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Opinions: City considers ban on menthol smokes
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FALL 2013
15 WEEKS LEFT



THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 1

New president envisions Columbia's future

TYLER EAGLE
Campus Editor

IN HIS FIRST two months in office, President Kwang-Wu Kim has already spearheaded an offensive against some of Columbia's most pressing problems. He helped settle a 3-year contract battle between the college's part-time faculty union and the administration, initiated a search for Columbia's next provost and updated Columbia's slogan from "create change" to "redefining greatness."

Though he tackled various tasks during the summer, Kim still found time to set goals for the college.

Kim has made clear his plans to increase transparency, stabilize enrollment and enhance student-administration relations.

TRANSPARENCY

In an interview with The Chronicle, Kim said his plans include

a more open administration on campus. To achieve that, he said he will spend this year listening to the college community and building a plan to improve the college.

A major piece of Kim's plan is launching a new website that will allow him to more effectively communicate with the college community and redesigning his presidential suite in the 600 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

"We should be a community that builds trust because we talk to each other," Kim said. "I intend to do a lot more talking to people and listening to people. There has to be a lot more written communication from this office to the school."

According to Dayle Matchett, Kim's chief of staff, renovation plans for the presidential suite include the installation of glass panels, the removal of the office's keypad entry system and a gallery

» [SEE KIM](#), PG. 13



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

President Kwang-Wu Kim interacts with students Aug. 30 at Convocation, Columbia's welcoming event for incoming freshmen. Kim said he hopes to be more visible on campus, promote transparency and set the college on the road to greatness.

Kim fast tracks provost search

TYLER EAGLE
Campus Editor

NEW PRESIDENT KWANG-WU Kim kick-started the search for Columbia's next provost, the soon-to-be second highest position at the college, by appointing a 16-member search committee on Aug. 20.

The committee members, including co-chairs Kim and Onye Ozuzu, chair of the Dance Department, have signed confidentiality agreements, according to Kim. Members were chosen by various faculty representative organizations including the Chair's Council, Faculty Senate and P-Fac, Columbia's part-time faculty union, according to an Aug. 28 administrative email. The committee will be working with Isaacson, Miller, the same executive search firm that assisted the college during the presidential search process, the email stated.

Kim said finding a provost is one of his highest priorities.

"It's important that when I'm not here there is a clear indication of who is in charge, and I want that to be the [provost]," he said.

According to the email, finalists will visit the campus during either January or February 2014. Louise Love, who has been interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs since 2011, said she plans to retire after the provost is selected.

"It's the president's prerogative ... to want to choose his own provost because they are going to be working so closely together," Love said. "It's been assumed that when I took over as provost that the college would be doing a search when a new president was hired."

The new provost will assume control of current structures of the

» [SEE PROVOST](#), PG. 14

PROVOST SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kwang-Wu Kim
President and CEO
Co-chair of Provost Search Committee

Onye Ozuzu
Chair of Dance Department and co-chair of Provost Search Committee

Sheryl Ash
Vice president and director of Isaacson, Miller

Benjamin Tobin
Senior associate of Isaacson, Miller

Robin Bargar
Dean of School of Media Arts

Ken Daley
Chair of English Department

Dayle Matchett
Chief of Staff

Murphy Monroe
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Niki Nolin
Associate professor of Interactive Arts and Media

Ross Sawyers
Assistant professor in Photography Department

Jeff Schiff
English professor

Luke Crawford
Junior Marketing Communication and AEMM Major

David Valadez
Assistant vice president for Budget Management

Diana Vallera
P-Fac president and Adjunct faculty of Photography

Sharon Wilson-Taylor
Associate vice president and dean of students

Jessica Young
Associate professor of Creative Arts Therapies



Kayla Koch THE CHRONICLE

Safe Passage hits rocky road

KAITLIN LOUNSBERRY
Assistant Metro Editor

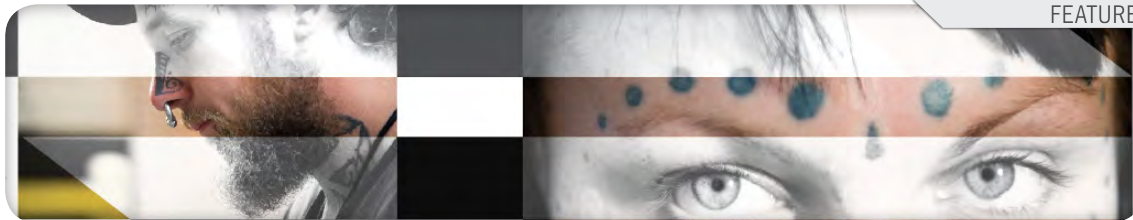
YELLOW SIGNS, NEON vests and a heavy police presence line the paths to many Chicago Public School buildings amid community concerns about the newly expanded Safe Passage program.

This year, CPS has expanded Safe Passage, which was introduced last year to 35 high schools and four elementary schools, to keep students safe as they pass through dangerous areas on their journey to and from school.

Some say the routes still aren't safe enough. An additional 53 routes and 600 workers have been added this year as a result of 50 school closings, according to Molly Poppe, CPS deputy press secretary.

"[Safe Passage workers] are our eyes and ears on the safe passage route, so they are the ones who can help those kids if they notice a

» [SEE SAFE](#), PG. 44



Crust punks coat Chicago's neighborhoods • PAGE 26



Open source experiments on rise • PAGE 19



Taylor Bennett releases mixtape • PAGE 23

Editor's note

by **Lindsey Woods**
Editor-in-Chief

New year, big changes

FOR COLUMBIA STUDENTS, the start of the new academic year begins today, Sept. 3. However, President Kwang-Wu Kim's workload commenced July 1.

Kim asserted his vision for the year long before the elevator lines formed in the 624 S. Michigan Ave. building and cigarette smoke clogged the lungs of pedestrians walking outside the University Center. During his short summer tenure, he has already taken action to resolve some of the college's most pressing issues and promised to be more transparent than that of his predecessor Warrick L. Carter.

During his first two months, Kim has managed to facilitate an end to more than three years of contentious and expensive negotiations between the administration and P-Fac, Columbia's part-time faculty union. He also assembled a search committee to implement his plan to find a strong provost, which the college needs. As a student, I am impressed with Kim's willingness to directly address long-standing issues. As an editor, I am excited to work with a president who has expressed his willingness to be more open with the press.

If his promise of candor is realized, it will allow The Chronicle to provide you, the readers, with more and better information.

Kim inherited an institution plagued by a profound lack of

transparency, which has bred a culture of distrust and disconnection between the administration and students. Most of the discourse between Carter and the students was cut off by his unwillingness to communicate and his secluded reputation. If Kim can remove the shroud of secrecy that surrounded the Carter administration, the college transform itself into the beautiful, collaborative and thriving community I know it can be.

I had the opportunity to sit down with Kim and his Chief of Staff Dayle Matchett, and both gave the impression that one of the president's primary goals is to reach out to the student body and be more visible and collaborative on campus, which is a great first step toward creating the openness we so desperately need.

Kim so far has shown his commitment to students, and I am provisionally optimistic that his actions and policies will continue in this vein as the year progresses.

Kim's other challenge will be prioritizing Columbia's problems. And yes, I used the dreaded P-word intentionally, for Kim has hinted at revisiting the prioritization process. He must, at some point, prove he's serious about addressing the college's declining enrollment, shrinking budget, rising tuition and empty administrative positions, all while promoting community optimism. It won't be easy.



To be fair, Columbia is a great college that has given me a myriad of educational opportunities, so to paint it as a model of institutional dysfunction is a bit extreme. Every college and university around the country is facing similar issues, the solutions to which are not simple. But as a community that prides itself on creativity, we need to focus on creating solutions to the many problems we're facing.

Kim's strong actions and words coupled with his inclination toward transparency will ideally bring about much-needed change at Columbia. Even though he's already replaced Columbia's motto "create change" with "redefining greatness," he's certainly still adhering to the former. I'm hopeful Kim will honor his commitment to transparency and continue to address Columbia's most pressing issues head-on.

lwoods@chroniclemail.com

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

As part of Weeks of Welcome, Shamis McGillin, a sophomore photography major, and Delaney Morris, sophomore arts, entertainment and media management major, gamble their winnings at the Aug. 29 Casino Royale event at The Conway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

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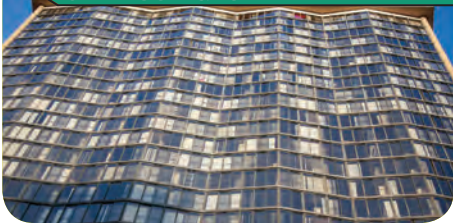
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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

At the Aug. 30 Convocation, an annual event held in Grant Park for new freshmen and transfer students to socialize, new students participate in the “Hell Yeah Liturgy” that Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, created seven years ago.

Convocation 2013 honors new students

**ALEXANDRA KUKULKA
& ALEXANDRA HARRELL**
Associate Editor & Contributing Writer

FOR THE FIRST time since its inception on Oct. 15, 1999, Convocation, an event aiming to immerse new students in the Columbia community, included a new and separate celebration for honors students.

Honor Student Convocation, held Aug. 29 in Film Row Cinema, gave those enrolled a chance to meet with the program’s faculty, staff and fellow honors students, according to Andrew Whatley, assistant dean for the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences and associate director of the Honors Program.

“We felt the need to develop out-of-class opportunities for honors students to meet each other and interact with each other,” Whatley said. “We never really tried to get them all in the same place together, so this year seemed a good time to start and try something like that.”

The event commenced with a brief speech from President Kwang-Wu Kim, who thanked the students for stepping up to the challenge of honors courses while encouraging them to still get involved in other groups on campus.

“Although I am really excited about the idea that one of your communities at Columbia is going to be amongst yourselves as honor stu-

dents, please don’t limit yourselves to only thinking of this as your community,” Kim said. “We want you to be members of many communities.”

The event also included a panel which consisted of Elizabeth Davis-Berg, assistant professor in the Science and Mathematics Department; Michael Lawrence, professor in the First-Year Seminar Department; Evan Paeth, a senior arts, entertainment media management major; and Anna Wolfe, a junior theater major.

The panel covered a range of topics from the honors experience to the typical workload—during and after class—of an honors course.

Wolfe said through the honors program she was able to understand the meaning behind her artistic expression via a more rigorous academic experience.

“Through taking classes with other students who are extremely interested in the academic portion of Columbia as well as the artistic portion, I have found a deeper understanding of things that influence my ideas of art and theater,” Wolfe said.

Honors coursework is different from a regular course in that it allows students to dig deeper into the subject area of the class, according to Davis-Berg. For example, in *The Evolution of Sex*, an honors course Davis-Berg teaches, students read

the studies that are cited in the textbook to understand where the information came from.

“[An honors class] is not more work in the sense of more time but a different kind of engagement and different kind of work,” Lawrence said.

The event ended with a chance for honors students to socialize and bond over food.

Cienna Thorndill, a freshman fashion business major, said the event was informative and she appreciated hearing Kim speak to the students.

“What Dr. Kim said about not defining yourself by one thing that you do stuck with me,” Thorndill said.

Both Honors Student Convocation and New Student Convocation embraced Columbia’s message of community and diversity.

According to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, Convocation has grown from a formal and “stiff” event held in the Congress Hotel to a coming together of the college community in Grant Park.

This year’s event was similar to past convocations, including speeches, food and time for new students to meet and gather information regarding all organizations, departments and offices that pertain to on-campus student life, Kelly said.

The biggest difference this year

was Kim’s first Convocation speech, Kelly said.

Kim also spoke at a Faculty and Staff Convocation held Aug. 26 in Film Row Cinema. During the event, Kim announced a new slogan for the college—“redefining greatness”—while sharing his plans for the year ahead and describing his perception of Columbia.

“I hope you will not think of today as the one time the president chooses to interact in this manner,” Kim said. “This hopefully will just be the beginning of ongoing interaction and communication.”

New Student Convocation included speeches from Kim, Kelly, Tanisha Pina, a senior marketing communication major and president of the Student Programming Board; Nicole Carroll, a junior creative writing major and president of the Student Government Association; Peter Carpenter, associate professor in the Dance Department and Faculty Senate president; and Louise Love, interim provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

Freshmen, transfer students and new international students all gathered in the 92-degree heat to listen to the speakers.

While they cheered for each speaker, nothing pumped up the crowd more than Kelly’s memorable “Hell Yeah Liturgy,” where he highlights the nine pillars of

student success using a call and response approach.

This year, he added a new pillar that he called “share,” which encouraged students to take their talents and “impose” them on the city.

“Your job is to get out into the Chicago community,” Kelly said. “You are to infect Chicago with your passion for arts and media.”

After listening to Kelly speak, Alec Silver, a freshman theater major, said he felt inspired to take advantage of everything Columbia offers. However, he said he had one problem with the event.

“Unfortunately, I was pretty far away to hear, so I missed most of [the speakers],” Silver said. “But the part where we were going ‘hell yeah,’ it just invigorated a spark in me that will not be quenched in my time here.”

Shanice Allen, a transfer film & video student from the University of South Australia, said she chose to come to Columbia “straight away” after watching YouTube videos of previous Convocations.

Even though she found the heat unbearable, Allen said Convocation lived up to her expectations.

“The message is really awesome, ‘Live what you love,’ and that’s what I’m doing,” Allen said.

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No takers for gender-inclusive housing option

KATHERINE DAVIS
Assistant Campus Editor

FOR THE FIRST time in Columbia's history, Residence Life advertised gender-inclusive housing options for the upcoming fall semester, but not a single student applied, according to Sharon Wilson-Taylor, associate vice president and Dean of Students.

Residence Life communicated the option to students through a June 28 email sent to their Loop accounts. It explained that if students identify as transgender or gender variant, there would be alternate housing options available in the 777 S. State St. residence hall on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students were asked to indicate interest to Residence Life two or three weeks before school started. However, because no students responded to the email, the rooms are now available to all students, Wilson-Taylor said.

Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, said Residence Life plans to publicize this option earlier next year and hopes to generate interest by adding information to Columbia's website.

As of press time, Residence Life had not returned various requests for comment.

"[This has] been a good reason for us to reflect back and really do a bet-

ter job making sure our students are informed," Sommers said. "We're happy to do this work and it's our responsibility to do a better job of communicating about that."

According to Wilson-Taylor, Columbia has always offered gender-inclusive housing to students but has not publicized it until now. Although she said she is unsure of the reason why it hasn't been publicized, she added it could just be a result of more accepting times. She said, in previous years, it was available on a case-by-case basis to students who inquired about alternate housing options.

J.M. Conway, the coordinator of the LGBTQ Office of Culture and Community, said students who request gender-inclusive housing would be provided with a comfortable living arrangement that allows students of different gender identities to live together.

According to Sebastian Spiegel, a senior film and video major and president of Common Ground, Columbia's LGBTQ student organization, students in the past have expressed confusion about gender-inclusive rooms being an option.

Spiegel said he was assigned an uncomfortable living situation his freshman year when he lived in the University Center.

"I was not informed of any kind of optioning for housing and later



Jon Durr THE CHRONICLE

No students applied for gender-inclusive housing options in the 777 S. State St. residence hall, so the rooms were put back into the general pool of dorms.

was told [by Columbia] that there weren't any options," Spiegel said.

Spiegel said he is dissatisfied with Columbia's efforts to advertise gender-inclusive housing options this year and said he believes the lack of information could hinder student participation.

"Students don't know where to go to ask for these things," Spiegel said. "[Columbia] really needs

to make this more public and actually have it as an option that is explicitly stated."

Sommers said although the gender-inclusive rooms have already been put back into the general pool of available dorms, students can still request a gender-inclusive room, and accommodations will be made to put them in a room where they feel comfortable.

"Columbia cares about each and every student and making sure that our students have the best, most positive experience there is," Sommers said. "Within our means and resources, we will always make every effort to make sure that we're able to accommodate our students' needs."

» SEE HOUSING, PG. 14

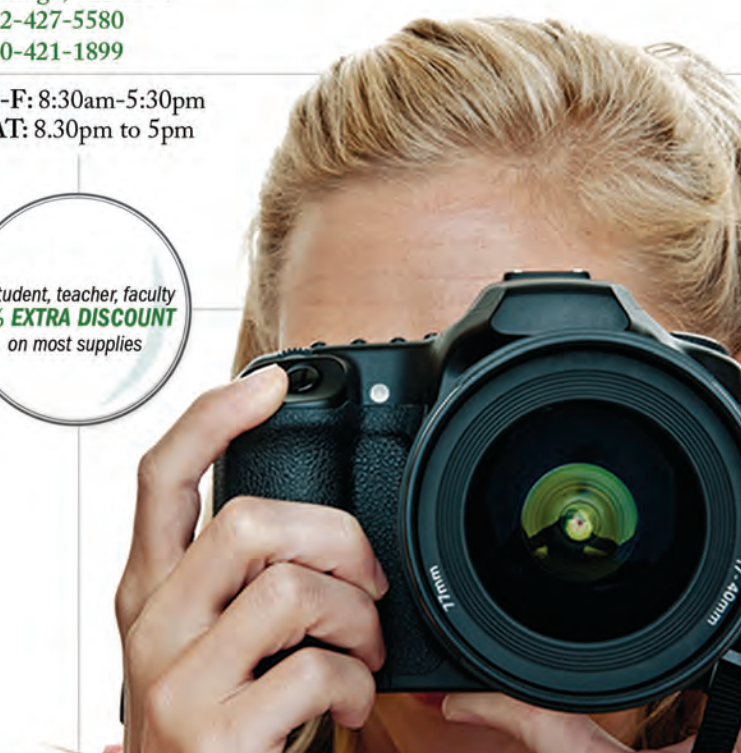
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High-fiber field

Bike lot closes to create space for the expansion of Papermaker's Garden

JACOB WITTICH
Assistant Campus Editor

COLUMBIA'S BIKE LOT officially closed Aug. 2 to accommodate the expansion of the student-run Papermaker's Garden, 750 S. Wabash Ave., a site where plants are grown that can be used as fibers and materials for hand papermaking.

The garden opened in June 2012 with five plant beds. After the expansion, due for completion by Sept. 18, there will be room for 18 beds, according to Melissa Potter, assistant professor and program director of the Interdisciplinary Book and Paper Arts MFA Program.

"The garden is expanding so it is not just a place where hand paper-

making is going to take place but also a place where gardening is a form of community involvement," Potter said.

To increase community participation, expansion design plans will designate an area for live performances, Potter said.

The expansion will also provide opportunities for other Columbia classes and departments to plant and run programs in the garden if they wish, she added.

"The garden is intended to be a space where we can grow plants and where we can engage with the rest of the school," Potter said. "I think 'interdisciplinary' is a great

word to describe what we're doing."

According to Alicia Berg, vice president of Campus Environment, money for the expansion is coming from college funds, although she declined to specify which funds or how much.

To replace the lost bicycle parking, the college is working with the city to install bike racks around the campus, Berg said.

As reported October 10, 2011, by The Chronicle, the bike lot was underutilized when it first opened.

The space could accommodate 125-150 bikes, but it often only contained a few, according to April Sheridan, studio technician and special projects coordinator for the Center for Book and Paper Arts.

"The lot wasn't as heavily used as the college expected," Sheridan said. "I parked there sometimes and was the only bike there. It's the same with everything else on campus: If you don't use it, then you might lose it."

According to Alex Borgen, a graduate student in the Interdisciplinary MFA Book and Paper Arts Program and founder of the Papermaker's Garden, the bike lot and the Papermaker's Garden were put in the same space because the Center wanted to start small as a pilot.

The Center for Book and Paper Arts always planned to find a larger space and expand the garden at a later date if it proved successful, Borgen added.

The original expansion plan was to incorporate the bike lot into the

garden's space, Potter said.

However, administrators decided not to include the bike lot, leaving the college's population of bikers with no campus-owned facility to park their rides, Borgen said.

"It sucks that the bike lot closed down," junior audio arts and acoustics major Nick Patel said. "It's probably going to be a pain to find a place to park my bike. All of the bike racks around the Loop area are always full because there are only like two."

No bicycles were still parked in the lot when it officially closed Aug. 2, Berg said.

"I think that there are opportunities for the students to talk to the school and to show that they are a critical mass and get the support that they need to have safe places for their bikes," Potter said.

Located at the corner of Wabash Avenue and 8th Street, the garden is the center of the Wabash Arts Corridor initiative, a plan to cover the stretch of Wabash Avenue between Congress and Roosevelt with public art from the college.

According to Potter, the garden is going to be a major part of this year's WAC Crawl Sept. 18.

Berg would not disclose what events will take place in the garden during the WAC Crawl, but she said there would be members of the Center for Book and Paper Arts there to lead an activity and describe uses for the Papermaker's Garden.



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE
Enlarging of the Papermaker's Garden, 750 S. Wabash Ave., began Aug. 2. The construction marked the official closure of the college's student bike lot.

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SOMEONE YOU SHOULD

KNOW

Matchett named new chief of staff

TATIANA WALK-MORRIS

Assistant Campus Editor

SITTING IN THE corner of the crowded, noisy Starbucks was Dayle Matchett, who came to Columbia from Arizona State University with President Kwang-Wu Kim. Kim's chief of staff wasn't drinking coffee or tea but described herself as "an equal opportunity consumer of caffeine."

Matchett and Kim worked together for more than seven years at ASU and were also colleagues at Bard College's Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass. from 2003 to 2006.

Since Kim named her as his chief of staff July 19, Matchett has made it a priority to introduce the president to faculty, staff and students as well as search for new administrators, including a provost, chief financial officer and vice president of Institutional Advancement. During her tenure at the Longy School of Music, Matchett served as the director of Individual Giving and helped secure financial support for the college.

Her work as a bassoon player and administrator helped her better understand the experiences of an arts student and how to help them find success in careers after college, she said.

Matchett sat down with The Chronicle Aug. 23 and discussed her plans to integrate Kim into the Columbia community, explained why people don't call her by her birth name and gave us a peek inside her life as a bassoon player-turned higher education executive.

THE CHRONICLE: Is there a reason that you prefer to be called Dayle rather than your birth name?

MATCHETT: My given name is Jessica. For some reason, my middle name caught on with friends and was sort of gender ambiguous. One of the challenges sometimes in the arts you deal with a little of sexism at play, so going by my middle name helped me with my music.

Can you elaborate?

In classical music, which is my background, you audition behind a screen so the auditioning committee doesn't know your gender. And the whole idea is to prevent some of those issues of the past. They do see your name. For whatever reason, Dayle is sort of an ambiguous name. It just sort of caught on because my friends called me that.

Why did you choose to learn to play bassoon?



Jon Durr THE CHRONICLE

Dayle Matchett, who was appointed Chief of Staff on July 19, began working with President Kwang-Wu Kim 11 years ago at Bard College's Longy School of Music. She worked with Kim to raise funds for both Arizona State University and Longy School of Music.

I actually really wanted to play the tenor saxophone when I was in fourth grade, but my music director was from a certain generation. He wanted me to play the flute because he wanted girls to play the flute.

I started playing the bassoon at a music festival I was at one summer. I sort of fell in love with it. You know [people] talk about love at first sight. This was love at first sound. That was the instrument for me. It just had that rich tenor baritone sound that I just loved.

What advice can you give students at Columbia who are very involved in their studies but don't necessarily know the business aspect of the arts?

One of the things I find so intriguing about Columbia is there's actually a fairly robust business of the arts in our Arts, Entertainment and Media Management program. I think one of the great things about being a student here is that you have the opportunity to take advantage of classes like that. It's easy to get on track.

One of the things [Kim] is really looking forward to working with the provost on and our faculty leadership is this idea of 'What is the outcome of a Columbia degree?' 'How are we supporting our students to land their first professional opportunity?'

And so part of that is looking at

our curriculum and thinking about classes like the business aspect of [the arts].

I noticed you switched from studying music to being an administrator back at the Longy School. Why the change?

So right around that time I was playing professionally, I became increasingly interested in why the arts matter [and] the role of the arts in our society. I became more interested in the audience than being on stage. Even though I had really extensive training, ultimately, they never teach you why. Why do we do this?

I really wanted to work with a thought-leader that was sort of examining creative practice in education to help us answer that question. I was looking for that thought-leader, and that's when I discovered Longy School, and then President Kim started [working] there.

What was your first impression of Columbia?

I think it's a really vibrant community. It's interesting because I started July 15, so no students are really around in the summer.

There is great commitment on behalf of our faculty to help our students be successful and I think there's a lot of process behind that President Kim is looking forward to addressing.

What will your job as Columbia's chief of staff entail?

I serve as a catalyst for follow-up and follow-through from the president's office.

So much of my work focuses on helping President Kim be out of the office, working on our campus, working on our community [and] supporting our advancement team as well as the president's fundraising work. If he's in a meeting and suggests an idea, I'm part of a team that makes that happen. It's really exciting.

What sort of plans do you have so far?

One of the things President Kim is very focused on is being a very student-centered president, which seems like a very obvious thing for a president, right? That's something he's really committed to. One of the things he's been talking about this year is his vision for Columbia.

One concept he's been talking about is this idea of redefining greatness. What does greatness look like? What has been your experience at Columbia to date? We're thinking about setting presidential student office hours where students can come and talk with the president about what's on [their] mind.

I think our biggest project right now that I'm focused on as chief of is staff is co-chairing with

Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly on the president's transition team.

So this is a group of nine or 10 people who are helping us identify who our principle constituents are and people that President Kim needs to meet in his very first year to ultimately help advance Columbia. For example, we're identifying some of the new energy and momentum at Columbia.

So are you saying you are helping the president become more acclimated to Columbia and figure out how he can become known to the student body?

It's very easy for any sort of senior leader to be in their office all day addressing problems. Not that we have that many problems at Columbia, but you can imagine, right?

And if his whole day is nothing but him in his office—while there may be some days like that—Columbia won't advance and he'll miss what makes this place so special, which is engaging with our students and our faculty. I'm part of helping him [keep] that balance.

What is your relationship like with Kwang-Wu Kim?

I've worked with Kim at three institutions now and I worked for him for about 11 years, but I've known him for about 13. I would say he leads by example. He never asks anybody to do anything he wouldn't do himself.

It's really exciting to work for someone who walks their talk, really has a very clear idea about why creative practice matters in our world, is altruistic and [is] helping our next generation advance.

It really helps you stay engaged and excited and committed about your own work when you know you're working behind somebody like that.

Is there anything you'd like to add that you think our readers should know?

Just that the president's office is committed to open engagement with our students and that you should feel free to reach out however you see fit. We'll do our best to respond. I think that's really important. This is the office—the individual—that's helping to set the vision for the school. In order to have a really authentic vision, he has to be connected to the people who are actually experiencing Columbia.

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Columbia alumni star in 'The Color Purple'

TATIANA WALK-MORRIS

Assistant Campus Editor

FOLLOWING A NIGHT of laughter, ballads and raw emotion, a clutch of Columbia alumni faced a Chicago audience that was bursting into thunderous applause.

Five of the 15 cast members in Mercury Theater's musical production of "The Color Purple" are Columbia alums: Ninah Snipes (2010) as Squeak; Carrie Louise Abernathy (1997) as Doris; Travis Porchia (2009) as both Buster and Gravy; Crystal Corinne Wood (2012) as Nettie; and Cortez Johnson (1990) as Ol' Mister, Pa and Chief.

"The Color Purple: The Musical About Love" is a stage adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel that chronicles a southern black woman's hardships spanning from 1910 to the 1940s.

The show opened Aug. 26 and will run until Oct. 27 at Mercury Theater, 3745 N. Southport Ave. Porchia said it was challenging to play two roles in the show, but ultimately it showcased his range as an actor.

"[Playing two characters] has its challenges [but] it's fun," Porchia said. "On a performance level, it shows the audience—if done well—that I can do a variety of characters.



Courtesy THE MERCURY THEATER

Columbia alumna Ninah Snipes (far left) smiles up as she plays Squeak in the Aug. 28 performance of "The Color Purple" on Thursday evening at the Mercury Theater at 3745 N. Southport Ave. Frances Maggio, associate professor in the Theater Department, designed costumes for the entire cast.

It's not just the same person with different costumes on."

The alumni said their Columbia education prepared them for their theater careers. Snipes plays Squeak, a woman named for her high-pitched voice who is the feisty girlfriend of Ol' Mister's son, Harpo. She said Will Casey, adjunct faculty member in the Theatre Depart-

ment and college adviser, was the instructor who gave her voice lessons, taught her to stay true to her character and instilled valuable life skills.

"I just loved that he was able to really provide me with not only good teaching but more so with life learning experiences and with my craft," Snipes said. "[Casey taught

me] to be true to my character [and] for whatever role it may be, listen to your character's voice."

Frances Maggio, associate professor in the Theatre Department, served as costume designer for the production. Maggio said picking the right clothing required additional research because fashion changed between 1910 and

1940, which is when the narrative takes place. Some of the costumes featured in the play are from Columbia's Theatre Department.

Maggio designed the other outfits to reflect the characters' circumstances or state of mind in each scene, she said.

"When you design, you want to read the script and listen to the music so that your clothing matches the style of the show," Maggio said. "Because [Celie] makes 'Ms. Celie's Pants,' I wanted to make sure that the fabrics and the designs of that scene matched the joy that she has in her life at that point."

Deanne Zepeda, an attendee of the Aug. 28 show, said she enjoyed the performance but noticed the differences between the play and Steven Spielberg's 1985 film adaptation. Certain characters in the play, such as Sophia and the church-going women, added comic relief to the story, she added.

"I think [the performance] went very well [because the cast has] amazing voices," Zepeda said. "I think it was different from the movie ... [The play] went more in-depth with some things."

For upcoming show times, ticket prices and additional information, visit MercuryTheaterChicago.com.

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Columbia receives \$4.8 million grant from state funding

JACOB WITTICH

Assistant Campus Editor

GOV. PAT QUINN awarded Columbia \$4.8 million July 31 to reimburse the college for previously completed construction projects, thus allowing it to move forward with new projects.

The money comes from the Illinois Jobs Now! program, an initiative to reduce unemployment rates by creating construction jobs using state money, according to a July 31 Illinois Government News Network press release.

The funds will also reduce the amount of money the state still owes Columbia under the Independent Colleges Capital Program (ICCAP), which awards state money to Chicago-area private colleges and universities, said Vice President of Business Affairs and Controller Kevin Doherty.

According to Doherty, the state could pay Columbia \$13 million in ICCAP grants if funds are authorized to cover the amount owed to the college.

So far, the college has received \$3.8 million, he said.

However, the college has yet to receive payment of the \$4.8 million, but is scheduled to receive it soon, according to Doherty.

“The state has been making payments over time,” vice president of campus environment Alicia Berg said. “We may or may not ever get the full amount just because of the state’s fiscal situation.”

After this grant, the state will still owe Columbia roughly \$4.4 million, according to Doherty.

“We had to identify projects back in 2010 [that we would complete], but the college already completed all those projects, so we’re getting reimbursed for those, and then we are proposing to improve our student learning environment and increase energy efficiency,” Berg said.

Columbia was among 27 private colleges and universities in Chicago to receive a grant from Illinois Jobs Now! as reported Aug. 1 by The Chronicle.

Other Chicago institutions re-



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

Gov. Pat Quinn announced \$54.8 million in grant funding to be distributed among Chicago-area private colleges and universities July 31 at the Conaway Center.

ceiving grants from the state are DePaul University with \$7.8 million to construct a new academic building and Loyola Univer-

sity of Chicago with \$5.7 million for the Mundelein Center, according to a July 31 press release from the Illinois Government News Network.

Grants from the Illinois Jobs Now! also went to Roosevelt University with \$2.9 million, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, with \$1.4 million and the University of Chicago, with \$4.4 million, according to the press release.

It is still undecided what proj-

ects Columbia will complete using the grant money, which will not be approved until September, Berg said.

“The college is so pleased that Gov. Quinn and our legislatures have continued to make payments on this commitment because we absolutely can make good use of [the grant money] and we intend to,” Berg said.

jwittich@chroniclemail.com

“We may or may not ever get the full amount just because of the state’s fiscal situation.”

– Alicia Berg

FIRST YEAR GROUP ADVISING



FIRST YEAR GROUP ADVISING

Group advising sessions cover essential information for all first-year students to help you get ready for spring registration and start creating your academic plan at Columbia.

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- + Have a better idea of what classes to register for next semester.

TO SCHEDULE YOUR GROUP ADVISING SESSION CONTACT:

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WEEKS OF WELCOME FALL 2013

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

B96 CAMPUS INVASION | September 3, 10:00am-2:00pm

CBS Radio Chicago's B69 stops by campus, and they come bearing gifts. Jam out to a live DJ set and try your luck to win IKEA prizes, Kindles and more.

COMMUTER CRUSH | September 3, 12:30PM-2:00PM

Grab lunch, gain ridiculous amounts of information, and meet other real-life commuters. So you're one of us? Perfect, we'll see you there. (916 S. Wabash, The Loft)

RESUME WALK-IN HOURS | September 3, 2:00pm-5:00pm

Pop into one of Columbia's awesome resource centers and whip your resume into shape. (The Portfolio Center, 623 S. Wabash Ave, Suite 307)

BOOT CAMP | September 3, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Are you tough, military tough? This is a high intensity exercise class geared to kick your fitness level into the next stratosphere. This class is not for beginners or novices. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

ZUMBA | September 3, 5:00pm-6:00pm

"Ditch the workout and join the party!" Zumba is a fun and exhilarating dance cardio class set to Latin rhythms. Improve your moves while shaping your hips, midsection and butt. All fitness levels are welcome to participate. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

ASIANATATION: PART II | September 3, 5:30pm-9:00pm

Join the Asian Student Organization (ASO) for a fun mixer followed by a quick El ride to Chinatown. We'll show you our favorite neighborhood spots and grab some delicious food and bubble tea. (Bring money for food/drinks.) (Meet at 618 S. Michigan Ave, 4th Floor)

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2013

COLUMBIA WORKS WALK-IN HOURS | September 4, 10am-10:45am & 11am-11:45am

Want to know how to get a job on and off campus? Come on in to chat and find out. (Portfolio Center, 623 S. Wabash Ave, Suite 307)

C4CYCLING BIKE TUNE UP | September 4, 2:00pm-4:00pm

C4Cycling delivers bike tune-ups, from chain lub to wheel truing and everything betwixt. Peddle on over and freshen up your ride. (623 S. Wabash Ave.)

CORE MAT CLASSES | September 4, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Core Mat is a full body exercise class using Pilates, yoga and calisthenics that focuses on strengthening the midsection, hips and butt in every exercise. Shape your body, improve balance and have fun in this class geared to every fitness level. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

WAYS OF WELLNESS | September 4, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Take some time during this period of transition to focus on how to maximize your physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being as you begin your academic year. This is an opportunity to learn how to reduce stress, improve energy, and foster a body-mind balance. (624 S. Michigan Ave, Room 1106)

STREET DEFENSE | September 4, 4:30pm-6:00pm

Learn how to repel an attack at various levels of force. This class will develop self-confidence, discipline and peace of mind. No prior martial arts experience is necessary. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

HAPPY HOUR: PLAY WITH ART | September 4, 5:00pm-6:00pm

Enjoy the last of Chicago's summer in Grant park and create art with others! This is a lovely time to meet and play with new people through dance, music, and art making in the fresh air. (Meet at 623 S. Wabash Ave, Lobby)

YOGA | September 4, 7:30pm-8:30pm

Whether it's your first yoga class or you're a seasoned pro, you'll enjoy this restorative mind/body class. Develop balance in your life; Namaste. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

CORE MAT CLASSES | September 3, 3:00pm-4:00pm

Core Mat is a full body exercise class using Pilates, yoga and calisthenics that focuses on strengthening the midsection, hips and butt in every exercise. Shape your body, improve balance and have fun in this class geared to every fitness level. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

BIG MOUTH | September 3, 6:00pm-9:00pm

Calling all comedians, singer-song writers, poets, dancers, musicians and performers: It's the 1st Big Mouth of the year and all genres and styles of talent are welcome to sign up for the chance to perform. If you don't want to perform, be sure to come and check out all the talent that is Columbia. (Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave, 1st Floor)

CHICAGO SUMMERDANCE: LATIN, SAMBA | September 3, 6:00pm-9:30pm

Take a walk to Columbia's campus's backyard and learn a whole new set of moves to show off all year long. (Meet at The Court, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2013

FIELD DAY | September 6, Noon-5:00pm

This day is an opportunity for students to meet new friends, reconnect with old friends, utilizes their competitive juices to start the semester on a healthy active note. We'll play softball, flag football, sand volleyball, kickball for those looking for group activities. We will meet at the fitness center at 731 S. Plymouth Ct. at 11:30pm and proceed to Grant Park. (Meet at the Fitness Center, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

PILSEN NEIGHBORHOOD TRIP | September 6, 3:00pm-7:00pm

Latino Alliance guides first-year students on a tour of the Pilsen neighborhood. Check out one of Chicago's great Latino neighborhoods. Makes a stop at the National Museum of Mexican Art (the only museum of its kind in the entire country; free admission) and then dinner at an authentic restaurant. Bring your U-Pass and a few chavos for the meal. (Meet at 618 S Michigan Ave, 4th Floor)

YOGA | September 6, 4:00pm-5:00pm

Whether it's your first yoga class or you're a seasoned pro, you'll enjoy this restorative mind/body class. Develop balance in your life; Namaste. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

STREET DEFENSE | September 6, 4:30pm-6:00pm

Learn how to repel an attack at various levels of force. This class will develop self-confidence, discipline and peace of mind. No prior martial arts experience is necessary. (Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

VIDEO DANCE PARTY | September 6, 8:00pm-11:00pm

Grab some glow, a treat from the candy bar and dance the night away in celebration of a successful 1st week of classes! (Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave, 1st Floor)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

ANDERSONVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR | September 7, 10:30am-3:00pm

Check out the independent bookstore, Women & Children First, grab some rad finds from the Brown Elephant, check out the strangest store in Chicago, the Woolly Mammoth, and enjoy the pleasant streets of Andersonville. (Meet at The Court, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

KAYAKING TRIP | September 7, Noon-4:00pm / 3:00pm-7:00pm

Get to know the city from a fresh angle, spend an early evening kayaking down the glorious Chicago River. (Meet at the Fitness Studio, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

NEW YEAR, QUEER RETREAT | September 7, 10:00am-5:00pm

Join us as we get to know future best friends, life-partner(s) and co-note takers during this day-long retreat. We're jam- packing this day with food, team building activities, informative trainings and break-out conversations about Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender and Queer identities and experiences at Columbia. (Meet at 618 S. Michigan Ave, 4th Floor)

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2013

LOGAN SQUARE FARMER'S MARKET NEIGHBORHOOD TRIP | September 8, 11:00am-2:00pm

Get your fill of organic, homegrown, DIY goods at Logan Square's local farmer's market. (Meet at The Court, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

CHICAGO SUMMERDANCE: BALLROOM | September 8, 5:30pm-9:00pm

Take a walk to Columbia's campus's backyard and learn a whole new set of moves to show off all year long. (Meet at The Court, 731 S. Plymouth Ct, 1st Floor)

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2013

POSTER SALE | September 9-11, 9:00am-5:00pm

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FEATURED ARTIST



HELIZ MAZOURI

Journalism alumna



Photos courtesy HELIZ MAZOURI

Heliz Mazouri, a 2012 alumna, used her journalism education to land a job as the social media editor for a Kurdish news organization in Erbil, Iraq. She recently returned to Chicago to look for a job.

JENNIFER WOLAN

Social Media Editor

AFTER HELIZ MAZOURI graduated from Columbia in spring 2012, she went to Iraq to spend time with her father. The journalism alumna soon landed a job in her field of study.

Mazouri stumbled upon an advertisement for Rudaw, a Kurdish news organization with an English website based in Erbil, Iraq. Mazouri's fluency in English and Kurdish, the local language, coupled with her journalism skills made her

the prime candidate for the job of social media editor. After working to attract more than 2,000 followers on @RudawEnglish Twitter handle, her time in Iraq ended. But Mazouri brought her social media experience back to Chicago.

THE CHRONICLE: Did you work somewhere before Rudaw?

HELIZ MAZOURI: No, I had just graduated. I planned this trip to Iraq that fall. It was post-college and I thought it would be the best time

to go back and visit my father, who works there. I saw the advertisement for Rudaw looking to hire, and I thought this would be a really great opportunity to get a job overseas.

What were your goals going into the new position?

At the time, Rudaw was strictly a Kurdish newspaper and website, and they had a small English website as well. So they really wanted to ramp up social media and get the word out about their English

website because they were about to launch a big media [presence].

What qualified you for the social media editor position?

I myself am Kurdish, and my family is from Iraq. I'm first generation and that was my first visit to Iraq. I went in thinking, "This is what I went to school for." I really wanted to do this, and they were excited to see a Kurdish-American who wanted to come work for them and get experience from them.

Currently, what aspirations do you have for your writing?

I'm applying for my master's degree to see if I can go that route. What I noticed from a lot of other foreign reporters in the UK and Amsterdam is that they all had their master's degrees or are in the process of working on their master's. I thought, "Maybe that is what I should do as well. Maybe a master's degree will ramp up not only my experience, but also my networking, and it will help me if I look into a future in international reporting."

What was one of the hardest parts of running social media?

A difficult part of it was gaining a lot of Western followers. I think it is difficult to begin with because there was not a lot of knowledge in the area when I was living in Kurdistan. In the West, not a lot of people have, unless they really follow the news, heard of Kurdistan. Gaining followers and assuring your co-workers that this is getting out to everybody and is being tweeted and Facebook statuses are being seen is pretty tough. Just because they don't have a lot of thumbs up doesn't mean it's not working. Another aspect that was difficult was that Iraqis are not specifically familiar with Twitter.

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AMERICAN

Ham, Salami, Bologna, American and Swiss Cheese

» **KIM**

Continued from Front Page

showcasing student and faculty work in the suite's main lobby.

"[These changes] allow us to tell the story of our students and faculty when we have visitors and allows us to promote the institution," Matchett said. "It's an important message and a very simple, but powerful, metaphor for what Dr. Kim is trying to do at Columbia."

Stephen DeSantis, director of academic initiatives in Academic Affairs, is in charge of the redesign and plans to complete it by Sept. 18, in time for the Wabash Arts Crawl, Columbia's community art fair that highlights student and faculty work. Part of his job is to help coordinate which pieces of work will be chosen from the college's collection, he said.

According to DeSantis, the idea for the student gallery in the president's office is in part based on a similar project completed in the provost's office. Kim saw the design and liked the idea, DeSantis said.

The gallery will have an interdisciplinary theme, drawing work from various expressive mediums, DeSantis said. In addition to traditional artwork like photography and illustration, text-based work will also be integrated, he said.

"One of the most important things we can be doing is not only crafting how people outside of Columbia view the school but also showing them the work our students are doing and how they will go on to be successful artists," DeSantis said.

REDEFINING GREATNESS

Kim has changed the college's most recognizable tagline, which has been Columbia's slogan since 2004.

The desire to transform the motto from "create change" to "redefining greatness" came from the perception that "create change" does not tell people anything specific about Columbia, Kim said. Any school in the country could have the same motto, he added.

"[Create change] is not a really strong value statement," Kim said. "I like statements that are really bold and force people to ask, 'What are you talking about?'"

According to Kim, "redefining greatness" is a model centered around results, particularly the work students create. Kim said the college's greatness is more about value, specifically the college's dedication to its students and student-created work.

John Green, interim dean of the School of Performing Arts, said he appreciates the new slogan because of its focus on students.

"I think it's a bold move and it's indicative of the support he is going to provide us," Green said. "We want to attract students that want to be great and are confident that we can provide them with the tools to be great."

THE FUTURE OF PRIORITIZATION

Kim said he plans to review recommendations resulting from the prioritization process, which elicited suggestions for the college's future, some of which included phasing out the college's nationally ranked cultural studies program.

Some recommendations from the process will stand, but some lost their applicability in the years since prioritization began, Kim said, adding that he plans to engage the college's faculty to determine more timely ideas, he said.

"I'm going to build on top of it, not ignore it," Kim said. "I'm not going to assume that the things discussed with prioritization are still relevant because three years is a long time."

Green, who served on the academic team that contributed suggestions during prioritization, said he is pleased Kim plans to review the recommendations and implement the ones he finds most beneficial.

"Good ideas came from [prioritization], but there is no way we can implement all of those recommendations," Green said. "I applaud the president that he isn't going to take us through the process again but analyze the best ideas that came from it."

ADMISSIONS

Kim said the college's admissions policies are in transition and that balancing being elite and open is a hard task.

According to Kim, the college is exploring indicators that may better identify which students will succeed at Columbia. He said while the college stands behind access and diversity, the school wants to admit students that have the "creative potential to succeed."

"I want the school to remain open to the broadest range possible, but I don't want us to just admit students because we need the money," Kim said.

According to Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, the college moved away from open admissions to generous admissions 15 years ago, at which point the college stopped admitting students based on traditional academic performance indicators.

Some applicants were referred to a bridge program that was designed to better prepare them for collegiate work, but the college discontinued the program last year, resulting in several hundred students being denied admission, Kelly said.

"Overall, there is a relationship between high school success and college success; but that's true at Columbia and colleges across the nation," Kelly said. "Our thinking hasn't changed, though. We aren't going to create some absurd equation to deny admission."

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Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

President Kwang-Wu Kim said he plans to create and promote a more open and transparent office during his time as president.

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Columbia
COLLEGE CHICAGO

» **PROVOST**

Continued from PG. 4

college, such as the registrar, admissions and enrollment management, which currently fall under the office of Student Affairs, Kim said. Therefore, the provost position has the official title senior vice president and provost, according to an Aug. 28 email to the college community. Warren Chapmen is the current senior vice president.

Throughout the search process, Kim said he will retain the right to veto any potential candidates and will have final say on who is hired for the position.

Ozuzu said her role as co-chair is to facilitate conversations among members of the search committee.

"It feels like an amazing opportunity to contribute to a team that is learning about our new president and teaching him about who we are as we envision the future shape of the provost position," Ozuzu said.

Kim said he is seeking someone who considers learning outcomes and engagements and has experience leading innovative curriculum design and academic processes such as tenure.

Ozuzu said she hopes the new provost will help lead the college into the future.

"I hope the new provost will bring a systemic elegance, like a 21st century sense that really helps to bring out all of the incredible talent [at the college]," Ozuzu said.

Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Film & Video Department, said



File Photo

Louise Love, interim provost, will retire once a permanent provost is selected.

the search for the provost should take priority because the president needs to begin working with the new academic leader of the college soon to further his vision.

Sheridan said the provost will ideally be flexible because the fields of arts and media are constantly changing.

"[The provost] has to have a vision for the future of education and a plausible and imaginable way to get to the future," Sheridan said.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said he is confident the committee will make efforts to attract the most qualified candidate for the job.

"We need someone with academic vision and someone who can galvanize our faculty and the college to better educate our students," he said.

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» **HOUSING**

Continued from PG. 4

Conway said offering gender-inclusive housing through Residence Life is a great addition to the services Columbia offers students with different sexual and gender identities.

However, Conway said she is surprised students did not apply, even though the email was sent months after Residence Life sent students housing contracts.

"There is definitely a need to provide [gender-inclusive rooms] for our students," Conway said. "Even if we only had one student, there would be a great need to provide that so that the student can really thrive in the classroom, which is what we're really concerned about as an institution."

Conway added that gender-inclusive housing is an option for more than just students who identify as transgender; students who want to live in a mixed-gender environment can do so, as well.

Conway said she thinks the program will be successful once the word gets out.

"We're not perfect yet, but we're on the road to making sure all of our students have everything they need," Conway said. "As the coordinator for the LGBTQ Office, my primary goal here at the institution is to make sure that students have everything they need to be successful and graduate."

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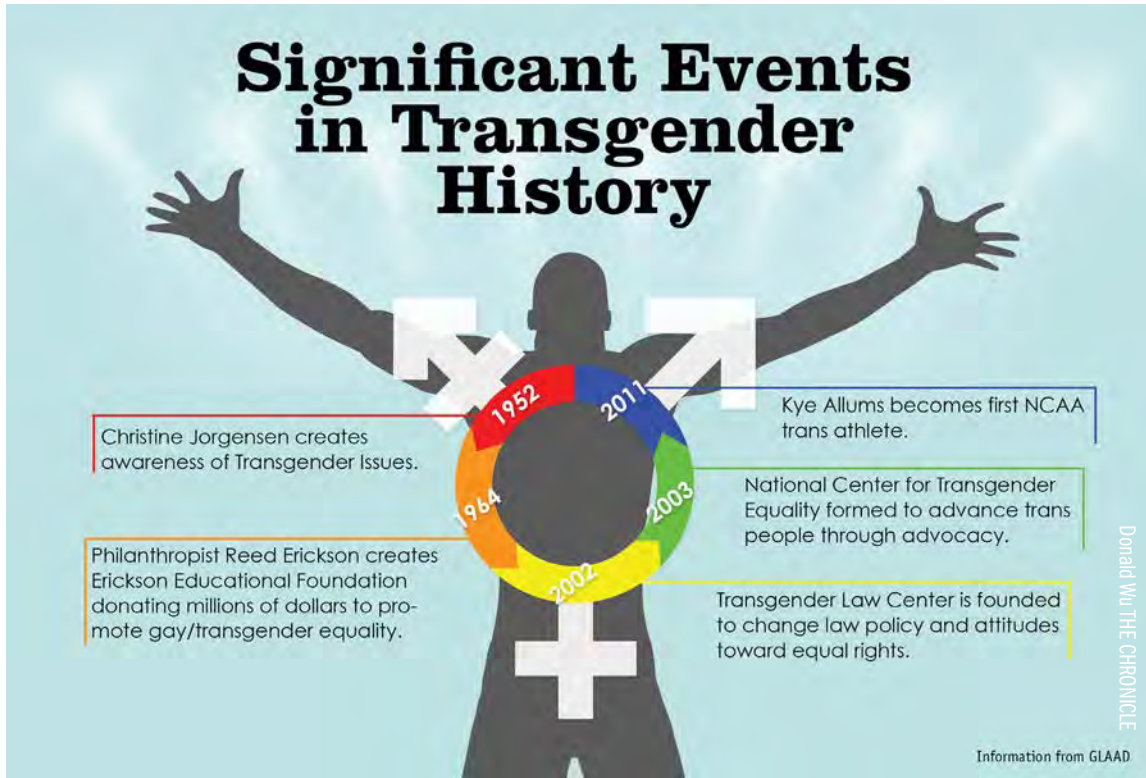
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Transgender athletes still have hurdles to equality



DESIREE PONTARELLI
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

KYE ALLUMS, the first openly transgender athlete to play NCAA Division I basketball, was a man playing on the women's team at George Washington University. At least that's how he saw it.

Two years into being the team's starting shooting guard, Allums decided to tell his teammates that he identified as male.

He said he first came out to his best friend on the team in 2010, explaining that while he was born physically female, he felt male. He later came out to teammates, coaches and family.

"Everyone supported me and accepted my pronouns and my name," Allums said. "It wasn't as difficult or as hard as I thought it was going to be, but it was scary initially before I did it."

While Allums' family, friends and teammates were all supportive; the NCAA didn't allow him to play on the men's team.

NCAA policy states that athletes who undergo hormone treatment involving testosterone will not be allowed to compete against women's teams in gender-specific

sports at NCAA Championships. However, if a male is transitioning to become a female, the athlete will have to provide documentation showing evidence of testosterone suppression treatment for one year. To remain eligible for a women's team in post-season play, the athlete must continue to document hormonal treatment.

The NCAA states that the association distinguishes testosterone as a banned substance and provides a medical exception review for demonstrated necessity of a contraband medication.

African Journals Online states that studies on transgender athletes point out unfair discrimination against transgender individuals as a result of inappropriate application of testing results.

"It's difficult to play in sports when everyone around you doesn't believe that you are a real athlete and that you're cheating," Allums said. "If we were, there wouldn't be policies set in place for trans athletes to compete."

Allums never sought to undergo gender reassignment surgery, but even if he wanted to go through

» **SEE LGBT**, PG. 21

Eating the pain away

Study shows increased intake of fatty foods among fans when teams lose

AIDEN WEBER
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

IF A RECENT study that found sports fans eat fattier foods in wake of their favorite team's losses and healthier foods following their favorite team's victories is true, Cubs fans should weigh a ton.

The study, published Aug. 7 by the Association for Psychological Science, tracked the diets of 726 Americans for 3,151 days and found that, on average, participants consumed 16 percent more saturated fat on the Mondays after their local NFL team lost. In contrast, the study found saturated-fat consumption decreased by an average of 9 percent for those whose local team won.

Yann Cornil, co-author of the study, said fans experience all their team's outcomes vicariously, explaining that the more engaged a

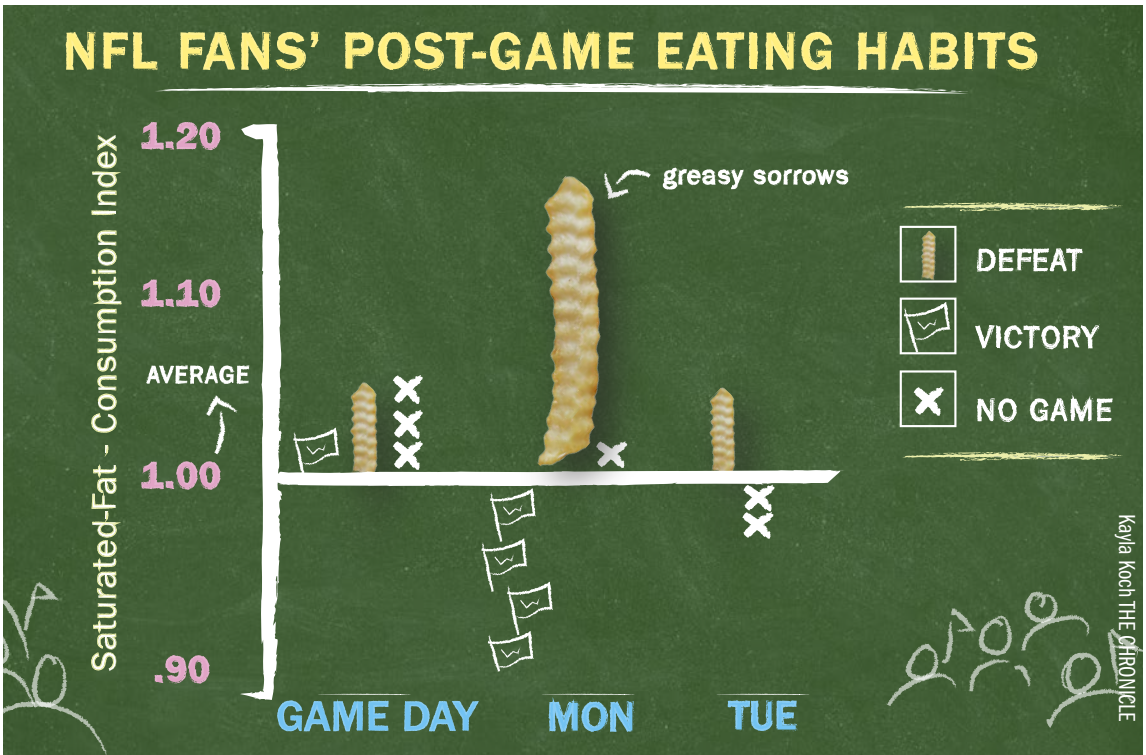
fan is, the more the game's outcome will affect him or her.

According to the study, there was a 28 percent increase found in the eight most dedicated fan bases (19 percent higher than the average increase found in other cities), which included Chicago. Cornil said he would predict even higher numbers if the study had followed only fans rather than randomly selected participants from a general area.

Pierre Chandon, also a co-author, said that fans only overindulge in fatty foods if the loss is unexpected, explaining why some Cubs fans can stay fit.

"Our results show that defeats only increase unhealthy eating when [the defeats] are unexpected—which wouldn't be the case for Cubs fans," Chandon joked in an email.

Fans' vicarious experiences are the culprit behind bingeing, accord-



ing to Daniel Wann, who specializes on the psychology of sport fandom at Murray State University. He said Cornil and Chandon's findings are consistent with most research in the psychology of sports fans.

"The one thing that the whole body of literature that I've looked at concluded is that the response of the fans mirrors those of the players," Wann said. "They are, in essence, reflecting what the

players are feeling and thinking and doing."

Wann said much of being a sports fan involves finding ways to blame

» **SEE EATING**, PG. 21

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS	Sept. 4	Sept. 6	Sept. 7	Sept. 8
	Chicago White Sox vs. NY Yankees	Chicago Sky vs. Indiana Fever	Chicago Cubs vs. Milwaukee Brewers	Chicago Bears vs. Cincinnati Bengals
	6 p.m. Yankee Stadium Where to Watch: CSN	7:30 p.m. Allstate Arena Where to Watch: The U Too	4:05 p.m. Wrigley Field Where to Watch: Fox	Noon Soldier Field Where to Watch: CBS
				



IHMOUND'S MOODS

Nader Ihmoud
Office Assistant



New Renegades control future

THE RENEGADES, COLUMBIA'S sports organization, may have new leadership this year, but President John Bowman and Vice President Timothy Gorski will have to deal with all-too-familiar issues.

The Renegades still don't have a permanent place to host their teams and tournaments, and despite receiving more college-wide recognition, the organization still needs its members to be more committed along with additional support from the college's administration.

To tackle the problems the Renegades face, Bowman and his team will have to give students and faculty a reason to support the organization and its efforts to unite Columbia. He has to prove that the Renegades' teams and events won't be hindered, and the organization will continue its upward rise despite former president Abby Cress' absence.

Cress established a presence for the Renegades by creating, organizing and stabilizing teams and events. Her reign included successful basketball, volleyball and dodgeball tournaments.

Credit for the organization's surge in popularity should go to the board members and their dedication, including Bowman and Gorski, and the exposure it has in turn received from The Chronicle.

Bowman and Gorski each played on a Renegades team, so they understand what it takes to make a

team successful. They have earned fitness and recreation coordinator Mark Brticevich's acclaim and confidence.

Even though Brticevich said Bowman should focus on his own ideas, he said it is important for the new president to not forget the disrespect the Renegades had prior to Cress' presidency. Her leadership brought new life to the organization by making team captains accountable for their team's performance and hosting events that catered to Columbia students' interests.

Bowman does not have to emulate precisely what Cress did while in office but he would be doing the organization a disservice if he did not build upon what has already been created.

With the help of members and rising student interest, Cress was able to develop relationships with several local businesses, such as Pockets and X-Sport. Businesses supported the Renegades because students flocked to the organization's events, like the 3-on-3 basketball tournament last semester that even attracted college students from all around the city.

Bowman's personal success will also rely heavily on his ability to implement and execute his own ideas. He said in a May 13 Chronicle article that he is planning a 5K run for the college, something that has not been done in my time at

Columbia. The execution of an attention-grabbing event like a 5K will be difficult but if he can pull it off, it will garner attention.

But that doesn't mean he should forget what helped establish the Renegades. Bowman should continue to assist the previously successful teams and host popular events. New teams should be welcomed, but teams playing traditional sports like volleyball, soccer, basketball and baseball have had such great commitment over the years that they need to be cultivated too.

In order to create and maintain teams, the Renegades must find a permanent place to play and practice. While that may take time and money the organization doesn't have, making sure each team is able to join semester-long leagues is conceivable. The South Loop Elementary gym, 1212 S. Plymouth Court, is the only place where the Renegades currently operate. The long-term future of the Renegades is in the hands of Bowman and members of the Renegades' board, but the college administration has to play their role, too.

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FEATURED ATHLETE

WHITNEY WANDLAND

Sport: Dancing Team/School: Luvabulls



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

HALLIE ZOLKOWER-KUTZ

Sports & Health Editor

THE LUVABULLS, the cheerleading and dance team of the Chicago Bulls, are almost as exclusive as the team they promote. At least 200–300 girls auditioned this year, according to Whitney Wandland, a 22-year-old broadcast journalism major at Columbia who was talented—and lucky—enough to earn a spot on the 2013 team.

Wandland has been trained in ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop, modern and African dance, since she discovered her penchant for dance when she was 3. The Chronicle got the opportunity to chat with Wandland about the Luvabull's grueling audition process, how she started dancing and what she wants to do after she graduates.

THE CHRONICLE: How long have you been dancing?

WANDLAND: I've been dancing since I was 3 years old, I'm 22 now. It was just random. We were in California visiting family and one of my grandmother's best friends owned a dance studio. We went to visit her and when we went to her studio, I tried on some tap shoes, and I put 'em on and started dancing around and doing all kinds of crazy stuff and it went from there. When we went home, my mom put me in dance classes and it took off. I've done cheerleading, I've been dancing in professional dance companies since I was like 7. When I was 7 to 10, I was dancing at the Chicago Theater in something called the Harlem Nutcracker. [It's been] just lots and lots and lots of dance and cheering.

What was your experience like auditioning for the Luvabulls?

The first day was just all new girls

who weren't on the Luvabulls dance team [last year]. Basically they made cuts throughout the day and ended up with 28 girls. The second day was when the returning Luvabulls came. There were 19 of them and 28 new girls. Through that day we learned an extra routine and [performed] it for the judges. At the end of that day, they cut veterans and new girls and ended up with 28 girls. After those two days and the cut to 28 girls, the three-day bootcamp was the following week. We learned two extra dances, and at the end of each practice, they cut people. The final round was a fitness test. That was the worst day of them all because we had a week of dancing and then this boot camp. They ended up taking 20 girls.

That sounds really competitive.

It was. Between looks and dance ability, you don't know what the judges are looking for. You can't size up the competition because you really don't know who's better than you or who you can beat.

Do you have a favorite type of dance?

My favorite is jazz because I love to be sassy and just flip my hair and, you know, give attitude. I love that.

What is your major and what career do you plan to pursue after graduation?

My major is broadcast journalism. I really want to become a TV host. I haven't found what I want to do so I feel like I have to create it. I really want to become a host and also have a show that mixes up pop culture, fashion and health and fitness. But I haven't found a show like that. So I also want to get into production because if I can't find anything like that, then I want to produce it.

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Soccer streak saturates bars

AIDEN WEBER

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

CHICAGOANS WILL BE crowding soccer bars Sept. 6 to watch the U.S. men's national soccer team try to extend its winning streak to 13 games against Costa Rica in a World Cup qualifying match.

The streak, which includes an upset over international powerhouse Germany and a sweep of the Gold Cup, is already the longest in team history, shattering the previous record of seven games.

"There has [been a building momentum], especially with the World Cup getting so close," said Monica Okoniewski, manager at Globe Pub, a boisterous Chicago soccer bar at 1934 W. Irving Park Road. "Our customers live for soccer."

Okoniewski said the bar has been packed for all of the games throughout the streak and the high attendance prompted them to add a third room equipped with its own TV, audio system and bar.

"Soccer is huge around the world—it's nice America is finally jumping in on it," Okoniewski said.

The national team's success has brought more attention to domestic



STOCK PHOTO

The U.S. soccer team's 13-game winning streak is kicking traffic to local soccer bars.

soccer, according to Okoniewski. She said seeing national team players compete in Major League Soccer makes the league look better.

"Especially with [Clint] Dempsey going to Seattle and with Landon Donovan in LA, they always attract big crowds," Okoniewski said.

The national team's captain, Clint Dempsey, returned to MLS last week for a \$9 million transfer fee to play for the Seattle Sounders after a stint in England. The Sound-

ers will play Chicago Fire Sept. 7.

"Even if [fans are] just going to see that one person play, they're still experiencing it," Okoniewski said. "Once a fan goes to see a game in their own city, they get more involved in it."

The Globe Pub offers a \$20 shuttle that picks fans up at the pub and drives them to Chicago Fire matches at Toyota Park and returns

» SEE SOCCER, PG. 21

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Paleo diet encourages prehistoric grub

DESIREE PONTARELLI
Assistant Sports & Health Editor

ALTHOUGH THE WORLD'S human population exceeds 7 billion, a small number of Homo sapiens still eat like their hunting-and-gathering ancestors did more than 12,000 years ago.

The Paleolithic Diet, also referred to as the Paleo diet, essentially entails eating like our pre-farmer ancestors, focusing on avoiding refined foods such as trans fats, dairy and sugar while incorporating lean proteins, fresh vegetables and fruits, as well as healthy fats.

“To me it is not a fad because it is a lifestyle—you really have to change the way you eat for life.”
—Dee Elle

“Right now it is a fad,” said Andrea Rudser-Rusin, a certified athletic trainer and registered dietitian. “I see the Paleo having its peak and then there will be a new trend to come around.”

According to the Baseline of Health Foundation, the diet dates back to the 1970s and originated with Dr. Walter Voegtlin. It gained popularity in 1997 when concepts framing the diet developed significantly online. It has since made a comeback with the help of authors

Loren Cordain, Robb Wolf and Mark Sisson, who endorse the diet, according to ThePaleoDiet.com. The three leading experts have all published books and blogs dedicated to the Paleo way.

According to obesity prevention studies from the Harvard School of Public Health, starch-heavy, refined grains and processed foods may increase the risk for common health problems such as weight gain, diabetes, and heart disease. When it comes to preventing chronic diseases and weight gain, the quality of carbohydrates consumed holds

more importance than the quantity of carbohydrates.

“My rule is generally if you have to take off the wrapper, you might want to reconsider,” Rudser-Rusin said.

“I had a colleague say, ‘Choose something that comes from a plant, not made in a plant.’”

By returning to the diet of hunting-and-gatherer ancestors, proponents of Paleo like Cordain claim humans can restore their happiness, health and waistlines.

“You are eating what the mind

and body want to eat, so nothing that’s man-made or contains any kind of chemicals or preservatives,” said Dee Elle, founder of PaleoDietPlusPlus.com.

Elle said he started the Paleo diet website for his friends as a reference to follow to be healthy.

“To me it is not a fad because it is a lifestyle—you really have to change the way you eat for life,” Elle said.

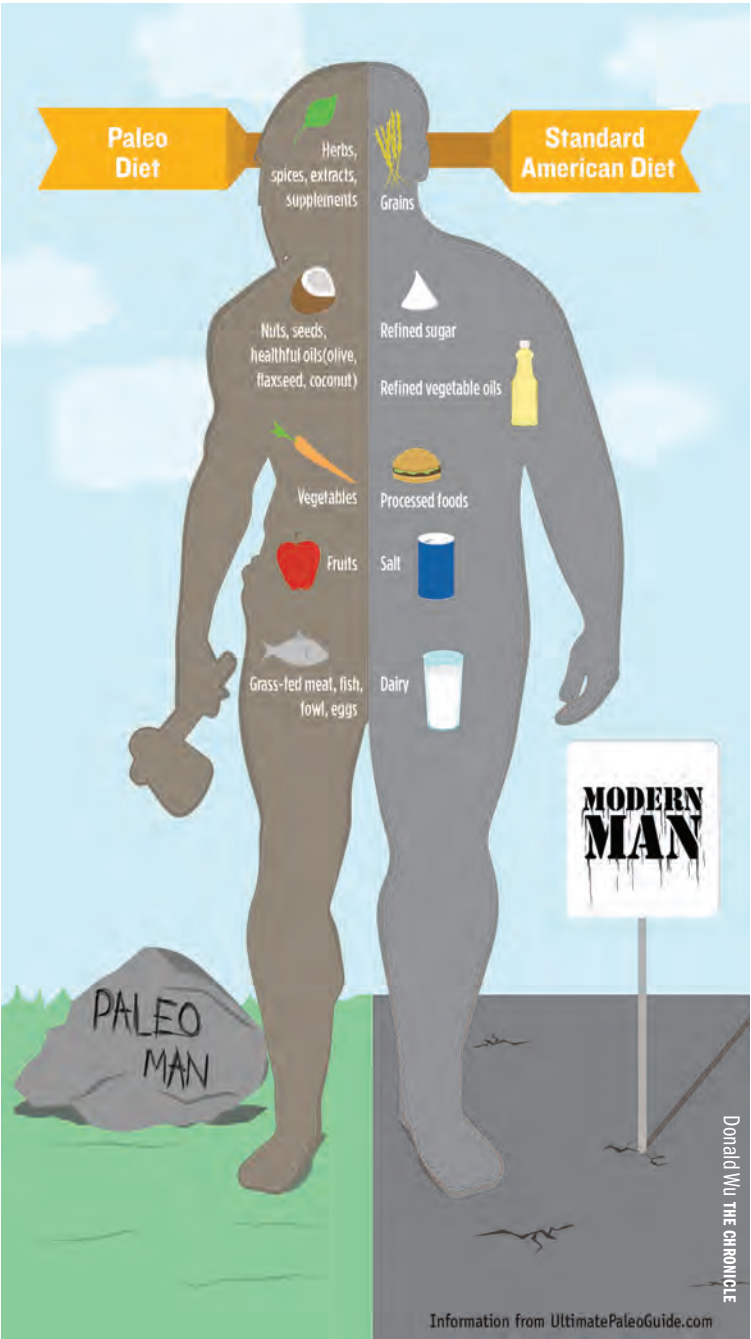
Although the diet has its advantages, choosing to limit consumption of the high-protein animal products or trying to adopt the diet as a vegetarian could be challenging, according to Bryce Wood, lead trainer and nutritionist at Cross Fit Chicago.

Elle said it is possible for vegetarians to implement the diet, but it would be tricky because the diet is rich in meat-derived protein.

Although these diets may be beneficial for some, participants tend to return to their old ways, Rudser-Rusin said.

“They go back to not just healthy whole foods, they go back to their old choices and their old lifestyle,” Rudser-Rusin said. “It is the ‘it’ diet but we have to recognize that it is a diet, and it has lots of rules and guidelines.”

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DEAR FALL 2013 REGISTERED STUDENTS,

All undergraduate students registered for 12 or more hours and all graduate students registered for more than 9 hours are eligible to receive a [U-Pass](#) for the fall 2013 semester.



HOW DO I OBTAIN MY U-PASS?

All students registered for full-time status by August 9, 2013 and have a Campus Card ID photo on file at the college will have a pre-printed U-Pass card available for pick up on these six dates and locations. Depending on volume this should only take about 10-15 minutes.

Tuesday, September 3rd	9AM-6PM at 33 East Congress Pkwy
Wednesday, September 4th	9AM-6PM at 33 East Congress Pkwy
Thursday, September 5th	9AM-5PM at 600 S. Michigan Ave, Rm 401
Friday, September 6th	9AM-5PM at 600 S. Michigan Ave, Rm 401

All students who registered for full-time status after August 9, 2013 will not have a pre-printed U-Pass card and are required to order a U-Pass on one of the three designated days listed below.*

Tuesday, September 3rd	9AM-6PM at 33 East Congress Pkwy
Wednesday, September 4th	9AM-6PM at 33 East Congress Pkwy

What is the U-Pass and how can I use it?

U-Pass is a program sponsored by the Chicago transit authority (CTA) that provides students with a reduced price fare to CTA and Pace public transportation. The U-Pass is not accepted on Metra transportation services. The U-Pass fee of \$130.00 is charged to your student account and, in turn, Columbia remits payment to the CTA. The CTA has introduced the new Ventra U-Pass card for the Fall semester, which replaces the former magnetic strip fare cards issued last year. The Ventra U-Pass is a contactless fare payment card imprinted with your name and photo. Your new Ventra U-Pass is a “Lifetime” card issued to you at the beginning of your first semester at Columbia and will be valid during each subsequent semester in which you are enrolled as a full-time student. For the fall semester, the U-Pass fare will be activated on Thursday, August 29th and deactivated on Friday, December 20, 2013. For the Spring 2014 semester, the U-Pass fare will be reactivated on Wednesday, January 22, 2014. You may also add personal funds to the card to use when school is out of session.

*The CTA will be on campus for three days only (August 29th, September 3rd and September 4th) and will provide temporary passes to students upon completion of their U-Pass order. Temporary passes will only be available during these three days. U-Pass orders will not be available for same day pick up and require a minimum of three business days for delivery to the college. This may take approximately 30-40 minutes depending on volume so please plan ahead.

Requirements to Pick Up Your U-PASS

- A Valid Campus Card (Student ID)
- Enrolled full-time

What if I cannot pick up my U-PASS on the above days?

If you do not pick up or order your U-Pass on the specified days, visit the CAMPUS CARD OFFICE during normal business hours beginning Monday, September 9th.

What if I do not want my U-PASS?

Participation in the U-Pass program is mandatory for all full-time students. If you do not want to activate your U-Pass, simply do not pick up; however, you will still be charged the U-Pass Fee.

What if my U-PASS is lost, stolen or defective?

If your U-Pass is lost, stolen or defective, report the incident directly to the Campus Card Office located at 600 S. Michigan Ave, 3rd floor. All students are required to pay the \$50 U-Pass Replacement Fee (cash, credit, or money order) to request a new U-Pass. No exceptions will be made. Your replacement U-Pass will be available within 5 to 7 business days at the Campus Card Office. You must present a valid Columbia College Chicago Campus Card to pick up your U-Pass.

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TECH TALK



COURTESY Noah Watenmaker

The Kitar is an open source guitar built by Noah Watenmaker and Thao Pham, which will feature a removable neck and body, allowing for customization. The HexBright (below) is an open source flashlight users can modify.

HALLIE ZOLKOWER-KUTZ
Sports & Health Editor

THE ULTIMATE CONSUMER question used to be “What does it do?” but the growing popularity of open source products may shift it to “What can I do with it?”

A greater desire for customization coupled with the recent explosion of 3D printing has changed the marketplace for manufacturing, making room for a variety of open source products, according to Noah Watenmaker, co-creator of the Kitar, an open source guitar that successfully reached its Kickstarter funding target on Aug. 29, making \$1,024 more than the original goal.

Although generally used in terms of software, “open source” refers to any product that can be modified because the plans, design and/or code is available to the public, ac-

cording to the organization Open Source Initiative. Games like Minecraft provide public source code, allowing players to modify the game. The operating system Linux allows users to change the code and distribute it. The idea of open source is not new, but open source hardware has been gaining popularity, according to Watenmaker.

Watenmaker and his partner Thao Pham, both members of the

design company We Anything Build, said they wanted to build and design an instrument they would want to play. As Watenmaker trained as a luthier, or guitar builder, he noticed a disconnect between guitar builders and guitar players. So he decided to build a customizable guitar and release the designs—making it an open source instrument.

“It kind of fits in with the open

hardware revolution that has come up,” Watenmaker said. “It hasn’t hit the hardware side of music yet really, so this is about sharing the building aspect. That is our primary focus.”

The Kitar is made up of a hollow guitar body and removable neck. Owners are able to fill the body with custom electronics to create different effects and build customized necks to swap in and out of the body, giving players the ability to drastically change the instrument’s sound.

The fully assembled Kitar was available on Kickstarter from Aug. 13–29 for an \$1,800 pledge, but a \$600–\$1,200 pledge bought a build-er Kitar—the neck with or without the body and without frets—and the Kitar plans.

David Dolak, a professor in



COURTESY Christian Carlsburg

» **SEE OPEN, PG. 21**

FEATURED APPS



HUMAN BODY

Human Body is an interactive educational app that features a paper-cutout style image of the human body. Users can trace food as it moves through the body (including burps and farts), simulate stimulation to nerve endings and follow blood through a body’s circulatory system, among other things. The app is available at the iTunes store for \$2.99.



LEFTOVERSWAP

Have a nasty habit of ordering extra, extra large pizzas just for that free soda? The new smartphone app, LeftoverSwap, allows users to snap a picture of leftover food, upload it to a database, then swap or give away the extra grub, using a social-networking-like platform. The free app will be available Aug. 30 for iPhone users and Android users shortly after.

FEATURED GADGET



COURTESY Mugi Yamamoto

A printer for the future

HALLIE ZOLKOWER-KUTZ
Sports & Health Editor

THE STACK, A revolutionary new printer is the creation of industrial design student Mugi Yamamoto for his diploma project at Ecole Cantonale d’Art de Lausanne, an art and design school based in Renens, Switzerland. The printer works by placing it on a stack of paper.

It “eats” its way down the stack, feeding the paper through the bottom with a set of rubber wheels. This feature completely eliminates the need for a paper tray, which is often the bulkiest and most temperamental part of a printer. The design design is also lightweight and has a sleek, modern look.

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TECH PHOTO



COURTESY Andy Bass

The DinoPet, pictured above, is a night light currently being funded on Kickstarter. The glass figure is filled with algae called dinoflagellates that photosynthesize during the day and shine a bright light when shaken.

THIS WEEK IN TECH

September 3

Presentation: Build Stuff That You’d Use
Groupon, 3rd Floor
600 W. Chicago Ave.
Noon

September 5

Astronomy presentations at the Adler Planetarium
1300 S. Lakeshore Drive
All day

September 6

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Neighborhood Boys and Girls club
2501 W. Irving Park Road
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» **LGBT**
Continued from Pg. 15

surgery, he could not until after his college basketball season was complete because of the standards set by the NCAA.

Allums ultimately decided to leave the GWU basketball team in 2011 after suffering nine concussions and graduating early.

“I did not want to get a 10th concussion and wanted to remember the rest of my life,” Allums said.

Other sports organizations, such as the Maine Principals’ Association, are beginning to adopt the NCAA policies as more transgender athletes are becoming visible, so necessary steps are in place if and when a transgender athlete comes out, Allums said.

Since then, he has established his own LGBT awareness project “I Am Enough,” to help people better understand the science behind the physical transition from one gender to another.

According to Christina Kahrl, secretary of the Equality Illinois Board of Directors, administrative sports bodies too often create policies reacting to transgender athletes instead of establishing guidelines that will anticipate their existence.

“Your identity as a trans person is not dependent on the medicines you receive, it is dependent on your sense of self,” Kahrl said.

Instead, school districts and sports administrations could reach

an agreement and implement fair transgender policies nationwide Kahrl said.

Kahrl was inducted into the Gay & Lesbian Hall of Fame on Aug. 2 for her efforts and her position as a sportswriter, according to ESPN.com.

“After I came out, I was just focused on my transition for the first couple of years and making sure that went well in the context of my career, my relationships with my family, my colleagues and co-workers and friends,” Kahrl said.

In 2010, she was a part of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation’s award-nominated segment “Transitions” on HBO’s Real Sports, a monthly newsmagazine, in which she spoke about her experience coming out as a transgender sportswriter.

“Sports are a great way to not only get away from all the pain that’s shoveled around on LGBT people,” Allums said. “It is also a great way to really focus on winning a game and accomplishing a goal with your other teammates or by yourself that has nothing to do with your sexual orientation or gender identity.”

Allums encourages all LGBT athletes considering coming out to commit to it.

“The more athletes that come out, the more attention we’re going to pay to it,” Allums said. “If no one comes out, people are going to think that we don’t need to address it.”

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» **EATING**
Continued from Pg. 15

losses on irrational causes like curses, luck, the referees or the uncharacteristic play of the opposition so fans can hold onto their team loyalty. He said he thinks indulging in unhealthy food is a way of nursing the disappointment, which fans feel personal responsibility for.

“If it weren’t for coping strategies, there wouldn’t be very many Cubs fans out there; we’ve sort of perfected it over the years,” Wann said.

The Cubs’ historic and consistent trend of losing has prompted their fans to build a multi-faceted culture of coping, which includes Wrigleyville’s notorious stretch of bars, restaurants and novelty shops along North Clark Street, according to Wann.

But too many burgers may be the least of Wrigley’s worries.

“There is some research that driving accidents were extremely high after defeats near the stadiums where supporters watched the game,” Cornil said.

Other research indicates an increase in cardiac complications following a loss and a decrease after victories, he said. The increase is not a direct response to increased consumption of fatty foods but to high levels of emotional stress, according to Cornil.

Cornil said no matter how fans react to a loss, their behavior can be intensified if the loss was witnessed



Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

Cubs fan Robert Noonan indulges on game day.

live, which may be why fans tend to get so rowdy at Wrigley Field.

“With the hardcore fans, it’s extremely painful to attend the defeat of your favorite team, and what we explain is that when your team

loses, it’s as if you lost, and you are threatened by the defeat,” Cornil said. “It’s as if the world is collapsing from time to time.”

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» **SOCCER**
Continued from Pg. 16

to the pub after the games for more of their favorite sport.

SmallBar, 2049 W. Division St., primarily known for its craft beer selection and bar food, quickly shifts its focus when the national team is on the screen.

“On game day, we get taken over by folks in red shirts,” said Small-Bar owner Phil McFarland. “At this point, we’re guaranteed to hit capacity, especially coming into the home stretch for the final round of [World Cup] qualifiers, 20–30 minutes before kick-off.”

But McFarland said the streak is not the only reason for the team’s growing popularity. He attributes much of the increasing fandom to an organized network of fans called the American Outlaws.


The American Outlaws have 93 chapters across the country, including one in Chicago that’s headquartered at SmallBar, according to the bar’s website. McFarland said the Outlaws bring crowds of soccer fans together from around the country and collaborate in supporting the national team.

“Every World Cup cycle the crowds get a little thicker, a little younger, a little more enthusiastic,” he said. “With all the success [the national team] has had lately, we’ve definitely seen some really huge turnouts—some really interesting engaged fans.”

The streak has even sparked an interest in soccer at Columbia, according to Jasmine Delgado, a co-captain of the Renegades soccer team.

UNITED STATES

Fixtures & Results



Game Winning Streak

UPCOMING GAMES

Date	Time	Opponent	Competition
9/6	9:00 CT	@ Costa Rica	WC Qual - CONCACAF (2014 Fourth Round)
9/10	7:00 CT	vs. Mexico	WC Qual - CONCACAF (2014 Fourth Round)
10/11	5:30 CT	vs. Jamaica	WC Qual - CONCACAF (2014 Fourth Round)
10/15	9:00 CT	@ Panama	WC Qual - CONCACAF (2014 Fourth Round)

Donald Wu THE CHRONICLE

Information from espnfc.com

“People are now paying attention to the U.S. and people are actually taking our team more seriously,” Delgado said.

The national team is currently ranked 19th in the world by FIFA, 17

places ahead of where they were in July 2012.

“Next Friday is a huge day for us,” Okoniewski said.

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» **OPEN**
Continued from Pg. 19

Columbia’s Science and Mathematics department who teaches the course The Physics of Musical Instruments, said the idea of interchangeable necks has educational value and is a novel idea, but he is wary of deeming it “open source” because he thinks it might be more of an advertising scheme.

“[Open source] is a bit of a buzzword,” Dolak said. “It’s catching on because that’s cool and that’s hip and that’s what’s in nowadays. But is it really open source? To me, this is something that I’ve seen before. There are companies now that I order parts from where they sell instrument building so that’s what this sort of looks like.”

In addition to its modern appeal, advertising something as open source can help sales, said Christian Carlberg, the inventor of a successful Kickstarter campaign to create a flashlight called the HexBright. The HexBright, touted as open-source, allows users to modify the coding and create different light settings.

Carlberg said he got the idea to make his product open source from browsing Kickstarter. He offered a regular and an open source flashlight during his campaign but noticed pledgers preferred the open source version 10–1.

“I kept seeing products that were open source and I thought, ‘No one’s ever made an open source flashlight,’ so I realized this was something new,” Carlberg said.

He said if people need proof that open source is popular, they should

look at the fund-raising for the HexBright. The device drew \$259,293 in pledges, surpassing its goal by more than \$228,000.

Watenmaker and Pham said their intent was not just to sell a product but to create a forum among guitar builders and players by providing a platform for them to share their ideas and designs.

“I think being able to build that tightly knit, excited community is going to be something physical instruments will benefit from,” Watenmaker said. “We came up with [the Kitar] because we thought people would really dig it.”

Dolak said he would observe the Kitar’s affect on its users before he is convinced it is a good idea. Watenmaker and Pham are also eager to see whether it will bring people together.

“It’s kind of like starting a social network,” Watenmaker said. “You have to have the infrastructure there, but the infrastructure doesn’t make sense without users.”

The members of We Anything Build said they will continue refining and gauging interest for the Kitar. The two also have ideas for open source house appliances, although no ideas are solid enough to mention yet, according to Pham.

“Both of us are interested in architecture, automobile technology and household appliances,” Watenmaker said. “These all seem like industries that lost track of what their tools are actually for. So we want to expand into all sorts of lifestyles realms, [and] bring this open platform ideology to them.”

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RECIPE

Crustless quiche

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds zucchini
- 1 medium yellow onion
- 8 ounces sharp cheddar cheese
- 4 ounces white cheese
- 1 cup pancake mix
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon seasoned salt
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh herbs
- 8 ounces melted butter or margarine
- 4 large eggs



NOVICE



SOUS CHEF



GURU

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Grease 8-inch square pan.
3. Dice zucchini, onion and cheese. Mix and set aside.
4. Mix dry ingredients in large bowl.
5. Beat eggs one at a time into dry ingredients.
6. Melt butter or margarine and stir into batter.
7. Chop herbs and add to batter mixture
8. Toss zucchini, onion and cheese into batter.
9. Pour into greased pan and bake for 1 hour.
10. Let cool. Enjoy!



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

AIDEN WEBER

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

THE ZUCCHINI IS among the most versatile veggies. Soft and juicy in texture, the summer squash provides moisture and structure to any baked good from muffins to cakes to quiches, without majorly disrupting the overall flavor.

Crustless zucchini quiche is a perfect way to use zucchini in a savory setting. My family never fails to save our garden zucchinis so I can make this particular dish and when I do, it's fork-snatching and tongue-smacking until the last crumbs are cleaned from the pan. Making the quiche takes about

an hour and a half. While your oven preheats to 350 degrees, chop the zucchini, onion and cheese. It's your choice whether to add a white cheese that is mild like mozzarella or muenster, or sharp and flavorful like feta or goat cheese. Chop the cheese and zucchini chunks fairly large—bigger than playing dice. This allows them a greater influence on the flavor of the dish.

Set aside the veggie mixture and combine your dry ingredients in a large bowl. Beat in the eggs and melted butter and sprinkle in the fresh herbs. Personally, I like basil, but others prefer parsley or cilantro.

Shovel in the zucchini, onion and cheese. Stir with a large wooden spoon until the vegetable chunks are coated in batter, not swimming in it.

Pour the mixture into a greased pan and bake for an hour. For a crispy top, turn the oven to broil for the final few minutes of baking. Remove from the oven and allow the quiche to cool—many mouth roof shingles have been lost to freshly baked zucchini quiches. Serve warm or cold in the following days as leftovers. The jury is out on which quiche-temperature is superior.

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Photos Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

Taylor Bennett, the 17-year-old younger brother of Chicago-based hip-hop artist Chance the Rapper, hosted a free Aug. 31 listening party in celebration of the rerelease of his new mixtape, *The Taylor Bennett Show*, at Jugnaut, 427 S. Dearborn Ave.

JUSTIN MORAN
Arts & Culture Editor

CASUALLY STROLLING DOWN Congress Parkway with untouchable confidence, hip-hop artist Taylor Bennett high-fives nearly every person he passes, smiling and sharing a fleeting hello before continuing on his way. Although it's unclear if the bypassers are fans, close friends or complete strangers, it's evident he's already begun to assert himself into Chicago's downtown scene despite recently beginning his senior year of high school at Urban Prep Academy—a feat few 17-year-olds can rightfully boast.

It's safe to say the South Loop is no stranger to his face, but not just because of his uncanny resemblance to his older brother, Chance the Rapper, whose April 30 mixtape *Acid Rap* was named one of Rolling Stone's best albums of 2013 in its mid-year ranking. Bennett, too, has been making a name for himself in the rap game,

words and melodies, writing songs throughout their elementary years.

"I started writing when I was in the third grade," Bennett said. "I grew up in a household where we played all kinds of music—everything from R&B to alternative rock, [from] Biggie to The Fray to As Tall As Lions to Death Cab For Cutie."

With such eclectic musical inspiration, Bennett said he approached creating his new mixtape on the basis of blurring the lines between the disparate sounds of his childhood favorites.

"There might be a hip-hop sounding verse, but the chorus might be sort of R&B," Bennett said. "We might use electric guitars on the beats to give it a different feeling. I'm a rapper, a singer and I make alternative music. I've taken three different genres and created it to one."

Although it may be easy to compare his music to his brother's, Bennett said he doesn't think their mixtapes or styles shares similar traits.

For the updated version, Bennett not only rerecorded the mixtape's original tracks, but also included a series of unreleased songs.

Bennett said "Chi-raq Dreaming," a summery, ska-influenced track off the original mixtape sampling bright guitars and cloudy bass, is one of his favorites.

"It's really focused on growing up inside of Chicago and the things I've seen. Like how it's become normal to celebrate death," Bennett said. "We throw parties when our friends die—kids are getting into so many drugs. And although I'm talking about negative things, I've tried to give a new perspective."

As a senior in high school, Bennett said he has the easy opportunity to build a fan base and circulate his music throughout campus because everything tends to trickle down to students in younger grades. Once his peers in the class of 2014 leave for college, he said they will take his music across the nation

and continue generating the buzz for his work.

As for plans post-high school, Bennett said he has every intention to attend college, balancing schoolwork and using downtime to make music.

"I feel that education is extremely important," Bennett said. "School might not be for everybody, but college is definitely for everybody."

Like his brother, Bennett said he couldn't imagine growing up and being a part of any different rap scene in the nation. The city has cultivated an impressive number of young, successful artists in recent years like Chief Keef, Spentzo and Rockie Fresh, all of whom Bennett said motivate him to continue fueling the Chicago hip-hop scene.

"Everything is changing, everything is new, everything is getting redone," Bennett said. "But now, hip-hop is even better this time."

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“I'm a rapper, a singer and I make alternative music.”

- Taylor Bennett

working all summer to complete an updated Aug. 31 re-release of his mixtape, *The Taylor Bennett Show*, online with a free listening party at Jugnaut, 427 S. Dearborn Ave.

Growing up on the South Side, the Bennett brothers weren't always encouraged by their parents to pursue music careers. Their father, who worked for Barack Obama as Illinois state director of his senate office, envisioned his two sons following his political path. Despite strict guidance, the two never failed to explore

"We're two completely different rappers, but I love Chance's music" Bennett said. "It has really inspired me to just see him doing something so productive. All my life, Chance was constantly in the studio and giving it his all. He'd always say, 'This is going to pay off,' and now it finally is. His hard work makes me work 10 times harder."

The Taylor Bennett Show, which was first released online June 11 as a six-song EP, has been entirely reworked for its second debut.



FOR THE RECORD

by Emily Ornberg
Managing Editor

**BRAND NEW APT. FOR RENT!

SHE WAS LOOKING like she'd be a long-time resident.

Lady Gaga's performance at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards—you know, the one where she hangs herself—almost sealed her lifetime lease as the permanent apartment owner. Sadly, she moved out after she broke her hip because the space wasn't wheelchair accessible.

Before Gaga, Madonna held down the fort as she shocked crowds for decades without even a speck of vocal talent, but her low credit score ended her lengthy stay. Later, Britney Spears moved in and stayed



Associated Press

for multiple albums, but she had to move back in with mom after her meltdown. X-Tina hung around, but lacked personal hygiene: nixed.

The keys were awarded to Katy Perry after she kissed a girl, but she ended up subletting to Rihanna until drug and domestic abuse complaints prompted an immediate eviction. Ke\$ha got a quick walk-through, but the landlord took her application fee and never called.

Today, with Gaga lacking the relevancy to maintain the popstar complex, the apartment is again available. If you can afford the rent and all goes well during the interview process, we're ready for you to move in immediately.

Miley Cyrus appeared to have submitted her application for Queen Obscene at the Aug. 25 VMAs. In case you missed it: While performing her summer hit "We Can't Stop" and a nearly naked cameo on Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines," Cyrus forcibly flung her tongue around, wore her hair in horns, performed her version of twerking—which closely resembled animals spastically fornicating—and forever changed the way we will look at a styrofoam finger.



Miley, thanks for your interest in the apartment. We want you to know we take all clients into serious consideration; however, you do not meet the age requirement.

You cannot seriously think you can go from studio to penthouse, Hannah Montana to ruthless sexpot pothead, without a reasonable amount of time to mature. By all means, break away from Disney's sheltering constraints—that ish is for kitties, you're 20 years old, goddamnit! But the over-the-top airhumping coupled with crazy eyes and a devilish grin is, quite honestly, incredibly terrifying.

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eorberg@chroniclemail.com

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

Bradley Bacci of progressive rock band AudioBakery plays Aug. 25 at the House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St.

CHECK ME OUT

Photos Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE



DAMON HENDRICKS JR.
freshman audio arts & acoustics major

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST SEMESTER FASHION STAPLE?
"A Ralph Lauren hat."



RACHEL BANDLER
freshman arts, entertainment & media management major

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST SEMESTER FASHION STAPLE?
"Crop-tops."



TYLER SMITH
freshman theater major

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST SEMESTER FASHION STAPLE?
"Cardigans."



HEBE FOX
sophomore theater major

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST SEMESTER FASHION STAPLE?
"My Mulberry bag."



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PHOTO COURTESY STEPHANIE BASSOS

PUNK FLOCK

UNCOVERING CHICAGO'S SUBCULTURE OF ECCENTRIC NOMADS

WORDS BY Emily Ornberg, managing editor & DESIGN BY Michael Scott Fischer, senior graphic designer



1

PHOTOS BY Rena Naltsas & Ahmed Hamad



2



3

1. Rob, a 45-year-old crust punk who refused to give his full name, said he traveled all over the country for 23 years. He said he began hopping trains at 11 years old, influenced by his older brother. 2. Colby Aminti, a new crusty, said he has been on the road for almost a year. He carries a banjo with him everywhere, although he admitted he does not know how to play it. 3. Dane, who is 28 and also refused to disclose his last name, has traveled to every state except Florida, Hawaii and Alaska and said he has been in Chicago for more than four years.

A

t 18 years old, D.J. Pommerville was eating pizza out of the trash, sneaking onto cross-country rail cars and getting drunk under highway bridges. Now, he's 33 and still dumpster diving. The only thing that's changed is now he gets asked for his autograph.

Pommerville is known as the crust lord, the figurative leader of a community of young panhandling travelers called crusties.

Every summer, packs of crusties—mostly white, rebellious, anti-capitalist youth with no permanent home, and recognizable by their unkempt appearance—settle in the streets of Chicago.

Stained with the black grit of past cities, crusties travel the country cynically rejecting the mainstream lifestyle. Crusties, also known as crust punks or gutter punks, are

derived from the anarcho-punk subculture, united by their love of punk music and stick-and-poke tattoos, facial piercings and dreadlocks. Pommerville, who was the lead vocalist for the hardcore band Gripe, has geometric tattoos across the bridge of his nose that extend to the tips of his fingers, hardly any of them done professionally. He has an oversized septum piercing dangling from his nose, thick stretched earlobes and he only showers when it's convenient.

Within the crust punk community, there is a stigma against punks who come from upper-class lifestyles, bringing along cell-phones, laptops or excessive amounts of money. While most crust punks are relatively peaceful, some are accused of being disruptive. "Oogles," the slur used for the inexperienced, rowdier or more disrespectful crusties, are abundant in the city, frustrating locals and crusties alike.

* * * * *

A

lthough most crusties do not have a home, they can have a homepage, thanks to Pommerville. While temporarily settled in Georgia three years ago, Pommerville and his friend Stephanie Young started the blog "Look at This F---ing Oogle," a playful spin on similarly named Tumblr blogs. After uploading a few personal photos of local crusties having "oogle moments," Pommerville shared his email address to encourage other crusties to submit posts chronicling their own travels.

"I thought nobody would care because it was just pictures of our friends," Pommerville said. "Really, a few weeks later, it got way bigger. It just started blowing up."

While Pommerville was initially unaware

of its impact and popularity, LATFO.com now has 296 pages of inside jokes and photos of rebellious oogles documenting their daily lives spent on the road hopping trains and drinking. Pommerville said the website also serves a community service purpose: Some post missing person searches, obituaries, tribulations and truths from crusties worldwide, making LATFO a central hub for the homeless by keeping them connected as they roam.

"Everyone I've met in the different cities over the years from traveling I hold close to my heart," Pommerville said. "They're my f---g friends for life, and just meeting them is the best part of the whole thing. A lot of us met 10 plus years ago, so seeing everybody grow up and everything is cool. Or not grow up, whatever the case may be."

* * * * *

C

had Muzzy and fiancée Cherry Vikernes, covered head to toe in homemade tattoos, dreadlocks and piercings, have been traveling for more than a decade and have trekked to Chicago by train many times.

"My idea of a good day is me and [Cherry] glued to a boxcar rolling out of a yard with our dogs, drinking a nice cold beer while the sun goes down, living it up," Muzzy said. "It's not always like that, [but] the good times outweigh the bad."

In the four years they've been together, Vikernes and Muzzy haven't been separated for longer than Muzzy's 24-hour stint in jail. Both have been arrested multiple times for trainhopping during their past 10 years on foot. They have panhandled and worked countless odd jobs to survive, ranging from random chores to marijuana and beet harvesting.

As of late, Vikernes said they've been sleeping next to the Greyhound bus station and panhandling on the corner

of State Street and Jackson Boulevard along with their sheepdog, Chevy, and Chihuahua, Poncho.

"Chicago is the home for the railroad riders in this country," Muzzy said. "Any long-term freight train you're going to ride is going to come through Chicago at one point or another."

Chicago's Wicker Park neighborhood has experienced its largest flock of crusties this summer, according to Doug Wood, programming chair for the Wicker Park Advisory Council's enhanced security committee. He said the neighborhood's punk rock atmosphere has attracted crust punks every summer for the past six years, with this most recent summer witnessing the most crime to date as crusties have consistently inhabited the park overnight and after hours.

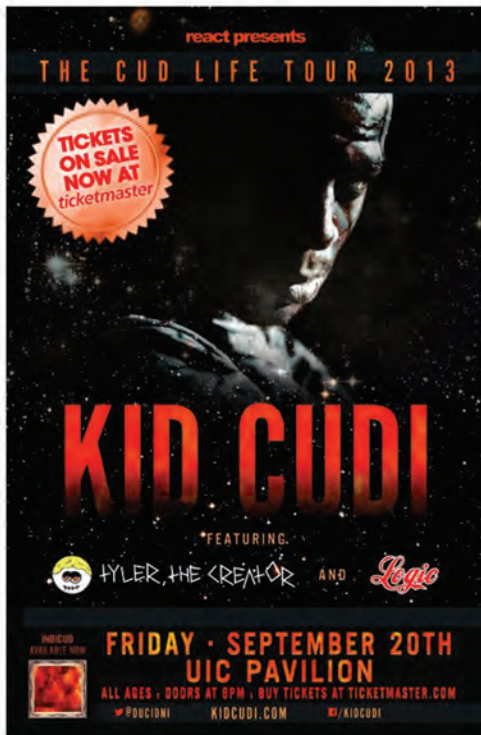
"They hang out in the park in groups of 15–20 the entire day and night because they haven't been removed from the park by the police," Wood said. "They do drugs, they drink, they're loud, their dogs chase people,

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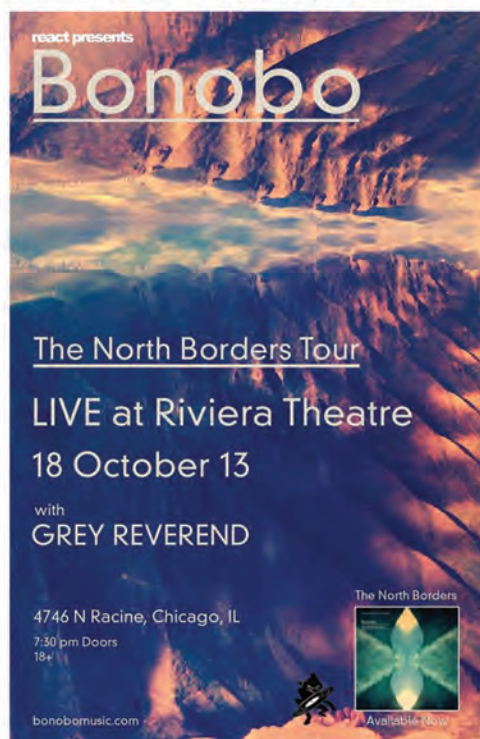
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ARAGON BALLROOM // 18+



NOVEMBER 29TH
ARAGON BALLROOM // 17+



DECEMBER 30TH & NYE
ARAGON BALLROOM // 18+





they've injured some people, they've destroyed gardens, they've torn plants out of the urns ... They're incredibly destructive."

Since February, the WPAC has been meeting with Alderman Joe Moreno (1st Ward), 14th District police, Park District Security and community groups to curb the increase in vandalism, drinking and drug sales in the park. Wood said many area bar-hoppers also hang out in the park after hours and drug sales have been an issue in the park for more than 15 years, so it isn't clear if the crusties are completely to blame.

Because the park receives inadequate funding, Wood said it is largely maintained by local community organizations, from landscaping to park programming.

Moreno's office declined to comment.

"When I saw people with strollers and little kids started coming in our park [five years ago], it was like a miracle," said Elaine Coorens, a member of the Wicker Park Advisory Council, who moved to Wicker Park in 1976 and devoted much of her time and money toward rehabilitating the park.

"Now, a group of people that are unbathed decide they are going to put their belongings up in trees and the flowers in the park, which are maintained by volunteers 12 months a year, these [oogles] come in and trample them and defecate and pee and be disruptive in a public park. Is that a problem? Yeah, in my book it is."

Wood said many people blame the gutter punks for most of the drugs and disruption in the park but they don't have access to evidence to prove so. As a result of the ongoing meetings since February, Wood said Moreno had the Park District install two \$30,000 security cameras and approved funding for a security guard to be in the park on weekday evenings. Since then, however, he said the cameras have not been checked and the security guard they hired wasn't replaced during the six weeks she was on leave.

Wood said there have been two recent incidents of assault involving crusties in Wicker Park. He said the first incident happened on the evening of Aug. 11, when

a crust punk was brought to the hospital with a broken spine after he was attacked with a two-by-four and a crescent wrench. The second incident, Wood said, happened at 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 25 during a softball game in front of dozens of parkgoers who claimed other gutter punks attacked the crust punk; the victim, however, said it was another armed offender with a two-by-four.

"We're trying to get the footage to see if these people are doing it to themselves or if this two-by-four person does exist," Wood said. "It's an important issue because if these people are doing this to themselves, then they could be expelled from the park based on the Park District's code of conduct, which is people are not allowed to commit violent acts toward others."

Vikernes said although she and Muzzy have fond memories of Wicker Park, they wouldn't be caught dead there again.

"We don't even go there, we just stay downtown," Vikernes said. "Even though we probably don't make as much money [panhandling] because there are other bums around here, we at least don't have to deal with those stupid oogle kids. I don't want to be associated with them, either."

Muzzy said it's common for crust punks to embark on their lives on the road consistently on drugs and alcohol as a means of coping with the challenging lifestyle. He said when he first took to the road as a teenager, he drank nonstop.

"WHEN YOU'RE NEW ON THE ROAD IT REALLY HELPS TO BE DRUNK BECAUSE THEN YOU JUST DON'T GIVE A F--K [AND] IT HELPS PEOPLE COPE WITH HOW F-----G HARD THE REAL WORLD IS ... [BUT SOMETIMES] IT JUST GETS YOU IN TROUBLE." —CHAD MUZZY

"Everybody has had that time when you first start and you don't really know anyone," Muzzy said. "You never know when you're going to run into some f-----g a----- who's going to beat you up and take your s--t. When you're new on the road it really helps to be drunk because then you just don't give a f--k [and] it helps people cope with how f-----g hard the real world is ... [but sometimes] it just gets you in trouble."

* * * * *

While some crust punks chose their lifestyle, a lot of them were forced onto the streets, Pommerville said. He said his parents kicked him out at 18 because they thought he was smoking pot, and he has been a nomad ever since.

Vikernes said at 15 years old, she was kicked out of her house in London and illegally entered the U.S.

"I was molested by my stepdad's father," Vikernes said. "I'm like the black sheep of the family, they don't like me. I think a lot of kids end up out here because of similar s--t like that."

Yvonne Vissing, a sociology professor

at Salem State College whose work centers around homeless youth, said it is common for homeless youths to have bad relationships with their families. Because of this, Vissing said they often flock to one another to create the support their unstable home lives lacked.

"[These crusties] would rather risk the uncertainties of the street than the known certainties of an abusive home," Vissing said. "And if there's a bunch of kids having home difficulties, then they bond together to get comfort, support and perspective."

Stephanie Bassos, a local freelance photographer, started noticing crusties in Chicago for the first time in summer of 2011 and wanted to figure out their stories.



1. Chad Muzzy has been on the road for more than a decade and said he has ended up on the satirical crust punk blog, "Look At This F-----g Oogle," multiple times. 2. Cherry Vikernes, Muzzy's fiancée, said she used to work for the animal organization ASPCA, which she said helps her take care of their dogs Chevy and Poncho while they travel. 3. Rob, who did not give his last name, said traveling through Chicago can be exhausting.

"There was this guy that had the word 'Independent' [tattooed] down his forearm and his fingernails were dirty," Bassos said. "I was like, 'You claim that you're so independent [and that] you don't work for the Man but you're not independent, you're relying on everyone else. I just need to know the logic.'"

Vissing said one reason the crust punk culture might generate so much animosity is that they are living outside societal

norms. She said society thrives on defining a norm and a deviant, or acceptable and unacceptable behavior, which leads to communities, such as Wicker Park, eagerly trying to eliminate the crusties.

Bassos said although she doesn't agree with the lifestyle, she realizes that the crust punks aren't disrupting her life in any way.

"As long as they're not bothering or harassing you, it's their lifestyle choice and not mine, and I won't give them anymore money," Bassos said. "They're generally nice; they're just people making different decisions."

Although Vikernes and Muzzy said they have enjoyed their years on the road, they're exhausted by struggling to survive. She said they would like to get on their feet, but building a résumé on the streets is an obstacle.

"At this point, we've been around this [lifestyle] for so long that now we want to get a place and have a family," Vikernes said. "We don't really have work history, so building a résumé and s--t like that is tough. We both work as much as we can, we don't like doing this at all. We have to work little odd jobs here and there."

At 33 years old, Pommerville is the archetypal father figure to the culture.

Although he said living on the road is a moving, spiritual way of life that everyone should experience before entering adulthood, life for a crusty can be hard.

Pommerville said he's seen different cliques form within the crust punk culture, from blackout drunk oogles to more peaceful gutter punks.

Although he's been clean for seven years, Pommerville said he used to be a heroin junkie and would visit Chicago to

meet up with crust punk friends and jump trains. He said because the nature of being a crust punk is so dangerous, the most difficult part of the lifestyle is coping with the loss of their closest friends.

"What surprised me is, yeah, people die and everything but your f--king homie, who's not supposed to die, is just dead," Pommerville said. "Just gone. Things like that—people getting crazy diseases, the volume of the deaths and diseases ... I wasn't expecting that."

Not unlike the social deviants of each generation, Pommerville said crusties live their lives regardless of how negatively others may view them.

"It's the rock 'n' roll lifestyle," Pommerville said. "It's fast, it's dangerous, you lose friends along the way, either [through] death or addiction, or they change, or can't handle it, become Christian and can't talk to their friends anymore because they're scared of going back to that life. What rock 'n' roll was, it was scary, it was fast and people didn't understand it. It's kind of like us, in a way. We just go. We just get on a train and go."

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‘Two Cookie Minimum’ highlights self-publishers

HEATHER KOSTELNIK

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THE AROMA OF free cookies consumes a converted theater as the sounds of a retro Pac-Man’s ping-pong gameplay resonate against the thrifted decorations on the walls. With music humming from the jukebox, the audience settles in around the dimly lit stage, craft beers in hand, to watch Chicago’s monthly reading series “Two Cookie Minimum” at Hungry Brain, 2319 W. Belmont Ave.

“Two Cookie Minimum” brings upcoming writers and self-publishers together, while highlighting the Chicago zine community in a common space, said John Wawrzaszek, the event host and part of Columbia’s Campus Environment faculty. This month’s reading will commence at its current home, Hungry Brain, and feature six local artists on Sept. 3.

“A reading is a really good opportunity to get a quick version of what sort of work someone is doing,” said James Tadd Adcox, editor at Artifice books. “It allows you to keep up with what people are doing and have better potential for creating different types of work.”

The bar’s lounge-friendly interior offers a relaxing space for performers to present their work and

network with other Chicago artists, according to Wawrzaszek.

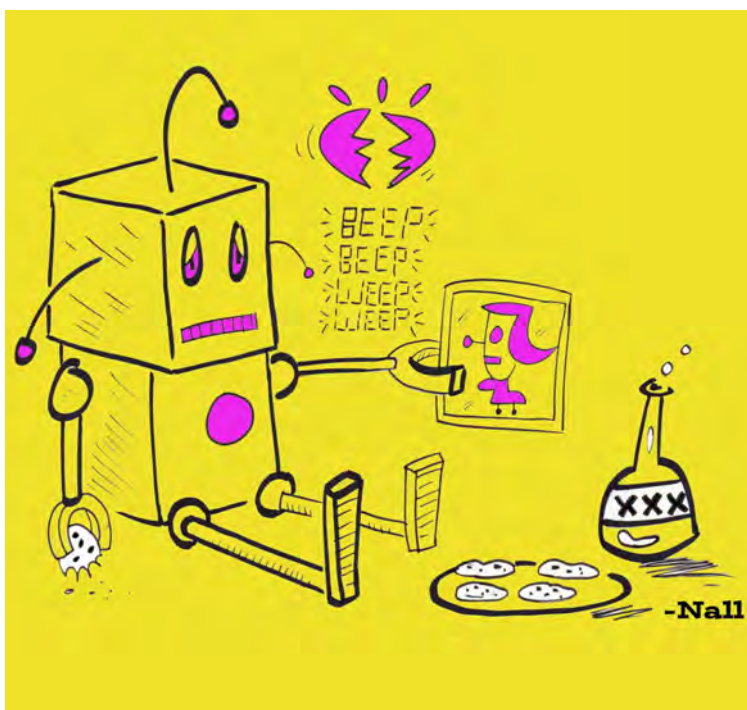
“It’s all about seeing a project through and coming full circle with the creative process,” he said.

Wawrzaszek said he established “Two Cookie Minimum” three years ago in hopes of augmenting the existing zine community. By spotlighting zine illustrators and authors year-round, the series allows artists to share their original work each month instead of once a year at the Chicago Zine Festival, he said.

Event organizer Wawrzaszek personally finds the talent, books the artists and hosts the entertainment for each event under the moniker “Johnny Misfit.” He said he is planning to feature both illustrators and authors to create a diverse show, “that’s not just six people reading stories.”

Mason Johnson, a Chicago author, will be featured along with his newly self-published book “Sad Robot Stories.” He said the book took almost a year to complete and challenges the idiosyncratic and humorous writing structure he has gravitated toward in the past.

Johnson said it’s about a lonely robot living in an apocalyptic world where the human race has died. Having enjoyed their com-



Courtesy ALEX NALL

In a promotional poster for the monthly reading series “Two Cookie Minimum” at Hungry Brain, 2319 W. Belmont Ave., artist Alex Nall captures the spirit of the event. Nall will be featured at the next reading on Sept. 3 at 9 p.m.

pany, he’s left lonely and sad.

“There are a lot of themes. Not only the apocalypse but the machination of the workplace, sexuality and gender identity,” Johnson said.

Comedic artist Alex Nall will also be featured. According to Wawrzaszek, Nall has attended “Two Cookie Minimum” events in the past and has sketched out witty comics based on past presenters. For this occasion, Waw-

zaszek said Nall will move to the stage and present his series of one-a-day comics.

“Nall has a different type of style,” Wawrzaszek said. “It’s a little bit quirky and little more cartoon-styled—a Saturday-morning cartoon kind of fun.”

Adcox will also present an excerpt from a recent novel he wrote at “Two Cookie Minimum.”

The plot centers around a mar-

riage in which the wife is having an affair with a sadistic FBI agent and the husband is involved with underground drug testing, Adcox said.

Stand-up comedian Daniel Shapiro will break away from the lineup of zine presentations and story excerpts by showcasing his comical one-liners and “Home Improvement” fan fiction set.

Reading his jokes from a sheet of paper, Shapiro said he strives to craft a bond between stand-up and the process of writing humor on a piece of paper.

“I like to build a bridge between stand up and the reading series circuit,” Shapiro said. “I read all my jokes off of a piece of paper. That’s what I like about stand up, the writing portion.”

Wawrzaszek said he doesn’t like to keep things simple, so “Two Cookie Minimum” mixes up the bill with readers and comedians. With no distracting TVs in the bar to break up the vibe and its secluded setting, the bar makes for a cozy, clubhouse feeling, Adcox said.

“Two Cookie Minimum” is about finding ways to bring people to the event to showcase people doing things in the community,” Wawrzaszek said. “There’s always something bringing everyone together.”

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Bone Thugs-N-Harmony reunites with raucous show

LIBBY BUCK
Copy Editor

A BOTTLE OF Hennessey sat next to the DJ equipment, vibrating with the bass and illuminated by strobelights in the moments leading up to Bone Thugs-N-Harmony's Aug. 26 reunion at Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave.

It was an evening of nostalgia as all five original members—Bizzy Bone, Krayzie Bone, Layzie Bone, Flesh-n-Bone and Wish Bone—fulfilled the hip-hop-hungry crowd's ultimate dream and allowed Chicago's most devout fans to experience the feeling of living in the legendary era of early '90s hip-hop.

Between opening acts, the in-house DJ set the tone for a trip back in time, spinning '90s hits like Ice Cube's "It Was a Good Day" and Snoop Dogg's "Gin and Juice." The crowd exploded when Bone Thugs' DJ appeared onstage, charging up the crowd for the rap legends' anticipated entrance. He referred to the bottle of Hennessey as his wife, took a stinging swig of it and had the audience wildly chanting, "I wanna get f---d up," making it known that Bone Thugs were ready for a down-and-dirty good time.

When it seemed impossible for crowd members to stand any higher on their tiptoes, the remaining four band members casually walked onstage, seemingly unfazed by the roaring audience. Their confidence and powerful presence filled the room as they proudly displayed nonchalant yet intimidating facial expressions. It was a cool factor so untouchable you could practice replicating it in front of a mirror for hours and never fully nail it. Some of the toughest looking fans in the crowd let down their façade in awe of the exceptional quintet. Decked out in gold chains and Jordans, performing classic throwbacks one after the next, the crew came equipped with a time machine, transforming Double Door into a grimy club



1

Photos Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

1. Bone Thugs-N-Harmony member Bizzy Bone takes a quick, casual smoke-break while onstage at Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave, Aug. 26, while the crowd enjoys the rest of the group's reunion performance. 2. Flesh-N-Bone takes a breather on stage after rapping the crowd into submission in Wicker Park. 3. Krayzie Bone creates a presence on stage as his quirky facial expressions change with every word he raps.

from 1995. It felt so real that it wouldn't have been a shock to find Biggie lighting up in the green room. The spirits of '90s rap lords overcame the space.

The show drew a split crowd of mostly older OG's, with a few kids attempting to sentimentalize a period they've only experienced through VH1 '90s countdowns. The audience abided when directed to raise their hands, throw their middle fingers up, jump and sway. Although the Bone Thugs crowd seemed out of place in Wicker Park, their ribbed tanks, sagging pants and gold hoop earrings lived comfortably inside the '90s time warp.

With 20 years of material to draw

from, Bone Thugs opted to take a crowd-pleasing approach with the set list, playing an array of their top hits, including tributes to the deceased Eazy-E, The Notorious B.I.G. and 2Pac; they even performed covers of the late rappers' solo work, sending the crowd over the edge into nostalgic escape.

The crew slayed the difficult task of performing legendary songs such as "Tha Crossroads," "1st of tha Month" and "Thuggish Ruggish Bone," in ways that did justice to the original recordings. Each rapper's unique sound, specifically Bizzy Bone's recognizable high-pitched and fast-paced style, shone through like '90s gift sent down from Eazy-E himself. Age is

truly nothing but a number for the middle-aged Bone Thugs. From their gangster yet subtle dance moves to their soulful vocals, the intensity was consistently gripping.

Their heavy drinking and smoking habits were very apparent as the Bone Thugs sported glazed-over alligator eyes and glasses full of Hennessey as if they were accessories. But if anything, these "accessories" only enhanced the group's performance. Bone Thugs' aesthetic extends beyond their sound; it is a look, feel, time period—a lifestyle where braids, kicks, du-rags, slow beats and fast rhymes are essential.

Perhaps the Grade-A performance is due to the lasting mean-

ing of the group's songs. Rather than rapping about the materialism most modern rappers feature in their lyrics—such as the recent Migos chorus, "Versace, Versace, Versace, Versace,"—Bone Thugs express hardships like the loss of the man whom they credit with their success, Eazy-E, in his AIDS battle or the "1st of tha Month" when welfare checks are handed out. Bone Thugs undeniably "started from the bottom." While today's rappers are genius in their own way, the respect Bone Thugs have cultivated over time was obvious as fans left the show clutching to their '90s highs.

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2



3



Burke's Bacon Bar tasty but teeny

Photos Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

The Beef N' Cheddar, The Chilly Willy and The Big Kahuna are just a few sandwiches for bacon lovers at a new eatery, Burke's Bacon Bar, 610 N. Rush St.

ALEXANDRA KUKULKA

Associate Editor

CHICAGOANS TAKE THEIR bacon seriously, which is not surprising considering the city is home to Baconfest, which celebrates everything from bacon-laced sausage to maple-glazed bacon doughnuts. So it was just a matter of time before a restaurant that offers bacon in almost every bite debuted.

Located in River North, Burke's Bacon Bar, 610 N. Rush St., which opened Aug. 20, built its menu around nine teensy, slider-style sandwiches—called “handwiches”—and an assortment of sides that will likely leave area executives still hungry after their lunch break. Artisan bacon is the daily special,

including Matilda Cured Bacon, made in Hampshire, Ill. and brined in beer, and Benton's Tennessee Bacon, smoked in hickory and brown sugar.

Bacon propaganda overwhelms the walls and counters with statements like “Eat more bacon” and “Bacon makes everything better” posted on every surface in big, bold font. It's a casual, carry-out environment with limited outdoor seating that will leave customers sweating during Chicago's blazing summers and shivering in the ruthless winters. Although it's casual fare, indoor tables would definitely improve the dining experience.

Pricing is also a concern. While each handwich costs \$4, or three for \$11, the entrees seem more like

appetizers than a full meal. Given the dainty size of each sandwich, eating multiple sammies is just too easy. Perhaps doubling the order to six would make it feel more like a complete meal, but \$22 is a price only passing Gold Coast CEOs could afford for a casual lunch, not curious college students.

The Beef N' Cheddar handwich tastes like a standard bacon cheeseburger, serving as a gateway to the menu's more adventurous offerings. But with tender beef, juicy bacon and slices of melted cheddar, the sandwich is proof why a classic can never be topped.

The Big Kahuna Spamwich will banish any preconceived notions about the slimy canned meat. Earthy notes from the barbecued spam are

balanced by a sweet pineapple slaw and Hawaiian bun. A small sprinkling of bacon bits keeps the sandwich cohesive with Burke's meat-centric concept but just barely.

Burke's Bacon Bar serves up its own version of a classic Surf N' Turf with The Chilly Willy, an exciting medley of creamy shrimp salad and peppered bacon crisps.

Not surprisingly, the lone vegetarian option, the smoked Eggplant Meatball Parmesan, fails to stand out, perhaps a way to urge vegetarians to give bacon a second chance.

To balance out the heartier selections on the menu, sides include a quinoa salad with grilled vegetables, dried fruit and salty feta cheese—the perfect mix of the rich, savory flavors of bacon. The River North eatery doesn't shy away from offering dessert that keeps the promise of incorporating pork as much as possible. The bacon chocolate chip cookie, although it seems like an odd, overbearing combination, solidifies the supremacy of every salty and sweet combination.

Although its location, price and portions cater more to River North's wealthier, corporate consumers, Burke's Bacon Bar redeems itself for the younger crowd with its weekly hours. When the bars turn sour for the night, don't fret. Burke's is open until 2 a.m. Monday through Sunday, and 3 a.m. on Saturdays for the masses of stumbling Chicagoans to make every day like Chicago's savory Baconfest.

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AUDIO FIVE



Courtesy RACHEL HUBBARD

Indie-electro band STRFKR of Portland Ore. will make a stop in Chicago on Sept. 17 at the Metro to promote its tour and latest pop-infused album, *Miracle Mile*.

ROSE SMITH-WOOLLAMS

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

STRFKR, WHOSE INDIE pop songs have been in both IBM and Target commercials, ironically named itself after its hatred for the industry, according to band founder Josh Hodges.

“That was the point of the name, to say, ‘F--k the music industry, f--k these people,’” Hodges said. “I’m not trying to be a successful band because [the industry] seems like adults playing high school to me.”

Throughout the group’s four-album career, the band, which includes Hodges, Shawn Glassford, Keil Corcoran and Patrick Morris, has taken on different instruments and sifted through more than a few band member and name changes. Its first self-titled album primarily featured lead singer and multi-instrumentalist Hodges and was recorded in his basement with synth

drums for percussion. STRFKR has since formed a live band, combining its signature pop-flavored hooks with death-themed lyrics. In other songs, the band has sampled excerpts from Buddhist philosopher Alan Watts, who talks in detail about death and loss.

The band released its most recent album, *Miracle Mile*, February 18 and debuted the music video for its single “While I’m Alive” on Aug. 20.

The Chronicle talked with Hodges about the inspiration for the band’s new song, his favorite thing about performing in Chicago and his love of make-out music.

THE CHRONICLE: What inspired you to write the song “While I’m Alive”?

JOSH HODGES: What matters is enjoying all the things we are so lucky to be able to enjoy in life, like walking and being with the people

we love. I went through lots of depression, which prompted me to think about my reality and how it’s constructed and why my life feels like a burden. That’s a really similar theme throughout all of my albums.

What is your least favorite part about being on the road with STRFKR?

The worst is having to smell everyone and never be alone. We get two hotel rooms, and I sleep with the snorers, even though I don’t snore. It’s not like I like sleeping with the snorers, but that’s just my fate.

How did you expect listeners to perceive this album?

Some [songs] are for dancing, some are for drugs and maybe some are for making out. I think it’d be fun to make a whole album for making out. That’s the kind of music I like to listen to

most. I don’t even have anyone that I make out with; it’s just mellow music.

What are some of the biggest challenges you’ve faced as a band?

We’ve had some really bad managers in the past and fired them and haven’t had a manager since then. We just kind of do everything ourselves. [Managers] are kind of in the band, so if you don’t vibe with them, you really shouldn’t work with them. And I’ve had to kick out a couple members, which is always hard.

Why do you use Watts’ lectures in your songs?

A lot of Eastern philosophy and meditation that I learned from Buddhist philosophy I’ve found to be really helpful even though I’m not Buddhist at all. I think it’s more of just a practical thing. With meditation, it’s just a thing you do that’s good for your mind. It’s a way to sneak some exposure of philosophy [into] something people wouldn’t expect. I’ve actually met people who’ve talked to me at shows that say because of [me, they] have a whole relationship now with Alan Watts. To me, that’s the coolest thing.

What’s your favorite thing about playing a live show in Chicago?

Really good food. And Intelligentsia named a coffee after us.

STRFKR will perform Sept. 17 at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. For more information, visit STRFKRMusic.com.

rsmithwoollams@chroniclemail.com



Tuesday, September 3

WAD

Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave.
8 p.m.
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Wednesday, September 4

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Metro, 3730 N. Clark St.
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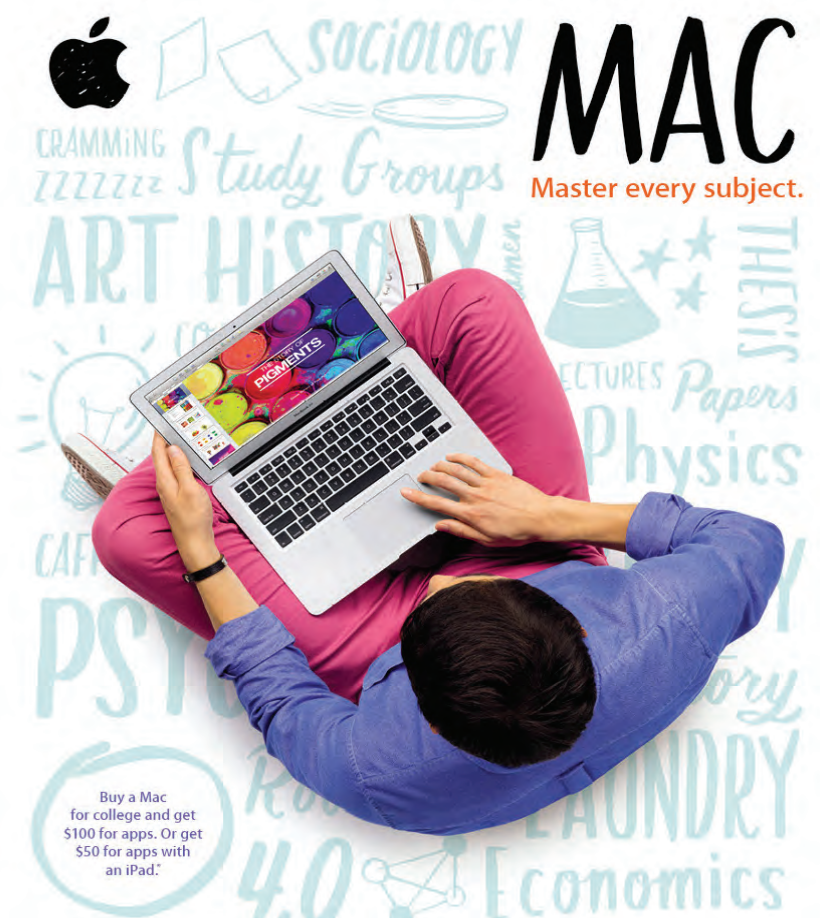
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Photos courtesy RACHELLE BEAUDOIN, Photo illustration Michael Scott Fischer THE CHRONICLE

Rachelle Beaudoin attempts to demonstrate the struggles of modern women by pole-dancing on a tree in her short film "Natural Woman," which will be shown at the comedy show "How Many Feminists Does It Take to Change a Light Bulb" at Antena Gallery, 1765 S. Laflin St.

Momentous laugh with feminism

ROSE SMITH-WOOLLAMS

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

SCANTILY CLAD IN a black bra and panties, video artist Rachelle Beaudoin awkwardly saunters around her version of a stripper pole before an absent audience. She pulls her body upward and thrusts her legs into the air, spiraling downward toward the ground. Her stage is covered with dirt and grass, her pole a thick tree trunk. Beaudoin is alone in a forest. This is one scene among other short scenes and live performances that cast a humorous light on feminism.

"How Many Feminists Does it Take to Change a Light Bulb" premieres Sept. 6 and runs through Sept. 28 at Antena Gallery, 1765 S. Laflin St.

Along with female video and performance artists, curator Sara McCool said the show aims to explore gender identity and challenges preconceived ideas about feminism. She said one of her goals with this project was to confront societal norms by asking audiences, "What makes a word sexist?"

McCool first explored the world of feminism at 14 and joined a national feminist punk rock community called Riot Grrrl with a mission of promoting women's rights by supporting women in music. But after years of involvement, she said she began to disagree with their ideas about approaching feminism and decided to create her own, switching her activism from music to comedy.

"Some people think that using humor lightens a situation, meaning that it's not a serious problem anymore," said Kelsie Huff, a Chicago comedian and feminist.

"People often think that if you laugh, you're taking the gravity away. The jokester isn't someone who can enforce change and only picketing, serious art or talking with politicians can force change," said Huff.

By fusing humorous performances and videos to draw attention to female inequalities, Beaudoin said the show aims to strengthen feminism through comedy to create a force as powerful as political involvement.

"Normally, you buy a ticket, you watch a stand-up night, you know what to expect," Beaudoin said. "But I think with what Sara has put together, you might see more tradi-

tional aspects but also an art performance that happens to be funny."

Her piece is brief and the physical humor will hopefully aid in its comedic value, Beaudoin said. In the clip there is a metaphor of the tree as a stripper pole, a statement she hopes will allow the audience to be more perceptive because its members know everything is intended to be tinged with humor, said Beaudoin.

Huff said McCool's method of blending comedy with important social issues is a powerful approach to get the general public to listen.

"I don't know why people think they have to be serious to make a point come across," Huff said. "By creating these communities and galleries just for women, it will make them flock in like crazy," she said.

Showing a number of films, the show will feature different female artists' interpretations of McCool's vision. Some segments in the screening include "What Would Sally Hemings Do?" by Marisa Williamson, which features Williamson performing as Thomas Jefferson's lover Sally Hemings in front of a large audience of tourists at Monticello, "Like Y R U Sooo Obsessed W/ Me???" by Sarah Kelly, in which she creates a hyper feminine and narcissistic space as she dances around the room provocatively for the camera and "On Display," by T. Foley, which feature monologues from men seeking women on Craigslist through Hector, a ventriloquist dummy.

Performing live for the opening evening only will be Julie Potratz doing a strip tease as Hillary Clinton, and The Puterbaugh Sisterz performing something from their current repertoire. The exhibition also includes photographs by Rosemarie Romero, whose work in the past has touched on female sexuality with a light-hearted edge.

In order to continue the feminist fight, McCool said she intends to keep approaching serious societal issues through comedic installations. Aspiring to redefine feminism by challenging Chicago audiences, McCool hopes they will leave feeling more comfortable discussing female empowerment.

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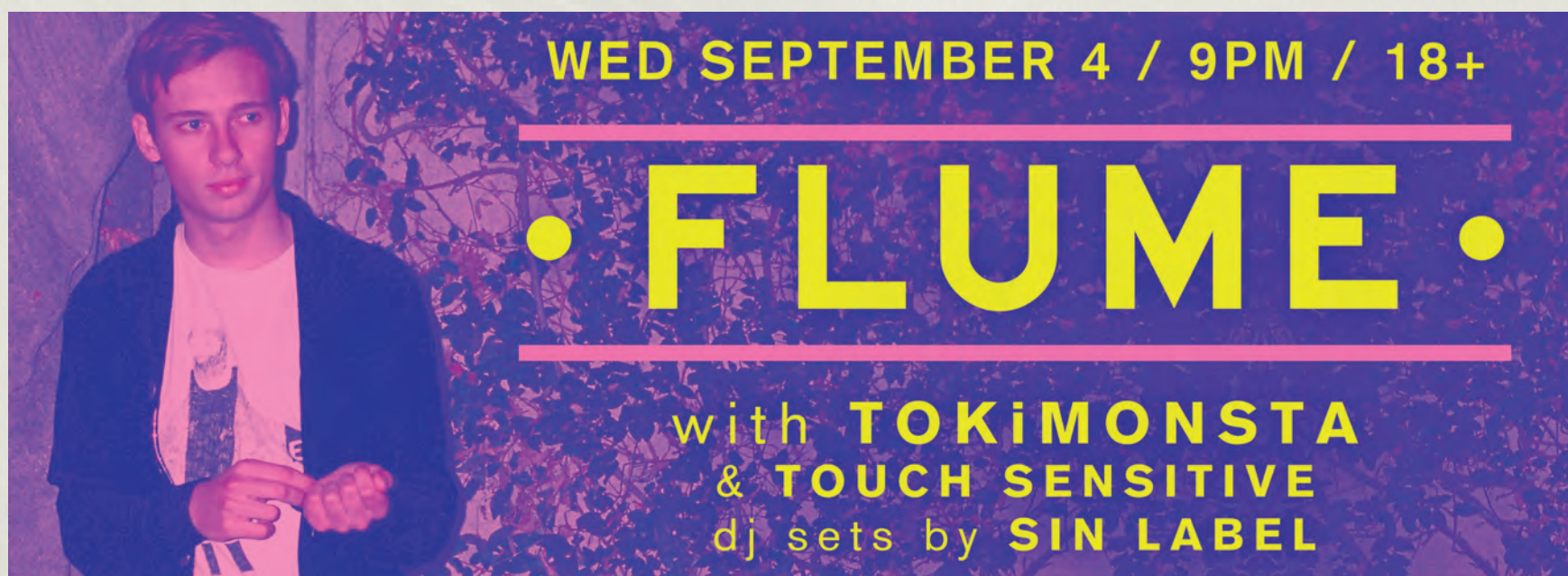
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Monday
September 16
18+ / 9PM

with
Duke Garwood

93XRT
the big beat



STFKR
CHROME SPARKS / FEELINGS
TUE SEPTEMBER 17 / 9PM / 18+



Wax Tailor
& THE DUSTY RAINBOW
EXPERIENCE
WITH OPENING ACT BUCK 65
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18
9PM / 18+

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6 / 9PM / 18+
93XRT'S BIG BEAT WELCOMES

VOLCANO CHOIR

SYLVAN ESSO

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7 / 7:15PM / ALL AGES

LOCAL H

PURPLE APPLE

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13 / 10PM / 18+
93XRT'S BIG BEAT WELCOMES

WASHED OUT

HAERTS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 / 9PM / 18+
RUN WITH IT PRESENTS: 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

MOXIE MOTIVE

VOLCANOES MAKE ISLANDS / THE WILD FAMILY / SUNJACKET

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19 / 8:30PM / 18+

VISTA CHINO

FT JOHN GARCIA AND BRANT BJORK FORMERLY OF KYUSS

BLACK PUSSY / I DECLINE

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20 / 9PM / 18+
93XRT'S BIG BEAT WELCOMES

PHOSPHORESCENT

INDIANS

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 22 / 8PM / 18+
THE WAR & PEACE TOUR

IMMORTAL TECHNIQUE / BROTHER ALI

DIABOLIC / I SELF DIVINE / Hosted by POISON PEN

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26 / 7:30PM / ALL AGES

SHOVELS & ROPE

SHAKY GRAVES

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27 / 6:30PM / 18+

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28 / 6:30PM / 18+

COLD WAVES II

FRI: PRONG / IRON LUNG CORP / 16 VOLT / SKREW

HATE DEPT. / EVIL MOTHERS / PLAGUE BRINGER

SAT: COCKS MEMBERS / DOUGLAS J MCCARTHY / DIE WARZAU

ACUCRACK / THE CLAY PEOPLE / EN ESCH / BILE

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 2 / 7:30PM / ALL AGES

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

FRIDAY OCTOBER 4 / 6:30PM / ALL AGES

TITLE FIGHT

BALANCE & COMPOSURE / CRUEL HAND / SLINGSHOT DAKOTA

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 / 9PM / 18+

GOLD PANDA

SLOW MAGIC / LUKE ABBOTT

MONDAY OCTOBER 7 / 8PM / 18+

WHITE LIES

IN THE VALLEY BELOW

TUESDAY OCTOBER 8 / 8PM / 18+

MARKY RAMONE'S BLITZKRIEG

with ANDREW W.K. on Vocals

FIGO

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 9 / 8PM / 18+

TRICKY

ROYAL CANOE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 11 / 9PM / 18+

ORCHARD LOUNGE

GIGAMESH

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 / 6:15PM / ALL AGES

BETWEEN THE BURIED AND ME

THE FACELESS / THE CONTORTIONIST / THE SAFETY FIRE

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13 / 9PM / 18+

GOBLIN

SECRET CHIEFS 3

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 / 6:30PM / ALL AGES

MINUS THE BEAR

INVSN / SLOW BIRD

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18 / 9PM / 18+

CHIRP RADIO WELCOMES

COCOROSIE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 / 9PM / 18+
93XRT WELCOMES

LITTLE GREEN CARS

FOY VANCE

TUESDAY OCTOBER 22 / 9PM / 18+

GODFLESH

PRURIENT

THURSDAY OCTOBER 24 / 6:30PM / ALL AGES

1833 PRESENTS / THE SMOKER'S CLUB TOUR

JOEY BADASS & PRO ERA

AB-SOUL / THE UNDERACHIEVERS / CHEVY WOODS

Music by STATIK SELEKTAH / Hosted by THE EMPEROR SHIEST BUBZ

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25 / 9PM / 18+

A METRO 30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

DESAPARECIDOS

THE SO SO GLOS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26 / 9PM / 18+

93XRT WELCOMES

WILD BELLE

SAINT RICH

TUESDAY OCTOBER 29 / 8PM / 18+
SEAN HEALY PRESENTS

YO GOTTI: I AM TOUR

featuring YG / ZED ZILLA / CASH OUT / SHY GLIZZY

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1 / 8PM / 18+

KATE NASH

LA SERA

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2 / 9PM / 18+

OKKERVIL RIVER

MATTHEW E. WHITE

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8 / 9PM / 18+

THE DEVIL MAKES THREE

11/9 HOLY GHOST! • 11/10 SLEIGH BELLS • 11/13 OLD 97's • 11/14 BUILT TO SPILL • 11/23 CULTS • 11/24 BALKAN BEAT BOX • 12/5 POLICA • 12/6 CHARLES BRADLEY & HIS EXTRAORDINAIRES

Tickets to Metro and Smart Bar shows are available via the Metro and Smart Bar websites and the Metro Box Office. There are NO SERVICE FEES at the Metro Box Office!

TOP 5



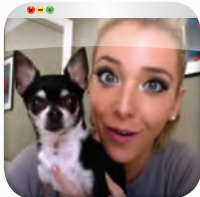
blog



Rich Kids of Instagram:

These aren't just any kids—these are rich kids. We're talkin' yachts, 12 Gucci watches on champagne bottles that cost more than your parents' house and day trips to Ibiza that make Paris club parties look pathetic. These are things you shouldn't take our word for, you have to see for yourself. Also, if you haven't seen a Hermes USB drive, this is your chance.

video



How to annoy your dogs:

When Jenna Marbles comes out with her videos, you know they're going to be hilarious. But learning how to annoy

your dogs is essential, especially if your dogs are the barks-a-lot kind. The nonchalant way Jenna threatens to take away her dogs' toys is a good way to piss them off instead. TIP: Next time you see your dog, hold their tongue.



Kaley Fowler Managing Editor

REASONS I KIND OF ENJOY LIVING IN A FOOD DESERT

The journey: By nature of living in a food desert, the nearest major grocery store is at least a mile away from my apartment, meaning I either have to make a sweaty trek or wait for the No. 76 bus, which never actually seems to arrive. I usually end up walking the distance, and although it's a major pain, it makes me feel like I've earned my purchases. After all, you have to sing—or slog—for your supper.

Portion control: Because I have to tote my shopping bags for half an hour, I purchase only the essentials. My arms aren't strong enough to bear the weight of impulsive purchases like fruits and vegetables when I'm already struggling to juggle a week's supply of Cheetos and frozen pizza.

Value menus: What my 'hood lacks in produce, it compensates with fast food. I live within walking distance of McDonald's, Burger King and Dunkin' Donuts. Can someone please explain to Michelle Obama how cool that is?

Convenience stores: The 24-hour mini mart on the corner always has my back when the fridge is scarce and I'm not down to make the long haul to the market. Plus, where else would I be able to buy bottom-shelf wine, Pizza Rolls and toothpaste at 2 a.m.?

Creativity: I have limited ingredients at my disposal, so it forces me to think of innovative recipes like lunch meat soup and peanut butter rice. I'm no Ina Garten, though, so I usually just opt to eat a frozen dinner and pretend it's one of my gourmet creations.



Lindsey Woods Editor-in-Chief

LIES THIS SUMMER'S POP SONGS TOLD ME

"I don't care": As a matter of fact, I do care. I would care a lot if I crashed my car into a bridge. My insurance premiums would skyrocket and the resulting medical bills would cost more than a semester at Columbia.

"You know you want it": No means no, Robin Thicke. There is nothing blurry about those lines. Your music may be described as "panty-dropping," but that certainly does not obligate me to do so.

"I'm up all night to get some": I usually go to bed at a reasonable hour, but if I am up late, it's usually to watch reruns of "The Office" and "30 Rock." Even if I were up all night looking to get lucky, there's usually slim pickings by the time the sun comes up. Alas, all of the good prospects have usually paired up with someone else before sunrise.

"We can't stop": You can, and there's help out there, Miley. Unlike Ms. Cyrus, I can and do stop whenever I feel like it. I'm all about getting "turnt up" with my "home girls," but when people start making out with plastic dolls in pools, I usually know it's time to leave.

"Tonight's the night we forget about the deadlines": I am almost 22, and let me tell you, Taylor Swift, I have not forgotten about my deadlines. That would be irresponsible. You're in your twenties now, and it's time to start taking responsibility for your actions.



Emily Ornberg Managing Editor

MOST PATHETIC TIMES I'VE NEARLY BROKEN MY ANKLES

Competing in a volleyball tournament: Although it's seemingly badass that I was a junior Olympic volleyball player at one point in my clumsy life, it was because of this incident that my tendons are all kinds of jacked up. During a game at the end of the annual President's Day tournament, I collided with—and proceeded to topple over—our setter. My ankle snapped immediately, forcing me to be swept off the court. We ended up losing this tournament, but at least I got everyone's attention.

Dancing on stage during my high school musical: After a costume change backstage at "Seussical the Musical," a.k.a. the height of my theater career, my neon green leg-warmer went under my heel and in the air I flew. I was on crutches for weeks and the story became the sole topic of summer grad party buffet conversation.

Seeking attention: When I was a four-year-old, my older sister had a pony at her birthday party—that ain't right. While making my boss-ass pony-treatin' entrance in my white pleather cowboy boots, I strutted down the porch staircase, immediately tripping and cascading down the majority of them.

A\$AP Rocky/Danny Brown concert: Although it was arguably the most trill show I've ever attended, the ratchet-ness at the Congress Theater resulted in both purple \$WAG and purple ankles.

Running from the cops in high school: Let's just say I didn't make it over the fence.

Turning expectations into anticipation

JORDAN HOLTANE

Film Critic

A MAN SITS bloodied and slumped on a chair, surrounded by menacing gangsters. After draining him of information, a burly thug wraps a length of wire around his neck. It runs across the room, gleaming and delicate. Suddenly, the gangster pulls tight and the wire snaps. The man in the chair gasps, gurgles, gags, then goes silent.

The man in the chair is Anwar Congo, a brutal death squad leader responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocent people in Sumatra, Indonesia in 1965-1966. He is re-enacting a scene from his past, one in which he was the man holding the wire.

In the stunning 2012 documentary "The Act of Killing," which played at the Music Box until Sept. 1, filmmaker Josh Oppenheimer follows Congo as his cohorts proudly recre-

ate scenes of their crimes in front of the camera. Congo revels in the creativity and meticulousness of his crimes, repeatedly acknowledging his debt to American gangster films.

Oppenheimer, a Texas-born director influenced by the work of Dusan Makaveyev, father of the Yugoslavian new wave of the '60s and '70s, also allows Congo to illustrate his killings. These sequences are alternately appalling and hilarious but always absurd and surreal. We're torn between despising their villainy and enjoying the sheer humor of these vignettes.

Indeed, extremes drive this film, navigating the conflict between honesty and artifice. While honest about their crimes—they revel in every detail of their own horrifying stories—subjects still engage in revisionist history to make their cinematic stories more entertaining and dramatic. One scene shows Congo's friend suggest including a

story about the death of his stepfather at the hands of another death squad. However, Congo and the others quickly dismiss it as unimportant. The very fact that they're recreating their own pasts allows them to revise the events, and Oppenheimer captures this process with the fascination and skill of a social scientist.

There is also the art-imitates-life-imitates-art paradox. As well as having the men recreate their crimes, Oppenheimer makes the brilliant decision to include scenes of the men watching their re-enactments, offering a second level of confrontation. The men at one point discuss things they would change if they could re-shoot the scenes. It's amusing, their attention to detail, until you remember the context. Congo regrets his choice of outfit in one scene, saying it "looks like [he's] going to a picnic" rather than committing a murder. Every



moment of the film is, baffling in its implausibility, but there it is.

It's an impossible film—its subjects, happenstance and implications are beyond belief. It does nothing less than call into question our perspective toward history as being driven by "good" and "bad" sides.

This is the most important accomplishment of "The Act of Killing." Obliterating the idea of the traditional villain.

These are men who did monstrous things but couldn't seem any further from being monsters

themselves. It objectively suggests that there is no such thing as evil. Getting to know these men, we begin to empathize with them. They are funny, loving fathers and grandfathers. They exhibit a glorious sense of friendship and love among one another. When Congo weeps, we want to console him. But then, just before we do, we remember his crimes. It's an issue of proximity. Evil is perhaps something that can only be seen while squinting from a distance.

jholtane@chroniclemail.com

REVIEWS

LEGENDARY!

I'm feelin' it.

Tolerable.

Uhhmm, WTF?

No—just no.

Screen



“Teen Mom 3”

MTV is, sadly, at it again. If you think this season will provide any new drama besides crying and screaming, you'll be disappointed. Couples are getting engaged, not to mention breaking up and getting back together again. The babies are still backdrops to their parents' drama. —**K. Lounsberry**



“The Real Housewives of New Jersey”

The newest episode of season five took the housewives Aug. 25 to Arizona for some relaxation. It led to a few great heartwarming moments with some of the housewives, but there were also the usual fake comments. Also, any episode without screaming matches always disappoints me. —**M. Castellucci**



“Orange is the New Black”

This isn't a series about prisoners; it's a series about women. This dramatic first season of the Netflix original series gathered the conventional array of prison stereotypes and exposed them as belittling. It even features a theme song by Regina Spektor, making it a must-see in my book. —**Z. Miller**



“MTV Video Music Awards”

They promised no sleep, and no sleep we received. With a plethora of not-so-appealing acts mixed with a few world premiere performances, MTV produced one of the more lively VMAs in recent years. Besides, who didn't want to see Miley's tongue every five seconds? —**K. Lounsberry**

Print



“Inappropriate Life” by Heather McDonald

McDonald's position as comedian Chelsea Handler's right-hand helps her deliver hilarious material in her new book. While her zingers may not be as prolific as Handler's observations, she still knows how to provide enough material to keep the laughs coming. —**T. Eagle**



ELLE Magazine August issue

I love that ELLE put Amanda Seyfried on the cover of their August issue. As for someone who is commonly known as America's innocent sweetheart, she showed a different side in this editorial that gave an honest insight into who she really is. —**K. Davis**



Chicago Reader issue 8/22

This recent coverage of the March on Washington draws a clear connection between the civil rights movement in the '60s and Chicago's contemporary socioeconomic issues. The graphics could be more visually appealing, but the words paint a clear image of America then and now. —**T. Walk-Morris**



Media reaction on Miley Cyrus

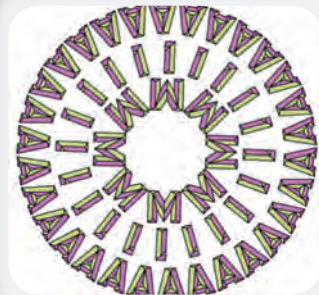
“Miley Cyrus and the issues of slut-shaming and racial condescension” by The Washington Post sheds light on the double standards young women like Miley face. It makes you wonder if it's right to trash talk Miley without putting Robin Thicke on blast. —**J. Wittich**

Music



“Overtime” by Cash Cash

Although this song made me want to bust out my tutu and act like a 16-year-old girl at The Congress Theater, I'm kind of diggin' it. The beat really does make me want to “get up and get it” or “work it overtime.” The song is also a little long, but the first bass drop is why I'll up my rating. —**J. Wolan**



“UNBREAK my Mixtape” by M.I.A.

M.I.A. has become famous for her badass music. Her new song may have taken fighting the norm to a new level of different. Although I'm all for her expressing her feelings rather than political beliefs for once, the beat playing in the background just ended up feeling fragmented. —**R. Smith-Woolams**



Trouble by Natalia Kills

We were promised Marilyn Manson, but Natalia Kills channeled a more experimental Lindsay Lohan circa “Confessions of a Broken Heart” on her sophomore release *Trouble*. There's nothing more frustrating than attempting to disguise campy lyrics with a gritty guitar. —**J. Moran**



“Ghosts” by Mayday Parade

Punk artists of Mayday Parade are still making music as they know best, with catchy melodies piquing the interest of listeners who have been waiting over a year for a new single. The new album has a lot of potential, if this is any indication of what will be on the full-length version. —**H. Kostelnik**

Random



Football season

My anticipation for football season is rivaled only by a child's anticipation of Santa Claus' visit on Christmas Eve. My hockey hangover has been killing me since the Blackhawks secured the Cup, and the only cure is Jay Cutler's scowl and his love affair with Brandon Marshall's hands. —**L. Woods**



COVERGIRL Flamed Out mascara

I recently bought this blazing eye make-up and, to be honest, I am not that impressed. The brush is shaped in a figure-eight-like fashion and the mascara looks more charcoal gray than black. P!nk definitely rocked the look in the ads, but it's not for everyone. Buyers beware. —**A. Kukulka**



Return of the pumpkin spice latte

After a seven-month hiatus, the love of my life is back. Although he left abruptly without a goodbye, I've welcomed him with open arms—and an open mouth. The pumpkin spice latte is back to fulfill my wanton heart's frothy desires and quench my deepest thirsts for steamy satisfaction. —**K. Fowler**



The ending of Dunkin Donuts happy hour

During the summer, Dunkin bestowed the greatest gift to humanity: \$1 iced coffee from 3–6 p.m. There wasn't a day I couldn't convince myself to scrounge up a few quarters for some iced coffee. Alas, just as summer has to wind down, all good things must come to an end. —**E. Ornberg**



CAMPUS EDITORIAL

President’s priorities appropriate

WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL search committee recently disbanded, its selection, Kwang-Wu Kim, has assembled his own team to search for another top administrator. Kim announced Aug. 28 that a 16-person committee will interview and select candidates for permanent provost, a position held on an interim basis by Louise Love for the past two years.

Every college and university has a provost, although his or her duties vary from institution to institution. A provost handles the overall vision for the college’s academics and manages day-to-day functions, while the faculty and deans develop the curriculum for each program, Kim said. Columbia’s provost will also hold the title of senior vice president, according to Kim.

It’s hard to determine what exactly the new provost will be responsible for but Kim has made it clear whoever it is will be the second most influential member of the administration, giving the search a sense of urgency. Leaving such an important post vacant for too long could have profound consequences

and could hinder Kim’s ability to make changes to the college.

Love currently performs all the provost’s functions but has not been able to implement a long-term vision because she does not officially hold the title. As reported Oct. 15, 2012 by The Chronicle, Love was briefly promoted to provost before former president Warrick L. Carter rescinded his decision. He announced his intention to continue a search for a provost but after a year had not convened a search committee.

A permanent provost could have helped coordinate curriculum and possible changes to programs, but academic guidance has fallen squarely on the shoulders of the deans and faculty, which creates a divide among departments. This added responsibility is piled on to budget cuts and demanding schedules, which have already taken their toll on Columbia’s staff.

Many of the positions within college administration are difficult to define, and Kim will need to give a clear definition of the provost’s duties in the future. In the past,

college officials have been ideologically and physically distant from the student body, the four floors between them more like a chasm. Filling the provost position would help to alleviate some of animosity caused by things like the prioritization process, and students need to be involved throughout all of the committee’s decisions. Kim has selected a student liaison—Luke Crawford, a junior arts, entertainment & media management and marketing communication double major—to serve on the provost committee. Crawford will, ideally, keep the Columbia community informed throughout the search.

Despite his short tenure in office, Kim has already made finding a provost a priority, which could be indicative of how quickly he plans to remedy issues at the college. Despite inheriting a number of thorny problems left over from years of decreasing enrollment and an economic recession, the president has already shown promising dedication to improving the college.

For more information about the provost search, see Front Page.

CITY EDITORIAL

Safe Passage expensive, unsafe experiment

AS A RESULT of closing 47 elementary schools and one high school over the summer—two more elementary schools will close within the year—more than 30,000 students are forced to travel on designated Safe Passage routes lined with officers to reach their schools, according to a June 24 Chicago Public Schools press release. The school district added 52 new routes to accommodate the extra students.

CPS also doubled the number of trained Safe Passage officers from 600 to 1,200, according to an Aug. 21 press release from Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s office. However, the Safe Passage workers are not police officers or trained to control violence; they are only trained to anticipate and de-escalate situations, in the words of Emanuel’s press release.

Programs like Safe Passage are also expensive. Each officer is required to work five hours per day for five days a week and receives \$10 per hour, according to

the CPS website. CPS will have to find \$300,000 per week just to pay Safe Passage workers who might not even be able to stop an attack, should one occur. According to an Aug. 26 paper by University of Illinois at Chicago criminology professor John Hagedorn, tensions between incoming transfers and students in the welcoming schools can also be an issue because many students will be forced into schools with rival gang members.

But the danger along the passageways is just one facet of the problem. What about the six to eight uncontrolled blocks that many children have to walk along just to reach “safe” routes?

Some critics have suggested employing Chicago Police Department officers to monitor the routes but the department is already understaffed. Reallocating officers to those routes would stretch them even more, and the presence of police officers often contributes tension rather than relieving it.

Adding more officers could work in the short term, but they would be better used combatting the systemic violence and gang activity surrounding the routes.

While it is admirable that the city and community are trying to come up with solutions to protect children, hiring extra Safe Passage officers is a reactionary measure that may at best stop violence once it breaks out but it will do nothing to prevent it in the long run. The Safe Passage program is a bandage on the larger face of the issue that, while necessary, will not reduce violence in the communities on its own. If the mayor can shake hands at schools to congratulate himself on the good PR, he can certainly spend some time in underserved districts of the city formulating a plan to create better anti-gang activities for youth and adults in all neighborhoods.

For more information regarding the Safe Passage program, see Front Page.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL

Voter restrictions ID Supreme Court slipup

THE SUPREME COURT recently overturned Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which required some states to get approval from the Department of Justice before they could legally change voting processes. Within a month of the ruling, several states amended their voting laws to include stringent photo ID requirements, prompting speculation that states are reverting to the same racially motivated voting restrictions the act originally sought to eliminate.

The Voting Rights Act was enacted to prevent racial discrimination at the polls, something that was prevalent at the time. The section the Supreme Court overturned June 25 targeted nine states—Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia, in addition to many counties in states like North Carolina and Florida—where voter turnout was less than 50 percent and literacy or English-proficiency tests were administered prior to 1965 to restrict voter eligibility.

The June Supreme Court ruling states that in 1965, it was necessary for the Department of Justice to screen such proposals, but “the conditions that originally justified these measures no longer characterize voting in the covered jurisdictions.” In other words, the court’s decision implies that extreme racism, which made the Voting Rights Act necessary in the 60s, no longer exists.

The photo ID laws are designed to make voting as difficult as possible, especially for immigrant and minority groups. Immigrants may lack the proper form of ID necessary or fail English proficiency tests. A January 2009 study from Washington University found that a restrictive voter ID law in Indiana disproportionately affected black adults because only 71.7 percent possessed the proper ID required to vote, while 83.2 percent of eligible white adults met the requirement.

In light of the repeal of Section 4, Texas enacted an ID requirement

that the Department of Justice challenged in a lawsuit filed Aug. 22, alleging the stipulation is unconstitutional and discriminatory. North Carolina enacted photo ID laws to “prevent voter fraud,” according to an Aug. 12 statement from Gov. Pat McCrory. However, data collected through polls and voter registration indicate that voter fraud is nearly nonexistent nationwide. An analysis, published Aug. 12, 2012 by online journalism project News21, tracked voter fraud from 2000–2012 and found only 2,068 cases in the entire U.S., a percentage so close to zero that it is negligible. The occasional incidence of voter fraud does not warrant the implementation of a photo ID requirement.

McCrory claims that North Carolina’s voter ID law brings the state into “the healthy majority of states” that require photo ID, but only four states currently enforce a strict photo ID law, according to information from the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Republican-controlled state legislatures like Texas, North Carolina and Arkansas, now free to independently regulate their election processes, are rushing to implement restrictions on eligible voters. According to the NCSL website, all the states previously restricted by Section 4 have Republican-controlled governments, and so far Arkansas, Alabama, Virginia and Mississippi have passed strict photo ID laws.

By repealing this stipulation of the Voting Rights Act, the Supreme Court has made it easier for Republican-controlled states to enact racist voting regulations. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg pointed this out in her dissent, saying that repealing this section “is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm.” If discrimination that blatantly violates the Fifteenth Amendment can happen so easily and legally, the nation is obviously in denial about the racism that is just tucked beneath the facade of politically correct terminology.

Menthols nearing last drag, schools lost in PR haze



WILL HAGER
Copy Chief

RECENT FOOD AND Drug

Administration rumblings about the dangers of menthol cigarettes have reached the ears of Mayor Rahm Emanuel, whose latest crusade against menthols seems just as broad as his stringent criticism of other vices.

The fate of the “cooled” cigarette is one step closer to getting crushed as the FDA announced July 23 it was debating whether to place restrictions on menthols after a recent scientific review found they are easier to smoke. The review didn’t find menthol cigarettes to be more harmful but docked the minty smokes for their cooling properties,

which tame down the harshness of smoke, encouraging new smokers. Without waiting for a federal mandate from the FDA, Emanuel went straight to the Chicago Board of Health and the Chicago Department of Public Health to gather data and rally support for his own agenda.

More peculiar than his anti-menthol stance is the timing of Emanuel’s activism. Although the FDA released the initial report mid-July, Emanuel strategically withheld his concerns about menthols until early September—when the Chicago Public Schools train wreck has been at its ugliest—easily his office’s most difficult month from a public relations standpoint. An Aug. 21 mayoral press release specifically cited black youth as susceptible to menthols, with 72 percent of black smokers ages 12–17 opting for the flavored tobacco. LGBTQ and Asian youth were close behind, with 71 percent of both demographics preferring menthol cigarettes.

A too-good-to-be-true coupon launched another mayoral maelstrom of criticism. The city’s Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection issued several violations against R.J.

Reynolds, the second-largest tobacco behemoth in the U.S., for distributing coupons for \$1 packs of menthol cigarettes at a Lakeview bar Aug. 11 without proper licensing. Emanuel criticized the coupon, saying the marketing and its bright purple colors target youth citywide, even though they were distributed in a bar.

Blaming big tobacco is an easy sell, and Emanuel is certainly not the first politician to use the “cigarettes-use-colors-to-attract-kids” argument. It is also an enormous red herring. Emanuel doesn’t want to get burned while the CPS controversy of the past year continues to thunder on. Claiming to protect children by campaigning against menthols while simultaneously limiting educational resources is like getting shot in the stomach and bandaging your arm.

While parents are trying to figure

out which school to squeeze their kids into, Emanuel’s press office is dropping press releases with ambitious titles such as “Mayor Emanuel Cracks Down on the Tobacco Industry Over Marketing of Menthol Tobacco in Continuing Efforts to Reduce Tobacco Use Among Youth.” It sounds like the bureaucratic romance section of the Library of Congress.

According to the Aug. 21 mayoral press release, Emanuel and the city’s health organizations will host four town hall meetings in September to gather community input before they consider creating a policy change. The 90-minute forums are intended to collect raw input that the Chicago Department of Public Health will analyze into a “comprehensive report.” It is hard to believe the town hall meetings will add up to anything more than the mayor’s office saying, “We wanted everyone’s input at the

meeting before we passed this new policy. You had a chance!”

This is not the first time Emanuel has donned his activist hat. With nearly full support from City Hall, Emanuel has been known to pass ordinances at a tremendously fast and consistent rate, allowing him to sneak in nitpicky legislation with little-to-no opposition. However, Emanuel’s approval rating has seen a consistent decline, according to a Market Shares Corp. poll conducted April 30. More than half of all Chicago residents said they think Emanuel is not in touch with people similar to them. Black residents polled at 62 percent, the largest demographic to report feeling disconnected from the mayor, the poll stated.

Emanuel should be more active from an infrastructural standpoint rather than picking scabs off the still-bleeding system. There are bigger issues than menthol cigarettes crippling city youth. Similar to the parking meter fiasco and food truck resistance, Emanuel needs to focus his energies on overhauling poorly-designed systems rather than tweaking flawed results.

whager@chroniclemail.com

It’s sad that Emanuel is using health concerns to distract from the school closings.

What should the new president’s first priority be?

STUDENT POLL



Honesty is probably first ... A lot of people think people who work at this school are here to see how much money we can get from the students.

Anthony Pavel junior music major



Even though the school is a nonprofit thing, he should be able to run the school like a business and be prepared to make decisions that are going to save money.

Racquel Cable senior fiction writing major



Definitely be in touch with technology and how it affects every field of study, but also to have that one or two steps ahead to see how it can keep Columbia a great institution.

Laquis Harkins graduate arts, entertainment & media management major

Bring more LGBT characters to the big screen



HEATHER KOSTELNIK
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

WITH A PLATFORM to reach the masses, the television and film industries can influence and spark change among viewers. Yet many fan favorites fall flat on inspiring American culture with a lack of equal representation for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, an organization dedicated to furthering LGBT equality, released its first Studio Responsibility Index Aug. 21 examining LGBT representation in films released in 2012. The report surveyed the

quantity, quality and diversity of LGBT characters in films released by six major American studios: 20th Century Fox, Paramount Pictures, Sony Columbia, Universal Pictures, The Walt Disney Studios and Warner Brothers.

The index criteria, which determined whether films would pass or fail, used the “Vito Russo Test.” For a film to pass, it must have identifiable LGBT characters who are predominately not defined by their sexual orientation and must be fundamental to the plot structure of the film.

Films passing the index test include “Skyfall,” from Sony Columbia Studios, “Pitch Perfect” from Universal Pictures and “Cloud Atlas” from Warner Brother Studios. Some studios, however, failed to produce any LGBT-inclusive films, like 20th Century Fox, which had zero passing films, and Walt Disney Studios, which put out only one film, “The Avengers,” that included a quick LGBT cameo.

While the film industry neglects LGBT representation, the television business showcases far more LGBT characters than feature-length films, according to a separate study GLAAD conducted in 2003. Only 26 LGBT characters

were on television in 2003, despite 33 percent of Americans supporting gay marriage, the study found. Fast forward to 2012, a similar study shows 111 LGBT characters on TV and 53 percent of American favor gay marriage.

TV showcases many LGBT individuals, most notably in the popular sitcom “Modern Family,” which may be one of the most obvious instances of a gay couple featured on television. Both characters serve as a positive expression of same-sex couples living in a family situation.

More than 30 years ago, “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” caught audiences off guard with its depiction of a transgender man in a leading role, and the shock contributed to the film’s status as a cult classic. Although transgender persons were something of a spectacle at the time, they are more widely accepted today and should also have more representation.

Not one film in the 2012 index included a transgender person. There have been several transgender roles on television, like Isis King who competed in the 11th and 17th cycles of “America’s Next Top Model.” More recently, the Netflix series “Orange is The

New Black” features Laverne Cox, a transgender woman, as a main character. These productions spotlight transgender people, yet this group remains absent from movies released by the six studios examined in GLAAD’s report.

With such member representation being noticed in the TV and movie industry, artists such as Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and Macklemore have the music industry covered with songs addressing equal love, acceptance and marriage equality. The fashion industry also has several marriage equality advocates pushing for LGBT acceptance. Designer Michael Kors is married to former intern Lance LePere, and reality fashion competition “Project Runway” featured a challenge highlighting equal marriage rights.

With too many sharing the belief that LGBT culture is taboo, it’s hard to make society confront this increasingly prevalent presence in mainstream media. Representation of the transgender community is lagging even further behind in films than lesbian and gay characters, simply because they shock people with a reality that is not their own. That doesn’t mean this demographic should be excluded;

individuality should be celebrated.

As society increasingly accepts LGBT persons, filmmakers must stop excluding them from films. It’s completely understandable that not every movie has a gay character, but movies have the ability to show viewers a world they can relate to their own lives. An accurate image of the real world includes LGBT persons, and they should be evident in the plots of box office hits.

Today, 13 states allow same-sex marriage, with more than 41 percent of the country recognizing marriage or a broad legal status, such as civil union or domestic partnership, among same-sex couples. With almost half of the states providing some type of legal protection for LGBT people, it’s time the film industry follows suit.

People of all ages must acknowledge and accept same-sex couples in person, as well as on screen. LGBT visibility on-screen and off should continue to increase. Ideally, with LGBT culture becoming more widely embraced nationwide, next year’s GLAAD index will be more diverse and reflective of the increasingly common societal norms.

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September 3, 2013 • 41

★ ARE YOU THERE, RAHM? IT'S ME, TAXPAYER ★ by Kaley Fowler Managing Editor

Crooked comptroller continues corruption

IN KEEPING WITH a reputation tainted by decades of corruption, Chicago's political notoriety is thriving as the city comptroller abruptly resigned July 23 in the midst of a federal probe into his alleged financial chicanery.

Amer Ahmad, who Mayor Rahm Emanuel handpicked to serve as comptroller in May 2011, submitted his resignation shortly before he was indicted on federal charges Aug. 15 for his involvement in a money laundering scheme while serving as Ohio's deputy treasurer. According to multiple news sources, Ahmad is accused of directing contracts for investment work to his close friends in exchange for an estimated \$500,000 in kickbacks while in Ohio.

Since the indictment, Emanuel has told multiple news outlets he was unaware of the controversy prior to the news of Ahmad's recent indictment, yet the ex-comptroller has been under investigation since November 2010—five months before Emanuel hired him.

During an Aug. 27 press conference, Emanuel said he wouldn't have hired Ahmad if he had been privy to the investigation, but it's

hard to believe Emanuel's administration didn't vet the to-be comptroller thoroughly enough to discover that the feds suspected he was laundering money.

In an email to the Chicago Tribune, mayoral spokeswoman Sarah Hamilton said the "city routinely conducts criminal background checks, city residency verification and city indebtedness checks. A confidential federal investigation of this nature would not have been revealed in any such review."

While criminal background checks and residency verification are necessary, the hiring process should delve deeper than the public domain to ensure no criminals fall through the cracks and into City Hall. In many cases, a criminal background check is inconclusive because it only details crimes that have been prosecuted. In the case of Ahmad, and numerous other Chicago politicians, his illegal doings were mere allegations when he took office in Chicago.

Ahmad's record of laundering funds would have easily raised a red flag during the hiring process considering the sensitive nature of the comptroller position. As comp-



troller, Ahmad had the authority to collect revenue, influence policy, select insurance vendors and pay city wages and contract payments. In retrospect, granting Ahmad power over the city's budget displays questionable judgement. Whether he conducted any shady spending in Chicago remains to be seen.

Emanuel's office will launch an investigation into Ahmad's work as comptroller to determine if he abused his position. Had Emanuel's office made a greater effort to thoroughly assess Ahmad in the first place, perhaps this controversy—and yet another embarrassment for Chicago government—could have been avoided.

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Kirk cracks down on crime

ZACH MILLER

Assistant Metro Editor

SEN. MARK KIRK has adopted a firm stance against violent gang activity and crimes involving firearms, vocally supporting increased law enforcement and gang-related prosecution. After successfully advocating cuts in federal funding, Kirk embraced a prosecution-oriented stance over a prevention-based approach that is more costly than prosecution.

Kirk's efforts include leading the passage of the Fiscal Year 2014 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations bill, approved by the House Appropriations Commit-

tee July 17. The bill allocates \$52.3 billion in discretionary spending to various government department, a portion of which is dedicated to fighting gang activity and violent gun crimes. At the federal level, the bill recommends \$1.14 billion go to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to enforce existing gun laws, and \$8.1 billion go to the FBI for national security programs, including reining in violent gang crime. The state and local law enforcement would receive \$1.89 billion for state and police and crime prevention grant programs, along with programs that combat

violence against women, help missing and exploited children, improve school safety and reduce overcrowding in prisons, according to the bill.

The bill suggests a focus on aggressive law enforcement and prosecution, as highlighted by Kirk's call during an interview on Chicago Tonight to arrest 18,000 Gangster Disciple members earlier this year. "Senator Kirk is focused on aggressively solving gang violence at every level, from prevention to prosecution," an email from Kirk's office stated. "With Illinois leading the nation in per-capita gang membership, Senator Kirk believes we

reducing violent gun crime in Chicago's most dangerous district.

According to an Aug. 19 press release from Kirk's office, part of Kirk's bill recommends allocating \$12 million, to the Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program, which is an initiative driven by comprehensive research and modeled after Project Safe Neighborhoods, a program funded through the Department of Justice. The Chicago chapter of Project Safe Neighborhoods partnered with researchers to develop methods that effectively reduce the city's high rates of homicide and gun violence, according to the organization's website. Papachristos

“A lot of the money we received for the anti-gang initiatives in the past has been spent.”

— Ron DeWald

must use all tools available to curb gang violence.”

As part of his effort against crime, Kirk toured Englewood with Congressman Bobby Rush on Aug. 29, according to a press release from the senator's office. Both representatives have been very vocal against gang violence and advocate for a change.

Comprehensive studies by Andrew Papachristos and Tracey Meareas of Yale University, and Jeffrey Fagan of Columbia University, support preventive, outreach, and re-entry programs as significant methods of

has studied the program since its 2002 inception and compared the program to traditional criminal justice policies.

“This is the opposite of a mass incarceration plan,” Papachristos said. “I think [this] type of approach ... [is] more effective than a broad, sweeping policy.”

Conclusions found in Papachristos' research, suggest that Project Safe Neighborhoods plays a statistically significant role in reducing neighborhood crimes. The analysis focused on four of the PSN

reducing violent gun crime in Chicago's most dangerous district.

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» SEE GANGS, PG. 47

x Notable Native

GAIL MERRITT

Organization: Alliance for a Greener South Loop Neighborhood: South Loop



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

ZACH MILLER

Assistant Metro Editor

THE ALLIANCE FOR a Greener South Loop is a coalition of community organizations, institutions and businesses striving to reduce their environmental footprint in the South Loop. The Alliance, formed in 2006, is composed solely of volunteers and relies on the dedication of a few tireless individuals, like cofounder Gail Merritt. Merritt sat down with The Chronicle to discuss change, the South Loop and making a difference.

The Chronicle: Why did you found the Alliance for a Greener South Loop?

Gail Merritt: I had a history of working in the community, so I was very aware of how effective a group of people can be versus one person. So that's part of the answer. The other part is I had seen Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" and I was feeling like I had to do something. So the combination of those two things led me to think, "Well we've already got quite a few community organizations in our wonderful neighborhood. What if we got together an alliance of different community organizations to work together to try and make a difference?"

What has been your most significant experience working with the Alliance?

There are two programs we designed that I think have been really great for connecting with the community. One of them is the Greener South Loop Awards Program. It was meant to recognize buildings and businesses that are being deliberate in trying to improve what they do to try and make a difference in terms of the environment. The other program that we have designed and implemented is the Meatless Mondays in May Program. A lot of people had no idea that eating meat really made an environmental impact and that just cutting back one day a week might be an easy way for people to make a difference. And that's our mission, making people aware on different things we can do individually and collectively.

Where do you see AGSL in the next five years?

Because we're an all-volunteer organization, and people's interest and availability ebbs and flows over time, I'd like to think that there will continue to be folks in the South Loop who want to pitch in and help run these. So it really depends on folks in the community what comes of the alliance.

If you could change one thing about the South Loop, what would it be?

Our collective identity is still kind of growing. I would love to see people feeling like the South Loop is as rich in all sorts of wonderful things to do and be a part of as any other community in Chicago.

What have been the greatest struggles you've experienced in your time at AGSL?

Well, it gets back to that volunteer business. We've all got other commitments and just having a core group of people who can pitch in to help keep the programs going, that's been our biggest challenge.

How have you combatted that?

We just try to be realistic about what we can do with the resources that we have, so I think just having a lot of flexibility and being realistic. That's about the only way we can keep going.

What trends have you noticed among businesses, institutions and buildings that have received the Greenest award?

I think there's a pride of being recognized for doing something. Which is what we were aiming for really. So I guess a pride of being recognized and also a willingness to share. It's been great to see how award-winners are happy to share their experience with others.

What suggestions do you have for individuals who want to make a difference?

Talk to your neighbors. A lot of people are already doing things on their own. I think it's when we start working together that we see a much bigger difference.

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Controversial new law addresses stolen, lost guns

KAITLIN LOUNSBERRY

Assistant Metro Editor

STEMMING FROM THE July 9 passage of concealed carry laws in Illinois, Gov. Pat Quinn signed House Bill 1189 on Aug. 18 to address public safety issues that may accompany allowing residents to carry hidden weapons.

According to the bill, the owner of a stolen or misplaced firearm is required to report the missing weapon to local law enforcement within 72 hours of noticing it is gone. The bill further states that the first time a person fails to report the incident, he or she is guilty of a petty offense, which imposes a maximum fine of \$1,000. A second violation results in a Class A misdemeanor, which carries a sentence of less than one year in prison and a maximum fine of \$2,500 per offense.

HB 1189, which passed through the House of Representatives 70-48 and the Senate 41-15, takes effect immediately.

The concealed carry laws go into effect statewide in April of 2014, though the state police have yet to provide an exact date. According to the concealed carry law, an individual granted a concealed carry license is permitted to carry a loaded or unloaded concealed firearm on his or her person or within their vehicle.

"A lot of us concerned with public safety felt like if we're going to have a bill that's going to allow people to carry weapons, we should also have a bill that says if you lose your weapon, or it's stolen from you, you needed to make sure that you reported it, so that it didn't fall into the wrong hands," said Rep. Michael Zalewski (D-Ill.).

According to John Boch, president of GunsSaveLife.com, a gun rights website, the legislation unfairly punishes victims of gun theft by penalizing them for failing to report the incident in such a short time window.

"Theoretically, some people would suggest that you could charge somebody for failure to notify the police of a loss or stolen gun if they were gone on vacation for a week and weren't sure when the break in occurred," Boch said. "They could be charged in that sense."

However, Zalewski contends HB 1189 is intended to protect residents, not penalize them.

"If [someone] went on vacation and something happened to one of his guns and he came back and reported [the gun] missing as soon as he was back, I think he would have made every reasonable effort," Zalewski said.

Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence supports HB 1189 but is adamant that it is not an anti-gun organization. According to Executive Director Colleen Daley, the council fights for common sense gun control laws and common sense solutions.

"We're not trying to repeal the 2nd Amendment," Daley said. "We respect the 2nd Amendment but we also respect life. We think people should be able to live in a society that's safe from violence. We're fighting to stop the violence."

Despite supporters' assertions that the measure will help curb violence, Richard Pearson, executive director of the Illinois State Rifle Association, maintains that the bill targets the wrong demographic.

"[House Bill 1189] only applies to law-abiding citizens," Pearson said. "Criminals can do what they want. They should be after the criminals, not the law-abiding citizens."

Zalewski disagreed that the bill applies solely to Illinois gun owners, contending that its main purpose is to protect citizens from the law.

"If you lose your gun or you have it stolen from you and if you report the weapon missing or stolen, you get immunity if that gun is used in a crime," Zalewski said. "What we'd always done was make it a penalty and said, 'If this happens, you have exposure to criminal penalty.' We sort of reversed that and said, 'If you do the right thing you're protected from the law.'"

Pearson noted that, though his organization opposes aspects of the bill, implementing concealed carry will immediately cause crime and home invasion rates to drop.

"We discovered the crime rates and home invasions [after states] allowed people to own firearms in their home dropped immediately," Pearson said. "The criminals do not know who is and who is not armed. So it makes them look for another line of work. They might even look for a real job, you never know."

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Christine Fielder THE CHRONICLE

» **SAFE**

Continued from Front Page

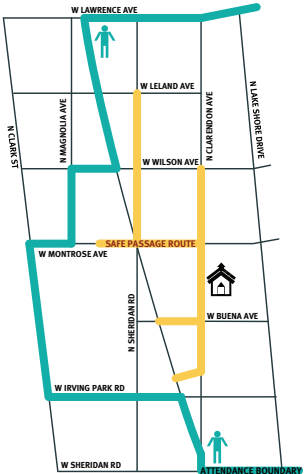
“What’s really important about their role is they’re from the community so they know the kids along the routes and the parents along the routes and they know the area.”

However, several education advocacy organizations objected to the program because it forces some students to take less direct routes to school. Several Safe Passage routes pass through only small portions of the district boundaries, requiring students to walk farther to get to their designated safe areas.

“There are very dangerous routes that children have to walk to get to school, in particular because they closed 50 schools this spring,” said Amy Smolensky, a board member of Illinois Raise Your Hand, an organization that advocates for education equality. “A lot of students are being forced to walk to a school where they may have had to walk a block or two or three [before this year], now they have to walk up to a mile or more to get to their new school.”

Organizations are also worried about the program’s authenticity, with some believing Safe Passage to be more of a PR campaign than a safety-focused measure. Executive Director of Parents United for Responsible Education Julie Woestehoff saw Safe Passage signs go up on streets that did not seem related to any specific school. Woestehoff said this worried parents.

BRENNENMANN ELEMENTARY
SAFE PASSAGE ROUTE UPTOWN, CHICAGO



Graphics Christine Fielder THE CHRONICLE

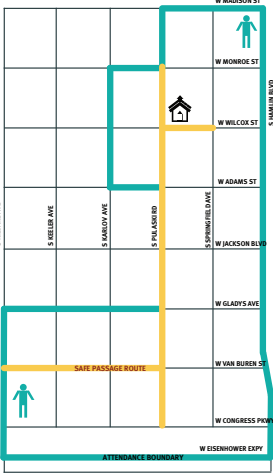
“The message [the program] sends to children is that this street is safe and that these other streets are not safe,” Woestehoff said. “And then they’re going to find out that the safe street probably isn’t very safe either.”

However, some community members, like Rosemary Zamor, whose grandchildren attend a CPS school on the Northwest Side, claim kids in the community know how to identify dangerous streets regardless of route presence.

While concerns that some streets will be misconstrued as dangerous are valid, the program is not aiming to indirectly label unwatched streets, according to Autry Phillips, executive director of Target Area, a vendor located along the safe passage routes for Jensen, Ryder and Johnson schools.

“We’re saying the Safe Passage routes are where the Safe Passage workers will be, we’re not saying that

MELODY STEM SCHOOL
SAFE PASSAGE ROUTE WEST GARFIELD PARK, CHICAGO



people on the other block or on the other streets are not taking care of their streets,” Phillips said. “We still have residents in the community that [are] doing the same thing they did all year, which is watch out for their children when they’re going back and forth down the street.”

Recent murders have occurred on some routes, instilling concern in community members who fear for the children traveling these routes. The day before CPS classes started, two individuals were shot on different Safe Passage routes, reminding the community of the dangers students could be subjected to on their commute to school. A 14-year-old boy was shot and killed on the 3900 block of West Wilcox Avenue, a block of safe route to Melody Stem School, and a 28-year-old man was shot on the 1400 block of South Tripp Avenue near the Safe Passage route for Hughes Elementary School.

Constant coverage of violence along the routes contributes to neighborhood anxiety, according to Daniel Truss, West Side organizer for Illinois Raise Your Hand.

“We know that we can’t control random acts of violence; If individuals are going to do something then they’re going to do it,” Truss said. “But when you have kids walking farther distances to and from school, that increases the likelihood of them becoming the victim of a stray bullet or being the victim of a random act of violence.”

Though media coverage of the violence has been extensive, Americo Oquendo, a grandparent of CPS students and resident of Wicker Park, is not worried by the coverage of the violence.

“I’ve never seen a fight over here and I’ve been coming here for 15 years,” Oquendo said. “I’ve never had [any] problems over here.”

Phillips acknowledged the controversial media coverage surrounding the Safe Passage program but reiterated that the main purpose of the program is to protect the community.

“It doesn’t matter what the weather is, [community watchmen are] out here and they’re trying to do something to save a life,” Phillips said. “People are [saying] Safe Passage was created because of the closing of schools. Safe passage was created because of the killings that were happening to our children before the schools were closed.”

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» **606**

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Other community members, like John Knoerle, worry that an influx of traffic will congest the residential streets and attract more cyclists to the wheel friendly area to be constructed at the Walsh Park access site.

“We’re concerned that our little quiet sidewalk, which is used now mostly by moms taking their toddlers to the park, will all of a sudden become a thoroughway for bicycles and skateboards,” Knoerle said.

Many residents of the Walsh Park community said they think the park is not large enough to service skateboarders, cyclists, toddlers and dogs equally. Breslof said the lot will struggle to accommodate the myriad of services outlined in the designs.

Breslof and Knoerle said they hope to dissuade project managers from implementing too many changes to Walsh Park but expressed enthusiasm for the project as a whole. The Trust for Public Land had not announced a completion date for the project as of press time, but White said she would receive a tentative schedule of progress in the coming weeks.

“Don’t get me wrong; we’re excited for the change,” Breslof said. “We’re excited for newness and growth. But I think that the immediate residents need to be a part of the design process.”

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» **BILLBOARD**

Continued from PG. 41

the use of moving images on digital billboards before it was overturned in 2007.

"[The Highway Beautification Act is] totally useless now," Ashburn said. "What is the last remaining part that's had any effectiveness was this prohibition on intermittent and moving and blinking lights, and when you take that away, it's essentially worthless."

Ashburn said he thinks the light emitted poses a threat to driver safety.

"There's a lot of emerging research that says digital billboard signs are distracting to drivers, which makes sense because that is their aim," Ashburn said. "They are bright, they change every 6 to 10 seconds. People can't help but notice them, and that's exactly what the sign companies want because that's how they sell the signs to potential advertisers."

The city plans to use the billboard's attention-grabbing effectiveness to assist with safety concerns, however, Karman said.

The digital billboard technology will be used to set up an emergency network to provide the drivers with emergency information, Karman said.

The city can take control of the billboards and display any emergency messages, including weather risks, events and safety measures, Karman said.

Energy concerns are often overlooked, according to Bob Parks, executive director of the International Dark-Sky Association, a non-profit organization that promotes environmentally responsible outdoor lighting at night and is against the spread of digital billboards.

"Ten times as much power [is] required to run these billboards," Parks said. "They're

basically living room televisions on steroids ... these things take power all day, all night."

The light the billboards omit at night disturbs residents in their homes, often disturbing sleep cycles, Parks said.

"The issue is at night," Waguespack said. "[At] midnight, somebody is on their back porch or in their living room and all they're seeing is giant flashing light. People get really upset about that when they can't literally sit in their own living room and enjoy it."

The use of digital billboards will only expand further across the country as powerful billboard companies continue to lure in cities with promises of revenue and cutting-edge technology while overlooking the impacts it has on the drivers and residents surrounded by it, Parks said.

"The most concerning part of this is that the sign companies and the sign lobbies are incredibly well-moneyed," Parks said. "They're willing to give away a large amount of money to cities at a time where they need money and that gets them disproportionate attention."

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Christine Fielder THE CHRONICLE

» **MUSEUMS**

Continued from PG. 41

Blanton, executive director of the American Alliance of Museums, a national organization that supports museums.

"Attendance always goes up at museums when times get tough, and one of the reasons they do is [because] museums are a bargain," Blanton said.

Museums have also seen a reduction in government funding since the economic downturn, Blanton said. According to the Chicago Park District 2013 budget summary, the 11 Chicago museums represented within Museums in the Park received more than a \$3 million budget reduction in 2010. In 2009, Museums in the Park received \$34.3 million but only received \$30.8 million the following year.

Blanton said admission revenue actually plays a small role in determining a museum's financial stability. He said funds from the government and donations account for most of a museum's budget, not admission revenue.

"Earned revenue has become a bigger part of a museum's revenue stream ... many museums rent facilities out for weddings or conferences," Blanton said.

Blanton said financial strain plagues museums because of decreased funding and inadequate appreciation of museums by government and the public.

"We have not done an adequate job or a thorough job of communicating the value museums bring to their communities," Blanton said. "Museums have, in many instances around the country, stepped up to fill in the gaps in the social safety net due to lack of funds from state county and municipal government."

Donna Sack, the executive director at the Illinois Association of Museums, which supports reducing the number of free admission days, said that, despite the decrease in funds, the demand for programs has increased.

"Quinn has always been very publicly supportive of the role that museums play in education and economic development," Sack said.

The bill will go through the Illinois General Assembly a second time in an attempt to override the governor's veto, said Senator Dave Syverson, a proponent of the bill. He said if the bill passes through the General Assembly, a decision will be reached this fall.

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Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

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» **GANGS**
Continued from PG. 42

initatives: offender notification meetings, federal prosecutions, federal prison sentences and multi-agency gun recoveries.

The study cites the strongest measure associated with declining homicide rates as the attendance of Offender Notification Forums, non-mandatory meetings that invite parolees to listen and speak with law enforcement officers, social service providers and community leaders such as business owners.

According to the 2007 study, if 1 percent more offenders attend a meeting, there would be a 13

forums over time,” DeWald said.

Juandalyn Holland, executive director of Teamwork Englewood, a program partnered with PSN, expressed confidence in the success of preventive and outreach measures.

“Our programs outline employment services, counseling services, housing services, legal services, just to address the whole individual,” Holland said. “The reason for the program is to reduce recidivism by offering programs that help with individualized planning for a person to become a valuable member of the community.”

The 2007 study additionally highlighted that the association of forum attendance with a de-

eral Department of Justice. Starting in 2012, however, only 13 districts were awarded \$500,000 two-year grants. Funding for the programs dropped significantly, DeWald said.

“We are at our core responsibilities right now,” DeWald said. “A lot of the money we received for the anti-gang initiatives in the past has been spent.”

Other programs, such as Teamwork Englewood, balance similar budget concerns. Teamwork Englewood is a community organization funded through Chicago’s Department of Family and Supportive Services. Like Project Safe Neighborhoods, the services of Teamwork Englewood are designed to fight

“Additional funding would give us the ability to help more people.”
— Jeffrey Fagan

percent decrease in the area’s homicide rate.

According to Ron DeWald, Assistant U.S. Attorney and the coordinator for PSN Chicago, the program focuses on prevention, re-entry and law enforcement initiatives. The forums represent the re-entry aspect of the program.

“Our researchers have applauded the PSN forums the most and just released a study that shows that there is a statistically significant decrease in the recidivism rates of the people that attend the parolee

crease in homicide also applies to declining gang-related homicide. Jeffrey Fagan, a PSN researcher, said it can be difficult to reach gang-affiliated individuals.

“I think our data shows that gang members are a particularly tough bunch to get at and change their minds because there are different things operating on gang members,” Fagan said.

According to DeWald, each of the 92 U.S. districts originally received \$500,000 in funding for Project Safe Neighborhoods from the Fed-

recidivism, prevent criminal activities, and provide positive outlets for individuals with a criminal history.

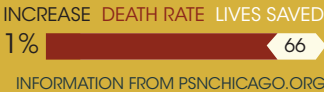
“Additional funding would give us the ability to help more people,” Holland said. “The statistics that are outlined in the federal guidelines for prison re-entry state that next year there will be 32,000 people returning to the South Side alone that have a felony conviction. We don’t have the funding to address the needs of 32,000 people.”

zmiller@chroniclemail.com

Christine Fielder THE CHRONICLE

IN 2012,
THERE WERE
513
HOMICIDES
IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO

A 2007 STUDY SHOWS
THAT INCREASING
ATTENDANCE AT
**OFFENDER
NOTIFICATION
FORUMS**
BY JUST **1%** WOULD
HAVE SAVED 66 LIVES
IN 2012, WHICH IS A
13% DECREASE
IN THE HOMICIDE RATE
ACCORDING TO A
CHRONICLE ANALYSIS.



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Chicago Marathon beefing up security after bombings

PHILIP HERSH & ELLEN JEAN HIRST
MCT Newswire

IN THE AFTERMATH of the Boston Marathon bombings, the Bank of America Chicago Marathon is imposing beefed-up security measures for the 26.2-mile race Oct. 13.

"The bag check is something we've been looking at for a couple of years," Carey Pinkowski, the event director said. "Is it something that's in response to Boston? I would think partly ... but it's something that had been on our radar for a long time."

Marathon participants will be allowed to bring only a 24.5-inch-by-17.5-inch clear plastic drawstring bag issued to them for the event. Any bags left unattended during the marathon will be "collected and discarded," according to a news release.

Runners will have a chance to check their event-issued bags before starting the race.

Race organizers and city officials said they notified every single one of the 45,000 participants.

In the April 15 Boston Marathon tragedy, pressure cooker bombs hidden in backpacks exploded near the finish line, killing three people and injuring more than 260. Chicago Marathon spectators are technically allowed to bring bags to the reunion area at Grant Park's Butler



MCT Newswire

Runners begin the Bank of America Chicago Marathon Oct. 7, 2012. This year, the marathon will have tighter security in response to the Boston Marathon bombings on April 15.

Field but are strongly discouraged from doing so "to maintain an efficient flow of pedestrians," accord-

ing to a marathon news release. As in the past, spectators will not be able to congregate at the start

of the race or the finish line but they can gather elsewhere along the route. Spectator bags near the

course will be subject to random searches throughout the event, and Chicago police will have bomb-sniffing dogs on scene, according to Chicago's Office of Emergency Management and Communications.

As an additional security measure this year, participants will have to present identification to pick up their race packets—no one can pick up a packet on someone's behalf. Participants will enter the race through designated gateways on Jackson Boulevard, Congress Parkway and Harrison Street off of Michigan Avenue.

Chicago Marathon spokesman Jeremy Borling said the city had already employed some of the new security measures for Lollapalooza and the Blackhawks' victory parade.

The Chicago Marathon attracts runners from all 50 states and more than 100 countries and more than one million spectators.

"It's going to simplify the process," Pinkowski said. "But getting into the start area, the fact that we're using those clear bags that can be screened quickly, our guys can work efficiently and effectively. When a person finishes a race, [on] a cool day they want to get into some dry material—it's a big enough bag that they can put some clothes [in it] and get in some dry clothes."

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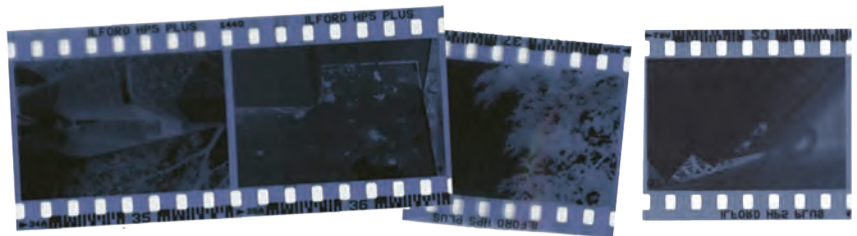
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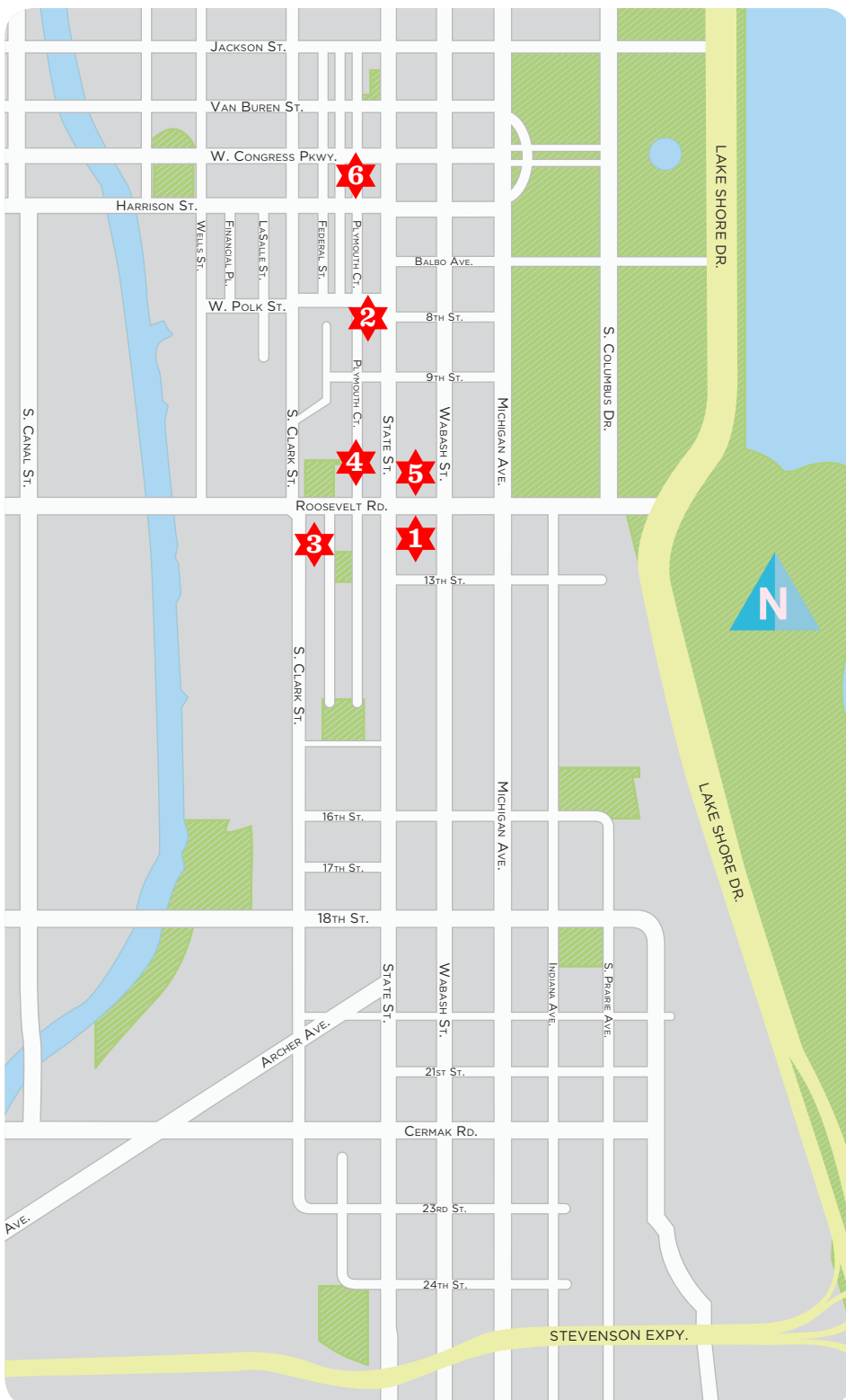
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FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Jon Durr THE CHRONICLE

The "Transformers 4" crew films an explosive scene Aug. 25 near 300 E. Randolph St. The fourth installment of Michael Bay's "Transformers" franchise has been filming in Millennium Park, McCormick Place and other locations throughout Chicago this summer.



A graphic featuring three stars (two blue, one red) and the text "OFF THE BLOTTER" in a bold, sans-serif font. The stars are positioned above the text, with the red star on the right. The background is white with faint blue lines radiating from the stars.

1 Friendship on the rocks

A woman shopping at Walgreens, 2 E. Roosevelt Road, contacted police Aug. 23 after a friend of 35 years continued to telephone her, saying, "I'm going to beat your heels in because you are f-----g my man, and you didn't invite me to the barbecue." The woman told police she has no idea what the phone calls were referring to and she fears things will get physical.

2 A blunt crime

Police passing by Dearborn Park, 830 S. Plymouth Court, on Aug. 24 noticed the smell of cannabis. Trying to find the source of the smell, they located a group in the back of the park. When the police approached the group, one young man dropped a few small items to the ground, including a green leaf-like substance and a brown cigar. He was the only one of the group placed into custody.

3 Cutting through traffic

Police stopped a boy holding a pair of bolt cutters on Aug. 23 who was walking near 1150 S. Plymouth Court. He darted through traffic before a driver exited his vehicle and chased the boy to 75 W. Roosevelt Road, where he was detained. The boy then admitted to using the cutters to attempt to steal bikes from the park with four other young men.

4 Roaming charge

Police stopped a young man riding a bicycle near 14 W. Roosevelt Road, who they thought to be implicated on the theft of an iPhone 5 on Aug. 24. After being identified, the man was taken to the police station where police allegedly learned he no longer had the phone, which he stole out of someone's pocket. He said he gave it to his cousin prior to the arrest.

5 Exit strategy

A Chicago Transit Authority customer called police Aug. 27 after a man blocked him from exiting the Red Line platform at the Roosevelt station, 22 E. Roosevelt Road. The man refused to move, so the two got into a verbal fight before the blocked man punched the other man in the nose, resulting in a nosebleed and swelling. The passenger's mother was notified and later picked him up.

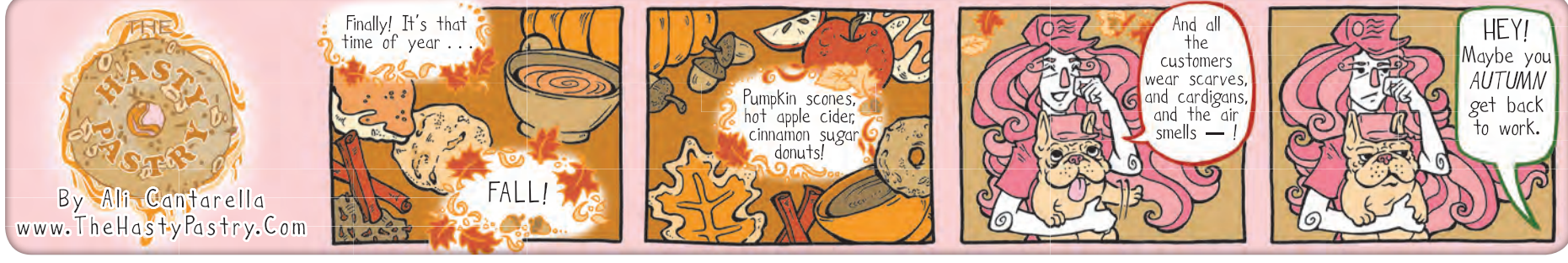
6 Behind closed doors

A hall monitor at the University Center, 525 S. State St., attempted to gain access to a room on Aug. 26 after smelling cannabis. The monitor knocked on the door and the resident let him in as he handed over a plastic bb gun and, after further prompting, a zip-locked bag of weed. The monitor then recovered four pipes smelling of marijuana smoke before holding the student and calling police.

Free Ice Cream

Comics from Columbia's best and brightest.

Edited by Chris Eliopoulos



» to submit comics for
Free Ice Cream



email Chris Eliopoulos at

freeicecream@chroniclemail.com

SUDOKU

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Generously written for our readers by

HOROSCOPES

The Chronicle Staff Oracles

ARIES (March 21–April 19) Your birth certificate says you're young, but your disposition puts you at about 55. Put down that crossword and turn up the music!

TAURUS (April 20–May 20) Karma will see you coming from a mile away. Unfortunately, the bus won't.

GEMINI (May 21–June 21) Relax. Anger lasts a day, but a felony is for life.

CANCER (June 22–July 22) The cat you adopted over the summer may be planning your murder. Or not. You can never tell with cats.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22) You will meet your doppelganger this week. If you say hello, good things might happen. If you don't, good things most likely won't.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) On Friday, beware of the deliveryman.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22) There is a 90 percent chance that your friends will all be talking about "Orange is the New Black" tomorrow and there is a chance you won't understand.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21) Your roommate's summer tan glows in the dark and will help you save on electricity this month.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21) If you find yourself making a clicking motion when you see a cute outfit in public, you need to get off Pinterest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19) Don't make eye contact with anyone in your class. They will think you farted.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18) The restaurant you live above will close and be replaced by a pet shop, which is fun until you realize that they exclusively sell howling monkeys.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20) Bathe in the blood of virgins, and you will get A's in all of your non-major classes.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Compass direction
 - Bedouin headband cord
 - Short takeoff and landing (abbr.)
 - Sound perception
 - Bowling alley
 - Fertilizer ingredient
 - Sluggish's stat
 - Killer whale
 - Earth
 - Neckwear
 - Wisp of smoke
 - Irish exclamation
 - Mede
 - Seven (pref.)
 - Broth (Scot.)
 - Pool rod
 - Land measure
 - Winch
 - Pounds (abbr.)
 - Mountain on

- DOWN**
- Bondsman
 - Babist
 - Viking
 - Verbally

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SAIGA	ACH	GRO
LINOS	BRA	LAB
ANGUS	BES	UNO
TEETER	STATAL	
	SESTET	
ALT	SAP	NICHE
LOLL	LIL	CABA
LICIT	RAP	BON
	ARIO	OSO
RATOON	HOMAGE	
ARA	PTA	RABAT
ARA	HRS	LHASA
DEL	YAH	YASHT

- 5** Alligator fish
6 Ancient (abbr.)
7 Plant growth
8 Perspiration
9 Three-wheeled vehicle
10 Poetic contraction
11 Latitude (abbr.)
- 19** Cliche
21 Freedman in Kentish law
23 Father: Arabic
24 Bore
26 Alb (arch.)
27 Headland
28 Filament
29 Mother of Brunhilde
30 Placid
32 Son of Isaac
35 Red deer
39 Zero population growth (abbr.)
41 Between (Fr.)
43 Customs
45 US dam
47 Gangster
48 Field
49 Lady's title
50 Banned pesticide
51 Equal opportunity employer (abbr.)
53 Romanian money
54 Modified Esperanto

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EVENTS					
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
West Town Pub Crawl 6 p.m. <i>Mahoney's Pub & Grille</i> 551 N. Ogden Avenue FREE	Il Volo 7:30 p.m. <i>Chicago Theatre</i> 175 N. State Street \$39 - \$99	Open Mic Story Club 7:30 <i>Holiday Club</i> 4000 N. Sheridan Road storyclubchicago.com FREE	Electric Run 8 p.m. <i>The McCormick Place</i> 2301 S. Lakeshore Drive \$55	Guinness Oyster Festival 11 a.m.–10 p.m. <i>Roscoe Street and Damen Avenue</i> \$7 suggested donation	Circus in the Parks 1 p.m. <i>Douglas Park</i> 1401 S. Sacramento Drive circusintheparks.org FREE
<div><div>symbol KEY</div><div><div></div>Fitness</div><div><div></div>Culture</div><div><div></div>Art</div><div><div></div>Food</div><div><div></div>Nightlife</div><div><div></div>Exhibit</div><div><div></div>Reading</div><div><div></div>Theater</div><div><div></div>Holiday</div></div>					



Sept. 5, 1954
THIS DAY IN Chicago history, the German U-Boat U-505 embarked from its specially constructed dock off Lake Michigan to the Museum of Science and Industry. The U.S. Navy captured the U-505 in 1944 and it currently serves in the museum as a permanent exhibit and war memorial.



Sept. 5, 2006
THIS WEEK IN 2006, The Chronicle reported thieves stole \$15,000 worth of equipment from the Portfolio Center, including computers, cameras and the director of the center's swim trunks. The building was operating under minimal security with no cameras or alarm system when the thieves "went shopping."

WEATHER								
AccuWeather.com Seven-day forecast for Chicago								
MONDAY	MON. NIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
Sunny and pleasant 77	Clear to partly cloudy 57	Mostly sunny and pleasant 83 63	Mostly sunny 83 63	Times of clouds and sun 83 65	Thunderstorms possible 75 61	Rather cloudy, showers 80 56	Clouds and warm 79 55	



» Zurich is experimenting with safer, legal prostitution practices using what have been dubbed "sex boxes," according to an Aug. 26 Huffington Post report. Sex workers will use the drive-in single car garages to solicit and service customers. The "sex boxes" will provide a safer, more discreet locale for both the sex workers and the customers, with panic buttons and on-site social work officers.

» Free tattoo removals are being offered to victims of domestic violence in Albuquerque, N.M., according to an Aug. 25 Al Jazeera English report. Dawn Maestas, who offers the service, took classes on tattoo removal and learned, through her own experiences and others, the therapeutic release of removing "brands" or tattoos that were forced upon victims by their former abusive partners.

» Khalid bin Mohsen, weighing 1,345 pounds, will undergo strict diet and exercise programs at the King Fahd Medical City in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with the aid of King Abdullah. CNN reported Aug. 19 that a forklift truck transported bin Mohsen to the hospital, because he is unable to move himself. Saudi Arabia's population has been reported as 35.2 percent "severely overweight."

» More than 100 people were quarantined in a Kyrgyzstan hospital to prevent a possible outbreak of the bubonic plague after a 15-year-old died from the disease. The Guardian reported on Aug. 27 the Kazakh health ministry is seeking people who may have come into contact with the boy, who contracted the disease by eating an infected barbecued marmot.

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TWEETS OF THE WEEK

Whitney Cummings
[@WhitneyCummings](https://twitter.com/WhitneyCummings)
You should be ashamed of your selfie.

Jim Gaffigan
[@JimGaffigan](https://twitter.com/JimGaffigan)
I don't like going to the beach. I'm a playa hater.

Megan Amram
[@meganamram](https://twitter.com/meganamram)
the sequel to "Up" should be called "Up 2: No Good" who do I tell this to?

Alejandro Garcia
[@AlejandroGarcia22](https://twitter.com/AlejandroGarcia22)
Nothing moves faster than a girl untagging herself from an ugly picture.

WEEKLY INSTAGRAM

Photo of the week

After selecting sandwiches from Burke's Bacon Bar, Chronicle photographer Carolina Sanchez begins her photoshoot right outside the River North eatery. Check out the restaurant review on PG. 31.

BY @CCCHRONICLE
AUGUST 29