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Recommended Citation
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“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” don’t wait to repeal » PAGE 30

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The official news source of Columbia College Chicago | October 4, 2010 | Volume 46, Issue 5 | www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

Columbia student, Nicholas Assardo (left), mugged on campus

» PG. 9

FBI raids activists’ homes

Local search, seizures call federal agents’ purpose into question

by Darryl Holliday and Meghan Keyes
Assistant Metro Editors

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Joe Iosbaker and Stephanie Weiner sit in front of their raided Logan Square home. Activists and supporters across the country have condemned the raids as a method of intimidating the anti-war movement.

IT IS 7 a.m. on a Friday morning, and Doug Michel is in Minnesota visiting his friends, whom he met working on a protest at the 2008 Republican National Convention. There’s a knock at the apartment door. The FBI enters, serving a search warrant and a subpoena to one of the roommates, Tracy Molm. By Michel’s account, he and friends were instructed to sit in the corner, asked not to move or use their cell phones, with no reason given, but Molm immediately calls her lawyer. For approximately three hours, the agents sifted through Molm’s papers and belongings, seizing any activist material and artwork from Palestine and Colombia.

“This was not my apartment, but I certainly felt violated,” Michel said.

The FBI conducted raids in both Minneapolis and Chicago on Sept. 24, targeting those suspected of providing “material support” to international terrorist groups. Among them were Joe Iosbaker and Stephanie Weiner. Their Logan Square house was one of eight raided by the FBI. Approximately 30 boxes of the family’s personal possessions were confiscated by the federal agency, including artwork and poetry by their younger son.

Outside the Chicago FBI headquarters, 2111 W. Roosevelt Road, on Sept. 27 approximately 200 people protested the searches and the subpoenas.

“The searches we conducted last week were part of an ongoing criminal investigation,” said Ross Rice, spokesman and special agent for the FBI. “The searches were conducted pursuant to a warrant issued by a federal judge in Chicago based on probable cause.”

Iosbaker, an activist in Chicago and chief steward for Local 73 of the Service Employees International Union, was one of the subpoenaed. His wife, Weiner, spoke out at the rally.

“It’s not just our family, it’s not just those [who] got the knock on Friday,” Weiner said. “It’s not just the many movement activists here today... it’s not about two people or 10 people, it’s about the true message. It is not about these main people, it is about a movement being attacked and the FBI’s attempt to intimidate, silence and divide.”

Rice said procedure was followed in obtaining the warrants and conducting these searches was the same as any other.

“As far as any allegations that we target people or groups based on their political affiliation, that is totally and completely untrue,” Rice said. “We support and defend the Constitution and that includes the right to peaceably

» SEE RAID, PG. 34

Columbia confronts financial reality, regroups for 2016

Programs cut, President Carter announces new initiatives, strategic plan

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Campus Editor

PRESIDENT WARRICK L. Carter introduced Columbia’s new strategic plan, Focus 2016, on Sept. 27, aimed at improving student learning, increasing enrollment and strengthening the college’s finances.

The plan was unveiled at Stage Two, in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

Though it was Monday afternoon, the room was filled with more faculty, staff and administration than was expected.

Focus 2016 seeks to improve the quality of student education and work within the confines of a difficult financial situation. Columbia 2010, the strategic plan developed in 2004, had goals reflecting a more stable economic climate.

With difficult economic times, a shrinking budget and an increasingly competitive art, media and communication field, how does Columbia stay current and adopt new programs when funds are lacking?

“Everything comes down to finance,” Carter said. “Columbia 2010 was focused on the idea that money was going to be flowing into the college.”

Carter said it was assumed that enrollment would be high, and there would be new programs and more buildings in the South Loop. But in 2007, the economy collapsed and goals set in 2004 were no longer realistic, according to Carter. Despite the downward economy, Carter said most of the Columbia 2010 goals were met.

“The economy has changed the game plan for all of us,” Carter said. “What Focus 2016 does is create a plan in the realities of what we see happening today.”

Modest increases in tuition and enrollment, Carter said, are part of the college’s financial plan.

He also said improving student learning initiatives will hopefully bring more students to Columbia and keep them here. He said the goal is to keep classes current by adding new majors that reflect the real world and broaden education.

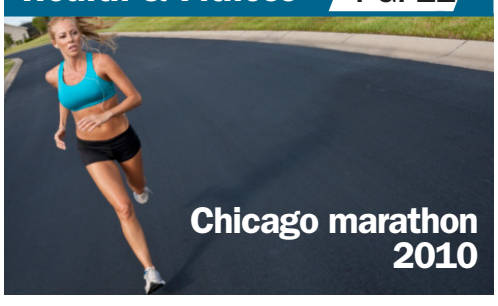
“We look at what is going on in television, radio and film,” Carter said. “The lines are blurred.”

This broader knowledge will help students in the future when they look for jobs in ever-changing media industries.

Carter said he also wants to remove concentrations with small populations,

» SEE 2016, PG. 8

Health & Fitness » PG. 11



Arts & Culture » PG. 18

Metro » PG. 37

INDEX

Campus 3
H&F 11
A&C 17
Commentary 30
Metro 33

EDITOR'S NOTE

Saving Columbia's pennies

by Spencer Roush
Editor-in-Chief

WHEN A person's funds run low, the last thing he or she should think about is stopping by the mall to buy an unnecessary pair of shoes or designer sunglasses. Sure, the shoes or sunglasses may look nice and seem like a must-have at the time, but when bank accounts are in the red, it's time for conservative spending and a lot more saving.

This frugal philosophy is not only pertinent to personal financing, but also holds true for larger operations, such as colleges and city budgets. And with fall 2010 enrollment numbers being down by 192 undergraduate students from fall 2009—nearly $4 million in tuition funds—Columbia is forced to also adopt this principle.

This is achievable by spending less on lavish gatherings—such as the new faculty and staff convocation added to the calendar this year at the Hilton's Grand Ballroom, 720 S. Michigan Ave., with free-flowing alcohol—cutting courses with low student interest and enrollment and dropping needless new programs from the college's repertoire.

Adding new programs and spending excessive amounts in start-up costs, only in hopes of gaining more attention from potential students, is throwing money at a roundabout way to solve our enrollment and retention problem. This is similar to the city of Chicago spending an unreasonable amount of funds to make the urban landscape attractive through expensive flowers, lights hung on the downtown trees and other seasonal decor.

These added details are alluring, but do tourists travel to Chicago to see our street-median planters? Probably not. Instead, money should be saved or spent on the upkeep of current programs, like the Chicago Transit Authority and education.

Columbia is in the same position, in that the college should save funds and disperse money to departments for daily operation costs and improving equipment. This meticulous department maintenance will probably impress potential students more than new, underdeveloped programs would.

Perhaps President Warrick L. Carter and other administrators have realized this importance because he listed four new principles in an e-mail to the Columbia community in an effort to keep students engaged and to establish a sustainable framework between programs and initiatives. These principles are in response to the college's retention, enrollment and graduation rates.

"Note that these principles do not call on us to create new programs, nor do they say to do more," Carter stated in the letter. "Rather, they look to galvanize our community, encourage a rich dialogue and integrate our efforts."

The decision to create a framework to keep students engaged in courses and connect them to the Columbia community through existing programs, rather than creating new, expensive initiatives is a better option for the college and its constituents.

Having a more solid foundation for each of the college's departments, specific courses and extra curricula will make the college more attractive to potential students and also keep those already enrolled content and excelling toward graduation.

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NEWS FLASH

10/5/10

Emotional Education workshop

This workshop focuses on ways to reduce stress and improve your mood. It is open to all Columbia students. Participants will learn skills and techniques proven to decrease depression and lower anxiety. Starting Oct. 5, the workshop will take place every Tuesday from noon–1:00 p.m.

731 S. Plymouth Court Residence Center Suite 112

10/6/10

Study Abroad Fair

Students can earn college credit and use FAFSA awards to pay for approved study abroad programs. Talk with program providers to learn about study abroad options. From 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

1104 Center 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

10/7/10

La Frontera opening reception

The opening of the exhibition "La Frontera: the Cultural Impact of Mexican Migration," as well as the exhibition "The Grange Prize: Exhibition of Works by 2010 Finalists" showcases the work of artists Michael Hyatt, Andy Kropa and David Taylor. From 4–7 p.m.

Alexandroff Campus Center 600 S. Michigan Ave.

CAMPUS POLL

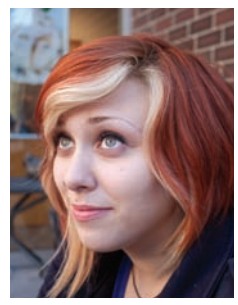
"Why do you think enrollment is down again?"

Chris Wienke
Senior
arts, entertainment and media management major

"I think it's too expensive. It's harder to get student loans, and I think some people would rather start work and make some money than go deeper into the hole."

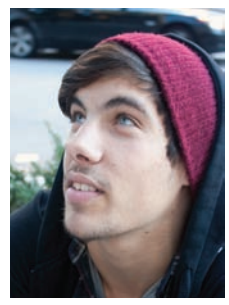
Elena Ballara
Junior
fine arts major

"Personally, I know there are a ton of people choosing the community college option just to save some money."



Nicki Penz
Sophomore
fine arts major

"They charge us too much. That's exactly why. I'm going to be well over $100,000 in debt in the next two years."



Reid Bright
Freshman
audio arts and acoustics major

"It's probably because of the down economy, how much it costs to go here and tuition going up."

Clarifications from the Sept. 27 issue

In the story, "Tracking students and crunching numbers," in the page 9 graphic, Illinois Institute of Art and Columbia College statistics on 2009's tuition rates were switched. Columbia's was $19,000 and Illinois Institute's was $21,327.

In the page 22 story, "Booze your own trail," Robert Bogie's age was listed as 47 years old. He is 27. In our reporting, we failed to clarify that members of Chicago Hash House Harriers would never introduce themselves using real names in hash capacity, though Bogie's first quote suggests otherwise. It's against the rules of hashing.

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Campus

Esteemed guitarist rocks students

Seasoned musician offers experience, guidance with series of extended sessions

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Charlie Sexton rocks out with the pop rock ensemble class during his stay as the Music Department's Artist in Residence. Sexton, who currently plays guitar in Bob Dylan's band, also worked with the rhythm and blues ensemble, the blues ensemble and performed a concert with Columbia seniors.

STUDENTS IN the Music Department had the opportunity to learn from American guitarist, singer and songwriter Charlie Sexton Sept. 27 through Sept. 30.

As a guest of the department's Contemporary, Urban and Popular Music (CUP) program, Sexton was invited to spend the week as part of the Artist in Residence series to teach master classes with the department's student ensemble bands.

"The difference between what goes on [during a master class] and what goes on making a record or [performing] on tour really isn't that different," Sexton said. "I mean, you see what's available, what people are doing, how they're playing together. Some people you work with a little more than others."

Sexton, who currently tours six months of the year as Bob Dylan's lead guitarist, has had success as a solo artist, producing records with Justin Timberlake and performing at a Haiti earthquake benefit earlier this year.

The department hosted the Charlie Sexton Residency Concert on Oct. 1, featuring students performing the songs they practiced with the legend.

Senior music major James Campbell was among the students who performed alongside Sexton.

"It's fun," Campbell said. "He taught me some calypso guitar, which is something I never did. I feel like my tuition dollars are hard at work."

Sexton said last year's Artist in Residence guest, blues singer Ivan Neville, made him want to experience what the residency program was about.

"That's wicked for the [students] to be able to experience something like that," Sexton said. "I was impressed this school would bring Neville in to work with the students."

Sexton worked with ensembles of all levels in the CUP program, such as the pop rock ensemble, rhythm and blues ensemble and the blues ensemble, but upperclassmen and more advanced students performed in the concert at the end of the week.

"Most of our students had to [Google Charlie Sexton] because they didn't know who Charlie was," said Gary Yerkins, director of the CUP program. "We could bring in Kanye [West] and that would be fun, and I'm sure he would be a great teacher, but they already know Kanye. So why not give them someone they have to go, 'Who is that?' and 'Why would they bring him here?' Then they find out over the course of the week, 'Wow, that was a heavy guy, that's why we brought him in.'"

The department discussed what areas of music it wanted to focus on and from there, decided which artist could help with that particular area.

"Charlie's a natural," Yerkins said. "He knows how to get to the point."

Who the college already has a relationship with is also a deciding factor, according to Joe Cerqua, production supervisor for the Music Department.

"My goal is to have [the artist] touch and meet as many students as [possible]," Cerqua said. "If I can get [the artist] into a class that meets twice a week, that's great because they walk away actually having a relationship with some of the students."

As this was the first time he's worked with college students, Sexton said he felt like a student himself. He told a songwriting class that he doesn't know who will be the next to blow his mind.

"Hopefully they take some inspiration [from me] because, as we're working on music and rehearsing music, I'm getting that from them," Sexton said. "I'm not even thinking of these people as students... They're players—they really are."

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Columbia, CPS to collaborate

Program to integrate new technology with traditional educational methods

by Drew Hunt
Assistant Campus Editor

THE CENTER for Community Arts Partnerships received a four-year grant, worth $1.1 million, from the United States Department of Education that will provide funding for a program called Transforming Education through the Arts and Media Initiative, or TEAM.

The proposal underwent a highly competitive peer review process facilitated by the Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination Grant Program. It was one of 33 programs to receive a grant out of 200 applications reviewed, making this the third grant they've received in four years.

The TEAM Initiative will form a partnership with Chicago Public Schools and Columbia, in what Joanne Vena, director of School Partnerships at CCAP, said will be a collaborative process.

The project will work with seventh and eighth graders in four schools in Chicago located in Little Village, Austin, Chinatown and Portage Park.

The main goal of the TEAM Initiative is to connect Columbia media arts faculty, students and alumni with teachers and students who are a part of the CPS technology magnet cluster schools, which are specialized neighborhood schools that focus on a specific curriculum. TEAM will promote unification between new media arts and traditional academic subjects, as well as promote the student's development in critical thinking and problem solving.

> "Arts integration, as a movement, has really been a strong thing over the last couple of decades."
>
> -David Flatley

"We're all about the idea that if you have a student [who is] engaged, you have a student [who] wants to learn," Vena said. "Introducing media arts into a classroom allows for more experimentation."

David Flatley, executive director of CCAP, said he considers the program on the cutting edge of combining new media with old forms of education and communication.

"Arts integration, as a movement, has really been a strong thing over the last couple of decades," Flatley said. "But media arts are a growing area."

Starting this month, CCAP will recruit Columbia faculty and graduate students to work as teaching artists with the students. Individuals with skills in videography, video game design, digital photography or any kind of new media arts will be specifically sought after due to their relevance to the program.

John Lyons, who graduated from Columbia in 2005 with a film and video degree, is a part-time teaching artist with CCAP. He will be a part of the TEAM Initiative.

"I'll [be working] with a group of maybe eight to 10 kids, maybe two days a week," Lyons said. "They'll be learning how to make films. It lets kids be evaluated on a totally different plane.

Lyons' job, along with the other teaching artist working with TEAM, will be to promote academic achievement in reading, writing and math through inquiry-based learning that integrates art and technology.

"It gives the kids an opportunity to be exposed to an art form that they might not have been exposed to before," Lyons said.

One of the main goals of the TEAM Initiative is to increase the capacity of public school teachers to deliver new kinds of instruction that integrate the arts and technology across language arts, science and math.

Vena called the notion of integrating new technologies with traditional educational practices to be the seed that leads to creating the TEAM Initiative.

"Arts integrated instruction in public schools allows the arts to have a role in the overall education of students," Vena said. "We don't get enough time in public schools to teach the arts freestanding."

According to Vena, the resources of CPS only go so far, so it is imperative partnerships are built to ensure the longevity of new ideas.

Flatley said the TEAM Initiative will do its part by taking the resources at Columbia and sharing them with the community.

"It's part of our mission to invest in the community and support the community through civic engagement," Flatley said. "Education should never be limited to the four walls of a classroom."

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College combats low enrollment

Numbers down for second consecutive year, but college shows signs of positive future

by Sam Charles
Assistant Campus Editor

AFTER REACHING an all-time high in 2008, Columbia's student enrollment has decreased for the second consecutive year, bringing the total number of undergraduate and graduate students attending at the college to 11,922.

Though a decrease of 542 students in the past two years may not seem like a big deal, the tuition revenue those students would have brought to Columbia totals nearly $11 million per year.

This information, along with other statistics regarding student demographics, faculty, tuition rates and other data is made available through an annual At-A-Glance Report released by the college, which can be found on Columbia's website.

As fewer students enroll, the number of faculty positions also decreases.

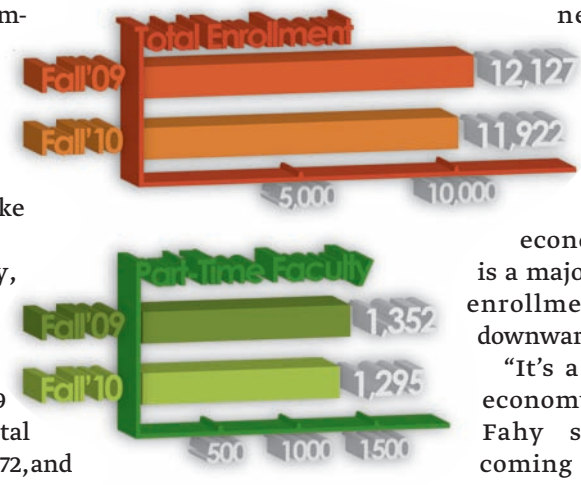
Since fall 2009, the college has ended its professional relationship with 57 part-time faculty members. However, 13 more instructors have been added as full-time faculty during that same period.

"We're continually trying to add full-time faculty," said Provost and Senior Vice President Steven Kapelke. "Our full-time faculty is relatively small, given our student body."

"About nine or 10 years ago, when [college President Dr. Warrick L.] Carter appointed me provost, we agreed that one of our priorities was to increase the size of the full-time faculty," Kapelke said. "That's in the best interest of all concerned [parties]."

Though overall enrollment is down again, the minority student population among undergraduates is up from 30 to 34 percent, an increase of approximately 415 students.

"We've made a commitment over the last few years to increase the diversity of the student body and the faculty," Kapelke said.



Ying Kau THE CHRONICLE

Comparatively, DePaul University has a minority student undergraduate population of 29 percent within a total student body of 25,072, and the University of Chicago has 58 percent within its student body of 14,181.

Not only is Columbia's minority population increasing, but new freshmen enrollment is also rising, according to the report.

"The freshman class has never been more diverse, based on geography, race and ethnicity," said Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly.

In the 2009 fall semester, there were 2,158 new freshmen, whereas this semester the college reported a new freshman class of 2,252, an increase of nearly 5 percent.

"We are becoming a first choice college for a lot of students," said Patrick Fahy, director of Admissions and Recruitment. "The more we can expose communities to what Columbia is and what we have to offer here, we find that students are very interested in Columbia's education."

There are also 49 fewer undergraduate transfer students, 253 fewer continuing undergraduates, six more new graduate students, and 19 fewer continuing graduate students.

Fahy said the economic climate is a major factor in the enrollment numbers' downward trend.

"It's a very hesitant economy out there," Fahy said. "People coming back to college have taken on a lot, and maybe by the second year that has hit them a little harder. They're not able to continue."

In an address to administration and staff in March, President Carter noted that Columbia has received more applications than any other time in the college's history.

"It's not that folks don't want to be here," Carter said, "It's the economy that's keeping them from being here."

The loss of so many students would have been more detrimental if not for the rapid growth of the student body between 2005 and 2008. In those three academic years student enrollment increased by 1,622.

The college has taken several important steps to help reverse the trend of dipping enrollment. Four hundred new scholarships based on merit and need were introduced, totaling 1,000 scholarships for incoming freshmen for fall 2010.

Additionally, the Faculty and Staff Scholarship Initiative, which takes donations from faculty and staff and then matches them either one-to-one or twofold, has raised $106,717.23 to help students.

The Faculty and Staff Scholarship Initiative works in partnership with Scholarship Columbia. The program aims to either match or double contributions given to the school with the intent of helping students in need.

For example, a donation by a faculty member of $100 gets matched exactly by Scholarship Columbia. But if that faculty member is an alum, Scholarship Columbia would give $200.

"We sent out the first letter letting people know about [the Faculty and Staff Scholarship Initiative] last December," said Assistant Dean for Faculty Advising Pattie Mackenzie.

"We had an immediate and wonderful response from faculty and staff."

Recruitment is also an important part in the effort to build a sustained student body.

"We want to continue to do the recruitment that we do each year," Fahy said. "We want to attract the right students, the right number of students, the right type of students, to Columbia. So we'll continue that effort and continue to develop the markets that we've invested in."

scharles@chroniclemail.com

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"The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated"
Mark Twain

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Music Student Convocation
12:00 PM

Tuesday October 5
Music Student Convocation
12:00 PM
Garrett McGinn Senior Recital
7:00 PM

Thursday October 7
Student Piano Recital at The Sherwood
7:00 PM

Friday October 8
Jazz Gallery in the Lobby
12:00 PM
Jazz Forum
2:00 PM

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Council fate uncertain

Group may disband to make room for faculty Senate

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

THE FIRST College Council meeting of the academic year was held on Oct. 1 at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Faculty and staff discussed important college matters, such as retention issues and the possible elimination of the council in favor of a faculty senate.

The meeting was opened by John Green, chair of both the Theater Department and the College Council, who introduced the council's new executive committee and conducted an election of a full-time faculty member to occupy a seat on the committee.

Music Department professor Sebastian Huydts was elected to fill the seat as well as the job of secretary for the council, which was recently vacated.

Green raised the question of altering the College Council to go along with the college's strategic plans.

"It seems to me this council should also be in a period of transition," Green said. "We should be preparing ourselves for the transition from College Council to a faculty senate."

Although discussions are in progress for a such a senate, Green said still he will ideally be the last chair of the council, to be replaced down the road by the chair of the new government organization.

"This may or may not happen, but certainly this is the beginning of the end of College Council," Green said. "This year, one of the tasks should be to prepare ourselves for a smooth transition ... to a different governmental organization."

Green said he's interested in making sure the council continues to move forward and by the end of the year, makes strong recommendations to President Warrick L. Carter for change.

But Green's statement didn't sit well with some of the council members.

"I have some problems with what you just said," said Louis Silverstein, distinguished professor in the Humanities, History and Social Sciences Department. "Unless that's the decision made by some authority on top, I think that's a decision to be made by the faculty. There's still a discussion [to be had] among the faculty, and this is something the council needs to discuss."

A faculty senate is needed for implementing college programs that need faculty input, according to Tom Nawrocki, associate professor in the English Department and president of the Columbia College Faculty Organization.

"The College Council has modified itself at least three different times," Nawrocki said. "This college council is at least 12–15 years old. We've grown tremendously, but one of the problems I see as a faculty member is when new programs need to be implemented, like the honors program, there was really no faculty organization to give feedback for that."

Nawrocki said with a faculty senate, faculty members from all programs will be able to get involved and modify newly developed programs.

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

John Green, the new chairperson of the College Council, comments on the group's future status at a Council meeting.

Part-time faculty members are currently being considered for seats on the new senate, but no plans are definite. The organizational bylaws are currently being drafted, which will be presented for votes once they are finalized.

As for College Council, Nawrocki said he thinks it will continue to exist in a modified form as a place where faculty and staff will continue to meet and exchange information.

"I think College Council will have to continue," Nawrocki said. "I can see many people at this table will be a part of the faculty senate, and others will be a part of the modified version of College Council."

Also discussed was the response to the Strategic Planning Committee's May 2010 recommendation of a $90,000 increase in faculty development grants. Instead, it was announced there would be a $35,000 increase for a total of $125,000.

The money is used to help full-time faculty continue professional projects to acquire or maintain tenure status, according to the college's Faculty Development Committee.

Although this particular grant money is only available for full-time faculty, grants are available for part-time faculty seeking to continue projects as well.

"To restrict the ability for part-time faculty, and to continue their professional work is very objectionable," said Fern Valfer, part-time faculty member in the Art and Design Department in response to the statement.

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Columbia supports fight against forbidden books

National Banned Books Week celebrates First Amendment right

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Campus Editor

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE
The Columbia Library celebrates Banned Books Week by displaying many challenged and outlawed books at the entrance of the library in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave.

CLASSIC LITERATURE is challenged and banished by public libraries and schools every year in violation of the First Amendment right to free speech and free press. Last week, the American Library Association called on the country to take notice.

For more than a decade, Columbia has participated in Banned Books Week, which occurred this year from Sept. 25 through Oct. 2. It is a celebration of the right to read virtually anything in America. Columbia continued the tradition this year along with public libraries, schools and other institutions across the country, all of which are affected by banned or challenged books.

The college participated in a "Read-Out" and displayed banned books at the library with explanations of why the books were restricted. "Read-Out" is an event where people get together and read from frequently challenged and prohibited books in protest. Columbia took part in one on Sept. 25 in Bughouse Square, 901 N. Clark St.

"[This week is] all about supporting the freedom to be able to read any publication of your choice," said Kim Hale, head of Library Marketing, Outreach and Special Initiatives.

Despite freedom of the press, books are banned every year in this country.

"People are demanding that schools and libraries remove books, and those schools and libraries are actually removing them," said Deborah Caldwell-Stone, deputy director of the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom.

When a book is challenged, someone files a formal complaint or request to remove a book from a bookstore, school or public library. If that is banned, it is officially removed from that location.

A person who attempts to impose his or her own viewpoint on everybody else is the definition of censorship, said Chris Finan, president of the American Book Seller Nation for Free Expression.

"The result is that discussion and debate are impoverished, and democracy suffers," Finan said.

There are many reasons why a book might be targeted. Sexually explicit content is the most common reason books are challenged, said Riva Feshbach, an outreach librarian at Columbia.

Books challenged for their sexual content include "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker, "Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger and "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky.

Sometimes literature is banned because of a single word, Hale said. "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain was written in the 19th century and is considered controversial for the N-word's use in reference to the character Jim, which caused the book to be disputed and removed from some school libraries.

"[The] objection to Harry Potter and all the books that talk about magic is that these books actually threaten the faith of the people who read them," Finan said.

People who want to ban the "Harry Potter" and "Twilight" series believe magic is real; for them, it's not fiction, Finan said.

Part of being a child is exploring the imagination. "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White has been called out because of the unrealistic talking animals.

"We've seen instances, in fact, where books were taken out of the hands of children while they were reading them, or shortly before they completed reading them," Feshbach said.

As a young girl, Feshbach said reading what was considered adult literature opened her mind to new ideas.

"It was so important for me to explore that adult content," Feshbach said.

As a librarian, Hale said she does her best to fight for the public's right to read whatever is available.

"I hope people will consider ways to preserve that freedom and think about what it means to remove books from our schools and our libraries," Caldwell-Stone said.

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» 2016

Continued from Front Page

those with seven or eight students, the concentrations he wants to cut have not yet been identified.

"It doesn't mean students will learn less, it probably means students will learn more," Carter said.

In terms of student learning, there will be more focus put on community outreach programs, said Anne Foley, vice president of Planning and Compliance, who spoke after Carter.

This may involve working with elementary schools to create city artwork.

Classes are more exciting when they are relevant and connect students with the community, said Rose Economou, associate professor of journalism, who attended the meeting.

These new programs and outreach endeavors must coincide with Columbia's economic confines, Carter said. Modernization of the curriculum requires funds, which means more students.

Recruitment, retention and building the college's reputation are essential to increasing enrollment numbers, Carter said.

"We can't have student learning if we don't have students," Carter said.

Columbia had 12,464 students in fall 2008. Now Columbia has 11,922 students, which means enrollment has decreased approximately 5 percent since 2008.

"We increase our enrollment through new demographics," Carter said.

Part of the enrollment plan for Focus 2016 includes recruiting from different age groups rather than targeting the traditional college-ready age group.

"We have an opportunity to grow enrollment with adult learners," Foley said.

She described adult learners as people more than 25 years old who work, cannot attend classes in the day and are often looking to acquire new skills in their field.

She said adult learners are coming back to college in large numbers.

The idea is to benefit returning students and people going back to school because of a career change, Foley explained. This may involve online courses, and "it's a big experiment."

Out-of-state, international, transfer and adult students are the target enrollment demographics for Focus 2016, Foley said.

Finance, the third component of Focus 2016, includes keeping moderate student costs, growing the endowment and generating enough revenue for operations to continue and improve.

Carter said there will be modest tuition increases, but does not want to burden students with costs. Tuition increased 3 percent for the 2009-10 academic year. Next year's tuition increase is yet to be determined.

Working toward a slight tuition increase and a moderate increase in enrollment, Carter said, is the historical way Columbia has been financed.

"If we are going to move ahead we're all going to be out of our comfort zone," Carter said. "We can't be complacent. We've got to change. I need you all to take an active roll in Focus 2016."

The Student Government has met with Anne Foley to discuss Focus 2016. The Board of Trustees will meet in December to discuss the strategic plan.

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Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

President Warrick L. Carter addresses Columbia faculty and staff at 'Columbia College Town Hall: New Strategic Plan'. The plan focuses on student learning, enrollment and finance to improve the college across the board.

Student mugged, injured

Chicago police search for culprits, connection in recent attacks around campus

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Campus Editor

A COLUMBIA student who was beaten with a baseball bat was one of five separate victims who were attacked, robbed and beaten, Sept. 28 and 29. While detectives determine if these incidents are related, Campus Safety and Security addresses the dangers of walking alone at night.

An unrelated sexual assault was reported at 3:00 a.m. on Sept. 28 in the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St.

Two incidents occurred at Harrison and State streets. The first took place on Sept. 28 at 5:15 p.m. According to police reports, a 28-year-old woman waiting for a train on the Harrison Red Line platform was texting when an offender took her iPhone and fled with an accomplice.

The second occurrence at Harrison and State streets was at 4 a.m. on Sept. 29, when Nicholas Assardo, freshman film and video major, was returning home after walking his friend to the Harrison station, he said.

"[Assardo] did a wonderful thing by walking his friend to the Red Line station," said Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety and Security. "But then he was alone."

On the corner of Harrison and State streets, moments after he had parted ways with his friend, four men surrounded Assardo, threw him over a low fence and attacked him with a bat for more than four minutes.

The offenders stole his wallet which included $50 and several IDs, according to the police report. The incident took place near his apartment at 2 E. 8th St.

"I always knew there were parts of this city that weren't safe, but I thought the three block radius around my apartment would be fine," Assardo said. "This changes things."

In addition to Assardo's incident, there were three more attacks possibly related on Sept. 29. One took place at 2:30 a.m. at 624 W. Adams St. when a man was held at gunpoint by an assailant who stole his cell phone, according to police reports.

Another occurred at 4:50 a.m. on the 2000 block of North Larrabee Street, when a man was attacked by four offenders, and according to police reports, all of his belongings were stolen.

The last incident was at 5:10 a.m. when a man was beaten by two men on the corner of Superior Street and Michigan Avenue, and his cell phone was taken. Meegan said Columbia is taking extra precautions now.

"We have increased our [on-campus] security patrols, put a special lookout around the [Chicago Transit Authority] stations and increased patrols late [at night]," she said.

Campus Safety and Security has added one vehicle and two Segways as part of the on-campus security patrol.

Students have been advised to walk in pairs at night.

A campus alert was issued on Sept. 30, and the investigation was turned over to the Chicago Police Department.

"I'm not willing to accept and acknowledge people have the same understanding of safety," Meegan said. "It's all of our jobs to educate everybody in this environment to stay in a state of awareness."

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Bike policy confusion

Unclear rule will undergo rectification, announcement to come in following weeks

by Sam Charles
Assistant Campus Editor

AS REPORTED by The Chronicle on Sept. 27, Columbia's administration announced a new decision regarding the bike policy by allowing bicycles to be brought into campus buildings because of the limited number of bike racks available on campus.

However, there is confusion about the new rule's parameters.

The announcement, which was e-mailed to all faculty and staff as well as posted in the Student News section of Columbia's website on Sept. 27, made no distinction between who is and who is not allowed to bring the bikes into campus buildings.

"[Columbia is] tabling the 'inside the building' bicycle prohibition until [it has] had an opportunity to make further evaluations and arrive at a more workable solution," the announcement stated. "Effective Monday, Sept. 27, the prohibition on bicycles in academic buildings will be lifted pending the office's ability to develop alternatives."

This week, however, there have been instances of security guards not allowing students to enter buildings with their bicycles, telling them only faculty told the Chroncile on Sept. 29 that he staff members are permitted to do this.

Joe Leamanczyk, project manager in the Office of Campus Environment, was listed as the contact if there were questions regarding the policy, and was also unsure of the exact details regarding who could bring their bikes inside.

Senior Matt Adam said he believes because of the amount of money students pay to attend Columbia, the college should be able to provide students and faculty with sufficient places to park their bikes.

"Tuition is high," Adam said. "They should be able to supply something to lock our bikes to."

Associate Vice President of Campus Safety and Security Robert Koverman said there will most likely not be any more announcements clarifying the new policy.

However, there will be more accouncements regarding a permanent solution.

"The next announcement will be some clarification on what the [permanent] policy will be and what the alternatives to bringing bikes to campus are," Koverman said.

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Considering the power of caricatures

Making Meaning: Reflections on Image & Implication

by Andrew Causey
Associate professor of anthropology

THUNDER AND rain scared us inside the house to a back room where the black-and-white television was. My eldest sister instructed three of us to sit in a semi-circle in front of the television to watch cartoons. We watched the jumpy static that refused to change as she clicked the channel knob from number to number. Nothing. For a while we watched the static jump when the lightening and thunder boomed nearby. Even for imaginative children, this entertainment held a limited attraction.

My sister imperiously turned the set off. "We'll make our own cartoons. Get the paper and crayons," she said. She lowered the giant heavy roll of newsprint to the wooden floor, peeled back the rugs and instructed us to fill up the section of exposed paper with cartoon people.

For some reason, I had no problem with this assignment; I could "see" all my favorite characters clearly in my mind, fully colored and moving as if on television. I was totally absorbed trying to make what I saw in my mind unfold on the paper. There was Felix and Deputy Dawg, Bosco, Bugs, Krazy and a crowd of dancing bugs. I was drawing very fast, so they didn't really look the same as on TV, but I savored the resemblances, giddy with the pleasure of making large googly eyes and waving arms.

"That's way too many! You are taking up the whole page," Sister said to me. "Stop." She told us we would have a contest, and the drawing had to be "careful." She said, "You must draw a clown from top to bottom." One of my sisters gasped, starting to whine that it was impossible. "Go," Sister told us. At the end of the allotted time (which felt like dark, thundering hours), Sister announced I had won. She noted the feet I had drawn, pointing slightly down rather than directly to the left and right, looked "real, like he's really standing on the paper." This is how I knew I could draw.

Not long after that, I began to realize my drawing abilities could be put to use. Not to get money, but rather to get my way. I understood if I exaggerated the faces or gestures a little bit (eyes too big, teeth pointed and not square), I could make fun of my sisters and threaten to show the drawing to others, unless ...

Caricatures came naturally to me. I used them to charm, to tease, to infuriate and finally, inadvertently, to hurt the people I knew. I was an eccentric kid even in elementary school, a little too dainty and sensitive, but I managed to find friends and allies through my drawings. By middle school, I was using my drawing skills defensively. No more clowns and Batmans! This was war! A few deft lines would produce half-lidded eyes, buck teeth, a gaping mouth with ragged teeth and the word "duh." In a moment, I had eviscerated the bully who towered over me and also realized that I would survive high school.

But the power of my caricatures was not as easy to control as I smugly imagined it would be. The big lunks and cruel princesses at school, as far as I was concerned, brought much of their artistic punishment on themselves with their arrogance, physical brutality and withering criticisms; I had no mercy and no remorse in making fun of them. Soon, though, I began to realize I could do nothing but caricatures. If I wanted to make a flattering or charming portrait of a friend, it was met with anger or tears. "Is that me? Is that what you think I look like?" I got a terrible reputation among my few friends: I was called "mean." I was devastated and went back to drawing happy flowers and confused monsters.

Nowadays, I draw (mean) caricatures only with my (mean) cartooning friends who can give it back to me. I realize now the power of a caricature (which comes from an old Italian word that means "to load it on") is vast, and to handle it well—to subtly twist or exaggerate a feature or characteristic in order to poke fun or diminish social stature—means to control the images with reason and thoughtfulness, great strength and even greater self-character. These days, as we can all see, an ill-received caricature can send its artist into hiding, fearing death.

Andrew Causey is an associate professor of anthropology in the Department of Humanities, History and Social Sciences.

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Send submission to Sharon Bloyd-Peshkin at criticalencounters@colum.edu. Complete instructions are available at www.colum.edu/criticalencounters under the "Get Published" tab.

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image + implication
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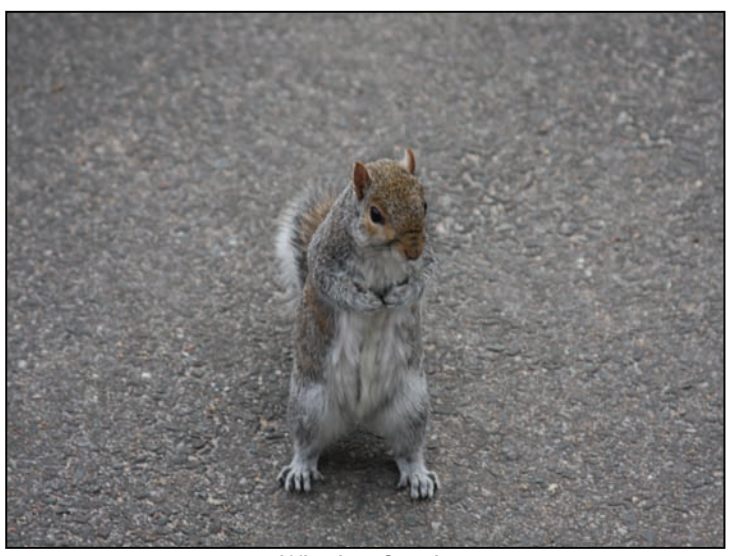
Caption Contest
Last week's image



Winning Caption

"I think I deserve a standing ovation for causing that five-car pile-up."

- Joe Bergren, senior, television writing/production major

Health& Fitness

New plan to benefit young adults

Passage of the Affordable Health Care Act allows longer stay, coverage on parents' insurance

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

YOUNG ADULTS no longer have to worry about losing the benefits of their parents' health insurance. New reforms under the Affordable Health Care Act, which went into effect on Sept. 23, allows people under the age of 26 to stay on their parents' health care plan.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, approximately 30 percent of young adults are uninsured, making them the least insured age group, with a rate three times higher than that of children.

The act's passage was considered important to young adult's because one in six young adults have chronic illnesses such as cancer, diabetes or asthma according to HHS.

"Overall, the plan will bring insurance to 33 million people who are [currently uninsured]," said Jonathan VanderBrug, health care justice director with the Campaign for Better Health Care.

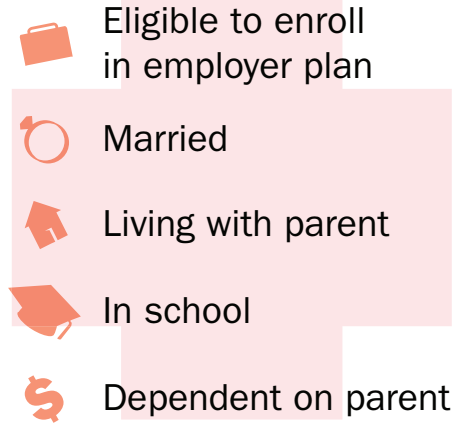
"It will provide tremendous benefits to young adults," VanderBrug said. "It will enable young adults to have peace of mind and focus on work, family and school and not worry about what should happen if they get sick."

According to HHS, this new act provides tax benefits to adults who pay for their childrens coverage. A new provision under the Affordable Health Care Act states the value of any employer-provided health coverage for an employee's child is excluded from the employee's taxable income through the end of the tax year until they are 26 years old.

President Barack Obama and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's efforts to get the Affordable Health Care Act passed in March 2010 were crucial, according to VanderBrug.

"There's no way the bill would've been passed without their support," VanderBrug said. "President Obama provided the leadership to bring up this issue. [The] issue has been debated since Teddy Roosevelt was

» SEE HEALTH CARE, PG. 16



Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/02/10

Columbus Crew vs. Chicago Fire

The Fire try to remain in contention for the postseason as it has four regular season games remaining. The Crew is the top team in the MLS Eastern Division with 45 points.

Toyota Park
7000 S. Harlem Ave.
Bridgeview, Ill.

10/09/10

Purdue University vs. Northwestern University

Purdue Boilermakers visit Ryan Field as the Northwestern Wildcats look to keep their modest four-game home winning streak alive. Northwestern hasn't lost a home game since Oct. 31, 2009, against Penn State. Tickets start at $35.

Ryan Field
1501 Central St.
Evanston, Ill.

10/09/10

Detroit Red Wings vs. Chicago Blackhawks

The Red Wings and Blackhawks revisit their rivalry in the Hawks home opener. The defense of the Stanley Cup begins Oct. 6, when the Blackhawks open the season in Denver to face the Colorado Avalanche.

United Center
1901 W. Madison St.

Stepping up the running routine for race

Physical, mental preparation necessary for endurance during Chicago Marathon

by Jaclyn Howard
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE 26.2-MILE Bank of America Chicago Marathon is less than a week away. Thousands of participants will gather in Grant Park looking to push themselves to the limit, physically and mentally, on Oct. 10.

In preparation for the run, participants must train for months in advance by making not only personal investments, but financial investments in shoes and equipment to achieve their goals.

"Right now, we'd hope they were pretty well trained," said Jeremy Borling, communications director for the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. "They have made it through that structured training program and have logged those long miles and at this point, [they're] ready to complete the full 26.2-mile distance."

Clint Phillips, personal trainer and owner of Fit Chicago, said the first part in beginning any training is to have the proper pair of running shoes.

"I wouldn't pick them out based on what color they are, [which] seems to be what most people do," Phillips said.

He suggested going to a professional running shoe store like Fleet Feet, where professionals check every dynamic of the shoe, such as how the shoe fits, wears and how it lands. An investment of two pairs may be necessary.

Ying Kau THE CHRONICLE

"Wear your shoes for [only] about 500 miles," Phillips said. "Even if they look good and still feel good, the cushioning is still worn out."

Borling said participants should focus on speed when training for the marathon, because of the flat terrain.

The official training sponsor of the event is Nike, but it still supports other training programs such as the Chicago Area Runners Association.

"We may not have an official relationship with them, but we know they are training athletes for our event so we try and provide as many resources as we can," Borling said.

Training programs vary by individual, but most plans include a weekly schedule with participants running shorter distances every day and then a long run at the end of the week. But doing a 20-mile run a few weeks before the race is recommended, Borling said.

Phillips said risk of injury is possible with or without proper training.

"I know a lot of people have injured themselves badly trying to run a marathon without proper training," Phillips said. "Even with proper training, [people] can get injured."

First-time participant Mark Skylling, 23, of Chicago, is running the marathon with World Vision, a Christian organization dedicated to helping families and children living in poverty around the world.

"I've been putting in a lot of hard work," Skylling said. "I am excited to actually get to race day when I will finally get to see the fruit of all the labor and all the hours of running I have been putting in this summer."

For Skylling, one of the biggest challenges leading up to the marathon is the mental strain of the training process.

"There are just certain days you get up and you don't want to run at all, but you have to fight through that—it may be cold or windy," Skylling said. "It just takes a lot of mental strength to push through that and keep running and continue with your training."

Borling said in order to mentally prepare for the race, participants are encouraged to study the course and guidelines before the race, in addition to physical training.

"If you are doing the physical training, then you know you are preparing yourself properly," Borling said.

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Stayin' Savvy

The aliens have landed

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

REALITY TV shows continue to take over the airwaves and turn wealthy, no-names into over-night celebrities. With the new invasion of pseudo-celebrities, there is something a bit off about their appearance. It's not the orange, Oompa Loompa-like glow that radiates from their faces or the tacky, overly embellished designer threads they adorn themselves with, it's their expressionless faces.

Upon closer examination of these people and with the help of a high-definition TV, one could figure out that these men and women have had massive amounts of Botox or their expressions are frozen in time. A majority of "The Real Housewives of New Jersey, Orange County, New York, etc," are prime examples of over-injected faces.

Some faux celebrities have had such excessive cosmetic surgery done on their faces they start to resemble a new non-human life-like form complete with abnormally plumped lips and stretched skin.

Botox, or botulinum toxin, is produced by the bacterium Clostridium botulinum, which is also responsible for the illness botulism, which can be fatal. The bacteria is commonly found in proteins.

As if the definition wasn't daunting enough, the name has the word toxin in its title.

It was first used in trial runs to control excessive blinking and "crossed eyes." In the late 1980s, Botox was first tested for cosmetic purposes and was then approved by the FDA in December of 1989. Almost 20 years later, we are seeing the vast impact it now has on pop culture.

Even in some homes, Botox "parties" replace Tupperware parties. Injections are becoming so accessible one no longer needs a hefty bank account or even a trip to the doctor's office to get them.

And it is not just middle-aged people who are giving in to this temptation to obtain a frozen, expressionless face, Kim Kardashian recently had an experience with Botox, as was "documented" on her reality show "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

In the episode, Kim has a meltdown, complete with tears—of course—as she screams her eyes felt like they were "on fire." After the episode aired, she admitted Botox was an unnecessary choice for her.

Keep in mind, Ms. Kardashian will be a mere 30 years old in a couple of weeks.

While the average Botox treatment recipient is middle-aged, doctors have recently seen younger patients, as young as 22, seeking out injections. Whatever happened to people aging gracefully and embracing their looks? More importantly, young adults, who are nowhere near the age of developing wrinkles, are feeling the need to experiment with the popular toxin.

If you want to inject bacteria into your face, that's your own prerogative. But when you start resembling an extra-terrestrial being, it is time to ease up on the chicken fat.

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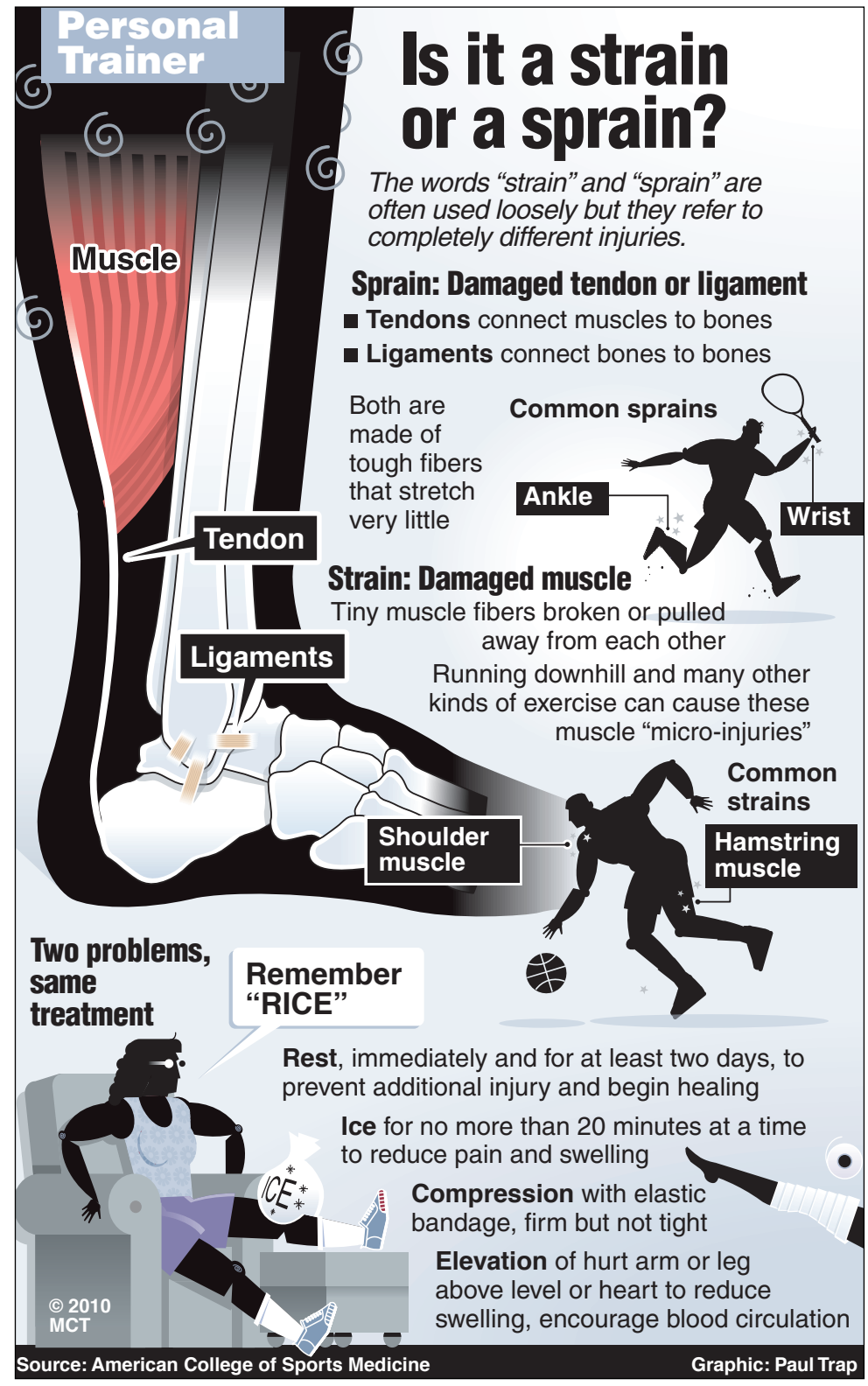

Season change brings fall tastes to tables

Local restaurant menus change to heavier fare as colder months approach

by Jaclyn Howard
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Courtesy MR. FOOD

THE CHANGE from summer to autumn brings more than just cool weather and colorful leaves; it's also time for Chicago restaurants to introduce some of their fall foods, bringing warmth and comfort to the table.

Fall foods tend to include produce like pumpkin, apple and squash with spices to complement them. This season, local restaurants and home cooks are putting a new spin on traditional autumn foods.

"People are experimenting more," said Howard Rosenthal, brand director for TV chef Mr. Food, whose philosophy is quick and easy cooking.

Hopleaf, 5148 N. Clark St., is a tavern with a seasonally changing menu. Michael Roper, owner of the restaurant, said this is because the food ordered is from Midwest farms or farm co-ops.

"Our menu has to change with what is available," Roper said. "So right now, if you go into a restaurant and they still have a spring green salad on the menu, that means the greens are probably coming from 2,000 miles away. We don't have any more spring greens because we are not in spring."

On Hopleaf's current menu are monkfish and veal sweetbreads, as well as its staple best sellers, mussels and frites, which are on the menu year-round.

"We have a fairly compact menu, so when we put new things on, the new things are what really sell," Roper said.

Sunday Dinner is a local catering business that also has a seasonally changing menu. Owner and chef Joshua Kulp sources all the business's food directly from farmers in the region.

"Right now we are kind of in transition, where we are incorporating things from the fall like squash or Brussels sprouts, while we are still finishing up the last of summer foods, like zucchini and eggplant," Kulp said.

But those who choose to eat at home this fall have an equal opportunity to take advantage of everything the season brings to the table.

Rosenthal said the idea of allowing food to simmer in a slow cooker is more popular during the fall months and makes heavier fare more popular.

"The more and more people are cooking at home, they are getting in tune with shortcuts that will make their life that much easier," Rosenthal said. "So obviously a lot of slow cooked meals ... you would expect in the fall."

Roper added it is important for Chicagoans to take advantage of the seasonal fruits and vegetables by going to farmers markets to buy ingredients. He said by canning or preserving this produce appropriately, one can have fall produce all year long.

"This is the best time of the year," Roper said. "[The farmers markets] are loaded with stuff. You can buy things like turnips and they keep. Those root veggies are plentiful, reasonably priced and fun to cook with."

Rosenthal also said cooking at home allows people to bond and have fun. He suggested a quick recipe for those on the go who are looking for a healthy alternative. Cutting slices of pumpkin pie, roasting them and pouring some maple syrup on top serves it as a quick, healthy and festive dish.

"We can make a dish that will not only meet our taste, but also our dietary requirements," Rosenthal said. "But taste is always first. People talk how what they eat is comfort. If we can modify that and get a happy balance, that's what it's all about."

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Better discipline, focus key for Wildcats

Northwestern aims for Big Ten championship as conference schedule begins

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Wildcats starting quarterback Dan Persa scrambling against Central Michigan University on Sept. 25.

THE NORTHWESTERN University Wildcats aren't taking anything for granted heading into Big Ten conference play. The Wildcats went 4-0 in nonconference play with victories over Vanderbilt University (SEC), Illinois State University (NCAA FCS), Rice University (Conference USA) and Central Michigan University (MAC).

The team knows it's in for a battle this season as it tries to capture its fourth Big Ten championship in the last 15 years. Northwestern hasn't won the Big Ten championship since 2000, when it shared the title with Purdue University and University of Michigan.

Given that the team has won its first four games of the season, the Wildcats had an uncharacteristic game against Central Michigan when it committed 7 penalties in the first quarter Fitzgerald acknowledged.

"I don't know if we can beat ourselves right now," Fitzgerald said after the Wildcats' 30-25 victory over Central Michigan on Sept. 25, in which the team committed 11 penalties. "We need to play a lot cleaner, more focused and more disciplined if we're going to win a game the rest of the year."

After their victory over Central Michigan, the Wildcats are one of five teams undefeated in nonconference play (Michigan, Ohio State University, Michigan State University and the University of Wisconsin), won't face two highly-regarded quarterbacks—Terrelle Pryor of Ohio State and Denard Robinson of Michigan.

but it didn't mean the team was celebrating this achievement.

"I promise you it wasn't Mardi Gras," Fitzgerald said, acknowledging the mood in the locker room.

He said games similar to their contest against Central Michigan could prove to be a valuable learning experience for the team.

"We've got to keep learning from these experiences that we have," Fitzgerald said. "You look at our roster, and we're not playing a lot of seniors. We're a relatively young football team." There are currently 11 seniors on the team.

With the Wildcats not playing Ohio State and Michigan this season, Northwestern

Northwestern will play four games against teams who are ranked in the top 25 of the AP rankings after four nonconference games. The Wildcats have home games against Michigan State, the University of Iowa and will play the University of Illinois at Wrigley Field. They will face Penn State and Wisconsin on the road.

Northwestern has an advantage over most Big Ten teams as its passing offense is ranked 27th in the country through its first four games. The Wildcats are second in Big Ten teams with an average of 270 passing yards per game.

Iowa's passing offense is ranked 32nd in the nation, Michigan State 48th, Wisconsin 55th and Penn State 72nd. The Wildcats' starting quarterback, Dan Persa, leads the nation with a 186.3 passer rating through four games.

When asked what Northwestern's offense needs to do to remain consistent, Persa acknowledged improving the running game, which ranks 64th in the nation with an average of 149.8 rushing yards per game.

"In the Big Ten you've got to be able to run the ball," Persa said. "I think the more balanced our offense [remains], the better it'll be."

Fitzgerald noted the teams' ability to make plays when the opportunity presents itself as the competition gets stiffer.

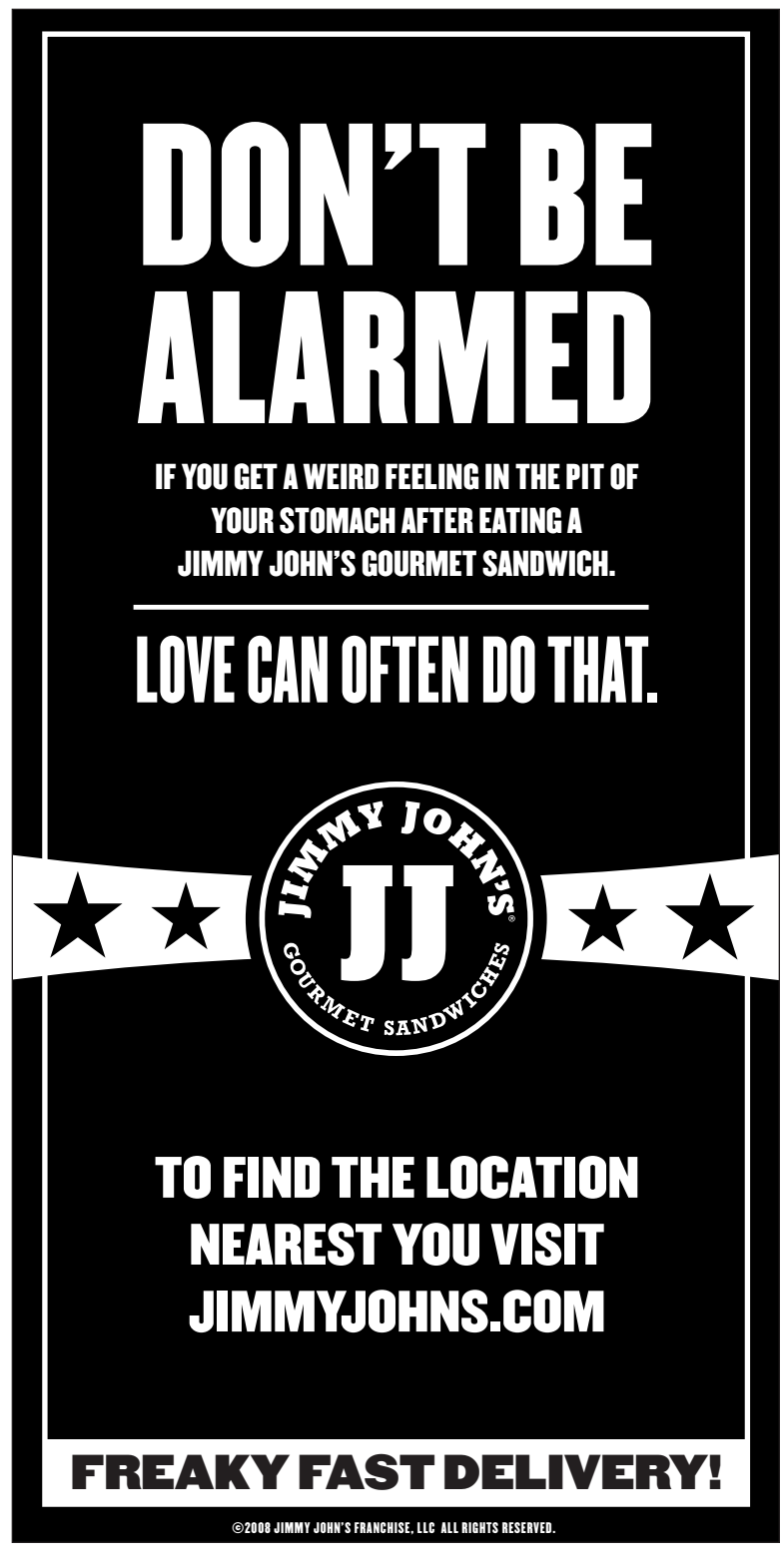
"That's why you play Big Ten football, make plays, have fun," Fitzgerald said. "We've just got to make plays when they present themselves."

Northwestern is ranked third in the country in passing efficiency. Its offense has scored an average of 30 points per game through four games but is ranked 53rd in scoring offense.

While the team's offense continues to show improvement, its game against Central Michigan didn't help its defense statistically as it is ranked 77th in total defense.

Central Michigan's quarterback Ryan Radcliff threw for 347 yards and two touchdowns on Sept. 25, as the Wildcats have given up an average of 373.8 yards of

» SEE NORTHWESTERN, PG. 16



Savory salsa

An easy, delicious dish to impress friends or enjoy alone

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

WHEN I came to college, I was ready for late-night studying and late-night snacking. While the studying sometimes falls by the wayside, snacks are always important. In a dorm room freshman year, I took a bite of one of the greatest things I've ever tasted. A friend handed me a chip and asked me to try her salsa. By the end of the night, the chips were unnecessary, and we were spooning the salsa into our mouths.

I have recreated it since then, each time mixing it up to fit my style and using the ingredients I had on hand. Even though I'm not much of a chef and haven't chopped many vegetables in my life, this dish is simple and tasty enough that if it comes out different every time, it still tastes delicious. Now I have a go-to snack when I'm studying, watching movies or just hungry.

While the dish sails on the fresh vegetables, it starts with canned corn, garbanzo beans and black beans. After partially draining the liquids from the can, pour one can of each into a large bowl. Throughout the process, stir the ingredients with a large spoon so the ingredients don't settle and separate from each other.

Tomatoes, red onions and green peppers add the juicy crunch. One chopped green pepper, one diced red onion and a pint of cherry tomatoes cut into quarters mixed into the bowl create the salsa's thickness. These pieces should be small enough to scoop onto to a chip, but big enough to bite into.

Next comes the spice. Chop up two jalapeno peppers, slightly smaller than the tomatoes and green peppers, to spread the flavor throughout. A bunch of cilantro, also chopped, adds a kick and freshness to the snack.

A handful of finely chopped green onions adds another layer of flavor. Don't forget to continually stir; by now the juices from the canned veggies are likely dripping to the bottom.

To cut some of the spiciness, squeeze in the juice of one or two limes, and stir everything together for a colorful concoction. With one last vigorous stir, the recipe goes in the fridge for about an hour, allowing time for the vegetables to soak up the juices.

You're now one tortilla chip away from enjoying homemade salsa-y goodness. This can serve as many as you want, sometimes it can last for two or three people, but once you start snacking, you may find you've finished the batch on your own. This snack won't just taste good; it's a colorful addition to your refrigerator.

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Ingredients:

1 can of whole kernel corn
1 can of garbanzo beans
1 can of black beans
1 pint of cherry tomatoes
1 red onion
1 green pepper
2 jalapeno peppers
1 bunch of cilantro
1 bunch of green onions
1-2 limes

Instructions:

1. Partially drain the can of corn, can of garbanzo beans and can of black beans. Pour and mix them in a large bowl.
2. Chop the onion and green pepper and mix in bowl.
3. Cut one pint of cherry tomatoes into quarters and mix in bowl.
4. Chop two jalapeno peppers and one bunch of cilantro. Sprinkle throughout the bowl and stir.
5. Finely chop one bunch of green onions and sprinkle on top.
6. Squeeze the juice of one or two limes into the mix to taste.
7. Let the salsa sit in refrigerator for at least an hour.
8. Serve with tortilla chips and enjoy.

WELLS FARGO

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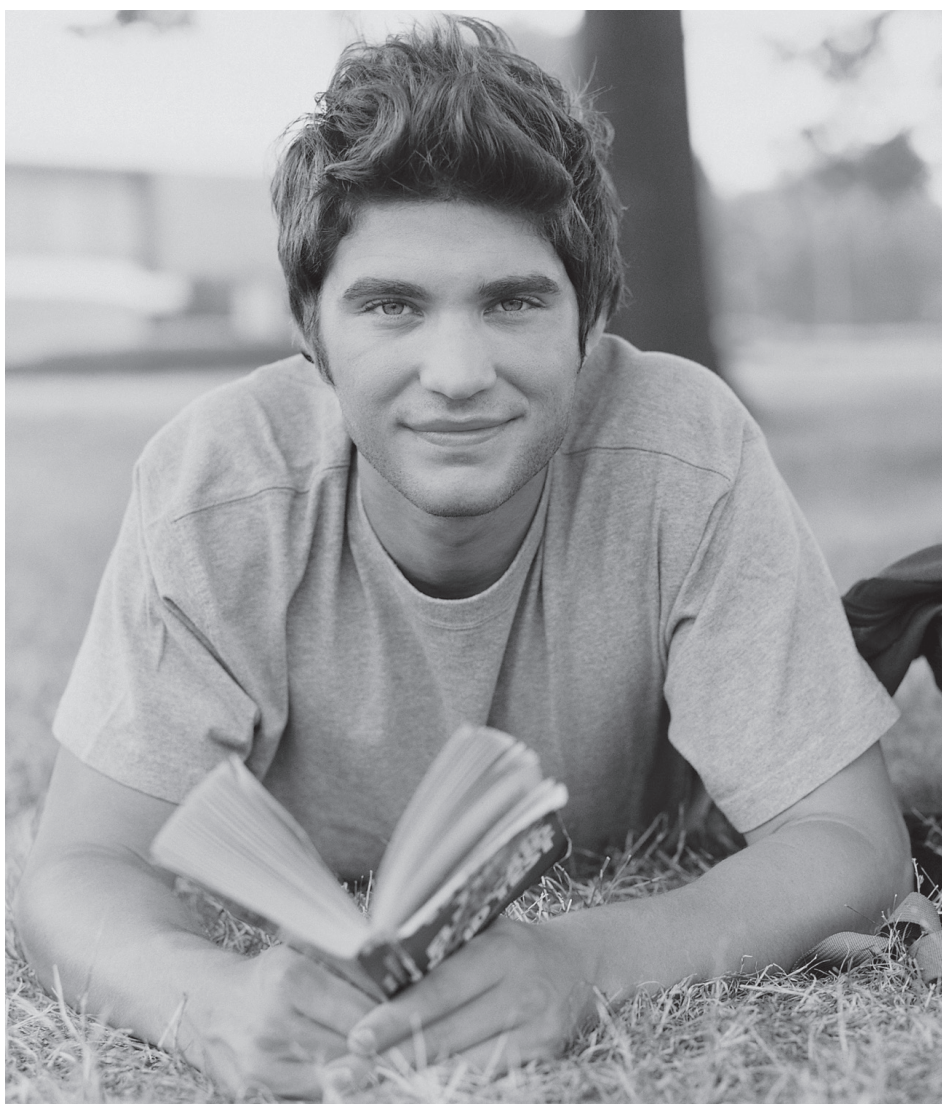

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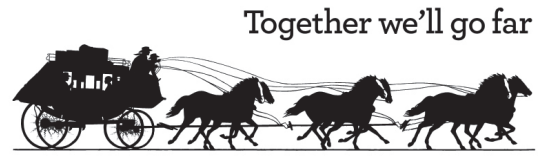

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Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Wildcats running back Jacob Schmidt scores a touchdown in the fourth quarter with a 13-yard run on Sept. 25. Schmidt had 32 yards rushing and 33 yards receiving against Central Michigan University.

» NORTHWESTERN

Continued from PG. 13

offense to their opponents. The turnover margin has helped this team complete an undefeated nonconference schedule.

The Wildcats gained 12 turnovers through four games for a margin of 1.75 which is the sixth best margin in the country.

One player who is around the ball frequently is senior outside linebacker Quentin Davie. Davie, who only had one interception last season, has surpassed that total with three interceptions against Illinois State and Rice. In the Wildcats game against Central Michigan Davie recovered a fumble. He credited the coaching staff for its defensive scheme and the focus made on defense to make it successful.

Ohio State is the only other Big Ten team ranked higher than Northwestern, as it is the second best team in the nation with turnovers. Northwestern has intercepted eight passes which is higher than any other team in the conference.

Davie said the defense doesn't need to get caught up doing things outside of its defensive technique. When that happens, the lack of focus leads to big plays , he said.

"We just need to focus on the things we do," Davie said. "Within the scheme, we need to play to our technique. Plays happen within our technique."

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Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Northwestern's passing offense is ranked 27th in the country with 270 yards per game

» HEALTH CARE

Continued from PG. 11

president with very little action. It wouldn't have happened without them."

With this new act, no insurer can drop someone if he or she get sick, and coverage cannot be canceled. According to the HHS, young adults have the lowest rate of access to employer-based insurance.

"[This act] is going to make a big difference for me," said Tyler Wilson, 21, an intern with the Illinois Public Interest Research Group. "[I'm] just relieved and happy for everyone [who] will be affected by this."

Wilson said he suffers from problems with his eyes and stomach and eagerly anticipates going to the doctor and getting healthy. He said he hasn't been able to visit a doctor because he wasn't covered under his parents' insurance policy.

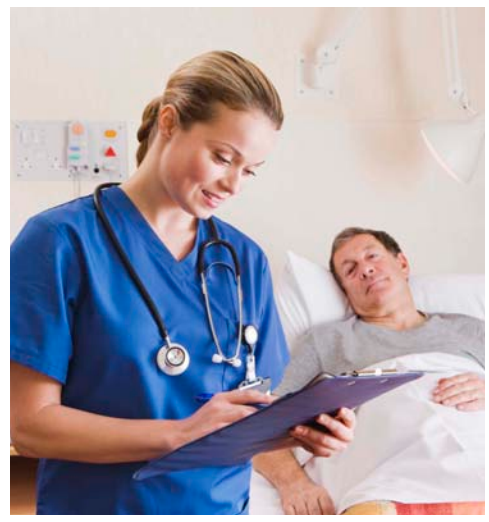
The act doesn't imply young adults who previously were uninsured won't receive the same benefits as other adults who are insured. According to the HHS, any qualified young adult has to be offered similar benefit packages as individuals who didn't lose any coverage based on cessation of dependent status.

The individual can't be required to pay more for any coverage, but this policy only applies to health insurance plans offering dependent coverage.

"This is a pretty big win for young adults," VanderBrug said.

As of Sept. 23, young adults and their parents should begin to check for immediate options, according to HHS. Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, who wanted leading insurance companies to begin covering young adults before the initial date of the Affordable Care Act.

This would avoid any gaps in coverage for young adults and save on insurance



STOCK PHOTO

companies' administrative costs, according to HHS.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield, WellPoint, Inc., Humana and Aetna were just some of the leading health insurance companies to respond to Sebelius' call to action.

In a news release, The Regence Group insurer stated it was behind the call for early implantation. The Regence Group is a health insurance company that provides coverage in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and Utah.

"Regence has long supported health care reform and we believe this is a practical, positive step toward providing our members and their families with high quality, affordable health care coverage," said Mark B. Ganz, president and CEO of Regence, in a news release."Consumers are confused about what health care reform means to them, and by making these changes now, we ensure our young members continue to have access to the health care they need."

According to HHS, if the option for early enrollment wasn't present, young adults would then qualify for an open enrollment to join their family plan beginning after Sept. 23. Insurers must notify parents about this open enrollment period.

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How to: self defense technique

Ying Kau THE CHRONICLE

by Jaclyn Howard
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Having a sense of awareness and the ability to defend yourself is important if an incident were to occurs.

Between Aug. 21 and Sept. 20, 32,703 crimes were reported in Chicago, 20 percent of those being theft, according to EveryBlock.com.

Terrance Hicks, Jr., instructor of the street defense fitness program at Columbia, said street defense is an important skill to have. Hicks gave some tips on how to stay safe and what to do when self defense is necessary.

The Street Defense fitness program is held in the 916 S. Wabash Ave. Building, room 226, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 1:15 p.m.

1 Be aware

"You must always be aware of your surroundings at all times," Hicks said. He added by turning down the volume on iPods you will be more aware of sounds around you.

2 Yell, make noise

By yelling and making noise, surrounding people will notice and be alerted to the situation. This might bring help to the situation faster.

3 Go for vital areas

The groin and the nose are spots to aim for to defend yourself in case you are ever attacked. "Make sure all kicks go up to the ankles or the knees; this will keep them from coming to you," Hicks said.

4 Get away quickly

Distance yourself from the attacker as quickly as possible. By using self defense techniques like kicking in the knees, it will slow them down. Run away to a safe, well populated area.

MAKING their mark

arts & culture

With more options in the city, street artists move their work into galleries

Visit the gallery on pg. 20

Arts& Culture

Muppets take Chicago

New exhibit showcases Jim Henson's imagination, creativity, artistic growth

by Luke Wilusz
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Courtesy THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

Jim Henson works with Kermit the Frog in 1978 on the set of "The Muppet Movie." Kermit first appeared in 1955 on Henson's show, "Sam and Friends," and has since become one of the most iconic characters in popular American culture, appearing in "Sesame Street," "The Muppet Show" and in several feature films.

BERT, ERNIE, Oscar the Grouch, Cookie Monster and countless other Muppets have been an integral part of most people's childhoods for more than four decades. These colorful and lively puppets have danced, sung and joked their way into the hearts of millions while striking a near-perfect balance between education and entertainment. The Museum of Science and Industry now offers a detailed look into the mind and imagination of the man who made it all possible: The late Jim Henson.

"Jim Henson's Fantastic World," the latest exhibit at the Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, opened on Sept. 24—what would have been Henson's 74th birthday—with a birthday-themed opening event attended by Henson's wife Jane and Elmo, one of his most famous creations. The exhibit, which was organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and The Jim Henson Legacy, features more than 130 original artworks by Henson, including sketches, storyboards and, of course, Muppets.

Miss Piggy in her wedding dress from "Muppets Take Manhattan" is on display, which is exclusive to the Chicago stop of the exhibit. Other Chicago-exclusive special programs developed by the Museum of Science and Industry include a puppet theater where visitors are encouraged to stage their own stories and a Foley studio, where they can learn about the art and science of creating live sound effects.

"Jim Henson was such a creative genius and an inventive genius, and that's really in line with the museum's mission to inspire the inventive genius in everyone," said Jeff Buonomo, coordinator of temporary exhibits and events at the Museum of Science and Industry. "You'll look around and you'll see he really started with just a sketch or an idea, and then eventually it evolved into a whole industry that continues to educate us, inspire us and, best of all, entertain us. His work lives on to this day in different countries around the world and in different languages, which is a real testament to who the man was."

Buonomo said the exhibit offers a look into many of the lesser-known aspects of Henson's work.

"It shows you different facets of his career, starting with commercials and his early work in high school where he was actually trying to open up a print and graphic design business," Buonomo said. "And then his final work, which was creating these whole worlds that were completely separate from the real world using science fiction for 'Labyrinth' and 'The Dark Crystal.' He really changed his work throughout his career, and I think that's really interesting for people to see that it wasn't just Muppets."

Frank Resnik, 68, was surprised to learn about the various areas Henson had worked in.

"I was unaware of the extent of his background in doing things for advertising, so I found fascinating the various eight-second commercials he did," Resnik said, referring to a series of ads Henson made for Wilkins Coffee in the 1960s. "That was a surprise and very interesting to me."

Jonathan Silverstein, 40, was similarly unaware of much of Henson's earlier work.

"I was really surprised at how early a lot of this started," Silverstein said. "I guess I thought it pretty much originated with Sesame Street, but really, it goes back, gosh, 15 years before that, so it was interesting to see some of the evolution through that."

Buonomo said one of the unique things about Henson's work was the nearly universal appeal of it, noting visitors of all ages have been coming to see the exhibit.

"Parents grew up with the Muppets, and even their children are still growing up with the Muppets and 'Sesame Street,' so there's really something in here for everyone," Buonomo said. "It's really people of all ages. The young kids with adults, the grandparents and even a lot of people from film schools are very interested in his work."

Resnik agreed part of Henson's genius was his ability to capture the imagination of nearly any audience.

"Jim Henson is an incredible one for taking imagination into physical reality," Resnik said. "He was very creative, and his mind took him into so many different directions over his too-short career. There's something he did that would appeal to almost anybody."

"Jim Henson's Fantastic World" is open through Jan. 23, 2011, at the Museum of Science and Industry. Entrance to the exhibit (not included in the museum's general admission) costs $5 for adults and $2 for children ages 3–11. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit MSIChicago.org.

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Courtesy THE JIM HENSON COMPANY

The whimsical nature of Henson's ink and marker sketches of the "Frackles" for a 1970 television special is inherent in all of his work and evident in the world of "Fraggle Rock." Henson began most of his projects with detailed sketches and storyboards before starting to create and work with physical puppets.

"A" To Zepeda

Boeing plans are out of this world

by Benita Zepeda
Managing Editor

I'VE OFTEN looked up into the night sky and wondered what it's like outside our atmosphere. Sure, I can look at NASA's website, watch online videos and, of course, I can always watch the countless blockbuster films about space—"Armageddon" was real, right?—but I imagine nothing compares with taking a first-hand look at the depths of our universe.

Luckily, for everyone tired of vacationing on Earth, they can soon schedule an exhilarating 10-day trip into space, possibly starting in 2015.

Well, that is if you happen to be a billionaire.

What once seemed to be pure fantasy is quickly becoming a reality now that the Boeing Co. and Bigelow Airspace of Las Vegas have announced their partnership with a space tourism company called Space Adventures to send NASA astronauts and tourists to the International Space Station.

Well, that's great. I will probably never get there.

The deal, although insanely awesome, will only turn into another excessively expensive bragging right for the elite. I can picture it now, two affluent men of leisure, roughly the age of 45, sipping on scotch and judging each other on their winter vacation plans—"Wow, Bob, a winter in St. Barts is so lower-middle class. I'm touring space this year."

However, critics charge that the development of this program will rely on taxpayer dollars filtered into the Obama administration's proposed 2011 budget for the private-sector space travel initiative.

So while the Average Joe works tirelessly to make ends meet, wishing on a star for opportunities like vacationing in Florida, Joe's tax dollars are going to help fund the trip of a lifetime for people who have possibly already had a trip of their lifetime. How unfair.

The contract for preliminary research alone costs $18 million.

The space tourism business is going to create an even more apparent status gap. Yes, space exploration should be continued, and yes, it would be incredible to imagine someday this could be accessible to a bigger population. But why should we foot the bill for rich people's adventures?

It is also disheartening that this interest in furthering exploration is stemming only from competition. The Russian spacecraft Soyuz carried Cirque du Soleil's founder, Guy Laliberte, into space for an eight-day stay at the space station. His trip cost him roughly $40 million, according to the Associated Press. That seems doable, right?

Competition will use tax dollars to create a new, lucrative American industry, which an article in the New York Times on Sept. 15 said would free more of NASA's budget for deep-space missions.

But why does our interest in space always derive from the United States' alpha-male mentality to always be the best?

I guess in an ideal world, allowing the masses to tour space would be about the people, and competition wouldn't matter. Instead, it will be about competition not only between the U.S. and the rest of the world, but also among the social circles of the wealthy.

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Stand-up comedian dies at 44

After being hospitalized for drug overdose, comedy star found dead

by Jake Coyle
The Associated Press

GREG GIRALDO, a stand-up comedian who specialized in rants and insult-filled roasts, died on Sept. 25. He was 44.

Giraldo died at the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J., after being hospitalized days earlier. New Brunswick police Lt. J.T. Miller said officers found Giraldo in his room at the Hyatt New Brunswick.

The Home News Tribune of East Brunswick reported Giraldo had suffered a drug overdose, citing New Brunswick police. Giraldo's managers declined to comment on Sept. 30.

On Sept. 29, "The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart paid tribute to Giraldo. Instead of showing the show's traditional final segment, "Moment of Zen," the program ran a "Moment of Greg," playing a clip of Giraldo performing.

"The comedy world lost a good man and a great comic," Stewart said. "When you were working the clubs, he was just one of those guys [who] you loved to run into, because he was always a font of warmth and good humor and just smart-as-hell comedy."

Born in New York, Giraldo first pursued a career in law, earning a bachelor's degree from Columbia and a law degree from Harvard. He abandoned that path for stand-up, toiling in comedy clubs and on television.

In one stand-up bit—one of his most popular on YouTube—he questioned opponents of same-sex marriage: "George Bush says two gay people getting married would violate the sanctity of marriage. The sanctity of marriage? Is anyone here married? Does it feel like a gift from God to you?"

He starred in the ABC sitcom "Common Law"—in which he fittingly played a lawyer—but the show was canceled after four episodes. He was also a judge on the NBC reality show "Last Comic Standing."

Comedy Central said in a statement: "The tragic news of Greg's passing hits us very, very hard. Greg has been a member of the Comedy Central family for years, injecting his energy and wicked sense of humor into countless projects. The comedy community lost a brother today. Our thoughts are with his family."

News of Giraldo's death circulated on the Internet. His website referred visitors to Giraldo's Facebook page, where fans left their condolences.

Comedian Jim Gaffigan wrote "Goodbye Greg. I love you"—adding a lament about addiction.

Comedian Aziz Ansari called Giraldo "one of the most respected comic I can think of" and said: "The world has lost a hysterical man." Joan Rivers said she was very fond of Giraldo and she was very angry: "What a waste of comedic talent."

Comedian Patton Oswalt used a savory turn of phrase to note that "If there's a heaven then Einstein, Asimov, Voltaire and Anne Frank are 'getting the daylights' roasted out of 'em tonight."

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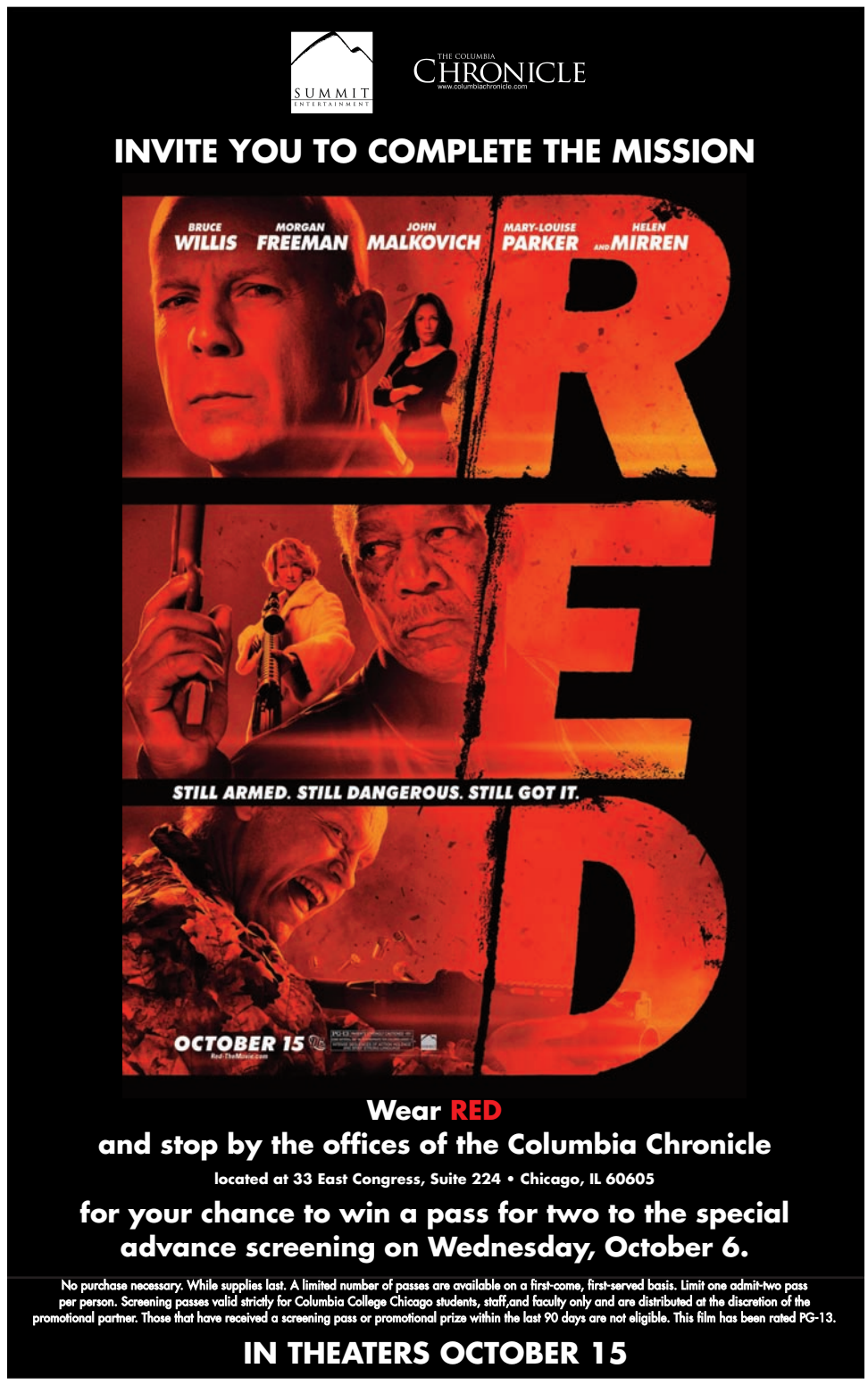


From street

Written by Brianna Wellen
Photos by Brent Lewis
Illustration/Design by Erik Rodriguez

Walking past the pop-up gallery on Adams Street, a mushroom stem can be seen creeping out from behind the newly constructed wall. Behind the wall, the whole mushroom painting remains intact. Above a nondescript door in the heart of Wicker Park, a group of carefully executed kiwi fruit adorns a boarded-up window. Beneath layers of city sanctified paint on the back of a North Side stop sign, the memory of a mango paste-up lingers. A blue circle on each painted piece of produce clearly signifies who's been there. The Grocer has left his mark.

While his work started on the street, The Grocer brought his signature blue sticker and fruit and vegetable theme to the studio. Now, his paintings are done on canvas, his work is sold online and his street paste-ups serve as exhibition pieces in non-conventional galleries. And it's not just The Grocer. Artists who worked on the streets in the '80s are now critically acclaimed muralists. Graffiti artists trained in classical painting are moving to studio work and anonymous artists are compromising their principles and becoming involved in group exhibitions. Thanks to avant-garde venues and a growing cultural following, street art is making its way more and more into the gallery system.

For The Grocer, the entire process of putting art on the street was fascinating. He began seeing pieces that were not only graffiti-like tags but also wheat-paste paintings where the artist could spend hours painting a piece at home and then put it up in locations around the city. With a degree in painting and print making from the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, The Grocer grew curious about the world of street art, he said. Three years ago, he worked obsessively on his fruit and vegetable work and put it up all around Chicago in Wicker Park, Pilsen and the downtown area.

"Street artists and graffiti artists will often talk about getting addicted to it," The Grocer said. "[It's like] you're a tagger, and you want to get up more. Everywhere in the city you can't stop thinking about it, and you never go anywhere without your paint markers. I kind of got addicted to it, and I put a ton of stuff up that summer."

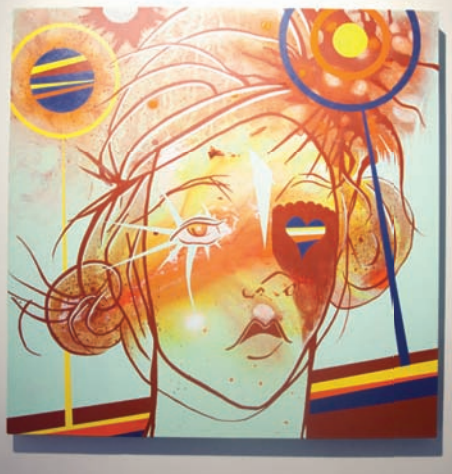
The art's immediacy and the wide exposure draw a lot of artists to the street. An artist works on a painting one day, then the next day millions of people in Chicago see it. Unfortunately for these artists, graffiti and paste-ups are illegal in Chicago and often work that takes days to create is taken down or painted over after just a few hours on the street. Artists tend to remain anonymous, using tag names and personal secrecy to protect themselves not only from jail time, but also to protect their reputation at work, home, etc.

Chris Silva, who began doing graffiti in the city in 1986 at a young age, found a different outlet to display his street style without this fear. Working with graffiti type and urban-stylized forms, he used color to bring life and inspiration to dark spaces. He assumes his original street work is long gone as other artists paint over it or the city cleans it up, but after getting involved with the Chicago Public Art Group, his mural work will remain a part of the city's landscape for a long time. In doing so, he collaborated with other street artists in the group on many projects that maintained the street style without anonymity or any illegal implications.

"[The Chicago Public Art Group] felt good about handing projects my way when something seemed appropriate to my style," Silva said. "Some street artists might have no concern about being paid for their artwork, and it just might be something they do with their free time and they have another job, but anybody who wants to work as an artist is going to definitely benefit from having organizations like [The Chicago Public Art Group] to help them transition into that world."

Much like The Grocer, Silva moved to the studio with his work and is now highly acclaimed in the gallery circuit. In 2011, he will be featured at the Chicago Urban Art Society, 2229 S. Halsted St., a gallery that reaches out to its connections in the street and urban art world to feature artists in its gallery alongside classic photographers and oil painters. Peter Kepha and Lauren Pacheco, the brother-sister team who run the gallery, accommodate the street artists who show their work there, but they want these artists to be able to sell their work first and foremost.

"Some people don't want to [sell work], they don't have any interest in gallery work; it's all about the thrill of the street and they're happy with that," Kepha said. "Some people obviously want to make the change but there's something very different about putting work up on the street and bringing that work into the gallery. You can't do the same kind of quality work on the street as you do in a gallery. Sometimes there's a little gap that they can't fill."



The Grocer agrees the transition isn't always easy. According to him, many street artists in their studio work will bring in boards from the trash to paint on instead of a canvas, and the level of craftsmanship isn't always up to gallery standards. Even if the style remains the same, the quality needs to go up or people won't be interested in buying work they can easily admire on the street. This reputation causes problems in the gallery system, he said.

"One of the things about street art and urban art is that it has this weird undervalue nature to it," The Grocer said. "I would say a good example of how it's undervalued by institutions or gallery spaces, if you look at

to studio

Tara Lynch

pricing even, there's always this kind of drive for this kind of work to be priced lower and lower."

At the Chicago Urban Art Society, for example, Kepha realizes a lot of the urban artists have a strong street following who won't necessarily be able to afford thousand-dollar artworks. Its gallery tries to offer smaller reprints or screen prints at a lower price point and the larger-scale pieces in the upper thousands so as to not undervalue the quality of work in the hopes someone will make an investment. For Chicago Artists Month in October, a pop-up gallery will be set up at State and Adams streets featuring and selling the works of local, national and international street artists at varying price points.

"Translating those little street things into a really nice screen-printed poster, someone's definitely going to jump on that," Kepha said. "You need to offer something that you can get for $25 but also something that is priced at $5,000 or $10,000."

Hot Box, a mobile gallery designed specifically for street artists, connects more to the demographic of artists who don't want to sell their work. Many involved are still active on the street and Hot Box owner, Tara Lynch (known in the art world as Tara D.), faces challenges setting up her shows with artists who aren't fully ready to leave the street and commit to the gallery artist lifestyle.

Chris Silva

"They're just as elusive as you would think," Lynch said. "Right now I think they all know each other, so if I bug one enough they all bug each other enough for me. It's all going to work."

The Grocer and five other street artists will participate in Hot Box's "Corner Store" show starting Oct. 7 at Wabash Avenue and Adams Street. The inside of Lynch's Hot Box truck will feature local artists' paste-up work all pertaining to the "Corner Store" theme and the outside of the truck will be painted in a graffiti style.

"Even though it's a gallery, it functions in that same vein of street art in a lot of ways because it's putting the art in a public space, an unexpected public space," Lynch said.

She sees her space as an easier transition for street artists to make into a gallery setting without entering the typical system of buying and selling work.

"I personally think the whole movement to the gallery or the underground gallery kind of thing isn't really about, 'Oh I don't want my work to get buffed,'" Lynch said. "It's more about what I'm doing is important and I want to share it with people who actually think it is important. It's part of their life, and they appreciate it. It's not seen in the same scale as the commercial gallery world, but there is obviously a huge culture who does appreciate it."

Even with alternative galleries popping up across the city, The Grocer said he will return his work to the street soon. In the end for him, and many other street artists alike, it's about producing art.

"Whether you're doing it on the street or part of this urban art show system, you're not doing it for money," he said. "You've got to be doing it for love."

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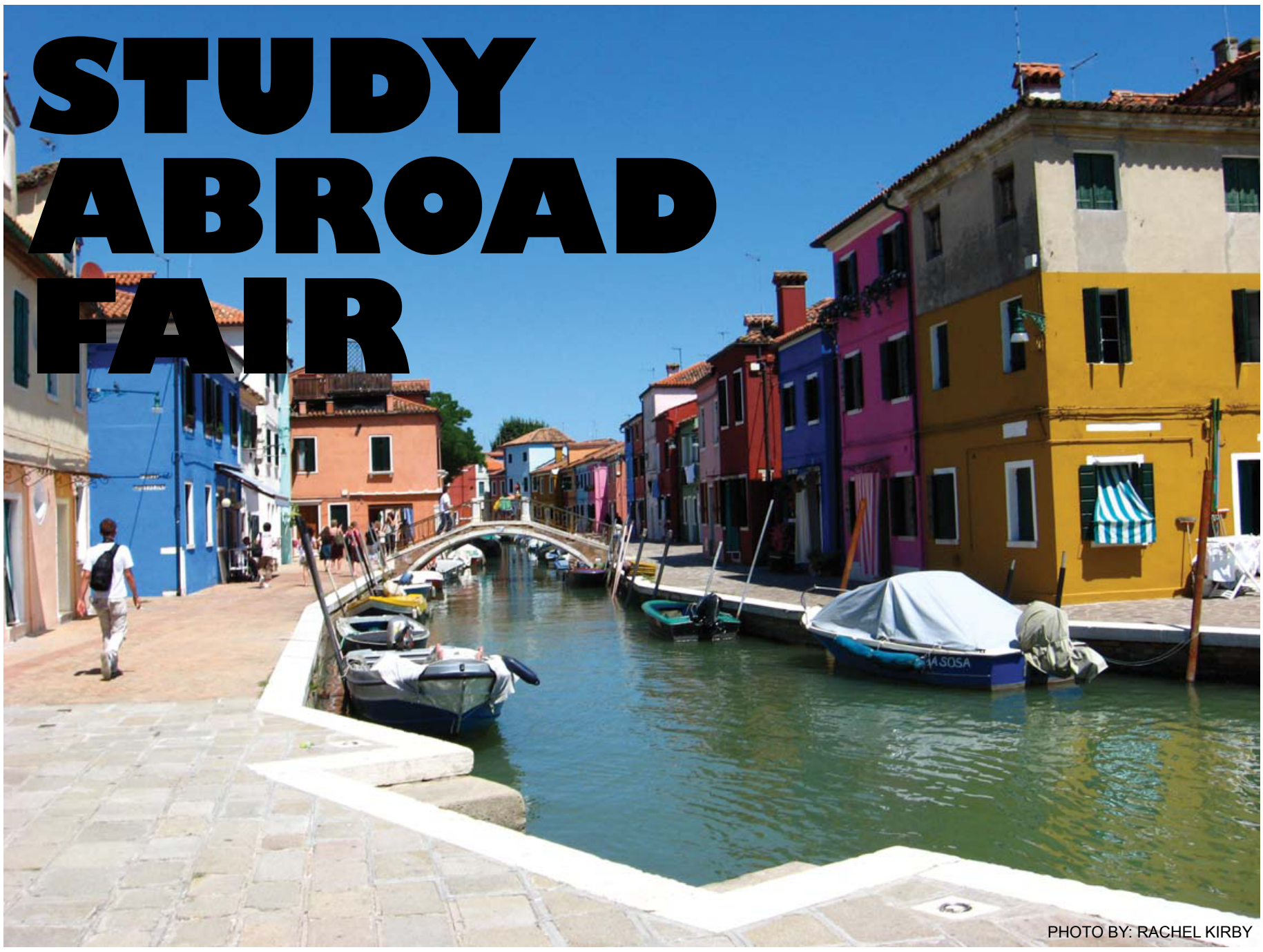

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FILM REVIEW

New comedy misses mark

Galifianakis stars in absurd film set in Brooklyn psych ward where sad kids find dates

by Drew Hunt
Assistant Campus Editor

'It's Kind of a Funny Story'
Starring: Zach Galifianakis, Emma Roberts
Director: Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden
Run Time: 101 minutes

Rating: ☹ 😕 😐 🙂 ☺

Opening on Oct. 8 nationwide.

Courtesy IMDB

Zach Galifianakis (center), Emma Roberts (right) and Keir Gilchrist (left) star in "It's Kind of a Funny Story."

THERE WAS a time when Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden, the duo behind the 2006 film "Half Nelson," were considered to be among the boldest and most daring young filmmakers in the country. The film was heralded as a masterpiece of sorts, with critics lauding its gritty realism and pensive tone.

Unfortunately, Fleck and Boden's new film, "It's Kind of a Funny Story," is a veritable cream puff by comparison, wholly lacking in any kind of grit or realism.

It tells the story of a 15-year-old boy named Craig (Keir Gilchrist) who unwittingly checks himself into a mental hospital after calling a suicide hotline. During his five-day stay, he meets Bobby (Zach Galifianakis), a mentor of sorts.

Craig doesn't have any outstanding mental issues. Rather, he's merely an overstressed adolescent with a case of the blues—school is hard, and the girl he likes doesn't like him back.

We've all been there. We've all felt the angst and uneasiness inherent in being a teenager. It's a universal concept, and it's hard to blame Fleck and Boden for opting to explore it.

However, Fleck and Boden lose credibility by essentially trivializing mental illness. Their film is spurious, cheesy and in some cases, irresponsible, as they ask the audience to find humor in the patients who are housed in the hospital. Frankly, it is difficult to see the jovial side of mental illness.

The impudence doesn't end there—during his stay, Craig meets and falls for another patient around his age named Noelle (Emma Roberts), and their love blossoms amid patients who appear to have legitimate psychological problems.

Who knew mental hospitals were a good place to meet chicks?

Thematic shortcomings such as these suggest Fleck and Boden were much more interested in making a trendy film than a substance film. There are overt references to Vampire Weekend, and a piano rendition of Pixies' "Where Is My Mind?" plays over the film's intended emotional climax.

The relationship between Craig and Noelle feels phony—absurdly romanticized to the point of suggesting mental illness is simply a matter of not getting the guy or girl you like, and it is cured once you meet someone equally "messed up" so you can fall in love and revel in each other's vainglorious shortcomings.

Such erroneous sentimentalism leaves its mark throughout the film, and in spurts, "It's Kind of a Funny Story" is downright painful to watch. There's a musical number halfway through the film that depicts the characters (the majority of who are, again, mental patients) rocking out to the wretchedly overused "Under Pressure," fully decked out in glam-rock attire. It's an atrocious scene, and one of many that speak to Fleck and Boden's complete incomprehension of human behavior.

The film's would-be saving grace comes in Galifianakis. He's funny and charismatic as Bobby and his performance is about the only thing in the film that works, but it's not enough to erase the many failings of Fleck and Boden.

Truly, this film is a complete 180 from "Half Nelson," which handled the nature of addiction with gracefulness and cinematic flair. The heavy-handed buffoonery of "It's Kind of a Funny Story" bears no resemblance to that film or their second effort, the entertaining if underappreciated "Sugar."

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CAKE // LONG LIST OF CARS

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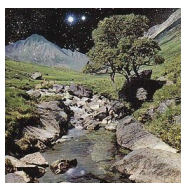

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Top tracks

( ) Last week's ranking in top five

United States

Just the Way You Are • Bruno Mars	(2)	1
Like a G6 • Far East Movement	(3)	2
Just a Dream • Nelly	(5)	3
Only Girl (In the World) • Rihanna	(1)	4
Teenage Dream • Katy Perry		5

United Kingdom

Just the Way You Are • Bruno Mars	(1)	1
Let the Sun Shine • Labrinth		2
Make You Feel My Love • ADELE		3
Teenage Dream • Katy Perry	(3)	4
Dynamite • Taio Cruz	(4)	5

Spain

Alejandro • Lady GaGa		1
Loca • Shakira		2
Cry Cry • Oceana		3
Club Can't Handle Me • Flo Rida	(2)	4
Waka Waka (Espanol) • Shakira	(3)	5

Source: iTunes

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CHICAGO AUDIOFILE

Courtesy ANDY KEIL

Chicago-based band Dead Sheriff comprises George Coutretsis, lead vocals and guitar, Brian Robertson, on bass, and drummer Nick McKiernan.

Bluesy garage rockers alive with new EP

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

THERE'S NEVER an inopportune time to form a band, which was made evident by the Chicago-based garage blues trio Dead Sheriff. With no real intention of starting an official group, George Coutretsis, lead vocals and guitar, Brian Robertson, bass, and drummer Nick McKiernan began playing together a mere six months ago. Now, they're focused on performing at intimate local venues and distributing a four-song EP.

The Chronicle recently talked to Coutretsis about the beginning stages of a band born out of happenstance including the inspiration for their name, where they hope to play in the city and why fans might be confused when they look up Dead Sheriff.

The Chronicle: I heard you just started playing shows; does that mean you guys formed the band recently?

George Coutretsis: We're about four or five shows deep right now. We've been playing together in some sort of formation for probably about a year now. I've known our drummer Nick for a while, and we've passed through some bands in our day. About a year ago, I was not playing music for the first time in a while—kind of on purpose, to be honest with you. I just got the urge to play and not even start a band; to just get together with friends a couple nights a week and have nothing come out of it. So, I called Nick and [he and I] jammed once or twice a week for a couple of months. There was no intention of a band forming, but a band formed of course. We started writing songs, and we really liked what was happening. So maybe six months ago...we got in contact with Brian because we wanted to add a little bass.

The Chronicle: There's another band called Dead Sheriff out there. Were you guys aware of that?

GC: Someone was talking about this. I think it's a broken-up metal band from Sweden or something. We are not that band, and I don't know if they exist anymore. But yes, that's been a little more complicated for people who were expecting to hear us.

The Chronicle: Where did you guys draw inspiration for the name Dead Sheriff?

GC: The name came from a mutual friend of ours after a night of getting drunk. We were trying to find a band name that fit the music we were playing. The music we're playing is pretty dirty, bluesy, [with] elements of garage. It's kind of dangerous, and it's kind of rockin'. Somehow or another, those words seemed to go well together. It's kind of as easy as that.

The Chronicle: Where have you played so far, and where are you hoping to play in upcoming months?

GC: We've played a couple Chicago shows so far. We played up in Andersonville—a little place called The Transistor. We played at The Tonic Room before that. We're all based in Chicago, and we're definitely a Chicago band. The rules when we started this band were that there would be absolutely no rules. And that goes for the music we're writing, where we are going to play and want to play. Eventually, we'd love to play bigger venues. We're a pretty loud band and so far, the three or four places we've played have been really, really small, which is cool because there's nothing cooler than playing a really small show. But I think we've been hurting people's ears, so it would be nice to expand and play a little bit bigger of a venue because we might sound a little better.

The Chronicle: Is there a Dead Sheriff album on the horizon?

GC: We just finished recording a four-song EP at a studio on the South Side called Clava Studios. Our friend Colin [Sipos] did it. Literally, just two or three days ago we got the final mixes. As for what we're going to do with it now, we're not quite sure. We'll probably hand it out for free to anyone who wants to listen or wants free music. But eventually, within the next coming weeks, we'll probably sell them for very cheap and bring them to shows and see where that takes us. We certainly have enough songs to do a full-length, so that's the next step.

For more information visit Myspace.com/DeadSheriffChicago. Dead Sheriff is performing at Gallery Cabaret, 2020 N. Oakley Ave., on Nov. 13.

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‘Funny Ha-Ha’ brings writers together just for laughs

Local author hosts comedy-oriented reading series ‘approximately quarterly’

by Luke Wilusz
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Wendy McClure performs a selection from her upcoming book, “The Wilder Life,” on Sept. 28 at “Funny Ha-Ha,” a humor-focused reading series organized by local author and blogger Claire Zulkey.

AUTHOR WENDY McClure stood onstage, wearing a pink bonnet on her head, discussing her experiences attempting to churn butter and reading her tweets under the guise of Laura Ingalls Wilder from the “Little House on the Prairie” novels. Before that, two men—Chicago improv veterans Mark Hanner and Homer Marrs—played guitars and sang about Facebook, mocking dull status updates and vehemently denouncing obnoxious self-promoters. So what was going on there?

It’s called “Funny Ha-Ha,” and it’s an “approximately quarterly” reading series started, organized and hosted by local author, blogger, freelance writer and A.V. Club contributor Claire Zulkey. The show focuses on humorous writing and performances. The most recent “Funny Ha-Ha” was held on Sept. 28 at The Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave., and featured readings, musical performances and short film screenings from eight local writers and comedians.

Zulkey said she started the reading series with a friend of hers, young adult author John Green, to fill what she saw as a gap in the local literary scene.

“We realized we knew a lot of funny writers in Chicago, but there weren’t any readings that showcased humor writing specifically,” Zulkey said.

Because “Funny Ha-Ha” originated among a group of her friends, Zulkey said she often chooses readers she knows personally for the events.

“I like to have a mix of people who have read before with us, who know what the show is like and know the audience—and, of course, can be funny,” Zulkey said. “But I also like to bring in new people. I try to keep an eye out by going to readings and meeting other writers in the city. When I can, I try to get someone who’s a bit of a local celebrity, like a columnist or someone like that.”

While the events are free, Zulkey said she collects a suggested $5 donation at every reading to contribute to the Neighborhood Writing Alliance, a group that helps support community writing groups in Chicago and publishes a quarterly literary journal to showcase local work.

Megan Stielstra is a local author, literary director for the 2nd Story performance series and a fiction writing adjunct professor at Columbia. She is also a longtime “Funny Ha-Ha” reader. She said it was different from any other reading series she had encountered in the city.

“For one thing, this one is all humor-based, and it’s also a little more eclectic,” Stielstra said. “It’s not all writing—[Zulkey] does variety acts as well, along with film and music, so it’s more than just a reading series. It’s more of a variety show, I would say.”

Stielstra has been writing for 15 years, and she said much of her drive to keep writing comes from a strong belief in the power of storytelling.

“I’m in all of this because I love stories, whether it’s reading them on the page or sitting down with your friends and hearing the crazy things they’ve been to, or meeting new people and seeing how you connect over a story,” Stielstra said. “At their best, stories can bring people together. Stories can make connections where nothing else can.”

Johanna Stein, on the other hand, was a first-time “Funny Ha-Ha” reader on Sept. 28, but she said she would definitely do it again.

“There are a couple of people reading, there are people doing music, there are films, there are people reading poems they wrote in elementary school—that sort of scope is not something you see all the time,” Stein said. “And that all of them are entertaining and funny—that’s rare.”

Stielstra said the event had a therapeutic feel for her and expressed hopes that it would inspire some of its attendees to want to tell their own stories.

“We’re so busy and we run around all the time and life gets crazy,” Stielstra said. “To give yourself an hour to just sit and laugh—hopefully after you sit and laugh at other people’s stories—you’ll be able to sit and laugh at your own a little bit, and maybe we could all take life a little less seriously.”

The next “Funny Ha-Ha” will take place Nov. 30 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. For more information, visit Zulkey.com.

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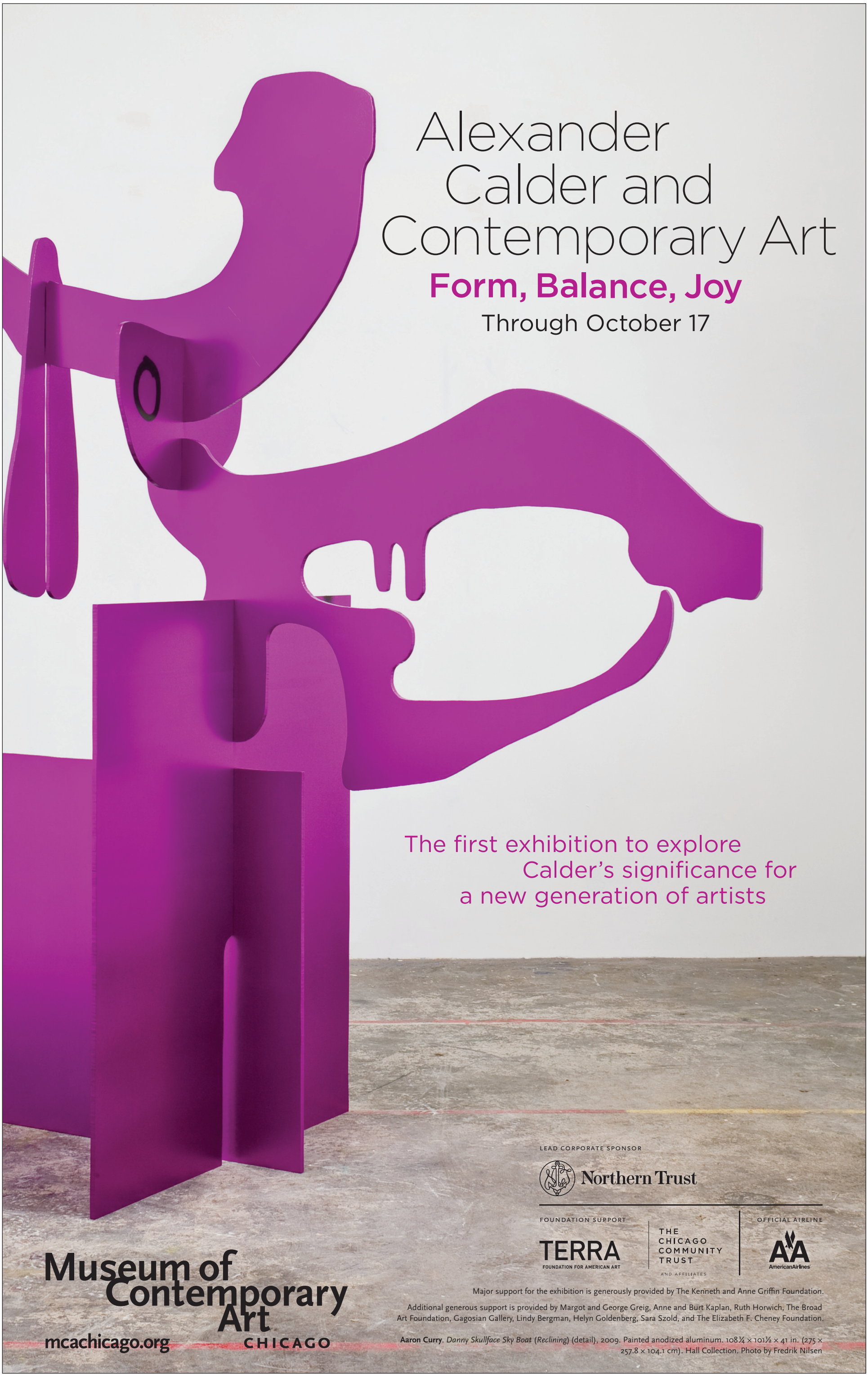
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Aaron Curry. Danny Skullface Sky Boat (Reclining) (detail), 2009. Painted anodized aluminum. 108¼ × 101½ × 41 in. (275 × 257.8 × 104.1 cm). Hall Collection. Photo by Fredrik Nilsen

TOP 5

Shardae Smith/Assistant Campus Editor

Places to get hot wings

My mother-in-law's: Ms. Netta makes the best hot wings. Point blank. She uses the cheapest brand of hot sauce, she doesn't bread her wings and she simmers them in hot sauce and jalapeno slices once the wings come out of the grease. You can't buy these at a store. Sorry.

Show-Me's: I frequented this restaurant when I attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale. It's a Hooters knock-off, but the wings are great—at least back when they had 10 wings for $3. Their mild wings are good, but if you want a real kicker, try the Hero or the Buffy. They're not even listed on the menu!

Hooters: You can go to almost any city or state and find Hooters. It has carry-out, which is good for a long night of drinking and working. Did I say drinking?

My wings: A self-proclaimed "hot wing whore," I'm always trying to concoct some secret sauce that's savory, hot and sweet. It hasn't worked, but they always come out good enough for my family. Last time I even used Karo syrup. I won't stop until it is right!

Wingstop: Pretty new to my taste buds, I had them last week and it definitely beats Buffalo Wild Wings, which doesn't even make my top 10 list. When the Wingstop opens on Harrison Street, I will most likely be there—if I'm not in the office.

Drew Hunt/Assistant Campus Editor

People I'd like to have over for a dinner party

Kanye West: I have a trillion questions for him, including (but not limited to): How do these shoes go with these jeans? How do you feel about my new Louis Vuitton toilet seat cover? Is this rendition of me as every person at the Last Supper too garish or not garish enough? What's Pusha T really like? And so on.

George W. Bush: Not to grill him about his administration or anything—something tells me he's got a mean recipe for apple brown Betty. Plus, he and Kanye would have a lot to talk about.

Darryl Holliday, Assistant Metro Editor: Darryl's just a good guy to have around.

Rahm Emanuel: I find him infinitely more interesting than anybody in the White House. He says the most hilariously subtle things, and I'd do my best to bend his arm and convince him to become Chicago's next mayor. Plus, he probably also has a really awesome recipe for apple brown Betty.

Louis C.K.: Because we'd need some semblance of normalcy at the table (no offense, Darryl). The man just has good sense, and probably table etiquette to boot. He could regale us with a sneak peek of his newer bits and put Kanye in his place when he gets too mouthy. Plus, Rahm's a big fan—or at least he should be.

Katy Nielsen/Assistant Campus Editor

Reasons to run away with the circus if Columbia doesn't work out

The glitz and the glam: Your dream of wearing glittery spandex tights and puffy shirts can come true when you hit the road with your new circus family. Those days of wearing boring gray scale work clothes are over!

Lions, tigers and tightrope-walking cats: Everyone likes a well-trained pet. Think of these cats as your giant cuddle buddies. There won't be a dull moment with so many circus animals around. Some of those animals might be dangerous in the wild but not when they're part of the three-ring circus.

The flying trapeze: You've seen them fly overhead and you've always dreamed of climbing up there and taking a swing. This is your chance! Think of the trapeze as a giant playground for you and your whole circus family. Just make sure the net is secure and you can enjoy hours of flying fun for everyone.

Cannons and clowns: What could be better than clowns shot out of cannons and piling in and out of a tiny car? I'll tell you right now: absolutely nothing. If you don't like clowns there is no better way to conquer your fear than seeing one propel through the air.

The adventure: Travel the world with sexy Russian contortionists and super-fit Chinese pole climbers. They might not speak English, but they're amazing eye candy. You may just find your dream date on the road. Need I say more?

MEAN MUGGIN'

Why MTV bastardizes music

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

I WANT to clear something up once and for all. I don't think it's a bad thing when lesser-known musicians gain recognition from the masses. If a band is talented and ultimately deserves "the money and the power," as Weezy and Birdman so eloquently put it, well good for them. The reason I am about to mean mug, however, has to do with my own personal beef pertaining to how popular music is played on the radio and TV about 8 million times per day.

No, I don't want to hear Sleigh Bells' "Infinity Guitars" between every single show on every sponsored commercial on MTV. Why would anyone want to listen to any song every 10 minutes? Besides maybe, like, Juvenile "Back That Azz Up," but that's the one exception.

But I assure you, I don't feel this way because bands lose their elusive "cool" factor once they're considered mainstream. It really has to do with the nature of weird marketing tactics. The best proof I can provide for why I'm not taking some kind of ill-founded, hipster stance on this quintessential (read: boring) issue—essentially, the whole a-band-isn't-cool-anymore-if-everyone likes-it thing—is I love most popular rap songs.

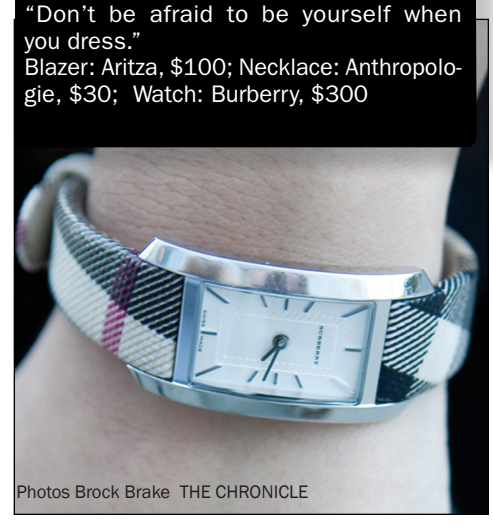
I guess I'd rather listen to Sleigh Bells on my own time, and I'm afraid those days are over. Embracing different nuances of a particular song after not having listened to it for a while is something I value. But if I continue to watch trashy TV, I'm destined to hear the same jams over and over again. Oh, what a predicament.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com

check me out

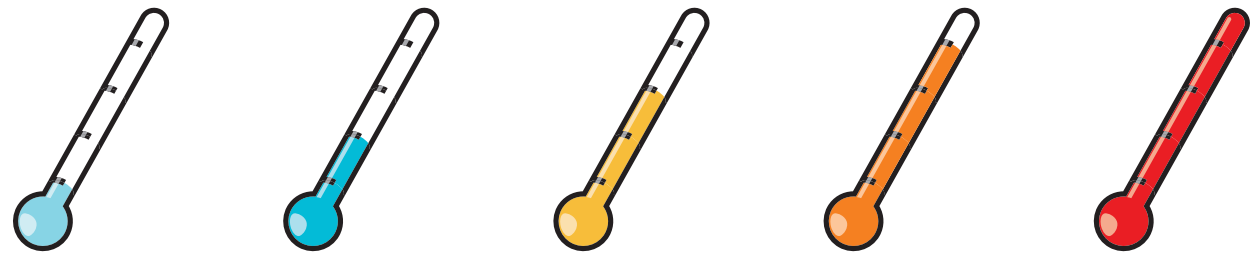
Michael Zima; Junior; marketing communication major
"I don't put together my outfits, I just put them on."
Shoes: Aldo, $130; Hat: Zara, $30; Watch: Diesel, $300

Jennifer Han; Junior; arts, entertainment and media management major
"Don't be afraid to be yourself when you dress."
Blazer: Aritza, $100; Necklace: Anthropologie, $30; Watch: Burberry, $300



Photos Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

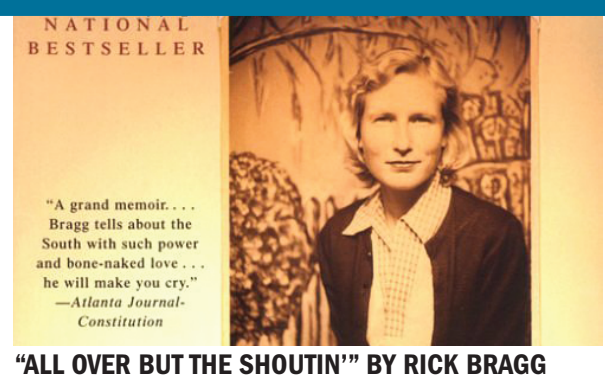
HOT & COLD



PRINT

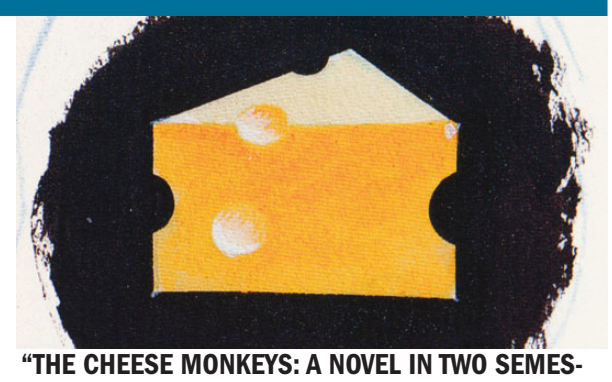
"FREE RANGE CHICKENS" BY SIMON RICH

Simon Rich is one of my favorite contributors to the New Yorker and a writer for "Saturday Night Live," so when I saw his book, I was already sold. Even with these high expectations in place, they were far surpassed and I found myself laughing inappropriately loud on the train while engrossed in Rich's short-form humor writing style. He says what I'm thinking in a much funnier way. *—B. Wellen*



"ALL OVER BUT THE SHOUTIN'" BY RICK BRAGG

Rick Bragg's memoir flows across pages with the most beautiful phrases about poverty you have ever read. The book spans his life growing up in Alabama, traveling between relatives' homes much of the time, to winning a Pulitzer for his work with the New York Times. It's upsetting he resigned from the Times because of a heated incident in 2003, but at least it left him with more time to write books.*—L. Wardle*



"THE CHEESE MONKEYS: A NOVEL IN TWO SEMESTERS" BY CHIP KIDD

I first read this book as a sophomore at my first college; a roommate recommended it. It's a loosely veiled autobiography of the author's first year at school as an art major. It touches on all the foibles and follies that student artists experience when finding their "direction." This is one to experience for yourself but I'll tell you this: I have a quote from this book tattooed on my chest—it's that good.*—T. Halpin*

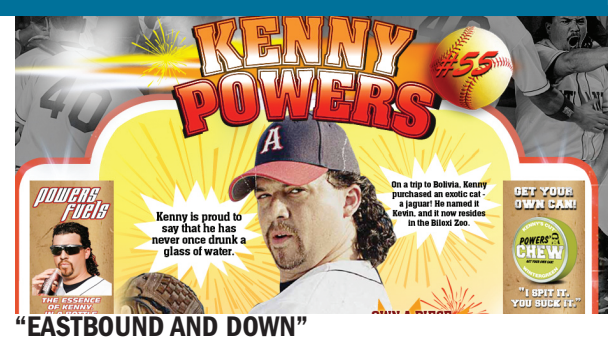
MOVIES / TV / DVD

"DEXTER"

Sure he's a serial killer, but we're totally on his side. Dexter Morgan, played by Michael C. Hall, works as a blood splatter specialist for the Miami Police Department where most of the episodes take place. After work, he's a serial killer with a code of ethics (only the really bad guys get the ax). Despite the fact that Dexter kills people—albeit bad people—the show feels real. I'm rooting for him to catch the killers, dodge the bullets and bring justice to the world. "Dexter" is a must-see television experience. *—K. Nielsen*

"AGENTS OF CRACKED" SEASON TWO

The second season of Cracked.com's Streamy Award-winning Web series is off to a great start. The writing is just as clever and absurd as the first season—which is undeniably a good thing—and Cracked columnists Dan O'Brien and Michael Swaim still play off one another with expert timing. However, it seems like this season will be more story-oriented than the first, and only time will tell whether that was a good decision.*—L. Wilusz*



"EASTBOUND AND DOWN"

Kenny f**king Powers is back. The coke-snorting, mullet-sporting prodigal son of crassness is up to his old tricks—only this time he's setting up shop down ol' Mexico way. Such a deliciously puerile formula will undoubtedly make for the funniest six episodes of TV you'll see all year. Powers is an anti-hero for the ages—like Holden Caufield with 'roid rage.*—D. Hunt*

MUSIC

PASSION PIT: "MANNERS"

My musical obsessions seem to come in stages, but for the longest time, Passion Pit has been at the top of my playlist. "Manners" came out in 2009, but it never gets old. Each song has a different sound, making it hard to pick just one favorite. The band's funky, catchy beats and interesting lyrics make my morning commute a little bit easier.*—J. Howard*

LINKIN PARK: "A THOUSAND SUNS"

Linkin Park always comes out with something unusually different with each album. But for their fourth, it proves to be an incredibly odd mix. Mike Shinoda singing and Chester Bennington belting out like a gospel singer wasn't what I expected. All in all, don't bother buying the entire thing. Stick with "Blackout" and "Waiting for the End." Those are worth buying. *—C. Aguirre*

J. COLE: "THE WARM UP"

I might be a year late, but better late than never is my policy when it comes to J. Cole. "The Warm Up" is a pure look at this kid's talent and how he is the future of hip-hop. Tracks like "Dreams" and "Lights Please" prove storytelling is coming back to the hip-hop world, and "Grown Simba" and "I Get Up" have lyrics I have been looking for since Kanye's first album. It's the certified mixtape of the year; hopefully it'll usher in the album of the year this October.*—B. Lewis*

RANDOM

SCOOPED BAGELS

This stupid New York City trend has started to migrate, and I, for one, am not having it! If I were at all concerned about the carbohydrates or calories of a bagel, I wouldn't eat one. Keep your doughless, scooped bagels away from me, whiners. In that vein, Thomas has started making "bagel thins." It's like a slice of bread, but round. Why?*—E. Blick*

JON STEWART'S "RALLY TO RESTORE SANITY"

Jon Stewart, host of The Daily Show on Comedy Central, is hosting maybe one of the most revolutionary rallies in the history of Washington, D.C., on Oct. 30. In today's media-driven, hot-button, 24-hour news channel world, Stewart's goal is to restore sensibility to a nation that has become hypnotized by the talking heads. I support this amazing movement 100 percent.*—J. Allen*

WORKING ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS

Now, I know it's important to be professional and make money and all that. But it's football season. The only businesses that should be open on Sundays are bars. Everything else should close up shop from 11:45 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Then, once the game is over, everyday life may resume.*—S. Charles*

Commentary

Editorials

Campus fitness needs flexibility

COLUMBIA HAS made long strides in recent years to improve campus fitness initiatives. The Fitness Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, is open to all students, the school has acquired South Loop Elementary School's gym for evening sports practice and every student housing center has fitness facilities. More group programs have recently been announced, like the Fun Run clubs and Back to Nature Boot Camp.

The big thank you is due to Mark Brticevich, Columbia's coordinator of Fitness and Recreation, for his dedication and creativity while working to improve the college's workout options. He is the face of Columbia's fitness program, and his hard work has not gone unnoticed by students aware of campus facilities.

But for 11,922 students, one coordinator and his available resources are simply not enough. A majority of students live off campus, making the Fitness Center's use inconvenient. With just a handful of lockers, two showers and zero towels in each locker room, the demand for use after group activities could interfere with students' schedules.

There are several things Columbia should consider doing differently in order to make its fitness initiatives more accessible for all Columbia students.

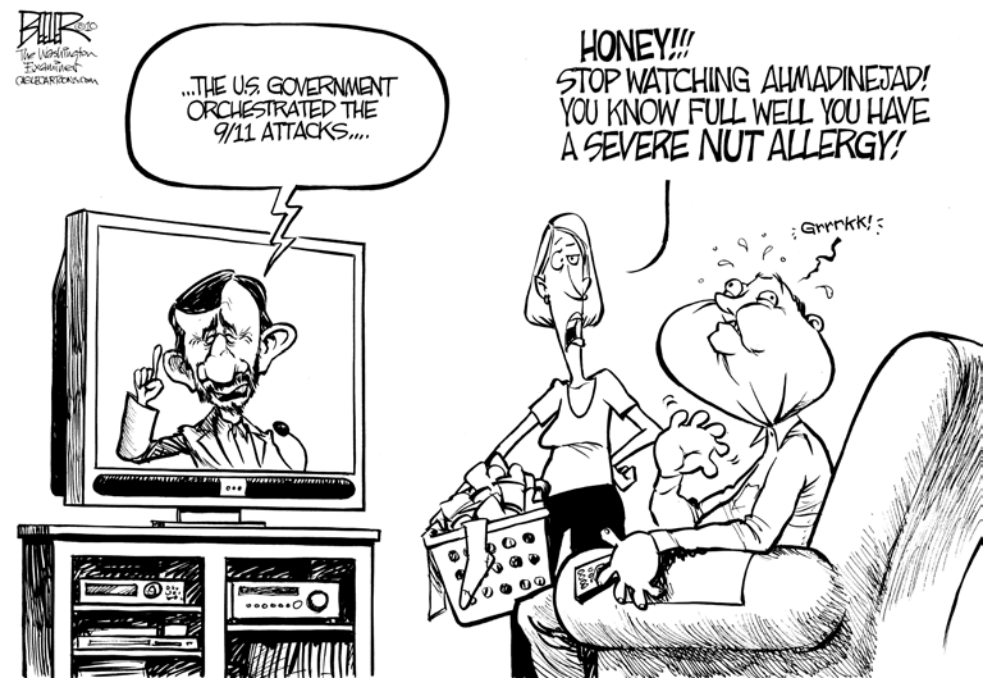
There needs to be more awareness. Students are confused about access: Some think the Fitness Center is only for residents of the 731 S. Plymouth Court Residence Center; others are confused about the hours; some don't know the center exists; and many students are not aware there are locker rooms.

Second, providing an adequate number of lockers and showers is essential. The Fitness Center does have two showers and 14 lockers available, but some students who have used the Fitness Center several times were unaware such facilities existed. It's next-to-impossible for commuting students to consider working out on campus without guaranteed availability of these amenities.

The Fitness Center's hours could also be adjusted to be open earlier. For many commuters working out before class is ideal, but the gym isn't open to non-residents until 11 a.m. Extended morning hours would give students more flexibility.

If Columbia wants to accelerate its level of accessible fitness, it should rev up the process of partnering with neighboring colleges, or try partnering with gyms throughout the city. Until more amenities are added, most students are left paying for facilities they are insufficiently informed about or lack the flexible scheduling to take advantage of.

MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire

Don't condone 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'

OF ALL the promises President Barack Obama made during his campaign, the pledge to repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" echoed loudest. He was the first president to set real goals toward achieving gay rights, and the plan to end the discriminatory practice was a crucial step in the right direction.

As has been the case with many of Obama's campaign promises, though, the repeal of the military's policy against openly gay soldiers remains unseen.

The Senate recently failed to reach a majority in order to push the repeal through, and Obama's administration has reneged on its original message. Now the administration says an immediate repeal could hurt the military's preparedness while the country is at war.

The need to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is no different than the need to desegregate the military in 1948 and no different than the need for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This is a minority group struggling to gain equal rights. The bigoted law's eventual repeal is inevitable, but Obama has the opportunity to be the catalyst.

The law was implemented in 1993 after significant compromises between President Clinton's campaign goals and a Republican majority in Congress. Only 17 years later, the law feels outdated—it is prejudiced. Considering how far our society has come in regard to accepting LGBTQ people during this time (although we still have far to go), it is imperative this respectful realization is soon reflected on a federal level.

Furthermore, the generation coming up to serve in the military is more accepting of gays. If 75 percent of Americans back the policy's repeal, as reported by The Washington Post on Feb. 12, that number is surely higher among military-age people.

A study completed by the RAND Corp. in 1993 after "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was signed concluded open service would not affect camaraderie, morale or military readiness. Studies done in Australia, Canada, Israel and Great Britain reported the same.

The Pentagon reported 75 percent of young Americans are ineligible to serve because of setbacks like criminal records, poor education and health problems, yet 13,500 qualified service members have been discharged over "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" since 1994.

While the Senate sits on the issue until an update to the 1993 study is completed that will no doubt produce the same obvious results, we ask them this: How can U.S. service members be all they can be if they can't be themselves?

Your Voices

Letter to the Editor
re: US of CC

AS A full-time employee at Columbia for more than 22 years, I can't say enough about the college and my time here. Especially concerning the unique, diverse character of our student body, faculty, staff and the democratic spirit and creative energy obvious from my first contact with the college. I treasure the many colleagues and students with and for whom I have worked.

Among my proudest experiences at Columbia has been my activity in recent years with our full-time and part-time staff union, United Staff of Columbia College, which we formed to protect and enhance the rights and benefits of us all. I know the unified voice of a confident, organized staff is in our common interest. The US of CC website and our regular meetings are open to all staff and provide a place to raise questions and seek more information about our union's work.

I trust interested staff will avail themselves of this opportunity to take an active, collective stand on their working conditions. A strong union can only strengthen the position of Columbia staff, essential to the continued success of the college.

—Deborah Roberts

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Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

Did you catch a mistake, think we could have covered a story better or believe strongly about an issue that faces all of us here at Columbia?
Why not write a letter to the editor? At the bottom of page 2 you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

Chicago's monthly 'Critical Mass' so big, it fails

"Participants must carefully consider how their choices reflect Chicago's entire cyclist community."

by Eleanor Blick
Commentary Editor

ON THE last Friday of every month, hundreds, sometimes thousands, of cyclists gather at Daley Plaza, 50 W. Washington St. As the crowd swells, people weave in and out of bicycles, handing out bright flyers about everything from local bicycle-related activism to information about cycling insurance. Sometimes a band plays, or music blares from a bike trailer speaker system.

When it's time to depart, whistles, horns and bells get everyone's attention and the crowd spills onto the streets, circling the block until Daley Plaza has emptied. Then the group takes off for a leisurely ride that winds through the city, ringing bells, waving, singing and calling out "happy Friday!" to cars and pedestrians it passes.

I had the misfortune of getting stuck in the cross traffic of this ride a few weeks ago, while I myself was cycling.

The monthly tradition, called "Critical Mass," was started in San Francisco in 1992 to draw attention to how unfriendly the city was to bikers. Now rides of varying sizes take place in more than 300 cities worldwide.

Chicago certainly needs more attention highlighting its large cycling population, and bicycles have every right to be the most celebrated mode of transportation. However, Chicago's "Critical Mass" has gotten so popular it's become counterproductive.

Granted, the spectacle of so many riders gathered in one place is incredible, and the energy felt before the ride is profound. It is especially encouraging to see a diverse group of people with different styles and reasons for riding joining in a common cause.

But as a fellow cyclist, I was appalled to see bikers weaving in and out of the cars they forced to stop when I ran into the group en route a few weeks ago. At the tail end of rush hour, cyclists were heading northwest on Milwaukee Avenue, illegally taking up both sides of the street. Traffic was clogged for blocks and buses full of passengers were trapped.

I stood watching as some riders blocked traffic by sitting in the street, pushing bikes up against cars and yelling while raising their bicycles over their heads. The level of aggression I felt from the group, while on my bike, was less than tolerable. I can only imagine how the stalled motorists felt.

"Critical Mass" may promote itself as peaceful and friendly, but no one ends up thrilled when they are forced to wait for 20 minutes while riders ignore traffic laws to stay as a pack. The congestion created by "Critical Mass" is a precise paradox of the reason many cyclists chose to ride.

"No wonder drivers hate bikers," I thought. I saw riders drinking alcohol and riders flipping off cars. While I know all-too-well many cyclists conduct themselves differently on the road, the actions observed while riding in mass groups clearly sends a stronger message than when riding alone. Participants must carefully consider how their choices reflect Chicago's entire cyclist community.

In order to retain any positive message cultivated by Chicago's monthly ride, it needs to be restructured. For example, the ride could easily be broken up into groups that head off in different directions. Having smaller groups of riders in several areas of the city would not only catch the attention of more motorists, in accordance with the cause, but it would shorten congestion time when riders move through intersections. Neighborhoods like Wicker Park and Pilsen hold their own monthly "Critical Mass" rides; participants should consider riding with these community groups as an alternative to the city-wide ride.

"Critical Mass" participants need to be urged to stay positive toward motorists. Drinking alcohol while on the ride should also not be condoned. These messages have been shared before, but clearly they were not effectively received.

I have seen "Critical Mass" in other cities. When drivers only have to wait for a few minutes, they smile, they honk, they wave. The response is different in Chicago, though. It is crucial to the cause to refocus the mass' message.

eblick@chroniclemail.com

ROAMIN' NUMERALS

70 Percentage of Americans who are concerned people have become too dependent on electronic devices, according to a Rasmussen Report released on Sept. 21. Seventy-five percent of adults said children spend too much time on electronic devices.

Percentage of American adults who still have "a great deal" of confidence in television news media. The Gallup **22** Poll released on Aug. 13 reported confidence has remained stagnant since dropping 10 percentage points between 2003 and 2007.

Number of minutes Americans spend absorbing the news each day, according to a Sept. 12 report put out by the Pew Research Center. The **70** study reported this being the highest total recorded since the mid-1990s.

Percentage of Americans who say they are better informed than they were 10 years ago. **67** Forty-four percent of adults said the Internet is the best way to get news and information, according to a Sept. 19 Rasmussen Report.

Economy, politics fuel gentrification, culture survives

"Worries about gentrification seem to stem from the perceived culture loss, but culture doesn't die, it just looks different over time."

by Darryl Holliday
Assistant Metro Editor

THE HISTORY of segregated neighborhoods in America is definitive, and Chicago, being one of the most racially segregated cities in the nation, is the clearest example. There are places all over the city where one can see it exemplified every day of the week—choose any crosstown bus line.

Gentrification adds to the problem. Neighborhoods like Austin, Uptown, Bronzeville and Humboldt Park are a few examples where it is currently seen, not to mention the neighborhoods that have changed in the last 30 years, including Wicker Park, Lincoln Park, Logan Square and Lakeview.

Gentrification is often described differently by different people, but it is basically the process of restructuring a community based on, and in expectation of, an increase in a more affluent population. Subsequent raises in property tax, rent and home prices make the neighborhood unaffordable for previous residents.

Gentrification can't happen without participation of the local government and private markets.

In most cases, minority populations are moved from their neighborhoods and the poor are replaced by wealthier residents, who are statistically young, white professionals. It's not quite redlining, block-busting, racial steering or any number of systematic ways in which people are displaced. The difference is gentrification attracts wealth to a community and the other tactics are solely about racism; yet the same conclusion is reached.

Despite the typical argument, gentrification is less about mustachioed hipsters and more about money and the economy. It brings in revenue through higher taxes, new local business and development.

And everyone knows the state of Illinois is outstandingly broke.

It's not surprising local governments and private markets are typically first to promote the idea of gentrifying a neighborhood through housing tax incentives, among others. However, "trend setters"—young, low-income, culturally adept types—also contribute to the aura of "up-and-coming" that attracts a wealthier crowd.

Worries about gentrification seem to stem from the perceived cultural loss, but culture doesn't die, it just looks different over time.

Pilsen and its surrounding areas are a historical collaboration of several dominant cultures in the last 50 years. The neighborhood has historically been home to immigrant populations and one of the many effects can be seen in the various combinations of Latino public art on the largely Bohemian architecture.

Plans like the creative industries project in the Spice Barrel District, a proposed art community between Chinatown and Pilsen, as well as an influx of middle-class professionals bring about worries of property values increasing in the neighborhood. Huge residential development opportunities, in addition to a large lower-income population had people anticipating Pilsen's gentrification for years.

Local activist groups that naturally arise from the community's needs represent the most systematically oppressed populations. They are typically the first defense against irresponsible development. Strong community organizations are in tune with the needs of those most easily overlooked when a developer or politician wants to bring wealth to, or make money from, the community. Pilsen has several of these dedicated watch groups.

Everyone should be aware of his or her impact on the neighborhood. Being involved with the community is the best way to meet neighbors and learn of issues.

The push to bring in revenue will only increase in Chicago in the coming years. Ways to attract affluent residents will continue to edge displaced families into the suburbs and outlying areas away from where local governments hope to build a bustling, profitable market.

But development has to happen. It's one of the best ways to ensure growth and additional resources for the city.

We have to make sure it doesn't happen at people's expense.

Culture can't be bought off by eager developers, but a local identity can be suppressed, scattered and forced into low resource locations when politicians find more value in the land than the people who live on it.

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Take care

Metro

Ministry brings service to streets

Local organization provides reliable care, supplies to at-risk residents in Chicago

by Darryl Holliday
Assistant Metro Editor

A SMALL crowd gathered at the corner of Wilson Avenue and Hazel Street before the bus pulled in. Some talked among themselves while others waited quietly and expectantly for The Night Ministry to arrive.

The ministry's health outreach mobile is more of a large camping trailer similar to the size of a tour bus. The inside is fitted with seats and compartment-like stations one might expect at a hospital. The medical room is stocked with supplies, an exam table and a nurse on staff who provides services such as HIV and STD testing, blood pressure and blood sugar checks, among others.

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Robert Gasior (above) has visited the ministry for five years.

The bus serves as an all-purpose center, equal parts clinic, shelter and a safe social gathering space with the added benefit of counseling services by clergy from a variety of religious backgrounds.

The Night Ministry, which includes two youth shelters and a comprehensive youth outreach program in addition to the health outreach bus, fills a void in Chicago neighborhoods when local shelters close for the evening.

These services are all free of charge in conjunction with food donated by local organizations.

"If [The Night Ministry] wasn't here, there wouldn't be anybody out here," said Robert Gasior, a 42-year-old Chicago resident who has visited the ministry for five years. "If they weren't here, people would have a harder time with what they go through."

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

The Night Ministry bus, shown here at Wilson Avenue and Hazel Street, provides health care, free food and supplies to Chicagoans who are in need.

According to Gasior, services for underserved populations in the Uptown area are absent three days out of the week. The Night Ministry has stepped up and provided residents with access to health care and other vital services.

The Night Ministry's reputation precedes it. Everyone is welcome on all of the bus's six stops on its two routes regardless of age, religion, race or any other demographic.

"We try to be mindful of the particular needs, the particular culture and the particular context of each neighborhood we serve," said the Rev. David Weasley, community and congregational relations coordinator at The Night Ministry.

The reverend is relatively new to the organization, but he fit in immediately. According to Weasley, The Night Ministry provides a presence in the Chicago communities it serves.

"We go to be present where they're at," Weasley said. "Where they're at emotionally, where they're at spiritually, where they're at economically, but also literally where they're at."

Though originally conceived by a foundation of about 20 various faith-based congregations, The Night Ministry does not set out to proselytize. According to Weasley, many of the volunteers and staff see their work with the ministry as an extension of their devotional life. However, the non-denominational organization does not attempt to convert visitors as part of its mission.

Founded in 1976, The Night Ministry is the product of an idea, to an extent, from local pastor Tom Behrens, one of the ministry's first employees. Behrens spent years on the streets of Chicago, often wearing his clergy collar, operating solely out of his car's trunk to find the population's needs firsthand.

The current night ministry, home-based in Lakeview, largely grew out of what

» SEE MINISTRY, PG. 37

Railroad bridge repairs postponed until spring

Eight-year construction plan delayed after Metra commuters complain

by Meghan Keyes
Assistant Metro Editor

FOR METRA Union-Pacific North Line passengers, longer travel times and fewer trains were the rule after Metra began a construction project requiring it to function on a single track, causing delays and requiring the numbers of trains to be reduced.

However, on Sept. 30 the whole project was postponed until spring 2011.

Originally, Metra said to anticipate minor adjustments. When the adjusted timetable took effect on Aug. 22, commuters encountered bigger problems.

Another new set of times was to begin on Sept. 26 but was delayed due to the public's reaction.

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

The $185 million project would repair 22 bridges between Fullerton Avenue and Balmoral Avenue but requires trains to operate on one track.

"In general, the complaints have been about change in scheduled service to their stops and related issues of delayed trains and crowded trains," said Michael Gillis, spokesman for Metra. "We're still looking at what we can do to fix the schedule, and we are hopeful we can come up with something."

The work on the $185 million bridge and retaining wall construction project began in August and is expected to be completed in 2018. The North Line runs from downtown through Ravenswood, Rogers Park and Evanston to Kenosha, Wis.

Prior to the Aug. 22 schedule changes, Metra held forums for the public in northern towns along the line, and Alderman Gene Schulter (47th Ward) held forums in Ravenswood.

"I will continue to work with Metra to ensure that not only the best service is provided to all of the UP North Line riders, but also that the project meets the needs and interests of the residents of the Ravenswood community," Schulter said in a statement from his office.

Dan Sanchez, a student at Robert Morris University, takes the train Monday through Thursday.

"It sucks; I have to be down here longer, and I have to get up an hour earlier," he said. "And the trains are more crowded."

According to Gillis, some of the riders within the city of Chicago might have been able to use Chicago Transit Authority or another Metra line, but other riders do not have options.

"We're listening to every e-mail and phone call we're getting to see what we can do to address their concerns," Gillis said.

The bridges will be repaired as necessary, according to Metra.

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» RAID

Continued from Front Page

assemble and protest."

The basis for the FBI searches, as well as the grand jury subpoenas, can be found in the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996. The act set up the foundation for the criminalization of giving material support to groups listed under the U.S. Department of State's Foreign Terrorist Organization list.

This controversial statute is said by many to infringe on the civil liberties of U.S. citizens by vaguely defining what constitutes material support to an organization.

"In addition to engaging in independent advocacy, petitioners can meet with members of the foreign terrorist organizations, can join the foreign terrorist organizations—that membership is not prohibited by the statute," said Elena Kagan, then solicitor general, in a transcript of the Supreme Court decision. "What the statute prohibits is active support of all kinds."

> I really have a problem with the statute, its reach and vagueness—that it could be used very broadly against a number of different groups."
>
> -Law Professor Michael Seng

Critics argue the ruling will have a chilling effect on individuals who want to give support or help any organization thought to be subversive.

Though the U.S. Secretary of State lists the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), as well as the Palestine Liberation Front as two of 47 current terrorist organizations, many supporters see things differently. The difference between 'terrorist' and 'freedom fighter' depends largely on perspective.

Though challenged in spring 2010 through the Humanitarian Law Project v. Holder case, which charged that the material support rule was "unconstitutionally vague," the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the material support ruling by a 6-3 vote.

"I think it's a wrong decision," said Michael Seng, professor of constitutional law at John Marshall Law School. "I really have a problem with the statute, its reach and vagueness—that it could be used very broadly against a number of different groups."

According to a 2010 report from the Investigative Project on Terrorism, since 2001 approximately 150 defendants were charged with violating the material support rule. Fifty percent of those cases were followed by a conviction. The same report states "the material support law has become the cornerstone of U.S. counter-terrorism efforts," making up 23 percent of terrorism prosecutions.

By confirming probable cause of material support the FBI obtained a search warrant enabling it to search the homes of two Chicago residents and six homes in Minneapolis, confiscating personal belongings as potential evidence.

At least 13 Midwest anti-war activists were subpoenaed by the FBI, including members of the Palestine Solidarity Group, the Freedom Road Socialist Organization, and Students for a Democratic Society. The activists will appear in front of a grand jury on Oct. 5, where potential evidence could be presented regarding the case.

Courtesy J.J. BECKMAN

Supporters rallied at Chicago FBI Headquarters, 2111 W. Roosevelt Rd., on Sept. 27 in protest of the federal agency's search and seizure of personal effects belonging to Midwest anti-war activists.

Activists whose homes were searched said they have done nothing wrong. A series of solidarity actions have been planned since the raids including national conference calls, phone call-ins to prominent U.S. government organizations, as well as a rally and vigil scheduled for Oct. 5.

"[The] raids, searches and grand jury investigation are nothing more than an attempt to intimidate us and intimidate the anti-war movement," Iosbaker said. "All we ever did was work against U.S. military aid to the governments of Colombia and Israel ... and if the U.S. government wants to call that terrorism—we're all terrorists."

Maureen Murphy, a member of the Palestine Solidarity Group in Chicago, agreed with Iosbaker.

"Had this law been in effect during the anti-apartheid movement, their entire movement would have been considered guilty of material support for terrorism under this new law," Murphy said. "I think that's what this is all about and what the public needs to know about."

Seng cited another historical example as a possible indicator toward history's tendency to repeat itself.

"It's reminiscent of some of the cases during the 1940s and '50s during the Red Scare, where First Amendment rights were trampled upon," Seng said. "If it's a sign of what's to come, I think it's a very bad sign."

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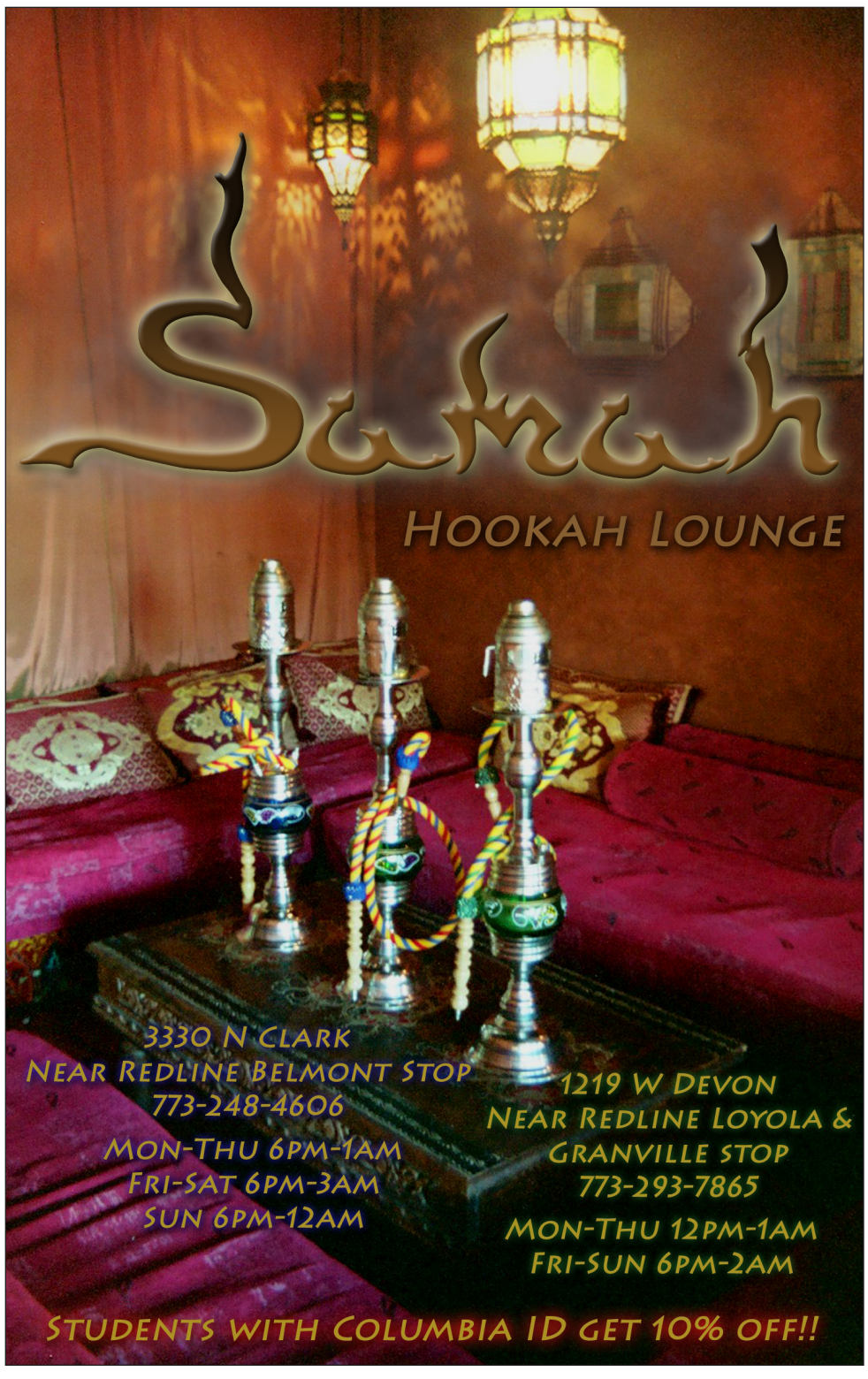

Poverty rises slightly in Chicago area

U.S. Census shows more people dropping out of middle class from 2006 to 2009

by Dahleen Glanton and Lisa Black
MCT Newswire

STOCK PHOTO

In Naperville, poverty among families headed by women grew to 17.3 percent, up from 9.4 percent in 2008.

THE POVERTY rate slightly increased in the Chicago area during the recession, making city and suburban families who once were considered middle class descend into the ranks of the poor, according to data released Sept. 28 by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Like the rest of the country, the Chicago area had many job losses, home foreclosures and lower median household incomes from 2006 to 2009, which forced some people out of their comfortable lifestyles and into homeless shelters, food banks and unemployment lines.

Every county in the Chicago area except Kendall experienced slightly increased poverty rates during the four-year period, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Cook County's rate was 15.9 percent in 2009, up from 15.3 in 2006. The rate for 2008 was 14.8 percent.

In Illinois, the poverty rate rose to 13.3 percent in 2009, up from 12.3 percent in 2006. The national poverty rate last year was 14.3 percent.

Median household income declined slightly in most Chicago-area counties, with the largest drops recorded in Lake, DuPage and Will counties.

"The data clearly show the economic recovery is not hitting home for our workers across our region," said Amy Rynell, director of the Heartland Alliance's Social IMPACT Research Center in Chicago. "We have many people ... out of work as well as struggling very hard to make ends meet."

Though economists said the recession ended in June 2009, the effects are lingering for people like Carmela Powell, of Round Lake Beach.

With an income of less than $1,500 a month, Powell, 32, is struggling to raise five children. She is pushing them to value education and pursue college, but with no job and no immediate prospects, she knows it will be difficult to achieve.

"I say, 'See how I live?'" said Powell, picking up food from the Avon Township Food Pantry. She looked at her daughter, 13, and said, "You'll have a better life, right? They don't have anything. Sometimes they get teased at school."

Like social service workers across the Chicago area, pantry coordinator Cindy Brust said she has seen the number of families seeking food steadily increase.

"I am seeing a new type of people come in," she said. "People with suits on. People who were let go from their jobs. We get regulars, older men and women. And you have kids. Kids having babies themselves."

In Hanover Park, Stacie Montez, 28, is also feeling the economy's pinch. Her husband lost his job two years ago, and they have three children to feed with her disability pay.

"It's hitting everywhere," Montez said. "It's not the normal people you would expect. It's every culture, every background."

The 2009 poverty rates in the collar counties were 9.3 percent for Kane, 7.2 percent for Lake, 7.0 percent for McHenry, 6.9 percent for Will, 6.5 percent for DuPage and 4.0 percent for Kendall.

In Chicago, 21.6 percent of people lived below the poverty level in 2009—slightly higher than the 21.2 percent in 2006.

The Salvation Army in Chicago noted a change in its clientele in the latter part of 2008.

"Some of the new people who started coming in were people who often were donors," said spokeswoman Jordanka Lazarevic. "They are asking for groceries, first and foremost, to feed their kids because the money they save, even if it's only $30, they can use to pay the phone or electric bill."

In Naperville, poverty among families headed by women grew to 17.3 percent, up from 9.4 percent in 2008—a figure that did not surprise Charles McLimans, executive director of the Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry in Naperville.

"They are one of the most vulnerable populations in our community," McLimans said, adding that deliveries to those households increased 42.6 percent from 2008 to 2009.

chronicle@colum.edu

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Windy City Times at 25

Weekly news publication marks more than two decades documenting LGBTQ community

by Rex W. Huppke
MCT Newswire

THE WINDY City Times newspaper first hit the Chicago streets in 1985, the same year Rock Hudson's death turned the country's attention to the growing AIDS epidemic.

In the years that followed, the paper would become a leading source for the city's gay community to learn what was happening regarding disease and to read about the lives of gay men dying in unprecedented numbers. It also became a forceful voice as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer Chicagoans fought for rights and legal protections.

After 25 years, the voice of the Windy City Times remains—a weekly reflection of life in Chicago's gay community, a printed product that has followed the path of the gay rights movement and adapted to a changing media landscape.

"I think what has sustained us is our motivation has always been about the community," said Publisher Tracy Baim, one of the original founders of the Windy City Times. "Whether it's a protest or a gala, we show people what happened this week in the gay community."

The newspaper published its 25th anniversary edition on Sept. 29, featuring images of front pages and reprints of articles from the paper's first year, a time when Baim couldn't have imagined the technology that would be available today or the advancements the gay rights movement would make.

"I think the progress has been very fast compared to other rights movements," Baim said. "Back then, I don't think anybody was thinking about marriage, but now we have marriage in several states. We have a long way to go, but there's reason to be hopeful."

Along with the weekly paper—with a circulation of about 15,000—the Windy City Times also breaks news on its website and has capitalized on social media.

Amie Klujian, a regular reader, said she feels the paper gives her an outlet for news she might not get through mainstream sources.

"As a community member, it's just been the go-to paper, being the first ones to report on so many things of interest to the LGBT community," Klujian said. "I think it acts as a source of information and a common bond for the community."

Though Baim was one of four founders, she left a couple of years later to start her own LGBTQ publication, Outlines. Windy City Times co-founder Jeff McCourt ran the paper through the late 1980s and 1990s.

Rick Garcia, public policy director of the gay rights group Equality Illinois, said McCourt and the paper became highly influential in the city's political community.

"The Windy City Times played a dramatic role in the gay rights movement in Chicago," Garcia said. "Jeff McCourt used to have a string of elected officials or candidates for elected office sitting in his office before election time. It was the endorsing newspaper for the gay community, and it was the paper of record for the gay community."

> "There is a history in this town that goes back at least 40 years, if not longer, of really understanding the printed word matters as part of how LGBT people either learn about each other or communicate with each other"
>
> -Jennifer Brier

However, by 2000 the paper was about to go under. Baim purchased the Windy City Times from McCourt and took over as publisher, shepherding the paper into the digital age and in 2008, making the newsroom entirely virtual.

"Our competition now is the iPhone, the iPad, blogs and the Internet," Baim said. "We micromanage every story now and try to make sure we're the first ones out there with news that matters to our readers."

Jennifer Brier, associate professor of gender and women's study and history at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said the newspaper has long played an important role in Chicago's LGBTQ community, and she doesn't expect the printed version of the Windy City Times to disappear anytime soon.

"There is a history in this town that goes back at least 40 years, if not longer, of really understanding the printed word matters as part of how LGBT people either learn about each other or communicate with each other," Brier said. "I just think there's a sense that words matter; having some kind of record matters."

Baim, not surprisingly, shares this sentiment.

"I think 25 years from now we're still going to need a gay media," she said. "We're always going to have a need to communicate with each other. That depth [and] nourishment will always be needed."

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

chronicle@colum.edu

FEATURED PHOTO

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

State Sen. Rickey Hendon (right) introduces Gov. Pat Quinn at a rally to support the "Put Illinois to Work" program on Sept. 29 at Daley Plaza, 118 N. Clark St. The program employs thousands throughout the state and was facing cuts and termination until Quinn signed legislation to extend it until November.

» MINISTRY

Continued from PG. 33

Behrens learned from being out with the people at night.

As of 1976, youth services and healthcare remain underfunded and inaccessible to the most vulnerable of the city's population.

According to data from the 2010 Census, nearly 22 percent of Chicago's population now lives below the poverty line, including more than 205,000 children.

Poverty in the state is growing significantly, according to ProgressIllinois.com. Nearly 1.7 million residents live below the poverty line, including more than 581,000 children in 2009—a rise from 443,000 10 years prior. For a family of three that line is $18,310 per year, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Night Ministry is on the front lines of providing consistent services to the city's most at-risk populations, according to Megan Groves, marketing and communications coordinator at the ministry. The buses arrive on a set schedule to provide visitors with a reliable support network.

According to Groves, more than 4,000 volunteers spent more than 25,000 hours with The Night Ministry between July 2009–10. In that same time, the organization's health outreach bus saw around 56,000 people while its three housing programs provided shelter for 400 youth and children.

"We think it's important to be accepting," Groves said. "And to accept everyone no matter who they are, where they are in their lives and no matter what they've been through."

For more information or to donate to The Night Ministry, visit TheNightMinistry.org.

dholliday@chroniclemail.com

IN OTHER NEWS

Rahm 'Homeless' Emanuel

According to ChicagoSunTimes.com, mayoral hopeful Rahm Emanuel failed in a bid to move back into his Chicago North Side home. The current tenant, Robert Halpin, refused to give up the home, despite Emanuel offering compensation for the remainder of Halpin's lease. Halpin's refusal to budge could cause trouble for Emanuel. "The big question: Is Emanuel going to have a residency problem in a bid to run for mayor?" writes Michael Sneed, columnist for the Sun-Times. Emanuel resigned as White House chief of staff on Oct. 1.

More cops, less college

The Daley administration agreed on Sept. 29 to hold the city's first police entrance exam in four years. The decision comes amid a severe manpower shortage, as well as demands that applicants no longer be required to have attended college. The last police entrance exam was held on Nov. 5, 2006. According to ChicagoSunTimes.com, Alderman Anthony Beale (9th Ward) is calling for a leveling of the playing field for minorities at a time when the Chicago Police Department is short more than 2,300 officers every day.

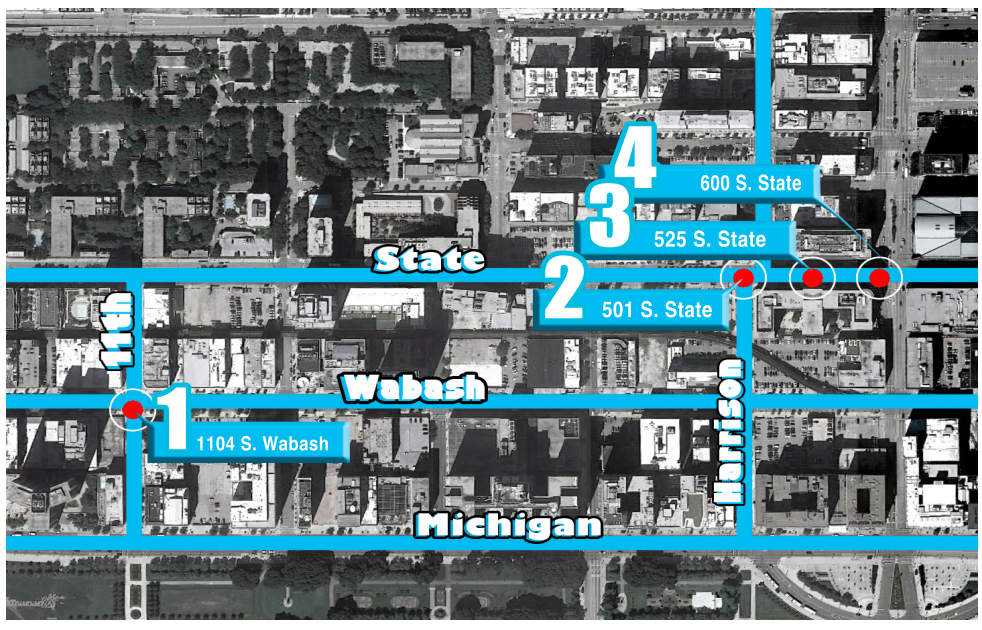
Daley honors Daley

The first winner of the Mayor Richard M. Daley Legacy Award for Global Leadership in Creating Sustainable Cities will be the mayor himself. According to ChicagoTribune.com, the U.S. Green Building Council announced on Sept. 28 it was naming the new award for Daley and he would be the first recipient at the annual November Greenbuild conference in Chicago. "This award is in recognition of the mayor's visionary and planet-changing leadership that has created the amazing legacy of a green city," the council said.

Grandma shoots boy

According to Chicagoist.com, neighbors are praising a 68-year-old Chicago woman who shot and injured a 12-year-old boy. Margaret Matthews returned home on Sept. 28 to find her windows broken as two boys ran from the house. Matthews called the police, but the boys returned and harassed her, at one point throwing a brick that hit her in the chest. After calling the police again, Matthews shot the boy. "There is no explanation for how I felt. I was terrified.... After a year of harassment, that was the straw that broke the camel's back."

OFF THE BLOTTER



Compiled by Chronicle staff with information provided by the Chicago Police Department. Map courtesy of Google Earth.

1 Burglary attempt

At the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., a security officer filed an attempted burglary complaint on Sept. 28. According to police reports, an unknown suspect attempted to pry open an interior door of the school that leads to offices, causing damage to the door. The suspect did not gain entry.

2 Stolen wallet

On Sept. 23, a woman was eating with her friends at Panera Bread, 501 S. State St., according to police reports, when she noticed her wallet was missing. She spoke with a worker who looked at the security video tape and confirmed her wallet was stolen.

3 Dorm trespasser

According to police reports, at the University Center, 525 S. State St., the director of security had previously ordered a 28-year-old Evanston man not to come on the property. The suspect was observed at the dorm Sept. 26, but the man eluded the officer.

4 Pick-pocketed

A Roosevelt University student was pick-pocketed on Sept. 27 near 600 S. State St., according to police reports. The 19-year-old was walking on State Street when she felt someone bump into her and remove her wallet from her right rear pants pocket. The suspect ran south on State Street.

Games

SUDOKU *Level 4*

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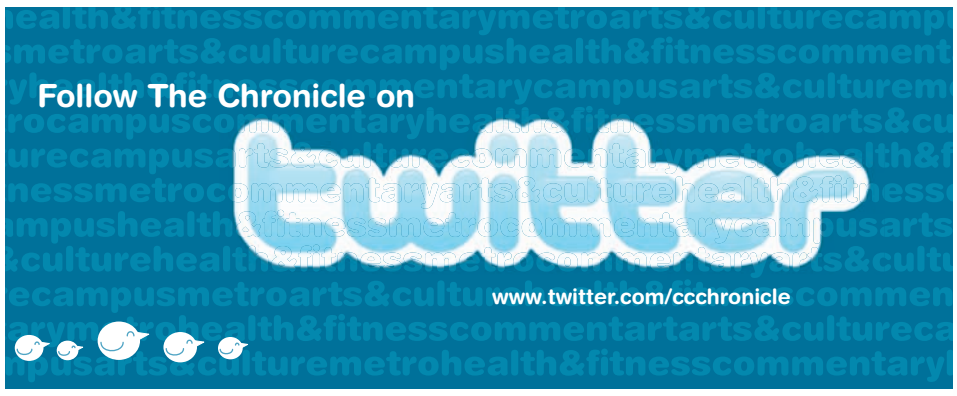
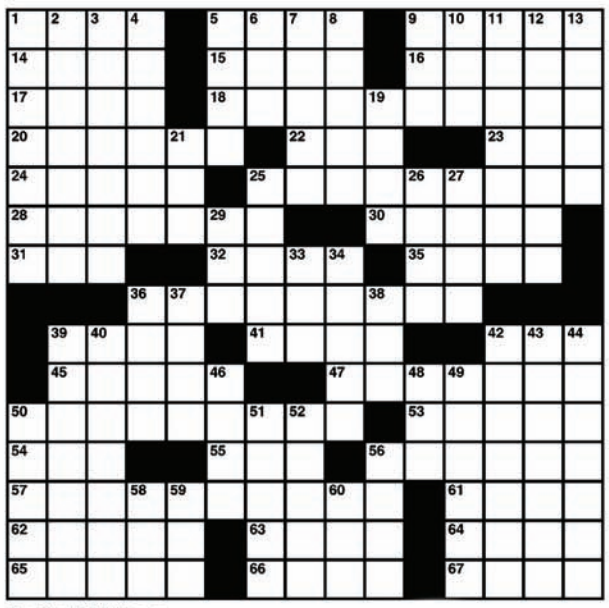
Puzzle by websudoku.com



CROSSWORD



By Scott Atkinson

ACROSS
1 Aloe target
5 Indian royal
9 Treat meanly
14 1990s Expos manager
15 Approach shot club
16 "Platoon" co-star
17 Bubbles
18 *Ancient Chinese cote occupant?
20 Tasseled toppers
22 Happy hour order
23 Partook of
24 Bit of dental work
25 *Observation after a Bush walk?
28 "Hold on!"
30 Japanese-American
31 "If __ only listened!"
32 Shade sources
35 Florida's __ City
36 *Nickname for a so-so Navy officer?
39 Lead player
41 "Even Napoleon had his Watergate" speaker
42 I followers?
45 Stoop
47 Dry cleaner's supply
50 *Habitually drunk panda?
53 Sheikdom of song
54 Carpenter __
55 Exxon Valdez cargo
56 "All in the Family" family name
57 *Kenyan health care worker?
61 Genesis brother
62 Many a dance club tune
63 Fiendish
64 The old you
65 '50s flop
66 Guitar's fingerboard
67 Repairs, as a green

DOWN
1 Picaresque
2 Property recipient
3 Drunk, in slang
4 Old-fashioned "Way to go!"
5 Wheel parts
6 Paul's "Exodus" role
7 With 56-Down, eponymous bacteriologist
8 Saxon opening
9 Star Wars letters
10 Witchy woman
11 Lackin' gumption
12 Under-the-table diversion
13 Article of faith
19 Keystone State founder
21 It may be evil
25 "The Optimist's Daughter" writer
26 Generic pooch
27 "Out of Africa" author Dinesen
29 Good name, briefly
33 He said "Learn from the masses, and then teach them"
34 Common sense?
36 Atkins diet no-no
37 Gas brand seen at ampm stores
38 Peeples of "Fame"

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39 Reached across
40 Powwow communication source
42 Dismissal, and a hint to how the answers to starred clues were derived
43 Traveled from point A to point A?
44 Analysts' concerns
46 Clopper
48 Former RFK Stadium NLer
49 Mill inputs
50 Ballet rail
51 Fire indicator, perhaps
52 Green shade
56 See 7-Down
58 Old cry of disgust
59 Rose of rock
60 Prez, to GIs

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21–April 20) Team assignments will this week create new opportunities for advancement. Leadership skills, public negotiations and short-term projects are all strongly favored. Thoroughly explore all business options. A creative approach to daily duties or an obvious dedication to group standards will foster respect from key officials. Stay focused. Late this weekend, a previously shy friend or potential lover may express strong feelings. Respond honestly: Powerful emotions are involved.

TAURUS (April 21–May 20) Close friends and relatives may now be distrustful of rules, regulations or predictable habits. Areas affected are legal agreements, property contracts and traditional family roles. Key decisions may be rigorously challenged. Remain dedicated to established goals. Loved ones will soon adopt a new perspective. Wednesday through Sunday highlights past friends, yesterday's romantic ideals and vivid memories. Outdated promises are changing: Let others know your goals or limits.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Mild, social flirtations will now intensify. Geminis born prior to 1982 may this week encounter a compelling or exotic romantic overture. Physical attraction and sensuality are undeniable. Take time, however, to examine long-term consequences. Careful planning will soon prove rewarding. After midweek, short-term business opportunities will steadily increase. Messages from past colleagues or work officials will play a vital role. Stay open to unusual career or job proposals.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) Financial restrictions are unavoidable. Over the next few days, pay attention to hidden costs or unexpected expenses. Someone close may wish to overextend their resources or enter into quick investments. Advocate thorough research and lengthy business proposals. Detailed records will eventually prove invaluable. Later this week, a trusted friend or relative may ask for private advice. Romantic promises, long-term relationships or home obligations may be accented. Stay balanced.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22) Love relationships now begin a subtle phase of negotiation and social discussion. Romantic partners may this week request greater freedom or firmly defined objectives. Don't be shy. This is a strong time for publicly revealed hopes, dreams and aspirations. Expect meaningful breakthroughs and revealing responses. After Thursday, colleagues and key officials may be mildly critical of your ideas or accomplishments. Be diplomatic: Private tensions will soon fade.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) Romantic ideals need to be publicly discussed this week. After Tuesday, loved ones ask for clear statements of intention. Use this time to address previous misunderstandings or disappointments. Over the next few days emotional agreements will lead to rekindled affections and long-term commitment. Stay open to new suggestions. Friday through Sunday family members may be highly focused on financial proposals or new property ideas. Wait for completed information.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Long-term friends will this week require added support and guidance. Career choices, educational programs or increased job training may be at issue. Doubt and reflection are a healthy part of honest achievement. Encourage others to examine trusted business goals or procedures. Clarity and purpose will soon be established. Later this week, some Librans may encounter an unexpected romantic or social invitation. Remain cautious: Complex triangles are highlighted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Friends may this week ask for greater involvement in your personal life and daily decisions. Areas affected include group planning, family events or social celebrations. Take all such interest as a compliment. At present, others may wish to deepen their commitments or leave painful memories in the past. Remain receptive to growth. After Thursday, a past business partner or colleague may reveal controversial workplace information. Check legal facts for times, dates and regulations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Over the next eight days home finances may yield greater rewards than expected. Finalized debt, shared payments or revised contracts will soon provide improved options. After Wednesday, paperwork and money negotiations will work to your advantage. Use this time to permanently establish reliable agreements or schedules. Later this week a recently shy or withdrawn friend may become unusually expressive. Private love affairs or complex flirtations may be accented.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Family members or close roommates will this week announce key employment changes. If so, expect revised home schedules to be a vital concern. Wait, however, for further information to arrive. In the coming weeks, authority figures may assign extra training or added responsibilities. Expect complex paperwork and fast reversals. Thursday through Sunday watch for gentle romantic overtures and quick invitations. Stay alert: New relationships may arrive without warning.

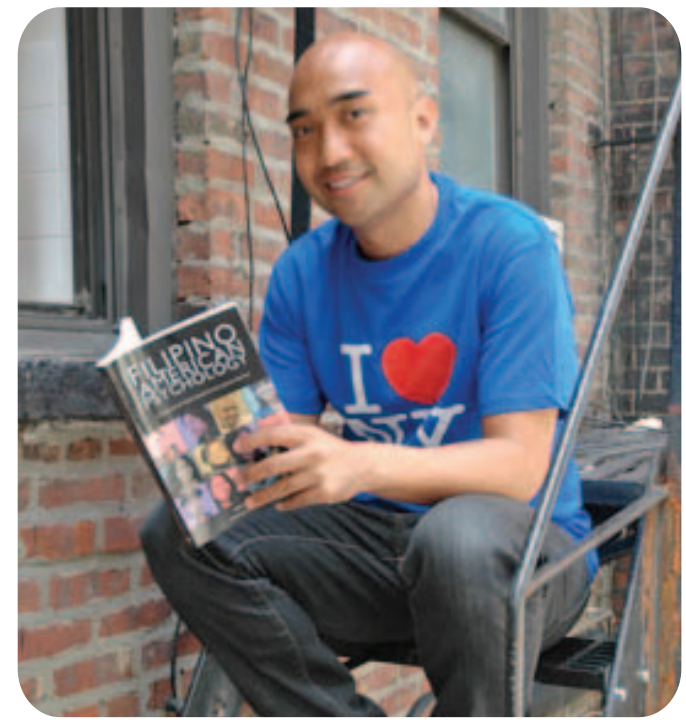
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Rental agreements or long-term property contracts now demand careful examination. Study time requirements and small calculations for important clues. In the coming weeks, authority figures and financial executives may attempt to introduce faulty or misleading information. Stay focused and ask for complete details. Late this weekend a past family or romantic disagreement may reappear. Not to worry, however: Loved ones will soon clarify their ideals, thoughts and goals.

PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) Adapting to revised work or home routines may be difficult this week. Remain determined, however, and expect worthwhile progress. Friends and relatives will eventually become more fully involved in private decisions and family activities. Time limitations may be bothersome. Ask for extra consideration or support. After Friday, a complex social invitation may trigger gossip or minor jealousies. Take your time and trust your instincts: Past history will play a vital and deciding role.

Stay In

Kevin Nadal lecture

10.07.10
6 – 8 p.m.
Residence Center
731 S. Plymouth Court



Dr. Kevin Nadal will discuss his two books, "Filipino American Psychology: A Handbook of Theory, Research, and Clinical Practice" and "Filipino American Psychology: A Collection of Personal Narratives." He will speak on issues of ethnic identity, colonial mentality, cultural conflicts and experiences with gender, sexual orientation and multiraciality.

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National Latino AIDS Awareness Day observance and on-campus testing

10.06.10
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor
(312) 369-7812

National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day marks the opportunity to increase awareness, participation and support for HIV prevention, care and treatment in the Latino community. This event is sponsored by the Office of Student Health & Support.

FREE

Blues jam with Fernando Jones

10.07.10
7 – 8:30 p.m.
Music Center, Concert Hall
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179

Twenty-first Century bluesman and 2008 Keeping the Blues Alive aword recipient, Fernando Jones is a self-taught musician and has been a professor at Columbia since 2005.

FREE

Monday 10.04

Art in the Library

All day
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 3rd floor
(312) 369-7157
FREE

Back to Nature Boot Camp

4 – 5:30 p.m.
Fitness Center, Residence Center
731 S. Plymouth Court
(312) 369-6659
FREE

Tuesday 10.05

Behind the Studio: Audio Panel

2 p.m.
Portfolio Center, Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave., suite 307
(312) 369-7281
FREE

Living Art and the Future of Motion in Photography with Alexx Henry

7 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building
(312) 369-7281
FREE

FREE

Wednesday 10.06

Study Abroad Fair

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor
Catrina DeBord, CDebord@Colum.edu
FREE

Entrepreneurship Club Meeting

5 – 6 p.m.
Columbia Library, Blum Conference Room
South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 5th floor
Columbia Entrepreneurship Club, CCCeclub@gmail.com
FREE

Thursday 10.07

Opening reception and artist talk: La Frontera: The Cultural Impact of Mexican Migration and The Grange Prize: Exhibition of Works by 2010 Finalists

4 – 7 p.m.
Museum of Contemporary Photography
Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
MOCP@Colum.edu
FREE

Art Works: Liz Von Hoene

6:30 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium
Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave.
Caroline Juhlin, CJuhlin@Colum.edu
FREE

Friday 10.08

Jazz Gallery in the Lobby

Noon – 1 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE

FREE

Jazz Forum

2 – 4 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6300
FREE

Emily Johnson – Catalyst Dance

9 p.m.
The Dance Center
1306 S. Michigan Ave.
MC Hill, MHill@Colum.edu
$15

fitness/health | music | columbia
tv | cultural | audio arts
dance | museum | theater
a+d | radio | iam
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marketing | film | celebrity
childhood | photography

FREE MOVIE PASSES

Pick up the Chronicle every Monday to see what free movie passes we offer each week

Get Out

Chicago Marathon

10.10.2010
7:30 a.m.
Begins at 500 S. Columbus Drive
FREE to watch
(312) 742-7529

Watch Chicago's most fast-footed participate in the running event of the year, hosted by Bank of America. Participants will start and finish in Grant Park, running north toward Streeterville and Wrigleyville, west toward Ukrainian Village and University Village, then south toward Pilsen, Chinatown and Bronzeville.

Chicago International Film Festival (through Oct. 21)
10.08.2010
3:30 p.m.
AMC River East 21
322 E. Illinois St.
(312) 683-0121
$10–$15; $80–$210 for passes

Chicago gets a taste of film beyond Hollywood with movies from Austria, Chad, Poland, Hungary and many more. Edward Norton will make an appearance.

Hyde Park Oktoberfest
10.09.2010
11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
53rd Street and Dorchester Avenue
(773) 324-6929
FREE

This fall festival features a beer garden, food vendors, kids' activities, a pumpkin patch and live music by Akasha, Full Circle and L.V. Banks.

FREE

Tuesday 10.05

Pup Crawl
6 p.m.
The Matchbox
770 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(312) 666-9292
FREE; 21+

FREE

UniverSoul Circus
7:30 p.m.
Washington Park
5531 S. King Drive
(800) 316-1235
$17–$37

Wednesday 10.06

Field Museum Free Days
9 – 5 p.m.
Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
(312) 922-9410
FREE

X Japan
7:30 p.m.
Riviera Theatre
4546 N. Racine Ave.
(773) 275-6800
$30

Thursday 10.07

Frank Catalano Sextet
2 a.m.
The Green Mill
4802 N. Broadway
(773) 878-5552
FREE; 21+

FREE

The B-52s
9 p.m.
House of Blues
329 N. Dearborn St.
(312) 923-2000
$53–$63

The Absolute Best Friggin' Time of Your Life
8 p.m.
The Second City
1608 N. Wells St.
(312) 337-3992
$22–$27

FREE

Friday 10.08

Music Box Massacre 6
Midnight
Music Box
3733 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-6604
$28–$33

Cocktails and Clay
8 p.m. – midnight
Hyde Park Art Center
5020 S. Cornell Ave.
(773) 324-5520
$15 suggested donation

Saturday 10.09

Chicago VeganMania
10 – 6 p.m.
Pulaski Park Fieldhouse
1419 W. Blackhawk St.
(773) 640-2822
FREE

FREE

Supernatural Chicago
7:30 p.m.
Excalibur
632 N. Dearborn St.
(800) 979-3370
$25; RSVP recommended

Sunday 10.10

Bears Brunch
10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Zella
1983 N. Clybourn Ave.
(773) 549-2910
$11–$20

My Chinatown
Noon – 5 p.m.
Chicago History Museum
1601 N. Clark St.
(312) 642-4600
$12–$14

cultural · museum · music · movie · theater · speaker · food · celebrity · reading · sport/fitness · tv · photography · performance · art · political · Halloween

AccuWeather.com Seven-day forecast for Chicago

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2010

MONDAY	MON. NIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Bright and sunny	Clear	Mostly sunny and nice	Sunny and pleasant	Plenty of sunshine	Mostly sunny	Sunny and cooler	Bright sunshine
High 62	Low 42	High 66 Low 48	High 70 Low 52	High 72 Low 51	High 69 Low 45	High 58 Low 48	High 65 Low 47