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Columbia Chronicle (03/08/2010)

Columbia College Chicago

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago

March 8, 2010

Volume 45 Number 22

ON THE WEB

ColumbiaChronicle.com

Voto Latino launches U.S. Census ad campaign

WEB-EXCLUSIVE VIDEO



Authors discuss future of journalism

Two reporters say integration with technology necessary for survival of 'Fourth Estate'

by Stephanie Saviola
Assistant Metro Editor

WITH BANKRUPT newspapers and an abundance of job losses among reporters, most people have turned to the Internet or blogs to get their daily news. But two men are determined to change that and save the dying journalism industry.

The two authors of "The Death and Life of American Journalism" came to Chicago on March 4 to discuss their book and where they believe the future of journalism is headed.

Robert W. McChesney, professor in the

“Our media institutions were bought by very large corporations for huge amounts of money.”

—John Nichols

Department of Communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and John Nichols, The Nation's Washington correspondent, spoke to the public and journalism students.

"We won't talk to you today about journalists or newspapers or media, we are here to talk about democracy," said Nichols, who is also the associate editor of The Capital Times in Madison, Wisc. "This is a crisis about whether we are going to have democracy in the 21st century because the bottom line is: Without journalism there is no democracy."

Both of the authors are co-founders of the Free Press, a national, non-partisan organization for media reform. In the book, they discussed old philosophies regarding the foundations of this country because they believe the current media model is broken. The authors discussed their ideas on how to solve the problem of the dying world of journalism.

"The American tradition of a strong independent press is imperiled," said

» SEE JOURNALISM PG. 31



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Music performance major and friend of Jay Polhill, Taylor Streiff, spoke Friday afternoon at a memorial service held in Polhill's honor.

'I will carry him in my heart forever'

Loved ones mourn after photography student found dead

by Laura Nalin
Assistant Campus Editor

A COLUMBIA photography student was found dead on March 2 in the Little Calumet River at 126th Street and Stony Island Avenue. The body was identified by the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office as 20-year-old Jay Polhill, of Lena, Ill.

Polhill was last seen outside of his University Center dormitory, 525 S. State St., on Feb. 28. As of press time the cause of death had not yet been released, according to The Chicago Police Department's Office of News Affairs.

A statement was released March 4 by Columbia President Warrick L. Carter, in which he formally announced the death and expressed sincere regrets on behalf of the college.

"Regrettably, the news has reported that the body of our missing student, Jay Polhill, a photography major, has been found," the

statement read. "We are deeply saddened by this tragic loss, and our thoughts and prayers as a community are with Jay's family and friends. Jay was a hard-working student and his instructors and fellow students enjoyed having him in class. He will be greatly missed by the faculty, staff and students whose lives he touched. As we focus on our students who have just lost a friend, we will continue to work with the Chicago Police Department and let them speak, as appropriate, to the investigation into Jay's death. Our entire community is saddened and affected by his passing. Let's pull together as the Columbia College Chicago community and support his family and all others who need support because of this shocking loss."

Jay Polhill

Sakona, remembers him as being a gentle and caring individual.

"Jay was one of the most endearing people I've ever known," Sakona said. "He was so kind and gentle, but also had a fire, an energy, and love for life that affected everyone he was around. His comical, easy going personality was contagious. He was a

“My heart breaks to think of all he will never get to do.”

—Tiana Sakona

rare human being with a unique way of viewing the world. The striking insights in his beautiful photographs showed you an unexpected perspective, even when they depicted common objects. Though he didn't always show it easily, Jay deeply loved his family, friends and his art."

Sakona added that Polhill had an innate ability to make his way into people's hearts.

"Even when we were frustrated with each other, he would look at me, and I would melt," Sakona said. "My heart breaks to think of all he will never get to do, and how much the world has lost both a special person and brilliant artist in his leaving us. I will carry him in my heart forever."

A tribute was held last Friday afternoon on March 5 in memory of Polhill in the

» SEE POLHILL, PG. 6



Students' honors on display

» SEE PG. 3



March Madness On Stage

» SEE PG. 15



Overseeing the dead

» SEE PG. 29

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EDITOR’S NOTE

Captivity concerns



by Bethany Reinhart
Editor-in-Chief

THINGS AT Sea-World in Orlando, Fla., have returned to normal. Killer whale shows including “Believe” have resumed, money is pouring in and the media blitz surrounding trainer Dawn Brancheau’s death has subsided. Here in Chicago, Brancheau was laid to rest March 1 at St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel on the city’s South Side.

Although headlines have faded about Brancheau’s violent death and Tilikum, the killer whale responsible, there are still many unanswered questions. The tragic incident has the scientific and marine activism communities abuzz about Tilikum’s history, whether this fatal incident could have been prevented and how to take proper precautions going forward. Which leaves one major question on the minds of many: Should killer whales or other animals be kept in captivity in the first place?

Animals that would otherwise live in their own natural habitats in the wild are kept in captivity for numerous reasons, making this question difficult, if not impossible, to answer. However, it is important for all of us to take facts and conditions into consideration and become informed about the reality of the captive animals in our own city and around the world.

Despite tragedies such as Brancheau’s death, there are arguably many good reasons why animals are held in captivity. One of the best examples is for rehabilitation efforts. If animals are wounded in their own environments, especially at the hands of humans, our efforts to protect and rehabilitate them are commendable and a justifiable reason to

keep them in captivity. A wonderful local example of such efforts is the Shedd Aquarium’s commitment to protect sea otters that were harmed in the 1989 Exxon-Valdez oil spill that occurred in the Prince William Sound, in Alaska. The oil, which permeated the otters’ fur, stripped the fur of its insulative properties, leaving the otters unable to survive in the wild. This is when I favor keeping such animals in captivity versus releasing them back into their natural habitats where they would undoubtedly not survive. Other arguably positive reasons for keeping wild animals in captivity include conservation efforts, education and public awareness.

However, with that said, it is imperative for people to keep in mind that these are wild animals that should not be placed in captivity solely for public entertainment or profit. Dolphin and whale shows, such as those held at SeaWorld, may be exciting and incredibly entertaining for the public, but what are such shows and captivity doing to these animals? Just because a dolphin’s physiological make-up creates the appearance of a smiling, joyous animal does not mean they are actually happy. It is easy to lose sight of such concerns while being entertained and mesmerized by these animals as they perform for the public. As for the case of Tilikum the killer whale and the regrettable death of his trainer Brancheau, it is important to raise the question of why this whale was in captivity and what its living conditions were like. SeaWorld will undoubtedly defend its facilities and the treatment of its animals, but until SeaWorld can provide an open ocean for these majestic creatures, its facilities will always be sub-par in comparison to their natural habitat.

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NEWS FLASH

3/9/10

Loop Mosaic Tour

Chris Forillo, operations manager for the Society of American Mosaic Artists, will lead a free, three-hour walking tour of downtown Chicago’s mosaic displays, and will feature artists Marc Chagall and Louis Comfort Tiffany. The tour begins at 2 p.m. at the 1104 Center.

Meeting at 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

3/10/10

“World Enigma”

This annual multimedia exhibition celebrating the creative and artistic talents of international students, the International Student Organization and international student allies. Festivities will begin at noon and conclude at 6 p.m.

Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression, Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.

3/11/10

Cinema Slapdown, Round 23: “Jesus Camp”

The Film and Video Department teams up with the Critical Encounters “Fact and Faith” series to present “Jesus Camp,” a documentary about the teaching of children spiritual right and wrong and filmed in the United States’ Bible Belt. The screening will begin at 7 p.m., followed by a discussion of the film.

Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

3/12/10

“U-Turn” Fashion Event

Hosted by Jon Content, the Columbia Urban Music Association presents a fashion show with local live performances. VIP guests will be admitted at 6 p.m., doors for general admission seats will open at 6:30 p.m.

1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Want to see your Columbia-related event mentioned in News Flash?
Contact The Chronicle at (312) 369-8999.

FOR THE RECORD 2/1/10

“Columbia student famous on the ice”: In its Feb. 1 edition, The Chronicle published an article about Columbia journalism student Ashley Cebak’s figure skating career. Upon further investigation, The Chronicle found numerous assertions published in the article to be false or unverifiable. The Chronicle has been unable to verify the following information: Cebak’s correct age and date of birth, her mother’s history as a former figure skater, her father’s history as former hockey player, the age at which Cebak began skating and whether she moved up two levels during her first figure skating class. Additionally, The Chronicle was unable to verify whether Cebak was able to opt out of a physical education class and lunch to train during her high school years, whether she trained with a former “Disney on Ice” star, whether she spent any time skating in Lake Placid, N.Y., if she has ever skated professionally or if she raised money for charities through figure skating.

In addition to assertions that The Chronicle could not verify, several statements were also found to be false. Cebak did not win a bronze medal from the United States International Skating Union in 2003, she did not place second in the U.S. Figure Skating Open in 2004 and she did not participate in Olympic trials, as there are no Olympic trials in figure skating, but rather a competition called The United States National Figure Skating Championship. The Chronicle was unable to verify that Cebak has ever skated in The United States National Figure Skating Championships at any level. The Chronicle sincerely apologizes to its readers for these errors.

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C

campus

Annual gallery honors student work



Lenny Gilmore THE CHRONICLE

Julia Maklar views work on display at the “Hokin Honors” exhibition on March 4. Maklar, a sophomore fine arts major, has some of her own work on display at the exhibition entitled “Growth to Erode.”

Faculty-sponsored awards gallery gives recognition, space to future student artists

by **Laura Nalin**
Assistant Campus Editor

THE OPENING reception for Columbia’s 17th annual “Hokin Honors” exhibition was held on March 4. The exhibition, located in the Hokin Annex of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave., features various work by students who were selected by faculty members.

The room holds 54 pieces of art created by 17 students in majors including photogra-

phy, fashion design, art and design, interactive arts and media and film and video. Each body of work varied in materials, ranging from silver gelatin on acrylic rag paper to a handmade book displaying codes by artist Laura Thompson that were placed on Chicago landmarks; when scanned by smart phones, the pieces display a brief history of the attraction.

The students that were recommended to submit their art were judged by a jury. The jury included Lisa Dorin, assistant curator of contemporary art at the Art Institute of Chicago, adjunct faculty member and renowned artist Sabrina Katz and Lori Waxman, a freelance art critic for the Chi-

cago Tribune.

The first-place winner was film-directing major Jason Gerber, second place was interactive media arts major Laura Thompson, third place winner was fine art major Erol S. Harris II and the fourth place winner was fine art major Jennifer Hansen.

Matt Avignone, senior photography major, said he was glad his work was featured in the gallery. Avignone has been working on an independent project in which he shoots Logan Square residents with a view camera, a process which he said takes a while but has proved rewarding in the end.

“My idea for the project started about a year ago,” Avignone said. “I was walking down my street, and I had observed in my neighborhood that people literally chill on their stoops during warmer times of the months. I had always wanted to go up and talk with them and take pictures, and finally this past semester, I got up the courage to do it.”

Avignone added he wanted to challenge himself by using the view camera.

“I picked the hardest thing, which would be street photo,” Avignone said. “View cameras are usually used in the studio or for landscapes, not random images of people off the street, so it was challenging.”

Mary Farmilant, one of Avignone’s previous photography professors, said she recommended his art be featured in the gallery because of his exceptional work.

“I teach beginning photography classes, so sometimes you get students interested in the material and students that are not that keen on participating in classes,” Farmilant said. “I try to stay in touch with those students who were responsive and proactive in class. I send e-mails a couple times a month regarding scholarships and different student competitions because I like to get the full 360 view, as opposed to

one dimensional view of them as beginning students in my class. I like to continue the mentor and teaching relationship.”

Farmilant said she believes nominating the students to be a part of the gallery boosts their self confidence and will give them a feel for experiences following their graduation.

She said Avignone has established outstanding work as an undergrad and has impressed her.

“He’s really a go-getter,” Farmilant said. “He just sort of does everything from commercial photography to being an entrepreneur, all while being in school full time, so I thought that he really demonstrated what a Columbia student is.”

Another student who has work featured in the exhibit is junior fine arts major EJ Hill. He said he focuses more on performance art where he likes to use his body as his material. His video featured in the gallery was what he called an “endurance piece,” where he stood in a room, blowing into the camera for about six minutes.

“Since I work mainly performatively, I like to use my body in my pieces,” Hill said. “I’m interested in physically testing my body, such as taking a really mundane action as just blowing and seeing how my body would react to blowing over and over again. I just started taking really deep breaths in and out until all my muscles tensed and my legs gave up from under me and I passed out.”

Hill’s work has been featured in four previous Columbia galleries, this being his second exhibition in the Hokin Annex.

“I actually have work featured in the Excess/Access, which is at the C33 Spaces Gallery show right now, so I’m probably going to go over there tonight,” Hill said.

He said he felt honored to be a part of

» SEE GALLERY, PG. 6

CAMPUS POLL

What are you doing to prepare for your midterms?



Chris Eroaddus
Senior, AEMM major

“I’m actually not really doing anything. Going to class and studying not part of my mindset right now.”



Stefanie Melone
Junior, Marketing major

“Just bringing my notes with me and taking notes in class.”



Madisen Daugherty
Sophomore, Undecided major

“Just studying a lot more. My gen-eds are going to be a little bit harder than other classes.”

Sparse turnout at College Council

SGA, Campus Environment to fight vandalism, Columbia plans tuition increase

by **Ciara Shook**
Assistant Campus Editor

THE MARCH meeting of the College Council was executed in a quick but thorough manner as many members of the board were not in attendance.

Administrators not present included Steven Kapelke, provost and senior vice president; Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment; Louise Love, vice president for Academic Affairs and a handful of faculty members who missed the monthly meeting on March 5 in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Announcements to the council were made by David Flatley, executive director of the Center for Community Arts Partnerships, Andrew Whatley, academic program manager for Academic Affairs, Norman Alexandroff, director of student communications and Thom Clark, community media workshop president.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, addressed the college’s recent loss of sophomore photography major



Lenny Gilmore THE CHRONICLE

Mark Kelly spoke before College Council during the March 5 meeting. The 2010 - 11 tuition will raise undergraduate tuition by 0.3 percent and graduate students would see a raise of 0.5 percent.

Jay Polhill in his administrative report. He announced a vigil that was held at 3 p.m. the same day in the Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression, located in the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

Kelly said there would be a digital remembrance wall through the Student

Loop where Polhill’s photographs and thoughts from students and faculty will be posted.

Kelly also reported Warrick L. Carter, president of Columbia, will announce a tuition increase for the 2010-11

» SEE COUNCIL, PG. 7

Campus living

Family of professor lives in dorms at Duke University

by Eric Ferreri
MCT Newswire

MAEVE COOK-DEEGAN will have plenty of new experiences when she heads off to college this fall. But dorm life won't be one of them.

Maeve, a 17-year-old Durham Academy senior, has already spent six years living in a Duke University residence hall as the daughter of one of the university's 13 faculty-in-residence professors.

Which means she's already had a few "crazy college kids" moments.

Exhibit A: "I walked out the door yesterday and there was a guy with his shirt off," Maeve recounted recently. "And his friend was reading what people had written on him the day before."

Such is life in Alspaugh dorm on Duke's East Campus, Maeve's home since she was 12. She lives there with her parents, Bob and Kathryn, and their dog, Oshie, a friendly mutt named for a Swiss lake.

For Maeve, Duke dorm life was a dramatic change from the suburban bliss of Annapolis, Md., where

the family lived before Bob Cook-Deegan was recruited away from a Stanford University program in Washington. Maeve left a neighborhood where her best friend lived next door and moved into a cramped room at the back of the Cook-Deegan compound, a retrofitted apartment fashioned from several standard dorm rooms.

The apartment is long and narrow, with a spacious kitchen, a cozy living room, two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a giant dog bed for Oshie.

For Maeve, life has been one slow transition. When she moved in at age 12, she got funny looks from students who may have mistaken her for a resident's little sister. As she grew, she began to fit in more. Now 17, she's just a year or two younger than the students.

Still, she doesn't mix with them much. In fact, the most interaction she has with students is during fire drills, which often come on weekends or late at night.

"This year hasn't been so bad," said Maeve, who will enroll at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland this fall. "They've learned how to use the microwave."

Dorm life can be frustrating at times. It's hard to direct friends to her dorm, which is tucked away in the back of the campus.

And when they do visit, they risk a parking ticket from the campus cops.

There are bonuses though, such as campus arts events, use of the campus gym and the quiet that comes with winter break. That's when Maeve has the run of the place, so she and her friends can enjoy the rec room and its flat-screen television - and pool and foosball tables.

Bob Cook-Deegan is a public policy professor and director of Duke's Center for Genome Ethics. When he was recruited to Duke, he insisted on living with his family in a dorm. This was an attempt to recapture the experience he had as an undergrad at Harvard, where faculty members live in "houses" with students and act as advisers. The idea is to eliminate barriers between faculty and students and enhance the academic experience.

"I figured this would be the most efficient way to learn this new universe," he said. "I learn a whole lot more about the students hanging out with them and then eating breakfast with them."

The faculty-in-residence model is not common at Triangle universities, though North Carolina State started a program this year aimed at bringing a faculty member to live in a residence hall.

In exchange for free housing, utilities and Wi-Fi, Cook-Deegan is both a formal and informal adviser to the 120 students who live in Alspaugh. The formal: He



MCT Newswire

Maeve-Cook Deegan gets into her car behind Duke's Alspaugh dorm before going to swim practice at Durham Academy.

helps organize dorm events, outings and educational activities, though he has no official disciplinary duties. The informal: He becomes a crisis counselor on occasion when an overstressed student bangs on the door in the middle of the night.

It's an arrangement he likes. He routinely chats with his students and when they camp out in Krzyzewskiville for weeks to score coveted basketball tickets,

he brings them coffee and doughnuts. But while he's a familiar enough presence in the dorm that students refer to him simply as "BCD," there are boundaries.

"I'm not one of the gang," he said. "There's a definite disconnect between the student and the faculty. Every year, I do have very close friendships with students, but it's not the expectation."

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

C o n c e r t H a l l E v e n t s

Monday March 8
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12:00 PM
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In Concert 7:00 PM

Tuesday March 9
Pop Rock Styles in Concert
12:00 PM
Pop Jazz Fusion in Concert
7:00 PM
Student Piano Recital at the
Sherwood 7:00 PM

Wednesday March 10
Latin Jazz Ensemble
in Concert 12:00 PM
Groove Band in Concert 7:00 PM

Thursday March 11
Max Smith Senior Recital
7:00 PM

Friday March 12
Jazz Gallery in the Lobby
12:00 PM
Jazz Forum 2:00 PM

Jacob Senior Recital at the
Sherwood 7:00 PM



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STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS

Dr. Warrick Carter
President of
Columbia College Chicago

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Jessica Valerio
President of the
Student Government
Association

Wednesday, March 10th 12-2 p.m.

Stage Two (2nd Floor • 618 S. Michigan)

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

» **HOKIN**

Continued from PG. 3

the work featured in the honors exhibition, especially because of all the other artists who were part of the gallery.

“It feels really awesome,” Hill said. “There’s a lot of amazing work here, and I know a lot of the people here, so it’s nice to see all my friends here hangin’ out and showing their work.”

The first place winner, senior film directing major Jason Gerber, broke the mold for the typical gallery space by featuring short films in the gallery.

The winning film, “The World Within,” a five-minute film that features a fantasy world, won festival acclaim in the past, but had yet to be featured in a Columbia exhibit. “The World Within” is what Gerber referred to as a “feel good film,” and is about two teenagers stuck in an elevator. The duo envision a fantasy world together and form bond of friendship which follows into romance. At the conclusion of the film the elevator gets fixed and the two are removed from the fantasy world. They soon after re-enter the world together.

Two other films featured in the gallery were “Hunger” and “The Food Critic.” “Hunger” is what Gerber referred to as a “message film,” bringing attention to homelessness in America. The film focuses on a young Jewish boy on his way to the airport to help bring aid to the poverty in Africa. The young boy sees homeless people on the sidewalk, and as he arrives at the airport, he decides to leave the airport and go help a number of homeless people he saw on the street.

“What it’s kind of saying is to take

care of the problems where you’re at before you go off and try to take care of the rest of the problems,” Gerber said. “We actually did feed about 50 homeless people during that shoot. We filmed real homeless people and told them we’d come back and bring food, which we did. It was a fun way to serve the community and make a film.”

“The Food Critic,” one of Gerber’s newer films, is about a head chef who is caught sleeping with a food critic’s wife. He is fearful that the food critic is going to come into the restaurant and write a bad review, so he devises a plan with the owner of the restaurant to kill the food critic. With a series of twists and turns, the two end up murdering the wrong man, and a bad review is still written in the end.

Gerber said although he has been recognized in the film festival circuit, he was excited to be featured in a Columbia gallery.

“It’s a really neat thing because it’s kind of my first public recognition at Columbia,” Gerber said. “It’s sort of a very unique venue, and to have won first place was enthralling. I don’t think I’ve ever won a competition ever before, so it’s really neat.”

Avignone also said he is happy that his work was featured in the gallery.

“I’m extremely excited to be in the show,” Avignone said. “I make goals every year and one of my main goals was to be in a gallery and to have made it happen within the first three months of the year. I’m super happy. Now I gotta make new ones.”

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» **POLHILL**

Continued from Front Page

the chance to write their memories on small canvases or cards as well as share their favorite stories of their relationship with Polhill.

Flowers lined the stage as a slideshow of Polhill’s artwork was displayed on a large projector screen and Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs, welcomed the guests.

“I did not know Jay personally, but in the last several days I’ve had the opportunity to speak to students, faculty and staff and I’ve come to realize what a beloved character Jay was,” Kelly said. “All of the work behind me is Jay’s work, and it speaks to this



This college, you the students, you the faculty and staff took his gifts and turned them into gold.”

-Jane Polhill

very talented, committed artist and photographer who was clearly a man that was charming, personable and brought smiles to everyone around him. So we are gathered today to remember him and also to remind ourselves of our values as part of this community.”

Kelly added that Polhill’s mother, Jane, wanted the students, faculty and staff to know what an impact they made on his life.

“Columbia College was the greatest thing that ever happened to this young man,” Jane Polhill said. “This college, you the students, you the faculty and staff took his gifts and turned them into gold. Jay was happy, thrilled and I never heard anything but, ‘Mom, I’ve found my home.’”

Tiana Sakona’s mother remembered Polhill for being one of the greatest people to enter her daughter’s life.

“Meeting Jay for me was like meeting one of those big boisterous puppies. He entered a room with waggy tail and enthusiasm and excitement and yet there was such a gentle, sweet and kind side to him,” Sakona said. “I can still remember getting a phone call from Tiana saying, ‘Mom, I’m in love.’ I can hear her voice and her beginning to tell me about him and telling me all wonderful things about him—that he made her laugh and he made her relax, and though Tiana is passionate and loving, she had a lot of walls around her heart and Jay took those walls down.”

Sakona added that Tiana told her that Polhill made her feel like a better person.

“Most of all, she said his arms felt like home, and listening to a lot of you up here, I think for a lot of you Jay made you feel like home too. It was one of his gifts.”

Childhood friend Andrew Frits, sophomore biology student at Rock Valley College, said Polhill was one of the funniest guys in his group of friends.

“He had such a sharp comedic wit,” Frits said. “He would just say the wittiest stuff all the time. He could make anyone laugh; he was really the comedic relief in the group. If you ever needed to laugh or if anything got real serious, he was there to put in his two cents and it was always hilarious.”

Frits remembered a conversation that he had with Polhill about his studies at Columbia.

“I asked him how school was,” Frits said. “I was like, ‘How’s your major?’ and he said, ‘Man, seriously, I love it. This is my dream and my parents are backing me through it. They are all behind my academic goals’ and I just thought that was

great. It was the most serious I’ve ever seen Jay. Photography was his passion.”

Zanna Pearman, sophomore film student at Columbia, remembers Polhill as having a magnetic personality.

“He was just really friendly,” Pearman said. “Everyone that met him definitely liked him right away. A lot of people have come up to me and have been like, ‘Oh yeah, I met him and he was really awesome,’ and they had only met him once, but he had made an impact on them.”

Pearman, who met Polhill while living in the University Center last year, said she and her friends are supporting each other by remembering his cheerful personality.

“He was always joking around and always trying to lighten the mood, so we’re all trying to joke around and remember funny things he would say and just think of what he would say if he was here,” Pearman said.

Chicago-based band, The Ivories, will be playing a show at the Metro, 3730 N.

Clark St., on March 26 in remembrance of Polhill.

“The whole night will be a memorial to him,” Pearman said. “People are going to be reading some stuff and there will be pictures of him, so that’s being planned out, but that would be a really cool thing for people to go to.”

Andrew Bockelman, freshman music composition major, said something about Polhill “just made you happy.” He recalled within the first few weeks of school that Polhill told him Pokemon Snap, a video game, inspired him to pursue photography.

“Words can’t describe how fun he was,” Bockelman said. “The only way to truly know his great charisma would be to meet him and experience it yourself. I can’t remember a sad face at anytime when I was with him.”

Services for Polhill will be held March 12 in his hometown of Lena, Ill. The wake will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. with a service following at 7 p.m. Polhill’s parents will provide a bus for students who wish to attend the services, and will leave at noon from the South Loop area.

There is a Facebook group titled “A Bus for Jay” and is available for those interested in bus services.

The college has several resources, including grief counselors, available to assist students, faculty and staff. The college has asked The Chronicle to make the students aware of their options and to ensure that the students and other members of the college community are aware of the following resources available to those who may need them:

Residence Life and Counseling staff will make wellness checks on all campus residents.

Counseling Services are available for walk-in assistance at the Counseling Center (731 S. Plymouth Court., 312-369-8700; no appointment necessary).

Student Relations staff will be available today at the UCC (Residence Life, 2nd floor) for any student who needs assistance.

Parent inquiries should be directed to Beverly Anderson, assistant dean of student health and support (312-369-8593).

All media or other inquiries should be directed to Diane Doyne (312-369-7524) or Steve Kauffman (312-369-7383) in Media Relations.

Faculty and staff may contact the Employee Assistance Program at 866-757-3271.

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CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS
FACT & FAITH

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Moonset

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

by Marcia E. Lazar
Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees

I BELIEVE in omens, even if I don't know what they mean. Take the spectacle of a golden moon setting. I woke up before dawn, before the earliest light brightened the sky, opened the blinds and looked toward the north-west horizon. There, at the edge of a dark, monolithic high-rise, a golden slice of light appeared. I stared as it grew larger, redder and expanded into a copper-colored sphere that slipped gently downward. It was like watching a slow motion movie, a graceful dance, the full moon sinking. When its edge touched the horizon, it expanded horizontally and appeared elliptical as it drifted down and down and finally disappeared.

I have lived here for 15 years and never witnessed the moon setting in such a magical way. The sun rises in the east and sets in the west—sure. I had seen spectacular sunsets. I've watched in awe as the sun glowed hot red and touched the horizon. But that coppery moon, so subtle and elegant, it defied explanation. I'm not a superstitious person, but I've come to believe this phenomenon represents what can happen when a cold fact is embellished with something magnificent. It can become such a powerful force that it transcends reality.

A decade ago, I had witnessed these elements coming together and saving my husband's life. In December 1999, Alan had a horrendous case of the flu. The virus coursed its way through his body and finally attacked his heart. A month later he was barely able to breathe and he went to the doctor, who immediately admitted him to the cardiac intensive care unit. His heart rate shot up to 200 beats per minute—no wonder he couldn't breathe. Alan called me from the hospital and told me to come down and bring his toothbrush, razor and a robe.

When I arrived, I had the shock of my life. There was my strong, handsome husband

looking strangely submissive, hooked up to an enormous bank of sci-fi machines. His doctor came into the room and checked the heart rate monitor. "It'll take a while for the drugs to work," he said. With a barely perceptible flick of his wrist, he motioned me to join him in the hall. A deep frown creased his forehead as he cautioned me. "His condition is grave. It's very, very serious," he said. Then he explained what was going on in Alan's heart. Honestly, I hadn't realized how dangerous it was. "You don't know if he'll make it," I said. I took a deep breath and waited for his response. He didn't have to say a word. I knew the answer by the way he shrugged his shoulders and touched my arm.

Although the doctor never revealed the grim prognosis to Alan, we both knew we were battling for his life. Our first order was for him to maintain his strength, his self-confidence, his dignity. He wouldn't become just another patient in the ICU, an invalid, a victim unable to fight (There's something about the word "invalid." It usually refers to one who is disabled, but it's more. If someone's an invalid, he's literally invalid, illogical and worthless). Nope, that was not to happen to my husband. Not with me around.

We kissed every morning when I arrived and throughout the long days. We told each other how much we loved one another. We fantasized trips and what we wanted to do. We always looked forward—there were so many dreams to be lived. With these small acts of normalcy, Alan sustained the essence of his humanity. Still, there were the facts. As one doctor explained, the electrical system that controlled Alan's heart was out of whack. Five out of six doctors thought he wouldn't make it. But with lots of luck, technology, drugs and the genius of medical professionals, Alan survived. Throughout the ordeal, he always had faith in himself and retained control of his destiny. Ten years later, we maintain that those were the essential ingredients that pulled him through. When his doctor gave me the grim prognosis, he didn't take into account Alan's drive, his belief in himself, the power of his will to live.

I believe in omens, even if I don't know what they mean. But having written this story, I think that moon was an omen, a symbolic blending of fact and faith. It could have just been a natural phenomenon—just as the sun rises and sets every day, so does the moon. But sometimes, those risings and settings are so incredibly beautiful, so enchanting and remarkable that they temper the cold, hard facts of the solar system. The combination stimulates indescribable feelings that live deep in my core. Call it belief. Call it soul. Call it spirit. Call it magic. I accept the mystery that fact and faith are linked—inextricably.

chronicle@colum.edu

» COUNCIL

Continued from PG. 3

academic year.

"At the undergraduate level, the tuition increase is going to be 0.3 percent, at the graduate level, 0.5 percent," Kelly said. "I believe the increase will be at the low end of what you're going to see [of tuition at other] private colleges, but also the college has decided we have great needs."

Kelly said Columbia had needs for faculty, staff, facilities, but the highest priority in making this decision was placed on the students' affordability. The tuition increase will result in \$15.5 million allocated to scholarships, which compares to

the current \$11.5 million budget.

Jessica Valerio, president of Student Government Association and student representative of College Council, announced the SGA is teaming with Campus Environment to decrease and possibly end student vandalism that occurs on campus.

"Each year, the college spends over \$645,000 on repairs from vandalism," Valerio said. "To give some perspective, that is about 260 presidential scholarships and about 31 four-year, full-time educations here at Columbia College."

Valerio said the campaign would comprise posters, speeches and possibly an event as part of Manifest.

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The program is made possible in part by a grant from the ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL, a state agency. StoryWeek is sponsored in part by the Chicago Public Library and Metro.

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Jazz'd Up

Hawks make city proud at Games



by Jazzy Davenport
Managing Editor

THE MOST exciting moment of the Winter Olympics came when Team USA and Team Canada faced off for the gold medal hockey game on Feb. 28. Though the USA had just defeated Canada in a qualifying game a week prior, there was no sense of arrogance or over-confidence when they found out it would be a rematch.

Canadians live for ice hockey. Hockey is to Canada what football means to the United States, or what soccer means to every country in Europe. It is the sport they pride themselves on.

There was something about this particular game that brought out pride in even the most unbelieving of sports fans—especially those of Chicago. The gold-medal game looked more like a battle of our Chicago Blackhawks. As Patrick Kane and the U.S. faced Canadian teammates Jonathan Toews, Brent Seabrook and Duncan Keith, the Blackhawks shined bright on the world stage and proved they are as good as any team.

However, the United States team proved they too should be taken seriously on the ice. In one of the most-watched hockey broadcasts, 27.6 million watched as Team

USA battled for gold, and though they fell short, they did not go out without a fight, forcing the game into overtime, eventually losing 3-2.

In what sportscaster Bob Costas called one of the greatest sporting events he'd ever seen, Team USA walked away with a silver medal, but nothing to be sad about.

They were not favored to win a medal at all in the games, but instead fell just shy of gold. Team USA represented our country well and ignited a true patriotism in us all as we cheered them on. Even more impressive were our Blackhawks who, as a team, are well on their way to winning the Stanley Cup this season.

As for the Olympics, Team USA will be back and we will beat Canada at their own game.

I think Blackhawks right wing Adam Burish summed it up best:

"I told [Patrick Sharp] I look at Canada as kind of like America's little sister," he told reporters. "And so the Americans kind of messed with them a little bit, like, 'Hey Canada, we're going to take your hockey, this little toy, away from you.' We took them to overtime, we scared our little sister enough, just so she knows now if we want to come and take hockey from you, we'll come and take it from you, if you're not careful. So we took them to overtime, scared them and gave them their toy back."

jdavenport@chroniclemail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/11/10

Chicago Bulls vs. Orlando Magic

The Chicago Bulls square off against the Orlando Magic in Orlando at the Amway Arena in a nationally televised NBA game. The Bulls recently learned center Joakim Noah will miss three weeks of action because of plantar fasciitis in his foot. Tip-off is at 7 p.m. and the game can be viewed on TNT.

Amway Arena
Orlando, Fla.

3/14/10

NCAA Selection Sunday

The NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament selections are announced. The field of 65 teams will be introduced live at 5 p.m. on CBS in prime time. The single-elimination tournament to crown the NCAA Division 1 Men's champion will begin the following week.

Announced live at 5 p.m. on CBS
Across the nation

3/14/10

Chicago Blackhawks vs. Washington Capitals

The Chicago Blackhawks head to the nation's capital to take on the Washington Capitals in NHL action. The Blackhawks and Capitals are two of the top teams in the NHL and feature a bevy of young stars, including Capital Alex Ovechkin and Blackhawks Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane. Puck drop is at 11:30 a.m. in Washington, D.C., and the game can be seen on NBC.

Verizon Center
Washington, D.C.

Selection Sunday kicks off March Madness

The college basketball world readies itself for the big dance

by Jeff Graveline
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

WITH CONFERENCE tournaments underway or completed, the collective eyes of the men's college basketball world have turned to March 14, Selection Sunday. On that day, the National Collegiate Athletic Association selection committee will announce the field of 65 teams that will compete for the title of NCAA men's basketball champion in the 2009-10 season.

"March Madness," as the NCAA basketball tournament is commonly called, is a single elimination tournament that pits the best 65 teams in division 1 of the NCAA against each other. The tournament takes place over the span of a month and is divided into four regions: Midwest, South, East and West.

Sixteen colleges play in each region at selected host sites. As a team wins, it advances to the next game and if the team continues to win, it can advance to Indianapolis, where the men's Final Four will be held this year.

Of the 65 teams in the tournament, only 34 are actually chosen by the Selection Committee because there are 31 automatic berths in the tournament. These automatic berths come from the 30 conference champions and the winner of the Ivy League

regular season title.

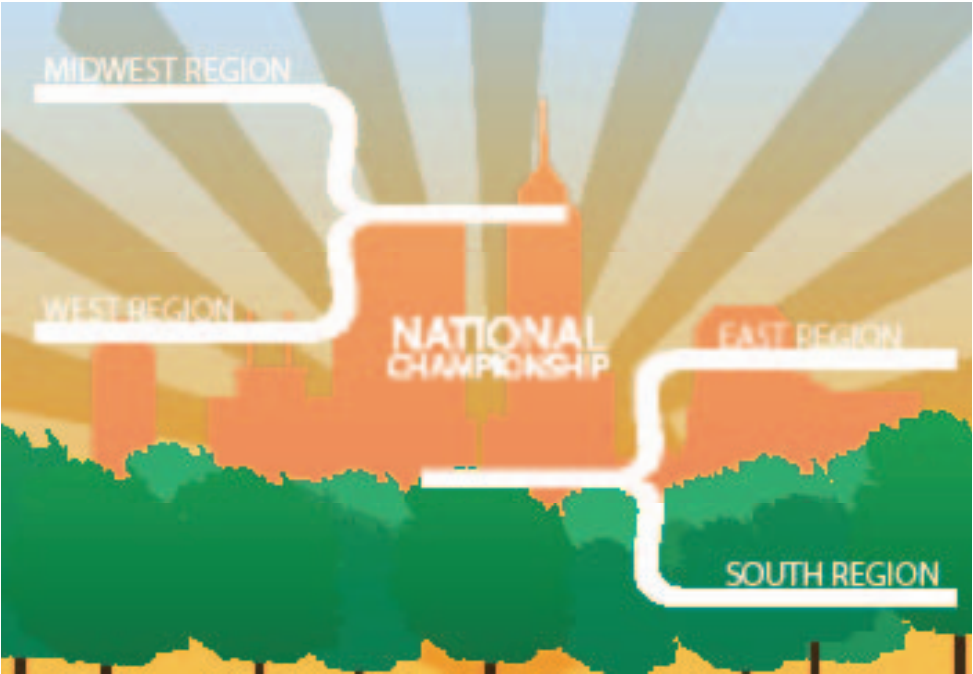
The at-large selection process begins at the start of the NCAA season, according to Bill Hancock, former NCAA Selection Committee staff liaison for 16 years and current executive director of the Bowl Championship Series. The 10 committee members are assigned two or three conferences and are entrusted with gathering data on teams in those conferences to present to the committee during the selection process. Committee members are not placed in charge of their own conference.

"If the athletic director at Cincinnati was on the committee, he would not be the one studying the Big East," Hancock said.

The 10-member committee and a few NCAA staff members meet in Indianapolis, home of NCAA headquarters, on the Tuesday or Wednesday before Selection Sunday. Once in Indianapolis, the members and staff begin the arduous process of narrowing down the 80 to 100 teams that are under consideration for the 34 at-large bids in that year's tournament.

"Basically [the committee and staff] are ensconced on the upper floors in a hotel in downtown Indianapolis," Hancock said. "They work out of suite in the hotel and they work long hours every day going through a very rigorous and stringent set of policies that ultimately allow them to produce the bracket on Sunday afternoon."

While the selection process is a season-long activity for the committee, their work is not done, once the bracket is announced



Jon Remoquillo THE CHRONICLE

on Selection Sunday, Hancock continued. Once the group leaves Indianapolis, the members go to regional locations to oversee the tournament process first hand.

"Most of the committee members aren't home during the month of March; they're only home two or three days, maybe four," Hancock said. "Because they go to the first and second rounds, then they go home and do their laundry. Then they go back out and they work on the regional. Then after that, they go home, do their laundry again and work on the Final Four. It's a very demand-

ing position."

While the Selection Committee goes through its season-long process of picking the 34 at-large bids, certain NCAA basketball power schools make their job easier.

For major basketball power schools in the NCAA division 1, Selection Sunday is more of a day to find out where they will be heading to play their next game. Teams that spent the season in the top 25 of the coach or media polls, such as the Kansas

» SEE BRACEKTS PG. 11

Gluten-free a necessity, not diet choice

One of the most common food ingredients unsafe for large portion of population

by Ivana Susic
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

FIVE YEARS ago, few people knew the term gluten-free. Many still don't understand how prevalent this protein is and the damage it can cause to millions of people around the world.

Gluten-free products, which are becoming more available in markets, aren't part of a fad diet or any form of diet at all. For people with celiac disease, gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley and rye, poses a serious health risk. According to the Celiac Disease Foundation, one in 133 people has this autoimmune disease triggered by the ingestion of gluten.

When people with celiac disease consume anything containing gluten, hair-like projections in the small intestine called villi are damaged. Villi absorb nutrients from food; when they are damaged, they will not absorb nutrients like proteins, carbohydrates and vitamins which are essential to normal body function.

Celiac disease is the most common autoimmune disease in the world, according to Dr. Peter Green, director of the Celiac Disease Center at Columbia University in New York. About 30 to 40 percent of people have the genetic makeup that puts them at risk for the condition. Out of those, 1 percent develop the disease.



STOCK PHOTO

Spelt is an ancient grain similar in appearance to wheat but contains more protein. While some people with a wheat allergy can safely eat spelt, it is not recommended for those with gluten restrictions.

"One percent may not sound like a lot, but that's high," Green said.

One percent of the world's population is about 65 million people. Of those, only 3 percent have been diagnosed and are aware they have the disease. Not nearly enough people have been diagnosed, but more people are learning about it, Green said.

"At least we're increasing awareness about the lack of awareness," he said.

Doctors often lack the understanding and knowledge necessary to help diagnose a patient, Green said.

"Not a lot of physicians know the different manifestations," he said.

Carol M. Shilson, executive director of the University of Chicago's Celiac Disease Center, explained it is important to recognize the difference between celiac disease and a wheat allergy. In an allergy, the adverse reaction will stop once the gluten is out of the body. For people with celiac disease, the reaction can last for days and cause permanent damage. A wheat allergy causes a typical food allergy response with symptoms like hives and itchiness.

People can also experience gluten sensitivity. Those with sensitivity do not test positive for celiac disease nor do they show

physical signs of an allergy. However, they experience varying levels of discomfort, usually with digestion. The problem with sensitivity is there is currently no test for it, Shilson said.

"Truly, there is no other medically based way to diagnose gluten sensitivity other than to say you've ruled out celiac disease and you're feeling better on a gluten-free diet," she said.

Shilson said she understands the confusion many people face when they test negative for celiac, but are sure their problems arise from gluten products.

"You feel lost in limbo if you don't have a clear diagnosis," she said. "You can't blame the patient for wanting to feel better."

Green called this lack of medical testing a "no-man's land" for both doctors and patients.

Dr. Alessio Fasano, director of the University of Maryland Celiac Research Center, said one upside to celiac disease is that unlike other autoimmune diseases, the trigger is well known. If those with symptoms or family members of those with celiac get a genetic test or the current standard for diagnosis, which includes a blood test and a biopsy of the small intestine, it can give one a peace of mind. It's also much better than self-diagnosing, he said.

"It's totally inappropriate to self-diagnose," Fasano said. "It's like saying if you are light-headed and you pee a little more you say, 'Well, I'm going to shoot myself

» SEE CELIAC, PG. 11

SUMMER & FALL 2010

It's almost time to REGISTER!

What you need to know:

Your registration time slots for both summer and fall semesters can be obtained by going to the *Register for Classes* screen on OASIS (under CX-Enrollment). Set the options to *Summer or Fall 2010*. Time slots are based on your cumulative credit hours. Emails with your summer and fall registration time slots, and other registration information, will be sent to your Loopmail account.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: Registration time slots do not apply to graduate students. All continuing graduate students register beginning March 15 for the summer semester, and April 5 for the fall.

SUMMER 2010

Seniors
Juniors
2BA/PCRT
Sophomores
Freshmen
Open Registration

Monday, March 15 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Tuesday, March 16 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Tuesday, March 16 - beginning at 1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 17 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Thursday, March 18 - beginning at 8 a.m.
Thursday, March 18 - beginning at 1 p.m.

The above time slots will remain open for summer registration until Tuesday, May 25 at 11:59 p.m. (CST).

FALL 2010

Continuing degree-seeking undergrad registration begins **Monday, April 5**

Open Registration (all students including degree-seeking & students at large) begins **Monday, August 16**

The above time slots will remain open for fall registration until Monday, September 13 at 11:59 p.m. (CST).

- Check with your major department to determine if faculty advising is required. If so, meet with a faculty advisor before your registration time or as soon as possible.

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

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Quick, easy jambalaya

Shrimp, veggies, rice combine to make a delicious dish

by Jeff Graveline
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

WITH A mother who is from the South, my house growing up was always full of fresh cooked meals. Grits, biscuits and anything one can think of as “Southern food” was on my plate. One of the best things my mom ever did, though, was introduce me to a tried and true Southern dish that tastes great and can be made on a college student’s budget—jambalaya.

While many think of jambalaya as something that takes all day to make and having a long list of ingredients, some versions are actually quite simple. All that is needed is a box of white rice, a pound of shrimp, one large green pepper, two celery stalks, two 16-ounce cans of tomato sauce and cajun spice. From prep to plate this dish can be ready in about 30 to 40 minutes, depending on how long the rice takes.

Put one tablespoon of olive oil over medium heat in a large pot,. Then, chop the two celery stalks and one large green pepper into half-inch pieces. Be sure to remove the membrane and seeds from the pepper while cutting it. Add one and a half teaspoons of minced garlic to the pot,



Jeff Graveline THE CHRONICLE



APPRENTICE

Jambalaya doesn't have to be an all-day affair. This simple recipe can be made in just 40 minutes and will satisfy even the most hearty of appetites.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 2 celery stalks
- 1 large green pepper
- 2 16-ounce cans tomato sauce
- 1 pound shelled and deveined shrimp
- 1 box white rice

INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a large pot, add 1 tablespoon of olive oil, 1 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic over medium heat.
2. Chop 2 celery stalks and 1 large green pepper into half-inch pieces. Add chopped vegetables to large pot.
3. Once vegetables are soft to the touch, add 2 16-ounce cans of tomato sauce to pot and reduce heat to low.
4. Add 1 pound of shelled and deveined shrimp to sauce mixture. Add cajun spices to taste.
5. As sauce and shrimp cook, make 1 box of white rice as directed on box.
6. Once rice is done and shrimp are pink in color.
7. Serve rice and sauce together.

along with the chopped celery and pepper. Sauté the vegetables until they are soft to the touch.

Next, add the two cans of tomato sauce to the pot with the vegetables, keeping it all over low to medium heat. As the sauce warms, shell and clean one pound of shrimp. Once the shrimp have been cleaned and shelled, add them to the tomato sauce.

If the sauce boils over, reduce the heat to keep mess to a minimum.

While the sauce is cooking, add cajun seasoning to taste. Cajun seasoning can be found in the spices aisle at any grocery store. I like to add either chili powder or red pepper flakes to add a touch of heat.

Stir the mixture of vegetables, spices and

shrimp together until thoroughly combined. The sauce is done once the shrimp are pinkish in color, which should take about 15 minutes.

As the sauce cooks, begin making the rice. As cooking time varies on what type of rice is used, it's best to simply follow the directions on the box.

Once the rice is done, turn off the heat to both pots and begin serving. Take a plate and place one or two scoops of rice in the center.

Top the rice with two spoons of the shrimp and vegetable sauce mixture and enjoy.

jgraveline@chroniclemail.com

» BRACKETS

Continued from PG. 9

University Jayhawks, are assured a spot in the big dance and all the pressure that comes with being a top seed.

“I know what the students are expecting, they’re expecting a National Championship, as are our fans,” said Kansas University Associate Athletic Director Jim Marchiony. “The coaching staff and the members of the team are focused on being the best team they can be, every single day in practice and in games. And we know that if we do that, then the sky is the limit.”

There is another side to the NCAA brackets though, for the non-power basketball colleges.

Smaller colleges from smaller conferences, hoping for a chance to make their mark in the big dance.

Universities such as Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C., of the Big South

Conference, were on the bubble of getting into the tournament, even though they had posted a 27-5 regular season record, as of press time.

“[The upcoming tournament and Selection Sunday] is a huge deal,” said Coastal Carolina Athletic Director Hunter Yurachek. “Coach Ellis, our head coach, that’s been his pledge to the team [‘Make it to March’]. From the start of the season, we’re playing for March.”

Teams playing for March, for a chance to represent their college on a national stage and earn a trip to the pinnacle of the college basketball world, held this year in Indianapolis.

Once the tournament begins, all bets are off and college basketball will take center stage once again.

To find out which teams made the cut into the field of 65, tune into CBS for live coverage of the announcement at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 14.

jgraveline@chroniclemail.com

» CELIAC

Continued from PG. 10

with 20 units of insulin to see if I have diabetes.’ You don’t do that. You go through all the processes to make the diagnosis.”

Fasano also stressed the importance of maintaining a gluten-free lifestyle. It should not be considered a typical diet, he said, because it is a necessity.

Not heeding to the dietary restrictions can lead to early onset osteoporosis, gastrointestinal cancers, anemia, and it may even have a link to some psychiatric conditions.

The biggest factor now, Green said, is getting doctors to order the right tests for their patients. This requires a standardization of how the test is read and analyzed.

Since labwork is usually privatized in America, it may take some work to achieve a uniform process. While this has yet to be established, he said we are heading in the right direction.

“There have been some major steps, but it’s a slow process,” Green said.

There is currently no treatment for celiac disease or any level of sensitivity to wheat besides a gluten-free diet, but many celiac centers are working on a vaccine. Shilson’s team is the first in the world to create an animal model for trials, inducing the disease in mice.

Shilson said she hopes the vaccine will “unlock some keys” to related autoimmune diseases, such as Type 1 diabetes.

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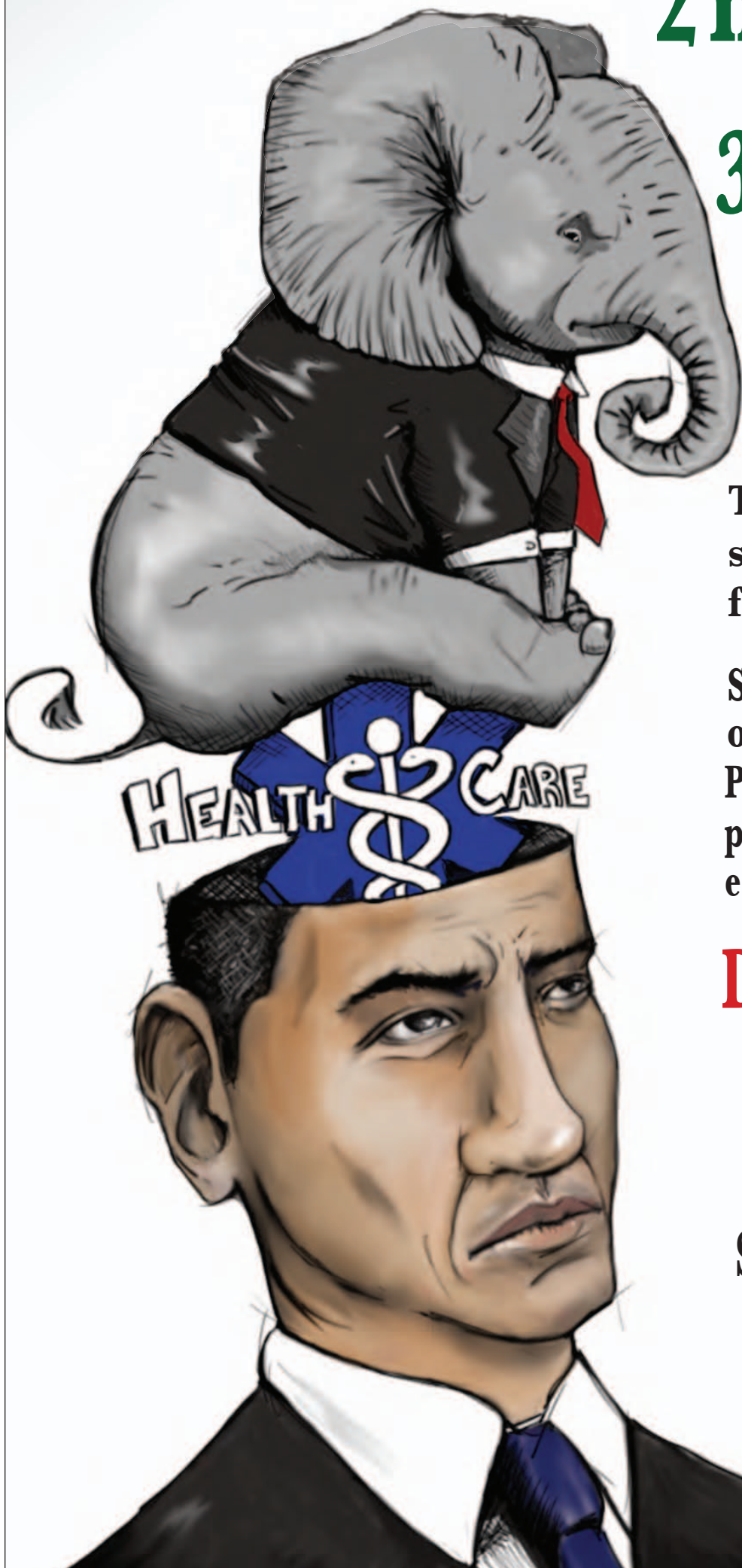
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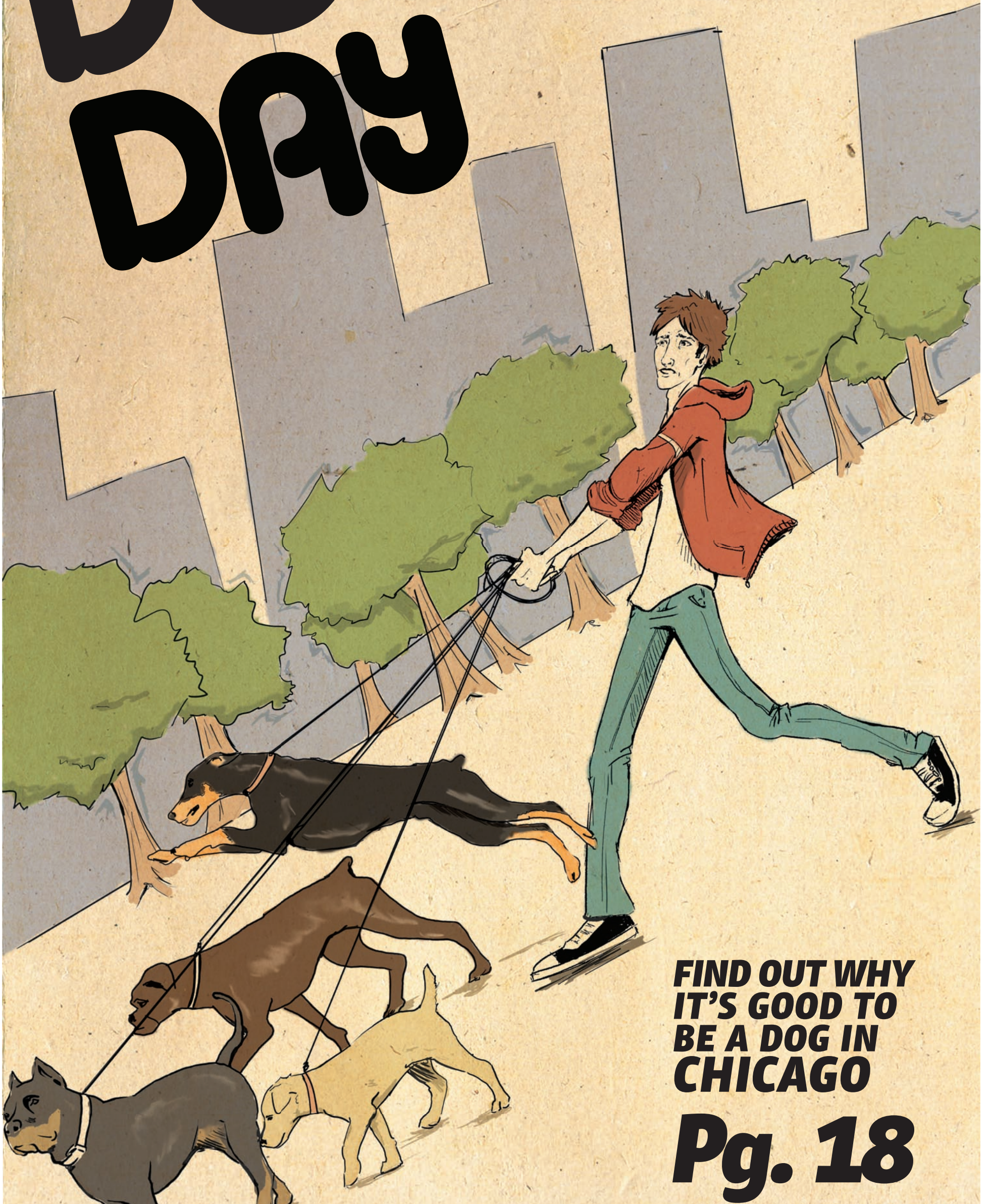
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**FIND OUT WHY
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BE A DOG IN
CHICAGO**

Pg. 18

arts & culture

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COURTESY Libby Alexander

Katherine Raz and Libby Alexander are the co-founders of the The Vintage Bazaar, which is described as a “modern pop-up flea market.” The first market was at the Dank Haus German Cultural Center, 4740 N. Western Ave. on Feb. 27.

Treasures from decades past

First vintage fair an overwhelming success, more to come

by **Mina Bloom**

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

A LONG line snaked around the historic Dank Haus German Cultural Center, 4740 N. Western Ave., on Feb. 27 in great anticipation of the first market in Chicago dedicated to selling everything from a mid-century mahogany chest to an '80s neon frock.

However, those who waited in line for what's referred to as a “pop-up modern flea market” only waited about 20 minutes before arriving at the fifth floor ballroom, which was overflowing with 3,000 trendy-looking folks shelling out cash for retro trinkets and treasures throughout the day.

Co-founder of the inaugural Vintage Bazaar, Katherine Raz, remembers when her father, who was an antique dealer, used to bring her to thrift stores as a kid. Raz describes her love of everything vintage as “only natural,” which led her to create a blog and Etsy store—an online market and community for buyers and sellers of handmade goods—named BackGarage and subsequently led her to develop this vintage market.

“I think handmade markets are awesome but at the same time, from a shopping perspective, if you're a vintage vendor, you're always finding new stuff in your particular style,” Raz said. “You always have something new and interesting in your shop. We kind of wanted to create this event that's like Ren-

egade [Handmade Market] in that you can go and get something for five bucks, but it's a new store every time just like they tell you when you go thrift shopping—‘Come back tomorrow, it'll be a whole new store!’”

Raz's business partner, Libby Alexander, works part time for the Edgewater Chamber of Commerce and full time as the manager of Agent Gallery Chicago in Wicker Park, an architectural salvage store. Alexander also decorates her apartment with fiberglass mannequin legs, Persian rugs and taxidermy as a hobby.

The latter, however, has landed Alexander's apartment on prominent design blogs in Chicago, which is how the two ladies initially met.

After Raz's photographer took pictures of Alexander's home for a feature to appear on her blog, the two of them sat down for cocktails on Alexander's porch to discuss starting a business.

“I told her I don't ever feel like I can go to an antique fair with \$20 and get a piece I really like,” Raz said. “I told her I've been thinking about doing that and she was like, ‘That's a really good idea!’ You know how somebody validates what you've been thinking all along? It kind of just spiraled into something real.”

Not unlike Raz's family history, Alexander's grandmother was a “big garage sale gal too,” Alexander said.

“We didn't have a lot of money so we were thrifty, but we still wanted to have things that were stylish,” she said.

In an effort to bring the online Etsy com-

munity to a place where buyers can actually physically touch the items and provide them with affordable vintage goodies from different Midwestern vendors with different styles all in one place, Raz and Alexander created The Vintage Bazaar by contacting people they knew in the community and utilizing social media outlets.

Simple word-of-mouth helped spark interest in the event, which is why the number of vendors who were interested—almost 60 by Alexander's estimate—was somewhat remarkable.

The Vintage Bazaar hosted 38 vintage vendors, two food vendors and was sponsored by Yelp Chicago, Mistubishi/What Are You Into and CHIRP radio.

One such women's clothing vendor by the name of Greatest Generation Vintage described her experience at The Vintage Bazaar as “chaotic in the most wonderful way possible” due to the unbelievable turnout.

“It was crowded from the moment it opened until the moment it closed,” said Nicole Hughes of Greatest Generation Vintage. “It just goes to show the need for this kind of event, or at least something to do on a gloomy February afternoon.

Hughes, who learned about The Vintage Bazaar by picking up a flyer in Wicker Park, elaborated on the need for this type of affordable market in Chicago.

“Not everyone in the city has access to a car for Kane County or Sandwich, the deep pockets for Randolph Street or the antique malls, or the patience for thrift stores or Craigslist,” Hughes said. “This show was the

blending of the best of all worlds.”

Lara Jo Hightower at vintage houseware online shop Pretty Quirky said, “if it's cool, old and pretty” she loves it, and wrote a few guest posts for Raz's BackGarage blog, which is how she found out about the market.

After selling approximately 90 percent of her merchandise, Hightower said she will, without a doubt, participate in the next Vintage Bazaar, which she said was executed flawlessly by Alexander and Raz.

“Load-in and load-out were organized to a tee, and every question we had during the 48 hours of the event was answered promptly and efficiently,” Hightower said.

According to Raz, the next Vintage Bazaar will be hosted at a different location with some different vendors sprinkled in to avoid what she calls the Renegade Handmade Market monotony, consisting of the same vendors selling the same bottle cap magnets and bound books they do every year.

Instead, the collaborative spirit of The Vintage Bazaar is full of fresh and creative business models.

“One of our vendors, the Sometimes Store, sells vintage clothing in her apartment and it's really a growing trend,” Alexander said. “It's a response probably to the economy and just thinking creatively. ‘Oh, I got laid off from my job and what am I going to do now?’ I'm just going to go for my passion and there's nothing to lose really.”

For more information about the upcoming markets, visit TheVintageBazaar.com.

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Comedic madness all through March

Local improv shifts March Madness focus from hoops to humor

by Luke Wilusz
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

WHILE MARCH Madness swings into full gear in the world of college basketball, a local improv group has adapted the tournament concept to a different kind of sport.

The ComedySportz Theatre, 929 W. Belmont Ave., started its seventh annual March Madness Improv Tournament with a show on March 4. The improv company treats comedy as a competitive sport, with two teams vying for the audience's laughter and applause. Four teams compete in the tournament for bragging rights among their ensemble peers and the honor of being crowned the ComedySportz 2010 Downtown Chicago Bosses.

Ensemble member Tim Ryder explained that a typical ComedySportz match involves two teams of improvisers competing with one another at various improv games. Some games are head-to-head with a clear victor, while others require the teams to take turns at the games and the audience determines the winner. The winning team for each game is awarded points by a referee.

"It's very simple," Ryder said. "It's just like a sport: at the end of the night, the team with the most points wins."

The March Madness shows use the same game format as a regular ComedySportz show, but the team lineups don't change every night like they do in regular play.



The red and blue teams play an improv game during the March Madness Improv Tournament at ComedySportz Theatre, 929 W. Belmont Ave.

"What we wanted was an opportunity for the audience to follow specific players through a multi-night experience," said ComedySportz President and CEO Matt Elwell. "And that's what March Madness is. Instead of changing up who's on what team every show, these players will play the same show several times in a row, and you'll get a sense of how those teams perform. Instead of seeing three random performers out of 50 on a team, you'll see these three specific people who are together to deliver this kind of comedy that they do very well."

Elwell was in charge of selecting the players for each team. He said he wanted to form teams comprised of performers with specific strengths, such as scene-based sketches or musical improv.

ComedySportz Public Relations Director David Montgomery said the performers and the audiences always get excited about March Madness.

"Here with the March Madness Tournament, [ensemble members] get to play these four shows together, and they get really excited about that," Montgomery said. "We have fans of the show, especially if they like a certain performer, and they know they can see them these four times, they'll come. So it's real fun for the fans as well."

Ryder said the competitive nature of the shows makes performances more relatable to audiences by giving them a familiar viewpoint from which to experience improv.

"It's pretty easy for people to understand, you know, because they're used to

watching sports and sporting events," he said. "A lot of people quickly grab onto their favorites and start cheering for them, and booing the other side even, and they really get into it."

Aside from the game format of shows, ComedySportz differentiates itself from other improv acts with the claim that its shows are always appropriate for all ages. Elwell said the clean nature of the shows was a point of professional pride for him.

"Artistically, it's important to me because it's a challenge," he said. "Especially in improvising, especially when you're making it up, it's so easy to, as we say, 'go blue,' you know. And you'll see blue improv all over the city. And I'm a fan of that a lot, but I think that ComedySportz players, when they get done performing our show and perform blue material other places, they're so much better at it because they're using it as a choice, and not because they have nothing [else] that will make an audience laugh."

Elwell also pointed out that keeping the show clean allows the performers to entertain a wider audience than cruder material would allow.

"It's a lot easier to get someone who likes dirty comedy to sit through a clean show than someone who likes clean comedy to sit through a dirty show," he said.

The March Madness Tournament runs every Thursday in March at 8 p.m. The final championship show will be on March 20 at 10 p.m.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com

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IN THEATERS MARCH 12

Three-day the only way

Festival organizers eliminate one-day passes, fans petition online

by Todd Martens
MCT Newswire

THE DECISION on the part of Coachella organizers to no longer sell single day tickets for the three-day 2010 event has provoked the ire of many a fan.

“Make it fair for all us people who obviously want to attend but cannot afford \$269,” reads a note on the Facebook group created by 22-year-old San Diego resident Brian Lozano.

In a shift from prior years, AEG/Goldenvoice opted to forego the single-day ticket option for the 2010 edition of the Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival. Only a three-day pass retailing for \$269, which ultimately comes to \$303.60 once various service fees have been added, is being offered for this year’s festival.

In an earlier interview, Goldenvoice leader and festival architect Paul Tollett said his primary goal was bettering the experience for those who opt to buy three-day passes, pointing to a lack of hotel rooms in the Indio area as well as increased festival traffic for those coming down for just one day.

“We’re really trying to make it great for the fan,” Tollett said. “We understand it will affect some people who want to go for one day, but we have to protect the three-day people. It was a complex decision. We

put some thought into it, and we’re trying our best to make it a good experience.”

Lozano started his “Coachella 2010 Single-Day Pass/Wristband Petition Group” after reading the Jan. 27 Los Angeles Times article. He originally intended to go to the event only on Sunday, when alt-rockers Pavement will reunite and Damon Albarn’s adventurous Gorillaz project will headline. Within the first two days of launching the group, the San Diego Mesa College student said he had about 500 members. As of this press time, the number had increased to more than 5,000.

“My heart was broken,” Lozano said when he read single-day tickets would not be available. “I saw that, and I thought, ‘Well, I guess we’re not going to go.’ I’m not really able to make it Friday or Saturday, and I was only looking forward to going on Sunday. So what can I do?”

Lozano’s Facebook page continues to provoke discussion on the topic, as do the Coachella forums. An earlier Los Angeles Times post has generated nearly 50 comments on the matter. For his part, Lozano has been surprised at how many people disagree with him, posting on his Facebook group that it’s a good thing the 2010 edition of Coachella is now for die-hards-only.

“Who are all these people that are just hating on people who love music? Everybody would love to attend all three days. It’s one big party. But the negative messages? We don’t delete them. People can’t spend \$269, especially in times like these.”



Courtesy GRANT GEE

Jack White’s latest band, The Dead Weather, is scheduled to play at Coachella on Saturday, April 17.

The comments section on Lozano’s Facebook group is filled with pleas from fans who say they either can’t afford the three-day pass, or take the time off work. Lozano himself hopes that as the festival draws closer, Goldenvoice will offer single-day tickets. Yet that appears unlikely. An e-mail to “info@coachella.com” generates an immediate auto-response, with the note that only three-day tickets will be available for 2010. Tollett said it is likely that those who buy tickets at the gate will find them pro-rated, but a Coachella spokeswoman had no further details at this time.

Lozano admits he may ultimately spring for the three-day pass. “Yes, I am considering it,” he said. “At first, I just didn’t want to go, just to spite them. Out of anger, I didn’t want to give them my money.”

Tollett earlier noted the vast majority of

Coachella attendees opt for the three-day pass. Since Coachella expanded to three days in 2007, more than 80 percent of concert-goers have bought multi-day passes, Tollett said. While cutting out the single-day, \$99 ticket may result in alienating a number of fest-goers—a financially sizable 20 percent—Coachella, Tollett said, should be known as a three-day event.

“The thing is,” Tollett said, “there’s a lack of hotels in the Coachella Valley, and most have a three-day minimum. Many times what happens is people get a hotel for the three days, and only go to Coachella for one or two of the days. They hit Friday and Saturday, and go home or rest at the hotel on Sunday. That’s no problem, but the problem with that is that there are people who want that hotel and are going for three days.”

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Ama'zine' indie literature comes together

Chicago plays host to first festival for individual creativity

by Colin Shively
Arts & Culture Editor

CHICAGO WAS once one of the printing capitals of the nation, with top magazines and newspapers published right in the city. Today, Chicago is still home to popular print publications, but a type of paper is becoming more popular in the city, and it isn't produced by any media conglomerate.

The popular publications, called zines are self-made and are a locally produced print media with low circulation, but every page is filled with personality.

On March 12, Chicago will have its first Zine Fest, where more than 95 local, small magazine exhibitors will come together to gain new ideas and showcase their personal productions. The community will be able to see the work of self-motivated individuals first hand with events at Columbia's Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.; Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave.; and Johalla Projects, 1561 N. Milwaukee Ave.

"The organizers shared a table at the Milwaukee Zine Fest this past November and we realized half the people there were from Chicago," said Neil Brideau, an organizer for the Chicago Zine Fest. "We thought it was crazy that they had to leave Chicago to come to a Zine Fest in Milwaukee. We started planning a Chicago Zine Fest that night while driving back to Chicago."

The overall purpose, Brideau said, is to celebrate self-publishing and create a social networking-style event where zinesters can meet. Brideau said with the harsh Chicago winter and spread out neighborhoods, most zinesters don't collaborate and end up "publishing their work in their own bedroom." The festival will allow them to come out and display their work to the community and other creators.

"The idea of self-generating content is becoming more mainstream and not such a crazy idea," Brideau said. "People now can say 'Oh, I have something. I guess I can just say it and not wait for someone else to say it is OK.'"

When Brideau and the other organizers started openly recruiting zines to join the festival, the rapid responses were staggering, he said. Their first participant was a zine in Toronto, causing the festival to go international, Brideau said.

The Fiction Writing Department at Columbia joined the Zine Fest to help students see what they can do while in school and past graduation. The department has worked alongside festival organizers to reserve tables so students can showcase their own literature and see fellow students' creations. The tables

are on a first-come, first-serve basis with a maximum of 10 tables.

Jon Wawrzaszek, recycling manager at Columbia, is helping the event on March 13 at the Conaway Center by managing the facilities that the Zine Fest will use at Columbia.

Wawrzaszek said the festival is coming to Columbia not just because it's a well-known institution with a strong Fiction Writing Department, but because there are students with their own personal zines and some who want to

learn more about individually made literature.

Throughout the festival, the community and fellow zinesters will bear witness to the ever-expanding trend of self-publishing through speakers, galleries and meetings.

"We like the idea of connecting with students at Columbia because we

love to see more people make zines," Brideau said. "We are excited to have students and young writers involved. It will be a good fit."

-Neil Brideau

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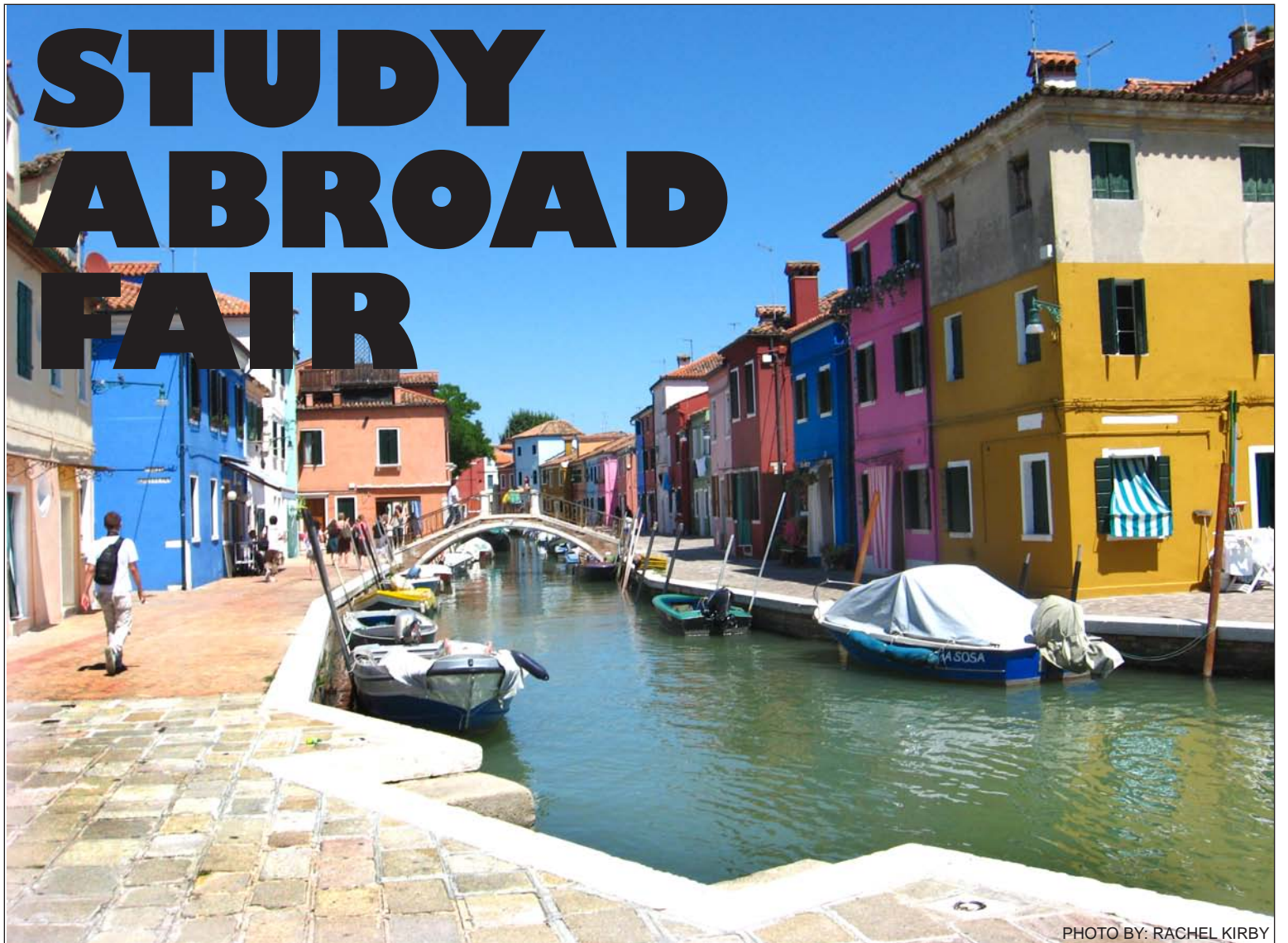


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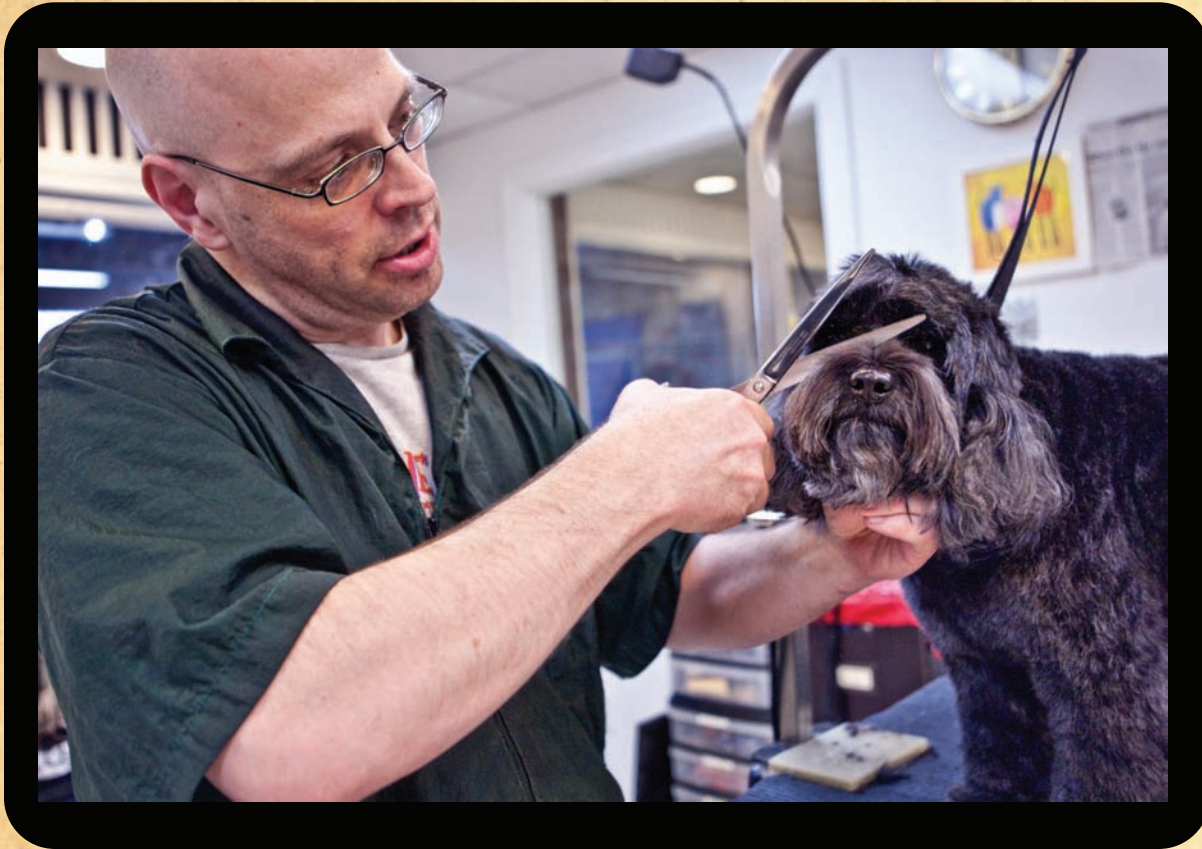
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Dog go



Several dogs walked elegantly in a circle with their suit-clad owners leading the way. A group of onlookers—families and couples who enjoy the plethora of breeds and sizes—watched the furry competitors walk their walk. The ceiling soared high above them in the McCormick Place hangar-like exhibition space at 2301 S. Lake Shore Drive. Below, a community of vendors and owners gathered around man's furry best friends for the International Kennel Club of Chicago's Dog Show.

Owners, breeders and the pet care industry met at the yearly event. More than 150 breeds were represented in the different competitions, with up to 3,000 individual dogs competing. Before the show, owners prepared to make their pets champions with the proper diet, care and the best products available. Conveniently, the vendors that sell such products bordered the fenced-off competition spaces.

In the back corner of McCormick Place's show space, among the rows of dogs that rested in anticipation of their shot at glory, sat a 240-pound English mastiff named Broker. A tiny border terrier played with the weighty canine,

getting the big guy to roll onto his back. His owner, Matt Drozdoff, a mastiff breeder from Portage, Ind., watched over his dog and talked to show attendees when they stopped to stare. Despite the large size of Drozdoff's dog, his needs are still the same as any other's.

"Feed them, walk them, give them lots of attention," Drozdoff said. "We feed twice a day. They get walks five times a day and they spend a lot of time on the couch with us."

Drozdoff said mastiffs were bred to be big. Historically, they are guard dogs. However, Broker's disposition is more of a gentle giant than a voracious hound. He kissed one woman as she leaned over to pet him.

Drozdoff had three other dogs competing in this year's show. It was his sixth competition and he said his animals are champions. He said the draw of the

"Their dogs become more their children than their pets, so I think people start looking for the services as they would for their child..."

—Joseph Giannini

competition for him is to be able to show off what he has made.

Up three aisles in the hangar sat Emily Parr, 17, holding the leashes of both her dog and her mother's. This is her first trip participating in the Kennel Club Dog Show. She grooms, handles and cares for her dog in order to turn her into a competitor. Suffice to say, the show exhausted both owner and pooch.

"It's a long day," Parr said. "It takes about an hour drive from where I live. We gotta get the dogs, figure out where we got to be at which time and who's handling them. It was just absolute craziness."

Parr said all the work was worth it, and it brought her closer to her canine companion.

"I'm her main trainer, so we're very close," she said. "At home, she always sleeps at my feet and tries to steal my food. So I feel very privileged."

Parr said people may have the wrong image in their minds about the dog show. It is, she said, about having a happy, healthy dog that's well trained and well taken care of.

At the show, the numerous vendors selling dog food, canine-themed jewelry, grooming equipment and even dog resorts were ready and willing to help. The pet care industry is a large one, filled with both brawny competitors like Purina—the company was one of the event's sponsors—and other smaller operations. Outside of McCormick Place, a number of brick and mortar stores are available to Chicagoland dog owners.

South Loop denizens can get their pet groomed and washed at shops such as Soggy Paws, 1912 S. State St. For health-conscious pet owners, all-natural premium pet food store Kriser's has multiple locations in Chicago and sells health-minded dog chow. Owners who need a helping hand when they aren't able to keep a watchful eye over their furry friends can also use premium dog-watching shops like Mutt Hutt Inc.

Joseph Giannini owns Urban Out Sitters, a local Chicago doggy day care service. His business



ne ridiculous



started 10 years ago as a dog walking service and has since grown into a lucrative kennel and boarding service. Giannini said the key to success in the industry is customer service—for the person just as much as the dog. Dogs haven't developed the ability to spend money just yet.

"One of the things I've learned about this business is it's not like a cup of coffee," Giannini said. "If you want a cup you can get it anywhere. Coffee is coffee. Day care is not that way. [Customers] usually select us because they feel a certain comfort level."

Giannini said his business stays competitive through its customer service. Their hours are long and they offer a taxi to get dogs to day care if the owner is occupied. Giannini said while people can be excessive in the amount they spend on their dogs, it isn't a problem unless it's affecting other aspects of their life.

"Their dogs become more their children than their pets, so I think people start looking for the services as they would for their child," Giannini said. "Is it spending too much money? I don't know. If you're avoiding your other bills or other things in life to take care of your dog, then maybe you have an issue."

Giannini said he buys his own dogs Burberry dog collars. He doesn't buy any Burberry products for himself.

"I'm not a fashion diva," Giannini said. "I don't wear anything fancy for the most part ... It just becomes another one of those things for us as humans to indulge [in], spend our money. We do it for our dogs and it

makes us feel good."

He said the reason people form such strong bonds with their dogs is because the dogs love their owners unconditionally. That, coupled with the fact that dogs are helplessly dependent on their owner for food and shelter, makes him or her feel needed. Giannini said that's where much of the strangeness comes from about dog owners.

"At the end of the day, they're still our pets," Giannini said. "They're not human although we treat them like it. I certainly don't discriminate against that person. We try to clear that up right off the bat. They are dogs. They play like dogs, they don't play like kids. They bite. They do all the nasty things dogs do."

Giannini said Urban Out Sitters is practical, so any dog owner that wants a pet to be held once every hour most likely will not get their wish. That is not to say the company dismisses the owner's bond with a beloved pet. Giannini said part of the reason he started his business was because he wanted to provide the care he would want for his own Rottweilers, whom he said he loves to death.

Corey Brashinger, operations manager at Mutt Hutt Inc., was a veterinarian before working for Mutt Hutt. She said she sees nothing wrong with people spending a large amount of money on their dogs if they're taken care of.

Mutt Hutt Inc. is a full-service pet care shop and offers grooming, pet products and boarding. They specialize in small, senior, nervous and "differently-abled" dogs. Brashinger said while owners can choose to spend excessively on pet products, generally they are looking out for their pets. Doggy clothes for example, as strange as a dog wearing fleece may seem, do help the pets that weren't born with the coat of a husky.

"Most people, when they buy something like that, they're looking for something they would also find fashionable," Brashinger said. "That's where the lines get a little skewed, but at the same time I don't see many people inappropriately dressing a dog that's already prepared for the weather."

As varied as canines can be, Brashinger said the

same is true of their owners.

"The way that I think no two dogs are alike, I feel the same way about pet owners," Brashinger said. "They all, at least our clients, I can say they're all really looking out for the needs of their dog; which is what we hope for them because we're all dog people."

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Natalie Chenoweth, a certified groomer, treats Summers to a trim, which starts at \$120 due to her size.

Left: Dan Vaughn, a master groomer, treats Sophie, a cockapoo, to a clipping that starts at \$65.

Middle: Keith Bingham, a kennel supervisor, takes Grant for a short walk during his stay at DoGone Fun! Walks are an additional \$5 on top of the \$45 a night that is costs to board a pet overnight.





Associated Press

Rick Addante, 26, of Davis, Calif. attends the tea party protest at the state capitol in Sacramento, Calif., on April 15, 2009.

Ebert leaves tea party movement all a Twitter

Well-known film critic slams emerging conservative movement

by Scott Collins
MCT Newswire

WHO'S THE biggest scourge of the tea party movement these days? It might be film critic Roger Ebert, who lately has been tossing brickbats at Sarah Palin and other right-wing politicians in between rendering verdicts on the latest movies.

Over the past few weeks, Ebert has used his busy Twitter page to give the tea party belittling nicknames, predict it will quickly fade and opine that "a loud movement is not the same as a mass movement."

"I write about the TeePees because it's so sad how they've been manipulated to oppose their own best interests," Ebert said in an e-mail, using his latest epithet for the tea party followers. "I am a liberal."

His thoughts have earned him scorn from conservatives who accuse him of elitism and trashing ordinary Americans. More notable than the political spat, though, is what it says about the rapidly evolving media and Ebert's place among them. Because of his decades of TV appearances, including with his late partner Gene Siskel, Ebert is perhaps the only critic in America who really has a household name.

But due to complications from cancer surgery in 2006, he has been unable to speak. The story of his recovery battle, along with a jarring portrait that revealed his surgically ravaged jawline, recently appeared in *Esquire*. Tuesday, he appeared on "Oprah" to unveil an electronic device that gives him back some vocal function. Given the fact that for years Ebert was never far away from a microphone, there's irony in the fact that his current battle with the tea party followers is conducted in text only, with bite-sized Tweets and blog posts.

Now the 67-year-old reviewer finds himself at the center of the debate over whether and how mainstream journalists—who have typically labored in silos of specialization and avoided anything that called into question a pose of objectivity—should mix it up in the woolly world of social media. Many large news-gathering organizations, including the *Los Angeles Times*, have rules governing reporters' and editors' use of Facebook, Twitter and other applications.

Some experts say the time may be ripe to rethink such restrictions.

"In an era in which newspapers are in decline, any journalist who attracts attention in any area should be welcome," said Paul Levinson, a professor of communication and media studies at Fordham University who is also an active Twitter user.

"Distinctions that keep reporters penned into a small area never made much sense. The greatest journalists and writers were always Renaissance men and women, able to do many tasks."

Andrew Breitbart, publisher of several influential conservative blogs including Big Hollywood, defends Ebert the new-media user while attacking Ebert the political thinker. Breitbart says that Ebert's Twitter posts reveal a patronizing view of tea party adherents that serves as a "caricature of the liberal mind-set" and that the critic brims with "raw contempt for Middle America."

What especially irked some conservatives was that Ebert used a nickname for tea party followers that has also long been slang for a sexual act. When Ebert Tweeted that he was unaware of the term's pornographic connotation, Big Hollywood countered that he had referred to such a context in past movie reviews.

But Breitbart adds that the current fracas ultimately proves how much power has tilted to new media and away from mainstream outlets such as newspapers, where Ebert has reviewed movies for more than 40 years.

"I am a proponent of Roger Ebert using Twitter to express his point of view," Breitbart said. "It's a testament to the new media. Where is he having a bigger impact, in the Twitterverse or doing his reviews of movies?"

Ebert admits he was slow to appreciate Twitter but is now a fan. "It's an art form," he said in an e-mail interview with *The Los Angeles Times*. "It encourages minimalism, almost like a word game."

"Having said more than once 'I will never be a twit,' I now feel it is a splendid discipline ... I link to great writing on the Web. I also like to link to the unique, the beautiful, the weird."

"That day is a sad day," he said, "when a newspaperman fears to Tweet."

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diy.
(do indie yourself)

'Real Art. Real People. Real World.
Independent Artists Share Ideas for
Creating and Sustaining Success.'

topic:
planning for perpetuity:
pixels, paint, and physical formats
how to protect your work so it's there when you need it

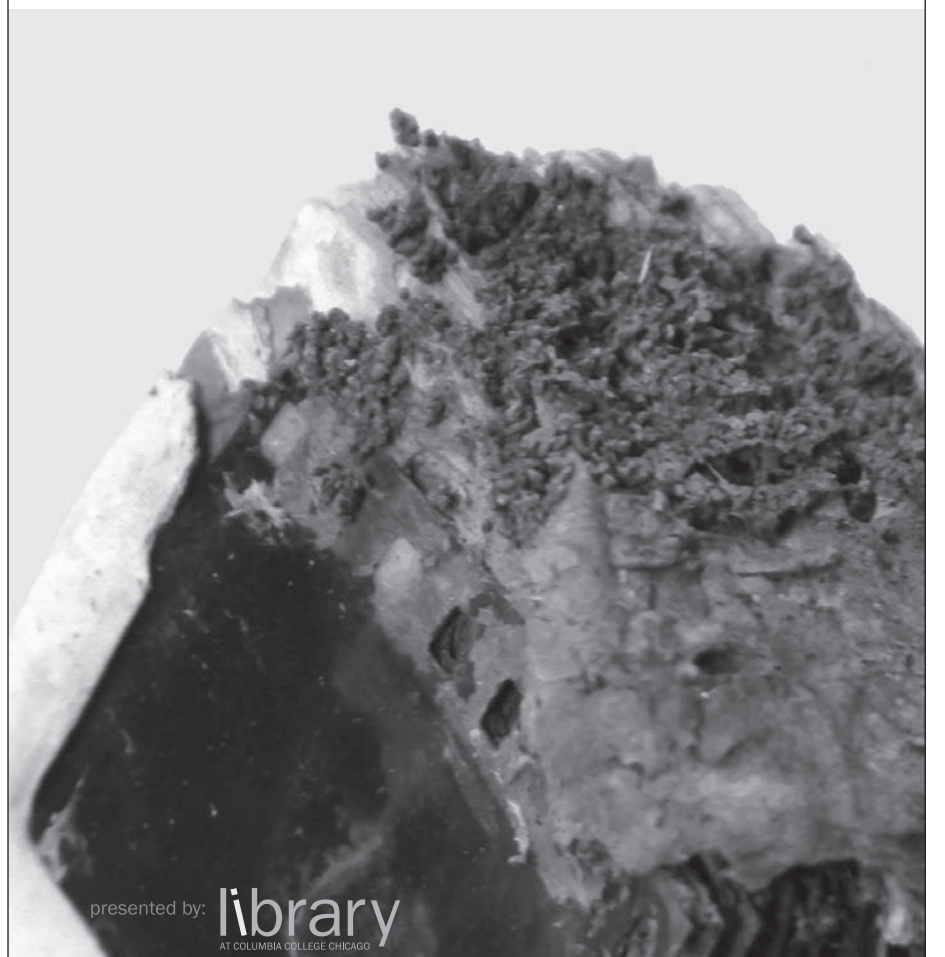
guest speakers:

Heidi Marshall
(digital preservation)

Laura Moeller
(book, paper & photograph care)

Michael Welsh
(paint composition & longevity)

Wednesday, March 10th 6:00 - 8:00 pm
3rd floor, Columbia College Library
624 S. Michigan Ave.
Refreshments Served



presented by: library
AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

FILM REVIEW

A plot obsessed ‘prophet’

Crime movie brings genre back to life with action, realism

by David Orlikoff
Film Critic

WHY DO we love organized crime films? Let me count the reasons. They offer immersion into another culture operating within society, but independent of its mores. We are seduced by their proximity to the mundane as well as their verisimilitude. They mix the most pleasurable qualities of documentaries and wild fiction, leaving us feeling that we have learned some truth about the dark side. Yet within this paradoxical framework, they are escapist fantasy. Critics’ appreciation of the genre hasn’t changed much from “The Godfather” to “The Departed.” They laud the storytelling craft involved and the epic scale. Audiences’ tastes have shifted culturally, from the romantic films of yesteryear to the gritty realism of today.

But what hasn’t changed until now is the idea that these often grueling, episodic narrative behemoths are never just telling a story, but always the story of their ethnic and cultural sphere. “A Prophet,” from celebrated French writer/director Jacques Audiard, is perhaps the most unique film still working within the genre because it is completely singular and subjective. “A Prophet” stars Tahar Rahim as Malik El Djebena, a troubled youth of both French and Arab ancestry, as he serves a six-year sentence with hardened

‘A Prophet’
Starring: Tahar Rahim
Director: Jacques Audiard
Run Time: 155 minutes

Rating: R
Now playing at local theaters.



criminals. But with his public defender as his closest equivalent of family, Malik’s heritage is all but irrelevant and divisions of race prove arbitrary delineations of power. Up for the Foreign Language Film Oscar, “A Prophet” already won the Grand Prix at Cannes along with other awards.

It’s easy to read social messages into this film based on content alone. But it doesn’t have that kind of prescriptive oriented framework to raise awareness of an issue. “A Prophet” is much more about Malik as a specific and autonomous man than as a reactionary social construction. It’s a film obsessed with plot, placing action itself on at least equal footing with message and subtext. It maintains a brisk pace even at 150 minutes and holds attention like a great heist film.

Malik is illiterate, though bilingual, and an orphaned repeated juvenile offender. The audience is all but ready to forgive him of whatever trumped up charge finally landed him in the big house. In his first hours served he is of course mugged; then in his failed attempt to fight back we see something of his tenacious grit and ambition. But his



IMDB

Tahar Rahim stars as Malik El Djebena, who becomes a Mafia kingpin in a French prison.

true initiation comes when Niels Arestrup (a fantastic visceral force) as César Luciani, the leader of the Corsican gang, approaches him about murdering an Arab informant. “Either you kill him or I kill you,” said Luciani in a classic crime film offer the character can’t refuse. But squeamish and possibly even moral, Malik tries anything and everything to get out of it. After his many trials, the audience can no longer find him morally culpable, but that hardly eases his guilt.

For the rest of the film Malik has conversations with the man he murdered—the man who called him “brother.” But what do we make of these images? They are not literal hallucinations as in “Shutter Island,” nor are they literal ghosts. When Malik speaks to the specter, would an objective observer hear him? Are the images a magnification of his imagination, or poetic interpretation of

subjective events? The camera often follows Malik’s perspective. It conveys his lost time in prison by showing only what’s relevant to plot. It introduces the iris effect as point of view, not merely for ostension, but to show Malik’s ignorance and limitations. These effects don’t necessarily make us care for him any more than his charm and wit already have, but they are the most interesting thing to happen to the genre in 40 years.

The action always associated with his rise to power is gleefully on point. By the end of the film, the scars on his back that once suggested hard times as a child take on a more villainous tone. They cease to be sympathetic and become ominous, yet still alluring. There are so many ways to appreciate this film. Do not miss it.

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HOLD UP!!!

Financial Registration Holds were placed on February 26th

In order to register for upcoming sessions your student account must be in good standing. If you did not meet the requirements of your chosen Payer Identity Plan a hold will be placed on your account and you'll be notified via your Loopmail account or by phone.

Now take a breath...You do not have to miss out on classes! Complete the following checklist to get back on track.

- ☐ **Check your** student account right away by logging on to your OASIS Portal and selecting the Student Financial Services tab to view your Student Account Detail.
- ☐ **Make sure** you've completed all the requirements for your chosen Payer Identity Plan. Visit our website for details: www.colum.edu/sfs click on Paying Your Bill.
- ☐ **If unsure** of what to do regarding your hold, join us at one of the SFS Wednesday Mixers, a low-key and low-stress event for all students, to visit and use our new lab facilities as well as ask questions and seek information regarding financial issues. Go to www.colum.edu/sfs click on Spotlight for more information on this event. Wednesday Mixers begin March 10th.

Columbia

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For more information visit the Student Financial Services website at www.colum.edu/sfs and view the SFS Spotlight Announcements.

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Spring 2010

JOB FAIR

Thursday, April 8, 2010

10am - 2pm
Film Row Conference Center
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Visit www.colum.edu/jobfair for Details

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COLLEGE CHICAGO

STAFF PLAYLIST

MINA BLOOM, ASSISTANT ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR



YOUNG MONEY FEAT. LLOYD // BED ROCK
BEACH HOUSE // WALK IN THE PARK
BONNIE TYLER // TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HEART
SURFER BLOOD // SWIM

LENNY GILMORE, SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR



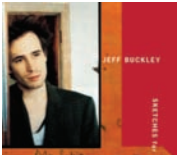
BELLE & SEBASTIAN // THE BOY WITH THE ARAB STRAP
THE BEATLES // DO YOU WANT TO KNOW A SECRET
THE MARVELETTES // PLEASE MR. POSTMAN
GLADYS KNIGHT & THE PIPS// MIDNIGHT TRAIN TO GEORGIA

TAYLOR NORRIS, COPY EDITOR



RADIOHEAD // IDIOTEQUE
RADIOHEAD // WEIRD FISHES
JOEL PLASKETT // ABSENTMINDED MELODY
GREGORY ALAN ISAKOV // SAN FRANCISCO

CODY PRENTISS, ASSISTANT ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR



JEFF BUCKLEY // SATISFIED MIND
AARON ATWELL // JUNE CARTER
GORILLAZ // TOMORROW COMES TODAY
MARC COHN // WALKING IN MEMPHIS

CHICAGO AUDIOFILE



COURTESY Adam Leaders

Chicago-based band Blah Blah Blah comprises Phill Ferguson, Dario Arcos, Byron Hardin and Solomon Moss.

Indie band anything but ‘Blah’

by Mina Bloom
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

IN JANUARY, the Chicago Tribune named local band Blah Blah Blah one of five “bands on the verge of breaking big,” which seems fitting for a polished indie pop band with light, Morrissey-esque vocals, due to play this month at South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas.

Blah Blah Blah comprises Phill Ferguson on keyboards and guitar, Dario Arcos on drums, Byron Hardin on bass and Solomon Moss on guitar and vocals. The band was perhaps named ironically because these guys embody the very opposite of what the word “blah” tends to evoke. Easily described as charmingly sarcastic and easygoing, the members of Blah Blah Blah talked with The Chronicle about their range of musical influences, what to expect from their upcoming release and their initial reaction to the Tribune write-up.

The Chronicle: How did you guys meet?

Phill Ferguson: Well, we were in the middle of the room one day and we were into sucking on helium—that was a pastime we were into at the time—and our voices joined together in harmony.
Solomon Moss: No, for the record, that’s not what happened. My mom will think I’m a helium sucker. It isn’t true.

The Chronicle: Are you making fun of me?

SM: I can take this one. I’ve known Phill for 12 years I think and I’ve seen Dario play many times throughout the years. I saw him play on drums and I was like, “That guy shines on that!” It all kind of revolved around us getting into the same room with instruments to play a tune.
PF: It started to be very consecutive.
SM: We met Byron and he sort of jumped into the group.

The Chronicle: What are your individual musical influences?

SM: My top five influences are Aaron Neville, Boyz II Men, Phill with two Ls, Radiohead and Morrissey. Add Frank Sinatra and take Phill with two ‘L’s out.
PF: I really am a big fan of David Bowie—early and late. Just the creativity of production. [There’s] The Smashing Pumpkins, Sammy Davis Jr., everybody in love. I would

say probably Depeche Mode, probably some—this is a hard question—a group called Blaze [and] of course the greats: Marvin Gaye and Curtis Mayfield and stuff like that. Deftones also.
DA: Rhythm-wise, I like a lot of world music and a lot of hip-hop.
SM: I like songs with drums and songs with voices.

The Chronicle: What does your new music sound like compared to what you’ve worked on in the past?

SM: We haven’t released anything officially. It’s all been demo tracks pushed out. But the stuff we’re doing now is recorded nicely; it’s more confident as far as the way it’s played and recorded. It gets the idea across way better. The last batch we recorded at a place called Third Coast, which I believe is no longer there, and other studios around Chicago. The music is just more real, if that makes sense. The vibe in the studio was very cool as where the other ones sound a little more rigid.
Byron Hardin: It’s more of what we want rather than the producer just recording us. We’re more comfortable in the studio.

The Chronicle: What’s your reaction to being named one of the local bands to break big, according to the Tribune?

DA: The description kind of pinned us as a slower-sounding band, but we’re definitely not. Anyone who has seen a live show was pretty upset about that quote.
PF: It’s not like we’re complaining though. It’s not like we’ve made every avenue available to the Tribune. They’ve only heard a couple of songs, I’m sure.
BH: It’s beautiful that people have their different views. That’s what’s great about music. Whoever says whatever they say won’t say anything bad about it, of course, but their particular input is great. That’s how the group is.
PF: [Asking the rest of the band] How would you define this kind of music?
SM: It’s a smooth intensity. You’re at ease, but it’s intense.
PF: I like that.

For more information about the band, visit MySpace.com/BlahBlahBlahChicago. Their next show will be on March 11 at Reggie’s Rock Club, 2019 S. State St.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com

music downloads

Week ending March 2, 2010

#1 Album



Need You Now
Lady Antebellum

Top tracks () Last week's ranking in top five

United States

Imma Be • Black Eyed Peas	(1)	1
Hey, Soul Sister • Train	(3)	2
Need You Now • Lady Antebellum	(2)	3
Blah Blah Blah • Ke\$ha		4
In My Head • Jason Derulo		5

United Kingdom

In My Head • Jason Derulo	(2)	1
Rude Boy • Rihanna	(4)	2
You ... Dirtee Love • Florence + the Machine	(1)	3
Starry Eyed • Ellie Goulding		4
Empire State ... Broken Down • Alicia Keys	(3)	5

Spain

We Are the World ... for Haiti • Artists for Haiti	(1)	1
TiK ToK • Ke\$ha	(2)	2
El Run Run • Estopa	(3)	3
Meet Me Halfway • Black Eyed Peas	(4)	4
Stereo Love • Edward Maya, Vika Jigulina		5

Source: iTunes

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Lights
Ellie Goulding



Hijo de la Luz y de la Sombra
Joan Manuel Serrat

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TOP 5



Jonathan Allen/Graphic Designer

Most awkward gifts

“Pray Yourself Thin”: In my chubbier days this was a book my aunt happily bestowed upon me for my 14th birthday. Never before has a present been a triple whammy to my pride. My life was apparently in such disarray that no treadmill was going to fix me. I had no choice but to rely on divine intervention to shrink my waistline. Plus, no 14-year-old wants a book for a present.

W magazine: I’m sure my above picture—the purple collared shirt under the argyle sweater-vest—doesn’t portray me as the most masculine guy in the world. However, when my aunt took her assumptions to a new level and purchased me a year’s subscription to a women’s fashion magazine, I wasn’t sure how to react.

Five maroon-checkered sweaters: Grandma, if you are reading this, I need to let you know now: Stop shopping at Lands’ End. For the past five years, you have gotten me the exact same sweater and they are all extra-larges. And I’m more of a winter than an autumn.

Furry handcuffs: One time a friend got me furry handcuffs as a gag gift for my birthday. We had a good laugh and I threw them in my bag. Two months later I forgot they were there and went through customs in Belgium with my parents and siblings present during the questioning.

A grill: After two weeks when your significant other feels comfortable enough to invest in a grill (the bejeweled one for your teeth) as a gift for you, you should probably start looking elsewhere. Unless they have argyle grills I don’t think I really could have pulled it off anyhow.



Lisa Danielson/Graphic Designer

YouTube videos

“Brush and Look” – ChannelRichard: “Brush and Look” is one of ChannelRichard’s more popular videos. The song is creative and funny and can easily stand on its own. Watching the video along with it makes it even funnier because of his dramatic visual humor. The video has some great editing in it, and it’s clear that ChannelRichard belongs on camera!

“Lady Gaga: Bad Romance parody (feat. Lord Gaga)” – Barely Political: One of the most hilarious parodies of Lady Gaga I’ve seen. Emphasizing Gaga’s unusual style and videos in a way that mocks her, it creates a contest between her and the character “Lord Gaga” to see who is weirder. From poking fun of her lack of pants to seemingly random costumes and scenes in her videos, it makes her look pretty crazy.

“New FBI Warning” – Community Channel: This video makes me laugh out loud every time, mostly because it’s so ridiculous. But, I think it would be a lot more entertaining to have an FBI warning like this instead of one that looks like a powerpoint presentation you’d give in one of your LAS classes.

“Garfunkel and Oates sing ‘Self Esteem’ live!” – Rikilind: This is one of the funniest songs I’ve heard. With the chorus stating, “My self esteem’s not low enough to date you ...” they have fun mocking the sad, desperate girl with low self esteem.

“Where’s the chapstick?” – CRAZYTRUMPET-ERG1: The first time I saw this I wondered what I was watching, but this video makes me laugh every time. It’s also a Chronicle favorite!



Jon Remoquillo/Graphic Designer

Vinyl figure collaborations

Coarse x Rotofugi: Jaws: If you collect vinyl figures and cute toys, you better know Chicago’s Rotofugi. The top-tier store creates the baddest figure of a skateboarder, wearing a giant shark for a helmet. Of course this Jaws runs it OG with the black and gray color way.

Sam Flores x Upper Playground: Kid Dragon: This masterpiece is part man, part dragon. The head of the dragon is biting the kid’s head. It resembles a Native American headdress that hangs down to the ground. Only 200 pieces were made.

Tokidoki x Devilrobots: Astrodemonio & Evil King: Two of the biggest names that create cute but evil vinyl figures get together to create the best collaboration. The two pieces reflect the Japanese stereotypical conception of the antagonistic giant robots. This is for anyone who grew up with anime and mangas.

Michael Lau x The Hundreds : Adam Bomb: The king of toy designers, turns The Hundred’s icon into a figure. Lau shows different alterations of his showcase, Gardener 10th, across the world. I’d give up my tuition just to attend.

Takashi Murakami x Louis Vuitton: Giant PutiPanda: Chicago has seen Murakami’s collaboration with Kanye West on the “Graduation” album. High fashion recognizes his work for Louis Vuitton, creating the signature LV with colorful cherries, flowers and the giant panda. The greatest contemporary artist of our day creates the most remarkable giant panda figure.

JACKASS OF THE WEEK



XBOX LIVE

Game Over

A CONTROVERSY swept the gaming blogosphere on Feb. 22 when an Xbox Live user with the online name “iTzLuPo” posted a video claiming an Xbox Live moderator, whose screen name is “The Pro,” was abusing his power by banning players from the service for no reason. The video, which showed an online match of “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2,” was obviously edited to make iTzLuPo look like an innocent victim of a power-mad moderator.

Not long after his video was posted, another version of the same video was found with more of the conversation audible. iTzLuPo can be clearly heard boasting about using hacked game modifications that are specifically prohibited in the Xbox Live Terms of Use policy. He then goes on to talk all kinds of trash, including threats of sexually assaulting The Pro’s grandmother amidst a long string of profanity, another clear violation of the policy.

The Pro responded to this by banning iTzLuPo’s account, an action which might otherwise be referred to as doing his job. iTzLuPo is an immature, vulgar, irritating child who clearly baited a moderator in hopes of getting him in trouble through the use of a doctored video.

Throughout the ensuing blog coverage, he continued to insist he was the victim. When the second video came to light, he proceeded to delete his Twitter and YouTube accounts and all of his videos—something an innocent person wouldn’t have to do.

He doesn’t deserve the sympathy he was so obviously trying to win because he’s a liar, a nuisance and, ultimately, just another jackass.

—L. Wilusz



Emily Bertino develops her style into a mature, sophisticated look by wearing top designers’ clothing and accessories.

Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE



by Colin Shively
Arts & Culture Editor

EMILY BERTINO, a sophomore fashion retail management major, has been through more fashion trends in her life than she can count.

From being a tomboy to wearing the Abercrombie mini-skirt with brown leggings, Bertino has tried it all on for size. It was not until Bertino moved to Chicago from Peoria, Ill. that her style fully matured.

Bertino wanted to try something new, she said. When she started the fashion retail management program at Columbia, she began to “dress beyond

her years.”

“I would have to call it my own Emily style,” Bertino said. “I can’t classify it. It’s just a do-your-own-thing look. It is very well put together.”

Working for Escada, Bertino is always dressing herself up with top-of-the-line designers’ clothes.

It is all too often that faux-designer bags are bought around the city; however, Bertino doesn’t fall victim to the cheap imitations, as seen by her Louis Vuitton designer bag and Christian Louboutin pumps.

Bertino prides herself on dressing in a professional style. She utilizes accessories to complete her mature ensemble.

Due to her busy schedule with work and school, Bertino rarely finds the time to shop at physical stores.

Instead, she utilizes Web sites like Net-A-Porter.com to take care of her designer shopping needs.

However, if she were to go shopping in the city, Neiman Marcus would be her first stop because the designer clothes, she said.

The current trend she favors is nude color for the upcoming spring season. She said the color is almost sensual because it blends in with the body.

cshively@chroniclemail.com

REVIEWS



SIIIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD



WORTH A GIGGLE



HAPPY DANCE!

PRINT



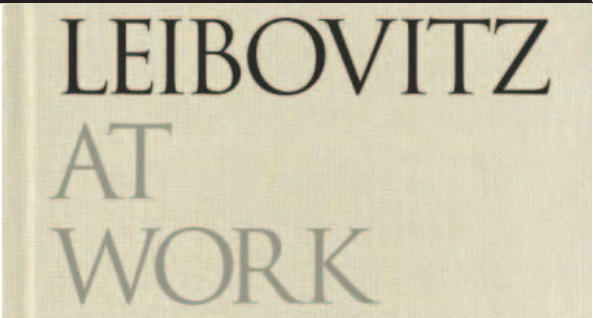
“INVINCIBLE IRON MAN: STARK DISASSEMBLED”

The latest story arc, which ran from issues 20 - 24, saw Tony Stark in a self-induced coma as his close friends and associates worked to bring him back to life while fending off an assassin sent to finish him. Stark's coma dream offers an interesting look at Iron Man's psyche, but fans of action and fight scenes will be a tad disappointed. Let's hope things get more exciting from here.—*L. Wilusz*



“THE COMPLETE ARANZI HOUR” BY ARONZO ARANZI

Ultra-cute Japanese design company Aranzi Aranzo is more than just fashion accessories and craft books—they do comic strips too. The comics chronicle the adventures of familiar characters such as Bad Guy, Sprite and Mechani-Panda as they explore Tokyo, eat junk food and contemplate life. Adorable.—*D. LaCoco*



“AT WORK” BY ANNIE LEIBOVITZ

The book is a long-time retrospective of the life and work of one of the greatest American photographers of all time. It goes over the life of Annie Leibovitz and looks into some of her most famous images and the life she lives. It's an amazing book, which anyone who calls themselves a photographer wanting to do studio work should read. I wanted a little bit more length, but what can you expect, she's a photographer, not a writer.—*B. Lewis*



MOVIES / TV / DVD



“BACHELOR: ON THE WINGS OF LOVE,” FINAL EPISODE

The cheesy “Bachelor” commercial asked in a growling voice, “Will he choose sugar or will he choose spice?” After watching the final rose ceremony, it looks like he chose spice. Who would have thought Jake would pick Vienna to be his co-pilot? Tenley was much sweeter and instead of insulting him after he dumped her, she thanked him.—*S. Roush*



“SECRET WINDOW”

What I already knew about writer's block: pets don't help and it makes you insane. What I learned from this movie: it makes you go so far off your rocker, you imagine John Turturro with a southern accent and sporting an Amish-like suit coming to your surrounded-by-nature abode to claim you plagiarized his story.—*A. Meade*



“THE GHOST WRITER”

“The Ghost Writer” was better than I thought it would be. Ewan McGregor plays the title role, writing for the prime minister of England. There's a lot of mystery and suspense and I found myself on the edge of my seat a couple of times. Very interesting flick.—*L. Danielson*.



MUSIC



THE WHIGS: “IN THE DARK”

The southern trio remains true to form on their third studio album. They're strongest on “Someone's Daughter” and “I Am For Real,” two songs reminiscent of their previous efforts. The latter starts with a bass line that welcomes Parker Gispert's flawless guitar and eventually assertive vocals, “I don't need to walk in your backyard/ To let you know just where I stand.” It's not the same guys that recorded an album in an empty Athens, Ga. frat house but it's the obvious progression.—*A. Keil*



LIFEHOUSE: “SMOKE & MIRRORS”

I'm still a big fan of Lifehouse's first album, “No Name Face,” and with their new release, “Smoke & Mirrors,” it somewhat lives up to their soft, melodic sound in their debut album. I've slowly grown out of their music, but this album just might put me back into the zone.—*C. Aguirre*



BARTON FINK: “GEAR”

I like rock, and I like funk. So I love Barton Fink. The Quebec band mixes the two with reckless abandon and turns out some beautiful fuzz—delicious loud and groovy fuzz. I can only hope they continue to pump out solid releases. Now excuse me while I go dance to some “Dicey Street Blues.”—*C. Prentiss*



RANDOM



CROUTONS

Croutons are the greatest innovation in the history of salad. They are like the stapler of iceberg lettuce. I generally look like a fool when eating salad. The lettuce always slides off my fork and into my lap before I can get it into my mouth, but not when there is a sturdy crouton at the end of my fork. It is like dried, seasoned confidence.—*J. Allen*



BATHROOM TALK

The bathroom is a very private place, there should be no reason for you to try and strike up a conversation with me. I'm sure anything that you're going to say can wait until we're both done. So, do us both a favor and don't. Thanks.—*J. Graveline*



FRIENDLINESS

I love talking to and meeting new people, and I have found that this has really benefitted me. I have gotten myself into some crazy situations, but I'd have to say my most recent was by far the best. Some person in line for a concert on March 3 gave me backstage passes for no reason. I stood on the same stage with Bob Weir and Phil Lesh. My life is complete.—*L. Nalin*



Editorials

U.S. Supreme Court to hear gun ban

CHICAGO HAS had one of the most restrictive gun laws in the United States since the early 1980s. The law bans all handguns in the city. However, four Chicagoans have been challenging the law in the U.S. Supreme Court since March 2, claiming the ban is unconstitutional and must be lifted. The residents sued the city after a similar gun ban was lifted in another U.S. Supreme Court hearing, *Heller v. Washington, D.C.* In the case, the justices ruled individuals had the right to own and bear arms. Even though the court recognized an individual's right to own guns, states and municipalities can still make laws banning them. This is because the Second Amendment is not incorporated into the 14th Amendment like many other freedoms, such as freedom of speech and the right to petition. The 14th Amendment ensures that states cannot make any laws that override federal laws. Not only does *McDonald v. city of Chicago* decide the fate of Chicago's nearly two-decades-old handgun ban, it also creates precedent for every other state in the union. If this ban is overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court, states will no longer be able to enact sweeping gun bans. In turn, this

would remove more power from the states. It is a necessity for the Supreme Court to definitely settle the question of whether states have the right to enforce restrictive gun laws. This hearing will define the contours of the amendment where there was room for open interpretation. Because of varying interpretations of the Bill of Rights, it's difficult to determine what the founding fathers intended for each amendment, and considering how much society has changed since they signed the document, the Supreme Court has much to consider. Today's society is violent. It's debatable whether people should have guns to protect themselves from attackers or if guns should be banned nationally to eliminate the problem altogether. The justices have a difficult decision ahead of them. They must listen to city officials who say they know what's best for their constituents and are protecting Chicagoans by banning hand guns, and they must listen to residents who claim their rights as Americans have been violated for nearly two decades. The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to make a decision in June.

Cracking down on credit cards

RECEIVING A stress ball or a lame beach bag after signing up for a credit card won't happen again on college campuses. In fact, according to a new law enacted Feb. 22, credit card companies cannot hand out freebies at any college event or within 1,000 feet of a campus. The law outlines a few new restrictions for credit card companies concerning young adults and colleges. Credit card spending among young adults is increasing, and the laws limiting access to students and underage people will curb the problem. Students are often enticed to fill out applications when a company offers something free, even if it is just a stress ball they will never use. Eliminating freebies during sign up is a start, but educating young people about credit card usage would have long-term effects. Colleges also have to make their partnership with card companies known. Many students sign credit card applications without fully understanding the responsibility of money and how the credit system works.

Companies target students knowing they often struggle financially and are in need of what they see as "quick cash" to purchase basic necessities and to pay college loans. According to Sallie Mae's National Study of Usage Rates and Trends 2009, 84 percent of undergraduates possess at least one credit card. This is up from 76 percent in 2004. Also, the average number of credit cards has increased since 2004 from 4.1 to 4.6. Half of college students claimed they had four or more cards. To deter young students who aren't efficient with money, the new law prohibits anyone under 21 to sign up for a card without a co-signer or proof of income. The co-signer of that card also has to agree to increase the credit limit. This is an effective plan to ensure credit isn't abused because parents would be responsible for the debt if their child spends beyond their means. Even though this law may seem restrictive for young people who think they are adults at 18 and entitled to credit, the goal is to deter young people from incurring credit debt at a young age.



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—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

One-sided political discussion gives no perspective



“Republican and third party members also attend this school, and it’s a shame they are not more thoroughly represented.”

by **Spencer Roush**
Commentary Editor

POLITICS IS commonly an uninvited topic in a handful of settings because it can ruffle feathers and cause great debate. Politics probably shouldn’t be discussed at a family reunion, a church or a funeral home because of its controversial nature. While these particular settings aren’t appropriate for many controversial discussions, there are plenty of other, more suitable places. The classroom is an apt place to engage in a political colloquy. Columbia’s classrooms, in particular, are filled with professors and students who stew about the political topics of the day at the beginning of almost each class session. However, Columbia’s discussions tend to be

overtly one-sided. At an arts-centered school, it’s to be expected that most students, faculty and staff would have liberal views. To go one step further, Columbia is also located in the center of one of the most Democratic cities in the United States. Because Columbia and surrounding areas are generally liberal, this leads to dull political conversation and a missing perspective. What’s the fun in always agreeing politically? When conversation lacks debate, it prohibits people from understanding other viewpoints. A debate is often necessary to understand others’ opinions. To say the least, Columbia’s political discussions are less than productive. Without a Republican’s perspective on national issues, it’s like ignoring the giant elephant in the room (no pun intended). Republican and third party members also attend this school, and it’s a shame they are not more thoroughly represented. It is probably intimidating for these students to speak out in a classroom during a political discussion because the majority of the room is overwhelmingly Democrat. While it is their responsibility to share their opinions, professors and students should welcome and encourage differing views.

It’s vital to hear the opinions of people whose thoughts don’t coincide with the majority. Even though you may not agree with someone, it doesn’t mean you can’t respect their opinion or learn from them. The importance of outside perspectives became apparent to me after a fellow Columbia student laughed at the idea of people identifying with the Republican Party. After being asked why she aligns herself with the Democratic Party, she answered, “Well, my parents are Democrats, but I guess I really don’t know what being a Democrat means.” After minutes of discussing the Democratic platform, she decided that some of her opinions actually paralleled Republican ideologies. I think this is a problem facing many young people today. Politics may not entice everyone, but it’s important to be informed and debate issues rather than following a parent’s political ideologies. What’s worse than duplicating parents’ opinions is voting Democrat or Republican just because they’re registered under that political party. Researching political issues and making informed decisions is our right as Americans. People deny themselves of this funda-

mental right by aligning themselves with a person who or entity that always makes the choice for them. Columbia professors should strive to inform students of every side of an issue. Liberals, and especially art students, are thought of as “open-minded,” so an effort should be made to look at new political perspectives instead of turning down an idea because it may be considered a “conservative approach.” This isn’t just an issue at Columbia or other liberal colleges, but this is a problem facing the entire nation. Congress has been unable to pass bills because neither party can work with the other. Democrats met alone to discuss the Health Care Reform Bill, probably thinking they would accomplish more without Republicans present. However, the bill still remains in limbo without bipartisan support. This one-way thinking must stop. Each side of the political spectrum has the right to be heard and considered. This problem needs to be resolved starting in schools because we are the future generation of leaders. It’s possible to learn something from one another, so let’s try it for once.

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ROAMIN’ NUMERALS

8.8 Magnitude earthquake in Chile that killed approximately 800 people as of press time, according to WashingtonPost.com, after four days of rescue crews searching for survivors. The death toll will likely rise because the number of missing people in Constitución alone was 500 as of press time.

The currency denomination that might have a new Republican face if the decision is up to a North Carolina congressman, ChicagoTribune.com reports. Republican Rep. Patrick McHenry introduced the bill to replace Ulysses S. Grant with Ronald Reagan. Thirteen other Republicans are co-sponsors of the bill. McHenry said, “Every generation needs its own heroes.”

Dollar amount in trillions that the health care system endorsed by President Obama on March 3 will cost, according to Reuters.com. Obama asked Congress to send him its plan to overhaul the health care system so he can sign it into law. Obama’s approval ratings have dropped during the health care reform fight after Republican opposition to the overhaul.

Dollar amount in thousands that was granted to a nurse after settling her lawsuit against a Chicago police officer, SunTimes.com reported. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center nurse Lisa Hofstra filed the suit against Officer Marcelo Rodriguez and the city of Chicago after she was handcuffed for refusing to draw blood from a suspected drunk driver before he was admitted into the hospital.

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Supporting sports teams a part of college experience



“Yes, Columbia is an art school. Yes, we don’t have ‘teams’ or a ‘real’ gym, but doesn’t mean that there should be a total lack of caring about sports.”

by **Jeff Graveline**
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

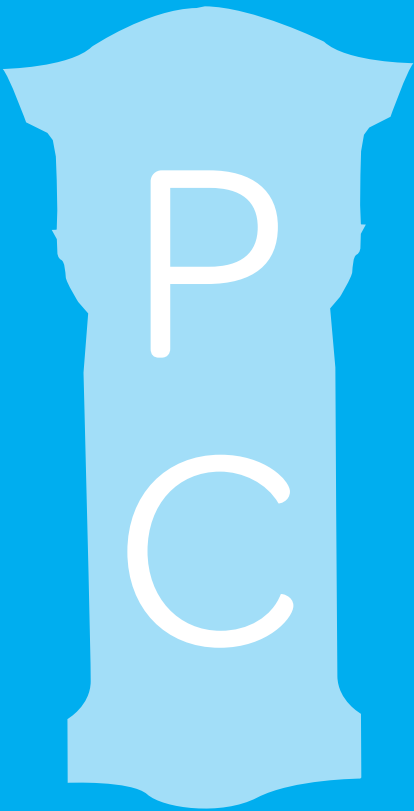
IN THE United States, there is one thing that unifies and divides us like none other. A topic so controversial it divides our fair city. Yet the same controversial topic brings scores of people together on a daily basis and allows strangers to share the highest highs and the lowest lows in a matter of moments. Of course, I’m talking about sports. Sports in the U.S. dominate the landscape of entertainment and spectacle like nothing else. If the recent Winter Olympics have taught us anything, it’s that competition

can unite a nation in its resounding drive to win and be associated with winners. The United States won the medal count at the games, grabbing 37 overall medals including 9 golds. The competitive spirit of America was on full display for the world to see and the Americans did what we do best: win. However, the Olympic victories and viewership made me realize something that has bothered me since I came to Columbia: the lack of knowledge about nationally recognized sports at the college, lack of interest in club sports featured at Columbia and the general “meh” feeling Columbia students have toward athletics. Yes, Columbia is an art school. Yes, we don’t have “teams” or a “real” gym, but that doesn’t mean there should be a total lack of caring about sports. The Renegades, Columbia’s student-athletics association, are based in the 916 S. Wabash Ave. Building on the fourth floor. The board of directors is made up of students who want athletics here at Columbia to thrive and succeed. From basketball to volleyball, the Renegades have pushed the

boundaries of sports in the South Loop. When Roosevelt closed its doors to the former gym which Columbia and Roosevelt shared, it was the Renegades who found a new home for students to have open gym space. It was the Renegades who organized outings for ice skating at Millennium Park, to Dave & Busters and their latest effort to organize an outing to an upcoming Chicago White Sox home game. While I know that sports aren’t a reason to attend Columbia, athletics are still a major part of American life. Baseball is “America’s Pasttime,” football has become one of the most popular sports to watch and hockey has had a rebirth in Chicago, thanks to a young and exciting Blackhawks team. Plus, the Cubs and Sox give Chicagoans both sides of the MLB season, the Bears add the NFL aspect and the Bulls are Chicago’s NBA franchise. All of them add something to the Chicago sports landscape. And yet, when I ask people at Columbia if they watched the game, any game, the previous night, I often get looks that range from confused to annoyed. Columbia is located

in one of the largest sports markets in the country. We have so many professional teams that their stadiums line the borders of the city. Yet, asking about the score of a game or what somebody thought of a specific play brings fire and brimstone down on me. However, I realize professional sports aren’t for everyone and I don’t hold it against anyone who isn’t a sports fan. What I do have a problem with is students not supporting our college’s athletics. As a college community, Columbia students are pushed to be their best at everything they do, including sports. Our basketball team has grown by leaps and bounds since last year. Our baseball team is ramping up for another season on the diamond. The lacrosse and intramural volleyball teams are already practicing and competing at our new gym at South Loop Elementary. Columbia has sports. We have students who participate and carry the Renegade name proudly on the field and the court. Columbia students should support our teams, support our school and support sports.

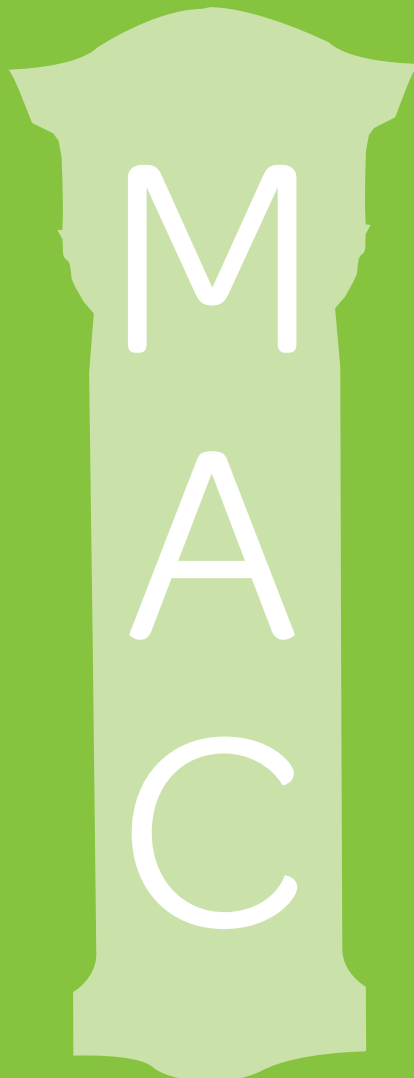
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First-ever oversight of cemeteries begins

New regulations in place to prevent another Burr Oak-like incident

by Patrick Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

THE NEWLY formed Cemetery Oversight Board, spurred by last year's controversy at Burr Oak Cemetery in Alsip, Ill. when 200 to 300 corpses were found dug up and piled in an isolated area of the cemetery, had its inaugural meeting on March 3.

The board, made of veterans of the cemetery industry and community activists, will advise the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation in its new role to oversee all of the cemeteries in Illinois, of which there are thousands.

The meeting, which took place via satellite in both Chicago and Springfield, Ill., was conducted in a quiet, even tone, but disagreements between and questions raised by the board members exposed a piece of legislation written by lawmakers unfamiliar with the cemetery industry. The Cemetery Oversight Act, signed into law by Gov. Pat Quinn on Jan. 18, was opposed by the Illinois Cemetery and Funeral Home Association.

Board members took issue with every page of the new committee rule book, beginning with chairperson Brent Adams, who opened the meeting with a promise that "trailer legislation" would give an answer to the question of what exactly a "burial unit" is, a term frequently used in the legislation but foreign to cemetery operators.

But most of the concerns, from both board members and cemetery owners who attended the meeting in a cramped, overheated office on the ninth floor of the Thompson Center, were about two elements of the bill: a required new numbering system for every grave in Illinois and how the new oversight and licensing would be paid for. While the Cemetery Oversight Act lays out several new requirements for cemeteries and the people who work in them, and several new responsibilities for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, it does not provide any money to meet them.

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation is already cash-strapped and stretched thin. The depart-



MCT Newswire

Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart (left) receiver Roman Szabelski and Rev. Steve Jones (center right) help clean off another vault as officials conducted an investigation at Burr Oak Cemetery, in Alsip, Ill. The scandal at the cemetery, in which hundreds of bodies were discovered dug up and dumped in a remote area, spurred legislation mandating new cemetery oversight. Szabelski is one of the members of the brand new Cemetery Oversight Board.

ment oversees more than a million people who are licensed in their professions in Illinois, and according to spokeswoman Sue Hofer, budget deficits have forced the agency to make cutbacks in recent years. But Hofer said she doesn't think the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation will need any more money to regulate the cemeteries until next fiscal year, which begins July 1, because nothing is slated to happen before then. The estimated cost of the new oversight is \$8.4 million.

"That's assuming a full staff; that's not going to happen by July 1," Adams said.

Hofer's colleague, Louis Pukelis, doesn't think the agency will need any additional

money from the state in the next fiscal year either.

"Like all of the professions we oversee, the money will come from the licensing fees," Pukelis said.

That is exactly what funeral owners are afraid of.

"They want me to pay a dollar for every grave in my cemetery," said Michael Walsh, owner of Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Bloomington, Ill. "My cemetery has been around since 1901; that money has already been made from most of the plots, why should I have to pay for them?"

Other owners agreed the fees were an unfair burden. Walsh called the act and the new oversight a "total overreaction" to the Burr Oaks scandal, saying the incident was tragic, but nothing like that had happened before in Illinois.

"It's going to be the cemeteries that rely on low-income burials that are going to be really hurt by this," Walsh said.

What may prove to be even more of an issue than funding is the required renumbering of every grave in the state. The meeting ground to a halt for more than 30 minutes while the board members debated the feasibility of a statewide numbering system.

"One of the most important things this board can do is create a uniform basis to find where someone is buried," said activist Zenobia Johnson-Black, who is not a part of the cemetery industry.

The proposed numbering system is a direct reaction to the scandal at Burr Oak, when the bereaved were forced to scour the cemetery searching for their buried loved ones.

But those who work in cemeteries said a renumbering was not possible. All sold

plots in a cemetery have deeds which tell the family or individual the location of their purchased grave, and the cemeteries have their own long-standing numbering system. According to cemetery owners, changing the way they have numbered their plots, or to keep two sets of numbers would be impossible and would lead to more chaos.

The meeting opened with a reminder from Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation attorneys about the Open Meetings Act, which requires the public be notified any time three or more of the board members meet to discuss cemetery oversight. But the inaugural meeting was hardly easily accessible. After going through a security screening that Walsh described as "worse than at O'Hare," Walsh and a fellow cemetery owner got lost in the labyrinth of the ninth floor of the Thompson Center.

When they asked a staff member to direct them to the meeting place, he became lost, leading the pair through rows of cubicles before being forced to ask for directions himself.

The board has nine members, all of whom were present at the first meeting. Roman F. Szabelski, one of the board members, was the receiver of Burr Oak Cemetery when the bodies were discovered.

In the past, Hofer has said the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation does not typically investigate professionals unless a complaint is filed with the department, but that will be different for cemeteries.

"In this case, we will be examining every cemetery on a regular basis," Hofer said.



MCT Newswire

Headstones are laid out at Burr Oak cemetery as an investigation continues in Alsip, Ill. Four people were charged after dozens of graves had been dug up, and the bodies dumped in a massive pile on cemetery grounds

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MCT Newswire

A report published last week provides evidence that Atrazine turns male frogs into females. The authors believe this contributed to a drop in frog population.

New study links herbicide to frog decline

Maker of chemical Atrazine calls science ‘unsound,’ questions researcher’s motives

by Patrick Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

LAST WEEK, University of California-Berkeley Professor Tyrone Hayes published a new study on the effects of the herbicide Atrazine,

saying the chemical changes some male frogs into females and chemically castrates others. But the maker of the drug fired back, calling Hayes’ science unsound. The company said Hayes is an activist, not a scientist. The article was published in the online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences on March 1, and will be published in the next edition of the print maga-

zine. Hayes has published research in the past about Atrazine’s affects on amphibian larvae, and the March 1 issue of The Chronicle reported on Hayes’ contention that Atrazine may be carcinogenic. His newest study links Atrazine to the global decline of frogs. But Syngenta, the Swiss company that manufactures the drug, said Hayes’ new study was moot. “The issue of whether or not Atrazine

affects frogs has already been determined,” said Steven Goldsmith, a spokesman for Syngenta. “Atrazine does not cause any problems with frog development.” According to Goldsmith, the Environmental Protection Agency, which he called the “independent arbitrator of these issues,” reviewed Hayes’ work and called his data insufficient and methods flawed. Goldsmith and an attorney for Syngenta pointed repeatedly to the EPA’s assessment of Atrazine to disprove Hayes’ research. A 2003 decision by the agency found Atrazine was “not likely” to cause cancer in humans. But the report is not as definitively pro-Atrazine as Syngenta contends. “There is sufficient evidence to formulate a hypothesis that Atrazine exposure may impact gonadal development in amphibians, but there are currently insufficient data to confirm or refute the hypothesis,” the EPA’s decision reads. The EPA’s findings are filled mostly with wait-and-see statements. The agency deemed the herbicide safe because there was not sufficient evidence to condemn it, but the 16-page document is filled with statements of need for more studies. “The 2003 decision by the EPA was made in part by a guy named Kloas Vernor,” Hayes said. “His decision was ‘more research needs to be done.’ Within a day of that decision Kloas Vernor was on the Syngenta payroll ... now Syngenta is publishing the guy that was supposed to be regulating them.” According to Goldsmith, the matter is closed. “The EPA believes there is no reason to investigate this any further,” he said. But in late 2009, the agency opened a new review of Atrazine. The agency could not be

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» JOURNALISM

Continued from Front Page

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Nobody fears a blogger in their pajamas."

-John Nichols



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Author and journalist John Nichols addresses the crowd at the DePaul College of Communications, 14 E. Jackson Blvd. Nichols and co-author Robert McChesney discuss, in their book, the future of journalism.

Jacqueline Taylor, dean of the College of Communications at DePaul University.

The event was held at DePaul University's College of Communications, 14 E. Jackson Blvd.

"With useful news for citizens often upstaged by 24-7 coverage of celebrities, we found ourselves grappling with questions on how to responsibly train our students in the digital age," Taylor said.

The authors said they believe the traditional print media that was first introduced should be re-established in this country.

"The death [of journalism] is not rooted in new technology or from economic turbulence at the moment, but in fact that our media institutions were bought by very large corporations for huge amounts of money and they promised their investors 30-40 percent

return," Nichols said.

In their book, Nichols and McChesney suggest that public subsidies be implemented to create a stronger news outlet.

"The real crisis isn't about the lack or decline of reporters and newspapers," McChesney said. "The solution, to be blunt, is there is going to have to be massive, enormous public subsidies in the upcoming generation. We are like Dorothy at the end of the 'Wizard of Oz,' we just need to click our heels three times and we can solve the problem."

McChesney said that he and Nichols discovered through research that the Fourth Estate was heavily subsidized by the government for the first hundred years of this country. "Paine said, 'We have it in our power to begin the world over again.' Journalism as we know it is dying," Nichols said.

They often refer to the ideas of Thomas Paine, James Madison and Thomas Jefferson for a stronger sense of their own beliefs and how to regain control of the news.

“James Madison argued that the first papers to go under [his authority] would be the most dissident papers; and those were exactly the viewpoints that the free society had to cultivate and keep alive,” McChesney said. “You can’t have our system work unless you have a healthy, vibrant, independent press that monitors people in power and gives [the public] the power to govern their own lives.”

Another topic the authors discussed was the public's use of the Internet for main news sources, rather than newspapers and the inevitability that technology is taking over.

“One thing technology cannot replace is compensated human labor in newsrooms with

copy editors and fact checkers,” McChesney said. “The institutional power to generate, not just the respect of people in power but the fear [among] the people in power, that right there costs money. No one fears a blogger in their pajamas.”

McChesney and Nichols' book was published in January and the pair has been on a book tour for the past two months to discuss their findings and suggestions for change.

"There is going to be commercial journalism for all of our lives," McChesney said. "There will be producing, selling products but it is only going to provide a small percentage of the credible journalism we need to be self-governing and that's the real problem we face."

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SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI:

Lindsay M. Wilbeck
Marketing Communication (B.A. '05)



How did your education at Columbia help prepare you for your future?

Columbia taught me the "real World" skills that no other college can offer. The instructors teach what they do! From a students POV, there's nothing better than hearing it directly from the source (of someone who has actually worked in the profession of what you're studying to do). If it wasn't for my internship experience I wouldn't be where I'm at today. And to all the amazing contacts I made @ Columbia. I am thankful.

What was your first job after graduating from Columbia?

Sales Assistant/Jr. Account Executive @ Clear Channel Outdoor (Chicago). I was promoted 6 months into the job to a local Account Executive. A year into sales I was promoted again, to handle import sales (on top of my local business). I have been w/CCO for 4.5 years now!!

What is your best memory from Columbia?

Semester in LA, hands down! I experienced this in the fall semester of my senior year @ Columbia. I couldn't have chosen to have this opportunity at a better time. I met the MOST amazing people from the entrainment industry, had the most intense 5 weeks of school (ever), met some of the best people (friends I still have to this day) & got connections into the industry that I never would've attained otherwise. Plus, I learned about the Alumni Association. This was one of the best decisions I've made in life (as it completely opened my eyes to new & very possible advancements in my young career). I recommend it to any students that are interested. DO it- you won't regret it. I'm also a regular guest speaker to various classes in the Marketing Department, devoted Alum & an avid supporter of the CAAN!

Do you have any advice for students heading out into the job market today?

Do you have any advice for students heading out into the job market today?
My advice, is to take your education at Columbia completely seriously. Go to all your classes, learn every bit about the industry you want to work in & become an expert in your major. As, all those things that YOU do, will be noticed; IF you're passionate about them. You're going to be competing against hundreds of people for the job right out of school. What makes you unique? How will you stand out in the crowd? Your passion will shine through, but Columbia will help get you there. Good luck!

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

» **FROGS**
Continued from PG. 30

reached for comment.

“One of [EPA] Administrator [Lisa] Jackson’s top priorities is to improve the way EPA manages and assesses the risk of chemicals including pesticides, and as part of that effort, we are taking a hard look at the decision made by the previous administration on Atrazine,” said Steve Owens, assistant administrator for the EPA’s Office of Prevention, in a press release in October.

Goldsmith said he thinks the agency is wasting time and money starting a new review of the herbicide.

“The EPA has spent a lot of time and a lot of years reviewing the science,” Goldsmith said. “We think that three years later, after the EPA already made a decision, for the new political appointees to come in and say, ‘No we need to do this again,’ is really a waste of time and taxpayers’ money.”

According to Hayes’ new study, Atrazine is one of the most commonly applied herbicides in the world, and it is the most commonly detected herbicide contaminant of ground, surface and drinking water. The study, authored by Hayes and ten other scientists, found that Atrazine-exposed male frogs were both chemically castrated and completely feminized as adults, and ten percent of the exposed males developed into functional females that copulated with unexposed adult males. The study concludes that Atrazine likely played a role in global amphibian decline.

But Goldsmith said Hayes’ study brings nothing new to the table because it “has so many issues” with methodology and is based on “bad data.”

“That’s a complete fabrication,” Hayes said

in response.

Hayes said Syngenta was fabricating claims about his research because they had no answer for the serious issues his studies raise

Yale University Professor David Skelly studied Hayes’ work and conducted his own research on frogs. He found the same sexual mutations, but his study linked the mutations to pollution and wastewater and not necessarily Atrazine.

Hayes said he stands by his work, and had a sharp response to Syngenta’s claim that he is biased.

“As far as me being an activist, as a scientist I have information, I have access to information and I have the capacity to interpret and explain that information, that’s my professional responsibility,” Hayes said. “As a person and as a professional, I have a social responsibility to provide my expertise especially in an area where I see that there’s a risk to our future.”

Hayes’ research was originally funded by Syngenta, until he broke with the company over issues regarding his negative findings about Atrazine.


“If I had stayed with Syngenta ... I would have been set for life, all I had to do was lose my integrity, and that’s not something I was willing to do,” Hayes said.

Goldsmith said the issue was not whether or not Atrazine was harmful, but if we could survive without it.

“Forty percent of the world’s food would not exist without crop protection chemicals like Atrazine,” Goldsmith said. “There are lots of people in the world who don’t like chemicals of any kind ... but how are we going to feed a world that has nine billion people in it by 2050 if we can’t use technology to grow that food?”

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FEATURED PHOTO



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

Matt Skiba, front man of the Chicago-based group Alkaline Trio, plays at the Metro, Feb. 27.

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Plymouth

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Minimum of 3 items per purchase

JAZZ SHOWCASE
(IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!) 806 S. Plymouth Ct. (behind Bar Louie)

THURS. THROUGH SUN. 11 - 14 **DUTCH PIANIST AMINA FIGARVO**
Internat'l SEXTET (Hit of the 2009 Chicago Grant Park Jazz Fest)

MON. 15 Typhanie Monique 'Vocal Jams'
TUES. 16 Saxist Cliff Wallace Quintet
WED. 17 Guitarist John Moulder (Benefit Concert)

THURS. THROUGH SUN. 18 - 25 **AWARD WINNERS JOE LOVANO 'US FIVE'**
*Featuring Esperanza Spaulding * James Weidman * Otis Brown III * Francisco Mela*

MON. 22 Trombonist Tom Matta's Composers Big Band
TUES. 23 Elmhurst College Big Band (Doug Beach, Director) Free
WED. 24 WDCB Radio Free Night with Keyboardist / Composer Mark Moultrup (CD Release)

THURS. THRU SUN. **MARCH 25 - 28** **GUITARIST MIKE STERN BAND**
WITH TOM KENNEDY * LIONEL CORDEW

STUDENT DISCOUNTS: MON., TUES., WED. & SUN. @ 4:00 P.M. (WITH I.D.)

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\$1 AMERICAN BEER

\$2 Jim Beam

Free Pool & Fun !!!

Founder of Southern Poverty Law Center honored

Morris Dees, a lifelong advocate for civil rights, racial equality, honored at annual dinner

by Margaret Lang
Assistant Metro Editor

AS A young man in the 1940s, Morris Dees worked the cotton fields with blacks and witnessed firsthand social and economic injustice at its worst. Throughout his life, Dees has fought against hate groups and social inequities.

One hundred-fifty people attended the Merit Award Dinner on March 2, hosted by the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, honoring Dee’s, a legendary civil rights lawyer for his lifetime achievements in fighting for equality.

The evening started with a reception at 6 p.m. and continued with a dinner, during which Dees discussed his journey to becoming a successful civil rights lawyer .

Dees founded the Southern Poverty Law Center in 1971, and has defended civil rights for 39 years in an effort to fight hate groups and racism.

Dees has represented Southern Poverty Law Center in a number of high-profile legal victories against hate and extremist groups. These victories included lawsuits against the Ku Klux Klan, The United Klans of America and the White Aryan Resistance.

“I think that it’s important from the highest level, from the president of the United States down to the schools, communities and organizations, that we have a community of openness of people of all different beliefs, sexual orientation, gender and religion,” Dees said. “We’re always going to have switches and changes, and who has the power and who the powerless might be.”

According to the Southern Poverty Law

Center Web site, the number of hate groups has increased by 54 percent since 2000.

“There has been a tremendous increase in hate groups, primarily in the past seven or eight years because of the economy, Latino migrations and especially in the last couple years because of having President Barack Obama, an African American as president,” Dees said.

The Southern Poverty Law Center Web site also states that there are currently 926 known hate groups operating in the United States, and 22 of those groups are located in Illinois.

The law center tracks the activities of hate groups and domestic terrorists across America, and launches innovative lawsuits that seek justice against networks of radical extremists. They use the courts to win systematic reforms on behalf of victims of bigotry and discrimination. They also provide educators with free resources that teach school children to reject hate, embrace diversity and respect differences.

“The Southern Poverty Law Center tries to anticipate problems before they become real mainstream issues,” Dees said. “For example, today we have a litigation section that deals with the rights of migrant workers by suing companies that bring them in because we find that these people are being taken advantage of, sort of close to slavery.”

The Decalogue Society has a prestigious list of past Merit Award winners including Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg of the U.S. Supreme Court, Eleanor Roosevelt and Albert Einstein.

“We have a committee that comes together, and Morris Dees has been on our list for a number of years,” said Barry Goldberg, president of the Decalogue Society of Lawyers. “We have requested him to receive our highest award, which is our Merit Award.”

The Merit Award given by the Decalogue Society recognizes Dees’ lifetime achieve



Rachel Jones THE CHRONICLE

Civil rights activist Morris Dees was honored by the Decalogue Society of Lawyers for a lifetime of achievement fighting for equality. The organization Dees started, the Southern Poverty Law Center, has worked for nearly 40 years to fight hate groups and racism.

ments and contributions to the betterment of humanity.

“It’s very important to get an award from an organization that stood for fairness and justice in a time when discrimination against Jews was rampant,” Dees said.

The Decalogue Society of Lawyers is America’s oldest Jewish bar association and has fought for over 75 years against discrimination and anti-Semitism with the help of other organizations and minorities.

Kitty Kurth, president of Kurth Lampe, a Chicago-based strategic communications firm, has been a big fan of Dees since she was little.

“I think the Merit Award Dinner went great,” Kurth said. “Morris Dees talked about how he got into civil rights, and how he used his career as a lawyer to enhance his fight against hate and social injustice. The event was very well attended and I was very happy to meet Morris.”

Dees has received numerous awards for his work. Trial Lawyers for Public Justice named him Trial Lawyer of the Year. and in 2009 he was inducted into their Hall of Fame.

“This nation has always been a land of liberty and justice for all,” Dees said. “We’ve taken three steps forward a couple steps backward and like Dr. Martin Luther King said, ‘The arch of justice is long, but it bends slowly towards fairness and justice.’”

mlang@chroniclemail.com

IN OTHER NEWS

Cancer cluster in Crestwood

A study by the Illinois Department of Public Health found higher incidences of some types of cancer in Crestwood, Ill., that could be related to the village’s longtime use of water from a contaminated well, according to the Chicago Tribune. The study called the village’s cancer rates “significantly elevated,” but could not make a definite link between the elevated rate and the drinking water. The Department of Public Health’s study was prompted by a Tribune report that uncovered Crestwood’s secret use of the contaminated well.

Two charged in Cicero fire

According to the Chicago Tribune, the owner and building manager of a Cicero apartment house where seven people were killed in a fire were charged with murder on March 4. Each of the men was charged with seven counts of first-degree murder and two counts of aggravated arson. Investigators say the owner instructed the building manager to “take care of” the building by burning it down because the owner was having trouble with the Internal Revenue Service. A 3-day-old baby was among those killed.

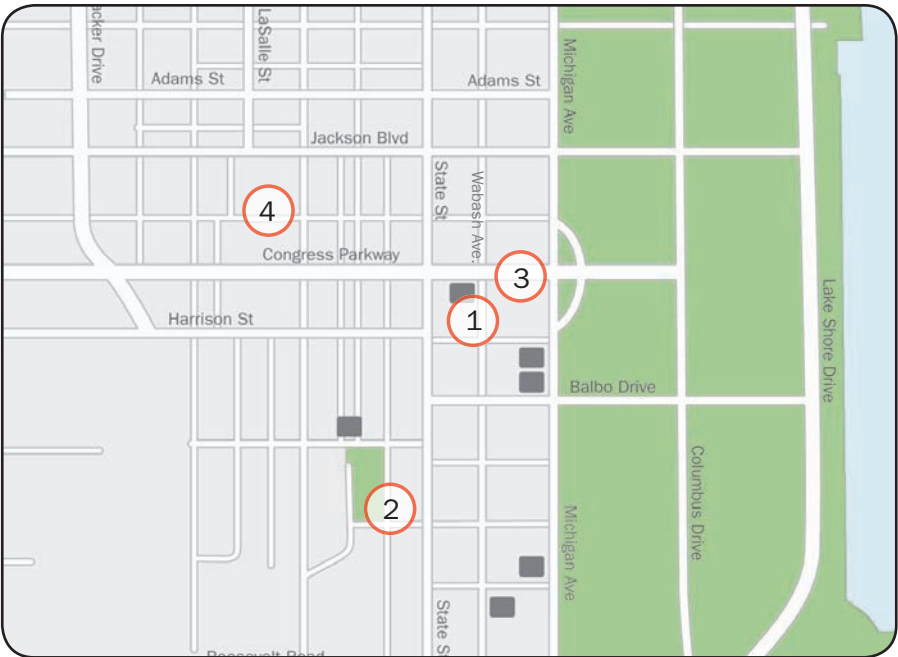
Economy looking up

The American economy lost fewer jobs than expected in February, according to NYTimes.com. There were still 36,000 jobs lost, but the unemployment rate held steady at 9.7 percent. Most economists took the slowed rate of job loss as a positive sign for the nation’s economy, and most predicted the jobs-lost to turn into jobs-gained by springtime. About 15 million Americans remained unemployed through February, and more than four out of every 10 have been unemployed for more than six months. Unemployment benefits were recently extended.

Man stands on Art Institute

According to ChicagoBreakingNews.com, a man who was trying to evade capture on top of the Chicago Art Institute was arrested on March 5. The man, in his 20s, created a disturbance on top of a fountain in Grant Park before climbing on top of the Art Institute as police moved in to arrest him. The incident began around 8:30 a.m. Police said they had no idea why the man was behaving the way he was. The suspect was arrested without incident and taken into custody. The charges against him were unclear.

OFF THE BLOTTER



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

1 Dope straw

According to police reports, while on patrol two police officers noticed two people, a man and a woman, shaking cups at passersby. The two were observed following people after they had propositioned them for money, and blocking the public walk. The suspects were arrested and searched. During the search officers say they found a plastic straw that was allegedly used for ingesting heroin.

3 Pill head

Near the Chicago Auditorium, 60 E. Congress Parkway, a 22-year-old man was found with an unmarked plastic prescription bottle containing a broken Valium pill. According to police reports, police officers witnessed a hand-to-hand suspected narcotics transaction. The man did not produce any prescription ID for the Valium.

2 Abuser arrested

Police responded to a phone call last week concerning aggravated domestic battery. According to police reports the suspect’s girlfriend called 911 after the father of her child slammed her wrist into a door during an argument. The woman had become angry with the man for returning home late and put all of his belongings outside. Enraged, the man attacked her.

4 X box drowned

According to police reports, a 29-year-old man called police about his roommate at 235 W. Van Buren St. The man told police he saw his roommate, 27, break a remote control and then carry a television remote, a computer router, a digital converter and an X box into another room. The man then discovered all of these items submerged in water.

SUDOKU

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CROSSWORD

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4/5/09

ACROSS

- 1 "Dateline ____"
4 "____ Me or the Dog"
7 Actress Long
10 "One Day ____ Time"
11 Word with bran or meal
12 "The ____ Couple" (1970-75)
13 Crime drama series
15 Arthur, for one
16 Friend of Winnie the Pooh
17 "Body ____"; '86 Dirk Benedict film
18 Lead role on "Providence"
19 Gary of "Midnight Caller" (1988-91)
21 "The ____"; 1994 Denis Leary film
24 Number of seasons for "The Honeymooners"
25 Big heart
26 Residence, to Eliza Doolittle
27 Allen and others
28 Clem Kadiddlehopper's portrayer
29 "Queen for ____" (1956-64)
30 Jim Nabors' state of birth: abbr.
31 Unpleasant spouse
32 Prefix for angle or pod
33 Annapolis acad. operator

- 34 Seymour or Wyatt
35 "____ Death"
36 "____ to the Chief"; 1985 sitcom
38 Word in the title of Kaley Cuoco's series
39 Building wing
40 "____ Rising"; '98 Bruce Willis film
44 "____ Fly Away" (1991-93)
45 Most famous 1969 bride
46 Special-order shoe
47 Prefix for place or leading
48 Sullivan and Bradley
49 Microwave briefly

DOWN

- 1 Fabray, to friends
2 Unit of energy, for short
3 Actress on "Ghost Whisperer"
4 514 and 516
5 Street paver's goo
6 Wall and Sesame: abbr.
7 Actor James
8 "The Big ____ with Donny Deutsch"
9 Actor on "CSI: Miami"
14 Indicates beforehand
17 "____ Hammer!" (1986-88)
18 Dirties
19 "____ Knowledge"; 1971 Candace Bergen movie
20 "____ Ave." (2002-03)
22 Communications method
23 Tina ____
27 Letter from Greece
29 "The ____"; 2008 John Savage film
34 Ireland and others
37 "____ Desire"; 1953 Barbara Stanwyck movie
38 "The Wayans ____." (1995-99)
40 One of a funny trio
41 "The Deep ____"; 2001 Goran Visnjic film
42 Peggy ____; Aunt Rose's portrayer on "The Waltons"
43 Slangy reply

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

	M	A	R	K		A	L	S		T	W	O		
M	E	L	E	E		L	E	A		R	A	W		
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HOROSCOPES

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ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Home expenses and minor financial setbacks may prove bothersome over the next four days. Some Aries natives will soon feel pressured to revise family budgets, begin new investments or finalize property documents. All are positive but also legally complicated. Study written documents for unrealistic deadlines or restrictions. Accuracy is vital. After Friday, a bold romantic flirtation may be mildly unnerving. Pace yourself and wait for sincere invitations: passions may be unusually high.
- 


TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) Older friends or relatives may this week openly discuss revised career ambitions. An intense wave of workplace disappointment now needs to be resolved. Complex social or family relationships will require detailed practical decisions. Offer business advice and watch for steady progress: your ongoing approval and emotional support is needed. Late Saturday, an unexpected social triangle may demand diplomacy. Key issues involve feelings of abandonment: gently probe for answers.
- 


GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Early this week, a minor disagreement with a co-worker may briefly escalate. Unexpected jealousies, relations with officials or a rare competition for job promotions may be at issue. Avoid public discussions and expect others to offer misinformation. Business relationships will improve after authority figures announce revised work roles. After Thursday, some Geminis may be asked to settle an unusual family argument. If so, be assertive: your past experience will prove vital.
- 


CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Long-term relationships will this week begin a phase of serious communications, group planning and social expansion. Loved ones are now highly motivated to bring added commitments or security into their lives. Single Cancerians may encounter the return of a past lover or distant friend. If so, remain cautious and expect passions to be high. Late Sunday, powerful dream images may reveal a new social perspective: study all insights and feelings for obvious clues.
- 


LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Workplace strategies and leadership style now need improvement. After Monday, co-workers will not respond to instructions or controversial ideas without first checking with authority figures. Find creative ways to increase group participation. Patient determination and gentle diplomacy will help clarify difficult business relationships. Thursday through Saturday accents complex home discussions and family proposals. Loved ones will ask for increased commitment: stay focused.
- 


VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) First impressions will this week set the tone of new friendships. For many Virgos, the emotional influence of bold discussions and complicated workplace triangles may linger. Avoid a strong public reaction to inappropriate comments or behavior. Someone close may need extra time to develop confidence or establish social trust. Stay quiet. Later this week, property decisions, home renovations or minor repairs will need immediate attention. Don't delay: a quick reaction will help.


- 

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Business skills, training or daily instructions are now a key source of workplace concern. Early this week, expect a close colleague or work partner to demand equal treatment, new opportunities or quick advancement. Allow authority figures to negotiate all disputes: this is not a good time to challenge the needs of the bold or impatient types. Avoid controversy. Saturday, a lover or close friend may reveal an strong desire for travel, new home activities or social expansion. Stay alert.
- 

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) New friendships may this week be complicated with subtle romantic triangles or private attractions. Ensure your long-term intentions are clearly understood by the group. Over the next few days, minor emotional signals are easily misinterpreted: avoid familiar or inappropriate behavior and wait for social jealousies to fade. Later this week, Scorpions born after 1974 may encounter a surprising business or career opportunity. If so, don't hesitate: change is healthy.
- 

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) Housing decisions, financial applications and legal documents will now demand your full attention. A series of family disputes or money restrictions need to be permanently resolved. Respond quickly to all requests or critical observations: loved ones will follow your example. Opt for honest group discussions and all will be well. After Friday, a new era of social and romantic expression begins. Many Sagittarians may now feel free of past burdens or old relationships: don't hold back.
- 


CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Over the next few days, group plans may be briefly postponed. At present, close friends and colleagues are easily distracted with family events, social obligations or romantic invitations. Take none of it personally. Intriguing friendships, fast proposals and new activities will soon prove entertaining. Remain quietly optimistic. Later this week, minor financial errors may be revealed. If so, respond quickly: this is not the right time to delay money promises or ask for special favors.
- 


AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) Love relationships will require diplomacy and special sensitivity this week. Romantic partners or potential lovers may feel emotionally drained by recent family events or unexpected home choices. Offer creative social distractions or plan unique leisure activities. At present, optimism and a steady dedication to group enjoyment will be helpful. After Friday, some Aquarians may be asked to mediate a business or legal dispute. Take your time: accurate documents will prove vital.
- 

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20) Romantic decisions are best delayed. Over the next six days, complex relationships and quickly revised goals may challenge the traditional expectations of family members. Wait for close friends and relatives to ask probing questions. Loved ones may need to vent their feelings or express strong opinions. Remain diplomatic. After Wednesday, watch business officials for obvious signals of impending change. Job titles, individual assignments and leadership skills are accented.


monday, 3//8

 **Blues Ensemble in Concert**
Noon - 1 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE

 **Columbia Community Music Collective**
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Sherwood Conservatory of Music
1312 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-3111
FREE


 **Pop Rock Ensemble: Performance A in Concert**
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE

tuesday, 3//9

 **Study Abroad Fair**
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Come meet and talk with independent program providers to learn about the various options around the world that are available to you. Study abroad is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel, learn and live in a foreign country. You can earn college credit and use your FAFSA awards to help pay for approved study abroad programs.


(312) 369-7726
FREE


 **Loop Mosaic Tour**
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-7165
FREE



 **"Food Inc."**
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Hokin Lecture Hall
Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave., Room 109
(312) 369-7675
FREE

wednesday, 3//10

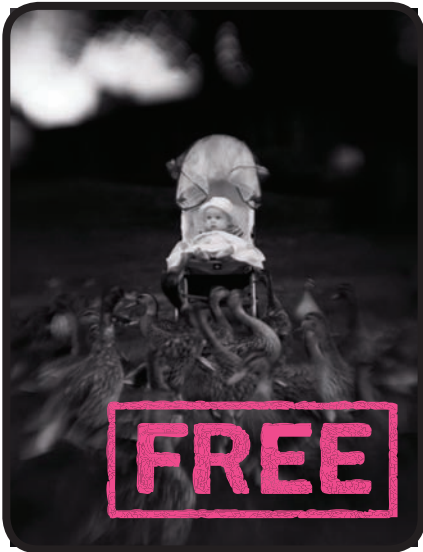
 **d.i.y. Planning for Perpetuity: Pixels, Paint and Physical Materials**
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Columbia College Library, 3rd floor
624 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-8689
FREE

 **Groove Band in Concert**
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE


Art Works: Keith Carter
6:30 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor

Keith Carter has been called a "poet of the ordinary" by the Los Angeles Times and organizers say they are "thrilled" to welcome him to the Art Works Lecture Series. From how he takes assignments to his fine art gallery work, he will explore all the great ways photographers can find work in the industry.


(312) 369-7281
FREE



thursday, 3//11

 **Cinema Slapdown Round 23: "Jesus Camp"**
7 p.m.
Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor
(312) 369-6708
FREE


 **Wiseass Comedy Night**
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor
(312) 369-7188
FREE

 **Science and Math Colloquium Series Son of SAM: Accomplice in Heart Attack**
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium
Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-7285
FREE

Classic Video Game Competition
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Front Lobby
Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.
Sbarry@colum.edu
FREE

friday, 3//12

 **Jacob Karbin Senior Recital**
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Sherwood Conservatory of Music
1312 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE

 **CUMA Presents: "U-Turn" Fashion Show**
7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(773) 971-1571
\$10 Columbia students; \$15 general admission; \$20 V.I.P.

saturday, 3//13

ECE Art Workshop "Art and Language (with Practice)"
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
33 E. Congress Parkway Building, room 523

How do we look at art with young children? Learn developmentally appropriate strategies for choosing and looking closely at art images. Experience VTS (Visual Thinking Strategies), a facilitation method for meaningful discussions that promotes visual literacy, critical thinking, language and communication skills. In the morning, you'll learn strategies in the classroom at Columbia. In the afternoon, you'll walk to a local museum or gallery, where you'll practice facilitating discussions with real objects and coaching.

(312) 369-8712
\$50

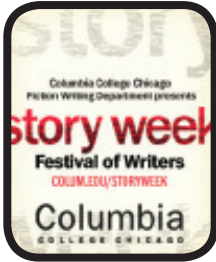



sunday, 3//14

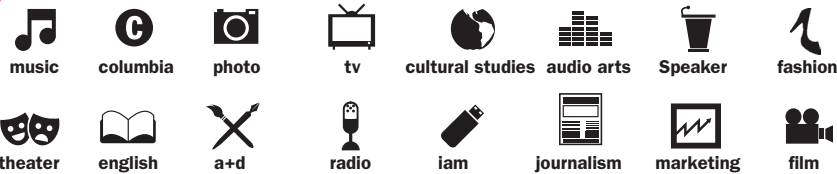
2nd Story Show
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Martyrs'
3855 N. Lincoln Ave.

A high-energy show of stories, sound effects and music. Storytellers include Randall Albers, Kim Morris, Sam Weller and Jessica Young. Musical guests include DJ White Russian and Seeking Wonderland. Hosted by Amanda Delheimer and Megan Stielstra.


CherylLJohnston@aol.com
FREE; 18+





 **Opera in Cinema Screening of "Don Carlo"**
2 p.m.
Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th Floor
(312) 369-6709
\$20



monday, 3//8


- 


History Pub Crawl: Irish Pubs of Chicago
6:45 p.m.
Chicago History Museum
1601 N. Clark St.
(312) 642-4600
\$20 - \$25
- 


“Julie and Julia”: Celebrating Julia Child
10 a.m.
The Chopping Block
4747 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 472-6700
\$85
- 

“Outlaw”
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Blackstone Hotel
636 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 542-3437
FREE

tuesday, 3//9


- 


“Sex and the City” Trivia Night
7:30 p.m.
Ginger’s Ale’s House
3801 N. Ashland Ave.
(773) 348-2767
\$5
- 

Bicycle Workshop
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
West Town Bikes
2459 W. Division St.
(773) 772-6523
\$10 or more suggested donation
- 

“RuPaul’s Drag Race” Viewing Party
8 p.m.
Kit Kat Lounge & Supper Club
3700 N. Halsted St.
(773) 525-1111
FREE


wednesday, 3//10

- 

“The Comedians You Should Know”
9 p.m.
Timothy O’Toole’s
622 N. Fairbanks Court
(312) 642-0700
\$5
- 


One for the Team
9 p.m.
Beat Kitchen
2100 W. Belmont Ave.
(773) 281-4444
\$10; 17+

thursday, 3//11


- 

“I Love You, Soledad! An Ode to a Very Special CNN Correspondent”
Through April 1st, 8 p.m.
Fizz Bar & Grill, Pub Theater
3220 N. Lincoln Ave., 2nd floor

In his comedic solo show, local writer-performer Albert Huber explores the unexpected discoveries he makes about society, the media and more on his quest to meet CNN news anchor Soledad O’Brien.

(773) 904-8777
\$5
- 

friday, 3//12


- 


Battlefield Band
7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Old Town School of Folk Music
4544 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 728-6000
\$18 - \$22
- 


“Epic Proportions”
Through March 28, 7:30 p.m.
Chemically Imbalanced Theater
1420 W. Irving Park Road
(773) 865-7731
\$15
- 


Muse
7:30 p.m.
United Center
1901 W. Madison St.
(312) 455-4650
For tickets, call (800) 745-3000

saturday, 3//13

- 


St. Patrick’s Day Cruise
10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. & 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Shoreline Sightseeing Cruises
Illinois Street and Streeter Drive
(312) 222-9328
\$27 - \$29; \$15 for kids under 13
- 


Flogging Molly
7 p.m.
Aragon Ballroom
1106 W. Lawrence Ave.
(773) 561-9500
For tickets, call (800) 745-3000
\$29.50 - \$35
- 

Chicago St. Patrick’s Day Parade
Noon
Columbus and Balbo Drives
300 E. Balbo Drive
(312) 421-1010
FREE
- 

Bring Your Own iPod Night
10 p.m. - 1 a.m.
The Firkin & Pheasant
670 W. Diversey Parkway
(773) 327-7040
FREE


sunday, 3//14

- 

Ancient Near East Film Series
2 p.m.
University of Chicago, Oriental Institute
1155 E. 58th St.
(773) 702-9507
FREE
- 

“Sunday Double Header: Infinite Sundaes and Sheila’s Sister”
Through April 18, 8 p.m.
Donny’s Skybox Theatre
1608 N. Wells St.

A double bill of improv opens with a musical set. Then comedy duo Sheila’s Sister takes four audience suggestions to create eight characters in a long-form show called “Snippets.”

(312) 337-3992
\$10; \$8 for students
- 

Chicago Philharmonic
7 p.m.
Northwestern University, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall
50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Ill.
(847) 866-6888
\$20 - \$70



FORECAST

MONDAY

MON. NIGHT

TUESDAY


WEDNESDAY


THURSDAY


FRIDAY

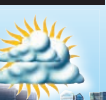
SATURDAY

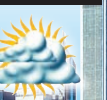
SUNDAY

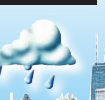


















Mild with periods of sun

Patchy clouds

Mostly cloudy

Mostly cloudy

Mostly cloudy

Morning rain; cloudy

Low clouds

A shower in the afternoon

High 50

Low 32

High 46
Low 35


High 51
Low 38


High 53
Low 37


High 47
Low 35


High 43
Low 34


High 46
Low 35























music

film

st. patricks day

art

theater

bicycling

food

night Life

t.v.