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Columbia College Chicago

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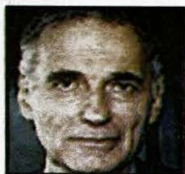
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COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Volume 35, Number 10

Columbia College Chicago

Monday, November 26, 2001

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Michael Schmidt/Chronicle

State Rep. Judy Erwin, (D-Chicago) speaks at the Iranian women's panel discussion on Nov. 16. Erwin preceded the panel of four women who held an open discussion on current issues pertaining to women's rights in Iran.

Panel focuses on inequalities that challenge Iranian women

U.S. concern for Muslim women grows by leaps and bounds

By **Stacie Boudros**

Contributing Writer

From public shootings for speech violations, to female genital mutilation, to the Western struggle for equal pay for equal work, women across the globe have yet to give up their ongoing pursuit of gender equality.

An international panel of scholars and filmmakers visited the college for a panel discussion last week addressing women's rights in Iran. Roused by the award-winning documentary, "Divorce Iranian Style," the panelists discussed the legal rights of marriage and custody of women living under the Islamic framework of Iranian law. Surrounding countries were also discussed.

With the nation's attention already focused in their direction, U.S. concern for Muslim women's suffering has grown by leaps and bounds since Sept. 11. First lady Laura Bush told Americans during a recent broadcast that Washington is recognizing women's suffering in Afghanistan.

While the Taliban's fleeing from Kabul raised hopes for improved conditions for women, the notion—no more Taliban equals the end of women's oppression is a misconception.

Aside from the strict regime in Afghanistan, countries like Iran and Pakistan are home to a power system which oppresses women. Although life for women in Iran is not as harsh as life under the Taliban—their plight is not as horrific as "wear the burqa or die"—the complex social system of Iranian legal unions treats men and women unequally.

At the panel discussion of Iranian gender inequality in divorce and custody matters, three women of diverse backgrounds shared their insights.

The panel was moderated and organized by filmmaker and faculty member Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa of the Film and Video department, who is currently working on a semi-autobiographical documentary, "Home in Exile." The discussion consisted of three presentations and an introduction from Saeed-Vafa who said the objective was to "decode the unique and complex [issues] of women under Islamic law." A question-and-answer session followed. Active audience participation varied from state senators to Iranian natives and many non-native students and community members.

Panel members included Ziba Mir-Hosseini, a social anthropologist who directed "Divorce Iranian Style" and wrote *Marriage on Trial: A Study of Islamic Family Law in Iran and Morocco*. Mir-Hosseini, an Iranian native who currently resides in the United States, has had two divorces under Iranian law and began research in 1996 drawing from her own experiences. She opened the discussion with clips from her film.

Co-directed by Kim Longinotto, the film took a contemporary case-by-case look at a divorce courtroom in Tehran, Iran. With 16 judicial venues in a city with a population of more than 10 million, Mir Hosseini said she worked "to focus on characters and develop [solid] storylines."

Through the candid style of a real-life divorce courtroom, three women depicted different types of broken marriages from which the women were trying to release themselves. The audience rolled in hysteria at the film's outspoken, talk-show like style, including a judge who told a woman to "pretty herself up" in an attempt to win her husband's heart back. The woman said she didn't want to, but bargained to do so in order to get compensation after her divorce.

Men are the only ones who can petition for a divorce under Iranian law. If the judge concludes that the woman has caused the marital problem, then she is left without compensation.

See **Women**, page 2

International students have a spot to call home

Members move to create a group center

By **Laura A. Pliego**

Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Nov. 14, international students held an intense meeting with the International Student Organization and Mark Kelly, acting vice president of Columbia Student Affairs. The meeting was part of the 2001 U.S. International Education Week, which runs from Nov. 12-17.

"This is the first baby step in creating an international student center," Kelly said about room 1313 of the 600 S. Michigan Ave. building, which officially belongs to the international students.

ISO acts as a constituent on behalf of all the international students already enrolled at Columbia, or those who are considering becoming a part of the school.

The international students have been working to get a room that

they could use as a constructive center. During the ISO meeting the students were given a room to fulfill their needs, but the 47 students at the meeting had many distinct views.

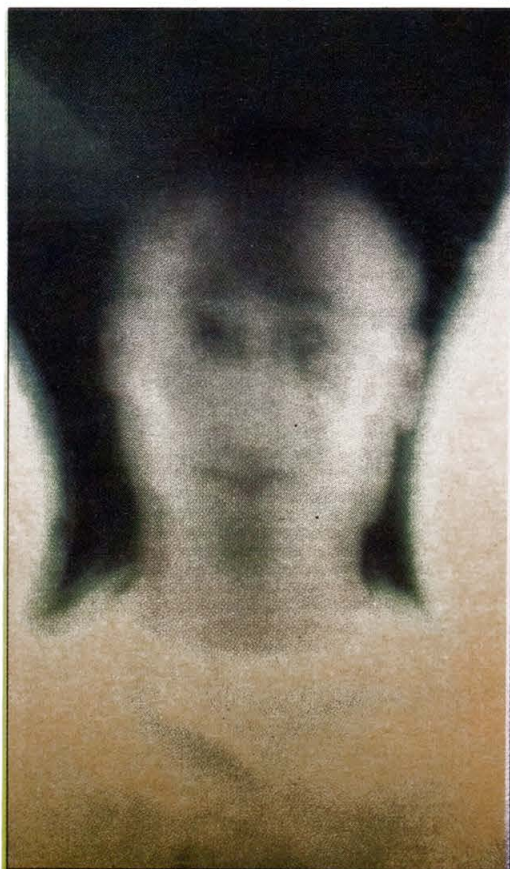
"Where are we going to fit 35 people? Room 311[623 S. Wabash Ave.] is three times bigger than room 1313," Anni Holm president of the ISO said.

Many of the students who attended the meeting were uncomfortable, as they had no other choice but to sit on the floor or stand against the wall. Still others preferred to stand just outside the door rather than inside the stuffy room.

During the meeting, Holm expressed the need to have all the international student advisers at one location, making them more accessible to the students. Holm also said there was a need for more scholarships, internships and school employment positions. Also, Holm said the students need to be able to call Columbia home, one where they

See **International**, page 3

Photo Essay: A night of ecstasy



Michael Schmidt/Chronicle

Briefly

News and Notes

Theater department to host classic musical 'Oklahoma'

Rogers and Hammerstein's classic musical, "Oklahoma!" will be presented by Columbia's Theater department on Dec. 6, running through Dec. 16, in the college's Getz Theater, 72 E. 11 St.

The production is directed by college faculty member Estelle Spector. A veteran of musical theater, Spector has been teaching in the Theater department for 15 years and is the coordinator of the department's musical theater program. Show choreography is by Tammy Mader; musical direction by Larrance Fingerhut; fight choreography by David Woolley; lighting design by Emile Boulos; costumes by Frances Maggio; and voice coaching by Albert Williams. Student Lisa Bendrick is serving as stage manager with fellow student David Siegel as set designer.

The department's Couch Potato program starts up again this year with an open dance class, led by choreographer Mader, after the Wednesday, Dec. 12 performance. See the show, then learn how it's done. The dance class is free, but places must be reserved in advanced by calling (312) 344-6104.

"Oklahoma!" tickets are \$10 to \$14 each, with half price tickets for senior citizens and students. For a season brochure, tickets or more information, call (312) 344-6126.

Around Campus



Photo courtesy of Media Relations Columbia College

Grammy Award-winning All-4-One schmoozes with film students in the Columbia Semester in L.A. program prior to the vocal group's performance on the Columbia float in the Hollywood Christmas Parade. Back row: students Ken Gruca, Jr., Elizabeth Lawrence, Mark Keneyse. Front row: student Kim Knopic, All-4-One's Tony Borowiak, Delious Jamie Jones and Alfred Nevarez.

Seminar looks at e-business

The Arts, Entertainment and Media Management department will be holding a special informational seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2001 from 5 to 6:30 p.m., 624 S. Michigan Ave., room 705.

James Glicker from Full Audio.com, one of Chicago's leading new media companies, will make a special appearance to discuss the growing importance of e-business in the arts and entertainment field. The seminar will also provide interested students with the opportunity to meet the new media management faculty and listen to currently enrolled students discuss their experiences in the program. Refreshments will be provided.

The seminar is a unique opportunity for Columbia students to interact with e-business professionals and learn more about the new curriculum. All interested students are encouraged to attend. For those who are unable to attend or who would like more information on New Media Management and e-business classes, please contact Dawn Larsen at (312) 344-7639.

Screening series continues

Documentary filmmaker Michael Rabiger will screen and discuss his early films: "Au Pair to Paris," "Prisoners of Conscience," "Tolstoy Remembered By His Daughter," "The Battle of Cable Street" and "Charlie Smith at 131." "Ro Raises His Roof" will be shown in its entirety.

The screening will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 28, at 6 p.m. in room 302, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. For more information, call (312) 344-6708.

Department hosts open house

The American Sign Language - English Interpretation department will have an open house on Wednesday, Nov. 28, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All Columbia students are invited to come and get to know faculty members of the ASL-English Interpretation department. Games and a raffle will be featured at the event. Food and refreshments will also be provided.

The ASL-English Interpretation department is located at 623 S. Wabash Ave., suite 219. If you have further questions, contact Lisa Butler, director of ASL Marketing Communications, at lbutter@popmail.colum.edu.

Performance to be featured

CADRE, a new Columbia student run group to collaborate original music with original works of art from other media, is having its first performance at 6 p.m. on Nov. 29 at the Columbia Concert Hall on 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

Original artwork, graphic design and films will be showcased with live music composed by Columbia students. The performance is free and open to the public.

If you have an upcoming event

or announcement, please call

the *Chronicle's* news desk

at (312) 344-7255.

Student portal still in limbo

Replacement for Mascot may come by end of school year

By Pablo E. Gutierrez

Staff Writer

It was a short romance that lasted only a few weeks, but cost Columbia thousands of dollars. The Mascot Web site was supposed to offer students and faculty a portal of communication and be Columbia's channel in the cyber world, but it wasn't. Still college officials enamored with the concept are searching for their next romance—and are willing to invest in it.

"It was a wonderful tool that allowed students and faculty to be in touch with each other," said Acting Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly. Unfortunately, Mascot went out of business Oct. 12, costing the college as much as \$30,000 and perhaps more, because the cost of a replacement has not been determined.

"We are looking for other portal systems, commercial or our own," Kelly said. "We don't know the cost; we are still looking."

According to Kelly, Columbia hopes to have the new system up and running within the school year, but at the moment they do not know which of two options, commercial or college portal, they will choose.

"Right now nothing is in place, we are still in the process of looking for another service," said Ebonic Saunders, webmaster of the Student Affairs Office, who is now assisting Columbia in its search.

Today, all that is left of Mascot are the vestiges of a failed attempt. The email delivery system, which suffered greatly at the beginning of the semester, is gone and so are the chat rooms that started to become popular among students.

"We have a couple of options now. There are the college calendar and discussion groups," Saunders said. "There is also the listserv mailing and students can start their own groups."

When asked why Columbia did not use their existing Web site or create a companion site to provide email services and other options to students instead of hiring Mascot Inc., Saunders responded that she was not part of the initial negotiations with Mascot.

"I think there was a problem with the bandwidth," she said, "but then again I'm not sure."

Previously, the *Chronicle* reported that due to the promotional efforts and cost, college officials had decided to keep the name Mascot for their new service. However, Kelly mentioned that for now the name is only provisional and that once the new service is implemented, "we are not going to keep that name," he said.

According to Kelly, "Students loved Mascot. In six weeks we had usage that was just incredible. We had 100 pages of student chat and 10,000 hits a month."

Unfortunately, those six weeks came at a cost of \$5,000 each. Kelly had earlier suggested that there might be some legal action taken against Mascot Inc. to try to recover a portion of the money lost. "The notion that we'll get something back is unlikely," he now admits. That is because, according to Kelly, the company lost all of its assets.

Women

Continued from Front Page

The audience was moved by a mother's tearful battle to regain custody of her two young children. She had been ordered to release them to her drug-addicted ex-husband as a result of her new marriage. Under Iranian law, a woman who has remarried is not permitted custody of the children from her previous marriage.

Mir-Hosseini discussed other astonishing marriage, divorce and custody laws of specific interest following the showing. Of the film, she said, "It is biased," but said this is rightfully so because the system tends to lean toward men in terms of fairness.

The second panel member, Iranian lawyer, revered Farsi author and women's rights activist Mehrangiz Kar spoke primarily on the implementation of internal pull.

Kar, the eldest panel member and the only one cur-

rently residing in Iran was responding to the concern from a different angle, her idea is to increase the number of women judges in Iran.

The final contributor was Debra Zimmerman, executive director of Women Make Movies ("Boys Don't Cry"). Zimmerman has lectured on women's media and media distribution throughout the world and considers herself a "Western feminist."

Early on in Zimmerman's presentation, the "Western feminist" criticized Laura Bush for failing to mention the women's issues in Afghanistan or the Middle East prior last week's radio broadcast.

"Feminists have been concerned about this problem for years," she said. Bush's attempt to educate the public on the issue is long overdue, Zimmerman concluded.

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MTV director shares experiences with students

○ Backstage stories about 'Real World Chicago' top conversations

By Melissa DeJonn
Staff Writer

Anthony Dominici, the producer of MTV's "The Real World," recently visited Columbia to share his experiences and award-winning short films with students.

Dominici has directed MTV's "Real World/Road Rules Extreme Challenge," "Real World New York," "Real World New Orleans," and he produced "Real World Chicago," which just finished production.

One of the most memorable moments of directing the "Real World" for Dominici was following two cast members during his first season, and being able to listen to a private "real girl" conversation.

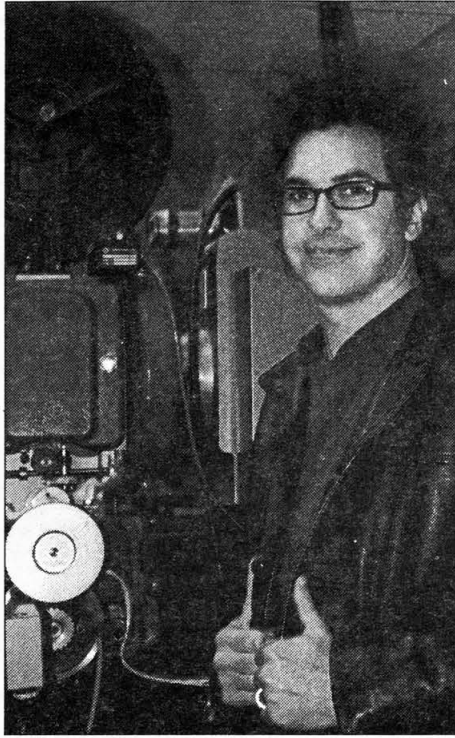
"Producing the 'Real World' [Chicago] was actually more like directing a film than it was producing a show," Dominici said. "Why I say it's more like directing a film is because I am dealing with the building of the house and casting the show. I am making decisions more like a director would than a producer."

As a director on the previous 'Real World' shows, Dominici said he felt more like a field producer because he did not say "OK, guys, sit here and talk about this." Whatever the cast members did, he would follow them, and hope that he was keeping up. The only way he ever knew what was going to happen in a scene was when another cast member was told earlier in the day.

The thing that Dominici prides himself on is that when he selected the cast for the 'Real World' in New York and Chicago, he did not typecast. Part of the process for casting is trying to find people who are different and diverse, and can be themselves on or off camera, according to Dominici.

"It is tough when you see cast members doing things that have been done before," said Dominici. "We try not to find people that will make fools out of certain parts of the population because we want to reflect something positive in the show."

Unfortunately, since the 'Real World' is a standard format, Dominici was not able to use his creativity to its "I never set out to be a 'Real World' producer/director, or whatever, it's just the way life turned out," Dominici said. "I am blessed to have been able to work



Angela Ratkowski/Chronicle
Anthony Dominici, producer of MTV's 'The Real World Chicago' poses in front of the camera.

for a company and a show that is nationally recognized."

Dominici's first short film, "Gray Matter," was an official selection of the 2000 Sundance Film Festival. This film played a major role in getting Dominici his job as director of the "Real World."

"Gray Matter" is a reality-type film that was made before explosion of reality TV shows and the faux documentary "The Blair Witch Project."

Dominici said that he wanted to make a film that

pushed the idea of reality too far. He came up with a character who represented the general public, and was desensitized because of all the things he had been exposed to throughout his life.

"I had the idea for the film, and I presented to my instructors and they were literally laughing me out the door," Dominici said. "They kept telling me that I would never be able to make this film because it was such a crazy idea."

"Gray Matter" did make it to the Sundance Film Festival, where many had negative attitudes toward Dominici. He said that when audiences saw the film, they liked it, but called him a sadist.

"When people actually walk out of this film, I am really proud because that means I did my job and they thought everything they saw was real," Dominici said.

Dominici said that when someone would leave his film he would be glad because they did not realize there was a screenwriter. "Great Matter" was specifically made to make people feel as uncomfortable as possible so viewers may rethink what they watch on everyday television.

Dominici also said that it was sheer luck getting into the Sundance Film Festival, since the decision of who gets their films shown there is usually based on political connections.

Dominici won an honorable mention in the 2001 Sundance Film Festival for his film "Peter Rabbit and the Crucifix."

Through Sundance, Dominici was able to sell his film to Hypnotic, a production company backed by Universal Studios. Hypnotic signed Dominici to a deal because they saw not only his work on short films, but his television work too.

The film was based on a true story from Dominici's childhood, and it included a surprise appearance by Danielle Spencer, Dee from the television series, "What's Happening!!!"

Coming from a more traditional film background, Dominici said that this type of film is what he would like to create more of, rather than reality TV. His next step is to go back to Los Angeles, start working on a feature film and use his experience producing the "Real World" as leverage in getting a project green lighted.

Dominici left film students with several pieces of advice: "Just make a film. No one is going to give you a film; you have to give it to yourself. Make a decision on what day you are going to start shooting and start asking people for help. You'll get a lot of 'No's' but there will be a 'Yes' and that's how you get a lot of free stuff—by asking."

Grad school enrollments climb as economy dips

○ Columbia notes 5 percent increase

By Jill Helmer
Assistant Editor

After surveying the current dismal job market, Katie Ceithaml, a sophomore at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., decided to continue her education beyond a bachelor's degree and go to graduate school in an effort to make herself more marketable after she graduates.

"Since I'm a psychology major, with what I want to do, I'll have a better chance of getting a job. With the economy being so bad, I'll have better odds over the people who only have a bachelor's degree," Ceithaml said.

With jobs becoming scarcer and less secure because of the current economic downturn, many people like Ceithaml are making the decision to continue on with graduate school or go back to school, and many colleges and universities are reporting jumps in enrollment, according to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

North Dakota State University's graduate student enrollment has jumped 20 percent in the last year, according to the Associated Press wire service.

Purdue's graduate enrollment has increased from 6,121 students in the fall of 2000, to 6,343 students

this fall, said Nathan Bowman, a Purdue spokesman.

Columbia is among the schools reporting an increase in enrollment.

Columbia's graduate school has seen a 5 percent increase in enrollment since last year, according to Rebecca Snyder, director of graduate admissions and acting associate dean of the School of Continuing and Graduate Education.

While 5 percent may not seem like a significant increase, Snyder said the only reason the increase hasn't been larger is because of the selectivity of the graduate admissions process at Columbia.

"Last year, we saw an increase of 54 percent in [graduate student] applications," Snyder said. "The admissions process is equal opportunity, but there are only so many spots. We have more qualified applicants than we have spots."

Not only are universities and colleges seeing increased enrollment, but community colleges are as well. Miami-Dade Community College has reported an enrollment increase of 17 percent, according to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Snyder said that any students who are going back to school, especially graduate school, will make themselves more marketable in their profession.

"It can help to reconnect with the discipline, especially at the graduate level, where you're working in an environment with other professionals in the field," Snyder said.

International

Continued from Front Page

could bring relatives from their ethnic region, show them ISO work and introduce them to friends from other countries.

Kelly reiterated that space is at a premium at Columbia. "This is the space we could find that is available now. You [the students] need a home because of your special circumstances." Kelly reassured them that they would get a phone and a computer with Internet access. He told students to feel free to bring in couches, a refrigerator, or whatever they needed to make the room a comfortable space.

The students said they appreciated Kelly's gesture in giving them a room, but said the size is impractical. The space is very limited and doesn't enable them to run a functional center that would provide the international students with sources of information.

The students rely on Gigi Posejpal, the assistant dean of International Student Affairs, and on Symon G. Ogeto who is in charge of the International Student Affairs Office. However, their offices are located in two different buildings, making it difficult for the students to obtain forms for their insurance, immigration, scholarships or green cards. This complicates their stay at Columbia rather than facilitating their needs.

As a way of familiarizing themselves with the school and the city itself, students say they would feel more at ease if they were able to meet at a designated room where other international students and school faculty could offer some kind of guidance. What the students want is an international student center with resources, not just a room for meetings to be held in.

As for scholarship availability Kelly

said: "We don't even scratch the surface, but we've been keeping tuition low in comparison to other private art schools." The only scholarship that all international students may apply for is the Academic Excellence Award.

Although not many ISO faces were filled with excitement, they remained optimistic.

"I'm happy we got something, but we had other goals," said Holm.

"It's a great start," said Tom Kemeny vice president of the ISO.

With room 1313 as their home, Kemeny says he expects the ISO to gain recognition from other international students who are also international and want to become involved in the organization.

ISO Secretary Aleksandra Skalska said she was content with the responses Kelly offered the students. "He listens to our concerns and he has the responses ready, but most of his responses are limited on the basis that he has to stand by whatever the school has to offer and he has to support whatever the president has to say. He's there but he's not there," Skalska said.

According to an article previously printed by the *Chronicle*, currently 642 students, 7 percent of Columbia's student body are international students. Columbia ranks second in the country in number of foreign students.

"If we want to integrate Columbia College as a continuing growing institution we have to be aware of the needs of the international students," said Ogeto.

The international students have been given a space, but because they said it doesn't serve their needs, a petition has been started by them in an effort to obtain a more suitable space that everyone can benefit from.

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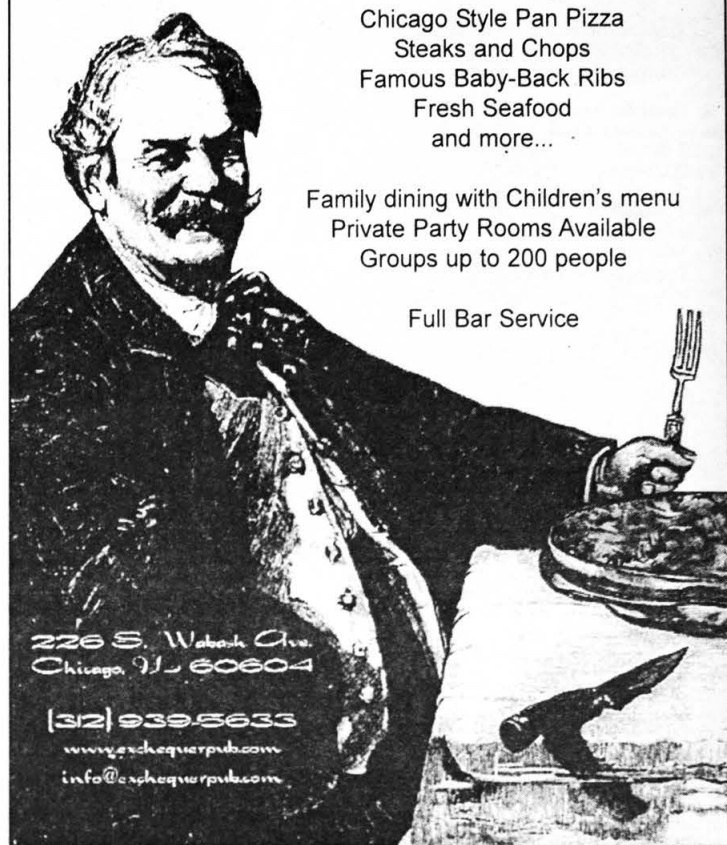
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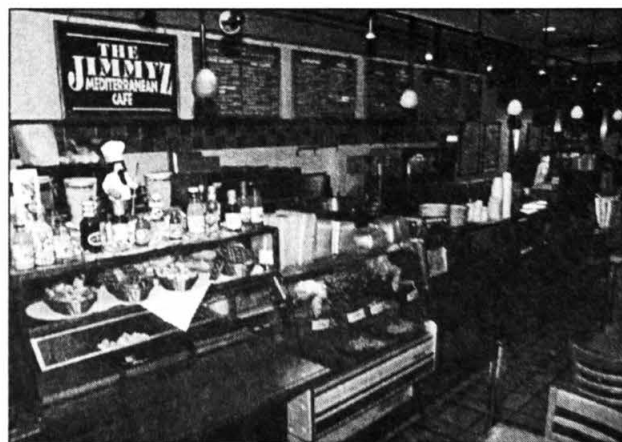
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University presidents siding with substantial student fee hikes

AP Wire Service

LEWISTON, Ida. (AP)—The state Board of Education on Thursday reacted to Idaho's deteriorating budget situation by authorizing student fee increases of up to 12 percent next year and 10 percent the year after that at the state's three universities and Lewis-Clark State College.

"The greater increase we have, the fewer cuts we will have to make," Lewis-Clark President Dene Thomas said.

While the school presidents had pressed for authority to raise student fees up to 15 percent next year, they agreed that the critical issue is for the board to stick by its decision.

With tax collections running below already lowered expectations and the schools bracing for as much as an 11 percent reduction in state support next year from what they were originally authorized this year, university officials said higher student fees were the only way to avoid draconian cuts in staff and programs. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has already ordered a three percent reduction in state support for this year.

"You cannot raise fees to the point where we start

losing students," University of Idaho President Robert Hoover said.

Spring budget projections are still unclear. But if board members decide to back off the higher fee authorization early next year, that could be disastrous for schools banking on the extra cash to maintain programs.

Student leaders warned that such a boost in fees could be ruinous.

"I would support a fee raise after all other options are exhausted," Boise State University Student Body President Nate Peterson said.

Hoover earlier said that with state-mandated budget cuts and no money for normal cost increases such as pay raises, the school will have as much as a \$29 million shortfall to survive in the next two years.

Hoover told the board not to be surprised when the university cuts jobs and programs.

"It may be controversial, but it is going to happen," he said.

Idaho State University President Richard Bowen said a fee hike of 12 percent means he will have to cut only around 75 jobs at the Pocatello school instead of 125 or more.

Lewis-Clark had no firm numbers, but classes already have been lost.

Legislator pushes colleges to sign up for ROTC programs

AP Wire Service

WAVERLY, Iowa (AP)—Iowa's Speaker of the House Brent Siegrist hopes to introduce legislation next year requiring Iowa colleges to help install ROTC programs at schools where student interest exists.

Siegrist, R-Council Bluffs, singled out Wartburg College, an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America school, for its lack of an ROTC program.

He said historical trends indicate increased interest in military programs such as ROTC when the nation is involved in a military conflict.

"Kids in college and high school today are recognizing the importance of our armed services and want to be a part of it," he said. "I find it offensive that an institution of higher learning in this state won't allow an ROTC program on its campus or even work to create a sharing arrangement with one of the larger institutions."

Siegrist, who is running for Congress in Iowa's 5th District, issued a statement Thursday.

Jack Ohle, Wartburg president, said he was disappointed that an elected official would make such remarks, adding that Siegrist was passing on erroneous information.

"No one from Speaker Siegrist's office made any attempt to contact Wartburg College for a statement or an understanding of our program," Ohle said.

Wartburg's faculty members rejected a formal relationship with the ROTC earlier this year after being approached by Lt. Col. Michael DePuglio, head of the Reserve Officer Training Corps unit at the University of Northern Iowa.

DePuglio sent a letter to Wartburg this fall emphasizing interest in the ROTC program on campus and the importance of a program being based at the college.

Wartburg students can attend UNI's ROTC program but cannot become full officers or receive scholarships or benefits after graduating from the program.

DePuglio has criticized Wartburg for accepting students paying for their education from the GI Bill, but declining to accept scholarship money for the ROTC program.

More suits filed in Texas A&M bonfire collapse

By Anthony Spangler

Knight Ridder Newspapers

FORT WORTH, Texas—Battle lines are taking shape in the legal fight over the 1999 Texas A&M University bonfire collapse, with five defendants filing claims against others being sued by the mother of an Arlington, Texas student killed in the accident.

Additionally, two new lawsuits were filed this week in federal court by injured victims. The two-year statute of limitations expired Sunday, but courts accepted the cases because the limit fell on the weekend.

The actions joined eight other lawsuits in federal court and county probate courts across the state. Twelve people were killed and 27 were injured Nov. 18, 1999, when the 59-foot-high stack of 5,000 logs collapsed.

Several of the defendants filed last-minute cross-claims, a strategy legal experts say minimizes the amount of damages in the event a jury rules against them.

Plaintiffs' attorneys called the cross-claims "legal finger-pointing," which suggests that someone is to blame. Lawyers for the defendants said the actions admit no responsibility.

"Cross-claims are not a sign of weakness or admission of liability," said Michael Morrison, a Baylor University law professor who specializes in torts. "Cross-claims minimize the amount of damages a client might have to pay. It's like wearing a seat belt. You don't think you're going to be in an accident, but you wear it just in case."

The two new federal lawsuits were filed by John Comstock, 21, of Richardson, Texas, and Lauren Scanlan, 22, of Rockport, Texas. Both were injured in the stack collapse.

"Lauren suffered substantial facial injuries, and the

"When you start shotgunning lawsuits, you likely don't have facts to support your case. You just try to get lucky by shooting at everyone. That's like the police arresting everyone at a crime scene."

—Joseph Barbknecht

Lawyer representing defendant students

tragedy had a severe psychological impact because her suitemate was one of the 12 people killed," said Dallas attorney Steve DeWolf, who is representing Scanlan.

Scanlan is suing the university and school officials but not student leaders. Comstock, whose attorney was unavailable to comment, named Texas A&M, university employees and students in his suit.

Jacki Self of Arlington filed a wrongful death lawsuit in March on behalf of her son, Jerry Don Self, 20. The engineering sophomore was killed in the bonfire collapse.

Self's attorney, Darrell Keith, said the cross-claims filed by defendants bolster Self's case.

"They might be seeking to minimize any damages, but they also went a step further toward suggesting guilt by some of the co-defendants," Keith said. "They are agreeing, in part, with my client's case that the students were wrongfully trained."

Self's lawsuit contends the structural faults with the bonfire stack were caused by individuals who taught others from year to year and that safety measures were disregarded over a period of time.

Keith added two defendants Monday to Self's claims against 12 university officials, the Texas Aggie Bonfire Committee, two construction companies and their

employees, and 39 students.

Dallas lawyer Joseph Barbknecht, who represents two of the students being sued by Jacki Self, argued that the cross-claims by his clients do not "finger-point."

"Our position is there is no liability," he said. "But if we are assessed as being responsible by a jury, we contend other (defendants) should contribute to our damages."

Barbknecht criticized Keith and other plaintiffs' attorneys for naming so many defendants in the lawsuits.

"When you start shotgunning lawsuits, you likely don't have facts to support your case," he said. "You just try to get lucky by shooting at everyone. That's like the police arresting everyone at a crime scene."

Students at Georgia College & State U. break barriers through art

By Gray Beverley

Knight Ridder Newspapers

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.—Women separated from each other by barriers, real or imagined, may soon get together to share their life experiences, thanks to an art project at Georgia College & State University.

Using photography, three students at the college want to create a dialogue among women in the Milledgeville area who would not typically be introduced to one another, let alone share the intimacies of their contrasting worlds.

"We're hoping to raise awareness of women's issues in the community, trying to go past stereotypes that divide women," said Victoria Graciaa, a senior at GC&SU.

Graciaa, along with fellow art students Alecia Norris and Laura Lindenberger, are distributing film or disposable cameras to women throughout the com-

munity. Many of the women are already taking photographs, and the students hope they will return the pictures at the end of the month to discuss them.

It is called the Real Women Project, and it's part of a semester-long assignment to create public art to highlight a socially relevant need. Norris, a junior majoring in studio art, said photography is a "user-friendly" way for issues to reveal themselves.

About 20 women have already signed up, with another 10 to 15 expected in the next week or so. What they choose to capture on film is up to them. The photos could contain aspects of everyday life, dreams for the future, or they could just frame things of interest to the women.

The important part, the students say, is the conversation that comes out of the process. When they reconvene as a group, the women will select their favorite shots and affix them to a portable display in the shape of a house. The exhibit will then travel throughout the area, with the goal of stimulating more dialogue about the lives of women here.

"We're hoping this will have a ripple effect," Lindenberger said. "Once you start asking questions, that's where the real growth comes."

The students found a cross section of participants. Some of the women are homeless, others are members of a country club or deacons of their churches. Some have husbands, children, businesses and college degrees. Some are breast cancer survivors or still fighting an illness. Women of all ages and colors have been invited to participate.

Tamara Johnson, 29, said she wanted to be involved in the project because she thinks it will help bring the community together. Johnson, who is living in a shelter and "restarting her life," said she has taken photographs of things that have special meaning to her, such as her wind chimes and a quilt made by her grandmother.

"(The project) gives people an idea of who their community is made up of," Johnson said. "When you share, you reach out to others."

WORD UP!!

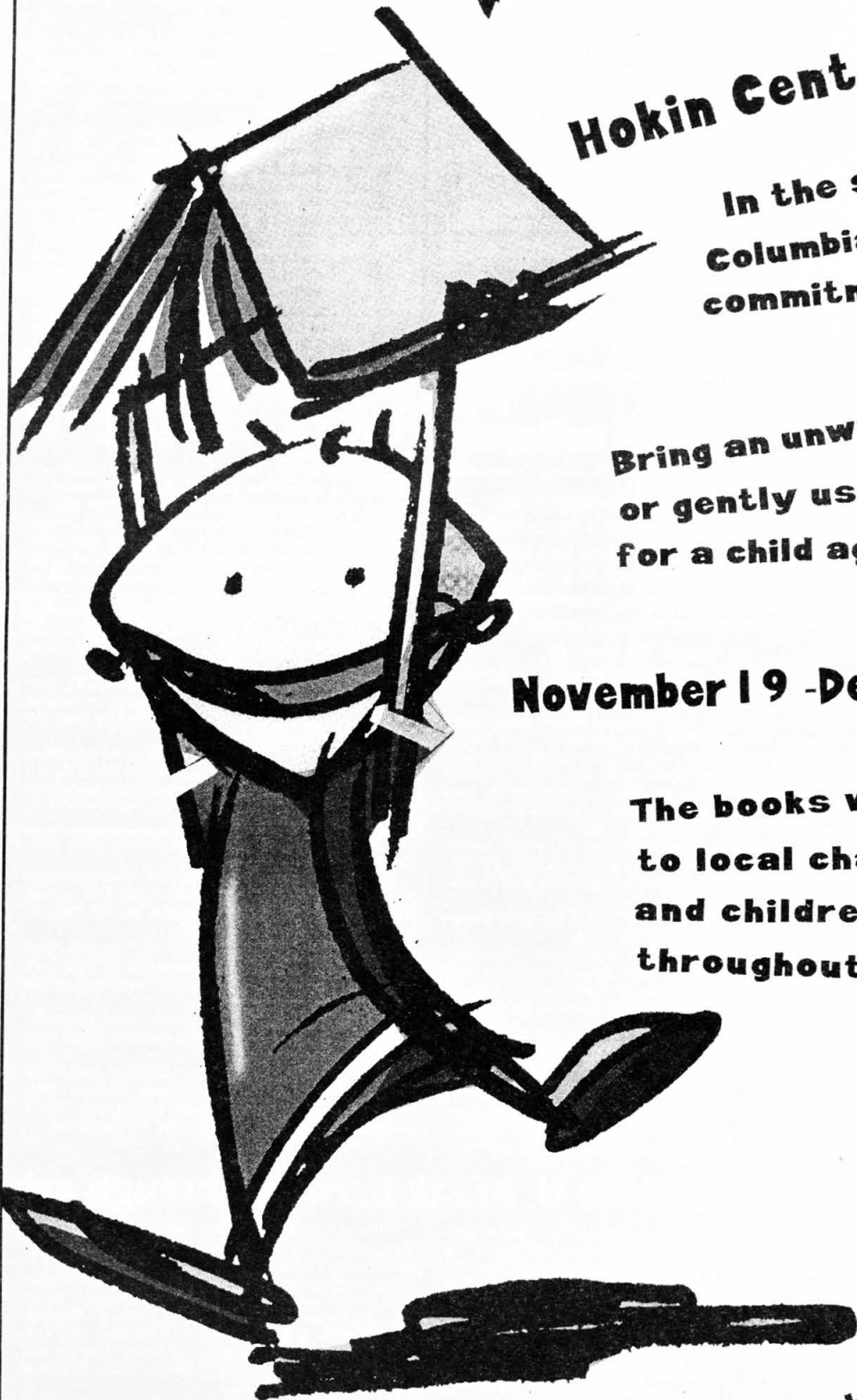
Hokin Center Book Drive

In the spirit of
Columbia College Chicago's
commitment to literacy:

Bring an unwrapped new
or gently used book
for a child age 1-15 years old

November 19 - December 19, 2001

The books will be donated
to local charities
and children's organizations
throughout the city



Donation boxes will be located in the lobbies of each building.
Be a book giver this Holiday Season



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December 3, 2001 - January 9, 2002

2-D, 3-D, or film/video, poetry, short performance

The reception on December 5, 5-7 pm will include reading of poetry, short performance works, and open mic.



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CALL FOR WORK

Open to all Columbia College Chicago students
December 3, 2001 - January 9, 2002


Seeking artwork relating to views and interpretations of patriotism national/global/universal

All media accepted:
2-D, 3-D, or film/video, poetry, short performance

Drop off material
November 26, 27, 28 (9 am-7 pm)
At the Hokin Center,
823 S. Wabash, first floor

The reception on December 5, 5-7 pm will include reading of poetry, short performance works, and open mic.

Questions? Call the Hokin Gallery: 312.344-7696



Appearance and Reading by Author Joe Meno



"Meno's poetic and visceral style perfectly captures the seedy locale. He finds the sadness behind the violence and the anger behind revenge. Fans of hard-boiled pulp fiction will particularly enjoy this novel" - Kirkus

"How the Hula Girl Sings, a story of wounded souls stumbling through small-town dramas, seems to come from another time when sorrow and fear coursed through isolated, lonely hearts...an intimate book." -New City

Wednesday, November 28th
Columbia College Bookstore @ 3:00 PM
624 S. Michigan Ave.



Spring Registration



Spring 2002 registration for continuing degree-seeking students (only) begins **November 27, 2001** and ends **December 6, 2001.**

Tuesday, November 27 is reserved for students with 90 or more posted credit hours. Sign up for an appointment in the office of your major.

To All Students:

75% of your Fall 2001 account must be paid at the time you are registering for Spring. All restricted accounts must be cleared in Student Financial Services, Main Building, suite 303.

Registration runs from Jan. 30 - Feb. 1 for anyone who missed early registration. Students-at-large will only be allowed to register during open registration - Feb. 4, Feb. 8 or Feb. 9 or during late registration.

JOURNALISM MAJORS! GET CLIPS FOR YOUR PORTFOLIO

"I like the workshop because you obtain real life and hands-on experience before you actually go out and get a job. A lot of things you don't get in the classroom, you get in the workshop." -Kela Ellis, journalism, news writing and reporting.

"I learned a lot in the workshop because it was rewarding. I think it was the best class I had here last year." -Jill Helmer, journalism, news writing and reporting.

"Everything that I know about journalism I learned in the workshop, not in my classes." -Neda Simeonova, journalism, magazine.

The Columbia Chronicle, the award-winning weekly college newspaper and its Web site, is written by this class. Students get experience in writing and reporting, copy editing, and headline writing.

Prerequisite: Journalism major, Junior or senior standing, 3.0 GPA or permission from faculty advisor.

If you have questions please call Chris Richert at 312-344-7432 or Jim Sulski at 312-344-7584.

**REVISED
TIME!!!**

**Sign up for the College Newspaper Workshop
Tuesday, 3 cr. 12:00-2:50 53-3530-01**

Get EXPOSED

"The workshop is an excellent chance for students to get hands-on experience in an environment with deadlines. The finished product is 100% what you put into it." -Dwayne M. Thomas, photo journalism.

"The workshop is not like being in a classroom; here we get to interact with other students and professionals in the field in a real world, hands-on experience." - Mike Schmidt, photo journalism.

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS...

The Columbia Chronicle, the award-winning weekly college newspaper and its Web site, is written and photographed by this class. Students get hands-on experience in taking exceptional photos for weekly story assignments.

Prerequisite: Photography major, Junior or senior standing, 3.0 GPA or permission from faculty advisor.

If you have questions please call Chris Richert at 312-344-7432 or Jim Sulski at 312-344-7584.

**Sign up for the College Newspaper Workshop
Tuesday, 3 cr. 12 - 2:50 53-3530-01**

COMMENTARY

Making change: a code of conduct

By Drew Adamek
Contributing Writer

In last week's commentary I challenged Columbia students to move to the forefront of the public dialogue in order to provide meaning and significance to our culture, but I was not specific in how I felt we could accomplish this rather lofty goal. This week I hope to provide a skeletal framework to that end.

I am by no means an authority on altering or shaping public discourse, nor do I claim to be. At the end of the day, I am simply a college student struggling to make a mark, fighting to understand my place and role in a big, scary world. But I do have aspirations, principles and ideals I can strive for. I share these less as a sermon and more as an internal Post-it note to myself.

I encourage readers to add, subtract and detract as vocally and as often as possible. Remember, the point is to start a public conversation.

Be honest—no matter what your views are, make sure you are truthful about them. Be prepared to defend the validity of your ideals on the basis of truth. There are millions of versions of the truth—humanity has yet to find an agreeable absolute truth—so always strive to seek out the most honest version you can. There is nothing more damaging to a society than a commentator, politician or public figure who is dishonest. Decisions about millions of people will be made on the ideas we inject into the public conscience, so we have to know in our hearts that we are influencing people honestly.

Be risky—nothing has ever been accomplished for humanity by taking the safe road. Think of the films, books, writers or public figures who have influenced your life. The one principle they all share is a freshness that required risk to accomplish. Malcolm X, Orson Welles, Albert Camus and thousands of others who have helped form the public conversation lived and espoused risky ideas. So the next time you are riding the train and discover a new political philosophy or the plot for the next great American novel, act on it.

Don't be afraid of what could happen if you fail; be afraid of what the world would miss out on if you don't try. Your idea could be the one which brings about world peace, a cure for cancer or racial harmony, but no one will ever know if you don't take the risk to put it out there. Someone has to come up with the next "great idea" or soul-moving piece of art, and it might as well be us. (We've paid enough for the education, after all).

Be challenging—skepticism is a virtue. If we are going to accelerate and influence public conversations then we need to challenge the status quo. If you take a quick look around you, you could find a thousand things to challenge. What do you think about homelessness, inequity and the economic functioning of our society? Does the fact that some people are still homeless make you want to examine the attitudes and philosophies governing our society? History shows us the most important human accomplishments in all fields of endeavor are the direct result of affronts to the norm. There is no sin in disagreeing with everyone else. You will never be cherished or remembered for your ability to parrot what everyone already thinks.

Be a dreamer—another way to look at this is to ask "Why?" and equally as important "why not?" My favorite example of this principle is space travel. Science fiction writers (the lot of them nerds and malcontents) started writing stories in the 1930s asking, "why not space travel?" The ideas and theories those creative types put out were the groundwork for the science used in the 1960s to put men on the moon. Imagine the parallels between 1) you and your friends and 2) a group of like-minded writers who dared to daydream—among only themselves at first—about what could be possible and making that a reality. The thought of it gives your smoke break conversations a little more meaning, doesn't it? But the only crazy ideas are ones that never leave your head.

Be a verb—write. Read. Think. Do. Run. Create. Investigate. Do something useful. Don't ever stop moving, because immobility is intellectual and social death. Think of yourself as a body that performs—not something that just describes.

As I go over this list, I can see a thousand things I left out, and a million examples I could have used and endless permutations on each theme. I make no claim to perfect adherence to these principles (if I did I would be a famous pioneer in hundreds of different fields).

My hope is that we can get a dialogue going among ourselves about what we aspire and how we can become the force responsible for the next generation of ideas.

If you have ideas on how we can accomplish this, email me with them at the *Chronicle* and next week I will share some of them with you.

And remember, it is not inconceivable that we could end up sending men to Mars with our ideas.

Letters to the Editor

'Boardin' with Bill,' a keeper

I just wanted to say the "Boardin' with Bill" section of the *Chronicle* last week is just what your paper needs. I think I speak for a lot of people when I say skateboarding is more interesting than football. Now I will look forward to each week's *Chronicle* to check out what Bill's got for skateboarders to peep. Even for the the *Chronicle*'s non-skateboarding readers, it gives them more knowledge about skateboarding to replace the typical, "Yeah bro, did you catch Tony Hawk's 900 on the X-games?" or "Skateboarding—yeah I saw CKY2K, man." Keep up the good work.

—James Wilschke/Junior

Comments on All-4-One

Thank you for your commentary in the last issue. It is good to get a student's perspective. Since Columbia is considering a commitment to entering a float in future parades, I welcome your suggestions for the 2002 float design, as well as the celebrity guests. This is our first year, and there is always room for improvement.

—Aaron Vanek/Alumni Relations

The *Chronicle* gladly welcomes your opinions on anything you've read in the newspaper.

Letters to the editor should include your full name, year, major and telephone number.

Letters can be emailed to us at: letters@cccchronicle.com.

Letters can be faxed to (312)344-8032.

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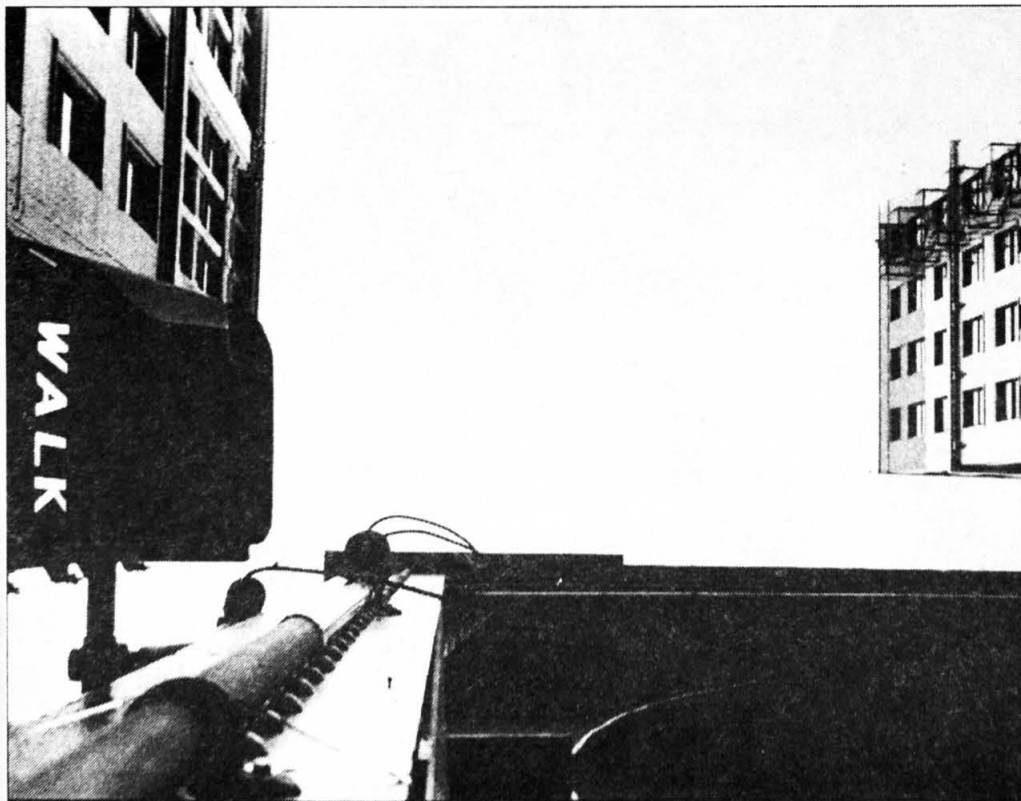


Photo by Yohey Seno/Chronicle

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While the people salute the flag, corporations grab every penny they can from U.S. coffers

By Ralph Nader

Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

U. S. corporations aren't even subtle about it. Waving a flag and carrying a big shovel, corporate interests are scooping up government benefits and taxpayer money in an unprecedented fashion while the public is preoccupied with the Sept. 11 attacks and the war in Afghanistan.

Shamelessly, the Bush administration and Congress have taken advantage of the patriotic outpouring to fulfill the wish lists of their most generous corporate campaign donors. Not only is the Treasury being raided, but regulations protecting everything from personal privacy to environmental safeguards are under attack by well-heeled lobbyists who want to stampede Congress to act while the media and citizens are distracted.

Only a handful in the Congress—members like Sen. Russell Feingold of Wisconsin and Reps. Peter DeFazio of Oregon and Barbara Lee of California—have shown the courage to question the giveaways and the quick wipeout of civil liberties and other citizen protections. In most cases, such as the \$15 billion airline bailout and corporate tax breaks, legislation has been pushed to the forefront with little or no hearings and only fleeting consideration on the floor of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

One of the boldest grabs for cash has been by corporations seeking to eliminate the Alternative Minimum Tax, which was enacted during the Reagan administration to prevent profitable corporations from escaping all tax liability through various loopholes. Not only do the corporations want relief from the current year's AMT but they are seeking a retroactive refund of all AMT paid since 1986.

This giveaway, as passed by the House of Representatives, would make corporations eligible for \$25 billion in tax refunds. Just 14 corporations would receive \$6.3 billion of the refund. IBM gets \$1.4 billion; General Motors, \$833 million; General Electric, \$671 million; Daimler-Chrysler, \$600 million; Chevron-Texaco \$572 million. The 14 biggest beneficiaries of the minimum tax repeal gave \$14 million in "soft money" to the national committees of the Democratic and Republican parties in recent years.

Soon to join the bailout parade is the nation's insurance industry, which is lobbying the Congress to have the federal government pick up the tab for future losses like those stemming from the attack on the World Trade Center. Proposals are on the table for taxpayers to either pick up losses above certain levels or to provide loans or loan guarantees for reinsurance.

The insurance companies want federal bailouts, but they continue to insist on regulation only by underfunded, poorly staffed state insurance departments, most of which are dominated by the industry. Any bailout or loan program involving the insurance companies must include provisions that ensure that insurance companies cannot refuse to write policies and make investments in low- to moderate-income in minority neighborhoods.

Allegations about insurance company "redlining" or discrimination against citizens in these areas have been prevalent for many years. It would be a terrible injustice for citizens to be forced to pay taxes to help bail out insurance companies that discriminate against them. Congress needs to address this issue before it even considers public assistance for the industry.

People concerns have been missing in all the bailouts. When the airline companies walked off with \$15 billion plus in bailout money, the thousands of laid-off employees—airline attendants, maintenance crews, baggage handlers and ticket counter employees—received not a dime. Attempts to include health benefits and other help for these employees were shouted down on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Last month, more than 400,000 employees lost their jobs nationwide and the national unemployment rate rose to 5.4 percent, the highest level since 1996. The Bureau of Labor Statistics said roughly a fourth of the lost jobs were the direct result of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. Bailouts, benefits or other aid for these victims of the attacks? No, that's reserved just for the corporations under the policies of the Bush administration and the present Congress.

Yet it is the workers in the low-wage jobs—like those in restaurants, hotels, retailing and transportation—who are bearing the brunt of the layoffs in the aftermath of the attacks on the World Trade Center, according to a report from the New York State Department of Labor.

Almost 25,000 people told the department that they lost their jobs because of the World Trade Center disaster. An analysis by the department of the first 22,000 of the claims found that 16 percent worked at bars, 14 percent worked at hotels, 5 percent worked in air transportation and 21 percent in a category termed "business services." Only 4 percent worked at Wall Street brokerage firms.

While more workers lose jobs, the administration is pushing for authority to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement under new "fast-track" authority. The Department of Commerce concedes that at least 360,000 jobs have been lost under NAFTA, and private research groups estimate the total may be twice that number. Now, with unemployment rising to alarming levels, the administration decides to cave to pro-NAFTA corporate demands that will only make the labor picture worse. No bailout for laid-off workers—just a hard crack across the knees.

As Bill Moyers, author and national journalist, commented: corporations "are counting on your patriotism to distract you from their plunder. They're counting on you to stand at attention with your hand over your heart, pledging allegiance to the flag, while they pick your pocket."

The present crisis cries out for shared sacrifice—not the opportunism so blatantly displayed by the nation's corporate interests. President Bush and Congress must summon the courage to resist the self-serving demands—the kind of courage and shared sacrifice that guided the brave rescue workers on Sept. 11.

COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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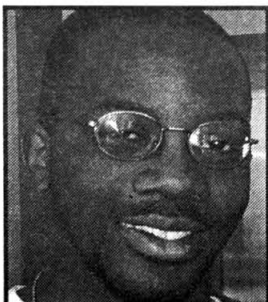
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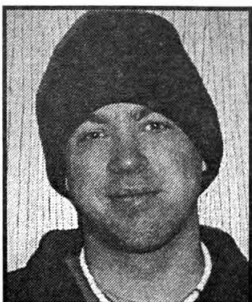
The Columbia Chronicle photo poll

Question: What do you think the new student government association should do for students?



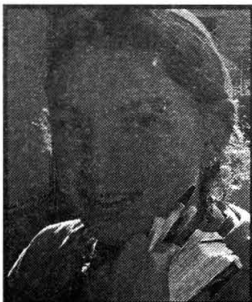
Dimitri Moore
Junior

"They should let people smoke in the Hokin."



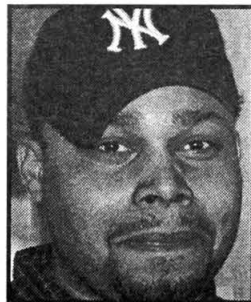
Dan Hulse
Junior

"They should make Columbia more of a typical college community where students are able to meet as many people as possible."



Meghan Peterson
Freshman

"They should stand up and take charge."



Kelly Sullivan
Junior

"They should open up access to what the school has to offer."

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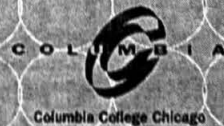
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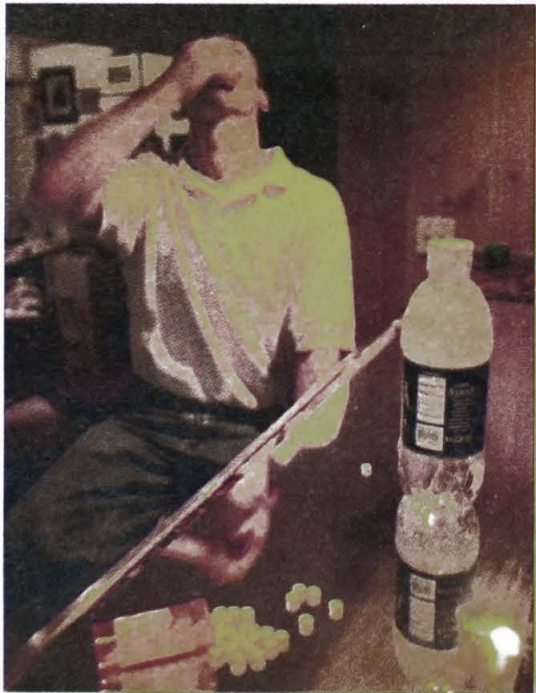


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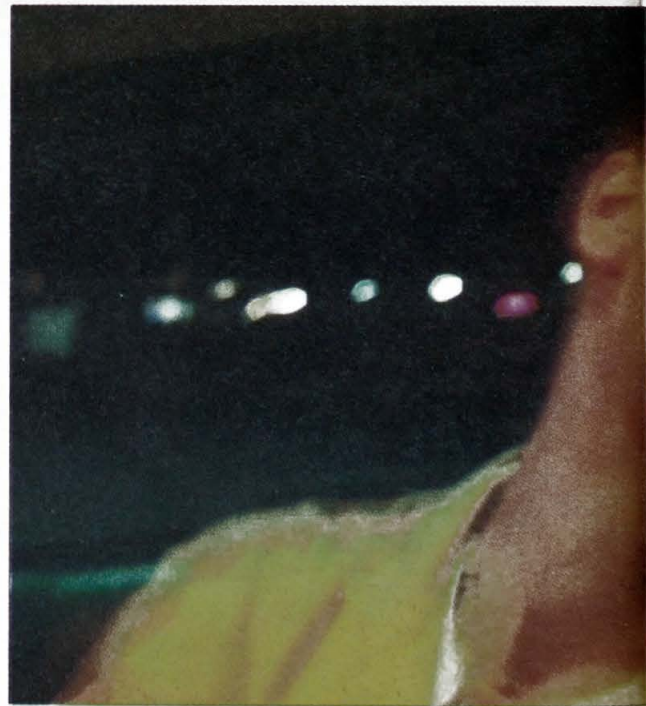


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A NIGHT OF ECSTASY



SATURDAY, 9:22 P.M.



SA

IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT AND THE DRUG OF CHOICE IS ECSTASY. THROUGH A SENSE OF EUPHORIA WHILE STILL REMAINING CONSCIOUS, ECSTASY HAS FOUND ITS WAY INTO THE MAINSTREAM. THIS PHOTO ESSAY IS A DOCUMENTATION OF ONE PERSON'S EXPERIENCE ON

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SATURDAY, 10:37 P.M.



SATURDAY, 11:55 P.M.



SATURDAY, 11:58 P.M.

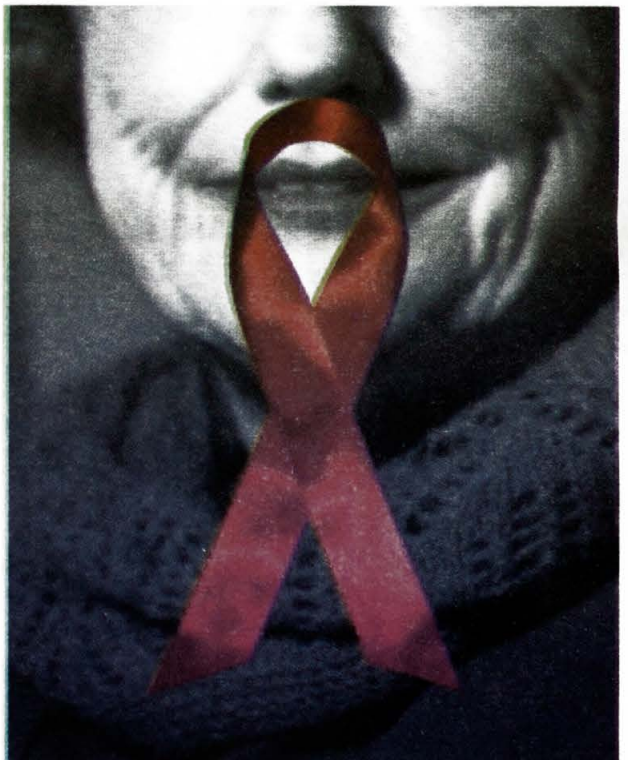
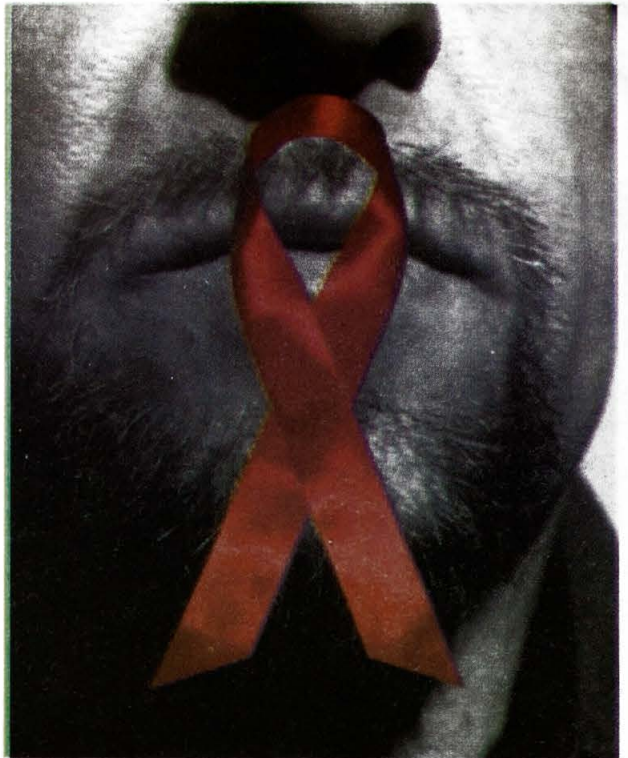
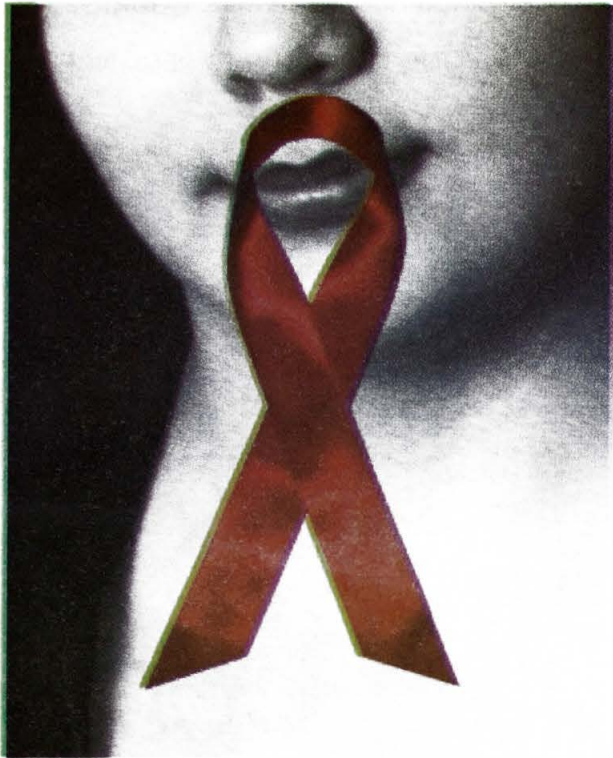


SATURDAY, 9:50 P.M.



SUNDAY, 2:30 A.M.

Photo Essay by Michael Schmidt



THE SIMPLE TRUTH

The AIDS Memorial Quilt and Faces of AIDS Exhibition

December 3 – 7, 2001

Reception: Friday, December 7th, 5 - 7pm

Glass Curtain Gallery 1104 S. Wabash Ave. 1st Floor



THE FACES OF AIDS
A PHOTO DOCUMENTARY FROM THE HEARTLAND
Chicago Department of Public Health

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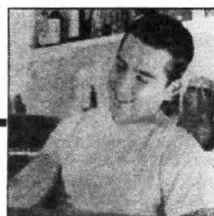
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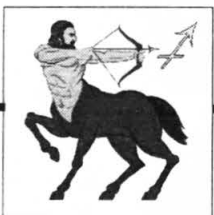
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A&E...**



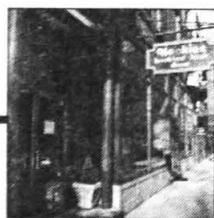
Faculty Author, Joe Meno reads excerpts from his new book, *How the Hula Girl Sings*, at the Columbia book store

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Hey, Sagittarians! It's your month. Read your weekly horoscope and find out what lies in your future

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Big Mouth open mic at the Hokin Gallery

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KIMOTION JAZZING UP THE DANCE CENTER

By **Shadia S. Hernandez**
Staff Writer

Kimotion, a musical performance featuring Columbia professor Kimo Williams and 22 Chicago musicians, including special guest musician, actor Gary Sinise on electric bass hosted the release of their CD, *Tracking*, a combination of jazz and progressive rock at Columbia's Dance.

The proceeds from the Nov. 18 and 19 performances will go to ArtSynergy, an international arts program between Columbia and artists in Vietnam. Williams formed ArtSynergy to create collaborative opportunities for artists in Vietnam and the United States.

According to Williams, our culture still looks at Vietnam as it was during the war. "I want to change that," he said. "I want people to look at Vietnam as a culture with a rich tradition. ArtSynergy creates through art, a relationship based on art, not politics or business."

Williams describes his musical compositions as "weird, unique and very personal." The narratives that follow the titles of his pieces collaborate in context the essence of his melodies. In the melody, "Kimotion," he reminisces about his childhood in Hawaii and the feeling of the

surf and the sun, and "how life seemed to be in perpetual motion."

Williams' inspirations are based in non-fiction, personal experiences, and dreams. "You can't hear this kind of music everyday," he said. "It has different time signatures, different tone colors; it approaches things from a different perspective." Several audience members bobbed their heads and tapped their feet to the beat of Williams' music.

Williams played a guitar and sang to "The Wind Cries Mary" by Jimi Hendrix. Williams traces his inspiration to compose music to a Hendrix concert he attended before leaving to the Vietnam War. Williams was so inspired by Hendrix he decided to pursue a music career.

Sinise and Williams made a musical connection. After hearing tracks of Williams' work, "my mind was blown by how good the music was," said Sinise, and then agreed to play on the record. Their relationship was formalized when Williams made Sinise a co-producer. Sinise plays electric bass on three of the compositions on *Tracking*.

After the concert, Williams and Sinise were available to mingle with the guests and sign CDs.

Williams expressed the need for Columbia students and faculty to start supporting programs like this. "It is very frustrating when you don't see people out there from the community that you work in," he said.

In 1990 Williams started his own recording label.

The recording studio is located in Little Beck Records, at 2503 W. Fullerton Ave. His CD productions include: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *War Stories*, and *Tracking*. For purchase information, or future performance information visit www.kimotion.org.



Adrian S. Burrows/Chronicle

Members of "Kimotion," with special guest Gary Sinise, perform on Sunday at the Dance Center.

Composed of various instruments, the orchestra played 11 songs. Williams waved his hands rhythmically as he led the musicians through the compositions. The songs vary from mellow "Obowlap," about a ridiculed man who wants revenge, to funky, in "Take Me to Your Disco," a song about alien encounters.

Alcohol doesn't make you laugh this much

By **Tracey Fuller**
Staff Writer

"Holy War, Batman! or, The Yellow Cab of Courage," the Second City e.t.c.'s 23rd revue, is enough to make anybody laugh until they wet their pants.

The show, directed by Joshua Funk, manages to salvage humor from the Sept. 11 attacks, and makes jokes about other real-life conflicts. The cast includes Sam Albert, Andy Cobb, T.J. Jagodowski, Keegan-Michael Key, Jack McBrayer and Abbey Sher.

Key plays a patriotic Arabic cab driver, who appears after each skit, and shows he is proud to be an American by singing Neil Diamond's "America" and Bruce Springstein's "Born in the USA," while driving characters from previous skits.

"Reflecting American Traditions" is a skit about the Miss Teen USA pageant, where Sher plays a "pretty interesting"-looking contestant, nicknamed "Lassie," who wears goggle-sized glasses and has frizzy brown hair. For the talent category, she puts a plastic green hanger around her body. Miss Teen USA from 2000, Miss New York, played by Cobb, makes an unforgettable entrance, cursing at the audience and showing the gap in his teeth, involving the audience in a "swearing fight."

Another skit involves a recovering alcoholic, played by Key, who needs to fill the void he used to fill with alcohol, so a friend



Photo Courtesy of Second City

The cast of Second City. e.t.c.

suggests he go to a folk music concert with him and his friends.

While watching the concert and feeling out of place, the man decides to make the most out of the situation by break-dancing to a song about Eleanor Roosevelt.

As time passed, and the audience grew giddy after more drinks, the Second City e.t.c. troupe involved them in a skit where they shouted places where Osama bin Laden, played by McBrayer, might be seen. The actors performed scenes with bin Laden working at a Starbucks, shopping at a Walgreens, and working at a post office, among other places.

"Holy War, Batman!" also took a religious turn with a monk getting in touch with the world of multimedia and electronics, buying a computer with a flat screen and sub-woofers the "size of your head," and trying to start a band with other monks. Later on in the show, the monks performed an 'N Sync-like performance.

Making humor out of the tragic events that have affected America the past few months helped the audience members deal with their prolonged pain. The atmosphere of the theater was fun-loving—and the drinks didn't hurt, either.

"Holy War, Batman! or, The Yellow Cab of Courage" is being performed at the Second City e.t.c. stage. Performances are on Thursdays at 8:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 and 11 p.m., and Sundays at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$17, and can be reserved at the box office by calling (312) 337-3992, or by going to www.secondcity.com.

Faculty author to read excerpts from dark novel

"This book does help change your perception about things you may have believed you really knew. And that's what a work of art is supposed to do.

—Hubert Selby, Jr. (author of *Last Exit to Brooklyn*)



Photo courtesy of Joe Meno

Joe Meno's explores forgiveness and its effects on the human condition in his new book, *How the Hula Girl Sings*.

By **Melanie Masserant**

Assistant A&E Editor

Joe Meno, a Columbia Fiction Writing professor and novelist, maintains his position as a poignant voice in fiction with his striking sophomore novel "*How the Hula Girl Sings*." The seedy and intriguing characters in his rendition of evil and repentance will surface at Columbia's bookstore during the author's reading on Nov. 28 at 3 p.m.

The hatred and hypocrisy of a small Midwestern town are exposed when Luce Lemay, an ex-con who did three years in the state pen for running over a child after looting a liquor store, gets released. Upon returning to his Illinois hometown, La Harpie, which is "a place of quiet villainy and secret lust," Lemay tries to realign his life.

But his crime isn't the type people tend to forget. Milford Dulaire, the Used Car King of the Greater Illinois and Northern Kentucky area, has an infinite hatred for Lemay. When he becomes infatuated with Dulaire's youngest daughter, Charlene, he decides she's worth stay-

ing around for. He gets a room at the squalid St. Francis Hotel where his fate is entangled with former inmates. As Lemay attempts to seek deliverance, he finds himself recycled in the world of sadism he tried to escape.

The novel's conception and character development are the outcomes of two experiences in Meno's life. When the author was a flower delivery driver in 1999, his earnest fear was running over a child during his nine-hour shift, and having to carry the burden of the guilt. A year later he was teaching art therapy at a detention center for kids who were sex offenders. Initially, he had preconceived notions about their moral character.

"Doing creative writing with them I realized that it's a lot easier to be angry at these people and to think of them as non-human than to be aware of their humanity," said Meno. "In a sense, they are completely haunted by what they have done. They are haunted by the sense of their future and are stuck in time by this event in their lives. They are having an impossible time forgiving themselves."

An editor from *Atlantic Monthly* discovered his first novel, *Tender As Hellfire*, when he was an undergraduate

at Columbia. However, the editor advised Meno to omit the vulgarities; this went against his fiction writing views.

The writers that inspire him, such as Toni Morrison, Hubert Selby Jr. and William Faulkner use a natural language that capture the essence of how people converse.

"If it's part of the character and story, why would you take it out for its own sake," Meno asked. "What I've learned in my short career as a writer that taking big risks can have payoffs. I'm a firm believer in taking big. It's important not to limit yourself as a writer."

His career thrives because he trusted his intuition. He publishes his fiction zine, *Sleepwalk*, and is published in literary magazines such as *Other Voices* and *Tri-Quarterly* and writes monthly installments for a serialized pulp fiction story called "The Secret Hand" for www.playboy.com. He considers soft porn to be a lucrative way for aspiring writers to get their foot in the door.

"If you get paid, you're a writer. You're getting paid to do what you love," said Meno. "Critics will demean writers for it and say you are not a real writer. I don't believe in that. You don't need to justify that you're a writer by [the genre] what you write for."

Blondie's roots are well worth examining

By **Ben Herner**

Orange County Register

My goal this week is to remind why the early incarnation of Blondie, the unbound one that was omnivorous in its pop appetite and seemingly unconcerned with scoring a big hit—well, is still something to treasure. That was a sublimely outrageous band that almost immediately surpassed its punk origins.

Yet as historically significant as the New York gang undeniably is, Deborah Harry and co. are nonetheless one of those highly influential groups I think is best heard in a greatest-hits package—and though several are available, the obvious choice, *The Best of Blondie*, still outranks them all.

That is the disc that gives you the essentials no collection should be without—and with a career-spanning scope no single album ever had. The brilliant disco-rock blend of "Heart of Glass" and its cool cousin, "Atomic." The rap steal of rapture and the reggae rip off the "Tide is High."

Fans might recall, however, that only a fraction of that retrospective (one-fourth, to be exact) was devoted to songs cut before "Heart of Glass" took Blondie from cult favorite to international superstardom. What's more, those three tunes were retooled versions—"In the Flesh" and "Rip Her to Shreds" from the debut, and the wonderful "(I'm Always Touched By Your) Presence Dear" from the follow-up, *Plastic Letters*, both from 1977. Original producer Richard Gottehrer had kept them minimal and unfussy; glitter-pop hit-maker Mike Chapman, who steered the band's sound from 1978's breakthrough *Parallel Lines* forward, gave them gloss.

Nothing wrong with that, and it certainly can be argued that without Chapman's professionalism, Blondie would have slinked off to the bowels of the Bowery, where Debbie and then-boyfriend Chris Stein would have kept fussing with what had been called "Once I Had a Love," the listless prototype for "Heart of Glass" that dates to 1975. On the other hand, you could speculate that the unfettered Blondie, its already uncatagorized sound deepening and expanding with more camp and classicism, might have become even more legendary by not having hits.

But that would negate the fact that, whether consciously or not, virtually every New York band of the time, save for the Ramones, wanted to do something to escape punk's quickly confining aesthetic. So it is that Blondie's albums—all of which have been remastered and reissued with bonus tracks and skimpy liner notes, curiously two years after the group reunited—divide into seesawing halves, with the unimpeachable *Parallel Lines* as the fulcrum.

That album is the only one of the band's six that can be recommended without hesitation. There simply isn't a bad cut on it, and much of it—the bite of "Hanging on the Telephone" and "One Way or Another," the sci-fi of "Fade Away and Radiate," the sweet surrender of "Sunday Girl" and "Picture This"—is as great as Blondie ever got. The new edition, by the way, tacks on one of the "Once I Had a Love" demos plus three live cuts, including a take on "Bang a Gong (Get It On)."

But it was all downhill from that sudden peak. It's an easy rule of thumb: The better Debbie's voice got—and by 1982's abysmal "The Hunter," it was powerful enough to make any dreck bearable—the worse the albums were. "Eat to the Beat" (1979) was a pale knockoff of *Parallel Lines*, for every "Dreaming" an all-too-appropriate "Sound-Sleep." *Autoamerican* (1980) was a valiant attempt to diversify—lush strings, lots of keyboards—which largely fell flat.

Is either of them worth the attention of casual fans? Maybe not. I'd bet my nieces, for instance, both of whom can't get enough of "One Way or Another," would be bored silly by them. They're artsy-fartsy. Almost comedy records in a way—humor only people who have overdosed on AM radio and Roxy Music would appreciate.



Photo courtesy of www.blondie.net

Book review: *Cultivating Delight*

By **Todd Dill**

Corresponding Writer

In Diane Ackerman's garden, there is as much wisdom to be gained as there are wonders to behold. Her new book of creative nonfiction, *Cultivating Delight*, revels equally in both. The title is a direct reference to Ackerman's take on life and gardening. As a gardener, she does not set out to win the battle against weeds, beetles or mildew. Her desire, quite simply, is to cultivate delight.

Her book takes the reader on a leisurely, sensual journey throughout the seasons of her garden. Combining her talents as an author, poet and naturalist, Ackerman's prose maintains a lingering pace and pays microscopic attention to detail, taking time to marvel at the tiny frog sleeping inside the petal of a tulip, the descent of a baby hummingbird toward a feeder, the grape-like clusters of flowers cascading from wisteria. Her poetic, vibrant language underscores the curiosity she brings to each discovery. Even that despicable garden marauder, the weed, earns Ackerman's admiration. She revels in the flapping pink flower of the

Wild Sweet Pea and finds heartfelt words of praise, for the pesky dandelion

But she does more than chronicle the activities of the roses, bees and peppermint that inhabit her yard. She also uses the wisdom she's derived from gardening to provide a thoughtful commentary on life. It emerges almost by surprise. Nurturing a garden, much like managing one's life, is about solving problems. It's also about trusting and adapting to change, about making compromises and dealing with loss. Observing the way the heavy blossoms on her roses have caused stems to break, she notes, "Let your head get too big and see what happens Reading *Cultivating Delight* is like stepping into a warm, bubble-filled bath. A few pages into it, you can actually feel your muscles relaxing, your pulse easing. Ackerman forces the reader to do something that may feel a bit unnatural, to slow down and linger, to observe. Those who demand more action from their reading materials may want to select a different book. Indeed, there were moments early on in *Cultivating Delight* when I wondered whether the rambling prose would lead anywhere. In the end, the process of making the journey is key, more important than moment of arrival.

Visit us www.ColumbiaChronicle.com

CHICAGO FINDS: BY STACIE BOUDROS

Nookie's in Old Town

Every student's plight in the mission for better Chicago living is to seek out the perfect restaurants, bars, clubs and cafés. While Columbia's hands-on mission extends boundlessly throughout the arts and media worlds, it is equally important for students of these worlds to exercise their own hands-on mission—to indulge and enjoy themselves in their free time.

Few locations in our city have the potential to satisfy the perpetually searching Columbia student's palate and desire for ambiance. Read the Chronicle's "Chicago Find" each week as a guide in your continuing quest for pleasure.

Sometimes we all need a little loving. At times like these, I say, "Go get some Nookie's," one, too or "tree." These are the names of the three restaurants.

The original Nookie's restaurant, 1746 N. Wells, is fittingly perched in the heart of one of Chicago's friendliest upscale

neighborhoods, Old Town. One of my favorite neighborhoods in Chicago, Old Town is everything short of a posh ego trip, despite the locals having every reason to be bashwaza.

Within minutes of walking distance of North Avenue Beach, amid million-dollar historical homes and colorful boutiques galore, the strip of Wells Street, from Division Street to Lincoln Avenue, is a student's dream come true. Nookie's offers the perfect balance of fresh, creative diner dishes, on the ball service and table neighbors as good as the friends you walked in with.

With all three Nookie's locations sharing the same "fresh and friendly menu, since 1973," the selection of traditional breakfast, lunch and dinner entrees are presented with a comfortable flare. More creative daily breakfast and lunch specials are made readily available.

Breakfast, served all day, is clearly the core of interest for early risers and even those who left neighboring Tequila Roadhouse a little after closing time. And if the usual maximum wait of about 20 minutes at peak weekend breakfast hour is too much for the hungry belly, then thank your lucky stars for the all-day service.

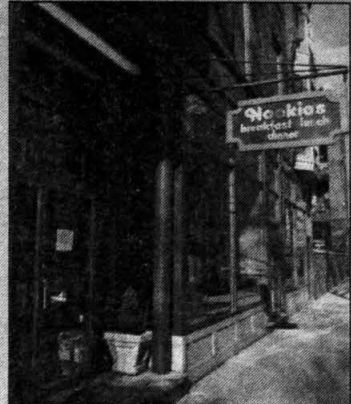
Choices include tasty pancake and waffle dishes featuring real old-fashioned potato pancakes to die for and every kid's favorite, chocolate chip

pancakes. For the health conscious, there are always multi-grain pancakes with yogurt and fresh fruit. French toast comes in choices of special "holly" bread or raisin bread and crepes come filled with apple-cinnamon raisin, cheese, blue berries or strawberries.

Combinations are encouraged. Omelet specials are typical as are the egg specials, aside from the highly recommended eggs Florentine which is basically a Benedict with sautéed veggies and hollandaise sauce. Specialties include artichoke omelets, Mexican breakfast burritos and cornflake-crust French toast. Nookie's also provides fresh juice and the ever-popular chicken sausage.

As for lunch, all sandwiches are served with a complimentary cup of soup and cottage fries. With prices averaging \$6 a dish, Nookie's does mean complimentary when they talk about soups and sides. Features from the grill include the chicken breast sandwich with honey mustard, garlic, melted cheese or Grecian style with lemon, oregano, feta cheese and olives. Hot sandwiches and melts include a tuna melt on an English muffin, Monte Cristo or Monte Carlo, or the spinach pie served with sliced tomatoes that can't be bought any place else for under \$8, but is only \$6 at Nookie's. Other lunch choices include club sandwiches, croissant sandwiches and specialties of chicken breast pita, barbecue and blackened chicken sandwiches and an Italian-style veggie pita melt.

For dinner there is everything from spice-crust steak salads to pork chops, sirloin steaks, chicken breasts, meatloaf



Michael Schmidt/Chronicle

Left: Internal view of the breakfast bar at Nookie's. Above: External view of Nookie's in Old Town.



or penne, linguine and spaghetti pastas. For starters, try all three of these highly recommended dishes: fried ravioli with zesty salsa, spinach artichoke dip with tortilla chips or chicken strips with peanut dipping sauce. Wow!

If it's after 10 p.m., try getting some original Nookie's tomorrow, or visit Nookie's "Too," 2114 N. Halsted St. or Nookie's "Tree," 3334 N. Halsted St. While one needs to get some sleep, "Too" and "Tree" stay up all night for everyone. Nookie's caters to smokers and is a proud BYOB establishment.

Weekly Horoscope

By Lasha Seniuk

Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

Aries (March 21-April 20). Social events will be easily disrupted this week. Over the next few days expect a sharp increase in last minute messages and revised group plans. Remain lighthearted. At present, colleagues and friends may be unpredictable and emotionally scattered. Key issues between friends will be quickly dismissed, however. Watch for meaningful progress. After Friday, avoid unnecessary spending or new debts. Added expenses should arrive by early next week.

Taurus (April 21-May 20). New friendships and light romance will add to your emotional wealth this week. Take a little extra time to explore fresh proposals or new activities. Over the next five days, many Taurans will feel enthusiastic about social networks, group dynamics and romantic possibilities. Expect an almost six-week period of inward thought to now fade. Thursday through Sunday daily work assignments will be misleading. Expect poor management and vague instructions.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). A fresh approach to love and long-term commitment will now bring renewed intimacy. Over the next few days expect your emotional resources to greatly increase. Use this time to establish shared social activities and common goals. Loved ones will offer a positive response to your questions. Some Geminis, especially those born in May, will also experience a powerful wave of business ideas and rekindled faith in the work world. Go slow, there's much to explore.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Private thoughts or family criticism may now play a key role in long-term romance. For the next few days many Cancerians will experience a shift of romantic priorities. Watch for subtly repeated patterns, withheld anger or unexpressed ideas. Before Friday loved ones will need extra time to settle difficult home issues. Early next week emotional clarity and romantic wisdom arrives. Stand your ground; a confident impression is important.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Social duties may soon be complicated by past disagreements. Before Wednesday expect loved ones to ask for more of your time and attention. All is positive, so do not worry. Do, however, pay extra attention to a friend who may have recently felt vulnerable or isolated from relatives. Your understanding of

the past will be appreciated. Don't hold back. After Thursday, accept fresh invitations and expect others to offer clear instructions. It is a complex week; stay focused.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Late Tuesday, a colleague or work official may suddenly assign new projects or ask for help with complex decisions. Before Friday the timing of authority figures may be annoying. Expect limited information and yet high expectations. Plod through. In the coming weeks, much will change concerning job titles, partnerships or joint projects. Friday through Sunday romantic affection will deepen. Expect loved ones to provide obvious hints and bold signals.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Confidence and work-place focus returns early this week. Watch for misinformed colleagues to soon rely heavily on your decisions or life experience. Many Librans will now be offered a rare opportunity to act as authority figure or mentor. Do your duty and then quickly fade into the background. At present, others may mildly resent your abilities and personal style. An oddly demanding week, get extra rest and avoid difficult power struggles.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Financial restrictions may become complicated early this week and then will be quickly resolved. Monday through Wednesday watch for home routines, business investments or forgotten payments to be problematic. Confused answers from authority figures will soon be reversed. Wait for the right time. After Thursday romance may also demand special attention. Openly discuss unusual ideas. A loved one may have the wrong impression.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Romantic invitations may be difficult to resist over the next nine days. Expect subtle flirtations to be highly seductive. Many Sagittarians will now have the opportunity to exchange ideas with uniquely creative and passionate individuals. New social alliances will bring a revitalized interest in romance. Watch for important gains before mid-December. Thoroughly discuss all events or encounters with loved ones. Long-term relationships will also demand added attention.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20). Business relations may change without warning this week. Expect a sudden expansion of ideas or assignments. Marketing, financial speculations, group projects and dealings with large agencies may all be affected. Many Capricorns will now be easily welcomed into the inner circles of authority figures. Watch for obvious invitations. After Friday loved ones may be privately irritated by your ongoing social interests. Stay alert. Deep insecurities may be at issue.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19). Rest, renewed strength and extra time spent with romantic partners will soon reaffirm your faith in human nature. Compare notes and ideas with others concerning family dynamics, important social changes or long-term issues of security. Loved ones will now be receptive and inspired by your observations. After mid-week cozy romantic flirtations will provide delightful distractions. Enjoy unique encounters with

Arts & Entertainment Found campus

Arts & Entertainment

Sebastian Huytds

Where: The Concert Hall—Music Center
When: Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 12:30 p.m.

Desexualize/Resexualize Reception

Where: Hokin Annex
When: Tuesday, Nov. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Columbia College Exhibit Confronts the Politics of Sex

Where: Hokin Annex
When: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Opening night is Wednesday, Nov. 28

Bobbi Wilsyn in Concert

Where: The Concert Hall
When: Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 12:30 p.m. and Friday, Nov. 30

Talent Showcase

Where: Hokin Annex
When: Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 6 to 8 p.m.

loved ones and quiet, sultry moments.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20). A recent disagreement with a friend or colleague may soon be revealed to be more complex than originally thought. Early this week expect mutual friends to offer conflicting information or controversial insights. Key issues may involve recent power struggles, social alliances or past group events. After Wednesday some Pisceans may also experience a steady expansion of daily work duties. Stay alert and watch for complicated paperwork to soon arrive.

If your birthday is this week . . . no one will be able to distract you from your goals for the next several months. Powerful planetary alignments will soon trigger vivid ambitions and deepening confidence. Key areas affected are lost time in business or educational projects, financial independence and new career goals. Let the past 14 to 16 months of mishaps and slow progress fade. New and more productive routes will soon be revealed. By mid-April, watch also for several key romantic decisions. Passionate affairs and new love interests will be compelling.



Budding artists perform at Big Mouth

By Jackie Miller
Staff Writer

Columbia's Big Mouth openmic after-hours series was held Nov. 15 in the Hokin Annex. The event was for student bands of all genres to showcase their talents. Each band was permitted to perform two songs. The event was openmic and there was no particular order of performances; the first to sign up was first to perform. Admission to the event was free with a current Columbia ID.

The event was not just for bands; singers, poets, and dancers were welcome as well. However, there were more bands than any other kind of artist. At the start of the event, there were 20 performers signed up, and eventually all 30 time slots were filled.

Chicago's own superstar Ace, of the R&B singing group Public Announcement, hosted the event. Ace also happens to be a Columbia alumnus.

The Hokin Annex was packed with students awaiting the start of the event. Although the event was publicized throughout the school with flyers on the wall, most students heard about the event from friends. Carrico Sanders, an advertising junior, said, "I heard about the event through word-of-mouth."

Sanders said he had performed in the event before, but really came out to support his friends who were performing

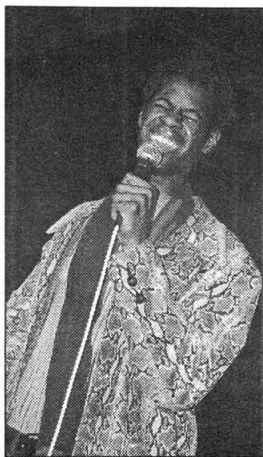


Photo by Dwayne M. Thomas/Chronicle
Jeremiah Cruesoe got a standing ovation after he sang his original song "Memories."

that night.

"I think it's a nice venue for Columbia students to showcase their talents," he said.

According to performer and supporter of the event Jeff Toney, a junior, "Big Mouth is the most talked-about event at Columbia. I have performed in [Big Mouth] every time since I have been here and I'm going to keep on doing it until I'm gone," Toney said.

Toney, who is a part of the hip-hop group Young Gunz, performed at the event, specified that he doesn't rap. "I do musical tears. Anything that comes out of my mouth is my emotions put to music," he said.

Toney says he feels the showcase is good because it gives the artists at Columbia a chance to perfect and showcase their art for their peers and for themselves; this sentiment was echoed throughout the night by other supporters and performers of the event.

The atmosphere in the Hokin Annex was laid back. The performers were receiving support from their peers, and everyone appeared to be having a good time. Toney and other performers and supporters of the event said they can't wait to do it again.



Photo by Dwayne M. Thomas/Chronicle
William Kurk performs an original medley.

Film industry meets and greets

By Shadia Hernandez
Staff Writer

The first Tuesday of each month, Chicago Community Cinema brings together smaller companies and individuals who freelance from all parts of the film and video business to create a network environment where people can meet and connect.

Michael Kwielford and Mark Battaglia from Vision Pictures started CCC to "create a feel of Hollywood here in Chicago," Kwielford said.

Excalibur, 632 N. Dearborn St., opened its doors at 6 p.m. to CCC's guests. Twenty-nine sponsors, ranging in specialties, were there to offer their services. About 400 people showed up for the event.

Beginning on one end with a table from CCC, an assortment of businesses surrounded each other in a horseshoe formation of tables. "The whole point of this is for people to get connected into the business," said Michael Kwielford, an event director for CCC and a Columbia graduate.

There were representatives from both the Illinois and Chicago film offices; their services aid producers in finding filming locations that fit their production needs.

Another representative was from the *Chicago Creative Directory*, which provides names, telephone numbers and addresses—along with a brief description of what a company does—all in a phone directory that makes it easy to access creative businesses all over Chicago.

Midwest Talent is in the



chicagocommunitycinema.com
(L-R) Columbia student and Chicago Community Cinema volunteer Flo Speakman, writer Rob Amos and Columbia student Joe Elsie.

process of developing a relationship with Columbia. The agency provides both actors and filmmakers with a common ground. One of the many services Midwest Talent provides is access for producers to do a database search for artists. Filmmakers can view artist's headshots, read about their qualifications, interests and experiences. They can also view an artist's monologue or performance reel in action.

Among the other services available to the clients was access to rental space providers, equipment providers, multimedia production providers, software designers, independent film outlets, post production services, digital media integration services and professional animal actors.

The event shifted from the service providers to the featured film artists. Excalibur's dance floor was converted to accommodate movie watching. Chairs and a movie screen were set up for the viewing of three music

videos and three short films that were nominated as the "Best Films of 2001."

"To be honest, unless you are connected into the industry already, you are going to have a really hard time getting into a big film festival," Kwielford said. "We give a filmmaker a chance to show their film in a smaller venue in front of 200 to 400 people, get some feedback and have something to put on their resumé."

At past events, independent movie trailers, short films, student films and feature screenings were shown well into the night. Musical guests Echosend and Ellen Rosner performed after the screenings and brought the event to a close.

Chicago Community Cinema is located at 401 W. Ontario St., Suite 208, and can be reached at (312) 863-3451. Or, visit the Web site for more information at www.chicagocommunitycinema.com. The next event is scheduled for Tuesday Dec. 4.

Visit us online at www.columbiachronicle.com

"A Sensation." —TIME Magazine



Thanksgiving Schedule 2001

Mon Nov.19 8pm	Tue Nov.20 8pm	Wed Nov.21 5+8pm	Thu Nov.22 THANKSGIVING NO SHOW	Fri Nov.23 4,7+10pm	Sat Nov.24 4,7+10pm	Sun Nov.25 1,4+7pm
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Holiday Schedule 2001-2002

Mon Dec.10 NO SHOW	Tue Dec.11 8pm	Wed Dec.12 8pm	Thu Dec.13 8pm	Fri Dec.14 7+10pm	Sat Dec.15 4,7+10pm	Sun Dec.16 1,4+7pm
Mon Dec.17 NO SHOW	Tue Dec.18 8pm	Wed Dec.19 5+8pm	Thu Dec.20 2,5+8pm	Fri Dec.21 4,7+10pm	Sat Dec.22 4,7+10pm	Sun Dec.23 1,4+7pm
Mon Dec.24 2+5pm	Tue Dec.25 CHRISTMAS DAY NO SHOW	Wed Dec.26 2,5+8pm	Thu Dec.27 2,5+8pm	Fri Dec.28 4,7+10pm	Sat Dec.29 4,7+10pm	Sun Dec.30 1,4+7pm
Mon Dec.31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 4,7+10pm	Tue Jan.1 NEW YEAR'S DAY 2,5+8pm	Wed Jan.2 5+8pm	Thu Jan.3 5+8pm	Fri Jan.4 4,7+10pm	Sat Jan.5 4,7+10pm	Sun Jan.6 1,4+7pm

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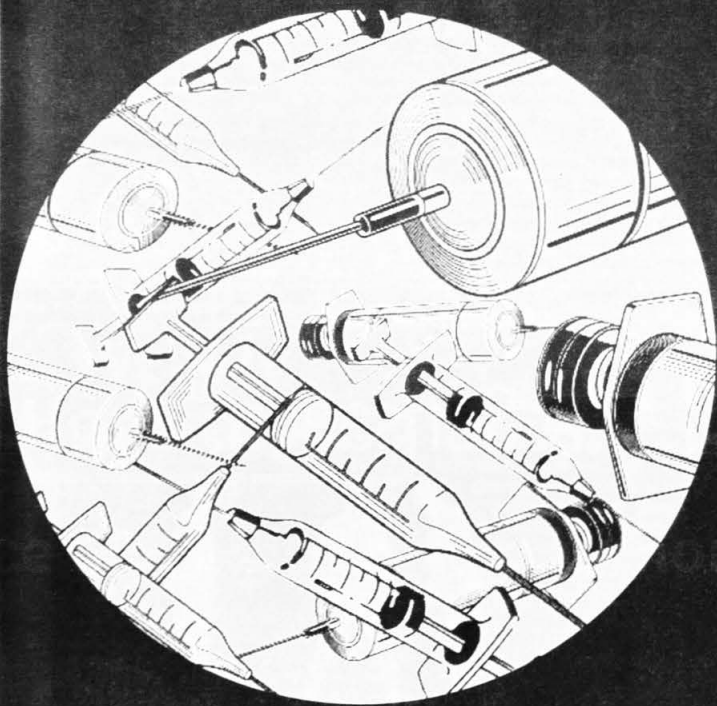
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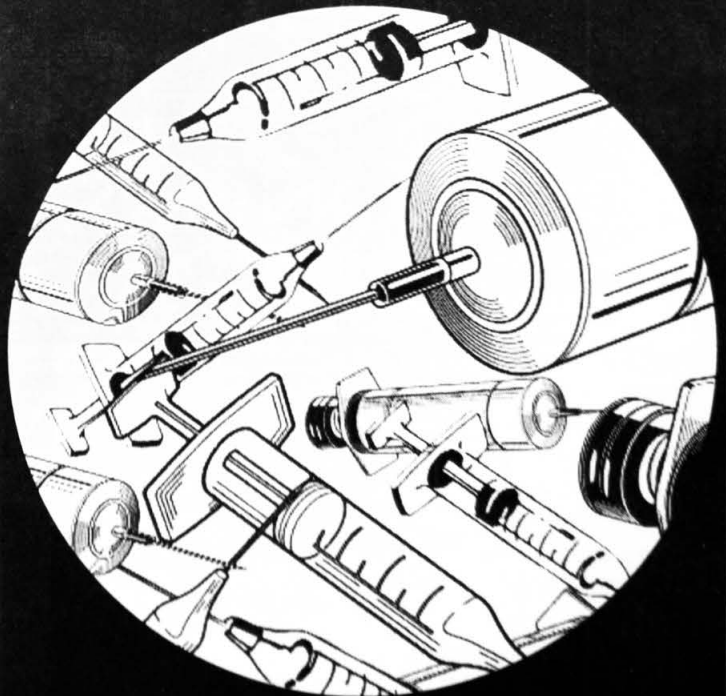
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Dec. 11, 10-2

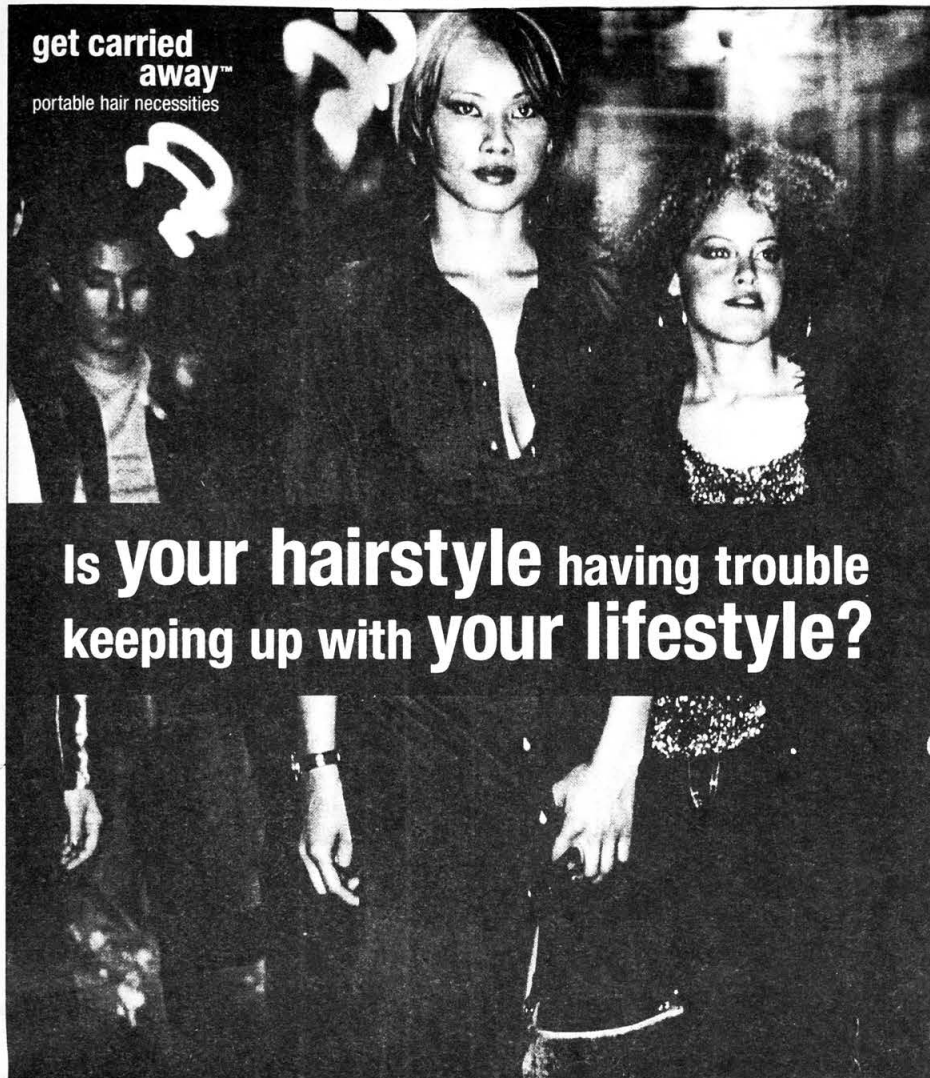
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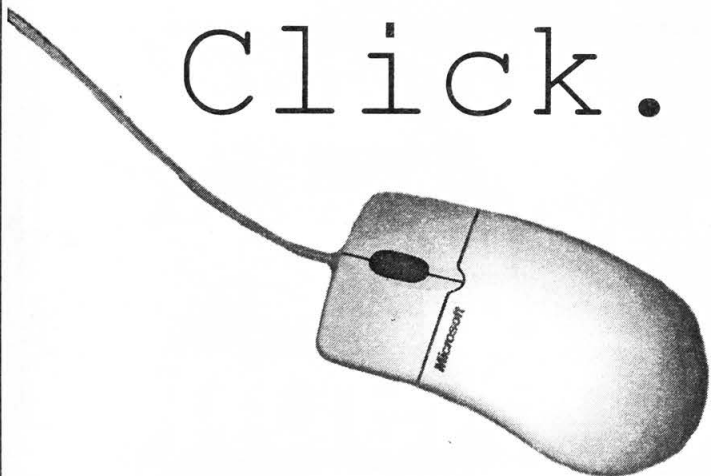
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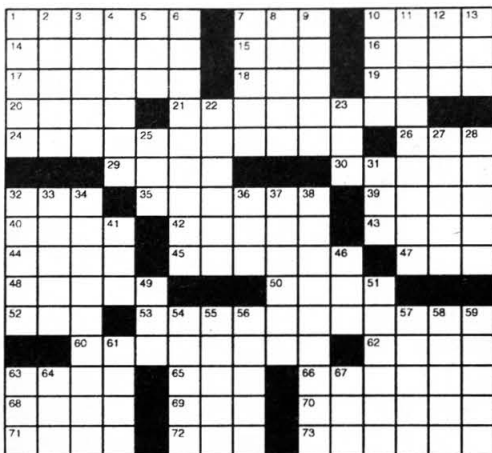
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 - Holiday preludes
 - Adult male pig
 - No-show job
 - Pyramid burials
 - "King" Cole
 - Leak slowly
 - Up and about
 - Cushion
 - Landing strip
 - Govern
 - Brought to mellowness
 - Australian marsupial
 - Raw minerals
 - Past due
 - Willow
 - Harris and Norton
 - Binge
 - Rowboat requirements
 - Vote for
 - Tonic
 - Avarice
 - Fruit coolers
 - Curses!
 - Sri Lankan export
 - Woodland deities
 - African lily
 - Hog haunch
 - Dozen
 - Dweeb
 - Samuel's teacher
 - Feels
- DOWN**
- Sun-dried brick
 - Secular law
 - Tasty tidbit
 - Lead-ins
 - Unused
 - Finches with conical bills
 - "The ___ Mutiny"
 - "Our Miss Brooks" star
 - Respond to a stimulus
 - Stadium level
 - Exciting experience
 - One of the Three Stooges
 - U.S. Open winner of 1994 and 1997
 - Type of comedy skit, for short
 - "Born in the ___"
 - Ran into
 - Felt ill
 - Shock or lock
 - Full-house letters
 - ___walsy
 - Wide open
 - Hostile critic
 - Actress West
 - Wholehearted
 - External causes
 - Kiki or Ruby
 - Period
 - Psychic letters
 - ___ Island, NY
 - One-tenth
 - Paradigm
 - Florida city
 - Pastoral poems
 - Vitality
 - Zigzag turns
 - Suckered
 - Flowed
 - Beer choice
 - Wonder



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Solutions



- 41 Kiki or Ruby
46 Period
49 Psychic letters
51 ___ Island, NY
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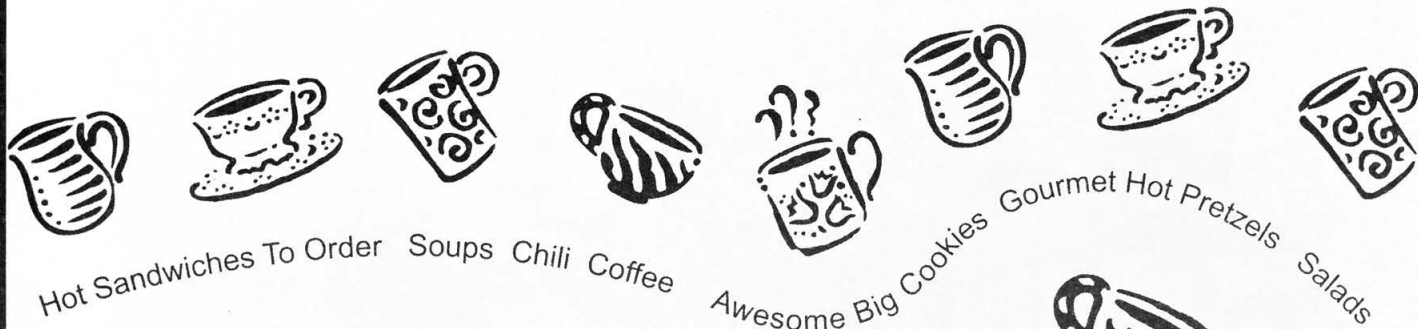
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Boardin' with Bill

By William Gorski

Commentary Editor

An interview with skateboarder Steve Davenport.

State your name, age, and give a little background on where you grew up?

My name is Steve Davenport, I am 27 years of age, and I was raised in Geneva, Ill. I grew up skating with most of the kids from St. Charles, Ill.

What are you up to?

Working at RQ and skating every day.

Who do you ride for?

RQ Boardshop in Naperville, Ill., and I'm on Osiris rep flow.

So, I hear you like the skate parks?

Well, it's hard to skate downtown anymore. I know I live in the suburbs and stuff, but to come down and skate the city is hard for me. It seems like such a bust, after Bart and I went to jail for skating in Grant Park. It's just scary to skate anywhere downtown. All the spots that are out on the fringes aren't always the best places to be hanging out at night either. The lack of good places makes it hard to get a good session going—the kind where you can progress. The weekends make the best street sessions.

Yeah, you've got to get motivat-

ed...

I think parks are what you make of them.

Who impresses you the most skating the Chicago Park?

Jesse Newhouse—so cool to watch him skate. Every time I see him there he'll skate the park in a different way



William Gorski/Chronicle

Davenport muscles a mean mute grab.

and find new lines. He's a nice guy, too.

So today we skated with some guys you met at Woodward this summer. Pretty fun day skating?

Yeah. Today we saw the gnarliest thing ever done on the sea wall. Ryan Crothers, aka Danger, who rides for

One Fifty One Skateboards, seriously took the sea wall to a new level. He rolled in off the short side, the top of it, and backside ollied into the wall, f---- -- gnarliest thing ever!

Do you think the world of skateboarding is growing?

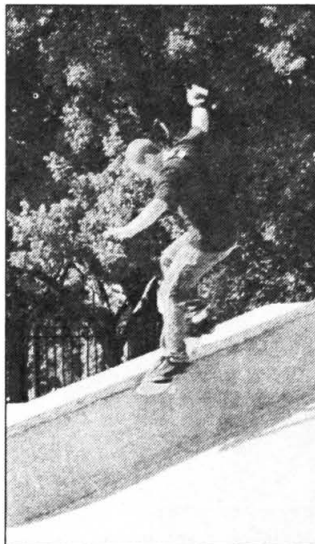
Yes. It's good and bad. It gets to the point where parents think it's the coolest thing for their kids to do. It's cool, but it takes away from what it originally was, like this solo thing where your parents don't know what you're doing, you're just going out and skating—they don't care. Now it's more like the parents are so involved that it's just kind of a hassle. They think it has all of these rules, but it's an individual thing.

So how old were you when you started skating?

I remember the first summer I skated was 1984 when I was 10. The only reason I remember that was because I was in Lake Geneva and I bought *Mad* magazine and on the cover it said "Ike's Out in 1984." That's all it said, I remember I had my board with me, a Gator board with Vision Blur Wheels. Seventeen years now.

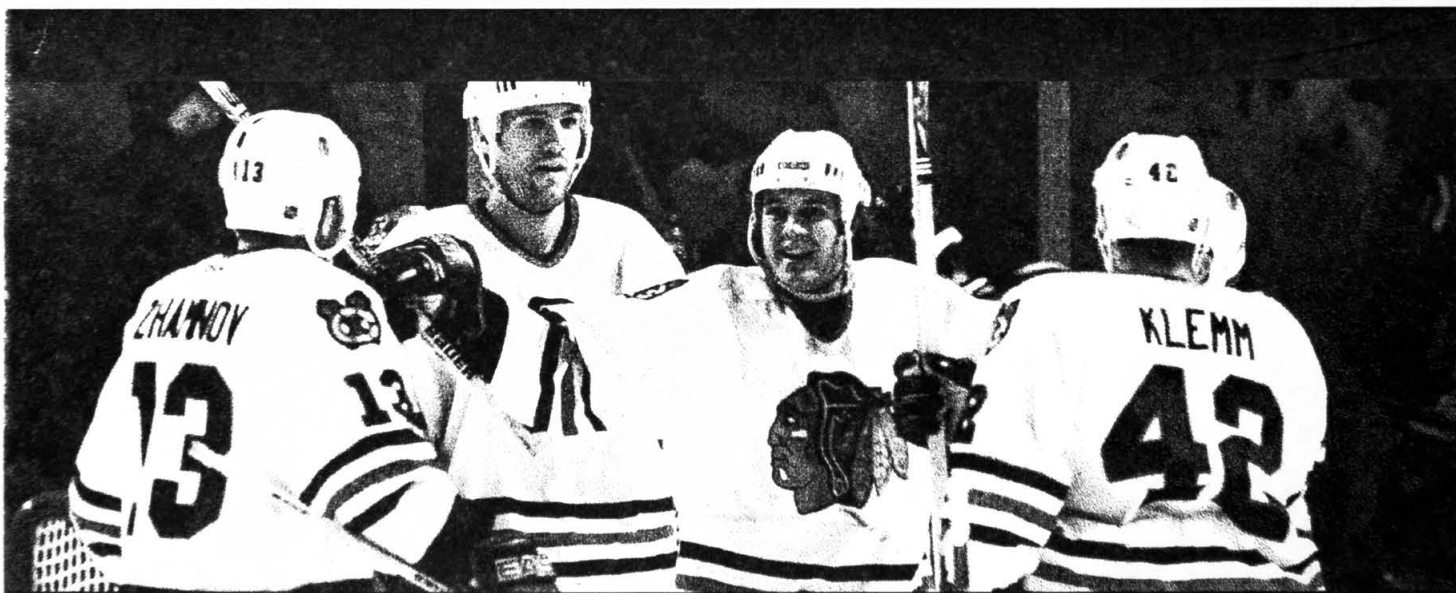
But has it been a pretty fun life skateboarding?

Yeah, definitely. Lately, I think I have been skating harder than I ever have. I mean, I've got nothing else to do.



Bart Jones/Chronicle

A Smith Grind at the Chicago Park.



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The diary of Michael Olberholtzer

Editor's note: Michael Olberholtzer plays in the Columbia/Roosevelt intramural league and has agreed to do a weekly diary telling Columbia readers about his experiences and fevered imaginings. As told to Sports Editor Scott Venci:

I had a good Thanksgiving. Recently, I've become a vegetarian, but I had meat last Thursday. I really had to debate whether or not I was going to have meat, and it was really a spiritual thing. My grandma makes some great ribs, so I slipped up a little bit.

I asked Marley if he wanted to come over for some grub, but he said he had some things to do on the South Side. We're going to hook up over Christmas and have a food drive or something for the homeless. I think that the whole

league is going to do something for the holidays.

As for our game, it was pretty hectic. There was a change in the starting time, and I only found out about it the night before. My schedule was already set, so I wasn't able to get out of my other commitments. I talked to a couple of other teammates, one of them being Marley, and they couldn't make it either. There were a lot of pick-up games going on at the gym, with a lot of unpaid referees. It was pretty ugly, actually.

The league as a whole is going real well. This year is kind of a stepping-stone for future ones. We're just trying to find our way right now, kind of a learning process. It's new for everyone, both the players and the faculty. Right now it's just really difficult. We just want to play basketball. Unfortunately, it is tough right now, because

"I've noticed a lot more groupies at the games."

not only do you have to schedule the games, but then you have to play them. I commend them for doing this league. Everyone has done a great job.

I've noticed a lot more groupies at the games recently. Marley has brought in a whole new batch, so to speak. Groupies are kind of Marley's forte. It's his passion. So every week we get a good number of groupies, but it's pretty controlled. They're there to see some good street ball action, and we give it to them every night. Up and down the court, that's just what we do.

When talking about groupies,

a lot of people try to bring up Magic Johnson, and the fact that he contracted HIV through unprotected sex. It is something that I think all the guys are aware of. Magic is the best, and I've had the pleasure of eating lunch with him in the past year. I was out in L.A. doing some charity work, and we got to talk. His wife and kid are doing real well. I guess his kid is already picking up a basketball.

I've been hearing that drugs may be a problem right now in the league. That has come as a surprise to me. If anyone is taking any enhancing drugs for intramural basketball, that's a definite problem. Nobody benefits from taking drugs, but at the same time I don't think anything should be done about it. I don't think it's a huge problem, and doing something right now will just cause problems down the line.

I'm not that tempted to take any type of steroids right now, even if some of the guys are just stronger than me. I'm not aware of anyone shooting up right now. I, myself had a problem with steroids back in high school, though. It was for medical purposes, because I had broken my foot and the doctor prescribed some steroids. I got addicted, though, for about six months. It was a big issue between my family and the doctor. I just couldn't get off of them. After that, I really didn't have any interest in drugs. I just stay mentally focused.

Sometimes I try to showboat a little too much out on the court. Being a leader, you can't do that. I'm trying to get better. I just have a little bit of a performer in me. It's all in good fun though. Nobody gets hurt, except for that fight in the first week.

The Chronicle's weekly guide to fantasy football

By Jacob Delahaut
Correspondent

1st Down: The Rant. After each was drafted after the fourth round, Terrell Davis and Jamal Anderson propelled up the NFL ladder to be the two best running backs in the league during the 1998 season. Each posted great numbers: Anderson had 1,846 yards and 16 touchdowns while Davis compiled 2,008 yards and 23 touchdowns. Each even had his own unique scoring celebration: Anderson performed the "dirty bird" while T.D. did the mile-high salute. Appropriately, the season concluded when they faced each other in the Super Bowl.

During the next season, each suffered season-ending knee injuries. Both came back to play in 2000, but most experts say that the second year after an injury is the true test. So in 2001 Jamal Anderson and Terrell Davis were starters for competitive teams when the season began, but unfortunately they again mirrored each other's careers. Both are injured and their once promising Hall-of-Fame careers appear to be over. They will probably hang around and attempt to prove some critics wrong, but in the end their peak performances are long gone.

Remember Anderson and Davis for what they once were, and try to forget what they will probably become. They are not the first, nor will they be the last players who have their NFL careers ended by injuries. Good luck, guys.

2nd Down: The Trends. As the playoffs become nothing but a pipe dream for some franchises, these hard luck teams will work in some young signal-callers. The No. 1 overall selection in last year's draft, Michael Vick, has already seen plenty of playing time in place of the oft-injured Chris Chandler. His raw ability has shown and his playing time could increase greatly if the Falcons continue their slide. The slide is already a six-foot deep grave in Detroit. Lions fans have already been subjected to the terrible quarterback play of Charlie Batch and Ty Detmer, so why not let first round pick Mike McMahon get some much needed game repetitions?

Two quarterbacks who may not receive a chance to shine due to their team's surprise success are Chad Pennington with the New York Jets and Drew Brees with the San Diego Chargers. These appear to be the exceptions because this is the part of the schedule where teams with losing records would be best served by getting their potential franchise players some much needed playing time. For some of these young quarterbacks, the future is now.

3rd Down: The Match-Ups. Bye-week team: New York Giants. A New York football team is off for the second straight weekend. For many fantasy football leagues this is the final week available for picking up free agents. If your franchise wants to match up well during the fantasy playoffs it would be a wise move to handcuff a back-up to a star player on your roster. Some examples include Brian Griese/Gus Frerotte, Kurt Warner/Jamie-Martin, Aaron Brooks/Jeff Blake, Marshall Faulk/Trung Candidate, Curtis Martin/LaMont Jordan, or Ricky Williams/Deuce McAllister. Those owners that had Stacey Mack, Maurice Smith or Dominic Rhodes already have benefited. Also, be aware of the teams that have bye-

weeks during your playoffs and prepare now. Week 14: Carolina Panthers; week 15: Denver Broncos; week 16: New England Patriots; and week 17: San Diego Chargers.

4th Down: "Failure to prepare is preparing to fail," said legendary UCLA basketball coach John Wooden. The following list is another great way to prepare for the upcoming fantasy football weekend.

Hot: Quarterback—Rich Gannon vs. Arizona. The greatness of the Raiders is now: 250 yards passing two touchdowns in addition to 50 yards rushing and one touchdown.

Running back—Ricky Williams vs. Carolina. He has now elevated his status to elite fantasy back: 150 yards and two touchdowns.

Wide receiver—Isaac Bruce at Atlanta. He always torches the Falcons on their own "turf": 140 yards and one touchdown.

Tight end—Eric Johnson vs. Buffalo. Bill Walsh's last draft selection is slowly becoming a factor: 40 yards and one touchdown.

Kicker—Ryan Longwell at Jacksonville. He is great on the frozen tundra, and will be even better under the warm Florida sky: three field goals and two extra points.

Cold: Quarterback—Vinny Testaverde vs. New England. How long will he hold his starting job? See above: 170 yards and one touchdown.



AP Photo/Ben Margot

Oakland Raiders quarterback Rich Gannon should have a field day against the Arizona Cardinals.

Running Back—Emmitt Smith at Washington. Troy Hambrick is averaging 5.5 yards per carry, Smith only 3.7: 50 yards and zero touchdowns.

Wide receiver—Peter Warrick vs. Tampa Bay. Is he the next Desmond Howard? No, but the question is being asked: 60 yards and zero touchdowns.

Tight end—Byron Chamberlain at Pittsburgh. His recent injuries have forced the Vikings to use more of a vertical passing game: 20 yards and zero touchdowns.

Kicker—Martin Gramatica at Cincinnati. Does anybody not affiliated with the Buccaneers or Kansas State like this guy? One field goal and two extra points.

The question of the week~

Q: "Who is the starting quarterback going to be in New England? Can the Patriots just trade Drew Bledsoe or Tom Brady during the off-season?" —Brian E., Green Bay, Wis..

A: Delahaut: The starting quarterback for the remainder of the season in New England appears to be Tom Brady, as long as the team continues to win. At the first sign of a losing streak, as little as one bad game, Drew Bledsoe will be inserted by head coach Bill Belichick. This situation resembles Buffalo's quarterback controversies of the past two years with Brady being a younger version of Doug Flutie. Brady is 5-2 as a starter since taking over after Bledsoe was sidelined, but the Patriots were 0-2 with Bledsoe starting. Bledsoe may be the more physically gifted of the two, but Brady has the coaching staff and fans enamored with him.

There have been some reports that have mistakenly given the starting job back to Bledsoe because of the \$100 million contract that he signed before the season began. Bledsoe's contract is not as cap-unfriendly as it may sound because it is actually three contracts in one. If the Patriots choose to trade Bledsoe after this season, they would take a \$6 million cap hit, but they would save \$5 million on his base salary. So the total cap hit would only be in the \$1 million range, hardly a prohibitive number in the NFL today. On the other hand, if they elect to keep Bledsoe, then it would make sense to shop Brady around to the highest bidder in this quarterback starved league. Remember, the aforementioned Bills gave up first- and fourth-round selections in 1998 for Drew Bledsoe—er, I mean Rob Johnson.

Power play: Bill Wirtz exposed

○ A new book by a former Blackhawks program publisher peeks behind the curtain of the most hated sports owner in Chicago

By Kevin B. O'Reilly
Copy Chief

In 1991, lifelong Blackhawks fan and Chicago lawyer Mark Weinberg started *The Blue Line*, an independent program he sold to fans outside the Chicago Stadium. His ragtag publication combined top-notch reporting on the ins and outs of the on-the-ice action with vicious and cunning satire of the most hated owner in all of Chicago sports, Bill Wirtz.

The story of how *The Blue Line* was crushed by Bill Wirtz is only one part of Weinberg's new book, *Career Misconduct: The Story of Bill Wirtz's Greed, Corruption, and the Betrayal of Blackhawks' Fans*.

It may be true that there are, in raw numbers, more Chicagoans who hate Jerry Reinsdorf. After all, he was the one who got Illinois taxpayers to foot the bill for the ball mall known as Comiskey Park. And he was the one who allowed the White Sox' division-winning nucleus to be traded away in the infamous white-flag sale of 1997, even though they only trailed the eventual American League champion Cleveland Indians by three games in the Central Division standings.

Worst of all, Reinsdorf's insistence on keeping Jerry Krause over Phil Jackson, Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen led to the Bulls becoming a CBA-level club almost overnight, with no sign of improvement in sight.

But all of that pales in comparison to the righteous hatred Blackhawks fans have for Bill Wirtz. Magnify the disgust any White Sox or Bulls fan has for Reinsdorf by 10 and you'll have some idea of the deep reservoir of animosity Blackhawks fans have toward Bill Wirtz.

While the Blackhawks haven't won a Stanley Cup in 40 years, a 1997 *Financial World* report showed that they are the highest-valued franchise in the National Hockey League. Every other team that was in existence in 1961, the last time the Blackhawks hoisted the Cup, has won a Cup since. As ticket prices climb steadily, Wirtz still claims with a straight face that he won't allow home games to be shown on television in order to, he said, "protect his season-ticket holders."

The Blue Line challenged with every weapon in its poorly funded arsenal Wirtz's reputation of stinginess and mismanagement. "We were very critical," Weinberg admits. "We made merciless fun of Bill Wirtz and other people in Blackhawks' management."

"The team has been futile throughout his ownership. This, in the city that has the absolute best and most loyal fans, and from a guy who has more money than Rockefeller. Of course, it makes sense if you know he's only interested in the bottom line."

Wirtz, always sensitive to public criticism, denied *The Blue Line* media credentials, making it nearly impossible for it to compete with the Blackhawks' official program, *Face Off*, in day-of-the-game program sales. So Weinberg and Blue Line Publishing Inc. took Wirtz to court for violations of antitrust laws. Nine years later, the case is still gasping its last

breath in the courts, but *The Blue Line* has long since kicked the bucket.

"I was a victim of his abusive business tactics," Weinberg said. In addition to denying *The Blue Line* media credentials and access to post-game press conferences or a seat in the press box, Weinberg said that the Blackhawks called up Coors Brewing Co. and other *Blue Line* advertisers and persuaded them not buy space in the independent program.

Last, but not least, Wirtz and the Blackhawks got a law passed which banned vending around the United Center. "I was a victim of his abuse of political system," Weinberg said. The law did not affect *The Blue Line* because it was protected by the First Amendment, but

"we had to go through hoops to ensure that it wasn't enforced against us," Weinberg said. Meanwhile, a group of 17 vendors sued Wirtz and the other owners of the United Center on antitrust grounds for being, as Weinberg has put it, "the first sports stadium in the country to ban patrons from bringing peanuts inside, a blatant effort to monopolize food concession sales."

Long-suffering Blackhawks fans have often grumbled about Wirtz's stinginess, but here is an example where he has literally fought over peanuts! "They think that everything connected with the team is their privilege," Weinberg said. "We were the only thing at the United Center that they didn't own or run. We were stepping outside their little kingdom, and they resented us for it."

In December 1997, *The Blue Line* finally folded. "We were working way too hard for the amount of money we were making," Weinberg explained. "The Blackhawks made things very difficult for us, and we were exhausted by it. We had to work twice as hard to get the material we wanted to get, and to produce the first-rate satire we wanted to produce."

But Weinberg's work did not end there. Three years in the making, he originally began *Career Misconduct* as a treatise about the use of satire as a means of social criticism of the rich and powerful.

Only once he began researching the book, it morphed into a broad-ranging examination of the sordid details of Wirtz's entire business life. Exceptionally well-researched, entertainingly written and featuring a healthy selection of *The*

"The team has been futile throughout his ownership."

—Mark Weinberg

Author

Blue Line's best cartoons and satirical pieces, *Career Misconduct* will make your blood boil.

Weinberg writes that Wirtz's various abuses of Blackhawks fans can be categorized into four distinct categories: "unadulterated greed, lying to the fans, mismanagement and civic irresponsibility." It is the civic irresponsibility that really upsets Weinberg, even more than the Blackhawks' futility. In *Career Misconduct*, he covers Wirtz's monopolization of boxing in the 1950s, his use of monopoly power to buy the Bulls and other dirty dealings.

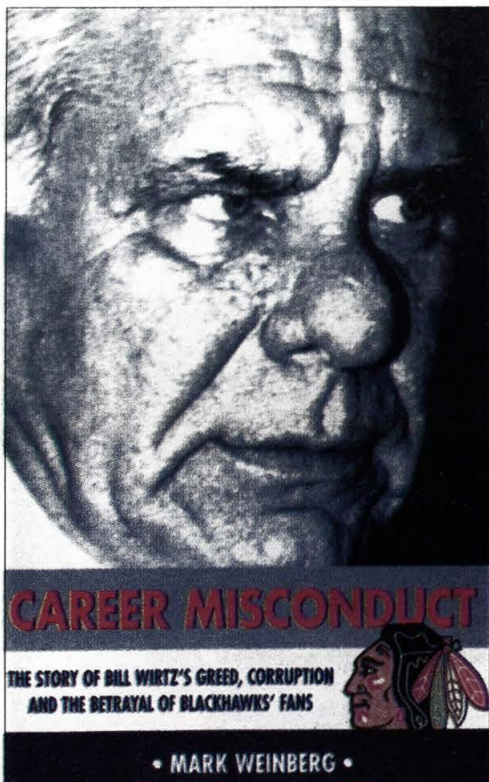
Worst of all, though, is Wirtz's lobbying—Weinberg calls it bribing—of public officials to get his way. Weinberg provides documentation showing that Wirtz and Reinsdorf bribed a Chicago alderman in exchange for the vending ban outside the United Center. And in chapter five, Weinberg explains in-depth how Wirtz secured a virtual monopoly on Illinois liquor distribution for his company, Judge & Dolph Ltd., through passage of legislation in 1999 known as the "Wirtz law" because of his heavy lobbying involvement.

In spite of Weinberg's disgust with Wirtz, he still dies hard with the Blackhawks. As for this season's early success (12-6-4, 28 points, for second place in the Western Conference Central Division as of Nov. 21), Weinberg said he was not completely blindsided by it.

"The Blackhawks were not as bad as people thought they were last year," Weinberg said, pointing out that they were a .500 team before losing the last 10 games of the season. "I'm not sure they're as good as people are saying they are this year, but I'm ready to jump on the bandwagon."

The keys to the Blackhawks' success this season, Weinberg said, have been the play of goalie Jocelyn Thibault (2.56 goals against average) and left wing Eric Daze (10 goals, 10 assists).

"The big question is," Weinberg said, "can it continue? Thibault hasn't shown that he can play like this over the course of a full season."



Mark Weinberg's new book describes Blackhawk owner Bill Wirtz as a greedy corrupt owner who cares more about the bottom line than fans.



AP Photo/John Ulan

Hawks' goalie, Jocelyn Thibault, is reluctant to look at the puck in the net.