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New registry will tell public where murderers live » PAGE 36

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

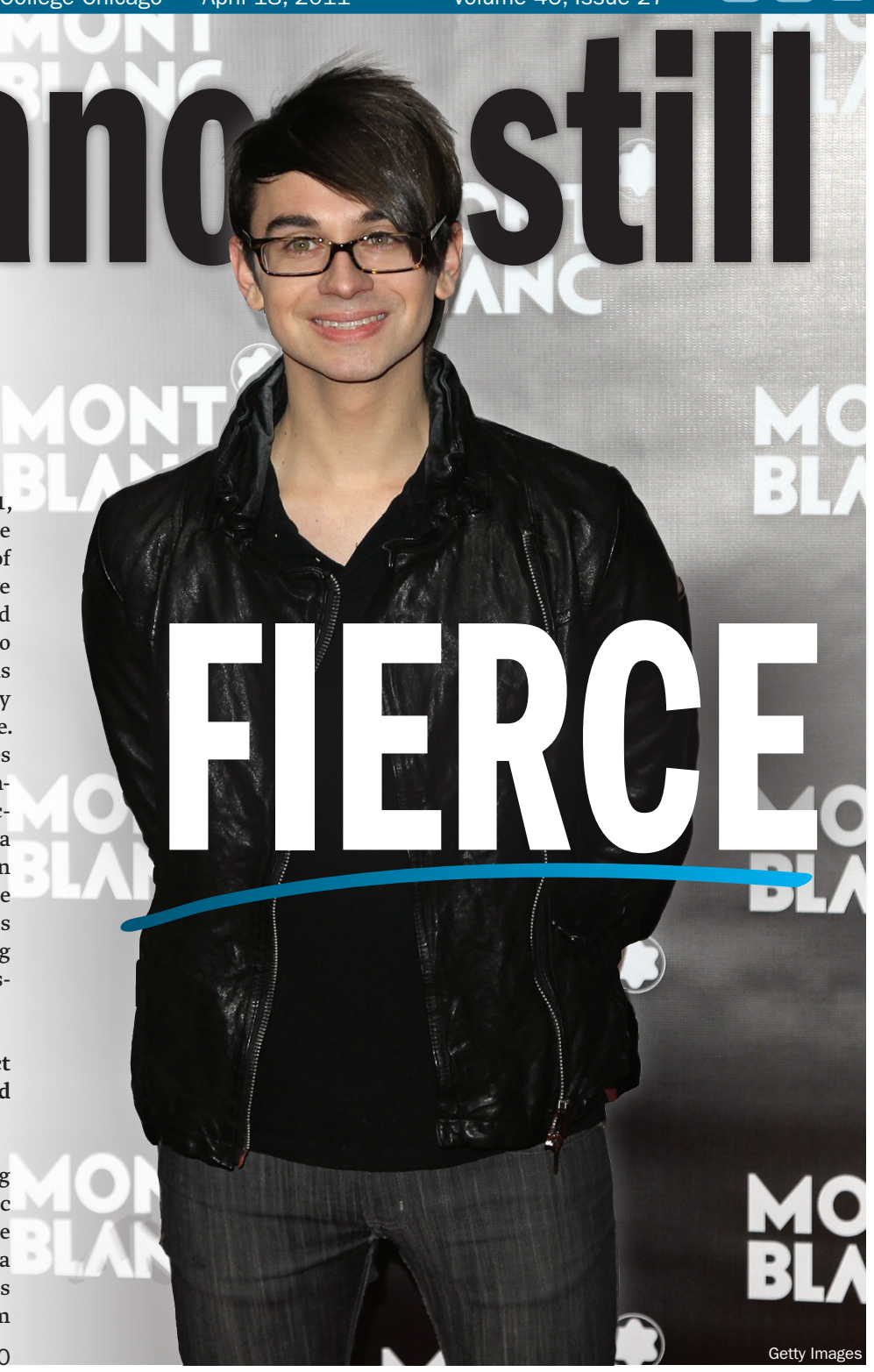
The official news source of Columbia College Chicago April 18, 2011 Volume 46, Issue 27

www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

A taste of the Chicago Latino Film Festival

Web-Exclusive Photo Slideshow

Siriano still FIERCE



Getty Images

Designer works to expand designs, reach new audiences

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

FRESH FROM design school at age 21, Christian Siriano was launched into the fashion world as the youngest winner of "Project Runway" and his designs have been a staple in celebrity wardrobes and runway shows ever since. Now, 25, Siriano expanded his brand, wrote a book and is involved with a number of other quirky projects that go beyond couture clientele.

In an attempt to reach new audiences in person, he's been traveling the country doing trunk shows with his collection and will be speaking with Columbia students as part of the "Conversation in the Arts" series on April 26. The Chronicle spoke with Siriano before his campus visit about designer sponges, working with fashion legends and remaining passionate about design.

The Chronicle: Your most recent project was a line of designer sponges. How did you get involved with that?

Christian Siriano: It was something I was asked to do that was a graphic design project. We didn't design the shape or anything; it was really just this idea of bringing graphics and prints to this cleansing sponge. It was a total random

» SEE SIRIANO, PG. 10

Discrepancy in sex offender sentencing

Professor moves to prison, new data suggests steady rise in punishments illogical

by Sam Charles and Darryl Holliday
Campus Editor and Metro Editor

KEVIN FULLER'S life has changed drastically since his arrest for possession and distribution of child pornography in November 2009. Currently, the former associate professor in Columbia's Math and Science Department is serving time in a minimum to low security prison at an undisclosed location after pleading guilty to the charges.

> "The only reason the U.S. Supreme Court says we can criminalize personal possession of child pornography is because children were sexually abused to create those images."
>
> - Carissa Hessick

Upon his arrest, Fuller was fired from the college and ordered to live with his father until his sentence began. He was sentenced to six years with lifetime supervision on Feb. 9 by Judge Ruben Castillo, who allowed Fuller an extra eight weeks of freedom before surrendering himself into the custody of the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Fuller's case is analogous to a decade-long sentencing trend in some sex

» SEE FULLER, PG. 43

Communication, policies cited in Dwight RA losses

Residence Life botched hiring, firing practices at new dorm, former RAs say

by Sam Charles
Campus Editor

TEN STUDENTS have vacated their positions as resident assistants in Columbia's newest student residence center, The Dwight, since the start of the academic year.

Disputed employment practices and communication issues between the Office of Residence Life and former resident assistants worsened the working environment and were some reasons for the departures, according to students who've recently vacated the position.

Columbia severed ties with the student residence halls at 2 E. 8th St. and the 18 E. Congress Parkway Building at the start of the academic year, instead opting to lease The Dwight, 642 S. Clark St., for five years. But, within the first year of the college's lease, several of the building's RAs were terminated or have quit for various reasons.

"It got to be too much," said former

» SEE DWIGHT, PG. 8

STOCK PHOTO

Ten resident assistants at The Dwight, Columbia's newest student residence center, have either quit or been terminated this academic year.

Health & Fitness » PG. 13

SpaceTime Tanks float stress away

Arts & Culture » PG. 20

'Foodgasm' show premiers on Web

Metro » PG. 40

New ruling on Plan B

INDEX

Campus 2
H&F 13
A&C 19
Commentary 36
Metro 39

EDITOR'S NOTE

Senioritis inevitable, forgivable

by Spencer Roush
Editor-in-Chief

LET THE countdown begin. In roughly one month, college seniors will graduate from their familiar laidback lifestyle while reality waits to give them a swift kick in the pants after they cross the stage and are nudged out the door.

Here comes more responsibility, debt, mind-numbing job searches and, of course, panic. And who can blame them? In several weeks, many seniors will add to the already hard-pressed unemployment rate. The last things on seniors' minds are classes and homework, also known as senioritis.

It's like a dark fog clouding seniors' minds, rendering their brains useless for college work and following a schedule because they are thinking about what's next. Plus, after almost 20 years of consistent homework assignments, seniors are over it. Although there are many things to think about, justifying their college years by beginning a real career should be the priority and something professors should cater to.

That three-hour time block seems insignificant when a student acknowledges how they could be spending that time sending out resumes and revising old cover letters, an effort that will produce results long after that class is over and the diploma is handed out.

If the senior is doing well in that particular class, professors should understand and be accommodating if he or she misses a day for a job interview or advising appointment. There was one instance when a professor was annoyed that people didn't come to class, and he forbade those students from turning in next week's homework assignment.

Toward the end of a semester, advising and portfolio center appointments become scarcer because of the end-of-the-year rush, and students need to fill in where ever there's room. Seniors should be excused if they can show documentation that they missed class to do something productive for graduation. Because Columbia prides itself on being forward-thinking and preparing students for the future, the class attendance policy should be flexible depending on the situation.

However, there are students, especially seniors, who take advantage of the excused attendance policy. But this small group shouldn't ruin it for the rest trying to use their last months at Columbia wisely.

There are too many other problems for seniors to worry about other than missing a class here and there to ensure they have a job upon graduating, and Columbia should be accommodating that growth, especially in this economic climate.

Battling a difficult job market is only one of many things to overcome. There's also a lot of competition from other young people who are just as passionate and hungry for their futures, not to mention the traditional concerns of having money to live, eat, pay rent and loans.

Columbia students may have an especially difficult time applying themselves in the workforce because a lot of the college's offered majors feature industries that cannot be broken into easily. Right now, a lot of things are hanging in the balance gearing up for graduation. While beginning a new life chapter is exciting, financially it's quite scary, and the Columbia community should be cognizant of students' needs and nix those strict attendance policies when necessary.

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NEWS FLASH

4/18/11

"Where the Lines are Drawn"

The exhibit is a collection of political cartoons celebrating the crucial role cartoonists play in framing important social and civic issues, policies and scandals and election victories and defeats. It takes us from Fischetti to Higgins and from one Mayor Daley to another. The exhibit is open all day.

Columbia Library
624 S. Michigan Ave., 3rd floor.

4/20/11

"The Geometry of Music"

Dr. Dmitri Tymoczko will demonstrate how to translate the language of elementary music theory into contemporary geometry. The talk will be accessible to non-musicians and will use interactive 3-D computer models. It will run from 5 - 6 p.m.

Ferguson Auditorium
Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave.

4/22/11

Eco Fair

The Eco Fair is an annual Earth Day gathering held at Columbia to connect the public to businesses and organizations that strive to make a positive environmental and social impact. There will be crafts, food, local advocacy, a picture station, screen printing, games and other things. It will run from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor

CAMPUS POLL

"Do you think Plan B should be available in all pharmacies and why?"

Chris Colvin
sophomore
photography major

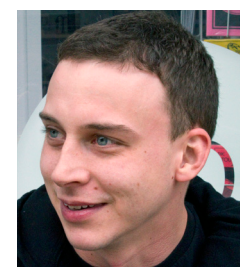
"I think it definitely should be available because at this point, if you are of age to get all sorts of things, then you should be able to get that [anywhere]."

Nyisha Johnson
senior
fiction writing major

"I think if you have an option, like in the case of a condom breaking, then you should have the freedom to [buy it]."

Chelsey Holoska
sophomore
interior architecture major

"I do believe it should be available in all pharmacies because stuff happens. No laws, religion or personal opinions of pharmacy staff should get in the way of that."



Brian Mulholland
junior
graphic design major

"I'm in support of it because being young, people tend to make mistakes, and it's a big life change."

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Letters can be faxed to (312) 369-8430,
e-mailed to Chronicle@colum.edu or mailed to
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Campus

Getting that second chance

Successful entrepreneurs honored for achievements, choose Chicago as home

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

Courtesy of Chris Person

Courtesy of David Gillespie

Courtesy of Columbia College

Ryan Schreiber (top left), Bruce Mau (bottom left) and Regina Taylor (right) will be the honorary degree recipients at this May's commencement. Mau said he is anxious for the commencement festivities to begin and expects it to be more fun and relaxed than formal.

FOR RYAN Schreiber, founder and CEO of Pitchfork Media, receiving an honorary degree means a lot more than giving a speech and sporting formal wear. Schreiber, who never attended college, will tell any Columbia student the importance of the knowledge, training and opportunities a degree provides. He will not downplay the struggles he faced starting up his music publication with what he says was barely a high school diploma.

Schreiber will join Bruce Mau, chief creative officer of Bruce Mau Design and founder of the Institute without Boundaries, and Regina Taylor, a Golden Globe award-winning actress, playwright and Emmy nominee, as the honorary degree recipients at Columbia's May commencement. The three will be honored for their accomplishments in the arts with college diplomas and will address graduating students.

"Over the course of my career, I have sought places that challenge me, where I can grow and [collaborate] and where I can also offer and contribute what I have learned along the way," Taylor said. "With Columbia, I feel like this is a continuation of that journey."

A statement issued by Columbia President Warrick L. Carter said that the three were chosen for their selection of Chicago as their creative home and employing "interdisciplinary approaches [that] have resulted in visionary work that embodies the spirit of the college and echoes concepts set forth in our strategic plan."

Schreiber, Mau and Taylor echoed that sentiment, and said Columbia encompasses what they believe education should accomplish and personifies their commitment to the arts. Taylor said she respects the college for being daring, challenging and cutting edge.

The actress has been visiting Columbia for a year now and has enjoyed working with the students and faculty. She said she thinks the college is making its mark in the Chicago area and nationally by being at the forefront of the arts.

For Mau, whose designs have been used by companies like McDonald's and Coca-Cola, his invitation to be an honorary degree recipient was a humbling experience. He said it was like getting his degree the hard way, and it's exciting someone noticed his creative motives and accomplishments.

"In the kind of work we do you never really know what the impact is or if people have seen it or are connecting the dots,"

» **SEE HONORARY** PG. 8

Egyptians recall recent revolution

Visitors at Columbia detail uprising, newly democratic country's improved condition

by Amanda Murphy
Assistant Campus Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Mohanad Ahmed Diab (right) spoke about his experiences in Tahrir Square in Egypt during the first days of the revolution.

PEOPLE AROUND the world watched Egypt erupt in protest against the country's repressive regime on Jan. 25. As the events unfolded and turned violent, President Hosni Mubarak, who had been in office for 20 years, resigned.

Three Egyptian civil society activists and media leaders, Mohanad Ahmed Diab, Sherif Abdel Azim and Sally Maged El Baz, came to speak at Columbia on April 11 about their firsthand experience of Egypt's status before and after the revolution. The guests shared stories, personal experiences and opinions of what the revolution accomplished.

"People, for a long time, lost their Egyptian identity," said El Baz, who is the international relations officer for El Sadat Association for Social Development and Welfare in Cairo. "But I must confess, after the revolution I am proud to be an Egyptian."

Azim, project manager at the Egyptian Association for Community Participation Enhancement in Cairo, was arrested around 2:30 p.m. during the Jan. 28 protests. He said after emerging from jail, he found Cairo to be in what he described as a war zone, complete with tanks and soldiers.

"We were attacked with machine guns [although] everything was peaceful," Azim said. "Everyone was painting, doing graffiti work, singing. And then suddenly, we find Molotov cocktails and machine guns."

The revolution changed many aspects of the country, according to El Baz. She said the Egyptian people feel more liberated to express their feelings and speak out about the current status of politics and the country.

During Mubarak's time as president, every person and his or her activities were monitored, which made citizens constantly live in a state of fear. To speak out about concerns and frustrations is something considered unheard of in Egypt, she said.

"Many people didn't have something to care about because they were poor or [didn't] have jobs, so they [went] out with the feeling that something needs to change," said Diab, who is the media officer and member of the Board of Directors of the General Egyptian Society for Talented Welfare.

However, the revolution united people from all social and economic upbringings. Diab said when he witnessed a 7-year-old girl standing on a stage and chanting, it made him believe in the revolution more.

"You would see daughters, mothers and women of 70 years old participating," El Baz said. "No one was satisfied with anything."

The poverty and unemployment rates are high, and there are vast economic disparities in Egypt as a result of Mubarak's corrupt rule, Diab said.

Now that the revolution has occurred and Mubarak is no longer in power, the participants agreed there is hope for a better Egypt.

"I would rather die in the revolution than die living that way," Azim said.

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Author recalls Holocaust with students

Survivor details firsthand account of time in Nazi concentration camps

by Louis Sahagun
MCT Newswire

MCT Newswire

Elie Wiesel authored the acclaimed book "Night," which detailed his experience as a Jewish boy in Nazi concentration camps.

TWENTY-ONE CHAPMAN University freshmen listened intently on April 12 as Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Nazi death camp survivor Elie Wiesel discussed the role of religion and morality in the face of immense, terrifying evil.

Wiesel, 82, a witness to the human suffering experienced in the Auschwitz, Buna and Buchenwald concentration camps, was in his element—assuming the burden of memory for the millions who did not survive the Holocaust.

The much-honored writer and professor clearly relished the exchanges in the main library at the campus in Southern California's Orange County. His words, spoken in accented English and a soft, low voice, visibly affected the students.

One wanted to know how Wiesel managed to overcome the memories of the deaths of his father, mother and sister to write his first book "Night," an autobiographical account of the atrocities he and fellow Jews suffered at Nazi concentration camps.

With deep sadness in his eyes, Wiesel replied, "Only those who were there know what it was like. We must bear witness. Silence is not an option."

Another student asked, "How can this generation preserve what you learned there?"

Wiesel brightened as he said, "Listen to the survivors. They are an endangered species now. This is the last chance you have to listen to them. I believe with all my heart whoever listens to a witness becomes a witness. Once we have heard, we must not stand idly by. Indifference to evil makes evil stronger."

Wiesel emphasized he holds no malice toward Germans whose parents and grandparents were Nazis. "Only the guilty are guilty," he said. "The children and grandchildren of these killers are not killers."

It was Wiesel's third visit to Chapman and his first as a Distinguished Presidential Fellow at the university. During his weeklong fellowship, he visited with undergraduates in Chapman's Holocaust history courses and other disciplines including literature, French and religious studies.

Wiesel, who is a professor at Boston University, spoke on the subject of "Knowledge and Ethics" to an audience of 900 in a Chapman auditorium.

"One thing I hope comes of these visits for our students is that history will have a face, and that as a result of meeting him they will become inspired and engaged in the human story," said Marilyn Harran, religion and history professor who is director of the campus' Rogers Center for Holocaust Education.

Wiesel's is an extraordinary life.

Born in 1928, in Sighet, Romania, he was one of the town's 15,000 Jews transported to Auschwitz in spring 1944. His mother and sister died in the gas chambers there.

In 1945, Wiesel and his father were sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp, where his father, a shopkeeper, died from starvation and dysentery.

Wiesel was freed from the camp as the war in Europe ended and taken to France.

Penniless and living on his own, the teenager learned to read and write in French and went on to become a journalist.

Wiesel waited a decade before describing his experiences in "Night," which has been translated into 30 languages and is now taught in many public schools. Since then, he has had 40 books published on a variety of subjects, with a few of them involving the Holocaust.

But in his characteristic self-effacing manner, he told a group of Chapman students after a career that has joined literature, philosophy, religion and Holocaust studies for decades, he has no answer to this question: What makes people good or evil?

"I discovered some of the SS officers who killed people with machine guns after forcing them to dig their graves had college degrees and Ph.D.s," he said. "What they learned did not shield them from such cruelty. How is this possible? That is the question."

He paused, then added, "How did we not lose our values? Nothing but questions remain."

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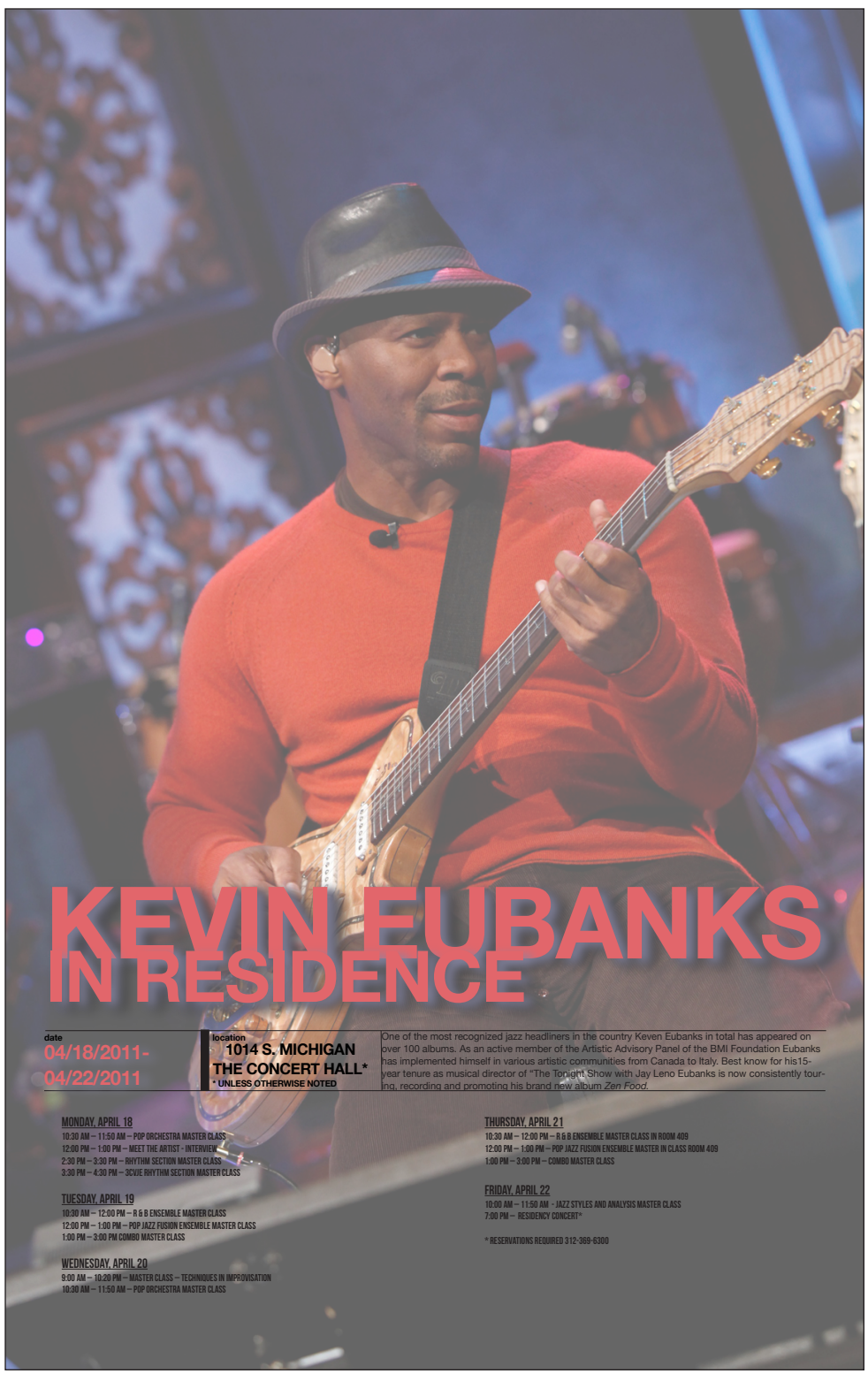

Photo by Chuck Cherney

Candy Golde Album Release

Bun E Carlos, Nick Tremulis, John Stirratt, Rick Rizzo, Mark Greenberg

9p, Friday April 29 at Double Door
1572 N. Milwaukee Ave, www.doubledoor.com
With Special Guests Jon Langford and Skull Orchard
An XRT show

Special discount for Columbia students - $10 with college ID (reg price $18/adv, $20 day of show)
At the Double Door Box Office

Candy Golde is Bun E Carlos of Cheap Trick, Nick Tremulis, John Stirratt of Wilco and Rick Rizzo, Mark Greenberg of Eleventh Dream Day. The band's first live appearance was at SXSW - don't miss this only Chicago show. Catch your teachers in action - that's Tremulis and Rizzo, showing you how it's done. Over 100 years music experience between them; genres of rock, punk, power pop covered and the some. Four original tunes, inspired, rollicking covers like "Boy In the Bubble".

A taste from the band's SXSW debut
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enV1euDt0Mc

For more about Candy Golde: http://www.candygolde.com

The International Student Organization presents...

world enigma

World Enigma is an annual art/talent showcase that brings together the creative achievements of the whole Columbia College Chicago community. The event was founded by international students who wanted the opportunity to showcase their skills and talents.
No matter our origins, we all present a unique cultural perspective that shows through our creative work and talent.

create... change

april 21st, 2011
quincy wong center
623 south wabash
first floor
RECEPTION: 5PM - 6PM
TALENT SHOWCASE: 6PM - 8PM
OPEN GALLERY: 12PM - 5PM

Someone You Should KNOW

JAMES FALZONE

Taking a step back to gain perspective

Once a month, The Chronicle profiles people on campus who are doing interesting or important things.

We're always watching for faculty, staff and students with a story to tell. Here's someone you should know.

by Vanessa Morton
Contributing Writer

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

James Falzone said if he doesn't maintain a professional working mentality, his teaching ability will be negatively affected. Currently, Falzone is a lecturer in the First-Year Seminar.

MUSICIAN, COMPOSER and First-Year Seminar lecturer James Falzone is preparing to release a new album titled "Other Doors" with his band KLANG on April 26. This is his sixth release on his recording label Allos Documents, which was created in 2000.

Raised in Norridge, Ill., a Northwest suburb of Chicago, Falzone stumbled upon the clarinet by chance at age 10. Sparked by interest and natural ability, he has spent the past 29 years dedicated to his craft. Falzone sat down with The Chronicle to share some of his past experiences that led him into a career of music and education, and what he sees for the future.

The Chronicle: Where did your early influence in music come from?

James Falzone: My main influence was my uncle, who took me under his wing once I started playing the clarinet. One of the things he did that I really appreciated was expose me to a wide variety of music at a young age. He would buy me old vinyl records and wouldn't tell me what kind of styles they were. Instead, he would just tell me it was good music.

The Chronicle: So how did you pursue your music education and career?

JF: I started as a clarinet performance major for my undergraduate at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill. While I didn't realize it at the time, it wound up being a good program. But I dropped out of school for a while before I attended graduate school at the New England Conservatory in 1998.

The Chronicle: Why did you drop out?

JF: I got tired of school, so I traveled and played a lot of music. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to keep playing music but wasn't sure college was the way to do it. So after some time off, it became clear to me I needed to return.

The Chronicle: How did you find the motivation to go back?

JF: Well, I think all of us have the self-motivation, but I think we are just so used to the crutch of school we forget about that self-determination, self-love of knowledge and self-education. After a year off, I reinvigorated the love and passion I had for music and my studies. I realized I wasn't going to be able to obtain what I wanted to on my own, and I needed more guidance. It took me stepping away from that to recognize it.

> "If I'm not playing and composing, I'm not a good teacher. And if I'm not teaching and thinking about the world of ideas or engaging students, then I lose perspective on why I play music."
>
> - James Falzone

The Chronicle: Where did your passion for teaching come from?

JF: I totally fell into it because I needed a job. After I finished school, my wife and I moved back to Chicago. I sent my resume to every school within 60 miles of Chicago and got lucky enough to teach a music theory course at North Central College. That was my first time in front of a class, and it scared the hell out of me, but I learned I really liked teaching.

The Chronicle: How do you manage to have two separate careers?

JF: I wouldn't say separate. I see teaching and playing as two sides of being a creative artist. That's why it's important to keep them going simultaneously, so one doesn't overtake the other. If I'm not playing and composing, I'm not a good teacher. And if I'm not teaching and thinking about the world of ideas or engaging with students, then I also lose perspective on why I play music.

The Chronicle: What was your mission when you created Allos Documents?

JF: The record industry has changed so much, and as a kid wanting to be a jazz musician, I thought everything revolved around getting a recording contract. But within the last 10 to 15 years, that whole paradigm has shifted, and it's just not necessary anymore. So when I wanted to put out my first record, I had this recording that I was going to start shopping a round, and some people were interested. Some said to wait, and I told them I didn't want to, so I just learned how to do it myself.

The Chronicle: What was the influence for your upcoming album?

JF: It comes from the performance KLANG did at the Chicago Jazz Festival in 2009. They asked me to create a tribute to Benny Goodman, who was one of the great jazz clarinet players of the swing era. I studied his music and immersed myself, and this record is a document of all the material I wrote for that festival.

The Chronicle: What's next for you?

JF: I don't know. I try not to spend a ton of time thinking about it, but I know there will come a time where I'll get restless with what I'm doing at Columbia. But the older I get, the more I find myself able to focus just on the present. Often, we can be looking so far ahead that we miss being in the moment, and there are some real beauties here now.

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» HONORARY

Continued from PG. 3

Mau said. "It's a moment where there is someone on the other end of the line [saying], 'We see there is a pattern in what you're trying to accomplish and we share your commitment.'"

In the beginning of Pitchfork, Schreiber had doubts about whether it was a realistic way to make ends meet.

However, he said it was his perseverance that kept him and the music publication going. His advice for college students going into the arts is to have that same persistence to achieve what they want to in their careers. He also acknowledges the poor economic environment, but urges students to not let it discourage them and start collaborating.

"Everybody is facing the same economic realities, so through that, there are many obstacles I think people can find solutions for within their communities of like-minded people," Schreiber said. "I think it's a great opportunity to embrace your own dreams and to make a go of it."

Taylor's advice is similar, in that she says passion and being tenacious is what will carry artists through the rough patches to accomplish what they want to. Mau, on the other hand, said it is the belief in the arts' power and not allowing the tribulations of life get in the way that will help students be successful.

"I think if we look at our moment in historical terms, this is the greatest time to be alive and working," Mau said. "The only way we will succeed is through the application of the arts."

amurphy@chroniclemail.com

» DWIGHT

Continued from Front Page

Dwight RA and senior marketing communication major Racquel Townsend. "They wanted me to stay, but I needed to [leave] for myself. It was stressful."

Meanwhile, the students fired by Columbia think the college was irrational in its decision to relieve them of their duties.

Brandon Graham, another former RA at The Dwight and a senior interdisciplinary major, was terminated after a resident accused him of entering her room without her knowledge.

Graham said he entered the room with another RA to perform a scheduled room inspection, which the residents were made aware of weeks in advance.

The incident, which occurred the week of March 14, prompted Graham to contact the accuser's parents—a decision frowned upon by the Office of Residence Life.

"Within a situation like that, that was more of a personal attack [against me], Graham said. "Criminal action could've been taken against me, not as an RA, but as a man entering a girl's room."

He spoke with the woman who accused him of entering her room, and according to Graham, she said she was "disoriented" by the situation.

The Office of Residence Life based its decision to terminate him on what the accuser's parents said, not the accuser, Graham said. His family had to hire an attorney to help obtain his last paycheck.

Because of regulations set forth by the Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act, the Office of Residence Life could not comment on Graham's nor any other individual student's case in particular.

File Photo

Townsend, who was an RA at Chicago State University before transferring to Columbia, left her job by her volition.

She said the office's method for hiring RAs may be a reason why so many haven't finished the year.

Columbia trains its RAs in different situations, such as encounters with drugs and alcohol and room inspections after they're hired, Townsend said.

Other schools, however, approach training methods differently.

"We did our mock training [at Chicago State] in our interview, so they would know how we would handle a situation," Townsend said. "Columbia does that after you're hired, which I think is a backward way of doing things. When you do that after you're hired, you see how incompetent some of the kids were in different situations."

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Center for Black Music Research at
Columbia College Chicago presents

What Is
Black British Jazz?
Routes, Ownership, and Performance

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create... change

PHOTO: Saxophonist Denys Baptiste, winner of the British MOBO (Music of Black Origin) Award for Best Jazz Act in 1999, is a prominent figure in contemporary British Jazz and is representative of the musical scene that will be explored at this event.

Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

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JIM NUTT: COMING INTO CHARACTER

Miss T. Garmint (she pants a lot), 1967.
Private collection, Chicago. Photo: Nathan Keay, © MCA Chicago

Generous support for Jim Nutt: Coming Into Character is provided by The Henry Luce Foundation.

Additional support is provided by Mary Ittelson and Rick Tuttle, Liz and Eric Lefkofsky, Henry and Gilda Buchbinder Family, Marilyn and Larry Fields, and Cleve E. Carney. Support for the exhibition catalogue was provided by an anonymous donor.

CLOSING MAY 29

Plumb, 2004. Private collection, New York.
Image courtesy of David Nolan Gallery, New York

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» SIRIANO

Continued from Front Page

request. For me, it was interesting. It was supposed to be fun, light-hearted, kind of kitschy and not so serious.

The Chronicle: You have such a range of products from the sponges to your Payless shoes to your runway clothes. Why is that span important to you?

CS: I think it's important to have this diversity in fashion and business because it's a big world out there, and I want everyone to have a little piece of my brand, my business and my world. It wouldn't be smart if I were alienating people because they can't afford my designer collection or this dress or this shoe. They can now have things that are fashion forward and fun and fresh but at a good price point. I'm not saying "yes" to everything. It's not like I'm doing these crazy disgusting projects; at least it's a balance.

The Chronicle: You recently showed at Nashville Fashion Week. Was that part of reaching a wide audience with your brand?

CS: I travel to pretty much every city. After I show in New York, I take the collection and I do trunk shows. I do events because you have to remember the world does not end with New York City fashion. Some of my biggest customers are actually in Dallas and Houston. You have to own it. I wanted to go to Nashville, there are great women out there willing to shop, spend the money and buy the clothes and that's what it's all about.

The Chronicle: You were in Chicago a couple of years ago to do a show in Wicker Park. What drew you to the Chicago scene?

CS: I was doing that event with a store, and I was selling to some great retailers in Chicago at the time. It was all about bringing the collection to different types of customers. Why not let the women in Chicago see a bit of me? Everybody needs to get a little bit of the world and of the brand, and I think that's important, to grow and develop. And trust me, [I] learn the most when I'm out doing shows and meeting customers.

The Chronicle: After traveling across the country, what's the biggest difference you see in fashion from city to city?

CS: I think the biggest thing for me is just some cities are better than others, and some are still learning. Fashion is out there, but they're still learning about it a little bit more. They're not as up to date as in New York or LA. I think it's fun to see that some cities are very faddy and some are not, but I think that's what makes them great because each city has their little personal style.

The Chronicle: When you first started, you interned with Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen. How did you get those opportunities at such a young age?

Getty Images

CS: I wanted to do anything and everything. I wanted to get as much experience as possible. I took more classes than I needed to. With Westwood, I got that position from one of my teachers who worked at Westwood for 30 years. She said, "You should intern there, it would be great experience for you." After working there, when I did my interview at McQueen, they were like, "Of course, because you worked at Westwood!" You get in one place, and it starts to open other doors. If I didn't work at Westwood, I probably wouldn't have gotten the internship at McQueen. It's like a tumble effect.

The Chronicle: There are so many young people making a name for themselves in the fashion world right now. How do you set yourself apart from the rest?

CS: There are so many young designers, and they're all very talented. Luckily, most of us all have a different aesthetic and view, which is good. I think for me, it's really my acceptability. I am trying to be acceptable to a lot of people. I want there to be different things for different women, age groups and price points.

The Chronicle: Why is it important for you to reach out to the new breed of young designers?

CS: I really just want to show to these younger designers, whether they're a designer or artist or creative person, if you're young, have this dream and you have a passion, to really just stick with it. There are so many obstacles in the way and people get diverted in different directions, but I want everyone to take away that if you really love it and are passionate, you should keep going for it. Even if it's just something you do on the side, keep going. I meet so many customers who say, "Oh, I used to sew, I used to make all my own clothes, I loved it! And now I'm a banker." They were very interested in that world, so it's kind of sad sometimes.

Christian Siriano will visit Columbia on April 26 as part of the college's Conversations In The Arts Series

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Friends don't let friends flip burgers...

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Tragedy writes itself into a distinct memory

image + implication
CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS

by Zach Stemerick
Graphic Designer

A MOMENT frozen in time: I was a freshman, and had only been in the city for about two weeks. I was overwhelmed by the skyscrapers' height and the number of people walking down Michigan Avenue. It was Sept. 12, 2009, and a gorgeous day. Crossing the street, a friend and I caught the words of a tall brunette crying, "I can't believe what I just saw!" Tempted by her tone, we traced back her steps and caught a glimpse of a crowd forming at the intersection of East Ontario and North St. Clair streets.

A woman walking toward me with a weak strut sticks in my memory. She's in her mid-30s. Her blouse is a shade of sage green. Her husband is clutching her right wrist, comforting her, but he is troubled as well. Her eyes are swollen but dry—she had been crying. Her face is puckered in pain. Her hair is a light golden brown, pulled back in what might have been a tight ponytail at one time but was damaged by the heaviness of her stress. Hairs cling to her face from the sweat on her forehead.

To the woman's immediate right, a couple sits at a table in the outdoor section of a fancy restaurant. The woman is disgusted. She's older, early 60s. Her hand was once dainty, but time and golden jewelry have weighed down her skin. Her dress is black and white. She holds her fork at the edge of her mouth, her eyes squinted at the expected taste of her eggplant parmesan. Her husband has an elegant pen in the pocket of his dress shirt. He is slightly less apathetic. Their waiter stands leaning against the glass door that leads to the outside section of the restaurant. His mouth is open, but his hand is hiding it.

> "There's something about tragedy so striking, so hurtful that we can't erase the specifics."
>
> - Zach Stemerick

There is a cop standing near the corner. He is large, about 6 feet tall and has a silver beard, trimmed short against his alabaster skin. He is aged; a veteran. A faint sense of guilt can be seen in his eyes, but he has done nothing wrong. He reaches down to his radio, speaks into it, puts it back on his belt holster and says in an exhaled whisper, "Jesus Christ."He repeats this process again on the corner of North St. Clair and East Ontario streets.

Four types of people witness a tragedy. The worrier panics, wary of bad news, and unable to comprehend it. The hero keeps calm and reacts efficiently. The cynic finds it a disruption to his or her routine. The shocked bystander can say absolutely nothing—that was me.

There's the same guilt in all of our eyes. We all are united with the man lying still on the ground next to the officer. Some people in the crowd bow their heads, accepting some fraction of responsibility. We are all at fault.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the U.S. In 2007, 34,598 suicides were reported, which is the equivalent of about 95 per day. And for every one successful suicide, the CDC suggests there are 25 failed attempts. Between ages 15 and 24, there are 100 to 200 failed suicide attempts for every documented one.

I am planted in concrete, unable to move at the left side of the crowd. I'm leaning against a light post on the corner opposite of the officer; no one else would dare to get any closer. My mouth is dry at the loss for words and from repeatedly swallowing. The back of my throat trembles.

Directly across from me, the man lies on the ground. His face and upper body are covered with a white sheet. Only his left foot is uncovered. It's pale white, sockless, with prominent blue-green veins stretching from the ankle to the tip of the big toe. His toenails are trimmed and clean. Everyone is staring at him, the man who jumped 17 stories from the Red Roof Inn at the corner of North St. Clair and East Ontario streets in Chicago just before 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009.

Every detail was ingrained in me that day. There's something about tragedy so striking, so hurtful that we can't erase the specifics—how we felt, where we were and what we were doing right before.

I imagine him standing on the edge of the building. I imagine what his last thoughts were right before he jumped. I imagine how scared he must have been. I imagine in the 3.35 seconds he was falling, he regretted jumping. It's an image that will stay with me forever.

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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 email 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 (email and phone).

Art and Activism Studio Project:
Image & Implication Mosaic

Special Topics in Studio Art Course taught by renowned Chicago mosaic artist and muralist Alejandro Romero

Summer 2011; May 23 to July 27

Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicago Mosaic School, 1800 W. Cuyler, Chicago

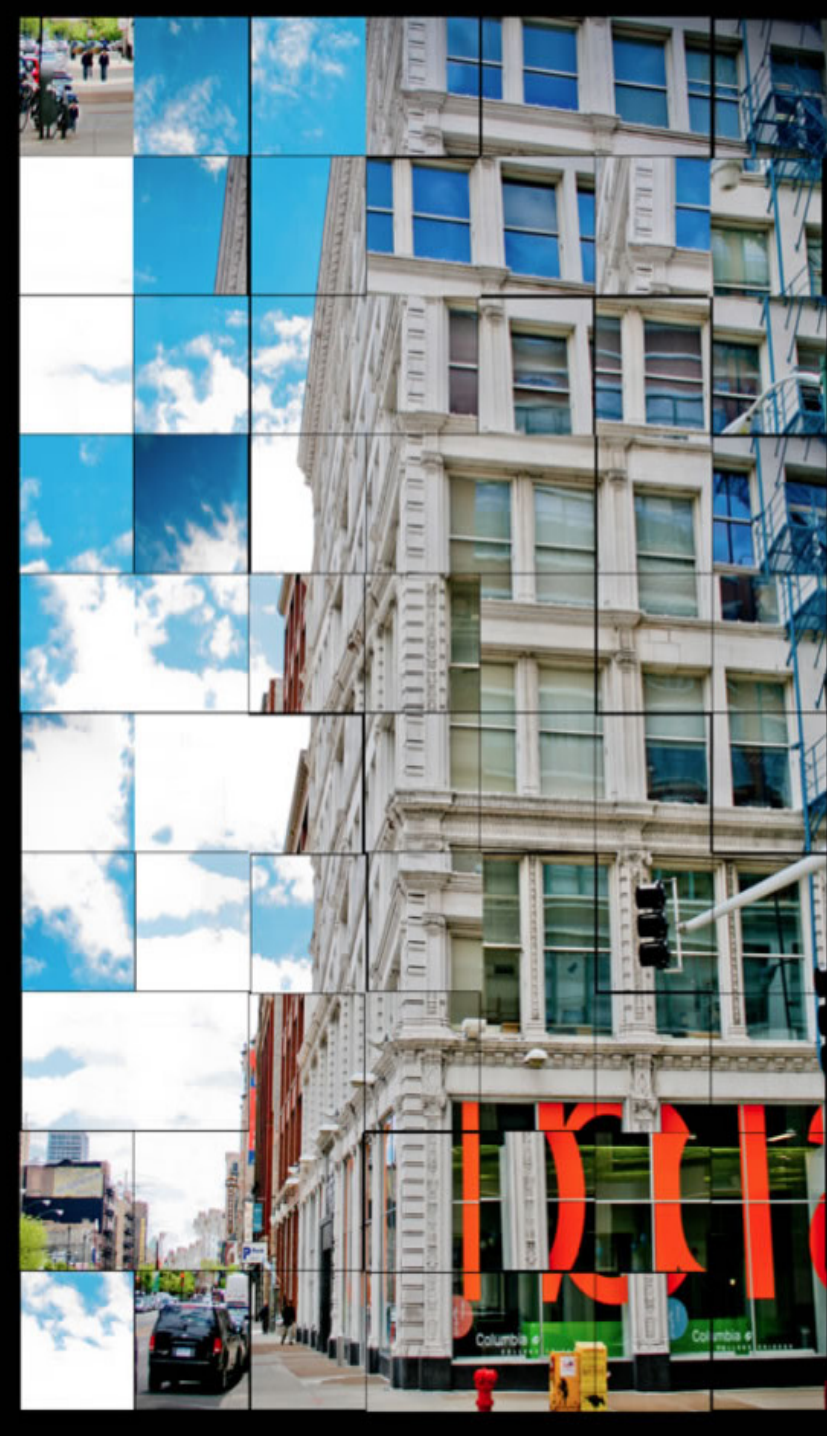
Course number: 22-3254-01

Credits: three-credit summer course

Prerequisites: 22-1210; 22-1220; 22-1230. Students from other departments may obtain permission from an A+D faculty member to enroll in this course.

Specific Course description: This course presents an opportunity for students to create a large-scale mosaic that commemorates five years of Critical Encounters foci (HIV/AIDS, Poverty & Privilege; Human/Nature, Fact & Faith, Image & Implication). In the process, students will engage with the challenge of representing the essential aspects of each year's area of inquiry, learn about the history and present practice of mosaic art, and create a durable mosaic that will be exhibited on campus.

Questions? Contact Critical Encounters Fellow Sharon Bloyd-Peshkin at speshkin@colum.edu or 312.369.8918



Health& Fitness

Wolves, playoffs separated at berth

Franchise misses postseason for second time in team history, roster changes in order

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE SEASON began with a rocky road for the Chicago Wolves. They went on a season-high seven-game losing streak, had trouble winning home games and leads were quickly surrendered. This subpar record eventually had an impact on the team's playoff aspirations during the last weekend of the American Hockey League season.

After a 2010–2011 campaign in which the Wolves (39-30-5-6, 89 points) battled for a playoff spot in April, the team with four league championships was unable to reach the postseason for the second time in franchise history. They were eliminated from the playoffs on April 9 after the Oklahoma City Barons' victory against the Texas Stars.

The Wolves entered the contest trailing the Barons by three points and needed two victories and two losses by Oklahoma City to reach the Calder Cup Playoffs. It was a bittersweet evening for the team because it defeated the San Antonio Rampage 6-3 on the brink of elimination, but it wasn't enough to extend its season.

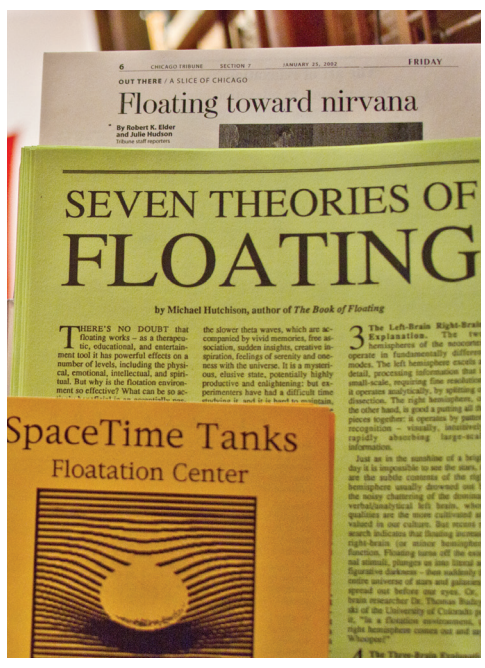
"It's very disappointing as far as I'm

» SEE WOLVES, PG. 15

Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

This was the first season the Chicago Wolves missed the playoffs since the 2005–2006 campaign. They were edged by the Oklahoma City Barons for the final spot in the American Hockey League Western Conference.

Clients float stress away



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Floatation tanks (left), located at SpaceTime Tanks, 2526 N. Lincoln Ave., offer clients the opportunity to float in saltwater for an hour at a time. The effects have been shown to last for days.

Tanks offer unique form of meditation, relaxation, stress relief for body, mind

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

CUSTOMERS FLOAT in pitch-black saltwater filled tanks, sometimes for hours, to clear their minds, relax their muscles and, some say, to have an "out-of-body experience." According to clients, the experience is unique, every session is different and the benefits can linger for days.

Floatation tanks have been around since the 1950s, but today people seeking stress-relief are discovering the powerful mental and physical effects of the tanks, and more centers are opening across the country.

"People will say it's the most unique experience they've ever had," said Eric Polcyn, owner of SpaceTime Tanks, 2526 N. Lincoln Ave. "All distractions are removed and there's only you. [Initially] researchers created isolation chambers to self-observe."

Flotation tanks, also known as sensory deprivation tanks, are typically 8 feet long, filled with 10 inches of water and 800 pounds of dissolved Epsom salt. There is no light, sound or distraction inside the tanks.

"You stay relaxed for a long time after you get out of the tank; your whole system slows down," said Keith Lutman, computer programmer from Alexandria, Va., who has owned a flotation tank for 10 years. "That stays with you the whole evening, the next day or even longer, depending on how often you do it."

> "People will say it's the most unique experience they've ever had."
>
> - Eric Polcyn

Invented by physician and psychoanalyst John C. Lilly in 1954, flotation tanks were first used to test the effects of sensory deprivation, or the absence of visual and auditory stimuli, on patients. In the 1980s, researchers continued to use the tanks to study consciousness.

One reason some people use flotation tanks is to reach different levels of consciousness, Polcyn said.

The 1980 science fiction-horror film "Altered States" was based on Lilly's sensory deprivation research. In the film, people in isolation tanks were under the influence of psychoactive drugs such as Lysergic acid diethylamide or, LSD, something Lilly investigated with his patients.

In 1983, scientists and doctors at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, Wisc., conducted a yearlong study of the effects of floatation tanks. They found significant improvement for a wide variety of problems, including anxiety, chronic pain, hypertension, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular ailments, migraines, tension headaches and heart surgery recovery.

Currently, there are flotation centers in most major cities in the country, and anyone can purchase a tank for personal use. Used tanks range from $3,000 to $10,000 at Floatation.com.

"It's incredibly relaxing," Lutman said. "One hour in the tank is like sleeping for four or five hours. You get into a relaxed meditative sort of state that is physical and mental."

Polcyn explained that every float is a unique and personal experience.

"You might have different things going on in your life or different within yourself," Polcyn said. "We're always changing and evolving, so each [time] gives you the opportunity to go through the mind-body experience differently."

Lutman said he uses the tank once a week, but when he feels stressed he floats more often. He said it is hard to explain how it feels to someone who has never tried it.

In saltwater, the body is supported, so the tank creates a space where gravitational strain is diminished. In this space, the body is freed from environmental stress, and the mind is not distracted.

"When you get in the tank and close that door for the first time, it's amazing the kind of mental chatter that comes up," said William Faith, employee at SpaceTime Tanks. "I don't think we really are aware of how much sensory input we get on a daily basis until we are away from it all."

According to Polcyn, the closest comparison to floating is night diving in an ocean.

"It's like trying to explain a flavor to someone who's never experienced it," Faith said. "You have to go through it on your own. It's completely individual, as unique as the people who try it."

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STAYIN' SAVVY

Cell therapy to rebuild health

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

AS JAPAN continues to overcome the March 11 earthquake and tsunami aftermath, people who have been exposed to nuclear radiation could see some relief from the health risks they face.

Japanese health officials are recommending that Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant workers have their blood collected to see if their own stem cells could help reduce exposure risks from high radiation levels, according to an April 15 Reuters newswire article.

With radiation still leaking from the plant and a series of aftershocks occurring since the initial 9.0 magnitude earthquake, workers remain at a high risk for radiation exposure.

Using a form of stem cell therapy, hematopoietic cell therapy, which employs their own blood, workers could rebuild their immune system and lower health risks without taking drugs, researchers said. The therapy could then help restore normal function to the reproduction of blood cells.

One of the reasons it would be best for the plant workers to have their own cells collected is to prevent the risk of rejection from a donor match, according to the article. Medical experts are on standby waiting to collect blood samples and with clean-up efforts expected to last for the next several months, it wouldn't be a bad idea to take the better safe than sorry approach in this situation.

This opportunity proves that stem cell research is vital when it comes to medical advancements and treatments. Putting a stop to research funding or passing legislation that restricts certain kinds of stem cell testing only sets us back. If there is a time to improve ones quality of life or even save a life, why wouldn't that research be funded and supported?

According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, 28 of the 300 workers at the site have radiation levels of more than 100 millisierverts. The normal exposure level is 50 millisierverts over a five-year span. However, even though the crisis is now on the same scale as the 1986 Chernobyl accident, no one in Japan has died from the radiation exposure and if the stem cell therapy occurs, worker's chances of death will be reduced even more.

All options need to be exhausted to ensure the plant workers' health is stabilized. According to the Japanese government, the nuclear power industry would "collapse" if something happened to the workers. Continuing to fund and support stem cell research proves to be more important with instances such as this one.

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Personal Trainer

Fighting the green stuff

A water bottle or backpack-style hydration system can grow a witches' brew of bacteria, algae and mold if you don't clean it regularly.

An easy, effective cleaning drill

Path to gridiron success paved this spring

Big Ten football teams preparing for upcoming season with practice, drills

by Etheria Modacure
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

THE ROAD to the first annual Big Ten Conference Championship game on Dec. 3 hasn't started yet, but programs have already begun implementing new offensive and defensive schemes and working to sustain cohesion throughout the summer.

Without the sound of roaring fans and a marching band, all 12 Big Ten teams are practicing in the milder weather to get acclimated to the new season in September.

The conference will welcome the University of Nebraska on July 1 as its newest member since Penn State University in 1990. For The Ohio State University, the path to a national championship beckons once again as they try to ignore negative fallout from infractions made by players last fall.

"We always talk about how you can't win a championship in the spring, but you can lose it if you don't progress at the level you need to in 15 practices," said Ohio State Coach Jim Tressel. "You hate to have guys sitting on the sidelines, when they could be practicing football."

Tressel and the Ohio State Buckeyes will start the season with five players suspended for the first five contests. Each player was handed the suspension before the Sugar Bowl because they sold jerseys, championship rings and shoes, which is a violation of NCAA's improper benefits infraction. They were forced to pay back some of the money they received.

The tentative date for the return of Terrelle Pryor and his suspended teammates will be on Oct. 1 against Nebraska. The Cornhuskers went 10-4 last season in their final tilt in the Big XII conference. They will be returning 14 starters this year.

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

University of Illinois running back Jason Ford will shoulder a majority of the workload in the backfield for the Fighting Illini this season with the departure of Mikel Leshoure to the NFL Draft. Ford rushed for 480 yards in 2010 while Leshoure led the team with 1,697 rushing yards.

> We always talk about how you can't win a championship in the spring, but you can lose it if you don't progress at the level you need to in 15 practices."
>
> -Jim Tressel

Nebraska Coach Bo Pelini said his team isn't working on any schemes in the spring to prepare for Big Ten opponents because they aren't oriented around that philosophy this early in the season. He said his players are looking to improve

» SEE FOOTBALL, PG. 15

» WOLVES

Continued from PG. 13

concerned," said Wolves Head Coach Don Lever. "[This is] a team that should be in the playoffs, but we just didn't play well enough in a lot of games. Everybody is accountable for it, including myself."

Losing isn't something this franchise has been associated with because it has never finished a season below .500. The inconsistency displayed by the team was apparent from the start when Lever says he noticed his players relying more on individual assets than working together as a team.

Dogging the team were the frequent changes made by the organization regarding player movement and trades. In the thick of a playoff race with other West division foes, the Wolves' NHL affiliate, the Atlanta Thrashers, traded forward Nigel Dawes to the Montreal Canadiens. Dawes was the leading goal scorer with the Wolves at the time and had finished a two-goal performance against the Rockford Icehogs on Feb. 23.

"We had a lot of changeovers, we had a lot young guys," Lever said. "They made a lot of trades at the deadline that didn't really help us. Guys we needed to pick up for us in the last three weeks had a rough time getting it going. You get yourself in a position where if you've got to make the playoffs, your best players have to be your best players."

The main problem addressed by Lever was the team's home record at 19-15-1-5. The team had the opportunity to build momentum through a homestand but failed to do so by losing five out of seven games at the Allstate Arena from Jan. 5 to Jan. 16.

"We put ourselves in a big hole early when we lost seven in a row on the road," Lever said. "We fought back, and I thought it was the turning point of the season when we came home and had a seven game homestand. We only won two of seven. That and our play against Texas was the difference of the year."

The Wolves lost all six contests to their divisional foe, the Texas Stars, this season and finished the season 23-23-2-4 against their West Division opponents.

For left winger Darren Haydar, missing the playoffs isn't what he envisioned after returning from a brief stint with the Lake Erie Monsters.

"It's unacceptable in the Chicago Wolves organization," Haydar said. "It's extremely disappointing. One reason why I came back here was to play late into the season and play for a Calder Cup championship. We ended up shooting ourselves in the foot too many times this year, and it cost us the postseason."

Haydar finished the season leading the team with 26 goals and was on the last Wolves team to win a Calder Cup championship in 2008. He was second on the team with 45 assists. The veteran left winger said the team gave up too many late goals, and their play dipped in their final 15 games. They went 7-6-2-1 in those games.

With some Wolves players becoming free agents after the season concludes, Haydar suggested they should remember prospective teams are looking for winners with playoff experience.

He mentioned he was getting ready to enter next season hungrier to return to the postseason.

"For some guys, they've got next year," Haydar said. "Some guys are [going to] be looking for jobs, and people want to hire guys who have won before."

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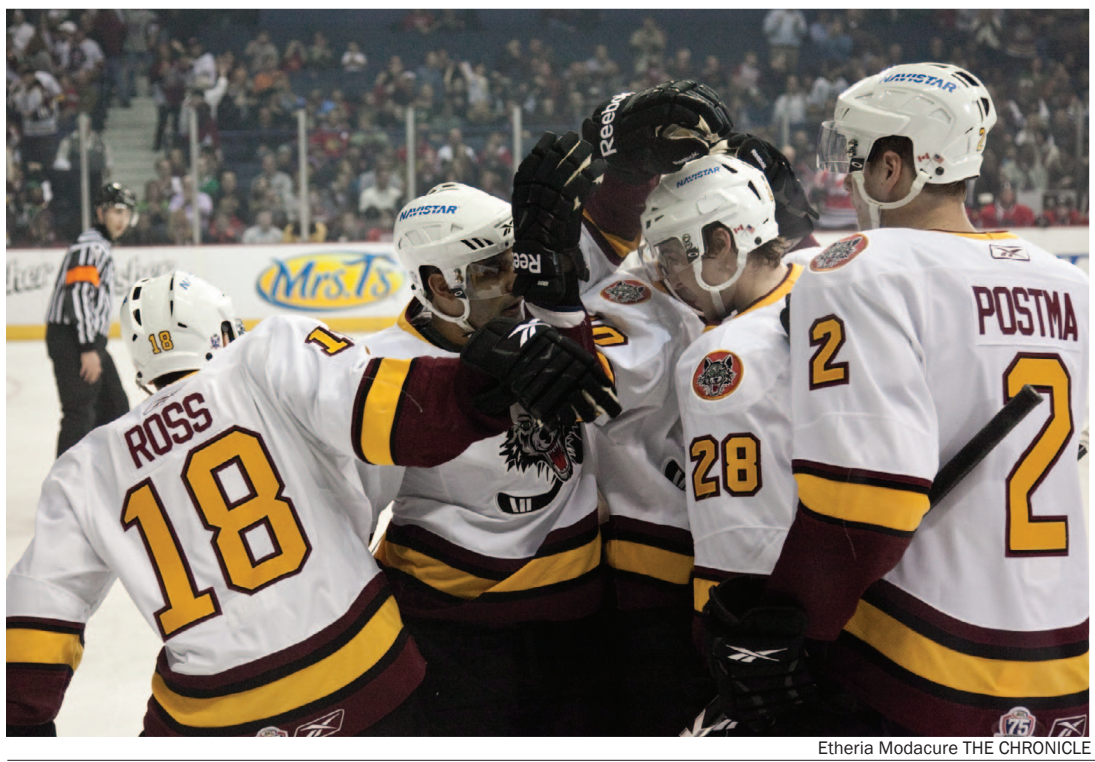
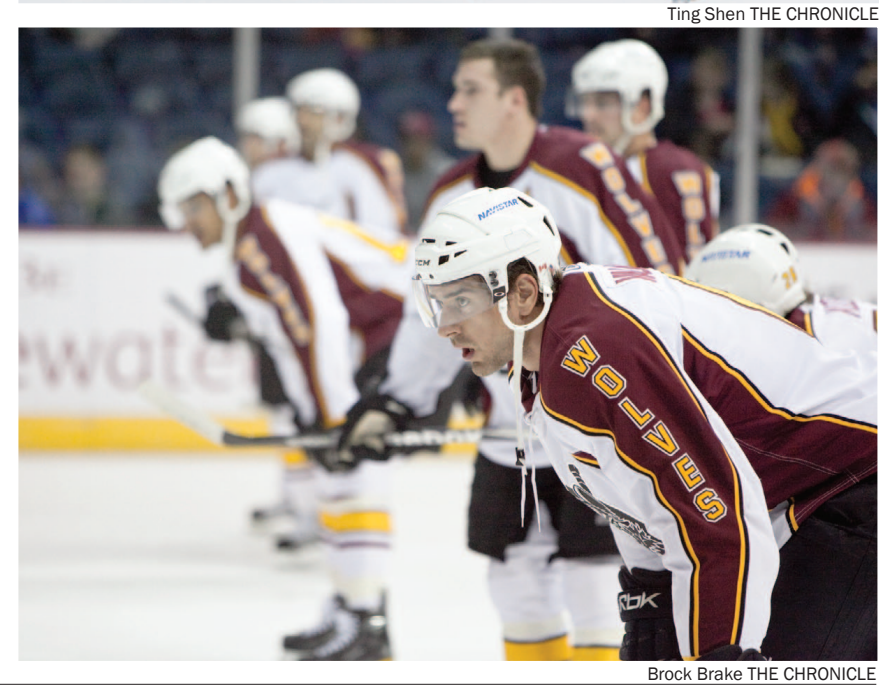
Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE



Etheria Modacure THE CHRONICLE



Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

(Left) Players celebrate a goal against the Rockford Icehogs on Feb. 23. (Top right) The Wolves last victory of the season against the San Antonio Rampage on April 9. (Bottom right) players prepare for a game against the Houston Aeros on Nov. 20, 2010.

» FOOTBALL

Continued from PG. 14

their fundamentals and techniques during practice.

"We're doing some work as a staff to prepare ourselves for what we have going in the future," Pelini said. "We're always looking to tweak things and change up a little bit on both sides of the football. That process has been working [as we've been] going forward."

While Nebraska makes adjustments to playing in the new two-division Big Ten conference, one player who missed the final two games of the regular season after a record-setting year has begun to rehabilitate from his injury.

Northwestern Wildcats quarterback Dan Persa ruptured his Achilles tendon on Nov. 13, 2010, in a contest against the University of Iowa. It was in the team's game-winning drive where he injured himself on a touchdown pass. The team went winless without him in its final three games.

Persa said he hasn't practiced in full-contact drills, but he is doing running drills and expects to return to full-hitting at the end of May. He said doubts about whether he could return haven't entered his mind, and he plans to revive his playing style throughout the summer to reach his peak performance of last season.

"The biggest thing I didn't want to do [with rehab] is I didn't want to rush back into throwing," Persa said. "I felt like if I rushed back and try to overcompensate my arm with my Achilles, I would mess up my motion."

Two quarterbacks who surprised the conference last season were Nathan Scheelhaase, of the University of Illinois, and Rob Henry, of Purdue University. Scheelhaase had 22 total touchdowns for the Fighting Illini en route to a Texas Bowl victory. Henry had 12 total touchdowns after being inserted as the starter last October.

Scheelhaase said the team is trying to build upon last season's success and sustain consistency while playing its second consecutive season under the same offensive schemes. He said the balance of the offense helped in their bowl game and the spring where Coach Ron Zook has changed practices to mornings because of class schedule conflicts.

"As a quarterback, I really feel like I can make strides in the passing game," Scheelhaase said. "I think that's what we showed in the bowl game, and it helped going up into the spring. Our passing game has been going a whole lot better. If we make big strides, I think our offense can really do damage this year."

Henry said this season the Boilermakers are looking to have a winning record, would like to win a bowl game and possibly the conference championship. Henry was a redshirt freshman last season and named Big Ten player of the week on Oct. 16, 2010. He said he wants to improve in both areas of his offensive game—rushing and passing.

Purdue hasn't played in a postseason game since 2007 when they won the Motor City Bowl in Detroit against Central Michigan University.

With a lengthy absence from a bowl game, Henry acknowledged the confidence within the locker room to not only have a solid season, but to capture a championship for the Boilermakers.

"We want to definitely get to a bowl game, and we have enough talent to do that," Henry said. "I know everybody on our team didn't sign [a letter of intent] hoping to just go to a bowl game. We want to do something special, and we're working hard toward that goal."

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Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Purdue University quarterback Rob Henry made strides last season starting for the Boilermakers as a redshirt freshman. He finished the season with 12 touchdowns, eight passing and four rushing.

How to: Throw a Frisbee

Learn basics from Columbia's ultimate frisbee captain

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

CHICAGO'S PARKS and beaches are starting to fill up with active 20-somethings, and one way to get in on the exciting action is to learn how to throw and catch a Frisbee. Wesley Jerden, Columbia Renegades' ultimate Frisbee captain, has played in all kinds of weather and said dealing with Chicago's wind is no problem for him. Jerden has played for three years and remains undefeated in tournament play.

"You can play in all weather," Jerden said. "I've played in hail, thunderstorms, lightning, a foot of snow, and when it's windy, you just have to arc it."

According to Jerden, learning to throw a Frisbee can take approximately 30 minutes, and it is worth the time. This is a fun activity you can do your whole life.

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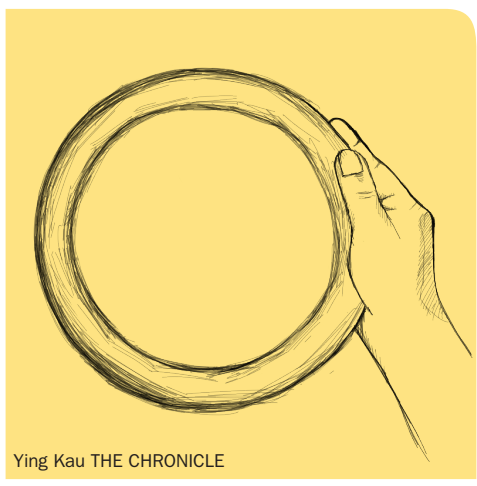
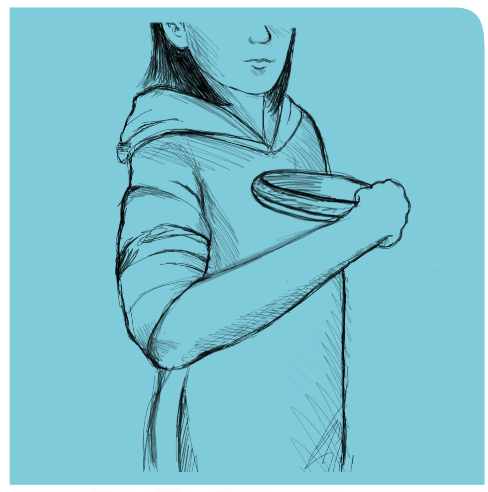


Ying Kau THE CHRONICLE

1) Hand placement

According to Jerden, there are 27 ways to throw a Frisbee, but the first step for every kind of throw is where the hands are positioned."Put your thumb over the top of the Frisbee, and your hand is either extended or closed underneath it," Jerden said. This allows for you get a solid grip on the Frisbee, so you are ready for the next step.



2) Pull back

In a Frisbee throw, you want to wind up your body to give it leverage."You want to pull your arm back and turn your upper torso in the direction you want the Frisbee to go," Jerden said. "There are many ways to angle the Frisbee." Because there are so many variations to the throw, a lot of the technique has to do with comfort level and experimentation, he said.

3) Wrist flick

"The more you flick your wrist and spin the Frisbee, the farther it will go," Jerden said. A flick is a quick sudden movement and will make the Frisbee go as far as the length of a football field depending on skill level, according to Jerden. The flick involves rotating the wrist from left to right or right to left, depending on the type of throw, and the motion ends with the fingers pointing in the direction the thrower intends the Frisbee to go.

4) Follow through

Wherever you point at the end of your throw is the direction the Frisbee will go, Jerden said. The follow through, like in many other sports, is a key component to a successful Frisbee throw. It is the final element that directs the Frisbee, controls its stability and determines the height it attains. "Ultimate Frisbee is a sport anyone can learn and anyone can play," Jerden said.

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Baked, stuffed artichokes

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Create an artistic, healthy meal with simple ingredients

by Stephanie Saviola
Managing Editor

ARTICHOKES ARE at the peak of freshness in the spring, and their rich centers can be used as a main dish when paired with heavier ingredients like cheese or meat.

Gather your ingredients and set them aside. Leave the Neufchatel on the counter while you clean and prepare the artichokes. This will soften the cheese, making it easier to stir into the mixture.

Rinse and clean four large artichokes. Using kitchen shears, trim the sharp tops off so the edges of the leaves have a straight shape. Trim a bit of the stem off so the artichokes can stand up in a baking dish.

Using a grater, zest a tablespoon of lemon and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a large pot, boil water, olive oil and salt. This will help flavor the artichokes. Squeeze the rest of the lemon, and add the juice to the water (optional). Boil for 20—25 minutes, depending on the artichoke's size.

In a mixing bowl, combine 1 cup of ricotta, 1 cup of mozzarella and 1 cup of Neufchatel cheese. Grate in 1-2 cloves of garlic, salt and pepper to taste. Add the lemon zest to the mixture and stir until it's evenly blended.

Drain the artichokes and let them cool. After the artichokes have cooled, spoon generous amounts of the mixture into the centers of the artichokes.

You will want to fill them all the way until the mixture is completely gone. Finally, place it in an 8-by-8-inch baking dish and bake for 15—20 minutes until the mixture is melted and slightly brown on top. Serve and enjoy!

ssaviola@chroniclemail.com

INGREDIENTS

- 4 artichokes, cleaned, trimmed
- 1 cup ricotta cheese
- 1 cup Neufchatel cheese
- 1 cup mozzarella cheese
- 1 whole lemon for zest and juice
- 1-2 cloves garlic
- 1 pinch salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup olive oil

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wash and cut tops off artichokes
2. Zest 1 tablespoon of lemon, set aside
3. Fill a large pot of water, add lemon, olive oil, artichokes and salt to taste
4. Boil, uncovered for 20-25 minutes
5. For filling, combine the ricotta, mozzarella and Neufchatel cheese
6. Add salt and pepper to taste, grate in 1-2 cloves of garlic and mix
7. Drain artichokes and let cool
8. Spoon the mixture inside the artichokes
9. Place in 8x8 baking dish and bake for 15-20 minutes at 375 degrees
10. Serve, eat and enjoy

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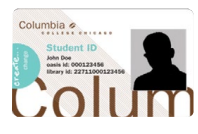

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SEE PG. 24

Arts& Culture

‘Foodgasm’ explodes on Web

Photos Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

“Foodgasm,” a new Web cooking series starring Ashley Simone, launched its first episode on YouTube on April 15. New episodes will come out every other Friday.

Alternative Web cooking show brings new angle to genre

by Matt Watson
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

DRESSED TO imitate Lucille Ball, wearing a vintage apron and bright lipstick to accent her flaming red hair, Ashley Simone dashes around the kitchen as she prepares recipes designed for people who don’t want to eat a big slab of meat. Ending each episode by blowing the audience a kiss, Simone said she wants to set herself apart with a provocative show that, she hopes, will some day rival Rachael Ray’s in popularity.

Simone, star of “Foodgasm” and a former Columbia student, said the new Web series accentuates the sensuality and pleasure of cooking and eating food. The show, produced by Fernworks Productions, premiered on YouTube and Vimeo on April 15.

“Foodgasm” is set in the 1940s and focuses on alternative diets, such as pescetarian, vegan and gluten-free, among others. Using the webisode platform as a starting point, the producers plan to shoot a 30-minute pilot to pitch to a cooking TV network.

“It’s an edgy cooking series that’s a little bit naughty and a little bit nice,” Simone said. “It’s going to be classy with the ’40s style but also [racy].”

The approximately 4-minute webisodes feature Simone in the kitchen as she prepares a different dish each time. David Strzepek, assistant producer of “Foodgasm,” said the series stands out among cooking shows.

“We say lifestyles instead of restrictions,” Strzepek said. “A lot of people who have a food lifestyle like this have become very routine [in their choices]. We want to provide them with a foodgasm, a ‘wow’ factor when you bite into something.”

Simone said there’s an open niche in the cooking show market for a series that focuses on alternative diets. From attending culinary conventions, she said she’s seen a lot more chefs start to concentrate on gluten-free and lactose-free meals. Simone emphasized many people don’t know creative ways to cook such meals for themselves.

“A lot of people like fish but don’t do it often because they don’t know how to prepare it well,” she said. “I’m trying to hit the alternative diets in a way that’s tasty and flavorful and [people] aren’t thinking, ‘Ew, that’s some weird tofu-vegetarian dish.’”

According to Strzepek, the naughty part of the show is interpretive. He said the show isn’t solely about cooking; it’s about the experience. Simone dances on stage in each episode, and the way she says “Foodgasm” gives off a feeling of sensuality, Strzepek said.

“We wanted that in the show for the purpose of grabbing people’s attention, giving them something pretty to look at and to say, ‘Here’s the enjoyment factor of cooking,’” he said. “We end every show with, ‘Food is love.’”

Simone, who studied dance at Columbia for two years before leaving to perform with Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus, said she always loved to cook. The idea to combine performance with culinary arts came about when she met Alinea Chef Grant Achatz.

“I was like, ‘Wow, he’s amazing,’” she said. “I thought it would be a great idea for me to go to school for this and not look like an idiot. That way, I could look [professional] chopping onions.”

Simone is now studying for a bachelor’s degree in culinary arts at the Illinois Institute of Art in Chicago.

Simone and her mother, Etta Worthington, a director who teaches in the Film and Television departments at Columbia, began shooting “Foodgasm” in January 2011. The two enlisted a production team, including Strzepek, to get the show rolling.

“It turned out to be such a well-oiled machine,” Strzepek said. “Some of our crew are the top people anywhere in the country, and we just put it together by chance. There had to be an alignment of planets and stars.”

After shooting five episodes in January, the crew shot another five in March in high definition. Worthington said they will release one show every other Friday for the next 10 weeks. When the weather gets nicer, they will begin shooting an outdoor grilling series.

Worthington said the Web series is just the beginning. The producers plan to use the online platform to eventually pitch a 30-minute pilot to a network. According to Simone, one other cooking Web series, “Bitchin’ Kitchen,” has successfully made it on the Cooking Channel but with a different angle than “Foodgasm.”

Strzepek said the Internet is a completely new way to launch a TV show, an avenue unheard of a decade ago.

“I know I can get people interested by going through the webisodes and getting online,” Strzepek said. “Going viral gets you such an incredible amount of exposure and that’s the best use of the Internet.”

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> “A lot of people who have a food lifestyle like this have become very routine [in their choices]. We want to provide them with a foodgasm, a ‘wow’ factor when you bite into something.”
>
> - David Strzepek

"A" To Zepeda

Nip, tuck not childproof

by Benita Zepeda
Managing Editor

LET'S FACE it, children can be brutally honest and quite mean to one another. Because Internet access has transformed the way children and young adults bully each other, some parents have not completely forgotten about hardships on the playground. It's a given that no one wants their child to be teased in school, but how far is too far when it comes to protecting children?

Some parents opt to pay for cosmetic surgery to stop his or her child from being bullied because of the way they look. In 2008, roughly 160,283 children under 18 had cosmetic interventions, according to the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery. Although some procedures were performed because of birth defects, not all were.

It's sad that children are going under the knife to try to live a peaceful, ridicule-free life. At the same time, a less-invasive procedure will better the mental health of elementary school students, such as pinning ears if they are the subject of mockery. That seems like a different story. However, I have known people under the age of 18 who had parental permission for breast implants before they were fully developed, which is absurd.

So where is the line drawn? If a child is born with features one might consider undesirable, is surgery the right answer? The answer is no. I understand reconstructive surgery for birth defects such as a cleft lip or procedures that eliminate health issues, but what's unnecessary is altering one's appearance in fear of how others might judge your child. This extreme course of action isn't going to stop one's child from being ridiculed for the rest of his or her life. Kids make fun of each other all the time. It's just part of what they do.

As far as young adults under age 18, the idea of cosmetic surgery to enhance one's looks should be completely denied if there is no medical reason the procedure needs to be done.

What are these parents teaching their children if they arrange the surgery? Our consumer-driven culture already bombards people with hundreds of advertisements each day. Young adults already compare themselves to digitally-altered photographs of models on billboards and in magazines, consciously or not. It's hard to boost a teased child's self-esteem, but it's harder to eliminate the sense of instant gratification that spending money on a quick cosmetic fix can cause.

Parents should be learning to communicate with their children about bullying, reinforcing positive attitudes at home and teaching them how to handle situations with their peers. After all, when these children's parents were young, cosmetic surgery wasn't available for kids. If children are taught to have tolerance of others, these types of procedures wouldn't have to be done.

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Opera tweets return

Complicated plots down to 140 characters in online competition

by David Ng
MCT Newswire

LONG-WINDED OPERA and terse Twitter make for an odd couple, but online classical-music fans have shown a harmonious duet is possible, especially when the two are mixed with the right amount of irreverent humor.

One of the more successful applications of Twitter in the realm of opera, the contest known as "Operaplot," has become a must-read for classical devotees, with big prizes awarded. The online competition requires individuals to summarize the plot of an opera in the length of a tweet, which is 140 characters or less, including spaces.

Concision is a must in the Operaplot game, but cleverness is usually what wins the day. Among the victorious tweets of the past are: Mozart's "Don Giovanni": Kissed the girls and made them cry. Stabbed one's dad and watched him die. Offered chances to repent, he opted to be Hades sent. Men!

Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman": Let me get this straight: unfathomable treasure if I betroth my loopy daughter to a ghost? Deal. She'll meet you by the fjord.

Verdi's "La Traviata": Father is less than enthusiastic about son's love affair with aging, bankrupt, terminally ill prostitute. Can you believe it?

This year's competition, which kicked off on April 11, is being judged by bass-baritone Eric Owens.

"Operaplot" is organized by Marcia Adair, classical-music blogger in Toronto. She said the first competition in 2009 drew about 500 entries, and the second about 1,000. So far, there have been more than 300 entries in the latest round, which was set to end on April 15.

The incongruity of shoehorning an unwieldy opera synopsis into the length of a tweet is what gives Operaplot its comic spin. The best tweets "are simple in that they play with language or have a pop culture reference or are poetic—not all in one," Adair said.

The darker operas seem to lend themselves the best to Twitter.

"Some of the most consistently hilarious ones have been 'Bluebeard' and 'Salome,'" Adair said. "The 'Ring' and its constituent parts are perennial favorites, especially the incest one ['Die Walkure']."

Each person can submit 25 tweets for the contest, simply by using the #operaplot tag in his or her personal Twitter timeline. The five winners, who are expected to be announced on April 20, can choose from a range of prizes, including tickets to opera companies around the world, such as the Metropolitan Opera, Los Angeles Opera and English National Opera.

The humor of Operaplot lies in its populist deflation of a rarefied art form. The most successful Tweets combine cultural erudition with lowbrow irreverence, acknowledging the complexities of opera while lampooning their frequently far-fetched narrative conceits.

"Every year, I realize more and more that the only difference between opera characters and Jerry Springer guests is that the music is better at the theater," Adair said.

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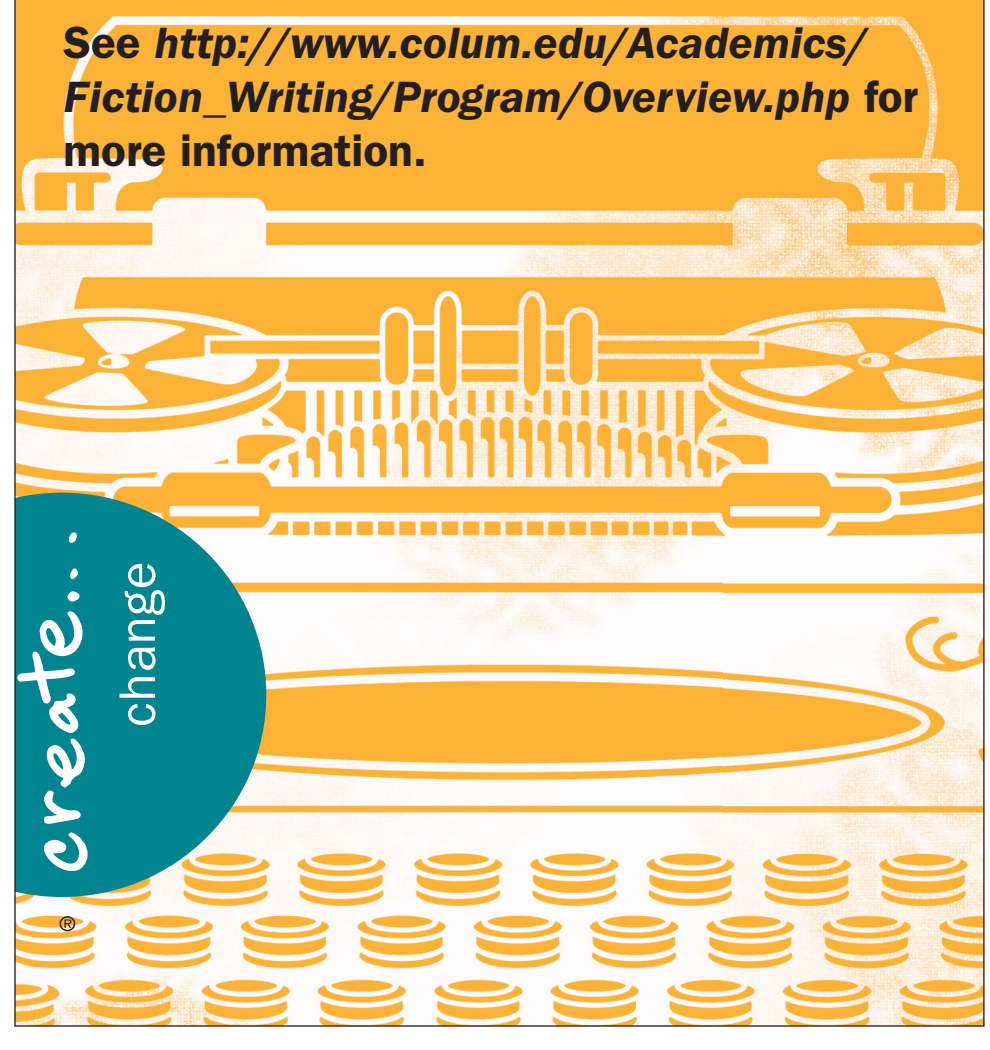

Artist and viewer: the twine shall meet

Crochet installation exhibit travels to Oak Park gallery, interacts with audience

by Matt Watson
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

"Common Sense" is an interactive exhibit where patrons deconstruct the piece and crochet their own work.

HANGING FROM the walls and ceiling like a massive, colorful spider web, Sheila Pepe's yarn installation exhibit, "Common Sense," gives audience members a chance to interact with the artwork at the show's finale. At Pepe's recent show in Boston, some exhibit goers crocheted beer cozies using yarn from the exhibit, while another made a cap for her unborn baby.

The traveling interactive exhibit by Pepe, opened at He Said, She Said gallery, 216 N. Harvey Ave., in Oak Park, Ill., on April 9. The yarn installation is strung abstractly across the space, with some crochet pieces hanging and others woven together like a web. When the exhibit ends on May 14, the audience will get to dismantle the piece and crochet their own work with the yarn.

"For me, this is the first time I've selected an artist who's working with something so interactive," said Pamela Fraser, co-owner of He Said, She Said.

Fraser and her husband, Randall Szott, have differing views on art and opened the gallery to start a discussion about it.

"The basic premise is that we had this ongoing disagreement of art and culture," Szott said. "It had been playing itself out in conversations with friends, so we said we'd come up with a way to make this conversation more formal."

"Common Sense" was a new way to get people involved with art, Fraser said. Pepe brings the installation to the gallery space and designs it there. According to Pepe, no two pieces are ever alike because all galleries are different.

The main focus for this type of art is the deconstruction process. Pepe, who has been doing yarn installations since the mid '90s, said she decided on the deconstruction element while showing her work in Austin in a private home gallery. She wanted the work to represent the idea of a home but recognized she needed to add a contrasting element to it.

"It's like bringing tea to China," she said. "I'm bringing knitting back to the home. What kind of transition is that? There's no collision."

Pepe and curator Elizabeth Dunbar discussed how to add such an element to the show. She said the two decided the piece needed to be taken apart by audience members and turned into something else. By doing this, Pepe said the art work comes full circle by returning to people's homes in the form of different knitted objects.

People who come to the final show get to interact with the art in ways they can't with most exhibits, Pepe said. To her, the temporary nature of "Common Sense" represents the ephemeral nature of woman's labor—it always continues. In the process, it becomes a more social interaction with art and other people.

The gallery contacted Pepe about bringing the exhibit to He Said, She Said in early 2011. The gallery is in Fraser's and Szott's home, and she thought it would be perfect to present the piece in a domestic environment.

"It sort of takes over the space to some degree," Fraser said. "When Pepe was setting it up, my son already turned it into a trapeze, and Pepe suggested I invite some of his friends to have a more child-like deconstruction of it."

Fraser said she hasn't decided whether to go that route or contact a local sewing group in Oak Park to crochet the yarn. Either way, she was glad Pepe gave her artistic freedom with the piece.

So far, "Common Sense" has traveled to Houston, Boston, Austin and internationally to Tbilisi in the Republic of Georgia. At each location, the audience reacted differently to being able to take the piece apart. Pepe said in Boston, where the work was shown in a for-profit gallery space, people felt bad about touching the art and didn't want to destroy it.

Because the piece is taken down and used, Pepe said she has started to feel she's done all she can with the work. According to her, this will be the last tour of its kind.

"I wanted to experience this big giveaway and have an opportunity to talk about returning the process to its home design origins, the [do-it-yourself] origins and the origin of feminist work," Pepe said.

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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 Tom Nawrocki, faculty member in the English Department.

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.
Co-sponsored by the Center for Asian Arts and Media at Columbia College.

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.
Co-sponsored by the Office of International Student Affairs at Columbia College.

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?
Co-sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations at Columbia College.

Book Discussion Group
Wed, April 20, 2011 1 - 2:30pm
Columbia College Chicago Library, 624 S. Michigan Ave., 3rd floor north
Join us for a moderated discussion of *The Things They Carried.* For more information, contact Sonja Smally (312) 369-7712
Sponsored by Follett's Campus Bookstore at Columbia College.

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 - 8pm
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* 5-5:30pm, *As Long As I Remember: American Veteranos* 5:30-7pm, 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, 623 S. Wabash 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 War veterans.

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 War veterans.

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 co-sponsored 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 and 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.

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CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS

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COLLEGE CHICAGO

create... change

Transforming THE PAST

Written by Sophia Coleman
Designed by Ed Kang

An abusive ex-lover's name tattooed on one's skin becomes hidden under a wreath of exotic lilies on the lower back of a young woman. An ornate black and white seahorse effortlessly covers the name of a violent gang. Splotchy, discolored burns on the leg of a woman are transformed into a beautiful garden of purple flowers.

Scars may appear to last forever, but with the help of a free Chicago-based program called Sacred Transformations, people now have the ability to transform their unwanted marks into gorgeous works of art.

These reworked tattoos are some of what Eric Dean Spruth, 45, founder of Sacred Transformations, has done for clients across Chicago. Through his organization, he has helped people recover from various negative experiences, such as gang-affiliations and serious burns by transforming their marks into positive imagery.

> "Ultimately, I have had a negative mark from a chapter of my life put on my body that has been sacredly transformed to my true roots."
>
> *- Angela Grujicic*

The program is funded by donations and out of Spruth's own income.

"As an art therapist, I have seen and witnessed the challenges of thousands of fellow human beings at some of the most difficult crossroads of their lives," Spruth said. "[They were] literally marked by scars, tattoos and burns—but more importantly, marked within their minds, spirits and perception of themselves."

Spruth's idea of facilitating a free program to address the needs of those looking for transformation began in 1992 while he was earning a master's degree in art therapy at the school of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The idea developed further through his work as an art therapist in the Cook County jail system at the Cermak Health Services Hospital, 2800 S. California Ave. In 2006, Sacred Transformations was formed with the help of Spruth's wife Sara and "an army of volunteers," as he called it.

"Our network of volunteers runs the gamut from recently incarcerated individuals to the highly notable law firm of Meyer Brown," said Sara Spruth, who is also secretary of Sacred Transformations, as well as co-founder.

The organization isn't anything like a typical tattoo parlor. In fact, it isn't actually a parlor at all. It operates out of a P.O. box in Chinatown and is expanded by the use of public and private spaces. This way, it can reach all of the Chicago area instead of serving one particular neighborhood. The client must find the address of the P.O. box through Spruth's website or through a friend of a friend, and then he or she sends his or her application through the mail. Once a client is confirmed, a meeting place is designated in close proximity to the client. The places where they meet range from willing tattoo shops to office spaces donated by volunteers. Once a site is chosen, the first step of the transformation process begins.

"For some of our clients, a trip across town can be a life-threatening experience and for others it's not possible because of lack of child care," Sara said.

South Side Tattoo is one out of the handful of parlors that aid Sacred Transformations. On occasion, an artist from South Side Tattoo will volunteer his or her time to work on one of the clients, but usually it is the steady hand of Eric etching needle into skin.

Spruth is quick to point out that the service is free, but that doesn't mean it will come easy. Applicants must write a five-page essay describing why they have the tattoo or scar they have, what they want done with it and where they see themselves in the future. This is the first step in the self-reflective process that consists of short and long-term goals related to the desired tattoo as well as the client's life in general.

Once the applicant is accepted and the initial goals are set, he or she meets with Denise Colletti, art therapist and director of transformative designs, and a group of volunteer artists. There, the client takes the role of the boss and expresses what he or she wants to evoke through the reconfiguration of their existing tattoo or scar.

"Some people move through it very quickly," Colletti said. "They are self-motivated and self-directed, so the process goes fast. Others aren't used to making deliberate decisions for themselves and have lived their lives with

Through Ink

> “As an art therapist, I have seen and witnessed the challenges of thousands of fellow human beings at some of the most difficult crossroads of their lives.”
>
> –*Eric Dean Spruth*

someone holding power over them, so it can take months,” Colletti said.

Angela Grujicic, a client of Eric’s, expressed through a short film on the Sacred Transformations website how her life turned around through the program. While the initial remake of the tattoo took two days, the whole process took weeks.

“Ultimately, I have had a negative mark from a chapter of my life put on my body that has been sacredly transformed to my true roots,” Grujicic said.

Years ago, Grujicic was in an abusive relationship where her partner controlled every aspect of her life and as a result, she let him tattoo his name on her lower back. She left him, but the mark on her back remained. It constantly reminded her of the negativity she experienced, and it made it difficult for her to find a healthy relationship. Then in June 2009 she met Eric, who she calls her “savior.”

She went through a series of meetings in which Eric and his team determined what her potential tattoo could be. Eventually she settled on a trio of orange tiger lilies in memory of her aunt who had also dealt with negative relationships. The transformation she went through was a form of deep therapy she recommends to others in similar situations.

“I have seen and spoken to people with regretted tattoos, scars and burns,” Grujicic said. “They are not happy, they are not proud, they are not spiritually evolved—but Sacred Transformations takes valued time and much needed money away from themselves and their families with the sole intention of helping others.” Sacred Transformations has produced approximately 100 tattoos since starting in 2006, but the organization doesn’t solely measure its success through the body art it designs. For Spruth and his team, the real reward is seeing these people turn their lives around. Through therapy meetings with Sacred Transformations, clients have gained the courage to obtain state IDs, library cards and other tools necessary to move forward in society.

“The time spent at the meetings, in addition to the actual tattoo, help the client take the time to realize that they have great potential,” Spruth said.

The organization receives roughly 25 applications per month and all of them are accepted. As the program expands, it plans to help every applicant. Though it can be difficult at times to raise enough money to rework every tattoo, Spruth and his organization make every effort to transform every individual.

“We do need funding,” Spruth said. “Any and all donations are welcome—no matter how small or large—every little bit helps,” Eric said. “Whether that is giving up a coffee once a week, a pizza once a month—it’s all needed and appreciated.”

Spruth is also starting to offer custom work as a tattoo artist to aid the program and help raise much needed funds.

“Sacred Transformations is not a business, it’s a way of life and a charitable organization,” Spruth said. “I want to help people who need help. I want to help people who wouldn’t spend their money to change a tattoo but

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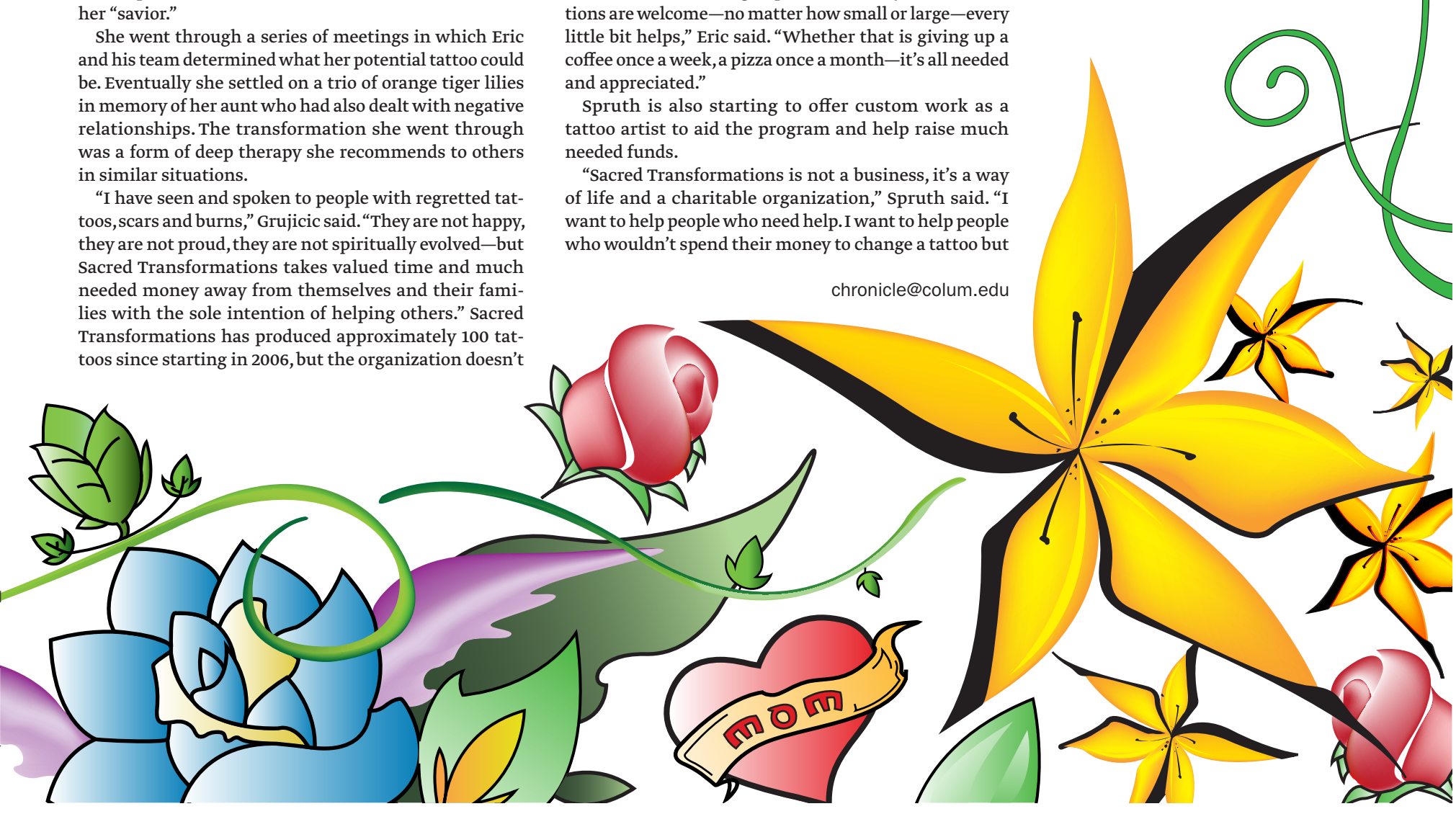


Kellie Pickler more than country cutup

'American Idol' artist looks back on past, eyes transformation

by Jon Bream
MCT Newswire

THE CHARMING bumpkin seen on "American Idol," the corny cutup seen on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and the wannabe crossover diva heard on her second album aren't really Kellie Pickler.

"The past couple years that I've been in Nashville since I signed my record deal, I've struggled to figure out where my place is," Pickler said. "There's a lot more to Kellie Pickler than the first two albums let you in on."

It took a heart-to-heart with a North Carolina childhood friend to get her on the right path.

"Summer Townsend Herlocker sat me down, and she said, 'Kellie, I love your records. But where's you?' Red High Heels [her first single] is me. I've got pieces of me that are scattered throughout both of my records. I need to make an album that is consistently me."

So Pickler, 24, has spent the past year and a half working with patient, congenial producer Frank Liddell, the force behind Miranda Lambert's success.

"He's not about rushing it," Pickler said recently from Nashville. "He said: 'I want people to hear on your record what I see in front of me.' I know what I love, but how can we do that with today's styles? I want to go in and cut the most country, backwoods—some dirty country music. But I've got a lot of people to answer to and I've got to make certain people happy because you have companies investing a lot of money into you. I'm patient, and I'm paying my dues."

Pickler has been writing songs with such Nashville pros as Leslie Satcher, Dean Dillon and Minnesota-bred Kyle Jacobs, whom she married on Jan. 1.

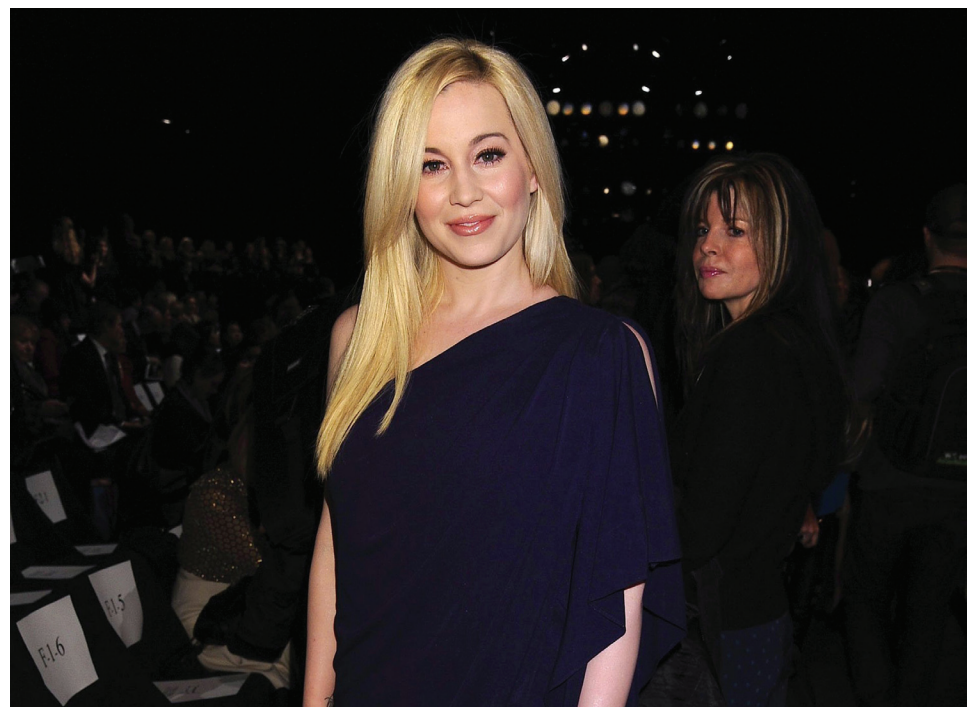
Jacobs is a successful songwriter best known for co-writing "More Than a Memory" for Garth Brooks. Pickler has come to Minnesota to visit Jacobs' family, including Christmas 2009.

"That was the first time I'd ever had a white Christmas," the chatty Pickler said. "There were several feet of snow. It was an experience. It was nice."

What do the Jacobses make of her North Carolina accent?

"I don't feel like I have an accent. So I always mock everybody there," the ever-feisty, often-playful singer said. "Kyle's mom [Sharon] and I pick at each other about it. She tries to talk like me and I talk like her. We do get a lot of laughs out of where I came from versus where Kyle came from. We grew up eating grass on opposite sides of the fence."

They were introduced by friends at the Tin Roof bar in downtown Nashville. The next day, they set up a songwriting session and began dating. Two years later, in summer 2010, they got engaged and then eloped to a private island in the Caribbean. She's been encouraging Jacobs, who has been in Nashville for 13 years, to record an EP.



MCT Newswire

Kellie Pickler has been successful since her time on "American Idol," where she made it into the top six.

Pickler doesn't keep up with Paris Bennett, who was eliminated from "Idol" in 2005 right after Pickler. But she is tight with "Idol" runner-up Katharine McPhee, who was going to be a bridesmaid in Pickler's formal wedding before she eloped instead.

In the six years since she took that flight to Hollywood for "Idol," Pickler can't believe she's gone from a small-town trailer park to a beautiful Nashville home, from a Sonic Drive-in waitress who was "19 and green" to a country recording artist who has toured with Brad Paisley, Rascal Flatts and Taylor Swift. (One of her best friends, Swift helped Pickler write her biggest single, "Best Days of Your Life"). She counts her blessings but also gives herself a reality check.

"I define success by happiness," she said. "I'm glad it's happened at the pace it has. I just hope I finally get the [next] single out before I'm 30."

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Private awards go public

Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

Anonymous awards committee hosts first ceremony

by Brianna Wellen
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

CHICAGO COMEDIAN Seth Dodson knows he will be hosting the Orgie Theatre Awards on April 19 but is completely in the dark about everything else, including the identities of those planning the event.

Dodson said the anonymous committee that called on him to perform emcee duties communicated through email with vague instructions. He is to go to the site of the ceremony, The Spot, a bar and comedy club at 4437 N. Broadway, where a masked man will silently guide him on stage to confer the awards which the secret society known as the Orgie Theatre Award Committee has been anonymously giving out for six years. The awards honor theater artists from alternative and storefront theaters doing quirky and challenging work.

This is the first public ceremony for the incognito Orgie Committee, which is staking out a very different ground from that of the Joseph Jefferson Awards, which typically recognize traditional theater and classical works. Fifteen awards and three special acknowledgements will be given for acting, playwriting, artistic direction and other categories.

"The decision to have a ceremony was mutually intuitive among the committee," a member of the committee anonymously stated in an email. "It's been a bit more work than expected to set it all up, but if it yields some unusual fun, then it's been worth it. We're awarding theater artists for taking risks. It seems hypocritical if we don't sometimes do things in a different way."

Dodson was chosen to host the event alongside colleague Kellen Alexander because the Orgie Committee liked their "Show 'n Tell Show," a live late-night talk show about graphic design. He said he was then contacted anonymously through email about the awards.

"Being the Illuminati of Chicago's underground theater scene is appealing to them for whatever reason," Dodson said. "I think it's going to be a really fun event, and I think we should all expect the unexpected because so much of this is unknown to everyone except the Orgie people, whoever they are."

The group playfully skates around the topic of its identity and makes it clear the awards are all in good fun.

While local awards such as the Jefferson Awards may recognize more traditional work, such as the dramatic ensemble performance of "A Streetcar Named Desire," the Orgies shed light on the actors involved in avant-garde productions like "Poseidon! An Upside-down Musical."

Diana Slickman, member of Theater Oobleck, won the Unsung Theater Hero award last year. She said the category would not have been offered in other local theater awards and may not ever be an Orgie Award category again because of the specific parameters of the Orgies.

> "We're awarding theater artists for taking risks. It seems hypocritical if we don't sometimes do things in a different way."
>
> - Orgie Theatre Award Committee

In past years, the winners received recognition by mail. Last year, Slickman received a certificate, "which was shiny and very satisfying," along with a $100 bill.

"I did kind of like the sort of personal nature of getting something in the mail," Slickman said. "It almost let me share in the anonymity of the committee. There's a guerilla aspect about it I really like, and there's an underground aspect to it I think is a direct correlation to the way a lot of Chicago theater works and the reason why it works."

Upon receiving the award, Slickman admitted she spent some time trying to uncover the identities of the mystery committee. For them to be familiar enough with her work to present her with an award, she said she would have to know

» **SEE ORGIE**, PG. 33

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CHICAGO AUDIOFILE

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Jeremy Jacobsen of "The Lonesome Organist" performed at Beauty Bar, 1444 W. Chicago Ave., on April 13.

'Lonesome Organist' keeps busy

by Mina Bloom
Arts & Culture Editor

JEREMY JACOBSEN has performed solo under the moniker "The Lonesome Organist" since 1996 and hasn't recorded an album since 2003. Yet he continues to play at local venues at least twice a month, ranging from birthday parties to Beauty Bar, 1444 W. Chicago Ave., on April 13.

Jacobsen, 43, works as a church organist at a Unitarian congregation in Indiana during the day. As The Lonesome Organist, he's known to play up to four instruments at one time, including but not limited to the harmonica, steel drum, singing saw and vibraphone. But lately he's more in favor of playing one or two instruments at a time. Being a former member of rock outfits 5ive Style and Chicago's Complaints has informed his now solo musical identity.

The Chronicle recently talked to Jacobsen about who influenced his vaudevillen-type sound, the benefits of playing alone and what to expect from a new release.

The Columbia Chronicle: Is there one particular instrument you prefer playing?

Jeremy Jacobsen: I wish, because then it'd be a lot easier for me [*laughs*]. It's easier to be known as someone who does this or that. For me, everything has its gratification, and I'm such a dilettante that I can't help myself; I just have to do it all. That comes in more ways than just in music. It's just my nature to be curious. I grew up playing all of those instruments, and I'm relatively fluent on all of them compared to a lot of people who think they can play a lot of different instruments.

The Columbia Chronicle: Why did you pursue a vaudevillen-type sound?

JJ: When I was growing up, there was a big ska thing going on, and I was pretty into that. That's part of the inspiration. Bands like Mr. Bungle and New York Jazz [have inspired me], too. A particular band, Motherhead Bug, was a really great band that had a carnival hardcore thing going on and, of course, Tom Waits. It's sort of a mish mash, certainly some of the exotica sounds and rockabilly. There's a one-man band called Hasil Adkins who was very famous. He was the first person I knew playing rock shows as a one-man band. Before him, nobody really did that. If you were a one-man band, you were on the street. He's been an inspiration musically and conceptually. I take a lot of different inspiration from a lot of different places—everything from Johnny Cash to Johann Sebastian Bach. It's a pretty wild palette, and my music kind of sounds like that. That's the hope and dream, to take a big palette and distill it into your own thing.

The Columbia Chronicle: How many instruments do you generally play at one time?

JJ: I used to play tons—as many instruments as possible. The novelty aspect has really worn off, so, at this point, I don't really focus on the amount. Typically, I get enough going so the song is served and often that's only one instrument. Sometimes it's two, and sometimes it's three. But I don't go for the big one-man band blitz of virtuosity in the same way that, say, the classic one-man band does. For me, I would be really happy if I could just play acoustic guitar and sing melodies, but I never had the balls to do that.

The Columbia Chronicle: In that case, why did the one-man band appeal to you originally?

JJ: It's just about the freedom. You don't have to sit down as a committee and make decisions. You can make decisions instantaneously. It's just free, and with that freedom, there are complications. If you want to change in the middle of the song, you don't have to tell anyone about it. You don't have to look [at] anyone to do it, and that's really exciting for me. It's still exciting for me. A lot of one-man bands typically use background tracks and that's cool. I have no issue with that. But for me it takes away from the freedom of the thing.

» SEE AUDIOFILE, PG. 33

music downloads

Week ending April 12, 2011

#1 Album

Songs for Japan
Various Artists

Top tracks

( ) Last week's ranking in top five

United States

E.T. • Katy Perry	(1)	1
Just Can't Get Enough • Black Eyed Peas	(2)	2
S&M • Rihanna	(3)	3
Rolling in the Deep • Adele	(5)	4
Till the World Ends • Britney Spears		5

Wasting Light
Foo Fighters

United Kingdom

Party Rock Anthem • LMFAO	(2)	1
On the Floor • Jennifer Lopez	(1)	2
E.T. • Katy Perry		3
Just Can't Get Enough • Black Eyed Peas	(4)	4
Sweat • Snoop Dogg & David Guetta		5

Songs for Japan
Various Artists

Spain

On the Floor • Jennifer Lopez	(1)	1
Mr. Saxobeat • Alexandra Stan	(2)	2
Facil • Maldita Nerea		3
Lead the Way ... RMX • Carlos Jean	(3)	4
Lead the Way • Carlos Jean	(4)	5

Source: iTunes

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Rand's novel hits big screen

Film uses political movement to gain interest, now in theaters

by Rebecca Keegan
MCT Newswire

AYN RAND'S 1957 novel "Atlas Shrugged" sold more than 7 million copies and has as passionate a following among many political conservatives and libertarians as "Twilight" has among teen girls. It took businessman John Aglialoro nearly 20 years to realize his ambition of making a movie out of the beloved book.

But the version of the book that came to theaters on April 15 is decidedly independent, low-cost and makeshift. Shot for a modest $10 million by a first-time director with a cast of little-known actors, "Atlas Shrugged: Part I," the first in an expected trilogy, will play on about 300 screens in 80 markets. It's being marketed with the help of conservative media and Tea Party organizing groups and put into theaters by a small Salt Lake City-based booking service.

The novel takes place in an unspecified future in which the U.S. is mired in a deep depression. Heroine Dagny Taggart is trying to save her railroad company from collapse amid increasing government control and a mysterious phenomenon causing the nation's leading industrialists to disappear. "Atlas Shrugged" lays out Rand's passionate defenses of capitalism and individualism and has been a source of inspiration to figures as varied as Alan Greenspan and Angelina Jolie.

The 97-minute film is a faithful adaptation of the first third of the book, with some adjustments made for modern audiences: It takes place in the year 2016, when gasoline costs $37.50 a gallon, train travel predominates and clothes, cellphones and offices look pretty much as they do on a "Law & Order" rerun. Dagny, played by Taylor Schilling of the now-canceled television show "Mercy," is trying to hold Taggart Transcontinental together. She's building a train line with a new metal alloy made by the man who is also her love interest, steel magnate Hank Rearden (former "True Blood" werewolf Grant Bowler).

In February, the producers began to share the film with people likely to be in accord with the author's views. They showed footage at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, unveiling a trailer that has been downloaded more than a million times on YouTube and screened the final cut for influential conservatives like House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and commentator Andrew Breitbart. They enlisted Freedomworks, the political organizing group behind many Tea Party events, to help promote it, and started advertising with posters that said, "Who Is John Galt?," the first line of the book and a meaningful catchphrase for Rand's acolytes.

In 1992, the heir to Rand's estate sold a 15-year option on the book's rights to Aglialoro for $1 million.

"This is the greatest epic that's never been made into a movie," said Aglialoro, who is now the CEO of the exercise equipment manufacturer Cybex. "I was like, 'I don't need a 15-year lease. This is done in 18 months.'"

MCT Newswire

Ayn Rand's 1957 novel "Atlas Shrugged" was adapted for film.

Throughout the next 18 years (he bought extensions on his option), Aglialoro developed several ill-fated scripts. One attempt to get the book greenlit as a miniseries at TNT got caught in post-9/11 concerns about the novel's apocalyptic setting, according to Ruddy, who worked on it. A feature screenplay, by "Braveheart" writer and "Secretariat" director Randall Wallace, was set up at Lionsgate in 2007 with Jolie attached to play Dagny. According to a source close to Lionsgate, the project fell apart when Aglialoro's commitment to the book's philosophical messages clashed with the studio's aims to make the story more cinematic. According to Aglialoro, the multiple parties couldn't agree on a director.

"There are two big factors that I sense have frightened filmmakers about 'Atlas Shrugged,'" Wallace said. "One is the reverence with which Rand's followers hold the novel and the other is the sprawling nature of the story. I believed to climb that mountain I'd have to shrug off both those fears."

Meanwhile, Rand was gaining a new currency with readers. After several years of selling about 75,000 copies a year, sales of "Atlas Shrugged" spiked during the recent recession, reaching 500,000 in 2009, according to the Ayn Rand Institute, a nonprofit think tank in Irvine, Calif. By March 2010, Aglialoro had three months to get a film into production or the book's rights would revert to Rand's estate.

Employing a strategy similar to the one used on the breakout low-budget horror hit "Paranormal Activity," the producers have asked fans to "Demand Atlas" in their city by filling out a form on the film's website. So far the most eager city is Atlanta, with more than 3,200 requests.

Patrick O'Toole is currently working on scripts for the second movie, and—if the first does as well as its makers expect—production could start by mid-September, Kaslow said.

After years of developing scripts and paying for the production, distribution and marketing of this first film, Aglialoro estimated he will have spent more than $20 million on "Atlas Shrugged." Ironically, given Rand's theories of self-interest, what Aglialoro said he really hopes the movie will do is help other people.

"I hope that by seeing the movie, people will win their own competitions," Aglialoro said. "Get the best from within you, and that's how you'll make contributions."

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May 5–8th

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Columbia COLLEGE CHICAGO | ELLEN STONE BELIC INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN&GENDER IN THE ARTS AND MEDIA AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO | image + implication CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS | multicultural affairs

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This program is supported in part by the Leadership Donors of the Institute; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Office of Multicultural Affairs; and Critical Encounters: Image & Implication.

TOP 5

Zach Stemerick / Graphic Designer

Things I would marry

iPhone: Definitely my No. 1 on the list. The iPhone would be a perfect mate. With apps for almost anything, the iPhone and I would enjoy a life together full of hipstamatic mirror pictures and late-night Angry Birds nuzzling. Z.S. <3 i.P. 4 life.

Bacon bits & raspberry pecan vinagrette: Seriously, though, have you ever tried the two? Amazing. No room for field greens in this polygamist marriage. I can see the three of us in a warm bubble bath caressing one another and unwinding after a long day of making bacon omelets covered in salad dressing.

Dry socks: Now obviously this arrangement has complications. A marriage to dry socks would involve a new spouse every time I'm wearing socks and accidentally step in something damp. But I'm willing to work at this if they are.

PUMA: Not the cat, the shoe brand. PUMA would design an awesome tuxedo because PUMA and I … we just work. I imagine the reception would include me frolicking through a giant room full of shoes.

A dinosaur: If there ever were a chance a dinosaur survived the K-T Extinction, you don't have to worry about it being lonely. I will scoop that lizard up faster than you can say, "Jurassic Park." Our dates wouldn't be very ideal (with the whole killing people thing) but I would totally let my dino date gobble up an old woman on occasion. It's about compromise.

Jonathan Allen / Senior Graphic Designer

Reasons why Donald Trump is irrelevant

The hair: Any time the man steps out from his gold-plated jet-o-copter, his chia pet comb-over will flap around like pages of a book in a windstorm.

Birther? That's so 2008: He's so 2,000-and-late on this one. (See what I did there?) If you are going to start off your political career quoting misspelled picket signs from the slack-jawed Tea Party movement, then you are discrediting your political prowess pretty early in the game.

Media blitz: His media following is eerily similar to our old Wiccan friend Christine O'Donnell. She liked to throw around a lot of crazy nonsense too (evolution can't exist because we still have monkeys!) She was a lot easier to look at, though, and yet that still got her nowhere.

Speaking of the roast: Did anyone else see "The Roast of Donald Trump?" First of all, no roast is worth watching after William Shatner's. That's just a fact. But Trump's featured Whitney Cummings, Lisa Lampanelli and the humiliating attempts at humor from "The Situation."

No seriously, the hair: I can't stress this enough. You look just awful. You could buy a toupee made out of unicorn hair oiled with terminator blood. Gary Busey makes you look like an Italian-tailored crazy person. Figure it out.

Ed Kang / Graphic Designer

Reasons the Chicago Bulls are unstoppable

Youngest MVP in NBA history: Born and raised on the South Side of Chicago, Derrick Rose entered the NBA in 2008 and won Rookie of the Year. Only in his third season now, Rose has reached the level of an elite and respectable player. On top of that, he is only 22 years old and probably the best role model in the league.

No. 1 record in the NBA: The Chicago Bulls won 62 games and lost only 20 of them. Last season, the Bulls barely made the playoffs with the record of 41-41, and now they have the league's best record. Even better than "The King" without the ring of the Miami Heat, San Antonio Spurs, Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers.

Coach of the year: The Bulls have the No. 1 seed in the East, and they're No. 1 in the league. Tom Thibodeau took a team that had a record of 41-41 last season to 62-20 this season.

Second starting five: Taj Gibson, Ronnie Brewer, Kyle Korver, C.J. Watson, Kurt Thomas and Omer Asik are known as the bench players, but they're not typical. Why? The bench scored 50 points in the last game of the season against the Nets.

Teamwork: The Bulls are at the championship level now, and it's because every Bull knows his role. Whether you're Rose or Brewer, they all share the same mentality to win.

tweets of the Week

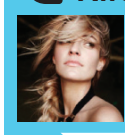
@pattonoswalt

Is "throw [someone] under the bus" based on a real thing? Did a person literally throw someone under a bus & it helped their career?
April 14

@ebertchicago

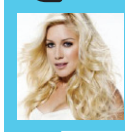
Atlas Shrugged: "The most anticlimactic non-event since Geraldo Rivera broke into Al Capone's vault." http://bit.ly/hMsrB5
April 15

@KirstinCav



Wearing the first pair of christian louboutins I ever bought and I think my feet shrank bc they're a half size too big
April 14

@heidimontag



People keep asking what my new show is about. I say - imagine if Chekov & Tolstoy wrote for reality TV.
April 5

@ImTracyMorgan

Whoever said money doesn't grow on trees obviously never sold marijuana.
April 12

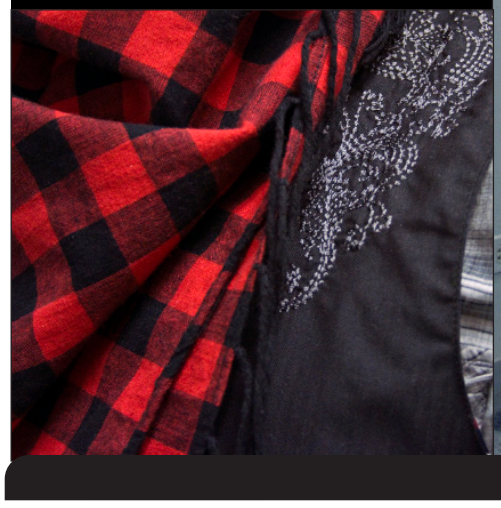
Follow the Columbia Chronicle at twitter.com/CCChronicle

check me out

Henry Warren, junior illustration major

"I think about general colors and what I'll be doing that day."

Hat: Urban Outfitters, $28; Vest: English Apparel, $40; Scarf: H&M, $10



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Brock Brake THE CHRONICLE

Emily Draznik, sophomore arts, entertainment media management major

"I like to do what I haven't put together before, especially new patterns that look good."

Shoes: Akira, $99; Skirt: Urban Outfitters, $20; Coat: H&M, $10

» AUDIOFILE

Continued from PG. 29

The Columbia Chronicle: Do you find yourself improvising a lot?

JJ: All the time. I never play the same set twice. Some songs are the same, but they'll go off into completely different place every time. That's what keeps me playing those tunes and keeps me coming back to it.

The Chronicle: The last album you released came out in 2003. Why haven't you recorded an album since then?

JJ: I had a daughter, so that was one of the hugest reasons. It put me in a position where I can't really tour as much, and [I] don't really want to. I'm trying to do a record, but I need to do it on my own schedule and at my own pace. I do enjoy playing very much.

The Chronicle: What should we expect from a new release? How have you evolved since "Forms and Follies?"

JJ: I've gotten more comfortable with my voice, so there's a lot more singing and it's more unique. It's singer/songwriter stuff mixed with the one-man band stuff, but there's plenty of rock. In fact, I've gotten more rockin' [throughout] the years. My day job is a church organist, so I can only play so much Bach until I have to do something else.

For news and music pertaining to The Lonesome Organist, visit LonesomeOrganist.com.

hbloom@chroniclemail.com

» ORGIE

Continued from PG. 28

them. But after grilling close friends and racking her brain to figure it out, she finally gave up and enjoyed the feeling of receiving recognition.

Daniel Smith, associate artistic director at Caffeine Theater, 1225 W. Belmont Ave., also speculated on the group's identity in the past. He said it seems like he should know some of those involved, but because of their ability to remain so anonymous, it's too hard to tell.

The theater is receiving its first award from the committee this year, which Smith said is a welcome acknowledgement after losing in the category of "Outstanding Ensemble" at the Joseph Jefferson Awards last year.

According to Smith, the nature of their shows make them a perfect candidate for what the Orgie Theater Awards are looking for. Caffeine Theater's shows usually focus on biographies of poets presented in avant-garde ways, such as an opera about "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" author Lewis Carroll.

As the award ceremony draws closer, Dodson and Alexander are taking advantage of the award's quirky nature and the theaters involved. They're planning to ruffle some feathers with their jokes, and Dodson said because they're not directly involved in the theater community, they have nothing to lose. For now, his one hope is that an audience and award recipients actually show up.

"I hope there are people there," Dodson said. "I can't tell if there will be because I'm so in the dark about it. I don't think anyone will have any idea who I am, and I don't think I'll know who most of them are, but I think it will be a really fun time."

The Orgie Theatre Awards will take place on April 19 at The Spot, 4437 N. Broadway. Doors open at 8 p.m., and the ceremony is free and open to the public. For more information on winners or the Orgie Theatre Awards Committee, visit OrgieTheatreAward.com.

bwellen@chroniclemail.com

Courtesy ORGIE THEATRE COMMITTEE

In previous years, winners of the Orgie Theatre Award received a certificate and a $100 bill in the mail. This year, all the money usually given out to winners will go toward the first ceremony, and they will receive a trophy.

FILM REVIEW

Legendary comic given subpar treatment

Film chronicles life, death of underrated funnyman

by Drew Hunt
Film Critic

'American: The Bill Hicks Story'

Starring: Bill Hicks
Director: Matt Harlock, Paul Thomas
Run Time: 102 minutes

Rating:

Now playing on IFC's OnDemand service.

IMDB

The film "American: The Bill Hicks Story" follows the comedian's career until his death at age 32.

LARGELY UNDERAPPRECIATED in his lifetime, comedian Bill Hicks has since become one of the most influential and admired stand-ups in history. His posthumous success led to a myriad of CD releases and live tributes. Now, filmmakers Matt Harlock and Paul Thomas have given him the bio treatment with their documentary "American: The Bill Hicks Story."

Unfortunately, the film frequently resembles something of a toothless cog. Hicks fans won't learn anything they didn't already know, and those unfamiliar with the comic only get an introductory course in his contributions to the world of stand-up. While Harlock and Thomas succeed in giving the man his due, Hicks' voice as a social commentator is frequently drowned by their high concept visual style.

Hicks' humor derived from his temper. Adrift in a world he considered lazy and inept, he laced the majority of his bits with a cynical outlook on life. One of the main queries raised by Harlock and Thomas is the source of his ire, and how much of it was the real deal and how much was an act?

Because there isn't much archival interview footage of the comedian, the film relies on testimonials from his friends and family to piece together his life. Beginning with his aspirations at age 13 to perform stand-up, the film constructs its narrative from photographs of Hicks at various points in his life that are given the animation treatment and typical Ken Burns effect.

The film doesn't find its footing until we hear from the man himself, and the directors are able to illustrate how closely Hicks lived his life to what he preached on stage.

By the time we get there, though, the trip has been a garish and inauthentic foray that defies Hicks' straightforward comic style. Their intentions are good, but Harlock and Thomas frequently miss the mark when it comes to rendering their subject in a faithful manner.

Hicks more than likely would have found the treatment inauthentic. They also fail to avoid typical bio-doc cliches when they delve into Hicks' storied drug and alcohol abuse.

Still, it's hard not to admire their intentions. During Hicks' peak, America was elbow-deep in Reaganism and facing much of the same in then-president George H.W. Bush. That didn't stop him from stirring the pot and taking aim squarely at the misconceptions of freedom and how so many Americans either fail to comprehend or are simply unaware of the true meaning at the center of our national identity. Hicks was constantly questioning the status quo; he never understood why everyone else didn't do the same.

As a consummate contrarian, Hicks was unpretentious in character and pragmatic in his reasoning. He was also side-splittingly funny. He once compared his act to Noam Chomsky telling dick jokes.

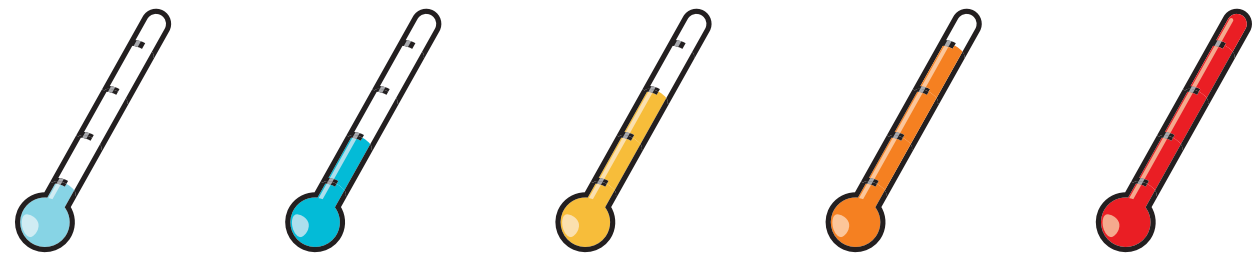
Despite his brilliance, his acerbic diatribes rendered him little more than a cult figure during his career. Since his death from pancreatic cancer in 1994 at age 32, his status has grown considerably.

Harlock and Thomas' film is undoubtedly an attempt to contribute to Hicks's legacy as a kind of American folk hero—a traveling satirist who preached a message few wanted to hear yet remained committed to his cause.

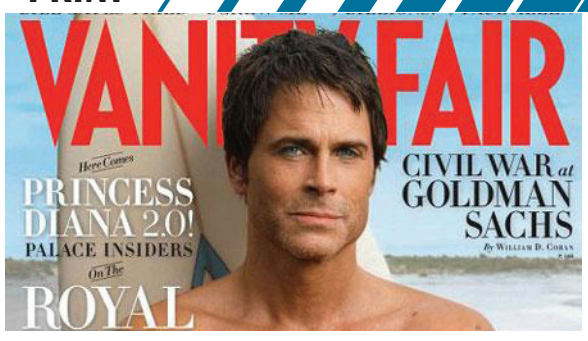
"American" doesn't necessarily do this idea injustice, but it doesn't help it either. The film is about as straightforward and complacent as documentaries get. Hicks, a stand-up comedian who transcended mere joke-telling, was anything but.

ahunt@chroniclemail.com

HOT & COLD



PRINT



ROB LOWE ON THE COVER OF VANITY FAIR

Rob Lowe is pictured without a shirt on the cover of this month's Vanity Fair issue. Me-ow! It's good to know magazine editors are still looking to appeal to my shallow side because this is the reason I decided to pick up the magazine. Who knows what the stories inside are about, and with a cover like this, who cares?—*S. Saviola*

"I WAS GANDHI'S BOYFRIEND" BY PAUL RUDNICK

This week's Shouts and Murmurs section of the New Yorker spoofed a new biography out about Mahatma Gandhi, telling of his affair with a male German bodybuilder. Paul Rudnick's take is from the hilarious point of view of Gandhi's first boyfriend, an ice skater from Nepal. Whether he meant to or not, Rudnick leaves me wondering why it really matters anyway in the scheme of Gandhi's peaceful mission.—*B. Wellen*

"ALL THE SHAH'S MEN" BY STEPHEN KINZER

This history of 21st century Iran is a fascinating look into a conflict most Americans know little to nothing about. In 1953, the American and British intelligence agencies overthrew Iran's democratic prime minister after he nationalized the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, which had long been a sign of British imperialism. After 26 years on simmer, 1979's Islamic Revolution ushered in the current extreme anti-American regime George W. Bush called the "axis of evil." Go America.—*M. Watson*

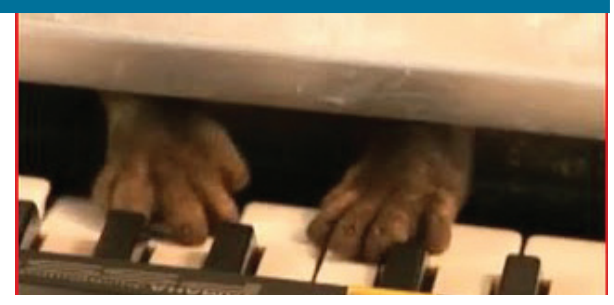
MOVIES / TV / DVD

"THE HOBBIT" START OF PRODUCTION VIDEO

Peter Jackson posted the first video blog about his filming of "The Hobbit," and I couldn't be more excited. It's fascinating to see some of the familiar sets from the original trilogy and new locations begin to come together to tell the story of J. R. R. Tolkien's classic novel. The video also includes glimpses of costumes, makeup, props and stunt people hard at work, demonstrating just how much work and manpower go into a truly epic film.—*L. Wilusz*

"THE KENNEDYS"

I have always been a huge fan of the Kennedy dynasty. Naturally, when I heard the Reelz channel had picked up an eight-part mini series by "24" director Jon Cassar, I had to work hard to control my anticipation and excitement. Little did I know Cassar would use his position to try to portray a negative and historically inaccurate side of the entire family. Also, it doesn't help that Katie Holmes plays the role of one of my idols, Jackie O. No wonder the History Channel turned this down.—*H. McGraw*



KEYBOARD OTTER

It's cute, it's funny, it's an otter playing the keyboard, and it's even better because the little guy (or gal) is doing it by its free will, plus the reward of treats. It isn't dressed up in a little outfit and probably can't be inputted into a Hall and Oates video, but it's a classic nonetheless. What I took away from this video was this: If we teach all animals to play musical instruments, the world will be a better place.—*A. Murphy*

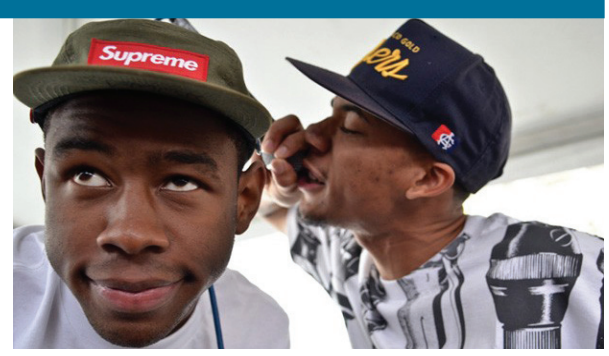
MUSIC

WITHIN TEMPTATION: "THE UNFORGIVING"

I've been waiting for years for another hardcore album by Within Temptation, and it has finally arrived. I loved this album. It's personal with great lyrics, strong vocals and heavier sounds. I suggest everyone buy the album with the bonus song "The Last Dance." That song goes back to their fairy tale roots that puts your mind in another world.—*C. Aguirre*

THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART: "BELONG"

This is whiny emo rock at its worst. The album is polluted with cliches, everything from lyrics to guitar riffs. The worst part may be the awful singer who croons completely unoriginal lyrics. This album is essentially a collection of bad high school poetry set to music being played by an even worse high school band.—*S. Charles*



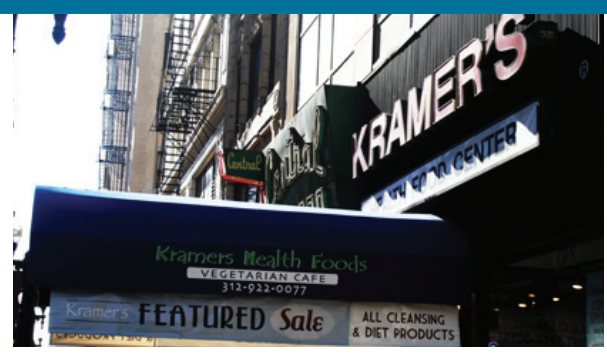
TYLER THE CREATOR: "YONKERS"

The word genius is often used to describe the Odd Future brats, and I'm still scratching my head. I'm not old, and I listen to rap frequently. It's not as if I just "don't get it." They aren't interesting, and I don't even think they're challenging anything. But the video for "Yonkers" achieves what it intends. When Tyler eats a roach, throws up and then proceeds to hang himself at the end, I'm made uncomfortable. His stale delivery and look-at-me-I'm-swearing-and-I'm-so-young thing is transparent.—*M. Bloom*

RANDOM

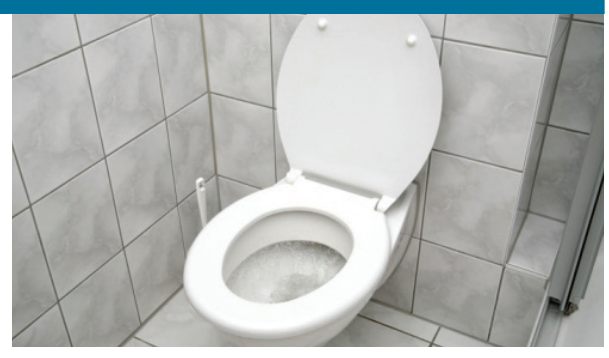
PAMELA HARPER

On April 10, the world lost a hard-working mother who raised three children by herself while she was paralyzed from the waist down because of a car accident. Ms. Harper was the mother of one of my best friends and an inspiration to people who wanted to achieve more in life. She will be truly missed, but I know her children will carry on her legacy.—*E. Modacure*



KRAMER'S HEALTH FOODS

When you enter the store, you see the usual Goji berry snacks, protein powder, ginseng and ginger, but keep walking to the back and up the stairs and you'll discover a secret restaurant. The owners offer regular customers free samples of their homemade sesame cookies. The falafel pita is my favorite item on the menu. If you're looking for fresh fruit (or vegetable) smoothies, salads, veggie burgers and soup, you have to check out Kramer's on Wabash Avenue and Adams Street.—*K. Nielsen*



FLUSH IT

Forget the old saying, "If it's yellow keep it mellow; if it's brown flush it down." It no longer applies. I'm so sick of walking into Columbia stalls and seeing odd colored liquids and objects waiting for me to flush them. The other day, I ventured into a stall and was shocked to find a half eaten cheeseburger floating in the toilet. Please educate yourself on proper restroom etiquette and flush your bodily waste.—*A. Billmyer*

Commentary

Editorials

Budget trouble hurts students

THE COLLEGE'S Theater Department recently laid off 11 student work aids in areas such as lighting, props and costumes because of budgetary shortages. Students received little warning that the cuts were happening. The layoffs directly hinder the department's ability to put together student productions, which are an integral learning experience for theater students.

Laying off student employees in the middle of a semester is a sign of severe budget mismanagement. The department hired more students than it could afford to pay. If it didn't have the funds to pay those students, it shouldn't have hired them in the first place. Because it did hire them, it should have found other places to cut expenses—such as administrative aides or other positions that don't directly affect student productions.

The job of the college is to serve the student body, so all other alternatives should have been exhausted before making detrimental cuts to students' education and professional development.

Instead of cuts, the department could have implemented pay reductions or hour caps to avoid leaving students jobless for the rest of the semester. At the very least, it should have warned the students the job cuts were coming rather than abruptly laying them off. Department Chair John Green stated he would consider hiring students who qualify for federal work-study programs next year so the government could cover their employment costs. This would alleviate some budgetary troubles while leaving student workers to run productions, but it would severely limit the number of students eligible for these jobs based on their FAFSA results. However, there's no guarantee a sufficient number of work-study students would apply.

Another alternative would be to offer internship credit for production work to save money on employee expenses while offering students valuable educational experience.

In the future, the Theater Department—and every other academic department—should pay closer attention to its budget at the beginning of each year to ensure it can afford the personnel costs it undertakes. Providing students with experience in their professional fields should be a priority, and anything that can impede that should be cut before student learning is compromised.

House approves murder registry

THE ILLINOIS House of Representatives approved a bill on April 5 that would require people convicted of first-degree murder to register on a list similar to the sex offender registry. The legislation, called "Andrea's Law," is named after Andrea Will, who was killed by her ex-boyfriend in 1998 while attending Eastern Illinois University as a freshman. Parolees convicted of first-degree murder will remain on the list for 10 years after their release from prison opposed to the sex offender registry, which is for life.

It's not surprising that the bill was passed in a 97-1 vote. People want and have a right to know when somebody with a dangerous and violent past moves into their neighborhood. They should know if the person they're beginning to date or becoming close friends with has murdered someone in the past. Nobody wants to leave his or her children in the care of someone who was convicted of first-degree murder.

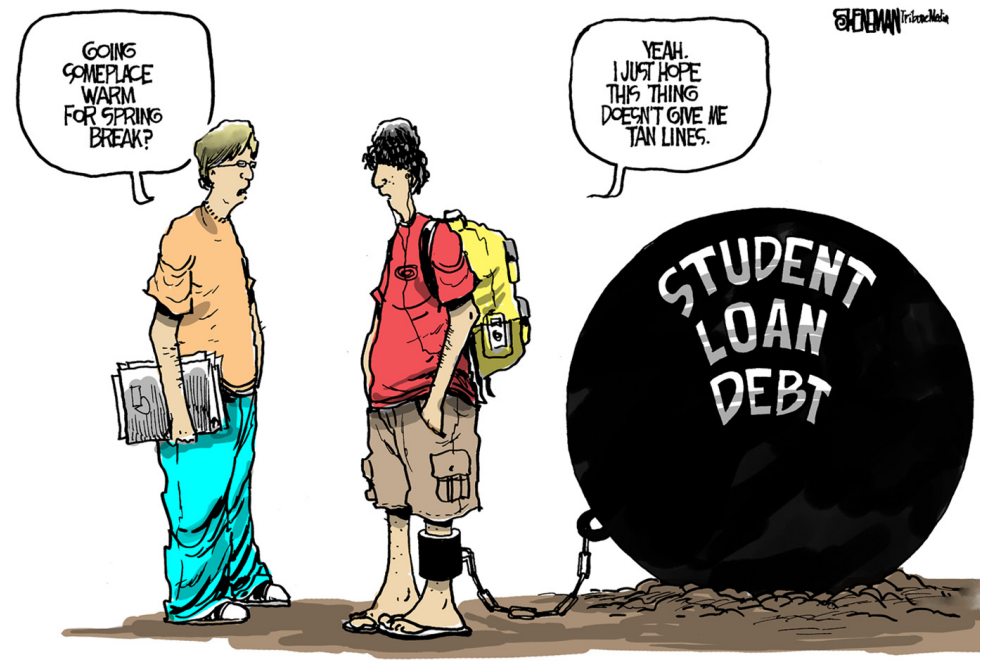
Opponents of the bill claim the registry will just reinforce social stigmas attached to ex-cons and make it more difficult for them to get jobs and reintegrate into society. However, people who committed premeditated first-degree murder brought that upon themselves.

Even though people might be comforted to have this registry available, there aren't many practical applications of the information it provides. The list won't help people protect themselves from serial killers or people likely to kill again because those offenders aren't the ones being released from prison. If inmates are released or paroled, it's usually because they were evaluated, and the justice system decided they no longer pose a threat to society.

While it's good for people to have access to information about their neighborhoods, that information—along with the presence of a convicted murderer in the area—doesn't make a neighborhood any safer or more dangerous than it was before. If anything, it could lead to violence against the ex-cons if the registry inspires acts of vigilantism against them like the sex offender registry has in the past.

The bill's fate now rests with the Illinois Senate. Legislators should keep both the positive and negative implications of the proposal in mind when making a final decision. As long as the registry doesn't lead to any more violence, it could be a good way to keep the public more informed about its surroundings, even if it doesn't directly keep people any safer.

MCT Newswire



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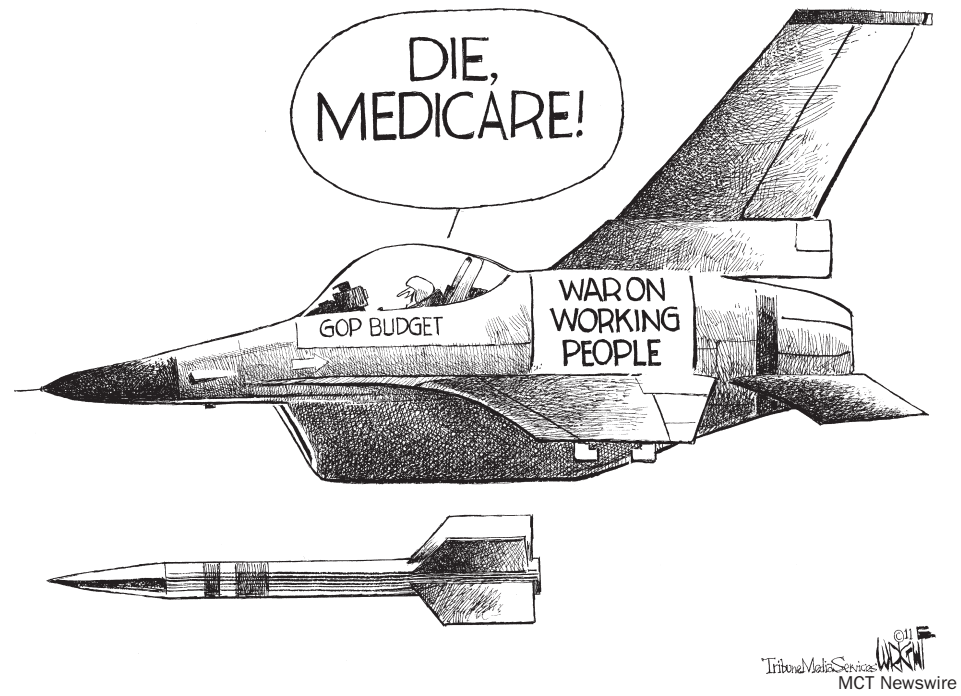

MCT Newswire

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Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

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

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

Good books come to those who wait, don't complain

"Buying the first entry in a series does not give someone the right to make demands and spew vitriol at artists who don't work fast enough for his or her tastes."

by Luke Wilusz
Commentary Editor

FANTASY AUTHOR George R.R. Martin has seen extraordinary success throughout the years. Most of his novels became New York Times best sellers. His series "A Song of Ice and Fire" was adapted into the HBO series "Game of Thrones," which premiered on April 17. Legions of fans follow his every word on his blog and wait eagerly for the next novel in the series, "A Dance with Dragons," for which Martin recently announced an official publication date of July 12.

However, some fans are less than gracious or patient about the fact that Martin's last entry in the series was released in 2005. A recent profile of the author in The New Yorker mentions some extreme actions by people who are supposed to be his fans. Such behavior is becoming more common as fans across all mediums get wrapped up in a sense of entitlement and instant gratification.

Some of them harass him about the long wait in comments on his blog or online forums related to the series, complaining whenever he posts about football, politics or anything unrelated to the next book. Others have set up entire blogs or forums dedicated to complaining about how lazy they think Martin is.

Some don't believe the book is ever actually going to come out. They say they won't believe the July 12 publication date until they actually see a physical copy of the novel in their hands. They cry foul every time a new fiction anthology or comic book comes out with his name on it while they wait for his next novel.

Some fans act as if Martin is under an obligation to give them exactly what they want, when they want it, as if he were doing them some kind of horrible injustice by taking his time to finish the book. But Martin is a free, independent human being. As a writer, what he works on is entirely up to him. Creativity can't be forced, and there's no reason he should be forced to work on "Dance" if other projects catch his attention. The same people who complain the book is taking too long would complain even more if Martin rushed through it and it weren't any good.

Fellow fantasy author Neil Gaiman summarized the situation most eloquently in a 2009 blog post replying to a reader, who wrote in asking for his opinion on the matter: "George R.R. Martin is not your bitch." He elaborated that Martin doesn't work for his fans, and he should be free to pursue whatever projects he wants. He's allowed to take a break if he's too burned out to write on a given day. Expecting him to ignore everything else in his life and slave exclusively in regard to the series to please disgruntled fans is completely unrealistic and a bit juvenile.

These people have an absurd sense of entitlement that comes from growing up in the Internet age. Most of my generation is used to instant gratification with all of our entertainment. News and information are at our fingertips. Thanks to services like Hulu and Netflix, we can watch virtually any film or TV show we can imagine instantly from anywhere. With all the modern conveniences available, some people get irrationally angry and begin to complain loudly when they actually have to wait for something they want, whether it's a delayed novel, comic book, video game, film or album.

People need to remember their favorite artists are independent, intelligent human beings and not machines. Buying the first entry in a series does not give someone the right to make demands and spew vitriol at artists who don't work fast enough for his or her tastes.

Instead of whining about how long the next book is taking, Martin's detractors could spend that time rereading the books they claim to love so much. They could learn a new hobby or find something else to entertain them while they wait. But most importantly, they could grow up, learn to wait patiently like civilized adults and just enjoy the book whenever it finally does come out. In the meantime, read something else.

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ROAMIN' NUMERALS

31 Thousands of applications received by Northwestern University for enrollment in the fall 2011 semester, according to an April 8 ChicagoBreakingNews.com article. That total, which is a record for the university, is 12 percent higher than the number of applicants last year and approximately double from fall 2005. Only 18 percent were admitted because of the increase in applications.

55 Percentage of American adults who said the government should require people who receive food stamps to work, according to an April 8 Rasmussen Report. Nineteen percent said they disagreed with that statement, while 27 percent weren't sure. Forty-one percent said it was too easy to get food stamps, and 50 percent said it was too easy to qualify for welfare.

17 Percentage of American adults who said professional athletes are good role models for young children, according to an April 3 Rasmussen Report. Fifty-seven percent said they disagree with that statement, while 26 percent weren't sure. Sixty-five percent of adults said baseball was less popular among children today than it was 25 years ago.

44 Thousands of dollars illegally donated to the campaign of Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker by a railroad executive, according to an April 11 ChicagoBreakingNews.com article. William Gardner, CEO of Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Company, was charged with donating corporate money to political candidates, which is illegal in Wisconsin.

Insensitive parents protest girl with peanut allergy

"Where is the love and compassion? I am deeply saddened so many parents protested the protection of this first-grader's life."

by Katy Nielsen
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

PARENTS OF students at Edgewater Elementary School in Volusia County, Fla., wanted one first-grade girl removed from school because they said her life-threatening food allergy was affecting the education and food choices of the rest of the students. According to the Food and Drug Administration, food allergies are on the rise in the U.S.: Approximately 5 percent of children have a food allergy. This is an issue that could potentially affect more schools in the future.

The protest that occurred during the last week of March was brought on by the way the school was handling the girl's peanut allergy. For 30 to 60 minutes every day, students in the first-grader's class are required to leave their lunches outside the classroom, wash their hands before entering the room in the morning and after lunch and used to be required to rinse out their mouths after they ate.

The protesting parents said the time their children spend cleaning themselves to protect the other student cuts into their education time.

I'm shocked parents would object to their children taking a few minutes out of the school day to protect another child.

Some parents went as far as saying they wanted the girl removed from the classroom and homeschooled. They picketed with posters that read, "My child has rights, too," and "How much academic time has your child lost?" Even worse were threats reportedly made to the girl by a parent who said he or she wanted to smear peanut butter on the girl's locker.

Life is not just about science and math. These people are failing to see the valuable life skills their children are learning by washing thoroughly. It's something they should be doing, especially to protect a fellow student—not to mention it's the law.

If a student's food allergy is so severe it is considered a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, they are protected under Title 34, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This is a national civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability and is applied to all public schools. In cases of severe food allergies, schools will create a specific 504 Plan to protect the child.

Under Section 504, a school is required to make accommodations to protect a disabled student. In this case, Edgewater Elementary requires the other first-graders to wash their hands after they eat.

Rather than be empathetic and deal with special rules to protect the girl's health, other parents just wanted her taken out of the school system. Everyone has the right to an education in this country, and parents were basically protesting this principle.

Picketing and threatening a disabled student due to the inconvenience it causes a healthy child is ridiculous. Elementary schools should be encouraging students to take the time to wash their hands.

How would these parents feel if their child had a life-threatening allergy? Where is the love and compassion? I am deeply saddened so many parents protested the protection of this first-grader's life.

Despite the protests, the elementary school is standing by its decision to accommodate the student. The protesting parents need to step back, look at the big picture and be grateful their healthy children need to only wash their hands a few minutes a day and can eat all the peanut butter they want after school without worrying about fatal consequences.

As of April 11, the Illinois School Access to Emergency Epinephrine act was passed by Illinois House. The bill, which now goes to the senate, would allow schools to administer epinephrine to students who have an allergic reaction. In other words, children who go into anaphylactic shock due to a food or drug allergy and may have forgotten their auto-injectors at home could be saved by school administration with this new legislation.

The bill outlines who can administer the auto-injector, under what circumstances and outlines training requirements. In a world where there are growing numbers of children with severe allergies, this bill could potentially save many lives.

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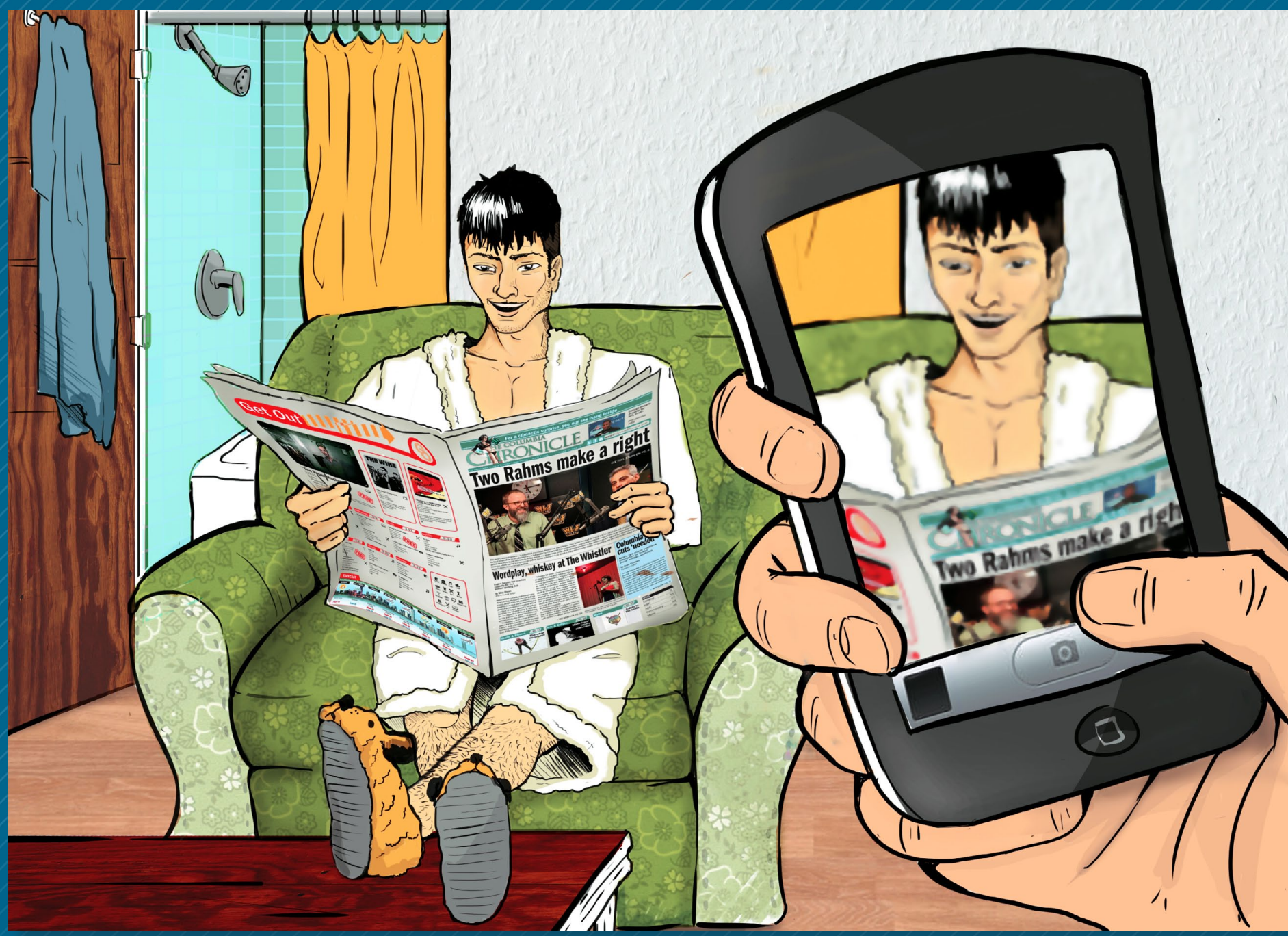

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THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

We've got you covered

Metro

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

A new interagency policy in the Cook County Department of Corrections will begin separating transgender inmates by their gender identification as opposed to their gender at birth. The new procedure is an attempt to increase safety and create a non-discriminating atmosphere for transgender inmates.

Being transgender in jail

New policy for correctional system aims to increase safety, respect in community

by Darryl Holliday
Metro Editor

GENDER AND LGBTQ justice advocates may have a new ally in some Illinois jails if a recent policy succeeds in changing the system.

The Cook County Department of Corrections has created new guidelines for the custody and safety of transgendered inmates that will separate those deemed officially transgender and allow them to serve time in ways that match their gender identification as of March 21.

"The idea is that in any correctional setting, you could see a negative reaction by other detainees to a transgender person coming into their living unity," said Steve Patterson, spokesman for the Cook County Sheriff's Office. "And, likewise, you could see a negative reaction by the transgender person to being housed inappropriately,"

Sheriff Tom Dart, in collaboration with the Cermak Health Services of Cook County, initiated the new policy through talks with community groups in response to harassment of transgender inmates.

In an effort to improve conditions for transgender inmates, the department has taken the first step in requiring "zero-tolerance for discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation," according to the policy.

> "To have a policy is one thing—to have a policy that is good and appropriate is another thing."
>
> -Bernard Cherkasov

The policy attempts to outline identification procedures for inmates with "gender identity disorder," by convening a five-member Gender Identity Disorder Committee made up of corrections, medical and mental health staff.

Classification of those individuals will involve evaluation by the committee, which will then come to a majority consensus determining housing, clothing, grooming and search procedures, among others, for the transgender individual.

Though Cook County's policy is the first of its kind in Illinois, more nondiscrimination procedures are needed, according to Lisa Mottet, of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which was organized to build the grassroots power of the LGBTQ community.

According to a Feb. 3 report co-authored by Mottet titled "Injustice at Every Turn," the first national survey detailing discrimination involving transgender residents, physical and sexual abuse of transgender populations by police and correctional facilities is a pervasive problem in the U.S.

The survey found a fifth of respondents reported harassment by police because of bias with substantially higher rates up to 38 percent reported by respondents of color. Nearly half the respondents reported being uncomfortable seeking police assistance.

Additionally, 16 percent of respondents who had served time in jail reported they were physically assaulted, along with 15 percent reporting sexual assault by either inmates or guards. Routine denial of health care and hormones in jails were reported at 12 and 17 percent, respectively.

"These are terrible numbers," Mottet said. "Overall, our entire sample had terrible numbers of harassment and abuse."

There are too many stories of transgender people being abused at the hands of law enforcement, according to Bernard Cherkasov, chief executive officer of Equality Illinois, an LGBTQ advocacy and equal rights organization.

"We definitely want this policy to be in place," Cherkasov said. "But to have a policy is one thing—to have a policy that is good and appropriate is another thing.

Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Transgender inmates will be evaluated by health employees as part of the Gender identity Disorder Committee, which will then determine placement and procedures for the individual according to his or her gender identification. The policy is the first of its kind in Illinois.

» SEE TRANSGENDER, PG. 44

Emanuel seeks private donors to pay bills

Mayor-elect collecting contributions from all levels 'friend' and up

by Kristen Mack and Hal Dardick
MCT Newswire

MAYOR-ELECT RAHM Emanuel is looking for private donors to bankroll his inauguration, offering potential contributors yet another way to show their appreciation as he prepares to take office next month.

Individuals who give $50,000 can garner "co-chair" status on Emanuel's inaugural committee, along with four VIP tickets to a reception, dinner and concert at Grant Park the Saturday before he takes office. The package also includes tickets to the May 16 inauguration.

Emanuel is collecting contributions through the Chicago 2011 Inaugural Committee, a nonprofit corporation. There are varying levels of support, including $25,000 "sponsors," $10,000 "supporters" and a $5,000 "friend" level.

A fundraising flier sketching out broad details of Emanuel's inaugural festivities recently was sent to potential donors. Specifics about where the inauguration ceremony will take place are expected soon.

The letter notes the committee will not accept contributions in excess of $50,000 from any donor, and it won't take any money from registered city lobbyists. It goes on to detail the committee will not take donations from anyone who has "done [more than] $10,000 of business within any 12 consecutive months during the preceding four years" with the city or any of its sister agencies, including the Chicago Transit Authority.

Emanuel, who raised $12 million in campaign donations for the mayoral race, is asking donors to chip in to several funds. His campaign fund had roughly $2.1 million after the Feb. 22 election and has collected at least $350,000 more.

The mayor-elect also created a political action committee to raise money for aldermanic candidates he backed in the April 5 runoffs.

Emanuel's transition team, which is being funded by four Chicago nonprofit foundations, has been meeting with officials in the administration of departing Mayor Richard M. Daley.

But the takeover of the city administration is not Emanuel's one concern because he'll have to work closely with the 50-member City Council. The council's most powerful member, Ald. Edward Burke (14th Ward), backed Chico more than Emanuel in the election.

Burke said on April 13 he has yet to meet with Emanuel since the election. "I've written a letter saying congratulations and good luck," he added.

Emanuel has said he's met with more than 40 current and future aldermen since his election, and Burke was asked why he wasn't among them. "Maybe he's saving the best for last," Burke quipped.

Time for Plan C

Emergency contraceptive availability may be affected by new ruling

by Heather McGraw
Assistant Metro Editor

TWO YEARS before they were married, Sarah Stanley-Ahmed, who was 19 at the time, and her boyfriend, Samir Ahmed, had an accident. Their contraceptive method of withdrawal failed, and Stanley-Ahmed feared she was pregnant.

Almost immediately after the mishap, the couple, who currently reside in suburban Roselle, called a friend, who was a doctor, and asked about the Plan B pill. The following day, they went to the closest Walgreens and picked up a kit. Stanley-Ahmed said the medication made her violently ill, but looking back, she is glad she had the alternative.

"If I didn't have that as a choice, then my options would have been abortion, adoption or having the baby," Stanley-Ahmed said.

Before knowing if she was definitely pregnant, Stanley-Ahmed took the pill because she said she didn't want to have to face her other prospects. Now, after a recent Circuit Court ruling in downstate Sangamon County, some women might have a harder time finding emergency contraception.

Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich pushed through legislation in 2005 that required all pharmacists to carry Plan B. This legislation later became known as "The Rule."

Pharmacies will now have the option to refuse stocking and selling the medication after a ruling by Judge John Belz, of the 7th Judicial Circuit Court on April 5 against the governor's mandate.

Plan B is a Food and Drug Administration-approved medication containing levonorgestrel, the same ingredient found in many birth control pills. According to the Plan B One-Step website, the difference is the emergency contraceptive requires one pill, which uses a larger dose of levonorgestrel than a single birth control pill. The website also claims approximately seven out of eight women who risked pregnancy will not get pregnant after taking the pill.

After six years, Belz finally made his decision on the case filed by two Illinois pharmacists. He wrote in his ruling the mandate was "invalid" under the Illinois Right to Conscience Act and the Illinois Religious Freedom Restoration Act. Belz also wrote that the rule was unconstitutional under the First Amendment.

Robyn Ziegler, press secretary for Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, said Madigan's office will appeal the ruling to the 4th District Appellate Court.

The attorney general will appeal the case in Springfield because of the compelling need to maintain emergency contraception availability in all Illinois pharmacies, according to Ziegler. The office has not yet set a date for the appeal.

Kathleen Besinque, associate professor of clinical pharmacy at the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy, said there are more important issues regarding women's health rights for the state attorney general to focus on.

"I think general availability of contraceptive services and affordability is probably more significant," Besinque said. "Making sure there is mandatory coverage on someone's insurance plan for contraception is a much bigger issue."

Refusal to sell the medicine will be a small problem because of pharmacists' willingness to help women obtain the health care they need, but they should have the same freedoms as other medical professionals, according to Besinque.

"All health care professionals have a right to participate or not in things they object to," Besinque said. "The difference may be perceived [that pharmacists] don't, and that's not right."

Matthei Pharmacy, 25 E. Washington St., will absolutely still carry the pill, according to pharmacist Mark Edelheit, because he said he doesn't see a reason not to.

"It's made no difference to me," Edelheit said. "The only thing I worry about is if you're old enough."

> "There may be one or two pharmacists who are going to object to carrying it, but for every one or two that object, there are going to be 500 or 1,000 that don't."
>
> - Kathleen Besinque

Besinque also mentioned the issue of age. She said because Plan B is typically used by a certain demographic—young females—some pharmacists don't have a reason to have it in stock at all.

"There are many pharmacies, whose clientele is 65 and older, and they may never have a young person walk in and ask for emergency contraception," Besinque said. "[Should] they have to keep something on the shelf that they may never need?"

To stock different products, pharmacists must purchase them upfront before receiving payment from patients which, according to Besinque, presents a more complicated issue than most medical professionals have to deal with. She said stocking every product on the market would put many pharmacies out of business.

"Forcing a business to stock something they're never going to sell isn't typically done in this country," Besinque said.

In California, no pharmacist is mandated to stock anything in the retail outpatient sector, according to Besinque. She said there are processes put in place to make sure there's an alternative pathway for the patient if her pharmacist is unwilling to sell something they need.

For example, Besinque said pharmacists in many states will refer patients to another pharmacy, or another pharmacist will come in to serve the patient.

Deitch Pharmacy, 1800 W. Chicago Ave., likely won't have to deal with this problem according to Marta Kozyckyj, a pharmacist there.

She said while Deitch doesn't always have more than one or two Plan B kits in stock, the new ruling won't stop them from carrying the pill altogether.

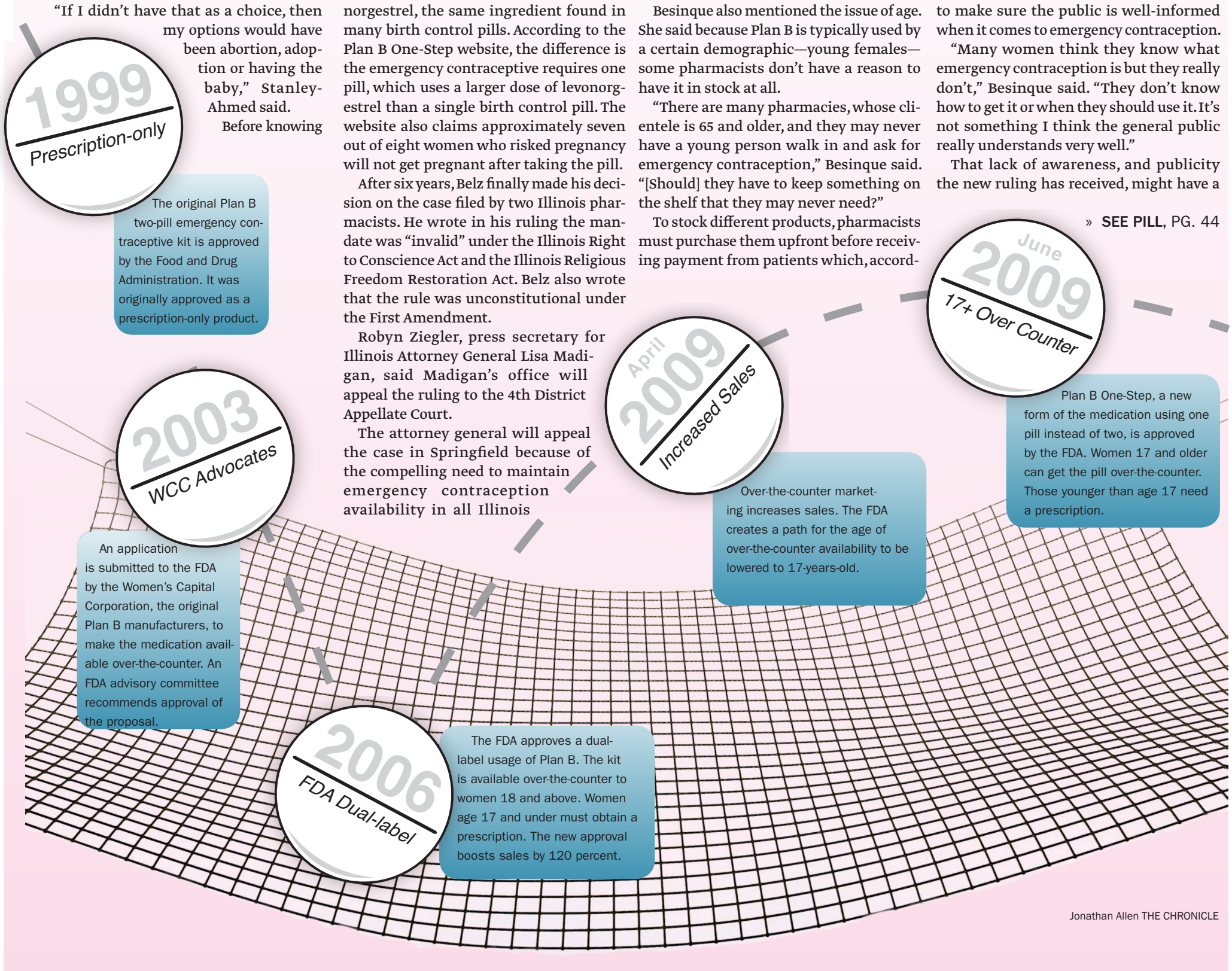
"Depending on the circumstances, I think it's still sometimes necessary to have [Plan B] and give the women the option to use it," Kozyckyj said.

According to Besinque, it's also necessary to make sure the public is well-informed when it comes to emergency contraception.

"Many women think they know what emergency contraception is but they really don't," Besinque said. "They don't know how to get it or when they should use it. It's not something I think the general public really understands very well."

That lack of awareness, and publicity the new ruling has received, might have a

» **SEE PILL**, PG. 44



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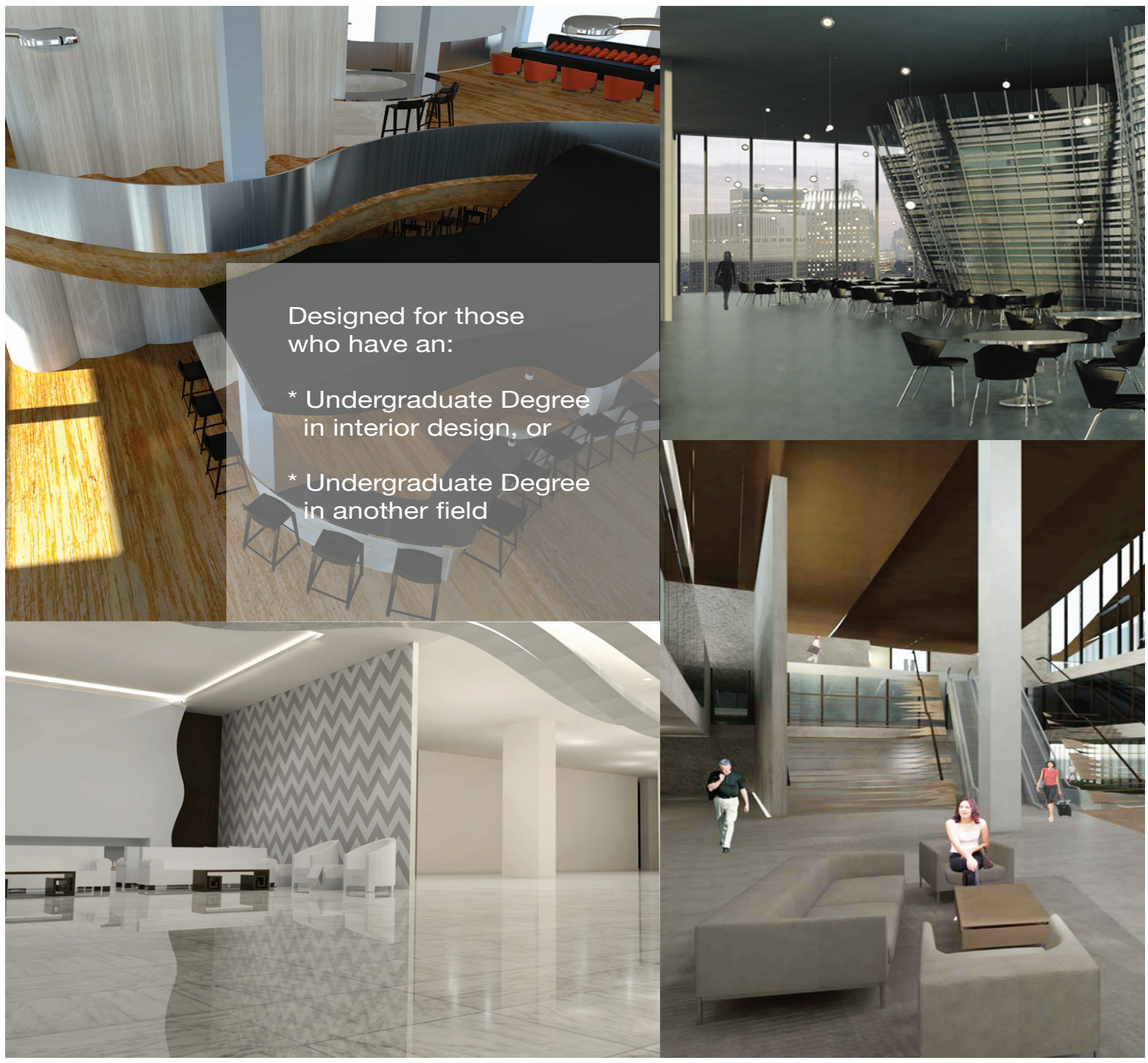

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Blagojevich retrial set

Defense's motion to delay denied by judge; attorneys on both sides restructure cases

by Jeff Coen and Bob Secter
MCT Newswire

A FEDERAL judge signaled "game on" for next week's scheduled corruption retrial of Rod Blagojevich on April 14, forcing the former governor back to court after months of frequent proclamations of victimhood and a stint as a TV pitchman for pistachios.

U.S. District Judge James B. Zagel rejected a last-ditch attempt by Blagojevich to delay the scheduled April 13 start of jury selection, with defense lawyers contending they have been too tied up with pretrial motions to prepare for the main event.

From the government's perspective, a key challenge will be to repackage the same evidence, including dozens of secretly recorded wiretaps, into an easier-to-digest form to address complaints from jurors in the first trial that the case was confusing and meandered.

"The complexity of the trial we found daunting," recalled James Matsumoto, of Chicago, the foreman of the jury, which convicted Blagojevich on one criminal count and deadlocked on all 23 others.

The defense hurdle is more basic. With taxpayers picking up the tab in the place of Blagojevich's now fully drained political fund, his legal team has been downsized and shorn of its tactical stars from the first trial—the crafty and theatrical father-and-son duo of Sam Adam Sr. and Jr.

To former federal prosecutor Joel Bertocchi, the change of cast could reduce courtroom distractions but also put a premium on Blagojevich's defenders actually playing up his glaring and considerable eccentricities, many of which jurors will hear for themselves on wiretaps.

"He lit himself on fire and is running down LaSalle Street," Bertocchi said, adding Blagojevich's lawyers are left with little choice but to argue "he can't form criminal intent because he's too goofy."

Prosecutors have already signaled their intent to pare back their case, dropping racketeering counts jurors said they found hard to follow. Charges were also withdrawn against Blagojevich's older brother Robert who was tried as an accomplice alongside the former governor in the first trial.

Robert Blagojevich, unlike his brother, testified at the first trial and came off to many jurors as a sympathetic figure. His testimony may have helped the former governor, so not having both brothers in the courtroom could be a plus for the government this time, said Jeffrey Cramer, another former federal prosecutor.

"The jury seems to have seen [Robert] as a likable guy who was thrown into a tough situation," said Cramer, who now heads the Chicago office of the investigation firm Kroll. "Not having him clearly puts the spotlight on the governor."

The most headline-grabbing charges against Blagojevich involve an alleged attempt to leverage a trove of campaign cash or a lucrative new job for himself from his power to fill the Senate vacancy left by Barack Obama's elevation to the presidency in the 2008 election.

Associated Press

Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich waves before reading a statement about his retrial outside his home in Chicago on April 13. His attorneys filed a motion to delay the trial, but it was denied by a U.S. District judge.

Bertocchi said another big task for prosecutors will be to overcome ingrained voter cynicism about politicians—the stereotype that they're all a little crooked, so Blagojevich wasn't doing anything out of the norm.

Blagojevich lawyers will likely concentrate heavily on deflecting the Senate seat charges, which are bolstered by scores of undercover recordings of Blagojevich discussing deals he might cut to allegedly enrich himself. Prosecutors, on the other hand, may have to put more attention into the other alleged misuses of his office, in particular those for which there is no wiretap evidence and that greatly rely on witness testimony.

Where the defense is facing an 11-1 count from the first trial, "you've got to do something," Cramer said. "If they do nothing and just watch the train go by, he's going to get convicted."

That move could include calling Blagojevich this time around, Cramer said, or putting others such as Mayor-elect Rahm Emanuel on the stand. Emanuel, formerly Obama's chief of staff, also appears in the case as a possible messenger for Obama in 2008 on whom Blagojevich might appoint to the Senate.

As for the government, changes could include other significant witnesses who did not testify the first time around, such as convicted former Blagojevich fundraiser Antoin "Tony" Rezko.

Whether the next trial produces another deadlock as close as 11-1 remains to be seen. But Cramer said widespread publicity about the deadlock in the last case could embolden any potential holdouts in the upcoming one.

"They'll be more likely to stick to their guns," Cramer explained.

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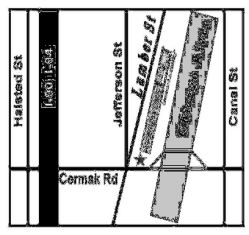

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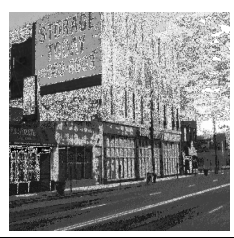

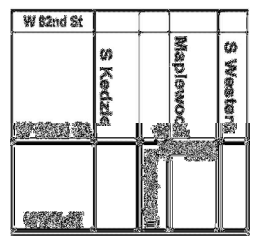

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Finding a fitting sentence

» FULLER

Continued from Front Page

offender cases, in which he and others convicted of so-called "non-contact" crimes have received substantially more time in prison than individuals who have actually molested children.

"The only reason the U.S. Supreme Court says we can criminalize personal possession of child pornography is because children were sexually abused to create those images," said Carissa Hessick, associate professor of law at Arizona State University. "[But] it's completely ridiculous to treat the personal possession of these images more severely than the creation of them."

According to a 2009 report written by Stabenow titled "Deconstructing the Myth of Careful Study," the number of child pornography prosecutions, defendants sent to prison and total amount of prison time served have all risen steadily since 1997. At the same time, the number of probation cases involving child pornography has slowly declined.

In 1997, 183 child pornography offenders were sent to prison and in 2007, the number had risen to 1,145 according to the report. Likewise, in the same year, the average confinement time for those offenders was 20 months yet had risen to more than 90 months by 2007.

At the root of this discrepancy are the sentencing guidelines, according to Troy Stabenow, assistant federal public defender for the Western District of Missouri. The federal sentencing guidelines establish a range of advisory sentence lengths and are managed by the U.S. Sentencing Commission but have not been updated since 2004.

Data suggests increases in prosecution and prison time for the offenses are unreasonable in that they are more closely correlated to political wrangling than sex offense crimes as a whole.

Stabenow argues that instead of these increases in convictions being based on scientific research, they are largely the result of politics and "morality earmarks" slipped into legislation that has disproportionately "upped" the guidelines in relation to laws that reflect research.

Along with different jurisdictions, the military, state and federal levels of government have different sentencing guidelines.

Fuller's eventual sentence was lower than the one initially suggested by Assistant U.S. Attorney April Perry. In the end, he was sentenced to six years, along with a lifetime of supervision following his release.

"As an attorney for the Department of Justice, [I] have an obligation to recommend the guideline sentence in most cases," Perry said. "In [Fuller's] case, the guideline sentence was between [nine and 11-years]."

"As long as someone is looking at pictures on the Internet, then there's federal jurisdiction," Hessick said. "The federal government is thought to be a government of limited power that can't just regulate every single thing it wants to—there has to be a 'jurisdictional hook.' Things on the Internet, sent through the mail or traded in commerce, such as drugs, can all be considered jurisdictional hooks."

However, the state and federal government can bring charges simultaneously, Hessick added.

"Whether they're charged under federal or state law is a matter of who found out about the conduct first and who decided to file charges," Hessick said. "The state and the federal government could file charges for images on the Internet."

Crimes involving physical contact between an adult and a child are typically charged on the state level because of a lack of jurisdictional hooks and local circumstances.

> "The people who write the laws would be surprised to find that people who posses child pornography are going to prison for longer than people who molest kids."
>
> - Carissa Hessick

"The people who write the laws would be surprised to find people who possess child pornography are going to prison for longer than people who molest kids," Hessick said.

Because he sought therapy prior to his arrest, was well-educated, maintained stable social and familial relationships and was a non-contact offender, Stabenow said Fuller had worthwhile factors for a judge to consider in evaluating his risk to re-offend.

In 2007, a woman from Mundelein, Ill., was sentenced in state court to five years in prison after pleading guilty to sexually assaulting a 3-year-old boy.

In September 2010, a priest from Chicago's western suburbs was sentenced to four years in prison for sexually assaulting a boy throughout a five-year period.

"The point is, that just shows there can be a real disconnect in the system," Stabenow said. "And it's up to each state to adjust their laws as they see fit."

The upward trend of sentences for people found guilty of possessing and distributing child pornography suggests more weight is placed on non-contact sex offenses opposed to contact offenses. This is potentially due to the Internet's involvement in non-contact cases.

"But there's a lot of research now that says people who look at child pornography aren't necessarily going to go molest a child," Stabenow said. "And to some people, that seems counter-intuitive.

Likewise, the nuances of sex offenders are complicated and involve many variables, according to Joel Falco, Fuller's personal psychotherapist and director of specialized treatment programs at the Center for Contextual Change, 815 W. Van Buren St.

Claiming he was molested as a child, Fuller falls into the 65 percent of sex offenders who have experienced sexual abuse at a young age. According to Falco, less than 50 percent of the general population experiences sexual abuse at a young age.

According to Falco, recidivism rates—the chances an offender will relapse—for sex offenders currently stand at around 17 to 18 percent and decreases to 12 percent with counseling.

The sentencing system for those found guilty of possessing and distributing child pornography, despite the crime's severity, remains illogical, according to Stabenow, who has a combined experience of more than 10 years as a prosecutor and defender of such crimes.

At one time, the federal statutes for sentencing were mandatory but have become advisory via a 2005 decision by the Supreme Court in the case of U.S. v. Booker. The case concerned disproportionate sentences in crack cocaine prosecutions versus substantially lower sentences for distributors of pure cocaine, who often dealt in much larger quantities.

The implication for what's going on in the child pornography cases is that judges now have the ability to factor in relevant circumstances, such as the defendant's history when deciding cases, according to Stabenow.

If a judge has a disagreement with the logic of a guideline, he or she can now alter the sentence based on relevant factors surrounding the case, Stabenow said.

In Fuller's case, Judge Castillo did not believe the suggested nine to 11-year sentence was necessary.

"All I can say is each of [the sentencing statutes] is created independently, so it's in the hands of whoever writes that particular bill at the particular time," Stabenow said. "We would all love to believe every piece of legislation is created by someone who really knows about that subject, [but] that's really not the case."

Fuller's mother said she has hope his experience and willingness to rehabilitate can help others in their own struggles.

"He's got experience behind him going through this ordeal, and he may be able to help others in the future and just help the whole area of child abuse," Bobbie Fuller said of her son. "It has to start from within versus the way the federal government seems to be handling it."

Hessick attempts to analyze the disproportionate rise in child pornography possession sentencing and separate it from sexual molestation in her report titled "Disentangling Child Pornography from Child Sex Abuse," which is expected to appear in the Washington University Law Review this month. She suggests reforms that could moderate sentencing to an appropriate level, including re-evaluating the nature of the Internet in "distribution" and "receipt" of child-centered pornographic images.

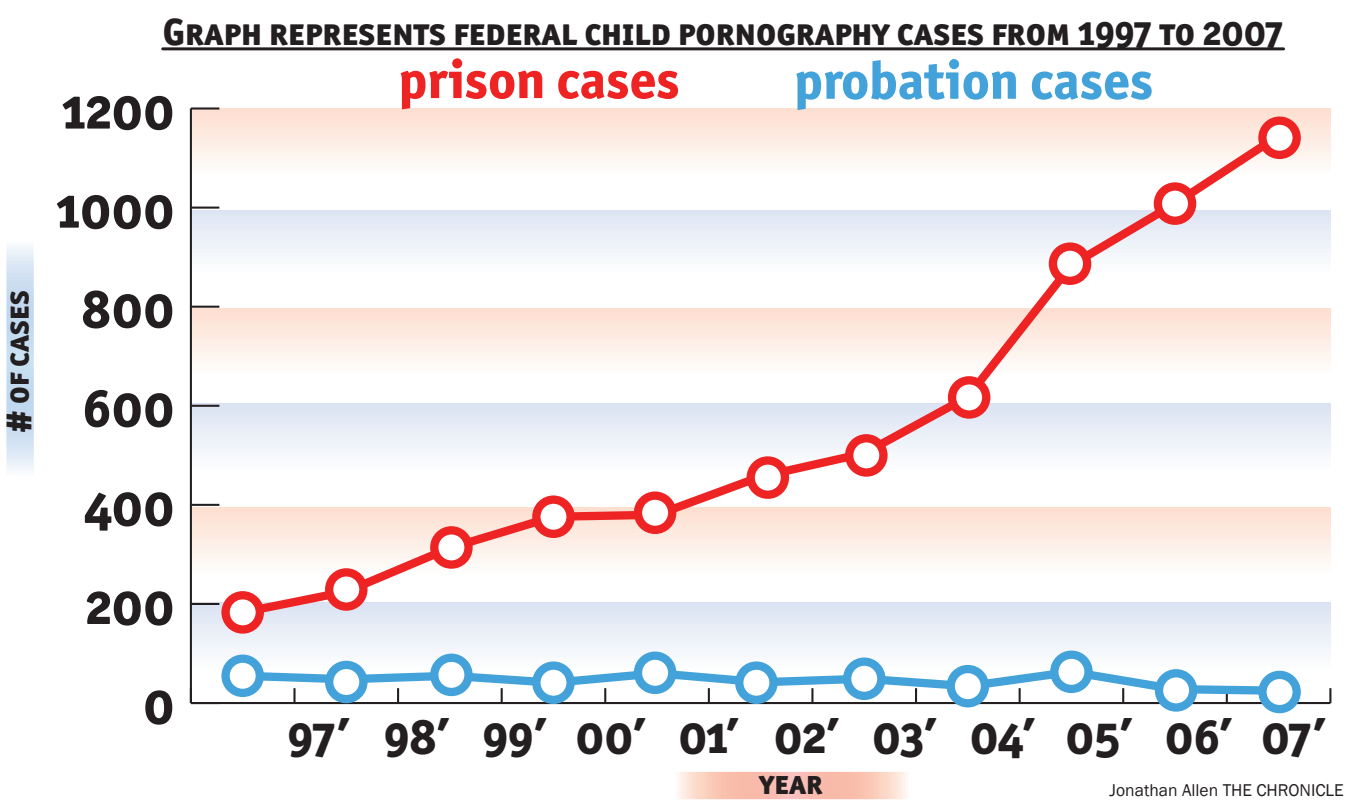
In Fuller's case, unrelated sentences have shown contact offenders have repeatedly received substantially more lenient prison time, and in many cases, avoided lifetime supervision entirely—potentially uncovering a discrepancy in the way sentences are advised, created and applied to offenders.

Stabenow agrees and offered his suggestion for correlating sentences to more appropriately fit sex offenses.

"In the long run, the guideline has to be revised," Stabenow said. "It has to be revised in a way that's consistent with science and study."

File Photo

Former Columbia professor Kevin Fuller was sentenced in February to six years in federal prison for sexual exploitation of a minor. Recent studies have shown that consumers of child pornography, in many cases, receive more time in prison than child molesters.



Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

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» PILL

Continued from PG. 40

greater effect than a pharmacist refusing to carry the pill. She said if someone does not realize it is stocked behind the counter and must be requested, they might assume the pharmacy refused to carry it and leave.

Besinque said in her personal experience, women looking for emergency contraception will not use their normal pharmacy and instead opt for a larger chain store, where they might not be noticed or recognized because of the social stigma attached to the medication.

"They don't stigmatize you when you get a flat tire," Besinque said. "But if you make a contraceptive mistake, it's a problem."

Any change on availability would likely be confined to smaller communities, where there aren't a lot of pharmacy options, according to Besinque.

"I don't think it's going to affect availability at all," Besinque said. "Pharmacies will carry what people buy. There may be one or two pharmacists who are going to object to carrying it, but for every one or two that object, there are going to be 500 or 1,000 that don't."

Pharmacist Il Hwang agreed with Besinque that the areas affected will probably be rural communities, and availability likely won't be a problem in places like Chicago because of its abundance of pharmacies.

Hwang said his company, American Pharmacy Inc., 9718 S. Halsted St., will carry the emergency contraceptive, and he's not sure why some other pharmacies might opt out.

"Some people think it has to do with religion, and some people think it's a right," Hwang said. "For me, I just think it's an individual person's right to do whatever they want to do with their body."

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» TRANSGENDER

Continued from PG. 39

That's why we're investigating this policy to make sure it addresses the issues in a correct way."

Though Mottet said she finds Cook County's policy suffers at times from a lack of clarity regarding how decisions by the Gender Identity Disorder Committee will be made, she said the move is a step forward.

"I think the policy should apply to all transgender people whether or not they've been previously diagnosed," she said. "But again, I really do think that this policy is an advance and very well-intentioned."

According to Patterson, the new procedure already has had a noticeable effect. He said one transgender inmate in particular now freely talks about her identity and discusses traumatic incidents from her past in group therapy sessions.

"She said it's the first time she has ever received treatment—or been treated as she sees herself—during all her years of incarceration," he said, noting in the past three weeks, six more transgender individuals have come into custody. "We don't think there's any sort of rise in arrests of transgender people. We think it's more that it's on our radar, and now we're doing something about it."

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FEATURED PHOTO

Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

President Barack Obama's visit to Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave., was one of three fundraising events he attended on April 14 to kick off his re-election campaign. Obama said he decided to have his campaign headquarters in Chicago because he considers it his hometown, even though he wasn't born here. He added that Chicago is where he fell in love, started a family and got into politics. Obama and first lady Michelle Obama will be back in Chicago on April 27 for an appearance on "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

IN OTHER NEWS

Will pose for food

The Illinois House of Representatives approved a bill on April 11 that would require the state Department of Human Services to evaluate the cost of putting photo identification on Link cards, according to the State Journal-Register's website SJ-R.com. A Link card is a state-issued debit card that takes the place of federal food stamps. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Chapin Rose, R-Mahomet, is an attempt to prevent fraudulent use of the card. During the debate on the House floor, Rose said 10.5 percent of overall welfare spending is consumed by fraud, totalling $750 million annually in Illinois.

Ban for health

Illinois restaurants will not be able to serve food with trans fats starting in 2013 because of a bill passed in the state House of Representatives, according to ChicagoTribune.com. Trans fats would also be banned from school vending machines. If the bill passes the Senate, Illinois will become the only other state in the nation besides California with this type of legislation. The bill also suggests completely eliminating trans fats in schools and state facilities by 2016. Rep. LaShawn Ford, D-Chicago, said the legislation was a step in the right direction for public health.

Sticker shock

According to SunTimes.com, the price of city stickers could increase next year for all motorists except hybrid owners, if a proposal from Alderman Proco Joe Moreno (1st Ward) is adopted. The alderman's proposal is an effort to make drivers who inflict the most wear-and-tear on city streets pay the most for stickers. The price for standard-sized cars would jump from $75 to $95. SUV owners whose vehicles weigh more than 4,500 pounds will pay $155. Hybrid vehicle owners would be the only motorists to receive a reduction in pricing at $25 for their stickers.

FOIA foul play

Chicago Reader reporter Mick Dumke filed a complaint in the Cook County Circuit Court against the city, Mayor Richard M. Daley and two Freedom of Information Act officers with the Chicago Police Department on April 11, according to HuffingtonPost.com. The suit cites three separate occasions where Dumke requested information from the city under FOIA guidelines and was denied. The requests include lists of Daley's meetings at City Hall. Dumke also asked for homicide information from 2008. His requests were denied by the city and the CPD.

OFF THE BLOTTER

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

1 Restroom exchange

A security guard told police officers on April 10 that he was making rounds on the fifth floor of the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St., when he observed two suspects, a 32-year-old male and a 17-year-old male, engaged in oral sex inside the public restroom. The two suspects were taken into custody, according to police reports.

2 Scene stealing

Eight students left their belongings on auditorium seats while performing on a Columbia stage at 72 E. 11th St., on April 8. The items were gone when they returned. Among the items were several cellphones, a silver cigarette case, debit cards, two U-Passes, a Social Security card, two iPods and a laptop. According to police reports $4,000 in combined value was stolen.

3 Coming out wrong

A 19-year-old student residing at 2 E. 8th St. told officers on April 11 that he was exiting a Chicago Transit Authority subway station when "at least one" suspect said, "If you don't want to get stabbed, hand over the phone," before pushing him into a corner. The student saw a knife and gave the suspect(s) his three wedding bands inlaid with three "six-point" stars and an Android phone, according to police reports.

4 Forced transaction

A student informed officers that he had been robbed on April 13. According to police reports, a man asked the student to borrow his cellphone. When the student refused, the man demanded his phone. The suspect said he had a knife and forced the student to an ATM at 717 S. Dearborn St. They used the Chase ATM three times, making eight transactions that resulted in the withdrawal of $1,000.

Games

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21–April 20) Unique social gatherings may offer surprising business introductions this week. Career contacts, new partnerships or potential investments should now be carefully considered. Aries natives born after 1976 may soon experience a complex series of job or financial proposals. If so, maintain a cautious attitude: Vital information will soon expose restrictions. Later this week, romantic compliments may be misinterpreted. Ask for clarity: Private expectations will be high.

TAURUS (April 21–May 20) Financial discussions are misleading during the next 9 days. At present, loved ones or close relatives may wish to provide more security than is possible. Be sympathetic and accept all promises as a compliment. Your response to new ideas will be closely scrutinized. After Thursday, a distant friend or relative may announce unique travel or educational plans. Use this time to research controversial ventures, study options or expand business creativity.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Older relatives may now offer detailed explanations of their recent thoughts, actions or opinions. Respond with empathy and emotional support. During the next four days, family communications or unexpected home disputes will require diplomacy. Some Geminis may also encounter a sudden romantic reversal. If so, expect passionate discussions and ongoing social triangles for the next few weeks. Realigned priorities are needed: Stay open to new suggestions or unusual comments.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) Long-term relationships now require honest emotional negotiations. Late Monday, expect romantic partners or close friends to express deep feelings of isolation and doubt. Openly discuss new social options or family promises: Revised living arrangements and predictable growth will soon arrive. Thursday through Saturday, colleagues and key officials may challenge established procedures. Avoid involvement: Social differences will eventually prove costly.

LEO (July 22–Aug. 22) Physical and social vitality may be unusually low throughout the next nine days. Although loved ones may be restless, remain dedicated to your needs and plan quiet, home-orientated activities. A recent phase of lagging confidence and strained relationships now needs to fade: Remain quietly determined. After Friday, sudden intuitions and vivid romantic insights are accented. Respond honestly to quick comments: Loved ones may soon request renewed trust or added intimacy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) A long-term friend may this week reveal unexpected financial goals and business expectations. Career expansion and creative partnerships are a continuing theme in the coming weeks. Expect a steady wave of new proposals and persuasive comments. Some Virgos may also be asked to take responsibility for a difficult workplace project. If so, stay calm and avoid team discussions. Colleagues will respond positively to leadership, established regulations and obvious deadlines.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Before midweek, a new romantic overture will provide an irresistible distraction. Watch for sustained flirtations and bold public comments. In the coming weeks, new relationships are highly favored. Use this time to gently expand your social expectations and long-term goals. Thursday through Saturday, a friend or relative may experience a disruption to health or fitness regimes. Wait for positive signals: Loved ones may this week be overly sensitive to physical change.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Family discussions may be more serious this week than anticipated. After Tuesday, expect loved ones to be briefly moody or introspective. Pace yourself and wait for renewed social interest: a cautious or mildly detached attitude will bring the desired results. Wednesday through Friday, new home expenses and small repairs may be bothersome. Find extra time for research or detailed financial explanations: loved ones will soon request new spending or revised budgets.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Friends and colleagues may this week challenge the habits or personal style of others. Before Wednesday, sudden outbursts or small criticisms will briefly disrupt key relationships. Group participation versus romantic mistrust may be a central theme. If possible, use minor public arguments as a valuable opportunity to establish revised roles or workable social boundaries. Late Saturday, an old lover or friend may reappear. Avoid new controversy: Little will be gained.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Property contracts, business records and rental agreements may provide misinformation during the next three days. Carefully study minor facts, dates and expectations: At present, friends and close relatives will rely heavily on your advice. After midweek, a close friend may ask for emotional support or detailed romantic guidance. Be consistent. This is not the right time to advocate change or challenge comfortable patterns. Private doubts are strongly felt: Remain sensitive.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Throughout the next nine days, loved ones may propose fresh social activities or joint family ventures. Remain receptive to all creative ideas. Friends and relatives will soon provide a consistent effort toward harmony, shared understanding and group acceptance. Thursday through Saturday, workplace disagreements may be difficult to avoid. Hidden power struggles or private agendas will soon become obvious. Study facts and small details for valuable clues: Accuracy is vital.

PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) Reflection and inward thought may be an ongoing theme during the next few days. After Monday, expect loved ones and trusted friends to contemplate long-term romantic aspirations or revise lifestyle goals. Find positive social outlets and encourage active participation: Your emotional leadership is needed. Thursday through Saturday, written mistakes and strained business agreements demand extra diplomacy. Negotiations will be difficult and ongoing: Remain patient.

SUDOKU Level 4

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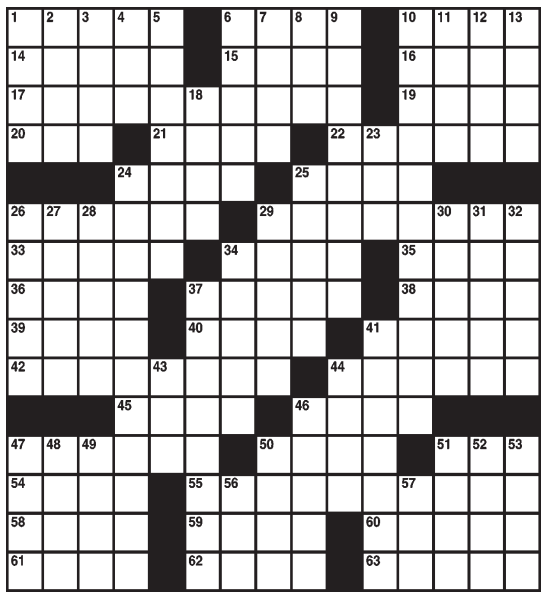
9			4		3	1		
				9	1		8	

CROSSWORD



By Gail Grabowski (c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 4/18/11

ACROSS
1 Key in
6 The thing over there
10 Stalactite site
14 Sticky
15 Get a new mortgage for, briefly
16 Opinion piece, for short
17 Mott's product
19 Tear up, as a check
20 __ Moines
21 Transvaal settler
22 With all one's heart
24 What daredevils seem to lack
25 Place to fish from
26 Wore an upside-down frown
29 Rail chemical carriers
33 Burgundy, for one
34 Pitched shelter
35 Dickens's Uriah
36 State purposefully
37 Latin ballroom dance
38 Mythological ship
39 Hop out of bed
40 Whizzes
41 Monastery member
42 Fix
44 University officer
45 Greenhouse containers
46 Constructed
47 It starts after the overture
50 Newspaper unit
51 Captain's "I need help ASAP!"
54 Extinguish, with "out"
55 Gust of wind, e.g.
58 Hamster's home
59 Drop anchor
60 Counters with beads
61 Train for a bout
62 Japanese wrestling
63 Water bottle capacity

DOWN
1 Antiquated exclamation
2 "Don't think so"
3 Does better than
4 Sinuous swimmer
5 Microbrewery offering
6 More loyal
7 Estate beneficiary
8 Org. with Raiders and Steelers
9 Was linked with
10 Nightclub minimum
11 Each
12 Bridal accessory
13 Rapids phenomenon
18 "The Grapes of Wrath" family name
23 "A spider!"
24 '60s-'70s passive resistance slogan
25 Dieter's feelings of distress
26 Marks for life
27 Studio production
28 Gambler's words of lament
29 Church belief
30 High-altitude nest
31 Cordelia's sister
32 Golf or tennis
34 RPM gauges
37 Wrestling duos
41 Part of FBI
43 Physics particle
44 Old World Style pasta sauce brand
46 Computer user's shortcut
47 Elementary lessons
48 Applaud
49 Old Roman wr
50 Seniors often take limos to it
51 Bench, for one
52 It's often enouc
53 Instigate, with "up"
56 Debtor's letters
57 Hitter's stat

Stay In

MANIFEST URBAN ARTS FESTIVAL
MAY 13, 2011

Annual Spring Manifest Preview

4.20.11 // 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-6642
FREE

FREE

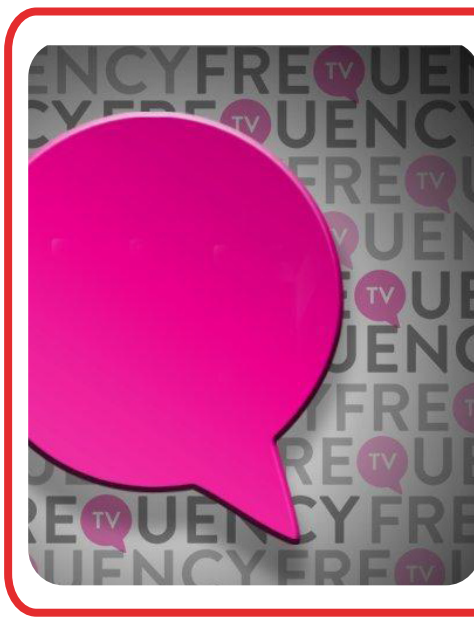
It's almost time for Columbia's famous Spring Manifest Urban Arts Festival. This is a chance to preview what's coming next month. Stop in for two hours to get a sneak preview of student performances, film screenings, bands and other projects. Plus, there will be cotton candy and popcorn.

R&B Ensemble Master Class with Kevin Eubanks

4.21.11 // 10:30 – 11:50 a.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.

If you don't know much about jazz music, you may only recognize Kevin Eubanks as the jolly guy who ended his 15-year tenure leading the band on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." However, if you are a jazz connoisseur, you probably know more. In 2001, He founded the label Insoul Music, which is what he used to release his six albums. In total, Eubanks has appeared on more than 100 albums. Eubanks will be at Columbia holding various workshops this week. Join him for the R&B Ensemble Master Class to learn more about music.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

FREE



Freq Out – Live!

4.23.11 // 6 – 8 p.m.
Alexondroff-campus center
600 S. Michigan Ave.

"Freq Out – Live!" features a multimedia spectacle. Instead of classic variety shows, where typical shorts, sketches and musical acts are displayed, this event uses video to transition into live performance. Performers from the Television Department will interact with the audience and technology. You're invited to join the department in its obsession with technology while it also pokes fun at it.
(312) 369-7482
FREE

FREE

Monday 4.18

John Fischetti Exhibition
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
(312) 369-8689
FREE

"Imaginary Landscapes: Works from the Department of Audio Arts and Acoustics"
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
The Arcade
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor
(312) 369-8177
FREE

Lemn Sissay poetry performance followed by Q-and-A
6:30 – 8 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium, Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan, 1st floor
(312) 369-7886
awhatley@colum.edu
FREE

Tuesday 4.19

Nicholas Morford senior recital
7 – 8:30 p.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

Sandy Northrup: "Where the Lines Are Drawn"
10 a.m. – noon
Columbia Library, South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., 3rd floor
(312) 369-8919
FREE

Conversation with Norman Steinberg and Stephen Molton
5 – 6:15 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium, Alexordroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., room 1301
(312) 369-7482
FREE

Wednesday 4.20

Pop Orchestra Master Class with Kevin Eubanks
10:30 – 11:50 a.m.
Music Center
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6179
FREE

Defriending Tyrants: The Social Media Impact on Egypt and the Middle East Uprisings
3:30 – 6 p.m.
South Campus Building
624 S. Michigan Ave., room 602
(312) 369-7602
FREE

"Coffee Talk" - One Tribe Spoken Word Series
6 p.m.
Stage Two
618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor
(312) 369-8664
FREE

Thursday 4.21

"The Art of Science in Communicating Climate Change ... Or Is It The Science of Art?" A lecture by Simon Boxall
6:30 – 8 p.m.
Ferguson Auditorium, Alexandroff Campus Center
600 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor
(312) 369-7886
FREE

Choreographic Project 1
8 –10 p.m.
Dance Center
1306 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-8310
FREE

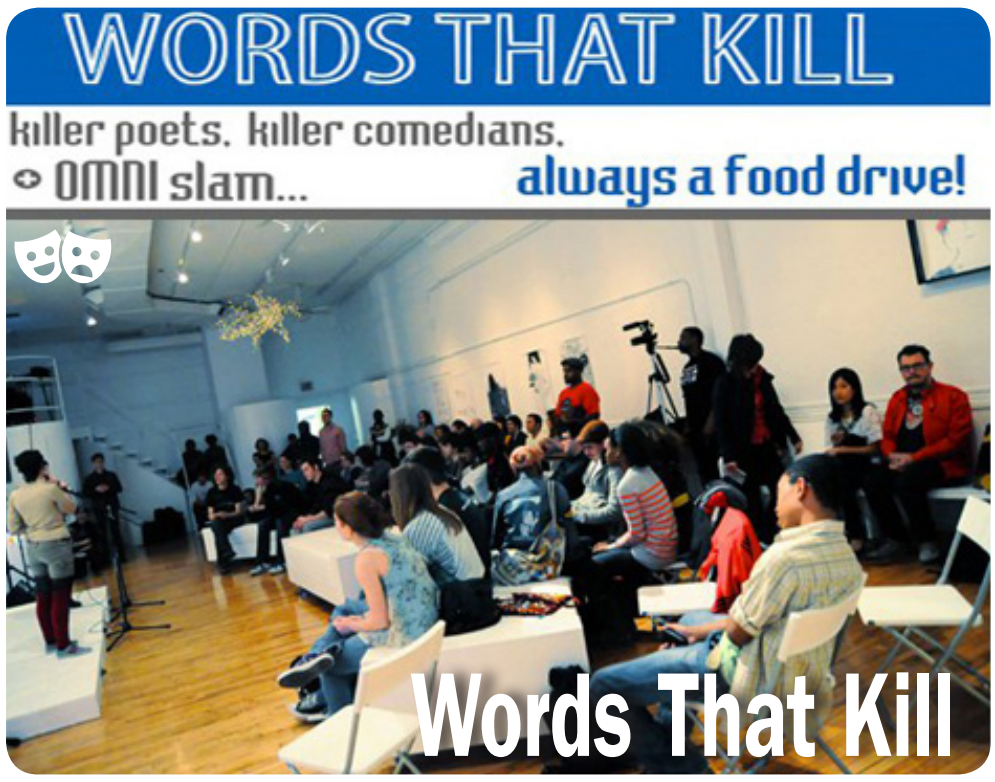
Friday 4.22

Screen Print Your Own T-Shirt at the Eco Fair
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
1104 Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave., 1st floor
anchorgraphics@colum.edu
FREE

"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., 1st floor
(312) 369-6643
FREE

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

Get Out



4.21.11 // 7:30 p.m.
Creative Lounge Chicago
1564 N. Damen Ave.
(773) 525-2422
$5 or canned food donation

Lethal Poetry hosts an open mic, local and national comedians and spoken word artists, followed by an omni-slam open to all language-based arts. If you want to compete, arrive early. Sign up begins at 7 p.m.

Earth, Wine and Fire
4.22.11 // 6:30 – 11 p.m
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

Celebrate Earth Day with games, activities and the Nature Museum's exhibits.
Party guests will be able to learn about local organizations working to benefit the environment. See beautiful creatures, such as the live butterflies in the gorgeous butterfly haven, and enjoy art projects, like painting a rain barrel. Live music will be followed by two Chicago deejays later in the evening.

(773) 655- 5895
$25–$35

Windy City Rollers
4.23.11 // 6 p.m.
UIC Pavilion
525 S. Racine Ave.

The women's roller derby league offers a double header as the Manic Attackers take on The Fury, and Hell's Belles battle the Double Crossers.

(312) 413-5740
$22–$35

Monday 4.18

Beer and cheese event
6 – 8 p.m.
Bangers & Lace
1670 W. Division St.
(773) 252-6499
$16; 21+

"Who Knows Her Better?" live taping
6 – 9 p.m.
Mary's Attic
5400 N. Clark St.
(773) 784-6969
$10–$15

Tuesday 4.19

Knit Tails
7 – 8 p.m.
Three Peas Art Lounge
75 E. 16th St.
(312) 624-9414
$10

Ricky Martin
7 p.m.
Allstate Arena
6920 Mannheim Road
Ticketmaster: (800) 745-3000
$40.50–$126.50

Wednesday 4.20

50 Free Records
6 p.m.
The Whistler
2421 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 227-3530
FREE; 21+

"I Saw You"
8 p.m.
Town Hall Pub
3340 N. Halsted Ave.
(773) 336-2682
$5

Thursday 4.21

Windy City Gay Idol
9 p.m.
Crew
4810 N. Broadway
(773) 871-7610
$5–$10 to watch, $10 to compete; 21+

Underground Style Series: Undieground
11 p.m.
The Underground
56 W. Illinois St.
(312) 644-7600
$20; 21+

Friday 4.22

Bunny Hop Pub Crawl
6 – 11 p.m.
McGee's Tavern and Grille
950 W. Webster Ave.
(773) 868-8073
$20; 21+

Azita
10 p.m.
Hideout
1354 W. Wabansia Ave.
(773) 227-4433
$8

Saturday 4.23

Wrigley Start Early Run
9 a.m.
Columbus and Balbo drives
300 E. Balbo Drive
(773) 868-3010
$20–$35; $10 for kids ages 9-14; registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

Chicago Rock Stars
1 – 4 p.m.
Rock 'n' Roll McDonald's
600 N. Clark St.
(312) 867-0455
$28

Sunday 4.24

Diva Brunch
11 a.m.
The Spot
4437 N. Broadway
(773) 728-8934
$35–$40; featured guests include singer Alison Logan and comedian Caledonia Olivares and Esteban Cruz as the Estebunny

"The Sunday Night Sex Show"
7:30 – 10 p.m.
The Burlington
3425 W. Fullerton Ave.
(773) 384-3243
FREE; 21+

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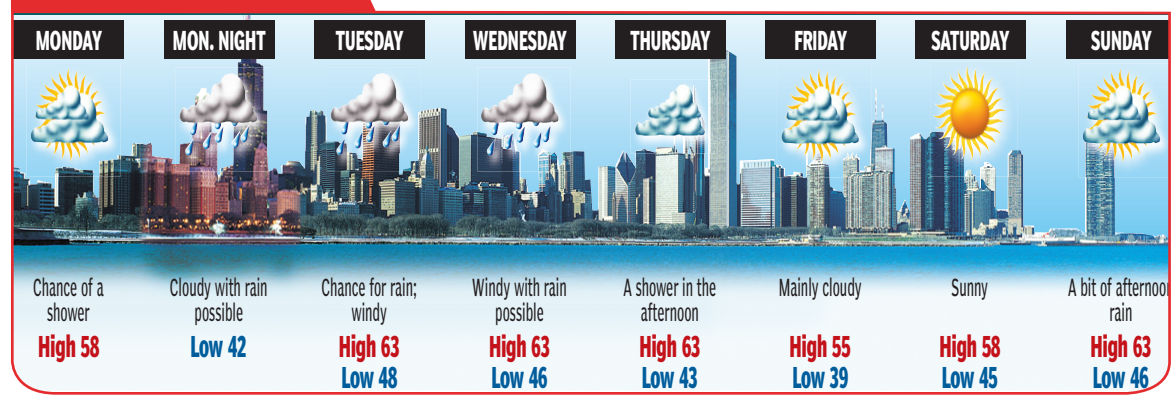
FORECAST