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Columbia College Chicago

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Occupy Columbia
storms administration
» WEB EXCLUSIVE VIDEO

'OCCUPY' CONFRONTS COLUMBIA



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Students and faculty of Columbia and neighboring institutions, such as DePaul and Northwestern universities and the University of Chicago, gathered at the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., in response to Dec. 9's occupation outside President Warrick L. Carter's office. Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Louise Love answered questions brought by those in attendance.



Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

Unions join students to protest school policies

by Lisa Schulz
Assistant Campus Editor

LAST WEEK'S town hall meeting grew out of a Dec. 6 protest at which Columbia's part-time faculty union, P-Fac, joined forces with staff and students to demand a chance to speak to the administration. For P-Fac it would be the first contact since contract negotiations broke off five weeks ago.

Picket signs bearing President Warrick L. Carter's photo and slogans such as "institutional continuity," "chop from the top" and others requesting a fair contract and lower tuition bobbed from the gloves of Occupy Columbia protesters in the midst of a snowy Tuesday.

The voices were chanting loud enough to stop Allen Turner, chair of the board

of trustees, who suggested that Diana Vallera, president of P-Fac, write a letter requesting a formal meeting. After Vallera expressed concerns about prioritization to Turner, she invited him to listen at the bargaining table. He laughed, she said. When prompted for a specific meeting time, Turner said he'd be "around," according to Vallera.

Before the protest, Vallera said the administration had denied the union access to the school's Listserv email software to get its point of view out to students and the community, as the college had been doing, she said.

"We have no voice, currently, in the institution," Vallera said. "They're not going to silence us. If we have to, we'll go

» SEE OCCUPY, PG. 9

Town hall meeting airs grievances

by Sam Charles
Managing Editor

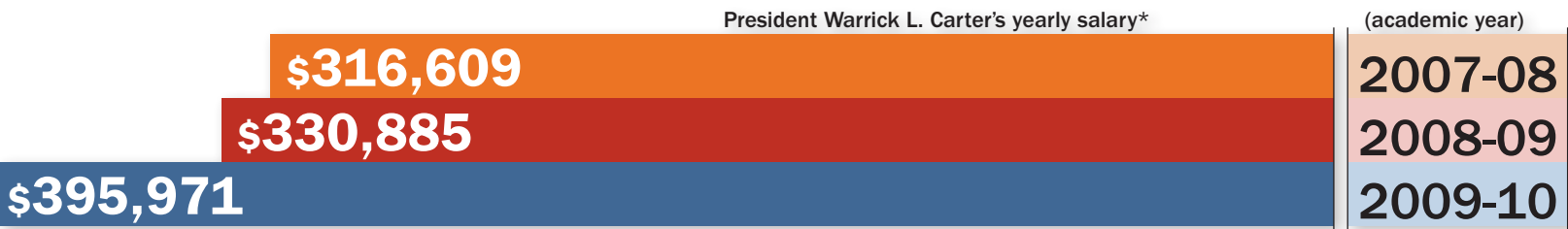
FACING RELENTLESS questioning from several different groups, Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Louise Love and Interim Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs Len Strazewski did their best to respond and shed light on some of the most high-profile problems currently facing the college. Love and Strazewski were only able to answer a small number of the more than 20 questions asked during the meeting because of time constraints and the length and detail some responses required.

The prioritization process, which Columbia is currently in the midst of, was one of many hot button issues about which members of Occupy Columbia, the United Staff of Columbia College, Columbia's staff union, and P-Fac, the part-time faculty union, pressed Love and Strazewski for information at the town hall meeting on Dec. 9.

"I think any institution is obliged to manage," Love said. "This is an effort on Columbia's part to really take a look at who we are. Our enrollment has gone down for the past couple of years, and that means fewer sections and, unfortunately, that means fewer teaching opportunities for the part-timers. That's not our goal, believe me. That's not what prioritization is about."

-Louise Love

» SEE TOWN HALL, PG. 9



President Warrick L. Carter's increasing salary in correlation to Columbia's rising tuition is one of the main objections of Occupy Columbia.
*The graph representing Carter's yearly salary is on a different scale from the graph showing the growth in tuition cost. Carter's 2009-2010 salary includes a \$45,000 bonus and incentive compensation.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Mind your own business



by Brianna Wellen
Editor-in-Chief

COLUMBIA’S PART-TIME faculty union, P-Fac, has been airing its grievances to anyone who would listen since I’ve been a part of the student body. The group has been collecting support from students and other faculty and staff, and recently, through joining Occupy Columbia protests, a group known as C.A.C.H.E., the Coalition Against the Corporatization of Higher Education. Bringing this group into the mix resulted in a bombardment of top administration at their offices on the fifth floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., on Dec. 7.

As a result of this stunt, P-Fac and other members of Occupy Columbia got what they wanted—an open town hall meeting with the administration. However, when it came down to the gritty negotiation to set this meeting up, the loudest and most passionate advocates weren’t P-Fac members or Columbia students at all. In fact, they aren’t even part of Columbia. In video recorded accounts of the event, the two students who were most vocal and continually invaded Interim Provost Louise Love’s personal space were a student from Northwestern University and a student from DePaul University.

While I will always support students getting involved with issues such as these and demanding transparency from the administration, I’d rather the students do so for their own schools.

There are a few problems with these outside people stepping in. First and foremost, they are not directly affected by

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these issues. They may be experiencing similar things at their schools or have strong opinions about what’s going on at Columbia, but without being part of the school every day, there’s no way they can fully understand what’s happening. Without complete comprehension, they should not be the spokespeople for the collective wants and needs of those at Columbia.

The overwhelming presence of these outside protesters can’t help bring to mind the students who actually go to Columbia. Where were they during this standoff? Why didn’t they have the same amount of passion instead of letting outsiders take charge of the situation? Allowing other students to have the strongest voice in such an issue makes Columbia students look lazy and apathetic.

Along with having no place being involved in the issue, the students in question were not rationally responding to Love’s reasonable requests. She was willing to give them her time then and there; they refused. She told them the proper way to set up the meeting; they continued to annoy her. Yes, they will see this as a victory because the Dec. 9 town hall meeting did take place, but they should not feel proud of their actions leading up to the result.

The negotiations and grievances between P-Fac and the administration is a Columbia issue and should be contained within the Columbia community. This means P-Fac needs to stop enlisting support from the Occupy Chicago movement. In turn, Columbia students need to become more aware of issues affecting them every day and take a stand before someone else does it for them.

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Columbia veterans connect



Courtesy KATE KARCZEWSKI

In honor of Veterans Day, a ceremony open to the entire campus was held on Nov. 10 in the Library of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave. Two veterans within the Columbia community, Howard Mendelsohn, 1949 alumnus and trustee, and Peter Bowse, senior film and video major, shared their stories at the event.

by Julia Wehr
Contributing Writer

VETERANS DAY has passed, but here’s a pertinent question: How do veterans at a large arts and media school like Columbia, who could share such a strong bond, recognize each other?

Many Columbia vets, both students and professors, probably interact on campus without ever knowing it. But two Columbia professors recently set out to remedy this situation.

Kimo Williams, professor of Music Theory and Ensemble, and Howard Sandroff, professor of Sound Art and Synthesis, are both Vietnam veterans. Williams said he and Sandroff connected as artists and vets a few years ago through a musical collaboration. Now, they are teaming up to find ways to bring Columbia veterans together.

After enlisting Louise Love, vice president of Academic Affairs and interim provost, the pair turned to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

Williams said he also asked E.J. Talbot, Columbia’s Veterans’ Educational Benefits coordinator, for an email list of all student veterans and used the list to set up the first veterans’ event in November. The gathering took place at Buddy Guy’s Legends, 700 S. Wabash Ave., and it was organized so that Sandroff, Williams and student veterans could get to know each other and talk about their military experiences.

According to both professors, 30 students showed up. The meeting was fun and encouraging, they said, but some of the experiences shared by the student veterans saddened them.

“It just tore our hearts up because they felt isolated, [because] they didn’t know other veterans,” Sandroff said. “[That meeting] was the first opportunity for them to meet each other and they so responded to this that Kimo and I almost teared [up].”

A second event, Columbia’s Veterans Day Commemoration, was held in the Library of the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave., on Nov. 10. It was open to everyone, but before all the guests could freely mingle, there was a private, 30-minute gathering for all Columbia veterans.

Senior film and video major Peter Bowse, 28, a veteran and speaker at the event, said veterans often connect with one another.

“It’s just kind of an instant bond that forms, and it’s just easier to talk to people because you have some common ground,” Bowse said. “It was just really satisfying to see that there’s this small community for veterans.”

Williams said that before the event, student veterans probably saw him only as a faculty member, but now they can recognize him as a vet as well. The event also helped Sandroff connect with six other faculty and staff members, whom he would never guess were veterans, Sandroff said.

He explained that even though he has been at Columbia since 1978, it wasn’t until he met Williams many years later that he stopped thinking he was the only vet around.

Williams said that his and Sandroff’s main objective with this initiative was to take the first step to create a veterans’ community here at Columbia.

“Going back to college is a serious adjustment for any veteran because for four years, you have somebody telling you what you’re going to be doing next,” Williams said. “[Then], all of a sudden, you’re on your own, you’re back in school, your study skills are a little rusty, the institution is a little frightening and nobody has shared the same experience as you. So if you’ve got other people who have [similarly] experienced this, it helps an enormous amount.”

chronicle@colum.edu

Corrections

In the Dec. 5 issue of The Chronicle, Jennifer Tatum-Cotamagana was referred to as a professor in the story “Graduate’s blog welcomes students.” She is actually a graduate student instructor. In the story “ColumCollab brings ideas together,” Dirk Matthews is named as the executive director of the Portfolio Center. He is actually the associate director. In the Nov. 14 issue of The Chronicle, a source in the “Fielding Communities” story was referred to as Bryan Pritzker. His name is actually Bryan Traubert. In the same article, a line reads, “She also said they looked at the liability of construction.” It should say “viability.” The Chronicle apologizes for these errors.

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CAMPUS

DONORS RECOGNIZED AT LUNCHEON

by Alexandra Kukulka
Assistant Campus Editor

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS stood on every other step of the spiral staircase leading to the second floor, greeting visitors. On the second floor, a lunch was prepared for all to enjoy while students and administrators thanked and honored special guests.

The first Students First Scholarship luncheon took place on Dec. 6 in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building. Students, alumni, scholarship donors, administration and Columbia’s Board of Trustees were present at the event.

Special guests at the event were The Northern Trust Company, The Robert R. McCormick Foundation and Diane Dammeyer, all of whom have made substantial contributions to fund scholarships to students. Each of these entities received awards during the luncheon as recognition for philanthropic generosity.

“[Scholarship donors] are allowing students to follow their muse, to give them the opportunity to be successful creators,” said President Warrick L. Carter.



Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Columbia alumna Diane Dammeyer (center) accepted an award for individual excellence at the Inaugural Students First Scholarship luncheon. Dammeyer’s scholarship is open to freshmen starting in fall 2012 and is the first “full ride” scholarship in Columbia’s history. From left: Tom Dammeyer, Mark Priebe, President Warrick L. Carter, Diane Dammeyer, Rod Dammeyer, Eric Winston, Beth Dammeyer and Alis Priebe.

“Because of our ever-increasing scholarship fund, [Columbia] has become a magnet for young, creative talent in this country.”

—Mark Kelly

Northern Trust, a Chicago-based institution, describes itself as an industry leader in delivering investment management and banking solutions to corporations. According to Carter, Northern Trust is invested in the communities it serves, contributing more than \$120 million to nonprofit and non-government organizations worldwide in the last decade. The company has been a strong partner of Columbia since 1980,

he added.

Columbia’s Career Beginnings Project, which was funded by Northern Trust, prepared local high school students to enter college, Carter said. In 2007, the company founded The Retention Award Scholarship, which assists Columbia students who graduated from Chicago Public Schools and are in danger of withdrawing from the college because of financial pressures,

Carter added.

In recognition of these accomplishments, Northern received the Students First Outstanding Corporation Award.

“Northern Trust believes in arts and culture and that it has to be the fabric of any community,” said Deborah Liverett, director of Community Affairs for Northern

» SEE SCHOLARSHIP, PG. 10

College Assembly to unify campus

by Heather Schröering
Assistant Campus Editor

OPPORTUNITIES FOR students, staff and faculty to work together on a college campus can be rare. However, the creation of the College Assembly is doing just that by bringing the community together to create change.

The College Assembly is an “information sharing” committee consisting of constituents of student, full- and part-time faculty and staff bodies, which will meet throughout each semester to discuss both internal and external topics of higher education and how they affect Columbia, according to the College Assembly guidelines.

“This is where advocacy is going to start

for changing things within the college and where a lot of essentially ‘brainchild ideas’ are going to start,” said Cassandra Norris, junior journalism major and Student Government Association president, who helped form the Assembly.

With the dissolution of the College Council on Dec. 1, as previously reported by The Chronicle on Nov. 7, Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, and others felt that there still needed to be an opportunity for all bodies of the college to convene and discuss issues that affect the college.

According to Pegeen Quinn, assistant provost, the College Council elected five people last spring to craft guidelines for the Assembly. The members, who met during the summer, included John Green, chair



Courtesy OMAR CASTILLO

According to Assistant Provost Pegeen Quinn, who helped to form the College Assembly, Rose Economou, former full-time faculty member in the Journalism Department who passed away in October, had a strong influence on the creation of the Assembly.

of the Theatre Department, as chair representative; John Stevenson, adjunct faculty in the Humanities, History and Social Sciences Department, to represent part-time

faculty; the late Rose Economou, former full-time faculty member in the Journalism Department, for full-time faculty; Quinn as staff representative and Norris to represent students, Quinn said.

She added that both Louise Love, interim provost, and Kelly attended the majority of the meetings.

The Assembly, which was proposed to the College Council on Nov. 4, was dedicated in memory of Economou to honor her efforts to develop the organization, according to Quinn.

“[Economou] was a very strong voice in crafting these guidelines and felt very strongly about certain elements of language that she wanted in these guidelines about a shared voice,” Quinn said.

Economou, who passed away on Oct. 2, taught at Columbia for 21 years and was often noted for her dedication and passion for the college and the students, as previously reported by The Chronicle on Oct. 10.

According to Norris, Economou had a specific agenda for the College Assembly.

» SEE ASSEMBLY, PG. 10

THIS WEEK				
12/12/11	12/13/11	12/14/11	12/15/11	12/16/11
Book Buy back	Blizzard Bash	End-of-the-Year Campus Party	Faculty Concert & MinEvent	Faculty/Staff Holiday Party
Do your buy back today. Sell back your books that you don't need. 10 a.m.–6 p.m.	Take a break from finals with games, dancing and music. Decorate an ornament or cookie. Noon–2 p.m.	No Justice, No Peace Video Release Party, featuring deejay C3HREEPO. Free food. 6–9 p.m.	A presentation of faculty works performed by students from the Dance Department. 8 p.m.	Enjoy warm beverages and holiday treats with fellow faculty and staff members. 3:30–6:30 p.m.
618 S. Michigan Ave. Columbia Bookstore	623 S. Wabash Ave. Quincy Wong Center	618 S. Michigan Ave. Stage Two, 2nd floor	1306 S. Michigan Ave. The Dance Center	1104 S. Wabash Ave. Conaway Center, 1st floor

Ttyl, love mom, dad

Columbia survey finds texting most prevalent form of contact between parents, students

by Lisa Schulz
Assistant Campus Editor

EMOTICONS CAN be used to emphasize tone while texting or they can substitute for the lack thereof. Even with a typed heart and smiley face expressing love, however, it seems college students and their parents may be growing further apart rather than closer together with each frequent tap of the “send” button.

A communication survey conducted at Parent Weekend on Oct. 17 found that most parents converse with their son or daughter once per week via texting. The survey was undertaken by Louise Love, interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

The eight-question survey, answered using remote devices by 67 parents during her speech, explored various topics of communication.

For example, the survey also found that the decision to attend Columbia was never made solely by parents. Only 20 percent of parents made a joint decision with students about their college choice.

Love said the survey was inspired by her colleagues and parents of college students, who communicate more frequently with their offspring than 20 years ago because of modern technology, she said.

“Even the fact that there is the will to communicate—that often is a change,”

Love said. “When I was in college, there was more of an impulse to get away from parents.”

Actually, the impulse to get away from parents seems greater today, said Tabatha Robinson, instructor of the Family and Society course and adjunct faculty member in the Humanities, History and Social Sciences Department.

The frequent use of technology as a substitute for face-to-face interactions allows students to avoid confrontation, but still receive the advice they need. That way, students don’t have to abide by rules or

unwanted opinions, she said.

With media such as search engines and social networks giving immediate answers, parents are contacted and needed much less than before, Robinson said.

Because parents are expecting a phone call and students prefer texting, communication can misfire, just as at home. Along with being busy, family members who live together often go to their own rooms, TVs and other devices, she said.

“Parents are in their world [and] young people are in their world,” Robinson said. “It’s very difficult because everybody’s leading these separate lives, and technology has allowed that to happen even more.”

Because owning a cell phone and keeping in touch with close ones is so prevalent, a dependency on it could become problematic, Love said.

When walking around without a phone, you could feel perfectly safe. But just because the access to help is available, you feel like you need it, she said.

Students’ dependency on technology doesn’t correlate with their dependency on parents, Robinson said. College students are less emotionally dependent on their families, even though some are financially dependent, she said.

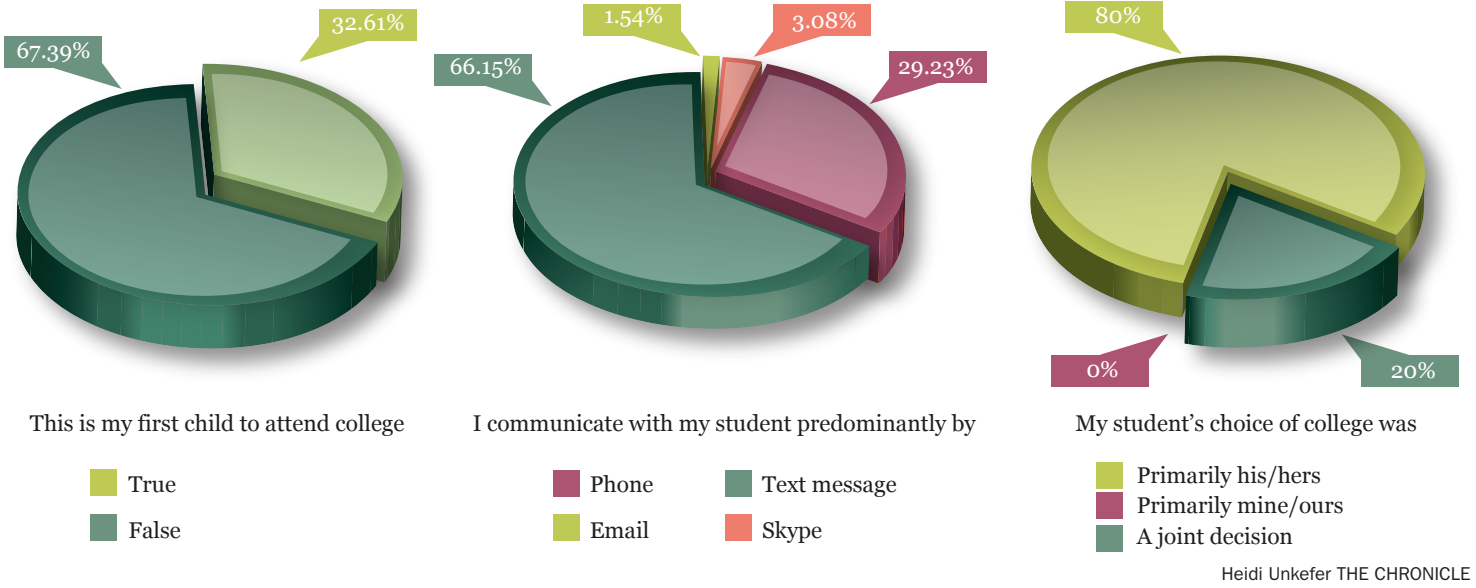
Even so, parents are trying to understand technology more so that they can have a stronger relationship with their child.

“At this point, we can’t take their technology away,” Robinson said. “The reality is, we have to find a way to deal with it and still maintain necessary relationships.”

Compared to other modes of communication, phone calls were favored by 29 percent, while there were only two votes for Skype and one vote for email.

Eddie Barbon, a sophomore film and video major who usually calls his parents once per day, taught them how to use Skype during the course of a week to keep in touch while he was on vacation.

» SEE SURVEY, PG. 11



The Music Center at Columbia College Chicago

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Concert Hall Events

Monday December 5

Jazz Guitar Ensemble 1 in concert 12:00 pm

Blues Ensemble 1 & 2 in concert 7:00 pm

Senior Voice Studio Performance at the Sherwood 7:00 pm

Columbia College Gospel Choir in Concert at Stage 2 7:30pm

Tuesday December 6

Pop Orchestra in Concert 12:00 pm

Groove Band 1 & 2 in Concert 7:00 pm

Percussion Ensemble in Concert at the Sherwood 7:00 pm

Wednesday December 7

Jazz Guitar Ensemble 2 & 3 in Concert 12:00 pm

Columbia College Chamber Brass Ensemble in Concert at the Sherwood 3:30 pm

Pop Rock Ensemble: Performance 1 & 2 in Concert 7:00 pm

New Music Ensemble & The Woman's Chorus in Concert at the Sherwood 7:00 pm

Thursday December 8

R&B Ensemble: Showcase in Concert 12:00 pm

Pop Rock Ensemble: Showcase in Concert 7:00 pm

Primary & Secondary Piano Concert at the Sherwood 7:30 pm

Friday December 9

Secondary Piano & Secondary Vocal Concert at the Sherwood 12:00 pm

Jazz Forum 2:00 pm

Jazz Combo Fest 4:00 pm

Primary Piano Concert at the Sherwood 7:00 pm

Saturday December 10

Electro Acoustic Performance Ensemble in Concert 12:00 pm

* All Concerts are FREE. For more information call 312-369-6300

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SeeFlik reels in student films online

by Alexandra Kukulka
Assistant Campus Editor

AFTER CREATING a film or video, the next step is deciding how to put it out into the world for everyone to see and experience. There are many different social outlets—such as YouTube or film festivals, like Sundance—for submitting films.

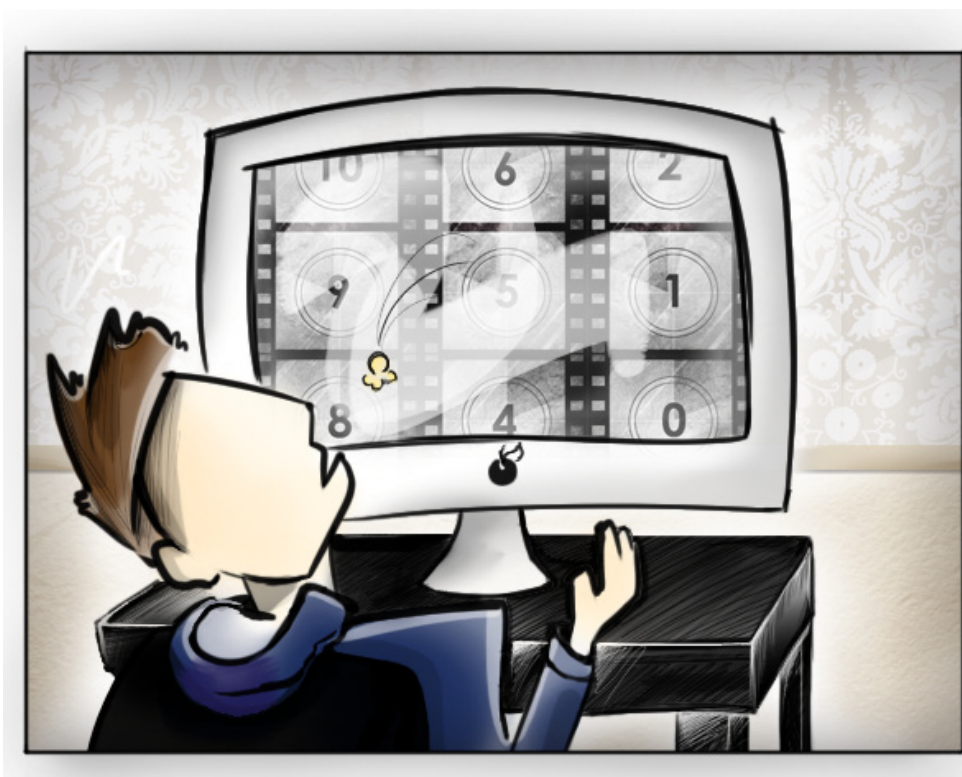
SeeFlik.com offers an avenue to filmmakers who are not internet sensations like Justin Bieber or famous Hollywood directors like Steven Spielberg, but merely students.

It's an emerging online film festival for students who are currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate film programs or are five years out of school. The film competition takes place twice per year online at SeeFlik.com.

"The challenge that faces all of these young emerging artists is that the world of the traditional film festivals—at least as it relates to short films—is it is very difficult to get exposure," said Larry Meli, CEO of SeeFlik. "[SeeFlik] provide[s] these emerging artists with an opportunity to showcase their work in a real competition."

According to Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Film and Video Department, Columbia decided to participate in SeeFlik to provide students with access to a well-organized online film festival so that they can compete with students from other film schools.

The competition winners receive \$50,000 and a showcase in Hollywood with agencies such as cable networks to help jump start a filmmaker's career, Meli said.



Zach Stemerick THE CHRONICLE

SeeFlik presents two awards—the Judges Award and Fans Favorite. The winner of the Judges Award is chosen by a panel of judges, including Michael London, Shane Black, Angelo Pizzo, Keir Pearson, Robert Kamen and Suzanne de Passe, according to a SeeFlik press release.

"We really wanted to pick a diverse cross-section that really covered the bases [in the film industry]," Meli said. "This group alone has 20 nominations or Academy Awards for their films, so that's a pretty good group."

He added that the Fans Favorite winner

receives votes by people calling in and voting, much like "American Idol" contestants obtain votes.

The winner will be announced through SeeFlik and the media. There may even be a televised award ceremony, Meli said. He has been approached by cable networks to make that possible, he said.

According to Sheridan, SeeFlik will benefit filmmakers because they can get exposure and a chance to win significant cash prizes.

One Columbia SeeFlik contestant, sophomore film and video major Jordan Nelson,

submitted his film titled "Prescription Dreams" to the SeeFlik festival after he noticed a poster in the 1104 S. Wabash Building. Nelson produced the film in his Moving Image Production I class.

"Prescription Dreams" is about a lonely man who has fallen deeply in love with a woman who appears only in his dreams. He takes prescription sleep medication to get closer to her, he added.

"The main thing I enjoy most about SeeFlik isn't so much about the festival aspect of it, but more how it is simply another outlet for student filmmakers to display their work amongst their peers in a positive and organized environment," Nelson said. "It's too hard for student filmmakers to find this sort of outlet, so I'm very grateful to have found it."

In an effort to get student filmmakers like Nelson recognition for their talent, SeeFlik does not reject film entries it receives, Meli said.

To avoid trouble for the student and the festival, he added that the only time a film will be turned away is if it is defamatory or misuses a product.

"There are so many wonderful, traditional film festivals that we didn't think re-inventing that made much sense," Meli said. "There were some great traditional film festivals already in place. We wanted to really employ the new technology and really be able to allow these students and alum[ni] to showcase their work in a new and different way on a new site."

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December 17, 2011

Put a paw on print

Grad student launches local college prep school newspaper, wins grant award

by Molly Keith
Copy Editor

THE COFFEE’S strong and the smell of tobacco lingers from the reporters’ recent smoke break. Inside an austere conference room, a group of writers surrounding a long table take turns pitching story ideas for the upcoming issue. Such a scenario is the normal staff meeting for a newspaper. Shana Cooper’s newspaper staff is a bit younger than the average staff, though, and they meet in a classroom after school to pitch their ideas. As creator and editor of downtown Chicago’s Muchin College Prep’s student newspaper, The Pawprint, Cooper, 32, heads a different kind of reporting group than most editors, yet she believes it’s crucial for high school-age kids to partake in the reporting and writing scene.

“It’s essential for the kids to be connected with the world around them and to have a collective voice,” Cooper said of the students who write for the newspaper. “They are just becoming aware of their own beliefs and passions, and they should have a place to go with that aside from outside school or writing a poem for an assignment.” Cooper founded the student newspaper in December 2009 when she was completing a teaching observation for her thesis as a fiction-writing graduate student at Columbia. When Cooper observed the school, she noticed there wasn’t much of an after-school program that wasn’t related to sports. “I said [to the dean], ‘What kind of stuff do you have?’ The dean said, ‘Oh, we’ve got band, basketball, volleyball and cross-country. And in the spring, we have track.’ I said,

‘Is that it?’ and she said, ‘Yeah,’” Cooper said as her eyes widened while she recalled her bewilderment after hearing the school didn’t have a newspaper. She inquired if the school was interested in having one, and the dean said yes, but there was no funding for a newspaper. It was then that Cooper decided to start the newspaper, she said. After emailing fellow writers and administrators in Columbia’s Fiction Writing Department, Cooper put together an intern-

ship for students at Columbia to assist her with the production of the newspaper. As for the funding, Cooper wrote a grant application herself for The Weisman Grant Award, and won. The grant is used to cover printing costs, flash drives and website domain names, Cooper said. “Shana’s ability to think on her feet is something I would definitely like to take from her,” said Aimee Goluszka, a fall 2010-spring 2012 intern at The Pawprint under Cooper’s supervision. Goluszka said when dealing with the staff of four to six students in the age range of 14 to 16, Cooper kept calm and cool. While she and the interns edit the final drafts of the articles, the students are solely responsible for coming up with story ideas and writing them themselves. “Students do two to three drafts of a story,” she said. “I’m really strict about



[Kids] are just becoming aware of their own beliefs and passions, and they should have a place to go with that aside from outside school or writing a poem for an assignment.”

–Shana Cooper

“Our additional work came up when [we were] trying to figure out how to alter the lesson plan and how to make the project more effective for them or how to appeal to them more,” Goluszka said. Cooper explained that many students who came in to work had problems with writing. The school contains writing and reading classes, but the two subjects are not taught together—something she finds disconcerting. She has, however, seen improvements in the staff writing. “There was one kid who completely struggled with organizing his writing,” she said. “I sat down with him and said, ‘You know when you organize a closet, you put like things together? We’re going to find the like things here.’ And he was like, ‘Oh, I got it!’ After that, his writing

» SEE PAWPRINT, PG. 11



The Muchin Paw Print
Muchin College Prep
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» **OCCUPY**
Continued from Front Page

to the streets and get our word out.”

However, Len Strazewski, interim associate provost, said the college will present a draft contract of a “comprehensive offer” within the week. Conversations were halted to allow the groups to meet separately to arrange the contract, and P-Fac was alerted of the change, Strazewski said.

The federal mediator overseeing the bargaining sought small groups as the best method of discussing a fair contract. He withdrew from negotiations because the groups had expanded but said he would return when smaller groups were re-established, Strazewski said.

After protesting outside the board of trustees lunch meeting, members of P-Fac awaited Carter’s response in vain.

“That’s rude,” Vallera said as Carter walked past the remnants of the protesters from the luncheon at the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building to the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., surrounded by four security guards dressed in trench coats. “He knows me,” she said.

P-Fac’s protest against prioritization of classroom courses and instructors, along with a request for a different evaluation process, correlates with what Vallera sees as a decrease in the quality of education.

However, Strazewski said the announcement of improved retention rates from Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, proves otherwise. There is no evidence supporting a decrease in quality, Strazewski said.

“I absolutely cannot believe that Diana can say that in public without realizing it’s an insult to her own members, to full-time

faculty and to the students who work hard,” he said. “It’s ridiculous.”

Some students and faculty were seen avoiding the protest by passing through the campus building. Passers-by stopped to observe, walked in the street or squeezed single-file past the growing circle march, monitored at the request of P-Fac by 28-year-old Ben Meyer, a legal observer from the National Lawyer’s Guild Chicago, denoted by a bright green cap.

Meyer’s duty was to protect constitutional rights and watch out for police misconduct, although he anticipated none. He didn’t foresee the protest getting out of hand, he said.

Along with full-time staff, part-time staff, including Columbia alumni, were also protesting to put a face to the demands for pay raises, said Mike Bright, president of the United Staff of Columbia College.

The protest offers a chance for all Occupy Columbia groups to unite under the principles of fairness, equitable pay and justice in the workplace, he said.

“Our students are dying under the burden of debt,” Bright said. “They talk about creating change—well, let’s create change from the top down, not from the bottom up.”

Along with the protest of tuition and student debt, some students, like Julio Martinez, freshman radio major, were present to support Occupy Columbia.

“There are a lot of good teachers as part-time faculty, but unfortunately, we can’t see them as often as we should, like a full-time professor,” Martinez said. Along with Columbia, he said, “a lot of schools seem to be acting as a for-profit organization as opposed to an institution for higher learning.”

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» **TOWN HALL**
Continued from Front Page

The dialogue, which was scheduled from 1 – 2 p.m. on the eighth floor of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., served as a platform to discuss issues facing students, faculty and staff, such as rising tuition costs, budget transparency and diversity in the workplace, both in terms of ethnicity and work experience.

Ryan Nanni, senior film and video major and member of the Coalition Against Corporate Higher Education, C.A.C.H.E., moderated the meeting. He began the discussion on a positive note, saying that he was sure there would be learning on both sides.

One member of C.A.C.H.E., Will Meyrowitz, a student at DePaul University, posed a question to Love and Strazewski in regard to the complaint the National Labor Relations Board filed against Columbia on Sept. 30 for allegedly refusing to bargain in good faith with P-Fac.

At the beginning of the discussion, Love made it clear that because of ongoing union negotiations with the US of CC and P-Fac, some questions on those topics could not be answered because of union restrictions.

Meyrowitz was later heard yelling at Love, calling her “a union buster.” Throughout the entire discussion, Meyrowitz and other audience members heckled Love’s and Strazewski’s responses, prompting other members of the audience to call for order.

Approximately half of the questions asked were from people with no discernible connection to Columbia, a number were students at other institutions in the Chicago area, including DePaul, Northwestern and the University of Chicago.

A DePaul student also incorrectly stated

“the cost of [Columbia] reaches almost \$50,000 [per] year.” Columbia’s annual tuition for the 2011-2012 academic year is \$20,094, and combined with housing costs, the total rises to approximately \$32,000 per year.

Another major point topic of discussion was a letter was sent to a large portion of the college community by an adjunct faculty member in the Photography Department that criticized P-Fac President Diana Vallera, and P-Fac’s inability to respond to the letter was also discussed at length.

“The adversarial rhetoric and accusations that [P-Fac] has been hurling at the administration during the last two years have been counterproductive and, often, just plain incorrect,” John Morrison, the author and adjunct photography instructor wrote.

The union expressed its anger and confusion at the administration’s decision to not allow it to issue a response to the entire college community in regard to the letter.

The union also posed the possibility that the letter was in breach of certain college policies concerning Internet and technology use.

The meeting concluded with members of Occupy Columbia, C.A.C.H.E., US of CC and students reciting the group’s closing statement, which included several demands and potential strategies the group believed to be applicable to Columbia.

“We reject the idea that staff, faculty and student concerns are in any way separable,” the groups said in unison.

Nanni, who was unofficially named the student liaison to Occupy Columbia, offered to hold another town hall meeting on Jan. 19. Love was unable to commit at the time, but said she was open to the idea.

For the full letter by John Morrison, see PG. 36

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» **SCHOLARSHIP**
Continued from PG. 3

Trust. “It feeds people’s spirits. If students can’t afford to do that, then we feel it is the corporation’s responsibility to make that happen.”

The McCormick Foundation was also recognized at the luncheon. This foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens.

Since 1970, the McCormick Foundation has been one of Columbia’s longest-standing donors, according to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs. It has provided support to many of the college’s programs, such as Education, Journalism, Dance and Music, as well as donations to many scholarships.

In 2006, this foundation established The Open Doors Scholarship, which invests in the local community and assists [CPS] graduates with tuition and fees, Kelly said.

“[Columbia’s] Open Doors Scholarship is by far the largest scholarship program supporting [CPS] students of any college in the country,” Kelly said. “We are so proud of that and the work of the McCormick Foundation in supporting our work.”

At the luncheon, The McCormick Foundation received the Students First Outstanding Corporation Award.

“[The McCormick Foundation] thinks the best thing to do is find the organizations that know what they are doing and give them the support to do it,” said Donald Cooke, senior vice president of philanthropy for the McCormick Foundation. “In the case of scholarships, get the money to the kids so [that] they can do what they do best.”

Dammeyer, a Columbia alumna, was the final scholarship donor to be recognized

during the luncheon. She was described by Eric Winston, vice president of Institutional Advancement, as one of the many alumni who have created a legacy and then given back to Columbia to help train the future.

Dammeyer was given special recognition for creating the first full-ride scholarship in Columbia’s history, as previously reported by The Chronicle on Nov. 14. Dammeyer became a Columbia student after completing a successful career in Real Estate.

She was a documentary photographer for 15 years with Heartland Alliance, an international organization that focuses on



Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, awarded The Robert R. McCormick Foundation and the Students First Outstanding Corporation Award.

poverty alleviation. With the organization, Dammeyer helped impoverished people improve their lives and realize their human rights, Winston said.

Now, Dammeyer wants a Columbia student to do the same. As part of her scholarship, she requires that a student use his or her artistic ability to volunteer with a nonprofit organization until the student graduates, Winston said.

The scholarship will be awarded to a freshman for the first time this year and will finance his or her remaining three years at Columbia, he added.

Dammeyer received the Students

First Outstanding Individual Award. “I think I am just as excited as they tell me the students are,” she said. “As a student, it’s about learning. [With the scholarship], the student is learning the application of [his or her skill]. I want a student to find this out early.”

Students who have received scholarships were also at the event to thank those who have donated.

“Because of our ever increasing scholarship fund, [Columbia] has become a magnet for young, creative talent in this country,” Kelly said.

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» **ASSEMBLY**
Continued from PG. 3

“With making these guidelines, she had a very clear vision of what she wanted done, and she was going to get it done,” Norris said. “Sometimes that meant that she was argumentative. Sometimes that meant that she occasionally had to concede to someone else’s valid point.”

The College Assembly will consist of 10 members, according to the guidelines. Constituent members will include one department chair, two full-time faculty members, two part-time faculty members, two staff members and two students.

According to Quinn, Love will stand as the ex-officio and 10th member, but will not have a vote.

Presiding committee members are expected to be elected by the end of January 2012, Quinn said.

Current representatives of each respective body on campus will elect members. Committee members will select a topic of discussion, such as student affordability,

fiscal issues or education globally, and a member will present the topic at the next meeting, Quinn said. The community will be notified of the discussion topic before the meeting is held, she added.

According to the guidelines, regular assemblies will be held three times per semester. All assemblies are open to the community. Quinn hopes the first official College Assembly meeting will be held in April 2012.

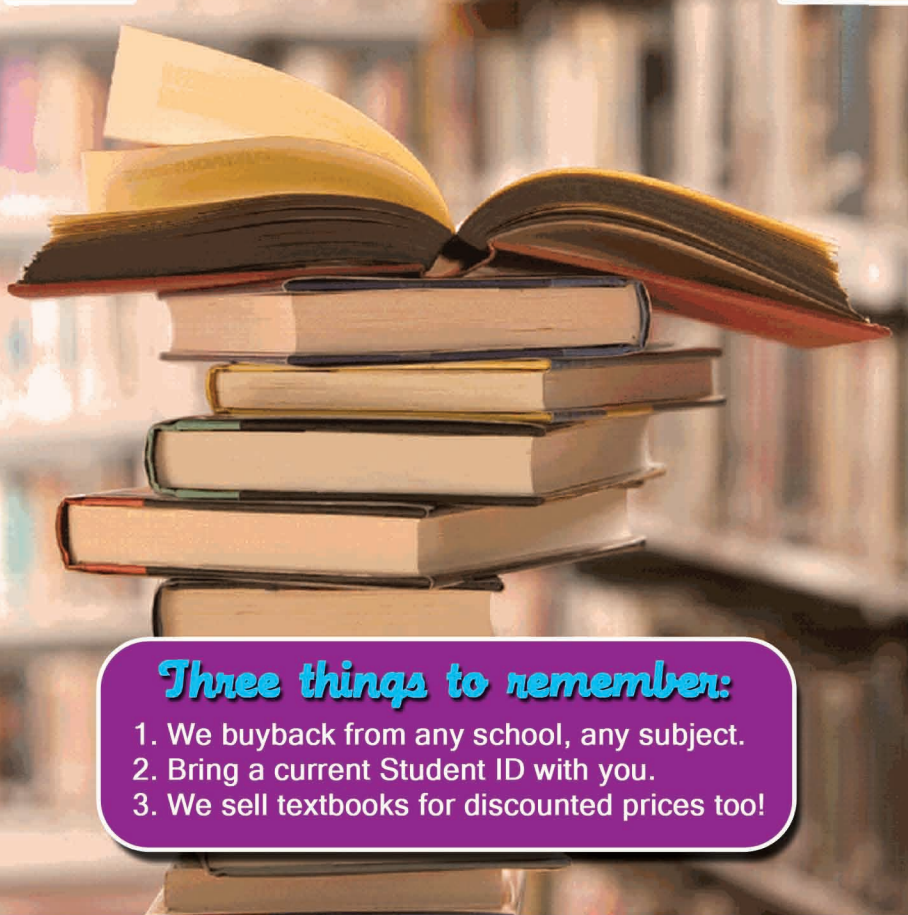
According to Kelly, he was frustrated with the fact that the College Council focused more on by-laws rather than educational content. He hopes the Assembly can provide this element to the Columbia campus.

“As a college, we’re about sharing information and learning from each other,” Kelly said. “I think that is at the heart of what we hope the College Assembly will be—a learning moment for the college. At the conclusion of every assembly, we have a better informed college community, and we have more clarity and purpose on important issues.”

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» SURVEY

Continued from PG. 4

Otherwise, he finds his parents difficult to talk to, he said.

“Since I’ve come to Columbia, there’s a cool, different world [and] different mind besides straightforward thinking,” Barbon said. “It’s difficult to have a conversation with them without getting upset and angry, so it’s a little more challenging.”

Questions of conversation topics were on the survey concerning Columbia experiences.

Approximately two-thirds of parents reported that students did not discuss the nine principles of student success, and three-fourths said Critical Encounters were not discussed.

However, bodies of work and First-Year Seminar were discussed by approximately 60 percent.

Even though two-thirds of the parents said this was not their first child to attend college, the results may have reflected only parents of freshman students, Love said.

In the future, another survey with student input or an evaluation of non-Columbia conversation topics would be interesting to conduct, she said.

A student’s involvement in technology while marching at commencement instead of paying attention to the moment is unforgettable to Love, who said students should live in the moment to avoid getting encapsulated in the digital world.

“Experience it for yourself and communicate about it later,” Love said. “That need to on-the-spot report is something new. It’s something that probably wasn’t foreseen.”

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» PAWPRINT

Continued from PG. 8

definitely changed.”

Simone Mikolich, Muchin’s after-school events coordinator, believes the school having a student newspaper benefits its students. She agreed with Cooper that students’ voices need to be heard.

““

Why shouldn’t students have that opportunity? It seems natural, like they should have it.”

—Shana Cooper

“The students are passionate about issues at school and in the world and need a place to talk about them,” Mikolich said. “[Cooper] is really passionate. It’s been a journey [working with a student staff], but she’s been really patient. She really wants to provide these kids with a good student newspaper.”

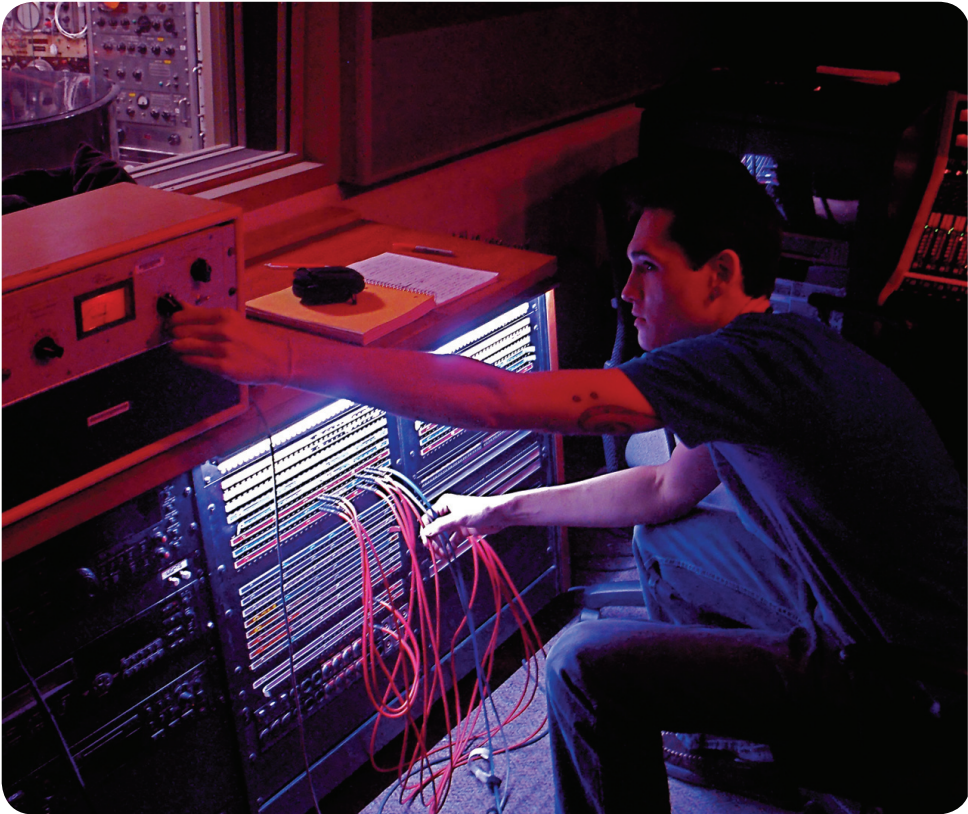
For Cooper, the most rewarding aspect of starting the newspaper has been observing the evolution of the students’ devotion to the publication. Once a few students consistently showed up to the staff meetings, others followed suit, she said.

Cooper hopes to found other student newspapers in Chicago, she said.

“Why shouldn’t students have that opportunity?” Cooper said. “It seems natural, like they should have it.”

mkeith@chroniclemail.com

Someone You Should
KNOW CHRIS HERMER }



Courtesy CHRIS HERMER

Name: Chris Hermer
Year: Senior
Major: Audio Arts & Acoustics
Chris recently co-founded a record label/production company called ILL Music Records, which started in January 2011. ILL Records has recorded and produced many local talents, such as RobKilla, Max Ray and Kirby Kaiser, who has recently gained airplay on 93-XRT Chicago. The record label also organizes shows with these artists. Chris plays the bass guitar and said that without the education and student services that Columbia has provided him, he would not be where he is today.

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Who's your radical?



IMDB

Don Draper, played by Jon Hamm, smokes a cigarette in "Mad Men."

By Margot Wallace
Associate Professor of
marketing communication

REVOLUTIONARIES ARE social folks, fighting to make a difference for society. Radicals simply are different, society's one-offs who quietly and solely make life different by example.

The word "radical" means "of, relating to, or proceeding from a root," and the game-changers we honor this year are indeed different from the root on up. They are born different, gifted with originality genes and raised with outsider status. This inherent otherness has created many of the innovators we admire today. Gabrielle "Coco" Chanel was an outsider radical. So were Alexander Hamilton and, I think, Don Draper from "Mad Men." They didn't just fight a system; they built new systems that proved useful and sustainable for generations.

Chanel was an original from the ground up, literally. Born a peasant at a time when France was not kind to the earthbound, she grafted hard work and experimentation onto natural talent and grew into a camellia. Her uniqueness has been affirmed and sustained by thousands of stakeholders who benefit from her creations: designing her collection, milling her fabrics, retailing her garments, writing her biographies and, of course, buying her clothes. Hamilton was a special baby, too, born in a British Caribbean colony at a time when his founding brothers-to-be were all "American colonists." Raised poor and early orphaned, this man without conventional roots created the root idea on which the American culture and economy is based: the legal right to own and protect one's own property, real or intellectual. His radical idea allows us all to innovate with impunity. And Don Draper is a radical, carrying an identity he fabricated for himself and an unencumbered vision for insights

that propel social innovation today.

By comparison, some luminaries are merely revolutionaries. Einstein was not a radical, but a brilliant part of a socially-acceptable academic tradition. Granted, he had the prescience to wear his hair uncombed. Shakespeare was merely a genius appreciated in his own time. It is received wisdom that Gutenberg's printing press revolutionized the world of knowledge, but more exciting to me is the monk who, several centuries earlier, decided to put spaces between the words that would later be printed. Nicholas Carr, in his book "The Shallows," describes this man as an outsider locked inside a monastery who discovered that manuscripts were easier to read if they weren't one long, run-on paragraph.

The Impressionists were not radical: 19th century French social conventions supported all artists with galleries, exhibitions and dealers, and a scandal-loving media. President Obama is almost a radical, but the people caucusing in Iowa in 2008 were real ones.

I'm most infatuated with Don Draper because his originality is not only root deep but unassailable. This social misfit who changed the culture of marketing in an era when no one liked change serves in a new era where he could be socially mediated out of business: PhotoShopped into an ugly guy, Wiki-Biographed as a politician or parodied on YouTube into mediocrity. But the hero of "Mad Men" endures, rooted as an icon, even by those who don't watch him.

I fear for radicals because they are invisible. Our culture discourses with revolutionaries because we see them coming. Radicals evade notice; like their etymology, they conduct their business out of sight.

I'd say, let us all praise radicals, but we probably don't know who they are. We first must dig up a few.

SPORTS&HEALTH

Comparing women's health services

College campuses around Chicago offer varying degrees of health services to women

by Lindsey Woods
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

STUDENTS LOOKING at colleges generally consider lengthy lists of criteria they want their prospective school to have, including how well schools accommodate their students. One criterion that may be hard to find is what kind of medical care students have access to and how much that care costs. For women in particular, this may include annual gynecological exams, pregnancy testing and access to birth control and emergency contraception.

Colleges and universities in the Chicago area vary widely in what is available. Some, such as the University of Illinois at Chicago, offer their students access to medical care provided through the school and its facilities, while others, like Columbia, offer a basic health clinic and then outsource other services to outside providers. Still others, such as DePaul University, do not have student health centers but instead outsource all student health care.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Loyola University Chicago, Northwestern University and Northwestern University Chicago all have clinics for student use on their campuses, available through health fees and school-sponsored health insurance. Roosevelt University doesn't have a student health center, nor does DePaul, which, according to Ronald

Graf, associate clinical professor of nursing at the DePaul College of Science and Health, has caused questions and concern among students and faculty.

"It hasn't made a lot of sense to people in this area why we don't have something like [a health center], but it's something that I think is deep seeded, unfortunately, [at] this institution," Graf said. "There's been outcries by students and...faculty, but nothing has been changed up to this point that I'm aware of."

He also mentioned that, despite being the largest Catholic university in the country, DePaul is not on par with other Vincentian Universities, such as Niagara University and St. John University, both of which have student health centers on campus.

Loyola is also affiliated with the Catholic Church. The university has a health center, although it does not provide birth control or emergency contraception because of its religious affiliations, according to Mari Jo Letizia, associate dean of the School of Nursing. It does, however, provide pregnancy testing and gynecological exams, among other services.

"Our mission pertains to women's health, as well as all student health," Letizia said.

DePaul outsources all student health care to Sage Medical Group, an independent medical service provider that offers "limited services," according to Graf.

Columbia also outsources to Sage Medical

Group for student health. While Sage offers annual gynecological exams, it does not provide emergency contraception or "Plan B," for women.

According to Evelyn Figueroa, associate program director of the family medicine residence program and director of women's health and obstetrics at the UIC Medical Center, outsourcing patient care increases the likelihood that patients won't seek treatment, which can be dangerous.

"People don't tend to go to outside clinics if you send them," Figueroa said. "I run into lots of trouble referring my patients for a variety of procedures. If I want to send someone to the orthopedist for a knee injection, they may never get there, and it's really disconcerting."

She also added that the reason people may not go to outside doctors when it is recommended is because they feel stigmatized, depending on the type of treatment they need. Patients seeking contraception, treatment for alcoholism and depression are among those who may feel stigmatized.

Columbia's Student Health Center, locat-



Jonathan Allen THE CHRONICLE

ed in the Residence Center, 731 S. Plymouth Court, and available to students through a once-per-semester fee, does not provide students with gynecological exams, Plan B, STD or STI treatment, or pregnancy planning. The staff at the health center can

» SEE HEALTH, PG. 17



Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Shane Reynolds co-hosts the sports radio show "Deep Dish" on Tuesday nights on WCRX, Columbia's radio network.

WCRX talks sports

by Nader Ihmoud
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

TURN YOUR radio up as you listen to original sports talk on 88.1 FM WCRX's "Deep Dish" or "The Last Slice," shows that have been added this semester to the radio station's lineup.

There has been sports programming on WCRX, Columbia's radio network, since 1990. John Joyce, internship coordinator for the Radio Department, created the sports department for the station, but it wasn't until fall 2011 that the programming had a synced staff that worked together.

Sam Panayotovitch, the station's sports director, said the programming came to fruition following extensive efforts to find staffing. He walked around the seventh floor of the 33 E. Congress Parkway building during spring 2011, asking students, "Hey, do you like sports?" and "Hey, do you want

to help with sports?" Panayotovitch, senior radio major, held the first meetings for the department in July, and before the semester began, he knew who wanted to participate and what they wanted to do.

"There was a lot of behind-the-scenes work early [on], and we kind of knew what roles were which and who wanted to do what," Panayotovitch said.

According to him, the WCRX administrators were impressed with the success of the shows and next semester will be sending members of the sports programming department to cover Chicago's major professional sports teams.

This past semester, the station's sports programming had two sports talk shows every Tuesday called "Deep Dish" from 7 - 9 p.m., and "The Last Slice" from 9 - 10 p.m.

» SEE RADIO, PG. 17

DEC./JAN. IN SPORTS				
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Northwestern and Morgan State tip-off at noon.	The Bulls play the final pre-season game at home. The game starts at 7 p.m.	The Bulls open up the season Christmas day at noon against the Lakers.	The Bears will finish off the season against division rival Minnesota Vikings at noon.	The Bulls play their first home game New Year's day against the Memphis Grizzlies.
Welsh Ryan Arena Evanston, Ill.	United Center 1901 W. Madison St.	Staples Center Los Angeles	Mall of America Field Minneapolis	United Center 1901 W. Madison St.

DePaul wins conference opener

by Nader Ihmoud
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

STUDENTS FROM Chicago Public Schools and Chicago Catholic Schools, who flooded McGrath Phillips Arena, 2323 N. Sheffield Ave., cheered loud and proud in blue shirts provided by DePaul University during the Blue Demons' 69-52 victory over conference opponent St. John's University's Red Storm.

DePaul held its first Big East game of the season on "Chicagoland Field Trip Day," during which the school reached out to CPS and CCS schools near DePaul and provided them with buses and T-shirts for a field day. The grammar school students got to experience a day on a college campus.

"It was a cool game to play," said Doug Bruno, head coach of the Blue Demons. "St. John's is red and we're blue. It was cool to have all those blue shirts in the gym."

Despite senior forward Keisha Hampton's rough start to the game with 8 turnovers and shooting 0-5 from the field, DePaul won the game by 17 points.

"In the first half, I was anxious and not taking my time," Hampton said. "[During the] second half, I looked to be more aggressive and hit a couple shots. When anybody hits a couple [of] shots, they start feeling themselves a little bit, and I hit a couple more."

Hampton went on to knock down all four of her 3-point attempts in the second half and finished with a game high of 21 points closing out the game for her team.

"It took her a full half to get going and 8 turnovers to warm her up. Once we got her going, you saw why she is truly an all-American," Bruno said.

According to him, Hampton, who had one of her career best performances against Northwestern University on Nov. 27, with 32 points and 5 rebounds, had been dealing with an undisclosed medical situation. This forced Hampton's practice time to be limited leading up to the game against St. John's. Despite that, the senior did a "great job at taking over the game when it needed to be taken over," Bruno said.

The Blue Demons also had help on the defensive end of the court—something DePaul is not known for—according to Bruno. The team applied a full-court pressure throughout the game on defense to go along with its man-to-man. The Red Storm was limited to 27 percent shooting from the floor while committing 17 turnovers that led to 19 Blue Demons points.

"I think it was very important that we worked very hard to wear them out. Our pressure isn't there just to steal the ball," Bruno said. "We were able to keep them at bay for about three quarters of the game, then at the end, we went zone, and I think the zone did a great job of bringing us home."

DePaul also received a significant boost off the bench, in particular from senior guard Deanna Ortiz, who usually starts for the Blue Demons but began this game on the bench, following Bruno's decision to go with a bigger lineup in his team's conference-play opener.



Photos Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

(Left) During the Dec. 7 match up between the DePaul University Blue Demons and the St. John's University Red Storms, DePaul's Anna Martin goes up for a layup, but is blocked by St. John's Eugeneia McPherson. (Right) DePaul's Britany Hrynko shoots over a St. John's defender. (Bottom) Hrynko drives to the hoop past a St. John's defender.



"What I'm really proud of her about was her emotional stability of accepting the fact that we decided to go with a different lineup," Bruno said.

Ortiz made three of the team's eight

3-pointers to go along with eight rebounds. "That [was] a very important win for us today," Bruno said.

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Hawks lead dissolving division

by Greg Cappis
Assistant Metro Editor

CAPTAIN JONATHAN Toews is keeping his team atop the Central Division in its last year of existence.

The NHL agreed to realign the league into four conferences of seven or eight teams, starting next fall. This will cut down on travel and develop more heated rivalries between division foes. The announcement was made on Dec. 5 during the Blackhawks meeting with the Coyotes.

As highlighted by the game against the Coyotes, the Blackhawks are led by Toews, who is leading the league with 17 goals, as of Dec. 7. The recent transition of Patrick Kane from center to Toews' right wing sparked the Hawks' offense that night.

"I thought [Kane] had an outstanding game," said Head Coach Joel Quenneville at his postgame press conference. "[He] had a lot of puck possession. Toews [had] a quick stick around the net. That line was efficient."

Efficient may be an understatement. The duo scored all of the Hawks' goals that evening. Toews scored the first two goals, one on an assist from Kane. Then, he found the young winger on a backdoor pass to tie the game at three before the close of the second period. Chicago lost 4-3 on a shootout.

"[We are] disappointed with the start, but it was a good comeback [and a] good point," Quenneville said.

The Blackhawks had to battle back after goalie Corey Crawford gave up three goals within the first 22 minutes of the game, prompting Quenneville to swap out Crawford for Ray Emery. On Dec. 7, Crawford told reporters his play has been inconsistent,

and he is working on his performance with goalie coach Stephane Waite. Emery started against the New York Islanders on Dec. 8.

With Emery between the pipes, the Hawks hope to get a better start than they've been getting so far this season. In their first 30 games, they scored first only one-third of the time and are 9-0-1 in those games. Quenneville said he hopes to generate some enthusiasm with the change in netminders.

First-year Blackhawk Daniel Carcillo has been changing it up with opponents all season. He had a brief stint on the top line with Toews and Kane to protect the highly-skilled stars against physical opponents, such as the St. Louis Blues.

A rivalry has been heating up between Toews and St. Louis Blues winger David Backes. The two wrestled each other during the Dec. 3 game. Gloves were dropped but no fight ensued. Last year, Backes and Toews scrapped, which is still the only fight of Toews' career.



I thought [Kane] had an outstanding game. He had a lot of quick puck possessions."

-Joel Quenneville

The Blackhawks-Blues rivalry is destined to become red-hot next year because the teams will be in the same conference. Under realignment, conference opponents will play each other five or six times each year. The Stars, Red Wings, Blue Jackets,

Wild, Predators and Jets will join the Black hawks and Blues in what is now being labeled as Conference B. The top four teams will make the playoffs. They will have two rounds between them before heading to the semifinals and then advancing to the Stanley Cup Finals.

The change in conferences was imminent after the Atlanta Thrashers moved to Manitoba to form the Winnipeg Jets once again. The league's restructuring will most likely alter the Blackhawks annual West

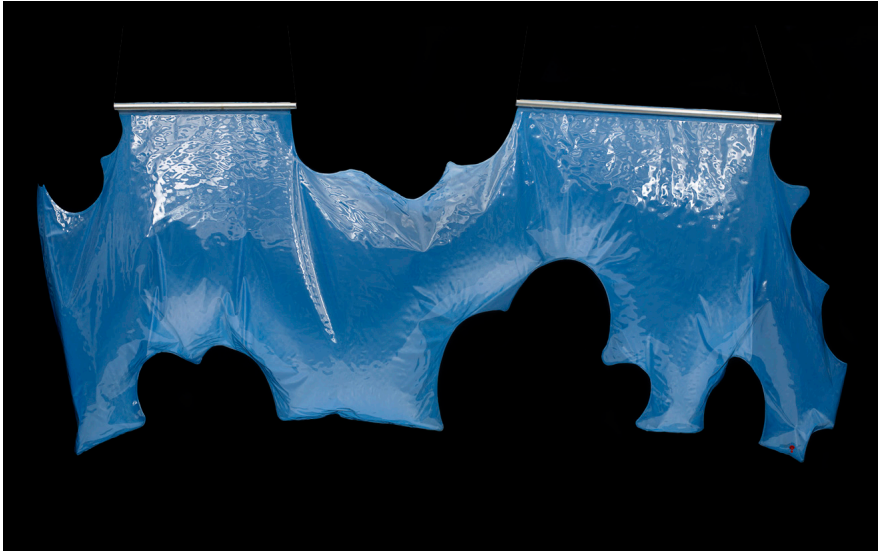
Coast November "circus trip." Since the finale of this year's long road trip, the Blachawks are 2-2 as of Dec. 7. They play 15 of their next 20 games at the United Center, 1901 W. Madison St., where they are 8-2-3, and look to add to that record with their captain at the helm. "Toews has been hot lately," Quenneville said. "Kane complemented him in a lot of ways."

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STOCK PHOTO

N.E. Thing Co. *Inflated Blue Sky*, 1970. Purchase, 1970. Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto. Photo: Art Gallery of Ontario



IAIN BAXTER&: Works 1958–2011 Nov 5, 2011– Jan 15, 2012

IAIN BAXTER& *Television Works* (detail), 1989–2006. Promised gift of Yvonne and David Fleck, Steven and Michael Lotner Families, and Eleanor and Francis Shen. Photo: Art Gallery of Ontario. ©2011 IAIN BAXTER&



Iain Baxter *Still Life with Winter Vista*, 1986. Courtesy of the artist and Corkin Gallery, Toronto. Photo: Art Gallery of Ontario. ©2011 IAIN BAXTER&

Ron Terada *You Have Left the American Sector*, 2006. Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal. Courtesy of Catriona Jeffries, Vancouver



Ron Terada *Big Star*, 2003. Collection of Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, University of Toronto. Courtesy of Catriona Jeffries, Vancouver

Ron Terada: Being There Nov 5, 2011– Jan 15, 2012



Ron Terada *See Other Side of Sign*, 2006. Courtesy of Catriona Jeffries, Vancouver

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Sports in springtime

The Renegades reflect on fall semester, look forward to spring renewal

by **Lindsey Woods**
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

THE END of a sports season usually means excitement and big competition, such as bowl games, play-offs and fierce competition. For the Renegades, the end of the semester has a more subtle culmination. There will be no “big game,” but the Renegades are planning some game-changers for the upcoming spring season.

It has been a busy semester for the Renegades, with the addition of women’s basketball, men’s basketball, co-ed soccer, cheerleading, co-ed softball, and the return of the baseball, soccer and Ultimate Frisbee teams. There were more successes than failures in terms of starting lasting teams, with the most memorable flops being the cross-country team and the fencing team. But Abby Cress, vice president of the Renegades, said even those weren’t vain endeavors.

“A lot of people were interested in fencing, and we did kind of get the fencing team started, but the captain [Fred Hausman] had a knee injury and we didn’t have anyone to take over,” Cress said.

Kevin Hartmann, president of the Renegades, said the new teams were a big part of the program’s successes this semester.

“We’re really proud of the captain of the new teams for fighting through the growing pains and working toward next semes-

ter, becoming fully established and digging their roots in deep to the campus overall,” Hartmann said.

Trying to add teams to Columbia’s sports roster isn’t the only thing on the Renegades’ to-do list. Forrest Frazier, current Renegades secretary, said the plans for spring include working with teams they already have to foster legitimacy.

“We’re going to try to stabilize the teams we have now with strong leadership, strong captains and co-captains so [that] we can keep these teams going.”

Expanding the sports aspect of the Renegades is only one facet of the program that needs attention, according to Hartmann. Although he will be leaving his presidential post next semester, Hartmann said he will be around to help out with Renegades business, including a rebranding campaign that he hopes will bring more awareness.

Cress will be taking over the presidential post, and Frazier will be promoted to vice president next semester. The Renegades staff will also have two new faces next year, although Hartmann didn’t say whom yet.

Although he is leaving, Hartmann will still do most of the graphic designing for the program and wants to be a major player in the rebranding campaign, including peppering the school with posters to help raise student awareness.



Ed Kang THE CHRONICLE

“We want to do a poster campaign with the new logo to kind of say, ‘Sports are here, sports exists, get involved,’” Hartmann said. “We want the posters to say who we are and have them everywhere.”

The Renegades are also planning for mainstay events, like the Columbia Olympics and the staff versus student volleyball game, which may see some changes next semester. Instead of bei other events, Hartmann said it will be its own independent event.

Cress added that in addition to the volleyball game, the Renegades have talked about adding another staff versus student sporting event during the spring semester.

“We’re hoping to have the first staff versus student Ultimate Frisbee game next semester,” Cress said.

She also talked about Rockin’ with the Renegades, an event planned for March 8, 2012, at the Conaway Center, 1104 S.

Wabash Ave.

“It’s like a homecoming,” Cress said. “All the teams are going to be announced, there’s going to be a dance, we’re going to have small carnival sport games [and] food. It’s pretty much a ‘hello’ to Columbia students, like, ‘We’re the Renegades, come rock with us.’”

With new and current sports teams to manage, a rebranding campaign and new and recurring events, the Renegades have a lot of big plans for next semester. Cress said everyone on the board is excited and ready to get students more involved with sports at Columbia.

“We’ve had a good semester,” she said. “Next semester, we’re going to kick it full force. We’re excited.”

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Invisible Conflicts club hosts Plunge

by **Kayley Fowler**
Contributing Writer

“IC PLUNGE! IC PLUNGE!” chanted approximately 50 college students clad in bathing suits on the shore of Lake Michigan on a cold, rainy Saturday just before they took off sprinting into the ice-cold water.

For the sixth year, Loyola University Chicago’s Invisible Conflicts club hosted the IC Plunge, where students collect donations and take a dip in the lake on Dec. 3 to generate funds for the Dwon Madiki Partnership—a group focused on funding the schooling of northern Ugandan children who have been displaced as a result of warfare carried out by the Lord’s Resistance Army. All proceeds from the Plunge went directly to Dwon Madiki, of which Invisible Conflicts is the sole sponsor.

With this year’s goal of \$8,000 in mind, Invisible Conflicts urged anyone who was able to make a trip to Hartigan Park Beach, 1031 W. Albion Ave., to take the plunge.

“The IC Plunge serves as a youthful and daring approach to raising not only funds, but also awareness about sociopolitical issues around our globe,” said Katie Scramtom, co-founder of Invisible Conflicts. “It’s a celebration that allows us to give our excessive resources to a few kids who simply want to keep going to school with enough school supplies in hand and the support of their friends across the ocean.”

At noon at the Crown Center for the Humanities, 1001 W. Loyola Ave., participants slowly began to trickle in for registration. As the hour leading up to the Plunge progressed, the trickle grew to a flood of more than 65 registered supporters. Although more than 65 registered, not all took the plunge. Several opted to stay dry, but most of the group waited eagerly to test out the water on the 47-degree day.



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

(Left) One IC Plunge participant shivers on the shore of Lake Michigan before running into the water. (Right) Loyola University Chicago students plunged into Lake Michigan on Dec. 3 for the sixth annual IC Plunge. The Plunge benefits the Dwon Madiki Partnership of the Invisible Conflicts student group. The money raised will help fund schooling for twenty Ugandan children.

“I want to see how cold the water is,” said Nick Greenhalgh, a Loyola student who participated in the Plunge for the first time. “And it’s for a good cause. I saw the signs [posted] around, and I thought it would be a good thing to try.”

The crowd’s anticipation rose with each passing minute until 1 p.m., when the group made its way from the Crown Center to the beach for its 1:15 p.m. swim. As the group approached the shore, clothes began to fly and shrieks ensued as plungers stripped down to their swimwear and embraced the initial shock of the frigid cold. Following a group photo and plenty of spirit-boosting chants, the crowd took off running into the still water, screaming and splashing about as they trekked deeper into the

freezing waters.

Most of the group returned to shore after approximately 15 seconds in the water, with very few lasting much longer. Emerging from the water, the swimmers sprinted to their belongings, desperately wrapping themselves in towels, coats and anything else they could get their hands on.

Following the Plunge, the soggy supporters marched back to the Crown Center for a reception. There, participants changed out of their wet clothes and warmed up while enjoying free refreshments and learning more about the children sponsored by Dwon Madiki.

“By having events such as the IC Plunge, worldwide conflicts are becoming more visible,” said Kelly Joy, a member of

Invisible Conflicts.

According to Angela Wells, co-president of Invisible Conflicts, the group has two goals: to raise awareness about issues “ignored” by Western media and to create change. Wells expressed hope that the organization’s involvement with the Dwon Madiki Partnership will allow Invisible Conflicts to perform the latter.

“I think that at the root of any social change is building relationships and realizing our connections,” Wells said. “In reality, we’re all very interconnected.”

For more information on Invisible Conflicts and the Dwon Madiki Partnership, visit InvisibleConflictsLoyola.Wordpress.com.

chronicle@colum.edu

HOW TO: Plan a vacation

by **Lindsey Woods**
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

IT'S NO secret that winter hits Chicago particularly hard. Whether it's the Snowpocalypse, bone-chilling wind or icy streets, residents of the Windy City may find themselves ready for a vacation. And with the opportunity that the holiday break affords, now is the time for teachers and students to plan the perfect getaway.

Planning a vacation can be overwhelm-

ing. You have to think about destination, budget, living arrangements and transportation. Fortunately, Ana-Marie Alejandre, a local travel adviser with the Paul Klein Travel company, has some planning advice for vacation-bound Chicagoans.

"Enlisting the help of an expert will help save you a lot of time and aggravation," Alejandre said.

If you do your homework, you can plan a winter vacation in a few manageable steps, so it will be as relaxing as possible.



Stock Photo

STEP 1: SET A BUDGET

1

Be honest with yourself about your available resources so you can set a reasonable budget, Alejandre said. Knowing how much money you can spend will help you narrow options for where to go and how you want to get there. A little tight on cash? Pick somewhere closer to home or hunt for the place with the best price on living arrangements for your vacation.

2

STEP 2: CHOOSE A DESTINATION

Selecting a destination can be both fun and daunting. Weather, historical significance, distance and activities can all be factors to consider when picking a travel destination. "Browse travel guide sites like Frommer's to help you find the perfect place for your getaway," Alejandre said.

3

STEP 3: THINK LOGISTICS

Figuring out how you're going to get to your intended destination and where you're going to stay come next. Sites like Travelocity.com, Kayak.com and Expedia.com can all help in finding hotels and flights, according to Alejandre. Driving is another option, which, if you're traveling with a friend or a group of people, may be cheaper when splitting gas costs.

4

STEP 4: PLAN ACTIVITIES

Whether your vacation activities include tourist attractions, outdoor adventures or just lying on the beach, having an idea of what you're going to do when you get to your destination will help keep the trip exciting. Make sure that your budget includes all the activities you plan to do. You should also try to plan out where your meals will be coming from and add that into your budget, Alejandre said.

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» HEALTH

Continued from PG. 13

write prescriptions for birth control for students under 21 whether or not they have a current Pap smear on file, but if students are over 21, they must have a recent Pap smear. Students who visit the website looking for pregnancy resources are directed to one of three outside sources, including Planned Parenthood, 18 S. Michigan Ave., the only option that would provide students with tangible treatment options.

“

It hasn't made a lot of sense to people in this area why we don't have something like [a health center], but it's something that I think is deep seeded, unfortunately, [at] this institution.”

— Ronald Graf

The Columbia Student Health Center and the Student Health and Support office could not be reached for comment.

U of I, UIC, Northwestern and Loyola all offer student access to gynecological exams, STD testing and treatment and pregnancy testing. All of these schools except Loyola also offer birth control, Plan B and pregnancy planning services.

Figueroa said students at UIC are offered varying degrees of medical coverage, including CampusCare, which offers students up to \$250,000 in coverage for "[approximately] \$100 [per] month."

All full-time students on the UIC campus must pay the \$90 health services fee for fall and spring semesters, which provides them access to most on-campus medical services.

"CampusCare is very cheap for comprehensive health insurance," Figueroa said. "I don't know if you know how much it costs to insure a woman of reproductive age in the U.S., but it's [approximately] \$500 to

\$700 a month, so really, students are getting a good deal."

Most student health centers are accessible through semesterly fees assessed to students with tuition. At Columbia, this fee includes separate \$40 charges for the fall and spring semesters for full-time students and \$25 for the summer semester. If students choose to use Sage Medical Group's services, they must first check to see if their health insurance covers them. Although DePaul doesn't have a health center, it requires that students have health insurance, and both DePaul and Columbia offer students choices in terms of planning out

health insurance options.

According to David Lawrance, a medical doctor at the McKinley Health Center of the U of I, students are charged a small fee in order to use the medical services the college offers, including access to the Women's Health Clinic, which employs a gynecologist and a family-practice doctor, as well as nurse practitioners.

"Contraception, counseling and prescribing, annual examinations, pregnancy planning are all women's health issues that are applicable, particularly to young adults," Lawrance said. "We feel that's part of our mission, and I don't think that's unique to us."

While those services in particular may not be unique to the U of I, the way they provide their service to students is unique, as is every university or college's way of dealing with women's health care.

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» RADIO

Continued from PG. 13

Currently, the station's sports department has seven students working and volunteering, and plans on adding five more for the upcoming semester.

Panayotovitch and Shane Reynolds are hosts of "Deep Dish," which is produced by Jonathan Bregman, Joe Lundstrom, James Moody and Danny Pasquerelli.

"To call them producers isn't fair," Panayotovitch said. "They are part of the show."

The producers of "Deep Dish" oversee and help with the rundown and layout of the show. Panayotovitch credits the success of the show because of the hosts' and the producers' ability to work as a team instead of as individuals. According to Bregman and Lundstrom, the producers feed off of the hosts' energy and personalities.

"[Reynolds and Panayotovitch] make it a blast," Lundstrom said. "It's so much fun working with them."

Following "Deep Dish," Bregman, Pasquerelli and Lundstrom co-host "The Last Slice," where they are given the platform to display the features they have been working on and talk about topics that were not covered during the previous two hours.

Panayotovitch said the staff has been bringing original content to the show all semester, such as the "Carson Palmer Off-Season Workout Plan." Palmer, an NFL quarterback, was injured and had not played for seven months before making his comeback this season. They also do "The Great Debate at Eight," where a topic is picked and devil's advocate is played.

"We think things out and talk things out, instead of rag and tag," Panayotovitch said. "We stay neutral and bring a little humor and life [to] topics."

Although the show is on Tuesdays, preparation begins the Thursday before the actual show. That Thursday, the crew—



Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Sam Panayotovitch co-hosts "Deep Dish."

members of the sports talk show—meet and discuss the upcoming events and predicts what possible outcomes.

"[It is] a group effort of picking what we want to talk about and then honing in on that. Then, that goes into the run down and then we all have a say on what will finally be approved," Panayotovitch said.

The show's content is based on the local sports within the city, such as University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Bears and even some high school athletics. "Deep Dish" had former U of I head football coach, Ron Zook, on the show.

"Being in Chicago is pretty great [because] it's the best sports city in the world, so we get a lot of headlines from that," Lundstrom said.

For more information, polls, podcasts and pictures go to WCRXSports.com, follow them on Twitter @WCRXSports or listen online at WCRXFM.com

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Cheesy chili dip quick fix for hunger

by Ashley Campbell
Contributing Writer

THE MOANS and groans about winter have begun, and although I'm a summer sun bunny myself, there are two wonderful reasons to welcome the colder months: football and comfort food. What makes it even better is that these two things often go hand in hand. What's a football game without hot pizza, gooey nachos and warm cheesy chili dip?

Everyone loves being invited to a football party, but it's the "potluck" notice that can make us cringe. In a world of fast food and takeout, we can't all be crafty in the kitchen, nor can we all afford the perfect side dish capable of feeding 10 mouths or more. Luckily, Momma Campbell sent me off to college with the perfect secret weapon when attending NFL parties: easy cheesy chili dip.



Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

This hearty dip calls for four ingredients that can be found at your local grocery store: 1 brick of cream cheese, 1 can of chili, 1 bag of shredded cheddar cheese and 1 bag of tortilla chips. Once you've bought everything, make sure you have a microwave-safe bowl ready.

First, unwrap the cornerstone of any good dip: cream cheese. Place that beautiful brick of dairy goodness in the bottom of your container and mash it up with a spoon or fork. Once you've smoothed it out, open your can of chili. Personally, I prefer chili with no beans, but if you'd like the extra bit of protein that beans supply, go crazy.

Spoon the chili evenly over the cream cheese. Now it's halftime, and time to get cookin'. Cover the container with a paper towel and heat in the microwave for 2 minutes. Warning: This will feel like the longest 2 minutes of your life. Once the incredible

smell begins to drive you mad, break open your bag of tortilla chips. When you hear that wondrous "ding" from the microwave, you're almost ready.

Remove the container and mix the dip. An extra touch I like to add before surrendering it to the crowd is adding a few sprinkles of shredded cheddar cheese.

Again, this is only my personal suggestion; don't be afraid to get creative with your choice in cheese. After all, what doesn't go great with chili? After this tasty treat, the entire party will be geared up for the second half.

If the dip is sitting out for awhile, you may need to give it up for just a few minutes and pop it back to the microwave. Once that familiar aroma of deliciousness re-enters the room, you'll know it's game time again.

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INGREDIENTS

- 1 8 ounce brick of cream cheese
- 1 15 ounce can of chili
- 1 16 ounce bag of shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 8 ounce bag of tortilla chips

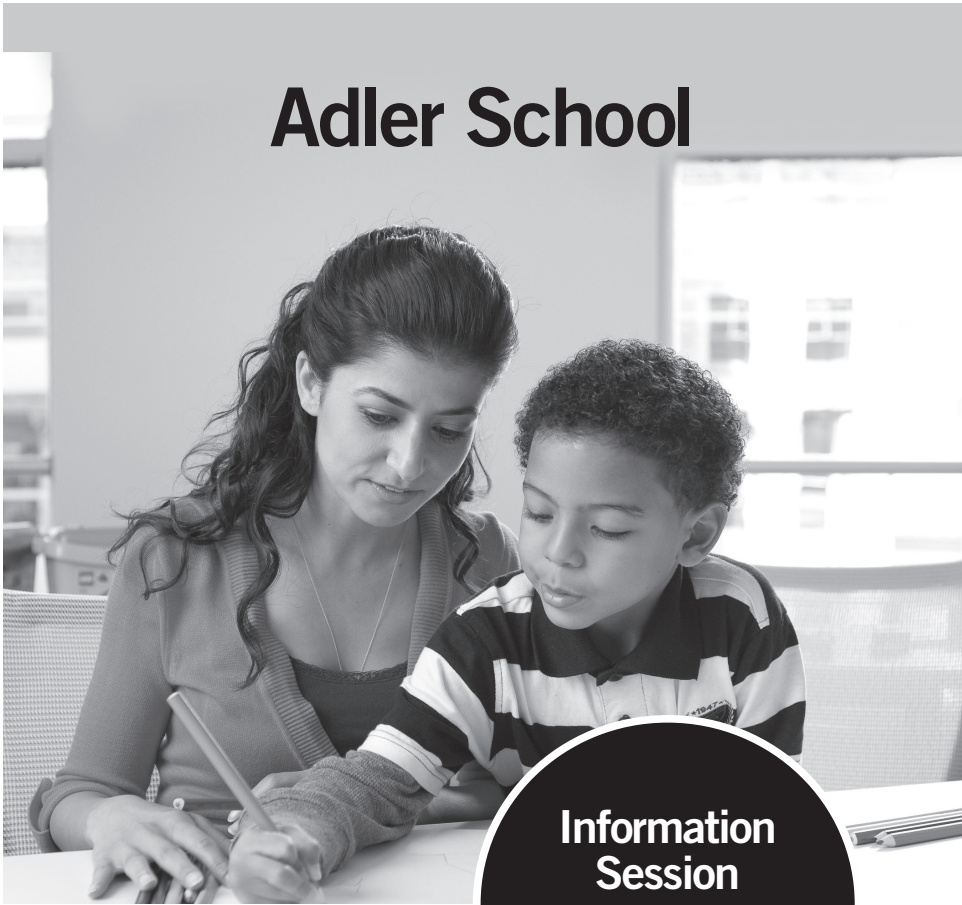
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place cream cheese in bottom of container.
2. Pour chili over cream cheese.
3. Microwave container for 2 minutes (may vary by microwave).
3. Stir to blend cream cheese and chili.
4. Sprinkle desired amount of shredded cheese over dip.
5. Get your grub on.

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ARTS&CULTURE

OH, CHRISTMAS TREES

by Brian Dukerschein
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

CHRISTMAS TREES, a ubiquitous part of the holiday season, for many, are more than a depository for presents. They are an industry unto themselves.

Approximately 27 million real trees with a retail value of \$976 million were sold in the U.S. in 2010, according to the National Christmas Tree Association, and many of the 15,000 tree farms across the country have been run by the same family for generations.

Bruce Tammen was raised in the Christmas tree business. His father first planted trees in 1956 when some of the land on their farm in Wilmington, Ill., proved unsuitable for growing crops. What started in a small field grew to become the 150-acre Treeberry Farm, where Tammen grows several varieties of evergreen trees and blueberries.

The process of raising trees requires many areas of expertise, according to Tammen, including a detailed knowledge of soil, biology and many agricultural practices. He said patience is also important, especially in an industry where it can take up to 10 years to see any revenue.

Tammen and his two full-time employees tend to the trees year-round. Younger trees require fertilizer and are treated with herbicide to prevent surrounding grass from blocking the sunlight. When the trees grow to be waist-high, they are sheared by hand with large blades to create the symmetrical taper customers want.

"It's a difficult business," Tammen said. "Most people don't realize how much work is involved in it."

Tammen sells his trees by letting customers come to the farm to choose and cut their own. He said he has seen multiple generations of families in the 35 years he has been running the farm.

"Many of my customers came here when they were children," he said. "Now, they have their own families and are carrying on the tradition."

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's most recent census, Illinois has nearly 300 tree farms that harvested more than 112,000 trees. Many of the trees sold

in the state are shipped from other locations, said David Daniken, former president and current board member of the Illinois Christmas Tree Association.

"Illinois is dominated by small choose-and-cut style farms," Daniken said. "Weather conditions here are not ideal for growing massive quantities of plantation-grown Christmas trees like they do in parts of Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Washington and Oregon."

Daniken, a second-generation tree farmer with a 60-acre operation in Poca-hontas, Ill., said he supplements the trees he grows with varieties harvested in other states. Fraser and noble firs—two popular trees that are difficult to grow in Illinois—are brought in from Michigan and Oregon.

Like Tammen, Daniken said the bulk of his business comes from customers visiting his farm to cut their own trees. Although visiting a tree farm ensures a fresh tree, Daniken said the industry as a whole has become very responsive to shifting demand.

"These days, most trees are very well-kept, cut very late in the season and typically very fresh when they get to you," he said. "Whether it's a big-box retailer or a tree lot, or buying a pre-cut tree at a farm, you're going to get a good product."

Amber Arneson's family has been selling Christmas trees in Chicago for more than 65 years.

Today, she and her husband operate eight lots around the city that sell trees brought down from small farms in Wisconsin. In order to find the best selection, Arneson said she spends months personally selecting and tagging each tree before it is cut.

Although she chooses a variety of trees to harvest, she said Chicagoans have a clear preference for what they want in their homes.

"Balsam has always been the most popular because its [branches] are very strong and fragrant," Arneson said.

"But Frasers have also been selling well. They have



a beautiful color and hold ornaments well. They're becoming more and more popular every year, especially in Chicago."

She said her business is selling half the amount of trees it did 30 years ago, a drop she attributes to the increasing popularity of big-box retailers that are able to order massive numbers of trees from large-scale farms at lower prices.

"We can't compete with [large retailers] because they sell trees cheaper than we actually buy them at wholesale," Arneson said.

Demand for live trees has also been affected by the popularity of artificial trees, she said. Although artificial trees are convenient, according to Arneson, she believes they do little to support the economy.

"When you buy an artificial tree, the money just goes to the corporations and the country where it was manufactured," she said. "With real trees, this is money that was made in America, stays in America and supports American people."

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Courtesy NATIONAL CHRISTMAS TREE ASSOCIATION



100,000

estimated number of people employed full- or part-time in the industry



350,000

acres in production for growing Christmas trees



8,200,000

number of artificial trees purchased in 2010



27,000,000

number of real trees purchased in 2010



350,000,000

number of Christmas trees currently growing on farms in the US



Ed Kang THE CHRONICLE

All data from National Christmas Tree Association



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Whatchu talkin' bout, Wilusz?

'Call of Duty' won't incite war crimes



by Luke Wilusz
Managing Editor

THE INTERNATIONAL Committee for the Red Cross announced a few weeks ago that it was examining the depiction of war in video games and looking into whether the rules of engagement established by the Geneva and Hague conventions should be applied to such games. The reasoning behind this, apparently, is that allowing players to do things in video games that would constitute war crimes in real life—such as shooting civilians, unarmed enemy combatants or fellow soldiers—could desensitize people to the atrocity of such violations and normalize this kind of behavior. I'm all for raising awareness about global human rights issues. Sugar-coating or ignoring the truth has never solved any of the world's problems. I'm also in favor of increasing realism in games. Crafting virtual worlds and experiences that accurately reflect the real world and impose consequences for players' actions can only further the medium as an art form. Games that are truly thought-provoking and intellectually or morally challenging are few and far between, and I would eagerly welcome an influx of more serious, high-concept games into the market. However, the ICRC should draw the line at raising awareness. Representa-

tives for the committee indicated that, depending on the findings of the investigation, it may ask developers to adhere to international humanitarian laws when making war games or encourage governments to pass regulatory laws. That would be an enormous mistake. Video games, like any artistic medium, are protected under the First Amendment, and nobody but the developers themselves should have any creative control or influence over their content. If developers want to make a high-concept game that highlights the kinds of mistakes and atrocities that can occur on a battlefield, they should absolutely be allowed and encouraged to do that. But if they want to focus on the mindless run-and-gun action of series like "Call of Duty" or "Battlefield," that should be fine, too. Video games offer players an opportunity to do things they never actually could, and not everyone who plays them wants a realistic experience. Some people just want to go online and shoot at their friends to pass the time. I like to believe that gamers are smart enough to realize the things they do in games aren't always OK to do in real life, and I don't think there's any realistic chance that "Modern Warfare 3" is going to turn them into a generation of war criminals. I applaud the ICRC's interest in promoting these issues, but they shouldn't try to regulate all the fun out of games that aren't trying to be serious business.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com



Gamers give back

Comer Children's Hospital partners with Child's Play Charity for holiday giving

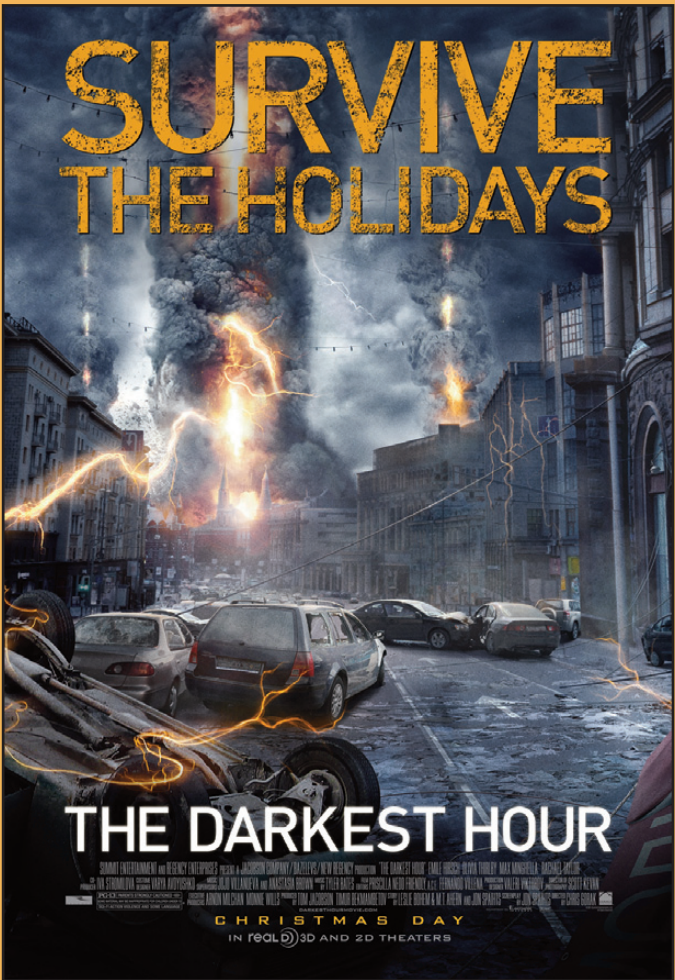
by Luke Wilusz
Managing Editor

MANY PEOPLE think of gamers as self-absorbed slackers who spend all of their time losing themselves in digital worlds at best and antisocial misfits with violent tendencies at worst. However, one charity rallies the video game community together every year to prove those detractors wrong and do some good in the world. Child's Play Charity, which has raised a cumulative \$8,998,564 to buy toys and games for participating children's hospitals nationwide since 2003, has added its first partner hospital in the Chicago area this year. Comer Children's Hospital, 5721 S. Maryland Ave., will take advantage of the charity's fundraising efforts, as well as individual donations through an Amazon.com wish list to provide video games, consoles, toys and games for its patients. Child's Play was started in November 2003 by Mike Krahulik and Jerry Holkins,

creators of the gaming webcomic "Penny Arcade," in response to the bad press they had seen multiple times regarding the gaming community. "Mike and Jerry felt that the media portrayal was very inaccurate," said Jamie Dillion, project manager of Child's Play. "They've had a lot of positive experiences with the game community. They know it very well, so they wanted to do something that would kind of debunk that myth. Very rapidly, they realized that it's difficult to change people's minds, but it's not difficult to do good in the world, so that became first priority." The charity offers two ways for people to contribute to its partner hospitals. The first is direct PayPal donations through Child's Play Charity.org, and the second involves an interactive map on the website which lists all of the participating hospitals worldwide. Anyone who wants to contribute to a specific hospital on the map can click on a link that leads to an Amazon.com wish list customized to that hospital's needs. All items purchased through these wish lists are shipped directly to the hospitals. » SEE CHARITY, PG. 29



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WRITTEN BY SOPHIA COLEMAN
DESIGNED BY HEIDI UNKEFER

Melt-in-your-mouth chocolates, minty-fresh gum, sour candies and decadent caramels are all within your reach. No, this isn't a dreamed-up fantasy or a trip into Willy Wonka's factory—this is Chicago, the candy capital of the country.

The city has been home to some of the biggest names in candy land—from the Baby Ruth bar, Wrigley gum, Tootsie Rolls and Frango Mints—as well as artisanal chocolate makers, such as Vosges, 2211 N. Elston Ave., and Sarah's Candies, 70 E. Oak St. Home to more than 100 candy companies, the city earned the candy capital moniker back in its heyday of candy making in the 19th century, according to Chicago historian Leslie Goddard.

Chicago also boasts the country's largest wholesale chocolate manufacturer, Blommers, 600 W. Kinzie St. The smell of sweet chocolate wafting over parts of River North and West Town fills people's noses and induces cravings among passersby, but most are unfamiliar with the scent's origins. Many people believe it belongs to the country's biggest manufacturer of chocolate, Hershey's, which has never called the city home.

"People usually don't know the name [Blommer's], which is ironic because they've probably tasted it," said Goddard, who has expertise in the candy industry. "For most of its history, Chicago has produced approximately one-third of the nation's candy."

Goddard said that while a few cities have come close to producing as much candy as Chicago, not one city has come close to being home to as many candy factories. She said that two trends have occurred in the last decade that make the city sweeter than the rest.

"So many people are nostalgic for the candies that they had as a kid, [and] Chicago companies are benefiting from that," Goddard said. "Also, the growing trend of artisanal chocolates is creating a new outlet for exotic flavors and unique shapes."

One Chicago tour pays tribute to some of the city's most popular chocolate hot spots. Now in its sixth year, the tour takes small groups through select chocolate shops, bakeries and cafes around the city. While walking throughout the city and sampling its finest chocolates, guests are given a brief history of Chicago's candy-coated past.

Valerie Beck founded Chicago Chocolate Tours in November 2005 after feeling unsatisfied with her job as a lawyer. She decided that chocolate was the only cure for her 14-hour per day desk job. Because Chicago's infrastructure was built largely on chocolate and other candies, she figured that both locals and tourists would enjoy a tour that pointed out some of the best spots for treats.

Beck also wanted people to realize the massive amount of history behind the candy-making industry.

"In the 19th century, when chocolate was becoming popular in the Midwest, it was still a high-end luxury," Beck said. "Companies were very cautious of their product and searched for locations near railroad lines, lakes and rivers so that they easily could get their products in and out."

Beck said that because of the city's ideal geographical location, nearly nine-months of chilly temperature and influx of immigrants from countries with candy-making expertise—like Germany, Poland and Italy—chocolate and candy-making became a staple of the city.

One of the oldest candy companies in the Chicago area is Forest Park's Ferrara Pan Candy, 7301 Harrison St., which is best known for creating American favorites like Red Hots, Lemon Heads and Atomic Fireballs. The factory opened in 1908, when founder Salvatore Ferrara came to America from Italy. Along with his two brothers-in-law, Salvatore Buffardi

and Anello Pagano, sugar-coated almonds.

Jim Buffardi, chief Candy, said a few years they began manufacturing that were distributed even survived both were implemented.

"We took all the we were able to p candy needs," Buff of our other man and spearmint lea the company."



CHICAGO IS A GREAT FOOD TOWN, AND CHOCOLATE IS ONE OF THE MANY THINGS THE CITY DOES WELL."

—Sarah Levy

eration, and our plant with mainte said. "If we were g to know what wa Buffardi said he fe candy compani a list of 25 C have gone o Brach's C

TOOTH



the threesome set out to create
ds for Greek and Italian families.

f financial officer of Ferrara Pan
ears after the company's opening
cturing a variety of confectionaries
d nationwide. The candy company
n world wars when sugar rations

he sugar we were allotted and
roduce 100 percent of our pan-
ardi said. "We had cut out a lot
ufacturing—with the chocolate
ves—so we were able to save

After the war years, Ferrara went
back to the general line house,
where they began producing their
chocolates and spearmint again, in
addition to their pan candy.

What started out as a modest
candy store grew into a fourth-
generation family-run business
providing America with quality pan
candy. Buffardi's sons are currently
working at the factory, and do the
same work of running the machin-
ery and cleaning the facilities as
previous generations.

"I'm part of the third gen-
families made us work in the
nance and packaging," Buffardi
going to sit in the office, we had
s going on behind the scenes."
lt lucky to be one of the surviving
es of Chicago after recently seeing
chicago-born candy companies that
out of business since the '50s.

Candy Company, which was found-

ed in Chicago in 1904, was one of the businesses that
left Chicago when Farley & Sathers Candy Company
acquired it in 2007. One of the last standing factories
was blown up in "The Dark Knight," during the scene
in which the Joker, played by Heath Ledger, blows up
Gotham General Hospital.

"It was a sad moment for the Chicago candy busi-
ness," Goddard said.

One relatively new and prosperous confection-
ary of the Chicago chocolate scene—and a popu-
lar stop of Chicago Chocolate Tours—is Sarah's
Candies. Owner Sarah Levy began her business
with a passion for making desserts in her mother's
kitchen, and after honing her skills at The French
Pastry School of Chicago, she built up a wholesale
business that included Whole Foods Markets in
the Midwest and smaller gourmet grocery shops
across Chicagoland.

Since the opening of her main store in 2005, Levy
has expanded the business by baking wedding cakes and
pastries and running a smaller store within Macy's. She
said most of her time is devoted to creating delectable
chocolates. Levy's signature candy is the Chocolate
Delight, which is a combination of caramelized almond,
roasted pistachio and a touch of rice crispy, covered in
dark, milk or white chocolate.

"Chicago is a great food town, and chocolate is one
of the many things the city does well," Levy said. "It helps
that Midwesterners aren't afraid to indulge in candy."

Another mouthwatering stop at Macy's is on the
13th floor, where the famed Frango mints were once
produced. The vastly popular Frango Mint is usually what
comes to mind when one thinks of Marshall Field's.
However, Goddard said that the mint chocolates actu-
ally originated in Seattle in 1918 at the Frederick and
Nelson department store. Both the company and Frango
trademarks were acquired by Marshall Field's in 1929.
While Chicagoans cannot fully claim the Frango Mint as
the city's signature chocolate, Marshall Field's did
play a large role in the production of the mints
between 1939 and 1999, on the 13th floor
of it's State Street flagship store. Many of
the iconic flavors were created within the
factory, from the intense mint flavor to a

particularly salty extra ingredient.

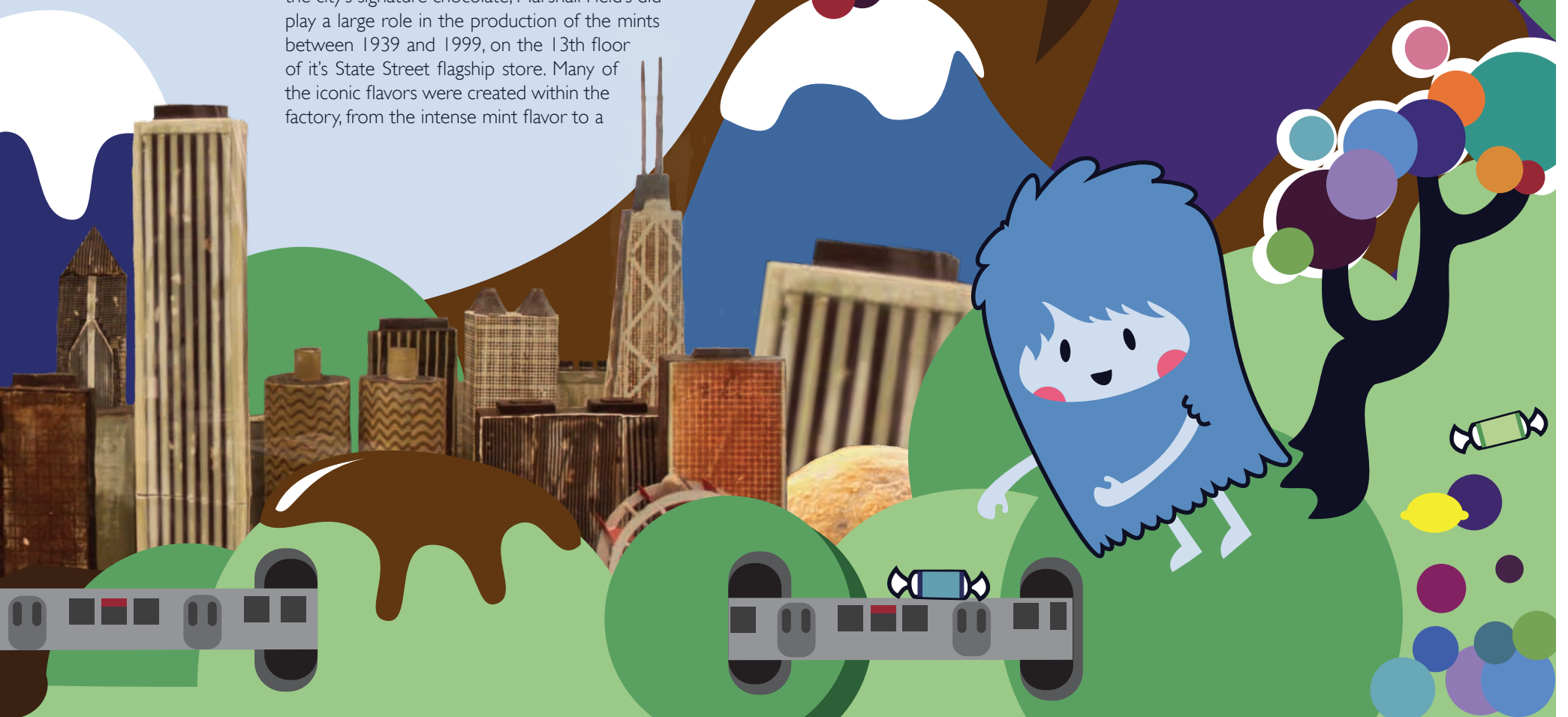
"The perspiration from the women's fingers that were
handling the chocolates gave the chocolate the salty
taste that people craved," said Jenny Nelson, a tour
guide for Chicago Chocolate Tours. "When machines
were implemented and gloves were used to handle the
chocolate, people complained that the taste was differ-
ent. Eventually, they changed the recipe to add more salt."

For a brief period, the production of Frango Mints
was moved to Pennsylvania, but when Macy's merged
with Marshall Field's in 2006, part of the production was
brought back to Chicago, this time located at Cupid's
Candies, 7637 S. Western Ave.

Goddard said sugar prices in the last decade have
put strain on Chicago's candy makers, and though many
of the major factories have left, a substantial portion
still remains and has been boosted by the smaller,
artisanal businesses.

"Chicago has produced not just candy, but
played a role in many generations' liveli-
hoods," Goddard said. "Candy is
one of those things that we get really
deeply attached to, and it brings back
nostalgic memories."

scolem@chroniclemail.com



Razing Chicago’s brewing history

by Amanda Murphy
Arts & Culture Editor

ONCE UPON a time, before Mrs. O’Leary’s cow kicked over the lantern and the 18th Amendment ceased the flow of beer taps, Chicago was brimming with small, neighborhood breweries. Now merely a distant memory, the city’s brewing days are remembered mostly through weathered photographs and converted loft apartments.

Brand Brewery, 2530 N. Elston Ave., in Logan Square, is one of the few remaining breweries in a city that once competed in numbers with nearby beer king Milwaukee. But an imminent threat to the building’s existence has local historical and preservation organizations fighting to keep the



... this is one of the few remaining examples from Chicago’s industrial and brewing history.”

—Jacob Kaplan

“[Preservation] is important because it’s a rare remaining brewery example and one of the few intact brewing facilities,” said Jacob Kaplan, co-founder and editor of *Forgotten Chicago*. “It’s on a stretch of Elston Avenue where 50 years ago, there would have been many factories, and you would be able to

see Chicago’s industrial heritage. Now those old factories have been torn down for big-box retail, and this is one of the few remaining examples from Chicago’s industrial history [and] as brewing history.”

The fight to keep the brewery standing began five years ago when Ward Miller, president of the Chicago Preservation Society and vice president of Logan Square Preservation, first noticed its presence hidden among a plethora of big-box businesses. Since then, Miller has been working to try and get the brewery historical landmark status but has not yet been successful.

The brewery, however, is still one of approximately 9,600 buildings in Chicago that have been coded “orange” by the Chicago Historic Resources Survey for being potentially historically significant.

Logan Square Preservation, The Chicago Preservation Society, *Forgotten Chicago* and the Northwest Chicago Historical Society continue to raise awareness regarding the importance of the brewery. At a Nov. 21 meeting at Revolution Brewery, 2323 N. Milwaukee Ave., supporters gathered to learn more about the heritage of the brewery and its current situation. Other guests who shared information were members of the Brand family, Alderman Joe Moreno (1st Ward) and prominent figures in the



Photo illustration courtesy of Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and Ting Shen

The Brand Brewery administration building, said Jacob Kaplan, is a rare example of brewery architecture.

brewing community.

Moreno also showed his support for the landmark by saying he would not approve a zoning change that the retailer would require to build upon the land. Despite Moreno’s raising awareness to possible investors and proposing the denial of zoning laws to build the structure it wants,

the building sits and waits for renovation or demolition. The city had postponed the demolition, but as of Dec. 5, the site was removed from the hold list and technically could be razed at any moment.

Half of the brewery’s buildings were

» SEE BRAND, PG. 29

Improv icon, Columbia alum talks comedy

by Amanda Murphy
Arts & Culture Editor

CHICAGO IS famous for a lot of reasons. Pizza, hot dogs, Michael Jordan and Al Capone are commonly what comes to mind when Chicago is mentioned. But in the last 30 years, improv comedy has quickly risen to the top of what the city does best. Fostering the careers of Bill Murray, Chris Farley, Stephen Colbert, Tina Fey and many more, Chicago maybe be nicknamed The Second City, but the city has proven to be the premiere enclave for breakout comedians.

At the forefront of the industry is Columbia alumnus Jimmy Carrane, who has been involved in Chicago’s improv comedy scene for more than two decades. Having worked with the likes of Mike Meyers and Andy Dick, he has submerged himself in multiple comedy facets of Chicago. A performer and an instructor, he has worked to not only bring the city lots of laughs but to teach his students to do the same.

The Chronicle spoke with Carrane about what Columbia was like 20 years ago, his new show “Improv Nerd with Jimmy Carrane” and what it would be like to interview Abraham Lincoln.



Courtesy JIMMY CARRANE

Jimmy Carrane has worked with some of comedy’s major icons through Second City and Improv Olympics.

Players Workshop at Second City.

The Chronicle: Chicago has come to be known as an improv city—maybe even the improv city. What is it about Chicago and the Midwest that you think breeds funny people?

JC: I think one of the secrets about being

funny, especially when you start out, [is] there isn’t a lot of pressure. And if you’re at a party, for instance, some of the best performances I have ever done are when I was relaxed and comfortable around people [who] I felt accepted me. So Chicago is that way. It isn’t like New York or L.A., where there’s that carrot dangling of, “Oh, you could get a TV show, you could get a

movie part [or] you could get a screenplay produced.” So, I think in a lot of ways, it’s a great learning laboratory. And Jon Favreau, who directed “Elf” and “Iron Man,” has called Chicago “the salt mines of comedy.”

The Chronicle: You teach improv and you often return to Columbia to do guest teaching and workshops. What are the important parts of comedy that you try to highlight for the students?

JC: I come in every semester ... and teach a couple things that I think are really important. Like one of them I teach—for comedy, film and stage—is to make it believable. We want to believe that this is really happening to these characters. That’s something I’m a huge believer in.

The other thing for film students to understand, and I think this is a basic improv concept, [is to say] yes and to agree. So if an actor comes on the set and says something, be open to their ideas. Because the idea, if you agree to it, can go anywhere and that opens more possibilities, it keeps the actor looser and it keeps a lot of play and fun going on the set.

The Chronicle: Your show “Improv Nerd with Jimmy Carrane” interviews fellow improv icons about their creative process and personal life. How did you get the idea for that show?

JC: Well, I started the show at Stage 773 [1225 W. Belmont Ave.], which is this beautiful space in an older theater building. And I’ve been hosting my Arsenal Comedy there for a while and they asked if I had any new

» SEE IMPROV, PG. 29

The Chronicle: You’ve been in the improv scene for more than 20 years now. What first attracted you to it?

Jimmy Carrane: When I was in high school, I had gone and seen Second City, and then I took a year-and-a-half off after graduating high school before I made it to Columbia. When I got into the city, I was like, “You know what, this is something I have always wanted to try.” So when I was approximately 19 years old, I enrolled in the



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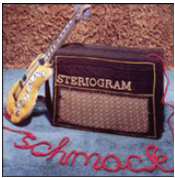
STAFF PLAYLIST

AMANDA MURPHY, ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR



DOLLY PARTON // JOLENE
JOHNNY CASH // LONG LEGGED GUITAR PICKIN' MAN
JENNY LEWIS W/ THE WATSON TWINS // HAPPY
JOHN LEE HOOKER // DIMPLES

TING SHEN, PHOTO EDITOR



STERIOGRAM // ROADTRIP
RANDOM RAB // FOR MY CORPSE
STARS // UNDERTOW
THE VELVET UNDERGROUND AND NICO // SUNDAY MORNING

GREG CAPPIS, ASSISTANT METRO EDITOR



DON HO // TINY BUBBLES
COUNTING CROWS // MRS. POTTER'S LULLABY
RUSKO // HOLD ON (SUB FOCUS REMIX)
PUFF DADDY FEAT. JIMMY PAGE // COME WITH ME

LINDSEY WOODS, ASSISTANT SPORTS & HEALTH EDITOR



R. KELLY // I BELIEVE I CAN FLY
STEVE MILLER BAND // FLY LIKE AN EAGLE
QUAG CITY DJ'S // SPACE JAM
SALT-N-PEPPA // UPSIDE DOWN

CHICAGO AUDIOFILE



Courtesy ROYA JADE MURRAY

Zach and Elspeth Harris of Zachary Gunn & The Local Historians. The married couple perform together on the group's debut album, "Apartment Sessions I."

New age for Local Historians

by Brian Dukerschein
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

ACOUSTIC FOLK musician and Columbia senior Zach Harris, 22, knows how to make music with limited resources. In 2009 and 2010, he used borrowed microphones and his laptop to record two self-penned albums in his bedroom under the moniker Birds and Kings. In 2011, Harris released his third album, "Apartment Sessions I," as Zachary Gunn & the Local Historians, which features his new wife and Columbia alumna, Elspeth Ryan, who now goes by Harris.

The Chronicle sat down with the interdisciplinary major to discuss his new creative name, the creative process and the direction his music career is headed in.

The Chronicle: Where did your first name, Birds and Kings, originate?

Zach Harris: That's a funny question because I don't remember for sure. I remember I have it written down in a notebook from high school, but I have no idea where the two words came from. But it has kind of evolved into a creative identity to work from, with the idea of freedom coming from the birds and authority, or a sort of structure coming from the king, and working from the conflict between the two.

The Chronicle: What prompted you to change the name?

ZH: I guess I'm trying to focus the work and also get a little more collaborative. Initially, the "Zachary Gunn" came from my wife's middle name, and so that's kind of a framework to work with her. Then "The Local Historians" is kind of something bigger, and I've started doing more exciting stuff with that by working with a couple other musicians to collaborate with and write totally new music that isn't just my own work.

The Chronicle: What led you to start making albums?

ZH: It's a creative impulse, I suppose. I guess I've always been a mixed media sort of artist, whether in my major or otherwise. There's something about constructing a song from layered parts that just sort of came naturally. I had always been [a writer], and songwriting became the very focused way to tell a story.

the style of your music?

ZH: Oh boy, oh man, I don't know. Something involving indie folk with a campfire sort of improvisation.

The Chronicle: Your songs are very lyrically driven. What is your process?

ZH: I'm always writing words down, whether I'm on the train, in class or in church. I'm always doodling ideas for imagery. Imagery is huge, and I'll often just have a huge page full of random images or maybe something a little more structured. Then, I'll take time and sit at home and just play chords and figure out something that would work, to find a melody for those words.

The Chronicle: Have you performed live?

ZH: Yeah, several times. Not as much as I would love to, just with still being in school. I'm still trying to get out there more. But I've done a few underground shows, a couple house shows and open mic nights.

The Chronicle: Have you noticed your music evolving in the course of your three albums?

ZH: It's hard for me to summarize how, because I don't spend as much time reflecting on my own stuff as I do making it. But it's definitely shifted, and I hope it has gotten better, or at least found more of a structure and become more refined as I've learned new recording techniques, [become] a stronger guitar player and learned to vocalize better.

The Chronicle: How far do you want to go, musically?

ZH: It's not something that I'm pressuring myself to do too much. It's something that comes naturally rather than [my] seeking a career within music in and of itself. I want to go as far as it will take me, and that just matters as far as what people think of it—how it's received and where the collaborations go. Because no matter how it is received, I'm going to keep doing it and keep trying to construct the perfect song.

To hear music from Birds and Kings and Zachary Gunn & the Local Historians, visit music.BirdsandKings.com and ZacharyGunn.bandcamp.com.

The Chronicle: How would you describe

bdukerschein@chroniclemail.com

music downloads

Week ending Dec. 6, 2011

#1 Album



Christmas
Michael Buble

Top tracks () Last week's ranking in top five

United States

Sexy and I Know It • LMFAO	(1)	1
It Will Rain • Bruno Mars	(2)	2
We Found Love • Rihanna	(3)	3
Good Feeling • Flo Rida	(4)	4
Moves Like Jagger • Maroon 5		5

United Kingdom

Dance With Me Tonight • Olly Murs	(2)	1
Good Feeling • Flo Rida	(3)	2
Wishing on a Star • X Factor Finalists 2011	(1)	3
Who You Are • Jessie J		4
We Found Love • Rihanna	(4)	5

Spain

Ai Se Eu Te Pego • Michel Telo	(1)	1
Someone Like You • Adele	(3)	2
We Found Love • Rihanna	(4)	3
Rolling in the Deep • Adele	(2)	4
No Sigue Modas • Juan Magan		5

Source: iTunes

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» CHARITY

Continued from PG. 22

Child’s Play is a very community-driven charity, and Dillion said many of the hospitals that have gotten involved were urged by gamers in their communities to get in touch and join the program. Carter said she registered Comer as a partner hospital after being contacted by the organizers of a local Child’s Play fundraising event called the Chicago Loot Drop.

The Loot Drop started last year as a “Rock Band” tournament to raise money for Child’s Play, according to Mike Chuck Bretzlaff, the event’s chairman. This year’s event, held on Nov. 20 at Reggie’s Rock Club, 2109 S. State St., also featured a performance by Minibosses, a band known for their rock covers of music from games such as “Mega Man 2” and the “Castlevania” series. This year’s event raised more than \$3,000 for the charity. Bretzlaff said part of the reason he wanted to get a Chicago hospital involved in Child’s Play was civic pride.

“Ever since Child’s Play started, there’s [been] no Chicago hospital on there,” he said. “There’s one in Indianapolis, there’s one up in Madison, Wis., I think—all these other local Midwest ones—but that Chicago was missing, it was just disappointing.”

Bretzlaff also said having a local hospital involved helps get Chicagoans involved with the fundraising efforts because even

“We don’t necessarily have enough people thinking of the kids who are under 3 and ... [older than] 11, and they’re actually two of our biggest populations.”

—Amy Carter

people who don’t know anything about Child’s Play can appreciate the idea of supporting sick children in their city.

The kinds of items hospitals request range from simple toys and puzzles to books, movies and video games. However, Amy Carter, a child life specialist at Comer who has been working with Child’s Play to coordinate donations, said most people who donate toys tend to focus on young, grade school-age children.

“We don’t necessarily have enough people thinking about the kids who are under 3 and the kids who are [older than] 11, and they’re actually two of our biggest populations,” Carter said.

She said washable plastic toys, stacking toys and rattles for infants and board games, video games and art kits for older kids, are always appreciated.

She said these kinds of distractions help children cope with the experience of being in the hospital and make that experience as comfortable and familiar as it can be.

Dillion said allowing sick children to play has shown measurable advantages in their treatment in addition to the emotional benefits.

“Studies have shown that children receiving treatment and needing pain medication request less pain medication if they’re playing a video game while they get the treatment, so it actually has pretty tangible results as well,” she said.

Dillion also said many hospitals are noticing that motion-controlled game systems such as the Nintendo Wii,



Courtesy CHILD’S PLAY CHARITY
Founders Jerry Holkins (left) and Mike Krahulik (right) host the 2007 Child’s Play Dinner Auction.

the Microsoft Kinect and the Playstation Move, are especially helpful for children who require physical therapy or rehabilitation.

“For a kid to do physical therapy, they’re having to repeat the same motion over and over,” Dillon said. “It’s often painful and it’s boring, so compliance with that was a very difficult thing for a lot of physical therapists and child life specialists. But when kids are playing a game on the Kinect, when they’re competing, when they have goals and they have these responses, it makes it much easier for them to forget that they’re in treatment.”

Carter said the patients, families and staff

at Comer have been grateful to organizations like Child’s play for the opportunity to have these toys and games available.

“It’s never easy when kids have to come and have needle sticks or procedures done or painful things happen,” Carter said. “It serves as a way to keep their minds off of what’s going on.”

To get involved with Child’s Play, visit ChildsPlayCharity.org. For more information on donating to Comer Children’s Hospital, contact Amy Carter at Amy.Carter@UCHospitals.edu. Donated items should be new and unopened for infection control purposes.

lwilusz@chroniclemail.com

» BRAND

Continued from PG. 26

razed to accommodate the neighboring Home Depot’s parking lot. The extensive physical changes to the archetypal design are one of the main reasons the brewery cannot be granted historical landmark status. If a company or organization were to purchase and restore the brewery close to its original state, however, it could have a better chance of being stamped with historical landmark approval, Miller said.

Virgil Brand founded the Brand Brewery in 1899, a time when there were more than 50 breweries in the city. Brand, the son of prominent Chicago brewer Michael Brand, set up shop on Elston Avenue across the

street from his father’s brewery. Sadly, like most other breweries in the city, it didn’t survive the after effects of the Prohibition Era and closed its doors in 1935.

The building has been used for multiple industrial purposes since and has undergone a number of structural changes. However, Kaplan said in addition to the historical significance, the traditional brewery architecture is still very apparent, despite the structural changes, and is important to preserve.

“Nineteenth century brewing architecture is getting pretty rare these days, particularly the administration building right on the corner. [It] is so intact,” Kaplan said. “It would just be a shame for it to be demolished.”

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» IMPROV

Continued from PG. 26

ideas for shows. So I combined the three loves that I have. One is to tell honest monologues, which I do at the beginning of a show. The second thing is to interview people. I have interviewed comedians and other people of pop culture for WBEZ for eight or nine years. And I’ve been doing improv for 20 years. So it’s a combination of all three of my passions.

The Chronicle: Besides your show, do you have any new projects you’re working on?

JC: I have a podcast, which is really exciting, because people from all over the country have been like, “Oh, we can’t get to Chi-

cago, but we really like what you’re doing.” The other thing is I’m working on a book that I’m really excited about how to teach improv in theater. My 25 years of experience about getting the best out of your students.

The Chronicle: How about just in general. If you could interview someone—dead or alive—and not necessarily in comedy, who would it be?

JC: Abraham Lincoln. I think he was very funny and very underrated. He was one of the first people who really had a comic persona, you know with the beard and the hat. He dressed in all black. He was very droll, too. So I think he would definitely be someone I would want to interview.

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Ting Shen THE CHRONICLE

Top 10 of 2011

{films}



By Drew Hunt
Film Critic

‘Martha Marcy May Marlene’

USA, DIRECTOR: SEAN DURKIN

“MARTHA MARCY May Marlene” is a bold and contemplative look at one woman’s struggle to re-enter society after being controlled by an abusive cult. Though it is Sean Durkin’s first film, the artistry in “Martha” suggests otherwise. He uses tense, visceral moments to provide space for larger ideas, which concern the shattered innocence of the film’s young protagonist (Elizabeth Olsen), whose yearning for stability is denied at every turn. Equally socially conscious and psychologically unnerving, “Martha” is a unique film experience from a director with a real future ahead of him.



‘Melancholia’

DENMARK, DIRECTOR: LARS VON TRIER



AS ONE of two major films released this year that deal with cosmic answers to human questions, “Melancholia” arrives as one of Lars von Trier’s most fully

realized and uncompromising films. As the errant planet Melancholia sets a crash course with Earth, a pair of sisters (Kirsten Dunst and Charlotte Gainsbourg) have distinctly opposite reactions to the world’s impending demise. This quasi-sci-fi film appears contemptuous on the surface but emits a glow of aesthetic warmth. The buzz of global panic and media furor that would normally accompany such a film is left undocumented, focusing instead on the heart-breakingly humane emotions that lay dormant in all of us, eventually reaching the surface when faced with moments of hopelessness.

‘Take Shelter’

USA, DIRECTOR: JEFF NICHOLS

AS THE year’s best performance, Michael Shannon stars in “Take Shelter” playing a modest and caring family man whose mental state grows increasingly unhinged. Plagued by visions of a massive, apocalyptic storm, Curtis (Shannon) begins rehabbing an old bomb shelter in his backyard where he, his wife and hearing-impaired daughter can be safe, effectively squandering away his savings in the process. Though the film operates magnificently as a sort of mid-American horror film, the effect of the economic crisis looms over “Take Shelter” like a dark cloud, operating as the silent antagonist that turns Curtis’ life upside down.



‘Le Quattro Volte’



ITALY, DIRECTOR: MICHELANGELO FRAMMARTINO

THIS WHIMSICAL, succinct film is the very definition of “show, not tell.” Set in an idyllic village in the Calabria Mountains, “Le Quattro Volte” is a philosophical abstraction broken into four parts, each examining the mundane existences of an old man, his goat, a tree and a batch of charcoal. Frammartino makes little use of conventional narrative, instead focusing on a series of innocuous moments that build to broader, more meditative ideas. The film’s slow, deliberate pace belies the amount of introspection taking place subtextually.

‘The Arbor’

UK, DIRECTOR: CLIO BARNARD

MIXING DOCUMENTARY and fiction forms, “The Arbor” is disarming in its experimentation. It tells the very real and tragic story of English playwright Andrea Dunbar, who after being crowned an artistic wunderkind, drank herself to death at the age of 29, leaving behind her three children. For the film, Barnard cast actors to lip-sync the testimonials of real-life subjects. What sounds like needless artifice bolsters the film’s authenticity. The blurring of reality was crucial to Dunbar’s work. It’s a tricky but sinuous film, and easily the best documentary of the year.

‘Contagion’



USA, DIRECTOR: STEVEN SODERBERGH

THE BEST film made under the major studio apparatus, “Contagion” is a slick thriller and wholly a product of its time. Its large ensemble cast, complex narrative structure and international feel are typical Steven Soderbergh. When coupled with themes of social disorder, the failure of globalization and new media’s role in distributing information worldwide, “Contagion” becomes a stirring examination of what a global crisis looks like in the 21st century. Astonishingly, Soderbergh is able to make his film highly politicized without being preachy.

‘Putty Hill’

UK, DIRECTOR: MATT PORTERFIELD

THIS LOOSELY structured but fiercely realized film is a powerful examination of the residents of a small Baltimore suburb where unlive lives and lowered expectations have a lasting effect on its residents. Porterfield assembled a group of locals to play themselves, telling the story of a fictional 24-year-old who dies of a drug overdose. As the film progresses, it’s impossible to discern legitimate reactions from staged ones, resulting in a hyper-realism that leaves the realm of docudrama and occupies a space reserved for the likes of Robert Bresson and Pedro Costa.

‘Film Socialisme’

FRANCE, DIRECTOR: JEAN-LUC GODARD



AT THE tender age of 81, Godard, one of the true masters of cinema, continues to push the boundaries of film form with “Film Socialisme.” The film is an elusive yet absorbing foray

into mixed production modes, lyrical mise-en-scene and persnickety subtitles. Visually, the film is all about texture as Godard uses anything from high-definition cameras to a years-old cell phone to capture his images. Structurally, it’s divided into three parts: first, a naturalistic sequence set on a cruise ship where Patti Smith roams the deck; second, a family discusses an upcoming local election using typically Godarian terminology; and third, a visual essay that incorporates images of Adolf Hitler, ancient Greeks and “The Battleship Potemkin” to detail Europe’s past, present and future. Yes, it’s maddening—but that’s precisely the point.

‘Meek’s Cutoff’

USA, DIRECTOR: KELLY REICHARDT



THE FINAL film in her so-called “Oregon Trilogy,” “Meek’s Cutoff” represents a distinct departure for Reichardt. By reorienting her visualization to represent a more classical style, Reichardt successfully

sheds her “queen of mumblecore” branding, leaving behind the transient cityscape that is her typical setting in favor of an ominous desert terrain. She consistently excels in amplifying even the smallest details. “Meek’s Cutoff,” with its inserts of grinding wooden wheels, cast of dirt-covered pioneers with dry, chapped lips (Michelle Williams, virtually unrecognizable, among them) and the consistent presence of a boiling sun, is pure visual expression.

‘The Tree of Life’

USA, DIRECTOR: TERENCE MALICK



THE ARRIVAL of a new Terrence Malick film is, by its very nature, something to pay attention to. When a film just happens to be “The Tree of Life,” there’s cause for celebration. Much has already been written about the film; suffice it to say that little of it has been hyperbole. Simply put, there isn’t a single experience—cinematic or otherwise—that quite compares to “The Tree of Life.” With its fully realized milieu,

undeterred camera movements that defy perspective or convention and its miraculous renouncement of a conventional narrative, “The Tree of Life” is peerless. Even when the film could have suffered from the weight of its own vision, Malick remains in distinct control over every moment. Never has a film that featured CGI dinosaurs felt more real, more personal or more meditative.

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THE COLUMBIA
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TOP 5

[NSFW]

The Columbia Chronicle presents
your online time-wasters of the week.



Jeff Lyon/Faculty Adviser

Reasons Theo Epstein will not transform the Cubs into winners

We've seen this before: People with great resumes have been grafted onto Chicago teams many times without great results. Bears offensive coordinator Mike Martz is one example. And Lou Piniella, whose disastrous last season managing the Cubs caused him to run home to mama, is another.

The Second Law of Thermodynamics: Lord Kelvin said that over time, all things move toward entropy, the tendency of any system to become disordered. Since Al Capone was only 9 the last time the Cubs won a World Series, the team is so far gone it would defy the laws of physics for it to change direction.

The Ron Santo factor: The more anyone associated with the Cubs seeks justice, the more elusive it becomes. Surely someone in the Great Somewhere is laughing at Santo's posthumous entry into the Hall of Fame, which puts him in the company of St. Louis Browns first baseman Jim Bottomley, the only player ever sued for hitting a fan with a home run.

The Cubs marketing machine: Would anyone take a second look at Ben Stiller's movies if his persona was that of a stud instead of a schlub? Enough said.

Jack Brickhouse: The Cubs' former owner, Tribune Company, so devalued the team's legendary play-by-play man it had to be shamed into erecting a statue honoring him—but not at Wrigley Field. He stands, absurdly, by the Tribune, where he can look up Marilyn Monroe's skirt. Brick's curse trumps any goat's.



Stephanie Goldberg/Assistant Faculty Adviser

Why the '60s were annoying

No Thai or Indian food: Imagine an era when soy sauce was an exotic condiment and Asian food meant chop suey and egg rolls. Food may have been less adulterated, but it wasn't nearly as tasty.

LBJ and Nixon: Conjure up the hatred you felt for George W. Bush, multiply that by 70 and you'll have an idea of the despair, fear and loathing these men evoked. On the bright side, it was easy to tell when they were lying—that was any time they opened their mouths to speak.

Psycho parents and teachers: You could be the biggest band nerd in the universe, and your parents would still be combing your arms for trackmarks and begging you not to run away to a commune in Haight-Ashbury. And who could forget the sex talks from your gym teachers telling you that your virginity was a precious jewel not to be thrown away?

Dick Clark: American teenagers logged hundreds of hours watching this animatronic gnome preside over "American Bandstand," where he engaged in awkward patter with the British invasion group du jour, who were invariably too hungover to keep up their end of the conversation.

Rote Learning: Back then we had to memorize dates like the Defenestration of Prague in 1419. Well, it kept us out of trouble—at least until we went to college, discovered William Burroughs and bored everyone with the six-hour version of "In A Gadda Da Vida."



Chris Richert/General Manager

Favorite websites

Uncrate.com: This is a website dedicated to men who like awesome stuff. The best gadgets, clothes, cars, DVDs and a whole lot more. Who else would want to buy ninja stealth throwing knives, chocolate covered jalapenos or the Blacktop 360 Grill-Fryer, which serves as a deep fryer, grill, griddle and warming plate?

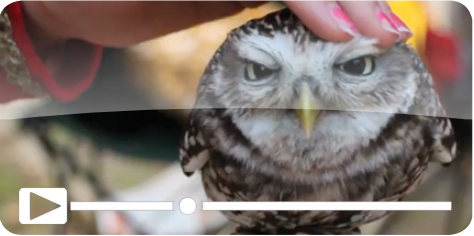
FMyLife.com: It's a nice site that makes you laugh until you almost pee while you catch up on everyone else's day-to-day ironic crap. On Dec. 8, a post read: "Today, I was informed by my boss that I was gonna receive a promotion. To celebrate, I brought him a coffee, only to spill it on his \$700 Armani suit. FML."

PeopleofWalmart.Tumblr.com: This website's photos helped me get through two years of college, during which I studied Wal-Mart for my master's thesis. One photo is of a woman wearing a red, black and brown-checked jacket over a colorful-checked shirt and no underwear. Need I say more?

OverheardintheNewsroom.com: We work in a newsroom here at The Chronicle with approximately 35 people, all within earshot of each other, so I can certainly relate this site to my share of overheard conversations.

Jest.com: Also known as Today's Big Thing, this site is worth visiting at least once a day. Watch today's funniest Internet video, and as the opening pop-up says, distract yourself "from friends, work, and loved ones for many years to come."

VIDEO: Lovely Owl



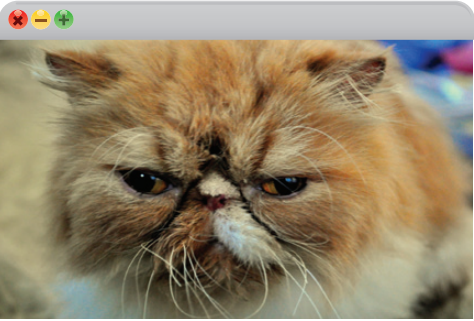
Because cats and dogs dominate cute animal videos, it doesn't leave much room for other adorable critters. But "Lovely Owl" is a welcome video of snuggle-loving owls. Thoughts of how descendants of dinosaurs could be so cute take over as you watch an owl in euphoria over some head rubbing.

APP: Solitaire

Of all the fancy games one can download these days, nothing quite beats the classic Solitaire. It's just as addictive as Angry Birds and Words with Friends (and you know how dangerous that game can be, Alec Baldwin). Prepare to spend hours sifting through card after card, trying to beat your roommate's low scores.



BLOG: Cats That Look Like Ron Swanson



Could a greater blog be created? Browse through pages of smooshy-faced cats that look like beloved, mustached "Parks and Recreation" character Ron Swanson. Even Nick Offerman, the actor who plays Swanson, gave the blog a stamp of approval.

Check Me Out

Photos: Mike Heston / THE CHRONICLE

"I would describe my style as poor."

Jacob Mays | English Major Senior

Lily Cote | Photography Major Junior

"I would say I dress bummy."

Tyke Riggs | Film & Video Major Sophomore

"I like mixing unique designer pieces with vintage pieces."

Kylie McCalla | Humanities, History and Social Sciences Major Sophomore

"Its just kind of what I want to wear. I wear a lot of grey."

REVIEWS

LITERATURE

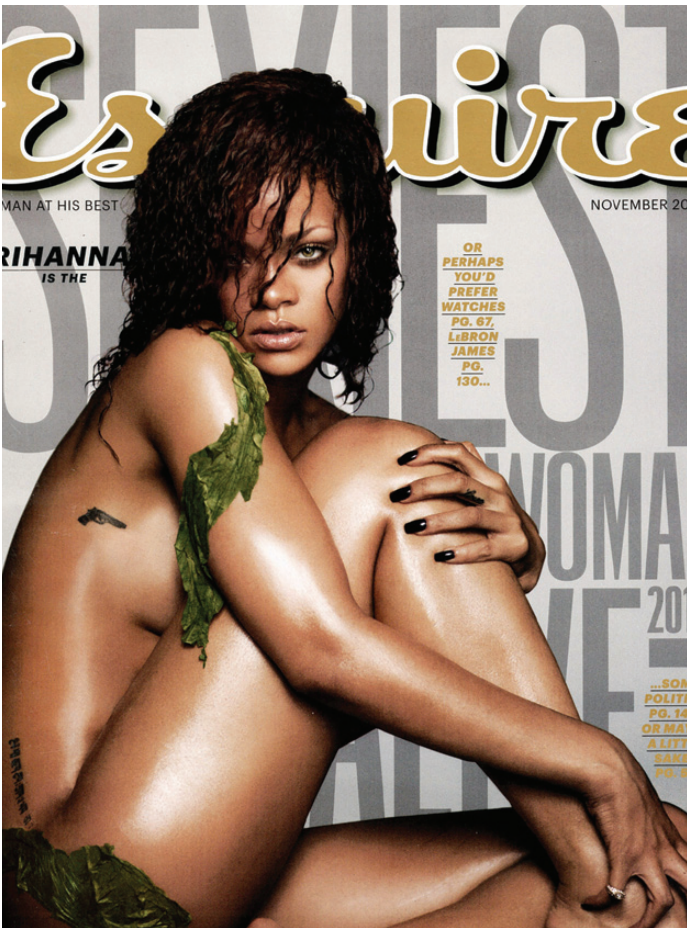
ESQUIRE MAGAZINE'S NOVEMBER ISSUE



ESQUIRE IS my favorite magazine, hands down. It's aimed at pompous, intelligent men, and—surprisingly—I'm a pompous, intelligent man.

Historically, Esquire has always had a very diverse collection of articles every month. November was no different. Aside from the awesome cover photo, er, story about Rihanna being named the magazine's Sexiest Woman Alive in 2011, there was also a great excerpt from the book "The Whore of Akron," which detailed LeBron James' transition from a member of the Cleveland Cavaliers to his demigod status of the Miami Heat, the most deservedly hated team in the history of professional sports.

Every single issue of Esquire has the strange ability to make me feel awesome yet inadequate at the same time. Each



issue has tons of information I'd otherwise have no idea about. But at the same time, they also have advertisements for suits that cost more money than my life is worth. It's a give-and-take kind of relationship, Esquire's and mine. But either way, the November issue is another solid addition to the catalogue.—*S. Charles*

MUSIC

CHEVELLE: "HATS OFF TO THE BULL"



FORGET THE "Shameful Metaphors" of Chevelle's past five albums. The Dec. 6 release, "Hats Off to the Bull," delivers a point-blank, remorseless spite even more powerful than the trio's infamous hard-rock hits.

Ranked No. 6 on the Billboard Rock Charts, the angry single "Face to the Floor" was inspired by peaceful Occupy movements, but it also throws nosebleed punches for those who can't. Just when it seems it couldn't get any heavier, lead singer and guitarist Pete Dinklage launches pent-up adrenaline with slow,

smooth vocal escalation and pounds back into deep, masterful guitar riffs.

Loeffler's vocal range is one of the deadliest weapons in the band's artillery, from chilling death screams to heart-melting coos. Known for its cryptic messages, Chevelle delivers easier lyrics this time around but advances its instrumental complexity to create its most powerful, confident record in its decade of existence.

Even though its mellow tunes are equally as vengeful, "Arise" is a perfect example of a balanced, gentle, magical track as inspirational as "Sawyerwaters" from their fourth album, "Vena

Sera." With each new record, Chevelle is the 1 percent that never fails to create a fresh, distinct sound.

Catering to the album's theme, "Prima Donna" is wrapped in a clever, acoustic bullfight tune. "Pinata" contains an intense, dream quality, like being thrown into battle on the roof of a speeding train while being swooned by Loeffler's soft, undeniably adorable whines.

You won't need a Red Bull after listening to this album—a dose of "Hats Off to the Bull" ignites the best rush ever anticipated.—*L. Schulz*



No. Just no.

Uuh...

I can stand this.

This is swell.

Best thing ever!

MOVIES / TV / DVD

"COMMUNITY": "REGIONAL HOLIDAY MUSIC"



I'M NOT big fan of TV or Christmas. I enjoy both up to a point, but there's only one thing that can evoke some holiday spirit in me while also renewing my interests in TV—an episode of NBC's "Community."

This season has been extraordinary, and it's upsetting that the show has been benched by the network. I don't know if it's because the show doesn't take itself as seriously as others or that it humorously hits on a lot of untouched subject matter, but in my opinion, it does everything right.

The holiday episode celebrates the season by mocking Fox's hit show "Glee." It pokes fun at the annoyingly flamboyant personalities of "Glee" characters and the introduction of silent

characters whose only purpose is to play a piano and have a beard. It also portrays a bigger flaw of "Glee," which is its contradictory subject matter. "Glee" is supposedly all about accepting everyone, but only if you can sing and dance.

The "Community" episode begins with the study group refusing to have any part in the glee club. Abed has noticed what seems to be the end of a "dark season" which could be an allusion that there is no telling when the show will be back after the holiday, so he decides to spread a positive message to his friends by having them join the Glee Club.

After a series of hilarious occurrences, including Donald Glover whipping out his secret weapon as Childish Gambino, they succumb to the spirit of "Glee" and Christmas with a few funny twists at the end.

If you don't get a chance to watch this episode, at least find Troy and Abed's Christmas rap on YouTube. It's now my favorite Christmas song.—*E. Rodriguez*



RANDOM

MY APARTMENT



MY ENTIRE living situation happened in less than two weeks, and it could have very easily turned out disastrous. All I have to say is thank God for Craigslist. I not only have an absolutely fantastic roommate, who understands my penchant for terrible music and the movie "Mannequin" but a conveniently located, perfectly sized apartment.

Living just steps from the California Blue Line, plus all the wonderful night-life Logan Square has to offer, is one

of the highlights of my life. Also, for the nights where we don't feel like going out, which lately have become more frequent than far between, I have a warm, cozy apartment with a roommate who has the exact same taste in music, movies, television, food, Internet videos, etc. Craigslist match made in heaven? I think so. I now look forward to nights where we stay in, watch "Parks and Recreation" and have random midnight dance parties where we soberly make our cats dance to "My Humps" by the Black Eyed Peas. Even with the paper thin walls, loud floor creaking and constant feline fights (lights), I couldn't have asked for a better living situation.—*A. Murphy*



COMMENTARY

EDITORIALS

Time for union concessions

ON NOV. 15, the Chicago Transit Authority Board approved a \$1.24 billion budget for 2012 that is \$66 million less than the 2011 budget. CTA President Forrest Claypool deserves credit for finally shrinking costs in an age when government spending at all levels in Illinois is out of control. But the budget relies on \$80 million worth of work rules concessions from labor unions, which have so far been vehemently reluctant to budget on anything. The situation between the CTA and its unions has spiraled down to a childish shouting match in a public forum between Claypool and Robert Kelly, Local 308 president of the Amalgamated Transit Union.

It's time for both sides to grow up and cut a deal. Claypool has until July 1, 2012 to get concessions out of the unions. After that, fares will go up and services will be slashed to a degree that Claypool says will put the 2010 cuts to shame. That's bad news for riders, who will pay more to wait longer for trains and buses, and for CTA employees, who will be subject to harsh layoffs.

The best-case scenario would be for Kelly and the unions to agree to work rule changes. It's understandable that unions all over the nation have refused to move their bargaining line in what they see as a fight for their lives. But union leaders like Kelly and Chicago Teacher's Union President

Karen Lewis have been doing their causes no good in the court of public opinion by refusing to budge on reasonable requests.

It isn't as if Claypool is suggesting taking away the unions' right to barter for wages, as happened in Wisconsin. The rule changes the president is seeking should not be the center of a contentious debate. Abuse of absenteeism will cost the CTA \$40 million this year alone to pay employees to sit on standby in case others don't show up, which a Tribune investigation proved to be a frequent occurrence. Work rules require the agency to pay employees to drive other employees to their work sites. The rules also state that three CTA workers must do a safety check when it only requires one. Think all of that is ridiculous? The CTA must also keep drivers on the payroll six months after they get a DUI.

Kelly has called Claypool's budget "irresponsible." Yes, it was irresponsible of Claypool to build a budget assuming that he'll get a favorable contract in six months when negotiations can take years. But the truly irresponsible move was for Kelly to declare contract negotiations a nonstarter. Public employee union leaders need to understand that in times of ever-constricted budgets and the threat of private competition, they need to be more flexible and open to compromise in order to survive.

Corporatizing Columbia

THE BATTLE between the part-time faculty union, P-Fac, and Columbia's administration continues to rage, with no end in sight. Among other things, P-Fac is assailing the "corporatization" of Columbia primarily because of the prioritization process. The administration contends this measure is necessary to focus its resources as a response to declining enrollment. However, because Columbia is a private institution, it has no legal obligation to publicly publish its budget, so only the highest administration officials know the truth on this matter. The school could—and should—go public with its budget, like a growing number of other private liberal arts colleges, such as New York University and Temple University.

Is Columbia's marshalling of resources "corporatization?" P-Fac president Diana Valleria gave the closest thing to an explanation of this term in an article published in the blog of Academe Magazine, a publication of the American Association of University-Professors.

Some of the signs she noted were "the significant expansion of administration on all levels, including assistants, with high-paid salaries," "standardization of classes so that faculty have less choice in the design of syllabi and selection of texts," and "an overall decline in the quality of education."

The comment about the decline in the quality of education, without facts and figures to back it up, would seem to insult the administration, faculty and student body.

Rhetoric like this seems excessive and off-putting. In spite of this, the argument for some form of job security for adjunct faculty has merit, particularly in light of a study done by two Michigan State University researchers that was published earlier this year.

The study reveals that part-time adjuncts are more likely to use teaching techniques that are less time-consuming and less learning-intensive. The study's authors, Roger Baldwin and Matthew Wawrzynski, aren't blaming part-time faculty, though—they're blaming the schools that employ them. The researchers fault the contingent employment conditions these employees work under for their failure to use effective teaching methods. That puts some weight behind P-Fac's demand for job security; the study's authors suggest that adjunct positions be converted to full-time positions.

If any employee is to be effective in doing a job, he or she must be fairly compensated and treated as an important member of the team. It's obvious that working conditions directly affect performance, so it's understandable that P-Fac is asking for increased security. And why shouldn't they? Columbia students pay approximately \$20,000 in tuition alone—not including housing, meal plans, etc.—and they deserve the best education available. Both P-Fac and the college administration need to realize that when it comes down to it, this is all about the students.

Student Poll

“Do you think the salary of our administration is fair?”



Kevin Vekony
Freshman; game design major

“It could be a bit lower to save cost over all, [but] they do deserve what they are making.”



Kit Peterson
Junior; fiction writing major

“It is going to take a lot of work to change it.”



Sydney Webster
Freshman; arts, entertainment and media major

“It's [not] cool. Students don't get enough in scholarships and money to go around.”

YOUR VOICES

Letter to the Editor

re: 'Go public with college budget'

DEAR EDITOR, The Chronicle's call for greater openness in the college's budget process is welcome ("Go public with college budget," Dec. 5). Everyone—students, part- and full-time faculty and staff—would benefit from transparency. But the editorial's characterization of the Part-Time Faculty Association at Columbia (P-Fac) as "overly antagonistic towards the college" needs some re-thinking.

Perhaps there are those who would mistake our insisting on justice for antagonism. Certainly we have insisted on justice. Approximately 11 percent of our students' tuition goes, on average, to pay our salaries. (A transparent budget process, of course, would help clarify this point.)

Part-time faculty do not have health insurance or pensions, nor are they assured of employment in the future—even though the college asks them to make commitments to teaching far in advance of any new semester. These concerns deserve redress, and the college's failure so far to respond favorably to part-timers' reasonable demands is frustrating.

We also object to The Chronicle's characterization of the P-Fac bargaining team as "terrible negotiators." How did the editorial board arrive at this description? Has anyone from The Chronicle ever sat in on the contract negotiations between the college and the union? No. Never. If the newspaper would like to send a student as an

observer, he or she would be very welcome to sit in on the talks.

Your editorial is riddled with factual errors. Here's a list:

P-Fac never sent a letter to President War-rick L. Carter stating that in order to keep quality teachers, part-timers deserve a raise.

The administration did not offer the union a 1 percent raise and 1 percent bonus in May. Instead, the college offered a 1 percent raise in April, but no bonus was offered. The offer was turned down because a 1 percent raise does not address our primary concern, which is job security. Senior adjuncts are losing their classes, experiencing pay cuts of 30 percent or even 60 percent. How does a 1 percent pay increase address these drastic reductions?

P-Fac is not now "back to ask for a raise," as the editorial states. This is false and a serious mischaracterization of our position.

No doubt P-Fac has seemed contentious to the administration for objecting that the college has held up progress in negotiations on a new contract. For almost two years, P-Fac negotiators have been stymied by a seemingly endless series of objections, obstacles and delays on the part of the administration that prevented significant movement toward an agreement. This contrasts with past negotiations, which were slow but fruitful, and led to contracts signed and ratified in a reasonable period of time. P-Fac would be remiss in its obligations to the part-time faculty if it did not object forcefully to the administration's tactics.

YOUR VOICES continues on PG. 36

Editorial Board Members

Sophia Coleman Assistant A&C Editor
Vanessa Morton Metro Editor
Gabrielle Rosas Copy Editor

Heather Schröering Campus Editor
Zach Stermerick Graphic Designer
Matt Watson Commentary Editor

Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

Did you catch a mistake, think we could have covered a story better or believe strongly about an issue that faces all of us here at Columbia?

Why not write a letter to the editor? At the bottom of page 2, you'll find a set of guidelines on how to do this. Let us hear from you.

Despite gridlock, our problems are solvable



by **Matt Watson**
Commentary Editor

LOOKING BACK from this vantage point, 2011 was quite a year. Americans witnessed terrible, debilitating political theater at home, as well as revolutions in the Arab world, a tsunami in Japan, a financial Armageddon in Europe and the continued rise of China.

Last year was all about us. The fight against the evil, over-intrusive federal government ushered in the Tea Party—a crowd of justifiably concerned citizens led by a pack of anti-intellectual legislators who refuse to govern.

The year 2010 was a time when Americans looked inward at themselves, and learned nothing in the process. But 2011 was a year when the rest of the world did not revolve around America and its slew of problems. If America’s leaders are smart, they’ll learn from the trials of others.

Across the Atlantic, the debt crisis spread like a disease from Greece and

Ireland to the larger economies of Spain and Italy. It’s now infected the very core of the euro zone, and the situation isn’t looking bright.

Germany adamantly refuses any small fixes to the euro zone that will negatively impact itself, and for good reason. Germany enacted painful reforms to balance its budget and get its economy back in order almost a decade ago, and German taxpayers don’t like the idea of suffering again for nations that never had to.

This is something America has not been able to do, although it desperately needs similar reforms. Instead of telling Chancellor Angela Merkel what to do, President Obama should be asking for advice.

Luckily for the U.S., the European debt crisis has sidelined its own debt problems; that’s evident in the fact that even though Standard and Poor’s downgraded America’s credit rating, its interest rate is now lower than Germany’s, which has far better finances. But that shouldn’t mean the U.S. can forget about fiscal reform—we’ll be looking like the euro zone pretty soon if no serious action is taken. And that could possibly be the biggest lesson of 2011.

America’s leaders acknowledge the need for action but refuse to take any. The nation is at an existential tipping point, and yet its people and politicians are stuck in neutral. Working-class citizens support Tea Party conservatives who

would rather balance the budget by cutting services that the middle class needs instead of raising taxes one bit on the ultra-wealthy.

Yes, you read that correctly—it makes absolutely no sense. The far right’s takeover of the Republican Party was officially completed in 2011. The GOP nomination process has turned into a complete circus; just last week, Donald Trump announced he would be holding his own debate. With the expulsion of all moderate, reasonable voices from the GOP, any compromise on any issue is out of the question.

As the election year approaches, we’ll see more dirty political discourse. Both sides will claim they’re 100 percent right on all issues, and the other party is just a bag of cow dung that wants to see the nation fail.

But the truth is, the answer is always somewhere in the middle. It’s impossible to put the U.S. on a sound fiscal path without touching entitlements or drastically cutting wasteful spending. But those cuts must be made carefully, not blindly with an ax. On the other hand, it’s impossible to save the U.S. from a euro-style crisis without raising taxes on, at

the very least, Americans making more than \$250,000 per year.

Instead of letting the apocalyptic nature of the euro crisis mask America’s own problems, leaders on both sides of the aisle need to take this as a sign: Get something done already. If it doesn’t act quickly and decisively, as Germany did in the last decade, then America will soon look a lot like Italy. That thought alone should be enough for politicians to grow a pair, bite their pride and make a compromise on reform.

As the holiday season approaches, I can’t help but be reminded of one of the best movies ever made: “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

Under extreme circumstances, humans have the ability to pull together and do something good.

Yes, America’s failure is a bit more impactful than the failure of Bailey’s Building and Loan Association. But sometimes it takes a little sentimentality to remember that, despite differing ideologies, we’re all in this together. And if we all give our fair share, which isn’t too much to ask, then we can make it out all right.

mwatson@chroniclemail.com

America can pull together and overcome this year’s downfalls.

Blago is cautionary tale to voters



by **Jonathan Allen**
Senior Graphic Designer

SWEET, SWEET justice. Rod Blagojevich has been sentenced to 14 years in the Big House. After feebly attempting to sell Obama’s old Senate seat to the highest bidder, two drawn out court cases that were nationally drooled over by the 24-hour news cycle finally came to a close and a sentence was made. I will personally be passing around a petition to have his head shaved as part of the sentence.

But let’s take a step back and examine how this incompetently dirty politician got to such a place of power. Oh, right. We elected him. Illinois, one of the most fiercely democratic states in the country, elected a man who would regularly throw wrenches into the political process for his own personal gain.

Don’t get me wrong. I’m not just blindly bashing the Democratic Party. I am a dedicated liberal. I keep a picture of Rachel Maddow in a heart-shaped locket around my neck. I listen to Air America podcasts as background music while I play Xbox and I’m all about the 99 percent movement. But at the end of the day, I have to wonder how we messed

up so badly with this schmuck. It is our fault. We, the voters, ultimately failed.

I worry that this is becoming a trend in our generation. We like to portray ourselves as vastly knowledgeable in national and global politics, yet we as a generation of voters, whether Democratic or Republican, appear to be herded into one voting class or another, and we refuse to step across those lines we’ve drawn.

I’ll admit that when I first voted, my main goal was to hand my vote to that lovely commander-in-chief of ours, Obama. The rest of the voting process was kind of a blur. I wasn’t really paying attention to any of the propositions, judges or other elected officials, depending on my opinion. I just voted as liberally as possible.

It’s pretty embarrassing. But, I have to assume that it was this exact pattern that elected Blagojevich to office.

Other states are making the same mistakes.

The Tea Party ultra-conservative South Carolina Senator Jim DeMint regularly takes the stance that the entire Democratic Party is out to get America, most recently opposing a bill that would help U.S. veterans obtain jobs, calling it a trick from Obama.

Minnesota congresswoman and presidential candidate Michele Bachmann takes some of the most unreasonable political stances, from

mass privatization of government assets to strictly religiously guided stances on social issues, like gay marriage and abortion. She is so nuts that she has physical panic attacks when in the same room as a lesbian.

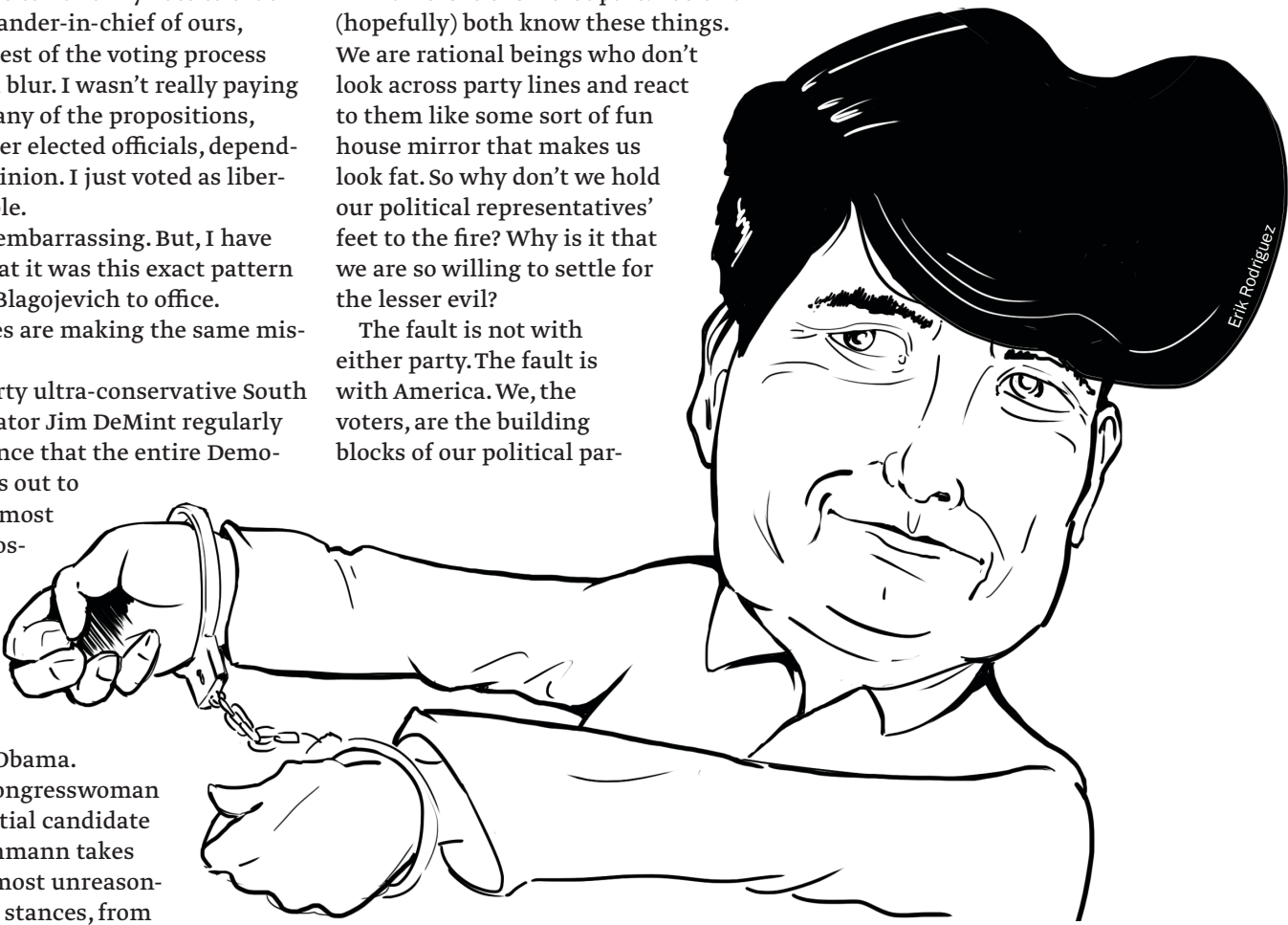
No, these things aren’t illegal like the things Blagojevich tried to pull off. They’re just incredibly moronic. Obama isn’t out to ruin America, and neither are “the gays.”

And here is the worst part: You and I (hopefully) both know these things. We are rational beings who don’t look across party lines and react to them like some sort of fun house mirror that makes us look fat. So why don’t we hold our political representatives’ feet to the fire? Why is it that we are so willing to settle for the lesser evil?

The fault is not with either party. The fault is with America. We, the voters, are the building blocks of our political par-

ties. Our growing indifference combined with our shrinking political attention span is crumbling the very foundation of our nation. It doesn’t matter what side you stand on. Just be passionate about your opinion and consider your ballot well before you cast it. More is at stake than you think.

jallen@chroniclemail.com



YOUR VOICES

CONTINUED FROM PG. 34

P-Fac has also pursued grievances and has filed unfair labor practice complaints with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). No doubt the college would prefer that P-fac did not do so. But it has only itself to blame for violating agreed-on contract language (under the previous, still-valid, contract) that affects class assignment procedures and terminations. The NLRB has upheld many of P-Fac’s complaints. Under the circumstances, P-Fac’s responses have been appropriate.

Columbia’s students have a stake in urging the administration to come to an agreement. Part-time faculty have argued many times that top-notch education cannot be achieved without workplace justice—that in an environment of anxiety, marginalized artist- and scholar-teachers will find it difficult to do their best.

—The P-Fac steering committee

re: ‘P-Fac Leadership’

MY NAME is John Morrison. I am a photographer and am very proud to say that come the end of our current semester, I will have been a part-time faculty member in the Photography Department for a continuous 18 years.

I love photography, and better yet, I love to teach photography. My tenure at Columbia has been one the most rewarding and enjoyable parts of my life. It’s not only the students and class time that I find enjoyable but the whole experience of being an instructor at Columbia.

I would include the following as major job perks: being immersed in a community

of artists from students through senior faculty; working with other professionals—full-time, part-time and staff; and feeling respected, valued and involved in helping to shape the learning experience for students.

I have also been a P-Fac member since the union’s inception, and I couldn’t be happier about that. P-Fac has done great things for us part-timers—significantly higher pay being my personal favorite. I believe that the union wants to pursue my best interests, and I hope it will continue to do so for many years. I am definitely pro-union.

I have been reluctant to speak out for fear of appearing disloyal to P-Fac, but I just can’t sit by and watch anymore. I’m standing up, as a part-time faculty member, and saying what I believe many others feel but are also reluctant to say: The emperor has no clothes.

The emperor being P-Fac, and the missing clothes being union leadership that has our best interests at heart.

In my opinion, and it is wholly my opinion, the adversarial rhetoric and accusations that our leadership has been hurling at the administration during the last two years have been counterproductive and, often, just plain incorrect. This “us against them” atmosphere has created unnecessary and unwarranted tension and animosity between colleagues and within departments.

These tactics are a waste of time. I can’t see that they serve any purpose other than to drag out the contract negotiations. Now that I’ve blown a whistle, I’ll point a finger. I’ve never done either before, and I’m not happy about doing it now, but... I think the blame for this nonsense has to

be placed squarely at the feet of our current president, Diana Vallera. I believe that she misrepresents the administration and distorts/edits the numbers and other facts to make things sound abusive, for example “new hire” numbers.

It’s my impression, with regards to the negotiations, that Vallera is disruptive and uncooperative.

Why is our union president pursuing such a course of action and not trying to bring some constructive end to contract negotiations? I don’t know, but it looks to me like we need new leadership.

One last thing: You’ll notice that I haven’t included any proof to support my opinions and impressions. That’s because I don’t want you to take my word for it. I want each of you to take a good hard look at what’s going on. I don’t think you’ll have to look too deep to see the same things that I do.

—John Morrison, photography instructor, internship coordinator, Photography Department, Columbia College Chicago

re: ‘Give up blow-off classes’

I’M RESPONDING to the statement that yoga is not a course of much worth, and realistic students must search for classes “that will give them a well-founded education and help them stand out from their peers,” as stated in a Chronicle editorial. Who could argue with such a position for the alarming state of preventable bodily disrepair in the modern world, for example, the epidemic of adult onset diabetes, testifies to the widespread belief that although a mind is a terrible thing to waste, a body is not. Furthermore, a classroom experience in which

students are not competing with each other for better grades does a disservice to those in need of courses that serve to reinforce lives to be led in a dog-eat-dog world where winning is everything, and as for those who compete but don’t win the race, it’s somebody else’s concern.

The editorial also makes sense within a cultural context. Our major religions, in large part, disparage bodily existence, viewing the body as having fallen from grace, a source of temptation from leading a righteous life, if not evil incarnate. As for the rational philosophy of the Enlightenment, the body is mere scaffolding to maintain the mind, a necessary tool to be used for manipulation in a material world, but certainly not to venerate, and hopefully be replaced by something other than a biological model that does not take a mind along for the ride as it ages and works worse than a robot of sorts housing a downloaded mind such as Einstein’s. To be sure, taking courses that enhance our choice of professional majors makes sense. However, for those who also believe that life itself is our primary major, perhaps noted philosopher and mythologist Joseph Campbell has words worth listening to and practicing: “People say that what we’re all seeking is a meaning for life. I don’t think that’s what we’re really seeking. I think that what we’re seeking is an experience of being alive, so that our life experiences on the purely physical plane will have resonances within our own innermost being and reality, so that we actually feel the rapture of being.” Take yoga.

—Louis Silverstein, Distinguished Professor of Humanities, HHSS Department

CHECK US OUT ONLINE

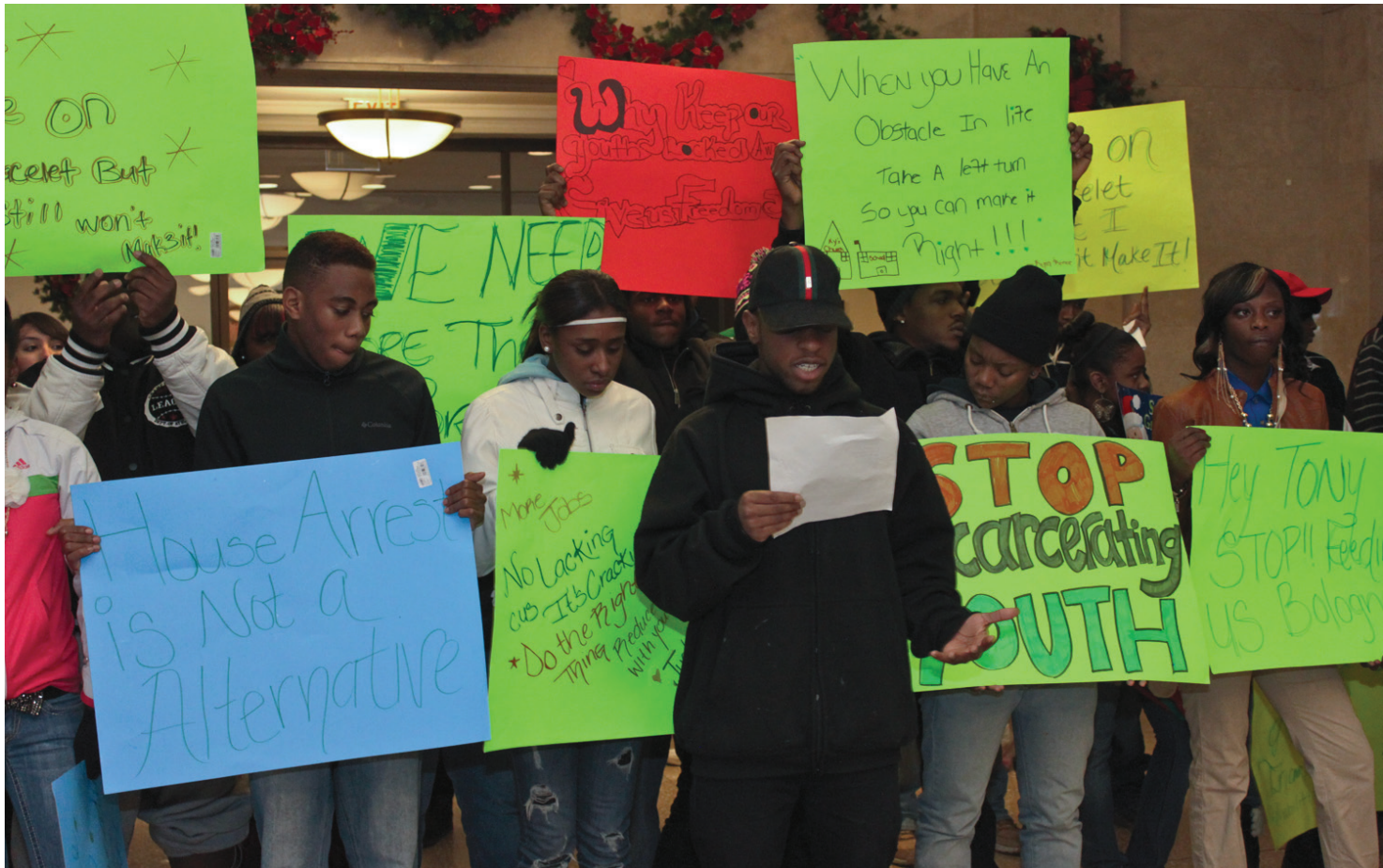
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Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Youth leaders from Generation Y/Center for Change and Fearless Leading by Youth rallied together on Nov. 30 in a campaign against Cook County's juvenile justice system.

YOUTHS WANT JUSTICE

by Vanessa Morton
Metro Editor

CHANTS OF “Reduce the population with youth participation!” and signs that read “Put me on a bracelet, I still won’t make it!” filled the Cook County Building as youth advocates made their way to the office of County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.

The young advocates rallied on Nov. 30 to call attention to Cook County’s juvenile justice system.

The support was organized by the Audy Home Campaign, which is led by youth leaders from organizations such as Generation Y/Center for Change and

Fearless Leading by Youth.

“We are here today because Cook County is passing a budget that will take money out of the detention center and put more money into alternatives that should be helping the youth, and we’re also here to make sure helping the youth actually happens,” said Darrius Lightfoot, youth leader for Fearless Leading by Youth.

The campaign is aimed at developing the leadership and voice of those who have been directly impacted by juvenile incarceration, and at taking the lead in transforming the system to help other youth develop their full potential.

In order to transform the system, one

of the campaign’s current objectives is to improve conditions at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center—the largest in the country that serves mostly as a pre-trial holding facility.

According to data provided by the Chicago Youth Justice Data Project, the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center admitted 5,271 youths in 2010, and of those detained, approximately 83 percent were black, while more than 11 percent were Latino.

Much criticism from the youth focused on the detention facility being outdated and unsanitary. However, improvements

» SEE YOUTH, PG. 42

City makes way for the homeless

by Vanessa Morton
Metro Editor

NEW MEASURES are in the works as Mayor Rahm Emanuel and various agencies and organizations come together in an extensive effort to curb homelessness.

Emanuel joined the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness on Dec. 2 to announce “Plan 2.0,” an initiative to “recalibrate” former Mayor Richard M. Daley’s plan to end homelessness in the city.

“Chicago’s Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness has made great strides in creating homelessness infrastructure that serves to help our most vulnerable residents regain self-sufficiency and stability,” Emanuel said in a written statement. “But there is still much work to do. Plan 2.0 will build on current achievements while addressing the evolving needs of our homeless residents to provide a more effective strategy for combating homelessness.”

According to John Pfeiffer, first deputy commissioner of Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services, the initiative will reflect findings from the past nine years, develop different kind of program models, such as permanent and interim housing, increase employment resources and create a more effective homeless system, which will help with prevention strategies.

“The original plan was written in 2002 and was endorsed by Daley in 2003, so the plan has not changed,” Pfeiffer said. “It’s a road map with some big strategies. The most important strategies are in the areas that we’ve seen real progress.”

While Plan 2.0 won’t be unveiled until spring 2012, it will be drafted and led

» SEE HOMELESS, PG. 43



Stock Photo

Pride vs. church

Annual parade proposed time, route changes raise concerns in city

by Lauryn Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

PARADE-GOERS WILL be celebrating two hours earlier at next year’s Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade—potentially disrupting the services at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, 708 W. Belmont Ave.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church has petitioned against the 43rd annual Pride Parade’s new route and start time for 2012. The route calls for the parade to pass in front of the church. The parade, which normally starts at noon, will start at 10 a.m., an hour before mass begins.

Rev. Thomas Srenn, parade organizer Richard Pfeiffer and Alderman Tom Tunney (44th Ward) are set to meet at an unspecified time during the week of Dec. 12 to discuss the church’s concerns.

“It’s a combination of the new route, which will go directly in front of our church building, with the new time, which is Sunday morning when we have our services,” Srenn said.

The current parade route forms a V shape,

heading north on Halsted Street and turning around to head south on Broadway. This creates an area known as “pride island,” in which people are stuck in the area for up to six hours, said Max Bever, director of Communication and Community Outreach for the 44th Ward.



There are a lot of things on the table and we want to know what are the possibilities and what are some of the things we can work with.”

—Thomas Srenn

Because of the impracticality of getting a safety vehicle in the area, route changes are needed to decongest the vicinity. The route will also be lengthened by five blocks to spread the crowds. The time changes are to curb the public consumption of alcohol, Bever said.

At the meeting, Srenn said he hopes to learn more about the parade’s history of start times and routes. He said this will

» SEE PRIDE, PG. 43

Charles In Charge

'Strong' just plain wrong



by Sam Charles
Managing Editor

and who couldn't love that accent? He's George W. Bush 2.0. What could be better?

But this past week, Perry's floundering presidential campaign released a viral video on YouTube, showing Perry strolling up a hill, saying how if he's elected president, he'll end Obama's "war on religion."

Perry clued the viewers in on exactly what he's referring to during his mind-numbing 31 seconds on screen.

"You don't need to be in the pew every Sunday to know there's something wrong in this country when gays can serve openly in the military, but our kids can't openly celebrate Christmas or pray in school." He later added, "And I'll fight against liberal attacks on our religious heritage. Faith made America strong. It can make her strong again."

Regardless of what your personal religious beliefs may be, it's important to note a policy that has been all but forgotten in modern American politics: the separation of church and state.

Article Six of the U.S. Constitution states that "no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or

OH, RICK Perry. You had everything going for you for a bit there, and then you went and opened your mouth.

The Texas swagger, the "wholesome family values"

public Trust under the United States."

Why is that so hard to grasp?

And let's not sweep Perry's blatant homophobia under the rug, either.

Homophobia and discrimination against the LGBTQ community will be something our grandchildren will read about in history books and wonder what we were thinking.

And they should, too. This is one of the most unfairly divisive issues in the history of the country. It's rooted in misguided religious zealotry and harmful rhetoric aimed at repressing a group of Americans for no good reason.

It is a topic unworthy of dissection and analysis, simply because it is beneath any intelligent person.

Simply put, Perry is not an intelligent person. He's proven that beyond a shadow of a doubt during the course of the last two months. But, I digress.

One of the most encouraging and redeeming aspects of Perry's video—dubiously titled "Strong"—was the reaction it received in different Internet areas.

As of Dec. 9, the video had more than 2.7 million views, and more than 435,000 viewers had rated it. More than 425,000 of those ratings were negative. That should give anyone a little more faith in humanity as a whole.

I must admit, though, when Perry first announced his candidacy, I had him pegged to win the Republican Party's presidential nomination. I've never been so happy to be wrong.

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MCT Newswire

Texas Gov. Rick Perry is seen before the start of the Republican presidential debate at the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 22.

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PARKS AND RENOVATION

by Lauryn Smith
Assistant Metro Editor

GRANT PARK, one of Chicago’s most famous recreational spaces, is getting a makeover.

Beginning in September 2012, the Grant Park garage, which is under the recreational area, is being waterproofed. The park will be redesigned and its top layer will be removed in the final step of the construction process.

The new park, designed by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates Inc., will reflect the desires of community members, said Zvezdana Kubat, spokeswoman for the Chicago Park District. Public meetings have allowed individuals to voice their opinions on what they hope to see. The firm has taken that feedback, such as wanting active and passive activities available, and used it to create the new layout.

“It’s a far more creative, modern design that fits more with the 21st century use of parks,” said Bob O’Neill, president of the Grant Park Conservancy and Advisory Council. “It’s far more up-to-date and current, and it’s adapted to society’s changes in the way people use parks now.”

The final design should be ready by January 2012, Kubat, said.

The budget for the plan is \$30 million, O’Neill said. He also said an additional \$15 million–\$20 million would be nice, but the project will start with current funds, regardless of whether more are raised.

The new park will emphasize an informal design rather than the formal one Grant Park currently has. O’Neill said people tend to congregate in spaces that are less rigid,

and the new design will make it more interesting and attractive.

“Right now, the park is a very formal park with the trees in rows, and there’s not a lot really going on out there,” he said. “It’s not really that utilized.”

Structures for recreation are a main focus. There will be skate and scooter plazas, a climbing wall and areas to ice skate. Benches will not be stationary; concessions will be available and there will be a “far more creative” play area for kids, O’Neill said.

Paul Seck, senior associate and operating director of Michael Van Valkenburgh Associate Inc., said the existing honey locust trees on sight will be stripped of their bark and used to create an “enchanted forest” that will act as a maze for kids to navigate.

According to O’Neill, the design will provide an elegant connection to Millennium Park and the lakefront. It will be “pastoral,” with open lawn areas and small hills.

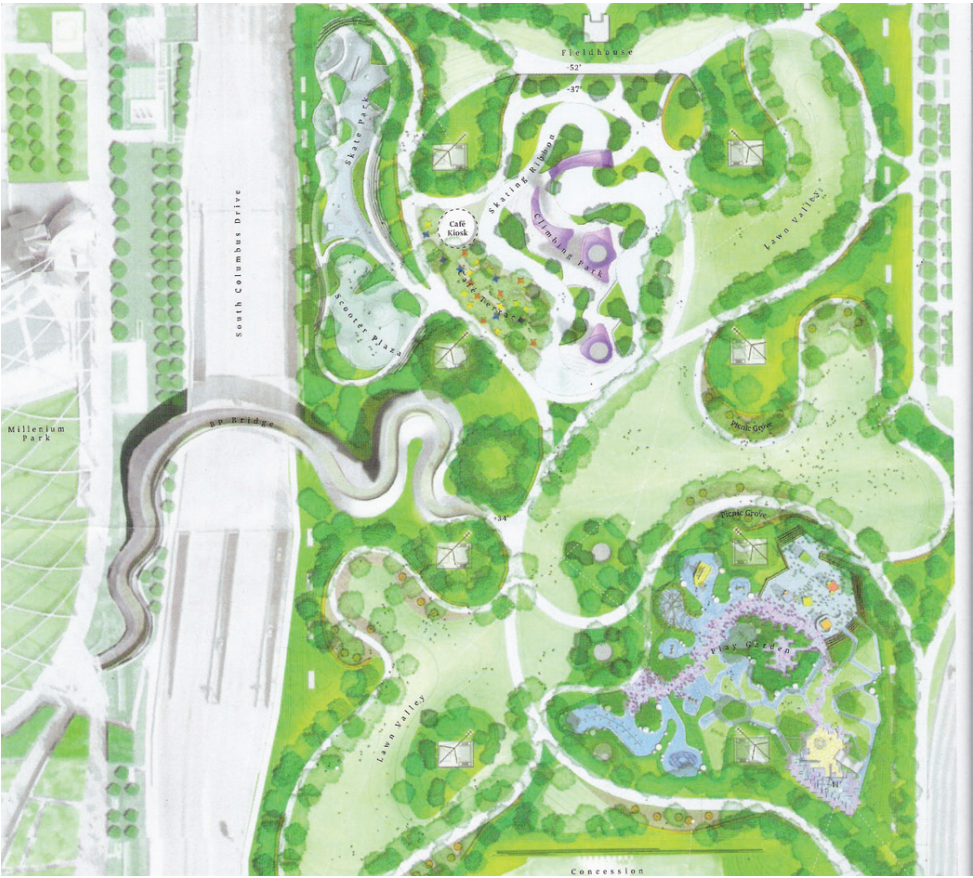
The landscape will be raised in areas using Geofoam—a lightweight fill material—to create hills. In addition, trees will be placed in such a way that will allow more of an open view of the park, city and lake, Seck said.

“It [will be] completely different than what is out there now,” O’Neill said.

As the city grows, green space becomes an important means of providing people with a connection to nature, he said.

The plan is to design a space where people can take advantage of opportunities to be active while at the same time have the option of relaxing and enjoying nature.

“People congregate, interact and want



Courtesy GRANT PARK CONSERVANCY

The updated design for north Grant Park, which will be finalized in January 2012, will include a skate and scooter plaza, a climbing wall, movable benches and concessions.

things to do in parks,” O’Neill said. “The green space and the trees are incredibly important but also integrated into these are more activities for people to do.”

He wants people to “come in and enjoy” the new park.

“We want the park to be a lively outdoor

civic center for college students, children, adults, visitors [and] cultural institutions,” O’Neill said. “It is Chicago’s front yard.”

The park and the roof of the garage will be open in spring or summer 2015.

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Toys for Tots

Photos by Sara Mays
Layout by Zach Stemerick



WHEN OUT on the road there arose such a clatter, only one explanation could clear up the matter—motorcyclists, 8,000 of them, converging on the Dan Ryan Woods on Dec. 4 for the 34th annual Chicagoland Toys for Tots Motorcycle Parade. Each biker roaring down 93rd Street carried a toy that the U.S. Marine Corps will deliver to needy children this Christmas.





» PRIDE

Continued from PG. 37

help to understand why the changes are necessary.

Srenn is worried the proposed changes will prevent church members from attending mass. Though there have been claims that Srenn is apprehensive regarding damage to the church’s property, he said that issue is of little concern compared to the time and route change.

“There is an anticipated 800,000 people [who] come into the neighborhood on that day, and it becomes near impossible to navigate the streets,” Srenn said. “Being on a parade route dramatically impacts the reality for anyone on the route in a different fashion.”

It was not specified what questions will be discussed at the meeting.

“There are a lot of things on the table and we want to know what are the possibilities and what are some of the things we can work with,” Srenn said. “Because we’re all looking for a really safe and enjoyable time for everybody, and we just want to find out if there is another way of possibly doing this.”

The issues that have been raised are “absolutely not” related to the parade’s purpose, he said.

He said he has not spoken directly with parade organizers.

“We arranged a time to speak with them

in the beginning,” Srenn said. “I did write a letter to the parade organizers asking for some answers to the questions we have, but I never heard from them.”

He said he heard of the proposed changes in early October, but Pfeiffer claimed that they were not contacted by anyone from the church until this week.

Pfeiffer first found out about the petition against the proposed changes when ABC News contacted him.

“We’re really confused because we heard so many different stories, and we’re not sure where they’re coming from,” Pfeiffer said. “When we do meet, we just want to know exactly what the problem is.”

Bever said that Tunney works closely with parade organizers, including Pfeiffer, regarding parade feedback. Every year, there is a post-Pride Parade meeting with the city agencies, the local chambers of commerce and police and fire departments.

After the 2011 parade, it became clear that “substantial” changes needed to be made in the interest of public safety, according to Bever. Crowd control issues were created after the number of people who attended the parade increased drastically from approximately 450,000 in 2010 to 800,000 in 2011.

The number of accepted entries in the parade is also being reduced from 250 to 200 in order to tighten up the parade so that it is not as long, Pfeiffer said. Last year, the crowds made way into the streets so that the last entries in the parade lineup were unable to

move forward.

Pfeiffer and Tunney have met to discuss possible solutions to the proposed changes that would still maintain the public safety while respecting the church’s concerns, Bever said. They are offering to provide barricades and marshals to the church so that people will still be able to

attend services.

“There have been other churches on the parade route and its many reiterations [during approximately] 40 years,” Bever said. “Parade organizers were always able to work to compromise.”

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Tiela Halpin THE CHRONICLE

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, 708 W. Belmont Ave., is asking organizers of the Chicago Gay Pride Parade to alter its route in 2012 to avoid passing the church. Church officials say the volume of parade watchers will disrupt their services and block their doors, which are just a few yards from the street.

“Our dream is to move in a direction where we have the vast majority of what we’re funding is [permanent supportive] housing, because we think that’s more stabilizing and a better environment for individuals to move into immediately if they become homeless,” Pfeiffer said. “And we’ve gone from [approximately] 3,500 to 7,000 or more, and have a pipeline of new units in development. So we’re adding to that, and I know of [approximately] 550 units that are in the works.”

While part two of the initiative is in the process of being developed, issues still arise as a count shows that homelessness in the city has increased during the past year.

problem agencies are most focused on. Rather, the issue seemed to come from the city’s current economic status. The city’s budget is an estimated \$42.8 million, which is a combination of city, state and federal dollars. However, according to Pfeiffer, Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services—one of the city’s funders—has seen a loss of \$15 million because of budget cuts.

“We’re working on trying to figure out what the exact need is and what we can produce with the funding constraints that we’re operating with because every level of government is feeling the pinch and so is private philanthropy,” he said.



We’re working on trying to figure out what the exact need is and what we can produce with the funding constraints that we’re operating with because every level of government is feeling the pinch and so is private philanthropy.”

—John Pfeiffer



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE

Groups such as Alliance to End Homelessness, Chicago Coalition for the Homelessness and the Corporation for Supportive Housing are a few of many that are trying to end homelessness in Chicago.

» HOMELESS

Continued from PG. 37

on evaluation studies taken by Loyola University Chicago and the University of Chicago, which were conducted during a two-year period, according to Nancy Radner, chief transition officer of the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness.

She said the universities followed 550 homeless households and interviewed them three times throughout the year “to see what happened to them and their homelessness.”

“You end homelessness by finding people homes, so we revamped our homelessness system from one that was primarily sheltered to one that was very focused on permanent supportive housing, and we did that in a couple of ways,” Radner said.

She said in order to increase the number of permanent supportive housing facilities—which is a type of affordable housing that includes wrapped services, such as mental health, child education and employment resources—the agency changed the city’s shelter system by adding a new model called “interim housing.”

“The [city] is one of the only places in the country that has this model,” Radner said. “Rather than being sheltered, the whole idea of interim housing is still to be a place for people to go, but its main focus is to get clients to permanent housing in 120 days if possible or less.”

According to Pfeiffer, in 2002 Chicago’s homeless system was at approximately 62 percent shelters and approximately 38 percent permanent supportive housing. However, the city has transformed into approximately 60 percent permanent supportive housing and 40 percent shelters.

According to Anne Sheahan, director of Public Affairs for Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services, the agency conducts what they call a “point and time” count every two years in January where they deploy a team of members to canvas the city of homeless people in and out of shelters.

“During the last count we took, which was during 2011, we recorded 6,537 individuals who were both living in shelters and on the streets,” Sheahan said. “And in 2009, there were [approximately] 6,240 individuals.”

However, Sheahan said the agency has expanded their team of members, making the most recent count a bit more comprehensive, which she said could have attributed to the rise of homelessness shown.

The rise of homeless people is not the

“Plan 2.0” will undergo its last two phases before it is presented in 2012. At the end of January, the steering committee will hold what they call “Charrette Week” that will consist of intense community process meetings, which will allow for public opinion and feedback.

“We want to look at what is working ... address any unmet needs as best we can ... take a look at the data and at the last nine years of experience, especially this evaluation, and make well-informed decisions about what we can do next,” Pfeiffer said. “Then we [want] to make the best beneficial use of the dollars we have, allowing us to make the greatest impact. So, it’s a moment to take stock and to use good information make good decisions.”

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Quinn pardons, ends parole

by Monique Garcia and
Steve Mills
MCT Newswire

GOV. PAT Quinn, on Dec. 6, pardoned a woman who was convicted of killing her husband in 1965 and ended parole for a man who has fought to prove he did not commit the double murders for which he served approximately 30 years behind bars.

The pardon serves as official forgiveness for Ida Mae West, who was 20 years old and pregnant with her second child when she was convicted of murdering her abusive husband. According to a petition filed with the state's Prisoner Review Board, West's husband was drunk and began to kick and beat her while at a friend's apartment on Chicago's West Side. She grabbed a knife in self-defense, but he "walked into" the weapon and died of a puncture wound.

West argued that she did not mean to kill her husband and was trying to protect herself and the unborn child. She pleaded guilty in order to get a shorter sentence and spent less than one year in jail before being paroled in 1966. Quinn's action allows West, now 66, to have her record expunged by a court.

West was one of 75 people to have clemency petitions granted by Quinn for crimes including bigamy, theft, impersonating an officer, aggravated assault and drug offenses. Quinn denied another 131 requests as he whittles away a backlog that began piling up under predecessor Rod Blagojevich.

Quinn, however, stopped short of pardoning Johnnie Lee Savory, who was convicted

of a Peoria double murder at age 14 and sent to prison in 1977. The governor instead ended Savory's parole several years early.

Savory has long claimed his innocence, at one point having his conviction overturned after a court ruled his confession had been coerced.

But he was convicted a second time after new witnesses said Savory told them details about the murders. Two of the three witnesses have since recanted their testimony, and Savory's attorneys have fought unsuccessfully to have physical DNA evidence tested.

He was released from prison in 2006 and was scheduled to be on parole until 2014, but Quinn cut that short. Savory said on Dec. 8 that he was pleased with Quinn's decision but was not giving up hope of someday being declared innocent.

"It's awesome," said Savory, 49, after he learned of Quinn's action.

Ending his parole allows Savory to do many of the things he could not, including gaining custody of an older sister who is mentally disabled, and traveling without requesting permission from his parole officer. He is scheduled to speak at Harvard Law School in March.

“This gives me the freedom that I deserve and need to have,” Savory said. “I got tired of asking for permission, so I didn’t go to a lot of places I was asked to go.”

A Quinn spokeswoman would not discuss details surrounding the decisions, but said the cases speak for themselves.



MCT Newswire

Gov. Pat Quinn pardoned convicted murder Ida Mae West and ended Johnnie Lee Savory's parole early.

The background of the entire advertisement is a photograph of the Chicago skyline at night, viewed from across a body of water. The city lights are reflected on the water's surface.

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FEATURED PHOTO



Sara Mays THE CHRONICLE



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Four people were arrested after a six-hour standoff on Dec. 5 on the 4600 block of North Broadway. Three individuals barricaded themselves in a building at approximately 4:15 p.m. after another individual involved in a firearms investigation was arrested six hours earlier. The individuals involved were “wanted,” and Town Hall District officers and Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive agents were notified that they were in the Chicago area. Police recovered a .40-caliber handgun, a .45-caliber handgun, an M-223 rifle with a scope and a bulletproof vest at the scene.

IN OTHER NEWS

A piece of history

According to ChicagoTribune.com, Springfield police arrested a boy suspected of stealing a copper sword from atop Abraham Lincoln’s tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery on Dec. 6. The 3-foot sword was snapped off at the hilt from the hand of a Civil War artillery officer’s statue between September and early November 2011, according to a police news release. The boy, whose age was not released, told detectives he climbed the statue and grabbed the sword, which fell to the ground and broke in two. He said he panicked and hid the pieces behind a nearby shopping center, but later told police he hid them in a broken-down van a few blocks from the cemetery.

Lost and found

Police are questioning a woman who apparently left a baby in a shopping cart and then reported the boy missing, police said on Dec. 8. Officers were called to the Walgreen’s store in Brookhaven Plaza, 7516 S. Cass Ave., when somebody noticed the 1-year-old baby boy in a cart, according to CBSChicago.com. Clerks said a woman entered the store with the child and engaged in a conversation with the workers. She then left the store and got into a white Jeep, exiting the shopping mall onto Cass Avenue. The suspect was then located across the street in the Darien Buona Beef, 7417 S. Cass Ave., after she made a report that someone had taken her child from the restaurant.

‘Get a job!’

A DuPage County judge ordered well-known Naperville, Ill., squatter Scott Huber to get a job as part of his probation on trespassing and disorderly conduct charges on Dec. 8. According to SunTimes.com, Judge Karen Wilson sentenced Huber to a two-year probation term, and ordered him to undergo job placement training and find a job working at least 10 hours per week. Wilson found Huber guilty of the two misdemeanor counts during a bench trial earlier this year. Huber was charged in February 2010 after he shouted at Naperville psychologist Katherine Borchardt and then followed her into her Benton House office despite her demands that he leave.

Hairy run-in

A Chicago woman said three coyotes confronted her and her dogs in busy Lincoln Park on Dec. 6. Kate Dodge said she was walking her two dogs at approximately 6 a.m. when she encountered the coyotes. According to ABCLocal.com, Dodge said she had seen coyotes in the park before. Her husband snapped a picture of one from across the street. They usually keep their distance, but one of the coyotes gave her quite a scare. She said the standoff lasted approximately 45 seconds until she saw a break in traffic and ran back across the street to her apartment. Other neighbors said they have also seen or at least heard coyotes in the area.

OFF THE BLOTTER



Compiled by The Chronicle staff with information provided by the Chicago Police Department.

1 Car vs. cop

On Dec. 6, police attempted to pull over a woman for a traffic violation. She sped down Wabash Avenue and onto the sidewalk, before stopping at 18th Street. When a police officer stepped in front of her car, she ran into his legs, causing him to flip onto the hood. She stopped again and officers had to Taser her in order to place her under arrest.

3 Problem solved

A 23-year-old man attempted to steal a math book from the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State St., on Dec. 5. The library security guard asked the man what he had after he set off alarms near the exit. He revealed a \$20 math workshop book. The guard called police who came and arrested the man. He did not have a valid library card.

2 Pulling hair

On Dec. 7, a woman was charged with battery of a police officer at the 1st District station, 1718 S. State St. The offender refused to take off her jewelry while being searched and attacked the officer, pulling her hair and trying to bite her. The officer struck the offender in the leg several times with a baton to get her to sit back down and placed her in handcuffs.

4 ‘I got some weed’

Police witnessed a 47-year-old man filling a brown cigar wrapper with a green leafy substance on Dec. 3, at 400 S. Plymouth Court. Police approached the man, who said, “I got some weed, so what, you can just throw it away and let me go.” Police did not agree. They arrested the man, searched him and found four plastic bags containing the same leafy substance.

Adler after Dark

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GAMES


HOROSCOPES




ARIES (March 21–April 20) Last-minute invitations may cause public confusion during the next several days. After Monday, expect friends or relatives to shift their plans and offer unique social explanations. Maintain a cheerful attitude, if possible: Complex emotional demands and rare romantic opportunities may be at issue. Go slow. Later this week, workplace politics will demand careful diplomacy. Younger or less experienced colleagues may soon unknowingly offer insults or misinformation: Stay balanced.




TAURUS (April 21–May 20) Financial promises may be briefly delayed this week by home repairs or late payments. Check facts and obligations thoroughly for hidden costs. After Wednesday, watch also for a long-term friend to offer controversial social or romantic advice. Key issues may involve private jealousies, revised agreements or complex social alliances. Remain detached: New relationships may be easily derailed. Later this week, avoid workplace power struggles or job disputes: No one will win.




GEMINI (May 21–June 21) A rare glimpse into a private social alliance may this week offer valuable information. Carefully study the recent comments or observations of loved ones. For many Geminis, the social behavior of a friend or lover may need to be honestly discussed. Set firm boundaries before taking action: Although confident, others may be waiting for guidance. After Wednesday, minor debts from the past may demand completion. Don't delay: Business and financial disputes will soon escalate.




CANCER (June 22–July 22) Business promises and new job assignments are easily proposed this week. Shared funding, land investments or property management may be a central concern. Some Cancerians may soon develop a secondary career interest. If so, expect vital job decisions and steady gains during the next eight weeks. Thursday through Saturday, a family member may wish to explore unusual home activities or expand their social network. Stay motivated: Your participation will be appreciated.




LEO (July 22–Aug. 22) Long-term relationships may now experience a brief but intense moment of decision. Competing values, sudden decisions or revised home expectations this week will require delicate diplomacy. Trust the inner voice and ask for added time: Careful consideration and slow progress may be the best response. After Tuesday, a workplace task may reveal unexpected information. Although motivated, a colleague may be incapable of completing a vital project. Wait for obvious signals.




VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) Romantic partners may this week express sultry overtures or issue delightful invitations. Creativity and renewed intimacy are now a powerful theme in key relationships: Use this time to allow deeper emotions and tender sentiments to rise to the surface. After midweek, an older relative or key official may demand a bold expression of public loyalty. Don't hesitate to offer your support and admiration: Difficult assignments or failed projects now need to be newly initiated. Stay active.




LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) An older business official may make an unusually ridiculous error this week. Missed deadlines, written documents and fast financial reversals are highlighted. Be empathetic: Your personal style and ability to subtly negotiate with others will be greatly appreciated. After midweek, loved ones may request subtle promises or private family information. Power struggles between relatives or friends will prove unproductive. Avoid public debate: Inappropriate loyalties may be demanded.




SCORPIO (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) During the next eight days, strained family relationships will steadily improve. Remain patient and watch for previously distant relatives to ask for greater involvement in your private life. Although motives are genuine, caution is best. Before Friday, social reactions are unpredictable: If possible, take extra time for quiet reflection. Thursday through Sunday, financial partnerships are highly favored. Home operated businesses and written agreements will soon create new pathways: Don't hesitate.




SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Private celebrations and event planning may be difficult this week. Late Monday, expect a friend or relative to provide misinformation, vague promises or inaccurate dates. Loved ones will rely heavily on your diplomacy and attention to detail: Ensure newly revised plans are acceptable to the group and all will be well. After Friday, many Sagittarians will begin a brief but intense phase of romantic decision. Trust your own instincts: Recent social behaviors may need to be challenged.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Home discussions may bring clarity this week to a strained relationship. After Tuesday, expect restless loved ones to outline revised family goals, new financial strategies and long-term social expectations. Recent career disappointments may be an underlying influence. Ask subtle but probing questions and much may be revealed. Romantic flirtation and friendly social invitations are accented later this week. Remain cautious, however: Minor triangles will soon be debated.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Loved ones may now challenge your family ideals, social announcements or planned group celebrations. Moodiness and introspection will, however, be temporary. Remain patient and watch for subtle permissions. After midweek, enjoy quiet activities or outdoor events with trusted friends: This week is an excellent time to establish improved social habits. Friday through Sunday, evaluate home budgets and daily family expenses, if possible: Small debts will demand quick resolution.



PISCES (Feb. 20–March 20) A recent wave of social intuition will now prove accurate. Pay special attention this week to sudden realizations, unexpected group dynamics and romantic observations of a trusted friend. For many Pisceans, love relationships will steadily deepen: Carefully examine the hints and rare announcements of loved ones. After midweek, important business or employment projects may require new leadership. Provide creativity and encouragement: Your suggestions are valid.

SUDOKU Level 4

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2			4	9			6	
				3				8

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Cistern
4 Jap. palanquin
8 Bind
12 Unclose
13 Title of Athena
14 Poetic foot
15 Beak
16 Friends (Scot.)
17 Grape syrup
18 Pac. island
20 Land west of Nod
22 Prod
25 Last of the Mohicans
28 Sage
31 Rubbish: Brit.
33 Wood sorrel
34 Revolutions per minute (abbr.)
35 Small flock
36 Luzon people
37 Father of Jehoshaphat
38 Pointed arch
39 And other: abbr. (2 words) (Lat.)

DOWN

1 Birthplace of Beethoven
2 Samoan port
3 Phil. island
4 Barking deer

40 Caribbean volcano
42 Cuff
44 New sugarcane shoot
46 Female vampire
50 Pub fare
52 End
55 Aid to Dependent Children (abbr.)
56 Victim of Cain
57 Frog genus
58 Council for Econ. Advisors (abbr.)
59 Indicating, in a way (suf.)
60 Greenland town
61 Possessed

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

P	U	P	A		R	H	E	E		R	N	A
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B	E	L		N	O	O	K		P	E	A	G

5 Caliph
6 Win
7 US dam
8 Extend
9 Mack
10 Ambassador (abbr.)
11 Public Broadcasting

Service (abbr.)
19 Wish undone
21 Fr. artist
23 Alcoholic drink
24 Roof edge
26 Things done
27 Hall (Ger.)
28 Swathe
29 _____ dixit
30 Grig (2 words)
32 Grope
35 Cavity (suf.)
39 Environmental Protection Agency (abbr.)
41 Ahead
43 Muslim deity
45 Monster
47 Speed-of-sound number
48 Fancy
49 Academy (abbr.)
50 Sheep's cry
51 Abate
53 Grain
54 Sayings (suf.)

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STAY IN



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All day
Columbia College Bookstore
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624 S. Michigan Ave., 1st floor

This week, the bookstore will be open to buy back textbooks and check in rental textbooks.

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Monday

12.12

The Singers Showcase

7 p.m.
Concert Hall
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6240
FREE



Tuesday

12.13

Blizzard Bash!

Noon
Quincy Wong Center for Artistic Expression
Wabash Campus Building
623 S. Wabash Ave.
kbutera@colum.edu
FREE



Wednesday

12.14

Entrepreneurship Club

5 p.m.
Blum Conference Room, Columbia Library
South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave.
blushwallets@yahoo.com
FREE



Friday

12.16

MIDI Concert

Noon
Concert Hall
1014 S. Michigan Ave.
(312) 369-6240
FREE



"Black Gossamer"

9 a.m.
Glass Curtain Gallery
Conaway Center
1104 S. Wabash Ave.
(312) 369-8177
FREE



film



music



columbia



holiday



theatre



art



literature

GET OUT



"A Christmas Carol"

2 p.m. and 8 p.m. // 12.17.11
Goodman Theatre
170 N. Dearborn St.



Chicago actor Larry Yando recreates his role as Scrooge in Tom Creamer's stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic tale of the true meaning of Christmas.

(312) 443-3800
\$25-\$80

Monday

12.12

Diego Garcia

8 p.m.
Schubas Tavern
3159 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 525-2508
\$12; 21+



Tuesday

12.13

"Penelope"

7:30 p.m.
Steppenwolf Theatre Company
1650 N. Halsted St.
(312) 335-1650
\$20-\$70



Wednesday

12.14

Idealist Record Release Show

7 p.m. - 10p.m.
Reggies
2105 - 2109 S. State St.
(815) 878-5943
FREE



Thursday

12.15

"Holiday Giggles"

7:30 p.m.
Portage Theater
4050 N. Milwaukee Ave.
(773) 736-4050
\$20 donation;
donations benefit 15 local charities



Friday

12.16

Christmas Sing-along and Double Feature

6:40 p.m.: "It's A Wonderful Life"
9:45 p.m.: "White Christmas"
Music Box Theatre
3733 N. Southport Ave.
(773) 871-6604
\$17-\$20 for double feature;
\$12-\$14 for one film



Saturday

12.17

"Jersey Shore: The Musical"

7:30 p.m.
Studio BE
3110 N. Sheffield Ave.
(773) 248-5900
\$22



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FORECAST

MONDAY



Some sun, then
clouds
High 40

MON. NIGHT



Mostly cloudy
Low 28

TUESDAY



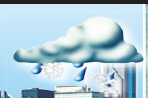
Times of clouds
and sun
High 40
Low 26

WEDNESDAY



Partly sunny
High 41
Low 34

THURSDAY



Rain and snow
possible
High 45
Low 30

FRIDAY



Mostly sunny
High 35
Low 16

SATURDAY



Partly sunny;
quite cold
High 24
Low 17

SUNDAY



A bit of ice in the
p.m.
High 26
Low 24