

11-16-2009

Columbia Chronicle (11/16/2009)

Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago

November 16, 2009

Volume 45 Number 11

ON THE WEB

ColumbiaChronicle.com

What I Like About Columbia is...

"I like that I'm encouraged to do art and do what I love. I think the price is a little out of control though."



"The focus on creativity and creative problem solving. I don't like the difficulty of registering for classes. I want to take a lot of the cool classes that are offered, but there are only 15 seats."



"The school is really diverse, and I like that."



"George Thompson, a typography professor that is now retired. I think a lot of the methods of teaching are outdated and it's a fast-paced field, so I don't understand why the teachers aren't more up to date."



"All of the opportunities collaborating with different students, all the events they offer here. There's a lot to do other than class here. If I had to change anything, it would be the equipment rental policy..."



"It's really unconventional in every way. I don't like that it's conforming to not conform."



"I work in the photo lab, so I get access to any lab I want. I would change the tuition even if you're \$1,000 short, they expect you to pay before the semester ends..."



"I like the open campus that we have. The workload is killing me right now. Oasis sucks too."



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Film & Directing

Kristen Vanerburg
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Ray Donovan
Animation

Lenny Gilmore THE CHRONICLE

Students express their satisfaction with Columbia in survey

by Benita Zepeda
Campus Editor

ON NOV. 10, President Warrick L. Carter announced that the results of the 2009 Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory surveys were in, and that Columbia has improved on almost every scale since the last administration of the survey in 2007. The Student Satisfaction Inventory sur-

veys are conducted every other year, and in spring 2009, roughly 1,490 students were surveyed. The survey results are then compared with previous survey results. The categories are Columbia vs. peer institutions, which are other colleges and universities set in an urban environment, and Columbia vs. national averages. Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said these results are very encouraging. "I think that the entire college community and our students should be encouraged by what the results tell us," Kelly said. "Six

years ago, our students told us that they were dissatisfied by their overall experience at Columbia, and we have seen steady improvement. This year, we have seen dramatic improvement." Kelly also said that the most important comparison to take note of is our comparison to peer institutions, which include schools such as the Illinois Institute of Art, Roosevelt University and Loyola University Chicago. "We are literally compared to our peer group," Kelly said. "With the comparison of arts college and urban college, our students

are telling us that they are dramatically more satisfied than students at other places." The survey is broken down into 12 different categories, or scales, which at the start of the inventory are ranked by order of importance according to the student. In order of importance according to the students surveyed, the various categories are: instructional effectiveness, academic advising, registration effectiveness, recruitment and financial aid, campus climate, concern for the individual, student centerness, safety

» SEE SURVEY, PG.9

Chicago The Toxic City?

Chicago comes third in ranking of polluted metropolitan areas

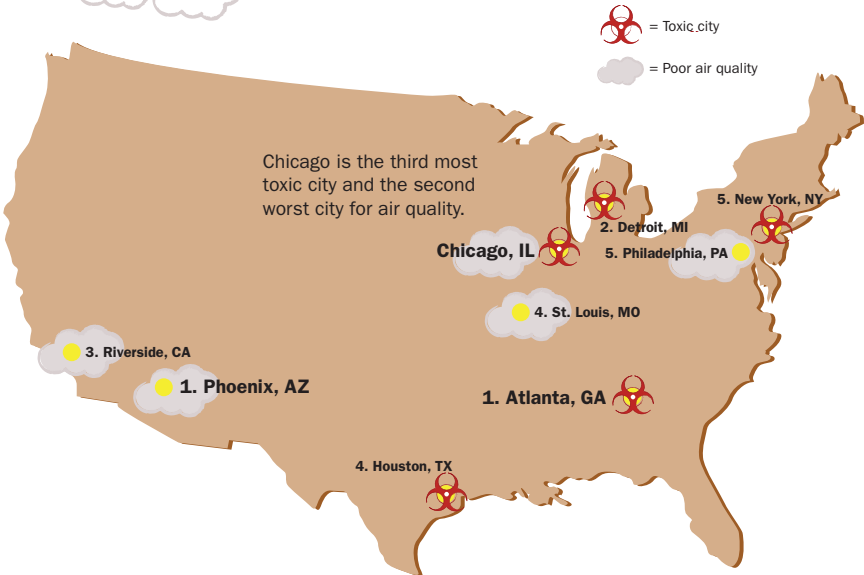
by Patrick Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

CHICAGOLAND IS the third most toxic metropolitan area in the United States according to a recent study. Chicago also has had the most Environmental Protection Agency responses to complaints, and it has the most facilities releasing toxic chemicals in the nation. Last week Forbes.com released the results of a study titled "America's Most Toxic

Cities." Forbes listed Atlanta as the nation's most toxic, Detroit as the second most and had Chicago tied with Houston for third worst in the country. Dorian Breuer, a member of the Pilsen Environmental Rights and Reform Organization, said he was "not surprised" that Chicago was ranked so high in toxicity. Little Village Environmental Justice Organization Coordinator Kimberley Wasserman echoed Dorian's sentiment. "It definitely wasn't a surprise," Wasserman said. "I think what was more surprising was that somebody actually publicized it."

» SEE TOXIC CITY, PG. 34

AMERICA'S TOP 5 MOST TOXIC CITIES & CITIES WITH WORST AIR QUALITY



Dana LaCoco THE CHRONICLE

H&F



'Tis the season

» SEE PG. 13

A&C



Organic School Project

» SEE PG. 18

METRO



Bikes create community

» SEE PG. 33

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EDITOR’S NOTE

Journalistic responsibility



by Bethany Reinhart
Editor-in-Chief

A PROVOCATIVE headline and the controversial content of a Nov. 2 article published in The Chronicle sparked the attention of many of our readers, and a handful of former Chronicle writers shared their opposition to the article.

The article, titled “Ex-gays protest book bannings,” described a radical-minded group with a veiled agenda, whose mission, among other things, is to convince libraries nationwide to stock books that support their claims of gay-to-straight success stories.

Although the article provided substantial information about a group that I personally disagree with, it lacked an important viewpoint—within the scientific community, it is a widely accepted fact that homosexuality is not a choice. Most within the scientific community believe that gays are born with homosexual tendencies and that no one—and no book—can change them, even if the individual wants to.

Without such a viewpoint, the story could be interpreted as condoning the insulting idea that gays are sick individuals who make immoral choices.

When the article first crossed my desk, I had concerns about its content. Subscribing to the widely-held belief within the scientific community, I was fearful that this content could be misinterpreted or found offensive. Because of my initial reservation, I consulted with a member of the

LGBT community regarding the article’s content. After consulting with him, I ultimately decided to publish this article because as he pointed out, it would be as much a disservice to the LGBT community to ignore the actions of such a group as it would be to inform our readers of its actions. By saying nothing, we would effectively be giving this group, and others like it, more power than they deserve. By publishing the article in a newspaper whose readership comprises of mostly progressive-minded individuals who subscribe to the same beliefs about homosexuality as the greater scientific community, we aimed to create a conversation about an issue that many people are unaware of.

While The Chronicle acknowledges that the viewpoint of the scientific community should have been included in the article, as Editor-in-Chief, I continue to stand by our decision to publish the article. Let me be clear that I do not agree with any of this group’s principles, nor do I condone their message. However, as journalists, we have an obligation to our readers to inform them about such groups. As an editor, I can only hope that providing this information, despite how unpopular it may be, will serve as a catalyst for our readers and ultimately lead them to protest such organizations. At the very least, I hope this serves as an opportunity to start a dialogue among our readers. I invite you all to share your feedback with us. Let’s open up this conversation to include not only the voices of former staff members, but the larger Columbia community. We want to hear what you have to say.

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FOR THE RECORD 11/16/09

“Average looking people are considered boxy”: In the Nov. 9 edition of The Columbia Chronicle there was a misquote in the article “Pros at laughter” highlighting cartoonists Matt Groening and Lynda Barry’s visit to the University of Illinois at Chicago. The quote, which was said by Barry, was originally “foxy” not “boxy.”

“Gitmo Detainees receive vaccine”: In the Nov. 9 edition of The Chronicle we incorrectly referred to Robert Koeverman as the Vice President of Safety and Security. Koeverman’s correct title is Associate Vice President of Safety and Security

NEWS FLASH

11/17/09

“The Anatomy of ... A Food Review”

Panelists include David Tamarkin, food writer for Time Out Chicago, Ellen Malloy, owner of Restaurant Intelligence Agency, and Lauren Petersen Edwards Publicist of Sango LLC. It will be in suite 307 of the Wabash Campus Building at 6:30 p.m.

Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.

11/18/09

“Dis/Believer: Intersections of Science and Religion in Contemporary Art”

The first visual arts exhibition to present science and religion. Shown through diverse media, the disparate sub-themes range from evolution versus creationism and morality in medicine, to faith and technology and the sustainability of the planet. The discussion will be held between 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Glass Curtain Gallery.

1104 Center.
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

11/19/09

Cultural Studies Colloquium Series – Lecture by Mehdi Semati, “Cultural Studies of Iran”

Mehdi Semati, associate professor of communication at Northern Illinois University, will address Iranian cultural studies, popular culture and religion, and culture and technology in Iran. The event will be held at 4 p.m.

South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave.

through 12/11/09

Weisman Award Exhibition

Winners of the Albert P. Weisman Award display their completed projects in all fields of communication and multiple disciplines. The exhibition runs through Dec. 11. The gallery is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Arcade
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

through 2/13/10

“At Close Distance: Labryinth of Self”

“At Close Distance” explores how the concept of home reinforces the sense of self. It is the path of separation, the coming and going that creates and shapes identity and memory. Located in the C33 Gallery from 9 a.m to 5 p.m.

C33 Gallery
33 E. Congress Parkway Building

through 2/13/10

“Framed: The World of Comics”

“Framed” is an exhibition of comic book art and comic-inspired murals and installations created by Columbia students. As part of the exhibition, students from Keith Pitts and Jacqueline Penrod’s set design classes will be designing and constructing stage sets. The exhibition will be located in the Hokin Gallery, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.

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C

campus

Weeklong global exposure

Event brings culture to the college through discussions, performances, cuisine

by Laura Nalin
Assistant Campus Editor

COLUMBIA WILL join institutions around the world on Nov. 16 in the celebration of International Education Week. The week-long event will celebrate the importance of international education and exchange, while giving students opportunities to learn about various cultures the college has to offer.

International Education Week was initiated by former President Bill Clinton in 2000, and it is a joint proposal between the Department of State and the Department of Education.

“I feel that in this day and age, for one to consider themselves as an educated individual, you need to be aware of the world around you,” said Gigi Posejpal, director of Columbia’s International Student Affairs. “You need to have a global perspective. The media exchange of information is happening faster, and I think if we are ever going to achieve any kind of global peace, it will happen through education, awareness and open-mindedness. The only way you’re going to get that is through recognizing other cultures.”

To kick off the week, an international expo will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in The Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression, in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. The exposition will provide attendees with a variety of events, including a capoeira performance, calligraphy and origami-making demonstrations, cultural games and hors

d’oeuvres from countries such as Ethiopia, Thailand, Poland and Italy.

Following the expo, a discussion called “Africa Today,” led by Columbia professor Stephanie Shonekan and the Black World Studies Program, will be held from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Hokin Lecture Hall in the Wabash Campus Building, to discuss the current situation in African countries and how the history of the nation has impacted how the societies function in the modern world.

On Nov. 17, an immigration workshop will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Alexandroff Conference Room, Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., where Chicago attorney Bob White will give information to students about visa options upon graduation. A potluck dinner will follow at 6 p.m. in the Internet Café, 59 E. Van Buren Ave.

“

I think it’s beneficial for everyone to learn about different cultures. I feel like at an art school, people are more open-minded and I think it’s such a great opportunity for Americans to make new friends from all over the world.”

-Ruth Meridjen

On Nov. 18, the Office of Asian-American Cultural Affairs and the Asian Student Organization will collaborate for a theatrical show from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. in The Quincy Wong Center. Posejpal said the show is going to focus on cultural issues

and there will be a workshop to plan for a much bigger, theatrical presentation that’s going to happen in the spring, regarding topics such as cultural differences and stereotypes.

A discussion led by the college’s Latino Cultural Affairs and Office of International Affairs will take place on Nov. 19 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Multicultural Affairs Conference Room, 4th floor of the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, to address study abroad topics such as cost, locations, scholarships, travel arrangements and housing opportunities. Following the discussion, Peter Zhang, assistant professor in the Audio Arts and Acoustics Department, will show video clips and demos from the Peking Opera and other traditional Chinese operas. This will give viewers a better understanding of Chinese arts and cultures. The presentation will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Multipurpose Studio, 4th floor of the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

Ruth Meridjen, a sophomore acting major, looks forward to this year’s event. Meridjen came to the college two years ago from Turkey and thinks an event like this is important to have at Columbia. She hopes that more domestic students will attend this year to have a better understanding of the diverse cultures who make up the college. Meridjen said she feels as though people can always learn more from others that come from all over the world.

“You get a different perspective and I think it’s beneficial for everyone to learn about different cultures,” Meridjen said. “It doesn’t matter what you’re studying, it’s always interesting to hear about other people’s experiences. I feel like at an art



school, people are more open-minded, and I think it’s such a great opportunity for Americans to make new friends from all over the world.”

Although the event for Nov. 20 has not yet been decided upon, Posejpal said that it will most likely function as a bowling event hosted by Latino Alliance.

Students are encouraged to participate in the various events that will be taking place whether or not they are an international student. Adriana Mendez, sophomore advertising and art direction major from Venezuela, hopes that this year, more countries will be showcased and students will use the opportunity not only to learn, but to also network.

“I think we had around 15 countries last year,” Mendez said. “We have a diverse group right now, I think it’s going to be a little bigger this year and everyone seems more interested. I think it’s interesting and important for students to come and meet new people. Come and network with us because you never know, we could be helping each other out in the future.”

Inalin@chroniclemail.com

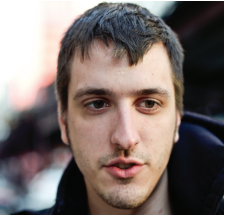
CAMPUS POLL

Does Columbia need an honors program?



Mike Killion
Senior, Photography

“We are doing enough work as it is. I don’t think there necessarily needs to be a scale of an honors system.”



Steven Danielewicz
Sophomore, Cultural Studies

“It would be good to have honors courses for the LAS core, but you can’t really have an honors program for art; it’s subjective.”



Katy Higgins
Junior, Art & Design

“There are definitely people here who are more academically driven that we might neglect. They might benefit from something like that.”

Anatomically interconnected

‘The Anatomy Of ... A Tour’ welcomes Chicagoland professionals to Columbia

by Ciara Shook
Assistant Campus Editor

STUDENTS LISTENED to stories of life on the road and life on stage from a panel of “dudes” donning tattoos and jeans at “The Anatomy Of ... A Tour” among the low lights and cozy beanbags of The Loft in the 916 S. Wabash Ave. Building.

The Student Programming Board and the Portfolio Center welcomed six professionals from the music industry on Nov. 9 to participate in the panel. The panel discussed the nuts and bolts of a band going on tour and was moderated by Ashley Brown, president of the Student Programming Board, Naomi Mouriño, the chair of artist relations for AEMMP Records, and David Lewis, a creative industry liaison for the Portfolio Center.

Guests included a diverse variety of professionals from the Chicago live music community, including: Che Arthur, sound engineer for Shellac; Matt Rucins, talent buyer for the venues Schubas and Lincoln

Hall; Andy Hayward, production manager for Death Cab for Cutie; Mike LeMaistre, talent buyer for Jam Productions; Mark Dawursk, tour manager for the bands Isis and Ratatat; and Laurent Schroeder-Lebec, guitarist of Pelican.

The panel knew each other and Dawursk described the Chicago community as a big family.

“

Get your degree. Do not stop what you’re doing right now to go on a tour.”

-Andy Hayward

“If I meet somebody I like, I’ll refer them or try to bring them out [to events] with me,” Dawursk said.

Most attendees were arts, entertainment and media management and audio arts and acoustics students. Because of the composition of the crowd, the panel noted the significance of keeping in contact with friends along the way. Most of them have known each other since the start of their careers.

“The panel was great,” said Bill Ross, arts, entertainment and media management sophomore. “I enjoyed learning about this and it’s somewhat related to what I want to do.”

Lewis said the idea of the “Anatomy Of” series is to make students realize the fields of study at Columbia are interconnected in the real world and stresses the importance of being aware of these connections.

“We want you to consider this stuff, not just in terms of what these guys are saying, but how you’re going to [apply] what you’re learning in class,” Lewis said. “The more you take advantage of what we’re talking about now, the easier the process is going to be.”

Lewis invited Rucins, Arthur, Hayward, LeMaistre, Dawursk and Schroeder-Lebec because they would be able to have a good interaction with the students.

“I don’t want these events to be just a panel talking when there’s no interaction,” Lewis said. “It’s not compelling for the student, and it’s probably not compelling for the guest.”

» SEE TOUR, PG. 9



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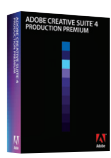


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Project created to aid Iraqi women

Widows: Lines in the Sand to raise money, bring awareness

by **Laura Nalin**
Assistant Campus Editor

KEVIN VALENTINE, a Columbia graduate student in interdisciplinary arts and media, has been awarded a grant through Critical Encounters. The grant honors a project he is working on, Widows: Lines in the Sand, in which Valentine will draw 3 million lines over the course of the next year to raise awareness of widows in Iraq.

On Nov. 7, Valentine teamed up with Core Project, a movement-based, interdisciplinary arts collective founded by Columbia alumni Matthew Pierce and Erin Rehberg. Others that participated were Bodywired, a group started by graduate students in interdisciplinary arts and media and Jabur Alturfee, an Iraqi humanitarian and human rights worker and refugee. They all gathered at the 31st Street Beach to draw lines in the sand to represent the widows in Iraq.

Valentine plans to raise \$3 million within the next year, and will be showcasing the line drawing in a number of locations.

Valentine is currently working on his thesis that will be completed in spring 2010, which focuses on raising money to help support three million widows in Iraq. Although the idea coincides with his thesis, he plans to make this an ongoing project and does not plan to be completed by this



Lenny Gilmore THE CHRONICLE

Kevin Valentine (above) and participants of Widows: Lines in the Sand (pictured right) hope to raise \$3 million within the next year to aid Iraqi widows.

spring. He is currently trying to figure out how to raise the money.

“I’m trying to figure out if I have to be not-for-profit or if I can collect from another charity,” Valentine said. “One thing that seems really strong is to use pledge sheets to maybe get people at school or work involved, but it’s all unfolding now.”

Each of the lines display the large number of people affected by the war, which is not often brought to attention by the general media. Valentine said the number three million symbolizes the number of widows in Iraq that have been affected by the Iraq War. Valentine provides participants in the project with sticks to draw the lines and has them sign, date and write the number



of lines they drew with the particular stick. Pierce, of Core Project, said he had wanted to be a part of this project after Valentine told him what he planned on doing.

“Kevin had shown documentation from a couple of his previous performances and so we were aware of the subject material, but we hadn’t performed before, so it was a new experience for us in this project,” Pierce said. “I felt it was a very powerful experience for us and felt particularly like the viewers of the performance were really intrigued and moved. They responded positively, which was great to be a part of that.”

Pierce also said that the Core Project

works with companies both internationally and nationally and hopes that Valentine’s project could function on a global level in the future.

Valentine said that while the number of widows in Iraq has not been recorded consistently, he chooses to use the number three million.

“The United Nations estimates three-fourths of a million, but three million was the number used by [Nawal Al-Samarai], Iraq’s Minister for Women’s Affairs, when she resigned in February,”

» **SEE WIDOWS**, PG. 9

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Faculty member wins prestigious award for novel

Author of ‘Miles from Nowhere’ recognized by Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation

by Alicia DeVoll
Contributing Writer

NAMI MUN, full-time faculty member the Fiction Writing Department at Columbia, has been awarded a 2009 Whiting Writers’ Award for her first novel, *Miles from Nowhere*. The prestigious award provides financial support and publicity for emerging talent.

The Whiting Writers’ Awards were founded in 1985 by the Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation and have been annually giving aid to promising writers early in their careers. Each year, the foundation recognizes 10 writers with a stipend of \$50,000 to offer them an opportunity to fully devote themselves to writing.

“When I got the call that I had won, I thought it was a joke,” Mun said. “It’s such a big thing that you don’t think will happen to you. It is validation that someone believes in my promise.”

The 2009 recipients were announced at an Oct. 28 ceremony in New York by Foundation President Robert L. Belknap. The guest speaker was critically acclaimed author Margaret Atwood, known for such works as *The Year of the Flood* and *Cat’s Eye*.

Winners are selected by an anonymous selection committee of writers, literary scholars and editors from all over the country.

“Everyone keeps asking me if I’m going to take a vacation [with the money],” Mun said. “It means that I don’t have to work and I can spend time focusing on future projects.”

Miles from Nowhere highlights Joon, a 13-year-old runaway Korean immigrant, who lives in the Bronx in New York City during the 1980s.

According to Mun’s Web site, she delivers the story of a young woman who is at once tough and vulnerable, world-weary and naive, faced with insurmountable odds and yet fiercely determined to survive.

Though Mun is herself a Korean immigrant and a runaway who lived and worked odd jobs in the Bronx, she said only about 1 percent of the story is based on her life.

Mun, 40, was born in Seoul, South Korea and later moved to the Bronx. She graduated from the University of California Berkeley and earned her Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Michigan. Her many jobs ranged from selling Avon products, to working as a criminal defense investigator, but she has always had a passion for writing.

“I never even considered nonfiction writing before,” Mun said. “Fiction writing provides a veil of protection; I can bury myself within my characters.”

Miles from Nowhere, published by Riverhead in January 2009, is her first full-length novel. Her short stories have been published in *Granta*, *The Iowa Review*, *Tin House*, the 2007 Pushcart Prize Anthology and other journals. This is her second year as a full-time faculty member in the Fiction Writing Department.

“I have always had this strange attraction to Chicago,” Mun said. “When I used to fly internationally, I would always make a connection at O’Hare [International Airport]. I would make sure there was at least a four-hour layover so I could hop a taxi to see my favorite paintings at the Art Institute.”

One of the qualities Columbia prides itself on having is faculty that are very involved in their fields.

“She has helped me develop skills as both a reader and a writer,” said Eliza Fogel, a graduate fiction writing student of Mun’s. “She shows you have to look from a different vantage point and open up analytical skills.”

Gary Johnson, associate chair of the Fiction Writing Department, said Columbia is excited about Mun’s achievement.

“We are extremely proud that Nami Mun is a member of our faculty,” Johnson said. “Nami’s Whiting Writers’ Award is an exceptional accomplishment and terrific tribute to her talent. Both students and teachers are



Courtesy FICTION WRITING DEPARTMENT

Nami Mun, full-time faculty member in the Fiction Writing Department, celebrates her first novel.

thrilled for Nami and her award, which brings notoriety at the national level to the Fiction Writing Department, the School of Fine and Performing Arts and the college.”

Mun said her newest project is a story about crime. She revisits her experiences as a criminal defense investigator for inspiration. She said she will be interviewing homicide detectives, public defenders, district attorneys and even viewing a real autopsy for the story.

“I haven’t had her as a teacher yet, but I’m looking forward to taking future classes with her,” said Javon Harris, second year fiction writing major. “She is hardcore in a good way.”

Previous recipients of the Whiting Writers’ Award include authors Mona Simpson, Jonathan Franzen, David Foster Wallace and Jeffrey Eugenides, as well as playwrights August Wilson and Tony Kushner.

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A+D LECTURE SERIES

2009
2010

The Art + Design Department and Ellen Stone Belic Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media present:

Tina Takemoto

Wednesday, November 18,
6:30 pm @ Hokin Auditorium,
Rm. 109, 623 S. Wabash

Reception at the A+D Gallery
begins at 7:30 pm, following
the lecture.

Tina Takemoto is an interdisciplinary writer, theorist, and performance artist whose work explores issues of illness, gender, race, and queer identity. Since 1992, she has collaborated with Angela Ellsworth under the name Her/She Senses. They have presented their installation-based performances nationally and have received numerous grants and awards.



Image taken from *Drawing Complaint: Memoirs of Björk-Geisha*, a performance by Tina Takemoto and Jennifer Parker at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

ELLEN STONE BELIC
INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF
WOMEN&GENDER
IN THE ARTS AND MEDIA
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CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS
FACT & FAITH

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Archaic Love

True/Believer:
Critical Encounters' personal narratives on Fact & Faith

by Jennie Fauls
Instructor of English

I DON'T believe in love. The divorce epidemic, rising instances of domestic violence and bad eHarmony commercials have dispelled the notion that true love in the modern age is possible. I may have aged out of this particular system and that's fine with me. But I do believe that love was real in bygone eras. Knowledge, cemented in my memory from exposure to family, literature, history and art, sustains me. Graduate-level literature studies teach you that love is only true when one is compelled to throw oneself under a train in its honor, and nobility comes from enduring unrequited love or lifelong grief over love lost. I maintain at least a curiosity about love and its pathologies by regularly reading the Sunday New York Times' wedding section. Their featured weddings are increasingly based on unlikely pairings in the form of older women and younger men, radical class difference—CEO and doorman—or unexpected cultural pairings—"You're Jewish? I'm Indian! This could work!" The details in these narratives tend to teach me that modern love is ultimately selfish. When people indicate that they're looking for their "missing piece," what's implied is that it is only about 5 percent of themselves that is missing. The rest of their identity is intact and settled just fine, thank you. The happy couples I know are primarily same-sex partners or couples on their second commitment. Another thing I've learned—it doesn't work on the first try.

Romantic love can serve families well by providing a larger support network and more reinforcement associated with "the good times." Same-sex couples appear to dodge certain essential pitfalls having to do with gender difference. And someone on wife No. 2 can employ a smarter strategy in negotiating hazards based on what went wrong before. Some people are content to give their love life over to algorithms in the same manner we have given up on slow, curious research. Googling for a relationship doesn't suit me because the seed of love can't grow in the matrix. It's not organic. The best evidence of love that I have seen in my own lifetime comes from my grandparents, all of whom lived to see their 50th wedding anniversary and the births of great-grandchildren. They believed in love. I believe that their shared sacrifices during World War II characterized their commitment to each other and to family. Their love was manifested in simple pleasures, best witnessed in their later years. I happily recall my grandparents bickering over holiday meal preparation. "Bill! I told you to take the potatoes out five minutes ago!" "Margery, they are not done. You can't see them. Why don't you come in here and look for yourself?" "I am busy making drinks that you're supposed to be making because you should be finished with the vegetables!" I really don't have fonder memories than that. Encoded in their good-natured nagging was the closeness, familiarity and trust built through decades. They were in love so completely that no boundaries existed. They didn't know selfishness because they had known struggle so much more deeply. There was no reason not to remain united. And they loved so fully that their lives didn't make sense once one passed away. My grandparents' resting place is a memorial to their love and a warm place for me to reflect. I am certainly open to surprises, if not buying into the ugly modern ways that "matches" are "facilitated." There won't be a keyboard click in my love story. Fortunately, I believe in happiness and the infinite ways that memory and family model love. I'm listening to voices from the past for clues towards my future. Jennie Fauls has been a member of the Columbia community since 2000. She teaches in the English Department and serves as the Assistant Director of First-year Writing.

chronicle@colum.edu

» WIDOWS

Continued from PG. 6

Valentine said. Al-Samarai resigned in February 2009 in a protest to bring awareness to the fact that the Iraqi government had cut her funds to \$18,000 per year to support women's rights in Iraq. However, she rescinded her resignation when groups such as Oxfam and the United Nations asked her to remain in her position. Alturfee has worked with women in Iraq teaching them to use sewing machines, and hopes that this project along with similar ones, will help the women in his country build sustainable lives. He said when he began to draw the lines in the sand, he started to remember the faces of some of the women that he spoke with before he moved to America. "Before I came here, I promised some families that in the future people will help them," Alturfee said. "After this, I believe I can be faithful and go back and help them in any way. I told [Valentine that] maybe [Americans] in the war can help with what the women need

now and what they will need in the future."

“ “

Before I came here, I promised some families that in the future people will help them.

-Jabur Alturfee

Valentine plans to bring this project on campus in the future. His thesis project will include an installation of chalk lines drawn over a month's time on the walls, ceiling, and floor of the space. As far as prospect plans for the project, he wants to include the tools used in a future exhibition. "We have the names of every person that died in Vietnam, but how many widows were there? That's the same with Iraq," Valentine said. "We know how many people we killed, but we forget about the widows and move on. These widows can't eat or feed their children. There's no medication or water. We're trying to make a difference."

Inalin@chroniclemail.com

» TOUR

Continued from PG. 3

When a question was fielded about booking a tour for a band in its beginning stages, Rucins urged the audience to network with each other.

“Assuming that somebody here probably wants to be a booking agent, find them and ask them to help,” Rucins said.

Hayward emphasized the difference the Internet has made in booking a tour and advancing a music career.

“[Death Cab for Cutie] started playing shows in ’98,” Hayward said. “Of course there was Internet back then, but it wasn’t what it is today. You put a song on MySpace and the next day you have a label buying you dinner, wanting to put out your record.”

To close the discussion, the panel offered advice for the students at the early stages in their careers. Rucins stressed the importance of internships and Hayward the importance of completing one’s education.

“Get your degree,” Hayward said. “Do not stop what you’re doing right now to go on a tour.”

Schroeder-Lebec said to be persistent in pursuing a career in the arts.

“If you want to do this, it’s because you’re passionate about it,” Schroeder-Lebec said.

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» SURVEY

Continued from Front Page

and security, service excellence, campus support services, campus life and responsiveness to diverse populations.

In 10 of 12 categories, Columbia increased significantly since 2007, falling short in two categories—academic advising and recruitment and financial aid.

“It’s even more interesting that the one area we fall below our peer group is advising,” Kelly said. “In that area, we were already aware of the issue and have already put in place some dramatic changes. I think, without question, that when our students are surveyed again, that area will show up positive in comparison to our peer group.”

These changes in academic advising have consisted of assigning new students, both freshmen and transfer students, to their own college advisers. Any student with 45 credit hours or more will have a personal faculty adviser, which Kelly thinks will increase student satisfaction in the future.

The school has also addressed the issue of financial aid availability by increasing the amount of scholarships available to students this fall, which have doubled since fall 2007.

Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, said the college has been making a lot of changes to improve the overall student experience.

“One of the key changes, and I think one of the most important changes, is how we communicate with students,” Sommers said. “With Columbia as a vertical campus, with all these high-rise buildings, and the absence of one singular student center, we are moving toward the idea of creating a virtual student center.”



Columbia has transformed from once being an institution that did great things, to now being a great institution.”

-Warrick L. Carter

Sommers said that the development of Columbia’s online presence through The Loop and even the new Facebook application have been ways to inform students of what the college has to offer, and serve as an alternative platform for students to network with each other.

“When students are connected to each other, and connected to us, they tend to be happier and ultimately more successful,” Sommers said. “Much of the work we have been doing online is helping to increase student satisfaction, and of course ultimately retention.”

Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment, said the No. 1 increase at the national level was safety and security along with campus support services.

“The safety and security numbers have significantly improved,” Berg said. “Campus safety and security has been very on top of their agenda, along with improving campus environment.”

Berg said that in 1998, safety and security was well below the national average, and the 2009 survey said that Columbia is now even with other institutions on a national level.

One area students reported slightly below was accessibility to parking at Columbia. Berg said that being an urban campus, it is important to recognize how well-served Columbia is by public transit.

“That is a really key part of being sustainable,” Berg said. “We are more transit-based than we are more car and parking-based.”

Kelly said that even though there are still areas that need to be improved, Columbia has become a true campus community with students at the center of it.

Columbia’s efforts to improve student satisfaction have shown through the surveys, and although it has been a significant and exciting improvement, Columbia recognizes these improvements need to be maintained.

“These outstanding results signal a true turning point in Columbia’s history,” Carter wrote in his announcement. “They confirm what we have long suspected—that Columbia has transformed from once being an institution that did great things, to now being a great institution.”

bzepeda@chroniclemail.com

create...
change

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI:

Erica Watson

(T.V Production BA, '98; AEMM, MA '05)




Photo by Charlie T

Erica Watson (TV Production BA '98, AEMM MA'05) is a stand-up comedian, writer and director originally from Chicago, currently living in NYC. She is featured in the Oprah Winfrey/ Lee Daniels film *Precious*, is a regular talking-head on various BET and Oxygen specials and a comedy blogger for the Huffington Post. She was also the director of the reality tv series “My Model” for the BETJ Network.


You can see her one-woman show “Fat B*tch!” at The Chicago Center for The Performing Arts November 19th-28th, 2009. Columbia Students with ID can see the show for \$10. For more info visit www.ericawatson.com.

How did your education at Columbia help prepare you for your future?
There are many things about Columbia that prepared me, but what really helped me was the fact that the professors/instructors at Columbia are actually seasoned professionals that are currently working in the field. I was able to get first-hand knowledge about current trends that only a true professional can provide. I also love the fact that Columbia allows you to take classes in your major right away. Freshmen at Columbia are shooting films, hosting radio shows, and recording music. Those aspects are so beneficial to any student who wants a career in the arts. I would not be where I am now without that hands-on experience.

What was your first job after graduating from Columbia?
My first job was working at the assignment desk at WMAQ-TV NBC5 as well working in the Sports Department. I started off as an intern, and then went on to be a field producer too.

What is your best memory from Columbia?
My best memory was working as a Graduate Assistant in the AEMM Department for Clarke Greene. I learned so many things from him, J. Dennis Rich, Phyllis Johnson, Angelo Luciano and other professors in that department. They were, and still are, very supportive of my career!

Do you have any advice for students heading out into the job market today?
Network as much as possible. What you know will enable you to keep a great job, but WHO you know will get your foot in the door. I set a goal to meet at least 25 new people a month. I go to networking events, exchange business cards, and I make sure that I follow-up. Even if the person is not directly related to your field, you still never know who THEY know. Make your net WORK for you! Pun intended! lol



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Jazz'd Up

Sosa's problem only skin deep



by Jazzy Davenport
Managing Editor

BY NOW I'm sure you've seen the dramatic transition that Sammy Sosa's appearance has taken. My first reaction was "What in the Michael Jackson is going on with Sosa's face?" Dramatic, I know. But Sosa has gone from that very handsome, dark-skinned Dominican man we Chicagoans loved to hate when he was a Cub, to someone of a much lighter complexion. The only things that appear to have remained the same are his eyes and that awkward hairline; besides that—he's pretty much unrecognizable.

When the news first broke, many people's first instinct was that the change of Sosa's appearance was attributed to vitiligo, the same skin disorder that Michael Jackson claimed to be afflicted with, and that steroids were the cause of it. Turns out there have been no reports of a link between anabolic steroid use and vitiligo; however, doctors are still not sure what exactly causes it.

After the initial outcry and controversy, Sosa immediately said that the lighting in the photo exaggerated his skin color. He basically wanted to convince the public that he really wasn't that pale. Sosa later did an interview telling what happened.

"I spent many years playing [in the out-

field] at 1:20 p.m. in Chicago, [and] you know that the skin gets damaged, and so what I did, now that I'm not playing, not getting so much sun, well I have a cream that I apply before going to sleep and it lightens my face a bit," Sosa said to ESPN Deportes. He also went on to say, "I am not a racist, I'm not like that. I'm a person that lives a happy life, and I want people to calm down and I want them to know the truth, that I didn't do this with that intention."

Sosa thought that confessing what happened would simmer the uproar. What Sosa has actually done is made himself look worse, no pun intended. I am not convinced that he did not intentionally try to alter his complexion. No one uses bleaching cream without expecting their pigmentation to change. He's even talking about marketing the product now.

Sosa, do you have that much self-hate and insecurity that you are not comfortable with your skin and with your heritage? Are you so weak that you would succumb to the pressure to assimilate?

There is nothing more disgusting than a man who is insecure about his heritage. As a Latino man, and someone of obvious African descent, be proud of who you are and more importantly, comfortable in your own skin, because for me and others of African descent, your choice to bleach your skin is nothing short of insulting.

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A sweet debate

FDA-approved sweeteners continue to raise questions of health, safety

by Taylor Norris
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

IF THE invention of calorie-free sweeteners wasn't thrilling enough, the debate concerning how healthy they are may make everything even more interesting. Food companies, researchers and consumers all have stakes in the acceptance of these products in the market.

Even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved some artificial sweeteners, some people are reluctant to join the camp of chemical sweeteners.

"Some people are just uncomfortable with the idea," said Jennifer Bruning, a nutrition professor at Columbia.

When Rich Feuerstein sweetens his coffee, five or six packets of Splenda do the trick. The Columbia fiction writing senior said he started drinking coffee about a year ago when he was also exercising often and a friend told him that Splenda was the healthiest calorie-free sweetener.

Bruning said she feels there has been sufficient research on artificial sweeteners and it is a personal choice whether someone would like to use them or not.

Bruning also explained how these sweeteners taste like sugar, but have no calories.

"In order to be able to use certain molecules as calories, they have to have a certain composition," Bruning said. "In the case of artificial sweeteners, in one way or another, the molecules have been changed so that we can no longer use it as calories in our body."

The yellow-packeted Splenda is a brand of the artificial sweetening chemical sucralose. The two other well-known sweetening chemicals are saccharin (best known as Sweet 'N Low) and aspartame (best known as Equal.)

"You hear things like, 'Oh they cause cancer in rats,'" Bruning said of the most commonly heard concern over artificial sweeteners.

Bruning said that those studies usually subject small animals to such high levels of artificial sweeteners that the results don't

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/19/09

Chicago Bulls vs. Los Angeles Lakers

The Chicago Bulls take on the Los Angeles Lakers on national television in at the Staples Center in L.A. The defending NBA champion Lakers now feature Kobe Bryant and Ron Artest, a powerful 1-2 combination. Tip off is at 9:30 p.m. on TNT; the game can also be heard on ESPN 1000.

Staples Center
Los Angeles

11/19/09

Chicago Blackhawks vs. Calgary Flames

The Chicago Blackhawks travel north of the border to take on the Calgary Flames in an NHL Western Conference game. The Blackhawks have six road games during the next two weeks because of their annual circus road trip. They start in Calgary and the trip will last until the Blackhawks return to Chicago on Dec. 1. The Blackhawks vs. Flames game can be seen at 8:30 p.m. on Comcast SportsNet or heard on 720AM WGN.

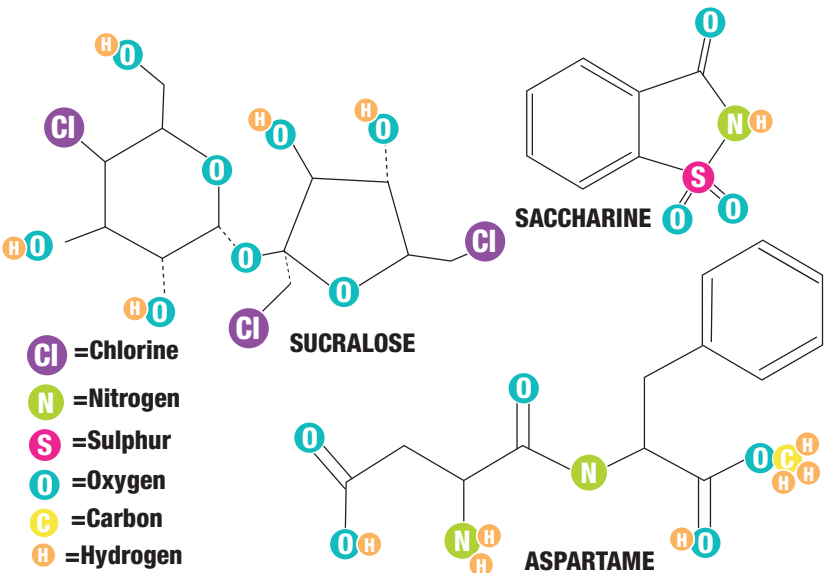
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Calgary, Alberta, Canada

11/22/09

Chicago Bears vs. Philadelphia Eagles

The Chicago Bears welcome the Philadelphia Eagles and Chicago native Donovan McNabb to Soldier Field for week 11 NFL action. The Bears' defense must handle the speed of the Eagles' receivers, running backs and wildcat quarterback Michael Vick if Chicago hopes to win. Kick off is at 7:20 p.m. The game can be viewed on FOX or heard on WBBM 780 AM.

Soldier Field
1410 S. Museum Campus Drive



Dana LaCoco THE CHRONICLE

reflect a situation that could affect humans.

"There is no way that we could ever take in this amount of artificial sweetener," she said.

According to Bruning, the most common side effects associated with artificial sweeteners are problems with the digestive tract, not cancer.

Feuerstein said that he likes to use Splenda in his coffee because, "I feel like with coffee, you have a choice," whereas you have no choice but to accept all of the sugar when it comes to desserts and prepared food.

Bruning said choosing an artificial sweetener doesn't benefit or diminish your health.

Though a lack of calories is the main draw to using artificial sweeteners, one researcher said consumers may not see the weight loss they hope for. In fact, artificial sweeteners may contribute to weight gain.

Sharon Fowler, who holds a master's degree in Public Health, led a study with

her University of Texas colleagues in 2005 to see if there was any correlation between drinking diet soda, artificially sweetened coffee or tea, and weight gain.

"The odds of somebody who is normal weight becoming either overweight or obese almost doubled among people who were drinking an average of more than three artificially sweetened beverages a day," Fowler said.

She said that aspartame was the most prominent artificial sweetener at the time of the study, but her research takes all artificial sweeteners into account.

"We saw a classic dose-response effect for both incidence of overweight or obesity according to how many artificial sweetened beverages people were drinking," Fowler said, which means that as a person's consumption of diet drinks increases, so does their chance of gaining weight.

Fowler said this is an important indicator that the correlations found in the study are not simply meaningless statistics.

However, Fowler said that she is less concerned about the weight gain from artificial sweeteners than other possible health effects.

Fowler shared the story of a pregnant woman who quit drinking diet sodas because they were giving her aches in her head and legs.

"And my question was what was happening to that 7-month-old baby," if the mother was experiencing such strong side effects, Fowler said.

According to Fowler, there are more than 6,000 products on the market which contain aspartame, so everybody has many chances to be exposed to it.

» SEE SWEET, PG.16

No crowd at vaccine station

H1N1 cases rise in Chicago but few students seek free services from school

by Taylor Norris
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

CHICAGO'S PUBLIC H1N1 vaccination services have been crowded and heavily guarded. Many publications report that doctors throughout the city are constantly running out of vaccine. Healthy, older adults have been asked to let pregnant women, children and young adults get vaccinated first.

Cases in the U.S. of the pandemic H1N1 influenza hit a record high in October. But here at Columbia, besides about four people, nurses and a large pile of cookies on the table, the vaccination service room was barren last week.

"We have probably vaccinated about 1,000 students. I am very disappointed," said Bob Koverman, associate vice president of Campus Safety and Security. "We expected five or six thousand ... I don't know that there's any more that we could do in terms of getting the word out."

Mary Lou Wade went to get her vaccina-

tion on Nov. 9 at Columbia. Wade teaches Oral Expression at Columbia and Nov. 9 was her first chance to get vaccinated because Columbia opened their free services to faculty and staff.

"I encourage my students to come ... this is the perfect opportunity; it's not that crowded and it's free," Wade said of the vaccination room.

On four occasions, the vaccinations have been administered in the room that was formerly the Writing Center on the ground level of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building. Columbia's vaccine supply comes in spurts from the Chicago Department of Public Health, Koverman said.

According to Koverman, it was decided on Nov. 12 that vaccinations will no longer be given in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building because of the low turnout. The Student Health Center will now administer them and announcements are to come regarding when and how this service will be offered.

The Student Health Center declined to comment due to a number of students awaiting attention.

Koverman said Columbia does not screen for the H1N1 virus, but there have been “about two dozen” reported cases of influenza-like symptoms on campus.

The Chicago Department of Public Health updates its Web site with weekly information on H1N1 cases, said Dr. Stephanie Black, medical director of Acute Disease Surveillance.

"In Chicago, we have had 299 hospitalizations and seven deaths since Aug. 30. The median age of the deaths is 43, but the highest rate of hospitalization is in people that are age 0 to 4," Black said.

Throughout the nation, Black said patients with H1N1 cover the majority of influenza-related hospitalizations.

Black said H1N1 prevalence is currently



Stock Photo

Many people are forced to wait in long lines at public vaccination facilities to receive flu shots.

higher than any seasonal flu in the past 50 years. She said that she believes the city has put in its best effort to fight the H1N1 virus, but because the flu is unpredictable, people should continue to get vaccinated.

“By no means are we on the down slope; we are continuing to see [H1N1] rates increase in Chicago,” Black said.

She added that two weeks ago, 11.8 percent of all people who went to the emergency room went in for influenza-like illnesses. Last week the number increased to 16.6 percent of all patients.

“The activity in Chicago has continued to rise consecutively over the past five weeks,” Black said.

She added that pandemic flus usually come in “waves of 8 to 12 weeks,” but it is hard to predict if H1N1 will return in the spring.

However, the CDPH does expect that seasonal flu will become more prominent from February through April or May, Black said.

"We don't know that [H1N1] is peaking yet," Black said, and numbers could continue to rise.

Wade said she has seen an increase in illness-related absences among her students this semester, but she doesn't know what they've been sick with because they rarely tell her.

Earlier in the semester, students were encouraged to stay home when they felt ill and professors were advised to have work ready for students to complete from home in case they couldn't come to class.

"It's hard because most of my class depends on participation, but I am sympathetic to the people that are sick, so I have arranged a makeup class for some of the sick people," Wade said.

Koverman said Columbia is getting a lot of calls from parents asking if the school is administering the vaccine.

“There certainly is a chance that students could be getting vaccinations at other locations, but it’s not likely,” Koverman said.

For weekly flu updates, visit CityOfChicago.org/Health.

tgleason@chroniclemail.com

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INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Columbia College Chicago will again join colleges, universities, international organizations, associations, embassies and community organizations around the world in celebrating International Education Week 2009: Nov. 16th through the 20th! This marks the 10th annual commemoration of this joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education to recognize the importance of international education and exchange! The Office of International Student Affairs and the International Student Organization invite and encourage Columbia College faculty, staff, and students to participate in the upcoming events highlighting and celebrating the rich cultural diversity found on our campus!

Monday, November 16

International EXPO
11:30 - 4:00 p.m.
The Quincy Wong Center
623 S. Wabash Ave./1st Floor
An explosion of cultural celebration featuring various demonstrations, performances and cuisines! Entertainment includes: They Face Reaction, Horus Adores Us, Capoeira, Maculele, belly dancing, calligraphy, origami and much more!!!! Come sample music, cuisine and culture from around the world!

'Africa Today' Discussion
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Hokin Lecture Hall
623 S. Wabash Ave./1st Floor
Contemporary Africa. How do Africans live today? What are the real issues? What impact has history had on the everyday lives of Africans in the new millennium? Join us for a frank conversation with Africans. Come ready to share your own assumptions and pose your own questions. Moderated by Dr. Stephanie Shonekan and students of her humanities class: "Contemporary Africa: Life, Literature and Music". Co-hosted by the Black World Studies Program.

Tuesday, November 17

Immigration Workshop
12:00 - 1:30 pm
Alexandroff Conference Room
600 S. Michigan Ave./4th Floor
This is an event for anyone interested in knowing more about immigration and what our international students, visiting professors and artists face. The presentation will cover topics such as status after graduation, Optional Practical Training, getting a work visa and more! Immigration attorney Bob White of Masuda, Funai, Efert and Mitchell will be on hand to speak about immigration issues and to answer questions. Bring your questions and concerns! Lunch will be served!

International Potluck Dinner
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Internet Cafe
59 E. Van Buren Ave./2nd Floor
The International Student Organization and the Intersarsity Student Organization invite you to a culinary exploration of different cultures reflecting Columbia's international community. Doors open at 6:00pm. Sampling begins at 6:45 pm.

Wednesday, November 18

'Sketches' Theatrical Show
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
The Quincy Wong Center
623 S. Wabash Ave./1st Floor
A collaboration with the Office of Asian American Cultural Affairs and the Asian Student Organization brings us a depiction of cultural experience through theatre!

Thursday, November 19

**Latino Culture and Conversation:
Study Abroad Opportunities at Columbia College Chicago**
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Conference Room
618 S. Michigan Ave./4th Floor
Enjoy travelling? Curious about other cultures? The world is smaller than we realize. This program will address the most frequently questioned study abroad topics - cost, locations, scholarships, travel arrangements, housing. Co-sponsored by the Office of International Programs.

Chinese Opera Presentation
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave./4th Floor
Chinese opera has a tradition over 200 years. The performing style is quite different from classical western opera, and it is thought as one of the three theatrical systems in the world. "Opera" is the best English word to translate. However it is more than an opera. It includes singing, dancing, acrobatic show, etc. The repertoire includes many historical plays. This seminar introduces Peking opera as well as other traditional Chinese operas, and includes video clips and demos. It is a good opportunity to know about Chinese arts and culture. Presenter: Peter Zhang, Assistant Professor, Audio Arts and Acoustics Department, Columbia College Chicago. Food will be served.

Friday, November 20

'Terioko' Night!
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
The Sky Lounge
59 E. Van Buren Ave./27th Floor
A fun filled evening of karaoke, teriyaki and fun facts!

Sponsored by the Office of International Student Affairs, the International Student Organization and Multicultural Affairs! Event calendar is subject to change without notice.

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Outdoor skating rink builds memories, muscles

Millennium Park attraction fun, good source of exercise

by Jeff Graveline

Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

AS THE temperature drops in Chicago, residents and visitors will soon have a new outdoor activity to keep them busy during the winter months. The Millennium Park McCormick Tribune Ice-Skating Rink opens to the public on Nov. 18 and will be open until March 14, 2010.

The outdoor rink, successor to the famous Skate on State, began set up for the season over the Nov. 14 - 16 weekend.

With more than 100,000 people expected to attend the event over the length of its operation, Neal Speers, operations manager of Millennium Park, says the ice rink is just one of many events that the city hosts at Millennium Park that the public could enjoy.

A free price tag is one of the major selling points that the city is touting while advertising the rink, but there is a \$10 skate rental if attendees don't bring their own skates.

"It's a pretty good deal," said Speers. "Millennium Park in general is a significant benefit to the general public. I mean, the amount of culture [the public is] able to get, [at Millennium Park] for relatively no cost, 90 percent of the events are free — it's pretty amazing."

For Speers, the ice rink marks a major undertaking by himself and his staff. In



Courtesy MILLENNIUM PARK

McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, located near the corner of Washington Street and Michigan Avenue, draws an estimated 100,000 people annually to Millennium Park for free ice skating.

the days leading to the opening of the rink, Millennium Park staff must super cool the concrete the rink will be constructed on, then put down water to freeze and paint the ice once it is frozen to give it the appealing white finish, Speers said.

Water must be applied almost every day to keep the surface in peak condition, especially with the warmer weather Chicago has seen this year, said Speers.

"We have quite a sophisticated system here at the park," Speers said. "That makes our job a little bit easier."

While Speers and his staff may have a

tough job laying down and maintaining the ice, the general public gets to enjoy the fruits of their labor.

Graphic designer Tara Hypke said she has enjoyed the rink since she was a child, and now she goes to the skating rink for the tradition and the memories.

"I actually used to go every single year when it was on State Street with my family," Hypke said. "We would have a shopping day and then we would go [skating]."

For those looking to get some exercise at the outdoor rink, Mark Brticevich, coordinator of Fitness, Athletics and Recreation

at Columbia, said that the rink provides the perfect opportunity to get a good workout.

"The most important muscle that [skating] works is the heart," Brticevich said. "It's cardiovascular exercise, which is always great."

Brticevich continued to explain that not only is skating good for the heart, but it also works the core muscles of the body, along with building balance.

"Anytime you put balance into the game, balance requires more muscle," Brticevich said. "So it recruits more muscles within the leg and it recruits a lot of core muscle. You have to have strong abs and a strong core in order to maintain balance on skates."

The workout that skating gives the body closely mimics the workout dancing gives the body, Brticevich said.

Both are fun and people don't think they're working out when actually, they are working their core muscles and cardiovascular systems at a very high rate.

For Hypke though, the workout isn't what draws her to the ice rink.

It's the emotions that the outdoor rink brings that continue to bring her back year after year.

"It's the nostalgia. You can get a hot cocoa and it's cold [outside] and [the cocoa is] warm, well it's a warm feeling," Hypke said. "[The ice rink] just embodies the essence of Christmas."

For more information on Millennium Park and the McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, including hours of operation, visit MillenniumPark.org.

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Abdul-Jabbar takes on new opponent

NBA legend has disease that attacks blood cells

by Jeff Graveline
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

IN 2009 more than 5,050 people will be diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia, a disease that affects the blood-producing cells in the bone marrow. As the disease progresses, the body produces more white blood cells than needed. Recently, chronic myeloid leukemia made headlines as NBA legend and all-time scoring leader Kareem Abdul-Jabbar announced that he has been fighting the disease since December 2008.

“Last year, I was diagnosed with Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia (Ph+ CML), which is a deadly type of blood cancer,” Abdul-Jabbar posted on his Facebook account. “By working closely with my doctor, I was diagnosed early and immediately prescribed an FDA-approved treatment targeting the cause of my disease, the abnormal protein called Bcr-Abl. I am happy to say that I am responding well to treatment and looking forward to the future.”

In the United States, 22,475 people are currently fighting chronic myeloid leukemia, according to the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program from the National Cancer Institute in 2009. The disease mostly affects adults in the U.S., but has been found in children as well.

“CML is a mild proliferative disease. A lot of people call it a cancer and I think one has



MCT Newswire

NBA icon and all-time scoring leader Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) in December 2008. Abdul-Jabbar recently announced his fight with the disease and has become a spokesperson for CML. According to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, in 2009, more than 5,050 people will be diagnosed with the disease in the United States alone.

to be very careful with the use of the word cancer,” said Dr. Gary Schiller, a professor in the Department of Medicine, division of Hematology/Oncology, at the University of California at Los Angeles. “Although there are certain features that make it like a cancer, there are other features that make it distinctly different.”

While the cause of chronic myeloid leukemia is unknown, the way the disease works in the body is well documented by scientists and researchers, said Dr. Schiller. Dr. Lucy Godley, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Chicago, said that chronic myeloid leukemia affects the chromosomes that make up the human body.

“We do know that virtually all patients [that have CML] have a change in their chromosomes where chromosome 9 is attached to chromosome 22,” said Dr. Godley. “There’s a switch, a break [on chromosomes 9 and 22] and material gets exchanged between those chromosomes.”

There are three stages of chronic myeloid leukemia, according to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Web site. The first is the chronic phase, when the disease is most often found. The chronic phase has symptoms that are milder and patients can

return to normal activates once they begin treatment.

The second phase, the accelerated phase, happens when the white blood cell count may go up or down or the platelet count in a patient may drop. A patient’s spleen may swell or their blast cells, an immature forming blood cell, may increase. This can cause a patient to feel ill or tired said Dr. Godley.

The third phase, the blast crisis phase, is the most aggressive stage of the disease, said Dr. Godley. The disease looks most like an acute leukemia and is the most life-threatening stage.

Treatment for chronic myeloid leukemia has vastly grown in recent years, with advancements in research and drug technology, said Dr. Schiller. Drug treatment is often viewed as the most viable option for chronic myeloid leukemia patients, while bone marrow transplants are used only when something is unusual about the disease.

“Most patients with CML are treated with Imatinib,” said Dr. Schiller. “More than 85 percent of [patients] achieve a dramatic reduction in the size of the malignant clone or the family [of cancerous cells]. So that at diagnoses, 100 percent of the cells of the bone marrow are members of the [cancerous] family. After therapy, 12, 18, 24 months, the size of the [cancer] clone is reduced, often, to 1 in 1,000, 1 in 100,000 cells, 1 in a million cells.”

For those diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia, there is more than just

» SEE ABDUL-JABBAR PG. 16

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Oyakondon (mother and child bowl)

by Oriana Riley
Photo Editor

OYAKONDON IS a Japanese comfort food often eaten during the colder months in the year. It’s easy, fast to make and absolutely filling. It consists of a warm bowl of rice topped with chicken simmered in soy sauce and chicken stock and beaten eggs. The dish is both sweet and savory.

Start off by rinsing the chicken breasts, then cut them into bite-size pieces or about 1/2-inch pieces. Add soy sauce, chicken stock and mirin into a frying pan on medium heat. Then add chicken and onion strips into pan, cook until onions are translucent, but tender. Add sugar and ginger, cook on medium heat for about three to five minutes. Once the chicken and stock have simmered, add two beaten eggs on top. Do not stir the mixture; just let the eggs cook on top of the chicken and onion for two to five minutes, depending on the text you want. Spoon chicken mixture over a bowl of steamed rice and garnish with a sprinkling of green onions. Itadekimasu! (Japanese for ‘Let’s eat!’).

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INGREDIENTS

- 1 package of chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces
- 1 small Yellow Onion (sliced into thin strips)
- Ginger to taste (minced)
- 2 Eggs (beaten)
- 1/2 cup Chicken Stock
- 3 Tablespoon Soy Sauce
- 2 Tablespoon Mirin
- 1 Tablespoon Sugar
- 2 cups of steamed medium-grain rice
- Green Onion for garnish

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Wash and cut chicken into bite-sized pieces.
- 2. Add soy sauce, chicken stock and mirin in frying pan on medium heat.
- 3. Add cut chicken and onion strips to pan, cooking until onions are translucent and tender.
- 4. Add sugar and ginger to pan and cook for 3 to 5 minutes.
- 5. Add two beaten eggs and cook for 2 to 5 minutes.
- 6. Spoon over steamed rice. Enjoy.

» SWEET

Continued from PG. 11

However, because many people continue consuming artificial sweeteners without any problems, and there is industry pressure to keep them on the market, Fowler said it’s not likely that the FDA will remove them from the list of approved products.

Feuerstein said that he has never experienced negative side effects but has heard of people getting headaches from Splenda.

Feuerstein said he would reconsider his Splenda use if he heard it was dangerous or “wasn’t working out the way it was intended to.”

Fowler’s theory is that the body craves more food after drinking a diet soda because soda tastes like it contains a lot of calories but doesn’t. So, drinking diet soda may cause people to overeat in search of those missing calories.

When Bruning teaches her students about artificial sweeteners, she said they are normally familiar with aspartame and saccharin.

But, Bruning said, they know little of the chemical sucralose, branded under the name Splenda.

What they do think about Splenda, though, is that it’s a natural product, which she attributes mostly to the marketing of the chemical as “derived from sugar.”

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» ABDUL-JABBAR

Continued from PG. 14

treatment concerns to worry about, said Anita Welborn, senior director of patient services programs for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Medical costs, support and understanding the disease are three of the main things that The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society work to help patients with, said Welborn.

“We hear it all the time, patients take our books and they go to their doctor’s office and they go, ‘Tell me about this and tell me how this applies to me,’” said Welborn.

With The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society helping patients and the Abdul-Jabbar coming to the forefront of the disease, Welborn explained that people should be aware of not only chronic myeloid leukemia, but also all life threatening diseases.

“The awareness is so important because it allows us to truly push efforts to focus on disease treatment, focus on research, focus on clinical trials,” said Welborn. “All of the things that have brought us to this point, where patients are now able to live with a number of our diseases with a quality of life that didn’t exist 20 to 30 years ago.”

For more information about CML, visit www.Leukemia-Lymphoma.org or call 1-800-955-4572 to reach The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

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Scratchin' pixels

A new spin on casual gaming
see pg. 20



arts & culture

AC

Inner-city kids develop green thumbs

The Organic School Project teaches urban youth to eat healthy, foster sustainability

by Mina Bloom

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

IMAGINE THE reaction of an elementary school student who first discovers that vegetables actually grow out of the ground, beginning as seeds and developing into edible plants, as opposed to a stack in a grocery store's display. The folks at the nonprofit organization, the Organic School Project, aim to not only witness the sparkle in the childrens' eyes and encourage them to take extra bites of their apples, but to holistically improve urban youth's eating patterns, especially those who live in food deserts, and ultimately build healthy-minded individuals.

The Organic School Project is an organization dedicated to encouraging urban youth to eat healthy by hosting a number of different activities involving gardening, cooking and general sustainability. They employ the Grow Teach Feed Model, which was designed to expose young elementary school children to the natural food growing process to avoid childhood obesity and improve their quality of life, said DiAnne Richardson, executive director of the Organic School Project.

Greg Christian, a successful Chicago-area chef, started the organization as a way of addressing his daughter's health issue and was very pleasantly surprised by the results, Richardson said.

Elementary school students, who are predominantly non-English speakers, at both Lowell Elementary School, 3320 W. Hirsch St., and Reavis Elementary Math and Science Special School, 834 E. 50th St., have been offered the opportunity to participate in these after-school programs as a result of the work Children's Home and Aid has done. The social service agency has provided the funds to facilitate the snack program through their organization because the Chicago Public Schools



Courtesy DIANNE RICHARDSON

The Organic School Project is a nonprofit organization devoted to teaching elementary-aged children about the importance of eating healthy and the natural food process.

already use a food vendor, said Meta Dunn, community school manager of Children's Home and Aid.

"There's just something about being on a farm, being connected with your food sources—it just does something different for kids," Dunn said. "I've really noticed working in the inner city that I see kids [who don't have] access to green space, not truly understanding where their food is coming from and what natural, real food looks like. There's a huge impact that it has on someone's mental state and psyche and their ability to sit still and concentrate."

Urban kids obviously don't have the but Maureen George, program director for the Organic School Project, doesn't believe that it's the most hindering factor when it comes to raising health-conscious children.

"There could be kids who grow up in the city with parents who make sure that they take trips to the farm every year and plant their own gardens," George said. "They could do the opposite in the suburbs. I think it's comes down to what the families choose for their kids."

After teaching inner-city, elementary-aged children for almost 15 years and

being a trained marathon runner her entire adult life, Dunn, 31, recognizes the real power that nutrition has on overall wellness and the ability for kids to improve their test scores, behavioral attitudes and outlooks on life.

Dunn, unlike George, said that asking city raised kids to go play in the park is, of course, impossible when the park is three blocks down and around the corner and their safety is inevitably in jeopardy.

Currently, the Organic School Project is hosting an event on Nov. 20 called the Fall Harvest, which is a community gathering and fundraising event.

"It's a time to bring together people who have donated to us in the past and people who want to keep donating to us and support us and learn what we're doing and what we're going to do in the future," George said. "So we've gotten together a few really great chefs, we have a great meal planned. [It will be] kind of an informal night of having a good time and celebrating the season."

The Organic School Project, although rewarding on a personal level for those involved, has yet to extend its efforts to more than three schools.

"I think the thing that saddens me the most is the struggle that they're having to expand the work that they're doing," Dunn said. "Getting past the predominant thought pattern of, 'It's too costly,' or, 'We don't want to change the way that we're already doing things.' Sure, the upfront costs are more, but the long-term effects of the work that Organic School Project is doing are immeasurable."

For additional information, visit OrganicSchoolProject.org.



Courtesy DIANNE RICHARDSON

At one of the Organic School Project's after-school programs, three children work in a garden that the organization planted for them in order to learn about the way in which plants grow.

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‘2012’ teachable moment for Mayan culture experts

Apocalyptic-movie brings attention to modern-day Mayans

by Roger Moore
MCT

THE WORLD isn’t going to end in 2012. Although you wouldn’t know it by viewing the movie *2012*, or online, where doom and end-times theories roam free.

The people who know Mayan culture and the “Maya Long Count” calendar that started all this “end days” talk chuckle at the hubbub, and they see the disaster movie as a “teachable moment.”

“We’re misreading that ‘Long Count’ calendar,” said Eleanor Harrison-Buck, a Maya scholar who teaches at the University of New Hampshire. “The Mesoamerican concept of the ‘end of time’ is in some ways similar to our own New Year’s celebration.

“It represents the start of a new beginning ... Time and space are cyclical and never-ending.”

So don’t expect the mortgage, cable or newspaper subscription to run out on Dec. 21, 2012. It’s just a rollover date on a calendar that fell into disuse for a millennium after Mayan civilization plunged into decline around 900 A.D., the experts say. Just because a tiny portion of a surviving Mayan text that says “the calendar ends 12-21-2012” migrated from academia to New Age authors and end-times cultists is no reason to be alarmed.

“The vast majority of what’s been attached to that date in 2012 online, in movies and books and on TV, has no basis in the Mayan world,” says Professor Robert Sitler, a Mayan culture expert from Stetson University in Deland, Fla.

Sitler is giving a free public talk debunking some of the current Maya mania on Nov. 17 at the Stetson campus. He said he will tell people what he tells students in his classes, “There’s nothing to fear. The world isn’t coming to an end that day.”

But that doesn’t mean he isn’t hoping that Roland Emmerich’s film calls attention to the lessons of the Mayans. Sitler’s upcoming book, *The Living Maya: Ancient Wisdom in the Era of 2012*, uses the doomsday “hysteria” to look at the end of Mayan civilization and how modern Mayans, some eight million of them in upper Central America, live their lives.

“I ask my students here at Stetson, ‘How many dead bodies have you seen?’” Sitler said. “Most of them have seen, maybe, a grandparent or two in a coffin. You ask a Mayan that and they’ve seen dozens of bodies. The idea of death is much more out in the open.”

With threats to the planet’s environment, like mass extinctions and pollution, Sitler said we might be looking at a sort of doomsday, and maybe we should live in a way to prevent it.

“The movie *2012* has the potential to create hysteria, sure,” he said. “But it’s worth contemplating one’s death or even the death of the society, because that ultimately can be a very revitalizing

influence on your life. If you realize, ‘I actually AM going to die. It’s just a matter of days, maybe many days. But eventually, yes’ when you look at life and death that way, you tend to live more deliberately.”

Sitler’s plans for Dec. 21, 2012:

“My wife and I have a favorite place in the Maya world in the Mexican state of Chiapas. Some wonderful things have happened to us there, and that’s where we’ll be vacationing, Dec. 21, 2012.”



MCT

chronicle@colum.edu Morgan Lily, Amanda Peet and Liam James try to survive in Columbia Pictures’ *2012*, which is now playing in theaters.

BETTER BOWLING NAME:

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Consider the mystique of a glistening DJ, nonchalantly wearing just one headphone and hovering over his laptop amidst a crowd of wildly enthusiastic, dancing drunks—or the one-man show who controls sheer pandemonium with a swift click of the mouse and iconic turntable scratching. Without so much as guitar strings to pluck, DJs possess a unique, undeniable star quality by exuding “cool” in a reckless, club-going culture where mashing together top 40 hits, old school hip-hop and sparkling synth makes them a party’s most valuable asset.

Here’s where the beauty of interactive video games come in. Today, anyone with \$120 to spend can be a beat-making, mixing, scratching, self-proclaimed DJ in the comfort of their own living room. FreeStyle Games, a small music game-developing company, has teamed up with the leading worldwide *Rock Band* and the original *Guitar Hero* series publishers, Activision, to produce *DJ Hero*, which was released in stores nationwide on Oct. 27.

“

I think it’s the first rhythm game that really incorporates hip-hop in an effective manner. There are a lot of karaoke rap games that don’t really get the hip-hop culture.”

—Griffin McElroy

With an exclusive, original 93-mix track list, plastic turntable and mixer, *DJ Hero*, not unlike its music rhythm game predecessors, supports the notion that many people are anxious to become ultra-cool DJs, even for a fleeting moment in a fantasy scenario, said Griffin McElroy, contributing editor for Joystiq and music rhythm game connoisseur. The question, however, is whether *DJ Hero* is in fact, an accurate portrayal of what it’s actually like to deejay, or if the concept mirrors that of *Guitar Hero*’s plastic, colored buttons, which McElroy said are nothing like the 15 or 16 frets on an actual guitar with six strings.

“Video games are about wish-fulfillment, really,” said Tom Dowd, assistant professor in the Interactive Arts and Media Department at Columbia. “And culturally, who do we put on pedestals more than social, cultural, political or intellectual heroes these days? Rock stars and pop stars. It fulfills a not-too-well-hidden desire for each of us to be idolized.”

Dowd further explained that we’re familiar with rhythm as a means of expression because we practice rhythms on a day-to-day basis by singing, drumming along with a song or performing virtually

any task that requires timing.

“It’s a powerful combination and connecting that gameplay to a physical prop, toy or controller seems so obvious now,” Dowd said.

Still, rhythm-based video games have been around almost as long as there have been games with audio, especially in Japan with companies like Konami, a leading Japanese game developing and publishing powerhouse founded in 1969.

In regards to *DJ Hero*, Dowd, although only having witnessed someone else play the game, admits that it’s an incredibly cool piece of technology that works well, despite its lack of widespread appeal.

“Everybody at one point or another has the fantasy of being a big rock star,” Dowd said. “And what do you picture yourself as? You picture yourself playing the guitar, drumming or singing. But not a lot of people picture themselves in a club scratching records.”

The “casual gaming movement,” where anyone can pick up a plastic guitar or a Wiimote, Dowd said, isn’t necessarily new.

“The most popular games on the Internet are Hearts and Solitaire, so it’s not like the casual games movement is a revolution,” Dowd said. “It’s always kind of been there, it’s just moving off of the PC and into the living room.”

McElroy, 22, calls himself an avid gamer when it comes to the musical-rhythm game variety, having played everything from Harmonix-made, widely popular *Guitar Hero* to Konami’s *Guitar Freaks*, which is the simulation of playing the electric guitar with similar gameplay to the ever-popular, Americanized *Guitar Hero* series.

McElroy landed a full-time editing gig at Joystiq, a frequented blog devoted to video game news and commentary, after writing for his hometown paper about video games and freelancing, he said. Recently, McElroy moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he didn’t know anyone. With the help of Harmonix’s *Rock band*, however, he now meets with a group of new friends to play the game every Monday night.

“*Rock Band* was made by Harmonix, who started off the *Guitar Hero* franchise, and I think a lot of people knew exactly what they were getting themselves into, which was *Guitar Hero* mixed with karaoke, mixed with drumming,” McElroy said. “I think that’s a winning combination if I’ve ever heard of one. I also think more people were willing to drop that much money on something that they knew they’d probably like.”

DJ Hero, on the other hand, is what McElroy describes as a phenomenal risk for the folks at Activision, which he said is a company that’s generally more concerned with turning out another sequel for a pre-existing game or trying to squeeze as much money out of a video game franchise as they possibly can.

Essentially, *DJ Hero*’s controller consists of a wireless deck with a movable turntable that supports three stream buttons, an effects dial, a cross-fader and a euphoria button, which acts much like the star power button in *Guitar Hero*. The game allows players to scratch and mix according to the cues on

SPINNING SONS GAMES



EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF RHYTHM MUSIC VIDEO GAMES THE RELEASE OF DJ HERO

story by **MINA BLOOM**



ning
me
me



TYPE SURROUNDING
VIDEO GAMES WITH
OF DJ HERO

design by ZACK ANDERSON

the screen, McElroy said. A familiarity with mash-ups that comprise of hip-hop, R&B, dance and techno seems necessary, as the game includes mixes by DJ Jazzy Jeff, the late DJ A.M., Jay-Z, Cut Chemist, Daft Punk and Grandmaster Flash, to name a few. All of whom have composed new beats just for the game, he said.

While most people have heard the song “Carry On My Wayward Son” by Kansas, not everyone knows who the DJ, Cut Chemist, is—let alone mashed up components of his beats. Still, while admittedly more difficult than other rhythm games, McElroy claims that DJ Hero has one of the best soundtracks of a music rhythm game he’s played thus far.

“Not only does it incorporate mash-ups, which is completely unheard of, it has genres of music that *Guitar Hero* and *Rock band* have never dreamed of touching on,” McElroy said. “I think it’s the first rhythm game that really incorporates hip-hop in an effective manner. There are a lot of karaoke rap games that don’t really get the hip-hop culture. I think *DJ Hero* does a better job at doing that.”

The DJ culture in itself is changing with the times as well, which Kyle Garvin, a 21-year-old DJ, acknowledges by calling himself more of a beat composer and a sampler rather than a traditional disc jockey.

“It’s a lot of fun to bust out a song at a party or to be able to figure out [how to] mesh other parts of songs that you liked into something that sound a little more original—something that people can latch on to, but sometimes they don’t know exactly where it came from,” Garvin said.

“

Video games are about wish-fulfillment, really. And culturally, who do we put on pedestals more than social, political or intellectual heroes these days? Rock stars and pop stars.”

-Tom Dowd

After two years of deejaying for the sake of having fun with his friends and getting his music out there in Milwaukee, Wis., Garvin is continuing to reorganize parts of songs for an energetic crowd, he said. That same rush mixed with musical reinvention, however, has discouraged him from purchasing *DJ Hero* in the first place.

“*[DJ Hero]* seems like something that’s kind of taking away from the actual art form itself,” Garvin said. “It kind of grants people who haven’t gotten into the ability to do that in that fantasy scenario, but there’s a lot of equipment out there for starter DJs or amateur guitarists to introduce them to that. It’s kind

of taking away from that ability that everyone has to actually play real music, as opposed to sitting in your living room and pretending to.”

Though never having tried to play *DJ Hero* before, Garvin is content to scratch and mix in real-life, whereas Megan Levine, 20-year-old Bizar Entertainment-employed DJ, actually believes that the game could serve as a practice model for DJs and non-DJs alike.

“

Not only does it have mash-ups, which is completely unheard of, it has genres of music that *Guitar Hero* and *Rock Band* have never dreamed of touching on.”

-Griffin McElroy

Levine has been deejaying for six years since she first began training at Bizar Entertainment, 151 S. Pfingsten Rd., Deerfield, Ill. After working primarily at Bizar’s weddings or bar and bat-mitzvahs, she later began to DJ at bars around the city and eventually for high-end nightclubs such as Level, 1045 N. Rush St., and the W Hotel, 644 N. Lake Shore Drive.

Despite the fact that there’s only one CD player used in *DJ Hero*, Levine believes that the game is entertaining and more applicable to real-life than *Guitar Hero*. The stigma associated with deejaying may have something to do with the fact that most club-goers are acutely sensitive to what songs the DJ chooses rather than the quality of mixing of the DJ, she said.

“People think that when DJs have a computer, they’re not doing anything and that the computer’s doing it for them,” Levine said. “The computer’s not doing anything. The benefit of having a computer there is because you’ll see all these DJs with flashlights and big booklet of CDs. When you’re working in a dark nightclub, that becomes really irritating and practically impossible.”

McElroy, like many who exist purely in the crowd witnessing (or dancing in most cases), doesn’t know exactly how to pinpoint the reasons behind what makes a DJ so insanely popular, sought after and downright cool in modern-day culture.

“I appreciate it because there’s something magical and amazing about taking these old familiar songs and colliding two of them to create a completely new and completely original, really fresh song,” McElroy said. “*DJ Hero* is just chock-full of those. There have been a few [songs] that I’ve gotten stuck in my head nonstop.”

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Record dreams fulfilled

by Katherine Gamby
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

A NEW pop sensation by the name of J. Rose could be in the making, following a record deal with a company that has quite a prestigious resume.

Chicago native Jaclyn Holtzman, also known as J. Rose, recently signed a recording deal with L.A.-based William Middlebrooks Company, which has handled esteemed clients like Chaka Khan and grossed over \$40 million in sales.

“I went to Los Angeles to visit my brother; I was never expecting to sign a record deal,” Rose said. “I thought it was almost like a dream.”

Rose, who is considered a quadruple threat (actress, singer, dancer and model), went to Los Angeles to visit her brother and his roommate Bradley Spalter, a cousin whom she had never met. Spalter, a Grammy award-winning producer and CEO of Bradley Spalter Music Group, heard Rose sing and signed her to his record label. Rose is also attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as a junior theater major and honor student. School is a top priority of hers.

“I completely agree with getting a degree and staying in school,” Rose said. “I think it’s important to be a well-rounded individual.”

Rose’s name comes from a misunderstanding between Spalter and her father. Spalter thought Rose’s father said “Rose”

when he really said “Roads”, while they were brainstorming for name suggestions. Rose has a name to back up her talent, which includes singing and acting since the age of 3, when she debuted in the play “Annie.” She also has a strong background in ballet, jazz and hip-hop dance, as well as musical theater and modeling, which she started in fifth grade and continued sporadically throughout high school. She’s used to a busy schedule, which she said is the only aspect of her life in which things have changed, with all of the interviews and photo shoots in her life now.

“More things have been changing in my schedule ... [other than that] things haven’t really changed yet,” Rose said.

In the future, as her career starts to pick up, Rose said she wants to build appreciation for her music, not so much for fame.

“I’m looking forward to creating a large fan base, people who really appreciate my music,” Rose said. “[And] just knowing that people are connecting with the music that I have to give.”

The William Middlebrooks Company signed Rose via Spalter after he signed as a producer with the company and played her music for the CEO. Middlebrooks said he was enamored by the potential he saw in her, especially her star-power quality.

“She has a unique magnetism to her; I always call it the ‘It Factor.’ You can’t teach that,” Middlebrooks said. “People just gravitate to her; she just has the right energy.”

Spalter, who has worked with Kenny “Babyface” Edmonds, Gladys Knight and



Courtesy WILLIAM MIDDLEBROOKS COMPANY

Jaclyn “J. Rose” Holtzman is a junior theater major at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is an honor student and member of a campus sorority, as well as a newly-signed recording artist with a national fanbase.

K-Ci and JoJo, said her persona reminds him of an ‘80s star.

“She’s kind of like a modern-day Joan Jet,” Spalter said. “She’s a little rock ‘n’ roll, punky pop-star.”

He said that the sound of her upcoming album will have a realistic theme to it.

“You’re going to hear songs about everyday life, love ... you’re going to hear real stuff from a real artist,” Spalter said.

He said that her biggest attribute is that she can relate to everyone because she is still living an average college lifestyle.

“A really big thing about J. Rose is that she’s still in school, she’s got a 4.5 grade point average; we don’t want her to stop doing her school work,” Spalter said. “She’s

an example to other artists that you don’t have to quit your education to do music, you can do both.”

One thing is certain about J. Rose: the people around her are confident in her success and see big things coming from her in the future.

“The sky is the limit for her ... she can be the next really big pop sensation without question,” Middlebrooks said. “There are a lot of pop artists out there, but she’s a pop commodity.”

For more information on J. Rose about appearances, photos and to hear music visit www.JRose.me.

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FILM REVIEW

Sequel doesn't make the final cut

The second installment of 'The Boondock Saints' disappoints old and new audiences

by David Orlikoff
Film Critic

IN 1999, the gratuitously violent *Boondock Saints* opened in Germany just two years and one border shy of the 1997 Austrian film *Funny Games*, which derides the use of violence. Fast forward to 2008 and director Michael Haneke does a shot-for-shot U.S. remake of his original called *Funny Games*. And now director Troy Duffy is back with *The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day*, which is a remake in its own right.

The screenplay for the sequel is little more than an ad-lib of the original. Two Irish brothers known as The Saints go on a vigilante crusade, sanctioned by the federal government and Catholic Church, to rid Boston of organized crime. Replace the Italian sidekick with a Mexican and Willem Dafoe with Julie Benz—the rest are just pieces of stereotypically ethnic meat to the slaughter. Both have bad editing and worse acting. We're now two films in and it's still impossible to tell the brothers apart.

Still, *Saints II* is not as good as the original. It is both better and worse.

Better because it is a clearer vision from a more experienced Duffy, and worse because it is a clearer vision from a more experienced Duffy.

'The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day'

Starring: Sean Patrick Flanery
Director: Troy Duffy
Run Time: 117 minutes

Rating: R
Now playing at local theaters.



It's astonishing, and more than a little frightening, to see a film place a moral burden on the audience to commit serial homicide. Unlike the elderly couple whom I met crying, "We were misinformed!" on a Jet Boat in New Zealand, most moviegoers probably already know if *Saints II* is the kind of film they will like. With a limited theatrical release, albeit much better than the original—which Duffy blames on Columbine—theaters are likely to be packed with fanboys.

But if a sensible individual should accidentally happen upon this film, they won't be in much better luck than that couple in New Zealand. As the captain put it to them, "You can get off at the bank here and wait for an hour with the poisonous snakes, or you can be quiet while we race through these rapids." At least in the original, conscientious objectors could laugh at the hilariously misguided representation of a homosexual FBI agent. With the sequel, they can only ask for their money back.



AP Exchange

Norman Reedus (left) and Sean Patrick Flanery (right) play the MacManus brothers in *The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day*. In the film they travel to Boston to avenge the death of their priest.

This film makes no attempt to appeal to a wider audience. It's ethnocentric, homophobic, anti-intellectual and juvenile. In one of its worst moments, characters wonder how one man could turn out so evil without reason.

We hear their questions as voice-over while the camera zooms in on the evil man's leg brace. The message is loud and clear: cripples are corrupt.

The violence is creatively stylized, and completely unreal. Perhaps in another 10 years we'll have *Boondock Saints III: Back in Business*, but not before a third remake of

Funny Games by Gus Van Sant. While respectable cinema explores new storylines and ways to tell them, and other action films make their evolving pop culture references, *Funny Games* and *Boondock Saints* are like two 3rd graders screaming back and forth at each other.

Fans of the original will find more of the same in brighter wrapping paper. Everyone else had better steer clear.

Check out Columbiachronicle.com for an interview with Troy Duffy.

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Image: Emory Douglas, poster from *The Black Panther*, May 11, 1969, offset lithograph, Collection of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics, Los Angeles, © Emory Douglas



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Magic turns muggle

Wildcats join numerous colleges in growing fad of Quidditch on campus

by Colin Shively
Arts & Culture Editor

A NEW trend of sports is taking flight at Northwestern University. Like most sports, it has balls, goals and teammates—yet unlike all other traditional sports found at colleges and universities, these games are played on broom sticks, and a little imagination.

Marc Bourgeois, a sophomore at Northwestern, is in the beginning efforts to create a coed Quidditch team at the school where the Residential College Board has already hosted a Quidditch event. Unlike the *Harry Potter* sport where they fly on brooms, this is “Muggle Quidditch,” where instead of flying, they run with brooms between their legs because Muggles are non-magical humans.

“We know it isn’t real Quidditch,” Bourgeois said. “We can’t fly. But it is definitely a lot of fun. I have heard of other colleges around the country creating their own Quidditch team, and I love *Harry Potter*, so I just decided that it would be a cool thing to have.”

Muggle Quidditch is played by the same rules that govern the game in the *Harry Potter* books, with just a few alterations to fit the non-magical elements.

Players must always have one hand on the broom while keeping it between their

legs as they move about the field. Teams are not segregated into titles such as chaser, beater or seeker as in *Harry Potter*, but rather all players are going for the quaffle, which is the ball to score with. The snitch, which in *Harry Potter* is the small, walnut-sized ball that awards 150 points to the team who captures it, is recreated as a player dressed in bright yellow who runs freely around the field, avoiding the seekers.

The game isn’t all about the quaffle and snitch, though. Players on both teams must watch out for the bludgers, which in Muggle Quidditch, are softened rubber balls that are kicked at the player that, at the moment, is holding the quaffle.

“It isn’t a pushover sport,” Bourgeois said. “There is some action in the game and some player-to-player contact. We can bump people while running to steer them off course, but we don’t want any serious injuries.”

The United States is home to the Inter-collegiate Quidditch Association, founded in 2007. With more than 200 colleges and now high schools creating Muggle Quidditch teams, the league has grown exponentially and is always adding new teams.

The International Quidditch Association originally was founded at Middlebury College where Alexander Manshel started a few Quidditch games as an intramural sports league.

In 2007, Alex Benepe became the new Quidditch Commissioner and created the IQA, which expanded beyond the United



Courtesy ALAN WONG

Students at Northwestern University brave the rain and cold on Oct. 29 during a Quidditch tournament that was created by the Residential College Board.

States to include colleges in Canada.

“There is nothing better than seeing more and more colleges want to enter the IQA,” said Benepe. “When we get a request for a team to join the group, we send them the rules and all the steps they have to do. We have had some amazing times with schools meeting up and facing each other.”

The Quidditch team at Northwestern is a separate group from the Residential College Board.

The Residential College Board is an organization that hosted its own event on Oct. 29 where more than 60 students came out and played a modified game of Quidditch,

despite the cold and the rain.

“The Residential College Board represents all of the different colleges at Northwestern,” said Lillian Cheng, executive of the board. “Despite it being horrible weather, kids came out and had a great time. We don’t think we would do this again in the winter, but in the spring it is a definite possibility.”

As Muggle Quidditch becomes more and more popular among college and high school campuses, chances for a national tournament become even more prominent.

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Festival presents an earful of artwork

The Experimental Sound Studio hosts 10th Outer Ear Festival for sonic arts

by Mina Bloom

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THE AVERAGE person doesn't stop to listen to the shuffling noise of shoes on the pavement and the whistling of the wind. Sonic artists involved in the 10th annual Outer Ear Festival of Sound hosted by The Experimental Sound Studio, 5925 N. Ravenswood Ave., are listening and boldly exploring, reorganizing and reinterpreting sound and music as a result.

Sonics artists involved in the festival find themselves inspired by frequencies, electromagnetic fields and sometimes peoples' attempts to sing along with lyrical, renaissance poems.

The musicality of everyday, innocuous sounds will be reinterpreted through works of art ranging from performances and installations to broadcasts in a series of events and exhibits from Nov. 4 through Dec. 13 for the Outer Ear Festival.

The Experimental Sound Studio, a nonprofit organization founded in 1986, has been hosting the festival for the past 10 years to foster a sonic arts community by showcasing their artists in residence, local talent and additional artists from other cities who wish to contribute their work.

Lou Mallozzi was one of four co-founders of The Experimental Sound Studio. Since founding the organization, Mallozzi and those who help run the organization have maintained a focus on the artist-oriented approach to the concept of exploratory sound and music, while continuing to change programs to accommodate new ways of thinking about things, Mallozzi said.

About 23 years ago, Mallozzi said several experimental musicians and sound artists came together to pool their resources, equipment, knowledge and their connections in the community to form the organization. The Experimental Sound Studio offers services to resident artists, as well as providing services to the public, such as the Outer Ear Festival for instance, which began in 2000.

The organization has been offering residences mostly to local artists and a few out-of-town artists in order to facilitate new projects in any medium that deals with sound.

"It's open to experienced artists dealing with sound who might have a career working that way, and also open to artists who might have a sophisticated practice in other mediums, but don't know enough about sound and want to incorporate sound in their art," Mallozzi said.

The Outer Ear Festival is teaming up with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Sound Department to give artists the opportunity to present their work as screenings or performance pieces. They will take place at The Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St., Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St., and the organization's very own studio named the Audible Gallery,

among others.

"It's not like we do a festival that's focused on specifically this or that," Mallozzi said. "It's more about trying to actually select work that represents a real range of approaches, both aesthetically and also historically. I think this year that's the case."

Philadelphia native and School of the Art Institute graduate school alumnus, Brett Ian Balogh began his art career creating paintings and sculptures, but has evolved into using radio as a performance instrument, he said.

He is now an instructor at the School of the Art Institute and a member of free103point9, a New York-based Transmission Arts nonprofit organization.

Balogh's exhibit titled "Chora" is a generative, multi-channel video and sound installation inspired by the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean. Generally, though, Balogh works with radio to explore the social and cultural ramifications of dividing up space with the electromagnetic spectrum, he said.

Currently, Balogh has been working to map pieces that use data from the Federal Communications Commission to make a print series. For a gallery in New York, he designed a red children's wagon with a specially constructed tone arm similar to that of a record player, which would drag on the streets and translate the vibrations from the cracks in the pavement only to broadcast these sounds over FM radio.

"Radio has been an interesting medium [for] me to work with because of the space that it occupies," Balogh said. "It's not about the physical space that we're aware of, but it does create boundaries where a signal is strong in one place, but it sort of ends in another."

Mallozzi approached Balogh, his SAIC advisor at the time, when Balogh was brought on board to showcase his work at the Outer Ear Festival in 2007. This will be Balogh's second year at the Experiment of Sound Studio's annual presentation of the sonic arts.

Jeff Kowalkowski was also invited by Mallozzi to participate in the festival. Kowalkowski, a teacher of music theory and composition for 15 years, holds multiple adjunct faculty positions at DePaul University and Northeastern University.

Kowalkowski said he hasn't stopped composing since he wrote his first compositional piece for vibraphone and piano when he was 15 years old. Now, he considers using all sonic media materials in his work without hierarchy after working as an intern for the Experimental Sound Studio in the late '80s, assisting with many sessions.

"I knew that I would have to be my own engineer if I wanted to get what I was after," Kowalkowski said. "Lou and Dawn Mallozzi inspired me to learn the recording craft and to use [it] socially."

His piece in Outer Ear Festival, "Tremendous Ferntuity," is intended to act as Kowalkowski's "Fern Room," where electronically-processed voice and instrument recordings fill a meditative space.

For dates and times of exhibits and events, visit Exsost.org.

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Admit it, the whole "poor college student" thing is getting old.



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FILM REVIEW

Funny Sandman scores with clever camp

by Cody Prentiss
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

STRANGE. THAT’S the first word that comes to mind after watching *Eye of the Sandman*. The film’s 72 minutes includes a handful of characters, transmutation, eye patches and mad doctors fighting over a newly inherited mansion, all while pulling off a wedding. *The protagonist’s father, Dr. Coppelius*, passed away under mysterious circumstances and Cecilia, his daughter, arrives at the start of the film with her fiancée, Clark, to stake her claim. The house is appropriately spooky, and they soon meet the mysterious Dr. Spalanzani, Cecilia’s father’s old partner. If that set-up sounds familiar, it’s because it is. The film is a reworking of the German short story “*Der Sandmann*” by E.T.A. Hoffman and cribs much of its atmosphere from older Vincent Price horror movies. The movie wears its influences on its sleeve, but tweaks them into something original with its interesting characters and a winning sense of humor.

Dr. Spalanzani meets the engaged couple to stake his claim on the mansion, and appears like a specter who talks with an agreeably menacing timbre. Throughout the film, the director repeatedly inserts Dr. Spalanzani into scenes like a blunt instrument. Characters may be sitting under a tree in a clearly open patch of yard, but Dr. Spalanzani will somehow appear next to them without rustling a single leaf. The effect feels more like a punch line to an unspoken joke rather than a ratcheting up

‘Eye of the Sandman’
Starring: Jeanene Beauregard
Director: Dennis Belogorsky
Run Time: 72 minutes

Rating: NR
Next showing at the Gene Siskel Film Center Nov. 20 at 8:00 p.m.

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of tension. He plays the archetype well and the writer manages to make his character stand out beyond the cliché by giving him a strong dose of humanity. Indeed, the same can be said for the rest of the characters. They’re well-defined with their own issues and oddities, which get addressed through the course of the movie’s brief run-time.

The acting is purposely cheesy (sometimes painfully so), the effects are low-tech, the lighting is dark and the music is sparse. The film charmingly handles its shaggy production, but doesn’t completely get away with some of its more obvious transgressions. It crosses the line from campy to bad at some points. There are not enough of them to ruin the viewing experience, but they become an issue when the movie hits its climax. Watching a carrot being driven into someone’s eye socket sounds like it should be queasily entertaining, but it’s not when the vegetable is obviously nowhere near the ocular cavity.

These faux pas are redeemed, however, with inspired bouts of lunacy. Dr. Spaz’s wig alone will give viewers a good laugh. Other things to look for: Cecilia’s multitude of eye



Courtesy SPLITPILLOW

Star Jeanene Beauregard poses for the film’s poster. *Eye of the Sandman* was shot in 2007 in the historic Peabody Mansion in western Oak Brook and other Chicago locations.

patches, an inspired dance number featuring frequent costume changes, one terribly good flashback and the raw emotion of Dr. Spalanzani’s “son” Olimpio. Olimpio’s dialogue consists mostly of grunts, but he uses them to great effect.

As a whole, *Eye of the Sandman* is a good movie. It can feel a little uneven and veers toward the bad side of campy at times, but the sum of its parts makes it a unique experience. The characters are fully fleshed out, but play to their archetype with a wink and a nod. The dialog is clever and handled with equal doses of melodrama and sincerity. There’s even dancing for musical theater fans who feel left in the cold. Compared to big Hollywood productions with little substance and lots of bang, it stands well. Its eccentricities make the viewing experience memorable, and the story being told is more interesting than most big-budget horror movies.

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CHICAGO AUDIOFILE



Courtesy TZADDI TERRIER

Tzaddi "Selecta-T" Terrier acquired his skills on the Jamaican set, though now he is dabbling in the art of Chicago deejaying.

Special selection

by Katherine Gamby
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THERE ARE many aspects of the music industry that are often underappreciated. One in particular is central to party life and the mixtape business. DJs have been constructing music for decades, but are rarely given credit for their work until recent years. People like DJ Drama, DJ Kay Slay and DJ Skee began taking more active roles in the production of music, as well as popular games like *Guitar Hero*, by adding a DJ segment to the game called *DJ Hero*.

Tzaddi "Selecta-T" Terrier is a Chicago DJ who is scratching his way into Chicago nightlife. Originally from the South Side of Chicago, Terrier keeps busy nearly seven days a week with an increasingly booked schedule. Among his extracurricular activities are his recording company, D.O.V.E. Inc., DJ gigs and he spins on an international Web radio broadcast on Club Empire Radio on Fridays and Saturdays.

Terrier, who attended Columbia last year, was raised in Jamaica and draws his deejaying techniques from his Jamaican roots. He is now becoming more involved in American-style deejaying, which consists of scratching, mash-ups and remixes, whereas in Jamaica, a DJ's skills are judged by how fast music is selected and what will keep the intensity of the party.

The Chronicle sat down with Terrier to talk about his start as a DJ and his experiences.

The Chronicle: When did you start to deejay?

Tzaddi Terrier: Officially, I would say that I was a DJ at 14, but I started doing it as a hobby at 7. When I was 7, I got this tape. It was a Jamaican DJ. His set was taped and from then, I just fell in love. I started getting gigs when I was 14, just throwing parties with my friends and making money. From there, my stepfather saw and invested his time and money into taking it to a higher level. He got me into 21 and above clubs.

The Chronicle: How did you come up with your name?

TT: I don't go by DJ this or DJ that, it's Selecta-T, it's a Jamaican thing. In Jamaica

a DJ is a disc jockey. It's an ego thing with them—it's hard to explain. But there's an emcee that talks and there's a selector that selects music because in Jamaica scratching, mash-ups and remixes are not that big. In Jamaica, they don't call it DJ because that's somebody that raps, like Sean Paul, he's a DJ in Jamaica. My step-father called me Selecta-T and I took it from there.

The Chronicle: What was the worst experience you have had as a DJ?

TT: When my speakers caught on fire. I was doing this community thing where they play cricket up north. I was deejaying and it was like 105 degrees, the hottest day of the year. I guess I had an amplifier that was overpowering the speaker in the heat, they were like, "Your speaker is on fire!"

The Chronicle: Would you say spinning is like an addiction?

TT: Yeah, because you feed off of the crowd, when they're having a good time, you start moving, selecting.

The Chronicle: What's the hardest part about being a DJ?

TT: The hardest part is the starting of the party, for me at least. It's like, what do you play? I mean, do you play the hottest stuff or play some nice, cool stuff that's already been out? The process of knowing what to play and when to play, it is like a freestyle thing. Back in the day, me and my friends used to do this thing at school where, for every situation, we would come up with a song for it like I just got dumped, "I just lost a whole bunch of money or that car just went down the street." My mom used to say, "Would you guys shut up?" But by doing that, you know what to play and when to play it. If you know music and love it, you'll know what to do.

Selecta-T will be deejaying at Purdue University on Nov. 20. He can also be heard at ReggaeEmpireRadio.com on Fridays from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. More information on Tzaddi Terrier can be found on Facebook.com.

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TOP 5



Spencer Roush, Assistant Metro Editor

People I want to meet

Dale Chihuly: No one can be taken seriously with an eye patch and a frizzy afro except for Chihuly. His glass structures blow my mind, (no pun intended) so he can wear anything he wants and it's acceptable. In fact, his pirate-like façade makes me like his work even more.

Wolf Blitzer: I would meet Blitzer just to tell him how much I enjoyed his rendition of the scene from *Star Wars* when Princess Leia says, "Help me, Obi-wan Kenobi. You're my only hope." During the day-long coverage of the 2008 presidential election, Blitzer was wooing us all with his sparkling personality and weird futuristic interview with Jessica Yellin by talking to a hologram of her distorted body.

Nick Carter: Every girl growing up in the '90s would probably want to meet a Backstreet Boy. Since their break-up and repeated attempts at a comeback, I've still had a thing for the blond-haired, blue-eyed singer. In fact, I shamelessly still listen to the Backstreet Boys on my iPod.

Brad Pitt: Meeting Brad Pitt would have been a dream several years ago, but now I just want to meet him, kick him in the shins and run. I'd tell him dumping Jennifer Aniston for Angelina Jolie was silly and he made a mistake. Now, Aniston is posing almost completely naked with nothing but a tie on the cover of *GQ*, showing everyone what he's missing. Plus Jolie's ex is Billy Bob Thornton, who is utterly disgusting.

Johnny Depp: Nuff said.



Colin Shively, Arts & Culture Editor

Reasons why I've had multiple iPhones

The first iPhone: I got my first iPhone 3G in October 2008 and it lasted me a good six months before I accidentally killed it. After many drinks, I started running in the streets when my iPhone flew from my pocket. The impact caused it to emit weird sounds. Thankfully, the genius at Apple thought it was a software problem with the speakers and replaced it at no cost.

The second iPhone: My second iPhone lasted until September of this year, when I noticed that neither downloaded nor native apps would work. They would close instantly. Apple's official diagnostic was that my old computer corrupted my phone. Replaced, at no charge to me.

The third iPhone: It was Halloween and I, of course, celebrated with multiple glasses of alcohol. At about 3 a.m. on Sunday, my phone suffered a catastrophic power failure and would not turn back on. To my defense, Apple geniuses said it was not my fault and gave me a new one, for free again.

The fourth iPhone: I still have my fourth iPhone 3G, but hopefully by print time I will have replaced it. The phone I received after my third iPhone has a faulty microphone where it will last about four minutes into a phone conversation and then cut out. Just my luck.

The fifth iPhone: I have no doubt in my mind that I will most likely have to return this one as well. I seem to have a curse with iPhones. I wonder if there is a limit on the amount of returns I can do.



Patrick Smith, Assistant Metro Editor

Worst movies of the decade

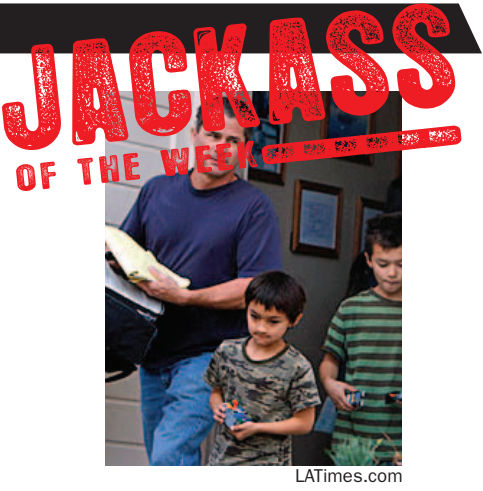
Crash: If a movie stars both Brendan Fraser and Sandra Bullock, then it is probably terrible. *Crash* is exactly that. This film's supposed insights are so generic and ludicrous, it's offensive. I don't doubt that everyone has some subconscious prejudices that affect their judgment, I just don't think that everyone is a snarling racist who immediately starts shouting racial slurs after a fender bender.

Tropic Thunder: A group of rich, over exposed Hollywood actors is probably not the best team to helm a movie lampooning Hollywood excess. Being boring, unfocused and unfunny are *Thunder's* biggest sins, and the cheesy self-serving quality of every star's performance are what makes the movie unbearable.

300: The homoerotic quality of this film might be fun if the movie wasn't so intensely homophobic. What that equation amounts to is a frat boy's sexual politics. A love of touching men and an obsession with the male muscular form, but hatred and fear directed toward anyone who has the courage to come out of the closet.

Rambo (2008): Sorry Sly, tying your film to real political problems and ideology does you no favors and is actually quite offensive. Especially when your message seems to be, "The world is a bad place; we could make it better by killing as many people as possible."

Munich: Boring, boring and boring. It is not OK to make your movie about a current political and human rights crisis and pretend to not take a stance. I don't care what everyone else seems to think, this is an awful film.



Guilty with a side of deportation

We have called the parents of the Balloon Boy jackasses before. But now, the truth comes out and the real one is the father, Richard Heene, who on Nov. 13, pleaded guilty to felony charges of attempting to influence a public servant. The mother, Mayumi Heene, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges of reporting false information to authorities.

According to *People* magazine, Richard was booked and released on a \$5,000 bond. Apart from using his son as a tool to get media attention, the topic this time is his wife, and the danger he put her in.

Mayumi is a Japanese citizen and according to federal law, any number of misdemeanors or a felony is reason for a deportation order on foreign citizens, despite being married and a mother to American citizens.

Did you not see that one coming Richard? Because of the little stunt you contrived, you risk having the mother of your children deported from the United States. Not only is this a despicable situation to put on your wife's shoulders, but think of the emotional impact that this could cause on your sons.

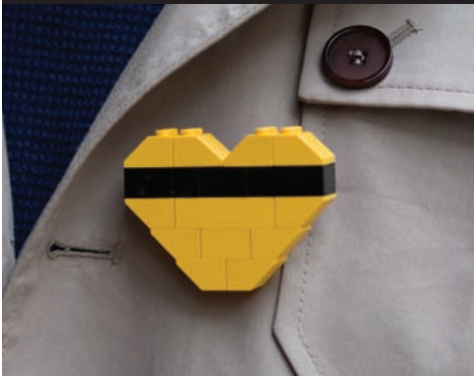
Although attorney David Lane does not believe there will be jail time for Richard when convicted, the court should seriously consider his parenting skills. Richard Heene, you are a horrible father. We said it once and we will say it again, you are a jackass of the grandest kind.

—C. Shively



Kevin Schwarz, an arts, entertainment and media management major, is fashionable in *GQ*-inspired attire via specialty boutiques and high-end stores like Marc Jacobs.

Oriana Riley THE CHRONICLE



by Katherine Gamby
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Kevin Schwarz, a junior arts, entertainment and media management major, has a wardrobe that consists of what he finds in men's fashion magazines as well as exclusive boutiques.

"I commonly follow *GQ* just to keep an update on the new haves, but I kind of have some big brother influences [from] RSVP Gallery in Bucktown," Schwarz said.

He said he is a fan of Don C., Kanye West's road manager, who has a collection available at RSVP Gallery. Schwarz said the overall vibe is what draws him to the Wicker Park boutique. He said that he never dresses down because of a quote that he tries to

personify.

"I follow the quote, 'Don't dress for the job you have, dress for the job you want,'" Schwarz said. "I live by that."

Along with the quote, he is also influenced by the weather—the colder months being his favorite time of the year—and pride in his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio.

"I think the general Midwest style is unlike anywhere else you go, especially in Cleveland," Schwarz said. "We don't try to be New York or Los Angeles, we're just the Midwest."

Aside from boutiques where he shops for specialty items like his featured Dee and Ricky Lego pin, he also buys from high-end stores like Marc Jacobs and Zara. His favorite fashion accessory is a bowtie.

"I wear bowties all the time," Schwarz said. "My dad taught me how to tie a bowtie and I've been doing it ever since. It's just one of those things that really makes me stand out—everyone can wear a tie, but not everyone can wear a bowtie."

Trends that he is embracing for the fall season are from a more polished and clean-cut genre.

"For pants, I'm big on the corduroys, because it feels like a jean, but it's warmer than a jean, so that's nice," Schwarz said. "And the peacoats have been in for a while, so I'm trying to get back on trenches."

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REVIEWS



SIIIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD



WORTH A GIGGLE



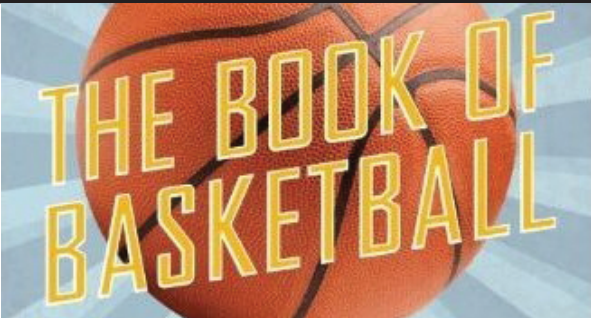
HAPPY DANCE!

PRINT



DEAD AND GONE BY CHARLAINE HARRIS

The Sookie Stackhouse series is about vampire tales that were transformed into an HBO TV show, “True Blood.” It’s also known as the series that had ideas ripped off and used in “Twilight.” However, this series is still unique with different types of characters that are much more enticing than the teen books. —*S. Roush*



THE BOOK OF BASKETBALL BY BILL SIMMONS

ESPN.com columnist Bill Simmons wrote this 700-page tome about the history and present of basketball. Just like in his columns, Simmons’ never-grew-up sense of humor can be grating, and his penchant for digression a little exasperating. But his interest in the topic is apparent, and I love basketball, so this book is all right by me. —*P. Smith*



HOW I BECAME A FAMOUS NOVELIST BY STEVE HELY

In an attempt to get famous and embarrass his ex-girlfriend at her wedding, Pete Tarslaw pens *The Tornado Ashes Club*, a sappy novel designed to make lonely housewives weep. He achieves success, but has to deal with the sleazy world of publishing and lunatic authors. This book is a hilarious break from required class reading. —*D. LaCoco*



MOVIES / TV / DVD



“REAL WORLD-ROAD RULES CHALLENGE: THE RUINS”

Holy bad television, this show is like watching a human train wreck. Everyone is either drunk, having sex or fighting in every episode—and I can’t get enough. My Wednesday nights aren’t complete unless I get my fix of this show. —*J. Graveline*



“DEGRASSI: THE NEXT GENERATION”

So far, this season is getting close to real. Season 9 has had crystal meth addiction, sexting, urine-filled water balloons and herpes. And it gets better: this season’s new (and currently closed) gay character doesn’t fit the stereotype, as in he’s a jock with serious anger management issues. Too bad the acting is just like the plastic cheese at the movie theater —*K. Obomanu*



“TOOL ACADEMY” FINALE

T-Shaw the Dancin’ Tool swept through the final round of “Tool Academy,” which culminated in a confetti-drenched proposal to his girlfriend Nicole. It was a satisfying ending, but pales in comparison to the epic Jersey wedding finale from last season. I’m hoping for a reunion show and pretty pumped for “Tough Love” to take over VH1’s Sunday evening trash TV hour. —*D. LaCoco*



MUSIC



WITHIN TEMPTATION: AN ACOUSTIC NIGHT AT THE THEATRE

Dutch symphonic Metal band, Within Temptation, takes their top hits, which include “What Have You Done” and “All I Need” to a live acoustic setting. Their new album explores an intimate yet raw venture in their most popular songs. The only problem I have with it is that it’s not yet released in the United States. For now, it’s a tease for American fans. —*C. Aguirre*



NORAH JONES: THE FALL

Jones ditches the usual plaintive melodies and replaces them with more adventurous, frisky tunes accompanied by country-tinged guitar clangs, choppy rhythm and undulating electro-tics in her album, *The Fall*. Although I prefer her jazz-based tunes she is best known for, I like that she has expanded her musical boundaries and is showing fans a new side of herself lacking in her past four albums. —*L. Nalin*



LITTLE DRAGON @ THE DOUBLE DOOR FOR FREE

There is nothing I love more than free things—especially free concerts. Seems like the Double Door was reading my mind when they chose the Swedish soultronica outfit, Little Dragon, to headline their 15th anniversary celebration. The band performed hits from their self-titled album, as well as their newest release, *Machine Dreams*. —*O. Riley*



RANDOM



HUGS

Hugs are by far the best way to brighten someone’s day. I haven’t gotten a hug in almost five months and when my Editor-in-Chief gave me a hug, it was the best thing popping since sliced bread! You never know how much you miss hugs until someone gives you one, and it brightens your day. Armageddon could be right around the corner, but hey, you just received a hug; the end of days can’t be that bad, right? —*M. Gordon*



FALL SEASONALS

Autumn is by far the best season for beer drinking. The hoppy, bitter ales produced after the harvest season are a nice relief from the sweet, wheat beers that rule the summer months, and they never fail to disappoint. My personal favorites are New Belgium’s Hoptober and Goose Island’s Harvest Ale, not to mention the endless varieties of pumpkin ale and hard cider... mmm... —*L. Kelly*



PRODUCTION DAY

Yeah, so I have to go to bed early on Thursday night to wake up for work at nine in the morning and sometimes we’re in the office until 1 a.m., which means my Friday nights are nonexistent. You have to take into account how ridiculously fun Fridays at The Chronicle can be, though. Family-style lunches, random bursts of silliness and cracking jokes with (or about) one another. —*O. Riley*



Editorials

Honors program unnecessary

AT THE latest College Council meeting on Nov. 6, faculty members discussed the possibility of implementing an honors program at Columbia. The program would be available for any qualified student who wishes to be more intellectually or creatively challenged.

According to the proposal, goals of having such a program include providing students with greater educational challenges, preparing them for graduate school, increasing opportunities for faculty development and enhancing the profile of the college.

This editorial board does not feel an honors program is needed at Columbia. It seems that the main reason the college wants to start an honors program is to improve the image of the college. Many people don't think of Columbia as a challenging institution, and implementing this system may make people think better of Columbia's academics. This could be achieved the same way if the college works to improve the already existing curriculum, which makes an honors program unnecessary.

Strengthening the current curriculum as a whole would improve academics from the bottom up. There are already 2000-level and above courses, which are expected to

be more difficult than introductory level courses. Each student is required to take two of these for an LAS requirement to graduate. For students looking to be challenged, they could take more than the required amount of these courses.

The proposal states that qualified students entering Columbia as freshman or transfer students may declare their intentions to enter the program, and they will be approved or denied pending review. But if Columbia does decide to initiate an honors program, it should be open to juniors and seniors only.

A high school GPA, which is a factor in deciding who gets into the honors program, does not demonstrate the creative potential of an art student, and it should not be the main basis in determining eligibility. Artistic value shouldn't be judged through a transcript. Every department would have control over honors courses, which is good for departments like Art and Design and Music, because those are subjective mediums.

For these reasons, an honors program isn't a smart move and could create an unnecessary segregation among Columbia students. It's not a good overall choice for the college.

New studio could benefit students

A LARGE, Toronto-based film company, Cinespace Studios, recently purchased property in Pilsen, on Chicago's near South Side, with plans to create an immense studio complex, according to a Nov. 2 Chicago Sun-Times article. To be called the Chicago Film Studios, it will produce both movies and television shows. The Illinois State Senate endorsed a \$5 million grant for the project, which also has the support of City Hall and various labor unions. The studios will start to be renovated as early as January, according to the chairman of Cinespace.

The studios, located near 16th Street and Western Avenue, will benefit the city as a whole by creating jobs in construction and carpentry during the renovation of the nine buildings. There will also be job openings during the construction of each film set. Once finished, the complex may have openings that will benefit Columbia students and alumni.

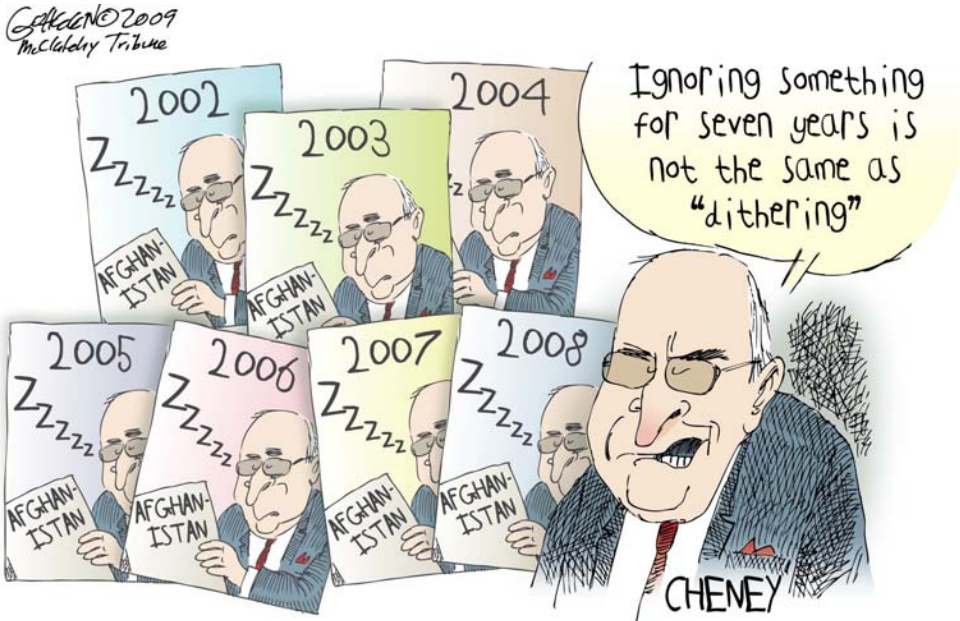
Chicago is already known for its contribution to the video arts, and many movies and television shows are filmed here, iconic examples being *The Blues Brothers* and *The Dark Knight*. Chicago is a

great backdrop for filming due to its varying landscape and diverse neighborhoods. With Chicago's reputation in the media arts, it makes sense for a large studio to operate here.

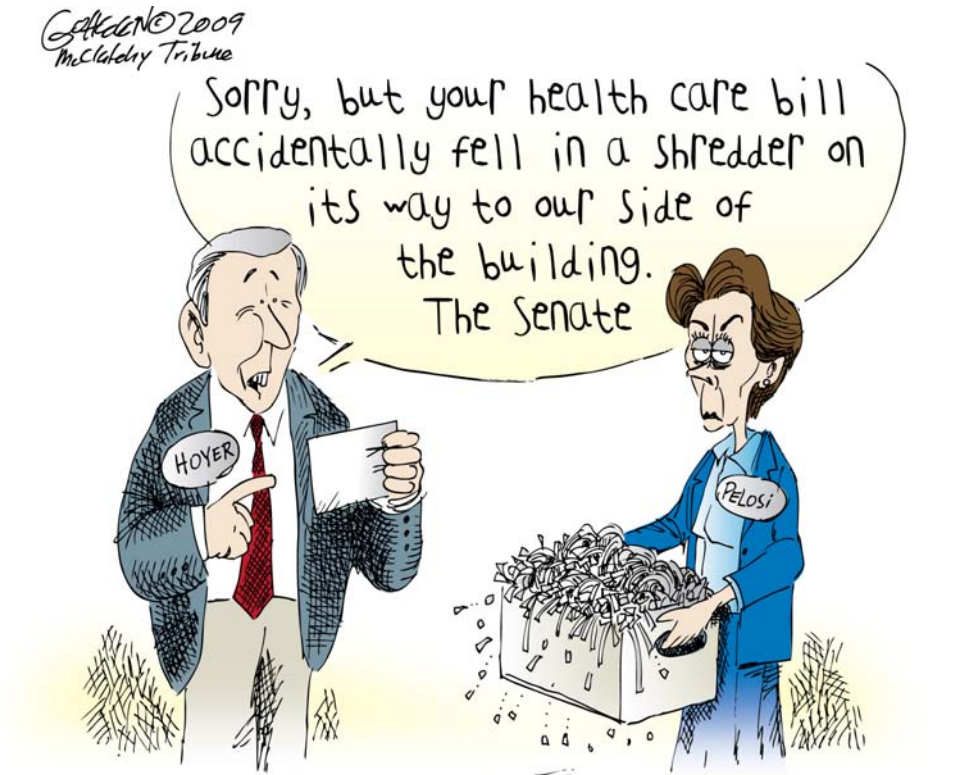
Because the Film & Video Department is the largest at Columbia, the college should look into forming a partnership or collaborating with Cinespace to create internships and ways for students to get their foot in the door of the industry. If it were taken advantage of, this would be an invaluable link for the department.

Having a large film production studio would be a huge advantage for Columbia students looking to work in video arts because it will be a few miles away from campus. Also, this presence and reputation could be a selling point for the college and ultimately attract more new students to the college, at a time when new student enrollment is down.

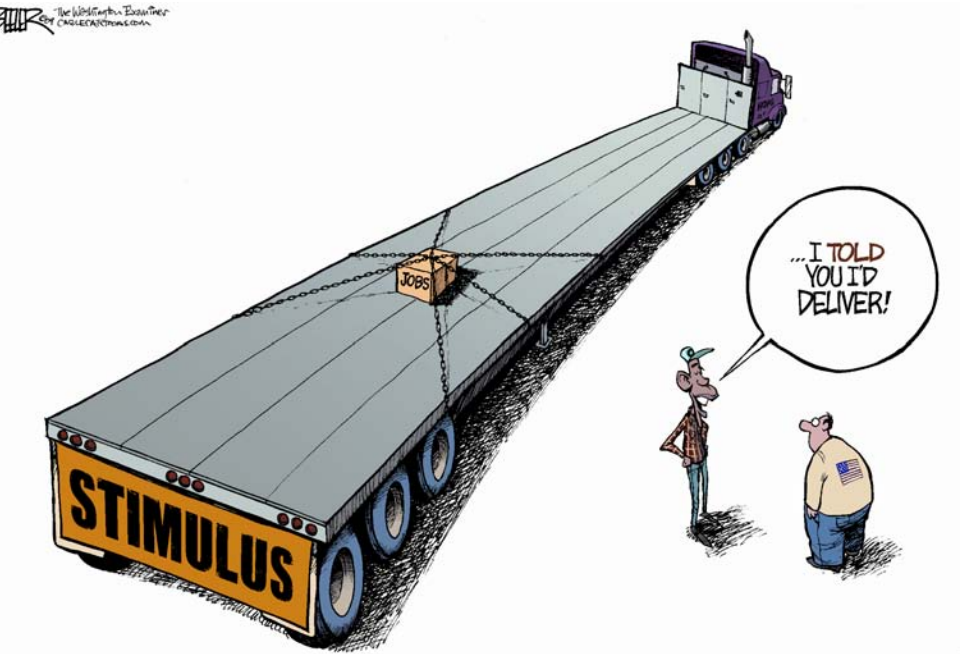
As previously stated by The Chronicle Editorial Board on Sept. 8, large arts complexes near campus benefit Columbia students, emerging artists and the larger community.



MCT Campus



MCT Campus



MCT Campus

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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

To survive elections, GOP should consider lobotomy



“For the GOP to vote a candidate into office, Conservatives and Republicans have to find a platform they can all stand on together.”

by **Cody Prentiss**
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THE REPUBLICAN Party is an elephant with two brains. To the far right of the political spectrum, conservatives think with one brain while the small-government moderates use the GOP’s other. With the 2010 elections on Nov. 2, the party will have to figure out which one to listen to if they want to win at the polls.

Moderate Republican Dede Scozzafava dropped out of the race for a New York Congressional seat after losing support from her party. Both former Alaskan Gov. Sarah Palin and Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty backed the more conservative Doug Hoffman. The split isn’t a good sign for the GOP. If the party can’t decide what

they stand for, they can’t expect to win upcoming elections. A fractured party means a fractured vote.

According to a Sienna Research Institute poll conducted on Oct. 29, Scozzafava was actually beating Hoffman by a percentage point. After Palin gave her endorsement to Hoffman, Scozzafava’s approval dropped to 20 percent. Virginia, which President Barack Obama won in the 2008 presidential election, voted a Republican governor, Bob McDonnell, into office. McDonnell said he’s both a Conservative and Republican and promised he would not participate in a government-run health plan. Of those people who voted, 59 percent said the health plan would be bad for their state.

From a historical perspective, the shift to the right has precedent. Think of all the hatred that former President George W. Bush managed to develop during his eight years as president—Democrats arguably won in many states following his tenure because of Bush’s low approval rating. According to a New York Times article released on Jan. 16, he left office with a 22 percent approval rating. Obama’s campaign was based on hope and change because many people thought Bush was

dragging the U.S. into the dark ages—someone even threw a shoe at the man.

Republicans and Conservatives are going to react the same way as Democrats when their beliefs are challenged. Outrage is outrage, no matter which political alignment it comes from. No one will really move to Canada when their candidate loses—especially Republicans. Canada has free health care. They’ll just seethe for the next four or eight years like Democrats did during Bush’s eight years in office.

All jokes aside, a significant portion of the U.S. population call themselves either a Republican or a Conservative, but not all Republicans call themselves Conservative. For the GOP to vote a candidate into office, Conservatives and Republicans have to find a platform they can all stand on together.

The problem, however, is that the terms don’t necessarily go hand-in-hand. Republicans are supposed to be the party of less government, but that ideal seems to have shifted with Bush’s eight years as president. Creating more intrusive surveillance, increasing the country’s budget deficit and trying to force a marriage amendment into our Constitution isn’t small government. Yet, he was picked again in

the primary elections to represent Republican ideals and was voted president for a second term.

The Republican Party can’t ignore their angry base, which puts them at a crossroads. Hanging too far to the right would alienate moderates, but taking a moderate stance on social issues like gay marriage and abortion will push away Conservatives. According to a Gallup poll released on Nov. 11, 52 percent of registered voters said they would prefer a Republican congressional candidate, compared to the 30 percent who prefer a Democratic candidate.

The election for the seats in the House of Representatives is still about a year away, so that number will most likely change. Whether it goes up or down depends on how elected officials handle their jobs, including Obama.

The era of hope and change hasn’t rewritten the rules of politics. The strength of any party depends on the ineptitude of the opposing party. If the GOP doesn’t react as one party, they’ll lose the ability to harness any opposition sparked by the governing power. They have to pick a brain.

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ROAMIN’ NUMERALS

10 People who were killed by Washington, D.C.-area sniper John Allen Muhammad in 2002, according to CNN. Muhammad was executed by chemical injection on Nov. 10 in a Virginia correctional facility.

2 Weeks both the Chicago Blackhawks and Bulls will be on the road because the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus is coming to the United Center. Both teams return to Chicago the week of Nov. 30, according to the teams’ official schedules. At press time, the Blackhawks had won 10 of their 15 games this season, while the Bulls had won four of their eight.

740 Pounds of food that was harvested from the White House’s vegetable garden, according to first lady Michelle Obama. The vegetables, which cost \$180 to plant, will be cooked in the White House kitchen and some will be donated to a Washington, D.C. soup kitchen.

41 Percentage of likely voters who said they believe Democrats will lose seats in Congress in the 2010 elections, but hold the majority in both houses, according to a Nov. 11 Zogby International poll. Only 5 percent of those polled believe Republicans will lose seats.

Because of ongoing budget woes, Windy City starting to blow



“Between tax hikes, public service cuts and the ever-problematic CTA, reasons to be proud of Chicago are dwindling.”

by **Lauren Kelly**
Commentary Editor

CHICAGO IS an amazing city, known for its iconic skyline, diverse neighborhoods and rich history. Its contributions to music, the arts, commerce and industry are unquestionable. I have a lot of personal history here and I’ve always relished in calling myself a Chicagoan.

This city is wonderful, but recently it is becoming harder and harder to love living here. Between tax hikes, public service cuts and the ever-problematic CTA, reasons to be proud of Chicago are dwindling. In recent months, I’ve seriously considered moving

to Seattle or Portland and never looking back. If we had won the 2016 Olympic Bid, I would’ve booked a plane ticket, no questions asked.

Chicago has some major problems, both financially and socially, and the recently approved 2010 city budget reflects these.

The way city officials are handling finances and public services is appalling. Sales tax in Chicago is currently 10.25 percent, the highest in the nation. The CTA will be providing less service on many major bus routes starting in January due to a \$300 million budget shortfall. After privatizing the parking meters against public support, Mayor Richard M. Daley is reportedly tapping into the money gained by leasing the meters that was expected to last for the next 75 years. The city’s existing recycling program is being scaled back and will not expand to residents who don’t currently have curbside recycling.

Many city events are also on the chopping block as the budget shrinks. Free city-sponsored events such as Venetian Night, Movies in the Park and possibly

free festivals like the Chicago Jazz Festival and Blues Festival may be extinct next year, according to Daley. As more things are sacrificed, the city loses its vibrant culture.

By cutting city services and cultural events, the mayor said he hopes to bypass tax increases.

“With so many people struggling, this isn’t the time to ask them to pay more,” Daley said when proposing the 2010 budget on Oct. 21.

Although people are not paying more in taxes, they are paying by sacrificing amazing events and celebrations. The situation is similar to poorly-funded schools cutting art and music programs before anything else. It’s not beneficial in the long run.

Without these important city services and cultural events, Chicago will become just another city in the Midwest. I am well aware that corruption in Chicago politics is in the veins of City Hall, but the recent handling of city affairs is beyond disgusting.

It takes a lot for me to say this. I was born at Michael Reese Hospital on the

South Side and I have never lived far from city limits. My father is as South Side as they come. I have countless memories at free city festivals and I have been to every 3rd of July fireworks celebration at the Taste of Chicago since my birth. For the past three years or so, I have celebrated my birthday at the Blues Festival in early June. I was one of the thousands of people who thought their lives were complete when the city announced it would show the movie *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off* in Grant Park. I know too much about the street grid and the dirty history of Prohibition-era gangs for anyone’s own good.

I love this city, but am pained to see it melt beyond recognition before my eyes.

The budget shortfall in Chicago is a large issue to deal with and it can’t be solved instantly. I’m not an expert on state budgets and taxes, but I think there must be another way to generate revenue that won’t hurt the residents of Chicago in such a big way.

lkelly@chroniclemail.com

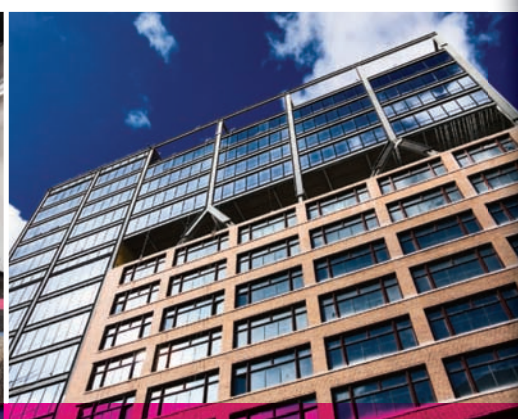
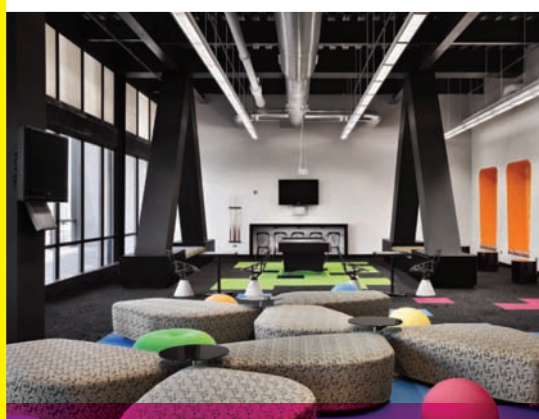
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Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

Columbia instructor Joe Laiacona stands in front of Columbia's 33 E. Congress Parkway building. Laiacona is running for state representative as a Democrat.

Columbia teacher runs for office

Part-time faculty member may run in Democratic primary unopposed

by Patrick Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

COLUMBIA INSTRUCTOR Joe Laiacona may be running unopposed for state representative in the upcoming Democratic primary thanks to a filing his lawyer made last week.

Laiacona's Nov. 9 objection to the nomination papers of incumbent Deb Mell will make the legislator ineligible to run for the Democratic Party's nomination if his objection is sustained by the Illinois State Board of Elections.

Mell is not registered to vote at 2656 W. Melrose Ave. in Chicago, the address she listed in the nomination papers she filed with the Illinois State Board of Elections on Oct. 24. According to Laiacona and his attorney, Richard K. Means, that discrepancy makes Mell's nomination papers invalid and makes her ineligible to participate in the upcoming Democratic primary.

The primary will take place on Feb. 2, 2010, in anticipation of the November 2010 general election.

"We believe it is very likely to succeed," Means said of the objection. "There have

been many, many cases in Illinois and particularly in the Chicago area, where candidates have made this very rookie mistake [and that has made them ineligible]. It's just very unusual to find an incumbent from a powerful political organization who makes this kind of rookie mistake."

Mell is the sister-in-law of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich and the daughter of Chicago Ald. Richard Mell (33rd Ward).

Means said that Mell's political connect-edness made her arrogant and careless.

"It's arrogance and arrogance tends to breed inattention," Means said. "And in this case, I'm sure that the candidate felt very secure in her position, and she didn't do the normal things that candidates do to be sure all of their papers are in order."

Ken Menzel, a member of the legal counsel for the Illinois State Board of Elections, said that he could not give an opinion on an issue before the board, but said that as part of the "statement of candidacy" potential candidates must state that they are registered to vote at their address on the form.

"[Objections on] this particular ground are fairly uncommon," Menzel said. "Most candidates make sure that they're registered at the address that they're actually living at ... if for no other reason than to avoid an objection."

Laiacona said that he is confident that his objection will be successful.

"It's not a slam dunk, it has to go through the appeal process and certainly the Mell family has the legal resources to take it all the way to the Circuit Court," Laiacona said. "But we have it on very good reliance that she was not registered and that she needs to be. And I believe I'll prevail. Ignorance of the law is no defense."

But Menzel said that even if Laiacona's objection does succeed, this will not necessarily be the end of the line for Mell.

"She can still run as a write-in in the Democratic primary, which is hard to do against people who are on the ballot, but that would still be an option for her," Menzel said. "She would have the option of running as an independent or third-party candidate in the general election. So even if the objection is sustained and she is removed from the ballot for the Democratic primary, she would have a couple of options to carry on."

Mell did not respond to requests for comment from The Chronicle.

Laiacona and Mell are both vying to represent the 40th district in the Illinois House of Representatives. The district is on the Northwest side of Chicago; its center

» SEE PRIMARY, PG. 36

Daley pedals to hall of fame

More people commuting by biking, walking in Chicago due to economy

by Spencer Roush
Assistant Metro Editor

MAYOR RICHARD M. Daley has been inducted into the Active Transportation Alliance Hall of Fame after 10 years of being a member of the organization, for his efforts in providing safety for bike riders and pedestrians.

On Nov. 9, members of the alliance, which was formerly known as the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, filled Columbia's Film Row Cinema in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., for their annual meeting to honor members and to celebrate their one-year anniversary of their name change and organization's focus.

Last year, the Active Transportation Alliance expanded its mission to include advocating for pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders. The alliance also works closely with city government to develop new programs such as Open Streets, a day when streets are closed off to cars. The alliance also advocates for new legislation to ensure commuters' safety.

"We've been pushing really hard for [Illinois House Bill 43] and it looks like it will probably pass in the next few months," said Margot O'Hara, director of communications for the alliance. "Right now, drivers are supposed to yield to pedestrians, which is extremely vague and really difficult to enforce because it's so subjective."

O'Hara said they are now working hard to advocate for connecting bike paths and also for passing House Bill 43. This bill would make drivers have to legally stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.

Daley was honored and received two standing ovations because of his advocacy of new bike ordinances, his campaign for the 2015 bike plan and his promise to expand the popular event Open Streets each year.

While introducing Daley, Rob Sadowsky, executive director of the alliance, said, "When you have this mayor behind a campaign, things get done."

Damian Moran, a junior sports management major at Columbia, said he thinks Daley has done a considerable amount of work to be inducted into their Hall of Fame. However, he said Daley should work harder to advocate for transit users.

During Daley's acceptance speech, he said biking is important to the city because it creates a sense of community.

Harry Wray, a DePaul University political science professor and keynote speaker at the event, said Americans are going through a cultural change because of the economic crisis and heightened awareness of the environment. These elements are encouraging people to take alternate transportation, such as biking or walking.

"One percent of trips in Chicago are taken by bicycle," Wray said.

Wray, who also wrote *Pedal Power: The Quiet Rise of the Bicycle in American Public Life*, said driving cars has created a sense of hyper-individualism that is separating

» SEE BIKING, PG. 36

FORECAST

MONDAY	MON. NIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Times of clouds and sun	Partly cloudy	Mostly cloudy	Rather cloudy	Times of clouds and sun	Periods of rain	A shower in the afternoon	Rain
High 50	Low 34	High 54 Low 36	High 55 Low 39	High 51 Low 37	High 48 Low 38	High 52 Low 32	High 48 Low 33

Summer fun may fizzle

Venetian Night, Outdoor Film Festival among events slated for potential elimination

by Stephanie Saviola
Contributing Writer

IN RECENT weeks, governmental budget woes have been all the buzz in this anything-but-booming economy. Mayor Richard M. Daley’s announcement of the city’s upcoming spending cuts might have some of the city’s festival and concert attendees frowning.

Daley revealed his budget plans for next year to the City Council on Oct. 21. The mayor proposed a \$114 million reduction in spending, in response to the city’s current \$550 million budget deficit.

The budget cuts came as no surprise to many in the Chicago area. “These are things that need to be done to keep the city alive and functioning,” said Bonnie Sanchez Carlson, director of the Near South Planning Board.

Daley claims that he will not raise taxes,



Courtesy CITY OF CHICAGO

Revelers enjoy last year’s Venetian Night. The popular summer festival, which showcases decorated boats and fireworks, will be cancelled next year due to budget restrictions.

fees or fines for Chicago residents. He says he plans to do this by borrowing money from the reserves created by the controversial parking meter deal. Cuts will also be spread throughout all departments in the city, the mayor said. For example, the city’s curb side recycling program is expected to have its bimonthly pick-ups reduced to every three weeks. The tourism budget is also expected to take a hit, but the festivals are at the top of the list for cuts.

Next year, five annual festivals will likely not happen, including Venetian Night, with its Lake Michigan boat parade. Also slated for demise are the Chicago Outdoor Film Festival, Chicago Criterium bicycle races, Great Chicago Places and Spaces, and the Mayor’s Cup Youth Soccer Tournament.

“[Venetian Night] has large production expenses,” said Cindy Gatziolis, a spokeswoman for the mayor’s Special Event’s Office. “It’s a tremendous amount of cost without much revenue.”

Venetian Night was created 52 years ago by former Mayor Richard J. Daley.

Over the years, sponsorship has been slowly dwindling, according to Gatziolis.

The Outdoor Chicago Film Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary this past summer. The festival was held at Grant Park’s Butler Field. Every Tuesday during the summer, the park would show free, classic movies at sunset.

Gatziolis said that if there are private organizations or a corporation that want to sponsor an event, the office will listen to

ideas and take them into consideration. She also mentioned that nothing is finalized as far as next year’s plans.

Chicago’s longest running lake front music festival, the Jazz Festival, is expected to be cut back from three days to two. The free music festival has been a tradition for many residents over the years. Last year, the festival was cut from four days to three.

“The weekend brings out the best of Chicago’s music scene; it’s very important to this city,” said Jade Lagestee-Biesboer, a sophomore journalism major at Columbia. “A lot of people look forward to the fest and it’s just sad to know that it might be cut back again.”

Meanwhile, Chicago’s Country Music Festival, Celtic Festival and Viva Latin may be relocated from Grant Park to Millennium Park. The change of venue is to save money on portable toilets and to prevent shutting down the streets for the festivals.

While some may feel the arts are often put on the back burner in tough times, the Department of Cultural Affairs paints a different picture.

“I think there is a misconception that the arts are seen as not important but the truth is, we have an incredible amount of support from the government in this city,” said Kimberly Costello, assistant commissioner of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Costello noted that every department in the city is being hit with staff reductions and budget cuts.

“We hold normally about 2,000 events, so it is not as noticeable if we make a few cuts in our department,” Costello said.

The City Council plans to vote on the proposed budget cuts on Dec. 2.

chronicle@colum.edu

» TOXIC

Continued from PG. 1

Forbes used the EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory of about 650 chemicals that manufacturing, mining, electric utilities and hazardous waste treatment release into the air, and the EPA’s air quality index was the basis for its study.

The rankings were based on the number of facilities releasing toxins in an area, the number of days per year a city’s air pollution was above healthy levels, the number of times the EPA has responded to complaints and the total amount, in pounds, of toxic releases.

Chicago also ranked second worst in terms of air quality, making it the only metro area ranked in the top five for toxicity and poor air quality.

According to an EPA study assessing the dangers of air quality made public on the Chicago Tribune’s Web site in September, Cook County ranks worst in the nation for dangerous air pollution.

Industry leaders don’t think the ranking accurately reflects the progress the area has made in air quality and pollution. However, environmental activists don’t think the study goes far enough in its condemnation.”

While EPA Press Officer Latisha Pette-way said that the data used in Forbes’ study are pretty accurate, she stressed that the EPA had not participated in the study, and that the rankings are only based on data available on the agency’s Web site. And her fellow Press Officer Karen Thompson questioned Forbes’ methodology.

“We had nothing to do with this study,” Thompson said. “It’s our data, but you can take data and interpret it any way you want. I don’t know how they came to their conclusions.”

According to Breuer, the data Forbes used does not give an accurate picture of the pollution problems in Chicago.

“The majority of air pollution comes from cars, trucks, semis and diesel construction equipment,” Breuer said. “Where’s the transportation data [in this study]?”

Chicago has the third most traffic congestion in the nation, according to a February study by INRIX, a company that provides real-time, historical and predictive traffic information.

But Charlie Parnell, a spokesman for Midwest Generation, a company that owns and operates two power plants in Chicago and four more in Illinois, said that the ranking paints a negative picture that Chicago doesn’t deserve.

“In the Chicagoland region, our air quality is getting better and better every year,” Parnell said. “I think it’s often overlooked that our air is cleaner today than it was 15, 20 years ago. And every year there are new regulations put in place to further improve air quality.”

Breuer and Wasserman said that even if air quality has improved, it is still at unacceptable levels.

“

In the Chicagoland region, our air quality is getting better and better every year ... And every year there are new regulations put in place to further improve air quality.”

-Charlie Parnell

The two power plants Midwest owns in Chicago, the Fisk Generating Station, 1111 W. Cermak Road, and the Crawford Generating Station, 3501 S. Pulaski Road, are two of the city’s largest polluters, according to Breuer.

But according to Parnell, the pollutants

those two plants emit are not classified by the EPA as toxic and did not contribute to Chicago’s poor ranking.

“We are not a significant contributor to those toxic emissions,” Parnell said. “Our criteria pollutants, which are nitrous dioxin emissions and sulfur dioxin emissions as well as mercury ... are not classified in this toxic category.”

However, at the EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory Web site, both Crawford and Fisk are listed as emitters of toxic chemicals. Along with dioxin and dioxin-like compounds and mercury, which are included in the Toxic Release Inventory, Fisk and Crawford also release the toxic chemicals barium, copper, hydrochloric acid, hydrogen fluoride, lead compounds, manganese compounds, vanadium compounds and zinc compounds.

Breuer said that the Forbes list represents a schizophrenia that the national media has about Chicago’s environmental status because in other national publications, Mayor Richard M. Daley has been praised for being a “green mayor.” There should be no question of what the truth is about Chicago’s environmental record, according to Breuer.

“We give him an F,” Breuer said. “There might be a few green roofs and there might be some really nice plants on some streets in Chicago, but when you look at the real substance, stuff that’s killing people every year ... he’s done nothing.”

Media relations for the city’s department of environment did not respond to interview requests.

Alderman Joe Moore (49th Ward) has proposed an ordinance to regulate Chicago’s coal-burning power plants like Crawford and Fisk. Breuer said that the ordinance could go a long way in making Chicago a cleaner and healthier place.

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monday, 11//16




Mental Graffiti
Every 3rd Monday of the month, 8 p.m. // Butterfly Social Club, 722 W. Grand Ave.

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 **Music of the Baroque**
7:30 p.m.
Harris Theater for Music and Dance in Millennium Park
205 E. Randolph Drive
(312) 551-1414
\$30 - \$75

 **Monday Night Dining Series: Pacific Northwest**
6:30 p.m.
The Dining Room at Kendall College
900 N. North Branch St.
(312) 752-2328
\$38

tuesday, 11//17


 **“Ginger Snaps”**
Tuesdays through Dec. 29
10 p.m.
iO
3541 N. Clark St.
(773) 880-0199
\$5


 **Trivium**
5:30 p.m.
House of Blues
329 N. Dearborn St.
(312) 923-2000
\$19 - \$21;
Call (800) 745-3000 for tickets

 **The Old Ceremony**
8 p.m.
Schubas Tavern
3159 N. Southport Ave.
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wednesday, 11//18

 **Alsace: Thanksgiving and Beyond**
7:30 p.m.
Webster's Wine Bar
1480 W. Webster Ave.
(773) 868-0608
\$45

 **“I Learned It from Watching You!”**
Wednesdays through Nov. 25
8 p.m.
Gorilla Tango Theatre
1919 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 598-4549
\$12

 **Blackhawks vs. Flames Road Watch Party**
8:30 p.m.
Market Restaurant and Sports Bar
1113 W. Randolph St.
(312) 929-4787
FREE

 **Engage with Artifacts**
2 p.m.
Robie House
5757 S. Woodlawn Ave.
(708) 848-1976
\$65 - \$75


thursday, 11//19




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friday, 11//20


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The Chopping Block
4747 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 472-6700
FREE

 **Snow White and the Drag Queen Who Stole Christmas**
Fridays and Saturdays
through Dec. 12, 9 p.m.
Hydrate
3458 N. Halsted St.
(773) 835-0420
\$10

 **Butch LaRue: Shotgun Wedding Planner**
Fridays through Dec. 18,
10:30 p.m.
Theatre Building Chicago
1225 W. Belmont Ave.
(773) 327-5252
\$15


 **Intergalactic Sex Rodeo**
11:55 p.m.
Lakeshore Theater
3175 N. Broadway St.
(773) 472-3492
\$10

saturday, 11//21
sunday, 11//22


 **Glenn Wool**
Friday and Saturday,
7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
Lakeshore Theater,
3175 N. Broadway St.
(773) 472-3067
\$15


 **“Spice Up Your Life” Cooking Class - Wine and Cheese Pairing**
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Kendall College
900 N. North Branch St.
(312) 752-2196
\$55


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Sundays, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Harold Washington Library Center
400 S. State St.
(312) 747-4300
FREE

 **Pine Leaf Boy**
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Old Town School of Folk Music
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(773) 728-6000
\$18 - \$22

 **Chicago Wasted Youth**
Saturday, 10 p.m.
Smart Bar
3730 N. Clark St.
(773) 549-0203
\$10; FREE before 11 p.m.

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 **“Entertaining Julia”**
Sundays, 8:30 p.m.
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3340 N. Halsted Ave.
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‘Tis the season to donate to charities

Chicago’s Salvation Army is expecting to double assistance for holidays

by Spencer Roush
Assistant Metro Editor

SIXTEEN YEARS ago, Vernon Doyle was homeless and suffering from drug and alcohol addiction, but after seeking help from the Salvation Army, he completely changed his life. He has since become an avid volunteer for the Salvation Army, and this holiday season, he will be standing at his post on a busy sidewalk ringing bells during the holidays for donations that might change someone else’s life.

This year, the Salvation Army’s Red Kettle Program is starting a week earlier on Nov. 13 to help bring in more funds. The Chicago branch is expecting most of their corps community centers to have approximately double the amount of people who are in need of assistance.

“A lot of people [are in] this year and we’re just hoping and praying that the community will give,” Doyle, 50, said.

He said since he was laid off from his job working at a grocery store, he has more time to volunteer during the holidays this year. Seventy percent of the money raised for the Salvation Army comes from the Red Kettle Program.

“This is the season where we are either able to raise funds at Christmastime or we have to reduce the services we provide during the year because we wouldn’t have the funds to run the services,” said Tyrone



Courtesy SALVATION ARMY

The Red Kettle Program brings in 70 percent of donations used throughout the year for various services and products including, groceries, utility, mortgage payments and clothing.

Staggers, corps administrator for the Chicago Temple Corps and Community Center, 1 N. Ogden Ave.

This year’s goal is to raise \$12 million, which is approximately \$1 million more than last year. More money is needed because middle-class citizens are asking for the organization’s assistance this year.

“In some cases, we are seeing twice as many people this year than last year,” said Jordanka Lazarevic, communications director of the Chicago Salvation Army. “In the majority of the corps centers, it was anywhere between 65 percent to more than 150 percent increase in the number of people who are being served.”

Because money is a problem in many households, Lazarevic said she hopes people will still give donations this year so their goal can be met.

“Even people with jobs don’t necessarily know if they’ll have the jobs the next day, but the one very fortunate thing is that most people understand that if you are tightening your belt a little, there are people who are doing without anything,” Lazarevic said. “So I think people, even in these difficult economic times, are gener-

ous when it comes to feeding their ...next-door neighbor.”

She said they are also seeking volunteers for bell-ringing positions because if they are not filled, workers will have to be hired and paid .

Staggers said the Chicago Temple Corps and Community Center located in the West Loop is still in need of volunteers to help ring the donation bells and ask for donations in the downtown area. He said the goal for their center is to raise \$150,000, but if they have to hire people to fill positions, that money will have to be recouped through donations.

Lazarevic said they are trying new, innovative ways to encourage people to donate such as a virtual red kettle on the Salarmy-Chicago.org Web site, and also a couple of credit card machines that will be at two locations in the city.

This is the first year Chicago will try to use credit card machines in the city for the Red Kettle Program, which Lazarevic said might help with the amount of donations.

“What we’ve heard so far is that it has a good initial review,” Staggers said. “We hope it’s something that the public sees as [a] good thing. As far as I know, we’ve done our studying to make sure that whatever information is given, it’s kept confidential.”

The Red Kettle Program will begin Nov. 13 and end in late January.

For more information about volunteering, donating or to find a corps community center in your area, visit SalarmyChicago.org.

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» PRIMARY

Continued from PG. 33

is roughly the intersection of Irving Park Road and Kimball Avenue. It is one of the most Democratic districts in the nation. In 2008, when Mell ran for the first time as the Democratic Party candidate, she won 75 percent of the vote, compared to 15 percent won by the Republican candidate.

Laiacona said he was sure that whoever won the Democratic primary would win the general election.

According to Laiacona, his years of experience teaching at Columbia, his experience as a union organizer and his 62 years of life experience make him the best candidate for the job.

“My platform shows that I have progressive views and that’s what I’m running on,” Laiacona said. “I believe in ethical government that represents the common man.”

There is no requirement in the Illinois State Constitution that a candidate be a registered voter. But according to Means, just last year the state Supreme Court upheld requirements for candidacy above the narrow guidelines laid out in the constitution.

If Laiacona’s objection fails, the Democratic primary could be a historical one. Mell is the first openly gay woman to serve in the Illinois General Assembly and Laiacona, her challenger, is an openly gay man. But both Laiacona and Mell have faced criticism from gay rights activists for not making their sexual-orientation more public.

Laiacona told the Windy City Times that his sexual orientation was not an issue.

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» BIKING

Continued from PG. 33

the people from their city and community members. He said it’s caused people to only care about their individual interests instead of the greater community.

“If everyone decided to just get on a bike or walk, we’d be better off to society,” Daley said during his speech. “When they start building streets, it starts isolating people.”

Daley also said people need to keep advocating for pedestrian and bicycle needs to their local officials because government funding is hardly ever used to help their interests.

“I’ve always said there is no money for bike[s] or pedestrians,” Daley said. “It’s always cars. It’s always roads and bridges, then eventually they get to public transportation.”

Wray, 65, who has biked almost his entire adult life, has seen areas in the city that needs to be improved for cyclists’ safety, which he said are slowly being addressed by the city.

“You have to go to your local officials,” Daley said. “I hope you educate your aldermen, your state representatives, your senators, your elected officials, your congressmen. Go and see them and talk to them about legislation we need in the federal government.”

Daley said that he needs allies to show that other people besides himself want funding for alternate transportation.

“Don’t feel like you can’t go and talk to these people,” Daley said. “You elect them. You pay their salaries. Remember that.”

sroush@chroniclemail.com



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

More people are using alternate transportation due to the economy, such as biking and walking. Harry Wray, a DePaul University political science professor and avid bike rider, said biking creates a sense of community in Chicago and breaks the barrier of hyper-individualism, which has been an increasing problem in America.

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Prosecutors claim Northwestern students paid witnesses

University’s ‘Innocence Project,’ which investigates murder convictions, comes under fire

by Karen Hawkins
Associated Press

PROSECUTORS CLAIMED in court on Nov. 10 that Northwestern University journalism students paid two witnesses in order to make their case that an innocent man was wrongly convicted of murder.

The allegations came in filings during a Cook County Criminal Court hearing on a new trial for Anthony McKinney, who is serving a life sentence for the 1978 murder of a security guard.

Students have presented evidence, including interviews with witnesses, suggesting that several other men committed the crime. But prosecutors are questioning the credibility of their witnesses, including two who say the students and a Northwestern private investigator gave them money in exchange for interviews.

The Northwestern students and their professor David Protesse denied the allegations on Nov. 10, calling the state’s court filing part of a “smear campaign.”

“It is so filled with factual errors that if my students had done this kind of reporting and investigating, I would give them an F,” Protesse told reporters after court.

Protesse and his students have investigated nearly a dozen high-profile cases, several involving men on death row, including the Ford Heights Four, who were exonerated by DNA evidence in a double murder. In some of the cases, Protesse’s students found that police had bullied or coerced false confessions, and Illinois has paid out tens of millions of dollars to some of those who were



Northwestern professor David Protesse, along with former students who have been subpoenaed by the state’s attorney’s office, Nicole Lapin, (left) and Evan Benn, (second from left), speak to the media on Nov. 10, 2009 after their court hearing at Cook County Criminal Court in Chicago.

wrongly convicted.

Prosecutors said in their filing that several witnesses interviewed by the students recanted their statements when speaking to prosecutors, saying that they’d told the students what they wanted to hear so that they’d be paid.

One witness, Tony Drakes, said the Northwestern investigator gave a cab driver \$60 to drive him a short distance and told the driver to give Drakes \$40 in change. Drakes said he used the money to buy crack cocaine.

Northwestern student Evan Benn, who is named in the state’s subpoena, said it was him, not the investigator, who gave the cab driver the money, along with instructions that none of it was to be given to Drakes.

“We never paid Tony Drakes for his statement, we would never pay any source,” Benn told reporters. He said he paid \$60 for the cab ride because the driver estimated it would cost about \$50.

Michael Lane, who the students said was with Drakes, also told prosecutors that the students took him to dinner and gave him \$50-\$100 in cash, even though he didn’t give them any information.

Drakes also told prosecutors that the Northwestern students came to his mother’s home accompanied by a man who flashed a shotgun. In 2005, another Northwestern investigator working with Protesse’s Medill Innocence Project was accused by a suspect of using a gun to coerce the man

into confessing to a murder that a project client was convicted of. That came years after the suspect had made his confession.

Sally Daly, a spokeswoman for the state’s attorney’s office, said ultimately the issue of whether the witnesses lied to students or to prosecutors is a matter for the court to decide.

Prosecutors have claimed that the students were motivated to find evidence of McKinney’s innocence to get good grades in their class, and they’ve subpoenaed the class syllabus and the students’ grades.

Northwestern has until Jan. 11 to respond to the state’s filing.

chronicle@colum.edu

IN OTHER NEWS

Knives for sale

ChicagoDefender.com reported that a man was stabbed by his own knife after he fell on a CTA bus Nov. 8. Chicago Police Officer Laura Kubiak said the man lost his footing on the bus and was stabbed in the leg by one of his knives when he fell onto it. The unidentified man told police officials that he was a knives salesman. The man lost a large amount of blood from the accident, but his injuries were not considered life-threatening according to the report.

Oprah upset

According to a SunTimes.com article, Rosie O’Donnell started a discussion on Howard Stern’s radio show about Gayle King being in an intimate relationship with Oprah Winfrey. O’Donnell said, “I don’t know that she and Gayle are necessarily doing each other, but I think they are the emotional equivalent of ...” then Stern added, “A gay couple.” This is an ongoing rumor, Chicago Sun-Times columnist Bill Zwecker wrote. Oprah’s team is upset by the allegations.

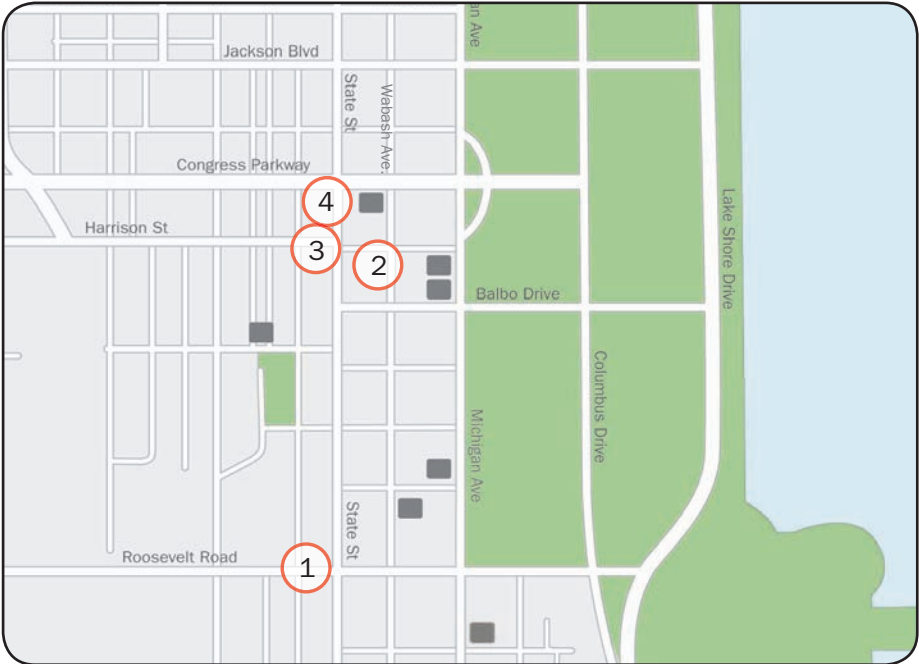
Dugan gets death

SunTimes.com reported that a jury decided the death penalty was the appropriate sentence for Brian Dugan, who is already serving a life sentence for two other murders. On Nov. 11, the jury deliberated for less than 11 hours to decide his fate after he was convicted of raping and killing 11-year-old Jeanine Nicarico in 1983. One of the jurors said Dugan was emotionless when he heard the death penalty judgment. Dugan pleaded guilty to Nicarico’s murder in July.

CTA reprieve

The Chicago Transit Authority approved budget cuts for the transit system but did not raise fares, as proposed by CTA President Richard Rodriguez, according to ChicagoTribune.com. Officials said CTA riders can expect to have a longer wait for buses. The CTA is reducing service on 110 out of the 150 bus routes. However, riders will not have to pay \$3 for a train ride or \$2.50 for the bus. The CTA avoided fare hikes thanks to an infusion of money from Gov. Pat Quinn.

OFF THE BLOTTER



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

- 1

Soporific stickup

On Nov. 11, a 52-year-old man told police that he was on the Roosevelt CTA station platform waiting for the train when an unknown offender approached him from behind, stuck a sharp object in his back and demanded money. The victim gave the man \$20. After giving up his money, he boarded the train, got off at the Kedzie stop and then fell asleep in a coffee shop, according to police reports.
- 2

Apparent suicide

A 28-year-old man was found dead in his apartment, 618 S. Wabash Ave., on Nov. 8. Police responded to a call from the man’s brother. The man was found lying in his bathtub in water with a rope around his neck. The rope was attached to two 20-lb dumbbells. The man’s brother told police that he had been suicidal in the past and that the family had not spoken to him since Nov. 5.
- 3

Red Line Robbery

According to police reports, a 14-year-old boy was riding the Red Line southbound train at 6:30 pm. When the train stopped at the Harrison station, an 18-year-old male pushed the boy through the open doors and onto the platform and told the boy to give him money. The victim gave him \$8, and the man fled.
- 4

Dorm room bandit

An 18-year-old woman told police that her phone was stolen from her dorm room while she was out. According to police reports, her white and silver T-Mobile phone was taken from the University Center of Chicago Residence Hall, 525 S. State St. The phone was valued at \$149.

games

G

SUDOKU

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Puzzle by websudoku.com

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- 1 Rather, once of "60 Minutes"
4 "Bernie ____"
7 "____ by Step"
11 Actress McClanahan
12 Cousin on "Mad About You"
13 Ms. Spelling
14 Sullivan and Begley
15 Give the cold shoulder to
16 One of John Boy's sisters
17 Drama series for Eric Close
20 Driver's lic. and Soc. Sec. card
21 Howard or Reagan
22 News commentator Moyers
25 Moist
26 Command to Fido
29 Daytime serial
33 "____ Masterson"
34 "____ a Bully, Charlie Brown"
35 "____ People"; Jessica Tandy film
36 "____ 54, Where Are You?"
37 "Not ____ Stranger"; Sinatra movie
39 "The ____ of Old Christine"
46 Frequent Mayberry jail inmate
47 Actress Sommer
48 Mr. Marienthal

- 49 Bouquet holder
50 Nothing
51 "____ in the Family"
52 Deathly pale
53 Peg for Tiger
54 "The ____ Pack"; Sinatra, Martin, Davis, Bishop and Lawford

DOWN

- 1 "The Price Is Right" host
2 German car
3 "Empty ____"
4 Subtractor's word
5 In ____; mired by routine
6 Hit Liza Minnelli film
7 Isaac or Howard
8 When said three times, a movie about Pearl Harbor
9 Newsmen Seavreid
10 Evergreen tree
15 Grass & the soil right beneath it
18 "One Tree ____"
19 Oz visitor
22 Hope or Barker
23 ____ flash; instantly
24 "____ Me Call You Sweetheart"
25 Jazz guitarist Montgomery
26 Ashley, to Mary-Kate
27 "____ Got a Secret"
28 Danson or Koppel
30 "If ____ a Hammer"
31 Zealous
32 Hawaiian feast
36 ____ Novak; Diane Neal's recent "Law & Order: SVU" role
37 Joint most often sprained
38 Sault ____ Marie
39 ____ Scotia
40 Greek letters
41 "Death ____"; Charles Bronson film
42 Writer and activist Wiesel
43 "____ Window"; James Stewart film
44 Ms. Fitzgerald
45 Deposit of sediment

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

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11/15/09

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HOROSCOPES



ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Family history and old romantic memories will this week demand clarity. For some Aries natives, especially those born between 1955 and 1969, a rekindled love affair will captivate extra time. Unproductive patterns need to be resolved: expect dramatic confrontations and complex discussions over the next 6 weeks. After mid-week property contracts, deeds or leasing agreements may be unexpectedly postponed. Remain patient: new information will soon arrive.



TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) Old friends or lovers may this week reappear and trigger intense memories. Past relationships will offer unique life lessons. Discuss all observations with loved ones and expect emotional suggestions or romantic speculation from close friends to be helpful. Later this week older, colleagues or managers may request fast changes and new dedication. Long accepted policies or practices will soon demand bold improvements. Offer your skills: your talents are needed.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Home discussions will this week help move key relationships forward. In the coming weeks some Geminis will gently expand their family or social obligations. If so, expect relations with older family members to also be a prime concern. Loved ones will need to express their private feelings: remain open and wait for agreement. After Friday, a two week period of fast business advancement and new job discussions begins. Ask for all that you want: it's time to expand.



CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Before mid-week close colleagues may reveal private information. Marital relations, family disputes or living arrangement are all highlighted. Listen to all revelations but avoid becoming emotionally involved. For many Cancerians workplace alliances will need extra time to properly develop. Friday through Sunday rest and spend extra time with an isolated friend, relative or colleague. Someone close may soon ask for deeply personal advice. Don't hesitate.



LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Financial and business messages may be misleading this week. Official communications or legal agreements will now be derailed by rare social politics or workplace conflict. Stay dedicated to short-term tasks and expect facts, figures and calculations to require careful scrutiny. Bosses or managers are watching your progress: stay active. Later this week, some Leos may encounter a rare social introduction or flirtation. Trust your heart: powerful emotions will soon be revealed.



VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Educational projects and revised workplace skills are now a top priority. Early this week key officials may demand improved job performance and completed assignments. Don't hesitate to increase your workload. By early December a new career path will be made available. Thursday through Saturday also highlights fast social changes and new romantic proposals. A brief phase of emotional isolation is now ending: use this time to expand key relationships and find new friends.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Key officials will this week rely heavily on your ability to resolve interpersonal disputes. After Tuesday, expect minor workplace arguments to quickly escalate. Remain determined to find harmony: in the coming weeks your emotional guidance will be greatly appreciated on the work scene. After mid-week watch also for a subtle compliment or comment from a trusted friend. Yesterday's disappointments or emotional triangles will soon fade. Stay open to new overtures.



SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Long-term romantic commitments now increase. Over the next few weeks many Scorpions will bring added emotional and financial security into their lives. Renewed family obligations, housing agreements or complex social promises are all accented. Respond quickly to all requests: loved ones will soon outline their goals and expectations. Later this week, a recently distant or isolated colleague may ask for assistance or complex negotiations. Find the time: your help is needed.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) After a brief phase of miscommunications, loved ones are now willing to adopt controversial ideas. Home expansion and social planning are a strong concern. Outdated plans and yesterday's aspirations need to fade: after Wednesday thoroughly discuss financial commitments. New daily guidelines are needed. Later this week, some Sagittarians will experience a powerful wave of nostalgia and emotional clarity. Unproductive social patterns may require fast decisions: stay alert.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Several weeks of social isolation will now fade. Before mid-week ask loved ones for added consideration or concrete decisions. Areas affected are housing contracts, family expansion or emotional agreements in the home. Don't be shy. New choices will work in your favor. Thursday through Saturday, love relationships may challenge your social plans or family commitments. A trusted friend or lover will soon request a public declaration of love and support. Don't disappoint.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) Workplace negotiations will work strongly to your advantage this week. After Tuesday, watch for financial speculation to be replaced with timed agreement or complex contracts. In the coming weeks expect key officials to outline new business strategies and daily expectations. Revised rules are bothersome but workable. Stay focused. Later this week a past lover or old friend may demand a second chance. Take your time and consider all consequences: passions will be high.



PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20) Business relations now improve. Early this week some Pisceans will be asked to take on a complicated project or new job description. If so, expect the coming weeks to bring fast workplace changes and new financial resources. Before mid-December quick decisions may be necessary. Stand your ground: your ideas are valid. After Thursday, ask a friend or relative to participate in family events. Home relations and social harmony will soon increase. Stay dedicated.

monday, 11//16



Vincent Gardner in Residence
All day // Music Center, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

Vincent Gardner is most known for being a trombonist and composer. As a bandleader, Gardner has released four albums under the Steeple Chase record label. He has performed with both famous jazz and pop acts alike, such as The Count Basie Orchestra, Frank Foster, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, Chaka Kahn, A Tribe Called Quest, Matchbox 20, Jimmy Heath and Lauryn Hill, to name a few. Gardner has been a member of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra since 2000.

(312) 369-6300
Free

Dis/Believer: Intersections of Science and Religion in Contemporary Art
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-6643
Free

Framed: The World of Comics
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Hokin Gallery, Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-8177
Free

At Close Distance: Storied Paths to Home
9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
C33 Gallery, 33 E. Congress Parkway Building
(312) 369-6856
Free

tuesday, 11//17

Peer Support Program Tips on Tuesdays: Networking in the Arts & Communications Fields
Noon
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-7994
Free

The Anatomy Of ... A Food Review
6:30 p.m.
Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave., suite 307
(312) 369-7280
Free

Opera in Cinema Screening of Così Fan Tutti
7 p.m.
Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash, 8th floor
(312) 369-6709
Free

Acoustic Kitchen Open Stage
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Wabash Campus Building, Hokin Gallery
623 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-7920
Free; sign up at ddolak@olum.edu

wednesday, 11//18

Cecily Parks and Sandra Lim Poetry Reading
5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Ferguson Hall, Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
(312) 369-8125
Free

Paint it Black
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Wabash Ave., 2nd floor
(312) 369-7569
Free

LGBT Support Group
Noon
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-8594
Free

Sketches ISO/ASO Theatrical Performance
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Hokin Annex, Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave., 1st Floor
(312) 369-8664
Free

Black Student Union Meeting
6 p.m.
The Loft
916 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-7569
Free

thursday, 11//19



Cinema Slapdown, Round 20: I'm Not There
7 p.m. - 10 p.m. // Film Row Cinema 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor

Peace, love and harmony? Not likely! This is Cinema Slapdown! The Film & Video Department presents a celebration of "Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll," our autumnal examination of three eternally popular subjects in modern society.

(312) 369-6708
Free

Back Street Union Colloquium Series
12:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-7569
Free

Staff and Faculty Relaxation Session
Noon - 12:50 p.m.
South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., room 1106
(312) 369-7697
Free

Krispy Kreme Donuts for Sale
8 p.m. - 5 p.m.
618 S. Michigan Ave., lobby
(312) 369-6656
75 cents; two for \$1

friday, 11//20

At Close Distance: Storied Paths to Home
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
33 E. Congress Parkway Building; C33 Gallery
33 E. Congress Parkway
(312) 369-6856
Free

The Coolest Thing Ever: The Warren Lamb Lecture Series
6:30 - 9 p.m.
Conaway Center, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor
(312) 369-7697
Free

ASL-English Department Presents "Grease"
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
618 S. Michigan Ave., 2nd floor
christina.stevens@loop.colum.edu
\$10



Student Performance Night
8 p.m. - midnight // Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave.

This is an opportunity for students to show their creative work to peers and receive feedback and suggestions from a panel comprising Dance Center faculty members and one student. The dances chosen reflect the wonderful range of talents and interests within our student community.

(312) 369-8300
Free

saturday, 11//21
sunday, 11//22

"He Who Gets Slapped"
Saturday, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
11th Street Campus,
Getz Theater
72 E. 11th St.
(312) 369-6126
\$10 - \$14

Critical Encounters: Fact/Faith Photography Exhibit
Sunday, All day
South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 2nd floor
(312) 369-8837
Free

