Columbia College Chicago
Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago

Columbia Chronicle | College Publications

2-7-2011

Columbia Chronicle (02/07/2011)

Columbia College Chicago

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle

Part of the Journalism Studies Commons

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 License.

Recommended Citation
Columbia College Chicago, "Columbia Chronicle (2/7/2011)" (February 7, 2011). *Columbia Chronicle*, College Publications, College Archives & Special Collections, Columbia College Chicago. http://digitalcommons.colum.edu/cadc_chronicle/808

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the College Publications at Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago. It has been accepted for inclusion in Columbia Chronicle by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Columbia College Chicago.

Shutting down Egypt's Internet was a mistake » PAGE 29

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The official news source of Columbia College Chicago February 7, 2011 Volume 46, Issue 18

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

The Chronicle launches a new website

Crippling blizzard closes college

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Columbia students left their dorms to climb The Buckingham Fountain after the blizzard on Feb. 2. The snowstorm hit the Chicagoland area Feb. 1 bringing in almost two feet of snow within a 24–hour period.

High winds, large volume of snow shuts down campus,city

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

THE CITY was engulfed in mounds of snow, citizens were hounded by 67 mph winds and people were forced to abandon their cars in an attempt to get home. These conditions forced Columbia to close for two-and-a-half days when the third largest snowstorm in Chicago's history hit on Feb.1.

The blizzard, which lasted until the afternoon of Feb. 2, left the city in a state of disarray.The extreme conditions forced the college to close to ensure the safety of Columbia students and employees.

"Every decision we made was based upon the safety of students, faculty and staff," said Robert Koverman, associate vice president of Safety and Security at Columbia.

The college sent out multiple automated emails and phone calls throughout the 72 hours to guarantee students and staff were updated on the situation with the college.

"Having been through previous closures before with the Send Word Now system, we were never able to better communicate so people knew what the decision was," said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. "I am happy to see that system work."

John Kavouris, associate vice president of Facilities and Construction, said Columbia encountered minimal damage including two blown out windows because of the strong winds. One was at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., and the other at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.The windows were immediately boarded up and will be replaced soon, Kavouris said. There was no indication the buildings lost heat or power, and the roofs proved to be structurally sound, he said.

"We did not have many problems at all," Kavouris said. "The buildings came through the storm almost completely unscathed."

The school hired MP Snow Services, a company that specializes in plowing, to take care of the snow removal, and building engineers were on-site throughout

» SEE BLIZZARD, PG. 6

Ugandan advocate brings message

Recalls past, present, future struggles of LGBTI community in Uganda

by Sam Charles
Assistant Campus Editor

WITHIN A week of fellow Ugandan lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex advocate David Kato's murder, Frank Mugisha brought a sobering message to Columbia during his Jan. 31 visit.

At the Ferguson Lecture Hall in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Mugisha told students that because of the Ugandan government's strictly conservative anti-homosexual policies, he and other activists have banded together to form Sexual Minorities Uganda, an advocacy group which aims to increase the rights of Ugandans who are persecuted because of their sexual orientation. He is currently the executive director of SMUG.

"We are not advocating for the right to get married," Mugisha said. "The only thing we are advocating for is to be accepted."

Five days before Mugisha visited Columbia, David Kato, advocacy officer of SMUG, was murdered in his home. Mugisha said Kato had been receiving death threats since the Ugandan newspaper Rolling Stone published a story in October 2010 outing "Uganda's Top Homos." The headline for the story read "Hang Them." Kato's photo was displayed on the front page and people's home addresses were also included in the story.

"My friend was murdered at 2 p.m. in broad daylight in his own house," Mugisha said of Kato. "There's no safety at all."

Mugisha went on to recite a message Kato often used to garner hope: "The struggle has been there. I've struggled for the rights in all of Africa, and when I come

» SEE LGBTI, PG. 8

Tuition to rise

Columbia's board of trustees approves 4.98 percent increase

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

STUDENTS ATTENDING Columbia for the 2011–2012 academic year will pay almost $1,000 more in tuition, according to the 2012 Tuition Letter from President Warrick L. Carter's office, which was released on Feb. 1.

The college's board of trustees has approved a 4.98 percent increase for undergraduate tuition. A 7.5 percent

» SEE TUITION, PG. 6

Health & Fitness » PG. 13

Arts & Culture » PG. 18

Metro » PG. 32

INDEX

Campus 2
H&F 11
A&C 17
Commentary 28
Metro 31

Shutting down Egypt's Internet was a mistake » PAGE 29

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The official news source of Columbia College Chicago February 7, 2011 Volume 46, Issue 18

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

The Chronicle launches a new website

Crippling blizzard closes college

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Columbia students left their dorms to climb The Buckingham Fountain after the blizzard on Feb. 2. The snowstorm hit the Chicagoland area Feb. 1 bringing in almost two feet of snow within a 24–hour period.

High winds, large volume of snow shuts down campus,city

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

THE CITY was engulfed in mounds of snow, citizens were hounded by 67 mph winds and people were forced to abandon their cars in an attempt to get home. These conditions forced Columbia to close for two-and-a-half days when the third largest snowstorm in Chicago's history hit on Feb.1.

The blizzard, which lasted until the afternoon of Feb. 2, left the city in a state of disarray.The extreme conditions forced the college to close to ensure the safety of Columbia students and employees.

"Every decision we made was based upon the safety of students, faculty and staff," said Robert Koverman, associate vice president of Safety and Security at Columbia.

The college sent out multiple automated emails and phone calls throughout the 72 hours to guarantee students and staff were updated on the situation with the college.

"Having been through previous closures before with the Send Word Now system, we were never able to better communicate so people knew what the decision was," said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. "I am happy to see that system work."

John Kavouris, associate vice president of Facilities and Construction, said Columbia encountered minimal damage including two blown out windows because of the strong winds. One was at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., and the other at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave.The windows were immediately boarded up and will be replaced soon, Kavouris said. There was no indication the buildings lost heat or power, and the roofs proved to be structurally sound, he said.

"We did not have many problems at all," Kavouris said. "The buildings came through the storm almost completely unscathed."

The school hired MP Snow Services, a company that specializes in plowing, to take care of the snow removal, and building engineers were on-site throughout

» SEE BLIZZARD, PG. 6

Ugandan advocate brings message

Recalls past, present, future struggles of LGBTI community in Uganda

by Sam Charles
Assistant Campus Editor

WITHIN A week of fellow Ugandan lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex advocate David Kato's murder, Frank Mugisha brought a sobering message to Columbia during his Jan. 31 visit.

At the Ferguson Lecture Hall in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., Mugisha told students that because of the Ugandan government's strictly conservative anti-homosexual policies, he and other activists have banded together to form Sexual Minorities Uganda, an advocacy group which aims to increase the rights of Ugandans who are persecuted because of their sexual orientation. He is currently the executive director of SMUG.

"We are not advocating for the right to get married," Mugisha said. "The only thing we are advocating for is to be accepted."

Five days before Mugisha visited Columbia, David Kato, advocacy officer of SMUG, was murdered in his home. Mugisha said Kato had been receiving death threats since the Ugandan newspaper Rolling Stone published a story in October 2010 outing "Uganda's Top Homos." The headline for the story read "Hang Them." Kato's photo was displayed on the front page and people's home addresses were also included in the story.

"My friend was murdered at 2 p.m. in broad daylight in his own house," Mugisha said of Kato. "There's no safety at all."

Mugisha went on to recite a message Kato often used to garner hope: "The struggle has been there. I've struggled for the rights in all of Africa, and when I come

» SEE LGBTI, PG. 8

Tuition to rise

Columbia's board of trustees approves 4.98 percent increase

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

STUDENTS ATTENDING Columbia for the 2011–2012 academic year will pay almost $1,000 more in tuition, according to the 2012 Tuition Letter from President Warrick L. Carter's office, which was released on Feb. 1.

The college's board of trustees has approved a 4.98 percent increase for undergraduate tuition. A 7.5 percent

» SEE TUITION, PG. 6

Health & Fitness » PG. 13

Arts & Culture » PG. 18

Metro » PG. 32

INDEX

Campus 2
H&F 11
A&C 17
Commentary 28
Metro 31

EDITOR'S NOTE

Looming debt dampers college days

by Spencer Roush
Editor-in-Chief

WHEN I first made my six-hour venture to Chicago from Ohio, there were two things on my mind: What would my dorm and roommates be like and how will I pay off this enormous amount of debt I'm about to accumulate during the next four years.

Those years are almost up and my roommate experience thankfully only lasted a year, which made me appreciate living alone and off-campus even more. However, I am still questioning how I'll pay for college.

When I started as a full-time undergraduate student in fall 2007, tuition was $17,104 per year, and now the bill is roughly $2,000 more. This increase isn't too significant in comparison to other college's tuition rates.

The college announced on Feb. 1 that it would raise tuition by 4.98 percent. The tuition increase was announced to faculty and staff in a weekly newsletter, but the administration made this announcement right before the snow fell and the campus closed. The restricted time element made it difficult to investigate the increase more thoroughly. Additionally, students were informed on Feb. 4 with the same letter just before press time.

Full-time undergraduate tuition for next year is $20,093 a $954 increase from the 2010–2011 academic year. Graduate students will also see a 7.5 percent increase on average per program.

In a letter from President Warrick L. Carter, specific reasons for the increase were never outlined nor was there a breakdown of how the money would be spent. Instead, he wrote the administration is working to keep costs down while keeping its "responsibility to continually improve the quality of our campus, curriculum, and overall educational experience for our students."

This is an incredibly vague statement considering the increase would bring a significant financial boost to the college, but he did say the administration would work toward allocating more scholarship money.

Using fall 2010 undergraduate enrollment numbers, which admittedly may not perfectly reflect the numbers for fall 2011, the increase may account for an additional $10.88 million to the budget.

This figure doesn't include graduate increases, either. There is also no available budget to break down how these millions will be spent.

Similar to how U.S. taxpayers expect financial transparency with their tax dollars, college students should demand the same. The tuition increase is probably justifiable, but until the administration breaks down how the money is spent, students will continue to question yearly gradual tuition raises. The students and parents are the ones footing the majority of the bill and should reap the benefits of the extra funds.

sroush@chroniclemail.com

NEWS FLASH

2/9/11

An afternoon with Sonia Sanchez

Sanchez's poems depict the struggles between black and white people, men and women and cultures. She deals with the characterization of women, making it clear to audiences the stereotypes black women endured in the 1960s and 1970s. Sanchez examines the lives of women within family and society as they have changed throughout her time. The event begins at 1 p.m.

Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

2/10/11

Student Affairs meeting

The Student Affairs Committee of the College Council will discuss Student Health and Support. Assistant Dean of Student Health and Support Beverly Anderson will be presenting. These meetings are open to the public and all interested faculty or staff are encouraged to attend. It is from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., Room 401

2/11/11

Blood Ball

The night will feature live music, art and the crowning of the Blood Ball's King and Queen. Free food and drinks throughout the night. The ball is from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

CAMPUS POLL

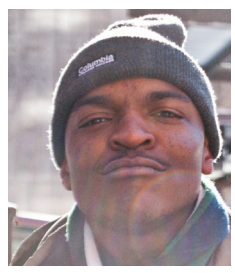
"What's your reaction to the riots in Egypt?"

Sean Murphy
junior
fine art major

"It's crazy, I don't know what to think because it's so far away. I don't think the treatment of American news reporters has been great, but people are just doing what they have to do to get things done."

Tia Greer
sophomore
dance major

"I'm wondering what our country can do to help the situation because seeing the riots on TV, it's very upsetting that there are people being killed."



Brent Palmer
junior
film and video major

"Something like this is always bound to happen. I want it to be resolved peacefully, but you can't control these kinds of things. I don't want America to get too involved because we have our own problems."

Paul Spaeth
junior
theater major

"I hope it gets resolved peacefully, but seeing things like the revolution in Iran, these things can go soft. There is a lot of alarmism in the media, like FOX News."

STAFF

Management
Spencer Roush *Editor-in-Chief*
Stephanie Saviola *Managing Editor*
Benita Zepeda *Managing Editor*

Campus
Sam Charles *Assistant Campus Editor*
Amanda Murphy *Assistant Campus Editor*
Shardae Smith *Assistant Campus Editor*

Arts & Culture
Mina Bloom *Arts & Culture Editor*
Matt Watson *Assistant Arts & Culture Editor*
Brianna Wellen *Assistant Arts & Culture Editor*

Metro
Darryl Holliday *Metro Editor*
Kristen Franzen *Assistant Metro Editor*
Heather McGraw *Assistant Metro Editor*

Commentary
Luke Wilusz *Commentary Editor*

Copy
Jackson Thomas *Copy Chief*
Molly Keith *Copy Editor*
Meghan Keyes *Copy Editor*
Amber Meade *Copy Editor*

Health & Fitness
Etheria Modacure *Assistant Health & Fitness Editor*
Katy Nielsen *Assistant Health & Fitness Editor*

Photo
Brent Lewis *Senior Photo Editor*
Brock Brake *Photo Editor*
Tiela Halpin *Photo Editor*
Sara Mays *Staff Photographer*

Graphics
Jonathan Allen *Senior Graphic Designer*
Edward Kang *Graphic Designer*
Ying Kau *Graphic Designer*
Zach Stemerick *Graphic Designer*

Multimedia/Web
Bethany Buonsante *Interactive Media/Outreach Editor*
Cristina Aguirre *Multimedia Editor*
Marco Rosas *Assistant Multimedia Editor*
Chris Cummings *Webmaster*

Advertising
Ren Lahvic *Advertising & Business Manager*
Andrew Billmyer *Advertising Account Executive*

Operations
Allyson Abelman *Operations Manager*
Drew Hunt *Operations Manager*

Senior Staff
Chris Richert *General Manager*
Jeff Lyon *Faculty Adviser*

The Chronicle is a student-produced publication of Columbia College Chicago and does not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, the views of college administrators, faculty or students.

All text, photos and graphics are the property of The Chronicle and may not be reproduced or published without written permission.

Editorials are the opinions of the Editorial Board of The Chronicle. Columns are the opinions of the author(s).

Views expressed in this publication are those of the writer and are not the opinions of The Chronicle, Columbia's Journalism Department or Columbia College Chicago.

Letters to the editor must include full name, year, major and phone number. All letters are edited for grammar and may be cut due to a limit of space. The Chronicle holds the right to limit any one person's submissions to three per semester.
Letters can be faxed to (312) 369-8430,
e-mailed to Chronicle@colum.edu or mailed to
The Chronicle, 33 E. Congress Parkway, Suite 224
Chicago, IL. 60605-1996.

The Chronicle
33 E. Congress Parkway, Suite 224
Chicago, IL. 60605-1996

Main line: (312) 369-8999
Advertising: (312) 369-8984
Newsroom Fax: (312) 369-8430
www.columbiachronicle.com

Campus: (312) 369-8986
Metro: (312) 369-8963
Arts & Culture: (312) 369-8969
Commentary: (312) 369-8981
Copy: (312) 369-8925
Photo: (312) 369-8976
Health & Fitness: (312) 369-8982
Permission/Reproductions: (312) 369-8955
General Manager: (312) 369-8955
Faculty Adviser: (312) 369-8903

Campus

Celebrating Black History 2011

African heritage celebration to feature Oscar-nominated actress, playwright

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

IN ITS 85 years, Black History Month has evolved from Negro Appreciation Week into a month-long celebration helping remember icons such as Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. Over the years, more recent important figures in the black community have been incorporated into the annual remembrance.

Columbia's 2011 African Heritage Celebration, sponsored by the Multicultural Affairs Department, will be held throughout February. This year's theme, "Exploring Black Images from Hip-Hop to High Society," will feature guests who have made an impact on the culture, such as poet and playwright Sonia Sanchez, FOX-TV anchor Kori Chambers and Oscar-nominated actress Taraji P. Henson.

Kimberly Weatherly, director of African-American Cultural Affairs, said she wanted to focus this year's African Heritage Month on a well-rounded celebration of past, present and future.

"We bring in people [to the college] who students can relate to but can also question about their craft," Weatherly said. "[This] will hopefully enable our students to have a better grasp on what they want to do in the future."

Weatherly said the featured guests will suit students in a range of college departments, focusing on visual, media and performing arts.

"Sonia Sanchez speaks to the civil rights area," Weatherly said. "She's a poet, a writer and she's been innovative in the fine and performing arts. When you talk about hip-hop, you're talking about Taraji P. Henson, an actress who started out in 'Baby Boy' and 'Hustle and Flow' and worked her way up to '[The Curious Case of] Benjamin Button,' in which she was nominated for an Oscar."

Weatherly said one of her main goals for Black History Month is to revisit the past and engage students at the same time. She believes the guest speakers who are invited to the college can do just that.

"An Afternoon with Sonia Sanchez" will begin at 1 p.m. at Stage Two, the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, on Feb. 9. "Behind the Scenes with Kori Chambers" will be on Feb. 10 at 1 p.m. in the Multipurpose Studio, 618 S. Michigan Ave.

Henson will host a limited seating Valentine's Day event, "Be My Valentine," from 6:45 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at Stage Two, 618 S. Michigan Ave., on Feb. 14. Tickets can be picked up starting Feb. 4 from the Multicultural Affairs Office, 618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor.

The month will also feature flash sessions, which will consist of 90-minute condensed classes in subjects of student interest. The class topics include "Why Did I Get Married? How to Have a Healthy Black Relationship!" and "Bootylicious & Rock Hard Abs: Buns Of Steel Boot Camp for Summer 2011." The sessions will be held Feb. 28 through March 4.

Chris Terry, a fiction writing graduate student and student worker in African-American Cultural Affairs, said he hopes this year's heritage month will offer something to everyone at Columbia.

Terry will also participate in the alumni-created exhibit currently being featured at the college, "Fear into Fire: Reclaiming

» SEE HISTORY, PG. 8

Courtesy COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Taraji P. Henson, an Oscar-nominated actress, will visit Columbia during Black History Month.

Urban Missions gets jump start

Neighborhood-based arts program receives new grant, new vision

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

Courtesy JOEL WANEK

Urban Missions partners with elementary schools to aid creative development in youth.

SINCE ITS creation in 1998, the Center for Community Arts Partnership has dedicated its services to Chicago youths The Columbia program, which was nationally recognized by people like Michelle Obama, has most recently been acknowledged by the Kresge Foundation.

The Michigan-based foundation awarded the program a $400,000 grant at the beginning of this year to continue its vision of bringing art to young people.

"[The Kresge Foundation] made a range of grants for colleges and universities with arts community partnerships, like CCAP, to see what the role of higher education can be in creating arts and culture infrastructures," said JeeYeun Lee, development director of CCAP.

The Kresge Foundation had, up until recently, been known for providing capital grants to help nonprofits and institutions, according to Lee. The foundation gave grants to Chicago youth programs, Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Chicago Park District.

It also recently began providing grants to fund a new initiative around arts and culture. With this new funding, organizations such as the Joffrey Ballet, 10 E. Randolph St., and the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan Ave., have benefited.

Urban Missions was CCAP's pilot program, which the Kresge Foundation grant will primarily fund. The main initiative of Urban Missions is to partner Columbia faculty and students with community-based arts projects, said Paul Teruel, director of community partnerships for CCAP. It is here Columbia students and faculty work with the youth in Chicago neighborhoods to help creative development grow.

According to Lee, CCAP receives more than two-thirds of its budget from government grants, and foundations and corporations. However, she said what makes the Kresge Foundation grant so significant is the program had not received a large grant in a while.

CCAP began with a number of large grants from national funders but that hasn't been the case for some time. No projects have been decided yet, according to Teruel, because the grant money is in a state of evaluation.

"Right now we're beginning to solidify our evaluation process," Teruel said. "So we want to set up how we are going to administer the funds and then evaluate the programs."

The initiative works with approximately 30 community-based arts projects around the Chicagoland area, Teruel said. Some are very familiar to the Columbia campus, including Young Chicago Authors and Louder Than a Bomb theater slam group.

"They're working with youth developing and learning what it means to be a teaching artist," Teruel said.

Archi-treasures, a community-based development organization, is one of the programs that has worked with CCAP's Urban Missions. Through the Columbia course titled "Writing for Managers,"

» SEE CCAP, PG. 8

College Council discusses faculty senate

Group looks at blizzard, new degree, council's future

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly spoke on a new college initiative at the Feb. 4 College Council meeting, held at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

AFTER A two-and-a-half day closing of the college, Columbia's College Council held its first meeting of the spring 2011 semester on Feb. 4 to discuss important -college issues.

The meeting—which took place at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.—included reports from Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, on student enrollment and retention, and Vice President of Campus Environment Alicia Berg, who notified the council of the college's condition after the recent blizzard. There was also a continuation of the ongoing discussion about the council's fate, if a faculty senate is put into place.

Student enrollment for spring 2011 brought in 758 new students, 63 more than last year, according to Kelly.

He also announced that while China's President Hu Jintao was visiting the U.S. in January, he was in China developing a pipeline to recruit Chinese students to Columbia called The China Innovative.

"Our plan is to dramatically increase the number of Chinese students attending Columbia and build some partnerships with Chinese universities," Kelly said.

Berg informed council members that the campus buildings weren't too damaged during the storm and said she hoped the college's alert system served the community well.

Jim Mitchem, associate professor of the Radio Department, was curious about the cutoff times for emergency situations. He said the short-notice announcements left less time for him to make plans for cancelled classes.

Berg said there is no standard time when it comes to these situations.

"Well, they're all kind of a judgment call," Berg said. "We all try to get as much information as we possibly can. We try to be as prompt as we can, but we also don't want to jump the gun."

Tom Nawrocki, associate professor in the English Department and president of the Columbia College Faculty Organization, informed the council that he's been chosen as a faculty representative by Columbia President Warrick L. Carter to assist the search for a new chief financial officer to replace Michael DeSalle, who recently stepped down.

While in session, the council moved to approve the new Bachelor of Science degree in audio, arts and acoustics, as proposed by Pantelis Vasilakis, chair of the Audio, Arts and Acoustics Department.

Vassilakis presented the proposal at the Dec. 3 meeting and said the Bachelor of Science degree better represents what the students in the concentration focus on.

Also discussed at the meeting was what the transition from a college council to a faculty senate would involve. Theater Department Chair and College Council President John Green said for a transformation to happen, there must be an amendment to the existing College Council bylaws.

The proposed faculty senate would comprise full-time faculty members with the addition of part-time faculty at a later time.

The faculty will vote on the faculty senate by-laws on Feb. 7.

Louis Silverstein, distinguished professor in the Humanities, History and Social Sciences Department, said he felt the faculty's opinion isn't being fully represented regarding the council's fate.

"I'm a little troubled by the process that has been evolved here," Silverstein said. "I don't believe we've had any discussion among the College Council members themselves whether or not we agree with this transition."

Silverstein said while he is neither for nor against the faculty senate, he thinks the college as a whole suffers from a lack of democratic process.

If the faculty senate is voted into existence, it will be set in place during the fall 2011 semester, according to Green.

He said College Council should stay informed on what happens with the vote on the faculty senate, which will determine what's next for the council.

"We're not pretending this isn't hard," Green said. "The important thing is it is fair and open, which is why we also, as an executive, keep a discussion among the whole council."

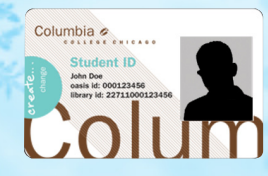
ssmith@chroniclemail.com

Expect up to 27”

of awesome.

Buy a Mac, get a Free Printer!*

Excludes Mac Mini, Applicable to In-Stock models only.



Use your Columbia Cash here.

ComputerStore
COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
Authorized Campus Store

Store Hours : M-F 11am - 6pm
33 E. Congress Pkwy (Entrance off Wabash) • 312.369.8622

*Must be a current student, staff or faculty member and must have a current Columbia ID present. vAll prices and offers subject to change without notice. All offers valid while supplies last. No rainchecks or special orders. All offers listed are valid on in-store only purchases. **All sales are final.**

» TUITION

Continued from Front Page

increase will also be added to graduate tuition, depending on the student's program.

Louise Love, vice president of Academic Affairs, said the college wanted to increase the number of scholarships it offers, and that was one of the factors in determining how much to raise tuition.

Carter's statement said the college will continue to invest in the college's scholarship fund, which is expected to award $18 million dollars to 3,000 students for the upcoming term.

Love said it's not unusual for an institution to raise the cost of tuition on an annual basis.

"It's typical that there would be an increase each year," Love said. "It's not necessarily the case, but most institutions do because expenses go up every year."

Senior arts, entertainment and media management major Atlanta Douse said the college should find other resources to bring in money and not always raise students' tuition.

"We are at our wits end with books, and if you stay on campus ... it's getting a little ridiculous to me," Douse said. "I know they have some alumni, people who have made it, [the college can] ask for some donations."

But junior interactive arts and media major Nick Niemiec said if the money goes to help a low-income student, he has no problem with the tuition increase.

"That sounds like a good idea, if they're giving back to students in need of money," Niemiec said. "My parents and I worked to help put me through college, but if that is also helping someone else, then I will feel a little better about that."

Undergraduate tuition, not including mandatory fees, is currently $19,140 annually. The 4.98 percent increase will cost students approximately $950 more for the upcoming year.

Students also saw a hike in tuition for the 2010–2011 academic year when it was raised 3.3 percent.

But according to Carter's statement, public universities in Illinois have raised tuition an average of 53 percent since the 2005–2006 academic while other private, nonprofit institutions have averaged a 26 percent rise.

Columbia has seen a 22 percent increase during the same time period, Carter's statement said.

Loyola University raised its tuition 3.3 percent, from $31,040 for the 2010–2011 academic year, to $32,200 for the 2011–2012 session.

The School of the Art Institute Chicago's tuition is currently $35,550 for the 2010–2011 semesters.

In addition to the mandatory and miscellaneous fees and housing, it will cost more than $50,000 to attend SAIC full time, for two consecutive semesters.

Love said she thinks the tuition increase will not affect student enrollment.

"We're hoping students will find it affordable," she said. "Some of it we'll put back into scholarships that will help the students who might have a problem."

ssmith@chroniclemail.com

» BLIZZARD

Continued from Front Page

the night, making sure there were no major problems or damage.

In the past two decades, the college has experienced sporadic closings, Kelly said. In April 1992, the college closed because a damaged tunnel flooded the Loop with 250 million gallons of water. The college also shut down, along with the rest of city, on Sept. 11, 2001.

"I've been here 27 years, and there hasn't been a time that I can remember where the college has been closed for two and a half days," Kelly said.

Koverman said he and other members of the college received the first weather alert on Jan. 30 at 5:30 a.m. and started to watch the storm after that.

Throughout Jan. 30, the storm updates moved quickly, Koverman said, and by 11:30 a.m., the winter storm watch had turned into a blizzard watch.

"What we look for in these kinds of situations is consistency in terms of what the various weather sources are saying," Koverman said.

When the oncoming weather became more imminent, Koverman said the administrators began to plan for the worst. He said the college's Incident Assessment Task Force was created for situations such as these.

The task force, which consists of representatives from all areas of the college, assesses certain emergency situations and presents the college administrators with information and proposed strategies. Ultimately, the decision of closing is up to President Warrick L. Carter, Koverman said.

The first alert went out at 7:46 a.m. on Feb. 1, informing students and faculty that the classes after 12:30 p.m. would be cancelled and all buildings would close at 2 p.m.

"We took a look at class schedules and made the decision if we cancel class at 12:30 p.m., it would give people sufficient time to get home," Koverman said.

For the remainder of Feb. 1, the administrative heads were constantly in contact about what the next step for the college would be, Koverman said.

When it was apparent transportation would be nearly impossible because of the large volume of snow the city had received, the decision to close the college on Feb. 2 was made.

"[On the] afternoon [of Feb. 1], the emergency policy group—which is comprised of the vice presidents and I—sat down and put all of the information together we had gathered throughout the day," Koverman said. "We made the decision in the interest of safety for everyone and to allow the city of Chicago to continue doing their work."

Throughout the duration of the storm, Columbia had staff on campus making sure the snow was cleared and the buildings were safe and functional, Kavouris said.

The notice informing Columbia students and faculty the school would stay closed on Feb. 3 came at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 2.

The reason for closing the college down on for the second full day was because transportation was still difficult in parts of the Chicagoland area, and the low temperatures, Kavouris said.

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

Know an AMAZING teacher?

Nominate them for the 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award!

For details, visit http://www.colum.edu/cte

Nominations accepted from
November 15, 2010
to February 11, 2011

Freshmen stress on rise, study finds

Research shows students' emotional health lowest in a quarter century

by Diane Stafford
MCT Newswire

THE FIRST year of college has always been tough but tight economic times have made it even harder.

Pressures to pay for college and choose majors that will produce good jobs have stressed this year's college freshmen at unprecedented levels.

In a new report, college freshmen rated their emotional health at the lowest level in the 25 years of the survey.

The data, printed by the University of California, Los Angeles, mirrored observations of some high school and college counselors.

"In the last couple of years of the recession, students' parents are more stressed, and the natural idealism and optimism in the young adult population has been eroded," said Rick Hanson, director of student counseling at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Mo. He is also a former president of the American College Counseling Association.

Lauren Sander, a Rockhurst freshman, agreed new college students were feeling a lot of stress, especially if they didn't have good coping skills.

> "They're in over their heads before they know it, and they don't have the skills to handle it."
>
> -Rick Hanson

"Some may freak out way more than they should while they're getting used to how college works and how their classes are going," Sander said.

Although there's not a wholesale "freak-out" occurring on campuses, it's clear that economic pressures pile on top of the normal life transitions teens experience.

"Freshmen and their parents are more aware of the student loan debt they are taking on, and therefore more anxious about money," said Barbara Cooke, lead counselor at Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods and author of "Parent's Guide to College and Careers."

"Students and parents are understandably worried about the long-term consumer debt they are taking on for college and how, in a weak job market, the student will be able to repay that debt," Cooke said.

The national evaluation of student stress, quantified in "The American Freshman" report from UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute, said groundwork was laid in the senior year of high school and in the economy at large.

The report charted an uptick in the number of students who said they were "overwhelmed by all I had to do" in their last year of high school, when they juggled extracurricular activities, academics and college admissions.

"They're not naive," said David Burke, director of college counseling at Kansas City's Pembroke Hill school, of high school seniors. "They hear and see what's going on in this economy. They see parents losing jobs. They hear they'll have five careers in their lifetimes. They hear about the onrush of talent from China and India.

"Maybe they have older siblings who graduated from college in the last year or two who haven't found jobs they consider appropriate. Then there's tremendous stress about picking an affordable school and being away from home for the first time."

At Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo. freshman Kelly Jeffries, a graduate of Park Hill South High School, said she was coping with the stress of trying "to find something to do to make money in the future."

Her interest in elementary education may not be what she ends up pursuing, depending on the economy.

Meanwhile, Jeffries said "time management and getting good grades are the top stressors" among her fellow students.

To cope, Jeffries said she has found herself going home on the weekends "a lot more than I probably should."

The alternative she sees on campus is students partying hard on the weekends as a relief mechanism.

The UCLA report noted students who reported more stress also described more alcohol use.

The UCLA study reached 201,818 freshmen at 279 four-year colleges around the country. Its results are said to be statistically representative of the nation's 1.5 million first-year, full-time students.

"Stress is a major concern when dealing with college students," said John H. Pryor, lead author of the UCLA report. "If students are arriving in college already overwhelmed and with lower reserves of emotional health, [we] should expect to see more consequences of stress, such as higher levels of poor judgment around time management, alcohol consumption and academic motivation."

At Maple Woods, Cooke said she was seeing more entering students who were academically unprepared for college.

"Any time you're in a position where you get into it and don't have the skills to be successful, it's stressful," Cooke said.

Also, counselors around the country say more freshmen have learning disabilities or mental health issues.

> Students and parents are understandably worried about the long-term consumer debt they are taking on for college."
>
> -Barbara Cooke

Sometimes it's difficult for them to manage their medications, let alone their lifestyle changes.

And many new enrollees struggle to get enough sleep, eat nutritious diets and engage in good study habits—some of which they may never have learned in the first place.

To top it off, Hanson said, the high cost of college pushes many students to sign up for 18 academic hours—which top-notch students with good study habits may be able to handle but spell trouble for midlevel or struggling students.

"They're in over their heads before they know it, and they don't have the skills to handle it," he said of some students.

Cooke noted that general social trends, which have made it more acceptable to talk about mental health, may also have contributed to the self-reported findings of poorer mental health among freshmen.

"There may not be as much of an element of increase in distress as they're more open and honest in talking about mental issues," Cooke suggested.

chronicle@colum.edu

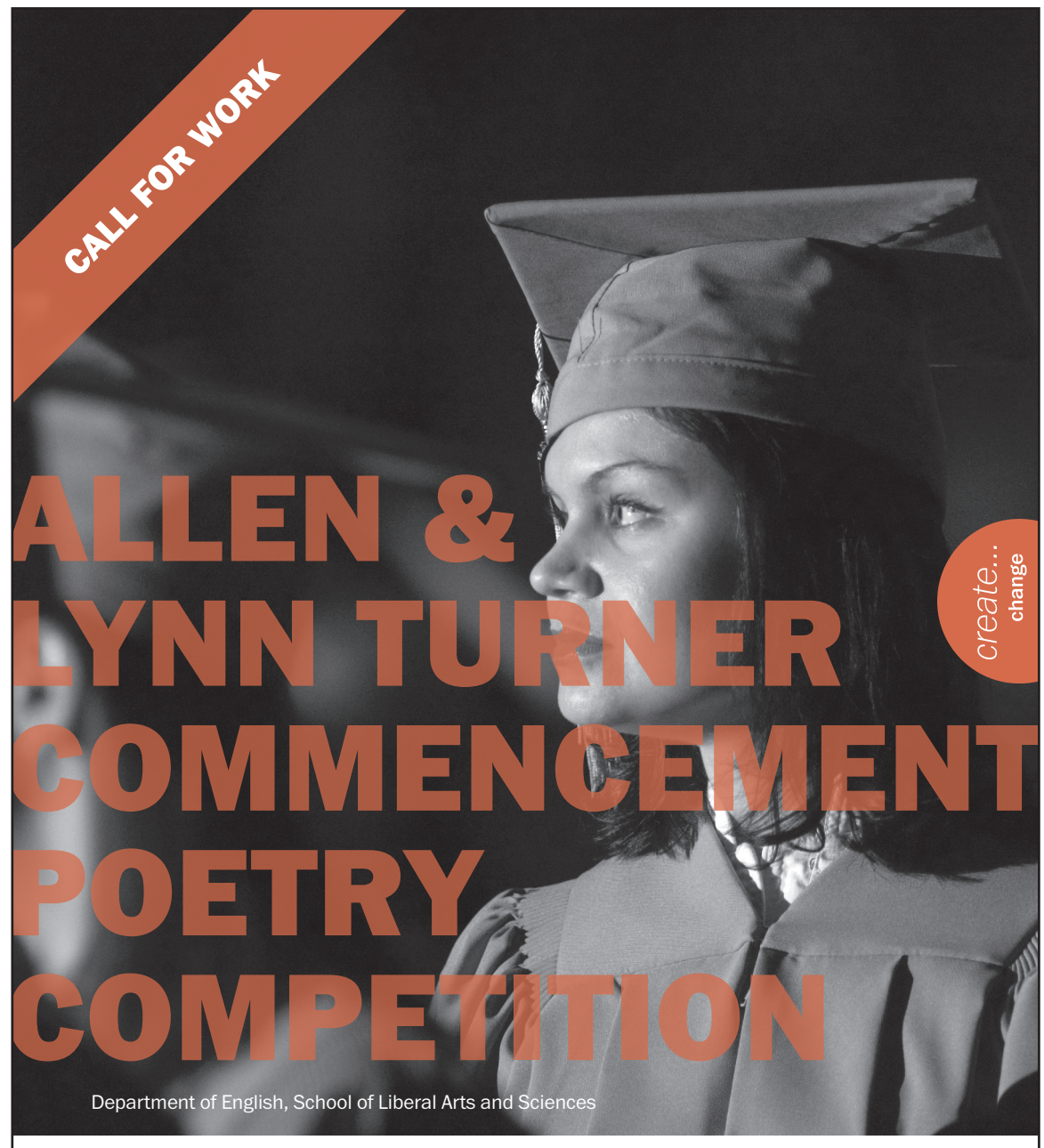


PHOTO: ROBERT KUSEL ('78)

We invite you to enter the Allen & Lynn Turner Commencement Poetry Competition. The winning poem will appear in the commencement program and will be read by the poet during the 2011 commencement ceremonies.

THE WINNING POET WILL BE AWARDED $1000.

Please submit up to three poems (typed on 8.5" x 11" white paper), and attach one cover sheet with the title of your poem(s), as well as your name, major, phone number, address, Oasis I.D., and email address. (Your name must not appear on the poem(s) you submit.)

Mail all materials to:
Commencement Poetry Competition
Department of English
School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Columbia College Chicago
600 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60605

You can also hand-deliver your submission to:
Nicole Wilson
Department of English
33 E. Congress Suite 300

This contest is open to all graduating students, both undergraduate and graduate.

Deadline: March 1, 2011

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

colum.edu/commencement

» LGBTI

Continued from Front Page

back to Uganda, I struggle. We have done this work, and we will continue to do this work." do this work."

Jane Saks, the executive director of Columbia's Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in Arts and Media, spoke highly of the work Mugisha has already done at age 25.

"I have grown to admire him as a leader and as a young man making courageous decisions who started making those kinds of decisions as an even younger man," Saks said.

She went on to applaud Illinois' Gov. Pat Quinn, who earlier that day signed a bill that legalized Illinois civil unions.

"It's a historic milestone," Saks said. "It addresses legal inequities and we hope it will be a leveraging tool to open up more rights."

One of SMUG's biggest challenges is the anti-homosexuality bill proposed by Uganda's parliament in 2009, Mugisha said.

Currently, it is illegal to be a homosexual in Uganda. The proposed bill aims to institute the death penalty for being a homosexual living with HIV/AIDS. The bill would also criminalize homosexuals from coming out.

Section 145 entitled "Unnatural Offences," of the Ugandan Penal Code Act of 1950 states: "Any person who has carnal knowledge of any person against the order of nature permits a male person to have carnal knowledge of him or her against the order of nature commits an offense and is liable to imprisonment for life."

In Uganda, it is common for homosexuals to be denied medical treatment based on their sexual orientation, Mugisha said.

"There is a lot of stigma from health practitioners because there is no research on HIV/AIDS]," he said.

Mugisha said people are able to relate to his struggle, which helps build community.

"When I came out and started telling people my story, people related and understood," Mugisha said. "I thought if people went and told their own families, it might help [people] understand that we're not aliens, we don't abuse anyone, we're like anyone else."

scharles@chroniclemail.com

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

» HISTORY

Continued from PG. 3

ing the Black Male Identity through the Art of Tattooing."

The exhibit was created by Columbia graduate Nicole Harrison as an investigation into the role tattoos play in the black man's culture.

"I hadn't thought of [tattooing] as a racial perspective," Terry said. "But it makes me consider things about the way I present things to other people."

The tattoo exhibit will run until March 2 at The Arcade in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

Weatherly said past African Heritage Celebration Months have focused primarily on music. She said creating a wide range of programs can potentially lead to other academic departments bringing their classes to the events.

The college's Black Student Union is also planning events and will host its second annual Black Love Week, Feb. 21-27.

BSU's president and junior arts, entertainment and media management major Shunda Watts said the week's purpose is to raise awareness and show diversity of the African-American culture.

"We want to collaborate with students and other organizations to show our culture is really rooted in family and togetherness," Watts said. "We want to display that over an entire week in the best way we can [by] honoring our mission and the mission of the [college]."

Watts said Black Love Week will feature a speed dating event and an open discussion, "Brother/Sister Chat," in which the women and men will be separated to discuss key topics relating to the black community.

Weatherly said she's really proud of this year's Black History Month celebration and each year gets better than the last. She hopes people will begin to take advantage of other programs her department offers.

"I always tell people, we are black 12 months a year and our program is year-round for fall and spring," Weatherly said. "We have plenty of programs, but unfortunately a lot of people don't know we exist until Black History Month comes around."

ssmith@chroniclemail.com

» CCAP

Continued from PG. 3

students explored using what they learned in the class in an actual community environment working with Archi-treasures.

"We've partnered with a Columbia class and worked with the students on service learning projects," said Joyce Fernandes, executive director of Archi-Treasures.

CCAP will use the grant money to fund more of these projects. According to Teruel, the grant will open some opportunities for the program. Teruel said Urban Missions has not been able to do many community-based initiatives, where the they focus on programs in the neighborhoods.

"This will allow us to hire some students to work in the community," Teruel said.

The opportunities the grant creates will continue to help the Urban Missions program create deep roots in the youth communities of Chicago, according to Teruel.

"It will really provide a lot of edifice to strengthen and grow the Urban Missions program," Lee said.

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

Lunch With

LYNDA

Where: CIT Classroom (600 S. Michigan Ave., Room 811-f)

What: Each month, there will be a different topic featured (the topics will be self-contained, so you don't have to attend previous weeks' sessions)

- **February:** Web Collaboration for Instructors
- **March:** Social Networking in the classroom
- **April:** Working with Images in Education

Join us each Friday 12pm-1pm for "Lunch with Lynda," a weekly lunch hour hosted by the Center for Instructional Technology that features fun online training from **lynda.com** the *premier* **e-training solution!**

So, bring a lunch, sit back, relax, and enjoy learning about exciting topics on a breadth of material from interesting and informative Lynda.com e-trainers!

lynda.com

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

create... change

image + implication CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS image

Sound triggers a flood of nostalgic images

by Jessica Kornfeind
Senior, arts, entertainment and media management major

image + implication
CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS

I SIT in a room with the sound of drums, bass and electric guitars spreading through the white noise surrounding me. Eight minutes and 17 seconds of instrumental bliss bring me back to being 16 years old. The song is "Your Hand in Mine" by Explosions in the Sky, an American post-rock band known for their cathartic mini-symphonies. This is not a new band or a new song, but I have only recently stumbled upon both. I have never heard this song before, yet listening to it brings me back five years in time. No lyrics, just instruments that narrate the teenage years to the soundtrack of my life.

The song plays on repeat and I close my eyes. Images of being a 16 year-old girl flood my memory. I sneak out the back door of my parents' house and run to the tan Nissan Maxima at the end of the street. Windows down and warm air blowing on a very early Saturday morning, I anticipate the destination of a hidden bonfire pit in a suburban forest preserve. I close my eyes and the image of my first boyfriend, my first love, comes to mind. And as the tempo of the song increases, my memory flips through the images of the young and innocent nights at the bonfire pit, our first date, and our first kiss at the drive-in movie theatre.

> "Memory is fascinating and so are our imaginations. Combine the two together and the possibilities are endless."
>
> -Jessica Kornfeind

The images of my 16-year-old self are overly joyful; I was excited for every day and in love. All good and no bad images come to mind. I know it is unrealistic to look at any situation from a single perspective, but the innocence of looking back across images of your first love with only fond memories, while listening to a song that brings you back to that place, is therapeutic. I have occasionally listened to some of the songs that I played on repeat during those years, songs that I now skip when I shuffle through my music, and I get glimpses of car rides and holding hands in the high school hallways. But "Your Hand in Mine" is the only song that is a sum of emotions and pictures of a former love—the monumental first love—that a young adult experiences. Eight minutes and 17 seconds is all it takes to return me to this past place, to remind me of a pivotal moment in my life.

Memory is fascinating and so are our imaginations. Combine the two together and the possibilities are endless. I can picture myself driving through my hometown, windows down, passing all the monumental landmarks of my teenage years. As if my life were a movie, this is the scene of reminiscing. I'm not looking for answers, but for almost forgotten memories. I have always thought of compiling a playlist that could be a soundtrack to my life, choosing songs that represent the defining moments of my life. I would choose sounds that I could listen to 20 years from now that would bring back the images of my current surroundings, images that would provide evidence to the person I will become. I imagine myself driving down the back roads behind my high school, passing by the empty lot that was once the drive-in movie theatre where I shared my first kiss with my first love. Driving past, thinking of the irony that the drive-in theatre was torn down and the bonfire pit was buried at about the same time that I first experienced heart break. I find humor in the symbolism of it all.

As the tempo slows and the song begins to fade, I am brought back to the present and feel sedated by the transition. I have recovered that "I can conquer the world" feeling that I possessed at 16, which had gotten mixed up in the mess of growing up. I am only months away from graduation with my mind on classes and credits, internships and work, and it has been a pleasant escape to close my eyes and remember a time where I was so passionate about everything. That song brought back the images and memory of me—images that were hidden but not lost.

chronicle@colum.edu

CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS
get involved

Successful essays generally make one solid point or have one central focus. Try to make that point by telling a story; use description and anecdotes to bring your story to life for readers. Submissions should be approximately 750 words; expect them to be edited down for publication.

Send essays via e-mail to Sharon Bloyd-Peshkin at speshkin@colum.edu or criticalencounters@colum.edu. Please include your academic department and your classification (student, staff, faculty, administrator). If you are a student, please include your major and your level (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior). Include your contact information (e-mail and phone).

SFS
STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

2011-2012 FAFSA Now Available Online!

Visit www.fafsa.gov and renew your 2011-2012 FAFSA by Columbia's Priority Deadline: February 1st, 2011.

Meeting the deadline will allow you to:

1. Take advantage of federal, state, and institutional funding options
2. Receive your 2011-2012 Award Letter by April 2011
3. Create your financial plan for 2011-2012 in a timely manner

Attention!

It is NOT necessary to have your 2010 taxes filed prior to February 1st in order to complete your 2011-2012 FAFSA. The FAFSA gives applicants the option to complete the application with estimated figures for those who "will file" at a later time.

Also, go to SFS website for FAFSA tutorial video.

DON'T miss out on funding options due to putting off your FAFSA. Get started early!

Opening Reception: Thursday, Feb. 10th 2011 5-7pm

Columbia College of Chicago Library, 3rd Floor North

624 S. Michigan Avenue

create... change

Art in the Library

library
AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

DEAN DEBORAH H. HOLDSTEIN ANNOUNCES THE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES DEAN'S LECTURE

"Hip-Hop, Honky-Tonk, and the American Dream"

A look at the divisions between two divergent forms of American music and their respective cultures.

PRESENTED BY DR. STEPHANIE SHONEKAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HUMANITIES AND ETHNOMUSICOLOGY, COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO.

FEBRUARY 24, 2011

Of all the genres, subgenres, and second-rate spinoffs, few musical forms are as distinctive as hip-hop and contemporary country. The two are also distinctly American, pointing toward two different paths of the American Dream. And while these routes rarely intersect, the roots of both genres can be traced to the same place: the segregated South.

Today, a different kind of segregation exists, as the respective audiences of hip-hop and country music largely remain at opposite ends of the American racial spectrum. This raises the question: In a society as diverse as ours, one in which musical genres give birth to subcultures whose inhabitants possess vastly different beliefs, values, and moral codes, what does the "real" American look like? Is there still "one nation" that is "indivisible"?

Join Dean Deborah H. Holdstein for the **Spring 2011 Dean's Lecture** as she welcomes Dr. Stephanie Shonekan to the lectern to discuss the power of contemporary popular music and how it provides a foundation with which to analyze matters of race, class, religion, and patriotism in modern day America.

A Q&A with Dr. Shonekan and a reception will follow the lecture.

This Spring's LAS Dean's Lecture is **Thursday, February 24,** in the Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave. The lecture begins at 5:30 p.m.

DR. STEPHANIE SHONEKAN is Associate Professor of Humanities and Ethnomusicology in the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago. Her classes, publications, and presentations have included work on global hip-hop, Nigerian afrobeat, personal narratives of black musicians, and the evolving parallels that exist in the literature and music of Africa and the African Diaspora. She wrote and produced the award-winning short film *Lioness of Lisabi* (2009). Her book *Madame Butterfly: The Memoir of Camilla Williams, Soprano* will be published later this year.

Seating is limited. RSVP to Alexandra Garcia by Monday, February 21
> agarcia@colum.edu
> 312.369.8217

PHOTO BY BRIAN SORG

create... change

Columbia

colum.edu/las

Health& Fitness

Surf's up, temps down

Those who surf the Great Lakes talk about braving icy waters in pursuit of gnarliest waves

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Courtesy MIKE KILLION

Brad Tunis catches waves in Lake Michigan. Great Lakes surfers brave freezing temperatures, icy water and blizzard conditions to ride waves during the fall and winter.

CHUNKS OF ice and slushy waves crash on Lake Michigan's desolate shore, but wading in the water—with well-insulated wet suits—are surfers. For some, this is a way of life—a passion. Despite freezing winter conditions, thousands of surfers plunge into fresh water and brave the elements for the love of the sport every year.

> "I've surfed in -20 wind chills for an hour and a half."
>
> -Bryan McDonald

To spectators, it might seem dangerous to surf the Great Lakes in February. However, for those with the right gear, surf boards and up-to-date information about weather conditions, surfing the lakes in winter is the best time to do it.

"There are times when it's like surfing in a blended margarita," said Brad Tunis, who works at the Children's Memorial's Physician Services Department. "But when there are engine-sized boulders in the water, that's ugly and no one wants to get hurt."

Tunis heard about people who surfed the Great Lakes five years ago while working with sailboats on Lake Michigan. His passion for surfing has taken him across the world from Morocco to Ecuador.

"It's the greatest feeling," Tunis said. "To me, it's got to be the closest thing to flying."

There are some differences between surfing in a lake opposed to the ocean. Artem Abakumov, 23, a junior at Northeastern Illinois University, said lakes contain fresh water, which means less buoyancy and generally smaller waves. Conditions have to be just right to surf on the lake.

"The reason we surf in the fall and winter is because all the winds from Canada come in from the north," Abakumov said. "I can't say I love doing it in the winter, but I don't have a choice. That's when there are the best waves."

Big swells are rare and short-lived, so surfers regularly monitor weather forecasts for wave predictions.

"Because [big swells don't] happen every day, we have to go when the forecast allows it," Tunis said. "It makes it a little more special because you put a lot of work into it prior to getting out there."

Bryan McDonald, cement mason and 24-year Great Lakes surfing veteran, said on days when the water gets too icy, conditions can be dangerous. Many Great Lakes surfers also have stories about cheating death.

"If it gets too icy and your board starts hitting stuff, you pretty much have to get out of the water," McDonald said. "You don't want to ruin your board and you don't want a big chunk of ice hitting you in the head."

Those who brave the elements and surf the Great Lakes are not trying to make a statement or prove anything, Tunis said.

"I love surfing and just being out in the elements, sitting out there is a really blissful experience," McDonald said. "When the wave goes you ride that and you're not thinking of anything else but the act of what you're doing. It's kind of meditative."

Anywhere there are waves and he can get to them, McDonald said he'll be there.

"I've surfed in -20 wind chills for an hour and a half," McDonald said.

Winter surfing requires the right armor. Wetsuits, gloves and booties are necessities, the surfers said. The suit keeps a surfer's core body temperature warm, which allows someone to stay in frigid water for hours. The suits are generally 6 millimeters thick and cost between $300 and $700.

"The wetsuit is so sealed you get hot in it before you even get in the water," Abakumov said.

Despite the insulation the suits provide, some water gets through the material.

"When it seeps in for the first two or three minutes, it's cold; it's almost like a burning sensation if it's the middle of winter," Abakumov said. "You stay warm

» SEE SURF, PG. 14

Ohio State keeps its Buck-eye on NCAA championship

Team starts season 23-0, led by freshman leading scorer, rebounder Jared Sullinger

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

The Ohio State University Buckeyes tied a school record with a 23-0 start to their 2010–2011 season on Feb. 3. They're led by freshman Jared Sullinger, who leads all first-year players in scoring and rebounding. Ohio State hasn't won a national championship since 1960.

THE LOSS of Evan Turner to the NBA draft in 2010 didn't deflate the Ohio State University Buckeyes this season. In fact, the Buckeyes improved. On Feb. 4, they were the single remaining undefeated team in NCAA Division I men's basketball.

With a veteran team consisting of four seniors and three juniors, the Buckeyes have been able to win games with one of the better freshmen in the country Jared Sullinger, who leads all NCAA freshmen in scoring and rebounding, and a versatile freshman player coming off the bench Aaron Craft.

The Buckeyes won their first 23 games and 10 within the Big Ten conference by outscoring opponents and notching tight victories on the road. Ohio State won its last close contest against Northwestern University on Jan. 29, 58-57.

Ohio State was the No. 4 ranked team in the Associated Press preseason polls and were the No. 1 team in the country after Feb. 4. The Buckeyes have depth throughout their lineup and the leadership from senior guards Jon Diebler and David Lighty and senior forward Dallas Lauderdale has this team looking to contend for its first national championship since 1960.

"The seniors [for Ohio State] are very good," said University of Illinois Coach Bruce Weber. "With Lighty, Diebler, [junior guard William] Buford and Lauderdale, they know their roles, they want to win and they seem very focused."

The Fighting Illini were the last Big Ten team to go undefeated this long into a season when they started 29-0 in the 2004-2005 campaign. Ironically, the Buckeyes ended that streak before it reached 30 games.

Though the Buckeyes have juniors and seniors on its team, Ohio State has been led by Sullinger, a freshman with great presence and awareness in the post. He is the brother of former Buckeye J.J. Sullinger, who was on the last Ohio State team to reach the national championship game in 2007.

Sullinger first garnered national attention after his 40-point effort against Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis on Dec. 9. Standing at 6-foot 9-inches, Sullinger has the size to complement the Buckeyes other forward, Lauderdale.

The Buckeyes have swept the Big Ten conference's Freshmen Player of the Week with Sullinger and guards Aaron Craft and Deshaun Thomas, winning all of the first 11 awards this season.

"The two freshmen [Craft and Sullinger], the maturity of those guys is just amazing," Weber said.

Craft is the fourth best passer in the Big Ten with an average of 4.82 assists per game and is the only freshman ranked in the top 15 of this category in the conference.

Sullinger leads all freshmen in Division I with 18 points per game and a shooting percentage of 57.7 percent. He was named Big Ten Freshmen Player of the Week 10 times through Jan. 31 and is second among his class with nine double-doubles. Sullinger posts 9.9 rebounds per game, which is third in the country for freshmen.

"[The Buckeyes] seem to believe in Sullinger," said Northwestern University Coach Bill Carmody. "Sullinger is a real good player, [an] inside force and also a very good passer. He's not selfish and I think that kind of balance just helps the team."

Ohio State isn't just dominant on the offensive side of the ball, averaging 78.4 points per game, which is 22nd in Division I. They also limit opponents to just 57.5 points, which is seventh in the NCAA this season.

"They don't get credit for their defense and they don't get credit for their toughness," said Purdue University Coach Matt Painter. "That happens sometimes when you have a lot of talent."

Painter said Diebler, Lighty and Buford all do a great job of defending and their contributions have been often overshadowed this season. Both Lighty and Diebler have more than 25 steals this season.

» SEE BUCKEYES, PG. 14

STAYIN' SAVVY

Keep your butts off the beach

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

NEW YORK City Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced a smoking ban at city parks and beaches early last week, and the news has caused a bit of an uproar.

There was a great wave of negative responses from those who oppose the ban, understandably so. People feel like their rights are being taken away, but only to some extent. There are plenty of areas designated for smoking, which include thousands of sidewalks that will probably remain littered with cigarette butts. Or even homes, where secondhand smoke can harm no one but smokers.

Here in Chicago, a similar ban has been in place since October 2007, after the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners passed a measure that prohibits smoking on beaches and playgrounds.

However, I've been to city beaches dozens of times and encountered plenty of people smoking and dumping cigarettes in the sand as well.

There's a ton of fuss regarding the NYC ban, but it's been established in Chicago for more than three years with a $500 fine for anyone caught smoking or littering butts within 15 feet of a beach.

Walking on the sand is one of my favorite aspects of going to the beach, but it makes me cringe when I walk barefoot and step on cigarette butts littered along the shore.

According to SaveOurShores.org, cigarette butts are the No. 1 item found during beach cleanup. Secondhand smoke isn't the only thing affecting people and animals; heavy metals and organic compounds from used cigarette filters can create toxicity in the marine environment.

Those caught smoking in New York could face fines up to $50, and NYC officials claim they are not in it to write tickets or collect revenue. I'm sure it's partly a load of crap when they say it isn't to make money, but I think there's some truth to it as well.

Even so, a $50 fine is a small price to pay compared to Chicago's $500 fine. If people didn't carelessly toss their cigarettes on the ground, then silly restrictions and fines wouldn't have to exist.

Just like increasing sales taxes on cigarettes, more smoking fines and bans in certain locations could help decrease the number of overall smokers, which will only have a positive impact on people's health and the environment.

In 2002, New York pushed to have smoking banned in bars and restaurants and was successful. Several years later, Chicago followed with the same initiative. Who misses smelling smoke while he or she enjoys a meal? Most smokers don't even miss it.

Every opportunity should be taken to protect the little sanctuaries, such as parks and beaches tucked away between the hustle and bustle and pollution of major cities.

ssaviola@chroniclemail.com

Personal Trainer

Exercises for a painful back

Walking and water exercise are often recommended for people with back problems; these exercises may also help:

Source: University of Washington Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine

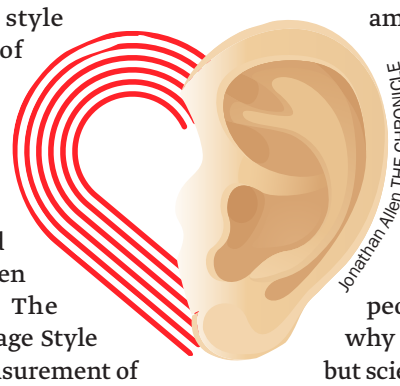
Speaking the same language

New study shows subtleties reflect the mates we choose

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

RECENT RESEARCH proves relationship compatibility may be linked to how things are said more than the content of the conversation.

A study titled "Language Style Matching Predicts Relationship Initiation and Stability," published on Dec. 13 in the journal Psychological Science, found the degree to which people subtly match one another's speaking and writing style affects the success of those relationships.


Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

Psychology professors conducted two experiments. The first involved speed dating and the second analyzed instant messages between committed couples. The tests focused on Language Style Matching, or LSM, a measurement of verbal synchronicity based on the use of "function words."

"These are the kinds of words you would not notice other people using, much less notice yourself using," said Dr. Richard B. Slatcher, professor of psychology at Detroit's Wayne State University and one of the study's co-authors. "These are things like pronouns, articles and prepositions."

Function words are short connecting words, such as "the," "as" and "on," which have little meaning by themselves. The research proposes similarities in the use of these commonly spoken and written words reflect the coordination of psychological states and relationship compatibility.

"Until now, studies that have looked at the interpersonal consequences of behavior matching have focused on nonverbal behaviors," Slatcher said. "Earlier research pretty much ignored the fact that people in relationships actually talk to one another. Our study is the first to show the extent to which people match [each other linguistically] matters big time."

The first study analyzed four-minute speed dates between 40 women and 40 men. As hypothesized, the study found LSM to significantly predict relationship initiation among speed daters.

Dr. Eli Finkel, associate professor of Social Psychology at Northwestern University and co-author of the study, said the findings were surprising to him.

According to Finkel, people tend be unaware of why they are drawn to others, but scientists are developing ways to figure this out. Analyzing the subtleties of language is one of those methods.

The first study found speed daters were more than three times as likely to match with their date for every standard-deviation increase in LSM. Basically, for every percentage two people matched in the use of function words, the probability they would go on a second date nearly tripled.

"We were amazed at how an incredibly subtle measure of how people match

» SEE LANGUAGE, PG. 14

UPCOMING EVENTS

2/7/11

Grand Rapids Griffins vs. Chicago Wolves

The Wolves look to make their push to another American Hockey League postseason berth when they hit the ice against the Griffins at Allstate Arena.

Allstate Arena
6920 N. Mannheim Road
Rosemont, Ill.

2/10/11

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay vs. University of Illinois at Chicago Flames

The Flames continue play against the Phoenix in a Horizon League match up. UIC has won one conference game in its first 10 contests in the Horizon League this season.

UIC Pavilion
525 S. Racine Ave.

2/11/11

Chicago Auto Show

The longest running Auto Show in America returns to McCormick Place for another weekend of the best displays of new cars from all across the globe.

McCormick Place
2301 S. Lake Shore Drive

New study suggests music can be addictive in humans

by Bethany Buonsante
Interactive Media/Outreach Editor

Combination of imaging techniques links pleasurable music to dopamine release

THROUGHOUT RECORDED history in every culture around the globe, music has existed in one form or another. Listening to favorite music is universally accepted as a pleasurable and often relaxing experience. For years, scientists have pondered why music plays such a large and important role in life. But recently, a group of neuroscientists, led by Canadian researcher Valorie Salimpoor, discovered that music elicits the same reaction in the brain as would the use of cocaine or the downing of a delicious meal.

A group of scientists from The Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital at McGill University discovered listening to pleasurable music causes the brain to release dopamine, a neurotransmitter in the brain that reinforces gratifying behavior. The group found that dopamine is released when those listening to music reached peak emotional arousal, a finding the team expected. However, the group also discovered the anticipation of hearing pleasurable music can induce a dopamine release, a result Salimpoor and her team consider the most important finding.

"What's really astonishing is we found dopamine released before the peak emotional arousal, in anticipation of it," Salimpoor said. "I think that is one of the more interesting findings of the paper because it suggests why and how we like music."

Dr. Colum MacKinnon, an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, agreed the anticipatory reaction was the most significant finding in the study.

"For me, this is the beauty of the study," MacKinnon said. "Basically they looked at what parts of the brain are involved in the anticipatory response and what are the regions involved in the actual response itself when the feeling of pleasure comes."

Although many people think of dopamine as a "feel-good" chemical, according to Salimpoor, it is actually not the main "feel-good" chemical in the brain. However, it does play an important role in causing addiction. Dopamine affects the brain's motivation center, thus it is responsible for sustaining behavior.

"This is important because it is providing concrete neurochemical evidence for why we continue to listen to music," Salimpoor said. "The reason why the dopaminergic system is relevant is because this system in the brain is actually a phylogenetically ancient system. It has evolved to reinforce highly adaptive behaviors such as eating and sex, for example, to sustain our species. So when dopamine is released, these behaviors are strongly reinforced. It's the brain's way of 'stamping in' that behavior so it is repeated."

To conduct the study, Salimpoor and her team asked participants to choose instrumental music they considered intensely pleasurable but to which they had no specific memory attached. Salimpoor said it was important to use instrumental music to ensure reactions were not linked to language. To obtain the most objective results, it was also important for participants to choose music they didn't knowingly have any attachment to.

As participants listened to their selected music, the team used equipment similar to that used in lie detection to measure physiological changes, such as an increase in heart rate, respiration, blood volume pulse and temperature. Additionally, the team monitored the participants' electrodermal response, which, once known as the galvanic skin response, is the measure of sweat on a person's fingers. Salimpoor said measuring electrodermal skin response is one of the best, most sensitive measures used to see whether people are emotionally aroused. These physiological changes were representative of "chills" or "musical frisson," a well-established marker of peak emotional response. This is a reaction in which music can actually cause the experience of chills.

The team began by using positron emission tomography, or PET, to determine how much dopamine was released and where in the brain the release occurred. The team then used functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, to determine when the dopamine release took place.

"You get this fairly prolonged increase in activity," MacKinnon said. "We look for blood flow changes, and that's what the fMRI measures. The PET study is looking for changes in binding potential of dopamine. It's an indirect measure of basically the receptor activity in the nucleus."

The team determined that during peak emotional response to music, dopamine was released in the nucleus accumbens, the same region where dopamine is released when people are experiencing a cocaine rush. However, the dopamine released in anticipation of this peak emotional response was in a different area of the brain called the caudate nucleus.

"The reason why this is significant is because this particular region has very tight connections with the prefrontal cortex of the brain," Salimpoor said. "This part of the brain is sort of uniquely developed in humans, meaning the elaborate development of this region is what separates us from other animals because it houses complex thinking. This might begin to explain why we appreciate aesthetic stimuli."

> What's really astonishing is we found dopamine released before the peak emotional arousal, in anticipation of it. I think that is one of the more interesting findings of the paper because it suggests why and how we like music."
>
> -Valorie Salimpoor

The results of Salimpoor and her colleagues are also of great interest to other neuroscientists studying the effects of music on the human brain and behavior. Dr. Hauke Egermann, an expert in systematic musicology and media sciences at McGill's Schulich School of Music, is working on a project continuously measuring music listeners' psychological and physiological emotional response in live concert settings. His team's experiment focuses on violations and confirmations of musical expectations.

"The neuroimaging results presented in [Salimpoor's] paper highlight the importance of this mechanism and its neurophysiological underpinnings," Egermann said. "Furthermore, they prove again music's capability to induce synchronized, real-life emotions, similar to those associated with other kinds of stimulations."

Now that researchers have determined where and when dopamine is released in the brain in response to pleasurable music, their next step is to determine how memory plays a role in this response. The team will use entirely new music this project's participants have never heard in an attempt to see if initial results can replicated. How these responses happen within the brain will also be examined to determine how it is possible for a sequence of tones to become pleasurable.

Conducting this study helped Salimpoor and her team understand how simple sounds can become pleasurable for humans and possibly even other high-order primates. It reaffirms the complexity of the human brain and shows that humans experience pleasure based on how they interpret the music, not from the music itself.

"These experiments don't answer the question of how music originated in the first place, but help us understand why music has been around for so long—because it works on the brain's most powerful reinforcement and addiction circuit," Salimpoor said. "Perhaps our society is mildly addicted to music, which can explain why we all have iPods and are willing to spend so much money achieving music-related experiences, like better speakers or live concert tickets."

To see a list of the chill-inducing music please visit our website at ColumbiaChronicle.com and follow the link to Plosone.org

Sound samples of chill-inducing music is available at Zlab.mcgill.ca/emotion/

bbuonsante@chroniclemail.com

Courtesy VALORIE SALIMPOOR

Canadian researcher Valorie Salimpoor and her team from the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital at McGill University used a combination of positron emission tomography and functional magnetic resonance imaging to determine when and where dopamine is released in the brain in response to pleasurable music.

Courtesy PETER FINNE

The above photo illustration shows the regions of the brain affected by dopamine release in response to music. The caudate nucleus, (in red) has tight connections with the "thinking" centers of the brain that are involved in anticipation. The nucleus accumbens (in blue) is the same area involved in pleasure from cocaine or nicotine.

» SURF

Continued from PG. 11

as long as you move around, but after two or three hours, your limbs start to get cold. Your feet usually are the first extremities to go numb. When they go numb you kind of want to get out."

Sometimes a wave will crash into a surfer. Tunis said it feels like having "an ice-cream headache," or a brain freeze.

Despite the weather, expenses and distances traveled, surfers said it is worth it.

"When you're in the moment, doing it, you're thinking about nothing but the act of what you're doing," McDonald said. "Everything else just falls away."

knielsen@chroniclemail.com

» LANGUAGE

Continued from PG. 12

each other in the words they use [LSM] was predictive of critical relationship outcomes," Slatcher said.

In the second study, LSM in writing was tested. Instant message conversations between 86 couples were evaluated for LSM. For 10 consecutive days, the couples provided their IM chats for the study. Three months later, follow-ups were conducted on the relationships.

"It's hard to clearly and consciously perceive these differences," said Dr. Paul W. Eastwick, assistant professor of psychology at Texas A&M University. "It's not clear that people have strong control [regarding] this aspect of their language. It's extremely subtle."

The study showed LSM to be a strong indicator of whether two strangers ended up choosing each other for a date after speed dating, according to Slatcher.

"It also predicted whether couples in existing relationships broke up or stayed together down the road," Slatcher said. "This was big news."

The results suggest everyday verbal synchronicity strongly indicates whether strangers will romantically connect and whether couples will stay together.

> "It's not clear that people have strong control [regarding] this aspect of their language. It's extremely subtle."
>
> -Paul W. Eastwick

The more frequently couples did not match each other's language pattern the less likely they were to stay together.

More studies are being conducted to understand how language and relationship contentedness are related.

"Our lab is currently using digital tape recorders, called the Electronically Activated Recorder, or EAR, to investigate Language Style Matching in couples' daily lives," Slatcher said. "My guess is the findings from this study will end up confirming what we have found in our earlier research—that LSM is a key indicator of relationship success."

knielsen@chroniclemail.com

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

The Ohio State University Buckeyes' last appearance in the Final Four was in 2007 when they lost to the University of Florida. The Buckeyes lost to the University of Tennessee in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament last season in St. Louis.

» BUCKEYES

Continued from PG. 11

There hasn't been an undefeated team throughout a season en route to a national championship since the 1976-1977 Indiana Hoosiers, who were coached by Bobby Knight. Knight was also on the last Buckeyes team to win a national championship.

Matta said when his team looks at its upcoming schedule, it humbles the players immediately because they acknowledge the challenges ahead.

Last season's Buckeyes team lost in the Sweet 16 with Naismith Award winner Turner leading Ohio State. The Buckeyes haven't missed a step this season. Matta credited the team's strength to the experiences the upperclassmen have shared with the freshmen.

"It's always difficult when you lose a great player," Matta said. "Fortunately, we've got four returning [players who] have a real good understanding.

They've been in big games and conference races before. They've done a very solid job of helping the young guys [with] how we do things. They've left a lasting impression on those kids."

emodacure@chroniclemail.com

THE CHICAGO | JAZZ | ENSEMBLE

with Music Director Dana Hall presents

An Evening of

ELLA FITZGERALD & SARAH VAUGHAN

STEPHANIE JORDAN, *guest vocalist*

Friday, February 18, 2011
7:30 p.m. Harris Theater for Music and Dance

A member of New Orleans' renowned Jordan Family of Jazz and mentored by Shirley Horn, special guest vocalist Stephanie Jordan has performed around the globe alongside Branford Marsalis, Jonathan Dubose, Roy Ayres, Aaron and Arthur Neville, Cassandra Wilson, Elvis Costello, Diana Krall, and Norah Jones. She has appeared at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, in Jazz at Lincoln Center's nationally televised Higher Ground Hurricane Relief benefit concert for victims of Hurricane Katrina, and she has been featured live on NPR's *Talk of the Nation.*

ChicagoJazzEnsemble.com

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

TICKETS: $15–45
Student tickets only $5
Call 312.334.7777 or visit HarrisTheaterChicago.org

HARRIS THEATER:
205 E. Randolph Drive
Millennium Park

"A poised, soulfully articulate vocalist, Jordan warmly evoked Abbey Lincoln, Shirley Horn, and Carmen McRae."
—The Washington Post

How to:
Do the splits

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

FLEXIBILITY IS important for preventing injury and improving athleticism. While many people have the potential to do the splits, not everyone can get into a full split position, according to Sheila Markin, former professional dancer and choreographer. Ultimately, it depends on how you are built.

"Stretching every day can really help you," Markin said. "One of the best things it does is prevent you from getting injured."

The front split is named according to which leg is extended to the front. Most people are more flexible on one side than the other, so don't be discouraged if you struggle to perform both front splits.

There are stretches anyone can do to improve flexibility and get closer to extending into a full split. Three such stretches are outlined here.

1 Kneeling lunge stretch

Start the stretch by kneeling on one leg while keeping your shoulders square with your hips. Make sure your knee doesn't extend across your toe. Move your body forward. You will feel a stretch in your groin muscle. Place your hands on the floor to keep balanced and hold the stretch for 20 to 30 seconds.

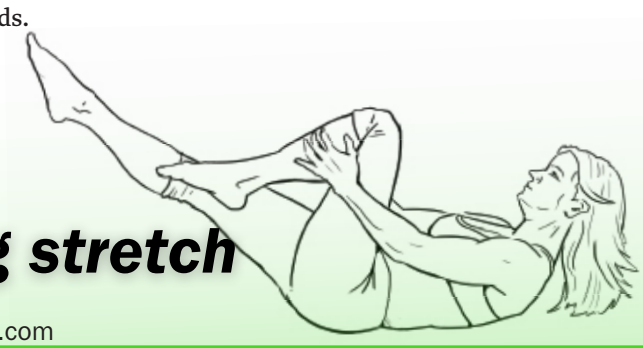
"What I learned is you have to relax down," Markin said. "There is a tendency to be very tense, but you have to consciously relax and let your body sink down into the position and little by little."

2 Reverse lunge

From the kneeling lunge position, move your weight to your back leg. Keep your front leg straight and try to point your toes. Slowly lean forward and touch your head to your knee. If you can't touch your knee, stretch as far as possible. Try to keep your back foot flat on the ground. Again, use your hands to stabilize your body and stretch for 20 to 30 seconds.

3 Single leg stretch

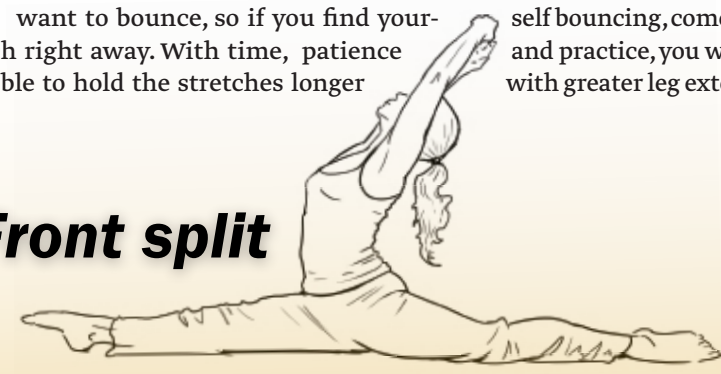
Start this stretch by lying on your back. Raise one leg above you and hold your thigh with both hands. You will want to slightly bend the lower leg, especially when you are doing this stretch for the first few times. To get a deeper stretch, pull your raised leg toward you and maintain the position for 20 to 30 seconds.



knielsen@chroniclemail.com

4 Front split

Start the stretch from a sitting position and move your left or right foot, whichever is more comfortable, in front of you. Push your weight over your hips and try to hold the position. Markin said you do not want to bounce, so if you find yourself bouncing, come out of the stretch right away. With time, patience and practice, you will find yourself able to hold the stretches longer with greater leg extension.



Erik Rodriguez THE CHRONICLE

2011 CHICAGO Home Team Charity Run

Get Ready to Race in Chicago's Inaugural ***Home Team Charity Run™,***
Sunday, April 3, 2011!

Home Team Charity Run™ will offer you a chance to support your favorite home team while running through Chicago's unique neighborhoods and supporting local charities. Choose to represent the Chicago Blackhawks, Bulls or White Sox while running an exhilarating 10K race that takes you from United Center to U.S. Cellular Field and ends with a post-race celebration!

25% *of Your Registration Fee Will Benefit Local Charities!*

Choose a Team. Get a Jersey!

Moisture Wicking Jerseys

500 Random Winners Will Get a Photo Taken With the World Series and NBA
Championship Trophies!

500 randomly selected runners will get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have your picture taken with the World Series and NBA championship trophies! The randomly selected runners will have a photo pass in their packet that will allow them to have their picture taken with the trophies. They can also include up to three friends in the photo!

Chances of winning are based on the number of entrants.

You Could Meet Former Team Players and Enjoy Music, Food, and Beverages at the Post-Race Festival!

Relax and enjoy plenty of food and beverages at the Post-Race Festival. You could meet and get autographs from the ***Home Team Charity Run™*** Ambassadors who include former Chicago Blackhawks, Bulls and White Sox players.

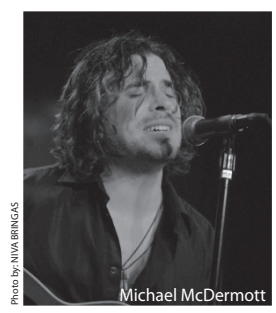


Photo by: NIVA BRINGAS

Michael McDermott

The celebration continues after the race at the Post-Race Festival with live music by Michael McDermott.

Tell Your Friends About This Exciting Race!
Course not conducive to walkers. 14-minute mile will be strictly enforced.

CARA CERTIFIED

go to ***HomeTeamCharityRun.org*** to register.

© 2011 Chicago Blackhawks Hockey Team, Inc. and the National Hockey League. All Rights Reserved. The Chicago Blackhawks and chicagoblackhawks.com are trademarks of the Chicago Blackhawk Hockey Team, Inc. All NHL logos and marks and NHL team logos and marks as well as all other proprietary materials depicted herein are the property of the NHL or the Chicago Blackhawk Hockey Team, Inc., and may not be reproduced without the prior written consent of NHL Enterprises, L.P and/or the Chicago Blackhawk Hockey Team, Inc. Copyright © 2011 NBA Media Ventures, LLC. All rights reserved. © 2001-2011 MLB Advanced Media, L.P. and Chicago White Sox, Ltd. All rights reserved. The following are trademarks or service marks of Major League Baseball entities and may be used only with permission of Major League Baseball Properties, Inc. or the Chicago White Sox: Chicago White Sox, Major League, Major League Baseball, MLB, the silhouetted batter logo, World Series, National League, American League, Division Series, League Championship Series, All-Star Game, and the names, nicknames, logos, uniform designs, color combinations, and slogans designating the Major League Baseball clubs and entities, and their respective mascots, events and exhibitions. Major League Baseball trademarks and copyrights are used with permission of MLB Advanced Media, L.P.

Ginger peach chicken

Deliciously sweet, easy-to-make recipe to keep you warm this winter

by Tiela Halpin
Photo Editor

NOVICE

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

NOW THAT the blizzard has relented and the roads are mostly clear, consider heading over to the grocery store to buy some simple ingredients to make a sweet and savory chicken dish.

Ginger peach chicken combines the sweetness of the peaches and the spiciness of the ginger to make this dish a win-win. It is easy to make and is great for dinner parties or a night in with friends.

All you need are five simple ingredients: four chicken breasts, four tablespoons of honey, one can of halved peaches, garlic salt and ground ginger. You might want to buy some potatoes or vegetables to accompany the chicken.

Start by preheating the oven to 325 degrees F. Unwrap the chicken (be sure to wash hands and clean all surfaces when handling raw meat) and lay it on a baking sheet, placing the peach halves between the breasts. Next, drizzle honey and the remaining peach juice across the breasts. Finish it off by seasoning with garlic salt and ground ginger. Bake for 45 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink.

It will surprise you how tender it is. Ginger peach chicken will sweeten your day.

thalpin@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS

4 chicken breasts
1 can of halved peaches in their juice
4 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon ground ginger
1 tablespoon garlic salt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees
2. Place four chicken breasts on baking sheet
3. Place peach halves between chicken
4. Drizzle honey and excess peach juice on chicken
5. Season with garlic salt and ground ginger to taste
6. Bake in oven for 45 minutes or until center of chicken breast is no longer pink
7. Remove chicken from oven and allow several minutes for chicken to cool
8. Serve and enjoy

KEY

NOVICE APPRENTICE GURU

ShopColumbia

Do you need inspiration for that perfect gift for this Valentine's day?

ShopColumbia features countless creative gift ideas for that special person in your life (including yourself!)

Jewelry, cards, fine art, posters and gift certificates are available.

New merchandise is added every Friday. A weekly sneek peek will be featured on facebook.com/shopcolumbia.

ShopColumbia
623 S Wabash Ave, first floor
Chicago, IL 60605
312.369.8616

SHOP COLUMBIA

Store Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11am-5pm and Thursday 11am-7pm

Photo by Nicole Yoder featuring a selection of Valentine's Day inspired gifts available at ShopColumbia.

Home grown

See pg. 20

Arts& Culture

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Screenings at the Bank of America Cinema, previously located at 4901 W. Irving Park Road, preceded each feature film with old jazz reels or classic shorts, a tradition the Northwest Chicago Film Society will continue.

Reel efforts keep cinema alive

Local film program continues through dedication, collaboration

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THE FINAL scenes of "Babes in Toyland" threaded through the projector on Dec. 18 at the Bank Of America Cinema, 4901 W. Irving Park Road. The stars of the 1934 film, classic cinema standbys Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, flickered to darkness on the screen, and the audience walked out the doors, emptying the theater. Throwing away the last remains of their popcorn, the patrons said goodbye, unsure of the future of the classic film program, which was loved by many.

Despite closing down due to financial hardship, Bank of America Cinema will have its mission carried on by the program's youngest organizers under a new moniker: the Northwest Chicago Film Society. Through implementing local partnerships and fostering a dedicated team, the classic film program will launch at the Portage Theater, 4050 N. Milwaukee Ave., on Feb. 16.

The Bank of America Cinema opened in 1973 as part of what was then a locally-owned bank branch. Through the years, buyouts caused the theater and its program to change many hands financially. In December 2010, that Bank of America branch was bought out as previously reported in The Chronicle on Sept. 13, 2010.

Rebecca Hall and Julian Antos, two parts of the three-member team who kept the cinema afloat in its final days, worked toward the first screening of the Northwest Chicago Film Society since the Bank of America Cinema was first threatened with closure in September 2010. The organization chose to join forces with other local film groups to create a better support base for the program.

"It could have been easy [for Hall and Antos] to just walk away from it and say, 'Oh well, it was a great 40-year run, we did our part and that's it,'" said Dennis Wolkowicz, managing director of the Portage Theater. "But they chose to take it beyond that."

The Northwest Chicago Film Society's mission to bring rare 16 mm and 35 mm prints to Portage Park made the affiliation with Portage Theater seem natural, according to Hall. The Portage Theater's programming was already aligned with what the new organization wanted to do. That, along with the close location, will help maintain its loyal audience, Hall said.

"I think that's part of what us and the Portage were hoping for out of our partnership," she said. "We have these audiences [who] have similar interests, some of them probably already know about both of us, but by combining resources, we can get them all in one place."

The partnership also allows for a wider range of resources. According to Wolkowicz, the Portage Theater will be in charge of the house management on screening nights and the day-to-day operations of the theater, freeing up Hall and Antos to concentrate on running the society and handling the films chosen for showing. Portage Theater's in-house organist will accompany two silent features in the screenings—Frank Lloyd and Josef von Sternberg's "Children of Divorce" (1927) and Alfred E. Green's "Ella Cinders" (1926).

The Chicago Film Archive, an organization dedicated to preserving films that represent the Midwest, also benefits from its newfound partnership with the Northwest Chicago Film Society. Anne Wells, a processing archivist at the Chicago Film Archive, first approached Hall and Antos as a Bank of America Cinema patron.

Wells reached out to partner with Hall and Antos after going through the archive's short films. She provided them with a list of more than 300 short films at their disposal, including shorts from amateur Chicago filmmaker Margaret Connelly from the '50s and '60s.

"At this point, we're really lacking in programming here at the Chicago Film Archive," Wells said. "[The Northwest Chicago Film Society has] a built-in crowd and infrastructure. It's a nice way to work it into a built in crowd rather than us building up from nothing, and it's a nice way to get the films collecting dust on shelves out there to be seen."

In the days leading up to their Feb. 16 premiere, Hall is working to promote the program, going through the process of becoming a nonprofit and finishing up all the behind-the-scenes work that needs to be done. According to Hall, time will tell if the Northwest Chicago Film Society will be as successful as Bank of America Cinema.

"That's the thing about this part of the process, we're pouring tons of work in but there's no way of knowing yet how it's going to pay off," Hall said. "We'll find out."

The Northwest Chicago Film Society's first screening will be "Written on the Wind," on Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Portage Theater, 4050 N. Milwaukee Ave. For a full schedule of screenings, visit NorthwestChicagoFilmSociety.org.

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Julian Antos, team member of the Bank of America Cinema, co-founded the Northwest Chicago Film Society.

bwellen@chroniclemail.com

"A" To Zepeda

Generation fails at workplace

by Benita Zepeda
Managing Editor

COLLEGIATE LIFE is partially about transitioning into adulthood. It's supposed to be when eager students move away from home for the first time, learn how to live with roommates and gain responsibility and work ethic—a type of motivation that can land a great job.

Of course, college is important for the obvious reasons—it provides technical training in a career of choice, a well-rounded education and preparation for the real world—but what happens when students have a hard time learning those vital life skills before graduating?

In a study conducted by York College of Pennsylvania titled "Professionalism in the Workplace," a sample of 520 professionals, including 418 individuals in human resources, answered a survey about how prepared college graduates are for the workplace.

The findings exhibited many of those professionals feel recent graduates lack the skills and work ethic needed to succeed in the real workplace, attributing much of that to the way higher institutions prepare students.

Of the sample surveyed, 33.2 percent said they feel professionalism has eroded during the past five years and 25.3 percent blamed it on graduates' sense of entitlement. What is even more apparent is that 97.6 percent said colleges are responsible for prepping students for the real world.

This means colleges need to better prepare young people for the reality they are going to face post graduation. Students should seek this training through internships or part-time positions in their respective field.

Educators need to remember the current generation grew up in a different world than they did. It's not that life is easier now, it's just different. Technology has instilled a bit of laziness or sense of instant gratification, which is harmful when entering the competitive workforce. This is because the job market doesn't leave room for insubordinate attitudes or entry-level employees expecting quick promotions, salary raises and high levels of recognition. Bosses are the ones who should get respect.

At the same time, some students need to stop having prima donna attitudes while in the classroom or in part-time positions. It's especially important to practice professionalism in a working environment that revolves around their future career. Many of the contacts made in college will be colleagues out of college. Perhaps one of those people will be in a hiring position as well.

What happens if someone displays a deplorable attitude every day in class or at work? People around them are going to take notice and realize that person isn't someone they would want to be around or work with. People who don't practice reality in college will receive a severe slap in the face when they graduate because some antics simply won't be tolerated in the real world.

It's a generational-related problem, for sure. But colleges need to set the standard and stop letting students misbehave in scenarios that would never be tolerated in the workforce. Additionally, students need to practice professionalism so our generation can stop getting bad reviews about our work ethic and capabilities.

bzepeda@chroniclemail.com

Bobby Long goes live on debut

Bypassing digital recording, singer strives for raw sounds

by Glenn Gamboa
MCT Newswire

THOUGH BOBBY Long has been singing for five years and performing for crowds for even less time than that, he handles most situations with natural ease and a sense of humor.

It's the same approach he used for recording his debut album, "A Winter Tale." He recorded the country-tinged folk album last year in several sessions with Grammy-winning producer Liam Watson, best known for his work with the White Stripes in an unusual way. He did everything live.

"It's just honest," Long said. "I really like raw recordings. I really despise the mechanical, digital sound in things. Not to say you can't record digitally and have a great, raw recording, because you can. It's just the way I like to do things."

Long remembers previous recording sessions, where a producer used the more modern process of recording an instrument and then fixing issues of tempo or incorrect notes with the computer.

"Instantly I felt there was a dirty handprint on the music," Long said. "I couldn't listen to it again."

Luckily, he feels more comfortable listening to "A Winter Tale" and hopes others will feel comfortable with it, too.

Long's interest in singer/songwriters Bob Dylan and Elliott Smith led him to leave his native England and settle on the Lower East Side last year, in part to soak in the same surroundings his musical heroes did.

"I'm actually incredibly happy trying to make it here first," he said. "The English are hard, hard to impress. We're an old country, and we've got our traditions. America is always excited about the new—a new artist, a new building, something knocked down to make way for something new."

Long has some reservations about how much will be knocked down for him. When he was a struggling open-mic singer in London, he became friends with a young actor/singer named Robert Pattinson, and he's had the chance to see Pattinson rocket to superstardom in the "Twilight" movies up close.

"I'm quite a reserved person, so even seeing it or being around it sends flutters to my heart," he said. "I'm already kind of amazed by how things are at the moment. I find it a bit overwhelming that I can find 100 people who'll come see me in Paris or Germany or across America."

Of course, that doesn't mean Long is willing to stop there. The rollout of "A Winter Tale" is ambitious—with high-profile stops last week at the Sundance Festival and TV appearances, including "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," this week. Long is already in the midst of a headlining tour and is set to open for Rodrigo y Gabriela in Australia after that.

"I feel more confident every day," he said. "I feel like with these musicians, we can take on the world, so to speak. I feel like we're just going to get better and better."

chronicle@colum.edu

Craft beer catches on in Chicago

After years of a dry spel microbreweries are back

The bartender dashes back and forth, filling drinks and sliding them across the counter to eagerly waiting customers. Roughly 30 people crowd around the bar, laughing and trying to talk above the person squeezed in next to them. The dining area, filled with a mix of young hipsters and older professionals, is completely full. Glass windows cover the back wall, revealing giant fermenters and a man skimming sediment from a vat of fresh beer. This is the scene at Revolution Brewery, 2323 N. Milwaukee Ave., on a Saturday afternoon.

Revolution is of one of five new brew pubs that have opened in the last five years, more than doubling Chicago's number. The microbrewery scene here, long dominated by Goose Island Beer Company, 1800 N. Clybourn Ave., has lagged behind those of other major cities for decades. Apart from Goose Island and Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, 1 W. Grand Ave., microbreweries were few and far between. However, experts said Chicago's tight-knit microbrew community is growing because there's a greater awareness of craft beers and a desire for a more refined taste.

While Chicago doesn't have as many breweries per capita as Portland, Ore. or Denver, according to Keith Lemcke, vice president of Siebel Institute of Technology, a brewing school located at 1777 N. Clybourn Ave., the scene is becoming increasingly popular.

"The city is on a craft brewing roll," Lemcke said. "Not only are new breweries opening on a regular basis, but Chicago has a rapidly growing beer bar and gastro pub culture."

According to Martin Coad, brewer at Brew and Grow, 3625 N. Kedzie Ave., the growing craft beer culture in Chicago isn't new; it's a renaissance.

"Before Prohibition, there were about 60 breweries in Chicago," Coad said. "These days, you can count how many there are in the city on one hand." When Prohibition was repealed, Coad said, the federal government gave power to the states to regulate alcohol. This created the three-tier system, a government regulation that requires beer producers to go through distributors to get their beer to bars or stores.

"The distributors are huge now because the laws favor them, and they don't always care about small brewers," Coad said. "They're busy with Anheuser-[Busch]."

Gabriel Magliano, owner of Half Acre Beer Company, 4257 N. Lincoln Ave., said the system adds a level of complication to the beer-selling process by requiring small brewpubs to go through a distributor to sell to themselves.

"I think all the small brewers, including myself, agree that should you want to self distribute, you can," Magliano said. Not all states require microbreweries to go through distributors, but Coad said Illinois does.

Despite these laws, microbreweries have been sprouting up more frequently in Chicago. In February 2010, Revolution opened for business. The brewery was immediately acclaimed by food critics and patrons alike, Coad said. It has 11 house brews, and a plethora of other craft and mainstream beers. Revolution recently won the top five best new microbreweries in 2010 award by RateBeer.com. Brew master Jim Cibak is no newcomer to the brewing community because he previously worked at Goose Island.

On Christmas Eve 2010, Haymarket Pub and Brewery, 737 W. Randolph St., opened its doors with seven house brews. The pub's Mathias Imperial IPA won favorite beer in the 2011 Illinois Brew Pub Shootout. Haymarket specializes in Belgian and contemporary American beers from brew master Pete Crowley.

Bob Wagner, general manager at Piece Brewery and Pizzeria, 1927 W. North Ave., said with more brew pubs opening, people are moving away from big name beer and trying small batch brews that give more attention and care to detail.

"When I started [in 2001], it was just Rock Bottom, Goose Island and us. And now you have Metropolitan, Revolution and Half Acre," Wagner said. "The trend in the beer movement has a lot of followers who are very passionate about it."

Wagner said giant companies like Anheuser-Busch and MillerCoors have long dominated the beer market, but things are starting to change. Many younger people who are new to the beer market are searching for something outside the mainstream.

"I think people are starting to want more from their beer, and demand more from it," Wagner said. "We make beers where you can sit down and have two, three, four, five … up to seven or eight beers."

Brew masters are very passionate about their work, Wagner said, and take great care and pride into crafting a unique brew. The crowd that appreciat to get drunk; they ca said there has been beer culture in Chic good beer like wine.

This love of beer to grow close, Wagn is very tight, and ma

"We don't see th see them as our equ throw beer parties s support local brewe is very friendly; the work together a lot. tion that goes along

Magliano said it ment, and he could munity of people. B work together on re

"We get togethe of beer, drink a bun Magliano said. "Son laborative beer dinn big local events that out for and pour bee

Groups such as ers Guild and the A Association help br ideas and continue to cago's microbreweries beer and promote it

"We serve PBR Wagner said. "But branch out, try new culture because it's and appreciate, and in popularity."

mwat

Story by: Matt Watson
Design by: Zach Stemerick

How to: Brew your own

In the 1920s, Chicago was notorious for its speakeasies and underground alcohol scene. Today, this tradition is coming back in the form of homebrewing, a niche culture taking shape around the nation.

Homebrewing has become increasingly popular throughout the past few years, Coad said. The supplies are readily available, and the varieties of beer are almost endless.

"With the recession, a whole lot of people have said, 'It's cheaper and more fun to make my own beer,'" Coad said.

The best beer for a beginner is standard ale, Coad added. To make 5 gallons of beer, purchase a homebrew kit that includes all of the needed supplies. These are available online or at homebrew shops and include a 5 gallon plastic bucket, a clear hose, a metal pot, a 5 gallon glass fermenter and a fermentation lock, Coad said. Empty bottles can be used for homebrewing; just wash before putting the fresh beer in them.

1. Mix 1.5 gallons of water with malt extracts in the pot and boil for 45 minutes. "In that time, you add your hops additions or any spices you want in there, like coriander or orange peel," Coad said. Decide what type of beer to make and be creative. Use different ingredients depending on the type of beer desired. Recipes are found online in forums and blogs.

2. While the mixture boils, sanitize the fermenter with a weak chlorine bleach and water solution. Coad said sanitizing all equipment is essential in creating a quality beer. Also, be sure to rinse everything afterward to get the bleach out.

3. Add 3 gallons of cold water to your clean and rinsed fermenter.

4. After the malt extracts and water have boiled for 45 minutes, use the funnel to add it to the fermenter. "Cap [the fermenter] and shake it around so the cold and warm ingredients mix," Coad said.

5. When the temperature of the mixture gets below 75 degrees Farenheit, measure the gravity with the beer hydrometer and add yeast. Measuring the gravity will show the alcohol content of the beer. Cap with a fermenting lock, allowing excess gas to escape.

6. Let it sit. "Typical ale takes about a week for primary fermentation and another week or so for secondary fermentation, and it can go into a bottle straight from there," Coad said. Put the capped fermenter in a closet or other dark, cool place.

7. After the beer has fermented for two weeks, the last step is to bottle it. According to Coad, it takes about three weeks to carbonate in the bottle. Boil 3/4 cup of corn sugar in 16 ounces of water for 15 minutes.

8. Place the fermenter with the finished beer on top of a table and take out the fermentation lock. Put the plastic bucket on the floor and add the boiled corn sugar.

9. Next, create a siphon. Fill the plastic hose with water, plug it at the ends with thumbs, and quickly insert one end into the fermenter. Lower the other end to the plastic bucket and let loose, gently transferring the beer into the bucket. Drain out all of the beer except the bottom half-inch of sediment, which has settled from the fermenting process.

10. Put the bucket of beer on the table and gently siphon out into the bottles, leaving an inch of air at the top. Then, use the bottle capper to cap the bottles.

Store them in a dark area for three weeks until carbonation is completed and enjoy.

l, k in town

es craft beers isn't looking are about the taste. Coad a huge movement in the cago. People are treating

r has led microbreweries ner said. The community ny brewers are friends. hem as competitors, we uals," Wagner said. "We seasonally and we try to eries. I think the culture breweries get along and There's a lot of collabora-"

t's a supportive environ- n't ask for a better com- Breweries in the city also cipes.

r one day, brew a bunch ch of beer and have fun," metimes you can do col- ers. We always do a lot of t local brewers will come er."

the Illinois Craft Brew- American Home Brewers rewers collaborate, trade o learn. Wagner said Chi- es gladly sell one another's to their customers.

and Miller Lite bottles," we encourage people to things and promote beer something we believe in it's something growing

son@chroniclemail.com

STAFF PLAYLIST

HEATHER MCGRAW, ASSISTANT METRO EDITOR

CEE-LO // NO ONE'S GONNA LOVE YOU
JOHN LENNON // BEAUTIFUL BOY
AESOP ROCK // COFFEE
LEADBELLY // WHERE DID YOU SLEEP LAST NIGHT?

KATY NIELSEN, ASSISTANT HEALTH & FITNESS EDITOR

FLORENCE AND THE MACHINE // COSMIC LOVE
KID CUDI FEAT. RATATAT // ALIVE (NIGHTMARE)
YOUNG BLOOD // THE NAKED AND FAMOUS
YEASAYER // GERMS

SAM CHARLES, ASSISTANT CAMPUS EDITOR

SUFJAN STEVENS // NOW THAT I'M OLDER
THE TOM TOM CLUB // GENIUS OF LOVE
OUTKAST // B.O.B
THE BLACK KEYS // UNKNOWN BROTHER

DARRYL HOLLIDAY, METRO EDITOR

DEAD MAN'S BONES //MY BODY'S A ZOMBIE FOR YOU
FRANCE GALL // LAISSE TOMBER LES FILLES
DUSTER // EARTH MOON TRANSIT
CHARLES MINGUS // PITHECANTROPUS ERECTUS

music downloads

Week ending Feb. 1, 2011

#1 Album

Mission Bell
Amos Lee

Top tracks

( ) Last week's ranking in top five

United States

Grenade • Bruno Mars	(1)	1
Hey Baby • Pitbull	(2)	2
Rocketeer • Far East Movement, Ryan Tedder		3
Firework • Katy Perry	(3)	4
Coming Home • Diddy - Dirty Money	(4)	5

21
Adele

United Kingdom

Grenade • Bruno Mars	(2)	1
We R Who We R • Ke$ha	(1)	2
Rolling In the Deep • Adele	(3)	3
Coming Home • Diddy - Dirty Money	(4)	4
Price Tag • Jessie J		5

21
Adele

Spain

The Time • Black Eyed Peas	(1)	1
Tonight (I'm Lovin' You) • Enrique Iglesias		2
Barbra Streisand • Duck Sauce	(2)	3
Blanco y Negro • Malu		4
Only Girl (In the World) • Rihanna	(3)	5

Source: iTunes

© 2011 MCT

CHICAGO AUDIOFILE

Courtesy JON BRUNO

Electro-infused hip-hop group Big Splashes comprises Samuel Piazza, Alex Corona and Greg Floyd. For updates and new music, visit BigSplashes.tumblr.com.

Hip-hop trio makes 'Splash'

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

MOST VARIATIONS of rap and hip-hop are electro-infused these days, especially judging from the Top 40 charts. Chicago's hip-hop trio Big Splashes is no different, using 8-track tape decks and computers to produce beats. After primarily rhyming in the kitchen drinking beers or in the park, Samuel "SP" Piazza said he and his friends Alex "Mart14K" Corona and Greg "Flamingo Papers" Floyd began collaborating and recording their material at home. Sticking to performing at intimate, local venues for now, Piazza caught up with The Chronicle to talk about their summer release titled "Rain Damage," the process of writing rhymes and where they hope to be in the future.

The Chronicle: When did you decide you wanted to record material?

Samuel Piazza: It was probably about three years ago. Our friends had a gallery called Quennect 4. We met a bunch of people and the energy was so live and we'd just be hanging out to have fun and we decided to record. Everyone was down for it. The motivation was because we had a stage at Q4. So [the tracks] were just rough recordings, [then] we got better and better recordings over time.

The Chronicle: What was recording "Rain Damage" like? What was the inspiration for that album?

SP: Everyone's inspiration was different. There were so many ideas stirring. For me, it was trying to be a decent person but saying different things that are happening in life—more serious politics to more chill. [Like,] making fun of yourself, saying different things about the world and things you observe. Just trying to express a whole spectrum of ideas and sound. Sometimes you record something and you learn about yourself, like, "Hey, that was me?" And then you're different after that. It changes you because you get to meet yourself the first time you hear yourself on a track.

The Chronicle: What kinds of technology do you use?

SP: Blank CDs, CD players, computers ... old school 8-track tape decks, a real drum set, a bass guitar, keyboards. The only thing we don't have is an actual vinyl turntable. Nobody really has any vinyl. I think we sold our turntables a long time ago. I'd still like to have one. I think it'd be pretty cool.

The Chronicle: What is your process when it comes to writing rhymes?

SP: Every beat will speak to you differently. I think sometimes it's just what your friends are saying [that] affects you. I got my feelings hurt by this girl and I was trying to be decent, so I just had to lash out and say some bogus sh** on a track. Not saying her in particular, but that type of girl [is] in that track. It just hit me hard. I didn't even have to think about how it was going to rhyme. It was just so real that it just came out. It was like, "Oh man, I feel really good right now." I didn't have to think twice about that. But then other times you want to write more of a fun song. So what's some goofy sh** that happens when you're out? You lose your wallet, you wake up the next day and feel like an ass**** 'cause you were acting crazy. Let's paint a picture without a camera or any way to draw. You're painting a picture with words. You start indirectly referencing people, too.

The Chronicle: What do you hope to achieve with Big Splashes?

SP: Definitely getting to see other parts of the world. I think we've opened ourselves up a little more as far as what we can do artistically—to create music that filters our experience. The simple fact is people have to make music. Right now I'm working with different people than just in Big Splashes. [And] not only that [but] reaching out to people you don't even know. I can have a best friend in like who the hell knows—Argentina—some cat making good-ass music, you don't even know. Just to get to that point where you can bring people together.

For news pertaining to Big Splashes, visit BigSplashes.tumblr.com. They will be playing a show at "The Pulsy" in Palmer Square on March 25th with Jams Dean.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com

FILM REVIEW

South Korean import refreshingly peculiar

Sang-Soo Im's remake expands upon intrigue, kinkiness of predecessor

by Drew Hunt
Film Critic

'The Housemaid'
Starring: Do-Yeon Jeon, Jung-Jae Lee
Director: Sang-Soo Im
Run Time: 107 minutes

Rating:

Now playing on OnDemand's IFC service and at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave.

IMDB

Do-Yeon Jeon plays Eun-Yi in Sang-Soo Im's remake of "The Housemaid," now playing at the Music Box Theatre, 3733 N. Southport Ave.

FOR THOSE interested in genre cinema, the films of South Korea have long been the source of some of the most intriguing and intoxicating filmic experimentation seen in recent years. Directors like Chan-Wook Park and Joon-Ho Bong have proved themselves dexterous in crafting films that blend a myriad of tones and themes in a dizzyingly precise fashion.

Enter Sang-Soo Im and his film "The Housemaid," a remake of the 1960 film of the same name. With this latest effort, he places himself squarely in the company of Park and Bong with a film that is as captivating as it is nonsensical.

The film centers around a young woman named Eun-Yi—played by Do-Yeon Jeon, the star of Chang-Dong Lee's wonderful film "Secret Sunshine"—hired by an extravagantly wealthy family to be their live-in maid. Very quickly, the spritely Eun-Yi is wrapped up in a sordid love affair with Hoon—played by Jung-Jae Lee—the self-indulgent man of the house. Eventually, Hoon's wife and mother-in-law become privy to the situation and deem Eun-Yi a danger to their prominent social status. A plan to dispose of her is swiftly put into practice.

For all its soap opera sensibilities and maudlin characterization, "The Housemaid" never feels trivial because of Im's refusal to let the audience ever feel comfortable. Opposed to having the story unfold like a predictable domestic melodrama, he creates an atmosphere of salacious sexuality and capricious intrigue. At the same time, Im works mostly in low-angles and offers a saturated yet vibrant color palette that harkens back to not only the original film but also the stark stylizations of '50s Technicolor. It's bold formalization but Im's bawdiness works in spades.

In equal turn, "The Housemaid" is bitingly funny in its satirical ruminations on bourgeois ideologies—most notably in the character of Hoon, the distinguished wine connoisseur and prodigious piano player whose closed-door behavior borders on sociopathic. Im has the same unrelenting sense of humor as France's Claude Chabrol, a director who also never missed the opportunity to lampoon the over-privileged.

But despite its visual splendor and easily reached genre elements, there's a tone of seediness pulsating just outside the frame. Im does a fine job of filling every frame with a salient sense of absurdity, raising the stakes until it all culminates in a pair of scenes as mind-boggling as they are satisfying. As Im toys with themes of adultery, class and domesticity, he simultaneously explores ideas of eroticism, prostitution and social climbing beneath the surface—things that play a deceptively prominent role in the lives of each character and help shape the film's final, jaw-dropping moments.

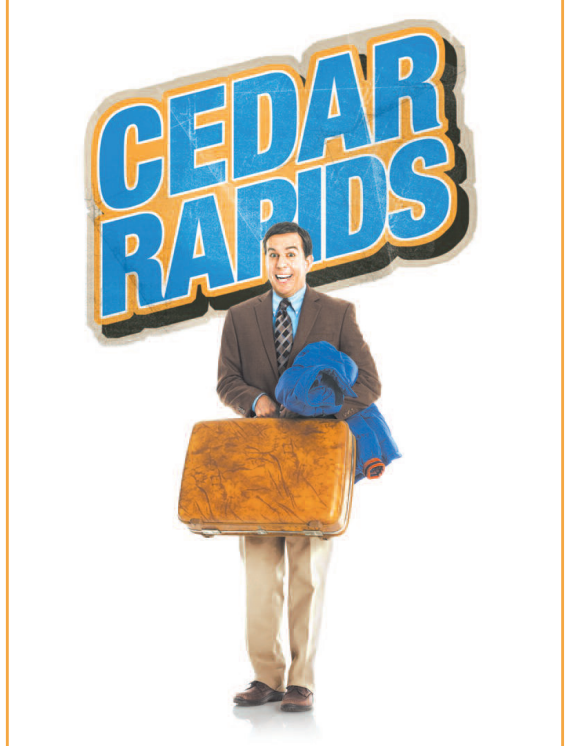
A large part of the intrigue surrounding "The Housemaid" is due to figuring out exactly what kind of movie it is: an erotic psychological thriller, a pitch-black comedy of manners or a hyper-sexual melodrama? In truth, the film is each of these things, and the audience is able to recognize the standard themes and motifs present in the narrative. But as Im plunges Eun-yi into a world of depravity and carnality, our expectations are thrown by the wayside. Before long, it's difficult to dismiss the more preposterous aspects of the film, thanks to Im's masterful balance of conflicting moods.

ahunt@chroniclemail.com

FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES | THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE www.columbiachronicle.com

INVITE YOU AND A GUEST TO A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING

ED HELMS JOHN C. REILLY ANNE HECHE and SIGOURNEY WEAVER



Q&A with Ed Helms and Director Miguel Arteta immediately following the screening

ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

For your chance to win a complimentary pass for two, log onto Gofobo.com/RSVP and enter code: CHICRO6FD7.

This film is rated 'R' by the MPAA. Must be 17 or older to attend. No purchase necessary. Prizes cannot be exchanged, transferred, or redeemed for cash in whole or in part. We are not responsible if, for any reason, winner is unable to use his/her prize in whole or in part. Prizes received through this promotion are not for resale.

IN THEATRES FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Probiotic | All Natural | Nonfat | Gluten-Free | Kosher

Eat a treat that will make you feel great afterwards!

Try Kingoberry Frozen Yogurt!
Now open inside Pockets!

555 S. Dearborn-Plymouth Court Side | 312-554-8158 | www.kingoberry.com

Between stops, 'El Stories' are told

Local production takes Chicago public transit to stage

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Courtesy TYLER CORE

Interviews with Chicago commuters inspired a performance staged as a trip on the Red Line.

A WOMAN walks onto a crowded train, grabbing hold of the nearest rail to stay balanced. Another passenger willingly gives up her seat. Thank yous are exchanged and the rider, who is now standing, proceeds to pet the head of the stranger now in her seat for the remainder of the ride. For some, this is another day on the Red Line. For the actors in the Waltzing Mechanics, it's a scene from their newest production, "El Stories."

Combining a familiar setting with the stories of Chicagoans, the Waltzing Mechanics present a dramatic ride on the Red Line from Jackson to the Howard stop. Using an atypical theatrical approach, the show, which starts Feb. 7 at City Lit Theatre, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., strives to connect city dwellers through the common experience of public transit.

The idea for the show struck director Thomas Murray two years ago when he was meeting with a group to start a theater. According to Murray, instead of talking business, they were distracted by one member's story about what happened on her commute to work that morning. From there, everyone had an el tale to share, and Murray realized there was an interest in this.

"People who live in the city and ride public transit have a yearning to be connected to each other in a community fashion," he said. "Sharing these stories is a way to be connected."

For the past year, Murray conducted interviews with Chicagoans to gather a wide range of stories, saving the original recordings for the actors' reference. He found when approaching people, they didn't seem to think their el stories were worthy of the production. But after starting with one, they would inevitably go on to remember three more, each more entertaining than the last.

The cast is composed of 10 actors who are well-versed in improv, he said. After being cast, they were asked to seek out el stories from their connections. Forty percent of Murray's original script was thrown out in favor of the actors' stories.

"It evolved to being something we all had a little bit of ownership in, and I've never been in a show where that is possible," said cast member Zach Florent. "It's surprisingly easy to dial into some of these experiences. Your own crazy or weird or touching experience relates somehow to experiences other people have."

At the end of the show, the goal is to stir up conversation among the audience, Florent said. To highlight this process, there is an audience participation portion of each performance, where the actors instantaneously perform a story told from the audience in addition to the 20 to 25 scripted stories in the show.

Actor Bryan Campbell hopes this idea of an evolving show is adopted throughout the run to keep "El Stories" a performance unique to Chicago. He joined the production after seeing it in its workshop stages. As the climate and community of Chicago changes, so will the stories—something evident through the early stages of rehearsal when new stories were added, Campbell said.

"We didn't have a full draft of the script until after the first week, week and a half," Campbell said. "We're now actually actively part of the story process. It's kind of freeing that we don't have such a set, relegated schedule. At the same time, it's slightly nerve-wracking."

According to Murray, it's the relatable nature of the show that will draw in audiences and keep people coming back as the show evolves.

"I think everybody has an el story," he said. "There's something cathartic about sharing that, that you wind up becoming part of something larger."

"El Stories" opens on Feb. 7 at 8 p.m., at the City Lit Theatre, 1020 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. The show costs $10 and will run on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m. through Feb. 27. For more information, visit WaltzingMechanics.org.

bwellen@chroniclemail.com

SXSW gains popularity

MCT Newswire

Mel Gibson stars in Jodie Foster's upcoming film, "The Beaver," which debuts at South By Southwest

Young crowds, mellow atmosphere draw movie industry to festival

by Rebecca Keegan
MCT Newswire

OF ALL the rewards of Ti West's first trip to the South by Southwest Film Conference and Festival in 2005—screening his first feature before an enthusiastic crowd at Austin's storied Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, selling the campy horror film to a distributor, meeting like-minded folks at panels and parties—what left the deepest impression on the then 22-year-old director was something more tangible.

"You could have as much free barbecue and beer as you wanted," said West, who at the time was selling jeans at a mall outside Philadelphia to fund his filmmaking interest. "When you make movies, you don't have any money."

Though it's mellower than Sundance's feverish marketplace, cheaper and younger than a bring-your-own-yacht event like Cannes, and much less Oscar-oriented than Toronto's film festival, South by Southwest has emerged as a key event on Hollywood's calendar.

The populist and increasingly influential Texas event, which starts March 11 and is known by the shorthand SXSW, locked its 130-film features lineup this week. Among the films on tap: West's newest movie, a ghost story called "The Innkeepers"; "Foo Fighters," a documentary about the Seattle grunge band; and "The Beaver," Jodie Foster's drama featuring Mel Gibson as a depressed man who finds solace in a beaver hand puppet.

For filmmakers and studios, a major attraction of SXSW is its mixed audience—rowdy young Austinites, hardcore film fans and the early adopters who attend SXSW's influential music and interactive technology events.

"We skew young, edgy; we're not as politically correct, we can do humor, we can go grosser," said film conference and festival producer Janet Pierson.

Of the conference's 36,771 registrants in 2010, 64 percent were younger than 40. The boisterous atmosphere has led studios to bring comedies like "I Love You, Man" and quirky genre pictures like "Kick-Ass" in hopes of building buzz.

"At other fests, it's very industry-heavy," said Glen Zipper, co-head of documentary features at Spitfire Pictures, the documentary arm of Exclusive Media Group, which is premiering the Foo Fighters film and another movie about an inner-city football team called "Undefeated." "This festival attracts a much larger gene pool. It's people who are plugged into culture."

This year, Summit Entertainment makes its first trip to the festival with the sci-fi movie "Source Code." Summit Entertainment also brings "The Beaver," a film that could use the help of an especially warm audience to get past the baggage brought by its scandal-plagued leading man. Unlike Sundance and Toronto, SXSW doesn't hold separate press and industry screenings, which tend to have more indifferent or critical crowds.

"You want to debut it in the best possible environment," said Eric Kops, the studio's senior vice president of publicity. "The hope is that the movie can be judged on its own merits."

Starting primarily as a music festival showcasing Austin's eclectic band scene in 1987, SXSW added its film component in 1994. In recent years, the film fest has emerged as a breeding ground for new movie talent, launching directors Lena Dunham, Gareth Edwards and the Duplass Brothers and bringing independent film movements like mumblecore and self-distribution more into the mainstream.

This year SXSW saw a 23 percent increase in submissions over 2010, with a record 4,900 films vying for inclusion. Thanks to the interactive event, tech-friendly topics tend to play well at the festival, which this year is premiering an astronomy documentary, "The City Dark," and a meditation on digital culture called "PressPausePlay." The lineup for the festival can be found at Sxsw.com.

Last year after "Tiny Furniture," Dunham's micro-budget coming-of-age film, won the festival's narrative feature award, the 24-year-old director earned opportunities to write an HBO pilot for Judd Apatow and adapt a young adult novel for producer Scott Rudin. Dunham made "Tiny Furniture" with producers, a director of photography and an editor she had met at the festival in 2009.

"I sneezed on my DP at a party," Dunham said. "There's something about that festival that makes me want to stay out until 5:30 in the morning and get a cold."

chronicle@colum.edu

TOP 5

Heather McGraw / Assistant Metro Editor

Reasons why "Snowpocalypse" came to Chicago

Mayoral ambitions: It wanted to run for mayor. Once the storm heard Rahm Emanuel's residency issues were off the table, it figured if it made a big enough impact, it could be considered a resident and run for the office.

'Da Bears: Being a huge football fan, the storm wanted to test itself against the Bear's defensive line. It figured if the Packers could do it, it should be a breeze. The Bears offense clearly wasn't worth the storm's effort because the quarterback is currently too busy shopping at boutiques in Los Angeles.

The Bean: It wanted to feel like a real tourist and take its picture in the reflection of the bean. Alas, no photographers were available for hire and the opportunity was lost. "Snowpocalypse" did get the chance to meet his long time crush in person though. You have to admit, the bean does have some very enticing curves.

Holy punishment: Pat Robertson talked the storm into it. The infamous evangelist who originally blamed Hurricane Katrina on America's abortion policy heard Gov. Pat Quinn signed the civil union bill and asked the storm to hit Chicago hard to help him gain back some credibility.

Snow days: "Snowpocalypse" felt bad for Chicago Public Schools students. Because the CPS has practically never gotten a snow day, the storm decided it was due time for the kids to have their chance at snow angels and sledding.

Kristen Franzen / Assistant Metro Editor

Reasons to shop at a thrift store

Save the green: Shopping at a thrift store is a great way to save money when you're on a strict diet. Until you're able to reach your weight-loss goal, you will need clothes of all different sizes to wear. Shopping at a thrift store is a great way to economize and develop a nice, classy and simple style.

Only wear it once: When you need to attend a formal event you really don't want to go to, you can find the perfect dress and matching shoes at a thrift store. Thrift stores also have unbelievable designer bargains that many college students would love to own. You never know what you can find.

New school/work clothes: Everyone needs to cut expenses nowadays because of the economy, but everyone also needs new clothing for work and a fresh new start at school. If you're in need of a professional business suit, go to a thrift store and shop big for less money.

Go vintage: Many art students at Columbia love wearing vintage clothing and accessories. It's difficult to find vintage clothing and fake white pearls. Thrift stores often have sections where they sell all sorts of vintage clothing, and shopping around helps grow your selection.

Laying around the house: Who wants to spend a fortune on weekend afternoon clothes? Not me! Thrift stores are the perfect place to find those Sunday jeans that make for the perfect weekend wear, or a nice sweater and sweatpants to lounge around in.

Darryl Holliday / Metro Editor

Reasons why you don't live in the future

Not there yet: Time travel won't be invented until said future. This presents a variety of problems for you. Namely, how to get to the future so you can live there, should you choose to. Obviously, all of these problems will be solved when you arrive, but until then, you need to get working on that time machine. You don't have all day.

2012: You haven't heard? The future doesn't exist past Dec. 21, 2012. A bunch of old people predicted the end of the world in 2012 or something. You won't be living in the future because you won't exist. You should probably put the movie "2012" on your bucket list. John Cusack, from "Hot Tub Time Machine," is in it. Full circle.

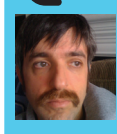
Think about it: You do live in the future, but it's really the past: like in that other movie about time travel.

Paradox: Like everyone else, you struggle to understand paradoxes: existential crisis? No thanks. But suppose you traveled to the past and broke a vital link in a chain of events that led to your own birth? This is exactly why you don't live in the future.

Digital Age: You like to read things in print, such as books about the future. In the future, people only use paper for overpriced novelty items like vintage VHS covers, fake trees and housing material for people who can't afford spaceships. Everything is going digital, yo! And there's only one way to stop it.

tweets of the Week

@thesulk



There should be a 5 second rule when girls start to cry where they can take it back. Win-win.

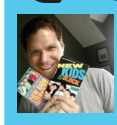
Feb. 3

@notgarybusey

If your boyfriend gets you flowers and chocolate for Valentine's Day, it's because he was saving money to get his real girlfriend jewelry.

Feb. 3

@michaelianblack



Egyptian prime minister apologized for yesterday's violence. That should make everything better.

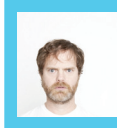
Feb. 3

@StephenAtHome

I don't tell tales out of school. So when I want to gossip about co-workers, I break into a school.

Feb. 3

@rainnwilson



Will a bunch of you please edit my Wikipedia page to say that I run a working Llama farm?

Feb. 3

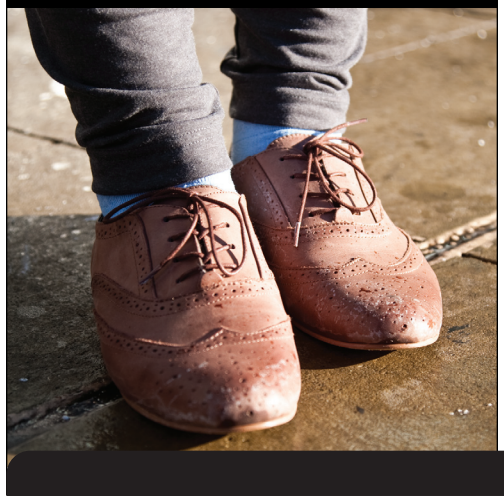
Follow The Columbia Chronicle at Twitter.com/CCChronicle

check me out

Carrie-Ann Dardy, junior arts, entertainment and media management major

"First layers got to stay warm, but I try to bring originality to my layers."

Coat: high school letterman's jacket; Shoes: Akira, $50; Glasses: Ray–Bans, $220



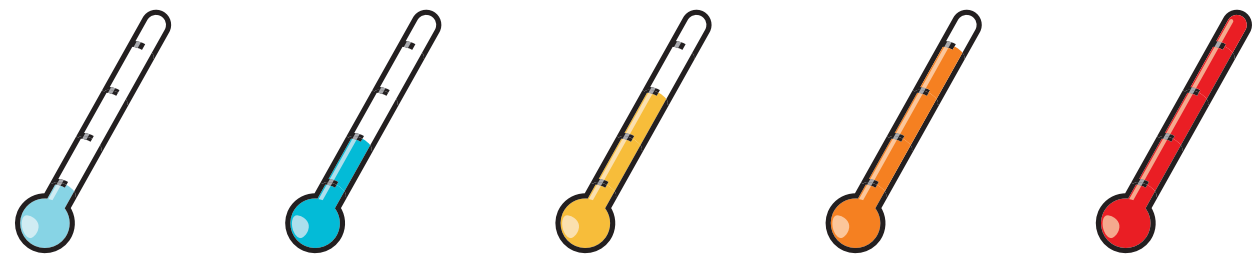
Justin Miller, sophomore audio arts and acoustics major

"My style depends on how cold it is."

Shoes: Journey, $40; Hat: Urban Outfitters, $5; Coat: a ski shop, $200.

Photos Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

HOT & COLD



PRINT

"FOR THE THRILL OF IT" BY SIMON BAATZ

In 1924, two wealthy University of Chicago students—19-year-old Nathan Leopold and 18-year-old Richard Loeb—shocked an entire nation by kidnapping and brutally murdering Loeb's 14-year-old cousin, Bobby Franks. Simon Baatz does a wonderful job capturing the horror the Franks family felt, the unhealthy relationship between Leopold and Loeb and the trial, in which the motive of the crime and the psyche of the boys were put into question.—*A. Meade*

"TOXIC TOUR OF NORTHWEST INDIANA"

Recently, The Chicago Reader published a piece detailing how polluted the environment is on the other side of the Illinois/Indiana border. Processing plants and junk yards have turned the area into the new version of Chernobyl. If nothing else, it makes you appreciate how great it is not to live in Gary.—*S. Charles*

THE DESIGNER'S DESKTOP MANUAL

While some of the content may be considered beginner's material, this is a fantastic book for any graphic designer to have in his or her instructional arsenal. From simple tips on photo editing to more in-depth explanations on computer color calibration, this book covers most technical questions you may have.—*J. Allen*

MOVIES / TV / DVD

"PERFECT COUPLES"

I'll admit I was skeptical of the newest show in NBC's Thursday night lineup, but with the episodes nestled between "Community" and "The Office," I had to give it a shot. Three episodes in, it's surprisingly entertaining, mostly due to Mary Elizabeth Ellis (the coffee shop girl from "It's Always Sunny in Philidelphia") acting crazy. While it hasn't won me over completely, I'm willing to see the show hit its comedic stride!—*B. Wellen*

YOUTUBE: "CRACKHEAD DOES BACK FLIP"

Have you ever seen a crackhead do a backflip off a second story building for a dollar? I have. A friend showed me this video on YouTube, and now it is my go-to video for entertainment. This video should be an eye opener for you. If you do crack, you might find yourself flipping off second story buildings for a dollar. If so, that's insane.—*B. Brake*

"THE CAPE"

I really wanted to like this show. It had so much potential, and there aren't enough good superhero shows on TV. However, everything about "The Cape" has been disappointing so far. The concept is decent, but the script is absolutely awful. It's like they're trying to combine the grittiness of Christopher Nolan's films with the campiness of Adam West's Batman and failing harder than anyone could have thought possible.—*L. Wilusz*

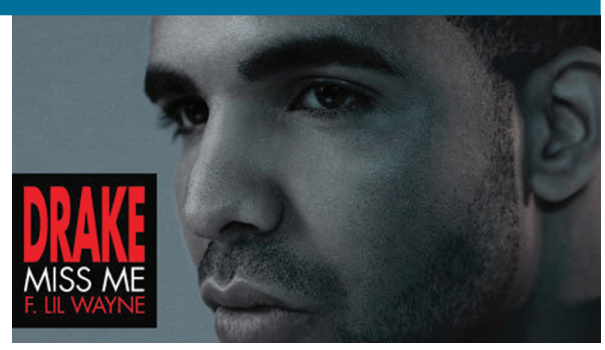
MUSIC

"2GETHA BABY" BY GHOSTFACE KILLAH

Even if you're like me and you're too busy to have your finger on the pulse of anything, download "Apollo Kids." It's GFK as you know him—perhaps even better this time around. Gritty, self-aware and consistent, GFK is king. The soul music sample chorus in this song is rad.—*M. Bloom*

"HELPLESSNESS BLUE" BY FLEET FOXES

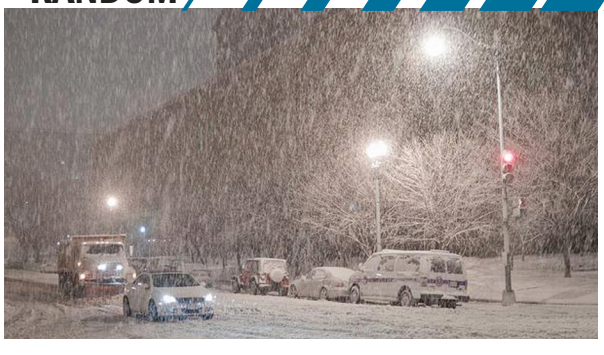
When I first heard Fleet Foxes' self-titled debut album back in 2008, I was in heaven. After much anticipation, the band is back with a new single and album of the same name, "Helplessness Blue." Smooth, harmonious vocals never sounded so sweet. I look forward to the rest of the album when it comes out in May.—*S. Saviola*



"MISS ME" BY DRAKE FEATURING LIL WAYNE

Tell me what's really going on? The weakest rapper in the industry, that's what. This is the worst song I've heard with a sick beat in a long time. The verses don't relate to the chorus. Drake is allegedly living an exclusive life with a "World Series" attitude. Last time I checked, two teams made it to the Fall Classic. How is that exclusive?—*E. Modacure*

RANDOM

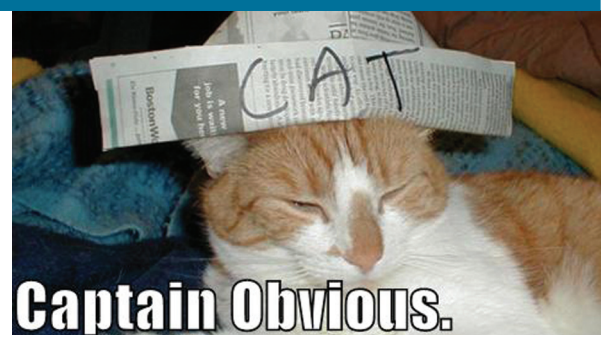


THUNDERSNOW

Blizzard 2011 was obviously not your typical snowstorm. In addition to gale force winds and snowfall rates at three to four inches an hour, the storm produced thundersnow, a rare phenomenon associated with winter thunderstorms. The combination of warmer ground temperature and cooler temperatures higher up generate lightning and thundersnow. This was by far the coolest snowstorm I've ever seen.—*B. Buonsante*

SLEDDING

One good thing I got out of snowpocalyse was the awesome massive snow hills in Lincoln Park and in Grant Park that allowed for epic sledding. Everyone should grab their garbage lids and try it. Just wear, like, 20 pairs of socks if you want to keep your toes.— *C. Aguirre*



STATING THE OBVIOUS

We're all aware of the recent "Snowpocalypse" that slammed Chicago on Feb. 2. I find it rather annoying when people update their Twitter and Facebook statuses to obvious play-by-plays every five seconds. We all knew the extent of the blizzard and were asked to stay inside. Please leave the weather to meteorologists.—*A. Billmyer*

Commentary

Editorials

Columbia athletics in bad shape

COLUMBIA'S CURRENT athletics program is underfunded and unsupported by the college. Rather than having school-supported teams, the college relies on a number of intramural club sports teams to raise most of their funds through efforts such as bake sales, which can only yield very limited results. The teams are too busy with other obligations, such as finding and securing practice spaces, to raise substantial financial support. The college budget for all of Columbia's club teams combined is an annual $8,000, compared with many neighboring colleges whose annual athletic budgets are in the millions. Many students aren't even aware we have sports teams.

There is no reason why Columbia shouldn't have a more prominent athletic program. It is unfair to assume Columbia students, because they are mostly artists, can't enjoy playing or watching sports, or at least supporting their teams during game time. The college's student body is far more diverse than it is given credit for.

Sporting events can foster a sense of community and school spirit that can be hard to come by on a campus as widespread and disconnected as ours, and which the Department of Student Affairs has been looking to improve. Teams can provide students and alumni with something to rally around, and selling team apparel might be a good source of revenue for the college.

However, a number of factors make it difficult to implement a sports program at Columbia on a scale comparable to, say, Northwestern University. It is unrealistic to expect Columbia administrators to divert large sums of budget money from academic departments to support sports programs. The college could, however, conduct a study to find out how many students want a larger athletic program. If the demand was high enough, administrators would then have more of an incentive to find a way to finance a larger athletic budget.

The lack of available practice space is another issue our teams struggle with. There are no easily accessible fields or arenas near Columbia's campus. The South Loop doesn't lend itself to the construction of a new arena nearby.

The college should, at the very least, build a gymnasium. Unlike a full stadium, a gym could be built into a nearby building and give all students a place to stay in shape. It would also provide a reliable practice space for teams that currently have to practice in an elementary school's gymnasium. A Columbia gym would benefit the college's struggling sports teams and potentially the entire student body, creating a win-win situation.

FBI needs oversight, regulation

THE FEDERAL Bureau of Investigation raided the homes of several anti-war activists in Chicago and Minneapolis in September 2010. Since then, several more protesters have been subpoenaed to testify before grand juries, although no charges have been filed against them, and no evidence has been disclosed by the Bureau. This lack of justification seems to support the demonstrators' claims that the raids were just a show of power and a scare tactic on the federal government's part.

The activists and their supporters held a protest in front of the Dirksen Federal Building, 219 S. Dearborn St., on Jan. 25, to speak out against the FBI's tactics. The subpoenaed individuals justifiably refused to testify.

The FBI abuses the power and authority granted to it by the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, which eases restrictions on law enforcement agencies' ability to access private information. The Bureau doesn't need a warrant or any evidence to investigate individuals suspected of providing "material support" to terrorist organizations. However, "material support" is a loosely-defined term that can be used to justify activity that would be illegal for regular law enforcement authorities.

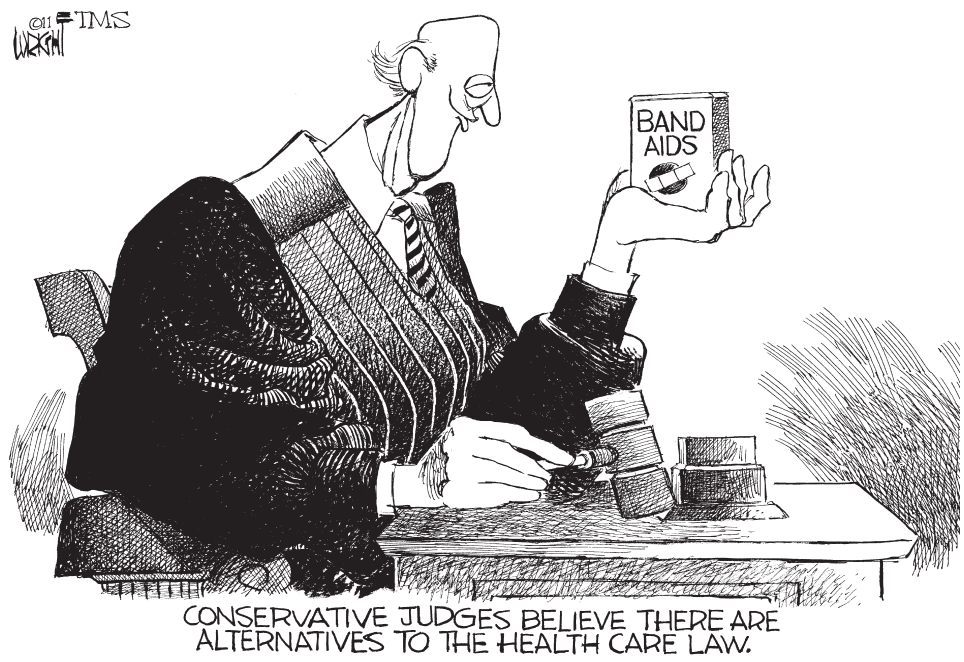
For example, a common tactic employed by the FBI is the use of National Security Letters, which are subpoenas that can request information from individuals with no warrant, judicial oversight or probable cause. The letters also contain a gag order that prevents the subpoenaed people from telling anybody other than their legal counsel about them.

There needs to be more oversight regarding the use of such tactics. While they could be useful in actually combating terrorism, when the organizations employing said tactics are given a blank check to abuse them, the whole situation looks more like a witch hunt. The FBI's activity is reminiscent of McCarthyist persecution of suspected communists, a scare tactic that had a chilling effect on free speech with no real benefit.

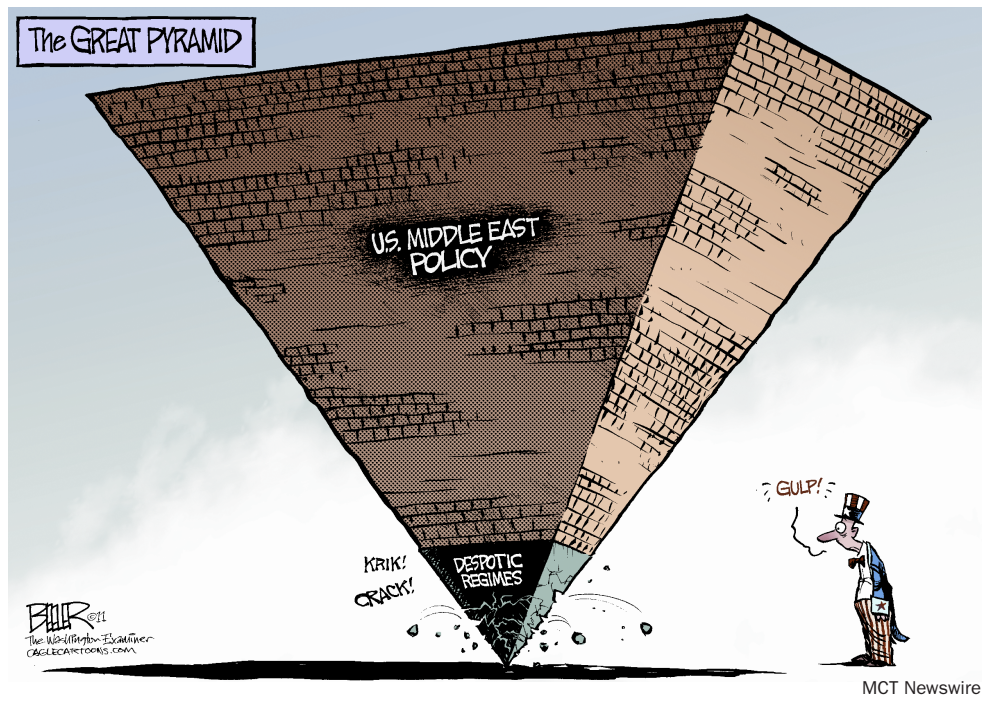
If the federal government continues to persecute activists based on little or no evidence, other like-minded people will be more hesitant to speak their minds. Therefore, the activists' refusal to testify is commendable. Instead of giving in to the FBI's intimidation, they took a stand to defend their privacy and their First Amendment rights. The federal government will continue to trample civil liberties under the pretense of national security unless people stand together in opposition.

"IF HE SEES HIS SHADOW IT MEANS 6 MORE WEEKS OF WINTER. IF HE DOESN'T SEE HIS SHADOW IT MEANS AN EARLY SPRING. WHAT DOES IT MEAN IF HE'S FROZEN STIFF?"

MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire

Editorial Board Members

Brock Brake *Photo Editor*
Sam Charles *Assistant Campus Editor*
Edward Kang *Graphic Designer*
Meghan Keyes *Copy Editor*
Etheria Modacure *Assistant H&F Editor*
Jackson Thomas *Copy Chief*
Brianna Wellen *Assistant A&C Editor*
Luke Wilusz *Commentary Editor*

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

Internet censorship a serious offense in any nation

"No government should have the power to deprive its citizens of the right to communicate with one another."

by Luke Wilusz
Commentary Editor

EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT Hosni Mubarak's regime shut down Internet access, mobile phone service and BlackBerry Messenger activity across the country on Jan. 27, in an attempt to stifle communications between anti-government protesters and activists in the country. If the millions of rioters who took to the streets of Egypt in the following days are any indication, that plan didn't work as well as Mubarak might have expected.

If anything, the government's attempt to silence the dissenters served as a catalyst to fuel their rage and push the nation to a breaking point. Nothing seems to encourage protest more than an attempt to silence it.

The Egyptian government crossed a serious line when it chose to deny its citizens Internet access. While Web access is far from a basic human right, the ability to speak one's mind and communicate with others is an essential part of any society. No government should have the power to deprive its citizens of the right to communicate with one another, discuss ideas, assemble or otherwise express their views. Maybe it's just my American sensibilities and affinity for the First Amendment, but I firmly believe every single human being is entitled to these rights.

In addition to being an affront to civil liberties and the fundamental principles of free speech, the Egyptian government's decision to shut down the Internet was a logistically poor move. Protesters weren't slowed down by the lack of local Internet access. Many Egyptians found ways to circumvent the Internet blackout through the use of dial-up modems that could connect them to other countries' servers.

Furthermore, protesters and activists among the Egyptian people weren't the only ones in the country relying on the Internet. In this day and age, any country's government and economic infrastructures are heavily reliant on electronic networks, so Mubarak's attempt to quell dissent also crippled parts of his country.

As of Feb. 2, Internet access in Egypt has been restored, and the government is not better off for shutting it down in the first place. The riots remain ongoing, and the violence in the street continues to escalate. With such a complex political situation in Egypt, it would be foolish to say shutting down the Internet caused all the social unrest. Realistically speaking, the unrest was already brewing, and it was probably only a matter of time before the Egyptian people took action. The Internet blackout certainly didn't move the social situation toward a more peaceful resolution, though.

However, Egypt isn't the only nation facing questions of government regulation of the Internet in times of crisis. The Homeland Security Committee of the U.S. Senate proposed a bill that would grant the U.S. president authority to shut down certain parts of the Internet to protect against cyber threats.

The bill wouldn't give the president the power to shut down the nation's entire Internet infrastructure as Mubarak did. It would instead allow him to close off access to "our most critical infrastructure—the networks and assets most essential to the functioning of society and the economy—to ensure they are protected from destruction," according to a statement from Sen. Joe Lieberman.

Several organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the American Library Association, have voiced concerns that this authority could be abused to censor the Internet.

While this power may indeed prove useful in the event of a cyber attack, legislators need to be extremely careful when writing and approving this proposed legislation. If this Internet-killing power is not properly regulated and overseen, it could take the U.S. down a slippery slope from national security precaution to Internet censorship, and that's a situation that should be avoided at all costs.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com

ROAMIN' NUMERALS

40 Number of search warrants executed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on Jan. 27, in response to pro-Wikileaks electronic attacks against financial institutions, according to a Jan. 27 Wired.com article. Visa, Mastercard, PayPal and Amazon were targeted with denial of service attacks, which overload Web servers with traffic but cause no permanent damage.

Millions of dollars collected by Illinois tollway officials from Indiana **5** drivers who didn't pay tolls or fines for approximately two years, according to a Jan. 28 ChicagoBusiness.com article. The tollway sent out 85,000 past-due bills to Indiana drivers in August.

Percentage of likely U.S. voters who said they believe states should be allowed to file for bankruptcy if they are unable to pay off their debts, according to a Jan. 27 Rasmussen Report. Fifty-four percent oppose bankruptcy for states, while 29 percent are undecided. **17**

Speed, in miles per hour, of winds during the blizzard that hit Chicago from Feb. 1–2, according to a Feb. 3 article on SunTimes.com. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded on Lake Shore Drive when the city was blanketed by 20.2 inches of snow. **67**

'Skins' as contrived as every other reality TV show

"The fact that 'Skins' is purposefully provocative neither offends me nor excites me; it just bores me."

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

AN OVERTLY controversial attitude does not make for a good TV show. Such is the case with the U.S. version of "Skins"—a steamy teenage drama import, currently masquerading as something more spirited and ultimately smarter than any reality TV show on MTV. It has an advisory board of teenage writers, so it must be genuine and well-written, right? Not quite. It's provocative for the sake of being provocative, and much like someone handing out pamphlets for a World Wildlife Federation cause on the street, it's transparent and just plain annoying. For what it's worth, I wasn't in half the situations the characters in "Skins" were in when I was 16, and the show prides itself on being so true to life.

But the critics seem to buy the show's shtick because it has received a lot of praise for honestly portraying the teenage experience since it premiered on Jan. 17. Yet I find "Skins" to be no different than, say, "Jersey Shore" or "Teen Mom." The latter, however, seems like the most apt example of MTV's hypocrisy. There are severe consequences if a teen gets pregnant, though she could also end up a reality starlet?

I'd argue because shows like "Teen Mom" are indeed based—albeit loosely—on reality, the consequences do seem far more palpable than on "Skins," where no kid ever ends up in jail, therapy or deeply regretful of his or her actions: Any kind of wild behavior on "Skins" is edgy and hot, genuinely portrayed as good, old-fashioned fun. Sex is glorified, which furthers the common and misguided notion that sexually active teens are invincible, which they clearly aren't. (See: "Teen Mom" again.)

However, the fact that "Skins" is purposefully provocative neither offends me nor excites me; it just bores me. Their relationships don't seem honest, their adventures aren't quirky enough and it seems to be so focused on showcasing the perils of teen sexuality and substance abuse that it forfeits any sense of narrative charm. Not to mention, the pilot episode of "Skins" was an exact replica of the British version, except with different actors, of course. I honestly have no idea why they thought that would be compelling. I'll call it a lame attempt to draw in fans of the British show and leave it at that. Having watched both, I can safely say that the American actors look creepily young in comparison to their British counterparts. Partial nudity is replaced with swearing on MTV, and the inherent shock value is expected.

I'm not saying I wouldn't let my children watch "Skins" or "Teen Mom." I'm certainly not suggesting we should pretend sex isn't normal behavior. What I am saying, however, is neither show is more self-aware or sophisticated. "Skins" boasts that 19-year-olds write for the show, yet the dialogue doesn't come across as authentic. Also, I'm guessing no random 19-year-old kid is afforded the individual authorial voice in a controlled production. In other words, young kids probably don't write the scripts. Thankfully, the kids don't sound like the characters in "Juno," but the dialogue does sound like the product of what a 40-year-old approved and edited, even if the idea did come from a 19-year-old.

"Skins" has caused more of an uproar than someone like Snooki ever has in terms of its provocative nature though—so much so that the Parents Television Council called it "the most dangerous program that has ever been foisted on your children." This led to a federal investigation to assess whether it's child pornography or not, as reported by the Chicago Tribune. The kids on the show range from 15 to 19 years old, after all. Since then, MTV pulled back the reins, editing out raunchier scenes and reminding the public of its so-called responsibilities to viewers.

The show might be left with nothing but a shell of a narrative if producers are forced to edit out its sexcapades. Regardless, "Freaks and Geeks" and "My So-Called Life" are my go-to coming-of-age dramedies. They have something "Skins" and every other TV show starring teens or young adults on MTV don't have: an unassuming nature without an official agenda. Plus, their characters are well-developed and have chemistry with one another. Teens aren't always escaping from their bedroom windows, smoking for the first time, sleeping with someone they shouldn't be or driving off in a rusty van with their friends blasting punk music. For "Skins" to reduce adolescence to a series of moments like this—and nothing more—seems irresponsible. Teenagers are multidimensional people. And however impressionable teens are, the grown adults behind "Skins" are far more naive for portraying them otherwise.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com

CINEMA SLAPDOWN

ROUND 29

The Columbia Chronicle and the Film & Video Department presents
Black (a semester of Black and White and Red All Over*)

PRECIOUS

Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire, A film by Lee Daniels

Thursday, February 10, 2011 7pm
Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash, 8th Floor

Is *Precious* a purifying and atypical examination of a young black woman's life journey, or a patronizing and stereotypical study in miserabilism? Is this a true picture of what it means to be young, black and female in America today, or a reduction of that experience to the same old clichés that have defined the African American experience on film since *Birth of a Nation*? Are we seeing a damaged woman on the mend, or a traditional melodrama on crack?

Join us when we take on this Oprah-sized slice of modern American pie. Featuring F&V faculty member and Slapdown Superstar **Dan** ("makes my heart break!") **Rybicky** taking on Chicago Sun-Times' **Mary** ("makes my heart burn!") **Mitchell**. Referee'd by F&V faculty member and *Talk Cinema* host **Ron Falzone**.

Written by: Geoffrey Fletcher
Featuring: Gabourey Sidibe, Mo'Nique, Mariah Carey
(2009) Rated R, 109m

*** White = *The Reader* March 10, 2011**
Red All Over = *Antichrist* April 14, 2011

colum.edu/film

create... change

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO | THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE WWW.COLUMBIACHRONICLE.COM

FREE & OPEN TO ALL!
For information call 312.369.6708
or e-mail scuprisin@colum.edu

Metro

Teila Halpin THE CHRONICLE

ScanforDeals.com launched its first 600-square-foot billboard to provide residents near the Harrison Red Line stop deals on restaurants and local businesses.

Bar codes too big to ignore

Chicago-based company provides deals in South Loop using new technology

by Kristen Franzen
Assistant Metro Editor

A CHICAGO-BASED company has launched an original idea that creates a time-sharing capacity for affordable advertisements. This new idea helps support small and medium businesses.

ScanforDeals.com is placing 600-square-foot quick-response codes around the city. The first QR site is on Printers Row, near the corner of Polk and Clark streets. ScanforDeals.com plans to launch more sites in the near future but uses the South Loop as its testing ground.

The 600-square-foot billboards feature a code that people can scan daily using cameras and all smartphones. The code gives users the ability to access a daily deal in their neighborhood.

"We would like to be the first to market [QR codes] to make it as big, large and proud as possible," said Ted Novak, partner at Clique Studios LLC. "We focused on the South Loop because of Columbia and a lot of residents who use cell phones."

According to ScanforDeals.com, this is similar to "group-buying." To receive a QR deal, users show the downloaded coupon image on their smartphone to participating locations for discounts.

Most smartphones come prepared with software that allows the phones to download an application for the QR code reader. The smartphone's camera acts like a scanner, allowing it to read the QR barcode. When scanned, a user is also able to open a link to a website with more information on the particular message.

"To create a QR code is virtually free," Novak said.

Palmer Printing, 739 S. Clark St., is affiliated with Clique Studios to help bring local advertising through the use of QR codes. According to a press release, Palmer Printing and Clique Studios are interested in promoting deals to residents. They look to provide local businesses in their neighborhood with deals to benefit the community.

"We wanted to do something to show we're more than just a printing company, we have more to offer than just ink on paper," said Chad Kase, web designer at Palmer Printing. "We want to show our customers how to utilize our materials, and we'd like to show our bigger customers their company can utilize this application as well."

Participants in ScanforDeals.com programs, such as Jimmy Green's Sports Bar, 825 S. State St., and Blackies restaurant, 755 S. Clark St., receive analytical information, such as the number of people scanning their billboard, according to Novak.

"We thought we would put the QR code on the side of our building to run an advertisement to help the restaurants and businesses in our neighborhood generate income," Kase said.

The Jimmy Green's Sports Bar marketing manager said its deal includes two beers and two pizzas for $10.

"From an advertising approach, the cost associated with renting the advertising space on a side of the building is very costly," Novak said. "It's charged based on the size of the advertisement as well. At the end of the day, if they were to put a big banner advertisement up, there is no way to tell if it was effective, whereas with QR we're able to tell how many people scanned it."

QR codes also create a greener environment for the South Loop.

"We're able to print the QR code once and consistently change the codes for the phone," Novak said. "From an environmental stand point, each time you scan the barcode it can be a different deal."

Clique Studios LLC. has the ability to change the desired URL to which QR will lead. With this ability, outdoor billboards can become more environmentally friendly and save local businesses money. Regular billboards are made up from PVC vinyl, which is a non-recyclable material. QR codes never need to be changed and can always be scanned for a new great deal.

"QR codes are a large cost-saving aspect," Novak said. "We are able to do things dynamically that [were] traditionally done manually."

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Palmer Printing Inc., 739 S. Clark St., prints billboards for local businesses and restaurants.

kfranzen@chroniclemail.com

Treasurer: party of one

Courtesy STEPHANIE NEELY

One candidate left on ballot after opponent removed for signature discrepancy

by Heather McGraw
Assistant Metro Editor

OF THE three citywide positions up for a vote in the approaching Feb. 22 elections, the mayoral and city clerk candidates continue to campaign, but the office of treasurer is down to one name.

Stephanie Neely is alone on the ballot for treasurer after holding the position for six years. She won the citywide municipal election in 2007, but originally took office in 2006, when Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed her to replace Judith Rice.

According to Jim Allen, spokesman for the Chicago board of elections, her former opponent, Elida Cruz, was removed from the ballot because of an insufficient number of legitimate signatures from registered voters.

"Ms. Cruz's attorney later argued there was a computer glitch but offered no testimony, evidence or details of what the supposed glitch was, much less how it might have impacted the outcome of the objection," Allen said.

Cruz said she has intentions to run as a write-in candidate because she wants to give voters a choice. The latest list from the Chicago Board of Elections shows she has filed a declaration of intent form to run.

"The city treasurer should act in an advisory capacity to the mayor's office in terms of budgetary, financial and fiduciary responsibilities that the city of Chicago may have," Cruz said.

Robert Bruhl a clinical assistant professor of political science at University of Illinois at Chicago, said electing a treasurer is a good way to ensure independence from other city government.

"If a treasurer is appointed by the mayor or City Council, it's possible that the city treasurer may not be honest all the time," Bruhl said.

The Chronicle spoke with Neely on Jan. 25 about how she sees the Office of Treasurer, her opinion on the current budget's state and her potential plans for next term.

The Chronicle: Can you explain the duties involved with the office of treasurer?

Stephanie Neely: My statutory responsibility is to protect the city's money. I

» SEE TREASURER, PG. 37

Silvia Baca couldn't have known what to expect when she emigrated here from Mexico 10 years ago, but she sounds certain of what she'll do next.

Baca, her husband and their three daughters moved to Chicago in 2001 and were able to buy a home in the city's Belmont Cragin neighborhood in 2005. The eviction notice came five years later, when they were ordered to vacate the home by Dec. 4 of last year.

Though Baca's oldest daughter now lives in Mexico, the younger two, ages 17 and 13, attend school close to home. Her 17-year-old daughter attends Foreman High School and wants to join the army when she graduates. According to Baca, she currently gets good grades, though when the family has moved in the past her grades have suffered. Baca fears this could happen again if the family is forced to uproot to a new neighborhood.

A year ago, the family was forced to move into the basement of their two-story brick home to help pay the mortgage. Tenants now rent the three upper-floor rooms of their home.

"I want to do something—anything—to keep my house," said Baca, who is trying to amass the correct amount of money that she owes on the home.

A similar story, with varying outcomes, can apply to thousands of Chicago residents who have been left on the brink of losing their homes.

As many residents were displaced during the peak of the recession, attention to the issues faced by evicted residents grew.

Many anti-eviction groups now fear that new foreclosure data suggests that a rise in evictions looms.

Foreclosures have continued to rise since 2007, a period in which the Cook County Circuit Court recorded a 70 percent surge in filings. Though a plateau in foreclosures was expected during the end of 2010 because of a self-imposed moratorium by U.S. banks, 2011 may see its expected continuance.

"This is a situation that is getting worse," said Keeanga Taylor, organizer for the Chicago Anti-Eviction Campaign. "[Evictions] combined with the assault on public housing leaves the real palpable question: Where are poor people and working people supposed to live?"

According to Taylor, the grassroots organization aims to create awareness of individual's rights in the face of eviction and alleviate the social isolation that can come with ejection from one's home. They intend to build a citywide movement to stop evictions.

According to RealtyTrac Inc., the largest online marketplace for foreclosure properties in the U.S., 49,723 Illinois homes were repossessed by banks in 2010. The majority of these proceedings (27,522) were filed in Cook County following the initial foreclosure notice. More than 1.05 million homes were repossessed nationwide during that same period.

The flow of properties going into bank repossession increased substantially from 2005 to 2007, according to a 2008 report from the Woodstock Institute. In that period, the percentage of homes moving from the auction phase of foreclosure into bank repossession grew from 64 percent to nearly 96 percent.

A 2010 report from the Woodstock Institute states that thousands of vacant foreclosures threaten to destabilize Chicago's neighborhoods and may cost the city as much as $36 million. Because of a lack of oversight of vacant properties following foreclosure, abandoned homes can lower property values, attract crime and cause blight, posing substantial risk to surrounding communities, according to the report.

Baca has seen some of this firsthand. When she and her husband, a Chicago plumber, first moved into their neighborhood, they estimated no more than two of the homes were empty. She now estimates 20 to 25 of the homes have been vacated for various reasons, including foreclosure.

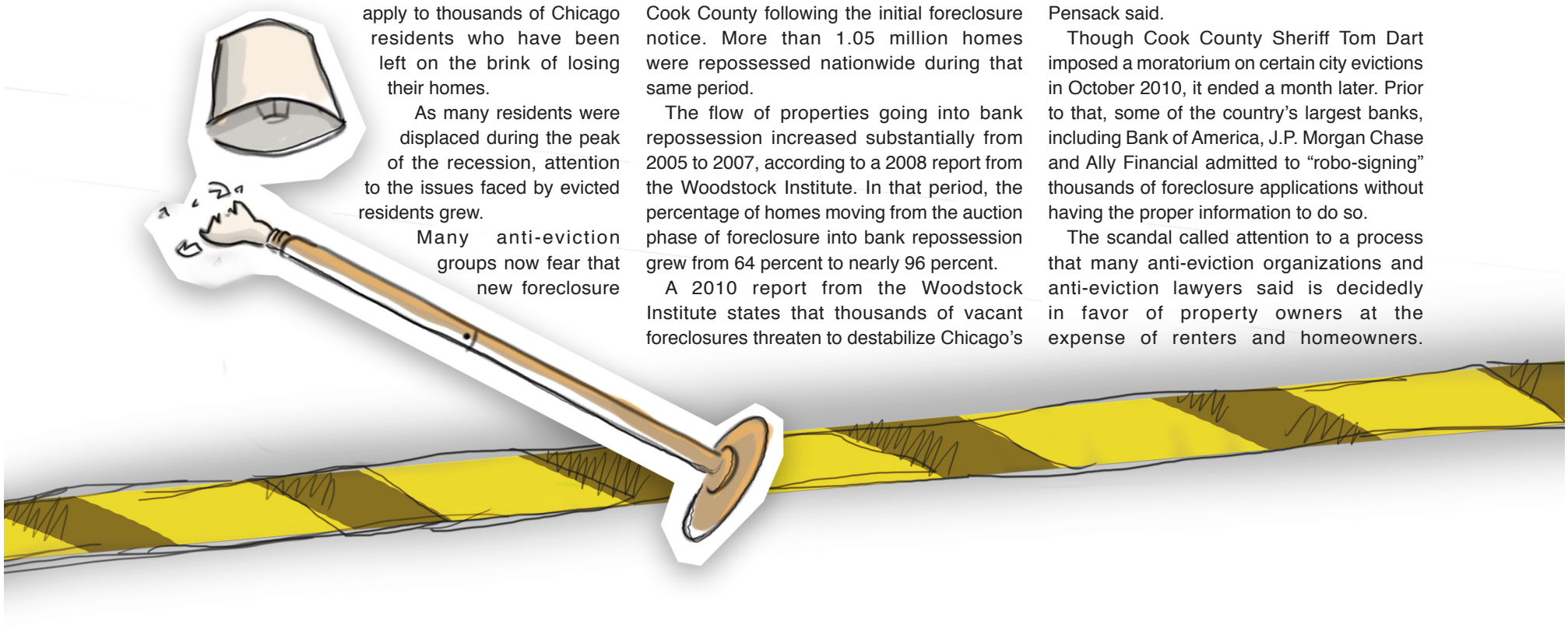
Though a foreclosure does not necessarily result in the eviction of a resident, a rise of foreclosures in the nation's largest metropolitan areas and a 20 percent jump in Chicago-area foreclosures last year could signal the beginning of a resurgence in home loss for many families.

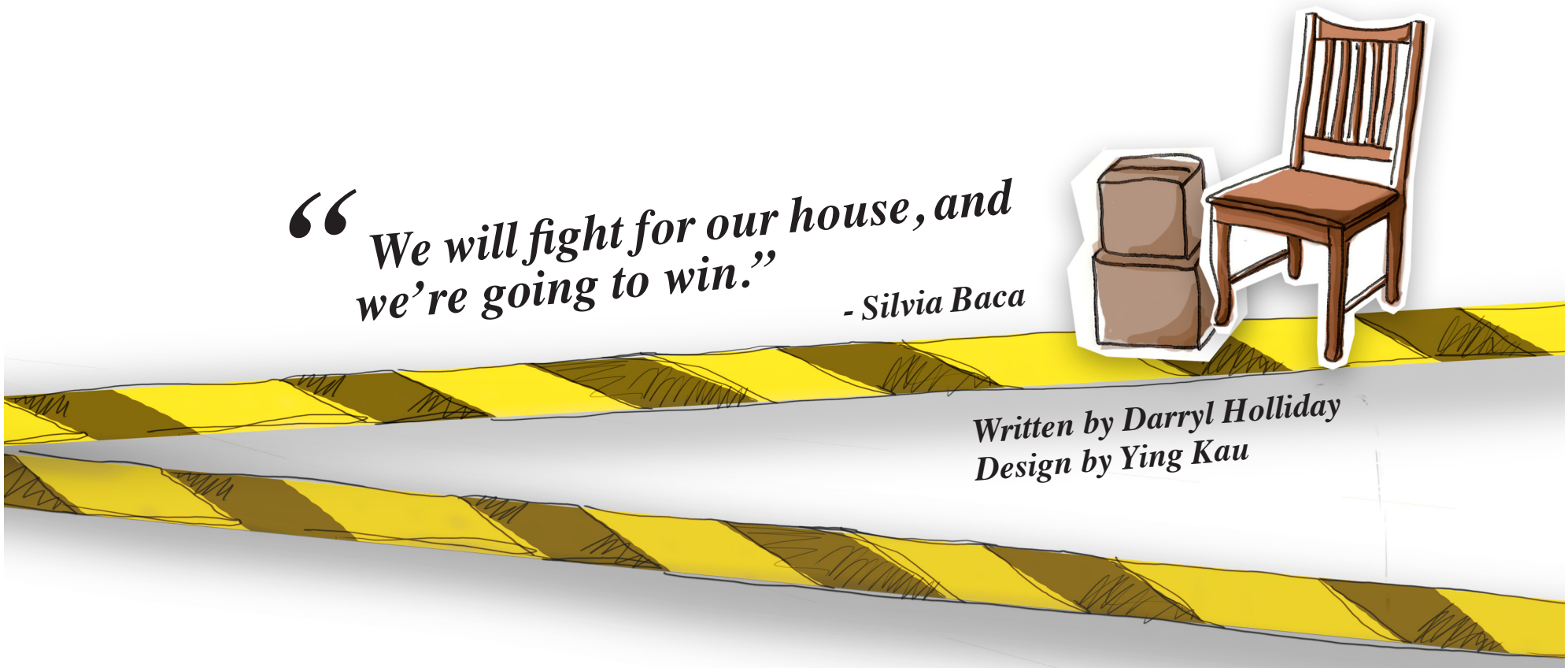
According to Douglas Pensack, associate director of the Illinois Tenant Union, a change in the composition of evictions has followed Chicago's relatively high unemployment rate and poor economy.

"The racial composition is changing … five years ago I'd say 98 percent of all [eviction court] defendants were black—very few Hispanics and very few whites—now you see a smattering of both in addition to black[s]," Pensack said.

Though Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart imposed a moratorium on certain city evictions in October 2010, it ended a month later. Prior to that, some of the country's largest banks, including Bank of America, J.P. Morgan Chase and Ally Financial admitted to "robo-signing" thousands of foreclosure applications without having the proper information to do so.

The scandal called attention to a process that many anti-eviction organizations and anti-eviction lawyers said is decidedly in favor of property owners at the expense of renters and homeowners.





"We will fight for our house, and we're going to win."

- Silvia Baca

Written by Darryl Holliday
Design by Ying Kau

Baca met with Dart in December of last year but remains steeped in court dates and lawyer fees.

Evictions court is, by law, an expedited process. There are five full-time eviction judges at the Daley Plaza Civic Center, 118 N. Clark St., who hear eviction cases five days a week. This roughly equals 50 court calls a week, which can see approximately 20 to 40 cases at each call—the average eviction case lasting under three minutes.

"The judges themselves see their role as evicting tenants," Pensack said. "And they do a pretty good job of it—they move people through pretty quick. It's more like an administrative proceeding than a court proceeding—like parking tickets, only we're not talking about parking tickets, we're talking about people's homes."

Chris Wren, a West Side warehouse worker also facing potential eviction, agrees.

Wren told his landlord he didn't want to go to court but ended up there on Feb. 1. He was forced to take time off of work because of illness at the end of last year, winding up one month late on his rental payment.

According to Wren, papers notifying him of his eviction were not served and he wasn't notified until it was almost too late.

"It's like a big business," he said, before approaching Cook County Circuit Court Judge Linzey D. Jones for his hearing. "They don't have mercy on you."

Wren's Near West Side neighborhood is largely comprised of subsidized housing, and like Baca's, it has seen an undue amount of residents forced to move for a variety of reasons.

"You've gotta eat," Wren said, summarizing the cycle of expenses that can lead to the loss of one's home or apartment. "This job market is not what it should be and everyone needs a decent place to live."

While having a devastating effect on families, the consequences of foreclosure on Chicago's communities may be nearly as destructive.

"[Evictions] combined with the assault on public housing leaves the real palpable question: Where are poor people and working people supposed to live?"

- Keeanga Taylor

The far-reaching effect of foreclosure further heightens a need to keep people in their homes, according to Rebecca McDannald, volunteer supervisor at the Metropolitan Tenants Organization in Chicago.

"Obviously there's the problem of people losing their housing, but in addition there are several things that compound to make things worse," she said. "One of those things is that homeless shelters fill up—they aren't always available year-round—another is there's no way of expunging an eviction off of your record."

While many housing analysts predict the housing crisis will peak this year, many anti-eviction groups are strengthening their guard. According to RealtyTrac Inc., 9,134 default notices were issued in Illinois in December of last year—more than any other month in 2010.

Facing potential evictions, many residents are refusing to relocate from their homes.

"We have options," Baca said. "We're planning to hold a rally on Feb. 28 to let these banks know we're still here and we're not going to move. We will fight for our house and we're going to win."

With the support of organizations, such as the Chicago Anti-Eviction Campaign, residents in the city are becoming more aware of their housing rights. According to Taylor, an anti-eviction campaign can make it increasingly difficult for property owners to evict residents by prolonging the eviction process and strengthening the voice of individuals.

Citing predatory lending and other fraudulent activity on the part of banks, the campaign seeks to support residents who have been victimized by such practices.

A broader concern regarding the city's underserved population remains, despite the success and increase in quality of life that comes when families are held together in their homes.

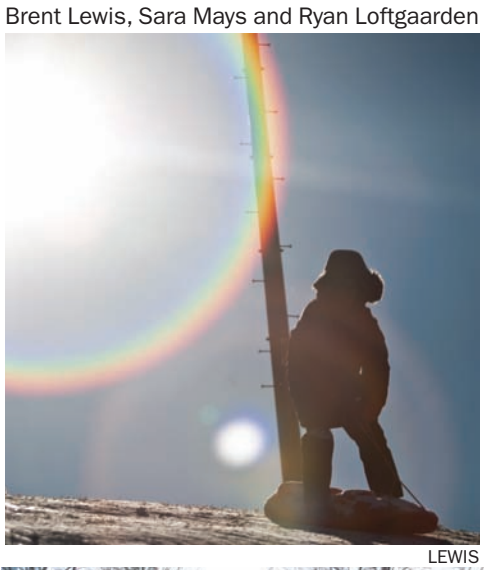
As more and more low-income, largely minority residents are forced to leave the city because of high unemployment, foreclosures and a lack of funding for subsidized housing, among others, evictions tie into a larger housing issue.

"We feel this is a fundamental social right—a fundamental human right—that can unite people across living conditions, so that, collectively, we can fight for a whole new understanding of what housing should be in the city," Taylor said.

dholliday@chroniclemail.com

SNOWpocalypse

Photography by Brock Brake, Tiela Halpin, Brent Lewis, Sara Mays and Ryan Loftgaarden



LEWIS

LOFTGAARDEN

MAYS

MAYS

BRAKE

BRAKE

HALPIN

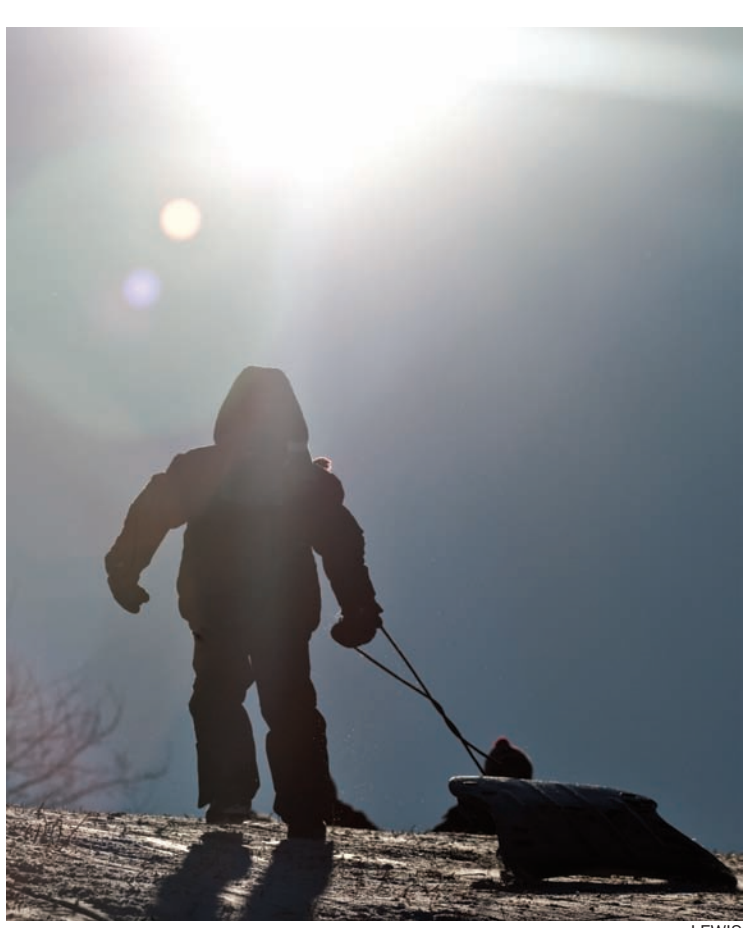
LEWIS

HALPIN

LEWIS

LEWIS

MAYS



LEWIS

BRAKE

The School of Liberal Arts and Sciences Announces

The 2011 Paula F. Pfeffer

POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST

create... change

Above: last year's winning entry by Joyce Rice in the single panel category. Hers was among seven other winners.

1st Prize: $550

2nd Prize: $450

3rd Prize: $350

Honorable Mention: $250

The eight winning cartoons will be selected by a jury, which will include faculty from various departments. Winners will be displayed on a trophy, and honored at a reception on Tuesday, April 12th, in the CCC Library.

Submitted cartoons must be drawn or printed on 8.5x11 white paper. Please include your full name, address, phone number, student ID number, and email address on the back of the entry.

DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2011

SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS:
Political Cartoon Contest
C/O OSCAR VALDEZ
Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences
624 S. Michigan Ave.
10th floor, Suite 1000

Sponsored by the Department of Humanities, History and Social Sciences, in collaboration with the *Columbia Chronicle* and the Departments of Journalism, Art + Design, and Film & Video

FEATURED PHOTO

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

An estimated 500 people raced into Lake Michigan at Oak Street Beach Jan. 29 at noon for the 10-year-anniversary of the Lakeview Polar Bear Club. The club takes donations and raises money for needy families. This year, the club raised $19,500 for two Chicagoland families in need.

» TREASURER

Continued from PG. 31

manage a portfolio of about $7 billion. I am the person who transfers cash to the comptroller—who has the checkbook—when the money has been deemed appropriate to spend by City Council. I also invest the money, and since being elected treasurer four years ago, have earned close to a half a billion dollars in interest earnings.

The Chronicle: What's your opinion of the current state of Chicago's finances?

SN: In terms of what's going on with our deficit—it's not unique in this country for any municipality to have a shortfall in revenues. It's the first time since the late '70s and early '80s [that] all revenues are down. Property transfer tax [revenue] is down. Personal income tax [revenue] is down. Sales tax [revenues] are down. The only way to balance any budget—be it the city's budget, the state's budget, the federal government's budget—is to either increase revenue or decrease expenses.

The Chronicle: What are your plans for the next term?

SN: We are going to continue to provide my statutory responsibilities, which is to protect the citizens' money, to provide liquidity and to grow the money. In addition, we have some great community outreach programs where we partner with Chicago Public Schools and City Colleges of Chicago to provide financial literacy to all of our citizens. ... We're going to continue to give the citizens what they want. We conduct town hall meetings very frequently to ask our small business community what they want.

hmcgraw@chroniclemail.com

IN OTHER NEWS

First snow day

Chicago Public Schools and students experienced the first snow day in more than a decade during last week's blizzard, according to HuffingtonPost.com. The school system has more than 409,000 enrolled students, 86 percent of whom come from low-income families. Despite the formal closures, many school buildings remained open in case students came in for meals. Officials said 26 buildings remained without electricity on Feb. 2. Fourth-grader Ryan Eaddy had one word for the first snow day off she's ever experienced: "Awesome."

State of emergency

According to SunTimes.com, Cook County officials declared a state of emergency during last week's snow storm. In suburban communities, emergency responders struggled to reach stranded motorists. In some suburban areas, the emergency vehicles were trapped. Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle declared a state of emergency because of the severe storm and hazardous travel conditions. Hospitals remained opened. Preckwinkle asked that nonessential personnel be allowed to stay home during the storm.

Return of the Daley

Mayor Richard M. Daley emerged on Feb. 3 to praise the city's response to the Blizzard of 2011. Lake Shore Drive was reopened and city officials took responsibility for the snafu that left hundreds of residents stranded, according to ChicagoTribune.com. Frustration was building among some aldermen as the mayor spoke from the warmth of Chicago's 911-center. Aldermen worried the snow wasn't being removed quickly enough from the city's side streets less than three weeks before an election.

Worst jobs, worst weather

Weather experts predict this to be the coldest weather in two years with temperatures dipping to 11-15 degrees below zero last week and wind chills in excess of 25-35 degrees below zero, according to ChicagoNow.com. In honor of the storm, the website published a list of the 10 worst jobs for winter weather, which included mailmen, crossing guards, cab drivers, Chicago librarians, dog walkers, garbage men and women, anyone working for tips and new Metra Executive Director Alex Clifford.

OFF THE BLOTTER

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

1 Under the bleachers

According to police reports, on Feb. 1, a Columbia student told officers he had placed his bag under bleachers in the South Loop Elementary School gym, 1212 S. Plymouth Court, before a game. He returned to find his bag taken, including his Samsung cell phone and his iPod Touch 8g, among other personal items.

2 Hackney's disaster

A victim told police officers she had been sitting in Hackney's Restaurant, 733 S. Dearborn St., on Feb. 1., when she proceeded to hang her purse underneath the bar, which is a common practice at Hackney's. A short time later, the victim retrieved her purse to find her wallet had been taken, including three credit cards, a medical card and $275.

3 Full Nelson

On Feb. 1, according to police reports, a victim told officers he was forced by an unknown suspect to open his car door after he had gotten out at 525 S. Wabash Ave. As the victim moved to open the door, the suspect headbutted him, then grabbed him and "twisted his neck." The victim was later taken to the nearest hospital for treatment of his left eye, and for neck and nerve damage from head to back.

4 Officer down

Two police officers were exiting the 2nd Ward's 1st District station, 1718 S. State St., on Feb. 1, to respond to a call during the snow emergency in the South Loop. According to police reports, one of the officers observed the other slip and fall on the ice-covered sidewalk. The victim instantly complained of pain in his right lower leg and was transferred to Northwestern Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Games

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21–April 20) Ownership, long-term possession or financial documents may now be important to loved ones. Let others find clarity in small details. At present, your efforts are best used to foster creativity, begin rather than end projects and inspire group participation. Later this week someone close may press for increased involvement in your emotional life or family activities. If so, pace yourself and watch for group agreement. Friends and relatives may need extra time to adjust to new routines. Avoid criticism: Tensions may be high.

TAURUS (April 21–May 20) A long-term friend may this week provide a unique insight into the reactions of a loved one. Subtle hints and messages will soon bring clarity to a family or romantic dispute. Past experiences are now instructive and helpful. Study the advice of friends and colleagues. After mid-week business expectations may quickly change. Watch for key officials and older colleagues to introduce new facts, schedules or numbers. Ask for clarification: At present, minor errors can rapidly escalate. Take extra time for research and verification.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Social wisdom and sudden intuitions may provide unique information this week. Private business dynamics or hidden workplace politics may soon be made public. Long-term loyalties and history between colleagues are a key issue. Watch for valuable hints and clues. Wednesday through Saturday accents subtle home changes and new family discussions. A trusted friend or relative may now wish to search out new relationships or bring greater emotional freedom into their lives. Remain supportive: All is well.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) Workplace projects may now be postponed. Areas affected involve disrupted communications, lost ambition or recent failures by colleagues. Team promotions, financial plans and corporate funding will be unpredictable this week. Be flexible and avoid appearing overly determined. Later this week watch also for a rare romantic flirtation or bold social invitation. New relationships will work strongly in your favor, so not to worry. Do, however, expect minor delays and confusing messages. Wait for reliable signals.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22) Business and romantic partnerships may soon experience minor tensions. Negotiated goals and long-range promises will now require added dedication. Reaffirm previously established rules or expectations. During the next eight days loved ones will need comfort, security and acceptance. Thursday through Sunday pay attention to the small hints, comments or requests of younger friends or relatives. Someone close may ask for clear decisions, fast renovations or complex home changes. Take your time: There's much to consider.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) Quick impressions may soon bring closure to a recent social or family disagreement. Key relationships now need to evolve to a new level of trust and companionship. Carefully consider the fears, doubts and long-term ideals of loved ones. Powerful wisdom is available. After midweek, many Virgos will experience a steady increase in business duties and new financial information. Listen closely to all instructions and comments. Key officials will not offer complete information. Remain dedicated and watch for small errors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Close colleagues may be critical of fast improvements or new suggestions this week. Fear of change is now an ongoing concern in the workplace. Reassure others of their importance and value. At present, self-doubt and business disruptions will be deeply felt. Later this week a trusted friend or romantic partner may offer support or acknowledgement. Recent disagreements or miscommunications will be easily resolved. Stay dedicated to long-term goals, trusted facts and established values. Your emotional guidance is needed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Team negotiations and accountability are a strong theme this week. After Tuesday key officials or older colleagues may ask for your leadership, advice or approval. Pay special attention to rules, regulations or employment standards. Accuracy and precision are now vital. A positive impression will quickly lead to advancement or new assignments. Don't hesitate to take the lead. Thursday through Sunday highlights social invitations and romantic introductions. Stay open: Passionate relationships will demand attention.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Home relationships may now begin a brief but intense phase of conflict. Before midweek, group dynamics and deeply felt family needs are strongly accented. Be supportive but avoid emotional triangles. Loved ones will soon build confidence by resolving their own differences. Friday through Sunday business routines may change without warning. New assignments or schedules are, however, temporary. Pace yourself and expect ongoing reversals. After Saturday rest and pamper the body: Energy may be low.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20) Monday through Wednesday unique social invitations may be emotionally complicated. Romantic triangles and mildly unethical attractions are now an ongoing theme. Trust your first instincts and watch for valuable clues. Private behavior and public reputation may soon be in conflict. Much of this is a passing mood, so not to worry. Loved ones and close friends will soon set firm boundaries. After Thursday carefully study all new financial documents or legal papers. Attention to detail is important: Watch for small miscalculations.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Romance will be intense or emotionally draining this week. Late Monday expect unusual requests, comments or observations from loved ones. Intimate discussions, public affections and shared long-term goals will be difficult to resist. Stay alert. Tuesday through Friday many Aquarians will also encounter an unexpected workplace proposal or job assignment. Find extra time to dedicate to complex projects: in the coming weeks bosses and managers will need added help and new creativity. Refuse to be derailed.

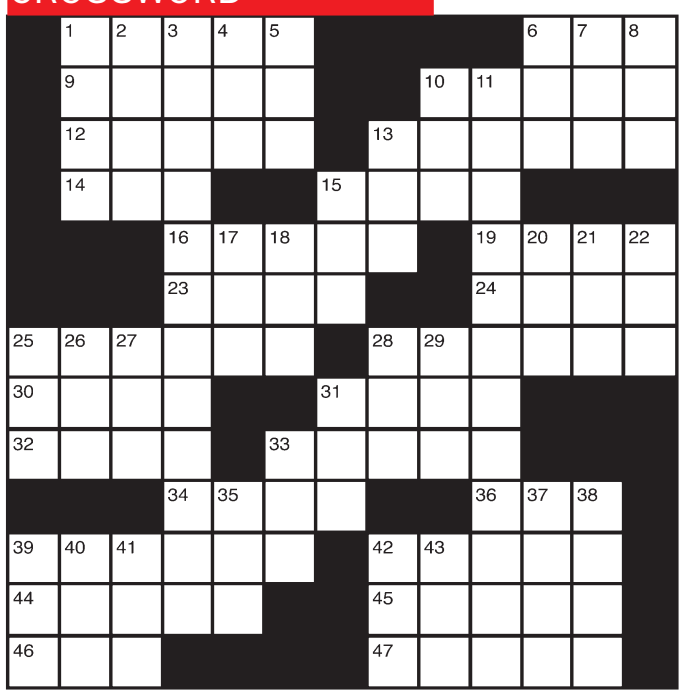
PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) Flirtations from potential lovers may soon create an atmosphere of sensuality and emotional tension. Nonverbal communications are now compelling. Before midweek pay close attention to complex social and romantic signals. A new era of open affection will soon arrive. For some Pisceans this may also manifest as an unusual power struggle in a working relationship or business partners. If so, expect a minor triangle to quickly escalate and then offer unique career opportunities. Stay focused: A prompt reaction is important.

SUDOKU Level 4

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Mr. Mandel
6 Diddley and Derek
9 Jennifer Garner adventure series
10 Kick out
12 "__ __ Call You Sweetheart"
13 "Mutiny on the __"
14 Alphabetic three-in-a-row
15 Howard and Rifkin
16 Matt Lauer's program
19 "The Greatest Story Ever __"
23 Jackrabbit
24 Notion
25 Series set in a Boston bar
28 "__ Camera"; Allen Funt's series
30 Mineo's namesakes
31 "__ White and the Seven Dwarfs"
32 "Whose Line __ Anyway?"
33 Company that makes toy trucks
34 Sherman Hemsley sitcom
36 Titles for Columbo and others: abbr.
39 "American Idol" winner __ Underwood
42 Simon of "The Mentalist"
44 "God __ America"; song sung by Kate Smith
45 Sheep's cry
46 Actor __ Caesar
47 Waitress on "Cheers"

DOWN
1 "Two and a __ Men"
2 Designer __ Cassini
3 "Dancing __"
4 "__ Sam"; Sean Penn/Michelle Pfeiffer movie
5 WNW plus 180°
6 One of John Boy's brothers
7 Fall month: abbr.
8 Pigpen
10 Long, long time
11 Role on "Brothers & Sisters"
13 "__ Meets World"
15 Actress Charlotte __
17 Rower's item
18 Titles for Meredith Grey and Alex Karev: abbr.
20 "The __ Couple"
21 Accessory for Don Ho
22 "American __!"
25 "__: Miami"
26 "Rumor __ It..."; movie for Jennifer Aniston
27 Wallach or Marienthal
28 "Larry King Live" network
29 In fine shape, for short
31 "Sanford and __"
33 Golf ball holder
35 Prefix for place or understand
37 Dark greenish blue
38 Miss, in Mexico: abbr.
39 "__ Evening News with Katie Couric"
40 Actress __ MacGraw
41 "The __ Skelton Hour"
42 London-based broadcasting corp.
43 Apple pie __ mode

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

	G	O	O	D			M	A	N			
	A	F	A	R			A	M	I	S	H	
P	I	E	T	Y		O	T	T	A	W	A	
A	N	N	S		P	F	C	S		O	L	D
M	S	G		L	E	A	H		M	O	L	E
		A	L	A	N			B	A	S	E	S
		G	O	W	N		D	E	S	I		
G	L	E	S	S			A	S	H	E		
H	O	M	E		R	A	N	T		K	I	M
I	V	E		M	I	S	S		B	U	R	R
	E	N	O	U	G	H		T	A	R	A	S
	S	T	A	S	H			W	I	T	T	
			R	E	T			O	O	Z	E	

(c) 2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

1/30/11

Stay In

An afternoon with Sonia Sanchez, poet and playwright

FREE

2.09.11
1 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor
aaca@colum.edu
FREE

Poet and playwright Sonia Sanchez was deemed "a lion in literature's forest" by poet Maya Angelou. Sanchez's writing explores women's lives, the struggles and triumphs of people of color and global and humanist themes. The author of 14 books, including "Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems," she has received countless awards, including the 2004 Harper Lee Award and the 1999 Langston Hughes Poetry Award. Sanchez will be speaking at Columbia as part of the 2011 African Heritage Month celebration.

Afro Blue Café
2.07.11
7 – 9:30 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
aaca@colum.edu
FREE

African-American Cultural Affairs presents student performances of music, poetry, theater and comedy in an intimate cafe setting. Performances will be followed by an open mic. Desserts from the Diaspora, 740 E. 56th Place, will be served.

Kori Chambers – Co-Anchor Good Day Chicago
2.10.11
1 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
aaca@colum.edu
FREE

Kori Chambers is co-anchor of Good Day Chicago, weekdays from 4:30 – 7 a.m. on FOX Chicago. He joined FOX after three years as an anchor and reporter for WDIV in Detroit. Chambers has reported on everything from spot news to auto shows and mayoral scandals. He is visiting Columbia to discuss working in broadcast journalism as part of the 2011 African Heritage Month celebration.

Monday 2.7

"Alumni on 5"
All day
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 5th floor
(312) 369-7157
FREE

FREE

"The Sound of Failure: Broadway Musical Flops and the People Involved"
All day
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
gavin.rehfeldt@loop.colum.edu
FREE

African-American Cultural Affairs village lunch
Noon – 1 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-7994
FREE

FREE

Tuesday 2.8

"Word: Type + Image"
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
C33 Gallery
33 E. Congress Parkway Building, 1st floor
jkiekeben@colum.edu
FREE

"Babylon, Wisconsin"
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
33 E. Congress Parkway Building, 1st floor
(312) 369-8163
FREE

Philip Seward in concert
Noon – 1 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

FREE

Acoustic Kitchen
7 – 10 p.m.
Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression
Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-7920
FREE

Wednesday 2.9

"MIDWINTER: Embrace The Darkness"
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 Center
1104 S.. Wabash Ave. 1st Floor
(312) 369-8177
FREE

Lisa Fishman and Julie Carr poetry reading
5:30 p.m.
Sherwood Conservatory of Music
1312 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-8819
FREE

Thursday 2.10

Curator's Tours: Guy Tillim and Kahn & Selesnick with Karen Irvine
Noon – 2 p.m.
Museum of Contemporary Photography, Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
mocp@colum.edu
FREE

Big Mouth
7 – 9:30 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
spb@colum.edu
FREE

Cinema Slapdown, Round 29: "Precious"
7 – 10 p.m.
Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor
(312) 369-6708
FREE

Friday 2.11

Jazz Gallery in the Lobby
Noon – 1 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

FREE

Blood Ball
7:30 – 11 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-6642
FREE

Paige Fernandez senior recital
8 – 9 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

music columbia photo tv cultural studies audio arts childhood dance
theater english a+d radio iam journalism marketing film

Get Out

Love Note Wednesday
2.9.11 / 5–9 p.m. // Geja's Cafe
340 W. Armitage Ave.

Bring a copy of your most romantic love letter written to your significant other and receive a $25 gift certificate by e-mail, and a chance to win an annual dinner for two for as many years as the letter is old. Regular dinner menu available.

(773) 281-9101
Prices vary

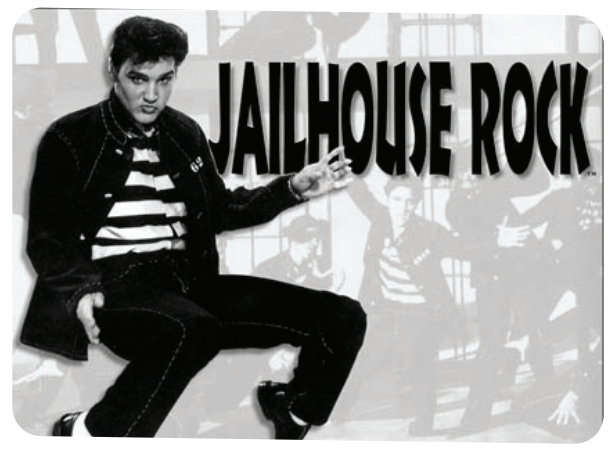
"Movieoke!"
2.7.11 / 9 p.m. // The Whistler
2421 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Think karaoke with movies instead of music. Choose from more than 200 movie scenes and act one out as it plays on the big screen behind you. Costumes are provided.

(773) 227-3530
FREE; 21+

"Sound Opinions" at the Movies: "Jailhouse Rock"

2.8.11
7:30 p.m. // Music Box
3733 N. Southport



(773) 871-6604
$8–$10

The WBEZ (93.1) music talk show hosts a screening of the classic 1957 Elvis Presley film with Greg Kot and Columbia faculty member Jim DeRogatis.

Monday 2.7

Tequila tasting series
6:30 – 9 p.m.
Zocalo
358 W. Ontario St.
(312) 302-9977
$20; RSVP recommended; 21+

"Brutal Beauty: Tales of the Rose City Rollers" Chicago premiere
8 p.m.
Lincoln Hall
2424 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 525-2501
FREE; 21+

"The Chicago Code" viewing party
8 p.m.
Lobby Lounge
150 W. Roosevelt Road
(312) 564-2100
FREE; 21+

Tuesday 2.8

"Harry Potter" trivia night
7:30 p.m.
Ginger's Ale House
3801 N. Ashland Ave.
(773) 348-2767
$5; 21+

"RAIN: A Tribute to the Beatles"
7:30 p.m.
Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Oriental Theatre
24 W. Randolph St.
(800) 775-2000
$35–$75

Wednesday 2.9

"Burn the Floor"
2 and 8 p.m.
Bank of America Theatre
18 W. Monroe St.
(800) 775-2000
$16–$80

"The Loop: Explore without Freezing"
10 a.m.
Chase Auditorium
10 S. Dearborn St.
(312) 350-1131
$18–$20; FREE for kids under age 12; RSVP required

Thursday 2.10

Forgotten History: Edmonia Lewis
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
DuSable Museum of African-American History
740 E. 56th Place
(773) 947-0600
$10 with general admission; $5 for museum members and students

Rooney
7 p.m.
Lincoln Hall
2424 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 525-2501
$16; all ages

Friday 2.11

"The Magic Parlour"
10:30 p.m.
Chopin Theatre
1543 W. Division St.
(773) 278-1500
$25

Vaudezilla's Lincoln Fair: A Monthly Burlesque Expo
9 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Lincoln Tap Room
3010 N. Lincoln Ave.
(773) 868-0060
FREE

Saturday 2.12

Screw Cupid pub crawl
8 – 11 p.m.
McGee's Tavern & Grille
950 W. Webster Ave.
(773) 868-8073
$25; 21+

Chicago Auto Show
10 a.m. – 10 p.m.
McCormick Place
2301 S. Lake Shore Drive
(630) 495-2282
$7-$11; FREE for kids ages 6 and under

Sunday 2.13

Chile cook-off
Noon
Risque Cafe
3419 N. Clark St.
(773) 525-7711
$10

"The Chi-Town Clown Revue: Valentine's Show"
9 p.m.
The Neo-Futurarium
5153 N. Ashland Ave.
(773) 275-5255
$10

music movie TV night-life theater dance food culture museum

FORECAST

AccuWeather.com Seven-day forecast for Chicago

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2011

MONDAY	MON. NIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Cloudy, flurries; colder	Partly cloudy and colder	Mostly cloudy and colder	Some sun, then clouds	Partly sunny and colder	Turning cloudy; colder	Not as cold	Snow
High 24	Low -1	High 7 Low -7	High 13 Low -5	High 7 Low -7	High 3 Low 2	High 34 Low 22	High 36 Low 13