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Columbia College Chicago

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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Volume 33, Number 28

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WLS' Garry Meier visits Columbia, offers advice.

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jam-Moby

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Jammin' at the Block Party



Rob Hart/Chronicle

Students celebrated the beginning of the end of the school year with Columbia's block party "Art and Communication Explosion 2000," on Thursday May 18 in the South Loop Parking Lot, 610 S. Wabash Ave. Dennis "Dinky" Rodgers (right) and fellow Hall of Fame members work the mic at the main stage at the event. Other activities included a gyroscope ride, a rock-climbing wall, a hoop competition, as well as food and drink.

College releases plan for its new structure

By Amber Holst

Assistant Editor

Plans were unveiled last week for a new structure for Columbia that will group together certain departments that share both educational philosophies and equipment.

According to Dr. Samuel Floyd, provost and interim vice president for Academic Affairs, the plan is an enhanced structure for the college that will increase departmental efficiency.

For example, the Journalism, Television, Marketing Communications, Management and Radio Departments will be grouped together under the title of Media and Management Arts. Meanwhile, Film, Interactive Multimedia, Academic Computing and the Sound Departments will be grouped together under a Film Technologies banner.

Last week's plan was a revision of a restructuring that Floyd released in February.

"The joint effort of administration and faculty leaders in changing the structural dynamics at Columbia is for a better environment that will allow us to be more efficient and productive in the jobs we do," said Floyd in a memo with the original restructuring. "As part of our recommended structural change, we put a priority on reducing frustration in the workplace. This concept is central to improve inner workings at Columbia."

On Monday, June 12 in the Ferguson Theater at 1:30, Floyd will host an open forum on the restructuring process.

Columbia's faculty lacking minorities

By Fiona Odumosu

Staff Writer

Columbia's faculty is missing a strong minority representation as almost 80 percent of its faculty are white.

According to a faculty demographic study for the 1999/2000 school year by the Institutional Research Department at Columbia, only 10 percent of Columbia's 1,177 faculty members are African American. Hispanic members comprise three percent, and Asian/Pacific Islanders make up an additional three percent.

However, the ratios of minority faculty are similar to the national averages for full-time faculty. According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, in 1998, 84 percent of full-time faculty were white.

Out of the 1,177 faculty members, 256 are full-time and 921 are part-time. The highest number of full-time faculty members are in the Film and English Departments.

The distribution of male and female faculty is relatively even. Men make-up 57 percent of all full-time faculty, and 54 percent of all part-time faculty are men.

The number of male faculty members reflects the sex make-up of Columbia students. According to admissions, 50 percent of Columbia students are men.

Most faculty members are in their 40s, and the average age is 41. According to the results, full-time faculty are older and have more than twice as many years of teaching as the part-time faculty.

Columbia: a year in review

By Amber Holst

Assistant Editor

From an unfounded sexual harassment claim to a Disney executive taking over the college, this year at Columbia has been anything but boring.

It all started in September with Columbia's plan to help build a \$200 million "Superdorm," as part of the ongoing efforts by local colleges and universities to transform the South Loop.

The plan, however, is in legislative limbo while financial details are being hammered out.

Also in September, the infamous U-Pass finally came about after a year of students demanding it.

With the arrival of October came the administration's decision to push for alcohol-free dorms, which was later made into a policy that will take effect in Fall 2000. At the same time, Columbia came to the realization that they "lacked balls," or so said Columbia's Sports Editor Graham Couch.

Soon after, Chicago's landmark Blackstone Hotel was forced to close its doors due to serious safety violations.

Not much happened in December, as many were busy stockpiling water and canned goods in anticipation of Armageddon.

However, the end of the world did not come, and therefore Columbia's administration pushed to improve retention programs, this time with the aid of a \$500,000 federal grant.

The administration went back to work, this time putting plans together for an upperclass dorm to occupy the top three floors of the 24 E. Congress building.

Then spring hit, and the stories came.

The College's Presidential Search Committee narrowed its search for a new college president down to two candidates. Each addressed the college community, and after much speculation, Disney executive Dr. Warrick L. Carter was selected as President Duff's successor.

On a darker note, a Columbia student told authorities that she had been sexually assaulted on the 700 block of South Federal, only to recant her story one week later.

The positive side of the *Chronicle* staff life is that Photography Editor Rob Hart celebrated his 22nd birthday, and business manager Christopher Richert discovered the joys of wedded bliss.

As the academic year began to wind down, the college's Academic Affairs committee agreed upon a new plus/minus grading system to take effect in the fall 2001.

And during the past month, college officials made two major decisions. College Council members reaffirmed the school's commitment to its long-standing open admissions policy.

And, as in years past, the college announced a tuition hike for the fall, raising the cost of the school year some \$1,000 to a total of \$11,600. Percentage-wise, the increase was a few points less than the previous year's. College officials promised that future increases would be even less.

Campus News

May 30, 2000

Briefly Columbia News and Notes

Undergraduate Graduation Party for the Class of 2000

It is the time of year once again to celebrate the achievements of the graduating students, the Class of 2000. The Undergraduate Graduation Party provides an opportunity for students to socialize, enjoy free food and dance to a diverse mixture of music.

The event will be held on Friday, June 2 from 6-11 p.m. in the Continental Room at the Chicago Hilton and Towers. A buffet dinner will be served, and President John B. Duff will lead a champagne toast.

Columbia's Dance Center prepares for its move to the South Loop

The Dance Center of Columbia College will have a new home beginning in June 2000. The 33,000 square foot, three-story facility is located at 1306 S. Michigan Ave.

The new facility has a brand-new, 275-seat, state-of-the-art performance space; seven studio spaces for students; and numerous improvements including permanent seating and a gallery space adjacent to the theater for receptions, art exhibits, lectures and other special events.

Video presentations from the Experimental Class of Spring 2000

Come see "Pseudonymity," the exhibition of various video presentations by students of Columbia's Experimental Class of Spring 2000. This production will be held on Thursday, June 1 at 8 p.m. in the Hokin Theatre, 623 S. Wabash Ave, first floor room 109.

The event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Barbara Sykes of the Television Dept. at 312-663-1600, extension 5410 or 5203.

Columbia professor receives prestigious National Ethics Award

The American Institute of Chemists will present its Ethics Award to Dr. Zafra Lehrman, head of Columbia's Science Institute, at its national meeting June 2 in Alexandria, Va. This is only the fifth time the award had been given out since it was established in 1991.

The AIC Award honors individuals who, in the face of difficulties, perform duties dictated by ethical consideration.

Lehrman is receiving the award in recognition of her many years defending scientists suffering persecution under repressive political regimes.

For 15 years, she has chaired the national American Chemical Society Subcommittee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights. She also serves as vice-chair for chemistry and for the board of the Committee of Concerned Scientists.

Chicago honors international films and videos from around the world

Outstanding film and video productions from throughout the world will be screened and honored at the 33rd annual U.S. International Film and Video Festival awards presentations on June 14 and 15 at Chicago's Marriott Downtown Hotel.

The yearly event brings together award-winning film and video producers from all over the world where 14 screening locations will display the winners during the day followed by an elaborate evening awards banquet.

More than 1,600 productions were received from a total of 31 countries with the greatest number from outside the United States coming from England, followed by Canada, Sweden, Australia and the Netherlands.

Ticket information for the screenings and awards presentations can be obtained by contacting the festival at its suburban Chicago offices near O'Hare International Airport at 541 N. Addison Ave. in Elmhurst. Phone is 630-834-7773, fax 630-834-5565 or email at filmfestinfo@filmfestawards.com.

The first ever Chronicle wedding!!!

Former staffer Patrick Walsh and copy editor Katherine Celani were joined in wedded bliss on Saturday, May 20, 2000.

It all began when our beloved faculty advisor (let's just call him "Cupid") talked Katie into taking the College Newspaper Workshop. Patrick was on staff, serving as executive editor.

No one could conceive that the relationship would flourish the way it did, but it became a labor of love and gave birth to a new life together.

It will be hard for them to cut the cords to their former lives, but we know that they will be there to baby each other for the rest of eternity.

"You Go Girl," says Cupid!!

Around Campus



Rob Hart/Chronicle

Eddie Martinez, a sophomore majoring in business management, gyrates in a gyroscope at the "Art and Communication 2000" block party on Thursday, May 25.

Recipe for radio success: A little luck, a lot of work

By Valerie Danner & Billy O'Keefe
Managing Editor New Media Editor

For 31 years and thanks to a common butterfly, Garry Meier has suffered from a persistent case of radio fever. Symptoms of the disease have included unemployment, hate mail and work in Des Plaines. But while numerous cures and treatments abound, the Chicago radio celebrity, heard every weekday afternoon on WLS 890 AM, isn't interested.

It all started in 1969 with a butterfly, some scotch tape and an envelope addressed to legendary radio host Larry Lujack.

Meier was stepping out of his apartment and stumbled upon a dead butterfly. He immediately thought of Lujack, who liked to talk about reincarnation and coming back as, among other things, a butterfly, and also how Lujack would read a letter on the air each day from one of his listeners.

Meier taped the butterfly to a piece of paper and attached a note which apologized to Lujack for the possible murder of one of Lujack's uncles.

For better or worse, the letter grabbed Lujack's attention, and a couple of days later, the furious radio host read the letter on the air. The whole process was enough to hook Meier into the possibility of a career on the radio; the thrill of hearing his name broadcast over the airwaves put his fascination over the top.

Today, Meier and his partner, Roe Conn, are sitting pretty as commanders of WLS' lucrative afternoon drive slot. But, as he reminded a crowd of Columbia students last Monday, he didn't get there overnight. As in any job, he says you can't skip any steps.

"Unless you create some great piece of software, and become a billionaire overnight, you're going to be a schlep," Meier told students. "We all start out as schleps. You should start at the bottom. You need to learn along the way, while you can afford to make mistakes and learn. You can't do that at the top."

And indeed he did. After toiling for two years at a local pharmaceutical school ("My choices were go to school or serve in Vietnam, and I chose school," he said.), Meier found out the hard way that his passion wasn't in medicine.

"One class session, we were supposed to dissect a cat, which was just perfect," he says. "That's how to weed out the pretenders from the real students. I knew then that I had no business being there."

Four years and several odd jobs after his initial romance with the dial, Meier finally decided to put the wheels in motion. He flipped through the yellow pages to find a broadcast school, enrolled, and made enough contacts and noise to land a job at WFYR (now "The Beat" 103.5) in Des Plaines, playing easy listening tunes as listeners requested them.

"I told myself I'd only be there a year," Meier said of WFYR. "Three years later, I'm still taking requests. I basically sat there, answering phones and watching machines spin records for six hours. It was basically this mom-and-pop station that thought it was big-time radio."

After three years of pulling down only \$100 a week in Des Plaines, Meier began to wear his frustration on his sleeve. Downtown was where he wanted to be, but he couldn't find a way in. Eventually, his attitude cost him his job.

Still, looking back, Meier considers his years at WFYR as some of the most productive of his career.

"Those were the best three years of my radio life, experience-wise," recalls Meier, adding that radio personalities need to concern themselves with honing their craft rather than obsessing over who's listening and how many people are tuned in.

Using a contact he had made while in Des Plaines, Meier lucked his way into an overnight gig at the Loop. "It was a chance for me to get my head together in a room doing radio," Meier said, noting that his previous job didn't give him many opportunities to spend his two cents over the airwaves.

Shortly after his arrival, Meier teamed up with Steve Dahl on the Loop's mid-afternoon drive. But after 15 years, an ugly rift developed between the two, and the successful duo split up.

Rather than fight the Loop's unspoken wishes for the two to reconcile, Meier took a chance and left the station altogether. From there, he dabbled in some feature reporting for WGN-TV's morning show, but grumbling from the Tribune Company (or "the Tower," as he calls it) and a lukewarm interest in spending eight hours developing three minutes of video left him out of work within a year.

At 45, Meier had to start over once again. This time, however, he had a plan—sort of.

Meier decided one day to take a stroll by the building which housed WLS, and visualized that he would somehow run into the station manager outside. As luck would have it, that's exactly what happened, and four months and some mingling later, Meier was teamed up with Conn.

The match delighted everyone, listeners included. More than half a million listeners tune in every day, and WLS secured the duo's services for another five years, three of them guaranteed. And it all began with a walk around the building.

"If you have one thing in life," Meier says, "it's better be timing."

Of course, as Meier will tell you, persistence, contacts, and the ability to pinpoint your passion are paramount as well. And it doesn't hurt to have a good attitude.

"We get interns [at WLS] whose career ambitions are to make \$50,000 and do nothing," Meier says. "Then there are the interns who have good attitudes, really know what they're doing, and want to work. They're the ones that we try to hire as producers when their internship ends."

His dues paid, Meier says he's never been happier and more comfortable with his work, if you can even call it work. He can't.

"As long as you don't get the station sued and you don't kill anybody, you can say whatever you want," he says. "If you're doing your job, you should offend somebody."

Students removed from open-mic night

Members of the group "Students for Mumia" ordered to leave Residence Center after speaking out

By Niles Engerman
Staff Writer

"Open mic" encourages students to discuss ideas and span the gamut of concerns among college students. From the promotion of student bands, to more cerebral topics, open mic explores the notion of free speech. Especially important to students who attend Columbia specifically for its liberal flavor, open mic allegedly took on a communist twist on May 11 at the Residence Center.

According to Professor Louis Silverstein, faculty advisor Tom Greif, and the "Students for Mumia," open-mic quickly became "censored mic," when attention was diverted to information concerning the Mumia case. The "Students for Mumia" group claim they initially received permission to discuss the controversial death-row case, but they were later told that only bands at open mic could make announcements pertaining to when and where students could get together to speak about Mumia.

Mumia Abu-Jamal is famous for his expert journalism in Philadelphia during the 1970s. He is now on death row, charged with the 1981 murder of a police officer, which many view as a set-up.

His career has revolved around exposing police corruption, which many believe was the impetus behind his arrest. From his commentaries on National Public Radio, to books that he has written from his prison cell, Mumia has formed myriad organizations, world wide, to rise up against his alleged faulty conviction.

The Mumia movement, lead by the New York based group "Refuse and Resist," landed on the Columbia Campus among a racially diverse group of students less than two months ago. "Students spoke to me about putting together a group that would focus on Mumia, and getting him a fair trial," said Columbia Professor Louis Silverstein, who teaches Peace Studies and Education of Culture and Society. "They believe that he was sentenced to death for political reasons."

According to a memo issued by faculty advisor Tom Greif, the students went through all the proper channels to discuss the Mumia case at open mic. The memo states that the students talked to the RCC of the dorm, and two days later the group was told that the students could not discuss Mumia "unless there was more security, and that would take two weeks to get."

Silverstein adds that the "four resident Students for

Mumia and the three checked-in guests, had no intention of going against the dorm's ruling. During a break, one of the students spoke-up from her seat, saying that Mumia had been censored, and there was a demonstration the coming Saturday."

According to Silverstein and Greif, the situation turned ugly at this point. The Students for Mumia were ordered to leave, and Graduate Assistant Erica Watson eventually called one of the students "a bitch and told her to get off whatever drugs she was on."

"They were acting reasonably. They weren't yelling, demanding or screaming. The students were respectful and responsible and went through all the appropriate channels. There is definitely something missing in the training (of the GA). Her duty is to calm them down. When you start using terms like 'bitch' and 'what kind of drugs are you on?' you're not helping the situation," says Silverstein.

According to the Assistant Director of Residence, Kelli Collins, "once a group wants to hold a function, they need to fill out a room reservation form, ... and I read the information, talk with the students, and make the decisions on what they'll need. The students (for Mumia) didn't go through the RCC, and at no time did anyone come to me to speak about Mumia."

However, Collins's account of the situation deviates from Silverstein's, who says "the students were acting as responsible citizens by responding to something that the college wants."

Neither Silverstein nor Greif was present at open mic when the ruckus occurred. Collins was present, and contends that the student, Celeste Tandy, who claimed from her seat that Mumia discussion had been censored, was less than tactful in alerting students to the "censorship."

"After getting the call from Erica, my motivation was initially for the safety of the residents in the building. It seemed to be a very hostile environment. Students were raising their voices and pointing fingers," says Collins.

Collins admits to having called the police, but more as a preemptive strike toward a situation that needed to be calmed down before it spiraled out of control. In terms of authority, "it was just me, Erica, and a security guard," says Collins in response to why she felt an obligation to call the police.

According to Greif's memo, once the police arrived with the paddy wagon, the dorm residents were ordered to go back into the dorm and the guests were told to leave, which everyone did without any problems. "They have been told of the proper channels through which they must

go to speak at open mic, and have been offered by Sharon Wilson Taylor, the Assistant Dean of Students, the opportunity to speak about Mumia," concludes Collins.

Columbia students polled on question of campus safety

By Elynn Ong
Correspondant

Campus safety concerns amongst Columbia students showed up in the results of a survey conducted by the Thursday night Senior Seminar class taught by Wayne Teasdale. Over 100 students, 60 percent males and 40 percent females, answered the questionnaire.

Though most of those surveyed were seniors, their responses indicated that older age and more years at Columbia do not necessarily make students feel safer on campus.

When asked to rate how they perceive security at Columbia compared with that at other area colleges, on a 1-5 scale with "1" meaning "better" and "5" being "worse", only 1 percent chose "1" and 4 percent chose "2." On the other hand, 40 percent of the students gave the rating of "3," 20 percent gave a "4" and 35 percent gave a "5."

The most striking results appeared in the 75 percent of students who all agreed on three points. This portion indicated that they felt unsafe on campus during the evening. (90 percent of those surveyed are taking at least one night class.) When asked if the student's "mother would approve" of the time and places that he or she walks around campus alone, 75 percent answered "No." Also, 75 percent of the students answered "No" when asked if they think that Columbia's security would be able to provide effective security in the case on an emergency.

All the students in the Senior Seminar that conducted this survey felt that action needed to be taken in order for Columbia's students to feel safer at school. They make their community service project a campaign for heightened security at Columbia. Presently, the students in this class are doing a petition drive. The petition calls for a student to sign on if they agree that Columbia should have one or more of the following: call boxes, a shuttle that runs at night, more security personnel at night, patrols inside and around the campus buildings.



Mumia Abu-Jamal

Amber Holst named to top Chronicle editor position

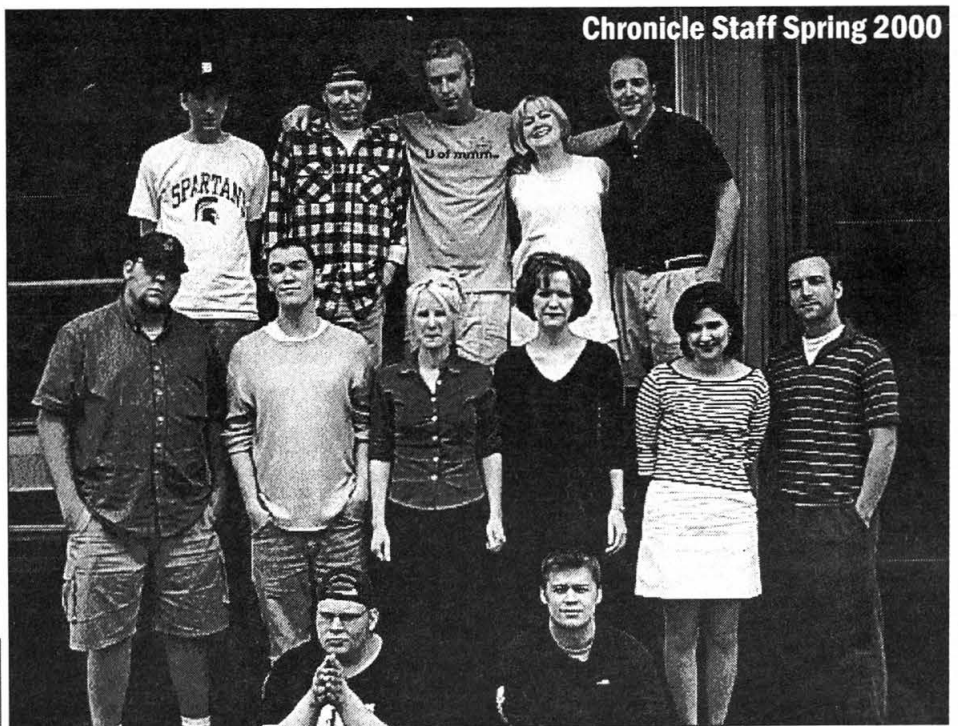
Amber Holst has been appointed to the position of Editor-in-Chief of the *Columbia Chronicle* beginning in June 2000. Holst served as an assistant editor during the spring 2000 semester.

She is a senior journalism major with a concentration in news writing and reporting.

Previously, Holst worked for two community newspapers, the *Lombardian* and *Villa Park Review*, where she covered suburban education. She also served as a copy editor for the Chicago-based magazine *Stop Smiling*, and currently freelances for the *Near West Gazette*.

"I plan to expand the paper and hope to provide a quality product that best represents the student population," Holst said.

Holst will be working at the *Chronicle* office over the summer updating its website, she can be contacted at 312-344-7343 or at editor@ccchronicle.com.



Chronicle Staff Spring 2000

Christopher Richert/Chronicle

Pictured top (left to right): Rob Hart, Tom Snyder, Graham Couch, Katie Walsh, Advisor Jim Sulski, Middle: Bill Manley, Ryan Adair, Martina Sheehan, Amber Holst, Valerie Danner, Matt Richmond, Front: Chris "C.P." Novak and Billy O'Keefe.

Not Pictured: Donnie Seals Jr., Amy Azzarito, Carrie Brittain and Kimberly A. Brehm.

We'll see you next year.
In the meantime,
visit us this summer on
the web at
www.ccchronicle.com

Without liberty and injustice for all

An investigative report into some of Chicago's day labor agencies

By Jonathan Arnold & Pablo Gutierrez
Correspondants

Everyday thousands of Chicagoans are exploited, threatened and abused by day labor agencies. These agencies are not regulated by the city. They are usually located in poor neighborhoods and prey on immigrants and the unemployed. As a result, workers become the victims of an impugned industry. Toiling on contingent jobs that are usually low paid in unsafe conditions.

One such worker is Carlos. When he first arrived in the United States Carlos had a dream. He thought by working hard and saving his earnings he could one day move back to his home in Veracruz, Mexico. He would start a business, work for himself, and provide his wife and three small children a better way of life. A year and a half later his hopes have been shattered and Carlos' American Dream is now a nightmare.

The lies began before Carlos ever left Mexico. The "Coyote," a high-priced immigrant smuggler, regaled Carlos with tales of "the land of the free." "[The Coyote] told me that they pay very well here, a minimum of \$12 an hour," Carlos remembers. "I make \$5.50." Unfortunately, the stories were nothing but that. Carlos and many others are now snared in the nets of the unscrupulous owners of day labor agencies.

From the wee hours of the morning, men and women line up outside labor agencies searching for work.

"I used to spend almost the whole day waiting for a job," said Carlos. "From 5 a.m. until 3 p.m. sitting in their offices and many times I used to come back without a job. And you don't get paid for waiting."

"This is basically a lawless industry," said Dan Giloth, a spokesperson from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. "The laws enforced in other industries don't apply to labor agencies."

Giloth is critical of the city's lax stance. All that is required to operate a day labor agency in Chicago is compliance with the zoning codes in order to obtain a business license from Department of Revenue. However, some agencies blatantly disregard these guidelines and conduct their business illegally.

Agencies like Minutemen, 4137 W. 26th St., operate without a Chicago business license, according to city records. Our investigation also revealed that they were not registered with the Illinois Secretary of State Corporation Division, as required by law.

A few blocks away, two other agencies, United Temps, 2500 S. Drake Ave., and Suburban Job Link, 4325 S. Kedzie Ave., manage their agencies without a Chicago business license. City records revealed that United Temps has another location at 2553 N. Ridgeway Ave.

However, city codes mandate that all businesses are required to have a license for each establishment. State records indicate that Suburban Job Link was incorporated in 1970, but they currently don't have a business license.

Our investigation uncovered another agency that is cheating the city and capitalizing on the labor of poor Chicagoans. SER Central States, 1116 N. Kedzie Ave., carries on their business illegally without a business license.

"There are agencies without licenses that should be shut down," said Ald. Bill Ocasio, chairman of the Human Relations Committee in City Hall. Ocasio is a driving force in the city council, pushing legislation that attempts to regulate the day labor industry. "At this point there is no regulation," he said.

"[Day labor agencies] are exploiting our community. They are exploiting people." Said Ocasio, who added that the miserable wages workers are paid are not enough to sustain a family. "They are hurting families. There is not enough money to put food on the table."

Ocasio and six other Latino aldermen initiated a fact-finding mission with the goal of passing legislation that would regulate the day labor industry. At their first hearing, they invited workers and community activists to voice their complaints. Workers narrated some of the injustices that they face in their everyday lives. Some of their mayoral complaints were being forced to pay for transportation to and from the job sites and being charged for necessary equipment.

"By the time they finish paying for transportation, goggles, gloves and whatever other work things they need, they end up basically taking home a couple of bucks," said Ocasio.

A recent study conducted by the University of Illinois in Chicago, Center for Urban Economic Development, confirmed these facts, revealing that 64.5 percent of the day laborers surveyed earned less than \$5.15 an hour, the federal minimum wage.

The study cites two reasons for this: "First, some workers may have been paid less than the minimum wage. Second, others may have been paid less than \$5.15 per hour, but may have had certain costs deducted from their paychecks."

Day labor agencies and the companies that hire their services are not the laborers, only victimizers. The city of Chicago and Mayor Daley's privatization efforts have also exploited day laborers.

The study also found that 27 percent of the laborers, worked for the city of Chicago earning less than the \$7.60 called for by the Living Wage Ordinance. "The City of Chicago should investigate possible violations of the Living Wage Ordinance," reads the study, "to ensure that city contractors are in compliance with city laws."

"We are having our law department look into it there may be a loophole that nobody knew anything about and allows them to get away with this (violating the Living Wage Ordinance), said Ocasio. "If that is the case, we may need to change our city legislation. We want to make sure that there is a minimum pay that people are receiving. The other thing we would love to see is that they are provided with some types of benefits."

The UIC study indicates that 10 percent of the laborers suffered injuries that required medical attention. Among them was Carlos.

"I was going down the stairs, and I slipped and bounced on three steps," said Carlos. "A lot of people saw me when I fell. They called the boss and they took me to his office. Then, they took me ... to a doctor."

The labor agency and the company that he worked for paid Carlos' emergency services. However, he will not be paid for the time he spends out of work. "They are not going to give me anything," he said. Because of that, Carlos was willing to hide his injury. "I was thinking [about not letting] the doctor check me because I was afraid to lose my job. And then how am I going to support my family?" he said.

The study also revealed, that 23.8 percent of day laborers were fired or re-assigned after they expressed safety concerns to a day labor agency or a business. Also, 42 percent had concerns about their personal safety on the job.

Ocasio mentioned that the city council will provide a forum for the owners of the day labor agencies and that it would be for their best interest to show up.

"If they decide not to show up, they are leaving it open to us," said Ocasio. "And we will set up legislation that is not going to be beneficial to them."

Carlos was treated inhumanely when he was sent to work for one lamp and mirror factory on Chicago's southwest side. "You have to get a pass to go to the washroom, and they ask you to take five minutes," said Carlos. "And if you don't follow those orders they call the labor agency, and they tell them that they don't

want you back as worker."

One day, Carlos didn't go to the washroom for eight hours because he was afraid to lose his job.

"I didn't go to the washroom because the lady that gives the passes was not there," he said. "I almost got sick and my chest was in pain."

Viking Labor Services, Inc. operated under the not-so-close vigil of the Chicago Department of Revenue for one year. It wasn't until community activists and disgruntled workers voiced their complaints to Ald. Ray Frias that the agency was shut down. They complained that they had not received their wages and were denied their W-2 and W-5 forms. At the time of print the Chicago Department of Revenue was unable to answer our questions.

Carlos said that at Viking he earned \$200 for 40 hours of work, at that wage level, he and 100 more of Viking's employees qualified for the Earn Income Tax Credit (W-5 forms), a federal subsidy to help low-income people.

After the workers asked Mike Ramirez, Viking's account representative, and two other managers for the forms, they were fired.

"The women in charge got mad," said Carlos. "And some of the workers got fired without justification only because they asked for a right that other offices (day labor agencies) were giving."

"(Viking) will not open in the 12th Ward until they have resolved the issues these ladies brought up as far as their pay and benefits," Frias told Streetwise later.

However, 11 days later Viking was operating from the same address. Three months have now passed, and "nothing has been solved because they still have to pay wages to some workers," said Carlos.

When questioned, Ramirez said that they have complied with their business license, and that now they want to put everything behind them.

"We are licensed now. Everything is in order," said Ramirez. "We talked to some alderman long ago and they were satisfied with our paperwork. We are a small agency and we want to grow."

Today, Carlos sits on a couch of his dilapidated apartment. His watery eyes stare at the picture of his three children. He then asks himself how is he going to be able to feed his children. Carlos was injured two weeks ago at work.

He doesn't dream anymore about owning a business. All he wants is to work again so he can keep on sending his children money.

Carlos earns \$5.50 per hour as a day laborer, but some times he has to wait at the day labor agencies ten hours or more to get an assignment. "I used to spend almost the whole day waiting for a job. From 5 a.m. until 3 p.m. sitting in their offices," said Carlos thru a translator. "Many times I used to come back without a job. And you don't get paid for waiting."

"[Day labor agencies] are exploiting our community. They are exploiting people."

—Ald. Bill Ocasio

New issue of *Echo* unveiled at launch party



By Carrie Brittain
Copy Editor

On Monday, May 22, the long-awaited 2000-2001 issue of Columbia's *Echo* magazine was unveiled at the Glass Curtain Café, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

"It looks wonderful and has a variety of stories, sophisticated writing and beautiful photos," said Clare La Plante, *Echo*'s editorial adviser.

Students, faculty and staff gathered together at *Echo*'s launch party to witness the latest issue of the arts and communication magazine.

"The high point was seeing the finished product," said Amy Azzarito, fashion editor. "And that is what this party is all about: seeing and celebrating *Echo*."

The party was open to anyone and everyone, refreshments were served and a raffle was held. Some items that were donated to the raffle were the thrift clothing pieces featured in the cover story, a CD by Ralphie Rosario, who is part of the Hot Mix 5 (also a feature story), tickets to the Free Associates show at the Ivanhoe Theater, Blue Man Group tickets and much more.

Echo magazine is published annually by the students who follow Columbia's magazine program. The student staff dedi-

cated two semesters to the magazine. The first semester focuses on the editorial aspect and the second focuses on the production.

"This issue of *Echo* is the best one yet," said Valerie Danner, managing editor. "There is no comparison when you look at past issues. We put a lot of effort into it and it shows."

If you're interested in picking up the current issue of *Echo*, drop by the Journalism office at 624 S. Michigan, suite 1300.

Chronicle nabs three awards

The *Chronicle* capped a record year as far as awards go with three honors from the Mark of Excellence Competition Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky). The competition is run by the Society of Professional Journalists. National winners will be announced by July 1 and will be recognized at SPJ's National Convention, Oct. 26-28, in Columbus.

In the best all-around non-daily newspaper category, the *Chronicle* took third place. For the best on-line student newspaper, Columbia's paper stepped up to take first place, and for the best editorial cartooning, the *Chronicle*'s Billy O'Keefe won second place.

ATTENTION

ATTENTION



Graduating seniors

Class of 2000

You are invited to the

GRADUATION PARTY

on June 2, 2000

from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

at The Chicago Hilton and Towers

Continental Room

720 South Michigan Avenue

Champagne Toast at 7:00 p.m.

with President Duff

RSVP BY May 26 @ (312) 344-7459

May 30, 2000

From the Chronicle Mailbag

editor @ ccchronicle.com

The book of reparations, chapter 4

Katie Celani wrote an angry opinion column for the *Chronicle* railing against the suggestion that the U.S. government should pay "reparations" to African Americans, and, naturally, a barrage of angry letters was sent disagreeing with Celani's stance. In some ways, this was as it should have been—the school newspaper's op/-ed page is the ideal arena for the Columbia community to heatedly debate the issues of our time. However, nothing about Celani's position was racist—or in any way unacceptable for publication—and those letter writers who made such damaging and unfounded accusations cheaply muddied the issue, and, in my opinion, really crossed the line in a number of ways.

Many letters had the hysterical, bullying tone of a lynch mob. Some demanded Celani be forcibly removed from her job, some insisted that the *Chronicle* staff apologize for publishing the piece, and one student even admitted that, after reading Celani's article, she grabbed a friend and stormed down to the Chronicle's office. "Luckily for Celani, and myself," she wrote, "the *Chronicle* was closed for the day." I would like to ask the author of that letter: what were you implying almost happened? Violence? A high-volume, in-your-face tantrum? When you encounter an opinion you disagree with, you can't help yourself—you have to do something crazy? This type of response to political rhetoric is anti-intellectual and uncivilized. And embarrassing. And it has no place at the institution of higher learning.

Are Americans doomed to live in a perpetual racial

cold-war? If we want to live side-by-side like brothers, then we have to be able to speak frankly to each other like brothers, even if that sometimes causes anger. If, as a nation, we're going to move toward a color-blind society, then we have to speak our minds without the threat of vindictive retaliation. This ridiculous business of tip-toeing around on egg-shells whenever the discussion turns to matters of race only reinforces a sense of Us and Them. It took a lot of guts for Celani to express her true feelings, and the *Chronicle* deserves credit for publishing the piece. Those who want to see Celani lose her job are really seeking to squelch ideological diversity at Columbia College.

Don Gennaro De Grazia
Instructor, Fiction Writing Department

I'm so sick of black people making a big deal over this reparation issue. Get over it! The past is the past, and it's time to move on. Is getting money going to change what happened in the past? Not very likely. And why should people of today have to pay for what was done in the past by people who are long dead and gone? Who's next after the blacks bitch and moan? Will the Jews want reparation from Germans that didn't even have anything to do with the holocaust of the past? Will the Japanese want reparation from the U.S. because they had the bomb dropped on them? Get over it people! It's one thing to remember the past, but it's another to for-

See **Letters**, page 8

Cheesy but true: Columbia is second to none

I can remember the day I was bitten by the writing bug. I was a junior in high school in suburbia, Illinois. Every Sunday night, I'd listen to Jim DeRogatis of the *Chicago Sun-times* and Bill Wyman of the *Chicago Reader* on a little show known as "Sound Opinions." I was a devoted listener, and managed to miss only a handful of shows in the year and a half that I tuned into this program. Yup, from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., I sat next to my stereo listening to two rock critics spout off their opinions on music. (Hey, I'm not the only geek who did this. Just ask Billy O'Keefe.) They always read mail from listeners, so of course, I sent several in. By the time the show ended, I had four letters read on the air. With each letter that was read, I became more



Valerie Danner
Managing Editor

enchanted with the idea of journalism—from then on, I was hooked.

I had always loved to write—I've kept a journal since I was seven. When I got my ACT score back and I ended up with a 27 in English and a 19 in math, I pretty much knew what direction I'd take in college. So I began hunting for a school in Chicago that could nurture my writing skills. I immediately was attracted to Columbia. Its urban setting. Its no-fraternity, no-sorority atmosphere. Its respect for those with some creative juices who choose to live a little bit left of center. There was no doubt in my mind—Columbia College was made for someone like me.

And since then, I have never regretted my decision. I was embraced by a journalism faculty who, more often than not, refined my writing and encouraged me to take the necessary steps. I worked at this award-winning paper, which allowed for me to write about various ideas in this column space. I was given the opportunity to serve as managing editor of the magazine program's "baby," *Echo* magazine (which incidentally you can get in the Journalism office, Suite 1300 of the Torco building... shameless plug).

Both experiences taught me more about this business than any other classroom could have—the editing process and the managing of clashing personalities are things that cannot be taught in Intro to Mass Media.


More importantly, however, Columbia gave me confidence in not only my writing, but also myself. I met my best friend and roommate to be here, as well as a wonderful boyfriend. Above all, my years here prepared me to become a professional in this field. What more could I ask for?

Unlike my secluded years in high school, I will miss the time I spent at Columbia. But I will always look back on my years here fondly. And when I walk across the stage on June 4, I will be elated to finally be done with school, but also a bit sad.

And before I surrender this column space, I wanted to say thank you to Columbia College and to all of those who helped bring this once quiet girl with a little talent for writing out of her shell. And of course, thank you to those two

Because I can, that's why!

Billy O'Keefe



Happy 12th Birthday to the best dog in the whole world

Crystal O'Keefe
Born: May 29, 1988
Alive and still eating like there's no tomorrow: May 29, 2000

Say Cheese! It's the Columbia Chronicle Opinion Poll

Question: If you could pick anyone to be a speaker at your graduation, who would it be ?



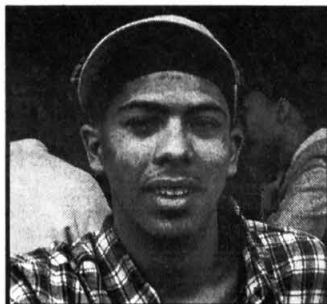
Larry Stewart
Interior Design / Junior

"Bill Clinton. It would be interesting to hear his perception of the millennium generation."



Anna West
Creative Writing / Senior

"Cornell West, a philosopher from Harvard. He has a real vision including all Americans, he's an inspirational speaker who can really teach us about ourselves."



Marco Dios
Graphic Design / Freshman

"Maya Angelou. She's a good inspirational speaker, she really makes you think about what you're going to do after graduation."



Aya Nikole Cook
Fashion / Junior

"Kerry James Marshall. He's an inspiring man, and a good example for aspiring artists."

It's over/It's just begun

The further adventures of a great idea (and not necessarily mine)

As I sit here writing this, with no job in the bag, no breathable oxygen in the room and not a semblance of a clue as to what I'm about to say, some idiot on the radio starts touting the wonders of Wesley, a gadget not to be confused with the youngest son on the hit show "Mr. Belvedere," who is probably as employed as I am right now.



Billy O'Keefe

Viewpoints/New
Media Editor
mrbilly@mrilly.com

What Wesley does is pile your e-mail, fax, voice mail, pager and cell phone messages into one powerful piece of technological nirvana, so that when you take five from the office, as the protagonist in the commercial did for some sort of latte (no joke), you can retrieve the three faxes, two voice mails and four e-mails you missed, as the protagonist did in what was probably the closest thing to a lunch break in his workaholic shadow of a life.

Maybe it was the Jolly Rancher in my mouth, which dodged my tooth and caused me to bite my tongue, but I immediately wanted to buy a Wesley device (I think it's a device anyway) just so I could stomp on it in

front of a bunch of executives at the Board of Trade. If Wesley so much as looks at me cockeyed, I'm taking him to the cleaners.

And that, as a wise man once said, is that I was born on my mother's father's birthday and am said to be a carbon copy of him. I'm 22 years old, but don't call me Bill, William, Liam or any other -iam; I'm always going to use the Y. My passion is cartoons—watching them, drawing them, animating them. I

taught myself to draw when I was 18, because I was bored with high school and had nothing better to do. I eat dry cereal for breakfast and sometimes lunch and dinner. I hate milk and haven't had a sip of coffee since I was nine—not because of any anti-Starbucks sentiment, but simply because the stuff is disgusting. I drink more water than most fish, but got a D in swimming in high school. My family always used to tell me that I'd enjoy buying clothes when I got older, but I have owned exactly one sportcoat at least 1985. In contrast, I've snatched up about 60 PEZ dispensers since 1995, thanks in part to a three-year run as a candy store employee, working for a man who didn't care for candy. I have a musical quacking duck toy in my room, as well as a robot that plays "Jingle Bells." I got the robot when I was about 5 years old, the duck when I was about 20. The best friend I've ever had, a Shetland Sheepdog named Crystal, was expected to pass away in February of kidney failure but instead celebrated her 84th dog birthday this past Monday. The best teacher I've ever had, Les Brownlee, turned 85 in April and will probably live forever. My parents, happily married after 25 years, two kids and 1,000 gerbils, go to the opera but cook with a George Foreman Grill, with excellent results. Perfect hearing is about the only thing they haven't been able to pass on to me, but my iMac-ish red hearing aid looks like a spy device and I have no problem passing it off as one to unsuspecting passersby. This is the longest paragraph I've ever written and ever will write again. My highest career ambition? To be successful and respected enough to speak at some school's commencement ceremony, yet obscure enough to which the students graduating at the ceremony would be pretty damn disappointed to hear that I was their speaker. Hey, it happens—at a school near you, in fact.

So anyway, that's what's unique about me. And now, here's something that's not so unique.

For the last 21 months or so, I've been the Viewpoints editor of the *Chronicle*, which essentially means that I, lover of dry cereals and robots, can write and draw whatever the heck I want as long as I sway on the side of legibility and hand in a couple of presentable pages each week. It's not a hard job, shooting your mouth off and letting other people shoot theirs. If I didn't do it, someone else would have. Big deal.

So no, there's no self-congratulatory tearjerker about how I'm bravely leaving it all behind for, well, a career in journalism-slash-cartooning. Likewise, while I could completely abuse this whole "draw whatever the heck I want" policy, I'm not going to plaster a picture of myself in the middle of the page. Not my style.

It's not like I caught the atom bomb and diffused it before it could destroy Hiroshima. Columnists aren't heroes. We don't singlehandedly save or change lives; rather, we write about those who do. We may make people laugh, cry or wet their pants, but only because we've succeeded at telling a story that, in most cases, was told to us or happened before our eyes. Awarding credit any other way would be, once again, self-congratulatory. And we all know

how I feel about that!

But enough about me. Let's talk about you. Right after this last fact about me. In my however many months since I started at the *Chronicle* (I mentioned it already and I'm too lazy to count again or scroll up and look at the number, even if I'm all too motivated to write a long diatribe about how lazy I am), I received approximately three pieces of mail saying that I did a lousy job on this story or that. Honestly, I wanted more. I truly like being slammed, because it teaches me something and because it means people are reading, even if what I write makes them groan, snarl and turn into an angry wolf. I know that the reason I didn't get more letters was because I'm some exceptional voice o' the people. It just didn't happen. Wah wah wah.

Now, back to all of you, because what I've seen in the last three or four issues has been absolutely outstanding. In the past, I just filled my mailbox with blank sheets of paper in order to fool myself into thinking I'd received letters. Now they're really piling in.

Granted, some of them have been childish, and others are just way too long and windier than the lake. And on a selfish note (although perhaps this is a relief in this case), none of the notes are in regard to anything I'd written. But that doesn't matter. What does matter is that the student newspaper, for the first time since I've been on board, really looks like a student newspaper and not a playground for my cartoons and rants. And a good lot of these letters make for very good reading.

At the end of this column, my name will be permanently zapped from the *Chronicle*, unless I achieve fame, return as an instructor or flash a student and end up in a police report (for the record, I've

never flashed anyone, although I play sadistic video games and could snap at any moment). But while I'm ready to leave these pages behind, I hope some of you readers aren't. If you're graduating too, then I hope you join me on the next level.

For some 16-30 years, depending how long you've been at Columbia, we've been taught to let teachers hold our hands and tell us how to think, because this path was the fastest path to "success" ("success" in this case meaning good grades). If something is going to be on a test, we turn on our gift memorization; if it isn't, then screw it. If the teacher is writing something on the board, then surely we must write it down too. Nailing the spelling and textbook definition of obscure terms are a must for success in school; the origins and potential windfalls of knowing this junk are not, even if memorizing the different parts of the brain, for one example, is far less useful than utilizing and stimulating these parts for our benefit.

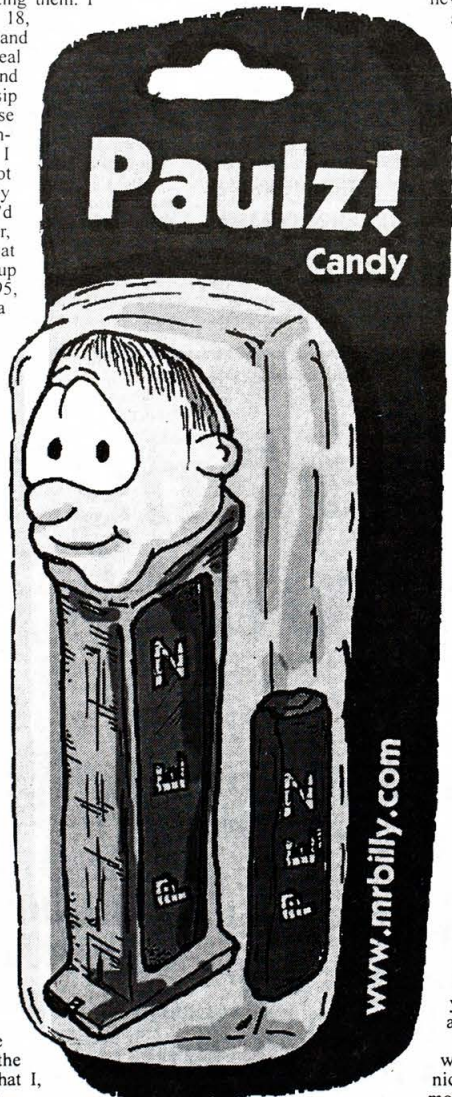
If your education sounds like a 16-year game of Memory, you're not exactly wrong. We've been taught that easy, instant success is the best success, and that success can only mean a good job, marrying somebody after you've spent x amount of years with his or her and, in our case, racking up A's and B's. There's no room for gray areas. That's good news for Wesley, but discouraging for the rest of us.

My last argument, until my next one of course, is not to bite those hands that feed you, but to merely shake free of their grasp. Remember that the only things you need to be happy and truly successful in life are food, shelter, clothing, water, love and happiness. Maybe you also need fame, a fat resume, stocks, employees, a fancy Web site, a master's degree, a fast car or that damn Wesley to feel fulfilled, but it's not a requirement. It's your choice, and perhaps your downfall as well.

One more thing to which you may want to hang on: your ability to communicate, and not necessarily via fax, modem, cell phone, PalmPilot or whatever the next two-bit "must-have" piece of junk is. Buy a pen, some paper, some envelopes and a book of stamps. Or use e-mail, I don't care. But force yourself to think outside the ordinary boundaries our education created, and put your thoughts where someone can see and be influenced by them. Write a letter to your best friend, write a letter to your favorite magazine, or just write a letter to me. My e-mail address is below my mug shot, and I'll swing by the *Chronicle* office this summer and pick up any letters you want to send there.

If nothing else, always remind yourself that if it requires meaningless memorization, batteries or a monthly fee, it will only amount to a whole lot of not much. It may be cliché to tell you to be adamant about bringing your goals to life, but that doesn't mean it's such a bad idea.

With that, I'm off to become a professional journalist in order to fund my career as a professional cartoonist. I'll see you in the funny pages.



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Letters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

ever dwell on it. Blacks, Jews, and others need to move on and worry about today and the future instead of being stuck on issues of the past. It's time to, as the saying goes, "Forgive and forget".

Chris Charla
via the Chronicle's message board

What would Robert do?

As director of the Interactive Multimedia Program, I appreciated Amber Holst's story concerning the College Council's passage of the Interactive Multimedia Program Review. In general, I want to applaud the conduct of the meeting by Council President Margaret Sullivan. It was fair, even-handed and firm. Given that the Interactive Multimedia Program has no representatives on the College Council, I feared that we would not be heard. I was heartened to discover how far our college's governing body has come in terms of the ideals of free speech, open discussion and participatory democracy.

I left the meeting after the successful vote. I was disturbed to find out later that Ed Morris quit as the Council's Parliamentarian because I — though not an official member of the Council — was permitted to speak at the meeting. I understand that Professor Morris, of the Television Department, vilified Council President Margaret Sullivan for her "failure" to obey Robert's Rules of Order. I believe she did obey the Rules. In addition, I've been informed by many members of the Council that visitors are often allowed to speak when representing views germane to the Council's discussion. I believe that open discussion, free speech and participatory democracy are useful ideals for the college's governing body.

Dan Dinello
Director, Interactive Multimedia Program

I would like to correct, with a small dissent, the impression of the issues, and the events, as reported in Amber Holst's story about the last meeting of the Columbia College Council on May 19, 2000.

It is appropriate to say that the curriculum for this program was created over almost a two-year period by representatives of six departments: Film/Video, Television, Art and Design, Photography, Management and Academic

Computing. When the program was established, I was asked by Peter Thompson, then Associate Dean for Technology, to go with him to the Curriculum Committee to get that Committee's approval of the major and it was approved. Following that approval, the Advisory Committee on Interactive Multimedia appointed Doug Jones and Dan Dinello as the directors for two years on a rotating basis. When the usual 18-month Assessment Report was submitted in June of 1999, there was an objection that the members of the Advisory Committee had not had the opportunity to read the report and discuss it and the motion was tabled so that this action could take place. For whatever reasons, the ACIM was never called together to either discuss the report or appoint new directors.

On May 5, I appeared before the Executive Committee of the Council and asked that discussion take place at the next meeting of the Council scheduled for May 19. These are the facts leading up to the events of that date.

Most important to me and my honor, I was asked by Chairman Sullivan and the Executive Committee of the Council in the Fall of 1999 to serve as Council Parliamentarian. I am always glad to be of service and I agreed to do this, with the understanding that my rulings would be respected.

Now let's turn to the reporting in the *Chronicle*: the facts of what occurred are correct but the inferences, simply because the reporter could not know, are incorrect. For the entire time I have served as Parliamentarian, I have tried to explain to Ms. Sullivan that speakers may speak only once before all other speakers on a subject of debate have spoken. There can be no cross table discussions so that order may be maintained. By the same token speakers who are without standing in the Council may not speak. Their views can only be conveyed by members who may read statements from others if they so desire.

It is necessary to point out two things: 1) That as the person requesting the item on the agenda I rightfully should have been allowed to address the issue first. 2) Ms Sullivan has said in her remarks to the reporter/comments by the Interactive Multimedia facilitators should have been included as part of the review." Without prior agreement, this is quite simply not permitted by Robert's Rules of Order which govern the Council.

In the light of my service and my advice, I tried to prevent these unruly matters from occurring but was overridden by Ms. Sullivan without discussion of any kind. It was for this reason that I have resigned as Parliamentarian and I left the meeting with sadness and frustration over the poor conduct of this and other meetings of the Council

which have been conducted in the same honoring of the rules of order by ignoring them when it has suited the Chair.

If there are issues still remaining about the place of Interactive Multimedia in the Columbia College program, surely they are best solved by the interested parties and informed administrative officers and not by motions of misinformed members of the Council who had one week of preparation for their action.

Edward L. Morris
Professor Emeritus
Television/Management

Editors Note: Since this issue will be the Chronicle's last until the fall, College Council Chair Margaret Sullivan was presented with an advance opportunity to respond to Morris' remarks. Here is what she said:

"I have relied on my parliamentarian, Ed Morris, throughout the year to advise me about the application of Robert's Rules to the Council proceedings. We have rarely had differences, and I have consistently tended toward Mr. Morris' advice. It saddens me to see that this meeting of May 19 has inspired in him a different impression.

"While Robert's Rules provide the guideline for conducting Council meetings, sometimes they are in conflict with precedent. Sometimes, if enforced rigidly, they would discourage participation, inclusion and democracy. I tend to err on the side of inclusion in those cases. The May 19 meeting produces an example.

"Precedent recommends that those who have contributed to reports, documents or developments that the Council is reviewing have an opportunity to speak at meetings. What would happen if programs being discussed could not be represented by their own authors? The main goal of a Council meeting is to encourage informed and democratic decision making. If the Council is to be a meaningful body, it must not only tolerate, but value input from informed members of the community.

"One of my duties as Chair is to exercise discretion in making rulings. My rulings have been made solely in the interest of fairness and inclusion. Had my parliamentarian taken offense at one of my rulings, he might have declared, as anyone can, 'I appeal from the decision of the chair.' A deciding vote would have been taken. I am surprised that a parliamentarian would not have elected to exercise that option."

Don't cry, darling! We won't leave you this summer!

Throughout the lonely summer months, Columbia Chronicle staff writers and editors will be filing reports on the award-winning Chronicle Online to keep you informed with the latest news about Columbia College. Watch for breaking news and features, and keep in touch with the college community through the Chronicle's message board.

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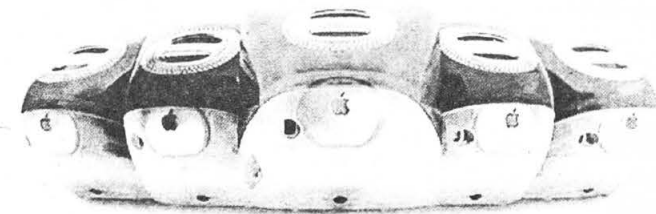
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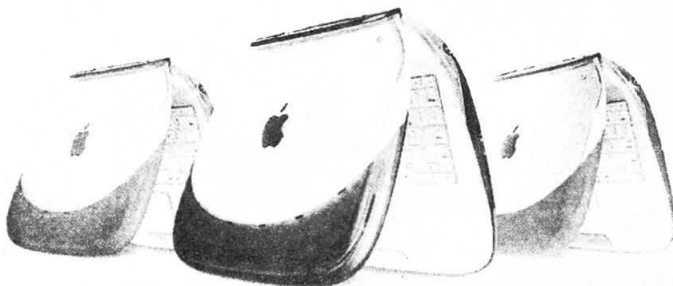
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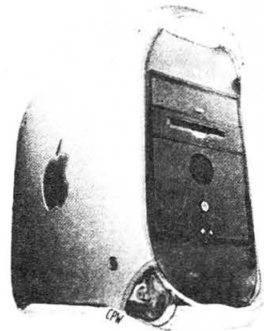
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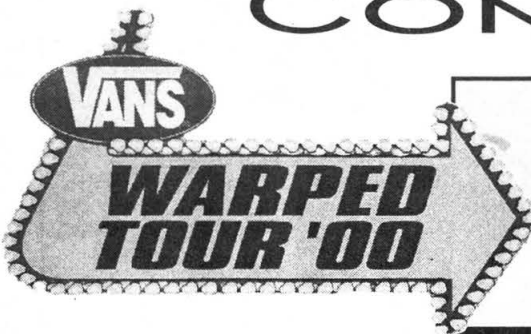
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INSIDE THE WORLD OF ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

VITALITY

SUMMER PREVIEW
CONCERT



By Chris Novak

Assistant Vitality Editor

It is that time of the year, when students get out of school, get summer jobs and spend all of their earnings on the exorbitant prices of summer concert tickets. This year there is a little something for everyone. The dominant pop music that has infected the radio, will be spreading to Chicago as the local venues play host to N'Sync (June 25, Route 66 speedway, Joliet), Britney Spears (July 7, New World), Christina Aguilera (Aug. 19, United Center) and Ricky Martin (July 1, United Center).

But let us not forget the various boys who will populate such shows as Ozzfest 2000 (Aug. 4, New World), MTV's Return of Rock (June 17, HOB), Hard Rock Rockfest (July 22, Chicago Motor Speedway), Tattoo the Earth (TBA) and of course Limp Bizkit's Napster-sponsored free tour entitled "Limpdependence" (TBA).

And for all of the "Baby Boomers" out there, the usual extremely high (up to \$250) tours of old stars. Beginning with the overrated reunion of the supremes and Diana Ross (July 1, Allstate Arena), The Who (June 25, New World), Steely Dan (June 24, Allstate Arena), Don Henley (June 17, Arie Crown), Ringo Starr (June 8, HOB), Sting (July 21, United Center), Lou Reed (June 13, Chicago Theater), Roger Waters (July 8, New World) and Brian Wilson (July 22, Chicago Theater). And for you hair band people, there is the Maximum Rock 2000 tour, featuring Motley Crue, Megadeth and Anthrax (Aug. 20, New World) and there is Poison, Cinderella, Dokken and Slaughter all playing together (July 21, New World).

Now that we've listed some of the "major players," here is my list of concerts that I feel will be worth every penny of your precious money.

The Vans Warped Tour

With Green Day headlining, this is sure to be a great show. Mix in The Suicide Machines, NOFX, MXPX, Long Beach Dub Allstars, Mighty Mighty Bosstones and Anti-Flag and you have a great show. Together with the community atmosphere and, it will be a great day all together. (July 12, New World)

Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem, Ice Cube and Warren G

Thanks to the success of the Ruff Ryders Tour, this tour of immense proportions is possible. With NWA classics sure to be played, plus the combinations of Snoop and Dre, and Dre and Eminem and you have what is sure to be a memorable hip-hop show. (July 8, Allstate Arena)

The Hard Rock Rockfest

I am just excited about finally being able to see the "new" Veruca Salt live, but mix in Metalica, Kid Rock (yuck!), Barenaked Ladies, Stone Temple Pilots (heroin free), Third Eye Blind (double Yuck!), Nine Days, Tonic, Tragically Hip and Guster, it will be a pretty darn good show. (July 22, Chicago Motor Speedway)

Sonic Youth, Stereolab, Quix*O*Tic

Just to see Seattle pioneers Sonic Youth would be great. Add Stereolab and it becomes a once in a lifetime experience. This is sure to be a great show, period! (June 10, Riviera)

Blue Meanies, Alkaline Trio, Chris Murray, MU330, Link 80, Lawrence Arms

The Best of Ska and Punk. With the recently signed Blue Meanies headlining and greats like MU330 and Alkaline Trio backing them up this is sure to be an energetic and crazy show. I promise you that if you go you won't be disappointed. (June 27, Metro)

Rage Against the Machine and Beastie Boys

Expect these two power groups to play Soldier Field sometime in late summer, enough said! (TBA)

The Red Hot Chili Peppers and Stone Temple Pilots

It seems that STP is trying to make up for lost jail time by pounding audiences with appearances. This time they are opening up for The Red Hot Chili Peppers, and with two powerhouse bands, how can you go wrong? (Aug. 2, New World)

Pearl Jam with Supergrass

Seattle super group has a new album and a new tour, this time surprisingly sponsored by SFX. As long as Eddie Vedder controls his drinking it will be great. And I can not forget the British group Supergrass who are just breaking into the radio with "Pumpkin on your Stereo." (Oct. 9, Allstate Arena)

MDFMK and Sister Machine Gun

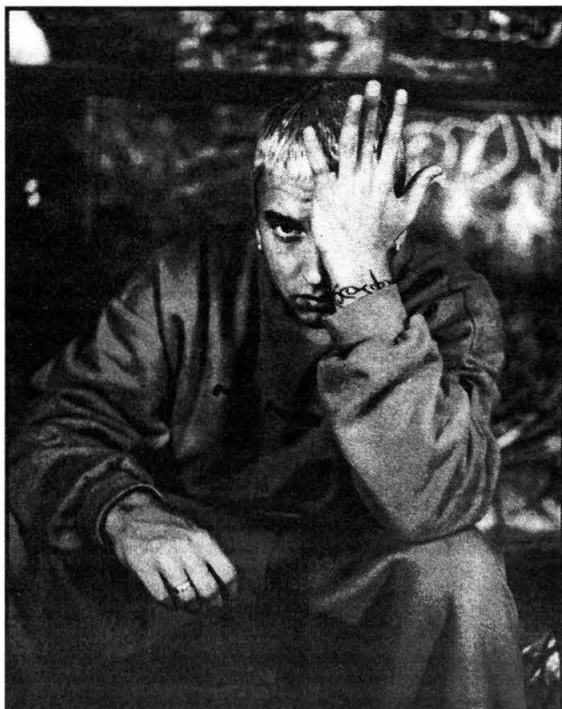
Although Industrial may be dead, or at least subdued, the new KMFD will pump out hard core electronic beats. Plus local Favorites Sister Machine Gun, and you have an all-star line-up. (June 6 and 7, Metro)

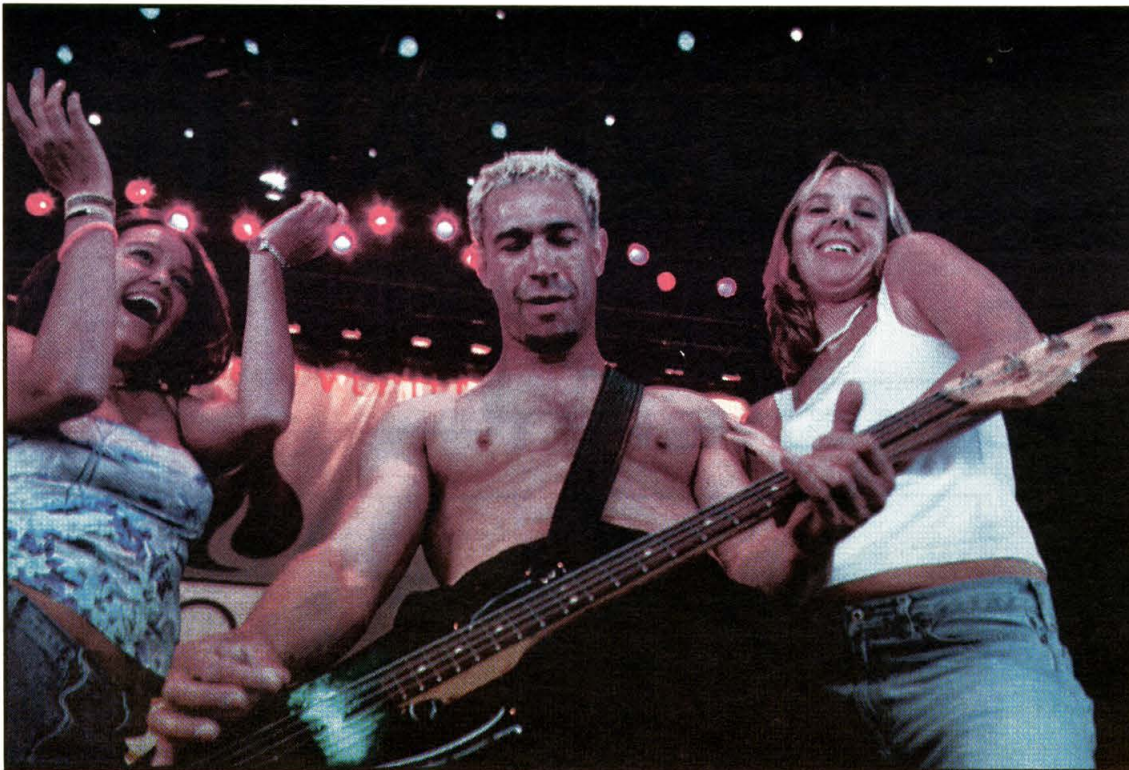
Blink 182, Bad Religion and Fenix TX

Why is Bad Religion opening up for pop-punk sensations Blink 182? I'm not sure, but add in Blink protégé's Fenix TX and you have a wonderful mainstream punk show. At \$15 who can beat that? (June 10, New World)

Other honorable mentions include cult favorites The Cure (June 9, New World), Dave Mathews Band (June 29 and 30, Soldier Field), and pop-country favorites The Dixie Chicks (July 13, United Center).

With a lot of headline acts combining, various smaller bands and some great tours this summer concert season is sure to be memorable and extremely enjoyable. I hope you can afford it!





Photos by Tasos Katopodis



Q101'S

JAMBOREE

Once Again Strikes The New World Music Theater

By Chris Novak

Assistant Vitality Editor

As usual, Q101 held its annual summer show, Jamboree, to kick off the summer season on May 20 at the World Music Theater. The Long Beach Dub Allstars, The Suicide Machines, The Bloodhound Gang, Eve 6, Moby, Travis, Everclear, Goldfinger, Third Eye Blind, The Mighty Mighty Bosstones and 311 were all featured at this concert on steroids. The theme of the show, dubbed J2K, was the Olympics (the 5 rings represented by the three zeros in 2000 and the "Q" and zero of Q101). So, in honor of this theme, I have decided to give out awards as I critique the show.

The Timid Stoner Award

This goes to the Long Beach Dub Allstars, the remains of Sublime. Their set was slow and mellow, although fairly good, the audience was not very into it at all. Instead of kicking off the show with a bang, the show began with a whisper. The frustration of the band showed as they tried, and failed to get the crowd to participate. Maybe the crowd did not respond because they were too busy getting high, but what do I know?

The "We Better Do Something to Reverse What the Long Beach Dub Allstars Just Did" Award

With a hard hitting, fast and furious set, The Suicide Machines rallied the crowd and prepped them for the next act. Playing their radio breakthrough, "Sometimes I Don't Mind," along with other crowd favorites such as "SOS" and "Permanent Vacation." The Suicide Machines pleased me once again. They even went so far as to bring Goldfinger onto the stage and their 30-minute set was pure bliss.

Best On Stage Antics

The Bloodhound Gang musically, may not have any talent, but they put on a unique and wonderful stage show. It all began with Evil Jared Hasselhoff blowing fire and from there, it just went chaotic. Their song "Mope" has PAC-Man singing in it, and when that verse came, so did a life size PAC-Man. After that, they bet a girl \$100 that she could not finish a case of Dr. Pepper, and she takes the bet. Hasselhoff then decided to jump off of the stage and crowd surf the lawn. When he finally came back, he brought hoards of fans onto the stage to dance, and the chaos continues. Next, only girls are allowed on stage, one male fan decides he does not want to go, so for a T-shirt and the opportunity to stay, he obeys Jimmy Pops request and shows everyone at the World his penis. Wet T-shirts and N'Sync/Fred Durst parody soon followed in a 45 minute set that was a visual bombardment and very entertaining.

We Suck Live

This goes to Eve 6, enough said.

Nobody Seemed to Care

Poor Moby, following the Bloodhound Gang seemed disastrous as much of the audience did not seem to care. Although, Moby put on a wonderful set and even surprised me by playing the James Bond theme he did for the "Goldeneye" movie. As always, Moby put an enormous amount of energy into his set, but no one seemed to care.

We're Scottish and We Just Don't Give a Fuck

Travis, musically very good (except for the obvious Beetle influence) but stop preaching. Although, as they played, people just kept on leaving, especially whenever the lead singer, Fran, went on one of his many dull philosophical rants. But hey, they're Scottish and they just don't give a fuck.

You Should Fire Your Soundman

I was thoroughly disappointed by Everclear's set, perhaps the band I was most excited to see, and whose set I hated the most. Message to their soundman, make sure that the audience can hear and understand the lead singer over the instruments.

The Dirk Diggler Award

A huge inflatable penis on stage, WOW! Add a performance by Sisco's brother Crisco (Goldfinger's drummer, Darrin Pfeiffer), and you have a set that was just as entertaining as the Bloodhound Gang's set. Not too mention the fact that Goldfinger was on target and played a really great set.

"Hey, I Am a Bad-Ass, Really"

I guess it is rare that a band can fill an hour long set with radio hits, but that is exactly what Third Eye Blind did. Steven Jenkins' mouth was dirtier than anyone I know, with every other word out of his mouth, being Fuck. Mix in covers of the The Ramones "I Wanna Be Sedated," and The Who's "My Generation," and you have a pop heavy set of music that made me want to tear off of my ears.

Smoking is Bad

Although The Mighty Mighty Bosstones performed one of the best sets of the night, Dickey Barrett needs to stop smoking. His voice, just like Bob Dylan's, is barely understandable due to excessive smoking. Besides this small detail The Bosstones were on target and brought the house down with a ferrous 45 minute set that was fast, hard and exciting.

And the Gold Goes to . . .

311, the headliners, played for over an hour, and pretty much brought the house down. The show had everyone dancing and going crazy. The most entertaining aspect was two songs into the set when they played a five drum solo, absolutely orgasmic. All I have to say is after that performance; I came out a true fan of 311, truly one of the best live bands out right now.



An Interview With Evil Jared Hasselhoff OF THE Bloodhound Gang

At Jamboree, The Bloodhound Gang proved to be the most entertaining band with their various onstage antics. And they are just as amusing off the stage as they are on, as I discovered when I had the pleasure of interviewing Evil Jared Hasselhoff, bassist of The Bloodhound Gang. He had a lot to say about the controversy of the song "Yellow Fever," with its extremely bigoted comments about the Asian Culture, and their recent and rapid fame.

No. We've played the song live once, and it was a total disaster! And we never played it again. If they're gonna protest a song that was released on a seven inch and sold maybe 2,000 copies in the entire history of the band, has never been played live, and no one's ever gonna hear it.

Tell me about the song "Yellow Fever"

It was a song that was released four years ago and it was only released on maybe 1,000 CDs. They're [the protesters] are complaining that Geffen, the corporate giant, is promoting it, but the only way you can get it is on a seven inch [vinyl], ["One Censored Beer Coaster"].

How do you feel about Geffen's censorship of "One Fierce Beer Coaster?"

I'm not really for censorship, but Geffen gave us a shit load of money. I was like yeah whatever, sure I'll take it off sir.

What do the protests consist of?

The protest at the University of Maryland consisted of about 30 kids in yellow shirts, standing on a hill, about 300 yards away from the stage and turning their backs on us when we played. No one could tell that they were there because after 10 minutes, it was dark and there was a bunch of guys standing in the dark. I'm all for protest, but I'm just saying if they're gonna do it, they should do it so someone knows that they are there.

What are your influences?

Just drugs and alcohol basically.

How has success changed your life?

We can get laid more often, that's about it.

How did you create your interesting and unique style of music?

We were like hmm. Let's see what the Beastie Boys were doing 15 years ago, then we could copy that and people would think that we were original.

How do you feel about them?

It's great, we have spent the last six years trying to get publicity for the band, and trying to get fame, and sell a lot of albums. Then these guys come along, we didn't have to pay them anything, and they got us in USA Today, on MTV news, and it's great. I wanna piss more people off. Who can complain about that, [free publicity?]

How is touring?

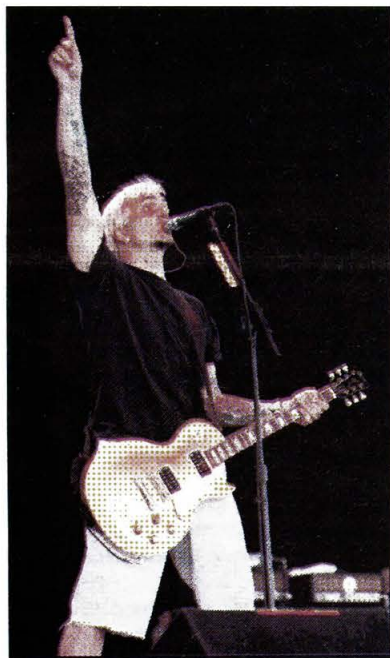
It's been selling out, [but] it's not been huge venues or anything. But the ticket sales have been good.

And the crowds?

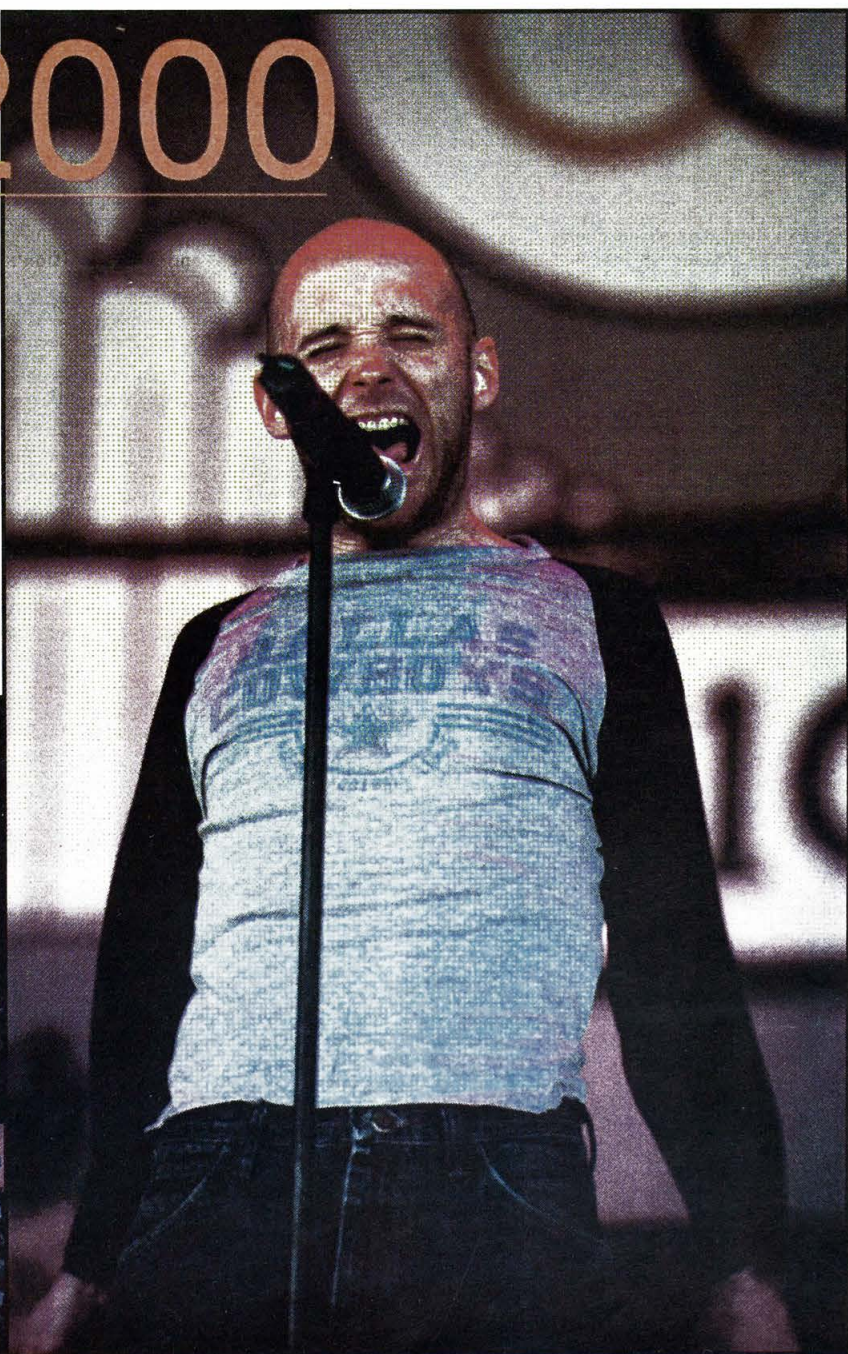
Seeing—a—lot—of—tits, more tits. I mean, they are from 12-year-olds, but we are seeing a lot more.

Does the band ever play the song?

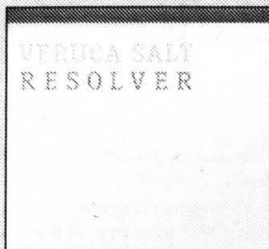
--Chris Novak



Journal 2000



CD REVIEWS



By Chris Novak
Assistant Editor

Veruca Salt
Resolver
Beyond

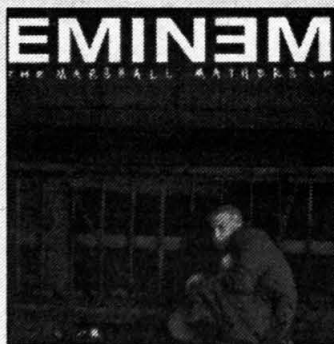
A lot has happened since the last Veruca Salt album, Nina Gordon left, and for quite some time it was questionable whether or not we would see a new Veruca Salt album. Well, cut to over 2 years later, and Louise Post has decided to carry on the name. And Veruca 2.0's new album, **Resolver** has been released.

The album has a rawer feel to it, and it is apparent that Post's lyrics are full of emotion. The album begins with the same person, a quiet and melodic piece, but a minute later you are pummeled by a shock wave of sound as the album's first single disrupts your senses. From there it straight hard driven rock. And as the album draws to an end, it slowly lets you down from the sonic wave that it began with.

Perhaps one of the most emotionally charged songs on the album is "Only You Know," a song that seems as if it is a personal attack on Nina Gordon. With lyrics like "don't blame me for sinking the ship / you're a hopeless liar and a hypocrite" it sounds like an intimate and personal attack. The rest of the album deals with issues of love lost, and coping with the rise and fall that is fame ("Born Entertainer").

The overall sound of the new Veruca Salt is the same with a little harsher edge due to the absence of Nina who contributed heavily to the group previous pop hits. Any veteran Veruca Salt fan will enjoy this new version of a classic band. And anyone else into hard female rock will be most definitely pleased with this bold adventure into new territory by Louise Post.

By Chris Novak
Assistant Editor



Eminem
The Marshall Mathers LP
Interscope Records

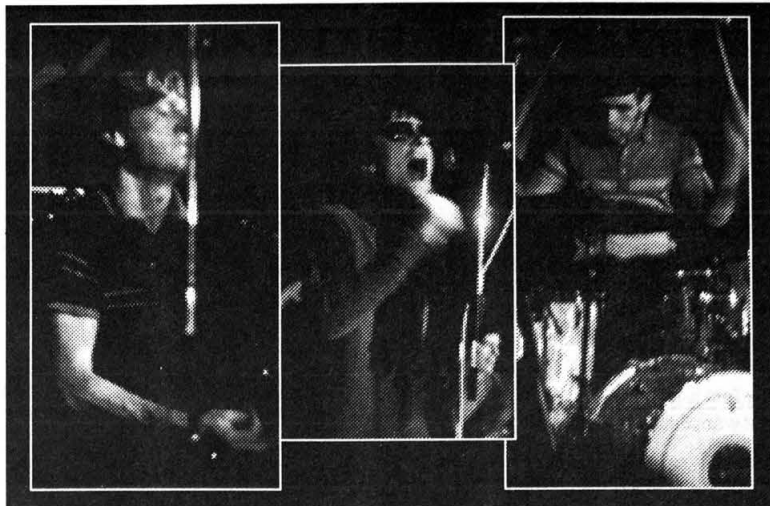
Last year's Hip-Hop phenomenon, Eminem has once again returned to the music world with his new CD **The Marshall Mathers LP**. With his various appearances on Soundtracks like *End of Days*, and appearances on Dr. Dre's *Chronic 2001* and Cypress Hill's *Rap Superstar* and his winning of best rap solo performance and best rap album at the Grammy's this is perhaps one of the most anticipated new releases of the year.

It seems that the overall theme of **The Marshall Mathers LP** seems to be how he is coping with his superstardom. Songs such as "Stan," "Who Knew," "The Way I Am," and "I'm Back" all contain themes that deal with his chaotic and fast rise to fame.

One of the most humorous songs is Marshall Mathers where he expresses his feelings on the current teenybopper explosion, and people like Vanilla Ice, The Insane Clown Posse and his family attacking him. One of the best verses is sung to the music of LFO's "Summer Girls" the lyrics consist of "New Kids sucked a lot of dick / Boy and girl groups make me sick and I can't wait till I catch you fagots in the public / I'm gonna love it"

The most disturbing, yet addicting song on the album is "Kim," the precursor to "Bonnie + Clyde 97" set to strong rock beats and a crazy keyboard melody. The topic of the song is him murdering his wife, that is the disturbing part, but what causes this song to be so interesting is that he is singing it with a ferocious and highly emotional tone. Although he is the bad guy, you can't help but to feel empathy towards him.

And of course the disc also contains "The Real Slim Shady," the current single and MTV pop/rap hit. Although this song is not as hard hitting as the rest of the CD, it is unbelievably catchy and addicting. Unlike many previous newcomers, it seems as if Eminem's sophomore effort is a very strong and complete follow-up to his debut **The Slim Shady LP**. If Eminem continues on this path, he is sure to have a long history of success.



Deathray Album Catchy But Careless

By Matt Richmond
Copy Editor

"Deathray" would be a pretty sweet nickname if your name were Ray and you were, say, a professional Uno player, or you threw the fastest pitch at the county fair's radar booth. Or maybe if you were the best systems analyst in your company's marketing and finance division. "Damn, Ray," they would say, "you kick ass."

And that's how it is with the new band called Deathray and their self-titled album: They are somewhat talented. They may be capable of accomplishing more, but they just don't seem to care. They would rather not develop their ideas any further than is necessary to gain radio minutes. They will be fleetingly appealing. They will fade into Men-Without-Hats oblivion at the end of the summer and walk away smiling, their pockets full of teeny-bopper cash.

Only one of Deathray's songs hits the three-minute mark. In fact, most of the tracks come in closer to two minutes than three. These short, hooky tunes give the album the feel of a collection of ad jingles or sitcom theme songs, rather than a full-fledged LP. In fact, their debut single, "My Lunatic Friends," is exactly catchy and sassy enough to be the next hit song from the next hip sitcom about three to seven twentysomethings—laughing, loving and learning about life in the city. ...Watch for "Who Cares?," starting this fall on the WB. It's about growing up—and falling apart—together.

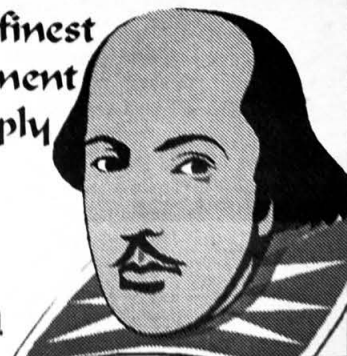
Two of the band's members are former members of Cake, but they have avoided the Cake sound. Nevertheless, most of the songs on **Deathray** by Deathray sound eerily familiar. The Cars are an obvious influence, but a thorough listen calls to mind several bands. There are Weezer moments, E.L.O. moments, Men at Work moments and Squeeze moments. There are even Marilyn Manson moments and Bad Co. moments. There are precisely two Hanson moments.

Remarkably, Deathray incorporates all these sounds seamlessly; they capture several different styles and gimmicks without sounding eclectic.

The most intriguing songs are tracks 4, 6, 10 and 11. The highlight is track 6, "Legionnaires in Doubt." It starts with a stripped-down samba beat that gives way to a driving backbeat reminiscent of the Pumpkins' "1979." They throw in some stops and starts and some Beatles-style flutey space noises, for lack of any real direction. And, to emphasize this lack, they repeat a fascinatingly meaningless chorus: "And suddenly it's all over / When the cat gets out / There's one on e-ver-y corner / a Legionnaire in doubt." There's mention of submarines in the first verse, so maybe there's a thread somewhere. Maybe the Legionnaires on every corner ran submarines and are now perplexed by the sun. Maybe the winds of November came early. Whatever; it's catchy. Who listens to words anyway?

Don't panic dear readers! School may be out for summer, but the *Chronicle* will still provide you with the finest in news and entertainment all summer long. Simply visit our smashing Web site at

www.ccchroncile.com



Best of Hollywood: Summer Movie Preview

By Tom Snyder
Assistant Editor

Well, this is it dear and few readers -- the last issue of the Chronicle. Isn't it sad? Now where will you turn to for movie reviews that give away too many plot details and opinion pieces that make you laugh and pissed off at the same time? Oh yeah, that's right, newspapers aren't dead yet (just joking any of you newspaper critic jockeys who by some astonishing bit of coincidence may be reading this).

All joking aside, the semester is almost gone my fellow Columbia-goers (using the word "students" at this juncture just doesn't feel right) and summer has nearly arrived with its many movie blockbuster hopefuls. For the first time in several years, there doesn't appear to be one film that has a lock on the summertime megabucks. There are a few major contenders for the coveted crown of King Moneymaker, but there isn't (THANK GOD) a "Phantom Menace" in the playing field this year.

With Ridley Scott's "Gladiator" and John Woo's "M.I-2" already in theaters, is there anything left to anticipate in the coming months? To quote " Fargo: " "Oh, you betcha." What follows are my humble suggestions for some summer films to watch out for until we meet again this September.

On June 23rd that goofball trio of Jim Carrey, Peter and Bobby Farrelly reunite to bring us "Me, Myself and Irene," a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde concept in which Carrey plays a good-natured cop who is pushed too far and suddenly develops a split personality. And you guessed it; both personalities fall in love with the same girl. This concept film seems as if it was written for Carrey's plastic face and outrageous physical humor.

After two unsuccessful but worthy Oscar-attempts ("The Truman Show" and "Man on the Moon") its nice to see Carrey returning to his slapstick roots. In "Dumb and Dumber" Carrey had the very funny Jeff Daniels to play off. This time it's Mr. Carrey and Mr. Carrey. Let's just hope the two can work well together.

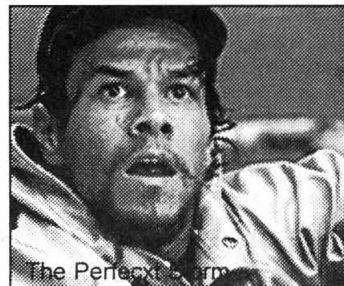
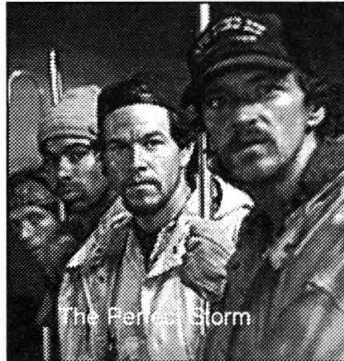
An overview of the month of June really looks like heaven for you action lovers. On June 9th producer Jerry Bruckheimer serves up "Gone in Sixty Seconds," a remake of one of those 1974 car chase movies. Starring Nicolas Cage, Giovanni Ribisi, Angelina Jolie and Robert Duvall, "Sixty Seconds" boasts a pretty impressive cast and an edge-of-your-seat trailer capable of causing epileptic seizures. This one looks like a no-brain plot, white-knuckle speed, better-see-it-on-the-big-screen-if-you're-going-to-see-it-at-all-type flick, while the other two big budget films of June are promising more than just amazing action.

In my opinion, June 30 is THE day for movie lovers this summer. Why? That's the day a storm and a patriot will square off. Director Wolfgang Petersen is hoping for "On the Waterfront" meets "Twister" with his latest character-driven action/suspense film, "The Perfect Storm." Whether he succeeds remains to be seen, but I'm betting on a classic action-packed, nail-biting tearjerker based on what I know of the true story upon which the film is based.

Battling the storm on June 30 will be "Independence Day" director Roland Emmerich's "The Patriot," starring Mel Gibson in full "Braveheart," badass mode. Gibson reportedly received a record-setting \$25 million for his role as a Southern colonist who joins his

son in the battle against the Redcoats for American independence. From the looks of the trailer this one looks great, but we all know how trailers go.

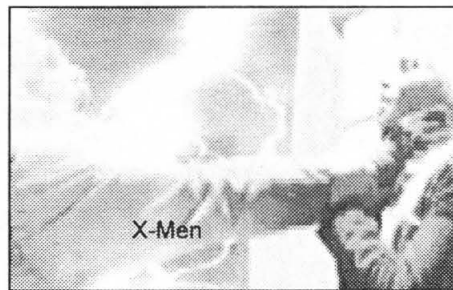
Also in June are a few films that could either be really entertaining or really awful. The success of films like John Singleton's "Shaft" (June 16), "The Adventures of Rocky & Bullwinkle" (June 30), Martin Lawrence's "Big Momma's House" (June 2), and the animated "Titan A.E." (June 16) is anything but guaranteed.



Then on July 14 comes director Bryan Singer's bold attempt to adapt the adored Marvel Comic "X-Men" into a film. Minus Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellen as the leaders of the "good" and "evil" mutants, the cast of "X-Men" is composed mostly of relative unknowns. I guess Halle Berry and Rebecca Romijn-Stamos are stars in some people's books, but the success or disaster of "X-Men" will ultimately come down to Australian unknown Hugh Jackman as the fan-favorite Wolverine.

Will "X-Men" strike gold and mix just the right amount of camp and reality as "Batman" did, or will it be a "Batman & Robin?" Well, the immense difference between those two winged-hero films came down to the directors, so, Bryan Singer: please, don't become the next Joel Schumacher.

The rest of July is up in the air. Director Robert Zemeckis' Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer star-vehicle



"What Lies Beneath" (July 21) -- which is developed from an idea by Steven Spielberg -- has a creepy mystery surrounding it, while madman director Paul Verhoven's "The Hollow Man" (July 28), starring Kevin Bacon, promises a fresh new angle on the long line of "Invisible Man" movies.

"Nutty Professor 2: The Klumps" could be funny come July 28, but I'm not betting on it.

As for August, the best bets appear to be "The Cell" (Aug. 18), starring Jennifer Lopez, swinger Vince Vaughn, and Vincent D'Onofrio in a psychological thriller by Tarsem, the director of R.E.M.'s "Losing My Religion" video, and Clint Eastwood's old-timer special "Space Cowboys" (Aug. 4), also starring Tommy Lee Jones, James Garner and Donald Sutherland.

But the film I'll be anticipating the most come August will be Robert Redford's post-WWI golfing period piece "The Legend of Bagger Vance" (Aug. 4). With stars Matt Damon, Will Smith, Charlize Theron and Jack Lemmon on board, it doesn't matter to me that the plot centers on a mystical golf caddie. Let's just hope that this time around Redford will be the redemptive, emotionally moving director of "A River Runs Through It," and not the "I-lost-my-editor" director of "The Horse Whisperer."

Well, that's my look at this summer's crop of upcoming movies. Here's hoping for as much diversity and intelligence as is humanly possible in that land and time of the summer movie blockbuster.



ROACH & Seals Reels: AWARDS

CHRIS ROACH

Correspondent

DONNIE SEALS JR.

Assistant Editor



DVD is becoming the fastest growing entertainment forum in the history of mankind. We here at Roach & Seals Reels thought we would hand out some awards to the best of the best current titles on DVD. So without further ado, the envelope please...

Best Menu Screen: "The Abyss"

Fox's double-disc underwater epic's menu screen tantalized and captivated the viewer. Exploring the deck of the underwater station was easy to navigate and very fluid. After watching all the special features, you will have been spun around the entire craft which presents a great sense of fantasy. Have you found the secret movie trailers yet?

Best DVD Disc Art: "A Nightmare On Elm Street" Collection

All seven discs feature actual scenes from the movie.

Best DVD to be used for foreplay: "Gods & Monsters"

Brendan Fraser without a shirt is sure to make your date start steamin'!

Best mind expanding DVD: "Apocalypse Now"

Martin Sheen takes the viewer on quite a trip.

Best DVD to buy for someone you don't like: "For Love of the Game"

Did Sam Raimi lose his mind or something?

Best Comedy DVD: "This Is Spinal Tap" Criterion Collection

Not only one of the funniest movies ever made, but over an hour of extra material!

Runner up: "Rushmore" (Criterion Collection).

A hilarious film that is made even funnier with extras including the "Max Fisher Players" doing their versions of popular 1998 films.

Best Drama DVD: "Boogie Nights" (Platinum Series)

A fantastic film that has many extras including nine deleted scenes and director's commentary.

Runner up: "Three Kings"

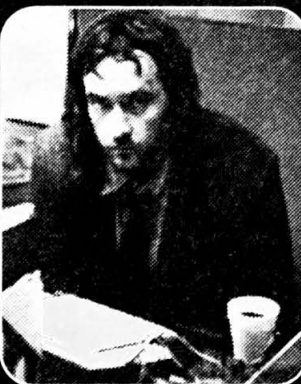
A great film that also includes a lot of extras including a small documentary on Ice Cube directed by Spike Jonze.

Best Director's Commentary: "Trey Parker & Friends for Cannibal the Musical"

The filmmakers actually get drunk while doing the commentary, which makes listening to it a hilarious experience in itself.

Best Deleted Scenes: "Boogie Nights" More of Heather Graham and an uncut version of the "Brock Landers Story"

makes these scenes as enjoyable as the ones that made the final cut.



Best DVD Sound: "Saving Private Ryan"

I know you must be just as tired of seeing this DVD in Roach & Seals as I am, but so far there's no home theater experience that comes close (that's unless you have the DTS version).

Best DVD Video "Thin Red Line"

The beauty of the format really shines with Fox's WWII story. A crisp clean anamorphic transfer is kept throughout the DVD. The deep black areas are free of noise and pixelation, and the explosions and high energy scenes are full of lush colors that represent the film well. "The thin Red Line" is a reference standard.

Best DVD Menu: The Abyss

The music enters and you're soon whisked from an underwater current to the underwater station, Deepcore. Once there, you're presented with an array of doors, switches and panels that take you to many special edition features and secret trailers. Such imagination and innovation in DVD menu screens will only help the format soar into the next year.

Best Sound: Saving Private Ryan

I know you must be just as tired of seeing this DVD in Roach & Seals as I am, but so far there's no home theater experience that comes close (that's unless you have the DTS version).

Best Action: True Lies

James Cameron brings humor to this 1994 action-packed blockbuster. What it lacks in special features, it makes up for with a fun movie to watch anytime. A treat for the ears, eyes and mind. Runner-up: The Matrix

Best DVD: -

Roach: "Being John Malkovich"

This is an amazing film that is so original it needs to be viewed numerous times to fully grasp the greatness of it. It also has the most original DVD extras out there, including documentaries on the "Art of Background Driving" and "Art of Puppeteering," plus a Spike Jonze interview and seven other unique bonuses.

Seals: "Taxi Driver: Special Edition"

Martin Scorsese's tale of New York taxi driver Travis Bickle has been named one of the best 100

American films by the American Film Institute. Now Columbia presents the special edition version with enough extra material



to satisfy any fan. Along with one of the best Making-of Documentaries on DVD today, you get a storyboard sequence, the original screenplay and a beautiful anamorphic widescreen presentation.

Woody Allen Relaxes with 'Small Time Crooks'

By Judy Maxwell

Correspondant



Woody Allen's "Small Time Crooks" is a small-time comedy that refreshingly deviates from Allen's recent darker themed projects. In this film, Allen doesn't play the same "Woody Allen" character he always plays. In fact, you could say that he is the older version of the character that he played in "Take the Money and Run" (1969).

He portrays Ray Winkler, the "mastermind" of three other bumbling idiots played by Michael Rappaport, Tommy Darrow and John Lovitz. They decide to dig a tunnel from underneath a cookie shop to a bank vault. Frenchy (Tracy Ullman), Ray's wife, begrudgingly runs the cookie store as a front. The attempted robbery doesn't work out (they tunnel themselves into a dress store), but the cookie store is a success. The crooks develop the cookie store into a franchise, and they all become unbelievably rich.

As the dimwitted bunch is thrust into wealthy society, a fish-out-of-water comedy ensues. The first half hour of the film is strong, and

there are a few slapstick sequences involving the digging of the tunnel that are just great. The second half slows down considerably and examines Ray and Frenchy's relationship. Ray finds that the rich are too classy for his tastes and longs for the life he had before. He would rather eat a cheeseburger than snails. The delightfully tacky Frenchy wants to become a sophisticated New York socialite, and she hires Hugh Grant's slimy character as a cultural tutor.

Ullman appears in a starring role, and she carries the film well (if you can get over expecting her to switch to a different character or just fade into a minor role). Lovitz and Rappaport's characters basically disappear in the second half, and that's a shame because they were great as Allen's dimwitted sidekicks and as a supporting actor, Grant hardly replaces them in the second half.

The comedy in the film is fairly straightforward, but does not really take any risks. This is the second project in six months for Allen (after December's "Sweet and Low Down"). It seems like Allen just wanted to relax and make a light simple comedy. Even though "Small Time Crooks" is not one of Allen's "serious comedies," Allen fans will not be disappointed and the humor is well written and well performed.



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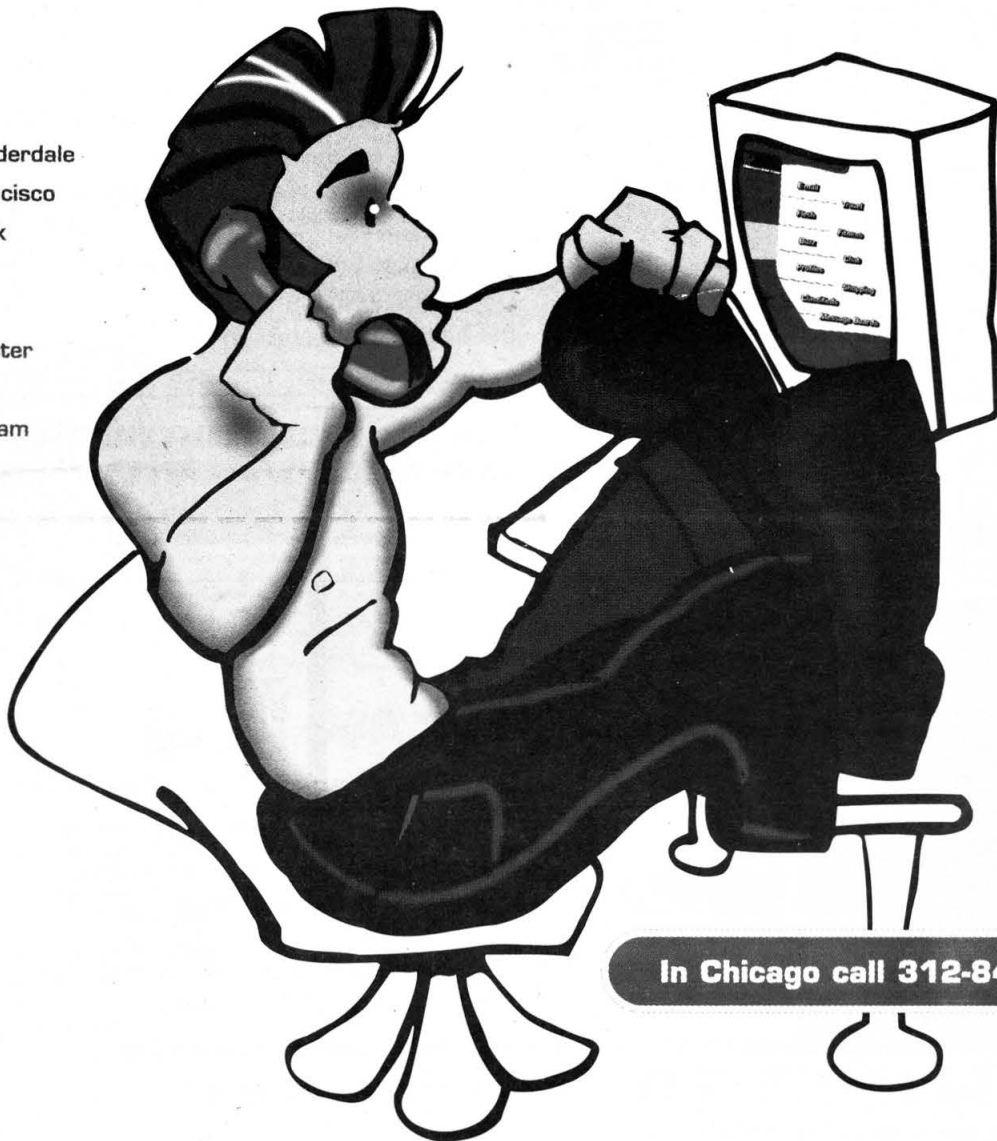
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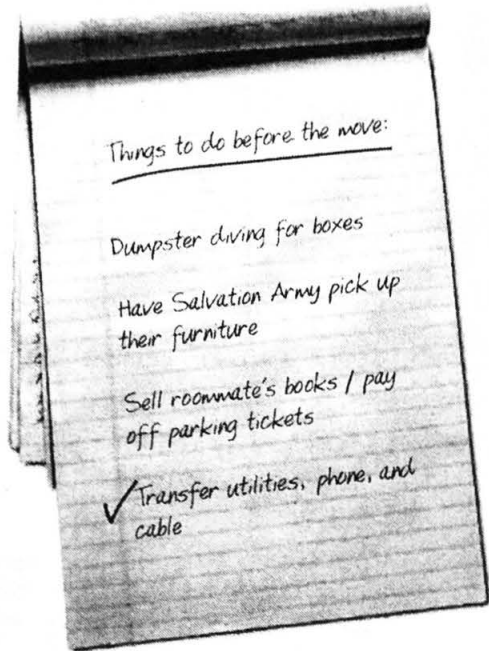
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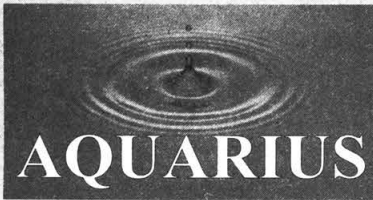
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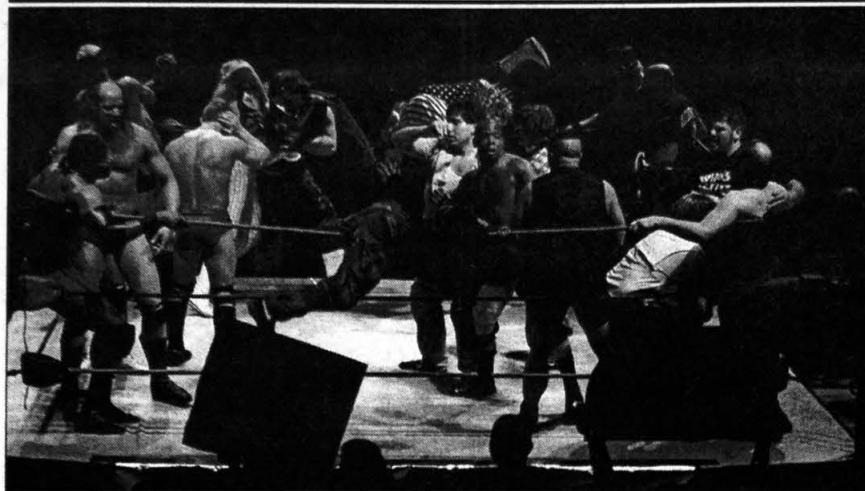
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Rob Hart/Chronicle

'Sports Entertainment' done old school in Chicago

Windy City Pro Wrestling offers dreamers a place to start

Only one would survive the 120 man Battle Royal

By Chris Roach

Correspondent

The air is filled with the stench of sweat from fatigue. The sight is of vigorous drills that look painful even from 10 feet away. The noise of bodies hitting canvas is louder than a normal person's yelling capacity. There is a clear sense of competition, determination and anxiety. All of this spawns from working basic in-ring exercises. It was within five minutes of watching the athletes of Windy City Pro Wrestling train that I realized I could never classify professional wrestling as "fake" again.

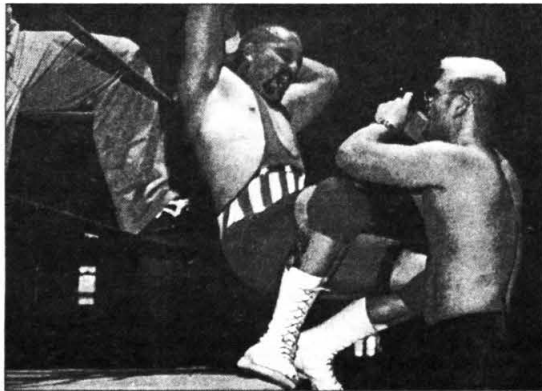
Since founded in 1988 by Sam DeCero, the South Side-based promotion Windy City Pro Wrestling has served as a starting ground for someone to pursue their dreams of becoming a pro wrestler. Kirby Duck, a current WCPW wrestler (known as "Big Time") has worked in other independent wrestling promotions but says that WCPW is "the most professional place for wrestling in Illinois." What attracts many young hopefuls to Windy City is that it not only helps train someone to be a wrestler, it also offers them a lot of exposure.

"When someone joins WCPW, they are guaranteed TV time," says general manager Mike Gratchner. They can keep this guarantee because they have their own television show that airs three times a week.

While watching the young hopefuls practice, it was clear they all shared similar goals. T-shirts that showcased the WWF (World Wrestling Federation), WCW (World Championship Wrestling) or ECW (Extreme Championship Wrestling) were as common as camouflage is in the army. They were training with added intensity, as it was just a little over a week before

WCPW's showcase event of the year, "Battle of the Belts 2000." One newcomer who is a part of WCPW's fantasy camp was retching in pain from simply having to bounce off the ropes. The more experienced wrestlers worked on body slams, headlocks, dropkicks and other traditional wrestling moves.

Current WCPW heavyweight champion "The Ghetto Superstar" Willie "Da Bomb" Richardson is a veteran to Windy City. He has been with them for four years, and like



Rob Hart/Chronicle

"Big Time" gets the close-up for his next movie "Mike Masters in Pain."

other wrestlers, he loves every minute of it. Richardson proves his dedication as he also (like everyone else) has a full time job. He is determined to make it to the top, and he says he "won't be satisfied until people know him based on his wrestling."

Richardson says that he would "wrestle 24 hours" if he could, and no matter where he ends up, he wants to "accomplish everything he can in wrestling."

Love for wrestling itself is what WCPW represents. In the modern era of the soap opera wrestling that Vince McMahon

(owner of the WWF) is famous for creating, WCPW likes to keep it old school.

"Wrestling is first here," says Gratchner. "It is too easy to lose focus on what you are doing if the wrestlers don't concentrate on wrestling above all else."

Gratchner says that each wrestling show needs its own personality, and WCPW fans "want wrestling first." However, the entertainment side of wrestling is part of what makes wrestling what it is, and is what makes many WCPW wrestlers hopeful of "making it."

Former Columbia graduate Kirby Duck got an education in film before he became a wrestler, which he feels, has helped him. "Film school helped me understand wrestling better," says Duck. "I would not have grasped the entertainment aspect if I had come straight in."

His ultimate goal (which he has given himself to the age of 30 to reach) is like everyone else's to make it to either WWF or WCW. Unlike Richardson, he wants to use the entertainment side to his advantage. It is clear that he has a knack for that, as he has a movie director gimmick (wrestling term for character's persona) in WCPW (known only as "Big Time"). Duck's heel (wrestling term for the "bad guy") character has many signatures such as finishing moves entitled: "The Director's Cut" and "The Box Office Flop," hitting wrestlers with his camera, and taunting people by insisting he has "had their wife on his casting couch."

Although wrestling matches were the centerpieces of last weekend's "Battle of the Belts," WCPW still added many theatrical moments, including the use of spray

butter to stop a wrestler from climbing to reach a bowling pin in a "pole match," apparent arena light failure only to have them illuminate right as featured wrestler Road Warrior Hawk hit his signature move, and Big Time winning the 120-man battle royal by throwing out a woman wrestler.

The intensity showed by all involved with "Battle of the Belts" is a reminder of the determination these wrestlers have to attain fame in the business they adore. A wrestler by the name of "The Fallen Angel" Christopher Daniels is a light of hope in WCPW, as he has just signed a deal with WCW. Daniels wrestled at "Battle of the Belts," and had been with WCPW four and a half years prior. In the meantime, WCPW is helping many of its talent get the exposure they want.

"Windy City wrestling is really helpful with resumes, highlight videos and promo tapes," says Duck.

In addition to its own television show, WCPW gets exposure on a show called "Sports Entertainment Live," which is hosted by WCPW manager, commentator and head of media relations Richard T. Sin. Windy City also has a Web site (www.windycityprowrestling.com) which will help their organization reach many more people. "We would eventually like to become as well known as ECW," says Gratchner. "For now, webcasts are our best way to get a larger audience."

WCPW is a place that is built on dreams, the dreams of people wanting to entertain by performing what they love. Although not "Wrestlemania," there was a look of euphoria on the faces of the athletes performing at "Battle of the Belts." Those sights were an optimistic reminder of the truth that whether you are at the bottom of the mountain or have hit the "big time," as long as you follow your dreams and do what you love, you will be happy.

Rugby

CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE



Rob Hart/Chronicle

High school rugby is becoming popular in the U.S.

lar at the high school level. However, that still puts the United States years behind other nations.

Vercoe began playing rugby at age five. He played all through school and university, before playing and coaching professionally in Australia.

Three years ago he came to Chicago to coach the Lions. He coaches the premiere league team that travels as well as the A-level squad.

Despite many of the shouts of profanity coming from seemingly foreign accents, most of the players are from the Chicago area. Each team is only allowed two green card players a season.

Most of the players in the Chicago Area Rugby Football Union (CARFU) are former American football players who needed a contact sport to play when their high school careers

ended.

Stone, a former football player, now prefers rugby.

"I didn't think much of it at first, but then it grew on me," he said. "Rugby is more fluid. There's more action and it's non stop."

The player in CARFU are not paid, yet they are willing to endure sometimes-serious injuries to play a sport that they have learned to love. Whatever the injury, the men always downplay it.

"I broke my ankle last year and had to have a steel plate and six screws put in my leg, but I wouldn't consider that much of an injury," said CARFU member Steve Buss.

Now that's one tough bloke.



Rob Hart/Chronicle

Without pads, the hits are less ferocious.

Bullpen continues to let Cubs down

By Scott Venci
Staff Writer

The bullpen was the cause of concern again for the Chicago Cubs in their series with the Colorado Rockies.

On Tuesday night at Coors Field, Kerry Wood pitched his best game since his debut back in early May. The Texas product threw six innings and struck out eight, while only surrendering two walks. The bullpen failed again however, as Daniel Garibay and Brian Williams each gave up two runs in a 10-7 loss.

Wednesday brought more of the same. Starter Ismael Valdes was strong through five innings, but was hurt while running the bases on his second double of the night. Kyle Farnsworth relieved him in the 6th and quickly gave up the lead on a homerun by Jeffery Hammonds. Bubba Carpenter followed and promptly took a

Farnsworth's fastball over the wall. Rick Aguilera joined the fun, giving up the last run of the night in a 9-4 loss that was delayed about an hour due to rain.

Thursday finally brought some relief by the bullpen. After trailing by five runs for most of the game, the Cubs exploded in the 8th inning. Glenallen Hill hit a monstrous homerun to left. Sammy Sosa came up with one man on and hit a

two-run homerun, his second homer in as many innings. The Rockies loaded the bases in the 9th, but Aguilera got Hammonds to line

sharply to Willie Greene at third. Greene knocked the ball down, regained his composure, and fired a bullet to first base. Hammonds did not start running on the play immediately, and was out on a close play, giving the Cubs a 6-5 victory.

The Cubs play a series against the Braves this week at Wrigley, and then host the Detroit Tigers in interleague play.

Cubs Update

Sox drop 4 of 5, Tigers fast approaching

By Tom Snyder
Assistant Editor

The Chicago White Sox lost four out of its last five games last week, but managed to hold onto a slim half-game lead over the Cleveland Indians for first place.

After losing to Toronto 4-3 on Monday and defeating the New York Yankees 8-2 on Tuesday, the Yanks reaped some sweet revenge from Chicago Thursday and Friday, outscoring the Sox 19-4

during back-to-back road victories. The 7-0 defeat on Friday was Sox hurler James Baldwin's first loss of the season, but don't worry Sox fans, I'm sure it won't be his last.

I guess that I could list a few more boring details from the past week's games for the White Sox, but frankly, I'm tired of pretending to care about Chicago's baseball teams. I'm sorry, they're just plain bad—first place leaders or not. Thankfully,

next week I'll be back home where baseball fans consistently have something to cheer for: the St. Louis Cardinals.

Sox Update

Bayern wins 3-1, captures title

By Amber Holst
Foreign Soccer Correspondent

Bayern's 16th League title came about through a joint effort by Bayern and their fellow Bavarians Unterhaching, a suburb 10 miles east of Munich on Saturday May 20. Bayern's 3-1 win over Werder Bremen and Unterhaching's sensational 2-0 win over their neighbors' title rivals Bayern Leverkusen were nothing short of a miracle.

After a sensational season in which Bayern

defended their title, won the Cup and made it through to the Champions League semi-final, Bayern only needed to win the Champions League some time soon in order to find total bliss.

Barely a year ago, Bayern were down on their knees when Manchester United wrestled the European Cup title from them in the dying minutes of the game in Barcelona—but the tables have turned and luck has seemingly begun to favor Bayern. Hup Bayern!

To read this in German, check out the *Chronicle* website.

Bayern Munich Update

With Summer comes many questions for Chicago sports fans

The season has ended for the *Chronicle* sports section. For the next four months I'm sorry to say that students at Columbia can no longer turn to my insightful columns to get their sports information. However, I do realize that the happenings in the sports world will not stop just because I have left the city. So you don't feel lost, I have provided six questions that will be answered before my return in late September and my predictions for how they will be answered.

What will the Bulls do with their three first-round picks? Rumors are swirling that they will go after the high school kid Darius Miles with the fourth pick and with the seventh grab either Spartan Morris Peterson or Mateen Cleaves. Look for the Bulls to blow it and take Minnesota center Joel Pryzbilla after Miles. That means the possibility of another season of Randy Brown running the point. Unless, of course Krause gets smart and selects Hoosier guard A.J. Guyton with the 24th pick.

With nearly \$18 million available under the salary cap, what free agents will the Bulls target this summer? The media in Chicago can't shut up about Grant Hill and Tim Duncan. Word to the wise: Hill, Duncan and Jalen Rose are not going to come to Chicago no matter how much money they're offered. Tracy McGrady and Eddie Jones are the Bulls' best options. Krause must keep in mind that McGrady and Jones play small forward and shooting guard respectively. In other words get your floor general in the draft. Hint: Cleaves or Hofstra guard Craig Claxton with the seventh pick.

As the Cubs continue to fall further out of the playoff picture, will they trade Sammy Sosa for several prospects? Nope. It would be a brilliant move if they did. The Mets, Yankees and Red Sox would be the likely candidates if a trade did go down. The move wouldn't hurt the Cubs record presently and would add several young players to a nucleus that includes Corey Patterson and Kerry Wood. However, look for the Cubs to keep Sosa and continue to provide false hope to the Wrigley Field fans.

Can the White Sox remain ahead of the Indians and grab a playoff spot? They don't have as much depth and their pitching staff doesn't have a lot of big game experience, but the boys in black believe they can play with anyone. If they are still neck-and-neck with the Tribe come mid-August, they just might give Chicagoans a reason to watch baseball in October.

Will Brian Urlacher sign and report to Bears training camp on time and provide Chicago with the defensive playmaker they've been lacking? He's good, and he is fast, but remember, Urlacher is only a rookie. He has said he will be at camp on time, but so has every other rookie ever drafted. Being there will be paramount. If he shows up on time and learns the defensive system, he will make a big impact this season. If not, he will probably make more mistakes than big plays and get injured by week six.

Is McNown the right man for the Bears? The system in place is not the ideal system for his arm. Nonetheless, McNown should succeed eventually in Chicago. However, it is important that if he falls into a bit of a sophomore slump the Bears don't panic and turn to Jim Miller. Miller will never duplicate what he did last season. He is a third-string quarterback, at best, who hit a hot streak with a team with nothing to lose last season.

I'll be back soon enough.



Graham Couch
Sports Editor

Chronicle Sports Information

as of May 26

NBA PLAYOFF MATCH-UPS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

(1) Indiana vs. (3) New York

WESTERN CONFERENCE

(1) L.A. Lakers vs. (3) Portland

NHL PLAYOFF MATCH-UPS

EASTERN CONFERENCE FINALS

(1) Philadelphia vs. (4) New Jersey

WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS

(2) Dallas vs. (3) Colorado

MLB STANDINGS American League East

	W-L	GB
Boston	26-17	-
New York	26-17	-
Toronto	25-24	4
Baltimore	20-25	7
Tampa Bay	15-30	12

Central

Chicago	26-20	-
Cleveland	24-19	.5
Kansas City	23-23	3
Minnesota	20-28	7
Detroit	16-27	8.5

West

Texas	25-21	-
Anaheim	25-22	.5
Seattle	23-21	1
Oakland	24-24	2

National League East

Atlanta	32-14	-
Montreal	25-19	6
New York	25-22	7.5
Florida	22-26	11
Philadelphia	16-29	15.5

Central

St. Louis	28-18	-
Cincinnati	26-20	2
Milwaukee	20-27	8.5
Pittsburgh	19-26	8.5
Chicago	18-30	11
Houston	17-29	11

West

Arizona	30-16	-
Los Angeles	25-19	4
Colorado	23-21	6
San Francisco	21-23	8
San Diego	19-27	11

MLS STANDINGS

Eastern Conference

W-L-T-PTS

New England	5-3-4-19
Miami	4-3-4-16
Metrostars	4-6-0-12
DC United	2-9-1-7

Central Conference

Chicago	6-5-1-19
Tampa Bay	6-5-0-18
Dallas	4-6-1-13
Columbus	4-6-1-13

Western Conference

Kansas City	9-0-2-29
Los Angeles	6-1-5-23
Colorado	5-7-0-15
San Jose	2-6-3-9

Next Fall in Chronicle Sports:

► Sep. 25: NFL Preview

(It's not that far off)

Dig in, speak out.

Sports has expanded to three pages. To get in touch with Graham Couch, Sports Editor of the *Chronicle*, e-mail him at Ghcouch@hotmail.com or call 312-344-7086.

If your interested in writing for the sports section in the fall, e-mail the above address.



Rob Hart/Chronicle

Members of the Chicago Lions and South Side Irish do battle at the Chicago Classic on May 20. The Lions won in sudden death.

Rugby has taken off in Chicago and across the country

By Graham Couch
Sports Editor

With the score tied at halftime, the captain of the Chicago Lions rugby team belted out instructions in a thick British accent to his teammates. As the team came off the field one player looked confused and said, "Maybe if I had a few beers in me I would understand."

The South Side Irish were using their team speed to put a scare into the favored Lions.

Playing on a field so wet that the mud had covered the numbers on half of the player's jerseys, the Lions and Irish battled throughout the second half, beating the hell out of each other all along the way.

As a fight broke out after a scrum (a violent huddle in which huge blokes push at each other to gain an advantage on the ball), a player went down screaming and holding his shoulder.

"Oh man," said a Lion player. "Owen broke his shoulder again."

Lion forward Owen Davies aggravated his separated shoulder, an injury he had first suffered several weeks earlier. He was hollering in excruciating pain. However, instead of being hauled off to the hospital on a stretcher, he stayed in the game.

At the end of regulation the score was tied at 10. Because this was the Chicago Classic Tournament and there were more games to be played on field at Miller Park in Chicago's west suburbs, a normal sudden death overtime couldn't be played.

There were two options. The teams could play sevens, a form of rugby in which the two teams would play seven-on-seven, or they could each take five free kicks. The quicker Irish wanted to play sevens. The larger, more experienced Lions knew they would be at a disadvantage. They opted for the kicks and after winning a coin toss, won the overtime period 3-1.

For a sport that is traditionally played in New Zealand, Australia and Europe, there is a lot of interest in Chicago. And it's not just the Windy City. It's estimated that 40,000 people in the United States play competitive rugby at some level.

"People are sick of the crybaby NFL and baseball," said Lions flanker Bryan Stone, a 35-year-old from the Near West Side. "They are starting to look for an alternative and rugby is a great sport."

Rugby is a game in which two teams of 15 players try to score as many points as

possible by carrying, passing, kicking and grounding the ball. There are two ways to score: a "try" is worth five points and is

the opponents' crossbar and between the goalpost from the field of play by any place-kick or drop-kick. A goal after a try is worth two points, a penalty kick is worth three points and for any other drop-goal three points are awarded.

While rugby is not as popular in the United States as in many other countries around the world, it has a rich history in Chicago that stretches back to the inception of the Lions in 1964. Since then, the size of players has grown as well as the interest.

However, the level of rugby in the states is far behind the leagues overseas. There are many reasons for the talent deficiency according to Lions Coach and native New Zealander Paul Vercoe.

"The facilities aren't as good, the coaching is not quite as good and generally guys over here don't start playing until they're in col-

lege," he said. Rugby has just started to become popu-



Rob Hart/Chronicle

Players from St. Charles High School battle members of Bourbonnais High School.

scored by grounding the ball in the opponents' in-goal.

A goal is scored by kicking the ball over

This Week in Sports



► White Sox

Tuesday-Wednesday- at Seattle, 9:05 p.m., 5:35 p.m.

Friday-Sunday- at Houston, 7:05 p.m., 12:05 p.m., 2:05 p.m.



► Cubs

Tuesday-Wednesday- Atlanta, 7:05 p.m., 1:20 p.m.

Friday-Sunday- Detroit, 2:20 p.m., 3:05 p.m., 1:20 p.m.

See Rugby, page 22