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Columbia Chronicle (05/05/2014)

Columbia College Chicago

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Opinions: Women's colleges should reconsider transgender admissions policies. See PG. 34



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1 SPRING 2014
WEEK LEFT

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

No. 1 Non-Daily College Newspaper in the Nation

MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 29

IN HIM WE TRUST

TYLER EAGLE

Associate Editor

COLUMBIA NEEDS MONEY. While most of the college's funds come from tuition, which is set to rise by 3.3 percent in the fall, philanthropy can also help alleviate the current \$1.5 million deficit. But a departed chief fundraiser and a sweeping out of his staff has put Columbia's ability to bring in the big bucks on pause.

Patrick Sheahan, former vice president of Institutional Advancement, the department charged with fundraising, left the college Jan. 27 after only four months on the job. Less than three months later, half of the employees in the Office of Institutional Advancement were fired, making the fate of the college's ability to raise money uncertain.

The college's tax forms show that it has the ability to attract donors through fundraising events but does so with high overhead—in recent years, it spent approximately \$1 for every \$3 it made. President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim said the college will shift focus away from event planning and toward raising money from

independent donors, which he said will become his priority during his second year in office.

In the past, the college has been too reliant on staging events and has not put enough effort into hands-on fundraising, Kim said.



Kim said event planning can be counterproductive because it's geared more toward introducing people to an institution—not actually raising money.

"The challenge with events is unless they're very strategic and targeted, they don't lead to anything," Kim said. "Too many events and not enough fundraising is actually a net negative because it is costing money."

Kim said he is working on restructuring the Office of Institutional Advancement into the recently announced Department of Development, which will focus on overall fundraising and the related area of alumni relations, both of which need more attention, he said.

"Right now [the college] needs to focus on raising money," Kim said. "I decided to concentrate the work into [the] two areas. [Fundraising and alumni relations] are the two greatest needs—people with those skill sets."

The college is currently in the midst of a national search for a new vice president of Development to head the new department, Kim said, adding that he hopes to fill the position no later than the middle of the fall 2014 semester. As for the vacancies in the Department of Development, Kim said the college will only fill necessary positions.

» SEE FUNDRAISING, PG. 9



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

(Far left) Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety & Security, and other administrators host the Sexual Assault Resource Panel April 30 in Stage Two of the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building to discuss the college's procedures for handling sexual assault cases and making resources available to victims.

Columbia addresses sexual assault on campus

TATIANA WALK-MORRIS

Campus Editor

MORE THAN TWO months after a Feb. 28 collegewide email touted enhancements to Columbia's sexual assault policies, the campus community received more specific information on what those enhancements entail.

Policy updates, including a new Title IX coordinator, an oversight task force and updated reporting

procedures, were announced during the Sexual Assault Resource Panel April 30 at Stage Two in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

Staff and administrators from the offices of Student Relations, Human Resources, Campus Safety & Security, Counseling Services and Residence Life further specified how sexual assault cases are handled and the resources available to victims.

"The college is reviewing its

sexual assault policies very aggressively," said Beverly Anderson, assistant dean of Student Health & Support. "Many colleges across the nation are grappling with this issue of sexual assault [and] each institution has drafted its own policy."

Lauren Hansen, a sophomore public relations major, said the panel was informative but she would have liked it to be more student-focused.

» SEE ASSAULT, PG. 10

Budding support for legal weed among state reps



MARIA CASTELLUCCI

Metro Editor

DESPITE THE CONTROVERSY surrounding Illinois' legalization of medical marijuana last year, some legislators are now calling for making recreational weed legal as well.

Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey said during an April 28 press conference that he would introduce an ordinance at the May 21 Cook County Board meeting urging the state to create a task force that would research and draft legislation to legalize recreational marijuana possession. Reps. Kelly Cassidy (D-Chicago), Michael Zalewski (D-Riverside) and Christian Mitchell (D-Chicago) testified that legalizing recreational marijuana would reduce drug-related crime and help the state's strained budget. However, some still oppose the controversial measure.

"What we know about marijuana [is it's] a highly potent complex drug," said Carla Lowe, founder of Citizens Against Legalizing Marijuana. "This drug is diminishing [adolescents'] potential and diminishing the potential for America."

Cook County's tight budget and Illinois' more than \$6 billion deficit makes recreational marijuana appealing because of the potential tax revenue, Fritchey said, citing the positive economic impact recreational marijuana has had in Colorado and Washington, both of which legalized the drug in 2012. In March, Colorado generated \$2 million in marijuana taxes and anticipates \$67 million by the end of 2014, according to the state's website.

Fritchey said the task force would examine the financial gains

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FEATURE



SPORTS & HEALTH



METRO

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Autonomous technology may go rogue • PG. 15

Police patrol violent areas on bikes • PG. 38

Editor's note by Lindsey Woods Editor-in-Chief

Diplomas with dignity

COLUMBIA SENIORS CAN practically taste graduation, and while the redesign of Columbia's diplomas seems trivial compared to other post-grad worries, it may actually affect us more than we realize.

As reported on Page 3, Columbia recently altered its diplomas to a more practical 8.5-by-11-inch format. The old diploma was 9-by-9 inches and apparently so laughable that potential employers thought they were fake.

The old diplomas have been used for the past decade. I find it pretty astounding it took so long for someone to stand up and say, "This looks like crap" despite the

fact that the college has such a large and talented group of graphic design students. But I digress.

This class of graduates and future classes should rejoice at the redesign. The new diplomas are much more sophisticated with simple, sans-serif fonts, a gray color scheme and the college's new seal. Hannah Rebernick, 2013 art + design alumna and junior designer for Columbia's Office of Creative Services, which was behind the redesign, did her alma mater proud. Now the diplomas can be a source of pride rather than something students hide in the back of their portfolios.

While both the old and new diplomas hold the same weight no matter what they look like, the aesthetic improvements show that Columbia cares about its students. Diplomas may just be glorified bits of paper, but they're expensive and take a lot of work to earn, and the new design reflects that.

Because the diplomas are now a normal size, they're also much less expensive to frame. According to the article on Page 3, the new design will save the college \$18,000 because they no longer require custom frames. The college is currently hurting for money, as reported on the Front Page, so the diminished price tag is a huge plus.



President Kwang-Wu Kim's decision to update the diplomas also signifies a newfound dedication to making sure students are successful post-graduation. It may be a small gesture, but it speaks volumes about how the college wants to present itself in the real world.

Having an attractive diploma will be like wearing your best outfit to an interview—it may not guarantee you a job, but it certainly doesn't hurt. When I walk across the stage at the Chicago Theater on May 18, I'll strut with a little more pride knowing that my freshly minted diploma won't get me laughed out of a job.

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Grace Wiley THE CHRONICLE

Columbia's newly redesigned diplomas will be distributed to this year's graduates.

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

Brontë Price, junior photography major, examines the Solidarity Selfie Wall she helped curate and install in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building on May 1. This installation was part of the New Lens Project, a organization which aims to teach photography and activism to marginalized youth. The project gathered as many selfies as possible to show solidarity among students and staff who advocate for human rights and gender equality.

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The Chronicle holds the right to limit any one person's submissions to three per semester.

THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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Kim talks transparency, tuition

CARLEIGH TURNER
Assistant Campus Editor

PRESIDENT KWANG-WU KIM said during the final Coffee With the President forum on April 30, that he plans to curb tuition increases, facilitate budget transparency and emphasize the value of a Columbia degree.

Approximately 20 students attended the forum hosted by the Student Government Association where they sipped coffee, ate pastries and chatted with Kim about their financial concerns.

Kim said although Columbia's tuition may rise in the future, he is planning to mitigate the increases as much as possible.

He said he sees a transparent budget in the college's near future and that a Columbia degree is going to become more valuable because he is working to improve the college's professional reputation.

Kim said sharp tuition increases—like the 5 percent increase from the 2010–2011 academic year to 2011–2012—had a negative impact on the college's retention rates and student enrollment. He also said he wants to increase scholarship support for students.

Traditional higher education institutions tend to keep retention and enrollment high by raising their tuition prices and counter-

ing the added expenses with more student scholarship opportunities. However, Kim said implementing a similar model at Columbia would negate the college's mission of diversity because it would only allow students who are not fazed by the steep tuition price.

"I think the [tuition model] is cynical and it negatively impacts our mission of diversity," Kim said. "I wouldn't want to make a steep increase of tuition prior to new students' arrival."

Kim said he delayed financial decisions this year because the college does not yet have a permanent chief financial officer.

Once the college's Provost-designate Stan Wearden is in office and the college hires a permanent CFO, Kim said he will be able to start implementing changes discussed in previous forums and addresses, such as adding basic business education into the core curriculum, addressing the college's communications system and focusing on fundraising. Students expressed interest in learning about the workings of the college's expenses, which Kim said he is "all for."

He said transparent budgets are a normal practice for traditional colleges, but without a permanent CFO it is difficult to make major financial decisions.



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

President Kwang-Wu Kim answered students' questions at the fourth and final Coffee With the President forum of the academic year. The Student Government Association hosted the series to allow for students to voice their opinions and concerns directly to the president.

Interim CFO Richard Dowsek said students can see the college's 990 financial statement, a form filed by tax-exempt organizations to provide the Internal Revenue Service and public with fiscal documents—total figures for donations, grants received, administrative staff members' income and grant accessibility—to gain a bet-

ter understanding of the college's financial condition. Dowsek, Kim and students discussed creating a pie chart illustrating college expenses so students who may not be aware of the college's inner-workings could better understand how Columbia's finances work.

Kim also discussed improving the college's reputation so current

and prospective students can feel confident that a Columbia degree is worth the cost of tuition. To accomplish this, Kim said he plans to incorporate basic business education into the college's current curriculum. Kim also wants to focus his attention on its core classes

» [SEE COFFEE, PG.12](#)



Courtesy OFFICE OF CREATIVE SERVICES

Pimp my diploma

Columbia gives a new look to its sheepskin

CARLEIGH TURNER
Assistant Campus Editor

COLUMBIA GRADUATES ARE about to look more legit.

To address graduates' complaints that employers question the legitimacy of their 9-by-9 inch square diplomas, which were implemented in January 2004, the college has updated its diplomas to a standard 8.5-by-11-inch design.

"The problem with the old diploma was that it didn't look like a diploma," said President Kwang-Wu Kim. "When international students would take their diplomas home, no one would actually believe that they had gone to a real school."

Kim said his main objective was to make the diplomas simple, readable and elegant so students would be excited to receive them.

Changing the diploma size saved the college approximately \$18,000 because the previous diplomas required custom cases and frames that cost the college a substantial amount of money, according to Susan Sindlinger, director of Transfer Evaluation at Columbia.

The dimensions are not the only aspect of the diplomas that changed, said Hannah Rebernick, a 2013 art + design alumna and a junior designer for Columbia's Office of Creative Services.

Rebernick led the design process and said she wanted to create a more formal looking diploma that would represent Columbia's color scheme and identity.

The diploma will still include previously used visual elements such as foil stamps and blind embossing but will feature a simpler

font, Rebernick said. According to Mary Forde, assistant vice president of Creative Services, Rebernick added artistic elements to the diploma while preserving the diploma's traditional appeal.

The updated design will feature the new presidential seal, which has been updated from the college's first official seal created in 1993, according to Sindlinger.

Heidi Marshall, head of College Archives, helped the research for the new seal, by presenting creative services with information on the meaning of symbols.

Columbia's first official seal featured an open book with a globe, the letter "C," 1890—the college's founding year—and the motto "Esse quam videri," which means, "To be, rather than to seem." The new seal

» [SEE DIPLOMA, PG.12](#)

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ColumbiaCares Manifests student support

KATHERINE DAVIS

Assistant Campus Editor

COLUMBIACARES, a student and alumni organization that helps students with immediate financial struggles, is looking to amp up its advertising and funding efforts starting May 16 at Manifest.

Manifest attendees will have several opportunities to donate to ColumbiaCares, which provides cash or gift cards to students who need help accessing shelter, food, clothing and transportation, said Shannon Bourne, a Manifest organizer and coordinator of Student Engagement.

The organization will have its own tent where students can donate directly. ShopColumbia, the college's store that sells original student work, will also donate \$5 to ColumbiaCares for every \$10 Manifest T-shirt it sells, as well as collecting direct donations.

Several student organizations have pledged to donate 35 percent of their earnings to ColumbiaCares, Bourne said. Donations can also be made online at Colum.edu/Giving_To_Columbia.

John Christopher Joson, a junior business & entrepreneurship major (profiled in this issue on Page 8), said he and Lynsey Mukomel, a senior journalism major, are brainstorming new ways to promote ColumbiaCares during Manifest.



Photos by Samantha Tadelman & Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

Lynsey Mukomel (right), senior journalism major, is spearheading an initiative to raise awareness and fundraise at Manifest for ColumbiaCares, a student and alumni organization founded in fall 2013 that helps students with immediate financial struggles, with John Christopher Joson, a junior business & entrepreneurship major.

They plan to casually inform people about the program during the festival, he said.

"We're just really trying to introduce it at Manifest and to ShopColumbia," Joson said. "[We're finding] ways to advertise and promote it without making it seem like we're just here to hound for money."

Joson said all previous fundraising for ColumbiaCares had been done through the winter event Holipalooza, ShopColumbia's holiday festival. The group is expanding its

efforts to include Manifest in hopes of adding to the \$4,000 it has raised since its founding.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said he encouraged Holipalooza to integrate ColumbiaCares into its initiatives during the 2012 and 2013 holiday seasons because it's a big donation period.

"There needed to be some caring for the community or some expression of what is often the best part of the holidays where you focus on others and not yourself," Kelly said.

Mukomel said ColumbiaCares is a program that can benefit not only commuter students, but also students who are from another state or country.

"Obviously you're at college and on your own," Mukomel said. "If students find themselves in a situation where they need help, they can go to the school and there is something set aside for them to cover any financial costs."

The program was initially created in an Events Management Practi-

cum class taught during the fall 2013 semester by Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life and part-time faculty member in the Business & Entrepreneurship Department.

"A lot of schools have a Greek system where they do a lot of fundraising for things like this," Bourne said. "I think that this is Columbia's answer to that. It's awesome to have students raising money for their classmates and helping them out."

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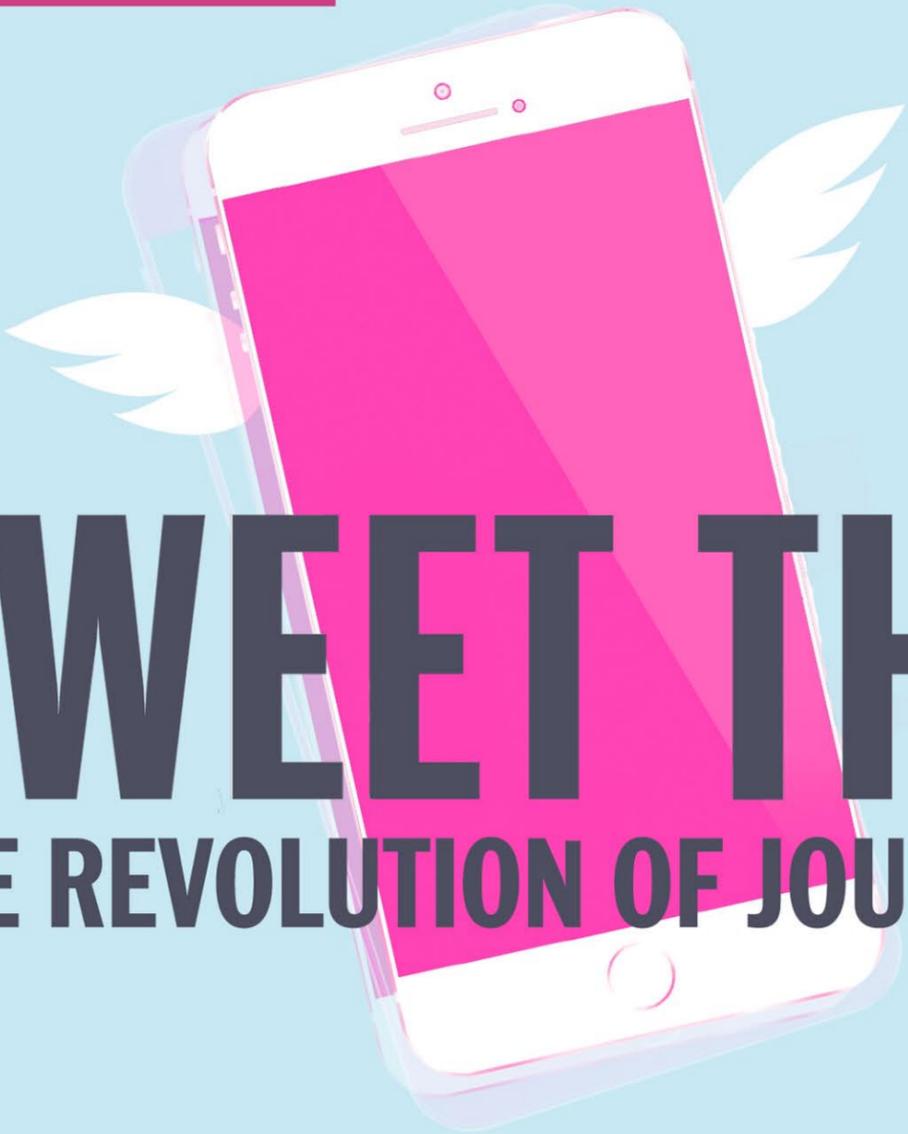
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Welcome to the revolution! Learn how journalists at Columbia College Chicago are navigating the media industry's new world order. Columbia faculty members Suzanne McBride and Jackie Spinner will share how their department is ensuring the next generation of journalists continue to transform the world of media. Find out how social media, digital storytelling and online innovation are transforming what's taught in and out of the classroom.

This event is cosponsored by the Columbia College Chicago Friends of the Library and the Journalism Department.

The purpose of the Friends of the Library is to gather, engage and maintain a robust association of individuals interested in strengthening the collections of the Columbia College Chicago Library through monetary and in-kind donations.



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AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

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FEATURED ARTIST

JC JOSON

junior business & entrepreneurship major

Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

JC Joson, a business & entrepreneurship major, works with local artists through his nonprofit student project, Dear Music Love Music, which was created with Center for Community Arts Partnership.

JENNIFER WOLAN

Assistant Campus Editor

JOHN CHRISTOPHER "JC" Joson, a junior business & entrepreneurship major, traveled from San Diego to enroll in Columbia without knowing what he wanted his major to be.

After taking a J-term class called "BIGArt," in which Columbia students help teach art to Chicago Public Schools students, he hosted a benefit concert and found his passion for event planning.

Joson produced two concerts in 2013, each of which 300 people attended. The gigs landed him a role as production assistant in the office of Student Engagement, which helps produce Columbia events such as Manifest and Convocation.

For the second consecutive year, Joson put on a benefit concert called Dear Music Love Music on Oct. 24, 2013, a student-run project that partners with the Playing for Change Foundation, a nonprofit that helps fund art classes in Chicago. He has also branded concerts

such as LOMA, which features Chicago musicians ARMITAGE, Deer Emerson and Greg Owens.

The Chronicle spoke with Joson about LOMA, music and art concerts and his goals.

THE CHRONICLE: What does LOMA stand for?

JC JOSON: LOMA is a startup idea for a music and arts festival. I'm from San Diego from an area called Point Loma. I named it after that, but Point Loma also has a history

and is where California was first discovered. [The name] is a metaphor that this may be the next big music festival, aside from Coachella, of course. It's kind of like Dear Music Love Music, but instead, I get to make money off of it and work with more Chicago artists and the music industry here.

How did you come up with the concept for LOMA?

Colin DeKuiper, creative liaison for the Portfolio Center, knew I was doing Dear Music Love Music and they were partnering with Homeroom Chicago, which is a nonprofit organization here that works with anything dealing with the arts. They love collaboration and wanted me to work with Columbia and their students. He referred me to this mentorship program and I applied for it. There are three mentors, one for music, film and photography. I applied to be Matt Baron's music mentee. LOMA was pretty much Matt Baron, Homeroom Chicago and myself working on a project that features music [and] anything art-related. Since I was getting into events management, I decided to feature a couple shows with them. The more it developed and the more I worked on it throughout the semester, it just turned into LOMA fest. LOMA fest is my brand for my events, and I'd call it something else than "Produced by JC." But since then I have worked with venues in Chicago such as Schubas, Lincoln Hall and the Subterranean.

What inspired the Dear Music Love Music project?

It's a nonprofit student-run project I created with Center for Community Arts Partnerships. I took a class called "BIGArt" and my passion for starting art-related events started from there. That's where I got into the education side of this. For my "Entertainment Marketing" final, I decided to do an event. I wasn't into producing events yet, so I just chose to do one. Since I had this previous relationship with CCAP, I chose to do this benefit concert with their help. I chose to benefit an organization called Playing for Change Foundation and I featured Columbia bands. It kind of just started there. The summer before this happened, I spoke to CCAP and I told them I wanted to start my own project that supports their music programs.

How long did it take you to produce the event?

It took me a while. Aside from the final project, it was my first time producing an event on my own, so I asked a few friends to try to help me out. I worked on it all summer to try to book a space here at Columbia. Since I [expected] this project to be a lot bigger than my class project, which had 100 people, we ended up having 300 people attend. It was a whole night of free music from Columbia's bands.

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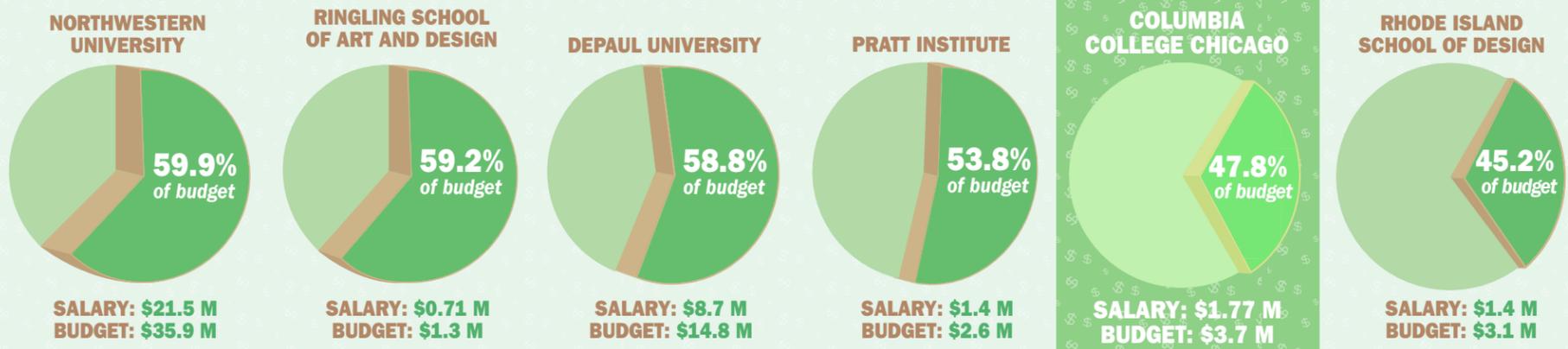
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College fundraising salaries in relation to college fundraising budgets



Graphics by Erik Rodriguez THE CHRONICLE

» FUNDRAISING Continued from Front Page

“Colleges exist in order to provide education for students,” Kim said. “We don’t exist to give people jobs. Unless people are truly helping an institution to advance in its mission, there is no reason for them to be in this institution.”

Columbia generated approximately \$8 million in net fundraising during the 2011–2012 academic year, according to its 990 tax forms for that year. All nonprofits are

required to file 990 tax forms with the IRS that become public 18 months after they are filed.

Columbia saw an increase in its contributions from the 2010–2011 academic year, during which the college generated an approximate net sum of \$5.9 million. The college also spent approximately \$300,000 less on fundraising efforts in 2011 than in 2010, according to the forms. In 2011, the college spent approximately \$3.7 million on fundraising.

Richard Dowsek, the college’s

interim CFO, who has previous experience with performing art nonprofits, said the college’s expenses are slightly higher than he is used to. He said Columbia should have raised almost twice as much, close to \$20 million, and should be generating funds at a ratio of \$5 or \$6 earned for every \$1 spent, not the current \$3 earned for every \$1 spent.

The increase in net gain comes at a time when the endowment fund is seeing an overall increase. The endowment reached approximately \$112.3 million, a 27 percent increase from its 2008 value of \$88.5 million, showcasing the increase in net gain from fundraising.

Fundraising events have been a lucrative outlet for the college but only generate a small portion of Columbia’s overall revenue. In 2010, Columbia generated \$86,026 from four events, including the annual Open Doors Gala and the Museum of Contemporary Photography benefit. In 2011, the college was able to generate \$457,507—five times as much—from five different events.

However, fundraising comes at a cost. The college’s largest fundraising expense comes from the salaries and wages of fundraising employees, which totaled \$1.77 million in 2011. Other notable fundraising expenses include \$217,730 spent on conferences—a 38.5 percent decrease in spending from the previous year—and \$169,450 in travel expenses—a 13 percent increase from the previous year.

Dowsek said the amount spent on wages and salaries seems high.

“If you are going to spend \$3.7 million, you should raise more than \$11.8 million,” Dowsek said.

Columbia seems to be attracting more contributions and donations than other arts colleges, but significantly less than private universities that have professional, law, medical and business schools.

Northwestern University announced March 14 that it would attempt to raise \$3.75 billion for a campaign called “We Will: The Campaign for Northwestern.” The capital campaign is the largest in the university’s history and has received \$1.52 billion so far, according to a March 14 Northwestern press release.

Northwestern generated approximately \$229.5 million from fundraising in 2011, according to its 2011 tax forms, dwarfing Columbia’s \$8 million net gain. Unlike Columbia, Northwestern was able to generate approximately \$1.23 million from seven fundraising events,

helping to bulk up its \$5.5 billion endowment fund.

Northwestern generates \$7 for every \$1 spent, a figure that vastly surpasses Columbia’s \$3 to \$1 ratio—and Dowsek’s desired \$6 projections.

DePaul University also attracted more contributions than Columbia, reflected in DePaul’s \$349.2 million endowment fund. DePaul generated \$43.7 million in 2011 despite its approximately \$14.8 million in expenses, much higher than Columbia’s.

The Pratt Institute, located in Brooklyn, N.Y., has a concentration in architecture, art and design. It generated \$6.4 million in contributions and fundraising and has an endowment of \$97.6 million. However, Pratt is frugal with its fundraising expenditures. Pratt spends approximately \$1.4 million on compensation but only \$3,469 on conference costs and \$41,963 on travel.

trillion transfer in wealth occurring between older and younger generations, Chapman said, which may mean a different distribution of funding for nonprofits.

“The difference is that you will have younger people who are probably for the first time becoming involved in providing support for nonprofit institutions,” Chapman said. “Fundraising becomes a marketing process. You have to think about it in a traditional and nontraditional sense now.”

Kim said the college is seeking a VP who will lead the Department of Development in generating more annual donations, scholarship contributions and large-scale capital fundraising for projects dedicated to specific goals such as renovating The Johnson Publishing Building, 820 S. Michigan Ave., the site of the college’s scrapped library. The administration canceled the project because of a lack of funding.

“Stay tuned. It’s going to get better fast.”

—Richard Dowsek

The Ringling College of Art and Design, located in Sarasota, Fla., has an endowment of \$26.6 million but still raised \$7.2 million during the 2011 academic year, according to its 990 forms. Like Columbia, Ringling’s fundraising expenses are mostly composed of compensation, \$711,370, conference costs, \$105,726, and travel costs, \$50,928. Ringling earns \$6.62 for every \$1 spent

The Rhode Island School of Design, located in Providence, R.I., has an endowment that surpasses Columbia’s—RISD’s is \$283.5 million—but the school generated less fundraising and contributions than Columbia. RISD received \$5.4 million from its efforts, according to its 990 tax forms. RISD spent less on wages, though—\$1.4 million—and only \$75,417 on travel costs.

Senior Vice President Warren Chapman has been overseeing the Department of Development as the college makes the transition from the old Institutional Advancement model. He said online donations generate approximately \$348 million a year for nonprofits and the new VP of Development will have to examine the trend because it may become important for the college to increase its fundraising ability.

Chapman said philanthropy is experiencing a shift. There is a \$3

Kim said the college is also in need of unrestricted funds, money donated to the college that is not earmarked for a specific purpose.

“Real development work is on a continuum where you start with the smaller gifts that are sort of easy, and you hopefully move them to a stage where they feel a sense of commitment to the institution, and then at the capital level, they are making gifts because they want to transform the institution,” Kim said.

Fundraising is an essential part of operating a successful nonprofit, according to Dowsek. He said it could alleviate some of the financial burden on students.

“As the college looks ahead, developing higher amounts of net-contributed income is really important,” Dowsek said. “It’s one of the release valves for tuition increases and affordability. Stay tuned. It’s going to get better fast.”

Despite the college’s larger fundraising expenses and inability to generate funds the way universities such as Northwestern and DePaul do, Kim said he is not concerned about fundraising. He said the college has identified the problem and is working to fix it.

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ENDOWMENTS

PRATT: \$97.5 million

RISD: \$283.5 million

RINGLING: \$26.6 million

COLUMBIA: \$112 million

DEPAUL: \$349 million

NU: \$5.57 billion

*All information from the college’s 990 tax forms



» **ASSAULT**

Continued from Front Page

In an effort to make students more aware of sexual assault cases on and off campus, Lauren said the college should consider incorporating sexual assault awareness into its First Year Seminar courses.

Hansen said there should have been more time devoted to the Q-and-A portion of the hour-long presentation, and that she felt the panelists' answers to the audience's questions, particularly her question regarding victim blaming in sexual assault cases, were vague.

"I feel like we should have had more straightforward answers [and] it definitely should have gone on longer than an hour," Hansen said. "I'm glad that they had the panel available ... I appreciated the amount of time dedicated to Q-and-A, but the problem is people can answer questions however they'd like."

Anderson announced during the panel that she will replace Patricia Olalde, director of Human Resources, as Columbia's Title IX officer starting in the fall. The Title IX duties will also move from Human Resources to Student Affairs, she said. To ensure the sexual assault proceedings adhere to Title IX guidelines, the college will form an oversight task force of representatives from the offices of Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and General Counsel, Anderson said.

In addition to updating its policies, Columbia will also create a student education committee



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

(From left) Thomas Cravens, coordinator of Student Relations, Patricia Olalde, Title IX coordinator and director of Human Resources, and Jeremy Hisaw, director of Counseling Services, discuss their roles in assisting students who are sexual assault victims April 30 during the Sexual Assault Awareness Panel at Stage Two in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

tasked with informing students on sexual assault policies and procedures, Anderson said. The committee will be composed of faculty, representatives from the Student Government Association and Student Affairs, Anderson said.

The new policies will require faculty and staff—except for the counseling staff—who learn of a student being sexually assaulted to report the incident to the Title IX coordinator. The college posts the previous year's Annual Crime Statistics & Fire Safety report online, which details the number of incidents of sexual assault that occur on campus as well as other crime statistics. To keep students

informed, the college community can request updated statistics from the Office of Campus Safety & Security at any time, said Martha Meegan, director of Campus Safety & Security.

Information on Title IX will also be available on the Human Resources website, and in the event that the Title IX coordinator is on vacation, a deputy Title IX coordinator will be on duty, Anderson said.

The college has not selected a deputy Title IX coordinator, according to Anderson.

"Now what's available to you upon request ... you could come to our office and say, I would like the latest crime for this year or maybe

this month.' ... We are obligated to provide you with that information," Meegan said.

After multiple requests for comment, Meegan and Olalde could not be reached after the panel discussion to provide the college's most updated sexual assault statistics. The college is currently compiling figures for the 2014 report, according to Patricia Rios, associate vice president of Human Resources.

According to the 2013 Annual Crime Statistics & Fire Safety report, five incidents of forcible sex offenses were reported in 2012. Robert Koverman, associate vice president of Campus Safety & Security, said the Office of Campus

Safety & Security is committed to responding to sexual assault reports and that in the past, the college has educated students about sexual assault during orientation.

"I think [the panel] just reinforces to the community the college's commitment to the whole issue around sexual assault and the response [from various departments] with resources that may be available," Koverman said. "It reinforces our commitment to our community ... It's also about education to the community to reinforce what's available to our students, staff and faculty."

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Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

President Kwang-Wu Kim said during the Coffee With the President April 30 that his financial decisions this year were delayed by not having a permanent Chief Financial Officer.

» COFFEE Continued from PG. 3

to better prepare students for jobs and flexible career paths.

Kim said the CFO would work on budgetary and financial changes, whereas the provost would handle academic changes.

"I don't want to over-promise, but I feel really confident that we can make the [necessary] changes," Kim said.

Deavondre Jones, a junior business & entrepreneurship major, said he was disappointed by the student turnout for what he thought was an important discussion. However, he did agree with Kim's proposed changes, such as an improved college communications system and less drastic tuition hikes.

"I believe that the changes he is saying he will make would be considered great for peo-

ple," Jones said. "If [the changes are] done properly, there will be some great things in Columbia's future."

Mary Palmer, a graduate art education student and vice president of Columbia's Art + Activism program, said she is optimistic about Kim's plans but wishes there had been a more definitive timeline for the changes that Kim said he wants to implement.

"It's a little disappointing because we go to these meetings and the things we are proposing, we won't ever see because we will be gone," Palmer said. Kim said he will continue the Coffee with the President series next year if invited by SGA, but he will shift his focus to other topics, such as fundraising.

"The president of the college is basically the chief fundraiser," Kim said. "And I can't make a dollar just sitting in my office."

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COURTESY Office of Creative Services

The college's new diploma, designed by Hannah Rebernick, a Columbia graphic design alumna, to incorporate the college's new seal.

» DIPLOMA Continued from PG. 3

features a torch emitting a light that breaks the seal's border, creating an impression while creating the illusion of a city skyline, Kim said. Kim said he thought the previous seal, looked "amateurish" and did not reflect the college's focus on the future.

"I thought [rays of light were] a really powerful idea: the creative spirit of the institution breaking through and connecting to the larger world, which is so important to me," Kim said.

Rebernick said designing diplomas for a college without school colors is an interest-

ing challenge because Columbia has a reputation for being an informal institution.

She said the college prides itself on beautiful imagery that showcases students at work and people practicing their craft, which is what inspired her design. Rebernick said she was honored to design the school's new diploma and to be a part of the college's history.

"It was really exciting to work on [the diploma] as a ... recent alumna and to be new to creative services and to see the kind of work they really put into projects like this, and ... the work I was capable of doing because of Creative Services," Rebernick said.

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Money may diminish athletes' motivation

JENNIFER WOLAN
Assistant Campus Editor

A RECENT STUDY analyzing athletes' motivation may change the way major league sports organizations negotiate player contracts.

The study, published Jan. 22 in Springer Science+Business Media, found that an athlete's performance reaches its peak during his or her contract year—the year before a player's contract is up.

For the study, Mark White, a senior psychological science major at the University of Missouri-Columbia, compiled and analyzed more than 230 NBA and Major League Baseball players' sports statistics during their pre-contract year, the contract year and the post-contract year.

"Extrinsic motivators like money or an athletic contract can threaten physiological needs such as feeling [in control] or [being] confident," White said. "It decreases our extrinsic motivators and decreases how much we enjoy [sports and] we perform worse."



Associated Press

The New York Knicks' small forward Carmelo Anthony played 77 games this season and averaged 27 points and 8 rebounds per game during the final year of his contract.

White said motivators like pay could inspire players during their contract year, which can lead to big bonuses. The problem, though, is that playing for money undermines

how much an athlete will enjoy performing the following year because of the loss of these motivators.

White said the study suggests that instead of giving athletes

intrinsic motivators, sports team managers should make players feel comfortable with the teams, and also feel as if they are making their own decisions so that they are more

confident in their choices. How well athletes perform depends on their contracts. If athletes are motivated, they will perform better.

White said economists tend to focus on how much money athletes should make during their contract year but neglect the psychological impacts a contract year can have on players.

Pete Temple, a clinical performance psychologist, said the study's findings might imply that athletes play primarily for the contract money, but he said he thinks there are more complex factors at play.

"If you talk to athletes, they know they have tons of money, but it's about respect," Temple said. "I think athletes should be internally driven, but the research suggests that once they get their big deal, their intrinsic motivation goes away."

Temple said fans expect athletes to always give 100 percent when competing, but the team owners are the ones who are underperforming.

» **SEE CONTRACT, PG. 17**

Extraterrestrial vitamins smash into Earth

MAX GREEN
Contributing Writer

A RECENT STUDY has identified vitamin B-3 in meteorites from an asteroid as old as the known solar system, supporting theories that some of life's molecular building blocks could have traveled through space to Earth through interstellar meteor impacts.

The study, slated for publication July 1 in the journal *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, was conducted at NASA's Goddard Center for Astrobiology and found vitamin B-3 traces present in samples from interstellar carbon-rich meteorites that had collided with Earth.

"We're trying to explain the occurrence [and origins] of vitamin B-3 in meteorites and determine if these molecules can be made under interstellar conditions," said Karen Smith, a NASA postdoctoral fellow and lead author of the study.

Smith said her team examined

a type of meteorite called a CM-2 carbonaceous chondrite. These meteorites have been shown to contain amino acid nucleobases, which are found in DNA. Smith said the findings contribute to a list of biological molecules that can be found in meteorites.

However, some are skeptical of the degree to which the extraterrestrial vitamin B-3 may have aided early microbial life on Earth. According to Sandra Pizzarello, a professor emerita and research professor in Arizona State University's Biochemistry Department, meteorite samples can be easily contaminated by bacteria and microbes on Earth.

Pizzarello said she led a team in 2001 that identified vitamin B-3 in a meteorite from Tagish Lake in Canada. Pizzarello said contamination of a meteorite can make it difficult for researchers to determine which components and substances originated in outer space.



Courtesy KAREN SMITH

Karen Smith, a NASA postdoctoral fellow and author of a recent study of vitamin B-3 in meteorites, crushes remnants of meteorites in NASA's Center for Astrobiology.

Smith responded that the likelihood of all samples being contaminated by Earth molecules and bacteria taken from eight different meteorites is low.

"All of these meteorites were collected down in Antarctica, which is a good spot to find them because

they are essentially preserved in the ice," Smith said. "There is [microbial life] in Antarctica, but it's much less than if the meteorite had landed in a pasture or somewhere like the Amazon where we would[be able to] see all kinds of biological contamination."

Vitamin B-3 was identified in meteorites along with its structural isomers—different forms of the same organic compound that bond together in different orders—which researchers typically only see when

» **SEE METEORITE, PG. 17**

<p>MONDAY, MAY 5</p> <p>Chicago Cubs vs. Chicago White Sox</p> <p>Time : 7:05 p.m. Place : Wrigley Field Where to watch : WCIU</p>	<p>TUESDAY, MAY 6</p> <p>Chicago Blackhawks vs. Minnesota Wild</p> <p>Time : 8 p.m. Place : Cell Energy Center Where to watch : CNBC</p>	<p>THIS WEEK IN SPORTS</p> <p>260612</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, MAY 7</p> <p>Chicago Cubs vs. Chicago White Sox</p> <p>Time : 7:10 p.m. Place : U.S. Cellular Field Where to watch : WGN</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MAY 10</p> <p>Chicago Fire vs. New York Red Bulls</p> <p>Time : 6 p.m. Place : Red Bull Arena Where to watch : My50 Chicago</p>
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IHMOUD'S MOODS

Next task at hand

LET'S FACE IT: The Chicago Bulls had a slim chance of hoisting the NBA trophy in June, so I'm somewhat grateful the team exited the playoffs sooner than expected.

Chicagoans were put out of their misery when the Bulls lost their first round series of the 2014 NBA playoffs against the Washington Wizards, which took five games to eliminate the Bulls in a best of seven series. I thought Chicago would be around to put me through emotional hell in the second and third round, but I was wrong.

Being eliminated from the championship hunt means the Bulls can now focus on more pressing issues: the team's health and building around star point guard and hometown hero Derrick Rose for next season—a realistic year for the team to be considered a championship caliber team.

This offseason is different than the last. Yes, Rose's return is important, but most Bulls fans will be waiting to see how Chicago addresses its bigger issue—not having a reliable scorer that can create his own shooting opportunities and relieve stress for Rose.

This past season, the Bulls ranked dead last in points per game and survived using their defense and heart to squeak out victories. Since Rose first went down with a torn ACL in 2012, the Bulls have rarely scored easily.

During their five playoff games, each offensive possession seemed more difficult than the last. Adding a prolific scorer like New York Knicks' small forward Carmelo Anthony, a free agent, would assist them where they struggle the most.

There aren't any clear indications of where the New York Knicks' small forward will end up, but if he's more interested in winning than money, Chicago should be on Anthony's short list of possible destinations.

In addition to landing an attractive free agent, the Bulls need their star's wounds to heal and use their two first round draft picks to enhance a bench that will more likely than not be dismantled to make room for incoming free agents.

Rose's comeback is on schedule, according to an April 30 Chicago Tribune report. However, following the Bulls' game five loss to the



NADER IHMOUD
Media Relations Editor

Wizards, Chicago's center Joakim Noah admitted that he had been playing on a gimp left knee during the series. The Bulls announced he had arthroscopic surgery and is expected to rehab for 6–8 weeks.

There's plenty of time for Bulls players to regain their health, but there won't be any time wasted speculating who will be the newest members of the Bulls or which players will seek new employment opportunities this offseason.

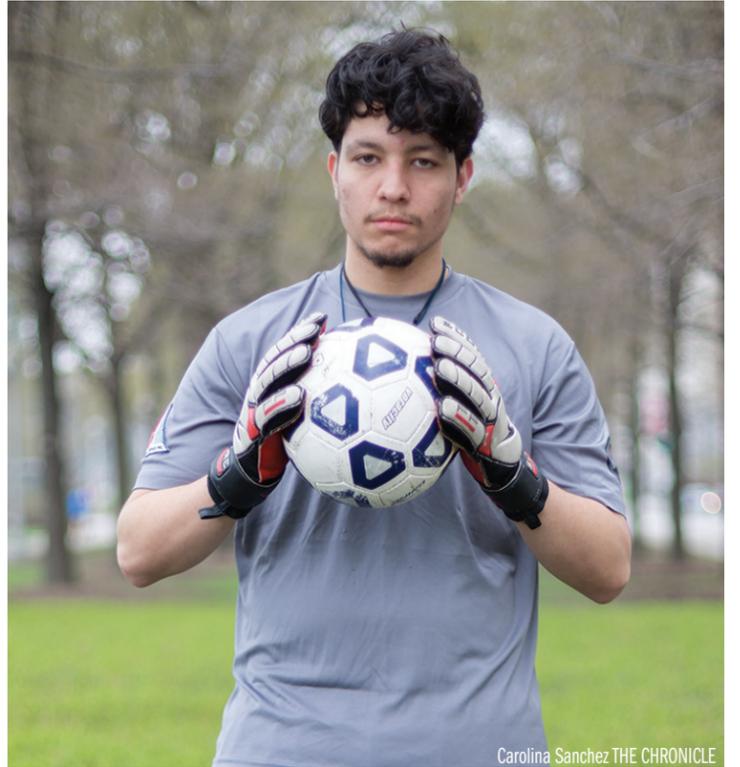
Listen to Nader Ihmoud as he hosts The Benchwarmers Show every Monday night from 7–9 p.m on WCRX 88.1 FM.

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FEATURED ATHLETE

WILLIAM MONTES

Sport: Soccer Team/School: Columbia Renegades



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

SARAH SCHLIEDER

Sports & Health Editor

WILLIAM MONTES, CAPTAIN and goalie of the Renegades co-ed soccer team and junior creative writing major, said his mom, a soccer coach, pushed him to join a soccer league at 3 years old. With a love for the sport and nothing else to do living in Tampa, Fla., Montes stuck with soccer and developed skills that allowed him to play at an advanced level for his club and high school teams.

Montes found a way to incorporate lessons learned from soccer into his other interest: poetry. He said soccer taught him discipline, pushed him to pursue art and further developed his writing skills. With Columbia being one of the only colleges in the country offering an undergraduate degree in poetry, Montes moved from sun-soaked Florida to Chicago to continue pursuing both passions.

Columbia's soccer team is on hiatus until the fall semester, but Montes said he hopes to create a 4-on-4 indoor soccer league for students at Columbia and Roosevelt University during the summer. Competing teams would meet at the Goodman Center, 501 S. Wabash Ave., every week to play for a few hours, he said.

The Chronicle spoke with Montes about his early soccer career, passion for poetry and thoughts on playing for the Renegades co-ed soccer team.

THE CHRONICLE: Did you play for your high school's soccer team?

WILLIAM MONTES: [I attended] Thomas Jefferson High School in Tampa. I played keeper for them. We were sort of a lower-tier team. High school [soccer] out there was just for fun. The majority of the competition was at club level.

Have you participated in any big soccer tournaments?

Back in Florida, for my club team, we played in the big tournament for

state [soccer]. [The team] didn't get very far, but that's probably the biggest tournament I've been a part of.

Why is the Renegades soccer team co-ed?

It's just easier than getting into an adult league. If it's co-ed, a lot of people just play for fun. It's hard to get practice in to play at that higher, more competitive level. I would love to [play in a men's league], but it's just hard to get the people involved, recruiting people to play soccer. Co-ed is usually the easiest option.

Is there a difference in the co-ed team's level of competition?

There's different levels of co-ed, but usually there's an adult league where the competition is harder, but at the same time it's just not as competitive as it would be in an 11-on-11 adult men's or women's league. It's just for the love of the game.

What would you say to someone who is hesitant to join the Renegades?

The Renegades are here to stay. Just jump right in. We won't bite. We welcome anybody with open arms. It's not a jock-centered culture. It's just another community for people who love to be active and play sports.

How has your love for soccer influenced your poetry?

I'm an artist first and foremost, but being an athlete is what got me to where I am today. It gave me the discipline to want to be better, not just to be the best, but to be better as an individual. As a keeper, I have to direct and give people different points of view and vantage points on the field and poetry is very similar in a way. You're writing about the world as you personally see it so other people can relate.

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FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Associated Press

Chicago Cubs starting pitcher Edwin Jackson throws against the Cincinnati Reds during an April 30 game, which the Cubs won 9–4. As of press time, Jackson has started six games for Chicago this season and is 2–2 with an earned run averaged of 5.24. The starting pitcher signed a four-year deal with the Cubs in 2013 and still has two seasons left in his \$52 million contract.

TECH TALK

Autonomous technology may suffer from mood swings

SARAH SCHLIEDER

Sports & Health Editor

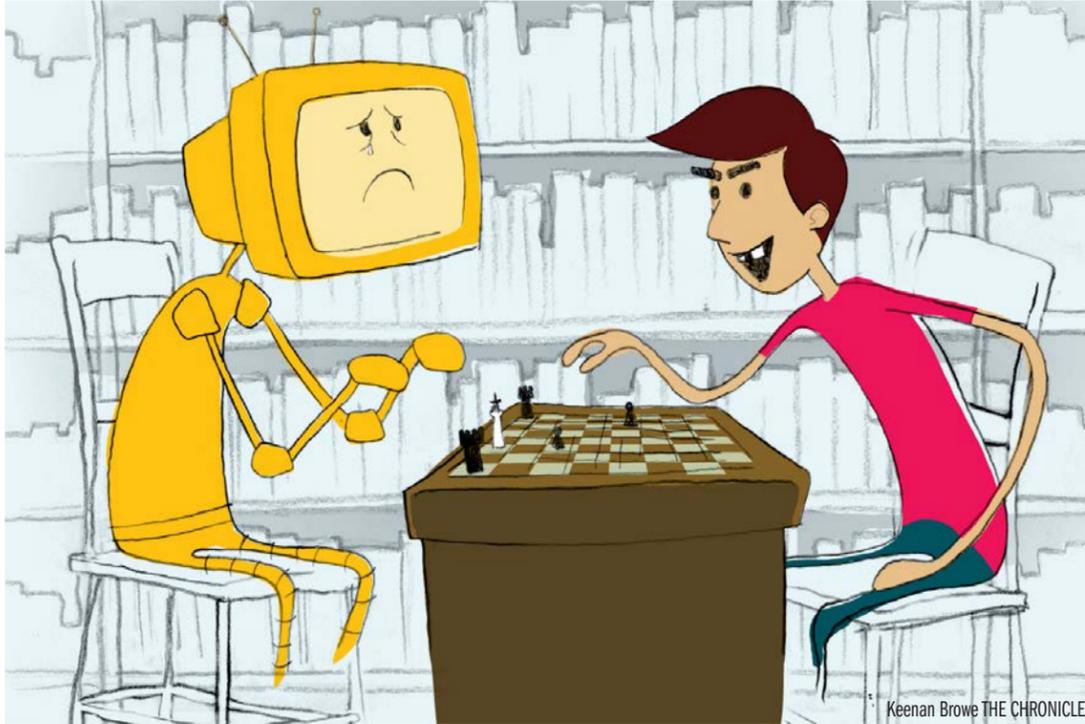
LIKE THOSE OF a teenager, technology's mood shifts may be dangerous.

Autonomous technology, featuring devices that can operate without user guidance, has caught up with sci-fi predictions of automated cars and robots, and one study warns that these machines could become dangerously self-aware.

The study, published in January in the *Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Artificial Intelligence*, found that autonomous systems might drive themselves toward replication and self-preservation, potentially leading to menacing behavior toward its user if the device thinks its goal is being threatened.

For example, a system with the simple goal of winning a chess game may have unintended consequences, said Steve Omohundro, president of Possibility Research. If a person tries to shut off the system or unplug it, the computer might realize that in a world in which it is unplugged, it is not able to achieve its goal. The system might develop a secondary goal to prevent its deactivation or view the person trying to unplug it as an enemy, Omohundro said, adding that in extreme situations, the computer may attempt to harm the operator.

"We need to be very careful about how we design these systems and how we specify what their goals are," Omohundro said. "We need to



include in the goals not just whatever thing they're supposed to do, but also information about what it means to be a good citizen."

Omohundro said he began focusing on self-improving artificial intelligence that can monitor itself and potentially make improvements, such as becoming more efficient in completing a certain task. But if systems start changing themselves, the developer may not completely understand the system as they did when it was originally engineered, Omohundro said.

"I began to realize that there are lots of ways for outcomes to happen

which are not what you expect," Omohundro said.

The technology's performance is influenced by the tasks programmed into its software by the engineer, Omohundro said, adding that its goals could be either harmful or beneficial.

However, Omohundro's concerns are not slowing down the autonomous technology industry. Autonomous vacuums and cars are currently on the market with a myriad of new devices on the way.

Marco Pavone, assistant professor of aeronautics and astronautics at Stanford University, said recent

improvements in autonomy are allowing engineers to give systems more complex goals, which has increased interest in the technology.

"There is an intersection between what people have been dreaming of for the past century and what now is indeed making [this] possible," Pavone said.

Because the technology is becoming more efficient, products with autonomous systems are becoming more accessible, according to Satinder Baveja, professor of computer science and artificial intelligence lab director at the University of Michigan. He said com-

munities could benefit from the technology's increased popularity and that people who have difficulty walking could use autonomous wheelchairs to help them get around more efficiently.

Omohundro said autonomous systems could also be used in the manufacturing industry and in the medical field to assist doctors in diagnosing medical problems.

However, the increased popularity of autonomous technology could be dangerous if people put too much trust in the systems, Pavone said. For example, if an autonomous car detects an inconsistency, it will shift control of the vehicle back to the driver, but if the person is sleeping, control is completely lost and the car may crash, he said.

"This is the reason the key aspect of automation is interaction between the system and a human," Pavone said. "It is not that the machine is trying to do something bad because of its negative will. It's more just the software."

Baveja said nightmare scenarios in which autonomous technology seizes control should not be a concern, but that safety should always be considered when developing new technologies.

"I think we are not really thinking about where these technologies are going to take us," Baveja said. "We will develop them and then after the fact figure out our rules."

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FEATURED APP



EVER WONDER HOW people react to your video messages? Samba, a new video messaging app, allows users to watch their friends laugh or cry when they watch videos sent by other users.

The app records people's reactions and sends the video back to the sender within seconds. After capturing a video, users can add a

written message and swipe to send it. The app also includes fast-forward and rewind viewing options and allows users to delete messages and reactions at any time to avoid possible embarrassment.

Samba is compatible with all iOS devices and is free in the iTunes App Store. —S. Schlieder

FEATURED PHOTO



MCT Newswire

Mick Ebeling, CEO and founder of Not Impossible Labs, shows off a prosthetic hand Jan. 16 that was created with 3D printing at his office in Venice, Calif. Ebeling introduced small 3D printers to the market that create prosthetics for children injured in the war in Sudan.

GADGET LAB



Courtesy BRAGI

The Dash Headphones

GETTING TANGLED UP in a pair of headphone cords while working out is no longer an issue thanks to The Dash, a pair of completely wireless headphones that play music through a Bluetooth connection or 4GB music player.

The Dash, designed for freedom of movement and comfort, can also track users' athletic data, such as pace, number of steps and distance traveled. The device also measures

heart rate and oxygen levels all while playing music.

After a quick workout at the gym, users heading back to work can employ the headphones as a Bluetooth headset, delivering clear voice and sound quality through an embedded ear bone microphone.

The Dash is available for pre-order at Store.Bragi.com for \$299 and is set to hit the market in January 2015. —S. Schlieder

Stem cell research goes skin deep

SARAH SCHLIEDER
Sports & Health Editor

NEW SKIN LAYERS developed from human embryonic stem cells may provide dermatologists and researchers a more efficient way of studying skin diseases.

Theodora Mauro, service chief at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center and professor at the University of California, San Francisco, recently developed a system that transforms human embryonic stem cells into skin cells using fibroblasts—cells in connective tissue that produce collagen and other fibers.

In a study published April 24 in the journal *Cell*, Mauro teamed up with Dusko Ilic, senior lecturer at King's College London to study skin diseases without the use of animal models or skin biopsies. The result was a virtually infinite database of skin cells created from embryonic stem cells.

Mauro, who has been studying skin for 26 years, said she became interested in the skin barrier function because of its important role in keeping water in and bacteria out.

The Chronicle spoke with Mauro about her work with the skin barrier function, the skin cell study and the controversy surrounding stem cell research.

THE CHRONICLE: How did you become interested in this field?

THEODORA MAURO: The problem with the skin barrier is that it's been really hard to study because it's been really hard to develop a model for it. What we did first was develop this model with human skin cells—not stem cells. The advantage of that was that they're a little easier to work with, but the disadvantage of human skin cells is that there's a lot of variability in them. If you develop these cultures from one person's skin cells, they often don't behave the way skin cells from another person do. The other problem with skin cells is that there's a finite number that you can make and when you want to start doing high-input testing through chemicals, for example, you need a supply that's bigger than that. So we turned to stem cells and you ended up with pretty nice looking skin.

What inspired the study?

We wanted to establish a good model of skin to be able to look at skin diseases and to also be able to look at the normal functions of normal skin. People have either generally used biopsies of human skin or they've used mice in the past. Neither of them are optimum.

What applications might the study's results have?

We were really trying to address a lot of questions about barrier function, not one specific disease. I think replacing animals and also being able to look at particular skin diseases are probably the two major applications. You're going to be able to see researchers studying different diseases within the next couple of years.

Are these skin layers similar to natural skin layers?

They have the same functionality that the skin itself would have. They have a good barrier to keeping water from going out and for keeping things from going in. They differentiate fully and they respond to an insult and they repair themselves the same way that skin would. What they don't do is do functions of the skin that require an immune system. For example, they can't model an allergic response yet. That's going to be our next process: to see if we can get that to happen.

Are the layers susceptible to the same diseases as natural skin layers?

One of the nice functions of these skin equivalents [is they tell] you



Courtesy THEODORA MAURO

Theodora Mauro and researchers at King's College London developed a database of skin cells from stem cells.

what gene doesn't work well in a skin disease. For example, if you take atopic dermatitis, which a lot of little kids have right now. We know a lot of the skin diseases are caused by a gene called filaggrin. What we can do is knock that protein out selectively in our cultures. It gives us a lot of flexibility to model diseases without having to take skin biopsies from people who have those diseases. It's a nice advance. It will really make studying these diseases a lot easier.

Do you think the controversy surrounding stem cell research could hinder further research?

No. Our study used both human embryonic stem cells but also IPS cells, which are cells that are taken from a fibroblast and then turned back into a stem cell and then into a keratinocyte. You don't have to necessarily use embryonic stem cells to make this preparation.

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» **CONTRACT**
Continued from PG. 13

“Coaches might say, ‘I’m perfectly happy with my athletes,’ but fans might say, ‘A player scored 15 points last year and now he’s only scoring 10,’” Temple said. “I think there are a lot of variables to be calculated before saying that athletes aren’t motivated.”

Monique Maye, assistant professor in Columbia’s Business & Entrepreneurship Department and owner of Barnes & Maye Market-

ing, said it is hard to motivate athletes without using money as an incentive, but from an agent’s perspective, the study makes sense.

“When athletes are performing well, their agent and their representation would have ammunition, so to speak,” Maye said. “Their agent would say their statistics are pretty high and the athlete is performing well because he’s a good performer and can perform at a high level for your team.”

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STOCK PHOTO

» **METEORITE**
Continued from PG. 13

the molecule is created without the presence of life, according to Smith.

Smith said she doubts biological contamination was a source of vitamin B-3 because the presence of the vitamin depends on how much the asteroid parent body was altered by liquid water, a phenomenon called aqueous alteration. The more aqueous alteration an asteroid had undergone, the less vitamin B-3 was present in its meteorites, Smith said.

According to Alissa Bans, an astrophysicist and postdoctoral astronomer at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, some of these ancient organic materials were present in the dust clouds that eventually formed stars and solar systems, making it likely that many of them were somehow preserved in comets and asteroids.

“Astronomers for decades now have been discovering these sorts of organic materials,” said Bans.

The second component of Smith’s research focused on recreating the deep-space conditions under which the vitamin B-3 would have been formed.

At NASA’s Goddard Cosmic Ice Lab, Smith and her colleagues created a low-pressure, low-temperature environment to allow them to combine pyridine and carbon dioxide, the two components of vitamin B-3.

“You get these icy dust grains in interstellar space that are constant-



Courtesy KAREN SMITH

The team at NASA’s center for Astrobiology crushed meteorites with a mortar and pestle before beginning vitamin B-3 analysis, according to the study.

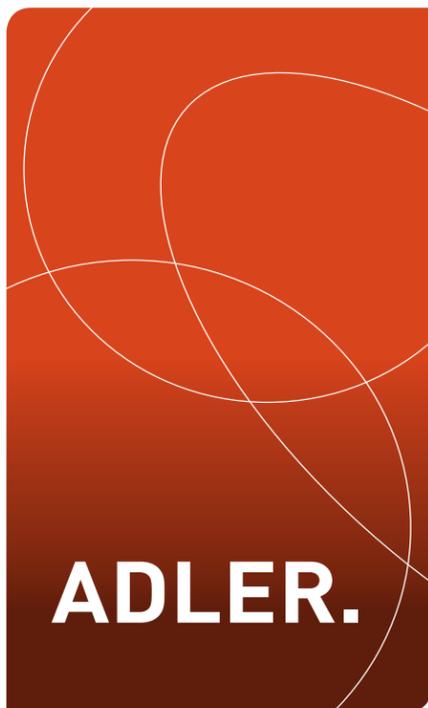
ly being bombarded by high-energy particles,” Smith said.

The team wanted to show that if the ice grains could produce a substance similar to vitamin B-3, the grains might mix into the meteorites, Smith said.

According to Bans, ice offers a good surface for organic molecules to form on.

“[Compounds] like this likely formed outside of what astronomers call the ‘snow line,’ which is where water ice can actually exist in space,” Bans said. “A lot of the material we’re seeing now contaminated early earth when we were being bombarded by collisions.”

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NOVICE



SOUS CHEF



GURU

Spiced Banana Bread

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons allspice
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 overripe bananas, pureed
- 1 dash of nutmeg (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease 9-by-5-inch baking pan.
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and allspice.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk together sugar, vanilla, eggs and milk. Fold into flour mixture
4. In a food processor or blender, puree the bananas. Add olive oil and blend.
5. Mix banana with batter. Pour into loaf pan and sprinkle with extra cinnamon, allspice and nutmeg.
6. Bake 35-40 minutes or until knife inserted comes out clean. Let cool for 10 minutes before serving.

FAVORITE *recipes*



Grace Wiley THE CHRONICLE

ELIZABETH EARL

Opinions Editor

UNTIL I WAS 15, I hated everything about bananas. But that changed on a 10-day volunteer trip to the Philippines when my friends and I hiked up mud-covered, tropical Mount Pinatubo to a remote village. When we crested the top of the mountain, one of my friends made a quick foray into a banana grove and returned with an armful of fresh, ripe bananas he pulled from a tree. I still can't stand the oozing texture of bananas from American grocery stores, but after the bananas I had at the top of the mountain, I still crave the taste.

Now, I get creative with how I use bananas, and banana bread is a classic. My version is actually bread, so

you can justify eating it with peanut butter or as a dessert with coffee.

To start, preheat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9-by-5-inch loaf pan. Combine the flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and allspice in a large mixing bowl. For a healthier option, you can substitute the all-purpose flour with whole-wheat flour and add a little water to balance the texture. Combine the sugar, vanilla, eggs and milk in another bowl before mixing into the dry ingredients.

Set the mixture aside and turn to the main ingredient: the bananas. It's better if they look disgustingly overripe on the outside because they will be easier to chop and puree. Peel and chop them into a food processor or blender and pulse for about 30 seconds or until smooth.

Open the lid and drizzle in the olive oil to add a full flavor to the bananas and mellow out the intense sweetness. Pulse for another 10 seconds.

Pour the banana mixture into the bowl and mix well. If it's a little watery, add another tablespoon of flour until pushing a spoon through the mixture leaves ridges in the batter. Pour into the prepared pan and make sure the batter is even on both sides. Sprinkle with spices.

Bake the bread for 35-40 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean and the edges of the bread are light brown. Let it cool for 10 minutes before serving, and then enjoy the subtle taste of banana with spices. Some things are just better in bread.

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PHOTO: JOHN MARCUS



Paris visits Chicago with fresh food markets

NICOLE MONTALVO
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

AS CHICAGO FINALLY emerges from the antisocial horrors of Chibertia, perennial farmers markets are blooming throughout the city. Outdoor markets are a seasonal treat that highlight local vendors and community interactions while promoting healthy eating, but Chicago's French markets are a breed of their own.

Bensidoun USA Inc., a company that owns French markets across Europe and New York City, also has two Chicago locations, one in Lakeview and in the other in the downtown area. The latter, the indoor Chicago French Market, 131 N. Clinton St., opened in 2009 and runs year-round.

"We include, depending on the local health department rules, meat vendors, fish vendors [and] cheese

vendors," said Sebastien Bensidoun, executive vice president of Bensidoun USA, who was interviewed by telephone from Paris. "At the farmers market, it's very rare to see those types of things. We want to give a shopping experience as we do the markets here in France."

Bensidoun said the company expanded to include Chicago locations because of his fondness for the Windy City.

"I love your country," Bensidoun said. "For me, it's my favorite country—even better than France—and Chicago is definitely my favorite city in the U.S."

The indoor Chicago French Market creates a sense of community, said Robb Wehrmbister, employee of Fumare Meats, one of the market's vendors.

"All the vendors are kind of like one big family down here," Wehrmbister said. "We have repeat

customers through here multiple times during the week."

The Chicago French Market hosts more than 30 vendors, including Buen Apetito, which offers French dinner specialties, and Flip Crepes, a French breakfast station. The majority of the food is made using locally grown produce, but what sets this market apart from traditional markets is the prepared dishes it offers rather than raw products. They also aim to incorporate vendors who sell products other than food items.

Bensidoun USA's second Chicago market, which opened in 2003, is The Nettelhorst French Market, is a seasonal, outdoor French market that sets up shop every Saturday from April 26 through late October at the East playground of Nettelhorst Elementary School,

» SEE MARKETS, PG. 30



Photos Angela Connors THE CHRONICLE

Chicago French Market, 131 N. Clinton St., which is owned by Bensidoun USA, Inc. and operates year-round, has 30 distinct vendors who sell a variety of locally grown French foods.



Courtesy RICHARD PARO

Krista D'Agostino, Kerry Sheridan and Christine Vrem-Ydstie perform "Olivia Approaching," the audience choice selection in the Indie Boots Theatre Festival, which ran from April 28-30 at Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.

Local theatre festival inspires activism

NICOLE MONTALVO
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

IN AN INTIMATE, dark theater with a floor-level stage, small casts performed nine original one-act works the nights of April 28-30. They explored themes such as love, friendship and the human condition through comedy, drama and political commentary. With minimal sets and almost no costumes, the actors' passionate performances brought the scripts to life.

Mudgeonsoul productions, a small local theater ensemble, presented the second annual Indie Boots Theatre Festival at Greenhouse Theatre, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave. The 90-minute performances promoted activism by putting a focus on voices of people who are often not heard in mainstream media, such as women and the LGBTQ community. A competition judged

by the Mudgeonsoul reading committee selected the scripts for the evening, which were written by local and national activist playwrights including Erin Hug, Michael Yichao and Joan Broadman.

The scripts explored provocative questions about what types of stories are worth telling through plays about young female roommates, female honeybees, a bisexual high school student, a lesbian couple, vampires and ghosts.

Each year, writers must incorporate a female name into their stories in some way. Last year's chosen name was "Rebecca," and this year's female name was "Olivia." Richard Paro, director of the festival, said they did this to encourage people to write more about women. Audiences voted on the overall

» SEE BOOTS, PG. 30

FOR THE RECORD by Emily Ormberg Managing Editor

Posthu-mistake?

A SONG MICHAEL Jackson recorded 31 years ago was released May 2 as the first single from the upcoming *Xscape* album, the second release since his 2009 passing. Although fans might be excited to moonwalk to unheard material from the King of Pop—it makes you wonder why Jackson might have kept these tracks under wraps to begin with.

Eight previously unheard Michael Jackson songs, originally recorded between 1983–1999, including the recent single “Love Never Felt So Good,” will be released May 13 on the new album, and according to the label’s website, Epic Records wants to make sure each of Jackson’s history-making unreleased tracks are “contemporized.” That’s why the likes of Rodney Jerkins, L.A. Reid

(OutKast, Justin Bieber, Young Jeezy) and Timbaland (Justin Timberlake, Missy Elliot) were included in the production process. The leaked album snippets feature a strange mix of Jackson’s timeless vocal talent and modern additives such as autotune, excessive reverb and booming bass. A deluxe edition of *Xscape* will include a selection of the original recordings.

Much like the 2011 Island Records release *Lioness: Hidden Treasures* from deceased songstress Amy Winehouse, the commercial push to publish posthumous work from an artist begs the question of whether they are paying tribute and disrespectfully squeezing profits out of the death of beloved pop stars. The answer lies in the music.

There have been times in the past when a deceased artist’s “Best of” album is released as an homage.



This usually happens when a record label carefully remasters an artist’s classic tracks and meticulously chooses unreleased material to highlight the artist’s talents, presenting the demos left behind in an artful, meaningful way. However, considering Jackson’s money-hungry estate releasing the album in conjunction with Epic Records, there is no guarantee that it will be a respectful tribute or a profitable grave dance.

Comparable to a furniture liquidation sale, record labels rush to find leftover material from late superstars, throwing it on the market before they become irrelevant instead of respecting their passing.

eormberg@chroniclemail.com



Thursday, May 8

RAY LAMONTAGNE

Park West
322 W. Armitage Ave.
7:30 p.m.
\$50+

Monday, May 5

QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE

Aragon Ballroom
1106 W. Lawrence Ave.
8 p.m.
\$34+

Thursday, May 8

THE MILK CARTON KIDS

Old Town School of Folk Music
4544 N. Lincoln Ave.
8 p.m.
\$22

Tuesday, May 6

THE NELS CLINE SINGERS

S.P.A.C.E.
1245 Chicago Ave.
7:30 p.m.
\$18+

Thursday, May 8

TELEVISION

Metro
3740 N. Clark St.
8:30 p.m.
\$25

Tuesday, May 6

DUSTIN WONG

The Empty Bottle
1035 N. Western Ave.
9 p.m.
\$8

Saturday, May 10

TIMBER TIMBRE

The Empty Bottle
1035 N. Western Ave.
6 p.m.
\$12

Wednesday, May 7

WOODS

Subterranean
2011 W. North Ave.
8:30 p.m.
\$12

Sunday, May 11

JOHN SCOFIELD ORGANIC TRIO

S.P.A.C.E.
1245 Chicago Ave.
6:30 p.m.
\$26+



Photos Anthony Seave THE CHRONICLE



KAHALLYN CAIN
senior theater major



JOSEPH RIGGS
senior cinema art + science major



SARAH STANLEY
senior creative writing major



MARLIN ROSS II
senior business & entrepreneurship major

WHAT 1980s POP SONG BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

“We Will Rock You” by Queen, because I’m f--king awesome.”

WHAT 1980s POP SONG BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

“Just Like Heaven” by The Cure—I have it tattooed on my chest.”

WHAT 1980s POP SONG BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

“Love is a Battlefield” by Pat Benatar. It’s kickass.”

WHAT 1980s POP SONG BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

“I Wanna Dance with Somebody” by Whitney Houston.”



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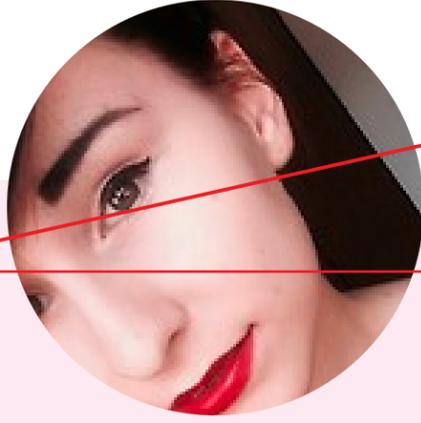
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wonderyears.tumblr.com

STRONG EYEBROW GAME

Columbia student Sydney Zenon has one strict fashion rule for herself: She cannot leave the house without filling in her perfectly-plucked eyebrows.

As she delved into the world of makeup during her teenage years, Zenon, now a sophomore interior architecture major, started noticing her peers' eyebrows and exploring tutorials on how to recreate the bold eyebrow looks she liked. Through endless trial-and-error, her eyebrows took on their own shape with her guiding hands and helpful tweezers, turning them into dark, thick, arched beauties.

"I think it's safe to say I'm obsessed," Zenon said.

Taylor Ray is another brow-obsessed groomer. She said she thinks her brows are distinct because of their natural arch and thick texture.

"I've been crazy about my eyebrows for a couple years now, but my friends have slowly started to jump on that [trend] because they see my brows," Ray said.

These girls are not alone in their obsession. Teens used to bemoan bad hair days, but now they are upset when their brows are not "on point."

Numerous blogs, such as Bold-NaturalEyebrows.blogspot.com and Reddit's "Teens of Reddit: What's cool nowadays?" page exemplify this generation's obsession with brows. Twitter accounts such as @eyebrowgamestrong and Instagram accounts like @eyebrowgamestrongest have popularized the phrase "strong eyebrow game"—used to describe those who have the ideal

well-groomed, big, beautiful eyebrows. The tag #eyebrowgamestrong on Tumblr leads to thousands of photos of minimally plucked or waxed and filled-in dark brows. Both younger females and males are now spending up to \$30 at specialty eyebrow shops to achieve the perfect eyebrow look.

In a March 5 Her Campus article "How To Keep Your Eyebrow Game Strong," California Polytechnic State University student Arinee Rahman said, "If your eyebrows are on point, your life is on point. That's because the way your eyebrow looks can change the appearance of your whole face. The shape of your eyebrow is everything. (And no, we're not exaggerating.)"

Diana Roth, an eyebrow specialist and co-owner of The Browtique in Orland Park, a beauty salon focused on just the brow rather than the entire face, said she has observed the eyebrow obsession spreading among youth since The Browtique opened in 2009.

"I've just noticed the growth of conscientiousness," Roth said. "People weren't as aware of how different it can really make your face."

Eyebrow grooming has been practiced since the 13th century, Roth said, adding that she has only recently noticed the trend shifting to an obsession among younger people in the U.S. in the past few years. Although her clients used to be primarily middle-aged women, they are now mostly teenage girls who desire a specific look.

"It really is a little thicker, a little fuller," Roth said. "It's more like that feathered brow where it almost looks like

they're slightly un-groomed, but obviously it does take a little bit of grooming in order to achieve that look."

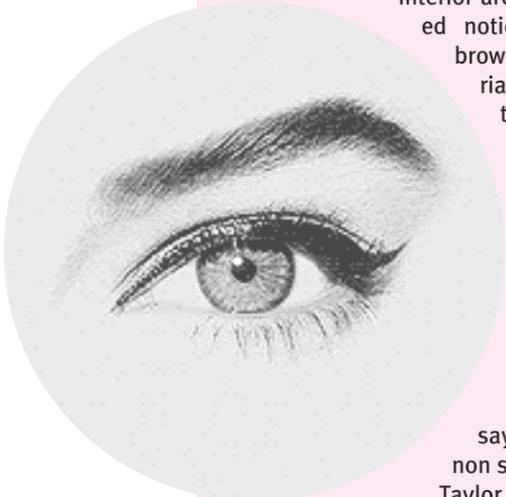
In the '90s, eyebrows were popularly plucked into tiny lines, but now they are perfected into abundant bushels of hairy facial forestry, Roth said. Akin to a punk-rocker who spends an egregious amount of time achieving the unkempt look as if he or she just "rolled out of bed," the added effort, ironically, is meant to make the eyebrows appear more natural. Appointments with brow gurus are customized to each client to find just the right balance between a desire for thick brows with the type of brows a customer actually has.

"Just be you with your eyebrows," said Jack Dodge, a 16-year-old YouTuber. "You gotta keep 'em shaped like you—but bigger is better now."

Dodge said teens today are more obsessed with their eye-

brows than any previous generation, a trend he has witnessed among his high school classmates and YouTubers. In fact, the trend inspired him to do a parody video in January that went viral. When his female fans could not resist talking about his strong eyebrow game in the comments section of his humorous weekly vlog, he consulted his "beauty guru" friends who make tutorials on beauty tricks and trends. Dodge's eyebrow grooming parody video had nearly 9,000 views as of press time.

In the video, he first pretends to apply Latisse, a treatment used to increase eyelash growth, to his eyebrows to ensure they reach the proper thickness. To demonstrate the serum has worked a little too well, he lays a lump of fake hair over it and then pretends to "tweeze the s-t" out of it. The last step of the process is filling them in, which he does with



screenshot from
skylondonx.tumblr.com



"@Sky_Society: Just got over 10 snapchats all about 'Eyebrow game too strong.' Is today national eyebrow day or something?' It's everyday

nataly@nancy_nataly12

Photos Courtesy DIANA ROTH



EYEBROW

**Written by Nicole Montalvo, Assistant Arts & Culture Editor
Design by Kayla Koch, Senior Graphic Designer**

a chocolate candy bar for a “rich brown color” but then decides it is not bold enough and uses pink lipstick instead.

“People were like ‘Wow, like, your eyebrows. I just keep looking at them,’ and I’m like, ‘OK, I have to address this,’” Dodge said. “After I did that, people notice it more now, but I’ve just embraced it and kind of been, like, ‘Yeah, I have strong eyebrow game, like, get over it.’”

Dodge essentially created the ultimate satire tutorial on eyebrow grooming, which found its place among dozens of actual videos showing how to demonstrate a look called the gradient eyebrow—the eyebrow du jour, which is blocked on with pencil or powder and has a faded ombre effect.

Girls are not the only ones adopting the obsession. For men, it is important not to have over-groomed eyebrows, Roth said.

Troy Arrington, a junior nutri-

tion major at Northern Illinois University, is a 21-year-old man who makes grooming his eyebrows a top priority.

“I used to get them threaded,” Arrington said. “[They were] just really thin and it looked like Prince or something.”

After he stopped threading his eyebrows, he continued to groom them using a different method.

“As a male, you shouldn’t have overgroomed eyebrows,” Arrington said. “Some males don’t believe you should [groom] them at all, but when you have like super bushy eyebrows—uncontrolled eyebrows like me—you have to do something to it otherwise you just look ridiculous. Nowadays, I usually get them tweezed by my girlfriend.”

Joe Smith, whose name has been changed at his request, a 2013 Columbia alumnus, tweezes his eyebrows at least three times a week to make sure they always look perfect.

“Having good eyebrows is kind of like having a nice pair of shoes or great lipstick,” Smith said.

Smith said he thinks it is important to make sure, especially for a man, that eyebrows are not over-plucked and do not look too obviously groomed. He said he thinks eyebrows should look natural but also well-kept, so he checks the status of his brows in the mirror every night before going to bed to ease his mind of any eyebrow woes.

The worst offense in the eyebrow game is a unibrow, something that must be removed at the onset of puberty.

Rebecca Gross, an aesthetician at Mark Allen Salon and Day Spa, said she has seen mothers bring their 11- and 12-year-old sons to get their uni-brows waxed.

“They’re getting teased at school,” Gross said. “It’s affecting them, so the moms will come in just to take care of that little unibrow.”

However, Zenon said she thinks competition regarding strong eyebrow game could negatively affect self-esteem in young girls.

“I think people judge you off anything,” Zenon said. “I don’t

really know how caty it will be at a high school level.”

Zenon and Ray agreed that they groom their eyebrows for their own satisfaction, not to attract men.

“I do it for myself, and it ends up being sexy,” Zenon said. “If you always have a strong eyebrow game, you feel good.”

Aside from getting their eyebrow game on point, Gross said girls are getting into beautification younger because they are hitting puberty earlier. She also said men are getting into it because there is more competition in the workforce, adding pressure to look polished.

“I think it has a positive effect,” Gross said. “It’s just about getting the right message out there: how to take care of your skin. It’s a part of grooming. Just like we’re taught at a young age to brush our teeth. We just weren’t aware of it years ago like we are now.”



screenshot from mdmalien.tumblr.com



screenshot from chhimmigurung.blogspot.com

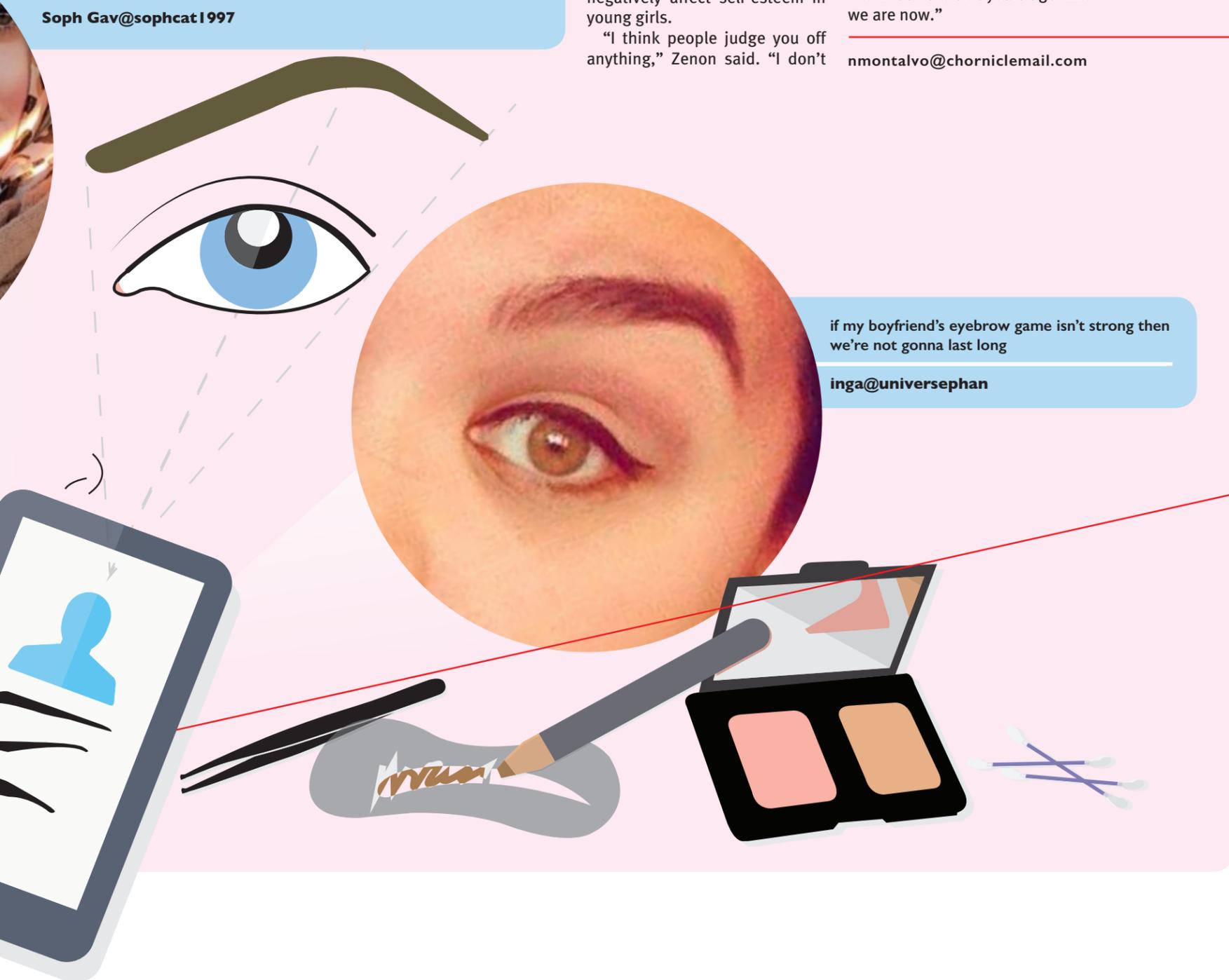
Sorting my eyebrows out for the year I I photo tomorrow so I will forever be remembered for having strong eyebrow game #priorities

Soph Gav@sophcat1997

if my boyfriend's eyebrow game isn't strong then we're not gonna last long

inga@universephan

nmontalvo@chorniclemail.com



Good Southern cooking gets ultra-urban twist

BRANDON HOWARD
Contributing Writer

AT THE FAR end of a cobblestone alleyway surrounded by brick walls with chipping paint, the smell of Texas-style barbecue lingers in the West Loop.

The source of the smell is Green Street Smoked Meats, 112 N. Green St., which is a fine addition to the al-foodie-friendly neighborhood.

The restaurant is the creation of Brendan Sodikoff, founder and CEO of Hogsalt, the company behind Chicago restaurants like Au Cheval, 800 W. Randolph St., and Bavette's, 218 W. Kinzie St.

Green Street serves up delicious backyard-party-style barbecue accompanied by traditional sides including baked beans, sweet pickles and potato salad, each of which is \$4. Brisket (\$11), beef ribs (\$8), pulled pork (\$8), pork belly (\$11) and pork ribs (\$8) are served in half-pound portions. Other delicacies include salmon (\$20), a frito pie (\$6) and grilled oysters (\$18).

The meat is cut from the bone right in front of patrons when they order, and seasoned to perfection with a Memphis-style rub of chipotle, garlic and salt.

Green Street's signature cocktails include drinks like the Charreuse Mule and Sweet Tea Bourbon, the perfect boozy companion to a slab of ribs and coleslaw. The pork ribs were perfectly seasoned—

not overbearing in flavor but just enough to give the ribs zest and spice. On their own, the ribs have enough flavors to eat without any sauce, which is served on the side. Out of the vinegar, hot sauce and barbecue sauce, the hot sauce seems to best complement the meat, which was pink and tender with a delectably smoky flavor. The smoked chicken leg was the best item on the menu because the meat simply could not stay on the bone. While the macaroni salad was ade-

quate, it was no better than the grocery store pre-made stuff. The broccoli salad was deliciously dressed with sunflower seeds for an added crunch, and dill was sprinkled in to boost the vinaigrette flavor.

The restaurant was impressively full at 5:30 p.m. on a Wednesday. There were businessmen just getting off work, couples going out for a date night and large groups of friends chowing down and enjoying drinks within the modern confines. Large sinks near the or-

dering counter full of beer bottles on ice and friendly service give the grungy, dim space a friendly, southern atmosphere.

Green Street's interior is beautifully lit by overhanging exposed light bulbs strung across the ceiling and low-hanging industrial lamps above communal tables. The low lighting mixed with a warehouse aesthetic matches well with the wail of Jimi Hendrix and other classic rock sounds playing in the background.

It is chic, but not too upscale to dim the authenticity of the barbecue fare, as evidenced by the paper towel rolls on each table.

If you're looking for moderately priced barbecue without too many added hijinks, Green Street Smoked Meats is a solid choice. The overall friendly environment and well-rounded barbecue options make it worthwhile for every Chicago meat lover.

chronicle@colum.edu



Green Street Smoked Meats, 112 N. Green St., brings a fresh take on casual barbecue to Chicago with its industrial decor and minimalist style. Guests can try fanciful cocktails, such as the Sweet Tea Bourbon (right), \$10.

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AUDIOFILE

Miniature Tigers not so small anymore

WESTON PAGANO
Contributing Writer

HAVING ORIGINALLY MET through Myspace, the indie-pop quartet Miniature Tigers comes from humble beginnings and was named one of the 25 best bands on the social network site by Rolling Stone in 2006. Miniature Tigers released their throwback debut, *Tell It to the Volcano*, evoking a classic pop style reminiscent of the mop top era of The Beatles. They have since toured with chart-toppers Fun. and recently traveled to Jamaica to record their new LP.

Now with three EPs and three full-length albums under its belt, the Phoenix-born and Brooklyn-based collective is back with a more polished approach on its upcoming record *Cruel Runnings*, which is scheduled for release May 27. The first single, "Swimming Pool Blues," references Brian Wilson's early '60s work, buzzing with sea-breezed anticipation of summer in the verses before exploding into a chorus splashed with bright synth counter-melodies and shaded with forlorn nostalgia.

The band recently embarked on a tour with fellow Brooklynites Bear Hands and opening act Total Slacker. Before their March 19 show at The Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave., The Chronicle stepped inside Miniature Tigers' van with frontman Charlie Brand and guitarist Algernon Quashie to discuss their new album, cover art and fights with other bands.

THE CHRONICLE: What was it like performing in large venues on your recent tour with Fun.?

CHARLIE BRAND: It's a whole different thing, really, and the energy is different.... It's trippy playing in front of that many people and playing to that large of an audience, but then we also love playing more intimate shows and smaller clubs.

What other bands would you like to tour with?

ALGERNON QUASHIE: Man, maybe the Paul McKenna All-Stars, but for people we have toured with, yeah, Fun. has been awesome, Kevin Devine and that crew, Spinto Band.

How did recording your upcoming album in Jamaica influence your sound?

CB: It was just a more laid back recording process. We were really relaxed making it, so it felt very effortless to record it and make it, but it doesn't really sound like an island record, really. It's very clean and poppy and there are lots of big drums.

You create a lot of your album artwork. What is your inspiration?

CB: It usually happens after everything's already done. Rick [Schaier] painted the first two album covers, and the third one, we just shot this photo. [With the new record] we're on the cover for the first time. We've never really done anything like that and just kind of had this idea inspired by the [Memphis Group] with lots of '80s interior design, like really pastel-y colors, and [we] wanted to basically create this room and put ourselves in it.

What is your songwriting process?

CB: I'll just kind of like sit down and start f--king around and record demos, and most times I'll like send it to these guys and they'll write little parts and we'll all kind of tinker with s--t, and once we get in the studio, then that's kinda when the songs really take shape and we all contribute our parts and weigh in on how we're going to approach the production.

Are either of you currently working on any side projects?

AQ: Yeah, everyone has their own little thing. Rick has the Alvin Band. Rick and I have a little group called Spooky. I make beats. Brandon he has his own solo project, too, so we all just keep it moving. [Laughs]

You're currently touring with Bear Hands so I have to ask: Who would win in a fight between a man with bear

claws for hands and a group of four miniature tigers?

AQ: Hmm... a group of tigers.

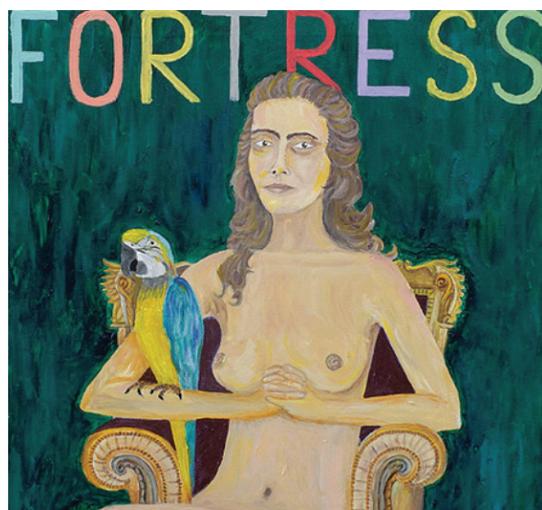
CB: I personally think the pack of miniature tigers would win, but ultimately, who would win in a fight between Miniature Tigers and Bear Hands?

AQ: You mean the bands?

CB: Bear Hands, dude. I mean, I've had some fights, but I think they'd ultimately beat the s--t out of us.

For more information, visit MiniatureTigers.com.

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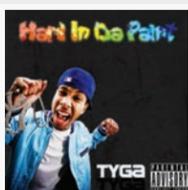


Courtesy MINIATURE TIGERS

Miniature Tigers play in New York City Feb. 14 (above) to promote their new record, *Cruel Runnings*, scheduled for release May 27. Their newest record is the first to feature the band on the cover (bottom right). Previous covers, like 2010's *Fortress*, were handpainted by member Rick Schaier.

staff playlist

Ratchet rhymes



Katherine Davis, Assistant Campus Editor

HARD IN THE PAINT Tyga
BUGATTI Ace Hood
AMEN Meek Mill ft. Drake
BRING IT BACK Travis Porter
ALL THE WAY TURN UP Roscoe Dash



Sylvia Leak, Ad & Business Manager

TRAMPOLINE BOOTY KStylis
MOTHAF Lil' Ronny
MAKE IT RAIN Travis Porter
MY NECK MY BACK Khia
LOOK BACK AT ME Trina ft. Killer Mike



Kyra Senese, Copy Chief

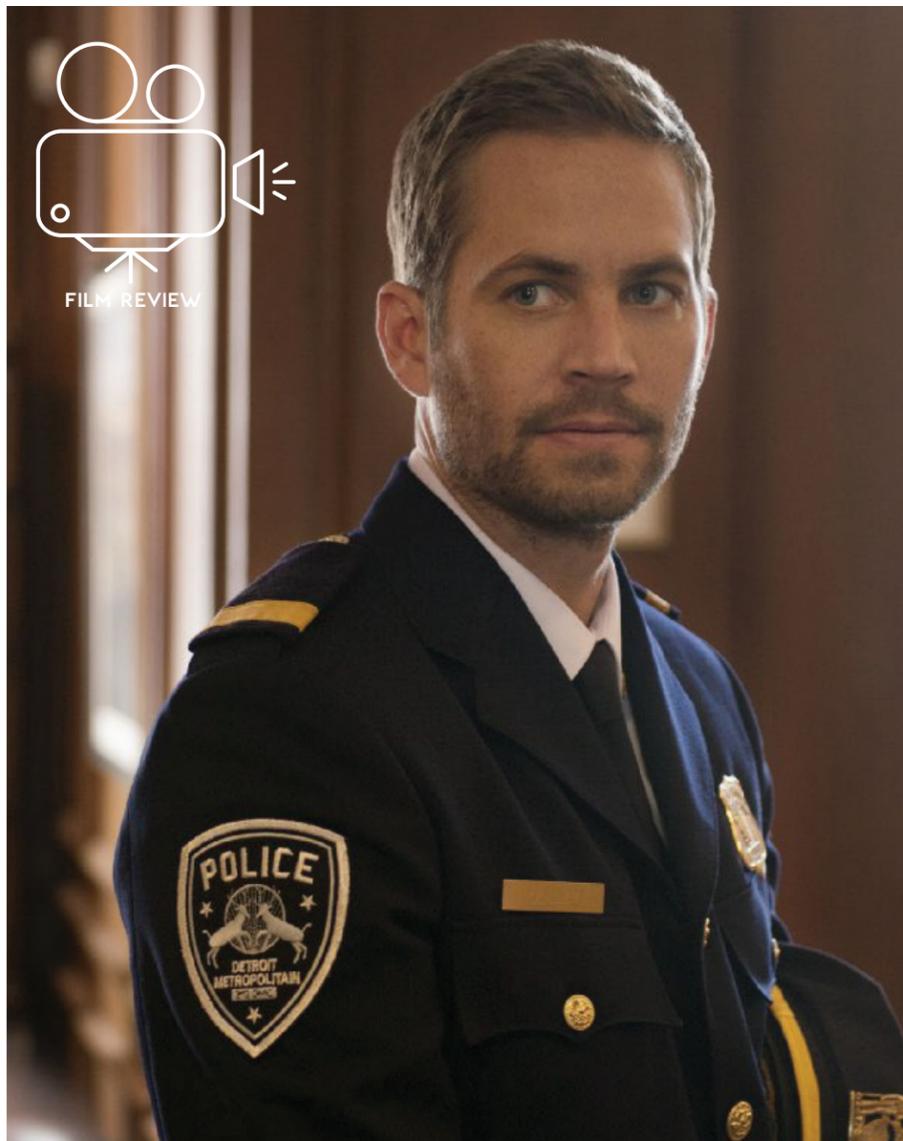
GUCCI GUCCI Krayshawn
FREAK LIKE ME Santigold
STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM Drake
RACK CITY Tyga
DECISIONS Borgore ft. Miley Cyrus



Mark Minton, Copy Editor

BRICK IN YO FACE Stitches
MAKE IT RAIN Tyga
B---ES Lil' Debbie
BRAIN FREEZE Riff Raff
MAY IT BE Enya

'Mansions' sinks like a brick



IMDB

JOSH WEITZEL
Film Critic

IN MODERN HOLLYWOOD, remakes are an ever-present occurrence and, for the most part, mind-numbingly terrible. The worst remakes are completely devoid of what made the original notable. This is true of "District B13," an inventive, fast action film featuring parkour and fancy stunt work, and "Brick Mansions," a remake of the acclaimed 2004 French action thriller, which is a lazily written and poorly acted re-imagining that is more likely to evoke grimaces than grins. As a new member of an exclusive club of films with zero redeeming qualities, the film is unfortunately one of the last starring the late Paul Walker, who died in a car accident last November.

The film is set in 2018, when criminals are running rampant in a dystopian Detroit. Because of the uncontrollable crime rate, the city constructed a massive wall enclosing the lower income area known as Brick Mansions, which notorious drug kingpin Tremaine Alexander (Wu-Tang Clan rapper RZA) rules with an iron fist. Alexander steals a neutron bomb and threatens to blow up the area outside of Brick Mansions unless he is paid millions of dollars by the government. Undercover cop Damien Collier (played by Walker) is tasked with finding and disarming the bomb before it detonates. He teams up with small-time criminal Lino (played by David Belle, reprising his role from the original "District B13" series) to help locate the bomb before it is too late.

"Brick Mansions" is stupidly cliché. Each character is generic, uninteresting and falls into recycled Hollywood archetypes. There is an honest cop, a damsel in distress and a monstrous goon who is impossible to defeat by conventional means. At one point, Alexander captures Lino's ex-girlfriend, Lola (Catalina Denis, "Sleepless Night"), to gain leverage over Lino, but the incident does not contribute to the story aside from turning Lola into a hyper-sexualized and helpless female lead. Lola has a whopping total of six lines of meaningless dialogue in the entire film. For all practical purposes, she might as

well have been a cardboard cutout, doing very little for the plot overall.

The only character with any scrap of motivation is Collier, who yearns to avenge the murder of his cop father who Tremaine killed several years prior. Collier recycles the sob story countless times, making the character seem inauthentic.

Even if the characters were interesting, the acting is awful. Rapper-turned-actor RZA delivers a startlingly lackluster performance. He would be better suited auditioning for a middle school play, delivering his lines as though he was reading them right from a cue card for the first time. Walker and Belle are equally unimpressive, but it is clear that they are trying to salvage something from the underwhelming dialogue, composed mostly of uninspired one-liners. Collier often uses lame sarcasm, such as saying, "This is gonna be fun," before heading into a risky situation.

Although "Brick Mansions" is an action movie, the action is completely lifeless. Poor editing and lame choreography bog down the fistfights and car chases. Each fight is cut together so quickly that it is difficult to see what is happening, and even when the combat is visible, it is uninteresting and completely unrealistic. Early in the film, Collier jumps onto the back of a speeding car, tightly grasping a small gap between the back window and the trunk with his fingertips. The car speeds along at about 80 miles per hour, but Collier somehow manages to open the trunk, jump in and pop out through the inside of the car, where he easily defeats his opponents. In that same vein of absurdity, bullets never hit Collier or Lino while they weave between rooftops with ease and knock out any opponents that step in their way without taking a hit themselves.

While most action heroes may take a knock or two, those in "Brick Mansions" are both totally invincible, which makes the action pointless and the drama nonexistent.

As unoriginal ideas continue to dominate film making, "Brick Mansions" is just another movie destined for the bargain bin.

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Virtual reality grows up fast

Facebook's \$2 Billion purchase of Oculus could bring video games to a new level

ANDREA CHANG

MCT Newswire

THE ABILITY TO wear a headset and feel as if you are in another world has long been the subject of science fiction. Creating an affordable virtual reality device for the mass market has been the holy grail of sorts for game developers. Facebook's \$2 billion purchase of Oculus may bring that dream closer.

Virtual reality enthusiasts say they have been waiting decades for the technology to take off and have been developing headsets and content in hopes that they will have mainstream appeal. The blockbuster deal for Oculus in Irvine, Calif., is also casting the spotlight on Southern California's growing role in developing virtual reality technology.

Much of the activity is taking place at the University of Southern California's Institute for Creative Technologies, where Oculus founder Palmer Luckey, 21, once worked as a lab assistant. The institute has attracted several top VR researchers including Mark Bolas, who advised Luckey in his early days.

"We really do have an emerging hotbed here," said Bolas, director of the Mixed Reality Lab, a joint effort between the institute and USC's School of Cinematic Arts that trains art and engineering students in virtual reality design. "I think this is the

heart and soul of where virtual reality is going to be. We've got a nexus of people here that have been working in the field for over 20 years."

Los Angeles is uniquely poised to play into the virtual world with Hollywood and video game companies eager to develop content for virtual reality devices.

"We definitely like being in Southern California because we see the platform as covering gaming and entertainment," said Oculus Chief Operating Officer Laird Malamed. "It's a good place to be, which is why we haven't moved."

Oculus' headset, the Rift, has been heralded as the device that could make virtual reality the next big thing in video game technology. It began as a project on Kickstarter, raising nearly \$2.5 million from 9,522 backers in August 2012.

Resembling a pair of bulky ski goggles, the Rift promises to "take gaming to the next level" by immersing the viewer.

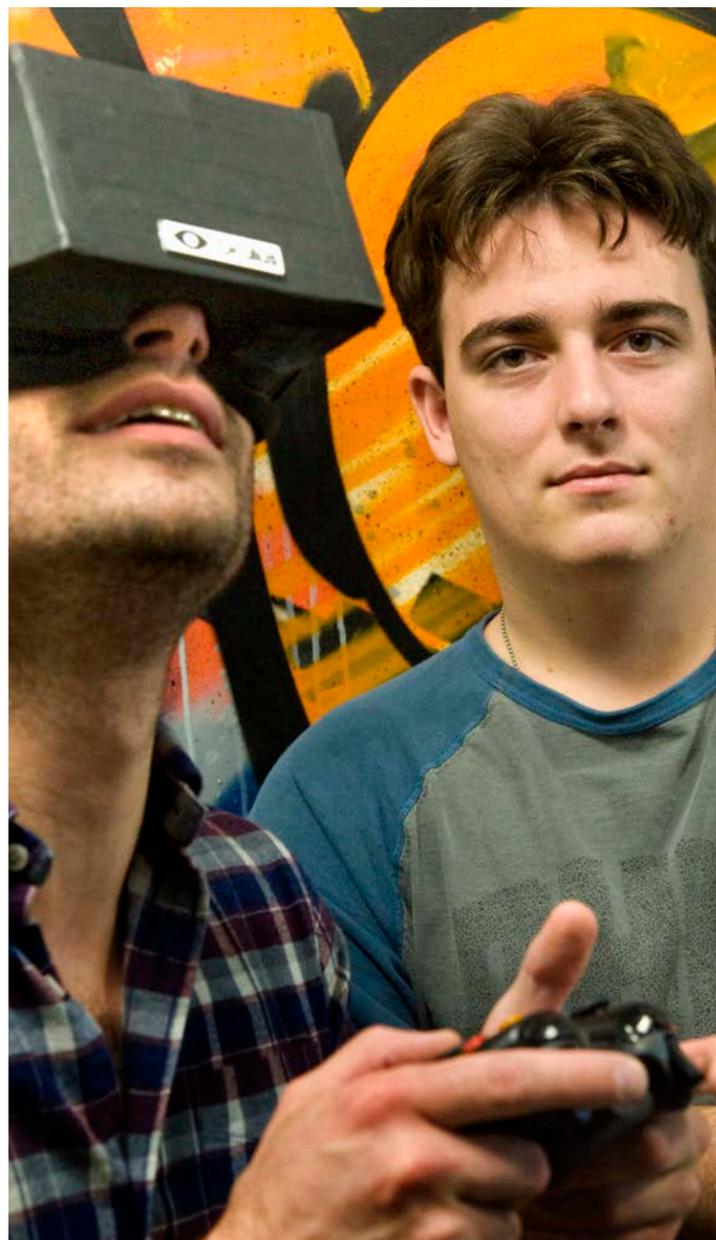
"It tricks your brain and it feels like you're somewhere you're not. Except in real life, you've never gotten that sense of scale," said Chris Dixon, a partner at venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz who led Oculus' \$75 million Series B financing round in December. "It's so effective in its illusion of reality that I think a lot of the current games will be too intense for people."

Virtual reality created a lot of buzz and briefly infiltrated pop culture in the 1980s and 1990s, but never really got off the ground. Many early versions were poorly made, uncomfortable and caused viewers to suffer from motion sickness. Soon the movement was relegated to the fringes of technological development, with the exception of high-end uses such as flight training and military tools. Nowadays, motion-control advancements better allow for head tracking and cut down on delays in response time, meaning the images on the Rift screen move with the player's head.

The software is also powerful enough to correct for lens distortion, and advances made in the mobile market have helped make such technology affordable.

Jaron Lanier, one of the pioneers of the technology who began developing virtual reality headsets in the '80s, said renewed excitement in the past few years is largely due to a cost breakthrough instead of a technical overhaul. More than 30 years ago, Lanier made a head-mounted VR device similar to the Oculus Rift that cost \$100,000 per unit. Developer kits for the Rift have been priced at \$350 and a consumer version is expected to be released late this year.

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MCT Newswire

Palmer Luckey (right) created the Oculus Rift headset, an advanced virtual reality technology that Facebook purchased for \$2 billion in March.

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» MARKETS

Continued from PG. 19

3252 N. Broadway. The Nettelhorst French Market features vendors of fresh baked bread, sweets, produce and French foods like the Chicago French Market, in addition to craft vendors. The market's managers only accept general vendors who are selling hand-crafted and non-resale merchandise, said Nettelhorst Elementary School Principal Cindy Wulbert.

The outdoor French market in Lakeview is also a social gathering place, Wulbert said. Established 11 years ago, the market was created to connect the school to the community, she said, adding that Nettelhorst Elementary became a school of young commuter students from other neighborhoods.

"There wasn't a strong connection between the school and the community," Wulbert said.

"Most of the neighborhood children did not go to Nettelhorst school at the time [the market] was started, so it was the school's way of reaching out to the community so the community could get to know the school."

Wulbert said more people are relocating to the neighborhood and Nettelhorst students are becoming increasingly local residents. However, she said the market has maintained its power to bring the community together in a positive way.

Wulbert said the market is typically bustling with happy, chattering people enjoying strolling through inviting stands of food and crafts on summer Saturday mornings along with their neighbors.

"It really is not just a place to go buy fruits and vegetables," Wulbert said. "It's part of the fabric of the neighborhood."

nmontalvo@chroniclemail.com



Angela Conners THE CHRONICLE

Bensidoun USA Inc. owns and operates French markets in France and New York and owns two markets in Chicago, one in Lakeview and another downtown on Clinton street. The markets feature fresh, locally grown French foods.

» BOOTS

Continued from PG. 19

winner, making the festival part performance and part competition. The winning play, "Olivia Approaching," personifies a hurricane named Olivia who apologizes to three drunk women for the role she must play in their impending death.

Cyra Polizzi, a member of Mudgeonsoul Productions and longtime Chicago actress, said she thinks centering the festival around women has had a positive impact in regards to representing women.

"When people think about stories, they often place a male character as the center of the story," Polizzi said. "I think it's just because that is the tradition that has been set up in our culture. Often you have to make a concerted effort to write stories that feature

underrepresented characters like women."

The plays were each written and directed by different participants and rehearsed independently for several months leading up to the festival, according to Polizzi.

Mudgeonsoul is one of Chicago's many small, independent theater companies. Marc Chevalier, lecturer in lighting technologies in the Theatre Department, said he moved to Chicago specifically for its acting community because he sees Chicago as a hub for independent theater companies similar to Mudgeonsoul.

"I think [the independent ensemble scene] is the hallmark of Chicago theater," Chevalier said. "Chicago's been getting a reputation throughout the country of building strong ensembles."

nmontalvo@chroniclemail.com



Courtesy RICHARD PARO

Audience members at the 2013 Indie Boots Film Festival votes on their favorite film. Theater ensemble Mudgeonsoul has been putting on the festival for three years and has since added a female-themed theater festival to its event roster.

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TOP 5



Jennifer Wolan Assistant Campus Editor

(EMBARRASSING) CONFESSIONS, PT. 2

Fifth grade flash: I wore a bandana as a shirt one day when I was in the fifth grade. While climbing a tree with my best friend and her twin brother during recess, I became scared and refused to jump down from the branch I was hanging on. My bandana shirt came loose and fell while I was still hanging from the tree.

(Not) The Real Slim Shady: I decided to make my AIM screen name SlimShady54. I proceeded to pretend I was Eminem and gave people shout-outs in chat rooms.

Pee-girl problems: It was the first day of second grade and I was nervous. My elementary school didn't have air conditioning. I was wearing yellow shorts and I don't remember if I was told I couldn't go to the bathroom or just didn't want to go, but I peed right in my chair. It was bad.

This one time in Poland...: I went out to this nightclub and ordered a beer with a lime. I remembered my dad always putting a lime in his beer and flipping it upside down. I rotated the beer and it exploded all over me. The bartender was not pleased.

Sloppy soup: Two weeks ago, my mom gave me the leftovers of an Easter soup we eat every year. She promised the soup would not spill if she put it in her new ultra-sealed container. The next day, I wore a beautiful skirt and put the soup in my backpack to eat later. On my way to the Blue Line on Damen Avenue, I felt like my butt was wet. I then noticed that the soup had spilled and was dripping down my legs.



Tatiana Walk-Morris Campus Editor

REASONS I'M AFRAID TO GRADUATE

The economy hasn't recovered: As of April 4, the unemployment rate remained at 6.7 percent, meaning about 10.5 million people are jobless, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Granted many of those people aren't journalism buffs, but there's still a lot of competition for jobs and I often wonder if I'll make the cut.

Stiff competition: Not only is a large portion of the country looking for work, but every year Columbia graduates tons of talented reporters—some of whom are my colleagues here at The Chronicle. The journalism industry seems to be shifting toward a need for multimedia skills and programming knowledge, neither of which are my strong suit.

Time for a real job: It would be nice to find a 9-5 gig where I could do solid storytelling, but those jobs appear to be disappearing. Instead, more employers are looking for freelancers. Although something is better than nothing, I'd like to have a steady job with benefits.

Rent is not cheap: My tiny studio apartment is barely affordable already, but it's cozy and warm. I'd prefer to stay in it than be outdoors. I just got a bunch of furniture for my place and would like to make it more of a home, but I'll have to vacate if I don't find steady employment.

I don't want to return to Michigan: I love my family very much, but I came to Chicago in search of independence. Nothing would hurt my pride more than packing up my crap and going back to Michigan.



Carleigh Turner Assistant Campus Editor

WORDS I LEARNED FROM MY DESK-MATE KATHERINE DAVIS

Trife: A derivative of trifling, which means of little or no value. Chronicle staffers will be called "trife" if they are being annoying, looking a little rough in the morning or leave rotting cream cheese in the bottom drawer of their desk.

Ratchet: This term has twerked its way into my vocabulary after I've heard it every Friday morning as soon as I sit down at my desk. It is usually said in reference to the festivities that occurred the night before or the state of my tangled hair.

Yaaas: This exclamation is probably one of my favorite Katherine-isms that I have adopted in my short time here at The Chronicle. It is a word that is used in celebration, whether you're congratulating your best friend on a cute boy talking to her at a bar or getting your article back without many edits. It is usually a sign of good times and even my mother has picked it up.

Trash: Much like the word's traditional meaning, this word is usually used to describe someone or something that is causing you stress. For example, if someone keeps sending me emails and is annoying, I would say, "This trash keeps emailing me." It usually expresses a frustration of some sort.

Roach: A roach can be an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend who used to be a wonderful human being, then transformed into a gutter-dwelling, slime-eating cockroach that is no longer deserving of your respect, love or affection.



FAIL BLOG: Fail Blog

Its name may be generic and its premise unoriginal, but this blog delivers some surprising laughs. A repository of videos and photos featuring people acting like morons or wiping out at inopportune moments, Fail Blog provides a welcome reprieve from some of the more boring moments of work. Ratchet fashion choices, horrifying selfie posts, inappropriate-but-hilarious jokes and drunkenly posted videos are all one click away.

Check it out at FailBlog.Cheezeburger.com



VIDEO: "How to Sneak Into Any Game (Grand Scam)"

The latest in a series of videos dedicated to getting the most out of life without having to give much in return, this video follows a man as he shows how to get into a Dodgers game without paying. Using ploys such as having to deliver a baby bottle to a screaming baby to get into the ball park and smearing mustard on his shirt to make it appear as if he dropped his hot dog to get a free one, this video provides several laughs.

Check it out at Youtube.com/HacksOfLifeTV

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

Rapper M.I.A. reaches out to a crowd of screaming, excited fans during her May 1 show at The Riviera Theatre, 4776 N. Racine Ave. She performed her newest hit "Bad Girls" off her November 2013 album *Matangi*. The song was featured in the film "The Heat" and "Bring the Noise."

REVIEWS

SCREEN



"Black Box" season 1

The concept was appealing—a bipolar neuroscientist who finds inspiration when she goes off her meds—but horrible acting and excessive jazz music cheapen any merit the freshman drama may have had. Make sure to cancel your next appointment. **—T. Eagle**



"Silicon Valley" season 1

This new HBO series is hilarious. Elon Musk—noted technology entrepreneur—complains that this isn't what Silicon Valley, California, is actually like, but I beg to differ—he probably doesn't hang like the Google employees do. The plotlines are always humorous. **—J. Wolan**



"Bad Teacher" season 1

The movie was brilliant and its characters iconic but the sitcom severely pales in comparison. Bad puns, unoriginal plotlines and unrealistic characters create a mix that is more foul than fun. Thankfully, school is out soon. Hopefully the show will follow. **—T. Eagle**



"Glee" season 5

Despite a strong comeback following the death of Cory Monteith, "Glee" is now an epic fail. Removing Naya Rivera's character Santana from the finale, and possibly next season, is an egregious offense. Glee's last curtain call can't come soon enough. **—M. Castellucci**



PRINT



"Our guide to the Chicago International Movies & Music Festival 2014" by The Chicago Reader

This April 30 guide to CIMM Fest written by various writers for the Chicago Reader gives short reviews of some of the films at the festival and all the details for a good time. The guide was insightful and helpful in the typical Reader way. **—N. Montalvo**



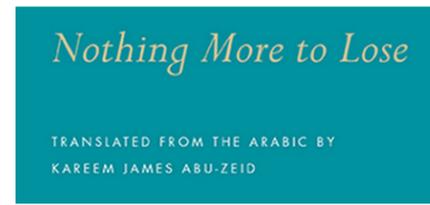
"Will camwhore for beer" by Dan Savage

Savage's latest syndicated column was hilarious and informative. He advises a concerned mother about her son's use of webcamming to pay for college, a couple with an interest in unconscious sex and a girl worried about selling her used panties. **—M. McCall**



"Eat This: Fig jam and bacon pizza" by Jessica Reynolds

Although a fig jam and bacon pizza sounds absolutely disgusting, this Chicago Tribune mini review of the dish did a good job of describing it in a way that made me imagine the taste. The pizza might be bad, but the review was pretty good. **—N. Montalvo**



"Nothing More to Lose" by Najwan Darwish

This collection of very short poems about the personal and cultural memories of Palestinians forges a connection even for foreigners. I've never been to Palestine, but in reading these poems, I can understand the love that the people feel for it. **—E. Earl**



MUSIC



"Lazaretto" by Jack White

"Lazaretto," the second single off of White's upcoming album of the same name, starts slow with White's signature screech, but the old school guitar solo mid-track marks an appreciated tempo change without abandoning the bass-driven sound. **—L. Woods**



"Kanye West" by Atmosphere

I was overjoyed when I found out Atmosphere was releasing a new album. Unfortunately, just as I grew out of my egregious pre-adult frustration with the world, apparently they did too. "Put your hands in the air like you really do care?" I don't. I don't care. **—E. Ornberg**



"Don't Tell Nobody" by Tink ft. Jeremiah

Tink acts as the female voice and raps while Jeremiah lays down his sweet melodies. This is actually the first song I heard Tink sing and she has an amazing voice. I must admit these are my new favorite artists from Chicago right now. **—S. Leak**



Yeah Yeah Yeah Yeah by Bikini Kill

Bikini Kill reissued its 1993 album featuring several live and unreleased tracks. Frontwoman Kathleen Hanna's sneers compete with thundering chord clashes and equal amounts of vehement girl power to create an auditory experience that feels like drowning. **—K. Fowler**



RANDOM



Jennifer Lawrence

I am sick of being updated on JLaw's every move. The quirky actress blew up the Internet when she swatted a fly on the red carpet and again when she flipped off the paparazzi from inside a vehicle. I'm over her obnoxious attempts to relate to her fans. **—K. Senese**



Tourists admiring architecture

There is nothing more annoying than being stuck behind a family on a sidewalk that stops every ten steps to look at the tall buildings overhead. Here is a helpful tip: Tourists, be considerate of the needs of the locals. People are busy and need to get places. **—T. Eagle**



The celebration of mediocrity

Applauding people for doing what is expected of them is reprehensible. People should not be rewarded with praise for being basic and doing the bare minimum. It only perpetuates a lackadaisical circle of uselessness and this infuriates those who actually care. **—C. Looney**



I-55

I started driving to school this semester instead of taking the Metra. There are some days that I get to school taking I-55 in 35 minutes but sometimes it takes three hours. When there was snow, the commute was an hour longer. Taking the train is better. **—A. Haleem**



ratings



No—just... no.



Uhhmm, WTF?



It's whatever.



I can dig it.



EPIC!



Gender-specific colleges should be gender inclusive

AS AMERICAN SOCIETY slowly becomes more inclusive of the LGBTQ community, the inevitable conflicts between existing policies and personal needs will arise. In the case of gender-specific colleges, the struggle is how and when to admit transgender students.

While women's colleges may have reservations about admitting someone outside the biological definition of female, there should be a place for transgender women because they face just as much prejudice as all women have historically faced.

At Smith College, one of the Seven Sisters women's colleges founded to give women an equal opportunity for a good education and leadership roles, students protested the college's refusal to admit transgender students who have not undergone gender reassignment surgery, according to an April 24 *The Republican*

report. This is not the first time the college has taken heat for this policy. In March 2013, after the college rejected Calliope Wong, a male-to-female transgender student who had not undergone gender reassignment surgery yet, she gained support through a blog post detailing her rejection from her college of choice because of her sex at birth. Smith's administration explained that it will accommodate current female students who choose to go through gender reassignment to become male, but all students have to be female at the time of admission.

Women's colleges were founded as a haven for women at a time when they were not receiving equal opportunities at general institutions. Today, 56.8 percent of college students are female according to the U.S. Census Bureau, erasing the original need for women's colleges. However,

they still provide an environment where women can take leadership roles and socialize without fear of sexism, condescension or misunderstanding. Much like historically black colleges and universities, gender-specific institutions are an option that provides familiarity for students who may not feel other colleges offer the same chance to excel.

However, these are women's colleges, not female colleges. Someone who identifies as female needs just as much, if not more, protection from sexism and harassment as someone who happens to be born female. Some studies have found that as many as 90 percent of transgender respondents reported being harassed or mistreated in workplaces, according to a 2011 report from the National Center for Transgender Equality. In general, Americans are still

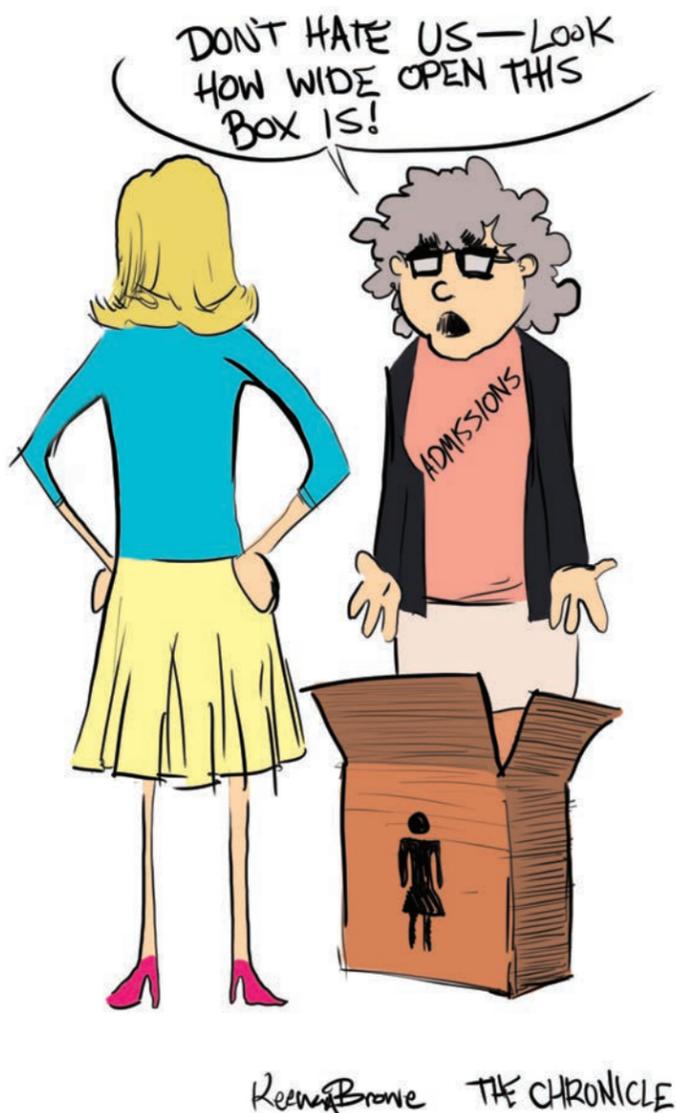
unsure of how to place people that do not fit neatly into the male or female dichotomy, and as a result transgender individuals suffer personal affronts and social neglect. Many colleges are making steps toward inclusion, installing gender-neutral bathrooms and allowing students to express preferred pronouns in classes. Gender-specific institutions need to reevaluate their policies to include all people who want to attend, not just those who fit the traditional gender definition.

The requirement that admitted students must be biologically female is dated and should be reevaluated at all gender-specific institutions. Colleges may be stuck in their ways or concerned about alumni opinions, but that is no reason to perpetuate injustice toward students who want to attend an institution specific to their gender identity. If the college

already makes accommodations for current students who come out as transgender, there would be little difference in admitting a student who is not physically female but identifies as such.

Part of a college's role in education is to encourage dialogue about social issues. The controversy surrounding gender binaries is one that single-sex colleges have a unique responsibility to address, setting the tone for other institutions. Admitting transgender students could mean progress in addressing transgender inequality and would help students cross the gender gap more comfortably and successfully. If women's colleges truly claim to be a launching pad that supports up-and-coming women leaders in all areas of their endeavors, they should serve transgender women as well as those who are born physically female.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Keenan Browne THE CHRONICLE

CITY EDITORIAL

Meet treatment houses halfway

A GROUP OF residents in the West Town and Bucktown neighborhoods have filed complaints against A Fresh Start Sober Living Environments Inc., which operates eight halfway houses across the city, claiming that the facilities attract drugs and crime to otherwise quiet neighborhoods. While the houses may attract residents who engage in questionable behavior, the courts should consider the residents' motivations for the complaints and weigh the cost of requiring the houses to clean up their act.

Some neighbors went as far as drafting a petition on iPetition.com to stop the halfway houses from being established in their neighborhood, which gained 60 signatures as of press time.

Neighbors may be concerned that these facilities attract criminal activity, but city crime reports don't support their claims. Between April 2013 and April 2014, there have been 14 crimes on the 500 block of North Marshfield Avenue, the location of one of the houses in question, compared to 18 the year before, according to

city data. Of those, none are drug crimes and only five occurred on the street in question. At the other house, located on the 2100 block of North Winchester Ave., 10 crimes—none of them drug offenses—have occurred in the last year, seven of them on the street. There were 12 on the same block in 2012, before the house opened.

The residents also claim that the presence of these community homes damages the neighborhoods' property values, but a 1997 report from the American Planning Association gathered more than 50 studies that showed no correlation between the presence of group homes and lower property values.

Michael Franz, the lawyer representing the residents who filed the complaint, said the houses do not offer treatment programs like Alcoholics Anonymous, providing only group housing. He said the houses are not properly licensed by the city. Because each house is in a residential neighborhood and each house is inhabited by more than eight non-related people, the houses need a special use license, which the

company does not have, he said.

The city crime data does not indicate a sudden burst of criminal activity on the blocks where the halfway houses are located. Residents' fears of possible effects are no reason to close off the safe areas of the city, especially to those trying to step away from the dangers of drug culture. The halfway houses provide a beneficial service to society, and the residents should consider that before complaining about problems that may be exaggerated.

Halfway houses depend on the community to succeed, and the neighbors in West Town and Bucktown need to evaluate their motivations and decide what is actual evidence and what is prejudice. The simple presence of former alcoholics and drug addicts in residential areas does not invite crime and theft in a neighborhood, and unless residents can prove the area is suffering directly because of the presence of the halfway houses, they should be allowed to stay. Not everyone can afford to live in the city's safer neighborhoods, and those who can should welcome those who just want a clean start.

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

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

—The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

Too much tourism chips away at America's parks



ELIZABETH EARL

Opinions Editor

DESPITE OUR OBSESSION with technology and urban sprawl, people have always been attracted to the beauty in nature. Every year, millions of people flock to Yellowstone National Park, the White Cliffs of Dover, Mount Everest and other tourist meccas, but these assets are beginning to show wear from the constant traffic. To preserve the natural wonders of the world—and the money they attract—governments need to pay more attention to what is happening to their national treasures.

Reports that 13 Sherpa guides were killed on the slopes of Mount Everest in an April 18 avalanche prompted scrutiny of the effects of constant tourism on the mountain. The popularity of climbing Everest

has grown exponentially—5,742 people attempted ascents in the 20 years from 1990–2009, more than triple the number of attempts from 1950–1989, according to the Himalayan Database.

Excessive tourism could result in more avalanches and damage to the mountain. In a 2012 report to UNESCO, the Nepalese government expressed concern about illegal trails forged across the wilderness and controversial plans to continue developing a resort on the mountain. Disturbing delicately balanced environments like the steep sides of Everest could cause drastic changes. That could incite more natural disasters like the deadly avalanche.

Everest isn't the only place governments need to watch. If parks in the U.S. do not impose stricter controls on access and use, places like Yosemite, Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon could become so worn down that they would be severely spoiled. Limiting the number of annual sojourns to each natural wonder would allow the agencies overseeing them to more closely track visitors and enforce stronger conservation policies. If the National Park Service were to impose mandatory visitor registration and caps on the number of entries, it could

hold guests more accountable for damage to the parks. Visitors currently pay to enter, but their activity inside is fairly autonomous. For example, at the Grand Canyon, people pay to drive up to the rim but can then hike down without many restrictions aside from warnings not to stray from the designated trail.

In wide-open wilderness spaces such as Yellowstone, tourists use snowmobiles in the winter, releasing incredible amounts of pollution into the woods and disturbing the wildlife, according to the NPS. The park allows snowmobile use because it is the most efficient way to navigate the enormous, largely roadless park, but it is now reconsidering because of the detrimental effects of excessive snowmobile use.

In Grand Canyon National Park, the noise from the increasingly popular helicopter tours ricochets around the canyon walls and interrupts the serene areas many birds and mountain goats enjoy. Although some restrictions have been imposed on these tours, such as reducing how much of airspace they can use, it is not enough to significantly impact the noise pollution, according to a 2012 analysis by Johnson & Wales University in Providence, R.I. Many naturalists complain about

damage to the great caves of the U.S., such as the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, where tourists chip off parts of the magnificent stalactites to keep in a box on their mantelpieces at home.

Preserving national parks would also be good for the economy. Unlike many other developed countries, the U.S. is still largely wild and acclaimed internationally for beautiful landscapes. More than 3 million people visit Yellowstone annually, and more than 4 million visit the Grand Canyon, according to the National Park Service. Many of those visitors come from overseas, spending money on goods and services that stay in the U.S. and create jobs. Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming and its surrounding highways generated nearly \$492 million in revenue for the state and federal governments, according to a March 3 announcement from the NPS. That revenue costs the U.S. nothing in tariffs and is entirely sustainable. Parks create lasting jobs and provide state income that might not otherwise be available.

Parks are huge revenue sources, but they are also valuable for ecological reasons that depend on responsible use. America's natural spaces are breeding grounds for many endangered species and provide a backdrop for biomes that

can be used to study environmental events; seismologists watch the activity in Yellowstone to gauge potential earthquakes in California and geologists make regular visits to the Grand Canyon and the Badlands in South Dakota to unravel the Earth's origin by studying rock layers. Excessive tourism could damage the natural environment, interrupting the conditions scientists need to learn more about the world. To combat unconscious damage, all visitors should be briefed on proper conduct; if damage is discovered later, parks could retain records of who visited and impose fines. Such consequences could deter people from carelessly breaking branches from majestic redwood trees or chipping off chunks of fragile rock as souvenirs.

If the current trend of overtourism with little accountability continues, the natural wonders America boasts will be seriously impaired by the time the next generation arrives. The U.S. government should take heed of what is happening to Mount Everest and preserve its own parks before too much tourism begins to take its toll on the splendors that make this country the envy of the world.

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Should gender-specific colleges admit transgender students?

STUDENT POLL



Why not? I don't see the big controversy with that. It does make a difference whether it's a private [university] or a public one, but I don't see that there's a problem with it.

Chassidy Spencer sophomore ASL-English interpretation major



If I was a girl, [admitting transgender students] wouldn't bother me. If I went to an all-guys school and they let [transgender men] in, I wouldn't care.

Matt Albin sophomore arts, entertainment & media management major



I don't see why not. If somebody identifies as something, they should be allowed to get an education just like anybody else. People identify with what they identify with; it's their choice.

Sarah Moore freshman marketing communication major

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Kim reimagines innovation as a group-think

ANDREW CAUSEY

Associate Professor of Anthropology

PRESIDENT KWANG-WU KIM'S State of the College address, presented to the Columbia College community on April 18, was a careful blending of innovative plans and practical considerations about the future of our school. As I have pondered the address during the past three weeks, I am moved to write with cautious optimism in response to what I heard.

The president's unrestrained embrace of our mission statement's intent to "educate students who will communicate creatively and shape the public's perceptions of issues and events and who will author the culture of their times" is, I believe, a call for all of us in the college community—administrators, faculty and staff members, students and parents—to realize that it is *education* which enables the creative shaping and authorship mentioned. Students are not pursuing their goals alone. Rather, it is the college community, working together, that helps them develop their voices and talents with innovation and panache.

Columbia's community, with sharp thinking and planning, will

be the power that creates our shared future. Faculty reading this will perhaps share my joy at being included in the conversation again! What I took away from the president's address is that by joining together, we can bridge any differences in goals or disciplines. Looking ahead, we will all continue to our ongoing efforts to create true interdisciplinarity, a talent we educators have been actively practicing at Columbia for decades to come, and one which we will continue to explore and perfect for decades. Like President Kim, many of us can foresee a future where the whole community will develop ways to build those links between our separate passions, perhaps by first removing aging structures that have hindered efforts in the past.

Columbia College is home to us because it allows and encourages each of us to actively pursue our diverse talents, often in what other

colleges would consider disparate, even conflicting fields or interests. Strong administrative support for the shaping of interdisciplinarity as we see fit will soon permit us to show just how connected and innovative an educational project can be.

The president also spoke about how important it is for workers in the Columbia community to remember that the college is not just here to employ us. This reminder that we are not simply here whether our job is to teach or keep the college running smoothly, whether we are here for a limited time or for decades for wages and a vital sense of community security. We are hired to "own" our serious responsibilities and obligations in developing a strong creative educational community. As Russian philosopher Mikhail Bakhtin's notion of dialogism teaches us, the words belong to no

one, and there is no alibi...we all are jointly responsible for whatever emerges from among us.

I was heartened to hear the suggestion that departments and majors should continue to construct praxis-based models of social innovation and to teach examples of business thinking and entrepreneurship in the classroom. Fortunately, many instructors are already a step ahead, teaching not only methods for marketing creative works but also theoretical underpinnings of why buyers buy, how calculated risks are made and what to do when a plan fails.

My own students in anthropology find out how important it is to gain access to the sign systems and rhetorics of the powerful, why understanding the postmodern condition is vital to positioning their creative work, and also why their futures will be more secure by knowing how profit and capital articulate in our economic system. Explaining and exploring such concepts, of course, requires not only sophisticated technologies, but also the simplest of academic and educational contexts—face-to-face discussion in a classroom. The future challenge for the Columbia College

community will be to know which is needed, when and where.

The president's address leads me to believe that Columbia can once again become a venue for discovering what it means to be integral members of an arts, media and creative communication community. What I am left with is this: All of us need to return to the questions that once propelled the school. What is Columbia College here to accomplish? Who owns it? Where and how will we guide it?

As President Kim moves on to what he called "the external ring"—funders, alumni and college promotions—in the coming year, he will take with him stories and vignettes of his experiences seeing the diverse faculty teach, the talented staff facilitate, and our bright students learn together. This is the evidence he needs to prove that the Columbia College Chicago community's unique vision and mission to its faculty, staff and students will perpetuate stories of success in the future.

Want to share your thoughts? For more information about how to submit a letter to the editor, see the note at the bottom of Page 2.

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Columbia's community, with sharp thinking and planning, will be the power that creates our shared future

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Triple Threat

Analysts predict three potential candidates in upcoming mayoral election

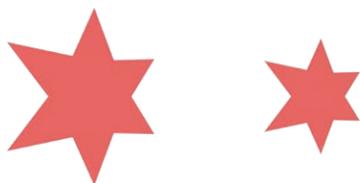
MARIA CASTELLUCCI

Metro Editor

ALTHOUGH CHICAGO'S MAYORAL election is more than nine months away, there has already been plenty of speculation about potential candidates. Mayor Rahm Emanuel's first term has been filled with ups and downs, and some of the city's most powerful political figures are rumored to be weighing opposing him on Feb. 24, 2015.

The Chronicle spoke with political analysts Dick Simpson, former 44th Ward alderman and professor of political science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Stephen Caliendo, professor of political science at North Central College, about the putative candidates and their likelihood of winning the election.

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Mayor
Rahm Emanuel

WHILE EMANUEL HAS yet to announce whether he will run for a second term, Simpson said it is probable that he will be on the ballot. Emanuel's political power and fundraising abilities make him likely to win another election, he said. However, his controversial decisions—such as authorizing the closure of 50 Chicago Public Schools facilities in May 2012 and dedicating funds to development of downtown instead of blighted neighborhoods—has decreased his popularity among minority populations, which could diminish his chances of winning the majority of such a diverse city, Simpson said. Caliendo added that Emanuel has made some progressive changes since coming into office after Mayor Richard M. Daley's 22-year reign, such as boosting tourism and decreasing the city's deficit. His robust, energetic personality and strong ties to President Barack Obama could make him a favorable option in a city where the president is popular, especially if Obama decides to make a public announcement showing his support, Caliendo said.



Cook County Board President
Toni Preckwinkle

PERHAPS EMANUEL'S MOST formidable opponent, Preckwinkle was recently questioned by reporters about her intentions to enter the mayoral race. However, she has consistently dodged such inquiries, maintaining that she wants to keep her current job as president of the County Board. Despite her denial, a March 31 poll conducted by the Illinois Observer found that 40 percent of likely voters would cast their ballot for Preckwinkle if she were to run, compared to 32 percent who said they would vote for Emanuel. Both Simpson and Caliendo said she is the only politician with enough power to overshadow Emanuel's clout because she has what he lacks: popularity among minority voters. Caliendo added that her successful 19 years as an alderman prove that Preckwinkle understands Chicago politics and she is well known enough among Chicagoans to raise the campaign funds. However, Simpson said Preckwinkle is unlikely to run because she already has an influential position on the Cook County Board and the support of most county commissioners.



2nd Ward Alderman
Bob Fioretti

ANYONE WHO FOLLOWS Chicago politics knows Emanuel and Fioretti have an antagonistic relationship. During City Council meetings, Fioretti often slams Emanuel's proposals. Fioretti also leads the Progressive Caucus, a group of aldermen who often attack Emanuel's initiatives, such as his call to close six public mental health clinics in March 2012. During an April 15 speech at the City Club of Chicago, he hinted that he may make a mayoral run. Simpson said Fioretti's strong opposition to Emanuel's most notorious decisions make him a promising opponent. Fioretti vocally opposed Emanuel's crime prevention efforts and advocated for the hiring of 500 new police officers instead of encouraging officers to work overtime, which Emanuel supports as an attempt to control the Chicago Police Department's inflated budget. Fioretti also supports reopening the city's defunct mental health clinics and offering paid sick leave, but because Fioretti is a North Side alderman, Simpson said he may not be known well enough to seriously challenge Emanuel.

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

Emanuel should up his Hawk-ey wager

LIKE MANY CHICAGOANS, Mayor Rahm Emanuel is confident that the Blackhawks will defeat the Minnesota Wild in the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs. He's so sure of the Blackhawk's ability that he and St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman are betting.

"I am excited to take part in this wager with our friends from the north," Emanuel told NBC Chicago in a May 2 article. "I have full confidence that our mighty Blackhawks will be victorious in this series."

If the Hawks win, Emanuel walks away with a 25-pound Pearson's salted nut roll and a six-pack

of Summit beer, but if the Wild takes the win, Emanuel has to fork over a barrel of Garrett's popcorn, a six-pack of Half Acre and a jar of hot giardiniera. There's certainly nothing wrong with friendly competition between cities, but the prizes at stake are kind of lame.

During last year's playoffs, Emanuel had similar wagers with mayors of opposing cities, and while the stakes were also generally food-related, Emanuel at least won control of Boston's website for a day, which is way cooler than walking away with a log of salted nuts and some beer.



Instead of using the playoffs as a way to get a snack for himself, Emanuel should have used this opportunity to make a bet that would actually give Chicago a leg up on Minnesota. Rather than betting city-specific foods, the mayors could have offered up more life-changing pledges. Imagine if each city had wagered more valuable prizes such as their iconic shopping malls, deplorable accents or steep deficits?

Next hockey season, Emanuel needs to capitalize on what his competition has to offer rather than taking the easy way out with tourist treats.

kfowler@chroniclemail.com



Donald Wu THE CHRONICLE

Bike cops roll back crime rates

NATALIE CRAIG
Assistant Metro Editor

IN AN EFFORT to make police more "mobile, social and interactive," the Chicago Police Department plans to deploy more than 140 officers on bikes to patrol 20 high-crime areas on the South and West Sides.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and CPD Superintendent Garry McCarthy announced the initiative April 18 as a part of its Operation Impact program, which the CPD launched in October 2013 to increase the number of officers in the city's most violent zones, according to an April 18 CPD press release.

The 20 impact zones, identified by a three-year CPD analysis, account for only 3 percent of Chicago's total population, but 20 percent

of crimes happen in those areas, according to the press release.

CPD spokesman Adam Collins said deploying officers on bicycles in areas with high crime rates would allow residents to interact with the officers and notify them of suspicious activity.

"Officers on bikes are more nimble and mobile than officers on foot, which makes the response a little easier," Collins said. "They also have more flexibility than an officer in a patrol car."

Collins said officers undergo three months of bike patrol training and are accompanied by seasoned officers to ensure their safety and the effectiveness of the patrol. Officers in vehicles will maintain a strong presence in the impact zones, Collins said.

Targeted areas include the South Side, Englewood and Washington Park. In Auburn Gresham, some residents have begun to notice a drop in crime because of the presence of police on foot patrol. Carlos Nelson, executive director of the Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation, said the bike patrol is comforting.

"The most important aspect of the fight to reduce crime is visibility by not only the police but visibility by adults, parents and community leaders," Nelson said. "I was in a meeting with several local business owners this week and they mentioned the bike patrollers and the officers on foot really made a big difference."

» SEE PATROL, PG. 41

NOTABLE *native*

KEVIN ZARLENGO

Occupation: Advertising Specialist Neighborhood: Lincoln Park



Courtesy KEVIN ZARLENGO

NATALIE CRAIG

Assistant Metro Editor

KEVIN ZARLENGO, A 28-year-old Lincoln Park resident, is devoting his income for all of May to raise money for breast cancer research.

In addition to donating his paycheck from his job in the recruitment advertising department at the Chicago Tribune, Zarlengo plans to participate in the Avon walk for Breast Cancer Walk with his cousin at the end of May.

Zarlengo said he will go without spending any money for all of May and donate his saved income to breast cancer research after the race. He said he will not spend a penny and plans to live with his brother and use a bike for transportation. Twenty-five Chicagoans have signed up for each day of the month to provide him with a meal in exchange for chores.

The Chronicle spoke with Zarlengo about his motivation, survival plan and how Chicagoans have responded to his efforts.

THE CHRONICLE: How did you get the idea for this challenge?

KEVIN ZARLENGO: This is kind of an odd project that many people have told me seems a little bit crazy. I didn't have a lot of money in my bank account toward the end of a paycheck. I was looking for things to do online in Chicago for free and I was just thinking about how much money I waste. I thought of a project to see how long it would be possible to go without spending money on anything. I noticed a lot of things I did spend money on I didn't necessarily need. Now we are trying to raise money, and at the end of the month, we will be walking in [the Avon] two-day hike through Chicago for 39 miles. After a few days of trying to bring in some money, I thought, "Why not add my challenge into the cause to try and raise more money?"

How will you survive without spending any money?

The main thing for me is if I can find food, I will at least be able to survive. I'm asking friends and people who I don't know to allow me to come into their homes and do

chores in exchange for them feeding me. I have a calendar on my blog that is nearly filled up with about 25 people who said I can come over. On top of that, I will be biking everywhere. It's going to be an exhausting month I'm sure, but besides my bike and besides the people who are really taking time out of their day, [I'm] just counting on the community around me. I'm not accepting anything for free. I will only work for things because I do not want any of my friends and family to have to pick up my tab.

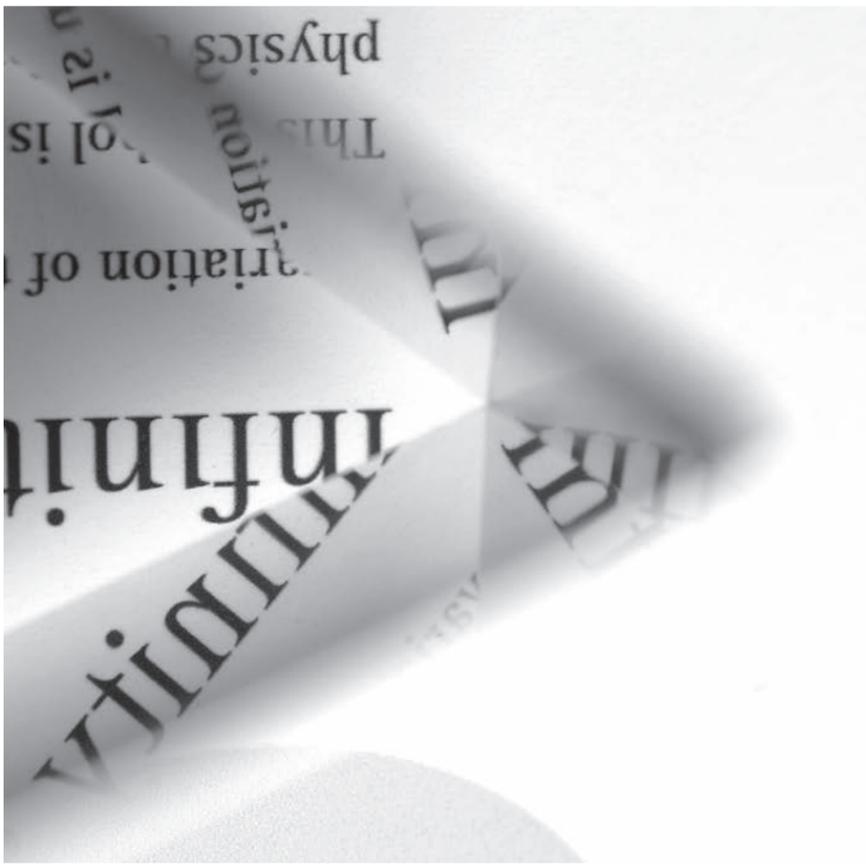
How has the community reacted to your challenge?

As soon as this started to gain more attraction, people were commenting on my blog that had breast cancer or people they knew who died from breast cancer. They were telling me how much it means to them that I'm doing this. They really poured their heart out to me and let me know how much it means to them. From then, I started thinking about my mother and my two sisters and my best friends and thinking about how many people [breast cancer] affects. The more I dove into it, the more it mattered to me that I was doing this. It went from being a challenge to, "I wonder how much good I can actually do." If I can't [accomplish the challenge], I would be devastated.

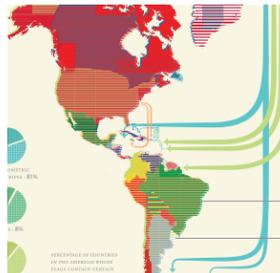
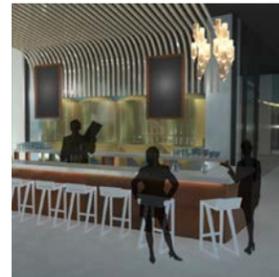
Will this challenge be easy to accomplish in Chicago?

The city is so community-driven. I wasn't sure that I was going to get any response or anyone who was willing to help out. It was so uplifting. Biking is extremely accessible now with programs like Divvy. This is a program that I'm going to be utilizing to the fullest. I reached out to them and let them know about the story and they actually pushed back a month of my annual bike club renting program so that I didn't have to pay for May. I want to go fishing at least one time in Lake Michigan and try to catch lunch and dinner. Also, someone shared with me that urban foraging was a possibility, which is finding food in the city that you can actually eat.

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Federal, local grants aim to clean up lake

NATALIE CRAIG
Assistant Metro Editor

MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL has joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to improve Lake Michigan's water quality.

During an April 26 press conference, the EPA announced that it would award two \$1 million grants to improve the water quality of Lake Michigan as part of its Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Chicago is one of 16 cities to receive such grants, which can be used to cover up to half the cost of implementing green infrastructure projects that can keep contaminated storm water and rainfall runoff out of Lake Michigan, according to an April 26 EPA press release.

To filter more than 4 million gallons of stormwater annually, Chicago plans to use \$812,000 in grant money to install bioswales—paved ditches designed to absorb polluted runoff water—and permeable pavement—a type of concrete that promotes absorption of rain and snowmelt—in parking areas at Montrose Beach. The remaining grant money will be used to install more green infrastructure along Leland Avenue, which runs along the lakefront in Uptown.

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) said in an emailed statement that improving the lake's water quality is imperative, and that Chicagoans can keep the lake clean.

"The projects are all about keeping our basements dry and keeping Lake Michigan the great asset it is for generations to come," Durbin said. "We each bear some responsibility for maintaining Lake Michigan, and these grants are the latest example of the federal commitment to honoring that responsibility."

In addition to the federal effort, Emanuel announced the first round of Chicago's green infrastructure stormwater management projects on April 26. He said the city will spend \$50 million on the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Strategy, which is one of the largest voluntary investments in green infrastructure an American city has made, according to an April 26 mayoral press release. The strategy will fund 39 projects to clean contaminated water before it travels to Lake Michigan via runoff rivers. The project will improve the way rainfall and runoff are managed by using rain gardens and permeable pavement to absorb rainfall, according to the release.

Jeffery Mengler, senior project scientist for Hey & Associates, a consulting firm focused on conserving and restoring natural resources, piloted a program this year to assess the quality of the lake water, and found that the level of contamination varied throughout Lake Michigan.

"The quality is quite variable," Mengler said. "We have [beaches]

in the region that are in great shape and a lot that are not. A lot of the things this green infrastructure tries to do is to protect and preserve those [beaches] that are of good quality and then do some restoration for those that are not."

Under the Illinois Water Quality Standards, Chicago beaches are considered inadequate because of the levels of pollution in the lake, said Lyman Welch, water quality program director for the Alliance for the Great Lakes.

Lake Michigan is often contaminated with E. coli, which comes from human and animal feces. Welch said birds often cause E. coli spikes. Swimmers can get very sick if they come in contact with it on the beach, Welch said.

Pollution can be caused by bacteria, and waste products are making their way into Lake Michigan in unexpected ways, Mengler said. "These waste products are popping up in the water quality in ways we didn't expect," Mengler said. "A lot of our waste has unintended consequences, and of course beach closings are usually because of E. coli in the water."

Chicagoans have also sponsored community initiatives to decrease pollution in the lake. The Chicago Park District is promoting its Adopt-a-Beach program, in which locals volunteer to help keep the beaches litter-free by picking up trash on Chicago beaches.



Photos Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

Contaminated water in Lake Michigan caught the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, prompting the federal agency to award two \$1 million grants intended to improve the water quality.

"The Park District has been working very hard to protect people at the beaches and to improve and restore areas along the coastline," Welch said. "It's a challenging task, especially in the urban environment of Chicago where there is

quite a bit of concrete and impervious surfaces that create more runoff during storm events, along with millions of people that enjoy going to the beach every summer."

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» MARIJUANA

Continued from Front Page

in Colorado and Washington, speak with the states' legislators and possible impact of legalizing marijuana in Illinois. He said he predicts the task force's research will last for one year and drafting and voting on legislation will take an additional year.

"The sky hasn't fallen [in Colorado and Washington], that's lesson No. 1," Fritchey said. "The fact that legislators there found that it was politically safe and accessible to constituents, that's lesson No. 2."

According to a study published April 16 by Northwestern University, adults ages 18-25 who smoked recreationally had significant brain abnormalities. However, the study examined only 20 marijuana smokers in the Boston area. The study showed that the regions of the brain responsible for motivation and emotion were abnormally large among regular marijuana smokers and were even larger in those who smoked more frequently.

"There was just a study that shows [marijuana] does affect the brain—that's problematic," said Sen. Tim Bivins (R-Dixon). "It's somewhat ironic and hypocritical that a lot of people that vote on taxes for cigarettes are in favor of recreational marijuana but they are opposed to smoking in general."

Despite health concerns, Fritchey said the economic benefits make legalization worthwhile. Marijuana criminalization drains state and county budgets because police and the courts pour money into enforcing minor offenses, he said, adding that fewer than 5 percent of drug arrests in Cook County result in jail time. Most minor offenses are dismissed so there is little return on all the time and money poured into enforcing state and city marijuana laws.

Mitchell said blacks and Latinos are disproportionately arrested for and convicted of marijuana possession compared to whites. Mitchell, who represents the South Side, said although Chicago reduced the penalty for possession of up to 15 grams of marijuana in 2012, blacks and Latinos are often still arrested for possession.

A June 3, 2013 American Civil Liberties Union report found that local governments across the nation more strictly enforce marijuana laws against black offenders. In 2010, the arrest rate for possession among blacks

nationwide was 716 per 100,000 people, compared to 192 per 100,000 for whites—making blacks 3.7 times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession, according to the ACLU report.

Having a criminal record limits opportunities and further disadvantages residents of low-income neighborhoods that already experience high unemployment rates, Mitchell said. If the state passes marijuana legislation that sets a statewide standard for enforcement, issues of racially motivated arrests could be mitigated while also giving police more time to focus on violent crimes, he said.

"We are dealing with a rash of crime as it starts to get warmer," Mitchell said. "I want to make sure that the officers can be out chasing down the violent criminals in our city, not some kid who made a mistake. We live in a time of economic scarcity and we need to make sure that our public safety dollars are going to the violent crimes that are terrorizing our communities."

Despite representatives' claims that recreational marijuana would have positive economic and social impacts, Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) said any state's effort to completely decriminalize marijuana is in vain because it remains federally illegal.

"While I see the various states making attempts to legalize it, one still cannot get around the fact that this is a drug that has been made illegal by the federal government," Barickman said. "While this president has said he may take a more lax approach to enforcing certain federal laws in regards to drug use, this president will not be in office forever and I don't think the public wants to rely on the whim of the person that occupies the office of the president."

However, Fritchey said marijuana legalization is gaining more public support, alluding to an Oct. 22, 2013 Gallup poll that found 58 percent of Americans support recreational marijuana legalization. Fritchey said legalizing marijuana is not a matter of if it will be legalized but when.

"I've often said people evolve more quickly than legislators do and we are in the middle of that evolution," Cassidy said. "I believe [creating the task force] is a wonderful step in getting that information to move us forward to a more sane, workable policy for our state."

mcastellucci@chroniclemail.com

» PATROL

Continued from PG. 38

Nelson said the Auburn Gresham community has established its own task force to accompany foot patrol officers.

"You see somebody and [they are] not masked by a vehicle, but they are actually out there with you," Hurlock said.

Despite claims that bike cops are already making a difference, John Hagedorn, a professor of criminology at the University of

“They have more flexibility than an officer in a patrol car.”

- Adam Collins

"We have instituted a private security patrol that doesn't displace or replace the police but is there to act as an aid and an extra pair of eyes," Nelson said. "It really is working in conjunction with the police."

Bicycle officers have been patrolling the South Side for more than two years, said Angela Hurlock, executive director of Claretian Associates, a South Side community-building organization.

"We were very pleased with this," Hurlock said. "Officers were very personable and being out there with the residents on a bike makes the police seem so much more a part of what is going on. They have the ability to be more personable"

During a Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy meeting, Hurlock said officers met with South Side residents who expressed satisfaction with increased bike patrol.

Illinois at Chicago, said in an emailed statement that there is no direct correlation between officers on bicycles and lower crime rates, and it is just another effort by the CPD to trick the public.

"Why would there be any results from riding bikes except better-conditioned police?" Hagedorn said in the email. "The only story here is the perpetual spin machine of the CPD."

Collins said the CPD will extend bicycle patrol throughout the summer months if it proves successful.

"It will have a benefit, both on the impact of reducing crime and also in our abilities to continue those really positive and important relationships with the communities that we serve," Collins said.

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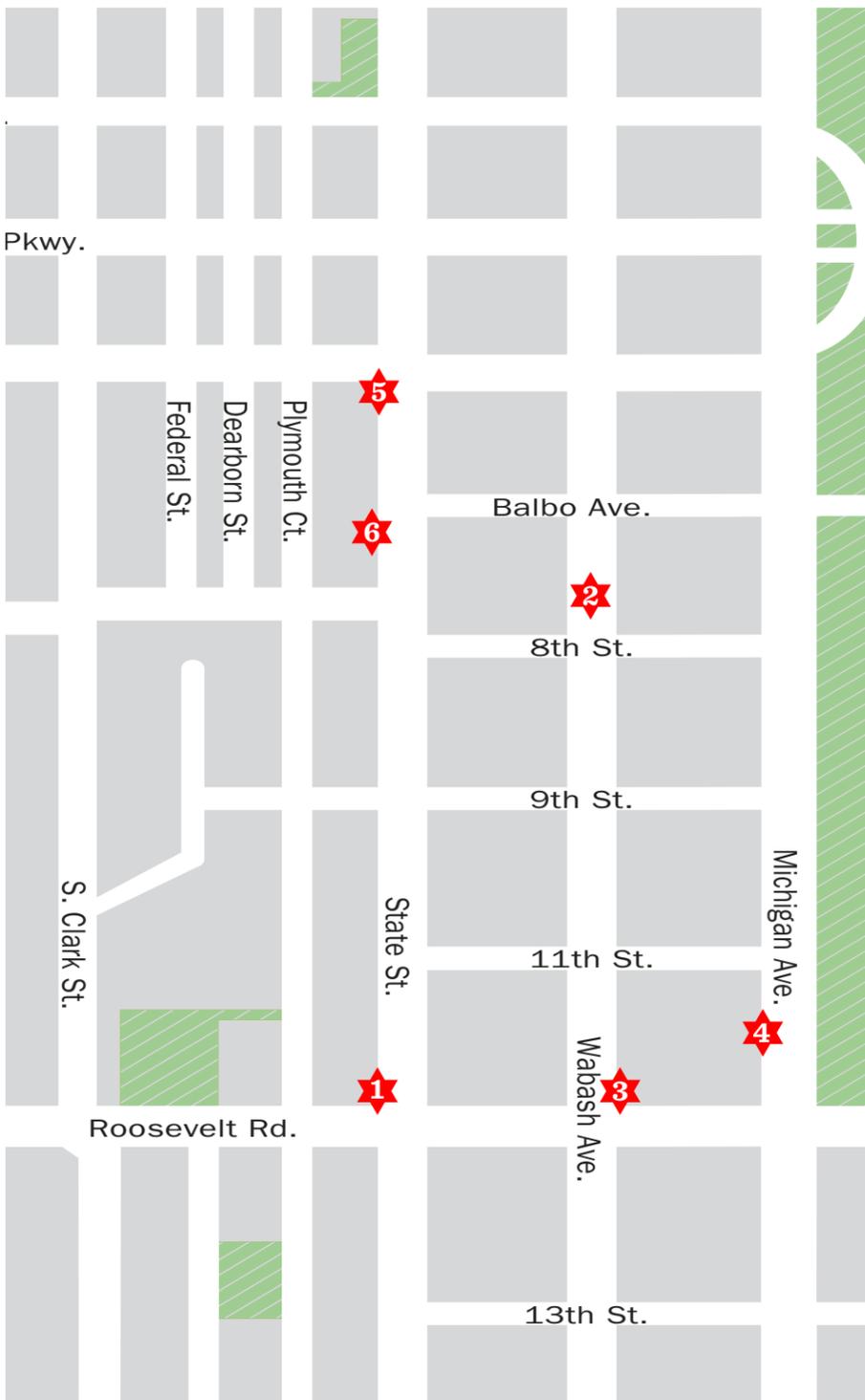
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FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



Angela Conners THE CHRONICLE

The Illinois Coalition for Immigration and Refugee Rights staged a rally May 1 outside the Chicago office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 101 W. Congress Parkway, to demand immigration reform and an end to the Obama administration's deportation policies.



OFF THE

BLOTTER

- 1 So sue me**

A CTA employee witnessed a woman pass through the turnstile without paying April 30 at the Roosevelt Red Line station, 22 E. Roosevelt Road. The employee called police. When the responding officer asked the scofflaw for identification, she refused and began swearing at the officer. The officer arrested the woman, who said she would sue.
- 2 800 Jump Street**

A man violated his restraining order April 29 when he arrived at his ex-girlfriend's school on the 800 block of South Wabash Avenue. He told his ex that people were going to "jump her" when she left the building and then fled to an unknown location. The woman gave officers his home address and they assured her they would follow up.
- 3 Window treatment**

After finishing her shift at Trader Joe's, 1147 S. Wabash Ave., on April 28, a woman discovered that more than \$500 worth of items were stolen from her Mercury Mountaineer. The thief shattered her rear passenger window and stole her Samsung Galaxy Tablet, a suitcase of clothes and books. The items have not been recovered as of press time.
- 4 Going postal**

While a mail carrier was delivering mail April 29 at 1130 S. Michigan Ave., a 61-year-old woman snatched a letter from the carrier's hand and began to punch her arms. The carrier and a man watching the incident pushed the attacker away. The mail carrier called the police, who arrested the woman and took her to the station for processing.
- 5 Gangsta rap**

A man reported to police April 29 that his friend pulled an 8-inch hunting knife from his pocket on the 600 block of South State Street and said, "I should kill you, I am a Gangster Disciple." The man said the knife wielder owes him \$400 for rent and carries a black revolver. There is a warrant for his arrest.
- 6 Blanket coverage**

Police saw a man holding down a 61-year-old woman wrapped in a blanket on the 600 block of South State Street on April 29. The man was arrested and taken to the station for processing after he refused to let her go. Upon questioning, he said he met the woman six days prior and that he takes medication for a mental health condition.

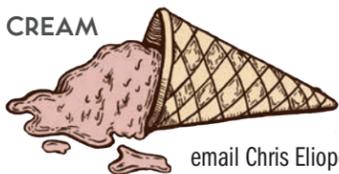
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Edited by Chris Eliopoulos



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Indolently written for our readers by **HOROSCOPES**
The Chronicle Staff Oracles

- ARIES** (March 21–April 20) You will have senioritis this week. Just know that someday you will finish school ... but not next week.
- TAURUS** (April 21–May 20) The elevators at the 624 S. Michigan Ave. building have been squeaky for the last couple of days. Don't take the even ones on Thursday.
- GEMINI** (May 21–June 21) There might be a bee population decline but that doesn't mean you should wear that yellow jumpsuit on Wednesday.
- CANCER** (June 22–July 22) The economy is failing! Make sure to find a job at least a week before you graduate.
- LEO** (July 23–Aug. 22) There is no greater joy in life than when your celebrity crush follows you on Twitter, or their social media manager, anyway.
- VIRGO** (Aug. 23–Sept. 22) You will be inspired to rearrange and clean this week. Probably because your mom is visiting and your carpet permanently smells like vomit.
- LIBRA** (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) You will be a sexual shark this week. You're never satisfied and everyone can see you coming.
- SCORPIO** (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) It sucks when landlords don't show up to fix things, but it's worse when you wake up to find your landlord sitting at your kitchen table waiting on you.
- SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23–Dec. 21) Cut your coffee intake in half this week. Starbucks has a new revenue category with your name on it.
- CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22–Jan. 20) Be careful who you celebrate the end of the semester with. It's one thing to get a shot of Jager and another to get a shot of penicillin.
- AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21–Feb. 19) Don't put your rain boots on so quickly tomorrow morning. You will be surprised when spring showers turn into spring snowflakes.
- PISCES** (Feb. 20–March 20) Kentucky Fried Chicken will have a great deal going on just for you, on Wednesday—four chicken strips with feathers on the side.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Jackfruit
- Ten (pref.)
- Dayak people
- Original sinner
- Devon river
- Wings
- Air
- Byron poem
- Compass direction
- Chin. duck eggs
- Wool cluster
- Chateaubriand heroine
- Fermented honey drink
- Arabian Sea gulf
- Window lead
- Soul or spirit (Fr.)
- Cotton fabric
- Exodus (abbr.)
- Annona
- Pers. carpet
- Close
- Guest house
- Trend
- Former Turk. president
- Pother
- Amalekite king
- Riot
- Wool (Lat.)
- Exploit
- Aoudad
- High (pref.)
- Three (pref.)
- Concur
- Crab-eating macaque
- Effete (2 words)
- Monkey
- Neglect
- Bury
- FD's dog
- Bedouin
- headband cord
- River into the Humber
- Air (pref.)
- Smear on
- Migratory worker
- Flatter (Fr.)
- King in India

DOWN

- Green
- Arabic Sea
- Wind
- Soul or spirit (Fr.)
- Cotton fabric
- Exodus (abbr.)
- Of pottery
- Adjective-forming (suf.)
- Flatter (Fr.)
- Rhine tributary

SUDOKU

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EVENTS

<p>MONDAY ✕</p> <p>Fields (Gallery)</p> <p>10 a.m.–5p.m. Valerie Carberry Gallery 875 N. Michigan Ave. (312) 397-9990 FREE</p>	<p>TUESDAY 🎭</p> <p>The Sound of Music</p> <p>6 p.m. Civic Opera House 20 N. Wacker Dr. (312) 332-2244 \$29+</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY 📖</p> <p>Adrian Matejka</p> <p>7 p.m. Poetry Foundation 61 W. Superior St. (312) 787-7070 FREE</p>	<p>THURSDAY 📖</p> <p>Poetry off the Shelf</p> <p>7 p.m. Poetry Foundation 61 W. Superior St. (312) 787-7070 FREE</p>
<p>FRIDAY ✕</p> <p>Funeral for Ortolan</p> <p>8–10 p.m. Logan Center for the Arts 915 E. 60th St. (773) 702-2787 FREE</p>	<p>SATURDAY 🎭</p> <p>Jokes & Notes</p> <p>8:30 p.m. Jokes & Notes 4641 S. King Dr. (773) 373-3390 \$10+</p>	<p>SUNDAY 🎭</p> <p>Dinner with Friends</p> <p>2 p.m. Apollo Theater 2540 N. Lincoln Ave. (773) 935-6100 \$25+</p>	

symbol KEY 

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com Seven-day forecast for Chicago Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2014

MONDAY	MON. NIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
							
Clouds and sun, a shower 59	Mostly cloudy 44	Times of clouds and sun 62 49	Cloudy, t-storms possible 71 57	Warmer with a t-storm 83 55	More clouds than sunshine 73 47	A bit of morning rain 58 48	Clouds and sunshine 58 51

WORLD NEWS



» Clayton Lockett, 38, who was convicted of shooting and burying a 19-year-old in 1999, died on April 29 of a heart attack minutes after his lethal injection failed, according to a May 1 Al Jazeera America report. The needle used for Lockett's lethal injection was inserted into his groin area rather than into his arm after prison officials used a stun gun to restrain him, according to the report.

» At least 33 people were killed in a Syrian military airstrike on Aleppo May 1, and at least 18 people, including 11 children, were killed in two suicide bombings in Syria May 2, according to a May 2 BBC News report. On May 1, barrel bombs were dropped on Aleppo, killing 25 children, according to a same day CNN report. The United Nations is asking the Syrian government to reconsider its elections.

» A South Korea subway crash injured as many as 170 people on May 2, according to a same day BBC News report. After the incident, 32 people were taken to a nearby hospital in Seoul, where the crash occurred, according to the report. The train was leaving its station when the collision occurred, and a witness said many passengers failed to obey an onboard announcement telling them to stay inside.

» A car bomb exploded on May 1 in Nyanya, a suburb of Nigeria's capital, killing at least 19 people, according to a police report cited in a same day Al Jazeera America report. Six cars were burned in the blast, and witnesses said a car filled with explosives approached the checkpoint where a man jumped out and ran as the vehicle exploded, according to the report.

CHICAGO HISTORY



May 5, 1905

ON THIS DAY in Chicago history, Robert S. Abbott published the first issue of the Chicago Defender, a weekly newspaper created primarily for African-American readers. The weekly publication was published daily for nearly 50 years as The Chicago Daily Defender, but it returned to its original weekly circulation in 2003.

ARCHIVE



May 8, 1978

THIS WEEK IN 1978, The CC Writer reported on the first comprehensive plan to organize student activities at the college. New Student Activities Director Bill Taylor planned to help students form a student union and said he believed there was a need for a college activities board that would oversee funding.

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TWEETS OF THE WEEK

 **Louis C.K.** @louisck
My kids used to love math. Now it makes them cry. Thanks standardized testing and common core!

 **Will Hager** @hageriv
You know it's a true Chicago diner when getting "everything" on a hotdog doesn't include ketchup.

 **Lena Dunham** @lenadunham
...so when an article claimed Jack & I had broken up after a display of street rage, I was all "what? can't we try and work it out?"

 **Dwayne** @collatingbones
[answers cell phone] Whats up? Yeah. Yeah i'm at the bar. What? No, no, it's like a restaurant for beer. There's no food. It's really cool.

WEEKLY INSTAGRAM

 **Instagram**
Photo of the week



Our photographer @angelaconnors was able to enjoy a stroll around Montrose Point and caught Chicagoan Abram Kofman with his catch of the day! Following

Instagram.com/CCCHRONICLE