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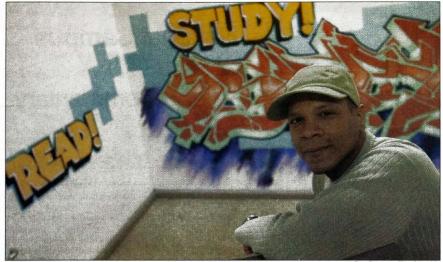
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### COLUMBI HRONICLE

Columbia College Chicago's weekly newspaper

Reading, Writing, Rhyming



Ben Pancoast/The Chronicle

Lavie Raven, minister of education at the University of Hip-Hop, helped create an after-school program that teaches students how to use spray paint to create art. 'The Periodic Table of Excellence' (above) is one of many murals in the school and throughout Chicago that promote education and

### Street becomes school of study

O University of Hip-Hop teaches community building through hip-hop culture

By Haley Graham

What started as a summer break dance program is now a citywide University of Hip-Hop.

The University of Hip-Hop, which has chapters throughout Chicago, mostly on the West and South Sides, seeks to educate its students and involve them in the community by teaching hip-hop culture.

"Healthy independent people helping other people" is what hiphop means to the University of Hip-Hop, a Chicago based multidisciplinary school of the street arts. according to Lavie Raven, minister

of education for the program. The University of Hip-Hop

works toward three main goals, according to Raven. These goals are to better hip-hop skills of students and workers, connect hip-hop to the local, national and global community, and provide community service.

To achieve these goals, the program focuses on the four pillars of hip-hop, which include graffiti art, deejaying and music making, break dancing, and rap lyrics, poetry and spoken word, to Raven said.

Aside from working to improve hip-hop skills, the institution also provides classes in Chicago politics, oral history and social rebellion.

"It provides challenges for the heart and head," Raven said.

The program sees the importance

of Hip-Hop free of charge through its chapters in schools and communities throughout the city. Students meet for class and practice after

of hip-hop as its own voice and has

a way of engaging it in the world, according to Valerie Wallace, administrative director of the Urban

Life Center, a supplementary edu-

cational center that collaborates

Anyone can join the University

with the University of Hip-Hop.

school and on weekends. It gives kids something to do that makes them feel good, useful and talented, Raven said.

Sharod Smith, programming coordinator for C-Spaces, said that

### **Building a better** campus—slowly

O College could face new difficulties with campaign

Columbia

crossroads

ata

By Jeff Danna

In the past two months, Columbia has been buzzing with talk of the possibility of establishing a student center on campus.

President Warrick L. Carter addressed Columbia's need for a meeting place for students in his

state of the college address last month; College Council cussed a potential student center at its April 8 meet-

ing; and architect Linda Searl presented her plans for such a building to the Student Government Association on March 8.

However, Columbia is not committed to creating a student center, and should it take on the task, a center might not become part of the campus for years, Columbia officials have said. If plans for a new facility materialize, raising funds and planning for the center may bring about challenges Columbia has never faced.

Even though plans for a student center are not set in stone, members of the Institutional Advancement and Campus Environment offices are keeping the idea in the backs of their minds. Both offices are currently taking steps that could one day lead to the project's completion.

"We need to do a good job of gaining consensus on a program," said Alicia Berg, vice president of campus environment. "I think there's a vision [of a student center], but there's a lot of different views around campus.'

Columbia officials, teachers and students are trying to understand what they want and what the school needs in a student center, Berg said.

Suggestions have ranged from office and classroom space to art galleries to a theater.

Columbia is generally in need of space, she said, and the Office of Campus Environment is working to determine how to maximize its facilities. The office is researching Columbia's buildings to establish a

Campus Master Plan, which will give Berg and other officials an idea of how to make the best use best use of exist-

ing space.

Berg's research includes conducting an online survey of students to determine how they use Columbia's facilities and, for the first time, mapping the campus to evaluate where classes are held and how many hours are taught in each department.

The master plan will ultimately determine if Columbia needs a student center at all. If a center is essential, the plan will help decide what Columbia needs in such a facility.

"We don't know exactly what we're doing yet, and that's the whole point of the Campus Master Plan," Berg said. "It's my personal goal to build a student center.

Officials are also working to devise a financial plan for a possible student center and other expenses.

In the past, all of Columbia's capital projects, such as the purchase of buildings, have been funded by tuition dollars, an uncommon practice for colleges, said Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs

But as Columbia has grown, offi-

See Student Center, Page 6



### Columbia for 'Evil' exhibit

Media whirlwind flocks to

Worldwide coverage packs Glass Curtain Gallery

By Jennifer Sabella News Editor

Micki Leventhal has been getting quite a workout from the constant treks between the Glass Curtain Gallery and her office at 600 S. Michigan Ave.

Leventhal, media relations director for Columbia, said the continual media attention surrounding the Secret Service appearance at the "Axis of Evil" exhibit is simply exhausting.

"I think most people on campus know what a small shop we have in media relations," Leventhal said. "It's kind of pulling me away from some other things I have to promote. I mean, we do a heck of a lot of stuff at Columbia and I'm in charge of promoting it all."

Leventhal said she has been swamped with e-mails, phone calls, and television appearance requests all week, and has had little time to focus on other events at the college.

"Speaking as a staff member, it's fabulous, it's all good, but it sure is exhausting," Leventhal said.

Leventhal's stress began on April 7, when two Secret Service agents appeared at the Glass



Andrew Greiner/The Chronicle Roman Verkhovski, a camera-

man for RTVI, an international Russian-language satellite television network, films the 'Axis of Evil' exhibit on April 14.

Curtain Gallery in the 1104 Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., during the opening of the controversial Axis of Evil: The Secret History

See Gallery, Page 3



DePaul University's student center, 2250 N. Sheffield Ave., is one of about seven facilities Columbia is eyeing as models for a possible student center of its own.



City Beat

Pictures of preservation

Page 24



A&E

Local poets branch

Supplement Page 6



### Commentary

As American as apple pie

Page 21



### **Andrew Greiner**

Editor-in-Chief

### Here kitty, kitty, kitty

'm not a cat person. There, I said it.

Whenever that cat person vs. dog person classification system comes up in a conversation I always opt for dog

Somehow the feline personality seems a bit less warm than that of the canine variety. And when faced with the choice between an uncontrollable tongue and tail combination and a set of diamond-sharpened, retractable pawrazors, I'll take the slobber and

hair any day.
I wouldn't go so far as to say that I hate cats. I don't, but I seldom meet one that I like. But even with my distaste for the fur ball hacking creatures I can't support the motion before the Wisconsin Conservation Congress to open up a year round hunting season on feral cats

It's too silly.

The idea of a bunch of drunken lunatics baiting the alleyways of Kenosha or Milwaukee with tins of Fancy Feast is only fun for so long. I can't imagine anyone would want to wake up in the middle of the night to find a guy named Elmer hanging from their window sill perched on a cat

But, the idea for a cat hunt has had a warm welcome in parts of Wisconsin in the past. When it was first proposed by Mark Smith, a member of to the LaCrosse chapter of the Conservation Congress, a local citizens group that acts as an advisory panel to the state's Department of Natural Resources. the measure passed by a vote of 53-1, according to a report in the Wisconsin State Journal And last week, when the vote was opened

to the public, 6,830 people and 51 counties supported the measure.

The movement is based on the results of a UW-Madison wildlife study that determined around 1.4 million feral cats in Wisconsin kill close to 38 million song birds and millions of smaller mammals every year, making feral cats one of the largest groups of unchecked predators in Wisconsin's ecosystem.

If the motion passes in the county branches of the Conservation Congress, the Wisconsin DNR will make a recommendation to the state legislature in support of cat killing. If enough Wisconsin state senators support the bill, cheesehead's near and far could have a good ol' fashioned cat hunt on their hands.

The cat-hunting issue has raised a fair amount of conflict between trigger-happy-whisker-haters and kitty hugging humanitarians. One woman started a website in support of the cats called www.dontshootthecat.com. Animal rights activists are decrying cat hunting as a barbaric means to an end.

Rather than exterminate the animals, they suggest a method known as "trap, spay and release," which operates on the assumption that a cat would rather lose his testicles than his life.

Hunters argue that the kitties should die for eating too many of the state's birds.

I, on the other hand, think there is a better solution.

The crux of the problem rests on the fact that these feral or "free-range" cats are hunting down Wisconsin's aviary population. These frisky critters are taking out birds by the millions and

the people at the Conservation Congress think that's a wastethere are plenty of hunters to shoot at the birds.

But where they see a problem I see bright idea. It came to me after I read this feral cat story on the train the other day. After getting off the el at the Western Brown Line station, I was preoccupied making up all sorts of comical cat-hunting scenarios in my head-try it, it's fun-when I reached for a white and black encrusted hand rail to assist me down the steps. One particular white and black steamer fell right before my very eyes.

The city of Chicago could use some of these feline bird killers to help take out all of the projectile pooping pigeons in and around our metropolitan hamlet.

Let's have those folks up in Wisconsin round up a million or so of feral felines and drop them off in bunches at every CTA station, second story awning and makeshift roost in the city.

We could kill two birds with one stone, or cat. There would be no unnecessary cat killing and my walk down the train platform would be that much more enjoy-

Plus, the image of a raggedy pigeon cowering in fear before a throng of hissing tabbies brings a little smile to my face.

So, let's bring the cats here and let the hunters in Wisconsin stick to their year round open season on opossum, skunks and weasels. That should sate their desire to pummel small, inedible creatures with buckshot and bullets

-agreiner@chroniclemail.com

### In This Issue

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### Announcements

#### Strike a pose

Fashion Columbia is back. Models wearing clothes made by Columbia's fashion design students grace the stage of the Dance Center. 1306 S. Michigan Ave., on April 21 and 22 at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. each evening. Tickets for the show are \$35 for students with a valid ID and \$60 for the public.

For reservations, call (866) 468-

#### The 'Ass' is back

Wise Ass Comedy Night returns to the Hokin Annex, 623 S. Wabash Ave., on April 21. The event will features improv, stand-up and sketch comedy, and offer an open mic to those interested. Activities begin at 7 p.m., but early arrival is recommended for open mic performers. Admission is free for Columbia students, who are each allowed to bring one non-Columbia guest.

For more information, contact Sharod Smith at (312) 344-7188.

#### **Kudos to Michael**

Michael Rabiger, former chair of Columbia's Film and Video

Department, received the 2005 Career Chicago Genius Achievement Award on April 1 at Chicago International Documentary Festival. The writer, professor and documentary filmmaker also won an award from the International Documentary Association in Los Angeles last

#### Speaking of sports

National Public Radio sports reporter, author and regular contributor to Sports Illustrated, Charlie Pierce, speaks to journalism faculty member Howard Schlossberg's Sports Reporting class at 3 p.m. on April 21.

For the location of the discussion and for more information, contact Howard at (312) 344-7366.

#### South African Film

The Liberal Education Department presents South Africa Film Nights. Dry White Season, a 1989 film starring Donald Sutherland, is the story of a white, middle class, South African man facing apartheid. The show begins at 7 p.m. on April 18. The event is

For more information, call Lisa Brock at (312) 344-7844

### How do you feel about the proposed Wisconsin law permitting hunters to hunt cats?



"I think it's a great idea. There's nothing wrong with hunting random animals. Like hunting pigeons in the city with deer rifles."

Ransbottom, Photography



"I think [hunting] is one of the worst things you can do to any ani-mal. Especially cats, which are primarily domes-ticated."

Lisa Chavarria, Senior, Broadcast Journalism

"I don't like that. I like cats and dogs, if they were talking about lizards or something like that, that would be cool."

-Du'Sean Junior



"I don't think hunting is good at all. For deer or cats. I like cats and I don't think [hunting] is a good hobby."

-Sarah McKemie, Junior Photography



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

### AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Chicago

Monday, April 18 Warm with High 72° Low 48° clouds and sun-

Tuesday, April 19 Mostly cloudy with a shower

Wednesday, April 20 High 62° Low 42° Rain possible

High 68° Low 46°

Saturday, April 23 Sunny to partly

High 60° Low 42° Sunday, April 24

with rain possi-All forecasts provided by-AccuWeather.com-@2005

### Correction

the article 'Secret Service visits Secret History of Sin' in the April 11 edition of The Chronicle, a quote was mistakenly attributed.

Jim Swanson did not say "It was a global call. I said 'Show me what you guys think of evil and don't send me any of that pansy ass stuff neither." The statement was actually made by Michael Hernandez de Luna.

The Chronicle regrets the

### COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

If you have an upcoming event or announcement, call The Chronicle's news desk at (312) 344-7254 or e-mail chronicle@ colum.edu.

### Ray Bradbury Day caps off Story Week

O Mayor Daley dedicates April 18, 2005, to honor legendary sci-fi author

By Chris Magnus

Despite coming three weeks after the end of the 2005 Story Festival of Writers. COlumbia instructor's Weller's biography The Bradbury Chronicles: The Life of Ray Bradbury represents one of the highlights of this year's celebration of fiction writers.

A Story Week Epilogue: Ray Bradbury Day, scheduled for April 18 at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St., will honor one of Illinois' most accomplished fiction writers and author of Something Wicked This Way Comes, Fahrenheit 451 and Dandelion Wine along with more than 600 published short stories.

"We wanted to have a release party for Sam Weller's biography ... and it didn't look like that week would work for Ray Bradbury, for the launch party [or] for the books to be out in time. said Patricia McNair, artistic director of Story Week and an instructor in Columbia's Fiction Writing Department. "But we knew we wanted to have this celebration as part of Story Week. So we felt, 'What if we have it after Story Week is over? What would we call it?"

The term epilogue, a concluding pirce of a literary work, seemed a natural fit, McNair said.

Each year since 1997, Story Week has presented accomplished and cutting edge authors of fiction from the United States and abroad

and has given them the opportunity to share their visions in their own voices through readings and panel discussions. This year's Story Week is the ninth so far. It ran from March 21 through March

The epilogue event is co-sponsored and hosted by the Chicago Public Library.

Not only is Bradbury to be honored by Columbia, he will also be recognized by the city of Chicago and Mayor Richard M. Daley. who proclaimed April 18, 2005, Ray Bradbury Day in Chicago.

The evening will begin with a conversation with Weller on the topic of "the art of biography." Booklist magazine editor Donna Seaman will moderate.

"[Writing a biography] is so steeped in reporting and research, my fiction training was absolute—it carried through with-out—it's storytelling, it's scenes," Weller said. "I can't emphasize its influence enough. It's the center of the process. It's creative nonfiction.

Also scheduled for the evening are actors from the Harbor Lit Theater Company who will read from Bradbury's numerous works, including the short stories "The Foghorn" and "The Whole Town's Sleeping," as well an excerpt from Dandelion Wine titled Swan." The Harbor Lit Theatre Company was specifically formed to present literature on stage and the actors performing for Ray Bradbury Day-Tom Mula, Will Chase, Paul Amandes and Doreen Feitelberg-are all Columbia faculty members, said Johnston, the managing director of Story Week for the past eight

The evening's grand finale will be a O-and-A with Bradbury. The exchange will take place via telephone because Bradbury's age and health prohibit him from making the trip from his home in Los Angeles, McNair said.

Weller will ask Bradbury questions selected from those written by attendees upon arrival at the epilogue. He said Columbia students should find what Bradbury has to say interesting and inform-

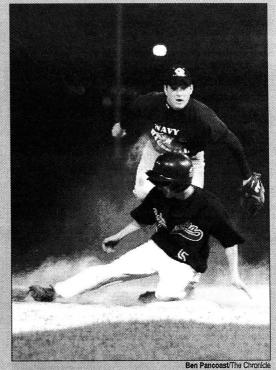
"Bradbury's creativity will be appealing to a lot of people. He reaches into everything that is the arts," Weller said.

Although Bradbury is perhaps the biggest name to be involved with Story Week 2005, the calendar was full of memorable performances, said McNair, the director for the past six years.

"Sandra Cisneros [March 21] signed books for the audience for an hour and a half after, and she talked to everybody," McNair said of the event that drew an estimated 500 people. The Literary Rock 'n' Roll show at the Metro, which combined music and literature read by Dave Eggers and Joe Meno, was also a big draw, she

Preparations for next year's Story Week Festival of Writers are

Safe at second



Columbia Coyotes baserunner Brian Kovar beats the throw as he slides into second base in a game against the Naval Academy on April 15 at UIC Varsity Field, 901 W. Roosevelt Road.

already underway, and talks with authors have begun, according to

Randall Albers, chairman of the Fiction Writing Department and founding producer of Story Week, said the growth of the festival has been very gratifying. He hopes to see it continue to expand.

'It's nice to see people responding to what we're doing," Albers said. "[Our] goal is eventually to

ming associated with Week." have more year-round program-

A Story Week Epilogue: Ray Bradbury Day is scheduled to take place April 18 at 6 p.m., in the Washington Library, Cindy Pritzker Auditorium, 400 S. State St. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call the Fiction Writing Department at (312) 344-7611.

### Gallery Continued from Front Page

of Sin" exhibit and demanded to see curator and artist Michael Hernandez de Luna

Hernandez de Luna had a previous run-in with the authorities, at the height of the 2001 anthrax scare, when he sent a stamp with a skull, crossbones and the word 'anthrax" through the mail, shutting down a Chicago Loop post office. Postal authorities have regulated his exhibits since the inci-

Although college officials and gallery management predicted the exhibit would be controversial because of the strong political and religious imagery (including President Bush with a gun to his head and the Sears Tower being hit with a plane), Glass Curtain Gallery director Carol Ann Brown said all the attention was a little disarming.

"I didn't think that it would bring as much attention as it did," Brown said. "But now in hind-sight, I'm not that surprised."

Not only did large-scale national media outlets such as ABC, The New York Times, and National Public Radio pick up the story, but international outlets covered the story as well.

"I heard from our media monitoring service that Fox National picked up the story," Leventhal said. "My son called me yester-day and said, 'You're in the Jerusalem Post and the print media in India."

A Russian-language television station also visited the gallery and recorded a piece on April 14. The satellite station is broadcast in Germany, Russia and Israel. The UK's Guardian Newspaper and The Jerusalem Post also reported on the gallery.

Hernandez de Luna said that people in the United States are very aware of threats to First Amendment rights.

"I think when law enforcement gets involved with anything, it piques interest of just about everybody," Hernandez de Luna told The Chronicle in a recent interview, "especially an exhibition like 'Axis of Evil: Secret History of Sin.' The content of the exhibition is a really weighted one, which helps bring out every-

Leventhal said the media attention has done wonders for gallery attendance. She noted a constant stream of people browsing the gallery in the middle of a workday, when the gallery traffic is generally slower.

"A student stopped me on the street yesterday and she said, 'Oh my God, you were on TV. I transferred here just this year and I'm so proud that the school is standing up for artistic freedom. Where is this gallery?" Leventhal said. "This controversy has served to make our student body aware of the resources that Columbia offers to them. Just that in and of itself is a big plus."

Brown said several positive things came out of all the media coverage.

"We're getting at least 200 people a day coming in to the gallery to see the exhibition," said Brown. "The Washington Post and the Reader have come to do actual reviews of the show. Their interest isn't really whether the Secret Service was here or not, but in what the show is."

Mark Kelly, vice president of student affairs, said the college declined several high-profile television appearances and does not plan on becoming famous because of the Secret Service visit.

"As the story became national news, there were requests to go on, for example, some of the national morning shows." Kelly said. "We declined. We said what we had to say. We were not looking to create or feed a story. We were just looking to clarify our position, which I think was the responsible thing to do. I think it served the college well by taking that position.'

Columbia President Warrick L. Carter has yet to publicly comment on the situation, and Leventhal said he has been busy working with Provost Steve Kapelke and the board of trustees on new programs such as the new video game design major.

"[President Carter] is supportive of freedom of speech and academic freedom, of course," Leventhal said. "We're an art school."

Junior photography major Jack Edinger said he thinks the media

attention is great for the college.
"It's good for everyone,"
Edinger said. "So many people do so much great art, and it's not changing the world."

Edinger said this situation proves that art can be as powerful

as protesting. Hernandez de Luna said he's also thrilled about the "circus" surrounding the exhibit.

"I want to send everybody cakes," Hernandez de Luna said. "I think it definitely helps bring out the audience. It really takes this exhibition into the total public arena, on all levels of our society. I hope it's opening up discussions.

Leventhal believes things will go back to normal around the Media Relations office soon enough.

"Eventually, this will trickle away, just like all big news stories do," Leventhal said.



Various news outlets from around the world gathered in the Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., to report on the controversial 'Axis of Evil' exhibit on April 12.



### Television Deptartment

Columbia college chicago &

Program Guide for University Center on Channel 32

Campus Update

Columbia's forum for campus news, announcements, events, weather info & more... MWFSu: 6a, 8a, 10a, 12p, 2p, 4p, 6p TRSa: 7a, 9a, 11a, 1p, 3p, 5p, 7p, 9p, 11p

### Afterward

A profile show of a celebrated and successful Columbia College alumni and their work of art. This week's featured artist: Brian Ulrich, Photographer MWFSu: 10:30a TRS: 7:30p

### Newsbeat

Live news broadcast program produced by the students of the Television and Journalism Department. TR: 12:00p

Helping Hands

A community serivce program that encourages young people to volunteer in their community. Featured: Erie Neighborhood House, Christopher House, Admiral MWFSu: 12:30p TRSa: 9:30p

### Gamers (NL)

Tired of playing the same old video games? Get a sneak peek of the lastest games and stylish new video game controllers.

MWFSu: 8:00p

Reality Bar Crawl (NL)

The cast of two reality shows have joined forces and are coming to a college near you. MWFSu: 8:30p

AV Squad (NL)

Hot new music videos of the spring that you don't want to miss. But first compare your college experience to the life of a sheltered college freshmen. MWFSu: 9:00p

College Town, USA (NL)

The crew visits college campuses, hang-outs and students around the country. This week's open house: University of Kentucky MWFSu: 9:30p

Comedy Night School (NI)

Romance just got better for those in search of a love life. Grab a pad and pen for tips to acquire that special somone that is closer than you think. MWFSu: 10:00p

Funny Money (NL)
Comedians battle head to head for big money and audience laughs. MWFSu: 10:30p

AV Squad (NI)

You don't want to miss the lastest music videos nor the special guest host that will introduce them on this edition of AV Squad. MWFSu: 11:00p

Planet X (NI)

Who said men were better in sports than women? Meet three brave women that take a stab at extreme sports, giving men a run for their money.

MWFSu: 11:30p

(NL) National Lampoon Network Programm

Do you have a great film or video that people need to see? Contact:

Frequency TV

Columbia College Television Dept. 312.344.8509 frequencytv@colum.edu

studiochicago

The Music Center of Columbia College Chicago 1014 S. Michigan at 11th St. in the lobby Monday at 12:30 PM Monday April 18 **Duet Showcase** 7:30 PM **Tuesday April 19** Mari Anne Jayme in Concert 12:30 PM Student Concert Series 7:00 PM Wednesday April 20 Lewis Waddle Senior Recital 7:00 PM **Thursday April 21** CUBE in Concert 12:30 PM



Zane Fiala Senior Recital

Tickets are \$8-\$15. Please call 312-554-1133 for more info. Students please reserve free tickets at third floor desk.

All events are free unless otherwise noted. For more info: 312/344-6300

6:00 PM

7:30 PM

Friday April 22 **CUBE** in Concert

Music Center pianos provided by Ortigara's Musicville, Inc.

Presented by Columbia College Chicago's AEMMP Records.

Thursday April 21, 2005 @ Double Door 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL \*21 and over

> Thunderwing **Paper Airplane Pilots** Che Arthur François Dillinger Waste

Tickets \$8 @ www.ticketmaster.com or Double Door box office

Doors at 8 p.m. Show at 9 p.m.

For more info checkout: http://www.rocktheages.org CD available through Southern Distribution, will also be sold on campus.











Film Row Cinema - Colmumbia College chicago - 1104 S. Wabash 8th Floor ALL EVENTS AND FOOD ARE FREE!!

Tuesday, April 19th

5:30 pm

Appetizers

6:00 pm

Screening of YOSSI AND JAGGER, directed by Eytan Fox

Steve Dishler, Program director of Israel and International Affairs for the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, speaking about GLBT issues.

7:45 pm

Screening of GIRAFFES, directed by Tzahi Grad

Wednesday, April 20th

5:30 pm

Appetizers

6:00 pm

Screening of LATE MARRIAGE, directed by Dover Kosashvili

Screening of DESPERADO SQUARE (kikar Ha-chalomot), directed by Benny Toraty

Sponsored by: Columbia College Hillel and School of Art Institute of Chicago Hillel. With special thanks to the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest.

the Jewish Community Relations Council/Hillel's Israel Initiative, Hillels around Chicago: Multi-Campus Center, the Office of GLBT Concerns, and Columbia College Department of Film/V For more information, contact: Hillels Around Chicago at hac@juf.org or 312-673-2350

Columbia & SAIC (Hille!



event starts @ 8:30pm



"Yes! I am My Sister and Brother's Keeper" Cuba & South Africa

A Film and Discussion by Isaac Saney

Wednesday April 20th, 4pm

Collins Hall, 624 S. Michigan Ave. Rm 602 Columbia CollegChicago

es! I am my sister and brother's keeper documents Cuba's Y decisive role in achieving the independence of Namibia and ending racist rule in South Africa. Includes footage of Nelson Mandela's visit to Cuba and his moving speech in praise of the island's invaluable contribution to the liberation struggles of Africa; the critical 1988 Battle of Cuito Cuanavale and Fidel Castro's commentary.

¶A Nova Scotia-Cuba Association presentation of an Isaac Saney/Mark Rushton production (Halifax 2004). A non-profit, educational project.

saac Saney is on faculty at Dalhousie University & Saint Mary's University, both in Halifax, Canada. He has advanced degrees in International Development Studies and law, with research interests in Cuba, international political economy, race and racism, and Black Nova Scotian history, areas on which he regularly lectures and publishes. His teaching has encompassed courses on Cuba, Caribbean political economy, and law& human rights and African Canadian history. He has published articles in several journals & magazines, including among others, the Race & Class, Socialism & Democracy, Global Research, Peace In Perspective, etc. He is the author of Cuba: A Revolution in Motion and associate editor of the Dossier On Palestine. Currently, he is writing a book on great power contradictions in the 21st century. He is also very active in the anti-war/peace movement and is a self-described internationalist, whose roots lie in Trinidad & Tobago and Nova Scotia, Canada.

Sponsored by the Liberal Education Department



www.emilyhurdmusic.com

Fine Fine line

COLLEGE CHICAGO

Columbia

### Panel seeks to educate collectors

O MoCP panel discusses financial rewards from buying and selling photography

By Rebecca Parsons Copy Editor

Some college students might assume that collecting photography is reserved for the wealthy and elite. But a group of panelists on their way to Columbia say that anyone who appreciates photography can start a collection relatively inexpensively.
"The Fine Art of Collecting," a

panel discussion at The Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., will feature a collection of photography buffs who will talk about benefits, styles and methods of collecting photography at. The event will take place April 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The panel will discuss various strategies for collecting, different styles and forms of photography, the logistics of collecting on a budget and where to find photos at bargain prices.

There are three basic methods for collecting photography, according to Rod Slemmons, director of the MoCP, although some collectors combine methods to create their own styles.

"Some people will go to history books and decide to collect pictures from known photographers or photojournalists, and others will go to exhibitions and galleries and then just choose what fits them and what they find interesting," Slemmons said. "Then there are those who make a plan to collect only from a specific photographer or a certain style of photography, or photos from a particular era or region. That's a more focused type of collecting.'

The staff at the MoCP selected panel members who reflect different levels of collecting, from personal to professional and corporate.

"There are those on the panel who are rich and collect on a serious level, but there are some young people too, who collect on more casual level," Corrine Rose, manager of education at the MoCP.

Two of the most experienced anel members are Bob and Barbara Horwitch, a power couple who have been collecting photography and other art for 15 years. Their abundant collection of approximately 400 photos covers a wide variety of styles, photographers, regions and eras. The Horwitches have diverse tastes and enjoy hunting for new pieces every chance they get.

"We're always looking; we spend many Saturdays at galleries and we try to use all the galleries in Chicago," Barbara

"We're spontaneous, so we have no plan [for collecting.] We simply purchase what we like," Bob added.

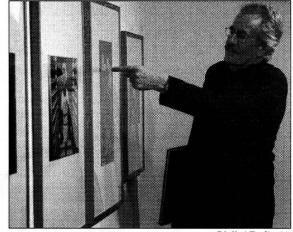
Andreas Waldburg-Wolfegg is one panel member who does not consider himself a collector. He is a financial analyst who has an appreciation for contemporary art, and supports some contemporary museums as member. Waldburg-Wolfegg said he buys what he likes and what he can afford, and he thinks photography is a significant part of the role art plays in our societies and cultural discourse.

"What people don't appreciate enough about photography is that it constantly asks questions," he said. "It documents and talks about society, identity, roles as an individual, philosophy and politics, but [photography] does it in a way that is very accessible because we are surrounded by photos every day."

Many people collect photography simply because they love the art form and the pictures look great on their walls, but collectors also reap financial rewards.

"Collecting is a good investment because you can buy low and sell high, like the stock mar-ket," Rose said. "You can buy a photo from an emerging artist for relatively inexpensive and you never know if that artist is going to become well-known, and then that print you bought cheap will be worth much more.'

Print The MoCP's Fine Program promotes this idea by making photography from internationally known artists accessible to the public and reasonably



Erin Mash/The Chronicle

Rod Slemmons, director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave., gives a tour of the "Architectural America" exhibit of photos by Lee Friedlander.

easy on the wallet. The program features a group of five to 10 artists per year who create works especially for MoCP and sell each print for \$300. The prints are not available anywhere else, and part of the proceeds help fund the museum's initiatives and outreach programs.

Rose stressed that anyone who likes photography can start collecting since it is not too difficult or expensive.

You don't have to be rich to collect photography," she said.

'It can be easy, fun and cheap.' Slemmons said there are about 900 photography students at Columbia, who would all benefit from attending this panel discussion since they will work in the art industry and need to know how the system works before they can make money from it.

"They are going to have a career where people have to buy your photography and you have to sell it, and collectors are the ones who are buying the work," he said. "This is where the money hits the table."

'The Fine Art of Collecting' is on Thursday, April 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Museum of Contemporary Photography, located on the first floor of the Photography, Alexandroff Campus Center building at 600 S. Michigan Ave. The discussion is free and open to the public. The dialogue will be moderated by Natasha Egan, the MoCP's associate director.

### Student Center Continued from Front Page

-cials have started gearing up for a program that could fund scholarships and a variety of projects, including a potential student cen-

This fund-raising program would take the form of a comprehensive campaign, said Sam Ross, vice president of institutional advancement. As opposed to a capital campaign, which typically only funds building projects, a comprehensive campaign would boost the college's endowment and finance various proiects and programs.

"We're dealing with a huge amount of money here," Ross said. "It's a long, drawn-out

process, and it's going to take at least another two years to get started."

This is Columbia's first attempt at establishing a capital campaign, and the Office of Institutional Advancement is aiming to raise \$50 million to \$100 million, Ross said. While the board of trustees has not yet approved any sort of campaign, the Office of Institutional Advancement has started the first stages of fund-raising.

"Right now we're kind of in a campaign readiness stage," said Kim Clement, assistant vice president institutional of advancement.

#### Fundraising 101

about the past year, Columbia officials have been identifying individuals from around the country who could become potential donors to the college, Clement said.

Columbia has major-gift staff members in Los Angeles, New York and Chicago who are responsible for seeking out people like alumni and parents of current and past students who could make monetary contributions to the school Clement said So far, Columbia has identified 7,500 "suspects," an industry term for possible donors.

Once the staff members have picked out suspects, the goal is to cultivate them into becoming prospects and then, eventually, donors.

daunting challenge when you think of the number of donors and levels of gifts that need to come in," Clement said.

The Office of Institutional Advancement worked Minneapolis-based philanthropy consultants Bentz Flessner to determine how many gifts Columbia would need to receive from donors to complete a \$100-million campaign, and what those gifts must be valued at.

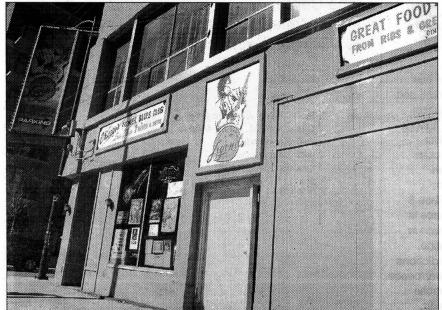
The consultants found that

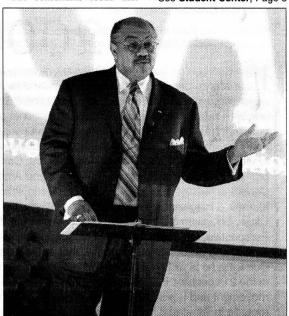
Columbia would need to make contact with 30,000 people in the search for donors. Of those contacts, 4,500 would likely be "suspects," and of those, 1,220 must become "prospects." Out of the "prospects," Columbia would have to receive 315 donations, or gifts.

Bentz Whaley Flessner also found that among the donors, one person must give \$15 million, one person must give \$10 million and three people must give \$5 million.

Columbia officials Should decide to build a new student cen-

See Student Center, Page 8





Columbia President Warrick L. Carter discusses a possible student center at his state of the college address March 23.

Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave., was originally slated as the location of a Columbia student center, but plans for a land swap have been stalled.

### **Marketing Department commends** WMAQ-TV for internship program

O Columbia students appreciate experience of working at television station

Each year Columbia's Marketing Communications Department presents an Outstanding Internship Program Award to a company with a notable curriculum for students, and this year the department acknowledged WMAQ, the local NBC affiliate.

We try to recognize companies that care about students and give them a meaningful opportunity," said Dave Gordon, internship director for the Marketing Communications Department.

This is the fifth year Columbia has given out the award. In the past, other recipients included MTV Networks, advertising agency Flair Communications Agency Inc. and public relations agency Margie Korshak Inc.

Criteria for the award include how well the company works with students and the quality of projects assigned to interns.

"It fosters a bond between our school and companies so they think of us first when looking for interns," Gordon said.

Milana Walter, director of community relations for NBC, accepted a plaque commemorating the award, and although no grant was given with the award, she said the station will gain more publicity after receiving it.

"Internship programs are not easy and sometimes you have to step back and teach," Walter said. "As rewarding as that can be, it can be difficult. We just really appreciate the honor.

Interns perform several tasks

including answering phones, conducting tours of the NBC studios and learning how to work in a corporate setting.

Stephanie Barnes, a journalism student at Columbia, interned in the Community Relations department at NBC last fall.

"NBC5 is really diverse, and you'll be given skills that will help you in another profession," said Barnes. "They have so many different departments that you can work in.

Barnes worked on a number of

"Internship programs are not easy and sometimes you have to step back and teach. As rewarding as that can be, it can be difficult."

Milana Walter, NBC director of community relations

special events, including the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk, the Columbus Day Parade and the African Arts Festival.

"Stephanie was very organized, she knew how to take directions precisely, was always very dependable and was very talented. Most students are talented, but she had all of those qualities together," Walter said. "She was my support staff. It was just her and me and one other person to do the work of about 10 [peo-

Columbia marketing student

Mary Beth Venezia is currently interning in community relations at NBC

'A student in any major can do this type of internship," Venezia said, "[because] the internship highlights all different fields as far as news, marketing and promotions."

Walter, who used to teach a Media and Values class at Columbia, said she enjoys working with interns from the school.

'Columbia produces students not only with academic abilities, but also hands-on savvy taught by professors with current experience in their field," she said.

Walter said when students intern at the station it not only benefits students, but also the company.

"It gives us an opportunity to get a first look at new, prospective talent coming out of school that we can hire," Walter said.

"Students get a chance to testdrive a career, to try new things and find out what they want to do when they get out of school. Internships allow students to dream," Gordon said.

Barnes, who will graduate in December, said that she hopes to get a job in a small market at a public relations firm before coming back to Chicago to work for a large company.

"[Interning] gives you realworld experience to build up your resume and people look at that. If you're not sure which industry you want to go into, it gives you direction," Barnes said.

### Columbia unplugged



Bryce Conlan, a freshman audio recording and acoustics major, performs at the Acoustic Kitchen open mic event April 12 in the Hokin Gallery, 623 S. Wabash Ave.

# Fashion Columbia

The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago 1306 S. Michigan Avenue

Columbia College Chicago's annual student-produced fashion show is bigger than ever with four shows:

Thurs. April 21 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

Fri. April 22 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

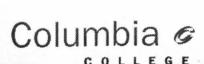
\$60 general admission \$35 students with valid student ID For tickets call Ticket Web,

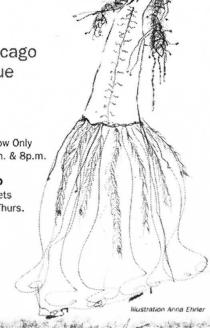
866 468 3401 or visit www.ticketweb.com

For further information call: 312 344 6281

Student Special, Show Only Thurs. April 21, 6p.m. & 8p.m. \$10 SHOW ONLY with valid student ID

Student Special tickets sold at the door on Thurs.





### Student Center Continued from Page 6

ter, the cost could start around \$25 million. Clement said.

"What happens in a capital campaign is 90 percent of the dollars must come from about 10 percent of the people," Ross

#### The cultivation process

Part of this process of cultivatdonors is Columbia's "Conversations in the Arts" series. With this program. program. Columbia brings celebrities like Mary Tyler Moore and Lauren Bacall to the school in order to attract people who could potentially donate money. For instance, when Lauren Bacall visited in November, one person who visited with the legendary actress and former President Carter donated \$87,000, according to Clement.

Clement estimates that by March 2007, Columbia can begin a study in which the school hires an outside firm to contact about 25 prospective donors to discuss what a capital campaign would entail. The potential donors could then decide how they want to contribute to the fund.

By September 2007, Clement said, she believes Columbia will enter the silent phase of its comprehensive campaign. During this period, Columbia officials contact donors once again to determine how much the donors wish to give. Once the school accumulates some money, officials will announce the campaign to the public.

### New challenges

Typically, the fund-raising portion of a campaign should last seven years, said Joye Mercer Barksdale, director of public relations for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, an organization that promotes the development of educational institutions' communication and fund-raising methods. In seven years, the institution will see a more immediate financial impact than if it lasts longer, Barksdale said.

Because this is Columbia's

first attempt at initiating a comprehensive campaign, Barksdale said, the process could be diffi-

"One major challenge is turning alumni and friends into donors," she said. "They don't have that tradition [of donating] with Columbia. It's going to take a lot of educating, because people had not been asked to donate before.'

Currently, Columbia's alumni participation rate—the percentage of alumni who donate to the school-is about 1 percent, Clement said. It is not uncommon for some colleges to have 90 percent alumni participation rates.

"It would be wonderful if we could get 50 percent alumni participation," she said.

But Columbia is on the right track for cultivating donors, Barksdale said. Clement said that in efforts to attract donors and help them become familiar with Columbia, officials explain Columbia's history, including its recent growth and its role as a cultural resource in Chicago. This story could pique donors' interests, Barksdale said.

"We believe we can do this because we have things going for us," Kelly said. "We have a niche-no one does what we do; we have the size of the institution; we have our weight in cultural life in the city."

When establishing a comprehensive campaign, the institution must research its potential donors to determine what types of people would be willing to contribute and for what reasons.

In these preliminary stages of a comprehensive campaign, college officials are stressing to possible donors the need to fund scholarships even though the money could be used for other projects like a potential student center. Clement said.

#### Looking for ideas

Just as the Office of Institutional Advancement is researching donors, the Office of Campus Environment researching student centers. Berg said Columbia is using about seven facilities from colleges

nationwide as references, including DePaul University's Lincoln Park student center and the Maryland Institute College of Art's Brown Center Baltimore.

Although these centers do not necessarily reflect Columbia could create, Berg said, they do provide examples of construction and financing methods Columbia could use.

College council discussed at its April 8 meeting the idea that a student center could be more of a "campus center," Berg said. This would mean providing resources like offices for faculty and staff that aren't traditionally included

in a meeting place for students.
MICA's Brown Center serves as a model of this sort of nontra-

ditional facility.
"We wanted blurred lines," said Mike Molla, vice president of operations at the Maryland Institute College of Art. "It's not just a student space.'

The Brown Center is located in a building that is about a century old, Molla said. The bottom floors provide about 15,000 square feet of meeting space, while the upper floors house students living on campus. Among the center's amenities are a dining room, kitchen and laundry

"Ultimately, it's wonderfully successful," Molla said.

Just as Columbia's Campus Environment Office is surveying students. Molla said MICA spoke with its students to find out what they wanted in a center. The school then created a facility in which all types of students can feel comfortable.

Acquiring the building for the Brown Center was a challenge, Molla said. It was vacant for about seven years after the General Baltimore Hospital Center moved out, and MICA worked with a neighborhood group to persuade its owners to

either renovate or sell.

The hospital sold the building to the school, and MICA took up a \$16 million development project. The college raised about \$5 million for the project, and the rest came from state bonds and historic tax credit, which the build-

### Creating a comprehensive campaign

What it might take for Columbia to raise \$100 million

#### Campaign Efforts

- 315 Gifts
- 1.220 Prospects
- 4,500 Suspects
- 30.000 Contacts

#### **Donations**

- 1 \$15 million aift
- 1 \$10 million gift
- 3 \$5 million gifts
- 6 \$2.5 million gifts
- 10 \$1 million gifts
- 22 \$500,000 gifts
- 43 \$250,000 gifts
- 56 \$100,000 gifts
- 78 \$50,000 gifts
- 97 \$25,000 gifts

Source: Bentz Whaley Flessner

ing was eligible for due to its age. Berg said Columbia has not decided whether it would construct a new building or renovate an existing one if a student center were approved-the school is options. considering all Clement Likewise. said.

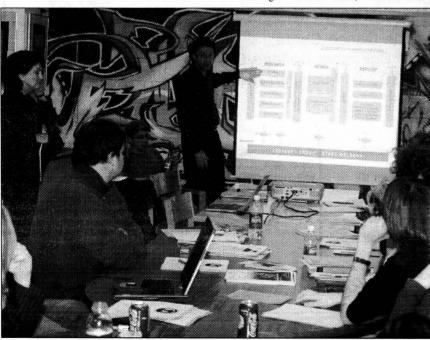
"Columbia would look everywhere possible for money, including state and local governments. "Every

ments.
"Every gift that comes through the door for whatever reason," Clement said, "counts toward the larger goal."

### Marking our territory



Two workers hang posters of Columbia student photographs on the 619 S. Wabash building April 15.



Searl and Associates' Linda Searl and her assistant present possible plans for a student center on Columbia's campus to the Student Government Association at a March meeting.

# Win a Laptop!



create...

### **Complete the Student Satisfaction Inventory**

and you will be entered into a drawing to receive a Sony VAIO B Series laptop, a 20 GB IPod or one of three \$100 Borders gift certificates.

### What to do:

Check your College e-mail inbox (...@myoasis.colum.edu) and you will find an invitation to participate in the survey. Click on the link provided, complete the survey and hit 'submit.'

Your response will help the college determine what is working and what is not working at this institution.

Thank you in advance for completing this important survey.

Elizabeth Silk Director of Institutional Research

Columbia @

COLLEGE CHICAGO

The School of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Center for Teaching Excellence, in partnership with the Departments of Liberal Education and English, present

# SOUTHAFRICA

## FILM NIGHTS & THE SHARING CULTURES ENRICHMENT SERIES

ALL EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN COLLINS HALL, 624 S. MICHIGAN, ROOM 602 AND ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005 7:00 P.M.

Screening of "Dry White Season" (1989) starring Donald Sutherland.

A commercial film in which a white middle class South African faces apartheid. Introduced by Prexy Nesbitt.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2005 5:00 P.M.

Sharing Cultures: Personal Revelation, Pedagogical Realization and the hope for Political Revolution.

Sharing Cultures is a collaborative teaching project between Columbia College Chicago and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. In this presentation the teaching team from Columbia College Chicago will share reflections on the project as an impetus for change with respect to the perception and location of power.

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2005 7:00 P.M.
Screening of "Amandia: Revolution in Four Part Harmony" (2002).
A moving documentary on music in the struggle. Introduced by Dr. Usa Brock.

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2005 7:00 P.M.

Screening of "State of Denial (2003) & "The Sky in Her Eyes" (2002).

Moving documentaries on Aids in South Africa, Introduced by Funeka Sihlali/Dr Hyman Rochman.

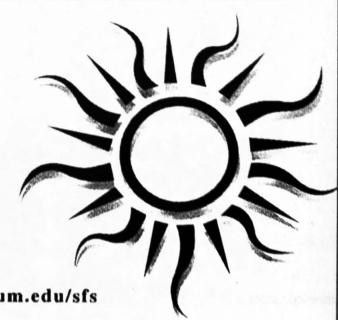


### Summer Financial Aid

All Students attending the 2005 summer semester and intersted in summer financial aid should complete an **Online Summer Financial Aid Appliction**.

- Applications will be available April 4, 2005 at www.colum.edu/sfs
- The deadline will be June 1, 2005.
- You will be notified by email of your summer financial aid eligibility.
- Don't delay! Some aid is available on a first come first serve basis.

For more financial aid information visit: Student Financial Services at www.colum.edu/sfs



### NATIONAL NEWS

### Briefs from colleges Family ties across the country

### Blue lobsters a source of protein

Ronald Christensen Harry Frank of the University of Connecticut have discovered a genetic defect that causes some lobsters to produce excessive protein that forms a blue color complex in the shells of roughly one in a million lob-

More lobsters are probably born with blue shells but don't survive because they become major targets for predators, Christensen said.

The two professors from U Conn conducted research after a Freeport, Maine, fisherman caught a blue lobster.

"For me its not a big deal, but they are really pretty," Donald Ulrickson said, who caught the lobster. "The one I caught last year you could see in the trap even before I brought it up."

Ulrickson has caught eight blue lobsters during his 50 years of lobstering.

Yellow, bright red and orange polka dot-colored lobsters have also been found.

#### Class provides alcohol as learning tool

"Wine Bottles: Shapes and Sizes" might not sound like your typical lecture unless you are sitting in Pennsylvania State University's Beverage Management and Wine Selection class.

In Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management 411 students get a taste, literally, of the alcoholic beverages served in the hospitality industry.

The primary focus is on alcohol products, but students do address coffees, teas and nonalcoholic alternatives, course instructor Peter Yersin said.

Yersin, who has taught the course for 13 years, said the class also addresses cost control, marketing and responsible alcohol service.

He added that the class is primarily offered to hotel, restaurant and institutional management majors, but students in other majors can take the class as well.

"I'm sure we all wish it'd be little more," said Dan Federman, a student in the class.

He thinks the class is important because it teaches the basics about alcohol.

"It's interesting," Federman said. "There's no other class where you can drink."

Yersin said he requires IDs before the samplings and measures the amount of product beforehand so the class stays well within the .08 legal limit of intoxication.

#### Student challenges weird laws across country

A student is planning to carry out a crime spree by traveling across the United States and breaking weird local laws along the way.

Richard Smith, 23, will risk being arrested for falling asleep in a cheese factory in South Dakota and going whale-hunt-ing in landlocked Utah.

He intends to break about 40 strange state and town laws as he crosses America, starting at Alcatraz, the former prison island in San Francisco Bay.

His 18,000-mile cross-country journey will end in Hartford, Conn., where it is illegal to cross the road while



Amelia Earhart, a junior at the University of Colorado, is joining the search for her long-lost third cousin's plane. Her namesake's plane disappeared July 2, 1937, during an attempted flight around the world. Earhart is one of two college students invited on this year's six-week search in conjunction with the U.S. Navy, the National Geographic Society and the Discovery Channel, covering more than 1,000 square miles of ocean.

walking on your hands.

"I am not really one of those people who likes going away and sitting by a pool," said Smith, from Portreath, Cornwall. "I want a purpose, and this seemed perfect.'

The inspiration for his criminal escapade came while he was playing a board game which included details of a law forbidding widows in Florida from going parachuting on Sundays.

He has since discovered that it is illegal to play cards against a Native American in Globe, Ariz.; to drive around the town square in Oxford, Miss. more than 100 times on a single occasion; to say "oh boy" in

Jonesborough, Ga.; and to play golf in the streets of Albany, N.Y. Smith plans to challenge all those laws.

Smith, a journalism student at Cornwall College Camborne, estimates the challenge will take him eight weeks.

#### Rock, Paper, Trip

University of Nebraska student Ryan Gartner thought it was a big joke when he received the letter in the mail that indicated he had been chosen to attend the National Collegiate Rock Paper Scissors Invitational Tournament in South Beach, Fla.

Gartner was one of 100 college students selected in a drawing to participate in the April 14 competition sponsored by Nebraska Bookstore and GotUsed, a network of college book stores, said Chris Rodgers, regional manager of Nebraska Book Company.

Whenever Gartner tells his friends the news, they just can't believe it.

"I open it up by saying I won trip to Miami," Gartner said. "They say 'Wow, no way!'
Then I say it's for a Rock,
Paper, Scissors Tournament. That's when the laughing starts."

Competitors, along with a friend of their choice, flew to South Beach on April 14, with airfare and hotel expenses paid, Rodgers said.

Gartner chose to bring along his friend Justin Brunken, a senior marketing major, who plays the role of Gartner's coach, helping him tune up during daily practices.

Gartner and Brunken agreed there is a strategy behind Rock, Paper, Scissors-it isn't just a game of luck.
"If you play someone enough

times, you notice what they're going to do, as dorky as it sounds," Gartner said.

The winner of the national

competition scored \$5,000 and a ticket to the world championship in Calgary, Canada.

#### Vapor o' fun-a strange alternative

Aside from joints, bongs and brownies, students have a new way to get high on marijuana: vaporizers. Although vaporizers might be a less detectable and less dangerous alternative for smoking on campus, stu-dents might be slow to trade in their bongs for the time-consuming and more expensive equipment

The typical vaporizer consists of a box with an electric cord on one side and a tube on the other. The user stuffs a small quantity of marijuana between the tube and the box and plugs the cord into an outlet. When the drug is heated to a high enough temperature, it forms vapors that the user inhales through the tube.

Though this new technology has been slow to catch on at Duke University, officials worry about its potential danger to students.

Many students on campus prefer vaporizers because the devices provide incentives over regular methods. They are efficient, smokeless and odor-less-undetectable by residential advisers.

Research indicates vaporizers might also emit less carcinogenic fumes than other methods because they are smokeless, said Jeff Kulley, a staff psychologist at Counseling and Psychological Services.

"It also takes a while-it's not like lighting up a joint and taking a hit," Kulley said. "The heating process takes a bit of time and could slow down someone's usage.

Kulley added it takes time to get high, which frustrates users.

-Compilied by Alan J. Baker

### Getting involved



Georgetown College students from left, Danielle Mann, Josh Shoulta, Brad Barnett and Whitney Elliott, edit a documentary video in Georgetown, Ky, on chronic malnutrition that will be used by the United Nations World Food Programme. The students are leading an on-campus fund-raising project to help pay for meals for children at schools in four Guatemalan villages

### Job market promising for new grads

O Employers to increase college-grad hiring by 13 percent, while those applying for unemployment dropped 19,000 last month

By Kathleen Lynn KRT

A few weeks after she graduates from the New Jersey Institute of Technology Newark this May, Jessica Olejar will join the corporate world as \$53,000-a-year software developer at Citigroup. She's one of the many young job seekers who have found that, despite fears of outsourcing, the "help wanted" sign is out for tech workers.

"It's a big myth that these jobs are going away," said Jane Gaertner of NJIT's career devel-opment office. "There's still a strong demand for computer science jobs in the United States."

As the class of 2005 heads into the workforce, nurses and accountants are also in demand. In fact, most college seniors are finding a more welcoming workplace this year.

"This looks like the best job market for entry-level hires since 2000," said Richard White, director of career services at Rutgers University. "With a 4.4 percent unemployment rate, New Jersey is one of the better places in the country to be looking for work."

And the national picture is also promising. The National Association of Colleges and Employers reports that employers expect to increase hiring of new college grads by about 13 percent this year and most expect to raise starting salaries more than last year.

Graduating nurses have their pick of job offers, as an aging population seeks more medical care. Teachers are also in demand. And accountants' job prospects have been brightened by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which was passed in response to the accounting scandals at Enron and WorldCom, which requires more stringent financial reporting.

Several North Jersey colleges said most of their accounting grads have job offers in hand.

One is Anna Sidorova, 23, who recently accepted a job offer from a Big Four accounting

"For me, it was easier than for many students, since I'm in the accounting program," Sidorova, who will get her master's in accounting this May from Fairleigh Dickinson Fairleigh University.

Students who are still searching for work filled the William Paterson University gym recently for a career fair, handing their resumes to recruiters from

social service agencies, state government and corporations.

Sara Abernethy, 23, was there with a friend, though she gradu-ated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Penn., in 2003 with a business degree.

At that point, corporate jobs were scarce. So Abernethy spent two years in the Teach For America program and is now seeking work as a management consultant.

"There's a lot more opportunity now," Abernethy said.

The most popular recruiters at

the career fair were from the television and radio industries.

"It's a hard field to get into, but I hope I can break in," said Aaron Rikon, 24, a communications major who wants to work in television or radio produc-

As it happens, career advisers ay even liberal arts majors may find better opportunities this year.

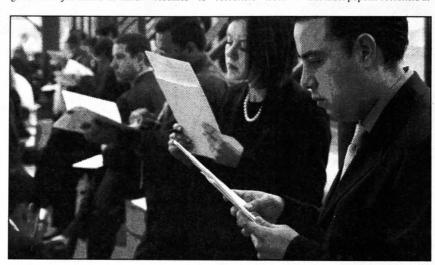
"When you think about liberal arts majors, they really can go into a lot of different areas," said Cathy Love, director of Dickinson Fairleigh University's career development office. On average, though, they're going to get lower salaries than their classmates with pre-professional

training, according to NACE. The most successful job seekers, according to college career counselors, tackle the search with energy and creativity. They use their personal and professional networks, attend the career fairs and workshops on campus, and research companies on the Internet before talking to recruiters.

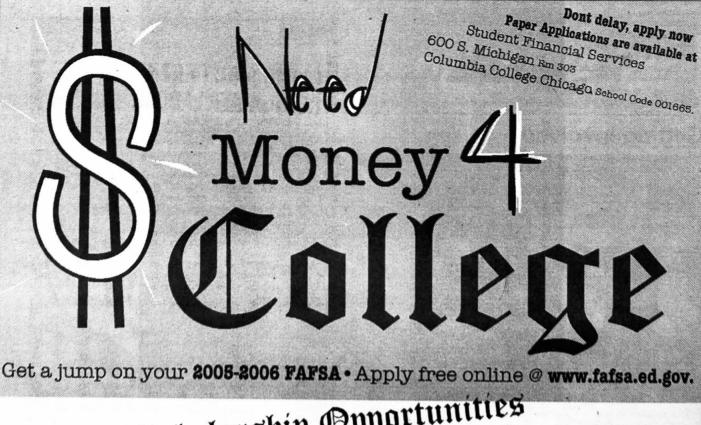
"Companies hire people who exude energy," said Wanda Mendez, director of career services for the MBA program at Rutgers Business School.

"They need to take every opportunity," Love said.

Many of the most successful job seekers had internships. In a recent survey by NACE, employers said that, on average,



Christian Ruiz, right, looks over papers at the Big Apple Job Fair for City University of New York graduating students during a job-hunt season that experts say will be the best in years for college graduates. A recent online survey shows 25 percent of students have a full-time job offer, compared to 18 percent at this time a year ago.



rww.fastweb.com Scholarship Opportunities www.petersons.com/finaid www.srnexpress.com www.freescholarshipguide.com www.collegezone.com www.scholarships.com mips.com www.finaid.org/scholarships www.free4-u.com www.fastaid.com

Continued from page 12

they offer full-time jobs to nearly 58 percent of their interns.

#### Job seekers hold key to success

"It gives you the edge over people who don't have experi-ence," said Adrienne ence," said Adrienne Hetherington, 22, who will graduate from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N.J., in May with a computer engineering degree. She will take a full-time job with Stryker Orthopedics in Mahwah, N.J., where she currently works part time.

A Stevens classmate, Rupa Boddu, 21, is also taking a job at the place where she interned. Deutsche Bank in New York. Boddu called her summer internship "a 10-week job interview.

with Along experience, employers also want someone with people skills.

"It's all about how you relate to people, how well you communicate, how you resolve problems," said Brends Kasigwa, 23.

She started work at a New York bank as an information technology analyst in February,

though she still has a few credits to complete and won't graduate until May. Kasigwa was hired after meeting with a recruiter on the Fairleigh recruiter on the Fairleigh Dickinson campus last fall, her first job interview. Along with questions about her tech skills, the recruiter asked about her



Graduating students from the City University of New York arrive at the Big Apple Job Fair in New York on April 7. More than 100 major employers were at the job fair.

senior project and her experiences working on teams to solve problems.

For Kasigwa and other tech grads, outsourcing of tech jobs has been a non-issue in their hunt for work.

#### Companies need handson approach

"Although companies are outsourcing," said Boddu, "they still need a lot of managers

In a recent report on the job market for college grads, John A. Challenger, chief executive officer of the Chicago-based employment firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas Inc., said: "The practice of offshoring is sending many jobs overseas, but there is still a lot of job growth here as companies expand into new areas. Additionally, companies need a hands-on presence

to manage projects and provide technical services that cannot be done from the other side of the globe."

The rebound in tech hiring has even brought back the signing bonus, which had not been seen since the tech boom of the late 1990s, said Lynn Insley, director of career development Stevens Institute of Technology. Some of this year's grads are getting bonuses of \$1,000 to \$5,000.

For Jessica Olejar, the NJIT student who is joining Citigroup as a software developer, the growth in technology translates into job security.

"Computers are pretty preva-lent," said Olejar, a native of Pittsburgh. "The jobs are always going to be there. I don't think that 10 or 20 years down the line, I'm going to have to choose a new career path.

### ompanies don't let friends dial drunk

O Students say they would benefit if Virgin Mobile Australia implemented its 'Dialing Under the Influence' service in America

Freshman Matt Spitz thinks

drunk dialing is harmless most

of the time but it has the poten-

tial to complicate relationships.

dial the right people. But if you

call the wrong people, it can be really, really tragic. Since the

person is not standing in front of

you, it's much easier to say

things you don't mean, and that

"It can be fun if you drunk

By Christopher Pedregal

You wake up Saturday morning after a long night of partying. You're sitting in bed, trying to piece together what you remember from the previous night, when a sudden fear grips you. You grab your cell phone and check the last numbers you called, praying your parents' or ex-girlfriend's or current crush's number doesn't appear on the list of outgoing calls

If this has ever happened to you, then you know the dangers of calling people while intoxicated. Due to a new cell phone service, however, drunk dialing may soon be a thing of the past.

Drunk dialing has become a major problem-or pastime-at American universities where there is no shortage of cell phones, alcohol or young peo-

Virgin Mobile Australia is offering a new service called Dialing Under the Influence that allows cell phone users to block certain numbers from being called when drunk.

For the service to work, users need to dial "333" plus the phone number they want to protect. That number is then off limits until 6 a.m. the next day.

The hope is that users will protect themselves from embarrassment and block important phone numbers-those of their boss, their parents or other relatives-before they go out and

Virgin Mobile Australia decided to offer the service after noticing an epidemic rise in drunk dialing across the country. A recent survey done by the company of more than 400 people concluded that 95 percent of cell phone users drunk dial and 30 percent of those calls were to former significant oth-

Virgin Mobile USA is considering offering the service but does not have a definitive time-

Stanford University sophomore Anish Hariharan said he would consider using the serv-

ice if it came to the university.
"My mother really doesn't appreciate my drunken calls, so it might be useful."

He does not think, however, that the service would solve the drunk dialing problem at Stanford.

"The reason people drunk

dial is because they think it's fun, so a service like this won't stop it. I don't think Stanford students would use it." can cause problems."

Another problem with the service is that it is not foolproof. In case of emergency, a user can clear all blocked numbers by dialing "333-CLEAR." This is necessary for safety reasons but seems to void the service since there is nothing to stop people from doing that while under the influence

Using the service also has its osts—Virgin Mobile Australia argues that the 25-cent charge is a small price to pay for your

**CLIMB A DIFFERENT** 

peace of mind. The company has yet to say whether the service has been successful.

The website slackertown.com also hopes to curb the problem of drunk dialing. The premise of the website is that instead of calling your friends while drunk, you should call the website's phone number, (321) 600-1200. The calls are then posted on the website for the enjoyment of everyone on the Internet, and are ranked by gender, drunkenness and comic value





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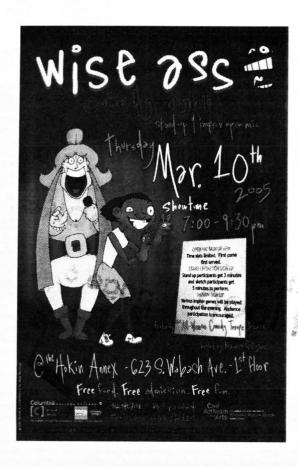


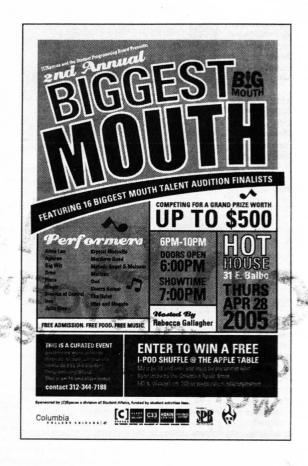
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ON CINNO
Chicago's POETREE brings spoken
Chicago's Poetre west loop page 6
Word to the West loop



Concer ique

BY JAMIE MURNANE/A&E EDITOR



My first concert was Bush and Veruca Salt. I was in the eighth grade, and lived in the middle of nowhere, about an hour away from the nearest music venue. One of the essential reasons I wanted to move back to Chicago (the city of my birth) for college was because I'd be close to numerous venues and could go to a show almost any day of the week, provided I had the cash. After living in the city and frequenting many concerts in the last four years, I've noticed myself dealing with the same annoyances at shows over and over again.

I go to shows because I appreciate the art of live music and I want to have a good time. I encourage others to have a good time as well, but there are some things that go along with a live performance that just drive me crazv.

First of all, why do concertgo-ers shell out 30 bucks to see a band they like when they're just going to sing the songs themselves for the entirety of the set? There's nothing more annoying than standing in the middle of a venue for a show, surrounded by much-too-eager fans who sing (often too loud, too off-key or too offbeat) to the songs being

played. They should have saved their money and stayed at home to put on their own private tribute show.

OK, I lied. Talking during the set is far more annoving than singing along. Talkers have a complete disregard for the performers and are simply disrespecting the people around them. At least those singing think they're showing off how much fun they're having, often oblivious to the fact that they're annoying everyone. But singing and talking are both actions that should be avoided.

If I'm standing in the middle of a venue and people aren't talking or singing/screaming along, my only other problem is that I can't see. I know it's not anyone else's fault that I'm just 5 foot 3, but it just seems that all the 6-foot-tall people just gravitate around me. I'm starting to think there's some kind of conspiracy. "Let's go block the shorty, we don't want her to see the band," they say in the line outside.

Once the show starts, my view is completely obstructed and I spend the remainder of the night on my tiptoes, or constantly ducking and turning, desperately trying to catch a glimpse of the band. The difficulty is often heightened when people decide to move closer to the stage when their favorite song starts playing. After the song, they move back, pushing past me and often step on my toes. They'll do this a cou-ple more times during the set.

What I do see, however (and far too often), are numerous attendees sporting T-shirts of the headlining band. This has always

been a pet peeve of mine and I'm not really sure why. I guess to me band shirts act as a memento of a show already seen, not as proof that the person wearing it really does like the band. "Look everyone, I'm a fan of the band on stage!" the concert shirt worn at the show screams. But that's obvious. If you're at the show, you obviously like the band. This type of behavior is only acceptable if you're going to a Cubs game or something.

Something else that is never acceptable is shouting requests during the set. While some musicians aren't completely annoyed when people do this (and may even play the requested song as an encore) other concert-goers are annoyed by the fact that some people don't realize the bands already have a set list. But, this action is even more problematic when requests are shouted that the band play songs from their side projects. For example, Blur fans should never ask the band to play a Gorillaz song. Death Cab for Cutie fans shouldn't expect the lead singer to perform any Postal Service material. And Mars Volta audience members shouldn't beg for At the Drive-In songs.

Other than these small nuisances, I really enjoy a live show. Especially when there's seating options so I can sit back, enjoy a drink and actually see the show, avoiding the often inappropriate mosh pits. While all people have their own way of enjoying a show, at least mine doesn't infringe on anyone else's good time.

Bill Murray and his siblings are cur-

rently scouting Chicago locations to

expand their chain of restaurants, called Murray Bros. Caddyshack.

The restaurant currently has three locations in the Southeast, but

Murray apparently wants to repre-

sent in his home town-he is a native of the northern suburb of

Wilmette. The Murray brothers are

reportedly considering both subur-

# THISWEEKINA&E

#### **MONDAY**

Ray Bradbury Day: readings and discussion at Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St. 6 p.m.

### **TUESDAY**

Neil Gaiman talks about his comic book, Sandman, at The University of Chicago's Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave. 7 p.m.

Fantomas, The Locust at Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 6:30 p.m.

The Golden Republic, Aqueduct and Wilkie Surprise at Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 9 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Novelist Esther Freud discusses her work at Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 7 p.m.

Chicago based contributors of the women's health book Our Bodies, Ourselves discuss its 35th anniversary at Women & Children First Bookstore, 5233 N. Clark St. 7:30 p.m.

Iron and Wine at House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn Ave. 9 p.m.

### **THURSDAY**

Comic artist Jeff Smith talks about his series 'Bone' at Chicago Comics, 3244 N. Clark St. 6 p.m.

Fluff Girl Burlesque, Bang!Bang!, and Chopper Chicks at Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 9 p.m.

#### **FRIDAY**

Art and electronic music group Team: Abunai throws a launch party for their website at Elastic Art Foundation's 3030, 3030 W. Cortland St. 9 p.m.

Kazuo Ishiguro discusses his new book. Never Let Me Go. at the Oriental Institute, 1155 E. 58th St. 7 p.m.

A.R.E Weapons, Lovely Little Girls, and Princess at Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 10 p.m.

Windy City Rollers' Spring Fling with the ManHandlers and Vee Dee at Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 11 p.m.

And You Will Know Us By The Trail of Dead at Metro, 3730 N. Clark St 6:30 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY**

Screening of Jessica Yu's film In the Realms of the Unreal at Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, 756 N. Milwaukee Ave. 2 p.m.

#### SUNDAY

The Organ, TRS-80, and The Sparrow at Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 9 p.m.



Almost one year after their triumphant reunion tour, The Pixies are ... still touring. The band recently announced 11 new dates, running from May to June. Although no new Chicago dates were included, two shows in Cleveland are only a short drive away. Despite the group's reunion tour being critically acclaimed, they continue to deny the prospect of a new LP in the works.



Trish Bendix - tbendix@chroniclemail.com - 312.344.7521

Todd Burbo - tburbo@chroniclemail.com - 312.344.7086





hubby.

father of Spears' child-to-be is Kevin Federline, Spears' recent



### Please hammer, don't hurt 'em

Korean film 'Oldboy' explores psychology, brutality of vengeance

By Todd Burbo/ A&E Editor

Although Korean director Chan-wook Park is relatively unknown to the American public, his gritty, violent action films would almost certainly appeal to any fan of Quentin Tarantino. The only thing holding him back is a lack of exposure.

His latest cinematic import, 2003's Oldboy, is a perfect

example. On the surface, it seems to be a simple tale of revenge, but the film soon delves beneath the surface of its protagonist's mind, becoming a psychological thriller that just happens to be wrought with brilliantly brutal fight sequences.

The story follows the tragic life of Oh Dae-su (Choi Min-sik), a Seoul businessman who, during a night of drunken debauchery, is kidnapped and inexplicably imprisoned for 15 years.

His cell is surprisingly plush, more of a hotel room than a jail cell, but nevertheless, it has an effect on his psyche. During his stay, he learns that his wife was murdered, and he was framed. Now a fugitive who's already imprisoned, he spends his time training himself to take revenge on his captors, and plotting escape through an entirely unoriginal hole in the wall, dug during over the years, a la Shawshank Redemption.

His plot is spoiled, in a way, when he is released without an explanation. As he wanders the

streets, not knowing where to begin, Dae-su is aided by an unlikely source: His captor, via cell phone, tells Dae-su that he must discover why he was imprisoned, and by within five days, or face drastic consequences

The film unravels like a classic mystery, with Dae-su stumbling across clues, slowly moving toward his goal.

Dae-su's character sets the tone of the film. He's an interesting protagonist in that the audience isn't given any strong reason to root for him, and yet instinctively does. He's introduced as a screaming, bumbling but likeable drunk. Even when torturing people for information, he doesn't seem like a bad guy. His dark, quiet-but-deadly attitude is supplemented by deep, rich sets that are notably dark or bright, but never in between.

For martial arts fans, the centerpiece of Oldboy is an extended fight sequence between Dae-su and a few dozen of his captor's hench-

The fight is beautiful because it shrugs off the

WWW



It would behoove you to listen to Choi Min-sik in 'Oldboy.

elaborate, CGI-driven choreography that has dominated Asian cinema since Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon. Dae-su fights like a self-trained boxer, which is exactly what he is. There are no crane shots, just a single camera following the two-dimensional fight sideways down a narrow hallway, much like an '80s video game—a game in which people are hit in

the face with a hammer.

Despite this spectacular fight, don't expect Oldboy to provide nonstop action. It is first and foremost a psychological thriller. A revenge tale yes, but

a far cry from Kill Bill. Chan-wook Park's Oldboy is now showing at Landmark's Century Centre Cinema, 2828 N. Clark St. For ticket information, call (773) 248-7744.

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### A female comic 'Starr'

Legendary cartoonist Dale Messick brought feminist touch to 'Brenda Starr, Reporter'

By Trish Bendix/Assistant A&E Editor

Cartoonist Dale Messick should be seated between Rosie the Riveter and Gloria Steinem in the history of feminist icons. Messick was a pioneer for females throughout the Great Depression and beyond with her comic strip, "Brenda Starr, Reporter" about a revolutionary, independent woman reporter.

Messick passed away on April 5, 2005, six days before her 99th birthday. After Messick retired in the

mid-80s, teams of female writers and artists took over "Brenda Starr, Reporter." The strip is still in syndication, currently written by Chicago Tribune metro columnist, Mary Schmich and drawn by June Brigman.

The New York Times called Starr "an impossibly glamorous redhead," and while that's true, Messick drew Starr to be just as successful as she was elegant and as focused as she was fashionable.

Messick was born in South Bend, Ind., where she changed her name from Dalia to Dale for gender obscuri-

"She was one

of the first to

just as

ty. Oppression was largely dominant comic journalsay, girls can do this and ism. Messick wanted to prevent the discrimination other well known female comic strip creators like Nel

Brinkley, WCII. Gladys Parker and Edwina Dumm were facing. Before starting the strip she studied art at the Ray Commercial Art School in Chicago and then worked for greeting card companies in both Chicago and New York City.

While Messick worked a steady day job, she pursued comics in her free time, establishing the character Brenda Starr, whose looks were based those of actress Rita worth and whose last Hayworth name was based on her position as The Flash's star reporter.

First published in 1940, "Brenda Starr, Reporter' appeared in more than 250 publications, and the main character, Brenda Starr, went on expeditions that could rival Buffy the Vampire Slayer and write stories that could outwit Lois Lane.

During the Great Depression, Brenda Starr kept women's hopes alive. Starr had many suitors, but remained true to her mystery boyfriend, Basil, who had an exotically rare disease that often called him to the jungle to hunt for a cure. Starr remained busy with her investigative reporting. In one strip she even fills in for the boss while he is away for sur-

gery.
"Well isn't this what every dreams ambitious woman dreams about ... filling the boss' chair?" the boss asks a tearful Brenda. Women around the nation

cheered when Messick wrote a comic celebrating the female role in the workplace, literally illustrating that they could find passion for both men and their

"Certainly she was one of the first women creators to do anything on a consistent basis," said Patrick Brower of Graham Crackers Comics, 69 E. Madison St. "She has a body of work behind her and she was one of the first to say, 'girls can do this just as well.' She had a strong character in Brenda Starr.

Mary Schmich has been writing "Brenda Starr, Reporter" for twenty years now and said Messick's strip has always had an influence on her and other girls she knew.

"There are an awful lot of female reporters of my age who testify that reading Brenda as a child planted in their minds the idea of journalism as a great life for a girl," Schmich said. "Brenda was one of a kind-she had adventures and romances, she was independent and opinionated. She was

a thing that no other woman in the comics was, that hardly any female characters in any entertainment medium were. That was very exciting for girls when I was growing up."

Messick had a successful career creating

well." and illustrating Starr. In retirement she worked on "Granny Glamour," a one-panel cartoon for and about senior citizens.

After a stroke in 1998, Messick was taken care of by her daughter, Starr Rorhman, in Penngrove, Calif. Rorhman was with Messick when she died.

With only one brilliant comid strip, Messick managed to break through the barriers set for women in comics and the working world in general. By creating a memorable character like Brenda Starr (who has since materialized in postage stamp memorabilia and two feature films, one in 1945 and a 1992 version starring Brooke Shields), Messick opened doors for females.

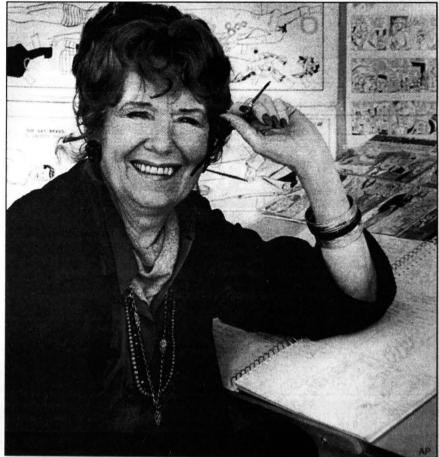
"I don't think her goal was to solely help women be a viable creative source," Brower said. Even today there are few women creators.

Without specifically setting out to trail blaze for others, Messick has been one of the only lucrative female cartoonists, and was, as Animation World Magazine called her, "the last living witness to the Golden Era of Comics."

"Brenda Starr, Reporter" will live on, representing women in the newsroom, dodging pushy suitors to be faithful to the disappearing man she loves, and jumping out of parachutes to get her stories in on time-all while wearing designer heels.



Above: Messick began 'Brenda Starr, Reporter' after studying art at the now defunct Ray Commercial Art School in Chicago. Below: Messick before her stroke in 1998. Bottom: A Messick original of 'Brenda Starr,





### Bands to benefit music education

Chicago musicians collaborate with Columbia's AEMMP Records for compilation

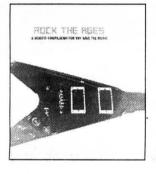
By J. Diamond Weathersby/Staff Writer

In a co-venture with The VH1 Save The Music Foundation, Columbia's student-run record label. **AFMMP** Records. released Rock the Ages, a compilation CD, and held a benefit concert designed to help support music education in schools nationwide.

The CD, released April 12, features songs from 13 Chicago-based rock bands. A benefit concert will be held April 21 at the Double Door, 1572 N.

Milwaukee Ave.
All proceeds from the CD and concert will go to The VH1 Save The Music Foundation—a nonprofit organization committed to generating awareness for the development of music programs in American schools.

Since 1998, Chicago has supported more than



schools through the "Save The Music" program, according to the organization's website.

The Rock the Ages concept is the brainchild of the graduate sector of AEMMP Records, a class offered through Columbia's Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department for music business students.

Dionne Lewis, charity liaison and publicity leader for AEMMP Records, said the class chose to partner with the "Save The Music" program as a means of helping the public understand the impact that art and music programs have on children throughout the country, not just

those in Chicago.
"When we thought about choosing an organization, we knew we wanted it to have something to do with children," Lewis said. "With 'Save The Music,' at least we can put in the effort to try to re-invent music programs that would be most beneficial to our kids.

Lewis, who is also a speech therapist and has worked with the Chicago Board of Education since 1994, has personally seen the benefits that music and art programs offer children.

"These kids are in a state of emergency and it's because they don't have an outlet for expressing their artistic sides," she said. "Music programs help kids excel academically. The violent behaviors that they might typically display are not present in the music programs. It's a soothing class for them."

The class received close to 60 submissions from Chicago area bands, and held listening sessions to determine which bands would be featured on the CD and perform at the benefit concert.

"Over the years AFMME Records has always had a benefit concert," Lewis said. "We wanted to continue the tradition. We wanted the local bands to perform and for people to come out and physically support the charity."

Megan Lupica, president of AEMMP Records, said she is excited about the range of talent showcased throughout the Rock the Ages project.

This is the best project that AEMMP has ever had," Lupica said. "We actually have really great talent from a variety of different record labels."

One of the groups featured on the CD and performing at the benefit concert is Thunderwing, a four-member rock 'n' roll band. The band's drummer, Dave Hornyak, is honored that his band was chosen by Columbia to be part of the entire Rock the Ages initia-



Above: Chicago's Thunderwing is one of 13 bands to contribute a track to the 'Rock the Ages' album to benefit VH1 Save the Music Foundation.

"It's an honor [to be featured on the CD]. ... The proceeds are going to charity and we're all for that. We're excited to play,' Hornvak said.

Hornyak, who was a member of his high school's band and whose parents were music teachers, also believes that art and music in schools are positive outlets for children.

"I think that as far as music education is concerned, or any type of arts programs in public schools, it's a good outlet for kids to nurture their talent and express themselves, which is just as important as academics to me. It helps them be well-rounded," he said.

The Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Department manufactured about 1,000 CDs, according to Lupica, and will sell them around campus for \$10 each.

The Rock the Ages benefit concert at the Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave., is scheduled to start at 8 p.m., April 21. Tickets are \$8 and for 21 and over patrons only. A preparty is scheduled across the street from the Double Door at Tre Via Ristorante, located at 1575 N. Milwaukee Ave.

For more information www.rocktheages.org. vh1savethemusic.com thunderwingusa.com.

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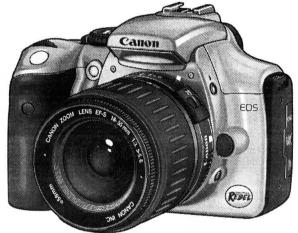
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# these artists have roots

BY J. DIAMOND WEATHERSBY / STAFF WRITER PHOTOS BY DAVE MAKI



In the midst of the spoken word craze that has recently pervaded the world of hip-hop, POETREE, a Chicago-based collective of emcees, poets and vocalists, is interested in providing quality entertainment. And they are also intent on uprooting racial and musical stereotypes, and planting seeds of cultural pride and political revolution through vocal performance and youth outreach programs.

The group originally formed in 1999 as a group of 11 artists, poets, emcees, actors and singers who were frustrated with the political and financial constraints that built creative boundaries encompassing the poetry scene and entertainment industry at that time.

POETREE, which stands for People's Organized Entertainment Teaching Righteous Education Everywhere, now consists of four members: Brother Mike, Isa Starr, Phenom and Rhythm.

While each member brings a specific creative element to the group, poetry is the stump, or base, from which all of the artistic components of the group spring forth.

"We have such a responsibility to use our voices correctly," said Brother Mike, a slender young man with a rich, commanding vibrato and thin locks that drape past his shoulders. "From slavery, to

Reconstruction, to [the] Harlem Renaissance, to the Black Arts Movement, to the early beauty of hip-hop. It's the art of the word that brings us together."

POETREE credits such musicians as Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye and Bob Marley as some of their influences. The group also possesses a deep affinity for the principles and ideals of the Black Arts Movement—a revolutionary period with focal points between 1965 and 1976, in

which black artists of different genres

crafted artwork that was entrenched with deep-seated racial, cultural and political

messages. "[POETREE's vision] mirrors what they were doing in the Black Arts Movement, completely separating away from mainstream ideas or art for art's sake," Brother Mike said. "It's cool to dance, it's cool to kick it, but at the same time you need something to move your mind as well as your body. That's our mission: to try to do both."

The group even petitioned some of the elders from the Black Arts Movement for permission and blessings before officially forming in 1999.

'We even asked Sonia Sanchez and The Last Poets," Brother Mike said. "Before this group started, we asked the elders, we asked our contemporaries: 'Do you think this is a good idea? Do you think this is

a movement?'

The Last Poets, who were featured on a just-released song called "The Corner" with Chicago native Common, are considered to be the forerunners of the original spoken word movement of the late 1960s. Artists like Common and fellow Chicago native Kanye West, along with Talib Kweli and Mos Def, are some of the music industry's most recognized artists who continue to walk the intricate threshold between rap and spoken word, embedding racial, political and spiritual messages in their lyrics and beats.

Much of POETREE's content revolves around spiritual awareness, racial identity, cultural pride, economic disparity and political corruption. The group uses a variety of different genres of music to express their ideals.

"We are a combination of spoken word and R&B, with a foundation of hip-hop," said Rhythm, a petite woman with

thick dreadlocks who brings the "soul" to the group with her retro '70s clothing, lyrical con-

tent and ideals. Another member, Isa Starr, who recently moved to New York, but is still

part of group, brings a "cosmic" vibe with disco. soul and alter-

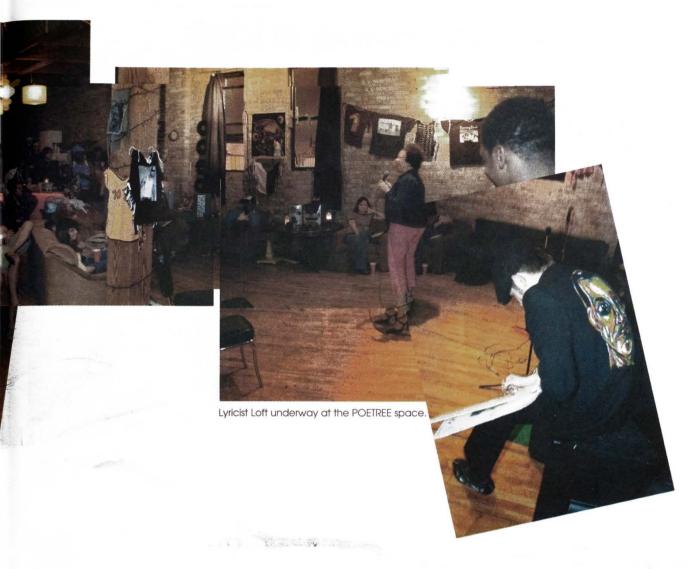
native rock-infused songs, performances and image styling. She dons a large Afro "mohawk," long dan gling earrings and fishnet stockings

While POETREE has undeniable political, cultural and historical roots, the group also believes that there is a certain universal element that connects artists and people of all races, religions and political backgrounds.

"The themes are universal: the theme of educating the people, the theme of heartbreak—those cross color lines," Brother Mike said. "We're just trying to make a movement through art and word, and that crosses color lines, religious beliefs. It cros es political beliefs."

Watching POETREE perfo is a multifaceted experience The group's signature spoke word performance, "Spinnin features Brother Mike and Rhythm reciting melodic por





y, Phenom rapping and Isa Starr singing and rhyming about the complexities of love and relationships. The mempers also physically perform, or spin, throughout the performance, adding a theatrical comconent to the routine.

"Every time I see [POET-REE], I'm inspired to write," said Dennis Thompson, a 23ear-old Columbia graduate student and member of a hipnop organization known as H2O.

Thompson, who has been acquainted with POETREE for about a year, attended and participated in a POETREEsponsored open mic forum known as the Lyricist Loft.

Every Tuesday night, the group provides open space for artists of all kinds to share their work. On the night Thompson performed, a documentary film was screened, a fashion designer crafted original Tshirts on location all night, an artist created an abstract paintng, multiple emcees rapped and beat-boxed, several vocalsts sang and a few poets recited original poems.

The "Lyricist Loft" space is ust as nonconformist as POETREE's mission, content and performances. Nontraditional forms of artwork are sprawled all over the loft, including a mattress suspended from a wall containing an abstract, multi-hued representation of a human face. Handcrafted, designer T-shirts







Clockwise from top left: Brother Mike, Keesha of Boogie Wear and Quazi, the night's emcee.

are spread all atop couches and posted on some of the loft's support beams. There is even a massive film projection screen in the middle of the loft's seating area, as well as a host of signs and hand-written messages, two of which read: "Beware of artists—they mix with all classes of society," and "Excuse the f\*\*k outta my language.

In addition to performing and hosting Lyricist Lofts, POET-REE also facilitates comprehensive youth empowerment programs and conducts poetry

workshops throughout the country.

"Artistic expression workshop is something that was designed by us to empower youth, to control their anger, to expose them to outlets for frustration and conflict." said Phenom, a baby-faced, charismatic young man with shoulder-length locks and a hypnotic, rhyming style.

In the workshops, POETREE members provide nutritious snacks, play thought-provoking ice-breakers and engage children in meaningful activities as

a means of getting them to think on a higher, more positive level.

One activity, known as the "egg drop," where the children work together to save one egg, as opposed to working against each other to save many eggs, highlights the significance of unity and cooperation in achieving a common goal.

Natasha Arrington, a 20year-old former Columbia student who became acquainted with the group earlier in the year, recognizes the value of POETREE's community service initiatives.

"I think it's very positive to see them giving back. It's very noble of them. I think that giving back is beautiful," Arrington said of POETREE's artistic expression workshops.

Arrington has also participated in Lyricist Lofts, and embraces the power of poetry. She appreciates groups like POETREE for providing venues for people to express themselves freely.

"For a lot of people, poetry is like church," Arrington said. "I can spit some stuff and nobody will judge me. When people spit poetry, they let you see a side of them that they normally don't let anyone see. Poetry is an uncensored outlet.

In terms of the group's future, POETREE has no intention of halting or slowing down their educational efforts and artistic progress. Not only do the members plan to continue to branch out from social, political and artistic pigeonholes, but Brother Mike, Phenom and Rhythm are also contemplating branching out geographically by accompanying fellow group member Isa Starr in New York.

Until then, both individually and collectively, the members of POETREE will continue to strive to revolutionize education and entertainment from their home base of Chicago.

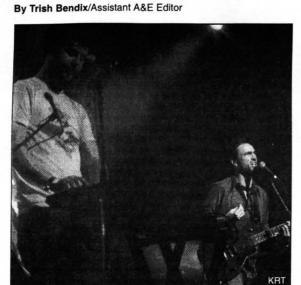
"Everybody's playing their position right now and the movement has come together," Brother Mike said. "We're gonna keep moving and we're not gonna stop."

"It's People's Organized **Entertainment Teaching** Righteous Education Everywhere," Phenom adds to re-emphasize the group's acronym and mission before continuing to beat-box and adlib to his own tune.

POETREE's first independently produced album, Positive Pollution, is now available at select Chicago locations. For information on how to purchase Positive Pollution, to get on POETREE's e-mail list for group updates, showcases and performances or for more information about Lyricist Lofts, which are held every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at 660 W. Lake St. (back entrance) for \$5, call (612) 435-4245.

### The Shins need a kick

Sub-Pop Records sweethearts are sub-par at sold-out Congress Theater performance



When indie pop-rock outfit The Shins showed up to play a sold-out show at the Congress Theater, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave., on April 14, they were amazed to be playing such a large venue.

"It's big in here," said keyboardist Marty Crandall. "I didn't know this many people knew who the hell we were in Chicago." Crandall later remarked he felt as though the show was "Credence Clearwater Revisited."

The Shins may not realize that their fan base has tripled since they were featured (twice) in the movie *Garden State* last year. While they used to be an under-the-radar college radio band, they were shoved into the spotlight when Natalie Portman urged actor and director Zach Braff to listen to The Shins when they first met in a waiting room.

The Shins' Congress Theater

performance was filled with small ironies. There were beefy bodyguards seated on the sides of the stage, whose sole job seemed to be to shine flashlights on random parts of the crowd, only to see head bobbers singing along to bubbly two-minute tunes. The Shins' biggest fan was also its smallest—a 10-year-old girl rhythmically jumping and dancing in her seat devotedly through the entire set.

The Shins are a rock 'n' roll band, but there wasn't much rock at the show. The set started out briskly, with fast-paced fan favorites, but somewhere along the way, the four members lost steam. Suddenly, being in the crowd felt much like sitting in a bedroom listening to the band's albums—but with 2,890 people.

with 2,890 people.

The set list was a good mix of material from both 2001's Oh, Inverted World and 2003's Chutes Too Narrow, as well as featuring two new unrecorded songs. But it was the two songs featured on the Garden State soundtrack that received the biggest applause and response. "Caring is Creepy" was the opener, so fans who only knew this and the other soundtrack song "New Slang" were most likely bored with the

rest of the show.

Even though they reproduced their mid-tempo indie pop perfectly, The Shins lacked energy for an 8 p.m. show. They remained stationary in their stage positions, including vocalist/guitarist James Mercer, who, resembling a young Kevin Spacey, was polite and quiet. Crandall would make occasional funny remarks, announcing halfway through the set that his underwear was "chafing" him and he was just getting warmed up. Ironically, this was when the show turned lackluster.

When Mercer performed "Young Pilgrim" alone with an acoustic guitar, conversations were more prevalent than his soft singing. The crowd was restless, but inevitably pleased—most likely because they, mostly in their mid-20s, were drinking plenty of Miller Lite. Many of them were probably reliving their last year of college when they first heard *Oh, Inverted World* and identified with Mercer's autobiographical storytelling.

While paying \$30 for the concert is more than audience members would have to spend for a night with their head-phones and two Shins CDs, some enjoyed the mediocre performance and blissfully demanded an encore—which turned into four more short songs.



Left: Crandall and Mercer having a shindig. Above: 'But Natalie, the Shins had no energy!' Natalie Portman introduces Zach Braff to the Shins in 'Garden State.'

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### Tori Amos will 'bee-keep'ing fans happy

Singer/songwriter's ninth album is experimental, but still proves powerful

By Emily Logan/Mustang Daily (California Poly State U.)

Tori Amos is an anomaly in the music business. She somehow manages to continuously change her music and follow

(or reject) trends while retaining the spark that makes her recognizable. In her ninth album The Beekeeper, Amos continues to experiment with new styles of music—some of which work and some of which don't.

The album begins with "Parasol." song that could be placed on a compilation of quintessential Amos recordings. Her soft piano licks form the base of the song as drums, harmonies and guitars slowly enter as the song builds. But the beauty of this song is in the tender, almost gospel-like melody.

While discussing her album with the press, Amos mentioned that it has

political and religious undertones. While these themes are not obvious at first they begin to sneak into Amos' songs through her lyrics. For instance, "Parasol" begins with, "When I come to terms to terms with this/My world will change for me/I haven't moved since the



Tori Amos stays true to her piano and vocal driven songs but adds some extra instrumentation 'The Beekeeper.'

call came/... I stare at the wall knowing on the other side/The storm that waits for me." Amos speaks of this "storm" in numerous interviews but never seems to clarify if it is political, religious or neither.

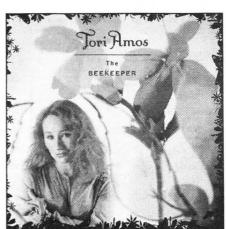
The second song on the album, "Sweet the Sting,"

is a work of original songwriting, but somehow doesn't feel like it will hold up among other Amos recordings. The song is smooth, but it lacks something—perhaps an emotion that she injects only into songs of her personal style.

Damien Rice, an Irish recording artist, is featured in the next song. "The

next song, "The Power of Orange Knickers." The two make a powerful vocal team. Even with the strange and esoteric lyrics, their voices intermingle to create a striking effect. The next few songs continue the mellow, experimental trend of the first three. Though they are good songs, the album is lacking the rough rock songs

that Amos has become so good at. Whether it's age, motherhood (daughter Natashya is now 4) or both, *The Beekeeper* exudes an air of slowing down.



The centerpiece of the album, the six-minute "Witness" is perhaps the most experimental song on the album, with pipe organs and a choir. As it begins, it sounds a bit elevator-esque, and it inevitably slows down near the middle. It is definitely a clear representation of the album as a whole.

The next song provides a stark contrast. "Original Sinsuality" is a short ballad that features (refreshingly) Amos and her piano, like in the old days. It seems this is all Amos needs. but her desire to change

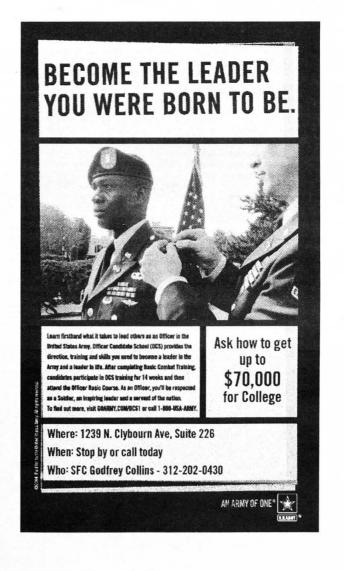
and play other styles is definitely taking precedence.

The title track surprisingly different the rest of the album. With a rich electronic beat and a low drone in the background, Amos' voice dominates and creates intensity unparalleled anywhere else album. The weak point of this

song, like the other songs, is that there is no climax.

With the genius songwriting skills that we all know Amos has, it is slightly disappointing to hear her fill an album with slow, somewhat monotonous songs. But regardless of how well *The Beekeeper* does, Amos will continue to be a strong force for the female recording world and her next project promises to be different. No matter what she does, there is nothing compromising her power.

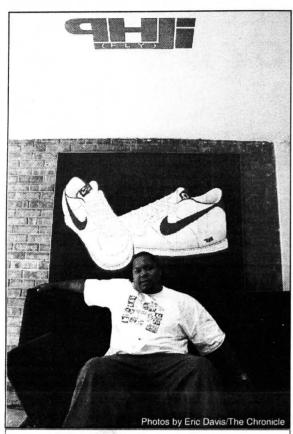




### 'Where'd you get those shoes?'

Hyde Park native gives Chicago sneaker addicts a place to call home

By Todd Burbo/A&E Editor



Above: PHLI owner Dave Jeff relaxes in his store. Below: A case of shoes you only wish were for sale.

When the Hyde Park shoe store PHLI opened last April, Chicago became a little more hip-hop. Sure, Chicago already had Kanye West, Common, and Twista, but to keep up with New York and Los Angeles, what the city really needed was a premium sneaker boutiquea void PHLI fills perfectly.

Inspired by specialty stores in New York and Los Angeles, PHLI strives to bring style from the East Coast and West Coast to America's third coast.

Dave Jeff, who owns and operates PHLI, first started the business not as a retail outlet, but as a marketing agency. Then working as a manager at such Chicago outlets as Tony's Sports and Half Time, he created his business to promote the brands he was selling, such as Royal Elastics and Sean John.

Although PHLI originally promote these existed to brands, don't expect to find them in Jeff's shop. Aside from Nike footwear, the store only carries clothing with the PHLI

"I'm trying to design the PHLI line like an urban Gap, where everything in the store is PHLI clothing," Jeff said.

Isack Fadlon, owner of the world-famous sneaker boutique Sportie LA, which Jeff cites as an influence for PHLI, agreed that establishing a brand is

"I think it's absolutely crucial to have your own identity," he said. "Within that, you can sell a number of brands, but it's

important to establish your own

celebrity clientele, which includes names like Will Smith, Biz Markie, and Lebron James, is already boosting the popularity of the PHLI line.

Although an "urban Gap" may be in the future, the focus for now is on sneakers, and at PHLI there is only one kind of sneaker: Nike.

"Right now, we're just carrying Nike, because, in the past I've had other brands in here, but everybody just comes in checking for Nike," Jeff said.

While he acknowledges Adidas' position as an icon in hip-hop, Jeff is proud to line his walls exclusively with the worldfamous swoosh.

"My relationship with Nike is good. I'm one of the only African-Americans with a Nike 'boutique status' account. which means that I get everything you can't get at Foot Locker—all of the exclusive models," he said.

#### Hip-hop never lies

Jeff knows how important a pair of sneakers can be to the hip-hop generation. Shoes have been a part of the culture since its inception, and their hasn't prominence faded. Check the evidence: In 1986, Run-DMC's track "My Adidas" proclaimed "We make a good team, my Adidas and me. We get around together, rhyme forever, and we won't be mad Nas' 1994 classic Illmatic, where he declared in "N.Y. State of Mind," "I'm an addict for sneakers, twenties of buddha and bitches with beepers." In 2002, Nelly brought it to the new millennium with his track "Air Force Ones." a dedication to the famous Nike model.

Jeff agrees that sneakers and hip-hop go hand in hand.

"Sneakers are to hip-hop like long hair is to rock and roll," he

While hip-hop heads may be the most sneaker-crazy group, anyone can get in the game. It's more about creating an individual identity than expressing a



specific taste. According to Fadlon, it's all about individual-

"Sneakers are an identity, they say a lot about the person. That's why they're so important," he said.

Jeff likens their importance to another popular fetish.

"Somebody once said that Sneakers are our first car; they show status and prestige," he "I think that's a perfect quote to describe their importance.

#### Keep it hood

When it came to choosing a location for the first PHLI store, Hyde Park was an obviouschoice. Jeff's devotion to the neighborhood is even reflected in the brand's name.

"This location is perfect, because I'm a product of my environment. I grew up in Hyde Park," Jeff said. "The store is in Harper's Court-I used to run through here. skateboard through here. It's cool.'

The name PHLI echoes his love for the neighborhood, it is, in fact, a backwards acronym for "I Love Hyde Park."

If you're new to the sneaker scene, don't feel intimidated by PHLI; it's the perfect place to start your new addiction. Jeff, who has been known to personally greet customers at the

door, will be more than happy to suggest a pair of kicks.

His advice on starting your collection: "I'd start with your basic, all white Air Force One. It's clean and slick in style. It's like a statement. People are wearing white Air Force Ones with suits nowadays," he said.

If you don't have the cash to buy a new pair, try digging through your parents' or older siblings' collections for some hot shoes. Trends tend to repeat themselves, and a pair of vintage Nikes is probably more coveted than the latest

"Everything's circulating," Fadlon said. "What we were selling in '85 and '86 is coming It seems like every decade or so, there's a resurgence of style."

While some may never understand the obsession, Fadlon thinks it's a healthy one, as opposed to the other addictions society can offer.

"Shoes are a fascination for people," he said. "There are a lot of things people can get hooked on, so it's nice to see [people] hooked on shoes. Sneakers are a culture in themselves.

PHLI is located in Hyde Park, at 5210 S. Harper Ave., Suite F (in Harpers Court). For more information, call (773) 493-





### Crossword

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- diagnostic 17 Vincent Furnier
- on stage 19 Screwball
- Animal hide
- 21 Amen! 23 Encourages
- actively 25 Obstruct
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  33 Powerful draft
- animals 36 Madison Ave
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- durations
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  65 Suit maker
  66 Type of doctor?
  67 Picnic pest
  68 Soviet dictator
  69 Loaf end
  - DOWN
- Mom-and-pop org. Be ill
- 2 Be ill 3 Capital of Libya 4 States leaving
- the Union 5 Separatist
- religious body 6 Marriage vow

Solutions

04/18/05

F L Y S T A L I N H E E L



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  8 Liquid taste
  9 Golf gadgets
  10 Pointer
  11 Loss of memory
  12 Produced like an
- orchard 13 Nervous laughter 18 Ernie of golf
- 22 Flying mammal 23 "Nova" network 24 College cheer 25 Looked over 26 Military landing field
- field 27 Does some
- cobbling
  30 Church singers
  31 Distributed the
- 31 Distributed the deck
  34 Finish
  35 Overflow letters
  38 Somewhat atypically small
  39 Intercept
  40 Moral
  41 Opposite of launch

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- 53 Golfer's norm 55 Decree

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- 59 Actress Farrow 60 Building wing 61 Luau staple 62 Expire 63 Letters of L.

### The American (wet) dream

Beatrix Dixon

When your job consists of sitting in front of a computer for extended periods of time, you never know what you'll stumble upon. I'm lucky enough to have a boss with a sense of humor and an eye for offensive news. He decided to share a quiz with me this week. The quiz, the "Cost of Sex," was written by

a man with a serious disdain for American women. It asks men to tally up how much time they spend doing things they don't want to do for or with their girlfriends, how much money they spend on them, and how often they have sex with them.

The quiz is supposed to prove that American women are money hungry and annoying. It also implies that they withold sex for power.

Instead of getting worked up about the quiz, I got to thinking about American women, American men, and the pursuit of the perfect sex

life. Americans have it all. We have big cars, big bank accounts and even bigger egos. But when it comes to sex and relationships well, we're still on the Puritan

In a country plagued with images of sex and sexuality, the topic still incites the kind of shame and embarrassment that most Europeans threw to the wind years ago.

the wind years ago.

American women and sex
have publicly become fast
friends in recent years. Women
know what they want, and most aren't as hesitant to discuss it as they were in the past. The thing is, now that the women are speaking up, the men seem to be thrown off.

"He told me he wasn't going to sleep with me for awhile," my friend Mandy said about her boyfriend at the time. "He said he thought I was with him just for the sex. We didn't last much longer. Maybe I was just in it for the sex."

Playing the shame game about sex screws things up as well. If

your significant other isn't open with you about his or her needs or wants out of embarrassment, most likely the sex will suf

My friend Kelly had amazing sex with her boyfriend, but the foreplay was less than stellar.

"I would go down on him, because I like to now and then," she said. "But he never returned the favor. It's just not fair."

In the gospel according to Beatrix, for a relationship to last, the sex needs to be good. And for good sex, good communication is key.

tion is key.

This goes for the guys too.

"I like having romantic, sweet sex with my girlfriend sometimes," my friend Keith said.

"But I want to spice things up a bit.

I don't know how to ask her. don't want her to be offended." When a woman comes home with a pair of handcuffs and some sex toys, men are usually up for it, literally. But most men

are nervous about their partner's reactions if they want a change in the bedroom.

"I don't want her to think I'm not satisfied," Keith said. "But I just want my prostate stimulated once in awhile

Another touchy subject is anal sex. Which, in my book, is a totally different ball game.

different ball game.

Many women think anal sex is painful and degrading, while other women swear by it. Same goes for men. Some men dream of the day their girlfriends will want it, while others want as far away from the back-dear an pagible. door as possible.

The anal conversation should be well thought out, and preferably, the woman should make the sugges-

tion if she wants it.

For some, the American dream may consist of a white picket fence, for others it may consist of a white pearl necklace. The key is to keep an open mind and an open dialogue.

-Beatrix@chroniclemail.com

### The Half Funny

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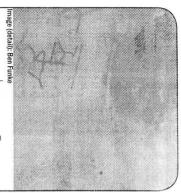
**Hokin Annex Gallery** 623 S. Wabash Ave, first floor hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5 Sat. by appt.

### Paper Echo: 6th Annual Photo Print Media Studio Exhibition

#### April 4, 2005 - May 6, 2005

Reception: Friday, April 8, 5-7pm

Paper Echo is an exhibition of student artwork in a variety of print techniques, such as, Van Dyke, relief, intaglio, cyanotype, Lazertran, and much more. The Photo Print Media Studio is a unique work area at Columbia College Chicago where students can explore printmaking, experimental photography and nineteenth century photography. The Photo Print Media student curriculum bridges the gap between fine art and photographic studies.











**Hokin Annex Gallery** 623 S. Wabash Ave, first floor hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5 Sat. by appt.

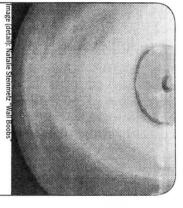
#### Polytheism of Gender

### April 4 - May 10, 2005

Reception: Friday, April 8, 5-7pm

This is an open call exhibition with artwork that responds to how society constructs gender, and how humans view their sex, sexuality, and identity. Polytheism of Gender is an exhibition of 2-d and 3-d artwork that explores god-like idols that define gender roles in this society.

Curated by Hannah Czehatowski, Gretchen Jankowski and Matt Ohm on behalf of the Arts Community Student Organization.











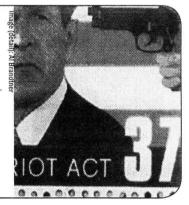
Glass CURTAIN Gallery 1104. S. Wabash, first floor hours: T, W, F, 9-5, M, Th 9-7 Sat. by appt.

### Axis of Evil: The Secret History of Sin

### April 6-May 11, 2005

Reception & Gallery Talk: Thursday, April 7, 5-8 pm

An international exhibition thematically peeking into the depths of evil through the print making form of the postage stamp sheet. Curated and navigated by Michael Hernandez de Luna, this exhibition includes a stamp sheet from the late Ed Paschke. In memory of our friend and colleague Ed Paschke.













C33 Gallery 33 E Congress, first floor hours: M-Th 9-7, F 9-5 Sat. by appt.

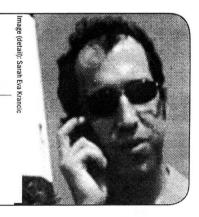
#### WHAT IS GREEN?

#### April 11- May 11, 2005

Reception: Thursday, April 14, 5-7pm

This open call student exhibition features 2-d and 3-d artwork in a variety of media that is primarily green. The exhibition provides an opportunity to examine monochromatic materials and work that celebrates and challenges our perception of what green is.

This show is juried by Columbia College Chicago artist alumnae.1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be issued during the reception.



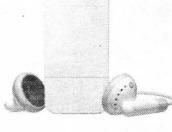
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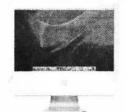
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The Columbia Chronicle is planning its annual literary supplement to be published

Monday, April 25 All submissions are due April 20. Please call Kristen Menke 312-344-8516

or e-mail copy@colum.edu with any questions.

Please bring your submissions to the Columbia Chronicle office (623 S. Wabash Ave. - Suite 205). Submissions should be on disk (Word files) accompanied by a manuscript copy and all pertinent information. All disks will be available for you to pick up after May 1. Only students are eligible to enter work.



thursday
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## Ray Story Week Epilogue: Bradbury Presented by the Fiction Writing Department Free and open to the public



"...for more than six decades, Ray Bradbury, an Illinois native, has delighted and challenged readers and critics with his imagination, creativity and cultural commentary.

Richard M. Daley, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO (from his Proclamation of April 18, 2005 as RAY BRADBURY DAY IN CHICAGO

Monday, April 18, 6 pm

(5 pm doors) Harold Washington Library Cindy Pritzker Auditorium, 400 S. State Street, Chicago

Sponsored in part by the Chicago Public Library

General Information 312-344-7611 or 312-344-8559 storweek.colum.edu

Media Information 773-472-2254 Shervliohnston@aol.com Celebrating literary legend Ray Bradbury and the release of his authorized biography, The Bradbury Chronicles: The Life of Ray Bradbury by award-winning journalist and Columbia College Chicago instructor Sam Weller. Book signing to follow.

Conversation with Sam Weller and Donna Seaman, Booklist Associate Editor and host of WLUW's Open Books.

### Readings with Harbor Lit Theater Company.

Paul Amandes, Will Casey, Doreen Feitelberg, and Tom Mula under the artistic direction of Catherine Slade. Music by Kirk Brown.

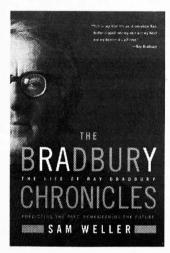
Telephone Q&A with Ray Bradbury. Ray speaks to the audience from his home in Los Angeles.





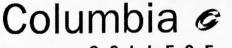






"This is my life! It's as if somehow Sam Weller slipped into my skin and my head and my heart-it's all here."

Ray Bradbury, on The Bradbury Chronicles









This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. Story Week is sponsored in part by the Chicago Public Library and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs

### COMMENTARY

### The real crime is fraud, not free speech

uch of Columbia spent last week giddy about the national media attention received by the college for hosting the controversial art exhibit "Axis of Evil: The Secret History of Sin," in the Glass Curtain Gallery. The college has taken the opportunity to laud it's support of controversial art at all levels, but these statements are a bit misguided.

The media spotlight shone in Columbia's direction after a pair of Secret Service agents crashed the gallery's opening night, asking questions about exhibit curator Michael Hernandez de Luna and requesting information on every artist with work featured in the stamp art collection.

Local media, including CBS, NPR, ABC, the Chicago Sun-Times and a laundry list of other outlets picked up on the story, first reported in The Chronicle.

School officials basked in the media attention and took the opportunity to expand on Columbia's dedication to free speech and freedom of expression.

Unfortunately, this is where Columbia's officials sort of missed the mark.

The Secret Service's presence at the "Axis of Evil" art exhibit had nothing to do with stifling free-

dom of expression or free speech. Their visit had to do with a continuing investigation into Hernandez de Luna as a counterfeiter and defrauder of the United States Postal Service.

The fact that one of the show's artists drew a penis on the Pope's hat is not enough to draw the attention of federal investigators.

Actually, the Secret Service's real interest in Hernandez de Luna stems from the fact that he circulates his manufactured stamps through the mail as if they were sanctioned postage, a federal offense. Hernandez de Luna has said that he doesn't consider his art a success until it has made it through the USPS or comes back to him canceled.

This poses a major problem with the post office, which makes its money by selling postage.

According to U.S. Code and Criminal Procedure Title 18: "Whoever makes or prints, or authorizes to be made or printed, any postage stamp, postage meter stamp, stamped envelope, or postal card, of the kind authorized and provided by the Post Office Department or by the Postal Service, without the special authority and direction of the Department or Postal Service ... Shall be

fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both."

Hernandez de Luna has been in trouble with the authorities before, not for the content of his art as much as the methods that he uses to circulate it. He told The Chronicle last week that postal authorities document every exhibit he conducts and every piece of art he makes. He was surprised by the attention garnered by "Axis of Evil" because, by his own admission, it is one of his tamer shows.

While the media and legal attention given to the Glass Curtain Gallery's exhibit allowed Columbia officials the chance to stand up for the rights of artists on a national stage, their case never challenged these rights.

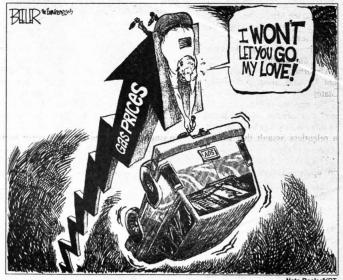
The truth is that there has been no attempt to censor "Axis of Evil." All the media attention springs from a pair of Secret Service agents performing proper protocol by checking in on a suspected criminal.

Columbia officials might want to think twice before speaking publicly, on a national stage, about aiding and abetting a known counterfeiter who is under federal investigation for the circulation of fraudulent stamps.

### BACK FROM THE DRAWING BOARDS



Chris Gallevo/The Chronicle



Nate Beeler/KR

### Students should center on education

Perhaps the time has arrived for us to admit that the repeated demands for a student center will not get the building to appear any sooner.

It is not as though plans aren't in the works, but we must exercise some degree of patience and understanding in this matter. The student center will likely be part of Columbia's campus at some point down the road, but shouldn't we be more concerned about, say, graduating?

The ball has only started to roll for plans to construct a student center, and nothing has been approved yet. In other words: There's still a ways to go, and nobody—whether they are freshmen or seniors—should expect plans to rapidly materialize into a finished product anytime soon.

The need for a place that allows students to spend free time is not of the highest importance, considering the building will require more than a few things

Columbia does not have enough of right now.

For starters, there is the estimated price tag of more than \$25 million—a figure still little more than a guess. Considering that Columbia is based in the middle of the skyrocketing real estate area of the South Loop, the idea of how this building will be paid for—and how much it will ultimately cost—is a frightening thought.

Financial constraints factor into another more prominent concern of some students: security.

While the South Loop area has undergone gentrification for a number of years, safety is enough of an issue that is was a major concern for students during the Q-and-A session following President Warrick L. Carter's state of the college address last month.

Additionally, there are the concerns that already exist, namely, the need for more classroom space. In the midst of reshuffling departments and other facilities, our primary concern should be the setting for the classes we attend.

While it is understandable that the \$33,866 cost per academic year for students who live on campus would make some feel entitled to a student center, the college's funds should be directed toward the venues for education rather than where time could be spent outside the classroom.

It seems a little hard to believe that in Chicago we are having difficulty finding ways to spend our free

If and when the student center arrives, it will be a day we hope to see as graduates rather than as students. While the hopeful completion date does not have the immediacy most students would like, the reality is the pursuit of education takes precedence.

For a college that celebrates the creativity of its student body, we'd like to think that we could all be innovative and resourceful enough to, at the very least, find other things to complain about.



Steve Sack/KRT

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### Looking for a safe place to live? Try Baghdad

By Mark W. Anderson Managing Editor

What's the difference between Baghdad and almost any community in the United States?

Parts of downtown Baghdad may be safer.

That's because, while most of Iraq may be going through what could safely be described as an insurgency designed to throw off the shackles of an occupying army, the country's people have vet to embrace the kind of ideology that equates freedom with the right to kill their fellow citizens with guns. Roadside bombs are aimed at passing American Humvees, but few school shoot-ings, workplace rampages or father-and-son highway snipers are reported.

Between the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, few marital disputes are settled with bullets, drug deals ending in gunfire or judge's families being murdered by deranged gunmen. Out in Mosul or Tikrit, it's probably hard to find the friendly hunting trip gone terribly wrong or drive-by gang shootings. And in the slums of Sadr City or in the heart of the heavily armed Sunni Triangle, there are few 12year-old children who accidentally end up shooting themselves in the head.

Or quiet church services that end in bloodbaths.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about the United

The depressing litany of handgun and firearm-related deaths in this country has become such a relentless assault that we are immune to them.

From Brookfield, Wis., where an upset parishioner shot and killed seven fellow church-goers on March 12; to Red Lake, Minn., where a teen gunman killed nine people at a school on March 21: to Canton, Texas, where the father of a high school football player shot and wounded the team's coach with an assault rifle on April 7, stories of Americans killing each other with guns come at us at a frightening pace.

zens to bear arms. Gun advocates have succeeded in formulating the debate in terms of the "right" of gun owners to exercise their "freedom" versus the "danger" of federal or state laws to remove that freedom. Firearm owners are portrayed by organizations like the National Rifle Association as hardy individualists, carrying on

control and the "right" for citi-



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

What do all of these stories have in common? Only this: The behavior of assailants and those who owned the guns was celebrated in this country—if not by law, then by custom-right up to the moment they pulled the trig-

No single issue in this country is as couched in lies, half-truths, mythology and organized propaganda as the question of gun the pioneer spirit that made this country great while protecting their homes and families.

Such an image, however, ignores the 30,000 or so deaths from illegal guns, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, that occur each year in this country. Nor does it face up to the question about whose freedom is more important, that of the

"handgun enthusiast" or that of a child going to school on any given day.

In fact, the terms of the debate have become so distorted that a number of states are looking to ease the already loose restrictions on carrying a concealed weapon in public.

The state senate in Arizona, for example, has recently approved a bill that allows people to carry guns into bars and restaurants, as long as they're not drinking.
In Florida, Gov. Jeb Bush said

he will soon sign into law the socalled "Castle Doctrine" bill, giving Floridians more discretion to legally shoot would-be attackers in their homes, vehicles and public places.

In fact, a ratio of more than four out of five states across the country already allow citizens to carry concealed weapons in public, and many more are considering relaxing restrictions further.

For those who are opposed to any kind of gun control, the kinds of stories listed above are a small price to pay for the freedom we enjoy as Americans. Not to mention the freedoms we are trying to export to Iraq.

But one further fact may prove useful.

According to Handgun-Free America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to banning private gun ownership in the United States, 8,123 Americans have already died this year from guns. That's 6,500 more than the 1,543 Americans who have died on the battlefields and back streets of Iraq in the two years we have been at war in that country.

Which, when you look at it, can only mean one thing: It must be safer in Baghdad.

### Roamin' Numerals

230

Number of pieces of "dried bovine dung" contestants could choose from in the 36th annual World Champion Cow Chip Throwing Contest held on April 16 in Beaver, Okla. Each contestant was allowed two attempts. The person with the longest throw wins.

Number of legal brothels in Nevada that would be taxed by new legislation under consideration by state lawmakers. The bill would create a 10 percent tax on food and drinks and assess a \$2 fee on each customer. A separate bill levying a 10 percent tax on strip clubs in the state is also being considered.

Number of states

with nuclear power plants whose fuel storage pools may be vulnerable to terrorist attacks, according to a report from the National Academy of Science released on April 6. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, how ever, contended that

### Eliminating 'the diaper' from the Senate

By Derek Strum Commentary Editor

Hoping to avoid a trip to the bathroom later that evening, the late senator from South Carolina, Strom Thurmond, decided to dehydrate himself by using a steam room in 1957.

After taking the floor to fight what he referred to as the "so-called voting rights bill,"—otherwise known as the Civil Rights Act-Thurmond started to read off the election laws of all 48 states that were in the union. He continued to speak for 24 hours and 18 minutes. Newsweek said he even had an aide camped out in the cloakroom with a pail just in case nature called.

Thurmond's filibuster was the longest in the Senate's history, and while it's another example of some of the crazy things our elected officials are willing to do, what the GOP is hoping to do with the process these days is especially deranged: Ban it.

For years, the process some call "taking to the diaper" has allowed legislators to block or

delay Senate action on a bill by employing numerous methods. including lengthy debates, procedural motions, or just simply talking about whatever they want, for however long they want

And considering that the filibuster may be the one weapon left in the Democratic Party's political arsenal, it's hardly surprising that Republican leaders in Congress want to scrap it.

Increasing speculation has mounted that Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist will step down from the Supreme Court this summer since he was diagnosed with thyroid cancer last October. And all signs indicate that nothing would tickle President Bush's fancy more than nominating a "strong ideological conservative" to replace

would likely Democrats oppose such a choice, which is why GOP leaders are threatening to exercise what they refer to as the "constitutional option" to ban filibusters. Republicans argue that doing so will bring the Senate back to acting in an advisory capacity when it comes to judicial nominees and ensure there are votes on confirmation. Democrats, on the other hand, have taken to calling the plan the "nuclear option" because it would essentially detonate the daily dealings in the Senate and forever change the way in which a minority power gets to exercise its constitutional right to affect legislation. In short, getting rid of the filibuster would be a big step on the road to one-party rule.

But whichever name you pre-fer, it appears that the filibuster has now become an endangered

The GOP actually claims that Democrats have abused the procedure by blocking 10 of the president's judicial nominees in his first term, but as the Washington Post noted last December, "confirmation of Bush nominees exceeds in most cases the first-term experience of presidents dating to Ronald Reagan."

Lawmakers of both parties have used filibusters in the past,

but the Republican majority in Congress is more than willing to rewrite the rules for its own benefit.

Besides, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay has already reworked the House ethics rules as well as the committee that admonished him three times last year. And now he's talking about impeaching judges who didn't follow his lead in the recent Terri Schiavo publicity stunt. Doing so, after all, would create a lot of new openings for possible Bush nominees

Not all Republicans have gone mad with power, however. Arizona Sen. John McCain, appearing on CBS' "Face the Nation" April 10, said, "I think both parties have to understand that the price they would pay would be very high . . . with the American people.'

Rest assured should the Senate become nothing more than what Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid called "merely a rubber stamp for the president," it will likely be enough to scare the piss out of everyone.

### Choice Cuts

the panel's claims were "unreason-able."

"He even acts like a naughty schoolboy by hiding the cigarette when staff approach the area."

Daryl Barnes, spokesman for the Bloemfontein Zoo in Johannesburg, commenting on the smoking habit devel-oped by the South African zoo's chimpanzee, Charlie. Zoo officials are trying to end an addiction developed by the grown male chimp that smokes cigarettes thrown to him by visitors.

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### Columbia college chicago

# URBAN ARTS FESTIVAL 2005

friday, june 3

### coming up: artwalk & sale

Celebrate graduating student work at manifest, Columbia College Chicago's urban arts festival. Read the Chronicle every week prior to manifest to learn of all the thrilling events offered.

OGLE: the best fine art Columbia has to offer on a self-guided tour of more than 12 galleries and studio exhibitions, with much of the student artwork for sale. The ArtWalk & Sale showcases fine art, graphic design, fashion, architectural studies, photography, digital media technology, and interdisciplinary book and paper arts.

The **manifest** ArtWalk & Sale features free trolley service and all day self guided tours with receptions from 5-7pm.

### get involved!

Students, talk to your leachers and department heads about end-of-year departmental exhibits and presentations or visit our web site to find out how you can be a part of manifest 05.

### call for site-specific performances

manifest's TICTOC performances are site-specific student live art happenings and installations lucked in the nooks and crannies of Columbia's urban landscape. Performances/Installations will take place at manifest between 12pm-/pm.

The work can be durational for all or a portion of the day.

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proposal deadline: april 8, 2005

### call for images

[C]Spaces is looking for graduating students to submit highquality photographs of artwork in any media (illustration, painting, film/video stills, performance stills, photography, etc.) for manifest promotional advertising: posters, brochures & more. Images will also be part of the manifest online gallery!

we are accepting images on an ongoing basis.

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O Wave of development in city replaces older residences with condos, commercial structures

By Alan Baker

Taking photos of Chicago is more than just a hobby for Brian Palm; it is an historic mission. In an effort to create a record of endangered. architecturally-significant buildings, the freelance photographer is attempting to document as many of the historic structures as he can in an effort to create a lasting and accessible record of buildings that may soon be gone. Palm, a 2002 photography

graduate of Columbia, is putting together images for a project known as Demolition Delay, a portfolio of photos currently on display at bmpalm.com. The commercial photographer has shot more than 50 buildings, and plans to capture as many as he is able before they meet the wreck-

er's ball.
"I noticed that beautiful buildings started to disappear," Palm said. "Buildings that had always been there were slowly going

In recent years, Chicago has undergone a significant building boom that affected the city's neighborhoods as well as the downtown business district. This boom replaced many communi-ties' older residential and commercial buildings with newer condominium developments, leaving gaps in Chicago's history as older buildings disappear.

"I noticed that there were

places that were starting to disappear," Palm said. "I didn't know what I had missed until buildings that had always been there were gone. Recently, th

the Landmarks

"If I can't help preserve the buildings, then at least I can photograph them."

Brian Palm, photographer

Preservation Council of Illinois worked extensively with the North Shore Spanish Baptist Church, 4401 N. Armitage Ave., to halt the demolition of the church, a wood-frame building from the 19th century designed by Swedish-born architect Lawrence Gustav Hallberg who was known for his elaborate construction of warehouses and fac-

'We spent two months with them trying to persuade them to renovate the property rather than demolish it," said Lisa DiChiera, advocacy directory at the Landmarks Preservation Council

The LPCI staff proposed tax incentives to the congregation that are available through the state and hired an architect to assess the property. After many attempts and fundraising offer-

ings, the church was torn down.
"It came down to a cultural issue," DiChiera said. "In the end, with the generous offers, they chose to demolish the build-

ing. It's now a vacant lot."

A number of city groups throughout the city have taken up the cause of preserving his-toric, yet lesser-known buildings throughout the city. Preservation Chicago, a community organization that started in 2001, annually produces a list of seven buildings that they consider to be the most threatened in the city in an effort to bring attention to the historical significance to the while advocating buildings preservation.

One of the buildings on the list is Cook County Hospital on Chicago's West Side, one of the city's largest and most historic buildings. It was slated for dem-olition in 2002 because of the new John H. Stroger Hospital that was built to replace it. Advocacy groups convinced the Cook County Board to postpone its demolition. However, the buildings' future is still uncer-

An outside consulting firm, U.S. Equities, was hired to look into the potential uses of the Cook County Hospital building and assess its structural stability, according to John Gibson, spokesman for Cook County board president John Stroger.

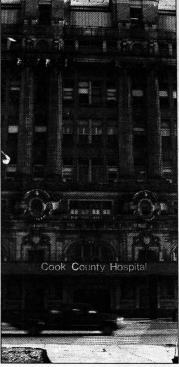
"We are willing to look at all options for the building," Gibson said. "We want to benefit the

we want to benefit the community."

The Cook County board will vote once U.S. Equities presents its findings, which could be within a few months, Gibson said.

Nevertheless. realizes that his work may ultimately end up providing little more than important and culturallyrelevant memories.
"Its all I can do," Palm

said. "If I can't help preserve the buildings, then at least I can photograph them and hopefully give some attention while they're still stand-



Erin Mash/The Chronicl

The Cook County Hospital building, completed in 1914, is high on the list of endangered buildings, and has been the focus of preservation's.

### Meth Abuse Continued from Back Page

streets as crystal, ice, meth, glass, Tina, and speed, typically comes as a white powder that easily dissolves in water. Ice or crystal meth looks like clear, chunky

of infection. Meth is probably superseding this fact," McKirnan warned.

Methamphetamine, also known on the Methamphetamine, also known on the Methamphetamine is

a highly addictive "upper" that releases the chemical dopamine, which regulates pleasure in the brain. This release leaves the user with a sense of euphoria that lasts for about 30 minutes, compared with the five-minute euphoria cocaine users experience, said Bruce Leibi of the Illinois Police. Meth can be snorted, smoked, ingested or digested, can be cooked from household ingredients, and is incredibly potent and is relatively inexpensive.

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to make it," said Stacy Bridges, head of the "Life or Meth" campaign in Chicago. There are thousands of recipes available online, according to Illinois State Police.

The drug's primary danger is that it erodes impulse control. Users, or "tweak-

ers" are "spun out of con-trol," Leibi said. "Tweaking" is the 24-hour coming-down period after the euphoric high is finished. During this time, users can get extremely agitated and violent; many users take the drug multiple times a day to continue a state of euphoria. It is not uncommon for users to stay up for days on end. The average user Leibi met dur-

ing DEA busts would stay awake 14 days straight. Chronic use can result in detrimental health problems such as inflammation of the heart lining, lead poisoning, irregular heartbeat, stroke, brain damage and lung damage, according

to the DEA

clear, chunky crystals and can be snorted, smoked or ingested.

#### Meth debuts in the Midwest

Yet meth is still a fringe phenomenon nationwide when compared with other drugs such as cocaine. According to a National Institute on Drug Abuse survey on drug use and health in 2002, more than 12 million Americans at least 12 years of age, or 5.3 percent of the population, had tried meth at least once. The largest percentage of users rests between the ages of 18 and 25 in Illinois, and the drug is primarily used among whites, according to Illinois State Police.

"We've seen it destroy central Illinois, parts of Wisconsin and Indiana, but Chicago, it really hasn't taken hold," said DEA-Chicago special agent

Illinois State Police and the DEA see a

growing amount of activity concentrated on the city's North Side in the gay night-club scene, but that circle may be widening, Warpness said.

March, the Chicago Sun-Times reported. In early November, two Chicago Public

School teachers made headlines when

An increasing number of arrests, reaching double digits for the first time, were made for possession in 2004 on the North Side's Town Hall police district. Two men and a woman were charged with running a meth lab in a Lake View apartment in

they were arrested within one week of each other for trafficking methamphetamine. One, a Lakeview resident and fifth-grade teacher, was found in November with more than \$17,000 in meth, according to the Chicago

Sun-Times



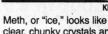
In an era of new medicine and safe-sex awareness campaigns, meth has another frightening side-effect: skyrocketing HIV rates. Meth puts users at a much greater

risk for contracting HIV, according to health officials. McKirnan said meth comes with a direct sexual connection by causing dopamine to be released into the brain, a chemical that enhances mood, self-confidence and sex drive. Many will use it because of the increased sex drive, and often have unprotected sex when high, putting people at an increased risk for disease, McKirnan said.

Speaking from recovery, Mike M. said everything he did was for that moment. Anything beyond the next 30 seconds mattered very little to him. Sex had become his highest priority, to the point where he would masturbate for six to 12 hours at a time, often injuring himself.
"I had no control though because the

effect of the drug on my 'pleasure center' was so incredibly powerful that any negative consequences were worth that feeling," he said. "I felt more powerful and more invincible, so I'm sure I had sex with more people and was less safe than I ever would have been."

See next week's issue for part two in the Chronicle's coverage of crystal meth.



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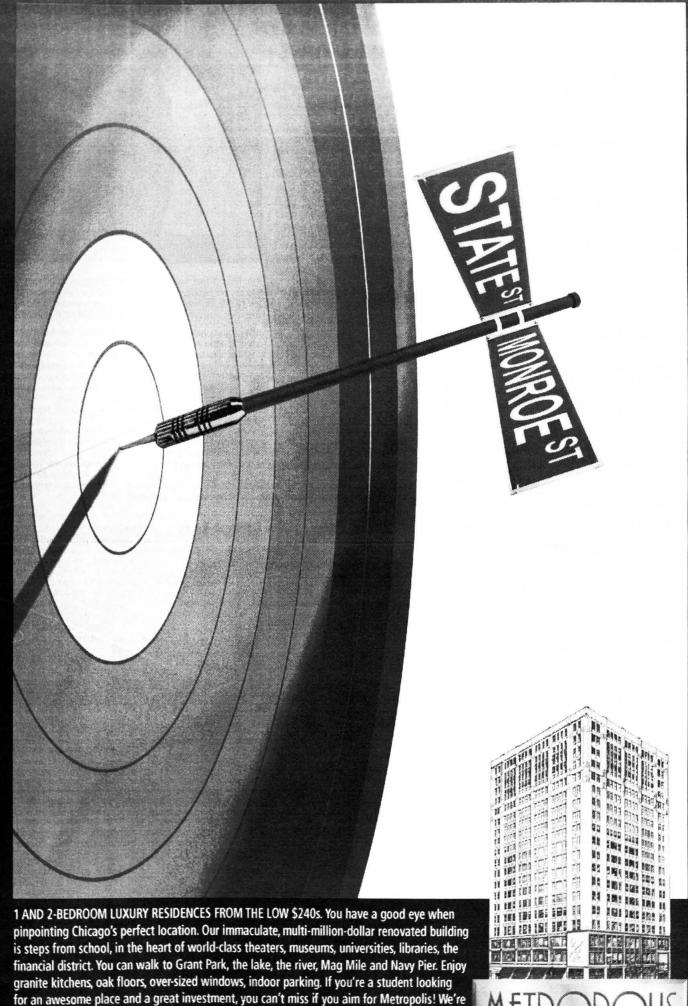
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### Pack the bags—DePaul sports leaving Midwest for the East Coast

O Blue Devils part of five-team move after three teams leave Big East

By Josh Kantarski

When the 2005-2006 academic year begins at DePaul in the fall, its athletic department will be taking its 15 sports programs to a new neighborhood.

In the fall, DePaul, along with the University of Cincinnati, Marquette University, the Marquette University of Louisville and the University of South Florida, will move from Conference USA and begin play in the Big East Conference. In June 2003, the University of Miami and Virginia Tech left the Big East the Atlantic Coast Conference to begin play in 2004. Another Big East school, Boston College, will leave the conference at the end of this year and join the ACC in 2005.

Looking to fill a void left by the three programs, the 11 presidents of the remaining Big East schools voted on extending invitations to the five prospective schools.

And by all accounts, the initial move seems perfect for DePaul.

Scott Reed, director of sports information at DePaul, said the move offers the conference and DePaul a great partnership.

Reed said that DePaul-with the smallest endowment of the five new schools at \$192 million-brings something different to the conference that the other four teams don't.

"[DePaul] delivers the third biggest television market in the country," Reed said, "and that gives the league a presence.' Reed said the locales of some of the Big East's programs-University, Villanova the University of Connecticut and

University-are

"The move is definitely

good for the basketball

program, but especially

good for other programs

-Kellen Lawler, former

Blue Devil

like soccer.'

Georgetown visible urban institutions, but are not in the biggest markets.

Reed added that the change brings traditional rivals back to face DePaul,

allowing them an opportunity to square off for bragging rights. He said the switch in conferences was difficult for DePaul, but the Big East "boasts many more like schools [without football programs]," and Conference USA has been looking to change to more of a "football" conference. DePaul has been part of Conference USA since

> John Gustin, a spokesman for the Big East, said DePaul offers another familiar tradi-

tion to the conference. "[DePaul] brings a great basketball tradition another taste of Midwest," said Gustin. and

Members of the DePaul basketball program share that enthusiasm for the move.

Joe Tulley, director of men's basketball operations at DePaul and a former player, said that the new conference provides new opportunities for the basketball

"[The move] will be a great challenge for us," Tulley said. "Not only because [the Big East] is a power [basketball] conference, but also because of the level of play."

Tulley that the school has taken notice.

"The energy surrounding this program is outstanding, and every time you have that energy, anything can happen,"
Tulley said. "But

[we've] got to come to play every night."

He said that, extending beyond the school, the change in scenery helps with recruiting as well.

"[Changing conferences] helps us not only [recruit] kids from the city, but also kids from the East Coast that we wouldn't otherwise have been able to get,' Tulley said. He added that coaches are already beginning to notice recruits' extra "pique" in interest, offering them the opportunity to be seen on national television on a weekly basis because of all the added media exposure the Big East commands.

Students at DePaul, however,



The Blue Devils, which finished the season with 20 wins and 11 losses, will head to the Big East. The Blue Devils failed to make the NCAA Tournament this year, but were invited to the National Invitation Tournament, losing to Texas A&M on March 19, 75-72.

think that the move will help the

school in other ways.

Kellen Lawler, a 22-year-old marketing major and former member of DePaul's soccer team, said the move to the Big East will cause DePaul to rehabilitate some of their facilities to stay on par with the other

schools.
"The move is definitely good for the basketball program, but especially for other programs like soccer," Lawler said. He added that the soccer complex is being refurbished, and the school

is putting turf down on the field, which Lawler said used to be uneven.

Other students found that only specific group of students at DePaul are particularly excited

by the change.
"I'm not too familiar with the move," said James Baran, a 22year-old management major, "but a lot of the younger kids just out of high school—freshmen and sophomores—think it's a big deal. It's a big team, a big school, so they're kind of excit-

### Hip-Hop Continued from Front Page

programs like the University of Hip-Hop are important because it is good for young people to step out and give back to their communities

"They are keeping kids off the streets and sending the message that hip-hop is not a negative machine or monster," Smith said. Wallace said there are other organizations that promote hiphop in great ways, but what makes the University of Hip-Hop special is that it brings together kids from all different backgrounds and addresses what is important to those kids. The program uses hip-hop to teach cultural awareness and tolerance to youth, according to

Raven. Students show their artistic tal-ents through the University as they perform dance, poetry, spoken word and rap. They also cre-ate murals of graffiti art. University students sometimes travel with other organizations to perform.

The institution allows kids to flex their artistic muscles and shine in their creativity, according

Performances are typically related to the community they are

performing for, according to Raven. The performances vary from once every two months to once a month and more

The University of Hip-Hop began as a summer program in 1997 at Hubbard High School where with help from Southwest Youth Collaborative, which provided supervisors and youth advocates, according to Raven. It evolved from a break dance club into a seasonal activity.

There are sister organizations to the University in other cities, including Oakland, Calif. and the Bronx, N.Y., according to Raven.

The university is working on a program called Hip-Hop 101, program called Hip-Hop 101, where students will research and recite the history of Chicago hip-hop. Graffiti Gardens will be repeated this spring, where students paint a community-based mural next to an abandoned lot that they cleaned. The Oriental Institute will display a mural featuring hip-hop on Egyptian culture painted by University of Hip-Hop students.

Hop students.
"It's important to have them because they are so innovative and practically the only ones given and practically the only ones a value ing credence to hip-hop as a valu-able art," Wallace said.



The University of Hip Hop gives young people a chance to create murals using graffiti art.





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### Jones student rally draws attention to state-wide education budget cuts

O Chicago schools facing 15 percent cut in teaching positions for 2006

By Alicia Dorr City Beat Editor

A civics lesson at Jones College Prep did more than just teach students about the politics of education—it allowed them to be players in it.

be players in it.

The school's "citywide civics lesson" helped save seven teaching and administrative positions that were set to be cut due to statewide education funding crisis. More than 600 Jones students along with 100 of their parents, faculty and other concerned citizens marched from the school at 606 S. State St. to the State of Illinois building, 100 Randolph St., on April 5 to draw attention to the \$175 million budget deficit that Illinois schools will face next year if no additional funding is found. From chanting to street theater poking fun at politicians to signs of protest, the voices of the students helped make a real change.

"Their message was heard, and they were heard in a positive way," said Cathy Hampton, director of institutional development for Jones College Prep.

Chicago Public Schools principals are working throughout the month to decide how each school will rearrange or eliminate positions and classes in order to deal with the shortfall. CPS and administrators are currently working out a preliminary budget that requires a 15 percent cut in teaching positions, but in cases like that of Jones, the school has a chance to plead its case. According to CPS spokesman Mike Vaughn, the organized march downtown made for a good argument.

"Every time a state official sees that the public really does feel education is being shortchanged, it's a great thing," Vaughn said.

Even with the retention of a few positions, Jones and Chicago schools are still short a lot more than loose change. The march downtown drew attention to what many see as a larger problem with the state's funding formula.

The amount of money a school gets depends solely on "relative wealth," according to the proposed 2006 budget submitted in February by the Illinois State Board of Education. Funding is determined from the property taxes in the area, as well as the number of students in the school.

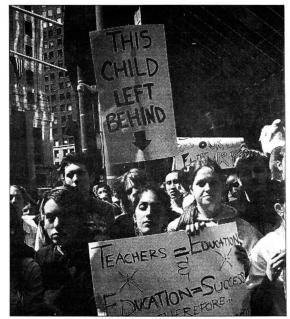
On a basic level, this could mean a large school in a wealthy area like Chicago's North Shore may get more funding than a school on the West Side even though the latter may need state money more.

"For the first time the students can see the impact of the funding formula," Hampton said. "We wanted to turn it into an educational experience."

According to Vaughn, CPS officials were very supportive of Jones' attempt to speak out against this imbalance. Arne Duncan, Chicago Public Schools CEO, as well as Chicago Teacher's Union president Marilyn Stewart came out for the event at the Thompson Center Plaza, both showing support for the students' enthusiasm.

But Jones is still going to be affected. Principal Donald Fraynd was originally ready to cut eight positions, including an assistant principal, in a school of 706 students. Though there will still be cuts to classes—including all Chinese language classes, Advanced Placement Chemistry and the school's jazz band—the students' actions resulted in actual change.

Jones has a more holistic approach to learning, according to Hampton, and the lack of these classes will be felt. In a school that had 100 percent of its 2004 graduates go on to college, even though 65 percent of the student body lives below the poverty



Courtesy Jones College Prep

A march of more than 600 Jones College Prep students, faculty, parents and concerned citizens on April 5 saved seven positions at the school from being cut next year.

level, the problem becomes the learning curve for when they move on to higher education.

"Without having those arts and culture components students totally miss out, especially if they are moving on to an art school like Columbia or Roosevelt," Hampton said. "They suffer by not having the same level of education."

From a citywide perspective,

the Jones field trip was effective for communicating a major problem. Seeing high school students that care about their education was a great way to attract Springfield's eye, according to Vauehn.

"It was a great program for the students, and it obviously coincides with what we're trying to do," Vaughn said. "Every little bit helps."



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

A march of more than 600 Jones College Prep students, faculty, parents and concerned citizens on April 5 saved seven positions at the school from being cut next year.

### Hotel Continued from Back Page

Congress Hotel cut wages by 7 percent, to \$8.21 per hour, as well as cutting health care benefits.

Before the wage cut, Silva said she could barely maintain her standard of living with her 5year-old daughter and with the wage cut, she received a significant cut in her paycheck. With less money, meeting bills was harder, she said.

"It is like an insult to us,"
Silva said. "It's demeaning our
work. If this hotel does what it is
doing to us, the rest of the hotels
will do the same."

The number of employees on

strike has dwindled since 2003, with 30 employees crossing the picket line, according to a letter hotel representative Andjelkovich and distributed to the protesters by way of hotel security. Some found other jobs and others dropped out because of illness.

Andjelkovich said that of the 30 employees who crossed the picket line, about 20 employees are still working at the hotel. He said the rest left to pursue other opportunities.

Silva said sometimes the employees lose faith because of the weather and because of how cold it can get. But support from other organizations helps, she said, adding that the strike will continue as long as they have the will.

"There have been negotiations, but there's been no budging, no moving, no ... good faith to try to find a resolution," Leavitt said. "The Congress has simply said, 'We are not budgeing, we have not budged for 22 months, we're not going to budge.' That's wrong."

A meeting with a federal mediator between the Congress Plaza Hotel and UNITE HERE Local 1 is scheduled for April 29.

### On the Lighter Side

Just ... throwing some bottles
On April 5 at 12:45 a.m. police
witnessed two males, both 34
years old, throwing glass bottles
off a fourth-story balcony at
1307 S. Wabash Ave. onto the
street below. As there were cars
and pedestrians still trafficking
the area, the police intervened.
The two offenders openly admitted they threw the bottles off the
building, and that they did not
have a reason. They were
brought to the station and
processed immediately.

### But the haircut was REALLY

ugly
A 34-year-old female was
charged with simple battery to a
52-year-old male and a 49-yearold female at Yehia Company &
Hair Designs, 529 S. Dearborn
St. On April 11 at 3:35 p.m., the
offender was involved in a verbal altercation with the victims,
the owner and a hairdresser in

the salon, regarding her daughter's haircut and dye. The offender struck the victims about the body, leaving scratches and abrasions on both of them. The offender was arrested.

#### Didn't like the look of it Police respond-

ed to a call of criminal damage to property at Pacific the Garden Mission, 646 S. State St., on April 3 at 9 p.m. A 52-yearold man had taken an object and thrown it into a window at the mission for no apparent reason, causing the window to Police crack. took the offender in for process-





#### On a Serious Note

#### Sexual assault in dorm

An 18-year-old female chose not to press charges against a 29year-old male for alleged criminal sexual assault that took place in her dorm room at the

> Center Chicago, 525 S. State St. The victim related that after hanging out with the offender on March 21 he forced himself upon her while in her dorm room. Later that day she filed a complaint with DePaul security. The offender also filed a complaint, saying the victim forced herself on him, rather than the other way around. Though

University

the offender has an active DUI warrant out for his arrest, he was not charged with the crime because the victim refused to press charges.

#### Roommate fight turns violent

A 22-year-old male is still at large after battering his 21-yearold roommate in the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St. According to the victim, on April 8 at 11:45 a.m. he and the offender were in an on-going verbal argument about the volume of the stereo. When the victim was taking a shower the offender kicked in the bathroom door and pushed the victim. A fight ensued, after which the offender fled. The victim had bruises to both knees and a scratch on his neck, but refused medical attention.

—All information compiled from records of the 12th District Chicago Police Department by Chronicle staff. Crystal Meth: First in a two-part series

### Meth use wreaks havoc in Chicago

By Amy Wooten Contributing Writer

Money gone, credit cards maxed and most of his relationships ruined, Mike M.'s priorities shifted toward a drug that presented a soulless existence: crystal meth.

All he could concentrate on was the selfish satisfaction the drug gave him. Convinced he had a skin infection that was causing ingrown hairs, the resident of Chicago's North Side Lakeview neighborhood pulled out most of the hair on his body; easily spending six hours in one sitting tweezing out his eyelashes and eyebrows, along with the hair on his arms, legs, head and pubic



Coutesy Mike M.

At the height of his addiction, Mike M.'s daily use of meth threatened his life.

When he first started using crystal methamphetamine, a synthetic drug that acts as a powerful stimulant on the central nervous system, Mike was more social, more alert and more active. Everything he did was done faster and with more intensity. Feeling strong and invincible at 27, he was able to study longer for his MBA and work harder at his job. He was even happy.

#### Downward spiral

Just weeks after his first taste. he lost his ability to make appropriate judgments. Feeling invincible and powerful, he engaged in unprotected sex, which became his number one priority. Within a few months he was using meth daily, and by the time he checked himself into rehab on his 30th birthday, he was an emotionless zombie.

In a way, Mike M. considers himself lucky. Now 34 and sober, he realizes that he walked away from the drug without getting infected with HIV-AIDS. Mike, who is unable to give his last name as a member of the Crystal Meth Anonymous support group, thought it would be a one-time drug experience. As a former alcoholic, Mike wanted to try the drug years ago.

"The drinking wasn't enough to keep the snow moving and blurring my reality," he said. Now, looking at the scars covering his body, he remembers a drug that sucked him under and nearly destroyed his life.

Methamphetamine use is an increasing problem nationwidesome go as far as calling it a plague-and has hit the Midwest hard. But now, the drug is traveling from rural downstate and is reaching Chicago.

#### The 'beast' called meth

A few years ago, use of crystal meth in Chicago didn't register even a blip on the Drug Enforcement Administration's radar. Now, health officials and state police are becoming more aware of the drug's threat to Chicago. Meth puts any user at risk for HIV because the drug's euphoric component causes many users to engage in unprotected sex.

David McKirnan knows from experience that Chicago has a growing problem on its hands. A researcher at Howard Brown Health Center on the city's North Side, McKirnan sees participants of his program who are in bad shape because of the influence of methamphetamine. These rehabilitation program partici-

lot more physical damand age intense addiction than any other user of club drugs out there, he said. relapse rate is about 94 percent, according to a University of California

study. Although McKirnan warns methamphetamine abuse isn't just a gay problem, admits that it has become a problem Chicago's in gay community.

"Clearly, the numbers are increasing," said

McKirnan, referring to a 2001 community survey where six or seven percent of participants reported any use at all, and two percent reported monthly abuse. Data collected by Howard Brown in 2004 shows that out of 500 positive men, 18 percent



Mike M., a former crystal meth user, knows the harsh realities of the drug that is increasingly being used in the Chicago area.

used meth. McKirnan said these numbers indicate that in Chicago meth has climbed its way up the ladder through the years and proved itself to be one of the top gateways to HIV infection.

"Crack used to be a predictor

See Meth Abuse, Page 24

### Hotel union, former workers keep up fight against Congress Hotel

O Jewish leaders denounce Congress Hotel owner for irresponsibility

By Sandra Rodriguez Copy Editor

All housekeeping employee Cecilia Silva has wanted for the last 22 months is to go back to work

But Silva and the delegation of with the working Hotel Employees Restaurant Employees Union Local 1 were denied a meeting with Congress Plaza Hotel, president Shlomo Nahmias April 11 as more than 50 activists and employees picketed outside the hotel, 520 S.

Michigan Ave.
The April 11 rally was one of several held in front of the hotel since the strike began on June 15, 2003

On May 19, 2003, nearly 500 HERE members and supporters protested in front of the hotel against what they believed was unfair treatment. Their biggest rally was when nearly 20 picketers were arrested September 1. 2003, for slowing traffic by sitting on Michigan Avenue in the middle of the day.

"If the owner thinks that he can hide somewhere ... or abroad, that owner's got something else in mind and we will remind him that this slap in the face will not be accepted," said Rabbi John Linder, member of Congregation B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim in Glenview.

In response to Linder's comments, Peter Andjelkovich an attorney for the hotel in negotiations with the union, said that there are multiple owners, and none of them is hiding.

"The move is definitely good for the basketball program, but especially good for other programs like soccer.

-Kellen Lawler, former Blue Devil

Noah Leavitt, advocacy director for the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, said Judaism teaches that owners have a responsibility to treat their employees humanely. In a letter directed to Nahmias, who was born in Israel, the delegation expressed disappointment at being unable to meet with him.

"Our tradition reminds us every year that we began as slaves," added Rabbi Phil

Bentley of Congregation Kol Ami in Chicago. "And it's a primary value for us that workers not be treated like slaves, that they be treated peacefully and with respect."

Andjelkovich pointed out that the owner's religion has nothing to do with the situation.

'This is not a religious issue," Andjelkovich said. "This is a

The rally was the culmination of the Justice Shall Dwell There convention, with more than 200 national Jewish social justice leaders in attendance and held in Chicago April 10 and 11. The Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, the conference's organizer, have made repeated attempts to meet with Nahmias and the hotel's majority owner, Albert Nasser.

Leavitt said they would come back until they had "meaningful interaction with Mr. Nahmias or some other representative of the

According to Andjelkovich, no agreement has been reached as of April 13. The last meeting with the union took place in late March. He said the strike has not affected the running of the hotel and that some of the customers



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Rabbi Bruce Elder spoke to the crowd on April 11, one of many rallies held in front of the Congress Hotel, 520 S. Michigan Ave., since the employee strike began June 15, 2003.

have been disgusted with the behavior of the union.

"We are not asking for a gift," said Silva, in Spanish, struggling to be heard above the chanting of the protesters.

"We are not asking for handouts. We demand respect, not to have our rights taken away just because we are Hispanic."

Silva, a West Chicago resident, left Mexico 16 years ago. She has worked at the Congress Hotel for the last 12 years. She is one of about 150 employees who walked away from their jobs in

The hotel has said employees could go back to work at the same salary of \$8.21 per hourthe same wage they were earning before the strike began in 2003with health insurance, but without a union. Through an agreement reached between city hotels and service employees in 2000, but one the Congress hotel did not have to honor, hotel room attendants in the city received an immediate raise from \$8.83 to \$10. Instead, in 2002 the

See Hotel, Page 27