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Students to blame for low graduation rates » PAGE 32

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The official news source of Columbia College Chicago February 28, 2011 Volume 46, Issue 21

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

RIC Blawkhawks sled hockey

Web-Exclusive Video

Cromer comes home

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Alumnus and past Columbia theater professor David Cromer speaks at the "Conversation in the Arts" at the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Cromer recently won the MacArthur Fellowship Grant and is working on upcoming plays with celebrities Nicole Kidman, James Franco and Ben Stiller.

Celebrated graduate returns to college as part of speaking series

by Sam Charles
Campus Editor

COLUMBIA WELCOMED a former student and professor to share his experiences as an award-winning theater director and stage actor. David Cromer, who received a MacArthur Foundation Grant in September 2010, was described by the foundation as someone "who is reinvigorating classic American plays and illuminating their relationship to the present."

Cromer, 47, came back to the college as the second speaker in this year's installment of "Conversations in the Arts" on Feb. 23 to give his insight in how theater is evolving, the different directions it is moving in and how Columbia prepared him for life after college.

"Columbia shows you how to create from very little and how to self-motivate," Cromer said. "This place is what you make of it."

He left Columbia in 2008 to work as a full-time freelance theater director in New York City. In some of his upcoming productions, he'll be working with high-profile film actors including Ben Stiller, James Franco and Nicole Kidman.

The MacArthur Foundation awards $500,000, which the recipient gets over the course of five years. On its website, the foundation states "the [grant] is not a reward for [a] past accomplishment, but rather an investment in a person's originality, insight and potential."

"I'm going to live on [the grant]," Cromer said. "Prior to the last two years

» SEE CITA, PG. 7

Columbia wins discrimination battle

Former radio professor loses discrimination lawsuit, forced to reimburse college for costs

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

SURIYA SMILEY'S claim that Columbia discriminated on the basis of ethnicity when terminating the former adjunct professor was recently dismissed by U.S. federal court.

On Nov. 2, 2010, Judge Samuel Der Yeghian issued an opinion that Smiley failed to prove Columbia discriminated when investigating the claim she made ethnically insensitive remarks in class.

"After considering all of the evidence in its totality, Smiley has failed to point to sufficient evidence to show that Columbia's given reason for terminating employment was a pretext," the court order stated.

> "I think it's important for the community to know Columbia acted responsibly when a student complained of discrimination against him."
>
> - Annice Kelly

Because of the loss, she will have to pay Columbia $3,300 in costs that will cover a variety of fees it incurred during the lawsuit, said Annice Kelly, vice president of Legal Affairs and General Counsel.

"The court found [Columbia] did not discriminate against Smiley, which is good for the students to know and other employees to know," Kelly said.

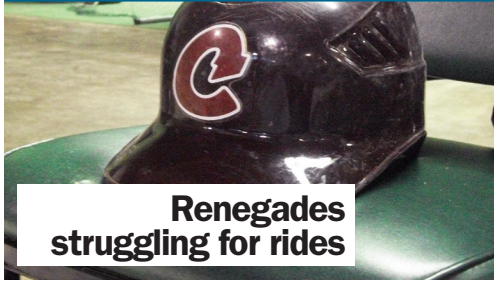
In December 2008, Smiley, who is of Palestinian origin, was notified by Stephanie Downs, assistant director of Student Affairs, of a Jewish student's complaint that she had made anti-Semitic comments in class. On Jan. 16, 2009, Barbara Calabrese, chair of the Radio Department, and Louise Love, assistant provost at the time and now the vice president of Academic Affairs, met with Smiley to inform her of the complaints. The complaint led to an investigation and Smiley's termination from the college.

Love signed an affidavit, stating she believed Smiley "did not observe professional decorum and did not understand the boundaries between faculty and student," the opinion noted.

Columbia's investigation into the allegations was thorough enough to serve as grounds for termination, the court opinion concluded, noting "it was not unreasonable for Columbia to expect that Smiley would teach her classes without

» SEE SMILEY, PG. 7

Health & Fitness » PG. 11



Renegades struggling for rides

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2nd Ward results

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Generally excellent, once again

by Spencer Roush
Editor-in-Chief

NAIL-BITING DEADLINES and pull-my-hair-out moments finally paid off for The Columbia Chronicle staff at the Illinois College Press Association Conference this year, when Chronites left with 32 awards under our arm and something to brag about, at least until next year.

For four consecutive years, The Chronicle has taken home the John David Reed General Excellence Award, which is the most coveted among competitors and a crowning achievement for the best high-circulation college weekly paper in the state. That award topped the afternoon, along with the other 10 first-place plaques for notable photographs, graphic designs and articles.

The staff works countless hours in the "Chron Cave," reporting campus and South Loop news to students, faculty and staff, while keeping a full-time class schedule and fruitlessly trying to maintain a normal social life.

Because the staff sacrifices a normal college experience—complete with a party blur lasting from Thursday through Sunday—it's nice to have tangible recognition for a job well done, and it gives the staff an energizing boost to finish the semester's remaining issues.

These awards validate journalist's role in society, especially when others fail to see his or her values, and the job gets tough.

Recently, a Chronicle reporter came back from questioning a lawyer who didn't want to deal with a college newspaper, and after briefly answering a question or two, the lawyer said, "You know there's no money in what you're doing, right?"

Yes, it's true, most journalists will not become millionaires. But the lawyer failed to mention a couple of other things: The hours are sporadic because news never stops, dealing with angry or upset people on a regular basis is unavoidable and finding jobs is difficult in the crippled industry.

Yet, people continue to want to become journalists, so it's certainly not for the money or glamour but the importance of disseminating news and the truth.

Receiving collegiate awards and other recognition is about as glamorous as college newspapers get.

And it's great The Chronicle staff was recognized for its steadfast dedication to a paper that consumes their lives and makes them question why they pay apartment rent when they actually live at their Chronicle desks.

To show how proud I am, Chronicle staff, here's a love letter to you:

I love our typical Monday meetings when we critique the paper, still find grammatical errors and realize a page or two wasn't spell-checked.

I love that we try to lower the noise level when people are conducting phone interviews by waving our hands and creating makeshift signs, telling everyone to be quiet so they can focus.

I love Friday production days when edits slowly creep in and we start a Connect Four tournament (even though I was eliminated first round).

I love when security kicks us out when we've been here too long, but Chronicle swag buys us another hour or two.

Most of all, I love the way you love the paper just as much I do.

Thank you to Columbia for allowing us to run independently and to professors in the Journalism Department who occasionally lend a hand. A special thanks to Chris Richert, The Chronicle's general manager, and Jeff Lyon, the faculty adviser, for their help with production each week and putting up with all of us.

sroush@chroniclemail.com

NEWS FLASH

2/28/11

Flash Sessions: The Dynamics of Deejaying

If you're interested in studying a subject, come to these 90-minute flash sessions for a condensed taste of what Columbia's black faculty and staff have to offer.

618 S. Michigan Ave. Building
4th floor

3/2/11

Free HIV and STD testing

In partnership with the Chicago Department of Public Health, Columbia offers free HIV/STD testing the first Wednesday of every month. Students must return two weeks after the testing date to the Student Health Center to receive results. Students tested for STDs will be screened for gonorrhea and chlamydia. Screenings last from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor

3/3/11

"ZERØ Waste"

The essence of fashion is change – making it directly opposed to the principles of sustainability and sustainable design processes. "No Waste/Zero Waste" attempts to find solutions for dealing with fashion's waste, as well as challenge fashion systems through their conceptual framework. The exhibition examines the intimate connection between fashion and waste and highlights sustainable design practices and fashion products that consider the use and reduction or elimination of waste. The gallery is from 5 – 8 p.m.

619 S. Wabash Ave.
A+D Gallery

CAMPUS POLL

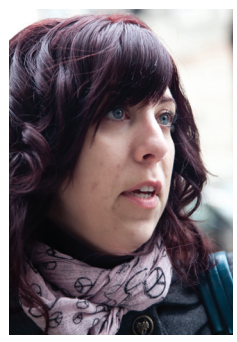
"What do you think about Rahm Emanuel winning the mayoral election?"

Matt Bozenda
sophomore
fiction writing major

"I'm pretty ambivalent about it I suppose. We need a new mayor. It's good that Daley's regime is finally gone. [Richard M.] Daley's been the mayor as long as I've been alive. So any change is good change."

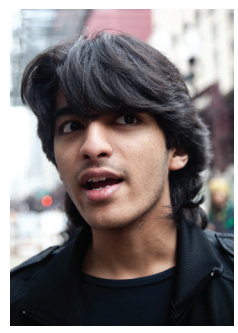
Liz Mazocer
junior
journalism major

"I can't say I know too much on Emanuel. What I know of him is the publicity side of him that's been blown up—his being aggressive and having a temper. I think its going to be fun to see what happens."



Carrie Wheet
sophomore
American sign language major

"I will be interested to see what he does. I was a little conflicted about who I was going to vote for, but I did vote for [President Barack] Obama. I think if he picked [Emanuel] to represent, then I trust his decisions. [I hope] he will live up to it."



Zaigham Khan
sophomore
fiction writing major

"If he brings a positive change, then why not? It's good that Daley's getting [out] because he's been around for a long time. Definitely for the city of Chicago we need a new mayor [who] will bring that positive change and a new perspective."

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

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33 E. Congress Parkway, Suite 224
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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
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Campus

'Tunnel of Oppression' on display

Courtesy LAILA ALCHAAR

The "Tunnel of Oppression" exhibit explores different types of oppression and discrimination while engaging visitors with interactive demonstrations. The exhibit runs March 1 and 2 from 4 – 9 p.m. in the Multicultural Affairs Office, 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

Students create environment to explore discrimination raise awareness, create change

by Shardae Smith
Assistant Campus Editor

GUESTS WHO visit Columbia's first "Tunnel of Oppression" might find walls inked with homophobic rants and tables filled with pictures of hate crime suicide victims, which fill the room as students yell racial slurs at spectators.

One Tribe, a collective group of members from the college's student organizations, put its spin on a national program aimed at creating an interactive environment in which visitors are subjected to various types of discrimination. "Tunnel of Oppression" will take place on March 1 and 2 from 4 – 9 p.m. in the Multicultural Affairs Office, 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

During the event, groups will be led through a series of rooms and engaged in a full sensory experiential manner. The demonstration will feature interactive demonstrations, videos, sounds, images and role playing—some of which include explicit language that may be deemed offensive.

According to Laila Alchaar, coordinator of Asian-American Cultural Affairs at Columbia, the event will explore topics such as racism, sexism, gender identity and homophobia.

"It's kind of like a haunted house," Alchaar said. "It's scary, but it's definitely scary in a different way. It's an interactive process, and you just won't be going through it watching it; you might be put into a scene."

Alchaar said One Tribe's mission is to touch on subjects not happening globally but cultural issues students experience on campus. She said it's a way to "create change" on campus. Though all sensitive subjects won't be explored, it's an "eye-opening" presentation that challenges ideas and perceptions of other people.

"Tunnel of Oppression" started in 1993 as a grassroots initiative at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Ill. It's loosely based on the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles as a stepping stone toward creating diversity, awareness and tolerance, according to Columbia's website.

Freshman marketing communications major Tillman Liggins said he wants to show others how people are oppressed and make them aware of what's going on.

"Our goal is for people to speak up about things happening," Liggins said. "A lot of things go under the radar and aren't detected."

In a promotional video, members of One Tribe said they think the graphic, real-life situation presentations will help those who learn best from first-hand experiences and become more aware.

Junior cultural studies major and Asian Student Organization President Alison Davino said she became involved with the event because it was a great outlet for everything upsetting her.

Junior cultural studies major and Asian Student Organization President Alison Divino said she became involved with the event because it was a great outlet for everything upsetting her.

"I felt there [are] a lot of diversity issues in Columbia that aren't really being talked about, and 'Tunnel' was a great way to talk about them," Divino said.

She said a misconception others have about the "Tunnel of Oppression" is the presenting group points the finger and blames other people for their emotions.

"It's a learning experience," Divino said. "It's for people to go around and see how people's experiences are different and for them to see and form connections within their lives. It shouldn't be something deemed negative."

Once groups are led through the tunnel, they are encouraged to express their experience through guided conversation co-sponsored by Columbia's Counseling Services.

Liggins said he hopes people will begin speaking up about what's going on within the college community after experiencing "Tunnel of Oppression."

"These are our stories," Liggins said. "There's nothing made up about them. These are situations we experience on our own, [and] we're also experiencing them here at Columbia."

Those interested in participating in "Tunnel of Oppression" are encouraged to RSVP at multiculturalaffairs@colum.edu.

ssmith@chroniclemail.com

Courtesy LAILA ALCHAAR

Thinking through ink

Body art used in new exhibition to show true black male identity

by Vanessa Morton
Contributing Writer

IN A three-shot photo sequence, an abstract pattern of tattoo-covered arms stretch across the frames that hang on one of the gray and red walls of The Arcade, 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building. Patrons gather closely to study the frames that resemble a contemporary version of the iconic Sistine Chapel painting "The Creation of Adam," by Michelangelo. This was one of the many pieces displayed in the new exhibition at the gallery.

"Fear Into Fire: Reclaiming Black Male Identity," which opened on Jan. 24, is part of Columbia's African Heritage Celebration. Photography and film-based, the exhibit showcases work from different artists, such as recent Columbia graduates Shasta Bady and Jabari Zuberi.

"The exhibit explores the black male body and the special connection shared through the narrative of tattoos," said Nicole Harrison, curator of the exhibition.

Columbia alumna Harrison was pursuing her master's degree at New York University when she took part in a Black Body Image class that explored looking deeper into photography and the black experience. The intent was to create narratives that better explained what goes on in an image.

Harrison said she never imagined a remark she made to a friend during a discussion about hip-hop artist Lil' Wayne would progress into her thesis essay.

"I made a very bold remark, I was like, 'If people just paid attention to Lil' Wayne's body art, his tattoos would tell a deeper story than his music does'," Harrison said.

Harrison explained how her peers became interested in her theory, which motivated her to explore the idea.

"Fear Into Fire" reflected part of a book Harrison read at the time of her research, "The Hip Hop Generation: Young Blacks and the Crisis in African American Culture," by Bakari Kitwana, ultimately inspiring the exhibit.

Harrison explained fear meant the challenges black men and women face, and fire (in a hip-hop context) meant something considered hot, fresh and dangerous.

The exhibit is broken into four themed sections based on topics of identity, representation and personal narrative.

The first two themes focus on black male representation through the art of tattoos, whether it's the literal message—"RIP"–or the abstract tattoo art—"Pain is a Sickness"—which connect the relationship between the body and tattoo. The works are featured in two of the exhibit's sections including artists Zuberi and Akintola Hanif. The artists tackled black male representation through a series of photos that reveal young black men showing off their tattoos.

"It's all about creating a representation of yourself," Zuberi said. "The tattoos symbolize power and represent a specific moment and memory for each individual."

The exhibition reveals an urgency to promote awareness to society's misconstrued notion of African-American men in mainstream media.

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

"Fear Into Fire: Reclaiming Black Male Identity" aims to give insight into the history and meaning of tattoos in the African-American community.

Harrison said she believes black men "resist their oppression by taking control of their bodies that have been policed by systems of institutional racism."

She said by looking back historically, starting from slavery, there are many situations where they have no control of their body. Harrison explained that through time, up until present day, police identify people based on body art and general appearance, placing labels on them.

"In the media it's sort of hard to represent yourself in ways that you see fit," Harrison said. "There are a lot of inscriptions placed on the black image, so when we think about taking control of our bodies it's important we represent ourselves the way we want to be seen and not through the eyes of others."

Zuberi agreed, explaining that it isn't so much reclaiming or losing male masculinity but rediscovering it.

"I don't think you can lose your masculinity," Zuberi said. "I think this show gives a chance for artists to display black masculinity in a more positive, straightforward and informative light."

The idea of bringing black masculinity in a more positive and straightforward light is portrayed through the last two themes of the exhibit.

The themes focus on the actual physique of the black male body. The works featured in the last two sections include photos by Bady and Jamel Shabazz.

"The work is about the intimacy of the body and looking at how beautiful the black male body is," Harrison said. "It presents that sensitive side that's still masculine but it's still like, 'I can be sensitive too and not be seen as weak, not be seen as lesser than.'"

While the exhibit poses the idea of appreciating the black male body, the artists and curator explain the collection eludes a universal message.

"It's important to understand things aren't always what they seem, and people should really dig deeper," Bady said.

chronicle@colum.edu

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

Concert Hall Events

Monday February 28
CCC voice Faculty Concert 7:30 PM

Tuesday March 1
Music Student Convocation 12:00 PM

Student Concert Series 7:00 PM

Wednesday March 2
Music Student Convocation 12:00 PM

Jason Milbank Senior Recital 7:00 PM

Thursday March 3
Victor Pichardo Senior Recital 12:00 PM

Eric Taylor Senior Recital 7:00 PM

Donald Neale Latin Piano Concert at the Sherwood 7:30 PM

Friday March 4
Jazz Gallery in the Lobby 12:00 PM

Jazz Forum 2:00 PM

Ben Bueltmann Senior Recital 7:00 PM

Saturday March 5
Ben Joseph Senior Recital 4:00 PM

All events are free unless otherwise indicated. For more info: 312-369-6300

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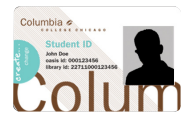

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Minority retention efforts lack vigor

Low diversity rates in colleges struggle to keep students feeling welcome

by Sarah Butrymowicz
MCT Newswire

STOCK IMAGE

LEHIGH UNIVERSITY did a good job wooing Nezy Smith. A Lehigh admissions officer met the African-American honor roll student at her high school in Lebanon, Pa., then kept in touch for a year, urging her to visit the campus and helping her fill out complex financial aid forms.

Smith arrived at Lehigh in 2008. She was elated to experience college life and ready to dismiss cautions by upperclassmen she might sometimes feel unwelcome on campus and in its social scene as a minority student. This included parties in the hilltop fraternity houses.

A few months into her freshman year, though, Smith and a group of black friends waited in vain outside a frat house while a member waved others in. And at times she felt uneasy being the only minority in the classroom, despite doing well in her business and German courses.

By the next winter she was gone, joining the roughly 25 percent to 40 percent of black and Latino students who start at Lehigh but don't finish, depending on the year.

The institution that had worked so hard to attract Smith hadn't done such a good job of keeping her, spotlighting a problem seen at colleges nationwide.

Much attention has been given to the push to make higher education more diverse, with colleges trumpeting their enrollment of underrepresented students.

But black and Latino students are, on average, far less likely to graduate in six years than their white and Asian peers.

Some colleges, however, defy the trend, graduating all students at the same rates, according to a 2010 report by the Washington-based nonprofit Education Trust. Using these schools as an example, the Education Trust concludes a graduation gap is not inevitable.

When a student drops out of high school, the tendency has long been to blame the school.

But when a student leaves college, people typically blame the individual. But many experts now argue at the post-secondary level, institutions must shoulder responsibility for their completion rates—and their practices matter a lot.

Another way to look at it: While Lehigh lost Smith, might a different institution—such as the University of Notre Dame—have kept her?

Like Smith, Dominique Higgins distinguished herself in high school—in her case, Bonita High south of Los Angeles, where she served in student government, tutored others and was a shot-putter.

Last March, before its official letters went out, Higgins was among a group of minority students invited to one of three all-expenses-paid "diversity weekends" at Notre Dame's South Bend, Ind., campus.

They arrived on a Thursday evening and assembled in La Fortuna Student Center, where their host talked about the agenda for the weekend before casually announcing, "Oh, by the way, you've all been accepted." After two seconds of stunned silence—was it a joke?—the room erupted into cheers.

Notre Dame is larger than Lehigh—8,400 students to 4,700—but both are selective private institutions with high price tags and solid student test scores.

The two institutions also have similar combined black and Latino enrollments—11 percent for the latest class at Lehigh and 14 percent at Notre Dame.

But where Lehigh reported a 10 percent gap in graduation rates between whites and their black and Latino peers in 2008, Notre Dame's black and Latino undergraduates completed their degrees at a rate 1.1 percentage points lower than the overall rate of 95.8 percent, according to the Education Trust.

"We can't just make speeches," said Don Pope Davis, Notre Dame's vice president and associate provost, who has led a campaign to recruit more minority faculty members.

chronicle@colum.edu

MAKE SURE YOU CAN REGISTER ON TIME

FINANCIAL HOLDS BEGIN ON MARCH 7TH

In order to register for upcoming sessions your student account must be in good standing. If a hold is placed on your account, you'll be notified via Loopmail and by phone. Financial Registration Holds will begin on March 7th.

You do not have to miss out on classes! Complete the following checklist to stay on track.

- ■ Check your student account right away by logging on to your OASIS Portal and selecting the Student Financial Services tab to view your Student Account Detail and check for any remaining balance, as well as check for any Missing Documents.
- ■ Make sure you've completed all the requirements for your chosen Payer Identity Plan. Visit our website and keyword search "Payer Identity Plans" in the Virtual Advisor Tool for more information.
- ■ If you need additional assistance please join us for one of our "Managing Your Student Account" Workshops. The workshops will be held throughout the day, February 23rd - March 2nd. Check the SFS Message Board for more details and exact times.

SFS STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

create... change

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Alumnus David Cromer, center, held a Q-and-A with students before his featured conversation.

» CITA

Continued from Front Page

when I started making money, I have nothing. My assets are nonexistent. There's the furniture in my apartment and whatever money my mother might have when she passes away."

There is no application process to receive the grant, but a person has to be nominated by someone else. Often people will not know they're nominated until they found out they've won.

Cromer has been lauded by critics nationwide for his ability to pay homage to a classic piece and keep its original message, all while bringing to fruition "what the play does to [him]."

He has directed his versions of "Our Town" and "The Adding Machine," among others. He's currently in the initial stages of directing a revival of the Tennessee Williams play "Sweet Bird of Youth."

Patti Smith came to Columbia last semester for the previous conversations. In April, the college will host "Project Runway" winner Christian Siriano as part of the "Conversations in the Arts" series. Sam Shepard, a Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, was initially scheduled to speak, but Cromer was brought in as a replacement.

Chris Jones, chief theater critic at the Chicago Tribune, interviewed Cromer on stage that evening. Before asking his questions, Jones recalled how each time he sees a Cromer show, there are certain traits that come out.

"[Every Cromer show] seems to have one thing in common—a brilliant conceptual core rooted in the most powerful kinds of human truths," Jones said.

John Green, chair of the Theater Department, said Cromer coming back to share his knowledge and expertise shows how invested he is in Columbia and vice versa.

"[Cromer] is a fantastic example of what we're able to do at the college," Green said. "We know our relationship with him is long term, and he's invested in the success of the Theater Department and Columbia as much as we are in him and his career."

Cromer plans to remain committed to Chicago, although all of his work is now in NYC. He added it's his home regardless if he lives in New York.

The two agreed Chicago and NYC are the two major American cities with the most vibrant theater communities, but there are large differences between the two.

"Chicago is probably a better actor, but [NYC] is a movie star," Cromer said.

scharles@chroniclemail.com

» SMILEY

Continued from Front Page

humiliating her students and causing distress."

Smiley filed a lawsuit against the college on Oct. 5, 2009, alleging she had relieved of her position on the basis of race and national origin and seeking $300,000 in damages.

Smiley, who taught in the Radio Department for 14 years prior to her termination, came under scrutiny when a student filed a complaint claiming Smiley said, "I should have known you were Jewish by the size of your nose," the opinion stated.

The student said Smiley "repeatedly referred to his Jewish heritage while making general statements about Jews and made some references in a manner the student believed to be derogatory."

In addition, the student claimed Smiley had engaged in potentially sexually harassing conduct and humiliated the student.

Smiley denied making the inappropriate comments toward the student or engaging in harassing behavior when approached by Columbia and in court.

The press release published by Smiley's legal counsel, the Council on American-Islamic Relations of Chicago, CAIR on Oct. 5, 2009 stated neither eight of the other students who were present in the class nor the teacher's assistant observed any anti-Semitic comments or harassment of the complaining student.

The council is a nonprofit organization, and is America's largest Islamic civil liberties group.

It also claimed no witnesses were ever contacted or questioned.

"Despite no evidence any misconduct was committed, the college refused to conduct an investigation into the student's allegation and swiftly fired Smiley," according to the press release.

The court opinion stated Smiley testified that she believed someone wrote the complaint for the student, and whoever did was racist and held a vendetta against her because of her heritage.

She also said the student's written complaint shows literary skills beyond that of the student who accused her, the opinion said.

"Sue Smiley alleged the investigation and the complaint were a pretext because [she claimed] we really wanted to fire her because she was Arab," Kelly said.

At court, Smiley produced evidence concerning five instructors at Columbia accused of violating the anti-discrimination and harassment policy of the college.

Smiley claimed these instances were the same as hers but were handled differently.

She failed to prove the instructors were treated more favorably, according to the court order.

"It's important for the community to know Columbia acts responsibly when a student complained of discrimination against him," Kelly said. "We appropriately investigated, and we are glad the court vindicated Columbia's proper action."

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

The anatomical heart is the world's scapegoat

image + implication
CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS

by Chella Sapkarov
Senior, photography major

I WAS 18 when I had my first emotionally turbulent experience. I was deeply in love with a boy who was leaving me. I romanticized our relationship beyond comprehension: He was leaving for the Navy; he was my love with an expiration date; he was a beautiful mess I was determined to clean up. In two months, I had become so enraptured in the concept of our relationship, when we realized we were not fond of each other, I broke down entirely. My mother, attempting to be supportive though she detested the boy, held me as I cried and muttered something about "knowing she would break your heart."

Three years later, I have issues comprehending that phrase. I hear it, or a variation of it, daily. A heart can't break. It can stop beating. It can stop pumping blood. Emotions, desires, regrets—none of those are in the heart's repertoire. It simply cannot break. But phrases like this are so common I have to question whether anyone thinks the way I do. Or rather, if anyone sees the way I do.

Though my focus will always be photography, it is a medium largely concerned with concept and telling a story without any aid outside the photograph's content. I may be able to come up with a concept, but I have spent two years struggling with the heart and its status in popular culture. I spent weeks photographing my interpretations of those literal phrases, deconstructing hearts in an attempt to reassess their true meaning. That work channeled my 18-year-old angst. Those phrases that once centered around things the boy said were now tangible photographs, images that existed somewhere outside of my brain. Perhaps for that reason, or because they were terrible photographs, my work was always poorly received. The heart is already a conceptualized object; how could seeing one in a photograph really bring any new meaning to it? How could those images stand alone without any context?

That's the beauty of literality, though. the concept is huge in the arts and in everyday life. So little is tangible anymore. Reinterpreting hearts to reposition them as a necessity was the concept. But in an age where we search for single objects to multitask in numerous ways, it is hard to appreciate anything that serves only one purpose, even if that single purpose is more important than 50.

Even now, it baffles me it is not enough to pump blood and keep people alive—the heart has to be responsible for everything else. This must have been what my mother was saying. The boy "breaking" my heart referred to my emotional tumult, my adolescent breakdown and loss of self. The same way when the boy claimed I had the "key to his heart:" He was truly saying he trusted me and admired me enough that he was willing to make himself completely and painfully vulnerable. We were willing to throw away all other responsibilities and precautions and commit ourselves completely to each other—even if we didn't necessarily mean it.

Strangely enough, greeting card companies have made sure we attribute these acts of irresponsibility to our hearts. However, anatomically, our brains are the culprits for these processes. Our subconscious, that sneaky bastard, is responsible for emotions so terrible there needs to be some kind of palpable offender, something or someone to place blame on when we make bad decisions. The anatomical heart is now the world's scapegoat.

Then how do images of the heart affect people? I know how they affect me. There is solace in reinstating an object's value as an organ, as an essential part of every human being. There is beauty in realizing everyone's heart is the size of his or her fist. There is comfort in knowing everyone's heart is wired almost the same way and the variances are few and far between.

I can't change the way I see or the way I think, and I don't expect to change anyone else's.

chronicle@colum.edu

Critical Photo
of the week

Courtesy CHELLA SAPKAROV

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).

Making Meaning," like "Image & Implication," will explore how images—visual, verbal and virtual—affect us. How do images determine the way we see our world and our role in it? How do our images of other people affect the way we respond to them? What kind of images foment action? What is our responsibility as image-creators?

We are looking for concise essays from faculty, staff and students. These voices will provide us with a variety of perspectives on the importance and impact of the images we confront and create.

CHICAGO
ZINE
FEST
MARCH
25-26
2011!
FRIDAY, MARCH 25
SILVER TONGUE PRESENTS:
Columbia Student Readers with
Aaron Cometbus & Al Burian, 2 - 4pm
Conaway Center, Columbia College
1104 S. Wabash
ZINES: THE NEXT GENERATION
Youth Zine Reading, 5 - 6pm
EXHIBITOR READING, 6:30 - 8:30pm
826CHI, 1331 N. Milwaukee Ave.
ZINESTER KARAOKE, 9 - 11pm
Quimby's Bookstore, 1854 W. North Ave.
SATURDAY, MARCH 26
ZINE EXHIBITION, 10am - 5pm
Conaway Center (1st & 8th Floor)
Columbia College, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.
Featuring a DIY Film Festival,
Workshops, Lectures and More!
WWW.CHICAGOZINEFEST.ORG
All events are FREE &
open to the public!
All venues are wheelchair accessible.
826CHI
RENEGADE CRAFT FAIR
silvertongue

image + implication CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS image + implication CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS image + implication

The Return of The Yes Men

In April, the **Yes Men**, will bring the Yes Lab back to Columbia College to examine and challenge media images, propagation and, meaning. The Yes Lab engages students and community partners in a dynamic mentorship opportunity while exploring approaches to media activism and developing the skills to carry out successful Yes Men style media intervention campaigns.

The Yes Men impersonate big-time criminals in order to publicly humiliate them. Their targets are leaders and big corporations who put profits ahead of everything else. They agree their way into the fortified compounds of commerce, ask questions, and then smuggle out the stories of their hijinks to provide a public glimpse at the behind-the-scenes world of business. In other words, the Yes Men are team players... But they play for the opposing team. (theyesmen.org)

For more information and an application go to
http://www.colum.edu/criticalencounters/Artist_in_Residence.php

Participants MUST be available the following days and times:

Friday, April 8, 2011	1 pm to 6 pm
Saturday, April 9, 2011	1 pm to 6 pm
Sunday, April 10, 2011	1 pm to 6 pm

CTE CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE
ELLEN STONE BELIC INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN&GENDER IN THE ARTS AND MEDIA AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO
STUDENT POWERED SPACES Department of Exhibition & Performance Spaces
CCAP 10 years CREATING LEARNING COMMUNITIES IN THE ARTS
NPN NATIONAL PERFORMANCE NETWORK
art + design

Health& Fitness

No charter bus for Renegades this season

Club sports carpool to games, basketball team forfeits final two contests

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THIS SEASON, the Columbia Renegades basketball team looked to snap their losing streak with better play and discipline. Before the season began, tryouts were rained out for the Renegades because they were held at an outdoor basketball court.

Toward the end of the season, the team had to forfeit its final two games because of transportation problems. One of the SUVs assistant coach Bruce Kolman rented broke down.

Columbia doesn't provide transportation for any club teams, and renting buses or vans can be expensive for the Renegades. Most of the teams carpool to their games, while their opponents enjoy the luxury of a bus.

"It's really hard for the teams to have games if there's no way for them to get to games," said Kevin Hartmann, vice president of the Renegades. "Columbia doesn't have any sort of van or anything we could rent."

Hartmann said renting vehicles from other sources like a bus or car company isn't an option because of the Renegades' limited budget. He expressed that because Columbia doesn't have an athletic facility, every Renegades game has to be played away.

The Renegades use South Loop Elementary School, 1212 N. Dearborn St., for all of their team practices excluding baseball. Each team has an hour to practice and if the school needs to use the gym for an event, the Renegades have no other place to go.

Columbia doesn't support the Renegades heavily, and the team has to raise money on its own through fundraising, Hartmann said. This can be a daunting task for newcomers looking to join a team, according to Hartmann.

"We can only give them about a quarter of what they need for each sport," he said. "We'll pay league fees or we'll pay for new jerseys, but [they] have to pay for refereres for games or the facilities [they] need because as an organization, we don't have the money to give each team."

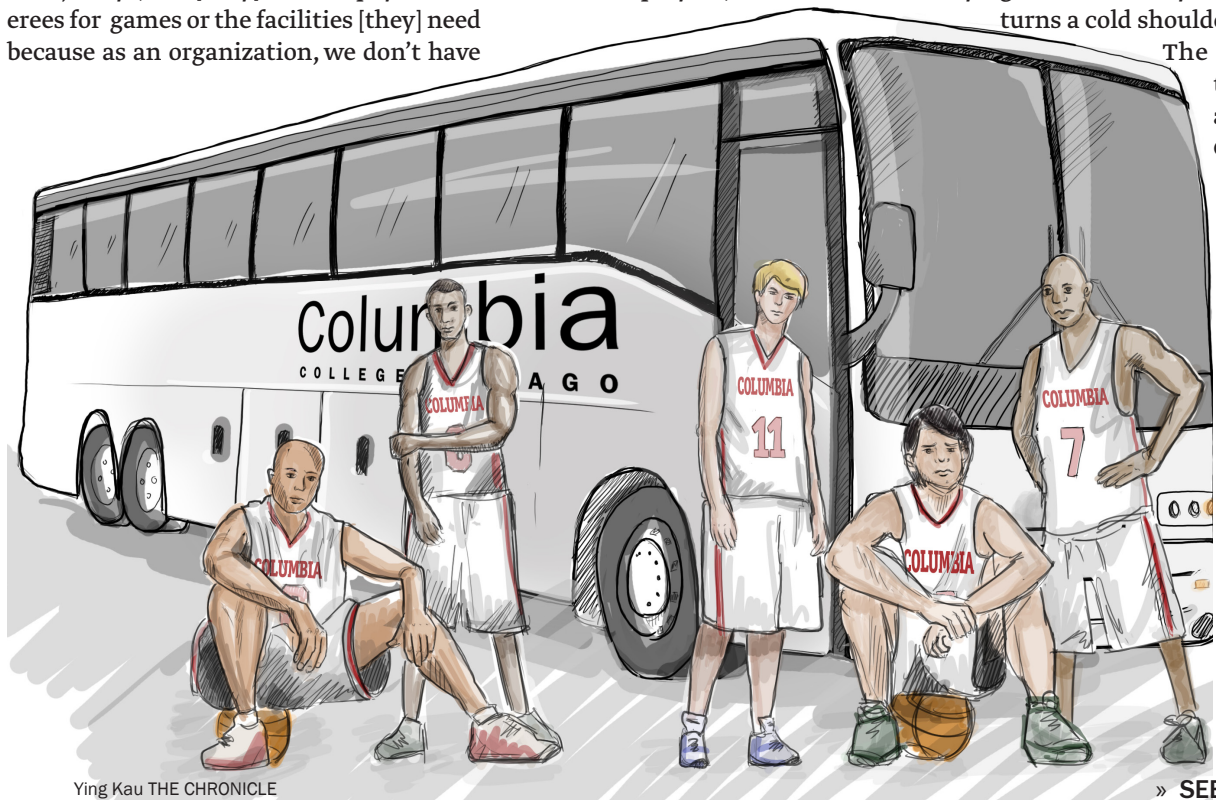
With the excruciating tasks each team have to get to a game, practice as a team and raise money, Kolman said he enjoys coaching the basketball team, regardless if he has to pay for gas out of his pocket.

He said it would be nice if the college could add a facility for each team to practice adequately. He noted it would help the Renegades if Columbia provided better transportation.

"Our attitude is we have an opportunity to play college basketball, and we're giving that to our players," Kolman said. "They enjoy it, and it's the whole nine yards. If we can stay close to some of these teams, we feel good about it."

Kolman said he can't afford to rent 12-passenger vans every weekend. He said it wouldn't take much out of Columbia's budget to find adequate transportation and practice time at a better facility.

"[Columbia is] completely mistaken if they don't think there's a good part of the population that cares about sports," Kolman said. "We've got kids [with] various abilities, and they just want to play the game. It's really too bad that the school turns a cold shoulder toward that."



Ying Kau THE CHRONICLE

The Renegades baseball team, which is associated with the National Club Baseball Association, recently found a new field to play games at, Bedford Park. Mackinley Salk, senior radio major and the team captain signed the team up to play games in the park.

The baseball team carpools to games, which can sometimes be in Indiana and play weekend series against other schools' club teams. Salk said his brother, who plays high school hockey, traveled in a

» SEE RENEGADES, PG. 14

The curry cure

Drug derived from curcumin shown to rebuild brain cells

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE GOLDEN-COLORED Indian spice turmeric, or curcumin, has been used as a medicinal remedy in India for centuries. The recent development of a hybrid drug derived from the spice—currently being tested in the U.S.—may be the key to repairing damaged brain cells in stroke and head trauma patients.

The study, titled "New hybrid drug, derived from common spice, may protect, rebuild brain cells after stroke,"released on Feb. 9, documents significant benefit on cell development of a tumeric hybrid compound called CNB-001.

In the study, conducted by research scientist Paul A. Lapchak, director of translational research in the Department of Neurology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, scientists administered CNB-001 to rats within an hour of a stroke. This is a time frame comparable to three hours after a stroke in humans. According to the research, the drug significantly reduced motor impairment.

"It would be really great to have a new compound that would start rebuilding the brain or brain pathways," Lapchak said.

Scientists have discovered CNB-001 causes cell survival and growth. It repairs neurons,which are the building blocks of brain cells.

According to Lapchak, in addition to helping stroke patients, CNB-001 seems to promote memory retrieval following traumatic brain injury and help patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Lapchak and his team are working to create new analogs or chemical derivations of CNB-001 in case they discover problems with one of the molecules along the way.

"We haven't had any problems with this so far," he said. "We're taking this one step at a time."

Despite the findings, one difficulty scientists are confronting is the mixed information available about the scientific research on curcumin. The findings are often inconsistent.

"It's frustrating. A lot of the literature comes out of Asia and hasn't been reproduced in North America," Lapchak said. "There's research across the world that's all different quality."

Curcumin and similar natural products are used as medicine in India and other countries in Asia, but the pharmaceutical companies in the U.S. are currently not interested in developing them into useable drugs due to patent issues, according to David R. Schubert, professor and laboratory head of the Cellular Neurobiology Laboratory at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in California and member of Lapchak's research team.

Stock Photo

For years, scientists struggled with how to repair brain cells in stroke victims. Currently, one drug, tissue plasminogen activator, is approved for ischemic stroke, which occurs when a clot blocks blood flow to the brain.

According to Schubert, tPA is effective in 20 percent of the cases, and it sometimes causes internal bleeding and can lead to death.

"Our drug [CNB-001] directly protects nerve cells from dying and does not cause bleeding from damaged blood vessels," Schubert said.

Patrick D. Lyden, chairman of Cedars-Sinai's Department of Neurology, was an integral part of a trial that resulted in the Food and Drug Administration's approval of tPA in 1996. Now, Lyden is working with Lapchak and his team on the developing research.

"I'm optimistic an effective treatment can emerge," Lyden said. "The trials take a while and must be done well. [It is] expensive and complicated, but once the trial work is done, the package for the FDA is fairly straightforward."

To get FDA approval for the hybrid drug, Lapchak and his team need to show there are no negative effects or serious health risks caused by CNB-001.

"We try to use a rational drug development approach, which has a lot of steps involved in it," Lapchak said of the process his current team is going through. "The final step is clinical trial, and there are always surprises to be had there."

If the research stays on track, scientists involved in the curcumin study expect to begin clinical trials with human patients in the near future.

knielsen@chroniclemail.com

STAYIN' SAVVY

Inefficiencies in health websites

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

HAVE YOU ever used an Internet search to figure out your medical symptoms only to find a grim or even grave outcome for your illness?

A recent article published in The Washington Post told a doctor's account of a patient who came into his office after searching his symptoms on a medical website and found his diagnosis pointing to an aneurysm. He had nothing but abdominal pain, which could have been caused from something as simple as eating bad food.

The doctor in the article mentioned another story of a female patient who looked up her recently diagnosed disease for treatment options and lifestyle changes she needed to make. In her case, the site was helpful. However, using the Internet for self-diagnosis is almost always a failure. And just like the article mentions, it can cause more panic than needed. If you're a hypochondriac, medical websites can be your worst enemy.

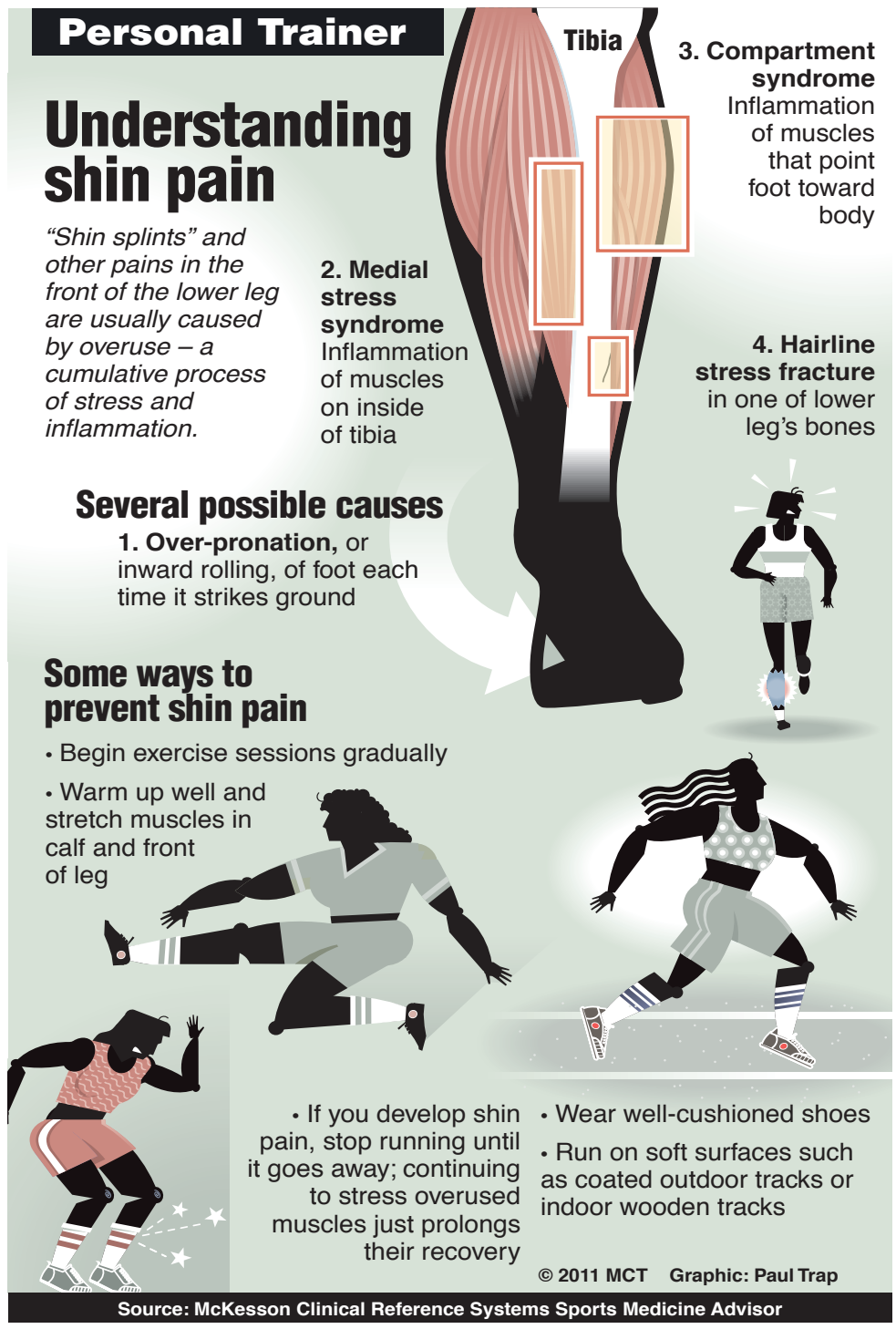
The information on these sites may be useful, especially if you can't afford a checkup visit or don't have time for a trip to the doctors, but the results can more often than not be an inaccurate diagnosis. If something is wrong or you're worried, it's best to make time to see a medical expert. And if finances don't allow for a doctor's visit, find a free clinic.

Just last semester, a coworker of mine looked up her symptoms when she had a skin rash, and her diagnosis was the plague. She never got the plague and is alive and well. It turned out she had a mild skin condition triggered by stress.

I'm guilty of occasionally using a site, such as WebMD.com, to check for a diagnosis when I'm not feeling well, and I had mini-freakouts when all signs pointed to a rare cancer. WebMD has a feature on the site where you can click on an image of a body. You select a body part that correlates with your symptoms. After clicking on my wrist the results for symptoms range from carpel tunnel syndrome to Crohn's disease.

The featured doctor in the article recommended looking at websites that end in ".gov" or ".edu" if searching your symptoms online to help ensure the information is as credible and accurate as possible. And be sure to take whatever the site says in stride before your online diagnosis causes full panic.

ssaviola@chroniclemail.com



Howling for playoffs

Chicago Wolves vying for postseason, majority of games at home in March

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE CHICAGO Wolves have endured a seven-game road losing streak, close defeats in the third period and battle with individualism. The team is now in the midst of a playoff push in a tight West Division, where seven of the eight teams are separated by nine points.

After climbing back above .500 on Dec. 18, the Wolves went 14-9 through Feb. 23 with a win against the Rockford Icehogs. The team will play a majority of its upcoming games against West divisional opponents and controls its destiny heading into the season's end.

There is a month and a half remaining in the American Hockey League's regular season, and every game will be important for each team. The Wolves will play 12 of their 19 remaining games at the Allstate Arena, where they amassed a 13-11-0-4 record as of Feb. 23.

"We can gain on people if we beat them," said Wolves Head Coach Don Lever after the team's victory against the Icehogs on Feb. 23. "They're in our division, and if we can win divisional games, then we can climb the ladder."

The Wolves have not beaten the Texas Stars in the West Division this season. The Milwaukee Admirals were in first place as of Feb. 24. They were 16-17-1-2 against divisional opponents before Feb. 25.

The West Division comprises seven teams in position to make the postseason. The Wolves had 66 points by Feb. 24. If the playoffs were to start now, they would be watching from home.

"It's incredible how tight this [division] is," Lever said.

To qualify for the playoffs, the Wolves must finish in the top eight of the Western Conference. Last season, they won the West Division but were ousted by the Stars in seven games in the quarterfinals of the Calder Cup playoffs.

The Wolves last won the Calder Cup in 2008. Veteran right winger Darren Haydar, who was part of the Wolves' last championship team, said without a lot of games left, the team can't keep giving up points at this crucial time of the schedule.

"Our penalty kill needs to get better," Haydar said. "We've got to make sure we're a little more disciplined and don't take penalties so we don't give up penalty killing goals."

Before Feb. 23, the Wolves were 19-20-2-1 when they allowed a power-play goal to their opponents and 1-3-2-0 when they gave up a short-handed goal.

Working in the Wolves' favor this season is their 20-plus wins when they've allowed fewer than three goals and scored four or more goals.

The Wolves haven't missed the playoffs since the 2008–2009 season when they finished 38-37-3-2 and had 81 points.

With the team using two goaltenders in Drew MacIntyre and Patrick Mannino, Haydar said they have to do a better job of limiting opponents scoring opportunities.

» SEE WOLVES, PG. 14

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/2/11

Calgary Flames vs. Chicago Blackhawks

In their chase to the Stanley Cup Playoffs, the Blackhawks have a chance to improve in the Western Conference against the Flames.

United Center
1901 W. Madison St.
7:30 p.m.

3/2/11

University of Minnesota vs. Northwestern University

The Minnesota Golden Gophers visit the Northwestern Wildcats in a matchup of struggling teams in the Big Ten. The Wildcats are led by guards John Shurna and Michael "Juice" Thompson.

Welsh-Ryan Arena
1501 Central St.
Evanston, Ill.

3/4/11

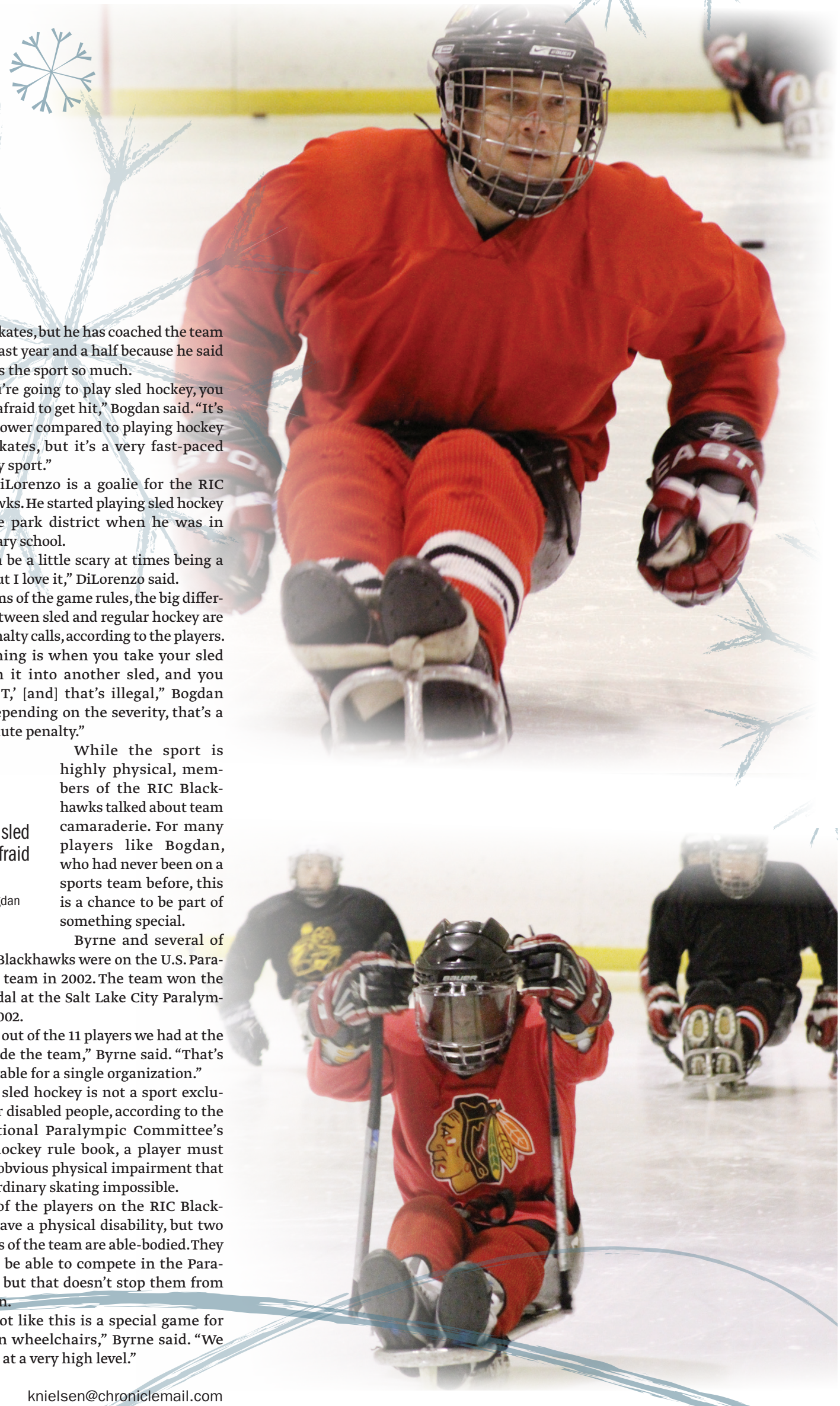
Milwaukee Admirals vs. Chicago Wolves

The Wolves play against their rival in a contest between Western Conference foes. Chicago will play a majority of their remaining games against West Division opponents in March and April.

Allstate Arena
6920 N. Mannheim Road

Same sport, sled required

"When I lost my leg I had nothing, I thought my life was over. This gave me my life back."–Patrick Byrne



RIC Blackhawks sled hockey team takes to ice, compete in Paralympics

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE PUCK drops and two players fight for possession. With hands armed with shortened hockey sticks, they steer across the rink with their upper bodies and slam into each other, all while strapped into sleds. Most of these players are paraplegics.

Sled or sledge hockey is a Paralympics sport, but the game follows the same rules as ice hockey. Every Wednesday and Sunday, the Rehab Institute of Chicago's sled hockey team, the RIC Blackhawks, takes to the ice at McFetridge Sports Center, 3843 N. California Ave.

"It is a great physical exercise for anybody," said Bill Bogdan, disability liaison to Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White and one of the RIC Blackhawks. "I just really love the sport. I grew up with my disability and never got the chance to be on a real sports team before."

> "If you're going to play sled hockey, you can't be afraid to get hit."
>
> -Bill Bogdan

The team was founded in 1999 by two men; one of them was Patrick Byrne, a Paralympian who helps oversee the RIC Blackhawks' training now.

Before Byrne lost his leg in a 1992 accident, he never played hockey. But the first time he tried it, he said he was hooked.

"When I lost my leg I had nothing," Byrne said. "I thought my life was over. This gave me my life back."

Sled hockey rules are the same as regular hockey, but players are on sleds equipped with two hockey blades underneath.

The closer the sled's blades are to one another, the more maneuverability players have. However, balancing is easier for beginners when the blades are farther apart.

"Players use both of their hands to move themselves around, but the game is the same. It's a full contact sport," said RIC Blackhawks Head Coach Dan Tun. "Players wear standard shin guards, helmets and elbow and shoulder pads like other hockey players."

Tun is able-bodied and uses regular hockey skates, but he has coached the team for the past year and a half because he said he enjoys the sport so much.

"If you're going to play sled hockey, you can't be afraid to get hit," Bogdan said. "It's a little slower compared to playing hockey on ice skates, but it's a very fast-paced disability sport."

Eric DiLorenzo is a goalie for the RIC Blackhawks. He started playing sled hockey with the park district when he was in elementary school.

"It can be a little scary at times being a goalie, but I love it," DiLorenzo said.

In terms of the game rules, the big differences between sled and regular hockey are a few penalty calls, according to the players.

"T-boning is when you take your sled and ram it into another sled, and you form a 'T,' [and] that's illegal," Bogdan said. "Depending on the severity, that's a two-minute penalty."

While the sport is highly physical, members of the RIC Blackhawks talked about team camaraderie. For many players like Bogdan, who had never been on a sports team before, this is a chance to be part of something special.

Byrne and several of the RIC Blackhawks were on the U.S. Paralympian team in 2002. The team won the gold medal at the Salt Lake City Paralympics in 2002.

"Eight out of the 11 players we had at the time made the team," Byrne said. "That's unbelievable for a single organization."

While sled hockey is not a sport exclusively for disabled people, according to the International Paralympic Committee's sledge hockey rule book, a player must have an obvious physical impairment that makes ordinary skating impossible.

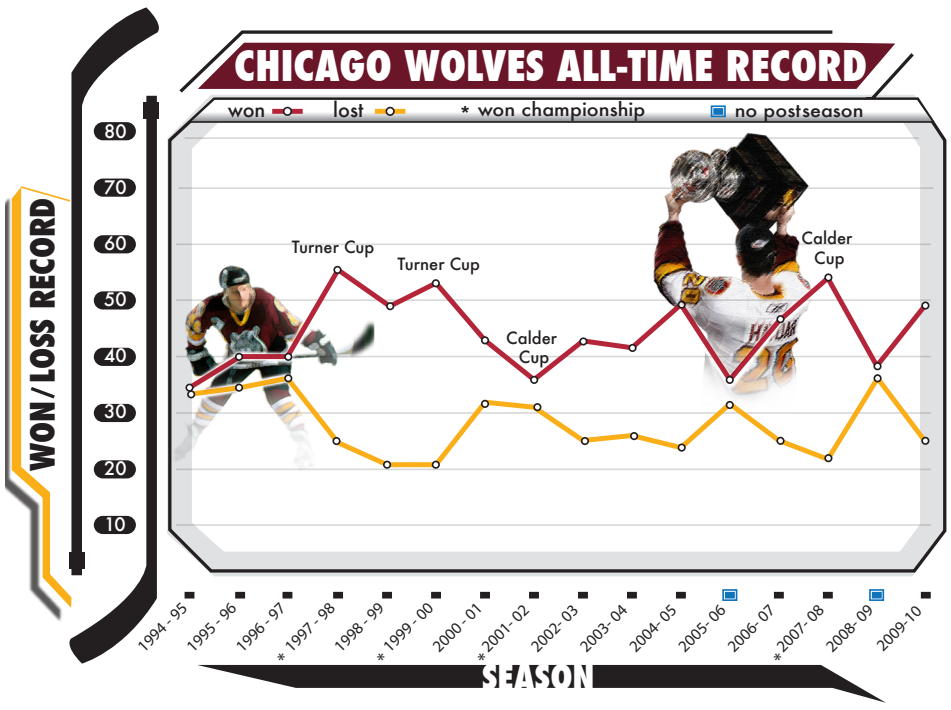
Most of the players on the RIC Blackhawks have a physical disability, but two members of the team are able-bodied. They may not be able to compete in the Paralympics, but that doesn't stop them from joining in.

"It's not like this is a special game for people in wheelchairs," Byrne said. "We play this at a very high level."

knielsen@chroniclemail.com

Sarah Mays THE CHRONICLE

Zach Stemerick THE CHRONICLE



Edward Kang THE CHRONICLE

Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

The Chicago Wolves have missed the postseason twice in their 17–year history. The last time the team failed to make the Calder Cup playoffs was in the 2008-2009 season.

» WOLVES

Continued from PG. 11

limiting opponents scoring opportunities.

"We definitely have to help them out," Haydar said. "We have to make sure we're limiting the chances against [them]. They're both playing really well for us, and we're letting them down as a team."

Against the Stars on Feb. 19, the Wolves gave up a critical third-period power-play goal in the last five minutes, which ultimately cost them the game. They were able to bounce back on Feb. 23 with a victory against the Icehogs. Mannino started against the Stars, and MacIntrye started against the Icehogs.

Beginning on March 1, the Wolves will have ample opportunities to gain ground against divisional opponents with five contests against the Peoria Rivermen. They have two games remaining against rival Milwaukee Admirals, the Oklahoma City Barons and the Houston Aeros. They finish the season against the Icehogs on April 10.

Lever said the team plays differently on the road than at home. He has observed an acute attention to detail when the Wolves are away.

"I don't know what the issue is at home," Lever said. "On the road we care more about our system and the way we play. At home we want to run and gun, we want to get points, we want to score goals and we forget [that] we want two points. I think that's an issue when you have of offensive players."

emodacure@chroniclemail.com

» RENEGADES

Continued from PG. 13

charter bus to one of his teams' games, which didn't leave a good feeling in his stomach.

Salk said carpooling is fun for team chemistry and bonding, but it becomes a hassle when having to pay for their gas and fundraising.

"The school does meet us halfway with a lot of certain things, but it would be nice to show up with a bus like a lot teams we play do," he said.

Salk said Columbia should make sports more of a priority because the culture is changing more incoming students are attracted to it. He said the stigma of students not liking sports is slowly decreasing with increased awareness about the Renegades.

"If Columbia wants to bring in this better student body, I would suggest they start helping out their sports programs," Salk said. "What you're doing, which is against Columbia's motto, is excluding students. It was their whole thing during my freshman orientation to not exclude any students, now they're doing it."

emodacure@chroniclemail.com

Cherry graham cracker cheesecake

Wow your friends with a deliciously simple recipe

by Luke Wilusz
Commentary Editor

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

CHERRY GRAHAM cracker cheesecake is a simple and versatile dessert. It's perfect for parties, family gatherings or any time you need to entertain a large group. It's so easy to make, you don't need an oven.

You will, however, require all of the following: a large mixing bowl, a 15 x 10 inch baking pan at least 2 inches deep, 1 box of graham crackers, 1 can of cherry pie filling, 2 tablespoons of sugar, 2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese and 2 8-ounce tubs of Cool Whip whipped topping.

Start by mixing the cream cheese with the sugar in a large mixing bowl. Once the sugar dissolves completely, begin stirring in the Cool Whip whipped topping little by little until everything is evenly blended.

Once you have the cream cheese mix blended, cover the bottom of the baking pan with a layer of graham crackers. You may need to break some of the crackers into smaller pieces to completely cover the pan. When the crackers are in place, spread the cream cheese mix evenly across them, making sure to leave enough cheese mix for two more layers. Then put another layer of graham crackers across the cream cheese.

Continue this pattern until you have three layers of crackers and cream cheese in the pan. After this is done, spread the cherry filling evenly atop the layers. Let it sit in the refrigerator for 2 hours until the graham crackers become soft and moist. Then cut, serve and enjoy.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS

- 2 8-ounce packages of cream cheese
- 2 8-ounce tubs of Cool Whip whipped topping
- 2 tablespoons of sugar
- 1 can of cherry pie filling
- 1 box of graham crackers

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix cream cheese and sugar in large bowl until sugar dissolves
2. Add whipped cream incrementally while stirring until blended
3. Cover bottom of pan with a layer of graham crackers
4. Spread cream cheese mix evenly across the crackers
5. Put another layer of crackers on top, followed by another layer of cream cheese
6. Repeat until there are 3 layers of crackers and cream cheese
7. Spread cherry filling evenly on top
8. Let sit in refrigerator for 2 hours until crackers become soft and moist
9. Cut, serve and enjoy

KEY

SPEAK UP!

Student Government Association Forum Week

Monday, March 7th - Friday March, 11th

Meet your SGA Senator
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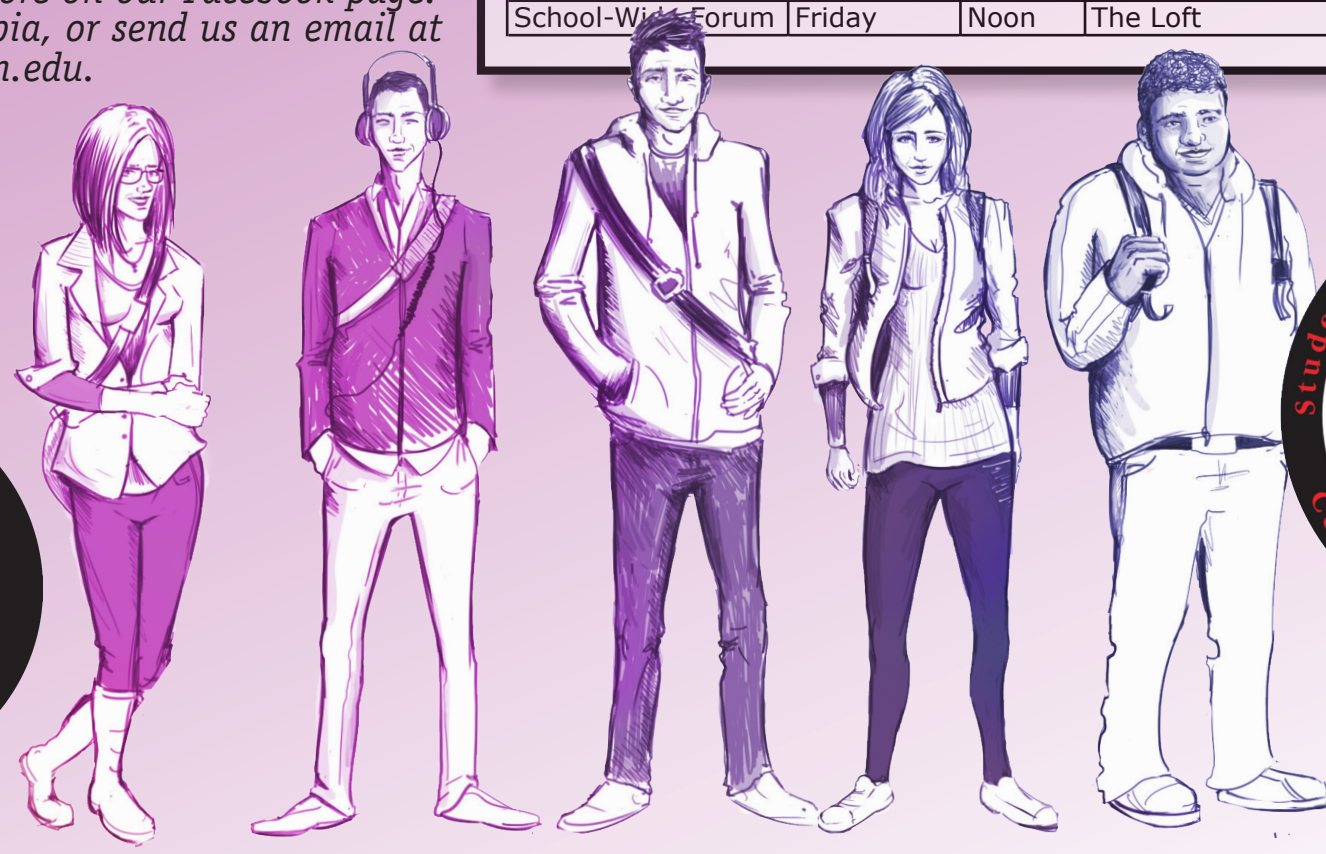
More Forum information to come! Find out more on our Facebook page: Sga Columbia, or send us an email at sga@colum.edu.

Major	Date	Time	Location	Building
Art+Design	Wednesday	1pm	Quincy Wong Center	623 S. Wabash
AEMM	Tuesday	3:30pm	4th Floor Multipurpose Room	618 S. Michigan
ASL	Friday	Noon	The Loft	916 S. Wabash
Creative Writing	Monday	3pm	Room 320	33 E. Congress
Dance	Wendesday	Noon	Dance Center Classroom	1301 S. Michigan
ECE	Monday	5pm	Room 610H	33 E. Congress
Fiction Writing	Friday	Noon	The Loft	916 S. Wabash
Film & Video	Wednesday	2pm	Conaway Center	1104 S. Wabash
IAM	Wednesday	Noon	First Floor Lobby	916 S. Wabash
Journalism	Thursday	6pm	2nd Floor "Orange Area"	33 E. Congress
Marketing/Comm	Tuesday	1pm	The Underground Café	600 S. Michigan
Television	Tuesday	1pm	Television Studio	600 S. Michigan
School-Wide Forum	Friday	Noon	The Loft	916. Wabash



create... change

Student Government Association SGA Columbia College Chicago

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

How To: Get your voice back

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Ear, nose, throat specialist gives rundown of remedies

A SORE throat is painful and distracting, but losing your voice can completely ruin your day. The reason people lose their voice can be the result of a cold, allergies, excessive smoking or yelling at a sporting event, to name a few. William Gatti, otolaryngologist and clinical professor at Loyola University Medical Center, has some suggestions for how to get your voice back.

1

Zach Stemerick

Drink fluids. Thyme or chamomile teas tend to bring some relief to a hoarse voice. Don't take in caffeine or anything that may cause dehydration. "Warm fluids and honey are presumed to be medicinal," Gatti said. "If it relieves the symptoms, I have no objection to it."

2

Give your vocal chords a rest. Overworking your vocal chords will make matters worse. Abuse of this kind can very well be the reason you lost your voice. Try not to verbally communicate with anyone unless absolutely necessary until you can speak again without feeling like you're straining your voice.

3

Put on a humidifier at night. Moisture in the air will help keep your vocal cords hydrated. "In the winter, the air is dry. So keeping a humidifier on will help," Gatti said.

4

Appropriate medication. "The treatment is based on the history of a patient and our findings when they come into the office," Gatti said. "Either antibiotics or allergy medication can help. Sometimes allergens will swell the vocal chords."

5

Avoid smoking cigarettes and wear a mask if necessary. Avoid being around smoke and other irritants if at all possible. "If there's any irritant—smoking is one of them—in the working environment, especially for construction workers, you should wear a mask," Gatti said.

knielsen@chroniclemail.com

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Letting go of stage fright

SEE PAGE 22

Arts& Culture

Courtesy GREG GRUSBY/INDUSTRIAL LIGHT & MAGIC

Director Gore Verbinski assembled a team of 40 animators to create his first animated feature, "Rango," based on old-style Westerns. The film took five years to create from inception to final product.

Director trades swashbucklers for vermin in newest film

Five years in the making, 'Rango' is latest animated movie to hit theaters

by Drew Hunt
Film Critic

FILMMAKER GORE Verbinski is best known as the director behind one of the most financially successful movie franchises in recent history, Walt Disney's "Pirates of the Caribbean." For his newest project, the Western-influenced "Rango," Verbinski tried his hand at animation.

Joined by actress Abigail Breslin—who lends her voice to the character of Priscilla, a loveable, precocious rodent—Verbinski gave The Chronicle a chance to dig up some dirt on the film, including the casting process, nailing down a unique tone and Verbinski's growing partnership with actor Johnny Depp.

The Chronicle: The making of "Rango" differed from other animated films because you actually shot a live action version before the animating began. Describe that process.

Abigail Breslin: We were all [in] the same room together, so we all were actually playing off each other, and we all had a little bit of our costume on. It was better than just being behind a booth.

It was a lot more fun than just being by yourself, where they chose the best take from each scene from another actor. But we were actually with each other, so if we wanted to change something we could. I actually forgot midway through filming we were doing an animated movie.

The Chronicle: How does that method affect the filmmaking process? It seems like something so unconventional would create some difficulties.

Gore Verbinski: Thinking about this film holistically was a major challenge. But to see this team of 40 animators bond together, I could ask questions and they could describe and define the emotional state of the character prior to having mechanical discussions.

I have immense respect for animation directors. It's a lot harder than I ever imagined. There are no gifts. Everything is manufactured and created.

AB: Even though [Verbinski] took our emotions and put them in animated form, you have to rely on your voice to tell the story. In live action, you can rely on facial expressions, or you can raise an eyebrow or something like that.

In this, you don't really have that opportunity, so you really have to make sure your voice is something you use prominently. It takes a long time to get it perfect. I made this movie when I was 12, and I'm 15 now. But it's been great to see it go from each stage.

> "I have immense respect for animation directors. It's a lot harder than I ever imagined. There are no gifts. Everything is manufactured and created."
>
> - Gore Verbinski

The Chronicle: Did you take a look at any other Western films to find inspiration?

GV: I'm a fan of Westerns but really the most modern Westerns, like the "Wild Bunch," [where] the myths are dying and it's the end of an era. Progress is inevitable for us. The railroad is coming. When I was very young, I found Sergio Leone movies [like] "Duck, You Sucker" and "Once Upon a Time in the West." I saw them probably at an age-inappropriate period and felt like I was sneaking into a forbidden world.

AB: That's what's so great about ["Rango"]. There are references to movies kids wouldn't necessarily know but

» SEE RANGO, PG. 28

IMDB

Abigail Breslin voices Priscilla and Johnny Depp provides the voice for the title character in "Rango."

"A" To Zepeda

Democracy only as strong as people

by Benita Zepeda
Managing Editor

IN A time when many countries are fighting for basic rights and liberties, challenging their government and demanding democracy, many americans persist in ignoring struggles. Perhaps it's easy for U.S. citizens to forget because we are far away from it all. What do we care? We already have freedom of speech, the right to vote and material luxuries to live and work for. We don't need anything else, right?

Not quite. It's unfortunate how comfortable society is with our privileges. We take our basic rights for granted. I'm no different either. With Mayor Richard M. Daley leaving office, we had the first mayoral election in 22 years that ensured a new mayor, and I didn't vote. It's not that I am apathetic because I also disagree with certain aspects of our government, but I'm guilty for not voicing my opinions and demanding change out on the streets. However, people all around the world protest, fight and get killed to have the same rights such as voting that we choose not to utilize.

The U.S. is far from perfect, but we have so much we should be thankful for. While people frequently complain about being overstressed, the high cost of a college education and the availability of health care, to name a few, we should seek solutions instead. Sure, we can express dissatisfaction about certain aspects of our government on the Internet through opinion pieces and blogs, but it won't do any good unless we do something about it.

A strong democracy only functions if people are an active part of it. We shouldn't get involved in other people's battles, but shouldn't we pay more attention to what's happening around the world? I think we could learn a thing or two from the people standing up for what they believe in.

Our country's generally apathetic viewpoint toward larger issues and tacit acceptance of problems with government is our fault. We can always pass the blame to insufficient media coverage or government transparency, but it only goes so far. While the media have a responsibility to inform us, people need to remember those newspapers, magazines and websites are ultimately a business. It's possible everything we see on TV might not be true.

Look at how many countries protest things like tuition increases. France, Italy and England's citizens are prime examples of people who won't sit back and take whatever the government serves them. Here, we're comfortable with how stable life is but if we take time off to protest, think of all the consequences we could face. We could get fired, lose our income and end up sacrificing our pretty apartments and furniture.

It is time to voice what we believe in. People have the power to change their situation, especially in numbers. Instead of staying behind computer screens or watching the news disapprovingly, voice your opinions, protest and fight for what you believe in. Easier said than done, yes, but look at Libya or Egypt. We're a democracy, and if we, the people, are not satisfied, we can make a difference.

bzepeda@chroniclemail.com

'Seinfeld' character dies at 88

Len Lesser not only an actor, teaching job meaningful as well

by Beth Shuster
MCT Newswire

THE WORLD knew him as Uncle Leo, but the students at Canterbury Avenue Elementary School knew Len Lesser as their acting coach.

Lesser, who died last week at 88, played a role at Canterbury few of his fans knew about. Most kids and their parents there, in fact, probably never saw an episode of "Seinfeld." They had no idea Uncle Leo was Jerry's uncle. They knew he was the older man with the New York accent who showed up after school and every weekend to run lines.

He had hundreds of television and movie credits to his name, yet there he was, spending hours at a school in an out-of the-way, low-income San Fernando Valley neighborhood. Along with his friend, Canterbury's then-magnet coordinator, Marchand Erickson, he co-directed "Fiddler on the Roof," "The Wizard of Oz" and "Oliver!," to name a few of the ambitious productions.

He worked with students who'd never acted before; some were immigrants more fluent in the language of their parents. He urged them to project, look at one another and feel the emotion of the plays. When the script called for it, he urged the squirmy elementary kids to hold hands, even kiss. It could be incredibly awkward. I never saw him lose his temper or heard him raise his voice.

But really, he was one of us. The moms who could sew made costumes, the dads who could paint made the sets and the rest of us found any job we could do. (Let's just say some of us were really good at selling pizza and drinks at intermission). Whatever you could do, you did.

Lesser loved his volunteer work, his family and friends said.

"He was probably even more excited and enthusiastic about it than his work on 'Seinfeld,'" said Tama Ryder, an author who spent a year with Lesser writing "Where's the Watch?! and Other Tales From Seinfeld's Uncle Leo," his not-yet-published memoirs.

"He loved kids and being with children. Being around all those kids kept him young, too."

He certainly didn't take it too seriously. He joked about the kids who didn't learn their lines and wouldn't pay attention. His son, David Lesser, said he talked about how hard it was to work with kids rather than adults. He adored acting, and he wanted to pass on that passion, his son said.

"There was no mistaking my dad's love for the theater and acting," David Lesser said. "That Canterbury experience was really an outpouring of his love for his craft."

And it wasn't Canterbury where Lesser spent his off-hours. His son said he volunteered at a North Hollywood senior citizens home and taught drama to special education students. He helped out at an adoption center.

"He had a heart," his son said.

The kids appreciated him. On every closing night, when they handed out bouquets (yes, bought by a parent), there was always one for Lesser—their acting coach.

chronicle@colum.edu

Days of museums' lives

Interactive soap opera at MCA highlights audience participation with art

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

IN A typical museum, art hangs on stagnant walls, and a barrier surrounds the piece so museum-goers don't disturb the work. Visitors silently stroll through the exhibits, careful to avoid disrupting anyone else's experience with the art. However, a local show now encourages interaction between audience members and art by pulling visitors right into the pieces.

As a companion of the ongoing exhibit "Without You I'm Nothing: Art and Its Audience," at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., Chicago artist Kirsten Leenaars will film a soap opera based on the MCA and the audience's interactions with the exhibit. Using museum staff and visitors as the cast, the project "On Our Way to Tomorrow" begins filming on March 1.

While the exhibit started in October 2010, a series of interactive experiences by artists began in January, aimed at highlighting the participation aspect of the exhibit. Tricia Van Eck, the exhibit's curator, approached Leenaars about getting involved because her filmmaking style directly involved participants. According to Leenaars, the plot will revolve around the museum activities with scripted parts already given to staff members. Visitors to the museum will act out improvised storylines, read lines and determine plot twists as the soap opera continues.

"I spent a lot of time at the museum doing research and getting an understanding of how the museum functions," Leenaars said. "I took a lot of notes from that to come up with a basic storyline, and then I'm also really looking at soap operas and [their] structures, like conflicts and power struggles. In the end I don't want it to just be an inside joke about the museum. I want it to be something anyone could relate to."

Leenaars said her work is a good fit for the exhibit because it promotes art as an active experience rather than passively observing. The soap opera's backdrop, the actual exhibit, shows how art has changed throughout the past 30 years.

"The show begins in a historical manner tracing the attempts of artists since the '60s—a time of anti-establishment—to not be involved in a gallery or museum but go directly to the audience," Van Eck said.

According to Van Eck, much of Leenaars's film will analyze the museum's role in the contemporary art world. A museum is a public place people visit to have a private experience with a work of art, and the soap opera will highlight the convergence of those opposing worlds, Van Eck said.

Along with bringing her art directly to audiences, Leenaars pulls the audience straight into her project. Rena Sternberg, member of the MCA's women's board, found out about the project and was interested in meeting Leenaars. She offered to be involved with the show, expecting nothing to come of it, and now has a scripted role. When Sternberg approached the filmmaker about bringing an art tour to observe the work in process, Leenaars replied by saying she'd also write the art tour into the script.

"I think it's great because the whole show is about being interactive and being involved, and I think it is one thing the museum is trying to establish in general," said Sternberg, who thinks pulling in real people instead of actors as the cast will have a greater effect in the piece. "It's more authentic this way."

Leenaars said she enjoys working with people because it's an unpredictable experience. Building relationships and trust with strangers to create something is exciting for her as she works. She said she's looking forward to contributions from visitors and involving their original ideas for the plot line.

"I hope it will be funny and at the same time, despite it being a soap opera, I hope it can also give a little insight into how a museum actually works," Leenaars said. "I think a lot of people who go to museums don't really know what it really takes to get things up and running. It's a playful way to give a little more insight into that world."

Filming for "On Our Way to Tomorrow" begins on March 1 from noon to 7 p.m. and continues from March 2 to March 6 from noon to 4:30 p.m. and March 8 to 13 from noon to 7 p.m., at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. For more information on the project, visit MCAChicago.org.

bwellen@chroniclemail.com

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

The "Without You I'm Nothing" exhibit at the Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave., serves as the backdrop and inspiration for artist Kirsten Leenaars's soap opera, "On Our Way to Tomorrow."

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Chang splashes into fashion world

Miami designer takes strides with creative vision

by Audra D.S. Burch
MCT Newswire

MCT Newswire

THE TABLE extends 20 feet through the center of a tiny workroom. It is covered by a fuchsia, turquoise and red ribbon of fabric. Books about the grand fashion houses of Azzedine Alaia, Chanel and Jean Paul Gaultier occupy the shelves in the powder room. And the tiny staff behind the Julian Chang label hovers around sewing machines and stitches beautiful things.

Chang is in the storefront, surrounded by samples of previous collections, quietly recalling the natural birth of his eponymous label.

"My sister was a model in Lima, Peru. It was one of my first introductions to the fashion world," said Chang, 33, who runs his company in the Miami Modern district. "I was drawn to the energy and excitement of fashion; I knew I wanted to be part of it and to do something creative."

Before his 18th birthday, Chang traded one coastal metropolis for another to pursue his dream. Fast forward a decade or so, and Chang is a bona fide hit. His label, a modern cocktail of effortless sophistication and glamour, sells in 1,200 boutiques from Miami to Chicago to Lima.

Chang's collections have been celebrated in the glossies, too, including People, Vogue en Espanol, Women's Wear Daily and a slew of Miami publications.

His ready-to-wear collection won top honors at 2010 Miami International Fashion Week. And he counts Gloria Estefan, Paris Hilton, Lindsay Lohan and Paz Vega among his celebrity clientele along with members of South Florida's well-heeled circle.

"I design my clothes for the woman who [is] sexy, sophisticated and wants clothes that are classic and comfortable," he explained as a customer who seems to fit the bill sauntered in. "She is an everyday woman, maybe a mom, maybe a career woman."

His brand, launched in a Miami Beach condo, is built on modern silhouettes, texture and details. The fall runway 2010 collection was a nod to the crisp power of black and white, dressed in ruffles, shimmering embellishments and a hint of lace.

"My inspiration usually comes from textiles and colors," he said. "The city's energy and sexiness influences my designs."

Chang grew up in Lima with four sisters. His parents owned a manufacturing company. Since he was 8, Chang has been enamored with paint. "I loved abstracts, and I would paint on everything, on the walls, on the floor."

His interest in art soon gave way to fashion, and he set his sights on launching a career in Miami.

"Peru has a fashion scene, but it's much more about handmade compared to the sophistication you see here," he said. "It's more forward or evolved here."

Chang graduated from the Miami International University of Art & Design, where the faculty remembers him as a passionate, disciplined student—and the winner of several awards.

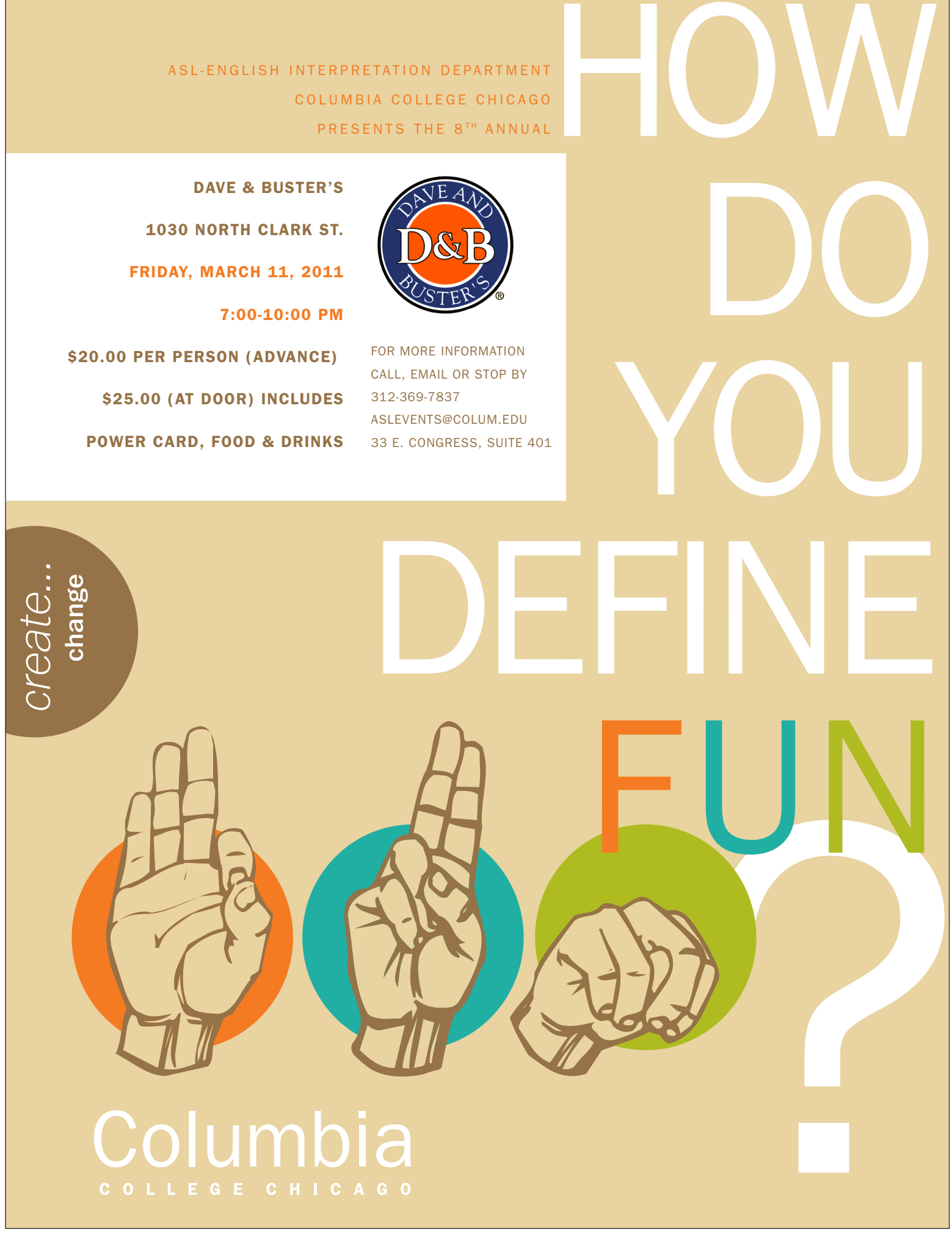
"He was a standout student. I never doubted he would become a designer," said Charlene Parsons, chair of the university's Fashion Merchandising, Fashion Design and Accessory Design program. "Julian was always working on his garments, always entering contests, always helping backstage at shows. He has an eye for trends. I still remember an incredible gray wool dress he made. It was fitted, very couture."

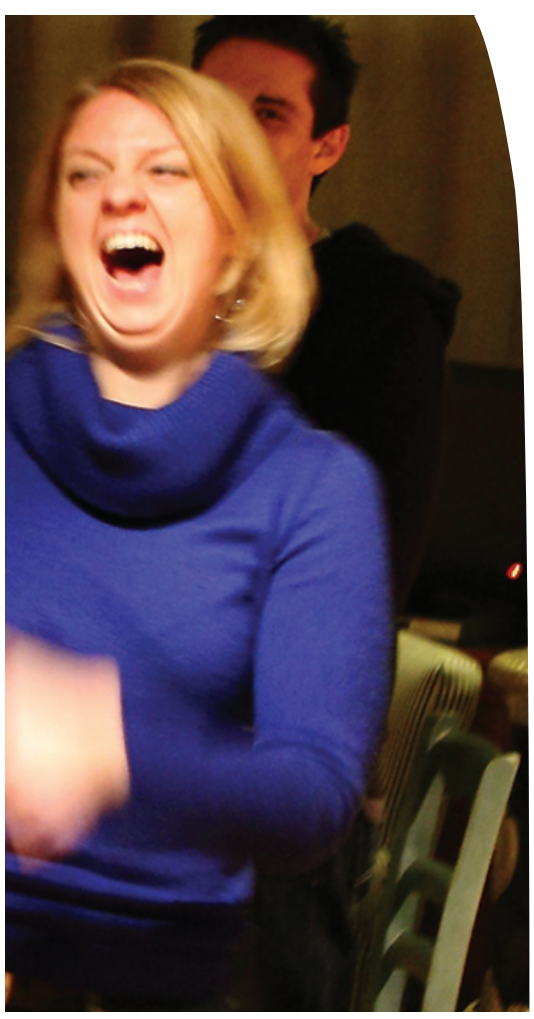
After school, Chang worked for Tail, an upscale menswear company. In 2002, he struck out on his own, blending his childhood art experiences, exposure to the modeling industry and formal training.

Four years ago, he moved into the emerging Modern district. He also expanded to include a wholesale division.

"I really like this area because it feels like a neighborhood," Chang said. "It has a lot of character. You can feel the changes."

chronicle@colum.edu





Embracing

Experimental project combines performing arts, social networking

NANCY SYBURG *started doing im plish six challenging things to celeb thy, 42, signed up for dance classes in 2011 that scared her. Matt Wexler, a thrill before the birth of his first chil*

They are all students of the Fear Experiment, an innovative performance-based project created by Saya Hillman, owner of Mac 'n Cheese Productions, 3320 N. Ravenswood Ave. The premise behind this venture is to bring strangers together by pushing them out of their comfort zone. Forty applicants were selected to take an improvisation or dance class of their choice from January until March. The sessions cost $185, and the performers will show off the skills they learned in a performance on April 9 at the Park West Theatre, 332 W. Armitage Ave.

Hillman required applicants to have no professional background in performing arts and explain why they were afraid to try something new.

"Saya likes creating a community by going through new and uncomfortable situations together," said Pete Aiello, improv instructor for the Fear Experiment. "The combination of personal growth and community building is a great environment for getting to know people because we're all making a fool out of ourselves together, so a lot of inner walls and personal barriers come down."

Hillman emphasized the focus of the classes and final show is to learn an unfamiliar skill and create new relationships and network with people outside of their normal environment.

"Obviously, you can give back to the community in Chicago and volunteer places," Hillman said. "You can take improv or dance classes and meet people through Match.com or any type of site, but I don't think there's anywhere you can do those all together."

The participants also work with underprivileged Chicago Public Schools students.

> *"The combination of personal growth and community building is a great environment for getting to know people because we're all making a fool out of ourselves together, so a lot of inner walls and personal barriers come down."*
>
> ***- PETE AIELLO***

Hillman, who teaches interactive media at CPS on the South and West sides, included her students in the experience. The dance participants went to the students' school and taught them their routines. Hillman also showed them how to videotape and edit the performances and is in the process of making a documentary out of it.

"These are very isolated communities, and these kids don't get opportunities like that very often. So it was really cool to bring them to the theater and show them a world they otherwise would not have known," Hillman said.

On Jan. 31, this now tight-knit group of people stepped into the Mac 'n Cheese studio for the first time and awkwardly introduced themselves to each other.

Three weeks later, they chatted after rehearsal ended and di

According to Hill instructor, Christina of last year's performe friendships and relatio the exhibition.

"I met so many grea experience," said Jen in the 2010 Dance Ex be able to say I danc of people."

The Fear Exper ment is a spin off of th Dance Experiment, Hil man's first foray int producing performin arts. As part of her 201 to-do list, she wante to perform a hip-ho dance on stage. Sh decided to gather 16 choreographer and ge

Hillman knew all o Dance Experiment, bu knew one another, wh quest to get people t she said.

"I wanted to keep sign up with friends b you do something wit don't usually push you zone," Hillman said.

She also wanted t perienced, adding to tation. Neither Che nor Aiello, who perfo taught a class befor

was appealing, Hillma

"Having people p reserved for rock stars us," she said.

The shows last ye decided to expand thi visation act. When sh sign up for the exhib overwhelming, she sa

"I can't believe t random, stupid concep man said. "I had to tu for the dance and 20 People have already s

g the Fear

Story by Matt Watson
Photos by Tiela Halpin

nprov because she wanted to accom-
orate her 60th birthday. Sara McCar-
s after she pledged to do something
31, wanted to go out and experience
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scussed what bar to go to.
man, the group's dance
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n, who was a dancer,
ormed improv, had ever
e the Fear Experiment.
The group rehearsed
rom January to March
2010 and performed two
shows on April 8 and 9
t the Pegasus Theatre,
145 W. Wilson Ave.
The people involved in
he Fear Experiment have
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For the performers, the
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spotlight for one night
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ear sold out, so Hillman
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rn away about 30 people
for the improv this year.
tarted signing up for the

next installment."

The Fear Experiment has evolved into a dynamic, multifaceted production. With the addition of the improv experiment, performances will switch back and forth between 5- to 10-minute dance numbers and improvisation sketches and a dance performance by CPS students.

"In this day and age, people have such short attention spans that they need things to be changing all the time," Hillman said.

The improv and dance groups now practice two days a week for two hours each. With every successive session, they venture farther out of their comfort zone. According to Aiello, the improvisers already moved on from basic improv into scene and character development. Chen said after she saw what last year's performers were capable of, she raised the bar for the dancers.

> *"It's a great escape from my normal life. I'm pushing 50, and I don't want to start slowing down. This is a way to speed myself up."*
>
> **- GREG CHRISTIAN**

At their Feb. 21 rehearsal, the actors performed improv games such as "tag it." Five improvisers got on stage and pretended to be an advertising firm solving a problem, with the audience shouting ideas on different topics, such as "noisy corduroy" and how nothing rhymes with "orange."

The actors must work together and come up with a dialogue on how to solve the problem. They rigorously agree with one another, no matter how ridiculous the idea and keep going until they come up with a marketing tag line.

"It's a great escape from my normal life," said Greg Christian, an improviser who runs a consulting firm. "I'm pushing 50, and I don't want to start slowing down. This is a way to speed myself up."

The performers all have day jobs outside of performing arts. Getting out of their homes in the dead of winter and jumping headfirst into the unknown was a risk that produced well-earned rewards, Christian said.

With Chicago being a national destination for aspiring improv actors, Aiello said the Fear Experiment sets itself apart from established venues like Second City and Improv Olympics by removing the serious and competitive aspect of improv.

"Improvisation in Chicago is a strong and vibrant community, but a lot of people come to Chicago to make it professionally in improv," Aiello said. "It's really refreshing for me to be part of a group of people who only want to have fun. There are no other underlying motives for people except to have fun and stretch themselves."

mwatson@chroniclemail.com

Courtesy EVAN HANOVER

Christopher Piatt's "Paper Machete" combines the worlds of theater and journalism for his spoken word show.

Cutting to the point

Local spoken word show combines entertainment, current events

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

AS THE Daley era came to a close, local newspapers and magazines reminisced on his greatest accomplishments and biggest flops while in office. Sam Hudzik, WBEZ reporter, said he would miss the laughs Mayor Richard M. Daley brought the city.

To fill the void, he asked the six mayoral candidates for their favorite jokes to include in his contribution to a local salon of current events and pop culture.

Every Saturday, journalists like Hudzik along with comedians, writers and musical guests, gather at Ricochet's Tavern, 4644 N. Lincoln Ave., to present topical commentary in an entertaining way as the live magazine "Paper Machete."

After writing about theater for Time Out Chicago for five years, Christopher Piatt decided to create his product of performance in 2009, incorporating journalism along the way.

Drawing from his days on his college speech team, Piatt created a show adopting the "After Dinner Speech" format, a competitive public speaking event that uses humor and information to convey a point, he said. Gathering a group of five or six people every week, Piatt asks the performers to prepare a piece in that vein.

"The key is to find a mix of people from different genres and backgrounds and give them very topical assignments," Piatt said. "The cumulative effect of these essays and character pieces is that of reading a magazine."

Two frequent performers, bloggers Andy Lawfer and Eric Roach, knew Piatt from the local theater scene and are often asked to discuss local culture for "Paper Machete." Utilizing their sketch comedy background, they try to make their critiques humorous but also want people to think about what's going on, Lawfer said.

"We did a piece about art vs. entertainment in Chicago, and we do it as two jerks, but we're trying to make an actual truthful point about the state of art in the town," Lawfer said. "Hopefully we're actually educating people and making them laugh."

According to Lawfer, the setup is like a model of Thomas Jefferson's Paris salons, places where trusted leaders would voice their opinions on important political and cultural issues. The weekly shows are a place the audience comes to hear trusted voices editorialize topics of the day, not solely entertaining bits, Lawfer said. In the past, the blogging duo strayed from their usual topics of theater and did a piece on the oil spill. The show's Feb. 19 performance was entirely based around the mayoral race.

The pieces vary each week to focus on pop culture and current events, very rarely bringing in any personal essays, Piatt said. In an attempt to differentiate what the "Paper Machete" does from other spoken word shows, Piatt encourages writers and performers to write in the second- and third-person voice with their commentaries.

"I think there's way too much personal disclosure by people with art degrees going on in the spoken word scene," Piatt said. "One of the points of our editorial direction is to get writers to take the focus off themselves and focus on other subjects and other people."

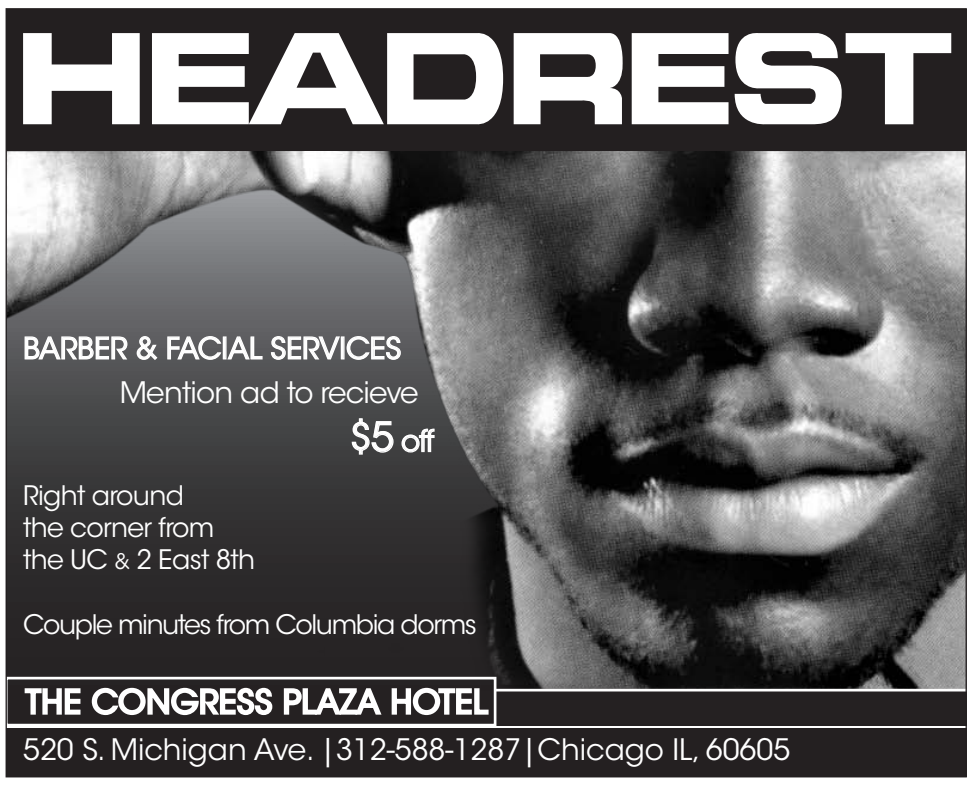
Expanding beyond live performance, "Paper Machete" creates podcasts to post on its website of some of the most memorable guests to get the word out. Currently working with little in the way of promotion, Piatt counts on big names that come through the show—such as "Saturday Night Live"'s Paul Brittain and comedian Sarah Haskins—to draw crowds in. From there, it's word of mouth bringing people back, resulting in a full bar nearly every week, according to Piatt.

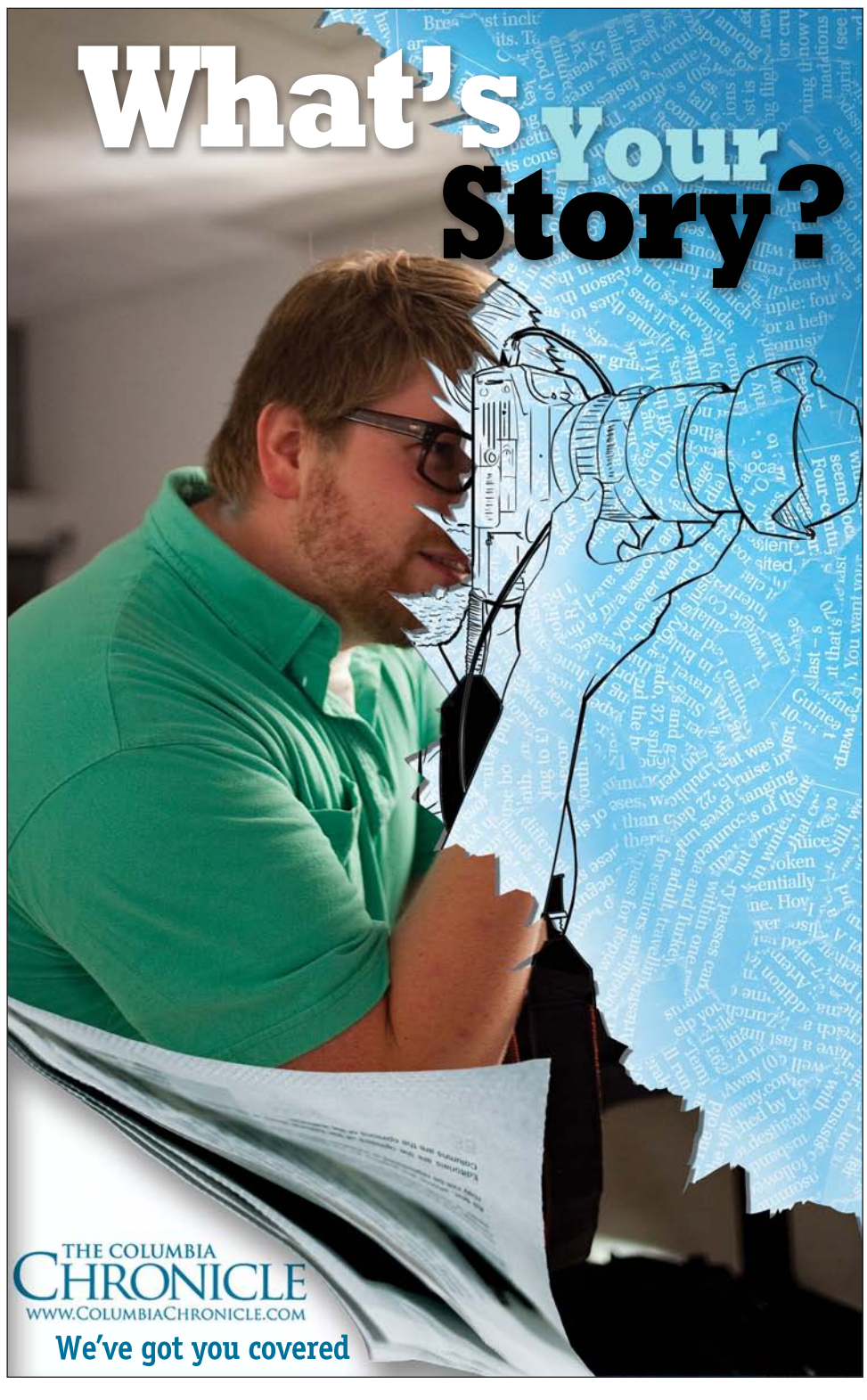
As the show continues on, Piatt's goal is to take cultural and political topics that a subset of America cares about and make them interesting to a wide audience. While there are no immediate plans for change in the future, Piatt said he's prepared to adapt the show as it continues.

"We have it set up in a way it will constantly be able to evolve," he said. "It's a very flexible format. It can be about anything really. We try to use whatever's going on in the news and culture that week as a jumping off point. There's really [no] limit on what it can be."

"Paper Machete" takes place every Saturday at 3 p.m. at Ricochet's Tavern, 4644 N. Lincoln Ave. The show is free. For more information, visit ThePaperMacheteShow.com.

bwellen@chroniclemail.com





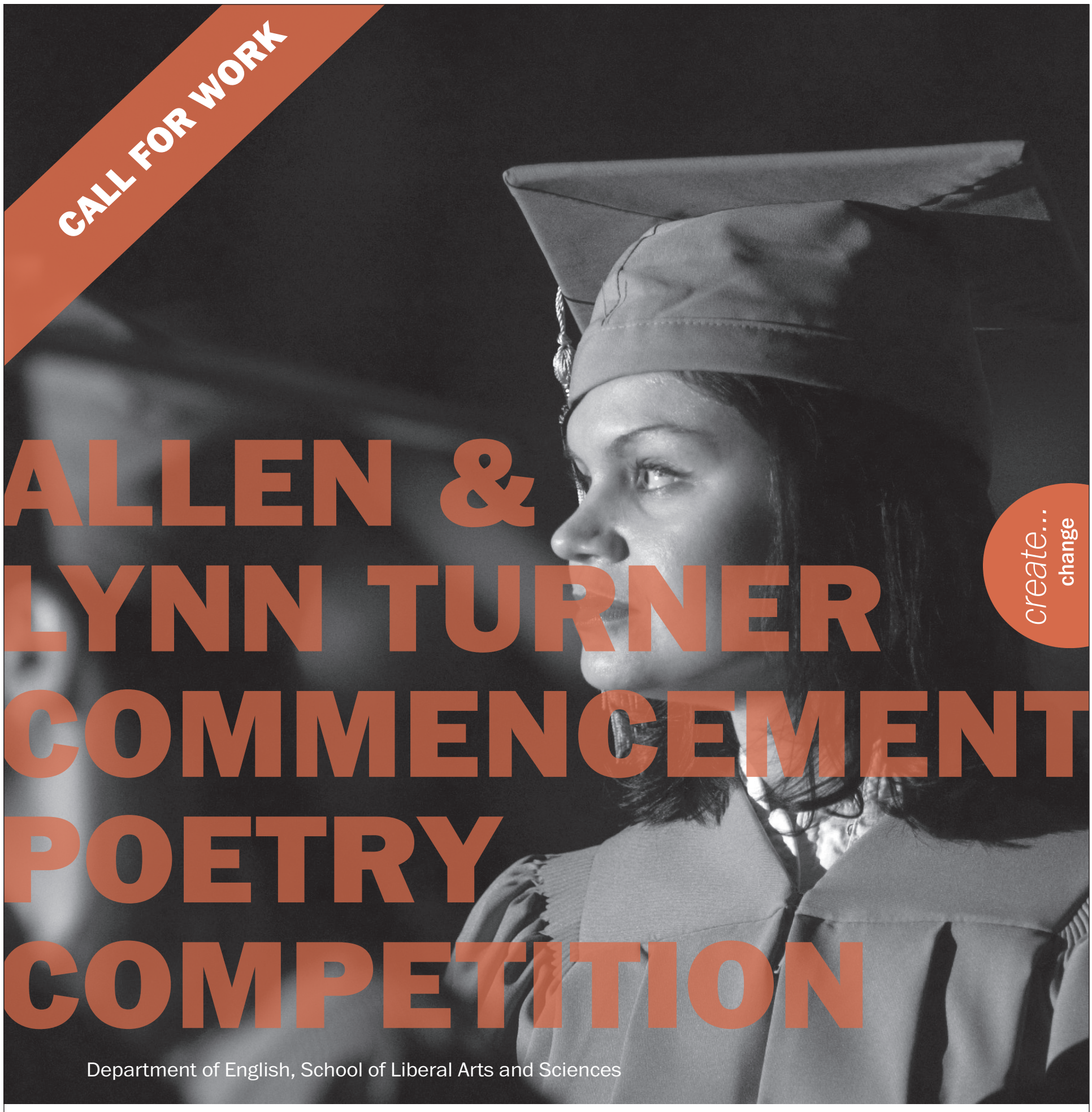


PHOTO: ROBERT KUSEL ('78)

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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
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colum.edu/commencement

STAFF PLAYLIST

JACKSON THOMAS, COPY CHIEF

BRITNEY SPEARS // HOLD IT AGAINST ME
LADY GAGA // BORN THIS WAY
TREY SONGZ // LOVE FACES
KERI HILSON // PRETTY GIRL ROCK

AMBER MEADE, COPY EDITOR

ELTON JOHN // HERCULES
PAUL MCCARTNEY // GREAT DAY
SAM COOKE // THAT'S WHERE IT'S AT
CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL // LONG AS I CAN SEE THE LIGHT

MOLLY KEITH, COPY EDITOR

OF MONTREAL // SEX KARMA
MY MORNING JACKET // TOUCH ME, I'M GOING TO SCREAM PT. 2
NEIL YOUNG // OLD MAN
DEERHUNTER // HELICOPTER

AMANDA MURPHY, ASSISTANT CAMPUS EDITOR

THE BEATLES // SOMETHING
BISHOP ALLEN // BUSTED HEART
THE CRANBERRIES // LINGER
JENNY LEWIS // ACID TONGUE

music downloads

Week ending Feb. 22, 2011

#1 Album

Sigh No More
Mumford & Sons

Top tracks

( ) Last week's ranking in top five

United States

Born This Way • Lady GaGa	(1)	1
Forget You • Cee Lo Green		2
E.T. • Katy Perry		3
Grenade • Bruno Mars		4
S&M • Rihanna	(4)	5

21
Adele

United Kingdom

Someone Like You • Adele		1
Price Tag • Jessie J	(2)	2
S&M • Rihanna		3
Born This Way • Lady GaGa	(1)	4
Rolling in the Deep • Adele	(3)	5

Pablo Alboran
Pablo Alboran

Spain

Born This Way • Lady GaGa	(1)	1
Solamente Tu • Pablo Alboran		2
Tonight (I'm Lovin' You) • Enrique Iglesias	(3)	3
Firework • Katy Perry		4
Lead the Way • Carlos Jean	(2)	5

Source: iTunes

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CHICAGO AUDIOFILE

Courtesy JARED GRABB

Peoria,Ill.-based punk trio Tina Sparkle comprises (from left to right) Tom Satterfield, drums and backing vocals; Chris Anderson, bass and backing vocals; and Marsha Satterfield, lead vocals and guitarist.

Ballroom dance influences punk

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

MARSHA SATTERFIELD, lead vocalist, songwriter and guitarist of indie-punk trio Tina Sparkle, recalls joining her older brother Tom's band when she was 14. The brother and sister duo went on to play with numerous bands for the next 15 years, such as The Forecast, Scouts Honor and The Amazing Kill-O-Watts.

But Tina Sparkle is the siblings' main priority these days, which is evident from the release of their second full-length album, "Welcome to the No Fun House," on Feb. 8.

The makeup of the Peoria, Ill.-based outfit has changed a few times since 1998, which is when their band name was first coined, but Satterfield said its current members are rock solid. Now, Satterfield in addition to Chris Anderson (bass and backing vocals) and Tom Satterfield (drums and backing vocals) comprise Tina Sparkle.

The Chronicle caught up with Satterfield to talk about inspiration for their recent release, where the name of their band came from and the Peoria music scene.

The Chronicle: Tell me what's different about your newest release, "Welcome to the No Fun House," compared to 2007's "All Around Champion Screw Up"?

Marsha Satterfield: It was all written during the time I was living with my grandma for 10 years. A lot of it's about her struggle with Alzheimer's and taking care of her. Also, while all of that's going on, [there's] getting over an ex-girlfriend and all of the steps moving on with that. We also got rid of the bass player and our second guitar player quit. That's when we got Chris [Anderson]. We seem to work better as a trio. It makes us more powerful.

The Chronicle: What's the Peoria music scene like?

MS: It goes in and out of phases where it's kind of rough and there isn't too much going on. It fluctuates between [a lot of music] happening and nothing going on, but a lot of people think they have to leave Peoria to have anything happen with them. I highly disagree with them. I say, "Make it better if you can. Stay where you are." There's quite a bit of variety in Peoria. [It]varies from hardcore to metal to punk to indie to blues and jazz. Of course there are the alt-country types, too. Right now there's a band that's pretty awesome, but they're just getting started. They're called Dirty Gentlemen.

The Chronicle: How did the name of your band come about?

MS: It's from this movie "Strictly Ballroom." Our sister was going to college in Beloit, Wis., and she was into ballroom dancing and that was a movie they got into. I don't even own the movie, which I should. [*laughs*] It's just one of the names of the characters. My sister came up with it a long time ago when I was just playing solo.

The Chronicle: Compared to other bands, how is Tina Sparkle any different?

MS: Well, I don't feel we're doing what everyone else is doing—at least around here. I'm kind of stuck in the '90s, and I've always been stuck in the '90s. The only difference for me is I have control of the situation, whereas before I was just a bass player singing backup vocals. I've never had such a feeling of [being in] an actual band as I do with Tina Sparkle. Sometimes it's more like one person is always doing everything and telling you what to write. With Tina Sparkle, I'll come in with the idea and all the lyrics, but Tom and Chris bring in a lot of input and they're a heavy force.

The Chronicle: What bands influence you individually and as a whole?

MS: PJ Harvey, Veruca Salt and The Pixies—but not as much now. As a whole, there's a lot of The Who influence. I think my brother and I play a lot of Dandy Warhols-type music.

The Chronicle: What is it like to work with your brother in the band?

MS: It's great. I can't play with anybody else. I've tried other drummers. We seem to have an instinct where we always know what one of us is going to do.

Listen to Tina Sparkle's newest album at PunkNews.org/Bands/TinaSparkle.

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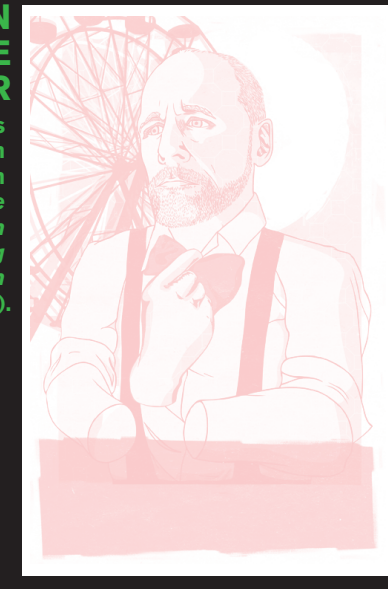
Buddy Wakefield is a three-time spoken word world champion and author of *Some They Can't Contain* (2004), *Live for a Living* (2007) and *Gentleman Practice* (2011).



NICK NARBUTAS/ NATE OLISON/DANIEL SHAPIRO/ABBY SHEAFFER

SILVER TONGUE

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» RANGO

Continued from PG. 18

their parents would. It can appeal to a broader audience.

The Chronicle: How did you go about casting the film? Did you choose actors based on the characters, or did the characters change once the actors were in place?

AB: These were the characters from the start. But that was what was so great about it. You know, these are lizards and rats. They're not puppies and kittens and bunnies. But they made them very endearing. They're the opposite of what you'd want to see.

I'm from New York City, and if you see a mouse, you walk across the street and go the opposite direction. But if you saw Priscilla, you'd be like, "Oh, hey girl, what's up?" [*laughs*]. I loved seeing the drawings of her.

GV: Well, Rango was always going to be Johnny [Depp]. From the very first sketch of Rango—from even before that first drawing—I knew he was in. With Johnny, [we've done] so much work together, we developed a shorthand—I mean, a lot of times I'll speak almost in sound effects and nonsensical words. I'll go up between takes and underline one line [of] dialogue and say, "More fuzz here, more spank on this one." He knows what I'm asking him.

On "Rango," there was a tremendous amount of trust. I said, "I'm going to [make] this animated movie about a lizard with an identity crisis," and he just went, "Fantastic! Let's do that." He was in without reading a script or anything.

The Chronicle: "Lizard with an identity crisis" is pretty deep for an animated kid's film. Was it your intention to make a film that was perhaps a bit smarter than a run-of-the-mill family movie?

AB: There's stuff for every age in [the film]. It can appeal to a broader audience. It doesn't talk down to kids; it doesn't dumb down anything for kids.

Animated movies just keep getting better. Two of my favorite movies last year were animated movies. I think the message of this movie is all about working together, and also to be who you are, and [don't] judge people.

GV: I never really set out to make a movie for an audience. [I try] to make a movie I like and I would like to see. I hope there are enough people [who] agree. Certainly, the "Pirate" movies were intended to be family movies. [But] I never really articulated or even had discussions [about] that. I took the same approach to "Rango."

I think it's great for kids. My kids love it, but my kids like "[Monty] Python and the Holy Grail." I think animation is constantly referred to as a genre for kids and moms. And I don't know where that comes from. Why does animation have to be linked with Happy Meals?

"Rango" opens in theaters nationwide on March 4. Check local listings for showtimes.

ahunt@chroniclemail.com

IMDB

Abigail Breslin began work on "Rango" when she was 12 years old and didn't see the final product until she was 15 because of the animated feature's long production process.

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Jason Sudeikis remembers Midwestern roots

Actor reflects on fame, beer prices in Big Apple, appreciates hometown

by Robert W. Butler
MCT Newswire

IMDB

"Saturday Night Live" cast member Jason Sudeikis stars in the new movie "Hall Pass" with Owen Wilson.

JASON SUDEIKIS said his new marriage comedy, "Hall Pass," came along at a pivotal moment in his personal life.

"It was like it was supposed to happen in some weird way," said Sudeikis, who is from Overland Park, Kan. "My wife and I had been separated for two years, and the divorce was finalized during the third week of shooting. We're still friends, and she's amazing—I'd like to be that amazing."

Listen to Sudeikis for long and you can't miss his Midwestern ethos. He's a huge fan of his hometown, lending his celebrity to local charities. He's a rabid University of Kansas fan, sporting Jayhawk gear on "Saturday Night Live" and last week on "Jimmy Kimmel Live."

Sudeikis also exhibits a Midwesterner's caution about the fame game and carving out a show business career.

"I don't get all worked up about landing a new job," he said. "I think my agent and manager would corroborate. For me it's just another game on the schedule. Time to go to work. Besides, each new gig is as much an opportunity to fail as to succeed. So I don't give myself too many high fives just for getting a job."

Sudeikis, 35, recalled that after landing a slot on "SNL's" writing staff and moving to the Big Apple in 2003, he didn't bother to fix up his Manhattan apartment.

"I figured I'd be fired in the first three months," he said. "I've had comedy heroes who didn't last at "SNL." I figured the old-timers on the staff would sniff me out as a fraud right away. I didn't open most of my boxes for three years."

Sudeikis said he's blessed to have joined the "SNL" staff when he did. Published histories of the show have revealed backstabbing and behind-the-scenes intrigue in the show's early years.

"The group at 'SNL' now, we're a different generation than the one that was there through the '80s," he said. "I suspect it's a much nicer place to work today. We just had Dana Carvey, Mike Myers and Jon Lovitz on the show, and they spoke candidly about how unsupportive that environment could be back then. But it doesn't seem like that at all with our current group. There's competition, sure, because you've got a lot of smart, funny people who are writers and performers competing for 40 minutes of available skit time."

In "Hall Pass," Sudeikis and Owen Wilson play bumbling suburban husbands whose wives give them a week off from marriage. It's the latest from Bobby and Peter Farrelly, the brothers who gave us "There's Something About Mary" and "Dumb and Dumber."

Sudeikis said beneath the gross-out jokes and outrageous humor, the brothers are deep thinkers.

"There's actually a lot of heart in their movies," he said. "That's the stuff I respond to. When I was at Second City, it was always about comedy with meaning, with a point of view, with heart. 'Hall Pass' was written, rewritten and directed by guys who are all happily married with great wives. There's silly stuff in the movie, but beneath that it always felt very real and genuine. That's what attracted me. Plus, I was flattered they thought I could pull this off."

Sudeikis gets back to Kansas City two or three times a year. He's big on barbecue and hanging at the Plaza.

"I love buying my friends a round of Miller Lites," he said. "In New York, six beers can cost you $50, and that's not even the imported stuff. Buy a round there and you'll be walking home because there won't be anything left for a taxi."

Though he's now a resident of NYC, he said he doesn't consider himself a New Yorker.

"But with each season that goes by, I enjoy the city more and more, Sudeikis said. "I mean, what an incredible opportunity! To land in NYC working for 'SNL.' This is a job that lets me talk comedy with Carvey and Jim Carrey. That lets me watch Jay-Z or Coldplay perform from 20 feet away. 'SNL' is like no job anywhere else on Earth. Early on maybe I didn't realize how beautiful and wonderful it all was. But I'm now at a point of total appreciation."

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TOP 5

Jon Allen / Senior Graphic Designer

Reasons you look fantastic today

Your hair: You're obviously doing something different. Whatever it is, it's working! Look at you. Don't be so modest. Are those highlights? They look so natural, and I love the way they make your eyes pop!

Your shoes: Someone splurged this weekend! Those look so uncomfortable, but your legs look amazing. So good for you for committing to the look. Yeah, you strut in those shoes. You look fantastic, and don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

Your teeth: OK, they're borderline too white, but you're clearly a fan of dental hygiene. I read an article that said people who have a brighter smile are 300 percent more likely to be successful in the workplace. Well, I just made that up, but it sounds real, right? I'm sure there has to be some trooth (dental pun, ha!) to that.

Your makeup: Normally, your makeup is a little ... how do I put it? Carnival horror movie meets the wrong end of the Bronx. But today, you are spot on. It's classy but not so classy that people will think you're a bitch. Whoever helped you out with that should get a gold star because you're looking fabulous.

Your surroundings: Wow, this is a room full of uggos. Look around you. I would expect this crowd at a dimly lit truck stop bar—the kind that has Old Style on tap. However, the negative appeal in this room only highlights your beautiful aura. Seriously, though, we may want to go somewhere else.

Zach Stemerick / Graphic Designer

Things I hate right now

"Skins": Stop talking about it, whether you're saying how you watched the British version way before anyone knew of the series or expressing how terrible you think the U.S. version is. Just stop.

People who hate pop music: Quit pretending you don't like it. You can indulge in a little mainstream every now and then without going all out state school. No one likes a bitter hipster. "Oh na na, what's my name"—all day, every day.

Subway across from the Wabash Campus Building: Why do you have to be so dirty yet so convenient? I feel like I have had consistent food poisoning all semester because of your nasty vegetables and hairy bread, but I just can't resist you. Your $5 foot-longs are straight up dangerous. Clean up your act. I want my buffalo chicken back.

Cold weather: I hate to state the obvious, but it's really cold and it's getting to me. I have seasonal depression so bad I practically live in a bathtub. In fact, my top five is negative because it's cold today. I mean, who can I talk to about getting this weather situation fixed? This needs to be resolved now.

Homeless people: I've drawn the line. It's over. I'm tired of being harassed and feeling afraid walking home. Homeless people here are rude and aggressive, and I'm sick of it. I will give you my change when you change your attitude.

Ying Kau / Graphic Designer

Ways to become a better person

Love others: Live your life with love. Let love be your biggest motivation for everything. Treat others the way you treat yourself. Always give a helping hand, lighten one person at a time, and it might return to you some day.You will be glad you did.

Love yourself: Loving yourself means loving and respecting your body. Accept yourself just the way you are. Let your smile shine and think positively. It will always open a door for you.

Always feel thankful: Know that everything doesn't just happen for you. There are so many things we should be thankful for. Be thankful to your family who brought you into the world, your friends who love and care for you, a smile from a stranger and be thankful you are still breathing.

Money is not the only important thing: Don't let money blind you; there is something more important than money. I am not saying we don't need it, but just know "money might be everything, but it is not the only thing."

Recycle: When you throw your trash away, it doesn't just disappear; it's still on Earth! Don't use plastic or styrofoam. It will live on the earth even longer then you do. Please reuse or recycle. Your mother Earth will be very happy if you do.

tweets of the Week

@SteveMartinToGo

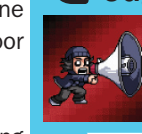
Oscar Holy Thursday: The Holy Reading of Presenters' Banter from Oscars Past.

Feb. 24

@MissKellyO

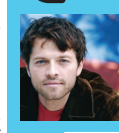
over it! the toilet over flowed due to a mystery log rider so i spent the last 2 hours walking around my apt dry heaving!
Feb. 22

@edgarwright



I just beat the computer twice on Scrabble. A small victory against the machines. F**k you Watson. Down with Skynet.
Feb. 21

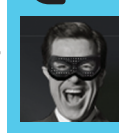
@mishacollins



It's a point of pride with me that I don't know how "wallmartt" is spelled.

Feb. 24

@StephenAtHome



With fewer toothpaste choices on the market now, maybe those 5 dentists can finally agree.

Feb. 24

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check me out

Kelynn Smith, sophomore arts, entertainment and media management major

"I plan a theme when I get dressed. Today is snowbunny."

Shoes: Dillard's, $30; Coat: H&M, $70; Bag: H&M, unknown

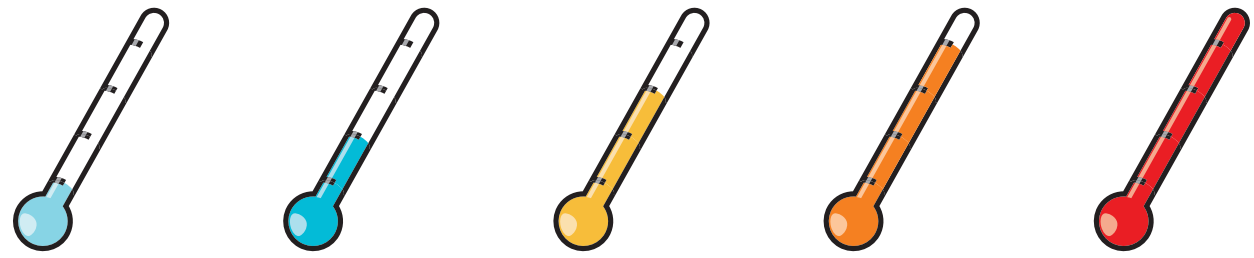
Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Alex Katz, junior arts, entertainment and media management major

"My hair's been sh***y lately, so I've been wearing a lot of hats."

Hat: thrift store, $5; Glasses: Crossroads Exchange, $10; Shirt: H&M, $10

HOT & COLD



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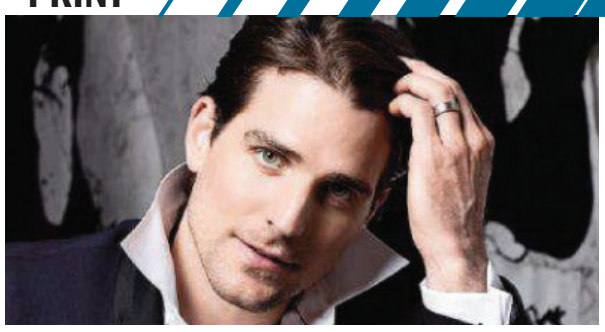


CHICAGO MAG'S "50 MOST BEAUTIFUL CHICAGOANS"

Chicago magazine just came out with the "50 Most Beautiful Chicagoans," and honestly, I'm not sure what all the hype is about. Patrick Sharp is on the cover and yes, he's a beautiful man. But when you flip through the pages that follow, there's disappointment after disappointment. Are there no beautiful people in Chicago? I have a feeling the beautiful people are in LA and New York, Chicago magazine needs to be more selective about who it lets on its list.—*K. Nielsen*

"MIND VS. MACHINE" BY BRIAN CHRISTIAN

Following super computer Watson's run on Jeopardy, The Atlantic article "Mind vs. Machine" has reporter Brian Christian on a personal mission to see if machines can be more human than humans themselves. While certain scientific tests were comforting, the philosophical conversation about what it means to be human left me a little nervous that robots could one day take over.—*B. Wellen*

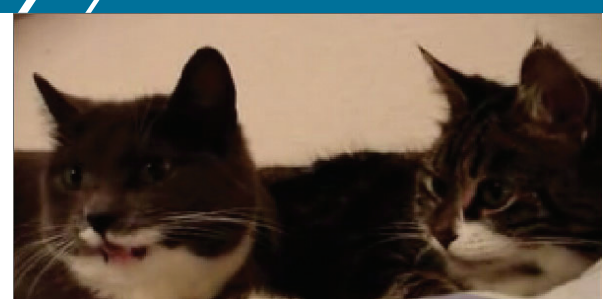
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED'S 2011 SWIMSUIT ISSUE

I forget I even receive this annually because of my subscription. I'm glad this cover was actually eye-appealing compared to last year. The models are all 10s, and this issue manages not to disappoint. —*E. Modacure*

MOVIES / TV / DVD

"GOSSIP GIRL," SEASON FOUR

This season has been completely unimpressive. Just when I thought the drama couldn't get anymore ridiculous, it did. The show has lost its luster as an intriguing teen drama. Somehow, even the more likable characters have become barely interesting.—*A. Murphy*



TALKING CATS ON YOUTUBE

We all know parrots can repeat what humans say, but talking cats are way more fun to watch than talking birds. They're cute and cuddly, and when they talk, they sound amazing. Check out the YouTube video titled "Talking Cats." My favorite one is a crazy-looking black kitty that sounds like he's putting words together and trying to make a sentence but just makes no sense. "Oh long john, oh don piano, why my eyes are, all the livelong day." Does he really say all that? Is someone pulling a fast one? You be the judge.—*K. Nielsen*

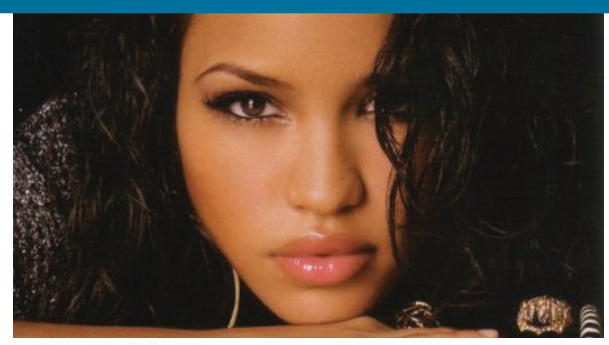
"REAL HOUSEWIVES OF MIAMI"

Really, Bravo? Another housewives show? I have enjoyed certain seasons featuring rich women who stay at home with nothing better to do than throw a lavish party every other day. However, the congestion of this genre of trashy reality TV is making each cougar catfight less and less enjoyable. Let's cool it on the housewives, Bravo, and bring back Rachel Zoe as soon as possible.—*B. Wellen*

MUSIC

RADIOHEAD: "THE KING OF LIMBS"

Radiohead's latest album, "The King of Limbs," is a familiar sounding record. Not because it's been heard before but because it has the same qualities as "Hail to the Thief" and Thom Yorke's "Eraser." Even if the album isn't their best—and it isn't—it's hard to deny it speaks to the power of the band when they can announce the album's release only five days in advance. —*S. Charles*



CASSIE FEATURING RYAN LESLIE: "KISS ME"

When people think of Cassie, she might be recognized as a one-hit wonder for her 2006 song, "Me & You," and for an attempt at making her half-shaven head and hairdo cute. But if her song "Kiss Me" featuring Ryan Leslie had hit radio stations, its soulful rhythm, serene melody and thoughtful lyrics would've skyrocketed her career. Maybe she should be more concerned with her music career than her undercover relationship with P. Diddy.—*J. Thomas*

MUMFORD & SONS: "SIGH NO MORE"

While folksy, blue-grass music isn't normally my thing, Mumford & Sons' newest album, "Sigh No More," has a soulful sound to it that anyone looking for something different can enjoy. Lead singer Marcus Mumford's voice has a raspy quality that contrasts with the poppy melodies. I didn't expect to like this band, but they won me over with the song "Little Lion Man."—*J. Allen*

RANDOM

STICKY NOTES

They're super dope. Write a note to your friend, and stick it on their forehead. Write a note to a stranger, and stick it on their back. Alter time itself by writing random numbers on sticky notes and sticking them to clocks. Draw pictures of cats on sticky notes and make real cats suspicious. Stick sticky notes to your window and blot out the sun.—*D. Holliday*

FEB. 22 ELECTION

For the first time in 64 years, there was no incumbent on the ballot for Chicago mayor. Chicago is notorious for its election lore. This year, however, the turnout was around 40 percent, lower than the already abysmal 50 percent officials expected. Seriously, Chicago? Don't get me wrong, I'm happy Rahm Emmanuel won, but people in the Middle East are fighting for their right to vote, while Chicagoans are too lazy to get off the rump-shaped dent in their couch to cast their ballot.—*M. Watson*

NEW DANCE MOVES

Start off by blowing up the balloon, which is where you mimic the act of blowing up a balloon. When the beat hits, you chop the clouds or use your arms and hands to make a chopping motion up high. Next, you push the papparazzi away where you pretend to push people down low. The last move in the series, and quite possibly everyone's least favorite, is whacking the moles where—you guessed it—you pretend to whack moles. Bust these moves out to gain friends.—*M. Bloom*

Commentary

Editorials

Students need to step up their game

ACCORDING TO the Fall 2010 Fact Book recently released by the Office of Research, Evaluation and Planning, Columbia's graduation rates are embarrassingly low.

The report shows of students who came to Columbia as freshmen in 2003, only 27 percent graduated in their fourth year, 33 percent graduated by their fifth year and 37 percent graduated by their sixth year at the college. As Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly told The Chronicle in the Sept. 27, 2010 issue, the college's graduation rates are slowly rising. As of the spring 2010 semester, the rate was up to 40 percent throughout six years.

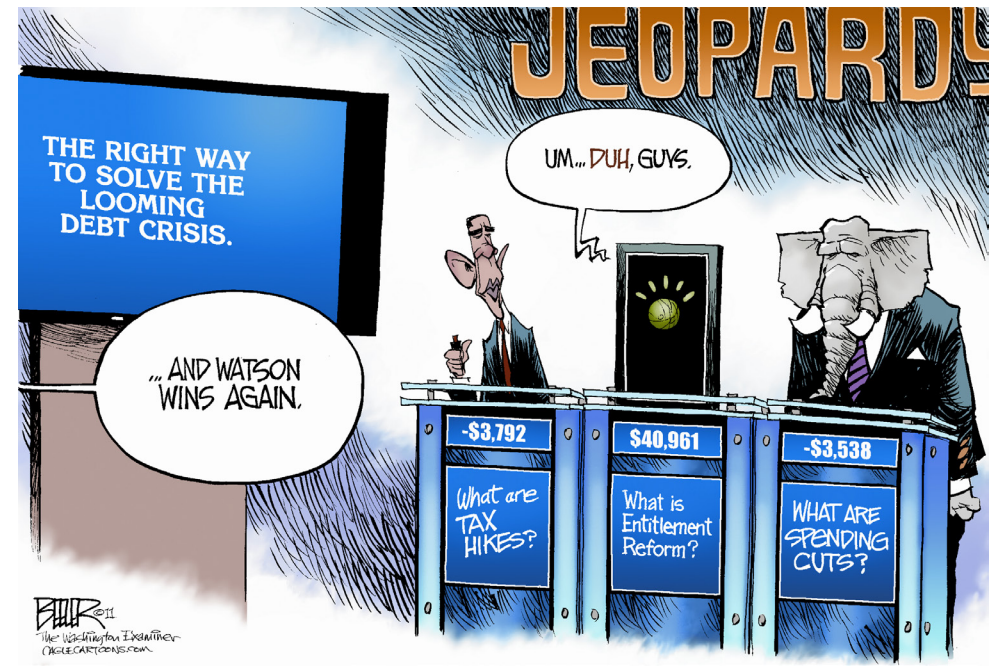
However, these rates are too low, and most of the blame lies squarely with Columbia's students. A handful of valid reasons—such as transferring to another college or pursuing career opportunities that present themselves before graduation—can contribute to the low rates, but other students don't seem to take their Columbia education seriously. Many students show up and expect art school to be easy. When they find out it's actually quite a lot of work, they either fail or drop out if they can't keep up.

Columbia is a great college for a wide variety of arts, media and communications disciplines, but an education can only be as good as a student makes it.

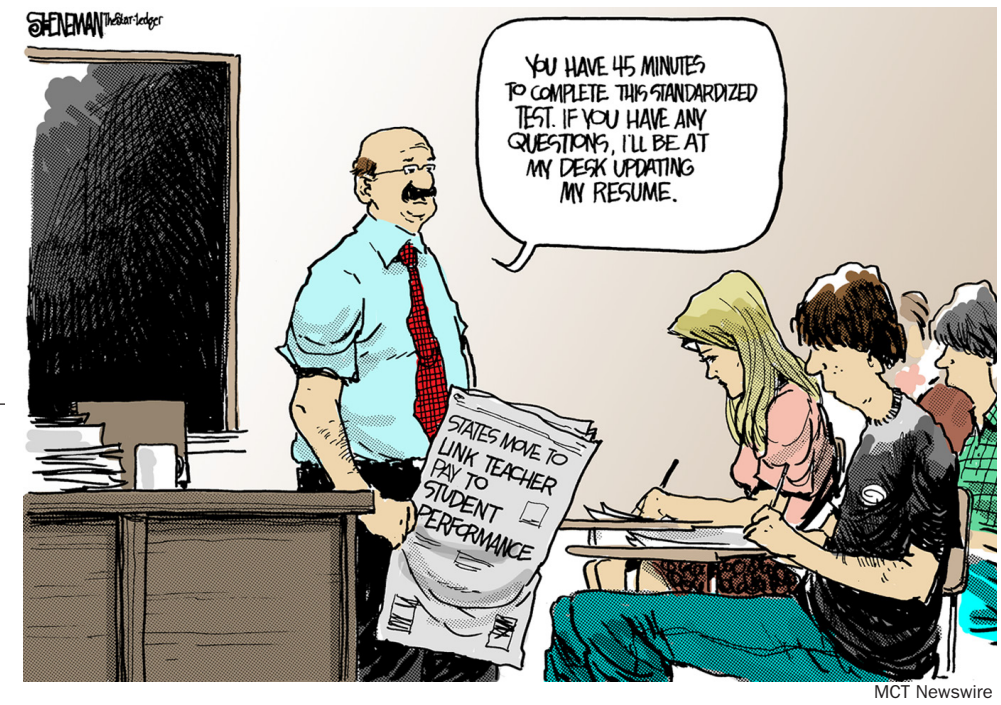
Earning a degree in the arts is no easier than earning one in chemistry or biology, and if students want to pursue careers they're passionate about, they will have to work hard. People who aren't willing to put forth the effort to make something of their education and graduate in six years' time are responsible for bringing Columbia's graduation rates down and making the college look bad.

The college should look into adjusting its lenient admissions policy and the way it markets itself to attract students who will be more serious about their goals. Apathetic students waste their money by coming here and also cause the college to waste resources that could support more motivated students who actively want to complete their education.

Setting higher grade or test score requirements could be problematic because great artists can't always be judged by their performance in school, but some sort of portfolio requirement or evaluation of incoming students' skill levels and dedication could work well. It would help separate the people who can make the most of Columbia from those who think art school will just be an easy way to slack off after high school.



MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire

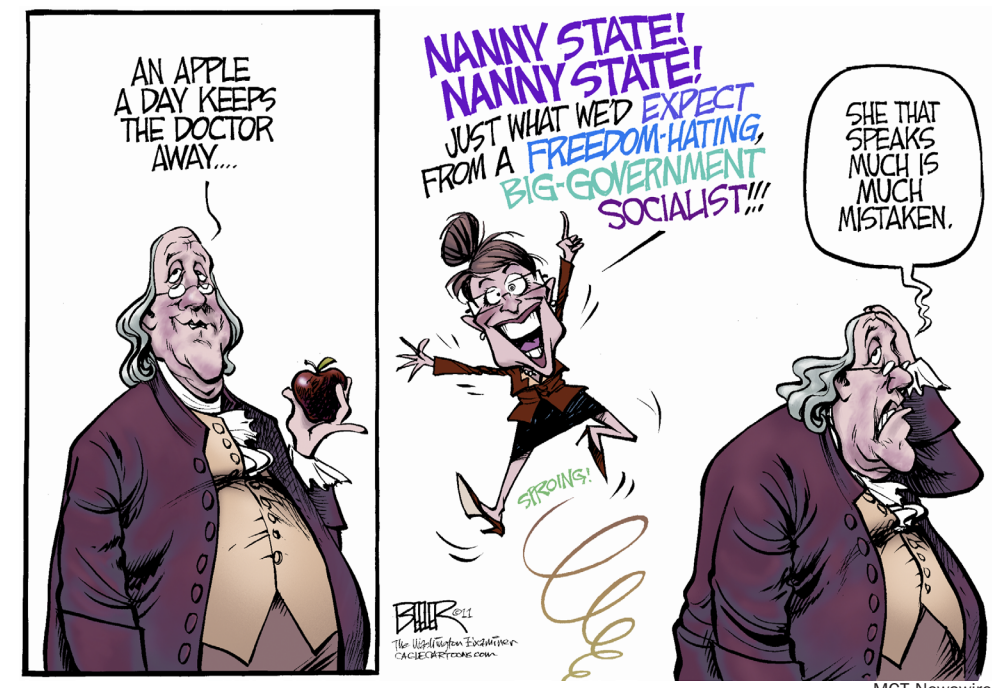
Voters blew their big chance

RAHM EMANUEL became Chicago's next mayor with a blowout victory in the Feb. 22 election, taking 55 percent of the vote, compared with a mere 24 percent by runner-up Gery Chico. However, in a disheartening display of voter apathy, only 41 percent of registered Chicago residents participated in that decision.

At a time when millions of people across the Middle East take to the streets and fight for a right to vote, it's sad to see the majority of Chicagoans take that same right for granted, especially in such an important election. It was a momentous event in Chicago history, marking the first time in decades long-term Mayor Richard M. Daley did not seek re-election and the first time in recent memory anyone other than a Daley had a realistic chance at office. After hearing Chicagoans complain for years about Daley's unending reign as the "King of Chicago," it was truly disappointing so few people were willing to come out to the polls once the opportunity to elect a new mayor finally arose.

Emanuel's celebrity factor during the campaign probably played a big role in creating voter apathy. He dominated all election coverage, particularly after his residency controversy. Emanuel managed to be the center of attention throughout the campaign without ever taking much of a solid stance on anything. It seems clear he will make some sweeping changes to city government. But beyond a few vague promises to cut spending and reduce the deficit, it's unclear what any of those changes will be. He had an overwhelming advantage in terms of campaign funds, having raised more than $11 million for his mayoral bid, while Chico and Carol Moseley Braun raised just above $2 million and $446,000, respectively. Many people assumed he had the election in the bag.

However, the mayoral race was not the only thing decided on Feb. 22. As of press time, 10 new aldermen were elected to the City Council. Fourteen more aldermanic races will be resolved in the April 5 runoff elections, giving Chicago voters one more chance to cast their ballots. These elections will give voters the chance to create some enormous changes in the City Council—a chance they should not squander a second time by neglecting to vote. Aldermanic elections can impact specific neighborhoods and wards far more than the mayoral race, so Chicagoans should pay close attention to these races and make their votes count come April.



MCT Newswire

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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

Cutting net neutrality hurts consumers, helps corporations

by Luke Wilusz
Commentary Editor

"It's difficult to imagine anybody other than media and network corporations who will benefit from the lack of network neutrality measures and public broadcasting."

IN A move that reeks of lobbyist-influenced legislation, House Republicans tacked an amendment onto a federal funding bill on Feb. 17. The amendment denies money to the Federal Communications Commission's network neutrality measures and eliminates government funding for public broadcasting.

The bill, which was passed by the House, seems to benefit large media corporations and Internet providers more than anyone else by simultaneously allowing corporate restriction of the Internet and stifling the public debates that are featured on public broadcasting.

The net neutrality rules the FCC passed in December 2010 were weak and vague enough to begin with without the House completely blocking them via budgetary restrictions. While the measures would theoretically prevent corporate extortion and online censorship by Internet service providers, they were barely enforceable. The rules were so ambiguously worded and full of loopholes they wouldn't have any noticeable effects. The few rules the FCC did implement would only have applied to wired networks, leaving wireless providers like Verizon Communications Inc. and AT&T Inc. free to implement paid prioritization measures.

Paid prioritization would allow ISPs to devote higher bandwidth and more reliable service to websites that pay for preferential treatment. Other sites would be left with subpar service if they don't pay up, and some could even be deliberately slowed down or blocked altogether if an ISP chose to do so. In other words, paid prioritization would give service providers free reign to practice extortion and censorship on the Internet.

Net neutrality is important to implement because consumers deserve to have equal, unfettered access to whichever websites or online services they want. This access should not be hindered or affected by corporate greed or companies' attempts to extort or stifle their competition. The Internet is supposed to be a free and open marketplace of ideas, and our access to those ideas should not be limited because the people publishing them can't afford to pay for premium distribution.

However, some net neutrality opponents' concerns may have some validity to them. Such regulations should not turn into a stepping stone for government control of the Internet. Government attempts to keep corporations from restricting Internet access should not lead to eventual government meddling in Web censorship and restriction. The whole idea is to keep the Internet free and open, and any regulations put in place should always serve that end above all else.

Republican opponents of net neutrality legislation claim the rules create too much government interference in the free market and corporate affairs. It would be wonderful if we could trust corporations of this magnitude—especially with this much money and influence at stake—to regulate themselves and act in consumers' best interests, but that's just a pipe dream. We took a hands-off approach with Wall Street, and instead of a market that regulated itself, we got a bunch of investment bankers who crippled our economy for three years and counting. There has to be some level of oversight to ensure corporations don't sacrifice consumers for the sake of quick profits.

Moreover, our legislators should be more concerned with defending the interests of the people than granting more powers to corporations. It's difficult to imagine anybody other than media and network corporations who will benefit from the lack of network neutrality measures and public broadcasting.

Luckily, this bill is unlikely to make it past Senate Democrats who said they don't intend to support it. Legislators will probably be forced to eventually rework the bill to allow a federal spending plan to move forward. When they do, they should reconsider their priorities and look into supporting the FCC's net neutrality measures and strengthening them so they can be effectively used for their intended purpose.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com

ROAMIN' NUMERALS

67 Percentage of likely U.S. voters who said states should be able to enforce immigration laws if they believe the federal government is not doing so, according to a Feb. 18 Rasmussen Report. Fifty-seven percent of voters said they favor the passage of an immigration law similar to Arizona's in their own states, 28 percent opposed the idea and 15 percent were undecided.

5 Number of years, as of Feb. 22, since Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas spoke during oral arguments in a court case, according to a Feb. 12 article in The New York Times. Thomas has not asked any questions from the bench since 2006, and the only time he usually speaks aloud in court is when it is his turn to announce a majority opinion, which he reads from a prepared text.

22 Length in years of Richard M. Daley's reign as mayor of Chicago. Daley took office in April 1989 and announced in September 2010 he would not seek re-election. He will be succeeded by mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel, who will be inaugurated on May 16.

29 Percentage of Americans who have already filed their income taxes, according to a Feb. 22 Rasmussen Report. The number has decreased from 30 percent this time last year, 33 percent in 2009 and 43 percent in 2008.

U.S. needs to stop retouching, embrace natural beauty

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

"Instead of spending energy analyzing each facial and body flaw, women should put that effort into standing against the image of retouching."

SINCE MY first pimple when I was in fifth grade, I was always envious of the seemingly flawless skin of cosmetics models. I also fell for advertisements and was convinced the makeup would indeed give me the poreless photo finish it depicted. Even after seeing a variety of Photoshop-of-Horrors, it never occurred to me the same tools might be used in the cosmetics industry.

I always thought models had superhuman genes or were blessed by some divine figure. That was until last week, when Jezebel.com published a slideshow of before and after pictures of models submitted by high-end fashion and beauty retoucher M. Seth Jones.

The photographs showed that these women have freckles, sun damage, acne, scars and beauty marks. Their skin tone was uneven and showed blotchiness and redness. To sum it up, their skin was far from flawless. What I saw when I looked at the photographs was not that their skin was imperfect but it was human.

There is no doubt these women are beautiful. They were chosen to be in the industry for that reason. However, society obsesses about absolute perfection, even if that means erasing freckles and beauty marks—the flaws that helped make women like Marilyn Monroe and Cindy Crawford iconic. It seems all advertisements, magazines, and catalogues present women with an unrealistic standard of beauty.

Instead of spending energy analyzing each facial and body flaw, women should put that effort into standing against the image of retouching. The secret is out, and we know what we look at is not real.

French politician Valerie Boyer is targeting cosmetic companies and saying the beauty industry's retouched photos should come with a warning label. She has crusaded since Sept. 2009 to eliminate this misleading practice.

Catalogue and magazine retouching mistakes are leaked more frequently onto the Internet. They show where the photo editors change body shape, skin tone and sometimes, like in the case of Christina Hendricks, completely eliminate body parts from the pictures.

Perhaps the most famous Photoshopped woman is Madonna. From Louis Vuitton and Hard Candy ads to magazine spreads, she has been retouched in every possible way. Madonna is 51 years old and in great shape for her age. No one would expect someone who is 50, 40 or even 30 to not have some sort of wrinkle or line on their skin.

And yet the photographers who digitally edit her smooth away every wrinkle, line or hair with their magic wand. In most cases, especially the Vuitton ad, she resembles a doll or alien and not a 50-year-old woman.

Madonna is not the only older celebrity to befall this. Most women who grace the covers of beauty and fashion magazines are altered away any resemblance of age.

Jezebel.com posted a similar tragedy that happened when Faith Hill was on the cover of Redbook in July 2010. The editors removed every detail imaginable, any trace showing she is a beautiful older woman.

The mistakes make it more difficult to trust any form of advertising directed toward women. It makes me realize how much money and time I wasted shopping for those moisturizers and foundations that would give my skin the same effect.

Last year, unedited Playboy page proofs were released onto the Web. The shocking part wasn't the nature of the photographs. It was that the original photographs were covered in arrows and notes, dissecting every flaw that needed fixing.

The photo editor went through every detail, from wayward hairs to nipples that weren't the perfect size and shape. The saddest part is these women are gorgeous and were chosen by Playboy for their stellar figures. However, today it seems the message sent out is beautiful isn't good enough.

In April 2010, French Elle came out with an issue titled "Celebrities without Makeup." The issue took eight European celebrities, like Monica Bellucci and Sophie Marceau, and photographed them naturally. The women glowed and looked refreshingly real. The response many women had was positive and urged American magazines to do the same.

Although the popular U.S. magazines have yet to create a counterpart, the message was sent. In an increasingly perfection-obsessed world, women need to break down the barriers. Europe is doing it, and I hope the U.S. will catch up soon.

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

MARCH 8, 2011

ART & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

AN ARTIST PANEL DISCUSSION

In conjunction with the programming series for the exhibition

OFF THE BEATEN PATH: VIOLENCE, WOMEN AND ART

JANUARY 22 – APRIL 13, 2011

Image: Susan Plum, *Luz y Solidaridad*, 2006

create... change

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 6PM

ART & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

AN ARTIST PANEL DISCUSSION

In recognition of International Women's Day

Chicago Cultural Center
Claudia Cassidy Theater
78 E. Washington Street
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Featuring exhibition artists:
Patricia Evans
Susan Plum
Jaune Quick-to-See Smith
Hank Willis Thomas

Moderated by Jane M. Saks, Executive Director, Ellen Stone Belic Institute.

JANUARY 22 – APRIL 13, 2011

OFF THE BEATEN PATH:

VIOLENCE, WOMEN AND ART

Opening reception with performance by Susan Plum

January 21, 5:30–7:30pm
Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington Street
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Presented by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

The Institute is one of three lead partners developing community programming around this touring group exhibition, which addresses violence against women and the basic right to safety, security and justice. Organized by Art Works for Change, the exhibition features the work of 29 contemporary artists from 25 countries. The free public programming series for the exhibition considers the global and local impact of violence against women through discussions, panels, and performances co-organized by the Ellen Stone Belic Institute; Rape Victim Advocates; and The Voices and Faces Project.

For a complete list of programs in this series, visit:
chicagoculturalcenter.org & colum.edu/institutewomengender.

ELLEN STONE BELIC INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN&GENDER IN THE ARTS AND MEDIA AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

THE VOICES AND FACES PROJECT

Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs

ARTWORKS FOR CHANGE

RVA

Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

Metro

Cristina Aguirre THE CHRONICLE

Protesters in Madison, Wisc., crowded all three levels of the state capital building on Feb. 21. Many groups centered in the rotunda, filling the walls with posters and slogans. The protests, which have been going on for more than two weeks, began in opposition of Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's budget proposal that would limit union's collective bargaining rights and increase the money workers must contribute to pension and benefits funds.

Chicagoans join protests in Madison

Union workers, city residents rally against Wisconsin legislation

by Heather McGraw
Assistant Metro Editor

TENS OF thousands of people braved the snow and freezing rain, packed inside the Wisconsin state capitol building, surrounding Gov. Scott Walker's office while banging drums and shouting chants like, "Talk to us" and "We are Wisconsin"to protest union rights changes.

The protests, which have been ongoing for more than two weeks, began when Walker introduced his budget bill that would limit unions' collective bargaining rights and increase the amount of money workers would have to contribute to their pension and health insurance benefits.

Despite protests, the bill was passed on Feb. 25 by the Wisconsin House of Representatives.

The legislation now moves to the state Senate floor but might not pass as quickly as it did in the House. When protests began, 14 Democratic senators fled the state—and were unreachable as of press time—preventing the Senate from having enough members present to pass any legislation.

Collective bargaining rights give teachers the ability to have a say regarding class size, something that has been shown to directly correlate to the quality of education, according to Kenzo Shibata, member communications coordinator for the Chicago Teachers Union.

"Traditionally, organized workers are the ones who bring up wages and benefits and working conditions for all people," Shibata said. "If we were to take away the teeth of unions—our ability to negotiate with management—then this would bring down everyone's quality of life."

The protests have gained public backing, including multiple visits from Chicago union workers because many protest supporters agree this is not a Wisconsin problem but an issue spreading across the nation. Many states, including Illinois and Indiana, are considering similar legislation to deal with their budget deficits.

> "It's something taking place across the country right now."
>
> -Nick Kaleba

Cristina Aguirre THE CHRONICLE

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker addressed the media at a press conference in the state capitol building on Feb. 25. Walker has said he won't compromise on the controversial budget legislation that would strip workers of their collective bargaining rights.

Walker introduced the legislation as a solution to help ease the $137 million budget deficit the state currently faces. In comparison, Illinois is trying to deal with a $13 billion deficit. Shibata said the legislation proposed in Illinois dealing with cuts to the public sector is on a much smaller scale than in Wisconsin, but comparable limits and reductions could affect Illinois.

The Chicago Federation of Labor chartered buses twice to bring nearly 300 workers to the northern neighbors in collaboration with the Chicago Jobs with Justice organization and the National Nurses United to join the protest.

"There's been a tremendous outpouring of support from union members in Chicago for their brothers and sisters in Wisconsin," said Nick Kaleba, director of communications for the CFL. "People see this as an injury to one is an injury to all, so there's a real strong sense of solidarity."

Terry Davis, board member of the

» SEE MADISON, PG. 40

2010 census shows lopsided growth, decline

Certain areas thrive while neighboring communities shed population, viability

by Darryl Holliday
Metro Editor

AS ANALYSTS and residents wait for the next wave of census data, the first set of results has shed light on Chicago's changing demographics, revealing unbalanced development in the Windy City.

The latest census snapshot—a comparison of 2000 and 2010 data released in early February—offers a glimpse of an altered social landscape during the last 10 years. Displacement of city residents, along with crime and poor living conditions in certain areas, has taken its toll on the city population.

In total, the city lost 200,000 residents since they were last counted in 2000—a reduction of nearly 7 percent, according to census data.

The decrease stems largely from a mass out-migration of the city's black population, which dropped by approximately 17 percent. Many analysts have said one source of this sharp decline is likely the Chicago Housing Authority's Plan for Transformation, which demolished public housing units across the city.

The displacement of some minority populations, gentrification and new residential development in the downtown Loop area has also contributed to the movement of people in the last decade.

While the current census results don't give much insight into why people have moved, and where they moved to or from, some educated guesses are being made from the data available.

"It's a lot of things that happen in combination," said Jim Lewis, senior program officer at the Chicago Community Trust, a foundation that strategically invests in community projects. "The net impact of all of these flows is that you see a decline in Chicago."

Esta Kallen, president of the League of Women Voters of Chicago, a nonpartisan political organization, said this will result in a problematic lack of diversity for the city.

According to Lewis, predominantly black portions of the South Side in particular, which began gentrifying roughly 15 years ago, experienced a disproportionate decrease in population from 2000. Englewood and West Englewood experienced some of the largest declines citywide—a combination of nearly 20,000 residents equalling a 21 percent loss of the area population.

Out of Chicago's 77 neighborhoods, 57 decreased in population.

During the same period, Chicago's collar counties—the five areas that border the city, including DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties that surround Cook County—all experienced growth.

» SEE CENSUS, PG. 39

ELECTION RUNDOWN

Second term win for 2nd Ward incumbent

Voters give Fioretti four more years, no runoff election necessary

by Heather McGraw
Assistant Metro Editor

ALDERMAN BOB Fioretti (2nd Ward) will begin his second term in office in May after winning a majority vote in the recent municipal elections, beating out four other candidates.

Fioretti received 55 percent of the votes on Feb. 22, allowing him to avoid a runoff election in April. Genita Robinson came in second in the election, with nearly 31 percent of the vote, followed by Melissa Callahan, with more than 4 percent. Jim Bosco, who appeared on the ballot but gave his endorsement to Federico Sciammarella, had 1 percent.

"This is a great ward," Fioretti said. "It's a microcosm of the city of Chicago, and it reflects all the diversities in the city. I truly am honored and humbled to represent the ward."

At an event at Buddy Guy's Legends, 700 S. Wabash Ave., Fioretti addressed the media shortly after polls closed on Feb. 22, discussing his victory and recent treatment of cancer of the tonsils. According to Tom Gradel, his spokesman, Fioretti has finished treatment for the Nov. 1 diagnosis.

"[Fioretti] said his doctors told him they got all of the cancer, and he will be able to return to health with his full strength and energy," Gradel said. "He will be able to handle his job as alderman without any difficulty."

Fioretti has held the position since 2007 when he was elected by a 66 percent vote in an April runoff against incumbent Madeline Haithcock.

According to Fioretti, his goals for the coming term include completing the projects he started while in office. Gradel said Fioretti's most important priorities are the same things he has worked on for the past four years.

His top four priorities—outlined by Gradel—are job creation and retention and improving things like public education, public safety and infrastructure.

"These are what the community has expressed either overtly or the things they present, but that's what they want," Gradel said. "Not only does he want to focus on them, they're the most important thing and they're central."

Fioretti's opponent Sciammarella, who won more than 4 percent of the vote, said he was not surprised by the election results.

"It's a matter of being able to turn out people to vote," he said. "Obviously when you're the incumbent, you have certain structures and organizations in place to make that very easy to do."

According to Sciammarella, with all of the pending budget deficits, education needs to remain a top priority for Fioretti.

"I think that's going to be very critical," Sciammarella said. "We can't lose sight of the fact that our children need an education, and that's the only way we're going to be able to get ourselves out of this economic mess."

Sciammarella, an assistant professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Northern Illinois University, said while he has no immediate plans to run for office again, he will remain involved in the ward.

"I will definitely keep my ear to the ground in terms of the issues of the ward and maybe become a bigger spokesperson if so called upon," he said.

Robinson will return to her position as executive director of the Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth program, which supports and promotes one-on-one mentoring programs, but she plans to eventually run for office again.

Robinson said she is happy with the campaign she ran and she thinks name recognition plays an important role whenever an incumbent is in the race.

Sciammarella and Robinson agreed it is important for Fioretti to maintain open communication with 2nd Ward residents.

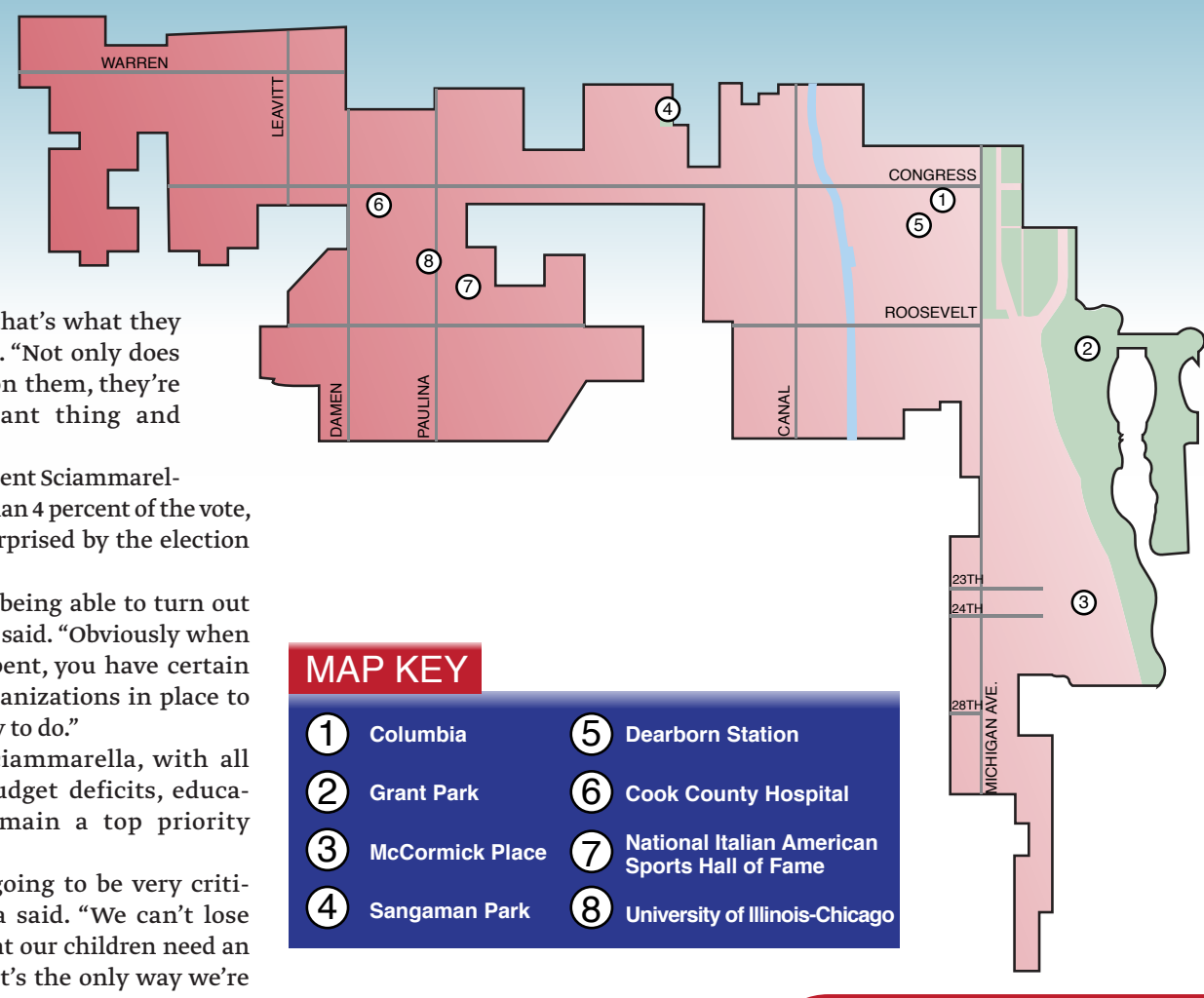
The alderman said he has included his constituents in every significant decision that has had an impact on their lives and will continue to do so through meetings and creation of groups and organizations.

Fioretti said he thinks he won because residents are happy with the job he has done in office and he encouraged the other candidates to remain involved in the ward.

Although Fioretti did not want to speculate on what the future might hold for him after the upcoming term, he said he loves the challenges and the people of this ward.

"I've always said one of the best jobs in the city of Chicago is being alderman in the second ward," Fioretti said.

hmcgraw@chroniclemail.com



MAP KEY

1. Columbia
2. Grant Park
3. McCormick Place
4. Sangaman Park
5. Dearborn Station
6. Cook County Hospital
7. National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame
8. University of Illinois-Chicago

Runoff Elections

The following wards will hold a runoff election on April 5 to decide between the top two candidates in the general election.

- 6th
- 15th
- 16th
- 17th
- 20th
- 24rd
- 25th
- 36th
- 38th
- 41th
- 43th
- 45st
- 46th
- 50th

The Chronicle will start covering some of the runoff elections in more depth starting on March 6.

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Federico Sciammarella (left) is comforted by his father Ceasar Sciammarella (right) after losing the 2nd Ward alderman position to Bob Fioretti. Sciammarella and supporters watched the 2011 election results come in at The Union Park Lounge, 228 S. Racine Ave.

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Bob Fioretti (2nd Ward) first became alderman in 2007 when he beat out incumbent Madeline Haithcock in a runoff election. Fioretti avoided a runoff in the most recent municipal election by winning 55 percent of the vote.

Artist's day in court

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Chris Drew attending a protest on Oct. 4. The artist and local activist is being charged with a Class 1 Felony for violating Illinois' eavesdropping law when he recorded the police arresting him in December 2009. His court date is set for April 4.

City activist determined to change state laws despite threat of arrest, jail time

by Vanessa Morton
Contributing Writer

CHICAGO ARTIST Chris Drew continues to fight for his rights as he prepares to go back to court on April 4. When it comes to Illinois state laws, Drew is no stranger to challenging them.

It has been 14 months since he was arrested for selling his artwork without a license—a misdemeanor violation of Chicago's peddlers license law—as previously reported in The Chronicle on Jan. 25, 2010. Though the misdemeanor has been dropped, Drew, with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, has continued to work toward legislative change, despite the looming possibility of his imprisonment.

"Whatever they throw at me, I'm going to make lemonade out of it; I'm going to turn it into something positive," he said.

After Drew was taken into custody, his story took an unexpected turn. Police found an audio recorder in his pocket that had secretly documented his arrest, which is a violation of the Illinois Eavesdropping Act.

The Eavesdropping Act, passed in 1961, was originally written to protect privacy rights by limiting how telephone conversations could be recorded. Drew's recording of a public interaction with police led to his being charged with a Class 1 Felony, which carries a charge of four to 15 years in state prison.

The act prohibits any audio taping of people without permission and any videotaping of police. Drew and the ACLU agree the law is unconstitutional.

Inching his way toward a trial, an optimistic Drew said he and his legal team have been preparing for more than a year now.

"The whole legal process can take a long time and there have been various delays along the way," he said. "I have feelings both ways. There are a lot of possibilities in this, a lot of uncertainties in this, so I'm kind of eager to have the trial at this point."

Adam Schwartz, an attorney for the ACLU, explained there are two types of conversation that need to be kept separate when it comes to protecting the privacy of others. He believes it's important to distinguish a non-private from a private conversation.

"The ACLU believes it's important to protect the privacy of private conversations," Schwartz said. "So we wish Illinois had a law, like other states have, that doesn't extend to these non-private conversations."

Drew agreed it's important residents have the ability to record public servants in public places.

"If we can't audio record what the police tell us, the police can tell us anything," he said. "When we go to court and they tell their story and I tell mine and they're different, they win. Because they're the police, and their word is taken much more importantly than my word."

According to the conservative Heritage Foundation's senior legal research fellow, Brian Walsh, the legislature needs to revisit laws like the Eavesdropping Act that criminalize actions without criminal intent. Walsh also stated that the legislature should take in consideration the advent of so many hand-held recording devices.

"Somebody who records another person without intent to violate the law should not be prosecuted as a criminal and should not be punished as a criminal," Walsh said.

Previous to his arrest, Drew spent most of his time campaigning against the peddlers license law and its restrictions.

He thinks the law is unconstitutional because it prohibits a person's First Amendment rights to free speech by limiting where licensed peddlers can sell their goods and requiring all artwork to be seen first by the Department of Business Affairs.

"The city uses traffic control and public safety to justify the need for licensing peddlers and for regulating where speech peddling can occur," Drew wrote in his blog. "If there is no traffic or public safety problem, the city has no rights to limit my speech."

However, Walsh disagreed and said cities generally have a broad authority on public space to make decisions about how it can be used.

"So the idea that there is an absolute right to sell whatever you want, wherever you want, is not well-founded," he said.

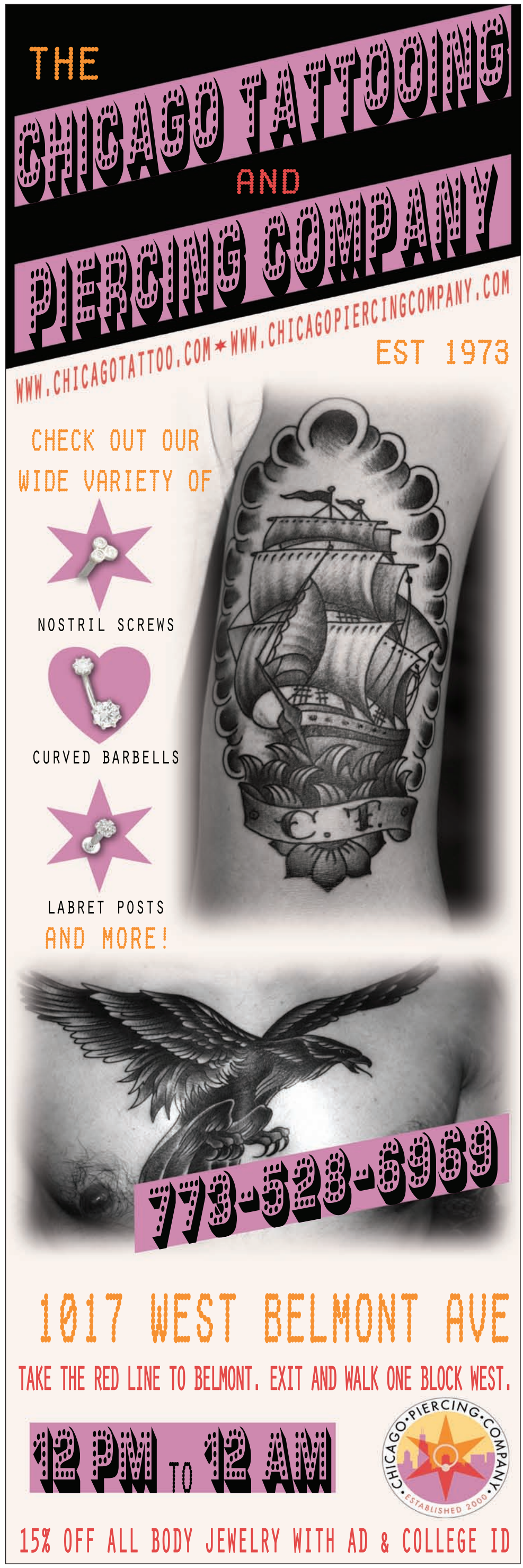
Walsh said Drew's interpretation of the law as unconstitutional isn't well-supported.

"[Drew] can certainly talk about it, but I imagine it's the sales not the discussion of his art that's actually prohibited," Walsh said. "So it doesn't sound like from the facts of the case that there is a strong free speech argument either."

Facing jail time, Drew explained he has spent a long time coming to terms with it. However, he said he's optimistic and believes his story will change the law one day.

"I'm excited at times; I'm angry at times, Drew said. "I'm a bit frustrated and maybe even a little low, but I'm going to turn this around, and the worse they do me, the better for the movement."

chronicle@colum.edu



Rail bottleneck solution threatened by cuts

Englewood transit system plans under fire because of federal budget deficit

by Jon Hilkevitch
MCT Newswire

STOCK PHOTO

The proposed railway project in Englewood and West Englewood to eliminate a bottleneck and ease delays is being threatened because of cuts in the federal budget.

FUNDING IS in jeopardy for construction of a major rail-bridge system to ease at least some of the freight and passenger train congestion in the Chicago region, officials warned on Feb. 24.

The argument against building the Englewood flyover bridges on Chicago's South Side at one of the nation's busiest railroad junctions has nothing to do with the merits of the project.

Instead, the long-planned bridge is among billions of dollars worth of infrastructure improvements threatened by the battle playing out in Congress regarding the soaring national debt.

Democratic Illinois lawmakers said on Feb. 24 they will fight a move by Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives that scrapped funding for the Englewood bridges.

The bridges are designed to increase rail capacity and eliminate a bottleneck, officials said, which causes thousands of hours of delays each year for Metra and Amtrak riders and bogging down freight traffic. Republicans contend the cuts must be made to slow the growth of the national debt.

"This mindless cut is a clear signal the House-passed bill is not the product of a thoughtful effort," U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said after touring the bridge site with U.S. Reps. Dan Lipinski and Bobby Rush, both Chicago Democrats. "Yes, we need to cut spending, [but] we shouldn't abandon our commitments to creating jobs and economic development in the midst of this recession."

Last year, the Federal Railroad Administration awarded Illinois $133 million to help construct the bridges.

The rail-to-rail flyover would be built from 57th Place to 69th Street to carry north-south Metra Rock Island District trains on three tracks across the four-track east-west Norfolk Southern line also used by Amtrak.

Seventy-eight Metra Rock Island trains, 14 Amtrak trains and about 46 Norfolk Southern freight trains inch through the pinch point each day.

Separating the tracks is also a step toward reducing delays on Metra's SouthWest Service line, officials said.

The Englewood flyover would create about 1,450 jobs, the lawmakers said.

But in House legislation, Republicans killed funding for the project, as part of $6.8 billion in transportation spending reductions hitting the states—money the Obama administration has already promised, according to lawmakers from Illinois.

Other projects in Illinois also are imperiled by the cut, including planned Amtrak service to Moline, officials said.

Lipinski said the government must cut unnecessary spending to reduce the national debt.

"But we can't cut with our eyes closed," he said. "We must continue to make investments that are critical for the future of our nation, especially our middle class. The Englewood flyover provides a tremendous bang for the buck."

Rush vowed to "fight efforts by Republicans in Washington to roll back the clock on progress made by Democrats to get our nation moving forward."

The legislation now goes to the Senate. A spokesman for U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk, R-Ill. declined to comment, saying at the current time there is no Senate bill under consideration.

The bridges are part of the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency program to modernize rail infrastructure in Illinois, which in the process adds thousands of jobs and produces up to $2 billion in economy activity annually in the Chicago area, officials said.

chronicle@colum.edu

» CENSUS

Continued from PG. 35

"In terms of the rate at which the collar counties are growing, we think the growth probably happened earlier in the decade and toward the middle, opposed to the latter half," said Tom Garritano, spokesman for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, the official regional planning organization for Northeast Illinois.

"I think what you're seeing is people are moving on the basis of where they can afford to live and how much they can afford to live where they work."

According to Lewis, Latinos are being pushed out of some West Side neighborhoods, such as Logan Square and Humboldt Park, partly due to white middle-class residents moving in. The two neighborhoods were predominantly immigrant communities but are now becoming unaffordable for some because of rising housing prices.

The gentrification of the West Side has also fueled a rebound in the area in the last 10 years, according to Lewis, making it more economically viable—often at the expense of previous residents.

The movement of these displaced residents is at least partially reflected in the rise of local suburban populations.

Portions of the South Side that have experienced sharper declines are a different story, however.

Lewis predicts the neighborhoods to the immediate southwest of the South Loop will continue to decline throughout the next 10 years as residents who can afford to leave move to more prosperous and safer living conditions, while residents who remain get caught in a downward economic spiral.

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Englewood and West Englewood have experienced a loss of nearly 20,000 residents—nearly a quarter of the population—since 2000, according to 2010 census data. Due to factors such as foreclosure, crime, displacement and a general decrease in the area's economic viability, some experts predict the neighborhoods will continue to decline during the next decade.

According to Lewis, the process is comparable to Detroit's current state, where the manufacturing base that once held the area together has become less industrious, forcing people to eventually leave in search of better conditions.

"I think there'll be a hollowing out of those places, and they'll be increasingly less desirable places to live," Lewis said. "It's going to be a real challenge figuring out how to bring some of those places back. Otherwise, we're going to have these large holes in the middle of an otherwise thriving city."

These flourishing portions of the city are centered in the downtown Loop area, where an increase in residential developments has led to a 76 percent increase in population, according to census data.

"I think the areas around downtown are going to become more upscale and prosperous," Lewis said, noting a comparison to the struggling areas in the neighboring South Side communities.

The juxtaposition of population trends gives some insight into how Chicago may look in the future and where its successes and difficulties may lie.

"Maybe with a new mayor and a new City Council we'll have some better communication," Kallen said.

dholliday@chroniclemail.com

» MADISON

Continued from PG. 35

Chicago JWJ and lifelong union worker, took the trip to Madison because she said her organization is always on the front lines when situations like this occur. The group is based in Chicago, but deals with issues nationwide.

"It was just so important that people are taking a stand against this insanity, and we wanted to be part of it. If we don't stand up, we're all going to get squashed like a bug," Davis said.

Members of the CTU were also part of the first CFL bus trip to Madison on Feb. 21. Shibata was part of the group in attendance at the protests on Feb. 21. He said he thinks this is a defining moment for the country.

"The reason why it was important for Chicago teachers to attend is because these are the types of policies coming down the pipeline right now," Shibata said. "There's no reason why we won't be next. Although we are not from Wisconsin, we are part of a national union and we all need to stand up for each other's rights."

Kaleba said the protest is important because the issue is likely to spread.

"It's something taking place across the country right now," Kaleba said. "There's a lot of anti-worker legislation being proposed in state legislatures like Michigan and Missouri."

In a Feb. 21 press conference, Walker said these proposals were part of his campaign, and no one should be surprised by it.

Walker also addressed Illinois' deficit and the state's failure to make tough decisions that could lead to a better-funded pension system.

While the issue is nationwide, Kaleba said Illinois will likely not turn out like Wisconsin because it is a different climate.

"I don't know if anyone feels like we're on the cusp of that," Kaleba said. "But at the same time, it's a chance for people to make their voices heard and show that working people will stand together."

Some Chicago workers are concerned. Bill Hincks, member of the Chicago Sprinkler Fitters Union, who attended the protests on Feb. 21, said he thinks the risk of similar legislation is possible.

"I think everybody stands a chance of this," Hincks said. "When you become complacent, bad things happen."

According to Hincks, if Illinois followed Wisconsin's lead, Chicago residents wouldn't allow lawmakers to follow through with similar legislation.

"We're a very strong union city," Hincks said. "I don't think they'd get away with it, but you don't even want it to come to light."

hmcgraw@chronicleмail.com

Photos Cristina Aguirre THE CHRONICLE

Left: Outside the state capitol, protesters circled the block, then congregated to the front of the building chanting, "Hey hey, ho ho. Scott Walker has got to go." Right: Protesters crowded all three levels of the state capitol building around Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's office on the second floor, while drum players on the first floor kept the rhythm of the chants.

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2011

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4 Years of Your Life in 2 Minutes

FrameWork 2011 is a project celebrating graduating Film & Video seniors in a series of 2 minute interviews. Each interview is directed and edited by advanced Film & Video students. Interviews are open to all 2011 graduating Film & Video seniors on a first come-first served basis.

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FEATURED PHOTO

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel waves goodbye to supporters at his celebratory election party on Feb. 22, at the Plumbers Union Hall, 1430 W. Washington Blvd. Emanuel beat his closest competitor Gery Chico with 55 percent of the votes. During his speech, Emanuel thanked President Barack Obama for his support and commented on Mayor Richard M. Daley's legacy in Chicago.

IN OTHER NEWS

Bad science

Chicago Public School eighth-graders posted the fourth-worst scores on a national science test among 17 big-city districts, according to the SunTimes.com. The city's black eighth-graders produced the lowest science scores among other black eighth-graders tested in any city. The results emerged as U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan—Chicago's former CPS CEO—and President Barack Obama are pressing the importance of science, technology and engineering education. Overall test results put Chicago ahead of Detroit but behind New York City, Miami, Houston and Boston.

Rahm's transition

Rahm Emanuel announced the team who will help him with the transition into Chicago's mayoral office, according to HuffingtonPost.com, and it includes several familiar faces. At a Feb. 24 press conference, Emanuel named his transition team, which includes two former aides to current Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley—David Mosena, former Chicago Transit Authority president and current CEO of the Museum of Science and Industry, and Sarah Pang, former Daley deputy chief of staff. The new team also contains an Obama affiliate, Rev. Byron Brazier.

Blago charges dropped

A judge granted a request from prosecutors to drop three of the 23 charges against former Gov. Rod Blagojevich's corruption retrial, according to NYTimes.com. Blagojevich said he believes dropping those charges, which include racketeering, racketeering conspiracy and wire fraud, is a step toward clearing his name. Prosecutors said it will simplify the case against him in the April retrial. The jurors in Blagojevich's first trial convicted him of a single count—lying to the FBI—but were deadlocked on the 23 other charges. Blagojevich's retrial is scheduled to begin on April 20.

Tensions fuel Chicago

Chicago could see record gas prices this summer if they continue to rise, according to TheExpiredMeter.com. The price of an oil barrel rose to $100 plus, with tensions in the Middle East increasing every day. Consequently, prices are also jumping at area gas stations. "I forecast for this spring, the highest prices for Chicago we've ever seen," predicted GasBuddy.com expert Patrick DeHaan. "Prices usually start rising in March. If things in the Middle East get worse, there is a potential to hit record pricing in Chicago. It could be the worst pain at the pump Chicago has ever seen."

OFF THE BLOTTER

Compiled by Chronicle staff with information provided by the Chicago Police Department. Map created by Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE.

1 For 'students only'

Officers were notified by Robert Morris University Security, 401 S. State St., a suspect entered property for "students only" on Feb. 23. The suspect was asked to leave by campus security, but the male suspect refused, saying he needed to use the computers. Officers placed the suspect under arrest and transported him for processing, according to police reports.

2 Call and no response

The executive assistant to the associate vice president of Columbia's Campus Safety and Security in the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., said the dean's office began receiving phone calls on Feb. 24 from a suspect who would not say anything when the phone was answered—impeding the business of the college, according to police reports.

3 Grant scam

A victim at the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St., told officers on Feb. 24 she was called and told she was approved for an education grant. She was to send $200 to a listed person in India. She would then receive $7,000 in grant money and be refunded her $200, according to police reports. Despite sending the money, the victim never received the grant, and calls to the suspects went unanswered.

4 Handguns and weed

Officers detected a "pungent odor" coming from two suspects with "school-age appearances" on a train at the Roosevelt Red Line station, 1167 S. State St., on Feb. 24. According to police reports, the officers approached the suspects and patted them down, which revealed a loaded handgun on one and what was suspected to be marijuana on the other. Arrests were subsequently made.

Games

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21–April 20) Distant memories, yesterday's love affairs and forgotten friendships have a strong appeal this week. Enjoy nostalgic moments but realize expansive change will soon arrive in present relationships. The past may offer delightful distractions, but it is the wrong direction to take. Stay focused. After midweek, a recently silent colleague or business partner may challenge new ideas or express strong opinions. Take none of it personally and expect hidden emotions and ongoing power struggles to require diplomacy. Remain distant.

TAURUS (April 21–May 20) Long-term friends express minor jealousies concerning new relationships or added family obligations. Much of this social doubt may reflect a fear of abandonment. Provide added support and assurance. Loved ones may be more vulnerable than anticipated. After Wednesday, some Taureans will encounter a series of minor but meaningful workplace changes. New employees, delayed schedules and revised documents may play a vital role. Remain determined: Your ideas and plans will be accepted.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Previously reluctant friends or lovers may this week issue rare invitations or probe for further commitment. Accept all such attention as a compliment but remain cautious. At present, loved ones will carefully study all comments, observations or proposals. After Thursday, two weeks of fast social and romantic progress will arrive. Stay focused. Late this weekend, a minor financial error may quickly escalate. Property agreements and home contracts may be affected. If so, verify all calculations and wait for new instructions.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) Loved ones will this week work hard to verify old records, facts or figures. Key areas of concern may involve new friendships, unusual family alliances or romantic distrust. Remain quietly in the background and avoid probing questions. Emotional tensions may be high. After Wednesday, some Cancerians may experience a dramatic increase in business and financial activity. If so, carefully study all documents or proposals for missing information. Stay dedicated to long-term success and all will work to your advantage.

LEO (July 22–Aug. 22) Past misgivings will be silently resolved this week. Before Wednesday, expect lovers or long-term friends to provide unique insights into their needs or behaviors. Many Leos will soon experience an increase in romantic invitations. Stay balanced and watch for delightful encounters. Later this week, watch for a fast employment agreement or complex financial proposal. An older colleague may soon expand his or her daily work schedule to include private business activities. Ask probing questions: There's much to be learned.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) Sudden flashes of wisdom may now reveal a new perspective on a complex relationship. Past differences or repeated patterns will soon be resolved. Hints, clues and unique gestures from friends are also highlighted. Carefully study all social discussions for valuable insights. Later this week, an old friend or distant relative may reappear and ask for clarity. Key issues may involve yesterday's emotional triangles, minor jealousies or complex proposals in love relationships. Take your time: Times, dates and facts will prove important.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Previously silent colleagues may now voice strong opinions. Early this week, expect conflicting ideas and minor workplace power struggles. Co-operation, although vital for success at the moment, will not be easily obtained. Watch for strong reactions. Thursday through Saturday accents minor home disruptions and quick family discussions. Someone close may wish to greatly expand his or her social network or romantic options. Listen to all comments and observations. Deep emotions and past regrets will rise to the surface.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Physical fitness, vitality and sensuality are highlighted during the next few days. Friends and loved ones may offer compliments or late invitations. Use this time to evaluate or improve daily routines, exercise regimes and ongoing social commitments. Later this week, some Scorpios may experience a sudden shift of priorities on the work scene. If so, expect authority figures to present unusual ideas and fast revisions. Study all outstanding amounts and calculations for errors. Time schedules may change without warning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Career advancement may now be briefly delayed by misinformation. Monday through Wednesday, respond quickly to minor disputes and carefully study contracts, agreements or vital financial documents. After midweek, a new wave of money options and job openings will begin arriving. Be patient and watch for meaningful growth. Later this week, a trusted friend may reveal an unexpected romantic attraction. If so, passionate relationships will soon expand toward long-term commitment. Stay open.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Outspoken or prideful colleagues will this week claim disinterest or avoid difficult subjects. After Monday, the past mistakes of the bold, opinionated types may be deeply felt and publicly discussed. Be diplomatic and watch for hidden power struggles to soon be revealed. Thursday through Sunday powerful romantic attractions are compelling. Rekindled sensuality, fast proposals and complex emotional discussions will demand meaningful and lasting decisions during the next few days. Stay alert to sudden passions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Debts, forgotten payments or outstanding paperwork may be temporarily bothersome this week. Quickly handle all facts, neglected details and duties. Before next week, long-term friends and younger relatives may outline new employment needs or request special financial favors. Offer encouragement: Your words will prove helpful. Later this week, a new friend or colleague may provide unique insights into the priorities of bosses, managers or older relatives. If so, fast advancement and career ambition will play a vital role.

PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) Early this week, a friend or colleague may admit to a private romantic attraction. Ongoing social triangles in the workplace or mildly unethical relationships will now captivate the attention of the group. Privacy is vital. Avoid divulging the personal information or emotional needs of co-workers. After Thursday, listen closely to the minor comments or hints of a loved one. Someone close may reveal a surprising history of social change. Controversial romantic promises may be highlighted. Wait for obvious signs of progress.

SUDOKU Level 1

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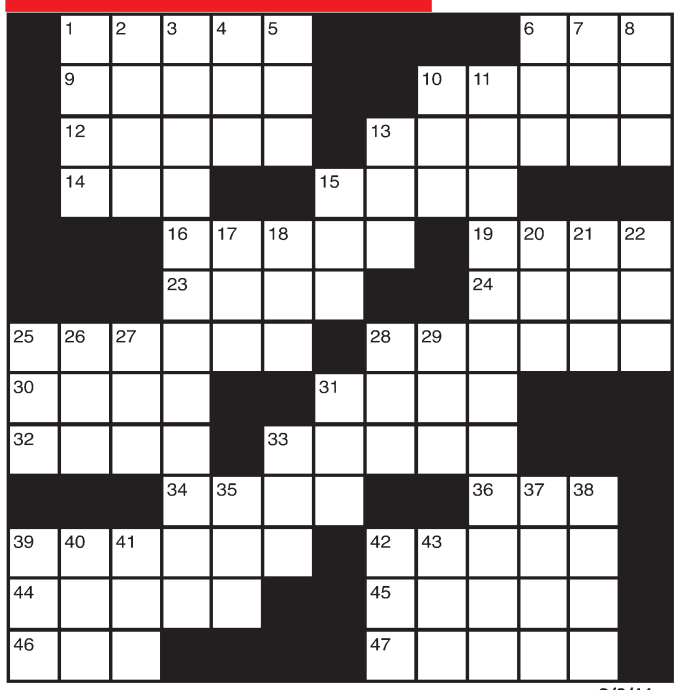
CROSSWORD



3/6/11

ACROSS
1 "__ Days"; series for Ron Howard
6 Knight or Koppel
9 "__ Grows in Brooklyn"; Dorothy McGuire movie
10 Lift with great effort
12 Lions' dens
13 "Dumb & __"; Jim Carrey film
14 And so forth: abbr.
15 Indian woman's garment
16 "__ Nest"
19 Cargo
23 In a lazy way
24 Boo-Boo Bear's buddy
25 Covered with lawn
28 Actor Dennis
30 Contented cat's sound
31 Diane of "Numb3rs"
32 One opposed
33 Sgt. __; TV role for Phil Silvers
34 Will __ of "The Waltons"
36 Crime drama series
39 Role on "All in the Family"
42 Went out with
44 "__ 66"
45 "Rigoletto" or "La Bohème"
46 Flow back
47 "__ Johnny!"; Ed McMahon's line

DOWN
1 Alan __, Jr., of "Gilligan's Island"
2 Rat-__-tat; knocking sound
3 "The __"; Drew Carey's game show
4 __ person; apiece
5 "__, Dear"
6 Actor __ Hunter
7 __ Arden of "Our Miss Brooks"
8 German article
10 "Ben-__"; movie for Charlton Heston
11 Actress on "CSI: Miami"
13 "One __ at a Time"
15 Pigpen
17 Meredith Grey and Cristina Yang: abbr.
18 Wood thickness
20 Comic strip "Alley __"
21 Get old
22 Hitchcock or Scorsese: abbr.
25 Abbreviation on a student's transcript
26 "See Spot __"; David Arquette film
27 Mr. Linkletter
28 Holbrook or Linden
29 Mork's planet
31 Evergreen tree
33 Mayberry resident
35 "Old MacDonald had a farm, __-I-O. And on that farm..."
37 Excessively dry
38 Actress Lupino and her namesakes
39 "Car 54, Where __ You?"
40 Reiner or Estes
41 Baby bear
42 Comment from Homer Simpson
43 King Kong, for one

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

	C	O	L	D			S	H	E					
	A	L	A	I			E	I	G	H	T			
P	R	I	C	E		R	A	N	G	E	R			
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3/6/11

Stay In

Buddy Wakefield

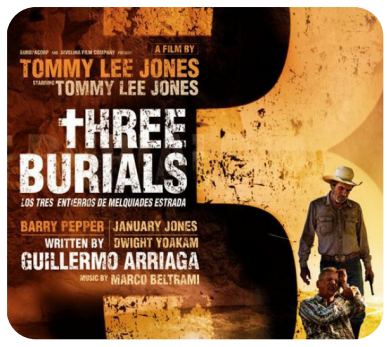
2.28.11 // 7 p.m.

1104 Center,

1104 S. Wabash Ave.

Buddy Wakefield, three-time slam poetry world champion, is coming to Columbia on his Gentleman Practice National Tour, hosted by Verbatim and Silver Tongue reading series. The show opens up with a high energy, mini Literary Death Match of prose and poetry, where Silver Tongue and Verbatim go head-to-head featuring readers: Nick Narbutas, Nate Olison, Daniel Shapiro and Abigail Sheaffer.

$5 suggested donation



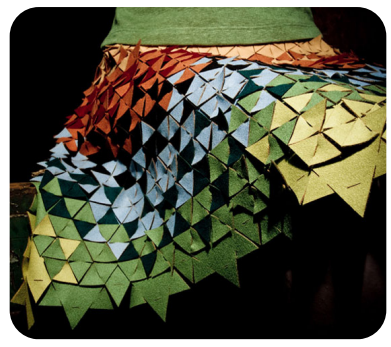
Grieving and the Politics of Immigration: The Case of Melquiades Estrada

3.2.11 // 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Chicago Cultural Center
78 E. Washington St.
Garland Room, 1st floor

As the political debate about immigration and border security grows increasingly impassioned, the plight of the undocumented migrant laborer looms ever larger in the American public's consciousness. Looking at the question of grievability—that is, whose lives matter enough to be mourned when lost—Robert Watkins, Columbia college professor of political science and cultural studies, will analyze the 2006 feature film "The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada," directed by Tommy Lee Jones, arguing that it sheds new light on the immigration debate by daring to grieve the death of an undocumented Mexican cowboy.

(312) 744-6630
FREE



"ZERO Waste:" Fashion Re-Patterned opening reception and gallery talk

3.3.11 // 5 – 8 p.m.

Averill and Bernard Leviton
A+D Gallery
619 S. Wabash Ave. Building

The essence of fashion is change—making it directly opposed to the principles of sustainability and sustainable design processes. This reliance on constant change in tandem with its never-ending search for the novelty means that besides being an immensely dynamic cultural phenomenon, fashion is also extremely wasteful. "No Waste/Zero Waste," curated by Arti Sandhu, attempts to find solutions for dealing with fashion's waste, as well as challenge fashion systems through their conceptual framework.

(312) 369-8687
FREE

Monday 2.28

Spotlight on Collaborations
1 – 2:30 p.m.
Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression
623 S. Wabash Ave. Building
1st floor
FREE

For Shizzle My Nizzle Won't Get You An Interview/Job: Public Speaking and Building Your Own Personal Brand
7:30 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Conference Room
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-7569
FREE

Tuesday 3.01

Music Student Convocation
Noon – 1 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

Income Tax Workshop
4 – 6 p.m.
Hokin Lecture Hall
623 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor
(312) 369-7569
FREE

Wheels of Steel: The Dynamics of Deejaying
7:30 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Conference Room
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-7569
FREE

Wednesday 3.02

HIV and STD testing
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th floor
(312) 369-8595
FREE

"Bernarda Alba"
1:30 – 4 p.m.
Getz Theater
62 E. 11th St.
(312) 369-6126
FREE

Thursday 3.03

Cultural Studies Colloquium Series- "The Mad Men in the Attic: Seriality and Identity in the Modern Babylon"
4 – 6 p.m.
624 S. Michigan Ave.
Collins Hall, room 602
FREE

Donald Neale Latin piano recital
7 – 8:30 p.m.
1312 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

The Art of Storytelling: Using the Written Word to Express Yourself Clearly
7:30 p.m.
Multicultural Affairs Conference Room
618 S. Michigan Ave., 4th floor
(312) 369-7569
FREE

Friday 3.04

Emancipator and Eliot Lipp: Mayhem at The Mid
9 a.m. – 11:55 p.m.
The Mid
306 N. Halsted St.
(312) 265-3990
$10; 21+

University of Illinois at Chicago Bowling
4 – 7 p.m.
Meet at 731 S. Plymouth Court
(312) 369-6920

Fashion Elite Modeling Organization presents "Fashion Take-Off"
7 – 9 p.m.
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
femocolum@gmail.com
$5 for students; $10 for non-students

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

Get Out

“Baby Wants Candy”

3.4.11 10:30 p.m. // Apollo Theater, 2540 N. Lincoln Ave.

Go to this performance to hear an audience shout a random title of a musical that has never been done before. This title will set an entire theme for a 60-minute musical the cast of “BWC” will then act out with accompaniment of a full band.

(773) 935-6100 **$15; $6 for students with valid ID**

Porn and Chicken dance party
3.4.11 11 p.m. – 4 a.m. // Evil Olive, 1551 W. Division St.

Snack on free wings while porn plays on the TVs at this weekly dance party. Deejays J-Sephora, Dan Dwyer, Macabre Monster and Orvtronixxx willspin. Drink specials include $3 Old Style and $7 Old Style with a shot of whiskey.

(773) 235-9100
FREE; 21+

FREE

“Trouble in Mind”
3.4.11 8 p.m. // The Artistic Home
3914 N. Clark St.

This 1955 Obie Award-winning dramedy by Alice Childress explores the experiences and self-discoveries of a mixed-race cast as they rehearse a play about an African-American man who faces a lynch mob after being falsely accused of a crime.

(773) 404-1100
$28; $20 for students with valid ID

Monday 2.28

Auditorium Theatre Tour
10:30 a.m. – noon
Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University
50 E. Congress Parkway
(312) 431-2389
$10

Plain White T’s
6 p.m.
House of Blues
329 N. Dearborn St.
(312) 923-2000
$18–$20.50

Tuesday 3.1

Midwest Film Festival
6 p.m.
Landmark’s Century Centre Cinema
2828 N. Clark St.
(773) 509-4949
$10

Restorative yoga series
5:15 and 6:45 p.m.
University of Chicago, Rockefeller Memorial Chapel
5801 S. Ellis Ave.
(773) 702-1234
FREE for students with valid ID; $5 donation requested from others

Wednesday 3.2

Blue Man Group
8 p.m.
Briar Street Theatre & Cabaret
3133 N. Halsted St.
(773) 348-4000
$119–$207

“You’re the Star Karaoke with Honey West”
10 p.m.
Roscoe’s Tavern
3356 N. Halsted St.
(773) 281-3355
FREE; 21+

FREE

Thursday 3.3

Laugh Track
8 p.m.
Sidetrack
3349 N. Halsted St.
(773) 477-9189
FREE; 21+

FREE

Abraham Lincoln and Chicago
12:15 p.m.
Chicago Cultural Center
78 E. Washington St.
(312) 744-6630
FREE

FREE

Friday 3.4

First Fridays
6 – 10 p.m.
Museum of Contemporary Art
220 E. Chicago Ave.
(312) 397-4010
$18

“The Interview Show”
6:30 – 8 p.m.
Hideout
1354 W. Wabansia Ave.
(773) 227-4433
$5

Saturday 3.5

“Florida Devereaux’s Second Chance Valentine Cabaret”
7:30 p.m.
Prop Thtr Group
3504 N. Elston Ave.
(733) 539-7338
$25; $15 for students with valid ID

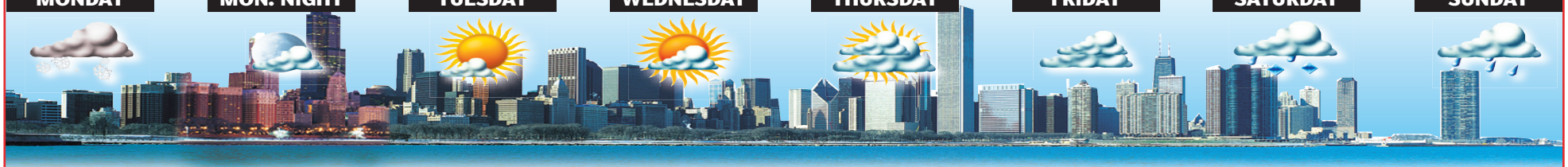
“Planet Earth: Shallow Seas”
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Shedd Aquarium
1200 S. Lake Shore Drive
(312) 939-2438
FREE for kids 3 and under and with general admission, $17.95–$24.95

music film art fitness theater exhibit nightlife culture literature

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
Windy with snow	Partly cloudy and breezy	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	Mainly cloudy	Rain possible	Rain, some ice early	Not as cool with showers
High 39	Low 25	High 42 Low 27	High 42 Low 29	High 47 Low 36	High 51 Low 29	High 44 Low 33	High 54 Low 16