein said Lucid is the same as other brands of absinthe that are currently illegal in the United States. He said he thinks the absinthe sold in the past could have been banned because it was improperly distilled or the ingredients inside the absinthe could have been different.

Resnick said absinthe was banned in the early 1900s because the European public, especially those who were in favor of prohibition, believed absinthe was connected with violent crimes committed under the liquor's influence.

Gurfein said his company works with bartenders and owners so that they can be well-informed about absinthe. He said the bartenders are showing people the right way to prepare absinthe, which involves taking a sugar cube, placing it on a spoon and pouring ice water on the sugar cube above an absinthe-filled cocktail glass, which dilutes the absinthe, improving the taste and giving it an opalescent look.

Mike Miller, the owner of the Chicago bar Delilah's, 2771 N. Lincoln Ave., said absinthe has sold well and many patrons have

already bought the green drink.

"All kinds of people are interested in checking it out," Miller said. "If you were in Paris 100 years ago, you would have gone out to a cafe to drink absinthe."

Delilah's currently carries Lucid and Kubler Swiss absinthe, which was officially introduced in Chicago on Jan. 14. The Violet Hour, which carries Lucid, and Lumen, 839 W. Fulton Market St., are some of the few bars that currently sell absinthe.

Miller said he expects other bars to realize the profitability of selling absinthe, but he said some bars do not have bartenders who are knowledgeable in discussing and preparing absinthe.

"Maybe for some bars, it's just more of a hassle than anything else today," Miller said. "For us, it's just another aspect of doing business."

Miller said some people still believe in the "hallucinogenic" side effect of absinthe, and he tries to dispel those rumors.

"My experience is that it [pro-

vides] a heightened sensibility that is different than a normal intoxication, but it doesn't have anything to do with drugs," Miller said.

Rubel said there is an intoxicating, yet almost euphoric feeling when drinking absinthe, which makes it quite different from other liquors.

"I think there is a dreamy, poetic sort of reverie to the high [people get] on absinthe," Rubel said.

So far, people have been very enthusiastic about absinthe's arrival in Chicago, and it is a popular drink at Delilah's and The Violet Hour, according to Rubel and Miller.

"I think it's here to stay," Miller said. "I bet next year at the same time, there will be at least a dozen brands [of absinthe]. It's only a matter of time before drinking absinthe in Chicago is commonplace."

dkucynda@chroniclemail.com



Lucid and other brands of absinthe have made their way to store shelves.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

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Layers of provolone cheese separated by real
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- ★ Extra load of meat
- ★ Extra cheese or extra avocado spread
- ★ Hot Peppers

FREEBIES (SUBS & CLUBS ONLY)
Onion, lettuce, alfalfa sprouts, tomato, mayo, sliced
cucumber, Dijon mustard, oil & vinegar, and oregano.

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enough to feed the hungriest of all
humans! Tons of genoa salami, sliced
smoked ham, capicola, roast beef,
turkey & provolone, jammed into
one of our homemade French buns
then smothered with onions, mayo,
lettuce, tomato, & our homemade
Italian dressing.

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My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it
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homemade french bread!

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A full 1/4 pound of real applewood smoked ham,
provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#8 BILLY CLUB®
Choice roast beef, smoked ham, provolone cheese,
Dijon mustard, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.

#9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB®
Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham,
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(You hav'ta order hot peppers, just ask!)

#10 HUNTER'S CLUB®
A full 1/4 pound of fresh sliced medium rare
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#11 COUNTRY CLUB®
Fresh sliced turkey breast, applewood smoked ham,
provolone, and tons of lettuce, tomato, and mayo!
(A very traditional, yet always exceptional classic!)

#12 BEACH CLUB®
Fresh baked turkey breast, provolone cheese, avocado
spread, sliced cucumber, sprouts, lettuce, tomato, and
mayo! (It's the real deal, and it ain't even California.)

#13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB®
Double provolone, real avocado spread, sliced
cucumber, alfalfa sprouts, lettuce, tomato, & mayo.
(Try it on my 7-grain whole wheat bread. This veggie
sandwich is world class!)

#14 BOOTLEGGER CLUB®
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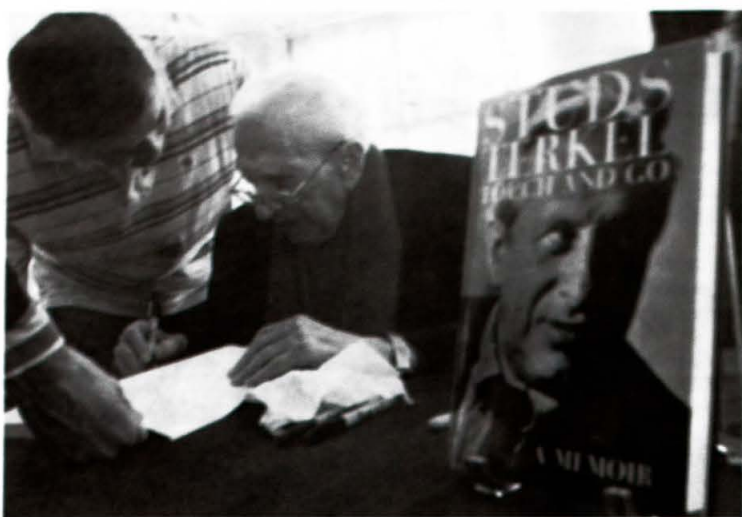
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Andrew A. Nellers THE CHRONICLE

Fans brave the cold for Studs

DESPITE BELOW ZERO temperatures outside, more than 150 people turned out to meet a Chicago historian and local legend.

The Chicago History Museum hosted a book signing on Jan. 19 for its distinguished scholar-in-residence, Studs Turkel, who released his newest book, *Touch and Go: A Memoir*, in November 2007.

Before the signing, 95-year-old Turkel spoke to the crowd, telling of his experiences living through the Great Depression, working in the media for more than 60 years and his thoughts on too much coverage of Paris Hilton in the media.

"I was very hot property once," Turkel said. "People always ask me how I get

these people to tell you things he or she would not tell anyone else. And I say it's because of my intuition."

Husband and wife Tom and Lyn Jaworski, both high school history teachers, said meeting Turkel was worth getting out in the cold.

"This is a great opportunity to meet a real force of history," Lyn Jaworski said.

Even Sen. Dick Durbin (PHOTO: RIGHT) made it to the signing, waiting in line with everyone else.

"A politician sees a crowd, we can't stay away," Durbin said.

—J. Gallart



Andrew A. Nellers THE CHRONICLE

PREMIUM BLEND

The Tender Trio

DUE TO creative differences, the band 2620 with vocalist Jonathan Tolliver, guitar player Raul Cotaquispe and bass player Alan Linney were forced to let go of their drummer, Joe Hengstler. Through the process of exploring their talents, they hit the usual bumps in the road often slacking off, not focusing and skipping practice. The band members of 2620 realized that if they wanted the band to flourish, they had to stay committed.

This time around, they are now named The Tender Trio and have welcomed drummer Brian Lannin and vocalist/handclapper Eric Allen to the band.

After extensively rehearsing, they found their sound. Blending jazz, R&B and rock with elements of old-school funk and classic soul, like Tower of Power and Sly and the Family Stone, they showcased their talent at local bars such as the Lakeview Broadcasting Company, 3542 N. Halsted St. and Subterranean, 2011 North Ave., while they promote their EPs, *Tender Trio 1.0* and *Tender Trio 2.0*.

The Chronicle recently sat down with Tolliver to discuss The Tender Trio's influences, break-ups and their jazzy rock and blues sound.

Q The Chronicle: How did The Tender Trio form?

Jonathan Tolliver: The Tender Trio formed this summer. I was in a band called 2620

with Raul Cotaquispe, the guitar player; Alan Linney, the bass player; and Joe Hengstler, the drummer. We broke up and [we] ended up having to get rid of Joe. After a couple months staying apart, I said, "We need to get something together [and] start something new." We used a lot of the songs from 2620, brought those to The Tender Trio and we actually ended up [getting] a new drummer, Brian Lannin.

Q Who are some of your influences?

I personally like a lot of Musiq Soulchild, Glenn Lewis, a lot of neo-soul. I'm a big fan of the way they sing and the way the songs are composed.

Q Who or what inspires your lyrics?

A lot of the songs are about this girl I used to date. We just didn't get along very well, especially near the end, so a lot of the songs like "Darlin'" and "Crawlin'" are about getting rid of a girl. It's like kiss-off songs, songs with topics like "you need to get lost, you suck, move away"—those types of songs. A lot of it is inspired by her.

Q How did you prepare yourself before going into the studio?

Some of the songs started with me and Raul, because we've known each other longer than anyone else in the band. I'd go by his place on 2620 [N. Milwaukee Ave.] or

back when he used to live at the Herman Crown Center, [425 S. Wabash Ave.] I'd just walk across the street, I would have a melody or lyrics, I would sing it for him and he would strum something and we would come up with songs. We rehearsed the songs extensively, so when we went to the studio, we were prepared.

Q How would you describe your music to someone who hasn't heard it before?

I would call it soul-rock. Some people

have called it funk rock, with these Motown undertones. I really like neo-soul, and Raul is a big fan of the classic soul artists like James Brown. It was mainly his influence that pointed us in that direction, but since I was already adept at singing that kind of stuff, it was a natural fit.

The Tender Trio will perform a free show at Bird's Nest, 2500 N. Southport Ave., on Feb. 8 at 10 p.m. The show is for ages 21 and up.

—D. Kucynda



Vocalist Jonathan Tolliver of The Tender Trio said he would consider his band's sound to be soul-rock and that a lot of the band's lyrics are inspired by a past girlfriend.

Courtesy JONATHAN TOLLIVER



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Michael's monster movie massacres myriad multiplexes

Columbia grad discusses acting
in the hit film 'Cloverfield'

by Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editor

OUT OF all the advice Michael Stahl-David received from his theater classes at Columbia, one quote sticks in his mind. "You go through phases where it's a cliché and where it rings completely true," Stahl-David said. "But it's the best advice: be there."

After graduating from Columbia with a degree in theater, Stahl-David made himself actively present in Chicago's theater community. He appeared in professional productions at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company and the Goodman Theatre, and then starred in the short-lived NBC series "The Black Donnellys." This year, he makes his film debut in director Matt Reeves's thriller *Cloverfield*. Stahl-David plays Rob Hawkins, a young New Yorker whose going-away party is interrupted by a mysterious monster attack on the city. The entire film is shot from the point-of-view of a digital camera held by Rob's friend, Hud Platt, played by T.J. Miller.

The Chronicle spoke to Stahl-David about his new film, as well as his advice to his alma mater's new slate of aspiring actors.

The Chronicle: How has life in Chicago influenced your acting career?

Michael Stahl-David: The hardest thing about acting is that someone else has to say, "OK, here, we hired you. You can do it now." Chicago is big for people starting out in theaters and [finding work]. In class, you have a place [where] you can go to take risks and not be judged but get good critical feedback. I think that's all been really important to me. Also asking people for help, whether it's your roommate who reads lines with you or a teacher you have to coach you on an audition. I have a lot of favors to repay.

How much dialogue was improvised?

Maybe half and half, or maybe less than that was improvised. Improvisation wasn't [about] storytelling points; it was [about] making this feel real. The one thing I was concerned about throughout the movie was I didn't want Rob to be any braver or stronger than anyone else. This is not a super guy. He's just freaked out and as confused as anybody. So I didn't want to be heroic. What he does is brave enough.

Was the camera work improvised?

We had three very hardworking cameramen over the course of the shoot—that's how hard it was, we went through three. So definitely they deserve the credit for most of it. There were times when they would hand us the camera and we would film segments. That was really cool. The entire party sequence at the beginning was by T.J. Miller. He was this comedian who ended up on a movie set that he had no idea he would be in. So the way we shot it was improvised. We tried to make it look messy, but a lot of times [there] were happy accidents. For one of the last shots in the movie, I cradled the camera in my arms and just improvised. You end up sometimes getting these images that look expressionistic and amazing, but also intimate and real.



Columbia alumnus Michael Stahl-David stars in director Matt Reeves' new box office hit 'Cloverfield.'

MCT

Predict the audience reaction.

People have different experiences and I think that's what is exciting. For some people it's going to be totally fun, and for other people it's going to freak them out. I think that it will be very hotly discussed. In two weeks people are going to be out at brunch saying, "What the hell do you think about this?" It's going to be very controversial, and if it means that some people don't like it, that's fine. It is a different movie; it's not your traditional narrative. I'm happy with the fact that it's so unconventional.

How have you handled the transition from stage to screen?

It's been like a relief both ways. It's a relief to be in a rehearsal room where everyone is treated equally. You have time to talk things out and sit there, drink your coffee and try stuff long before you have to get up in front of anybody. It's exhilarating to be in a live show where there's no cuts and everything. You do it 100 times and it's hard. So it makes me excited to do a movie and be like, "Alright, I'm doing this scene six times. I'm going to get myself to where I need to be to do this scene. I'm going to frickin' go for it, and then let it go." Then it's over and it's out of my hands. You bring everything you can to the character and then it's the editor and director who ultimately make the call.

What advice would you give to acting majors at Columbia?

Don't f--- around with registering. Know what classes you want and find out who the best teachers are, especially in academics. A lot of people snooze their way through that school, I think. It's there if you want it but you gotta hustle. You gotta know what you want to take. Be in that Internet cafe and get those classes. I had some great classes there. I'd say Stephanie Shaw, Jeff Ginsberg, David Cromer and Brian Shaw—all these people are wonderful teachers.

mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com

REVIEWS



SHIIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD

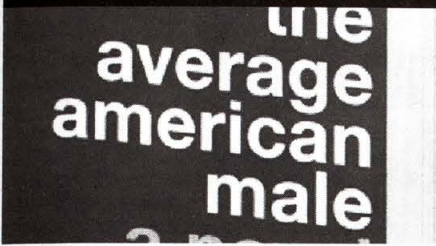


WORTH A GIGGLE



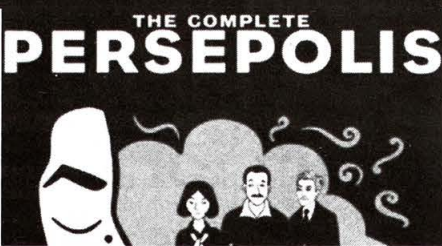
HAPPY DANCE!

PRINT



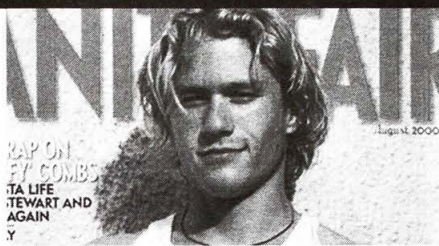
'THE AVERAGE AMERICAN MALE: A NOVEL'

Chad Kultgen exposes his uncensored and explicit thought process about women and what he wishes he could do with every hot chick he sees walking down the streets of Southern California. Told in an easy-to-read style, you might be repulsed by his brutally honest and blunt thoughts, but the book is hard (no pun intended) to put down. —B. Marlow



'THE COMPLETE PERSEPOLIS'

A captivating memoir of a curious and politically intrigued young girl growing up during revolutionary times in Iran, *The Complete Persepolis* tells the story of Marjane Satrapi in the form of an accessible graphic novel devoid of comic book trappings and clichés. One of the best stories I've ever read. —R. Bykowski



AUGUST 2000 VANITY FAIR COVER STORY: HEATH LEDGER

He's gracing the cover of nearly every entertainment magazine this month, but back in 2000 Vanity Fair shot amazing pictures of Ledger, capturing his sense of humor and effortless charm. He posed in the Czech Republic where he was filming *A Knight's Tale*. —B. Palmer

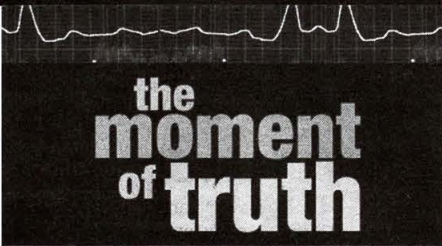


MOVIES / DVD / TV



'THE HUNTING PARTY' DVD

The Squid and the Whale's Jesse Eisenberg steals scenes from Richard Gere and Terrence Howard in director Richard Shepard's exuberant political satire. Though it ultimately adds up to little more than escapist wish-fulfillment, it still has enough substance and bite to warrant a viewing. —M. Fagerholm



'THE MOMENT OF TRUTH' ON FOX

Haven't I seen Mark L. Walberg on some seedy FOX reality show before? Aside from seeing Walberg's face yet again as the show's host, it's interesting and funny. An NFL star got frisky with a personal trainer and the Colombian version of the show had a woman who put a hit on her husband. Is this for real? —D. Kucynda



THE TRAILER FOR 'THE DARK KNIGHT'

Critics agree Heath Ledger made the Joker scarier than Jack Nicholson's version. And when the trailer for *The Dark Knight* debuted recently, it was easy to see why Ledger's Joker had stirred so much buzz. According to his last interviews, Ledger put so much into the character he could hardly sleep. —B. Palmer



MUSIC



BOBBY CONN/NOMO/BABY TEETH/THE HYLOZOISTS, JAN. 17 SHOW AT SCHUBAS, 3159 N. SOUTHPORT AVE.

A friend convinced me to go to this show even though I'd never heard of these bands. I had no idea what to expect, but besides Bobby Conn being crazy and somewhat of a David Bowie wannabe, the whole show was pretty awesome. I recommend you at least MySpace these guys. —Q. Milton



OTTER PETTER: 'FIREFLIES AND LAMP LIGHTS'

This CD is light, poppy, feel-good rock from Chicago. The band compares itself to Death Cab for Cutie on its website but it seems more like late '90s commercial alterna-rock à la Semisonic. Though it's not innovative, it's comfortable and pleasant to listen to. —B. Schlikerman



'CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU' BY HEATH LEDGER

Sprinting across the stadium, Ledger's character in *10 Things I Hate About You* charms Julia Stiles' character out of her sulk. The combination of his deep voice, scrunched brow and soulful eyes had girls like me watching the film over and over to the point of memorization. —B. Palmer



RANDOM



COACHELLA LINEUP

What a lame line-up. I love Jack Johnson, but his new music is awful. M.I.A. and Justice will make many fans happy at Coachella, but who are the rest of these no-name bands and singers? However, I hear the organizers of Coachella are bringing Radiohead to headline their new, yet "untitled" festival during the summer. Scandalous! —D. Kucynda



'MY FAIR LADY' AT THE CADILLAC PALACE THEATRE

From the show-stopping choreography to the gorgeous sets and smooth scene changes, the eight Tony Award-winning musical is a spectacle you shouldn't miss. Mrs. Higgins is played by Marni Nixon, the actress who supplied the singing voice for Audrey Hepburn in the film version. It runs until Feb. 3. —S. Harvey



UNEXPECTED DEATHS

Heath Ledger's death made me remember how unexpected losses cut the deepest. In Ledger's case, whether or not it was an accidental overdose, it's a startling wake-up call about how any day could be our last. —B. Palmer

no smiles

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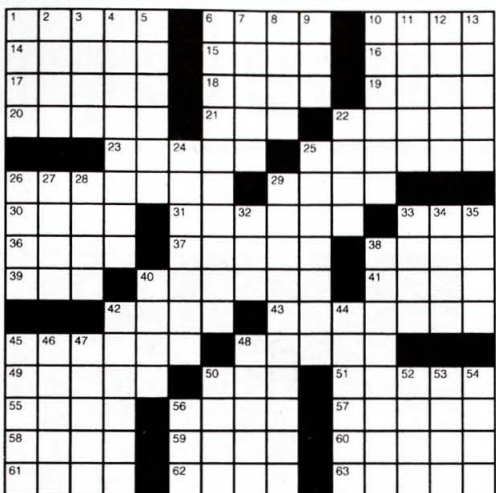
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37 Travels by glider
38 Sweet-talk
39 Ames and Koch
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41 Play part
42 The ponies
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51 Catch on
55 Exploits
56 Singer Amos
57 Wear away
58 Word with camp or out
59 Therefore
60 Queues
61 Give guff to
62 Young adult
63 Heroic tales
- DOWN
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2 MP's quarry
3 SWAT attack
4 Pathological conditions
5 Back sections
6 Bunker neighbors



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1/28/08

Solutions



- 46 Hot chocolate
47 Glee club voices
48 "Beetle Bailey" character
50 Cylinder diameter
52 Chinese secret society
53 Something to think about
54 Roman Polanski film
56 Hanoi holiday

HOROSCOPES



ARIES (March 21-April 19) Finish up old paperwork in the next several weeks. Encourage your friends and teammates and fellow committee members to do likewise. It'll be slightly easier now.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You're in a creative phase, and it looks good on you. Take your time and get it right, just the way you want it. Then, leave it that way.



GEMINI (May 21-June 21) You're exceptionally charming now, as you may have noticed. You're witty and energetic, admired by those far and near. You're hot. Make the most of your talents.



CANCER (June 22-July 22) You don't have to tell anyone how much you spend. They'd be astonished if they knew. It's much less than they think. You are a shopping wizard.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Keep asking questions, even if you feel stupid. Truth is, you're getting smarter in a lot of ways. Go over the material several times, if necessary.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You're probably tired, but happy. You're achieving a big goal. You're also establishing very efficient habits. Your work will get easier, which will allow you to take on even more.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Love finds a way, so employ it to your advantage. Do what you love with people you love and you'll achieve great success. It may take a while, but it's sure fun.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Think carefully and thoroughly, like you always do. Make a perfect plan, and take action. You'll know when the time is right, and it will be soon.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) The action is fast-paced, physically and mentally. If you can't keep up with the quickest ones, relax and enjoy the show. If you can keep up.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Go back to something that worked before, to make some extra cash. Even a dirty, difficult task gets easier with practice.



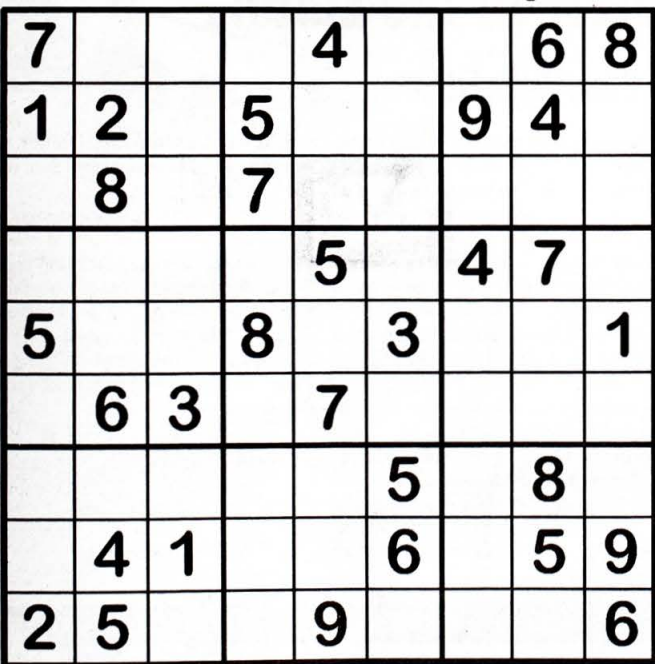
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You're extremely lucky now, with games you've played before. It's best not to brag or call your shots ahead of time, however. The less said, the better.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Fix things that are broken, or are about ready to break. Go through your list of necessary renovations and check off a few items. The family will love you for it.

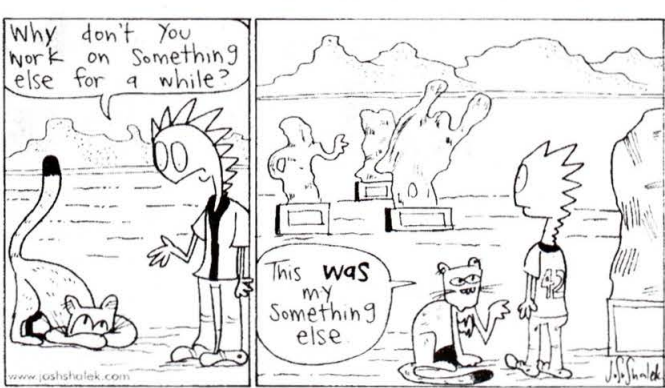
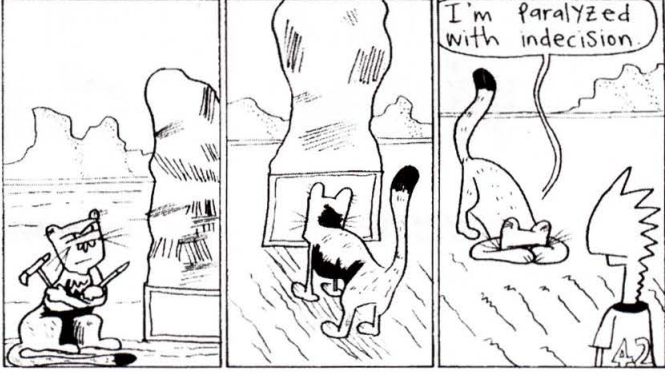
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Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.



COMIC RELIEF

Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



Commentary

Editorials

Film school behind the times

Even though Columbia has one of the largest film programs in the world, its students are provided sub-par equipment. Some students are lucky if they get their hands on a camera at all. If Columbia wants its film curriculum to remain relevant, it needs to fix both of those problems. Film students need better cameras, and they need more of them to go around.

According to registration numbers, more than 250 students will be enrolled in Production I this semester, the building block course of the film program. Those students (who each must complete their own end-of-semester film) will have access to about 60 cameras. Editing is taught on archaic editing blocks, a kind of ruler that holds film in place so it can be cut frame by frame with a razor blade. The film strips are put back together with tape. The projectors used to exhibit the film after it's been edited are unreliable, often catching on the tape wrapped around the celluloid. This kind of editing hasn't been seen in the industry for years (studios edit digitally).

The Film and Video Department's chief anachronism is the Bolex camera used in introductory classes. Bolexes came to prominence in the 1930s, and have been extinct in the modern film industry since the 1960s, and for good reason. They're heavy, require constant (and expensive) maintenance, need to be re-cranked every few minutes and can't sustain long takes. The detachable casing makes it easy for students to accidentally expose the film and ruin projects. If you're unconvinced the

Bolex is obsolete, consider this: According to Amanda Clifford, a part-time staffer and manager of the film cage, Columbia currently has more Bolex cameras than the company.

The Bolex also presents a problem with quantity. There aren't many of the cameras still around for Columbia to buy, thus the rather extreme shortage faced by every Production I student. The problem is made worse when the cameras are broken or damaged because they're so difficult to fix. Columbia employs a full-time staffer to fix the cameras, but time, wear and tear will eventually take an untenable toll on the department's stock.

The alternative is digital cameras. High definition cameras, digital video cameras and camcorders are equipment students will need to learn to use if they want careers in the modern film business. Independent filmmakers turn increasingly to digital video because it's cheaper and easier to use. Several studios and production companies (including Lucasfilm) are making the switch as well, and most theaters are switching over to digital projectors.

There's room for old-fashioned filmmaking techniques in school and in the real world. However, the marketplace and the needs of its students dictate that Columbia can't afford to ignore the rising digital tide. Several film schools, including the University of Southern California, have already made the same switch. There will be a cost attached to modernization, but it's a price Columbia needs to bite the bullet and pay.

For State's Attorney, president

The two most important elections in the upcoming Illinois primary held on Feb. 5 are for State's Attorney and the Democratic nominee for president. In those races, The Chronicle endorses 38 Ward Alderman Tom Allen and Illinois Senator Barack Obama, respectively.

Allen began his career as a public defender, and has been an outspoken critic of the police torture and brutality embraced under former police Lieutenant John Burge. He then went into private practice, before serving as an alderman for five terms. This legal and government experience will serve him well as State's Attorney, an office responsible for weeding out corruption in government and crime in the streets.

Allen presents the best choice for Chicago because he's shown a career-long commitment to extinguishing the source of crime rather than simply prosecuting its proponents. When asked by the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board what his first priority would be as State's Attorney, he said it would be to investigate and eliminate violent crime at its roots. That means cracking down on "gangs, drugs and guns ... the holy trinity of violent crime on the streets of Chicago."

Allen plans on creating separate task forces for each of these issues, with a focus on finding new drug markets and eliminating gun trafficking.

The Democratic field for the presidential nomination has shrunk recently, but among the top candidates it's as close as

the State's Attorney primary.

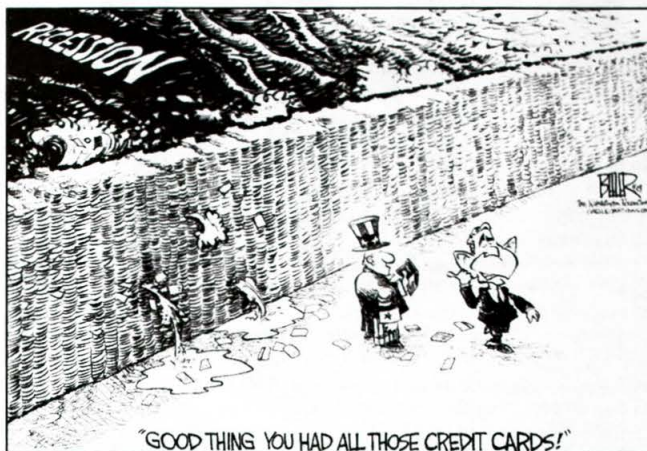
Obama is the best choice for Columbia students for many reasons. Chief among them are his health care plan, his environmental platform and his plan for withdrawal in Iraq.

His medical plan makes health care available to every American, but it doesn't force every citizen to sign up for it, like Hillary Clinton's. In addition, his plan is focused on lowering the cost of care overall by about \$2,500 per family.

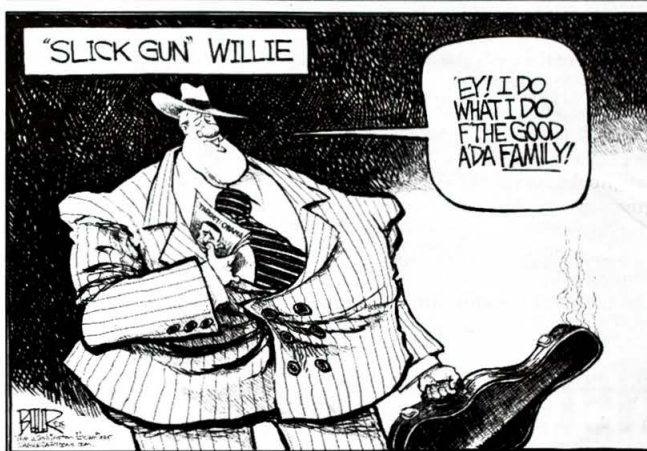
Obama has also committed to putting \$150 billion during the next 10 years into clean, renewable energy and will introduce legislation to cut carbon emissions by 80 percent by 2050, according to his campaign. That kind of far-reaching solution to the energy/climate crisis will create jobs, boost the economy and make the planet safer for future generations.

Obama is the only candidate in the race who rejected the Iraq War from its inception. He is committed to withdrawal within 16 months, at the rate of one or two brigades a month. He will make it clear to Iraqi leaders that the U.S. is leaving, but at the same time will convene with the United Nations and many of Iraq's neighbors to achieve a constitutional accord that gives the new democracy a chance to succeed.

Obama's Iraq strategy features diplomacy and rational goals—something American foreign policy has been missing for eight long years.



MCT



MCT

Letter to the Editor:

Re: Dead Week Editorial

I am writing in support of the editorial favoring a "dead week" at the end of the semester (Dec. 10 issue). Many of us instructors would welcome such a change in the system, which is already in place at most colleges and universities. I would caution, however, that any consideration of a "dead week," in which students work exclusively on final projects rather than attend class, needs to fit with the curriculum currently in place.

For example, the final class meeting in many Columbia courses typically takes the form of an in-class critique of student work. How would a dead week fit into such a course? Would it proceed the final week and therefore take up week 14 and 15? Would dead week then take place in week 13? How

would we maintain consistency across campus so that everyone gets dead week at the same time?

I don't mean to frustrate student plans for a dead week. In fact, I would encourage the SGA to do more research and approach the Academic Affairs Committee of the College Council with their well-researched proposal. But any plan needs to consider the complexity of Columbia's bewildering variety of lecture, research, studio and production classes.

Regards,

Greg Foster-Rice
Assistant Professor
Photography Department

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

New group of senators want to play ball



by Wes Giglio
Commentary Editor

The Washington (D.C.) Senators played baseball in the Capitol until 1960, when the team moved to Minnesota and became the Twins. Players like Walter Johnson (417 wins, a career 2.17 ERA) and Goose Goslin (a career .316 hitter, with 248 round-trippers) were the highlights of mostly losing seasons on the Hill.

Today there's another group in the Capitol with the same name, though its roster number of 100 exceeds modern day limitations. The names and statistics aren't as impressive as the old-timers, (Norm Coleman, R-Minn., 1 term, 0 for 2 on withdrawal in Iraq and funding for after school programs) but the group's still trying to play ball. Or at least control it.

Former Senator George Mitchell released a 311-page report on Jan. 11 detailing the pervasive use of steroids in Major League Baseball. In the report he named presumptive future hall-of-famers Roger Clemens and Barry Bonds as users, as well as stars like Miguel Tejada and Andy Pettitte. The report, solicited by MLB Commissioner Bud Selig, took a year and a half to compile. Congress quickly called a meeting of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to discuss the findings.

Judging by the zeal with which Congress has reviewed Senator Mitchell's report,

you would have thought he'd released a ground-breaking study on energy policy, civil rights violations, skyrocketing college costs or the impending economic recession. Instead, Senator Mitchell, and now Congress, concerned themselves with which over-muscled millionaires were injecting human growth hormone into each others' butts, in which locker rooms and when. The amount of time, money and energy poured into investigating baseball at Capitol Hill (including the 2005 hearings that sealed the ignominious legacies of Mark McGwire and Rafael Palmeiro) is embarrassing and absurd. The few hundred men and women privileged to create and enforce the laws of this country have better things to do.

The government has been involved in baseball since 1922, when the Supreme Court exempted the game from interstate anti-trust laws. Since then no other professional league has received such an exemption, and baseball has been beholden to Washington lawmakers who allow the game to operate as a monopoly.

Congressmen who defend the myriad of hearings and investigations hide behind the no longer true designation of the sport as "America's pastime." (A poll conducted by ESPN shows it's America's third most popular.) The lawmakers claim their involvement with the steroid scandal, which rocked the sport over the last ten years, is to make sure the game and its players provide positive role models for younger fans.

Wouldn't it be nice if elected representatives focused on making the president a positive role model for kids, by pressuring

him to end the war, punishing him for violating the Geneva Convention and revealing the identities of CIA agents abroad. Or they could make the United States a positive role model in the world by signing the Kyoto Protocol and engaging in diplomacy before saber-rattling.

Another option is self-improvement—the end of partisan deadlock and the reassertion of proper checks and balances are goals so far ignored by Congress.

Sports are a part of American life, but not of American government. There is no need for the president to lecture about steroids in the State of the Union, and there is no reason for Congress to involve itself in its specific rules and penalties. Baseball will take care of itself without the United States Senate. The same cannot be said for the country.

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From left to right: Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig, MLB Executive Vice President Robert Manfred and MLB Players Association Executive Director Don Fehr are sworn in before their congressional testimony in 2005.

MCT

Networks falling short trying to replace scripted TV



by Jessica Galliant
A&E Editor

But on a recent blustery Monday evening, I found myself immersed in a show I haven't closely watched in at least a decade,

On most Monday evenings during the peak hours for prime time television, I park myself in front of the tube with a blanket and a cold can of pop to watch one of my favorite network shows: "Heroes."

shouting letters at a middle-aged nitwit who spent all of her almost-earned money buying vowels.

Before the Writers Guild of America went on strike in November, I, along with millions of American couch potatoes, became engrossed with the lives of fictional characters in short-lived plots every night of the week. But now that my friends in the television have basically been laid off, networks are taking desperate measures to keep viewers tuned in, resulting in disappointing and poor programming decisions. In turn, viewers have been forced to discover—and rediscover—some of the best

and worst programs on TV, as well as turn to the DVD market as an alternative means of TV entertainment.

Networks have depended on game shows, reality TV shows and documentary-style programs to fill the void affected by the WGA strike. But instead of developing more interesting, innovative ways to sidestep the effects of the strike—such as when NBC aired vintage episodes of "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" from the '80s and '90s that showed today's top stars at their humble beginnings—networks are expecting viewers to watch whatever is handed to them, simply because it seems to be the only choice in times as dire as these.

Tacky reality shows that wore out their welcome long ago are returning in massive numbers, including the lame, voyeuristic "Big Brother 9" and another monotonous season of "American Idol," which with every new incarnation seems to devote more time to the bad auditions than it does to crown an actually deserving American Idol. It's no wonder the past few winners have been dropped from their record labels like flies.

And new over-hyped game shows featuring special effects and dramatic lighting rather than interesting people or logic are littering the airwaves. FOX aired "The Moment of Truth," where contestants are asked supposedly "tough" and personal questions while hooked up to a polygraph machine, on Jan. 23, and mid-season NBC will air "Amnesia," challenging contestants to answer questions about their own lives. Since when is it a skill to be able to remember pointless events in one's life? Even though my parents don't remember, I clearly recall the time I got a craft bead

stuck up my nose and nobody believed me. Where are my cash and prizes?

Although some game shows, like NBC's revamped—aka dull—version of "American Gladiators," have had healthy starts, viewers aren't as loyal as networks would hope. According to a study cited by The Hollywood Reporter, 43 percent of those surveyed said they are spending more time watching DVD movies and 23 percent are spending more time watching TV-DVDs than they did before the strike. Viewers, including myself, are simply getting fed up with the rubbish clogging up the TV and turning to their former, dependable favorites on DVD.

Game shows and reality TV programs have the potential to be interesting and, dare I say, thought-provoking. But don't blame the writer's strike for the lack of quality programming on TV. Network executives are using poor judgment during this black hole of bad TV and merely killing time until the strike is over. Instead of picking and choosing quality programs during the strike to hold onto viewers until regular programs return, networks are scaring off the few loyal couch potatoes with shows featuring polygraph tests and Hulk Hogan.

Although I'm internally struggling with the unknown fates of my favorite "Heroes," and I'm dying to know how Pam and Jim's relationship on "The Office" will progress, that doesn't mean I need to stay loyal to NBC until the strike is over. So I'll be sitting on the couch, staying loyal to A&E until the strike is over. At least they will reward me with a fresh, thrilling episode of "Intervention" week after week without fail.

jgalliant@chroniclemail.com



Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell judge the competition on reality show "American Idol."

MCT

City Beat

1 Presidential preference

4 Judges

2 Delegates

3 Cook County State's Attorney

5 Ward Committeeman

Prepare for the primaries

by Becky Schlikerman
Associate Editor

Super Tuesday is fast approaching and on Feb. 5, more than 20 states, including Illinois, go to the polls to vote in their state's primaries for national and local candidates before the general election in November. This is the first step in determining who elected officials will be, including the president of the United States.

Because the ballot is extensive and somewhat complicated, The Chronicle has compiled a guide to help voters, especially young voters, navigate the complex process.

Traditionally, youth voting is very low, but registration is up, primarily because of interest in the presidential race, said Dick Simpson, head of the

Political Science Department at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Experts said it's important for young people to vote. They should exercise their right, especially because young people have a different set of priorities and a slightly different set of issue positions, said Molly Andolina, assistant professor of Political Science at DePaul University.

"If they want those different priorities to be represented and if they want their positions on the issues to be represented, then they need to vote in enough numbers to send that message across," Andolina said.

PRESIDENTIAL PICKLE

At the top of the ballot, a primary-goer will vote for what is called the **presidential preference**, which is where the names of the presidential candidates are listed. But in Illinois, that part doesn't matter as much as the next step, which is the **delegate** selection, where voters actually vote for people to represent a candidate at the national conventions, said Jim Allen, spokesman for the Chicago Board of Elections. The presidential candidate for each party is chosen at a party national convention based on the number of delegates he or she has received.

In each voting district there are delegates up for election. Voters choose various delegates and those delegates are pledged to a candidate, said Jan Czarnik, executive director of the League of Women Voters of Illinois, a non-partisan political organization. Voters will know which candidate the delegate is pledged to because the candidate's name is next to theirs on the ballot, she said.

"If they get elected, they're obligated to vote for that person at the convention," Czarnik said.

Most of the Republican candidates, such as John McCain, Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, Rudy Giuliani and Ron Paul have delegates pledged, but on the Democrat's side, only Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Bill Richardson, who withdrew from the race, have pledged delegates.

Democrats voting in the primary may wonder why the candidate they support does not have pledged delegates. In Illinois, Obama and Clinton are expected to do very well and pick up delegates because they are from the state, Czarnik said.

Some withdrawn candidates have delegates pledged but if those delegates are elected, they are released from their obligation and can support another candidate, Czarnik said.

STATE AND LOCAL RACES

Various state, county and city offices are up for grabs in Chicago. Some of these offices are U.S. representative, state senator, state representative, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District commissioner and various judges. These state and local offices address a lot of issues, Andolina said.

"Some of the issues hit even closer to home than the national issues," Andolina said.

And since there is a falloff, or less voters for the lesser known offices, each vote makes a bigger difference lower down on the ballot, Andolina said.

Experts, such as Simpson, said one of the most important offices on the ballot is for **Cook County**

THE PROCESS

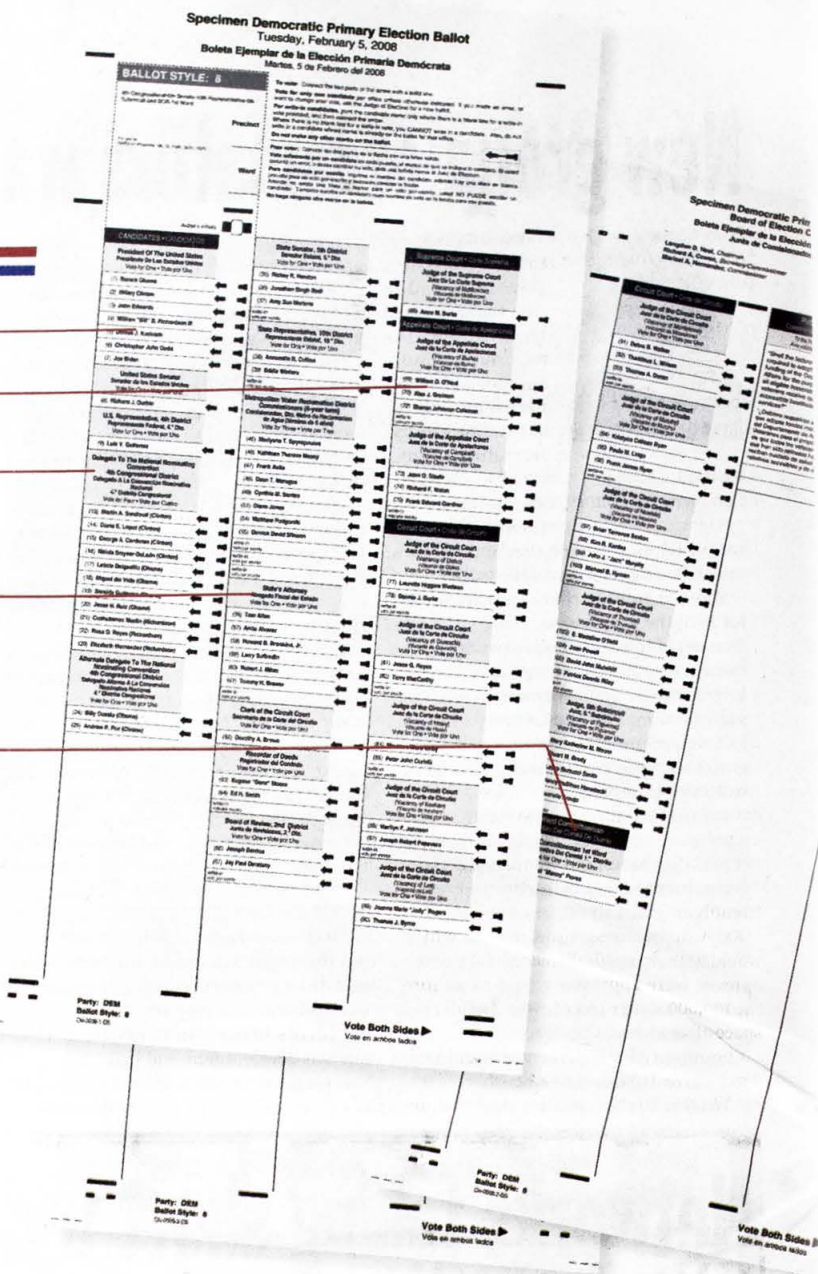
Illinois' primary is a "closed primary," which means voters have to be registered for either the Democratic, Republican or Green Party and they can only vote in their party's primary, Czarnik said.

In this state there is no same-day registration, which means unless voters registered before the deadline on Jan. 8 or during the grace period, which ended on Jan. 22, they cannot vote, Allen said.

On Feb. 5, voters need to be registered and arrive to the polling place they are assigned, he said. It is not required that voters bring identification or their registration cards, but those documents will come in handy if there are any issues, Allen said.

Voters can also bring information about candidates with them for personal use.

"Cheats sheets are welcome in the polling place," Allen said. "[But] they can't be flashed around to try to persuade other voters."



State's Attorney, which runs a critical part of the judicial system.

The state's attorney is the top lawyer in the area it represents. The Cook County State's Attorney's office is the second largest prosecuting office in the nation, Czarnik said. The office not only prosecutes criminal cases and advocates for victim's rights, but it also combats government corruption, Simpson said.

"They have enormous power over the lives of people who live in Cook County," Czarnik said.

There are also numerous **Judges** on the ballot. Czarnik said it's very important to research the

judges. She suggested looking at the judicial evaluations for judges from the Chicago Council of Lawyers, which can be found at ChicagoCouncil.org.

Other offices on the ballot include **committeeman for each ward**, which is a party official at the ward level; Board of Review, an appeals board for property taxes; and Recorder of Deeds, which is the office that maintains property records, Czarnik said. In addition, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District commissioners are on the ballot. This office treats the water of the city and of the county. Simpson said this is an important issue for those who care about pollution and the environment.

PREPARE YOURSELF

Although there's a lot happening in this year's primary election, experts said voters should do some research and be prepared so they know who to support.

Simpson said it's important to know who the candidates are and what they stand for, especially in the contested races. He suggested looking at newspaper endorsements or Project Vote Smart, a nonpartisan organization that gathers information on politicians. Czarnik suggested looking up the candidates' statements on the Cook County Clerk's website, VoterInfoNet.com. She also suggested going to the Chicago Board of Elections website, and pulling up the sample ballots to look at the candidates in a voters' respective district.

But if all the names and offices are overwhelming, leaving them blank doesn't affect the votes a voter did cast, Andolina said.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

ChicagoElections.com

Vote-Smart.org

ChicagoBar.org

ChicagoCouncil.org

VoterInfoNet.com

ALSO...

Take a look at The Chronicle's endorsements for presidential nominee and Cook County State's Attorney on PG. 39.

Development may tower over Wrigley

New complex proposed across from stadium, local residents peeved

by Brett Marlow
Assistant City Beat Editor

A CHICAGO-BASED land owner is proposing a large development across the street from Wrigley Field, including two 9-story towers housing residential units and a hotel, but these plans have upset area residents.

Steven Schultz, a developer who owns land parallel to Wrigley Field on Addison Street, from Sheffield Avenue to Clark Street, proposed to build a redevelopment on the 1000 W. Addison St. block.

The development would house the two-towered structure reaching 105 feet—one a 137-room hotel, and the other a 150-unit residential tower with a 50,000-square-foot health club and retail shops within the space. The two are connected by a four-to-five-story base between the towers, which extend 10 feet higher than Wrigley's highest point. The structure would also contain 502 parking spaces, and components of the development would be environmentally friendly, or green structures.

Existing businesses in the area, which would be temporarily displaced if the development were approved, would move into the 100,000 square feet of commercial retail space after its construction.

Community leaders, members and residents of the Lakeview neighborhood gathered on Jan. 23 at the Wrigley Field Stadium



Shown above is a preliminary sketch of the proposed development looking southbound on Clark Street and Addison Street. It would consist of two 105-foot towers, one residential, the other a hotel.

Courtesy BONDY STUDIO

Club, 1060 W. Addison St., to hear a proposal from the developer, comments from 44th Ward Alderman Tom Tunney and others associated with the project.

Residents made comments about the proposed development and had concerns about increased traffic density in the area if the already-crowded block would be trans-

formed. Residents also voiced a lack of trust with the leadership of the project, saying the project could already be in the works.

Tunney has yet to give his support for or against the project, said Bennett Lawson, the alderman's aide.

The development would not affect the very corner of Addison Street and Clark

Street, Lawson said. Currently, Sports World, 3555 N. Clark St., and Luis Auto Repair, 1031 W. Addison St., occupy that corner.

The developer has been speaking with the alderman for about a year about this project and community leaders have met

» SEE WRIGLEY, PG. 44

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2/20 18+ - ZOROASTER
2/22 AA - TOASTERS
2/22 18+ - JAY REATARD
2/23 AA - DEAD TO FALL
2/23 18+ - JIGGS AW
2/24 AA - DARKEST HOUR
2/24 18+ - SMOKE OR FIRE
2/26 18+ - CABIN
2/29 AA - THE HOODS
3/2 AA - HARLOTS
3/2 18+ - WHITE HOT KNIFE
3/6 18+ - KINGDOM OF SORROW
3/7 AA - BLOOD IN BLOOD OUT
3/11 18+ - M.O.D.
3/14 AA - THE VANDALS
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3/22 AA - BLACKLISTED
3/22 18+ - STATEHOOD
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3/24 AA - REIGN SUPREME
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Chicago puts its butts out



John Beers steps outside of the South Loop Club, 1 E. Balbo Drive, for a cigarette during his lunch. Beers said although he has been smoking for 20 years he still considers the smoking ban a good idea.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

Smoking ban has warranted many complaints, only one ticket issued

by Brett Marlow
Assistant City Beat Editor

NEARLY A month after the Illinois Smoke Free Act was enforced, one violation has been ticketed in the city of Chicago.

The act, which went into effect Jan. 1,

banned smoking in public places such as bars, restaurants and within 15 feet of public buildings. Under the act, restaurants and bars were to remove ashtrays from prohibited areas. As of Jan. 23, 135 citizen reports, or complaints from the public, were reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health within the first three weeks of the state going smoke-free.

Of the complaints, 65 were received for non-food establishments, like smoking too

close to building entrances, and 70 for food establishments. One violation was given at a food-related establishment after an inspection, according to the Chicago Department of Public Health documents.

Tim Hadac, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Public Health, said the department is fielding 50 to 60 complaints a week. Complaints are self-reported and come in from the public. According to Chicago Department of Public Health documents, they are unconfirmed until an inspection becomes necessary.

Hadac said he expects the number to decrease.

"As the business community and society in general adjusts to the law, I'm sure a year from now we'll be in the single digits of the number of complaints we get in a month," Hadac said.

Although Chicago has had one ticketed violation, other cities in the state may have had their own violations. Complaints received by the state are forwarded to local health departments which then determine if an establishment is in violation, said Melaney Arnold, spokeswoman for the Illinois Department of Public Health.

The Illinois Department of Public Health received 889 complaints statewide from citizens calling and reporting complaints online as of Jan. 21, Arnold said.

Leo McCord, who works as Chicago's Health Committee's coordinator under Alderman Ed Smith (28th Ward), chairs the committee and was instrumental in Chicago's clean air ordinance, said he feels people have gotten the word on the ordinance.

Like Hadac, McCord believes the number of complaints coming in will lessen in months to come.

"If you take into effect the number of stores, restaurants and places of business in the city, I think the number [of complaints] is a relatively low number," McCord said.

Hadac said the health department has been asking citizens who think they have seen a violation to not immediately pick up the phone and dial 3-1-1.

"What we encourage everyone to do is contact the manager of the business or establishment, alert them of the situation and at least give them a reasonable

» SEE SMOKING, PG. 46

WANT TO KICK THE HABIT?

Do it for free

For smokers looking to kick the habit, free quit kits are available (while supplies last) at these nearby locations provided by the Chicago Department of Public Health and Chicago Second Wind. The kits include tips on how to quit, sugar-free candy and nicotine replacement samples:

■ Northwestern Memorial Hospital, 251 E. Huron St., (312) 926-2069

■ Rush University Medical Center, 600 S. Paulina St., (312) 942-7075

Cash in those ashes

The Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago is letting Chicagoans turn in their ashtrays. Receive 25 cents for each ashtray. Drop off old ashtrays at the association's headquarters, 1440 W. Washington Blvd.

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Earth-friendly employment

Green concerns don't have to stop at the workplace, experts say

by Dana Nelson
City Beat Editor

IN THE past few years, there has been a surge of openings and interest in "green-collar" jobs, which have a focus on sustainable design and eco-friendly products.

Some of those jobs are for scientists and engineers working toward sustainability, but many of these openings have been created for those with no prior work experience, little-to-no education and a low skill level in order to bolster the economy and help persons with low incomes. However, experts say there are also opportunities for graduating liberal arts students to find work helping the environment—but those jobs aren't as obvious.

"There are green jobs, but they're still the jobs [students are] trained to do here," said Tim Long, director of the Portfolio Center at Columbia.

For example, Long suggested web designers could make designs for Greenpeace, photographers could seek assignments from eco-friendly clients and advertisers can work for nonprofit organizations with a green focus.

"A lot of students in different media and studying different art forms have green concerns," Long said. "Those concerns find their way into their portfolios and to green businesses or working for green causes."

Long, who also teaches in the Photography Department, said he sees students choosing subject matters that relate to green development in their assignments,

such as advertising an eco-friendly product rather than one that could be potentially harmful. He also said some teachers at Columbia are working toward integrating environmental concerns into their assignments to raise awareness and educate students.

The concern doesn't stop after graduation. Many companies are also trying to promote better practices to help the environment and keep their employees happy.

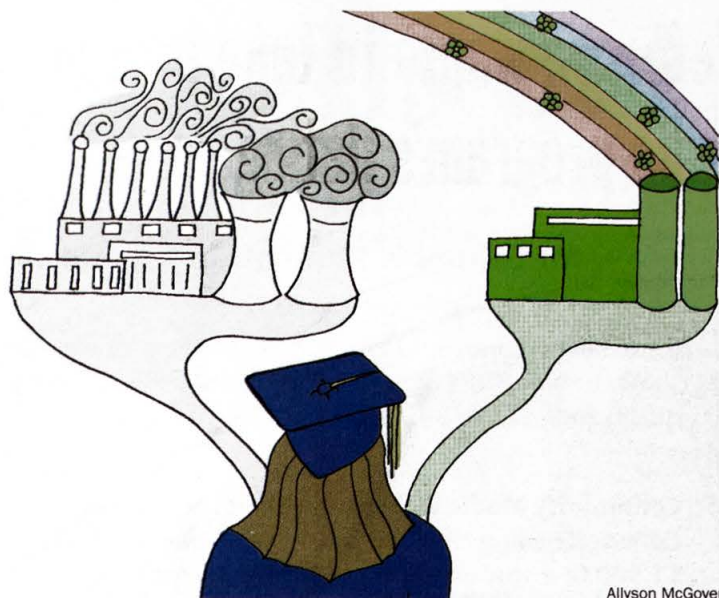
Kindy Kruller, cofounder of the Chicago Green Collar Jobs Initiative and associate director of Environmental Initiatives for the Local Economic and Employment Development Council, said companies are feeling financially and socially pressured to be more eco-friendly.

That may be as simple as turning off lights, using e-mail instead of paper memos or drinking out of reusable coffee cups instead of disposable ones, she said. The financial cost of disposable products and energy, as well as increased taxes on items such as bottled water, may have companies rethinking how they spend money, Kruller said.

Plus, being a green company makes it easier to attract potential employees.

"There's a whole generation of people who are interested in working for a company that has green practices and at least moving toward sustainability," said John Mascarenhas, director of the Chicago Sustainable Business Alliance, a network of green companies. "The people I've talked to [in Human Resources] know they need to address that."

Jason Taylor, a senior television major, said he just saw *An Inconvenient Truth* and it made him think a little bit more about



Allyson McGovern

taking care of the environment.

"I would definitely be interested in working for a green company," he said.

Foresight Design Initiative, which created the Chicago Sustainable Business Alliance, sends out a biweekly e-newsletter about sustainability-related events, jobs and issues, so recent graduates can look there for potential opportunities. The alliance also publishes a "Green Business Directory" online, with listings of businesses that have met their criteria for sustainability, Mascarenhas said.

The Chicago Sustainable Business Alliance also holds workshops for businesses and individuals who want to work in a sustainable job.

In some cases, the individual can start a green program within the business they work for, Kruller said. She suggested start-

ing the discussion and coming up with ideas on how sustainability can be achieved in no-cost ways.

She also said many companies have started looking into having a "green coordinator" who will oversee the company's eco-friendly initiatives.

As of now, there's no standard for green jobs because they're such a new concept, Kruller said. But the good thing about it being so new is that it allows people to take part in shaping how it is developed and how each person can participate, she said.

"Every job should be a green job," Kruller said. "Every person should be thinking about the environment, wondering how they can reduce their impact through their work and at their work or in school."

dnelson@chroniclemail.com

» WRIGLEY:

Continued from PG. 41

Development raises concerns

and scaled back the project since the initial talks, Lawson said. The project, which is estimated to take 20 to 24 months to construct, has to be approved by the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, the Department of Zoning and gain a consensus from the public before the project is OKed.

Hyatt Hotels and Resorts has proposed a Hyatt Place, a scaled-down hotel of its brand, to be in one of the towers. It would occupy six of the nine stories on the Addison Street and Clark Street side.

son Street and Clark Street side.

Ray Hallowell, a funeral director who has lived in the Lakeview neighborhood for 50 years and lives and works near Belmont Avenue, said he welcomes new developments, but doesn't think one this big would happen.

"You have to approve development, but the developer doesn't even have a notion that he'll be able to build anything as big as he proposed," Hallowell said. "A hotel would be an asset to the community; there's no nice hotel [in the area] to [accommodate] people, especially a Hyatt."

With a residential tower going up in the area, residents like 15-year Lakeview resident Pam Tierney have some apprehension.

"I'm concerned the residential area is going to be [occupied] by young single men

and women and be a big party house," she said.

Another concern of Tierney's and residents at the meeting was traffic congestion.

Tierney said she already drives to the Montrose exit off Lake Shore Drive to get home because the major east-west arteries such as Belmont Avenue, Addison Street and Irving Park Road in Lakeview are already congested.

"Weekends are a nightmare," Tierney said. "I completely avoid [driving]."

Tierney and others at the meeting also voiced concerns that this proposal was already in the works.

Tunney reassured the community that "this is not a done deal," and he wanted the meeting for community feedback. Tunney said the proposal had already been scaled

down from its initial design.

Tierney, who also worried the project was already approved during the meeting, said she felt better after talking with an aide to the alderman after the meeting.

"It's heartening to realize the alderman is not rubber stamping this," Tierney said. "He has concerns, he feels it's too tall and the fact that he's vocalizing his concerns makes me think that perhaps there is some room for discussion here."

Businesses like Bar Louie, 3545 N. Clark St., Salt and Pepper, 3537 N. Clark St., Goose Island Beer Co., 3535 N. Clark St., and iO Theater, 3541 N. Clark St., are currently located where the redevelopment is proposed. The businesses would be temporarily displaced if the development is built, and would then move back into the new space.

Charna Halpern, owner and director of iO Theater, said she welcomes the idea of the development, as her business would be retained and housed in the new development if passed.

"I'm still going to be here, just moving next door to a temporary space until my [new] space is built," Halpern said about the potential development. "[Schultz] talked to me a year ago and explained I'd still be in operation, but he's not going to build the space until I'm set up [in a temporary location]."

Halpern said she is happy to move because her building was built more than 70 years ago and is in need of repair.

"[Schultz] tells me he's going to make a beautiful state-of-the-art theater, bar and space," Halpern said. "It will be in the same building, where my training center is, and everything will be great."

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Addison Street from Sheffield Avenue to Clark Street, would be redeveloped, but businesses like Sports World, 3555 N. Clark St., and Luis Auto Repair, 1031 W. Addison St., won't sell their spots.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

Peterson wants to take part in radio program's dating game



Former Bolingbrook police sergeant Drew Peterson asked to participate in WJMK-FM radio's dating game, despite suspicion that he was involved in the disappearance of his wife.

AP

Peterson called and proposed contest; station officials said the contest will not take place

by Don Babwin

A FORMER suburban Chicago police officer suspected in the October disappearance of his wife said on Jan. 23 that he wanted to take part in a radio show during which women would have to compete to win a date with him.

But hours after host Steve Dahl agreed enthusiastically with a suggestion from Drew Peterson's attorney to host the game on the morning of Jan. 24, station officials said the game would not take place.

"Steve never intended on doing this promotion or any promotion that would put his listeners in harm's way," WJMK-FM vice

ality known for his irreverent humor, is perhaps best remembered for his role in Disco Demolition Night at Comiskey Park in 1979, which triggered a riot at a White Sox game.

Brodsky defended his client's planned participation, saying Peterson didn't do anything wrong and believes his wife is alive.

"Drew has stated from day one Stacy did not disappear; Stacy ran off with another man," Brodsky said. "If she's entitled to be out there with another man, he's entitled to have some enjoyment in his life, too."

Brodsky said the suggestion had nothing to do with Stacy Peterson or Drew Peterson's third wife, Kathleen Savio, whose drowning in 2004 is now under investigation as a possible homicide. Instead, he said, it is more about Dahl, whom he called "the king of Chicago radio for the past 30 years."

"The condition was Dahl had to come out and quote, unquote, chaperone," he said. "It's more about Drew going out to dinner with Steve Dahl than it is about any date."

Chuck Pelkie, a spokesman for the Will County State's Attorney, declined to comment.

Peterson has been criticized for flip answers he's given reporters, whom he has been seen joking with and about, and what many considered inappropriate answers in television interviews after his wife disappeared—including references to her menstrual cycle and breast implants.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys have said Peterson is playing a dangerous game because comments and actions by suspects are often used against them in court.

Daniel Bibb, a private attorney who handled high-profile cases when he was a prosecutor in New York, also couldn't believe what Peterson was willing to do.

"I'm absolutely astounded," he said. "If I'm a prosecutor I'm salivating now. If I'm his attorney, I'm ready to commit suicide. I'm ready to quit."

AP

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president/general manager Peter Bowen said in a prepared statement. "The dating game idea was conceived by Peterson and Joel Brodsky, Peterson's attorney, not by Steve Dahl or anyone else at the radio station."

A friend of Peterson's wife Stacy—whose disappearance investigators have called a possible homicide—and prominent defense attorneys said they were shocked that attorney Brodsky would propose such a game, and that Peterson would go along.

Bowen said the station was equally surprised that Peterson and Brodsky called Dahl's morning show unsolicited and proposed the "Win a Date with Drew" game. Even though Dahl said "I'll absolutely do that," at 8 a.m. that same day, Bowen later said that the idea was never considered.

Dahl, a longtime Chicago radio person-

» SMOKING:

Continued from PG. 42

Two complaints get a business a warning, the third merits an inspection of the establishment

opportunity to investigate and take corrective action," Hadac said. "We think that has really contributed to the low numbers we're seeing at this point. So frequently a well-placed comment from an informed customer can work wonders."

Another factor that may contribute to the low number of complaints in the city is that food inspectors are out at restaurants and food-related businesses including bars throughout the weeks, Hadac said, and they can issue tickets at that time if the establishment is in violation.

"If [the inspector] is at a place doing a regular inspection for health reasons and they happen to see a smoking violation, the place will get a ticket on the spot," Hadac said.

Nick Vranas, manager of the South Loop Club, 1 E. Balbo Drive, said he hasn't had any problems or complaints at his restaurant and bar.

"People know the program," Vranas said. "We got a big enough head start with the press and media talking about [it]."

Lori Ludwig, a paralegal who works in the city, said from her observations, people are acquainted with the new law.

"If people aren't [aware], they're living under a rock," Ludwig said.

Ludwig, a non-smoker who is happy with the ban, said she thinks most people are complying, but she sees some people not standing 15 feet away from public entrances.

If an establishment has received a com-



The South Loop Club, 1 E. Balbo Drive, which used to allow smoking in its restaurant and bar, now displays a 'No Smoking' sign at its entrance.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

plaint against it, or there have been multiple complaints, the Chicago Department of Public Health has created a process to inspect.

The first two times an establishment receives a complaint, a letter is sent out reminding its owners of the law. If an establishment receives a third, the Chicago Department of Public Health will inspect the establishment. If it is found in violation, such as leaving an ashtray out, the establishment receives a \$250 citation. If more complaints are filed against the estab-

lishment and it is found to be in violation again, the citations gradually increase up to \$2,500, Hadac said.


The Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago has been active in getting the word out about the smoke-free law. The association is currently running a program to collect 2,000 ashtrays from bars, restaurants and individuals who pledge to quit smoking. For each ashtray received, the association pays 25 cents, said Matt Maloney, director of Health Policy at the association. So far, the association has col-

lected 600 ashtrays and will continue until it reaches its goal.

"Once we've collected 2,000, we'll give them to [Columbia] and give them the full creative license on that," Maloney said.

Volunteers with the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago have worked with the Chicago Department of Public Health to distribute quit kits and no smoking window decals to thousands of establishments across the region, Maloney said.

bmarlow@chroniclemail.com




U-PASS

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Monday, January 28:	9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday, January 29:	9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Wednesday, January 30:	9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The I-pod raffle will end on FRIDAY JANUARY 25.

www.colum.edu/upass





Scoop in the Loop

by Dana Nelson
City Beat Editor

Unwarranted youth deaths

LAST OCTOBER I visited a high school in Little Village on the Southwest Side of Chicago so I could talk to teenagers about the effect of gangs in their neighborhood. I was doing research for a feature for *Echo* magazine and one teacher at the school said I could come to her classes and interview her students.

The teenagers, mostly freshmen and sophomores, told me a lot about their safety, or lack thereof, and the persistent harassment they face on a daily basis because of the gang presence. They shifted uncomfortably in their seats as they related alarming stories of interactions with gang members. I remember going home that night and playing back their words on my recorder, horrified that kids as young as 13 (and probably younger) had to worry about which streets they had to walk down or where to go when after-school programs were cancelled.

A week later, a boy from the school I visited was shot and killed while he was walking down the street. His name was Miguel Gomez and he was 16 years old. The police attributed it to gang violence.

I didn't hear about Gomez's death until a month or two later, when I was doing research for another story about youth homicide. His name was in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Daily Herald* and the *Chicago Tribune* as the eighth Chicago Public Schools student to be shot and killed this school year. I never ended up writing that story, but the facts are still important.

In December 2007, the city of Chicago's Office of Epidemiology came out with the 2004 report for leading causes of death in Chicago.

For persons aged 15 to 24, the leading cause of death was homicide. That age group made up nearly 40 percent of all homicides that took place in 2004.

Those numbers differ depending on race

and gender.

Men, blacks and Latinos are more likely to die by homicide than women and whites.

Race and gender aside, it's horrible that the leading cause of death for our generation is homicide. It's horrible that a 16-year-old boy will never be able to go to prom, or graduate from high school, go to college or get married. But what really breaks my heart about Gomez is that his parents had plans to send him to Mexico to live with his grandparents because they feared for his safety. Six days before he was shot, they took him out of school to prepare for his trip to Mexico. If he had left one day earlier, maybe he would still be alive today.

Instances like that happen far too often in Chicago, and far too often to its youth, who have barely even begun to fulfill their dreams or make an impact on the community around them. I feel for the students who knew Gomez, who are mourning the loss of a friend—one who

died unnecessarily at the hands of violence. His friends and family are the ones who are suffering and have been forced to come to some understanding about an avoidable death.

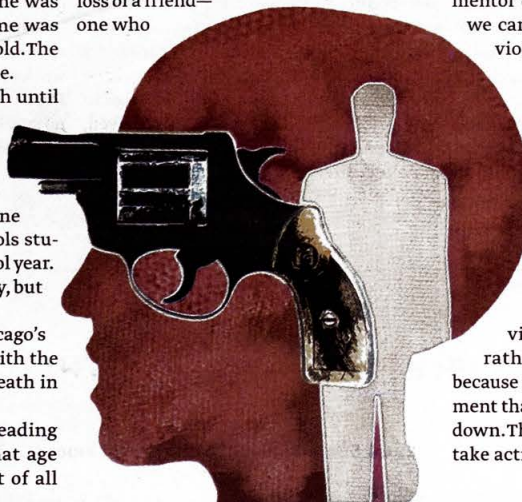
The good news is that since 1994, 10 years before the statistics from the most recent report, the number of homicides in Chicago has decreased. There were 940 deaths attributed to homicides reported in 1994, but in 2004 452 homicides were reported. Police officers attribute the change to better technology and technique that is helping to push gang members out of the city. If these numbers keep going down, we can remain hopeful that each of the years following 2004 will result in fewer homicides.

But we can do more than hope.

We can take action by promoting peace and love within our community—whether that community is a circle of friends, a neighborhood or a city. By becoming a mentor to our brothers, sisters or friends, we can help them seek alternatives to violence and unsafe situations.

We can provide resources, such as after-school sports or arts programs for teenagers, support groups for mourning family members and friends and rehabilitation programs and job opportunities for reformed gang members so that going back into criminal activities is no longer a viable option.

And we can make the issue of violence something we talk about rather than something we ignore, because it's not going to be the law enforcement that brings the number of homicides down. The rest of the community needs to take action, too.



MCT

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In Other News

Robbery attack

A \$20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the individual who robbed and shot a Dunbar Armored Car courier was announced Jan. 23 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The theft took place on Dec. 24 in front of the River Oaks shopping mall in Calumet City. According to the FBI, the robber hid in an elevator and shot the courier three times when he returned. The robber then grabbed the cash bag and fled. The courier survived because he wore protective body armor. Witnesses described the robber as male, 35 to 40 years old and about 6 feet tall.

Kiss attack

A nursing home assistant was arrested Jan. 20 for kissing a 53-year-old disabled woman in his care. Benvenuto Hernandez was charged with misdemeanor battery on Jan. 24, according to the *Chicago Tribune*. A police spokesman said another nurse walked into the room as Hernandez was kissing the woman on the cheek. Hernandez told the nurse and a supervisor he thought the woman was choking, so he leaned over to whisper in her ear while using a suction device in her mouth to clear fluid. The aide was suspended from his job.

Blue attack

A 65-year-old man is seeking damages for an incident when cast members of the Blue Man Group shoved a camera down his throat, according to the *Chicago Tribune*. James Srodon said he was sitting in one of the first rows of the Briar Street Theatre on Oct. 8, 2006, when two cast members approached him. Srodon said one cast member pulled his head back from behind and the other shoved the camera in. When they removed the camera, Srodon said it was so forceful he suffered contusions on his esophagus. He also said he suffered nightmares about blue men attacking him. Blue Man Productions Inc. could not be reached for comment.

OFF THE BLOTTER



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

Inn ... and out

Chicago police officers responded to a disturbance call from an unidentified employee at the Essex Inn, 800 S. Michigan Ave., on Jan. 21 to find a 48-year-old male throwing garbage around in the hotel's rear parking lot. Officers asked the male to leave, but he refused. The offender was then taken into custody for processing, according to police reports.

Coming back for seconds

A male who was arrested for assault on Jan. 20 at the Eleven City Diner, 1112 S. Wabash Ave., came back to the diner for another helping the next day. When the offender returned, he yelled that he was going for the person who got him arrested. A 44-year-old employee at the diner told the male to leave. The offender refused and approached the employee in an aggressive manner, according to police reports. The offender threatened another employee in the diner, police were called and the offender fled. The second victim, a 23-year-old male, followed the offender to the Roosevelt Red Line station, 1167 S. State St. The

offender threatened to stab the victim with an ink pen. The victim exited the station and waited for police at the diner. The offender was not found.

Credit cards Target-ed

A 37-year-old female's wallet was stolen at Artist's Cafe, 412 S. Michigan Ave., on Jan. 20, according to a police report. Before the victim reported the theft, one of the credit cards was used at Target. Three credit cards, the victim's driver's license and \$45 were lost. The offender has not been found.

End of the line

According to police reports, Chicago police officers arrested a 24-year-old male when they caught the offender crossing in between train cars, which is prohibited. The offender was aboard a southbound Red Line train at the Roosevelt Station, 1167 S. State St., on Jan. 22. The offender, who was unable to provide identification, was brought in for processing. During a custodial search, an officer found a "green leafy substance" in the offender's left shoe, which police suspected to be cannabis.

GET OUT



Pacifica Quartet

Saturday @ 1 p.m.

The Sherwood Conservatory of Music presents an "informance" with the Pacifica Quartet as part of the city-wide Pacifica Quartet Beethoven Festival. During the program, they will perform five separate movements from string quartets from their personal repertoire, three movements from Beethoven quartets, which they will be performing later this season, and two examples of music by more recent composers. Throughout the show, the quartet will discuss their preparation for performances, how their "band" was formed, as well as their lives as touring musicians. There will also be a Q&A with the quartet after the performance. No tickets required, and the event is free and open to the public.

Sherwood Music Conservatory

1312 S. Michigan Ave.

For more information call (312) 427-6267.



Black History Month

Saturday @ 6:30 p.m.

In an effort to celebrate diversity and recognize the achievements, culture and heritage of blacks throughout February, the Chicago Public Library will be hosting an opening event at the Carter G. Woodson Regional Library. There will be performances by the All City Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Mark Coulter and Edmond Holmes, as well as a hip-hop dance performance by Kheemlah Phillips. Closing out the event will be the Emmett Till Gospel Youth Choir.

Carter G. Woodson Regional Library

9525 S. Halsted St.

For more information, call (312) 747-4051.



B1GT1ME

Thursday @ 8 p.m.

Not quite a variety show but definitely more than your average cover band, B1GT1ME tends to defy conventional description. A good try, though, would be if Tom Waits were to form an '80s pop cover band. Adding to the vaudevilian atmosphere of the evening, Star and Garter Burlesque will open and a few other special guests are expected for this, the final show of B1GT1ME's month-long run at the Abbey.

Abbey Pub

3420 W. Grace St.

Tickets: \$7

For more information, call

(773) 478-4408.



"Tomatoe/Tomato"

Friday @ 10:30 p.m.

"Tomatoe/Tomato" is a theatrical hybrid between the media of stage play and television situation comedy. The show's goal is to follow each of the rules and conventions set forth by classic sitcoms like "Three's Company" and "Perfect Strangers." The first run, which shows every Friday through March 7, is "Tomatoe/Tomato's" pilot episode, and will be used to pitch for a larger run, for which new episodes would be written each week.

Donny's Skybox Theatre

1608 N. Wells St.

Tickets: \$10 (\$8 for students)

For more information call

(773) 857-1776.



U-Pass Distribution

Monday-Wednesday
9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Classes are starting back up! That means all full-time students can pick up their U-Passes this week. Say goodbye to paying for train and bus service and say hello to your ticket to arts and entertainment venues, shopping, galleries and sporting events. Be sure to bring a student ID and a schedule to verify your full-time status. If you miss distribution, don't stress; just bring a copy of your schedule and a photo ID to the Data Base in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Cards activate on Monday, Jan. 28.

Conaway Center

1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

First floor

For more information, call

(312) 344-7459.



monday

Why Intercept?

with If I Were Eels Inside You

Bird Ate My Donut

The Vindits

9 p.m., The Note (21+)

1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.

(773) 365-9000



Columbia College

New Year's Celebration

3 p.m.-4 p.m., 1104 Center

1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor

(312) 344-8675



tuesday

Slim Dixon, The Sleepy Kissers,

Action Fingers, Diablo Blanco

9 p.m., The Note (21+)

1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.

(773) 365-9000



Learn to Live with a Budget

11:15 a.m., 1104 Center

1104 S. Wabash Ave., Room 801B/C

(312) 344-8675



Jose Valdez Trio

6:30 p.m., Green Dolphin Street.

2200 N. Ashland Ave.

(773) 395-0066



wednesday

Sweetwater Meltdown

9 p.m., Abbey Pub (21+)

3420 W. Grace St.

(773) 478-4408



Breakers Broken

Murley Shertz

Blackdog

8 p.m., Reggie's Rock Club (18+)

2109 S. State St.

(312) 949-0121

Tickets: \$10



'Silver Tongue Reading Series: Fictional Guides to Real Chicago' With John Messinger, the books and poetry editor for Time Out Chicago

7 p.m., The Residence Center

731 S. Plymouth Court

The Court



thursday

Emery

with Mayday Parade

As Cities Burn

Pierce the Veil

Cry of the Afflicted

Doors: 5 p.m., Metro (All Ages)

3730 N. Clark St.

(773) 549-0203

Tickets: \$17 (\$15 advance)



friday

The Winter Sounds

Lando

Jukebox the Ghost

9 p.m., The Note (21+)

1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.

(773) 365-9000



'This Land Is Your Land'

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Museum of Contemporary Photography

600 S. Michigan Ave.

(312) 344-8067



'Legend'

'The Fly'

Midnight, Feb. 1 & 2

Music Box Theatre

3733 N. Southport Ave.

(773) 871-6604

Tickets: \$10



saturday

The Casting Out

Animal City

State Champion

9 p.m., The Note (21+)

1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.

(773) 365-9000

Tickets: \$8 (\$6 advance)



sunday

Gallows

This is Hell

Cancer Bats

Doors: 5:30 p.m., Metro (All Ages)

3739 N. Clark St.

(773) 549-0203

Tickets: \$15



Uptown Poetry Slam

7 p.m.-10 p.m., Green Mill (21+)

4802 N. Broadway St.

(773) 878-5552

Cover: \$6



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Columbia



Free



Movie



Art



Celebrity



Political



Food



Theatre



Speaker



Reading