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Republicans propose bills to stop collegiate voters » PAGE 28

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

The official news source of Columbia College Chicago March 28, 2011 Volume 46, Issue 24

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

Girls got game

Web-Exclusive Video

Recycling refashioned

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

'Zero Waste' strives to reimagine sustainability with new exhibit

by Sam Charles
Campus Editor

COLUMBIA'S FOCUS on sustainability has increased in recent years with the hosting of the annual GreenTown Conference and efforts to raise awareness of the college's recycling program. But now, with a new exhibit on display at the A+D Gallery, 619 S. Wabash Ave. Building, Columbia students are exploring the idea of reusing materials cto create art.

The "Zero Waste: Fashion Re-Patterned" gallery, on display until April 16, works to redeem fashion's reputation for wastefulness by using reused and recycled textiles. Artists have crafted different designs to show what can become of materials that have been cast aside.

"The idea for 'Zero Waste' came about from this desire to talk about fashion and sustainable design processes," said Arti Sandhu, curator and assistant professor in the Fashion Studies Department. "[A goal] is for people to realize the value of design and what design can bring to a product opposed to only thinking about value—knowing more about what they're wearing and consuming, opposed to thinking, 'How cheap is it?'"

» SEE ZERO, PG. 6

Michelle Monaghan hops a train back to Chicago

Star of 'Gone Baby Gone,' 'Eagle Eye' makes latest appearance in 'Source Code'

by Drew Hunt
Film Critic

DIRECTOR DUNCAN Jones is back with his sophomore effort "Source Code," a sci-fi action thriller set on a doomed commuter train headed toward Chicago. Starring in the film is Michelle Monaghan, a former Columbia student, who decided to pursue acting during her senior year. Since then, she's appeared in a number of films, including "Due Date" and "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang." Now she's appearing opposite actor Jake Gyllenhall in a film that finds her returning to her Chicago roots.

The Chronicle had a chance sit down with Monaghan to discuss "Source Code," what it was like returning to Chicago and how she uses her Columbia education in her acting career.

» SEE MONAGHAN, PG. 25

IMDB

Nuclear concerns heightened

Japan crisis has Illinoisans questioning generators' safety

by Heather McGraw
Assistant Metro Editor

JAPAN'S DIRE nuclear situation has many Americans concerned about the state of nuclear power in the U.S., causing a surge in preventative medication purchases and re-evaluation of the country's nuclear energy needs.

When Japan was hit with a 9.0 magnitude earthquake on March 11, it caused a fatal tsunami and shifted the tectonic plates, moving Japan 13 feet closer to the U.S. These natural phenomena caused the nuclear reactors of the Fukushima Daiichi power plant, which sits near these plates, to eventually malfunction.

With Japan's recent nuclear crisis, many people have the U.S.'s nuclear power plants on their minds. Four of Illinois' 11 generating plants have similar reactors to the Fukushima plant and share the same containment designs.

Illinois is home to the most nuclear

» SEE NUCLEAR, PG. 36

Health & Fitness » PG. 11

Penn State proves critics wrong

Arts & Culture » PG. 20

State grant revives museum

Metro » PG. 31

Regional dispute over guns

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Racism in the 21st century

by Spencer Roush
Editor-in-Chief

YOUNG GENERATIONS are growing up in a society more tolerant of races, genders and lifestyles than at any time previously. But banishing racism from our society's cultural repertoire has proven unattainable, even for those young people who've witnessed more tolerance than any other generation in recent memory.

It's easy to forget racism is rampant among youth while attending Columbia because of its diversity. I'm sure it happens occasionally, but it's safe to say many students chose this college because of its tolerant and multicultural community.

However, many Columbia students were reminded of the nonsensical hatred of racial groups after watching the viral YouTube video of 20-year-old University of California, Los Angeles student Alexandra Wallace venting about the "hordes of Asians" at her university.

This video calls for everyone to question just how tolerant this young generation really is and how they're influenced.

Wallace's three-minute, anti-Asian rant was prefaced with a comment about how she isn't a politically correct person, but that didn't make up for what was about to come out of her mouth.

She sat in front of her webcam with a valley girl-intonation saying she didn't appreciate hearing all of the "ting ling tong ding dong" in the library while Asian students talked loudly on their cell phones after hearing devastating news from Japan. Wallace explained hearing upsetting news is not appropriate in a library setting. I'm not Asian nor do I have family in Japan and this offends me, so it's hard imagining how the people she targeted feel about her insensitive remarks.

In the video, she also said she didn't like when Asian students have their large families visit, do their laundry, buy them groceries and cook them food on the weekends. One, this is a generalization and two, why would this bother anyone? Having a tightly-knit supportive family is nothing to be ashamed of or push away; it's something to be coveted.

Wallace removed the video once she started receiving negative feedback, but by that time, it had already gone viral. Her father reportedly said his daughter was going to create a blog, and this would be one of many videos. He certainly didn't discourage her from forging on with this hateful diatribe about other races that annoy her.

She made these comments and thought it was OK. She also posted the video for everyone to see, only furthering how acceptable she thought her remarks actually were.

While this is only one video and one person making repulsive statements, it should serve as a reminder to people who think racism was abolished with slavery. It's here, and the Internet makes it even easier for people to post their opinions about it.

Racism is usually a mentality passed down from generation to generation, so even though our society as a whole is more civil than 50 years ago, there is still much to learn about tolerance.

For those of us at Columbia who have the luxury of living in a bubble of diversity and widespread acceptance of lifestyles, it's a time to rejoice in this rare community.

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NEWS FLASH

3/29/11

African-American Cultural Affairs Village lunch

Meet fellow black faculty, staff and students and discuss the issues of the day in an informal setting. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Kimberly Weatherly via email at kweatherly@colum.edu. The event is presented by African-American Cultural Affairs and begins at noon.

Multicultural Affairs, Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

3/30/11

Talent Pool launch party

Talent Pool is an online database of students and alumni for collaboration and creative opportunities. Come celebrate the website's launch and enter to win an iPod touch, beginning at noon.

Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

3/31/11

"18th Annual Hokin Honors Exhibition" opening reception

Starting at 5 p.m. The "18th Annual Hokin Honors Exhibition" features students of outstanding artistic achievement in photography, fashion, graphic design, film and video and all fine art media. All participating artists are nominated by faculty and staff members.

C33 Gallery
33 E. Congress Parkway Building

CAMPUS POLL

"Do you think the diversity of Columbia and Chicago falsely reflects the country's racial climate?"

Madeline Franks
junior
cultural studies major

"I came to Chicago because there are a lot of different cultures [here], but I do find it is very segregated."

Danielle Maggio
senior
cultural studies major

"The main negative I have with Columbia is there isn't a lot of economic equality. I love Columbia ... but the economic diversity isn't here."

Matt Adema
senior
photography major

"I think it really depends on where you live. I'm from Chicago, and I'm used to diversity, but I have a lot of kids in my classes who are shocked by it."

Jamahl Jackson
sophomore
photography major

"Of course not, because look at Columbia and then look at the rest of the world. Columbia has so much diversity ... [mixing] every culture you could possibly think of."

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Campus

College LEED's by example

MPC earns prestigious accreditation for eco-friendly building

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

A RECENT certification may bring Columbia one step closer to being regarded as a sustainability sensitive institution. After many attempts to become as environmentally friendly as possible, the college has notched one of its largest accomplishments.

Columbia's newest building, the Media Production Center, 1632 S. State St., was recently stamped with a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certificate.

The MPC building is one of more than 200 LEED-certified buildings in Chicago and approximately 320 in Illinois.

"[The LEED certificate] is an external recognition that we have built a building among the highest standards of sustainability," said Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment.

Berg said being green was part of the design process from the beginning. From the ceiling to the floor and walls, the college analyzed every aspect of the building process and tried to make it as eco-friendly as possible.

The college looked into using a multitude of windows for natural lighting, which lessens the use of artificial lighting. The design also included an efficient system for heating and cooling the sound stages, which is an intricate process because of the heavy use of lighting in film.

"It's a very energy-efficient building, considering the function of the building as a film studio," said Joe Leamanczyk, project manager of Campus Environment.

Columbia's contribution of the MPC to Chicago's LEED building scene adds to the city's sustainability mission. Chicago has the highest number of LEED-certified buildings in the U.S., said Doug Widener, executive director of the Illinois chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

"Buildings [in the U.S.] use more than 40 percent of our carbon, utilize [more than] 70 percent of our electricity and generate a significant amount of waste and water," Widener said. "If we're going to get a handle on making a greener, more sustainable future for our country, it's about making buildings operate more efficiently."

When it came time for Columbia to finish and furnish the MPC, the college considered every atom and fiber.

Berg said the college used low-toxicity paint and installed carpet and furniture made with sustainable materials that support the building's mission. According to Leamanczyk, the materials used are healthier for the building's occupants.

"Lighting is on a sensor, so when natural lighting is coming into the lobby, the lights will go off," Berg said. "The large studio spaces have radiant cooling in the floors, as well."

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

The Media Production Center recently received LEED Gold certification. The MPC was built with innovative technology, making the building environmentally sound.

The heating system of the MPC focuses on warming individual people through the ground so all the energy isn't wasted on oxidizing the space around them, Berg said. Radiant heating and cooling systems are placed underneath hardwood and tile and have tubing that pushes water or gas, heating the space above the floor by radiation and convection.

The building also features a green roof, one of the more popular eco-friendly building additions. Green roofs feature plants, often indigenous to the area, planted on the top of buildings. They help control heating and cooling, lower costs and improve the air quality.

City officials, when learning of Columbia's green focus with the project, contributed a green alley at the rear of the MPC.

"The alley was built with permeable pavement so the water seeps into the ground and doesn't have to enter into the

» SEE MPC PG. 6

Columbia teams up with YouTube

Get together to create media program for striving content creators

by Vanessa Morton
Contributing Writer

SINCE ITS start in early 2005, YouTube has developed into an internationally popular video-sharing resource with a reputation for hosting mindless entertaining content. However, with new media's constant evolution in the 21st century, the Google-owned company is setting sights on changing this perception by cultivating the future generation of aspiring content creators.

Columbia, in collaboration with the University of Southern California, will debut the YouTube Creator Institute program, which is an all-expenses paid, eight-week program to develop digital media skills, located in the college's Television Department, from June 1 to July 22.

"Being recognized by YouTube is phenomenal, and we are very excited to work with them," said Doreen Bartoni, dean of the School of Media Arts. "I think it's a testament to our innovative approach to media arts education.

Photo Illustration by Jonathan Allen

According to Wojciech Lorenc, assistant professor in the Television Department, Columbia students are not eligible to apply to the program because of the conflict of interest policy.

He said this was implemented by Google because of its previous experience with organizing other contests.

"Having experience running contests on YouTube, this rule would apply, just as any other because they are co-organizing with Columbia, and it makes sense the people associated with both institutions are not allowed to enter," Lorenc said.

Apart from not being affiliated with both institutions, applicants who are U.S. residents over age 18-years-old and interested in the program can apply directly through the website.

The selected students will have made it through three rounds of judging by the site's online community, professional faculty and YouTube associates.

The 10 strongest competitors will be picked to come to Chicago for the eight-week summer program and learn how to engage with new media tools, develop skills and brand themselves.

"It's really an eight-week experience that will cover a whole variety of things that reflects what we do in our current curriculum," said Michael Niederman, chair of the Television Department.

It was Lorenc who reached out to YouTube in October 2010 and proposed the idea to work together.

After he spent time brainstorming and exchanging ideas with Bing Chen, of YouTube Creator Initiatives and Entertainment Partnerships, it was then Chen came up with the idea of a summer program.

Lorenc said the program will correspond with Columbia's Internet mobile media concentration, which deals with creating Web and mobile content.

He said the professors chosen for the program will come from faculty in the Television Department who have experience in the subject matter.

"We are very interested in teaching this field to the students [and] positioning them

» SEE YOUTUBE PG. 6

Renowned novelist contributes stories

Professional writer visits college, shares advice, experience with students

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Jennifer Egan spoke March 14 at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St. After she read from her most recent novel, "A Visit from the Goon Squad," there was a discussion and Q & A with the audience.

CHICAGO-BORN AUTHOR Jennifer Egan loves returning to the city, the place where she spent the first seven years of her life. Her recent visit to Columbia allowed her to spread words of guidance and experience to young writers—a status she recalls well.

She served as one of the headlining authors for the Story Week festival this year and spoke on March 14, doing readings, discussions and book signings.

Her most recent book, "A Visit from the Goon Squad," was released in June and won the 2011 National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction.

The book has also been nominated and is a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize.

Egan said she was delighted to have the opportunity to come back to Chicago and share her writing insights with students.

"I feel like [college students] are the readers you most want," she said. "They're the ones engaging in books in a very intellectual way instead of [reading] to keep busy on the subway."

An alumna of the University of Pennsylvania, Egan has spent the majority of her life as a writer.

She has published five books, most of them critically acclaimed. Her novel "Look at Me" was nominated for the 2001 National Book Award. She also has featured work in The New Yorker, Harpers and McSweeney's.

Egan also writes nonfiction and has had numerous articles published in The New York Times magazine.

She has received many awards for her work as a journalist, including a Carroll Kowal Journalism Award for her 2002 piece on homeless children.

Although her life is busy as a mother and professional writer, she makes it a point to surround herself with young writers by doing college visits and occasionally teaching English courses at New York University.

"I feel like it's easy to get caught in your own generation and not think about what people of other ages are doing," Egan said.

For a writer who said she has never experienced writers block, Egan had informative advice to offer to aspiring writers.

She said they should be committed to the work they want to create in their lives. If they aren't, they should take that as a sign they lack passion.

"You should be immersing yourself in what you want to do," Egan said. "If you aren't, then it probably isn't something you want to do."

She compared writing to physical exercise and said she has found writing daily to be more productive than waiting for the right moment.

She recommended treating writing like a job, setting aside a few hours a day to sit down and get something on a page. Egan said it is like exercise: If it's done every day, it will begin to feel strange the days it doesn't happen.

"That kind of regularity is the most fundamental and important," she said. "I think hanging in there is a lot of what determines who does great work and who doesn't."

Egan told students they shouldn't be afraid to write poorly because it stops most writers from creating anything at all.

If work is bad, it can always be rewritten and edited into something you're proud of, she said.

"You can't expect yourself to write every day and have it always be good," she said. "The irregularity is much more important than the flights of fancy."

Egan urged young writers to act on their aspirations and not get discouraged by the competition. She said students should not expect the writers who seem to shine to be successful.

It's easy for students to expect the ones in class who seem to be full of promise to flourish, but that isn't an indication for who will do interesting work, Egan said.

"[Competition and jealousy] are some of the biggest distractions that exist because there is no basis in reality underneath them," she said. "They are just ephemera."

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

Concert Hall Events

Monday March 28
Shawn Mullins in Residence till Friday April 1
Meet the Artist: Shawn Mullins 12:00pm

Tuesday March 29
Pop Rock Ensemble Styles 1 in Concert 7:00pm

ThursdayMarch 31
Pop Rock Ensemble Styles 2 in Concert 7:00pm

Friday April 1
Jazz Gallery in the Lobby 12:00pm

Shawn Mullins Residency Concert 7:00pm
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED 312-369-6300

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

STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS

create... change

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Columbia College Chicago

John Trierweiler
President of the
Student Government
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Hosted by

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SGA
Columbia College Chicago

For more information
contact sga@colum.edu

Wednesday, March 30th at 5 p.m.

The Loft, (4th Floor) • 916 S. Wabash

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

» MPC

Continued from PG. 3

storm sewer system," Berg said.

The college made most aspects of every campus building environmentally sound and uses the same types of furniture, paint and lighting as the MPC. Berg said the prevalent issue the college faces when making LEED-certified buildings is the expense of upgrading the heating and ventilation systems. However, Columbia is making these improvements when it fits into its budget.

"We should be showing our students, who are going out into the world, how you can integrate sustainability into different kinds of practices," Berg said.

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

» YOUTUBE

Continued from PG. 3

to create and get paid for it," he said. "So for any potential participant, this could be potentially life-changing."

While no one would disclose how much money it would take, Lorenc explained the program's funding would come from Google, which includes expenses in travel, faculty pay, dorm living, weekly allowance and gift cards.

"It is funded by Google," he said. "So there is definitely no concern that any of the student's tuition money would be used."

However, YouTube wouldn't comment on where funding will come from.

Although Columbia students are not allowed to participate in the summer program, Lorenc explained they benefit from it as well.

"The important thing to remember is the school, as a whole, benefits," Lorenc said. "I think the goal of the school should always be to show the best we have, and I think everybody wins from that in the end."

As for YouTube, Chen agreed and said there were many great opportunities both institutions could profit from.

"We, too, think it would be a great opportunity for students to get exposure [and], perhaps, learn ways to really engage in the 21st century media landscape, both online and offline," Chen said. "At the same time we felt so lucky Columbia—an institution that has been innovative and not only keeping up but almost leading a lot of this movement for transmedia opportunities—reached out to us."

chronicle@colum.edu

» ZERO

Continued from Front Page

Sandhu said she thinks sustainable fashion's objective is to combine responsibility with artistic expression and maintain a focus on design's importance.

"Sustainable fashion has longevity but is still appealing and has all the aesthetic goodness that clothing needs to have," Sandhu said.

Another goal of Sandhu is to provide people with optimism about the idea of designing and creating garments that can have more than a visual benefit.

"The long-term goals are to instill a sense of hope that it is possible to have beautifully designed garments and have fashion that can also be good for you or can be more than just a one-off trend," Sandhu said.

> "I really wanted it to be an exhibition that has more than just a bunch of dresses."
>
> - Arti Sandhu

Artists from as far away as New Zealand and as close as The Art Institute of Chicago have their work on display.

Maison Martin Margiela, Belgian fashion designer, crafted a blouson made entirely of winter gloves.

Derick Melander, a New York-based artist, submitted a piece, titled "Compression." It is an 8-foot-tall, 800-pound stack of folded clothing. The college took extra precautions for the piece.

Before opening, extra support beams were installed in the building's basement to ensure the floor would not collapse.

Melander installed a support system at the base of the piece before it was displayed, so the beams were solely a precaution, according to Sandhu.

"Compression" features a color pattern that shifts from dark at the bottom to light at the top. The change represents people's misconceptions of identity, Melander said.

The college's devotion to the exhibit and its commitment to the artists was impressive, he said.

"They went through so many hurdles to make this happen," Melander said. "It's impressive for an institution to go through that trouble. [Sandhu] is really involved and making sure everyone's work is represented well."

Though Melander's "Compression" was created for "Zero Waste" exclusively, about half of the pieces were already part of the artists' catalogues.

"Zero Waste" is much different than a typical fashion gallery that displays different garments with no greater theme, Sandhu said.

"Fashion can be serious yet beautiful," she said. "I really wanted it to be an exhibition that has more than just a bunch of dresses. It has to be more than that to be a valid exhibition."

Jay Wolke, chair of the Art and Design Department, admires the vision of "Zero Waste" and the ideas it communicates.

"It's focused and clear in the message it wants to give combining high efficiency and creativity in the field of fashion."

scharles@chroniclemail.com

Making Ends Meet After Graduation – APRIL 6th

Student Financial Services in collaboration with the Illinois CPA Society and Money Smart Week will host an hour long discussion about financial life after Columbia.

When: Wednesday April 6th
from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Where: 618 S. Michigan, 2nd floor Stage 2

Money Smart week is a weeklong event sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago to promote financial literacy. This year Student Financial Services is hosting two Money Smart sessions for the Columbia College Community.

No RSVP is required and you can start your Money Smart behavior by enjoying complimentary refreshments and entering for your chance to win a Columbia College Chicago Bookstore gift card.

For more information visit www.colum.edu/sfs

Creative Professionals Share their Path to Success APRIL 7th

Student Financial Services in collaboration with Money Smart Week Partners will be hosting an hour long panel discussion made up of creative professionals in your areas of study! The panelists include local musicians, theatre professionals, graphic designers, and fashion designers to name a few and will be moderated by radio personality Matt Sapaula. Panelists will discuss their experiences as entrepreneurs and how the economic recession has impacted their ability to maintain their career.

When: Thursday April 7th
from 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Where: 618 S. Michigan, 2nd floor Stage 2

SFS STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

create... change

Student teachers voice disapproval

University of Wisconsin teaching assistants at forefront of Capitol rallies, facilitate protesting

by Cynthia Dizikes and Abby Sewell
MCT Newswire

THE PROTESTS that rocked Madison, Wis. last month drew union members and students—but some key figures in the mobilizations were both.

Members of the Teaching Assistants' Association at the University of Wisconsin-Madison spearheaded the two-week occupation of the Capitol that began on Feb. 15—two days before Democratic senators fled the state to stall legislation limiting public employees' union rights.

The students helped organize food and other supplies for the makeshift overnight campground in the rotunda.

"While a lot of unions brought people in volume, I don't know if anyone else brought them in as continually and consistently," said Democratic State Rep. Mark Pocan.

The efforts were in keeping with the association's roots. The group was born of Vietnam War-era student activism. Some of its members are seasoned organizers. For others, the recent efforts have been a transformative experience.

Loren Eadie, 28, teaching assistant and doctoral candidate in Italian literature, started going to the Capitol protests daily, skipping meals and workouts at the local pool.

Grading papers and her dissertation on Italian Renaissance philology fell by the wayside.

"Since this happened, my life has been out of control, basically," Eadie said. "Even on days when I said, 'I'm not going to the Capitol,' I end up there."

With its initial contract in 1970, the association became the nation's first graduate student employee union.

It was one of many firsts in Wisconsin's storied labor history.

Now, the teaching assistant union will also be one of the first to feel the effects of legislation, signed into law on March 11 by Republican Gov. Scott Walker, that rolls back collective bargaining rights for public employee unions, except police and firefighters.

The union, with about 1,700 members, represents 3,000 university employees.

At the union's small and cluttered office at the University of Wisconsin, not far from the Capitol, a phone bank has rallied supporters for hearings and marches or helped circulate recall petitions against Senate Republicans. With the bill now law, the organizing continues.

"We are putting our disapproval into action," said law student Peter Rickman, 28.

He too spent days at the Capitol, surviving on pizza and coffee, once sleeping underneath a conference table, his Timbuk2 bag serving as a pillow.

Rickman's supervisors at the university were sympathetic, but he dropped one class because of time spent on protest efforts.

"We are going to fight back in a bigger and broader way," he said.

Not all students have been sympathetic to the TAs, as they are known.

Freshman Lauren Hoffman, 18, said she was annoyed when an assistant in her design course skipped class to protest.

"When it comes down to it, teaching is their job, and that's where they are supposed to be," Hoffman said.

The teaching assistants are among thousands of state employees whose contracts ended on March 13. After that, the new law will restrict them to limited bargaining regarding wages.

Members will no longer be required to pay dues.

The association is no longer unique. These days, it's fairly common for graduate employees at public universities to be unionized, at least in states where laws allow it, said Craig Smith, deputy director of the American Federation of Teachers' higher education division, with which the group is affiliated.

chronicle@colum.edu

Associated Press

create... change

SFS
STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL REGISTRATION HOLDS
were placed on March 7th

If you were recently placed on Financial Registration Hold we informed you via your student Loopmail account. You can also log into the OASIS Student Portal, select the 'Students' tab and click on the 'Holds' link to check your status. If a financial registration hold has been placed on your account and you have not resolved this issue, here's how you can get back on track...

- Log on to your OASIS portal and select the Student Financial Services tab to view your Student Account Detail. Review your account to make sure all of your aid has been credited, you have completed all missing documents, and all payments have been received.
- If your aid has been credited and you have no missing documents, yet you still have a balance, visit our Payer Identity Plans webpage and explore all of our payment plan options. Discuss these with your support network and talk about your next steps.

These steps will help you resolve your current financial registration hold and will help you avoid holds in the future. For more information please visit the SFS news section at www.colum.edu/sfs

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Images that induce emotions have done their job

image + implication
CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS

by Haley Yelencich
Sophomore, creative writing major

AS I stepped into a car of the Red Line train, I saw it was full of overly cheerful and attractive people. They were smiling at one another and me, loving the people and things that surrounded them and proudly displaying their seemingly perfect, often sexy, lives.

These people, of course, were not the eclectic group sitting in the train's seats or gripping its railings for dear life. They were frozen on the walls of the car until the advertisements featuring them were ripped down and disposed of, never to be seen in the realm of public transportation again.

Advertisements are probably the most exhaustive types of images. They're everywhere: on trains, buildings, billboards and online. They all seem to scream the same thing: "I'll make you happy. I'll make you pretty. I'll make you feel like the million bucks you don't have." They're tools to sell, and they use their viewers' emotions as a catalyst to obtain an increase in sales even if it's by "exploitative" means.

Last year, controversial POM brand pomegranate juice ads appeared around the city, signifying the product would help a person live longer with phrases, such as "forever young" and "cheat death," next to images of the juice. Was this true? If I drank POM, would I live longer than if I didn't? Of course not. I might be walking down the street drinking POM, too absorbed in the act to notice the little red hand blinking from across the street and end up getting swept under a bus.

What about those jeans Levi's advertises? Would they really make me feel as if I were the most liberated person on the planet? As if I were running in a field with my model boyfriend while Walt Whitman yelled from the sky, "Pioneers! O' Pioneers!" like it showed in the ads? Would this myth of Americana become reality if I just bought a pair of jeans? Probably not. Most people realize this, but they buy these products in hope that there's a little truth in them.

This is the success of advertisements; they tell straight-up lies. That's why some people have a problem with calling ads a true form of visual art. They argue art is meant to reveal truth—that it is a humble servant whose mission is to overcome the falsities the public is exposed to every day. Some art does strive for and accomplish this, but most does not.

> "Advertisements are probably the most exhausted types of images. They're everywhere: on trains, buildings, billboards and online."
>
> - Haley Yelencich

Most art can be interpreted in different ways, according to the viewer. Gustav Klimt's famous painting "The Kiss" can be seen in two opposite ways: The viewer can either see an embracing couple—a visual representation of love—or a woman turning her head away from a man, a commentary on how women are never fully receptive to letting men into their world. Both meanings can be seen in the painting, and it's often argued which one is true. Could it be, however, that there is no truth? That much like advertisements, "The Kiss" is just looking to induce some sort of emotion in its viewer?

This, I believe, is the responsibility of image makers. It is not to inform the public, divulge some previously hidden truth or pull back the curtain on some sort of Oz. It is to create emotion in someone, to create a catharsis in viewers and whether that emotion ends with someone buying a product is irrelevant. If an image made someone feel, then it has done its job. This applies to seemingly cryptic paintings and Whitman-enhanced jean commercials alike.

chronicle@colum.edu

CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS
get involved

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

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

Obama on college

President urges students to remain informed, engaged in political processes

by Katie Crowe
MCT Newswire

FACING NATIONAL polls showing decreased enthusiasm among young people, President Barack Obama spent the week rallying college students nationwide to stay "fired up" throughout the upcoming elections.

"We can't sit this one out," the president told a crowd of more than 25,000 on March 15 at the University of Wisconsin. "We cannot let this country fall back because the rest of us didn't stand up and fight."

Later in the week, Obama excited young supporters at a rally hosted by the Democratic National Committee in Washington, D.C., reminding them: "We've been through worse as a nation and have come out stronger."

"It was always going to be hard," he said at March 17's combined rally and concert event, organized for the Democratic National Committee's Gen44 Group. "I need you to stay fired up, all the way to Nov. 2 because Nov. 2 is going to say a lot about your future."

The Gen44 group was founded as a fundraising, outreach and activation group that continues to attract college-age individuals and young professionals.

While encouraging young people to be proactive in the election, Obama simultaneously emphasized another core issue, the current affordability of a college education.

The president said on Sept. 27, 2010 in a conference call with student journalists nationwide that in a single generation, our country has fallen from first to 12th place in college graduation rates.

"We want to open the doors of our colleges and universities to more people so they can learn, they can graduate and they can succeed in life," Obama said in his discussion of the educational reforms his administration has implemented thus far.

He proposed by 2020 the U.S. will once again have the highest number of college graduates.

Obama said so far his team has raised the value of Pell Grants, simplified financial aid forms, changed the way federal loans are administered and passed the Affordable Care Act, which allows young adults to remain on their parents' health plans until age 26.

"Obviously it's up to students to finish, but we can help remove some barriers," Obama told the young journalists.

He also mentioned the need for government to put pressure on universities to examine their spending habits and the importance of students' exposure to "jobs of the future."

"Community colleges are going to play a critical role in making sure higher education creates a workforce that's ready for new jobs," Obama said. "We need to make sure we're giving young people a better sense of what jobs are out there in the future, so people end up gravitating toward the skills and degrees they need to get employed."

As per the president's request, Jill Biden will hold the first-ever summit on community colleges on March 15 at the White House, bringing together colleges, philanthropies, business and government representatives and students.

Most importantly, the president told those in attendance at last week's rallies, re-engaging in politics and the upcoming election is crucial to bringing about change.

"If we stay on focus, if we stay on course, then ultimately we will make progress," he said. "It takes time; progress takes sacrifice. Progress takes faith. But progress comes. And it will come for your generation, for this generation if we work for it, fight for it and if we believe in it."

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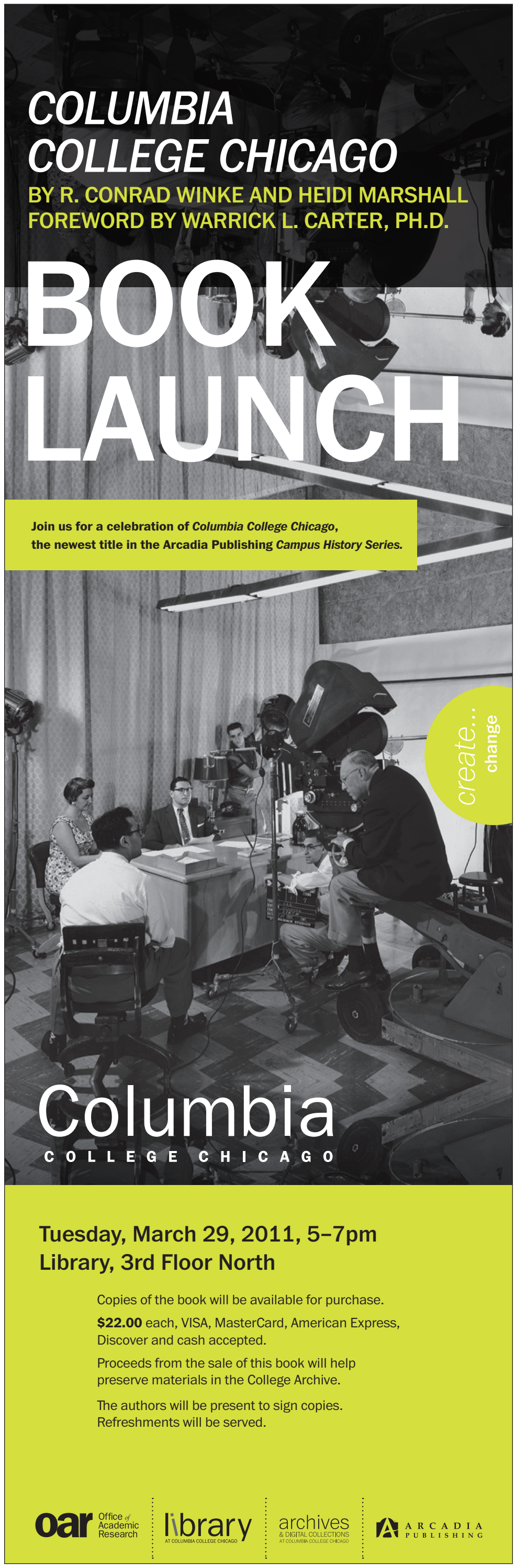
STOCK PHOTO

President Obama addressed growing concerns from college students during a visit March 15 to the University of Wisconsin. He spoke of similar concerns at a rally in Washington D.C. on March 17 as well.



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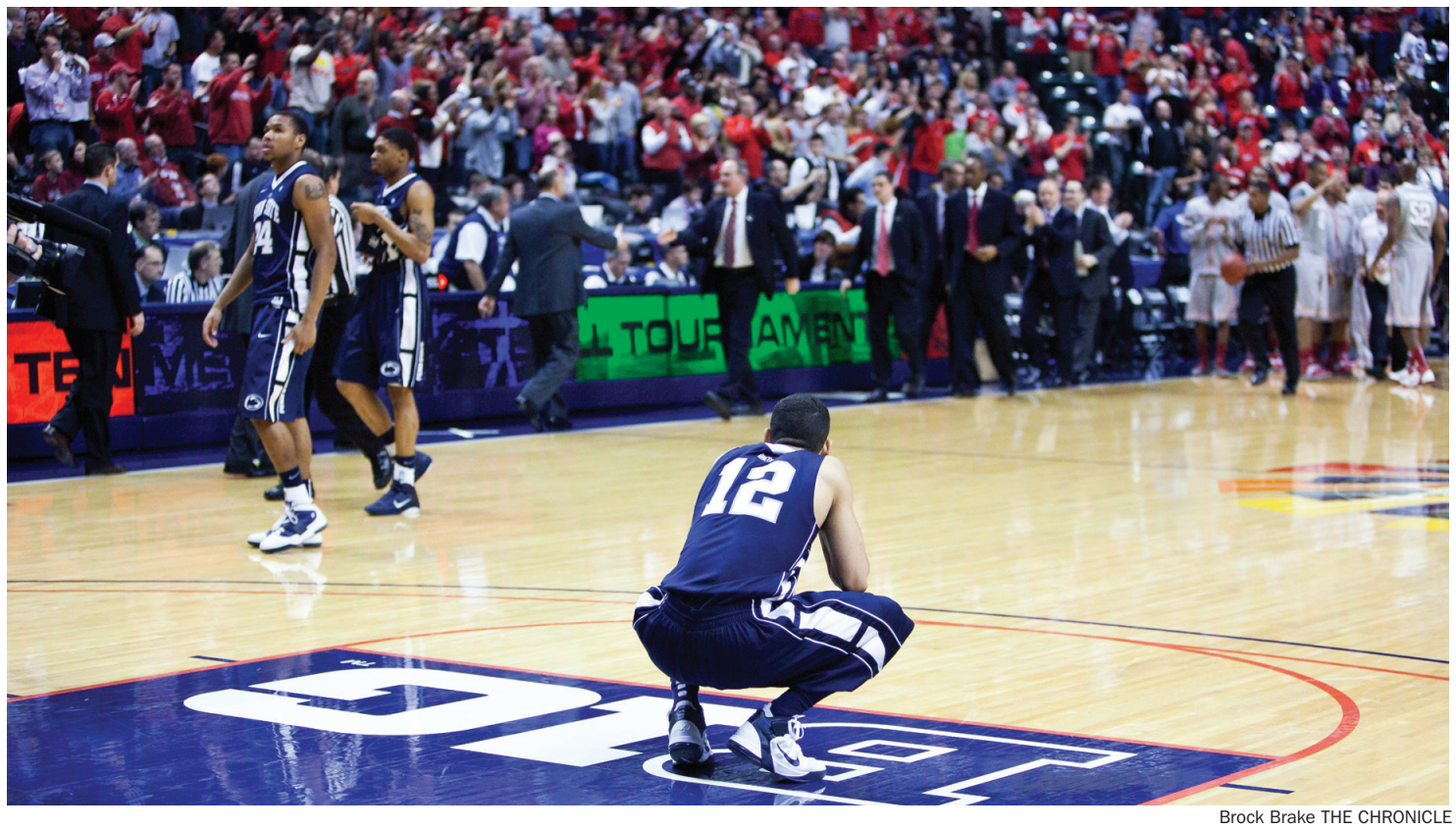
Penn State seniors take heart amid defeat

Despite loss in conference championship game, seniors ends careers on high note

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor



Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Penn State University senior guard Talor Battle looks on as Ohio State University celebrates another Big Ten tournament championship on March 13.

INDIANAPOLIS—THE Penn State University locker room stood silent as players sat at their lockers, contemplating how close they were to upsetting Ohio State University in the Big Ten Championship game on March 13.

The season, which was full of surpassing preseason expectations for the Nittany Lions, came to an abrupt halt in the final game of the Big Ten season at the Conseco Fieldhouse.

After reaching its first conference championship game in the Big Ten tournament, Penn State's glass emptied and the Buckeyes successfully defended their tournament crown.

Senior forward Jeff Brooks reclined in his chair next to his locker with a blank stare. Another senior, Talor Battle, did his best to hold his composure after the defeat. This was one task Penn State didn't complete but later was able to celebrate an accomplishment no one predicted would happen.

Battle said he wanted more than ever to win the conference championship. He reiterated his passion for being a champion and reaching the NCAA tournament during the past season. Penn State hadn't reached the NCAA tournament since 2001 and was on the bubble before the Big Ten tournament began on March 10.

> "It's just been a journey, and a lot of people tell me it's been a roller coaster, and right now I'm still going up."
>
> - Jeff Brooks

"It's not deflating at all," Battle said. "When you give it your all, you can never hold your head [down]. I'm not down at all. We didn't get upset, we lost to a team that was really good. We competed and left it all out there."

When the final buzzer sounded and Buckeyes players began celebrating on the court, Battle knelt down toward the baseline and saw his dream to win the conference title crushed.

He said he was proud Penn State made it to the championship game, despite predictions of being at the bottom of the conference.

The Buckeyes were able to reach the Big Ten championship game after three victories in three days. They defeated Indiana University, upset the University of Wisconsin and beat last season's Final Four participant, Michigan State University.

Brooks said he never competed in a championship game in high school and was upset the Nittany Lions weren't able to pull out the victory.

"It was a big moment for me to be on the losing side when that buzzer sounded," Brooks said. "[The] only thing I [could] do is keep my head up as a senior and try to lead the younger guys and see where we are going to go from here."

While the Buckeyes were conducting postgame interviews, the Nittany Lions didn't have time to dwell on their loss. They began watching the NCAA tournament selection show to hear news of their reaching the postseason.

At 5:15 p.m., the Nittany Lions finally saw their name in the tournament bracket when they were matched up with Temple University in the West Region.

Battle, who mentioned he wanted to end his stellar career at Penn State with a tournament appearance, finally achieved his dream.

The team that was highly doubted to reach the postseason proved experts wrong. The Nittany Lions rejoiced when the CBS cameras showed them hugging one other and were able to exhale as they moved into the postseason.

In the locker room, the mood swiftly changed from heads hanging low to Brooks smiling, Battle standing in front of his locker instead of sitting and Ohio State players Jared Sullinger and Jon Diebler coming to congratulate the team they beat an hour earlier.

Battle, the leading active scorer in the Big Ten and first conference player to record 2,000 points, 600 rebounds and 500 assists, had a fulfilled look on his face while speaking with reporters.

Brooks was more vocal in the locker room after exchanging a handshake and hug with Sullinger.

"It's just an honor hearing our name called on national television," Brooks said. "Just going from losing that game to Ohio State kind of helps us get our confidence back."

Penn State was the No. 10 seed in the West Region. Battle said he was proud to be in the tournament no matter what seed the Nittany Lions received. He joked they would have been proud of a No. 16 seed as long as the team got in.

The Nittany Lions' ride in the tournament didn't last long as they were ousted by Temple University, 66-64, in the second round on March 17. Before the NCAA tournament began, Battle was asked what it will be like when he takes off his jersey for the last time.

"That's [going to] be a sad day [when] I realize that I won't put on the jersey anymore and playing for Penn State," Battle said.

Brooks said he was pleased with the Nittany Lions' season and comments he's received from others about his future after Penn State. He said it was going to be emotional for him to look at his jersey for the last time.

"I'm going to be very emotional because of everything I went through at Penn State, on and off the court," Brooks said. "It's just been a journey, and a lot of people tell me it's been a roller coaster, and right now I'm still going up. That's a good thing to hear from other people's perspectives."

The five seniors— Battle, Brooks, Steve Kirkpatrick, David Jackson and Andrew Jones'—hard work paid off and they were able to end their careers at Penn State with success.

The Nittany Lions' Head Coach Ed DeChellis, who was on the sidelines when the team won the National Invitational Tournament Championship in 2009, said his senior class was special and displayed an immense amount of passion and dedication.

"They're wonderful kids [and have] been great ambassadors for our university," DeChellis said. "They're all going to graduate and they've worked hard every day. They haven't been a problem on and off the floor. They've been a joy and a great group of kids to be around, and I'm really proud of them."

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Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

(Top) Ohio State University celebrates its Big Ten championship victory on March 13, against Penn State University. (Bottom) An hour later, Buckeye players Jared Sullinger and Jon Diebler congratulated the Nittany Lions in their locker room for making the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2001.

STAYIN' SAVVY

Post-traumatic stress in Japan

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

IN THE wake of the crises Japan faced throughout the last weeks, including a tsunami, earthquake, flooding, fires and a high risk of radiation exposure, more than a half-a-million people are severely injured or displaced, now living in shelters.

On top of this triple-crisis the country experienced, victims might be at risk for something far more severe. Some medical experts are now saying the fear and stress instilled in Japanese citizens will be more damaging than the harm they face from potential radiation exposure. Hundreds of thousands of victims are at risk for post-traumatic stress disorder and depression.

According to a Washington Post article from March 14 featuring psychiatrists who studied the effects of Three Mile Island and Chernobyl, the negative psychological effects are magnified in unpredictable ways. Experts said the aftermath of those events have affected multiple generations, inflicting a sense of hopelessness.

As Americans, we are fortunate to have so many sources available to us in times of disasters and should help whenever we can. People shouldn't be making ill-mannered jokes using social media or feverously watching the loop of "disaster porn" that plays repeatedly on television outlets that further heightens the fear of the situation. Yes, we should be paying attention, but not with a lackadaisical, nothing-can-be-done attitude.

A radiation expert at the International Epidemiology Unit in Rockville, Md., John Boice Jr., said in the article, "The average amount of radiation that victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were exposed to would increase the risk of dying from lung cancer by about 40 percent. Smoking a pack of cigarettes a day increases the risk of dying of lung cancer by about 400 percent." The risks of radiation exposure might not be as pertinent as officials previously predicted, so helping the affected areas get back on track and rebuild and reestablish a sense of normalcy is most important.

It's hard to treat PTSD because it's difficult to pinpoint when it will happen and whether it will affect people on a variety of levels.

I'm in no way downplaying the severity of the situation; it's beyond horrific. But like in many chaotic situations, the media can be guilty of adding to the frenzy. It's almost like a car crash you can't look away from.

Instead of sitting around mindlessly, watching the TV, we should be proactive about the situation and offer whatever help we can. If PTSD is going to impact thousands of people, we should be helping these citizens find the stabilization they had prior to the catastrophic events.

Donating money to nonprofit organizations helping overseas is best in a time like this. Check with the organization to be sure they are established and credible because sadly, in situations such as this people can take advantage of Internet scams.

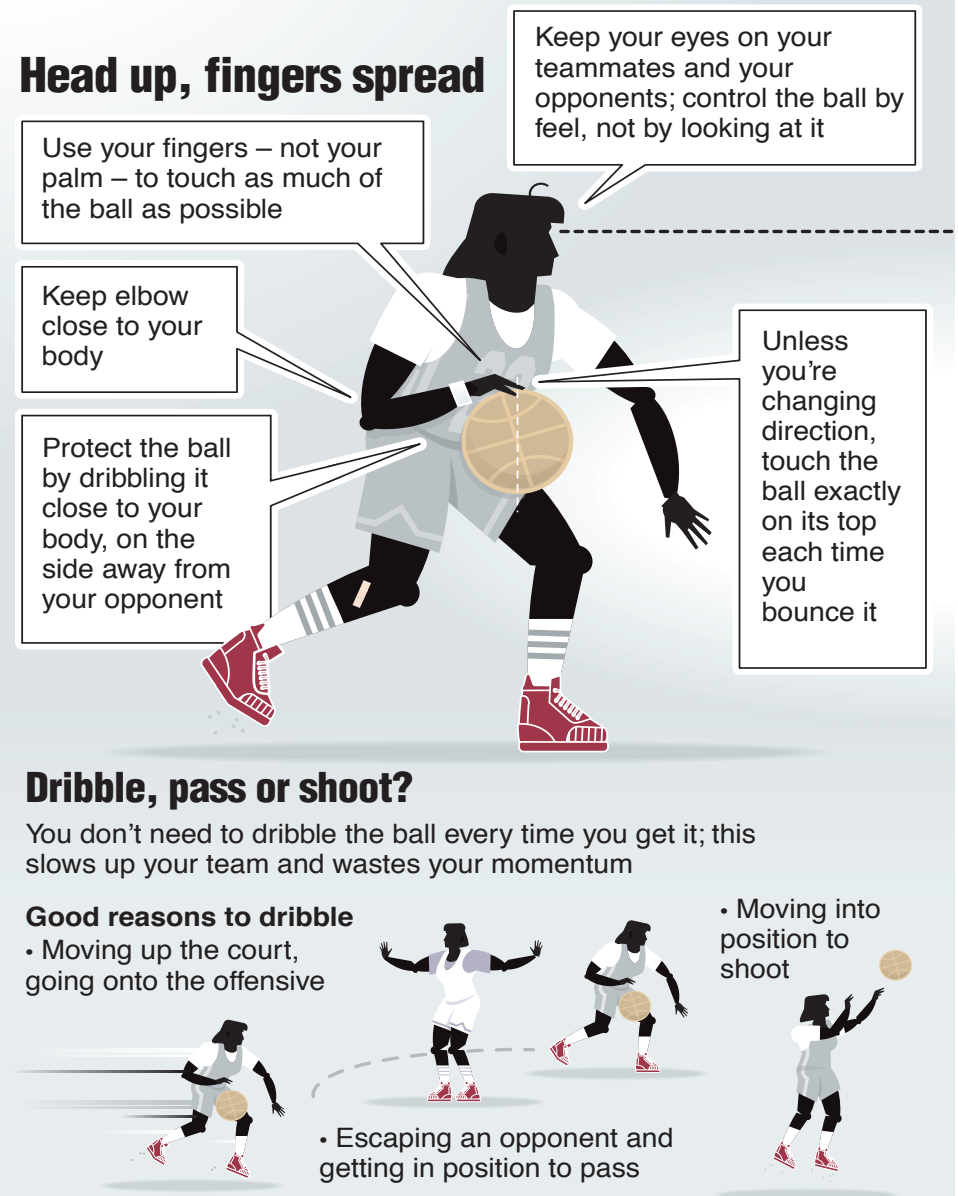
For more information on how to help visit RedCross.org

ssaviola@chroniclemail.com

Personal Trainer

Basics of basketball dribbling

It's one of the basic skills of basketball, and knowing when to dribble is as important as knowing how to do it.



Stage set for unique theater

Members of Ice-Semble Chicago pursue love of sport in adulthood

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

FIGURE SKATERS twirl and glide across the ice with ease, but these skaters are not competing for medals. They are members of Ice-Semble Chicago, the city's original ice theater company, choreographing one of their many lyrical routines.

The ice theater company held one of its first meetings of the year on March 16 at McFetridge Sports Arena, 3843 N. California Ave., to practice for its upcoming show on May 5 at the Winnetka Ice Arena, 490 Hibbard Road, in Winnetka, Ill.

"It is more eccentric than regular figure skating," said Meah Helfand, process engineer for GE Healthcare, skating instructor and a member of Ice-Semble Chicago, who has been with the group since it formed in 1996. "It's really about the art of skating. It's about movement, self-expression, being a character and dancing. All of that is an incredible part of skating."

The ice theater company has created unusual shows. One program involved skating in the dark with glow sticks. The ensemble performs throughout the year in the Chicago area, including at the McCormick Tribune Plaza and Ice Rink at Millennium Park, and is a way for adult skaters to stay in shape, express themselves artistically and continue learning new routines.

"[Ice-Semble Chicago] is a way for former skaters to come and enjoy skating without the pressure of jumping," Helfand said. "To come and do something that has some camaraderie, some team aspect to it."

For adults who wish to continue sports later in life, finding leagues and making time to practice can be difficult, according to Helfand.

"We get up at 5:30 in the morning to open the rink for practice in Winnetka," she said. "That's just what we have to do."

One dedicated skater, Katrina Nelken, a motion designer at a postproduction house for music videos and commercials in Chicago, was invited to join the group when she graduated high school in 2005.

"It gives me a chance as a 24-year-old to keep skating," Nelken said. "If I don't skate for a reason, I just won't do it at all. This gives me a reason to skate and express myself again."

Figure skating coach Kathy Janik said she joined the team last year because she wanted to find a way to keep figure skating and artistic expression in her life without the pressure of competition.

Instead of emphasizing mastering difficult jumps and tricks, members of Ice-Semble Chicago focus on the lyricism and art of figure skating, according to Janik.

"It provides a blank canvas for skaters," said Liz McShane-Beberdick, artistic director of Ice-Semble Chicago.

According to her, the group's goal is to put together ice shows that resemble professional dance company performances.

"We're interested in working with former professional skaters who want to choreograph work without spinning and jumping in the pieces," McShane-Beberdick said. "It's getting on the ice, taking a piece of music you've always wanted to skate to and creating your own choreography."

For Janik, working with the company has been a way to express her creativity on a stage with like-minded skaters.

"It's all about the flow of it and the feel of the music and the edge quality you're using," she said. "It's less about the technicality and more about the feeling."

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Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Katrina Nelken works on choreography at an Ice-Semble Chicago rehearsal at McFetridge Sports Arena, 3843 N. California Ave., on March 16. The company has an upcoming show on May 5 in Winnetka, Ill.

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Michael Orr demonstrates a split jump at practice for Chicago's original ice skating theater company.

Yoga: exercising your body, mind

Breathing exercises could strengthen body, improve memory

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Maura Spiegel, yoga instructor, practices a padangusthasana, or toe stand pose, during a Bikram yoga class at Bikram Yoga Chicago, 47 W. Polk St. The benefits of yoga include improved brain functionality.

YOGIS HAVE been doing it for centuries. Now, western culture is catching on, and it seems like practicing Eastern traditions has more than a positive effect on the physique.

According to a study published on Jan. 30 by the Journal of Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging, titled "Mindfulness practice leads to increases in regional brain gray matter density," people who meditate at least 27 minutes a day for eight-week periods experience changes in regions of the brain associated with memory, empathy and stress. It was conducted by scientists at the University of Massachusetts, Massachusetts General Hospital and Bender Institute of Neuroimaging in Germany.

Based on these findings, the practice of mindfulness activities—or deep-breathing and concentration exercises—can reduce stress, increase positive thoughts and improve other significant brain functions.

"I think there is a great deal of potential between meditation and treating mental health problems," said Richard E. Zinbarg, clinical psychologist at the Family Institute at Northwestern University. "I have clients [who] practice yoga and find it beneficial."

Danielle Black, psychotherapist at the Family Institute at Northwestern University, has also seen the positive effects of meditation in her practice.

When her clients appear especially distraught, Black encourages them to practice mindfulness activities. She said a five-minute exercise can have noticeable effects.

"Mindfulness is focusing on the breath," Black said. "But it could be focusing on anything, an object or a painting. You have focused attention on one thing in the present moment without judgment."

Being nonjudgmental helps people calm their minds, Black said. Practicing mindfulness, which is considered a form of yoga, can teach people to regulate their emotional responses, according to Black.

Zinbarg, for example, said he uses diaphragmatic breathing at his practice. This includes inhaling and exhaling deeply while engaging the diaphragm, and he said he sees positive effects on his patients.

Mike Lewis, co-director and yoga instructor at Bikram Yoga Chicago, 47 W. Polk St., said before he started practicing breathing exercises and yoga, he could rarely sit still.

"The more you practice yoga, and the more you concentrate on your breathing, the calmer you'll be throughout the class," Lewis said. "It should help you stay calm when someone cuts you off in traffic."

According to Black, yoga and deep breathing exercises are workouts for the brain.

"When you haven't exercised in a while it's really hard, your muscles are out of shape, every minute is really difficult; [mindfulness] is kind of like that," she said. "As your brain gets more used to it, it snaps into it more quickly."

Yoga is just a form of mindfulness, a focused attention, Black said. "However, a person can practice yoga and be distracted during the activity."

It requires focus and concentration to hold difficult yoga positions without toppling over, Lewis said.

"It's is training for how you can deal with day-to-day life," said Gloria Millare, clinical physician and yoga instructor in Schaumburg, Ill. "During the process, you feel peace that carries over."

Millare, who teaches Dahn yoga, a form of Korean yoga that trains the brain through a combination of meditation and movement, said there are endless benefits to yoga.

While the process is peaceful, researchers believe mindfulness, meditation and yoga are different from relaxation because these activities stimulate different regions of the brain, according to Millare. Ultimately, practicing these engaging mental activities is a way to prepare for life outside of the office, classroom and studio, she said.

"The yoga we do involves holding a posture as long as you can to test your limits," Millare said. "In this world, you will be tested, so you have to develop that strength and power to overcome any obstacle."

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How to: Become a basic runner

by Vanessa Morton
Contributing Writer

EXERCISING CAN be a daunting task. Finding time to go to the gym can be tough, and not everyone can afford a membership. Running in particular can be intimidating if people aren't physically active.

"A general misconception that might discourage someone from running is you have to be an athlete or go super fast," said Kristin Ravel, part-time writing professor in the English Department and avid runner. "It's not necessarily about how fast you run or the time you do it in, but more so getting out there and getting physical activity."

Finding time to stay active is vital and helps you become more physically and mentally healthy. Ravel said running is the best and least expensive way to stay fit. To keep costs low, invest in a good pair of running shoes and resist the temptation to buy expensive clothing and equipment. She thinks anyone is capable of running if these basic principles are followed.

Comfortable pace

1. Establish a walk/run routine. Start by running as far as you can, walk enough to catch your breath and start running again. This will help you find the level you're physically at, which allows you to feel the pace that best suits your body. "Speed is up to you," Ravel said. "But if you normally don't run, I suggest going slower than you think because you don't want to be uncomfortable. Make sure you walk straight and avoid leaning forward, or else you can find yourself getting cramps." After a couple of weeks you should be able to progress.

Avoid disruptions

2. Run outside without a clock. Ravel said to find pleasure in running, beginners should stay away from timing themselves. "Time can discourage runners because they're tempted to constantly look at their clocks," she said. "This doesn't allow you to feel the full benefits [of running], which is being able to escape or get away from looking at the clock all of the time or worrying about everything around you and getting stuff done." Running inside on a treadmill or a track might make you stop because it's more likely you'll get distracted by your cell phone, TV or friends.

Stay hydrated

3. Make sure water is accessible at all times. "If you increase your distance or run more than an hour a day, then you have to stay hydrated," Ravel said. "If you don't, you can suffer from feeling dizzy, tired and nauseous."

Dedicate yourself

4. It's important to make running a habit. "People quit too soon when they don't see instant progress, and you aren't going to see results after one run," Ravel said. "It has to be part of your daily routine, like brushing your teeth or taking a shower." After a couple solid weeks of running, you should find yourself becoming comfortable, and once you're able to run a mile, increase a quarter to half a mile each week.

chronicle@colum.edu

Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

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

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

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Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO
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The Columbia College Library presents the Big Read, six weeks of special events featuring:

THE THINGS THEY CARRIED

A WORK OF FICTION BY TIM O'BRIEN

The Big Read Kick-Off Event
Wed Mar 30, 2011 6pm - 8pm
Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th Floor
Susan Padveen, Theater department faculty along with local actors will read excerpts from *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien.

The Big Read Keynote Address: Veterans in Conversation
Tue Apr 5, 2011 6pm - 8pm
Stage 2 Auditorium, 618 S. Michigan Avenue
Please join us as a panel of Vietnam War Veterans discusses the novel, The Things They Carried and about their own wartime experiences. The panel will be moderated by Dominic Pacyga, Vietnam War veteran and faculty member in the Department of Humanities, History and Social Sciences.

Opening reception: "The Allure of Viet Nam"
Wed Apr 6, 2011, 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Columbia College Library, 624 S. Michigan Ave., 2nd Floor
Vietnamese-American photographer Liat Smestad will present an exhibition of photographs of contemporary Vietnam. She is an adjunct professor in fashion at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and her studies have taken her to China, Vietnam and Thailand. Her work has been shown in the Rice Gallery, San Jose; The National Vietnam Veterans Art Museum, Chicago, and The National Exhibition Hall in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Escaping Vietnam: A Boy's View
Thu Apr 7, 2011 6:30pm - 8pm
Columbia College Library, 624 S. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor North
Cuong Chau reads from his recently published memoir, *Escaping Vietnam: A Boy's View*. Cuong was 8 years old when he fled Vietnam with his parents, and he tells his family's story from his youthful perspective. Copies of his book will be available for purchase after his presentation.

Opening reception: "Necessary Fictions" Alumni on 5 Art Exhibition
Fri Apr 8, 2011 5pm - 8pm
Columbia College Library, 624 S. Michigan Ave., 5th Floor
Inspired by *The Things They Carried*, "Necessary Fictions" showcases Columbia College alumni artists who answer the questions: What experiences do you carry with you that inform your work? What are the true facts and the necessary fictions you use?

Telling Stories About the War
Mon Apr 11, 2011 6:30 - 8:30pm
Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., 8th Floor
Veterans read recent fiction and non-fiction about their wartime experiences in Iraq, Vietnam, and Korea. Moderated by John Schultz, Fiction Writing faculty.

Film Series: The Vietnam War on Film
Tue Apr 12, 2011 5pm - 10pm
600 S. Michigan Avenue, Room 921
Documentary films. *Two Days in October* (PBS) 5-7pm and *The Other Angels* 7:30-10pm

The Language of War: A Panel Discussion
Wed Apr 13, 2011 6:30pm - 9pm
Hokin Auditorium, 623 S. Michigan Ave., Room 109
Join us as a panel of veterans, moderated by faculty member in the Department of Humanities, History and Social Sciences Louis Silverstein, discusses "the language of war".

Friends of the Library Signature Showcase: The Veterans History Project
Thu Apr 21, 2011 7pm - 8:30pm
Hokin Auditorium, 623 S Wabash Ave., Room 109
This spring, the Library is pleased to have Erin McCarthy, Associate Professor of History in the Department of Humanities, History & Social Sciences as our speaker for the Spring 2011 Friends of the Library Signature Showcase. Dr. McCarthy has been teaching "Oral History: the Art of the Interview" at Columbia College since 2000 and her students have contributed over 200 transcribed interviews to the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project. She will discuss her participation with the project in documenting the lives of veterans and its historical and cultural importance.

Film Series: The Vietnam War on Film
Tue Apr 26, 2011 5pm - 8:30pm
600 S. Michigan Avenue, Room 921
Documentary films. *Soldados: Chicanos in Vietnam* 5-6:30pm and *No Vietnamese Ever called Me N****r* (Cinema Guild)7-8:30pm

Parting Shot: Depicting War Across Media
Thu Apr 28, 2011 7pm - 9pm
Hokin Auditorium, 618 S. Michigan Ave., Room 109
Artists in various media discuss the challenges of depicting war, as well as the impact of their personal wartime experiences on their work. This panel discussion is sponsored in part by the College's *Critical Encounters Showcase: Image and Implication*. Panelists include: editorial cartoonist Matt Bors; Vietnam War veterans and faculty members Tom Nawrocki and Kimo Williams; and Sarajevo born artist Goran Maric.

Film Series: The Vietnam War on Film
Fri Apr 29, 2011 5pm - 10pm
600 S. Michigan Avenue, Room 921
Documentary films. *Maya Lin: Strong Clear Vision* 5-7pm and *Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam* (HBO) 7:30-10pm

In Their Own Words: the Veterans History Project at Columbia College
Thu May 5, 2011 12:30pm - 3pm
623 S. Wabash Ave., Room 203
Columbia College students enrolled in Erin McCarthy's "Oral History: the Art of the Interview" present their final projects capturing oral histories of Vietnam veterans through interviews.

In Their Own Words: the Veterans History Project at Columbia College
Thu May 12, 2011 12:30pm - 3pm
623 S. Wabash Ave., Room 203
Columbia College students enrolled in Erin McCarthy's "Oral History: the Art of the Interview" present their final projects capturing oral histories of Vietnam veterans through interviews.

The Combat Paper Project
Fri May 13, 2011 12pm - 7pm
NE Corner of Wabash and Balbo Avenues, Chicago, IL
Brooklyn, NY-based *The Combat Paper Project* invites former service members to turn their used uniforms into paper. This program is cosponsored by "Manifest: An Urban Arts Festival," Columbia College's end-of-the-year celebration of the arts and The Big Read at Columbia College.

MANIFEST

A limited number of free copies of The Things They Carried will be available at each event.

All events listed here are FREE and open to the public. For more information about these events, schedule updates, or to find a book discussion group, please visit: colum.edu/bigread.

For more information on The Big Read, please visit: neabigread.org

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
THE BIG READ
INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES
library
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CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS
Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO
create... change

Vegan spring cupcakes

APPRENTICE

Start spring season with sweet, colorful, fruity dessert

by Ren Lahvic
Advertising & Business Manager

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

SURPRISE YOUR friends with this delicious dessert. Whether you are going on a picnic or spending the night at home, these cupcakes will be a hit.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees and put cupcake tins inside a cupcake pan. Bring soy milk to a low boil. Be sure to stir it occasionally. Once the soy milk has started to boil, add Earl Grey tea bags and zest, immediately remove from the heat and let it sit for approximately 20 minutes.

After your soy and Earl Grey tea has had time to steep, take out the tea bags. Be sure to squeeze the tea bags above the sauce pan before tossing them to extract as much flavor as possible.

In a separate medium-size mixing bowl, combine the soy-Earl Grey tea mixture with canola oil, soy yogurt, sugar, vanilla extract and coconut flakes.

In a separate bowl, sift together the remaining ingredients: flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt.

Slowly add the dry mixture to the wet ingredients, blending continuously. Do this until the batter is smooth (a few lumps are OK). Be sure not to overblend the ingredients because this will make the cupcakes hard and chewy after they are baked.

Spoon the batter into the cupcake tins 2/3 of the way full. Bake for approximately 16 minutes. After removing the cupcakes from the oven, insert a toothpick into a cupcake at the center of the pan. If the toothpick comes out clean, your cupcakes are done.

After your cupcakes have cooled, you can add your favorite vegan frosting. Because these are springtime cupcakes, it's recommended to use a fruit frosting, like banana or pineapple.

rlahvic@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS

1	cup soy milk
4	Earl Grey teabags
1	teaspoon orange or lemon zest
1/4	cup canola oil
1/4	cup coconut flakes
1/2	cup vanilla soy yogurt
3/4	cup granulated sugar
1	teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/4	cups all-purpose flour
1/4	teaspoon baking soda
1/2	teaspoon baking powder
1/2	teaspoon salt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees
2. Cover cupcake pans with paper liners
3. Bring soy milk to a low boil, add tea packets and zest. Let sit for 20 minutes
4. In a bowl, combine oil, soy yogurt, sugar, vanilla extract, coconut flakes and Earl Grey-soy mixture
5. Sift flour, baking soda, baking powder and salt
6. Slowly add dry mix to wet ingredients
7. Spoon cupcake batter into pan
8. Cook for approximately 13-18 minutes
9. Take out, cool and frost

KEY

NOVICE APPRENTICE GURU

A+D LECTURE SERIES

Shazam! by Chip Kidd and Geoff Spear (2010)

Chip Kidd

Wednesday, March 30
6:30pm
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave., 2nd floor

Chip Kidd is a designer and writer in New York City. A recipient of the National Design Award for Communications, he is also the author of two novels, *The Cheese Monkeys* and *The Learners*, as well as co-author of the recently-published *New York Times* bestseller, *True Prep.* Even better, he does an uncanny impression of a newborn baby hamster reciting the opening lines of Alfred Lord Tennyson's *The Charge of the Light Brigade*.

A reception with the artist will occur immediately after the lecture outside of Stage Two.

create... change

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art + design | Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO

A look back in broadcast history

SEE PG. 20-21

Arts& Culture

Courtesy JOHNNY KNIGHT

In a twist on the old game show "Make Me Laugh," contestants of "Don't Spit the Water" fill their mouths with water. Meanwhile, comedians playing over-the-top characters try to make them laugh.

Local comedy game show raises funds to make it on television

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

AT COMEDY shows around the city, drinks are a fixture in the hands of audience members. If comedians hit their stride and the audience laughs, drinks can become a hazard, spewing from the mouths of people in the crowd. Now, a local show combining game show sensibilities with comedy is counting on the spit reaction to make its way on local television.

After success on the stage with its comedy-based game show, Blewt! Productions is raising money to put "Don't Spit the Water" on the air. The company hopes to get local television recognition for Chicago comedians.

The show was first performed in 2004 by Steve Gadlin, founder of Blewt! Productions, and a couple of his college friends. Based on the model of the old game show "Make Me Laugh," random contestants are chosen from the audience to come on stage while comedians attempt to make them laugh. Gadlin put a twist on this simple concept by making contestants fill their cheeks with water.

"Spit takes are always fun," he said. "Instead of normal standup comics, we have absurd costumed characters, and we have it hosted by a couple of characters as well. It's real similar to 'Pee Wee's Playhouse' and the 'Gong Show,' things like that."

According to Gadlin, the monetary support has been great so far using Kickstarter.com to get the word out and keep track of contributions toward the $6,000 goal. As of March 18, it had raised 60 percent of their goal.

The project's first and largest donation was given by Al Parinello, notably the first person to ever pay Andy Kaufman to do comedy. Gadlin is taking this as a good omen for the things to come.

In the past, "Don't Spit the Water" performers have gone on to bigger and better things in New York and Los Angeles, such as alumnus T. J. Miller, who has appeared in feature films like "She's Out of My League" and worked on numerous television series.

Miller said he attributes his experience with "Don't Spit the Water" as giving him an edge in other platforms.

"The great thing about Chicago, and this is the cool thing about Steve and the show, is that it has a very alternative sensibility," Miller said. "I bring a skill set to the table doing films and television and all that stuff that a lot of other people don't have, in part because I had access to shows like 'Don't Spit the Water.'"

» **SEE SPIT**, PG. 19

Courtesy JOHNNY KNIGHT

Contestants who keep the water in their mouths walk away from the show with a prize that can range from a bag of candy to a Threadless gift certificate.

"A" To Zepeda

Pay attention to the world around you

by Benita Zepeda
Managing Editor

IT SEEMS that as technology advances, people want information to be available quicker and through several different mediums. Smartphones, wireless Internet, iPods, iPads, etc, have all made this possible. Many people in society are literally walking around with miniature computers in their pockets.

Since we have access to so much information, it is even more important for people to take responsibility for keeping track of what is happening in the world. If we demand faster communication and news, we should utilize it.

Our world is in a constant state of change, whether it's due to natural disasters, political unrest, or the state of the economy, and we need to stay informed.

Having several mediums to rely on doesn't mean keeping up to date is an easy task. Some people stick to traditional media, such as The New York Times, while others rely on opinions from blogs or columns. There is so much available, so how do we keep track?

I'll admit that even as a journalist, it gets difficult to keep up with current events. This is why it's so important for people to take initative and time to learn about world events going on around them. Sometimes it is easy to think because something is happening on the other side of the world, it won't affect people here. Proximity is relevant, of course, but everything has an effect.

A prime example of world news impacting our country is when nuclear radiation from the crisis in Japan was reportedly due to hit the West Coast. If people assumed it wasn't in their best interest to be fully aware of the situation, they are seriously mistaken. It's proof that events across the world do impact us, and this particular event is one that gained more attention around the world than most other events have.

What's disheartening, though, is most of the time, we gravitate toward what sells, not what is important. The celebrity meltdowns, who wore what at the Oscars and what famous people slept together after they did a line of cocaine in a bathroom shouldn't be news. Stories like this on the front page are deplorable.

Yes, the news can be depressing, but it is certainly not boring or something to ignore. Maybe celebrity gossip is people's way of escaping harsh reality, but it's putting themselves at a severe disadvantage.

Forcing yourself to be informed can help change this world for the better. It's especially important to look at local, national and international news with a critical eye.

Who knows when it could be time for a revolution of our own? Ignorance isn't always bliss.

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» SPIT

Continued from PG. 18

The show once had the opportunity to perform on Comedy Central's stage. When things fell through, Gadlin decided to create a local platform instead. Once the pilot is shot, it will be shown on a Weigel station, such as The U or MeTV.

> "I bring a skill set to the table doing films and television and all that stuff that a lot of people don't have in part because I had access to shows like 'Don't Spit the Water.'"
>
> - T.J. Miller

For the performers, the format of the show differs from conventional comedy and offers a unique challenge: making one person laugh.

According to Bryan Bowden, long-time performer in the show, comedians usually have a crowd to please. But when the focus is making one person laugh so hard they spit water, comedians pull out all the stops.

"With this the comedians really take their time to develop these really great characters," Bowden said. "There's very little opportunity to do wild, crazy, ludicrous comedy audiences really seem to like and enjoy."

To keep the show moving, Gadlin and Paul Luikart, long-time "Don't Spit the Water" performer, act as hosts. A running gag between them holds the show together among a slew of wild characters, Luikart said.

According to him, while they've been preparing for the pilot, the show has gotten a lot funnier.

"We do a great job of seeing where we're at, and we can always build," Luikart said, noting audience support has helped the show evolve. "We kind of developed a bit of a cult following, so it's nice to have those people who were into us then still be around and be into the show."

At the end of every show, the three contestants involved each receive a prize, with the winner usually receiving a gift from the night's sponsor, such as a Threadless gift card.

Luikart admits the consolation prizes—autographed photos of the cast—are a little self-indulgent. But according to Bowden, they could be worth something if the show takes off.

"My hope, like any crazy performer, is pie in the sky that we get famous and quit our day jobs and do this forever," Bowden said. "Ideally it's, 'So long, suckers. I'm off to Hollywood!'"

Realistically, Bowden said it would be great to showcase local comedy on Chicago television, and Gadlin agrees.

"My real goal here is maybe we make something so compelling we can do it regularly locally," Gadlin said. "If we can get it locally, I think that will make it a real genuine entertaining show. Then if it can go somewhere from there, that's fine, but my real goal here is let's build something locally that's fun and cool."

To donate to "Don't Spit the Water"'s television pilot, visit Kickstarter.com. For more information on the show and future airtimes, visit Blewt.com.

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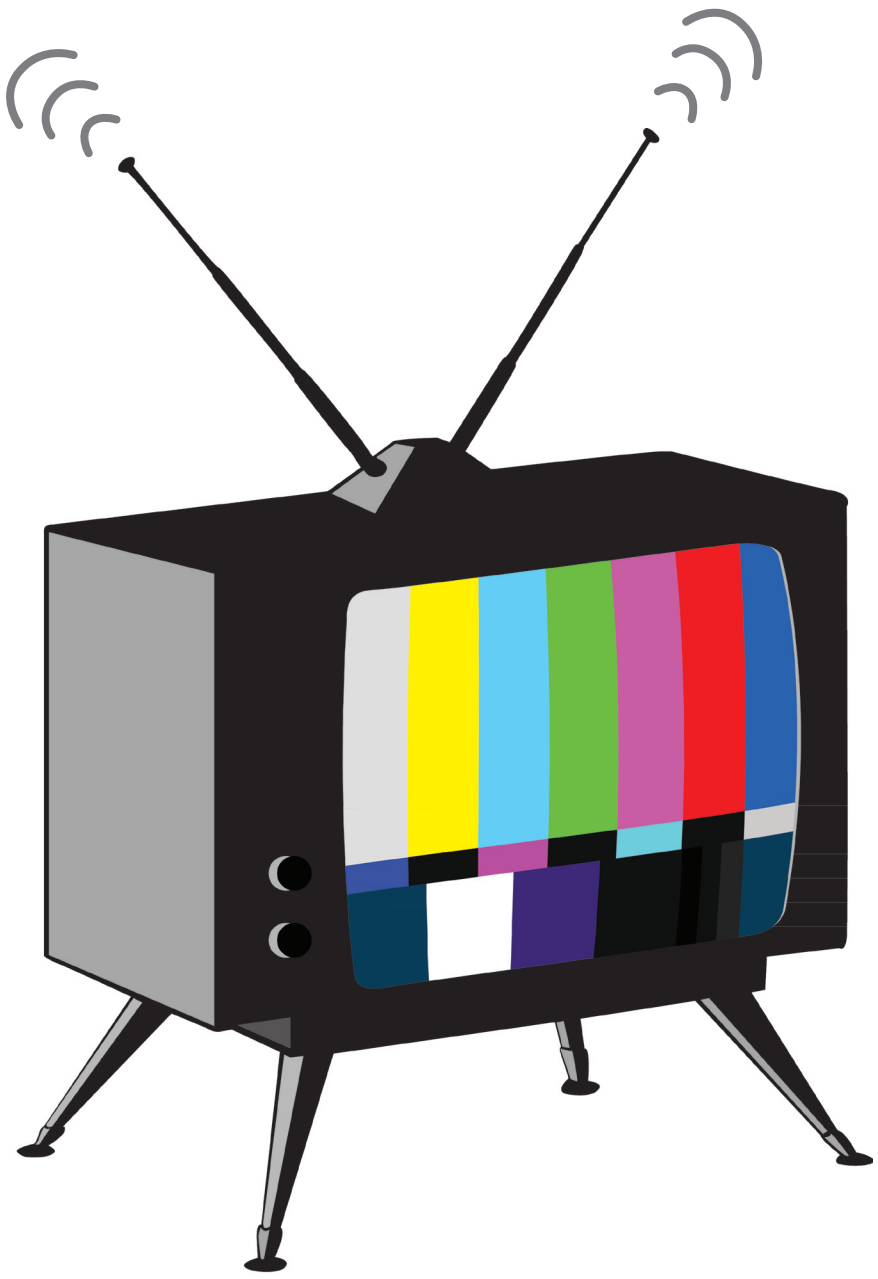
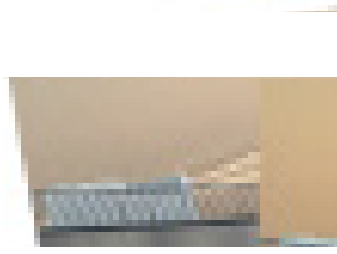




Broadcast museum back ON A

State grants revive new MBC home after sitting dormant

Written by Matt Watson
Design by Ying Kau

In the shadow of the Trump International Hotel & Tower, 401 N. Wabash Ave., a half-completed concrete structure returns to life as construction crews race to complete the building that will house the memory of broadcast legends such as Oprah Winfrey, Phil Donahue and Bozo the Clown.

After almost five years on hold, construction resumed at the Museum of Broadcast Communications, 360 N. State St., in September 2010. The MBC showcases images, artifacts and visual media throughout radio and TV history and hosts the National Radio Hall of Fame. Crews originally broke ground on the site in July 2005, but after a funding stalemate with former Gov. Rod Blagojevich, they were forced to stop construction in May 2006 because of a lack of financing.

"[Blagojevich] promised certain funds and then reneged on that promise, and that brought the project to a halt," said Marc Glick, executive producer at the MBC. "The thing that re-energized this project was Gov. [Pat] Quinn keeping the state's promise and coming up with a $6 million grant."

The state grant, Glick said, will allow the museum to finish the structure's outer shell. Under the grant's provisions, the MBC has until April 30 to complete construction on the building's exterior.

Upon completion of the full structure, which is slated for the end of 2011, the museum will have its own home for the first time in its 24-year history. Founded in 1987 by Bruce DuMont, who could not be reached for comment, the MBC was originally housed in River City Communications, 800 S. Wells St. It moved to the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. in 1992 and remained there until 2003.

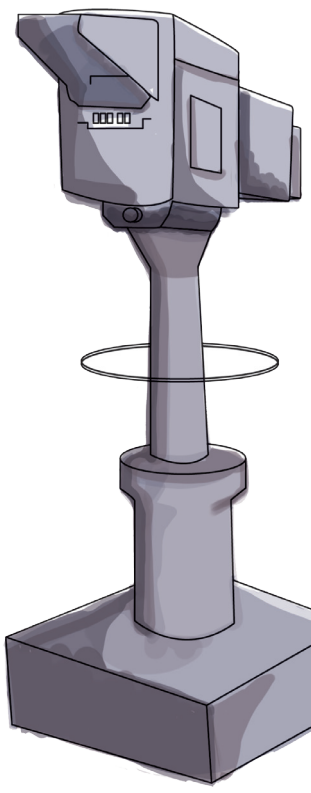
"There was only so much space that could be used," said Wally Podrazik, consulting curator at the MBC, referring to the cultural center. "If we wanted to have an event with X amount of people, they might say, 'Oh, we're having a concert upstairs so be quiet.'"

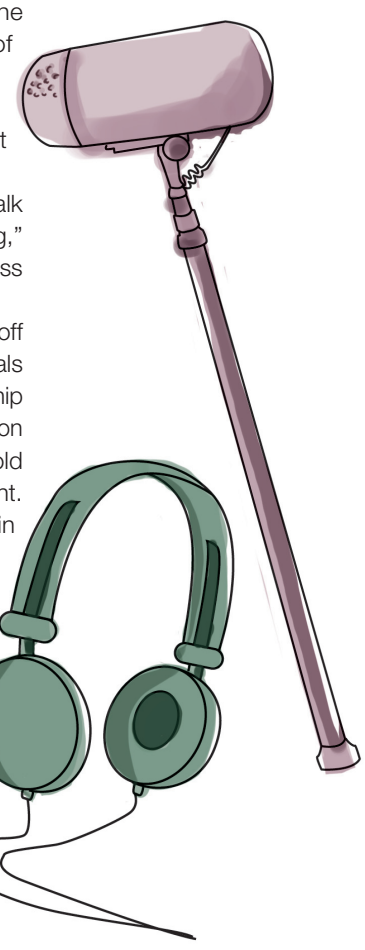
Originally a parking garage, the site was chosen for its attractive location and the opportunity to reuse the garage instead of building a completely new structure. The resumed activity at the site created a buzz that helped the museum gain more support from the local community.

"It's a lot easier of a sell when you can walk a sponsor through this magnificent building," Glick said. "You can't ask for a better address than State Street."

Matt Wylie, principal architect with Eckenhoff Saunders Architects, said recycling materials was one of six categories within the Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design certification process. The MBC was awarded LEED Gold certification—the second highest achievement. According to Wylie, it was the first museum in Illinois to receive the honor.

"The building is about communications," Wylie said. "So within the exhibits in the museum there will be an interactive kiosk with digital content that explains the very





Courtesy Marc Glick

strategies we used, how we're green and what level of efficiency we're using."

Eckenhoff Saunders Architects designed the building with a large glass front and an open layout, which will allow natural light to enter the building to cut down on electricity use. Wylie said the atrium is a transition space, where the temperature inside will remain closer to the temperature outside, which will diminish the building's heating and cooling needs.

The project needs to find additional funding to complete the interior of the building and the exhibits. Glick said it will come from private donors and corporate sponsors, like NBC News, that backed the project before it was put on hold. Touting the LEED certification will encourage other environmentally friendly institutions to donate to the MBC, Wylie noted.

"You have to admire cultural entities willing to take a leadership role," Wylie said.

Although the museum has not had a physical presence in the city since 2003, it has remained active through its website, Museum.tv. The site showcases the MBC's collection as an online museum, with more than 8,500 hours of digitalized radio and television content and thousands of photos.

While the online presence helped raise awareness about the museum and gave people a place to experience the art during the museum's hiatus, Podrazik said the website is no substitute for the exhibits.

"There's something [special] about going to a physical exhibit that's better than going online," he said. "You get to see the tactile side of physical objects and images, hear the stuff firsthand, go to events and meet personalities."

The museum grew out of its cultural center location because of additions to its collection. At 62,000 square feet, the new space will allow for continued growth and enhance the way exhibits are displayed.

Podrazik said the museum will explore innovative ways of observing broadcast's history by adding an interactive element to the experience. Museum-goers will be able to see TV shows and hear radio broadcasts from the most pivotal moments in U.S. history, including the John F. Kennedy assassination and the first lunar landing.

"There are some other museums focused on broadcasting where they emphasize things like physical radios and TVs," Podrazik said. "They're very much 'thing' collections, and that's fine. But there's a modern and contemporary story to tell and a contemporary way of telling it."

> *"This city's role in the broadcast industry has been stunning. To look back on it and have a facility that stores and archives these pieces of broadcast history for future generations is really exciting."*
>
> – Tom Skilling

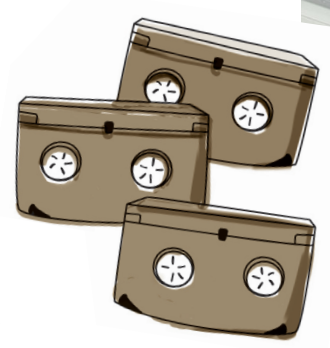
According to Glick, the new building will also house fully functional radio and TV studios and the National Radio Hall of Fame, which has been online since the MBC left the Chicago Cultural Center.

"In the previous museum locations, there was a section for it, but it's picked up a little more [substance] since then," Podrazik said. "It's a type of thing you can point to with pride."

Another exhibit, "Chicago Television," explores Chicago's role in the developing history of broadcast communications and profiles local talent, such as Dave Garraway, Studs Terkel, Jim Conway and Ray Rayner. With the completion of the coast-to-coast coaxial cable in 1951, which allowed live transmission simultaneously in different cities, Chicago became a broadcast hub.

"This city's role in the broadcast industry has been stunning," said WGN's chief meteorologist Tom Skilling. "To look back on it and have a facility that stores and archives these pieces of broadcast history for future generations is really exciting."

The MBC houses countless artifacts from iconic broadcast shows and events, including a camera used in the 1960 Kennedy/Nixon debate held in Chicago and costumes from the cast of "Bozo."



Along with more well-known pieces of history, the museum also showcases vintage televisions, radios and cameras. Skilling said WGN donated old news sets and memorabilia from Ray Rayner's children's show.

"It seems a shame not to commemorate the accomplishments of these programs and their contributions to American society," Skilling said.

Because broadcast is always evolving, the museum will also look to the industry's future. And because things are advancing so quickly, Glick said, the exhibits planned for this section when the museum was slated to open in 2005 are now outdated.

"We're going to wake up in 10 years and find the whole industry far different than it is today," Skilling said. "To look back on it and show future generations where this mass media communication industry came from, I think, is pretty admirable."

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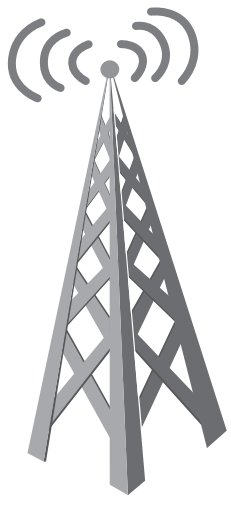

FILM REVIEW

Enter the 'Source Code,' have mind blown

'Moon' director Duncan Jones returns to theaters with Hitchcockian sci-fi thriller

by Drew Hunt
Film Critic

'Source Code'

Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle Monaghan, Vera Farmiga
Director: Duncan Jones
Run Time: 93 minutes

Rating:

"Source Code" opens April 1 in theaters nationwide.

IMDB

Jake Gyllenhaal plays Captain Colter Stevens in the film "Source Code," directed by Duncan Jones.

FRENCH DIRECTOR Jean-Luc Godard once said, "Cinema is not the station. Cinema is the train." There's a distinct air of truth to that. If movies are meant to provide an experience that transports us to some place new, a train is an accurate analogy. Meanwhile, the station represents cogitation: a space to reflect on the journey.

Keeping this in mind, the new movie "Source Code" is in some ways a rumination on the nature of cinema. In other ways, it's a sleek sci-fi action flick brimming with adventure and intrigue. Dexterously directed by Duncan Jones—the man behind 2009's buzz-worthy flick "Moon"—"Source Code" is grippingly entertaining.

In the film, Jake Gyllenhaal stars as Captain Colter Stevens, a U.S. Army helicopter pilot on duty in Afghanistan. Somehow, Stevens wakes up aboard a Chicago-bound commuter train in the body of a stranger. He quickly learns he's taking part in a secret government mission to find a terrorist who bombed the train and threatened to detonate more. Using a new technology called "source code," he is able to inhabit the memory of recently deceased individuals for the last eight minutes of their lives—which is exactly how long Stevens has to find the culprit.

Forcing him to take part in the mission is the mad scientist—Jeffrey Wright—behind the "source code" technology and his genial assistant Carol Goodwin—played by Vera Farmiga. Unwilling to give Stevens the whole story, their deliberate ambiguity gives the film its intrigue. They make one thing clear: What's done is done. The people on the train are dead and there's no saving them. This makes things difficult for Stevens, who is falling in love with one of train's passengers—played by Michelle Monaghan.

This quickly becomes the film's central conflict. As Stevens spends more time in this doomed reality, he becomes more convinced he can save it. Stevens is aware the people on the train are essentially figments of his imagination, yet he wants to see them live—even if their "reality" no longer exists.

"Source Code" becomes less about saving the world and more about shaping it. Stevens' heroism is Jones' way of illustrating the impact we have on our lives. It's a delicately humanist exploration that subverts elements of sci-fi.

Jones has shown a proclivity for intelligent sci-fi filmmaking. "Source Code," despite its broad premise, has a wry cleverness that keeps the film from being formulaic. Like all great genre directors, Jones makes the rules work for him and not the other way around.

The film unfolds methodically as Stevens relives the same eight minutes over and over again. What sounds like rigid gimmickry makes for interesting narrative, vignette-like structure allowing Jones to experiment with rhythmic editing techniques. Each sequence within the source code follows a certain set of visual cues, but Jones is quick to play with form and style. No two "source codes" are alike, visually or thematically.

And while "Source Code" surveys many avenues of memory and fatalism, it explores the movie-going experience as a whole.

If Godard is right when he says, "Cinema is the train," what happens when the train stops before it reaches the station? Or more specifically, what happens when the train is destined to repeat itself every eight minutes? As Stevens sets out to create a new reality—or, in keeping with the analogy, a new station—for a group of recently departed people, Jones demonstrates film's ability to show us new perspectives.

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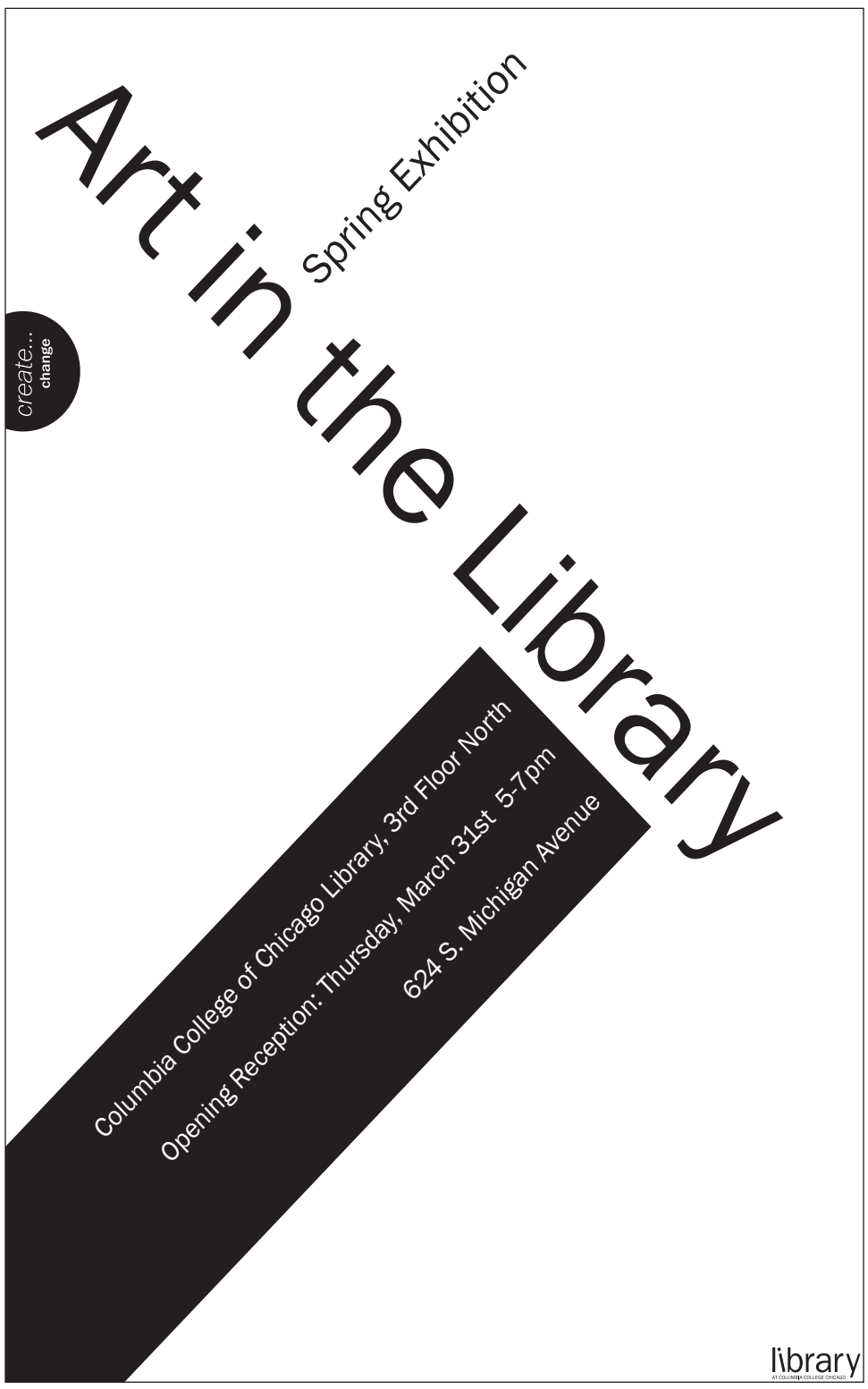

Courtesy ANDRE WALKER

Local performance artist Cristal Sabbagh collaborated on one of nine pieces for the first To Art and Profit Festival.

Cost of creativity

Local event explores value of artistic labor, community involvement

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

CROWD MEMBERS interacted with a large-scale performance as it paraded through the streets of the Logan Square neighborhood. They followed the procession from Voice of the City, 3429 W. Diversey Ave., to Elastic Arts Foundation, 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave. Logan Square boasts an abundance of creative voices, and the To Art and Profit Festival turned its focus there on the first weekend of the three-part event.

Presented through Links Hall, 3435 N. Sheffield Ave., the first To Art and Profit Festival debuted three of nine performances along with community outreach events curated by artistic associates Meida McNeal and Abra Johnson. The festival's first session started on March 18, addressing issues over three weekends such as the role of artists, the capitalist value of art and the scope of public voice in community spaces.

Each year, Links Hall's residency program provides the chosen artistic associates with the budget for a nine-performance project to. In the past, the program has introduced reoccurring series such as "Collision_ Theory" to Links Hall's repertoire.

Along with organizing the performances and the public spectacle, McNeal and Johnson planned their event to include panel discussions to widen the audience conversation.

"We saw this as a many-pronged approach to deal with this issue," McNeal said. "It's not just artists who should be having this conversation about the role of the cultural worker and creative artists and the value of creative labor, but that's a discussion that should be happening in a wider community."

When bringing artists into the project, McNeal said they reached out to the local independent scene to find people with strong, creative voices who don't generally get exposure.

The artists create work interpreting the issues raised by McNeal and Johnson, such as Roger Noel and Cristal Sabbagh's collaboration of Afro-Caribbean dance and Japanese Butoh.

"What's nice about this festival is none of these artists have worked together before, and so they're pretty much these mashups of artists across different disciplines," said Marie Casimir, Links Hall's communication associate. "You have these groupings of different backgrounds and different fields working together to answer these questions."

Each weekend culminates in a panel discussion answering questions posed by the curators, artists and audience members featuring prominent art-minded voices, ranging from artistic directors to professors.

According to McNeal, an important part of this year's discussion is revealing the hidden economy of art. She said the public should see the artists' process behind creating the end product, while balancing the other roles in their life and maintaining a living.

Dawn Marie Galtieri, executive and artistic director at Voice of the City, a Logan Square arts alliance, and panelist for the March 20 discussion, said the inclusion of public art is the best way for people who may not always seek out performances to appreciate artists.

According to Galtieri, to be on par with other major cities, more projects like the public performance spectacle should take place in Chicago.

"I just think arts should be public," Galtieri said. "I think the idea that you would invite people to see art is a way to develop audience, but it can't be the only way. In New York, street happenings are very common. In Chicago, it's not in the fabric of our city."

In an effort to be more interactive, McNeal and Johnson are encouraging people to guest blog on the festival's website with their interpretations of the value of creativity. Though the project is slated for this year, they hope their multi-platform approach will keep the conversation going year-round.

"We see where it could build and grow, that's why we have so many applications for it," McNeal said. "These are all things that, if we can build the momentum, they would be wonderful to sustain."

The To Art and Profit Festival continues from April 15 to 17 and May 20 to 22. For more information on specific performances and ticket prices, visit LinksHall.org.

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SYSTEM OF A DOWN // CHOP SUEY!

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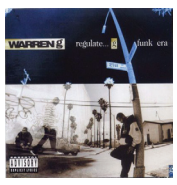

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50 CENT FEAT. NATE DOGG // 21 QUESTIONS
DR. DRE FEAT. SNOOP DOGG & NATE DOGG // NEXT EPISODE
EMINEM FEAT. NATE DOGG // TILL I COLLAPSE

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JIMMY DURANTE // MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY
GRIZZLY BEAR // KNIFE

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TRAVIE MCCOY FEAT. BRUNO MARS // BILLIONAIRE
BRUNO MARS // THE OTHER SIDE
B.O.B FEAT. BRUNO MARS // NOTHIN' ON YOU

music downloads

Week ending March 15, 2011

#1 Album

21
Adele

Top tracks

( ) Last week's ranking in top five

United States

E.T. • Katy Perry		1
On the Floor • Jennifer Lopez	(1)	2
Born This Way • Lady GaGa	(2)	3
S&M • Rihanna	(3)	4
Coming Home • Diddy - Dirty Money & Grey		5

21
Adele

United Kingdom

Don't Hold Your Breath • Nicole Scherzinger		1
Gold Forever • The Wanted		2
Someone Like You • Adele	(1)	3
Price Tag • Jessie J	(2)	4
S&M • Rihanna	(3)	5

10 miles per veure una bona armadura
Manel

Spain

On the Floor • Jennifer Lopez	(1)	1
Mr. Saxobeat • Alexandra Stan	(5)	2
Solamente Tu • Pablo Alboran		3
Born This Way • Lady GaGa	(3)	4
Higher • Taio Cruz, Kylie Minogue		5

Source: iTunes

© 2011 MCT

CHICAGO AUDIOFILE

Courtesy SABRINA RUSH

(From top to bottom:) Todd McCafrey, singer and guitarist; Matt Ciarleglio, bass; Kaylee Preston, drums; Ralph Darski, singer and guitarist, make up local psych-punk band Rabble Rabble.

'Rabble' rousers on the road

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

IN THE last two years, local psych-punk band Rabble Rabble played approximately 200 shows in Chicago. After releasing their debut LP "Bangover" in 2009, the group took a do-it-yourself approach to gaining a following by playing at any venue that would have them and recording on their own. In 2011, however, the punk outfit is evolving by setting their sights on recording in a studio in the fall and playing more selective gigs.

Co-owner of Logan Square's Cafe Mustache, 2313 N. Milwaukee Ave., singer and guitarist Ralph Darski founded the band four years ago with friend and fellow singer and guitarist Todd McCafrey. Along the way, the pair picked up Matt Ciarleglio on bass and Kaylee Preston on drums, ultimately forming Rabble Rabble with a sound aptly and consistently compared to The Stooges.

Taking a break between playing eight shows at South By Southwest Music Festival, Darski caught up with The Chronicle to talk about the band's 7-inch EP release in May, the benefits of recording in a studio and their record label, Commune Records.

The Chronicle: Are you guys playing a ton of local shows?

Raplh Darski: We've slowed down a little bit just to focus on new material. We're going to be releasing a 7-inch in May—screen printing album covers and that kind of thing. But we're trying to get into our next record, too. We've been more selective about the shows by trying to play with bigger bands.

The Chronicle: Are you burnt out from the past two years of playing shows non-stop?

RD: We're definitely feeling that a little bit. But we're on the road, and we're not going to stop or anything right now. Once we release the 7-inch, we're definitely going to go on tour for a week for that. We're going to come back and play a few Chicago shows and maybe some festivals. We'll go out again for a tour in the summer—probably for week-and-a-half jaunts rather than a three-week-long tour we did last year. That was good, but we thought we could do better splitting it up this time. In the fall, we'll probably start recording our next album.

The Chronicle: Can you tell me a little about your record label, Commune Records?

RD: It was basically started because we tried to pitch our record to a bunch of places and there was interest, but they were always like, "Oh, we'll release it in a year," and we were ready to go for it. So we had our friends—The Great Society Mind Destroyers—and they were trying to release material, too. So, we were like, "Well what's the point of trying to compete and pitch our records to these labels when we could get this stuff out together?" It grew from there. We found other bands, like Dark Fog, and everyone was like, "Yeah, let's do this as a community and help each other out." You know, give what we can when we can. Everyone has different skills whether it is recording, screen printing or promotion.

The Chronicle: What should we expect from the 7-inch in May?

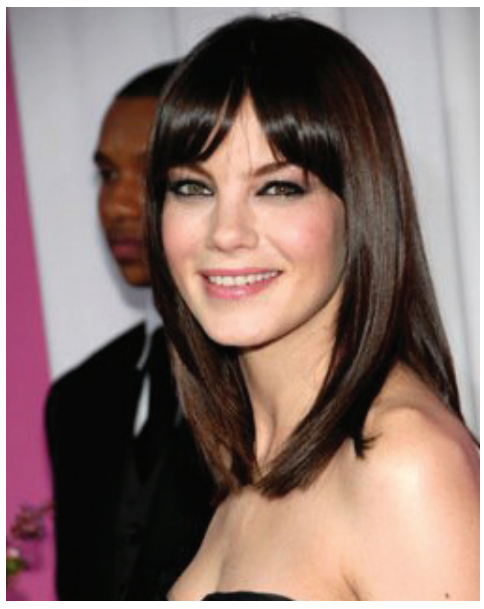
RD: We recorded that with Stephen George, who was formerly [the drummer] in [the band] Ministry when we were on tour in New York. We did an 18-hour session straight and knocked these two songs out in a bar. It's going to be on his label, Gimmie That Sound Records. He was nice enough to help us out. We'll release that at the Empty Bottle, [1035 N. Western Ave.], on a free Monday in May. It's the two songs we wrote directly after we wrote "Bangover." They're in the same vibe of our record, but it's a stepping stone toward new material. It's a little more layered, more complex in arrangement. It's definitely a lot heavier or fuller sounding. It leans more toward psych-rock than the dancier punk stuff we've done.

The Chronicle: Where do you guys generally record?

RD: Other than the 7-inch, we've always done it by ourselves in our practice space. We might go into a studio this time to get that fuller sound. We really enjoy recording ourselves, and we've learned a lot about our sound doing that. But it's nice to have another ear. It lets us focus more on our musicianship if we have someone else helping us out with the recording aspect.

Rabble Rabble will play at Pancho's Bar, 2200 N. California Ave., for the White Mystery record release show on April 20.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com



IMDB

Former Columbia student Michelle Monaghan had roles in films such as "Gone Baby Gone" and "Eagle Eye" and now stars in "Source Code."

» MONAGHAN

Continued from Front Page

The Chronicle: I'm willing to bet most Columbia students have no idea you were a student here at one point. What was your experience like?

Michelle Monaghan: I loved my time there! I worked a lot during the day, so I took a lot of early classes and evening classes—you know, those three-hour 6:30 to 9:20 [p.m. classes].

The Chronicle: You were a journalism major while in college. Has any of that helped shape your acting career?

MM: Totally. And this is so crazy because I put myself through school. That's a lot of money, and I remember thinking to myself, "Oh, my God, I can't believe I just spent this much money on something I'm not going to do." And then, as I was beginning my career—I think it was my role in "North Country"—I was writing about my character and I realized I was doing the who, what, when, where, why and how. All of a sudden, I saw it on paper and I grinned from ear-to-ear and thought, "Oh, my God, it wasn't a waste!" and immediately felt like I had got[ten] my money's worth.

The Chronicle: Did you do something similar for "Source Code"?

MM: I said to [Jones], "There's not a lot on the page for her, clearly. Let's create a back story for her." So I went about creating a back story for the character. And I thought, "This is a chick that is in a job she really hates. She takes the 8:20 a.m. train in from DeKalb to Chicago every day. She sits there and she's miserable and she doesn't live her life to the fullest." I think sometimes it's easier to talk to strangers than it is to be honest with yourself, so she just sits across from this guy and starts shooting the s*** with him one day, and he gives her a fresh perspective. I had to have all of that in my head.

> "When I was sitting there last year, staring at that Bean and making a movie, it was kind of a profound feeling. It was like, 'Wow, I did it. And it's so cheesy, but I mean it."
>
> - Michelle Monaghan

The Chronicle: Speaking of the script, it must have been an incredibly dense read. The film is really complex. What was your initial reaction?

MM: "Am I this dumb?" [*laughs*]. But no, it was tricky. It's very cerebral, obviously, and we're talking about science fiction, which is always sort of a stretch—particularly for me because I can't say I'm historically a science fiction fan. But it didn't seem that far off. There was this ethical dilemma and all this sort of inner conflict within the characters, and it grabbed me. But from an actor's point of view, I thought, "Wow, this is really interesting. This could be a really cool exercise in performance." I mean, we're trying to make eight minutes exciting over and over again.

The Chronicle: That sounds pretty difficult. How did you guys pull it off?

MM: The first sequence was the hardest to shoot because we had to get all the choreography right with all the people coming and going. It was maddening because once we did that, everything else was going to be set in stone because we actually shot the film in sequence. It progressively gains momentum because you keep adding pieces of the puzzle. Initially, it's these two characters [who] are really in separate realities. It was really hard to shoot with Jake [Gyllenhaal] because everything he's saying makes no sense to me, and everything I'm saying makes no sense to him. But then you start to see how [the characters] intersect. It had to be character driven. If you didn't care about what these characters are going through, then it doesn't matter how cool your special effects are, and that's true in any film.

The Chronicle: What was it like working with Jones? A lot of people really loved his last movie "Moon."

MM: I love any kind of filmmaker who's exciting and takes material from one genre and flips it on its sides. Duncan [is] somebody who's a really great storyteller. I think he's someone who does a lot with very little. He can take a big concept with little money and turn it on its head. I thought, "Well, gosh, I've never really dabbled in sci-fi, why not go on this endeavor with Duncan?"

The Chronicle: So what was it like being back in Chicago and filming after all these years? Was it fun shooting a film in Millennium Park?

MM: This is such an amazing city. I was actually so surprised nobody had used the [Cloud Gate] Bean before [in a movie]. It's so beautiful there. But when we were shooting there, I was kind of nostalgic about it because I could see Columbia across the way. I would say to Jake, "I used to go to school there!" It was a big decision for me to pack up and move and think, "Did I make the right decision?" When I was sitting there last year, staring at that Bean and making a movie, it was kind of a profound feeling. It was like, "Wow, I did it." And it's so cheesy, but I mean it.

"Source Code" opens in theaters April 1. Check local listings for showtimes.

ahunt@chroniclemail.com

FINALISTS

MOVING IMAGE PRODUCTION I

CHARLIE
by Joseph Blackhurst

WRITER'S BLOCK
by Alex Bohs

LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP
by Zachary Robert Craft

FRANCIS THENAGEN
by Austin Peters

HYPNOPOMPIC
by Ryan Thill

MOVING IMAGE PRODUCTION II

KYRIE ELEISON
by Nick Barks

HAZE IN A HOLLOW HEAD
by Caleb Fortune

EPIPHANY
by Jason Piszczor

DANIEL
by John Tait

DOMINO EFFECT
by Jake Wasilevich

TAKE 1 FILMFEST

create... change

A JURIED FESTIVAL FEATURING THE BEST OF
MOVING IMAGE PRODUCTION I AND II STUDENT FILMS

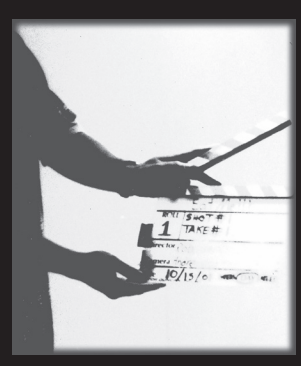


PHOTO: SARAH FAUST

wednesday, april 6, 2011
film row cinema
1104 south wabash, 8th floor

reception 5:30 pm
food and beverages will be served
festival screening 6:00 pm

awards will be presented
free admission

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

TOP 5

Spencer Roush / Editor-in-Chief

Reasons I want to be a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle

Pizza: The turtles have pizza for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and they never get sick of it or gain weight. Sounds like an ideal diet to me, and they're so healthy, too. However, I don't like that they eat their pizza slices in the sewer. It doesn't get less sanitary than that.

Theme song: Sure, you may say a favorite tune is your "theme song," but does it play out loud right before you do something awesome or fight crime? I doubt it. Their theme song has changed numerous times throughout the years, but my favorite line is definitely, "I love being a turtle."

Outfit: They walk around practically naked, except for a mask, and people are scared of them. I also had a Michelangelo mask when I was little (it was actually my brother's, but he let me wear it), and I felt so cool tying it around my head.

Physique: OK, they're mutants, and I realize they're not supposed to be your average turtle, but they're more muscular than Spiderman. That's impressive. They also beat up bad guys barefoot. You have to be pretty tough to walk around a sewer and fight crime with no shoes.

They're turtles: So much for the rabbit winning this race. This is the first time the turtle hasn't been portrayed as slow and steady. Raging biceps and walking around on two feet make these turtles hip. I'd even live in the sewer to join their team, as long as I got to eat their pizza and wear a pink mask.

Stephanie Saviola / Managing Editor

Things I'll never get sick of

"The Wizard of Oz": This is my all-time favorite movie. I've watched it since I was a baby and have seen it more than a hundred times. It never gets old, and it's my go-to movie when I need something to watch. My mom said she used to fast forward the scenes when I would leave the room because she couldn't handle hearing it anymore.

Sleep: No matter what time of day or how much sleep I get the night before, it's never enough. I am always down for a nap, and I enjoy sleeping in. Actually, now that I think about it, it doesn't sound too healthy.

Coffee: I heavily rely on my morning cup of joe and a midmorning cup and cup in the afternoon and, well, you get the point. If you approach me and I haven't had my coffee yet, beware. As I previously mentioned, I am not a morning person.

Warm weather: I clearly live in the wrong climate. Half the year, my mood is dictated by the gloomy, cold weather, and it makes me grumpy to the max. I'm addicted to warm weather—everything about it. Even in the middle of the summer while everyone is complaining about the heat index, I bask in all of its hot and humid glory.

Food: I'm obsessed with food or snacks in general. I'm such a pig with the most insane appetite. While I'm eating my current meal, I'm often thinking about the next one. I probably average about five meals a day. It's disgusting and I'm not proud of my eating habits, but it's the truth.

Benita Zepeda / Managing Editor

Reasons my cat is an alien spy

She doesn't like human food: Any cat I've ever owned will beg for chicken or ham when I make food in the kitchen. She will sit at my feet during dinner but won't take any sort of human food except milk. Come on, alien spy cat, that's so cliche. I can see right through your well-rehearsed act.

There's a reason she's a curious cat: That reason, clearly, is that she is studying the human species to document us on another planet. Whenever performing any mundane everyday task, she will be there front and center, analyzing your every move. Whether it's going to the bathroom, applying lotion, blowing your nose or sexy time, she's always there taking notes.

She has an "I'm-smarter-than-you" look on her face: This is probably because she is. I'd imagine she comes from a place far more technologically advanced than we are, and she lets it show. It's like she knows when you do something stupid because she just stares at you, thinking, "Good one, dumbass."

The great disappearing act: She will disappear from the tiny apartment I live in for an hour or so at a time. Where does she go? To her mother ship to provide her bosses with weekly updates, of course.

Not a YouTube cat: She is far too sophisticated to participate in any sort of cat behavior one finds in the plethora of cat videos online. She's too good for laser pointers, doesn't fall for feathers on a string and catnip is only OK sometimes.

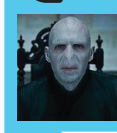
tweets of the Week

@sn00ki

Dolphins are so fricken amazing. My next life I'm gonna be a squeaky jumpy dolphin =)

March 17

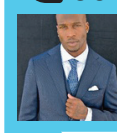
@Lord_Voldemort7



I know it's Friday but if people don't stop quoting the damn Rebecca Black song I'm releasing the dementors. It'll be fun, fun, fun deadly.

March 18

@ochocinco



Mathematically 2 negatives make a positive but logically my grandma said 2 wrongs don't make a right! Who is right in this case?

March 17

@ConanOBrien

Already filled out my March Madness brackets. I picked "The King's Speech" over UConn.

March 14

@JoanRivers

Leaving Phoenix, a fellow passenger in the airport security line joked, "You know, TSA stands for 'Taking S**t Away'." Funny!!!

March 17

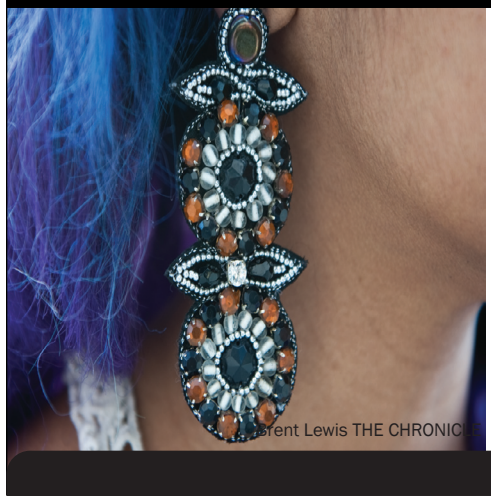
Follow the Columbia Chronicle at Twitter.com/CCChronicle

check me out

Rhea Carter, freshman photography major

"I throw on the most random outfit and try to make it work."

Dress: thrift store, $1; Shirt: Forever 21, $5; Earrings: thrift store, $13



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

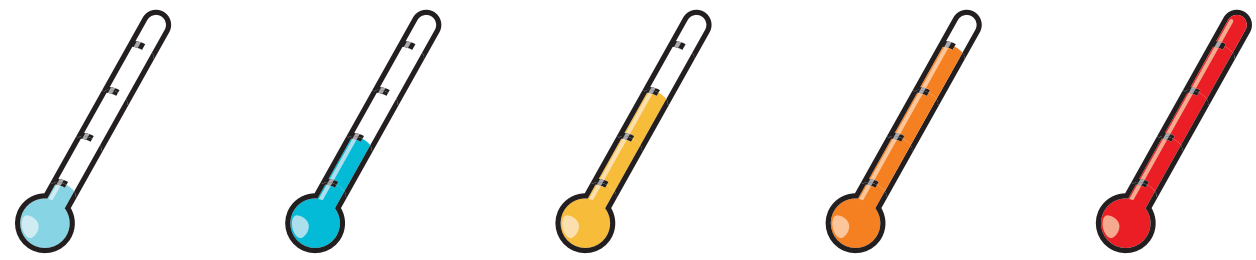
Ian McBride, sophomore film and video major

"I wear pants for like two weeks at a time because I only have three pairs."

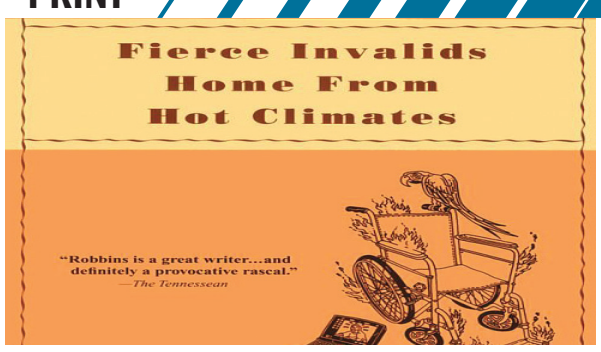
Jeans: skateboard website, $10; Shirt: gift, $30; Bag: self-made

Ela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

HOT & COLD



PRINT

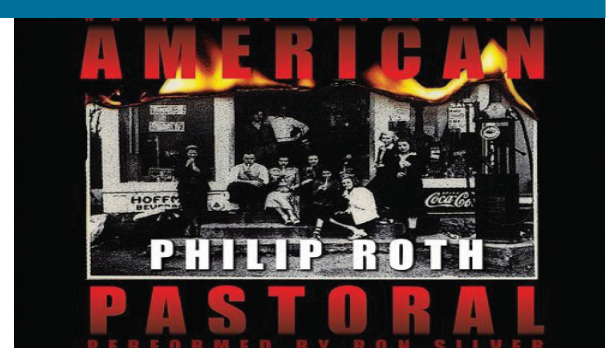


"FIERCE INVALIDS HOME FROM HOT CLIMATES" BY TOM ROBBINS

Finding this 2000 release at a thrift store a few weeks ago really excited me. This novel depicts the life of an FBI agent nicknamed "Switters." After traveling to South America on a mission assigned to him by his grandmother, he is cursed by a local shaman and confined to a wheelchair. His way with words and satirical anarchist view on life gives Switters an abundance of sex appeal.—*H. McGraw*

"KINGS FILE TRADEMARK NAMES FOR ANAHEIM"

On March 16, the Associated Press reported that the Sacramento Kings' owners filed for a name change because of the team's possible move to Anaheim. The Kings have until April 16 to file for relocation for next season and will possibly change their name to The Royals. This is a dark day for Sacramento, which could possibly lose its only professional sports team.—*E. Modacure*



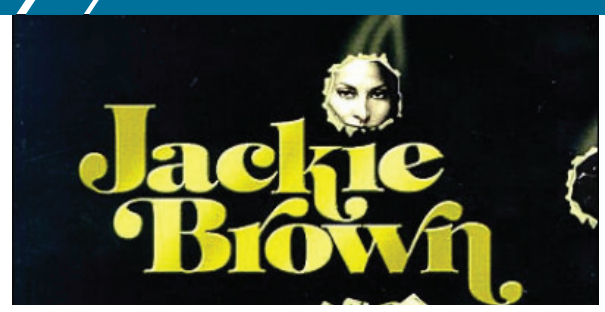
"AMERICAN PASTORAL" BY PHILIP ROTH

Something about the quality of Roth's style makes his work seem effortless. I read "American Pastoral" years ago, but it's such a well-told story that when I saw it on my roommate's desk, I immediately asked to borrow it. Quite simply, it's the story of American turmoil in the '60s and the results of Jewish-American Seymour "Swede" Levov facing the harsh limitations of the era.—*M. Bloom*

MOVIES / TV / DVD

TSUNAMI VIDEOS

With constant media bombardment, images and videos of tragedies from around the world get tiresome. However, when a major story like Japan's recent earthquake breaks, I'm thankful we have the technology to instantly upload videos from the other side of the Earth and play them on YouTube. It puts this tragedy in perspective and raises awareness. It's different hearing about it than it is to see it.—*M. Watson*



"JACKIE BROWN"

I came across a classic that I have not seen in years: "Jackie Brown." A mixture between Pam Grier and Quentin Tarantino makes it easily one of the greatest movies ever, plus Robert De Niro and Samuel L. Jackson put the icing on the cake. The filming style of Tarantino makes it possible to watch this movie over and over again. "Jackie Brown" is a true classic. —*B. Lewis*

"FRIDAY" BY REBECCA BLACK

Released on March 11, Rebecca Black's YouTube music video "Friday" has gone viral with more than 15 million views as of March 18. If you haven't seen it, brace yourself for an experience that epitomizes everything wrong with American youth. Lyrics include, "Fun, fun, think about fun, you know what it is." This song will get stuck in your head. Seriously, you've been warned. —*K. Nielsen*

MUSIC

"ANGELS" BY THE STROKES

From what I've heard of this album so far, it's more of the same from a band I've always liked. The songs have the same catchy guitars, and Julian Casablancas's voice hasn't changed much. While I still enjoy the songs, considering how I mourned the group's original hiatus, this wasn't the comeback I was looking for. Come back with a little fervor! What were you guys really working on for the last five years?—*B. Wellen*

"L.A.S.E.R.S" BY LUPE FIASCO

Three years of waiting, three different album titles, three different release times and three actual great songs. The production value matches nothing of the last two albums, and it sounds so commercial, I would have assumed Drake made it. It's still Lupe, but he really gets lost behind the beats. Yet, for the most part, it's a solid album that finds itself on repeat, but it is nowhere near "Food and Liquor."—*B. Lewis*

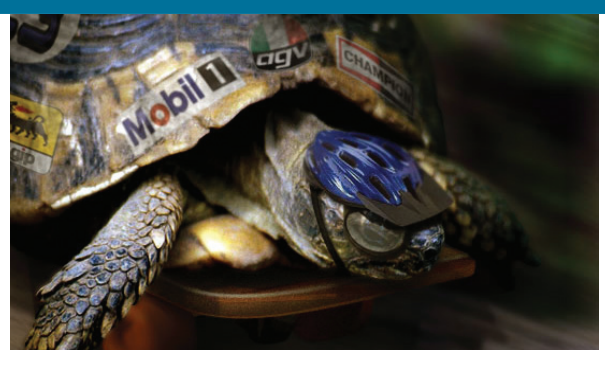
MAPS & ATLASES

This band is one of my all-time favorites. The friend who showed them to me moved to Arizona and then to the West 'burbs, so it's been an amazing way to stay connected. I've seen them twice with her, at the Green Music Festival and at Lincoln Hall on March 11. At the most recent show, the band got off stage and came into the audience to play a few songs. It was amazing. They're playing at Park West on April 7, and I just might have to go.—*M. Watson*

RANDOM

DRUNK PEOPLE

March is about celebrating St. Patrick's Day with all the green beer you can handle. But for me, it's about watching all the people get drunk and make fools of themselves. This is why I bring out my digital camera and take photos of all the drunkies wearing green. It's quite entertaining when you're the only one sober.—*C. Aguirre*



COOTER RACING

Cooter racing is a competitive sport involving tiny turtles and Southerners. Trash talking is encouraged, but there are rules involved, a few of which are as follows: Rule 1: What happens at the cooter race stays at the cooter race. Rule 2: Once the race begins, handlers cannot push, pull or in any way touch their cooters. Rule 3: The cooter committee has final say in all cooter racing-related matters.—*D. Holliday*

CHEAP VODKA

Cheap vodka, why did I drink you the other night? I nearly burned a hole in my stomach after a few shots of you, and I called an old boyfriend I haven't talked to in years to tell him, "I love you." The following morning I took multiple trips to the bathroom, where I discarded all of my stomach juices. There's still a large amount of you sitting on the bottom shelf of my fridge. I'm afraid to pour you down my sink, knowing the damage you could cause.—*M. Keith*

Commentary

Editorials

Conservatives try to silence students

REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS in several states, including New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin, are pushing for changes in local voting laws that would affect college students' ability to cast their ballots on election day. A New Hampshire bill would limit student voting in college towns to those whose parents had previously established permanent residency there. Other proposals include ending same-day registration and requiring state-issued photo IDs or passports to be presented at polling places. This would force students with out-of-state IDs to run through unfair hurdles to vote. Many students would either have to go home to vote or simply not vote at all.

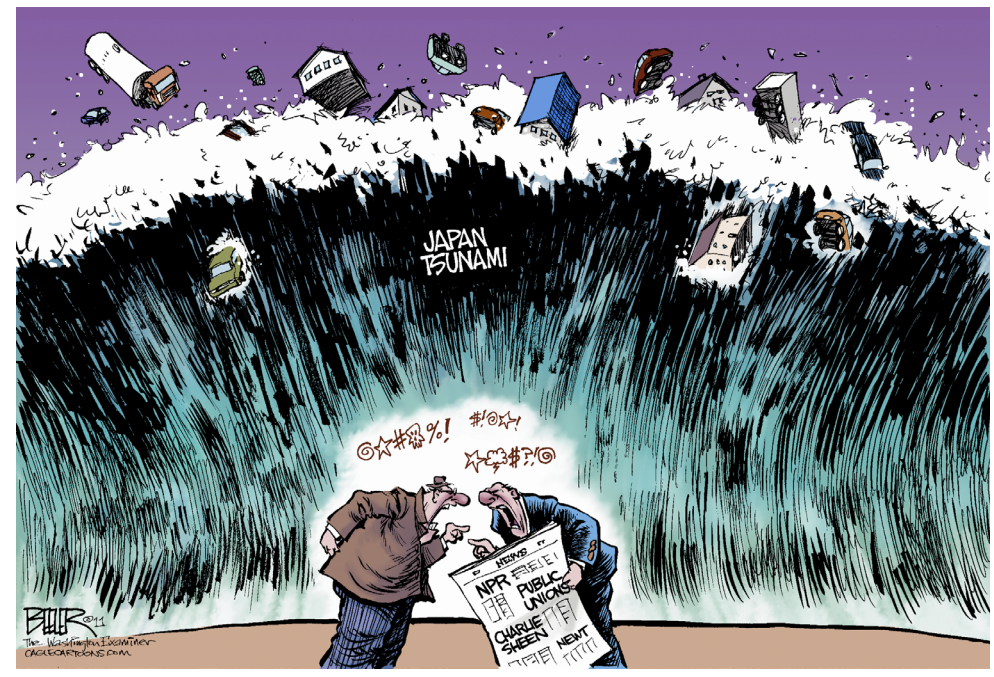
The proposed bills are being presented under the guise of regulations to reduce and prevent voter fraud, but their true intentions could not be clearer. New Hampshire State House Speaker William O'Brien was caught on video stating that college students were "foolish" for "voting as a liberal. That's what kids do. They don't have life experience, they just vote their feelings."

Young people are not as ignorant as O'Brien's statement makes them out to be. Students today are more politically conscious than ever. The technology at our disposal and the youth appeal of media like The Daily Show and The Huffington Post keep students informed about current issues. The fact that newly elected tea party legislators disagree with the way many young people vote does not grant them the power to take that right away.

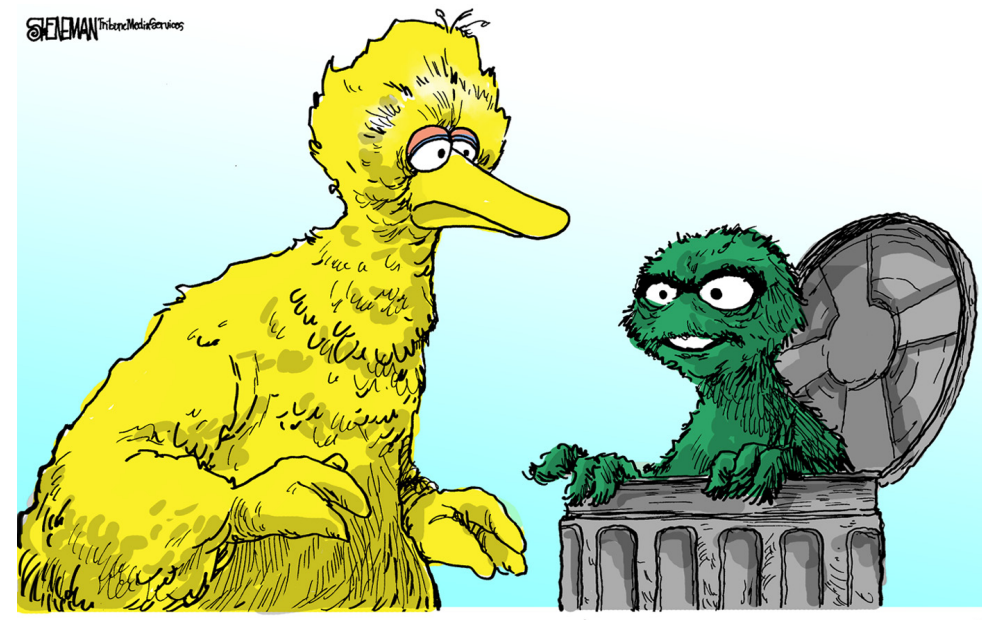
It seems these proposed bills would be unconstitutional because they prohibit or hinder the right of U.S. citizens to vote and target a specific group of people—a potential violation of the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause. These measures would be comparable to the literacy tests and grandfather clauses that accompanied the voting-related Jim Crow laws after the Civil War, which, while they technically applied to everyone, were designed to prohibit African-Americans from voting.

Legal-age college students have the same right to a voice in politics as anyone else. Our leaders' decisions affect us just as much as older voters. As we prepare to leave college, we deserve to have a say in shaping the world we're entering. Furthermore, many students live on or near their campuses for a long-term period, often for four years or more, and are impacted by the actions of local government just as much as permanent residents.

College students on both sides of the political spectrum should come together to speak out against these restrictive and insulting proposals. We must ensure they are not passed in the states where they're on the table or proposed anywhere else. If we want to be taken seriously as politically active citizens, we have to make it clear we won't stand for our rights to be stripped away.



MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire

Keep smoking ban mostly in place

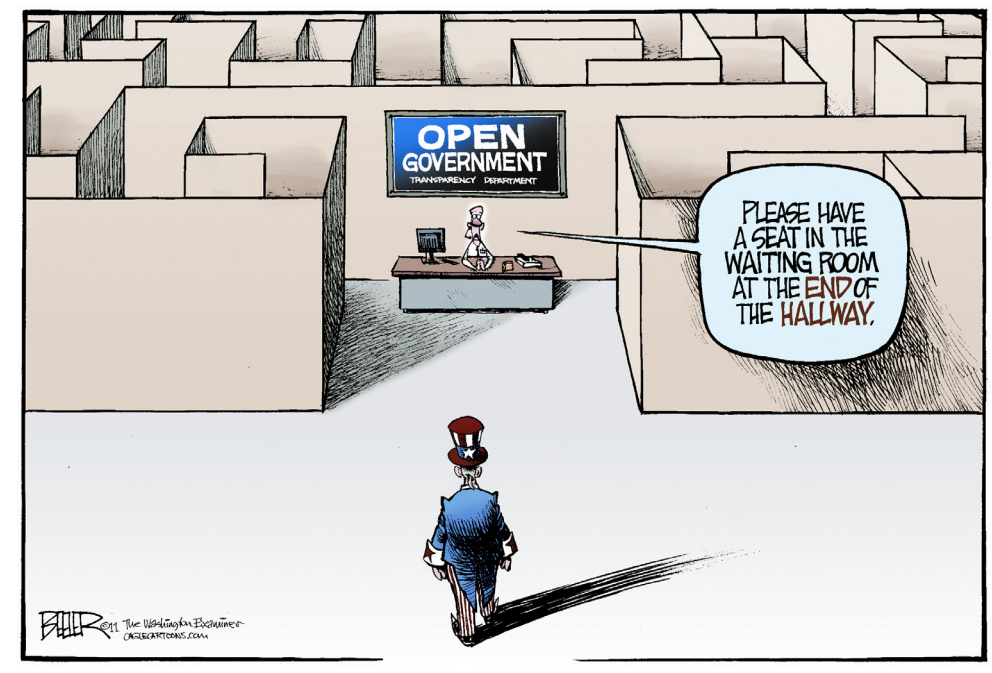
THE EXECUTIVE Committee of the Illinois House approved two bills on March 9 that would amend the state's indoor smoking ban, which was enacted in 2008. One bill would allow smoking in separated rooms in Illinois casinos, and the other would allow local governments to issue smoking licenses to bars, adult entertainment establishments and private clubs.

Proponents of the casino bill claim Illinois casinos are losing revenue to those in neighboring states, such as Indiana, Iowa and Missouri, which have not banned smoking. Under the bill, gambling institutions could allow smoking in specifically designated rooms with specialized air filtration systems to keep smoke from reaching the rest of the building. If smoking rooms would draw more money into Illinois casinos and help alleviate some of the state's gargantuan debt—and if the state could take in more funds from the licensing of such rooms—it may be a smart move.

Allowing local governments to grant smoking licenses to bars, on the other hand, could do more harm than good. Casinos are a specific, specialized type of establishment, and smoking rooms would be completely separated from the rest of the business. However, licensed bars would subject employees and nonsmoking patrons to secondhand smoke throughout the building. Such businesses would be unable to realistically keep smoke—and the harmful health effects that come with it—away from people who don't want anything to do with it.

Additionally, licensing certain bars and clubs would open the doors for restaurants, music venues and other types of businesses to lobby for smoking licenses. If every public place could simply pay a fee to circumvent the law, it would undermine the ban's authority and undo everything the law has achieved.

While smokers certainly have the right to smoke if they want to, nonsmokers also have the right to breathe clean air and not have their health compromised by others' decisions. Illinois' smoking ban helped make public places around the city healthier and more pleasant. Separate smoking rooms in casinos wouldn't have much of an effect on that progress, and any further compromise on the issue would be a mistake.



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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

Manning's courage rewarded with degradation, abuse

"Such abuses should not occur anywhere, but it's even more troubling to know they are happening on American soil to a U.S. soldier."

by Luke Wilusz
Commentary Editor

THE TREATMENT of accused WikiLeaks source U.S. Army Pfc. Bradley Manning during his detention is appalling. Manning was detained for seven months without being convicted of any crime, first in a military prison in Kuwait and, more recently, at the U.S. Marine Corps brig in Quantico, Va. Despite his history of good behavior as a detainee—Manning has yet to exhibit any violent behavior or disciplinary problems—he is regarded as a "maximum custody detainee." This severe level of detention has led to inhumane treatment at the hands of his military jailers.

Manning is subjected to solitary confinement for 23 hours every day without a pillow or sheet for his bed. His activities within his cell are restricted. For example, he is under constant surveillance to keep him from exercising. His eyeglasses are taken from him and only returned for one hour each day when he's allowed to read or watch TV.

He is kept under "prevention of injury watch"—which doesn't require the same psychiatric approval as placing him under suicide watch—despite the fact that brig psychiatrists have maintained there is no mental health justification to indicate he's actually a danger to himself. According to Manning's lawyer, David Coombs, the brig commander used this justification to force Manning to relinquish all of his clothing each night, sleep naked in a cold cell and face the humiliation of standing at attention nude each morning for roll call.

It was repulsive when similar treatment of military prisoners was discovered at the Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay military detention facilities. Such abuses should not occur anywhere, but it's even more troubling to know they are happening on American soil to a U.S. soldier.

President Barack Obama took a strong stance against torture during the presidential election. He denounced the abuse of prisoners and rejected the "false choice" between our nation's security and ideals. He even pledged to close the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, which has yet to happen. After Manning's abuse came to light, however, Obama publicly defended the military's actions. He said the Pentagon assured him Manning's treatment was appropriate and met basic standards.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley was forced to resign after he said Manning's abuse was "ridiculous and counterproductive and stupid" at an academic event at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The fact that Crowley lost his job for speaking out against military misconduct—and that Manning is in prison for essentially doing the same thing—speaks volumes about the Obama administration's stance on transparency and open government.

What Manning did may be illegal, and it might have violated the terms of his military service—he was, after all, trusted with access to classified information with the understanding that he wasn't supposed to disclose that information. However, his actions were ultimately for the good of the American people. Manning witnessed atrocities and misconduct within the military he could not, in good conscience, be a party to. Instead of sitting idly by and doing nothing, he decided to take action. He gave the public access to information it has every right to and let us know about the things our government is trying to hide.

None of the material Manning is accused of leaking gave away U.S. troop positions or otherwise endangered American lives. All he did was open the world's eyes to the misconduct perpetrated worldwide by the U.S. government with the hopes of inspiring intelligent debate, conversation and change. For that, Manning is more of a hero than a criminal.

All members of our armed forces are regarded as heroes, but it takes a special class of valor and courage to witness wrongdoing in an organization as large and powerful as the U.S. military and stand up to it, rather than let it continue. The fact that Manning's courage was rewarded with long-term imprisonment, abuse and capital charges is depressing. It suggests our government values secrecy, ignorance and intimidation more than honest and open discussion, and anyone who questions the status quo is likely to suffer for it.

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ROAMIN' NUMERALS

24 Number of federal employees punished for accessing pornographic websites on government computers between 2005 and 2010, according to a March 10 SunTimes.com article. The employees worked for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Chicago and six other major U.S. cities. Eight employees resigned, six were suspended and the rest were reprimanded or counseled.

71 Percentage of American adults who said they oppose men and women living together as roommates on college campuses, according to a March 8 Rasmussen Report. Twenty-four percent said such living arrangements were fine. Sixty-seven percent said parental approval should be necessary for students under 21, while 25 percent said no permission should be required.

900 Number of jobs cut by AOL after finalizing the merger with Huffington Post, according to a March 10 Wired.com article. The company's news division lost 200 jobs in the U.S. and 700 in India, including senior editorial staffers from sites like PoliticsDaily.com and DailyFinance.com.

17 Percentage of likely U.S. voters who said they believe most Muslims in America are treated unfairly because of their religion or ethnicity, according to a March 11 Rasmussen Report. Forty-nine percent of liberal voters agreed with that sentiment, while 81 percent of conservatives and 57 percent of moderates disagreed.

Crisis responses warrant society's outrage not unemployment

"If people are going to react strongly to the jokes about Japan, their reactions should be even more volatile toward someone with a sincere opinion that Japan deserved this."

by Meghan Keyes
Copy Editor

JAPAN WAS hit with a 9.0 earthquake on March 11, leaving more than 6,911 people dead and nearly 10,316 unaccounted for, as of press time. There is no way to diminish the tragedy affecting the Japanese people, although those speaking out against it are trying.

Much of the media's attention was focused on the "disparaging" tweets of Gilbert Gottfried, a comedian and the voice of Aflac's duck mascot. Gottfried posted jokes on Twitter, such as, "I just split up with my girlfriend, but like the Japanese say, 'They'll be another one floating by any minute now,'" and "I was talking to my Japanese real-estate agent. I said, 'Is there a school in this area.' She said, 'Not now, but just wait.'" He was fired from Aflac on March 14 and issued an apology on March 15.

On the other side of things, Glenn Beck got into it on his radio show on March 14 and said, "I'm not saying God is, you know, causing earthquakes—well, I'm not not saying that either! What God does is God's business, I have no idea. But I'll tell you this—whether you call it Gaia or whether you call it Jesus, there's a message being sent. And that is, 'Hey, you know that stuff we're doing? [It's] not really working out real well. Maybe we should stop doing some of it.'" Beck has not received any reprimand, and his comments have received some of the same coverage as Gottfried's.

Beck has not made any apology nor has he faced much criticism. The only public discussion of what he said occurred on "The View," where the ladies sort of debated the comments. But where is the public outcry? Where is Beck's unemployment? Beck was serious, and Gottfried was not. Gottfried should not have been fired for his jokes—if anyone should have been, it should have been Beck. If Gottfried's offensive comedy routines were a worry to Aflac, the company never should have hired him. However, if people are going to react strongly to the jokes about Japan, their reactions should be even more volatile toward someone with a sincere opinion that Japan deserved this.

Americans have become more tolerant of the conservative Christian extremists' crazy talk. As a society, Beck's statement may disturb us in the short-term but it rarely has any staying power beyond that initial shock.

Religion is part of many people's lives, and exposure to these extreme opinions seems nearly unavoidable with groups such as Westboro Baptist Church protesting troops' funerals or Pat Robertson blaming Haiti's earthquake on a deal signed with the devil. The conservatives and Christians get a bad reputation from people like Beck and Robertson—those are the people who should be offended.

Is it too soon to make jokes about an unavoidable natural disaster that claimed thousands of lives? Probably. Is it acceptable to claim you understand God's will, and it's to smite a large group of people because of where they reside? No.

Gottfried's comments, however, appalled the Twitter community and his employers to the point of firing him. He is well-known for his off-color sense of humor and history of politically incorrect remarks—why are his jokes now a problem for Aflac's reputation?

Twitter is an instant publication. Everything typed and posted is sent out immediately to every follower and into Twitter and Google's database. The Internet is forever: When pictures are posted, someone else can save it to his or her computer and post it. Anyone can quote Facebook statuses or blog posts, even after they're gone. When Gottfried clicked the "Tweet!" button, and later clicked the delete button, those sentences did not disappear. It is assumed he intended to lighten a terrible situation in the way he knew best, but when nuclear reactors are leaking radiation and aftershocks are happening, perhaps reconsidering the jokes would have been best. The other thing to note about Twitter is the live reaction and accessibility of the community. No doubt Aflac saw an outburst of anti-Gottfried sentiment on Twitter and felt it needed to distance itself from that immediately.

"When you're on Twitter, you're not talking to a stranger or even just your friends," said Stuart Fischoff, senior editor of the Journal of Media Psychology, in a March 15 Los Angeles Times article. "There is no private conversation."

No celebrities or radio broadcasters should use their mediums to hurt others, and the public should respond appropriately when offensive comments are made.

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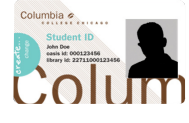

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Metro

Photo Illustration Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

If enacted into law, the Family and Personal Protection Act, HB 148, would permit concealed firearms in the state of Illinois. This is in stark opposition to legislation that Chicago and other urban legislators have pushed in the past.

Guns going undercover

New statewide concealed carry legislation prompts urban vs. rural divisions

by Darryl Holliday
Metro Editor

A GROWING number of downstate representatives may soon make Illinois the 49th state to allow residents to carry firearms in public—to the dismay of many urban legislators.

The Family and Personal Protection Act, HB 148, was introduced on Jan. 13 and has until March 29 to be moved out of committee. If made into a law, it will permit the concealed carrying of firearms statewide and give county sheriffs power to issue permits granting concealed firearms to individuals meeting certain guidelines, including background and fingerprint checks.

"To use the phrase 'because everybody is doing it' doesn't make it right," said State Rep. Norine Hammond of the 94th District. "But Illinois is one of only two states that do not allow for some form of concealed carry. Basically, it speaks to an individual's Second Amendment right—by the Constitution of the U.S., they are allowed to own firearms, and they would like to be able to carry those firearms in the state of Illinois."

The debate largely comes down to geographics, according to Hammond—which, as it turns out, is something legislators on both sides of the aisle seem to agree with.

"Most of [the bill's supporters] are from downstate or some of the rural areas, and I think there are two different sets of circumstances that need to be taken into account," said 36th District State Rep. Kelly Burke. "What might work in a rural area might not work in a high-density area."

Burke's identity was recently the subject of interest in the anti-firearms blogosphere because of her being the lone "nay" vote on six recent gun-related bills. She, like Hammond, is one of 13 members on the Agricultural and Conservation Committee—the second committee to vote on the concealed carry bill. In that vote, she was one of two members to vote against it.

There are concerns in her community—a high-density area of the state that includes Evergreen Park, parts of Oak Lawn, and parts of Chicago's 18th, 19th and 21st wards, among others—that a potential rise in crime would follow should the bill become law, according to Burke.

"It's a one-size-fits-all bill," she said. "I think they should be taking local conditions into account. To me, this is not a solution."

If enacted, the legislation would introduce a uniform concealed carry law to all parts of the state, including Chicago—

» SEE CONCEALED, PG. 34

Relief for women's reproductive rights

Moves made on abortion rights legislation in state General Assembly

by Sophia Coleman
Contributing Writer

WOMEN'S HEALTH care clinics across the country are seeing signs of reprieve in the ongoing battle for women's reproductive rights. However, these organizations are not completely out of the woods.

The U.S. Senate blocked a series of budget bills on March 17, some of which would cut funding to Planned Parenthood, the country's leading operation of women's health care clinics, and other facilities where abortions are performed. Though the Pence Defunding Bill amended by Mike Pence, R-Ind., has been put on hold, it is not out of the picture. A trio of bills that pose a threat to the organization and women's reproductive rights are sitting in Congress.

Three bills concerning the issue were postponed on March 15 after being scheduled for a hearing before the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee. The committee, which deals with bills concerning livestock, among others, took an extended amount of time discussing the controversial bills.

The Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Center Act, HB 3156, would add further regulations affecting reproductive health care providers and women seeking to terminate pregnancies in Illinois. The Ultrasound Opportunity Act, HB 1919, requires physicians to offer every woman an ultrasound before an abortion. The Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, HB 2093, expands mandatory reporting of child abuse, which is already required of abortion clinics, and extends the list of persons required to report these incidents.

After the long debate, the HB 3156 and HB 2093 passed through the committee.

» SEE ABORTION, PG. 33

Unsecured buildings pose threat to city

Amendment to municipal code aims to hold property owners, banks responsible

by Darryl Holliday
Metro Editor

OWNERS OF neglected and abandoned buildings in Chicago—many of which are the result of foreclosure—could face time in jail if the properties aren't safely secured when left vacant, despite banks' and third party services' reluctance to maintain the buildings before foreclosure processes are complete.

Section 13-12 of the city's Municipal Code was amended on Feb. 9 to include incarceration of up to six months for property owners when a person is severely injured in an unsecured property.

In addition to requiring that a watchman be posted at any vacant and open building in the city between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8 a.m., the ordinance charges "any person or persons owning, maintaining, operating, collecting rents for, or having any legal or equitable interest in a vacant building" with the responsibility of securing it. According to Alderman James Balcer (11th Ward), this would include banks that manage foreclosed homes.

"I would hope, No. 1, that the banks—which have money—secure these buildings, and if not, they'll be held accountable," Balcer said.

Of the roughly 18,000 vacant properties in the city, approximately 69 percent are "red-flag" properties—vacant properties where a foreclosure has been filed but no outcome has been reached—according to Geoff Smith, senior vice president of the Woodstock Institute, a nonprofit research

» SEE UNSECURED, PG. 34

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Englewood (shown above) is hit particularly hard by foreclosures and vacancies, leading to buildings being boarded up and abandoned. Roughly 18,000 vacant properties exist in the city, mostly concentrated on the South and West sides.

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» ABORTION

Continued from PG. 31

However, the latter is due for revisions and will then make its way to the House. The Ultrasound Opportunity Act is at a standstill and also up for revision.

"We find it disappointing and disrespectful that they are having a women's health care bill heard in a committee not related to health care," said Carole Brite, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Illinois. "It's very strange."

It's not clear why bills concerning women's health care are being handled in the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee, but Brite wondered if it had to do with the conservative makeup of the committee and political agenda against Planned Parenthood and other clinics.

House Agriculture and Conversation committee spokesmen could not be reached for comment as of press time.

According to Brite, this will divert time and money from nonprofit organizations.

While Planned Parenthood would be the hardest hit from these bills, undoubtedly smaller family-planning clinics and abortion providers would feel the heat as well.

Representatives supporting the bills against Planned Parenthood cite abortion as their reason to cut funds because they consider life beginning at conception.

"Abortion takes the life of a human being," said John Jansen, co-director of Generations for Life, a youth outreach program of the Pro-Life Action League. "At the point of conception, human life is created. So when abortion occurs, it's just like killing you or killing me."

According to Jansen, life at conception is a scientific fact.

"It is not a matter of opinion or religion—it's what science tells us," he said. "That's why we don't believe American people should be forced to pay tax money to support an organization that performs and supports abortions."

However, Ed Yohnka, communications director at the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, disagreed.

"The whole notion that there is this activity going on in the federal government [where] taxpayers are being forced to fund some service they don't like is just a little quirky and curious—given the fact the government supports a lot of things I don't like," Yohnka said. "I don't support the war in Iraq, but nobody ever said I get to take a tax deduction for it because of my lack of support."

Planned Parenthood also faces a long-term funding threat from bill H.R. 3, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, which was heard by the congressional subcommittee on March 16. Under the new health care system, this bill will block any federal funding for insurance plans that include abortions. It left the committee with 221 co-sponsors, which are enough votes to pass the bill to the Senate.

"We really feel it is an attack on basic women's health care access," Brite said. "It's an attack on those [who] need Planned Parenthood the most—those that cannot afford to pay for the services out of pocket and those women who are not covered by insurance."

According to Brite, the likelihood these bills will be put into effect is slim because President Barack Obama has indicated numerous times that the work Planned Parenthood does is important.

"The funds we are receiving are for basic family planning, such as birth control, cancer screening, STI testing and treatment," Brite said.

STOCK PHOTO

The U.S. Senate blocked a series of budget bills on March 17, some of which would cut complete funding to Planned Parenthood.

Jansen said the defunding of Planned Parenthood is necessary because, despite its promotion of birth control and other forms of contraception, abortion rates have increased in the past 40 years.

Pro-choice organizations have shown in their research approximately half of women who have abortions have used some form of contraception when they became pregnant.

Many anti-abortion supporters agree there needs to be a new train of thought initiated when it comes to preventing teen pregnancies and abortions.

"Pro-Life Action League understands there needs to be a reform, and we think abstinence education, especially among young people, is the only solution," Jansen said. "We should present sexual abstinence in the same way abstinence from drugs and alcohol is discussed."

Jansen said with the money saved from defunding Planned Parenthood, Chicago could transition funds to implement abstinence programs within schools. He said it would be using the taxpayer's money in a positive direction.

"Ultimately, I would hope our organizations would become obsolete," Jansen said. "Our goal is to make us unnecessary. We hope abortion becomes illegal [and] unthinkable."

As for now, the fate of these bills is undecided. With defunding possible, Brite said Planned Parenthood is in the midst of contingency planning, such as cutting costs by separating into smaller clinics. It will do everything it can to keep its doors open because for many women, the organization is the one source of care they can afford.

"Statewide, we see about 60,000 patients every year, and it's our estimation the [Pence] bill would impact about 40,000 of those patients," Brite said. "We are concerned about where those women will go if this bill is made into law."

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» UNSECURED

Continued from PG. 31

and policy organization.

"In a lot of those [red-flag] properties, the servicer is choosing not to complete the foreclosure because once it's completed, they have the legal responsibility to secure and maintain the properties," Smith said. "They're accountable for those properties."

However, before the foreclosure process is complete, it is up to the property's occupant, who may have already left the home due to a notice of foreclosure, to maintain and secure the property.

In the event of the occupant walking away from the property, a bank, servicer or third party property owner may wait to secure the building—allowing it to remain unsecured—until foreclosure is complete and the property can be resold, according to Smith.

"Their goal is to ultimately sell [the property], but the logic would be the cost associated with maintaining and securing those properties will exceed what they can expect to get in return," he said.

Balcer and Smith agree there are definite dangers associated with vacant homes left unsecured, such as break-ins, robberies and drug use in the properties. There are major concerns people may illegally take up residence in the buildings, Balcer said.

There is also a broader community-wide issue involved when unsecured properties deteriorate through a lack of maintenance, according to Smith.

"It can become a detriment to the surrounding community and serve as a magnet for criminal activity," he said. "It's essentially considered a blight at that point ... that really has a negative impact on the quality of life of those folks who are still living on the block. It destabilizes the community to a great extent."

According to Smith, the ordinance's penalties are a decent step, but as far as city residents are concerned, he would rather see people kept in their homes.

"The best step, we always say, is to keep those buildings occupied in some way," Smith said.

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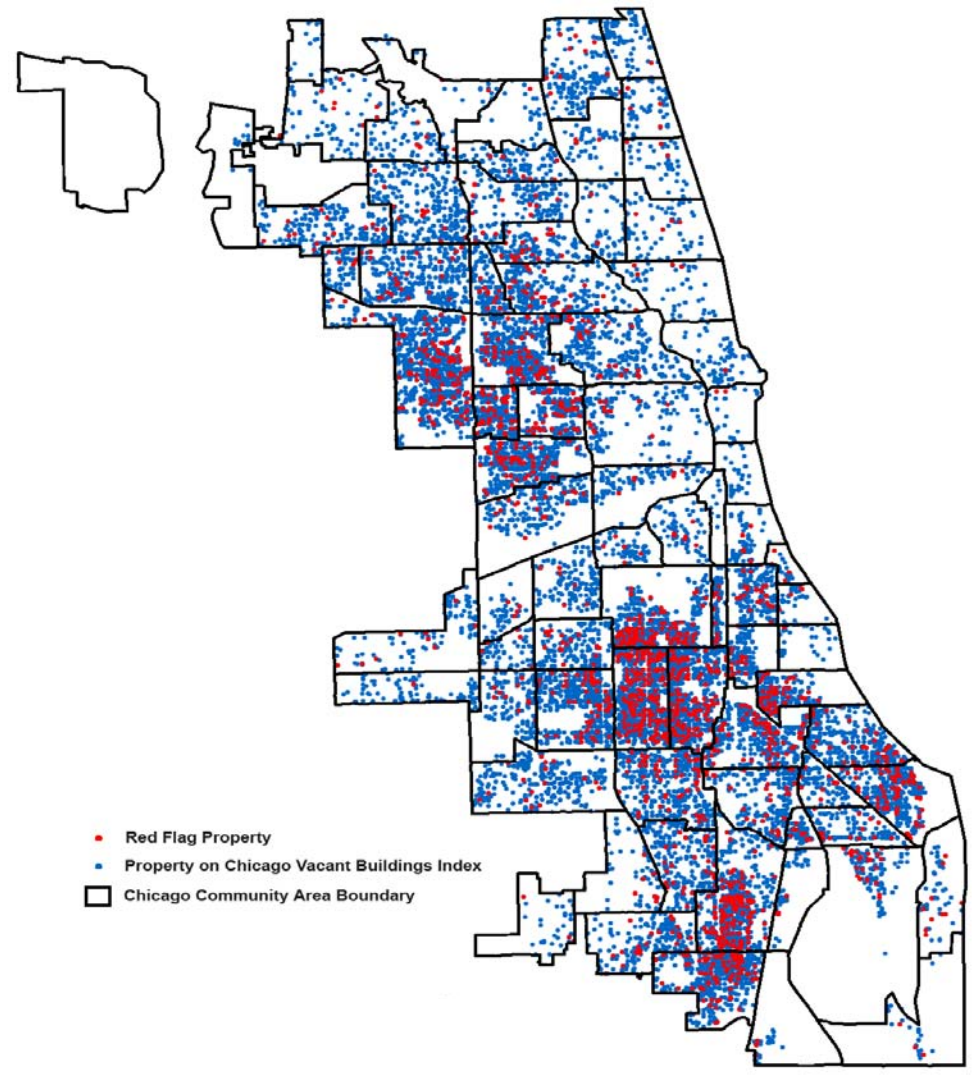

Courtesy WOODSTOCK INSTITUTE

» CONCEALED

Continued from PG. 31

despite many efforts on the part of city officials to reduce the availability of guns, including its attempt to ban handguns.

In June 2010, the city's ban on handguns was shot down by the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of McDonald v. Chicago. According to Hammond, the ruling was a sign of the times and part of a growing movement in favor of gun rights.

"It's very difficult for Chicago legislators to sign on with [the bill] because they truly believe in their heart of hearts it would be bad for the city, and I have to appreciate their beliefs just as I hope they do mine," Hammond said.

Backers of the bill argue that allowing concealed carry will level the playing field as far as criminals who carry guns illegally are concerned. Gun rights advocates say letting residents carry guns will be a convincing deterrent against robberies and other assaults, which will reduce crime.

Another main reason for the bill is protection—like its name implies, according to State Rep. Patrick J. Verschoore, another member of the Agriculture and Conservation Committee.

"I'm a co-sponsor, and I'm not saying I'll get a permit to carry a gun if it passes,' Verschoore said. "But I think everyone [who] wants to have a concealed carry should be able to do so."

Though gun laws are commonly seen as a partisan issue, the concealed carry bill has support on both sides. The bill's original sponsor, State Rep. Brandon W. Phelps, is a Democrat and has gained more than 60 bipartisan co-sponsors.

If passed, the bill will move to the House floor for debate. It will then move to the Senate for a vote before being reviewed by both houses. If passed again, the bill will then move to Gov. Pat Quinn for signing.

"In the past, [Quinn] said he would not sign it," Verschoore said. "Now I'm hearing that he's rethinking it, and he might sign it. But it'd be nice if we could get 71 votes, [a supermajority]—that would make it veto proof."

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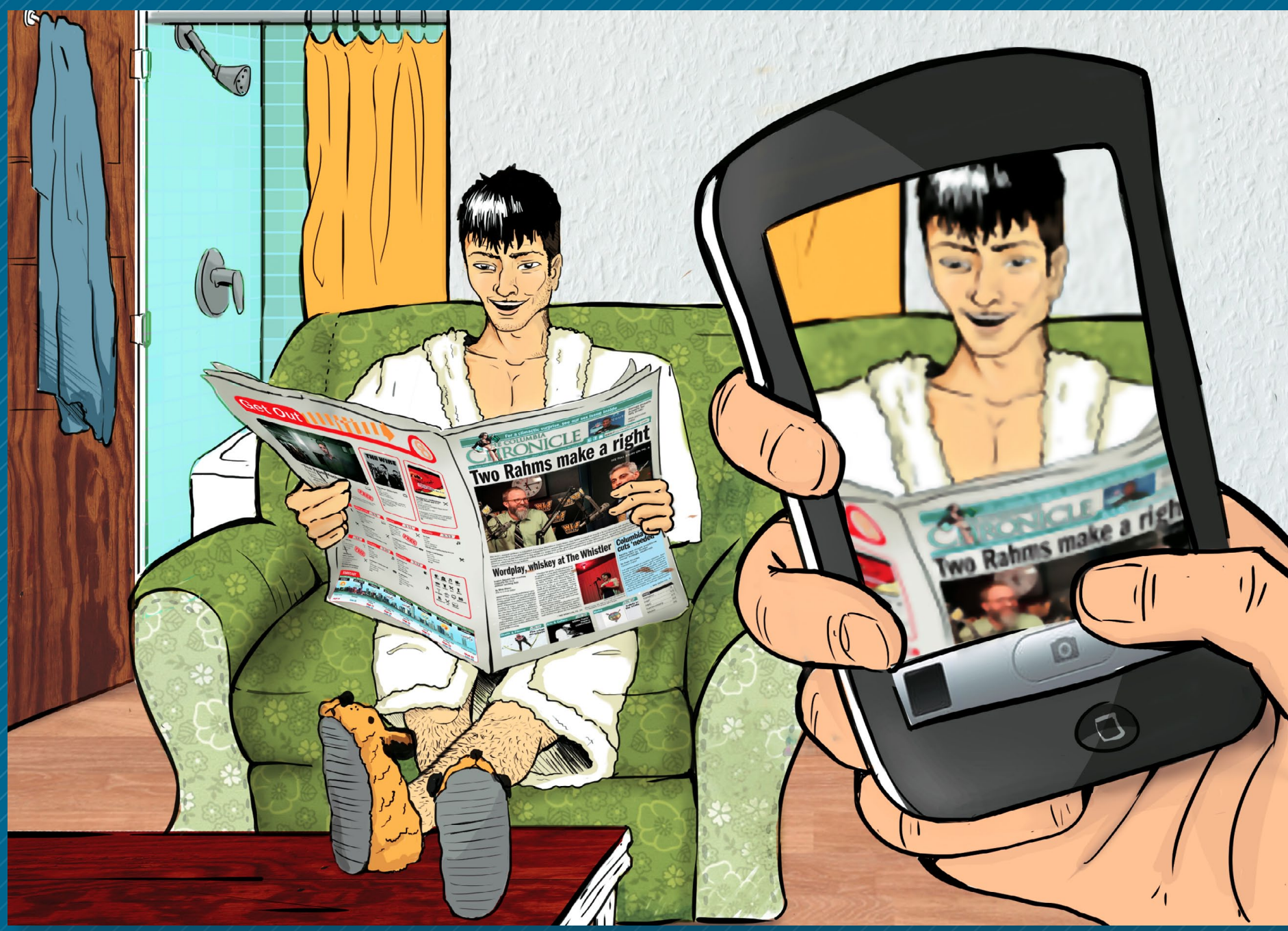


Basically, it works like this: Pick up a Columbia Chronicle every Monday, carry it with you and be caught reading it on campus. One of our editors will stroll around the college buildings, and if you are caught "doing it," then you will win an 8 gb iPod touch. One iPod will be given away per week. For more information, or questions please email: **contest@chroniclemail.com**

*Rules and regulations apply

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

We've got you covered

» NUCLEAR

Continued from Front Page

generating stations in the country, with reactors at six different sites, some of which sit on the line of the New Madrid Seismic Zone. In 2008, this zone produced a 5.2 magnitude earthquake. In the regulation of any nuclear generator, plans are made to allow for an earthquake larger than the strongest one recorded in the area.

In 1998, four Illinois nuclear plants were on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's watch list, which cited six U.S. plants.

The plants in Braidwood, Byron and Dresden were more recently the focus of a lawsuit filed by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan when a radioactive runoff leaked into groundwater.

Exelon Nuclear, which owns and operates all of the state's nuclear plants, paid $1 million to settle the lawsuit. Exelon also owns around 20 percent of the entire nation's nuclear power.

Courtesy COMED

The Dresden Generating Station, 6500 N. Dresden Road, in Morris, Ill., is currently operating two of the three units at the site.

Viktoria Mitlyng, spokeswoman for the NRC Midwestern office, said she thinks with certainty that residents are absolutely secure and should not be worried about the safety of the state's power plants.

According to Mitlyng, all nuclear power plants are built and inspected to extremely high standards in the U.S.

All plants have two resident inspectors on-site at all times running checks. She also said regulations are constantly being updated as new information is gathered and plants grow older.

"It's a dynamic system there to ensure any potential problem is addressed before it can become an actual damaging situation," Mitlyng said.

David Kraft, director of the Nuclear Energy Information Service, said there is reason for state residentsto worry.

"The 'unexpected' seems to happen more and more often," Kraft said. "Eventually, 'design limits' will be exceeded again, maybe in Illinois, maybe in Canada, maybe in New York."

The Nuclear Energy Information Service is an organization that labels itself as the state's nuclear power watchdog. According to Kraft, the organization always thought there were too many reactors in Illinois.

The NEIS also thinks nuclear power should be phased out, and the U.S. should transition into renewable energy instead of only planning for future problems.

Radiation concerns are causing citizens around the country to rush to pharmacies and online dealers to find potassium iodide tablets, which have been said to minimize radiation reactions.

Many online stores, like NukePills.com, were sold out of the drug as of press time.

The supplements can protect the thyroid gland from absorbing harmful iodine from radioactive chemicals by keeping its iodine level at full capacity, according to Kraft.

"For a long time, our group has advocated that within the federally mandated 10-mile planning zone around each reactor, every household should be given a stockpile of potassium iodide," he said. "We have been advocating that for 30 years."

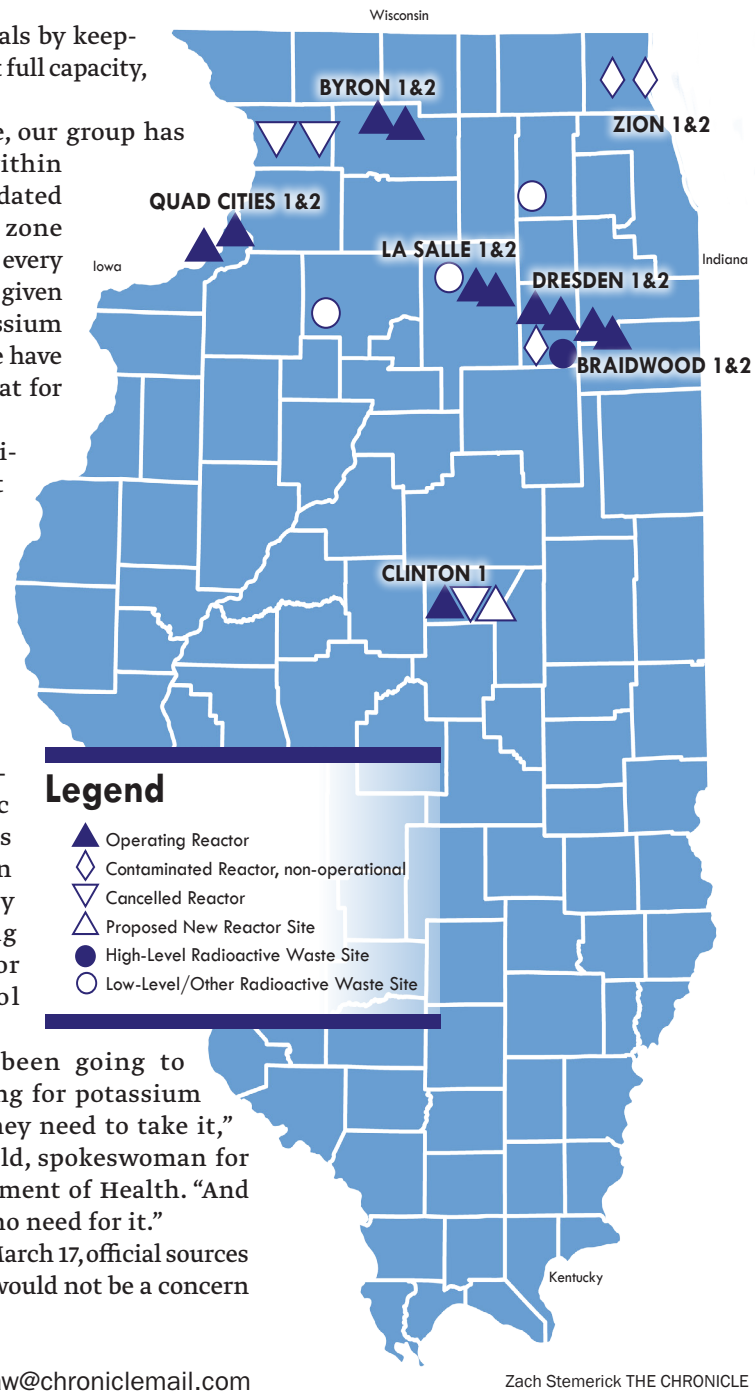
However, the Illinois Department of Health released a statement on March 17, cautioning residents against taking the supplement.

Some possible side effects of the drug include intestinal upset, allergic reactions, rashes and inflammation of the salivary glands, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

"[People have] been going to pharmacies, looking for potassium iodide, thinking they need to take it," said Melaney Arnold, spokeswoman for the Illinois Department of Health. "And there's absolutely no need for it."

Arnold said as of March 17, official sources and experts said it would not be a concern at all.

hmcgraw@chroniclemail.com



Zach Stemerick THE CHRONICLE

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FEATURED PHOTO

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Firefighters emerge from the lobby of the Wyndham Blake Hotel, 500 S. Dearborn St., on March 17, after responding to a call for a mattress fire on the seventh floor. The hotel was evacuated until the blaze was extinguished. Fire trucks and ambulances blocked the street for a little more than an hour, causing more traffic than usual.

IN OTHER NEWS

Race for food

The race card was played by Mayor Richard M. Daley at a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Walmart at 76th Street and Ashland Avenue on March 16, according to Sun-Times.com. The corporate giant plans to open six new stores in Chicago by 2013—some of which will be smaller, fresh food-based markets in areas known as food deserts. "Why was it, during this whole debate, all right to build in the suburban area, but there was an objection to build in the city when it came to the African-American community, Hispanic community or the inner city?" Daley said.

Gettin' at the rich

Illinois Democratic Rep. Jan Schakowsky introduced legislation on March 16 to raise taxes for the wealthiest Americans, according to HuffingtonPost.com. Schakowsky noted income inequality continues to soar. "In the United States today, the richest 1 percent owns 34 percent of our nation's wealth—that's more than the entire bottom 90 percent, who own just 29 percent of the country's wealth," she said at a press conference. "And the top 100th of 1 percent now makes an average of $27 million per household per year. The average income for the bottom 90 percent of Americans? $31,244."

Summertime blues

Mayor Richard M. Daley announced on March 15 that the city of Chicago will offer 22 percent fewer summer jobs for young people this year because of cuts in federal stimulus funding, according to Chicago-Tribune.com. The city and various businesses will offer 14,000 jobs this summer for people ages 14–21, compared with 18,000 last year, Daley said. "I want to challenge and ask our business leaders to strengthen our efforts to provide jobs for young people or opportunities or internships," he said at an education center in the Pilsen area, where teens work during the summer.

Rubber stamp collection

A study from the University of Illinois at Chicago found aldermen agreed with Mayor Richard M. Daley more often during the current term than the previous one, according to WBEZ.org. In 54 divided roll call votes, 31 aldermen went Daley's way 90 percent or more of the time—up from seven aldermen, who agreed with Daley in the previous term. Alderman Ed Burke (14th Ward) and Dick Mell (33rd Ward), among others, voted with Daley 100 percent of the time. The aldermen who disagreed with Daley the most were Bob Fioretti (2nd Ward) and Joe Moore (49th Ward).

OFF THE BLOTTER

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

1 CTA getaway

Officers responded to a call at the 7-Eleven convenience store, 33 E. Adams St., around midnight on March 16. According to police reports, two suspects entered the store and told three customers to lie flat on the floor. One of the suspects assaulted the cashier, hitting him twice in the head with a handgun. The suspects then fled on a Chicago Transit Authority Orange Line train.

2 Prep smackdown

A student at Jones College Prep, 606 S. State St., reported an earlier altercation between a male and female student. According to police reports, the male kicked the student while she was sitting in the hallway. When she kicked back, the male wrapped his hands around her throat and was then removed from the scene by a friend.

3 Texting in tongues

A victim who previously filed six reports against her ex-boyfriend was harassed again on March 5, according to police reports. Officers responding to the call, at 1254 S. Federal St., were told the victim received a text that said, "revenge is a dish best served cold" in Hebrew. The victim told officers the harassment made her fearful for her well-being and the safety of her son.

4 Big man on campus

According to police reports, officers responded to a call on March 15 at Perspectives Charter School, 1930 S. Archer Ave. A witness told them a 14- or 15-year-old male said, "I'm going to shoot all those kids in that school. I stay strapped." He opened his coat and showed her a gun. The suspect then fled southbound toward Hilliard Homes. Officers searched the area but failed to find him.

Games

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21–April 20) Facts, figures and past documents create workplace controversy over the next few days. Early Tuesday, expect key officials to review progress and ask for faster results. Team leadership or vague instructions may be strong concerns. Avoid group discussion, if possible, and wait for added help. Social relations are also bothersome. After Friday, watch for new friendships to be mildly strained. Competing family values are highlighted: Remain diplomatic.

TAURUS (April 21–May 20) During the next few days, watch for unique social proposals or unusual declarations of love. Friends and lovers may reveal their private ideas, feelings or needs. If so, expect the next nine days to bring detailed romantic discussions, fast social changes and complex home decisions. Rekindled love or new promises are needed; remain attentive. After Saturday, home finances may require revised legal agreements or detailed property negotiations. Be consistent.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Use your talents to further the knowledge or vision of a fellow worker this week. At present, positive contacts and worthwhile ideas will arise from business cooperation. Watch the medical fields, community services or public relations industries for fast advancement. Wednesday through Saturday, close family members may ask for greater freedom. Restlessness and social boredom are key influences in home relationships. Take time to finalize new group plans.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) Outdated friendships or business partnerships may reappear during the next few days. Although new proposals are promising, clearly state your present-day plans, accomplishments and aspirations. Before next week, firm boundaries will be needed in social and workplace relationships. After Saturday, some Cancerians, especially those born in July, will experience a surprising romantic invitation. Go slow. Unexpected social or family information may soon arrive.

LEO (July 22–Aug. 22) Before Wednesday, loved ones may reveal unexpected opinions, ideas or expectations. Areas strongly affected are relations with older relatives, siblings or long-term family friends. Encourage an atmosphere of positive discussion. Progress and shared understanding are difficult but available. Thursday through Saturday, financial restrictions will steadily fade. Almost five weeks of limited resources or strained work relations are due to end: Plan wisely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) Social politics or minor differences between friends may be draining during the next few days. Before Thursday, expect friends or loved ones to appear emotionally distant. Allow others their needed private time. Deep thoughts and new revelations will soon lead to sustained growth. Wednesday through Saturday accents rare business discussions. Authority figures or older relatives may demand serious revision of long-term plans. Remain patient: Passions will be high.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Business and social contacts may lead to surprising opportunities. Remain open to all invitations, comments or proposals. Group activities will soon provide a new level of career growth. Expect friends and co-workers to provide valuable advice. Later this week, romantic or social plans may be quickly canceled. Unusual family demands and forgotten obligations are prime concerns. After Friday, watch for rare emotional triangles to become temporarily annoying.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Colleagues and older officials may request special advice or assistance. Joint ventures and delicate projects will bring a steady stream of compliments or opportunities. Early Wednesday, discuss new business or job plans with loved ones. Shared ideas will be helpful. Thursday through Sunday, a close friend may announce a group event or planned celebration. Marital status and family decisions are highlighted. Expect sudden announcements.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Early this week, ask friends or close relatives for detailed explanations of past events, family gatherings or emotional decisions. Important insight is available. After midweek, watch for key relationships to experience peaceful discussions or renewed intimacy. In the coming weeks, many Sagittarians will rekindle affections with loved ones or resolve past family disagreements. Late Saturday, your ideas, needs and expectations will be taken seriously: Don't hold back.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Romantic attraction and flirtation are strong influences. After Tuesday, watch for new friends or co-workers to offer rare invitations or sultry comments. Use your best judgment. During the next six days, emotional proposals may be purposely vague or easily misinterpreted. Remain patient, however, and expect clarity by early next week. Wednesday through Saturday, business and financial resources expand. Carefully study new legal documents. Job proposals are genuine.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) New projects or a secondary application for recent research, paperwork or policies changes may inspire lengthy discussions. Share all suggestions and ideas. During the next three days, older colleagues will expect active participation. Career options may expand in the coming weeks. Remain attentive to minor legal details. After Thursday, a friend or lover may reveal private social fears. Public embarrassment or family isolation may be key issues: Offer heartfelt support.

PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) Loved ones may request special advice concerning family relations, financial diplomacy or changing roles in the workplace. Don't avoid difficult subjects. Others may need to rely on your awareness of group politics or emotional guidance. After midweek, delightful flirtations and rare social overtures arrive without warning. Someone close may soon offer controversial romantic options. Remain open to sudden love affairs and renewed sensuality.

SUDOKU Level 2

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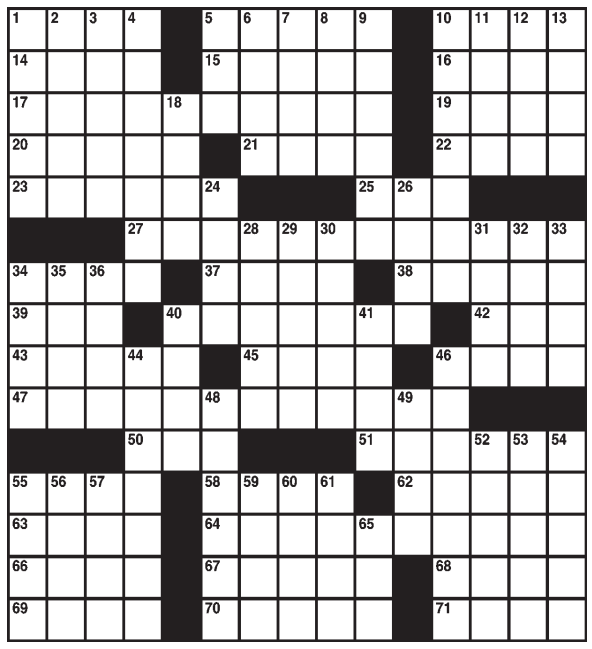
CROSSWORD



By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke 3/28/11

ACROSS
1 Muddy stuff
5 Fallback option
10 Pinochle calls
14 Bounce, as off a canyon wall
15 Margaret Mead's island
16 Tom Joad, for one
17 Tool that can extract nails
19 Princess played by Lucy Lawless
20 Spanish song
21 Surprise "from the blue"
22 "Get Smart" evil agency
23 Silky sweater
25 Bard of boxing
27 It's poured into an iron at breakfast
34 They may be outsourced
37 King with jokes
38 Keebler cracker
39 Oral health org.
40 Aerialist's apparatus
42 Pictures on the wall
43 Back biter?
45 "Without a doubt!"
46 Mars' Greek counterpart
47 United Kingdom currency
50 Heavy drinker
51 Tranquilize
55 Plastic user's concern
58 Words of woe
62 Autobahn autos
63 Length times width
64 Fur bartered by Native Americans
66 Highlands dagger
67 "Bye for now"
68 "I did it!"
69 High school skin problem
70 Idyllic spots
71 Sources of iron

DOWN
1 Tourist magnet
2 Golden St. collegian
3 P.F. __'s: Chinese restaurant chain
4 Shows servility
5 Free TV spot
6 Moussaka meat
7 Bullets and such
8 Seasonal song
9 Pub bill
10 Tailless flying toy
11 Swedish furniture giant
12 Flintstone pet
13 Aral and Arabian
18 Traditional round dance
24 Miles away
26 Act like a couch potato
28 Lightning burst
29 Drink à la Lassie
30 Juan's January
31 Russian ruler of yore
32 To be, in Burgundy
33 Charlie Brown's "Darn it!"
34 Doorway feature
35 Sign of spoilage
36 Java neighbor
40 Small jazz group
41 Olympian ruler
44 In jeopardy
46 Total numerically
48 Pony's place
49 In the vicinity
52 "Please be __ and ...": polite request words
53 Spanish squiggle
54 These, in Madrid
55 Baby's pop
56 "Tears in Heaven" singer Clapton
57 Swiss capital
59 Lettuce purchase
60 Brisbane buddy
61 Fifty-fifty
65 Medical drama settings, for short

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

M	C	D	O	N	A	L	D	S	■	J	I	G	G	S
O	B	A	M	A	C	A	R	E	■	A	D	O	R	E
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■	■	N	A	D	E	R	■	■	L	E	F	T	O	N
A	M	S	T	E	L	■	S	H	E	M	■	■	■	■
M	A	D	E	A	F	A	C	E	■	■	I	C	E	S
A	X	I	A	L	■	V	O	L	D	E	M	O	R	T
R	E	E	S	E	■	O	P	E	R	A	A	R	I	A
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Stay In

"Meet the Artist: A Conversation with Singer/Songwriter Shawn Mullins"

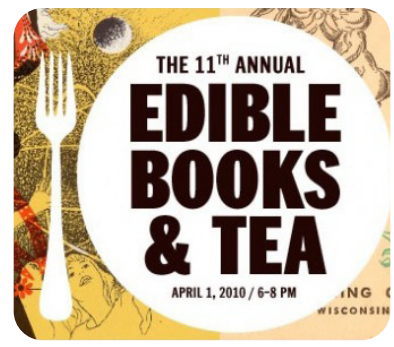
3.28.11
Noon – 1 p.m. //
Concert Hall, Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

An Atlanta-based folk singer who has been making music since age 4, Shawn Mullins is hardly what would be considered an overnight success. He sang professionally for roughly a decade when his recording of his composition "Lullaby," started getting heavy airplay across the country in 1998. "Soul's Core," released in 1998, marked his first album for a major label, Columbia Records.

Chip Kidd
3.30.11
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building

Chip Kidd is a designer and writer in New York City. A recipient of the National Design Award for Communications, he is also the author of two novels, "The Cheese Monkeys" and "The Learners," and he's the co-author of the recently published New York Times best-seller "True Prep." He does an uncanny impression of a newborn baby hamster reciting the opening lines of Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade."

rzeid@colum.edu
FREE



Edible Books
4.1.11
6 – 8 p.m.
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 3rd floor

Artists with a culinary streak, chefs with artistic flair and book lovers are invited to participate by whipping up an edible book for this event that takes place at venues around the world. Prize categories: Best in Show, Most Book-like, Best Visual Pun, Best Presentation and Most Likely to be Devoured. The event is for bookmakers, $5 for Friends of the Library and Members of the Center for Book & Paper Arts, $5 Columbia students with valid ID and $10 for any other guest

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Monday 3.28

"18th Annual Hokin Honors Exhibition"
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
C33 Gallery
33 E. Congress Parkway Building
(312) 369-6856
FREE

"Culture and Conversation – Exploring Theater and South America"
2 – 4 p.m.
Office of Multicultural Affairs
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-7812
FREE

Third Annual Not-Straight Speed Date
6:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression
Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave.
commonground@loop.colum.edu
$3

Tuesday 3.29

African-American Cultural Affairs Village lunch
Noon – 1 p.m.
Office of Multicultural Affairs
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-7994
FREE; RSVP: kweatherly@colum.edu

Pop Rock Ensemble: Styles 1 in concert
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

Wednesday 3.30

Cultural Journey Series – Isabel Chavez
2 – 3 p.m.
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-7812
FREE

State of the College Address
5 – 7 p.m.
The Loft
916 S. Wabash Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-6657
FREE

Thursday 3.31

Dr. Carlos v Jr.
2 – 3 p.m.
Multipurpose Studio
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 4th floor
(312) 369-7812
FREE

Cultural Studies Colloquium Series: "The Myth of Pleasure: Pornographic Affect and Neoliberal Subjectivity"
4 – 6 p.m.
South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., room 602
krodgers@colum.edu
FREE

Friday 4.1

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

Columbia College and Sherwood Piano Mixer concert
7 – 8 p.m.
Sherwood Conservatory of Music
1312 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

Saturday 4.2

Cross-Continental Collaboration: A discussion with Reggie Wilson and Andreya Ouamba
4 – 5:45 p.m.
Dance Center
1306 S. Michigan Ave.
sgrant@colum.edu
FREE

Reggie Wilson/Fist & Heel Performance Group
8 – 10 p.m.
Dance Center
1306 S. Michigan Ave.
mhill@colum.edu
FREE

Sunday 4.3

"U-n-f-o-l-d. A Cultural Response to Climate Change"
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-6643
FREE

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

Get Out

“Sex with Strangers”
3.29.11
7:30 p.m. // Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St.

In this “dramedy” by local playwright Laura Eason—first seen at Steppenwolf’s 2009 First Look Repertory—complications arise when a female writer with a stalled career hooks up with a man who becomes famous for blogging about his sex life.

(312) 335-1650
$20 – $73

“Felt”
3.30.11
8 p.m. // iO
3541 N. Clark St.

Grab a seat at iO’s “Felt,” and get your perverted puppet fix. The show employs a cast of nine Jim Henson-inspired characters to demonstrate improv stylings from the troupe’s 25-year history, which takes “Tickle Me Elmo” to a whole new level.

(773) 880-0199
$5; 18+

9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. // Museum of Science and Industry, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive
$9 – $15 (773) 684-1414

This interactive exhibit looks at tornadoes, lightning, fire, tsunamis, sunlight, avalanches and atoms in motion. Artifacts on display include the first copy of Sir Isaac Newton’s 1704 physics book “Opticks” and Robert Millikan’s oil drop apparatus used in 1923 during his Nobel Prize-winning experiment to measure the charge of a single electron.

Monday 3.28

“The Man Who Turned Into a Stick”
8 p.m.
Japanese Cultural Center
1016 W. Belmont Ave.
(773) 280-2527
$15–$18

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

“Fair & Unbalanced”
8 p.m.
The Second City
1616 N. Wells St.
(312) 337-3992
$23.50–$29.50

S* Show open mic**
8:30 p.m.
The Shambles
2050 W. Division St.
(773) 486-0200
FREE; 21+

Tuesday 3.29

Chicago Theater Stories walking tour
11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.
Southwest corner of Randolph Street and Michigan Avenue
150 N. Michigan Ave.
(866) 811-4111
$10–$15; reservations required

Kyle Kinane
8:30 p.m.
Zanies Comedy Night Club
1548 N. Wells St.
(312) 337-4027
$23, plus a two-item food or drink

Wednesday 3.30

Dance Dance Party Party
7 – 8 p.m.
Perceptual Motion Dance Studio
4057 N. Damen Ave.
ddppchicago@gmail.com
$5

“Dixie’s Tupperware Party”
7:30 p.m.
Royal George Theatre Center
1641 N. Halsted St.
(312) 988-9000
$44–$49

Thursday 3.31

“Body Worlds & The Cycle of Life”
9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Museum of Science and Industry
5700 S. Lake Shore Drive
(773) 684-1414
$18–$27; advance purchase recommended

Kick the Record
9 p.m.
Double Door
1572 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 489-3160
$5

“Radio Golf”
8 p.m.
Raven Theatre
6157 N. Clark St.
(773) 338-2177
$30; $25 for students with valid ID

Friday 4.1

“Pimprov”
10:30 p.m.
Chemically Imbalanced Theater
1420 W. Irving Park Road
(773) 865-7731
$15; 21+

Saturday 4.2

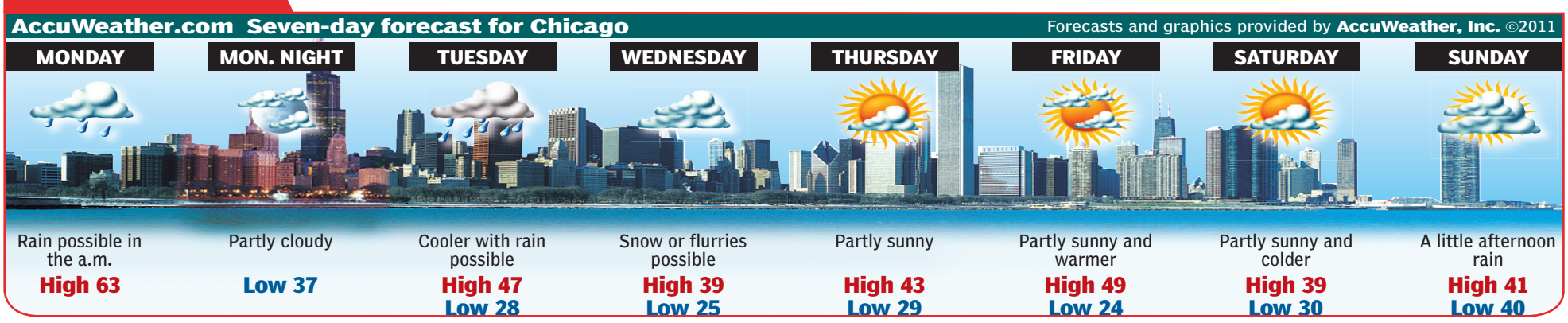
“Spoiler Alert: Everybody Dies”
8 and 11 p.m.
The Second City
1616 N. Wells St.
(312) 337-3992
$22–$27

Melanie Fiona and Marsha Ambrosius
6:30 p.m.
House of Blues
329 N. Dearborn St.
(312) 923-2000
$25–$28

Sunday 4.3

Sound of Silent Film Festival
3 p.m.
Chopin Theatre
1543 W. Division St.
(773) 334-3650
$15–$20; $8 for students with valid ID

Blue Man Group
4 and 7 p.m.
Briar Street Theatre
3133 N. Halsted St.
(773) 348-4000;
Ticketmaster: (312) 902-1500
$49–$69; $32 for students with valid ID

music movie art night life theater speaker food TV reading

FORECAST