

2-14-2005

## Columbia Chronicle (02/14/2005)

Columbia College Chicago

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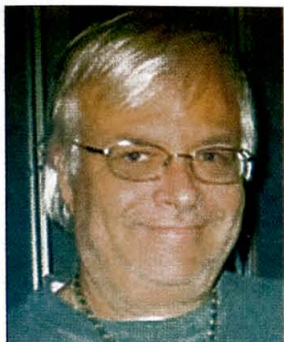
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# THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Columbia College Chicago's weekly newspaper

COLUMBIA COLLEGE LIBRARY



Courtesy Dahl.com

Radio personality Steve Dahl is a new Columbia trustee.

## College board welcomes four new members

Trustees responsible for donating \$5,000

By Andrew Greiner  
Editor-in-Chief

Columbia's board of trustees appointed four new members at its most recent meeting.

The new trustees include Chicago radio personality Steve Dahl; Columbia alumnus and former President of Fox News Joseph Peyronnin III; corporate attorney Stephen H. Pugh; and Dean of the Illinois College of Optometry Janice Scharre.

According to Julie Volkman, Columbia's board liaison, each new member received unanimous approval from the current trustees.

The new additions were needed because membership on the board had slipped below the required number of trustees. The board's bylaws stipulate that there be between 50 and 55 active members, Volkman said, but the number was in jeopardy after a few members stepped down.

"It's just normal attrition," Volkman said. "Sometimes life circumstances require that a board member can't take the point and fulfill their responsibilities anymore, so they'll step down."

With the four recent additions, the number of trustees is up to 52, Volkman said.

The new trustees will assume various responsibilities aimed at maintaining the health of the college. The foremost responsibility is donating at least \$5,000, which they can either give out of their pockets or raise from others.

"There are a number of reasons why a board member might be nominated," said Mark Lloyd, assistant vice president of marketing and communications. "One of them is obviously their interest in the college. Another is their capacity to make a gift to the college and another is their capacity

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## Series explores role of African-American art

Columbia celebrates Black History Month with visual art, music, symposiums

By Jeff Danna  
News Editor

Amy Mooney is part of a committee with a mission to promote African-American art for its aesthetic qualities rather than its cultural background.

To spark discussion of this idea, Columbia's African Heritage Committee has organized a monthlong series of events called Black Artists: Community and Context. The series coincides with the national recognition of February as Black History Month.

The celebration, which runs through March 25, features visual art exhibitions, a jazz concert and panel discussions. It will focus on whether a "black aesthetic" still exists in modern art, said Mooney, an Art and Design faculty member at Columbia and a member of the African Heritage Committee.

"We always kind of push art aside," Mooney said. "But African-American art had a social

purpose. In the 1960s, artists clearly identified themselves as black. Now contemporary artists are put into categories."

In the early to mid-20th century, institutions viewed works by African-American artists as promoting social equality regardless of the artists' agenda, Mooney said. Beginning around the 1960s, black artists began to apply a "self-aware aesthetic" to their work and incorporated traditional African motifs in their art.

Community and Context will address this idea in relation to contemporary black artists, Mooney said.

The idea for Community and Context stemmed from Columbia's exhibition of influential African-American printmaker Robert Blackburn's work, "Creative Space: Fifty Years of Robert Blackburn's Printmaking Workshop," said Rachel Westley, director of African-American

Cultural Affairs at Columbia and co-chair of the African Heritage Committee. Blackburn's prints are on loan from the Library of Congress and are on display in the Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

With Community and Context, the Heritage Committee hopes to influence people to identify art by its aesthetic value rather than the artist's cultural background.

"It's important for us to highlight visual artists," said Westley. "We usually highlight black artists in the entertainment field."

Last year, the committee focused on African-Americans in film with the "Black Images on Screen" series.

One exhibit in this year's series that the committee believes will help "dismantle the concept of black art," as Mooney said, is an exhibition of Ayanah Moor's

See Black History, Page 6



Artist Ayanah Moor's piece 'thuggignaitellectual,' along with other examples of her work, is on display in the A&D 11th Street Gallery, 72 E. 11th St., as part of Columbia's monthlong series Black Artists: Community and Context.



Courtesy Heron PR

'Dear Friends: The Music of Final Fantasy' makes its debut in Chicago this month. The concert premiered in Los Angeles last year, as pictured above.

## A 'Fantasy' comes true

Pops orchestra brings videogame music to life

By Todd Burbo  
Assistant A&E Editor

Do hardcore gamers own tuxedos? The question will be answered this month, when the Chicagoland Pops introduce their latest concert, "Dear Friends: Music from Final Fantasy." The orchestral performance, conducted by Arnie Roth, will highlight the score of the long-running videogame series by Japanese programming behemoth Square-

Enix. The event is certain to draw a new crowd to the classical concert halls of Chicago.

"We've gotten a tremendous amount of fathers and sons, where the father used to play the game in the '80s, and now his 14-year-old son plays it, so the two of them are coming together," Roth said. "It's very interesting. There are several generations of fans for

See Fantasy, A&E Page 3

## Bush cuts jeopardize Upward Bound future

Columbia program hinges on new federal budget

By Jeff Danna  
News Editor

A 40-year-old tutorial program for high school students with ties to Columbia is in jeopardy of losing its essential federal funding.

In his budget address on Feb. 7, President George W. Bush proposed eliminating funding for Upward Bound, an initiative developed under the Higher Education Act of 1965. The 700 Upward Bound programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands are designed to help high school students from low-income families develop academically and attend higher education institutes.

"These programs serve low-income students and low-income families in all areas of the U.S.," said Craig Kirsch, director of Columbia's Upward Bound program. "They serve students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds."

Upward Bound is part of TRIO, a collective of similar federally funded programs that would also lose financial support under the Bush cuts. Instead of funding Upward Bound, Bush proposes to give states a total of \$1.5 billion under the No Child Left Behind Act in order to improve high school

education. Currently, Upward Bound receives more than \$280 million in federal money.

Columbia's Upward Bound program started in 1992 and served 50 high school students with \$200,000 in federal funds, Kirsch said. Today, it serves 70 students from three Chicago high schools—Foreman, Benito Juarez and Holy Trinity—and receives \$387,000.

Kirsch said he's angry that the president has proposed eliminating funding for Upward Bound.

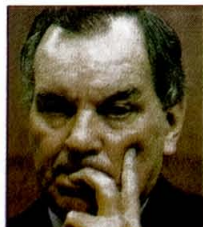
"Given the current administration, it's not a big surprise," he said. "But I'd say it's sad. It's just a horrendous error."

Of the high school students in Columbia's Upward Bound program, including those who withdraw from the program before graduation, about 76 percent traditionally go on to college. More than 92 percent of those who stay with the program through high school enroll in college, Kirsch said.

According to a survey conducted by the Chicago Public Schools, 78 percent of high school seniors said they planned on continuing their education in some form after graduation. However, because the sur-

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A fresh start for Chicago's boss?

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### A&E

Let's talk about sex, baby

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### Photo Essay

Gettin' rowdy in D.C.

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## Andrew Greiner Editor-in-Chief

### Flying our flag in D.C.

**H**obnobbing with politicians isn't exactly my cup of tea. Thankfully there wasn't too much tea drinking required when Chronicle photographer Eric Davis and I took a trip to Washington, D.C., for the presidential inauguration a few weeks ago.

We did, however, have a few close calls. Especially when we attended the Illinois State Society's Presidential Inauguration Gala—a star-studded, black tie affair where, by my estimation, Davis and I were the only two gentlemen not wearing tuxedos. I was wearing my tan suit and Davis sported a green button down shirt, tie and sports jacket. We stuck out like sore thumbs or student journalists.

But our lack of monkey suits was not the only thing that set us apart from this privileged crowd. We were also the only representatives of Columbia at the fancy district hotel—or so I thought.

The organizers' gala ball spared no expense for the décor. This isn't the type of party with crepe paper streamers and plastic flower centerpieces balanced on folding tables. Instead, there were two levels of themed banquet rooms.

A Hollywood-themed room showed clips from films shot in Illinois, like *The Blues Brothers*, on a giant projector. A nostalgia room was dressed up to resemble a high school prom (it was a big hit with just about everyone over the age of 60) and a cowboy-themed room spouted country music all night.

But besides being entranced once or twice by the *Blues Brothers* footage, I didn't feel quite at home. Not until I walked into the sports-themed room. I'm a sports nut.

The room was decked out with

all sorts of Illinois college sports memorabilia. Every Illinois college with a sports team had its pennant flying high, strung across the vaulted ceiling of the room. For those who might not know, a pennant is one of those triangular doohickeys with a team's logo on it.

As I scanned row upon row of these pennants, quietly picking out some of my favorite Illinois teams, remembering key victories and defeats, my eyes stopped on one of the most hideous looking incarnations I'd ever seen. Lo and behold, it was from Columbia College Chicago.

Prior to this chance encounter, I had no idea that Columbia even had a pennant. We have no official sports team, no mascot and no athletic department to speak of, so why the heck would we need a pennant?

Apparently, in order to fit in with the room's theme and to be counted as an official sponsor of the inaugural ball, Columbia got one together.

The pennant did little to help Columbia fit in with the other schools. If anything, the pennant screamed Columbia's differences.

I will do my best to describe it in detail.

To begin with, it was massive. Columbia's pennant dwarfed those from institutions like the University of Illinois and Western Illinois University. Prominently positioned in the middle of a row of rival pennants, Columbia's was hard to miss, sort of like a walrus tusk in a line of shark teeth.

The color of the pennant stuck out even more. Previously, I'd always been under the impression that Columbia's official school color is periwinkle. But this thing was carrot-orange—a big, orange, felt triangle with the words

Columbia College Chicago running down the middle. And for the finishing touch, a neon green "Create Change" semi-circle logo was stuck at the top of the flag. (the flat side, not the pointy side, for those of you trying to visualize it—completing its carrot-like look.)

As I sat there in the sports room, eating roast beef, and drinking Gatorade and listening to the blues band on stage, that pennant stared down at me like some distant reminder of Columbia's newly adopted color palate. Infecting my brain with visions of pastel colored buildings and neon drenched hallway that I travelled nearly 900 miles to forget.

It was gaudy and it was out of place—a perfect representation of Columbia's nonexistent sports.

The color choice, the size and even the texture of this pennant were all brave, bold choices.

And after I had time to digest, I realized that the pennant is just like Columbia: bold and brave.

Our pennant pulled rank, went with an over-the-top design and said to those other pennants, "Screw tradition and history—and sports—we're a freakin' arts school."

Even though my initial reaction to the pennant was one of mild disgust, by the time I finished my roast beef that pennant had spoken to me. It said, "Sure, Columbia's a bit different. That's the best thing about it."

From that moment on, as I meandered through the rest of the night, I was proud to be the only one sporting a tan suit at a black-tie ball. Much like the carrot pennant, I was declaring my individuality and representing for an off-beat arts school in Chicago.

- [agreiner@chroniclemail.com](mailto:agreiner@chroniclemail.com)

## In This Issue

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## Announcements

### ■ Painting the struggle

The C33 Gallery and the Department of Liberal Education present "The Endless War: Paintings by Susanna Tschurtz" Feb. 14 through April 1.

The exhibit centers on Tschurtz's paintings of struggle and human suffering. A reception with the artist is on March 1. The C33 Gallery is in the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building.

For more information, call Julie Caffey at (312) 344-7696.

### ■ Playing for cash

Acclaimed trumpeter Roy Hargrove will play at the HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo Drive, on Feb. 17. Proceeds benefit the Open Doors Scholarship Fund.

The performance is at 8 p.m. and has a \$30 cover for the general public and a \$20 cover for students.

For more information, contact the Multicultural Affairs Office at (312) 344-7569.

### ■ Doughnut Day

Come to the Library on Feb. 16, in the South Campus Building, 624 S. Michigan Ave. for Krispy Kreme doughnuts. The calorie-packed treats are for new students.

The free doughnuts are served from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

### ■ Get it while it's hot

U-Pass distribution continues through Feb. 21 in Room 311 of the Wabash Campus Building, 623 S. Wabash Ave. In order to get your U-Pass, don't forget to bring a copy of your spring semester schedule.

For more information, visit [www.colum.edu/student-affairs/upass/](http://www.colum.edu/student-affairs/upass/)

### ■ 'Informer' looks good

Columbia's student handbook is looking good. The handbook, *The Informer*, took home two Gold Awards in publication competitions after being evaluated for style, creativity, content and more.

Jill Summers, executive assistant to the vice president of student affairs, designed the book.

### ■ Beauty and the Brits

The British Council recently invited Natasha Egan, associate director of the Museum of Contemporary Photography, to go to Northern Ireland for a curatorial visit.

Egan is one of eight curators chosen from the United States and Canada to visit 20 artists in many galleries throughout Northern Ireland. The trip is scheduled for late March.

## Weather

### AccuWeather 7-day forecast for Chicago

#### Monday, Feb. 14

Showers early; mostly cloudy High 44° Low 28°

#### Tuesday, Feb. 15

Sun and clouds with flurries High 36° Low 24°

#### Wednesday, Feb. 16

Partly sunny High 32° Low 18°

#### Thursday, Feb. 17

Mostly sunny High 34° Low 21°

#### Friday, Feb. 18

Sunny to partly cloudy High 36° Low 24°

#### Saturday, Feb. 19

Snow possible High 34° Low 22°

#### Sunday, Feb. 20

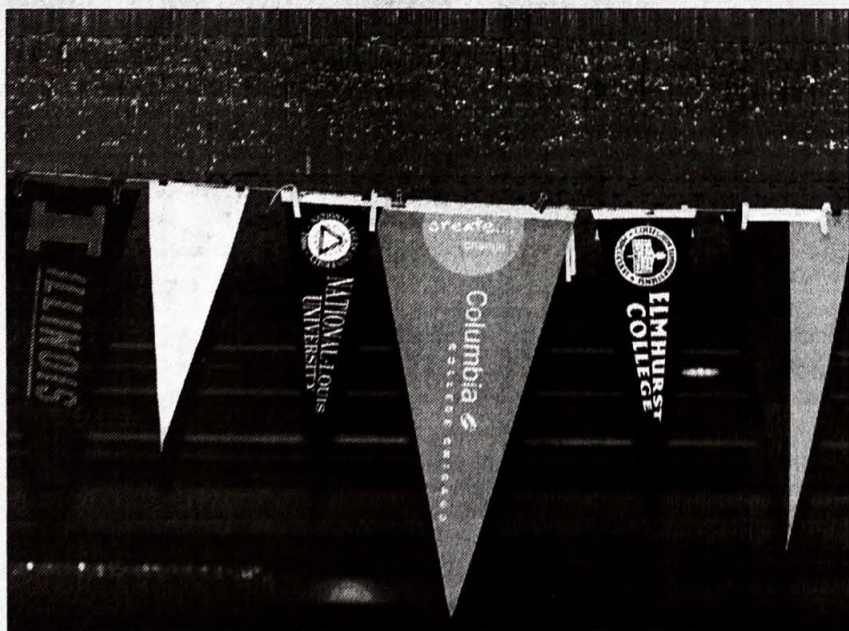
Mostly cloudy High 31° Low 12°

All forecasts provided by—  
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## 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](mailto:chronicle@colum.edu).

## Capture the flag



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Columbia's pennant hangs with gusto at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C., during the Illinois State Society Inauguration Gala. The orange and green pennant screamed art school from its position amongst the more traditional pennants from other Illinois colleges and universities.



# CAMPUS NEWS

February 14, 2005

## Theater legend hits Columbia

○ Ben Vereen substitutes for James Earl Jones

By Jennifer Sabella  
News Editor

Ben Vereen, the famed performer of the stage and screen brought the story of his life's work to the Conversations in the Arts: Up Close With... event Feb. 10. And he may also have brought substantial donor money to Columbia.

The Up Close With event with Vereen, star of dozens of Broadway musicals as well as *All That Jazz* and *Roots*, was the second of a series organized by the Office of Institutional Advancement to bring "friends of the college" together and, according to school officials, attract donors to the school.

"What I noticed when I came to Columbia was that there weren't a lot of individual donors to the college," said Sam Ross, vice president of institutional advancement. "This method of bringing [potential donors] closer to us is hopefully something that is going to pay off big time down the road."

The event with Vereen lasted all day, from his early morning appearance on WGN's morning newscast to an evening lecture and Q-and-A session at the Film Row Cinema Theater, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Vereen also attended a lunch and brief dance tutorial called the Jazz-A-Long at the Hilton Chicago Hotel, featuring

chosen Columbia musical theater students as well as students from Jones College Prep High School.

In November, Lauren Bacall stopped by Columbia as the first guest in the Up Close With series, which will conclude with Mary Tyler Moore's visit in mid-April. Although Bacall's visit failed to draw major media attention, Ross said it managed to boost President's Club membership significantly.

"We've had a definite increase in our President's Club members," Ross said. "I think there were about 22 new members that joined at the Lauren Bacall reception that night, and to join the President's Club costs \$1,000 per person."

The Office of Institutional Advancement declined to discuss the cost of bringing Vereen to Columbia, but officials told *The Chronicle* in November that Bacall's visit cost an estimated \$40,000 to \$50,000.

"We are paying [the artists] to come here at this point and picking up their expenses," Ross said. "And as far as I know, [the series] is doing some great things."

According to Ross, the idea for the series has taken off since a private appearance by Ramsey Lewis in October, which resulted in a significant endowment.



Ben Vereen tips his hat and smiles as he leaves the Normandie Lounge in the Chicago Hilton and Towers Hotel, 722 S. Michigan Ave. Vereen attended a Jazz-A-Long with students on Feb. 10.

"Up Close is an opportunity for friends of the college to be up close with people who have had some opportunity to make a significant contribution to the culture of our times," said Mark Lloyd, assistant vice president of marketing and communications at Columbia. "It is primarily a mechanism for us to identify and cultivate people who have an interest in the college."

Musical theater students who were able to attend the Feb. 10 afternoon event at the Hilton performed jazz numbers from several of Vereen's hit musicals and were giddy about his appearance.

"It's very exciting [to have Vereen at Columbia]," said senior musical theater major Leah Morrow. "Especially with such a

large musical theater background, which he has. It's just really inspiring to meet someone that I've watched."

Morrow, along with several other musical theater students, were led by Wilfredo Rivera, a dancer, choreographer and teacher at Columbia. After watching the dancers, Vereen got up and joined the class in their final number.

"We were looking for someone who represented many of the qualities of the college in terms of both their humanitarian work as well as their artistic achievement over a lifetime," Lloyd said. "Ben Vereen seemed to be one of those people who matched that."

James Earl Jones was originally scheduled for the second Up Close

With event, but backed out due to other engagements.

Vereen is not new to Columbia; he was given an honorary degree in 1995 for being "the very definition of an entertainer" and plans to return to Chicago in April for a Sammy Davis Jr. tribute at a South Side church.

Vereen has spoken at dozens of churches, schools and functions all over the country, and has a strong belief in educating youth in the arts. He considers Columbia, and Chicago in general, to be a city of the arts.

"Chicago's demeanor is very much catering to the arts," Vereen said. "They have a wonderful, supportive system within itself. Columbia is at the heart of it."

## attention

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**Concert Hall Events**

## Welcome Back

**Wednesday February 16**

Student Jam with Gary Yerkins  
12:30 PM

Army Brass Quintet Workshop  
4:30 PM

Army Brass Quintet Concert  
7:00 PM

**Friday February 18**

Classical Performers International  
8:00 PM

All events are free. For more info: 312/344-6300  
Music Center pianos provided by Ortigara's Musicville, Inc.

# Frequency<sup>32</sup>

Columbia College Television Dept.  
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

## Exposure

Profiles of Columbia's faculty, staff & students in their field of expertise.  
This week's featured artist: Paul Amandes, Theater Department faculty  
MWFSu: 10:30a TRSa: 7:30p

## Hot Spots

A fast-paced, entertainment program that visits different venues around Chicago.  
Featured: Lazer Quest, Sluggers, Improv Olympics  
MWFSu: 11a TRSa: 8p

## Reel Stuff

A profile of student film, video, animation & documentary projects.  
This week's featured artist: Sean Miller, Film major  
MWFSu: 1p TRSa: 10p

## A/V Squad (NL)

Meet musicians and dj's from around the country while visiting some hot clubs.  
MWFSu: 8p & 8:30p

## Gamers (NL)

Video games of all genres and game platforms are explored.  
MWFSu: 9p

## College Town, USA (NL)

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

## Comedy Night School (NL)

Join Professor Doug Gordon on various comedic adventures and lessons.  
MWFSu: 10p

## Gutter Ball Alley (NL)

This entertaining game show gives \$20,000 to the contestants insane enough to go through extreme challenges.  
MWFSu: 10:30p

## Ultimate Destination (NL)

Watch host Wade McElwain as he shows us around Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, one of the hottest spring break destinations.  
MWFSu: 11p

## Planet X (NL)

Some of the very best footage in extreme sports on the planet.  
MWFSu: 11:30p

(NL) National Lampoon Network Programming

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Have you found on campus shelter for next year?

# Columbia Contract Campaign **Residence Life: Fall 2005** January 10th - February 28th

We are offering a \$250 rebate on the fall bill for the first 300 students who sign contracts for housing between Jan. 10th & Feb. 28, 2005! And because we value our current residents very much, the first week of the contract campaign is for our students currently living with us to get first picks!!

So come early and be the first to sign up for housing in order to get the best picks. Bring your \$500 prepayment and a smile to the Residence Life Office at 731 S. Plymouth Court, and we'll set you up with your shelter and possibly savings, too!!

### New Additions to Residence Life:

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- 21 and older floors at the University Center, so students may opt to live with other students their age
- Students who sign full annual year contracts would receive one month's free rent!

Any questions contact:  
Res. Life Office - 312.344.7803  
moakes@popmail.colum.edu

Columbia  
Residence Life

## CTA U-PASS FULL-TIME STUDENTS, DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR CTA U-PASS!

Thursday Feb 10	→	10am-6pm
Friday Feb 11	→	10am-6pm
Monday Feb 14	→	10:30am-6:30pm
Tuesday Feb 15	→	10:30am-6:30pm
Wednesday Feb 16	→	10:30am-6:30pm
Thursday Feb 17	→	10:30am-6:30pm
Friday Feb 18	→	10:30am-6:30pm
Monday Feb 21	→	10am-6pm

U-Pass distribution is located in  
623 S. Wabash Building, room 311

To obtain a CTA U-Pass, students must bring a valid school ID and a copy of their current full time spring semester schedule printed from your oasis account! <http://oasis.Colum.edu/>

The U-Pass is only available to full-time students.



# Site encourages text trade

○ Follett officials say students still prefer school bookstores to online buying

By Jennifer Sabella  
News Editor

Tired of seeing college students pay three figures for a textbook, recent college graduates Elliot Hirsch, Eric Haszlakiewicz and David Goldblatt decided to take matters into their own hands.

In the wake of discount online textbook stores, the trio decided to take Internet book buying to the next level: trade.

In early January, they launched SwapSimple.com, a national, used book exchange. Hirsch, co-founder and president, said it is the online bookstore of the future.

"Bookstores were a really great solution for a past generation, and right now we just have all these new, modern tools at our disposal that makes it just that much easier to get these books to people that much cheaper," Hirsch said. "It's a real modern solution to an old problem of how [students] are going to get a book."

It is still too early to see if SwapSimple.com will stand up to competitors like Half.com and Amazon.com, which offer textbooks at lower prices than school

bookstores.

"I would actually think that places like Amazon and Half couldn't even compete with what were trying to do," Hirsch said. "By specializing in just books we can really let students get their books for only the cost of shipping plus this \$2 service fee that we have to keep us alive. Regardless of the cover price, any student can get whatever book they want for, like, six bucks."

According to the National Association of College Stores, students spent an average of \$832 on books and supplies during the 2004-2005 academic year. The high price tag stems mostly from bookstore sales, according to the NACS report, which states that only 12 percent of students buy their textbooks online.

Hirsch said that seeing how bookstores profit year after year inspired him and his colleagues to create SwapSimple.

"Just being a college student and seeing the problems with textbooks over and over ... where I would go and buy a textbook for 100 bucks and use it for a couple months and

then sell it back to the bookstore for maybe \$20 and then seeing them basically take that textbook and sell it to the person behind me in line for 80 bucks. It just seemed totally crazy," Hirsch said. "And it started to seem like there was something we could actually do ... and it just kind of grew from there."

Cliff Ewert, vice president of public and campus relations for the Follett Higher Education Group, the company that provides books to Columbia's bookstore, said school bookstores are not suffering because of textbook websites.

"I think that students really, overall, would prefer their college bookstore," Ewert said. "One [reason is], it's very convenient. Two, it's a no-hassle refund and return policy, rather than packing it up and shipping it off. And three, the bookstore, because they're in constant communication with the faculty on the campus they serve, have the most up-to-date information on what books are available. Plus, the bookstore is required to carry everything."

Ewert said that sites similar to



Ben Pancoast/The Chronicle  
Junior film major Eric McCue shops for books at Columbia's bookstore for his spring semester classes.

SwapSimple.com have been around for years, and that there are some downsides to buying through these Internet websites.

"One of the downsides is they don't have all of the books that a bookstore would have," Ewert said. "You don't know what information they really have on a book, and if it's the wrong book, what does it involve to either return it, exchange it, or get a refund?"

Like Half.com, SwapSimple allows students to post their books online, but instead of getting them at a slightly discounted price, students can get what they need for the cost of shipping, plus a \$2 fee.

Only about 500 books are on the

site so far, but the more people post, the easier it will become to exchange books, Hirsch said.

"We've already had quite a few trades happening," Haszlakiewicz said. "People [are] sending books back and forth [and] finding the books they need, which actually got going a lot sooner than we expected. I was actually pleasantly surprised that it picked up that fast."

Currently they're working on spreading the word about their site with fliers and word-of-mouth advertising.

"We hope that creating a really good service will be the best advertising," Hirsch said.

## Upward Bound Continued from Front Page

vey was self-reported, that percentage is not official, a CPS district spokeswoman said.

In April 2004, Mathematica Policy Research, a firm that examines public policy plans, released a study that measured the impact Upward Bound had on high school students nationwide. The study focused on two groups of high school students—a treatment group that was given the opportunity to participate in Upward Bound and a control group that was not.

Of the students, 1,500 in the treatment group, 74 percent, enrolled in some kind of post-secondary education, compared with 71 percent of the 1,300 students in the control group. However, MPR determined the difference between the percentages was not statistically significant. Therefore, the group found that Upward Bound had no effect on enrollment in institutions of higher education.

The study did find that Upward Bound had a positive effect on college enrollment of students who had low expectations for their academic careers following high school.

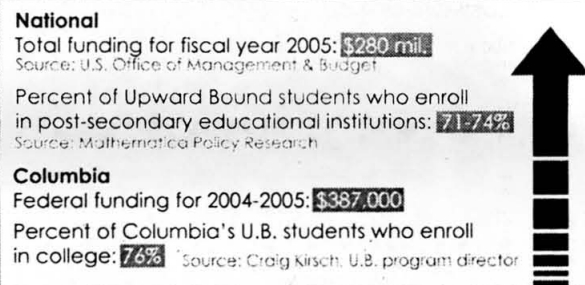
Nationally, nearly 64 percent of the 2.7 million high school graduates in 2003 were enrolled in college by the October following graduation, according to an April 2004 report by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Statistics aside, Jeanne Fryer, a guidance counselor at Foreman High School, said she believes Upward Bound is instrumental in helping high school students attend college.

"Being a public school, we don't always have services for students, and Columbia provides additional resources to help kids' dreams come alive," Fryer said.

Tutors from Upward Bound at Columbia visit Foreman, Juarez and Holy Trinity high schools twice a week to work with the students in the program, Kirsch said. Upward Bound students also use Columbia's facilities, like the

### Upward Bound Program Stats



Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle

Television Department, to learn skills they would not learn at their schools.

"Upward Bound keeps students challenging themselves," Fryer said. "It encourages them to aim for honors classes. They set their sights high and work toward that goal."

Despite the proposal to cut Upward Bound's federal funding, Kirsch is optimistic about the program's future. Advocates of the TRIO programs, he said, plan to contact Congress and urge the members not to approve the funding cuts.

Neither Kirsch nor Fryer could say what would happen to the program at Columbia or nationally should it lose its funding, but it is possible that it could disappear.

"It would be a big gap—a big hole—in our lives," Fryer said.

Nelson Navarro is one person who Upward Bound has helped. He became involved with Columbia's program in 1994 while he was a student at Foreman, and upon graduation he enrolled as a freshman at Columbia.

Navarro said his experiences working with Upward Bound's tutors and using Columbia's facilities helped him decide to attend college. He graduated from Columbia with a degree in illustration design in 2003. He also worked as a tutor for Columbia's program in 2002.

He now works as a freelance illustrator and graphic designer for

companies like Chicago-based Rico Graphics Inc., creating concepts for materials from business cards to promotional posters to CD covers.

"Without Upward Bound, I probably wouldn't have a degree," Navarro said. "I probably wouldn't be working in my field now. I'd probably be doing nothing."

The possible funding cuts for Upward Bound have disturbed Navarro, but he hopes the program will prevail.

"It's one of the few things helping kids decide what to do with life," he said. "If no one was there to help us, we would have kind of wasted away."

## Trustees Continued from Front Page

to bring connections ... to the college."

Other responsibilities include selecting a president for the college, overseeing its long-term investments and setting broad policies for its future direction.

A high-profile member like Dahl would seem like a boon for the college. After all, he made a name for himself in 1979 when he orchestrated the destruction of thousands of disco records at Comiskey Park during the aptly titled "Disco Demolition Night," won a Chicago television Emmy in 1982 for a documentary on Elvis Presley and now hosts the daily drive-time

## Black History Continued from Front Page

work, which is on display in the A&D 11th Street Gallery, 72 E. 11th St., through March 2.

Moor's work examines hip-hop music and culture in relation to race through a collection of multimedia self-portraits. She seeks to understand how an art form typically related to black culture plays a role in mainstream America.

On Feb. 17, jazz trumpeter Roy Hargrove will kick off Columbia's Black History Month events with a performance at the HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo Drive.

"We were wondering how we were going to open this celebration," Westley said. "We wanted a really big show for the entire festival, so we came up with the idea of Roy Hargrove because of the influence of jazz on visual art."

Westley said she is especially excited about The State of Black Art on March 2, a panel discussion featuring Thelma Golden, deputy director of exhibitions and programs at the Studio Museum in Harlem, N.Y.; Franklin Sirman, a curator and culture critic whose writings have appeared in publications like Artforum and the New York Times; Hamza

Walker, director of education at The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago; and Al Loving, an abstract artist whose work is on display in the N'Namdi galleries in Chicago, New York and Detroit.

The members of the African Heritage Committee want students who attend the exhibitions to take away new ideas of how to view and create contemporary visual art. Mooney said the committee tried to cater the events toward students' interests.

For example, she said, students might be drawn to the hip-hop aspect of Moor's work, and the fact that Hargrove has recorded with popular artists like Common and Erykah Badu might convince people to check out his concert.

Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Kelly, who is also a member of the African Heritage Committee, sees the Community and Context celebration as extending beyond the student body and serving as an example of Columbia's identity as a diverse arts and media college.

"I don't think there's a more intellectually stimulating event in the entire city right now," Kelly said.

talk show, The Steve Dahl Show on 105.9 WCKG-FM. But Lloyd said he thinks the real catch comes with Peyronnin.

"Peyronnin was an alumnus ... and he was lost for a number of years," Lloyd said.

Besides presiding over Fox News, Peyronnin also worked as the executive president of all CBS programming, including "60 Minutes," "48 Hours" and "CBS Evening News" with Dan Rather. He now works as executive vice president for news and information programming for Telemundo.

"Clearly Steve Dahl is a big name in this city and he clearly

has built a reputation for a number of years, ... and there is some value in that kind of longevity and the kinds of relationships he has built in the city," Lloyd said.

But "[Institutional Advancement] has built quite a relationship with Mr. Peyronnin," Lloyd said. "And there could be some programming that comes out of that. We could use some of Mr. Peyronnin's relationships with a Walter Cronkite or a Ted Koppel or whoever it is, and he can deliver those people to us to do a speaker series or something like that."

The board of trustees meets again on March 11.





## We're glad to have you here with us this semester.

For many of you, welcome back. For others, this is your first college experience or your first college experience at Columbia. Regardless if you are new, a transfer or returning student, we welcome all of you.

Here, as our Mission statement demands, we prepare our students to "communicate creatively" and "shape the public's perceptions of issues and events," to "author the culture of their times." Columbia enrolls students who "reflect the economic, racial, cultural and educational diversity of contemporary America." We recognize that we serve an "important civic purpose by active engagement in the life and culture of the City of Chicago."

Here at Columbia, you will find opportunities for such engagement. You'll find photographic and art galleries, a music center, a world-class dance center, a professional-quality theater, numerous experimental theater spaces and auditoriums, cabaret-style venues, award-winning fiction and poetry publications, a campus-based radio station, a Columbia College television station, a truly outstanding student newspaper, and research resources like the Center for Black Music Research and the Center for Arts Policy all with public programs. With these programs, we are not only encouraging free expression, as freely and wholly as we can, but we are also maintaining vital connections with the daily lives of our neighbors.

As you begin a new semester of work, I invite you to work hard, to make the most of the opportunities that you'll discover here. And I especially invite you to expand your intellectual and artistic horizons. Get involved. Help author the culture of your times...!

Have a rewarding and productive semester.

Warrick L. Carter  
President

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**CREATIVE SPACE: FIFTY YEARS OF ROBERT BLACKBURN'S PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP**  
now - March 25  
Glass Curtain Gallery  
1104 S. Wabash AVE

Reception and Lecture Thursday, February 24 5-8 p.m.

Slide lecture at 6 p.m. presented by *Creative Space* curator Deborah Cullen, curator El Museo Del Barrio, NYC.

This is a Library of Congress exhibition realized in collaboration with the International Print Center New York (IPCNY) and The Elizabeth Foundation.

Robert Blackburn's influence as an artist, innovative master printer and teacher is legendary. He was directly responsible for giving new shape to American Printmaking. Dr. Cullen's lecture will provide insight into the modern image of contemporary American prints and Blackburn's role in its creation.

This exhibition is on display in conjunction with *Black Artists: Community and Context*, a Columbia College Chicago festival celebrating African heritage.

**THE ENDLESS WAR: PAINTINGS BY SUSANNA TSCHURTZ**  
now - April 1  
C-33 Gallery  
33 E. Congress Parkway

Born in Romania in 1938, Chicago-based artist Susanna Tschurtz became a refugee in war-ravaged Europe at age six. Her unique work transforms the experiences of her childhood into universal human suffering. She paints the determination and hardship of women as they struggle to save their families from devastation. Her paintings are expressions of war as well as her sympathy for those who have suffered. Tschurtz's work is a reflection of the contemporary struggle against inhumanity in places such as Yugoslavia, New York City on 9/11, Afghanistan, Sudan and Iraq.

Reception with the artist on Tuesday, March 1, 5 - 7p.m. Historian Ray Lohne presents a talk on Susanna Tschurtz's work at 6 p.m.

**OPEN HOUSE: PHOTOGRAPHS BY SUSAN CARR AND JESSICA ROWE**  
now - March 3  
Museum of Contemporary Photography  
600 S. Michigan Ave.

The photographs of Susan Carr and Jessica Rowe depict homes whose contents signal that they were established decades ago. After years of accumulation, the assortment of objects is diverse - plastic plants mirror floral patterns on heavy drapery and faded wall paper; layers of photographs, books, and papers pile up on shelves like geological strata marking the passage of time. Some objects are chipped, faded, or broken, preserved for their nostalgic value in spite of their blemishes. Many make visible our changing notions of "taste" and might be classified as kitsch, a term that is often used to describe mass-produced art or artifacts that appropriate "high" art strategies in the service of garish or sentimental themes.

**AYANAH MOOR EXHIBITION**  
now - March 1  
LECTURE and CLOSING RECEPTION: AYANAH MOOR  
March 1 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Closing reception followed by an artist lecture at 6:30 p.m.  
A+D 11 St. Gallery

Through her appropriation and recasting of stereotypes, Ayanah Moor seeks to contribute, generate, and enrich the discourse surrounding issues of gender, race and identity. Drawing from the popularity of hip-hop culture, Moor brings audiences to consider the shifting social and economic implications associated with this form of African American vernacular culture. Like the expression that inspires her work, her prints and installations are sharp, challenging, and accessible.

This exhibition is Columbia's *Black Artists: Community and Context*, a celebration of African Heritage.

**MANUFACTURED SELF**  
now - March 3  
Museum of Contemporary Photography  
600 S. Michigan Ave.

Through a critical lens, *Manufactured Self* investigates how people live—their work, their possessions, and their aspirations. The works in this exhibition will explore personal and collective consumption from a variety of angles: cultural history, personal identity, global economy, and the radical difference between wealthy industrialized and "developing" countries. The intimacy of photographs made within living spaces, however, also allows for an examination of how society can dictate personal need for possessions. This exhibition will examine how we can be manipulated, identified, and occasionally satisfied by what we consume through the work of Philip Kwame Apagya, Tina Barney, Walead Beshty, Shannon Ebner, Yeondoo Jung, Nikki S. Lee, Alex MacLean, Tomoko Sawada, Peter Menzel, Martin Paar, Orit Sima-Tov, and Brian Ulrich.

**SWEET WATER TASTE**  
New Studio Theater  
72 E. 11 St.  
March 2 - March 13 call box office for show times

Charlie and Elijah are both family men and share a respect for each other. They have the same last name. One is black; the other, white. After Elijah has a brush with death, he and Charlie become locked in an unexpected struggle involving lineage and the color of their skin. *Sweet Water Taste* is the winner of the Theodore Ward Prize for local African-American playwrights.

**COMPAGNIE TCHE TCHE**  
March 17 - 19 8:00 p.m.  
The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago  
1304 S. Michigan Ave.

TcheTche (which means eagle), is an all female ensemble from the Ivory Coast directed by Beatrice Kombe. Remaining true to African traditions, Kombe uses heritage as a springboard to create something new. Her latest work, "Geemee," (union) channels the rhythm and energy of African dance into a powerful and intense duet ignited by the waste of war.

**CHINA THROUGH HER OWN EYES**  
co-sponsored by the Film & Video Department, The Center for Asian Arts and Media at Columbia College, Cinema Chicago and the Consulate of the People's Republic of China  
Film Row Cinema Theater 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

A never-before-seen collection of shorts and feature films produced in the People's Republic of China during the past 30 years, made possible through a permanent gift from the Chinese Consulate to Columbia College Chicago, which will include the films in its film archives.

**Thursday, March 17, 8 p.m.**  
*Woman Sesame Oil Maker* (1993, aka *Woman from the Lake of Scented Souls*)  
DIR: Xie Fei  
106m/Mandarin with English subtitles/Color

**Friday, March 18, 8 p.m.**  
*A Good Woman* (1986)  
DIR: Huang Jianzhong  
110m/Mandarin with English subtitles/Color

**Saturday, March 19, 2 p.m.**  
*Red Suit* (2000)  
DIR: Li Shaohong  
110m (approx)/Mandarin with English subtitles/Color

**Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m.**  
*Hong Fen* (1994, aka *Blush*)  
DIR: Li Shaohong  
115m/Cantonese with English subtitles/Color

**Sunday, March 20, 2p.m.**  
A Collection of Short Subjects from the People's Republic of China  
*A Glimpse of Chinese Minorities*  
*Legal Rights of Women*  
*Chinese Christianity*  
*The Potala*  
*A Cradle of Future Stars*  
All shorts include English narration tracks. Approximate running time: 120m

**Sunday, March 20, 8p.m.**  
*Peking Duck Restaurant* (1990)  
Also on the bill: *Dining and Culture*, a short subject  
DIR: Gu Rong  
100m (approx)/Mandarin with English subtitles/Color

Columbia

COLLEGE CHICAGO





By Laura Bell  
The Dallas Morning News

## McDonald's fries for missing deadline

Two years after McDonald's own deadline for reducing trans fats, the french fry has thus far snatched defeat from the jaws of victory.

The heavyweight among fast food chains had announced with fanfare that the amount of trans fats in its cooking oil would be cut almost in half by February 2003. After that, a more ambitious goal: McDonald's planned to eliminate this form of disease-causing grease, right down to the last McNugget.

Today, however, an order of fries remains as trans-laden as ever, leaving consumer advocates with a supersized disbelief.

"It's astonishing," said Michael Jacobson of the Center for Science in the Public Interest. He and many other nutrition experts now feel burned for their accolades in September 2002, when McDonald's announced its intention. "If a big company holds a press conference, you'd think they would have planned things out."

They thought they had, said company spokesman Walt Riker. Despite the best intentions, McDonald's found that an oil change wasn't so easy, he said. "We realized we needed additional testing."

One of the main problems was that the oil formulated in 2002 appeared to alter the taste of McDonald's fries. The popular fries are a company hallmark, with a taste and crispness on an almost sacred plane. The fries are such a state secret, Riker won't even discuss the components of the oil they're fried in.

The news is better for chicken lovers. McNuggets and other chicken products are now fried in an oil that is about 15 percent lower in trans fat.

McDonald's has been using trans fats since 1990. At the time it turned trans, the company was looking for a way to reduce the saturated fat and cholesterol coming out of its fryers. Trans fats are, before a chemical transformation, vegetable oil. The hope was that the trans fats would be no harder on a customer's health than canola or corn oil.

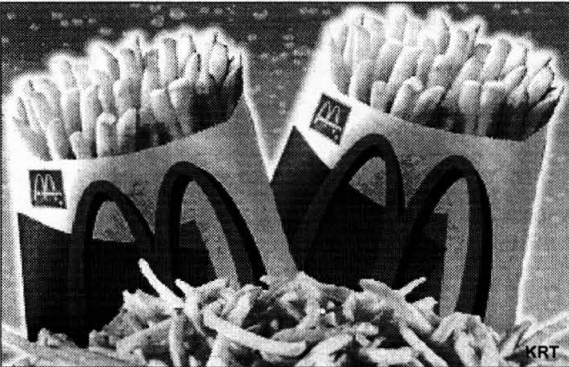
But the evidence against trans fat was already gathering, and it has now become one of the major controversies in the American

food industry. The new U.S. Dietary Guidelines, released just last month, urge Americans to keep their trans-fat consumption as close to zero as possible.

The problem is that trans fats have a singular ability to harm the heart and blood vessels.

"It's not something we've evolved to encounter," said Dr. Meir Stampfer from the Harvard School of Public Health. "It's something new for our metabolism."

Unlike most other forms of fat, the vast majority of trans fats are artificially made. They form when a liquid vegetable oil gets bombarded with hydrogen. The liquid becomes solid, giving baked goods a full, buttery feel in the mouth.



The discovery has been a boon to the food industry. Partially hydrogenated oils, as trans fats are called, can extend the shelf life of manufactured goods. In the fast food industry, hydrogenated oils mean fryers don't have to be changed out as frequently.

These traits would all be easy to swallow if trans fats didn't also increase the odds of a heart attack. Both saturated fat and trans fat raise the level of LDL, the form of cholesterol that contributes to heart disease. But trans fat also lowers the level of HDL, which protects against heart disease.

"It's doing two bad things," Stampfer said. Plus, he said, some research suggests that trans fats also raise the level of triglycerides, a form of fat in the blood. Maybe three bad things.

Researchers began to suspect the danger of trans fat more than two decades ago. One landmark study in 1997 from Stampfer and his colleagues found that women who consumed the highest levels of trans fat had a risk of heart disease about 30 percent higher than those who ate the lowest levels.

By 1999, the federal Food and Drug Administration voted to require trans fats to be listed on food labels, a measure that will take effect next year.

With disclosure looming, the food industry has begun scaling back on trans fats. Plano, Texas-based Frito-Lay has now removed trans fats from all its products, as have many other major food manufacturers. But few companies have the social and business weight of McDonald's. In 2002, experts were overjoyed that the world's largest restaurant chain had become an ally in the trans fat war.

"It was consistent with McDonald's being a leader in many areas," said Jacobson, executive director of the CSPI. But

ing trans fats. He's now consulting with the company on ways to make its food better for the 23 million Americans who eat it each day.

"I think they remain committed to achieving the trans fatty acid goal," said Ornish, who runs the Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, Calif. "The truth is that it was easier to reduce it in some products than others."

A trans-fat deflation on the chicken products didn't affect the taste, Ornish said, but not so with the potatoes. And he said he understands why the company can't compromise the taste of its famous fries. "It's their signature item."

But there are other complicating issues as well, Ornish said. McDonald's has to make sure that an oil formulation has enough farmers to fill the supply. Once apples made it to the menu, McDonald's suddenly became the largest purchaser of apples worldwide, Ornish said.

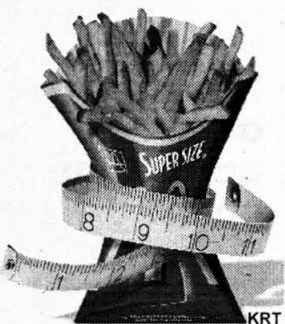
So the company can't just fry its food in a different oil, which would be a natural way to reduce trans fat. Frito-Lay, for example, switched to cottonseed and corn oil. Canola oil would also work. However, Ornish said, there's not enough canola oil in the world to meet McDonald's demand.

Agricultural researchers are scrambling to help McDonald's and other industries find ways to wean themselves off trans fats, said Robert Reeves, president of the Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils.

Some manufacturers, Reeves said, have moved to oils already available. Others are tinkering with ways to hydrogenate their oils without creating quite so much trans fat in the final product, or altering oils through other means. Plant researchers are also trying to develop varieties of oil seeds that produce more stable oils without need for hydrogenation.

What will work for each company, he said, depends on what kind of food they sell. "It's preserving the attributes that consumers have wanted and in fact demanded," Reeves said. And it's not just a question of taste; hydrogenated oils also improve texture. "If you had a french fry that was rather limp, it would not look good to the consumer."

What remains, then, is McDonald's french-fry challenge: pleasing the palate along with the arteries. Customers can only hope the final product will be truly golden.



## Trans Fat Facts

♦ Trans fat is a man-made fat created by adding hydrogens and pressure to liquid vegetable oil to make it solid at room temperature.

♦ Trans fats pose a higher risk for heart disease than saturated fats. Both fats raise total cholesterol, but trans fats also lower HDL, the good cholesterol, which protect us against disease.

♦ The more solid the fats, the more they clog arteries. Trans fats do the same thing in our bodies that bacon grease does to the kitchen sink, in simple terms. This clogging can lead to heart attacks and strokes.

♦ Food manufacturers mainly use trans fat because it costs less, tastes better and gives products a longer shelf life.

♦ If an ingredient includes the word "hydrogenated," the item has trans fats. Fried and packaged foods, such as bakery items, crackers, cookies, cake icing and chips all have trans fat.

—source: Columbia University Human Nutrition Department

## Asian students jockey for limited Ivy League admissions slots

Some counselors advise Asian students to apply to top-tier schools outside urban centers

By Patricia Alex  
The Record (KRT)

Forget "The Apprentice." For real competition, check out "The Applicant"—a contest in which high-achieving Asian students from New Jersey's moneyed suburbs jockey for the Ivy League.

Consider the case of a Chinese-American girl at Holmdel High School. Her grades and test scores were top-notch, she ran cross-country and she was an accomplished pianist. Still, her prospects seemed uncertain.

The problem: her all-too-familiar profile.

She didn't, and couldn't, stand out among her peers. She ranked in the top 20 percent in

the highly competitive school where nearly one of five students are Asian.

"We needed to get her away from the other Asian kids," said Robert Shaw, a private college consultant hired by the girl's family.

Shaw advised bold steps: The family got a place in Keyport, a blue-collar town near their home, and the girl transferred to the local high school. There she was a standout: The only Asian in the school, she was valedictorian for the Class of 2004.

Next came an extracurricular makeover, one a bit out of character for a Chinese-American girl, said Shaw.

"We suggested some outrageous activities, like Miss Teen New Jersey," where she won a talent competition playing piano.

"We had to create a contrarian profile," Shaw said. "We put her in places where she could stand out."

The girl was accepted to Yale and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she is now a freshman.

Shaw helped the family play the admissions game. The ethnic, geographic and racial profiling that goes into assembling classes at the nation's top-tier colleges and universities is the worst-kept secret in American higher education.

"It's a very well-known thing, but colleges don't want to talk about it," Shaw said. "It is certainly not a meritocracy. It's about being the right type of kid."

With a huge pool of outstanding applicants, admissions at the top schools long ago

stopped being about the numbers.

Good statistics alone are not the key to the Ivy League, said Willis J. "Lee" Stetson Jr., dean of admissions at the University of Pennsylvania. "In a really competitive pool, it's the extracurricular stuff that makes the difference."

Penn gets almost 19,000 applications for 2,400 seats a year, and the odds are no better at other top-tier schools. So how does a kid stand out in a large pool of students who have 1,500s on their SATs and 4.0 grade point averages?

The children of alumni usually get preference, as do athletes. Admissions officers look for geographic balance as well, courting a mix of international and American students.

And, even as the nation's

highest courts have ruled against racial and ethnic quotas, a de facto system remains in place as admissions officers strive for "balance" and the inclusion of so-called "under-represented" populations, like blacks and Latinos.

"If you give me a Hispanic kid with a 1,350 [SATs], I can get that kid into every Ivy League college, or an African-American kid with 1,380 to 1,400," Shaw said. "But give me an upper-middle-class Caucasian or Asian with a 1,600, and I can't guarantee anything."

Recently, an Asian client of Shaw's from suburban Philadelphia got "wait-listed" at

See Admissions, Page 9



# NATIONAL CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

## Stories from colleges across the country

### Not for the sheepish

The British government gave the creator of Dolly the Sheep a license to clone human embryos for medical research into the cause of motor neuron disease Feb. 8.

Ian Wilmut, who led the team that created Dolly at Scotland's Roslin Institute in 1996, and motor neuron expert Christopher Shaw of the Institute of Psychiatry in London plan to clone embryos to study how nerve cells go awry to cause the disease. The experiments do not involve creating cloned babies.

It is the second such license approved since Britain became the first country to legalize research cloning in 2001. The first was granted in August to a team that hopes to use cloning to create insulin-producing cells that could be transplanted into diabetics.

While the latest project would not use the stem cells to correct the disease, the study of the cells is expected to help scientists develop future treatments, according to the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority, which regulates such research and approved the license.

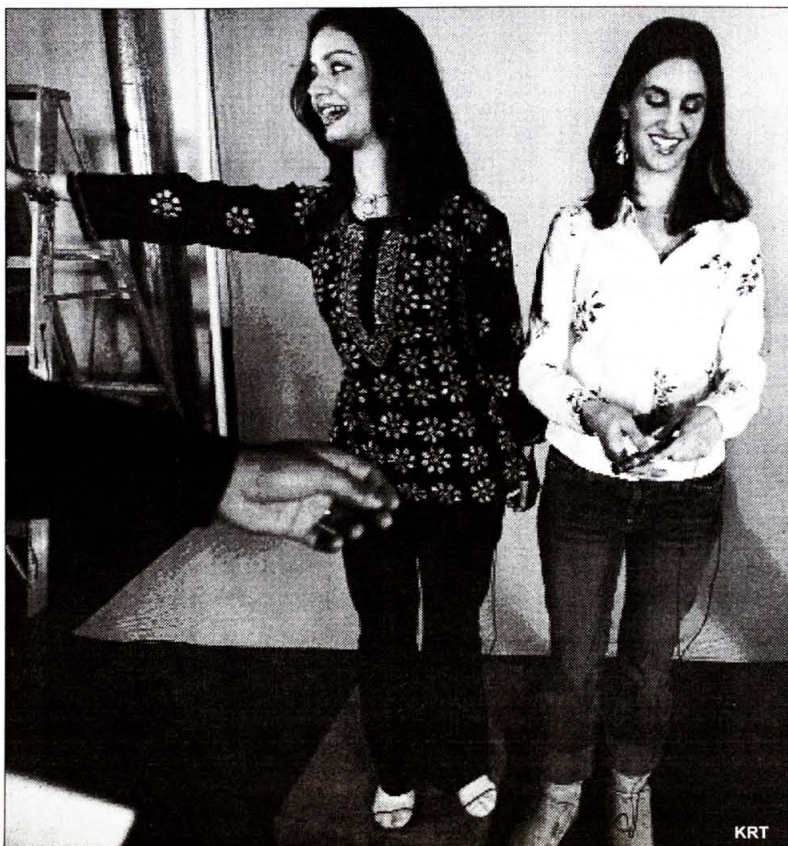
Stem cells are the master cells of the body. They appear when embryos are just a few days old and go on to develop into every type of cell and tissue in the body. Scientists hope to be able to extract the stem cells from embryos when they are in their blank state and direct them to form any desired cell type to treat a variety of diseases, ranging from Parkinson's to diabetes.

Getting the cells from an embryo that is cloned from a sick patient could allow scientists to track how diseases develop and provide genetically matched cell transplants that do not cause the immune systems to reject the transplant.

Such work, called therapeutic cloning because it does not result in a baby, is opposed by abortion foes and other biological conservatives because researchers must destroy human embryos to harvest the cells.

Cloning opponents decried the license Feb. 8, saying the technique is dangerous, undesirable and unnecessary.

## India TV



Radhika Shukla-Singh and Parmiss Nassiri are co-hosts of Wah India TV, a program geared toward U.S. immigrants. The show is shot and produced in Ann Arbor, MI.

### Abra Cadaver

After five scandals in 10 years, University of California officials are creating a new "inventory control system" to keep track of cadavers donated to their medical schools that includes video cameras, barcodes and computers.

The new system is designed to keep bodies and body parts from being stolen, coming in the wake of theft scandals at three of the university's five medical schools that have body-donation programs.

In March, UC President Robert Dynes asked former Gov. George Deukmejian to head a task force that would help develop systemwide guidelines to operate willied body programs at its Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco campuses.

The request came a few days after the director of UCLA's program was charged with felony grand theft stemming from the alleged sale of body parts.

In another case, relatives of people who donated bodies to UC Irvine are suing the system after the campus fired its program director in 1999 and was unable to account for more than 300 bodies.

Taylor said the new accountability procedures include a systemwide program director to oversee all UC programs, closer supervision on each campus as well as "inventory management devices to help us keep better track of what we have." Newly developed software will monitor how many cadavers are in storage, and where. Bar-code devices will also be attached to the nearly 1,000 cadavers the

university system receives each year.

### Grad Rates Online

A new web tool unveiled Jan. 18 by The Education Trust, a national advocacy group for high academic achievement, can be used to compare graduation rates among similar public and private universities.

With College Results Online, students, parents, educators and policymakers for the first time can easily discover the percentages of students individual schools are graduating—not just overall, but by race, ethnicity and gender—and how those rates stack up against schools that serve the same kinds of students.

The site, [www.collegeresults.org](http://www.collegeresults.org), is expected to fuel a growing national movement for

accountability in higher education, which has led to some calls to link government funding to graduation rates.

The graduation rate in the United States has not changed significantly for decades, but other countries are improving theirs.

"There is an increasing sense we are wasting a lot of our talent," Haycock said, noting that if the country cut its black-white graduation gap in half, it would gain an additional 10,000 African-American college graduates a year.

The point of the website and an accompanying study, "One Step From the Finish Line," is that how schools relate to their students, particularly freshmen and sophomores, can affect how many will graduate.

Typically, universities say that who their students are largely will determine the graduation rate.

### Spyware ruling

Computer programs that collect users' personal and usage information without their knowledge could be illegal if a Texas bill filed last week passes.

Senate Bill 327, authored by state Sen. Judith Zaffirini (D-Laredo) would make it illegal to install, copy or download so-called "spyware" onto a computer without obtaining the user's permission or giving clear and conspicuous notice.

In gathering user information, spyware can slow computer system performance. The information gathered by spyware can then be distributed to advertisers and anyone else, which leads to increased pop-up advertisements.

The required notice would alert users of the spyware during the initial phase of installation, informing them of the nature of the program with quick and easy methods to cancel installation or delete the program later.

Utah and California have both passed anti-spyware legislation. Criticism of anti-spyware laws has varied widely, from accusations of being too broad in Utah to too vague in California. In fact, the Utah law was nullified after a lawsuit filed by New York-based adware maker WhenU.com.

Zaffirini's bill defines terms such as "spyware" and "authorized user," and details the required notification, preemptively addressing any question of vague language. It addresses concerns about being too strict by specifically mentioning exceptions, such as spyware used for law enforcement purposes or to diagnose computer problems.

—Compiled by Andrew Greiner

## Admissions *Continued from Page 8*

Yale despite a 1,600 SAT score and a 4.1 GPA.

Shaw, a partner in the Long Island-based Ivy Success, honed his pragmatism while working in the admissions office at Penn. He recently changed his name from Hsueh to make it easier to pronounce, he said, but allows that a less Asian-sounding name may be an advantage when his young daughters reach college age.

The schools deny quotas exist. On its website, Princeton University says: "We do not have a profile of the ideal applicant, nor do we map out a checklist of all the particular 'types' of students we plan to admit in a given year." Asians make up 13 percent of the Princeton enrollment.

Lauren Robinson-Brown, Princeton's director of commu-

nications, said admissions staffers consider all applications without "criteria such as ethnicity or geographic region."

But admissions counselors and parents who've been through the process say they know differently.

"I'm not saying that colleges have racial quotas, but I imagine that most schools want representation of different cultural and ethnic groups," said Jonni Sayres, a counselor in Englewood and Teaneck.

Bev Taylor, director of the Ivy Coach on Long Island, is more blunt.

"Colleges have a hidden agenda. They are not going to say this," she said. "They look for diversity and unless you know the culture of the school, you are not going to know what's diverse."

A bulge in the college-age population has made admission harder for everyone, said Stetson of Penn, which just filled almost half its incoming freshman class through early admission.

Although less than 4 percent of the population, Asians make up about 14 percent of the Ivy League. And the numbers are even higher for schools located in cities where Asians generally gravitate. At Penn, Asians make up almost 23 percent of the student body, 16 percent at Harvard.

Still, because they are in such a highly competitive subgroup, they are admitted to the Ivies at a lower rate than other groups, with about one in every 15 gaining entry compared with an average of one in 10, Shaw said.

As a group, Asians score the highest on standardized tests—a testament to a cultural emphasis on scholarship—and generally

have high GPAs.

When California eliminated racial preferences—set-asides for underrepresented groups—Asian enrollment skyrocketed in the venerable University of California system. Although Asians are 13 percent of the state's population, they make up 42 percent of students on the campus at Berkeley, 38 percent at Los Angeles and 61 percent at Irvine.

Some counselors advise Asian students to apply to top-tier schools outside urban centers, such as Duke University in North Carolina or Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, where they will still be considered minorities.

"One of my biggest obligations as a counselor is to get across to the parents that they need to look at areas who will appreciate them more," said Sayres, the Teaneck counselor.

The glut of A-students pres-

ents a dilemma for top-tier universities that want their classes to mirror the broader society. Such institutions are more likely to "attribute a higher degree of importance to a student's race or ethnicity," according to a soon-to-be-released report from the National Association for College Admissions Counseling.

Shaw and others say the system can work against individuals in a highly competitive pool like Asians. There are also complaints that Asians are counted as minorities by colleges but don't receive minority preferences at many top-tier schools. Others balk at an analysis that views admissions as a competition among minorities—that blacks and Latinos take what otherwise would be places occupied by Asians. They note that whites remain the majority at most selective colleges.





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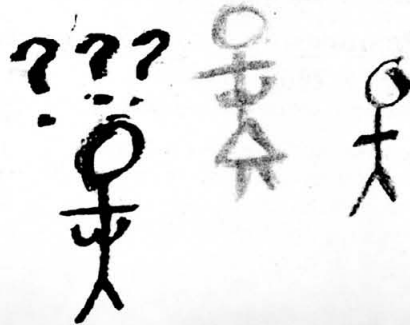
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## The Endless War: Paintings by Susanna Tschurtz

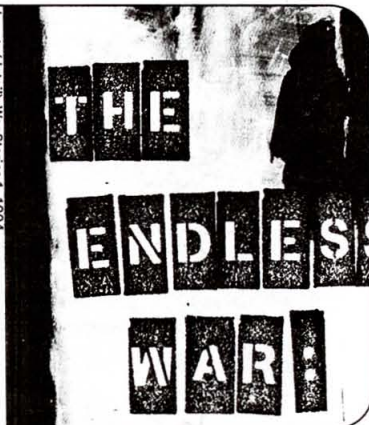
**February 14, 2005–April 1, 2005**

March 1, 5-7pm, Reception with the Artist; Lecture at 6pm by Columbia College history instructor Ray Lohne

Born in Romania in 1938, Chicago-based artist Susanna Tschurtz became a refugee in war-ravaged Europe at age six. Tschurtz spent eight years of her young life in a refugee camp until she was able to immigrate to the United States in 1952. Her unique work transforms the experiences of her childhood into universal human suffering and serves as a reflection of the contemporary struggle against inhumanity in places such as Yugoslavia, New York City on 9/11, Afghanistan, Sudan, and Iraq.

Co-sponsored by [C]Spaces, a division of Student Affairs, and the Department of Liberal Education. Funded by student activity fees.

Image (detail): War Stories I, 1994



Glass CURTAIN Gallery  
1104. Wabash first floor  
hours: M  
Sat. by appt.

## Creative Space: Fifty years of Robert Blackburn's Printmaking Workshop

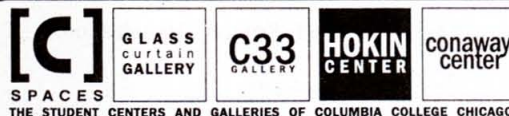
**January 31–March 25, 2005**

February 24, 5-8pm, Reception; Slide lecture at 6pm by Deborah Cullen, co-curator of Creative Space

Robert Blackburn, who died in 2003, changed the course of American art through his graphic work and the Printmaking Workshop, which he founded in 1948. Creative Space includes selections of Blackburn's pioneering abstract color lithography and a wide array of prints by noted students and collaborators. This is a Library of Congress exhibition made possible through the generous support of Merrill Lynch.

Sponsored by [C]Spaces/Glass Curtain Gallery, a division of Student Affairs. Funded by student activity fees.

Image (detail): Robert Blackburn, Heavy Forms, Lithograph, 1961



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

## Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship Exhibition

**February 14, 2005–March 19, 2005**

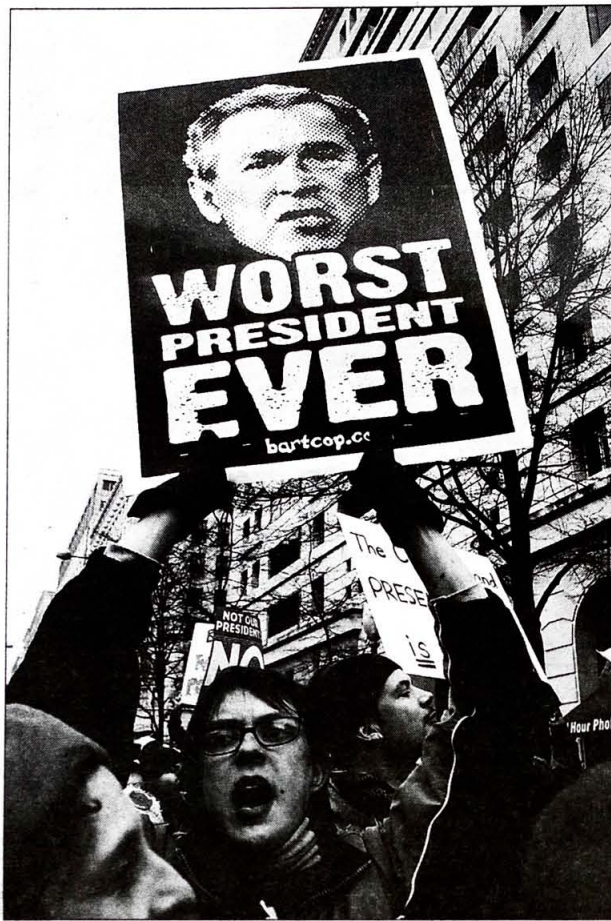
The Albert P. Weisman Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1974 to encourage Columbia College students to complete projects in all fields of communications.

Sponsored by [C]Spaces, a division of Student Affairs. Funded by student activity fees.

Image (detail): Sarah Gilmore, BOUND series







# Firework ON



The inaugural scene in Washington, D.C., was not as serene as the public was led to believe. Fireworks heralded the beginning of the week of festivities that carried a price tag of more than \$40 million. After the smoke had cleared, fireworks of a different type erupted

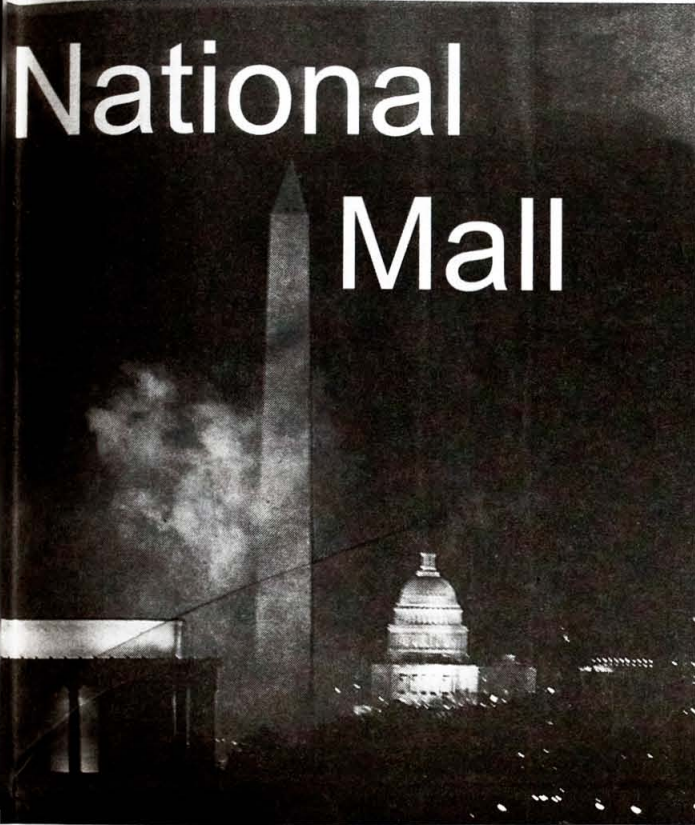
between the Capitol. Thousands of protesters with cardboard signs expressed distaste for George W. Bush. Armed guards at the





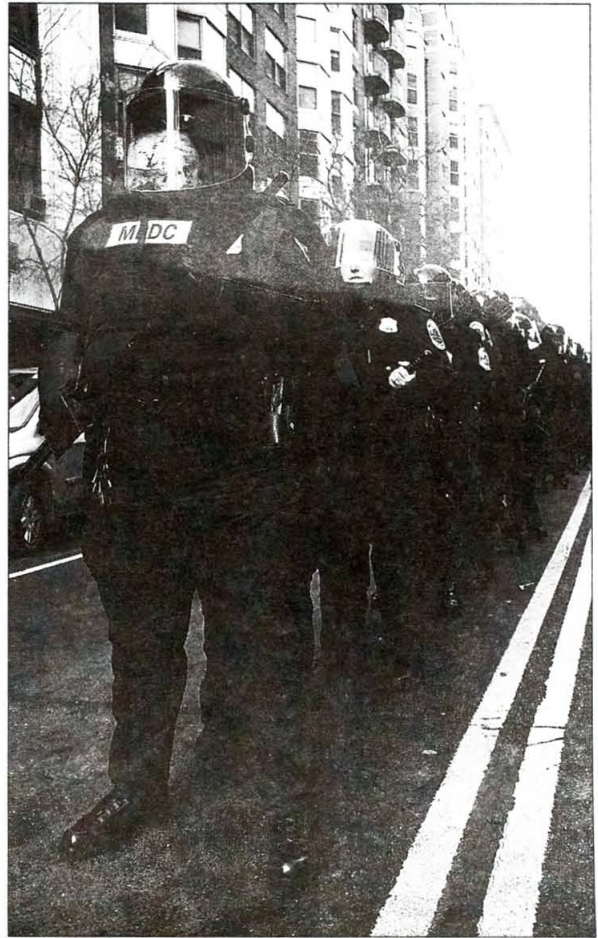
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# National Mall

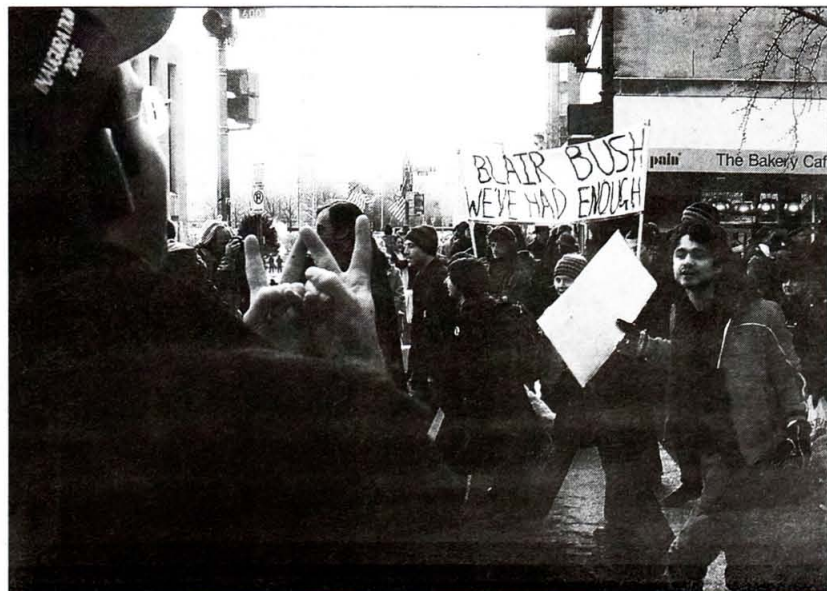
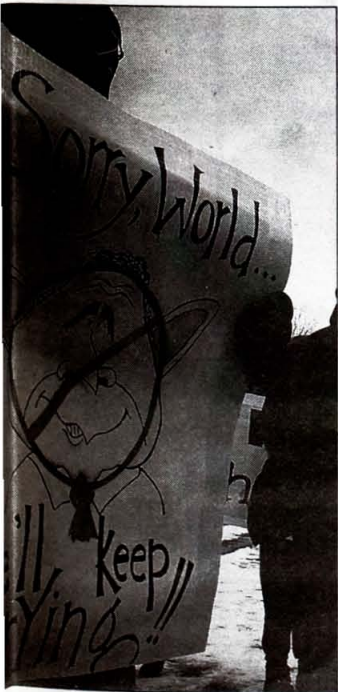


...ional Building and the White House. ... protesters, who showed up equipped ... signs and bullhorns to proclaim their ... ge. W. Bush, clashed with police and ... every turn. As the president was

... being sworn in, just blocks away, ... groups were chanting slogans like "Not my president!" Many of the issues rolling off the tongues of these angry demonstrators, such as Social Security reform and the war in Iraq, will continue to be debated during the next four years.



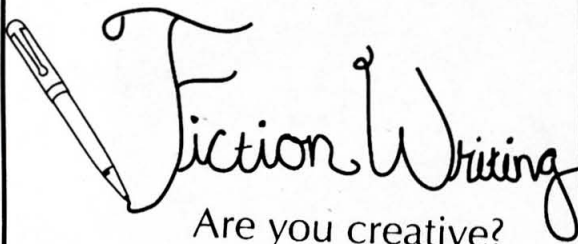
Photos by Eric Davis  
Text by Andrew Greiner





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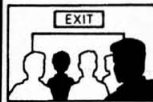
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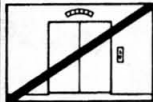


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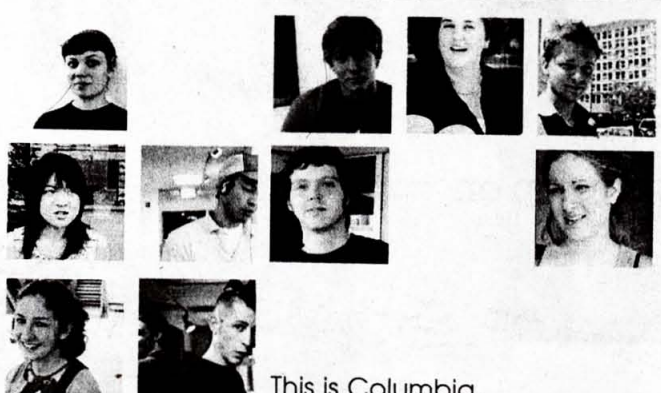
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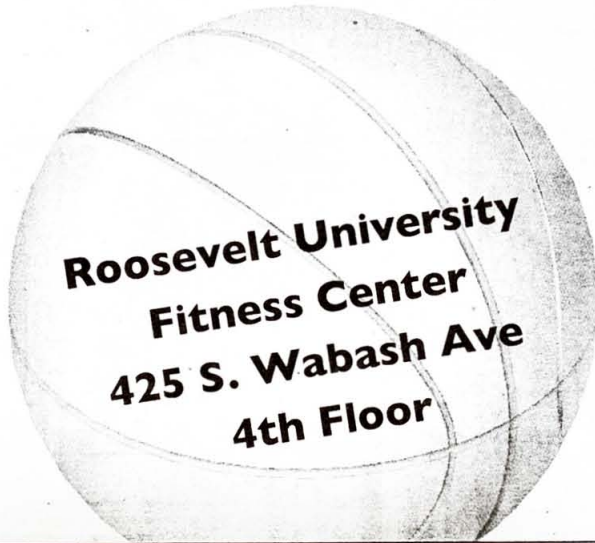
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Roosevelt University  
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425 S. Wabash Ave.  
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## Can Daley clean up his act?

Imagine if the chief executive officer of a \$5 billion corporation continually lost millions of dollars of the company's money through mismanagement and fraud.

Let's say, for the sake of argument, that what happened was this: In a couple of different divisions of the corporation, middle managers struck sweetheart deals with customers and suppliers to steal company funds. Contracts were faked, money was funneled to non-existent companies, bills were inflated and imaginary employees were put on the payroll.

Even worse, let's pretend that while millions and millions of dollars were flowing out the doors of these two or three (or five) separate divisions, the CEO was unable to figure out why it was happening, who was responsible or how to put a stop to it at all.

How long do you think the CEO would remain in charge before he was fired?

If you said less than five or 10 years, you'd be right.

But five or 10 years is a conservative estimate for how long scandals have plagued the administration of Mayor Richard M. Daley, and he has managed to remain in charge of Chicago and its \$5 billion annual budget for just as long.

Despite repeated headlines exposing fraud and waste, scandals continue to plague the Daley administration. Everything from the troubled Hired Truck Program, which has racked up hundreds of thousands of

dollars in bribes for city contracts; to the city's minority set-aside program, which has diverted millions in public funds away from deserving minority companies to politically-connected white-owned firms; to the recently completed Millennium Park downtown, which ended up costing the city almost twice the original price tag of \$150 million—Daley has proved ineffectual at stopping problems.

But all that could be changing. In his annual State of the City address Feb. 8, before a gathering of business leaders and civic boosters at a downtown hotel, the mayor dropped some bombshells.

First off, after years of scandal, the city is ending its troubled Hired Truck Program, which was originally intended to save the city money by hiring out snow removal and construction waste trucks to private contractors.

The mayor also announced that he would no longer accept campaign contributions from anyone doing business with the city, a move that is widely seen as unprecedented and a sign of his renewed commitment.

It's difficult to see the mayor's latest moves and not be hopeful that he has started to put the brakes on a political culture that accepts fraud and the waste of taxpayers' dollars.

Time and time again, as a new scandal or example of waste has come to light, the mayor has done little beyond offering up platitudes about being embar-

assed and vowing to get to the bottom of things.

And time and time again, new scandals and waste continue to be exposed.

Hopefully, this time will be different. Replacing the Hired Truck Program, for example, is long overdue, despite the mayor's past promises to undertake reform in the troubled program. And refusing to accept political contributions from city contractors should be the normal operating procedure of an open and honest government.

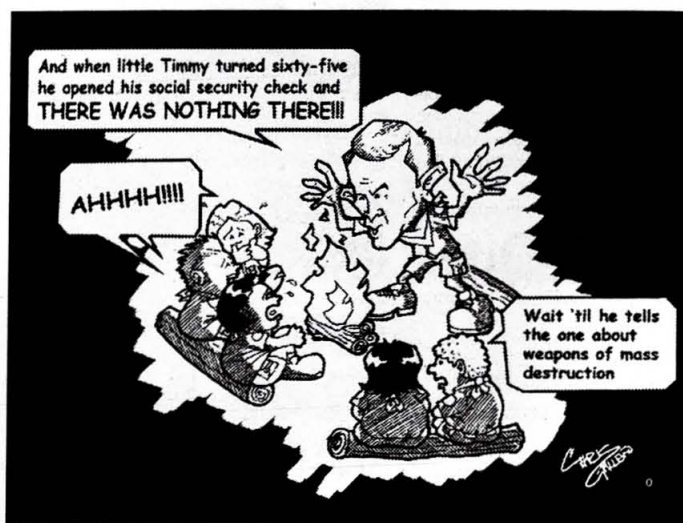
But as dramatic as the recent announcements are, there is still a long way to go before Chicagoans can point with pride to their city government, knowing that scandal and corruption have been chased away for good.

For instance, many of the problems that have led to scandals lie not in the relationship between city contracts and the mayor's political war chest. Instead, they exist in the trenches, where mid-level managers and political operatives are able to run city departments and programs like personal fiefdoms, rewarding friends and families while punishing political enemies and legitimate businesses.

Down there, in the places where a good administrator learns to run his business efficiently, is where Daley will need to focus his attention if he is to do some real good.

If not, there may come a time when Chicagoans start looking for a new chief executive to start running the company.

## OUT OF TOON



Chris Gallevo/The Chronicle

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:



### Proposed game major gets noticed

Thank you kindly for your wonderful and thorough coverage of the proposed new game design major ("Game design may earn college credit," Jan. 10).

Due to your efforts, the initiative showed on the radar at the Chicago Tribune, which is preparing a story likely to reflect well upon the college, the faculty and the students.

We also appreciate your kind and supportive editorial ("Create ... Games?," Jan. 18). I can assure you that the faculty is committed to diversity of students and voices in the new major, and to the creation of games not only as entertainment but also toward educational and constructive ends.

**Wade Roberts**  
Director, Interactive Multimedia Program

### Advertising unnecessarily sexist

For the past month I have cringed every time I walked into the lobby of the Alexandroff Campus Center, 600 S. Michigan Ave., where, prominently displayed above a stack of Chronicle newspapers was a photographic advertisement of a woman's torso, bare-breasted and voluptuous in low-cut, unzipped jeans. Over her breasts were two small photographs of young men, the copy reading "Either Way You'll Score" ran in large letters across the top to advertise the DVD release of a recent movie.

Why should female students, faculty and staff be subjected to demeaning,

offensive and inappropriately sexualized advertising content on our own campus?

Columbia is not a public space. We have choices here. I ask that The Chronicle consider what kind of environment these ads create. I believe it could fairly be described as hostile.

I understand that The Chronicle makes income from these ads. However, that does not justify displaying any and all ads that are submitted. After feeling uncomfortable about this for weeks and then hearing that more than a few women students were similarly disturbed, I brought my concerns to the general manager of The Chronicle, who subsequently arranged to have the ads removed.

I appreciate the speed with which The Chronicle responded to this issue, and ask that it let us know what actions will be taken to prevent this problem in the future.

**Melissa Ann Pinney**  
Adjunct Faculty, Photography Department

### Let's not forget key role

Thank you for your article announcing the arrival of Jane Saks and the establishment of the Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in Arts and Media at Columbia ("Columbia selects director for new women's institute," Jan. 10).

Thank you also for helping to create awareness and enthusiasm for this important new initiative.

However, your article failed to report essential facts and attributes of the institute, which are Columbia trustee Ellen Stone Belic's significant role in promoting the idea for the institute, contributing generously to the funding for this initiative, and participating fully in activities associated with bringing the institute—and Jane Saks—to Columbia.

Belic has a long and distinguished history of providing service and support to Columbia. A member of our

## Black History Month, right here at home

February is Black History Month, a time to celebrate the achievements of African-Americans throughout our nation's history. But it's also a chance to reflect on the many ways art has been used to reflect African-American creativity across generations, and to focus on the roles contemporary artists play in today's society.

That's one of the reasons why the program Black Artists: Community and Context, Columbia's examination of African-American artists in contemporary society slated to run from Feb. 14 to March 25, is likely to be so illuminating.

Sponsored by the African Heritage Committee, the program is filled with such notables as printmaker

Ayanah Moor, sculptor Alison Saar and musician Roy Hargrove, who is scheduled to kick off the series with a Feb. 17 performance at HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo Drive.

The theme, "community and context," was inspired by a series of prints by influential printmaker Robert Blackburn currently on display in the Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 S. Wabash Ave.

The theme of this year's celebration seems especially fitting for a school with a wide breadth of art and media studies, particularly since it focuses on visual arts such as painting, sculpture and printmaking.

That's because all too often, discussion on the nature and meaning of African-American art centers almost exclusively on

the realm of popular entertainment, to the neglect of other, equally critical art forms.

Many of the images of contemporary African-American culture that we see on a daily basis are those generated by mainstream media outlets, and we rarely have the chance to examining the importance of the visual arts in communicating the experiences of black Americans in today's society.

After all, when's the last time you saw a story about an African-American printmaker on TV?

For the next month or so, however, such an opportunity exists right here at Columbia.

And all you have to do is walk across the hall. Or across campus.

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# Beyond tsunami, need for aid still flows

By Mark W. Anderson  
Commentary Editor

Last week, President Bush pledged to nearly triple the amount of U.S. aid to countries devastated by the tsunami, bringing the total amount of money earmarked for the troubled region to \$950 million. This amount comes on top of the almost half a billion dollars privately pledged by American corporations and individuals, not to mention the nearly \$4 billion pledged worldwide by other nations.

These staggering figures are comforting on some level, as they remind us that in an increasingly globalized age, the willingness and ability for people to stretch hands across borders and help their fellow man in times of need is unparalleled.

And Americans, as can be seen by simply counting up the dollars, are among some of the most generous and charitable people in the world.

Which is why, as news of the tsunami fades from our television screens and morning newspapers, it is important that the impulse to help doesn't disappear as well.

While devastating, the damage done by the tsunami was by no means even the biggest humanitarian crisis of the month, let alone the year, as outside of our television cameras even more horrific events continue to unfold and demand the world's attention.

A recently released report by the international humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders (also known by its French acronym MSF) highlights a number of these other slow-moving tsunamis of grief.

The annual Top 10 Most Underreported Humanitarian Crises report has come out for 2004, and it reminds us that for some of the poorest and most vulnerable countries on the earth—particularly in Africa—every day brings another disaster.

Take the Democratic Republic of Congo, for example. A decades-long civil war in one of Africa's poorest nations has killed more than 3 million people and turned the country into a place with almost no economy and even less infrastructure.

Recently, more than 150,000 Congolese refugees—a number

Liberia, remains in crisis. The MSF report states that little of the country's infrastructure remains, leaving most people without basic services like water and sanitation, while more than 300,000 refugees wait to return from neighboring countries.

Burundi, Somalia and Uganda fare little better, while other, non-

million in 1999, but less than during the peak years of the mid-1980s when sub-Saharan Africa was a key battleground of the Cold War. The same story holds true for Liberia (\$5.3 million in U.S. aid in 2002), Somalia (\$2.8 million in 2002) and Burundi (\$4.6 million in 2002), all countries that made the MSF list of underreported humanitarian crises last year.

But perhaps more devastating than the lack of aid is the crushing burden of debt. According to Oxfam, the UK-based humanitarian agency, the poorest countries in the world, taken together, pay \$100 million a day to their creditors, including the United States.

In 2002 alone, these underdeveloped countries paid out \$39 billion in debt repayments to some of the world's richest countries. That's more than they are able to spend on health care, despite receiving \$17 billion in aid for the same period.

Much of this debt comes from past loans and development aid that strangles the budgets of debtor nations, despite widespread belief that debt relief is one of the most effective means available to fight poverty and foster new development among the world's neediest people.

For countries like the Democratic Republic of the Congo, buried deep in sub-Saharan Africa, or Colombia, wracked by a decades-long civil war, there are no televised celebrity appeals, charity concerts or official commissions led by ex-presidents like those that sprang up in the wake of the devastating tsunami disaster.

But that doesn't mean the horrific stories that flow out of these troubled regions should claim any less of a hold on our sympathetic hearts or generous pocketbooks.

After all, it doesn't take an earthquake or a tsunami before people we don't know need our help.



Francesco Zizola/MSF

Every night across northern Uganda, an estimated 50,000 children leave their homes and travel as far as 10 miles away to city centers in search of a safe place to sleep. They flee their homes out of fear of being abducted and forced into combat and sexual slavery.

rivaling those killed in last month's tsunami—fled for their lives in the wake of renewed fighting among rebels and government forces. The report notes that "rape is widespread, and political divisions often erupt along ethnic lines, affecting entire areas of a country the size of Western Europe." And "many Congolese cannot meet even their most basic needs."

Likewise, a constant threat of hunger and disease is estimated to claim the lives of more than 10 percent of children born each year in Ethiopia, primarily due to severe droughts and infectious diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS. Meanwhile, an estimated 5 million of Ethiopia's 69 million people face chronic food shortages. More than a year after a debilitating 15-year civil war ended, another African country,

African countries such as North Korea, Colombia and the Chechen Republic face their own versions of humanitarian disaster. The report also makes special mention of widespread tuberculosis, which is estimated to kill one person every 15 seconds and affects more than 8 million annually worldwide.

What is implicit in the report, and what ties together all of these stories under one depressing banner, is that humanitarian aid—from the United States and other countries around the world—is sorely lacking. If increased, it would go a long way toward alleviating suffering in these areas.

According to the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United States gave \$26 million in development aid to the Democratic Republic of Congo in fiscal year 2002, up from \$8

Continued from Page 16

part-time faculty since 1982, she is also a psychotherapist in private practice in Chicago. She taught psychology in the Department of Liberal Education and, for the last 18 years, has taught in our graduate program in dance/movement therapy. Her leadership as a member of our board of trustees is exemplified in her support for establishing an Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in Arts and Media at Columbia, and we gratefully acknowledge her efforts.

**Janice K. Garfield**  
Associate Provost

## Call to leave Iraq misses bigger picture

In reply to Mark W.

Anderson's commentary calling for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. forces in Iraq ("Time to get out of Iraq," Jan. 10), I would like to offer another opinion.

I refuse to believe that Mr. Anderson is heartless, gutless and cruel. I'm sure he is a generally good guy who merely hasn't thought out his views.

It's easy to see him as those bad things, though, after reading his commentary. He is a man who wants the United States to turn its back on the Iraqi people. A man who wants our boys to come home even though their presence is all that stands between the truly innocent Iraqi people and the ruthless insurgency (many of whom aren't Iraqis).

What Mr. Anderson is really saying is that he wants the

troops to leave before the job is done so that those who lost their lives will have died in vain. He wants Iraqi women raped, men beaten and tortured, and he wants the children to lose hope.

Mr. Anderson wants America to leave even if it means civil war because he's willing to turn his back to the cries of the innocent and pretend it doesn't exist.

And his reason for this? Money. He is putting a price on human life and has determined that Iraqi lives are not worth saving. That's racist, plain and simple. It is this line of thinking that led to the death of millions in Rwanda, Kosovo and Sudan, where the world determined their lives were worthless. Tell that to the orphans who have no one to raise them.

In time Iraq will become the great democratic power of the Middle East and those who died for freedom, Iraqi and American alike, will be remembered by future generations in the history books and in their hearts.

Like Winston Churchill said after World War II: "Bad things happen when good people do nothing." Let's not be the good people who do nothing. Let's finish what we started and give these good people a chance that so many other countries never got.

**Brian Matos**  
Broadcast Journalism

## Roamin' Numerals

408

Number of days in a row 8-year-old David Witthoft of Ridgefield, Conn., has worn a Brett Favre Green Bay Packers jersey. He hopes to set a Guinness Book of Records mark for most consecutive days wearing a Packers jersey.

\$408,000

Estimated value of fake Valentine's Day chocolates found last week by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers during a traffic stop. The candy tested positive for psilocybin, a psychedelic drug extracted from a mushroom.

\$50

Amount of the fine for people in Virginia who wear their pants so low their underwear shows, after a law was passed last week banning the practice.

## Choice Cuts



"It looked like a drunk passing in and out."

Nile Hayden, mayor of Sand Lake, Mich., commenting on the driving style of a 4-year-old boy who managed to drive his mother's car without permission for a late-night visit to a local video store.

"That's the way he went out and I'm sure that's the way he wanted to go out because he loved his enemies."

Tammy Jean Warner, 42, of Houston, who was indicted last month for allegedly giving her 58-year-old husband a lethal sherry enema. Warner said her husband enjoyed giving himself wine or sherry enemas because his body would absorb the spirits more quickly that way.



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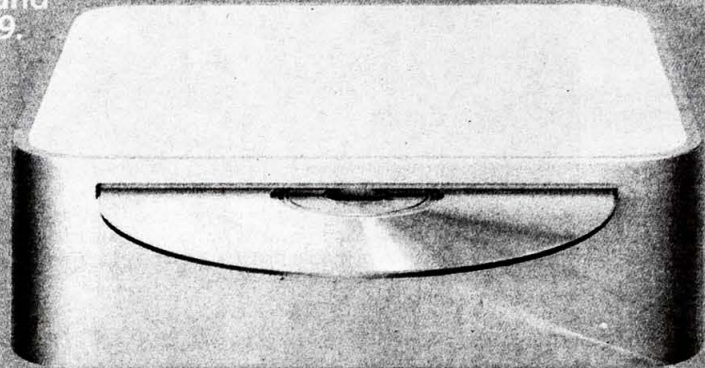
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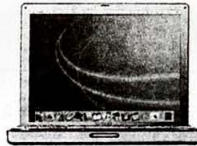
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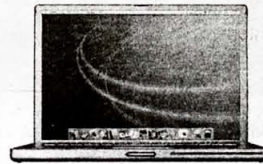
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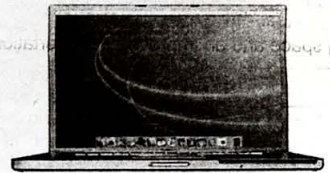
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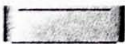


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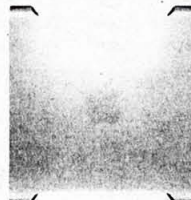
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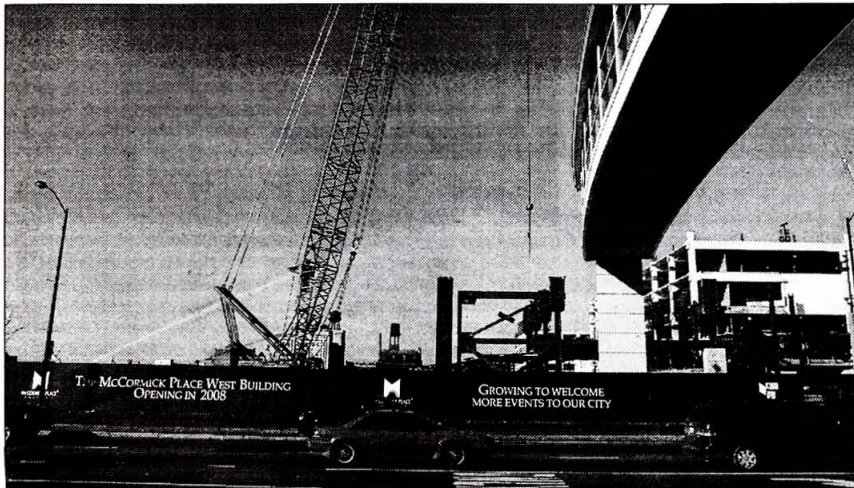
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Courtesy Chicago Auto Show

The McCormick Place is building a structure, dubbed the West Building, scheduled to open in 2008. The new addition could make the center more marketable to smaller conventions.



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

The expansion will have a two-to-one ratio of exhibition to meeting space. This new facility is designed to cater to the needs of the changing convention industry, such as the addition of rooftop meeting space and an improved transportation center.

## Conventions Continued from Back Page

some of its crucial convention business in the past few years, with industry leaders blaming high taxes for driving convention business away.

"The consumer electronics show used to be in Chicago. It's now in Las Vegas. The Hardware show used to be in Chicago. It's in Las Vegas. The boat show used to be in Chicago. It's in Orlando," said Marc Gordon, president of the Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association.

Another tax increase could be on the way, and experts say it could be devastating to the already slow convention business. In an effort to aid a \$73

million budget deficit, Cook County Board President John Stroger recently proposed an additional 2 percent tax on hotel and restaurant sales. That would increase meal taxes in Chicago to 12.25 percent and hotel tax to

"We are happy to be here in Chicago and wouldn't want to be anywhere else."

—Darryl Hazel, president of Lincoln Mercury

17.4 percent, making them the highest in the nation.

Despite this, McCormick Place officials say they are doing what it can to address their clients' needs. Construction is underway on a new wing catering to smaller meetings that are becoming key to the industry.

While the city and state governments try to find new ways to keep McCormick Place competitive, many involved with the auto show feel loyal to the city already.

"We are happy to be here in Chicago and wouldn't want to be anywhere else," said Darryl Hazel, president of Lincoln Mercury. "It's a big market and we have been here a long time."

Trade shows are usually privatized and draw people in from across the world, creating hotel bookings and restaurant spending, but the Chicago Auto Show is so well known that it does not necessarily have the same effect.

The National Hardware Show is a trade show that has moved

on, leaving for Las Vegas in 2003 after being in Chicago since the 1970s. According to Beth Blake, public relations director for the National Hardware Show, finding a convenient, cheaper location factored into the move.

"In Las Vegas there are lower labor rates and more flexible union work rules," Blake said.

Blake pointed out that hotels are extremely competitive in Las Vegas and McCarran Airport is just minutes away from the strip. Cab fare from the airport to the convention center is about \$10, as opposed to approximately \$35 in Chicago, Blake said.

The Convention and Tourism Bureau has recently established a coach service between most of the downtown Chicago hotels and McCormick Place. Shuttle buses also run between airports and hotels in an effort to eliminate the cab fare for business travelers.

Records provided by the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau show a steady increase of convention attendance within the past four years.

"It's not fair to say Chicago is losing shows or business. This is where people come to get business done," Risch said.

Still, the site is an important part of the industry, according to Erik Higgins, communications manager for McCormick Place.

"No matter what, we are the only venue that can hold an establishment this size, and we're fortunate to have this convention industry in Chicago," Higgins said.

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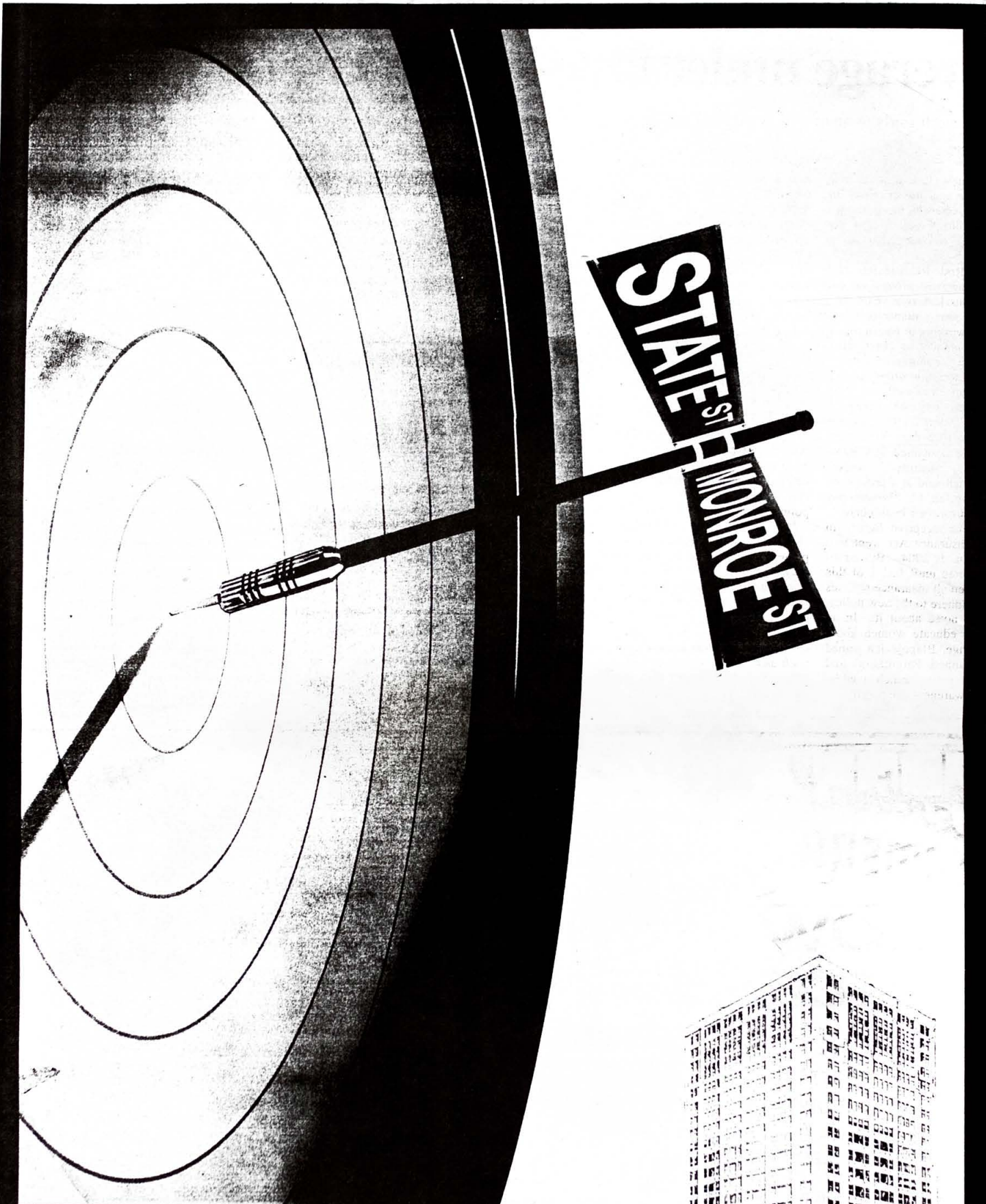
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# Illinois women win contraceptive coverage under little-known law

○ Research finds women pay average of \$350 per year on reproductive-related health costs

By Alicia Dorr  
City Beat Editor

In Illinois last year, a man could have a prescription for Viagra covered by his insurance plan, while women had to pay for birth control pills themselves.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich and other concerned groups set out during the last two years to change this disparity in Illinois, working to pass a regulation mandating that all insurance companies that cover prescription drugs cover contraceptives as well.

"Women pay 68 percent more in out-of-pocket health care costs than men do because of the cost associated with reproductive health care," Blagojevich said at a press conference on Jan. 14. "Women pay too much for their health care."

The Contraceptive Equity in Health Insurance Act went into effect Jan. 1, 2004. But advocates waited until Jan. 1 of this year, when all insurance policies have to adhere to the new policy, to make noise about it. In an effort to educate women about this change, Blagojevich joined with Planned Parenthood and other groups to launch a wide-spread awareness campaign.

Now the message is being spread everywhere—on the radio, billboards, displays at health care offices and posters throughout Chicago. Susan Hofer, a spokeswoman for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, said the delay was for the women's benefit.

**"That bill is making an impact. It is a dramatic change."**

*—Kelly Reese, Planned Parenthood of Western Washington*

"If we had advertised [the bill] before January, there could have been confusion when insurance companies told [their clients] that they had to wait for their policy to renew," Hofer said.

Illinois is now one of 21 states mandating that insurance companies cover contraceptives as they would any other prescription. The bill in Illinois does not require coverage on abortion or over-the-counter medication associated with women's health care. Some insurers are exempt, such as companies that are self-insured, but women's health advocates maintain it is a signif-

icant gain for the cause everywhere.

Planned Parenthood launched a campaign, Fair Access to Contraception, to tackle this issue in 2000. Kelly Reese, director of legal advancement for Planned Parenthood of Western Washington, has worked on this campaign, and said that regulations like the one in Illinois have a real effect on women.

"That bill is making an impact," Reese said. "It is a dramatic change."

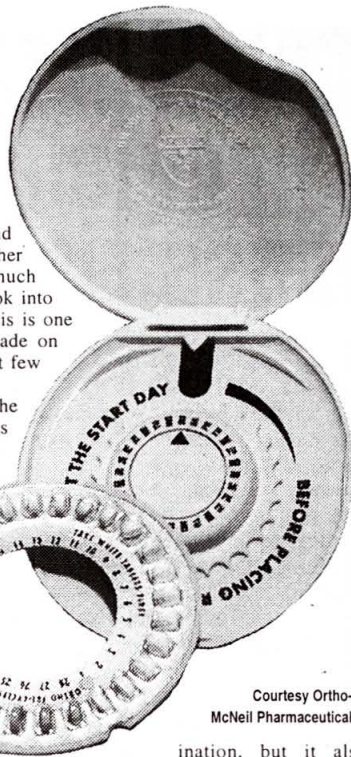
The shift she referred to is the amount women usually pay in contraceptives and reproductive-related costs—upward of \$350 per year, according to a study by William M. Mercer Group and the Washington Business Group on Health. These costs are relatively small when compared with the average cost of having a baby—10,000 in 1993. According to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, contraceptives only cost insurance companies about \$1.43 a month.

The EEOC also found in 2000 that not providing contraception coverage is discrimination under the Title VII Civil Rights Act of 1964. This ruling applies to

insurance plans and employers that cover other prescription drugs, much like the Illinois law took into account. Reese said this is one of the many strides made on the issue within the last few years.

Another concern is the cost for employers. As this issue has come into the public consciousness, research has shown that it is actually more expensive to not cover contraceptives in company plans. Reese pointed out that the direct cost of denying coverage of contraceptives is unwanted pregnancy. When absences, retraining employees, maternity leave costs and other indirect results are added up, contraceptives end up making more sense monetarily.

"It is important to educate employers that this glaring exclusion of a basic health need [for women] is not only discrim-



Courtesy Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical

ination, but it also makes sense [to cover it]," Reese said.

Hofer agreed, and pointed out that insurance company representatives stood by the governor during the press conference announcing the awareness campaign.

"With the way we're built—needing pap smears, mammograms and everything else—women need help [covering the cost]," Hofer said.

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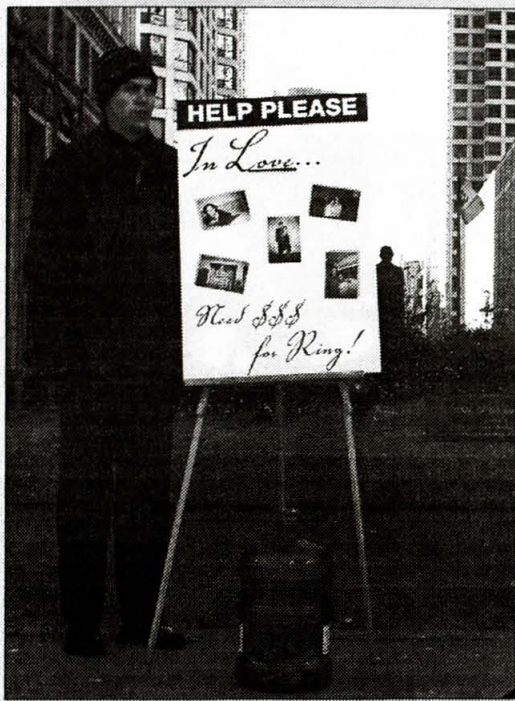
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## Panhandling for love



Eric Davis/The Chronicle

Dave Holder of Elgin, Ill., solicits on Michigan Avenue on Feb. 10 for funds to buy his girlfriend, Kristy, an engagement ring. His goal is to raise \$2,500 to give the token to her by Valentine's Day.

# Recent report shows Chicago jobs continue to drive Illinois economy

○ Experts cite economic diversity, location as reasons for city's contribution

By Josh Kantarski  
Assistant City Beat Editor

Diversity in art, culture and food has given Chicago its identity. The city can now add diversity of business as another defining feature, according to recent studies.

Chicago accounted for 2,548 of the some 12,100 jobs that were added to the Illinois employment market last year, according to a study conducted by an economic observatory at the University of Illinois this month. The study also found that the additions in metropolitan areas helped Illinois end up with more jobs than it lost for the first time in four years.

Geoffrey Hewings, director of the Illinois Economic Observatory, said Chicago's contribution to the state's job growth during the last year came down to two factors.

"The city of Chicago is a lure for people looking to work, yet they can continue their higher education down there as well," Hewings said.

The city acts as a draw for private business owners because of the opportunities offered by a large

metropolitan area, Hewings added.

However, others argued that Chicago's importance to Illinois' growing job force had more to do with the city's economic diversity. Rob Nash, director of government relations for the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, said Chicago's lack of dependence on one major business sector is a big reason for the job growth in the state.

"A lot of cities rely on a certain sector—Detroit with the automobile industry and San Francisco with the technological field—but with Chicago, to its benefit, it is one of the most diverse economies in the nation," Nash said.

Chicago's ability to adeptly juggle manufacturing and private sectors contributed to its growth, Nash said. However, he said the 2,500 jobs in Chicago—21 percent of the state's additions—weren't all that much for a city with a large population, but its contribution to the state's economic market was considerable. Nash added that because of Chicago's many business options, when one sector suffers, the economy remains strong.

"A downturn in any single [sector], doesn't hit the city as brutally as it would elsewhere," Nash said.

And yet others felt that Chicago's geographic placement had, and has, just as much to do with its importance in Illinois' job development as does its economic diversity.

Emily Engel, a member of the Chicago Association for Business Economics, said that besides Chicago's diversity, the ability to supply businesses with goods is vital to its economy, and, for that matter, Illinois'.

"Chicago is close to both waterways and railroads, making it an easy place to get supplies," Engel said. "These raw materials make Chicago an easier place to live."

But Engel said he would not count out Chicago's density and economic opportunities as essential factors in Chicago's business successes.

"There are more people [in the Chicago area]; therefore there are more educated people to choose from," Engel said. "Also, there are other stores and schools that are close by; therefore there is prime retail space."

## Body Worlds *Continued from Back Page*

run in Europe. However, even with bodies such as the pregnant woman and her unborn child, "Body Worlds" has not encountered the same level of resistance in the United States.

The exhibit is stopping in Chicago after a successful run at the California Science Center in Los Angeles, where an advisory panel was also used. After a final count of more than 650,000 visitors to "Body Worlds," the center decided to continue the show, opening "Body Worlds 2" Jan. 29. According to Georgina Gomez, a representative for "Body Worlds,"

the second exhibit drew about 11,000 visitors during its opening week.

"The first exhibit was so well-received and just kept getting busier and busier," Gomez said. "It was a logical thing to open ['Body Worlds 2']."

Gomez said that the exhibits have encountered no real controversy during their run, which she mainly credits to the use of an advisory panel and an age limit like the one at the Museum of Science and Industry.

"Body Worlds 2" presents a new section on obesity not shown

in Chicago's exhibit. Until recently, von Hagens was unable to effectively preserve fatty tissue using his technique. The plastination process, which he invented in 1977, exchanges the body's fluids for plastics, such as silicon, which are diffused into the body to reflect the different textures. During this process fat tissue would usually dissolve, forcing von Hagens to use a process called "defatting" to remove the unstable tissue and reveal the body and organs beneath.

Chicago's exhibit has a side-view slice of a fat body, which

Franczyk said depicts how the body's organs can be compromised by obesity. The exhibit also compares normal organs with unhealthy ones. The exhibit graphically displays a blackened lung, a liver with psoriasis, goiters and myriad other physical ailments.

Whether it is striking or fascinating, the exhibit inspires curiosity in its visitors. An Illinois Institute of Technology student, Ian Roe, 19, said he enjoyed the exhibit. While standing in the separated fetal development room, he said that the bodies made entirely of blood vessels

were the most intriguing to him. "It's amazing how they can get everything separated like that," Roe said. "It's been really interesting."

The Museum of Science and Industry is open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Admission to "Body Worlds" is \$21 for adults, \$11 for children 3-11 and \$17 for seniors, on top of regular museum admission. Go to [www.msichicago.org](http://www.msichicago.org) for information on free days, special discounts and summer hour changes.

### OFF THE BLOTTER

- A 15-year-old male was found with marijuana at Jones College Prep School, 606 S. State St., on Jan. 5 at 8:53 a.m. The youth was brought into custody for possession of .03 grams of the substance.
- A 33-year-old female was found pick-pocketing on a CTA train between the Harrison Street and Roosevelt Road Redline stops on Feb. 5., at 5:30 a.m. The suspect was not taken into custody in connection with the event.
- A 19-year-old woman reported to police that she had witnessed her friend being sexually assaulted by a man on the street in front of the University Center of Chicago, 525 S. State St., on Jan. 31 at 10:30 p.m. The 20-year-old victim confirmed that a man passing on the street had grabbed her in the crotch. The witness and victim pointed out a 37-year-old male, who was walking north on State Street, and police approached the

suspect. The officers used emergency takedown methods to stop the offender. The offender was taken into custody and charged with battery because the offender did not show sexual intent.

- A registered sex offender was found in violation of Illinois sex offender statutes by not reporting a change of address. The offender, a 35-year-old male, was discovered living at the Pacific Garden Mission, 646 S. State St., by the mission's director on Feb. 2 at 9 p.m. The director confirmed the offender's claim that he had been living at the location since June 2004. He said he had not lived at his officially registered address for more than a year. Police presented the offender with a copy of the Illinois sex offender registry form after the discovery. According to police listings, the offender is now in custody for the violation.
- A 38-year-old security officer reported an assault on Feb. 6 at 2:05 p.m. on the street in front of 400 S. Plymouth Court. The guard stated that a 29-year-old male had been harassing him from the street, threatening to kill him. The suspect appeared to have a weapon,

said the guard, who contacted the police. When police officers arrived, the offender refused to cooperate with questioning. The offender was taken into police custody.

- A retail theft was reported at Jewel-Osco, 1224 S. Wabash Ave., on Feb. 3 at 6:27 p.m. The offender was a 25-year-old male who was detained by the police for processing.

- A 58-year-old male was arrested for the simple assault of a security officer at the Harold Washington Library, 400 S. State St. On Feb. 3 at 4:20 p.m. the library employee discovered the offender sleeping on the seventh floor of the facility, violating library rules. Upon tapping on the wall to wake him, the security guard was accosted by the offender, who asked why he was waking him. The offender then stood up and began harassing the guard, threatening violence. The employee detained the man until the police arrived, at which point he was taken in for processing.

—Compiled by Alicia Dorr through information provided by the Chicago Police Department

Ryan Duggan/The Chronicle



## Museum shows visitors what we're made of

○ New technique preserves bodies with plastic

By Alicia Dorr  
City Beat Editor

The Museum of Science and Industry is giving new meaning to the phrase "under your skin" with its latest exhibit, "Body Worlds: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies."

The exhibit offers a different and controversial view of the human body and how it works by displaying corpses that have been preserved through a new process called plastination. Developed by German physician Gunther von Hagens, the technique conserves organic tissue with plastics that harden the specimens against decay, offering an accurate look at the body as it looks in life.

It is not just the draw of a few cadavers that has brought a reported 16 million people to see this exhibit in 10 countries—it is the presentation. On display is a man considering his next chess move with, his brain exposed to demonstrate how his body is working. There is also an athlete holding a torch high above his head to show the human digestive tract and a family made entirely of only their veins and arteries. Brightly colored organs, bones and tissues, both healthy and unhealthy, complement these full-

body specimens.

The exhibit, which is on display at the museum through Sept. 5, has more than 200 human body parts. What it lacks is the traditional science museum exhibition with touch screens and interactive set-up. Instead, it offers a more streamlined presentation that allows the bodies to speak for themselves, according to Jean Franczyk, the museum's vice president for education and guest services.

"There are no buttons to push, but it is highly interactive," Franczyk said. "The interactive part is the conversations it generates."

Though "Body Worlds" has been featured in other cities around the world, museum staffers designed MSI's version, Franczyk said. The exhibit takes visitors through all of the functions of the body, from the locomotive system, with muscles on display, to the cardiovascular system where blood vessels are isolated to depict bodies with only veins.

Franczyk said that the exhibit has already received positive feedback from visitors and employees. The museum covered its bases with the controversial



exhibit, which leaves nothing to the imagination by getting development advice from a panel of local psychologists, religious leaders and medical experts to review the exhibit. Youths age 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult to view the occasionally explicit exhibit.

"It is graphic—there's no question about it," Franczyk said. "But it's also not something you see every day, and we wanted to prepare [families] and give them the opportunity to talk about it."

One part of the exhibit is sectioned off with floor-to-ceiling



Courtesy Body Worlds

The Museum of Science and Industry, 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive, presents "Body Worlds: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies" through Sept. 5. The exhibit displays real bodies that have been preserved after death through the injection of plastics.

white sheets to cover the fetal development display. It follows development from the zygote stage all the way through to an 8-month-old fetus. The final stage of gestation is shown through a pregnant woman reclining with the fetus inside of her. The sign outside explains that the woman donated her body when she knew that her illness would eventually take her life.

This is one of the most delicate subjects for children or families to deal with, Franczyk said. But she explained that MSI has always

had exhibits like this, pointing to the prenatal development exhibit that has existed since the museum opened in 1933.

"[The Museum of Science and Industry] has a history of presenting real stuff to the public. This exhibit, like others, is real, compelling and educational," Franczyk said.

Questions about the origin of the bodies and whether the exhibit is respectful to the deceased followed the exhibit during its first

See **Body Worlds**, Page 23



Courtesy Chicago Auto Show

The Chicago Auto Show at McCormick Place is one of the largest conventions in the United States. The 10-day show has expanded by 42 percent from last year, and is expected to draw more than 1 million visitors.

## Auto Show parks in Chicago

○ Convention business in Chicago suffers due to high taxes, city labor costs

By Alan J. Baker  
Associate Editor

The 2005 model of the Chicago Auto Show has rolled into McCormick Place.

"We're glad you're here," is the message from the mayor that welcomes trade shows and conventions to Chicago. The "We're glad you're here" campaign, launched in 1999, is an attempt to boost the city's multi-billion-dollar convention industry, which has seen a decline in recent years.

Thousands of conventions meet in Chicago every year, creating close to 126,000 jobs and millions of dollars in revenue for the city. The auto show is the largest of the Chicago conventions.

"Chicago is a premier business and convention destination, drawing more than 30 million visitors who spend \$8.7 billion a year," said Meghan Risch of the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau.

The Chicago Auto Show con-

tinues to grow, and this year it increased by 42 percent. With almost 1,000 vehicles on display—spanning domestic and imported passenger cars and trucks, sport utility vehicles, experimental and concept cars—the show covers 1.2 million square feet, making it the largest auto show in North America.

The 10-day show, sponsored by the Chicago Automobile Trade Association, is expected to bring in more than 1 million visitors this year.

"The manufacturers wanted more room to allow them to do things never before accomplished on the main floor or an auto show," said Casey Wickstrom, 2005 Auto Show chairman. "What the public will see this year is going to change the face of auto shows in North America."

One manufacturer looking to push the limits this year is Chrysler Group, which designed a rigorous test drive facility to demonstrate Jeep brand's off-

road capabilities. Boulders, topsoil, timber and water meet the Jeep's trail, an area the size of about four football fields. The half-mile indoor course is the largest Chrysler has ever built, and is unique to this year's auto show.

Toyota is looking to draw attention at the show by continuing its push into the age of hybrid technology by introducing the 2005 Highlander, which could be one of the most fuel-efficient SUVs on the market. During the next 10 years, Toyota hopes to expand the hybrid to its entire vehicle lineup, maximizing driving performance while having the smallest impact on the environment.

For more than a century people have flocked to the Chicago Auto Show for a firsthand look at yearly automotive innovations, but not every convention chooses Chicago as the ideal destination. The city has lost

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