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THE COLUMBIA
CHRONICLE

The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago May 5, 2008 Volume 43 Number 29 ColumbiaChronicle.com

KICKIN' IT Jimmy Lathero, a 20-year-old professional rider from Fellsmere, Fla., runs for cover after being thrown from the bull "Spit Shine" on April 26. The Pro Bull Rider tour event was held at Allstate Arena on April 26 and 27 in Rosemont, Ill. Riders from all over the country came to the event. Other riders came from as far as Brazil. Turn to page 22 for the full photo essay.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

DNA: up close and personal

A new exhibit at The Field Museum teaches visitors about the science of DNA

by Bethany Reinhart
Assistant City Beat Editor

A NEW, permanent exhibition at Chicago's Field Museum will give museumgoers an opportunity that can't be found anywhere else in the country—a chance to watch DNA researchers as they conduct their own real-life work.

The museum unveiled its "DNA Discovery Center" on May 2 at The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, which was created to give patrons a first-hand look at how DNA research is changing the way scientists view the world. By analyzing DNA from tissue samples, scientists are able to study evolutionary biology and genetics. Like in most scientific labs, the research in the new "DNA Discovery" lab is ever-changing and ever-evolving.

"DNA is the thread that connects all human life," said Shannon Hackett, associate curator of birds at The Field Museum. "We did a survey of people coming into the building and realized that most people don't know what DNA is and they don't really know what it does."

The "DNA Discovery Center" aims to help answer basic and complex questions about DNA and how it works in all living organisms. The exhibition also shows visitors the work that the museum is doing in the field of evolutionary biology.

The centerpiece of the "DNA Discovery Center" is a state-of-the-art viewable laboratory, which is the first molecular systematics facility in the country to open a public viewing session, said John McCarter, president and CEO of The Field Museum.

The exhibition includes a viewable working lab where visitors can see DNA being extracted from different specimens, sequenced and then analyzed, McCarter said. Different DNA researchers will be available for one hour every day to answer questions from museumgoers, as well as describe work currently being conducted in the lab, he said.

From sharks to birds, tissue specimens used in the lab are taken from almost any living organism found on Earth, said lab manager Kevin Felheim.

In a tucked-away hallway of the laboratory, previously used for anthropological storage, a map of the world hangs on the wall. The map is covered in tiny color-coded pins representing field and specimen research areas, Felheim said.

Researchers cover everything from Antarctic lichens to Tanzanian frogs, he said.

The viewable lab is part of the Pritzker

» SEE DNA, PG. 38

Fish preserved in jars are on display at the new Field Museum exhibit "DNA Discovery," 400 S. Lake Shore Drive, on April 29. The exhibit is designed to teach middle school and high school students about the complexities of DNA in an interesting and hands-on manner.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

ANTIQUE MARKET GETS POLISHED

FOR THE past six years, collectors and crafters have gathered at the Chicago Antique Market in the West Loop to sell, swap and buy antiques with other vendors from Chicago and around the country. Though most antique markets attract older crowds, this market hopes to bring in younger, college-aged audiences with "mini-markets" like the Vinyl Swap Meet and Fancy Food Market.

» SEE PG. 13

CABS COST MORE

CABS IN Chicago now cost $1 more. A fuel surcharge ordinance went into effect on April 28 to help alleviate the rising costs of gas that cab drivers face, officials said. The surcharge tacks on $1 more when gas is more than $3.20 for seven consecutive days. But some cab drivers say this isn't enough and want a permanent fare increase.

» SEE PG. 35

ADVERTISING CLASS ADVANCES

THE AD Practicum class, Tempo, received first place in the District 6 National Student Advertising Competition in Detroit on April 25. The team advanced to the nationals for the first time in more than 10 years. Nationals will take place on June 8 and 9 in Atlanta.

» SEE PG. 9

Editor's column

by Amanda Maurer
Editor-in-Chief

An end-of-semester evaluation

As editor-in-chief of The Chronicle, I frequently receive e-mails from students who are interested in either working for the paper, attending Columbia or both.

They always ask how they can become involved with the paper (to which I have a "To become a part of The Chronicle" response I've sadly memorized), and what are the best and worst things about the college.

So here we are. After four years of learning such a great deal about Columbia, I'm finally ready to release my official list.

Pros:

Opportunities are incredible: It's obvious but true. There are so many student groups, class projects, internships and freelance positions available that it's almost impossible NOT to find opportunities to work in your field. The best part is if you work hard, you'll have something to show for it. If you don't, you'll just become another person who went to "art school."

Events: From Convocation to Manifest, the college offers year-round events for you to become even more cultured and involved.

It's in Chicago: Location, location, location. It was a huge selling point for me.

Student body: Not so long ago, Columbia was a commuter school, but in the past few years it has completely transformed (while trying to hold on to its original identity) into a nationally known and respected college. This has led to students coming from every income level, state and a number of countries. Yay diversity!

Cons:

Attendance policy: A standard college-wide policy doesn't exist, which means professors can try to force attendance. This is relatively understandable because you can't learn many of Columbia's majors from textbooks; however, isn't missing the information enough of a punishment? If students don't attend, they'll either fail assignments or fail in their fields—and don't worry, if students really are passionate about the class, they'll come.

Scholarships: Yes, the college offers hundreds more scholarships than a few years ago. I have just one problem: They offer many of the same few scholarships. We need more departmental scholarships and more general scholarships; more institutional aid needs to be available for each student.

Ridiculous stereotypes: My boyfriend's definitely guilty of it—assuming all Columbia students wear black, have at least five piercings, wear tight pants and are too artsy to function. Please. We play beer pong too.

Final projects: This was my biggest pet peeve for the longest time. Every general education class I took would make me apply my final project to my major. This was especially popular the first few years I was at Columbia; I couldn't get away from them. I always thought gen eds were a great opportunity to expand your creativity, and yet we couldn't. For four years I craved making an art project—and have never had the opportunity to do so.

Both:

Financial aid: It's a problem at every school and at Columbia it's no different. In my experience things have become easier throughout the years, and I'm not quite sure why. I've learned that it's best to be proactive with all of your financial affairs. However, the help line is great.

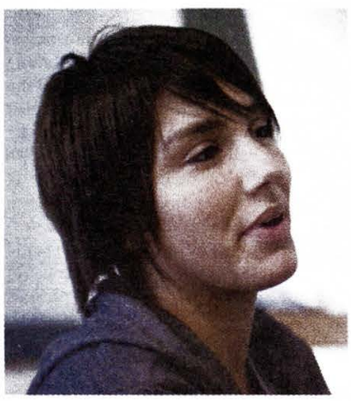
Nontraditional general education classes: Double-edged sword here. Sure, a lot of these classes sound like a good time... but it can be awkward when you're telling your boss that you're taking a course called Empowering the Goddess or Death and Dying. Also, it can be hit or miss when it comes to picking a class and professor. Thank goodness for RateMyProfessor.com.

People are passionate: Another double-edged sword. Passion's great. It leads to the creativity the college is known for. However, people also become passionate about topics they're usually misinformed about. I'm admittedly cynical about it. Granted, by working on the newspaper (specifically the Campus News desk), I know more about the college and its dealings than the normal student. But it's funny how many people disregard that knowledge in favor of their own assumptions.

amaurer@chroniclemail.com

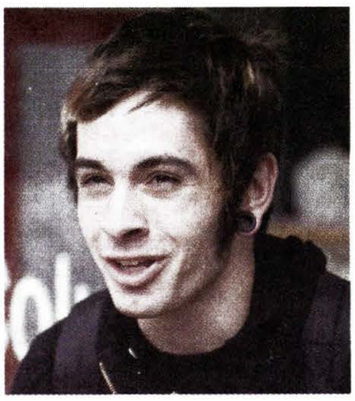
CAMPUS POLL: How do you feel about the fuel surcharge for taxis?

» SEE TAXI, PG. 36



"I don't ride in cabs that often, but with the gas prices as high as they are they have to pay for their own gas too. There's not much else we can do but pay it."

Ellyn Fortino
Freshman
Arts, Entertainment and Media Management



"Cabs are expensive enough without adding a dollar for fuel, but I mean gas prices are going up so I see why they're doing it."

Wyl Villacres
Freshman
Film and Video

"Taxis are already expensive so I don't think I'd notice it that much."

Tim Nurczyk
Senior
Photography

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Corrections:

In the April 28 issue, an article incorrectly stated Industry Night was on May 16. Industry Night is on May 15.

Also, the Morgan Spurlock Q&A incorrectly said Spurlock was closing in on Osama bin Laden at the Pakistan/Iraq border. It was the Pakistan/Afghanistan border.

Lastly, Stacy Ratner was quoted as saying "there is still such a large population with such a low functional level." The correct quote reads "reading level." In addition, Open Books has partnered with the Kohl's McCormick StoryBus and started Reading Buddies.

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Letters can be faxed to (312) 344-8430, e-mailed to Chronicle@colum.edu or mailed to The Chronicle, 33 E. Congress Parkway, Suite 224 Chicago, IL 60605-1996.

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Campus News

GROOVE BAND PERFORMS

(Top) Kejuan Carter sings a solo as the remaining members of Groove Band III perform at the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. on May 1. Groove Band III is part of the Pop/Rock Ensemble class at Columbia that performs contemporary music. Students range from freshmen to senior, in this year-long course. Students in the class have performed in such venues like Reggie's Rock Club, 2105 S. State St.

(Left) Members of the band perform at the Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave on May 1. Members of the band include Brittany Moffitt, Sally Blandon, Kejuan Carter and Lester Jenkins on vocals and Brian Pettis, Ben Butel, Mike Philpot, Juan Galindo and Pat Lyons.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

Council talks Industry Night, construction

by Robert Bykowski
Campus News Editor

WITH A brisk pace and sparse student content, the College Council held its final meeting of the academic year on May 2.

During the meeting, the council heard reports on the forthcoming Industry Night, summer construction and other events.

The council, which is made up of student, staff, faculty and administration representatives, meets monthly on the 8th floor of the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, spent his allotted time during the meeting giving the council statistics and information about Industry Night, a new addition to Manifest this year which aims to connect graduating students with industry professionals. Industry Night will be held on May 15, and Kelly is expecting between 500 and 600 industry professionals to be on hand to check out student work in fields ranging from journalism to music.

Also in the meeting, Columbia's construction project manager, John Kavouris, outlined Columbia's five summer construction projects, which includes remodeling the 5th floor of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building, which will be Columbia's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified project.

A report from the Student Government Association president Brian Matos informed the council that the SGA, along with SGAs from DePaul University and the University of Chicago, would be meeting at Metra headquarters on May 5 to discuss the legislation being worked on in regard to a Metra student discount.

Later in the meeting, the College Council's Strategic Planning Committee presented its report on the performance and progress of Columbia's 2010 Plan, a list of objectives for the college to accomplish by the year 2010.

Bob Thall, chair of the Photography Department, spoke on behalf of the committee and stated while the college has performed very well in some areas on the 2010 Plan, including the expansion of ethnic and geographical diversity on campus, it had failed in other areas, such as the goal to "promote broader distribution of enrollment across the programs."

rbykowski@chroniclemail.com

Advertising scholarships awarded

Two students receive $2,500 scholarships from Airlift Ideas

by Miles Maftean
Assistant Campus News Editor

DURING THE third annual Airlift Ideas Marketing Award reception, Columbia named the winners and celebrated the scholarship reception with an advertising professional keynote speaker about the advertising world of McDonald's.

Junior public relations major Mayowa Osinubi and senior marketing communications major Krizia Cardoso were named the winners of the 2008 Airlift Ideas Marketing Award, an annual advertising scholarship given out by Airlift Ideas Inc. Each received a $2,500 scholarship on April 20 in Collins Hall in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

Students were asked to submit a campaign concept with a $5,000 budget regarding one of two issues on the campus. Participants must have included a write-up of their marketing concept and a single 20 by 30 inch concept board of the campaign. Each submission should have addressed the standard marketing objectives of contemporizing the brand, driving customer visits and increasing sales.

This year's competition offered cash prizes in two different campaign strategies. The first concept was "Get in Shape." Students were asked to address the need to motivate Chicago and Chicagoans to get in shape for the Olympics, which may be the site for the 2016 Olympics.

Cardoso won first place for her campaign, which highlighted the qualities

» SEE SCHOLARSHIP, PG. 8

Columbia in 10 seconds ... or less

Associate Dean to step down, return to teaching

IT WAS announced last week that Jim MacDonald, associate dean in the school of Fine and Performing Arts, is stepping down from his position and taking a faculty position in the Music Department.

Entrepreneurship club to host concert

AARON MANSFIELD, State & Madison and The Robbery are scheduled to perform on May 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Reggie's Rock Club, 2105 S. State St. Admission for the event is $6.

Columbia student wins film award

FILM STUDENT Sean Jourdan was the recipient of the 2008 CINE Golden Eagle Award of Excellence for Best Student Film in 2008. Jourdan won for his short film *An Open Door*.

Commencement reception for graduate students

GRADUATE STUDENTS, faculty and staff can attend this event featuring food and live music at the Book and Paper Arts Center in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on May 9.

ADVERTISEMENT

#3 Student submissions are paid for by the Columbia College Chicago Chapter of the ACLU of IL

ACLU FREE SPEECH SPACE

CCCC.ACLU@yahoo.com

1:00 pm Tuesdays

in the underground cafe

Wondering why Columbia Hates Liberty

By Andrew Breen President of CCCC-ACLU

It has been brought to my attention that a student has been banned from participating in Student Government or SOC activities. I assure you I have my own opinions on this issue but, for fear of retaliation by Columbia College I will refrain from sharing them in detail and simply say this: The fact that a paying student with a sterling academic record (3.6) is being prevented from being the author of this generation's culture, based on what amounts to hearsay, is a travesty. Columbia, to my knowledge never granted due process; private "business" or not, a human being in the United States is entitled to due process, representation in any meetings or interrogations.

Columbia has also ignored its own recent statements that it is to be the most student centered media arts college in the world. Being the most student centered anything means that, ideally, a strong emphasis is placed on hearing, working with, and supporting student endeavors to advance their own cause and interests. That said, the "code of conduct" is not what the students want. Students are asking for a comprehensive document that has been written by students for students, not by administrators. What the college has been doing concerning the Student Bill of Rights amounts to censorship and a clear disregard for grass-roots democratic process. If the Bill of Rights can no longer be a Student Government issue the only clear assumption I am able to make is that it now becomes a college wide issue. ■

Restraining Power, Empowering the Student Body

By Kevin Gosztola

Americans in my generation have lowered their sights and narrowed their vision for the kind of future/world they want to live in. At the risk of creating arguments and division, students do not wish to challenge people to take a stand on what's right and wrong. In the face injustice and supreme violations of liberty, how can students not take a stand?

Currently, there is a student here at Columbia who has had his college experience violated by being banned from the Hub in the 1104 S. Wabash Building. Put on probation, he is not allowed to do student organizing anymore. This injustice is a result of defending the right to unionize, speaking out against our security contractor, informing students that the FBI wanted information on "anti-government" students, circulating the Student Bill of Rights, and publishing a political cartoon that "offended" students. The student has been denied due process.

This supreme violation of a Columbia student's college experience is what members of ACLU, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Latino Alliance, the GLBTQ community, and others hope to prevent through the institution of a Student Bill of Rights.

Through this document, students can make sure their college experience is not violated or infringed upon. Students can become empowered to take on injustice and fight for a moral and sustainable society.

We can pioneer a world--develop the vectors of what we want to do in life and what kind of impact we want to have in this world. We can turn off the iPods, stop text messaging and updating our Facebooks, and build the community we want to prosper and live in by working to shape policies and organizations on campus. ■

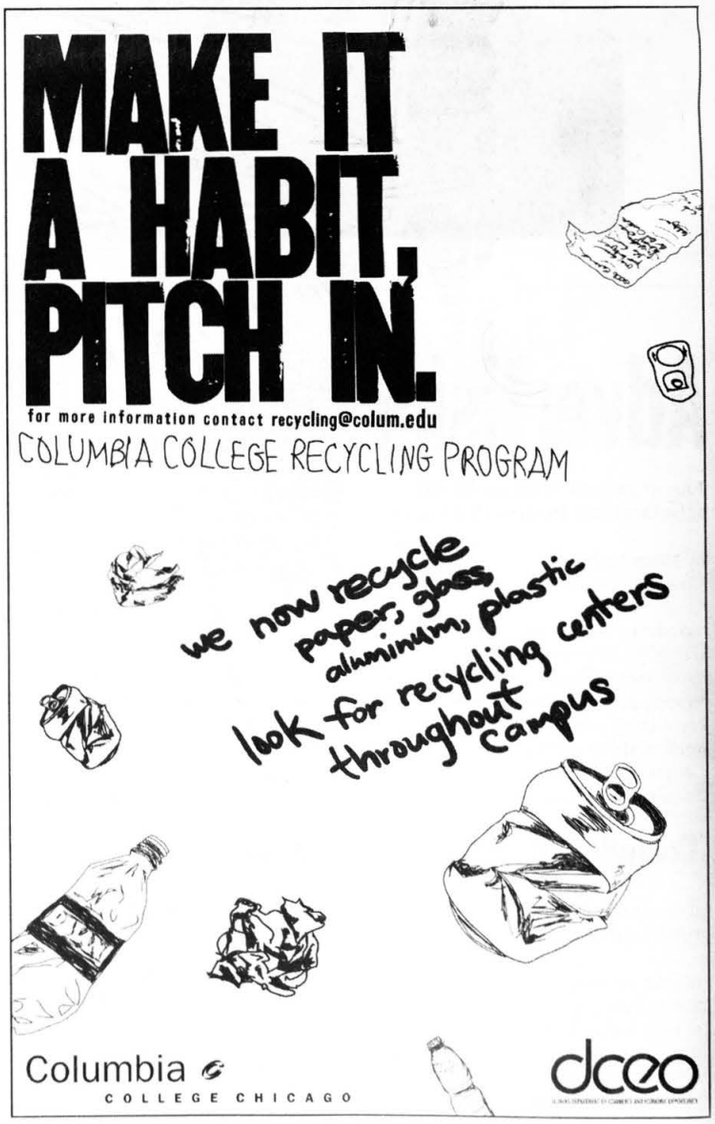
Students' Bill of Rights as Adopted by the Progressive Student Coalition

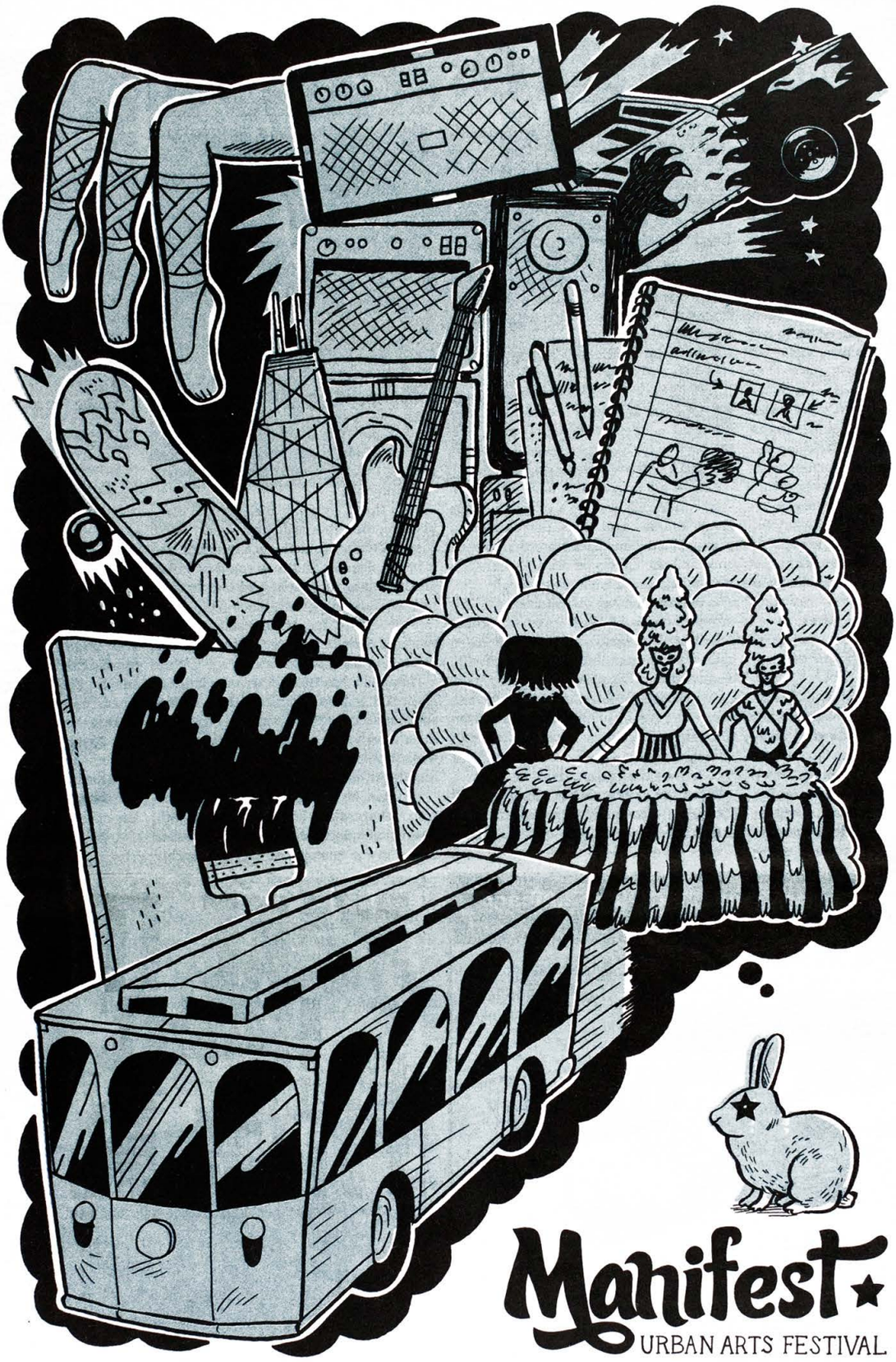
1. Freedom of Expression and Speech
2. Freedom from Discrimination
3. Freedom of Association, Student Organizations, and Peaceful Assembly
4. Right to College Wide Student Elections
5. Right of Student Participation in the Formulation of Institutional Policy
6. Freedom of Access to Information and Inquiry of the College
7. Right to a voice in the curriculum
8. Right of Ownership of Intellectual Property
9. Right to Accessibility to Facilities
10. Freedom of the Campus Media Outlets and Press
11. Right to a Healthy and Safe Campus
12. Right to Fair Academic Evaluation
13. Right to Privacy
14. Right to Procedure of Due Process
15. Amendable Document

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

Concert Hall Events

Monday May 5	
Jazz Guitar Ensemble 3	12:00 PM
Drums and Percussion Recital	3:00 PM
Peter Tsoukas Senior Recital	7:00 PM
Tuesday May 6	
R&B Ensemble Recital	12:00 PM
Gospel Choir Recital	5:00 PM
At The Sherwood Conservatory	
Pop Ensemble 1	7:00 PM
Wednesday May 7	
Guitar Grooves Recital	12:00 PM
Combo Fest	4:00 PM
Thursday May 8	
Songwriting 2 Recital	12:00 PM
Piano Recital at Sherwood Conservatory	6:00 PM
Pop Orchestra	7:00 PM
Friday May 9	
Comp 2 C Recital	12:00 PM
Overture 1312 Honors Piano Concert at The Sherwood Conservatory	7:30 PM





create... change

30,000 people. 50 showcases. 14 galleries. 4 stages. 1 day.

Experience Manifest. Columbia College Chicago's urban arts festival celebrates the work of seniors and graduate students from every department on campus. Manifest 2008 will feature an artwalk & sale, music on four stages, screenings, readings, live radio, Web casts, the TICTOC Performance Art Festival, the Transmission art car exhibition, Spectacle Fortuna's parade of creativity led by Jon Langford, and special musical guest OK Go!

Visit the Manifest website at **www.colum.edu/manifest** for OK Go ticket instructions and to plan your Manifest 2008 experience!

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

Illustration & lettering by Jonathan Wilcox ('07)

Veteran students face hurdles

Health, bureaucracy make it hard to adjust to student life

by Martha Quillin

SGT. NATASHA McKinnon survived losing part of her left leg to an improvised bomb in Iraq. Now that she's back, she's trying to find her balance in college life. Sometimes she can't recall a professor's name. She loses track of test dates. Occasionally, she forgets she has pulled off her prosthetic leg to rest her stump during a long lecture, only to tilt off balance when she tries to stand.

As tens of thousands of veterans of the war in Afghanistan and Iraq try to collect on their promised college benefits, McKinnon and others are finding that their combat experience complicates the transition from soldier to student.

Some have trouble collecting the government money that is supposed to pay for college, or they discover that the benefits aren't nearly enough to cover tuition and other bills. While their classmates complain about homework and hangovers, many vets struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, the effects of traumatic brain injury, lost limbs and a range of chronic medical problems.

"Not only am I a full-time student," McKinnon said during a break between classes, "I'm a full-time patient. It takes a toll, mentally and physically. Sometimes I'm there in class, but only in body. Not in mind."

With 1.5 million service members coming out of military duty in Afghanistan and Iraq since October 2001, universities across the state and the nation have been anticipating a postwar influx and looking for ways to welcome veterans to campus.

No one tracks how many enrolled at North Carolina State University, which has a historical connection to veterans, are veterans. If they don't ask for help, the schools may never know they're there.

That may be why many departments at NCSU have been slow to recognize veterans might need special accommodations, says Cheryl Branker, NCSU's director of Disability Compliance.

Provisions can include priority seating near a door so a student vet can leave quickly if the crowded room makes him anxious; a quiet room for taking tests, where other students' sudden movements won't send the vet into high alert; or relocating a class to a space that's wheelchair-accessible.

"These are people who have put themselves in harm's way, in a very dangerous place," Branker said. "I just don't see that a person could come back from that experience and the effects be mild. If there is a way to help them, we want to do it."

Generally, Branker said, student vets fall into two groups. Reservists and National Guardsmen are usually in their 30s or older, back from combat duty they never really bargained for and now finally able to pursue the college education they always wanted. Then there are the soldiers in their 20s, who went into active duty shortly after high school, deployed overseas and came back aged beyond their years.

Either one walking into a classroom full of typical freshman might have trouble fitting in.

Veterans often don't want to admit they have a disability and won't seek help, Branker said, even though they would qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The law says any student with an impairment that affects a major life function is eligible for assistance, no matter the cause of the impairment.

Branker has seen student veterans who have hearing loss, vision loss, decreased physical stamina and mobility issues. She said most of the veterans she sees have been diagnosed with PTSD, thought to afflict as many as 20 percent of Iraq war veterans, or they have traumatic brain injury from being too close to too many explosions.

"Most of them have both," she said.

"You just feel like you're on a different playing field," said Jason Lindsay, 25, an Army reservist who spent five months in Iraq in 2003 before being called home to tend to his dying mother. A senior at NCSU, Lindsay is taking this semester off to work on Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's presidential campaign.

"You think, 'Why are these people complaining they have to do homework? Don't they know they could be in a mud hut and it be 130 degrees and they could be killed just for supporting the opposition? Or be in military uniform, getting shot at?'"

After being in Iraq, Lindsay said, "You take everything a lot more seriously because you know how fortunate you are."

Though he has PTSD, a herniated disc in his back that doctors attribute to his service and trouble concentrating on one thing for more than a few minutes, Lindsay said his main problem has been red tape involving his educational benefits.

Last year, he said, the Department of Veterans Affairs, which administers the GI Bill, erroneously decided that Lindsay was no longer in the Reserves. It cut his monthly payments of $430 a month and said he would have to repay about $7,000. Dozens of calls and letters to the Army and the VA have not corrected the record.

NCSU freshman Natasha McKinnon readies an alcohol spray she will use on her prosthetic leg during a break between classes on April 8 in Raleigh, N.C.

MCT

Jim Benson, a spokesman for the VA in Washington, said the department is working hard to help veterans get the benefits they're entitled to, but it can be complicated. Programs compete and overlap, and it takes time to determine which ones each vet is qualified for and which best suit his needs.

"Generally, we're doing pretty well," Benson said. "There are lots of challenges, lots of choices. It can be confusing."

MCT

Rendering of planned Media Production Center. Design subject to change.

What's 40,000 square feet, "green," and the first newly constructed building* in Columbia's history?

The entire Columbia community is invited to learn about plans for the exciting Media Production Center, which will house state-of-the-art sound stages, a motion-capture studio, an animation lab, and much more in a sustainably designed space.

Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment, will be joined by Doreen Bartoni, dean of the School of Media Arts, and Jeanne Gang of Studio Gang Architects, to present this innovative building and answer your questions.

Tuesday, May 6
1–2 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium
600 S. Michigan, 1st floor

create... change

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

*pending land acquisition from the City of Chicago.

SGA continues push for Campus Center

Nominations held for executive board, Campus Center top issue

by Tim Bearden
Assistant Campus News Editor

Alicia Berg, the vice president of Campus Environment, presents the mock-up of the new Media Production Center to the SGA on April 29. Its construction will cost the school approximately $20 million.

Dan Thompson THE CHRONICLE

THE STUDENT Government Association held nominations for its executive board at its last meeting of the semester on April 29 at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

For most nominees the main concern of next year is putting together a cohesive plan for the Campus Center, which was also addressed by guest speakers that evening.

Alicia Berg, the vice president for Campus Environment, and Eric Winston, the vice president of Institutional Advancement, were guest speakers at the meeting and discussed the new Media Production Center.

Both speakers also addressed issues about the development of the Campus Center, which will be Columbia's version of a Student Center.

According to Berg, the college's main reason for not moving forward with the Campus Center is Columbia's lack of funding, though fundraising for this project hasn't begun. The building itself is estimated to cost about $100 million to build. It's hard for the college to generate that kind of revenue for this project, Berg said.

"In the past [the college has] never really had a successful capital campaign," she said. "The board was determined to go along with the vice presidents and [Dr. Warrick L. Carter] in that we really needed to start developing a successful campaign strategy and be successful. We needed both of those facilities so we decided to go ahead with the Media Production Center."

Berg added the college does have a savings fund for the Campus Center while the Media Production Center is being built, aand it is trying to add new student spaces while production on the Campus Center is at a standstill.

Winston said generating money for the college is a difficult task, but he is willing to work with the SGA and raise funds together.

"We would certainly be glad to help out and work with you and devise plans to help [fund the Campus Center]," Winston said. "I think the main thing we have to understand is in order to build anything it requires a considerable amount of outside money."

Winston also said in order to gain support from these outside sources they must produce results of finished projects before new ones can begin.

"I don't know if any of you have ever done fundraising ... one of the things you learn very quickly is you must have success," he said. "Success breeds success. The $20 million campaign [for the Media Production Center] was a doable campaign. And it was one that we felt if we achieved that ... we could build upon that in the future and move on to the larger project."

Brian Matos, the president of the SGA, was dissatisfied with the answers given by Berg and Winston but said it wasn't their fault.

"I think both of them are in a position where they have to do what their bosses tell them to do," Matos said. "I think [Berg] wants to do this, because it would be a great thing to add to her repertoire, devising a successful $100 million project and getting it finished, but I think right now [both Berg and Winston] have been handcuffed."

Matos also said while he respects the things the current board of trustees and the president have done, the college is looking too short-term and needs to look to the future of its students.

"The administration needs to take a chance for a long-term legacy at this college," he said. "It's the same thing they ask of the students and I believe it's fair to ask the same thing of them."

Matos will no longer be the SGA president after elections are held on May 6, but the nominees to fill his position agree with Matos and feel the Campus Center is something that needs to get done.

Kelli Van Antwerp, the current senator for the Television Department, said she wants to see the Campus Center move forward to epitomize the college's reputation as part of her contribution if she's elected senate president.

» SEE SGA, PG. 10

create... change

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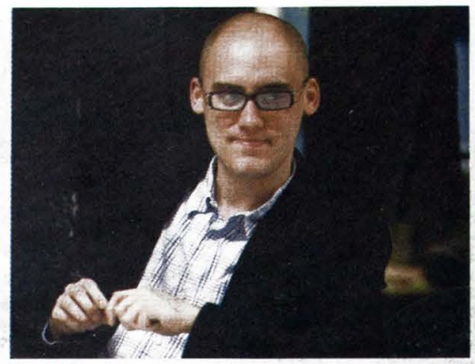
Student Financial Services will begin awarding for the 2008-2009 award year April 2008.

Visit Student Financial Services' Spotlight for more information at: www.colum.edu/Student_Financial_Services.

SGA nominees for executive board

Jessica Valerio, the vice president of Communications, was nominated for president, executive vice president and vice president of Communications.



Zack Dexter, an at-large senator, was nominated for executive vice president.

Adam Werlinger, an at-large senator, was nominated for executive vice president and vice president of Finance.

Jenna Dillon, the Dance Department senator, was nominated for president and executive vice president.

Adrian Polk, the Music Department senator, was nominated for vice president of Finance.

Kelli Van Antwerp, the Television Department senator, was nominated for president.

All SGA members were nominated on April 29 and will be voted for on May 6 by the senate.

Dan Thompson THE CHRONICLE

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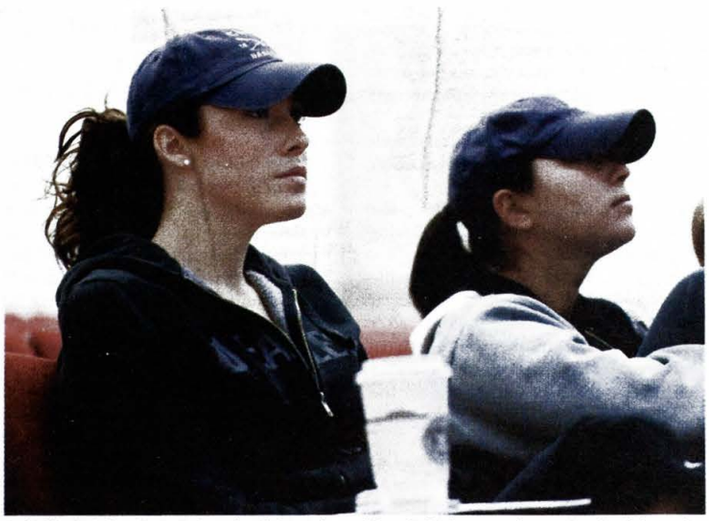
Ad practicum class advances to nationals

First national advancement for Columbia in more than 10 years

by Miles Maftean
Assistant Campus News Editor



(Left) Elizabeth Donkin, a senior advertising major, and Brenda Staken, a senior sports advertising major, sit in the ad practicum class on Apr. 30 in the Ferguson Auditorium in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

FOR THE first time since 1996, the Marketing Communication Department's Advertising Practicum Team, Tempo, took first place and swept the competition at the District 6 National Student Advertising Competition in Detroit.

On April 25, Tempo beat schools like Ball State University and the University of Michigan, and it will advance to the National Student Advertising Competition at the American Advertising Federation Conference on June 8 and 9 in Atlanta.

"I'm thrilled we're going to nationals," said Kevin Christophersen, the director of Advertising Studies. "It's a lot of work, and you never know what the advertising agent executives are looking for."

Christophersen said each year the American Advertising Federation assigns a sponsor client for students to develop a campaign for the competition.

Participants were asked to create a complete integrated plan with research, analysis, product description and integrated communication. In previous years, the American Advertising Federation had sponsor clients like Coca-Cola Co., Toyota, the New York Times and Bank of America.

This year, the sponsor client was America Online, specifically America Online's instant messaging service AIM. Christophersen said the class focused on a social networking site named "AIM Fusion" for its product and named the campaign "What You Want."

"There are a ton of users using AIM, but no one is using their social networking site," Christophersen said. "Our class came up with an idea that everybody on AIM would automatically get a profile that would attach to their networking site."

The team put together a 32-page product outline that included market research, primary and secondary research and marketing strategy for the campaign. Tempo created the campaign strategy through Columbia's Advertising Campaign's Practicum course.

The class of about 20 students started the campaign at the beginning of the fall semester and continued to build the campaign up to the regional competition.

Christophersen said students were interviewed prior to the class for screening into the program. He divided the class as if it were an ad agency, with the students working on different aspects of the campaign.

"We were all broken down to teams and did our own research," said Alan Kinsley, a senior marketing communications major.

For the campaign, Tempo decided to advertise in both traditional and non-traditional ways. The class used cable television, network television and online television as their traditional advertising.

For non-traditional advertising, the group used in-theater advertising and airplane seatback tray tables. The students also decided to gear their efforts toward an age group of 18-to 25-year-olds.

Some other non-traditional advertisements they used were coffee sleeves, turntables and university lunch trays.

Some students who were involved with the campaign were thrilled with the results. Senior marketing communications major Cat Higgins said the group is very excited to advance to nationals.

"I think we were kind of the underdogs in the competition so we were surprised, but we're ready for nationals," Higgins said.

At the national competition, Tempo will be up against major universities and colleges. Fifteen districts from around the country are sending one team to the national conference to deliver its 20 minute pitches. AOL and ad agencies will also be at the event to hear the pitches.

Kinsley said he is excited for the opportunity to present. He will present the product along with four other students at the national conference.

"One of the rules is that all presenters must wear microphones," Kinsley said. "I'm assuming it is going to be in a huge auditorium."

mmaftean@chroniclemail.com

Sometimes classes should come with warning labels.

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» SCHOLARSHIP:

Continued from PG. 3

Marlena Peleo-Lazar speaks to students, guests about her advertising experiences

of the 12 Greek Olympians and how they promote healthier lifestyles. Cardoso said she wanted to do something different with the Olympic games so she decided to use the Greek Olympians to represent healthier lifestyles.

"I wanted to do something simple that everyone could relate to that would not feel forced on the public," Cardoso said.

The second concept for the competition was "Get Out and Vote," and Osinubi took first place in that area. She used a concept campaign entitled "Get Behind the Curtain" to get more college students to vote. She would implement mock voting booths with different political issues throughout the campus.

According to Shelley Rosen, the founder and chief executive officer of Airlift Ideas, Columbia has agreed to prominently feature the campaign on campus next fall and the campaign will be given an extra $5,000 for marketing.

"The reason why students don't vote is because our lives are so complicated and we don't think the issues really matter," Osinubi said. "I wanted to do a campaign that connected the issues to our lives."

The awards were given out by Rosen from Airlift Ideas. Rosen, one of Columbia's trustees, designated part of her financial commitment to the college to be used as a strategic planning award in the Marketing Communications Department, according to the Director of Marketing Studies Michael Swidler.

Swidler said the Marketing Communications Department put together a strategic planning contest for students.

The competition was open to any student, but Swidler said the winner must have had a minimum grade point average of 3.0 to receive first place.

At the award ceremony, Columbia welcomed McDonald's Chief Creative Officer Marlena Peleo-Lazar.

Peleo-Lazar discussed her role in the branding of McDonald's iconic, "I'm loving it," advertising campaign.

She gave a first-hand account of the life of an advertiser at McDonald's. Peleo-Lazar spoke on the many hardships she faced at the company and how they were constantly a target for food that causes obesity.

Although many people go against the fast-food chain, she still remains optimistic about the future of the company.

"There are so many more opportunities and things we can do to get McDonald's back into the popular culture," Peleo-Lazar said.

Peleo-Lazar spoke at the event for the third annual Airlift Ideas Marketing Award to get students more inspired, according to Rosen.

Rosen said Airlift Ideas decided to offer the scholarships to try to help the future creative leaders at Columbia. She said she will continue the scholarships as long as she can financially afford to give the money to students.

"I know that someone at Columbia will do great things," Rosen said.

mmaftean@chroniclemail.com

» SGA:

Continued from PG. 7

Nominees push for reduction of textbook costs

"We can't be the most student-centered college without a Student Center itself," she said.

Other topics of interest for the nominees are the textbook initiative, started by Matos, which would help reduce costs of textbooks and the civic scholarship, which focuses on the students' work in organizations rather than academic achievement.

The nominations of the night were for president, executive vice president, vice president of Finance and vice president of Communications.

Van Antwerp, Jessica Valerio, the vice president of Communications, and Jenna Dillon, the Dance Department senator, were the nominees for president. Adam Werlinger, a current at-large senator, was nominated, but declined the nomination.

Werlinger was suggested again for executive vice president and accepted the nomination. Other nominees for the position were Zach Dexter, an at-large senator, Dillon and Valerio.

The only other new nomination, who was present to accept the nomination, was Adrian Polk, the Music Department senator. She was nominated for vice president of finance. Elections will be held by the senate on May 6 and only the senate votes on the executive board.

tbearden@chroniclemail.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD DUTIES

President

The president acts as a liaison between the senate and the college's administration, appoints non-voting members, appoints committee chairs and vice chairs, serves as the student representative to College Council, appoints SGA members to represent the SGA on collegewide committees and has the authority to veto any legislation passed by the senate. The president cannot make motions on the floor or veto any amendments to the constitution.

Executive vice president

The executive vice president runs the senate meetings, assists the president with his or her duties, acts as president when he or she is absent, fills the president's position should it become vacant, supervises all SGA committees and takes final reports from all chairs from each committee and subcommittee.

Vice president of Finance

The vice president of Finance acts as treasurer to the SGA. He or she receives and disburses funds, serves as the chair to SGA's Financial Committee, drafts the budget for the SGA and has the final say, along with the president and SGA adviser, in all accounting for and disbursements of funds.

Vice president of Communications

The vice president of Communications acts as secretary to the SGA. He or she also acts as public relations for the senate, publishes the agenda and minutes for the SGA, reports to the executive committee and senate on matters of attendance, makes available all agenda and minutes for the senate and publishes action taken by the senate and committees, pending adviser approval.

Source: SGA's Constitution

Thousand Paper Cars

Transmission

In anticipation of Transmission we're folding a thousand paper cars (on recycled paper, of course). Come see Transmission along Wabash Avenue as a part of Manifest, May 16th, 2008!

1) Color and decorate the car at left

2) Cut along the car's outline.

3) Fold along windshield, trunk and hood, then fold down tabs. Do not cut out tabs.

4) Glue or tape tabs underneath corresponding part of car

5) Recycle your scraps!

6) Return your completed car to the Database at 623 S. Wabash, first floor. We'll display all the cars at Manifest!

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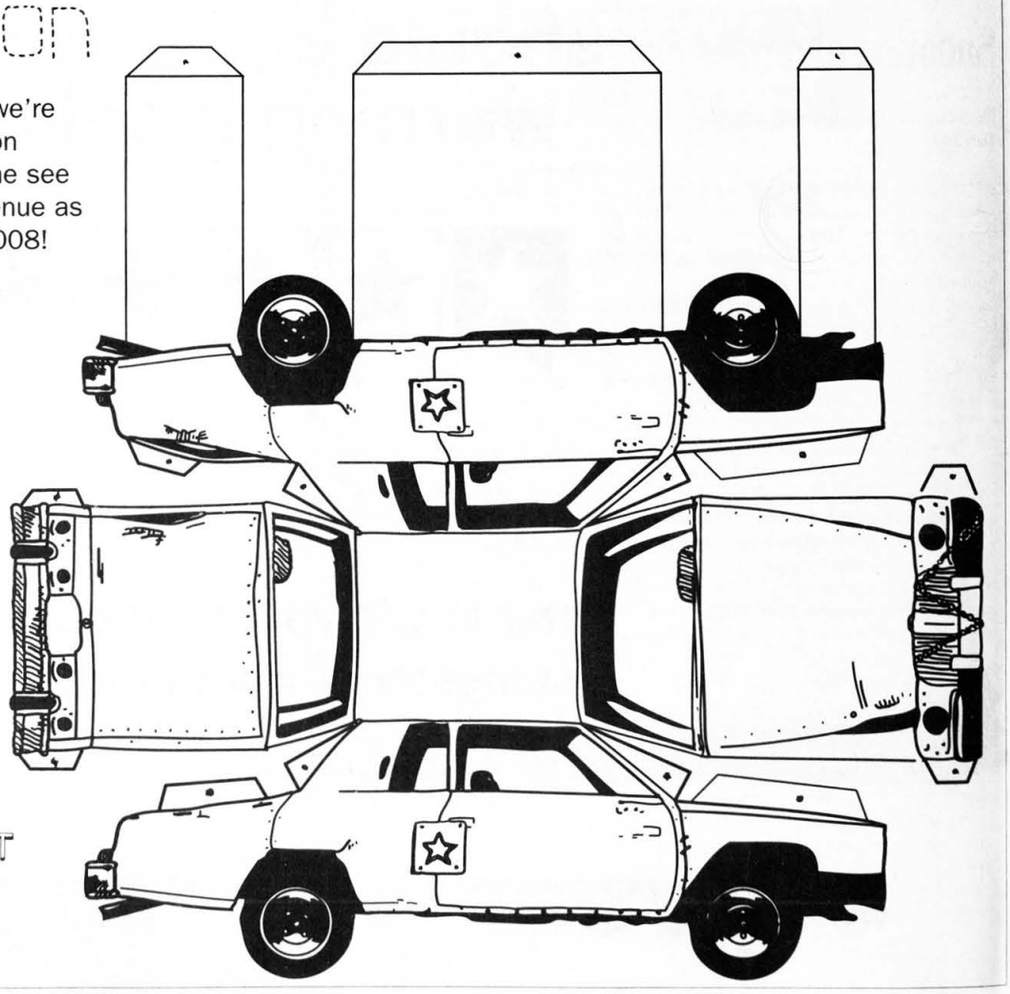

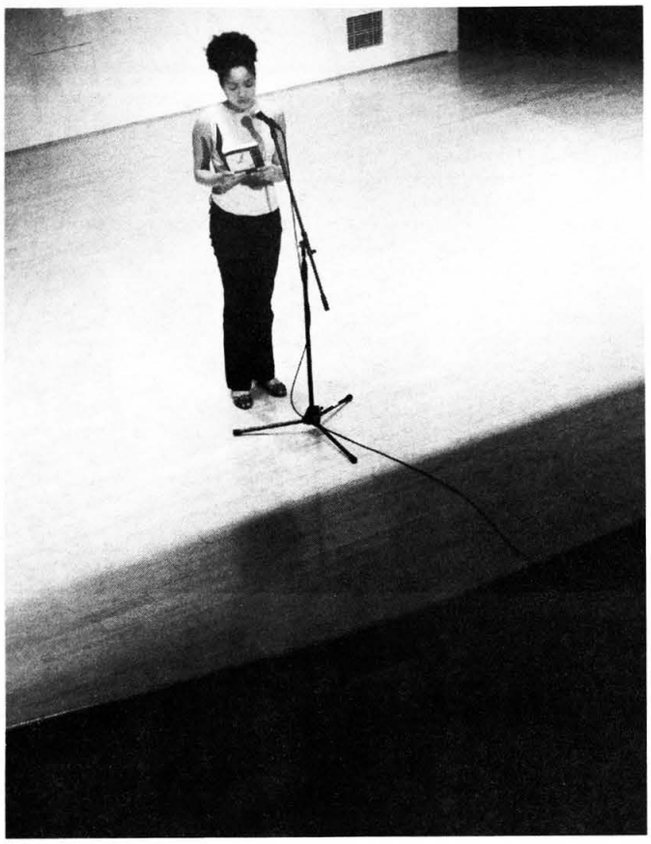

FEATURE PHOTO - *Poetry reading*

Jennifer Steele reads her recently published poem 'A Drag Queen Walks Into The Kit Kat Lounge' at the Columbia Poetry Review Release Party and Poetry Review on May 1 at the Sherwood Conservatory Recital Hall, 1312 S. Michigan Ave. Steele also served as an editor of the manuscript, which is in its 21st year.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

Shooting paralyzes Florida Atlantic campus

by Adam H. Beasley and Andrea Torres

A PALM Beach County man squeezed off two shots April 30 during a fight at an overnight party in a Florida Atlantic University apartment, paralyzing the campus for nearly 12 hours during finals week, police said.

Authorities tracked Omar Graham, 23, to Johnson & Wales' College of Culinary Arts campus in North Miami, where they arrested him. FAU police said he will likely face charges of aggravated assault and possession of a weapon on a college campus.

"It's very fortunate that no one was killed," said Keith Totten, deputy chief of FAU police.

It is unclear what led to the fight in residence hall 58, but FAU officials do know that a newly activated campus-wide broadcast system worked as planned in alerting thousands of students of the shooting. The alert was sent out less than 30 minutes after the incident.

The campus remained closed until May 1, but the lockdown, which began less than an hour after the shooting, was lifted about 12:30 p.m. April 30.

Police located Graham after releasing a strikingly clear surveillance photo of the man believed to be the gunman and appealed to the public for help in finding him.

Here's the account of the shooting, according to police:

About 1:15 a.m. April 30, a party in an on-campus apartment, which caters to juniors and seniors, turned raucous.

At some point, Graham, who was captured on surveillance video wandering the halls with a cup of beer, opened fire. A man who is not an FAU student suffered a superficial cut in the fracas, although it may not have been from a bullet.

FAU police activated the newly improved notification system, implemented just six weeks ago, alerting the student community that there was an armed suspect on campus and that everyone should immediately seek shelter.

"When we first heard the alarm, a lot of people thought it was just a storm," said sophomore David Shreve, who works for the school newspaper, The University Press. "It took a while for it to sink in that it was a malicious event."

Messages were posted on the FAU home page and throughout the website. A university-wide e-mail was sent out asking those on campus to seek shelter and those off campus to remain off campus. A new reverse 911 system was also used. In addition, notices were posted in residence halls regarding the situation.

Thanks to the surveillance images, witnesses identified the alleged shooter as Graham. Police learned he was affiliated with Johnson & Wales. The Palm Beach Post reported he is a student at the school.

Despite the shooting, FAU's six other campuses held classes as usual on April 30.

MCT

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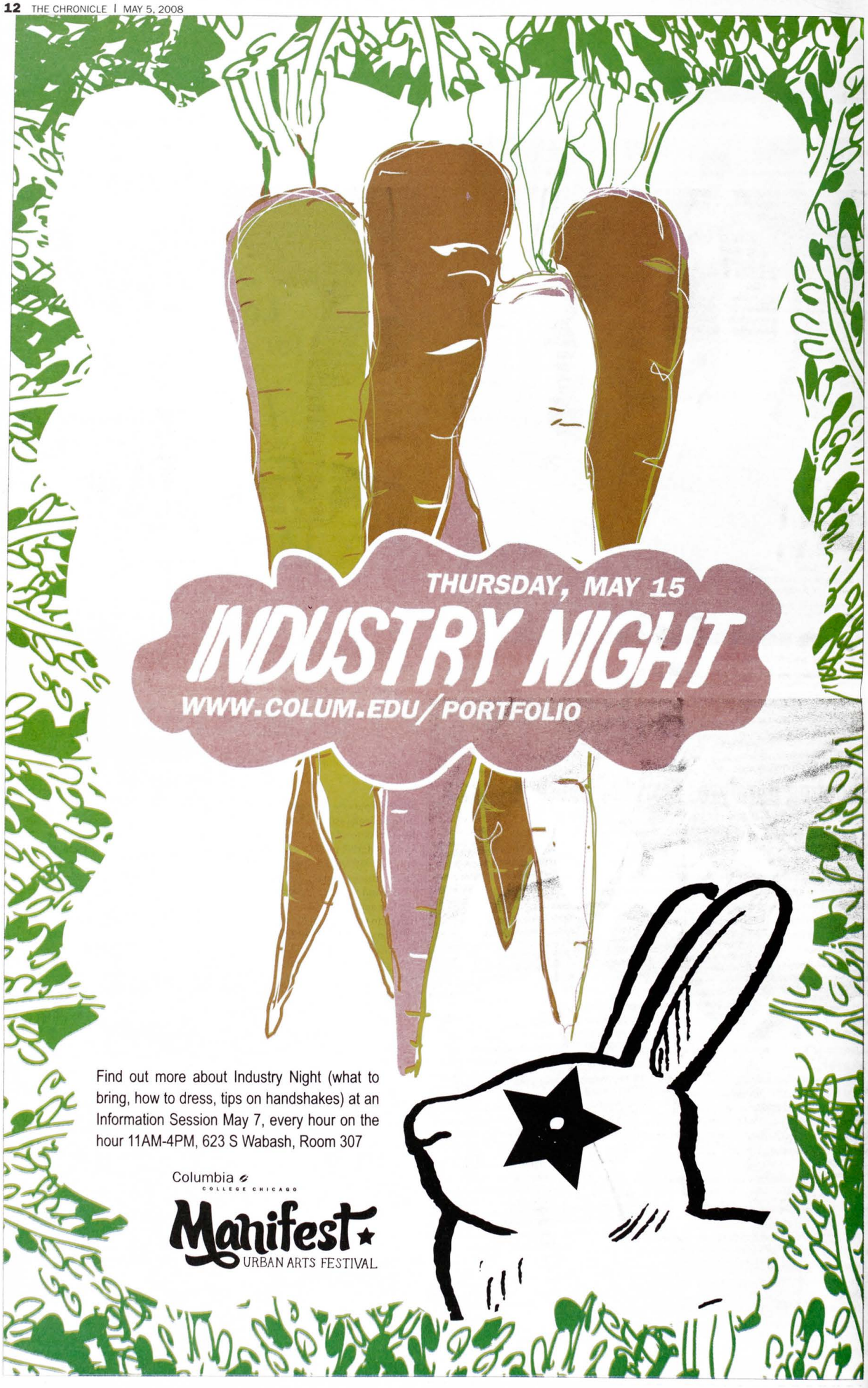
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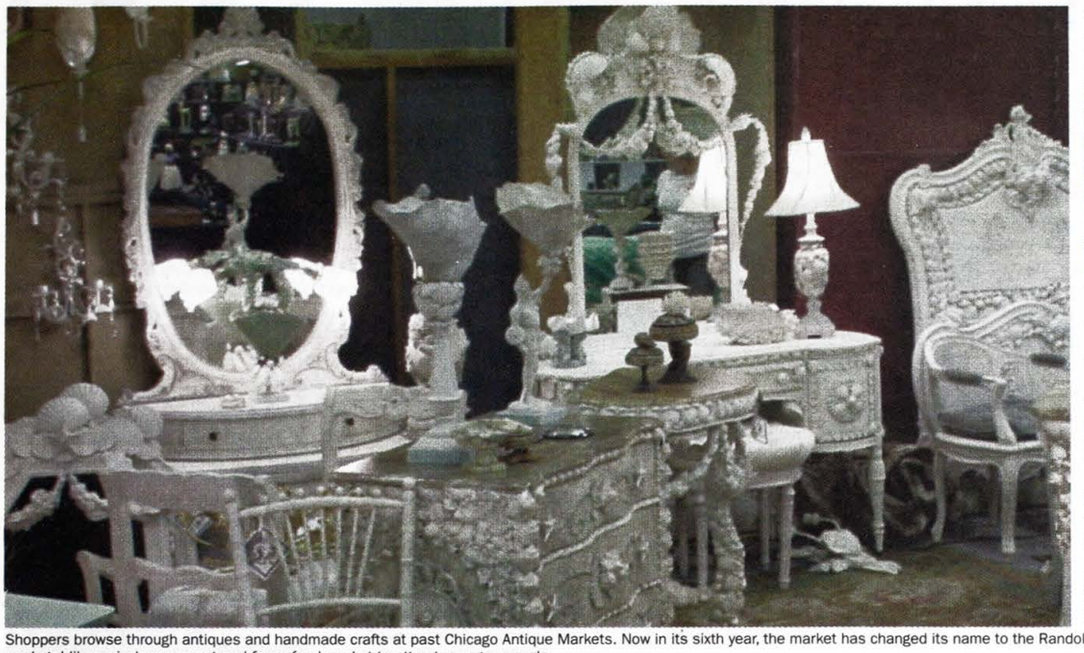


Shoppers browse through antiques and handmade crafts at past Chicago Antique Markets. Now in its sixth year, the market has changed its name to the Randolph Street Market Festival and will incorporate 'mini-markets' like a vinyl swap meet and fancy food market to attract younger crowds.

Courtesy CAROL FOX AND ASSOCIATES

Something old, something new

Columbia film and video professor Brigid Murphy poses May 2 with purses she creates from vintage satchels like bowling bags or doctor bags out of this workspace set up at her house. Murphy has sold her purses as a vendor at the Chicago Antique Market since 2006.

Dan Thompson THE CHRONICLE

Chicago Antique Market returns with new name, 'mini-markets' to entice younger crowd

by Jessica Galliart
A&E Editor

ON ITS opening weekend in May 2003, antique dealers and vendors braved thunderstorms to participate in the Chicago Antique Market in the West Loop. Although Sally Schwartz, the co-founder of the event, advised most of the vendors to pack up their booths and get out of the rain, most of the vendors said they sold more in the pouring rain than they ever had.

"It was wild," Schwartz said. "It was like Woodstock. Everyone was soaking wet."

In the following years, the Chicago Antique Market, which began as a market mainly for antiques, expanded to include young, indie fashion designers in its mini-market, the Indie Designer Market. It has frequently been named one of the top three markets of its kind in the world by Travel and Leisure magazine. When it opens this year on May 24, the festival will have a new name, new mini-markets and more than 200 vendors from both Chicago and around the country. It will be called the Randolph Street Market Festival, which will include antique dealers, fashion designers, culinary artisans and live music, among other interactive elements.

Schwartz, who is also a collector of antiques like cigarette lighters, started the Chicago Antiques and Collectibles Festivals in the 1990s, which were similar to past Chicago Antique Markets. After taking a break from heading the festivals, Schwartz found a new location in the West Loop to start up the antiques festival again in 2003.

"There was a 10-year gap, which was too bad, and it took that long to locate [where to have the market]," Schwartz said. "It's a really hard thing to pull together a big event in the city of Chicago. I never really stopped wanting to do it."

During the last weekend of every month, from May to October, antique dealers and collectors gather in the West Loop to swap, sell and buy goods that are otherwise hard to find in Chicago, Schwartz said. Schwartz said the addition of the Indie Designer Market to the festival brought along a whole new demographic that organizers had been trying to reach for some time.

"The older people start wanting to get rid of their collections, and there's always younger people looking to buy into it," Schwartz said. "As we added the fashion we got a whole other market of people wanting to buy cool things, not just antiques. That's what's fun about the market, now that it's not just antiques, it's fashion."

This idea to keep expanding the market to attract a younger crowd continues this year, as the festival will include "markets within the market," like the Vinyl Swap

» SEE ANTIQUE, PG. 18

MARKET BITS

Randolph St. Market Festival

Dates: May 24-25, June 28-29, July 26-27, Aug. 30-31, Sept. 27-28, Oct. 25-26.
Times: Outdoor market is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and indoor market is open 11 a.m.–5 p.m. on Saturdays. Both markets open 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on Sundays.
Where: 1350 block of West Randolph Street and in Plumbers Hall between Ada and Ogden streets.
Cost: $10 general admission, $5 student admission. Bike the Drive, a local bicycling event, participants attend for free May 25.
Transportation: Free trolley available to and from Water Tower Place, 835 N. Michigan Ave. See website for times.
Online: Visit ChicagoAntiqueMarket.com.

Pets allowed only at outdoor market, and home delivery service is available for large purchases.

Seriously? by Jessica Galliart
A&E Editor

Mother's Day isn't so bad

When I was growing up, I used to tell my friends my mom was dead. Yes, it sounds a bit extreme, since it wasn't true, but it was the only way I, a 10-year-old, could think of explaining why my mom was never around and never showed up to my Girl Scout ceremonies or softball games. If I told my friends my mom was working, they would retort, "Or maybe she doesn't love you." But if I told them my mom was dead, they would shut up and drop it. Plus, it was funny to see their reactions when my mom would rise from the dead and actually show up.

My mom and I were never close and never had that mother-daughter relationship one would expect between the only girl in a family and her mother. She was constantly working to support our family of six, and she was always too tired to be really involved with my extracurricular activities. Don't get me wrong, I had a great childhood. But as I got older, I began to resent my mom for everything, including her absence in my life, her inability to say "I love you" and her embarrassing "mom" jeans.

So every year when Mother's Day rolls around, I usually have a bit of an internal panic attack, thinking "Do I really need to get this woman who I don't understand, who never likes anything I get her, something that she won't appreciate anyway?" I don't tell anyone she's dead anymore, so I can't really use the excuse that my mother isn't alive to avoid getting her something. We never talk now that I'm away at college, so I don't even know what she's been wanting lately. And the fact is, she's picky, stubborn and incredibly distant.

But this year it occurred to me: I am the person I am because of my mom. And although I'm still improving some things about myself, I'm pretty darn happy with who I am. Shouldn't I thank her for that?

Yes, she was never around, and she gets squeamish whenever I try talking to her about personal issues. But unlike most of my friends' annoying, controlling and nagging mothers, my mom let me figure things out on my own. I'm 20 years old, and I don't have to go to her for every little problem. She didn't take me bra shopping, she never showed me how to wear makeup and she never talked to me about sex. Instead, I tried on every bra at Kohl's until I found one that fit, while my poor father paced around the aisles. I spent endless nights in front of the mirror poking myself in the eye until I got my mascara just right. And I learned about sex through experimentation and promiscuity—well, just kidding.

It was awful not having her around for my big accomplishments growing up, but now I understand that while I was receiving my badge in Girl Scouts for rubbing sticks together, she was working long hours at a low-paying job to make sure I had my celebratory ice cream afterward.

The fact is, everyone has mom issues. Your mom might be controlling, really weird or overprotective. But we can all get past our resentment for our moms' ugly jeans or unspoken affection to know they will always love us, even if they never say it.

I still have no idea what to get you yet, Mom, but I just wanted to thank you for all of the tantrums you put up with and for the times you went without thanks. I know I make fun of you for watching stupid TV shows like "Deal or No Deal" constantly, but understand that's just how I express my affection for you. Happy Mother's Day, and maybe when I get home in a few weeks we can watch "Deal or No Deal" together while you wear your mom jeans and I cry about you not hugging me enough.

jgalliart@chronicleмail.com

Chrissy knows best by Chrissy Mahlmeister
Managing Editor

Obama wants to end cat fights?

I, admittingly, watch the brainless show known as "The Hills" on MTV. There's some strange allure to watching girls cry over first world problems (ex: "Oh my God, should I go to Paris with Teen Vogue or stay in a really nice condo in California with my boyfriend for the whole summer? Life is so hard!") and fight over best friends with the word "like" interjected every five seconds. For some reason it's a great, not to mention hilarious, thoughtless escape from my daily activities. Although, I think I started watching it out of pure jealously of their fake journalistic lifestyle.

But it seems I'm not the only one obsessed with the blonde "Hills" stars Heidi Montag and Lauren Conrad—so is Sen. Barack Obama. Wait, what? Yeah, it's true. While appearing on the "Late Show with David Letterman," Obama jokingly said, "My first act as President will be to stop the fighting between Lauren and Heidi on 'The Hills'," which apparently is one of his top 10 "surprising facts" about himself, according to Us Weekly.

He also joked that he has canceled all of his appearances the day *Sex and the City: The Movie* opens.

OK, I get it. You're a funny, handsome fellow who knows a lot about pop culture and what college twentysomethings like me are into. But there's only one word that came to mind when I heard Obama and "The Hills" in the same sentence: uncomfortable.

I never usually feel this way toward him, but this time he just reminded me of my dad whenever he tries to be cool and say stuff like, "Lauren is sooo lame. She will be totes BFF with Heidi in no time." Um, no thanks.

I give it to Obama for being super in-tune with young voters, but sometimes all these pop culture references just make him seem aged.

While he's getting more points in the charisma category, it makes me wonder what exactly Obama is doing in his free time, or if this is all just a scheme to make me fall even harder for him.

What's next? Obama giving his two cents on each of their fashion lines (which are both completely atrocious)? That would put me over the edge.

AP

It could be just him making good TV or maybe just from the kindness of his heart trying to end a yearlong feud, but my guess is he's just trying to sound appealing.

The most ironic part about all of this is that Montag has already endorsed John McCain and Conrad is supposedly leaning toward the Republican side. But maybe that's what made the joke all the more funny.

cmahlmeister@chronicleмail.com

ROAMIN' NUMERALS

7,500,000 The amount in dollars Six Flags spent to create the new "Dark Knight" ride at Great America in Gurnee, Ill. According to the Daily Herald, the ride will be the park's first indoor coaster. The ride opens May 21, two months before the film's release.

3 The number of years in prison Wesley Snipes was sentenced to for tax evasion, according to CNN. The *Blade* star was convicted of three misdemeanor charges, and has little hope of escaping the hand of justice a la Martha Stewart.

4 The number of American mainstream comedies to include full frontal male nudity so far this year: *Walk Hard: A Dewey Cox Story*, *Strange Wilderness*, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* and *Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay*. Is *Superbad*'s popular series of penis portraits to blame?

TV TIME

THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
USA, 5/5 at 1 p.m.

This is the comedy that kicked off director Judd Apatow's string of big screen successes and jettisoned "The Daily Show" correspondent Steve Carell into unlikely stardom. Its mixture of raunchy gags and gentle humanity will be familiar to anyone lucky enough to have seen Apatow's series "Freaks and Geeks."

2008 PRIMARY COVERAGE
MSNBC, 5/6 at 5 p.m.

While Wolf Blitzer chats to a bunch of TV screens on CNN, Keith Olbermann and Chris Matthews engage in a face-to-face conversation, while holding down the election fort on MSNBC. Tune in to find out the results of the Indiana and North Carolina primaries.

LATE NIGHT WITH DAVID LETTERMAN
CBS, 5/7 at 10:35 p.m.

Emile Hirsch is tonight's guest. Maybe he'll explain why he's chosen to follow up his Oscar-worthy work in last year's *Into the Wild* with the lead role in this summer's big screen version of the animated show *Speed Racer*—a *Fast and the Furious* for kids.

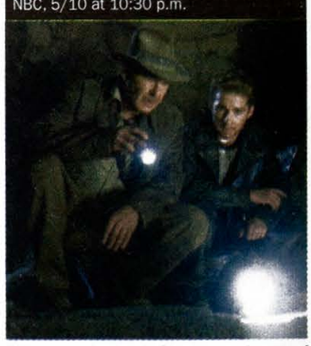
SCRUBS
NBC, 5/8 at 7:30 p.m.

Tonight's seventh-season finale highlights the surrealistic humor that has become a staple of the show. Dr. Cox turns his lousy day at work into a bedtime story for his kid—an ideal recipe for nightmares.

TV'S ALL-TIME FUNNIEST
ABC, 5/9 at 7 p.m.

This new special highlights the funniest characters in sitcom history. Viewers vote for them in categories ranging from best family members to co-workers. Guests include Brad Garrett, Mary Tyler Moore, David Hyde Pierce and Rainn Wilson.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE
NBC, 5/10 at 10:30 p.m.



With only weeks before the release of *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, co-star Shia LaBeouf hosts this latest string of one-note character sketches and mediocre media jabs. Hopefully, LaBeouf will take this opportunity to poke fun at his arrest at a local Chicago Walgreens.

Young filmmaker masters 'The Art of Pain'

Columbia grad's epic feature utilizes iconic artists, locations

by Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editor

A ROGUE ninja battles a swarm of zombies in Chicago's Landmark Centre Cinema, 2828 N. Clark St. He'll later send one of the theater employees hurtling off the building's fourth-story railing.

It is no coincidence that these cinematic scenarios seem to have been dreamt up by a bored theater employee with the imagination of a frustrated artist. Columbia grad Matt Brookens fueled these images into his first independent feature project, the HD horror comedy *The Art of Pain*. Writer/director/producer Brookens is screening the film at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on May 19 before its midnight screening at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave., on May 24.

The first germs of cinematic inspiration came to Brookens while working at the Landmark.

"I was standing at that same usher stand where they tear the tickets for a year, and I was like, 'Hmmm—it'd be really cool if somebody fell over the edge,'" Brookens said.

Growing up in Springfield, Ill., Brookens spent much of his time making films for fun with his brother Greg. The siblings continued to make a series of short subjects, and in 2004, their film *Skunk Ape!?* won the top prize at Tromadance film festival in Utah and was distributed through Troma Entertainment. *The Art of Pain*, which wrapped production in summer 2006, proved to be a massive production, utilizing the work of various local artists, while shooting at a handful of iconic Chicago locations.

John LaFlamboy plays a rogue ninja attacked by zombies in writer/producer/director Matt Brookens' film 'The Art of Pain,' which will be screened at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on May 19.

Courtesy ZABBA ZABBA PRODUCTIONS

Jack, the film's protagonist, is a frustrated painter whose life is turned upside down by Marcus, a desperate ninja determined to earn his black belt by teaching the young artist that "great art comes from great pain."

Improv-trained actor Anders Erickson, who was cast as Jack, felt that he could personally relate to his character.

"Going through college, I was an art major, and you feel like you can't do anything creatively if you don't have any sort of inspiration," Erickson said. "So when I read that [Jack] was an artist, he's lacking inspiration and he's doing this menial work, I was like, 'OK, [I've] been there.'"

In the role of Marcus, actor John LaFlamboy doubled as the film's producer and brought along with him zombie performers from the Statesville Haunted Prison haunted house attraction, where he is currently the artistic director. The zombies were used primarily for a surrealistic fight scene with Marcus in the Landmark.

"When we had the extras come in to play the zombies, that's when we really felt we were doing a project," Erickson said.

LaFlamboy also knew fight choreographer Wesley Chu, who choreographed the film's several sequences of combat.

"Getting Wesley Chu was a godsend," said Matthew M. Jones, the film's producer. "He brought a lot to the table and was able to recruit kung fu artists for the film."

Added to the talent was cult-movie icon Lloyd Kaufman, the head of Troma Entertainment, who spent a day on set in the role of celebrated zombie movie director "George Romano," based on *Night of the Living Dead* creator George Romero.

Yet Brookens said the biggest challenge was gaining permission to shoot at Chicago locations, such as the Field Museum. Brookens said he has simple advice for aspiring filmmakers who are intent on using such locations.

"You [have to] tell them you're a student and beg," Brookens said. "You [have] to throw that director ego out, and you have to get on your knees and say, 'Please let me film at the Brachiosaurus, I promise I won't break it.'"

» SEE 'PAIN,' PG. 18

Dancing the year away

Student choreographers end year with showcase

by Colin Shively
Assistant A&E Editor

DANCING IN bare feet and utilizing every position the body can form, two senior dance majors will take to the floor and combine their experiences and visual movements into a dance showcase where their bodies and minds will become one as they move about the floor, twisting and bending around fellow dancers.

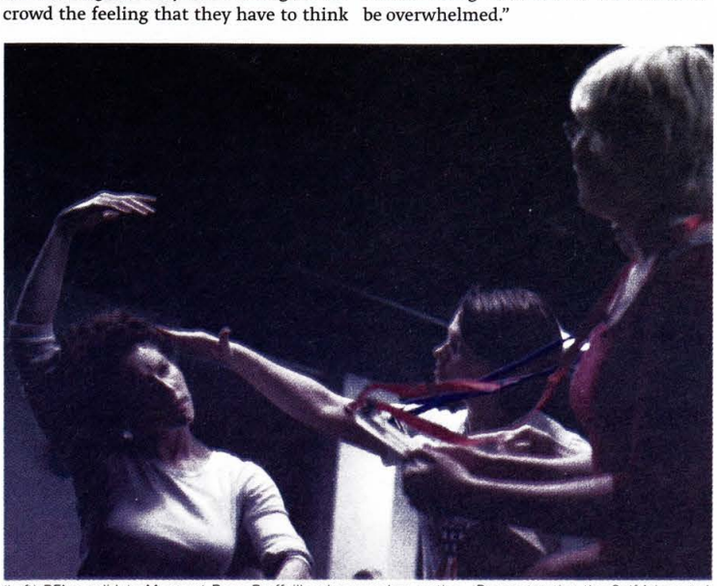
On May 15, Bachelor of Fine Arts candidate Margaret Rose Breffeilh will present her work "Deconstructing the Self-Advocate" at the Senior Concert Series that takes place every year during Manifest. Bachelor of Fine Arts candidate Felicia Cianchetti will also perform her work titled "Unlawful Restraint: Code 2620" the same night.

Breffeilh will be enlisting the aid of 10 other Columbia dance majors dressed as clowns in order to portray the discrimination that students with learning disabilities privately face. Cianchetti, using real uniforms as costumes and six other dancers, will dance to demonstrate the issues of race and gender in the U.S. criminal justice system in her performance "Unlawful Restraint: Code 2620." Behind the choreography, the sound and the visuals, both girls have personal stories and issues that helped them create their vision.

"I have a learning disability," Breffeilh said. "I went through the educational system being diagnosed with the disability. This is an exploration of my experiences in society where I have been labeled as disabled and sometimes been discriminated against."

Having her disability identified and also having a younger sister diagnosed with a learning disability, Breffeilh decided to use her dancing skills to communicate to those who do not understand what it means to be disabled, she said. I decided to choose clowns to represent people in society to give the audience the sensation of having a disability," Breffeilh said. "It will be overstimulating and in your face to give the crowd the feeling that they have to think really hard in order to keep up with the act."

Even though the costumes will be stimulating to the audience, she said, the choreography will add to the effect that Breffeilh is aiming for. Using sudden, very quick and forceful moves combined with elegant dance techniques, the overall effect of the dance will have the intended meaning, Breffeilh said. "There is a different type of discrimination that I want people to realize," Breffeilh said. "There is the discrimination against different races; there is the discrimination against people in wheelchairs. I want people to know that society also discriminates [against] people with learning disabilities. I want them to be overwhelmed."



(Left) BFA candidate Margaret Rose Breffeilh rehearses her routine, 'Deconstructing the Self-Advocate,' for the Senior Concert Series at Manifest.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

To coincide with the clown costumes and circus theme, Breffeilh is using altered circus music composed by Mike Caskey, a faculty member in the Dance Department who coordinates the department's accompanist program. Caskey is using classic circus music in order to create an audio stimulation to add to the overall effect of Breffeilh's dance routine.

"Margaret has a unique past that she wants to share with everyone in a very dynamic and intense dance style," Caskey said. "She came up with the idea of the clowns because of the visual stimulus they provide; [Breffeilh] came to me and asked if we could keep with the circus idea [for the music]—brilliant."

Breffeilh hopes people realize that stereotyping and discrimination can be universal. Anyone who has a label in a given society can be discriminated against, she said.

Following Breffeilh's performance, Cianchetti will perform her contemporary piece "Unlawful Restraint: Code 2620," which is a vision created from extensive research and firsthand experience as a security guard on the way race and gender are involved with the U.S. criminal justice system, Cianchetti said.

"We worked in collaboration with the fire and the police system, so I have firsthand experience on how people are treated that are different," Cianchetti said.

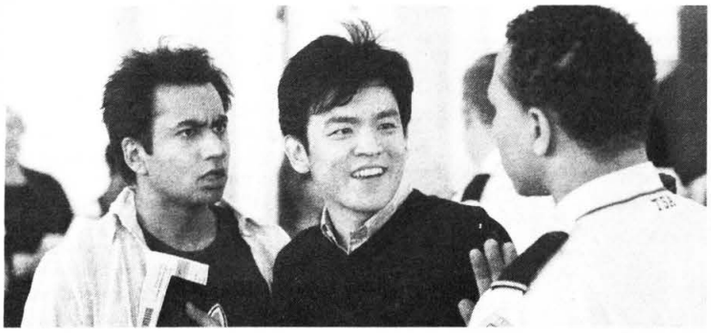
Using her research and knowledge of the criminal system, Cianchetti has developed her performance from a black man's point of view of the treatment of race in the justice system.

Crossing the line from written word to visual dance was no easy task, Cianchetti said. After writing a 20-page paper for a dance class, Cianchetti chose key phrases and points from her essay that stood out

» SEE DANCE, PG. 18

Film review

Standard laughing procedure at Gitmo



Kal Penn and John Cho are stopped by airline security in the politically incorrect sequel 'Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay.'

MCT

'Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay' is great fun

by Matt Fagerholm
Assistant A&E Editor

THERE IS nothing blindingly original about Harold and Kumar. They're cheerful all-American stoners in the tradition of Bill and Ted who allow their instinctual desires—women, weed and White Castle—to lead them into raunchy, crowd-pleasing misadventures. The duo's ethnicity isn't treated as an issue of relevance—except for all the bigoted white loonies they meet.

The first pairing of John Cho and Kal Penn in 2004's *Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle* was a refreshing twist on the teen buddy comedy, blending the genre's familiar elements with a sharp social satire. It set the standard for intelligently stupid comedy, and it gradually gained a large cult following, thus leading to its inevitable sequel.

What is amazing about *Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay* is the fact that it not only lives up to the original, but generates more laughs per minute than any mainstream comedy since *Superbad*. The writing/directing team of Jon Hurwitz and Hayden Schlossberg clearly understand why and how their original film appealed so much to young moviegoers. Few sequels ever succeed at subverting viewer expectations, but Hurwitz and Schlossberg manage to do just that, by raising the stakes of their characters' predicament, while staying true to the engaging quirks of their mismatched personalities established in the first film.

Bay takes place minutes after *Castle*, with the friends boarding a plane for Amsterdam to pursue Harold's newfound crush. But Kumar smuggles a bong onboard that is instantly mistaken for a bomb, leading to an inspired visual gag reminiscent of the scene in *Annie Hall*, when an old lady's anti-Semitism causes Woody Allen to morph into a Hasidic caricature. Here, an old lady's 9/11-fueled paranoia causes Kumar to morph into Osama bin Laden, and the guys soon find themselves shipped off to Guantanamo Bay as terrorist suspects. Of course, that's only the beginning of their troubles.

One of the film's most ingenious casting choices is Rob Corddry, the longtime "The Daily Show" correspondent as a monstrously smug federal agent who single-handedly embodies every uniquely American pomposity. It's a tough order for any actor, but Corddry brings down the house in nearly every one of his scenes, firing off politically-incorrect one-liners with a clueless confidence Bill O'Reilly could relate to.

The orange jumpsuits, dingy cells and perverse soldiers at Guantanamo Bay are queasily evocative of the footage in Errol Morris' *Standard Operating Procedure*, which was released on the same day as this comedy. Yet the film's handling of the scene is more reminiscent of "South Park," skewering the abusive Americans and confirmed terrorists with equal zeal. When one prisoner criticizes Americans for their loathsome, doughnut-eating ways, Kumar exclaims, "F--- you! Doughnuts are awesome!"

Yet while "South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone's Iraq war satire *Team America* was a juvenile equal-opportunity offender, *Harold & Kumar* is fueled not by nihilistic cynicism, but by a sweetly hopeful optimism that is rather disarming. Hurwitz and Schlossberg know they are making a stoner comedy, first and foremost, yet they are intent on capturing the spirit, if not the brilliant social critique, of a show like "All in the Family" that used humor to puncture the bloated hot air of intolerance.

That said, many of the funniest moments in *Bay* focus on the characters themselves, particularly an extended flashback that illustrates how the longtime friends used to have opposite personalities. Cho and Penn look like they've barely aged a day since the first film, and their chemistry is as enjoyable as ever. There are countless moments of priceless goofball humor that are all the more rewarding for fans of the original. Let's just say a certain bag of weed makes an encore appearance, as does the increasingly sleazy Neil Patrick Harris.

The reviews for *Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay* have been resoundingly negative, particularly from Chicago film critics who have claimed that fans will be sorely disappointed. Well, if any of the critics had attended the film's advanced screening at AMC River East, they would have seen a theater jam-packed with beaming fans sharing the exhilaration of genuine laughter. The question isn't whether this film is a worthy sequel, but whether the third one will be worthy of the first two.

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FILM BITS

'Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay'

Writer/Director:
Jon Hurwitz & Hayden Schlossberg

Running time: 102 minutes

Rating: R
Now playing at local theaters

Finding the 'write' theater in the right city

The Chronicle finds the best local theaters for playwrights

by Colin Shively
Assistant A&E Editor

The Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave., was built when the Chicago Theater Movement was beginning to pick up speed. Always focusing their attention on upcoming Chicago writers, Victory Gardens has long been hailed as one of the most important theaters for the playwriting community.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

CHICAGO, KNOWN for its growing theater life, has seen a rise in local theaters producing plays written by Chicago writers. As the academic year winds down, a new batch of recently graduated Chicago writers will emerge from Columbia, eager to submit their manuscripts for consideration.

But the question on the playwrights' mind is what theaters to submit to, said Jim Sherman, a faculty member in Columbia's Theater Department.

"There is definitely confusion [about] where to send manuscripts for consideration," Sherman said. "We have to make sure students are ready at the end of the year to submit their best work."

Sherman, whose plays have been produced in theaters as far away as London, knows the frustration students face when trying to decide where to send a ready-to-read play. Specific venues throughout Chicago cater to local writers and students, and some venues even host acting and writing programs during the summer to give up-and-coming writers a leg up into the professional writing scene, Sherman said.

"Chicago really is the best theater town in the country," Sherman said. "You just have to know where to look and how to work the system."

The Chicago theater movement, started in the 1970s, is still growing, and students at Columbia will be prepared to delve into the professional writing world by the time they graduate to make it grow even more, Sherman said. But it is the time before graduation when students are confused about how to enter their intended career, he said.

Since the start of the Chicago Theater Movement, the artistic side of Chicago has flourished.

"We live in a very artistic city," Sherman said. "This city has a proud heritage of famous writers and producers and has been the main stage for numerous famous productions. Our students have a well-adapted tool at their fingertips if they just know how to use it."

The Chronicle has the scoop on some of the best local and student theaters with a history of producing shows by Chicago writers.

The Victory Gardens Theater

The Victory Gardens Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave., was created in 1974 as part of the growing Chicago theater movement. The theater has been gaining national acclaim as one of Chicago's most writer-oriented theaters, said Jay Kelly, director of Marketing at Victory Gardens Theater.

"Victory Gardens is the one place students should look into if they want their work to be read, considered and possibly produced," Kelly said. "Victory Gardens has a long reputation with the local community as always being about Chicago."

In 2001, Victory Gardens Theater received the Regional Theater Tony Award and was hailed as "the nation's most important incubator of new playwrights" by The Wall Street Journal. According to Kelly, more than half of the plays produced throughout any given year have been written by local Chicago writer, instructors and even their students. Currently, Victory Gardens Theater is producing Sherman's play, "Relatively Close," due to open on June 6.

To submit work to Victory Gardens Theater, the process is simple, Kelly said. Send a 10-page excerpt from the play to the theater for review by the staff of Victory Gardens.

Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Steppenwolf Theatre Company was created in 1975 in the basement of a Unitarian church in Deerfield, Ill. In 1976, the company took up residence in its current location, 1650 N. Halsted St., with 35 playwrights on staff.

Steppenwolf has an open submission policy for manuscripts, that allows any writer, local or otherwise, to send up to 10 pages of a written play to the theater for consideration, said Ed Sobel, director of New Play Development at Steppenwolf. Even though the company receives more than 800 submissions from all over the world within a year, special consideration is given to Chicago writers. At the end of the year, Steppenwolf commissions four to five writers to join their staff, half of whom are Chicago-based writers, Sobel said.

Throughout the summer, Steppenwolf accepts a number of students into its education program, The School at Steppenwolf. there, students are able to get firsthand experience on how a theater is run and what it takes to get their plays produced, Sobel said.

"We have a very prestigious acting and writing school during the summer at Steppenwolf," Sobel said. "We love supporting our Chicago writers because they are the community that we immediately serve and cater to. It is our job to keep the theater movement in Chicago alive."

Profiles Theater

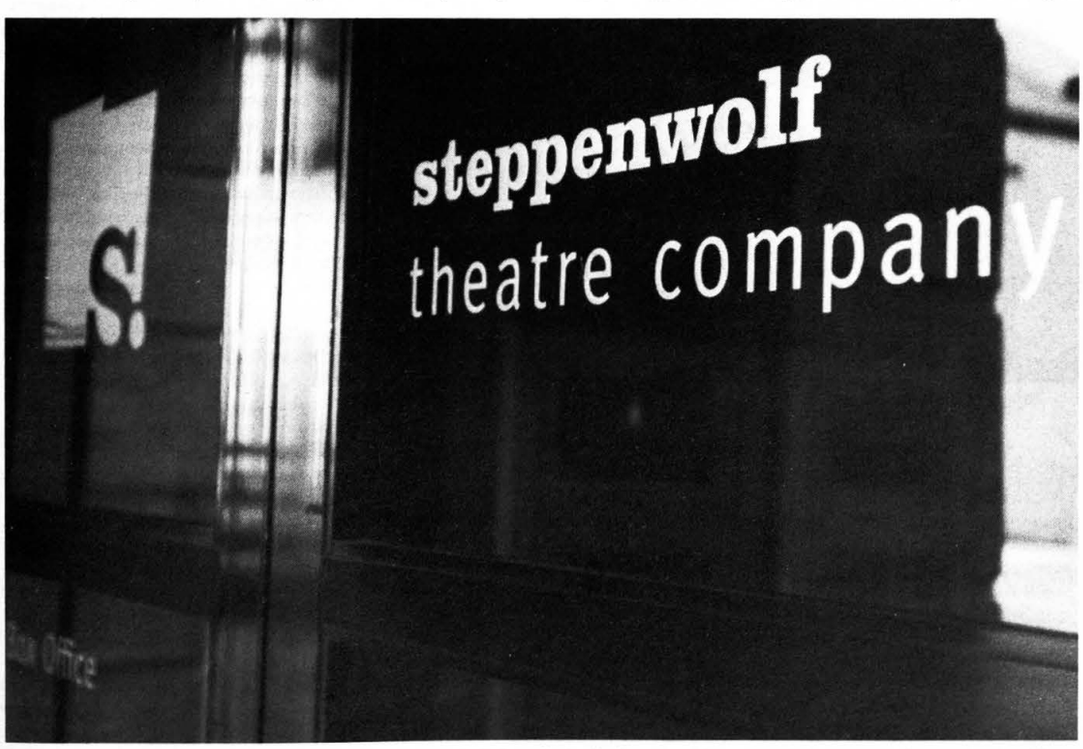
The Profiles Theater, 4147 N. Broadway St., has been in the business of pushing creative boundaries since 1988 when five Eastern Illinois University students decided that the Chicago Theater Movement needed a new type of theater, said Cathy Taylor, director of Public Relations for the Profiles Theater.

"Profiles Theater is very different from any other theater," Taylor said. "We do not just cater to our Chicago students, we implore them to take part in our Advanced Scene Study Class, which is open to all professional writing majors. Here the students work alongside some of the greatest Chicago actors. There is no experience like ours."

Profiles Theater has a history of producing plays that have been written by Chicago writers. On a yearly basis, more than 75 percent of the plays produced are written by Chicago writers, and about 10 percent are Chicago-based students, Taylor said.

Profiles Theater is always looking for writers to take under their wing. Their open submission policy is designed to give Chicago writers a leg up in the race to be professional writers.

For more information about submitting work, contact Victory Gardens Theater at (773) 817-7507, Steppenwolf Theater at (312) 335-1888 and Profiles Theater at (773) 549-1815.



Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St., has an open submission policy to all writers who wish to submit their manuscripts for consideration. Offering numerous internships during the summer alongside its theater school, Steppenwolf has been serving the Chicago theater scene for more than 30 years.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

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» ANTIQUE:

Continued from PG. 13

Columbia professor, a former market vendor, crafts purses from bowling bags

Meet with rare and collectible vinyl records for sale, the Global Goods Bazaar with goods from Chicago's ethnic communities and the Fancy Food Market featuring everything from truffles to homemade popcorn made by local and national culinary artists.

Local confectioner Katherine Anne Duncan will sell her homemade caramels and truffles at the market for the first time during the opening weekend. Duncan began making her homemade caramels from pure wildflower honey and vanilla extract 10 years ago and started distributing them professionally in 2006.

"I did my business a little different from most people," Duncan said. "I learned more apprentice-style from my mom, combined with a lot of book learning."

Duncan said she's excited to be part of the festival and also to take a look around the different dealers' booths.

"I'm a little bit nervous, but it might also be a great market for me," Duncan said. "It's really kind of a select group of people who are my clientele. I'm not sure any of them will be at the market."

With about 200 to 250 spots available for vendor booths, the application process to sell at the market is a thorough one. Schwartz said the festival receives more than four times the amount of applications that can be accepted, and organizers take extra care to research each applicant to ensure they aren't mass-producers.

"We do a lot of research because it has to have integrity with the merchandise," Schwartz said. "We want to be able to offer this first class shopping experience. People have to be able to not only bring cool stuff, but they have to be able to display it in such a way that it's interesting and appealing."

Shoppers browse a jewelry case at a previous Chicago Antique Market on the 1350 block of West Randolph Street. Now in its sixth year, the market has changed its name to the Randolph Street Market Festival, and organizers hope to attract younger crowds.

Courtesy CAROL FOX AND ASSOCIATES

When Brigid Murphy, a Columbia graduate and Film and Video Department professor, began selling at the Chicago Antique Market in 2006, she said she did a lot of "schlepping" to present her handcrafted purses made from vintage bags and make them stand out among other items.

A lover of antiques herself, Murphy first began making her purses when she glued fabric into the lining of her father-in-law's 1950s Sears Roebuck bowling bag and carried it as her purse. After she was constantly stopped on the street during a trip to New York to talk about her bag, a friend of Murphy's suggested going into business handcrafting purses out of vintage bowling bags.

"The whole idea is that it's one of a kind, it's all recycled [and] refurbished," Murphy said. "And I love vintage. I didn't want to put more crap in the world."

Murphy gets double pleasure out of selling at the antique market, as she can also look for vintage bowling or doctor bags to buy and recreate into her signature purses. And though she sometimes finds vintage bags that are similar in shape, size or style, the conditions of the bags are always different. Each bag has a history of its own, and most come with contents inside.

With the wide assortment of vendors and in the hopes of attracting different crowds, live entertainment will also be provided.

Among other artists who will create custom art on site, San Francisco graffiti artist Justin Pierce will be available to create custom artwork on any bicycle, scooter or skateboard. A student DJ from Northwestern University will also arrange indie music at the market, playing oldies and swing music in the antiques section and indie music in the Indie Designer Market section.

In the next few years, Schwartz said she hopes to expand the market, which has often been compared to European-style outdoor markets, even further, to create a year-round, indoor shopping experience.

"We don't have the benefit of doing this, but in California and Florida they have their markets year round," Schwartz said. "Just because we have bad weather doesn't mean people don't still need to make a living."

The Randolph Street Market Festival will operate on the last weekend of every month from May to October. The hours for the indoor and outdoor sections of the market vary. Student admission is $5 each day, and general admission is $10. A free trolley from Water Tower Place offers transportation to the festival, which is held on the 1350 block of West Randolph Street. For more information, visit ChicagoAntiqueMarket.com.

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Senior dance major Margaret Rose Breffeilh rehearses 'Deconstructing the Self-Advocate,' a dance piece she choreographed throughout spring semester. Breffeilh and senior dance major Felicia Cianchetti will perform their choreographed pieces as part of the Senior Concert Series at Manifest on May 15.

Rachael Strecher THE CHRONICLE

» DANCE:

Continued from PG. 15

Cianchetti's piece comments on inequality in U.S. justice system

and points from her essay that stood out and could be recreated visually.

"This is a very simple, very direct performance," Cianchetti said. "It has to be very structured and very organized in order to get the point across from the dancers to the audience."

Cianchetti will not use dynamic visuals and intense imagery like Breffeilh, but will instead go the simplistic route. The black man in the piece represents the black man, and the white man represents the white man, she said. For costumes, dancers will wear uniforms, like those of security guards and prisoners.

Michael Kurtpatrick, a musician at the dance studio, is composing the sound to Cianchetti's piece. However, Cianchetti received the sound bytes from Kurtpatrick to edit the musical segments herself to time it perfectly with her movements.

"I really hope people walk away with something to chew on," Cianchetti said. "I would hope that the next time they are in my situation to think about their actions and about how they perceive a situation concerning race and the criminal justice system may not be how it really is, just open your minds."

Cianchetti and Breffeilh will perform their routines on May 15 and 16 in the Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave. The dance series begins at 8 p.m. Admission is free for students and the public. For more information, contact the Dance Center at (312) 344-6600.

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» 'PAIN':

Continued from PG. 15

Crew experienced grueling shoot with extreme temperatures

But location scouting was merely a slice of the filmmaker's dilemmas. *The Art of Pain* cast and crew felt the true pain of artists during some of the film's more grueling shooting days. All the footage at the Landmark Century Centre had to be filmed during closed hours, from midnight to 6 a.m. A ninja fight scene was shot in freezing temperatures by Chicago's water treatment plant, while the film's climactic fight scene was shot in a set at Statesville Haunted Prison, which warmed up to more than 100 degrees inside.

Brookens said he wanted his film to inspire other artists to pursue their work, regardless of unforeseen challenges.

"It was really a stimulant to get people to do what they want to do with their life," Brookens said.

Brookens said the guidance Columbia gave him helped shape his artistic voice.

"There's a school of thought that says you don't need film school, and I'm going to have to disagree with that," Brookens said. "I got a lot out of Columbia because they gave me the tools I needed and a big network of people who also made films. One of the problems people face when they make films is a lack of follow-through. [Columbia] forces you to finish your projects."

The Columbia screening for The Art of Pain *is on May 19 at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., and the screening at Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave., is on May 24. For more information, visit ArtOfPainMovie.com.*

mfagerholm@chroniclemail.com

Muslim women loving literature

Romantic books address courtship, polygamy, love

by Edward Harris

Muslim book seller Yahaya Adamu waits for customers at his street-side stall in Kano, Nigeria, on April 9. AP

EACH EVENING, headscarf-shrouded women seeking romantic advice gather at book stalls lining a rush-hour intersection in Nigeria's Islamic heartland.

With the sun setting red behind a nearby mosque, the women thumb through northern Nigeria's unique, female-authored literary offerings: cheaply bound but popular volumes that address issues confronting women in a Shariah society: courtship, polygamy and the meaning of love.

While hardly bodice-rippers by Western standards, the controversy surrounding what academics call "Kano market literature" is increasing with the books' readership. Conservative scholars and clerics in Nigeria's north deride the tomes as pulp fiction that degrades Islamic and indigenous cultural mores. A top Islamic leader recently set fire to a pile of the books.

But female readers say the volumes—with such titles as *Edge of Fate*, *False Love* and *Undeceiveful Heart*—help them navigate contemporary life and their titles are proliferating rapidly, pitting younger women against a predominantly male, conservative elite.

"Women are not only writing for pleasure, no, we are writing because we are seeing what is happening in the society and we want a lot of corrections," said Binta Rabiu Spikin, a 32-year-old single woman who was raised in her grandfather's home, which included four wives. "We want amendments made. That's why we write."

The books are mostly written in the local language of Hausa. They extoll the values of true love based on feelings, rather than family or other social pressures.

Several volumes instruct women on how to send loving text messages to their intended mate's mobile phones: "Knowing I can love U with the distance between our hearts makes my love 4U stronger."

Other volumes take on a dreamier approach, with women openly flirting and dancing closely with men in public. In reality, that's a rarity in northern Nigeria, where public modesty and chastity are encouraged in women. Readers say the books help them understand female adult life.

"Now we're living in a modern society, but there are still things they don't tell you," says Maryam Muhammed Haladu, a 20-year-old devotee of the books. "Some ladies, when they're married, they don't know what to do. They don't know how to take care of a man, how to seduce him."

But even the depiction of men and women together rankle some conservatives. Throughout the ages, cultural mores were transmitted by village leaders and through families in an oral tradition.

Arab slaves and spice traders brought Islam to the Hausa people in the 1300s. Later, English colonialists who ruled Nigeria until its 1960 independence applied the English alphabet to the Hausa language, allowing for a written history. The British encouraged Hausa writing with competitions in the 1930s.

Over the decades, Hausa speakers developed a thriving literary tradition in their own language, which is rare in Africa, where many languages had no written tradition until colonialists brought script.

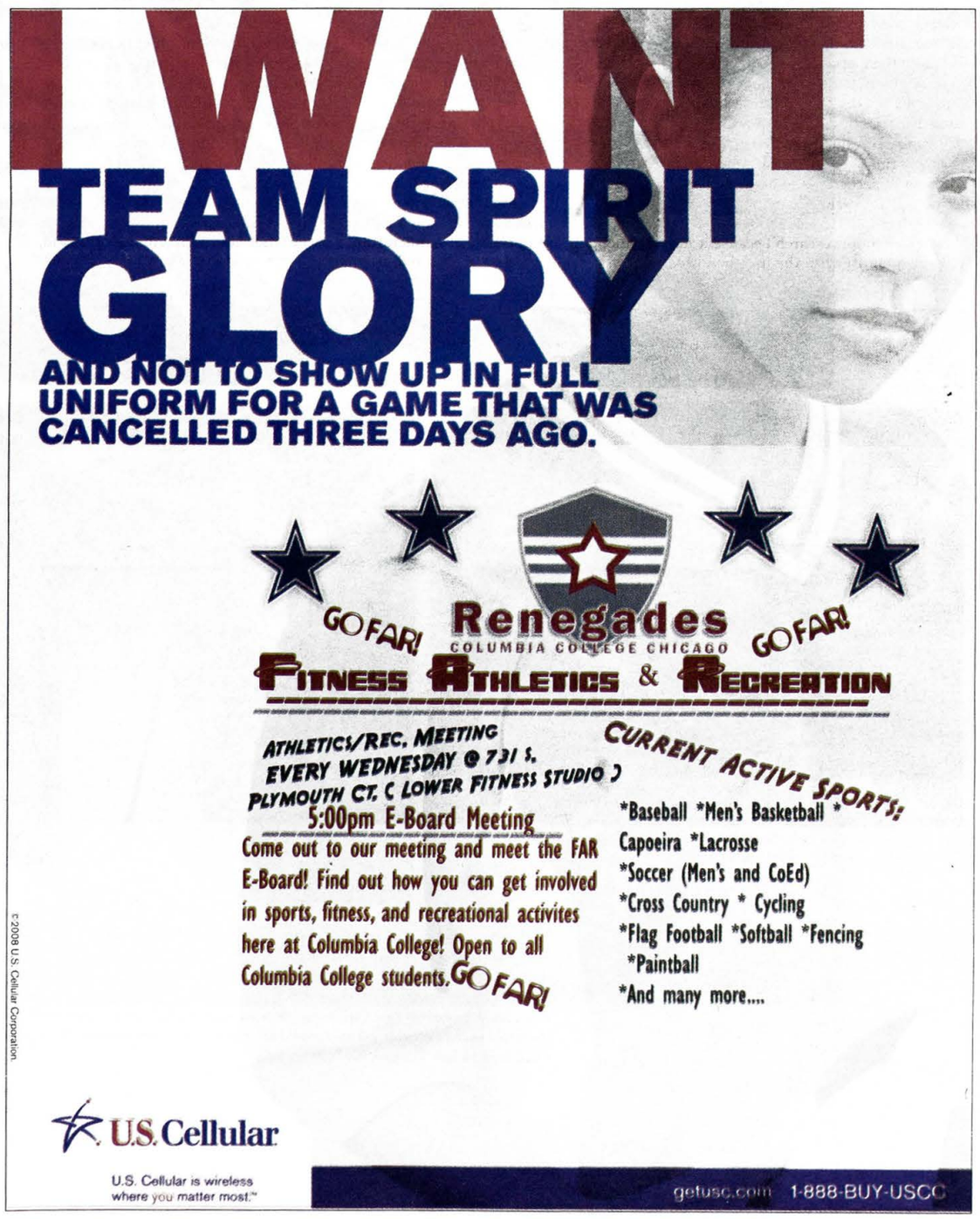
But until computers and cheaper means of publishing arrived in the late 1990s, when Shariah or Islamic law was installed in the area, male cultural elites controlled the presses.

With the recent explosion of communication technology, women have found ways to publish their books, too. About 100 of the Kano chapter of the Nigerian Writers Association are now female, a massive increase since the turn of the century when military rule ended and mobile phone and other technology blossomed in Nigeria.

The women writers' books, along with similarly themed novels by men, now crowd jerry-rigged roadside bookshops across Kano. At about 30 cents a copy, writers say sales are way up in the past few years.

The colorfully titled books, which are little more than stapled pamphlets, normally boast covers with women smiling at passers-by. Between the covers, women discuss how to approach men while remaining chaste, and how to live peacefully in a household with the four wives allowed by Islam.

AP



(Top) A Professional Bull Riders staff member swings his lasso to get the bulls to move before the start of the PBR tour at Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill., on Apr. 26. (Far left) Bull #311, "Train Wreck," waits as one of the PBR riders prepares to compete. (Above) Athletes from the tour are given introductions with spotlights, rock music, fake smoke and deafening pyrotechnics to announce their arrival into each competition. (Right) Rider Ednei Caminhas, from Sao Paulo, Brazil, bruised his right thigh and sciatic nerve when the bull "Booger Butt" threw him into a steel chute. He was carried out on a stretcher and was attended to by the tour's traveling physician. (Far right) Rider Cord McCoy gets tossed from the bull "Doggone Bad."

It's buckin' wild

Lasers beamed, hip-hop music blared and pyrotechnics exploded as each participant emerged from behind a black curtain into an eerie, smoke-filled arena. Then, as a crowd of more than 6,000 fans screamed wildly, the top five points leaders were hoisted more than 20 feet above the arena floor on powered lifts. Though this description sounds like NASCAR, a WWE wrestling tournament or a monster truck rally, the event was actually a professional bull riding competition and the Pro Bull Riders website indicates that it's a multi-million dollar business.

Chicagoans had an opportunity to see professional bull riding on April 26 and 27 when the Pro Bull Riders tour came to the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill. More than 45 cowboys and 50 pure bred bulls from the U.S., Canada, Spain and Brazil put on a show to remember.

PBR team officials dispelled common myths surrounding the event such as injecting the animals with hormones or drugs, using testicular ropes and any other form of physical abuse before rides to get the bulls to throw the riders. The bulls were very calm while in the pens and only became excited when a rider climbed on for the eight seconds of competition.

It took nine tractor trailers to carry cowboys, bulls, fencing, veterinarians and equipment to the Cooper Tires Invitational within the PBR Bull Team Challenge Tour. The Pro Bull Riders website, PBRnow.com, indicates that the tour has a $1.1 million total payout and up to $250,000 individual event total winning payouts.

When the dust settled, three-time world champion Adriano Moraes was joined in the winner's circle by Dustin Hall of Springfield, Mo. Both riders completed two 8-second rides on three bulls and were ultimately named co-champions of the event. Moraes won $23,740.50 in cash, while Hall took home $22,272.50. Both scored 177.5 total points but Moraes won a bonus for having the highest scoring ride of the weekend.

The two-day event was played live on the cable sports channel Versus.

Photos and essay by Jody Warner

Lennon film fight in court

Rare John Lennon video goes to court over ownership

by Denise Lavoie

THEY ARE rare, intimate images of John Lennon just before the breakup of The Beatles: He's hunched over a piano writing songs, smoking pot, joking about putting LSD in President Nixon's tea.

Almost four decades after the footage was shot at Lennon's estate in England, his widow is in court, fighting to keep the images private.

World Wide Video LLC, a Lawrence, Mass.-based company, claims it owns the 10 hours of raw footage, but Yoko Ono claims she is the rightful owner. World Wide Video has filed a federal lawsuit against Ono, claiming Ono's attempts to stop the company from publicly showing the footage is a copyright infringement.

At a preliminary hearing for the case on April 30 in U.S. District Court in Boston, arguments on Ono's motion to dismiss were scheduled for May 21. Both sides also agreed not to show the film while the case is working through the courts.

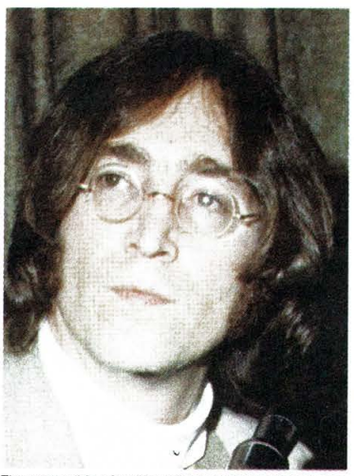
The footage, which has never been shown publicly in its entirety, was shot Feb. 8-10, 1970, by Anthony Cox, Ono's husband before her marriage to Lennon in 1969.

It shows Lennon writing two songs that would later become hits—"Remember" and "Mind Games"—and shows him performing the song, "Instant Karma," according to a description in The Boston Globe, which was allowed to view the videotapes for a March 2007 story.

The footage also includes some tender moments, such as when Lennon blow-dries his wife's hair, and when Lennon and Ono play with Julian Lennon and Kyoko Cox, children from their previous marriages.

Lennon, who was 29 when the film was shot, also talks about the couple's drug use.

"We've resurrected hope in ourselves, and we're hoping to spread it around a bit—to tell people you can get off speed, you can get off [heroin], you can get off pot. You know, because whatever they say, you do get hooked on it," Lennon said.



The ownership of a video of John Lennon before The Beatles broke up is now being debated in court.

AP

World Wide Video produced a two-hour documentary, *3 Days in the Life*, using the footage, and planned to show it at a private school in Maine in 2007. The screening was scrapped after the company received a stop order from Ono's lawyers, claiming copyrighted ownership of the videotapes. The producers had previously shown excerpts from the film four times, including at William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J., and at entertainment and media conferences in New York and Connecticut.

Ray Thomas, executive producer of the documentary, said World Wide's principals are Beatles memorabilia collectors who hoped to show the film to high school and college students.

"We thought it would make a phenomenal educational and historic record for kids who didn't live in the '60s," Thomas said. "This is one of the greatest composers of the 20th century, and you're getting an intimate look at his life—from blow-drying his wife's hair to playing with the cat to performing 'Instant Karma.'"

Ono's Boston lawyer, Jonathan Albano, declined to comment on the lawsuit.

In court documents, Ono said she had a "clear and absolute" agreement with Cox when he shot the footage that it would never be "commercially exhibited, commercially exploited or released."

And Ono said she purchased all rights to the videotapes for $300,000 in 2002 from a broker, Anthony Pagola.

But the principals of World Wide Video—John Fallon and Robert Grenier—say the sale to Ono was invalid, and that it owns the videos and copyright after buying them from Cox for $125,000 in 2000.

In its lawsuit, World Wide claims that shortly after its purchase, the tapes were stolen by a former employee, John Messina, whom World Wide later sued. World Wide claims in its suit that in a settlement agreement, Messina agreed to return copies of the tapes and to help them locate the original set of tapes.

Messina, who attended the court hearing on April 30, vigorously denied stealing the tapes and said he believes Ono is the rightful owner.

"These are Yoko's private tapes," he said. "Why would a widow want to take pictures of private moments from a happier time and have them put out there for the public to see?"

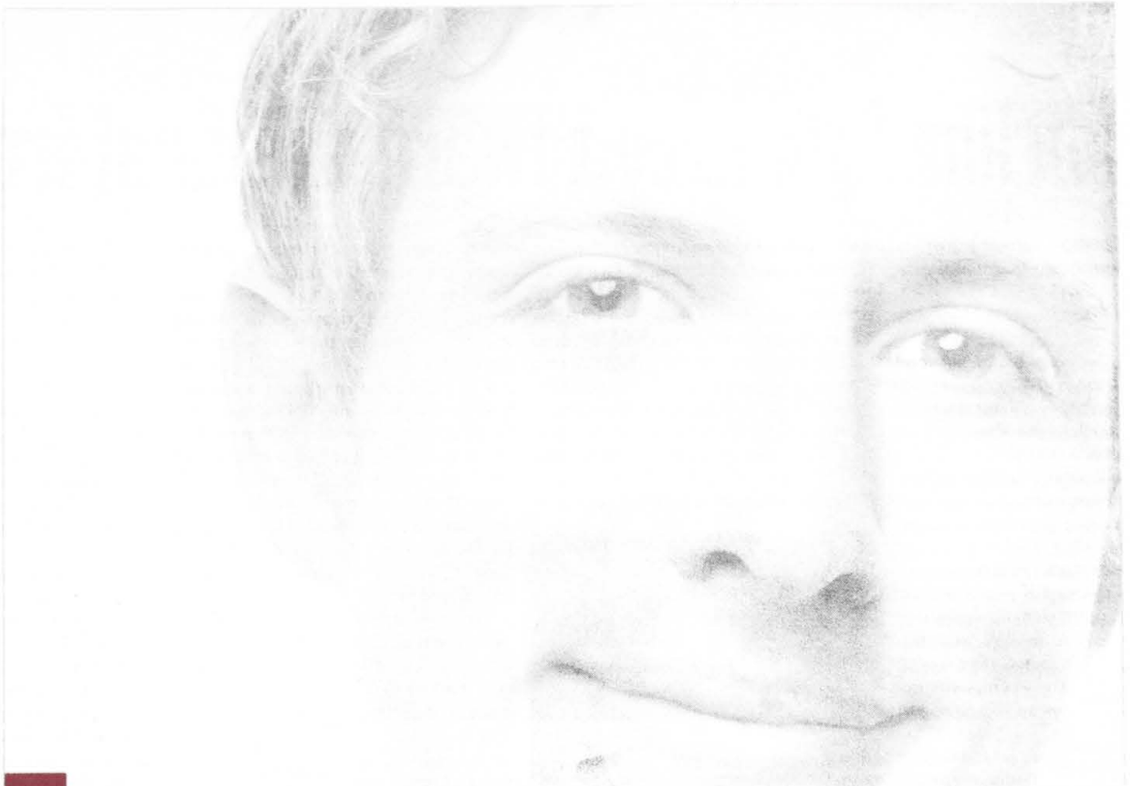
Fallon and Grenier claim that in 2001, Pagola approached them and threatened to destroy the tapes unless World Wide agreed to let him be a broker who would find a buyer.

World Wide signed an agreement with Pagola, but said in its lawsuit that Pagola was to find a buyer "for the purpose of development and production of a full-length documentary motion picture."

Fallon and Grenier claim that Pagola sold the tapes and copyright to Ono without their permission and that he forged their signatures on the sale agreement.

Pagola, who is named as a defendant along with Ono in World Wide's lawsuit, could not immediately be reached for comment at press time.

AP



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J.J. Abrams' journey toward the final frontier

'Lost' creator aims to reinvent 'Star Trek' franchise

by David Germain

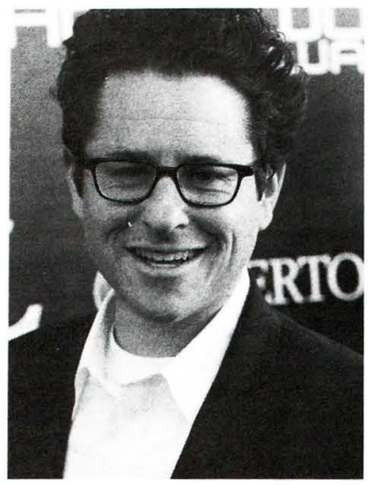
J.J. ABRAMS grew up more a fan of Luke Skywalker and Han Solo than of James Kirk and his Vulcan buddy Spock. So why is a self-professed *Star Wars* kid directing *Star Trek*?

"It was an opportunity to take what I think has been a maligned world—to sound crass, a franchise—and treat it in a way that made it something that I wanted to see," said Abrams, who finished shooting on *Star Trek*, due in theaters May 8, 2009. "To take the characters, the thoughtfulness, the personalities, the sense of adventure, the idea of humanity working together, the sense of social commentary and innovation, all that stuff. To take it and apply it in a way that felt genuinely thrilling."

Abrams, creator of TV's "Lost" and "Alias" whose big-screen credits include *Mission: Impossible III*, shared some *Trek* thoughts with The Associated Press in an interview to promote the DVD release of his monster movie *Cloverfield*.

While he enjoyed the TV show about Capt. Kirk, First Officer Spock and their Enterprise crew mates, Abrams said he was not a rabid fan.

In this age of make-or-break opening weekends, the revival of the franchise seven years after the last movie (*Star Trek: Nemesis*) flopped may depend on introducing a new generation to the exploits of the 23rd century explorers rather than just hooking a bunch of old fans.



(Left) J.J. Abrams, the creator of such hit TV shows as 'Lost' and 'Alias,' is set to direct the latest 'Star Trek' film for the big screen, which aims to re-invent the franchise by bringing the plot back to its origins. (Right) The original TV cast (clockwise): DeForest Kelley, William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and Nichelle Nichols.

(Left) AP (Right) MCT

"The whole point was to try to make this movie for fans of movies, not fans of *Star Trek*, necessarily,'" Abrams said. "If you're a fan, we've got one of the writers who's a devout Trekker, so we were able to make sure we were serving the people who are completely enamored with *Star Trek*. But we are not making the movie for that contingent alone.

"You can't really make a movie for them. As soon as you start to guess what you think they are going to want to see, you're in trouble. You have to make the movie in many ways for what you want to see yourself, make a movie you believe in. Then you're not second-guessing an audience you don't really have an understanding of."

After the 1960s TV show went off the air, it remained alive in syndication, and the original cast led by William Shatner as Kirk and Leonard Nimoy as Spock was reunited for six big-screen movies.

Four more movies followed starring Patrick Stewart and the cast of the '80s and '90s update *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, while the *Trek* universe expanded to include three other TV series.

Abrams' *Star Trek* takes the franchise back to its beginning, with a young cast recreating the Enterprise crew: Chris Pine as Kirk, Zachary Quinto as Spock, Karl Urban as Dr. McCoy, Simon Pegg as engineer Scott, John Cho as helmsman Sulu, Zoe Saldana as communications officer Uhura and Anton Yelchin as navigator Chekov.

"It's a chance to see what Kirk and Spock would look like done now," Abrams said. "What's thrilling about it is how great the cast is, how remarkably talented and funny and just spot-on they all are."

Nimoy also reprises his role as the older Spock, though Shatner—whose Kirk was killed at the end of the seventh movie, *Star Trek: Generations*—does not appear.

Abrams would not share plot details, saying only that the movie would remain faithful to the original while breaking new ground in action, drama and visual effects, which are being crafted by *Star Wars* creator George Lucas' Industrial Light and Magic outfit.

"I feel like this is so unlike what you expect, so unlike the *Star Trek* you've seen. At the same time, it's being true to what's come before, honoring it," Abrams said. "I can say the effects for *Star Trek* have never, ever been done like this. ... I can only tell you the idea of the universe of *Star Trek* has never been given this kind of treatment."

AP

Manifest

Don't miss your chance to see OK Go LIVE and FREE at Manifest 2008 on Friday, May 16th at 8PM in Grant Park at Upper Hutchinson Field, located on the corner of Columbus and Balbo!

This special event is FREE but all attendees will need a ticket for entrance.

Tickets for the concert will be distributed to Columbia students, faculty and staff, at the **Manifest Box Office, 33 E. Congress, Suite 538** from **9am - 5pm** on the following days:

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ALL OTHER STUDENTS: **MAY 5TH- MAY 9TH**

STAFF AND FACULTY: **MAY 12TH- MAY 14TH**

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Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

HIGH FIVES OF THE WEEK

Television

1. "American Idol" (Tues.), FOX.
2. "American Idol" (Wed.), FOX.
3. "Dancing With the Stars" (Mon.), ABC.
4. "Dancing" (Tues.), ABC.
5. "Grey's Anatomy," ABC.

—Nielsen Media Research

Film

1. *Baby Mama*, Universal.
2. *Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay*, Warner Bros.
3. *The Forbidden Kingdom*, Lionsgate.
4. *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, Universal.
5. *Nim's Island*, Fox.

—Media by Numbers LLC

Songs

1. "Bleeding Love," Leona Lewis. SYCO/J/RMG.
2. "Lollipop," Lil Wayne featuring Static Major. Cash Money/Universal Motown.
3. "No Air," Jordin Sparks duet with Chris Brown. 19/Jive/Zomba. (Platinum)
4. "4 Minutes," Madonna featuring Justin Timberlake. Warner Bros.
5. "Love In This Club," Usher featuring Young Jeezy. LaFace/Zomba.

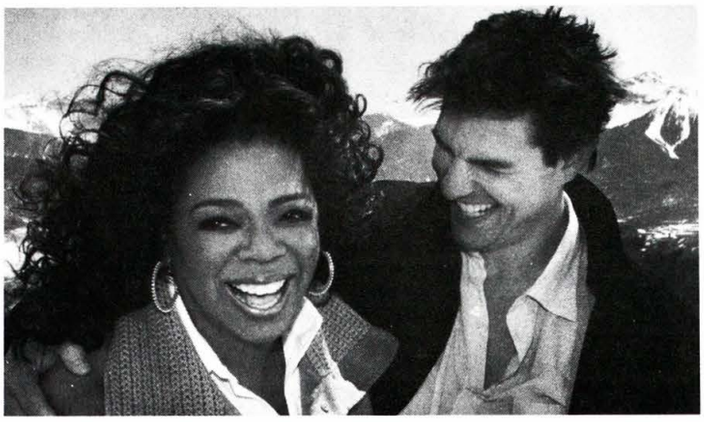
—Billboard Magazine

Albums

1. *E=MC2*, Mariah Carey. Island/IDJMG.
2. *Spirit*, Leona Lewis. SYCO/J/RMG.
3. *Flight of the Conchords*, Flight of the Conchords. HBO/Sub Pop.
4. *Bittersweet World*, Ashlee Simpson. Geffen/IGA.
5. *When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint that S— Gold*, Atmosphere. Rhymesayers.

—Billboard Magazine

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Talk show host Oprah Winfrey interviewed actor Tom Cruise at his home in Telluride, Colo., on April 25.

AP

Oprah's couch safe for now

Tom Cruise didn't jump on Oprah Winfrey's couch this time.

The actor was in Chicago on May 1 to tape an episode of "The Oprah Winfrey Show," a tribute to his showbiz career that took off 25 years ago when he danced in his underwear in *Risky Business*. Audience members told The Associated Press that Cruise's demeanor was nothing like his infamous coach-jumping incident three years ago, when he made a spectacle of himself while proclaiming his love for now wife Katie Holmes.

"He was really calm and collected," said Diane Andonovski of Toronto, Canada.

Cruise was accompanied by immediate family members, including Holmes and the couple's 2-year-old daughter Suri, audience member Jenny Hume of England said.

It was the first half of a two-part interview Winfrey did with Cruise that aired May 2, with the second half airing May 5. For the May 2 show, Winfrey interviewed the 45-year-old actor at his home in Telluride, Colo. May 5's show was taped at her Chicago studio in front of an audience.

In a preview of the May 2 show posted on her website, Winfrey asked Cruise if he feels he has been misunderstood, thinks he has come under attack unnecessarily and how he has been accepted by Holmes' family. Winfrey mentions his criticism of actress Brooke Shields and his tiff with "Today" show host Matt Lauer on the show.

AP

Cosby hits home

Bill Cosby told several hundred people at a conference of community associations April 30 to stand up and confront the ills facing black Americans.

Repeating a mantra that has angered some black leaders who accused him of downplaying the effects of long-term discrimination, he exhorted the audience several times to "stop looking for somebody to blame."

Characterizing his own words as "blunt, but not harsh," the 70-year-old comedian criticized a culture in which "babies are wearing $40 sneakers while their mothers are feeding them Oodles of Noodles."

Cosby deemed some of his critics "intellectual panhandlers" who enable destructive behavior by staying silent or blaming racism.

AP

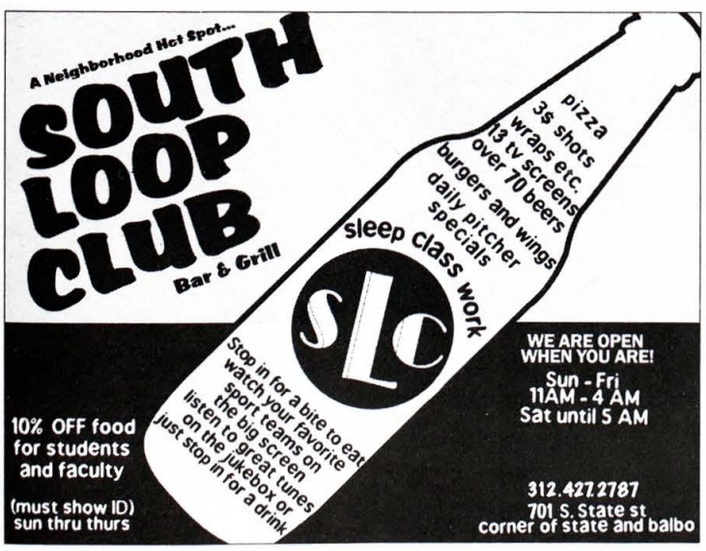
Campaign for change

Will Ferrell, Jennifer Aniston and Ellen Page are among those lending their celebrity status to a new campaign focusing attention on Myanmar's military-run government.

Jim Carrey previously filmed a public service announcement to raise awareness about the Southeast Asian country, also known as Burma.

But starting May 8, the message will be on a much larger scale. A video will be released each day in May starring Ferrell, Aniston, Page, Sarah Silverman, Sylvester Stallone and Judd Apatow, among others.

AP



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TOP 5

Sara Harvey, Copy Chief

Things my mom taught me

Patience: My mom was a puff-painting wizard. I watched over her shoulder as she squeezed out tiny blobs that formed the seeds on a watermelon shirt with a green, polka-dot ribbon rind. If I can have the patience to puff paint a straight line, I can handle anything.

The importance of memories: Mom has told me stories about how my grandma saved pennies so her family of seven could go on vacation. She said even though they were poor it was important to her parents to create memories they would remember forever. I'm now more appreciative when we all hop in the car for a trip—even if there's squabbling in the back seat.

There's no such thing as 'too late': Whether it's an apology, a kind word or a thoughtful gesture, someone will be glad you cared, no matter how insignificant you think it is.

Good nutrition: If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up! Also, potato chips are not a vegetable.

Emotional fortitude: Learn to swallow your tears and keep going—and let all the bad things be fuel for the fire inside that people wonder about.

Quinn Milton, Copy Editor

Goals for next school year

Buy a better 'Word of the Day' calendar: OK, so I won't be able to buy a new one until January, but I think I'll start looking now. The *American Heritage Dictionary* calendar I currently have just isn't doing it. I mean really, who doesn't know what "tent" means?

Pass math: For some reason I thought it would be a good idea to keep putting this off, but now it's been three years since I've taken a math class. I'm not feeling too confident about it.

Successfully complete my photo minor: Last year I decided to minor in photography, which means cramming in about three more classes before graduation. I'm still debating whether or not this was a good idea.

Graduate: I know this is an obvious one, but with nine classes left to take next year I'm cutting it a little close. Keep your fingers crossed for me.

Learn to play the banjo and tour the world in a folk band: I don't know what to say about this one besides, why not?

Cate White, Copy Editor

Scariest things about graduation

The real world: And not the kind where seven strangers stop being polite and start being real. I'm talking 9 to 5, business casual, for-ev-er.

No more help from parents: Because of the getting a job thing. This is bad, because my salary will be miniscule.

No more grades: I know this sounds like a good thing, but it's not. Grades you can fix. Doing a bad job at work and getting fired, you can't fix. No more late assignments. Ever.

New people: Usually a good thing, but not here. Here, it means walking into an office of people who know each other (and know what they're doing), and they're all going to be older than me.

Leaving Columbia: It's been my home for four great years. Why leave? It's nice here, I know people and I can't get fired from school. Maybe I'll flunk out and get to come back again...

JACKASS OF THE WEEK

MCT

HANNAH MONTRAMP

Miley Cyrus may not be a girl anymore, but she is definitely not a woman.

Cyrus decided to take "artsy" photos for an upcoming issue of Vanity Fair. Cyrus' photos show her topless with a satin bed sheet covering her, according to The Associated Press.

Cyrus' best friend may say she's "just being Miley," but honestly, she's 15 years old, and a multi-platinum selling Disney star who has legions of young female fans who consider her a role model.

Being a teenager in the spotlight might be difficult, but it seems Cyrus is dealing with it through a photo lens.

The Disney Channel, which airs Cyrus' show "Hannah Montana," tried to fire back at Vanity Fair. The Disney Channel issued a statement claiming that a situation was created to deliberately "manipulate a 15-year-old in order to sell magazines." However, according to The Associated Press, Vanity Fair defended the photo shoot by saying Cyrus and her family were all supportive of the shoot and thought the pictures looked "artsy" and beautiful.

At the age of 15, Cyrus should be reading books, wearing turtlenecks and focusing on her future. However, with pictures like these, this jackass might be seeing a crotch shot in her future, like another fallen pop princess who allowed her image to be sexually manipulated in order to sell CDs.

—D. Kucynda

check me out

by Meryl Fulinara
Contributing Writer

The seasons are looking brighter than ever, with the main focus this spring and summer being about one thing, color: the brighter the better.

Freshman fine arts major Karolina Romanowski was sitting outside the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., when we spotted her wearing a strapless, tiered, tangerine dress.

"I dress according to what color I feel," Romanowski said.

Romanowski's lace-trimmed dress was the right combination of feminine frill and the Wild West, with her cowboy boots, bare legs and a free-flowing, bold dress.

Intense shades of colors and rainbow hues are going to set the days on fire this summer. Ruffles are another hot trend this season—think feminine and flirty. The secret to successfully wearing ruffles is to balance the ruffles' texture with clean, flat lines. Pair up a ruffle blouse with a high-waisted skirt or skinny jeans. This will help elongate the body, provide more shape to the shapeless and also slenderize any unwanted curves.

Be sure to get thrills one frill at a time, so an outfit doesn't look like a costume for the circus. From small lace ruffles to ornate Victorian collars, all ruffles should be concentrated in certain areas of an outfit, as all-over ones will make the body look bigger.

This summer is all about connecting style with childhood. So look on the bright side (of colors).

—Meryl Fulinara is a junior journalism major.

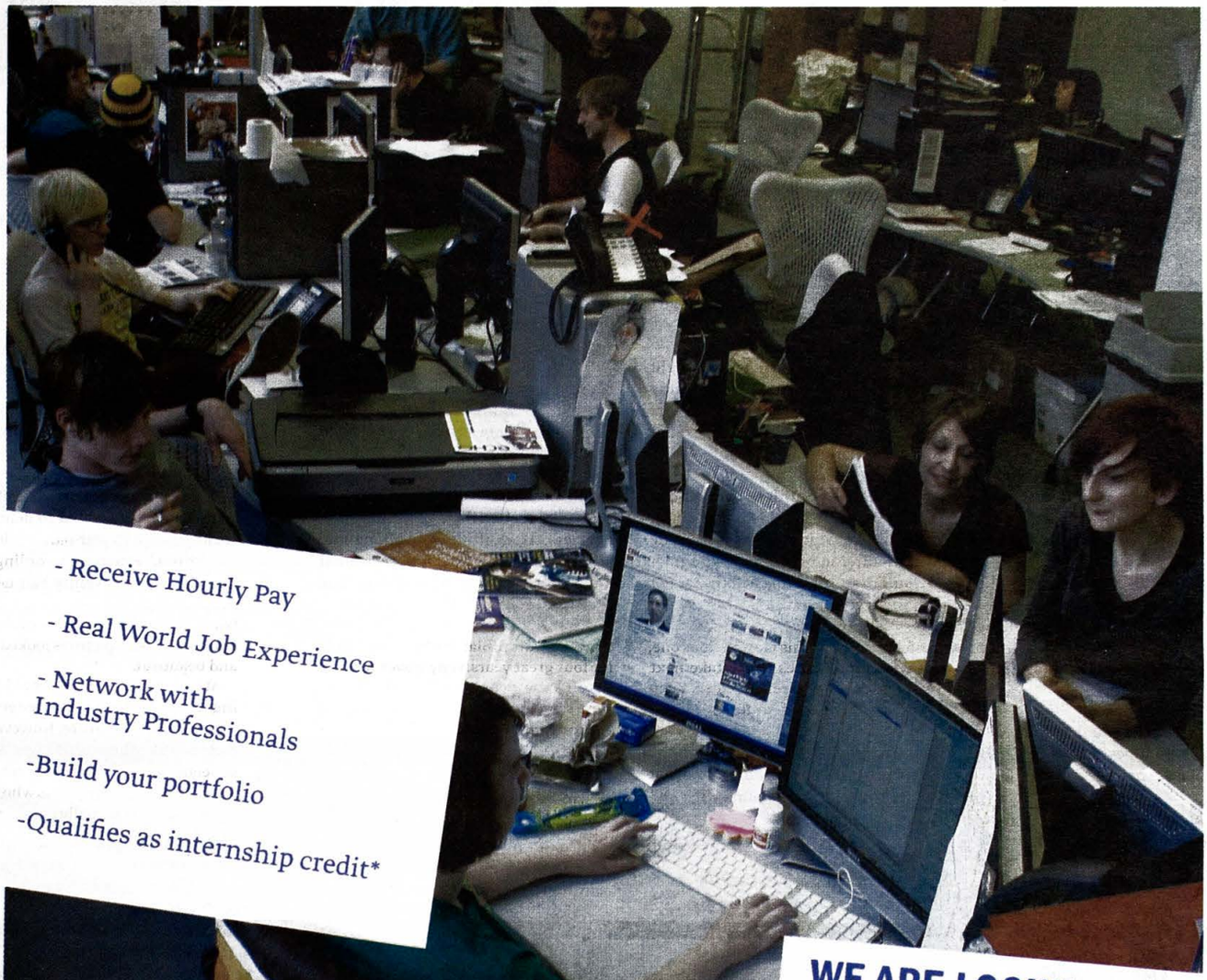
Want to recommend a current trend? E-mail us at chronicle@colum.edu.

Freshman fine arts major Karolina Romanowski paired cowboy boots with her free-flowing tangerine dress, with a touch of lace to create a bold, summer look.

Andrew A. Nelles THE CHRONICLE

EXPERIENCE THIS

The Chronicle is hiring for fall 2008



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Webmaster
Assistant Webmaster
Editorial Cartoonist
Freelance (any section)

Wrigley Field gets a mini-me

Jim Shaw installs the third base on April 27 at Little Cubs Field in preparation for the park's opening day game and festivities on April 28.

AP

Dutchie Caray, widow of the late Harry Caray, throws the ceremonial first pitch at Little Cubs Field on April 28.

AP

Dutchie Caray, the widow of Hall of Fame broadcaster Harry Caray and Pete Vonachen, the owner of the Peoria Chiefs were on hand in Freeport, Ill., to open Little Cubs Field, a miniature replica of Wrigley Field.

Opening-day activities on April 28 included a ribbon cutting and Little League game.

Caray called the ballpark "adorable." She says the kids who will play there are very lucky.

Mike Lehnherr is vice president of the Freeport Little League. He told The Freeport Journal-Standard the new field will be an asset for the northern Illinois city and will help attract tournaments.

Vonachen said the field is a "neat concept."

AP

PREMIUM BLEND

Color Radio

WHEN JONATHON Ifergan and Josh Stillman formed a band in high school, they would never have predicted their band would elevate from a group of friends playing at local venues to playing at Columbia's end of the year festival, Manifest.

Vocalist Ifergan and drummer Stillman met bassist Nicholas Morford after finding Morford's advertisement on the Internet. After a brief interview, Morford joined the duo, and they set out to find a fourth band member. During the college's 2007 fall semester, Jonathon Ifergan's brother Tohm Ifergan began his education at Columbia. Realizing that the young Tohm Ifergan could play keyboards, the trio quickly recruited him to create the band Color Radio last September.

With sounds similar to popular British pop music, the band is now in production of their unnamed debut album that will be released in mid-June. Color Radio is working alongside producer Brian Zieske, who has produced albums for The Academy Is, The Hush Sound and Sars Flannery.

The Chronicle recently spoke with Tohm Ifergan about the band's style of music, their musical idols and the best and worst times of being a relatively young band.

Q The Chronicle: What style of music does Color Radio perform?

Tohm Ifergan: We definitely have changed throughout each concert that we have performed. We started off as a poppy, pop-rock band, and then we got into the ambient, new-wave and new-rock genres. We just decided over time that it suited our talents better. Our music is pretty progressive. We write and compose our own music ourselves so our genre becomes really personal.

Q What musical influenecs do you draw from to create your own sound?

Everyone here has slightly different taste, but I think the most obvious influence is Radiohead. Some of us like emo-style music, and some of us don't. It varies.

Q How did you come up with the name?

[Josh Stillman's] grandfather had this running joke that he would always say: "Back in my day we had color radio." It was a really stupid joke, but we found it interesting. We just wanted something really simple and easy to remember.

Q What does the band have planned for the future?

Right now we are working on designing our own merchandise to sell at our concerts. We are getting some shirts in, and we are going to get some photographers to create posters for us. We are actually scouting for a booking agent right now. Once we have the agent we are going to try and tour outside Chicago in hopes of expanding.

Color Radio will be performing at Manifest on May 16 at The Student Stage, 640 S. Wabash Ave. For more information and times, visit Columbia's Manifest homepage at Colum.edu/Manifest.

—C. Shively

(Left) Drummer Josh Stillman, bassist Nicholas Morford, keyboardist Tohm Ifergan and vocalist Jonathon Ifergan comprise the pop-rock band Color Radio.

Courtesy COLOR RADIO

Columbia College Chicago
Campus Apple Store

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(Entrance Off Wabash)
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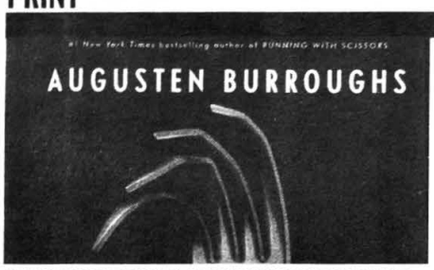
REVIEWS

SHHHHHICK | SHOULDER SHRUG | NOT BAD, NOT BAD | WORTH A GIGGLE | HAPPY DANCE!

PRINT

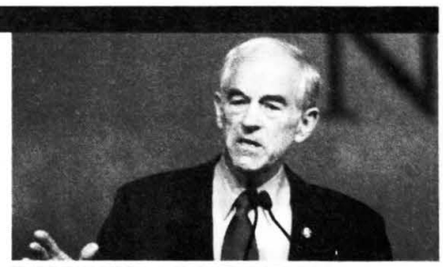


'A WOLF AT THE TABLE' BY AUGUSTEN BURROUGHS

He wrote the book that inspired the unfortunately botched silver screen rendition of his fathoming memoir *Running With Scissors*. Burroughs is back with quirky, twisted, heart-felt and cringe-worthy stories of his often troublesome and insanely awkward childhood and life. This time, it's about his father. I just picked it up, but he never disappoints. —*B. Marlow*

THE DAILY NORTHWESTERN

Props to the DN for staying on top of yet another Rev. Jeremiah Wright Jr. issue. The staff recently broke the story that the university withdrew an offer to give the reverend an honorary Doctorate of Sacred Theology in March. I'd recommend visiting the paper's website for great continued coverage. —*A. Maurer*



'THE REVOLUTION: A MANIFESTO' BY RON PAUL

Brilliantly written, Ron's Paul's manifesto on the current state of national affairs can be a dry read at times. However, Paul dares to go where most politicians will not. In the book, Paul discusses the real reasons behind the looming recession, terrorism and the loss of civil liberties. The disappointing truth is what he says about the government is true: We've been lied to. —*D. Kucynda*

MOVIES / DVD / TV

'SON OF RAMBOW' DIRECTED BY GARTH JENNINGS

This independent film hits on the themes of friendship, family and being a dumb kid. Set in the 1980s, two boys decide to make a short film for the BBC show "Screen Test." After watching *Rambo: First Blood*, the younger of the two boys, William, pretends to be the son of Rambo, and two brilliant films are born, in our world and theirs. —*T. Bearden*

'THE OFFICE' ON NBC

I thought I'd give this season a few more weeks to step it up. Unfortunately, the funniest part was when my boyfriend gave this season a thumbs down after the May 1 episode. What happened to the it-could-actually-happen humor? Why is the character development becoming ridiculous? I'll keep watching because I'm a devoted fan, but I won't like it. —*A. Maurer*

'THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY' ON DVD

This miraculous film offers further proof that Columbia alum Janusz Kaminski is one of the greatest cinematographers in the history of cinema. His camera literally becomes the lead character, viewing the world through his eye, blinks and all. The DVD includes a fascinating documentary on how this cinematic trickery was accomplished. —*M. Fagerholm*

MUSIC

ATMOSPHERE: 'WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS, YOU PAINT THAT S--- GOLD'

Atmosphere's sixth studio album is so good it's going to be on repeat in my car for weeks. The sometimes-haphazard duo of Slug and Ant is older, darker and funnier. And the deluxe version of the album comes with an illustrated children's story written by Slug himself. —*C. White*

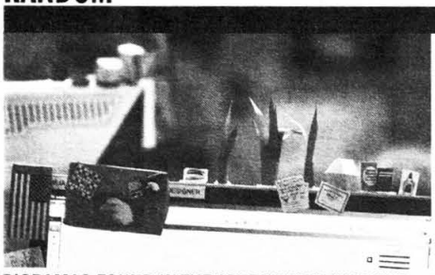
THE MEDIC DROID: 'WHAT'S YOUR MEDIUM'

In the quickly growing genre of synthesized vocals and music, I found *Fer Sure*, one of The Medic Droid's most famous songs on YouTube. I am obsessed, to say the least. The club-like quality of the sound gets me going every time I listen to it. Despite the highly sexualized lyrics, The Medic Droid is sure to be a hit in every gay or straight club. —*C. Shively*

PRINCIPLES OF GEOMETRY: 'LAZARE'

Probably one of the hardest bands to describe ever, this electronic, lo-fi, experimental sound is nothing short of completely inspiring. Sparse in lyrics but not on depth, this is always on my iPod Touch, although sometimes I'm afraid people will judge me by its album cover that's filled with nudity. —*C. Mahlmeister*

RANDOM

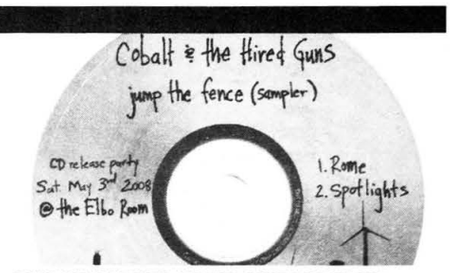


DIORAMAS FOUND IN THE JOURNALISM HALLWAY

Whoever did these amazing classroom reproductions deserve recognition! Although I assume you didn't want to carry them home on the train, the graphics staff here at The Chronicle had a blast finding them near (and in) the trash can. Mini computers, globes, composition books and plants now decorate our monitors and make us laugh. —*K. Badger*

FLOWERS IN THE CITY

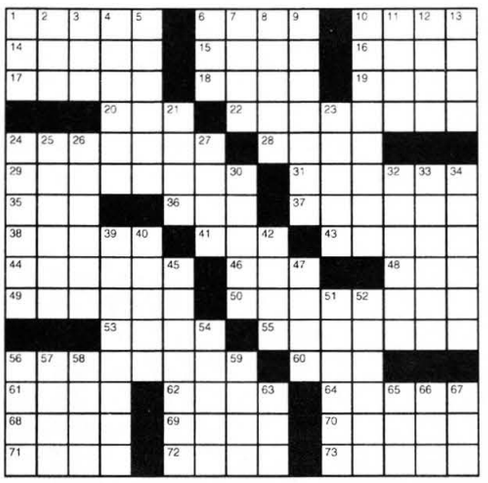
I love spring in Chicago because the city floods medians, flower pots and other empty spaces with tulips and other flowers in the downtown areas. I just wish they would extend this service to the neighborhoods so my walk home was as colorful as my walk to work. —*B. Schlikerman*



RANDOM CD TAPED ON THE BLUE LINE TRAIN

Riding into the Loop last week, I was sitting by the window and noticed a plastic-sleeved CD taped to the wall of the train car. A virgin to the CD-taping movement, I nabbed the CD and put it in my bag to listen to later. "Maybe it's a virus," I thought. Turns out the Cobalt & the Hired Guns' *Jump the Fences* sampler is pretty good. —*B. Marlow*

CROSSWORD



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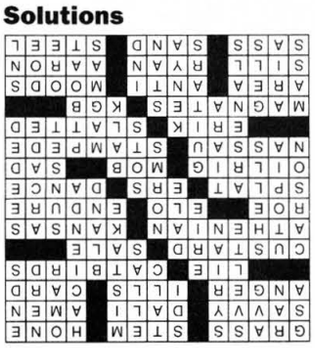
5/5/08

ACROSS
1 Bovine lunch
6 Pipe part
10 Sharpen
14 Shrewd
15 Surrealist painter
16 Grace finale
17 Madden
18 Ailments
19 Jack or ace
20 Falsehood
22 Winged singers
24 Pie filler
28 Store lure
29 Plato or Aristotle
31 Dorothy's home
35 Sturgeon eggs
36 "Xanadu" grp.
37 Stand up
38 Sound of a wet impact
41 Hosp. sections
43 Jig or reel
44 North Sea structure
46 Rabble
48 Blue
49 Capital of the Bahamas
50 Calgary __
53 Actor Estrada
55 Like Venetian blinds
56 Powerful folk
60 Soviet CIA counterpart
61 Location
62 Not for
64 Psychological states
68 Planter spot
69 Nolan or Meg
70 Hammerin' Hank
71 Give guff to
72 Beach makeup
73 Pittsburgh product

DOWN
1 Juliette Low's org.
2 Flowed
3 Part of GPA
4 Slender and graceful
5 Damascus man
6 Star Wars, initially
7 Sprinkle after a shower
8 Logan and Fitzgerald
9 Error
10 Juan's ranch
11 Actor Sharif
12 Dweeb
13 Finishes off
21 Small Great Lake
23 Dull and insipid
24 "Silent Spring" author
25 Perfect society
26 Conch coverings
27 Broad valley
30 Typical patterns
32 Day's end
33 Video-game parlor
34 Sown
39 Weapons store
40 Jeweled crown
42 Heavy imbibers
45 Eddie Van Halen's axes
47 Act mulish
51 Molten rock masses
52 Lt. Kennedy's vessel
54 "Out of Africa" locale
56 Large group
57 Opera song
58 Solidifies
59 Comic Laurel
63 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
65 Mine product
66 Unknown John
67 NBC classic

Solutions



HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) Great abundance can be yours if you play by the rules. Do the job you've taken on, even if it's tough. You can, and you'll earn a ton of respect, as well as a lot of cash.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) You are so cute, you could charm the paint off the walls. Ask for what you want and you're apt to get it. You can have more than three wishes.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Restraint is still advised. By now you should be used to it. This is good. Self-discipline is required in this phase to achieve success. In other words, tough it out.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) If you're judged by the friends you keep, you're doing very well. Your friends are solid, dependable, practical and loving. They respect and admire you. Good work.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Provide comfort to a partner whose dreams don't quite come true. Looks like there's still some basic groundwork that hasn't been done. Offer your assistance.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Projects launched now will succeed enormously. They won't turn out exactly as imagined, however. Team effort is required, so collect an enthusiastic group.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You'll have the patience now to get your finances into order. You'll be richly rewarded for your efforts. While you're at it, organize the household finances, too.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) It might be hard to find the right words, but that's not necessary. You and your partner know what you want to do, and it's time to take action. Make the commitment.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) There's plenty of work, and the pay's pretty good. Take advantage of this situation. Provide good service and lots of it. You will be generously rewarded.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Compromises you've been seeking finally fall into place. It's almost as if the two of you have never disagreed. Celebrate by going to a restaurant you both like.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Slow and easy does it. You can't make what you want happen as quickly as you'd like, under these conditions. You can make progress, however.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) You won't want to be bothered by any distractions. But friends call and loved ones need your attention. Don't worry, you can still complete the assignment.

SUDOKU

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

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5			3					2
	6	2		7			5	
		5	4					
	7	4	8		5	9	3	
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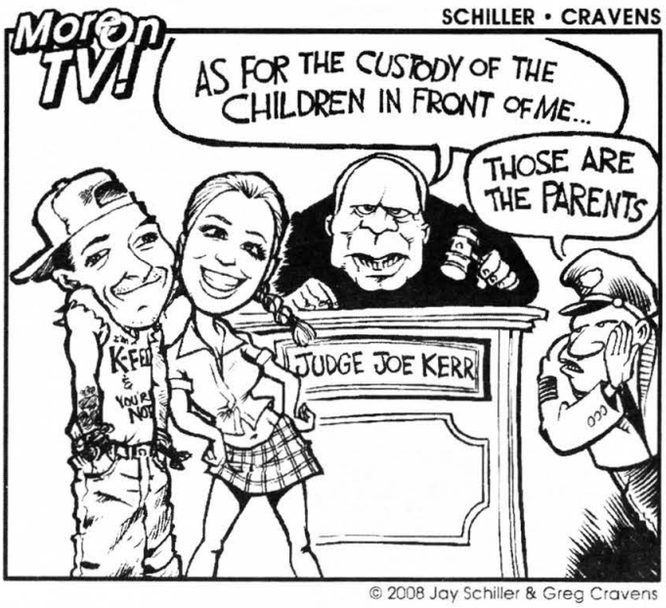
COMIC RELIEF



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Commentary

Editorials

Proof positive

This November, during the general presidential election, voters in Indiana will have to prove their identities before they vote by showing a photo ID at the polling place. That means a move toward eradication of voter fraud, and that's a positive step for honest democracy. Indiana, which holds an all-important primary on May 6, will be joining the ranks of another 24 states that have passed voter identification laws. Illinois is not one of these states.

Of those 24, only 6 (not including Indiana) have photo ID laws. Requiring voters to show a photo ID has become a political issue, since Democrats feel the law intentionally disenfranchises poor and minority voters, parts of the electorate that usually vote Democrat.

The argument is that low-income voters generally don't carry driver's licenses, photo-ID credit cards or other forms of identification at the same rate middle-class voters do. Therefore, when they come to vote, they're kept out of the democratic process.

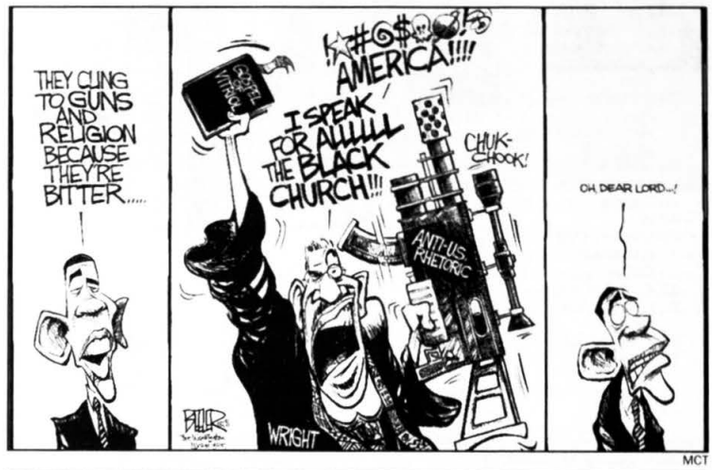
However, in Indiana and elsewhere, measures have been taken to stop this from happening. Under the new Indiana law, voters without ID are allowed to cast a provisional ballot and return within 10 days to validate their registration information, according to the Chicago Tribune. That's plenty of time for a voter to obtain a state ID at minimal cost.

It's unavoidable that in the early stages of voter-ID implementation, a few voters will be left out. However, the benefit far outweighs the cost.

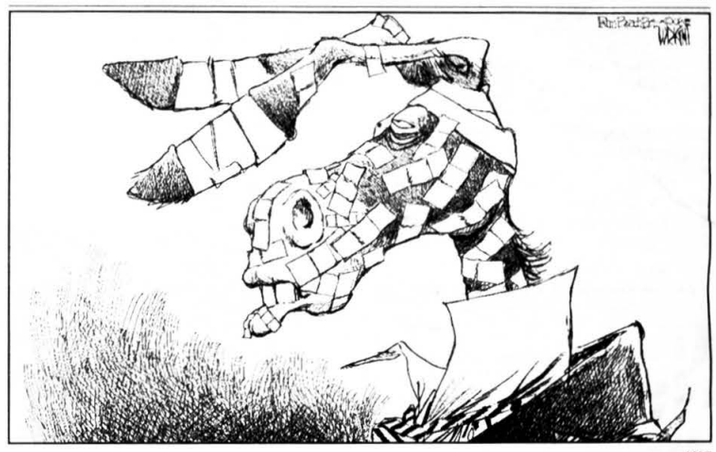
Voter ID laws protect the election booth from fraud, a phantom that has haunted countless American elections. President John F. Kennedy once joked that his father had asked him on the eve of the 1960 presidential election exactly how many votes he needed: There was no way he was going to pay for a landslide.

However, when rumors began to surface that dead people were voting multiple times in Chicago precincts, the joke turned a little sour. Fraud can't be proven in Chicago's 1960 ballots, but former Mayor Richard J. Daley had a disturbing track record of turning in overwhelming democratic majorities in Cook County, according to Slate.com, a daily political maagazine.

Voting is a sacred institution, perhaps America's most sacred. It's vitally important that it be kept honest, and voter ID laws, while difficult in the short term, will secure that honesty in the long run.



MCT



MCT

Don't pass gas (tax relief)

Drivers are facing a scary summer season this year, as gas prices have risen to record numbers. According to CNN, many economists believe that the average price for a gallon of gas (nationwide) will be more than $4 this summer.

Recently, both Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) came out in support of a federal "gas tax holiday," to last from Memorial Day to Labor Day this summer. For those few months, the federal tax placed on every gallon consumers pump could be lifted.

The two politicians see the gas tax relief as a gift to drivers, a measure that will make their trips to the pump more palatable and spur the economy during a tough time. However, their plan is short-sighted: Taking away the tax will be harmful because it will take away funding for the roads consumers drive on, and in the end will only lead to higher gas prices after the summer.

Right now drivers pay a tax of 18.4 cents per gallon on regular fuel, according to CNN. For those who drive diesel engines, the tax is 24.4 cents. That may sound like a lot, but the removal of the tax will only save the average driver a little more than $2 per full tank, according to CNNMoney. Assuming a driver fills his or her tank twice a week, that's only $12 a month. Twelve dollars a month will barely do anything to stimulate the economy.

In fact, taking away the gas tax will actually do more harm than good. The gas tax goes to pay for infrastructure: specifically it goes to fixing potholes and repairing the crumbling bridges that summer drivers will be using (supposedly more often, now that they're paying less for gas). If the gas tax is removed, there's no feasible way to replace that money.

Clinton has called for a "windfall tax," which is an additional tax on oil companies. The new law would tax oil companies 50 percent on all money earned after a certain profit has been made, to replace the losses from the removal of the gas tax (Clinton has not specified what that number would be). Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) has proposed the same tax (though he wisely has rejected the gas tax holiday and wants the proceeds to pay energy bills for low-income families), and it's not a bad idea. However, a similar plan was recently rejected by Congress, and there is no evidence to convince the public it would work a second time through.

Additionally, any lowering of gas prices, however small, would encourage more driving. And that means three things: more wear and tear on infrastructure, more exhaust coughed into the air and higher gas prices. It's paradoxical, but removing the gas tax would actually increase the actual price of gas, which would be truly damaging after Labor Day, when the gas tax would return.

Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service, told CNN that a greater demand raises the cost of gas, and the suspension of the tax would do little to stimulate the economy.

"It's a quick fix for people who believe cheap gas is their birthright. It's not a prudent thing to do," Kloza said.

The suspension of the gas tax would take money away from America's crumbling infrastructure, raise gas prices and, in the long run, hurt the economy. Clinton and McCain should start thinking less about how to pander to voters and more about sound solutions to a growing problem.

Letter to the Editor:

Re: Recruitment Center

On April 22, on behalf of student activists on campus, I put together a statement and a resolution asking the Student Government Association to decide to hold a public forum with military recruiters on why students should value their presence on campus or label the U.S. Career Center an unwelcome entity to represent the sentiments of the student body.

The career center as an employer discriminates against the GLBTQ community and the Solomon Act. The military fails to provide funding for college education and opposing recruitment could prevent post-traumatic stress disorder and suicides among Americans. The military should not be allowed to operate and recruit for an illegal war on campus.

SGA President Brian Matos responded to the resolution by saying, "The biggest thing is it's not on our campus; we have no jurisdiction. The Educational Advancement Fund owns the building and U.S. Equities operates the building, so whether Columbia likes it, hates it or doesn't care, it's really not in SGA's jurisdiction."

What Matos said is not entirely true. Columbia administrators sit on the decision-making body with power to decide if a career center operates in the University Center. SGA can ask the administration to address the concerns of students who are troubled by the existence of a military career center on campus. Matos did not want SGA to meet with administration on this issue, which is why he threw up a smokescreen.

It does not make sense that the U.S. Career Center is on campus. Those who stand against the center, war and torture, have a right to know why the college let the military lease campus space that could be occupied by something less oppressive and more conducive to a liberal arts college.

Kevin Gosztola
Sophomore, Film & Video Department

Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

Did you catch a mistake, think we could have covered a story better or believe strongly about an issue that faces all of us here at Columbia?

Why not write a letter to the editor? At the bottom of page 2 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

Republicans of Columbia, unite!

by Cate White
Copy Editor

Two college-age girls live together. One sacrifices fun and friends for school and hard work. The other sacrifices school and hard work for having fun. The girl who studies gets a 4.0 GPA, and her partying roommate gets a 2.0 GPA. If grades were the U.S. Government, Democrats would have the 4.0 girl "share" with her "less fortunate" counterpart, so they can both have a 3.0 GPA. Seem fair? I don't think so either.

It's unfortunate that students at Columbia, who pride themselves on self-expression and individuality, cannot apply the same accepting principles to politics. It has taken me four years here to finally be comfortable enough to discuss my conservative political convictions. I don't subscribe to all Republican ideals, true. I believe in marriage for everyone and that women should have the right to choose to terminate a pregnancy. But I also believe in smaller financial government and less unbalanced taxes. And at Columbia, of all places, I should not be afraid to say that.

Republicans do not equal President George W. Bush, and equating all Republicans with him is silly. I don't think anyone would re-elect him if they could. Thinking that all Republicans are like Bush is ignorant, and a thought like that doesn't deserve to be paid any attention.

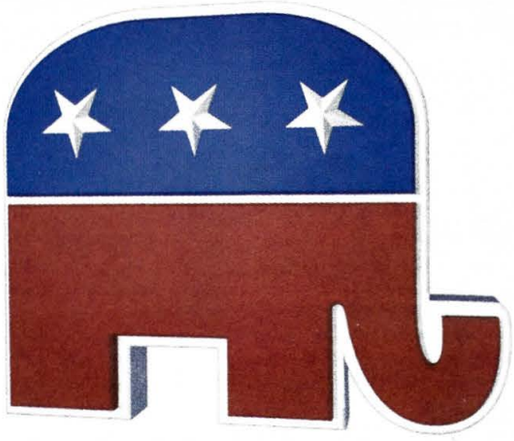
Voting Democrat simply because you don't like Bush is also ignorant. Again, Bush is a member of the GOP, but he is not the bar against which all Republicans should be measured against. Voting should be based on issues, ideals and personal convictions.

It seems to me that students at Columbia have jumped on the bandwagon as far as politics go. We aren't afraid to make controversial art, and we speak our minds in every way we can. We pride ourselves on independence. But I still feel that a lot of people say they are Democrats just to fit the norm here, or to drive home the point that they hate Bush. Well, I'm glad to say that four years of living in this liberal state have not changed my convictions, no matter what gibberish my fellow liberal schoolmates tend to preach.

Some Democratic beliefs seem almost communistic to me, in that left-wingers would have everyone share everything. Not only is it not plausible (we all have different work ethics) it's unfair to those who make sacrifices and work to have more money.

At Columbia we should carry that same work ethic onto our campus to support what we believe in. Part of the reason I feel so alienated is the lack of involvement in politically-charged groups and organizations. The conservative group on campus was put on probation after breaking collegewide rules and planning highly controversial programming. What we need is civil discussion, debate and open forums.

One Republican idea that I wholeheartedly agree with is that the more the government taxes the rich, the less they spend on charities. Current tax laws that allow a deduction from income for contributions to charities are an indirect subsidy of charity by the government. Republicans tend to prefer to do this rather than pay higher taxes and let the government decide where their money goes. People are smart, and the government should operate under that assumption. I would rather decide what to do with my money than give it to the government and let it decide how to spend it. The government should do only what is necessary to keep the country in working order. Its job is to serve and protect, period.



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Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) is an all-American man who has been to war and served his country as a senator. He's experienced and smart. Backing Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) simply because he's from Illinois is nonsensical. Backing Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) absolutely blows my mind. Does anyone remember Bill Clinton? I'll tell you what I remember: He's a freak with cigars. Great role model for the country. Also, girls, do you really trust a woman who let her husband publicly humiliate her? I don't.

The bottom line is this: There are Republicans at this school. So come on, conservatives! Stand up! Don't be afraid to speak your mind! Let this be a jumping off point for you. And think about the two roommates. Would you want to share your hard-earned work? I certainly don't.

cwhite@chroniclemail.com

Not another (yellow + blue) story

by Brett Marlow
City Beat Editor

Green. Eco-friendly. Sustainable. Reusable. Non-toxic. Environmentally-friendly. Sick of hearing these words? Sick of reading these words in headlines, on labels and in advertisements? Well, take a pill and get better soon. Better yet, sip some organic herbal tea.

It might seem that everywhere one turns, these terms and phrases are being slapped onto everything from commercial cleaning products, to Wal-Mart commercials about energy credits to the embroidering of shopping bags. Stores, restaurants and vendors are offering alternative choices to the socially accepted norms of American consumerism. Newspapers and magazines run articles daily on simple efforts and strategies of the little things one can do and products Americans can buy.

From an environmentalist's standpoint, this issue is two-fold. In one way, it's good—the word is getting out about taking better care of the planet. However, it's also led to the coining of the term, "greenwashing," meaning companies spend more on advertising their initiatives than putting their efforts and money to good use. It might look good on TV or in writing, but often it's deceiving. Although big companies should be implementing green practices, their modicum efforts seem more like propaganda and bragging than actually trying to implement sustainable actions.

It's becoming too much.

These efforts might be educating consumers about small changes they can make in their home, but Americans are getting sick of seeing the green buzzwords everywhere. That's because the media, big corporations and advertisers are going green the wrong way—they're doing what they can to look good, to keep up with what might be just a popular trend, but the real issue is larger than recycling a few water bottles. The same companies that are advertising their baby-step efforts need to put their money where their (advertising) mouths are, by decreasing emissions, water and air pollution and introducing sustainable packaging and retrofitting their manufacturing and distribution facilities. Outside of corporations and advertising, the media plays a role in this too.

I heard someone flipping through a paper say, "Not another green story!" We need to make readers care about this issue, rather than something they can gripe about.

Instead of focusing on the word and the topic of green, and using all these eco-terms that are to be descriptive and informative, force the readers to know these terms and not dumb it down for them each time a story is written about an environmental issue. It would be nice to see this topic adopted into the family of stories and issues, rather than be an outlier or something that needs a "special" supplement or section.

A Chicago grocer lays out his organic produce at a special farmer's market.

MCT

The sensational green topics should not be highlighted and put in compact-fluorescent spotlights. The big deal of the whole matter looks like it's scaring people away. I'm not saying brush the topic of global warming and the environment aside; it's more a matter of incorporating it tastefully and treating it like something of substance rather than of a fad. Make it a staple in one's reading, in one's shopping. Don't place green items in different sections of a store, newspaper, or whatever—weave them together. Being conscious of one's actions and the way one lives one's life used to be associated with hippies, but now even upper-crust yuppies are savvy and up on the environmental problems and driving hybrid Lexuses around.

Instead of running special issues and editions of magazines for Earth Day and doing the cliche thing by changing colors to green and using neutral colors to allude to the environment, treat it like it's a normal thing and not a topic being held out in surgical tongs by a newscaster wearing latex gloves and cringing "Ew!" It's not a foreign matter. It's reality. Harsh conditions are here: pollution, poor water quality, loss of land, resources, and Mother Nature.

People have done this harm to the planet, and if the general public keeps believing only small efforts are going to create big change, they need to think again. It's going to take a lot more, and I think it's everyone's responsibility to realize that—the environment should be here to stay.

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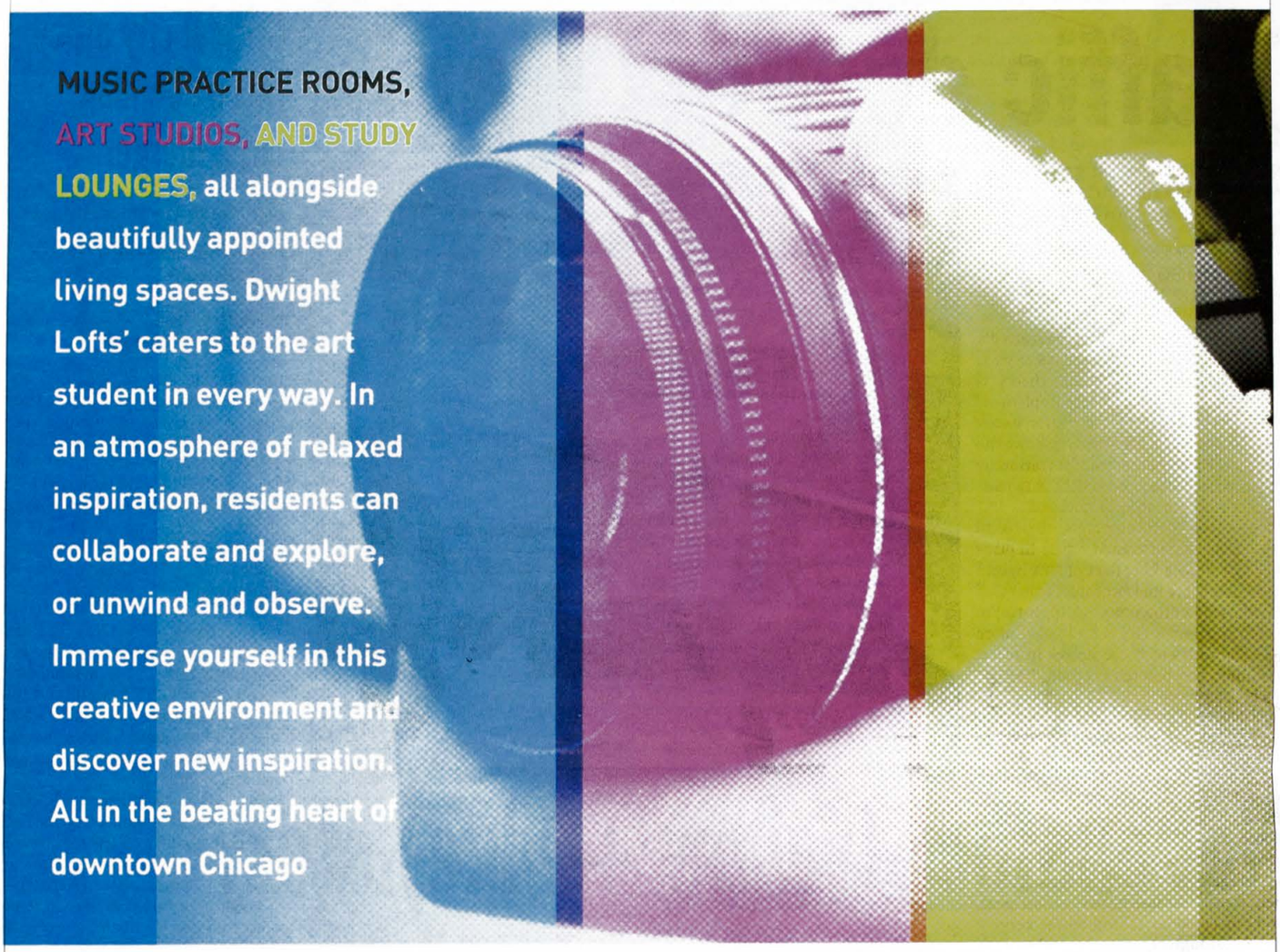

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City Beat

Traffic decongestant

City: Federal funding grant to help Chicago's public transportation, move traffic along

by Brett Marlow
City Beat Editor

ON APRIL 29 the city of Chicago received a federally funded grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation for more than $153 million. It is intended to help implement solutions to solve traffic congestion issues in busy areas and roads and to improve the effectiveness of public transportation by offering speedier bus routes, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced.

Within a year, the city hopes to have 10 miles of Bus Rapid Transit routes in place that will allow a new fleet of CTA hybrid buses to quickly move through congested corridors downtown and in high-traffic areas. Later on, the city plans to have more than 100 miles of these routes in place, according to a press release from the Mayor's Press Office.

Included in the solutions is also a plan to increase the cost of parking downtown to decrease the amount of traffic in the Loop, and to promote alternate forms of getting around town like public transportation, officials announced at a press conference on April 29.

"Ultimately what we're hoping to do is encourage more folks to either schedule their trips into downtown on off-peak hours or consider taking better service transit through these Bus Rapid Transit systems. The idea is less rush hour traffic and to encourage greater use of transit," said Brian Turnmail, spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

According to the release, hybrid buses the CTA has purchased will follow the to-be-determined Bus Rapid Transit routes. On these routes, buses will either cruise along in bus-dedicated lanes or have traffic prioritization signals that will either turn traffic lights green faster, or shorten the time of red lights, allowing buses to move along quickly.

Another technique the city would plan to implement is to create places to prepay at kiosks or waiting areas before boarding, to decrease the amount of stops buses make and the time it takes to load passengers.

"Whether it be dedicated lanes or signal prioritization, when buses go faster than cars, people are going to say, 'Hey, I'm going to take the bus,'" said Mike McLaughlin, transportation director for the Metropolitan Planning Council, a nonprofit group that aims to serve the public's interest by implementing better practices and solutions to effective planning and development. "[The buses] are not going to be belching as much smoke; they're going to be hybrid buses that save on gas. They're 21st century buses, something we've needed here for a while."

McLaughlin said he's seen a similar setup like this in Europe and in the Twin Cities, Minn.

"You pay to get in the waiting area, and as soon as the light-rapid transit comes you just jump on," McLaughlin said. "It's much, much quicker. It's going to speed along the buses."

Although the routes have not yet been determined, within a year the city of Chicago and the CTA plan to have more than 10 miles of Bus Rapid Transit routes in place. The routes will allow buses to move through lights such as at the intersection at Washington and State streets above, faster with traffic signal prioritization or bus-only lanes in an effort to ease traffic congestion issues at major corridors in the city.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

McLaughlin, who takes the Metra to and from work in the Loop, said he usually takes a taxi instead of the bus to Union Station, but he would ride the bus if it was quicker and would save some money in the process. He said he feels these efforts by the city are a step in the right direction.

Brynn McGowen, a sophomore early childhood education major at Columbia, takes the No. 66 Chicago bus to the Chicago Blue Line to commute to school. She said the buses already seem to rule the road, but these measures, such as fewer bus stops and centralized bus boarding areas, would prevent cars from having to continuously stop behind boarding buses. And it if it makes buses faster, she's all for it.

But for those who don't take public transportation into the Loop, the city is hiking the cost to park in the area. Currently, metered parking in areas downtown costs 25 cents per 5 minutes, but the rate will increase under this plan, said Ed Walsh, spokesperson for the Chicago Department of Revenue.

Earlier this year, the city proposed plans to privatize parking meters. That plan is still in the process, but nothing has been solidified, Walsh said. However, if the city does not move forward with privatization, the city could still raise the fares, he said. The majority of the meter parking that would see fare hikes are in Zone 1, in downtown, Walsh said.

Fees for on-street loading zones may also be put in place, but nothing has been determined.

"The goal really is to change driver behavior for congestion reasons and environmental reasons," Walsh said. "It's being done in some other cities that have tried it. It's not uncommon at all in Europe."

Chicago was selected along with Los Angeles for the federal funds for this program after funding for New York City's transportation system fell through last year when its state legislators did not authorize the measures.

Turnmail said Chicago applied and offered innovative approaches to solving these solutions. The money from the New York City project was then divided between Los Angeles and Chicago.

"We wanted the cities to find solutions that included a mix of proven measures such as congestion pricing, enhanced transit services and [solutions] that could be implemented on a relatively short time frame," Turnmail said.

Before these plans are set in stone, the Chicago City Council and the CTA Board must approve the project, but Turnmail said he doesn't see why they wouldn't.

"Given the fact that [the city and the CTA] are partners in applying for this and have committed to do it, it's hard to imagine that they would not give themselves the authority to do it," Turnmail said.

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Critical city office faces spending cuts, merger

Advocates say department merger could make city domestic violence services inaccessible

by Bethany Reinhart
Assistant City Beat Editor

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED homicides in the city of Chicago have doubled in the last two years, said Leslie Landis, director of the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence. However, Mayor Richard M. Daley is proposing funding cuts to the city's domestic violence prevention programs.

Landis said the proposal is part of a spending reduction plan that was announced by the mayor on April 23. Under the proposed plan, the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence would merge with the Department of Human Services, which could lead to cuts in funding.

The Mayor's Office would not comment on the exact proposal details but said in a statement that its goal is to increase efficiency and eliminate duplication of services.

Last fall Daley established the 21st Century Commission, which recommended the merge, to help review the structure of the city's government and make suggestions on how to better govern it.

The 21st Century Commission recommended the review of a variety of operations, Landis said.

"Our office was among a number of entities that were included in a list of possible mergers," she said.

Landis said the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence, MODV, is a part of the city government working out of the Office of the Mayor. The MODV is responsible for overseeing an intensive effort to help the city more effectively respond and intervene in domestic violence cases, she said.

"Our office represents a concerted effort on the part of the city to address the issues of domestic violence," Landis said. "We work with a variety of departments, including the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Health, the Mayor's Office on Workforce Development [and] the Police Department, to coordinate all services that are delivered to victims of domestic violence in Chicago."

The proposed merger of the MODV and the Department of Human Services, DHS, has many advocates concerned that domestic abuse victims and their children will not receive the same level of service they are currently provided. Domestic violence professionals fear that if the MODV is under DHS, domestic abuse issues will become lost among numerous other issues that DHS oversees, said Dawn Dalton, executive director of the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network.

According to statistics provided by the

» SEE VIOLENCE, PG. 37

Chicago cab rides cost more money

Fuel surcharge meant to help drivers with high gas prices

by Becky Schlikerman
Associate Editor

TAKING CABS in Chicago will be more expensive now—while the price of gas remains high.

On April 28 a fuel surcharge went into effect adding $1 to each cab fare.

The surcharge is supposed to fluctuate as gas prices do. The charge will be 50 cents for each ride when the price of gas per gallon is $2.70 or more for seven consecutive days and $1 when a gallon of regular gasoline is $3.20 or more for seven consecutive days, said Department of Consumer Services Commissioner Norma Reyes. The surcharge will stay in effect until gas prices go down below $2.70.

"If [gas prices] stay at this level for six months then the gas surcharge is for six months," Reyes said.

According to FuelGaugeReport.com, AAA's guide to fuel prices, the price of gas in Chicago has ranged from $3.46 over the past month to $3.82 as of press time.

Reyes said the price of gasoline is very volatile and she doesn't know whether gas prices will drop below $3.20.

As a response to the high cost of fuel, the purpose of the surcharge is to give relief to taxi drivers because gas prices have gone up, Reyes said.

She said the $1 surcharge is fair to consumers and to drivers.

"You don't want to have a surcharge that's so high that it drives consumers away because that would have a very adverse impact on the drivers," Reyes said.

However, some cab drivers and passengers are upset by the surcharge. While some drivers said this surcharge isn't enough to combat steep fuel prices and rising costs, passengers are irked at the spike in cab fares.

Mike Foulks, president of the Chicago Cabdriver Organization, a member-based cabdriver advocacy group, said this complex surcharge is absurd because the cost of living, fuel and maintenance are going up.

"This is like getting a sweater that doesn't fit; it's useless to us," Foulks said.

He said the extra $1 isn't making a big impact because it's being "absorbed into the tip." He said he sees the surcharge as a political tactic by the city.

"It's manipulation of public perception to believe the city has solved our gas woes," Foulks said.

Instead of a surcharge, Foulks, who has been driving a cab for 10 years, supports a fare increase.

Currently, the initial charge or, "flag pull," is $2.25 and each mile is $1.80. Foulks said he would like to see it rise to $3.25 for the initial charge and at least $2 per mile.

But just one increase is not enough, he said. In order to avoid public outcry when there is a huge fare increase, he suggested the city slightly increase fares each year to adjust for inflation and cost of living, Foulks said.

Reyes said in the past, fare increases have been implemented every four to five years, the last one being in 2005.

Cab rides in Chicago will cost $1 more until the price of gas drops below $3.20 for seven consecutive days. The fuel surcharge went into effect April 28 and will remain in place until gas prices drop.

Jody Warner THE CHRONICLE

"We're open to a fare increase but not at this time," Reyes said.

But to some, even the $1 increase is too much.

Emily Morse, a freshman photography major, said cabs are already expensive and now with this increase, she probably will take public transit more often.

"Buses and trains are a lot less expensive," Morse said.

Nevertheless, cabs are crucial, said Angela Jobbe, a freshman marketing communication major. She will continue to take cabs, despite the increase in price.

"It's not that much, it could be worse considering gas is so high," Jobbe said. "It's just another thing going up [in price] because everything else is."

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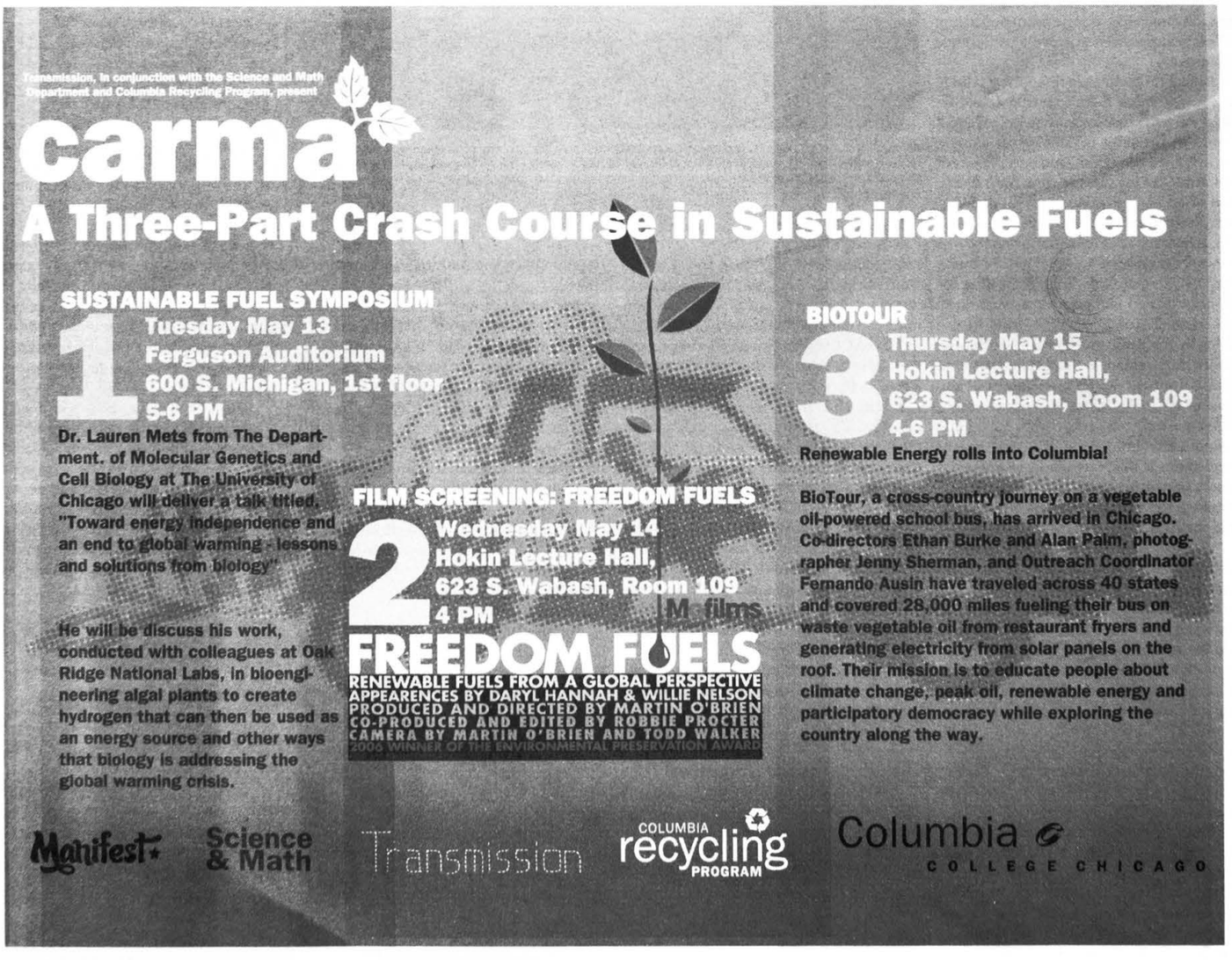

» VIOLENCE:

Continued from PG. 35

Activists call on community to voice opposition to merger

MODV, on an average day in the U.S. more than three women are killed by their husbands or boyfriends.

Dalton said she thinks that now, more than ever, the city should be focusing on instances of domestic violence.

"Across the board, domestic abuse agencies and any domestic abuse responders really need to look at what is going on here," Dalton said. "Having a more focused approach to this problem as opposed to a decreased one is very important at this time."

Dalton shares the same concerns of many advocates working with domestic abuse victims—that combining the MODV and DHS will create a less effective system and further endanger battered women.

"I am really concerned that trying to remove the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence from the Mayor's office and bury it in [the Department of] Human Services or wherever they want to put it, is really taking the emphasis off this problem," said Denise Markham, executive director of Life Span Center for Legal Services and Advocacy, an organization that provides legal services for victims of domestic abuse.

Cases of domestic violence continue to plague the city of Chicago, Markham said. Advocates fear the problem is so immense that it has become commonplace.

"It's a huge problem. We pick up the newspapers on an almost daily basis and read about women who have been killed by their partners," Markham said. "This is not the time to de-emphasize domestic violence in terms of its importance to the city with regards to services and funding."

The city has focused its attention on domestic violence across all agencies and departments, according to Markham. The standalone office within the Mayor's Office allows for that work to be done, she said.

"As a standalone office, as I think it should be, the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Leslie Landis have the ability to really promote and work in an interdisciplinary way so that they can address the many issues that involve domestic violence," Markham said.

Like most advocates, Markham is surprised by the mayor's proposal.

"The mayor's support of [issues such as] the centralized court and for reforms in the police department, all of that has been so excellent and to have the mayor now take what seems to me to be a huge step backward is very, very distressing," Markham said.

Markham is asking members of the community to "let the mayor know that this is not the way we want the city to go."

"We don't want the city to be spending less money or paying less attention to this issue," she said. "We want the city to continue with its excellent past history de-emphasizing the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence. I would say they should devote more money to it, not less."

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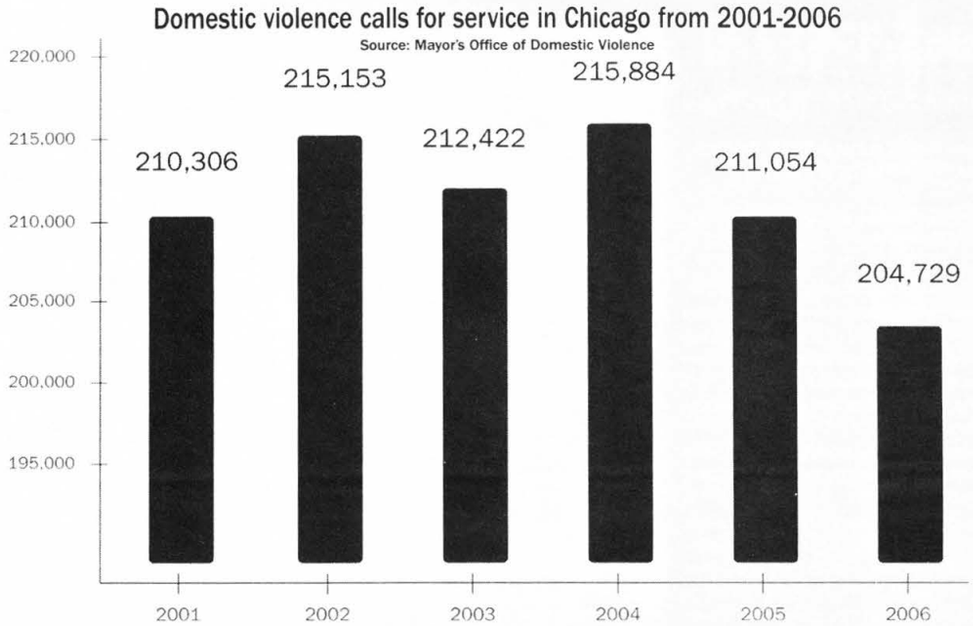

According to the most recent data, call volume dropped from 2001-2006, but in from 2006-2008 domestic violence-related murders have doubled. Officials from the Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence fear that the merger will effect the quality of service available to domestic abuse victims.

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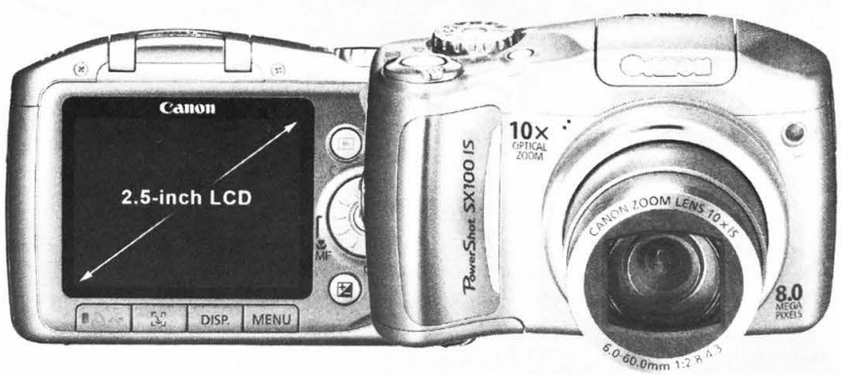

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» DNA:

Continued from Front Page

Visitors learn about DNA basics by using interactive displays

Dr. Kevin Feldheim shows where in the world scientists of the new Field Museum exhibit 'DNA Discoveries', are conducting their research in the field on April 29. "The map is mostly used as a morale booster to keep spirits high," he said.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

Center Laboratory for Molecular Systematics and Evolution which was established at the museum in 1974.

"To have an exhibit that is solely promoting research as its function and to actually be able to view the research while it's going on is really neat," said Erin Sackett-Hermann, a research assistant at the lab. "It's not a mock-up; it's not people pretending to do lab work."

In addition to the viewable lab, the 1,850-square-foot exhibition includes interactive, hands-on displays.

Flat-screen monitors and video touch screens are set up throughout the exhibition. The flat-screen monitors will be used to inform visitors of the specific research being performed in the lab at any given time. The interactive video touch screens will teach patrons about the basics of DNA and genetics.

"Visitors will be able to point to locations on a globe and learn about active research projects taking place that help us understand Earth's incredible biodiversity," said Todd Tubutis, project manager for the "DNA Discovery Center".

William Peterson, star of the television show "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," narrates an informational video about the basics on genetics.

Finally the work of these scientists is on display for the world to see, and the scientists themselves are excited.

For Feldheim, who specializes in shark DNA, the new exhibition is a chance to show off the hard work that scientists have been doing behind closed doors.

"Most people don't know we do this kind of work [at The Field Museum]," Feldheim said. "They associate the museum with things like dinosaurs, not evolutionary biology."

But the museum has a vast tissue collection available to scientists and researchers from around the world, he said.

"This [exhibition] takes what some people think is a very difficult subject and shows them that it is not," Felheim said. "We hope that it will really inspire the next generation of scientists."

"I would go [to the exhibition]. In fact I might go before I leave. The hands on interactives would be sweet," said Carolynn Yeck, a business analyst at clothing store Coldwater Creek.

For more information about the 'DNA Discovery' exhibition and ticket pricing, visit FieldMuseum.org.

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Scoop in the Loop

by Becky Schlikerman
Associate Editor

A question of culture

Most people may not know this about me, but I'm an immigrant to the United States.

I was born in Colombia, I speak Spanish fluently and I check the "Latino" box on forms and applications. I spent most of my life living in Puerto Rico and Miami.

As May Day comes and goes and the immigration rally floods the city, I have to remind myself of my background, which is challenged frequently.

I identify with the thousands of immigrants who march throughout the city demanding rights.

Although I've always been a documented immigrant and never faced any issues, I'm reminded that I one day could—and that's a scary thought. Even worse, my friends and family could face immigration hardships: detainment and deportation being the worst possible scenarios.

Many don't realize that Americanized immigrants like me are still sensitive to the issues of immigration. After all, I've dealt with the long, tough legalization process.

I'm not an American citizen—I'm a Colombian citizen—but I am a permanent resident.

Getting a "green card," which looks like a credit card and isn't green, takes a lot of time, money and effort—luxuries that not everybody has.

Going to the Department of Homeland Security and waiting for hours in a line or a crowded waiting room is a degrading and a frightening process. What if something goes wrong?

The next step, becoming a citizen, is also a similar process and requires those same luxuries.

Protestors carry a flag depicting several Latin American countries down Dearborn Street on their way to a immigration rally at Federal Plaza on May 1.

Tim Hunt THE CHRONICLE

Because of my culture and experience as an immigrant, I deeply identify as a Latina. But some people question my ethnicity.

My last name certainly doesn't sound like it's South American, and I don't look Latina.

The reason is that my family is Jewish. My parents were born in South America, but my grandparents were born in Europe and fled during the Holocaust.

"You're not a Latina," people will say, pointing to the fact that my blood isn't really Colombian. Instead, it's Polish, they point out. After all, that's where my grandparents were born.

But I don't identify as a Pole. In fact, I know nothing about Polish culture. I grew up learning about Colombian culture and Jewish culture.

There were a lot of Jewish Latinos in Miami, where I lived for most of my life. Jews from Argentina, Venezuela, Cuba and other Spanish-speaking countries flooded my neighborhood. Nobody questioned our culture. We were united in our Spanish-speaking, Temple-going ways.

People in my community celebrated soccer victories and wore the colors of their country's flag. Yet at the same time, most wore Star of Davids and celebrated Jewish holidays like Passover.

But here in Chicago, I don't know how to explain that. And I don't know what matters most: culture or the blood running through my veins.

I'm certainly not Polish, or am I?

I can tell you about Colombia's history, culture and language, but I can't tell you a thing about Poland's.

I'm proud of where I came from and that my family history is so rich. I have nothing against Poland, but I love Colombia for welcoming my grandparents and saving them from the horrors of the Holocaust.

I wouldn't be here without Colombia and no matter what anyone says, I am Colombian.

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In Other News

At it again

On May 1, Drew Peterson announced he is offering a $25,000 reward for anyone who has information that might lead to the discovery of his wife, who disappeared last October, according the Chicago Sun-Times. Peterson, who is considered a suspect in his wife's disappearance, is offering the reward to find his wife because their children miss their mother and to clear his name. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, Peterson believes his wife voluntarily left him last year.

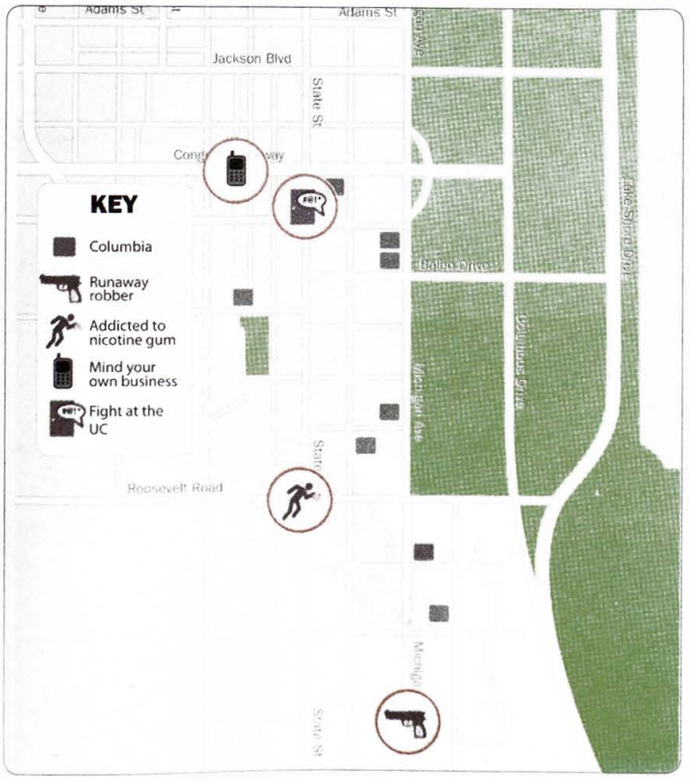
Bicyclist struck

On April 30, a female bicyclist was struck and killed in Logan Square. According to the Chicago Tribune, the victim, 24-year-old Amanda Annis, was riding on West Armitage Avenue and North Kedzie Avenue when she was hit shortly after 3 p.m. Police cited the driver with failing to reduce speed, reckless driving and driving without insurance, according to ABC7Chicago.com. This was the second bicycle-related fatal accident that has occurred in the neighborhood in less than two weeks.

Military's free ride

Earlier this year, the CTA allowed senior citizens rides on CTA trains and buses for free after Gov. Rod Blagojevich made it a stipulation in approving government funding for the RTA. However, this time active U.S. military personnel can now board for free. According to the Chicago Tribune, City Council passed the allowance in February and military personnel were able to take advantage of this opportunity beginning May 1. The only stipulation: They must be in uniform.

OFF THE BLOTTER



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

Runaway robber

During a trip to Washington Mutual Bank, 1558 S. Michigan Ave., two males, ages 27 and 20, were confronted by an unidentified male brandishing a handgun on April 25, according to police reports. The offender was described as an 18- to 20-year-old male. The 20-year-old was waiting in a car parked in front of the bank as the 27-year-old exited the bank. The offender approached the car, showed his pistol and yelled, "Give me your money and your cars." The offender then approached the car, pointed a blue steel pistol at the driver and ordered him to exit the car. The driver complied. Moments later two taxicabs arrived in the area, causing the offender to flee westbound on 16th Street.

Fight at the UC

A 24-year-old female was in her dorm room at the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St., when someone began beating on her door, according to police reports. The offender, an 18-to 19-year-old male was screaming, called the victim a "b----" and threatened to slap her. When the victim came out of her dorm room, the offender fled into a nearby room. The victim told police that she believed the offender to be a male who had been banned from the building for smoking marijuana in his dorm room. Police searched but did not find the offender.

Addicted to nicotine gum

Police were called to the scene of an attempted robbery at Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, on April 23, according to police reports. Upon arrival, police were informed by a 38-year-old female witness that the offender had attempted to steal a box of 170-count Walgreens brand nicotine gum. The offender was described as a 37-year-old female. The offender asked to see the box of gum that was stored in a locked area behind the sales counter then immediately fled past the checkout counters and out the exit door. The gum had a retail value of $49.99. The offender was caught outside the store and the box of nicotine gum was returned.

Mind your own business

On April 28, police responded to complaints of harassing phone calls from two employees at a BP Gas Station, 50 W. Congress Parkway. According to police reports, the victims, a 62-year-old male and a 27-year-old male, reported that the offender, a 36-year-old male, called the store and threatened to beat and shoot them if they did not stay out of his business.

Sci-fi Spectacular

Saturday @ noon

So maybe you missed the 24-hour horror movie marathon last October. Or maybe you're just not up for a full 24-hour commitment to the cheesiest movies that cinema history can offer. Or maybe you're just a scaredy cat. Well, if you're any of the above, this 12-hour sci-fi movie marathon is your chance to get in on the fun anyway. This year's selections will run chronologically from the black-and-white cheesefest *Island of Lost Souls* all the way up to the modern camp masterpiece of *Robo-Cop*.

Music Box Theatre
3733 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-6604
$20 ($16 in advance)

Ladies Night Out

Wednesday 7–10 p.m.
No, it's not quite Mother's Day, so if you're at a complete loss about what to treat your dear ol' mum to, consider cluing her in on this ladies night out. For a contribution of zero dollars, ladies can get their nails done, receive a free stress-melting massage and drink a few worry-melting Stoli cocktails. And it's not just for mothers, either. If you just want to feel like a character from "Sex in the City," here's your chance to do it without breaking the bank.

D.O.C. Wine Bar
2602 N. Clark St.
(773) 883-5101

Streetlight Manifesto

Tuesday @ 7 p.m.
There's just something about ska music ... from the upbeats that just refuse to let a listener stand still to the horns that bring a smile to anyone's face. Topics can deal with the innocent (eating lunch meat while watching cartoons as with Skapone) to the demonic (Mephiskaphelise). Streetlight Manifesto has a number of seasoned ska scene veterans, including members of the now-disbanded Catch 22, who strikes a perfect balance. With Zox and Dan Potthast from MU330.

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$12 ($7 for students)

Tokyo Police Club
7 p.m., Metro
3730 N. Clark St.
(773) 549-0203
$15

tuesday

'An Inconvenient Truth' lecture
7 p.m., The Notebaert Nature Museum
2430 N. Cannon Drive
(773) 755-5100
RSVP@NatureMuseum.org

Comedic Shorts Program
6 p.m., Landmark Century Centre Theatre
2828 N. Clark St.
(773) 248-7759
$10

Comedy open mic
7–9:30 p.m., Phyllis' Musical Inn
1800 W. Division St.
(773) 486-9862

wednesday

Reading Under the Influence
7 p.m., Sheffield's
3258 N. Sheffield Ave.
(773) 281-4989
$3

Pre-Finals Stress Relief Massage Event
Noon–4 p.m., Community Lounge
731 S. Plymouth Court
(312) 344-8700

Walrus
8 p.m., Reggies Rock Club (17+)
2109 S. State St.
(312) 949-0121
$8–$12

'How to Score your First Journalism Job'
With Sheila Solomon, Fuzz Hogan and Marcus Riley
6:30–8:30 p.m., Journalism Department Lecture Hall, Room 219
33 E. Congress Parkway
(317) 927-8000

thursday

Gallery Talk: 'Northern Light'
5:30–6 p.m., Art Institute of Chicago, Gallery 100
111 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 443-3600
$12 ($7 for students)

Screaming Queens to Lavender Panthers: A History of Transgender Activism
6:30 p.m., Chicago History Museum
1601 N. Clark St.
(312) 642-4600
$12

Book club meeting: 'Suite Francaise'
7:30 p.m., Hegewisch Branch
4038 E. 130th St.
(312) 747-0046

Chicago River Day

Saturday
Be real for a second. Beside insisting that every day is Earth Day, what did you do for Earth Day? Whether we like to admit it or not, the answer is probably something like "I used less hairspray" or "I only littered twice." But here's your chance to make a real concrete difference and make up for what you probably didn't do for Earth Day. At several locations throughout Chicago, people are volunteering their precious, hard-earned Saturday mornings to clean up that gunky, green toxic stream known as the Chicago River. But is goodwill not enough of a motivation? How about the barbecue and festival afterward?

River cleaning from 9 a.m.–noon
Festival from noon–3 p.m.
(312) 939-0490

Minsk, Amenra, Battlefields, Bongripper
8 p.m., Reggies Rock Club (17+)
2109 S. State St.
(312) 949-0121
$6

Stories on Screen: 'I For India'
6–8 p.m., Film Row Cinema (8th floor)
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
RSVP at (312) 704-8420 x23

friday

Gallery Talk: 'Two Disciples of the Tomb'
2–2:30 p.m., Art Institute of Chicago, Gallery 100
111 S. Michigan Ave., Gallery 100
(312) 443-3600
$12 ($7 for students)

The House That Gloria Vanderbilt, Parsley Flakes, American Draft
9 p.m., South Union Arts
1352 S. Union St.
Donations accepted

Belladonna, Rival, Ravensthorn, Stoneface Nation
8 p.m., Reggies Rock Club (17+)
2109 S. State St.
(312) 949-0121
$12

'Squeal' (Friday only)
'UHF' (Friday and Saturday)
Midnight, Music Box Theatre
3733 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-6604
$9.50

Untouchable Tours

It's easy to whine and grumble about how corrupt Chicago is. "All the mobsters are in City Hall nowadays," most say. That wasn't always true, though. Under the presidency of Herbert Hoover, a task force was commissioned with the purpose of enforcing prohibition laws and bringing down the crook to end all crooks: Chicago's notorious mobster Al Capone. So the squad of fearless and incorruptible ruffians set out to take back the streets of Chicago. They earned their name of "The Untouchables" after significant press coverage was brought upon their leader, Elliot Ness, when he caught on to Capone's bribe attempts. This is your chance to see a few of the places where they made their indelible mark on the Windy City so many years ago.

Mondays–Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Fridays at 10 a.m., 1 and 7:30 p.m.
Saturdays at 10 a.m., 1, 3 and 5 p.m.
Sundays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.
600 N. Clark St.
Reservations required
(773) 881-1195
$27

saturday

Simplistic Urge, The Lives of Famous Men, Heavy the Fall, A Birdsong Valentine
5 p.m., Reggies Rock Club
2109 S. State St.
(312) 949-0121
$8

Jason Anderson, Kid You'll Move Mountains, Strand of Oaks
9 p.m., South Union Arts
1352 S. Union St.
Donations accepted

sunday

I Ching Quartet, W-S Burn, Stephanie Rearick
8 p.m., South Union Arts
1352 S. Union St.
Donations accepted

Know about an upcoming event that other Columbia students should know about?

Give us a heads-up. We'll be sure to consider it. Make sure you tell us at least 10 days ahead of the event.

GetOut@chroniclemail.com

MUSIC COLUMBIA MOVIE ART POLITICAL THEATER SPEAKER FOOD CELEBRITY READING FREE