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Columbia Chronicle (03/03/2008)

Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago March 3, 2008 Volume 43 Number 21 ColumbiaChronicle.com



CANINES IN THE CITY Etta, a 7-month-old Parson Russell Terrier, struggles while she is groomed by her owners on Feb. 20 for the International Kennel Club of Chicago dog show at McCormick Place, 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive. The dogs competed Feb. 22-24 in the International Kennel Club of Chicago dog show. For additional photos, turn to page 43.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE



COLUMBIA'S GLADIATOR

MOTIVATED BY the loss of his mother and aunt due to cancer, Columbia alumnus Evan Dollard pushed through the ranks of brawny gladiators, becoming the male winner of the NBC revival of the original "American Gladiators" show. He walked away with \$100,000, a new car and an offer to get beefed up with the Hulkster himself.

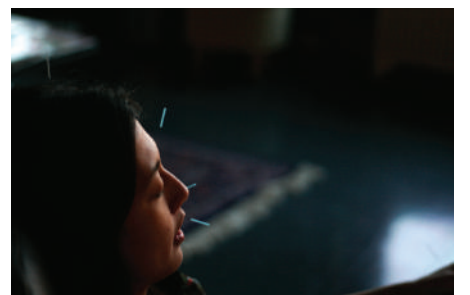
» SEE PG. 15



INSPIRING PENNIES

CHICAGO SCHOOLS help others across the globe by collecting spare change and donating it toward Pennies for Peace, a program that supports the building of schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Author Greg Mortenson, the program founder, was recently in Chicago promoting his New York Times Best Seller book and telling stories of his travels abroad.

» SEE PG. 41



SPRING SPA TREATMENTS

STRESSING AT school and worrying about finding a job can cause strain on the brain and the body. Take the time to relax with some unique and affordable spa treatments. Take a dip in a sensory deprivation tank or bring the radiance back with an acupuncture treatment that uses light instead of needles to mend common maladies and rejuvenate the body and mind.

» SEE PG. 24

Walking it out, Chicago style

Fashion show highlights local urban, couture clothing made by student designers

by Colin Shively
Assistant A&E Editor

AS WAITERS and waitresses weaved in and out of the gathering crowd, club music by DJ Giotek filled the room, causing the crowd to bounce to the beats in their chairs. Photographers stood and sat around the L-shaped runway and shot photo after photo as models walked, posed and spun, displaying the different colors and designs of the clothing.

Automatic Lofts, 410 S. Morgan St., a housing center for Chicago college students, hosted its first fashion show, called

Automatic Fashion, in front of more than 300 people on Feb. 27 to introduce new and aspiring clothing designers in the Chicago area. Eleven Chicago designers displayed their work that varied in styles like urban-wear, couture, nightwear and accessories. Two of the designers who were showcased at the show currently attend Columbia: India Nicole, a junior fashion design major and creator of the collection Indie Nicole and Aundra Bradford, a junior fashion design major and designer of AUJAJUAN.

Jenna Barnes, the fashion show's producer and general manager of Automatic Lofts, said the Lofts is a place where many student artists and fashion designers come to display their work because of the diverse student population living in the building. Barnes sent out advertisements looking for

models and designers, and she handpicked the designers based on the variety of different fashions shown, such as eveningwear, footwear and knit accessories. The designers who showcased their work at the show were anxious to get their brand names out into the public, Barnes said. Barnes also worked with modeling agencies like One Source Talent, Posh Society Promo Models and UR Models to pick models for the runway.

Nicole displayed her collection for the first time Feb. 27. Her clothing is inspired by high fashion designers like Donna Karen, Versace, Valentino and Gucci. Nicole said she gets most of the inspiration from looking at the world and sketching what she sees.

"I would describe my clothing as comfortable, yet with a crafty twist," Nicole said. "I like high fashion a lot, but I also like comfortable. Just meld the two together and you get my designs."

Nicole uses knits and a variety of patterned and solid fabrics to achieve the comfortable look she designs.

"This was just wonderful," Nicole said. "After the show I had people telling me that I was a fan favorite, and it is just great to hear that people really enjoy my designs. I could not think of a better place to show my work."

Nicole said she plans to get an internship after graduation and work her way up in the fashion industry. She said she wants her label to become well-known.

Bradford is a veteran of fashion shows; the show at the Automatic Lofts is his fourth show. Bradford's inspiration comes from a variety of areas in his life, including



Anne Chapman watches models strut down the runway at the Automatic Fashion show at student housing facility Automatic Lofts, 410 S. Morgan St.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

» SEE FASHION, PG. 21



Editor's column by Amanda Maurer
Editor-in-Chief

Kicking butt and taking names

Two weeks ago, John Lavine had a wake-up call.

Lavine, the dean of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, was asked to reveal sources he quoted anonymously a year ago in an alumni magazine.

He couldn't do it.

This lesson comes at an appropriate time, as Feb. 22 was the first of the two-day-long convention for the Illinois College Press Association, an organization of state-wide college newspapers.

Every academic year, dozens of college student newspapers across the state report the news in the most accurate, clear and objective way, along with serving up each story with a compelling photograph, informational graphic and eye-catching design.

It's all about being the best.

So when a journalism school's dean is under fire for not being an accurate journalist, we all take that to heart.

And while we're all trying to put out the best newspaper each day, week or whenever, there are several standards that we hold each other to: mainly accuracy, which helps establish one's credibility.

So when a dean fails to hold to the journalist's oath of credibility by unnecessarily using anonymous quotes,

we all pause.

Part of the problem was that Lavine couldn't remember if he had spoken to the quoted students in person or in an e-mail (which isn't a great practice anyway).

While no one expected him to remember the sources off the top of his head, the least he could have done was keep his notes—as we're all taught to do.

He's tried to justify his actions.

Lavine was quoted in the Chicago Tribune on Feb. 14 saying "Context is all-important ... When I write news stories, I am as careful and thorough about sources as anyone you will find ... This is not a news story. This is a personal letter."

Be that as it may, no matter how you look at it, journalism is journalism.

It doesn't matter if the context involves revealing a huge scandal about city hall in the Chicago Sun-Times, or commending his class in an alumni magazine. Reporting must be done in a fair and balanced way. A journalist shouldn't argue that one piece of writing is more important than another.

When drafting a piece of journalism, the writer is automatically a journalist, and he should therefore adhere to the strictest of journalism standards, no matter what the context.

What is odd is how Lavine decided to use anonymous sources. Typically, at The

Chronicle and elsewhere, anonymous sources are only used when absolutely necessary: if the source is a rape victim or if his life is in danger. Even then, the managing editors confirm the source's existence and keep the person's contact information on file.

But Lavine's students weren't victims of any kind. In fact, they were quoted praising a class he taught. So why was there a need for anonymous sources?

I suppose the one good thing that has come out of this experience is the obvious lesson: It doesn't matter who you are or what you're writing. If you're a journalist, you must adhere to the profession's standards at all times.

Fortunately, this reflects well on the college's newspaper, The Daily Northwestern. Had it not been for one of the paper's staffers who had researched the anonymous quotes, this issue would have never come to light.

Perhaps it's that curiosity, accuracy and research that compelled the ICPA judges to award The Daily Northwestern first place in the daily student newspaper category at the convention.

But don't worry, The Chronicle won first place in its division, too.

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CAMPUS POLL: What would you like to see in a new student center?



"A cot or some comfy couches where we could take naps."

Jen Collins
Sophomore
Early Childhood Education



"A better Internet connection. The Internet [messes] up a lot around here so maybe a more functional wireless Internet."

Colin Mulhern
Sophomore
Audio Arts and Acoustics



"I'd like to see places where alumni can relax and play on the computers or rent out old equipment. Possibly even a basketball court or a sports room. Oh yeah, and an animation room."

Chris Porter
Junior
Film and Video



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Campus News



FEATURE PHOTO - *Words on Wednesdays*

Film and video major Nikki Selik sings and plays guitar during the 'Words on Wednesdays' open mic in the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court on Feb. 27.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

Organizations seek input on student center

by Robert Bykowski
Campus News Editor

THE DESIRE for student cohesion and unity is inspiring members of multiple student organizations to coordinate their efforts and push for a student center on campus.

While the topic of a multi-purpose student center has been discussed in various degrees over the years, an acceptable level of administration commitment to building one hasn't been made, according to Brian Matos, Student Government Association president.

"What we want to avoid is for the board to continually put it off indefinitely," Matos said. "Our worry right now is that two years ago they put it in the Master Plan as

something to shoot for [in the future] and something that needs to be done. Since that time, there's been no serious discussion."

Jeff Garceau, a senior marketing communications major and representative of the Student Alumni Office, echoed similar sentiments.

"We're not saying we want a student center right now, or that we want a student center tomorrow," Garceau said. "We understand that it's going to take time and we understand it's going to take money, but we want to help with the process of getting a student center. That's why we're asking for student input."

However, the desired administrative commitment to build a student center might not be found in the near future. Recently,

the main focus of Columbia's fund-raising efforts has gone toward financing the Media Production Center, which will be located at 1632 S. State St. Construction on the center is expected to start toward the end of this year or early next year, according to John Kavouris, project manager in the Office of Campus Environment.

During a Feb. 26 SGA meeting, Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, spoke about possible cost of the center and what Columbia's focus has been in the meantime.

"If you're going to have a real student center it would be a new construction and I would expect it to be state-of-the-art in many ways," Kelly said. "The original projection when it was a stand-alone student

center, which was about five or six years ago, was about \$35 million. [With the] latest ideas it's [turning] into a Campus Center, and so the Campus Center would cost a lot more."

In an effort to raise awareness of the center and to start collecting student input, a webpage has been created to inform students and provide an option for student feedback. The possibility of student forums on the subject have been discussed as well.

"Right now we're just trying to get students aware that we don't have a student center, that they should want on and find out what [students think] should go into

» SEE CENTER, PG. 7

Columbia in 10 seconds ... or less

Adjunct faculty member passes away

DAYNE CANNOVA, an adjunct faculty member in the Liberal Education Department, passed away during the week of Feb. 17. The cause of death was unconfirmed as of press time.

MYOASIS e-mail accounts to be deleted

ON MARCH 24 all existing MYOASIS e-mail accounts will be deleted. Students and faculty are advised to retrieve any pertinent information from their MYOASIS accounts prior to the cut-off date.

Math and Science Colloquium series continues on March 6

BIOLOGY PROFESSOR Heather Minges Wols will discuss the role that plasma cells play in the human body at 5 p.m. in the Ferguson Auditorium in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Location change for free yoga classes

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and Thursday yoga classes regularly held in the Residence Center will have a new location as of March 12. The classes will then be held at 1112 S. Wabash Ave., rooms 207 and 208.

New store to sell student work at Manifest

by Miles Maftan
Assistant Campus News Editor

WITH MANIFEST approaching, officials would like to open a new student store to sell student artwork for the event and for students to showcase their work in the future.

The store, created by C-Spaces along with the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department, will temporarily be located in the lobby of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., to sell student work for Manifest, which takes place the week of May 11. Around mid-August, the store will move into the building's Hokin Annex as a permanent establishment to sell the work of Columbia students.

Columbia officials have established the store, but at this point of the preparation, C-Spaces is still working on the details.

According to Camille Morgan, the administrative assistant of C-Spaces, the temporary "pop-up" store will sell only the artwork from Manifest and the permanent store will then sell the artwork for all students, including works from Manifest. Morgan said the store is still very experimental, and they are hoping to launch it before fall 2008.

Kevin Cassidy, the store manager for C-Spaces, said in previous years people would inquire about buying the work at Manifest and students did not know how to respond or where to go to sell the artwork. This year, Cassidy wants to change that.

"The materials being sold will be [on display] in the venues all around the campus, but when someone wants to buy work, they



Students walk by the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., on Feb. 29. The Wabash Campus Building is where the temporary store will be located during Manifest.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

will be directed to this point-of-sale counter so that it is all centralized," Cassidy said.

The store plans to permanently establish itself as a physical retail operation after Manifest. It will then sell the work of all students from all mediums, including photography, fiction writing, graphic design and poetry.

"I'm really hoping to see a crossroad for all the different interests in the college," Cassidy said.

Cassidy said they also plan on creating a student-run website, on which students who wish to be represented by the store will be able to sell their work online.

On the website, each artist will have his

or her work displayed from the store and could add his or her entire portfolio to sell as well. Each student will be able to have a link for their own page with a biography and an explanation of his or her work.

As students design the website, others will help with the management aspect of the store. The Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department will collaborate with C-Spaces on promoting the art on display in the store. According to Dennis Rich, the chair of the Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department, the department has been exploring the possibility of a retail store for some time because it is an extension of the services

that art managers do.

"Whenever it is possible for Columbia to forward activities to the advantages of the community, especially the students, by taking advantage of expertise available in academic programs, I think that is wonderful," Rich said.

Cassidy said the store will take a percentage of the profits from the artist's work. Cassidy explained the percentage will be much less than other galleries selling artwork but is not readily determined because the departments have not talked about this percentage.

Once the departments figure a number of percentages that will be taken from each work sold, then students will be made aware of that figure.

Cassidy hopes the work sold will turn a profit for the store, with profits of the store eventually going back into Columbia to help fund projects or programs.

"I would hope to see it become sufficiently successful so that it [generates] actual revenue for the college to fund programs in the institution," Cassidy said.

Students around the campus are happy about this news. Some want their artwork sold and don't have an outlet to sell it in or the knowledge on how to negotiate the prices for it.

"I really can't just go out in the real world and expect to know how to handle selling my artwork at a reasonable price, but hopefully this will help me," said Spencer Rysman, a freshman graphic design major.

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2ND ANNUAL PROGRAM FOCUSING ON GENDER AND MEDIA

In recognition of International Women's Day, the Institute presents the 2nd annual program on gender and media, with this year's focus on human rights. On March 6, Gender, Human Rights and Media brings together a cross-disciplinary group of writers, filmmakers, journalists, and scholars whose work ranges from broadcast reporting on Hurricane Katrina and South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, to a film on Argentina's state terrorism in the 1970s. Through individual presentations, media clips and discussion, the panelists will engage in personal and scholarly interpretations of the complicated role that media can play in reflecting, influencing and broadening our understanding of human rights.

RELATED PROGRAMS

Poetry Reading: Antjie Krog

March 4, 2008 / 6:00pm / Free
 COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
 Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor

Film Screening: *Burnt Oranges* with Silvia Malagrino

March 5, 2008 / 6:00pm / Free
 COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
 Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash, 1st Floor

Introduction

Jane M. Saks
 Executive Director, Institute

Moderator

Laura S. Washington
 Ida B. Wells-Barnett University Professor in Journalism,
 DePaul University

Panelists

Cheryl Corley
 Reporter, National Public Radio

Antjie Krog
 Poet, writer, and journalist

Silvia Malagrino
 Visual artist and filmmaker

Joe Richman
 Independent producer, National Public Radio's Radio Diaries

This program is part of the **Critical Encounters: Poverty and Privilege** year-long initiative. www.colum.edu/criticalencounters

For more info:

312.344.8829 or www.colum.edu/institutewomengender
ASL services available upon request. Please allow 48 hours advance notice.

THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE PRITZKER PUCKER FOUNDATION, THE FOUNDING DONORS OF THE INSTITUTE, AND COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO.

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WOMEN & GENDER
 IN THE ARTS
 AND MEDIA

critical encounters:
POVERTY
 + privilege

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

Antjie Krog photo by Kerina Turok, Silvia Malagrino photo by Pamela Bingham.

Star teammate and friend passes away

Ryan Welch | 1984–2008

by Tim Bearden
Assistant Campus News Editor

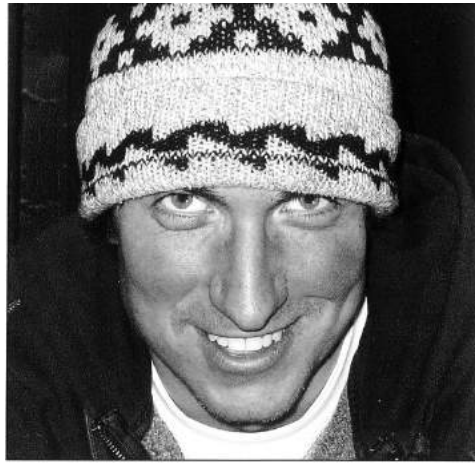
THE LACROSSE team and Marketing Communications Department suffered a loss on Feb. 15 with the passing of Ryan Welch, 23, a senior marketing communications major.

Welch died from smoke inhalation after an apartment fire on the 800 block of W. Barry Avenue. He played lacrosse for the Columbia Renegades club team, was a musician and made people laugh.

"You couldn't talk to him and not smile," said Kip Richmond, a Kansas University alumnus. "He could make you laugh even when things were going wrong."

Richmond and Welch had been friends since the 5th grade and met while playing hockey together. They both attended KU, but Welch transferred during his junior year to go to Columbia.

According to Richmond, Welch played music in different bars and clubs while going to KU. While it was his initial thought to major in the subject at Columbia, he decided to pursue advertising instead and Richmond said it suited his personality.



Ryan Welch, a senior marketing communications major, died Feb. 15 due to smoke inhalation. He also played lacrosse for the Columbia Renegades.

Courtesy MARGARET SULLIVAN

"He liked advertising," he said. "He liked to be creative and draw and paint. It was a good fit for him."

Richmond added that he was a "very outgoing guy," which translates well in the marketing world.

Welch didn't stop playing music though, according to Kevin Dunnigan, a Columbia alumnus. He played guitar and had music on

PureVolume.com, a website musicians use to promote their songs.

"He wrote a song called 'Goodbye' and it was played at the wake," he said. "It's a pretty sad song." Dunnigan said Welch has three other songs on the website.

Dunnigan met Welch 2 1/2 years ago at Columbia. They played on the lacrosse team and became friends at the organization's first get-together.

"He had posters on the wall of The Beatles, which is one of his favorite bands, and I found out [he] played guitar," he said. "He was a big strong guy with a deep voice. That part about him just caught me off guard, I guess."

According to Dunnigan, there wasn't a member of the team that didn't like Welch.

Former teammate, Ryan Chambers, a junior arts, entertainment and media management major, said Welch was always having fun.

"At one of our games last season, Ryan and I were playing catch [with the lacrosse sticks and ball] back and forth and we didn't realize we were in a field of daisies," he said. "We came back to where the team was standing and they were all laughing. They had taken pictures of us running through these daisies."

Welch also played lacrosse for his high school, as well as KU, Richmond said. When he came to Columbia he was looking for a place to play again, and Dunnigan was starting the lacrosse team at Columbia.

"He had a real love for the game," Dunnigan said.

The Renegades went 3-7 at the end of their inaugural season, but Welch had big hopes for the team, according to Dunnigan.

"[Welch] wanted his senior year to go out with a bang," he said. "He motivated the team."

Welch was an attackman, which is an offensive position, for the Renegades and was no stranger to shooting the ball.

"He had one of the hardest shots I've ever seen," Dunnigan said. "It was a rocket shot and he liked to shoot."

The wake and funeral were held Feb. 22 and 23 in Deerfield, Ill., where Welch grew up, according to Richmond. He said there were at least 500 to 600 people at the wake, and it was standing room only.

"At the funeral everybody kept telling me, 'I wish other people could see the amount of people that came to the wake,'" Richmond said.

tbearden@chroniclemail.com

Can we get a show of hands?

Election packets are ready for pick-up.

If you plan on running for senate in the **2008 Student Government elections** pick up your election packet, located in 1104 S. Wabash lower level HUB office C.

Applications available: Monday, March 3rd
Applications due: Monday, March 31st
Campaigning begins: Tuesday, April 1st
Elections will be held the week of April 21st - April 25th

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SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

My poverty and my privilege

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

by Cheryl Peters

Senior, Marketing Communications

When people look at me, they probably see the image of the put together, sophisticated young woman I try so hard to project. They see a woman who is studious, articulate and bright. They see a young woman who walks out of an upscale South Loop condo, always stylish and well-kept.

What they don't see is the young woman who is a full-time student, intern and has two jobs because she is afraid to fail. The young woman who works hard for everything she has. They don't see a young woman whose parents are homeless.

My parents haven't always been homeless. Growing up, we moved from apartment to apartment. Many times we occupied them illegally because there were five of us and my parents would lie and say they only had two girls. Eventually, that became true.

During my third grade Christmas party, a case worker from the Department of Children and Family Services came to talk to me. The previous nine years I had been the victim of child abuse. He came to tell me that I no longer had to hide; people knew and wanted to help. Soon after, I was placed with my grandparents.

This wasn't new or scary to me. I had spent weekends with my grandparents for as long as I could remember. They were amazing, loving and supportive people. I felt immediately safe upon seeing them every time. I knew they wanted what was best for me and were sacrificing to help. However, I didn't know until I was older just how much they sacrificed for me.

After nine months of being in their care, my grandparents were forced to give me back to my parents—on my 10th birthday. They did as they were told; all the while knowing it was the beginning of an ugly

custody battle. You see, my parents didn't want me. They never acted as parents, but they couldn't let others know how dysfunctional they were. After a case that dragged on, my grandparents lost the battle and their savings. However, thankfully, soon after I moved in with my grandparents.

While living with them I was not materially privileged, but I had more love, support and inspiration than any other child I know. My Grampie was always there for me before and after school, for snacks and homework. Grammie drove me to my morning volleyball practices and came to a game when she could. By this time, Grampie's Parkinson's was so advanced that he was unable to attend.

Two days after I turned sixteen, my Grampie passed away. Suddenly, I was the poorest I had ever been. Not only had I lost my father figure, I had lost my friend, advocate and supporter. I became determined to make him proud, to make his efforts not in vain.

During this time, my parents had been wandering through life, lazily, always waiting for or begging someone to save them. Sadly, neither of them took inspira-

critical encounters:

POVERTY
+ privilege

tion from my grandparents. They never realized the value of hard work. They continually got themselves into situations over their head by being ignorant and irresponsible. The last straw

was not paying their mortgage for months and having to file for bankruptcy (for the second time) and losing their cars. Then I got the call from Grammie saying they had lost their house. My mother went to live with her sister and my father and little sister moved in with Grammie. Thankfully, my other sister was already living with relatives in Colorado while attending college there.

Now my parents are working to get a townhouse. Sure, they might achieve it, for a while, but they will probably once again go down the road of ignorance and irresponsibility, the road that I will never come to, the road that I walk above.

The aim of Critical Encounters is to encourage you to deal with difficult questions about poverty and privilege. 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.

—Stephanie Shonekan, CriticalEncounters@colum.edu, colum.edu/CriticalEncounters.

[only] three offices," Sherman said. "The biggest complaint we get all the time from students is they want to be involved, but they either don't know how to get involved because there's not one central location, or it's too difficult for them to get involved because there is no central location."

As a short-term solution, Kelly said the college has been developing numerous common spaces on campus, citing recent renovations like the Conaway Center in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

"We're doing everything short of the student center to make this a place where students can congregate," Kelly said. "All of these spaces are what the college is doing now to support a sense of community and a sense of comfort for students."

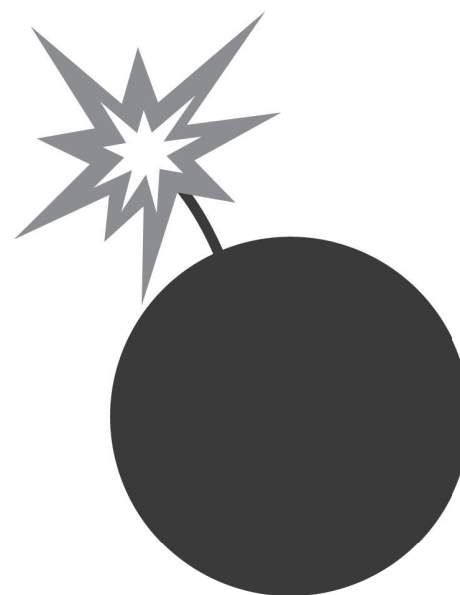
Magyar praised the efforts of the college in developing numerous common spaces, but said the spaces were only "good substitutions," and that the problem with the spaces is their lack of cohesion.

To visit the student center webpage, go to StudentCentered.GooglePages.com.

rbykowski@chroniclemail.com

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» CENTER:

Continued from PG. 3

Student organizations say current spaces make it difficult to increase student involvement

one," said Lara Magyar, SGA vice president.

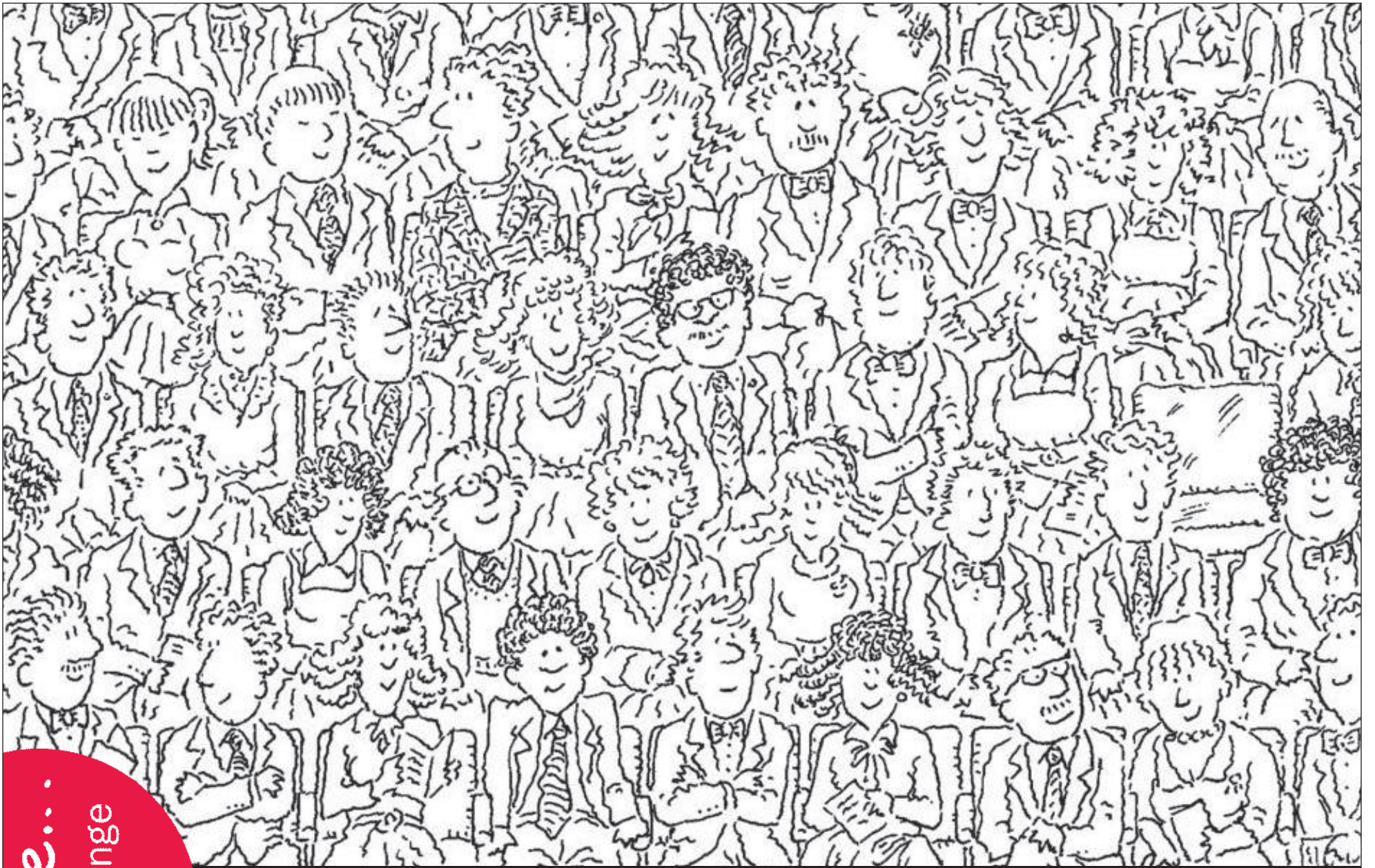
According to the student organizations, no details about the proposed student center, from cost to location to what it would contain, has been determined.

During a Feb. 25 meeting between members of the SGA, Student Organization Council and the Student Alumni Office, potential amenities discussed included food outlets, studio spaces, meeting spaces, classrooms and a 24-hour computer lab.

The meeting also discussed the potential of putting student-related offices and services, such as the Portfolio Center, that are spread out across campus under one roof. From a student organization standpoint, Brittney Sherman, the SOC chair, finds the current setup to be lacking.

"We have close to 90 organizations and

PORTFOLIO CENTER



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Student Government Association presents

Dr. Warrick Carter's State of the College Address

Wednesday, March 19, 2008
1104 Conaway Center
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.



A shade closer to green

by Miles Maftan
Assistant Campus News Editor

IN AN effort to reduce the amount of energy and use sustainable materials in buildings on campus, Columbia joined the U.S. Green Building Council to continue its quest to become more environmentally aware.

In January, Columbia partnered with the USGBC, a nonprofit organization that works to certify homes, hospitals, schools and sustainable businesses as institutions that address the importance of reducing the amount of energy they consume.

In response to the partnership, Columbia will soon begin two projects that will follow the strict Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system by expanding its green building practices. Both projects, headed by the office of Campus Environment, will reduce the amount of energy and use sustainable materials at Columbia. One project, on the fifth floor of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, will see eco-friendly renovations. The other project will be in the yet-to-be-built Media Production Center, and will be designed from the ground up to be green.

"We are very committed to sustainability, so it is just a natural partnership," said Joseph Leamanczyk, project manager of the office of Campus Environment.

Leamanczyk said he has been contacted by many programs and organizations around campus that have asked how they can become involved. Many want to work sustainability into their programs.

"This offers them the opportunity to take

advantage of a lot of the USGBC programs and resources," Leamanczyk said.

According to Leamanczyk, USGBC offers many seminars, lectures and conferences to attend. Since Columbia is a member of the USGBC, any member of the community, including students, will get a discount when they attend.

Since Columbia joined the USGBC, Leamanczyk has not had a chance to meet with individual groups. Universities and colleges around Columbia have also joined the USGBC to become greener.

"[The schools are] helping out an organization who is working to further the building industry and thinking about sustainable buildings and the future of design and construction," said Taryn Holowka, director of Communications of the USGBC.

Holowka said the partnership brings other opportunities for students. A "green build" conference, which is offered annually has design competitions primarily for students who are in architectural classes. Students can design a "green" project and present it during the conference. The works will be displayed for all the attendees.

"It's an opportunity for students to get some experience," Holowka said.

Being a member of the USGBC means that the college will become more responsive to being environmentally aware of their surroundings, according to Leamanczyk.

"It really is up to us to make our campus better for the environment," said Bob Berry, a freshman film and video major.

mmaftan@chroniclemail.com



FEATURE PHOTO - *Biggest Mouth auditions*

Student musician Jake Marquis tries out for a spot on the upcoming Biggest Mouth event Feb. 26 in the Hokin Annex at the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. Students who are chosen to perform on April 17 will be compete for \$1,000.

Dan Thompson THE CHRONICLE

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Student government weighs in on Wackenhut

Members of the senate unhappy with choice of security

by Tim Bearden
Assistant Campus News Editor

THE STUDENT Government Association approved a resolution on behalf of the college's students asking the administration to switch security companies.

Columbia's current security company is Wackenhut Corporation, which is the second largest private security firm in the United States, according to EyeOnWackenhut.org.

Miles Vance, a senior fine arts major and art and design senator, presented the resolution to the SGA at the senate meeting on Feb. 26. He cited the worker rights violation—the de-unionization of Wackenhut employees—as a reason to remove the company as Columbia's security provider.

SGA President Brian Matos said he was glad the students are on the right side of the issue.

"I'm happy the students are standing for workers' rights," he said. "However, P-Fac has already tried to appeal to this aspect of the issue without success."

After presenting the resolution, Vance quoted a letter written by P-Fac's Steering Committee addressed to President Warrick L. Carter regarding the faculty organization's dissatisfaction when Wackenhut employees at Columbia lost their union rights last spring.

"P-Fac believes that this treatment of the guards is not only unjust, but also puts



The Student Government Association passed a resolution to remove the Wackenhut Corporation, Columbia's security provider, from campus at its meeting on Feb. 26 in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

the safety of the college in jeopardy," Vance quoted from the P-Fac letter. "If the college ignores this situation, we can expect higher turnover and certainly a lack of loyalty to the college that didn't support

its guards."

The resolution also included a letter from Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment, who responded to the issues P-Fac presented. Rachel Stapinski, senator

at-large, read the letter for the senate.

"First, let me assure you that the safety of Columbia's students, faculty and staff

» SEE WACKENHUT, PG. 13

SUMMER & FALL 2008

It's almost time to REGISTER!

What you need to know:

Your registration time slots for both summer and fall semesters can be obtained in March by going to the *Register for Classes* screen on OASIS (under CX-Enrollment). Set the options to *Summer or Fall 2008*. Time slots are based on your cumulative credit hours. Emails with your summer and fall registration time slots, and other registration information, will also be sent. If you have problems logging into your email account, please contact OASIS User Support at 312-344-7788.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: Registration time slots do not apply to graduate students. All continuing graduate students register beginning March 17 for the summer semester, and April 7 for the fall.

SUMMER 2008

Seniors **Monday, March 17 - beginning at 8 a.m.**
 Juniors **Tuesday, March 18 - beginning at 8 a.m.**
 2BA/PCRT **Tuesday, March 18 - beginning at 1 p.m.**
 Sophomores **Wednesday, March 19 - beginning at 8 a.m.**
 Freshmen **Thursday, March 20 - beginning at 8 a.m.**
 Open Registration **Thursday, March 20 - beginning at 1 p.m.**

The above time slots will remain open for summer registration until Wednesday, May 28 at 11:59 p.m. (CST).

FALL 2008

Continuing degree-seeking undergrad registration begins **Monday, April 7**

Open Registration (all students including degree-seeking & students at large) begins **Monday, August 18**

The above time slots will remain open for fall registration until Monday, September 8 at 11:59 p.m. (CST).

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

FOR FALL ONLY

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

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Columbia 

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

'Self' to be discussed

by Andrew Haataja
Staff Writer

COLUMBIA PROFESSORS, in association with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, will be attempting to decipher the meaning of self with a joint lecture and panel discussion entitled "Self, Selves and Soul: An Exploration of Identity" on March 5.

The lecture will be lead by Andrew Causey, Bill Hayashi and Rami Gabriel, three Columbia professors. Causey is part of Columbia's Liberal Education Department and Cultural Studies Department, while the other two teachers are from the Liberal Education Department.

Although they are all colleagues at Columbia, they come from diverse backgrounds. Gabriel has a background in psychology, Hayashi in religious studies and Causey in anthropology.

"In all of our different specialties, we all think about the self in very different ways," Gabriel said.

The goal of the panelists, according to Gabriel, is to discuss the notion of self from each of their different backgrounds and to find the similarities and differences in each notion of the self.

The panelists will each have a 15-minute time slot to present their viewpoints on the topic.

Causey will discuss the idea of self through a discussion of the Toba Batak culture of Northern Sumatra, a group he has studied extensively. Gabriel will be discussing the idea of self as it relates to our modern society and Hayashi will discuss

the notion of self in relation to the mystic traditions of Shiva, one of the principle deities in Hinduism.

"Coming at the topic of self from three different directions, it will be interesting not only to give my view on it, but to hear the other panelists' views," Causey said. "I'll be there as much to learn as to educate."

After each have given their perspective on the self, the three will have a joint discussion and attempt to find a common ground of what it is in modern society. Remaining time will be available for audience comments and questions.

The lecture is part of the Intersections lecture series, a program that was launched in 2002 by the then newly formed Cultural Studies Department and is sponsored by the Chicago Cultural Center.

According to Micki Levanthal, the director of Media Relations, Intersections has been a great success in the last five years.

"We wanted lectures in the series to appeal to wide audiences," Levanthal said. "There are many people who engage in lifelong learning and just love to learn. The Intersections program brings topics and information into that realm of public learning."

"Self, Selves and Soul: An Exploration of Identity" will take place at 6 p.m. in the Garland Room at the Chicago Cultural Center, located on the first floor of 78 E. Washington St. The event is free and open to the public. For more information on the event, call the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs at (312) 744-6630.

chronicle@colum.edu



FEATURE PHOTO - Board game club

Abbey Hambricht plays a light-hearted game of Apples to Apples at the first meeting of Let's Play A Board Game, a new club at Columbia that does exactly that on Feb. 26 at the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

Dan Thompson THE CHRONICLE

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Story Week is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. Story Week is sponsored in part by the Chicago Public Library and Metro. Host Hotel: Located downtown 1 block from Columbia College and within easy proximity to many major attractions, the Hilton Chicago offers historic luxury and contemporary amenities. For reservations call 877-865-5321.



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» WACKENHUT:

Continued from PG. 10

College convinced Wackenhut is capable security

is of paramount importance to the college and we would never allow it to be jeopardized," Stapinski quoted from Berg's letter. "I am sure you would agree that the guards assigned to Columbia are doing a fine job of protecting the safety of our community."

Tessana Nemenski, a former senator at-large, said she has seen and documented "lapses of security" at Columbia. She also said she had forwarded those to Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety and Security.

Meegan said she hasn't received any e-mails of that nature in the last six months.

Matos officially vetoed the resolution on Feb. 28, although it passed by majority vote, because he thinks that student safety is more important in light of the Northern Illinois University and Virginia Tech shootings.

He said he plans to offer a new resolution that encompasses this issue.

"Because of the events at several campuses now, campus safety and security is a major issue," Matos said. "That is why this is coming up now specifically. Secondly, we have heard for years that students don't look at our security provider and security guards as people who can respond to various emergencies. So they don't have a great deal of confidence in the current security that we have."

Matos offered a draft resolution stat-



Miles Vance videotaped SGA's Feb. 26 meeting discussing the private security firm Wackenhut.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

ing the problems, as well as solutions, and e-mailed it to SGA members on Feb. 28.

He has asked that the Student Affairs Committee draft an official resolution and has created the new non-voting seat of

Student Security Liaison to inform administrators of students' security concerns. The position is appointed, and has yet to be filled.

In the new resolution, Matos asks that the number of security personnel be increased to "ensure posts are never vacant and students can always be seconds away from communicating with [security officers]."

Mark Lloyd, associate vice president and chief marketing officer for College Communication and Marketing, is not sure if it's a reasonable request.

"That may or may not be possible, no matter how many security officers we were to have at a post in a lobby," he said. "If we had two of them down there and there were two students on the 12th floor and one on the 14th floor who needed special services, we would have a vacant station in the lobby. So what is reasonable for us to deliver? But we welcome the opportunity to have dialogue with our students."

Matos said he understands that "enough" security is a hard term to define, but if there's more than one incident per building, the current amount of staffing could be a concern.

According to Lloyd, Columbia has taken precautionary measures to ensure student safety with its emergency notification system via text message or e-mail, a proposed system that will alert students via speakers and televisions in any public place on campus (including bathrooms), and the Chicago 911 response system, which includes police, fire and paramedics.

"We think we've done a lot of the right things here," he said. "It's virtually impossible in our society today to guarantee there will never be a crisis on campus, but have we taken prudent steps to minimize that

risk? We think so."

Matos said he's also concerned about the level of training the guards have received and feels that Columbia needs a security company that has experience in urban campus environments.

According to Lloyd, the guards are trained in a variety of areas such as CPR, first aid response, handcuff usage and workplace violence.

He also said five senior officers have undergone terrorism awareness training with the Chicago Police Department

However, Wackenhut guards on the campus do not carry firearms, according to Lloyd.

He said the college relies on the Chicago Police Department for that kind of protection. The college is located in District 1.

"District 1 is one of the safest districts in the city of Chicago," Lloyd said.

The new resolution may not go back for vote for at least another two weeks.

Matos said he wants to ensure that the Student Affairs Committee can "take their time and present a solid case" including student testimonials.

According to Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, the college has been working on a request for proposal, or RFP, which is like a bid of sorts, for an alternative security company.

Lloyd said the RFP has been developed, but has yet to be sent out.

"We have been evaluating looking into our options," he said. "But we haven't sent anything out yet."

He also said he wasn't sure which companies were on the short list to receive RFPs.

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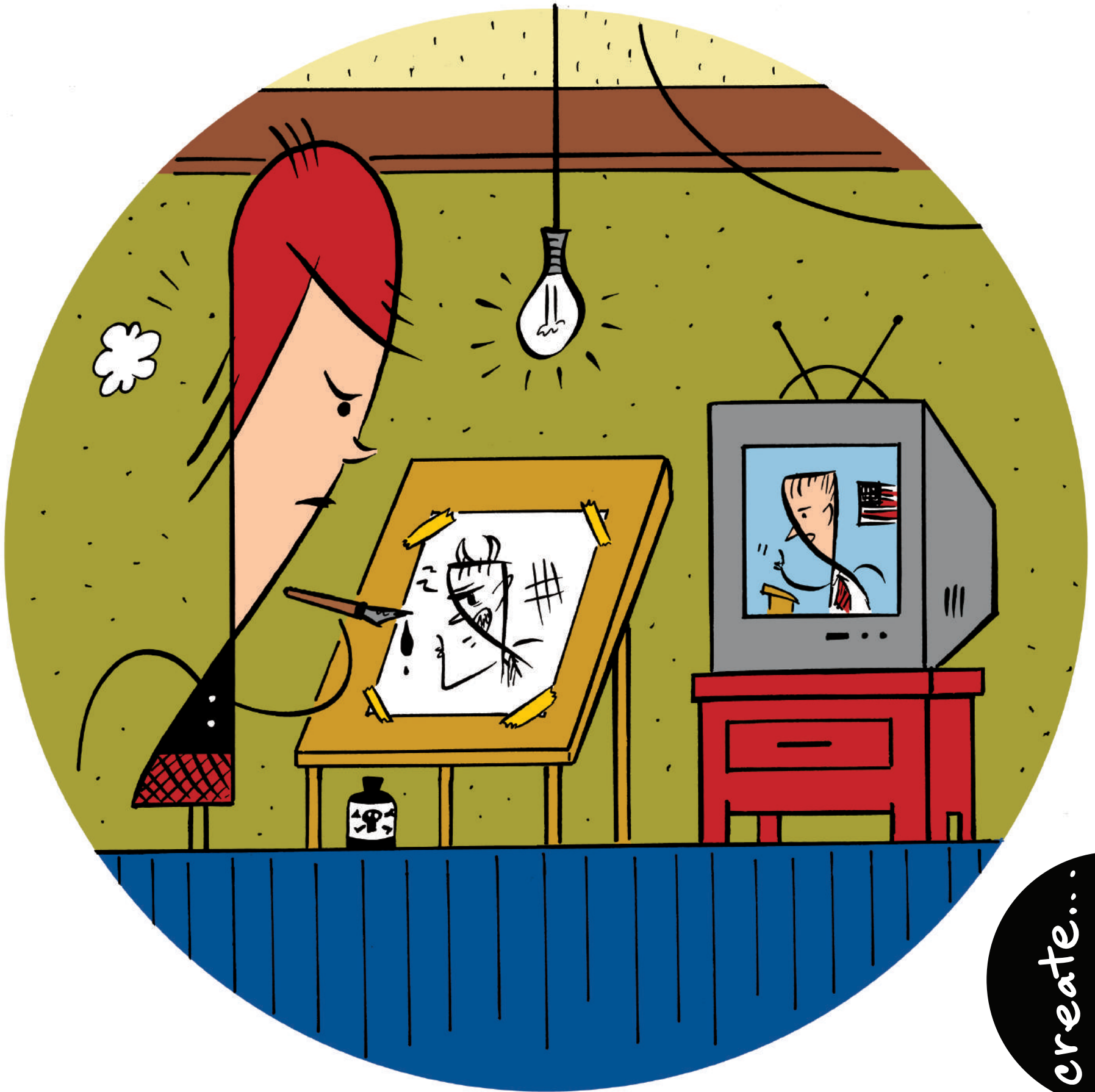
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Artwork by Ivan Brunetti

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Arts & Entertainment



Columbia graduate Evan Dollard climbs the wall on 'American Gladiators.' Dollard won the reality TV competition, taking home \$100,000 and a Toyota Sequoia.

Columbia's very own 'gladiator'

Alumnus wins big on NBC's reality TV competition

by Derek Kucynda
Assistant A&E Editor

THE STUDIO lights shone bright as Evan Dollard stepped out into the Gauntlet, a closed arena filled with menacing, muscled gladiators. Knowing that his strength would be tested by the powerful opponents, Dollard relied on his speed, skill and endurance to break through the challengers to reach the foam wall and take home a victory for Chicago.

Dollard, a retail manager who graduated from Columbia with a degree in marketing communications, is the male winner of the television revival of "American Gladiators," where he won \$100,000 and a Toyota Sequoia. According to Dollard, he came from a family that relied on endurance, even to survive.

Even though Dollard trained intensely to be a part of the show, he said "American Gladiators" was merely a performance and nothing compared to what his mother went through during chemotherapy.

Dollard said he sees his mother, who passed away from cancer, and aunt as heroes who motivated him. He said his aunt, who passed away from cancer 15 months after his mother did, never let her cancer stop her in her tracks and "tear her life apart."

Dollard spoke with The Chronicle about some scary moments on "American Gladiators," the Facebook attention he has received and his experiences at Columbia.

The Chronicle: What moments on "American Gladiators" were particularly enjoyable or terrifying?

Evan Dollard: There were plenty of scary and enjoyable moments. To be honest, the whole experience was so fun. To be in an environment like that, which is something I wanted to do for a long time, was so super exciting for me. To have a platform like that with intense physical competition, a live performance with a gladiator in a gladiator arena, [with] the audience there—it was a huge rush, no doubt about it.

[As for the] scary moments, the way the filming was set up, I was the first competitor in any event to compete in the gladiator arena, and that [event] was the gauntlet. At that point, they kept the gladiator hidden from the competitors, and when these four behemoths [came] running out into the gauntlet, I was blown away.

If you were asked to return to "American Gladiators" for another season, would you take the offer?

I would love to come back and compete again and go against other competitors. [However,] I don't fit the profile of a gladiator, so I don't think they would invest in me full-time, but there is a chance to come back as an event specialist or maybe just do the wall and the rings, [since] they are my two top events. There is no doubt in my mind

Courtesy NBC: TRAY PATTON

» SEE GLADIATOR, PG. 21



Seriously?

by Jessica Galliard
A&E Editor

Laugh out loud for life

At the start of every year, I tell myself, "This is your year. You're going to refrain from eating those mashed potato bowls at KFC, you're going to hit the snooze button 11 times each morning, as opposed to 28, and, most importantly, you're not going to be a Debbie Downer when things get tough."

Well, 2008 isn't off to a great start. I've probably eaten approximately 17 and one-half of those delicious potato bowls, and I've already slammed my alarm clock against the wall after snoozing about 18 times one particular morning. But even though this year has already been filled with seemingly one tragedy after another—with the deaths of Heath Ledger, Brad Renfro and the five students at Northern Illinois University on Feb. 14—I have managed to keep myself on the up-and-up with one major thing, which is sometimes deemed obnoxious or even intolerable by others—I laugh.

I laugh loudly. My laugh is boisterous, hearty and quite animated. I like to think that when I feel the urge to laugh, you know, those laughs that originate from deep down in your gut and slowly move up through your body to the point of explosion from your mouth, that I might be able to infect someone in my vicinity who needs a good

chuckle at that moment. After all, laughter is supposedly the best medicine.

So if laughter is such a positive thing for us, why is it quickly becoming the uncool thing to do? When we laugh at ourselves for a screw-up or spew out a jolly chuckle in response to a comment from a friend, why do we feel the need to suppress our laughter for the sake of being cool?

I recently went out on the town with a few co-workers to go shopping. I had just bought a pair of beautiful new tan boots to wear that day, and although the heels were killing me, I decided to be a trooper and stick with them.

But as we were walking down Michigan Avenue, I realized the bottoms of these boots didn't have very strong grips to keep my feet from sliding on the pavement, and since I'm the clumsiest doofus you will ever meet, I was cautious to take my next step.

Next thing I know, I'm mid-air in the middle of a busy Michigan Avenue sidewalk about to faceplant amidst a crowd of snap-happy tourists. I let out a decently loud screech before hitting my knee on the ground and wrenching my face in pain. After the initial impact, I wasn't quite sure what to do, as my knee felt like it was dipped

in oil and set on fire and everyone around me just stopped to stare at this mess of a girl who just ate the concrete.

So I did what I know best: ripped a gut-busting laugh. I threw my head back and laughed at the cruel, evening sky for the personal and humiliating tragedy that had just occurred.

Although I was obviously in good spirits after this train wreck, passersby looked at me in a perplexing, disgusted way. They asked "Are you OK?" in that way where they clearly are not concerned about your bloody knee but are instead pointing out how much of an idiot you look like as you bleed on the pavement.

Since I can laugh at myself as I'm bleeding onto the ground and I can show my affection for another person with a hearty giggle, what's the harm? If anything, laughing while the whole world seems to be falling apart is therapeutic.

So the next time passersby give me the "stink eye" as I laugh at myself for tripping over an invisible pebble and a sad hipster idiot thinks less of me for letting a loud one rip, I'll just wipe the emotions off my face and say, "That's funny."

jgalliard@chroniclemail.com



Chrissy knows best

by Chrissy Mahlmeister
Managing Editor

Hey celebrities, stop stealing my job

Something you know: Angelina Jolie is dating Brad Pitt, is currently showing off her new baby bump and is known for her plump lips and extensive acting career.

Something you don't know: She's trying to steal my job.

OK, that may be a bit dramatic. It's not like she's applying to be the managing editor of *The Chronicle*, but she is taking a coveted position that many journalists spend years in school trying to get: a voice in the *Washington Post*. Jolie submitted an Op-Ed piece on Feb. 28 about helping in Iraq as a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ambassador and, more importantly, it got published. She makes a good point that we "have a moral obligation to help displaced Iraqi families" and name drops meeting the Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and Gen. David Petraeus, but why did she have to use the newspaper to get her voice heard?

She's a celebrity and already has many media outlets to hear her story. It's surprising she took the media into her own hands

and wanted to write about how she felt instead of just being written about because, apparently, that's just not enough.

Most journalists would kill for the opportunity to travel overseas to hang out with Iraqi families, hear stories about their lives and write about it. We would love to chat with prime ministers and commissioners about the hardships Iraqis face. But Jolie kept referring to the whole situation as her "trip," as if it were just another vacation spot where she spent some time soaking in the culture for fun.

Jolie could have easily posted about this in a blog, or told some journalists what she was up to all this time in the Middle East. But maybe she did and realized it wasn't newsworthy enough. Maybe this is just giving the world a big slap in the face to prove, as a celebrity, she's actually trying to make a difference. Well, Jolie should prove her worthiness elsewhere.

Journalists spend many hours at an unpaid internship, maybe even two, to earn enough respect to land a paid one. Then

they might slowly work their way up the staff, if they can prove themselves, or try to freelance for more notable publications. But for any college journalist, getting an article in the *Washington Post* is a dream.

Now, this is purely jealousy that I am writing from. We send cover letter after cover letter and story pitch after story pitch to these large publications only to be thrown in a pile of papers the editor will never read—but we've got a lot to say too. Does this mean the fast track to journalism is making out with my brother on the red carpet like Jolie did? That seems pretty professional. Jolie has a notable name, so she can steal a precious spot in a newspaper, just because. The typical journalist could really use the money from a freelance article to pay off their school loans or, for some, just to eat.

It's not an easy world for writers, and we have to fight for what we can. Give a voice to the voiceless. We wouldn't be here if we had nothing to say.

cmahlmeister@chroniclemail.com

ROAMIN' NUMERALS

The number of alterations made to a badge for Sweden's Nordic Battlegroup. According to a Swedish news outlet, heraldists were outraged when the penis was removed from the lion depicted on a badge of the military group's coat of arms. The National Archives staff is urging the group to "re-erect the lion's member on its insignia."

1

The amount of Best Picture awards won by *No Country for Old Men* before it was given the top prize at this year's Oscars. Who knew that a dark, sweaty tale about desperate men chasing each other with cattle guns around a desolate landscape could capture the hearts of cinephiles across the globe?

21

The sum of money a 7-year-old in Carpentersville, Ill., owes in back-taxes. According to WBBM News Radio 780, the second-grader has been the victim of identity theft since 2001. A 29-year-old in Streamwood, Ill., has been accused of using the boy's ID to purchase a truck and pay bills.

60,000

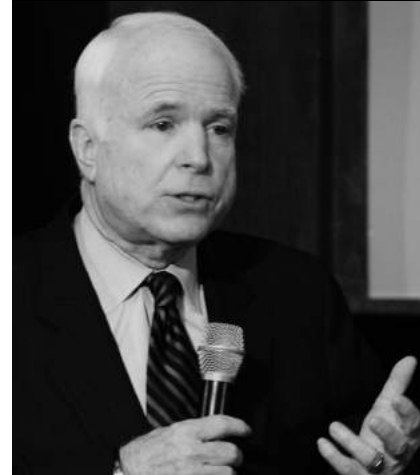


THAT THING YOU DO! E! 3/3 at 7 p.m.

Some films work best on television, and this irresistible charmer, written, directed and starring Tom Hanks, is such a flick. Its nostalgia-filled tale of a one-hit wonder band in the '60s offers the small-scale delight tailor-made for a TV screen. It's guaranteed to brighten your Monday.



PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY COVERAGE CNN 3/4 at 7 p.m.



This is the type of vital coverage worth leaving on in your dorm room while finishing homework. The results will determine the winners in Ohio, Texas, Rhode Island and Vermont. Will it be Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama? John McCain or Ron Paul? The suspense is building ...

SISTER ACT 2: BACK IN THE HABIT MyTV 3/6 at 7 p.m.

Everyone has a guilty cinematic pleasure from childhood. Whoopi Goldberg hamming it up in a habit is certainly one, or perhaps two of them. This sequel to the 1992 crowd-pleaser may be a rip-off of *The Bells of St. Mary's*, but it's worth seeing for the spirited music, game cast and dialogue like, "You don't have to bite the doughnut to know it's sweet."

FUNNIEST COMMERCIALS OF THE YEAR TBS 3/7 at 9 p.m.

Yes, it's that time of year when the most entertaining forms of televised advertising is celebrated at great length by host Kevin Nealon. Come watch and celebrate your fellow American Eagle men!

BILLY GRAHAM MARCH TELEVISION SPECIAL WCIU 3/9 at 7:30 p.m.

What do Matthew West, Michael O'Brien and Third Day have in common? They're all performing on Rev. Billy's latest special to teach all you heathens about pursuing happiness.

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RHP Kerry Wood

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	31 MIL ● 1:20	1	2 MIL ■ 1:20	3 MIL ● 1:20	4 HOU ■ 1:20	5 HOU ■ 12:05
6 HOU ● 1:20	7 PIT ● 12:35	8	9 PIT + 6:05	10 PIT ● 6:05	11 PHI ■ 6:05	12 PHI ● 6:05
13 PHI ■ 12:35	14	15 CIN ■ 7:05	16 CIN + 7:05	17 CIN ● 1:20	18 PIT ● 1:20	19 PIT ■ 12:05
20 PIT ● 1:20	21 NYM ○ 6:05	22 NYM ■ 1:20	23 COL + 7:35	24 COL ● 2:05	25 WSH ■ 6:35	26 WSH ■ 6:10
27 WSH ● 12:35	28	29 MIL ■ 7:05	30 MIL ○ 7:05	March/April		

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				May		
				1 MIL ● 1:20	2 STL ● 7:15	3 STL ◆ 2:45
4 STL ▲ 7:05	5 CIN ○ 6:10	6 CIN ■ 6:10	7 CIN ■ 11:35	8	9 AZ ● 1:20	10 AZ ■ 12:05
11 AZ ● 1:20	12 SD ■ 7:05	13 SD ■ 7:05	14 SD ○ 7:05	15 SD ■ 1:20	16 PIT ● 1:20	17 PIT ■ 12:05
18 PIT ● 1:20	19 HOU ■ 6:05	20 HOU ● 7:05	21 HOU ■ 7:05	22	23 PIT ■ 6:05	24 PIT ● 6:05
25 PIT ● 12:35	26 LAD ● 1:20	27 LAD ■ 6:05	28 LAD ● 7:05	29 COL ■ 7:05	30 COL ■ 1:20	31 COL ■ 12:05

Schedule key: ■ Regular home game ■ Prime home game ■ Value home game □ Road game

Broadcast key: ● WGN ■ Comcast SportsNet + Comcast SportsNet Plus* ○ WCIU ◆ FOX (Saturday regional) ▲ ESPN

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REVIEWS



SIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD



WORTH A GIGGLE



HAPPY DANCE!

PRINT



TIME STYLE & DESIGN ISSUE

God, I love Time's special issues, and that's an understatement. On the cover is one of my favorite punk models, Agnès B. Deleury, who is not only in the articles, but in the ads too. I can't get enough of her! The cover story is on the generation of twenty-somethings that have an obsessive need for material goods—like this issue of Time! —C. Mahlmeister



ANNE RICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Anne Rice, author of the famous *The Vampire Chronicles*, has announced she will write one last book about the beloved blood-sucking hotness that is Lestat. I have long been a fan of the mysterious seductive power these books have, and I am thrilled to know that I will be able to read more about Lestat. —C. Shively



JESSICA GALLIART'S AT-A-GLANCE CALENDAR

We all try to stay relatively organized here at The Chronicle, and Jessica Gallart's calendar takes the prize. It's super-sized, and whenever she points out a story's deadline, she'll say "It'll come in HE-ah!" The calendar—and the accompanying voice—are recommended for all. —A. Maurer



MOVIES / DVD / TV



'JUMPER' DIRECTED BY DOUG LIMAN

Remember wanting your one superpower to be teleporting? This film certainly took this dream and made it a reality—or at least attempted. Hayden Christensen, although adorable, helped butcher this ill-equipped script, making you wish you never spent the 10 bucks or the two hours. —L. Murphy



'PROJECT RUNWAY' SEASON 4 FINALE, PART 1

My so-called twin brother Christian is still in the mix and that's all I care about. I'm not surprised Rami was chosen as the third designer to show during Fashion Week. However, this episode lacked the suspenseful element of "Project Runway." I knew what was going to happen the entire time, especially since Chris' collection was made from human hair. —B. Schlikerman



'SLIPSTREAM' ON DVD

Sir Anthony Hopkins writes, directs and stars in this amazingly intricate and mind-warping film. It's the tale of a writer who may be living within his own novel or having hardcore hallucinations. Watch and decide, but it's not leaving my DVD player until it melts. —M. Mielke



MUSIC



PAINT IT BLACK: 'NEW LEXICON'

With Paint It Black, you know what you're getting, and what you're getting is fast, angry, politically charged no-nonsense hardcore music. Frontman Dan Yemin comes off as infinitely more agitated and biting than he did on their last album, *Paradise*, and the album is better for it. —R. Bykowski



JAMES AT WAR

Watch out "Weird Al," you have a rival and it's James at War. This YouTube.com and MySpace.com song parodist has limited fame and no fortune but a brilliant sense of humor. My favorite is "Shatner Back," a parody of Justin Timberlake's "Sexy Back." Also, check out one of his recent spoofs, "Popstar." —T. Bearden



'THIS AMERICAN LIFE' PODCAST

Every week, one of my co-workers and I commiserate about our experiences making jerks of ourselves while listening to "This American Life" podcasts on public transportation. When a radio show can prompt me to look like a crazy person laughing in public, I know it's doing something right. —R. Strecher



RANDOM



OSCARS' SNUBS

The Oscars' numerous "Whoopsies" were the main problem that plagued the show. During a montage depicting memorable past Oscar moments, Whoopi Goldberg, the recipient of one Oscar who has been nominated twice before and hosted the show four times, was left out of the video. Shame on you, Academy. —C. Shively



'PROFESSOR LAYTON AND THE CURIOUS VILLAGE' FOR NINTENDO DS

Video game developer Level 5 has extended beyond its usual comfort zone and developed a refreshingly whimsical adventure hybrid with an impressive art style. It encompasses the gameplay that is largely comprised of challenging math and logic puzzles. —R. Bykowski



STUFFWHITEPEOPLELIKE.WORDPRESS.COM

This hilarious, satirical website pokes fun at the foibles of modern yuppies who think they are singularly unique individuals. The blog is not for people who like being reminded that they are part of a larger group. And what do white people like? Gentrification, threatening to move to Canada and knowing what's best for poor people. —S. Harvey



Film review



Dennis Quaid (right) plays a secret service agent swept up in an international crisis in 'Vantage Point.'

MCT

No 'Point' of view

'Vantage Point' makes a splash in the shallow end of the pool

by Wes Giglio
Commentary Editor

VANTAGE POINT is a mediocre action film that tries to combine simplistic political intrigue with car chases and shoot-'em-up set pieces. It's a shame because the story could have easily been about more than an adrenaline rush. *Vantage Point* has references to news media spin, presidential power, international politics and terrorism. But the filmmakers never examine any of those issues. They passed up the chance to make something meaningful, choosing instead to make something as inoffensive and easily digestible as possible.

The story is told from the perspectives of eight different characters who all witness the same event (an assassination), a narrative structure that brings to mind Akira Kurosawa's *Rashomon*. But where *Rashomon* used its storytelling to reveal something about human nature, *Vantage Point* uses it as a way to shed light on only a few aspects of the event at a time.

The film takes place in Spain, where the U.S. president is meant to give a speech announcing "a historic agreement" between the United States and several other countries to work together against terrorism. The president is shot, the crowd panics and the secret service springs into action trying to find the shooter.

This is where the multiple perspective angle takes over the movie. We see through the eyes of a veteran secret service agent, one of the terrorists, a Spanish cop, a tourist, etc. The segments are not shown in chronological order, and plot points are given out sparingly, so the viewer doesn't know the whole truth about the assassination until the end of the film.

Vantage Point was directed by Pete Travis, a longtime television director adept at handling multiple storylines. Helming a movie like *Vantage Point* means being a field general, and Travis shows a real talent for shifting between locations, scenes and characters without ever losing the story or boring his audience.

However, for all his abilities as a story manager, Travis shows no facility at directing actors. This can be seen most clearly in the performances of Dennis Quaid and Matthew Fox, who act like they weren't given any direction at all. They play everything absolutely straight, exactly the way it's written. Even when Fox's character is revealed to be a double agent, his demeanor doesn't change—when a colleague dies in Quaid's arms, a furrowed brow is all he has to offer in the way of emotion.

Forest Whitaker, despite showing his range in *The Last King of Scotland*, again plays the gentle giant. His performance is the best by default—his is the only character given a background story or a motivation beyond his job. In *Vantage Point*, he alone is a person; everyone else is just a cog in the machine. Of course, in this movie, the machine is the point.

The same drive to keep the story moving that keeps the film from examining its subjects also hurts the movie in another way by keeping the audience's intellectual engagement at bay. The sequencing of the different vantage points keeps the audience in the dark about the reasons for the attack and the identities of the terrorists, and the film never gives them any clues about either. The audience is never allowed to guess what's happening to the various characters they're following; they have to wait for the film to tell them.

The result is that when a character sees something significant (these moments are always punctuated with an "Oh my God!" or a "Stop right there!"), it's not meaningful to the audience. At these moments, the film literally rewinds and starts all over again from a different character's perspective. Later, when the significance of those moments is revealed, it's in the most obvious ways, often with an accompanying monologue from the character we're following. When Whitaker witnesses an off-screen shooting, for instance, he mumbles to himself, even though the audience has heard the gunshots and the groans, "They shot him. He's been shot."

Vantage Point is designed, like most television shows, to stop the audiences from thinking. Or, more accurately, to make thinking unnecessary. The makers of *Vantage Point* think they're satisfying moviegoers by giving them the answers and grabbing their attention with shoot-outs and chase sequences. In reality, it just keeps them on the hook, hoping for a payoff on their investment that never comes.

Vantage Point succeeds at creating exciting action scenes and avoiding plot redundancy. It's not a bad movie, but it's unambitious and lacks the intelligence that could have elevated it to something more than a summer blockbuster wannabe.

jgiglio@chroniclemail.com

FILM BITS

'Vantage Point'

Director: Pete Travis
Running time: 90 minutes

Rating: PG-13
Now playing in local theaters



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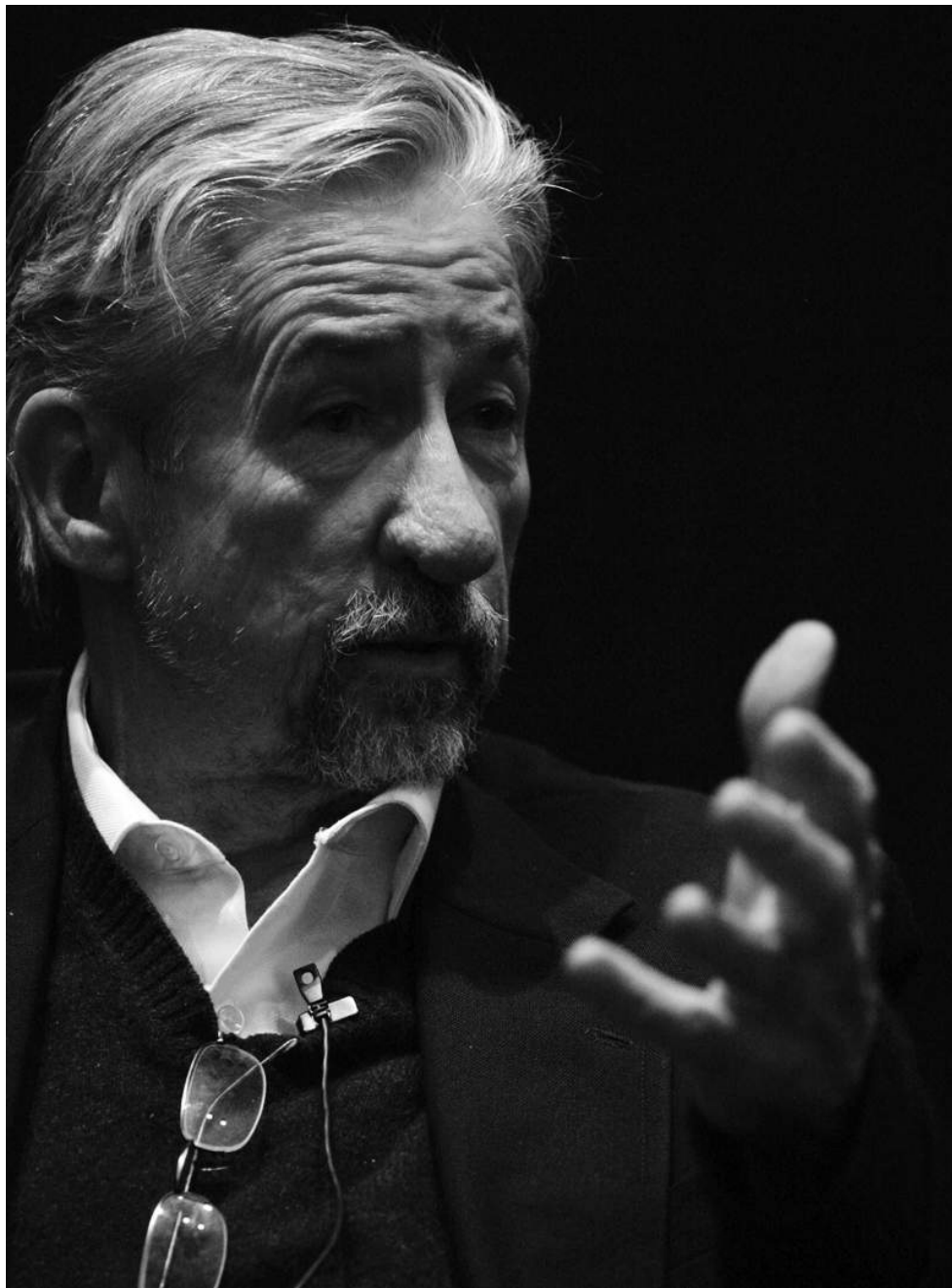
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Past versus present activism

TOM HAYDEN of the 1968 Chicago Eight made an appearance at a panel discussion following the screening of the film *Chicago 10*. The film, directed by Brett Morgan, is a documentary mixed with animation to depict the trial of the Chicago eight and the protests that led to the trial.

After the film, a Q&A session was held with activist Tom Hayden, Sudan Divestment Task Force's Adam Sterling, and

moderated by NPR's Scott Simon. They discussed comparisons between the activist movement of today and that of 1968. The panelists also discussed what a movement needs to do in order to be successful. Both panelists agreed that in order to accomplish anything politically, it must be financially advantageous for the party to do so.

—T. Hunt



Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

PREMIUM BLEND

Gypsi Fari Reggae Band

After working with one of the greatest musical icons in the world 30 years ago, the Gypsi Fari Reggae Band are still playing music today.

Gypsi Fari Reggae Band were mentored and toured with music legend Bob Marley and his band, The Wailers, before his death in 1981. Taking what they have learned from Marley, they brought their talent and what they learned to form Gypsi Fari. Through the years, band members have come and gone, and the original members, founder and lead vocalist Leroy Webster, and percussionist and vocalist Floyd Donaldson, recently added four Columbia students to the band: percussionist Chris Harris, piano/organ/harmonium player Charlie Coffeen, guitarist Tim Smisek and bassist Garrett McGinn.

The Chronicle spoke with Webster about playing reggae in America, finding new talent and the night he spent with Bob Marley that forever changed Gypsi Fari.

Q The Chronicle: How did Gypsi Fari begin as a band?

Leroy Webster: I came back to Chicago in 1975, and I started writing and putting music to my poetry. I [found] a drummer and a bass player and we changed from calypso folk to reggae, and since then [we've] had new band members come in.

Q Who are some of your musical influences?

The one who really inspired me was Dan Fogelberg, as [far as] writing was concerned. As music itself is concerned, I would say Bob Marley [and] Third World. I also would like to mention my current band members.

They [are] a big influence on my music and they make my music shine.

Q You recently brought in four new members to the band, all of whom are students from Columbia. Why did you choose to bring them in?

I went through a little change with [our] musicians in Chicago. Musicians are very hard to keep and we went through changes with our bass player and our drummer. At one point, Floyd Donaldson, our percussionist, got in touch with these great musicians, Tim, Garrett and Chris, and they listened to our CDs. They fell in love with [them] and we fell in love with each other and started playing together.

Q You traveled and recorded with Bob Marley and the Wailers in the '70s. What was that experience like for you and the band?

We were the first band in Chicago to play reggae music. As reggae's influence spread, the bass player and the keyboard player went to see Bob Marley perform. Somehow, they got to go backstage and speak to Bob and after talking to him about reggae in Chicago, he wanted to meet me. I went to Madison Square Garden to see him perform, and when we got there, we were invited to see his show that same night. After the show, I was invited to his hotel room. I had Bob hear some of the music I have written. He fell in love with a piece I wrote called "Smoking Boy." He said, "Why don't you come down to Jamaica to record at Tuff Gong Studios [in Kingston, Jamaica]?" Eventually, we went to the studio with a couple of his musicians and recorded and toured afterward.

Q How would you describe your band's sound?

You will hear a little calypso twang in our music. We are influenced by rock 'n' roll and we took a familiar song by Led Zeppelin, "Stairway to Heaven," and we put a reggae spin to it. Gypsi Fari might be a reggae band, but we [incorporate] calypso, hip-hop and R&B [as well].

Q Gypsi Fari was founded more than 30 years ago in 1977. How did you manage to stay together so long?

We've had our ups and downs, but I think I have something to tell the world through my writing and music. If I get knocked down, I'll stand back up. My love for music is what really made me stay and finding

new talent motivated me to keep playing.

Q Reggae was not as popular in the '70s as it is now. What is it about Chicago that attracted Gypsi Fari to play here?

My mother is here. She came from Santo Domingo, and I was born from the island of St. Kitts in the West Indies. She came here, and she liked living here, so that is how I ended up here in Chicago. My love for music led me to reggae, and I enjoy playing music for others and having a good time.

Gypsi Fari will be playing a show at Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St., on March 6 and April 3. The show starts at 9 p.m., and a \$5 donation is suggested.

—D. Kucynda



(Left to right) Garrett McGinn, Floyd Donaldson, Leroy Webster, Chris Harris, Tim Smisek and Charlie Coffeen are part of the Gypsi Fari Reggae Band. They are currently working on their third studio album.

Courtesy GYPSI FARI REGGAE BAND



A model exhibits fashion designed by local students at a fashion show at student housing facility Automatic Lofts, 410 S. Morgan St.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

» FASHION:

Continued from Front

More fashion shows planned, possibly for summer, producer says

his favorite colors, magazines and his mother and grandmother who have been taking him to fashion shows since he was a child.

Bradford describes his clothing as taking the urban look and mixing it with the high fashion couture look. It has an edgy feel, yet it is stylish enough that a person can wear it almost anywhere, he said.

"I grew up with fashion," Bradford said. "It is no surprise that I ended up here at yet another fashion show. It is what I love to do."

Upon graduation, Bradford

hopes to fully develop his clothing line, AUJAJUAN, into a boutique that he plans on opening in Chicago.

"After my clothing becomes popular here, I will take it to New York and everywhere else," Bradford said. "I want to be everywhere."

The Automatic Lofts' management plans on hosting more artistic gatherings that shines attention on new artists. The fashion designers who appeared at the show are going back to their drawing boards and getting ready for their next collection. Some will sell the outfits from the show, but some will just remake them, Nicole said.

"Columbia definitely provided some wonderful designers," Barnes said. "I cannot believe how smoothly it went."

cshively@chroniclemail.com



Evan Dollard concentrates to win the assault event on 'American Gladiators.' Dollard, a Columbia alumnus, was named the winner of the reality TV contest.

Courtesy NBC: TRAY PATTON

» GLADIATOR:

Continued from PG. 15

Hulk offered to help Dollard 'bulk up'

top events. There is no doubt in my mind I could chase down anyone on the wall and rip them off, just by the fact that I don't weigh 250 pounds.

After winning, Hulk Hogan offered to bulk you up. Will you be taking Hogan's offer?

I would love to, especially if they bring me back on different events. Hulk is an American icon, everybody loves Hulk. If he was willing to be my personal trainer for a few weeks, I'd do it in a second.

How are you handling the public attention after winning?

Believe it or not, I've maintained a low profile so far. The most recognition I'm getting is on Facebook. College students [are] sending me messages, and these girls [are] like, "Hey, saw you on 'Gladiator.' You're so cute." I just take it in stride. It's fun to know that they're watching the show and getting a kick out of it. I try not to let it go to my head.

What was your time like as a student at Columbia?

What was nice about Columbia is I jumped into the marketing program right away and my adviser was constantly helping me out. In addition to that, the professors were very professional, and Shawn Platt was one of the public relations professors that I had. He was incredibly helpful, and I became a much stronger writer as a result of being in two of his classes.

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TELEVISION CHICAGO

Crystal Lake man plans micro-car museum

Compact cars get the model treatment in the suburbs

by Jim Butts

ONLY THE mailbox decorated to look like a car hints of the automotive treasures hidden deep within Ken and Sylvia Weger's rural 7-acre property. Down a long, winding driveway at the Wegers' Crystal Lake home stands a giant workshop/garage that Ken calls "the barn." Inside, Ken Weger has gathered dozens of the smallest cars ever built.

"It's the best-kept secret in Crystal Lake," he said.

Weger, 59, is in the midst of creating a private museum dedicated exclusively to "micro-cars."

Such cars, mostly built in Europe, are defined by their small size and small engines. Many of them are smaller than golf carts and go-carts. Some are no bigger than a lawn tractor.

Weger has loved cars since he was a child. When he was younger, he would sit in his yard and identify the make and model of vehicles as they drove down his street.

"I really was interested in cars since I was old enough to walk," he said.

Weger now has a fascination with micro-cars and has dedicated much of his retirement to collecting, repairing and restoring the tiny vehicles.

His collection stands at about 85 vehicles.

"I don't mind what he does," Sylvia Weger said of her husband's passion. "I

wish I was as passionate about something in my life as he is about his cars. He thinks about cars from the time he gets up to the time he goes to bed."

Ken Weger was the primary organizer of a successful micro-car meet-up in 2006 in Crystal Lake. The event attracted a few hundred micro-car enthusiasts and curious onlookers.

Weger has received approval from the Crystal Lake City Council to hold another meet-up in 2010. He hopes to draw an even bigger crowd for the tiny cars. He also hopes that residents will stop by and enjoy the charm that he feels for the miniature cars.

"Our motto is, 'More smiles per mile,'" Weger said.

It's hard not to smile when walking through Weger's barn and examining the almost toy-like collection of micro-cars coming in every design imaginable from bullet-shaped racers to a vehicle with a frame constructed out of the belly of a plane.

Each of the cars has its own story and place in history, such as a group built specifically for invalid veterans returning from World War II.

"It's a part of motoring history that's been saved," Weger said.

With gas prices rising in recent years, both consumers and the auto industry have given smaller model cars more attention.

To Weger, such efforts are long overdue. Some of the decades-old cars in his collection are electric-powered. Others get more than 100 miles per gallon.



Part of a collection of micro-cars is seen Oct. 22 at the home of Ken Weger in Crystal Lake, Ill. Weger, 59, is in the midst of creating a private museum dedicated exclusively to micro-cars, and so far his collection stands at about 85 vehicles.

AP

"The technology has been there," he said. "It's just we've now chosen to use it."

A good example of that technology is the prize of Weger's collection, a fully restored 1960 German-built Messerschmitt Tiger, built by a former military aircraft manufacturer.

"They put their heart, soul, blood and sweat to give people transportation and get them out of the rain," he said of the car, which seats two people like the cockpit of a plane.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Weger worked for 35 years at storage-box supplier Knaack

before selling the company with five other part-owners in 2000. Now retired, he has the disposable income and time to create his collection.

Ken Weger said he had no plans to ever stop collecting micro-cars. Weger's museum plans call for a 15,000-square-foot, two-story building on his property. The building will include room for what Weger hopes will become the world's largest micro-car reference library. The building should be ready sometime this spring.

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A season of versatility

Sleek is in as vests, skirts, jackets dominate the runway for fall

by Donna Kato

EARLY ON during New York's fall Fashion Week, mass retailer Gap presented its fall collection by new designer Patrick Robinson on models posed on a raised platform. The press, buyers and stylists walked around the staged area to get a close look at the anorak jackets, slim-fit cargo pants, chunky sweaters and henleys the company, based in the San Francisco Bay area, plans to offer six months from now.

It wasn't high fashion, and the prices are sure to be far, far less than the average cost of a skirt offered by most of the 100-plus designers who showed this season. But after a week's worth of ready-to-wear collections, the significance of Gap's presentation became apparent: It underscored the intersection of fashion and economic reality, reflecting the current mood among most of us wondering if a recession is about to hit and whether we should save instead of spend. It's also another example of the pairing of accessible fashion with established designers.

For Gap, the show introduced Robinson, who was the designer behind Perry Ellis, Anne Klein and most recently, Paco Rabanne. His name will bring in customers who now think of Gap only for casual wear and basics.

There wasn't a specific direction that emerged from the fall collections this season. The message was one of individuality for the woman who wants to look sleek. With jackets, vests, skirts and trousers overtaking the runways, next fall will mean versatility for those confident enough to mix up proportions and try new shapes.

"There's definitely more of a sportswear than a couture influence this fall," said Tom Julian, longtime fashion analyst and director of trends for McCann Erickson, a global advertising agency. Women are less inclined to be ostentatious and more willing to buy if something looks like a good investment, has versatility and might do for more than a season or two.

While certain luxury goods are still selling well, according to retail analysts, the willy-nilly spending on "It" bags and high-end labels of the moment has slowed, adding pressure on designers to offer just the right items for fall.

"Fashion has been increasingly dressing up for the past several seasons and is in the feminine frame of mind," said June Rau, Nordstrom's fashion director for the western region. "Women will take certain pieces they're familiar with and work it into their wardrobe."

The overall aesthetic is "polished and precisely put together," she added, and what will make a jacket or a skirt look fresh is a color choice, a winter floral print or a fuller, boxier shape.

American designers seem to have decided on a more practical

approach for fall, what with all the basic black, bundled silhouettes and traditional, winter fabrics. Much of it was richly sophisticated, as if they realized that there was more substance to courting a woman rather than an ingenue. Rather than showy gold glitz, it was a warm, mustard-gold shade that prevailed on runways.

Marc Jacobs, whose runway ensembles at first glance always appear odd and unwearable (cocoon-shaped coats with ballooning backs, belted below the hips and long knicker-shorts with dropped crotches), remains the most-watched American designer. For the first time, his slot was the last show of the week this season, and except for a color palette that included winter pastels, his clothes were unlike anything seen all week.

The coats were at once long and lean, voluminous and complicated.



Models display creations from Carolina Herrera during her Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Fall 2008 collection show at Bryant Park in New York City on Feb. 4.

MCT

The evening gowns were melancholy and slinky. And once you got past the tricorne hats and lust-inducing handbags, there were sweaters, pants and jackets that could be construed as ... classics.

While frivolity was scarce on most runways, there were still plenty of fanciful and luxe touches. Metallic jacquards showed up in the collections of Vera Wang and Angel Sanchez. Fringe swung from bags,

boots, skirts and vests at Zac Posen, Anna Sui and Betsey Johnson. Fur and feathers were flying on the catwalks of Badgley Mischka, Monique Lhuillier and Behnaz Sarafpour.

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Recharge your bod-eries

With the winter season almost over, students are keeping busy and trudging through classes, only to find colossal amounts of stress and work weighing them down. With spring in sight, finding the time to slide out of the stupor that snow brings and taking some personal time can work wonders on frazzled students. Places in Chicago can help individuals get back in shape and treat their bodies to some of the more therapeutic spa treatments offered in the city. From practicing yoga in summer-like temperatures to unleashing the inner diva at an unconventional gym, there are trendy and affordable places for students to purge those pores, flex those muscles and mend the mind for a total body makeover.

Story by Derek Kucynda
Graphics by Kimi Badger

No boys allowed

Women: Are you tired of men ogling you while you're running on the treadmill? Fear no more at Flirty Girl Fitness, 1325 W. Randolph St., a women's-only gym that is less like a traditional gym and more like a social club with trendy designer workout studios. It's perfect for women looking to uncover the bare basics of exercise, while having fun and boosting confidence.

Stripping away typical exercise equipment and replacing it with a plethora of dance poles, pink boxing gloves, a bar and bistro-style chairs, Flirty Girl Fitness features classes like Pole Dancing, Chair Striptease, Hula Hooplah, Hottie Body Boxing and Flirty Yogalates, among other classes, said Jasmine Harlin, an instructor at Flirty Girl Fitness.

"We like to call Flirty Girl Fitness the 'un-gym' because people get so bored with the regular gyms where you go [to] lift weights and take a class here and there," Harlin said. "We like to spice it up a bit, with fitness-oriented classes like Hottie Body Boxing and Video Vixen, where we take the hot music videos [out there] right now and we do choreography to the songs."

Classes start at \$25 per session. Memberships are also available starting at \$110 a month with a one-year contract. For more info, visit FlirtyGirlFitness.com.

Shaping up

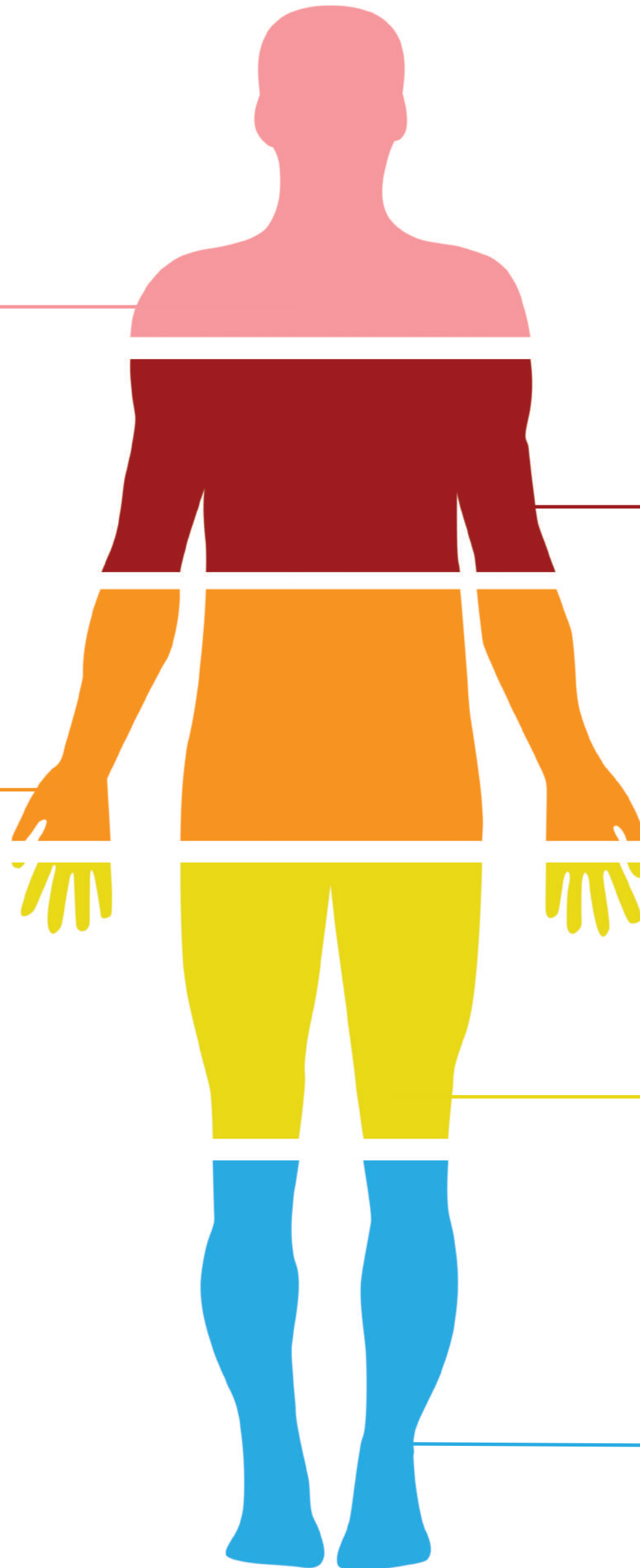
Those looking to tone their bods for the summer should look no further than Exhale Spa, 945 N. State St., and with a student discount, there's no reason to say no.

Exhale Spa has a signature fitness class called Core Fusion, which is a combination of yoga, pilates, ballet bar-work, self-resistance weight training and orthopedic stretching. Mackenzie Kyle, guest services manager of Exhale Spa, said students with a valid student ID receive 50 percent off of Core Fusion classes, which cost \$12 after the discount.

Kyle said participants will benefit from a stronger core and better posture, and the Core Fusion class will allow students who slouch in class to maintain a strong spine.

"You'll work each section, like the arm and leg sections, and stretch it out, so that you're getting long, lean muscles instead of bulky looking muscles [from] weight training," Kyle said.

For more information, go to ExhaleSpa.com for a list of classes and times.



Turn up the heat

With slippery ice patches and Chicago's signature razor-sharp winds tearing through even the toughest skin, taking the time to warm up can work wonders in the winter. Bikram Yoga in the City, 219 W. Chicago Ave., is offering classes in Bikram Yoga, also known as hot yoga, where participants literally turn up the heat by practicing a set of yoga poses in a 100-degree room.

Columbia student Meredith Weber, a senior fine arts major, said hot yoga loosened her muscles and increased her flexibility. She said the heated experience tested her stamina.

"It was overwhelming, because I'm not healthy and I don't do yoga consistently," Weber said. "I took the speed of the class at my own pace [and] I stayed hydrated. It was a very grueling process that tested my endurance."

Bikram Yoga in the City is currently offering a \$29 unlimited monthly membership for new students interested in hot yoga classes. There is also the option of taking one class for \$15, for those skeptical of tackling the temperature.

For people willing to dish out the cash, a massage and skin treatment is another healthy alternative to beat the frosty chill that winter brings. The Salt Glow exfoliation session at Urban Oasis, 939 W. North Ave., claims to clear away dead skin cells, while the client stays warm under heated lamps, according to Kirsten Gabriel, the manager of Urban Oasis.

Gabriel said the client lies under heated, infrared lamps while receiving a gentle exfoliation treatment using a blend of sea salt and massage oil. Afterward, the client can take one of three types of showers: one that mimics the fall of a warm summer rain; European-style, which uses revitalizing body sprays to stimulate energy flow; or steam, which softens the skin, eases muscles and joints and clears pores.

Gabriel said Urban Oasis also offers a hot stone massage, which relieves the pain in muscle tissue. She said hot stone massages are known to melt away stress, insomnia and depression as well as provide an increased sense of physical and emotional comfort.

"The stones are actually gliding along your body and transferring their heat to your muscles," Gabriel said. "The heat causes an automatic relaxation response in your muscles."

A hot stone massage comes at the steep price of \$120, Gabriel said. However, the salt glow exfoliation session costs \$55 for a 25-minute treatment.

For more information on classes at Bikram Yoga in the city, visit BikramCityChicago.com. Also, check out the Urban Oasis website, UrbanOasis.biz, for a list of spa and wellness services available.

On pins and needles

Students who are stressed can find it difficult to concentrate on tasks during the day and to fall asleep at night. However, acupuncture can help treat these maladies, according to Bernadette Doran, the director of Equilibrium, 47 W. Polk St., a health and wellness treatment center located in the South Loop that offers a non-invasive acupuncture treatment called colorpuncture. She said traditional acupuncture can be costly, with some locations in Chicago charging more than \$100 for a traditional acupuncture treatment.

Students in the South Loop who cannot afford an expensive acupuncture session can enjoy the benefits of Colorpuncture at Equilibrium. Colorpuncture is a non-invasive acupuncture treatment that uses different colored lasers with precise frequencies of light that are absorbed by the skin, which help build intracellular communication, to speed up the body's healing process, Doran said.

Doran said studies done by quantum physicist Fritz Popp found that human cells emit particles of light. The cells also use the light coming in to heal cells more quickly than acupuncture, and cure the body's different maladies.

"Colorpuncture is based on the light level of the cell, so it's actually adding light [to the cell] with the different colors that the colorpuncturist uses," Doran said. "The light [causes] an immediate shift in the cell treatment."

Doran said colorpuncture helps detoxify the body and heal different aches and pains, as well as purify the mind of any negative subconscious thoughts and conflicts. Cleansing the mind of mental waste through colorpuncture can also help stimulate more dreams, Doran said.

Colorpuncture costs \$85, but Equilibrium offers a 20-percent discount for students with a valid student ID. More information on colorpuncture can be found at Equilibrium-E3.com.

Those looking for a cheap alternative to acupuncture can go to Red Flower Acupuncture Studio, 2023 W. Carroll Ave., and get a traditional treatment with other clients. The cost of the community acupuncture is only \$30-50 a session, which includes a one-time membership fee during the first session.

Find more information about Red Flower Acupuncture's community acupuncture services at RedFlowerAcupuncture.com.

Sense-ational techniques

Getting the necessary rest to perform daily tasks at the optimal level can be a challenge, but at Space Time Tanks Flotation Center, 2526 N. Lincoln Ave., patrons have the chance to reduce tension, increase energy and rejuvenate the body through sensory deprivation tanks, otherwise known as flotation tanks. An individual is enclosed in a tank filled with water, stripping them of any outside light or sound, allowing the person to think and reflect, while increasing their physical and mental well-being.

In the hustle and bustle of college life, Chelsea Mack, a sophomore arts, entertainment and media management major, said her friends are always on the go, whether it is for work or school. Having read up on sensory deprivation tanks, she said she is interested in actually trying one, if it is within her budget.

"I think it would help my mental [state] and stability, and [it] would let me relax and reflect," Mack said. "I want the chance to clear my head of everyday worries like school and financial [issues] and reflect on my day."

To find more information on Space Time Tanks, go to SpaceTimeTanks.com. The cost of the flotation tanks is \$30 an hour for students with a valid student ID and \$40 for all other customers.

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Maker finds customers hungry for natural dog treats

Chewy dog treat business rakes in almost \$1 million in 2007

by Marino Eccher

DAVID BALDUS boasts that the dog treats and chews he makes are “tested on Labs, not tested in labs.”

And while he might toss a few to his dog, Jasper, or one of the others running around the warehouse, the testing doesn't stop there.

“Everything is food-grade,” Baldus said. “I eat everything.”

Baldus, 55, is the founder and president of Front Porch Pets Inc., in Waukesha, Wis., an all-natural dog treat supplier that specializes in dehydrated sweet potato chews.

The company, which moved into its 10,000-square-foot Waukesha distribution center last year, has 30 full-time employees and did a shade less than \$1 million in sales in 2007. Not bad, considering Baldus was selling the same chews out of his mother's garage in Wauwatosa, Wis., two years ago.

The idea for the chews came to Baldus in 2003 when he was living in Memphis, Tenn., and working as director of menu development for Perkins Restaurant and Bakery.

As a side project, he was working on a “rejuvenation diet” for people who wanted to cut down on processed, high-allergen foods. The diet centered on high-nutrient foods, including sweet potatoes.

One night, Baldus said, he didn't feel like doing the dishes and put the leftover potatoes in his dehydrator instead.

“A few days later, I opened it up and it looked like rawhide,” he said.

When Jasper grabbed one of the potato slices and began chewing happily, Baldus thought he might be on to something.

He gave the chews to friends and co-workers until the requests became too numerous to keep giving them away for free. At that point, he began selling bags of the treats at farmers markets.

“I would sell out every week,” he said. “Business just kept picking up.”

After Baldus' father died in 2003, he moved back to Wauwatosa to be closer to his mother. There, he set up a pair of dehydrators in his mother's garage and continued selling the chews, expanding into independent pet stores and holistic veterinary offices.

As sales grew, he briefly moved the company to California, the top state in the

dehydration industry. But he found that the Midwest and East Coast accounted for most of his business, so he moved back to Milwaukee.

David's sister, Jan Baldus, moved back to Milwaukee from Florida in 2005 to become the company's distribution manager.

The company's first investor was its sweet potato supplier.

“Every week, he saw me adding more potatoes to the order,” he said. “He must have thought this was going somewhere.”

Today, Front Porch Pets is a large-scale version of the operation Baldus ran out of his mother's garage. Jumbo sweet potatoes are cut into three sizes: standard rawhide-shaped chews, a “Big Boyz” version for larger dogs and a “Bichon Fries” line for small dogs. They're then grooved to help

keep teeth clean.

The chews are laid out on trays and dehydrated at 110 to 150 degrees for up to 30 hours. The low dehydration temperature helps preserve the color and nutrients, David said.

The chews are not as durable as animal products such as rawhide or pig's ears, but they're tough and flexible to the touch. They take dogs as long as 20 minutes to chew through, according to the company.

“We try to get it so it's leathery,” David said. “It's very digestible for dogs.”

The company also makes a line of herbal treats that combine sweet potatoes, apples and a variety of seeds, fruits and herbs.

Michele Tegen, retail director for the Wisconsin Humane Society, said her organization's Animal Antics store in Milwaukee carries Front Porch Pet products, in part because of their health appeal.

“We try to stay away from anything with byproducts or preservatives,” Tegen said. “I think people are lot more conscious about what they're feeding their animals.”

Dave Krause, owner of Petlicious Dog Biscuit Bakery in Pewaukee, Wis., said the sweet potato chews fit nicely with his store's all-natural approach—and sell at a brisk pace.

“There's no colors or chemicals in it,” Krause said. “It's an excellent long-term chew, and it helps with dental health.”

Front Porch Pets products are sold in about 1,500 pet stores in all 50 states and online at FrontPorchPets.com. In January, the company broke its one-month record, generating almost \$130,000 in sales.



David Baldus (left), president/founder of Front Porch Pets, Inc., a Waukesha, Wis., company that produces sweet potato dog chews, joins workers Walter Atoche (right) and Gerardo Solorio in blanching their sweet potatoes Jan. 25.

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PHOTO BY CATRINA DEBORD

Hybrid revolution enters the housing market

by James Fussell

IN THE classic fairy tale, Rumpelstiltskin spun straw into gold. In real life, Maj. John Schulz is making it into concrete.

Or at least it seems that way to those helping him build his new "hybrid home" in Belton, Mo.

The walls of the green house are made of heavy, dense straw bales that are then finished with plywood and stucco. Lead carpenter Jim Morris said the straw provides more than just superior insulation.

"When it hardens," Morris said, "you've basically got something as hard as concrete."

That's only part of the home's durability.

"If a tornado came through here it would have to take the home and the dirt in one whole piece, because I don't foresee any way it can blow it down," Morris said. "It's got 36 vertical beams going from the roofline buried into the ground. It's so overbuilt it's ridiculous. But I have to give him credit. For someone who's basically designed it by himself, he's done an outstanding job making it strong."

The green home is called a "hybrid house," and it has been Schulz's dream to build one for many years. The home is not only strong, it's so efficient it does not need air conditioner to stay cool in the summer and only a small furnace to keep it warm in the winter.

After reading about such homes in magazines and on the Internet, Schulz and his wife, Susanne Koehler, bought how-to DVDs

and met with the owners of a straw-bale house in Lawrence, Kan., before starting the project.

After learning everything he could, Schulz designed the home to be built with recycled beams, cord-wood masonry (lumber embedded in Earth-friendly mortar), an earth-sheltered lower level, Portland cement mixed with recycled paper pulp and active solar collectors.

What's more, the home has a bank of large rectangular south-facing windows with insulated internal shutters for passive solar heating and an Earth-friendly, super-insulated roof that will have 5 inches

of soil, a sophisticated drainage system and various no-maintenance shrubs and flowers growing on top. The roof is projected to last 60 to 80 years.

"I don't even think if a tree fell it would damage this roof," Morris said.

The house also has a sun room that serves as a barrier to the weather outside.

"If you go directly through a door to the outside, you're losing heating and cooling," Schulz said. "So if you put a buffer zone like a sunroom between the outside and [the main part of the home] you lose a lot less hot or cold air. It's the same principle as a foyer in a restaurant. You don't get that blast

of cold air when you're sitting at a table."

Schulz's love of the environment grew in the various places he has lived. He was born in Prescott, Ariz., where many people have built straw-bale houses they're officially included in the city's building codes. He also lived in Colorado for two years, another environmentally sensitive state.

"I don't think we're being good stewards of our natural resources," he said. "It's important to use recycled materials and Earth-friendly products whenever possible."

But as proud of the home as Schulz is, the project is bittersweet. The Army reservist has been deployed overseas with his unit, and he will be out of the country for an extended period. His wife is traveling with him. When the home is done in May, Schulz will have to sell it.

"My heart bleeds every time I think about having to put it up for sale," he said. "I put my heart and soul into it."

On a positive note, he plans to take some of these green building methods to other countries. The Civil Affairs Reserve unit Schulz serves in specializes in helping countries rebuild schools, hospitals, government office buildings and general infrastructure.

"Why spend millions of dollars for a fossil-fuel generated power plant, when you could do the same thing with solar?" he said.

And when he returns stateside, Schulz plans to build another earthy home.



The hybrid home of John Schulz is being built with straw-bale walls, cord-wood masonry, passive solar heating, a natural stone retaining wall, an earth-sheltered lower level, no air conditioning and an insulated, zero-maintenance green roof that could last 80 years with five inches of soil, flowers and shrubs growing on top of it.

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Late-night television hosts find audiences online

Late-night web shows find viewers, success online

by Jake Coyle

YOU DON'T have to stay up past midnight to enjoy your late-night shows anymore.

Material from David Letterman, Jay Leno, Jimmy Kimmel and Conan O'Brien is increasingly turning into viral video on the web. Long secluded in the wee hours of the night, these funny men are now, with the help of a click or two, finding laughs in the waking hours.

They're often a hit, too, and none more so than Kimmel has been recently.

After ABC's lengthy Academy Awards broadcast on Feb. 24, you'd have to be a TV watcher of considerable endurance to stick around for "Jimmy Kimmel Live." But even if you didn't, you may have by now seen the high point of Kimmel's show.

First, some background. Kimmel has made it a nightly trademark to end by apologizing to Matt Damon for not having enough time to get him on the show. The joke, of course, is that such a star would never be bumped.

The bit took a turn on his fifth-anniversary show on Jan. 31, when a video was aired by Kimmel's long-term girlfriend, comedian Sarah Silverman. In it, Silverman sang along with Damon bragging that the two were sleeping together (though it was described in much funnier and more vulgar language, which was bleeped out).



Some of David Letterman's web clips have been seen more than four million times on YouTube.com. The Sept. 28 interview with former jailbird Paris Hilton has been viewed more than 4.5 million times and when Borat met Letterman, more than 5 million views were recorded on YouTube.com.

NBC

More than eight million people have watched the video on YouTube.com. It's also available on ABC.com.

On the post-Oscars show, Kimmel got his payback. In a similar song, he boasted that he was sleeping with Damon's good friend, Ben Affleck. The production was ratcheted up a notch and was styled like a "We Are the World" tribute. Guests included Brad Pitt, Harrison Ford, Robin

Williams, Cameron Diaz, Don Cheadle and many more.

As of Feb. 28, more than 2 1/2 million had watched the video on YouTube.com.

Kimmel is far from the only late-night host to find viral success online. CBS was the first network to aggressively tout its late night comedians—Letterman and Craig Ferguson—on YouTube.com.

Perhaps Letterman's finest web clip was

his interview of Paris Hilton soon after she had been jailed for two weeks for alcohol-related reckless driving. On YouTube.com, more than six million watched Letterman repeatedly pepper her about her experience in jail while the hotel heiress squirmed.

NBC, which is owned by General Electric Co., doesn't allow its material to be posted on YouTube.com and figures aren't available for videos on the network's site: NBC.com. (Clips and full episodes of many of NBC's shows can also be streamed at Hulu.com, a video site co-created with News Corp).

Wherever they saw it, in early February, many sought out NBC's "Late Night" footage of O'Brien mock fighting "The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart and "The Colbert Report" host Stephen Colbert.

Comedy Central, which is owned by Viacom, also posts its own videos, which had previously been enormously popular on YouTube. Now, "The Daily Show" clips are on TheDailyShow.com, while "The Report" can be found through ComedyCentral.com.

Altogether, these late-night hosts, coupled with "Saturday Night Live," have been a tremendous force online, where their comedic talents easily outshine more amateur material. Amazingly, the decades-old late-night format has proven adaptable yet again, even through the Internet "revolution."

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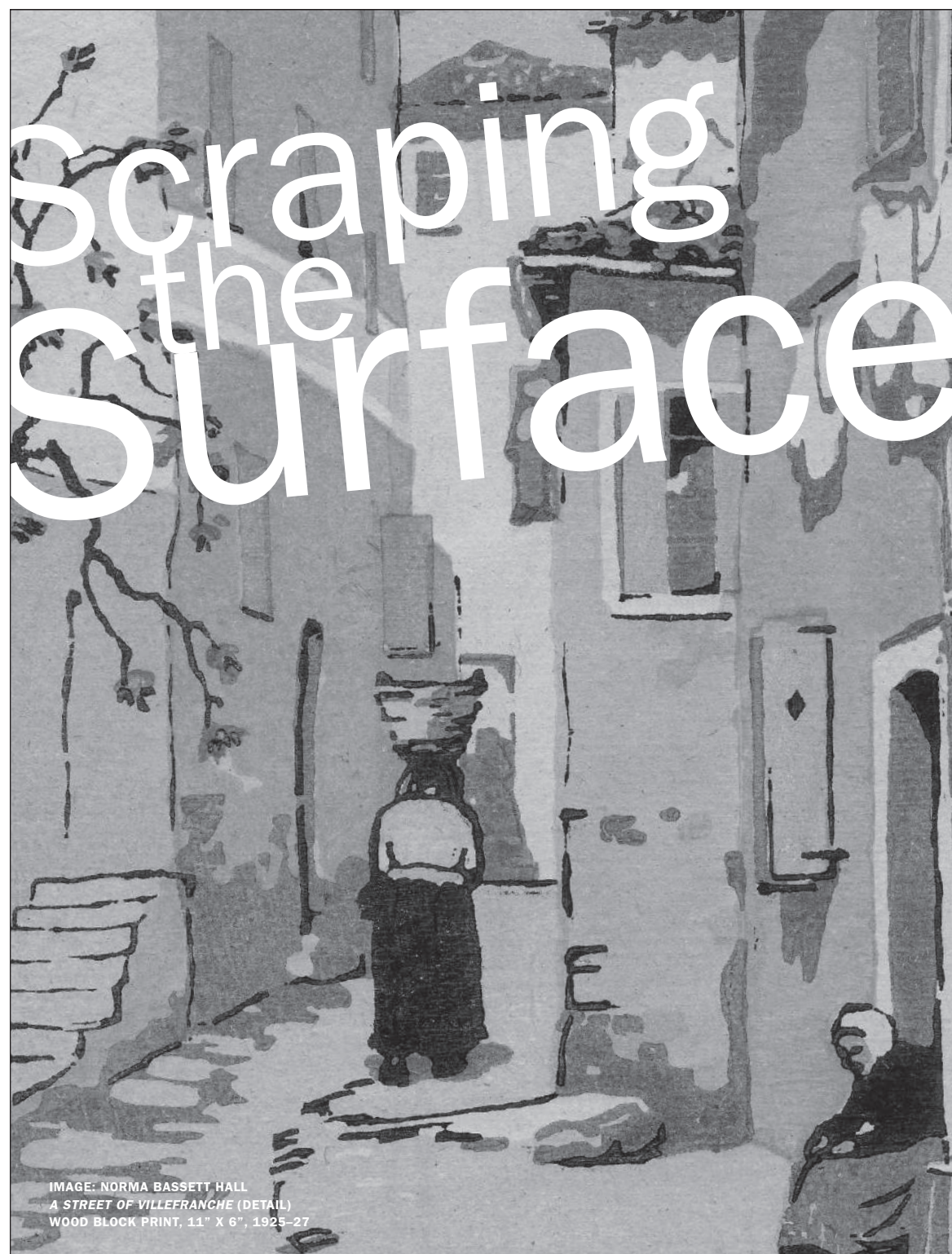


IMAGE: NORMA BASSETT HALL
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photo credit: Sarah Mckemie

HIGH FIVES OF THE WEEK

Television

1. "Academy Awards," ABC.
2. "American Idol" (Tuesday), FOX.
3. "American Idol" (Wednesday), FOX.
4. "American Idol" (Thursday), FOX.
5. "Oscar's Red Carpet 2008," ABC.

—Nielsen Media Research

Film

1. *Vantage Point*, Sony.
2. *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, Paramount.
3. *Jumper*, Fox.
4. *Step Up 2 the Streets*, Disney.
5. *Fool's Gold*, Warner Bros.

—Media by Numbers LLC

Songs

1. "Low," Flo Rida feat. T-Pain. Poe Boy/Atlantic.
2. "With You," Chris Brown. Jive/Zomba. (Gold)
3. "Don't Stop the Music," Rihanna. SRP/Def Jam/IDJMG.
4. "Love Song," Sara Bareilles. Epic. (Platinum)
5. "No One," Alicia Keys. MBK/J/RMG. (Platinum)

—Billboard Magazine

Albums

1. *Sleep Through the Static*, Jack Johnson. Brushfire/UMRG.
2. *As I Am*, Alicia Keys. MBK/J/RMG. (Platinum)
3. *Back to Black*, Amy Winehouse. Universal Republic/UMRG. (Platinum)
4. *Kidz Bop 13*, Kidz Bop Kids. Razor & Tie.
5. *Step Up 2: The Streets*. Soundtrack. Atlantic/AG.

—Billboard Magazine

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



AP

Ciara's lovin' it

Grammy-award winning R&B artist Ciara surprised drive-thru customers by giving away free McSkillet Burritos for McDonald's 50th Anniversary at the downtown Chicago restaurant Feb. 29. During the two-

day national sampling event, McDonald's estimated more than two million McSkillet Burritos were given away.

AP

AP

Olsens to be authors

The Olsen twins are hoping to spread a little *Influence*.

Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen are working on a coffee table book about fashion, called *Influence*, to be released in the fall.

The book will include "exclusive photographs of Ashley and Mary-Kate from world renowned photographer Rankin, and a wide variety of other never-before-seen materials and interviews from Mary-Kate and Ashley's personal collections."

"Ashley and I interviewed the people who have inspired us, with the hope that they will inspire and teach others," Mary-Kate Olsen said in a statement.

AP

Boy George pleads innocent

Boy George has denied imprisoning a 28-year-old Norwegian man at his London home last year.

The former Culture Club singer pleaded not guilty to the charge of false imprisonment during a court hearing in London on Feb. 28.

Audun Carlsen claims Boy George handcuffed him to a wall after he went to the singer's apartment as a photo model. The alleged incident took place last April.

Boy George appeared in court under his real name, George O'Dowd. The 46-year-old singer is free on bail and is due to stand trial in November.

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TOP 5



Tim Hunt, Photo Editor



Rachael Strecher, Photo Editor



Andrew A. Nelles, Senior Photo Editor

Real life Bond villains

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad: I don't really care for the man, but his name is really fun to say.

Hugo Chavez: This man makes my list for his ballsy move to stand in front of the United Nations and complain about George W. Bush's lingering sulfur smell. Well played, Mr. Chavez.

Fidel Castro: Anyone who can chain-smoke that many cigars and live that long merits some respect. Also, numerous people have tried to assassinate him with plans as lavish as exploding cigars, and he remains unscathed. The man will live forever. Viva la Castro!

Kim Jong II: An overwhelming collection of Mercedes Benz and an infatuation with slasher movies plus nuclear weapons and a short temper equals Jong II, the spoiled brat of dictators.

Vladimir Putin: Time Magazine's person of the year, an extremely popular president of Russia, black belt master of Judo and an expert fisherman who never misses an opportunity to make Bush look foolish. Is there anything this man can't do? Cold War redux, anyone?

Top 5s

Top 5 things I have always wanted to do by Chris Richert: Epic, concise, involves the desire to shoot a gun. Also, written by my boss, whom I of course need to suck up to.

Top 5 favorite buddy movies ever made by Matt Fagerholm: Matt lives and breathes film. Talking to him is like reading a really intelligent review, and I trust him in his ability to choose great buddy movies. In this Top 5 he did it again, picking the brilliant *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* for his number one.

Top 5 animals I want to avoid stepping on by Rachael Strecher: Not to choose myself or anything, but sometimes I'm sort of a genius. I'm just saying. I got big-time compliments on this one.

Top 5 self-deprecating moments on my bicycle by Beth Palmer: I can relate.

Top 5 things women need to stop doing by George Slefo: This is my least favorite Top 5. Top 5 things men need to stop doing? Telling women what or what not to do.

Reasons why I'm glad winter is ending

Fewer layers: I seem to always find myself layering up for the cold, then getting stuck inside in a situation where I cannot take off my coat, resulting in a sweaty mess.

Footwear: I am a little bored with having to choose footwear based entirely on its ability to resist water, effectively limiting my options to a single pair of beat up boots that keep my feet dry.

Frozen nose hairs: I hate going outside in the morning to be greeted by the sensation of my nose hairs freezing. Although it provides a good wake up, it is unpleasant.

Slipping on ice: At least a few times each winter I manage to slip and have a bad fall on ice, usually in a crowded public place. The worst this year was on an icy CTA platform next to a crowded train.

Salt: Having shoes and the legs of pants stained by salt is an annoyance I will not miss. I anticipate the day when the lower quarter of my pants will not be white at the end of the day.

JACKASS OF THE WEEK



MCT

AN OSCAR OFFENSE

IN A tribute to the actors and actresses who died in 2007-2008, which was shown at the 2008 Academy Awards, Heath Ledger, who died of an accidental overdose on Jan. 22, was the last slide included, but one actor was forgotten.

Exactly one week before Ledger's death, actor Brad Renfro died of a heroin overdose at the age of 25. Yet in the tribute that aired at the awards show on Feb. 24, Renfro was left out, according to the online magazine Radar.

"Unfortunately, we can't fit everyone in," said an Oscar spokesman, according to Radar.

Despite the excuse from the Academy, Renfro died before Ledger, coincidentally meaning that there was enough time to add him into the montage. wA spokesman for the Oscars said there was no ulterior motive for not including Renfro.

Perhaps it was because Renfro died of an illegal drug overdose, and the Academy did not want to mention that during the ceremony, or maybe it was because Renfro's work was not critically acclaimed, nor was he an Academy Award nominee/winner. But whatever the reason, it is a ridiculous and an unethical decision.

The creators of the tribute are all jackasses for leaving out a recognized actor. Even the least well-known actors and actresses deserve to be remembered. The Academy may have gotten its writers back, but respect is far from being earned.

—C. Shively



by Meryl Fulinara
Staff Writer

When outside temperatures are around 15 degrees, it's hard to think about spring. But the warm weather is, believe it or not, on its way, and two of the hot new trends rolling in this spring are ethnic prints and colors that pop.

Senior art and design major Kortney Dzedzic personified this look when I spotted her in the library with a tangerine-colored cardigan that matched her multi-colored silk scarf perfectly.

"What I wear depends on my mood," Dzedzic said. "I collect vintage clothing."

She never reads fashion magazines, but from what I could tell, she is up to date on spring's latest looks.

Accent colors in hues of orange and yellow are next season's big craze. Be sure to make these colors pop even



Senior art and design major Kortney Dzedzic was spotted sporting a bright, silk scarf with her black, faux alligator leather boots in the Columbia library.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

more by pairing them with darker colors like navy blue or black.

Though ethnic scarves made their big entry last fall, free-flowing tops with ethnic patterns are going to be among spring's notable looks. Think edgy safari meets pop art.

Dzedzic's boots, which are black, knee-high, faux alligator leather, were stunning. She called them her "super heroine" boots, and they complemented the other pieces of her ensemble perfectly. The faux leather is

reminiscent of the safari look that went well with her ethnic scarf.

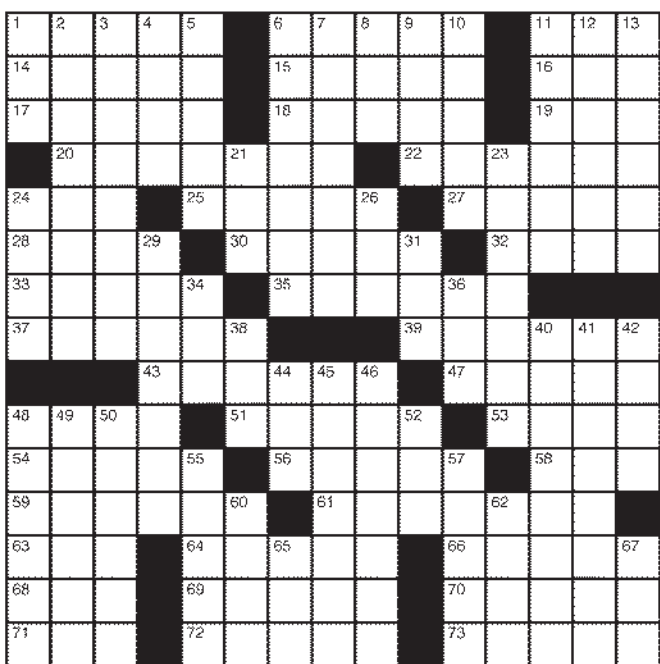
Dzedzic radiated style with her bold use of colors and accent pieces that screamed of a high fashion hunting expedition.

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

—Meryl Fulinara is a junior journalism major.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
 1 Watered
 6 Snow-day rides
 11 Pedal pumper
 14 Vibrant
 15 Long-necked wader
 16 Ocean off NC
 17 Purple shade
 18 Barest hint
 19 ___ Na Na
 20 Compared with
 22 Mouthed-off
 24 Shamus
 25 Concentrate
 27 Seven times a week
 28 Courts
 30 City near Cleveland
 32 Scottish loch
 33 Sty comments
 35 Last part of a sonnet
 37 Nods off
 39 Lifts and hurls
 43 Belt positions
 47 Prepared to pray
 48 High point
 51 Marcus Aurelius, e.g.
 53 Environs
 54 Talisman
 56 Identify oneself to a computer
 58 Chasing game
 59 Execrable
 61 Annual golf event
 63 Bus. ltr. abbr.
 64 Drink to
 66 Automaton
 68 Hit the slopes
 69 Sergeant Bilko
 70 Festive
 71 Retirement letters
 72 Graded
 73 Accumulate
- DOWN**
 1 Actor Holbrook
 2 Dressing ingredient
 3 Paint ingredient
 4 Tanguay and Gabor
 5 Low-boost coffee?
 6 Comic bits
 7 Spare time
 8 European eagle
 9 Hounds
 10 Slammin' Sammy
 11 Movie dog
 12 Kennedy and Merman
 13 ___ Knight & the Pips
 21 Intl. broadcasters
 23 Guitarist Carlos
 24 Tango teams
 26 Distress signal
 29 Cooking sticks
 31 To the ___ degree
 34 Health resort
 36 Mouse-spotter's cry
 38 Fam. member
 40 Spine piece
 41 Parker and Powell
 42 Males-only
 44 Letters on Cardinal caps
 45 Hoffman movie
 46 Took aim at
 48 Right to use
 49 Big pieces
 50 Actress Strassman
 52 Miller Sebastian
 55 Poetic measure
 57 Bellini opera
 60 Mrs. Copperfield
 62 "Birches," e.g.
 65 Picnic pest
 67 Herndon and Cobb



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Solutions



HOROSCOPE

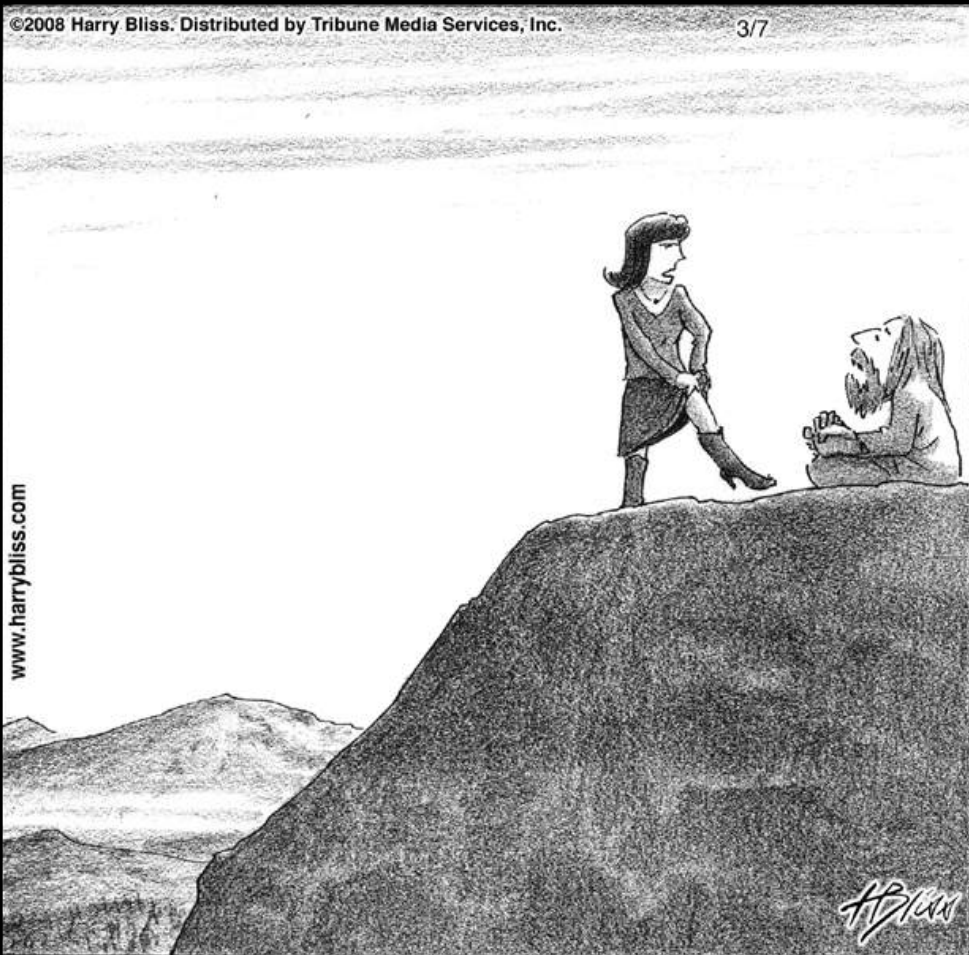
-  **Aries** (March 21-April 19) Information you provide helps a great deal, so concentrate and provide correct answers. However, doing what you promised is even more important.
-  **Taurus** (April 20-May 20) Something you recently learned from a friend helps you get much further ahead. You have a coach who can teach you about a new technology.
-  **Gemini** (May 21-June 21) Having plenty leads to a solid sense of confidence. Your status is going up, partly because of your attitude. Feeling like a winner shows.
-  **Cancer** (June 22-July 22) Let someone with experience coach you in a new endeavor. You don't earn extra points by doing things the hard way. Make it easy on yourself.
-  **Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) Your attitude should be pretty good, although you may be tired. Others offer encouragement. They believe you can do it. Trust them, and go on.
-  **Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You're exceptionally lucky now, especially in familiar games. Familiar people are favored, too, especially the fun-loving kind. They'll help you with your work.
-  **Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) It may be hard to pull yourself out of your snugly nest. Motivate yourself by thinking about the people you love. Do it for them.
-  **Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Resolving a domestic matter once and for all takes a load off your mind. Stop worrying about it; get it fixed. Then, on to other things.
-  **Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Make sure you've done the homework before you make your purchase. You want to get the best quality, but don't pay an arm and leg for it.
-  **Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You're smart, but you don't rely on your wits. You also do the homework. That's the hidden reason you so often have the right answers.
-  **Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If somebody owes you money, now's the time to ask for it. Persistence pays in cold, hard cash sometimes, even if it's been a while. Try again.
-  **Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) Your suggestion stirs up the meeting. People who had given up on finding a solution to the problem are activated. Share your unique perspective.

SUDOKU

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

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

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Commentary

Editorials

Textbook prices higher than ever

In 2007, college students paid unprecedented amounts of money for one of higher education's hidden costs: textbooks.

According to a MCT wire article, the average college student shells out \$900 a year for a variety of textbooks. If a student takes 10 classes during an academic year and uses a textbook in each course, that equates to \$90 per class spent on books. However, that figure could be misleading. Many classes don't use textbooks or teach out of novels, and that means the \$900 a year is spread out over only seven or eight classes instead of 10. But even if the \$90 per class average is correct, that's an absurd price to pay, and at Columbia it needs to change.

This year's prices aren't statistical outliers. According to the U.S. Department of Education, the cost of textbooks has risen 186 percent since 1986. That's an average growth rate per year of 6 percent, twice the rate of inflation.

There is no good reason for textbooks to be this expensive. Thankfully, Congress has stepped in to help alleviate the price-gouging every college student is a victim of.

House Resolution 4137 calls for several changes in the current system that will lower the cost of textbooks. First, the resolution would require professors to let their students know the required books they'll need before class begins. That means sending an e-mail or posting a syllabus at least a week before the start of classes, giving students time to find a cheaper option than the college bookstore.

Often teachers choose books for their classes from a list provided by a textbook

company which doesn't include the corresponding prices. The new resolution would put a stop to that by requiring professors to know the cost of books they choose for their students.

Another way suppliers drive up cost is by releasing a new edition of a standard textbook every year, even when there has been no substantive change in the book's area of study.

The new law would require companies to disclose the specific reasons for the textbook updates to their buyers. The resolution would also stop companies from including supplemental material (like CDs, DVDs and workbooks) with the main texts they sell, a clever maneuver that can double the price of a book while not adding any additional educational value.

There are many other ways to cut costs not included in the bill. For instance, Columbia is under contract with a single supplier, and isn't allowed to give other companies the names of the books sold in the bookstore. That drives out competition and leaves our supplier free to push the prices higher.

Books don't have to be so expensive. Some teachers actually provide their classes with free textbooks by writing the texts themselves and personally printing and distributing them. Biology of the Human Immune System and Czech New Wave Cinema are just two of the Columbia courses that provide this kind of text.

All these measures would work to cut the cost of textbooks, and Columbia should implement every one of them even if Congress doesn't.

Student center a distant goal

For years now, Columbia students have asked the administration for a student center. They want a central, non-academic space where students can meet, study, relax and play during school hours. On an urban campus like Columbia's where many students commute and there are often long breaks (and long walks) between classes, that makes a lot of sense.

As of right now, the administration plans to build a 14-story Campus Center that would include classrooms, storage and a student center. The tentative location of such a structure would be at 754 S. Wabash Ave., the current location of Buddy Guy's Legends, property Columbia owns.

However, fundraising for such a building can't even begin until the school has completed the Media Production Center, a project for which fundraising has just begun. That building would house sound stages, classrooms and studios for film, television and music majors.

So a student center, if it comes at all, is a long way away and extremely expensive. But there are several things students can do to help make sure the center gets built, as well as develop alternate spaces in the meantime.

The first thing to do is put pressure on student government and other student organizations to obtain a guarantee from

the administration that a student center will not only be built, but that it will be a priority in the coming years. Go to StudentCentered.GooglePages.com and help get the ball rolling by participating on the message board. Let student organizations know what students want in the new building and show the administration that a lot of Columbia students would support such an endeavor.

In the meantime, there are many areas on campus that could be considered small student centers. These include "the Hub" in the basement of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., as well as the lobby on its first floor. There's another basement area in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave. However, none of those spaces are adequate as a temporary student center.

Participating in the life of the student body is an important part of collegiate education. It provides opportunities for friendships, careers, politics and relationships. A student center is a good vehicle for those activities and a good place to blow off steam or spend time between classes. It would be beneficial to Columbia's students to have one, and the administration should commit to providing it. In the intervening years, the college and its students should work together to develop and enjoy the spaces that are already available.



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Letter to the Editor:

Re: Cubs

This letter is in response to the editorial "If they win, it's a shame" (Feb. 25).

The Cubs do have the right to force rooftop owners to pay a percentage of revenue made from their product.

Major League Baseball is no greedier than any other professional sports league. What about the NFL, which has decided to air several games, including some in the playoffs, solely on the NFL Network? Granted, MLB did air a few playoff games on TNT for cable viewers only, but the NFL making the step to satellites is at the very least just as greedy.

What is the source for your average price of MLB jerseys? Also, according to the team's website, the cost for an authentic Chicago Bears jersey is \$300.

With teams like the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Florida Marlins and Washington Nationals, all of which struggle to get even a few thou-

sand people in the stadium per game, it's no wonder the league average for the price of a ballgame is so low. These teams, like some of the past White Sox organizations, often give away tickets at an incredible rate that devalues ticket prices.

The rooftops have absolutely nothing to do with tradition, they weren't there until the late 80s, early 90s. It is absolutely wrong to say the rooftops have any connection to the "inexpensive tradition of depression-era baseball."

"Spurn its fans?" This has to do with greedy rooftop owners and an equally greedy Cubs organization, not fans. The rooftop owners are businessmen who leave Chicago in the winter and would probably rather have the Cubs continue to lose than win, so as to continue their highly-marketable reputation as the loveable-losers.

James H. Ewert Jr.
Columbia Class of 2007

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

Reality TV sheds positive light on gay culture



by Colin Shively
Assistant A&E Editor

Bravo, Lifetime, MTV, FOX and even The Food Network have all emphasized an encouraging certain aspect of reality television: They've had gays and lesbians featured on their shows.

From "The Real World" to "Top Chef," LGBTQ appearances have been steadily growing since the early '90s. With the new prominence of gay culture in television, the American war on homosexuality has been influenced to the point where the war is almost obsolete.

It was not even four years ago that the '04 presidential election represented a clash between liberal America and the repressive mentality of the conservatives. With the new ideals being pro basic human rights and pro gay marriage, television has shown the new liberal movement has pulled ahead, allowing gay culture to come out to the public.

In this year's campaigning, the cultural war in America has been silenced, or just muted for the time being. Hollywood's depiction of gays and lesbians dealing with the same issues that heterosexuals deal with has almost eliminated the cultural war in the political arena. It is clear that the Democratic candidates, both who have said they are for gay rights, have been influenced by the new freedom on television.

Reality TV shows and sitcoms have been displaying gay and lesbian figures on almost every channel. "Will and Grace" starred several gays and lesbians and is still showing reruns on multiple major channels. The dating show "A Shot at Love With Tila Tequila" set a viewing record of 6.2 million for reality TV shows, showing that the Americans, mainly heterosexual men who love bisexual women, watched these gay-themed shows and didn't care who was gay or straight; they just wanted to be titillated.

However, bisexuals are not the only ones who are creating influences on the reality TV genre. The gay fans of "Make Me A Supermodel" are closely watching Ronnie, a gay contestant, become close friends with fellow contender Ben, who surprisingly loves Ronnie's attention. This hetero-homo relationship is a new development, showing that the gay community can easily interact with the straight community, without the awkward moments. The connection between Ronnie and Ben shows that there is no reason for hetero guys to be wary of being around gay men. The cultural war of homosexuality rights and presence in the American culture, if it still exists, has clearly been resolved on television, and the rest of America is not far behind.

According to Sean Smith of Entertainment Weekly, television and even reality TV have altered the way America was viewing the gay and lesbian culture.

"Ever since MTV launched 'The Real World' in 1992, guys have grown up watch-



(Left to right) Carson Kressley, Thom Filicia, Jai Rodriguez, Ted Allen and Kyan Douglas (not pictured) helped bring homosexuality into the mainstream in Bravo's 'Queer Eye for the Straight Guy.'

MCT

ing young gay people grapple with the same dramas and traumas as their straight peers," Smith wrote in his column in the Feb. 22 issue.

The presence of the alternative culture in the daily lives of the public will eventually have an affect on the public's view of that culture; if the presence is negative, the views will be negative and the same goes for positive depictions of the GLBTQ community.

Current series such as "American Idol" and "The Amazing Race" show that gay

culture is not made up of the stereotypical queens it's often assumed represent a majority; we do like to get our hands dirty, and we are always up for a challenge.

TV is at the forefront of the American culture war. With so many viewers seeing positive depictions of alternative lifestyles, the public is beginning to grow accustomed to the new culture of America.

cshively@chroniclemail.com

Crusader Nader enters fifth presidential race



by Wes Giglio
Commentary Editor

Ralph Nader announced his intention to run for president on Feb. 24, making this election the fourth in a row he's been on the ballot for and the fifth he's been a candidate in (his first attempt was a write-in campaign).

Conscientious Democrats should applaud his most recent entry into the fray, even though he has no chance of winning.

Even so, it hasn't taken long for the Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton campaigns to denounce his candidacy. Obama reminded voters that Nader had claimed there was little difference between Al Gore and George Bush when he ran in 2000. Clinton was the blunter of the two, according to CNN, saying Nader's decision to run is "very unfortunate. I remember when he ran before. It didn't turn out very well for anybody—especially our country. This time I hope it doesn't hurt anyone. I can't think of anybody that would vote for Sen. [John] McCain who would vote for Ralph Nader."

Nader has never gained an electoral vote, or been competitive in even one state during the five general elections he's participated in. It's nearly impossible in the American two-party system to win as an independent or third party candidate. So why so much vitriol from Democrats?

In 2000, Gore and Bush pitched an all out war over votes in Florida. In one of the great American tragedies, the Supreme Court

awarded the state to George Bush before all the votes had been correctly counted. When the final tally came in, it was clear that Gore won in Florida, and therefore had won the presidency. In the aftermath, Democrats looked for a scapegoat (besides the phony president) and found Nader.

Nader had garnered two percent of the vote in Florida, nearly 100,000 votes. Conventional wisdom held that nearly all of those votes would have gone to Gore, and given him a clear majority in Florida that no electoral tampering could have negated. Even though later polling revealed that

Nader voters would have split three ways between voting for Gore, voting for Bush or not voting, Gore could have achieved a slight majority.

Nevertheless, Democratic rage was turned full force on a man most Democrats had previously regarded favorably as a conscientious, if overly idealistic, consumer advocate and organizer. When Nader ran again in 2004, party higher ups and even some independents shrieked that a vote for Nader was the same as a vote for Bush, and did everything they could to discourage voters from joining his campaign. It's

difficult to win an election as a third party candidate, but it's impossible to win when the liberal base you'd drawn support from turns on you so completely.

In the end, Nader's run in 2004 was even less successful than in 2000. And the Democrats still lost. They should have realized that the only entity they could blame for losing to an unpopular incumbent embroiled in an illegal and equally unpopular war was themselves. Democrats didn't fight as hard as Republicans, they compromised more easily and weren't as adept at the dirty politics they faced across the aisle. Only recently have they learned to compensate with bold reform and a pointedly hopeful message.

Nader didn't cost Democrats anything. And in 2000 and 2004 he provided voters who felt alienated, or who didn't have a party they believed in, with another choice. He got hundreds of thousands of Americans who don't vote to exercise their franchise.

Before all of that, he made sure automakers built safe cars and provided seatbelts. He lobbied for the Wholesome Meat Act, the Clean Air Act and the Freedom of Information Act. He founded the Project for Corporate Responsibility and Center for Study of Responsive Law.

Nader is the kind of guy Democrats should want on their side. And he's the kind of candidate who enriches the party's namesake—democracy.

jgiglio@chroniclemail.com



Ralph Nader speaks at a 2004 peace rally in Crawford, Texas, President Bush's hometown.

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City Beat



Four Pakistani girls donning colorful hijabs, the Islamic head covering for women, and a boy study Arabic grammar together. Instead of backpacks, they carry their school supplies in plastic bags. Author Greg Mortenson, founder of Pennies for Peace, hopes the money raised will build schools and buy supplies, like backpacks, for the students.

Courtesy GREG MORTENSON

Pennies for change

Chicago high school students raise money for peers abroad

by Meha Ahmad
Staff Writer

IN AMERICA, loose change can't buy much, maybe a piece of chocolate from a vending machine or a generic bottle of water. But in parts of Pakistan, pennies can buy an education.

In the isolated and poor village of Korphe in northern Pakistan, near the Karakoram Mountains, few children have the opportunity to learn. Teachers with a dollar-a-day rate aren't considered affordable, so the tiny community shares a teacher with a nearby village. The few Korphe children allowed to attend lessons learn outside, usually barefoot on the cold ground, writing with sticks in the sand. Korphe has no school.

In light of Korphe's story, and other villages just like it, many private and public Chicago schools are taking part in a program called Pennies for Peace. Through March, students grades K-12 will collect spare change to donate toward school supplies and the building of schools—especially for girls—in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Students in Chicago said they are taking part in Pennies for Peace to help other children receive the same education they do and give them some hope for higher learning.

AQSA School and Universal School, private Islamic schools in Bridgeview, joined the program the first week of February, and Plainfield Public School District 202 started Feb. 11.

Plainfield's 28 schools—including its 29,000 students and 3,500 staff members—are all participating as the last part of the district's 2008 community reading program, said Thomas Hernandez, Plainfield's director of Community Relations. The reading programs for AQSA, Universal and District 202

now includes *Three Cups of Tea*, the true story of Greg Mortenson, mountaineer turned philanthropist, and his failed 1993 attempt to climb Pakistan's K2, the second largest mountain in the world.

Mortenson was in Chicago promoting his book and Pennies for Peace when he spoke to more than 1,500 students and faculty on Feb. 14 about the struggle for education of Pakistani and Afghan children at the Rosemont Conference Center, 5555 N. River Road, in Rosemont.

A week after starting the program, Universal School's 670 students raised \$8,000. In the same time, AQSA's 300 students raised \$3,000. Their money, collectively, will help build an entire school, which costs \$12,000. Both schools hope students will continue to raise money throughout the year.

Mortenson's mission of trying to establish at least one school in communities without one had an impact on the students in attendance, said Aala Mohamed, a sopho-

more at Universal School.

"We go to school in a building [with] classrooms," Mohamed said. "These kids tried to learn without either one. They deserve what we have."

Mohamed's classmate Amane Salem felt she could relate to children she'd never met, thousands of miles away.

"They're kids just like us," she said. "They want to get an education and be somebody."

Participating students, ages 5 to 18, made what they felt were small sacrifices for a big cause, said Karima Atra, a junior at AQSA School.

"We just brought our allowances and spare change," Atra said. "Some would give up their lunch money."

Much like the kids at these schools are doing, Mortenson found himself doing the same.

The plight of Korphe and the care and hospitality the injured Mortenson received from its inhabitants after his failed mountain climb motivated him to return and build the village's first school in 1996.

Twelve years later, Mortenson, the Central Asia Institute and Pennies for Peace, both of which he founded, have helped

25,000 students get an education in 64 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan, said Sadia Ashraf, outreach consultant for the Central Asia Institute.

But not everyone agreed with Mortenson's mission to educate children in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

After 9/11, Mortenson said he received death threats and hate mail from Americans for "helping Muslim children" and called him "a traitor to his country" even though he served in the U.S. military. A mullah, or Islamic clergy, tried to issue religious edicts banishing Mortenson from the country for educating girls. Enlightened clerics overturned the edicts, stating the Quran encourages all children to be educated.

Korphe was one of many Pakistani villages without a school in a country where the literacy rate is less than 49 percent, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization website. In Afghanistan, the literacy rate is 36 percent, according to UNICEF. In comparison, the United States' literacy rate is 99 percent, according to UNESCO.

Pennies for Peace, a non-government organization, has raised more than \$10 million worldwide in the last fiscal year, Ashraf said. The money comes mostly from donations and participating schools' students. Mortenson said he contacted hundreds of celebrities, but only one, TV journalist Tom Brokaw, followed through with a \$100 check.

"It was children in all their innocence and purity, reaching out to children halfway around the world," Mortenson said. "And they did it with a penny."

Mortenson has made more than 30 trips and spent more than 60 months in Pakistan and Afghanistan in his efforts to promote literacy as well as peace.

"Politics won't bring peace," Mortenson said. "People will bring peace."

For more information on Pennies for Peace and the Central Asia Institute, visit Pennies-ForPeace.org.



Greg Mortenson writes with chalk on slates on the floor along with the students.

Courtesy GREG MORTENSON

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City to go dark

As part of environmental event, Chicago will turn off its lights for one night

by Becky Schlikerman
Associate Editor

SLOWLY, ONE by one, Chicago skyscrapers will turn their lights off, darkening the iconic skyline.

The darkness will be part of Earth Hour 2008, a global, symbolic environmental movement.

On March 29, 24 cities across the world, including the Windy City, will grow dim from 8 to 9 p.m. in each respective time zone creating a dark wave across the globe, bringing attention to conservation and the issue of global warming.

In Chicago, famous landmarks and buildings like the Sears Tower, John Hancock Center, Merchandise Mart and Wrigley Field, to name a few, will darken, said Leslie Aun, spokeswoman for the World Wildlife Fund, a global conservation organization that is organizing Earth Hour.

Columbia will also be participating to "make a difference," said Mike Debish, associate vice president of Facilities and Operations. Every building Columbia controls, with the exception of the rental properties, will shut its lights off for the hour, he said.

"We are a part of, and make up, the Chicago skyline. We can certainly have a pretty strong visual effect by turning off all of our unnecessary lighting," Debish said.

Residents of the city are encouraged to join in and volunteer, said Larry Merritt, Chicago Department of Environment spokesman.

"The request is to turn off as much light as safety and security will permit," Debish said.

The event begins in Christchurch, New Zealand at 8 p.m. and travels east to Brisbane, Australia and from there it will travel across cities in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and North America, Aun said.

The city of Chicago became involved because of its commitment to environmentalism, Merritt said.

"We looked at this as an opportunity to work with a great partner on this global effort," Merritt said.

Earth Hour started last year in Sydney, Australia and 2.2 million people participated, Aun said. Electricity consumption was down by 10 percent for the hour, she added.

In Sydney, famous structures, like the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, participated in Earth Hour.

"Imagine you're standing there and the skyline goes dark," Aun said. "People felt this incredible awe."

The WWF expanded Earth Hour globally this year and approached 12 U.S. cities with strong environmental and conservation programs—Chicago responded right away, Aun said. Because it was the first to reply, the city became the flagship city to the U.S., she added.

This year in Chicago, the goal is to reduce electricity consumption by 5 percent that



Sydney's Harbour Bridge, typically illuminated, went dark for one hour during Earth Hour last year (right) in an effort to bring attention to the issue of climate change.



Courtesy FAIRFAXPHOTOS.COM

hour, said Fidel Marquez, vice president of External Affairs and Large Customer Services for ComEd, Chicago's electricity utility and a major sponsor of Earth Hour in the city.

Although the main event is the darkening buildings, the WWF hopes the campaign will be far reaching and people will be more energy efficient in their daily lives.

Aun said one way to do this is for businesses and citizens to change their light bulbs to energy efficient ones. The WWF is also providing schools with a curriculum on the subject.

Everyone is invited to participate and turn their lights off for the hour, but ComEd, WWF and the city of Chicago stress that people should do it safely. Merritt said flashlights should be used instead of candles for fire safety. In addition, Merritt said hospitals and streetlights will remain fully lit.

Similarly, at Columbia, all exit doors, corridors and stairwells will remain lit as security is the main concern, Debish said.

There are no classes or special events that will be affected, he said.

But before the lights go off, there's a lot of planning.

In order to accomplish such a collaborative task there are a lot of meetings, Aun said.

Interestingly, she said, most companies and buildings have been supportive of the event and are willing to participate. But, turning off the lights is much trickier than just flipping a switch.

"Some aren't really sure how to turn their lights off," Aun said. "Our partners are figuring out how they're going to do it."

At Columbia, building engineers will be working that Saturday night.

"This is going to have to be a huge effort on the part of the building engineers and building services to ensure that it goes smoothly and without incident," Debish said.

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Man's best friend competes to win



International Kennel Club of Chicago hosts dog show at McCormick Place

Dogs and their owners gathered for the International Kennel Club of Chicago dog show on Feb. 20, at the McCormick Place, 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive, days before the actual competition. Dogs were groomed and judged throughout the day. The dog show was held Feb. 22-24.

(Left) Tony Nelson holds Kitty, a Smooth Fox Terrier, before she competes in the show.

(Middle right) Vivian, a Bloodhound looks longingly at some Easy Mac while she is groomed.

(Bottom left) Viper, a 2-year-old Norfolk Terrier, stands on small stilts while he waits to be groomed. Viper is part of a large family of Norfolks who all live together in the same house. He has won several awards before.

—R. Strecher



Education, training still crucial

Report focuses on enterprise in black community

by **Becky Schlikerman**
Associate Editor

A NEW report released by the Chicago Urban League analyzed the future of Chicago's African American community's economic development.

The report, "The Future of Economic Development for African Americans in the Chicago Metropolitan Area: The Next Ten Years," released on Feb. 13, draws a connection between the economic success of the black community in Chicago and the overall economic global prospects in the city, said David Thigpen, vice president of Policy and Research at the Chicago Urban League.

According to the report, blacks make up 37 percent of the city's population.

"The study tried to make it clear that what happens in the African American community, in terms of economic development, will have an impact on Chicago's ability to compete for investments [for the city]," Thigpen said.

The report utilized information collected during seven months using a consulting group to determine four possible economic scenarios for the future of Chicago's black community. In addition, the Urban League commissioned the Nielsen Group to poll African Americans on their perception of the economic future, according to the report.

In order to improve the economic position of blacks in Chicago, the report recommends that more money be invested in the city's

public schools so the developing population will be prepared to succeed economically in the future.

"They're obviously under-funded and they show up in the education results," Thigpen said.

In addition, the report advises that better training should be given in the workforce because that allows for workers to get better jobs, which leads to more money and stable homes, Thigpen said.

"You really need a stable home for kids to do better in school," he said.

Experts agree with the Urban Leagues recommendation.

Education and training are crucial for an economy to thrive, said Isaac Bishop, president of the Chicago chapter of the National Black MBA Association, an organization that focuses on business and entrepreneurship in the black community. The education and entrepreneurship needs of the community have to be addressed, he said.

"We need to make sure we have a solid foundation on our economy," Bishop said.

Although those key issues are addressed, Cedric Herring, professor in the department of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Chicago and in the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois, said this report had a new focus on entrepreneurship in the black community that he hadn't seen before.

"It's a focus on indigenous, community based economic development that grows out of business development," Herring said.

This is different because in the past there has been more of an emphasis on job training and education, which is still mentioned

in this report, but the focus on entrepreneurship is a different step, Herring said.

"It suggests that members of the African American community are at a different stage in terms of what people view as a catalyst for takeoff," Herring said.

In the past, the situation has been quite different.

"In the 1960s and 1970s, it might have been premature to have any kind of a focus on business development because you really were trying to get more members of the African American community up to speed on some of those more basic things," Herring said. "Now, it is a different stage of economic development where much of that groundwork, at least according to this type of proposal, has been laid."

Currently, the black community in Chicago fluctuates in terms of its economic position and right now with the downturned economy, the black community is facing

hardships, Herring said.

"When there's a state-wide recession or nation-wide recession, you actually can use the word 'depression' to talk about [the black] community," Herring said.

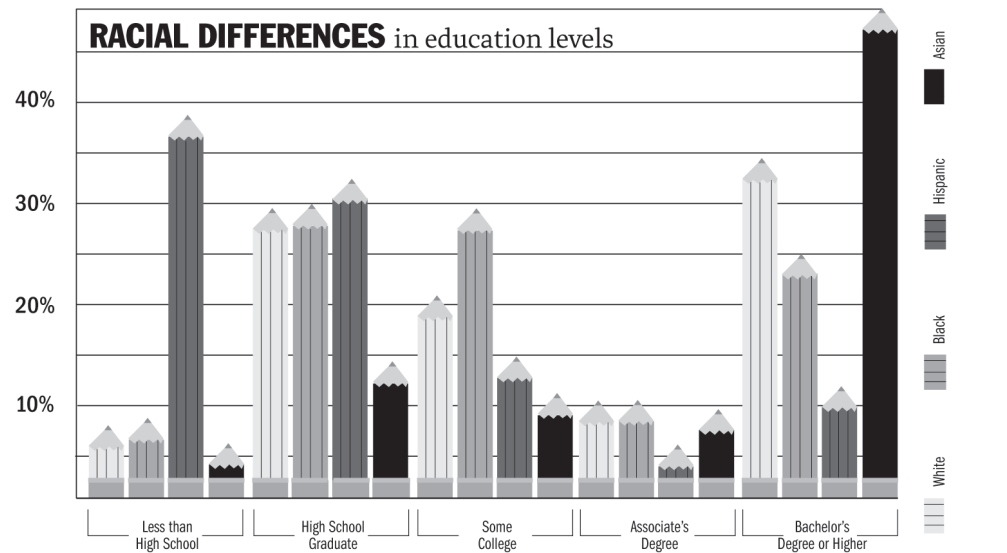
But a report like this one highlights the importance of investing in businesses because a successful business ripples throughout a community with jobs and other benefits, Herring said.

Some of these businesses may be small businesses, which are the driving force of a community, Bishop said.

This report, although focused on blacks in Chicago, can be all inclusive, Bishop said. The report showed a great plan for creating sustainability for the entire Chicago community, not just the black community, he said.

"All people face the same issues," Bishop said.

bschlikerman@chroniclemail.com



Source: Chicago Urban League

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NIU's Cole Hall to be demolished

Replacement building may be named Memorial Hall

by Michael Tarm

THE SPRAWLING complex where a gunman killed five Northern Illinois University students in a lecture hall then committed suicide on the auditorium's stage will be demolished and replaced, but the new structure will not stand on the site of the slayings.

"What I've heard from parents and students is that the site should be consecrated," NIU president John Peters said Feb. 27 as the governor announced plans to seek \$40 million in emergency state money to fund a replacement for Cole Hall.

Peters said a privately funded memorial of some sort—possibly a garden and sculptures—would instead occupy the land where the hall now stands, near the center of the 25,000-student campus. He planned to seek input from victims' families.

"The first thing I'm going to do is call those families. We've all become very close to them," Peters said. "They want to stay close, especially with the memorial on the site of the Cole Hall footprint."

Meanwhile, Gov. Rod Blagojevich called on lawmakers to approve his \$40 million request as quickly as possible. He acknowledged concerns about state budget deficits making such spending difficult, but claimed the money could be found and possibly funded through long-term bonds.

"Cole Hall will be torn down, but what happened there will never be forgotten," Blagojevich said.

Former NIU student Steven Kazmierczak burst into one of Cole Hall's auditoriums on Valentine's Day, carrying at least four guns, and fired dozens of shots into a geology class, killing five and wounding 18 people before turning the gun on himself.

Still, students seemed torn about plans to destroy the building.

"Some people can't stand to look at it, and others see it as a memo-

rial as it is," 19-year-old NIU freshman Cassie Dodd said. "Personally, I think it should stay. It's a part of us now."

Junior Jessica Burnside disagreed.

"It's a trophy of a tragic, destructive event," said Burnside, 21. "Nobody wants to be reminded of it."

At Virginia Tech, where student Seung-Hui Cho gunned down 32 people before killing himself, officials decided to turn the classroom space in Norris Hall into a peace center and interactive learning space. Laboratories, which couldn't be relocated because of the risk of damaging expensive equipment, remain in use.

State Rep. Robert Pritchard said Feb. 27 he would take a lead role in pushing the emergency appropriations bills through the Illinois Legislature.

"We have been working around the clock to build from the ashes a phoenix that will be a tribute and will also be fitting for future generations," the Republican from nearby Sycamore, Ill., said.

Peters noted that with Cole Hall—one of NIU's largest lecture complexes—closed since the Feb. 14 shootings, administrators have had to reassign thousands of students' classes to other areas around campus.

That makes the completion of a new complex "an emergency" situation, he said.

Peters said Cole Hall could be demolished in late spring. Designing the new complex would take around nine months, he said, and it could be completed by 2010 with the funding.

The new complex likely would be about 40 percent larger than Cole Hall and include three large lecture halls with about 10 classrooms, computer rooms and an atrium, Peters said.

And, he said, while the new complex's working title is Memorial Hall, naming it or some of its classrooms after the victims remains a possibility.

AP



FEATURE PHOTO - TV show cancellation spurs protest

Nina Hill of Schaumburg, Ill., protests the cancellation of TV show 'In The Loop With I Village' outside of the NBC Tower, 454 N. Columbus Drive on Feb. 22. Hill was part of a group of fans who protested outside the NBC Tower from noon until 1 p.m.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

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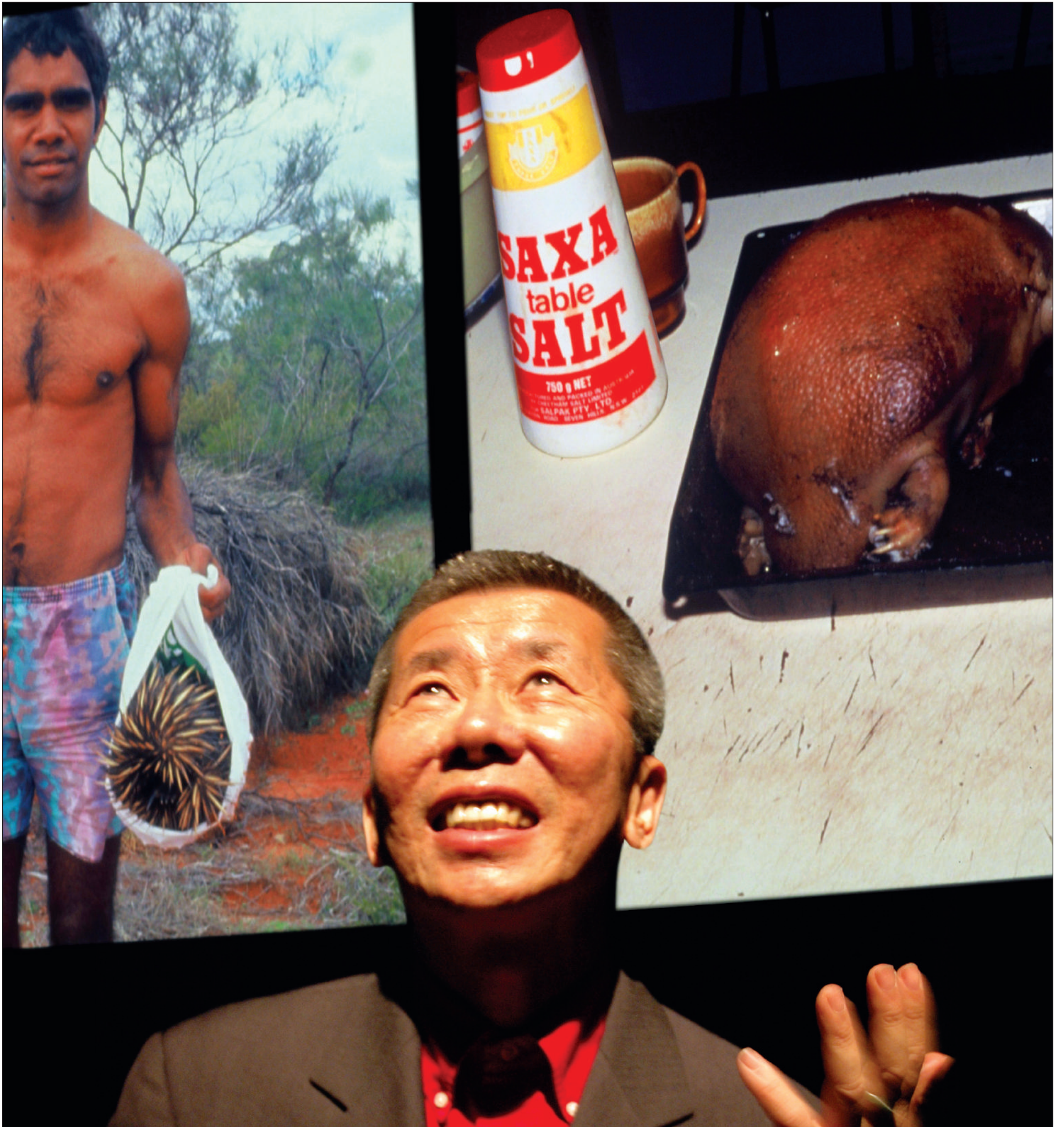
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(Left to right) During a news conference in Dekalb, Ill., Northern Illinois University president John G. Peters, Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich and Northern Illinois University student association president Jarvis K. Purnell announced on Feb. 27 a plan to replace Cole Hall with a new classroom building that may be called Memorial Hall to honor the students killed on Feb. 14.

AP



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Scoop in the Loop

by Brett Marlow
City Beat Editor

Wheelin' and dealin'

There are times when I'm on an errand or on my way to meet up with some friends and I take the train from the Loop, north a few stops. But, while waiting for the el to roll into the station, I often think to myself "I could have been there by now if I had my bike."

Since I live on the Far North Side, and don't enjoy biking eight miles to the South Loop each morning and late at night, I take the train. But when running around downtown, it would be nice to be able to maneuver without being at the mercy of the CTA. Solution? Bike rentals. And this idea isn't too far off the horizon.

The city is currently toying around with the idea of negotiating contracts with JCDecaux, the company responsible for the shelters at the city's bus stops. The company has proposed to put up more bus huts, newspaper stands and city information panels so the city can fund the bike rental program with advertising revenue without taking any money out of taxpayers' pockets, according to the Chicago Sun-Times. Bike rental stations would be located near bus stops for easy access.

Modeled after a program in France, residents, tourists or whomever, could pay a low fee for each half-hour out. JCDecaux has 20,000 bikes at more than 1,400 stations in Paris. Chicago's plans are to have 1,000 bikes at 80 stations downtown, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

I think Daley has the right idea, and it shouldn't cost residents any money. As a way of making this city the greenest in the country, offering a bike rental program where people could further their alterna-



A bike rental program could be successful in Chicago.

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tive means of transportation only helps that agenda and the city overall. There are ZipCars and i-Go vehicles available, but for those who don't drive, being able to rent a bike for errands or adventures could further the transportation options in the city—and we need that.

Chicago is growing into an extremely bike-friendly city, minus a few hiccups in the bike laws.

Allowing people to rent bikes at a small, reasonable cost sounds appealing. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, the first half-hour is free, and each after is \$1.50.

After this horrid winter comes to an end, I'm going to want to bike. But I'm not always going to have the opportunity to bike all the time. However, with the option to go pay a few bucks so I can cruise down Lake Shore Drive or over to Canal Street to pick up some groceries from Whole Foods, it

beats waiting. It's a much faster and more sensible option.

The only qualms I would have with the bike rental is that if approved, we need more bike racks in the city to accommodate for those who will hopefully use it. In addition, every biker's reason for riding will be different.

To accommodate those needs, hopefully the city will consider two-seater bikes or bikes with a cart or rack attached in the front to store items in and the locations of the bike rentals might be better served if centrally located in the Loop, but there needs to be others in the more bike-friendly neighborhoods as well. Why limit where people can rent them?

It looks like it has been a success in Paris, and if things go well, I hope it could make a success here. Pedal to the metal.

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In Other News

Something smells funny

An explosion at a shopping plaza in Waukegan, Ill., on Feb. 28 injured eight people, according to The Associated Press. The explosion occurred around noon in the 1900 block of Grand Avenue. The blast, possibly caused by a gas leak, imploded the roof of the plaza and all of the windows. Shop owners said they had smelled gas days before the explosion. At press time, a Peoples Energy spokeswoman said it was unknown what had caused the explosion because they had not been able to get close enough to the scene.

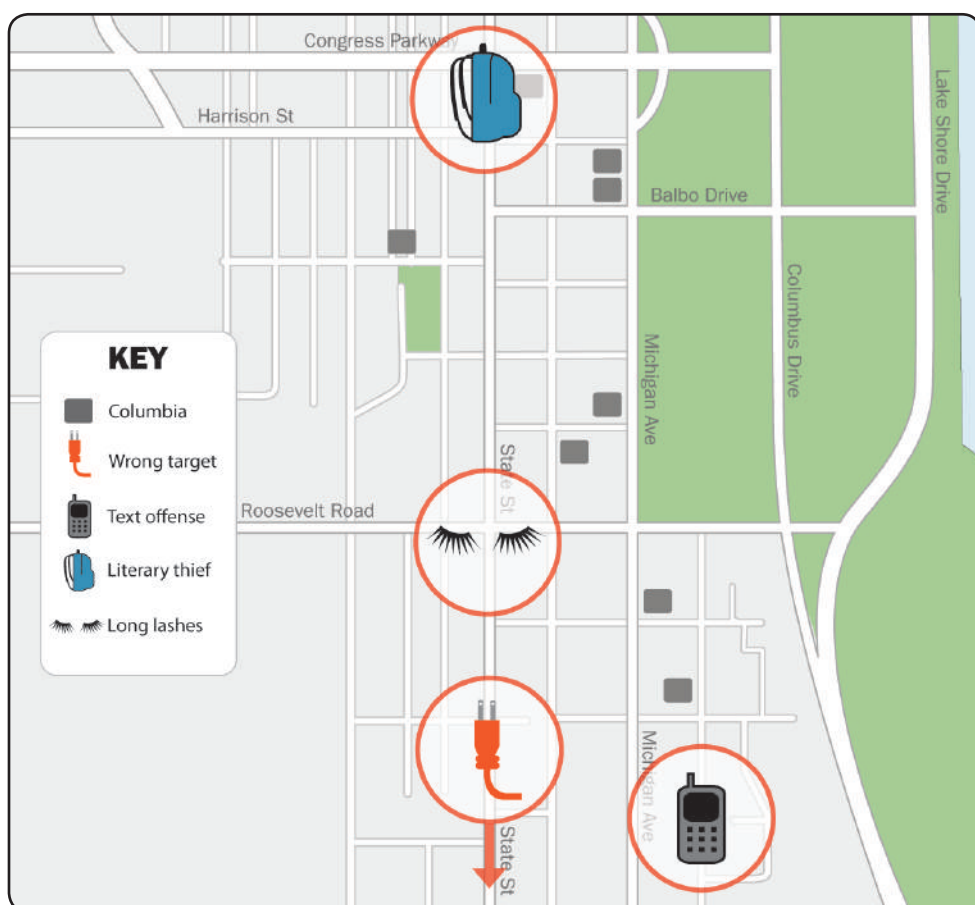
Plowing through budget

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, the city has already plowed through more than \$18.5 million in costs from snow removal of the \$20 million budgeted. The number stems from \$5.5 million in labor, \$4.4 million for vehicles and maintenance and \$9.7 million for salt. In 2006, the city spent more than \$33 million in snow removal costs. The number this year does not include the cost of removal from Feb. 25's snowfall. But city officials with the Chicago Department of Budget and Management said if they need to exceed that budget, they will for the benefit of the public's safety.

Parental probation

A Sauk Valley, Ill., female was sentenced to five years of probation and counseling from a Cook County juvenile court judge, according to the Chicago Tribune. The female, 16, suffocated her newborn baby, then put her in the trash. The girl, whose name is not being released because she is a juvenile, was also sentenced to 100 hours of community service, the Chicago Tribune reported. She was 14 when she gave birth.

OFF THE BLOTTER



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

Text offense

A 22-year-old female reported to police that a 20-year-old female sent her approximately 40 text messages threatening to beat her up and "bust her a--," at 1440 S. Indiana Ave. on Feb. 24, according to police reports. The offending 20-year-old was dating one of the victim's friends. The responding officer advised the victim to change her cell phone number.

Long lashes

A 40-year-old male was apprehended by police for stealing two packages of false eyelashes valued at \$9.48 from Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, on Feb. 25, according to police reports. A 36-year-old female employee witnessed the offender place the eyelashes in a bag and when he walked past the point of purchase, questioned him. The offender fled and the 49-year-old male store manager pursued him and caught him. The offender had previous arrests and convictions for theft.

Power hungry

A police officer reported 11 of 12 extension cords missing from the parking lot of a police station at 1718 S. State St. on Feb. 24, according to police reports. An unknown offender stole the 12-foot orange extension cords used to plug in heaters for the prisoners' van.

Literary thief

A 40-year-old male reported his backpack stolen from Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St., on Feb. 25, according to police reports. The victim was reading at a table in the library and left the table to go to the restroom. When he returned he found that his backpack, containing paperwork and five library books, was missing. The offender is unknown.

'Carter's Way'

Wednesday–Friday @ 7:30 p.m.
Saturday @ 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Sunday @ 6 p.m.

In the mean streets of mid-1930s America, the Great Depression's shadow loomed over everyone. In Kansas City, the birth of the jazz era brought a glut of interest; with that interest came jazz clubs. This is the story of the saxophone-playing band leader Oriole Carter, who works in one such club. As radio is born and brings fame to Carter, he falls head-over-heels in love with the white girlfriend of a local mob boss, bringing life to the race relations that were prevalent in the era. This production features original music by Darrell Leonard.

Steppenwolf Theatre
1650 N. Halsted St.
(312) 335-1650
\$40



Date and Dash Singles Speed-Dating Party

Tuesday @ 8–10 p.m.

You're young, attractive and single. But you don't have to be single. The fine folks of Date and Dash invite you to a speed dating party at Salud Tequila Lounge. Why go with a dating website to get hooked up with some creep who may not look anything like the picture? Ditch the guesswork and take in dozens of samples. Each mini-date lasts up to eight minutes before couples switch partners. Within 72 hours, you'll receive the contact information of your mutual attractions. What have you got to lose?

Salud Tequila Lounge
1471 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 235-5577
RSVP required: DateAndDash.com
\$32

monday

Mos Funnel, Unearthed, People on Trial, The Indoor Kids

9 p.m., The Note (21+)
1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 365-9000



Catfish Haven

9 p.m., The Empty Bottle
1035 N. Western Ave.
(773) 276-3600



Jennifer Karmin and Kathleen Duffy

6 p.m., Hyde Park Art Center
5020 S. Cornell Ave.
(773) 324-5520



tuesday

Radio Diaries: Alex Kotlowitz and Joe Richman

5:15 p.m., Northwestern University's Fisk Hall Room 111
1845 W. Sheridan Road
(312) 503-8649



Antjie Krog Poetry Reading

6–8 p.m., Hokin Annex
623 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 344-8829



Heartland Cafe Songwriter Showcase

9 p.m., Heartland Cafe
7000 N. Glenwood Ave.
(773) 465-8005



Gogol Bordello

7 p.m., Riviera Theatre
4750 N. Broadway
(773) 472-0449
\$21.50



Beer and pizza

Tuesdays @ 6:30–9:30 p.m.

It may not sound like much of a night out, but you've never tried it this far above par. Green Dolphin Street offers several types of \$10 gourmet pizza, an expansive beer selection and a wine list that is best described as staggering. Still not won over? Add to the mix the smooth sounds of the Jose Valdez Trio, a Latin jazz combo that will definitely add some steam to your evening. If you and your lass (or gent) need more to do when the evening's through, Webster Place is only a stone's throw east of Green Dolphin Street. Add a movie and you've got an evening built to please.

Green Dolphin Street
2200 N. Ashland Ave.
(773) 395-0066
No cover



Ask An Attorney

10 a.m.–noon, Arts Entrepreneurship Center
218 S. Wabash Ave., 7th floor
(312) 344-8620



wednesday

'Burnt Oranges'

6–8 p.m., Hokin Annex
623 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 344-8829



The Pogues

7:30 p.m., Riviera Theatre
4750 N. Broadway
(773) 275-6800
\$39



'Project Runway' Finale viewing party

9 p.m., Kit Kat Lounge and Supper Club
3700 N. Halsted St.
(773) 525-1111



thursday

Bigmouth Open Mic Series

7 p.m., Conaway Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 344-7188



Gipsy Kings

8 p.m., The Chicago Theatre
175 N. State St.
(312) 462-6300
\$50–\$95



friday

'Class of 1984' and 'Army of Darkness'

Midnight, Music Box Theatre
3733 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-6604
\$10



'Control'

6:30 p.m., 9 p.m., 11:30 p.m., Doc Films
1212 E. 59th St.
(773) 702-8575
\$5



Dorothy Ann Photography gallery opening

6–10 p.m., Gallery 203
1579 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 252-1952



Vegan-friendly breakfast buffet

Sundays @ 10 a.m.–3 p.m., 6–11 p.m.

It's hard enough finding a good vegan restaurant. Well, Rodan wants to change that. In fact, it's taking things up a notch and offering a full vegan-friendly breakfast buffet. After all, it's not easy making a meal which uses "eggs," "sausage" and "bacon" as its main courses and making it appealing to the anti-meat crowd. Having vegan breakfast for vegan dinner will be the perfect chance to impress that vegan hippy you met speed-dating. And if you play your cards right, this date might last more than three to eight minutes.

Rodan
1530 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 276-7036



Lefty Collins

7 p.m., House of Blues, Back Porch Stage
329 N. Dearborn St.
(312) 923-2007



saturday

Hand of God, Jah Safe, Vitamin D, Ang 13, KaDi, Cristina Sanchez, Kenny Keys

10 p.m., Reggie's Rock Club (21+)
2109 S. State St.
(312) 949-0121
\$12 (\$10 advance)



In>Time

6–9 p.m., Gar Rotunda, Claudia Cassidy Theater
77 E. Randolph St.
(312) 744-6630



'Decoding the Language of Flowers' lecture

2 p.m., Chicago Botanic Garden
1000 Lake Cook Road
(847) 835-5440



sunday

The Boys From County Hell, Doug McKean and the Stuntmen

9 p.m., The Note (21+)
1565 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 365-9000
\$10 (\$8 advance)



Beverly's (early) St. Patrick's Day parade

8:30 a.m., Western Avenue between 103rd and 115th streets
(773) 393-8687

Growing Tennessee: A Talk and Meal with Lew Rosenbaum

1–4 p.m., Mess Hall
6932 N. Glenwood Ave.
(773) 465-4033



Debonair Social Club's 'Rock Band' Tuesday

Tuesday @ 9 p.m.

Feed those dreams of becoming a rock star without the drug habit, the touring or the 20-year reunions. Every Tuesday at Debonair Social Club, earn free drinks by "performing" for a live crowd by playing the game "Rock Band." To get you nice and warmed up, enjoy the \$3 PBRs and \$5 Effen vodka. The event is hosted by Red Haired Matt, Mr. Wes and Zack Going and features DJ Mathew Vonn.

Debonair Social Club
1575 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 227-7990



ongoing

Judith Rothschild: Paintings of the 1940s

Monday–Friday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Valerie Carberry Gallery
875 N. Michigan Ave.
(312) 397-9990
Ends April 26



Photography of Craig Doty

Wednesday–Sunday 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Museum of Contemporary Art
220 E. Chicago Ave.
(312) 280-2660
\$10 (free Tuesday)
March 8–30



Caroline Picard Video Installation

Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Around the Coyote Festival Gallery
1935-1/2 W. North Ave.
(773) 342-6777
Ends March 8



Michelle L'amour's burlesque class

Thursday 7:15–8:15 p.m., Wednesday 8:30–9:30 p.m., 3703 N. Elston Ave.
(773) 742-5250
\$15

Know about an upcoming event that other Columbia students should know about? Give us a heads-up. We'll be sure to consider it! sbaltrukonis@chroniclemail.com